Message from the General Manager & COO

At the 60th anniversary celebration on Thursday, March 21st after being closed for 20 years, the Cypress Room opened its doors in its renewed role as a bar & lounge. I was very pleased with the turnout and response to this new space where faculty and staff will be able to enjoy drinks, bar bites, Bruin games and live music entertainment on campus. Mark your calendars for our official opening on Thursday, April 4th at 5 pm. We have nearly completed our remodel and modernization of the North Hallway, and we are eagerly awaiting the installation of a new artwork collection to grace the walls.

In the same spirit of our ongoing modernization efforts, we encourage you to embrace the move to paperless billing. Please contact us today to provide your credit card information. By doing so, you will help reduce paper and labor costs and ensure swift payment of our bills. In a connected effort to reduce costs and increase efficiency, we are finally moving to electronic voting for the upcoming BOG elections. Stay tuned for more details.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our traditional Easter Brunch, coming up Sunday, April 21st. Please join us for a delicious brunch buffet, live musical entertainment, an Easter egg hunt, and a visit from the Easter Bunny himself!

Sincerely,

Luciano Sautto
General Manager & COO
UCLA Faculty Center
Greetings to all as we enter spring, return to daylight savings, and celebrate the 60th anniversary of the UCLA Faculty Center! This month, I am eager to share with you how member and non-member views have shaped our activities.

A few years ago, the Board of Governors engaged the services of Bruin MBA Consulting to address the then-current problem of declining revenue and to find ways to forge a new strategic direction and operating model for the Center. The consultants conducted a broad survey of Center members and non-members and presented their report in March 2015.

The consulting team received 11 responses from Board members, 353 from Faculty Center members, and 723 responses from non-members. These surveys provided significant quantitative and qualitative data that have informed decisions by Faculty Center leadership.

Members overwhelmingly thought that the Center was a campus asset. They responded very positively to the Center staff and general services. The great majority of critical responses focused on the physical appearance inside the Center. In general, the survey gave a very negative picture of the design aesthetic of the interior which was discouraging to both members and non-members.

That is why General Manager Luciano Sautto began a renovation of the interior. Significant changes have been made to the Coral Grill, the Library/Billiards Room, the Playa Lounge, the hallways, and the Cypress Room downstairs. These changes have been made at minimal cost through judicious purchasing and generous donations. Currently, we have a Design Committee, which includes General Manager Luciano Sautto, art historian Victoria Steele, and Board of Governors member Michael Rich. They are moving forward to emphasize the building’s mid-century modern origin and to increase the usefulness of interior spaces for both casual dining and special events.

I hope that in the future we can again survey the broad community to continue making the Center the best it can be. In a future issue, I will comment more about interviews Bruin MBA Consulting made with faculty clubs on other campuses. In the meantime, I welcome your feedback!

Julie Kwan
President, UCLA Faculty Center Association
Board of Governors
Distinguished Librarian & Librarian Emerita, UCLA Library

1,087 survey responses supported the Faculty Center as a campus asset and led to interior renovations.
Coming Up: Easter Brunch

We are pleased to invite you and your family to celebrate a traditional Faculty Center favorite, Easter Brunch on Sunday, April 21, 2019.

The brunch will start at 10:30 am with Easter-themed arts and crafts for the children, plus an Easter egg hunt on the front lawn. There will be live musical entertainment and delicious buffet options sure to please all members of the family. A visit from the Easter Bunny will be a highlight as well!

Brunch service will start at 10:30 am and conclude at 2:30 pm. The cost is $60 per person, $25 for children aged 5-12, and free for children under 5. Reserve your table today! Contact us at 310.825.0877 or email us at club@ucla.edu.

Thanking Our Generous Donors

Sincere Thanks to:

Anita L. Cotter
($1,000-$1,500 range)

With your support, the Faculty Center can remain a vital part of campus life for generations to come. Make your mark on our future. To donate, please visit https://facultycenter.ucla.edu/About/Ways_of_Giving_(1).aspx today.
Treasurer’s Report

Spring is here, and, hopefully, the weather and temperature will be sunnier and warmer, enabling us to truly enjoy the outdoors and the Coral Grill patio.

Winter Quarter certainly has been COLD, unseasonably so. The old heating system at the Faculty Center simply “gave out”. Rather than repair it, UCLA has agreed to do the heating/air conditioning and ventilation portion of the major renovation as soon as possible. So, hopefully, this will not happen again for another sixty years or more. Besides, there’s a bright side to this, our utility bill was HALF of what we normally pay. And everyone got to show off their winter wear.

Despite the cold, members continue to come to the Faculty Center, as reflected in the lunch and dinner count. Consequently, our financials continue to improve. Our net income grew another $70,000 plus since December 31, 2018. Please keep coming and enjoy the Faculty Center.

—Jane S Permaul
Treasurer
Faculty Center Board of Governors

P.S. Help us remain in the black. To register your credit card, please contact our fiscal controller, Samantha Taylor, at 310.825.2519 or staylor33@ucla.edu.

Faculty Center 60th Anniversary

On Thursday, March 21st, we celebrated the past, present, and future of our beloved institution. The evening kicked off in the newly renovated Cypress Bar & Lounge, where members and guests enjoyed catching up with old friends and made new acquaintances. There was a hosted bar with beer and wine, a slide show overview of the Faculty Center’s past 60 years, and live music by contemporary pianist, vocalist and songwriter Laura Saggers.

Dinner then followed in the Main Dining Room, where tables were festively decorated and tall bouquets of flowers graced the round buffet tables. Included were crowd-pleasing retro favorites like Waldorf Salad, Deviled Eggs, Quiche, Pigs in a Blanket, Corn Flake Crusted Fish, Chicken à la King, Ambrosia Salad, and Jell-O!

