Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues:

The campus was beautiful for Commencement, and during the summer it takes on a park-like appearance. Once again the Emeriti Council and retirement association boards have adjourned until fall, and my calendar has fewer meetings leaving more time at my desk. I join many in offices around campus writing our annual report, preparing grant proposals, and pouring over budget figures. It is a time for reflection, evaluation, planning, and preparation.

All of us who work at the Emeriti Center seek to bring greater value for our efforts—greater value to the retired staff and faculty we serve. To this end, we are in the middle of an effort with the association leaders to clarify and reformulate our interrelationships, with the goals of greater cooperation, collaboration, and retiree involvement.

In conjunction with the Emeriti Center Advancement Board, we are finalizing plans for launching in the fall “Talking Together,” a new Emeriti College outreach program aimed primarily at the business and professional communities. It is our hope that proceeds from this program will help sustain the Community Lecture curriculum given at retirement residences, community centers, and other non-profit venues. We are also seeking opportunities to expand the Emeriti College’s Alumni Lecture Series, building upon the successful pilot program in Orange County.

We have sought the guidance of representative retirees who have helped us identify areas of need—post-retirement seminars/workshops, service grants, and campus volunteer opportunities—areas we will pursue during the coming year. The Emeriti Center exists to provide you, as USC retirees, privileges, information, and opportunities. Please call or write with your comments, ideas, suggestions, and needs.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth (Betty) Redmon

Emeriti Center Newsletter
Celebrating 26 Years 1978-2004

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Medicare Approved Prescription Drug Discount Cards

An educational brochure from the Center for Healthcare Rights addresses some questions concerning: “The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (which) creates an interim prescription drug discount program available beginning May 2004.” As explained in the Center for Healthcare Rights brochure: “Beginning in May 2004 Medicare beneficiaries will be able to sign up for a Medicare approved prescription drug discount card. The discount card program is voluntary and will last until December 2005. In January, 2006, the new Medicare prescription drug program will replace the discount card program. There will be several Medicare approved discount cards available. Some cards will be available through private companies and others through Medicare+Choice HMO plans. The Medicare approved discount card will be no more than $30 per year. Some card sponsors may waive the fee. Each card will use a drug formulary to determine the list of drugs that qualify for a discount. It is estimated that the discount savings will be between 10% and 25% on covered drugs. The drugs on each card’s discount list and the discount price may change weekly. Once you have identified the card you want, you can obtain an application directly from the discount card company, from a participating pharmacy, or from the company’s Internet website. You can have only one Medicare-approved discount card each year. If you want to change to a different card for 2005, you can do so between November 15, 2004 and December 31, 2004.”

For further information please call: The Center for Healthcare Rights (800) 824-0780, website: healthcarerights.org. The Medicare website is: www.medicare.gov or call: 1-800 MEDICARE.
Our annual Transition education series, was held on April 15, 16th at the University Park Campus; and April 20 and 21st at the Health Sciences Campus. Awilda Bregand, Director of Benefits at USC and her staff, presented the first day of programming at both campuses, educating active staff and faculty about the USC retirement process and current Medicare and Social Security updates. Deadlines and complicated formulas were explained in easy to understand terms. USC Financial vendors described financial planning strategies and Federal tax implications to very interested audiences. It is wonderful to have such dedicated and knowledgeable staff in our USC Office of Benefits Administration.

The second day of Transitions, on both campuses, focused on information concerning the “next steps” to take after one retires from the university. Informed speakers discussed some of the joys and concerns facing each retiree in the retirement process. Joyce Kovelman, Ph.D., a life planning coach, offered a glimpse into the least defined, most challenging, creative and liberating time of our lives. “Protirement” was described as a marvelous time to grow, explore and discover who we are and how we cope with life changes in retirement. USC Dean of Gerontology, Edward Schneider, M.D., discussed the importance of nutrition and exercise in aging and how we should enjoy our retirement years by taking good care of our health and maintaining a good sense of humor. USC professor, Dagmar Halamka J.D. spoke to a very interactive audience about maintaining our financial and legal health, utilizing the appropriate wills, trusts and financial planning. Amy Corwin, MSW, a USC graduate currently working with the Alzheimers Association, shared her knowledge and experience regarding the onset of this disease and current research developments. And USC Director of Planned Giving, Jane Page, explained financial advantages for ourselves. Complimentary lunches were provided.

