

Parker and Timmins Join UCLARA Board

Retirees Keith Parker and John Timmins have joined the Retirees Association Board of Directors as members at large.



Keith Parker

Keith Parker retired in 2018 as the Assistant Vice Chancellor — Government & Community Relations, responsible for managing the University's interface with elected officials and community and civic organizations. Keith joined the UCLA staff in 1981 and served both on campus committees and community/civic boards. Most recently he finished a term as City Commissioner on the Los Angeles Civil and Human Rights Commission.

Keith reports that retirement has meant more time for family and travel. He also appreciates the ability to take an afternoon nap when needed.

John Timmins

John Timmins retired in 2020 after 21 years as a senior staff research associate in the Department of

Medicine, Division of Endocrinology at the Gonda (Goldschmied) Diabetes Center. A chiropractic physician, John operated the diagnostic services unit, a research-related testing site for osteoporosis. John performed multiple clinical procedures evaluating for complications of diabetes, hypertension, thyroid and cardiovascular disease.



Overall wellness remains his focus in retirement. John also prioritizes spending quality time with family, friends and colleagues. His avocations include golf, hiking, music, reading and travel.

Other Changes to the Board

Carolyn Lew-Karon stepped down after finishing her two-year term as member at large, creating one of the Board vacancies. She is still active in UCLARA as co-chair of the Hiking Group. The other vacancy was created when various Board members changed their roles and the position of Mentorship chair was added. A complete roster of the 2023-24 Board is on page 2.

Nimoy Theater Opening Planned for September



The Crest Theatre in Westwood, long a movie house, has been reimagined as a 300-seat performance space: the new UCLA Nimoy Theater. The Center for the Art of Performance plans to offer its first live performance there on September 23.

The venue opened as the UCLAN Theatre in December 1940. (The name UCLAN referenced the location, not ownership.) Art Deco-inspired touches were added in the late 1980s, notably black-lighted murals of 1930s-vintage Hollywood by theater designer Joseph J. Musil. The murals and other design elements are being integrated into the design of the Nimoy.

The theater was acquired by UCLA in 2018 and named for artist, actor, director and philanthropist Leonard Nimoy. See [CAP UCLA Nimoy Theater](#).



Message from New President Judith Tuch

Greetings, fellow retirees. It's a privilege to serve as your new UCLARA President and I look forward to the opportunity to meet many of you in the coming year.

I have a long history at the University with a BA and an MA from UCLA. In 2002 I retired after 23 years from External Affairs where I was Executive Director. Retirement has been a rich and rewarding experience. One contributing factor has been my membership in the UCLA Retirees Association. Membership has deepened my connection to UCLA in every way.

As incoming President, I have been reflecting on the work of our dynamic board under the leadership of Past President Elaine Fox. Our Board members continue to actively advocate with the state-wide Council of UC Retiree Associations (CUCRA) for retiree health benefits. In a new initiative, 17 UCLA retirees were welcomed as mentors and group leaders for professional development during the 2022-2023 academic year.

Another achievement was the decision to embrace Zoom technology and provide virtual programs at no individual cost for members during the Pandemic. During 2022-2023 we offered 19 in-person and Zoom events.

Among the other important achievements under Elaine's tenure is the move to automate the annual

renewal of regular memberships rolled out July 1, 2023. Additionally, we increased the number of staff scholarships awarded as well as support of the Food Closet and other worthy campus initiatives.

We look forward to expanding joint programs with the UCLA Emeriti Association and to increasing UCLARA's visibility on campus through ongoing meetings with campus administrators.

We are always looking for new committee members. I first got involved in the Association by joining the Program Committee. Now I have been on the Board since 2014. There are so many ways to get involved. Do consider joining a committee. (See list below.)

