## **ARF NOTES**

# Publication of the Association of Retired Faculty California State University, Northridge



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WEBSITE: http://www.csun.edu/arf



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: TIM FOX

Welcome to the official start of our 35<sup>th</sup> year, expected to be challenging as we continue to face the social impact of the Covid 19 pandemic. However, with over 200 active members, **ARF** will continue to provide opportunities for retired faculty to continue old relationships and develop new ones.

This year, our Wednesday afternoon speakers will be available through ZOOM, so that not only local but also remote members scattered around the country will be able to participate and enjoy. A simple primer for accessing ZOOM activities is included on page 3, thanks to Shan Barkataki. Anyone with a smart phone, iPad, Laptop, or Desktop can join a ZOOM session and enjoy the Wednesday afternoon speakers.

The program committee, under the guidance of Sharon Klein, has mapped out most of the activities planned for this year. See the anticipated program schedule on p. 2 in this publication for details. Unfortunately, this year's post-holidays banquet in January may be a casualty of the virus; this is one event where ZOOM can't help. For April, we are looking into a virtual field trip – should be interesting. By May, we might be able to hold our traditional Memorial Graduate Project Awards Brunch, since we will continue granting Memorial Awards. And our annual membership meeting/picnic in June is also a good possibility. Time to think positively.

**ARF** will continue to offer and encourage participation in Interest Groups. SCCARF dinner meetings and the Yum-Yum lunch group are casualties of the virus for the

immediate future. But both the film groups (2) and the book groups(2) are active through Zoom; and the response has been good, in fact, participation is up!

At this time, I want to recognize and thank both Larry Caretto and Diane Schwartz for their efforts with maintaining our retiree database and membership communications over the past several years. Truly a challenging, time-consuming effort. Both have stepped down. Phyllis Russell has taken over the Membership Chair position. Membership renewal mailings are about to go out and you should see them soon in your mailboxes.

**ARF** is a dynamic organization that benefits from suggestions from its members. Please send us your comments, ideas, and any questions you may have. To contact individual Board members, their email addresses can be found on the ARF website (<a href="www.csun.edu/arf">www.csun.edu/arf</a>), and on page 8 of this publication.

Hope your summer has gone well and that you and your family are staying both smart and safe! Please feel free to share your summer experiences through *ARF Notes*; send to Ann, our Newsletter editor at <a href="mailto:ann.perkins@csun.edu">ann.perkins@csun.edu</a>.

Timothy Fox

ARF President 2020-21

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## CSUN Association of Retired Faculty ARF Projected Program Schedule 2020-2021

### Date Event/Speaker Time and Location

9/09/20	Dr. Hillary Kaplowitz; (tentative title) CSUN Technology and Teaching: Design and Pedagogy and Zoom!	2 PM Zoom
10/14/20	Celebrating The Vote! We recognize the Centennial of Women's Suffrage with a panel from CSUN and beyond.	2 PM Zoom
<b>VOTE</b> 11/18/20	Guest Lecturer: TBA-	2 PM Zoom
Dec.	The VERY BEST to everyone during the December holiday season; we hope that the pandemic will have subsided sufficiently to permit the gatherings of family and friends that make the holidays celebratory, and we wish everyone a 2021 with good health, and with only the challenges we seek out and welcome.	No programming in December
Jan. TBD	Pending where things are, and how responses to pandemics are functioning, we will be working on what might be a possible, safe, and welcome celebration of the New Year, in this "new era"	TBD
2/10/21	Jerrold Rishe (a CSUN Alum, on the 2019-2020 Dean's Circle Executive Board, and also the Vice President of SAGE) Tentative title: "What's That Product?!"	2 PM Zoom
3/10/21	Dr. Katie Stack Morgan, JPL and NASA "Discovering more about the geology of Mars" <a href="https://science.jpl.nasa.gov/people/StackMorgan/">https://science.jpl.nasa.gov/people/StackMorgan/</a>	Time: we may have to begin later (on Zoom), as Dr. Stack Morgan is working with the Martian day, which is different from Earth's day length by about 40 minutes (it's longer, of course) and so, every day for her here on Earth is 40 minutes off
4/14/21	Field Trip We may find a way to have a virtual field triporthings may be much safer. We will be talking about this more.	
5/9/21 Saturday	ARF Memorial Graduate Student Project Awards Brunch Presentations by Award Recipients With the future uncertain, this event, too, may change its shape as we draw near.	Perhaps a Zoom Brunch! TBD
6/6/20 Saturday	Annual Picnic/ General Meeting and Election of Officers Againwe'll be planning and watchingwith flexibility.	TBD

## Program Committee Presents a New Format

In looking at the schedule on the previous page, it seems that we're far from what we might consider "typical."

