

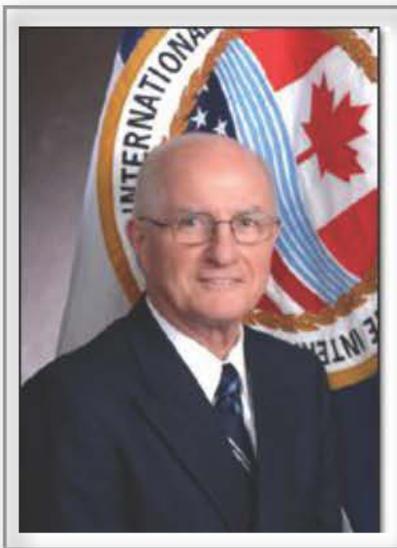


Simon Says...



What Ever Happened to Jack Blaney?

We asked him and this is his reply...



My best career decision was to join SFU in 1974. While I was comfortable at UBC, Brian Wilson, Bob Brown and, particularly Milt McClaren, made it clear that I might not be as comfortable at SFU, but I would have a lot more fun. I did.

I arrived as Dean of Continuing Studies, became Vice President of External Affairs in 1981, opened SFU Downtown, and left as SFU president in December, 2000. Within days of departure I met Michael Harcourt who was really eager to give me "retirement" advice. You'll receive a number of job options he assured me, and urged that I consider his three rules in such matters. First, do not accept the first offer; take time.

Second, accept only those positions offering work and colleagues you really like. Third, don't do anything for free. I held fast to the first two rules; fast enough to the third.

Over the next ten years, four new jobs, some held concurrently, energized my life.

The first was Action Canada (AC), a leadership development program whose mission is "Building Leadership for Canada's Future." In early 2001

businessman Sam Belzberg and I explored projects we might personally undertake that might make a difference to Canada. We considered some particular problems such as child poverty but concluded that potentially the best return on our investment of time and money would come from a program that nurtured the leadership capacity and aspirations of those already engaged in building their community and country. Each year up to 20 Action Canada

Fellows--usually those in their 20's to early 30's, many being Rhodes and Trudeau scholars or those with equal achievements in other fields--are selected for a year-long, Canada-wide program of leadership development. AC is a private sector-Government of Canada partnership. If you know emerging leaders who are passionate about making a distinctive contribution, go to the ActionCanada website and recommend them.



(Whatever Happened to Jack Blaney Continued)

The kind of call Mike Harcourt urged me to wait for came in March, 2001. Foreign Affairs asked of my interest in being a Commissioner with the International Joint Commission (IJC). The IJC was created by the Canada/USA 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty. IJC's mandate is to help prevent or resolve trans-boundary fresh water disputes between the two countries. Much of IJC's work concerns the Great Lakes but it straddles the continent: including the Red, Okanagan, Columbia, St. Croix rivers and dozens of others. Interacting with some of the best government and academic scientists was exciting work. Three Commissioners are appointed by the US and Canadian governments. I happily had two four-year appointments.

Not long after I joined the IJC I was asked by Iona Campagnolo--founding chair of the Fraser Basin Council (FBC) and then Lieutenant-Governor Designate--to assume the (part-time) position of FBC chair. No one I know says no to Iona. Besides, it was another opportunity to do really important work with great people. The FBC brings together all levels of government, including First nations, to resolve sustainability issues in BC's Fraser River basin. Its 36 Board members come from all parts of the basin and their decisions are by consensus. Chairing the SFU senate was good training.

In early 2003 Premier Gordon Campbell asked whether I would chair the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform (CAER). A post to which I was later appointed by the Legislative Assembly. In an historic citizen-led process of public policy development, the Assembly was charged with the task of determining whether the existing electoral system ought to be changed and, if so, with what new system should it be replaced. Few of the 160 members knew much about electoral systems but over eleven months they learned. This was an enormous and exciting challenge in adult learning. This historic Assembly demonstrated that a representative group of citizens, given an important and clearly focused public policy question, along with full independence and the resources to do the job, will develop from ordinary to extraordinary citizens. The skills, knowledge and civility displayed in working together was astounding. Their recommendation to the citizens of BC earned 58% support, just short of the 60% requirement. Whether such a process should again be followed by a referendum, or by structured consultations with the Legislative Assembly, is a question I ponder. After the conclusion of the CAER I gave more time to IJC and community.

In 2003, I lost Shirley, my girlfriend in high school and my wife for forty-four years. And several years ago I lost my great friend and colleague, Warren Gill. Then I decided to be fully self-employed, managing my home, investments and most importantly my relationships with family and friends. It is a full time endeavour I thoroughly enjoy.

