



Retirement Center Mission Statement

The UC Berkeley Retirement Center is dedicated to developing programs and services that contribute to the well being and creativity of retired faculty, staff and their families and that support the UC community.

CONTACT US

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CENTER HOURS

Monday—Friday:
9am—4pm
Closed: Noon—1pm
Walk-in hours: 1—4pm



the CenterPiece

UC BERKELEY RETIREMENT CENTER NEWSLETTER

From the Director's desk

As we begin 2007, we mark a milestone in the Center's history and begin a year of celebration. Ten years ago, members of the Retirees' and Emeriti Associations on the Berkeley campus were successful in implementing their proposal for a Retirement Center that would include programs and services for all retired Berkeley faculty, staff and their surviving spouses. The spirit of connection that underlays all Center activities is directly attributable to the Emeriti and Retirees' Associations, which began in 1980 and 1986 respectively. They had already laid the groundwork for the current-day Center through their activities and their persistent advocacy that yielded the first campus budget for their administrative support and office space in 1990. If not for those early efforts and the spirit of collaboration that still guides its growth, the Center would not have come to fruition.

Today, the Center has not only a physical office, but a brand new website which extends the connections between retirees and the Center into the virtual world with a new look and increased functionality (see page six for details).

Even though the Center now has its own robust programming, the associations still have their own membership-based activities and provide a critical advocacy function on campus and within the UC systemwide in a way that the Center cannot because of its status as a campus department. Additional information about the Berkeley, UCOP and LBNL associations is on page six, where you will also find an invitation to join members of the Berkeley Retirees' Association for "A Day at the Races."

Since the Center's inception, it has been committed to serving the campus as well as its retirees. It filled a campus void when, in 1998, it developed and began to offer a

comprehensive pre-retirement planning program. In 2001, the Center, with the help of Employment Services, developed the Retiree Work Opportunities program (p.6) that assists the campus with short-term, temporary staffing needs by connecting them to retirees who want short-term work assignments on campus.

Too, we announce campus events that we think might be of interest to you. This edition of *The CenterPiece* highlights three events. First, the Section Club extends to you an invitation to its 40th anniversary February luncheon. Second, Cal's annual open house, Cal Day, is set for April 21st. And on April 22nd, the UC Alumni Chorus (UCAC) will hold its spring concert, which includes a specially commissioned piece that remembers its UCAC co-founder and former Retirement Center staff member Ronni Gravitz. The Center also named its internship on aging in Ronni's honor. If you would like to make a donation to the Gravitz Memorial Internship on Aging, please call the Center.

As well, we continue to provide educational programming such as Learning in Retirement (LIR), which has served over 1,000 individuals. This semester, we are offering the following courses: *Military History: Three Eighteenth Century Battles*; and *The World's Water: Love It or Lose It!* (p.4) Computer classes this semester include Advanced Basics; World-Wide Web: The Internet Starter Course; and World-Wide Web II: The Next Steps.

Finally, the Center has had to say goodbye to one of its founding board members and LIR directors, Mel Webber. Though he would have balked at this mention given his great humility, we would be remiss not to note his passing and acknowledge his contributions. He was, indeed, a scholar and a gentleman.



UC Press Discount

University of California Press is pleased to offer you a 15% discount on all books. A code, which you can get from the Retirement Center, is required to receive the discount. The code can then be used for phone orders when you call the fulfillment service at (800)777-4726 or order online at <http://www.ucpress.edu>. (Type the code in the coupon code field.)

ID Cards

To take advantage of the special Cal Connection offers, you must use a retiree ID card that identifies you as retired staff, retired faculty or their surviving spouse or partner. To obtain your card, come by the Center between 1pm and 4pm daily or call the Center to order by mail.

Library Cards

Obtain a free campus library card good for use at all UC Berkeley libraries. Call the Center for details.

Long-Term Care Insurance Counseling

The Center has arranged for free, one-on-one sessions with a community expert from the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP). This is a state-funded program that provides unbiased professional assistance to insurance consumers. To make a confidential appointment, call the Center.

