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...of Cabbages and Kings. November, 2002

Emeriti Society, University of the Pacific

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“... of CABBAGES AND KINGS.”

The Newsletter of the University of the Pacific Emeriti Society

November 2002

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Notes from the Acting President!

By Gwenn Browne

I hope everyone enjoyed the Fall Luncheon as much as I did. The consensus seems to be that the new food service is better than we had before. If the improvement continues, maybe we will end up by getting our money's work.

Everyone who had pictures taken at the luncheon should have his or her ID card. There were only a couple of mistakes, but if you didn't get yours or if it has someone else's name or picture, give me a call at home (209) 955-1963. (We don't have voice mail at the Emeriti Office yet.)

The ballots have been returned and, as expected, the amendment passed. I have started the process which will add two or three new members. You can expect to see an announcement in the next *Cabbages and Kings* and we hope that these people will be able to join us

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at the Spring Luncheon.

The main news that I have to share is about my attendance at the inaugural meeting of the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education at Indiana University on October 15-18. Thanks to Phil Gilbertson's generosity, the University of the Pacific was one of nine charter members of this organization. He paid the dues and you (the treasury) paid for my trip.

There were 14 people at the first organizational meeting, and I used our vote to insure that there was a much less expensive level of dues payment for groups like ours. There were about 150 people in attendance for the first plenary session, but apparently a lot of them commuted in for one day only. Attendance dropped off every day, but there were about 50 representatives present for the final business meeting during which they conducted a 1-1/2 hour debate (with full parliamentary procedure) about how to pronounce the acronym. I also had the honor of becoming the first Associate (individual) member of AROHE (pronounced Air-o-hee, the western preference.)

There seemed to be a commercial assumption that colleges and universities would be interested in constructing retirement communities for people with intellectual interests. Charter and Founding members were emblazoned with special badges so I got lots of offers to help us construct such a venture. I kept telling architects, etc., that we didn't have any extra space on campus.

You will be pleased to know that we are well endowed with "perks" in our Emeriti status; we compare favorably to many larger universities. I was surprised

to discover that the UC system has invested a lot of money in centers for their retired staff and faculty. A few other states have similar arrangements and many programs serve both faculty and staff. Almost everyone charges dues, even those with fewer benefits. AROHE will have a web site to which they will connect all the web sites from member organizations. I'll pass the address(es) along in the future. In the meantime, does anyone want to volunteer to be webmaster for Pacific? We lost our web site in one of the many changes to the campus system so we are back at square one.

This will be the last newsletter of the year so I want to wish you all a happy holiday season and a happy start to 2003.

Fall Luncheon Meeting

By Robert Knighton

The Fall Luncheon Meeting, on October 9 in the Regents' Room, was conducted by Vice-President Gwenn Browne, Program Chair, who, as Acting President, introduced to everyone the Executive Board and the two speakers, new Dean of COP, Dr. Gary Miller, and Dr. Louise Stark, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Besides the tasty chicken repast, the Emeriti members feasted on Dean Miller's narrative review of his past, present, and future career. He was both entertaining and informative, beginning with his affinity for doing physical science in his own educational and vocational accomplishments. A native of Dayton, VA, from a family line of Page County carpenters, he learned the

powers of ideas and discourse at William & Mary, the vital necessity of the "magic" of student and faculty research in such courses as "Comparative Anatomy," and the nature of a discipline in "Ecology." He saw that ideas, and discourse, and disciplines flow across departmental boundaries.

At Mississippi State, he studied entomology, developing a flair for combining science with political and governmental relations. He taught for 14 years, successfully, at Ole Miss, earning a solid research and administrative career. It was "a wonderful place with special burdens," and he and his family decided it was time to "make a break" from "one good place to another," so they left Oxford (pop. 10,000) for, eventually, Stockton, an urban place with completely different geographical and sociological conditions. He selected UOP because COP has a superb faculty; he's used to a campus with professional schools; he likes the smaller size; and was impressed with its progressive ideas about general education, especially the "very unique" Mentor Program. Moreover, in his interviews, COP's was the only faculty that knew what it wanted its Dean to do, and had written it down! He agreed with their views.

