

RICHARD
KORNWEIBEL

President's Perspective

Richard Kornweibel, President

By the time you read this, Sacramento State's fall semester will be well underway. While many of us have found new or different ways to fill our lives, my suspicion is that most of us continue to care about what is happening on campus. I bring you

the good news that our still-working colleagues are going about their tasks with energy, discipline and purpose. Students are in classes as a new semester follows the same path as in earlier years. This in spite of the added burdens placed upon most - the work of jobs eliminated by attrition is parceled out to others. I continue to be impressed by current employees and their energy and persistence.

Fortunately the levels of fear and insecurity are surprisingly low. So far as I know Chicken Little with a wild rumor is absent from campus. Even if there are further cuts for the spring semester, the campus has a reserve from one-time monies. If there is a further decline in state allocations, it appears that the campus can scrape by for at least three more semesters.

At the pre-semester Faculty Senate meeting, Provost Joe Sheley, while explicitly taking program elimination off the table, did lay out

plans for potential academic reorganization, beginning with GE. His message as I heard it was, "Simplify." Reduce the confusion that is part of the GE program, examine majors to eliminate duplication and, if possible, reduce the size of majors. Meanwhile two large programs, Criminal Justice and Psychology, have CSU system approval to declare impaction. This means that, while both programs will continue to take all qualified students from our geographic service area, prospective students from outside the service area will be subject to more stringent admission requirements. I hope for the best for the folks in these two programs and all our other programs as they sail through difficult waters.

Challenges currently facing the Retirees Association pale by comparison. We are sound financially, having contributed \$10,000 to campus programs in 2010. We have a healthy membership, an active board, a comprehensive calendar of events, and a new website. Our concerns at this point are improving our marketing to prospective retirees and to the campus in general...and of course wondering how many of you reading this will be joining us at the November 4 Fall Dinner!

[Email Dick](#)

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

I recommend a page-turner book about the intensive search for legendary Sequoia backcountry ranger Randy Morgenson, "[The Last Season](#)" by Eric Blehm. Carole Barnes

I recommend the [Yolo Bus](#) to Sacramento International Airport for \$2.00, which can be accessed from many RT buses, such as the Hazel Express. **Robert Jones**

I highly recommend Straight Talk Storytellers, who say, "Come listen to life stories told by and for adults: young, old, and in between" on the first Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm at The Avid Reader @ The Tower, 16th and Broadway. **Nancy Griffith**

The programs offered by the [Sacramento Valley Conservancy](#). **Robert Jones**

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PETERHOF PALACE,
NEAR ST. PETERSBERG

Excellent...Excellent!

Duane Campbell, Bilingual /Multicultural Education

My wife, Dolores, and I enjoyed a trip by boat from Moscow to St. Petersburg during June of 2011. We stayed on board the Viking Kirov as our hotel for the entire trip. It was an excellent, modern and well-appointed ship making our travel easier. The food on board was excel-

rapid economic development of Russia is centered in the major cities and is bypassing much of the countryside. This trip must be made between May and September as much of the waterway freezes during the their long winters. After more than a week, we arrived at St. Petersburg and visited the Hermitage, and several palaces of the Tsars including the fascinating Peterhof Palace. The nobility certainly lived well before the revolution of 1917.

Given Russia's immense traffic problems in the major cities and the lack of a modern road network across the countryside, our Sacramento tour agent and we recommend river travel as a delightful way to see the country. There are excellent YouTube video tours of these sites on line for those considering this trip.

We had long wanted to visit Russia. The country is going through profound political and economic changes internally and in its relationship to Europe and the U.S. It was a timely, informative, and fascinating trip.

On a personal note, I retired in 2008 and remain active. This fall I'm coordinating a class on digital photography in the Renaissance Society, and I continue to blog about economics, politics, and public schooling at <http://choosingdemocracy.blogspot.com/>. My book *Choosing Democracy: A Practical Guide to Multicultural education* (2010) is being translated into Korean for use there.

[Email Duane](#)

lent. The first three days were in Moscow. We visited Red Square, the Kremlin, the theater, Moscow University and numerous cathedrals. After Moscow we traveled along the Moscow canal and then on to the Volga River and the Volga-Baltic waterway of numerous lakes and waterways visiting smaller regional towns and religious centers including Ulrich, Yaroslavl, Kizhi and others. We were delighted to get to see more rural Russia. We visited private homes and UNESCO historical sites along the way. The



GERI WELCH



LARRY GLASMIRE

Fall Dinner—Kick Off Your Holidays with Friends and Colleagues

Geri Welch and Larry Glasmire, Fall Dinner Co-Chairs

Friday, November 4 is a great day to celebrate the start of the upcoming holidays. Join your fellow retirees for a fun and

A fall harvest buffet will give you lots of choices, and wine will be at each table. After dinner, we'll draw names for door prizes donated by local businesses which support the Association's mission to help Sacramento State students.

