Message from the GM & COO
Reflections at the End of an Extraordinary Year

Dear Members,

As we come closer to the end of this extraordinary year, we reflect on the past year dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the likes of which most of us have never experienced. We enter a new year with the hope that it will soon come to an end. Although I am usually not one to wish time to pass quickly, this year cannot end soon enough.

We also enter the new year excited about the next evolution of our beloved Faculty Center’s much needed and long overdue modernization. As we try to maximize this opportunity to improve many areas across the center with our own funds, donations are needed to reach this goal. You will be hearing about our fundraising efforts in the new year.

I eagerly await the opportunity to greet you again and see everyone once again enjoying the Faculty Center. Most of all, I would like to wish you all a safe and peaceful holiday season and a very happy new year!

Luciano Sautto
General Manager & COO
UCLA Faculty Center

Pictured above: Re-envisioning of the East Patio and California (Morrison Room) Terrace as highly flexible outdoor rooms for dining and events. New landscape, paving, lighting and building finishes would build on the original indoor-outdoor connections at the Faculty Center. (Images for planning and fundraising purposes only) Renderings by Moore Ruble Yudell / Studio-MLA.
President’s Message

On behalf of the Faculty Center Association Board of Governors, I wish you all a happy and safe holiday season, and I hope you will join with us as we look forward to the year ahead.

We have much to be thankful for. Our university administration has demonstrated its strong commitment to supporting UCLA staff through this difficult time by not imposing layoffs as other organizations have done. Our office staff have persevered, working in quiet and solitary shifts so unlike those fast-paced days to which they are accustomed. And, most importantly, we are thankful to YOU, our members, who have continued your support even though you have not been able to dine or gather at the Faculty Center.

When we reopen later in the new year, we will have a new club software system and an updated website. Although we meet and dine in the Faculty Center building, we will rebrand ourselves as the UCLA Faculty Club in recognition that it is you, our members, that form this organization. We will also recognize our Sustaining Members—those of you who continue your active membership support throughout the closure.

This year has been difficult on so many fronts with COVID-19 changing virtually everything we do. Please know that our thoughts are with you for your health and safety. The Board joins with me in looking forward to the time when we can meet in person again. We wish you the best for the upcoming holidays and for a safe and peaceful new year.

Stay safe until we can meet again in the Faculty Center!

Julie Kwan, President
UCLA Faculty Center Association Board of Governors

Your Generosity Counts

Thank you to our kind members and friends who donated so generously since the last update (November 2020 newsletter). Several members honored the memory of longtime member Toshi Ashikaga who passed away at the age of 102 on October 20, 2020. Toshi was an active and dedicated member of the Faculty Women’s Club and the Emeriti Association Board, where she served as Chair of the Book Exchange Committee at the Faculty Center.

If you would like to join in remembering Toshi or give to the Faculty Center’s ongoing fundraising efforts, go to the DONATE button on our website. If making a donation in Toshi’s memory, please check the Tribute box so that you can include her name.

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* indicates donations in Toshi Ashikaga’s memory
Construction Updates

Above: Installation of new seismic sheathing on Main Dining Room roof.

Right: Hand-excavated trench for new grease and waste lines under pine tree roots.

Below: Aerial view of existing roofing on North Wing (on left) and new seismic sheathing and waterproof membrane prior to installation of shingles over Main Dining Room and South Wing (on right).

All photos courtesy of 2H Construction
Member News
Brenda E. Stevenson Named Hillary Rodham Clinton Professor At Oxford

Although 2020 will be forever marked by the extraordinary set of challenges globally felt, there were still some moments of pure exhilaration. Such an occasion was the appointment of one of our most devoted Faculty Center Association members to one of the world’s most prestigious academic posts. Professor Brenda E. Stevenson is an internationally renowned scholar whose writings focus on race, gender, family, slavery and conflict.

