GENERAL MEETING:
Wednesday, October 5
St. John’s College
2111 Lower Mall
(partners and guests are welcome)

Agenda

2:50 pm  Business meeting
3:00 pm  **Tom Kirkwood**, CBE, Associate Dean for Ageing, Newcastle Institute for Ageing and Copenhagen University Center for Healthy Aging: “Why Grow Old?”
4:00 pm  Wine & Cheese reception hosted by the Provost and Vice-President Academic

As Director of the Institute for Ageing and Health and then Dean of Ageing at Newcastle University, Professor Kirkwood led the Institute to become the largest on aging in the UK and one of the foremost of its kind in the world. His research has been on the scientific basis of aging and its relationship with age-related disability and disease, including the impact of social and behavioural factors. He has advised the UK government on aspects of population ageing and contributed extensively to shaping public debate through frequent contributions to television, radio, and print media. His books include the award-winning *Time of Our Lives: The Science of Human Aging; Chance, Development and Aging* (with Caleb Finch); *The End of Aging*; and *An Age of Wonders: The Story of the Newcastle 85+ Study* (with Gordon Morris).

Professor Kirkwood is coming to UBC as a *Cecil H. and Ida Green Visiting Professor* and will give three talks on *The New Science of Aging*. The first, “Why and How Are We Living Longer?”, will be presented as a *Vanvouver Institute Lecture* on Saturday, October 1, at 8:15 pm. His second will be a *Green College Public Lecture* at 5:00 pm (reception following) on Tuesday, October 4, entitled “How Close Are We to Discovering the “Secret of Eternal Youth”? We’re honoured that Prof. Kirkwood will present a third lecture, “Why Grow Old?”, at our first UBCAPE general meeting of the 2016-17 academic year. Members are welcome and encouraged to attend all three lectures.

“Why Grow Old?” will deal with the hypothesis that aging is a genetically programmed “sacrifice” of the individual to free up living space for offspring and aid evolution by promoting the turnover of generations. Prof. Kirkwood will argue that this hypothesis, while attractive, is wrong: The more we learn about the diversity of aging across the species, the more we understand about why some animals live longer than others, why dietary restriction sometimes (but not always) extends life, and why some species exhibit a pattern of reproduction called “big bang”, closely followed by death. Answering “why grow old?” leads to deep insights into the root causes of this most mysterious process.

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A Letter from our President

The goal of our Association is to foster the relationship between emeritus Professors, Librarians and Academic Administrators on the one hand, and UBC on the other, and to promote the interests and welfare of our members. Many people help us achieve this goal, and I would like to thank all of them, including members of our Executive and committees, and those who help organize our various events. I would also like to recognize the critically important support of the Provost, with whom we have a memorandum of understanding, and who provides us with office space and pays the salary of our excellent Administrative Assistant, Sandra van Ark.

The Association is doing a good job in achieving its objectives, but there is an opportunity for us to improve things in two closely related areas: the transition process when faculty retire, and the relationship faculty have with the University after retirement.

This is a good time to press for improvements in these areas. Next year will be the tenth anniversary of the end of mandatory retirement, and the ill feelings that it sometimes engendered in retiring faculty, and the University’s financial and other concerns when it ended, should now be firmly in the past. And we have a new president who has acknowledged the important role of emeriti. In an email to the university community, Professor Ono said he will “… embrace our professors emeriti, who have much to offer the university.”

Emeriti at UBC make substantial financial, teaching and service contributions to the University. Studies in Canada and the US have shown that, post-retirement, many faculty continue to be active scholars, often securing significant grant funding and contributing to their own reputation and standing, as well as that of their university. An inventory of emeriti activity at the University of California, presented at a recent AROHE conference, was titled “A Virtual Eleventh Campus”, to recognize that if the work summarized were transposed into a college catalog, “it would reveal the outlines of a virtual university”. A survey by Bernie Shizgal in February, 2016
showed that emeriti at UBC are no less active in research and scholarly activity.

I hope we can work with senior administrators at UBC, including the President, to address the need for an improved transition at retirement, greater support for emeriti, and a stronger relationship between emeriti and the University. One idea, borrowed from other universities, is to create an administrative entity, perhaps called an Elder College, which emeriti could join. This could help emeriti maintain an ongoing relationship with the University, and give us a recognized place within the university community. Active scholars might be designated “Senior Professors” in this college. Membership of an Elder College might also help us clarify that all emeriti are covered by liability insurance when they are active in the University.

At UBC, while some emeriti are given office space and other support by their departments, many who continue their scholarship do so in spite of a lack of financial and other support from the University. We have proposed that research funding should be available to emeriti who are active scholars, as it is at some other universities, but to date this proposal has not been accepted.