Dean Miller envisions a cross-disciplinary "conversation/convocation" like Wendell Berry's, "of collaborating disciplines" among specialists, living in a community, not just a university, with an accomplished faculty and student-oriented disciplinary perspective, whose members talk to one another in "local English." Dean Miller intends to lead in a different way, sciences and arts, building on the general education philosophy – mindful of resource needs – to strengthen the arts and the humanities (if not grow them), and to cultivate the alumni of the College vigorously, with a COP emphasis in the Capital Campaign, in order to maintain

the College, which is "half the campus." He acknowledged the virtues of rapport, of fitting all elements within a unit. He will go where the interest is, in a spirit of diversity. He envisions the Emeriti as goodwill ambassadors for alumni contacts, for fund raising, for communicating the vision, for participation in both functional and ceremonial ways in the life of the College community.

After lunch, Professor Becky Beal, new Academic Chair, spoke of the twin concerns of Handbook dissemination (on the web), and clarifying, codifying the Promotion and Tenure procedures; she invited us to communicate our concerns via e-mail or telephone. Dr. Louise Stark illuminated her groundbreaking robotics advances in "Using Computer Vision for Object Recognition," which she handed out in a power-point presentation hard copy. She reviewed current research efforts, which focus on face recognition, traffic surveillance, inspection, and medical applications, all "successful in some way for a limited domain." Her goal is to "develop alternative approaches to generic object recognition and manipulation," concentrating on "man-made objects (artifacts)." She is having good success in what she names "function-based recognition," where the latter categorizes into a class of objects, and the former, "function," defines the functional requirements of classes of objects. The result is GRUFF or Generic Recognition Using Form and Function, which derives meaningful descriptions of the environment from images, using their BRAK – Basic Robotics Architecture Kit – and their SHRIMP – Stereo Head Research Image Processor. Dr. Stark and her colleague, Dr. Ken Hughes, comprise the Computer Vision and Robotics Group (CVRG) in the Center for Undergraduate Research in Machine Intelligence here at UOP.

The luncheon concluded with a short business meeting, chaired by Acting

President Browne. After very brief discussion, it was moved by Bob Blaney, seconded by Les Robinson, that the proposed Constitutional Amendment on Membership be approved. It passed unanimously, and a ballot will be mailed to each member for final ratification. Nominations for qualified new members under its aegis may begin almost immediately. The meeting concluded with advice on picking up I.D. photos (Bannister Hall, or Browne mailing); on minimal changes in the health plan; and the status of the 2003-2003 directory.

News from the Academic Council

By George Blum

The new Chair, Becky Beal of Sports Sciences, gaveled the first fall Academic Council meeting into session in September. President Donald DeRosa offered the traditional opening remarks. He congratulated the Council on the completion of the University Handbook and the preceding Council Chair, Ron Ray, for bringing the process to a conclusion. At its May meeting the Council had voted a special commendation of Roland di Franco for his "exemplary investment of time, energy, contemplation, deliberation, and leadership in compiling and developing this handbook over recent years." DeRosa continued his report by pointing to the importance for the University of the articulation of unit and University-wide guidelines on Promotion and Tenure. The basic principles of the guidelines are stated in the Handbook and discussions among the campus community are in progress on how they will apply to individual units. An open faculty forum with only faculty present was held in early November to identify concerns and problems.

According to DeRosa, the University welcomed 700 freshmen, down somewhat from the projection. However, the number of transfer students was larger than anticipated. Similarly, the improved retention and an increase in graduate student enrollment helped to put the Stockton campus budget in good shape. The Law School and Dental School enrollments were also higher than projected. However, freshman class diversity numbers were down and the summer freshman melt must be noted. On the promotional front, the most recent *US News and World Report* classification of the nation's higher learning establishments places Pacific in the 2nd tier of universities and puts it 29th nationwide and 4th in California among fifty universities chosen for best value based on academic quality and cost. The University Board of Regents has a new chair in Don O'Connell. He succeeds Robert Monagan, who decided to retire from the chair, but not from the Board.

Other Council business in September, October, and November dealt with program review policy and several University service operations. The first five-year cycle of academic program reviews covering all departments, programs, and schools has been completed. A new one is getting underway. Assistant Provost Jean Purnell, who has coordinated the program review process, has prepared a comprehensive survey of almost all the reviews completed, indicating the actions taken or not taken on the resource recommendations for departments. The experience with the first program review cycle has necessitated program review guideline revisions. The cycle of program reviews will now be seven years instead of six for most programs. The faculty membership of review panels will also be reduced, since it has often been difficult to enlist enough faculty members to serve on such panels, imposing overloads on those who

faithfully participated. The Council also adopted a proposal for the assessment of student learning in the General Education Program to be carried out during the next few years. Several directors of service programs reported to the Council on the nature of their activities. They included Services for Students with Disabilities, Judicial Affairs and Community Service, the Academic Resource Budget and Planning Project, and the University Registrar. Chris Snell, as chair of a task force on a Salary Compensation Plan for the Stockton campus gave an early report on its deliberations. This plan follows up the recent University salary and compensation enhancement effort and will project new targets for the next four years.

