Summer 2016

SJSU ERFA News, Summer 2016

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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President’s Message

A wonderful year for SJSU ERFA

By Jo Bell Whitlatch

As President for 2015-2016, I want to share my personal ERFA highlights for the year. We have a fabulous Executive Board. The Board's support for all of ERFA's activities has been outstanding! In 2015/2016, we continued to have an active program of Fall and Spring lunches, a joyful Holiday Celebration and our annual excursion. However, I want to focus on our special accomplishments in three areas: Faculty Awards, Archives, and Membership.

Faculty Awards

We have completed the second year of our new initiative, the Faculty Research and Creative Activity Awards program. Through generous donations from our members we were able to fully support two awards of $2500 each for activities that will enhance the careers and scholarship of Ass’t. Prof. Faustina DuCros, in Sociology, and Assoc. Prof. Katherine Harris, in English and Comparative Literature. I also want to acknowledge the support from Amy Strage, AVP for Faculty Development, and Gina Marin, Program Services Coordinator, of the Faculty Development Center. Their assistance has been invaluable. They’ve provided space, advice and assistance for processing applications and notifying faculty of the results.

Archives

In the University Library, our SJSU-ERFA archives have been completely processed. An electronic finding-aid provides a guide and description of the collection: http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c80g3gks

The actual physical archives are located in the library’s Special Collections and Archives. In addition, full text of selected material is available online through SJSU ScholarWorks; http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/erfa/

As of now, most of the materials are SJSU ERFA Newsletters, from 2009 to the present. Future materials, such as Board minutes, will be online as well.

Also our Archivist, Celia Bakke, has recently created our Archival Policy, which is available at: http://www.sjsu.edu/emeritusfaculty/about/

Membership

Our membership remains stable, at last count: 288. We have received great support from Provost Andy Feinstein and AVP for Faculty Affairs, Elna Green, in developing a plan to contact more of our faculty and academic administrators when they first retire. For several years, Faculty Affairs has sent a letter on behalf of SJSU ERFA, inviting Emeritus Faculty to join our organization. But this year, faculty entering FERP (who are eligible to join ERFA as soon as they “FERP”), and retiring lecturers will also receive letters via Faculty Affairs, inviting them to join ERFA.

Finally, I am so pleased to see ERFA continue to attract excellent leadership. In the coming years, I look forward to working with upcoming ERFA Presidents, Nancie Fimbel, for 2016-2017, and Ji-Mei Chang, for 2017-2018. I am confident that ERFA will continue to prosper under their excellent leadership and our talented and helpful Executive Board.

calendar

Friday, October 14, 2016
Fall Luncheon
Michaels at Shoreline

Friday, December 9, 2016
Holiday Celebration
MLK Library, Rooms 225--229
University and Academic Senate Review

What a Year It’s Been!

By Peter Buzanski
(Academic Senate Representative)

The arrival of Interim President Sue Martin at the beginning of this past year brought immediate improvement to faculty morale. Because the Martin family could not occupy the president’s house for the first three months of her tenure, they lived in campus housing and mixed freely with students, faculty and the broader campus community. Martin continued to do so throughout the entire year. At the last Academic Senate meeting of the year, Martin received a Resolution honoring and thanking her for her service to the University and was given lengthy applause by the entire Senate.

Campus morale was further improved by the appearance of our incoming president, Mary Papazian, who, in a public forum indicated that she has a comprehensive grasp of what SJSU requires to solve the problems accumulated in previous years. She said that while many remedies will clearly require funding, she will not listen to naysayers who doubt our ability to find it. Instead, she will explore all means to bring about needed funds. Papazian begins her term on July 1, 2016.

As this academic year ends, construction on the campus continues apace. The west wing of the Student Union was completed several months ago, and the eastern portion will be open after the end of this spring semester. It should be noted that only student funds were spent on the Student Union, funds obtained through a student vote in 2007. That same vote also makes possible a new project that is currently beginning. It entails the destruction of two of the old remaining three dormitories, including Royce and Hoover halls, and in their place there will be a new 124,000-square-foot, two-story Recreation and Aquatic Center. This should be completed by 2018. Sadly, students who voted for these projects graduated.

What a Year It’s Been!
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University and Academic Senate Review

Historical number of policy measures passed

(Continued from Page 2)

long before the completion of either. The Student Union will also benefit from a 15 million dollar gift from Ramiro and Lupe Diaz-Compean, Mexican-American immigrants who arrived in the 1930s, worked hard and invested their earnings in real estate. They never attended SJSU but wanted to support the University and its first-generation students from low income families. Their donation, which will result in the Student Union bearing their names, will also support the long-term maintenance of the renovated building. Finally, Campus Village #2, currently being built adjacent to the original Campus Village, will be available at the beginning of the fall, 2016 semester, with over 800 places. Royce and Hoover only housed 400 students. At the final meeting we learned that this year saw the largest number of policy measures passed in the entire history of the Senate or of its predecessor, the Academic Council. While it isn’t feasible to list or discuss the many measures voted on, a few of the most important are mentioned below. You can go to the SJSU webpage, click on the Academic Senate link and find the measures passed this year. President Martin, unlike previous administrators, has signed every measure the Senate enacted.

