

UCI Emeriti
Association
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Keep on Reading:

▶ **Outstanding Emeritus/a**

Award call for 2020 UCIEA
Outstanding Emeritus/a Award

▶ **Emeriti Spotlight**

Read about UCI Emeriti/ae
achievements

▶ **Health Care Webinar**

A review of the UCIEA Maximizing
Health Care Later in Life
Webinar series

▶ **COVID-19 Vaccine**

Read Professor Emeritus Stuart
Krassner's thoughts on the
COVID-19 vaccine

UCI Emeriti Association Newsletter



President's Letter - G. Miller

Happy New Year to all emeriti and emeritae! I hope you are managing to stay healthy in these trying times and have been following us by reading our quarterly UCI Emeriti Association (UCIEA) Newsletter (all back issues available on-line at <https://sites.uci.edu/emeriti/newsletters>).

Some details are below, but first, the bottom line: **please join/rejoin the UCIEA and pay our modest dues in order to support our advocacy work on behalf of all emeriti/ae and keep our mostly volunteer organization going.** Our membership year runs from January – December, so it is time to renew for anyone who pays annually or has paid a multi-year membership that has expired. A few of you are already “Life-time Members” and I thank you for that, but please consider adding a donation to keep us going or to contributing to our newly established dissertation scholarship for deserving UCI graduate students.

UCI has about 535 emeriti/ae. The current paid membership of the UCI Emeriti Association is about 150. Hence, the large majority of UCI emeriti/ae are getting the benefits of our organization's efforts without contributing. I ask you to consider submitting the modest dues to help UCIEA function, during our annual membership drive, which is NOW. You may join or rejoin for one year or multiple years online at: <http://www.connect.uci.edu/UCIEADues>. You may also print out the membership form attached and mail it with a check.

UCIEA, has, as its core goals, protecting your interests, promoting opportunities for your engagement with the campus, and providing activities you might enjoy. If you want more details about all that, read on...

This past year, in spite of the highly unusual turn of events, **UCIEA has continued to be a diligent and strong advocate of emeriti/ae benefits and interests** in the UC system and on campus.

We have remained active in discussions about revisions to UC health and other benefits that are now being considered and may affect current and/or future retirees. We have constantly called attention to serious shortcomings in the new online systems for retirees (UCRAYS) and for those entering retirement (UCRASC).

Sadly, we have been unable to continue our face to face meetings with Deans regarding their engagement and support of emeriti/ae. However we monitor their newsletters for snippets about their emeriti/ae.

We extended the complimentary parking for general parking spaces in any

campus lot to all UCIEA members in 2020. However, the pandemic temporarily solved any parking issues as enforcement of parking on campus has ceased since March. We continue in our newsletters to spotlight emeriti/ae accomplishments and keep you updated on those sadly leaving us in an In Memorium section.

Last year we selected Professor Emeritus Ken Baldwin of Physiology and Biophysics for our 2019 Outstanding Emeritus/a Award, and were able to honor him in person before the virus committed us to Zoom. We encourage nominations for future awards to emeriti/ae making names for themselves and the campus in retirement!

Bill Parker, who is our part-time Faculty Retirement Liaison, is available to provide assistance regarding all aspects of "the system" to those faculty who are retired or are thinking of retiring. He may be contacted at whparker@uci.edu.

Together with the Center for Emeriti & Retirees (CER) and the UCI Retirees Association (a separate organization for non-Academic Senate retirees as well as faculty retirees), we promote events of interest. A few activities have managed to survive, safely distanced and masked. These include local hikes, bikes, and lectures. We also co-hosted the annual Emeriti-Retirees Reception in October, when hundreds of retirees zoomed in for a talk and Q&A with Chancellor Gillman.

We are especially proud to sponsor **Maximizing Health Care Later in Life** series of four lectures of much benefit to all retirees. If you missed zooming in please be aware

that they are all available for viewing on-line at <https://sites.uci.edu/emeriti/>.

Emeriti/ae were the sole Zoom invitees to this year's enjoyable event hosted by the Graduate Division, that featured presentations by the best of our Grad Slam graduate students about their leading-edge research, followed by an interesting Q & A. To further support UCI's graduate program, our association is sponsoring a partial graduate scholarship for one or more students who need extra support in the final stages of completing and submitting the thesis.

You are invited to Zoom in to any of our Executive Committee meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month where we discuss how we may continue to support all emeriti/ae at UCI. The Center for Emeriti & Retirees (CER) can provide you with the links (emil.n@uci.edu).

As President, I ask you to step up and join/rejoin UCIEA now! Any additional donations above minimal dues, are most welcome and will all go towards the graduate scholarships mentioned above. Once more, the link is: <http://www.connect.uci.edu/UCIEADues>.

Of course, I welcome your comments, suggestions, queries and value your participation.

George E. Miller
President, UCI Emeriti Association: gemiller@uci.edu

Emeriti Spotlight

We would like to recognize and congratulate the following emeriti/ae on their continued work.

Professor Emeritus Prof. Robert Benny Gerber

of Chemistry, has been awarded Israel Chemical Society's highest honor **ICS Gold Medal** for his fundamental contributions to the structure and dynamics of polyatomic molecular systems and deciphering mechanisms of atmospheric reactions.

Click here to read more: <https://www.chemistry.org.il/ics-medal>

