

Osher Lifelong Learning
Institute at UCSC
March, 2022

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A publication of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCSC (OLLI), a UCSC Friends Group

OLLI at UCSC is a community of women and men from diverse educational, occupational and geographic backgrounds who are devoted to the pursuit of learning. We enjoy spirited discussions, reading and exploring new interests. Money raised from our activities is used to fund scholarships for transfer and re-entry students at UCSC.

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OLLI Newsletter

March 2022

Zoom General Meeting

March 20, 2022

10:00 AM Zoom Room opens

10:00 Breakout Groups (these are fun)

10:30 Business Meeting

10:45 Lecture

Earth Futures



Sandra Faber, University Professor Emerita of Astronomy and Astrophysics at UCSC

Educated at Swarthmore College and Harvard, Professor Faber joined the faculty at UC Santa Cruz in 1972. In her highly productive career Professor Faber has made seminal contributions as both a theorist and as an astronomical observer. Her work has focused on the evolution of galaxies and the nature of dark matter. She played a major role in the development of the Keck telescopes in Hawaii and Hubble Space telescope. In recent years she has become concerned about the future of planet earth in the next millennium, and that will be the focus of her talk.

President's Message

Barry Bowman

The Future

In 2019 The Humanities Institute at UCSC sponsored an unusual debate. "What role should thinking about the far future—1,000 years ahead and beyond—play in research on campus?" The proponents of such research were three professors from the Physics and Astronomy departments. The opponents were three professors from the Humanities - Philosophy, Linguistics and Latin American and Latino Studies departments. One side argued that we need to start thinking about the long-term effects of our developing technologies and recognize the physical limits of our planet. The other side was concerned about our lack of progress in dealing with current serious problems such as inequality and poverty. At the end of the debate the final vote narrowly supported the Humanities point of view.



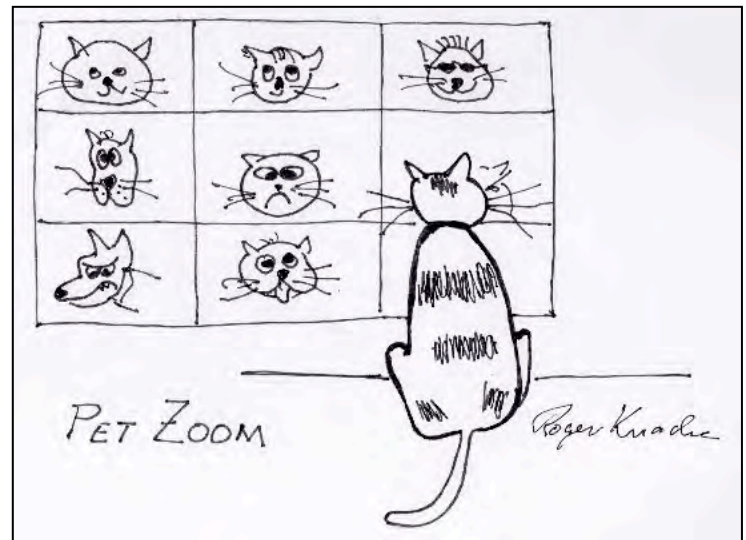
In OLLI we are certainly concerned about the current problems of the world, but we also think about the future. We have interest groups such as Sustainability, The Future of Capitalism, Great Decisions, and Concepts Exchange, which have great discussions about the future. OLLI members understand how much can change in the course of a human lifetime. Do you remember the cartoon character, Dick Tracy, who could communicate with people by talking to his wristwatch? Would that ever be possible?

I remembered the 2019 debate after talking with our upcoming speaker Sandy Faber. She was one of the proponents in the debate. As an astronomer, much of her career has focused on truly ancient history – analyzing light that took millions or billions of years to reach our planet. But this study of other worlds has led us to understand the future of our world. Professor Faber has made seminal contributions to our understanding of the universe. She was one of the principal scientists involved in the discovery of dark matter. When the first photos from the Hubble Space Telescope were found to be blurry, she diagnosed the problem and led the team that fixed the problem. In 2013 she was given the National Medal of Science by President Obama. In recent years Professor Faber has become concerned about the future of our planet, not because of dangers from the sky but because of the activities of the human population. This will be the subject of her talk. Don't miss it.

