In Memoriam
Larry Badash
1934-2010

A memorial service for Prof. Lawrence Badash will be held on Sunday, Oct. 3 at 1 p.m. in the UCSB Faculty Club.

Prof. Badash, who taught History of Science at UCSB from 1966 until his retirement in 2002, died Aug. 23, only weeks after having been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Prof. Badash had only recently returned from a trip to Asia with his partner, Nancy Hofbauer and was about to embark on a term as treasurer of the History Associates Board.

Both events are symbolic. Because of his long-term interest in Asia, Prof. Badash was one of the first U.S. historians of science to cultivate ties with the Beijing Academy of Sciences when China opened itself to the West.

And his commitment to public service led him first to accept a position on the History Associates Board and then to take over the thankless task of treasurer.

With his customary thoroughness, he was already organizing that position when, as he said in an email, the doctor gave him "months, not years."

Prof. Badash held a NATO Postdoctoral Science Fellowship at Cambridge University and a coveted Guggenheim Fellowship.

There's the Boston tea party and the Mad Hatter's tea party, and of course more recently there's the tax-averse Tea Party that is currently roiling America's political scene.

On Saturday, Oct. 9, the UCSB History Associates will kick off their 2010-11 year of events with a more traditional kind of tea party. This one will take place at Lompoc's famous Penelope's Tea House as part of a field trip to view historic murals and houses in our neighbor to the north.

Events will begin at 10:15 with assembly at the city free parking lot on Ocean Ave. and I Street, a short walk from the Lompoc Valley Historical Society at 207 N. L St. for a private tour of the Fabing-McKay-Spanne House, a Victorian built in 1875.

The property was acquired by the Historical Society in 1964 and has been restored to its prime condition.

Lunch consisting of either quiche, ploughman's platter or high tea will follow at Penelope's (105 W. Ocean Ave.). Penelope's boasts an assortment of some 70 different teas.

After lunch, former History Associates Board member Cathy Rudolph will lead a tour of Lompoc's famous murals, which grace a number of buildings within easy walking distance. The price of tour and lunch is $25 for members and guests, $30 for non-members. Reservations, which are strongly advised because space is limited, may be made by phoning (805-617-0998).
Badash Death Spurs a Host of Memories from Friends, Colleagues

Ed. note: after Prof. Badash’s death, the editor wrote his longtime colleague, Prof. Michael Osborne, that “there doesn’t seem to be any silver lining in this.” Prof. Osborne replied, “I think the silver lining is how happy Larry was the last few years and how much he accomplished in terms of travel, and his big nuclear winter book.”

We now would add a third: the outpouring of testimonials from around the country testify to the varied interests and warm humanity of our late colleague.

We print a small selection here.

An Extraordinary Person

To the Editor:
I had the privilege to meet Larry on a small group trek to Everest Base Camp in 2004. He was a delightful trekking partner. Afterwards we would occasionally correspond about subsequent trips, and I would get his advice about other treks.

It is uncanny that another member of our same 2004 trekking group happened to be in town yesterday, and we met for lunch. Larry’s name came up in the conversation, and we both remembered and talked about what an extraordinary person Larry is. It was only after I got home last night that I received the email indicating Larry had passed away. It is almost as if Larry’s spirit had reached out and joined us for lunch yesterday.

My life is richer for having known Larry. He will long be remembered and cherished.

Martin Klapheke, MD
Professor of Psychiatry
UCF College of Medicine

A Profound Influence

To the Editor:
I was a very minor person in Larry’s life, merely an undergrad student, not even a History major but an ex-nuclear engineering major, for a couple of quarters in a class (amazingly, he trusted me to give a lecture in one of those classes) and a seminar (which had a somewhat profound influence in my life) which would influence both our lives (he was up here collecting information on the history of nuclear winter within the last year).

I met Larry in a class taught by Dr. Bernie Kirtman (Chemistry). That was sufficient incentive to take his classes for the General Education requirement sparing me Western Civilization or US History.

Larry led the way organizing living history with his work (with Hirshfelder and Broida) at a time when historians were just coming to grips that they had better start counting the present and recent past as part of future history.