We would like to ensure that the records of emeriti are maintained in the appropriate administrative systems, so we are included on faculty and departmental websites, and can continue (if we wish) to receive messages intended for the university community, such as the broadcast email from our new President, which I have quoted from above, but which I didn’t receive.

We are working on a proposal to the Administration to permit retiring faculty to remain enrolled, at their expense, in the Extended Health Care Plan for Faculty, up to the age of 72 (the age when all faculty have to move to a different plan). This would make the transition to retirement smoother for many faculty.

These are some of things that can be done to ensure the post-retirement relationship between faculty and the University is rewarding and fulfilling, and the ongoing contributions of emeriti to the University are recognized and supported. I look forward to working with my colleagues to see if we can engage with the University to bring about these changes.

Once again, we are organizing many social and professional activities for our members. Please check “What’s On?” on our website, and join your colleagues at the events that interest you, or where you can contribute.

I would welcome your questions or comments.

Richard Spencer

Association News

Meet your new Executive team

**President and Treasurer**

**Richard Spencer** is Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering. I joined UBC Civil Engineering in 1968 to pursue my interest in the design of earthquake resistant concrete buildings. I served as president of the UBC Faculty Association and the Canadian Association of University Teachers, and was elected to the UBC Senate. In 1988 I was appointed University Registrar, with a mandate to improve services and support for students. I enjoyed doing this, and in 1993 I took on the additional role of Director, Student Services. In 2001 I joined UBC Information Technology as Senior IT Strategist, and after being mandatorily retired in 2005 and then rehired in 2007, I served as acting CIO, and Executive Director of UBC IT. I retired from UBC in 2011. As APE President and Treasurer, I want to make sure the Association stays on a sound financial footing, while working to achieve our goals and meet the needs of our members.

**Vice-President Stephen Tredwell** is Professor Emeritus of Orthopaedics. I was born in Victoria and graduated in Medicine UBC 1966. Post-graduate training in Medicine is a tortuous and confusing pathway for those in the field as well as outside it. My path went through: Chicago (Cook County Hospital) UBC...
Orthopaedics and further sub-specialty training in Hong Kong and at Harvard. My clinical and academic career included a sub-specialty in paediatric orthopaedics with a clinical focus in paediatric spinal deformity and a research focus on intermediate and long term clinical outcomes (paediatric trauma, scoliosis, paediatric hip disease). My academic education focus is on evaluation of proficiency at the post-graduate level. Currently I am an Emeritus Member of the Canadian Medical Association, Canadian Orthopaedic Association, Canadian Spine Society, Paediatric Orthopaedics Society of North America, and the Scoliosis Research Society. The years since retirement have been full: completing a degree in Conflict Analysis, giving free rein to my passions for food and wine as Bailli of the Chaine des Rotisseurs Vancouver, and joining the most collegial and stimulating table of UBCAPE Executive. Past President Paul Marantz is Professor Emeritus of Political Science. He specialized in Soviet politics, the Cold War, and East-West international relations. Paul has chaired the Association’s Benefits Committee since 2007. In the process, he learned more than he ever wished to know about health insurance and emergency medical travel insurance. For a change of pace, he has also delved into the exciting realm of emeriti parking privileges and the Canadian tax code. As much as he enjoyed serving as UBCAPE President for 2015-2016, he finds being an ex-President is even more fun. Secretary Diana Lary is Professor Emerita of History: I work on modern Chinese history, the Republican period. My main work is the social impact of warfare (China’s Civil War, Cambridge University Press, 2015). Beyond that I have a great interest in Chinese migrations, going back in to pre-history and stretching to our own city, one of the most important current destinations of emigrants from China. In my work my aim is always to connect the past to the present. I am a devoted grandmother, and am thinking of doing a (last) project on grandmothers in Chinese society. Members at Large Derek Applegarth is Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics. He is a career biochemist who ran a lab at Children’s hospital which diagnosed and was involved in the treatment of children with inherited metabolic diseases. He was a professor in the Departments of Pediatrics, Pathology and Medical Genetics until his retirement in 2003. He was Chair of the Board of the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists in 1989 and 1990 and participated in the founding and ongoing administration of the fellowship awards-program in Biochemical Genetics. He was awarded the Founders Award of the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists in 2000, and in 2015, the award of the Garrod Association (the Canadian group of professionals working on metabolic diseases in children). In UBC affairs he served on the Appointments, Promotion and Tenure Committee of the Faculty of Medicine and was a member of the Faculty executive, during which time he initiated the annual Applegarth Award for Outstanding Achievements by UBC staff. Now he is a practicing photographer. He is a member of the Membership committee and until recently was Chair/Co-chair of the Programs committee. He also organises an active photography group for UBCAPE. Donald Blake is Professor Emeritus of Political Science. He joined the Political Science Department in 1970, serving as Head from 1990-1995. His research focused on political behaviour in Canada, the United States and European democracies using mainly quantitative analysis of public opinion survey data and aggregate data. His main teaching areas were Canadian politics, research methods and statistics. Since becoming an Emeritus Professor in 2004 he has indulged his interests in travel, photography, desktop publishing, web design and singing, most recently in the EnChor Choir, an auditioned choir for “mature voices” founded by the late Diane Loomer, C.M. He was Secretary of the UBC Association of Professors Emeriti from 2006-2008 and played a major role on the Activities Committee, which conducted the first comprehensive survey of the interests of emeritus faculty. He joined the Executive
again in 2013 as a Member-at-Large with responsibility for the Newsletter and was re-elected in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