* * * * *

Another topic:

Roger Knacke gave two wonderful presentations in his recent course "Missions to our Origins." Each presentation had a special surprise visitor from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. For the lecture on the LUCY Mission, which will examine asteroids near Jupiter, we were joined by Keith Noll, a past student of Roger's. Dr Noll is now the Project Scientist for the Lucy Mission. The second lecture was focused on the James Webb Space Telescope. Roger had been a fellow graduate student with John Mather who is now the leader of the Webb Telescope Project. Mather won the Nobel prize in Physics in 2006. It was a real treat to be face to face with these accomplished scientists and be able to ask them questions about these amazing projects. Both lectures, including the Q&A, were recorded. If you would like to hear one or both, just send me a request via email at bbowman@ucsc.edu.



Artwork by Roger Knacke

--Barry

Courses 2022

SANTA CRUZ SHAKESPEARE: THE SEASON'S PLAYS

Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; 10 a.m. to Noon
 Zoom online
 Instructor: Michael Warren

The texts for this series of five lectures will be two great plays that will probably be familiar to local audiences: *Twelfth Night* and *The Tempest*.

Twelfth Night is the last of Shakespeare's "romantic" comedies. It involves familiar comic elements like a pair of twins, cross-dressing, and mistaken identity. However, it is also a subtle and moving exploration of the complexities of love and desire and of the relation of personal pleasure to social responsibility. And much of it expressed in some of Shakespeare's greatest lyric verse.



The Tempest is one of Shakespeare's last plays, a theatrical work unlike anything that he had created before. Set on an imaginary Mediterranean island, it blends a shipwreck, revenge, political intrigue, magic, young love, low comedy, fantastic beings, and music and dance to create a philosophical extravaganza that explores the nature of humankind. And again, there is great poetry.

For the first class please read *Twelfth Night* to the end of Act 3.

If you wish to purchase editions of the plays that are both responsibly annotated and inexpensive, I recommend either the Pelican or Folger series. One can access the Folger texts online for free at <shakespeare.folger.edu>, but they are without notes.

Michael, a very knowledgeable and entertaining Shakespeare scholar will discuss with us the two plays that Santa Cruz Shakespeare will be presenting next Summer, *Twelfth Night* and *The Tempest*. Over the years our members have found that taking this course greatly enhances their understanding and enjoyment of the plays.

Michael Warren, Professor Emeritus of Literature at UCSC is Textual Consultant and Dramaturge to Santa Cruz Shakespeare.

Women's Lives in Late Antiquity and Byzantium

Thursdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Zoom online

Instructor: Maureen McGuire

Through a study of visual and material culture, this course will explore the lives of women in Late Antiquity and Byzantium, a period that roughly spans the 2nd century AC until the mid-15th century AC in the Eastern Mediterranean. We will examine different social, religious, and political attitudes toward women and gender, and their impact on women's roles in society as family members, caregivers, teachers, religious guides, laborers, and symbols of piety and power.

Maureen is a graduate student at UCSC. She earned a BA and MA in art history. She researches the cultural patronage of Late Antique and Byzantine royal women.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Commentary by Professor Emerita Ronnie Gruhn



We are again fortunate to have Ronnie Gruhn, Professor Emerita of Politics at UCSC, as one of our teachers. She has a passionate and undiminished interest in reading, writing, and talking about world affairs. Her courses offer powerful insights into what is happening today. Ronnie has been very generous in sharing her knowledge with OLLI members, and her courses have been exceedingly well attended.

Ronnie continues every other Monday. Watch your inbox for an email from OLLI with a link to the commentary.

