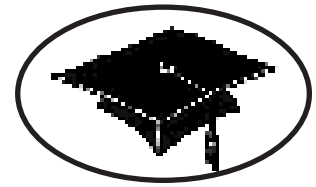


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# Berkeley Emeriti

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November 2003

## Professor Alan Dundes

Department of Anthropology

### “Folklore in the Bible and the Qur’an”

Saturday, November 8, 2003

Professor Alan Dundes of the Anthropology Department will be our guest speaker at the next UCBEA luncheon. He is one of the world’s leading authorities in the field of folklore studies. Since coming to Berkeley in 1963, Professor Dundes has lectured to thousands of undergraduates and has taught hundreds of graduate students. He has published more than a dozen books and more than 250 articles in scholarly journals. The range of his scholarship is impressively broad, including such disparate topics as: the Oedipus theme in Greek classical culture; aspects of American Indian folklore; “Little Red Riding Hood”; modern German culture; and the famous Sienese horserace, the *palio*. Professor Dundes has been a Guggenheim Fellow and a National Endowment for the Humanities Senior Fellow, as well as the recipient of the Pitre Prize for lifetime achievement in folklore and Berkeley’s Distinguished Teaching Award. The topic addressed at our luncheon calls attention to two of his many books: “Holy Writ as Oral Lit: The Bible as Folklore” (1999) and “Fables of the Ancients: Folklore in the Qur’an” (2003). We hope to see you at The Faculty Club.

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**Berkeley Emeriti**

**F I M E S**



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**Exercise Your Brain As Well As Your Body and Welcome Stress!**

At the UCBEA luncheon on Saturday, September 13, 2003, Professor Emerita Paola Timeras addressed her aging colleagues and guests on the subject of living longer and growing younger. Yes, younger seems a stretch, but there are some encouraging facts emerging from studies of aging, a field in which Professor Timeras has been active for many years.

The modern increase in human longevity was strikingly illustrated in a graph of life expectancy at birth for French citizens from 1806 to 1995. Professor Timeras regards the rise from about 40 years expectancy in 1806 to over 80 years in 1995 as a major and under-appreciated achievement of civilization. However, the assiduous long-term record keeping of the French government also shows appalling abrupt declines coincident with wars – failures of civilization. For example, in the period of the First World War, longevity for men fell to about 28 years, almost as low as the decline to 25 years in the Napoleonic Wars over 100 years earlier.

The dogma that nerve paths in the mammalian central nervous system are fixed and cannot be regenerated is being challenged by recent research. Plasticity in brain development was first recognized in male canaries. Neural cells that produce spring mating songs die off each year, and new cells are generated as new songs are composed the following spring. Neurogenesis in human brains is stimulated by growth factors (vitamins), physical exercise and learning. In Professor Timeras's laboratory, tissue culture studies have demonstrated that growth factors stimulate neuroglial cells giving rise to progenitor cells, which might possibly be transformed into neurons under the influence of growth factors and a favorable hormonal environment.

You cannot be active and avoid stress, so it is good news that moderate amounts of stress may be beneficial. Stress induces defense mechanisms for maintenance of homeostasis, the keeping of a steady internal state in a changing external environment. *Hormesis*, small stimulations of a system by an external agent, may serve as a "check up" for the preparedness of the organism to adapt and survive.

In summary: Appreciate the great cultural achievement of your increased years of life over that of your ancestors; avoid wars; take heart from the fact that your brain cells have powers of regeneration; exercise your body and brain; accept moderate stress as beneficial. Learn some new songs!

*Larry Waldron*

**Membership Dues Reminder**

It's dues time again. Dues are \$10 a year and can be paid by a check made out to the UCB Emeriti Association and mailed to the Association at 2 Boalt Hall #7200, Berkeley, CA. 94720-7200. If you contribute an amount in addition to the dues payment, please indicate this on your check.

If you are not sure of your current dues status, remember that the last year for which dues have been paid can be found on the mailing label on

## Recognizing an Exemplary Professor

In recent months, the Board of UC Berkeley Emeriti Association has been discussing ways our association might recognize the achievements of colleagues who have continued to do exceptional work as scholars, teachers and community activists, after their retirement. Louise Taylor, the past president of the Association, has been instrumental in pursuing this goal, and I thank her for her efforts. Today, the Association salutes Professor Emeritus Mark Rosenzweig of the Psychology Department, for his extraordinary record of teaching, research and service since his retirement in 1992.

