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Remembrance of Things Past

Fred Schutz leads us to realize that wars are not <u>all</u> bad (page 4), while Calvin Stevens tells us what life was like for his family on the western plains (page 5).

A Newsletter of the San Jose State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

President's Message Staying connected to the University

By Joan Merdinger

As your new President this year, I'd like to welcome you back to the new academic year on behalf of the ERFA Board. I am an Emerita Professor of Social Work, and prior to retiring in 2012, I served as the AVP/Faculty Affairs. I've enjoyed my career at SJSU and am happy to be associated with ERFA as a way of continuing my University service. I'd also



like you to know that your Board has been working diligently to bring you stimulating programs and events again this year to keep us all connected to SJSU. As part of our

stated mission to contribute to the University, we're initiating the ERFA Faculty Research and Creative Activity Award this year. We plan to award \$2500 to up to two candidates to support scholarly research and creative activities among our on-campus colleagues. We intend to offer these awards each year and will be accepting applications beginning in Fall 2014. SJSU-ERFA will oversee the competitive process with assistance from the Provost's Office and the Center for Faculty Development.

As for stimulating events, please make sure you put the ERFA Fall Luncheon on your calendars. It will take place on Friday, October 24th, at Mariani's in Santa Clara.

Our speaker will be Dr. David Wagner, professor emeritus from Sacramento State and current Chair of the CSU-ERFA Committee on Health Benefits. His presentation will cover the upcoming changes to CalPERS and their effects on Long Term Care and health benefits. It should be most informative, as well as timely.

We also look forward to seeing vou at our annual Holidav Celebration in December. It's always a wonderful way to bring the calendar year to a close with an informal gathering of friends and colleagues in a convivial atmosphere. As for our Spring 2015 Excursion. I want to thank those of you who answered the survey I sent out this summer asking about your interests, and soliciting your suggestions. The Board will review your votes and preferences and announce its decision in an upcoming Newsletter. Finally, we'll wrap up this 2014-2015 year with our annual Spring Luncheon and Business Meeting at The Villages in May. I hope to see you there as well.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can this year. If you'd like to contact me, I can be reached at <u>immerdinger@yahoo.</u> <u>com.</u>

No fading away here Info available on SJSU retirees

By Jo Bell Whitlatch (Library)

After we retire, many of us seem to disappear into the empyrean. Except for close friends and a few SJSU-ERFA members, we lose touch with most of our colleagues, both predecessors and successors. Even though some retirees leave behind scholarships in their name, we, like current faculty and students, find it difficult to know much about them.

To find information about our colleagues, one useful source is the collection of San Jose State University College Catalogs, which generally include faculty members' dates of appointment at SJSU, their degrees and granting institutions. Many of these SJSU College Catalogs are still available

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University and Academic Senate Report SJSU in the News

By Peter Buzanski (Academic Senator)

This summer, SJSU came in for double criticism in both the local and national news. First, the California Legislative Analyst (CLA), Mac Taylor, singled out SJSU and two other CSU campuses for misappropriation of funds. He claimed that because required courses were not being offered in sufficient numbers during the regular sessions, students felt forced to attend alternate classes offered through the International and Extended Studies program

(IES) for which they had to pay excessive fees. SJSU came in for much public criticism in the local press and in a KQED morning radio program where President Mo attempted to defend his actions with little success.

Secondly, the CLA criticized SJSU for misappropriating those IES funds. The Chancellor's Executive Order requires that the percentage of IES funds earned be used only for IES purposes, whereas SJSU returned much of those funds to the campus general fund. SJSU Provost Feinstein

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had already instructed all College deans that the IES funds could not be so used. He knew the consternation this misuse caused among department and program chairs who needed these funds, earned by their faculties, to supplement their ever-shrinking budgetary appropriations.