Have you ever wondered who actually sends those appropriate birthday, anniversary, and condolence cards? On behalf of the grateful recipients and the appreciative Emeriti Center, many thanks go to Vivian Churness, who sends cards to the retired faculty; and to Alice Donahue (coordinator), Helen Jones, Glenice Hershberger, Robyn Steele, Edith Cortas, Beverly Rhue, Frances Abraham, Monique Swadowski, Margaret O’Gorman, Colleen Kiley, Harriet Porch, and Virginia Ainsworth, who send cards to the retired staff. These wonderful women voluntarily give their time, share their compassion and reach out to say hello at those special times in your life.

**USC Telephone Directories are Ready!**

The 2004 USC University Telephone Directory has been published and is ready for distribution. You may pick up your free copy at the Emeriti Center in GER 220, Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or you may request that one be mailed to you. For a $10.00 fee, we will send your Directory to you USPS Priority Mail. Please send a $10.00 check made payable to the USC Emeriti Center and mail to: 3715 McClintock Ave, Room 220, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191. Please indicate on the check and on the outside of the envelope "telephone directory" for faster processing.
SOULE AND WARF ARE BORCHARD HONOREES

Retired professors Dr. Dorothy Soule and Dr. James Warf were honored for “the distinction of their continued scholarly production” at the 10th Annual Borchard Lectureship sponsored by the Emeriti College held at the University Club (Faculty Center) in late March.

Each of the honorees was asked to present, before a capacity audience of colleagues, students, families and friends, a topic that captured the essence of their lifelong research.

Dr. Soule, a research professor of marine biology, lectured on “An Alternating Current Between Basic and Applied Science,” and Dr. Warf, professor emeritus of chemistry, spoke on “Nuclear Applications: Danger and Promise.”

Dr. Soule, though officially retired, continues to be active as curator of Bryozoa at USC. She also serves as director of the Harbors Environmental Projects that have studied such substantive issues as ocean disposal of cannery and domestic wastes, oil seepage, spills and storm-water runoffs, toxic sediments and the impacts of El Nino.

Dr. Warf, a group leader of the history-making 1942-47 Manhattan Project and a founder of the Federation of American Scientists, is the author of the much-admired All Things Nuclear (to be available in 2004 in an updated, expanded edition). He is one of the nation’s most respected and consulted authorities on radioactivity.

Both scholars have extensive international reach. Dr. Soule recently delivered papers to scientific audiences in Ireland and Chile and she is involved with academic projects in both India and Italy. Warf has lectured in 42 countries and has taught courses in Switzerland, Indonesia and Malaysia. While in the latter two countries, he completed two chemistry textbooks in Malay.

The annual lectureship is supported by a grant from the Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation.

PLEASE JOIN US IN NASHVILLE

Share ideas with retired faculty and staff from across the US and Canada at a conference in Nashville, TN, October 8-10. The Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) was incorporated in 2002, with Paul Hadley as Founding President and the association office housed at USC. The biennial conference will draw participants from emeriti/retirement centers, staff associations, faculty associations, state/system-wide retirement organizations, and individuals interested in forming or strengthening these groups. Anyone interested is invited to join AROHE and/or to attend the conference. Visit the website: www.arohe.org or call 213-740-8921.

H. DALE HILTON LIVING HISTORY PROJECT

Each year the Emeriti Center records the history of USC by video-taping a few interviews with retirees. This year, with many thanks to Dick Martin, Doug Wellman, and Don Tillman, we will be able to use the Trojan Vision TV Station and Cinema School crew for recording.

The selection committee is looking for individuals whose successful careers at USC have given them a unique perspective; or for individuals who have made a particularly significant contribution to the university.

If you would like to nominate someone to be interviewed, please call 213-740-8921.

YOUR PICTURE WAS SHOWN IN SAN FRANCISCO

On April 17, Elizabeth Redmon, Emeriti Center Executive Director, spoke on the activities of USC’s retirees and showed the video “Connecting for Life” at the 2004 Joint Conference of the American Society on Aging and The National Council on the Aging. The video will also be shown at the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education this fall in Nashville. The visual presentation of how USC retirees continue to teach, mentor, do research, volunteer, play, and enjoy each other’s company is serving as an example of active retirement as it connects with the university.
I send greetings to you from the Board of the Staff Retirement Association. Writing this newsletter message in early May we all must certainly remember the flurry of activity on the USC campus as faculty, students, department staff personnel and administrators prepare for Commencement. This year’s 2004 Commencement was Friday May 14. An audience of some 25,000 parents, friends and colleagues assembled in the tradition at Alumni Park. Floral colors in the gardens and the brilliance of the season’s Jacaranda trees are infused all over campus. The colors of academia, the sounds of the Alma Mater and this year’s Commencement speaker, Senator John McCain of Arizona congratulated over 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students in receiving their degrees.

