Reflections by the Center’s Executive Director

It is hard to believe that the Retirement Center is beginning the tenth year of its expanded programming and services. Many of the same pioneering individuals who had formed the Retiree and Emeriti Associations at Cal in the late 70’s and early 80’s were also instrumental in developing a support structure and creating resources so that the Center could serve all retired faculty, staff and surviving spouse beneficiaries. Now, the Center serves almost 14,000 constituents from three institutions in the UC family: UC Berkeley; UC Office of the President; and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Over these years, we have worked to extend into retirement discounted rates and privileged access to campus programs and services through our Cal Connection program (pgs.2-3). Our Learning in Retirement (LIR) program, begun in 2000, has attracted over 1,000 unduplicated Center participants (p.4). Your recent financial contributions, the dedicated efforts of board members and LIR creators Donald A. Riley and Melvin Webber, and the donated time of emeriti and active faculty allow us to offer these programs at no cost. The interest in our basic computer classes, developed by a retiree committee and taught by Center staff, has been so great that we have added intermediate and advanced sessions (p.5). Since 1999, we have offered active faculty and staff nearing retirement a comprehensive eight-part pre-retirement planning course that has educated many and informed their transition out of a full-time career. The Center has also developed the Retiree Work Opportunities program (RWO) that provides a free, web-based way to connect retired faculty or staff to campus hiring managers who have part-time, temporary project needs (p.6). Through this newsletter, we try to keep you up to date about campus programs, services and campus leadership changes that we think might be of interest to you (pgs.6-7).

In addition, we are always creating ways to enhance efficiency and service. For example, this past year we accomplished a major database restructuring so that what used to take two weeks to accomplish manually is now automated and takes only one-half hour. Similarly, we have automated our class registration system to provide you with better service. For seven years, a Center committee has worked to bring multi-level retirement housing close to campus; hopefully this may come to fruition soon. Too, Center staff serves on campus, systemwide and national committees to represent the concerns of emeriti, retirees and surviving spouses and to reaffirm their contributions, past and present, to the Academy. The Center has also served as a training ground for over 20 graduate student interns and undergraduate work-study students, some of whom have changed the direction of their study to aging or social services after their time with us. And, as the fourth Center of its kind in the country, we have provided technical assistance to other campuses across the United States and Canada and given leadership to the birth of an international association of retirement organizations in higher education.

Your contributions of time and money have been a critical factor in our success. When state budget woes threatened our survival, we were able to continue our programming despite 20% cuts. As those cuts have not been restored to our budget, we continue to depend on your gifts. Our donor honor roll recognizes your generosity (pgs.8-9).

It has been my pleasure and privilege, as well as the Center staff’s, to be of service to you. We look forward to our continued work on your behalf.
The Retirement Center has arranged these discounts and services.

**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 for ordering online at http://www.ucpress.edu (type the code in the coupon code field).

**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 order online: 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). See special program on page 6.

**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.

**Music Department Discount**
The Department of Music is delighted to extend to you the same discount on events that it offers to seniors and current staff and faculty. 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.

**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.

ID Cards

To identify yourself as a retiree, please use a retiree ID card that identifies you as retired staff, retired faculty, or their surviving spouse or partner.
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://calperfs.berkeley.edu. Note: discount is not available for on-line purchases or for performances not listed below. All performances are in Zellerbach Hall, unless otherwise noted. Retiree ID card required at the door.

