Ho Ho Ho-lidays!

Yes, it’s that time of year... Already!

Gather with your former UCSC colleagues and friends at the Annual Holiday Potluck at Trinity Presbyterian Church’s Fellowship Hall (corner of Poplar and Melrose streets).

**Tuesday, December 4**
**11:30 am - 1:30pm**

Invite your family and friends, especially any “fence sitters” or soon-to-be retirees who have yet to learn how fun our events are.

This year’s program once again features Fiat Musica, the UCSC Women’s Club choral group, with a selection of wonderful seasonal tunes.

You will have an opportunity to meet Sarah Latham, the newly appointed vice chancellor for Business and Administrative Services, who will provide a campus update.

In addition to your scrumptious offering for the potluck tables, bring your own table setting, and mug, glass, or cup for beverages.

Mark your Calendar!

**Not-to-be-Missed Events**

- **December 2, Sunday**
  UCSC Friends Holiday Party

- **December 4, Tuesday**
  Retirees Holiday Potluck

- **February 23, Saturday**
  UCSC Scholarship Benefit Dinner

- **March 5, Tuesday**
  Retirees Scholarship Presentation Potluck
Nancy’s Message

Join us in celebrating the best seasons of the year – holiday festivities of Thanksgiving, family and friends, spiritual blessings and a new year. The upcoming December Holiday Potluck luncheon will bring us together again, to share tasty dishes, and enjoy the beautiful voices of Fiat Musica.

As we head toward the end of 2012, we have the opportunity to contribute to the Association’s Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund to support UCSC’s student veterans. An initial gift and pledge of $20,000 established the Endowment, and gifts to the Endowment made by December 15, will be matched dollar for dollar up to $5,000. Our matching gifts are vitally important as we work toward fully funding the Endowment. You may want to ask family members and friends who served in the military to contribute toward the matching challenge. In addition, you also may contribute to the current year scholarship fund which supports awards to student veterans for 2013-14. Scholarship gift forms are available on our web site: http://retirees.ucsc.edu.

Your Retirees Board members dusted off their organizational skills and logistical expertise by hosting the Fall CUCRA-CUCEA Joint Meetings, October 31 - November 1. We co-hosted this event with our Emeriti Association colleagues. There were about 50 guests from UC’s 31 retiree and emeriti associations. They enjoyed a tour of Dead Central, the Grateful Dead archive, as well as the new McHenry Library, and dinner at the University Center. Officers from the Office of the President provided updates on benefits [see the CUCRA report on page 4].

I look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Luncheon and urge you to bring your retiree friends who are not yet members.

Nancy Pascal

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2012-13 Board of Directors

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A Message from Maxine Lane

The Lane family is indeed very honored that the Retirees Association is now naming all of its scholarships, both current and endowment, in the memory of Bruce. He was the type of person who would have been overwhelmed by such a gesture.

For a little background: When he was 18 years old he volunteered for immediate induction in World War II and served in France, Belgium, and Germany. After the war, he received his first degree, a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering, with the aid of the G.I. Bill. When our country was involved in the Korean War, Bruce applied for and received a commission to serve in an Army Reserve engineering unit. He remained in the Reserves, spending Monday evenings, many weekends, and two-week summer camps during those years.

Bruce received his degree in architecture from UC Berkeley in 1956, and started at UCSC as a project architect in 1964 before the campus opened. Six years later he became the head of the educational facilities planning office.

At the age of 60 he retired from the Reserves. When he retired from UCSC in 1991, he joined the Retirees Association and represented our group at CUCRA meetings for many years.

Bruce was very grateful for the assistance he received from the G.I. Bill, and contributed to various scholarship funds in order to give other students a helping hand. He was very supportive of the retirees giving scholarships to military veterans. Joshua Becker, a scholarship recipient, wrote to advise that thanks to his scholarship he was able to purchase textbooks and a parking pass for the quarter. This saved him nearly an hour a day and was important to him because of his heavy class load and other commitments. [The full letter was published in the Fall 2012 issue of The Silver Slug.]

We have enough funds on hand for six $500 current year scholarships, and over $22,000 in cash and pledges is in the endowment. A matching fund up to $5,000 has been offered, and any cash contributions to the endowment, made by December 15, 2012, will be matched dollar for dollar.

If you have any suggestions for support of the endowment, please contact Virginia Rivera, University Relations, at 831-459-5227.

Maxine Lane chairs the Association’s scholarship committee.

Patriotic Silver Slug Fundraisers

Several retirees volunteered to staff voting precincts for the November 6 General Election, and then donated their stipends to the Association’s scholarship fund. Nearly $900 was raised through the efforts of Freda Crum, Anita Diaz and husband Nick Meltzer, Lee Duffus, Linda Larkin, Esperanza Nee, Marilyn Petric, Jerry Walters, and John Wilkes.

Greeting voters at the election precinct at College Ten on November 6.
CUCRA Corner

What do Halloween, a visit to Dead Central, the new McHenry Library, and the Scotts Valley Hilton have in common? They all were part of the grand success of the fall CUCRA/CUCEA meetings that our campus hosted October 31-November 1, with gracious support from the Chancellor's Office. As Marion Gade, outgoing CUCRA chair, said after the meeting, “I very much appreciated the grace and efficiency with which the meeting arrangements were handled. I know UCSC doesn't have the staff support some of the rest of us do — but the volunteers were superb.”