Don't miss the fun! Invite a guest, reconnect with colleagues, and meet some of our newest retirees. Our website, www.csus.edu/org/retirees, has all of the information you need including the registration form. Visit the website to see the complete menu and program. Cost for members and members' guests is \$40. Nonmembers pay \$50. A portion of your cost goes to support Sacramento State programs supported by the Association. Be sure to renew your membership for 2012 at the same time.

For more information, [Email Larry](#) or [Email Geri](#)

celebratory gathering at the annual Retirees Association's fall dinner. Festivities start at 6 pm at the University's Alumni Center. You'll be welcomed by a student classical guitar ensemble from the Music Department. Our special guest will be Sam Parsons, recently retired University photographer, who is preparing a slide presentation to view before dinner begins, as well as a brief presentation during the program portion of the evening.



TOM GRIFFITH

Sharing Reflections

Tom Griffith,
Silver Bulletin Editor/Webmaster

Have you wondered?

- What Don Gerth has been doing in the eight years since he retired...
- How Larry Glasmire happened to end up on our campus...

- Who the latest addition to the Kornweibel family is...
- Whether the former Director of Publications writes as well as you might expect...
- What Claude Duval considers to be his most unique, insignificant accomplishment?

You can learn the answers to these questions as well as colleagues thoughts about their careers by reading what they've written, both about what they did and what they think about their work lo these many years later. "Retiree Reflections," a new feature of our website, is where you can read what colleagues have written and write and submit your own. Optional questions are provided to make it easy to get started.

A question that I think always produces interesting comments is "What are your thoughts about your work experience now?" Gene Kneprath expected his appointment to be a rung on his way to other schools, but instead discovered, "I and my family found Sacramento and the College such a rewarding place that we telescoped my earlier career belief..."

Others have reflected on unplanned experiences outside their departments. Linda Martin cites an example. "My experience teaching in the Learning Communities Program from 1995 to 2010 brought me joy and satisfaction."

What are YOUR thoughts about your work on campus? What have you been doing in retirement? Retiree Reflections will be much more interesting as more of us participate.

Take a look, [Retiree Reflections](#) Read your colleagues' musings, but don't stop there – send yours in too!

[Email Tom](#)

(Answers: Wrote book, Escape Ohio, Grandson, Definitely, Had 14 offices)



GERI WELCH

Keep Those Brain Cells Moving!

Geri Welch, Membership Co-Chair

Are you a fan of NPR's Michele Norris and would like to hear her talk about her own story? Does an evening of holiday songs and scenes from Broadway shows sound like a festive

way to celebrate the coming holidays? Would you like to receive sound estate planning advice at no cost?

Then you're in luck. And even better, you can enjoy these and dozens of other interesting events free or at low cost. If you have picked up your 2011-12 retirees parking permit, parking is free, too.

The Retirees Association wants to make it easy for you to find out about not only campus events of interest but also community events with a new comprehensive calendar located at www.csus.edu/org/retirees. It includes all University music, art, theatre and gallery events, as well as lectures, seminars and other activities. You'll also find current schedules for the Crocker Art Museum, the Sacramento Philharmonic, and the Sacramento Theatre Company, plus other community events.

Do you have a favorite event that you think other retirees might enjoy that isn't listed? Please contact me at geri.welch@att.net.

Consider these for YOUR calendar:

Oct. 20: One Book Lecture: Michele Norris, NPR host and author of *The Grace of Silence: A Memoir*, 7 pm, University Union Ballroom, free, www.csus.edu/onebook

Oct. 26-30: Theatre and Dance: *Dance Sites 2011*, Faculty Dance Concert, University Theatre, various times, \$8-\$12 general, \$8-\$10 senior, <http://www.csus.edu/dram>

Nov. 9: Estate Planning 101 with estate attorney Mark Drobny, lunch included, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., sponsored by University Development, free, pre-registration required, Alumni Center, <http://www.csus.edu/giving/estateplanning.stm>.

Dec. 7-11: *Broadway Christmas*, various times, University Theatre; \$10-\$15 general, \$10-\$12 senior, www.al.csus.edu/dram

[Email Geri](#)

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED! *continued from page 1*

The [fantastic public art](#) at the new Sacramento International Airport Terminal. **Gloria Transit**

I continue to be impressed by [Star Ginger](#), the latest offering by Mai Pham of Lemon Grass fame, located at the corner of Folsom and Alhambra Boulevards in Sacramento. **Tom Griffith**

[Hiking off the Mt. Baker Highway](#) in Washington where the trails are soft, well-graded and short: 4 miles max to the face of the glaciers on Mt. Baker, or to views of Excelsior Peak, Mt. Shuksan, and the whole north Cascades; more bang for the buck there than any place I've hiked. **Carole Barnes**



ALAN WADE

Legislative Report or “What Can Brown Do for You?”

