

**Academic Senate
Distinguished Faculty Awards
2015 – 2016**

Newkirk Alumni Center
November 9, 2015 - 4:30 p.m.



ACADEMIC SENATE • IRVINE DIVISION
www.senate.uci.edu

Program



Opening Remarks

Alan Terricciano
Academic Senate Chair

Awards Presentation

Alan Terricciano
Academic Senate Chair

Award Recipients

Distinguished Faculty Award for Mentorship
Judy B. Rosener

Distinguished Mid-Career Faculty Award for Service
Stephen E. Tucker

Daniel G. Aldrich, Jr. Distinguished University Service Award
Jeffrey A. Barrett

Distinguished Assistant Professor Award for Teaching
Jose Antonio Rodriguez-Lopez

Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching
Peter Navarro

Distinguished Assistant Professor Award for Research
Weian Zhao

Distinguished Mid-Career Faculty Award for Research
Syed A. Jafar

Distinguished Faculty Award for Research
Robert S. Cohen

Lecture

**The Most Famous Play of All Time –
and Why it is Misunderstood**

Robert S. Cohen

Closing Remarks

Enrique Lavernia
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

Reception

Distinguished Faculty Award for Mentorship

Judy B. Rosener

Senior Lecturer SOE Emerita, Paul Merage School of Business

I am not your usual professor. Today is my 86th birthday. I retired three years ago, and so was surprised to be an awardee today. I had never worked for pay until the day I got my job at UCI in 1979. When I was married, 64 years ago, women were not supposed to work. Rather they were supposed to take care of their husband and children, (which they were expected to produce.) That's what I did, in addition to being active in organizations like the League of Women Voters, and local, state and federal politics.

My twin brother and I were born at the height of the Depression in 1929, and I became aware of the economic, educational, and social issues that our parents faced. My father was a graduate of Caltech and my mother graduated from UCLA in 1924 when few women were going to college. (At that time the UC schools were free except for books). My father couldn't get a job, so ended up selling insurance, and my mother, of course, was not expected to work at a job for pay. I remember the discussions at the dinner table (when we talked to each other rather look at our iPods). We lived in a somewhat low-income neighborhood with lots of diversity, and my friends and neighbors shared their concerns with us.

I was put on the original California Coastal Commission in 1979, and the 1969 Orange County Grand Jury, and observed that few citizens participated in public policy decisions that impacted them.

I found I learned from everyone I talked to; so I spoke to lots of people, never knowing what I could learn from them. I decided that my research future would be to encourage interest in citizen participation and men and women in the workplace. Also, my parents were always "giving back." I noticed my mother sending \$5.00 checks to a lot of organizations and causes even when we had little money. I decided my way of giving back would be to give

advice or any knowledge I had about why citizens were not participating on all levels of government, and later when I became a professor, what I had learned about the difference between men and women in the workplace. An article I wrote in the *Harvard Business Review* in 1990 made my theory visible country-wide. It was then I got asked for giving advice. So I see mentoring as giving advice; not how to be like me.

As for my philosophy of teaching, I think of something my 6th-grade teacher told me: “*If you don’t think good of yourself, you can’t expect anyone else to feel good about you.*” Put differently, help students understand themselves, what interests them, where they want to be or do in the future, and how to expose themselves to a myriad of issues and opportunities.

Web page: www.merage.uci.edu/~rosener/
TEDxSoCal Judy Rosener 2011

Distinguished Mid-Career Award for Service

Stephen E. Tucker Associate Professor of Music

Dr. Stephen Tucker is currently the conductor of the Symphony Orchestra at the University of California, Irvine, and an associate professor of music, teaching conducting, orchestration, and analysis at the Claire Trevor School of the Arts. Tucker's performances at the school include symphonic concerts, opera presentations and performances with the Dance Department. He is also the Music Director and Conductor of the Riverside Lyric Opera. His numerous performances at UCI and beyond highlight his creative and scholarly activities.

Before joining the faculty at UCI, in 2000, Tucker was a doctoral student at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), where he was the conductor of musical theater and assistant conductor of Opera UCLA, under the music directorship of Maestro William Vendice, head of the music staff at LA Opera. Previous to his time at UCLA, Tucker held positions as music director of the Neumark Ensemble, a Southern California chamber orchestra, and chorale, and the Southern California Young Artists' Symphony.

In 2005, Tucker made his Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center debut, conducting Beethoven's Choral Fantasy and Ravel's Concerto for the Left Hand. As Cover Conductor for Maestro Andrew Litton, guest conductor at the Pacific Symphony, Tucker was charged with conducting the orchestra's first rehearsal of Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 2. His further guest conducting appearances have been with such orchestras as the Slovak Radio Symphony and the Hungarian National Philharmonic. Recently, also, he has made guest conducting appearances with the National Chamber Orchestra of Jamaica. In North America, he has been engaged as either guest conductor or cover conductor for the Los Angeles Master Chorale, and the Long Beach Symphony, and several orchestras in the US and Canada. From 2003 to 2004, he also held the position of

principal guest conductor of the Symphony Orchestra at Atlantic Union College, Massachusetts.

Dr. Tucker's continued dedication to the development of young talent, as well as his commitment to engaging underserved segments of the population, motivated him to initiate the adoption program with Santa Ana High School's (SAHS) music program. Since 2012, the UCI Symphony has helped to nurture the students of music at SAHS by doing side-by-side rehearsals both at UCI and at SAHS, and by providing private coaching for students, along with master classes presented by Dr. Tucker.

Tucker holds a Bachelor's of Music (BM) from Thayer Conservatory, at Atlantic Union College; a Master's of Music (MM), and a Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) from UCLA, along with diplomas from the Vienna Conservatory of Music, the Conductors' Institute at Hartt School, and the International Conductors' Institute under Herbert Blomstedt.

Daniel G. Aldrich Jr. Distinguished University Service Award

Jeffrey A. Barrett
Professor of Logic and Philosophy of Science

I was hired at UC Irvine in 1992 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy. I was interested in the conceptual foundations of quantum mechanics and had just written a thesis at Columbia on no-collapse solutions to the quantum measurement problem. This is still something I think about.

The short story is this. The standard formulation of quantum mechanics is arguably the best physical theory we have ever had. It makes the right qualitative predictions for the counterintuitive properties that are exhibited by quantum mechanical systems, and, together with special relativity, to makes correct empirical predictions to better than twelve significant figures when we can measure that accurately. The problem is that on a strict reading of the theory the standard formulation of quantum mechanics is logically inconsistent, on the most charitable reading it is incomplete, and it its dynamical laws are incompatible with relativistic constraints. This is the measurement problem.

A solution to the measurement problem would ideally require one to provide a clear and consistent reformulation of quantum mechanics that is compatible with relativistic constraints and does not mess up the predictions of the theory. We know that the resulting theory will be counterintuitive—it has to be to predict the counterintuitive quantum phenomena we see. There are a number of proposals for how to fix the theory. The ones that I have worked on most are closely related to Hugh Everett’s pure wave mechanics, which is sometimes referred to as the Many-Worlds Interpretation of quantum mechanics.

UC Irvine was an ideal place for me since there were already people here doing technically sophisticated naturalistic philosophy, philosophical research that is continuous with mathematics and the

empirical sciences. Since we had an unusually strong group, my colleagues Penelope Maddy and Brian Skyrms saw the opportunity for a new type of department. With the support of the William Schonfeld, who was the Dean of Social Sciences, we formed the Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science (LPS) about fifteen years ago.

With the subsequent support of the campus and Deans Barbara Doshier and Bill Mauer, LPS has thrived. In the most recent peer rankings, UC Irvine was tied for **first** worldwide in the philosophy of mathematics and tied for **second** in the philosophy of physics (and first in the US) and in the general philosophy of science, and **fourth** in decision theory, game theory, and rational choice and in the philosophy of social science. And the list of highly-ranked fields continues to grow as the breadth of the program we are building is recognized by our colleagues. This, in part, reflects the growing academic reputation of UC Irvine.

I have been involved in service to the department, school, and campus along the way, but it has always just felt like working with good friends and colleagues to accomplish our shared goals. For me, a central goal has always been to understand the physical world and how we learn about it, then to pass along what we have learned.

Distinguished Assistant Professor Award for Teaching

Jose Antonio Rodriguez-Lopez
Associate Professor of Economics

I am an economist with interests in International Trade, Open Economy Macroeconomics, and the combination of both. My research involves theoretical as well as empirical work. As a border Mexican child, witness of Mexico's currency crises and NAFTA (during my first 16 years of life I went through three Mexican crises and NAFTA came into effect), I was intrigued by the dramatic impact of peso devaluations on Mexico's economy: inflation, unemployment, high interest rates, and a sudden stop in my family's trips to U.S. border towns. Still, in all these crises, Mexico in the end was able to "export its way out" of the recessions. The weaker peso strongly promoted Mexican exports and decreased imports, bringing an improvement to the current account, and serving as a jump-start for the economy. These events triggered my decision to study Economics and instilled my passion for exchange-rate issues and trade. My research explores channels through which exchange-rate changes affect trade flows and prices, the effects of NAFTA on Mexico's wage inequality, the impact of offshoring on labor markets, and the relevance of liquidity in financial markets for the international allocation of economic activity.

I teach on average about 810 students per academic year. That is, I specialize in teaching very large classes. As such, my teaching methods are focused on the effective delivery of the class material in a setting in which it is very easy for students to get distracted (in a large class, students feel more inclined to use their smartphones, laptops, or miss classes). To keep the students' attention for the entire class, I combine the traditional teaching method---the teacher writes and explains, while the student takes notes---with the use of sophisticated technology provided by our campus, which include the use of a tablet computer instead of a board, and the use of clickers to monitor students' understanding of the material in real time.

Throughout my teaching years at UCI, I learned that to deal effectively with very large class sizes you have to make the learning experience fun, interactive, and help students relate the material to things they already know from their daily lives---I love to tell my students (and to my own children) that Economics is “all around us”, like the Force in Star Wars. Every lecture, my objective is that each student must leave the classroom knowing that he/she has learned something new and interesting. I know that if I consistently meet this objective, it will make a huge difference in students' overall performance and will improve the retention of the material. My students also value that I keep a positive and energizing attitude during the entire lecture. A good sense of humor and an enthusiastic attitude about the material are contagious.

I am honored to receive this award, and I thank the Academic Senate, the University, and the Economics Department, but specially, I thank my students for motivating me every class to be a better teacher.

Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching

Peter Navarro
Professor, Paul Merage School of Business

I grew up poor in a single-parent household with little structure or educational foundation, and both coaches and teachers would play an important role helping me to navigate through time and life. Sample memories include the kind speech therapist in elementary school who help me articulate my “r’s”, Ms. Cole who introduced me to the mysteries of making butter and playing the flute, my high school English drill sergeant Ms. Bingham, and my outside the box geometry teacher Mr. Bradford

In the turbulent 1960s at college, my philosophy teacher Carleton Dallery opened the door to the concept of reflection and meaning, Alan Lebowitz taught me the art of composition, and my Spanish teacher, by way of bad example, taught me how important it is to nurture minds and talent rather than abuse them.

In the early 1970s, I joined the Peace Corps and was shipped out to Thailand to teach English at a teacher training college. During group training, a British instructor told us that the most important thing in the classroom no matter what might go wrong is to “don’t flap,” and it may be the two most important words anyone ever said to me.

During my Peace Corps years, I had my first encounter with technology-mediated education. I was tasked to be an English parrot to drone on phrases to students for them to repeat back. However, a few days after my arrival on campus, I was given the keys to a (literally) snake-infested language lab donated by UNICEF that nobody knew how to use. I got it running and instead of me teaching a few students at a time, I directed a lab that allowed hundreds of students daily access to teachers on tape that never got tired.

The Peace Corps experience fulfilled its cliché of motivating me to want to contribute to the world; and from that motivation, I found my calling in public policy research and teaching. A prime catalyst for that was one of my teachers at Harvard, Tom Stauffer, who introduced me to the mysteries of Middle East oil policy and was absolute magic as a lecturer. Together with my thesis advisor Dick Caves, these two men have been my role models in the classroom for decades.

At UCI, I've had the good fortune to teach in a school well suited to my Socratic teaching style of teaching – class sizes are relatively small, and the amphitheater classes are superb. With a special thanks to John Clarke and Gary Black, my school has also always provided me with the tech support I've needed to travel the road of technology-mediated education from simple laptops and electronic quizzes in the classroom to the offering of my courses today on a massive open online course platform that has enrolled to date almost a half a million students in almost 200 countries.

In closing, I'm deeply grateful for the recognition of my efforts this award bestows. Many of us within the UC system operate in “publish or perish” organizational cultures that significantly undervalues contributions in the classroom relative to the contributions to our society and economy they indeed provide. Pinnacle awards like this provide an important signal that teaching remains an essential part of the UC mission.

Distinguished Assistant Professor Award for Research

Weian Zhao

Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Growing up in a farmer's family in eastern China in the 1980s, I witnessed how modern technologies revolutionized our daily lives, from electricity and TV to farming gears and fertilizers. Apart from his daily farming job out in the fields, my father was also a "barefoot doctor," who, with only minimal medical training, brought healthcare to our small rural village. I still remember my pride when I received my chicken pox vaccine from him when he came to our classroom and administered it to each child. For many years, those experiences inspired my goal to become a biomedical researcher so that I can develop new medical technologies that have the potential to benefit millions of people and to have a global impact.

Now at UCI, my laboratory specifically utilizes a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach to 1) develop novel biosensors and miniaturized devices to diagnose diseases at early stages when the interventions are most effective, and 2) elucidate and control the fate of transplanted stem cells in the body in order to develop effective and safe therapeutics to treat devastating diseases.

I am the PI of numerous extramurally funded grants (approximately \$8 million in direct cost since independence in 2011) including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), Department of Defense (DOD) and American Heart Association (AHA). I have edited one book and four journal special issues, co-authored >50 journal articles (including 20 since independence), and 7 invited book chapters, and given over 50 invited or keynote lectures. Our work has been published in top journals including *Nature Communications*, *Nature Nanotechnology*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, and *Blood*, which has been cited >2,200 times.

UCI has been a perfect place to nurture innovation and translation. The collaborative and supportive atmosphere allows me to target our work at addressing major unmet needs and proceeds to generate solutions that can be quickly translated to the bedside. I am the founder of Velox Biosystems, a start-up company that aims to develop rapid and sensitive diagnostic technologies. I am a co-inventor of 7 patents/disclosure applications and currently the campus lead for the Drug, Device, Discovery and Development (D4) of UC BRAID (Biomedical Research Acceleration, Integration, and Development). I am also a member of UC Irvine's ANTrepneur Center Faculty Board and the Stem Cell Research Center Clinical/Translational Advisory Committee. My effort in innovation and translation have been recognized by numerous prestigious awards including the MIT's Technology Review TR35 Award: the world's top 35 innovators under the age of 35 and the NIH Director's New Innovator Award.

One of the key reasons I want to work in academia is that I can interact with, teach, and in turn get inspired by young students. I currently teach the undergraduate course "Biopharm & Nanomed," and graduate course "Stem Cell Therapy", in which I specifically train students to solve real-life problems using an interdisciplinary approach. I have mentored over 40 project scientists, postdocs, graduate and undergraduate researchers in my laboratory. I always strive to ensure that each trainee receives an enriched experience and for all of them to secure high-impact positions in academia or industry. My trainees have received fellowships/awards for more than 30 times. Finally, I have been actively participating in activities that impact the community at large. For instance, I have been collaborating with the Orange County Center for Contemporary Art to use arts as an effective tool for STEM education.

I am very honored to receive this award and I wish to thank the Academic Senate, my mentors, colleagues and collaborators, and my laboratory for their support.

Distinguished Mid-Career Award for Research

Syed A. Jafar

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

I received my B. Tech. from IIT Delhi, India, in 1997, M.S. from Caltech, USA, in 1999, and Ph.D. from Stanford, USA, in 2003, all in Electrical Engineering. My industry experience includes positions at Lucent Bell Labs, Qualcomm Inc., and Hughes Software Systems. I am a Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA USA. My research interests include multiuser information theory, wireless communications, and network coding.

I received the NSF CAREER award in 2006, ONR Young Investigator Award in 2008, School of Engineering Maseeh Outstanding Research Award in 2010, School of Engineering Mid-Career Excellence in Research Award in 2015, and the Blavatnik National Laureate in Physical Sciences and Engineering in 2015. My co-authored papers received the IEEE Information Theory Society Best Paper Award in 2009, IEEE Communications Society Best Tutorial Paper Award in 2013, IEEE Communications Society Heinrich Hertz Award in 2015, IEEE Signal Processing Society Young Author Best Paper Award (to student co-authors) in 2015, an IEEE GLOBECOM Best Paper Award in 2012 and an IEEE GLOBECOM Best Paper Award in 2014.

I received the UC Irvine EECS Professor of the Year award five times, in 2006, 2009, 2011, 2012, and 2014, from the Engineering Students Council and the Teaching Excellence Award in 2012 from the School of Engineering. I was a University of Canterbury Erskine Fellow in 2010 and an IEEE Communications Society Distinguished Lecturer for 2013-2014. I was recognized as a Thomson Reuters Highly Cited Researcher and included by *Sciencewatch* among “The World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds in 2014.” I served as Associate Editor for IEEE Transactions on Communications 2004-2009, for IEEE Communications Letters 2008-2009 and IEEE

Transactions on Information Theory 2009-2012. I was elevated to IEEE Fellow, Class of 2014, for contributions to analyzing the capacity of wireless communication networks.

Distinguished Faculty Award for Research

Robert S. Cohen
Professor of Drama

I am now the Claire Trevor Professor of Drama Emeritus at the University of California, Irvine, having become the founding chair of the department in 1965, when the campus itself opened, and serving fifty consecutive years thereafter as a teacher, director, playwright, translator, drama critic, acting theorist and author.

Born in Washington DC in 1938, I took my undergraduate studies at Dartmouth College and UC Berkeley, receiving my Doctor of Fine Arts in Directing from the Yale School of Drama in 1965, at which point I joined the charter faculty of the newly-founded Irvine campus. Since that time, I have directed 15 productions at the Utah and Colorado Shakespeare Festivals, and over a hundred productions at UCI, the Virginia Museum Theatre in Richmond, the Image Theatre in Boston, Stages Theatre Center in Hollywood, the Summer Repertory Theatre in Santa Rosa, Theatre 40 in Beverly Hills, The Hayworth Theatre in Los Angeles, the Academy of Arts in Brisbane, Australia, and 21 playlets and one film for the Focused Program in Medieval Drama at Irvine. I also acted professionally at the Oregon and Colorado Shakespeare Festivals, and at the Williamstown Summer Theatre and wrote (or translated) and directed several plays and operas staged in Los Angeles, New York, Pittsburgh, Amsterdam, Cluj (Romania) and at UCI.

But I had never thought of writing as part of my career until I came to UCI, where I decided to revise my doctoral dissertation on French playwright Jean Giraudoux, which was published as *Giraudoux: Three Faces of Destiny* by the University of Chicago Press. This led me to write and publish a wide variety of books on the theatre, including *Creative Play Direction*, *Acting Professionally*, *Theatre*, *Acting One*, *Acting Two*, *Acting Power*, *More Power To You*, *Acting in Shakespeare*, *Working Together in Theatre*, plus my latest, *Shakespeare on Theatre: A Critical Look at His Theories and*

Practices, along with two play anthologies, five original plays, and over four hundred play reviews in *Contemporary Literature Criticism* and *Plays International*.

I have been honored with the UCI Medal and a Claire Trevor Professorship and Bren Fellowship at UCI, the Career Achievement Award in Academic Theatre from ATHE (the Association for Theatre in Higher Education), the Honoris Causa degree from Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj, Romania, the Polish Medal of Honor in Wroclaw, Poland, and now the Distinguished Faculty Award for Research at UCI. Though officially retired to an Emeritus position this past summer, I continue to live in Laguna Beach, California, with my wife, Lorna Cohen, and participate in UCI seminars and theatrical activities.

**Committee on Scholarly Honors and Awards
2014-2015**

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