By examining the comparative, historical experiences of women, family and community across racial and ethnic lines, she seeks to understand the ways in which race and gender interact, intersect, collide with, emphasize, run parallel to and sometimes isolate one another. She has analyzed these processes in distinct eras and places, ranging from the experiences of enslaved Blacks in the American South (Family and Community in the Slave South; Oxford, 1996) to African American-Korean conflict in contemporary south Los Angeles (The Contested Murder of Latasha Harlins: Justice, Gender and the Origins of the LA Riots; Oxford, 2013).

The Rodham Clinton Professorship is only the most recent in a series of extraordinary honors, including being named the William Andrews Clark Professor for 2019-20, the Inaugural Organization of American Historians Residency at the University of Augsburg (Germany) for 2019, UCLA’s Faculty Research Lectureship, Fall 2019, the Wilbur Cross Medal from Yale University (2020), and the Carter G. Woodson Scholars Medallion in 2018, among others too numerous to list. Professor Stevenson’s appointment was celebrated at a most distinguished event marking 100 Years of Oxford Degrees for Women hosted via Zoom on October 15, 2020 by Professor Louise Richardson, the very first female vice-chancellor of the University of Oxford, and featuring Professor Stevenson, the 67th U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Professor Maggie Snowling, President of St. John’s College. Audience members were enthralled by the revealing and poignant exchange among the women as they remarked upon and analyzed their own powerful ascents and current political dynamics in the context of gender.

What does it mean to you personally to be appointed to a chair named for someone as substantial and now iconic as Hillary Rodham Clinton?

The appointment to the Hillary Rodham Clinton chair is a great honor and blessing just as it was for me to receive my current chair at UCLA. I always have admired deeply Secretary Clinton’s intelligence, professional accomplishments and her unparalleled service to our country.

I am extremely proud to have an appointment that is named for one of the most exceptional women in the history of our nation. It is very exciting as a black woman whose work largely centers on black women to represent women’s history at Oxford.

Continued on next page...
Member News
Brenda E. Stevenson, cont’d from previous page

Given the huge global challenges at the moment—a pandemic, the societal confrontation of racial injustice, bitter political divisions, economic peril for many—does your particular historical perspective (via the frame of race and gender) help us to better understand what appears to be chaos around us. And, if so, how?

My work centers on inequality, conflict across various races of people and the location of women in these experiences and expressions.

What is clear, even in the midst of the extraordinary circumstances of 2020, is that the national (and even global) divisions along racial lines and the social inequalities that always impact females deeply have played out (again) in tragically predictable ways. Women, regardless of race, are not treated as equals within our society—we still live in a patriarchy.

Thank God for the promise of Kamala Harris’ election as Vice-President! Black, brown and indigenous people, poor people, disabled people, etc. all suffer disproportionately when our society is “normal.” In a crisis, or at the time of multiple crises, we suffer that much more.

Scholars attuned to societies’ shortcomings and hierarchies see all too well the cracks in our democracy and the failings in our moral compass.

We know that there are systemic problems that have deep historical roots. We all have to work harder to explain this to the public and, collectively, move forward.

Notwithstanding the significance of 100 years of women’s degrees at Oxford, what do you hope to accomplish during your tenure at St. Johns, especially considering the relative rarity at Oxford of women of color more generally and Black women in particular?

I hope to be able to bring my perspective on women’s history to an already well-established tradition so that the students, my colleagues and the public will better understand the importance of a history of women and girls that is widely inclusive, comparative, and instructive with regard to current social, economic, political and cultural challenges that are just as prominent in Britain as here.

I also want to contribute to the effort to enhance public history initiatives, to strengthen their academic programs in women of color history, the black Atlantic and the historical foundations of contemporary racial conflict.

We wish Professor Stevenson a very successful and enjoyable tenure at Oxford, although we’re expecting her to continue her long tradition of family dining at our holiday buffets.

FWC News
Celebration of Life
Toshi Ashikaga
Tuesday, January 19, 2021
4:00 PM

The Faculty Women’s Club will host a Zoom Celebration of Life honoring centenarian extraordinaire Toshi Ashikaga.

