

---

# Berkeley Emeriti

# TIMES



March 2011



## Robert F. Sawyer, PhD

Class of 1935 Professor of Energy Emeritus  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

### “The Politics of California Air Pollution”

Saturday, March 26, 2011  
The Faculty Club

Robert F. Sawyer, Class of 1935 Professor of Energy Emeritus, Department of Mechanical Engineering, will speak on “The Politics of California Air Pollution” at the March 26 luncheon of the Emeriti Association.

His talk will draw from his experience at the California Air Resources Board (CARB) where he served as an appointee of both governors Brown and Schwarzenegger. CARB is a national and international model for innovative, science based environmental regulation.

Sawyer earned his B.S. and M.S. in mechanical engineering at Stanford University. After a stint in the Air Force, where he was involved in rocket propulsion research, he went on to Princeton to complete his PhD in Aerospace Science. He made his way to Berkeley in the mid-60s where he taught graduate and undergraduate courses until 1991. He continues to teach in the Freshman Seminar program at Berkeley.

Active in many professional associations, he has served on several EPA panels and committees, many National Academy of Science Committees, and as a consultant to both government and industry. In 1995 he was named Visiting Professor of Energy and the Environment at the University College, London, and from 2003-2005 served as Director, Study Center, London, for UC’s Education Abroad Program.

His research interests include combustion, fire safety, air pollution formation and control, energy and the environment, motor vehicle emissions and regulatory policy. Between teaching and doing research, he found time to write more than 350 publications and two books. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2007.

The Santa Barbara native is an avid skier, backpacker, and wildflower photographer. He and his wife, Barbara, split their time among their Oakland, Sacramento, and Lake Tahoe homes and traveling.

---

UCB EMERITI ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2010-2011

President

Roger Glassey

First Vice President

Ed Epstein

Second Vice President

Caroline Kane

Treasurer

George Goldman

Secretary

Barbara Davis

Berkeley Emeriti Times Editor

Joan Trezek

Members at Large

Richard Herr

Jack Kirsch

George Leitmann

Calvin Moore

Karl Pister

CUCEA Representative

Ed Epstein

Past UCBEA Presidents

Dick Malkin

Louise Taylor

Larry Waldron

Stewards

Betty Carpenter

Sue Cork

Mary Mortimer

Mailing Address

UC Berkeley Emeriti Association

1925 Walnut Street # 1550

Berkeley, CA 94720-1550

UCB Retirement Center

Patrick Cullinane, Director

Summer Scanlan, Office Manager

Office UCB Retirement Center

Telephone 510/642-5461

Fax 510/643-1460

Web site thecenter.berkeley.edu

Email emeriti@berkeley.edu

**Berkeley Emeriti**

**TIMES**



**Volume 20, Number 2**

Published before each meeting of the UC Berkeley Emeriti Association: To provide closer networking for members with: meeting announcements, meeting reviews, executive committee actions, pertinent campus news, and to reach out to members who cannot attend the meetings.

Editor: Joan Trezek

Phone: 925/286.5745

Email: joan@trezekpublicrelations.com

## President's Message

*Chancellor Birgenau recently received an announcement from the Mellon Foundation that I have excerpted and share with members.*

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation invites the University of California, Berkeley to nominate candidates for the Foundation's Emeritus Fellowships. The program, inaugurated in 2003, provides financial support for research by outstanding scholars in the *humanities and humanistic social sciences* who, at the time of taking up the award, will be officially retired but remain active and productive contributors. The intent is to extend the Foundation's efforts to encourage the highest quality research to those who ordinarily are no longer eligible for funding.

Emeritus Fellows will receive funds for a year's research and other related expenses. The University of California, Berkeley, may nominate up to three candidates. Nominations should reach the Foundation no later than May 9, 2011 and should result from an internal competition. Descriptions of the candidates' plans for future research as well as their accomplishments to date are required. The Foundation requires a hard copy of the proposal sent to their New York office as well as a single pdf document (including the endorsement letter, proposal, budget, and short CV) directed to eil@mellon.org. A panel of distinguished scholars evaluates the nominees (as many as 30 Fellows can be chosen) with awards made in September.

For details re: submission guidelines and other questions, contact Diane Sprouse, Committee Administrator, Academic Senate, 510-643-5461, dsprouse@berkeley.edu.

*Roger Glassey, President*

### Upcoming Learning in Retirement Lecture Series: **The Berkeley Campus in a Time of Rapid Change**

Organized by Professor Emeritus W. M. Laetsch

Tuesdays March 22 & 29, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Four former campus leaders will talk about their experiences at the University of California and the Berkeley Campus in particular, during the last half of the 20th Century.

#### March 22

**Neil Smelser** served as Assistant Chancellor, Chair of Academic Senate Policy Committee, Educational Policy Committee and Chair of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate.

**Michael Heyman** was appointed Chancellor in 1980 following several years as the Vice Chancellor. He later became Director of Berkeley's Center for the Study of Higher Education.

#### March 29

**Earl Cheit** served as Dean of the Business School, Vice Chancellor of Administration and Business Services.

**Karl Pister** served as Dean of the College of Engineering and Director of the Center for the Study of Higher Education. He is now a Senior Associate to the Chancellor.

Contact the Retirement Center at 510-642-5461 or ucrbc@berkeley.edu to register for this series.

