



# San Francisco State University *Gater Retiree Gazette*



## February 2026

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## Spring 2026 Upcoming Events

### Board of Directors Meetings:

All on Zoom

Monday, February 16, 2026, 10 AM  
Presidents' Day

Monday, May 18, 2026, 10 AM

### Spring Luncheon

Thursday, March 19  
Vista Room, On Campus, Education Bldg

### Fall Luncheon

Mid-November  
Date and Location TBA

### Board of Directors

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Bob Cherny

#### Vice President

Mike Goldman

#### Secretary

Sheila McClear

#### Treasurer

John O'Shaughnessy

#### Past President

Richard Giardina

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Irene Donner

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Sheldon Axler  
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Jim Van Ness  
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Don Zingale  
Zee Zingaro

#### Communications Committee

Kay McGough  
Nancy Noble  
*GRG Layout & Design*  
Jim Van Ness  
Zee Zingaro

#### Budget Committee:

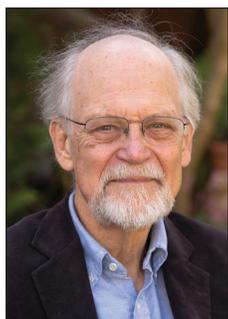
John O'Shaughnessy  
Jim Van Ness  
Richard Giardina

#### Events Committee:

Zee Zingaro  
Judah Rosenwald



SFSURA % Advancement Office  
1600 Holloway Avenue, ADM153  
San Francisco, CA 94132  
Digital Version: [www.sfsu.edu/~retire](http://www.sfsu.edu/~retire)



# President's Letter

Dear fellow SF State retirees,

I hope you all had good times over the holidays, and I wish you all a happy new year.

Your SF State Retirement Association board of directors worked through a lengthy agenda during our December meeting. Two resolutions appear elsewhere in this issue. One is a request to the Academic Senate to create a campus policy on the naming of buildings and other campus sites, so that the campus community can once again participate in the naming process. The other resolution originated with Carlos Davidson, a member of the Retirement Association, who asked the board to endorse a statement on academic freedom. Please read these over. Comments are welcome--you can send your reactions to me ([robt.cherny@gmail.com](mailto:robt.cherny@gmail.com)), for me to share with the board, or send to any board member. The list of board members appears elsewhere in this GRG.

At its December meeting, the board also approved most of the text for a change in our long-standing grant program. For many years, we have offered a travel grant program for faculty and staff members as a way of assisting individuals to undertake travel directly related to their professional activities. The program did not begin that way—it began as simply a grant program, but it long ago morphed into a travel grant program, before any of the current board members were involved. We are now planning to return to the original vision, of a grant program that supports professional development (including travel). We are still working out the details, but we are hopeful that we'll have a final version that can be announced soon.

The board also agreed to reopen the question of software access for retirees. We addressed that issue some years ago and found that the limits were at the system level rather than campus-based. We are hoping, now, that we may be able to make some headway at the campus level, especially for those retirees whose activities directly relate to the University in some way.

On a separate but related issue, the board also agreed to seek the same prerequisites for emeritus staff that are available to emeritus faculty—email access and free parking on campus. Access to campus parking is a serious issue for staff retirees who wish to take part in any Retirement Association activities on campus.

Most of you, I expect, are aware of the serious financial problems facing the University. A cut in the system budget was deferred to next year, but so was the compact funding. Those decisions could prove highly troublesome for the 2026-2027 budget. Although the CSU system did not take a major cut for the current fiscal year, there continue to be budget reductions for low-enrollment campuses (nearly all in the north) in order to support high-enrollment campuses (mostly in the south). For SF State, as you know, this has meant that nearly all lecturers have been laid off, creating a situation where the large majority of faculty are tenured/tenture track. Now the University is seeking to

reduce significantly the tenure density by offering a generous retirement program. This could have a serious effect on some departments and programs. I've concluded nearly all my messages over the past few years with a plea that you contribute financially (or in other ways) to the University, to your department, to the support of your colleagues who are grappling with this crisis. The need is still great. Be generous. It's all tax-deductible.