But, thanks to ARF, we have been in book and film groups, for example; now we are here, all together, in these pages. And we will continue to be together on those special Wednesdays--if not at the Orange Grove Bistro, then at our new location, and for the moment, at least...on Zoom! A major benefit, one that some of us have already discovered with family and friends, is that we can be in a "room" with folks that we otherwise could not be near. In fact in our March 10<sup>th</sup> Program, we're planning a visit even to Mars, to do a little roving. Please check the schedule on the previous page for program details.

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, we'll learn more about the innovations in course design and pedagogy that help "remote" to still be "close-up and personal."



Our October 14<sup>th</sup> program includes a panel of women, including our own Cynthia Rawitch (who will moderate) and Jane Bayes. Panelists will talk about the complex history of women's suffrage, and how it translates to

where we are today...and might want to be in November.

Of course, other Program events such as our January banquet, our Memorial Graduate Student Awards brunch, the field trip, and our annual picnic are more than likely to, well, not be typical. But we're figuring that all outand all together, we're sure to come up with some memorable experiences. Please lend your thoughts and ideas and discoveries about what's possible (and nifty!) as this planning unfolds. *Sharon Klein* 



#### Zooming Along with ARF!

We hope this pared down guide will help **ARF** members attend online Zoom meetings with a desktop or laptop computer, a tablet, or a smart phone, whether your "platform" is Apple type (iOS),

Microsoft type (Windows-mostly on laptops and Microsoft tablets) or Android. The device needs to have a webcam, a microphone, and a speaker; these can be built-in, or connected externally. When using a computer, a headset with a microphone and a headphone work better than the computer's built-in devices; typical online price for a headset starts around \$40 (July 2020). Zoom works best with a broadband internet connection such as: cable, DSL, cellular, or hard-wired-ethernet, but does not per-

form well with a telephone dial-up connection.

Because you may want to do some preparation...and then ask questions...we recommend engaging with this all a few days before September 9th, the first ARF Zoom meeting.

With CSUN's support, the best next step to take is the **download of Zoom** onto whatever device you'd like to use. CSUN has a Zoom account that all of us with CSUN credentials (user name and password) can make use of. That account permits our sessions to last as long as they need to. It is necessary to download Zoom onto every device on which you might want to use it. And the CSUN Zoom account falls into the category "sso" so that's the choice to enter when prompted to choose.

Aleks, from IT at CSUN, has a *very* helpful video, <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSps9S5096w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSps9S5096w</a> that goes step-by-step, showing us how to download the app to get started. It's for students, so we can ignore the parts introduced by "...you should ask/look at what your professor...". And the download URL that you need is this: <a href="https://csun.zoom.us/download">https://csun.zoom.us/download</a> This is where the app "lives" and where Aleks sends us, as explained in the video.

#### Joining an ARF Zoom Meeting

Invitations to ARF Zoom meetings are sent by email giving a scheduled date and time. A few minutes before the meeting starts, join the meeting; the steps are listed below:

Sign-in to your webmail account and open the email from **ARF** with the meeting announcement. It will have a Meeting Link to the meeting, Click on the "Meeting Link" provided in the email.

If using Microsoft Edge or Internet Explorer (aka Safari), or Mozilla Firefox, you will be connected to the ARF meeting directly. If using Chrome, you will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID provided in the ARF email before connecting the meeting.

Each Zoom meeting has at least one "organizer" or "host" who is responsible for starting and ending the meeting. The **ARF** Board will designate hosts for each meeting or program.

Difficulties in connecting to a meeting will mostly likely come from a wrong meeting link or a wrong Meeting ID, so if you retyped the ID, double check it. Emailing a friend might be helpful, or email the host, even just before the meeting--hosts make mistakes, too...

#### **Zoom Meeting Etiquette**

The following practices are helpful:

"Mute" your microphone when not talking. Maintaining the "mute" status eliminates background noise (typing, paper shuffling, dog barking, etc.). Remember to unmute when you want to participate/talk. Sometimes the host will mute everyone--particularly in a lecture or similar event--so that neither the guest host nor attendees will be distracted by any random sounds.

It's also a good idea to keep video off until you are comfortably on/at the meeting and are ready to have everyone watch you watch .

Keep your webcam stable, showing your face and focused on your eyes. Turn off notifications, such as from calendar and email programs, if they make beeping sounds.

