Join us at our December luncheon to hear Ann Swidler discuss her research on the efforts of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to fight AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. Her talk will consider the intersection of large global actors such as the UN, USAID, and UNICEF that fund HIV treatment with those on the ground carrying out their programs.

Ann Swidler, Professor of Sociology, completed her graduate work at UC Berkeley after earning her bachelor’s from Harvard University. She served on the faculty of Harvard and Stanford before returning to Berkeley in 1987. Her work has focused on the interplay between cultures and institutions, on how cultural beliefs play out and how they are experienced by individuals. Her major books include Talk of Love: How Culture Matters (2001) and the co-authored Habits of the Heart: Individualism and Commitment in American Life (1985).

Swidler’s current work is a departure from her earlier research interests and emerged from her participation in the Successful Societies program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, a multi-disciplinary program that seeks to understand the societal determinants of human health and wellbeing. At an early planning meeting for the as-yet-unnamed program, she encountered Jody Heymann, MD, PhD, of the Harvard School of Public Health (and recently appointed Dean of UCLA’s School of Public Health). Heymann was running a program in Botswana to treat pregnant women with AZT. Those who received a single dose reduced their chances of transmitting HIV to their babies from 40% to 20%. Swidler wondered why Botswana had such a program when other sub-Saharan countries did not. A review of the literature on AIDS in Africa led her to numerous anthropological studies of sexual practices, but to no studies of the political and social institutions responding to the AIDS epidemic. Clearly this was an area calling for attention.

Swidler’s current research program took off when she began collaborating with Susan Cotts Watkins, Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania and Visiting Research Scientist at the California Center for Population Research, UCLA. Watkins was conducting an extensive research program in Malawi, encompassing 4000 people in 150 villages in three regions of the country. Swidler joined her for a month in 2004 and has returned to Malawi each summer since 2006. She and her team conduct interviews with former and current field staff of international NGOs – those who work for the programs on the ground – to explore local factors that affect why some programs succeed while others do not. Of late, she has focused on the key role of tribal chiefs in either supporting or resisting NGO efforts.

Among the dilemmas Swidler will discuss is the challenge of communication between altruists engaging in Africa through NGOs and the local populations who seek to benefit from their programs. Swidler has a vivid understanding of the interplay between these two groups, and her talk promises to challenge some of our own conceptions about the role of NGOs in fighting AIDS.
President’s Message

Dear Colleagues,

In lieu of a general message, I am sharing with you excerpts from the summary report I submitted to the CUCEA (Council of UC Emeriti Associations) for their meeting November 1, 2012.

Mentoring

The UCBEA mentorship program for undergraduate students who are the first in their families to attend college began in Spring 2012. Currently ten emeriti faculty are working with ten current or former SAGE Scholars (Student Achievement Guided by Experience, http://sagescholars.berkeley.edu/) drawn from majors throughout the campus. Another four emeriti are mentoring six engineering undergraduates referred by Engineering Student Services. Other emeriti are mentoring undergraduates drawn from the general student body.

In order to concentrate on the undergraduate program, we deferred launching the mentoring component directed toward assistant or associate professors new to the campus until Fall Semester 2012. This aspect of the mentoring program is intended to facilitate the academic and personal adjustment of newcomers to Berkeley. We held a reception in mid-April, which drew eight “newbies,” and have identified emeriti who wish to mentor members of this cohort.

Professor Emerita Caroline Kane (Molecular and Cell Biology), the creative and highly effective chair of the UCBEA Mentorship Committee, has been joined by Professor Emeritus (Psychology), former Vice Provost, Sheldon Zedeck, who has assumed responsibility for the faculty mentorship program. We encourage more emeriti to participate by contacting either Caroline (kanecm@berkeley.edu) or Shelly (zedeck@berkeley.edu).

Older Adult Housing

Members of the UCBEA Executive Committee have been involved with the UCB Retirement Center and campus senior housing experts in discussions with campus administration concerning the development of an older adult housing project attractive to emeriti located contiguous with Albany Village. These discussions are currently in limbo as a result of lawsuits and a possible voter initiative in Albany to block the proposed project.

Governance

Under the leadership of Louise Taylor, the Board has undertaken revisions and updating of UCBEA’s constitution and by-laws. When the process is complete, we will submit the documents to the membership.

