

forum

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

CONTENTS

From the Editor	2
HOMER BALABANIS "Personal Thoughts and Recollections: Humboldt State. Part 6: The Era of the Siemens Administration (2)."	3
LOUIS A. OKIN "A Note on the Current Advising Mess (Or, Professor Baldup's Advising Day)."	8
WILLIAM R. TANNER "Polling My Way to the <i>Forum</i> ."	10
SPECIAL FEATURE: FOUNDERS HALL COURTYARD FRANK B. WOOD "From My Window"	12
PHOTOS OF FOUNDERS HALL COURTYARD	14
KAI CHU "Some Experimental Teaching Techniques"	16
JAMES HAMBY "In Celebration of Thirty"	21
TED RUPRECHT "What the Hell is the UIRCP?"	22
KATHRYN CORBETT "Musings on General Education"	23
ALISTAIR W. McCRONE "The President Speaks"	26
THE EDITOR "Anticipated Benefits Expected From the Work of the Committee on the Future: Directions 2000."	28

FROM THE EDITOR:

The contents of this issue of *Forum* reflect considerable variety of interests by faculty and staff and its publication resulted from the support of many people. Once again, I am truly grateful for those who contributed to the effort.

Perhaps some have wondered if Professor Emeritus Homer P. Balabanis will ever cease writing about Humboldt State. As a "younger" faculty member who has grown to know this amazing person, I can only say—"Why stop him?" Few professors have so much of their very being wrapped up in the history of this institution as Professor Balabanis. He relates more of that commitment in "The Era of the Siemens Administrator (2)."

Those who read Dr. Balabanis' comment about how complex curriculum changes have prompted *equally* complex counseling and advising needs will identify with and appreciate the dilemmas often faced by faculty members. Louis Okin addresses some of that complexity in "A Note on The Current Advising Mess (Or, Professor Balabanis' Advising Day.)" The editor of a publication does not ordinarily seek a "by-line" in the same publication. In this case, the editor suggests a good reason because of the effort to gain some faculty opinion on certain issues confronting this and other universities. The results of "Polling My Way to the *Forum*" may hold surprises for readers.

The recent "tempest in a teapot" rhubarb over the potential desecration of Founders Hall Courtyard inspired Frank B. Wood to write "From My Window," a charming and revealing rendition of life in the inner courtyard of that old building. This special feature also sports a "center-fold" to provide some visual scenes for reflection on *some* of that life.

At Humboldt, as in the entire CSU system, much emphasis is placed upon teaching excellence. Vague references to teaching style or methodologies are frequently made and to suggest that research and publication has much to do with teaching is often rejected out-of-hand. In "Some Experimental Teaching Techniques," however, Kai Chu plows directly to the heart of matter. He offers thought-provoking and common-sense practical suggestions for improving teaching effectiveness.

Nearly everyone is aware of HSU Foundation Director James Hamby's promotion of, funding of, and interest in research by faculty and staff. "In Celebration of Thirty" reaffirms those concerns and reports on the progress in and potential for increased grants for research. Nothing could be more appropriate than the follow-up piece by Ted Ruprecht on a similar subject in "What the Hell is the UIRCP?" The potentially productive faculty member and grant-seeker should pay close attention to these articles.

Faculty Emerita Kathryn Corbett explores the meaning of the concept of general education in her "Musings on General Education." For her, general education is "a separate area of the student's total education program." She also suggests possibilities for achieving a "dream" curricular break-through. This is followed by "The President Speaks," wherein President McCrone expresses his opinion on two current issues.

Finally, the editor of this journal takes the opportunity to address the university community on the merits of the "Committee on the Future: Directions 2000." Other opinions are invited. Indeed, opinions and commentary on any issues related to the HSU faculty and staff are most heartily invited.

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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, 1982.**

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