In this Fall's rankings of national universities, SJSU was ranked in eighth place among western institutions of higher learning by the US News and World Report magazine. However, the Washington Monthly, a forty-four year old magazine well known for its liberal perspective, failed to provide a ranking for SJSU. The Monthly uses more diverse criteria, like percentage of students with Pell Grants, social mobility, research and service. Understandably, the Monthly uses categories where SJSU should not be evaluated, such as "Top 30 National Universities" and "Top Affordable Elite," but in one important category. "The Top 100 Master's Universities," SJSU was excluded from consideration. Since 13 other CSU campuses-several much smaller ones-were evaluated, SJSU's exclusion was disturbing. After the SJSU Provost was alerted, he launched an investigation which is still ongoing. All that is known so far is that our exclusion was not caused by an institutional refusal to respond to an inquiry. No inquiry had been made.

You may recall that the Academic Senate's motion early this year asking the Chancellor's office to review existing problems on this campus resulted in the Chancellor's open letter to the faculty regarding steps that need to be taken. In the first Senate meeting this Fall, members were informed

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2014, at the age of 75. Rebecca was born in Warren. PA. in 1938. and by the end of high school, as an accomplished pianist, won two scholarships to the Univ. of Miami where she took her BA in Music in 1960. She married a fellow music student, cellist Stephen Herrold, and for the next 54 years they shared their passion for music while teaching at all school levels in various states: Georgia, Colorado, Oregon and California. Rebecca took her MA in Music from SJSU in 1969, and her doctorate in Musical Arts from Stanford in 1974. She taught at SJSU for 25 years and was head of Music Education. She authored two college textbooks: Mastering the Fundamentals of Music and New Approaches to Elementary Classroom Music (three editions). Rebecca is survived by Clarice.

• Sidney Tiedt (Elem. Education, '99) passed away on May 20, 2014 at age 86. Sid lived an adventurous life for an academic. Born on the south side of Chicago in a working class neighborhood, he enlisted in the Navy right out of high school. He shipped down the coast of California, to Central America and the Galapagos Islands, which whetted an appetite for travel. The opportunity offered by the GI Bill temporarily brought him back to Chicago and Northwestern University, where he took a BA and MA in 1950-52. He soon left for Alaska, where he taught in a K-12 school while working summers as a commercial salmon fisherman. He organized a statewide fisherman's Economic History. co-optonegotiate with the canneries while teaching, and became a principal of an elementary school in Anchorage. He then enrolled at the Univ. of Oregon where he took his doctorate in education in 1961, and initiated a disastrous strike at

SJSU in 1968-69. With that fiasco he became persona non grata and "the most hated man on campus," he said. Meanwhile, he had been experimenting with studentdirected classes (one of which led to the burying of a car on campus as an environmental protest) and evening classes for working adults, whose "life experiences" for he hoped to grant university credits. The reluctance of SJSU administrators to cooperate led to teaching his fateful decision to leave and create his own learning programs. He sought to provide educational opportunities for people who were not able to attend classes on college campuses, to provide easy-access classrooms near workplaces, supplemented by "peer teaching" and distance-learning through computers. His biggest hurdle was to gain accreditation from state agencies dominated by an academic establishment who saw his efforts as an attempt to establish a "diploma mill." It was a long, hard-fought process which drove him from California to Arizona and involved hiring, as advisors, retired academics who had served on accreditation boards, buttressed by campaign contributions to state legislators who would side with him over the traditional establishment. He finally succeeded and his learning programs (which became the University of Phoenix) soon spread from Arizona to dozens of other states and Costa Rica. It would become the largest For-Profit private university in the world and paved the way for many "diploma mills" that followed suit. John rejected that characterization, believing he was creating a practical education for the future. He later would say, "I only had one good idea, but it was a great one."

• **Rebecca Herrold** (Music) passed and was immediately hired to teach away after a long illness on May 5. at SJSU. He was a prolific writer who wrote too many books and articles to be listed here, but much of his work was based on his wideranging experiences in teaching. They embrace teaching English and Language Arts in elementary schools, social activities and curriculum development, the role of the federal government in education, the social and cultural foundations of education and disadvantaged children. He not only taught teachers throughout the Bay Area, but conducted classes and workshops as far away as Iran. Crete, the Marianas and the Island of Saipan. Sid leaves behind his wife Sheila, four children and one arandchild. • John Sperling (Humanities, '72) died on August 22, 2014, at age 93, in San Francisco. John was a larger-than-life figure whose her husband Stephen and her sister Horatio Alger trajectory took him from a log cabin in the Missouri Ozarks (really!) to billionaire status as the founder of the University of Phoenix. In his autobiography, Rebel With a Cause (John Wiley, 2000), he tells the whole story: how he survived a poor, unhappy childhood, a near-fatal illness as a boy, a learning disability (dyslexia) that impeded his ability to read and write, and a coming-of-age stint in the Merchant Marine where he overcame his learning handicaps. He worked his way through Reed College in Oregon, then joined the US Army Air Corps to obtain the GI Bill. He used it to attend grad school at UC Berkeley and was awarded a scholarship to Cambridge Univ. in England, where he took his Ph.D. in In 1960. John was offered a position in the Humanities Program at SJSU and took it on impulse. During his By the end of his long career, he 12-years on campus, he organized a statewide CSU faculty union claimed he had never been cut **Continued on Page 7**