Larry’s work influenced aspects of my personal career after leaving UCSB (an under-stated campus for a number of reasons) when I would go on to work at JPL/Caltech and where I am now with side consulting arrangements to agencies like the Defense Nuclear Agency (why they picked me for certain advice is beyond me, now retasked to DTRA), and in turn Larry benefitted from the unclassified DNA cast offs I sent him.

It wasn’t for formal, organizational information I learned from him but the informal historical stuff which added extra value to work. In turn I was able to introduce him to a number of nuclear weaponers. He was able to get their insights working for Edward Teller and others, and I would later have a better appreciation when I visited LLNL, LANL, and other locations.

Eugene Miya

P.S. Larry of course was always “Dr.” Badash to me. It was a couple of decades ago that he said, “Call me Larry.”

Commitment to Justice

To the Editor:
We had known Larry for many years as a colleague and friend in Santa Barbara, and since we returned to Scotland five years ago it was one of our great pleasures to visit with Larry and Nancy every time we made a trip back to Santa Barbara to see our friends.

Not only that, but Larry brightened our dark Scottish winters every year with a lovely long letter recounting his latest adventures in the Himalayas or explorations of the Sierras.

As well as his great gift for friendship, we admired Larry’s integrity, his commitment to justice and generosity whether in politics, in the university, or in the intellectual world at large. He was a superb scholar, and he led many others to love learning and to undertake bold and path-breaking projects of their own. We shall always remember him with admiration.
Badash Memories

CONTINUED FROM P. 2
and great affection.

Francesca Bray
Sandy Robertson
A Great Human Being

To the Editor:
I AM SO SORRY to hear that Larry has left us, hopefully for a bet-
ter world. I have known him as far back as I remember (I came
to UCSB in 1964), and spoke to him many times about the
history of physics (my subject) and other things.

Larry had a wide range of
interest, and I am old enough
to have actually participated in
many of the events of interest to
him, so I came to view him as
a constant, reliable and utterly
generous colleague, whom I
was proud and pleased to have
around. It is easy for folks to say
they will miss someone when he
is gone, but in this case I really
will. Both professionally and
personally, he was a treasure,
and there are very few of those
to be found.

Hal Lewis, Physics
Help with PBS

To the Editor:
I NEVER MET Lawrence Badash,
but he was generous enough to
serve as an advisor on my PBS
film project on the lives and
times of Lise Meitner and Otto
Hahn. Never tiring of my ques-
tions and concerns in making
this film, he continuously gave
me the feedback on the script I
needed to make the film.

The film was a major success
and Larry was a big part of
that success. He did the same
for my second film on women
in science, the life of Irene
Joliot-Curie.

I’m sorry that I never got to
meet him. It is my loss, but I
will always remember his gen-
erosity in pushing me to make
my films better. In the end,
Larry told me that my two films
were the best he ever saw on
the subjects. He played a major
role in that accomplishment.
Thank you Larry — thank you
so very much. I will always
remember you.

Rosemarie Reed
‘He was a Treasure’

To the Editor:
I AM VERY saddened to hear of
the demise of Larry Badash. I
had the pleasure of knowing
him professionally for many
years and greatly enjoyed his
friendship and intellect.

I was delighted to see him
three months ago when I was
visiting UCSB. He came to my
seminar even though he was
very tired; he returned from
China on the previous day.

I have been looking forward
to seeing him again. His sudden
illness and passing have cut
short the life of a great friend,
scholar, teacher and a great
human being!

Krishna Dronamraju
Foundation for Genetic Research
Houston, Texas

Many Dimensions

To the Editor:
WHEN LARRY CAME to UCSB
he was the lacrosse club coach
for many years. If I remember
correctly Larry, while in col-
lege, played lacrosse against
Jim Brown (then at Syracuse)
who would later become one of
the best NFL players ever with
the Cleveland Browns.

Larry and Walter Kohn
fought for many years to get UC
out of the business of making
weapons. This was long before
Walter’s Nobel Prize. Larry
distrusted the security
state, and spoke to me several
times about how when Linus
Pauling was denied a visa to go
to a scientific meeting in the UK
on DNA it hurt science.