Among the new policies now in effect is one that deals with Academic Certificate Programs. Prior to the adoption of this measure, no criteria existed at SJSU for Certificates, nor did anyone know which programs, departments, schools or colleges offered them. Now there are standards with minimum and maximum units for all Certificates and a monitoring system designed to assure that they are worthy of bearing the name of SJSU. The Senate enacted another measure supporting efforts to reduce student costs for textbooks. And finally, a policy dealing with student probation and disqualification has been implemented. This was necessary to conform to orders and rules which the previous policy did not, resulting in a document consisting of seventeen pages.

At this point, we can look forward to a more restful, enjoyable summer.
Shortly after the War, when Korea was divided into two parts, one supported by the US, the other by the Soviet Union, Hi-Dong’s oldest brother, an intellectual who was attracted by the ideals of Marxism, was imprisoned by the South Korean authorities as a potential subversive. When the Korean War broke out and the Northern communists overran Seoul for three months, he was freed to work alongside them, but soon became disillusioned with their rigid, totalitarian methods. Meanwhile, Hi-Dong’s father was again questioned about his Christian beliefs and taken away by the communists, never to be seen again. The family was now under suspicion because of him. Hi-Dong and his mother were left virtually alone to survive poverty and deprivation for the duration of the Korean War.

Among their many struggles, Hi-Dong describes the trauma of losing his beloved pet dog, Kwidong: ‘My mother reached out and held my hand: ‘Hi-Dong,’ she said, ‘we do not have much rice left, even for the family . . . not enough to last a week.’ It struck me like lightning that it had to do with Kwidong. She started to pray, asking God to give me comfort and strength. Before I could plead with her to keep my dearest friend, she said, ‘Tomorrow morning, a dog warden will come and take Kwidong away.’ During the war, people were starving. Nothing was wasted, and all living creatures, when caught, ended up on people’s dinner tables. My best friend, would be cut to small pieces cooked in boiling water, put on a plate and placed on the dog warden’s dinner table! Tomorrow came very quickly. The warden, an old man in a worn, white uniform, came, put a muzzle on Kwidong and took her away. I stood and watched her walking down the steps. As Kwidong rounded the corner, she turned her head to look at me for the last time as if to say Goodbye. I turned away, my heart filled with guilt, pain and anguish as she walked away in helpless silence.
I would never see her again. I wished I were dead.”
Throughout their many ordeals, Hi-Dong had moments of deep despair. “I wondered why I was born . . . into this painful world. I was tired of seeing Mother harassed by the Japanese, South Koreans and North Koreans. I was frustrated and feeling helpless. I felt sorry for myself and Mother, for we belonged nowhere. I was angry at my brother who had brought us so much suffering for his political stand. I was angry at Father for being a Christian minister who had brought suffering on himself and the family because of his faith in God. I was angry at God for not coming to the aid of His children. I thought that God would reward those who believed and honored Him while punishing those who ignored Him. What I witnessed was the opposite. The communists and the Japanese who scorned Him prospered while those who followed Him suffered. God seemed far, far away.”

Despite his doubts, Hi-Dong was inspired by his mother’s faith, compassion, self-sacrifice and a love that never wavered. Her prayers were answered when an American chaplain got him a scholarship to a Christian school in the US. Sadly, he had to leave his mother behind in order to fulfill her dreams of his obtaining an American education. He received a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and worked for IBM, becoming an authority on electromechanical devices with numerous publications and a holder/co-holder of fifty-two inventions and patents. He taught at SJSU for 15 years before retiring. The subtitle of his book is a tribute to his mother: Shattered by the Wars; But Sustained by Love (Amazon.com). Access to his book, along with his other writings, can be found on his website, www.hidongchai.com.

In retirement I’ve also played no golf, taken no cruises, and watched no television apart from some Netflix series. I read only a few magazines and historical journals and occasional short novels and travel accounts—no scholarly monographs. I pass by library doors, let subscriptions and memberships lapse, and slowly jettison pieces of my library. Although I have added a dozen new stamps to my passport (from countries in Asia), I am also slowing down in an age-appropriate way.