Mark Rosenzweig has had a long and distinguished career at Berkeley and has made extraordinary contributions to our understanding of the biological bases of learning and memory. His work has been recognized by many professional honors, including election to the National Academy of Sciences and two honorary doctoral degrees. Professor Rosenzweig has served as president of the International Union of Psychological Science, was co-editor of the "International Handbook of Psychology" (2000) and is an active member of the Program Committee for the International Congress of Psychology, which will be held in Beijing 2004. His textbook "Biological Psychology" has been published in three editions, the last in 2002, and has been translated into French, Italian and Spanish. He continues to publish significant work in his field, to write reviews for psychological journals and essays for encyclopedias. The (past) chairman of the Psychology Department, Karen De Volois, has written that "[Mark] continues to be an active and greatly appreciated member of [our] department, a teacher and resource for students and colleagues, a willing servant of his profession and his colleagues around the world, and an active contributor to his field. Ten years after retirement, he remains an exemplary professor."

Mark, on behalf of the Board of the Emeriti Association, I offer you this gesture of recognition of your exceptional achievements since your formal retirement, which in retrospect appears to be no retirement at all. There is no honorarium attached to this award (our impoverished treasury will not permit it) no plaque or scroll to commemorate the event, only our appreciation for your contributions to your discipline, your students and to Berkeley.

*Gene Brucker*

## SATISFACTORY SERVICES



### *New Recommendation*



**Kirk T. Allen of Lamorinda Electric** (925/283-9473) is a good electrician who will take small jobs (Olivia Eielson).

### *Previous Recommendations*

#### **Woolery Window Washing**

(925) 935-2119, Tom Woolery is highly dependable, his work is flawless, and his prices are reasonable. (Beverly Portis)

**Tony at The Recovery** (843-2708), 2511 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley. For years he has been our reliable craftsman with helpful advise and taste. (Claude Stoller)

Please submit new listings to [ucbrc@uclink.berkeley.edu](mailto:ucbrc@uclink.berkeley.edu), or you can phone the editor at 848-3368. You can view all listings at <http://thecenter.berkeley.edu/ucbea-services.htm>.

### **I Think That I Shall Never See...**

Campus arborist Richard Trout notes that trees are an important part of what people remember long after they have left UC Berkeley.

The oldest planted trees on campus are redwoods southeast of Giannini Hall planted by the original owners of the property more than 140 years ago. Some of the oaks and bays probably predate the campus. Other unusual specimens include: the titoki tree of New Zealand about 125 years old; the olive trees around Giannini and Wellman Halls, transplanted (some twice) from the original botanical garden; and group of blue gums in the Eucalyptus Grove planted in 1877.

Among the missing are: pepper trees which once bordered Morrison Hall; Port Orford cedars north of Valley Life Sciences Building; mature coast live oaks on the north fork of Strawberry Creek and Faculty Glade and the campus's last turkey oak near the west entrance.

For more information on the inventory and mapping of all trees on the 178-acre core campus, visit the web site set up by Richard Trout at <http://landscape.ced.berkeley.edu/~treefund>.

## *Upcoming Campus Events*

### NOON CONCERTS

#### *Violin & Piano - Solo Recital*

October 29, 2003

Shaw Pong Liu, violin; Monica Chew, piano.  
Ginastera, Danzas Argentinas, op. 2 for piano. Prokofiev,  
Violin Sonata in F minor, op. 80.

#### *New Music*

November 5, 2003

New works by graduate student composers in the  
composition seminar conducted by Professor Cindy  
Cox.

#### *Voice - Solo Recital*

November 12, 2003

Deborah Benedict, mezzo soprano; Jo Bloom,  
piano & harpsichord. Songs by John Thow & G.F.  
Handel and excerpts from La Llorona, an opera by  
Daniel Steven Craft.

#### *University Chorus*

December 3, 2003

University Chorus; Paul Flight, Conductor; Choral

### BERKELEY ART MUSEUM EXHIBIT

#### *Exhibiting Signs of Age*

October 8, 2003 through January 18, 2004

The U.S. population is increasingly made up of  
people over the age of 65. Yet the media is saturated  
with images of youth and advertisements for products  
that promise to counteract signs of age. What are the  
implications of this cultural denigration of aging?

*Exhibiting Signs of Age* explores representations  
of aging in twentieth-century and contemporary  
artistic practice. The photographs and works on  
paper displayed in the museum's Theater Gallery  
provide visitors with an opportunity to contemplate  
subjective experiences of aging and gain perspective  
on a range of aging issues. By its very nature,  
the exhibition investigates the politics and ethics  
of representation, inviting us to reconsider the  
normative conventions and strategies of depicting  
identity. This exhibition allow us to interrogate  
various modes of expression—abstraction, realism,  
scientific imaging—as a means of representing our  
bodies, our identities, and our future.