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My Happy Life in the Army

By Fred Schutz (English)

I was drafted into the US Army in 1943, and after basic training I read on a bulletin board about a program called ASTP (Army Specialized Training) which had four branches of college study-medicine, psychiatry, language, and engineering. The first three required previous college credits for admission-the engineering program did not. The program was devised to meet a potential lack of certain professionals if the war lasted a long time. I applied for the engineering program as a way to acquire some college education, and was sent to William and Mary. I had only taken an algebra course in high school, but this program took me through algebra, trig, analytic geometry, calculus, engineering drawing, chemistry and physics, some 70-plus units in all-all packed into a few short months.

I have never studied harder—I studied a book while shaving, read a book while walking through the campus (classrooms and buildings were only vague shadows), sometimes even studied a book in a bar with a date! I somehow navigated with a book in front of me. How thick those shadows were became clear to me when, many years later. I showed my wife around the William and Mary campus. As we walked, I realized that I hardly recognized the walkways or buildings. The past was only a haze, a wonderful cloudy haze of confused memories of that time.

When the program was shut down in 1944, I was assigned to an artillery unit among the forces that were about to invade the Philippines. Thus I arrived in Manila. And there I had great

good fortune. I applied to Stars and Stripes, where I was given a vocabulary test and then assigned as a staff writer. I worked principally on a paper called Maptalk. designed to furnish current news from back home to the military.

came to know many of the writers there and. with a partner, started a magazine called The Philippine-American. It was modeled on *Time* magazine with its red border, and *Time* covered it in an article called "Foxhole Baby."

The *Time* article described how we got \$625 from a Philippine lawyer and with a few hundred more

of our own money began publishing. "Manilans took a shine to their brash love of controversy. One of their articles explained how some Filipinos felt they were being forced to collaborate with Americans, or else. Another took American GIs to task for criticizing the Filipinos."

By the fifth issue we were sell-

ing 8000 copies and had \$5000 in the bank. We intended to return after our discharge from the Army to continue, but other attractions came along. For a time I did PR writing for Williams Air Base in Arizona. Then I went to Japan during

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the occupation in Assistant Personnel at our air base there. But my ultimate goal was education, and I decided to take advantage of the GI bill. I had a wonderful time in

Manila, but then I could not have been more fortunate in my whole military life--a good start on my

college education, a great time in learning more about writing, editing, and the world

of business. The army really was my grandfather, providing travel, college and a professional education. It could have left me with lifelong injuries, or worse; instead it gave me a better future than I ever thought possible. To this day I feel incredibly lucky. Sad to say, for some people wars can be a boon.

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Sharing memories with our members . . .

"Is there always a snake in the grass?"

By Calvin Howes Stevens, (Geology)

My ancestors immigrated to southeastern Montana from Massachusetts in 1880, becoming the first Caucasians to settle in the area. They initially put down roots on the Tongue River, but later relocated to a place called Otter Creek, which they considered better for raising cattle. My grandfather. Levi Howes, was eight years old at the time and at that young age one of his major concerns was running into snakes in the grass. He said he once asked his

father, "Does there always have to be a snake in the grass?" "No." his father replied, "but you can never be too careful."

