PAUL ADAMIAN AND OREGON’S LOYALTY OATH
...continued from five

of the Republican-controlled legislature” and leader of the previous year’s unsuccess ful attempt to change the oath by leg islative action. After consulting with Branchfield, Hal helped form a “war council” composed of six faculty members who were either sympa thetic to the issues or were ACLU mem bers. The council laid out a strategy in three parts: 1) try to get the oath thrown out in the courts, 2) help Adamian keep his job during the testing in the courts, and 3) keep the college and state system of higher education from getting in trouble with the public over the issue.” Early on the “war council” concluded that its best chance for achieving a success ful resolution was to “keep the matter an ‘abstract issue’ rather than merely a ‘personal issue’ . . . ; as much as possible, Adamian’s role was to merely be a name used to test the legality of the oath.”

The “war council” had help from unlike ly allies. Though the chancellor’s office, and the attorney-general’s office were re quired to enforce the law, they private ly believed it to be a bad one. Thus they quietly “cooperated with us in an effort to keep it from becoming a public issue” while the legality of the oath was determined in the courts. Ed Branchfield believed that “in light of recent U. S. Supreme Court rulings . . . the oath would not with stand a testing in the courts.” Hal recalls that President Stevenson and Dean McGill were unsophisticated about the weakness of the State’s position, thus were “always endangering the course of events through bald threats and warnings directly to Adamian. We would then have to work to keep matters on an imperson al level and re-impress on McGill and Stevenson that they had no case as it was only a matter of time until this would be established—and that it was up to them to be cooperative and helpful (e.g., not, as they had threatened, to bar Adamian from the campus).”

An Anticlimactic End The attorney-general finally pushed for an expedited hearing. The hearing was closed, and heard in an Eugene court. The oath was quietly declared unconstitutional. The issue ended with a whimper rather than a bang. Hal takes satisfac tion in how the case was resolved: “I feel that our success in getting the law struck down without the public even knowing it was being tested over a period of several months, our success in seeing that Adamian’s job was not lost in the process (and his back pay came through as anticipated), etc., was largely due to my efforts and foresight.”

PRESIDENT CULLINAN TO SPEAK AT FALL LUNCHEON

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outhern Oregon University’s new president, Mary Cullinan, will be the featured speaker at the Fall Term’s annual Emeritus Luncheon. This will be an excellent opportunity for re tired faculty and associate members to hear what she has to say about her vision for the University and her initial impres sions of SOU.

The luncheon, free as always, will be held November 10th (Friday) at 12:00 noon in the Rogue River Room, Stevenson Union. Mark it on your cal endar and plan to come. RSVP’s should reach Jean Stallman by Nov. 6 (Monday) at the latest. You may contact her by e-mail (preferred): stallman@edu or by calling (541) 552 6699. You may also use the Emeritus Information Feature on the Emeritus Faculty Website: http://emeritus.sou.edu.

There will be a very brief business meet ing during which ballots will be distrib uted and a vote taken on Revision of the Association’s Guidelines (see the middle pages of this Newsletter for details). ▲

EMERITUS NEWS

N
iel and Judy Kunze have chosen to leave Ashland and move to McMinnville. Their roots are in the Portland area, and they wish to be closer to their children and relatives.

Of interest to many Emeriti will be a book by Dennis Powers, recently retired from the School of Business where he taught Business Law. The book, The Treasure Ship, treats the tragic 1865 sinking of the ship “S. S. Brother Jonathan” off the Crescent City, California coast and sub sequent salvage efforts.
A DELUXE ELDERTOASTER: A WEEK IN THE GREEK ISLANDS

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By Ed Hangerford

less visited. Since holiday celebrations for Greek Independence Day turned out great crowds in local villages, we witnessed parades and marching bands of school children. (No military stuff for these island marching groups.)

Ashore in Small Boats We next went to Santorini, where the ship must tie up at anchor while passengers are taken off to shore in small boats. As many travelers already know, the harbor at very touristy Santorini consists of the watery crater made from an explosion of a volcano at least as large as Oregon’s Mount Mazama which created Crater Lake. When this happened, about 1500 B.C., it destroyed the Minoan settlements not only on Santorini, but also on nearby Thera, and these island marching groups.

The highlight of the trip, if you think in terms of ancient Greece and its famed nobility of landscape. Sixteen weeks later he finally took his grievance to the Chancellor’s office, testifying to the unfairness of his dismissal. He subsequently received an abject apology from Stevenson, saying only that he had reconsidered his earlier termination letter. “I see no ‘grounds nor reason to adhere to the provisions of my letter to you dated June 28, 1966 ... I wish to ask your forgiveness for the emotional disturbances and disrupted relationships which have inconvenienced and plagued you.”

LOSSES

With sadness we record the recent deaths of six members of the campus community.

Full obituary notices are posted under “Losses” on the Emeritus website: emeritus.sou.edu.

Ann Thomas (Journalism) Ann died July 6, 2006 at the age of 73. Working as a journalist most of her life, she served as SOSC’s News Services Director and taught journalism courses. While in Ashland she was also a member of our Women’s Club. She was personally an attractive and vivacious man, obviously intelligent and socially adept.” Initially Bob was an Adamian supporter, admiring him for his principled refusal to sign the State’s mandated loyalty oath. (Any teacher in the state system not signing would not be paid his salary). Bob’s opinion of Adamian gradually changed as the turmoil surrounding him intensified and he began to question how he could support the man. Sixteen weeks later he finally took his grievance to the Chancellor’s office, testifying to the unfairness of his dismissal. He subsequently received an abject apology from Stevenson, saying only that he had reconsidered his earlier terminal letter. “I see no ‘grounds nor reason to adhere to the provisions of my letter to you dated June 28, 1966 ... I wish to ask your forgiveness for the emotional disturbances and disrupted relationships which have inconvenienced and plagued you.”

Behind the Scenes

cos and restaurants; but more recently still is (we are told) full of night life, дискo and bars, as well as museums and ruined temples. Fields and lots of walking for the tourist. Fields and lots of colorful wildflowers were in bloom. Since there are no residences, nor any villages, you feel somewhat awed by the natural scene itself—great purity and nobility of landscape.

Ashore in Small Boats

By Ed Hangerford

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Behind the Scenes

Hal Cloer was perhaps more aware than any faculty member of the connections between Adamian, the ACLU, and the demise of the loyalty oath. Adamian approached Hal and asked if he would be willing to contact the ACLU of Oregon (Hal was a member) and see if it would help him keep his job. ACLU’s Board met and decided to take on the case. Hal himself sought counsel from Eric Allen, editor of the Medford Mail Tribune. Allen suggested that he contact Ed Branchfield, an influential local attorney, as well as “bead

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