

On Tuesday, January 16, 2007, the Newkirk Center and the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics presented a lecture by NASA Astronaut Piers J. Sellers, “What is it Like to be in Space?”

Several hundred people attended the event, which included UCI students, faculty, community members and local elementary school students. “It was captivating for both the children and the adults in attendance, to hear Piers Sellers tell stories and answer questions about his experiences as a NASA astronaut over the past decade. During the lecture, Sellers showed breathtaking video footage from lift off to landing and some of his favorite still photos taken during the shuttle mission in 2006 where he performed work on the International Space Station during three space walks,” said Elizabeth Eastin, assistant director of the Center.

Also, The Newkirk Center and the UCI Center for Psychology and Law are co-sponsoring the 2007 Forensic Science Education Series. This series is designed to introduce legal professionals to new research in the social sciences that is relevant to issues that arise in criminal trials and the law of evidence. It will highlight the cutting-edge research of several UCI faculty members on issues that link social science and the law.

The first session - **New Research of Creation of False Memories: Legal Implications** featuring UCI Center for Psychology & Law Director and Distinguished Professor Elizabeth Loftus was held on Wednesday, January 31.

Upcoming Topics include:  
**Use and Misuse of DNA Evidence** presented by Professor William Thompson, J.D., Ph.D..  
**Evaluating the Reliability and Admissibility of Fingerprint Evidence** presented by Professor Simon Cole, Ph.D.  
Workplace Harassment presented by Professor Salvatore R. Maddi, Ph.D.

If you would like more information, please go to: [http://www.newkirkcenter.uci.edu/forensic\\_science.uci](http://www.newkirkcenter.uci.edu/forensic_science.uci)

Gifts That Pay You Income

Did you know there are several gift plans available that will pay you income? These types of plans are ideal for supplementing your income, while also establishing a lasting charitable legacy for the benefit of the School of Social Ecology. The University of California, Irvine Foundation offers several types of these plans.

GENERALLY, THIS IS HOW THEY WORK

- You transfer cash or appreciated assets (such as securities or real estate) to the Foundation
- The Foundation will sell the assets and reinvest the proceeds to produce income for you or an income beneficiary of your choosing
- You receive an immediate charitable income tax deduction
- You do not pay an upfront capital gains tax on the sale of the appreciated asset by the Foundation
- Depending on the type of plan you choose, you receive a fixed or variable income stream for a term of years or for your lifetime
- You direct how the University of California, Irvine Foundation will eventually use the principal balance, once the term of the gift plan ends.

MORE INFORMATION?

To receive more information on the various gift planning options available, please contact Deborah Sarkas at (949) 824-1874 or the Office of Legacy Planning (949) 824-8384 or visit [www.giftlegacy.uci.edu](http://www.giftlegacy.uci.edu).

Social Ecology Programs Receive High Rankings

*U.S. News and World Report* ranked the nation's top 50 graduate programs and specialties, and two Social Ecology programs made the ranking, Criminology ranked fourth and Psychology and Social Behavior ranked 47th.

Also, two of the school's research fields were ranked in the top five among large research universities by the 2005 Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index. Public administration and policy, which includes faculty from Planning, Policy & Design, ranked fourth and criminology and justice studies ranked fifth. Produced by Academic Analytics, the index includes journal articles and books published by each program's faculty, as well as journal citations, awards, honors and grants received.

Alumni News

CASTING DIRECTOR IN COSTA MESA

**Joanne DeNaut** ('79) works with the South Coast Repertory in Costa Mesa as the casting director and artistic associate.

NEW CHIEF OF POLICE IN TEHACHAPI, KERN COUNTY

After 26 years with the Irvine Police Department, **Jeff Kermode** ('80) is now the new Chief of Police in Tehachapi, Kern County, Calif., where he will also create a new police department.

NEW SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR AT USD

**Erik Fritsvold** ('06) has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position in the Sociology Department at the University of San Diego. He joins CLS alumnus and upcoming departmental chair Rafik Mohamed in teaching in the "Crime, Justice, Law & Society" specialization.

Stay In Touch

Have exciting news you would like to share with Social Ecology alumni and friends? Did you recently change your address? If so, please let us know! Contact Kristine Ramos, Office of External Relations, at [ramosk@uci.edu](mailto:ramosk@uci.edu)

SOCIAL ECOLOGY today

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Psychology & Social Behavior

SOCIAL ECOLOGY

today

Social Ecology Professor Appointed to Federal Homeland Security Advisory Committee



Professor Roxane Cohen Silver was appointed to the new federal advisory committee that will help develop travel policies for people visiting the United States. Silver was sworn in by Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff on December 6, 2006, in Washington D.C. The Secure Borders and Open Doors Advisory Committee was created by the Departments of Homeland Security and State as part of the Rice-Chertoff Joint Vision, which aims to help develop travel policies that balance the need for stronger security while facilitating travel to the United States, including that of visiting foreign students and scientists. The committee will provide feedback on specific initiatives and serve as a sounding board for new programs created by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Secretary Chertoff.