New Technologies Change How Wars Are Fought: Commentary by Prof. Emerita Ronnie Gruhn, 2-7-22
<https://youtu.be/X1nYUgsb-EM>

People in a World of Crises: Commentary by Prof. Emerita Ronnie Gruhn, 2-21-22
<https://youtu.be/vKsnCps2IGI>

Recent Course Recordings

Food & Biochemistry #3 2022
<https://youtu.be/lqFTp2-Kzhk>

Food & Biochemistry #4 2022
<https://youtu.be/pZV0p32vefA>

Food and Biochemistry #5 2022
https://youtu.be/LR_gW2ZjIX0

OLLI General Meeting Speaker: Burney Le Boeuf, Professor Emeritus of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCSC
“Elephant Seals: Coping with Challenges of Life at Sea and on Land”
https://youtu.be/3_jL6B-3ljU

Subscribe to the OLLI UCSC YouTube channel by going to
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU7U1Mly_RuSsk4QjQD4WNw

Click [here](#) to see videos of past courses and commentaries on YouTube!

Where in the World

Joan and Lou Rose

For 1500 years, the Old Silk Road teemed with camel caravans laden with silk, porcelain, tea, and spices wending their way from Asia to Europe.



MODERN CARAVAN: Central Asia isn't easy for independent travelers because of security issues - and little English is spoken. So, although we vastly prefer traveling on our own, we took a 3-week tour with ElderTreks* along part of the Old Silk Road. The 12 of us travelers and our two guides rode in a small bus - a modern-day camel caravan!



Bib-Khanym Mosque, Samarkand

NO WOMEN IN SIGHT: The two of us were strolling in Saidu Sharif, Pakistan, when a man hailed us from his rooftop and invited us up for tea. He told us about his upper middle-class life while his small son served us mint tea; no women were in evidence. Living room photographs were of men and Lou asked to see a photo of his wife and daughters - but quickly realized this was taboo. When the *muezzin* called the faithful to evening prayers, our host excused himself. We marveled at this elegant, educated man in his tan *shalwar kameeze* (loose, pajama-like clothing) - and shuddered at the strictures his patriarchal religion imposed on females. [In traditional villages, women go out three times in life: when they marry, if they need to go to the hospital, and when they die.]

ARMED GUARDS: From Islamabad, Pakistan, our small bus went up to famed Khyber Pass (with two armed guards for protection) and we peered down into mountainous Afghanistan, through which 75% of the world's heroin was smuggled (in 2000).



Muslim Tomb
Kyrgyzstan

DEJA VU: When we asked about the Taliban's brutal repression in Afghanistan, our well-educated guide's sobering response was: "Much of the fault lies with the West - particularly the United States." When Russia left, the US abruptly pulled out without first stabilizing the area; 1.5 million Afghanis died in the ensuing civil war. The eventual Taliban leaders, according to our guide, were reactionary Islamic students, uneducated but for religion, and had little concept of their country's history and culture and no interest in a viable nation state; their sole aim was to create the world's purest Islamic country. [20 years later, history repeats itself.]



Trading Bazaar, Kashgar

BORDER CROSSINGS: Then we went up the torturous Karakorum Highway through northern Pakistan and over the 16,000-foot Khunjerab Pass into Xinjiang, China. We visited the ancient Silk Road bazaar in Kashgar - and learned about the local Uyghur people, who fear genocide by China. We headed into Kyrgyzstan and then Uzbekistan - visiting the magnificent, blue-domed mosques of the fabled Silk Route cities of Uzbekistan: Khiva, Bukhara, and Samarkand.

FABLED - AND FABULOUS: Besides poverty, oppression of women, and political turmoil, did we experience anything else along the Old Silk Road? Oh, yes! We loved the gorgeous mountain beauty, extremely friendly people, magnificent buildings, colorful carpets, bustling bazaars...and we learned a lot.

SAFETY LAST: We left via Uzbekistan Airways. The old, Russian-built plane was stripped of anything familiar but seats and windows. No exit signs were evident - nor any exits, either! The overhead "bins" were uncovered shelves with heavy bundles perched precariously over our heads. We lurched into the air - with seats reclining, tray tables open, and seat belts dangling. Much relieved, we bumped down onto the ground at the New Delhi (India) airport.

