PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

As of the middle of October, RAPS has 334 current members, including 223 faculty, 38 staff, 10 spouses of retirees, and 63 non-designated. Over a hundred of you are recipients of a one-year complimentary membership. We hope you are enjoying some of these benefits of membership:

- The RAPS Sheet, our monthly newsletter
- RAPS-sponsored events
- RAPS activity groups, i.e., the Book Club, the Bridge group, and the hikers.
- Forwarding of the monthly edition of Currently to you either via e-mail or regular US mail. (Note: If you are not receiving Currently, let Darshana Patel, Office Manager, know and she will add you to the list of recipients.
- Free admission to many of the musical programs sponsored by the School of Fine and Performing Arts.
- E-mail account for retired staff for a small fee.

We have in the works a plan to collaborate with OASIS in a discussion class during Winter term. As some of you may know, OASIS “is a national education organization dedicated to enriching the lives of mature adults.” OASIS sponsors programs in the arts, humanities, health, technology, and volunteer service. The plan is to hold a discussion class composed of RAPS and OASIS members as a follow-up to the World Affairs Council lecture series held on the PSU campus. Class members would attend a Friday noon lecture and then meet in a small group after each lecture. You will be hearing more about this in the next month or two.

At our last RAPS Board meeting, Charles Johnson (Development Director, PSU Library) and Charles White (Professor Emeritus and RAPS member) presented a plan for publishing what they termed PSU Informal History Picture Book. The book would be approximately 144 pages in length and be published by Ooligan Press. Currently, it is proposed that this publication would be a joint project among the Friends of the Library, Friends of History, and RAPS. The project is in concert with one of the RAPS objectives, to “assist in the development and preservation of the history of Portland State University.”

For the RAPS October program, Marc Feldsman updated us on the complex PERS situation which has particular implications for those of us who retired in 1999 or later. Marc clearly explained what is going on with the litigation surrounding PERS issues and potential outcomes. I am looking forward to the two events Bruce Stern, President Elect, has arranged for us in November: the Hesse exhibit at the Portland Art

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Museum on November 3 and the PSU Bookstore tour on November 17 with a 15% discount on all purchases. Also, be sure to mark your calendar for the holiday dinner on December 14th to be held at the Multnomah Athletic Club.

As always, we would love to hear from you. Let us know about your ideas for how RAPS can better accommodate your interests. Also, let us know how you would like to be involved in our projects, committees, or activities.

Mary Gordon Brannan

IN MEMORIAM - CAROLE R. GATZ

Professor Gatz, who was born January 26, 1933, in Omaha, Nebraska, died in Portland on September 5, 2005. Her sister, Joanne K. Moldenhauer, and brother, Edwin C. Gatz, survive her.

Doctor Gatz earned a BA in chemistry at Iowa State University in 1954 and a Phd. in physical chemistry at the University of Illinois in 1960. From 1959 to 1964, Carole worked as a physical chemist at the Stanford Research Institute. She joined the PSU Chemistry Department in 1964 to begin a distinguished academic career, advancing to Professor Emerita in 1992.

Carole was a popular classroom teacher and an active investigator in laboratory research in the fields of gas kinetics and in general physical, quantum and atmospheric chemistry. Her ongoing research projects led to publications in several important journals. She was well liked by her colleagues and others with whom she worked.

Student evaluations consistently rated Professor Gatz’s instruction at the top of the scale. While teaching she wrote and published (1971) Introduction to Quantum Chemistry which several highly regarded institutions—including Reed College and Yale University—adopted as a text. She performed significant roles in formal advising for students at undergraduate and advanced levels, as well as in coordinating lecture and laboratory courses. Her grant awards included an AAUW Postdoctoral Fellowship (1970) and NSF sponsorship (1977) of a “Women in Science Career Workshop.” In addition to regular service on departmental and college committees, she chaired the highly important Health Sciences Laboratory Committee from 1987 until retirement.

Professor Gatz was well known throughout the campus through her participation in several university-wide faculty governance committees, including the President’s Advisory Council, the Faculty Senate, and Curriculum Committee, and she had a longtime appointment as Faculty Marshall for Commencement. Those of us who worked with her in these activities relied heavily upon her understanding and her willing contributions, notably to faculty welfare. Her career coincided with the University’s emergence as a significant academic enterprise. She contributed steadily to fulfilling the institution’s evolving as it grew from a primarily undergraduate college to a comprehensive instructional and research university serving the needs of the metropolitan area. Professor Gatz enormously reinforced her department’s strengths and aided in fulfilling its instructional mission. For these things, all of us owe her a debt of gratitude.

