

USC Emeriti Center Emeriti Center College

University of Southern California
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USC EMERITI CENTER EVENTS

- MAY:**
- Thursday, May 10**
Trojan Encore Workshops, “Refocusing – the Future of Work, Passion and Fulfillment,” meets also on consecutive Thursdays, May 17, 24, 31, and June 7. See flyer.
- Friday, May 11**
129th USC Commencement
- Thursday, May 24**
SRA Day Trip to Banning Mansion (See page 11)
- JUNE:**
- Monday, June 11**
SRA General Meeting, 11 a.m., in Heritage Hall’s Varsity Lounge. Speaker: Pat Haden. RSVP required. See page 1.
- Wednesday, June 13**
EC Regional South Bay Social, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (See page 5)
- AUGUST:**
- Thursday, August 2**
Identity Theft and Scam Prevention.
- Monday, August 27**
Fall classes begin

USC Emeriti Center

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Emeriti Center College

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SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for lunch in the newly opened University Club in King Stoops Hall on Aug. 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A panel will discuss Identity Theft and Scam Prevention.

USC EMERITI CENTER

USC Donors Show Their Generosity

"Our USC retired faculty and staff generously support USC in numerous ways. The retirees also inspire alumni, parents, and friends to give to USC," said **Janette C. Brown**, Executive Director of the USC Emeriti Center. "Thanks to our retirees and friends, the Emeriti Center experienced an extraordinary response to our fundraising appeal and our campaign was our most successful fundraising initiative to date."

The Emeriti Center received \$66,014 from more than 300 donors through January 2012, and **Sterling** and **Larry Franklin** generously matched this sum with funds from the Morris S. Smith Foundation. "With this matching contribution and contributions made after January, we have increased the Emeriti Center's general Endowment Fund by \$140,000! This is more than six times what we typically receive during an entire year," said Brown.

"We are grateful to our retirees and friends who generously support the Emeriti Center. Thank you for helping us plan for the future," said Brown. "Through your support, we can be more innovative in creating and improving resources, educational programs, services, and research to benefit our retirees and the entire Trojan Family." ■

SRA's June General Meeting Features Haden as Speaker

The SRA June General Meeting will be held in Heritage Hall's Varsity Lounge on Monday, June 11. The meeting begins at 11 a.m.

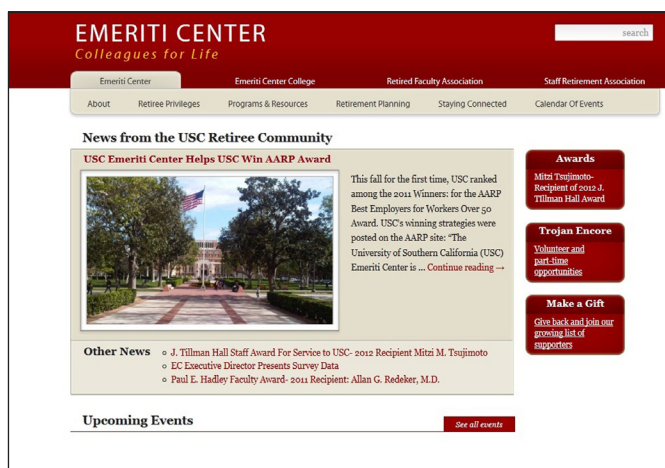
The featured speaker is **Pat Haden**, USC Athletic Director, and there may be a tour of the new McKay Building.

Due to limited space, this meeting is only open to paid SRA members. Reservations will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. SRA members should check their mail for notices. ■

Navigate Our New EC Web Site

The Emeriti Center has been involved with the university's web team to create a new Emeriti Center web site (www.emeriti.usc.edu), which includes main web pages for the Emeriti Center College, SRA and RFA. The web sites conform to university guidelines and use new software that allows us to make updates without web master

assistance. We are still working on making our sites user-friendly and would like our colleagues to give us input on ways to improve. Please take a few minutes to navigate our new site. Send your ideas to: emeriti@usc.edu. The RFA and SRA have complete control of their website contents. To offer suggestions for the RFA website, send your ideas to **John Orr** at: jorr@usc.edu. To provide input for the SRA website, send your comments to **Len Wines** at: len@winesland.net.



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USC Retirees Continue to Inspire

This past semester has been one of impressive achievements and sad good byes.

We are lucky to have the tremendous opportunity to work with and enjoy the company of those who are at the point in their lives when they have accomplished so much. They have acquired many skills, volumes of wisdom, and years of life experience. Our office benefits, because many retired staff and faculty have chosen to volunteer their time and help with many of our initiatives and programs.

In January, we were saddened by the loss of our dear friend and

colleague, **Mitzi Tsujimoto** (See page 8). She served beside three USC Emeriti Center executive directors for a total of 15 years. Her generosity, caring and advocacy for others, established a culture of appreciation, acceptance, and welcome. Mitzi's dedication and experience guided our office in many ways and continues to permeate everything we do, keeping our focus on: "Colleagues for Life."