20/20 Vision Plan at University Eye Center

You and your designated beneficiary are eligible for a comprehensive examination (maximum out-of-pocket cost of \$59.20*), a discount on other vision services and on ophthalmic materials (such as spectacles, contact lenses, or low vision devices), a complimentary "Cal" glasses case when spectacles are dispensed, free parking, and a free shuttle ride to the Eye Center. For information or to make an appointment, call (510)642-2020. Be sure to identify yourself as a 20/20 Vision Plan member.

**Where applicable, insurance will be billed first.*

Cal Rentals

List rentals for free or find housing options for a small fee. For listings information, call (510)642-0706; to list rentals, call (510)642-3644; or visit <http://calrentals.housing.berkeley.edu>. When calling, please leave a message and you will be called back.

Wellness Bargains

The UC Berkeley Wellness Letter offers new subscribers a discounted rate of \$15 (regularly \$28) on the first year

of a subscription. To subscribe, call the Center, or to order online, go to <http://www.calmarketplace.org>.

Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive

Enjoy free admission to the Berkeley Art Museum (BAM) by showing your retiree ID. Also, the Pacific Film Archive (PFA) offers you the UC faculty and staff admission rate of \$5 (with retiree ID card).

Music Department Discount

The Department of Music is delighted to offer you the same discount on events that it offers to current staff and other special categories. Unless otherwise noted, tickets to weekend and evening concerts will be \$8 (regularly \$12) with your retiree ID card. Concerts include performances by the University Symphony Orchestra, University Chorus, and University Wind Ensemble as well as by other groups. Noon concerts and some special events are free to the general public, and retirees can avail themselves of these as well. See concert schedules at <http://music.berkeley.edu>.

Night and Weekend Parking

Buy one-time use hang tags for \$4 each (good through December 31, 2008). To purchase hang tags by mail, send a check made payable to UC Regents for the number of hang tags that you want to purchase plus \$1.50 for mailing and handling costs. You may also purchase them at the Center Monday through Friday between 1pm and 4pm. Note: These permits are not valid in UC public lots for sporting or special events.

Cal Rec Club

Join the Cal Rec Club at a savings. Membership includes free morning aerobics and discounts on other programs. Call the Center for information.

Chronicle of the University of California

The *Chronicle of the University of California* is devoted to the preservation of the University's past and the promotion of research in University history. The *Chronicle* offers you a 15% discount off the price of a single issue (normally \$20) or 15% off any two-issue subscription (normally \$36). Call the Center to subscribe.

Women's Faculty Club (WFC)

Join the WFC as an Associate Member. New memberships include a complimentary six months with the purchase of a full-year membership, so that your first year of membership is only \$66. (The \$25 initiation fee is also waived.) Call the WFC at (510)845-5084 or download an application form at <http://www.womensfacultyclub.com>.



Cal Performances

Enjoy select Cal Performances events at 15% off regular prices (limit two; cannot be combined with other discounts and all sales are final). To order tickets, call Cal Performances at (510)642-9988. For more information and program locations visit <http://www.calperformances.net>. *Note: discount is not available for on-line purchases or for performances not listed below.* All performances are in Zellerbach Hall unless otherwise noted below. Retiree ID card required at the door.

Trisha Brown Dance Company \$26, \$36, \$46
 Friday January 26 8pm
 Saturday January 27 8pm

Lorin Maazel conducts The Symphonica Toscanini \$34, \$52, \$76
 Sunday January 28 3pm

Spanish Harlem Orchestra \$22, \$30, \$42
 Saturday February 10 8pm

Simon Shaheen & Qantara \$20, \$26, \$32
 Friday February 16 8pm

The Forsythe Company \$32, \$46, \$58
 Thursday February 22 8pm
 Friday February 23 8pm

Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg \$32, \$42, \$56
 Saturday March 10 2pm