Our Old Silk Road adventure had come to an end. What next? *Stay tuned...*

*Canadian tour company for adventurous travelers 50+

Who's Who

Ginna Holcombe

Virginia Law, Teacher Extraordinaire

During her childhood in upper Michigan and Wisconsin, Virginia moved often as her father relocated his family to maintain his job during the depression. She graduated from Lawrence College, a small, progressive Wisconsin university renowned for its focus on liberal arts and the second coeducational institution in the country.

Prepared to teach high school Chemistry and English, Virginia wanted to explore beyond the Midwest. During a college spring break with school mates, she found Florida too "flat and buggy." Although Colorado was appealing, California was begging for teachers. In those days, science teachers tended to be men (who also coached sports teams).



Her first venture into teaching was in Hemet CA, a wealthy, conservative ranching community in the San Jacinto Valley, where Virginia taught math, algebra, speech, drama, and social studies and directed the school play. From there it was on to a poor, rough Compton classroom in southern Los Angeles to teach American literature and algebra while attending UCLA for her Master's in Education. At UCLA, she met a fellow teacher and student, Howard Law, whom she married 18 months later.

In 1958, Virginia and Howard explored Europe on a shoestring. They travelled three months throughout the continent, where they found Europeans very interested in Americans. The return trip from France to England was on the Mikhail Kalinin, Russia's newest steamship, and then to the states via the Queen Elizabeth. Arriving in New York with only \$100 to get them back to Wisconsin, they luxuriated at the YMCA and YWCA.

Discouraged by crowded and chaotic high schools, Virginia discovered a whole new world as a mathematician for RAND where she was one of four women among 120 men. Along with other UCLA academics, she was tasked (early computer era) with devising a symbolic language for photo visualization. Although this work was very interesting, she left when Howard relocated to Newport Beach and she gave birth to her first son, Carl, in 1960.

In 1961 they moved to Haight-Ashbury, iconic hippie and counterculture center of the 60s and safe harbor for the gay community. Virginia had two more children, Grant in 1962 and Renee in 1964, and is now enjoying two grandsons. Howard took a job in aerospace with Lockheed Martin when they moved to the quaint Rose Garden neighborhood of San Jose.

Virginia was a full-time teacher for 24 years at West Valley College in Saratoga, where she taught English Composition, World and American Literature, Women Studies, and chaired the Reading Department. She also played a major role in developing, and then administering, a learning services program that served diverse student needs, such as a speech lab for hearing-impaired students, transport carts for wheelchair users, tutorials for Hispanic students, and a learning disabilities strategy. Also during this time, Virginia co-authored a series of programmed workbooks with Houghton-Mifflin entitled *Troubleshooter*. While working toward a PhD from Berkeley's Graduate School of Education, Virginia helped establish an independent local union for the ~300 full-time and ~600 part-time faculty of West Valley College.

In 1979 the Laws moved to Santa Cruz as they approached retirement and joined Lifelong Learners (which became an Osher chapter in 2011). Virginia fondly remembers Paula Faris warmly welcoming her into the group. Now a widow, Virginia has many interests, including literature, science, and history. She led the first New Yorker interest group, which is still running and has spawned many spin-offs. In addition to interest group leadership, Virginia was president of Lifelong Learners 1997-1999. Five years ago, Virginia initiated the American History and Literature interest group, which she continues to lead today.

We thank Virginia for her contributions.

Interest Groups

Gianna Holcombe

Wednesday Walkers enjoy a beautiful day and walk:



Left to right in back are Jean, Rick, Susan, Wade, Garret, and Dave;
in front are Pat, Anandi (group leader), Urmila, Margie, Mikoyo, and Sara.
Through Neary Lagoon Park to Bay St to the wharf and returning by Depot Park.
Interested? Contact [Anandi Paganini 252 8980](mailto:Anandi.Paganini@sbcbglobal.net) or anandipaganini@sbcbglobal.net

Did you know?



Daylight Saving Time (DST) is used to save energy and make better use of daylight. Clocks are set one hour ahead of standard time to make use of more sunlight in spring, summer, and fall evenings Sunday, 13 March 2022 for the US and Canada and one week later for Europe.