Alan Wade, Past President

What will once-and-current governor Jerry Brown do in his second and last chance to get California moving again? Some of us who remember Brown’s first reign recall his flamboyant and unpredictable style, always with an eye

on the White House. We remember also his skepticism about public higher education. Many of us voted for him this time as the lesser of two evils, hoping that his pragmatic streak might actually work to resolve the state’s chronic budget agonies.

He did manage to engineer a budget almost on time, with the aid of last year’s voter initiative eliminating the 2/3 requirement for budget passage, and threatening legislators with loss of pay for every day the budget was late. The GOP minority was able to frustrate Brown’s plan for a Fall 2011 initiative to extend temporary taxes, through their refusal to give him the two votes he needed in each house to ensure his quid pro quo. The result—a budget based on deep cuts in the social safety net and education, and a heavy dose of the sort of budget “gimmicks” that Brown said he would not support, and likely over-optimism about revenue collection.

Those who support good public services were fortunate in that the governor did not have to accept any of the extortionist demands that the GOP insisted on—for what?—the opportunity for the people to vote not on tax increases, but on the mere extension of temporary revenue enhancements. Among these demands were a whole series of efforts at “pension reform.” The once “Grand Old Party” has now sunk to the level of its lowest common denominator, the anarchy-loving Tea Party.

The result has been no pension reform, despite numerous bills awaiting action in the legislature, including some that are needed and obvious, and many others that are simply blatant assaults on the public interest. And...the almost certain prospect of another huge hole in the state budget in January looms.

Where is Brown now? We don’t really know. He has been enigmatic, to say the least, over the summer. Some even ask what happened to the old Jerry Brown, or rather, the young Jerry? He is now sweating and complaining about the load of bills awaiting action, over 600 at the last count. He has also recently gone to the bully pulpit in a tentative sort of way to obtain support for new revenues.

He seems to be planning another initiative effort to by-pass the legislature to obtain additional revenue, and has to decide whether to sign a union-sponsored bill requiring that initiatives be scheduled in general elections only. He also will have to decide whether to consolidate a package of many existing bills aimed at pension reform and support their passage, or put them together in an initiative alongside some sort of revenue bill, offering the voters a quid pro quo. That could well be on the ballot for November, 2012.

Meanwhile, some potentially dangerous initiatives are out there in the hands of aggressive signature gatherers and their well-heeled keepers. Our best advice: DO NOT SIGN ANY OF THEM. So much for the 100 year old experiment in direct democracy, California style.

What avenues are open for obtaining revenues (dare we say “taxes”) to run the state, now that most of the cuts possible have been made? Senate Majority Leader Steinberg’s bill giving new taxing authority to local governments has been passed by both houses and seems to be waiting as a possible bargaining chip—probably too radical for serious consideration.

Los Angeles Mayor Villaraigosa supports reform of Prop. 13 by splitting the property tax rolls with the aim of subjecting business properties to increased tax rates. The homeowner exemption would remain. In a recent notable speech before the Sacramento Press Club, the mayor called the business property exemption “the great corporate tax giveaway” of 1978. Chances of such a good idea having any traction? Minimal.

Except that we now have a budget, little has changed in California politics. Our pensions are quite safe for the moment, although our truly great health benefits perhaps less so. And so, it seems that there is very little that we can expect Brown to do for us. Nonetheless, his leadership is essential if anything at all is to be done to move California ahead. Look forward to a mid-year budget debacle, and then to a November 2012 battle of initiatives.

This article is a revision and update of the Legislative Report article originally published in the Fall 2011 edition of the quarterly California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association (CSU-ERFA) Reporter.

[Email Alan](#)

IN MEMORIAM

BILL SCHUSTER
Business Administration
August 19, 2011

GERTRUDE LEWIS LEIBERMAN
Student Health Center
August 7, 2011

SHEILA KILPATRICK
Wife of Joe Kilpatrick, Business
July 21, 2011

JEAN JOHNSON
Wife of Douglas Johnson, Education
May 26, 2011

CHARLES NELSON
English
May 23, 2011

JANICE CORRIN GREGORICH
Wife of Steve Gregorich, Education
May 14, 2011

RUSSELL “RIIS” BOHR
Art
February 18, 2011

ROGER LEEZER
Mathematics and Arts and Sciences
March 22, 2011

BILL LOVITT
Philosophy
March 15, 2011

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