Composer Portrait

Conlon Nancarrow with Alarm Will Sound \$32
 Sunday March 11 3pm
Hertz Hall

Gyuto Monks and Tibetan Tantric Choir \$22, \$30, \$42
 Wednesday March 14 8pm

Shen Wei Dance Arts \$26, \$36, \$46
 Friday March 23 8pm
 Saturday March 24 8pm

Inti-Illimani \$20, \$26, \$32
 Saturday March 31 8pm

Measha Brueggergosman, soprano \$42
 Sunday April 1 3pm
Hertz Hall

Sarah Chang, violin \$36, \$48, \$68
Ashley Wass, piano
 Saturday April 7 8pm

Michael McKean \$20, \$28, \$38
 Sunday April 15 7pm

Lura \$30
 Friday April 20 8pm
Wheeler Auditorium

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano \$20, \$26, \$32
 Thursday May 3 8pm

Health Care Facilitator

Receive confidential one-on-one assistance regarding problems with or questions about your health plan. Call the Center to contact your location-specific Health Care Facilitator.

Affordable Computer Equipment at The Scholar's Workstation (TSW)

Purchase hardware and software at low educational prices. Using your CalNet ID and passphrase, you can also place credit card orders online, where you have the option to pick up your order at TSW or have it delivered to your home. CRCN members (see below) can call the Center for their CalNet ID. Emeriti should contact their departments. All other retirees can select the "Ship Order Using Fax Authorization" option during the online checkout process. Call TSW at (510)642-8424 or visit <http://tsw.berkeley.edu> for more information.

Three Email Options through the Cal Retirement Center Network (CRCN)

CRCN E-Mail Forwarding is for those who want to get or keep a berkeley.edu email address but want to use, or are already using, another email service such as Yahoo!, Earthlink or Comcast. Other than a \$10 set-up fee, this service is free.

CRCN CalMail is for users of broadband (e.g., DSL, cable) and other Internet connections who want to keep a full service email account through the campus. For an annual flat fee of \$60, plus a \$10 set-up fee, you will get a CalMail account with a "berkeley.edu" email address, 100MB of email storage, vacation forwarding and Connecting at Berkeley (C@B) consulting support, which includes software, updates, and technical support by email or phone.

CRCN SHIPS is also still available for just \$13 per month, with a one-time \$10 set-up fee. This option includes unlimited Internet access through the campus Subscription Home IP Service (dial-up modem connection), a CalMail account with a berkeley.edu email address, software and consultation services. Call or visit the Center for information sheets and application packets.



Center Sponsored Programs and Events

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

There are no enrollment fees, but advance registration is required; call the Center. Course location will be provided in your written confirmation.

Military History: Three Eighteenth Century Battles

Organized and presented by Professor Thomas Barnes, Boalt Hall School of Law and Department of History

Three battles, each of a day's duration, fought within a space of fifteen years, the first on the Continent of Europe, the second in the north of Britain, and the third in Canada, were intimately connected with each other and utterly dispositive of French imperial power in the Western Hemisphere to the aggrandizement of Britain—for a brief season. Fontenoy, near Tournai in Belgium, May 11, 1745, was a set-piece battle of well-honed tactics of almost a century's continuance that after nine bloody hours ended in the defeat and withdrawal of the British army from the Low Countries. Outside Inverness in the north of Scotland, at Drumossie Moor (today, Culloden) on April 16, 1746, the British army defeated a rebel force of Roman Catholic Highland clansmen led by the Stuart pretender-heir to the throne supported by France, and in an hour's exemplary display of asymmetrical warfare, in which the awesome wild Gaelic charge disintegrated under grape and ball, was fought the last battle on British soil signaling the end of Hanoverian vulnerability to French support of the house of Stuart. On September 13, 1759, a small British amphibious force surprised the French garrison at the citadel of Québec on Abraham Martin's plain; half an hour's fierce fusillades and hand-to-hand combat ended with French retreat, both commanding generals dead, the siege of Québec successful, and the end of French power in North America.

