





*Conferences/Senior Programs  
Southern Oregon University  
1250 Siskiyou Blvd.  
Ashland, Oregon 97520*

## **Up and Running: The Emeritus Faculty Website, from Project A**

Until now SOU Emeritus faculty have had no easy way to stay in touch with one another, get Emeritus news, or be notified of upcoming events. That has changed with the launching of a new Website. The site, provided by Project A, an Ashland-based software and Internet technology company, features an award winning technology. It permits faculty volunteers to keep information on the Site fresh and timely.

Building upon technology originally developed for the local government market, Project A's "Site In a Box" lets volunteers, regardless of programming abilities, log in and add information at the push of a button. Using sophisticated tools, the Website is designed to grow as the requirements of the organization grow.

The site provides an easy way to post news releases. It also offers an email subscription feature that automatically notifies members when new content is added, and a member directory which can include contact and biographical information.

Please visit the site at <http://www.sou.edu/emergitus>. While there you can view John Mairs' "The Changing Face of Geography" as he originally wrote it. Space limitations made it necessary to edit and abridge it for the Newsletter. ▲

## **PROVOST POSITIVE ABOUT EMERITUS ROLE**

In late December Neil Kunze, Emeritus Professor of History, and Jim Dean, Emeritus Professor of English, met with Earl Potter, new VP of Academic Affairs, to discuss the relationship between the Institution and its retired faculty. Potter stated emphatically that the University must have a reputation of serving and honoring those who have served it long and well.

He also believes that ways of strengthening the bond between emeriti and the

University need to be explored by the Emeritus Council and the administration. A vision of the relationship should be described in a document that would specify what core activities are essential to promote good will. It will be important to recognize past achievement and to make retired faculty aware of the needs and aspirations of the University itself.

Plans are for Provost Potter to have a sustained conversation with the Council about these matters during Spring term. ▲

## **REMEMBER WHEN**

- The Department of English, in 1966, had twenty-five faculty members but only three with doctorates? Ten of the faculty were new, and none part time.
- The shooting of four students at Kent State led to repeated raising and lowering of the flag in front of Churchill Hall, and finally a confrontation between protesters and football players?
- Publishing houses were extraordinarily liberal in sending examination copies of potential textbooks?
- In the late 60s and early 70s faculty confidently expected SOC's enrollment to quickly double from 4,000 to 8,000, and a host of graduate programs to arise?
- "Relevance" was a catch-word, and there was a sense among at least some faculty that what they taught was largely irrelevant to the major concerns of the day (the war in Viet Nam, racial and social injustice, and alternate lifestyles)?
- In 1965 The Faculty Council, a precursor of the Faculty Senate, resigned en masse? ▲

*(Emeritus faculty are encouraged to submit their own memories of past events for inclusion either in the Newsletter or the Emeritus Web Page.)*

SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY  
**Emeritus** NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2004

## International Students in Spotlight at Luncheon

A potpourri of cuisine, fashion, culture, and conversation from around the world highlight the Winter Emeritus Luncheon, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm on Friday, March 5 in the Rogue River Room of Stevenson Union. Students in the International Cultural Scholarship Program (ICSP) at SOU will share insights into their cultures. In keeping with the theme of the event, you are invited to wear your favorite international attire.

A menu prepared by Mike Brown and the SOU Food Services staff in partnership with the ICSP students will reflect the cuisine of the students' countries. The students will first serve the buffet style luncheon, then join emeriti at tables for further interaction. A fashion show and panel discussion featuring the students will round out the activities. Make your reservations before Monday, March 1 to attend this \$15 a plate gourmet gala. ▲

## Dan Bulkley, Health and PE Exemplar

By Hal Cloer

Last Fall Dan Bulkley had two vertebra fused and screwed together to eliminate the sciatica that had kept him, in 2002, from defending his various championships (U. S., 23 track, 22 cross-country skiing, 11 badminton, 5 decathlon; World, 13 track, 9 cross-country skiing, 1 badminton). Dan holds world records in the 300 M hurdles for ages 70-74, 75-79, and 80-84—as well as in the 2K steeplechase for these age groups. He's just paid his deposit for the Lillehammer, Norway, cross-country ski competition March 1.

Over the past 17 years, starting at age 70, Dan's age-group competition has taken him and wife Marjorie to 10 foreign countries, from Finland to Japan, and to much of the U. S. Dan's awards are literally too numerous to describe (90 gold medals, 44 silvers, 15 bronzes). They have led to his being named to four Halls of Fame (US Masters Track and field, USA Seniors Badminton, Pomona College, and SOU).