Hats off to our planning committee: Michael Cowan, John Marcum, and Mary Silver from the Emeriti Association; Margaret McGuire of the Chancellor's Office; and Jenny Anderson, Anita Diaz, Barbara Dileanis, Dave Dodson, Lee Duffus, Virginia Lee, Nancy Pascal, Janny Tang, and Lynne Wolcott from the Retirees Association. Other Association members who helped were Dave Kirk, Kerrie McCaffrey, Brian O'Connor, Marilyn Petric, Mary Joan Rodriguez, Jerry Walters, and Mary Wells. President Nancy Pascal says, and I agree, “You are the best!”

Health Care Although there are relatively few plan changes in UC's insurance plans, CUCRA is concerned that co-payments for all plans are increasing. Retired staff and faculty often have more doctors visits and more need for prescription drugs than active employees, so this increase has a greater impact for us, especially those who retired many years ago. Their monthly pension checks may be little enough that this increase might mean foregoing a doctor's appointment or drug purchase. We made our concerns known to the representatives from the Office of the President.

Health Care Facilitator We also learned that the President's Office no longer will be funding the health care facilitator positions, and that each campus will be responsible for funding this program. Campus representatives and other attendees at the CUCRA/CUCEA meetings expressed support for these positions and will be proactive in working to keep them. At Santa Cruz, the Retirees Association will be working with the Emeriti Association on behalf of retaining this service locally.

Minimum Required Distributions Are you approaching 70½ years of age? Do you have a retirement plan savings account? If the answers are yes, then you are required to withdraw minimum amounts annually. The Joint Benefits Committee (JBC), which reports to both CUCRA and CUCEA, has expressed concern regarding Fidelity Investments handling of UC's Retirement Savings Program. Specifically, they believe Fidelity's communications are not clear about the right to customize the MRD and the annual deadline for doing so. JBC also pointed out that an annuitant should be able to specify the amount of California income tax withholding, rather than defaulting to an automatic 10%. CUCRA's leadership will be pursuing these concerns with the Office of the President. We will continue to monitor this.

New Leadership from Santa Cruz I'm pleased to announce that UCSC will be very well represented in both CUCEA and CUCRA for the next several years. On July 1, John Marcum began a two-year term as chair-elect of CUCEA, and Lee Duffus starts a two-year term as chair of CUCRA on January 1. Congratulations!

The spring CUCRA meeting will be in Riverside in April. Let Dave Dodson or me know if you have questions, concerns, or input.

Jenny Anderson, CUCRA Representative

Who's keeping an eye on your UC retirement benefits? Who advocates for you with the UC President's Office?
We're happy to recognize another contingent of retirees to our growing ranks:

Julia Armstrong — Chancellor’s Office
Debbie (and Shannon) Belville — Linguistics
Ann Draper — Financial Aid & Scholarships
Barbara Duran — Disability Resource Center
Jeanne Johnson — Crown College
Corinne (and Steve) Miller — Services to Transfer & Reentry Students
Frank Zwart — Physical Planning

Note: If you have overlooked renewing your membership, there's no time like the present! Send your dues check to UCSC Retirees Association, University Relations, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064.

In Memoriam

Word of the deaths of the following staff member has been received. Condolences are extended to her family and friends.

Marie L. McCullough  Marine Sciences  September 10, 2012

In her honor, memorial gifts to the Retirees Association Lane Scholarship Fund or the Bruce Lane Memorial Endowment Fund may be sent to the UC Santa Cruz Foundation, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Managing Your Savings Investments

Several workshops on topics of potential interest to retirees are scheduled in December. These presentations are free, but please make a reservation online at http://getguidance.fidelity.com/universityofcalifornia or by calling Fidelity at 800-642-7131.

Remaining Confident in a Challenging Market
Tuesday, December 4, 2:30–3:30 pm, Kerr Hall Mac Lab Room 159
How market conditions affect investment performance and how to put market events in perspective.

Shifting From Saving to Spending
Thursday, December 13, 1:15–2:15 pm, 1201 Shaffer Rd., Conference Room 171
Portfolio withdrawal rates and ways to turn assets into income, plus asset allocation in retirement.

Accessing Your Account On-Line
Thursday, December 13, 2:30–3:30 pm, 1201 Shaffer Rd., Conference Room 171
Online tools for managing UC Retirement Savings Program investments.

In addition, retirees may meet with a Fidelity representative on a drop-in basis Tuesday, December 4, 11 am–12:00 pm, at Kerr Hall Mac Lab Room 159, and Thursday, December 13, 11 am–12:00 pm, at 1201 Shaffer Road, Conference Room 171. No appointment is necessary.
What’s in a Word?
Many retirees struggle with the word “retired” as an inappropriate descriptor of their post-employment status. With roots in the concepts of “withdrawn” and “seclusion,” for some the word brings to mind images of “being out to pasture,” idle, inactive, or disengaged. Do you think of yourself in these terms? What is a more accurate and agreeable word for this stage of our lives? How about rewired? Spanish speakers may have the right idea: they translate retirement as “jubilacion.” So, let’s be jubilant!

Send your ideas and comments on this matter to the editor at UCSC Retirees Association, University Relations, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 or silverslug@gmail.com.

UCSC NEWS and UPDATES
For the latest breaking news from the campus click here.

Not Local? What’s Happening? Send us Your News!
It has been suggested that we revive a practice of including short notes of interest about the variety of activities and events in which Association members are involved, especially those who have relocated to other communities. What’s happening in your life that would be news for your former colleagues? ... new grandchild? travel escapades? volunteering? encore career? and the like. Send a note to the editor at UCSC Retirees Association, University Relations, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 or silverslug@gmail.com.

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UCSC Retirees Association
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Don’t Miss the Holiday Potluck!
Tuesday, December 4
details inside