Professor Silver will serve on an 18-member committee, which includes prominent travel industry experts such as J.W. Marriott, chairman and CEO of Marriott, Inc., and James A. Rasulo, chairman of Walt Disney Parks and Resorts. The committee is chaired by Jared L. Cohon, president of Carnegie Mellon University. A national expert in the field of stress and coping, Silver studies how individuals respond to traumatic life events and she spearheaded the longest-running national study of psychological responses to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. In 2003, she was appointed by then - Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge to the Academe and Policy Research Senior Advisory Committee, and since that time she has provided ongoing advice to the Department on social science issues regarding homeland security. She is also a fellow of both the American Psychological Association and the Association of Psychological Science. "I am honored to be among the distinguished members of this committee and pleased to serve the country in this manner," said Silver.

A Social Ecology Alumna's Dream for Africa:

*"We are living for those who think tomorrow will be a better day."*

Mirth Mauvais Meyer (Social Ecology '84) wanted to make a difference and help those in need. Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, Calif., was recruiting more than 300 people to spend time in Swaziland, Africa on a project entitled "Never Ending Gardens," a plan to plant vegetable gardens, house to house, so that "no one goes to bed hungry." Meyer wanted to help, so she signed up. This public goal was created by King Mswatti and Dr. Bruce Wilkinson to help children orphaned by AIDS avoid becoming victims of sexual abuse, and to obtain food for themselves and their younger siblings. There were more than 4,000 children-headed households at that time and the number was predicted to grow.



Meyer at the airport.

Meyer was a team leader of seven volunteers from the East Coast as well as California. Other teams were gathered from Canada and all over the U.S. through efforts of the Crystal Cathedral. They believed in the viability of planting semi-sustainable vegetable gardens to bring nutrition to all households and break the HIV cycle of infection.

Swaziland is surrounded by South Africa on three sides and Mozambique on the fourth. Meyer worked in Piggs Peak, a mountainous area with a steep valley where the Kumati runs through it. On the 11-day trip, Meyer and her teammates were "farmers" for five days, working side by side with people who knew more about farming than they did, but were orphaned children or grandparents who had no money to buy seedlings. Each family was assessed and received enough plots to feed their household. When a garden matured, two cabbages sold at the market would buy more seedlings



Just one of the children excited to help.

to plant. Children helped make the gardens and water the tiny seedlings. The adults and older boys had pre-filled the plots and constructed fences around them to keep cattle out.

One unforgettable experience for Meyer was when they were planting vegetables for the chief of Piggs Peak. "He was very happy to have us

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Faculty News

**Joan Petersilia** has been appointed by James Tilton, the Secretary of the California Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections to serve as co-chair of the Expert Panel on California Prisons. In addition, the school recently received a \$250,000 gift from the Roney Family Foundation to support her criminological activities.

*Cities, Nationalism, and Democratization*, a new book by **Scott A. Bolens**, examines the role and impact of urban policy and city building amidst nationalistic ethnic conflict and during transitional processes of democratization. The research is based on more than 100 interviews with urban professionals, community and nongovernmental advocates, scholars, and political leaders in Sarajevo and Mostar (Bosnia), and in Barcelona and Basque cities (Spain). It will be published in spring 2007 by Routledge Press (London) as part of its *Questioning Cities* series.

**Daniel Stokols** co-chaired a conference on October 30-31, 2006, sponsored by the National Cancer Institute and NIH, on “The Science of Team Science: Assessing the Value of Transdisciplinary Research”. The conference was held in Bethesda, MD, and the proceedings are available online at [http://dccps.nci.nih.gov/BRP/presentations\\_day1.html](http://dccps.nci.nih.gov/BRP/presentations_day1.html). A set of papers presented at the conference will be published as a special issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

The American Psychological Association and the Division of Personality and Social Psychology awarded **Salvatore Maddi** the Henry A. Murray Award for lifetime contributions to the study of personality.

Honors & Awards

**Bryan McDonald** - Social Ecology doctoral student, has been named the 2006-07 Tamura Fellow for the School of Social Ecology. The fellowship is named and awarded in honor of Justice Stephen K. Tamura who was appointed in 1961 by Governor Pat Brown to the Orange County Superior Court. Later elevated to the Fourth Appellate District, Justice Tamura was the first Asian American to sit on the California Court of Appeals and has also served as Justice Pro Tem on the California Supreme Court.

**Rachel Dioso-Villa** – a Criminology, Law, and Society graduate student was awarded a 2006 Minority Fellowship from the American Society of Criminology.

Community Outreach Partnership Center (COPC) News

The Community Outreach Partnership Center Community Scholars Program received \$94,716 from the Miguel Contreras Fund, part of the UC Office of the President’s Center for Labor and Research Development.

Victor Becerra, the Program’s director is very excited about the support for the Community Scholars Initiative. “The resources provided by this grant will allow us to extend the reach of this initiative to include graduate students and faculty from throughout the campus. More importantly, it affords us the opportunity to strengthen ties with our community partners by responding to their requests for information (e.g. data, best practices, community benefit analysis, etc) on community development and employment issues, which address the needs of working families in Orange County,” said Becerra.