Remembrances should be sent to Northwest Medical Teams International.

Victor C. Dahl
RAPS ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER RAPS EVENTS

On Thursday, November 3rd, at 1:30 p.m. we will tour the Portland Art Museum’s exhibition entitled Hesse: A Princely German Collection. It includes over 400 pieces of Baroque furniture and silver, German paintings and portraits, a Russian dowry, German Art Nouveau, and classical antiques. All who have reservations for the 1:30 release time should meet in front of the museum at 1:15 p.m. Tickets will be handed out at that time.

Our second program meeting will take place Thursday, November 17th at the PSU Bookstore. Ken Brown will host a reception with hearty food, talk about the bookstore, and provide a tour of the store (including the back area which is closed to the public). Meet at the main entrance of the store in the plaza area and there will be signs directing you to the reception area.

All attendees will receive a coupon for 15% off of your next purchase at the PSU Bookstore through January 31, 2006. FYI, the discount excludes textbooks, computers, software, special orders and may not be used in conjunction with other sales or discounts. Still, it can really help with holiday shopping!

Mark your calendars for our annual holiday dinner on December 14th at the Multnomah Athletic Club. More details will be provided in the December RAPS Sheet.

Bruce Stern

RAPS BRIDGE CLUB

The next meeting of the RAPS Bridge Group will be at the home of Maxine Thomas at 1:30 pm on Tuesday November 8th. If you plan to come, please call or e-mail her in good time to find out if there is room and for directions if you need them.

Colin Dunkeld

RAPS HIKERS

On Friday, October 28th we walked two adjacent interpretive trails on BLM land near Welches, the Wildwood Wetland Trail and the Cascade Streamwatch Trail. Each is three quarters of a mile long along the Salmon River. The trails were wheelchair accessible and paved, with shelters and restrooms. On the Cascade Streamwatch Trail there was a group of fourth graders from Portland having fun measuring the width and observing the flow of a small side channel. They were in the channel with waders looking through a hand-held underwater viewing device.

On Friday, November 25th we hiked in Lacamas Park outside of Camas, Washington. The hike was 3.4 miles long with a 200 foot elevation gain. The trail passed by Round Lake and Lacamas Creek. Because of the holidays, there will be no December hike. On January 27th we will hike some of the small loop trails in the Tualatin Hills Nature Park and Interpretive Center. Meet at the interpretive center at the park entrance off of Millikan Blvd. at 9:30 am. The address is 15655 SW Millikan Blvd.

Please confirm your participation to Larry Sawyer by the Thursday before the hike. (503-771-1616 or larry_sawyer@comcast.net)

Larry Sawyer

RAPS BOOK CLUB

At our last gathering on October 18, we discussed The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century by Thomas L. Friedman. Friedman’s premise is that with globalization, our world is shrinking or becoming flat. It is his contention that we now are interacting person-to-person around the world rather than nation-to-nation. He indicates that 10 forces collectively flattened the world:

- 11/9/89 – fall of the Berlin wall
- 8/9/95 – when Netscape went public
- Work flow software – where computers can communicate with each other
- Open-sourcing – self-organizing collaborative communities (notion that

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RAPS BOOK CLUB continued from page 3

groups make available the underlying programming instructions on-line free; free software)

• Outsourcing Y2K – having another company perform a specific function that the parent company had been doing in house
• Off-shoring – moving a whole factory to another country
• Supply-chaining – distribution center of goods which results in lower prices for the consumer
• In-sourcing – a company offers more services
• Informing – Google, Yahoo!, MSN Web Search
• The steroids – digital, mobile, personal, and virtual devices.

It is the convergence of these factors, together with time, and the introduction of more companies and individuals to these factors that has resulted in the flattening of the world.

Friedman addresses ways to respond to the world flattening in order to be successful:

• Leadership – need leaders to educate the people about the world we are living in and how to thrive within it. Some leaders need to be scientists and engineers
• Muscles – lifetime employability – workers need portable benefits and opportunities for lifelong learning
• Good fat – wage insurance
• Social activism – companies have a responsibility to be socially responsible
• Parenting – parents need to help their children adjust to the flat world. Education, flexibility, and creativity are critically important.