Bob Cherny,  
President



*Entrance to Burk Hall*



*J. Paul Leonard Library Plaza*



*Bird's-Eye View of Campus*



# Annual Spring Luncheon & Meeting



Thursday, March 19, 2026

11:30 AM — 2:00 PM

Vista Room

SFSU

Education Building

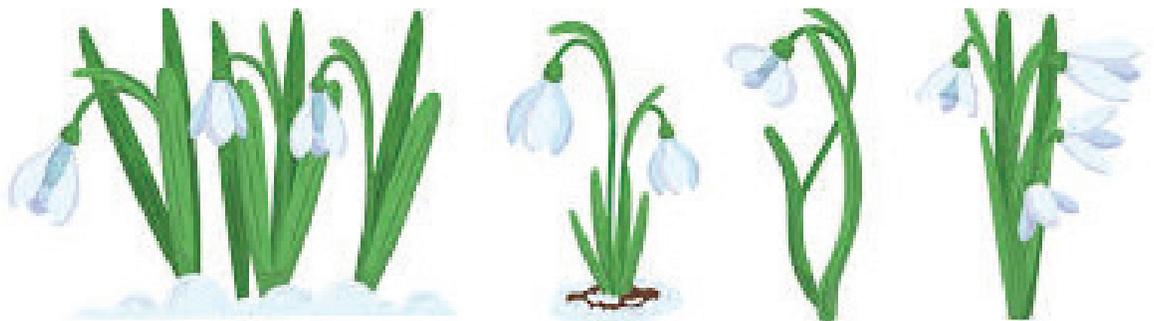
4th Floor

This will be a Buffet Luncheon

## Save the Date

Information on price and payment will be available in the GRG Blast which will be sent out closer to the luncheon.

Parking will be available for those without parking passes.



## “Firewall” Resolution

At its December 17, 2025, meeting, the Retirement Association Board of Directors unanimously approved the following resolution proposed by Carlos Davidson, a member who is also a member of the CSU ERFSA Legislative Affairs Committee. Carlos plans to seek other campus bodies endorsement of the same resolution.

### SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY “FIREWALL” RESOLUTION. NOVEMBER 2025

Whereas this template resolution was developed by the American Civil Liberties Union and Amnesty International for use by colleges and universities across the country;

WHEREAS, the San Francisco State University prides itself on being a campus that supports the civil and human rights of all members of our community, including students, staff and faculty;

WHEREAS, the ability to criticize our government, its policies, and even its foundational philosophies is critical to the exercise of all our civil and human rights--and is protected against government interference by the First Amendment;

WHEREAS, the White House is pressuring university officials to assist it in targeting students, faculty, and staff who are not U.S. citizens, including holders of non-immigrant visas and lawful permanent residents, as punishment for the lawful exercise of their rights to freedom of expression under the Constitution and international law;

WHEREAS, across the country, students are increasingly afraid of being accosted and taken from their communities by federal law enforcement agents, including those who conceal their identity and refuse to provide basic information, and who abuse immigration laws to target students for what they believe and who they are;

WHEREAS, protected political speech and association alone—no matter how offensive to members of the campus community—should never be the basis for discipline, nor should it lead to an individual’s arrest, detention or deportation;

WHEREAS, the White House and federal agencies are threatening to deprive universities across the country of federal grant money and other sources of support, in order to gain their cooperation and capitulation in efforts to punish dissent, attack non-citizens, students of color, and LGBTQ+ youth, and dictate educational programs;

WHEREAS, this includes brazen attempts to intimidate schools into abandoning lawful efforts to create inclusive learning environments;

WHEREAS, schools are obligated under federal law to protect students from discrimination, harassment, threats, and violence;

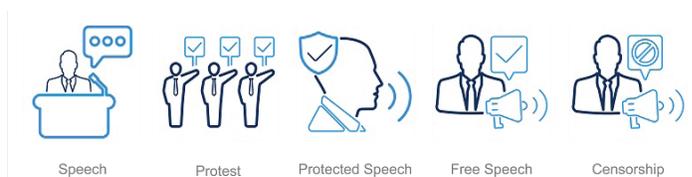
WHEREAS, schools are also obligated under federal law to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of student records, including against unwarranted disclosure to the government or private parties;