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The President's Message to the Membership

By Jim Boyd on behalf of your Association Board

It has been an interesting year for me on the SFURA Board and I have certainly learned a lot in a very short period of time. It has been made easier for me with the assistance and advice of other board members, past and present. The word easier is only relative as it has also been hard work organizing and expediting the events and issues that we as a board have had to deal with. Having said that, I am prepared to remain in this role as SFURA President for another year if the membership so wishes when the new board is determined at our upcoming Annual General Meeting and Dinner event on May 5th, 2015.

The most important development since our last newsletter is of a financial nature to do with our annual budget. For about six months we had a committee that was in meetings with some senior SFU administrators regarding the need to obtain some part time administrative support for SFURA, especially as Margaret Jones will be stepping away this summer from her lengthy administrative supporting role with the board.

The issue dragged on but came to a head in January when Ralph Kortering and I met with SFU President Petter for the usual annual meeting of our two organizations. He had not been in the loop regarding our request for administrative support and so he helped raise the priority of the matter. Unfortunately our request was not answered as we had hoped. However there was a follow-up source of assistance in the form of a modest contribution from Pat Hibbitts, the VP Finance & Administration of \$5,000.00 which will see us through the next year. A thank you note has been sent.

An important project that we have undertaken for this summer in connection with SFU's 50th anniversary celebration is to publish a more significant newsletter than our normal 16 pages effort to capture the "Early Stories" of SFU's beginnings from the memories of our many long career retired faculty and staff. Please submit any interesting anecdotes to Maurice Gibbons sooner than later.

We have established a good working relationship with David Agosti, the Director of Parking Services and agreed that when his new license-based system is in place, SFURA members will not lose any existing benefits and may see some enhancements.

We have now completed the separation of our membership email lists into two categories: a new one for announcements of SFURA business and activities which only the board and committee chairs can use to send messages (sfura-activities@sfu.ca), and the original one (retirees-forum@sfu.ca) to be used as a true forum for discussions and debates, but set up to enable members to unsubscribe if they wish to. We are also working on expanding the online PayPal system so that more activities can be paid for in a more efficient manner.

We have had a very interesting season in the Speakers Program, including the financial interest group, with a wide variety of quality speakers in both programs. Another initiative from your board is the idea of developing a common data storage system to ensure the legacy of SFURA, and to assist the transition of board member duties from one year to the next. In addition, SFURA is hosting the annual Tri-Universities Summit meeting on April 21st at Harbour Centre with participation of board members from UBC and UVic.



Photograph by Marc Phillips

Louis Druehl Publishes A New Novel Ann Rose

I had been looking forward to reading *Cedar, Salmon and Weed* by Louis Druehl, and I wasn't disappointed. I know the author. I knew the person whom the protagonist was based upon, and I know he died. When I set out to read this book, I thought it would be a mystery story in which the villain was the wild nature of the West Coast of British Columbia. But it wasn't.

What the book is is a love story of a very unconventional kind and like marine life itself, which is hidden beneath the surface of the ocean, the deeper themes of this book lie below the surface. In order to understand this, we need to know something about the place where the novel is set.

The small fishing village of Bamfield has a unique and proud history. Druehl begins his story by introducing us to Bamfield and the Bamfield Marine Station, which in the early 1900s was the Eastern end of the trans-Pacific telegraph line that circled the globe and provided a communications link to countries around the world. The author's love of this place plays a central role. Across the Pacific, this cable line lay under the ocean and like the deeper connections between the characters of Druehl's book, was hidden from sight.

Bamfield is made up of diverse communities that live in and pass through it. The members of these groups come together to form a single image, like a flock of birds, and then come apart, fraying at the edges as they separate into their individual beings. Druehl captures in his novel the irony of community, our need to be a part of a social network versus our desire to be unfettered by social norms. He treats both the community and the individuals that form it with humour and affection. However, at the heart of the book is the author's love for his friend who was tragically lost.

To understand Gaz, the central character, one needs to know that his creation was inspired by Louis Druehl's friend, John Boom. The tragedy of John's death is not part of the book itself and is only revealed, poignantly, in the *Remembrance*, but there is a real sense of loss that ripples through the characters and action. On one level the book is as described on the back cover as "a wild ride through a community turned upside-down." On another level, it is the story of friends and lovers, and the turmoil created as they search for their place in a world full of potential but hindered by limited possibility.



Louis Druehl is a marine biologist, university professor, lover of seaweed, innovator of kelp farming, and an editor and author. His multi-dimensional talent results in the madcap world of Gaz and his friends. However, the author's real feelings and motivations lie discretely below the surface as he brings to life the characters with his special brand of tongue-in-cheek humour.

The novel takes place between August 1974 and October 1975. Sections of the book are introduced with quotes from John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row* – also set in a West Coast marine station environment – one of my favorites being, "For there are men who can look, listen, tap, make an adjustment, and a machine works." It appears Gaz has a talent for making machines work, while in his personal life he and his buddies get into all sorts of high jinx dealing with the isolation of a small ocean-based community.