Six years later, when Levi was 14 years old, tension developed between the settlers and local Indians. Despite his age, he was assigned by his father to watch part of the family's herd of cattle which were grazing across a creek from an encampment of Indians. Levi admitted to me some years ago, that, on his first evening

there, he became frightened by the sounds of drums and incantations on the other side of the creek. So he packed up his bedroll and took off to spend that night, and succeeding ones, at a friendly ranch farther from the Indian encampment. Fortunately, no trouble ensued.

Sometime later. Levi's father made friends with one of the Indian chiefs called "Wooden

A true story from the western plains

Leq." As far as my family and the other ranchers in the area were concerned, peace had been established. Later, however, tensions developed again, and in 1897 an Indian uprising was anticipated. This resulted in the construction of a small primitive fort composed of irregular slabs of sandstone on the crest of a barren hill at my family's ranch. This "fort," now a historic site called Fort Howes, consisted of one room large enough to accommodate about a dozen men, with openings in the walls

The importance of being Emeritus . . .

To improve the Academic Senate's policy regarding Emeritus and Retired Faculty, the current Chair of the Professional Standards Committee, Ken Peter, is circulating a questionnaire seeking feedback from SJSU-ERFA members. It consists of the following seven questions:

1. Do you use the book and reference resources located in the MLK librarv? If so, how often?

2. Do you use electronic resources such as Link+, Inter-Library Loan, or electronic books, articles, or databases through MLK Jr. Library? If so, how often?

3. Do you attend University events? If so, please give an example and state how often.

4. Does the University supply you with your own office space? With a

shared office space?

5. How often do you use the Emeritus parking on campus? Daily? Weekly? Monthly?

6. Do you think that Lecturers should be eligible for Emeritus status? If so, under what conditions?

7. Is the title of Emeritus Faculty important to you? Please briefly explain.

You may respond in one of two ways. You can reply either via email to Kenneth.Peter@sjsu.edu or by regular mail to Kenneth Peter, Dep't of Political Science, One Washington Sq., San Jose, CA 95192-0119. Since the policy is currently under review, a prompt reply will be most appreciated.



I WANT YOU ... TO GO TO COLLEGE **AND BE HAPPY!**



left for observation and shooting, and a roof composed of rough planks. The women and children were evacuated to Sheridan, Wyoming, about 70 miles away, while the men gathered and planned to retreat to the fort to fight, if necessary. Again, nothing transpired.

In the following years famines struck the Indian communities. I remember my mother talking

about how Indians would come to the ranch. They never knocked at the door but instead pressed

their faces against the windows. indicating their hunger. My grandmother always provided food and sometimes clothing when necessary. After the food was distributed, our family watched these sad, hopeless, displaced people disappear over the hills, only to return during the next famine.

The last interaction between a family member and an Indian took place many years later when my mother, Levi's daughter, answered a knock on her front door in Sheridan, Wyoming. She was met by an old Indian warrior who said he was destitute and had heard she was a friend of the Indians. My mother replied she was willing to help and walked back to her bedroom to retrieve her purse. When she turned around she was startled and alarmed to find the Indian had followed her unnoticed through the house. Somewhat shaken, she guickly handed him a few dollars. He smiled, simply said "Thank you," and left.

Frightened as she was, like Levi, she discovered that there doesn't always have to be a snake in the grass.



This edition contains news about travels and activities taken from the membership renewal forms. Members are invited to send additional news about themselves to Gene Bernardini at geebernard@comcast.net or by snail mail at 775 Seawood Way, San Jose, CA 95120

• Anne Fountain (Foreign

Languages, '12) and her partner Mike Conniff, both spent the Spring semester of 2014 teaching at the University of Florida. Anne just published a new book: Jose Marti'. the United States and Race (published by the Univ. Press of Florida) while Mike, designated the Bacardi Eminent Scholar, headlined an international conference on Panama. • Bill Barrett (Computer Engineering, '04) keeps busy writing Android cellphone applications. One of them makes shopping easier in a supermarket; another allows one to predict how liberal or conservative people are by their answers to certain questions; and a third helps figure out the daily Jumble puzzle in the SJ Mercury News. Bill is also working with a group to help stamp out timber poaching in developing countries. The company is called Treetag and it can be accessed at www. JungleBird.org.

