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Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association  
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The SJSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty  
Association

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Fall 2020

## **SJSU ERFA News, Fall 2020**

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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SJSU  
**ERFA**  
**News**

A Newsletter of the San Jose State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

President's Message

## Stepping up to Zoom's 'electronic charm'

By Tim Hegstrom  
(Communication Studies)

I had found much to do since retiring from SJSU in 2010. I FERPed for a semester, took on some university administrative work abroad, attended a half dozen academic conferences, traveled, and did some community and international service work. Jacque and I had seen four new grandchildren and one great-grandchild come into our lives since retirement. I wanted to embrace as much of life as possible in my waning years. Still, I paused for a moment when I got a call from Carmen Sigler in the Spring of 2019. She said that the ERFA nominating committee had decided to nominate me as Vice President and President-elect of the Association. I was surprised because, at that point, I had done little for ERFA except sample the hors d'oeuvres at the socials a couple times a year. But how can you say "no" to Carmen? Too much charm and too many professional favors owed. I have had a lot to learn in the last year about the association and its work on behalf of retired faculty.

My duties started a month early in June. Past-President Chris Jochim and his wife, Bauchin Lin, were off to enjoy the pleasures of the Northwest in their fitted-out camper-van, and it was time for the ERFA Vice-President to step up—in the middle of the

COVID-19 pandemic! When she asked me to do the job, Carmen had promised me that the work of the association had a defined division of labor, and they all knew their jobs. She was right! These were some of the university faculty who had been the most fun to work with before retirement. Now none of them were coming to the meetings to earn points toward tenure. None were there reluctantly at the behest of the Department Chair. They enjoyed what they were doing to provide opportunities for SJSU retired faculty to maintain professional and social relationships with one another.

So, how do you accomplish this purpose under conditions of social distancing and other public health strictures? Early on we had started holding our ERFA Executive Board meetings by Zoom. So, it was a small step to want to extend this type of contact to our colleagues in the association. We weren't sure it would work, but we hit upon the idea of holding "college reunions" by Zoom. This worked better than expected. Over 100 retired faculty participated. Many of the groups decided to have follow-up meetings on a regular basis. Suddenly colleagues who had traveled to distant places in retirement and were not previously able to join us in ERFA functions could join with their colleagues by clicking on a Zoom link and

*Inside . . .*

On pages 4 and 5, Dennis Wilcox introduces a lifestyle some of us may not have considered while "Anonymous" tells an inspiring story of a young boy and his success in a new land. On page 6, Gene Bermardini reveals the origin of his daughters' names.

having their own gallery place on "Hollywood Squares." All right. All right. I have to admit that it was a poor second to sitting down for a catered lunch or sharing a beverage in person with old friends and colleagues, but it does have its own electronic charm. As you will read elsewhere, in anticipation of the November election, we have a wonderful speaker from the Political Science Department, Garrick Percival, lined up to speak at our annual business meeting which will be held on October 16—by Zoom. It's enough to make a committed Luddite buy a computer and an internet hookup!

Meanwhile, other regular features of ERFA continue. We have colleagues who represent us retired faculty on the Academic Senate, the statewide CSU-ERFSA, and the national Association of Retired  
(Continued on Page 2)

## *calendar*

Friday, October 16, 2020

1 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

***Everything Old Is New Again:  
Crime Politics and the 2020  
Presidential Election***

**Speaker:**

**Garrick Percival**  
Chair, Political Science Department

University and Academic Senate News

# All about virus, enrollment, deficit

**By Susan McClory  
(Mathematics)**

Another year is underway in the Academic Senate with meetings being held by Zoom. The Chair, Ravisha Mathur, and Vice Chair, Roxana Marachi, conducted the virtual meeting very well.

With the exception of some

management resolutions dealing with committee membership, the bulk of the meeting was spent on reports with respect to budget and enrollment and the campus response to the COVID pandemic.