If you need to leave or do something else that might distract other Zoomers in the room, it's a good idea to turn the video off.

#### **Further Resources**

The guides below have easy to follow instructions on using Zoom, including how to change the background; the links are given below.

https://www.tomsguide.com/news/how-to-use-zoom

https://www.tomsguide.com/how-to/how-to-change-your-zoom-background

https://www.csun.edu/it/news/zoom-video-and-web-conferencing

For scheduling and running your own Zoom meetings, go to

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSps9S5096w

A list of more videos is available at https://www.csun.edu/it/zoom. We suggest clicking the one labeled "Videos to Get Started".

This is a drastically abridged version of a wonderfully informative document by Shan Barkataki (<a href="mailto:shan@csun.edu">shan@csun.edu</a>), which we will also make available on request. Please send questions, comments, suggestions or complaints about this one to: <a href="mailto:sharon.klein@csun.edu">sharon.klein@csun.edu</a>



NEWS FROM CSUN

#### <u>CSUN Taps Creativity To Launch Historic Fall</u> <u>Semester</u>

Most CSUN students won't be on campus during a primarily virtual fall semester, which starts Aug. 22, but their professors are working hard to bring engaging experiences to them.

CSUN biology and anatomy students will be learning via simulated labs that let them conduct experiments in a virtual, video game-like setting. Engineering students will

use at-home kits that give them hands-on experience. Three departments and dozens of students are working together to produce one of the world's first animated operas.

These are just a few examples of the types of alternative learning strategies CSUN professors are using this fall to ensure that courses are informative and engaging.

The campus would have preferred a fall semester where COVID-19 cases were way down in Southern California and the pandemic under control — so everyone could return safely to campus — but University leaders say that given the situation, the creative solutions they've employed for distance learning will generate meaningful learning opportunities that may even carry over to the time when the University can fully reopen.

## **Grant Supports Effort to Foster New Generation of Climate Change Leaders**

California State University, Northridge Chicano/a Studies professor Stevie Ruiz and a team of academics across the country have received nearly \$500,000 from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to develop a national initiative to foster a new generation of leaders who understand the intersectionality between climate change and the disproportionate impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on communities of color.

The three-year grant will support the establishment of the initiative, "Climates of Inequality and the COVID Crisis: Building Leadership in Minority Serving Institutions." Ruiz said the project "opens opportunities to reimagine public humanities pedagogies and practices as tools for shaping this new world and pursuing social justice."

#### What's Happening in the Library?

Although the physical Library is still closed, since August 24 online request and mailing of books is available to CSUN users. Interlibrary Loan requests may be made online, and Reference Librarians are available online to answer questions and help with research. And of course, as before, online resources such as journals and magazines are available on your computer!

### <u>Public Invited to Virtual Constitution Day Seminar</u>

Come to a virtual celebration of **Constitution Day** Sept 12, 10 a.m.! California State University,
Northridge's Tseng College hosts the annual event, which delves into Constitutional issues of particular relevance today. This year the the panel discussion is entitled "The Right of Privacy in the Digital Era: What Happens When an 18<sup>th</sup> century Constitution Meets 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology." Political science professor Leigh Bradberry and John Evans, political science instructor at Augsburg University in Minneapolis, lead the talk. The program runs virtually via Zoom, so anyone can take part online. The event is free, but advance reservations are required. For more info and to register: <a href="https://go.csun.edu/constitutionday">https://go.csun.edu/constitutionday</a>. Caroline Miranda



#### ARF Members Keep Learning and Making New Friends During the Pandemic

A number of ARF members are staying intellectually and socially active from the safety of their own homes, as members of SAGE Learning in Retirement, an organization operating in cooperation with CSUN's Tseng College of Extended Learning. SAGE LR offers four semesters of discussion-based classes per year on a variety of topics in which each class member researches and presents on their favorite aspect of the class theme and leads the discussion. SAGE LR classes are being shared on the Zoom video conferencing platform until it is safe to resume their traditional in-person meetings. For members hesitant about online technology, SAGE LR provides skilled instruction. In "normal" times, SAGE LR also holds forums, open houses, retreats, and field trips. ARF members say SAGE LR is a wonderful outlet for mental growth, staying active, making friends and sharing perspectives on interesting topics.