This book will appeal to those who know West Coast life, as well as a wider audience. Students of all ages looking for answers in a complex world will find something of interest here.

Ann Rose is a Professor of Medical Genetics at the University of British Columbia and a recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award from Simon Fraser University.

The book will be available in the SFU Book Store, Chapters, and Munro's Books. More about Cedar, Salmon and Weed: www.cedarsalmonandweed.ca



Aging Well: Maintaining Balance

Parveen Bawa

Good balance during sitting, standing and movement is utterly important for health and performance. As one ages, stability might decrease which can lead to falls, serious injury, and even hospitalization. The outcome of rehabilitation will depend on the level of one's fitness at the time the injury occurred.

Equilibrium and balance are used synonymously with postural control – a mechanism by which the body prevents itself from becoming unstable and falling. In order for the central nervous system (CNS) to activate the right muscles for proper balance, it must have an accurate picture of the body in space, its orientation, and whether it is still or moving. This information is provided to the CNS mainly by three sensory systems in the body. Visual input from the eyes, vestibular information from the inner ear and somatosensory (sensors in the skin, joints, and muscles) inputs that are constantly being received by the brain. Depending on what the muscles are required to do, that is, to stand still or to run and catch a ball, the brain gives appropriate weights to information from each sensory system, integrates it and activates various muscles of the body for proper balance and action.

Keeping all **muscles** strong is absolutely essential to maintain balance and prevent falls (resistance exercise discussed in the SFURA Newsletter, August 2013). Weakness or injury of even one muscle leads to instability. Particular attention must be paid to the leg and hip muscles. Dependence on **visual information** becomes especially important in



(Bawa on Balance Continued)

aging adults; this dependence has its drawbacks. Poor eyesight, bifocals and progressive lenses are not great for stairs and objects in close vicinity. It can also lead to false information; for example, when the bus next to your car moves, you think your car is rolling. So vision alone is not adequate. **Vestibular input** (apparatus for which lies next to the hearing structure in the ear) provides information about the movement of the head during fast and slow movements. Again, information from this structure alone is not complete for maintaining balance, the CNS cannot tell if only the head or the whole body has moved. Disease of the inner ear can lead to loss of balance. Rehabilitation can compensate for the vestibular loss adequately, but not completely. **Somatosensory information** to the CNS can decrease or be lost by cooling, anaesthesia, chemotherapy, vascular ischemia, diabetes, arthritis, spasticity which can decrease the range of motion, assistive devices, improper shoes, tremor, multiple sclerosis, etc. Our equilibrium system is extremely sensitive to somatosensory information. For example, during hiking, even a gentle touch with a finger to a stable tree can increase stability; amazingly, just a light finger touch to a stable surface generates stabilizing action by activating the large muscles of the leg. Information from the muscle to the CNS produces the fastest reflexes and reactions compared to vestibular and visual information. We cannot improve our reflex times, but we can shorten reaction times by playing table tennis, badminton, tennis, or just catching a ball.

Other additive factors, which affect stability are hypotension, dizziness, depression, psychiatric medicines, cognitive deficits, distraction, drugs (cardiac, diuretics, psychoactive), low vitamin D, electrolytic imbalance, fast sudden movements, postures which constrict major blood vessels (star gazing for long periods; admiring paintings on high ceilings), etcetera.

Balance training and preventing falls: At this time we have little information about what works to improve balance. Considering the involvement of a number of senses, the central nervous system and the muscles in control of balance, the best approach is a comprehensive exercise program that involves exercise, strength training, weight lifting, checking your blood pressure and medications, etc. Good nutrition, general fitness and undertaking exercises specifically designed to improve balance need to be emphasized. Tai chi has been shown to decrease the risk of falls, but it does not improve cardiovascular function or muscle strength. Single leg stands with and without eyes closed, walking on narrow beams, standing on one leg with head in normal and extended position, and performing all these exercises on hard and foam surface provides the brain with increase variety of sensory information. However, compared to exercise in front of a television set, outdoor exercise provides the brain with a much wider range of visual, vestibular and somatosensory information. The brain stays challenged and "learns" to maintain stability under more varied conditions.

At this time extensive research is being done on footwear. One should pay attention to proper fitting, good soles and insoles of shoes. For those who might have decreased input from their feet caused by diabetes or chemotherapy, specially designed insoles are available which gently stimulate the sensors in the feet and make feet more sensitive.

While one works to improve ones physiological balance, it is also important to prevent accidents from external causes. Good lighting in the house, lack of clutter on the floor, removal of small area rugs and proper height of beds/toilets would help. Yaktrax worn over shoes prevent slipping while walking on icy sidewalks. Those with bad balance due to pathological conditions such as arthritis, osteoporosis and high risk of falls may consider wearing hip protectors.