Tactics differed, and something like progressive modernization seems to have emerged in the conduct of war over the period. One army, the British army, learned the lessons of the "last war" more quickly than the other. And its general officers, having experienced defeat on the Continent and fearing treachery and civil war at home in 1745-1746, vowed to defeat the enemy by preemptive strike, overwhelming mass, and ruthless prosecution in attack. They achieved one of modern war's few genuinely decisive victories, but in the process sowed the seeds, not only political but also tactical, of the loss within two decades of the better part of the new empire.

Tuesdays, 2pm-4pm

- March 13: The Battle of Fontenoy
- March 20: The Battle of Culloden
- March 27: The Battle of Quebec

The World's Water: Love It Or Lose It!

Organized by Professor Alex Horne, Ecological Engineering Group, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering

The world has already run out of ready supplies of clean fresh water, and new sources are hard to find, in the wrong place, or polluted. How can we deal with this problem with the expected arrival of 3 billion people on the planet by 2043? What water do we have and where is it? Will we go to war over water? What has happened to some of our iconic lakes? What will climate change do to our water supply? Can we fix or engineer solutions? How can university research at Cal help? These four lectures by experts in the field with different viewpoints will explain the problems and present some solutions as they see them. Although the problem is global, California, as a semi-arid state, is a leader in the field so problems and their solutions tend to happen first in the Golden State.

Mondays 2pm-4pm

- April 9: Dr. Peter Gleick, President, Pacific Institute, Oakland California: "TheWorld's Water"
- April 16: Professor John Dracup, Water Resources Group, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering: "What's All This About Water and Climate Change?"
- April 23: Professor Charles Goldman, Department of Environmental Science & Policy, UC Davis: "Lake Tahoe: A History of Water Use, Pollution and Renewal"
- April 30: Professor Alex Horne, Ecological Engineering Group, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering: "Fixing the Planet's Water on a Budget"



Center Sponsored Programs and Events

Send Us Your Feedback

We want to hear from you. Please tell us of your experience with the Center and our programs or services. We have lots of ideas, and we would like to hear yours as well.

For example, what courses have you enjoyed? Do you have any thoughts about educational courses, events, or workshops you would like to see us offer? Have you perhaps participated in one of our programs? And how have you benefitted from them?

Or have you availed yourself of any of our Cal Connections, like, for instance, the 20/20 Vision Plan at the School of Optometry? Which ones have you found most useful? Are there other campus discounts or services you might like to see the Center offer?

While you're browsing the web, check out our newly redesigned website (see article on next page) and if you have a minute, let us know what you particularly like about the new look or what you would like to see there.

Drop us a quick note or a brief email letting us know your thoughts, and we'll see what we can do about

making them happen (please include your contact information). We look forward to hearing from you.

Long Term Care Insurance: Is It Right For You?

Thursday March 22 12:15-1:30pm

Making a decision to buy long term care insurance (LTCI) takes careful research. Should I buy LTCI? What is the best LTCI policy? What is the best company to buy from? What is the right age to buy LTCI?

This session will explain long term care and options for its financing while focusing on the features and the pros and cons of long term care insurance. The session will also include information about available products and how they differ and offer guidelines for deciding whether or not to purchase a LTC insurance policy.

The program will be presented by an attorney from the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP). HICAP is state-funded and provides unbiased professional assistance to insurance consumers.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Classes are tailored for you. A \$10 per session fee includes instruction and materials. Parking can be arranged for \$4 per day. Call the Center for reservations or if you have any questions. Class space is limited to 18 participants.

Advanced Basics (This is a two-session class.)

Monday	April 9	9am-Noon
Tuesday	April 10	9am-Noon

This class offers instruction on how to navigate your computer and how to use programs such as Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. It also includes creating and naming files and folders, finding your files, and a description of the basic security measures you need to take.

Prerequisite: Completion of Computer Basics or equivalent experience.



World-Wide Web: The Internet Starter Course

Thursday April 5 9am-Noon

Finding long-lost friends, researching the best price on airline tickets, purchasing books, and even academic research can now be done from the comfort of your home or anywhere there is an Internet connection. This class covers Internet basics, including how to use browsers and search engines, the tools used to navigate the web.