I remember some time ago visiting with a faculty retiree who returned to Commencement every year of her retirement just because she received so much pleasure being in the presence of the youthful vitality and celebration of the day.

Announcement flyers have been mailed for the June 7, SRA Annual Membership meeting and Luncheon in the Gerontology Center. We hope you will be able to attend.

May you all have a healthy and restful summer with family and friends. Retirement does not dictate our schedules on a semester basis, now, as it once did but since we worked on such schedules for many years, it is difficult to lean away from the idea of “summer vacations”. Whatever is on your schedule for the coming months, enjoy, and we hope to see you for the SRA luncheon meeting early in September.

— Harriet Servis, President

March 17, 2004, marked the date of the retired staff recognition luncheon, an annual luncheon event sponsored by the Senior Vice President for Administration, Dennis Dougherty. The event at Town and Gown honored those staff who retired in 2003, many of whom have served the university for over 25 years. Retirees included: Hipatia Aguirre, James Alexander, Rebecca Amescua, Carol Brown, Eva Brown, Helen Chu, Gloria Cornette, Francisco Del Rio, Harvey Eastman, Karol Endres, Enrique Flores, Glen Gauthier, Robert Grafton, Louis Guin, Audrey Hatfield, Pat Hunter, Maria Ibarra, Rajnikant Jethva, Casey Kazlauskas, Edith Kortas, Greta LaFleur, Donald Lamont, Irene Lee, Jeffrey Louie, Richard Martin, Sebastian Martinez, Richard Mead, Alvin Metoyer, Anie Najarian, Earl Nevils, Tillie Noreilie, Patricia Oliver, Jim Perry Olivia Roches, Rex Soutar, Phyllis Steiner, and Manuel Villagran.

A wonderful luncheon and warm camaraderie between past and present staff at USC were the backdrops for the presentation of the annual Emeriti Center Leibovitz award. Through nominations from other Emeriti Center retirees, this award is granted for exemplary service to seniors in the community and at USC. This year, Joan Mason (below) received the award from the Leibovitz Foundation for her valuable volunteer service to the Emeriti Center, the continuing caregiving she delivers to a relative on the east coast, and volunteering in her local community and with her beloved “jazz” community. Congratulations to all staff retirees and to Joan Mason for her special service award.

2004 LEIBOVITZ FACULTY AWARD

Nominee

(USC faculty member for 10+ years and not currently on the USC regular payroll)

Current Address ______________________________________________________ Phone ______________________

City __________________________ State ___ Zip __________

School/Department/Unit________________________________________

Please provide a summary of nominee’s volunteer service to seniors—at the University, in the community, and/or to society. Provide names and dates of organizations or individuals served, nature of service, and significance of contribution. Supporting material may be submitted with the nomination or separately, including endorsement, news articles, letters, etc.

Nominator ___________________________________________ Telephone ______________________

Title ___________________________________________________________

Endorser (may be on separate form) __________________________________ Telephone ______________________

Title ___________________________________________________________

Nominations must be received by February 16, 2004, in the Emeriti Center, GER 220, 3715 McClintock Avenue #220, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191. Fax (213) 740-7120. Email: emeriti@usc.edu
THE MEANING OF “EMERITUS”  
ROBERT R. SCALES, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, FACULTY LIAISON

Until retirement I had no connection to the word and meaning of “Emeritus” except that I thought it had something to do with old, but honorable. Now that I am retired, I’m discovering this word has a wide range of uses and can be very confusing and misleading if used out of context.

“Honorably retired from assigned duties and retaining your title along with the additional title *emeritus*” is one of the widely accepted definitions. This fits the USC faculty handbook description for Emeritus status if “honorably” is defined as a recommendation from your department or school and cognizant dean after at least 10 years of service and approved by the Provost.

Although some Universities have similar requirements for the Emeritus title to USC’s, there are many more Universities which have the policy of according academic employees the privilege of retaining their professional title after retirement with the added designated word Emeritus. So “honorably” to this group is that they made it to retirement without being fired.

