In Memoriam

A. Russell Buchanan
1906-1993

Department Mourns
Russ Buchanan

Still recovering from the loss of Bob Kelley last August, the Department learned that another of its founding members, A. Russell Buchanan, passed away on November 8 at his home in Yuma, Arizona. He was 87 years old.

In a career at UCSB that began in 1938 and never really ended, Russ Buchanan served as chair of the Social Sciences division that existed before the History Department was created in 1959, and subsequently as Acting Dean of Men, Acting Dean of the Division of Liberal Arts, first Dean of the College of Letters and Science, and Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Affairs.

In 1961, he was appointed Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, a post he held for the next 10 years.

After his retirement in 1973 following 35 years of active service, Russ

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Associates Schedule Evening Of Historic ‘Pastorela’ Show

BY CATHY RUDOLPH

History Associates and their guests are in for a special treat this month as the December program provides an opportunity to participate in one of Santa Barbara's oldest Christmas traditions.

Associates have been invited by the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation to the reconstructed 18th century Chapel in El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park for a performance of "Una Pastorela," a "shepherd's play" about good and evil, on Dec. 16.

Prior to the performance, prize-winning playwright, musician, composer and producer Francisco Gonzalez, who adapted the play from a transcription made by Don Pablo de la Guerra in the 1830s, will deliver a short lecture.

Associates will be admitted to the Chapel at 7:15 p.m. sharp. Dinner (optional) will be served at 6 p.m.

A unique combination of the sacred and the secular, pastorelas were performed for centuries in Europe before being brought to the New World by Spanish padres.

The pastorela relates the story of the struggle of good and evil for the souls of simple shepherds on their way to visit the Christ Child.

To this simple morality play, Native Americans added music, humor, drama and pageantry, creating a new tradition which was a blending of Old and New World cultures.

The pastorelas which resulted became very topical, entertaining theater which was so far removed from the original

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A PROGRAM ABOUT GOOD AND EVIL

Photo by Wm. B. Dewey

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Historia

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Garcia Uses Corona Life To Explain a Generation

The life of longtime labor leader Bert Corona represents how the progressive side of the 1910 Mexican revolution has carried over into American life, Prof. Mario Garcia told a History Associates audience at this year's leadoff luncheon lecture last month.

Born to a family that fled Mexico because of the revolution, Corona grew up in El Paso with a strong commitment to social justice that he learned from the example of his mother and grandmother, both of whom cared for "desperate transients" fleeing West from the dust bowl of the 1930s. He was also inspired by stories about his father, an activist assassinated back in Mexico in 1924, Prof. Garcia said.

After coming to Los Angeles on a basketball scholarship, Corona worked in the warehouses and was recruited as an organizer for the then-new CIO labor union, beginning a career that shows no signs of ending even today.

Although himself an exceptional individual, the 86-year-old Corona is typical of Mexican-Americans of his generation, Prof. Garcia said. "Corona encapsulates the consistent struggle to improve conditions, to achieve social justice," he said. "They never sat around waiting for others to improve things, but took control of their own lives."

Prof. Garcia, whose three years of interviews with Corona have just been published as Memories of Chicano History by University of California Press, said that his work with people like Corona has taught him that acculturation did take place in these immigrant families, despite arguments to the contrary.

Characterizing his book as a Latin American testimonio—a hybrid of autobiography and biography in which Corona's narrative is structured by the interviewer's questions—Prof. Garcia said that the aim of his oral history is to "uncover people who have been left out of the historical canon, people who are not thought of as subjects of [traditional] history."

"Corona encapsulates the consistent struggle to improve conditions, to achieve social justice"

Introduced by Associates President Richard Oglesby as "the pre-eminent historian of Chicano history in the United States," Prof. Garcia first came to UCSB in 1975. He recently returned after a two-year leave of absence to head the Ethnic Studies Program at Yale. His current project, for which he received a coveted Guggenheim Fellowship in 1992-93, is a study of The Chicano Generation in Los Angeles, 1965-1975.
Russ Buchanan

FROM PAGE ONE

Buchanan settled comfortably into a role as elder statesman, generously advising his former colleagues and returning to campus every Spring to congratulate the Buchanan award recipient.