What initiatives would you like your Board to undertake this year? What types of activities would you like us to plan? We would love to hear your thoughts. Feel free to contact me via UCLARA@ucla.edu

— *Judith Tuch*



2023-24 UCLARA Board of Directors

Officers

Judith Tuch, President

Jack Powazek, Vice President/President-Elect

Elaine Fox, Past President and Nominating Committee Chair

Guy Stocks, Treasurer

Renee Fortier, Recording Secretary

Barbara Rabinowitz, Corresponding Secretary

Members at Large

Liz Taylor

Elizabeth Juncosa

Keith Parker

John Timmins

Committee Chairs

Al Aubin, Campus & Community Relations

Michael Heafey, Programs

Maggie McGinley, Interest Groups

Margaret Johnson, Historian

Mary Petersen, Membership Records

John Dahl, Membership Marketing, Information Technology

Dolores Dyer, Travel

Sue Abeles, Mentorship

Anne Pautler, Newsletter

Liaisons

Jane Permaul, Emeriti Association Liaison

Pat Webber, Alumni Affairs Liaison

Ex Officio

Ayesha Dixon, Director, Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center

Welcome to UCLARA!

UCLARA is happy to welcome the following new members.

Markus Avery
Pamela Bailis
Patti Barrera
William Bodiford
Laura Danielson
Claudia Endler
Sharon Feinberg
Divina Finger
Patty Gilbert
Alison Grimes
Susan Gutman
Mary Ann Hausner
Gwen Hering
Renee Johnson
Donna Jones
Gwendoline Lake
Susie Lawson
Rachel Louie
Janet McFarland
Tsegie Negus
Tara Neuwirth
Kathy Nomoto
Rafael E. Novoa
Chang Oshima
Robert Ove
Antonio (Tony) Padilla
Steven Peckman
Charles Pollick
Michele Puzon
Glenn Ty
David Vandel
Shahara Vasquez
Jaya Vaswani
Stuart Wolpert
David Yu

Time for Membership Renewal

Yes, it's time to renew your UCLARA membership for this year. All members should have received a message about renewing your membership by now. Annual membership dues remain the same at \$25 for individual members or \$35 for individuals plus spouse/partner. There are so many benefits: programs, interest groups, *Connections*, travel. In addition, the Association continues to advocate for retirees and support the campus in so many ways: mentoring programs, staff development scholarships, and special initiatives.

If you haven't renewed, it's easy to do since we implemented payment by credit card a few years ago. Now we have introduced a new feature called '**annual automatic membership renewal**.' You can sign up for this feature when renewing by giving your credit card number. You will be charged automatically every July 1st. By choosing this option, annual renewal notices won't clutter your email inbox in the future. When you renew, look for this option. There are recurring sign-up instructions on the 'Members Only' webpage, too.

If you have already renewed, thank you. And, if not, [click right here](#) to get started or click on the 'person icon' at the top right corner on the website.

Jared Diamond After-Lunch Lecture



At the final joint After-Lunch Lecture for this season, the RA and the EA hosted Prof. Jared Diamond. His topic is one most of us can relate to: "The Value of Older People." This soft-spoken current UCLA faculty member revealed a series of insights about staying youthful and active at our age. Nearly 100 persons attended his June 6 talk.

The After Lunch Lecture is transitioning to a new name and format starting in Sept. 2023. Helmed by Stuart Wolpert (retired from Strategic Communications), it will be called "UCLA Conversations" and feature a dialog between Wolpert and a current UCLA faculty member.

Encore: Art Show at Belmont Village



If you missed the Sylvia Winstein UCLA Emeriti Arts and Crafts Exhibit on May 16, you have a second chance. Ten of the original 22 exhibitors now have work on display in the Town Hall Room of Belmont Village in Westwood. Visitors are welcome from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and parking is free. The art will be on display through September 1.

The two retirees whose work is included are Lisa Chapman, who created "Warm Earth" in acrylic paint and fiber paste, and Velda Ruddock, whose metier is photography. Velda is shown at left with a piece from her series "Flowers in a Time of Quarantine."



In Memoriam

The UC Office of the President has reported the deaths of the following UCLA annuitants. We extend condolences to their families, friends and former colleagues.