**Elaine Carty** is Professor Emerita in the School of Nursing, Faculty of Applied Science and Midwifery, Dept. of Family Practice, Faculty of Medicine. *I was born and raised in the Maritimes and made my way west from the University of New Brunswick to UBC in 1974 by way of Queen’s University in Kingston. My work in the School of Nursing focused on innovative health care delivery in women’s health, including political activity towards the 1998 regulation of midwifery in British Columbia. I was the first Director of the Midwifery Program at UBC that began in 2002. Since my retirement in 2012 I have been working on the use of humanities in the health sciences, in particular how poetry, fiction and artists’ representations of pregnancy and birth can inform practice. In addition to doing yoga, swimming and playing piano, I currently chair the Trust Fund for Education at the University Women’s Club of Vancouver.*

**Donald Fisher** is Professor Emeritus of Educational Studies. *He joined the Department of the Foundations of Education (later Educational Studies) in 1976 by way of the University of Birmingham and the University of California, Berkeley. He has served as President of four national organizations, most recently with the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. He was elected to the Senate in 1999 and served as Head of the Department of Educational Studies, 2010-2013. He retired in 2014 but immediately took on the role of Acting-Principal, 2015-2016. Using an historical sociology approach, Dr. Fisher’s research focuses on the impact of large scale philanthropy on university education, boundary work within the social sciences and between that group of disciplines and other knowledge areas, academy-industry relations and the marketization of university systems, and the formulation and implementation of higher education policy. He enjoys hiking, swimming and skiing.*

**Nichola Malim Hall** retired in 2006 from directing adult education programs at the University of British Columbia. *She is an alumna of UBC, having completed both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree (specialising in public policy) in Political Science as a mature student, while raising two sons. She has had a variety of careers, including publishing, broadcasting and social planning, and has lived and worked in England, Australia, New Zealand and the Middle East, as well as Canada. In 2008 she won a YWCA Woman of Distinction Award for her volunteer activities. A past-president of Family Place, the Social Planning and Research Council of B.C. and From Grief to Action, she now sits on several boards, does some public speaking, and is particularly interested in adult education, citizen participation and community development.*

**William McCutcheon** is Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy. *After studying astrophysics at the Jodrell Bank Observatory, I joined the UBC Department in 1969. My colleagues and I developed a millimeter wavelength radio telescope on the south campus next to the old B.C. Research Council building. But the days of University-run observatories came to an end because of the expense of operations. Canada joined Britain and the Netherlands in running the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope on Mauna Kea on the Big Island of Hawaii. This telescope operated at millimeter and sub-millimeter wavelengths, and I had many sessions on this telescope studying molecular clouds and star forming regions. Over the years, I had sabbatical leaves at the CSIRO Division of Radiophysics in Sydney, the Joint Astronomy Centre in Hawaii, and the University of Kent in Canterbury. I was Acting Director of the Engineering Physics programme for my last two years before retirement at the end of 2005. My outside interests include long distance running, road cycling, and swimming. My wife Jean and I are members of Ryerson United Church and are involved in church-related activities. I joined the UBCAPE executive in 2014.*
There are many considerations to keep in mind when shopping for Travel Insurance, and sometimes people neglect to consider one of the most important: Is the company providing the Travel Insurance the first payer in the event of a claim?

For much of the Travel Insurance sold in Canada, if you also have Extended Health Insurance with a lifetime maximum in excess of $100,000, the first payer will be your Extended Health Insurance and not your Travel Insurance. To cite a typical example, if you purchase Travel Insurance from BCAA, and you also have UBC/Sun Life Extended Health Insurance with a lifetime maximum of $200,000 (Plan 3), all claims are first applied to your UBC/Sun Life insurance. Only when your UBC/Sun Life lifetime maximum has been drawn down to $100,000 does the BCAA insurance become the first payer. In effect, you have purchased Travel Insurance with a $100,000 deductible clause.