Friedman contends that globalization can be a beneficial development if people understand it and adjust accordingly.

We discussed some of the implications of a “flat” world. Of course, not everyone is in agreement with Friedman’s contentions and predictions. Reading the book did broaden our understanding of how technological advances are changing the world. Friedman writes clearly and provides a multitude of examples to illustrate his points. We agreed that there was some repetitiveness and redundancy in the book.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 15th at 1:30 at the home of LaRay Barna. LaRay’s address is 17560 S. E. Walta Vista Drive in Oak Grove. Call her at 503-786-9630 or e-mail her at barnal@pdx.edu for directions and to RSVP. As always, we hope to see you there. For this discussion, we have selected a nonfiction best seller, Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded: August 27, 1883 by Simon Winchester. Winchester recently was a presenter at the Portland Arts and Lectures and is the author of several books.

The following is the description of the book on the back cover:

Simon Winchester, New York Times best-selling author of The Professor and the Madman, examines the legendary annihilation in 1883 of the volcano-island of Krakatoa, which was followed by an immense tsunami that killed nearly forty thousand people. The effects of the immense waves were felt as far away as France. Barometers in Bogota and Washington, D. C., went haywire. Bodies were washed up in Zanzibar. The sound of the island’s destruction was heard in Australia and India and on islands thousands of miles away. Most significant of all—in view of today’s new political climate—the eruption helped to trigger in Java a wave of murderous anti-Western militancy among fundamentalist Muslims, one of the first outbreaks of Islamic-inspired killings anywhere. Krakatoa gives us an entirely new perspective on this fascinating and iconic event.

We will not meet in December, but will resume in January, 2007. We will meet on January 17th at the home of Prue Douglas to talk about Becoming Madame Mao by Anchee Min.

Mary Brannan
MARC FELDESMAN’S PRESENTATION ON PERS

Our first regular program of the academic year took place Thursday, October 20th with Marc Feldesman as our featured speaker. His presentation was entitled “The Long Arm of the Law.” This, of course, refers to how the recent PERS rulings affect some 37,000 public retirees.

Since 2003 there have been multiple lawsuits filed – among them the Consolidated Strunk case, the City of Eugene appeal, the Henderson case, and the Robertson case. Among the more interesting outcomes of these cases was the settlement agreement between the City of Eugene and the PERS Board, which focused on the “nuclear option.” This option calls for a revision of the 1999 fixed-earnings rate for Tier 1 regular accounts downward from 20% to 11.3%. To do this account balances need to be adjusted to reflect the revised 1999 fixed earnings, and then PERS will recover the excess earnings from those who retired between April 1, 2000 and April 1, 2004. This is expected to take place by March 2006. What PERS will do is calculate how much a retiree has been paid since the date of retirement and April 1, 2006 and subtract from that the adjusted benefit with all cost-of-living adjustments added. The difference is the amount we owe and that amount will be divided by the number of months we are expected to live given the mortality tables to determine our monthly reduction.

The bottom line is that these judgments are not fought automatically. It costs money to fight these cases in court. Retirees are represented by both the PERS Coalition and Oregon PERS Retirees Inc. Membership dues ($5/year) and legal defense donation forms can be requested from OPRI, PO Box 7325, Salem, OR 97303-0065.

Copies of the 27 slides (on a 5-page handout) from Marc’s presentation can be obtained from the RAPS office by calling Darshana at 503-725-3447. Supplies of these are limited so please act quickly.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Be sure not to miss the following events sponsored by RAPS. Detailed information for November events is in this Newsletter. Information for other events will be forthcoming.

Thursday, November 3; 1:30 p.m., Portland Art Museum
Hesse: A Princely German Collection (400-piece exhibition).
Those who made reservations should meet at the Museum’s main entrance at 1:15 p.m. We will hand the tickets out at that time.

Thursday, November 17; 1:00 p.m., PSU Bookstore
Reception and guided tour of the PSU Bookstore hosted by Ken Brown at the Bookstore. Refreshments will be served. All attendees will receive a 15% discount coupon which can be used once at the PSU Bookstore through the end of January 2006. A few items are excluded on the coupon (e.g. textbooks and computers).