The tentative course offerings for the fall semester (Sept. 14-Nov. 5) are: Hot Topics (current events), American Popular Music, Alexander Hamilton, Napoleon Bonaparte, the 1920s, *The New Yorker* Articles, Documentaries, *Player Piano* by Kurt Vonnegut, Foreign Language Films, Beautiful Gardens of the World, *The Moonstone* by Wilkie Collins, and Ancient Egypt. For more information about SAGE LR, or to arrange a one-time class visit, call 818-831-5064 or email elders@csun.edu.*Merry Oynick* 



#### IN MEMORIAM

Verne Bryant (Africana Studies) died on November 23, 2019, in Northern California at the age of 88. Verne joined the Africana Studies Department in 1970 and taught at CSUN for 31 years until he retired as Professor

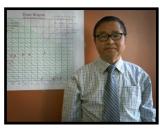
Emeritus in 2001. He received his B.A. degree from Wayne State University in 1960 and his M.B.A. from Pepperdine University in 1974. Economics was his area of expertise.

Bryant was one of the pioneering faculty of Africana Studies. The Department was formed in 1969/70 in the wake of campus protest and mass arrests of hundreds of students who were angry about the treatment of students of color. Bryant helped develop the curriculum and later taught many of the Department's economics



courses. He also served as Department Chair from 1982-84. He was very passionate about his Pan-Africanist vi-

sion for the Department as well as his support for student success in all fields of endeavor. His special focus was on Black male students, many of whom participated in CSUN's sports programs. Verne worked to make sure sports were not their only focus, but honed their skills to prepare them for life and for effective interaction with the American business community. A very giving and kindhearted person, Bryant spent considerable time, both professionally and personally, nurturing young faculty and challenging students to be the very best they could be. *Ginny Lussier* 



Gong-Yuh Lin (Geography and Environmental Studies) died on December 12, 2019, at the age of 78. Dr. Lin joined the CSUN Geography faculty in 1972 and retired as Professor Emeritus in May 2005. Dr. Lin

was a diligent scholar, with a specialty in meteorology and climatology. He wrote numerous journal articles and conference papers involving statistical methods to predict air pollution, wet and dry spells, smog concentration, and wind movements, receiving research grants to support work in several of these areas. He developed, with Robert Provin, Geography 105, a series of special weather labs to be used in online and hybrid teaching formats. As quiet and unassuming as Dr. Lin seemed in the hallways, he had an astonishingly dry sense of humor in the classroom. Students enrolled in his weather classes found, to their delight, that he delivered informative lectures coupled with weather one-liners! He explained concepts carefully and thoroughly, had a genuine affection for his students, and was always attentive to their needs.

An active humanitarian, he worked, since the year 2000, with a Taiwanese organization in the San Fernando Valley to help those in need with services ranging from weekly food delivery, to home repairs, to securing lifesustaining assistance. Dr. Gong-Yuh Lin is survived by two children and three grandchildren. *Ginny Lussier* 

Faculty, Staff and students at CSUN mourn the recent passing of Emeritus Professor **Gerald Resendez** of Chicana/o Studies Of California State University Northridge.

Born 83 years ago in Bakersfield, Gerald joined the Congregation of Christian Brothers (CCB) as a young man to dedicate his life to the education of youth. He earned a Bachelor



of Arts degree at St. Mary's College in Moraga, California. He subsequently earned a Master of Arts Degree from the University of Southern California and was advanced to candidacy for the Ph. D. in Spanish Literature at the University of California Los Angeles.

After eleven years as an instructor and Vice Principal at Cathedral High School in Los Angeles, he joined the first group of faculty hired in the Department of Chicana/o Studies at the then San Fernando Valley State College in August, 1969. He was granted Emeritus status in 2003. Resendez' areas of expertise were Chicana/o Literature as well as Religion and the Chicana/o. He organized one of the earliest symposia on the topic of Chicana/o Children's Literature, and likewise organized a symposium on Chicana/os and Religion which featured Cardinal Roger Mahoney as keynote speaker.

Gerald served as chair of the Chicana/o Studies department for multiple terms (1973-1974, 1979-1982, 1985-1988). He served on multiple governance committees of the Department, the College and the University. He was always available to students and colleagues as advisor, counselor and mentor. A voracious reader, he always had recommendations for good reading material.

We extend our condolences to his daughter, Patricia, his stepdaughter, Carol and his stepson, Steve. Their loss is magnified by the loss of their mother, Ruby, just one week after Gerald's passing. We look forward to an appropriate memorial commemoration in the future. *Jorge Garcia*.



Philip A. Reid (Communication Disorders and Sciences) died on July 16, 2020, in Los Angeles at the age of 90. Phil joined the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences at CSUN in 1968 and taught for 23 years until he retired as Professor Emeritus in 1991.