BE IT RESOLVED, the undersigned SFSU student, faculty and staff organizations declare their support for the protection of civil and human rights of all members of our campus community and call upon the SFSU President and trustees to take all possible measures to ensure that our campus is a safe space, where students may exercise their rights without fear or intimidation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the undersigned SFSU organizations encourage the SFSU President and Board of Trustees to resist White House and federal agency demands that undermine academic freedom and our civil and human rights in exchange for an illusory promise of continued federal grant making;

BE IT RESOLVED, the undersigned SFSU organizations call on the SFSU President to employ their authority to establish a firewall for freedom, prohibiting employees of the SFSU from voluntarily providing information or assistance in response to a request from federal authorities or out-of-state authorities that seeks—

- a. to identify, or impose civil or criminal liability or other penalties, including termination or reduction of grant funding, upon a person or entity based on their participation in activities protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution including assembly, petitioning, expression of viewpoints, and speech;
- b. to identify or apprehend a person in order to subject them to immigration detention, removal or deportation proceedings; or to prosecute a person or persons for offenses related to immigration status based on their participation in activities protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution including assembly, petitioning expression of viewpoints and speech; and
- c. to investigate the sex or gender of a student, faculty, or staff member.



## The SFSURA Magazine

We're announcing the formation of a magazine that includes the contributions of members of the SFSU Retirement Association. The magazine will be free and downloadable from the SFSURA website as a pdf.

You are invited to contribute articles ranging in length from three to five pages including your reminiscences of your travels, your opinions on issues relevant to SFSU, drawings, cartoons, and photographs with comments.

The magazine will be published once each year, with about 8-10 articles. If there is a greater demand, we can consider publishing it twice a year.

If you have a reminiscence or a short essay that you think others in the Retirement Association would appreciate, please contribute! Just send your Word document to me, the editor: Jim Kohn at [kohnsf2@gmail.com](mailto:kohnsf2@gmail.com). I will edit and assemble the articles, put them into pdf format, and upload them to the RA website.

Here are a few possible titles that reflect my own personal reminiscences:

- *Lost in Albania*: a near disaster of an adventure.
- *A Strange Welcome in Rothenburg*: what happened when I discovered a secret staircase in Germany.
- *Washed Out to Sea in a Rental Car*: It happened on Maui.
- *A Special Birthday in Colombia*: my wife's adventuresome birthday.
- *An Unexpected Tour of East Jerusalem*: what happens when you walk through the old city unaccompanied.

## Resolution on the Naming of Campus Buildings & Sites

At its meeting on December 17, 2025, the Retirement Association Board of Directors unanimously approved the following resolution on the naming of campus buildings and sites. The resolution is a reaction to the CSU system policy on naming, which is online at

[https://supportingadvancement.com/files/more\\_with\\_less/policies/naming/naming\\_facilities\\_1.pdf](https://supportingadvancement.com/files/more_with_less/policies/naming/naming_facilities_1.pdf).

The resolution has been forwarded to the Academic Senate.

WHEREAS many buildings on campus are named for individuals, including:

**Frederic Burk Hall**

Named for the founding president of San Francisco State;

**Mary Ward Hall**

Named for the first woman to serve as president of San Francisco State;

**J. Paul Leonard Library**

Named for the president at the time of the move to the current campus;

**John Hensill Hall**

Named for a former dean of Science;

**Robert Thornton Hall**

Named for a former dean of Science;

**Mary Park Hall**

Named for a former custodian;

**Cesar Chavez Student Center**

Named for a union leader;

**Malcolm X Plaza**

Named for a Black radical activist;

**AIDS Memorial Grove**

Memorializes students, faculty, staff lost to AIDS;

**Cox Stadium**

Named for Dave Cox, head coach and athletics director; and

**Maloney Field**

Named for Jack Maloney, a coach.

WHEREAS, all those were named at the initiative of campus members, including students, faculty, staff, and administrators; and

WHEREAS, current CSU policy largely limits naming rights to substantial donors but permits naming for other reasons;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDS

THAT the right to propose names for campus facilities include the campus community, including the Academic Senate, the Associated Students, and the individual college councils, with the approval of the President and Board of Trustees; and

THAT we urge the Academic Senate to draft a campus policy clarifying the role of various components of the campus community in the process of naming campus sites.

