

ALAN WADE

President's Corner

by Alan Wade

This is my first column as successor to the estimable Bob Bess, who is still very much with our growing

association as Immediate Past President. Please join your board members in thanking Bob for getting our proud but creaky organization on a more lively and productive path.

Please note the enclosed information about our annual fall dinner on November 3. Send in your reservation(s) if you haven't already done so. The dinner is one of two annual events we plan so we can enjoy an evening with colleagues, past and present.

Our numbers are growing—our initial call for members this year was sent to more than 1200 emeritus and retired faculty and staff. Returns are currently being processed by our treasurer Les Gabriel, and you will soon be receiving your membership materials if you have sent your dues. In addition to our regular contributions to the university, this year we will be scheduling two events under the Visiting Scholars program designed to encourage a sense of community among retired faculty and staff, and those currently

-serving our present student body (check our website for updates).

Notifying you about these and other events raises the inevitable issue of communication. An increasing number of us are familiar with and prefer the electronic modes—e-mail, and the web. Many others, however, prefer the printed word and posted mail. The challenge for us, as with all membership-based non-profit organizations today, is to attempt to keep in touch with an essentially bifurcated group. Of course, there are others, including yours truly, who see the need for both modes.

We plan to continue with the *Silver*

Bulletin—two issues per year of four pages each. For details, updates, and a greater range of information, please address our very active website at: www.csus.edu/org/emeritus. And, send us your current e-mail address so that, if you prefer, you may receive up to date information on developments in your emeritus association.

Two final items: first, let us know if you would be interested in a class in the use of e-mail and the internet, and, finally, volunteer for service on our Board of Directors.

We meet only twice a year, but we need your energy and ideas as we reach out to more retired Sacramento State people. n

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WEB SITE

www.csus.edu/org/emeritus

Campus Updates

(Excerpts from President Gonzalez' Aug. 31 Fall 06 Welcome provided by Sac State's Public Affairs Office)

We have officially begun our 60th year of instruction, something that we and the community can all celebrate. We are still the only comprehensive four-year university in the state's capital city, and we have been a major factor in transforming the culture and economy of the region. Our thousands of graduates, our impact on business and in the arts, and the applied research we provide have helped shape this city and region. The Sacramento of today would be incomprehensible if not for this University.

There are great things happening. Let me share a few with you. Thanks to the leadership of the faculty, especially George Craft, the university has a new Honors Program in place that will be directed by Professor Roberto Pomo. Student interest in the program has been very high and, in fact, we have already raised the first scholarship for the program. By the way, the scholarship is worth \$16,000 for the year.

A group comprised of members of our faculty, representatives from the community colleges, and K-12, has been hard at work this summer developing the doctorate in educational leadership that was authorized last year. This degree will make us one of the first of the CSU campuses to begin offering an independent doctorate. With the group's

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Travel Notes: Inuit People

By Peter Shattuck

Inuit people, beginning their diaspora east from Siberia, moved across the northern rim of land until they reached the west coast of Greenland and crashed against the Greenland Ice Cap. Over thousands of years, they developed a way of life based on the cold, the ice, the desperately scarce resources. In July, we visited Baffin Island and western Greenland, saw how the people had lived and live now, and came away awed by their incredible adaptability.

Before European contact, Eastern Inuit depended on the caribou, on land, and seals, walrus, and even whales from the sea. They traversed astonishing distances with dog-sleds during the winter and in kayaks and umiaks when the sea ice retreated in the short summer. Their houses, built of stone and sod and whale bone frames, kept out the Arctic cold. They competed with polar bears, often losing fatally. And they lived

in a world crowded with spirits, many good, but most of them malevolent. At an abandoned whaling station off Baffin Island, we toured an old burying place; the stones covering the skeletal remains left a gap for the spirit of the dead to escape.

Now their descendants live in modern houses in Iqaluit and Pangnirtung and Ilulisat and Uummannaq

and Kangerlussuaq, use Jeeps to hunt caribou and motorboats to hunt seals; they buy most of their food at the supermarket. Still, in some small settlements, the old ways survive along with the new. Kangerluk is a settlement of thirty-three people at the head of Disko Fjord. Visitors coming ashore in Zodiacs encounter the major protein source of the village, a ten-foot by twenty foot drying rack, festooned with orange Arctic char and reddish-orange-blackish seal carcasses, in varying stages of dessication between freshly oozing and comfortably dried. Nailed to one upright hangs a dead raven, placed there as a warning to other would-be thieves.

But 13 of the inhabitants are school children, and we looked at the school. Clean and modern, it included two computers for the pupils and one for the teacher. And on the bookshelves, among all the Greenlandic titles with their double letters and their numerous "qs", I suddenly saw one English title: "Harry Potter"! (The subtitle was in Greenlandic.)