World-Wide Web II: The Next Steps

Thursday April 12 9am-Noon

This class is designed to help you take the next steps in using the Internet. Topics covered include researching, shopping, downloading and more. It also provides in-depth coverage of viruses and security issues.

Prerequisite: Completion of The Internet Starter Course.

PARKING FOR CENTER SPONSORED PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

When attending a Center-sponsored event, you are eligible for parking at \$4 in any non-reserved parking space on campus. You must prepay by sending a check or money order **to be received by the Center at least one week prior to the day of the event.** The Center will then mail the permit to your home for use for that program. Alternatively, you may come into the Center and purchase the permits in person.



Center Sponsored Programs and Events

Center Launches Redesigned Website

We are proud to announce the launch of our newly redesigned website. The redesign features enhanced graphics, links to campus and community programs, and a layout that should make it easier for you to find the information you want and need.

We have reduced the need for lots of mouse scrolling and improved the use of graphics, which not only improves readability but also the aesthetics of the site. Because accessibility is critically important, each Center web page now contains zoom buttons, which allow you to easily customize text size.

We have also made it easier for people to find out how to reach us by placing CONTACT US links prominently on each page of the site. We have added a form for direct contact through the site.

The site also contains new information. For example, we thought you might enjoy getting to know a little bit better those dedicated to serving you, so we have added brief biographies of our staff and board members.

Visit our redesigned site at <http://thecenter.berkeley.edu> and let us know how you like it or suggest things that you might like to see the website include. Content on the site will be updated regularly, so return often for announcements of new and special events.

Retiree Work Opportunities Program

This program allows campus hiring managers looking for experienced temporary or part-time workers and UC retirees looking for work to connect with each other about potential work opportunities.

There are now over 400 hiring managers and retirees using this website to find each other. The Retirement Center also plans to offer a resume-writing refresher workshop later this year. Watch for details in future CenterPiece articles.

To register as a new user or if you have questions about how to post or update your website profile, call the Retirement Center at (510)642-5461 or email gjparra@berkeley.edu.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Join Now and Let Your Voice Be Heard

The Retiree and Emeriti Associations are self-governed, self-funded membership organizations and as mentioned on the front page, the Retiree and Emeriti Associations are distinct from the Center and serve a critical advocacy function. First and foremost, they foster the retention and improvement of the health and pension benefits and privileges of UC retirees. They do this by their active membership and participation in the Council of University of California Retiree Associations (CUCRA) and the Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA). These systemwide councils actively work to cultivate and strengthen communication channels among retirees, emeriti, the President's Office, and the Academic Senate. Currently, the associations are keeping a close eye on the rising health care costs and how the University is managing those costs with respect to retirees.

Strong and large associations guarantee that your voices and concerns will be heard. Each association at UCB, LBNL, and UCOP has different procedures for joining. Please contact the Center for information about how to join your location-specific association.

Each association at UCB, LBNL, and UCOP has different procedures for joining. For the UC Berkeley campus associations, call the Center or go to

<http://thecenter.berkeley.edu> to download an application form. For LBNL, go to <http://www.lbl.gov/ex-l-express/index.html> and click on Membership Information, or call Bud Larsh at (510)724-1202 or email AlmonLarsh2@juno.com. For UCOP, call Patricia Pelfrey at (510)528-4490 or email ppelfrey@berkeley.edu.

A Day at the Races

Thursday April 26 11:00am

The UC Retirees' Association at Berkeley invites you to join them at Golden Gate Fields in Albany. The \$29 cost per person includes: preferred parking, complimentary racing program and buffet lunch in the elegant Turf Club. Each year UCRAB's Day at the Races serves as the fundraiser for the UCRAB Scholarship Fund, which supports the campus's General Scholarship Fund. The long-term goal is to raise enough funds to endow an annual scholarship for children of staff retirees.