Stephen Achtenhagen

(Marketing, '00) spent six weeks in May and June at his condo on Maui, enjoying his retirement. **Joe Boudreau** (History, '03) recently uprooted his lawn and replaced it with plants that require only drip irrigation in order to cope with the drought. "We're the first kids on our block to do this," he savs.

• Dennis Wilcox (Journalism/Mass Comm., 05) and his wife Marianne spent six weeks this January and February visiting Southeast Asia. They spent a day caring for elephants at a conservation center in Thailand, took a spectacular balloon ride over the landscape in Burma, and hiked through the temple complex at Angkor Wat

in Cambodia. "We also sampled some exotic dishes," Dennis says, "like stir fried crickets and panfried tarantulas with garlic-not bad with cold beer or the local white lightning (rice or palm wine)." As for academic pursuits, the 11th edition of Dennis' major textbook, Public Relations Strategies and *Tactics,* was published by Pearson in March.

• Betty Auchard (widow of Denny Auchard, Education, '88) continues to write her memoir stories and invites anyone to access her Story Blog at www.bettyauchard.com/ *blog.* Leave your name and email address if you'd like to receive new ones as they are posted.

• Lois Brainard (Elem. Ed/Instr. Tech., '83) writes that she remembers teaching in those WW Il quonset huts on campus long ago when Tommie Smith was one of her students. His statue there today reminds her of Smith's presence then and now.

• Peter Buzanski (History, '96) and his wife Colleen returned early this summer from a visit to Fallbrook. CA. 30 miles northeast of San Diego. Fallbrook is the avocado capitol of the world and while there they observed the consequences of the drought. Most of the avocado trees have been totally destroyed. "We expect avocado prices to be astronomical this coming year," he says.

• James Asher (Psychology, '92) has, for several years, provided SJSU student teachers in Dr. Rosalinda Quintanar's classes a demonstration in Arabic, Spanish and Japanese of his Total Physical Response method, known worldwide as TPR. If you are interested in seeing some dramatic examples of language instruction that is "brain compatible" or "brain

antagonistic" contact him at tprworld@aol.com.

• Allen Friebel (Teacher Education, '94) writes that "life is good at our retirement community. The Terraces, in Los Gatos." He and wife Nancy celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June after recent travels to Hawaii. Lake Tahoe, Boston and on a New England cruise.

• Edith Crowe (Library, '07) is pleased to announce her marriage to Amy Wisniewski as of August 29, 2013.

• Norborn Felton (Natural Sciences/Geology, '86) describes himself as a "snowbird" who spends 6 months of every year in Quartzsite, AZ, during the winter season. "That's where I keep out of trouble pursuing my various hobbies and managing the B-10 Camporound."

• Marjorie Fitting Gifford (Mathematics, '92) still lives in Hawaii where she was delighted recently by her doctor's comment. After chastising her for avoiding having a colonoscopy until now, he said, "All clear. I guess you're good to go for another 80 years."

Good News from CalPERS!

In July, CalPERS announced that its portfolio of investments arew by 18.4% over the past fiscal year, ending on June 30, 2014. This is a rate significantly higher than the 7.5% "discount rate" needed to meet CalPERS' current and future pension obligations. Time to breathe a sigh of relief and celebrate, for now.



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out to be an academic (despite authoring a long list of writings on educational theory and curriculum). The university experience was too placid for his restless nature. He decided he was, above all, a risktaker, and the entrepreneurial life, which he embarked upon in his early fifties, was more suited to his spirit. He had gone from being an academic Marxist in his youth to becoming a firm believer in the free-market system. But he always was an anti-establishment iconoclast who, in his later years, used his great wealth to finance offbeat causes: Medical Marijuana Initiatives in several states, animal cloning, saltwater agriculture and life-prolonging experiments for the aged. He is survived by his son, Peter, two grandchildren and

his longtime companion, Joan kind and gentle man, a consummate Hawthorne. • Lee Dorosz (Biology, '02) died on September 2, 2014, at the age of 76, after a two-year struggle with cancer. Born in Baltimore, MD, he graduated from Lovola HS in Towson. MD at the age of 16 and attended Catholic Univ. in Washington, DC, where he earned his BA in Psychology. He worked as a psychologist in the Maryland prison system, then took an MA in Clinical Psychology at the University of Illinois (1968) and his doctorate in Human Physiology at UC Berkeley in 1972. At SJSU he taught courses in Biological Studies, then served as Assoc, Vice President in Undergraduate Studies announced a Celebration of Life and Curriculum Development for over ten years. He was also elected Chair of the Dep't of Biology for three separate terms. Lee was a