Bayanihan Philippine National Dance Company $22, $32, $42
Saturday September 23 8pm

Maxim Vengerov, violin $36, $48, $68
Sunday October 8 3pm

Gamelan Sekar Jaya $20, $26, $32
Saturday October 14 8pm

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra & Emanuel Ax $34, $42, $58
Sunday October 22 3pm

Lyon Opera Ballet $32, $46, $58
Friday October 27 8pm

English Concert $30, $40, $52
Andrew Manze, director & violin
Sunday October 29 3pm

Yefim Bronfman, piano $30, $40, $52
Gil Shaham, violin, Truls Mørk, cello
Wednesday November 1 8pm

Chorus Repertory Theatre $24, $36, $48
Ratan Thiyam’s Nine Hills One Valley
Friday November 10 8pm
Saturday November 11 8pm

Gidon Kremer, violin $36, $48, $68
Andrei Pushkarev, percussion, Andrius Zlabys, piano
Thursday November 16 8pm

Golden Dragon Acrobats $22, $30, $42
Friday November 24 8pm
Saturday November 25 2pm & 8pm
Sunday November 26 3pm

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

Music
Organized by Professor Donald A. Riley, Department of Psychology

We are privileged to hear from three students of music who will approach that topic in different, but related ways. First, Professor Emeritus Eugene Commins, Department of Physics, will discuss “The Physics of Music.” His lecture, which will include demonstrations, will lay the ground for our second lecture, which deals with making music in a special way. That special way is the subject of the lecture by Jeff Davis, University Carillonist. He will discuss the history of carillons from the early days through our own instrument and will conclude his lecture with a demonstration on the University Carillon. The third lecture in this series will be given by David Wessel, Professor of Music and Director of The Center for New Music & Audio Technologies (CNMAT). His lecture will address recent advances in our understanding of music making, music perception, and of brain function during the creation of and listening to music.

Fridays, times vary by date
September 29 3pm-5pm Professor Emeritus Eugene D. Commins: “The Physics of Music”
October 6 4:30pm-6:30pm Jeff Davis: “The University Carillon”
October 13 3pm-5pm Professor David Wessel: “Recent Advances in Music Cognition”

Election Symposium
(Co-Sponsored by The Faculty Club and the UC Berkeley Retirement Center)
Organized by Gerald Lubenow, editor, Berkeley Public Policy Press

Thursday, October 19, 5pm (wine and cheese reception to follow)
Panelists: Professor Nelson W. Polsby and Mr. Mervin Field
Moderator: Gerald Lubenow

On Thursday, October 19, a pair of distinguished political analysts will discuss the upcoming election and respond to questions from the audience. Their comments and analysis will address California races and issues as well as the national battle for control of the U.S. Congress. They will touch on such issues as the impact of the war in Iraq and the economy, the nationalization of state campaigns, the framing of issues, and the impact of turnout among an electorate that seems increasingly disaffected by recent political developments.

Nelson W. Polsby is Heller Professor of Political Science, former director of the Institute of Governmental Studies, and the author of more than a score of books on American politics, including, most recently, How Congress Evolves and Presidential Elections. Mervin Field is founder of the Field Poll, California’s leading political polling firm, and a veteran analyst of state and national political trends. Gerald Lubenow, editor of the Berkeley Public Policy Press and former bureau chief in San Francisco and London for Newsweek Magazine, will moderate.

Global Warming - What Can We Do?
Organized by Professor Lawrence Waldron, Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management

This Learning in Retirement course will be concerned with what can be done to stabilize carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels that have been rising at an increasing rate, particularly over the past 50 years. While CO₂ is not the only gas implicated in global warming, it is the most significant one because of the magnitude of its increasing concentration and anthropogenic origin. The four sessions will not present an exhaustive catalog of ameliorative measures, but will analyze several approaches that have potential for reducing CO₂ emissions.

Tuesdays, 3pm-5pm
October 17 Dr. Sally Benson: “Carbon Sequestration: Making Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants Climate Friendly”
Center Sponsored Programs and Events

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

October 24  Professor Emeritus Lawrence Grossman: “Nuclear Power and Global Warming”
October 31  Professor Alexander Farrell: “Transportation Fuels in the Twenty-First Century”
November 7  Dr. Jayant Sathaye: “The Role of Land Use Change and Forestry in the Carbon Cycle”

Vision
Organized by Professor Karen De Valois, School of Optometry and Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute

The visual system is our most highly developed sensory system. Current estimates are that about a third of the cortex of the brain is devoted to visual processing. Though vision seems instantaneous and trivially easy, it is arguably the most complex thing we do.