(Bawa on Balance Continued)

While a person is bed ridden, muscles become weak resulting in poor balance. For decades elite athletes have used mental imagery to improve performance. Recent studies have shown that if a patient uses mental imagery to perform challenging motor acts, such mental training modifies the nervous system and improves balance.

Where to get help: Most of the Community Centres offer balance training programs. Fraser Health has fall prevention mobile clinics where you can have all aspects of balance/falls assessed by nurses and physiotherapists. Spending a few one-on-one sessions with your personal trainer and/or physiotherapist would be beneficial. Most importantly, one has to stay motivated to stay fit.



Reflections Marilyn Bowman

On being less than perfect

I used to be perfect. Ridiculous of course, but compared to now, that's what it feels like. My body stayed upright without a second thought, while now I have an interesting tendency to topple unless I concentrate. I could chop things at a furious and flawless rate in the kitchen, while now I am highly liable to chop myself. I could rip into a piano piece fast as lightning and with wonderful accuracy, while now I stumble on the keys. If I was working within small spaces I could move my hands quickly and never hit anything, while now I hit cupboard and shelf and door edges if I don't really pay attention. I rarely stubbed my toes until recent times, while now my movements with my feet are still fast but not accurate. Lots of stubbed toes. In past times when I chewed and swallowed, everything went down the gullet in a reliable way, while now my gullet is perfectly happy to make me choke, even just on my own spit. Before, when I stood up suddenly my blood pressure rebounded and moved things efficiently up to my brain, while now I risk toppling with dizziness unless I have some support at hand.

It is not just in the physical realm either; my brain is a lot more haphazard in doing its job. It used to be that when I parked my car I always knew where it was, while now I have to remember to remember the location. I have to be very conscious of what I am doing, and rehearse the stuff I have to remember. Before, when I said 'Saturday', Saturday was exactly what I intended, while now I may as easily say Tuesday when I intended to say Saturday, and I may give an entirely incorrect label to a day of the week, or a time, when I anticipate a meeting.

All these kinks and nuisances are a bit of a challenge. I know that I don't have any pernicious disorder, my sole change is that of gentle aging. Exercise classes are supposed to fend off balance and strength losses, but there is a limit to how much I might turn into an exercise jock after a lifetime being in the mind and at a desk. Active engagement with cognitive work is supposed to help us to focus and thus remember better, but these slippages just slide into action at any moment unless we are intensely mindful during all events and conversations.

The best aspect of my newfound lack of perfection is that I have been forced to become more humble and forgiving of others when they make mistakes, because I too



Becoming Less Than Perfect Continued.

am making them. I notice how people misread emails and notices and go off 'half-cocked' because they missed some crucial detail in the thing, and I try not to do that myself. When making dates, I try to double-check so that both of us truly focus on the correct date – or spot the mistake. Everything requires greater attention. The only other option is to let all cares fly out the window, just go "whee" and let the good times roll, errors and all. Watch out, world! Scary.

Remembering Sandy Dawson

Marv Wideen

This article comes with sadness and deep respect for Sandy Dawson, who died on January 8, 2015, after a short battle with cancer. His teaching career began in Vitcom Ed High in Edmonton from which he had graduated in August, 1963. Fifty years later as a professor, he retired from the University of Hawaii. During those fifty years, he made many friends, and left a productive mark on teacher education in mathematics worldwide*

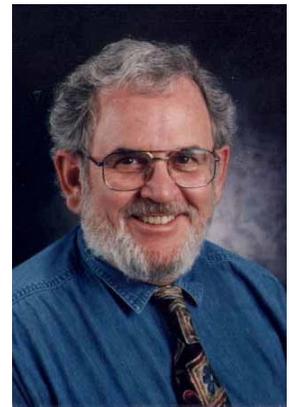


Photo by Ron Long

After graduating with an MA in Mathematics Education from Washington University in St. Louis in 1963 and a PHD from Mathematics Education from the University of Alberta in 1969, he joined the Faculty of Education at the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus in 1967. In 1970 he moved to the Faculty of Education at SFU where he developed a very productive career in the education of mathematics teachers. He became an international leader in mathematics education, working with many different educational groups. For example, he worked as Vice-President and Newsletter editor for the Canadian Mathematics Education Study Group from 1991 to 1993. He received funding for organizing the *LME Conference* and, with David Bell, set up the *Education Technology Centre* at SFU. He served as Director of Teacher Education at SFU from 1985 to 1994. He also worked with the late John Trivett to develop the Joyce Street program that involved faculty and faculty associates preparing beginning teachers in an off-campus program. He and Tom O'Shea produced an Activities Based Mathematic Program on the Knowledge Network. After 30 years at SFU, he and his wife, Sandra, moved to Hawaii.