## Meet Your UCBEA Board - Part II

When he retired from the Dept. of Agricultural Economics, **George Goldman** joined UCBEA and a few years later agreed to serve as treasurer. While on campus,



*George Goldman,  
Treasurer, UCBEA*

Professor Goldman's role was different from faculty who teach, conduct research and publish original research. As a Cooperative Extension Specialist (and UC employee with academic rank), his focus was on using economics to solve problems at county, city, and state level. UC Riverside and Davis also have similar programs. He values the

programs offered by the Retirement Center and advocates programs which allow Association members to support the University and the community.

Professor **Richard Herr**, an at-large member, joined UCBEA at the time he retired from the Dept. of History because "it seemed like the right thing to do." He enjoys serving on the Board and likes the lively discussions of the board meetings. Together with Barbra Davis, he co-chairs the mentoring committee and is working on having a questionnaire in members' hands to gauge their interest in the concept; the key question being 'to whom do we offer mentoring services.' Herr likes the variety of speakers who headline the luncheon meetings and appreciates the wealth of resources active and retired faculty offer.

**Sue Cork** defines her board role as steward somewhat humorously: "we're lackeys." She or her colleagues staff the reception table at UCBEA luncheons, checking in those who made reservations, distributing name tags, etc. Her husband Bruce Cork was a member of the Dept. of Physics, and, in part, her motivation to participate in UCBEA was to stay in touch with friends. "I'm very broad-minded so I like the wide range of topics and speakers at the meetings, but I would like to see more new faces attending. It's good to have fresh ideas and new recruits to keep us 'seasoned members' energized."

### Dues Reminder

Please take a moment and check your mailing label to see when your membership will expire. If your label is marked 2010, your membership has lapsed. Dues are \$15 per year; payments may be made via check or money order to UCBEA, 1925 Walnut Street #1550, Berkeley, CA 94720-1550.

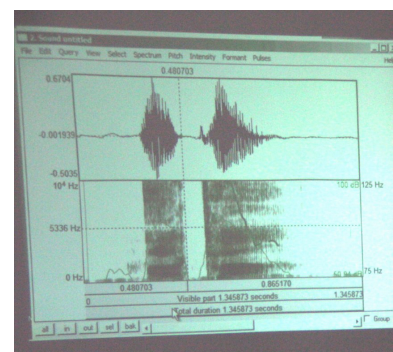
## Ears and Eyes Pay Attention to Sound

Professor Emeritus John Ohala pays lots of attention to sound—the sounds of human speech as he amply demonstrated at the February meeting of the Emeritus Association. After an overview of the various sub-categories that make up what we generally refer to as "language," Ohala explained that his field unites phonetics and historical linguistics. His particular focus is studying how the sound of language changes over time.



*Prof. Ohala responds to a question.*

Recognizing that there are various theories about how sound changes occur and spread, Ohala supports



*The upper part of the sound wave displays sound pressure variations; the bottom part is the synchronized time-varying spectrum of the sound wave.*

the theory that change is the result of the listener mis-hearing or mis-interpreting what others have said. With the assistance of two audience volunteers, Professor Ohala, using a computer software program called PRAAT, demonstrated how speech sounds can be recorded and viewed on the computer screen as sound pressure variation and then

modified. He called the process doing "microsurgery" on speech.

In concluding his remarks, Ohala brought his presentation close to home, stating that Benjamin Ide Wheeler, the first chair of the short-lived Dept. of Linguistics (1901-06), and the namesake for Wheeler Hall, invited world famous phoneticians who also studied how speech changes over the centuries to the UC campus. Another early pioneer in the field was Alfred Kroeber, whose work focused primarily on Native American languages. An interesting sidenote was Ohala's comment that it is likely that UC Berkeley is the only university to have two buildings named after two linguists, Wheeler and Kroeber.

BERKELEY EMERITI TIMES  
University of California, Berkeley  
1925 Walnut Street # 1550  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1550

### **Lend a Hand: Garden Shop and Plant Deck Needs Volunteers**

Do you like plants and botanically themed books and gifts? Do you enjoy working with the public? The Garden Shop at the UC Botanical Garden generates much-needed revenue.

**Volunteers:** sell gifts, plants, and books; greet visitors and provide information about the Garden. **Requirements:** work a minimum of two three-hour shifts per month and commit to one year of volunteering. Full training and staff supervision provided. Volunteer shifts are available 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM or 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM weekdays and weekends. Contact Perry Hall at [perry@berkeley.edu](mailto:perry@berkeley.edu) for more information or visit [http://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu/get\\_involved/volunteer.shtml](http://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu/get_involved/volunteer.shtml).

### **Upcoming Events**

**UCBEA Luncheons** | Faculty Club | Saturdays, May 7, September 24, December 3

**UCRAB Luncheons** | Berkeley City Club | March 17, June 16, September 15, December 15

**UCRAB Day at the Races** | Golden Gate Fields | April 21, 2011 | Join the UC Retirees' Association at Berkeley for fun and food at the Turf Club. \$36 registration fee includes preferred parking, racing program and lunch buffet. A portion of the proceeds of this event benefits the UCRAB scholarship fund. Gates open at 11am; buffet is open from 11:30am - 2pm; First race at 12:45pm, last race at 4:30pm. | Contact the Retirement Center at 510-642-5461 or [ucrbc@berkeley.edu](mailto:ucrbc@berkeley.edu) by April 10 for a registration form.

**Older Americans Month Lectures** | This May, the Retirement Center is offering lectures on Later Life Health, Health Care Reform and Caregiving. See <http://thecenter.berkeley.edu/special-events.shtml> for detailed information. | Contact the Retirement Center at 510-642-5461 or [ucrbc@berkeley.edu](mailto:ucrbc@berkeley.edu) to register.