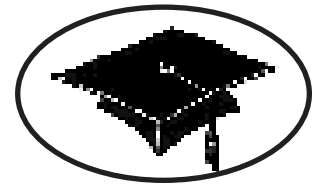

Berkeley Emeriti

T I M E S



November 2009

Professor Andrew Stewart, Ph.D.

Nicholas C. Petris Professor in Greek Studies and Professor of Art History and Classics

“Individuality and Innovation in Greek Sculpture:
Conjectures Old and New”

Saturday, December 5, 2009

The Faculty Club



Professor Andrew Stewart earned his B.A. in classics from St. Catharine’s College, Cambridge in 1969. He continued his studies at St. Catharine’s and the British Schools of Archaeology at Athens and Rome, receiving his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in classical archeology in 1972. He joined the Berkeley faculty in 1978. Since 1986, he has been Director of the UC Berkeley excavations at Tel Dor, Israel.

Stewart received the Distinguished Teaching Award in 2009 and summarized his views of teaching in these words, “I try to foster a number of key elements essential to the learning process: enthusiasm; engagement; effective research techniques; ability to communicate complex ideas both orally and in writing and, perhaps most importantly, analytical and critical processes that challenge received wisdom.”

His particular research interests are in Greek sculpture, ancient art and architecture, archaeology, the east after Alexander, the Renaissance and antiquity. As the picture shows, Andrew can often be found on his portion of the 38-foot Morgan sloop, *Obsession*, or perhaps going, “ga-goo” at the granddaughter twins Giselle and Sofia.

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Berkeley Emeriti

TIMES



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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.

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Post-Employment Benefits Task Force

On Tuesday, November 10, I went to the Listening Forum for Staff held in Sibley Auditorium on campus. As was easily predictable, the place was way too small for the number of people who wanted to attend. There were people sitting on the steps, standing along the perimeter and others standing in the hallway by the open doors. At some point a representative of the fire marshal showed up. He did not shut down the meeting but gave us instructions on how to exit safely in the case of an emergency. [*The Forum for faculty and emeriti was poorly attended. ed.note*]

There is background information at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/ucrpfuture. The meeting started with about a 45-minute power point presentation that should be posted at hrweb.berkeley.edu. Also, there is supposed to be an audio recording of the Q&A session. Information about the Task Force on Post Employment Benefits is at atyourservice.ucop.edu/news/general/0906-postw_emp_task_force.html. Of the listed Task Force members the ones on the panel at the forum were Marian Gade (CUCRA), Bob Anderson (Academic Senate), Charlie Hess (CUCEA), Debora Obley (UCOP budget office), and Randy Scott (UCOP HR). Also present were Gary Schlimgen (UCOP Director, HR - Retirement Programs Policy). Dwaine Duckett (Vice President, Human Resources) was scheduled to be on the panel. The presentation was given by Schlimgen. In the Q&A session he and Scott did most of the responding. [*There was a slightly different panel in the afternoon Forum. ed.note*]

Basically, both the pension system and the retiree health care system are in financial trouble. One thing UC will not change is the pensions of those already retired. Also, they will not have retirees pay into the pension system (which would amount to a cut in retirees' pensions.) Current employees will not lose pension benefits already earned. (Implied but not stated directly was that current employees could have reduced benefits from future earnings.) The health care premiums for retirees will increase soon, a decision made independent of any Task Force recommendations. The University has been covering part of the cost of health care from operating funds. There is the possibility that the University may reduce or stop this practice, which could significantly increase the cost to employees and retirees.

As has been pointed out many times neither the employees nor the employers have paid into the pension system for 19 years. In 1990 the fund was 40% over-funded; the State was having a financial crisis, and the University didn't feel it could justify asking the State to continue paying into the fund. That situation has changed as the fund is now significantly under-funded. Last year's budget originally had funding for the pension fund, but it was literally cut out at the last minute. However, the budget has continued to fund PERS and some other pension funds. The State only provides one-third of UC's funding, with the other two-thirds coming from funding agencies such as DOE. If the State does not pay into the fund then neither will the funding agencies. Even if the State, the funding agencies, and the employees start paying into the fund at the levels discussed at the Forum (about a total of 7% of salaries) the pension fund will continue going down-hill, but at a slower rate.

From Donald Grether, LBNL EX-Ls

Emeriti Survey Coming Soon!

The biennial biobibliographic survey of UC emeriti to be conducted shortly could be historically crucial to emeriti interests since retiree benefits are currently endangered as never before.

