Message from the GM & COO

Renovations are underway!

Have you been wondering what is going on inside the blue fence surrounding the Faculty Center?

We have great news! Renovation is vigorously underway! Last month, the university transferred liability for the Faculty Center to the construction company. Staff and visitors to the site must have prior approval to visit. They will be given hard hats, vests, and goggles and must wear closed toe shoes. All visitors, including Faculty Center staff, must sign in and be accompanied by construction company staff.

This is just a reminder that construction site dangers are real, and these are standard procedures. Nonetheless, as construction becomes less hazardous I can arrange for visitors, committee members, and donors to access the site if needed. In the meantime, we will have photos to show the work being done.

The photos shown here were taken shortly after the construction company took over and thus show the very first activities in the main dining room, the roof, and the Redwood Patio. All of us at the Faculty Center are excited that work has begun in earnest. We are anxious to share photos with you in upcoming newsletters.

Luciano Sautto
General Manager & COO
UCLA Faculty Center

For more renovation photos please see p. 3
As President of the Board of Governors, I want to share with you some of the questions I have received from members. Here are three recurring ones:

**How are membership dues being used?**

Our membership dues are critically important. They are paying for a variety of bills, including monthly insurance, security and policing, IT and telecommunications, office supplies, vendors, facilities, financial consulting fees, and mail services. In addition, we have to pay for our liquor license as we don’t want to lose that! (We have the only liquor license on campus. All other venues serving alcohol are using a corporate umbrella which is much more expensive.)

We are grateful to our members who are sticking with us during this time. We are also grateful that our construction work is taking place when there is insufficient traffic on campus to support on-campus dining. We offered take-out service the week before we fully closed in March. It was not a viable option. Each day we lost money, something we cannot do in a membership organization without outside support.

**What’s happening with Faculty Center staff?**

According to university policy, our staff have been on payroll since campus was closed in March. At first, pay was to continue until the end of June, then it was extended through September, and now through January 15. We do not know if university policy will extend once again. Since we are closed, there is no work for kitchen and wait staff. Early in the pandemic, an opportunity was made for custodial staff to be temporarily reassigned to the health enterprise. Soon there will be an opportunity to reassign staff to Facilities. There is also a new Voluntary Separation Program that our staff might take advantage of especially since a good number of staff have many years of service. All in all, the university has made an exceptional commitment to the staff without instituting layoffs as other campuses have done.

However, this comes at a cost to the Faculty Center. We have been accruing payroll costs that will need to be repaid. Without our banquet, conference, and dining income, we have no way to fund payroll costs. When we are again open, we will work with the university on a long-term payback of personnel costs incurred during this time. We are happy and willing to do this as we share the University’s commitment to support our staff. We know that our members care about the staff as well.

**How do I benefit from continuing my membership?**

One of the most important reasons to continue your membership is to ensure that the Faculty Center remains a viable organization that will continue! But the Board of Governors wants to do more. During our last several meetings, the Board has discussed how we can acknowledge and reward members who stay with us during the closure.

For starters, members can book events beginning in September 2021 after the first phase of construction is complete. At that time, only part of the building will be available – the main dining room and the south side of the building, including Sequoia, Redwood, the Boardroom, and Cypress. Consequently, there could be competition for space. If you are planning a conference, wedding, or bar or bat mitzvah, you might want to secure the date soon. And this area will have been renovated with new restrooms and a new patio for Sequoia. We anticipate that it will be an immensely popular spot when it reopens in all its new beauty.

We also know that our personnel costs will increase. The recent employment contracts have mandated higher wages as well as one-time increases. If we must increase dues when we reopen, we plan to “grandfather” our sustaining members and keep their dues at 2020/2021 rates. Another suggestion is to honor our sustaining members through displaying their names on a digital or physical plaque.

This is an area of continuing discussion at Board of Governors meetings. We thank you for your continued support and want to recognize that support as we move forward.

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

Julie Kwan, President
UCLA Faculty Center Association Board of Governors
Giving to the Faculty Center
Your Donations Matter

Thank you to our kind members and friends who donated so generously since the last update (October 2020 newsletter).

We were deeply saddened by the loss of our longtime member Toshi Ashikaga on October 20, 2020. Toshi, who was 102, was an active and dedicated member of the Faculty Women’s Club and was also active in the Emeriti Association Board, where she served as Chair of the Book Exchange Committee at the Faculty Center.

Upon learning of Toshi’s passing, one of our members said, “It was nothing but a pleasure to have known her. She taught us all to live fully and richly no matter the age.” Please see our tribute to her on page 7 of this newsletter.