The CSU system is facing an approximate deficit of \$300 million which needs to be spread out

across the 23 campuses. The SJSU campus will be using 50 to 60 percent of our reserves just to get through this academic year.

With that said, our enrollments are fairly stable which helps us considerably. While we have slightly fewer frosh and grad students, the number of transfers is up. We have a fairly stable number of continuing international students, but considerably fewer new international students. Overall, we are experiencing a 2% increase in head count. As it turns out, our continuing students are  
*(Continued on Page 3)*

**SJSU ERFA Executive Board, 2020-21**

*Elected Officers*

**President** -- Tim Hegstrom  
**Vice Pres.** -- Jackie Snell  
**Secretary** -- Celia Bakke  
**Treasurer** -- Abdel El-Shaieb

**Members at Large** -- Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno  
Lucy McProud  
Beth Von Till

**Academic Senate** -- Susan McClory  
**Past President** ---- Chris Jochim

*Ex Officio Members*

**Membership** Joan Merdinger, Beth Von Till, Stephen Branz  
**Consolations** Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno

**Newsletter** --- Nancie Fimbel and Don Keesey (Editors)  
and Clyde Lawrence (Layout/Design)

<b>Activities</b>	Lonna Smith	<b>Archivist</b>	Celia Bakke
	Elba Maldonado-Colon	<b>CSU-ERFA Reps</b>	Nancie Fimbel
	Lucy McProud		Chris Jochim
			Joan Merdinger

**Program Committee:** Barbara Conry, Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno,  
Bill McCraw, Lucy McProud, Carmen Sigler

**Webmaster**--Carol Christensen, Bethany Shifflett

**SJSU ERFA Office**  
**MacQuarrie Hall 438D**

**email:** [celia.bakke@sjsu.edu](mailto:celia.bakke@sjsu.edu) • **Telephone:** (408) 924-2478

**Visit the SJSU ERFA Website at [www.sjsu.edu/emeritusfaculty](http://www.sjsu.edu/emeritusfaculty)**

## President's Message

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Organizations in Higher Education. We have a university library representative who serves as Archivist, a film discussion group, committees to plan activities and programs for our membership, a web presence, and a newsletter. We have an SJSU Foundation Account and award research and creative activity funds for SJSU faculty. We promote the Scholarworks Project which archives on-line biographies of retired faculty. All of this work is now done electronically.

Looking forward to the coming year, I would urge you to let me know if you have suggestions about how ERFA can better promote the connections among us. If you have suggestions for speakers for our Zoom webinars or recommendations for interest groups that might attract your colleagues, please let me know. We will maintain our contacts through this pandemic period and be better for it when we are able to meet in person again.

Views and opinions expressed in this SJSU ERFA Newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the editors or of San Jose State University.

# Chat Room . . . Special news from and about our members. *Edited by Nancie Fimbel*

This column contains news about travels and activities taken from the membership renewal forms. Members are invited to send additional news about themselves to Nancie Fimbel at [fimbeln@gmail.com](mailto:fimbeln@gmail.com) or by snail mail at 239 Cypress Point Drive, Mountain View, CA 94043.

**Note: The CZU Lightning fire destroyed the notes members sent in with their dues. If you sent a note and don't see your news here, please send it again to Nancie Fimbel at [fimbeln@gmail.com](mailto:fimbeln@gmail.com) or 239 Cypress Point Drive, Mountain View, CA 94043.**

• **Gail Evans (Kinesiology, '13)**  
I live in Scotts Valley and was evacuated on August 19th due to the CZU Fire. I am so grateful to friends who took me, my dog, and my 2 cats into their home. As of August 24th my home is still standing and I'm feeling hopeful! Stay safe everyone!!

• **J. Michael (Mike) Sproule (Communication Studies, '01)** I'm able to report the completion of my long-term book project: *Democratic Vernaculars: Rhetorics of Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Criticism since the Enlightenment* (New York: Routledge, 2020). Not going to my desk every day to write or organize this project marks a big change in my routine over the last decade, but of course it is a small thing amid the disruptions that people are experiencing from COVID, the recession, and the fires. Let us all hope for better days.

