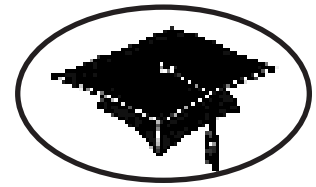

Berkeley Emeriti

TIME S



September 2002

Saturday, September 14, 2002

Professor J. Keith Gilles

**“Forest Fire Management: From Simulation Models
to Better Protected Homes”**

Keith Gilles, Professor, College of Natural Resources, will be our guest speaker at the next UCBEA luncheon. Professor Gilles’ research interests are in the application of economics and systems analysis to forest resource management problems. Within this broad area, he has worked on issues including econometric forecasting for forest industries, international trade in forest products, analysis of resource-dependent local economies, forestry development, harvest scheduling models, and wildland fire protection planning.

Over the last decade Gilles’ research has been directed towards building simulation models of initial attack on wildland fires for use by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and other agencies in wildland fire protection planning. Gilles has also conducted several studies of large urban-wildland fires, including the Oakland-Berkeley and Santa Barbara fires. These studies were designed to evaluate the probability of a house within the fire perimeter surviving as a function of the house’s structural characteristics, its surrounding vegetation, and the defensive actions taken to protect it. The results of these studies highlighted the importance of nonflammable roofs and vegetation management programs to reduce fire losses in interface areas.

With the many wildfires the country has experienced this year, and the fact that we live in critical fire areas, the September 14 luncheon should present interesting and useful information for all of us. We hope to see you there.

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REVIEW OF AUSTIN RANNEY'S TALK

On Saturday June 15, 2002, past UCBEA President Austin Ranney addressed the Association on the subject "Research and Rules: The Protection of Human Subjects." Professor Ranney drew on his experience as Chair of the UCB Senate Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects (CPHC) from 1992 to 1996.

The public has been made aware that there are federal laws governing the protection of human subjects by the suspension, in July 2001, of all federal funds for research at Johns Hopkins University where it was ruled that the University had not followed the Office of Human Research Protection (OHRP) rules in a Medical School study in which an apparently healthy volunteer subject died. The law requires that all research, partially or wholly funded by federal money, be subject to review and approval by an Institutional Review Board. At UCB this is the CPHC which presently has 14 members drawn from a wide variety of disciplines (including four MD's) and a full-time staff of four.

The origin of our current rules is in the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials of 1945. Allied prosecutors discovered there were no sanctions in international law for the atrocious medical experiments done on prisoners by Nazi doctors. The Nuremberg code was formulated to address these acts. Awareness of the abuse of human subjects in the United States has developed slowly only after successive revelations of abuse. These include the infamous Tuskegee experiment where treatment was withheld from selected African-American syphilis patients to observe the course of the disease. In 1940, some 400 prisoners in Illinois were infected with malaria without their knowledge. In 1950, the Navy secretly spread a bacterial cloud over San Francisco to simulate biological warfare causing pneumonia-like symptoms in many people.

In 1974, Congress passed the National Research Act which requires that all potential risks to experimental human subjects be evaluated and balanced against the potential benefits of the research. Informed written consent, given freely and voluntarily by the subject, is another important principle. The subject must have a capacity to understand the risks in the experiment. Special care must be taken with especially vulnerable subjects-prisoners, children and the mentally ill.

At Berkeley, the CPHS must approve all research involving humans subjects, including dissertation research, before it begins. Only a few research areas are exempted from review: educational practice; political survey research; and secondary analysis of previously collected data. Review by the full committee takes four to six weeks, however the committee is not

Continued, p.3.

Berkeley Emeriti

F I M E S



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Published two weeks 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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Phone: (510) 848-3368

EDITOR'S NOTE

If you have an article or even a short item that might interest our group, contact me at 510-848-3368. Material (preferably typed) also may be mailed to: UCBEA, 2 Boalt Hall #7200, Berkeley, CA 94720-7200, or sent by email to: ucbrc@uclink.berkeley.edu. Don't overlook suggestions for our "Satisfactory Services" column.

BOOK EXCHANGE

Reminder: bring books you're finished to the luncheon to leave at the book-exchange post (usually a table in the hall), and take home one or more that you might want to read.

Ranney Review, Continued

a policeman. It does not go beyond what researchers present to it.

Professor Ranney conceded that the rules are not too popular. They do place an additional burden on research proposals and cause some delay in starting projects. Investigators sometimes complain that the committee lacks specific knowledge of the subject matter presented to them for review. However, Professor Ranney firmly believes that human subjects are much better protected than they were before 1974, and that the country is well served by the rules put in place by the National Research Act of that date.