Toshi Ashikaga’s friends are celebrating her long life by contributing the amount of a dollar for each year of her age to the Faculty Center General Support Fund. If you would like to join in remembering Toshi that way, go to the DONATE button on our website.

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<th>Donations $100-$500</th>
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<tr>
<td>Celena M. Romero</td>
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<td>Richard C. Wulliger</td>
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<td>Rhonda K. Lawrence</td>
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<th>Donations in Memory of Toshi Ashikaga</th>
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<td>Julie Kwan &amp; Joseph Kwan, M.D.</td>
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<td>Victoria Steele, PhD.</td>
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<td>Noël Carterette</td>
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<td>Janet D. Carter</td>
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<td>Jane S. Permaul, Ed.D.</td>
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<td>Stephen D. Cederbaum, M.D.</td>
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Special Mention to:
Roelina G. Berst
for her donation of $1,020

Photos from our Renovation
Photos courtesy Sue Santon

Top left: Louver at attic above kitchen removed. New louver required to accommodate higher curb owing to roof insulation.
Top middle: Preparing to remove Coral Grill exhaust fan.
Top right: Installation of floor protection in Main Dining Room prior to roof demolition.
Bottom left: Fence removed from south patio where grease interceptor will be installed.
Bottom middle: South corridor wall panel demolition.
Bottom right: Floor protection and COVID precautions.
Meet the Board
Getting Acquainted with UCLA Faculty Center Board of Governors Members

Member-at-Large Bob Freel

Meet the Board, a new Faculty Center News feature, will introduce a Board of Governors member each month. This month we talk to Board Member-at-Large, Robert (Bob) Freel.

He was interviewed over Zoom by fellow Member-at-Large, Wendy Fujinami. Wendy is the Manager for the Department of Asian American Studies. This is her first year on the Faculty Center BOG.

Bob is the Access Service Manager for the Arts, Music, and Powell Libraries, and has been a Club member for twenty years. This is his second year serving as a Member-at-Large on the BOG.

WF: Tell us about why you joined the Faculty Center.

RBF: After lunching with colleagues a few times, I asked about joining. It is always a peaceful and elegant place for lunch, and it certainly is convenient.

WF: Do you have a favorite memory or event at the Faculty Center?

RBF: Several! Before I was a member, I used to work for a director who would take the team to the FC for a celebratory lunch. She was very generous and we felt very special.

WF: Since the Faculty Center has been closed this year, what do you miss the most?

RBF: I miss lunches with my colleagues! I miss the Faculty Center serving staff. They are always professional and personable. I miss an occasional after-work cocktail in the Playa Lounge. I look forward to coming back to campus and having important face-to-face meetings with friends and colleagues at the FC.

WF: Why did you join the Faculty Center Board of Governors?

RF: It is a pivotal and exciting time for the Faculty Center. Funding from the campus, donors, and members allows the FC to renovate and update facilities and systems. The FC is going to be better than ever and now seemed like a good time to join the Board.

WF: Anything else you want to add?

RBF: Occasional celebrity sightings at the Faculty Center are always cool! For example, Andrea Ghez—before winning the Nobel Prize in Physics (I recognized her from PBS science shows), Michael Dukakis (former Massachusetts governor and 1988 Democratic presidential candidate), Chancellor Chuck Young, and Val Zavala (longtime KCET host).
Cook with us
At-Home Tailgate Party

The Pac-12 announced its 2020 football schedule featuring a seven-game Conference-only lineup starting Saturday, November 7 and ending the weekend of December 18-19 with the Pac-12 Football Championship Game. What better time to create an at-home tailgate party to celebrate? Here are a few recipes to get your watch party up and running!

**FC Classic Cheeseburger**
*A good classic cheeseburger recipe from our GM*

Lightly mix 16 ounces 80/20 ground beef chuck with two big pinches of kosher salt and ground pepper. Form into four balls, then into 1-inch-thick patties. Heat a nonstick pan over medium-high heat. Cook each burger 4 to 5 minutes per side. Top with 2 slices cheddar in the last minute of cooking (cover to melt). Serve on a soft bun.

Add kosher dill pickles, thinly sliced red onion and beef steak tomato, butter lettuce, Julie’s Tomato Catsup (see recipe), mustard and mayo.

Or you can go another route, adding BBQ sauce, caramelized onions, slow roasted tomatoes, onion rings, roasted poblano chili stuffed with queso fresco. You can make both a double—just add another patty!

Add some onion rings as a great side and use Spicy Chipotle Mayonnaise (see recipe) as a dip or as mayo for the burgers.