• **Nancie Fimbel (Marketing, '10)** My husband and I lost our retirement home in Ben Lomond to the wildfires. We were glad to have lived there full time since March, hiking often in the beautiful redwood forests. Now back in our townhouse in Mountain View, we're starting the next chapter of life.

• **Paul Douglass (English, '14)**  
Paul's home in Ben Lomond

survived the fire, but with drama involving a large tree branch. Thank heaven! Two years ago a cabin he and his wife owned in Maine burned to the ground.

• **Elba Maldonado-Colon (Elementary Education, '14)**  
This academic year I will be President of the Lurie College of Education Alumni Board. Through fundraising the Alumni Board supports scholarships for students, the One Room Schoolhouse at Kelly Park, and other activities that benefit current

faculty and students.

• **Shannon Bros (Biological Sciences, '16)** I have been busy volunteering to help underrepresented communities get out the vote. We've created videos in English, Spanish and Vietnamese on how to prepare to vote. We are working with the Somali community now. We have also made and distributed thousands of flyers in English, Spanish, Somali and Hmong to help these populations understand how to vote early.

## University and Academic Senate News

### ***Budget problems from student housing***

*(Continued from Page 2)*

enrolled in an increased number of units per capita.

The largest hole in our budget comes from housing. There are only about 1000 students living in the dorms. For safety reasons, students are being housed in single rooms. But, this dramatic decline in the number of students in the dorms causes a very large deficit in our income.

The CARES Act money the campus received went partially toward support of faculty for summer and fall who are transitioning to online instruction. The remainder was spent on extra support in the way of advisors and peer support for students and necessary cleaning and sanitizing supplies. The Chancellor's Office announced that there will not be any furloughs this year, but the budget deficit is expected to impact campuses for the next three years, so there may have to be some in the future as reserves

run out.

The campus will continue to invest in the future through strategic facilities planning. There is also an ongoing commitment to racial justice that will receive considerable attention.

At the meeting on September 14, two resolutions were passed in response to the pandemic. The first one allows the President to declare a campus emergency that would affect teaching. The resolution calls on those who are doing evaluations of faculty effectiveness to take into consideration how the change to teaching online might affect how a faculty member is evaluated.

The final policy passed was regarding the collection of SOTEs for Summer 2020 and Fall 2020 allowing individual faculty members to determine if they wanted their SOTEs to be withheld from their personnel file. Both of these resolutions are on their way to the President's desk for signature.

# *Is a retirement community*

**By Dennis L. Wilcox (Journalism)**

Where and how do you want to spend retirement? Should you stay in place surrounded by all the “stuff” you’ve accumulated over the years? Maybe it’s time to fulfill that dream of a cozy cottage in the mountains or by the sea. There’s also the ever popular “adult” gated community with the manicured golf course and the club house.

Another lifestyle choice to be seriously considered, however, is a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC). Increasingly, these facilities are being called “Life Plan Communities,” apparently reflecting the desire of “baby boomers” to have an active lifestyle in their retirement years.

For those somewhat unfamiliar, a CCRC is a residential complex that offers several levels of care. This includes 1) independent living, 2) assisted living, 3) skilled nursing, and 4) possibly memory care. The major advantage is that you never have to move again because, as you age and have mobility or other health problems, the facility offers various levels of care as you need it.

This can be important to a couple when one increasingly needs more care than the other. Indeed, the *Economist* reports “Some 70 percent of Americans who reach the age of 65 will eventually need help doing at least two basic daily activities, such as washing or dressing.” Many choose a CCRC because it gives peace of mind to children who often fret about the well-being of their parents who insist on continuing to stay in place despite declining health.

Most CCRCs also include various services in a monthly fee that includes everything from utilities to housekeeping, laundry, exercise

classes, transport to doctors, events and museums, and even a daily meal in a restaurant-style dining room. This particularly appeals to individuals who, after a lifetime of cooking, really like the idea of having someone else cook dinner and wash the dishes.