In 1999, Sandy was recruited by Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL) an organization in Hawaii. This project involved teaching and mentoring teachers on the islands of Micronesia which required many trips to the islands. There he undertook the role of principal investigator for Project Delta where he received funding from the National Science Foundation as Project MENTOR. While directing this project, he was also recruited as a professor in teacher education at UHM. In spring and fall of 2014, he retired from his position at UHM and PREL

Sandy attended many conferences around the world offering leadership and giving presentations on math education. He undertook year-long visits to Montreal in 1990 and New York in 1976 as part of his studies in Math Education. He also acted as consultant to the Ministry of Education in Sri Lanka to develop diploma and degree programs for teachers.

Apart from the academic side of his life, Sandy Dawson cultivated many friendships, played golf



Remembering Sandy Dawson (Continued)

with the best and worst of them. During his time in Vancouver he organized several golfing events that have left memories with all participants. My best memory occurred when he picked me up at my home and we drove to Kamloops. On the way we did nine holes near Abbotsford. Once in Kamloops the fun really began. The group needed some bebies to recover from those outrageous golf scores. But the two-day event brought together friends from all walks of education in a great event that even produced flashes of good golf. In Hawaii, even after knee replacements that left him getting around on a scooter, Sandy continued golfing.

He not only set up golfing for friends, but also organized a slow-pitch softball team in North Vancouver called GBC (the Good, the Bad, and the Clumsy). It proved to be a lot of fun for players and spectators both. He will be remembered for building such social networks and for his generous donation of time and ideas. His social nature was also evident during his Directorship in PDP. At a yearly event, staff, faculty and faculty associates provided entertainment that all could enjoy. Many will recall a 1980's Faculty Xmas Dinner party, where Sandy arrived dressed as King Arthur!

Sandy Dawson, a good friend, colleague and scholar at SFU, will be greatly missed. He maintained contact with his friends and relatives via visits, emails, and Facebook, including journals and photos from the many trips he took with Sandra.

**We would like to thank Linda Hoff and Alana Nordstrand from SFU for providing the background information and photograph.*



The Social Life

Tom O'Shea

One of the advantages of moving into the heart of Vancouver, as we recently did, is proximity to the entertainment area of the city, and one of the advantages of retirement is the freedom to do things that you otherwise never had time to do. A couple of years ago, when Leora and I were still living in North Burnaby, we moved into a hotel room on Burrard Street for a three-day immersion in the Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) and loved it. Now we live within walking distance of six of the seven VIFF venues, so in September this year, with some trepidation, I volunteered my services for the 2014 VIFF festival, which requires about 750 volunteers each year (see <http://www.viff.org/volunteer-at-viff>).

I was accepted and filled in an on-line schedule that fit my other commitments, with the freedom to select duties and venues. In return for 32 hours of service, as usher, ticket-taker, and general dogsbody, I was able to attend most films at no charge, including three weeks of advance screenings for the media at the Vancity cinema, which is the year-round home of VIFF. At each event, pass-holders (including volunteers) are in a separate line that gets priority entrance. When Leora and I both attended, I was able to secure good seats by getting in first and then phoned Leora, in the general admission line, to let her know where to look for our seats when she entered later.

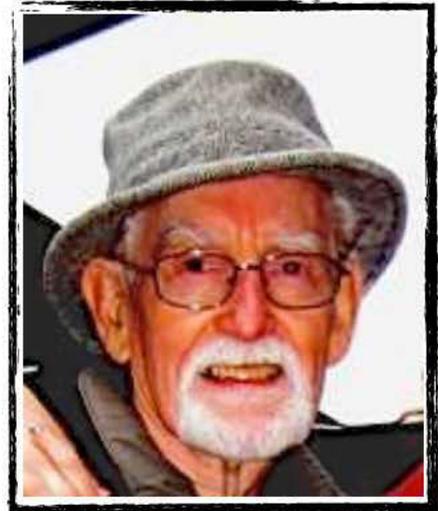


(Tom O'Shea: *The Social Life Continued*)

I recommend the experience very highly. I worked three different venues and met a broad cross-section of volunteers, young and old, some from as far away as White Rock. I chose to do shifts during the day, leaving the evenings to attend with Leora. A side benefit was that we had few sellouts during the day and avoided some of the tensions that came with more popular evening events. Attendees were, for the most part, well-behaved and grateful to the volunteers for our work. Supervisors at the sites were very knowledgeable and socially skilled in dealing with patrons with problems.

During this time I was able to see about 25 movies, ranging from excellent (e.g. Human Capital), to tedious (e.g., Two Days, One Night), to walking-out (e.g., Leviathan). One thing is clear, Canadian-made films including those made in British Columbia, can compete with anything on the market. Keep an eye out for films made by Xavier Dolan (I Killed my Mother; Mommy), Charles Binamé (Cyberbully; Elephant Song..with Xavier Dolan acting), Daniel Grou (L’Affaire Dumont, Miraculum...again, with Xavier Dolan acting), and François Girard (The Red Violin; Boychoir). This is the new generation of Canadian film-makers. Adieu Arcand, Cronenberg, Egoyan. Bienvenue Dolan, Binamé, Grou, and Girard from Quebec. Welcome Baldwin, Brar, Kwan, Mardookhi, Tierney et al. from British Columbia. See you next year at the VIFF.