Fortunately, there is a vastly better option available to you. The MEDOC Travel Insurance available to UBC emeriti is the first payer for emergency out-of-country (and out-of-province) medical expenses, thereby sparing your UBC/Sun Life Insurance. MEDOC Travel Insurance is an annual, multi-trip policy. It includes trip cancelation and trip interruption insurance. It also has the advantage of a 90-day medical stability clause, whereas a number of other companies require pre-existing conditions to be stable for 180 days or longer to be covered. More than 300 UBC emeriti and their spouses currently have MEDOC travel insurance.

More detailed information on the insurance options available to you can be found in the extensive report “Choosing Extended Heath and Travel Insurance to Meet Your Specific Needs,” which was prepared by the UBCAPE Benefits Committee. You can read and download this report by going to our web site, www.emeriti.ubc.ca, and clicking on “Benefits.”

Paul Marantz
Chair, UBCAPE Benefits Committee

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**Have You Unknowingly Purchased Travel Insurance with a $100,000 Deductible Clause?**

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Paul Marantz
Chair, UBCAPE Benefits Committee
UBCAPE Film Series for Fall 2016
French New Wave & After

**Series One** focuses on a seminal film from the French New Wave (François Truffaut’s *The 400 Blows* - 1959) and two later French films (Maurice Pialat’s *Naked Childhood* - 1968 and Catherine Breillat’s *Bluebeard* - 2009) that can be seen as a critical response to the New Wave approach to film. For each film, brief notes concerning issues of style, technique and theme will be provided before the screening. A short discussion of the film will follow.

**Sept 27** - *The 400 Blows*, Truffaut’s first feature film, initiates the New Wave’s strong critique of establishment film (both the French tradition of quality and Hollywood) and offers instead an independent cinema rooted in real life and free from film convention. A key aspect of the New Wave and Truffaut’s film - following from Morris Engel’s 1953 independent American classic, *Little Fugitive* - 1953 (where a seven year old runs away to Coney Island) - is the use of childhood as subject matter but, just as importantly, as metaphor for the freedom that independent film aspires to, both in cinematic style and the cultural values it espouses.

**Oct. 25** - However, just nine years after *The 400 Blows*, Pialat’s first film (*Naked Childhood*), while maintaining the New Wave’s emphasis on realism and stylistic freedom, challenges that movement’s lack of emotional honesty by depicting a childhood that avoids clichés about innocence. Arguably, the little-known, still controversial Pialat has had a greater influence on more contemporary French film than the New Wave.

**Nov. 22** - A contemporary French filmmaker, Catherine Breillat, who worked on the script for one of Pialat’s films and who shares his fondness for emotional honesty (especially in her many films on the battle of the sexes) offers in *Bluebeard* a feminist take on childhood, focusing on the Perreault fairy tale referenced in the title but also on the biblical story of Salome – both key texts for feminism.

**Screenings begin at 3:00 pm**
*in Room 224 (Polygon Homes Classroom)*
*the Alumni Centre*

*Note:* This is the first of three UBCAPE film series. Each series will focus on the films of a specific country or region and be related in terms of style, theme and/or subject matter. Where possible, at least one film in each series will be by a female director.
Nominations Wanted
UBCAPE Major Awards Nominating Committee is pleased to report success in nominating Emeriti for Major Awards. Using the services of a professional writer, we prepared nominations for four emeriti in the Spring of 2016. We have four nominations already for 2016-17 but would welcome more. Please send the individual’s name, a “brag” letter, their CV and the description of the award to the UBCAPE office by September 30.

Help Wanted
The UBC Community United Way Campaign will kick off this year on October 11th, 2016 with A Week of Caring. The week will include several campus-wide events to raise money and awareness for United Way’s mission of eradicating poverty and helping seniors and children in the Lower Mainland. This year, UBC celebrates 40 years of campaigning for the United Way. So, we have set the UBC United Way 2016 campaign goal to help 40,000 people in the greater Vancouver Lower Mainland. Together we can do this, because we are possibility! New this year is a personalized webpage dedicated solely to the UBC Association of Professors Emeriti: http://www.unitedway.ubc.ca/emeriti/

Walter Gage Book Project
Emeritus Michael Davies (Electrical & Computer Engineering) has joined the Friends of Walter Gage, a group of UBC Alumni aiming to publish a book full of amazing stories about how Walter’s humble generosity. Our generation was blessed to know this unique and outstanding man. To read Michael’s story how he was impacted by Walter Gage, go to http://waltergagebook.engineering.ubc.ca/2016/08/20/how-walter-gage-impacted-michael-davies/.