Singles and even couples also find CCRCs a good option because they offer high levels of activity and socialization, which is a good antidote for social isolation and loneliness. According to the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, there is ample evidence that social isolation is associated with an increased risk for early death from all causes. Vivek Murphy, the former U.S. surgeon general is blunter. He has written that loneliness and social isolation are “associated with a reduction in life span similar to that caused by smoking 15 cigarettes a day.”

The benefits of choosing a CCRC appealed to both Marianne and me. We talked to friends who had moved to either a “senior” community or a CCRC. The one message that came through loud and clear is people wait too long before moving. They often wait until they have serious medical problems or lack the energy to fully participate in the activities that are available. In addition, it’s better to deal with the stress of de-cluttering a home of many years if you still think of it as a liberating task instead of feeling like Sisyphus trying to roll the mythical boulder up the hill.

We took their advice and, after considering several CCRCs in the Bay Area, we chose the non-profit University Retirement Community (URC) in Davis, a university town of about 70,000 near Sacramento.

We moved into a wonderful close-knit neighborhood of about 250 (both couples and singles) in independent living, which includes both cottages and apartments. The extra incentive, of course, is we now regularly see our three young grandsons because they live in Woodland just eight miles up the road.

The list of daily activities at URC is impressive. If you’re inclined, there are exercise classes, musical events, movies and lectures on the internal TV channel, field trips via the URC bus to the DeYoung Museum and any number of interest groups ranging from book clubs to quilting, billiards, Bocce ball, bridge, art classes, and even Mexican Train every Monday night. Sorry, no Bingo. There’s also a 10,000 volume library just in case you need something to read.

COVID-19, of course, caused a suspension of most group activities and dining in our three restaurants. Like everyone else, we had to improvise. We met on Zoom with our Pilates instructor. Dining services went into “room service” mode and delivered our dinner to our apartments. The activities director arranged for outdoor concerts with local bands once or twice a week to help make the stay-in-place guidelines less onerous. Cocktails with friends were conducted in the courtyard at tables six feet apart.

There are several things to think about if you decide to start a new chapter in your life by moving to a CCRC or a similar community. The following are some factors we considered when we chose URC. Perhaps they can also serve as some guidance for you.

# *in your future?*

## **Demographics**

It's important to get a sense of a community's residents in terms of their background, educational level, and interests before you sign on the dotted line. We chose URC because many residents are retired academics, doctors, lawyers, and other professionals who are also well traveled. Such a compatible group makes for stimulating dinner conversations and a constant swapping of travel stories covering the globe from Australia to Zimbabwe.

## **Medical Access**

As we get older, access to medical facilities is important. A mountain home might be delightful (perhaps less so with wildfires), but if the nearest clinic or hospital is 30-45 minutes away, that could be a matter of life or death. We chose URC because a Sutter hospital is across the street and fire department paramedics are five minutes away.

## **Cultural Opportunities**

If you enjoy the symphony or theatre, access to such activities becomes an important criterion. We, for example, enjoy Davis because the major venue is the Mondavi Center and there are several local theatre groups. We also have UCD's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) that offers a wide variety of lectures and courses. Sacramento is 16 miles and offers even more opportunities.

## **Urban Living**

As traffic in Silicon Valley reaches the point that it resembles LA's 405, there's much to be said for a retirement community in a smaller city. This is particularly true as we age and are less able to deal with the 10 lanes of high-speed freeway driving or being stuck in traffic on congested streets. We enjoy Davis because there are just a few cars at a stop light and extensive greenbelts for walking

and biking are throughout the city. Would you ride your bike to downtown San Jose?

Is moving to a CCRC or a "senior" community in your future? As one

85-year-old resident posted on the bulletin board after his Yoga class, "You're never too old to set goals, and you're never too old to have dreams."

