Paisley Rekdal is Distinguished Prof. of English at the University of Utah and a nationally renowned poet and essayist. She is the author of four books of nonfiction and seven books of poetry including Nightingale, Appropriate: A Provocation and most recently, West: A Translation, and Mapping Salt Lake. She was the state poet laureate from 2017-2022.

Her work has received numerous fellowships including the Guggenheim, Fulbright, and NEA. Among the awards she has received are the Pushcart Prizes (2009, 2013) and the AWP Creative Nonfiction Prize. Her poems and essays have appeared in The New Yorker, The New York Times Magazine, American Poetry Review, The Kenyon Review, Poetry, The New Republic, Tin House, the Best American Poetry series, and on National Public Radio.

Most recently, Prof. Rekdal was honored with the prestigious Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. The $100,000 award was for her work West: A Translation. In 2018 Prof. Rekdal was commissioned to write a poem commemorating the 150th anniversary of the transcontinental railroad. The work is a collection of poems and essays that draws a crucial connection between the railroad’s completion and the Chinese Exclusion Act (1882–1943). Carved into the walls of the Angel Island Immigration Station, where Chinese migrants to the United States were detained, is a poem elegizing a detainee who committed suicide. As “West” translates this anonymous Chinese elegy character by character, it explores the railroad’s cultural impact on America, revealing what unites and divides America.

Prof. Rekdal is also a founding member of Mapping Salt Lake City. The initiative is a community-written web atlas that maps the various communities and neighborhoods of Salt Lake City through critical and creative literature, interactive maps, and multi-media projects (www.mappingslc.org). The project will grow as more people contribute their personal stories.

Former State Poet Laureate Will Cap Off Emeriti Club Speaker Series

PAISLEY REKDAL
Nationally Renowned Poet and Essayist Will Share Her Vision: “Re-Imagining History”

Luncheon will be held in the Saltair Room, MONDAY, May 13.

You are encouraged to arrive by 11:30 if you wish to socialize.

Lunch will be served at noon.

Orders due by noon, Monday, May 6. (Ordering will close at that time.)
Three years ago, I was asked to be the President-elect of the Professors Emeriti Club. I was told it was a sinecure, at least for the first year of three. That changed when Jerilyn McIntyre (who had kept the Club operating during Covid) and I looked at the listed benefits for emeriti. They included free golf on the University golf course, which disappeared probably 15 years ago.

This suggested that there were some matters that required attention; that has occupied my last three years. I have enjoyed trying to encourage the University to provide benefits to emeriti that recognize their contribution to the U during their teaching and research careers. We have also prodded the University to incorporate and draw upon the knowledge and abilities of emeriti. I think they know now that we do not drop into some sort of suspended state upon becoming emeritae.

At the same time, we have tried to find ways that we could document and increase the emeriti contributions to the University's educational mission. Making our presence and availability known is one step, and there have been other tangible efforts, such as the Completion Scholarship.

This has been a community effort, and I would like to thank all who have been integral parts of it. We have had committed Board members who have applied their skills and energies to the smooth functioning of the organization. And they are largely responsible for the wonderful luncheon speakers we have had and for moving from Zoom back to in-person events.

Specific projects have also been supported by volunteers from the membership. Susan Olson was central to the successful entry of the UofU into the Age Friendly University Global Network. Jerilyn McIntyre and David Smith facilitated establishing the Professors Emeriti Completion Scholarship, one of whose first three awardees gave an impressive presentation to our December luncheon. Susan Olson and Bob Flores were part of the “Transition Committee” that worked with the AVP’s for Research and for Faculty on facilitating continued scholarly activity by emeriti, and with the UIT team on improving emeritae software access. Laura Snow, who was Special Assistant to the President (I think she and two other women actually ran the University in these years), was instrumental in getting administrators to answer our phone calls when we had issues to be dealt with. Finally, the thirty or so emeriti “grandparents”, who have put in a couple of hours per month for the last two years to interact with these amazing UofU students, have probably given more “good advice” than “bad advice.” But in any case, they have contributed to bridging the generation gap, to the benefit of ourselves and of the students.