Larry was a man of many
dimensions and someone who
had many lives, and several
beyond the department.

Michael Osborne
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From The Chair

The Great Transition

The History department is currently undergoing a dra-
matic change. For decades the department has had its own
efficient and friendly staff devoted exclusively to the interests
of its faculty and students. Beginning this summer, our staff
has been folded into the HSSB Administrative Support
Center. We will still be working with many of the same individ-
ual staff members, but now they have been pooled with the
staffs of the other humanities departments in
our building: Classics, East Asian Studies, and
Religious Studies.

It has been a big transition—the entire
configuration of the department has been
upended to make the transition work. The
department lost its main conference room,
a small seminar room, and the chair’s office.

Rooms to replace this lost space are still not
ready, which is frustrating for all of us. There are new
mailbox areas, a new faculty lounge, and a new graduate student
lounge. These spaces have great potential, but do not feel
like “home” yet.

Staff and faculty members alike have been asking, “why
the big change?” The History department, after all, has had
one of the most efficient and helpful staffs on campus. The
short answer is money. By implementing these changes in
HSSB and other buildings, the Division of Humanities and
Fine Arts figures it will save around $400,000 a year. That is
money that will not have to be cut from instructional budgets
and TA allocations. Another consideration was that in the
case of a transfer or retirement, the hiring freeze would make
it impossible to replace a lost staff member. That scenario
would have been disastrous for a big department such as
History. As hard as the transition will be, the alternatives are
equally unpalatable.

In some ways, the process is a complex transfer. There
are very visible savings in the instructional budget, but at the
cost of lost efficiency and decreased morale for staff, students
and faculty (in other buildings, the cost has been even more
dramatic, as layoffs have occurred). These costs are invis-
able on budgets and spreadsheets, but are nevertheless very
real. The HSSB staff has worked incredibly hard to make
this transition work, but its size and complexity is daunting,
especially when much regular work needs to be done. Over
time, things will improve — more classrooms and conference
rooms will be renovated, work routines perfected, and the
inevitable rough spots ironed out. But getting to that point
is not going to be easy. There is no hiding the fact even after
the transition is completed, we will all miss important parts
of our “traditional” organization.

John Majewski
Chair
Memories
CONTINUED FROM P. 3
An Education
To the Editor:
I met Larry on a Santa Barbara Sierra club hike. I soon realized that he was one of the most enjoyable and interesting people to talk to. I would always try to drive or ride in the same car so we could talk. I have always been interested in science and history and so talking with Larry was always an education.

It was always interesting to talk to Larry about Nepal, the people and the treks that Larry took. I saw Larry at a BBQ earlier this summer. He was with Nancy and in good spirits and looked to be in good health. He said he didn’t hike any more but did lot of walking. I said that walking is hiking but without carrying a bag of stuff.

I have always been very impressed with Larry. He was always very generous with his praise. His hiking, trekking, his support of the people of Nepal, his work with Search and Rescue, his support of ACLU and his work at UCSB. It is a great loss to many circles that Larry is no longer with us.

Tony Biegen
President's Corner

Welcome, UCSB History Associates membership, to the 2010-2011 academic year. Your board of directors has begun to organize a very special selection of events to raise money for our scholarship and fellowship awards.

These events are carefully planned to educate and entertain their audiences, and we are always pleased to hear that you have enjoyed them.

Our first program is a unique experience: a historic house visit, lunch, and a walking tour in Lompoc, our neighboring city in western Santa Barbara County.

The first stop will be to the Fabing-McKay-Spanne House, a Victorian house museum.

The tour of Lompoc’s famous murals will be led by UCSB alumna Cathy Rudolph, a former member of our board.

At Penelope’s participants have a choice of lunches or elegant afternoon tea. As always, guests and prospective members are welcome. Send in your reservations soon, as space is limited. Please provide your own transportation.

The board was happy to greet Cheryl Kelly, executive assistant to the vice chancellor, at our summer retreat. She is a representative of the administrative staff who will be providing assistance to our volunteer support group.