The generosity of our USC retiree community and friends this school year has been inspiring and humbling. In the spirit of the new USC campaign, our EC community rose to the occasion (with a generous

incentive matching program by **Sterling** and **Larry Franklin** through the Morris S. Smith Foundation), and helped us raise more than six times what we normally raise in one year. These funds compliment the Provost's generous support and help us develop useful resources, hire experts, and give us the ability to offer improved programming for the USC retiree community and the Trojan Family. ■

Janette C. Brown, Executive Director
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Janette C. Brown

What's New This Semester?

In keeping with the Provost's visionary leadership, we have been pushing the envelope in numerous ways.

First, we have partnered with **Helen Dennis** to conduct a series of preliminary group conversations about what the new mid-life stage (past the age of 55) should look like. This stage is becoming a longer, healthier, and more productive life stage, and it has no real agreed upon name or characteristics. By exploring this stage with retired faculty and staff, as well as those still working, we hope to create a survey that should be useful to USC and to other universities as well.

Second, we are partnering with **Pearl Hillard** and **Joyce Fernandez** to create an innovative workshop series for our future and current Trojan Encore participants. The new workshop series entitled, "Refocusing on the Future of Work, Passion and Fulfillment," meets five consecutive Thursdays starting May 10. Since this is a pilot program, we are able to offer this workshop series one time only for free, with a nominal fee of \$10 per session to cover workshop materials. The workshop format and content is designed to build on each consecutive workshop, so participants are encouraged to register for all five sessions. Registration is offered on a first come, first served basis as the class size is limited.

Third, through the interest and research conducted by **John Orr** and **Bob Scales**, the Emeriti Center is pursuing a way to improve the ability of anyone with hearing loss, regardless of how minimal or extensive (see page 11). This research supports attendees' ability to hear more

clearly and to enjoy our presentations and events. John began to explore induction loop technology in February. As a result we have engaged the university in our efforts to have this technology installed in as many of USC's new building projects as possible. In addition, the Emeriti Center is investing in portable devices that will greatly enhance listening pleasure for many of our event participants.

Fourth, in continually working with the Office of the Provost and the Office of Benefits Administration to improve USC faculty and staff transitions to retirement, we have entered an "Alfred P. Sloan Awards for Best Practices in Faculty Retirement Transitions" competition through the American Council on Education (ACE). Regardless of whether USC wins this special competition for research universities, our participation ensures that we will be provided with assessment information to help us improve our retirement services.

As always, we continuously work to advocate for services, privileges, and resources to benefit the USC retiree community. We are also proactive in adding to our collection of USC Living History recordings that are posted on USC YouTube. Please contact us with names of USC faculty and staff whom you think should be interviewed and preserved in our archives through conversational interviews.

Thank you everyone for your continuing support of our Emeriti Center, Emeriti Center College, and the USC retiree community's RFA and SRA membership organizations. Together, we are making a difference in the quality and purpose of meaningful post-retirement service and learning. ■

New Officers, New Activities

The RFA had a very busy Spring. New RFA officers and Board members were elected: **Bill Petak**, President-Elect; **Jim Halls**, Treasurer; and four At-Large members: **Natalie Cohen**, **Hazel Lord**, **Ken Williams** and **Jack Sanders**. Continuing officers are **John Orr** (Past President), **Bob Stallings** (Secretary) and myself, (President).

Dues letters were sent in April – look for reminders in July. Many thanks to 740 retired faculty and spouses for supporting the RFA, its operating funds and endowment; and the Caldwell Scholarship program. A mid-April scholarship luncheon honored our student recipients and major donors, including current faculty and staff.

Three Sherry Hours focused on longevity in river basins; law and human rights in a multi-cultural world; and student art at USC. We are planning the 2012-2013 schedule and welcome your suggestions for speakers. The RFA continues to promote participation in USC's stellar Visions & Voices program. A new activity, short 3-5 day trips, was developed by **Art Donovan** and the EC's Retired Faculty and Staff Benefits and Resources Committee (see pg.7 for our first trip).

Since 2012 began, the RFA has devoted its energies to increasing its visibility and participation in the university. We contributed 10% of our annual budget to the USC Good Neighbors Program, warmly acknowledged by President Nikias. Art Donovan and I attended the Academic Senate/Provost Strategic Planning retreat. Consequently, we are developing an RFA strategic plan for USC 2022. We also worked with the EC and Provost's office on the ACE/Sloan Foundation application and are engaged in the EC's retirement study as advisors and focus group participants. Our advocacy efforts under Natalie Cohen continue: clarifying Faculty Handbook language on achieving emeriti status, and issues of retired faculty access to library and online resources, and of post-retirement health benefits.

All of the RFA Board wish you a happy and productive summer. ■

Phoebe Liebig, RFA President
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www.usc.edu/rfa



Left, Phoebe Liebig
Right, Dixon Johnson

We're Off to a Great Start

Now that the academic year is finished, I'm struck by what an important part of the university the Emeriti Center and the retiree community are. From increasing connections with the university religious leaders and the office of planning, to research activity in coordination with the Davis School of Gerontology, there are many ways we are involved with the day-to-day aspects of campus life.