Bruce Stern

Marc Feldesman considers a question about PERS from an interested member of RAPS.
MYSTERY BOOK REVIEW

PROFESSORS PROFIT FROM CRIME

Many professors of English in recent years have hit upon a nearly foolproof method of adding to their renown and their bank accounts, writing detective novels. Among those who have acquired fame in this way are Tony Hillerman, Carolyn Heilbrun (whose nom de plume is Amanda Cross), the Oxford don J.I. M Stewart (Michael Innes), and the Seattle English teacher turned novelist, G.M. Ford. Ford won the 2004 Spotted Owl prize for Black River as the year’s best Northwest mystery novel.

To recognize professors in other fields who write mysteries, perhaps the most popular writer of mysteries today is Alexander McCall Smith, the author of the highly successful “no. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency” series, who is also a professor, though not of English but of medical law at the University of Edinburgh.

A new example of a mystery by a Professor of English is Vineyard Prey, by Philip Craig (Scribner 2005). Craig is a long-time professor of literature who continues writing detective novels well into his retirement. He grew up near Durango, Colorado, attended the university of Iowa’s Writer’s Workshop, and then taught for many years at Wheelock College in Boston. Now living in Martha’s Vineyard, he has exploited that setting in a dozen novels, with such titles as A Vineyard Killing, Murder at a Vineyard Mansion, and Vineyard Enigma.

Craig’s continuing protagonist is J.M. Jackson, a wounded Vietnam veteran and retired policeman, now happily settled on Martha’s Vineyard with his wife, two children, and two cats named Oliver Underfoot and Velcro. He spends his time on two hobbies, fishing and cooking.

He often gets called in by his friend, the local police chief, to help solve difficult murder cases. Many books in the series involve conflicts between the islanders and the tourists who flood the island in the summer. These “outsiders” often cause trouble. In A Deadly Vineyard Holiday, for example, the presidential family’s plans for a quiet vacation on the island is plagued by murder.

Craig’s new novel, Vineyard Prey is, unlike most of his books, set in December when the tourists are in their proper places on the mainland and the natives come out of hiding. Jackson is the narrator of the novel, and he sums up the pleasures of the season thus, “Nothing pleases me more than being inside with my family, warm in front of the glass-doored living-room stove, while the winter wind howls outside and snow splats against the windows.”

Readers of detective novels will know that this peace will be shattered. It happens when Joe Bagny, Jackson’s pal from Vietnam who later became a government agent, tells him that members of a secret committee to which he belonged are being killed off in a series of “accidents,” perhaps by the very agency for which they worked.

Amid the preparations for Christmas, Bagny and Jackson must try to identify the potential assassins and prevent further bloodshed. The novel’s sense of urgency comes from the need to prevent a crime rather than solve it, the concern of most mysteries.

Vineyard Prey is not Craig’s strongest book, because it lacks the puzzle-solving element that readers enjoy, but it is a solid, off-the-beaten-path performance, and another hit for a professor of English, who seems to have found the way to more profitable activities than reading student themes.

Stanley Johnson

It is, I think, an indisputable fact that Americans are . . . the most self-conscious people in the world and the most addicted to the belief that other nations under-value them.

Henry James

Americans are benevolently ignorant of Canada, while Canadians are malevolently well-informed about the United States.

J. Bartlett Brebner
GORDON SOLIE OPENS THE DOORWAY TO NORWAY

When friends showed me photos of their recent coastal voyage of Norway and asked me why I’ve never taken that trip to the land of my grandparents, I couldn’t think of any reason. I signed up for an eleven-day voyage from Bergen to the Russian border and return. Also a bassoonist with the Stavanger Symphony had invited me to visit Norway and spend a couple of days with his family. So it was that I arrived in Stavanger on August first.

Stavanger is the hub of the Norwegian oil industry, so I had imagined something akin to El Segundo or Arvin, California. Instead, Stavanger is a beautiful, modern city, but with a residential area that dates from the twelfth century. Robert took me through their concert hall - one that would make any US city proud. However, a new one is being built that will overlook the best view of the fjord and promises to be one of the finest ever built. After a wonderful dinner prepared by his beautiful soprano wife, we retired to the music room where we ‘kicked tires’ for most of the evenings. Robert is a fantastic performer, publisher and composer; probably the most prolific composer in Norway today.

After a couple of days, I was off to Bergen by bus to catch the boat. The 135-mile trip included two long tunnels under fjords and two long ferry rides.