Respectfully Submitted,
Edwin M. Epstein,
UCBEA President

Yudof Names Next Berkeley Chancellor

UC President Mark Yudof announced on November 8 the selection of Nicholas Dirks as the 10th Chancellor of UC Berkeley. Dirks, the Franz Boas Professor of Anthropology and History at Columbia University, has served as Columbia’s Executive Vice President for the Arts and Sciences and Dean of the Faculty since 2004. He came to Columbia in 1997 to chair and rebuild their Anthropology department.

Dirks earned his undergraduate degree in Asian and African Studies from Wesleyan University in 1972 and his Ph.D. in History from the University of Chicago in 1981. He taught at Cal Tech from 1978 to 1987, when he was appointed to the faculty of History and Anthropology at the University of Michigan. There, he was the founding Director of the Interdepartmental Ph.D. Program in Anthropology and History, Director of the Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies, and Director of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies.

Continued page 5...
Introducing a New Feature: Ask the Expert

A health and wellness column from UCBEA Board Member and Chair of the UCB Wellness Letter Editorial Board, John Swartzberg, MD

Q: I’m in my mid 60’s. What vaccines should I be certain to have?

A: Vaccination can be a lifesaver at any age; this is especially true as we reach our more “mature” years. And, it’s not as simple as it used to be. Recommendations have changed and there are several newer vaccines to consider. Here are four vaccines that I think are very important. Of course, get your doctor’s opinion and inquire about other vaccines. For more information about vaccines for adults, the CDC website is an excellent resource (http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/spec-grps/adults.htm).

- Get revaccinated against whooping cough (pertussis). A few years ago the CDC started advising adults age 19 to 65, as well as teenagers, to be revaccinated, and recently the agency included people over 65 as well, especially if they have close contact with small children. This should be done via a combination vaccine that also protects against tetanus and diphtheria (you need these two every 10 years). Though whooping cough has declined in children due to immunization, it has been rising in teens and adults. Adults with this highly contagious bacterial disease can develop severe, long-term coughing, as well as pneumonia. In infants, it can cause life-threatening complications.

- You should get the shingles vaccine if you are in your fifties, according to the FDA, which until recently approved it only for people 60 and older. The expanded approval was based on a large study of people age 50 to 59, in whom the vaccine, called Zostavax, reduced the risk of shingles by nearly 70 percent during the first year. The vaccine costs about $200, but insurance should cover it. For people over 65, it falls under Medicare Part D, the federal drug program; coverage and copays vary from plan to plan.

- The flu shot every year is a must. Each year the flu puts more than 200,000 Americans in the hospital and causes upward of 30,000 deaths. With the exception of the H1N1 flu (also called swine flu) in 2009, most of these deaths occur in people over 65. But even for healthy younger people, the flu — characterized by high fever, body aches, headaches, and coughing — can be rough. The CDC recommends that everybody over 6 months of age get vaccinated. It’s especially important for people 65 and older, anyone who has a chronic condition (such as lung or heart disease, diabetes, cancer, or HIV infection), pregnant women, people on immunosuppressive drugs, and healthcare workers. Mid-October through November is a good time to get it. Flu epidemics usually begin in our area in January or February, and it takes a few weeks to develop immunity from the vaccination. Besides the familiar injection, a nasal spray flu vaccine is also approved for people under 50.

- Don’t forget the very important pneumococcal vaccine (a vaccine against the bacterium that is the leading cause of bacterial pneumonia in older adults) if you’re 65 or older, are a smoker, or have a chronic disease such as diabetes, lung or heart disease, asthma, or HIV infection. You need the vaccine only once, unless you got it before age 65, in which case you’ll need a booster. There are two types of vaccine available — the long-used polysaccharide vaccine and the recently approved polysaccharide conjugate vaccine, Prevnar 13®. Prevnar 13® has been used in children for a long time but there remains a debate as to which of these vaccines is best for adults.

Please submit your Ask the Expert questions to jes@berkeley.edu. Professor Swartzberg will not be able to respond to all inquiries or provide personal medical advice.

Emeriti Awards – Call for Nominations

The Committee on Faculty Awards of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate announces awards open for nominations.

Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship

The Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship is awarded to an emeritus faculty member having an outstanding record of post-retirement contributions in teaching, research, and public or University service. An award of $10,000 will be made for the coming fiscal year as an award, stipend, or for support of activities that benefit the campus and for which funding is not available from other sources. The Committee on Faculty Awards will consider nominations in February 2013.

Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award

The Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award honors outstanding scholarly work or educational service performed since retirement by a University of California emeritus or emerita in the humanities or social sciences. A cash prize and certificate will be awarded. The Committee on Faculty Awards will consider nominations in February 2013. For complete information, go to: http://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/awards/constantine-panunzio-distinguished-emeriti-award-0
Jack Citrin’s Presidential P’s

On September 22, Jack Citrin, Heller Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute of Governmental Studies, addressed the Emeriti Association luncheon on the topic of the Four P’s of Presidential Elections. Looking ahead toward this November’s election, he outlined how Party, Policy, Performance, and Persona contribute to voters’ assessments of the candidates. Voters’ identification with a political party, or their position on a particular policy by which they judge candidates, tend to be more stable factors over time. In studies conducted in 1965 and 1982, of those who identified as Republicans in 1965, 90% reported voting for Reagan in 1980, whereas of those who identified as Democrats in 1965, only 14% reported voting for Reagan in 1980.

In contrast, the latter two P’s reflect shorter term judgments. Performance in essence comes down to the state of the economy. In polling, there is 0.86 correlation between answers to the question “Do you approve of how the President is handling his job?” and “Do you approve of how the President is handling the economy?” In contrast, there is a correlation of only 0.4 or 0.5 between assessments of how the President is handling foreign policy and overall job performance.

Citrin outlined a number of models developed by political scientists to predict electoral outcomes. Though all models had Romney and Obama pitted in a close election, models that weighted economic performance suggested Romney would do better, whereas those that included subjective factors such as presidential popularity gave Obama the edge. Citrin noted that historically, models using pure economic factors do not do well, because the other P’s do matter, and even performance is judged subjectively.

In Memoriam

On September 27, the campus held its annual memorial service to honor those who had passed away during the last year. Among them we note the following Emeriti:

Kinsey Anderson, Physics
Hector Anton, Business
William Arveson, Mathematics
William Bade, Mathematics
Howard Bern, Integrative Biology
Charles “Ned” Birdsall, Electrical Engineering
Delmer Brown, History
Louis “Pete” Bucklin, Business
Thompson Clarke, Philosophy
Fields Cobb, Forest Pathology
Gustavo Costa, Italian Studies
Kenneth Craik, Psychology
Kenneth Crowe, Physics
William Godden, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Citrin closed by noting a few remaining wild cards. For one, as we have had opportunity to witness, the outcome of the debates, which historically advantage the challenger. The second was unprecedented levels of campaign spending. Citrin proposed two more P’s: Passion and Participation. How committed were the partisans on each side, and would they turn out to vote? Obama’s campaign had demonstrated success at getting voters to the polls; Romney’s campaign was not yet tested in this regard. Unions, students and youth for Obama, or churches and tea party activists for Romney could contribute to voter turnout.

At the time of the talk, Obama was pulling ahead of Romney in a number of critical swing states. Citrin closed by predicting a status quo election, in which Obama would win the Presidency, the Democrats would hold the Senate – potentially with 50 votes, making for a busy term for Joe Biden – and the Republicans would hold onto the House with a slimmer majority.

As we have seen, Citrin was right on all counts, though Democrats did better than anticipated in the Senate. With this outcome, he asked, how will the government deal with the pressing issues facing our country and economy in the next five years?

Luncheon Attendees, September 22

Left: Jack Kirsch and Howard Mel; above: Sherry and Betsy Warrick; below: Ed Epstein and Jack Citrin

Crawford Greenwalt, Classics
Ira Michael Heyman, Law
and former Berkeley Chancellor
Shoshichi Kobayashi, Mathematics
James Leiby, Social Welfare
Wallace Matson, Philosophy
Thomas Mittler, ESPM
Joseph Penzien, Civil and Environmental Engineering
Robert Scalapino, Political Science,
Asian Studies
Leon “Lee” Schipper, Energy and Resources Group
Johan Frederik “Frits” Staal, Philosophy,
South and Southeast Asian Studies
Read Tuddenham, Psychology
James Vlamis, Plant Biology
Judith Wallerstein, Social Welfare
Harold Wilensky, Political Science
Warren Winkelstein Jr., Public Health
Paul Witherspoon, Materials Science and Engineering
Eugene Zavarin, ESPM
Nicholas Dirks (continued from page 2)
of the Advanced Study Center of the International Institute.

His major works include The Hollow Crown: Ethnohistory of an Indian Kingdom (1987); Castes of Mind: Colonialism and the Making of Modern India (2001); and The Scandal of Empire: India and the Creation of Imperial Britain (2006).