Remembering Alden Sherwood Alison Watt



Alden was born in 1930 in Lloydminster, into the Sherwood family which combined United Empire Loyalist roots with his mother’s Ukrainian heritage. They were a close family, and Alden always looked out for his younger sister June. In his teens, Alden was surprised to learn that he had an older half-brother, Ken, from his father’s first marriage.

Alden’s father was a baker who lost his business in the Depression and the family moved from one prairie town to another until, in 1936, they arrived at Fort McMurray at the northern end of the railway. Goods for the north were shipped by barge along the Athabasca River through the Slave Lakes and down the Mackenzie River to the Arctic Ocean.

In 1938 the family moved further north again, this time to live for a year on the banks of the Mackenzie River. The family and a young laborer were set ashore to establish a fueling point for the stern wheelers to take on wood for their ongoing journey. The men built a cabin and set to work before winter set in. It was rugged and it was completely isolated; a place where people struggled daily with the harsh realities of life, but where the beauty of nature was all around.



[\(Remembering Alden Sherwood Continued\)](#)

Alden started Grade 3 in Edmonton and progressed through the grades with his final 3 years at St. Norbert Boys' School – a three room school with grades 10-12 in one room. His teacher, Mrs. Houde was responsible for guiding him into his career, by persuading him to apply for a university scholarship to the University of Manitoba where he studied Science.

In 1953 Alden and Mae were married in Winnipeg after he graduated from U of M; Susan was born a couple of years later in Saskatoon, and David arrived a year later after the Sherwoods had moved back to Winnipeg for Alden to start graduate work at the University of Manitoba.

After completing his Ph.D. at the University of Alberta, Alden was awarded a post doctoral fellowship first in Edmonton, and then at the Cookridge High Energy Research Centre in Leeds, UK. At the same time, he was contacted about a faculty position at the fledgling university starting up in Burnaby. He offered to abandon his year in Leeds to come immediately to SFU, but was told by Dr. Brian Pate that the university was only half built, and that he should show up in September 1966 instead, which they did.



It's All About You

Evelyn Palmer

Author, Author, Author! A small contingent of BC residents including **Percilla Groves** visited SFURA members **Ida and Jared Curtis** at Mirabella Seattle, a wonderful seniors community located within a stone's throw of the Amazon empire. Ida, energized by her win last year of the Pacific Northwest Writers Association prize for historical fiction, is working on a new novel. Jared's most recent book, *Out from the Center: Seattle Neighborhood Walks*, guides the reader on walks around their neighbourhood -- the geographical center of Seattle.

Louis Druehl's novel, *Cedar, Salmon and Weed*, was launched at the Bard and Banker Pub in the Sam McGee Room, Victoria, 26th of February. For more information on this raucous tale of a small fishing village, Bamfield, during the 1970s with its academics, hippies and end-of-the-roaders go to www.cedarsalmonandweed.ca. Or how about reading the book?



[\(It's All About You Continued\)](#)

SFU will confer an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree on **Nini Baird** in one of the June Convocation ceremonies. Nini came to SFU in June 1966 and arranged the wonderful programs in music, dance and drama in the SFU Theatre. She was the Publicity Coordinator, then Director, for the Centre for Communications and the Arts. She is Chair of the Knowledge Network Corporation Board, the TELUS Fund and the TELUS Vancouver Community Board, and a member of the Order of Canada. She was a participant in our second Oral History DVD, *The Instant University*.

Sheila Delany's second translation of a work by French revolutionary writer Sylvain Maréchal (1750-1803) has been accepted for publication by the University of Alberta Press. The first translation, of Maréchal's satirical all-female legendary, came out in 2012 as *Anti-saints*. The current translation is of a novella, *La femme abbé*, about a cross-dressing girl obsessed with a handsome young priest. In the end, the protagonist dies and the other characters emigrate to Canada.

James Dean writes; I'm just back from seven glorious weeks playing music and giving lectures in India. My first stop in January was for five days at the Jaipur Literary Festival, started nine years ago by William Dalrymple, a charming Scottish aristocrat who lives with his family in a farmhouse outside Delhi. Lord Willy is a talented author and historian, and with his Indian co-organizer he brought 234 writers this year, for what is now the world's largest (and best) literary festival. Most were Anglo-Indian. I have never heard English spoken consistently so well (in striking contrast to the typical academic conference!). The event is free and about half the 25, 000 attendees were under 30. What a delightful and gracious collection of youths they were – radiating hope for the New India.