After a sumptuous buffet on shipboard, we weighed anchor at 8:00 PM. The Hurtigruten Line has a fleet of eleven ships. Each one is a passenger ship, a mail boat and a freighter, with room for approximately 1,000 passengers. For some communities, these boats often provide the only connection with the rest of the country, because roads are difficult to construct and maintain in that rugged terrain. In all, the ships stop at sixty-six ports in the eleven day trip.

As the Trondheim area was the home of my paternal grandparents and at least one uncle, I felt a little closer to that wonderful city than the others. I imagined that my relatives had walked the same paths as I. The cathedral is a breathtaking edifice. This is where all kings and queens of Norway are crowned.

I spent the remaining days on deck, in large salons, and in the dining room, but never letting the scenery get too far out of sight. One didn’t want to retire for fear of missing beautiful scenery. Even in August, the sunset and sunrise occurred together. So many cities remain in my memory, but Tromso and Molde stand out. Molde was leveled by the Germans, because this was where the Norwegian royal family left for exile in England.

The next most interesting sites were Hammerfest, supposedly the most northern town in the world, and North Cape, where Europe ends. Here we had a glimpse of the Sami life style. The Sami are the ones we were taught to call Laplanders. Their colorful costumes, their tepees exactly like the Hopi in Arizona, and their herds of reindeer create quite a contrast to the Scandinavians.

Back in Bergen, I stayed an extra day so I could visit the home of Edvard Grieg and the new nearby concert hall. Armed with an Oslo Pass for all local transportation and museums, I took many trolleys to the end of the line so I could see as much of the city as possible. Then the train to the gigantic ski jump north of town and buses to several museums and to the Thor Heyerdahl Museum where one can view the Ra II and the Kon Tiki plus many viking boats dredged up from the ocean muck where they had lain in silence for a millenium.

Although Norway is expensive, it was heartening to note that there is no poverty there, no street people, no pan-handling, no beggars, no persons sleeping in doorways, no one denied medical attention, no seniors being threatened eviction or children doing without. In fact, outside of a small amount in Oslo, no grafitti whatsoever.

I came home broke but happy --truly broke as Norway rivals Japan as the most costly country in the world. A beer or a glass of wine is $9, a cup of coffee is between $5 and $7 -- and no refills! When I signed the bill at the Oslo hotel, I put my hand over the total amount and gave them my credit card. Then I folded the bill, put it in my pocket and have never looked to see the damages. That’s the way to travel in Norway!

Gordon Solie
OUR TRAVELING RETIREES - 2

BARRY AND ALIKI ANDERSON VISIT EGYPT
As a faculty member in the Channel Program, the first outside the College of Urban & Public Affairs, I was required to spend two weeks in Cairo, working with my doctoral student, Mohamed, acquainting myself with the Egyptian culture and giving a couple of talks, one to the Department of Psychology at Cairo University and one to the government’s Center for Information and Decision Support. My wife, Aliki, came along at our personal expense. It was especially important that she visit Egypt, since her mother had spent ten years of her life in Alexandria, as a refugee from Smyrna.

What impressed both of us most about Egypt was not the artifacts but the character of the people. The difference was apparent the moment we arrived. As we walked through the airport, people said cheerily, “Welcome to Egypt!” They weren’t selling anything; they were just being friendly. This had never happened to us in any other country.

As Mohamed was taking us around Cairo, he often had to ask for directions of people in various localities. When he did so, I always got the impression, false though it surely was, that he was talking with good friends of long acquaintance, so open, relaxed, and warm was their manner toward one another.

One time, as Aliki and I were walking with another Egyptian whom we had met, we passed a legless man begging. The man we were with gave the beggar money. Although there was nothing exceptional about that, what struck us as exceptional was that he smiled warmly at the legless man and stopped and spent some time talking with him, as though they were acquaintances. They had never met before.

Another time, we saw a fender bender. In America, the police would have been called, and the insurance companies, and perhaps even the courts, would soon have become involved. Not here. A small crowd soon formed and seemed to begin functioning as an ad hoc jury of peers. Although we didn’t understand the Arabic, what seemed to be taking place was thoughtful deliberation regarding the facts of the case and the governing principles. At any rate, the two parties involved in the accident were soon hugging and kissing cheeks, and they parted amicably. Justice, it seemed, had been arrived at, and with a speed, economy, and degree of cooperation we would have been surprised to see in the United States.

Though these examples do not represent an exhaustive survey, they are enough to make one ask why might the Egyptians be so friendly and cooperative with strangers? Homogeneity of culture must have something to do with it; it should be easier to relate more as a brother or a sister to someone with the same religion and life style.