UOP Health Care Plans for Retirees

As the Emeriti Society's representative on the UOP Compensation Committee, I will try to bring you up-to-date on what is happening for 2003 in the area of health care benefits for retirees. With respect to UOP's medicare supplement plans, things remain about the same, except for the usual and always expected increases in premiums. I am going out on a limb by including figures here since I understand that they have not all been finalized as yet, but I have been assured by the Office of Human Resources that those I have listed should not be off by more than a few dollars one way or the other.

Premiums for the Kaiser Senior Advantage Plan are projected to increase by \$64.69 per month to \$195.45 for a single retiree, and by \$129.38 to \$390.90 for a retiree plus one. The University does not make any contribution to this program. I understand that the only changes in the plan will be that office visit co-payments will increase from \$10 to \$15 and co-payments for prescription

drugs will increase from \$10 generic/\$15 brand name to \$10 generic/\$20 brand name.

For retirees on the Blue Cross Medicare Supplement PPO Plan, premiums will increase by \$13.33 to \$266.25 for a single retiree, and by \$28.02 to \$564.60 for a retiree plus one. The University contributes \$60.63 per month for the retiree and a slightly smaller amount for a spouse or partner. The only programmatic change for this plan is an increase in co-payments for prescription drugs from \$10 generic/\$15 brand name to \$10 generic/\$20 brand name. The deductible remains at \$300.

I have not paid too much attention to the Delta Dental Plan, but I understand that the premium will increase from \$43.71 to \$46.33 for a single retiree and from \$85.67 to \$90.81 for a retiree plus one, the same as for current employees.

By now you will probably have received information from the University about the open enrollment period for retirees for this year, which I understand will be from December 1 to December 31. So, what I have noted here should pretty much duplicate information that you have already received.

The only other change that would seem to be significant for many of us is the offering of a new Long Term Care Plan through UNUM Provident. Retirees are eligible for this program. I understand that the University has offered a Long Term Care Plan in the past through John Hancock, but only 7 employees had taken advantage of the program, which is understandable since it was not well advertised. The new plan sounds interesting with opportunities for individualized refinements. You may call UNUM at any time at 1-888-737-5566 for application forms and to have any questions answered. Enrollment is possible at any time.

I have recently been told that very few retirees have taken advantage of the University's Tuition Remission Plan. If you have had 20 years of full-time employment, then you and/or your spouse/partner are eligible for this benefit and can take classes for credit and even pursue degree programs.

If you have any questions about any of these programs, you may get in touch with me at the numbers given below, or you may call Human Resources directly at 946-2124 and ask for Karen Mendoza or Debbie Beitz:

Roy A. Whiteker
Chemistry Department
946-2606

e-mail: rwhiteker@uop.edu

What's New on Campus - Part II

By Roger Barnett

In our September issue of *...of Cabbages and Kings*, I wrote of the physical changes you can see if you take a walk on campus. The new Health Sciences Building on Brookside Road, whose construction I noted at that time, is proceeding on schedule, and should be finished next Spring.

In his recent address to the university, President DeRosa referred both to it and to the second new residential building - the twin of Monagan Hall, which will open for the Fall of 2003.

This shift of the center of gravity across the river means that a new Student Center is a high priority. For ten years the logical geographical siting of such a student center has been on the south bank of the Calaveras, with a new footbridge across to the new buildings (also mentioned by President DeRosa)

Plans have been drawn; the renderings are exciting; the proposed architecture is resolutely modern; and the space to be occupied is where the last surviving temporary storage building stands (the

one once in alignment with the non-regretted Art and Geology Department quonsets). On the south facing facade will be terraces overlooking the extensive lawns; to the north there is the river. A road and road service area will pass underneath the building, and a monumental staircase will take you up through the building from the street/lawn level to the upper terraces and the bridge and levee level. The new building will contain bookstore and restaurant, offices and conference spaces, and lots of room for a full range of student functions.