So thanks to all of them, and also to Herta Teitelbaum, who has brought her Austrian energy to the Presidency, and has played the central role in a very successful year for the Professors Emeriti Club.

Reminder:
In May 2024, all U emeriti will be required to use Duo two-factor authentication (2FA) when logging in to University of Utah online services (e.g., UMail, CIS, Marriott and other library online services). A specific date in May has not been determined. Duo 2FA provides an extra layer of IT security for you and the U. You may already be familiar with using a 2FA app to securely log in to your online bank account, utilities account, etc.

If you’re not already using Duo for University logins, you’ll need to install the Duo app on your smartphone and/or tablet (e.g., iPad, Android tablet) and register to receive the University’s Duo prompts.

It’s a good idea to set aside some time before May to set up Duo so that you can take your time, carefully go through the instructions, and call the University Information Technology (UIT) Help Desk (801-581-4000) if you need help.

For further information, go to the university’s Duo help article (login required): https://bit.ly/39EdqKX


President’s Message
HERTA TEITELBAUM

Instructor Recognition:

We would like to recognize Ray Gesteland, Distinguished Prof. Emeritus of Human Genetics, for his long-term teaching history at the Osher Institute. Since 2013 he has taught eight courses on various topics of genetics including “Our Genes, Our Future, The Revolution” and “Your Genes and Your Health Care”. Hundreds of students have benefitted from learning about the advancement in the genetics field. Congratulations!

Summer Term:
Osher will offer 45 classes in shorter sessions. The term will run from May 17 through June 28. Registration opens May 2 at 9:00 am at https://continue.utah.edu/osher

- Emeriti who are teaching include Tim Chambless, “Current Events” on Tuesdays at 1:30, and Jay Jacobson, “Nemesis: Lessons from a Polio Epidemic”, on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm.
- Richard Bell, a new instructor, will be teaching “The End of Empire? The American Revolution and the British Empire” via Zoom on Tuesdays at 3:30 pm. Dr. Bell, a Professor of History at the University of Maryland, has held major research fellowships at Yale, Cambridge, and the Library of Congress, and is the recipient of the National Endowment of the Humanities Public Scholar.

Course proposals for fall term are due on May 1: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfnSpDWD-MdhD-etSgfzheIT3PZsSQ8oE3ZVKAILULgg2ILCCa/viewform. The fall term will run from Sept. 16 through Oct. 31, 2024.

Osher Newsletter: To stay informed about Osher programs and activities, sign up for the weekly Osher Newsletter at: https://continue.utah.edu/enews?unit=osopher.

Television Suggestions
DON STRASSBERG

Hi All:

Well, it’s finally here, my last column of the academic year. I hope you’ve been able to get to see some of the films/shows I’ve been suggesting. For this last column, I’m offering suggestions for some really interesting mysteries/dramas, some new and some a little older.

Netflix

The Brothers Son (2024): When the head of a Taiwanese triad is shot by an assassin, his eldest son heads to Los Angeles to protect his mother and brother, who’s been completely sheltered from the truth of his family until now.

The Chestnut Man (2021): A figurine made of chestnuts is found at the scene of a grisly murder; from this creepy clue, two detectives hunt for a killer linked to a politician’s missing child.

My Name (2021): Following her father’s murder, a revenge-driven woman puts her trust in a powerful crime boss — and enters the force under his direction.

Amazon Prime

Sharp Objects (2018): Based on the debut novel of the same name by writer Gillian Flynn, this eight-episode series stars Amy Adams as a reporter who returns to her small hometown to investigate mysterious, unsolved crimes.

The Wailing (2016): A Korean film in which suspicion leads to hysteria when rural villagers link a series of brutal murders to the arrival of a stranger.

Hulu

Anatomy of a Fall (2023): For the past year, Sandra, her husband Samuel, and their eleven-year-old son have lived a secluded life in a remote town in the French Alps. When Samuel is found dead in the snow below their chalet, the police question whether he was murdered or committed suicide.