The Community Scholars Program engages graduate students in the community, to produce knowledge with a public purpose. Students conduct group and individual research and planning projects that directly benefit the community. The grant confirms the value of the Community Scholars Initiative as a proven mechanism that generates research with a public purpose and advances the public good.

COPC, in partnership with the Department of Planning, Policy, and Design, also held a lecture entitled, “The Changing Face of Orange County,” with Professor Manuel Pastor, from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Dr. Pastor is Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies and Co-Director of the Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community at UCSC. His research focuses on social inequality with a particular emphasis on the labor market and social conditions facing low-income urban communities in the U.S. and abroad. This event was held on Wednesday, February 28, 2007, in the University Club.

Remember When...

“What is your favorite memory of Social Ecology?”

“Sitting in Science Lecture Hall for a seminar class and they were filming one of the Planet of the Apes movies outside. One of the ape extras walked into the class and that was the end of that lecture. To this date, whenever I see that movie I think about that day.”

Harry Le Grande '75

“I have many fond memories of Social Ecology - Arnie Binder’s passion for his newly created Program (destined, of course, to become a School!); lecturer Burton Milburn’s excitement about environmental preservation; the cohesiveness of the early-years Social Eke majors; unexpected new relationships initiated because of field study, etc. But by far my favorite memory was my - and some other majors’ - EAGERNESS to answer the repeatedly posed question of countless puzzled people, “What is ‘SOCIAL ECOLOGY’?” Indeed, the term sounded like New Age psychobabble to many...until we, the most zealous Social Ecologists, set the record straight. By the time we were done explaining how the Social Sciences had accumulated centuries of observational knowledge but usually failed to implement the implied social-policy changes stemming from that knowledge, then explained that Social Ecol-

ogy remedied this “study but don’t advocate” phenomenon by creating a corps of dedicated, tenacious, multidisciplinary institutional-change activists, there were many folks who understood and admired the term “social ecology”. Who can ever forget their years as a spokesperson for informed, community-based activism? And, for many of us, such years have yet to end!”

David Miller '75

“Daniel Stokols. Being an ‘older adult’ transfer from ASU and a single parent with 6 children in tow, I was overwhelmed by the new campus, the quarter system.... especially the quarter system for my last year as an undergraduate!!!! Dan Stokols was always calm, reassuring, and made me know I could finish the degree and get on with life. Thanks, Dan.”

Judy Guffey '76

“I have so many wonderful memories. I was a TA for Dr. Uwe Reischl. He was a professor who was originally from Germany. Dr. Reischl saw something in me and exposed me to so much more than I could ever learn in books, or in lecture. He gave me responsibility and projects coupled with lab experience; the world of water conservation and pollution came alive for me! Unfortunately, I never had a chance to work in that area, but it’s what he did for my self-esteem more than anything else that I am grateful for.”

Madeleine Jen Kim '77

All 1971-79 Social Ecology graduates with an email address listed in our database were emailed the question “What is your favorite memory of Social Ecology? It could be a favorite class or professor, or a funny story about one of your classes, - any memory about your days as a Social Ecology student.” Unfortunately, all responses could not be published due to limited space, but much appreciation and thanks to those who responded.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 21

Celebrate UCI- Saturday, April 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Come to UCI’s 29th annual Open House, one of the campus’ oldest and most festive traditions. This spring event features games and rides for children, an Earth Day celebration, academic information, classic car show, campus tram tours, Wayzgoose Medieval Faire with food booths, demonstrations, rides, games, three stages of entertainment and much more. General campus offices such as Housing, Admissions, and Financial Aid are also open. You are all invited! It’s an excellent opportunity to bring family and friends to visit and see what’s new on campus. Join the alumni, staff, faculty, and students as we Celebrate UCI! Events and Parking are FREE. For more information, call UCI at (949) 824-5182 or visit our website at [www.uci.edu/celebrate](http://www.uci.edu/celebrate).

May 2

Chancellor’s Distinguished Fellows Lecture

On Wednesday, May 2, 2007, 6:30 pm at the Crystal Cove Auditorium Professor Sally Engle Merry from New York University, will speak on “Making Human Rights in the Vernacular: Plural Legalities and Traveling Rights in India, China, and the USA.” There will be an author-meets-reader discussion on Friday, May 4, 2007, noon - 3 pm, in SSPB 4206. For more information on Professor Merry, please go to: <http://www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/anthro/faculty/merry.html>

This event is co-sponsored by the School of Social Ecology; the School of Social Sciences, the School of Humanities; the Department of Criminology, Law and Society; the Department of Anthropology; the Department of Sociology; and the Center for Ethnography.

May 10

Lauds and Laurels

The 37th Annual Lauds and Laurels event will be held on May 10, 2007, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Irvine. This year’s Master of Ceremonies will be Social Ecology Dean Ron Huff. This annual event honors alumni, colleagues, faculty, staff, students or community friends that demonstrate heartfelt dedication and commitment to UCI. If you would like to get involved or would like more information, please go to: [http://www.alumni.uci.edu/how\\_to\\_get\\_involved/ll\\_news.html](http://www.alumni.uci.edu/how_to_get_involved/ll_news.html)