Mary Louise Days
President

UCSB Scores Rise In National Ratings

UCSB gained some of the highest national rankings in its history in results released in August and September.

UCSB ranked 9th out of 107 in the new U.S. News and World Report list of "Top 50 Public National Universities” and 11th out of 258 in the Washington Monthly list—a rise from 21st in the previous year.

Even better was a British ranking: the London Times put UCSB 29th in research productivity and impact out of 2000 universities it surveyed worldwide.

The different numbers reflect different criteria used by the rating agencies.

Washington Monthly’s chief criterion is "social responsibility," according to Prof. Steve Humphreys, who has served on both UCSB and systemwide planning committees.

"They look at who you admit, how many graduates, how many grads take public service jobs," he said.

By contrast, he added, U.S. News looks at "how closely you mimic an Ivy League school."

This explains why UCSB was 9th in public universities in the U.S. News survey but 39th on its list of "Best National Universities," which includes private schools.

Most telling in this regard was the London Times survey. While UCSB’s rank was relatively high in the categories of research and impact, it fell to 76th overall when other criteria, such as international mix of students, were taken into account.

Scholars have expressed caution about using these studies, and the U.S. News annual rankings have been particularly criticized.

However, Prof. Humphreys said, "even if one takes rankings of this sort with several grains of salt, it is gratifying to be noticed."

"Grain of salt or not," he added, "UCSB is ranking extraordinarily well in a very diverse set of rankings, each based on different criteria."

UCSB did fall in one listing. It fell from 12th to 8th in Playboy’s ranking of Top 10 Party Schools. Faculty did not seem to be too upset by that change.

Another Term, Another Award
Prof. Pekka Hämäläinan’s Commanche Empire: How the Rise and Fall of an Indigenous Empire Shaped the Course of American History (Yale, 2008) picked up another award over the summer, being named to receive the John C. Ewer Award of the Western History Assn. for best book on North American Indian ethnohistory.

Prof. Hämäläinan’s study had previously received a dozen prizes, including the 2009 Merle Curti Award of LE T US H E A R F R O M Y O U

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:
Editor, Historia
Department of History
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410
or email: drake@history.ucsb.edu
Badash

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He spent a semester as visiting professor of international relations at Meiji Gakuin University in Yokohama.


With Profs. Carroll Pursell and later Michael Osborne and Anita Guerrini, Prof. Badash turned UCSB into an internationally recognized program in the history of science and technology.

"Larry encouraged his students to focus on the impact of science on society," Dr. Peter Neushul, one of Prof. Badash’s students, wrote in the Sept. 7 issue of the Santa Barbara Independent.

"He believed in the social responsibility of scientists whose research can have an astonishing impact on the world.

"Larry’s teaching and writing warned that science and scientists can have an impact that stretches far beyond the ivory tower of academe and that society ignores science at its peril."

In lieu of flowers, Prof. Badash’s children have asked friends to donate to The Badash Prize in the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, the Santa Barbara Chapter of the ACLU, or the Los Padres Sierra Club.


Smallest Class of New Grad Students In Memory Arrives as Dept Downsizes

SEVEN NEW GRADUATE students—the smallest class of new History graduate students in recent memory—arrived on campus this term.

Two additional students who deferred admission might still join them, according to Prof. Sharon Farmer, who is serving as director of graduate studies.

She said the small number of graduate students was the result of deliberate downsizing.

"Our decision to move to a smaller admissions class was based on reductions in the History department Teaching Assistant budget," she said.

"With annual resident fees now $11,000, not counting living expenses, it was no longer responsible on the part of the department to simply assume that graduate students could make their own way financially."

Because of rising costs and the fact that the department is now competing for some of the best graduate students in the nation, Prof. Farmer said, "we need to offer multi-year packages of financial support."

However, because an unusually large class of graduate students enrolled two years ago, combined with the cuts in TA allocation, the bulk of the department's teaching positions were already committed to continuing students.

Teaching Assistant positions are the department’s primary means of graduate students support.

"It is our hope that more Teaching Assistantships will open up in the fall of 2011, and thus we will be able to admit a slightly larger class for the 2011-2012 academic year," Prof. Farmer said.