Further details will be coming soon. For the Zoom link, please contact Marianne Afifi at marianneafifi@yahoo.com.

Play Readers
Upcoming: Macbeth, January 14

The Play Readers, founded by the UCLA Faculty Women’s Club, have been enjoying monthly meetings on Zoom, and welcome readers and audience members alike.

Performances take place on Zoom at 7 pm on the second Thursday of the month. Occasionally a performance requires two evenings, in which case the meeting is continued on the third Thursday.

To receive a Zoom invitation to any of their performances, please reserve by emailing not later than 24 hours beforehand to Marjorie Friedlander at friedlander.marjorie@gmail.com. To be added to their mailing list, or to become a reader, please email the chair Rochelle Caballero at rrcab90272@cs.com.

February 11th & possibly 18th: An Ideal Husband by Oscar Wilde.
Meet the Board
UCLA Faculty Center Board Member-at-Large Albert E. Aubin

This month Board Member-at-Large Albert (Al) E. Aubin from Student Affairs (Retired) was interviewed by fellow Board member and President-Elect Jane Szutu Permaul, Assistant Vice-Chancellor Emerita, UCLA Student Affairs and Vice-Chair of Board of Directors of the University Credit Union.

When and why did you join the Faculty Center?
During the late 60s, the Faculty Center had a men’s club that met in the space that is now called the Library. “Collegium Bibendum” met periodically. At the time I was a doctoral student and was invited to a gathering by Professor George Kneller. That was my introduction to the Faculty Center. I didn’t join until the 80s, when the Center expanded is membership to staff, but attended many events as a guest. I have been a member ever since, about 40 years. I joined to network with faculty and staff throughout the campus.

Continental breakfasts were available in the downstairs lounge (now Cypress Bar & Lounge) and there was time to meet socially before starting the work day. This helped me during my work in Student Affairs. I am pleased that I have stayed in contact with many of this breakfast club.

What do you miss since the Center closed down because of COVID-19 and renovations?
Before the pandemic, I would invite colleagues to join me in the afternoon for my favorite calamari or other offerings that have added to the benefits of being a member.

What I miss most about not visiting the Faculty Center is the sense of community. The Faculty Center is the only place where the North and South Campuses meet in a collegial setting.

What are your expectations of the Faculty Center when it reopens?
I am looking forward to visiting the Center when it reopens because the renderings of the renovations are amazing. The colors, the new lighting, the openness, the IT enhancements, the plantings, are exciting. I anticipate that departments will compete to book meetings in the renovated meeting rooms and host luncheons for university guests. The Faculty Center will be the place to meet on campus.

How many terms have you served on the Board and has the Board changed over the years?
I was on the Board for several terms and served as Secretary from 2007-2016. I was off the Board for three years in accordance with the new by-laws. I have now rejoined the Board as a Member-at-Large.

The Board has changed over the years and the major difference for me is that it is much more future-oriented. Years ago, the BOG was concerned about saving the Faculty Center from destruction. The Faculty Center now focuses on addressing the needs of its members and creating spaces for community building for its members.

What are your favorite memories of the Faculty Center?
These have to be the Mother’s Day and Easter brunches with family. I have photos with my children and grandchildren at these events. In recent years one of my great-grandsons joined us and was happy to see the Easter Bunny. It is a wonderful way to celebrate with one’s biological family with colleagues and friends who are also with their families.

Another special event was the 50th anniversary of the Faculty Center where Chancellor Emeritus Charles E. Young spoke. Every seat in the Main Dining Room was filled to celebrate both the Faculty Center and honor Chuck for his unwavering support to the Faculty Center in good times and in difficult circumstances.