As for the SRA itself, I continue to be extremely proud of the activities and commitment of all the volunteer members of the Executive Committee. Deserving special recognition are: **Dick Martin** and **Victor Webb**, for the successful tours of TV Channels 2 and 9 in Studio City; **Jo** and **Art Ochoa** for coordinating the holiday breakfast; **Alice Donahue** for her continuing leadership in sending out the birthday and anniversary cards; **Sue Edwin** and **Nardina Solano** for managing SRA membership and renewal records; **Bob** and **Jeanne Church** for coordinating the Homecoming Day tent activities; **Ron Violette** for his 15 years of service to the SRA as the newsletter editor; and **Len Wines** for taking on the leadership responsibilities in developing the new SRA website and coordinating with the university webmaster.

We celebrated our newest staff retirees at our March 15 Recognition Luncheon where we invited them to become part of our very active Staff Retirement Association.

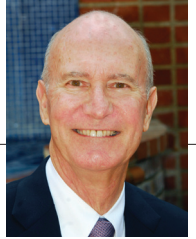
You can be proud of your organization. See page 11 for upcoming SRA day trips. Please know that I am eager to hear from you with any suggestions for new activities. ■

Dixon Johnson, SRA President
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www.usc.edu/sra

Humor Us

The kids bought me a GPS for my last birthday because they say I get lost every now and then going to the grocery store or library. The GPS looked pretty smart on my dashboard, but the lady inside that gadget was the most annoying, rudest person I had run into in a long time. Every 10 minutes, she would sarcastically say, "Re-calc-u-lating." You'd think that

she could be nicer! It was like she could barely tolerate me. She would let go with a deep sigh and then tell me to make a U-turn at the next light. Then if I made a right turn instead...well, it was not a good relationship. When I get really lost now, I call my wife and tell her the names of the cross streets, and while she is starting to develop the same tone as Gypsy, the GPS lady, at least she loves me.



Jerry Walker

They Keep Coming Back for More

Skip Eastman, retired director of the Center for Scholarly Technology, enjoyed the Emeriti Center College classes on great American songwriters, “The American Songbook on Stage, Screen & Records.” “It is entertaining and educational,” said Eastman, “and I would take another if it were offered.”

Bob Church agreed. As a WWII veteran, the “Songs That Won the War” brought back a flood of memories.

Three Spring Semester classes were presented by the USC



From left to right, Bob Church, Mary Margaret Locke, Lora Walker, Tom Tomlinson (instructor, “A History of Los Angeles and USC”), Jeanne Church, Judy Garcia and Jerry Walker.

Emeriti Center College. The classes were small, intimate and enriching.

“The History of Los Angeles and USC, 1880 – 1930” included reading original books, viewing early photographs, and field trips to the Plaza, Pico House, Union Station and the Lummis House. **Jeanne Church** said, “Having lived in Los Angeles all my life, I thought I knew the history pretty well. I was wrong.”

In the “Great Decisions” class at the Skirball Cultural Center, USC faculty addressed key foreign policy challenges, including subjects such as Middle East Realignment, Promoting Democracy, and Exiting from Afghanistan and Iraq. The class, where students learned about the realities behind the headlines, was filled to capacity.

View our classes at www.usc.edu/ecc ■

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Program Puts Focus On Brain Health

Imagine – 80-year-old women as grand masters of the violent video game “World of Warcraft.” If it keeps their brain functions sharp, more power to them. As we age, it is important to focus on how to stay as healthy physically and mentally.

On March 23, more than 130 USC retirees and friends gathered in the USC Davis School of Gerontology Auditorium to hear experts present at the USC Emeriti Center’s Brain Wellness Colloquium.

The presentations included: “Saving our Brains from Arteriosclerosis,” by **Helena Chui**, director, USC Memory and Aging Center; “The Aging Brain Program Project,” by **Kathy Martelli**, coordinator for the Aging Center’s new study, “The Aging Brain – a Study for 70+ Seniors,” funded by the National Institute on Aging; and “Upgrading Brain Performance as we Age,” by **Elizabeth Zelinski**, Professor of Gerontology and Psychology, USC Davis School of Gerontology.

Chui spoke of the three critical A’s: Aging, Alzheimer’s and Arteriosclerosis, the effects of “plaque and tangles,” and the important role of memory. Chui noted, “We have to remember where we hid our nut, as well as how to crack it.”

Martelli encouraged retirees who are 70+ to take part in the Aging Brain study, which currently has 360 participants. It provides testing at no cost, including MRI scans, physicals, neurological exams, and blood tests. Those interested in joining

the study can call (562) 401-8453 for information.

Zelinski spoke about the importance of keeping the brain stimulated as one ages. “Learn a language, or a musical instrument,” she said, noting with good humor that, “When you do an autopsy, you know who the musicians were.” And then there’s that old standby, aerobic exercise. “Any kind of exercise a person enjoys will do,” she said, and the skills used in video games transfer to everyday skills, referencing those 80-year-old grand masters.