This year’s class makes up in quality what it lacks in quantity, Prof. Farmer said.

"It class includes four recipients of central fellowships—our highest take rate ever of students receiving prestigious recruitment packages from the graduate division," she said.

The entering class is made up of three Americanists, two Asianists and one each modern European and Latin American historian.

The new students are:

Elijah Bender (Japan), Hanni Jalil (Latin America), Annette Kassis (U.S.), Eun Ah Kim (ancient China), Joshua Rocha (modern Europe), Jason Saltoun-Ebin (U.S.) and Cody Stephens (U.S.).

The new students were selected out of a pool that was only slightly smaller than the large group of students who applied the previous year.

A total of 124 students applied for admission this year, compared with 148 in 2009.

Hämäläinen

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the Organization of American Historians for the best book in social and/or intellectual history and Columbia University’s Bancroft Prize for "exceptional merit in the fields of American history, biography and diplomacy."

Comanche Empire also was named runner-up for the 2009 Cundill International Prize in History at McGill University,

NEW GRAD STUDENTS, STANDING (L. TO R.): EUN AH KIM, ANNETTE KASSIS, JOSHUA ROCHA, HANNI JALIL, DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES SHARON FARMER, HISTORY CHAIR JOHN MAJEWSKI, CODY STEPHENS. SEATED (L. TO R.): ELIJAH BENDER, GRADUATE ASSISTANT DARCY RITZAU, JASON SALTOUN-EBIN.
Enclosed are my annual membership dues of $ _______

- Active $35
- Corresponding 15

(Available to residents outside of Santa Barbara County only)

In addition to my membership dues, enclosed is:

- $25 to obtain a UCSB Library card
- $____ gift to the History Associates Graduate Fellowship Fund.
- $____ gift to the History Associates Dick Cook Fund.
- $____ gift to the History Associates _______ Fund.
  (specify other scholarship fund)

Note: Gifts of $1,000 or more qualify for one-year membership in the Chancellor’s Council.

Name: __________________________
Address: __________________________
City/State/Zip: __________________________
Phone: __________________________

E-mail: __________________________

Membership dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts to the scholarship fund are considered charitable donations.

Please make your check payable to the UCSB History Associates and return it to:

History Associates
Department of History
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410

Questions? call (805) 893-2991

A visitor to what used to be the History supply room recently encountered this stockpile of pain relievers and first aid supplies. Receptionist Vanessa Moore assured Historía that the display had nothing to do with creation of the new Administrative Center for HSSB. "It's just routine housecleaning," she said.

Humanities Dean Explains Need For New Administrative Structure

The new Administrative Centers being created around campus are a response to budget reductions and will not change academic department structure, Humanities and Fine Arts (HFA) Dean David Marshall wrote recently in a memo to faculty and staff.

The new centers are consolidating staff services that previously have been housed in individual departments. Under the new structure, all departments in the same building will be served by a single, centralized administrative center.

"Since HFA had a large number of small departments (25% had fewer than 3 staff FTE; 40% had fewer than 4 staff FTE; and 60% had fewer than 5 staff FTE) and our large departments were lean, we could not reduce staff levels and leave the current support system intact," Dean Marshall wrote.

Furthermore, he wrote, "when we analyzed ratios of student FTE to staff, majors to staff, graduate students to staff, as well as other budgetary measures, we found an inequitable distribution of staff and support funds across the Division.

By consolidating, the Division was able to mitigate another round of deep cuts in the instructional program, which had taken the brunt of earlier cuts.

The administrative changes "allowed us to reduce the projected cuts to the instructional budget by almost half," he reported.

Priority was given to protecting teaching assistant positions, 64 of which had been eliminated in prior cuts.

Some faculty have been concerned that these changes will diminish departmental autonomy, and Dean Marshall conceded that "some decisions about staff support and administration ... will no longer be solely departmental decisions."

But he expressed confidence that in coming years the Division "will be better able to leverage resources and add new staff in such areas as technology support and research development" and "advance the interdisciplinary culture that has made UC Santa Barbara distinctive" among major research institutions.