Although modern DST has only been used for about 100 years, ancient civilizations engaged in comparable practices thousands of years ago. For example, the Roman water clocks used different scales for different months of the year to adjust daily schedules to solar time.

New Zealand scientist George Vernon Hudson in 1895 proposed a 2-hour shift forward in October and a 2-hour shift back in March but there was no follow-through. In 1905 British builder

William Willett suggested setting clocks ahead 20 minutes on each of the four Sundays in April, and switching them back by the same amount on each of the four Sundays in September, a total of eight time switches per year.

Many sources credit Benjamin Franklin as the first to suggest seasonal time change. However, in a letter to the editor of the Journal of Paris in 1784 entitled "An Economical Project for Diminishing the Cost of Light," Franklin simply suggested that Parisians could economize candle usage by getting people out of bed earlier in the morning. What's more, Franklin meant it as a joke.

Germany popularized DST in 1916 when clocks in the German Empire and its ally, Austria, were moved ahead one hour 30 April 1916—two years into World War I - to minimize the use of artificial lighting to save fuel for the war effort. Within weeks, the United Kingdom, France, and other countries followed suit but most reverted to standard time after the war; it wasn't until World War II that DST returned to most of Europe.

Now used in over 70 countries, DST affects over one billion people. Beginning and end dates vary across countries. In March 2019 the European Parliament voted to stop DST in the European Union in 2021 but, like the rest of the world, Europe was sidetracked by Covid-19 concerns. Several US states have passed bills in favor of permanent DST but Congress first has to pass a federal law allowing states to observe year-round DST.

<https://www.timeanddate.com/time/dst>

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Santa Cruz Baroque Festival

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Kate Erstein, Guenter Vorlop, Joya Chatterjee, Cindy Margolin, Karen Gamell, David Lieby, Dennis Morris, Gail Greenwood, Mark Gordon
 Ginna Holcombe, Barry Bowman, Lois Widom
 ~not shown, Bonita Sebastian, Bill Patterson, Sara Radoff DeShonne Keller, Chris Le Maistre

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*Elected office

Join or Renew Membership. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCSC, Period Ending June 30, 2022

Please consider registering online at our website, <http://olli.ucsc.edu>. It's faster for you, saves us time and money, and helps ensure accuracy.

<p>To join or renew your membership, which includes unlimited participation in our peer-led interest-group program*; enter personal information. Enter credit card information or include your check payable to UC Santa Cruz Foundation. Mail this form to the address at right. For further information, contact Karen Gamell, 831-905-6636, kgamell@yahoo.com. Your membership established with this coupon and payment will end June 30, 2022.</p>	<p>Osher Lifelong Learning Institute UCSC 1840 41st Avenue Ste. 102-350 Capitola, CA 95010</p>
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Personal Information. Please print or to save time and postage, use online registration at <http://olli.ucsc.edu>.

Name	Address	Phone	E-Mail Address
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
..... Name to appear on ID badge if different:		

Check small boxes (☐) above for information you *do not* want published in the OLLI at UCSC member directory. All names are published. We need your email address to send you our periodic email newsletters.

All members will be sent an email link to a monthly OLLI newsletter.

Contribution Information:

We ask a donation of \$60. Please consider an additional donation to the Silvia Miller scholarship program. If funds are limited, in confidence you may contact OLLI president Barry Bowman, bbowman@ucsc.edu, to discuss alternatives.

Membership	Donations	Amount
Membership, OLLI at UCSC	\$60. Membership includes unlimited Interest Group participation*	\$
	Additional contribution to the Silvia Miller Scholarship Fund:	\$
	Total Enclosed:	\$

*Some interest groups have limited membership. You may ask a group's leader to be placed on a waiting list or get help from our interest-group coordinator to form a new group. See our website for more information.

Contributions to the **UC Santa Cruz Foundation** are tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive an acknowledgement of your contributions from the University. *Thank you for your generosity!*

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OLLI Hoops Basketball for women is looking for new members, check out the interest groups page:
<https://olli.ucsc.edu/interest-groups/wbasketball.html>