What untold story about Walter Gage can you tell to inspire the following generations to “pay it forward”? Go to the dedicated website and enGAGE!: http://waltergagebook.engineering.ubc.ca/engage/
Association Speakers’ Series

Green College
Senior Scholars’ Series

Tuesday, September 20
Les Lavkulich (Land & Water Systems, Soil Science)
Follow your Passion

We are simply a keystone species in a complex adaptive evolving world, one full of surprises. Each of us makes a contribution to this dynamic system by doing what we do best, following our passion! Collectively we develop plans, hopes and journeys to achieve the goals that we set ourselves. Each of us will contribute to achieve the goals we set. Even a “reductionist academic” can contribute. if passion is the driver.

Tuesday, October 18
Judy Hall (Pediatrics, Medical Genetics)
Driven by Curiosity—the saga of a clinical geneticist

Clinical Genetics is the application of all the new discoveries in genetics and genomic research to individuals and families. My area of research is birth defects/congenital anomalies, where enormous progress has been made in prevention, therapy and understanding of developmental mechanisms.

Tuesday, November 15
Paul Burns (Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies)
Augustine of Hippo on Public Culture

At the end of the fourth and early fifth centuries, Augustine of Hippo demonstrated an impressive awareness of Late Roman public culture which spanned Latin literature, philosophy, ethics, law, and even medicine, stoic astronomy, and Roman religion. His presentation of this material is comprehensive, respectful and selectively critical as he tries to engage a broad audience.

Tuesday, January 10
Cindy Greenwood (Mathematics)
What is a Probabilist?

Everyone understands the statement: “The probability of rain tomorrow is .90, or 90%. For a probabilist, many questions have answers of this type. The problem is to find that number.

This series is co-sponsored by UBCAPE and Green College and organized by Emeritus Professor John Gilbert.

All talks begin at 5:00 pm in the Green College Coachhouse. For more information: www.green-college.ubc.ca or GC.events@ubc.ca.

Come at 4:30 for tea and coffee in the Green College Piano Room and stay for refreshments after the talks. To stay for dinner, tickets can be purchased through the Green College Office—604-822-8660.

Save the Date!

UBCAPE/PWIAS Research Day, October 18 at 1pm

When: Tuesday, October 18 from 1 to 4pm
Where: Peter Wall Institute Advanced Studies Conference Room (Rm 207)
In Memoriam

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<td>1929-2016</td>
<td>Clinical Professor Emeritus of Medicine, University Service 1984-1998</td>
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<td>Donald Brown</td>
<td>1926-2016</td>
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<td>Samuel Ho</td>
<td>1936-2016</td>
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<td>Lawrence Lowe</td>
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<td>Charles Slonecker</td>
<td>1938-2016</td>
<td>Professor Emeritus of Anatomy, University Service 1968-2003</td>
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Professor Emeritus Charles (Chuck) Slonecker, passed away on June 9, 2016 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Chuck was born in 1938 and grew up in Bremerton, Washington. He pursued academic interests first in Chemistry, then Dentistry and Anatomy at the University of Washington, earning DDS and PhD degrees. During study time he began blood cell research focusing on Cellular Immunology. He also did military service and served overseas.

Dr. Slonecker came to UBC in 1968 as a member of the Anatomy Department but also with links to Dentistry, teaching for both Faculties. These were early days for the Faculty of Medicine, and Chuck became a respectful colleague of Sidney Friedman who as one of the first professors in the new faculty, instilled the role of research firmly in the mandates of new colleagues as they joined his department. Chuck joined this accord and carried it through his whole career at UBC until his retirement in December 2003. An active member of the Faculty of Medicine, Chuck was one of its members of Senate for 18 years, thereby extending his competence in broad university affairs. In 1990 he was appointed Director of Ceremonies. It was also a time of change as the University reached out to the community around it with increasing honorary and social functions. Eventually Ceremonies became the Office of University Relations, and Chuck Slonecker served as Director until he retired in 2003.

There were also countless other roles of advice and management. He organized and directed the continuing United Way Campaigns for UBC. He was a established part of the University’s Alumni Association contacts, was President of the Association of Professors Emeriti in 2006-7, and a member of the Tapestry Advisory Committee from 2007 -10. Chuck was longtime Chairman of the President’s Advisory Committee for Campus Enhancement. As Chair he took the Committee through several important recommendations to the President, which resulted in significant betterments to the campus landscape. Projects included items as diverse as re-development of the Buchanan courtyards, dedicated funding for more outdoor art on campus, and preservation of an historic stand of trees at First Nations House and on the East Mall.

Chuck is survived by his wife Jan, and their sons, John, Derron and David, and their families.

—John Stager
It is a pleasure to report on the river cruise between Amsterdam and Budapest, June 10th to the 25th 2016. This was the first group travel event arising from the affinity agreement with Collette tours that CURAC entered into last year. To my delight, there were seven CURAC related travelers booked on this cruise, providing a wonderfully congenial crew of college and university retirees and spouses, with attachments to McGill University, Georgian College and UBC. My expectation that bringing together people from across Canada who had common backgrounds as college and university retirees would produce a very compatible group was fully realized. The trip was great. There were a couple of setbacks, described below, but what vacation doesn’t have its challenges?