One practice that we felt must play a role is praying five times a day. From a distance, this practice seemed rigid and alien to us. However, once we were in Cairo, it gave even us an insight into the Egyptians’ sense of community to know that, five times a day, everyone in Cairo was responding to the call from the minarets and stopping to think beyond themselves to larger issues, as we also did in our own way at those times.

If one stops thinking of belief systems as unanalyzable wholes and looks for the good in each, one feature one might copy from Islam would be the practice of devoting regular times each day to thinking about shared concerns. How this feature could be adapted in a way that would be acceptable to people of other faiths and to rational humanists we still have no idea, yet our experience with the practice and with the wonderful people of Egypt will keep us pondering the question.

Barry Anderson

Aliki and Barry Anderson (1st and 3rd from the left) with the head of the Cairo University Psychology Department and her husband.
The University of Washington Fall Festival 2005, Vancouver, BC

During October 14-17 Vic and Beryl Dahl and Robert Vogelsang represented RAPS at the University of Washington Retirees Conference in Vancouver, BC held at the Coast Plaza Hotel and Suites at Stanley Park. Each contributed a report.

Robert Vogelsang
We attended a reception on Friday evening and met many colleagues from sister institutions from the Northwest and Canada. On Saturday afternoon we had the meeting of the representatives of the Regional Retirement Association. The initial part of the meeting was a presentation by Linda Moor, Architect and Associate Director of External Affairs of University Town at UBC. The University Town plan is to develop eight more new neighborhoods with their own shops, schools, parks and other amenities. The plan is to be completed by 2021 and will house half the university population on ninety-nine year leases. Transit ridership has increased by 135% over 1997 rates. And single car occupancy is being reduced by 20% compared to 1997 rates and has allowed the elimination of one third of parking spaces on campus. One half of all new housing will serve those who work on campus or attend UBC. It was clear to us that University Town is a very successful plan in progress.

I presented our report about RAPS and distributed samples of our newsletters and brochures. We discussed our current activities and plans, particularly our plan directed by Steve Brannan to develop a full history of PSU. We also discussed the real need for us and sister schools to show our administrations how much time and money is contributed to the university by retirees. The question also arose among us as to how many associations have an official representative to their administrations. There was much interest in these two topics. There were nine northwest and BC institutions represented at the meeting. Some schools were unable to attend because of out-of-country trips and home-coming events. A number of people commented during the conference how pleasant and helpful it was to meet one another from other schools and to learn of common goals and (of course) problems.

Victor Dahl
The program sessions, hospitality suite gatherings, and the concluding banquet enabled the approximately sixty participants to become acquainted, exchange ideas about retirement issues, and gain exposure to significant aspects of the host country’s historical and cultural development.

The conference opened with the hosts’ introductory comments about interesting places to see and things to do in the Vancouver metropolitan area, including a special Picasso exhibit at the Art Gallery. (Oregonians should go to New Westminster and visit the well-preserved historic Captain Irving house, built in 1862 by a pioneer family that earlier had developed Portland’s Irvington District in Portland.) Mr. Greg Hook, proprietor of a popular Vancouver boutique, Chocolate Arts, described manufacturing processes of varieties of chocolate products. He invited the group to sample and rate six different kinds of chocolate.

At the Sunday morning session, W. A. Douglas Jackson, a highly regarded historian and University of Washington Professor Emeritus of International Studies, spoke eloquently about Canadian values and politics with special reference to relations with its southern neighbor. Jackson, a Canadian by birth, pursued an academic career in both countries, became a naturalized United States citizen, and has achieved a global reputation for scholarship. His UW graduate student, Joshua Doull—currently an “Honours Canadian Studies Student in Residence at the University of British Columbia”—collaborated in this highly informative presentation. This was an exceptionally useful program inasmuch as most of those attending the Festival had little or no previous exposure to Canadian history and culture. I have studied and taught Canadian history, but Professor Douglas Jackson’s lecture reminded me how much more there is to know about this important subject. I think others attending the session came away with similar sentiments.

At the concluding banquet, members of the University of British Columbia Opera Ensemble, directed by Professor Nancy Hermiston, entertained us with operatic selections. Altogether, the lectures, entertainment, hospitality gatherings, and the opportunity to enjoy the Vancouver ambience, afforded a useful opportunity for retirees to meet and interact.