However, I have learned that retirement can bring a stimulating change in routine. A hobby I enjoyed as a teenager has become a rather new “profession,” and although it involves a considerable body of knowledge, its pursuit is mainly about creating and then using something new, a refreshing change from an earlier routine of reading, writing, meeting, talking and occasionally thinking.

My new hobby/profession is amateur radio. I spend hours constructing antennas, chatting on-air, meeting with local “hams,” and contacting new countries. I recently upgraded my license to “Extra Class,” and you can find me on shortwave as W6PHO.

So to retirees I can recommend taking up something very different, maybe a youthful interest that can be literally rejuvenating. In my case, it’s also led to a network of friendships and a new sense of personal accomplishment. A life after retirement indeed!
In Memoriam

• Leonard Espinosa (Instructional Technology, '94) passed away peacefully on January 27, 2016, at age 82. Born in San Francisco and raised in San Jose, Leonard was an 8th generation Californian whose early ancestor arrived with the De Anza party in 1776. After serving in the US Air Force from 1953-56, he returned to San Jose, married his wife, Barbara, and began working his way through SJSU where he took his BA (1964) and MA (1967). He taught at Mt. Pleasant High School and at Chabot College, then joined the faculty at SJSU in 1969 while completing his PhD at Michigan State (1972). He served as Division Head for Educational Leadership and Development, and Program Director for the Instructional Technology Program. Following retirement, he worked with History San Jose to spearhead efforts, including fundraising, to have a one-room schoolhouse restored and placed in San Jose's History Park. That schoolhouse now provides a physical setting for over 25,000 school children who visit each year, and is a visual symbol of educational traditions that date back to the 1890s. In 1997, the National Society of Fundraising Executives honored him with an award for his philanthropic efforts. In 2010, Leonard and Barbara moved to Tubac, AZ, where he lived happily for the next six years. He then returned to San Jose, married his wife, son and two granddaughters.

• Annette McDonald (Dance, 2000) passed away away March 2, 2016, after a lengthy illness at the age of 76. Born in Oakland, she graduated from Fremont High School in 1957, from where her love of dance took her to Berlin, Germany, to study with world-renowned instructor, Mary Wigman. She returned to take degrees at UC Berkeley in Dance Ethnology and spent time performing as a tap and jazz dancer on a Mississippi steamboat. She traveled throughout the Caribbean, acquiring a passion for Afro-Caribbean music and dance, and spent the next 33 years teaching and mentoring students at SJSU. With anthropologist James Freeman, the two developed a course called “Symbol, Ritual and Performance” which became a first-of-its-kind, model course for other universities, drawing standing-room only crowds of students over 20 years. Annette was a member of the Screen Actors Guild and worked on several award-winning films: one about her mentor, Mary Wigman; another, Dances of Mexico: Animal Origins; also the PBS series, Dance in America, resulting in a 3-hour documentary, “Free to Dance,” and finally, two documentaries on famous choreographers Jack Cole and Gemze de Lappe. Filled with energy and enthusiasm, Annette never stopped working. She took the SJSU Jazz Dance Ensemble on an international tour from Japan to Ireland, and for years produced and directed the popular Christmas inflatable shows at the Stanford Shopping Mall, delighting shoppers and providing experience for SJSU dance and theater arts students. Her colleague, Mary Bowman, worked as her technical assistant and dresser for these performances. When she retired, Annette kept an apartment in NY City, while continuing her residence in the Bay Area. She is survived by her brother, George, and sister, Suzanne.

• Walter K. Konishi (Elementary Education, '94) passed away on February 1, 2016, at age 83, from complications following a fall. He was born in Honolulu, HI, of Japanese-American parents and as a boy witnessed the planes coming over the city to attack Pearl Harbor in 1941. He would later serve in the US Army as a young adult and was buried in a military cemetery in Honolulu, according to his wishes. He took his BA degree from the University of Hawaii and his doctorate at the University of Illinois. He came to SJSU in 1964 and taught courses in the Social Foundations of Education and the Social Studies Curriculum. He supervised student teachers and served as advisor to the California Student Teachers Association. He lived in Scotts Valley, CA, enjoyed traveling and remained close to family and friends. He leaves behind his two brothers, Tom and Henry.

• Helen Douglas Brazil (Assoc. Member) passed away on April 8, 2016 at age 95. She led a full and (Continued on Page 7)
Meanwhile, she was involved with and raised their four children. She graduated with a BA in History from UCLA where she led the Glee Club and took part in many campus organizations. There she met and married Burton Brazil in 1941, who, after wartime service, went on to become a professor at SJSU and later served as Executive Vice President. During the War, Helen worked for Western Airlines and, typically, volunteered to read audio books for the blind. Afterward, she and Burt moved to Saratoga and raised their four children. Meanwhile, she was involved with organizations. There she met and married Burton Brazil in 1941, who, after wartime service, went on to become a professor at SJSU and later served as Executive Vice President. During the War, Helen worked for Western Airlines and, typically, volunteered to read audio books for the blind. Afterward, she and Burt moved to Saratoga and raised their four children. Meanwhile, she was involved with social and service groups to easily make life-long friendships.