## Retired? “Don’t Just Do Something, Join Something!”

By Russell Kilday-Hicks

My last few years of working were torturous in one sense: I was so looking forward to finally having TIME. Time to address all the things a busy working-family person has to put off, sometimes for decades. I may have been an especially worse case. While working full time, I also gave a lot of my “free time” to my union and community (e.g., I was a city commissioner for about 16 years, too).

Now that I’m retired and the nest is empty, and I have already taken care of the semi-high-priority things (like that shelf in the garage with easily-fixable stuff and many other house projects), I’m on it, especially things that satisfy my urge to leave the world a better place.

I thought I would share a short list of options as we navigate the proverbial “third act” of our lives. As an aside, studies show that you can certainly enhance, and actually extend your life by surrounding yourself with community. Not such a bad additional outcome.

**SF State University Retiree Association (SFSURA)**—Dues are \$30 a year, or lifetime for \$200. The first year is free! Holds lunches twice a year, usually attended by the president or development staff. Other events throughout the year (like the recent tour of the new science building). A great way to stay connected and revisit with past workplace friends. Join the board and work on a committee!

**Emeritus Faculty & Staff Retirement Association (EFSRA)**—An off-shoot of the CSU Academic Senate system. Dues are \$72 a year. They have a pretty informative newsletter. SFSURA sends someone to their big once-a-year meeting.

**California State Retirees (CSR)**—Started in 1931, the group that first won a state-employee pension. CSR watches the CalPERS board. About 45,000 members. Dues are pro-rated, \$1–\$12 monthly with direct deduction. Many member benefits, including free luncheons 3–4 times a year. Many opportunities for volunteering (e.g., I’m Chapter 1 president and on the statewide Membership Committee).

**Retired Public Employees Association of California (RPEA)**—(The only group listed here that I’m not a member of, yet.) With over 40,000 members, RPEA also covers anyone in CalPERS, but includes school, city, and other municipal retirees. Dues are \$5 a month.

**California Association for Retired Americans (CARA)**—Part of a national system so deals with national issues. A coalition of many groups; free to join if your group is a member. Both CSR and RPEA are members. Lots of opportunities for involvement.

**American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)**—AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization for people 50 and older that provides advocacy, information, and discounts. AARP advocates on issues such as Social Security, Medicare, prescription drug costs, and family caregiving at local, state, and national levels. Membership can be as low as \$15 a year.

**Fossil Free California (FFCA)**—Currently working on convincing CalPERS and CalSTRS to divest \$42 billion from the fossil fuel industry, the “Make Polluters Pay” legislation, and a just transition that supports the workers in this dirty industry.

**Third Act**—Started by Bill McKibbin, founder of 350.org and the scientist who got me started 36 years ago with his book, *The End of Nature*. Third Act is specifically for retired activists. That’s his statement used in the headline for this story.

Of course, there are many other worthy groups to join and if you have special talents there are outlets to spread the love as an individual. For example, I also play guitar and sing for people stuck in bed.

Staying active in retirement, from social justice groups, to food banks, to your local school, volunteer work building community and positive change can be good for both your heart and spirit, and yes, leave the world a better place. Time is our special power. Use it well. Peace.

*New Science  
and Engineering  
Innovation Buildings*



## Beloved National Park Ranger, Betty Reid Soskin dies at 104

For those who joined the Retirement Association tour to the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historic Park in Richmond a number of years ago: Do you remember our hostess who talked with us, the nation's oldest U.S. park ranger, Betty Reid Soskin? She just died at 104. Here is an article from the SF Chronicle:

*By David Hernandez, Staff Writer SF Chronicle, December 21, 2025*

Betty Reid Soskin, the beloved historian, musician and oldest U.S. park ranger until her 2022 retirement, died Sunday at her Richmond home, her family said. She was 104.

The longtime East Bay resident worked as a file clerk for the segregated union hall for Black shipyard workers, A-36, during World War II. She died peacefully, "attended by family," her family said in a Facebook post. "She led a fully packed life and was ready to leave," the post said.