This new building has all the potential to become the gem of the central campus, and the present McCaffrey Center will see its role shrink to a more limited one of student housing and specialized offices. Rick Morat, the Director of the present McCaffrey Center, has the plans and proposals in his office (lower level of the Center). He is the one to whom you should communicate any ideas you have for this new focus of campus life and landmark architecture, and he takes donations as well. Of all the building projects in the pipeline, this one has barely started, but there is here perhaps the finest opportunity for us to contribute (donate) to what may be the landmark building of the 21st century campus.

Right now, the nearby Baun Fitness Center is temporarily closed for remodeling and an expansion to double its size; new spaces, new facilities (in particular, a full set of changing rooms and showers), will turn this health and recreational building into a state of the art facility. And, should you be a local resident, the Baun Center offers exceptionally good semester or yearly rates to the emeritus faculty.

When all of the above developments come to fruition, Pacific will have a set of student facilities to match anything in a campus of this size.

Over the long term, we are also awaiting the launching of the new Humanities Center, but the Jacoby Center (Bob Benedetti is the Director) housed on the upper floor of WPC is already an active reality, developing programs and administering the grant the University received for a Campus-City partnership to revitalize the ageing and fading historic Magnolia District north of downtown Stockton. These also are programs which will bring the University great rewards - programs for the 21st century!

Notes From Members

There is a long list of members who I have sent notes recently, including some of you who sent me material for the previous issue, but which I was obliged to hold over until now for want of space. At the head of the alphabetical order, I start with myself, **Roger Barnett**, who found his travel limited this fall with the second cataract surgery this year. I now have an implant in each eye - the right eye done in March is working perfectly; the left eye is still settling in place, but should be in full service soon. All in all, a great success even if it did keep me away from a third trip to France this year.

George Blum and his son, Alfred, were able to pursue some of their historical interests on a tour in August to the Baltic States, Kaliningrad and Poland. For George, this was a sentimental trip - he visited Tallinn, Riga, and Vilnius for the first time. On the other hand, Kaunas in Lithuania, Kaliningrad (formerly the historic Prussian city of Königsberg) and Gdansk (the one time German city of Danzig) he remembered from visits before and during the Second World War. Both he and Alfred had been to Warsaw much more recently. It is heartening to see the Baltic States now free from the grip of the Russian Bear and on their difficult,

but promising way to becoming integral economic parts of Europe. In their capital cities, their historical identity has been fully restored. Similarly, the Poles have rebuilt the historic center of Gdansk according to the original German plans and Warsaw largely in its prewar image. In contrast, Kaliningrad has lost all of its historic German identity and the entire region reminds the visitor constantly of Soviet and Russian mismanagement for over half a century.

Bill Darling writes to say: "Betty Jane and I sold our Sea Ranch home in May, and now live in Medford, Oregon. I am active in hiking the Cascades and Siskiyou, chair a Thursday evening music/lecture program, and am a newly elected member of the Board of Directors of Southern Oregon University's Chamber Concert Series. This area is like Stockton in climate, with less hot summers and cooler winters, and about the same rainfall. The cultural scene here is lively, with drama the main emphasis, as one would expect with Ashland only twelve miles away."

Maria Luisa and Bob Dash went on their first visit to Maui with **Connor & Ria Sutton** and **Tom & Margie Stubbs**. As Bob says, "quite a contrast to New England. If we could only afford to float our house from East Boothbay, Maine to Maui for a couple of weeks a year, life would be even better." They left for an extended stay in Maine at the end of September, and they bought a one way ticket! But they say, "We will be back in Stockton in late January." . . . It remains to be seen! A recent e-mail tells your editor that they are very happy with life in Maine, even though winter will soon set in.

Ria Sutton writes on behalf of herself and **Connor**: "We just returned from a two week trip to Hawaii, spending one week on the Big Island diving and sight seeing, and then the second week with

the Stubbs and Dashes on Maui doing more sightseeing and scuba diving with Bob. It was a great trip and between the six of us, we did almost all the high-point activities listed as 'musts'. Good to be able to share time with UOP friends." **Tom Stubbs** confirmed how much they enjoyed the trip in a separate communication. Previously, **Ria** says, "We spent much of the summer at our place on the north coast, so it is good to be home again. Connor is planning on going deer and elk hunting later this fall, giving me a chance to do some more decorating on this house. We still love it here in central Oregon, and always have an extra bedroom if anyone from UOP is passing through the area."

For **Dale & Carlynn Dunmire**, it was the time to celebrate a Golden Wedding; they were married 50 years ago on August 11, 1952, in Thermopolis, Wyoming, and celebrated the anniversary there with son Jerry, daughter Janet and their families; and the entire family then spent the following week together touring that state, including, naturally, Yellowstone!

