



President's and Regents' Retiree Association

# NetworkNews

Spring 2015

*Published for Retirees of the Office of the President and Office of The Regents, University of California*

## Hi PARRA Colleagues,

We are excited about our spring luncheon on Thursday, April 30. Debora Obley, the Associate Vice President for Budget and Facilities Management at UCOP, will discuss the issues currently facing the University, especially highlighting relations with Sacramento. We would love to see you there.

It seems like my friends and I often think about how we can "declutter" and/or "organize" ourselves and our homes. How to get rid of stuff? How to organize space? Should we move? Now that it's spring, the idea of "spring cleaning" brings these thoughts to the forefront once again. Recently, a friend gave me a book called *Rightsizing Your Life*, by Ciji Ware, which may have promise as a different way to look at these issues.

The goal of the book is to help us "simplify our surroundings while keeping what matters most." "Rightsizing" is not necessarily downsizing, but rather a conscious, practical process to create new surroundings. It leads to simplifying and decluttering your environment. It may or may not prompt a move.

I am going to try out the ideas discussed in the book. If you have any other ideas about how to organize, declutter or downsize, please share them with us. And, if you would be willing to volunteer for PARRA for a few hours every once in a while (administrative or computer skills; writing articles for the newsletter; ideas for speakers or other activities), we would love to hear from you.

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## The Man who Saved the University

Jack Peltason—Chancellor Emeritus of the Irvine campus and UC President Emeritus—passed away on March 21. His tenure as president was short, a mere three years, but what a trio of years it was. He arrived in the Office of the President in the fall of 1992, faced with the worst UC budgets since the 1930s and an executive compensation controversy that "blew the dome off the State Capitol," as one journalist colorfully put it. This was followed by a series of mini-controversies on several campuses and in UCOP that stoked legislative and public outrage, divided the Board of Regents, and sowed major dissension between the campuses and the Office of the President. None of this discouraged Jack or even slowed him down. He changed policies or procedures when he thought the criticism was fair. He made a vigorous case for the University in Sacramento and beyond when he thought it wasn't. When someone bugged a Council of Chancellors meeting and leaked an unflattering private comment about a Regental nominee, an episode that

*continued on p. 3*

## PARRA Luncheon Thursday, April 30

Please join us at the PARRA spring luncheon at Hs. Lordship's Restaurant in Berkeley. The speaker will be UCOP Associate Vice President Debora Obley. Debbie is responsible for the UC Budget and is heading up the staff effort to resolve the budget stalemate. She will discuss the points of contention between the University and Governor Brown related to the 2015-16 budget. Issues that remain unsettled include:

- The level of State support for UC, which has been reduced drastically over time;
- The amount of UC tuition proposed by the Regents for the next few years;
- UC enrollment levels, including freshmen, transfer students and graduate and professional students;
- Enrollment of non-resident freshmen and the amount of tuition they pay;
- Reforms — both academic and business — demanded by the Governor; and
- Compensation and benefits for UC faculty, staff and top administrators.

The program will begin with Associate Vice President Obley's presentation, including an update on the status of discussions with the Governor and the State Legislature. A panel discussion, moderated by Larry Hershman, with Steve Arditti and Pat Pelfrey, will follow. Panelists will comment and ask questions on the issues. We will then open up the discussion to the entire PARRA group.

We look forward to a great conversation, at this critical point in time, about the future of the University of California. We encourage all PARRA members to come prepared with their questions and observations.

## PARRA Donors Oct. 2014 - Feb. 2015

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*PARRA thanks you for your generosity!*

## PARRA Dues Are Due

April means tax time and it's also the month that PARRA requests contributions from members of voluntary dues of \$10 per year. Your contributions support this newsletter, the PARRA Web site, and PARRA participation on the systemwide retiree association, the Council of UC Retiree Associations.

Checks, made out to PARRA, may be mailed to our treasurer, Nancy Nakayama, at 8724 Don Carol Drive, El Cerrito, California, 94530. We hope you will be able to attend the April 30 luncheon but even if you cannot, you may use the luncheon reply form to mail your contribution to Nancy. Thanks for your support!