Rep. John Garamendi, whose district includes Richmond, said in a statement Sunday he was heartbroken over Soskin's death and offered his condolences to her family. "From all of us, thank you, Betty, for your tireless service and dedication to our precious national parks," he wrote in a social media post. "You will be deeply missed."

Soskin worked for the National Park Service for 15 years, leading public programs and sharing her personal story with visitors at Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historic Park in Richmond. Although Soskin suffered a stroke in 2019, she returned to work in 2020. When she retired she was 100.

"Being a primary source in the sharing of that history— my history— and giving shape to a new national park has been exciting and fulfilling," Soskin said in a statement at the time. "It has proven to bring meaning to my final years."

Born in Detroit, Soskin was raised in New Orleans until her family moved to Oakland in 1927. She later raised four children in a home she and her first husband, Mel Reid, built on property they purchased in Walnut Creek as one of the first Black families to reside in the area. In 1945, she and Reid opened one of the first Black-owned record shops in Berkeley, Reid's Records. The store closed in 2019. After divorcing Reid in 1972, she married William Soskin in 1978. The couple remained married until his death in 1988.

In her 70s she worked as a staffer for Berkeley City Council Member Don Jelinek and California Assembly Member Dion Aroner, an East Bay Democrat. Her work offered her a seat at the table for scoping sessions for what was then a proposed national park in Richmond. The National Park Service initially hired her as a consultant and later as a park ranger.

Soskin was honored for her work and legacy over the decades. In 1995, the California Legislature named her Woman of the Year. Among other honors, Soskin received an honorary doctorate from Mills College in 2017 and an honorary doctorate from Cal State East Bay in Hayward in 2024.

In 2018, when actor Andie MacDowell presented her with Glamour magazine's Woman of the Year Award, she praised Soskin's legacy: "Betty is posted at the Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park, where she reminds audiences that, 'What gets remembered depends on who is in the room doing the remembering,'" MacDowell said. "So Betty remembers and educates on behalf of generations of women of color and other marginalized communities, sharing forgotten stories that span from Dred Scott to Black Lives Matter."

*Continued on Page 9*

Soskin's life is chronicled in the documentary "No Time to Waste," produced by the Rosie the Riveter Trusts, and her memoir, "Sign My Name to Freedom." The book title also inspired a song she wrote and a musical play featuring her original songs, staged by the San Francisco Bay Area Theater Company in 2022. A film about her original songs, also titled "Sign My Name to Freedom," is scheduled for release next year. Filmmakers described her style as "Billie Holiday crossed with Joan Baez."

To see article with photos, go to:

[https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/betty-reid-soskin-dies-21255923.php?utm\\_content=hed&sid=5452c9093b35d010308d4b0e&ss=A&st\\_rid=198f6b93-Oe9d-4fc5-ac25-f9133e21b6b2&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=headlines&utm\\_campaign=sfc\\_morningfix](https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/betty-reid-soskin-dies-21255923.php?utm_content=hed&sid=5452c9093b35d010308d4b0e&ss=A&st_rid=198f6b93-Oe9d-4fc5-ac25-f9133e21b6b2&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=headlines&utm_campaign=sfc_morningfix)



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## Membership Updates

### New Emails:

Donald Casella	<a href="mailto:vcasella@sfsu.edu">vcasella@sfsu.edu</a>
Richard Bottega	<a href="mailto:Richardbottega@comcast.net">Richardbottega@comcast.net</a>
Nancy McDermid	<a href="mailto:mcdermid@sfsu.edu">mcdermid@sfsu.edu</a>
Swarna Moldanado	<a href="mailto:smoldanado@sbcglobal.net">smoldanado@sbcglobal.net</a>
George Woo	<a href="mailto:gkwoo@yahoo.com">gkwoo@yahoo.com</a>
Kenneth Letsch	<a href="mailto:kenletsch@comcast.net">kenletsch@comcast.net</a>

### New Address:

Dr. Elizabeth Parent  
Westborough Royale  
89 Westborough Blvd, #138  
So. San Francisco, CA 94080

# Advances in Hospitality, Tourism, Marketing & Management Annual Conference

## Faro, Portugal — June 2025

By Colin Johnson, Ph.D., Professor, Hospitality, Tourism & Events Management

The support provided by the Retirement Association Travel Grant enabled my attendance at the 2025 AHTMM Annual Conference in Faro, Portugal. Participation in this international academic forum significantly advanced several ongoing research initiatives and facilitated the development of new scholarly collaborations.