While my wife, Sydney, and I have lived in Europe for various periods of time and have travelled extensively on the usual planes, trains and automobiles, the two weeks of river cruising provided by far the most comfortable and enjoyable means of travel we have ever experienced. Professional handlers take care of your luggage upon airport arrival. It mysteriously reappears in your stateroom on the ship, and is taken to your airport or other destination at the end of the cruise. The room we occupied over the two weeks on the ship, the Amadeus Princess, was very comfortable—great bed, two nice lounge chairs, good work desk, well-appointed bathroom with a great shower, sufficient storage space, mostly reliable internet access and a flat screen TV. We had opted for lower deck accommodation that did not provide the French doors our companions upstairs greatly enjoyed—big tossup between saving some dollars and the pleasure of sitting in one’s room watching the world slowly slide by. I can say we were more than comfortably served by the sun deck on the top of the ship, another outside viewing area on the foredeck, and two great indoor lounges permitting great viewing. But, we just might opt for the French doors and an upper deck stateroom on the next cruise!

While substantial, the ship is relatively small, so the passenger list is also small, about 100 guests. The food was excellent, with lots of choice at all meals, dinners featuring four courses, and food often representative of the country we were sailing through (The Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary). The indoor facilities included the big Panorama Lounge with a very good bar, dance area and small stage for the couple who provided musical entertainment throughout the cruise. There was a nice quiet lounge in the stern for reading, playing bridge, etc. Amenities also included a small but excellent exercise room, masseur services and a hair dresser. At different ports we also enjoyed a Dutch male choir, Bavarian and Viennese entertainers.

Among the most pleasurable moments on the 2400 km journey were the quiet, relaxing times simply sitting in a lounge chair watching the incredible scenery slowly slide by: vivid greenery on the shore, interspersed with farmers’ fields, mountain slopes and bucolic vistas of vineyards, villages, farms and homes. There were lots of fascinating breaks. A prime example is traveling up the Rhine gorge with its numerous medieval castles looking down upon us. The journey was interspersed with opportunities to visit and tour numerous European cities and towns, each with a colourful past, traditions, scenery and architecture. Some fascinating places, such as Cologne, Bamburg, Würzburg, Linz, Bratislava, etc., were familiar to us, but others were sufficiently off the beaten path to be new to Canadian visitors.

One is continually reminded by sites and locations of epochal moments in European history.
Roman ruins signal that the Rhine and Danube rivers represented the northern and eastern boundaries of the Roman Empire, warding off the threat of “barbarian” cultures on the other side. Medieval castles are reminiscent not so much of chivalric times but of warlords, serfs and brutal conflicts to establish territory and power. The glories of the Renaissance were evident in cathedrals, palaces and public buildings and one gets a great education in Romance, Gothic, Baroque and Rococo architecture. Of course, there are many reminders of the 20th Century world wars that have provided the background to our lives: passing by the remnants of the bridge at Remagen on the Rhine, viewing the cathedral that escaped savage bombing in Cologne, hearing about the almost complete destruction of Würzburg in the final weeks of WWII, or seeing the Nazi parade grounds and destroyed monuments in Nuremberg.

After many days travelling up the Rhine, we turned east onto the Main River, before the Rhine heads south to its origins in Switzerland. The Main took us across northern Bavaria to a series of locks that proceeds up and over the European continental divide and then down the Main/Danube canal to join that majestic river that flows across Europe to the Black Sea. It was here that our journey had misadventures. The water on the Danube was very high. For reasons I cannot fathom a Viking cruise ship attempted to pass under a railroad bridge near Regensberg without adequate clearance. It became stuck and turned sideways, blocking the river. The next day, another Viking cruise ship apparently lost control in heavy current, turned sideways and banged into the opening of a lock, again blocking access for some time. Fortunately, there were no injuries, but undoubtedly many bruised egos and probably lost jobs. Ultimately though, the problems were caused by high water on the Danube. The major consequence was that we sat waiting for the river to clear, missing two days of river travel, although the time was made up and the cruise arrived in Budapest on schedule.

Let me end by noting what great companions CURAC provided for the journey. We really bonded, enjoyed all our meals together, often lingering late after dinner in conversation, chummed together during tours and during lectures and demonstrations in the dining room (I learned to make a wicked apple strudel) and were a formidable group during post-dinner quizzes in the lounge. As www.ca (weird, wild and wacky Canadians) we won a trivia contest, a contest to identify bizarre laws and a contest to identify sites around the globe and each time we were rewarded with a bottle of champagne!