**Spicy Chipotle Mayonnaise**
*Source: thespruceeats.com*

3/4 cup mayonnaise
2 chipotle peppers in adobo (finely chopped)
1 green onion (finely chopped)
1 tablespoon cilantro (finely chopped)
1 teaspoon freshly squeezed lime juice
1 small clove garlic (pressed and mashed into a paste)

In a small bowl combine the mayonnaise, chipotle peppers, green onion, cilantro, lime juice, and garlic; blend well. Cover and refrigerate until serving time.

**Julie’s Homemade Tomato Catsup**
*Board President Julie Kwan’s own recipe*

2 cups tomato paste (3 6-ounce cans)
3 cups distilled white vinegar
2 cups sugar
2½ tablespoons salt
½ teaspoon garlic powder
½ teaspoon onion powder
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
⅛ teaspoon allspice
⅛ teaspoon nutmeg
1 cup light corn syrup

Put all ingredients into a large pot (Julie uses a 5-qt stock pot). Whisk ingredients together. Bring to a boil, and then keep it at a slightly rolling boil for 35 minutes, whisking every once in awhile until the catsup turns a dark red. Any foam on the top will disappear when the catsup is done. Cool and bottle. Keep one bottle in the refrigerator and freeze the others until needed.

Makes 2½ 16-ounce bottles.

*Note from Julie: This recipe was adapted from one received from Chef Andre Guerrero when Max Restaurant closed.*

Pac-12 Game Schedule
FWC News
Meet Lori Bettison-Varga, PhD

UCLA FACULTY WOMEN’S CLUB
Second General Meeting Webinar
Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 1:30 PM

Join the FWC for a Zoom experience with special guest Lori Bettison-Varga, PhD, President and Director, Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County (NHMLAC), who happily rescheduled her COVID-canceled April date.

She will address current challenges and exciting developments at the LA County museums, including the newest exhibit, A Century of Votes for Women: Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Passing of the 19th Amendment.

You must register in advance for this virtual November General Meeting at https://ucla.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0tduyqrz0uGNI5vWMm3x4J_irvs9QthkJ5
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

ERRC Events
Staying Connected

The Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center, UCLA Healthcare Facilitator, and CHR retirement counselors will host Open Enrollment presentations for retirees on the following dates:

Tuesday, November 10, 1pm–3pm
Medicare only: https://ucla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zkq6XQC_QbSoVwnUfcKaVQ

Friday, November 13, 10am–12pm
Non-Medicare: https://ucla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tg7YkH3vQBW5ToHX-UmpYg

Tuesday, November 17, 10am–12pm
Medicare only: https://ucla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qziBLbiEoC6W3OuiTb4_9Q

Thursday, November 19, 1pm–3pm
Non-Medicare & Medicare Combined Session: https://ucla.zoom.us/webinar/register/ WN_CqyIakXZQY0IXSYOe5Ieg

Coming up exclusively for faculty in early 2021: A two-workshop series about the nuts and bolts of the retirement process and opportunities for continued involvement after retirement.

Play Readers
Upcoming Play Reading Schedule

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, friedlander.marjorie@gmail.com

To be added to their mailing list, or to become a reader, please email the chair Rochelle Caballero at rrca09272@cs.com

Scene from In the Shadow of the Glen, by J.M. Synge.
Photo: Kathy Gail MacGowan

Play Readers’ Schedule

November 12th: In the Shadow of the Glen and Riders to the Sea, two one-act plays by J.M. Synge

January 14th: Macbeth by William Shakespeare

February 11th & possibly 18th: An Ideal Husband by Oscar Wilde
In Memoriam
Remembering UCLA Faculty & Faculty Center Members

Toshi Ashikaga (December 29, 1917-October 20, 2020)

Toshi Shimizu was born December 29, 1917, in the city of Isleton, in Sacramento County. She attended local schools and in high school attended a private girl’s school in Hiroshima, Japan.

In 1940, she met and married Ensho Ashikaga. Ensho taught Japanese and Tibetan Buddhism at UC Berkeley from 1937-1942. Then the family relocated to University of Colorado, where he taught Japanese to students for the US Navy. Their two oldest sons, Yoshi and Taka, were born during World War II. Their third son, Hisa, was born in 1947 after Ensho returned to UC Berkeley. Ensho was recruited to UCLA in 1947 to serve as co-founder of the then Department of Oriental Languages, now the Department of Asian Languages and Culture. Ensho died in 1984, and her son Hisa became her constant aide and chauffeur. If you have seen Toshi at the Faculty Center, you have probably seen her with Hisa.

