

forum

**A FACULTY AND STAFF JOURNAL
FOR HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY**

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FROM THE EDITOR

Once again we offer another issue of *Forum* and, once again, we offer the invitation to read and respond to its contents. This must be done if the *Forum* is to achieve its principal purpose of promoting "the exchange of ideas among the faculty and staff of Humboldt State University." So write on, reader!

Readers of Homer Balabanis' fourth installment of "Personal Thoughts and Recollections" will discover how World War II affected Humboldt State. And, as elsewhere across the nation, how the G.I. Bill effected growth and "growing pains" in the early postwar years. This is followed by a whimsical bit of "lunacy" offered by R. L. Calhoun.

William Honsa brings up an ever-present consideration in "Confronting C. P. Snow's 'Two-Culture' Gap." This essay explains an on-going effort by a few HSU faculty to fill the alleged "gap" between the sciences and the humanities, and invites others to join in the labors to that end.

Those who read the two essays by Roy Ryden and Jack Shaffer may perceive diverse viewpoints on the subject of faculty morale at HSU. In "Personal Thoughts on Humboldt State--1980," Faculty President Ryden praises the existing environment on this campus. On the other hand, Shaffer detects a "dismal state of morale" and

elaborates upon it in "Toward Improving Faculty Morale at HSU." Both seem to offer remedies for retaining and correcting the best and the worst at this institution.

Finally, we have a special feature, "The President Speaks: Interview With President Alistair McCrone." Here the reader may ponder President McCrone's expressed thoughts on such issues as faculty governance, teaching and scholarship, faculty allocation and personnel policies, general education, the role of alumni, Affirmative Action, and future goals of HSU.

Plans for the Spring, 1981, issue of *Forum* include a special feature on teaching. We invite essays and comments of whatever length on all matters pertaining to the general subject. Questions which might be addressed are: What is "good teaching?" What is the relationship between teaching and scholarship? What is the best "method" of teaching? Is "grade inflation" a problem for you? Do you evaluate students in GE classes differently than in those designed for the major? What special teaching "gimmick" works successfully (or proved unsuccessful) for you? Is not what we do in the classroom our most important endeavor? I myself had occasion, a few years ago, to call into question *my* importance. In response to well-intentioned efforts to correct my young son's homework one evening, he retorted: "Daddy! You don't teach first grade; you only teach college!"

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EDITORIAL POLICY

Forum is an in-house Journal designed to promote the exchange of ideas among the faculty and staff of Humboldt State University. Topics especially welcome for consideration are those dealing with teaching and the academic environment at this University. *Forum* is published Fall and Spring Quarters. Faculty and staff are invited to submit essays, articles or letters-to-the-editor for consideration. Please submit two copies of all materials, double-spaced typewritten. Individual authors are solely responsible for opinions and accuracy of information presented in their work. **Spring issue deadline: April 15, 1981.**

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