“There is no way to give enough credit to Russell Buchanan for what he did for this department,” History Chair Sears McGee said. “Right at the beginning, he set high standards and insisted that no goal was too high to aim for. That’s a philosophy we still try to live up to.”

In recognition of his services, the University renamed the teaching complex of Ellison Hall Buchanan Hall in 1978.

A U. S. diplomatic historian, Prof. Buchanan’s two-volume study of The United States and World War II, published by Harper and Row in 1964, was long regarded as the definitive study of that topic.

Teaching remained Russ Buchanan’s first love. In 1955, he was the first person selected by his faculty peers to receive a new prize as the professor who “has been most effective in opening new intellectual and cultural vistas to undergraduate students.”

Acting on behalf of the generations of students who benefited from this dedication, the UCSB Alumni Association established the A. Russell Buchanan Award in 1974, bestowed annually by the History Department on the outstanding graduating senior in History.

Van Gelderen Joins Board

JO BETH VAN GELDEREN has agreed to join the Board of Directors of the UCSB History Associates, Chair Richard Oglesby announced. She will replace Joe Finnigan, who retired this year after two terms.

“Jo Beth and Don Van Gelderen have been very active members, and their challenge gifts have really stimulated the fellowship fund,” Oglesby said. “Jo Beth will bring a lot of energy to the Board. We are delighted she was willing to serve.”

Other members of the Board, in addition to Oglesby, are Jarrell Jackman (vice chair), Mary Louise Days (secretary) George Frakes (treasurer), and members-at-large Karen Anderson, Al Clark, Greg de Roulliac, Hal Drake, Sears McGee, Shauna Mika and Cathy Rudolph.

Cortés Census Yields Data For New Book

SARAH CLINE’S MOST recent monograph, The Book of Tributes: Early Sixteenth-Century Censuses from Morelos, has just been published by the UCLA Latin American Center in its Nahuatl Studies Series.

In the early sixteenth century, the Spanish crown was in a dispute with the conqueror of Mexico, Hernando Cortés, over the number of Indians owing him tribute. The crown ordered a census to be done and what has survived of it is the earliest known text in the Nahuatl (Aztec) language.

The censuses from Morelos are house-by-house, person-by-person counts done ca. 1555, only a generation after the conquest of Mexico. They provide rich information on the social, economic, political, and cultural situation.

Three volumes of the census survive with data from six Nahuatl communities. Cline’s publication includes a transcription from the Nahuatl, translation to English and extensive analysis of the data for an entire volume of census material, making it available to scholars who do not have facility with Nahuatl.

In a recent article in Hispanic American Historical Review based on these materials, Prof. Cline concludes that baptism appears to have been an individual’s choice. More men than women were baptized, more children than adults. No one appeared to have either profited or suffered economically because of baptism or its lack.
A Search for ‘Mind Wounds’

Prof. Talbott’s research has attracted the interest of major foundations. Thanks to three major fellowship awards—an Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship for The Huntington Library in Pasadena, a U.C. President’s Fellowship in the Humanities and a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies—he has been able to take a leave from teaching this academic year in order to devote himself to this study.


He is almost finished with a manuscript entitled The Pen-and-Ink Sailor, a study of the career of Charles Middleton, little-known head of England’s shore establishment in the 18th century who laid the foundations for the modern British Navy.

‘I hope to deepen understanding of the stresses of modern war and of the limits of human capacity to withstand them.’

If you are a grad trying to get in touch with an old classmate, or a community member or alum with an article or story, why not drop us a line?

Send your letters to:
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Faculty Notes

Moyer Book Wins Marraro Prize


A study of the way music, previously considered a branch of mathematics, turned into an aesthetic and humanistic subject during the 16th century, *Musica Scientia* is an outgrowth of Prof. Moyer’s larger interest in Renaissance culture. Her current project focuses on the relationship of scholarship and politics in the court culture of Florence.

The Marraro Prize, awarded annually to the best book published on any epoch of Italian History, will be presented to Prof. Moyer in January during the annual convention of the American Historical Association.

The work begins with a summary of ancient and medieval musical thought, emphasizing the importance of the Pythagorean tradition transmitted in Boethius’s *De institutione musica*.