In four sessions we will discuss the ways in which the brain analyzes the information collected by the eyes. Karen K. De Valois, Professor of Psychology, Vision Science and Optometry, will discuss color vision and motion vision; Dennis Levi, Professor of Optometry and Vision Science and Dean, School of Optometry, will talk about spatial vision; Anthony Adams, Professor of Optometry and Vision Science, will discuss clinical vision problems. We will consider questions such as how color vision varies across species and across individuals, how the brain extracts and encodes color, how the visual system analyzes spatial patterns, what kinds of specialized mechanisms we have evolved to see motion, and what clinical vision problems are more likely to occur as we age.

Mondays, 2pm-4pm
November 13  Professor Karen De Valois: “Color Vision”
November 20  Professor Dennis Levi: “Spatial Vision”
November 27  Professor Karen De Valois: “Motion Vision”
December 4  Professor Anthony Adams: “Clinical Vision Problems”

COMPUTER CLASSES

Classes are tailored for you. A $10.00 per session fee includes instruction and materials. Parking can be arranged for $4.00 per day. Call the Center for reservations or if you have any questions. Class space is limited to 18 participants.

Computer Basics  (This is a two-session class.)
Monday October 9  9am-Noon
Tuesday October 10  9am-Noon

These sessions introduce you to the very basic elements of computer use. They offer an overview of computer applications and hands-on training. You will learn what makes a computer tick, how to use a keyboard and mouse, how to open, close and navigate through programs, and how to create and save files.

Advanced Basics  (This is a two-session class.)
Monday October 23  9am-Noon
Tuesday October 24  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
Monday October 30  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 the browsers and search engines, the tools used to navigate “the web.”

World-Wide Web II: The Next Steps
Tuesday October 31  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 security issues and viruses.
Prerequisite: Completion of The Internet Starter Course.
Update on RWO Program

We are quite pleased with the successful response to the RWO website this past year, which was featured in the lead article in the August 31st Berkeleyan.

There are now over 400 hiring managers and retirees using the website to connect with each other about potential work opportunities. With the new fiscal year now underway, it’s a good time for hiring managers to fund temporary or part-time postings or to accomplish short-term, project-based assignments by hiring an experienced UC retiree.

Whether you’re a retiree or a hiring manager, you may be interested to know that the website offers the capability of keyword searches on retirees’ profiles/resumes. This is a quick and effective way for managers to narrow down their search to candidates with specific skills and interests rather than having to browse through dozens of profiles. For instance, the manager might use certain system names such as HRMS or BAIRS as keywords to search for retirees with experience using those systems, or they might search on more generic keywords such as “project management,” “writing,” “accounting,” “counseling,” “teaching,” “human resources,” “engineering,” or “research.”

As a retiree creating or updating your personal profile and/or resume, consider what key words you might use to locate someone with just your kind of expertise. Think about the work you did at UC in the past and also any new experience (paid or unpaid) and interests you’ve developed since your retirement. And if you’ve recently finished a temporary campus job, be sure to update your profile to include any new knowledge and skills you gained on that job.

If you have questions about how to update your website profile, please contact gjparra@berkeley.edu. The Retirement Center also plans to offer a resume-writing refresher workshop. Watch for details in future CenterPiece articles.

We have recently updated the security features of the website. To register as a new user, contact the Retirement Center at (510)642-5461 or email gjparra@berkeley.edu.

Important Change to 2006 Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment (OE) offers UC annuitants a chance to change health plans. Please note that this year’s enrollment period is shorter than usual: November 1-21 only.

Health Plan changes can be made online at http://atyourservice.ucop.edu or you can request paper forms by calling the UC Customer Service Center (1-800-888-8267). To get information that you need to make your OE decisions:

1) Attend a Retiree OE Information Session on Thursday, November 9 from 1:30–3pm or Wednesday, November 15, 9–10:30am. Call the Center for reservations and location; and
2) Visit http://atyourservice.ucop.edu for frequent updates.