Tony Avila
Efren Bautista
Melvin Bunzy
Ellen Carnahan
Carlos Castillo
Ulyesse Fields
Qui-An Fung
Kay Graetz
Susan Kaufmann
Carol Kelley
Brigitte Kueppers
Delores Lewis
John MacDougall
Robert Mehlman
Mary Mellema
Gerald Michaelson
James Mulaski
Teri Rodriguez
Henri Sebek
Gordon Theil
Veronica Tweini
Celia Villalpando
Donald Winchell

UCLARA Travel News

Wow, summer is really here. Time to plan that trip that Covid put on hold. Thank you to all those who made sell-outs of our second trip to Ireland and our trip to Greece and its Islands. Our final trip of 2023, American Music Cities, has a few spaces left. What a great way to celebrate the holidays!

American Music Cities

December 10 -17. Featuring New Orleans, Memphis & Nashville. Highlights: French Quarter, Swamp Tour, Mardi Gras World, Jazz Revue, Graceland, Ryman Auditorium, Hands-on Chocolate-making Lesson, Grand Ole Opry Show, Historic RCA Studio B, Country Music Hall of Fame, Gaylord Opryland Resort Dinner & Holiday Show. Visit this link: gateway.gocollette.com/link/1131343

2024 is good to go and we look forward to having our UC Retirees friends and family join us on our adventures. Our January trip to Costa Rica is now sold out. Thank you to so many of you who have become repeat travelers.

Australia and New Zealand Uncovered

March 4 - 25. Sydney, Cairns, Ayers Rock, Wellington, Hokitika and more. Visit this link: gateway.gocollette.com/link/1131334

Colors of Morocco

April 4 -18. Visit this link: gateway.gocollette.com/link/1157146

Memorials of World War II

August 19 - 28. Celebrate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day Landings! London, Paris, channel crossing, D-Day beaches, more. Visit this link: gateway.gocollette.com/link/1170344

Alpine Lakes and Scenic Trains

September 10 - 20. Featuring a cruise on Lake Maggiore. Visit this link: gateway.gocollette.com/link/1187608

Kingdoms of Southeast Asia

November 7 - 25. Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand. Visit this link: gateway.gocollette.com/link/1196617

I hope you can join us on these exciting adventures. For more info contact me, Dolores Dyer, at ddyer44@verizon.net



Retiree Profile: Maciek Kolodziejczak



Maciek Kolodziejczak gives the thumbs up sign after a previous stair climb.

Next month, Maciek Kolodziejczak (Mah-check Kho-lo-JAY-chalk) will join fellow enthusiasts in the YMCA Stair Climb, going up 1,664 steps to reach the top of the U.S. Bank Tower in downtown L.A. For Maciek, retirement is full of activities.

Maciek retired from his job as director of student services for the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs in 2018. He mentored and advised 877 graduate students, every student who had earned a degree in public policy since the Luskin School's founding in 1994. In retirement, he says, he has finally had time to re-connect with some of those alumni. He even left behind a tangible legacy: the [Maciek Kolodziejczak Fellowship Fund in Public Policy](#).

His advice to new retirees? First, give yourself a year to figure things out. Maciek himself ended up moving from the west side to a 55+ community in Little Tokyo, where he's on the board of the Little Tokyo Teramachi Owners Association. He had some doubts at the time, but the decision turned out well for him. He finds that the building itself is very quiet, with many elderly residents. But downtown itself is bustling — and he thrives on the ability to move at will from the quiet to the bustle and back. Being in a walkable neighborhood is a constant joy to him.

Maciek also advises retirees to find activities that interest and energize them. And he adds, half-joking, that

it's important to avoid too much time in the La-Z-Boy with remote in hand!

But Maciek isn't afraid of letting go. An emigrant from Poland, he was involved for more than 10 years in the Polish Film Festival Los Angeles. He has now passed that responsibility to others.

Like many UCLA retirees, Maciek is also an alumnus. He earned his Master's Degree in Educational Psychology in 1987.

Currently Maciek finds himself unexpectedly on recall, filling in for one of his successors in student services. So for a little while at least he will be working with the Little Tokyo composting group some mornings while spending afternoons remotely with students and alumni.

And just occasionally, he does spend a little time in his La-Z-Boy recliner.