Emeritus and Emeriti can also apply to an organization, company, or center. There is the Emeritus Assisted Living organization headquartered in Seattle that certifies Assisted Living Facilities for seniors. There is the Emeritus Band from Wellington, New Zealand, whose members don’t look so old. What does Emeritus mean to them? The Emeritus Group, Inc does research, executive search, and specialty placement. Then there is eMeritus Software, a legal case management database system. Emeritus Multimedia, Emeritus Communications, and Emeriti New Media will provide you with web design and other digital media presentations. Von Emeritus is an international breeding service for dogs.

Just because the name is the same, does not mean the organization is the same. For instance there are several Emeriti or Emeritus Colleges. Some of these refer to colleges that provide classes for adults and others are retired faculty providing services or the name of the university’s retirement organization.

The Bulova watch company has an Emeritus line and there is Furniture Emeritus in Pittsburgh that deals with fine furniture on consignment, i.e. retired furniture! I guess all this is to say Emeritus and Emeriti are frequently used words that usually mean something about being old and honorable, but not always.

“FROM OUR STUDENTS WE ARE TAUGHT”

At the 2004 USC Commencement ceremonies, Valedictorian David Chacko made the following statement, applicable to students, staff and faculty:

“We Trojans are not satisfied by accomplishments that benefit only ourselves. Instead, we share our successes with those around us. We have all been given talents with which to help others. Once we leave the university, we should continue to share our successes with those around us in a way that benefits their lives.” [Summer Trojan, May 19, 2004]

VETERAN’S HISTORY PROJECT

There are 19 million war veterans living in the United States today, but every day we lose 1,700 of them. Motivated by a desire to honor our nation’s war veterans for their service and to collect their stories and experiences while they are still among us, the United States Congress created the Veterans History Project. The authorizing legislation received unanimous support and was signed into law by President Clinton on October 27, 2000. It calls upon the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to collect and preserve audio- and video-taped oral histories, along with documentary materials such as letters, diaries, maps, photographs, and home movies, of America's war veterans and those who served in support of them. Veterans and non-veterans both can contribute to this important project. For more information please visit the Veteran’s History Project web site at http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/about.html.
People are talking -- and we're listening.

We are always interested in knowing how some of the Emeriti Center programs and projects are received in the communities we serve. The feedback has been reassuringly positive and we wanted to share with you this sample of comments about our lecture discussion series and our efforts in behalf of continuing faculty research.

Distinguished Professor Emeritus Peter Berton talked about his experience of being one of the Emeriti College senior scholars who go out into the community to speak. He says, “I enjoy lecturing to senior groups on topics of current interest in the international arena. I do not dwell so much on current events as I introduce ideas and concepts that would help them analyze themselves.”

From the receiving end, Victoria Neal, Director of Westside OASIS, one of the Southland's largest senior centers, spoke of a recent Emeriti College lecture series as being “so educational for our members . . it gave them many hours of knowledge and enjoyment.”

In a similar vein, Priscilla Yablon, activities director at Sunset Hall ( the celebrated haven for retired political activists), told us “This kind of outreach is needed and appreciated by the elderly who find it difficult to get out into the community. It helps them keep up with what’s going on in the world.”

Troy Wirth, speaking for the Orange County Alumni Organizations, told us that “The staff and professors of the Emeriti College have been wonderful partners in putting together our lecture series ‘Issues for a New Century.’ They have given our alumni the opportunity not only to reconnect with the university, but also, more importantly, to have their intellectual cups refilled.”

About our efforts to secure financial support to enable our retired faculty to continue their research projects, USC Provost Lloyd Armstrong, Jr. told us, “I was delighted to see the report of the Norris Foundation highlighting the work of the USC Emeriti Center and College. The Emeriti research projects represent a very special contribution by retired faculty to the intellectual life of the university.”

Dr. Berton, one of eight retired professors who were recently awarded research assistance said, “The Emeriti College research grant enabled me to travel to Tokyo to collect research data and conduct interviews for my forthcoming book-length monograph on the Japanese Communist party. And while there I was able to attend a meeting of the International Studies Association in Hong Kong and to lecture at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences.”