I am looking forward to dinner before attending theater once again at Royce or at the Geffen because parking is convenient and the beauty of the campus is enhanced by the lighting of Royce Hall and Powell Library. Can’t wait to return to campus! 😊
Cook with Us
Luciano Sautto’s Ham and Bean Soup

Here’s a nice way to utilize your leftover ham from Thanksgiving and give yourself and your loved ones a warm internal hug as the weather becomes colder.

You will need
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
1 cup dry white wine (and a glass for yourself while cooking)
1 large carrot
2 celery stalks
1 large yellow onion
2 large garlic cloves, minced
2 cans cannellini beans (or 32oz of dried white beans soaked overnight)
Ham bone (optional)
2 tbsp unsalted butter
2 cups diced ham (or however much you have leftover)
1 carton of vegetable stock
Parmesan cheese rind (optional)
1 sprig thyme
2 bay leaves
2 tsp salt
2 tbsp pepper or to taste
Italian parsley for garnish
Parmesan cheese
Crusty bread

Steps
1. Add olive oil to dutch oven and preheat
2. Make a sofrito—dice carrot, celery and onion
3. Add sofrito to preheated dutch oven, sauté until onion is translucent
4. Add garlic
5. Add ham and heat through
6. Deglaze with white wine
7. When wine has evaporated add beans
8. Add unsalted butter
9. Add ham bone (optional)
10. Add vegetable stock
11. Add parmesan rind (optional)
12. Add thyme and bay leaves
13. Season with salt and pepper
14. Bring to boil, then simmer on low heat for one hour. Remove bone, thyme, parmesan rind and bay leaves.
15. Garnish with parmesan cheese and chopped parsley. Serve with crusty bread and butter with a nice glass of sauvignon blanc. Happy cooking!
In Memoriam
Remembering UCLA Faculty & Faculty Center Members

Jean Aroeste (1932–2020)

When Jean Lisette Aroeste, Faculty Center Member #810, died in August at the age of 87, it was the loss of a significant link to the past. In the words of a fellow member and friend, “she enjoyed the Faculty Center tremendously.”

In 2016 Jean won the Emeriti Association’s Distinguished Service Award after serving the organization for almost 20 years. She held her first position as Recording Secretary for four years. She then became editor of the newsletter for another eight years, “applying her skills with devotion, inspiration, enterprise and personal courage” (Edmonds, see note). In 1999, Jean worked on the joint ad-hoc committee whose work led to the development of the Belmont Village Westwood facility.

Aroeste was born on October 2, 1932 in Richmond, Virginia. She graduated with a BA from University of Wisconsin in 1954, earned an MLS from Simmons College in 1962 and an MA in English at UCLA in 1967. She was the assistant in the Acquisitions department at Harvard College Library from 1954-62 and became a reference librarian at UCLA in 1962. After UCLA she subsequently was head of References and Collection Development at the Princeton University Library.

Jean’s friends knew her as an avid Star Trek fan who became one of only four writers to have a script accepted for production who had no prior television writing credits. “Is There in Truth No Beauty?” (1968) and “All Our Yesterdays” (1969) can still be seen on cable television and most digital streaming media services.

She was the co-editor of the “Directory of Scholarly and Research Publishing Opportunities: A Guide to Academic Publishing Opportunities in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Science and Technology” (1971).

Note: To read John Edmonds’ tribute to Jean written for the Emeriti Association newsletter, go to the list of past newsletters at https://emeriti.errc.ucla.edu/news/newsletters and pick Winter 2016: Volume 29, Number 2. The tribute begins on Page 4.

John Rosenfeld, 100, Pillar of Mineralogy and Petrology Teaching and Mentorship

John Rosenfeld, Emeritus Professor in UCLA’s Department of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences, passed away in Santa Monica on August 15, 2020, one month and one day following his 100th birthday.

After earning his Ph.D. at Harvard University in 1954, John joined the Geology Department, as it was then known, in 1957. His daughter Susan Rosenfeld recalls visiting the Faculty Center in 1959 with her family shortly after the opening. At that time, it was remarked by her parents that such a collective gathering space would be an ever more important place for the university community by providing a commons for the sharing of the diverse interests of the fast-developing university community.