In 1998, Toshi and I became friends at the annual Emeriti Association Art Show held in the Faculty Center. Toshi’s flower arrangements were crucial to the Art Show. At 7:30 am the day of the show, Toshi would appear bearing armfuls of flowers and greenery. Her son, Hisa, carried the vases. Hisa would help any artist who needed a hand. Toshi’s beautiful arrangements were a signature feature of the event. She made a floral arrangement for each artist as well as for the California Room entry table. Toshi became synonymous with the Art Show.

For many years, Toshi served as family representative to her husband’s Ashikaga Family Temple in Japan, making summer trips to Sakai, near Osaka. She maintained this responsibility until a couple of years ago.

Toshi was asked by the Emeriti Association Board Chair to oversee the care of the Emeriti Book Exchange located in the Library/Billiards Room of the Faculty Center. Tasks included receiving and shelving books. The yearly culling of all books unread that year were counted and donated. Every June, her distinguished cleanup crew were rewarded for their labors with tea and elegant Japanese refreshments.

Toshi attended many luncheons and events at the Faculty Center. She attended the Merry Widow dinners, the Circle of Friends lunches, and cultural offerings. The Emeriti Association After-Lunch lectures were never missed. She found time on occasion to attend plays and concerts, and enjoyed many Faculty Women’s Club activities. She was an active member of the Birding Section, and Galleries & Sights. Toshi had little time for illness. Amid health issues in her 90s, she remained positive and responded so well to treatments that she astounded her doctors. She was an inspiration to her friends and served as an example of strength and fortitude when facing life’s challenges.

More recently, Toshi took part in the strength and balance training offered to Retirees and Emeriti at the Kinross Recreation Center. She was a loyal member of that class. Before the recent shut-down for Covid-19, Toshi was noted as “outstanding” for “keeping the plank.” She was beloved by the group and the instructors. Her gentle sense of humor made anyone feel warmly welcomed.

Toshi Ashikaga was truly a life force. She tended her satsuma tree, she tended her family, she tended her friends. She was a loving, humane person. We are better for knowing Toshi.

—Noël Carterette
In Memoriam
Remembering UCLA Faculty & Faculty Center Members

John Hawkins, Professor Emeritus of Comparative and International Education, GSEIS

John Hawkins, a dedicated scholar, teacher, administrator and champion of global educational opportunities who spent his entire academic career of more than four decades at UCLA, died June 27 in Los Angeles. He was 76.

At the time of his death Hawkins was a professor emeritus of comparative and international education at the UCLA Graduate School of Education & Information Studies (GSEIS). He led UCLA’s International Studies and Overseas Programs — the predecessor of today’s International Institute — from 1985 to 1999, first as associate director, then as acting director and ultimately as dean of international studies.

“John Hawkins was a pioneer in international studies and international exchange,” said Cindy Fan, UCLA’s vice provost for international studies and global engagement, who met Hawkins in the 1990s when he gave her a book on international education.

“He was an extraordinary adviser who cared about his students deeply,” Xu added.

“There is an old saying in the East: Teacher by day, father for life. My heart aches badly every time I try to digest the fact that I have lost my dearest ‘academic father.’”

Born and raised in Sterling, Illinois, Hawkins attended the University of Hawai’i at Manoa, where he received his bachelor’s degree in Asian studies. He went on to earn a master’s in Asian studies from the University of British Columbia and a doctorate in comparative education from Vanderbilt University.

During his undergraduate years, Hawkins became one of the very few Americans to witness the start of China’s Cultural Revolution firsthand, an experience that forever altered the course of his personal and professional life. It was his visit to a Shanghai school for the blind and hearing-impaired that made the greatest impression, as he became fascinated by the common issues facing educators in both China and the United States.

As dean of international studies at UCLA, Hawkins oversaw a growing number of research centers and interdisciplinary programs covering regions in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Latin America, and helped establish several centers devoted to different parts of Asia. His dedication to advancing international exchanges between UCLA and other educational institutions around the world led to many honors.

A prolific scholar, Hawkins wrote or edited nearly 20 books on educational policy and planning in the Asia-Pacific region and penned more than 70 journal articles and book chapters.

Hawkins is survived by his wife of 52 years, Judith, his daughters Marisa and Larina, his granddaughter Katherine, and his sister Susan.

Note: This article was first published by UCLA Newsroom on August 11, 2020, lightly edited here for reasons of space.

To read the tribute by the International Institute, please visit https://www.international.ucla.edu/institute/hawkins