During the conference, I contributed as a coauthor on two research papers. The first, *The Influence of Collectivist and Power Distance Cultures on Leadership Style and Employees' Organisational Commitment: The Case of Small Hospitality Enterprises in Kenya*, coauthored with Michael Evans, and Sam Ikwaye. The second paper, *A CrossNational Study on Artificial Intelligence Enabled Personalization, Information Disclosure Behaviours, and Satisfaction with Tourism Services*, was developed in collaboration with Sean B. Chung, Usep Suhud and Michael Evans. Presenting these works at the conference provided valuable scholarly feedback that is informing the next stages of both projects.

The conference also offered important opportunities for expanding international research networks. I met with Professor Vikelwa Nomnga of Walter Sisulu University in South Africa, and this engagement has already resulted in two new collaborative projects. The first, "The Influence of National Culture on Leadership and Employee Relations in Small Hospitality Firms: Evidence from South Africa, Ghana, and Kenya," involves coauthors Michael Evans, Sam Ikwaye, and Vikelwa Nomnga and myself. The second project, "Prospects and Challenges in the Adoption of Sustainable Development Practices in Small Hospitality Businesses: A Comparative Case Study in Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa," is a collaboration among Vikelwa Nomnga, Michael Evans, Sam Ikwaye and myself. These initiatives broaden the comparative scope of our research and strengthen academic partnerships across multiple African regions.

Overall, attendance at the AHTMM Conference provided an invaluable platform for presenting ongoing research, receiving expert commentary, and establishing new international collaborations. These outcomes have directly contributed to the advancement of several current and emerging projects.

I am very much indebted to the Retirement Association Travel Grant Board for supporting my travel to the conference and furthering my research agenda.

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## Donate to the SFSU Retirement Association

The San Francisco State University Retirement Association welcomes contributions to support the Travel Grants program. We invite donations to this very worthwhile program. Donations are tax deductible.

NEW! Donations can now be made online by debit and credit cards or by check.

Online payments here: <https://give.sfsu.edu/SFSURET>

If donating by check, make a check payable to the SFSU Retirement Association and on the memo line indicate it is for the Travel Grants Endowment Fund.

Send your check to our treasurer at the address below:

John O'Shaughnessy    •    11 Hillsdale Place    •    San Mateo, CA 94403



**Mariana Ferreira**, Professor of Liberal Studies, died July 9 at the age of 66. Born in Brazil, her early experience with the Brazilian military dictatorship in the late 1970s shaped her intellectual work at the intersection of Indigenous knowledge, ethnomathematics, medical anthropology, and human rights. She received her Ph.D. in 1996 from the Medical Anthropology joint program at UC Berkeley and UCSF, focusing on Indigenous health. She joined the Anthropology faculty in 2003, moved to School of Liberal Studies in 2014, and later served as Associate Director for the School of Humanities and Liberal Studies. Mariana was a powerful voice for equity and justice, and was the main organizer of SF State's annual Human Rights Summit for over a decade. Obituary at <https://liberalstudies.sfsu.edu/news/obituary-dr-mariana-ferreira>.

**Barbara Galehouse** came to SF State in 1978, initially as the academic office coordinator for Recreation and Leisure Studies; she later moved to be the AOC in Health Education. She retired in 1997, when her husband Jon Galehouse retired from the Geology Department. Active in civic, educational, environmental, and political groups in Pacifica and in local Democratic party politics, Barbara was named "Woman of the Year" for California's Eighth Senate District in 1989 by State Senator Quentin Kopp. At SF State, Barbara served on several search committees, including one for University president. She was active in the University Women's Association, holding various leadership roles including president. Barbara died on November 25 at the age of 86. Obituary at:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sacbee/name/barbara-galehouse-obituary?id=60198004>