We truly had a wonderful journey, despite the setbacks I described. The CURAC/Collette affinity agreement served us extremely well. I should note that this cruise was a private charter of the Lueftner Cruise ship Amadeus Princess by Collette Vacations and Collette worked very hard to ensure that all on board were well served throughout the cruise. They provided two extra guides who were always available to assist people, in addition to the Lueftner cruise staff.

Given the success of the 2016 trip CURAC has again designated a Legendary Waterways, June 21-July 6th, 2017, river cruise as a CURAC trip. Please see for details: https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/758699. There are discounts for bookings before Oct. 15th, 2016. This trip starts in Budapest and ends in Amsterdam.

For those of us who seek a further CURAC/ Collette adventure, fully planned with minimal fuss, in a lovely country, Ireland, we are also designating Shades of Ireland, April 24th to May 6th, 2017, as a CURAC tour. The 2016 river cruise gang have expressed early enthusiasm and it would be great to have other CURAC members join us. I’ve sent in the reservation for Sydney and myself already. Note that savings are to be had with bookings before Oct. 25th, 2016. For details, see: https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/758614.

These CURAC tours are booked through Newmac Travel. Inquiries and reservations should be made through 604 745 0088 or newmactravel@nexioncanada.com. Mention CURAC and your retiree association. For other Collette tours, have a look at: http://www.gocollette.com/en-ca/landing-pages/2015/partner/curac

UBCAPE is an active member of CURAC, the College and University Retirees Association of Canada.
Emeritus Awards

On March 4, 2016, Emeritus Professor Robert Krell (Psychiatry) was awarded the Governor General’s Caring Canadian Award, “in acknowledgment of the significant contributions he has made in promoting human rights and social justice in Canada as well as founding the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre”. He is a child survivor of the Holocaust, devoted to understanding the problems of Holocaust survivor-families and supporting their wellbeing. He established a Holocaust Education Centre in 1994 in order to continue teaching programmes for high school children as a warning of the consequences of unchecked racism and intolerance.

On May 30, 2016 Emeritus Professor John Gilbert, C.M. (College of Health Disciplines and School of Audiology and Speech Sciences) received an Honorary Doctorate at Dalhousie University. Dr. Gilbert is senior scholar at the Dalhousie-hosted WHO Collaborating Centre on Health Workforce Planning and Research and Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Graduate Studies, where he supports graduate students in the School of Nursing.

Recent Publications by Emeriti


“What are they up to now?” Department

Several Political Science emeriti and friends met recently to honour Dory Urbano, Department Administrator, who is retiring in September after 43 years at UBC including 36 years in the Department of Political Science. Pictured clockwise from bottom left: John Wood, Paul Marantz, Ken Carty, Don Blake, Elaine Carty (Emerita Nursing), Dory Urbano, Lorna Blake (Education Staff Retiree), and Diane Mauzy.

On Sept. 3, John Gilbert (Audiology & Speech Sciences) did the 5km Canelli Wine Run, liberally sprayed by the “wine sprayers”. Canelli, in Asti, Piemonte, is the center of Asti Spumante production. Wine and snacks provided at every km mark.

Faculty of Science Emeriti met for tea with the Dean at the Botanical Garden on May 3.

Serge Guilbaut (Art History) travelled to Toulouse with his seniors’ soccer team, the Point Grey Thistles, for a two game series. Serge is pictured at the right end of the front row.
Why We Should Celebrate Senior Citizens Everyday
Sheri R. Levy, Jamie L. MacDonald, and Ashley Lytle, (Stony Brook University and Stevens Institute of Technology)

Have you heard of National Senior Citizens Day? If not, you aren’t alone. This holiday is not often listed on most, if any, calendars. Older adulthood is not universally celebrated and valued. Ageism (negative attitudes and behavior toward older adults) continues to be a “serious national problem” since it was first discussed by Robert N. Butler, M.D. in 1969. Butler later wrote the Pulitzer Prize winning book, Why Survive? Being Old in America and became the first Director of the National Institute on Aging in the United States.

Historically, older members of our society were valued for their vast knowledge and contributions to society. Fast forward to our current society, which has a well-established and profitable market of greeting cards, t-shirts, and other products that portray older adulthood in a negative light, for example being “over the hill.” Our youth-centered society supports a billion dollar industry of “anti-aging” creams, treatments and surgeries, to reduce signs of aging.

Frequent headlines exaggerating the incidence of Alzheimer’s disease add to fears and worries about older adulthood. Save the relatively rare coverage of positive images and outlooks on aging, even though older adulthood can be a fulfilling and happy time in one’s life. In fact, studies show that many older adults report being happy and satisfied with their lives.