University & Academic Affairs News **SISU in the News**

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that during the summer a number of intense meetings took place and that those remedial steps will be discussed soon. In the meanwhile, the University President has apparently taken to heart the complaints that caused the Senate to act and his recent actions reveal a different president. In his annual address to the campus this Fall, he spoke more clearly and positively than in the past. He recounted the proud 157 year history of this institution, singling out the contributions of outstanding students, faculty, staff and administrators. He spoke of John Carlos and Tommy Smith, the two students who both the Chancellor and the Governor in the 1960s wanted disciplined and expelled, while President Robert Clark courageously refused to do so. He singled out Jay Pinson,

then the Dean of College of Engineering, who almost single-handedly obtained private funds for the construction of the present Engineering building. And, finally, the President praised Charles Burdick for his many contributions to the welfare of the university. In another indication that the

President is seeking to modify his relationships on campus, he announced a "Selfie with the President" event in which he scheduled a few hours with students and others who wanted to have their photos taken with him. Finally, his action and comments on a policy recommendation made by the Senate at its last meeting in May also suggests a change. The Senate recommended that the two-unit physical education requirement be toughened and made mandatory for all students, except for those

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professional who worked well with people-students, faculty, staff and administration. He was particularly interested in university outreach, facilitating the path of diverse students to the campus and making the university experience a welcoming one. Upon retiring, he and his wife Kathy moved to New York City. From there they traveled widely, visiting all seven continents, which allowed him to indulae his hobby of photography. They came back to the Bay Area at least once a year to visit family and friends. Lee's wife of 54 years, Kathy, and their son. Leon Charles III. have for Lee to be held on December 2. 2014, from 4--6 pm in MLK Library, Rm. 225.

whose situation made this impossible. This policy proved divisive. both in Committee and on the Senate floor, but eventually the measure was passed and sent to the president. The president took from May to August to decide how to respond – and then came to a surprising conclusion. Mindful of the CSU mandate that all degree programs should not exceed 120 units, the president wrote, "I believe physical education is a luxury we can not (sic) afford, [however] I have signed this resolution into University policy despite my own personal objection . . . because, for me, an even more important tenet is that curriculum is and should remain the purview of the faculty. Therefore, I have respected the faculty's collective decision to keep SJSU's physical education requirement." Comity prevails.



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Newsletter of the Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY One Washington Square San Jose, CA 95192-0210

Return Service Requested

<u>No fading away here</u> Information available about retired SJSU faculty members

Continued from Page 1 in paper format in the King Library. These course catalogs go all the way back to San Jose State Normal School and San Jose State Teachers College, from 1872-1935.

The Special Collections reading room on the 5th floor also includes a subset of physical copies of the SJSU College Catalogs, with dates ranging from 1940-present. You can find all this online at <u>http://library.sjsu.edu/sjsu-special-collections/sjsu-special-collections-andarchives</u>

The SJSU Library's Special Collections and Archives hold all of the SJSU College Catalogs, but the catalogs from 1969 to the present time are available online through CollegeSource Online. To access CollegeSource Online, you can go to the main library webpage: <u>http://library.</u> <u>sjsu.edu/</u>, then select Databases and scroll down to CollegeSource Online. If you are off campus, you will need to enter your name, university ID and pin number (the standard procedure for accessing databases off campus).

Finally, extensive information on various SJSU faculty members is available through the Online Archive of California: <u>http://www.oac.cdlib.org/institutions/</u>.

There you can select San Jose

State University/Special Collections and Archives to view collections such as O. C. Williams' papers, documenting his poetry and tenure at San Jose State; the Faculty Publications Collection, which includes academic publications and scholarly articles written by faculty members over an eighty year span (1907-1987); and two significant oral history projects interviewing San Jose faculty and administrators.

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These library tools can help you with research, or simply satisfy your curiosity and refresh your fading memories. Take advantage of them.