It argues that the lasting impact of this debate calls for a reassessment of the significance of the later Italian Renaissance; much of its strength lay not just in the importance of a single group or movement such as the humanists, but in the interactions among members of various communities — humanists, scholastics, Platonists, and professional musicians — previously examined primarily as isolated groups.

Prof. Moyer came to UCSB last year with a PhD from the University of Michigan. She previously taught at Oregon and the University of Chicago.

French Institute Calls Michael Osborne

Asst. Prof. Michael Osborne will spend the summer as an invited scholar at Institut Francicais de Recherche Scientifique pour le Developpement de Cooperation where he will complete archival research for his book, *Medicine and the Social Order*.

Fogel Translation Wins Prize


Alumni Achievements

Heredity or environment, test case no. 2,871: George E. Frakes (PhD Jacobs, 1966), longtime chair of the Department of History at Santa Barbara City College, retired this year after more than 30 years of service. In the same year, his son, Robert M. Frakes took over as chair of the Department of History at Clarion University in Pennsylvania, where he has taught since receiving his PhD from UCSB in 1990 (Drake).

Susan Lehmann, a member of the ninth Public History class (1984/85) gave a talk in the department on Nov 15. It was titled “Dodging Duds and Drive-by Shootings: A Report from the Trenches of Public History.”

Susan is a consulting historian in Santa Cruz and spoke on her work for the Army conducting a historical structures survey at Fort Hunter Liggett, for the Santa Cruz County Planning Department, and on architectural surveys in Los Angeles and Richmond.

David M. Debs (MA 1971) is Curator of Old Stone House in Vale, Oregon, which is being restored as part of the Malheur Historic Project.

Capt. Nathan H. Beason (MA, 1967) is the new commanding officer of the Surface Warfare Officers School Command in Newport, RI. Prior to that appointment he was commander of a seven-ship multinational naval taskforce operating in support of “Operation Restore Hope” in Somalia.

Robert West (MA, 1969), editor-in-chief of Mellen Research University Press and director of Forschungs Verlag Mellen-Salzburg (a joint venture of Mellen and the University of Salzburg), has published *Loving Children* with Halo Books.

Helen Dunlap (BA, 1968) has been appointed deputy assistant secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington. She was previously executive director of the California Housing Partnership Corporation.

Charles Johnson (BA, 1972) has been promoted to associate director of the Ventura County Museum of History and Art. He is also a columnist for *California History*, published quarterly by the California Historical Society.

Katherine A. S. Siegel (PhD DeConde, 1991) has received an adjunct fellowship at the Heritage Foundation/Salvatori Center for Academic Leadership. She is currently assistant professor of history at Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia.
Pastorela Tradition Continues

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European import that performances were often banned by Church officials.

The pastorela survived as an oral tradition passed down from generation to generation and performed in churches and private homes throughout the New World, including the pueblo of Santa Barbara on New Spain’s far northern frontier.

The pastorelas which result all share the original basic story line, while incorporating into it many variations based on local history and customs.

The modern Santa Barbara version maintains that tradition.

Gonzalez has written original music and updated the script for annual bilingual re-creations in the Presidio Chapel each Christmas season since 1985.

In further keeping with the pastorela tradition, the community cast, ranging in age from the very young to the very old, is a mix of local professional and amateur actors and musicians.

Gonzalez is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning musician, composer, playwright and theatrical producer.

Tickets for the performance alone are $6. For an additional $15, members and their guests can have a complete dinner prior to the performance at Playa Azul Restaurant, 914 Santa Barbara Street, across the street from the chapel.

Reservations, which must be placed by Monday, December 13, can be made by calling the UCSB Office of Community Relations at (805) 893-4388.

French Historian

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David Bowie.”

In his response, Prof. Le Roy Ladurie informed the audience that he had once read one of Prof. Sonnino’s books and was fascinated to discover that Prof. Sonnino actually existed. He also inquired as to whom David Bowie might be, and was gratified to learn that he was very handsome.

Prof. Sonnino, meanwhile, is attempting to get a sabbatical to go to France before his library card is revoked.

Ronald Martin, who received his PhD in early modern European history from UCSB in 1972, is professor and chair of the department of history at Rancho Santiago College. He is currently completing a biography of the Marquis de Champlain, friend and confidential advisor of Louis XIV.