Reservations are required as space is limited. If you would like to attend, please send the following to the Retirement Center, 2 Boalt Hall #7200, Berkeley, CA 94720-7200: the names of all people attending; a check for \$29 per person made payable to UCRAB. Deadline for reservations is April 5.



the CenterPiece

The CenterPiece is published by the UC Berkeley Retirement Center, which reports to the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Faculty Welfare. The CenterPiece is distributed to annuitants of UC Berkeley, the UC Office of the President, and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

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On Campus

Ronni Gravitz Remembered by New Choral Piece

Sunday

April 22

7pm

At their spring concert, the University of California Alumni Chorus (UCAC) will honor its visionary co-founder, the late Ronni Kordell Gravitz, with the worldwide premiere of a specially commissioned piece, "The Road Goes Ever On," a setting to music of Ronni's favorite poem by J.R.R. Tolkien by composer Gwyneth Walker.

In addition to co-founding the Chorus, Ronni capped off her 20-year career at Cal as an inspirational program manager at the Retirement Center. In 2004, she was awarded the prestigious Berkeley Citation. In recognition and in memory of Ronni's contributions, the Center created the Gravitz Memorial Internship on Aging, a subject about which Ronni was passionate.

This special event kicks off the Chorus's 2006-2007 season theme of "A Woman's Inspiration" and will consist of pieces written by, for and about women, including works by Hildegard von Bingen, Francesca Caccini, Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel, Amy Beach, Gwyneth Walker, Claude Debussy, Joseph Haydn, and others.

The concert will be held in Hertz Hall and seating is by general admission. Tickets are \$10 for seniors/retirees; general admission is \$15. To purchase advance tickets, please send a check for the number of tickets you want to the Retirement Center, 2 Boalt Hall #7200, Berkeley, CA 94720-7200. Payment must be received at the Center by April 12. Or you may come into the Center to purchase tickets in person, but please call first to make sure we have them.

Parking for Center constituents will be available through the Retirement Center for purchase at \$4 (see the box at the bottom of page five for instructions on how to request parking).

University Section Club's 40th Annual February Luncheon

Tuesday

February 27

11:30am - 2:30pm

UC retirees are invited to join the University Section Club for its 40th annual Beehive Luncheon and Silent Auction fundraiser, which will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. The Silent Auction will include items to bid on such as a week in Puerto Vallarta, theater tickets, dining opportunities, watercolors, sculptures and handicrafts. There will also be donated gift baskets filled with goodies. All monies generated from this event will benefit the UC student community. By reservation only, \$20. Please make checks payable to "University Section Club" and send to Julia Wenk, 734 Spruce, Berkeley, CA 94707. If you have questions, please call Martha Smith at (510)548-7682 by February 16th. NOTE: Section Club members, please use the form in the January Breeze.

Cal Day 2007

Saturday

April 21

9am-4pm

At UC Berkeley's annual open house for the public, students, faculty, and staff are pleased to be your hosts for a day of discovery, learning, and fun on the Berkeley campus. You're invited to attend the presentation and lecture of the 2006 Haas Public Service Award at Cal Day. And stop by the Retirement Center table during your visit to the campus.



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<http://thecenter.berkeley.edu>



*The
Connecting
Link*

the CenterPiece

SPRING 2007

How to reach the Retirement Center:

The Retirement Center is located in 2 Boalt Hall. Boalt Hall is located on Bancroft Way, between Piedmont and College Avenues. Room 2 is on the ground floor, just off the Kroeber Plaza fountain area.

By BART:

Take BART to the Berkeley Station. After exiting the station, proceed to the perimeter shuttle bus stop in front of Scandinavian Designs. Take the shuttle to the intersection of Bancroft Way and College Ave. The shuttle costs \$1.00.

By AC Transit:

AC Transit bus lines 51, 52, 52L, 604, and 605 stop at Bancroft Way and College Ave. Line 7 stops at Bancroft Way and Piedmont Ave. Bus lines 40 and 40L stop 3 blocks away at Telegraph Ave. and Bancroft Way. (Check with AC Transit for changes.)

By car:

Please call the Center for directions.