**Greta G. Glugoski**, Professor *emerita* of Social Work, died November 15 at the age of 90. Her Social Work colleague Jerald Shapiro recalls: "After years of providing social work services to Bay Area community agencies and supervisory training experiences for social work students in those settings, Greta Glugoski joined the School of Social Work faculty in 1987. Until her retirement in 2001, she brought visionary leadership to the School in a wide range of areas including social work group work, community organizing, and international student education. Greta also worked closely with colleagues around campus on the development of gerontology and aging curriculum, and taught Gerontology. In 1994, she contributed a seminal article to the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Community Practice*, 'A Wholistic Ethno-Cultural Paradigm: A New Model for Community Organization Teaching and Practice' (1994). Greta combined warmth, humor, a disarming ability to introduce determinative facts at a critical point in a conversation, and a commitment to truth telling under all circumstances which taken together commanded recognition and respect while fostering immediate deliberate action. Greta's dedication to acceptance of others as a foundational component of engaging and addressing (often, redressing) opposing viewpoints not only proved to be frequently fruitful, but also demonstrated to colleagues and students the value of a shared compassion perspective for advancing social justice advocacy." Obituary at:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sfgate/name/greta-glugoski-obituary?id=60094553>

**John Hewitt**, Professor *emeritus* of Broadcast and Electronic Communication Arts, came to SF State in 1974 and retired in 2008. He died December 8 at the age of 81 in Mill Valley. John worked as a news producer at several San Francisco and Oakland TV stations before coming to SF State, where he taught documentary production. He also created, produced, edited, and shot twenty full-length documentaries, and published two textbooks on writing for broadcast news along with *Documentary Filmmaking: A Contemporary Field Guide*. Upon retirement, Hewitt began writing surrealist novels. Obituary at:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sfgate/name/john-hewitt-obituary?id=60280427>



**Amy Hittner**, Professor *emerita* and department chair in Counseling, died October 23 at the age of 83. A graduate of Brooklyn College, Amy had a life-long love for that institution and for New York City more generally. While she taught high school in San Francisco, she earned an MA in counseling at SF State in 1969 and her PhD from UC Berkeley in 1979. After earning her MA, she was a counselor at Woodrow Wilson High School; she was also an active member in AFT Local 61. Amy was appointed to the SF State faculty in 1982 and retired in 2005. At SF State, Amy served as associate dean of the College of Health and Human Services and was principal investigator and director of multiple large federal grants providing training opportunities for students and others in the community. In all her work, Amy was deeply committed to making educational opportunities available to a diverse group of young people. After retiring from SFSU in 2004, she remained deeply engaged with her community. She directed San Francisco Democratic Women in Action, served on the boards of the Older Women's League and the Legacy Film Festival on Aging, and continued her lifelong commitment to creating opportunity for others. Obituary at <https://legcy.co/3M2WXHV>

**William M. Littell**, Professor *emeritus* of Psychology, died on November 22, 2025. He came to SF State in 1960 and retired in 1992. Bill was a school psychologist and was qualified in clinical psychology. His focus was on child development, and his 1960 article on the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children has been widely cited. At SF State, he was part of the clinical psychology program. He was also actively involved in CFA and the academic senate. Bill grew up inside Yosemite National Park, where his parents lived and worked, and Yosemite and the outdoors more generally remained important for him throughout his life. He loved camping and enjoyed travel including to Antarctica.

**Peter Edward Radcliff Jr.**, Professor *emeritus* of Philosophy, died October 5 at the age of 93 in Santa Cruz. He came to SF State in 1963, became *emeritus* in 1999, but continued teaching graduate seminars on Wittgenstein into his 80s. His Philosophy colleague Don Provence recalls that Peter "was intellectually quick and equally quick witted. In a time of considerable social and political upheaval, I don't remember ever disagreeing. We were on picket lines together, celebrating the initiation of the School of Ethnic Studies together, and in general reaching the same ethical conclusions though sometimes through differing lines of reasoning. He was a valued colleague whose humor in tense situations was often what was needed." Obituary at: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sfgate/name/peter-radcliff-obituary?id=59976358>

**Beatrix "Trix" Salih** was a valued member of the Human Resources team during her final years at SFSU, where she was known for her professionalism, kindness, and dedication to supporting faculty and staff. She passed away on December 8 in Daly City. Obituary at: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sfgate/name/beatrix-salih-obituary?id=60317355>