Maciek wears his Luskin School t-shirt while on a trip to Japan.

UCLARA Donates to Campus Causes



Elaine Fox [second from left] and Al Aubin [far right] visit the Transfer Students Center with a donation from UCLARA.

At the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year, the UCLARA Board voted to fund five campus causes: the Food Closet, Community Programs Office (CPO) Emergency Fund, Bruin Resource Center (BRC), Bruin Guardian Scholars, and the Transfer Students Center.

Previously the Board had voted to fund Staff Scholarships, a consistent UCLARA commitment since 2013.

Antonio (Tony) Sandoval, CPO director, accepted the contributions to the Food Closet and Emergency Fund. Al Aubin, Campus & Community Relations Chair, and Elaine Fox, Past President, talked to some of the students who use these and other CPO programs.

Andrew McClure, director of the Bruin Resource Center, accepted the contributions to the BRC and Bruin Guardian Scholars. There is some overlap between these programs, as Bruin Guardian Scholars — former foster youth — depend on the BRC along with undocumented students, parents with children, students in recovery and formerly incarcerated students. UCLA has created space for students who are part of many communities, Al noted.

The last stop for Al and Elaine was the Transfer Students Center in Kerckhoff Hall. Sarah Molitoris, the assistant director, gave them a thumbnail sketch of today's transfer students and the challenges they face. There were more than 7,600 transfer students enrolled at UCLA in the academic year that just ended.

Activities for UCLARA Members

Keeping our members engaged is a mission-critical objective. Although UCLARA has a series of monthly programs during the school year, we have programs during the summer as well. The desire for in-person activities, especially now that the pandemic has been subdued, has proved to be very important to all those who attend our programs. They want to see and speak with their friends and colleagues in a non-electronic atmosphere.

We have a monthly in-person activity (might be an art museum tour, a walk in a garden, or a specialty attraction). We continue with virtual activities as well (like an art lecture, a historical tour, or an architectural tour) because our members are far-flung or have transportation issues.

— *Michael Heafey*

Save the Date!
UCLA Volunteer Day
Saturday, September 30

Hikes are another way to bring members together. Who doesn't love the outdoors? If you feel like a walk up in the hills or on the flats, surrounded by lush foliage or grasslands, with flowering brush and amazing views of the city or coastline — all the while chatting and laughing with other friendly retirees — then the UCLARA Hiking Club is the place for you! We welcome all levels of hikers and provide a brief description of each proposed trail, so the hiker can choose the hike most appropriate for their level.

Hikes range from several miles on flat surfaces with interesting landmarks for beginners (Baldwin Hills Overlook Trail and Stoneview Nature Center), to 3-4 miles with sweeping views of the ocean while on steep and rocky dirt trails for experienced hikers (Temescal Waterfall Trail or Los Lions Trail). The best part of hiking is the camaraderie and good feelings you develop with fellow fun-loving retirees, enjoying the sights, sounds and fragrances of being outdoors.

— *Elizabeth Juncosa*

Alumna Shares Her ‘Forever’ Plan

Way back, I remember always wanting to make a difference.” Ann Wong explains, “When I was 13 years old, I decided the way to do this was to become a teacher. Years later, I majored in education and got my teaching certificate at UCLA.”

Ann remained close to her alma mater and consistently chose UCLA as the beneficiary of her philanthropic spirit. “Then, I decided that I wanted to make a difference not just now, but after I leave this planet. I created a living trust so that my estate would be handled according to my wishes,” Ann explains. “Some people have a three-year or a five-year plan, so you might call this my forever plan.” True to her lifelong giving spirit and determined focus on making life better, Ann established gifts through her estate, or bequests, to several areas of UCLA.

“First, I wanted to make a gift to honor my mother’s successful battle with cancer. She was a 20-year cancer survivor and the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center was where I thought my gift would reach the most people and have the most impact. It was a perfect fit.”

Later on, Ann attended a UCLA presentation on stroke prevention which sparked her interest in healthy aging. “I realized that most people my age are not as fit as they should be, and I became interested in aging studies, particularly in ways to take care of the heart and the brain and research on the terrible Alzheimer’s disease everyone is afraid of as they get older.” So Ann added gifts from her estate to the UCLA Division of Cardiology, the Department of Neurology and the Longevity Center.