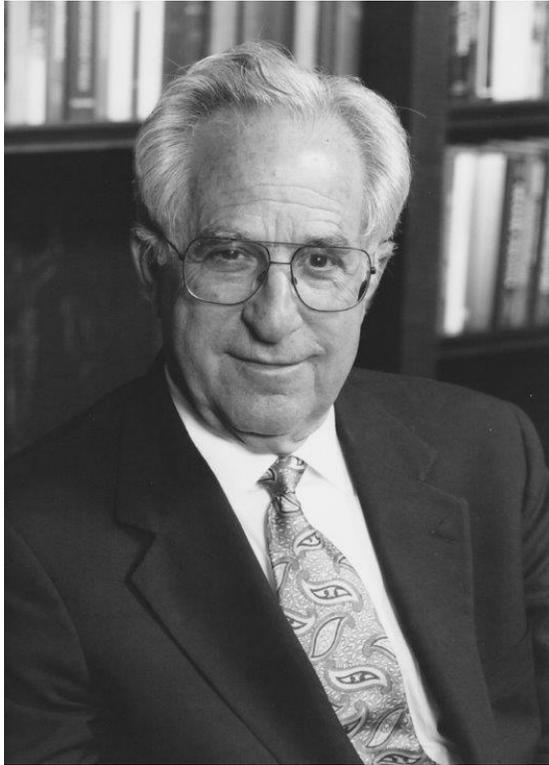
## PARRA Financial Report

BALANCE September 2014			\$5117.43
Fall Lunch -- October 28, 2014			
Income:	Lunches	\$2,010.00	
	Donations	\$ 865.00	
	Total Income		\$2,875.00
Expenses:	HsLordships	\$1,817.92	
	Newsletter	\$ 293.28	
	Total Expenses		\$2,111.20
INCOME -- Donations			\$ 110.00
EXPENSES:			
CUCRA, UCSB travel and expenses			
April 30-May 1		\$ 876.27	
CUCRA-CUCEA mtg at UCB			
Oct. 23, 2014, PARRA's share		\$ 25.00	
Total Expenses			\$ 901.27
BALANCE February 28, 2015			\$5,089.96

*Submitted by: Nancy Nakayama, Treasurer*

## The Man who... continued

left the dome of the State Capitol about to blow all over again, he sent a forceful letter to every member of the legislature explaining the circumstances and the context. It went a long way toward defusing what could have become a full-blown crisis. And he continued to fight for UC's budget against some very long odds.



With the superb assistance of his wife, the wonderful Suzie Peltason, he never lost his sense of humor or his sense of perspective. He was a true democrat—small d—who believed that anyone who wrote the president of a public university deserved an answer. This policy extended even to surveys, one

of which asked what profession he would have likely chosen if he hadn't become a university president. "Vaudeville," was the response. Because he was an expert on the U.S. Constitution, he occasionally heard from prison inmates soliciting his opinion on whether some ingenious constitutional argument they'd devised was powerful enough to win their release. The answer was invariably no, but they got an answer. During his faculty days he had co-authored a best-selling political science textbook that went through many editions, each of which he constantly revised on airplanes or between meetings ("Some people play golf, I revise my textbook," he said). A student once wrote him that reading *Government by the People* had put her to sleep. "Madam," he replied, "as you get older, you will find that you value anything that helps you sleep."

Everyone who worked closely with Jack loved him. They understood, as few who were not in the eye of the storm could, how critical he was to the University's survival during those divisive years. UC's budgetary freefall was halted near the end of his tenure by an agreement with Governor Pete Wilson that stabilized its funding for the future. Yet his most important contribution, the one essential to all the others, was simply who he was: a man of obvious integrity and candor who combined political wisdom and strong academic values with a deep love for the University of California. Jack said at the time that his goal was to resolve UC's many problems and conflicts with the least amount of internal recrimination possible. He did far more than that. As Larry Hershman puts it, "He kept the campuses and the Office of the President together at a moment when this institution was in real danger of coming apart. He saved the University."

by Pat Pelfrey

### We Remember

*Columbus Baldo*

*Susanna Castillo-Robson*

*Sandra L. Champion*

*Barry Hill Clagett*

*Errol Mauchlan*

*Kevin McCauley*

*Jack W. Peltason*

*Ian G. Turner*

*Vincent P. (Deke) Welch*



### President's Message, continued

I will close with two "people" notes. First, congratulations to PARRA's past president, Pat Pelfrey, on completing her doctorate at UC Berkeley. Such an inspiring accomplishment! Second, thanks to Rich Sextro, who is stepping aside after four years as chairperson of the UCB Retirement Center's Policy Board. Before he retired, Rich worked at the Lawrence Berkeley Lab. With the number of hours he put in for the Policy Board, you could hardly call him retired. Our compliments and thanks to Rich.

See you soon.

Susan von Seeburg  
vonseeburg@gmail.com

# Celebrate Older Americans Month with the UC Berkeley Retirement Center

*Learn and interact with colleagues in May to:*

**Commemorate** the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Social Security and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Medicare, Medicaid, and the Older Americans Act. **Stimulate** new thinking!  
Have fun, and **enjoy** yourself!