Regarding Emeriti College grants that enable undergraduate students to be research assistants to senior scholars, Darlene Duron reflects “The chance to do research with Professor Emeritus (Alan J.) Rowe during my undergraduate career has been one of the greatest experiences I’ve had at USC. I feel privileged to have taken part in this project, which taught me about the research process as well as about human creativity.”

We are always interested in talking to prospective speakers about prospective lecture/discussion topics. Don’t be shy. And we are eager to talk to you about a research project left too long on the shelf that can be completed.

Call Jill Trimble or Bill Faith at 213-740-8841.

OASIS LAKEWOOD
5100 Lakewood Boulevard, Lakewood, CA
Robinsons-May Basement
Contact: (562) 601-5041
Tuesdays 1:00 p.m.

June 8 Sex and The Floating World
Karen Lansky, Associate Professor, Art History

June 15 Implications of Globalism
Thomas A. Hollihan, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Annenberg School for Communication

June 22 Anger Management Brooklyn Style
Milton Wolpin, Professor Emeritus, Psychology

June 29 Topic TBA

To obtain more information about current lectures and schedules not available at press time, please check our website, www.usc.edu/org/emeriti_center, and click on calendar/events.

Sometimes it's important to work for that pot of gold. But other times it's essential to take time off and to make sure that your most important decision in the day simply consists of choosing which color to slide down on the rainbow. ~Douglas Pagels, These Are the Gifts I'd Like to Give to You
**Peter Berton** presented a paper, “From enemies to allies: A case study of a successful resolution of conflict -- the Russo-Japanese war and its aftermath?” at the international conference "The Russo-Japanese war and the 20th century: An assessment from a centennial perspective" held jointly at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the University of Haifa, February 8-13. This conference was probably the first of many such conferences to be held throughout the world, but primarily in Japan, Russia, and the United States. The Israel conference attracted more than forty scholars from twelve countries and the best papers are scheduled to be published in two volumes. On the opening day, Hebrew University students performed Russian and Japanese songs from the Russo-Japanese war period.

From Israel and a short sightseeing tour of Spain, he proceeded to Washington DC, where he participated on a panel on “The undercurrents of U.S.-Japan relations” at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, and to New York to discuss a project at Columbia University’s East Asian Institute.

**John A. Biles** and **Norman B. Sigband**, Distinguished Emeritus Professors at USC, published in March of this year a new book entitled *The Status of American Universities: Challenges and Opportunities*, which presents issues and solutions facing higher education today.

The authors argue that higher education faces critical problems today if it is to retain its high standards for tomorrow. Exposing the problems that will render today’s college education an uphill battle, they present practical and realistic solutions that will leave tomorrow’s higher education in the United States living up to its standards of excellence.

The book identifies the rising cost of tuition, the lack of facilities to accommodate a flood of applicants, and an administration and faculty system not attuned to the present demands of society as among the primary groups behind the deteriorating quality of higher education. It also addresses major concerns such as the solutions to tenure, how to negotiate the high college tuition tightrope, and of vital importance, why your smart child may not find a seat in college.

The authors speak with authority based on a combined eighty-year work experience in higher education as administrators, professors, advisors, corporate consultants, and board directors where they observed leadership, response to rapid change and re-engineering of organizations. “Those who read *The Status of American Universities: Challenges and Opportunities* will become more familiar with the obvious problems existing in higher education today, and will feel better equipped to offer, or demand, solutions,” they say.

**Frank Chew**, retired USC Associate Director, Center for the Study of Private Enterprise, retired Director of Executive Education Programs and licensed psychologist, enjoys his retirement from USC by sharing his expertise with others on a very active volunteer schedule.

April 24, 2004, Mr. Chew received the “Public Citizen of the Year Award” from the National Association of Social Workers, California Chapter. He was honored as a member of the National Air Team and Critical Response Team for the ARC under the Department of Home Security and he has responded to over 30 national crises as a disaster mental health volunteer. He was also applauded as a mentor to all.

May 8, 2004, Mr. Chew was honored with the presentation of a “Spotlight Award” by the American Red Cross of the Greater Los Angeles Area, for volunteer service "above and beyond"; for his caring mental health counseling provided for victims of many local and national disasters, including for those affected by the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center.

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**Have you recently won an award, published a book, play or article, presented a paper or accomplished something just wonderful that you’d like to share with all of our Emeriti Center retirees?**

Please submit a short synopsis of your recent achievement for recognition on this page, by email to emeriti@usc.edu.