In responding to questions, Professor Ranney mentioned some interesting problems. For example, in some psychological experiments subjects are deliberately deceived by being given false information. How is it possible then for the subjects to give informed consent? A tough question. In some cases the experiment may not be allowed; in others a complete truthful post-experiment debriefing might be approved. On occasion, the committee may see a risk to the investigator, as

EMERITI HONORS

Chang-Lin Tien

An internationally recognized expert in heat transfer processes, Mechanical Engineering Professor Chang-Lin Tien, Chancellor Emeritus of the Berkeley campus, was honored at a day-long symposium at the Bechtel Engineering Center on June 22. The morning session focused on his engineering research and teaching—he was a recipient of the campus' Distinguished Teaching Award—while the afternoon concentrated on Tien's contributions to the town and gown communities and the world.

David Blackwell

Early last spring the Department of Statistics honored Professor Emeritus David Blackwell along with Professor Lester Dubins for their achievements in the study of probability, statistics and stochastic games.

The most renowned African-American mathematician, Blackwell earned his Ph.D. in 1941, at the age of 22, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. A member of the Natural Academy of Sciences, he served as president of the American Statistical Society and vice president of the American Mathematical Society.

Claude Babcock

SATISFACTORY SERVICES

MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS

Phone numbers are area code 510 unless otherwise noted



Current Listings

Please submit any new listings you might have to ucbrc@uclink.berkeley.edu, or you can phone the editor at 510/848-3368.

Bruce De Benedictis (763-4657) for piano tuning and repair for over 20 years, and his work has always been very good (Lorraine Hauser).

Kevin Combs (540-5139; kevcombs@yahoo.com) technical support specialist for computer software/hardware problems, Mac and PC (Phyllis Brooks Schafer).

Anne Vigneri (444-5665; annevigneri@webtv.net). Excellent painter of house interiors and one who will take on relatively small jobs. She provides a written estimate, shows up promptly, gets work done in the estimated time, and leaves rooms as neat or neater than she found them (Sheldon Messinger).

Tim Warner, Clerestory (415-740-6452 or 510-525-1762) web site design, maintenance and custom illustration (Jane Bendix).

Johnny Murberg (532-9800) is recommended as a superior (Norwegian) gardener and garden designer—at "Dreamscapes"; he is hard-working, reliable, and imaginative (Leonard Johnson).

Sullivan Counter Tops (652-2337) is recommended without hesitation for a high quality, no fuss, and on-time completion (Valerie and Dick Herr).

Draperies by Susan (652-7027) various window treatments; (Mappie Seabury).

David Love (415-661-3666), piano tuning, rebuilding, repairs, etc. (Mappie Seabury).

Accurate Appliance (925-676-5060) appliance repair; (Alan Foss).

CJS Systems (849-3730) Mac repair; (Alan Foss).

Herta Weinstein (845-8724) yoga classes; highly recommended; (Juanita Neiland).

Christopher at Handiworks (391-4705) Provides general (Joe Garbarino).

Naomi Friedman (525-1031) an excellent lady plumber (David and Gilda Feller).

Note: Between newsletters you can view updates to this list at the following web site:

BERKELEY EMERITI TIMES
University of California
2 Boalt Hall, # 7200
Berkeley, CA 94720-7200

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FALL NOON CONCERTS

September 11

In Memoriam

University Chorus & Chamber Chorus

Marika Kuzma, director

Contemplative music from various cultures and centuries to commemorate the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

September 18

The Well Tempered Clavier

Faculty Recital: Davitt Moroney, harpsichord

J.S. Bach preludes and fugues from The Well Tempered Clavier; François Couperin selections from the Second Ordre

September 25

Messiaen

Faculty Recital: Jacqueline Chew & Michael Orland, piano

Olivier Messiaen Visions de l'amen



October 2

Electro-Acoustic Quintet

John Schott, guitar, composer; Lawrence Ochs, tenor saxophone, soprano saxophone; David Bithel trumpet; Matt Wright, real-time electronics; Ches Smith, percussion

New creative music for electro-acoustic quintet

October 9

Brahms & Chausson

Faculty Recital: Martha Wasley, piano

William Barbini & Kineko Okumura, violin

Johannes Brahms Violin Sonata, op. 78

Ernest Chausson Poème

October 16

Fauré & Weber

Miriam Pak, violin Anne Hsu, piano

Gabriel Fauré Violin Sonata No 1 in A major

Anton Weber Vierstücke, op. 7

Hertz Hall is the venue for these concerts held from Noon-1pm. Concerts are free and open to the public.