He received his B.A. degree in 1957, from California State Univer-

sity, Los Angeles and both his M.A. (1960) and his Ph.D. (1966) degrees from the University of Southern California in speech pathology and audiology.

When he completed his Ph.D. in 1966, Dr. Reid began his career as Chief of Speech Pathology at Sepulveda Veteran's Hospital in Granada Hills. After two years in this position, he joined the faculty at CSUN in 1968, as Chair of the new Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences. While at CSUN, he was inducted as a fellow in both the American and California Speech-Language Hearing Associations. He was active professionally in several associations involved in improving clinical training for audiologists and speech language pathologists.

Dr. Reid was married to Gloria, a speech pathologist, for 61 years. She taught for 20 years in the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences at CSUN. Gloria Reid died in February 2017, at age 82. Reid is survived by two children and two grandchildren. *Ginny Lussier* 

**Donald E. Salter (Philosophy)** passed away on April 2, 2020, in Santa Clarita from complications of aspiration pneumonia. Born in 1931, he was 88.

Don grew up in St. Louis and earned both his B.A. (1953) and M.A. (1957) in philosophy at Washington University in St. Louis. He was studying for his doctorate at UCLA when hired by San Fernan-



do Valley State College (now CSUN) in 1964. Don spent

his entire 35-year teaching career at CSUN until his retirement in 1999. His main philosophical and teaching interests were in the history of philosophy and social and political philosophy.

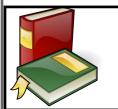
Don is survived by his two children Donna and Steven. Donna remembers him as "a wonderful father", and his colleagues remember him as a kind and gentle man. *Ron McIntyre* 



Leonard B. Wurthman Jr. (Communication Studies) passed away on May 24, 2020 at the age of 90. After serving in the US Marines in Korea, Len came west to attend UCLA where he obtained his BA in 1957. His MA at LSU and Ph.D. at the University of Missouri followed.

Len was a talented baseball player. After playing several years in the minor leagues, Len began teaching at CSUN in 1965 and continued his athletic interests. He helped organize and coach the men's ice hockey club, organized faculty/staff tennis tournaments, and directed and actively competed in the CSUN Professors Golf Association.

Len's academic interests and teaching focused on Rhetorical Studies. He taught several courses in that field, including as a post-retirement volunteer, and developed classes in the Rhetoric of Crime and Punishment and the Rhetoric of War and Peace. His published work included rhetorical analysis of the Irish politician Daniel O'Connell and of Lincoln's legislative advisor Frank Blair. Len created the Speakers Bureau, the first service learning course in the department. He retired as Professor in 1992. *Don Brownlee* 



#### **BOOK GROUPS**

At the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **Science Book Group** we dis-

cussed *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry* by Neil deGrasse Tyson.

We all enjoyed this book, even though as retirees we really should not be in a hurry! The book is a compilation of individual essays which are written in a clear and at times amusing style. De Grasse Tyson manages to make unfathomable subjects like dark matter (not to be confused with dark energy) reasonably accessible to the lay reader. It also helps that he readily states that there are still many things between heaven and earth that even experts do not understand (yet). And, that even geniuses can make mistakes, i.e., Einstein's "greatest mistake" – the cosmological constant. Except that it was not a mistake, instead, it is an intrinsic fundamental energy of space otherwise known as "dark energy," which still poses many

puzzles to the expert cosmologists. While the book is short in pages, it contains interesting and challenging material and led to a very interesting discussion of the universe and how we fit into it.

On August 19<sup>th</sup> the Group discussed *To Explain the World: The Discovery of Modern Science, by* Steven Weinberg.

Generally, we were somewhat disappointed with the book. Weinberg received a Nobel Prize in physics, which perhaps explains why the book deals mainly with astronomy and physics, beginning with the great Greek thinkers at a time when physics and philosophy were often interchangeable. Only at the very end does he address biology, chemistry, geology, etc. "Any general principle of biology is what it is because of the fundamental principles pf physics together with historical accidents, which by definition can never be explained." So there!

Weinberg does provide an interesting overview of the development of physical theory and how many of the great insights of Greek thinkers could have been lost forever when Europe descended into the well named "Dark Ages." During several hundred years only Arab scientists continued to develop science based on Greek knowledge, while Europe insisted on the infallibility of the bible.