The Faculty Center would like to thank those who so enthusiastically attended this event. Please contact us at club@ucla.edu to pick up a commemorative placemat, or to have us send you a link to our 60th anniversary slide show. Here’s to another 60 years!
The “soft launch” of the bar was a huge success. I heard only words of praise from all attendees. The decor, the warm and engaged service, the ambiance, the delightful music — all worked perfectly! The dinner was also delightful — from the delicious vintage offerings (ambrosia!) to the keepsake placemats. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and look forward to this new amazing era.

The Faculty Center, as the centerpiece of social engagement on campus, is back. Huge kudos to everyone who made this unforgettable evening possible.

- M. Belinda Tucker
Recipe of the Month

My name is Richard Heller I am the newly appointed Executive Chef at UCLA Faculty Center. This month I’d like to share a dish that screams out spring and is perfect for a light lunch or special breakfast.

Asparagus, Poached Egg & Citrus Hollandaise

WHAT

For each serving:
3-5 asparagus spears
1 large free range egg
3 orange segments
Micro-greens for garnish

In pan of water for poaching:
1 tbsp. distilled vinegar

Hollandaise Sauce (serves 4-6)
1 cup butter
2 egg yolks (free range)
1 tbsp. water
1 tsp. cider vinegar
1 tsp. orange juice
1 tsp. lemon juice
1 drop tabasco (optional)
Kosher salt & cracked black pepper to taste

HOW

1. Start by making Hollandaise – Melt butter in a small saucepan on medium heat until it begins to separate. Pour out clarified butter into a small bowl. Set aside and discard any buttermilk fats.

2. Whisk egg yolks, cider vinegar, water, lemon & orange juice in a medium size metal bowl. Place over a pan of barely simmering water (without bowl touching water). Slowly add clarified butter, a little at a time, whisking constantly until all the butter is incorporated and the sauce has thickened. Season to taste, and add tabasco if desired. Cover lightly to keep warm.

3. Remove the stalks from asparagus. Quickly boil in lightly salted water for 1 minute, remove and plate up.

4. Place egg into small ramekin. Gently pour egg into pan of simmering water with vinegar and poach for 3 minutes. Remove, pat dry and serve on asparagus. Drizzle Hollandaise on egg. Place orange segments accordingly.
On Thursday, April 11, at 7 pm in the Faculty Center, the Play Readers will be reading *God of Carnage* by Yasmina Reza, a French playwright, actress, novelist and screenwriter best known for the play *Art*. In *God of Carnage*, the Tony award-winning play of 2009, two couples concerned about the violent altercation between their 11-year-old boys meet to discuss rationally and amiably what to do next. The play leads us through the spouses’ degeneration and shifting emotions and loyalties.

Members of the UCLA community and their friends are invited to attend. Please contact Rochelle Caballero, chair of the Play Readers, at rrcab90272@cs.com for more information or to be added to the Play Readers’ mailing list. Be sure to let her know if you’d like to be a reader.

Make an evening of it—join the cast for dinner before the performance, 5:30 pm at the Faculty Center.

To reserve, contact Marjorie Friedlander, friedlander.marjorie@gmail.com.

Next up, Thursday, May 9th: *Ah, Wilderness!* by Eugene O’Neill.

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**Mark Your Calendars—Important Dates**

**Cypress Bar & Lounge Opening**
Thursday, April 4, 5 pm to close

**Easter Brunch**
Sunday, April 21, 10:30 am—2:30 pm

**Cinco de Mayo Lunch**
Thursday, May 2, 11:30 am—2:00 pm

**Mother’s Day Brunch**
Sunday, May 12, 10:00 am—2:00 pm

**Graduation Brunches & Dinners**
May & June, details TBA
The play’s the thing—or three!

The afternoon’s program highlights two popular FWC Special Interest Sections: **Writers** and **Play Readers**. Featured is an original one-act play, *Times Have Changed*, by Phyllis Amboss, co-chair of Writers and member of Play Readers. The play is set in the 1920s when the Club met at the Vermont campus of the Los Angeles Normal School, precursor to UCLA. Members are discussing the recently announced change of name and location of the school and the possible effects on the Club.

FWC Play Readers members will also perform two innovative and influential Alice Gerstenberg plays, *Overtones* and *Fourteen*. *Overtones*, dramatizes the inner primitive self against the outer personality of the character. Harriet and Margaret conduct polite, shallow conversation and proprieties, while their inner selves, Hetty and Maggie, smolder and seethe below the surface voicing their true thoughts.

*Fourteen* is Ms. Gerstenberg’s satirical view of a charming society woman, Mrs. Pringle, who is concerned with the success of her dinner party during Prohibition where her debutante daughter, Elaine, is to meet the town’s most eligible (and enormously wealthy) bachelor, Oliver Farnsworth. Unfortunately, illness and a blizzard force some guests to cancel—with the final blow arriving when Mr. Farnsworth cannot attend. The play involves Mrs. Pringle’s desperate and hilarious attempts to keep the number of guests at the table to the ideal number of fourteen.

**Note:** Writers recently published *Collected Works*, presenting select writings from both founding and present members. Writers is a successor to an earlier FWC group that met for many years. *Collected Works* includes excerpts from two members of that group, Heather Campbell and the late Deborah Parducci. Copies of *Collected Works* will be available at the meeting.

Also, Bette Billet, Vice-President/Programs, suggests we might have a surprise visitor.

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**Event details:**
UCLA Faculty Women’s Club 4th General Meeting at the Faculty Center  
Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 1:30 pm

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**Phyllis Amboss, Playwright**

**Marjorie Friedlander, Play Readers Foundier, and Rochelle Caballero, current co-chairs. Current Chairs, respectively**