Theodore Cameron Dobb (May 26, 1935 - February 13, 2015)

Ted passed away suddenly but peacefully surrounded by the love of his family. Ted was a lover of life, a published short story writer, a Department of Transport Canada seaman, a horse logger, a Sufi, a violinist, a sub 3-hour marathon runner, a long-time member of the Simon Fraser University library community. past president of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries, a gifted raconteur, a generous soul, a friend to all, a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather. And he made delicious buckwheat pancakes.

Ted's wisdom, insight, humour and laughter will live on in all those who knew and loved him. He expressed personal excellence in all that he did, whether in the arts or in sport. To those who loved him – including his friends at Earl's on Robson Street - the world seems so much poorer now. At Ted's request there will be no service.

*(It's All About You Continued)*

Yasmin Jamal writes;

Where are you going for your holidays? Having visited one of the largest & oldest museums, Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Russia, last year, I am planning a trip to Toronto to see the *Aga Khan Museum*—A New Museum worth visiting!

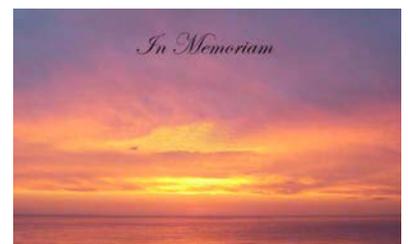
With an eye-catching angular design by Japanese architect Fumihiko Maki, the **Aga Khan Museum** made a splash when it opened in Toronto last Fall, September 12. Dedicated to traditional Islamic arts and crafts, the cultural center—founded by the Aga Khan, a Muslim spiritual leader—is clad in luminous white Brazilian granite.

In designing the Aga Khan Museum, Fumihiko Maki, winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, used light as his inspiration. He ensured not only that light is ever-present in the building, but that, depending on the time of day or season, light will animate the building in myriad ways: throwing patterns on the exterior walls of Brazilian granite, enhancing interior spaces, or illuminating the open-roofed courtyard. Within an unmistakably contemporary design, Maki incorporates historical elements originating in Islamic cultures, building bridges between eras as well as civilizations Aga Khan Development Network.(2015). (*Aga Khan Museum*. Retrieved from <https://www.agakhanmuseum.org/about>.)

Marilyn Bowman reports, "I am going to Hong Kong and to Beijing to give two invited papers at conferences examining the work of James Legge (1815-1897), about whom I have just finished a large biography. He was a brilliant Scottish Latin scholar who spent 55 years translating the great Chinese Classics into English for the first time ever, writing wonderful evaluative and informative essays about each in the more than a dozen books, while living a very exciting life in early colonial Hong Kong during the opium war, the Taiping rebellion and a multitude of extreme events in his personal and public life. I'll

In Memoriam...

for all those we lost this term



Lorne Davies

Lorne was a member of convocation, the first Director of Athletics and head football coach. He was a strong supporter of women in athletics and ensured them equality in funding and coaching. The Burnaby campus athletics and recreation facilities were renamed the Lorne Davies Complex in 2005 to honour him. He was an active member of the SFURA and gave us a seminar on February 7, 2006; "The Early Years of Athletics at Simon Fraser, a Blight or a Blessing?". He chose the original Clan colours blue, red, and white, and often told audiences that blue represented Loyalty, red was for Courage, and white for Integrity. After his retirement he serves as executive director of the Terry Fox Humanitarian Award program.

A large number of memorial notices about him can be found at the SFU website; type "Lorne Davies" in the Search box.

**Sandy Dawson**

Sandy spent almost 30 years in the Faculty of Education. He retired from SFU in 2000 to direct three National Science Foundation grants focussed on the teaching and learning of mathematics through the the region of Micronesia, Project Macimise. He then became a professor of mathematics education at the University of Hawaii. He was a contributor to the SFURA Newsletter and a prolific blogger.

Ted Dobb

Ted was a long-time member of the Simon Fraser University library community and was a past president of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries. He was a lover of life, a published short story writer, a Department of Transport Canada seaman, a horse logger, a Sufi, a violinist, a sub 3-hour marathon runner, a gifted raconteur, a generous soul, a friend to all, a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather.

Alden Sherwood

Alden was a member of the Department of Chemistry from 1966, one year after the opening of SFU. He was an excellent teacher, and was active in the BC Science Teachers Association and with College and University science faculty. He represented the Faculty of Science in SFU's Indonesia Project. He was a lover of music and an accomplished cell player. Following retirement he moved to Cortes Island, BC with Mae, who retired from the Department of Biological Sciences. They maintained their memberships in the SFURA and invited many colleagues to their beautiful home on Cortes Island.