On September 23<sup>rd</sup> (**note change in meeting date!**) we will discuss *Handprints on Hubble – An Astronaut's Story of Invention* by Kathryn D. Sullivan (2019). The first American woman to walk in space recounts her experience as part of the team that launched, rescued, repaired, and maintained the Hubble Space Telescope. On October 21<sup>st</sup> the selection will be *How Innovation Works*, by Matt Ridley (2020). *Heidemarie Lundblad*.

On July 1 the **Wednesday Book Group** met via Zoom to discuss Wallace Stegner's *Angle of Repose*, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 1972. The book was inspired partly by a collection of a woman's letters from the late nineteenth century. Stegner frequently included excerpts in *Angle of Repose*, changing the names of course. Despite the letters, most of Stegner's novel is his creation. Among Stegner's many stories and books about the West, this one is perhaps best known.

The narrator in *Angle of Repose* is Lyman Ward, a retired UC Berkeley historian who is sorting through the letters of his grandmother, Susan Ward, in order to write about her life. Although the book shifts back occasionally to Grass Valley, California, where Lyman now lives, most of the book follows the story of Susan's life as she married in 1876, left the artistic and literary world of her friends in New York City, and followed her engineer husband to a succession of rugged mining camps in the West.

We all loved this book, mostly because the characters of Susan and her husband Oliver were developed through their personal interactions, decisions, and responses to the hard realities of their lives. Susan misses the genteel and sophisticated life she knew in New York and wants strongly to settle down in one place. Her reticent, unpolished husband wants to please her, but uncertain funding and the fading profitability of mines mean that they move every few years. Oliver and

Susan Ward have three children -- Ollie, Betsy, and Agnes, all of whom are important in the story. The family works hard but its rewards are meager.

The novel also provides a vivid description of the newly opened small settlements where they lived, the most interesting of which are a cinnabar (ore of mercury) mine near San Jose, CA; the gold and silver mining town of Leadville, at 10,000 feet in the Colorado Rockies; and the sagebrush plateau near Boise, Idaho. In that last place Oliver builds a nice but isolated family home while trying to keep investors continuing to finance his major irrigation project. Although the historical settings are interesting and important, the lives and personalities of the central characters are what made us love the book. *Jim Allen and Joel Zeitlin* 

#### FILM GROUP

Not to be deterred by Covid 19, the **Monday** Film Group forged ahead remotely on July 20 using Zoom, discussing the films *Center Stage* and *Honey Boy*.



Center Stage (2000) follows a group of young people with diverse backgrounds who enroll in a New York Ballet Academy with the goal of becoming professional dancers. The film centers on the competitive preparation for the end of the year workshop performance where the dancers can be seen by numerous potential employers. The dance

performances shown were excellent but, at times, the dialogue and the story line were somewhat clichéd. The film improved in its second half and the depiction of young people maturing and finding their way in life was heartwarming. All members of the group gave this movie an 8.0 rating.

Honey Boy depicts the life of Otis, where Otis is depicted both as a twelve-year-old child, played by Noah Jupe, and as an alcoholic young adult, played by Lucas Hedges. Hedges did an excellent job and Jupe's depiction of the abused childhood of Otis was superb. The script was written by Shia LaBeouf, who did a very good job playing the father in the film, and is based on his childhood as a child actor with an abusive father. Although the acting in the film was excellent, the plot timeline was a bit confusing and the character of the child actor's father verged on the bizarre. This character was so unlikeable that it made it hard for some of us to enjoy the film. The overall rating by the club members for Honey Boy was 7.2/10, with scores ranging from a low of 6.5 to a high of 9.0.

For the month of September, the group plans to discuss the two films: *Unorthodox* and *The Young Offenders*. Both productions are available on Netflix. *David Schwartz* 

ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD, 2020—2021				
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	tim.fox@csun.edu			
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	pamela.bourgeois@csun.edu	shan.barkataki@csun.edu		
President Elect	John Clendenning	Leland Gassert		
	johnclendenning@aol.com	leland.Gassert@csun.edu		
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•	cheryl.spector@csun.edu	pnichelson@csun.edu		
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	daniel.blake@csun.edu	catherine.jeppson@csun.edu		
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membersinp enan	pkrussell@earthlink.net	joel.zeitlin@csun.edu		
Newsletter Editor	Ann Perkins	Web Master		

Eugene Turner

eugene.turner@csun.edu

#### **ARF NOTES**

Historian

ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE
P.O. BOX 280578
NORTHRIDGE, CALIFORNIA 91328

ann.perkins@csun.edu

ginny.lussier@csun.edu

Virginia Lussier