Martelli addressed the concept of wellness and healthy aging – “What’s good for your body and heart is also good for your brain,” she said. ■



MARICELA HINOJOSA

After lunch, Kathy Martelli worked with 30 retirees on brain exercise demonstrations that included meditation and yoga.

USC Honors 95 Retiring Staff at Luncheon

Janette Brown, executive director of the USC Emeriti Center, welcomed 23 USC staff retirees and their guests to the 27th Annual Staff Retirement Recognition luncheon held at Town & Gown on March 15. "It's wonderful to see people retire and enjoy a fulfilling new stage of life," Brown said.

"The university is indebted to all faculty and staff," said **Janis McEldowney**, associate senior vice president, Human Resources. The retiring staff had played an important part in supporting USC through its years of growth, she said, and added that the retirees "leave an incredible legacy. Enjoy your retirement – live life to the fullest."

All staff retirees, as with faculty retirees, automatically become members of the USC Emeriti Center.

Dixon Johnson, president of the Staff Retirement Association urged new retirees to officially join the SRA organization, which advocates for retirees and to take part in its activities such as day trips and theatre performances as well as a holiday party. "It's a wonderful opportunity to give back," he said, as volunteers, or "sometimes, even to get paid" if retirees take part in the Trojan Encore program, which brings retirees back to campus.

The 2011 retired staff, 95 in all, had service that added up to an impressive 2,332 years in all, averaging 24.5 years. But many employees had worked at USC for more than 30 years, and one gentleman, Hudhail Al-Amir, logged 49 years.

Brown presented the J. Tillman Hall Staff Award for Service to USC posthumously to treasured retiree volunteer **Mitzi Tsujimoto** (see page 8). Her grandson Brandon accepted the award on behalf of the Tsujimoto family, many of whom attended the event. Mitzi's motto, said Brown, was "Find a place to volunteer doing what you love best."

The annual event was sponsored by the Office of the Senior Vice President, which was represented by Janis McEldowney. ■



Retirees from 2011 who were in attendance at the March 15 luncheon included: front row, from left, Samuel Mays, Ofelia Galvan, Pauline Chang, Nirva Campos, Julieta De La Paz, Evelyn Willis, Thomas Hsu, and John Crowe.; middle row, from left, Barbara Lewis, Fidila Franklin, Linda Forman, Janis McEldowney (Associate Senior Vice President, Human Resources), Shirley Wilson, and Christina Jill Hopkins; and back row, from left, Hudhail Al-Amir, Susan Lewis, Sharon Kawakami, Deborah Blake, Olabisi Carr, Maria McElwee, Alicia Thompson, and Gertrude Vann . Photo credit: Irene Fertik

(Inset photo) Retiree Donice M. Crist, with Janette Brown, EC executive director.

An Editor's Thoughts

As I age, life is about adjustments, while still holding onto a certain "joie de vivre" for balance.

Twenty years ago I walked across the Grand Canyon from the South Rim to the North Rim. That often icy canyon walk isn't in my future again, but that doesn't mean I can't use my L.A. Zoo membership by walking several hours a week on its hilly terrain while checking on gorillas and tigers.

I garden, but the time to climb on ladders to trim my mulberry tree has passed – that's now a hired-out job. I do projects around the house, but climbing on the roof is out. Common sense prevails.

Taking the stairs from parking structure A to the EC is better than the elevator, but one hand is near the handrail. There's no sense in tempting fate, and falling is simply to be avoided.

I stay social by going to my writer's group, and I tutor. And I've taken to reading poetry out loud – sometimes my own – to my dog. It entertains at least one of us. ■



– Christine Shade,
shade@usc.edu

EC South Bay Social

**Wed., June 13, 2012
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Hosted by: Ken and Harriet Servis
Rolling Hills Estates

All are welcome.

RSVP by Wed., June 6

ecrsvp@usc.edu or (213) 740-7122

Take Names

Usually this column is written by a retiree who actually knows something about technology, as it should be. But our tech person is on a break – that wisdom will return in September – so I'll share a recent frustration.

I work on a laptop at home and had a DSL line. The modem went “kaput,” leaving me adrift. I decided to go wireless with my Internet provider – but couldn't be without service for the two weeks it would take to receive a wireless modem. I was sent a temporary DSL modem (4 days later), but it was defective. The contact number went through “automated man” before I could reach a human, and the set-up did not proceed properly until I had talked to several tech workers. I'm a pretty patient person, but I felt like throwing the DSL modem at the wall. I wasn't mad at the workers, but I *was* mad. The wireless modem arrived, with an inaccurate “activation” time. I went through three tech workers, one totally clueless, who forwarded me to an office that was closed. The next day, the fourth tech person came up with simple instructions, which actually worked. Hours of my time were wasted, and I had spotty service for more than 14 days. I asked for the name of someone I could contact with my complaints. Told there wasn't such a person, I insisted and finally got manager “Sally's” name and e-mail.