John Rosenfeld was a pillar of mineralogy and petrology teaching and mentorship at UCLA throughout his career. John used his enormous expertise in optical mineralogy in his studies of the rotation of minerals such as garnet that recorded deformational and pressure-temperature conditions as they grew in high-pressure metamorphic environments. His work with John Christensen and Don DePaolo in measuring Sr isotope variations across so-called “snowball garnets” from southern Vermont added chronological information thus enabling calculation of strain rates and timing of temperature changes during mountain building. John was proud of this interdisciplinary research that captured the cover of Science magazine in June, 1989.

Even into his late 90s, John Rosenfeld remained a friendly and engaging presence in the EPSS department.

In 2017 he established the John L. and Juanita B. Rosenfeld Graduate Fellowship Fund within EPSS, saying, “It is gratifying that my gift will help UCLA graduate students for many generations to come.”

John’s wife Juanita predeceased John in 2004. Throughout a marriage of sixty years, they shared a deep love for the environment, for social justice, and engaged community commitment. They are survived by their son Gus and daughter Susan Rosenfeld, who cared for their father during his final years. Susan is a continuing member of the Faculty Center since her retirement in 2013 from the Department of Art History’s former Visual Resource Collection.

—Victoria Steele
Curator Emerita, UCLA Collections
In Memoriam
Remembering UCLA Faculty & Faculty Center Members

Sy Feshbach (1925-2020), Professor Emeritus, Clinical Psychology

Seymour (Sy) Feshbach was one of the pioneers in psychology. Shortly after World War II, when psychology was still in its infancy, the theory of Sigmund Freud regarding the unconscious, dreams, and more was attracting much attention.

But in addition to devoted followers, others were questioning the validity of his assertions. Not long thereafter, Sy became one of the first to attempt to test some of Freud’s ideas.

In his doctoral dissertation at Yale in 1951, he focused on what is known as the catharsis hypothesis—the idea that sexual and aggressive goal attainment through fantasies, such as daydreams, reduces these urges, which Freud had argued. Indeed, through creative experimental procedures, Sy found evidence supporting Freud. Soon after, however, others argued that fantasy attainment, including via observation of others, increases these unconscious urges and related behaviors. A lively debate followed that still has not been definitively resolved, to the frustration of parents of children who spend time playing aggressive video games.

This beginning thrust Sy into the center of the study of aggression, including first studies on the effects of observing violence on television. He became a leader in this field in the United States and internationally, where he chaired many organizations and conferences. In addition to his publications on aggression, Sy also turned his thoughts to peace and made significant contributions in that area as well. Further, he was the first author of a popular textbook on Personality that persisted over five editions.

Sy did not limit his time to research. He served twice in the military, during World War II and the Korean War. After being a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Colorado, he came to UCLA in 1964 and was instrumental in starting a Personality program. He later spent five years as Chair of the Psychology Department. He also was the devoted husband of Norma Feshbach, former Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, and the father of three children, one of whom is a clinical psychologist.

His devotion extended to many others—twenty years after retirement he was still contributing gifts to the Psychology staff Christmas party.

This story captures Sy as the fun-loving and easy-going person he was. At one time in the Psychology department, the members of the faculty presented their research to the other members. This was particularly the case for the assistant professors. It was thus a very anxiety-producing experience, perhaps with tenure implications. At the time, there was a deep divide between the “hard” and “soft” areas. As a member of the latter, I was especially nervous. I prepared a talk with many slides of data to show that I was a real scientist. But during the talk when I turned to the next slide, a projective test picture from the TAT appeared, with a somewhat sexual content. I turned red, stammered, and did not know what to do until I looked at the audience and saw Sy laughing so hard he was near tears. He had secretly placed the picture there.

—Bernie Weiner
Distinguished Research Professor
UCLA Department of Psychology