## **An Immigrant Journey: A True Story**

### **By Anonymous**

At the age of 12, a young boy who had been separated from his parents for about a year finally arrived in New York City on January 29, 1940, to be reunited with them. Their journey preceded his by several months. He left from Sweden, on a vessel that was forced to dodge Nazi submarines, thus taking nearly two weeks for a voyage that under ordinary circumstances would last a mere five days.

The now-reunited family quickly repaired to minimal quarters in Brooklyn, with the support of HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society). HIAS was anxious to resettle recent arrivals who were facing not just the still-lingering effects of the Depression, but the presence of a virulent anti-Semitism that prevailed in most parts of the nation. HIAS found two jobs available for the father, one in Florida, the other in California. The father knew nothing about Florida, but he had heard that palm trees grew in California, and opted for that location. Apparently, he hadn't heard that Florida had palm trees too.

After a lengthy, cross-country train ride to San Francisco, the family arrived on Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1940. The

following day the father began his new job at a tanning factory in Berkeley. He was called a "Night Manager," but was, in fact, a night watchman. His job consisted in making hourly rounds, punching a time-card device in various locations around the factory. It was a 12-hour shift, from six p.m. to six a.m., seven days a week. The pay was \$15.00 a week. The mother immediately sought to increase the family income by cleaning houses, in addition to offering room and board to two residents in one room of their rented duplex. She charged each male occupant \$30 a month for room and board, including three meals a day.

The Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, 1941, changed everything, not only for all Americans, but for this immigrant family as well. The father soon learned that the Kaiser shipyards in Richmond, CA, needed laborers—provided they could read blueprints. He took a six-week course of lessons provided by Kaiser, while working nights and having days free for taking classes. When Kaiser offered him a job, he informed his superior in the tanning factory that he was quitting. The manger offered him a five-dollar-weekly raise, then a ten-dollar raise to  
*(Continued on Page 6)*

# What's in a Name? It's complicated

**By Gene Bernardini  
(Humanities)**

A friend once asked me about my younger daughter Giana's name. He wondered if its derivation was Italian. I explained that it wasn't exactly Italian, though close. In Italy, "Gianna," spelled with two "n"s, is the shortened form of "Giovanna." That was as close as it got. I told him the way Giana's name actually came about was a longer story.

Here is that story. When I first enrolled at UC Riverside, at age 20, I met an older student, a Korean War Vet in his 30s, thoughtful, mature and married, with three children. His children's names were something like Zoltan, Querbil and Milicah. They sounded like aliens from another planet and he explained

that he decided to create purely original names for his kids to avoid the baggage that came with conventional ones. "Think about it," he said. "When you first meet and hear a person's name, it's often accompanied by an emotional association—it could be an unpleasant stereotype, or maybe the name of someone you knew and disliked—either way, it evokes a negative reaction. I don't want that for my kids. I want them to be able to create their own identities with names as free as possible from past associations."

So I thought about it—about names like Egbert, Wilbur, and Mortimer, or say, Myrtle, Gladys, and Mabel. We associate these names with stereotypes from a previous generation that are now outdated and even risible. Then

too, there are once respectable names that became tainted by the notoriety of specific individuals: Adolph, Jezebel, or sadly, the more recent "Monica." And how about new names that arrive on waves of cultural change like the Sixties, in which children named Daydream, Feather, or Starshine were forced to come to grips with their parents' drug-inspired, otherworldly aspirations? Some may have found these meaningful, while others were embarrassed. Such is the burden borne by children everywhere and in every age. Names can be influential and fraught with peril.

I suspect that parents today spend more time carefully choosing names for their children than in the past because they have

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## An Immigrant Journey: A True Story

*(Continued from Page 5)*

keep him on. He had to refuse the offers: Kaiser's starting wage was \$49 a week—just about double the amount being offered. Upon arrival in Berkeley, no one in the family knew a word of English, but as a pre-teen, the boy learned the language rapidly and by September, 1940, was promoted from low fourth grade in elementary school to high sixth. He also began contributing to the family earnings by selling magazines, Time, Life, and Fortune, door to door, while delivering the Shopping News on a paper route twice a week. Soon, their combined earnings were enough to put a down payment on a house in Berkeley, just south of the U.C. Campus.