Here's some tips: take names; keep a record; be polite, but insistent; ask for a manager; remember it's not just a senior thing; and don't let anyone minimize your problem. You're the customer, and you count. ■

Christine Shade shade@usc.edu

In the News

Sharing Expertise: USC retirees in the news, include:

- *The Korea Herald* (South Korea) covered a lecture that **Stephen Krashen**, professor emeritus (education) gave in Seoul where he proposed a method of learning English which emphasizes reading rather than learning grammar.

- *The Voice of Russia* (Russia) quoted **H. Richard Lamb**, professor emeritus (medicine), about treatment for the severely mentally ill.

- *The Las Vegas Review-Journal* quoted **Robert Scales**, professor emeritus (theatre), on how the arts program of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas can compete with Vegas' new Smith Center for the Performing Arts.

- *The Sacramento Bee* quoted **Chester Newland**, retired professor (public policy) about Sacramento's mayorship.

- *ABC News* interviewed **Garry Brody**, professor emeritus (medicine), about realistic expectations regarding plastic surgery. He was also cited by the Daily Mail (U.K.).

- *The Orange County Register* reported that **Edwin Perkins**, professor emeritus (history), will participate in a dialogue about taxes hosted by Concerned Citizen.

- *The Daily Record* (NJ) ran a column by **A. Michael Noll**, professor emeritus (Annenberg), about the role Bell Labs played as an innovation center.

Keynote Speaker

Steven Krashen, professor emeritus (education), will be one of the keynote

speakers at the University of La Verne's winter commencement ceremonies.

A Reading

In March, at an event at the Goethe Institut in Los Angeles Emmy Award winning actor Eric Braeden read from the book, “German-speaking Artists in Hollywood” by **Cornelius Schnauber**, professor emeritus (German). Schnauber is Director Emeritus at USC's Max Kade Institute for Austrian-German-Swiss Studies.

Krone Presents

In March, at a presentation at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, **Bob Krone**, professor emeritus (ISSM) and provost of the Kepler Space Institute reported on the latest results from two leading research scientists on findings that present a “strong foundation for universal intelligence ...”

In Print

- *Russo-Japanese Relations 1905-1917: From Enemies to Allies*, by **Peter Berton**, emeritus professor (international relations), was published in 2011 by Routledge.



- *Bell Labs Memoirs: Voice of Innovation*, co-edited by **A. Michael Noll** emeritus professor (Annenberg), a collection of biographical stories of people who were at Bell Labs in the 1960s was published in 2011 by CreateSpace. ■

IN MEMORIAM

We honor and mourn our university colleagues who have died. Those whose names were recorded at press time, and who were not noted in previous newsletters, are:

Don Ainsworth (spouse of Ginny Ainsworth/medicine business office); Don Andersen (sports information); Sidney W. Benson (chemistry); Thomas C. Cox (history); Gerald L. Endahl (medicine); Robert Gagliardi (engineering); John V. Grimaldi (ISSM); John Marburger (LAS dean); Chuck O'Regan (facilities management); Kenneth Price (fine arts/sculpture); Carl Q. Christol (political science); Charles Ritcheson (library/history); Harold Sherman (ISSM); Manbir Singh (engineering); Xavier Suazo (athletics); Mitzi M. Tsujimoto (pharmacy); and Nan Woods (journalism).

Volunteering with Heart and Humor

"She said she liked my shoes. I was sitting with my feet under the table, so I cannot figure out how she saw my shoes!" exclaimed retiree **Connie Horak** about her volunteer day at the Lynwood Jail for Women.

The women usually commented on her attire. She felt it was important to present herself well in order to be trusted by the women. Horak found her volunteer job through her church. Her skills in working with student advising while at Annenberg were transferable in helping her to advise these incarcerated women.

"The general population in the Lynwood Jail is [mostly] DUI offenses, although some women I counsel have been abused, and I have counseled women who have murdered their husbands," she said. Other problems are that jail is considered temporary so there are no library privileges, no computers to use and the women have nothing to do," said Horak. She really enjoys listening, advising and giving her time. Horak said, "I knew this was my calling." ■



Connie Horak

USC Retirees Go On An Island Adventure



An island adventure was just the ticket for a Springtime trip!

The Emeriti Center's Retired Faculty and Staff Benefits and Resources Committee initiated a new multi-day group travel adventure for USC retirees. The first four-day trip, through the Road Scholar program, was to USC's Wrigley Marine Science Center on Catalina Island, from Friday to Monday, April 27 through April 30. Twenty five USC retirees and friends took advantage of this very unusual excursion. Transportation to and from Catalina was provided on the USC supply boat.

The Road Scholar programs, run by Elderhostel on Catalina Island, focused on natural science and environmental studies. The fees for this trip covered classes, materials, field trips, room and board, and a trip to Catalina Island's seaside tourist community, Avalon.

For more information about Road Scholar programs at the Wrigley Marine Science Center, check the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Science. Website: dornsife.usc.edu/ ■

– Art Donovan

SUCCESSFUL AGING

Concerning Driving, and Concerns

Driving is a lifeline in Southern California. Yet how often do we hear: "I don't like to drive at night." The glare bothers me when it rains." "I don't like driving all the way into campus." "I don't want to drive on the freeway." These may be signs that one's judgment is aligned with one's capacity. The Department of Transportation (DOT) publishes a self-assessment tool that can be helpful.