Bill Stewart

Bill came to SFU in 1973 and worked for four years as assistant to Stan Roberts, the Vice President of University Services. He was then appointed Director of Student Services and was an advocate for cooperative education and he began a program called Futures in which high school students came to campus and were exposed to our academic programs. He established teams of Student leaders. He retired from SFU in 1996 after 23 years of service. The **Bill Stewart Volunteer Leadership Award** was established to be granted to a student for a significant contribution to the development and/or improvement of campus community life. Bill moved to Nanaimo, but retained his interest in SFU and was a member of the SFURA.





Greece's Fate Hangs on a Personality Power Struggle

James Dean

Greece is insolvent, and almost illiquid as well. Over 25 billion euros in bank deposits have fled its banks since early December. It scraped together 450 million euros for the IMF on April 9, but even that token required scraping the bottom of their bankrupt barrel. Its government's main source of short-term funding, 2.4 billion euros in Treasury bills, mature in mid May and new bills will have to be sold to its hapless banks. No external bailout money can come before June, at the earliest.

The country's immediate fate now hinges dangerously on a colorful but corrosive personality struggle. Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras's charm has worn thin, and so has Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis's charisma. Varoufakis is visibly despised by his German counter-part, Wolfgang Schäuble, though the latter is no match for him in wit and lucidity.

Schäuble is more or less in tune with his boss, Chancellor Angela Merkel, but both are at loggerheads with Jean-Claude Juncker, the new President of the European Commission in Brussels. Mario Draghi, President of the European Central Bank, is, as ever, in conflict with Jens Weidmann, President of German Bundesbank. The Prime Minister of Spain, fearful of a challenge from his leftist opposition, is openly derisive of the new Greek government, and even the socialist leaders of Italy and France are keeping their distance.

The root cause of this personality struggle is the merit of so called "austerity" as a remedy for indebtedness. Under German leadership, the European Union has imposed spending cut-backs on Greece that are the most severe in post-war history: the outcome has been the most prolonged negative growth and highest unemployment in Europe's post-war history.

Schäuble embodies German advocacy of austerity: the misguided notion that the solution to rising burdens of sovereign debt relative to income in Greece and the other so-called PIGS (Portugal, Italy, Greece and Spain) during the Great Recession that began in 2008 was to cut back on spending so as to reduce debt, rather than increase spending to increase income. Underlying this is a Classical view of the world, versus a Keynesian view. The Keynesian view is much more embedded in Anglo-American countries, partly because Keynes was English and his followers North American, but also partly because Germans are paranoiac about inflation, after experiencing devastating hyper-inflation after World War I and, more briefly, after World War II.

Schäuble also embodies a German penchant for *Ordnung*: he is prone to repeat that all countries receiving "bailout" lending must stick to the same rules that were agreed to in 2011. Of course he also worries about "moral hazard": the danger that other, larger PIGS, like Spain or Italy, or even France, would demand similar concessions if Greece is given a break.

Varoufakis, by contrast, embodies a left-Keynesian set of priorities, where averting unemployment supersedes worries of inflation and indebtedness.



The striking contrast in their personalities – Schäuble, well-shaven in his dark suit and tie, and Varoufakis, twenty years younger, with a hint of stubble and decked out in his leather motorcycle jacket – serves only to reinforce their philosophical differences.

Draghi in turn is as always under pressure from Weidmann, who views the ECB's commitment to buy troubled sovereign debt as not only a blank cheque from the German taxpayer to Greece, but a source of moral hazard for other PIGS as well. In fact since January, Greece has drawn billions in implicit credit from the German central bank by selling its own Treasury bills to Greek banks. Yet without that, the ongoing flight of deposits would accelerate to an unstoppable "run" and Greek banks would collapse.

In short, Greek's Syriza government finds itself in a severe bind. Greece is already insolvent: not even under the rosiest of outcomes can it ever repay its 350 bn euro debt burden. Worse, it is very close to illiquidity: its immediate bills for salaries, pensions and so on may be un-fundable within a few weeks.

If the Germans were wise, they would orchestrate unconditional write offs of most Greek debt, just as the Americans did for Latin America in 1989-95. It was win-win: creditor bank stocks boomed and so did debtor-country economies. But the poisonous Greek/German personality war precludes that.

Thus it is imperative that the Greeks stop grandstanding and nail down their crumbling country with brass tacks. Recent threats to release refugees into the rest of Europe, to demand unpaid WW2 "reparations", and even to confiscate German private property were ill-timed at best. Threats need to be replaced by a bargain to swap debt write-offs for sales of Greek assets and real estate to its creditors, or, indeed, to any high-bidding foreign investor.

This would be a bitter pill for Syriza to swallow. But in return, Brussels and Berlin must abandon their micro-management of Athens' budget, because unless Syriza can provide salve to the wounds that austerity has cut into its unemployed and vulnerable, there will be blood in the streets.

James W Dean is Professor Emeritus, Economics, Simon Fraser University. He has written extensively on resolution of troubled sovereign debt.

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[The Editor has edited out the Editorial for this edition. Ed.]