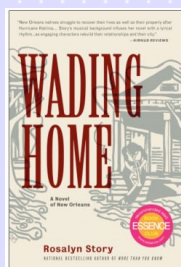




Special points of
interest:



Have you made a contribu-
tion to the annual cam-
paign?



**Wading Home by Rosalyn
Story has been selected as
the Freshman Summer
Reading book.**

The Chair's Corner by Herlie Hendrix

As chair of the Emeritus College Advisory Board, I am proud of the accomplishments of our faculty, students, and the contributions of our Emeritus College. We enjoy celebrating the successes and the impact the Emeritus College has made in supporting Clemson University.

The Emeritus College's support of Clemson today is due to the gifts from friends, alumni, and emeriti like you-- people who care about Clemson's future -- and have always been crucial to our success by providing the Emeritus College with resources vital to the achievement of our students, faculty and programs. I know you share my pride in the campus and agree our College has provided Clemson with excellent support that continues to grow each year, but there is more to do!

On behalf of the Emeritus College, I thank you for your support and ask that you to continue impact Clemson University through your Emeritus College. Your gift, regardless of size, will ensure the Emeritus College continues to build on the legacy of excellence we have created over the nine years of its existence. Next year will be especially important as we celebrate our 10th anniversary! Let's make it very special by expanding our support of Clemson and our students this year!

*Thank you so much for the support
of the Emeritus College in awarding
me the scholarship. ...I am truly hon-
ored...*

Sincerely,

*Brittany Lehmann
First Emeritus Scholar*

*Thank you so much for the scholar-
ship. I am very honored to have re-
ceived this award.*

Respectfully,

*Katherine Vendley
Spring 2011 Recipient*



Advisory Board News

- The EC Curriculum Committee, under the direction of Harold Woodell, recently met with Sean Williams, Chair of the English Department to discuss emeriti participation with ESL (English as a second language) initiatives. A two part plan is currently being reviewed.
- The EC Policy Committee, composed of Martha Dukes, Mary Haque, and Ken Murr reviewed recommendations from the Faculty Senate ad hoc Committee on the Status of Lecturers and rendered an opinion concerning possible implications for the Emeritus College.
- Lucy Rollin has agreed to chair the Emeritus College 10th Anniversary Celebration Committee. If anyone would like to serve on this, or other College committees, please contact the College office at 656-3990 or dsmthrs@clemson.edu.



In Remembrance

Larry Abernathy
Visiting Prof of Counselor Ed
Mayor of Clemson
1948—2012

What's Happening: Upcoming Events

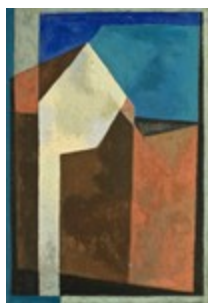
The next newsletter will feature pictures of emeriti travels around the world. Please send electronic photos to dsmt@clermson.edu. Be sure to state who is in the picture and where it was taken.

Super Bowl Commercial



<http://hamptonroads.com/2012/02/doritos-ad-featuring-va-beachs-huff-dog-wins-1-million>

Remember the Dorita's Super Bowl ad featuring the Great Dane Huff? It was produced for \$20 by Jonathan and Matthew Friedman, sons of Donna Reiss and Art Young. It was voted best Super Bowl commercial and the young entrepreneurs won \$1,000,000!



A new art exhibit at the South Carolina State Museum will examine a topic not always quickly associated with the traditions of the Palmetto State — abstract art. *Abstract Art in South*

Carolina: 1949-2012 opened Feb. 24 and will run through August 26 in the Lipscomb Art Gallery with the first inclusive look at the evolution and influences of abstract painting and sculpture in South Carolina. The works of more than 40 artists will be included in the exhibit including those of **Tom Dimond, Professor Emeritus of Art.**

The **Emeritus College Picnic** will be held on **Tuesday, May 8** at the Owen Pavilion from 4:00—6:00.

Join us as we **welcome the Class of 2012.**



It's time to be thinking about nominations for the Distinguished Emeriti Award. Criteria and the nomination form can be found on our web site at www.clemson.edu/emertuscollege.

CALL FOR Presentations Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education

10th Anniversary Conference
Innovations for the Next Decade: A Triangle of Adventures in North Carolina
October 21-24, 2012

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS:
MAY 15, 2012

AROHE seeks proposals for presentations from those interested in all aspects of retirement at colleges and universities, whether they represent campus-based retiree organizations or the broader interests of retirees from institutions of higher learning. For additional information visit www.arohe.org.

What's Happening: Upcoming Events (continued)

Emeritus Lunch at Seasons by the Lake

Join us on Tuesday, April 24 at noon for the second Emeritus Lunch at Seasons.

All emeriti and spouse/guest receive a 10% discount.
Come join the conversation!



On Friday, June 8, Clemson University Emeritus College, in partnership with the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE), will host a networking session at the University Center of Greenville for institutions interested in sharing ideas and programs for retired faculty. About a dozen institutions will receive a personal invitation but all institutions of higher learning are invited.