For one of our active ex-Conservatory members, **Wolfgang Fetsch**, the fall brings the launch of *Duo Concertante*, a violin-piano duo consisting of Wolfgang and his daughter Anita Fetsch Felix. Opening the schedule were concerts in Sacramento and Sonora. During the summer Wolfgang and Anita presented a seminar and recital at a piano conference at Colorado College, where Wolfgang was also an adjudicator.

The Doyenne of our membership, **Fay Goleman**, writes that although she was sorry to miss the October lunch, she is "keeping busy by keeping track of my son, Daniel Goleman's speaking engagements world wide on his book *Emotional Intelligence*, and my granddaughter, Naomi Wolf's talks on her new book *Misconceptions*. I'm very much at home and enjoy visits from

friends, colleagues, relatives, neighbors."

"At 95 years, I'm still enjoying life to the fullest extent." So writes the man who must be our oldest member - **Raymond J. Graves**, retired from the School of Dentistry, and at home in Fairfield, California. Well done, Dr. Graves.

Alice Hunter does not slow down, it seems, with an active program of research for the Nature Conservancy surveying the soil insects of the Cosumnes River Preserve, working as a docent at Micke Grove Zoo and Oak Grove Regional Park Nature Center; and to top it off, she volunteers for "T.O.P.S" (Teaching Opportunities for Partners in Science) for the San Joaquin Office of Education and in the after-school program "Y.E.S" (Pardon the pun, Alice)

And another retiree who also does not slow down is **Estelle Lau**, now living in the Bay Area, and teaching a course in Albany, called "Promoting Cross-Cultural Understanding," a synthesis of parts of courses she once taught in the School of Education here at UOP. As she says, "it is hard work", but there are great compensations to life in the Bay Area: great views of the Bay, healthy breezes, and no allergies - how unlike Stockton, where she suffered daily allergy shots, plus her three children who live there, and "we have 'splash, laugh and chant' get togethers (splash in the pool, laugh as in the laughter clubs in India, and Buddhist chants)." Wow!

Perhaps even more busy is **Ira Lehn**, whose concert schedule prevented him from joining us on October 9th. Ira had concert dates on October 6, 11 and 27 plus playing in a first performance of a work for 3 celli in Chico on November 3.

Larry Meredith submitted the fullest list of his activities so far this year,

leaving your editor to pick the highlights - and here they are: an especially full February 2002, leading discussions in the Jesus Seminar on the Road, in Stockton and Santa Rosa. Honored in Stockton "One Book/One Stockton" program. He then celebrated the 100th birthday of a "revered Cambodian monk." After that he visited New York and Ground Zero. But, it is his book, *Life before Death: a Spiritual Journey of Mind and Body*, that is offering Larry many opportunities - possible future appearance on PBS with Bill Moyers . . . and most recently, "an invitation to teach a three-week seminar and give a public lecture at University of Dortmund, Germany next spring (2003). Subject: Life Before Death, *aber natuerlich*. And all expenses. *Wunderbar!*", Through the summer, Larry worked on fixing his patio, entertaining guests in Stockton, and participating in many family reunions, including his own birthday in August.

For **Ted Pohlman**, the year was marked by the publication of a new book, *Allah's Terrorists? The God in Our Heads*, by Schenkman who published the first of his 8 books 33 years ago. For relaxation, Ted still enjoys lecturing on cruise ships and still travels widely through the world.

In Memoriam

The members of the Emeriti Society note with sadness the death at the age of 83 of Marian Helton, the wife of Floyd Helton, longtime Professor of Mathematics. Marian was born in Oak Park, Illinois, on May 17, 1991. A resident of Stockton for 43 years, Marian had been a member and president of the Philomathean Club and president of and a volunteer with the St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary for 15 years. We all share in the expression of our sincere condolences to Floyd Helton at this time.

Our Distinguished Subscribers

We are honored that "... of *Cabbages and Kings*." is distributed to the President, the Chairman of the Board of Regents, the Provost and all the Vice Presidents, the Deans and most directors of services on campus, the Chair of the Academic Council, and the Faculty Advisor of The Pacifican.

Continuing Appreciation

We thank **Darlene Hall** for her fine work in preparing the Newsletter for printing and distribution, and we thank **Pearl Piper** for her excellent work with the mailing. Without them, the Newsletter wouldn't happen. We also thank the Provost and his staff for their logistical and financial support.