Medicare and social security are constantly targets for budget cuts, despite alarming rates of poverty and financial problems among older adults. Forced early retirement and incidents of age discrimination toward older workers are on the rise. Reports of elder abuse (both financial and physical abuse) by health care workers and by family members are also increasing.

Adults aged 65 and over are the largest and fastest growing age group in our society. It’s long overdue to celebrate senior citizens both on August 21 and other days, too. The 1988 Proclamation by US President Ronald Reagan is still relevant today.

Throughout our history, older people have achieved much for our families, our communities, and our country. That remains true today, and gives us ample reason this year to reserve a special day in honor of the senior citizens who mean so much to our land.

With improved health care and more years of productivity, older citizens are reinforcing their historical roles as leaders and as links with our patrimony and sense of purpose as individuals and as a Nation. Many older people are embarking on second careers, giving younger Americans a fine example of responsibility, resourcefulness, competence, and determination. And more than 4.5 million senior citizens are serving as volunteers in various programs and projects that benefit every sector of society. Wherever the need exists, older people are making their presence felt — for their own good and that of others.

For all they have achieved throughout life and for all they continue to accomplish, we owe older citizens our thanks and a heartfelt salute. We can best demonstrate our gratitude and esteem by making sure that our communities are good places in which to mature and grow older — places in which older people can participate to the fullest and can find the encouragement, acceptance, assistance, and services they need to continue to lead lives of independence and dignity.”

Isn’t it time to celebrate older adults?

Ed. note. This article is written from a US perspective. However Senior Citizens’ Day is recognized in Canada on October 1 as well and coincides with the United Nations “International Day of Older Persons”. The speaker at our October 5 General Meeting, Tom Kirkwood, is an expert on ageing.

Abstracted from https://psychologybenefits.org/2016/08/21/why-we-should-celebrate-senior-citizens-everyday/
This long-running series is ideally suited to those who prefer daytime concerts (and a seniors’ discount). All performances take place at the Vancouver Academy of Music, 1270 Chestnut Street. Concerts begin at 10:30 am, preceded by refreshments beginning at 10:00 am. The same organization also offers a program called “Tuning In”, where well-known CBC host Eric Friesen interviews musical celebrities as well as musicians on their way up. For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.musicinthemorning.org or telephone 604-873-4612.

Main Concert Series

Colin Carr, cello & Thomas Sauer, piano,
October 12–14

Wallis Giunta, mezzo-soprano,
November 16–18

A Touch of Brass Quintet, December 14–16

Mozart and Bach with Diana Doherty, Terrence Tam and Lorraine Min, January 18–20

Krakauer/Tagg Duo: Breath and Hammer, February 15–17

Miriam Fried, violin: Works of Solo Bach, March 15–17

Tuning In with Eric Friesen

Emily Molnar — September 28, 2016
Judith Forst — November 30, 2016
Bill Richardson — February 1, 2017
Janina Fialkowska — March 29, 2017

Vancouver Institute Lectures

September 24: Superintendent Calvin Chrustie, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Multinational CIMIC Group, United Nations, Transnational Organized Crime, Are We on the Titanic?

October 1: Professor Tom Kirkwood, CBE FMedSci, Associate Dean for Aging, Newcastle University, Why and How Are We Living Longer?

October 15: Professor Frank von Hippel, Senior Research Physicist and Professor of Public and International Affairs, Woodrow Wilson School of Public & International Affairs, Princeton University, Threats from Nuclear Weapons and Materials.

October 22: Professor Ellen Ruppel Shell, Co-Director, Science Journalism Program, College of Communication, Boston University, Cheap: The High Cost of Discount Culture.

October 29: Professor Brett Finlay, Professor in the Michael Smith Laboratories, and the Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Microbiology and Immunology, UBC, Let them eat dirt: Raising children with their microbes.

November 5: Dr. Santa Ono, President and Vice-Chancellor, UBC, An evening with Dr. Santa Ono, UBC’s 15th President.

UBC School of Music

Wednesday Noon Hour Concerts
12:00 pm, Barnett Hall
Admission $5

September 28: Microcosmos Quartet Night Music: Dutilleux Ainsi la nuit, Bartok String Quartet No. 5.

October 12: Steve Kaldestad Quartet, A late '60s blue note modal bag.

October 19: Spacemelt Michael Markowsky visual artist; Sam Davidson, clarinets; Terri Hron, recorders and electronics; Ben Brown, drums; Lisa Miller, piano. Reimagining performance conventions with reckless creative abandon.

October 26: La Modestine Marc Destrubé, baroque violin; Natalie Mackie, viola da gamba; Michael Jarvis, harpsichord. Rebel, Erlbach, Buxtehude, Marais and more.


November 9: Bamboo: Folk and Traditional Music of Vietnam Lullabies, peasant work songs, troubadour music and more.