

The Silver Slug

The Official Newsletter of UCSC's Honorably Unemployed



Celebrate the season

with old friends and new at the UCSC Retirees Association annual holiday party!

Date: *Tuesday, December 1, 2015*
Place: *Peace United Church of Christ*
(aka First Congregational Church)
900 High Street

Come join in the festivities of the annual holiday potluck luncheon at the Peace United Church. Enjoy music and decorations of the season as well as holiday greetings from the Chancellor's office.

Share your favorite holiday buffet dish: entrée, salad, side dishes or dessert.

Cold drinks and coffee will be provided.

If you wish, bring your own place setting.

Hope to see you there!

In Memoriam

Word of the deaths of the following staff and faculty has been received.

Ann Kreyche - McHenry Librarian

October 26, 2015

Marilyn LeBlanc - Financial Aid

August 6, 2015

*In their honor, memorial gifts to the Retirees Bruce Lane Scholarship Fund
or the Retirees Bruce Lane Scholarship Endowment Fund may be sent to:*

UC Santa Cruz Foundation, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz CA

Members' Corner with Lynne Wolcott

I was so excited when our membership reached 300 a little while ago. In spite of the ebb and flow of membership, overall, the good news is that we are growing. At the end of 2014, we had 243 members. To date we have 301 with two months remaining in the year.

Our lifetime membership has increased by one half over last year's total, up from 50 to 75. The number of new members who have joined in 2015 is 54. It's likely that by the end of December, we will double last year's total of 29 new members.

Speaking of new members, I was recently surprised to hear that there are many retirees who know nothing about our group! We need to spread the word! If you have any friends who aren't members, please suggest that they join us. The membership application may be found at retirees.ucsc.edu/membership on our website. Or they may call our Retirees and Emeriti Center at (831) 459-4063. There's strength in numbers!

We would like to welcome the following new members:

Sandy Holeman

Ken Keegan

Sharon Barry

Carolyn & Howard Hall

Catherine Hawkins

Linda Jennings

Nancy Loshkajian

Mary McKinnon

Claudia Parrish

Cori Houston

President's Last Words...

This will be my last President's column because **Patt Takeuchi** will take over the reins of the Silver Slugs in January 2016. It's been a memorable time serving as president, and I can't help feeling a little "John Boehner moment" with a lump in the throat, as I hand over the president's notebook.

What I feared, when I assumed office in July 2013, might be a worrisome burden has become a rewarding experience and sometimes a source of inspiration. That's because of the lively, intelligent and dedicated folks with whom I've been privileged to serve. They make working together actually fun! Their qualities were described recently by Emeritus Professor **John Dizikes**.

If you attended the 50th anniversary picnic at Harvey West Park last September, you remember Professor Dizikes's wonderful description of the wisdom, dedication and intelligence of the UCSC staff who, he said, made his experience as a faculty member such a pleasure. After the picnic, in a letter of appreciation, I thanked him for his kind words and he wrote back. (What a gracious gesture: how many people send a thank you in response to a thank you note?) Here's what he said: "The intelligent, continuous hard work of the staff made my life here as a teacher a joy. I was very fortunate to live and work in such an environment and my few words that day came from my heart and (what remains) of my mind."

I'm certain John was describing some of our board members in his remarks. This is a fine organization which will continue to thrive because of the people who support it. If you'd like to share this experience with these remarkable folks, I would invite you to speak to one of the board members. We're always eager to welcome new people. Here's wishing you the happiest of holiday seasons and a new year filled with some rich rewards.

On Sunday October 25th, all decked-out in our Silver Slugs tee shirts and blue and gold outfits, the Silver Slugs participated in the downtown Santa Cruz parade sponsored by the city to celebrate UCSC's 50th Anniversary.



CUCRA

COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS

THE VOICE OF UC RETIREES IN CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH UC LEADERSHIP

CUCRA 's annual meeting was at the University of California, Davis campus in October 2015. Here is a report of what happened:

Joints Benefits Committee

The Joints Benefits Committee (JBC) is comprised of members from both CUCRA and CUCEA (Council of University of California Emeriti Association) to review current and future impacts of benefits for retired employees of the university. Dick Jensen continued to share the committee's concern that designation of beneficiaries may not be clear. JBC continues to recommend that current employees and retirees designate a person(s) rather than a trust or estate in order to avoid a taxable environment upon transfer. It's critical that Fidelity provide more information on the website so that current employees and retirees don't make an uninformed decision.

There was a data breach with Anthem data, and UCLA's health center was breached as well. When this happens, CUCRA /CUCEA can assist with informing retirees.

President Napolitano recently announced her commitment to pay a minimum wage of \$15/hr for employees of the university. JBC wants to encourage the President to consider the retirees who were paid substantially below this wage in the past. Even with COLA, they earn much less.

Retiree Administration Service Center (RASC)

This center provides transition and processing services for current and planning-to-retiree employees. Currently there are 64k retirees, dependent or surviving family members. 34k are former employees. 5,300 employees retired as of June 2015, up 13%. They estimated that over the next 5 years, there will be 25-30k new retirees.