Success Stories: Serving the Community



Professor Emeritus John Butler gives an informal performance before the David Northington concert at the Brooks Center.



Professor Emeritus Judd Diefendorf talks with Janie Hodge, Clemson's FAR to the NCAA at a NPP!



Emeriti enjoy a NPP at the Hibachi Grill. The programs are coordinated by Emerita Carol Ward.

The Campaign: *Continuing to Serve*



\$1000—Platinum Level

Ron Moran

\$500—Gold Plus Level

Adolph Beyerlein

John Kenelly

Rob Roy McGregor

Helene Riley

\$250—Gold Level

Walt & Rameth Owens

Jerry Reel

Paul Zielinski

\$100—Silver Plus Level

Carolyn Briscoe

Farrell Brown

Bruce Cook

Joe Dickey

Bob Edwards

Robert Fjeld

Larry Gahan

Bob Lambert

Don McKale

Jim Matthews

Wayne Patterson

Frank Paul

(con't)

Lucy Rollin

Roger Rollin

Ray Sawyer

Dave Senn

Diane Smathers

Ab Snell

Sam Wang

Bud Webb

Bill West

Client Whitehurst

Harold Woodell

Art Young

\$50—Silver Level

John Acorn

Joe Arbena

John Bennett

Walt Castro

Deuel Griffin

Ed Freeman

Herlie Hendrix

Almeda Jacks

Dick Klein

Max Loyd

John Syme

Myles/Susan Wallace

Marian Withington

Continue to serve your College by making a donation today! Make your check out to Clemson University Foundation, note Emeritus College on the memo line, and mail to the Emeritus College, E301A Martin Hall, Clemson, SC, 29634. OR go on line to our website at www.clemson.edu/emericuscollege and download the donor card to pay by credit card.

A Report on the State Retirement System

By Holley Ulbrich, Alumni Distinguished Professor Emerita of Economics

When I spoke to NPP in February, the legislation affecting the state retirement system had not yet been finalized, and a number of proposals were in play. The most important feature of our state retirement system, like Social Security, is that it is a defined benefit program rather than a defined contribution program. Defined benefit means that your monthly check is based on your earnings and years of service, and if the system has problems coming up with the revenue, the risk of having to pony up more funds falls to the employer, in this case the state of South Carolina. Defined contribution programs mean that how much you get each month depends on how much you and your employer put into the system and how well those investments have performed and continue to perform. The risk falls on the individual retiree. Many private employers and some public employers have shifted from a defined benefit program to a defined contribution program, putting the risk of outliving one's assets on the worker rather than the system. Some of our younger faculty have also chosen the optional defined contribution system because it is more portable than a defined benefit program. But a major advantage of a defined benefit program is that it includes an insurance ele-

ment, so that those who live longer than expected are subsidized by those who leave the system without retiring and just withdraw their contributions, and by those who die at a younger than average age. There is no insurance element in a defined contribution system.

The SC Retirement System is funded by employee contributions of 10.6% for employers, 6.5% for retirees. The system is currently actuarially underfunded, with \$13 billion being the most commonly cited figure. Underfunding refers to the ability to continue to pay benefits to present and future retirees at the present rate. Asset performance, earlier retirement, and other factors contributed to the underfunding.

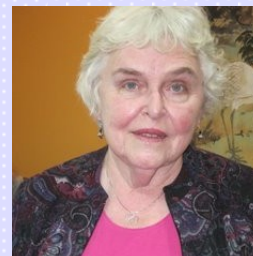
The Legislature considered a number of options, following the lead of some 20 other states that have reformed their pension systems in the last two years because of underfunding. Among the options considered were having an age requirement as well as a years of service requirement; eliminating the TERI program; raising the contribution rates; increasing the number of years for vesting (entitlement to a pension) from five years to ten; and changing the number of years counted for average final compensation. The final bill that has passed the House and is now in the Senate and likely to pass contains relatively modest changes.

Workers hired after July 1 will have to work 30 years instead of 28 for full benefits. The contri-

bution rate for workers will rise from 6.5% to 7.5% over two years. The temporary increase in employer contribution last November will also be made permanent at 10.6%. Benefits will be based on the last five years rather than three years of earnings, and money paid for overtime, unused vacation and unused sick day will no longer be included. For retirees, the most important change is that the COLA will only happen if the return on the pension's portfolio exceeds 7.5% over five years. These changes are far more modest than some of those considered earlier because South Carolina's retirement system is in better shape than those of many other states. However, the higher contribution rate will affect current workers, including retired rehired, and the higher employer contribution is another challenge to the existing budgetary difficulties of colleges and universities as well as other state agencies.

So your pensions are safe, at least for now, but don't expect regular cost of living adjustments as long as inflation and interest rates remain low. As so often happens, a great hue and cry for dramatic and significant change was, in the end, resolved with an assortment of patches and modest adjustments.

Holley Ulbrich, Alumni Distinguished Professor Emerita of Economics



Holley Ulbrich is known for her work as a public policy analyst.

