



# UCRAB Newsletter

University of California Retirees' Association at Berkeley

## ***UC RETIREES' ASSOCIATION AT BERKELEY INVITES YOU TO ITS HOLIDAY LUNCHEON***

***Thursday, 12/5/2019***

***First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, Room G202, Geneva Hall***

Doors open at 11:30; lunch at 12 noon. Lunch includes door prizes, seasonal entertainment.

For over a decade, UCRAB members have brought gifts to the Holiday Luncheon for children spending the Holidays in the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland. Please bring your unwrapped, new gift items to the luncheon. You may visit the Children's Hospital website to see a list of the items the Hospital suggests at: <https://give.ucsfbenioffchildrens.org/pages/donate-goods>

Reservations must be received no later than November 29, 2019. To register complete the registration form at [https://retirement.berkeley.edu/ucrab\\_events](https://retirement.berkeley.edu/ucrab_events), or to register by phone call 510-642-5461. (If no answer, please leave voice mail with name, email and name of event registering for.). Registrations are confirmed upon receipt of payment of \$25 per person. Checks should be made payable to UCRAB and mailed to UCRAB, 101 University Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720-1550. Free and convenient parking is available in the church's underground parking lot, entrance on Channing Way. The number of spaces is limited. If you need parking, please request a parking pass when you register.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL ANNUAL EVENT

## ***East Bay College Fund***

The mission of the East Bay College Fund is helping resilient public school students from groups underrepresented in higher education to gain access and to succeed in higher education. The Fund not only provides four-year scholarships to low-income, first-generation scholars but also offers guidance and encouragement through its professional staff, mentors, and experienced students at the scholar's college. To date, the Fund has supported 1,142 graduates of Oakland public with a six-year graduation rate of 80%--four times the national rate for students in their peer group. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the East Bay College Fund, you may contribute on-line by credit card by going to <https://www.eastbaycollegefund.org> and clicking on "DONATE NOW" in the upper-right corner of the page or mail a check made out to East Bay College Fund to East Bay College Fund 300 Frank Ogawa Plaza, suite 430 Oakland, CA 94612



*From left to right: Tarin Griggs, Volunteer Coordinator, Eric Guico, Sr. Program Director & Sandra Ernst, College Completion Director*

## ***CUCRA/CUCEA MEETING, October 30 - 31, 2019***

The Joint Meeting of the Council of UC Retiree Associations met on Wednesday, October 30th at the University of California Davis Alumni Facility. Gary S. May, the UC Davis Chancellor welcomed everyone to the Campus. It was announced that Redwood, a database company that was five years in the making, is up and running and under fire because of its many snafus. The UCRAYS Project which is the new self service data system for employees and retirees is also up and running with many difficulties. It had been hoped that with the advent of UCRAYS the Retirement Associations would be able to access retirees email addresses. However, this is still under discussion.

The major part of the meeting was devoted to UCOP's presentation of the new United Healthcare Medicare Advantage PPO. The new plan will be called UC Medicare Choice and will replace Healthnet Seniority Plus plan. Having received the Open Enrollment booklet we now have a written explanation. If you were in Healthnet Seniority Plus and want to go to the new plan we will be transferred automatically and not need to participate in Open Enrollment.

It was also announced that we have approximately 2,500 new retirees RASC will bring in twenty five new employees to meet with the Directors of the Retirement Centers to assist in all the new changeovers.

Representatives from the Office of the President joined the meeting and informed us that with the retirement of President Janet Napolitano next August a Committee of Replacement has been formed to help select the 21st President of the University of California.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m. and the participants joined various tours The dinner was held in the Shem Museum and the Curator of the Museum spoke about some of the more famous art objects in the Museum.

The meeting of the Council of UC Retiree Associations (CUCRA) met. on Thursday, October 31st After the Officer's reports the election was held for Treasurer and Information Officer. John Dahl was elected to continue as Treasurer. Bob Daly was elected to take over the Information Officer duties from Rod Seeger who is stepping down. Rod Seeger will join the Nomination Committee. Marianne Schnaubelt, the Chair of CUCRA, announced that the committee members and the Chair of the Survey Committee will be in place by June 2020. The same survey questions asked on the first survey will be the basis for the new survey. John Dahl presented the proposed budget for the next year to CUCRA and it was approved as submitted.

There is a new item, a \$2,000 expense for legal fees and with that item the issue of the tax status of CUCRA was presented. The Treasurer had consulted the Office of the President's Legal Counsel among others and a representative from UCOP's Legal Counsel came to the meeting to present to us the legal issues involved making it clear that he cannot advise us in the matter. A long discussion ensued, and it was decided that the information should be distributed at the various Associations Board Meetings and then the discussion for CUCRA could be continued. For more information on the IRS 501(c)s check the CUCRA website. Sue Barnes, the CUCRA Travel Coordinator, gave out the latest travel plans for distribution to the campuses. Please see the article in this Newsletter on travel. She again suggested that campuses may want to establish travel interest groups. The Spring meeting will be held at UC Santa Barbara on April 29-30, 2020,

*Toni Sweet, CUCRA Representative*

### **UCRAB Board of Directors**

#### **Officers**

*Lynn Bailiff  
President*

lynnbailiff@comcast.net

*Patti Owen  
Vice-President*

powen@berkeley.edu

*Marian Gade  
Secretary  
mgade@berkeley.edu  
510-524-9815*

*Elise Woods  
Treasurer  
ewoods@berkeley.edu*

#### **Directors at Large**

*David Duer  
Speaker Coordinator  
dduer@berkeley.edu*

*Sue Gettinger  
Luncheon, Trips &  
Events Coordinator  
suegettinger@gmail.com*

*Nancy Horton  
Membership and  
Social Media Coordinator  
njhorton0120@gmail.com*

*William Roberts  
Newsletter Editor  
wroberts1939@yahoo.com*

*Antonia Sweet  
CUCRA & UCRS Liaison  
510-848-6079*

*Ben Tucker  
Director at Large  
tucker602000@yahoo.com*

***LOLA HELM HARRIS***  
***October 22, 1933-November 5, 2019***

Lola Harris was a remarkable person who had a significant impact on the University of California, Berkeley, while working behind the scenes. She was smart, thoughtful, undaunted by complex problems, and committed to the welfare of all members of the campus community.