Asked to what she attributes her lifelong dedication to making a difference for all, Ann, who is of Chinese ancestry, says, “I am not exactly sure, but I can relate this to the ingrained Confucian thinking in Asian communities which stresses the importance of being respectful of elders, faithful to country, and of giving back, sharing and doing right.”

For information about establishing a bequest, sample bequest language, or any other flexible ways you can include a philanthropic gift in your estate plans, please contact Devon Brown, Senior Director of Gift Planning, at devonb@support.ucla.edu or 310-794-2213.



Ann Wong on the UCLA Campus

UCLARA CONNECTIONS

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Play Reading Group

This group is open to new members as play readers or “audience.” Currently meeting via Zoom. Email Rochelle Caballero and tell her you read about the group in *UCLARA Connections*. Plays subject to change.

August 10, *Betrayal* by Harold Pinter

September 14, *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder (postponed from June)

October 12, Radio Play - *The Thin Man* by Dashiell Hammett

November 9, *The Rivals* by Richard B. Sheridan

December 14, to be determined

News from the Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center

To all recent retirees, welcome! The Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center (ERRC) is here to help you continue your connection with UCLA. The ERRC serves all retired UCLA faculty/staff as well as their spouses/partners and provides administrative support to the [UCLA Retirees Association](#).

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you need us to verify your eligibility to receive your BruinCard or parking ePermit.

The ERRC can be reached by email at emeriti@errc.ucla.edu or voicemail at 310-825-7456.

The ERRC facilitates the following services and privileges:

- [Parking ePermit](#)— Retired faculty and staff with at least five years of service credit are eligible for discounted parking passes. The ERRC coordinates with Transportation Services to provide retiree permits.
- **BruinCards**—All retired faculty and staff are eligible for a retiree BruinCard, which acts as a library card and provides discounts at select campus events and venues.
- **Best way to contact the BruinCard Center:** They are operating at a satellite location and you must have a scheduled appointment time.
- **Bruin Online**—Staff retirees' Bruin Online email accounts continue upon retirement. They are not your departmental email address and do not include other services, such as VPN and secured on-campus Wi-Fi access.
- **UCLA Store Discounts** – Retirees qualify for both the Staff Appreciation Day sale program and the Academic Discount program.
- **UCLA Extension** – Staff retirees and emeriti professors are entitled to a [25% discount](#) on Extension courses

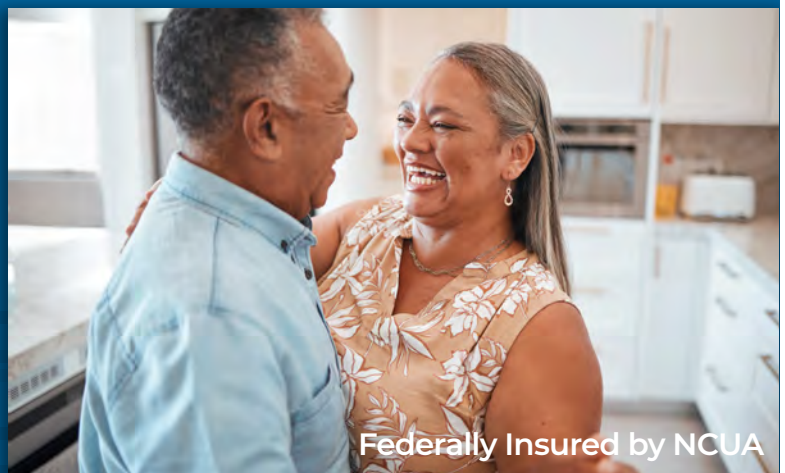
Sister Campuses Retirement Center Contacts - UC Retirement Centers serve retired faculty and staff communities through advocacy, education and personalized services pre- and post- retirement, and create strategic partnerships between campuses and the Office of the President. If you relocate, you may want to connect with [other Retirement Centers](#).



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