## Learning in Retirement Presents

### Our Aging Population and Macroeconomic Implications

*Organized by Professors Emeriti Carol N. D'Onofrio, Neil Smelser, and Donald A. Riley*

**All Lectures: Tuesdays, 2pm – 4pm**

**Location: Maude Fife Room, 315 Wheeler Hall**

**May 5: “Aging Populations and Intergenerational Economic Relations:  
A Global Perspective”**

Ronald D Lee, Professor Emeritus Economics and Demography, Immediate  
Past Director of the Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging

**May 12: “Population Aging and the Macro-Economy”**

Ronald D Lee, Professor Emeritus Economics and Demography

**May 19: “The Future of Medicare”**

William Dow, Director of the Center on the Economics and Demography of  
Aging, Professor of Public Health

#### **To Register:**

Email [ucbrc@berkeley.edu](mailto:ucbrc@berkeley.edu). Space is limited; registration is required.

## Reception and Social Hour

**May 19, 4pm - 5:30pm**

Please join us on May 19<sup>th</sup> for a reception hosted by representatives of the UC Berkeley Emeriti Association (UCBEA), UC Retirees' Association at Berkeley (UCRAB), Lawrence Berkeley National Lab Retirees Association (EX-Ls), and President's and Regents' Retiree Association (PARRA).

### UCB Retirement Center Update

Don't forget that UCBRC moved! They are now located at 101 University Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720-1550. You can reach them at (510) 642-5461 or [ucbrc@berkeley.edu](mailto:ucbrc@berkeley.edu).

**President's and Regents' Retiree Association**

**Spring Luncheon**

**Thursday, April 30, 2015**

**Hs Lordships, 199 Seawall Dr., Berkeley**

**At a Budget Crossroads — Whose Vision for UC Will Prevail?**



**Associate Vice President  
Debora Obley**

This is a critical time in the history of the University of California. Depending on the outcome of the ongoing budget deliberations, the future UC could look like a very different institution.

What's the latest on the negotiations with the State? What are the likely outcomes? And what's really going on with the "Committee of Two"? Join us at the spring luncheon to hear about all this and more, from the person leading the staff effort to resolve the 2015-16 budget stalemate: Associate Vice President Debora Obley. Her talk will be followed by a panel discussion, moderated by Larry Hershman, including Steve Arditti and Pat Pelfrey.

No-host bar opens at 11:30 a.m.; buffet lunch, which includes vegetarian selections, begins at noon.

A map and directions to Hs Lordships are included on the reverse, but you probably won't need them. Just go to the end of University Avenue (toward the Bay) and at the Bay, turn left and proceed to the end. Plenty of free parking. Please be sure your car is locked and that no valuables are visible. We haven't had any reports of problems from our members, but it's a good idea to take this simple precaution.

Questions? Contact Nancy Nakayama at (510) 524-2358.

- Yes, I will attend the luncheon. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$30 per person)
- In addition, enclosed is my voluntary contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$10 per year suggested)
- I cannot attend the luncheon, but enclosed is my voluntary contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$10 per year suggested)



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations must be received no later than **Monday, April 20, 2015.**

Mail this form and your check, made out to "PARRA," to:

PARRA c/o Nancy Nakayama  
8724 Don Carol Drive, El Cerrito, CA 94530-2735

## Directions to H<sup>s</sup> Lordships

**From the East Bay Oakland, Hayward using 580 West** towards San Francisco. Proceed to I-80 East towards Sacramento. Take the Emeryville Powell St. exit. Turn left and go under the freeway overpass. Make an immediate right onto Frontage Rd., following the road until you get to University Ave., and turn left onto University. Stay in the left lane. At Marina Blvd. stop sign, stay left and go to the end. (Berkeley Pier will be in front of you.) Turn left on Seawall Dr. and go to the end of the road.

**From the East Bay Oakland Using Highway 880 North** take Highway 880 North to I-80 towards Sacramento. Exit at University Ave. and proceed on University. At the third light, make a U turn and head back toward the water. Stay on your left until you get to Marina Blvd. and go to the end (Berkeley Pier will be in front of you). Turn left on Seawall Dr. and go to the end of the road.

**From the North Bay (Richmond, Hercules, Vallejo)** Take I-80 West to Berkeley. Exit at University Ave. Follow Loop West to University Ave. Turn left onto University Ave. Stay in left lane. At Marina Blvd. stop sign, stay left and go to the end. (Berkeley Pier will be in front of you.) Turn left on Seawall Dr. and go to the end of the road.

**From San Francisco** Take Highway 101 North to I-80 across the Bay Bridge. Take the Emeryville Powell St. exit. Turn left and go under the freeway overpass. Make an immediate right onto Frontage Rd. Proceed on Frontage Rd. until you get to University Ave. and turn left onto University. Stay in left lane. At Marina Blvd. stop sign, stay left and go to the end. (Berkeley Pier will be in front of you.) Turn left on Seawall Dr. and go to the end of the road.

Free and Ample Parking H<sup>s</sup> Lordships Restaurant, 199 Seawall Drive, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-843-2733.