University of California Alumni Chorus (UCAC)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: “Mass in C Minor” completed by Robert Levin

Friday November 3 8pm

The University Alumni Chorus is pleased to invite Retirement Center constituents and a guest to their fall concert at the senior rate of $10 (general ticket price is $15). The concert will be held in Hertz Hall and seating is by general admission. Tickets will be available at the door or can be purchased in advance from UCAC members. Checks or cash only will be accepted. No phone orders. For information, call (510)642-3880.

Berkeley Art Museum Tour

Semina Culture: Wallace Berman And His Circle

The exhibition Semina Culture revolves around Wallace Berman—artist, poet, and catalyst for a group of mid-twentieth-century artists commonly referred to as Beat. Between 1955 and 1964, Berman published nine issues of the unbound magazine Semina. Join us for guided tours and/or special programs such as the Curator’s Talk on the opening day of the exhibit, Wednesday, October 18, given by Senior Curator Constance Lewallen, who assembled this exhibit, or the Poets’ and Curators’ Tribute on Sunday, October 29, following a guided tour, at which several of the artists featured in the exhibit will be present and speak about their works.
George Breslauer Named Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost
(adapted from Berkleyan article written by Robert Sanders; for complete article see http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/03/15_evcp.shtml)

On July 1st, George W. Breslauer, a political science professor and Russia specialist, became the campus's executive vice chancellor and provost.

Breslauer, 60, who has been on the UC Berkeley faculty for 35 years, received his A.B., A.M. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, joining the UC Berkeley political science faculty in 1971 while completing his Ph.D. thesis. He specialized in studies of Soviet leaders and after 1991, leadership in the new Russia. In addition to teaching, he has held many leadership positions, including directing the Center for Slavic and East European Studies and chairing the political science department. Most recently, he was appointed last August as the executive dean of the College of Letters & Science.

Breslauer said his new job will be an “exciting challenge” that is four-pronged: maintaining the excellence of the undergraduates, the graduate students, the staff and the faculty.

Nathan Brostrom New Vice Chancellor — Administration
(adapted from Berkleyan article written by Marie Felde; for complete article see http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2005/12/21_vcjob.shtml)

Nathan Brostrom, formerly a managing director and co-head of the Western Region Public Finance group at J.P. Morgan Securities, joined UC Berkeley this spring in the newly-created position of vice chancellor-administration, which combined the duties of two previous vice chancellors, one in business and administrative services and one in budget and finance. In this position, he manages the campus's annual operating budget of more than $1.3 billion and is also responsible for a division that is the largest provider of services to campus staff and a significant provider of services to UC Berkeley students.

Chancellor Birgeneau said of Brostrom, who holds a master's degree in public and international affairs from Princeton University and a B.A. from Stanford University, “In Nathan Brostrom we have a recognized expert in public finance, a creative and enthusiastic manager and a leader who cares deeply about the public mission of this great university, including most especially our historic commitment to academic excellence and social justice.”

Jeannine Raymond Named Assistant Vice Chancellor — Human Resources
(adapted from Berkleyan article; for complete article see http://www.berkeley.edu/news/berkeleyan/2006/07/19_Raymond.shtml)

Jeannine Raymond has been appointed assistant vice chancellor for human resources effective July 14. Raymond's most recent post was as director of human resources at California State University, Fresno.

Raymond has more than 22 years of management experience in public higher education, first in academic affairs and then in administration. She received her Ph.D. in statistics and research methodology at the University of Southern California and was a tenured faculty member at CSU Fresno and past chair of the Department of Health Sciences there. She has more than nine years of experience as director of human resources at CSU, where she was responsible for reengineering human resources and assisting senior managers with workforce planning.
With great thanks to all our donors, both those listed here and those who donated anonymously . . .

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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.