"So your pensions are safe, at least for now, but don't expect regular cost of living adjustments as long as inflation and interest rates remain low."



Spotlight on.... Diane Smathers

The voice on the phone, the signature on the stationary, the person behind the scenes—that is Diane Smathers, Director of the Emeritus College. A seasoned



administrator, Diane became the Director in 2005. She has often been heard to say, "As director of the Emeritus College, I have the best job on campus."

In August of this year, Diane will be installed as President of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi dur-

ing its convention in St. Louis, Missouri. Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest, largest, most prestigious, all discipline honor society in the country with 118,000 active members. This is quite an honor not only for



Diane, but also for our College and for Clemson University. She will serve in this role for two years and will travel the country representing the honor society.

"I am very humbled by this opportunity and look forward to it" states Diane.

Book Review

by Rameth Richard Owens

The current book choice is a fascinating combination of memoir, social and political commentary, and spy thriller. Published in 2010, its title is *A Time to Betray: The Astonishing Double Life of a CIA Agent inside the Revolutionary Guards of Iran*. Its author is an Iranian national, now a U.S. citizen, writing under the pseudonym of Reza Kahlili. To protect himself and his family as well as those with whom he worked in the revolutionary movement, Kahlili changed all names (except those of officials within the Islamic Republic of Iran) and altered both sequences and sometimes locations of events. However, recollections of his experiences and observations reflect a remarkably candid and sensitive attempt to recount faithfully what actually happened.

Reza's family was part of the new professional middle class that emerged with Iran's modernization in the 20th century. His father was a civil engineer, who had studied in the U.S. in the 1940s. And Reza, with his father's support, traveled to the U.S. in the 1970s, completing his undergraduate work and earning a master's degree in computer science at the University of Southern California. Secular in outlook, the Kahlilis were clearly comfortable economically. Culturally they were also very secure, taking pride in Iran's ancient imperial tradition that dated back to 500 BC with Cyrus the Great. They were Muslim, but, except for grandmother Kahlili, their participation was casual, a ceremonial expression of their culture. Grandfather spoke dismissively of clerics, wishing they'd all go back to where they'd "learned all this nonsense" (13). Reza himself was indifferent until his father died suddenly during his senior year.

Back home in Iran, following the Shah's ouster in February 1979, Reza was invited (through the influence of a devout childhood friend, Kazem) to manage all the Revolutionary Guards' computer needs. Initially energized by reform possibilities opened by the Shah's departure, Reza accepted. He soon became disillusioned and horrified after Ayatollah Khomeini and his supporters seized control of Iran in November 1979. As had other revolutions in their radical phases (England's, mid-17th C, and France's, late 18th C), the Ayatollah's became increasingly vicious and violent. In pursuit of purity in behavior and thought, the regime arrested, tortured, and shot all who opposed or criticized government policies – or happened to be an opponent/critic's relative. His childhood friend, Naser, who dared support the Mujahedin, was among those devoured (as were his teen-aged brother and sister). Such madness, done in the name of Allah, drove Reza to desperation.

Moved by compassion for his suffering people and by his passionate desire to reclaim Iran's ancient civilization, Reza embarked on the dangerous mission of spying for the United States. No other Iranian knew, not even his wife, Somaya, until the horrendous events of 9/11. When he confided what he termed his betrayal to her, she was relieved that he had not, in fact, really been *one of them* (the Guards), and she insisted that he tell his story.

Some of the information which he provided the CIA was new (such as Khomeini's role in planning the American Embassy occupation in 1979); some supplemented what was already known (Iran's financing of Hezbollah and other Islamic extremists). As a voice from within the revolution in the early 1980s, Reza made valuable contributions toward U.S. counterintelligence. In a recent interview on Cable News he affirmed that he would do the same again, if confronted with the decision. However, he expressed disappointment that U.S. policymakers do not appreciate the mullahs' fanatical commitment to Islam's triumph over the West and the subsequent establishment of an omnipotent caliphate.

Kahlili communicated with visceral clarity the tension and fear that his simultaneous work with the Revolutionary Guards and the CIA generated. For me reading the memoir evoked such anxiety that more than once I had to remind myself that, as its author, Reza obviously survived. Some reviewers have criticized his narrative as contrived, with events sometimes dovetailing unrealistically. Apparently awards' judges have disagreed, selecting *A Time to Betray* winner of the 2011 International Book Award for both best new non-fiction and best autobiography/ memoir. It is a gripping account by an incredibly courageous human being!



(Amazon, \$5.97 – 15.60; to borrow mine, rowens@clemson.edu)



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Calendar of Events

April 19.....**No Power Point Seminar**
April.....Newsletter
April 24.....Advisory Board Meeting
Emeritus Lunch at Seasons
May 8.....Welcome Picnic
May 10.....General Faculty Meeting
Awarding Emeritus Certificates
June.....Newsletter

***Don't simply retire from something; have
something to retire to.***
— Harry Emerson Fosdick

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