The implication that current benefits may not be “sustainable” comes in a political and economic context of crisis and strangulation. Current retirement payments appear reasonably secure - UCRP, *just the pension part* of UCRS, University of California Retirement System.

Unluckily, however, other emeriti benefits which the University has traditionally financed, but is not obliged to continue, could be deemed less “sustainable.” These include periodic additions to our modest cost-of-living adjustments and generous healthcare funding.

Also, the fact that UC’s total benefits exceed those of most comparable universities while its faculty salaries are comparatively low, argues, in these extremely tight times, for reducing or cutting benefits in favor of augmenting faculty salaries.

Concerns of not one, but four major entities could seriously compromise emeriti welfare: the Federal government, the State government, the Regents, and a large Post-Employment Benefits Task Force of the UC President’s Office, charged (rather ominously) “to research options for sustainable retirement benefits.”

Most immediately pertinent to emeriti interests, of course, are decisions by UC entities, and for these the forthcoming biobibliographic survey could well make a critical, perhaps tipping-point difference this year.

Past surveys have presented graphic evidence of how greatly emeriti continue to contribute to the University’s mission and prestige through the quantity and quality of their services, research, teaching, experience, and repute. A strong, updated version could freshly remind everyone that emeriti benefits are indeed worth sustaining.

Please attend carefully to the survey’s questionnaire. If you have been at all active in university affairs, research, teaching, creative activities, or public service in the past two years, your contributions to this data will help make its results all the more forceful.

Charles Berst
CUCEA, 2007-2009 Biobib Survey Chair

Planning Today for Your Fiscal Tomorrow

Registration for this program is through the Retirement Center, 642-5461

Friday, December 4, 1pm-5pm

Presented by Adrian Harris, UCLA Vice Chancellor-Planning, Emeritus

Sponsored by: UCB Retirement Center, UCB Emeriti Association, UC Retirees at Berkeley, Presidents and Regents Retirees Association, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory EX-Ls and the Chancellor’s Office

Retirees’ Association Holiday Party

The UC Retirees’ Association at Berkeley (UCRAB) invites you to attend their Annual Holiday Party Luncheon at the Berkeley City Club. The party is on Thursday, December 10 from 11am-noon.

Enjoy jazz guitar from Jeff Massenari. Jeff has performed at Yoshi’s International Jazz House, Pearl’s, Davies Symphony Hall, national festivals including, San Jose Jazz Festival, Fillmore Jazz Festival, North Beach Jazz Festival, the Sausalito Arts Festival, as well as overseas festivals in Japan, Sweden, Finland, Guam, and Italy.

To register send a check (\$25 per person), made out to UCRAB, and the names of those attending. Mail the check to 1925 Walnut St. #1550, Berkeley, CA 94720 by December 4.

For the fifth consecutive year we are soliciting gifts for teen and baby patients at Children’s Hospital of Oakland.

- Plastic teething devices, noise toys, washable soft cuddlies, touch books
- Colored pencils or pens for journals, blank books, note books, also new books including Spanish language publications,

For those not going to the luncheon, you may drop off gifts at the Center by December 9.

To Avoid These Symptoms...

fever (usually high),
severe aches and pains in the joints and muscles
and around the eyes,
generalized weakness,
ill appearance with warm, flushed skin and red,
watery eyes,
headache,
dry cough, sore throat and a runny nose -
get your seasonal flu shot!

EXHIBITS and EVENTS on CAMPUS

Exhibits

Most daily except Mon., 10-4, through Dec 23, Phone first to double-check.

Berkeley Art Museum - Ari Marcopoulos, photography

Bancroft Library - San Francisco Examiner Photos, 1934 strike

Doe Library - Twentieth Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

Hearst Museum of Anthropology - Artifacts, Mayan Textiles, 99 Bottles of Beer

Northgate Hall - Jackrabbit Homestead, photographs by Kim Stringfellow

Wurster Library - A New Modernism, the UCB College of Environmental Design, 1959-2009

Bancroft Library - Darwin: Evolution of a Theory



Musical Events

December 6 - Hertz Hall - UC Wind Ensembles Concert, 3pm

December 6 - Berkeley Art Museum - Musical Performance: Songs of the Fountain, 3pm

December 9 - Hertz Hall - Holiday Choral Music, Noon Concert Series, 12:15pm

December 10 - Hertz Hall - UC Choral Ensembles Holiday Concert 7:30pm