Here are key questions and issues to consider:

Does driving make you feel nervous, scared or overwhelmed? When in traffic, do you feel confused by the traffic signs, the people or the cars? Are you taking medicines that make you feel tired? Do you feel yourself reacting slowly to normal driving situations? If the answer is yes to any of these questions, the DOT recommends asking your doctor about side effects from medications you are taking that can affect your driving. When driving in familiar areas, stick to routes that you know well. Try to avoid rush-hour traffic. Drive a safe distance from the car in front of you. And keep your eyes open for what is going on around you so you can be prepared for problems and can plan your actions.

Are people who care about you concerned? Sometimes it is easier for others who care about you to notice some things which you have missed, overlooked or dismissed. Consider taking a driving course. AARP offers a program called 55 Alive Driver Safety; the AAA offers a senior driving program. Finally, begin to develop alternative ways to get around so that you engage in activities important to you, and can be face-to face-with people you love.

That's what later life is all about. ■



– **Helen Dennis**,
Specialist on aging, employment
and the new retirement,
helendenn@aol.com

2012 Service Award Presented Posthumously to Mitzi Tsujimoto

Mitzi M. Tsujimoto was honored posthumously at the 27th Annual Staff Retirement Recognition luncheon on March 15.

"It's my honor and privilege to award Mitzi Tsujimoto with the J. Tillman Hall Staff Award for Service to USC," said **Janette Brown**, executive director of the USC Emeriti Center (EC). "Mitzi was the ultimate volunteer and a cheerful welcoming hostess."

The award was accepted on behalf of the Tsujimoto family by Mitzi's grandson, **Brandon Tsujimoto**.

"She really loved USC," Brandon said, "It will be hard not having her here, but we're proud of everything she did." He said it was wonderful to see how many people knew her and were touched by her. "I know she would be proud of this."

Mitzi retired as Director of Admission, Financial Aid and Student Affairs at the USC School of Pharmacy in January 1998 after serving USC for 24 years. She then volunteered for an additional 15 years up until a month prior to her death in January 2012.

She volunteered as associate director, staff liaison, and EC volunteer coordinator, providing outstanding leadership, organization, and dedication. As volunteer coordinator, she maintained a supportive retiree workforce for the EC, the USC Emeriti Center College and the university. As EC associate director and staff liaison, Mitzi represented EC staff interests and advocated on behalf of USC retirees. She also provided invaluable knowledge and connections with her colleagues on the Health Sciences Campus, which enhanced collaborations with the University Park Campus. Mitzi was one of the first coordinators of the H. Dale Hilton Living History Video Tape Project; she organized and preserved records for the EC's Annual Fundraising Campaign and the USC Directory; and cultivated key USC

retiree leaders who volunteered for these projects.

She served on the Board of Directors of the USC Staff Retirement Association (SRA); was an original planning committee leader for the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) and an active member on the Retired Faculty/Staff Benefits and Resource Committee. Mitzi's resourcefulness, graciousness, and experience were indispensable assets to EC's mission vision to provide service and learning opportunities for retired USC faculty and staff.

In addition to her EC volunteer leadership, Mitzi volunteered at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, serving as USC Norris Cancer Hospital Auxiliary president from 2001 to 2004 and as an Edmondson Faculty Center Board member on the Health Sciences Campus. For more than 10 years, she was a Norris Cancer Hospital's Gift Shop volunteer. Mitzi also greatly enhanced quality service to the patients, visitors, and staff at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Hospital as a dedicated member of the hospital's volunteer team.

"Through her dedication, commitment, and Trojan spirit, Mitzi made significant contributions to the USC community even after her retirement," said Brown. "Her generous nature and outstanding service have served to benefit, both directly and indirectly, all the retirees of the USC community and the university at large. Mitzi's energy and selfless commitment to serving others was truly exemplary."

On March 17, a memorial celebration of Mitzi's life was held at Town & Gown bringing together 81 family and USC colleagues who have benefited from Mitzi's counsel, admired her dedication, and were eager to share their memories with her family and friends. The USC Emeriti



"Find a place to volunteer, doing what you love most."

Mitzi M. Tsujimoto 1927-2012



Janette Brown with Brandon Tsujimoto, who accepted the service award on behalf of his grandmother.

Center is grateful to the Tsujimoto family for sponsoring the Town & Gown memorial and for encouraging donations to the Center in Mitzi's memory. To date, 52 contributions (\$5,873) have been made in Mitzi's honor. ■

We Thank Our Campaign Contributors

Through the Emeriti Center's Benefactor Recognition Program, we thank those who are benefactors of the Center and who have recognized honored colleagues, friends, and family with a \$500 or more contribution:

Donor

William Ennis Thomson
Leonard R. Wines
Robert R. Scales
Bob & Jeanne Church
Janette C. Brown
Nancy E. Warner, M.D.