*A Late Starter* Remarkably, until Dan arrived in the U. S. In 1934, as a senior at Claremont High School, he had not participated in competitive sports—and, coming from Thailand, certainly not in skiing. During his Claremont year he participated in football, basketball, baseball, track and tennis. At Pomona College he was captain of the tennis team and lettered in track and football—as an all-conference end, at 139 pounds.

*Asian Roots* Dan was born in Bangkok, Thailand, in 1917. His father was a missionary doctor who established and ran a hospital in southern Thailand. Dan's mother was a 19 year-old teacher in a

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*Please Join Us For Winter Term's...*

### EMERITUS FACULTY INTERNATIONAL LUNCHEON

Friday, March 5, 2004

11:30 am to 1:30 pm



To make Reservations:

E-Mail (preferred): Stallman@sou.edu

Or telephone: (541) 552-6699

Or Use the Reservation form on  
<http://emeritus.sou.edu/>

Make checks out to SOU

**Reservation Deadline: March 1, 2004**



# THE CHANGING FACE OF GEOGRAPHY

By John Mairs

(The following piece by John Mairs is the first in a series of essays from Emeritus faculty members from the School of Social Science, Education, Health and Physical Education treating major changes in departments and disciplines. —Neil Kunze, Emeritus Professor of History)

I was hired at SOSOC in 1978 after being a researcher on NASA grants for four years at Oregon State University. I had also taught cartography, air photo interpretation, and map analysis at Western Washington State College. The Geography Department's hiring of me reflected the faculty's recognition of significant changes occurring in the discipline.

**The U-2 Connection** NASA released U-2 spy plane photography and satellite imagery for "unclassified" use in the early 1970s and promoted accelerated "technology transfer" through American universities. Remote sensing of earth's surface, the acquisition of satellite digital imagery, analysis of growing masses of data, and demand for computer-aided research and instruction were on the rise. Although SOSOC's mission precluded the kind of research done at large research universities, faculty saw the need for someone with background in these areas.

**Shifting Perceptions** A positive shift in the public perception of Geography has occurred. The National Geographic Society increased public awareness of geography beginning in the mid 80s, working to establish "Geographic Alliances" among educators in many states, including Oregon. Presidential commissions evaluated the educational state of the country, emphasizing academic areas deemed critical to quality education. Listed right up there with English, mathematics, history, and general science was geography.

Changes in perception and application of geographic knowledge reflected a changing world: expanded global economic and political interaction, increased concern for, and regulation of, the phys-

ical environment and natural resources, availability of massive data bases and an explosion of technology, and the burgeoning complexity of decision making processes.

**Program Changes at Southern** Geography has added upper division courses in tourism, global livelihoods, geography research methods, quantitative geographic analysis, remote sensing, geographic information systems, field methods, and geographic regions of the world. Faculty responded to the challenges of global change, international focus, and contemporary technology by building and maintaining a strong, well-rounded degree program. As part of a trend in higher education, the program focussed on effective writing, presentation skills, and quantitative reasoning. The program has been reviewed three times in the past twenty years, the last in 2000. Reviewers and visiting faculty have admired, even envied, the SOU Geography program and its facilities.

**Technology Changes** The tools of the geographer have changed remarkably. When computer-aided analysis of large geographic data bases and remotely sensed digital images are combined with cartographic display of information, the result is one of the most important tools of the computer age, GIS – Geographic Information Systems. GIS was incorporated into the SOU curriculum not only by Geography but by other programs as well.

- Claude Curran, then Dean of the School of Social Science, arranged for the old Geography Laboratory to move to Taylor Hall. Once housed in the bowels of the Music Building, the Lab was situated annoyingly just below the practice rooms, whose emanating noise rattled the exposed heating/cooling ducts.
- In 1992-93 the single Zenith 200 IBM compatible PC (purchased ~ 1985 for nearly \$4,000) was retired and replaced with four "286s." (See a photo on the Emeritus Web Site)

- The first basic "Geographic Information Systems" (GIS) course was offered in 1994. Since then instructional computer hardware and software have gone through at least four generations.

- Recently, the Geography Lab has been transformed into a model satellite computer lab. The University now has a full license to use all ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute), GIS software and data sets for instructional purposes. Hardware in the Geography Lab is near-state of the art.