“Nicholas Dirks is a highly accomplished leader with the sensibilities and knowledge of a humanist, as well as extensive fundraising, academic and administrative expertise,” Yudof said in announcing his selection. The six-month search included participation by an advisory committee of UC faculty, students, staff, regents, alumni and foundation representatives. Dirks’s appointment awaits confirmation by the UC Board of Regents at a special meeting on November 27; he will begin his term June 1, 2013.

From the Retirement Center

In its 15th year of service, the UC Berkeley Retirement Center strives to transform retirement by focusing on programs and services that contribute to the wellbeing and creativity of our retired faculty and staff and that support the UC community.

On October 11, the Center celebrated its anniversary with a special event at the Lawrence Hall of Science. The evening included a lovely wine and hors d’oeuvre reception (with views of swirling fog on the Hall’s terrace!), a brief program honoring the Center’s founders, and an address by Nobel Laureate Stanley Prusiner, MD, Professor of Neurology at UCSF, on the latest advances in aging research and implications for daily living. Professors Emeritus Donald “Al” Riley and Robert Connick were among the honorees during the short program.

Many UCBEA members attended the event, including your President Edwin Epstein, who greeted guests as a representative of the Retirement Center’s Policy Board. A special thanks to Emeritus Howard C. Mel for his work in obtaining the venue, speaker, and wine donations from Rockwall and Hafner vineyards. Thanks, too, to former UCBEA President Roger Glassey, who served on the event’s planning committee. By all accounts, the evening was a resounding success, and we look forward to future anniversary celebrations! — Summer Scanlan

May 2013 Older Americans Month Workshops

As we start to plan our next year of programming, we want your input! In May 2013 the Retirement Center will host a series of workshops (in lieu of our biennial Retirement Conference) for Older Americans Month. What topics do you find most relevant and interesting? What format do you prefer? Contribute your ideas by sending an email to ucrc@berkeley.edu.

Retiree Caregiver Support Group

In collaboration with the campus Elder Care Program, the Center now offers a retiree caregiver support group. If you are interested in joining this group, contact the Center at 510/642-5461 and ask to have your information forwarded to the Support Group coordinator.

Three Perspectives on Chinese Art and Technology

Organized by Professor Emerita Louise George Clubb

Tuesdays, January 15, 22 and 29, 2:00 pm

The Song period is the first period in Chinese history from which a substantial body of painting survives. This period of brilliant realism in painting coincided with exceptional achievements in many areas of what we would call natural science, broadly defined, especially engineering and shipbuilding. The subsequent marginalization of realism in art paralleled a sharp decline in the interest of the literati in the investigation and exploitation of the physical world. This is directly related to the question posed by Joseph Needham: why Chinese science did not continue to move towards the inventions and discoveries that would produce modern technology in the Western world. To register, contact the Center at 510/642-5461.

Attendees at the October 11 Anniversary Event: Sandra Epstein, Roger Glassey, Larry Waldron, Randy Scott, Winifred Hess, Sue Cork, Al Riley, Pat Cross
2012–13 Emeriti Luncheon Series

We hope to see you at the upcoming Emeriti Association Luncheons, which continue to be held on Saturdays at the Faculty Club. The social hour begins at 11:00 am, luncheon is served at noon, and the speaker’s presentation is at 1:00 pm. Confirm your luncheon choice for December 1st by submitting the enclosed reservation form.

December 1: Ann Swidler, Sociology
January 26: Tom Brady, History
March 16: Randy Schekman, Molecular and Cell Biology, Howard Hughes Investigator
May 4: Matías Tarnopolsky, Director, Cal Performances

Emeriti Table

Gatherings of the bi-weekly Emeriti lunch table continue on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, from noon to 2:00 pm, in the northwest corner of the Great Hall of the Faculty Club. A table is set aside exclusively for emeriti faculty to gather for congenial collegial conversation and repast. Come join us on November 29 and December 13.

Welcome New UCBEA Members!

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members of the Berkeley Emeriti Association:

Charles H. Bailey • Optometry
Nathan W. Cheung • Electrical Engineering
Thomas Cline • Molecular and Cell Biology
David Collier • Political Science
James Evans • Materials Science and Engineering
W. Norton Grubb • Education
Charles Henry • African American Studies
Christopher McKee • Physics, Astronomy
Thomas (Zack) Powell • Integrative Biology
Harry N. Scheiber • Law
Michael Southworth • City and Regional Planning, Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning
Barrie Thorne • Sociology, Gender and Women’s Studies
Matthew Tirrell • Bioengineering, Chemical Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering