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English Beginnings at UCLA

From Junior College to Graduate Department

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The two southern branches: Normal School and University

The California State Normal School, which started in San Francisco in 1857 but soon moved to San Jose, in due course acquired a southern branch, in Los Angeles. It was approved by an act of the California legislature in 1881.¹ In 1919, another act of the Assembly was passed “abolishing the branch of the state normal school at Los Angeles” and authorizing the University of California Regents to “maintain and conduct at Los Angeles a branch of the University of California.” The Normal School branch at its beginning was little more than a high school, with emphasis on teacher training. By the first decade of the twentieth century it had become a *de facto* junior college, a status it retained when it became the Southern Branch of the University of California (S.B.U.C.). When the third year was added for general education, the school newspaper, *Cub Californian*, for February 20, 1923,² called it “the greatest step forward in the history of the University of California, Los Angeles.” (We note here an early use of the new institution’s name, not yet initialized to U.C.L.A.) After the fourth year was announced later in the same year, thirteen departments were established: Chemistry, Economics, English, French, History, Latin, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Spanish, and Zoology. The first BA degrees were granted in 1925. Ralph Bunche, the future Nobel Peace Prize winner, received his degree in Political Science in 1927. These departments constituted the College of Letters and Science, headed by a dean, alongside a four-year Teachers College, also headed by a dean. Both were under the authority of Ernest Carroll Moore, Director of the South Branch, previously President of the Normal School.

¹The annual catalogs of the California State Normal School, Los Angeles, and of UCLA are at:
<https://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Archives/General-Catalog-Archive/UCLA-General-Catalog>.

However, they are frequently unreliable, especially in being behind in listing new personnel.

The University of California *In Memoriam* volumes (which begin in 1935) are at:
http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/uchistory/archives_exhibits/in_memoriam/nameindex/nameindex_n.html.

For other online archives, including the *Daily Bruin* and its predecessors, see
<http://guides.library.ucla.edu/c.php?g=180925&p=1185387>. Reel 1 contains the *Normal Outlook* for 1915-18 (1918-19 is missing) and the *Cub Californian* from September 1919 to February 1921.

See also Keith W. Anderson, *The Los Angeles State Normal School: UCLA’s Forgotten Past, 1881-1919* ([Los Angeles] 2015, ISBN 978-1-329-31719-2); Marina Dundjerski, *UCLA: The First Century* (Los Angeles 2011); Andrew Hamilton and John B. Jackson, *UCLA on the Move, during Fifty Golden Years, 1919-1969* (Los Angeles 1969).

Some materials are piled haphazardly in a “History Box” in the English Department, the most important of which is an account of 1965 by Hugh G. Dick, “Admit me chorus”: Some Notes of the Teaching of English in the University of California and of the Department of English at UCLA,” consisting of three parts: 1) the English Department at Berkeley (mainly drawing on the 1875 catalog); 2) English teaching at the Normal School in Los Angeles; and 3) the English Department of UCLA from 1919 to roughly 1942. The original of part 3 exists, but I use a version edited by Geneva Phillips. There are also extant some recollections that Dick solicited, from Alfred Longueil and Bill Buell (both of which are partially cited in part 3), and Carl Downes.

²Photo in Dundjerski, p. 31.

The Normal School English Faculty

The first person to be listed as teaching English Language and Literature in the Normal School was Emma G. Hawks in 1883, out of a faculty of seven persons, including administrators; she was designated in the previous year as Preceptress (Principal), continuing both roles until 1894. She was joined in 1884 by Harriet E. Dunn, who taught Grammar and History, later moving entirely to History, and continuing until 1917; she served also as Librarian and Secretary of the Faculty.

In 1887, Josephine E. Seaman joined the faculty, teaching Grammar and Word Analysis. She remained into the new era, last appearing on the UC Southern Branch faculty in 1920 (i.e., 1920-21). The *Los Angeles Times* in 1893 (April 6) reported on a paper that she gave to the Teachers' Institute, "English in the Grammar Schools," emphasizing, among other things, the proper use of adjectives: "It is painful for any one who has any respect for our noble heritage of the English language to hear our young people tell about 'an awfully elegant time' or 'a perfectly lovely game of baseball.'" In 1910 she published *A Compend of English Grammar*.³

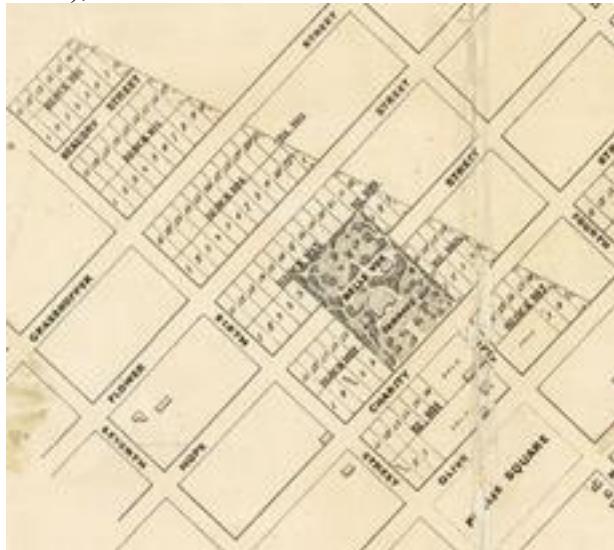
A new regime began for the Normal School in 1904 when Jesse Fonda Millspaugh, MD, became president, and in that year the first PhDs appeared on the faculty. One was Jessie B. Allen, in Psychology and Mathematics (later, Psychology and History of Education, and then just Psychology), last appearing in 1908. The other was in English, namely Fred Allison Howe, also listed with an LLB (Bachelor of Laws). He is named as "Head of Department of English." The only other person teaching English then, besides Josephine Seaman, was Ella G. Wood, AB, who in 1906-08 is listed as also teaching French; she last appears in 1909. Another prominent instructor in English was Ada J. Miller, PhB (Bachelor of Philosophy), AM (Master of Arts), on the faculty from 1909 until 1918-19, the last year of the Normal School.

A native of Vermont, Fred Allison Howe graduated from the University of Michigan in 1890, where he later received a law degree (1892). In 1901 he was granted a Master's degree (PhM) from the University of Chicago, with a thesis on "The Educational Theories of William Wordsworth," and nominated to a fellowship in English at Chicago for the year 1902-03. He obtained his PhD from the University of Colorado in 1904, with a dissertation entitled "Wordsworth's Philosophy of Education." He published an article discussing a play from the Shakespeare apocrypha, *The Birth of Merlin*: "The Authorship of 'The Birth of Merlin,'" in the University of Chicago's new periodical, *Modern Philology*, 4 (1906-07) 193-205. Two years later, he brought out an annotated edition of Bacon, *The Essays; or, Counsels, Civil and Moral* (Boston and London, 1908), for the series Heath's English Classics, which were designed as high-school teaching texts.

Teachers in Reading in the Normal School are listed beginning in 1906, starting with Alice Osden; from 1909 she appears under her married name, Alice O. Hunnewell. In 1914, she is listed as Head of the Department of Reading and will continue on in the English Department of UCLA.

³The University of California *In Memoriam* (IM) online index gives Seaman's dates as 1850-1925, so she was around seventy-one when she retired. There is supposed to be an entry on her in IM 1936, but there is none.

The original Normal School replaced an elaborate formal garden, Bellevue Terrace, which faced southeast on Charity Street (later Grand Avenue) at Fifth Street (which at that time ended at Charity Street), with Sixth Street to the south.

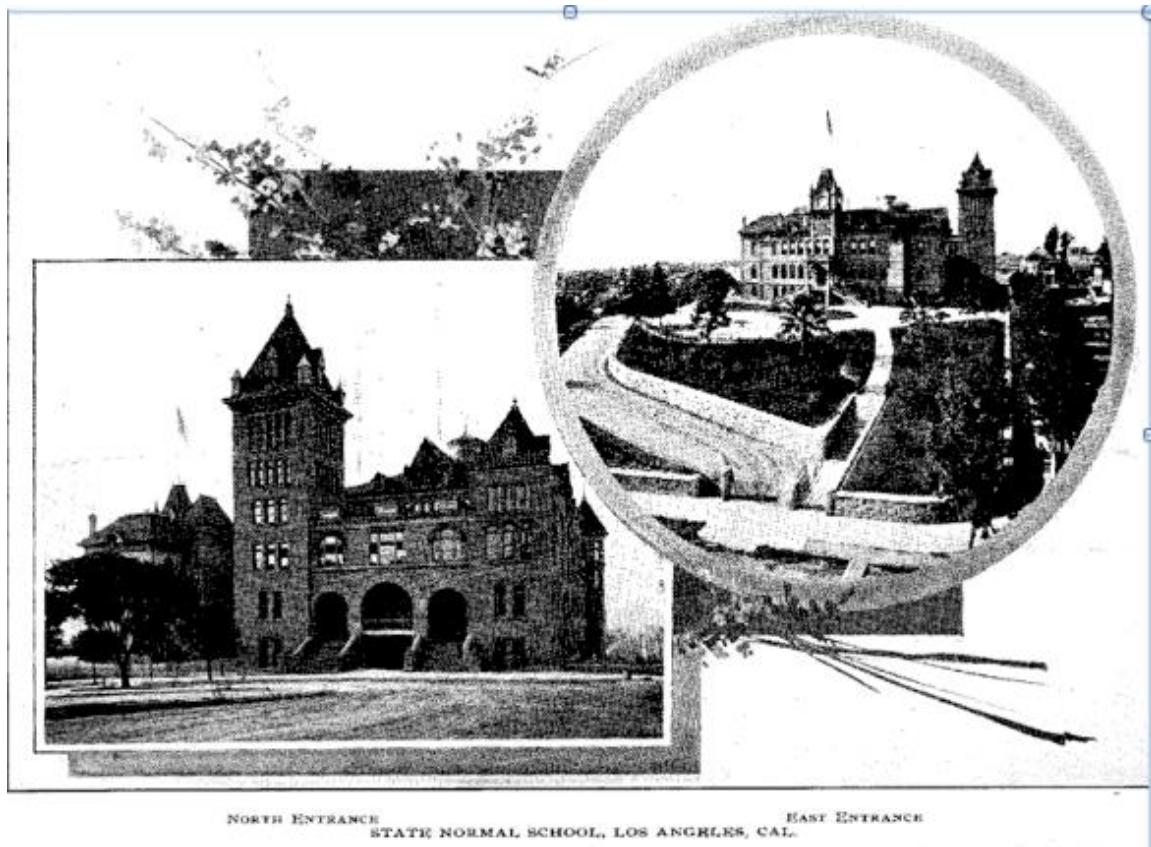


Bellevue Terrace on Charity Street (Grand Avenue), 1868

The five-acre site formed the south side of the Bunker Hill ridge, which was called Normal Hill after the School's premises were built, a stately turreted building, later enlarged.



Normal School, Los Angeles, 1883



Normal School, 1904

In 1914, however, the Normal School moved to a twenty-five acre campus on the west side of Vermont Avenue (between Melrose Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard), the location of the current Los Angeles City College, where Normal Street meets Vermont. To commemorate the move, the School newspaper, *The Exponent*, ran a tribute to the old building by Fred Allison Howe:

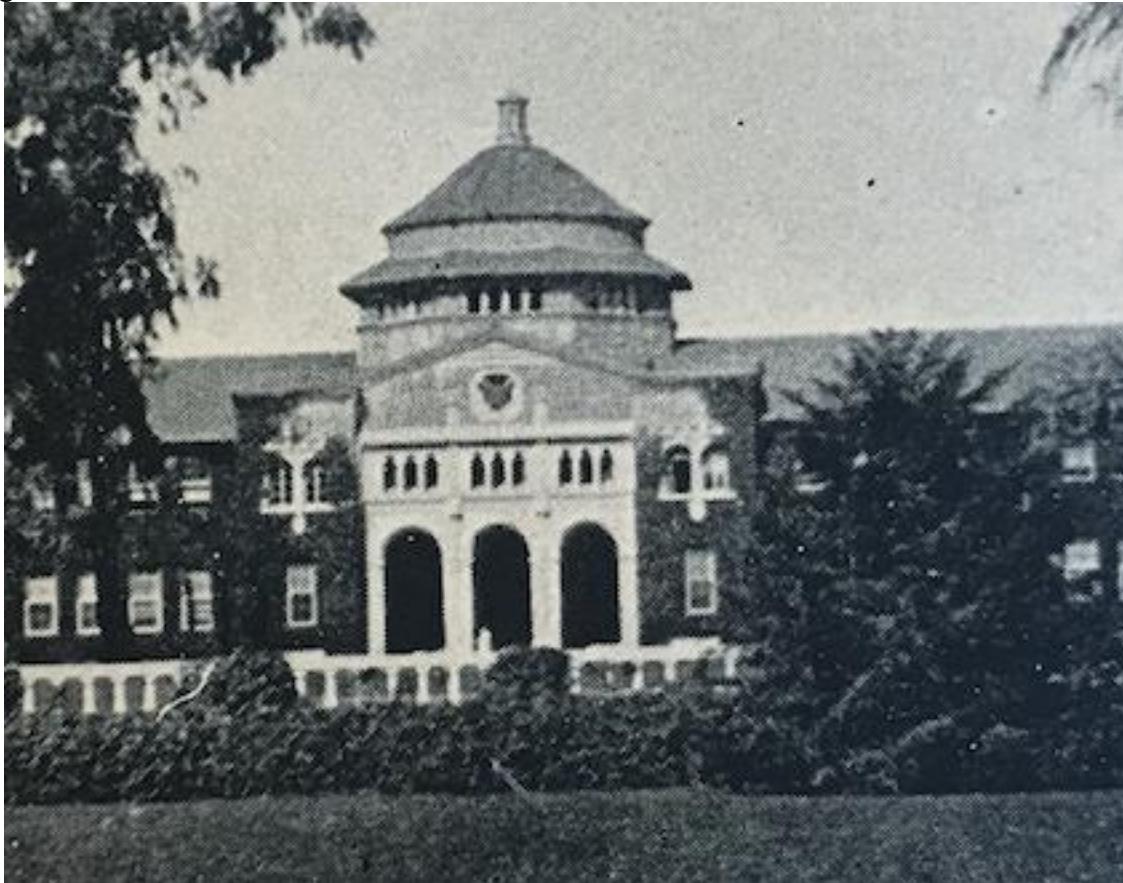
If we have attained our bigness, happily we have not yet filled up our possible measure of greatness. That story will be told by someone else some other day. To the forwarding of that day we will take with us all good things we have gained in the old home.

Old home! As we bid you farewell we turn a wistful backward look upon many a familiar object about which cluster associations we would gladly cherish, but which will fade out of our experience as conscious memories. We cannot even revive them by any future visit to the spot. For the time will speedily come when, of this humble temple not one stone shall be left upon another; we shall not find a single relic to revive these fading reminiscences, no tablet, no inscription. The familiar contour of the site itself shall vanish. And in time as traffic shall roar about this place the very recollections of the old school built among the orange trees on a suburban hilltop outside of a little city years ago will perish among living men.⁴

Sure enough, in the early 1920s, the original Normal School building was razed to make way for the splendid Central Library, after the top of Normal Hill was shaved off and Fifth Street pushed through to the west. So too the ten buildings of the Vermont campus, designed by

⁴Cited by Anderson, *Los Angeles State Normal School*, p. xi.

David Allison (architect of Royce Hall and other buildings on the UCLA Westwood campus) would be destroyed in the 1960s because of earthquake vulnerability. The main building, Millspaugh Hall, has a pronouncedly dowdy look to it, compared with the Westwood buildings.



Millspaugh Hall, Vermont Campus, 1921

The Southern Branch of the University, 1919

In 1919, the teaching staff of the Normal School (CSNS) resigned, but all were offered a place on the staff of the University branch. Here are the faculty listed for English in the first year, 1919 (that is, 1919-20):

Fred Allison Howe, LLB, PhD (CSNS 1904-19), Assistant Professor of English (1919-21, on leave 1920-21).

Herbert F. Allen, PhD, Assistant Professor of English (1919-28; Associate Professor, 1928-41; Associate Professor Emeritus, 1941-49)

Benjamin F. Stelter, PhD, Assistant Professor of English (1919-21)

Ruth C. Fish, Instructor in English (1919-20).

Alice O. Hunnewell (CSNS 1906-19), Instructor in English (1919-43)

Elizabeth E. Keppie (CSNS 1910-19), Instructor in English (1919-20, on leave)

Josephine E. Seaman (CSNS 1887-1919), Instructor in English (1919-21)

Katherine Spiers, BL (CSNS 1918-19), Instructor in English (1919-20, on leave).

Evalyn Thomas, AB (CSNS 1917-19), Instructor in English (1919-37)

Anna M. Wiebalk (CSNS 1918-19), Instructor in English (1919-20, on leave)

We see that Fred Allison Howe, after serving for fifteen years as Head of the English Department in the Normal School, was taken on as an Assistant Professor. He may have continued to act as Head of the English faculty during the first year, before going on leave and then resigning or being let go. In the last years of the Normal School, he was omnipresent in the school newspaper, *The Normal Outlook* (1915-18 [1918-19 missing]). In the January 1918 edition, his 275-line ode on the current war, *The Ultimate Victory*, was published, and on May 18 an extensive essay on fictions, drama, and poetry produced about the war (“Dr. Howe Gives Talk on War Literature”). However, in the first year of the paper’s successor, *Cub Californian*, he is only mentioned as in charge of Subject A writing exams (January 1920), and as judge in a debate tryout (February 1920).

I have found out nothing more about Howe, except that among his papers possessed by the New York State Library at Albany, there is a notebook in which he made observations upon the times as late as 1938. I recently purchased a manuscript play of his, *Hell and a Dutch Uncle*, which had been sold at an auction in upstate New York in the 2000s; it deals with the American Revolutionary War, set in the Mohawk Valley in 1780, based on *The Frontiersmen of New York* by J. R. Simms (Albany, 1882-83). At the time that he wrote it, Howe was living at 1749 N. Kingsley Drive in Los Angeles (he calls it Hollywood), not far from the Vermont campus of CSNS/SBUC. Most of his notebooks in Albany contain notes about the times before and after the Revolution, ranging from the 1760s to the 1830s, along with plot outlines, character workups, and drafts of a novel he was working on.

Herbert Allen was a new academic hire. He had published his Stanford doctoral dissertation as *A Study of the Comedies of Richard Brome, Especially as Representative of Dramatic Decadence* in 1912 (Stanford University Press). Allen was promoted to Associate Professor in 1928, and achieved Emeritus status (which had to be bestowed by the president of the university) in 1941 (no *IM*). He is often listed and quoted in the early yearbooks, and is pictured in 1929 among the favorite faculty members



Herbert Allen, 1929

Another new acquisition was Benjamin Franklin Stelter, who wrote an MA thesis at Kansas in 1909 on “The Development of the English Masque, Showing Its English Origin,” and a doctoral dissertation on “Aelfric’s Old English Genesis” at Cornell in 1913. He co-compiled a concordance of Keats in 1917. But he stayed at the Southern Branch for only two years, and by the time he brought out his co-edited concordance to Browning in 1924, he was a full Professor of English at Occidental College.

Most of the women who were hired as instructors for the first year did not serve or were not renewed. At the end of the first year, 1919-20, the *Southern Campus* yearbook, vol. 1, gives the English faculty somewhat differently: absent are Keppie and Wiebalk, but present are Mabel Jackson, AB, Elizabeth H. Fargo (listed also as University Librarian), and Elizabeth Philips Sturtevant. As noted above, Josephine Seaman stayed on another year, in spite of being beyond what must have been the retirement age. Katherine Speirs transferred the next year to the position of teacher-trainer, in charge of the fourth grade. However, Alice Hunnewell, previous Head of the Department of Reading in the Normal School, remained on the faculty until her death in 1943, and rated an obituary in *In Memoriam*, where she is praised for her civic as well as teaching accomplishments. Evalyn Thomas, who by 1922 had a BLI (Bachelor of Literary Interpretation) also stayed on until retiring in 1937, and she too has an obituary in *In Memoriam*. She was celebrated for putting on elaborate annual stagings of Greek drama on the Vermont and Westwood campuses.

The new look of 1920

In 1920, Frederic T. Blanchard, MA, was appointed as Associate Professor, the rank he had been given the previous year at Berkeley as Assistant Director of the Extension Division. In later times, he is designated as having been Chairman of the English Department beginning in 1920, but that was before the department was established. In the catalogs, he is listed as Chairman only in 1928, 1929, and 1930. He remained as Chair until 1936.

Born in 1878 in Massachusetts, Blanchard went to high school in National City, California, and proceeded to the University of California in Berkeley, where in 1904 he received a BL (Bachelor of Letters).⁵ He took an MA at Yale and returned to Berkeley in 1908 as Instructor in English. In 1914, he and three other members of the Berkeley English Department published *Essays in Exposition* (Ginn and Co.). In 1915, he went to the Rice Institute in Houston as Assistant Professor, where he remained until called back to Berkeley. He received his PhD from Yale in 1922, and was promoted to Professor at the Southern Branch in 1923. In 1926, Yale published his book, *Fielding the Novelist: A Study in Historical Criticism*. He produced *The Art of Composition* (Ginn and Co.), an 800-page writing handbook, in 1934. In December of 1938, he read a paper, “The Art of the Novel,” for the Royal Society of Arts, subsequently published in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts* (vol. 87, pp. 165-79). The Chairman of the Society said of him, “Professor Blanchard is Professor of English Literature at the University of California, and we have had the very good luck to catch him on the wing, as it were, between the University and the British Museum. He is known to us all as a great authority on Fielding and other authors of the English novel” (*ibid.*, pp. 165-66).

Blanchard remained as Professor in the Department until his death in 1947. He bequeathed 8000 volumes to the University Library as well as leaving a fund of \$45,000 for

⁵I am following the 1947 *IM* account (not online).

the purchase of books of eighteenth-century literature,⁶ which is still being drawn upon by the English Reading Room. All books thus donated or purchased are decorated with a plate acknowledging him. A picture of him, rather solemn, wearing pince-nez with dangling cord, can be seen in the *Southern Campus* for 1930.



Frederic Blanchard, 1930

Also hired in 1920 were two other academics, both listed as MA: A. K. (Austin Kayingham) Gray, and Margaret Sprague Carhart. Gray had published a very short book, *A Dictionary of Synonyms*, in 1912, in which he is identified as "B.A., late of Jesus College, Cambridge," and in 1945 he would bring out a book on Byron's lover Teresa Guiccioli. He was appointed Assistant Professor of English at the Southern Branch, but lasted only two more years.

Margaret Carhart, in contrast, was given the bottom rank of "Associate in English"; in 1921, she is listed as PhD, and "Instructor in English." She was the first female PhD to serve on the faculty in English at the Southern Branch, having received her degree from Yale. Her dissertation, *The Life and Work of Joanna Baillie*, was published by Yale University Press in 1923. She was born in 1877 to an academic family in Illinois, her mother, Eleanor Soulé, being Professor of French and Dean of Women at Northwestern University. She received her BA and MA from the University of Michigan, where her father was Chairman of the Department of Physics. After obtaining her degrees at Michigan, she went west and taught at the University of Colorado as head of its program in "Engineering English." On coming to California, she first taught English at Pasadena High School, and then was Head of the Department of English at Union High School in Palo Alto, and even served a year as Educational Director and Assistant Superintendant at the State School for Girls in Ventura, a reform school.

⁶Commemorated in an article in the *Los Angeles Times*, July 29, 1950, telling of the creation of a Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at the UCLA Library.

Carhart was active at UCLA in many spheres, notably in her pioneering course in modern poetry and modern drama, as the highly laudatory account of her in *In Memoriam* (1957) explains. In 1925 she became Assistant Professor of English, a rank at which she remained for twenty years, on a year-to-year contract. For some reason, as we will see below, there was a bar on her promotion and that of other Assistant Professors to the rank of Associate Professor, which she was not granted until 1945. She retired two years later, being listed subsequently as Associate Professor Emeritus (until recently, “emeritus” was not declined for gender). At that time she began research on a biography of Oscar Wilde, utilizing the Wilde papers in the Clark Library, which she continued until her death in 1953.

Another woman hired in 1920 but first appearing on the roster in 1921 was Katherine E. Collins, MA, Associate in English. She continued appearing as such through 1928.

Additions in 1921

Sigurd Hustvedt (b. 1882), a specialist in ballads, was appointed Assistant Professor in 1921. He had received his PhD from Harvard in 1915, and the American-Scandinavian Foundation published a revised version of his dissertation the next year: *Ballad Criticism in Scandinavia and Great Britain During the Eighteenth Century*. A later book would be *Ballad Books and Ballad Men: Raids and Rescues in Britain, America, and the Scandinavian North since 1800* (Harvard, 1930). He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1924 and Professor in 1931. He appears as Professor Emeritus in 1949 to 1945.⁷ Peter Thorslev (Chair of English, 1973-78), passed on to me the report that Hustvedt’s pension was so meager that he was forced to take a job as night watchman at one of the banks in Westwood Village.

Also hired in 1921 was Harriet MacKenzie, MA, as Instructor in English. Born in 1876, she graduated from Michigan State Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University) in Ypsilanti in 1896 and received a BA from the University of Michigan in 1908 and an MA in 1914. She rose to the rank of Associate Professor of English at Michigan State Normal (having taken out time from 1917 to 1919 to perform war service for the YMCA in France), before coming to the UC Southern Branch, where she concentrated on preparing students for their teaching credentials. But she earned a PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of Michigan in 1927, and she published a version of her dissertation in 1938 as *Byron’s Laughter: A Study in Life and Poetry*. She was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1928, but, like Carhart, to Associate Professor only in 1945. She was actually on leave in 1945-46, and acquired Emeritus status in 1946. She appears as such in the catalog until her death in 1959 (*IM* 1961).

Raymond Jenkins, PhD, appears only in 1921, as Instructor in English. He was a Spenser scholar, and published articles in *PMLA* in 1932 and 1937, when he was at Catawba College in North Carolina.

The department of 1922

In the faculty list of the 1922 catalog, the following names are to be found:

Frederic T. Blanchard, PhD, Associate Professor of English

⁷IM for 1957; text not online.

Herbert F. Allen, PhD, Assistant Professor of English
 Llewellyn Buell, PhD, Assistant Professor of English
 Austin K. Gray, MA, Assistant Professor of English (on leave)
 Percy H. Houston, PhD, Assistant Professor of English
 Sigurd Bernhard Hustvedt, PhD, Assistant Professor of English (on leave)
 Merritt Yerkes Hughes, PhD, Assistant Professor of English
 Alfred E. Longueil, PhD, [Assistant Professor of] English [added by hand]
 Charles A. Marsh, MA, Assistant Professor of Argumentation
 Lily B. Campbell, PhD, Instructor in English
 Margaret S. Carhart, PhD, Instructor in English
 Carl S. Downes, PhD, Instructor in English
 Alice O. Hunnewell, Instructor in English
 Harriett MacKenzie, MA, Instructor in English
 Evalyn Thomas, BA, BLI, Instructor in English
 Katherine Collins, MA, Associate in English
 Lawrence C. Lockley, MA, Associate in English
 L. E. Pearson, MA, Associate in English
 Louis C. Valentine, AB, [Associate in] English [added]



English faculty of 1922

Top: Hunnewell, Marsh, Collins, Blanchard, Allen, (Campbell,) Lockley, MacKenzie, Carhart, (Pearson)

Bottom: Hughes, Buell, Downes, Valentine, Houston



The English faculty in 1923

Top: Pearson, ?_, Carhart, Allen, Blanchard, Longueil, Campbell, Marsh, Collins

Bottom: Buell, Hustvedt, Lockley, Houston, ?_ ?_

(IDs by Longueil, 1965)

The four new Assistant Professors of English in 1922, namely, Buell, Houston, Hughes, and Longueil, were all Harvard PhDs, recruited by Walter Morris Hart, Professor of English at Berkeley and Dean of the Summer Session, an early champion of establishing the University of California in Los Angeles.

Llewellyn (“Bill”) Buell was born in Claremont, California, in 1888. He received his BA from Cornell in 1910, his MA from Harvard in 1911, and his PhD from Harvard in 1917, writing on “Personification in the Chief English Poets, 1725-1824.” During World War I he served as a First Lieutenant in the US Army Air Service. He first taught at Missouri, but by 1921 he was an Instructor at Yale, and in that year he published his edition of *Richard II* In the Yale Shakespeare. Hart was touring in the East in the spring of 1921, and, after visiting Cambridge, he came to Yale and met Buell and others. Buell received a “sudden telegram” from Hart a year later, in the spring of 1922, offering the position in Los Angeles. “Neither I nor anyone else had heard of a University of California in L.A.,” he says, but after making some inquiries, he accepted, and went.⁸

During the crucial years of the Southern Branch’s transfer from the Vermont campus to Westwood, from 1927 to 1931, Buell was the executive secretary of Ernest Carroll Moore, who, as President of the Normal School from 1917, became Director of the Southern Branch, as noted above. Buell is not listed on the faculty in 1927, but shows up as Lecturer in English in 1928-30, reappearing as Assistant Professor in 1931, when he returned to full-time teaching, mainly in the Elizabethan period. In 1939, he published a small book, *Vocabulary*

⁸For a fuller citation of Buell’s account, see Dick’s “Admit me chorus.”

Improvement (Farrar and Rinehart), and in 1940 he co-edited *A Guide to Modern Writing* with Franklin Rolfe and Majl Ewing. Back in 1917 he had published a note in *MLN* on “Byron and Shelley,” and in 1941 he produced another: “A Prose Period in Shakespeare’s Career?” His article, “Arthur Golding and the Earthquake of 1580,” appeared in *MP* in 1945, and in 1950 he contributed an essay, “Elizabethan Portents: Superstition or Doctrine?” to the festschrift for his coeval colleague Lilly Bess Campbell (see below).

Buell was promoted to Associate Professor in 1948 and retired in 1955, remaining on the roster as Associate Professor Emeritus until 1970, and Professor Emeritus from 1971 until 1975, the year of his death. Some of his interests can be seen in an editorial he wrote on “defining Americanism” in the *Women Voting Bulletin* in 1926, and in an article on establishing an Alpha Chapter in Los Angeles in the *Phi Beta Kappa Key* in 1930. His entertaining and gossipy recollections on the early days of the English Department, solicited by Hugh Dick in 1965, are deposited in the office History Box.



Bill Buell, 1930

Percy Hazen Houston last appears on the faculty list in 1927. He received his PhD from Harvard in 1910, with a dissertation on “Dr. Johnson as a Literary Critic,” and before coming to UCLA he taught at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, where, in 1919 he co-edited a Doubleday anthology, *Types of Great Literature*. In 1923, Harvard published his book, *Doctor Johnson: A Study in Eighteenth-Century Humanism*. One chapter of the book had

previously been published in 1913 in the University of California *Chronicle*. Even though the book received fair enough reviews, according to Buell's recollections in 1965, there was an effort on Blanchard's part to get him fired, and Director Moore set up a committee on the matter, which proved inconclusive, but in the end a "swap" was effected between Houston and Carlyle MacIntyre. I take this to mean that MacIntyre moved from Occidental College to UCLA (he appears on the UCLA roster from 1928 to 1937), and Houston went to Occidental. Houston was there in 1930 when he brought out a still larger Doubleday volume, *Types of World Literature*, co-edited with a former Annapolis colleague. He was still at Occidental when he brought out a small volume of essays in 1951.

Merritt Y. Hughes (b. 1893), who received his Harvard PhD in 1921 (with a dissertation on "Some Aspects of the Relation of Edmund Spenser's Poetry to Classical Literature"), stayed in Los Angles only for the year 1922-23, after which he went to Berkeley, where he remained until 1936. He would later be best known for his edition of the *Complete Poems and Major Prose* of John Milton, published in 1957 when he was at the University of Wisconsin.

Another hand-written notation on the 1922 roster has Alfred E. Longueil as beginning in that year, being listed in the 1923 catalog as Assistant Professor of English. Born in Nova Scotia in 1893, he received his bachelor's degree from Boston University and his doctorate from Harvard in 1920. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1927 and Professor in 1948. He was celebrated as an outstanding lecturer; Max Novak, who obtained his undergraduate degree at UCLA in 1952, took four courses from him (Shakespeare, the Romantics, and Poetry I and II), and testifies that they were superb, the best classes he had in the department (see below for more on Professor Novak). Longueil's lectures, recorded and transcribed by one of his students, Regina Fadiman, are shelved in the English Reading Room. Longueil succeeded Frederic Blanchard as Chairman of English in 1936, and remained as such until 1947. He retired in 1957, but taught without pay for another five years (he was not a Professor Emeritus until later on). He died in 1983 (*IM* 1995).

Longueil's dissertation was titled, "Gothic Romance: Its Influence on the Romantic Poets Wordsworth, Keats, Coleridge, Byron and Shelley," but he did nothing with subsequently on this or any other subject except to publish a brief article, "The Word 'Gothic' in Eighteenth Century Criticism" (*Modern Language Notes* 1923); but, if he was not scholar himself, he was a "recognizer of scholars," and did much to raise the department's academic level before and during his chairmanship (see below).



Alfred Longuil, 1929

Another PhD first on the roster in 1922 was Carl S. Downes (b. 1884), who received his doctoral degree at Harvard in 1912 with a dissertation on Matthew Arnold's poetry. He taught thereafter at various universities, including Caltech, before spending three years, 1919-22, growing avocados and lemons. In spite of this varied career, he was appointed as Assistant Professor rather than Instructor. He published a novel, *Robin Redbreast*, on the life of Robert Greene, in 1937. Like Buell, he was promoted to Associate Professor in 1948, and was listed as Associate Professor Emeritus from 1952 until his death in 1968, even though he was not in residence in Los Angeles (*IM* 1969).

Charles Marsh was an older hire (he had six children) for the Speech program; he previously taught at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa.

An Associate in English who came this year was Lawrence C. Lockley, MA, listed through 1926. He later shifted to Business Administration, and eventually became Dean of the School of Commerce at USC. Louis Valentine was another associate who started in 1922, but he is first listed in the 1923 catalog and not thereafter.

That leaves the two women who joined the English faculty in 1922. Let me deal first with Lu Emily Pearson, MA, listed as Associate in English from 1922 to 1925. She received her master's degree at UC Berkeley in 1922 as Lu Emily Hess Pearson, with a thesis entitled: "American Literary Naturalists: A Study of the Nature Movement in the Works of Henry D. Thoreau, John Burroughs, and John Muir." She was missing from the English rosters in 1926-28, but returned in 1929, still MA and still Associate. In 1930, however, she appears as PhD and Assistant Professor (by-passing the Instructor rank). Her first book, a substantial and impressive volume on *Elizabethan Love Conventions*, was published by the UC Press in 1933. In the Introduction, dated August 1931, she says that it originated in her Stanford doctoral dissertation, finished in 1928. The copy in the English Reading Room, with a Blanchard bookplate, has an inscription, "To Dr. Blanchard, kind and loyal friend, in whose department it is a privilege to serve. Lu Emily Pearson." The book was reprinted by Norton in 1967.

Pearson did not stay much longer at UCLA, however. She last appears among the UCLA English faculty in 1934. She may have gone immediately to San Jose State College, where she was in 1941, when she published an essay on "Elizabethan Widows" in *Stanford Studies in Language and Literature*, ed. Hardin Craig (pp. 124-42). She was still there in 1957, when she published a larger and even more impressive book that her first, *Elizabethans at Home*, with Stanford University Press; dedicated to her husband, it credits Hardin Craig for first encouraging her to begin research on the subject of Elizabethan family relationships.

The other woman who joined the English faculty in 1922 was Lily Bess Campbell, who remained at UCLA and became the most celebrated scholar of the department. Born in 1883, she received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas, and the university press published her master's thesis, *Grotesque in the Poetry of Robert Browning* in 1904 (40 pp.).



The young Lily Bess Campbell

She went to Chicago for her doctoral work, under John Matthews Manly and Charles Read Baskerville, and then taught from 1911 to 1918 at the University of Wisconsin. She finished her doctorate in 1921, at the age of thirty-eight or so. Cambridge University Press published the book version of her dissertation, *Scenes and Machines on the Elizabethan Stage: A Classic Revival*, in 1923. She had also published an article, "Garrick's Vagary," in 1916 (*Shakespeare Studies by Members of the Department of English of the University of Wisconsin*, pp. 215-30), a large article in *PMLA* in 1917 on "The Rise of a Theory of Stage Presentation in England During the Eighteenth Century" (pp. 163-200), and in 1918 another lengthy article, "A History of Costuming on the English Stage Between 1660 and 1823" (*University of Wisconsin Studies in Language and Literature* 2, pp. 187-222). In spite of her scholarly accomplishment, she was hired by the Southern Branch in 1922 only as Instructor in English.

Campbell appears as Assistant Professor in 1924, Associate Professor in 1929, and Professor in 1931, after having brought out her landmark book, *Shakespeare's Tragic Heroes: Slaves of Passion*, in 1930 (Cambridge). Surprisingly, she had published nothing since her first book except for a satirical novel, *These Are My Jewels*, in 1929. But her zeal for research was well known. She had obtained permission to use the Huntington Library before it was opened to the public, and when it did open, she received Reader's Card no. 1 (*IM* May 1968). She had begun work on her monumental edition of the *Mirror for Magistrates*, though it would not be published until 1938, with the second volume coming out in 1946; but she chose the *Mirror* for her subject when she was given the high honor of presenting the UCLA Faculty Research Lecture in 1935: "Tudor Conceptions of Tragedy and History in *The Mirror for Magistrates*." Her other celebrated books were *Shakespeare's "Histories": Mirrors of Elizabethan Policy* (Huntington Library, 1947), and, well after her retirement, *Divine Poetry and Drama in Sixteenth-Century England* (Cambridge and UC, 1959).

Campbell retired at the mandatory age of sixty-seven in 1950, at which time a festschrift was produced, *Essays Critical and Historical, Dedicated to Lily B. Campbell, by Members of the Departments of English, University of California* (UC Press, 1950),⁹ with a preface by Louis B. Wright, who also contributed a preface to the *Collected Papers of Lily B. Campbell* (Russell, 1952).¹⁰

⁹In spite of the plural "Departments," all the contributors were from UCLA.

¹⁰Wright, Director of the Folger Library in Washington, DC, was formerly at the Huntington Library, and was listed as Visiting Professor of English at UCLA from 1944 to 1947.



Frontispiece to Campbell Festschrift, 1950

UCLA conferred an honorary doctorate upon her in 1951, and she had others. From 1961 until her death in 1967, she was listed in the catalog as “Lily Bess Campbell, Ph.D, Litt.D, L.H.D., LL.D, Professor of English, Emeritus.” A year after her death in February 1967, the UC Regents voted to name a building in her honor, but, surprisingly, it was not the Humanities Building, where the Department of English was housed, but the building to the east, which had opened in 1954 as the Home Economics Building and was later re-named the Public Health Building. The Public Health Department was preparing to move to the Center for Health Sciences, and its former home was to be known henceforth as “Lily Bess Campbell Hall” (announced on March 21, 1968).¹¹

The Royce Hall English Department, 1929-1956

After the transfer of UCLA to the Westwood campus, classes began in the Fall of 1929, just before the stock-market crash and the beginning of the Great Depression. The Department of English was housed on the third floor of Royce, Room 310, in the East Tower, the present home of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and the Center for Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Studies. I did not realize the historical nature of this location when I had my own office there two decades ago as Director of CMRS.

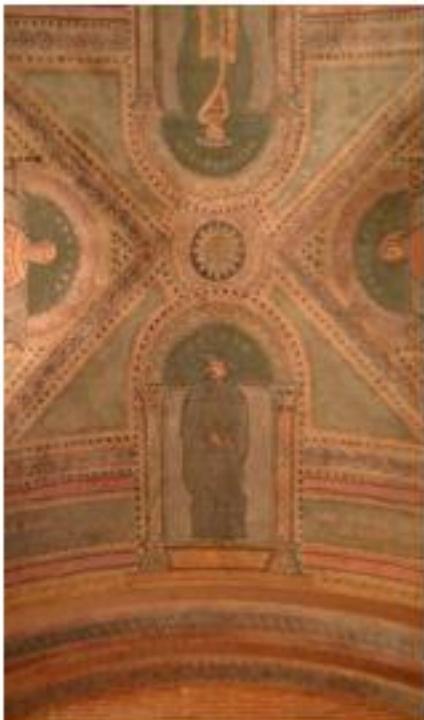
¹¹The Lily Bess Campbell papers, in twelve boxes, were put in order in 2009 in Special Collections by Sara Torres (PhD English 2014); see: <http://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt0f59p7g2>.

"The Instruction of the World"

By

Julian Ellsworth Garnsey

The Royce Hall loggia mural, painted in the late 1920's, depicts important figures in the history of education, each with an accompanying quotation, selected by Ernest Carroll Moore, first Director of the UCLA campus.



Darwin

"The great point [is to give up] the immutability [of specific forms]."
(Missing text is bracketed.)

Einstein

"The only justification for our concepts is that they serve to represent the complex of our experience."

Kant

"So act as to treat humanity in every case as an end; never as a means only."

Eliot

"There is but one [road upward] –
More education [and wiser]."
(Missing text is bracketed.)

Socrates

"An unexamined life is not fit to be lived by any man."

Plato

"He will look at the city which is within him."

Jesus

"A new commandment I give unto you."

Aristotle

"Justice is the bond of men in states."

Abelard

"It is through doubt we come to investigation and through investigation to the truth."

Loyola

"Novices shall love poverty and strive after a right intention."

Petrarch

"I have constantly striven to place myself in spirit in other ages."

Melancthon

"For the truths of religion and duty can be perceived only by minds soundly trained by the practice of past ages."

From the department office one could see the great loggia or balcony facing the Library Building (later named after Librarian Lawrence Clark Powell), and glimpse the ceiling murals depicting *The Instruction of the World*, featuring twelve important historical figures,

each accompanied with a quotation chosen by Director Moore. The text for Charles Darwin read, THE GREAT POINT / IS TO GIVE UP // THE IMMUTABILITY / OF SPECIFIC FORMS; and the tradition is that, at times of collective discouragement, the department's motto and rallying cry was the left half of the inscription: "The great point is to give up!"

The Schedule of Classes for 1932 shows that most of the English classes were held on the first and third floor of Royce Hall, but occasionally classes met in the Chemistry Building (now Haines Hall) and Physics-Biology Building. The latter, of course, is the present site of the English Department. It was first re-named Kinsey Hall; then, after retrofitting following the 1994 earthquake, Humanities Building, and finally, in 2019, Kaplan Hall.

In 1929, there was, as yet, no English Reading Room. It would be established in 1949 next door to the English Department, in Room 306 of Royce, the present Herbert Morris Room. The collection was much augmented the following year, 1950, by Blanchard's donated library and bequest. Grace Hunt was the first librarian, from 1949 to 1969, and the ERR is now named after her, following upon the two-million-dollar bequest received after she died in her hundredth year, in 2003 (she was an heiress to the Texaco Oil fortune). Max Novak reports that in his time free coffee was available just outside, on the loggia, but his contemporary, Ralph Ranald, remembers that Hunt made tea and cookies available.¹² I have heard that there was soon concern that the expanding number of books in the room would become too heavy for the floor the room.



Majl Ewing, Ada Nisbet, Hugh Dick, James Phillips, Franklin Rolfe, Grace Hunt

¹²R. A. Ranald, "A Memoir of Fifty Years Ago," in the program for the dedication of the Grace M. Hunt Memorial English Reading Room, May 13, 2004.

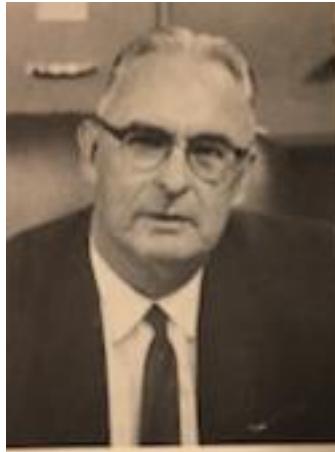


Royce Hall English Department site

In 1929, Chairman Blanchard was still the only Professor in the English Department. There were four Associate Professors: Herbert Allen, Lily Bess Campbell, Sigurd Hustvedt, and Alfred Longueil; and five Assistant Professors (not counting Marsh, now listed as Assistant Professor of Public Speaking), namely, Margaret Carhart, Carl Downes, Harriet MacKenzie, Carlyle MacIntyre, and one other, George Hubbell (on the faculty from 1927 to 1940). There were two Instructors in English, Alice Hunnewell and Evalyn Thomas, and six Associates in English, including Lu Emily Pearson; Llewellyn Buell was listed as Lecturer.

In 1931, Campbell and Hustvedt were promoted to Professor. No one was moved to Associate Professor until Franklin P. Rolfe in 1942. A Harvard PhD (1931), Rolfe had joined the faculty as Instructor in 1932 and was advanced to Assistant Professor in 1935. Rolfe's only listed publication was *A Guide to Better Writing* (1940), co-edited with Majl Ewing and Bill Buell. Later he would co-edit an anthology, *The Modern Omnibus* (1946). He followed Longueil as Chairman of the Department in 1945, where he remained until 1950, being promoted to Professor in 1948. One of his achievements as chair was to obtain "permanent status at the associate professor level for teachers who had been faithfully serving on annual contracts," though not quite "since the time when UCLA was still a normal school" (as stated in *IM* 1986); this benefited Harriet MacKenzie and Margaret Carhart in 1945, just before attaining Emeritus status, and also Majl Ewing (Assistant Professor since 1931), and, in 1948, Buell and Downes.

Beginning in 1947, Rolfe served as Divisional Dean of the Humanities (a 33% position) at the same time as being Chair of the Department, and continued as such until 1961, when he became Dean of the College of Letters and Science, which he remained until his retirement in 1970. In 1971, the Humanities Building was re-named Rolfe Hall in his honor. He died in 1985.



Franklin Rolfe

In 1931, a UCLA committee appointed to consider graduate work listed three professors in the English Department qualified to offer graduate courses, namely, Blanchard, Campbell, and Hustvedt,¹³ and, later in the decade, after the doctoral program was approved for English in 1936, Longueil as chair estimated that only Campbell and Hustvedt were capable. Here is his account:

We shifted to the Westwood campus in 1929 without much change. Blanchard had made some weakening appointments. He did better in Majl [Ewing] and Franklin [Rolfe]. Franklin was the first about whom he consulted the rest of us—by request. I found myself increasingly involved in these years in the detailed administration of the department, which Blanchard was glad to get rid of and someone had to do. The first crisis developed with the introduction of graduate work. (I do not have the date handy—somewhere in the early thirties.) Blanchard had committed us to a graduate program before we were prepared. There was a row. After various alarms and excursions I found myself catapulted reluctantly into the chairmanship, and for the next eight years the problems of the department were acutely mine. I had to go it very much alone. The staff were still young. Only Lily and Sigurd were competent at the senior level. I had to rely on the advice I could get from them and from the chairmen of other departments. When I went to the departmental files for precedents and norms, all I found was a single sheet announcing a three-year-old prize contest. So we started from scratch.

The urgent problem was making good our commitment to graduate work. My plan was to center the first effort in the Renaissance, since Lily and Sigurd, who knew Milton, could buttress us there, and since we had the Huntington and the Clark to draw on. You [Hugh Dick] and Edward [Hooker] and Tom [Swedenberg] were among the first appointments I recommended. The worst holes were in the Middle Ages and American literature, where we were quite unstaffed. These holes were filled by Will Matthews and Dixon Wecter. Brad [Booth] filled in the nineteenth century. Louis Wright [of the Huntington] was indispensably helpful to us, not only in giving courses for us but also in locating staff prospects.¹⁴

¹³Hamilton and Jackson, *UCLA on the Move*, p. 86.

¹⁴Longueil to Dick, Feb. 18, 1965.

Hugh Dick in his history, “Admit me chorus,” has an excellent account of the effort to build up resources in the department during the late thirties and early forties.

The first high-level “outside hire” in the English Department was Dixon Wecter, who, as Longueil states, came to the rescue on the American front. He is listed as Lecturer in 1939 and Professor in 1940. A Yale PhD (1936), he was an Associate Professor at Colorado when taken on at UCLA. In 1937 he had published *The Saga of American Society: A Record of Social Aspiration, 1607-1937*, and in 1944 brought out *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*. He left in 1949 to take an endowed chair in American social history at Berkeley, and died suddenly in 1950.

A later notable outside hire was Earl Leslie Griggs (1899-1975), who started as Professor in 1948. He was in the midst of his six-volume edition of *The Collected Letters of Samuel Taylor Coleridge* when he moved to UC Santa Barbara in 1962 (he finished the edition in 1972), having given the Faculty Research Lecture on Coleridge in 1961.

Another outstanding addition to the faculty was another Americanist, Leon Howard (b. 1903); he came as Professor in 1950. He had published *The Connecticut Wits* in 1941 and was working on a biography of Melville, which he published in 1951, and the following year a book on James Russell Lowell. His *Literature and the American Tradition* came out in 1960, and *The “Mind” of Jonathan Edwards* in 1963. He directed more than thirty dissertations before his mandatory retirement in 1971, after which he taught at the University of New Mexico until his death in 1982 (*IM*).

We have seen that there were a number of women on the faculty of English from the beginning of the Southern Branch, but Lily Bess Campbell was the only one to achieve advancement to full Professor. After 1922, no woman was hired for a long time. I do not count Princess Santa Borghese, PhD, who was appointed as a Lecturer in the English and History Departments in 1924 (teaching “Italian Writers and Writings” in the former and “The History of Italy and Europe” in the latter). She can be found lecturing in the United States as early as 1921, when she was twenty-four years old, already listed as PhD. She was born in Paris in 1897, the daughter of Scipione Borghese, Prince of Sulmona, who won the Peking to Paris car race in 1907. She married Prince Astorre Hercolani in 1925 and was the mother of seven children. She died in 1997 at the age of ninety-nine.



Princess Santa Borghese, 3/21/23

The next woman to be added to the faculty was Ada Nisbet (1907-94), in 1946, just after she acquired her PhD in the department.¹⁵ She had received her BA from Dominican College in San Rafael, while she herself was a Dominican nun. She only came to the graduate study of English as a “delayed vocation,” after leaving the convent. Her research centered on Charles Dickens, especially his liaison with Ellen Ternan, published as *Dickens and Ellen Ternan*, with a foreword by Edmond Wilson (UC Press, 1952). The great *Bibliography of British Comment on the United States*, which she worked on until her death in 1994, was published in 2001 (edited by Eliot Kanter). Nisbet was an Instructor in 1946, Assistant Professor in 1948, Associate Professor in 1954, and Professor in 1960.



Ada Nisbet

¹⁵Nisbet is listed in the 1946 catalog as having the PhD. In the list of English PhD's in the department office, the date is given as 1948, with Dixon Wecter as director. In the report that I wrote in 1986, I gave the date as 1947 (see next note). Her dissertation is not in the UCLA Library.

Nisbet was one of the earliest recipients of the PhD in English at UCLA. The first was Eugene Purpus in 1944 (with Hustvedt as director), followed by Cathleen Wheat in 1945 (Campbell), Nisbet (Wecter) and Linda Van Norden (Matthews) in 1946, and Everett Carter (Wecter) and Jean Purpus (Campbell) in 1947 (the latter was called “Little Jean,” in contrast to “Big Gene,” her husband).¹⁶

In 1947, the sole Professors in the department were Campbell, Hustvedt, and Wecter; but in 1948, as noted above, Longueil and Rolfe were promoted, and Griggs was appointed. Also promoted were Edward Niles Hooker and William Matthews, both scholars of note.

Hooker, a Johns Hopkins PhD (1932), co-founded the journal *English Literary History* (*ELH*) before joining the UCLA English Department as an Instructor. He specialized in eighteenth-century studies, and published an edition of the works of John Dennis (1939-43) and co-founded the Augustan Reprint Society in 1945. In 1956 he gave the UCLA Faculty Research Lecture, “Dryden and the Atoms of Epicurus.”

Most important, Hooker was the chief driving force behind the “California Dryden.” This was the monumental UCLA English Department edition of all of John Dryden’s works that would finish only a half-century later. By 1953, Hooker and Tom Swedenberg had finished the first volume, but it got hung up in the press and did not come out until 1956. The project was first envisaged back in the 1920s by Sigurd Hustvedt, after William Andrews Clark was advised to concentrate his book collections around Dryden and his period. It involved the labors of many members of the department, especially Vinton Dearing and Alan Roper (see below). Hooker died shortly after the first volume was published and after his Faculty Lecture.

William Matthews, who received his PhD from the University of London, joined the department as Assistant Professor in 1940 and became Associate Professor in 1943. He was an expert on diaries and published much on them; most notably, he was the textual editor of the *Diary of Samuel Pepys* for the eleven-volume edition that started appearing in 1970 and continued after his death in 1975 (the last volume came out in 1983). He also published numerous articles (twelve in one year, he once told me) on linguistic and literary subjects, including Arthurian subjects, on which he also produced two monographs, *The Tragedy of Arthur* (UC 1960) and *The Ill-Framed Knight: A Skeptical Inquiry into the Identity of Sir Thomas Malory* (UC 1966). He delivered the Faculty Research Lecture in 1968 (“The Egyptians in Scotland”), and he was the second director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (1970-72). Will and his wife Lois were noted for their hospitality, especially in welcoming the great influx of Assistant Professors hired in the late 1960s (among whom I was one). The Matthewses left a bequest for an annual Samuel Pepys lecture in CMRS and an Endowed Banquet, to be held annually as near as possible to March 26, the date on which Pepys himself every year held a “stone-fest,” to celebrate his survival of an operation for bladder stones.

¹⁶For a narrative account of the doctorates granted in the department up to 1986, see “The Graduate Study of English at UCLA” by H. A. Kelly, Vice Chair of Graduate Studies, submitted 25 November 1986, in connection with the fiftieth anniversary of the PhD program at UCLA.



Will and Lois Matthews

In 1953, Tom Swedenberg (Hugh Thomas Swedenberg Jr.), along with Majl Ewing and Hugh Dick, was promoted to Professor. Swedenberg first arrived on the faculty, as Instructor in 1937. In 1944, while he was on leave during the war, serving as a major in the Adjutant-General's office, he published *The Theory of the Epic in England, 1650-1800* (UC Press). Majl Ewing (PhD Virginia, 1929) first appears as Assistant Professor in 1931; he reached Associate Professor in 1945, and went on to become Chairman of the department in 1950, serving as such until 1955; he remained a Professor until his death in 1967. Hugh Dick would also chair the department, from 1960 to 1965. He received his PhD from Cornell in 1937, the year he arrived at our English Department in 1937 as Instructor (Associate Professor, 1948). In 1955, he produced an edition of Bacon, *Selected Writings* (Modern Library), reminiscent of Fred Allison Howe a half century earlier.

Another future Chairman of the department was promoted to Professor in 1954, Bradford Booth (Harvard PhD, 1935). He was an Instructor at UCLA in 1935, Assistant Professor in 1940, Associate Professor in 1948, and Chair from 1965 to 1968, when he died in office. Together with Claude Jones, who came to the department as an Instructor in 1937, he produced concordances to William Collins (1939) and Edgar Allan Poe's poems (1941), and in 1958 he published *Anthony Trollope: Aspects of his Life and Art* (1958). In 1945 he founded a journal, *The Trollopian*, later *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, now *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, still edited in the department (current volume is no. 62).

In 1955, the Spenserian specialist James Phillips was promoted to Professor and at the same time assumed the chairmanship of the department, serving until 1960. He had started teaching in the UCLA English Department in 1939, before he received his PhD from Columbia: he was Instructor in 1940, and became Assistant Professor 1945 while still on leave in the armed forces, and Associate Professor in 1949. He served as Dean of the

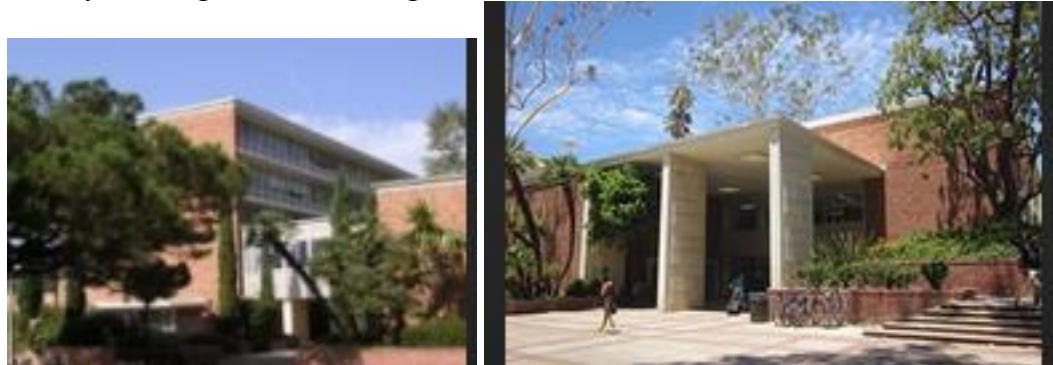
Graduate Division from 1974 until his death in 1979. His dissertation was published in book form in 1940 as *The State in Shakespeare's Greek and Roman Plays*, and in 1964 he published *Images of a Queen: Mary Stuart in Sixteenth-Century Literature* (UC).

Jimmy Phillips opened his house to meetings of the Neo-Areopagus Society, where devotees of the English Renaissance would gather for good fellowship, and his wife Geneva (who started working on the Dryden project even before Jeanette Gilkison, see below) continued to host the gatherings long after Jimmy's death.

Other faculty away in the military during the war, apart from Swedenberg and Phillips, were Claude Jones and Hugh Dick.

The English Department in the First Humanities Building, 1956-1971

A new home for the Department of English (which included Speech), and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, was finished in 1956, and given the name of Humanities Building. In the Spring Semester of 1956, English classes were mainly being held in Royce Hall, but also in Moore Hall (until 1955 called the Education Building) and the Business Administration and Economics Building (opened in 1948, later called Social Welfare, and then, in 1975, Dodd Hall). But in the Fall Semester, most of the classes were already meeting in the east wing of Humanities.



Humanities Building/Rolfe Hall

Left: west wing and department-office bridge

Right: entrance and east wing (classrooms and ERR)

The English faculty took up residence on the first three floors of the west wing of Humanities. At that time, the faculty comprised thirteen Professors, nine Associate Professors, eleven Assistant Professors, and two Instructors (one of whom was Earl Miner). Campbell was listed as Professor Emeritus, and Buell, Downes, and MacKenzie as Associate Professor Emeritus.

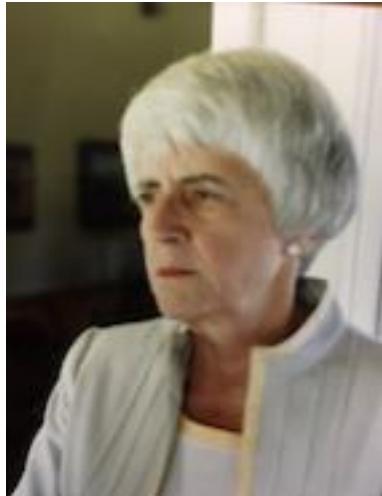
Of the Professors, I have already mentioned Booth, Dick, Ewing, Griggs, Hooker, Howard, Longueil, Matthews, Phillips, Rolfe, and Swedenberg. John Harrington Smith would not last long, but John Espey, BLitt, MA (Oxon), would: he was our first important creative writer. He arrived as Assistant Professor in 1948, after having taught at Occidental College for ten years. Apart from his own notable works, he wrote novels written in collaboration with the distinguished novelist Carolyn See, who would also join our faculty. He also produced two monographs: *Ezra Pound's "Mauberley": A Study in Composition* (1955), and, with Richard Ellman, *Oscar Wilde: Two Approaches* (1977). He died in 2000.

The Associate Professors who would continue on the faculty were Paul Jorgensen, Robert Kinsman, Blake Nevius, and Clifford Prator. Jorgensen and Nevius, both arriving as Instructor in 1948, seem to have been the first in-house faculty members since Lily Bess Campbell to author more than one or two monographs: Jorgensen produced *Shakespeare's Military World* (1956), *Redeeming Shakespeare's Words* (1962), *Lear's Self-Discovery* (1967), and *Our Naked Frailties: Sensational Art and Meaning in Macbeth* (1971). Nevius, who had interrupted his doctoral work at Chicago to serve in the army (where he received a Bronze Star while on the European Front), finishing in 1947, published *Edith Wharton: A Study of her Fiction* (1953); *Robert Herrick: The Development of a Novelist* (1962); *The American Novel: Sinclair Lewis to the Present* (1970); and *Cooper's Landscapes: An Essay on the Picturesque Vision* (1976).

Robert Kinsman was first appointed Lecturer in English in 1948 (Instructor in 1949). He published an edition of the poems of John Skelton in 1969, and an annotated bibliography to Skelton in 1979. Like James Phillips before him, he served as Dean of the Graduate Division (1972-74). Clifford Prator, who arrived in 1947, went on to found the Department of English as a Second Language.

Among the Assistant Professors were Ralph Cohen, Robert Dent, Philip Durham, and Robert Stockwell. Stockwell, Professor in 1963, would leave the department in 1966 (while remaining cross-listed) to found the Department of Linguistics in the Social Sciences Building (first opened in 1964; renamed Bunche Hall in 1967). Ralph Cohen, after publishing an important book on Thompson's *The Seasons* in 1964, would leave UCLA for Virginia in 1967. Robert Dent published *John Webster's Borrowings* in 1960, and produced indexes to proverbial language in Shakespeare (1981) and other Renaissance dramatists (1984), and, as Emeritus Professor, a reference book to colloquial language in Joyce's *Ulysses* (1994). Philip Durham published *Down These Mean Streets a Man Must Go: Raymond Chandler's Knight*, 1963, and, with Everett Jones, *The Negro Cowboys* in 1965 and *The Adventures of the Negro Cowboys* in 1966.

The first woman to be hired to the faculty of our department after Ada Nisbet was Florence Ridley, who came with a Harvard PhD in 1957 as an Instructor, moved to Assistant Professor in 1959, Associate Professor in 1965, and Professor in 1970. She is a noted authority on Chaucer and the Scottish Chaucerians, known especially for her revolutionary monograph, *The Prioress and the Critics* (UC, 1965) and editions of the "Prioress's Tale" and "Second Nun's Tale" in the *Riverside Chaucer* (1987). In 1963 she brought out an edition of Henry Howard's *Aeneid*, and *Selected Poems* of William Dunbar in 1969. She contributed a 300-page definitive account of "The Middle Scots Writers" in the Wells Manual in 1973 (*A Manual of the Writings in Middle English*, vol. 4). She was elected Fellow of the Medieval Academy of America, and long served as President of the Fellows. She has deeded her home in Santa Monica to the department, with the proceeds from this bequest intended to endow stipends in the department under the name of "The Lily Bess Campbell, Ada Nisbet, and Florence H. Ridley Fellowships." The grants are to be given preferentially to female doctoral students working in the favored fields of these three professors, namely, Medieval Studies (Ridley), Renaissance Studies (Campbell), and Charles Dickens Studies (Nisbet).



Florence Ridley

The next woman to come through the ranks to Professor was Ruth Yeazell in 1981 (having arrived as Assistant Professor in 1976, and moved to Associate Professor in 1978). In 1983 and 1985 respectively, Martha Banta and Anne Mellor were appointed at the Professor level.

The only other UCLA English PhDs to be hired to ladder positions by the department after Ada Nisbet were Maximillian Novak in 1962 and Rachel Lee in 1995. Novak, as noted above, did his undergraduate work in our department, receiving his BA in 1952, and then he proceeded to work on two doctorates, one at UCLA and the other at Oxford, receiving the former (under the direction of Tom Swedenberg) in 1958 and the latter in 1961 (he also taught at the University of Michigan, from 1958 to 1962). His first dissertation was published in book form as *Economics and the Fiction of Daniel Defoe* (UC 1962), and the second as *Defoe and the Nature of Man* (Oxford 1963). He did stints as Acting Chairman in 1975 and 1978, and during the course of his tenure here he directed more than forty dissertations.

Novak was appointed in 1962 as Assistant Professor along with Thomas Clayton, Richard Lehan, and William Schaefer, but only Lehan appears in the 1962 catalog; Clayton and Schaefer are first listed in 1963, but Novak not until 1964: a striking example of how unreliable the catalogs can be. Lehan served as Chairman of the department from 1971 to 1973, as did Schaefer before then, 1968 to 1971, while still an Associate Professor. In 1971, Schaefer became Director of the Modern Language Association, and returned after seven years to become Executive Vice Chancellor of UCLA (1978-87), remaining a member of the English Department throughout. He returned briefly to teaching in the department before becoming Emeritus; he died in 2016.

The Dryden project, after the initial volume was published in 1956, took some time to start up again. The second volume (vol. 8 in the series) was published in 1962 (though a later imprint says 1967, with copyright changed from 1962 to 1965), with Swedenberg as General Editor and Vinton Dearing as Textual Editor. (I should mention that in 1964, Dearing hired Jeanette Dearborn [later Gilkison] as a keypuncher for the Dryden text. In the summer of 1967, she was moved to the front desk of the English Department, just months before I arrived on the scene, and she has continued ever since in this important position as the official welcoming face of our institution.)



A Dryden Team: Swedenberg, Guffey, Novak, Rodes, Roper

Swedenberg remained as General Editor for the following eight volumes (1966-78). For the next volume (vol. 19), Alan Roper joined Swedenberg as General Editor until the latter's death in 1978 (it was published in 1979), and served alone in that position for the next four volumes (1984-89); he was also editor in four volumes. Dearing, after becoming Professor Emeritus in 1991, was main editor for the next volume (vol. 14, 1992), and sole editor for the remaining three: vol. 12, 1994; vol. 16, 1996; and vol. 7, 2000 [= late 2001]. The final book, vol. 7, containing the *Fables Ancient and Modern*, is almost a thousand pages long.

THE CALIFORNIA EDITION OF

THE WORKS OF JOHN DRYDEN

Editor

Vinton A. Dearing

- I Poems, 1649–1680 Edited by Edward Niles Hooker, H. T. Swedenberg, Jr.,
and Vinton A. Dearing
- II Poems, 1681–1684 Edited by H. T. Swedenberg, Jr. and Vinton A. Dearing
- III Poems, 1685–1692 Edited by Earl Miner and Vinton A. Dearing
- IV Poems, 1693–1696 Edited by A. B. Chambers, William Frost, and Vinton A. Dearing
- V, VI *The Works of Virgil in English* Edited by William Frost and Vinton A. Dearing
- VII Poems, 1697–1700 Edited by Vinton A. Dearing
- VIII *The Wild Gallant, The Rival Ladies, The Indian Queen* Edited by
John Harrington Smith, Dougald MacMillan, and Vinton A. Dearing
- IX *The Indian Emperour, Secret Love, Sir Martin Mar-all* Edited by John Loftis
and Vinton A. Dearing
- X *The Tempest, Tyrannick Love, An Evening's Love* Edited by
Maximillian E. Novak and George R. Guffey
- XI *The Conquest of Granada, Marriage A-la-Mode, The Assignation*
Edited by John Loftis, David Stuart Rodes, and Vinton A. Dearing
- XII *Amboyna, The State of Innocence, Aureng-Zebe* Edited by Vinton A. Dearing
- XIII *All for Love, Oedipus, Troilus and Cressida*
Edited by Maximillian E. Novak and George R. Guffey
- XIV *The Kind Keeper, The Spanish Fryar, The Duke of Guise, and The Vindication*
Edited by Vinton A. Dearing and Alan Roper
- XV *Albion and Albanius, Don Sebastian, Amphitryon*
Edited by Earl Miner and George R. Guffey
- XVI *King Arthur, Cleomenes, Love Triumphant, and The Secular Masque*
Edited by Vinton A. Dearing
- XVII *An Essay of Dramatick Poesie* and Shorter Works
Edited by Samuel Holt Monk, A. E. Wallace Maurer, and Vinton A. Dearing
- XVIII *The History of the League* Edited by Alan Roper and Vinton A. Dearing
- XIX *The Life of St. Francis Xavier* Edited by Alan Roper and Vinton A. Dearing
- XX *De Arte Graphica* and Shorter Works
Edited by A. E. Wallace Maurer and George R. Guffey

Final Census of Dryden Volumes

In all, Dearing provided the text for sixteen of the twenty volumes. He first came to the department as a Lecturer in 1949, Instructor in 1951, and Assistant Professor in 1951. A Harvard PhD, he was an early student of the computer, and, beginning in 1969, a few years

after his promotion to Professor (1964), he appears in the catalog as “Professor of English and Computer Applications in Literature.” He incorporated his insights and discoveries into his book, *Principles and Practice of Textual Analysis* in 1974, and the same year he published his two-volume edition of the works of John Gay (Clarendon).¹⁷ As noted, he continued work on the Dryden project for ten years after becoming Emeritus. He died in 2005.



Vinton Dearing at 80 (2000)

¹⁷See the *IM* account by Alan Roper,
https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/inmemoriam/html/vintonadamsdearing.htm.

The fifty-year mark, 1969

I end with a view of the English faculty in 1969 (minus ESL members), on the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Southern Branch, comparing it with the seventy-fifth year, 1994, and the current hundredth-anniversary year, 2019.

UCLA English Dept.	Year 50: 1969	Year 75: 1994	Year 100: 2019
Professors	18	29	35
Associate Professors	11	16	15
Assistant Professors	45 (Total 74)	15 (Total 60)	6 (Total 56)
Emeriti	3	25	32 (12 Research Profs)

Only two persons are listed in 1969 as Emeritus Professor, Alfred Longueil (who came as Assistant Professor in 1922) and Claude Jones (Instructor in 1937), and one as Associate Professor Emeritus, Llewellyn Buell (Assistant Professor in 1922), changed, as noted above, to Professor Emeritus in 1971 (a new policy: applied to retired permanent faculty of all ranks).

Of the full Professors, I do not count Clifford Prator or Donald Bowen, who like Prator would soon go to English as a Second Language. I have mentioned above Dearing, Dent, Dick, Durham, Espey, Howard, Jorgensen, Kinsman, Matthews, Nevius, Nisbet, Phillips, Rolfe, and Swenberg. Robert Falk came as Assistant Professor in 1949; he was the author of *The Victorian Mode in American Fiction, 1865-1885* (1965). Earl Miner first appears as Instructor in 1955; he published a monograph, *Dryden's Poetry* (1967), and served as Associate General Editor on five of the Dryden volumes (he would leave for Princeton in 1972). D. K. Wilgus, Professor of English and Anglo-American Folksong, first arrived in 1962 as Lecturer, and moved to Associate Professor in 1963 and Professor in 1967. Robert Martin Adams, a new high-level hire in 1968 from Cornell, already had eleven books to his credit, and he produced as many more after his appointment, on a stunning range of subjects, from Shakespeare to Joyce and Erasmus to Stendahl; he was a vital member of the department until he became Emeritus in 1978.

Of the Associate Professors, I have mentioned Novak, Ridley, Roper, and future Chairs Lehan and Schaefer; others were Ronald Freeman, Gerald Goldberg, Charles Gullans, Jascha Kessler, Georg Tennyson, and Peter Thorslev. Thorslev, as noted above, was Chair from 1973 to 1978. Of the Assistant Professors, Paul Sheats would serve as Chair, following Thorslev, from 1978 to 1983. Thomas Wortham, who would chair the department for the longest time apart from Blanchard, for ten years, 1997 to 2006, arrived only in 1970, along with Michael Allen (both not listed until 1971). Wortham supervised the final move of the English Department, from Rolfe Hall to the newly renamed Humanities Building (ex-Kinsey Hall), in 2006. Another long-serving Chair was Daniel Calder, 1983-90, who arrived in 1971 with Albert Braunmuller, Jack Kolb, Raymund Paredes, and Karen Rowe, all of whom are first listed in the following year, 1972.

The most noteworthy feature of the faculty by 1969 is the huge number of Assistant Professors, forty-five in all. Bill Schaefer, who had become Chair in 1968 upon the sudden death of Brad Booth, would be celebrated as characterizing his charges as “the best young English Department in the country.” Of course, a great deal of time was required to evaluate just how good each individual was. In those days the entire tenured faculty met to determine

each merit increase of the lower rank (though by then, the Instructor level was no longer used, and everyone was taken on at Step II). Similarly, all the Professors sat in on merit increases of the Associate Professors, and the Professors themselves “peeled off” from each step to be judged by those above, if any.

According to report, when the Humanities Building was being designed, Franklin Rolfe as Dean of Humanities was responsible for the small size of the offices, only nine feet wide and thirteen feet deep—the idea being that there would be no temptation to divide or share them. But when I first arrived in 1967, in a comparatively small cohort of six new hires, we had to share three offices on the first floor. In mid-year, offices on the fourth floor were made available. Since I lost the coin toss, I ascended the three flights to the new office I would keep for almost forty years, until the department’s move to another Humanities Building in 2006.

I have come to the end of my self-imposed limit on this self-assigned history of the UCLA English faculty, in anticipation of the hundredth anniversary of the department. Let me just conclude with a list of the members of the faculty of fifty years ago who are still around (in time, if not in place) to celebrate the new landmark.

I count one regular faculty member and twenty Emeriti. Still teaching is Robert Manquis, who arrived on the faculty in 1966. Of the Emeriti, the one who came the earliest was Florence Ridley, in 1957. Next was Jascha Kessler in 1961, and then Maximillian Novak and Richard Lehan, in 1962.

George Guffey came in 1964, Frederick Burwick, Christopher Grose, Richard Lanham, and Alan Roper in 1965; David Rodes and Paul Sheats came with Manquis in 1966. Charles Berst, Edward Condren and Henry Ansgar (Andy) Kelly arrived in 1967, and Stephen Yenser in 1968, with Lynn Batten, Gordon Kipling, and Kenneth Lincoln in coming in 1969.

The above-mentioned Michael Allen and Tom Wortham (1970) and Al Braunmuller (who in 2019 is not yet Emeritus), and Ray Paredes and Karen Rowe (1971), can be given honorable mention as near-survivors from the semi-centennial.

Of this worthy remnant, I would like to single out Max Novak as the one who most fully represents the UCLA English Department of past and present. He has had an intimate connection with the department for more than seventy of its hundred years of existence, from beginning as an undergraduate to the present. Apart from his outstanding record as director of graduate students to their degrees, and in addition to his other scholarly publications, he was content-editor and annotator of three of the Dryden volumes. He continues to be very active, maintaining his office in Kaplan Hall and his desk at the Clark Library. When the new title of “Research Professor” was made available some years ago for Emeriti who can demonstrate their continued engagement in academics, Max was one of the first in our department to apply for it. A festschrift in his honor, co-edited by Robert Manquis, came out in 2008. His most recent book is *Transformations, Ideology, and the Real in Defoe’s Robinson Crusoe and Other Narratives: Finding “The Thing Itself”* (2014). Just last year, after the Clark reopened with a seismic refit, the Maximillian E. Novak Lounge was dedicated, to honor his “exemplary service to the UCLA and Clark communities.” He has seen a lot in our department, and he remembers most of it.