The family knew nothing about the state of higher education in

California, but the boy's parents soon learned that "Cal" was a university and he was told he must enter that university. He studied hard and did well in school, choosing the college preparatory curriculum at Berkeley High. He graduated with the only California High School Scholarship awarded in his class. It amounted to \$100, paid in two instalments of \$50. Each amount was sufficient to pay the "Incidental" fee at Cal which was only \$27.50. The rest of the sum sufficed for all his books in the first semester. That was January, 1947.

Prior to the son's graduation from high school in May 1945, when the war in Europe was ending, the family obtained American citizenship status, with the father boasting that the exam had been easy and the mother,

having taken private civics lessons, pleased that she was well prepared for all the questions the judge had asked. The boy, being a minor, was awarded derivative citizenship without any examination.

Entering Cal was an unforgettable experience. It seemed simple. All that was required was to pass the so-called Subject A exam, which only consisted of writing an essay on a prescribed topic to determine English language competency. The boy passed easily, but now what? On the first day of instruction, just barely 18, he saw that while the lecturer spoke, the students were all writing actively. At the end of the lecture, he asked the instructor, a distinguished professor of history, what the students were writing.

*(Continued on Page 7)*

Names*... and then there's 'Delilah'**(Continued from Page 6)*

fewer of them—their rarity deems them worthy of more attention. But the desire for rare or original names requires a serious exercise in creativity, demanding time and thought, especially to find names whose sound, feel and rhythm are congruent with the family surname.

Which brings me back to my daughter. I was so intrigued by my college friend's philosophical peroration that I later persuaded my wife, Genie, that we should create unique names for our children. So when our first daughter was born, we took up the impending challenge. We liked the sound of feminine names that ended in "aia" or "eia." But the latter is a traditional Greek ending, and we wanted something that seemed closer to our Italian surname, so we arbitrarily chose "aia." Then, since the two of us were, by sheer coincidence, a Gene and Genie, we came around to the alliterative "Ginaia"—Gene, Genie and Ginaia—the sound and rhythm seemed right.

When our next daughter made her appearance, we decided that she would feel isolated in the family if she were left out of that alliterative pattern, so we named her Giana—with only one "n," not two, to add a touch of uniqueness. (My relatives in Italy simply thought we didn't know how to spell.) That made it Gene, Genie, Ginaia and Giana. Finally, when our daughters got their first puppy they decided to name her Gia, just to keep her in the familial lineup.

*In Memoriam*

- Alan Bernet (Humanities)
- Virginia Barnes (Education)
- Ken Bradshaw (Mathematics)

At which point a friend of ours couldn't resist asking, "If you have another daughter, will you name her Genitalia?" I had to admit that sounded Italian—and the rhythm was good, too.

Over the years I've come to have second thoughts about what now seems like a sophomoric exercise gone wrong. And as a historian I've learned to appreciate more traditional names as a means of understanding a person's social, cultural or ethnic identity and provenance. Famous and powerful families have always recognized this: Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller or John Fitzgerald Kennedy come immediately to mind. Names like these can be informative, by revealing familial bloodlines with great accomplishments.

Of course, those of us from more humble backgrounds are forced to make our way in the world without such exalted sendoffs. And I have to admit there is a certain advantage to that: we begin our lives with little or no baggage, just as my friend asserted, which allows us to establish our own identity with its singular accomplishments, whatever they may be. And that can be freeing—like traveling incognito on a precarious journey. It's also very American: it's not where we come from, but where we are going that's important. There's something to be said for both these views, and I'm still ambivalent about it all. Fortunately, our daughters seem pleased about their names and not resentful. I'm relieved about that—it helps lessen my guilt. And by way of further expiation, we finally broke the family obsession with alliteration. Our current dog is named Delilah.