Honoree

Elizabeth A. Thomson
Barney Frank
Mitzi Tsujimoto
Mitzi Tsujimoto
Mitzi Tsujimoto
Mitzi Tsujimoto

EC Board Member Attends Public Hearing

Democracy is messy. I attended the first of two public hearings held by the city of Los Angeles about USC's plans for the University Village. Protesters on the sidewalk in front of the Radisson Hotel chanted anti-USC slogans in Spanish. **Kristina Raspe**, University Real Estate, Vice President for Real Estate Development and Asset Management, read a statement to the audience. Over thirty citizens, spoke for or against the plan with their related arguments.

It is difficult for us, close to USC, to see the complaints. We see so many benefits to the university, its students and especially the neighborhood. However, there are some who believe USC has caused a displacement of residents for years. These are the complaints from the handout United Neighbors In Defense Against Displacement, UNIDAD: 1) Not enough new student housing guaranteed affordability to low and moderate income students; 2) No

protection for local residents from being displacement by landlords who prefer student tenants rather than locals; 4) USC does not guarantee locals will be hired for construction or permanent jobs; and 5) USC does not guarantee support for existing small business during construction or in the new plan; and USC does not provide new parks for the community.

Those who supported the project were influenced by USC's contribution to the neighborhood through the Good Neighbors Program and the Neighborhood Academic Initiative. This group had great appreciation for what USC has done for the neighborhood. All of the construction is on USC owned land; no one is physically being displaced. The project will have new jobs available, there will be many small businesses in the project and more green area will be added. ■

— **Bob Scales**,
rscales@usc.edu

Meet Our New Trojan Encore Temp

We are pleased to announce our newest Trojan Encore hire, **Diana Seyb**. She joins the Emeriti Center to manage communications and special projects. Diana is a former USC recruiter, having worked in Employee Recruitment Services. Her experience in marketing strategy, journalism and PR will support the EC in its mission. She will create and implement strategic communications for our web site and for the Center, and promote our many programs and activities.



Irene Fertik

Sherry Hour Gatherings

The final convivial RFA "Sherry Hour" took place on Friday, April 27, in USC's Fisher Gallery where **Selma Holo**, director, brought the group up to date about student art at USC (3 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.). Holo's presentation also included a guided tour through the student art exhibit.

On March 23, the fourth Sherry Hour was held at the Doheny Memorial Library. The guest speaker was **Alison Dundes Renteln**, professor and chair of the department of political science at USC with joint appointments in anthropology, law, and public policy. She led the group in thinking about her subject, "Law in a Multicultural World: The Right to Culture as a Human Right." An expert on cultural rights, including the use of the "cultural defense" in the legal system, Renteln shared her experience on the subject with the attendees. Her book *The Cultural Defense* (Oxford) resulted in her receiving the 2006 Phi Beta Kappa Award for Creativity in Research. ■



Professor Alison Renteln speaks with SRA President Dixon Johnson and Jack Wills RFA Board Member.

Join Our "Life After Retirement" Section

Let the USC community know what you've been up to! Go to the bottom of the EC web page (www.emeriti.usc.edu) for our "Life After Retirement" section and click on "Send in your bio and updates."

Retired Faculty Receive Lifetime Achievement Awards

Faculty Lifetime Achievement Awards are presented to retired faculty members for their notable contributions to the university, their profession and the community. Those honored with 2012 Faculty Lifetime Achievement Awards at the 31st annual USC Academic Honors Convocation on April 4 at Town & Gown were:

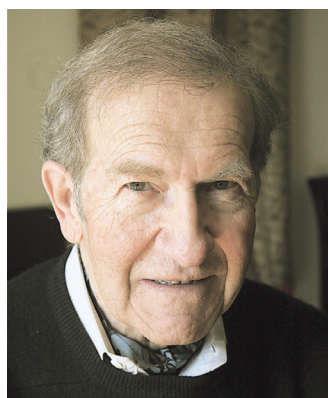
- **Professor Emeritus Murray**

Fromson, USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism

Professor Emeritus Murray Fromson's focus in journalism was: idealism; justice and fairness; and contempt for hypocrisy. Fromson spent 35 years as a distinguished reporter for CBS News, NBC News and the Associated Press covering 14 wars including those in Korea and Vietnam. Fromson joined USC in 1982 and served on the Annenberg School faculty for 25 years, including five years as director of the School of Journalism. He founded and continued to direct the USC Center for International Journalism.

- **Professor Emeritus William**

Rutherford, Department of Linguistics
USC Dornsife College of Letters,
Arts and Sciences



Murray Fromson



William Rutherford



Carole Shammass

William E. Rutherford, Professor Emeritus of Linguistics, founded, with other researchers, the area of second language acquisition. As an assistant professor in 1972, Rutherford emanated encyclopedic knowledge of linguistics and European languages, including Latin. He has become an internationally renowned scholar in second language acquisition, a growing interdisciplinary field that he helped to shape. Rutherford organized the groundbreaking Conference on Language Universals and Second Language Acquisition (USC, 1982). Rutherford's textbooks are models of their kind and have found their way into multiple reprints and editions.