UC Benefits Office

Highlights:

- Healthnet will now provide Sr Plus with immunization for travel.
- Seniority Plus will add a smoking cessation program.
- Discontinuing Optum Wellness Incentive Program. Participation has been low and since most health plans have a wellness program, the University will use these.
- No change in vision plan.
- Drug costs continue to increase.
- The university needs to place this issue on the legislative agenda.

Bruce Lane Memorial Funds Report



Do you have a relative or friend who you want to honor with a memorial scholarship? If so, please call me at (831) 426-8353.

Currently, we have contributions totaling **\$67,706.50** in the UCSC Retirees' Bruce Lane Scholarship Endowment. We are determined to make this fund grow and increase so that more scholarships can be given from the income each year. Our military veteran students have done so much for our country that we want to show our appreciation by giving them help with scholarships. With income from the endowment, we can do that perpetually.

We just concluded our first annual Holiday Art and Craft Fair, co-sponsored by the Santa Cruz Veterans Association, on Saturday, November 7th at the downtown Veterans Hall. The purpose of the project, was, of course, to raise money for the Retirees Bruce Lane Current Year Scholarship Fund so that we can award more scholarships to our UCSC military veterans.

At the fair were 22 vendors, 44 retiree volunteers with over 200 attendees which helped raised approximately \$1,600 for the scholarship fund!

Maxine Lane, *Scholarship Chair*



Maxine Lane and Jenny Anderson greeting all who came to the 1st annual Holiday Craft Fair at the downtown Vets Hall on November 7th.

Silver Slugs Unite for UCSC'S 50th Anniversary Picnic

Warm sunshine burst through glorious rain clouds the morning of Tuesday, September 15 for the UCSC Retirees and Emeriti Faculty celebration of UCSC's 50th anniversary at Harvey West Park. Picnic tables were set with colored tablecloths and miniature roses. Board members greeted over 160 retiree friends and former colleagues who came from Santa Cruz and its four contiguous counties. Some brought spouses and special guests with them.

Upon arrival, people enjoyed poster boards exhibiting photos from UCSC's early days made by retiree **Jim Burns**. Several people brought their own personal memorabilia that were set out on tables to share. After a delicious catered picnic lunch of barbecued chicken and ribs with all the fixings, **Mike Rotkin** and **Nick Royal** played a medley of music from the sixties, inspiring several of us to sing along.

Retiree Association President **Dave Dodson** opened the program with announcements of upcoming Silver Slug events—the November crafts fair that will benefit UCSC student military veterans, the December holiday party, and open enrollment presentations by the UCSC Benefits Office. Emeriti Faculty President **Michael Nauenberg** spoke of upcoming lunches and lectures for their association. **Becky Skinner**, the new coordinator of the Retirees and Emeriti Center, was also introduced.

A highlight of the day was a presentation by Professor Emeritus **John Dizikes**. He spoke of the early days of UCSC and reminisced about when he was provost of Cowell College. Through gracious memories and humorous anecdotes, John thanked the staff members who were present for their valuable commitment and contributions over the years, making UCSC the institution it is today.

Taking 50th anniversary souvenirs with them as they left, people commented how much they enjoyed reminiscing and laughing together, and thanked the planning committee and chairs **Nancy Pascal** and **Jerry Walters** for bringing us together.

You will find wonderful photos of the event taken by UCSC retiree Dave Kirk on our website:
<http://retirees.ucsc.edu/>



It has been a busy fall in the Retirees and Emeriti Center! We have a new work-study student: **Daisy Zurita**, who is a senior Sociology major, and has experience working for her family business as well as doing work on websites. We are working with the Emeriti Association to update their website, and bring it into the “new” web management tool. I had the opportunity to meet with other center directors at the recent CUCRA/CUCEA conference. I left the conference with some new ideas for the center, more connections, and better relationships with my counterparts at the other UC campuses.

In October, we also had a meeting attended by myself, **Jenny Anderson** (Retirees Assoc), **Dom Massaro** (Emeriti Association), **Roger Anderson** (Emeriti Association/CUCEA Pres), **Lee Duffus** (Retirees Association/CUCRA Pres), **Jaden Silva-Espinosa** (CER), and **Shelly Errington** (CER). It was a meeting intended to learn more about our different groups, how they intersect, and how we can work together to support each other. It was a positive introductory meeting.

And we are finally going to have an Open House for our new center in Kresge College!
It will be on **Thursday, December 3** from **11 am-2 pm**.

2015-16 Board of Directors

Jenny Anderson, CUCRA rep,
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Martha Keeler, Treasurer
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Dave Dodson, At Large
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Rebecca Skinner, REC Admin Asst
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Hilde Rogers, Honorary Member



!!!Mark Your Calendars!!!

We invite you to come to our open house and help celebrate the new

RETIREES and EMERITI CENTER

at Kresge College

on

Thursday, December 3, 11am-2pm

Refreshments will be served along with tours of the new center.

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UCSC Retirees Association
University Relations
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Dates to remember!

Holiday Party: Tuesday, December 1

Retirees & Emeriti Center Open House

Thursday, December 3 (11-2)

UCSC Retirees Association — aging gracefully like fine wine!