**Raymond Sullivan**, Professor *emeritus* of Geosciences from 1962 to 2002, died January 13, 2024 at the age of 89. Ray helped co-found the Department of Geology, was Associate Dean of Science, and a fellow of the California Academy of Sciences. Ray was awarded the University's highest "Inspiring Teacher" award multiple times. Obituary at: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/raymond-sullivan-obituary?id=54620526>

**Stanley C. Williams**, Professor *emeritus* of Biology, taught at SF State from 1967 to 2015. He died July 23 at the age of 85. He was a fellow of the California Academy of Sciences and former faculty member at the Air Force Academy. Gloria Nusse, a former graduate student and more recently an SF State lecturer in human anatomy, recalled, "I took his human anatomy class in 2004. I hung on his every word as he scribbled on the over-head projector slide to illustrate his



## In Memoriam

lecture. He never used notes. At his memorial on December 3, his colleagues, friends and family shared stories of his sly and dry sense of humor and his passion for science and teaching. Stan fought long and hard to create his wonderful lab and the method of having undergraduate students dissect cadavers. That first-hand experience inspired many who are now doctors, nurses, and technicians with the same passion they have carried into their professions. I know because they told me.” He published extensively on topics ranging from insect ecology and human anatomy to general and medical entomology, and was a specialist in the systematics and ecology of terrestrial arthropods—especially scorpions. Obituary at:

<https://www.mykeeper.com/St StanleyWilliams94775>

**Manfred Wolf**, Professor *emeritus* of English, died December 22 at the age of 90. He began teaching at SF State as an instructor in 1956, at age 21, after receiving his MA from the University of Chicago. His PhD came from the University of Leiden, in the Netherlands, in 1977. Born in Germany in 1937, he and his family escaped the Nazis, an experience he described in *Survival in Paradise* (2014), a memoir of his family’s flight from the Netherlands through Belgium, France, Spain, and Portugal and finally to the Jewish community in Curaçao, in the Caribbean. He was fond of saying that he had adopted several identities in his life: Dutch boy, Jewish refugee in the Caribbean, immigrant to the U.S., professor, writer, and family man. Specializing in translations from Dutch and Flemish, he was the author of numerous articles and several books. He retired in 2000. Obituary at:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sfgate/name/manfred-wolf-obituary?id=60455327>

*Note: The Retirement Association encourages members to submit short remembrances (fewer than 200 words) of departed colleagues.*

*You can do so by sending to Jim Van Ness, [jvanness1@comcast.net](mailto:jvanness1@comcast.net).*

## Senior Humor

“The older I get, the better I used to be.” Lee Trevino

“It’s paradoxical that the idea of living a long life appeals to everyone, but the idea of getting old doesn’t appeal to anyone.” Andy Rooney

“I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a lot more as they get older, and then it dawned on me — they’re cramming for their final exam.” George Carlin

“Everything seems to slow down with age, except the time it takes cake and ice cream to reach your hips.” Elizabeth Taylor

“Time may be a great Healer, but it’s a lousy Beautician.” Zsa Zsa Gabor

“At age 20, we worry about what others think of us. At age 40, we don’t care what they think of us. At age 60, we discover they haven’t been thinking of us at all.” Ann Landers

“When I was young, I was called a rugged individualist. When I was in my fifties, I was considered eccentric. Here I am doing and saying the same things I did then, and I’m labeled senile.” Milton Berle

“The important thing to remember is that I’m probably going to forget.” Martin Scorsese

“We don’t grow older, we grow riper.” Pablo Picasso

“Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you are aboard, there is nothing you can do about it.” Golda Meir



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## What Have YOU Been Up To?

Now it's your opportunity to share some news of your travels and activities with our members. Please send your account to Irene Donner at: [iredonner@gmail.com](mailto:iredonner@gmail.com). If you have photos, please send them as separate jpg files. We eagerly look forward to your participation. It will appear in the next GRG.



## What's the Blast?

When the SFSU Retirement Association has timely information between the Gator Retiree Gazette mailings, you will receive a GRG Blast email.

Keep an eye out for these from time to time.