She loved to laugh and worked for the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce, was active in PEO, the Saratoga Foothill Club, the Saratoga Federated Church, the Montalvo Service Group and was president of the SJS Faculty Wives Association. She loved to laugh and continued to work with them.” Meanwhile, she recently moved from the Sierra Nevada back to San Jose. “The public transportation here is wonderful. I can walk six blocks to a major hub. Priceless.”

In Memoriam

(Continued from Page 6) active life, with strong values and a commitment to social service. Born in Salt Lake City, CO, as a young girl she rode horses, was active in Girl Scouts and played the piano. She graduated with a BA in History from UCLA where she led the Glee Club and took part in many campus organizations. There she met and married Burton Brazil in 1941, who, after wartime service, went on to become a professor at SJSU and later served as Executive Vice President. During the War, Helen worked for Western Airlines and, typically, volunteered to read audio books for the blind. Afterward, she and Burt moved to Saratoga and raised their four children. Meanwhile, she was involved with social and service groups to easily make life-long friendships.

After Burt’s death, she moved to The Terraces in Los Gatos where she indulged her lifelong love of playing Bridge and, of course, promoted Bridge for the Special Olympics while continuing to work with social and service groups to the end. She leaves behind her four children and their families, including seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.


Betty Auchard (Associate Member) has successfully published her second memoir, Living with Twelve Men . . . a mother in training. It recounts her experiences as a young bride who accompanies her husband Denny on his first teaching assignment to a small Christian college campus in Nebraska where they’re to serve as houseparents and role models. Betty, herself barely older than the high-spirited boys, learns lessons as a surrogate mother that will prepare her for the real thing later on. She also did the hand-drawn art work for the book. It’s available on Amazon.com.

Katherine Davies Samway (Elementary Ed, ’11) traveled to Nepal in April, last year, with the Tibetan Oral History Project to interview Tibetan elders living in exile. “It was fascinating and moving to hear their recollections of life before, during, and after the Chinese invasion and occupation in the 1950s.”

Kim Uhlik (Recreation & Leisure, ’11) has a digital photography exhibit entitled, “s/he who looks down . . . .” The exhibit traveled to Palm Desert, CA, for a show running from August 27 to November 6th last year.

Caryl Hinckley (widow of Ted Hinckley, History) traveled to Arkansas and then Alabama to visit her two daughters and four great-grandchildren, in addition to other flights in between. Caryl still belongs to the Western Terraces in Los Gatos where she indulged her lifelong love of playing Bridge and, of course, promoted Bridge for the Special Olympics while continuing to work with social and service groups to the end. She leaves behind her four children and their families, including seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The film treats the career of San Jose’s most prolific commercial photographer, Arnold “Del” Del Carlo, who photographed San Jose from the ground and from the air throughout the years 1948-75. The images are from his archive, now at the Academy, and the film is narrated by Del himself (currently 94 years old). The Academy has also produced 48 monthly photo albums and 12 monthly mini-videos on local history. If you would like to receive copies of these, just send your email address to Tom at thomas.layton@sjsu.edu and he’ll put you on their digital mailing list.

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Important health care information for CSU retirees

By Don Keesey (CSU ERFA Representative)

The March issue of the CSU-ERFA Reporter (available at http://csuerfa.org/pdf/Reporter-Mar-2016.pdf) has several articles of interest to retired faculty, including one on “Taking Control of Health Care Decisions” that describes two documents you should have. The first is the well-known but often overlooked “Advance Health Care Directive,” the other is a lesser-known complementary document, “Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment.” The same article describes the newly passed “End of Life Options Act” and the “California Drug Price Relief Initiative” which has now qualified for the November ballot. You don’t need to be a member of the state-wide group to access the website. Also, if you want to continue receiving your CalPERS Health Plan Statement and Open Enrollment information by mail, you must so notify CalPERS by July 1. If you don’t, you will only be able to view your Statement online. To keep receiving this information by mail, log on to my/CalPERS or call 888-225-7377.

If you are not currently a member of CSU ERFA, we encourage you to join that organization in addition to SJSU ERFA. CSU ERFA focuses on health and pension benefits for CSU retirees as well as current employees—your membership and support helps send an important message to the legislature. CSU ERFA membership application information and form is available at: http://csuerfa.org/membership.html.

Martha Cox donation

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The Steinbeck Center, housed in SJSU’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, now constitutes the only university research archive dedicated solely to Steinbeck’s life and work.