If you don't accept the reality of global warming, don't go to Greenland. Average temperatures have risen by 2.7 degrees over the past 30 years; the area of permanent sea ice shrunk by 14 percent between 2004 and 2005; and the great Greenland Ice Cap has retreated by five miles in the past three years. (Al Gore has ample documentation of these changes.) Caribou can't find food, and polar bears are starving. Will the Inuit survive? – I don't know. n

In Memoriam

Robert F. Jarecke, Media Center, September 2006

Boris Kaufman, Engineering, July 2006

Karl Openshaw, Education, August 2006

Barbara Schmidt, Education, May 2006

Patricia Sonntag, Student Services, June 2006

John Van Gigch, Business, August 2006

For further details, please check our website: www.csus.edu/org/emeritus.

A Note from Bob Bess

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

How often have you heard it said that volunteers get no credit for their work? Here is a case where the opposite is true. During my time as President, I have received countless expressions of thanks from our membership, much of it which I have shared with colleagues who have been equally responsible for making things work. Since my presi-

dency concluded in June, the notes have increased. Again, I say thank you for your thoughtfulness.

My efforts in behalf of the Association grew out of a deeply held view that emeriti are a special part of the campus community. This view has been tangibly supported by the University and I anticipate that will continue as Alan Wade serves as our leader and spokesperson. If

you share our belief, please consider how you might play a more active role. Last year's by-law changes created additional positions on our board. If you are interested in serving, please let any board member know.

I look forward to seeing you on Friday, November 3 at our annual dinner. It will be a special evening. Peace to all. n
—Bob Bess, Past President

FALL DINNER

Emeritus Association Fall Dinner

Friday, November 3, 2006—Alumni Center
No host reception at 6:00 p.m.
Dinner and entertainment to follow.

*a vegetarian option will be available upon request
(see reservation form)

Annual Fall Dinner November 3

Join us on Nov. 3 for our annual fall dinner at the Alumni Center. Reception begins at 6 pm, with dinner and entertainment following. Your menu choices are filet mignon demi-glace and vegetarian vol a vent. Both choices include salad, fruit tart, coffee and wine. Price is \$30 including tax and gratuity. There

will be a no-host bar during the reception. Please indicate your menu choice(s) and return the reservation form to Les Gabriel, 817 Commons Drive, Sacramento 95825. Remember to include your payment of \$30 per person. If you have not yet paid your dues, please include the appropriate dues amount as well. n

RESERVATION FORM

YES! I will attend the annual fall Emeritus Association dinner on November 3, 2006.

Name _____

Street Address / P.O. Box _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Guest Name (s) _____

Menu choices follow. Indicate number for each:

_____ Filet Mignon demi-glace

_____ Vegetarian Vol a vent

Dinner, each person: \$30

I will be bringing _____ guests @ \$30 each = \$ _____

I am also including my annual dues of \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Return form with check made out to the Sacramento State Emeritus Association to Lester Gabriel, 817 Commons Drive, Sacramento, CA 95825-6655. Deadline for reservations is October 30, 2006.

Campus Update

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good work and the proper review and consultation by the Faculty Senate, the first cohort of students should begin the program next fall.

You probably noticed a lot of construction on campus. We are in the process not only of construction, but also upgrading our infrastructure. To put it mildly, there will be more than the usual difficulties with parking when students return. The spring will be better, when the new parking structure is completed, but this fall will be difficult. So if you are able, please consider leaving your car at home. You can find a variety of commute choices on the University's website. I'm glad to say that next year will be different and I won't have to

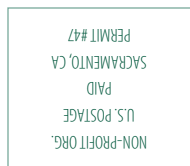
make the usual disclaimers that I do about parking.

Just last week, we broke ground on the Broad Athletic Facility, which is the first project in the Alex G. Spanos Sports and Recreation Complex. The programming has also been completed for the Recreation, Wellness and Events Center portion of the Complex, and the architects are at work on designs. Construction should begin in early 2008.

The new bookstore and parking garage are developing rapidly. You may have also noticed that we have begun installing new student-designed way-finding signs which I know many of you will appreciate and which are very important

as we seek to become a more welcoming campus. And, as I mentioned, private support has nearly tripled to about \$16.3 million in the last year which will allow us to begin to provide a level of support for excellence not afforded to us with state funding.

As I've done each year since I've been here, I pledge to you that I will continue to work as hard as possible for you and this institution. We are moving forward and, together, we'll be able to make Sacramento State truly a destination campus. I'm asking you, each of you, to join with me, to work with me in making this campus the best it can be for you and our students. n



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