



EMERITUS NO. 207 APRIL 2018

An occasional newsletter for the Emeritus Faculty Association

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Next Meeting:

Our next meeting will be on held Friday, April 6, 2018 at 11:00 AM in the Chemistry Seminar Room 412. Our guest speaker will be David Bouchier.

Bio: Among his many careers and activities David Bouchier taught sociology at the University of Essex and at Stony Brook. But he is best known as a Sunday host of WSHU public radio, as a columnist in the New York Times' L.I. section, and as a humorist, essayist, and local figure of interest. He and his wife Diane Bartels of the SB Soc Dept live locally AND in France. David will add to his many books of essays already in print with *An Unexpected Life*, due out this spring. He is currently running an OLLI workshop on classical music where he probably continues to explain why Beethoven's 3rd symphony is the great break-out piece of classical music.

Our Emeritus Luncheon will be on Friday, May 11 at 12:00 PM

Participate in the Faculty Emeritus Documentation Project

The 2017-2018 academic year is a milestone in Stony Brook University history, as it marks the 60th anniversary of the institution. In an effort to document and preserve the unique and varied experiences of the university's emeritus faculty, a questionnaire has been designed to elicit the personal reflections of faculty members':

- impetuses for accepting academic positions at Stony Brook University.
- early experiences on the campus.
- views on the evolution and growth of the institution.
- contributions to departments and to the university.
- interactions with academic and administrative leadership.
- views on the institution's role in the community (local and wider).
- assessments of the university's mission and successes as a research university.

Your participation is vital to documenting Stony Brook University history.

Access information about the project and the questionnaire at:

<http://www.library.stonybrook.edu/special-collections-university-archives/university-archives/>

Upcoming Events

Provost's Lecture Series Presents Susan Wessler (Co-Sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences)

The Dynamic Genome Program: A Model for Bringing the Excitement of Authentic Research into Foundational Laboratory Courses

Monday, April 9, 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM, Student Activities Center Sidney Gelber Auditorium

Susan Wessler is Distinguished Professor of Genetics and the Neil and Rochelle Campbell Presidential Chair for Innovation in Science Education at the University of California Riverside. In 2011, she was elected Home Secretary of the National Academy of Sciences, the first woman to hold this position in the 150-year history of the Academy. She is a molecular geneticist known for her contributions to the field of transposon biology, specifically on the roles of plant transposable elements in gene and genome evolution. Wessler has contributed extensively to educational initiatives, including co-authorship of the genetics textbook, *Introduction to Genetic Analysis*. As a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professor (2006), she adapted her research program for the classroom by developing the Dynamic Genome Courses where

incoming freshman can experience the excitement of scientific discovery. Co-sponsored by the Department of Ecology and Evolution.

Abstract: The University of California, Riverside (UCR) is one of the most diverse research universities in the country. More than half of the 5000 students in our College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (CNAS) are supported by Pell grants, are members of underrepresented groups, and are first generation college students. To improve student persistence in STEM, CNAS has focused on two experiential interventions for first year students: (1) Learning Communities, designed to engage groups of 24 students with faculty, academic advisors and near-peer mentors, and (2) the Dynamic Genome course, an authentic research experience where UCR research faculty take ownership of a section and bring the excitement of their research labs to the classroom. The Dynamic Genome (DG) course is an alternative to the traditional Intro Bio Lab where learning communities are randomly assigned to one lab experience or the other.

Now in its sixth year at UC Riverside, DG is a hands-on bioinformatics/wet lab course that is taught in the state of the art Neil A. Campbell Science Learning Laboratory. First articulated in my HHMI Professor Program in 2006, the DG course was initially proposed as an undergraduate laboratory that replicated my research lab where students learned to navigate cutting-edge methodologies applied to eukaryotic genomes. UC Riverside has proven to be fertile ground for the rapid expansion of the DG course model to more than 550 students in 21 sections.

Provost's Lecture Series Presents Alexander Nehamas (Co-Sponsored by the Center for Integration of Business Education & Humanities, the College of Business, the Center for Hellenic Studies, and the Philosophy Department)

Metaphors in Our Lives: "I Love You for Yourself"

Friday, April 20, 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM, Wang Center Theater

Alexander Nehamas is Professor of Philosophy and Comparative Literature and the Carpenter Professor in the Humanities at Princeton University, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. He was born in Athens, Greece. His books include *Nietzsche: Life as Literature*, *The Art of Living: Socratic Reflections from Plato to Foucault*, *Virtues of Authenticity: Essays on Plato and Socrates*, *Only a Promise of Happiness: The Place of Beauty in a World of Art*, and *On Friendship*. He has also translated Plato's *Symposium* and *Phaedrus* into English. At Princeton, he has chaired the Council of the Humanities, the Program in Hellenic Studies, and he was the Founding Director of the Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts.

Abstract: Friendship is one of life's greatest gifts, but surprisingly difficult to define. Nehamas argues that friendship is an aesthetic, but not always moral, good. Like metaphors and works of art, friendships are inexhaustible and the people who matter to

us always remain a step beyond the furthest point our knowledge of them has reached—though only if, and as long as, they still matter to us. Love for our friends shape who we are and who we might become.

Please visit our website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/emeritus/index.html>

It always contains the latest emeritus news (click on "Next Meeting"), a list of members' email addresses, a list of officers, newsletter archives, and many other useful links.