- **Professor Emerita Carole Shammass**, John R. Hubbard Chair in History Emerita, USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Professor of History Emerita Carole Shammass has pioneered the social history of early America, and she is the premier economic historian of early America. Shammass began her career with a series of articles revealing how families in England and the Anglo-American colonies accrued wealth and the place of women in early American society. Her impact on the USC Department of History has been considerable, leading to the development of a major in history education, serving as department chair, and playing role in founding the USC-Huntington Library Early Modern Studies ■

Take Care of Yourself and Leave a Legacy

In these uncertain times, consider the benefits of a charitable gift annuity from USC:

- **Income:** Annuity payments for life for you or a loved one—possibly yielding higher income than the gifted asset is currently earning for you
- **Tax Benefits:** An immediate charitable deduction and potential for additional tax savings
- **Security:** Regulated by the state of California and backed by USC's assets
- **Support USC:** The chance to take part in The Campaign for USC with a gift for a university program that's important to you

How It Works:

In exchange for a gift of \$25,000 or more, USC will pay you (and/or another named beneficiary) a fixed annuity every year for life, no matter how long you or the other beneficiaries may live. The annuity rate is determined by the age of the beneficiaries at the time of the gift. USC invests your gift as a reserve, and upon your death (or the death of the surviving beneficiary) the remaining funds pass to the university to be used for the program or purposes that you designate.

Emeriti Center Launches Initiative to Improve Hearing Access

USC's Emeriti Center has launched an initiative that will significantly increase the ability of individuals with hearing loss to participate in retirement community events and to enjoy programs at the University Club.

The Emeriti Center will apply cutting-edge developments in inductive wire ("hearing loop") technology. This technology allows persons to use their own individually configured hearing aids to listen to a program's words and music at an extraordinarily high level of sound quality.

Hearing loop technology is not new. It has enjoyed widespread, successful use in northern Europe, in the United Kingdom, and in many regions of the United States. What is new is the rapidly growing availability in American hearing aids of telecoil programs, often marketed as "telephone boosters," which allow hard-of-hearing persons to use loop technology. Currently, about two-thirds of American hearing aids contain telecoils. The American Academy of Audiology predicts that, in the near future, telecoils will be installed in almost all hearing aids.

John Orr, past president of the Retired Faculty Association, and **Robert Scales**, retired dean of USC's School of Theatre, are leading the initiative. Orr, who has himself experienced hearing loss, has installed hearing loop technology in his own home, and he speaks enthusiastically about its current use in a variety of Los Angeles venues. Scales keeps abreast of advances in assisted hearing systems that are employed by theaters and auditoriums. He is applying this knowledge to the design of systems that will be adopted by the EC.

The Emeriti Center, in cooperation with the Staff Retirement Association and the Retired Faculty Association, is taking steps to ensure that hearing loop technology will also be available in the new University Club.

"The University Club is an important gathering place for retired members of USC's faculty and staff," said **Janette Brown**, executive director of the Emeriti Center. "We want to make sure that this space adequately serves members of the USC community who have experienced hearing loss." ■



Congratulations!

We congratulate our two graduating EC student workers who will receive degrees from the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences: **Lorenzo Tovar**, left, will receive a B.A. in Philosophy, Politics, and Law, and **Esther Hong**, will receive a B.A. in Psychology. Both students are Californians – Lorenzo is from Glendale and Esther is from Cerritos.



"Eisenhower 1956: The President's Year of Crisis – Suez and the Brink of War"

by David A. Nichols (2011)

For President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1956 was a year of one difficulty after another: he had reelection to deal with, as well as shaky health (a 1955 heart attack and abdominal surgery in mid 1956), and two foreign crises faced the nation. Egypt nationalized the Suez Canal when the U.S. would not finance the Aswan Dam, and Britain and France plotted with Israel to topple President Nasser by invading Egypt, and did invade nine days before the U.S. presidential election. Eisenhower pressed for a cease-fire at the U.N., and days later, Soviet troops invaded Hungary, and American military forces went on alert. The author drew on 30 years of declassified documents, and National Security Council and Oval Office meeting minutes, showing how Eisenhower deftly handled this nail-biting international crises. ■

Join Us for a Day Trip Outing

The next SRA Day Trip will be on Thursday, May 24, to the Banning Mansion and Civil War era Drum Barracks in Wilmington, Calif. A display of Victorian napkin holders from **Jeanne** and **Bob Church** are currently on display at the museum. The cost will be \$28/person, including bus fare, lunch and admission to the Museum. An email flyer will be sent out soon, so be on the watch for it.

In July, on a date to be determined, we'll have a Day Trip to Pasadena's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) where we'll have a presentation on the Mars Rover, Curiosity. An email flyer will be sent out.

The January trip with 28 SRA and RFA members that toured the Conservation Lab, Art Gallery and Museum of the Huntington Library in San Marino, in addition to the botanical gardens, was a great success. ■

– **Dick Martin**
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