Lola was born in Lawrence, Kansas, and attended the University of Kansas, where she earned a B.S. in Business Administration (1956), a J.D. in Law (1963), and an M.S. in Accounting (1968). After finishing her master's degree, she moved to Northern California to find an interesting job.

Lola's first position was in the office of the Vice President for Business and Finance in the University of California's Systemwide Administration. In December 1970, she was hired by the Assistant Chancellor for Budget and Planning on the Berkeley campus as a Principal Budget Analyst. Four years later, she began working for Vice Chancellor Ira Michael Heyman as his Executive Assistant.



In 1980, when Vice Chancellor Heyman was selected as the sixth Chancellor of the Berkeley campus, he promoted Lola to the position of Assistant Chancellor—Affirmative Action and Special Projects. It was in this role that Lola made her most significant contributions to the campus: She assisted the Chancellor in resolving issues concerning undergraduate and graduate admissions, tenure disputes, and compliance with Federal and State regulations governing employment and disabled access.

As one example in the latter area, when the Federal Department of Labor mandated that institutions of higher education submit Affirmative Action Plans for faculty and other academic employees, Lola was given lead responsibility for developing a campus plan that would satisfy the agency's extensive and complex requirements. Sondra Jensen, a colleague who led the effort to create a comparable plan for the campus' staff employees, has noted that

*Lola was personally committed to setting—and meeting—new goals for hiring academic staff from underrepresented groups [women and members of ethnic minority groups]. She worked tirelessly to ensure that this huge document met all D.O.L. requirements and deadlines. The final UC Berkeley Plan was the first in the country to be approved by the Department of Labor.*

When Lola retired in October 1993, she was awarded the Berkeley Citation for “distinguished achievement and notable service to the University.” Subsequently, she was persuaded to come out of retirement and served as Berkeley's first Academic Compliance Affairs Officer through mid-1998, in support of Vice Chancellors John Heilbron and Carol Christ. Professor Christ, who became Berkeley's Chancellor in July 2017, recently wrote that

*Lola Harris was extraordinarily important in Berkeley's first efforts to implement Title IX requirements in regard to sexual discrimination. She helped design the campus' first complaint procedure for sexual harassment and sexual discrimination, and she provided counsel on many individual cases. She was a pioneer in this regard, and, quite simply, a wonderful colleague.*

Following her retirement, Lola pursued her interests in genealogy research, rose gardening, quilting, and bead craft. She also became active in the University of California Retirees' Association at Berkeley, and she served as the association's Vice President for eight years, Secretary for four years, and Director-at-Large for two years. At the completion of her final term as Vice President in June 2018, she was awarded an Honorary Lifetime Membership in the association in recognition of her exemplary service.

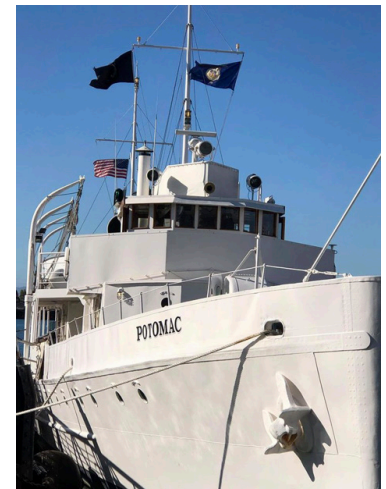
Lola was preceded in death by her partner Paul Gray; they had been together for 45 years. She is survived by her brother Dan Helm, her niece Nila Huskey, and her nephew Steve Helm.

A memorial service for Lola will be held on Wednesday, December 11 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalen Church, where Lola was a long-time member. The church is located at 2005 Berryman Street in Berkeley.

University of California  
Retirees' Association at Berkeley  
101 University Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1550  
Telephone: 510/642-5461  
Fax: 510/643-1460

### ***Bay outing on the Potomac***

On October 17th, UCRAB members and their guests took a two-hour cruise around the San Francisco Bay aboard the USS Potomac, the former FDR presidential yacht. The weather was picture perfect, with blue skies and calm water. Cruise highlights included going under the new part of the Bay Bridge, seeing up close Treasure Island, Angel Island, Alcatraz and having a clear view of Marin County, San Francisco and the Golden Gate. A good time was had by all. Kudos to the volunteers of the USS Potomac Foundation!



### ***UC Retirees Travel***

Thinking of traveling in the next year? Consider a trip with UC Retirees Travel, where you can connect with travelers from all UC locations including retirees, emeriti, family members, and friends. The trips are expertly planned by our travel partners so you can just relax and enjoy the journey. In addition to these new trips, visit the UC Retirees Travel website to view itineraries and details for more destinations in the U.S. Canada, Europe, and Asia and to sign up to receive the Travel Talk e-newsletter with the latest trip updates. Questions about the UC Retirees Travel program? Email [UCRetireesTravel@gmail.com](mailto:UCRetireesTravel@gmail.com).