**Journey:****A True Story***(Continued from Page 6)*

The professor's first reaction was to stifle a laugh and then he explained that examinations would be based partly on assigned readings, and partly on the contents of the lectures. That knowledge sufficed for the boy to graduate in three-and-a-half years with the required 120 units. He graduated with highest honors in the field of History in June 1950, and was initiated into Phi Beta Kappa. Immediately thereafter he began working on an MA degree, earned in two years. He also took a Junior College Credential while beginning studies for a Ph.D. in History. He originally sought a degree in Political Science wanting to work for the US Department of State, but when he was told the State Department hired no women, and no minorities, including Jews, he chose American History.

In 1956 he applied for a teaching position in a Junior College and was hired by a brand new one in Sacramento: American River Junior College. In 1957, he married a student from College of the Pacific, and that marriage lasted for 44 years, ending with her demise. The heavy teaching load at the junior college and the monotony of teaching only introductory courses motivated the young lecturer to conclude his doctorate and leave Sacramento in 1960.

And where did he end up? After 38 splendid years of teaching at SJSU, he retired in 1998 and is still an avid member of SJSU-ERFA. There are thousands of tales such as this one, proving that this nation, despite occasional political disasters, continues to be the hope of millions to immigrate to this great City on a Hill.

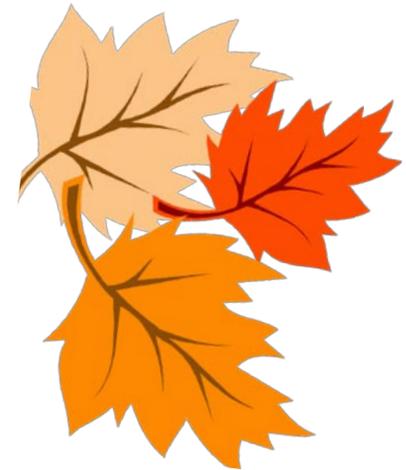
**Our Fall Speaker:****Professor Garrick Percival****By Bill McCraw, (Political Science)**

On October 16, ERFA continues its election year tradition of featuring a San Jose State political scientist as our Fall speaker. This year we are happy to present Dr. Garrick Percival, Chair of the Political Science Department, whose talk is entitled “Everything Old Is New Again: Crime Politics and the 2020 Presidential Election.”

Dr. Percival’s teaching and research in American government centers on crime policy, racial politics, inequality, and the relationships among them. His

book *Smart on Crime: The Struggle to Build a Better American Penal System*, published in 2015, investigates the politics of the criminal justice reform movement, and his current research focuses on local prosecutors in California. His work has appeared in *Political Research Quarterly*, *Journal of Public Administration Research*, *Policy Studies Journal*, and numerous other outlets, and he has served as Director of SJSU’s Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement.

Dr. Percival earned his Ph.D. at the University of California,



Riverside, in 2005, and taught at the University of Minnesota’s Duluth campus before coming to San Jose State in 2012. A dedicated cyclist and runner, he is also an avid supporter of the San Jose Sharks.

## Fall 2020 Faculty RSCA Tapas Talks Please Join Us!

Hosted jointly by Research Development and Corporate and Foundation Relations, each Tapas Talk will consist of a series of short, 5-minute faculty research presentations online, followed by a 5-minute Q&A. These events are designed to inform and excite colleagues about the quality and scope of research at SJSU, and to foster discussion and collaboration. The next three Faculty RSCA Tapas Talks will be:

- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: A Focus on Black Lives Matter**  
**October 2, 2020, 10.30 am - 1 pm**
- **Health & Biomedical Research\*** - November 6, 2020, 10.30 am - 1 pm
- **Borderlands** - December 11, 2020, 10.30 am to 1 pm

If you are interested in attending as part of the online audience, please RSVP for each event individually by contacting [julia.gaudinski@sjsu.edu](mailto:julia.gaudinski@sjsu.edu).