**Interdisciplinary Emphasis** There is now a more interdisciplinary approach to instruction. Around 1990, during general education reform, faculty debated what courses should be included as "sciences." Unfortunately, this debate was primarily about "territory." The result was academic isolation of departments having a lot to offer students with wide-ranging interests. By the mid-1990s many SOU faculty realized that an interdisciplinary approach for certain departments was desirable, even necessary. A result was an interdisciplinary degree in Environmental Studies (Biology, Chemistry, Geography, and Geology). The program, now directed by Eric Dittmer, is a great success. ▲

## **Emeritus Generosity—Scholarship Fund Exceeds First Year Goal**

Contributions to a newly created Emeritus Scholarship have reached more than \$2000 according to Jeanne Stallman, treasurer of the Emeritus Council and director of SOU's Conferences and Senior Programs. She believes that the "seed" planted for this scholarship will grow and become a significant way Emeriti support students for many years to come. She joins other Emeritus Council members in thanking those who contributed to this fund, and whose generosity helps support other SOU scholarships. ▲

## Losses

In 1623, John Donne wrote these eloquent words: "No man is an Island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main[land]. ...Any man's death diminishes me because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

Emeritus faculty have been diminished by the deaths of three colleagues in recent months: Terry Gaston (Business), Ed Brierty (Business), and Ed Versluis (English). We think it important to acknowledge their passing and their contribution to SOU.

### *Terry Gaston*

Until his untimely death, Oct. 2, 2003, at age 56, Terry had served 18 years as a faculty member in the School of Business. His degrees include an MBA from Harvard and a Ph D from George Washington University. He spent two years in the Peace Corps in Central and South America. Terry served 8 years as director of the Amistad Student Exchange Program with Guanajuato University in Mexico and was an active voice in School and University affairs.

### *Ed Brierty*

Ed died Oct. 18, 2003 at age 78. After a year in the Navy and a twenty year career at Texas Instruments, Ed, at age 51, earned a degree at the University of Chicago as a non traditional student. He became a professor of Marketing in the School of Business after moving to Ashland and taught until he retired at age 75. During his 35 years in industry he was responsible for sales, market research, strategic planning, new product development and promotion, and general management—all important areas in the School's curriculum. While at the University he served as both senator and Chair of the Faculty Senate and for five years represented the University on the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate

### *Ed Versluis*

Ed Versluis, 61, died November 14, 2003 after a courageous battle with cancer. He earned his MA and Ph D degrees from the University of Chicago and joined the Department of English in 1978 after having taught at St Mary's College, Moraga, California from 1968-75. His specialties were Early English Literature, 18th Century British Literature, and World Literature. He served as Acting Director of the Graduate School and was actively involved in contract negotiations as an officer in the Association of Professors. Ed was proud of his contributions overseas, teaching and volunteering in Germany, Poland, Ghana, Mexico, Viet Nam and Thailand. ▲

## SOLIR Seeks Teachers

Retired faculty with a yen to return to a classroom where students are eager to learn and there are no exams to administer are invited to investigate teaching for Southern Oregon Learning In Retirement (SOLIR). Martha McIntyre, President of SOLIR's Council, invites you to get acquainted with the all volunteer organization by dropping by the Campbell Center, 655 Frances Lane. ▲

## Dan Bulkley

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missionary school before her marriage, then a mother of 7 children (5 girls, 2 boys), and now a subject of a recently published book. Dan attended a boarding school in Southern India for 9 years before coming to the U. S.

He, wife Marjorie, and a sister recently visited Dan's hometown in Thailand. The Chinese director of the Hospital begun by Dan's father is the son of Dan's father's assistant. He is also Dan's former childhood playmate. He and other childhood friends hosted them royally.

*WWII: Into the OSS* Dan's Thai background resulted in an exotic WW II experience when he transferred from the U. S. Navy to the OSS. Dan had joined the Navy after Pearl Harbor; he was training recruits as a Navy Chief at the Great Lakes Training Station when his brother (already in the OSS), suggested that Dan apply. He was quickly accepted and sent to Ceylon for training in undercover work in Thailand, then occupied by the Japanese. A scheduled parachute jump into Thailand was aborted while he was over the drop zone; there was Japanese troop activity in the area. Soon after, the American bombing of Hiroshima ended the need for covert operations, and thus his career in the OSS.

*Coming to SOCE* After two years of teaching and coaching (football and track) at Corona High School and completing a master's degree at Claremont Graduate School, in 1950 Dan came to SOCE to coach tennis and teach PE. Over 28 years he started 4 sports teams (tennis, track, cross-country, and skiing) and taught PE and Health classes. Although he passed off the tennis and ski teams to others, he was pleased that his track and cross-country teams won conference and district championships 3 years running. He was instrumental in the development of Ski Ashland, served for 2 years as Ski Patrol Director, and for 25 years as a weekend member of the Patrol.

Dan is a remarkable exemplar of his Health and PE teaching! ▲