MAX

Good Time (2017): A bank robber (Robert Pattinson) stops at nothing to free his brother from prison, launching himself into a night-long odyssey through New York’s dark and dangerous criminal underworld.
Currently, The Leonardo is hosting an immersive experience about AI’s hypothetical possibilities (good and maybe not so good). You begin in a room of projectors with narration for a 40-minute show. Then, you are encouraged to move about the space, as there will be different AI-generated images on separate walls, all with the same narration.

After the entertainment portion, you exit into the education segment of the exhibition. The education part has tabletop AI interactives, such as games against AI and areas to generate your own AI works of art and stories. In the education space, you consider the history of AI, its future possibilities and ethical challenges.

Let’s go as a group. Meet on May 16 at 10:30 AM for the 11 o’clock show; Fran Friedrich and I will greet you. A discounted ticket will be $12.00. You treat yourself. For those that would like to discuss the experience, we will gather across the street at Kura Thai Restaurant with The Leonardo’s Community Relations Manager, Dustyn Burt.

The Leonardo’s address is 209 East, 500 South. Pull in the underground garage entry on 500 South. Your parking receipt will be validated.

Please email Ryck Luthi by May 10 if you would like to join the group (ryckluthi@msn.com). You are welcome to bring a guest.

If you have questions about the show, call Dustyn Burt at 801-531-9800, ext 125.

Support Undergraduate Education

Thanks to all who contributed on Giving Days to the Professors Emeriti Completion Scholarship and to those who provided matching funds. We have exceeded our target of $10,000, providing multiple scholarships.

If you are a “First Gen” college graduate (or even if you aren’t), you are invited to the 1850 Society’s celebration of this year’s First Gen graduates on April 24 at 6 pm in the Alumni House. See a description of the 1850 Society at: https://us.utah.edu/news-and-updates/posts/1850.php

Renew Parking Permit

Emeriti parking permits need to be renewed in August.

Contact Katina Limberakis at: katina.limberakis@utah.edu

Speaker Suggestions

The Emeriti Club Board will meet in June to select speakers for the 2024-25 year. If you have any suggestions, please send them to Tim Chambless at: timchambless@icloud.com

Scholarship Selection Committee Volunteer Opportunity:

Undergraduate Studies (US) is looking for volunteers to sit on scholarship selection committees.

There are numerous opportunities each semester to review personal statements, applications, etc. If interested, please send an email to: undergradscholarships@utah.edu
Hiking Group

The Group on the Jordan River Trail

Some days it feels like spring, but those days are not always on Mondays! Our trip on the north bench to Lime Kiln had to be canceled due to mud and a forecast of more rain, and the trip to Dooly Knob on Antelope Island had to take the low ground and hike the Lakeshore trail. The biggest turnout was for a nice walk on the Jordan River Trail (JRT) south of 4800 South, which brought out 15 fair weather friends. We hope to do another JRT near 3500 South and combine it with a visit to the Pilar Pobil exhibit at the Cultural Celebration Center in May.

Plans for our trip to Kanab mid-May are firming up. We will take advantage of many of the events during Amazing Earthfest 2024, see https://amazingearthfest.org/ It is free but you need to register for events on the program. In addition to the geology talks, hikes, Indigenous culture, star gazing, films, etc., we have two hikes being led just for our group, one by a botanist studying junipers (just like Bill Gray) and another on a new BLM trail led by a member of Great Old Broads for Wilderness. (Yes, there is such an organization). The week will start out at NFS Ponderosa Grove Group campsite with a potluck dinner for about 37, and then we will scatter to our historic B and B, motels and those in vans to an RV park. We plan to be home for Mother’s Day, or should I say Grandmother’s Day. Our headquarters will be an historic 1912 Sears Roebuck Catalogue Prefab house in town with space for the group to gather. One evening we will have a discussion with the Grand Canyon Trust about work and issues on the Colorado Plateau. If you feel left out, there is still time to sign up by contacting Suzanne.Stensaas@hsc.utah.edu.

Pioneer Memorial Theatre

Tickets for the last play of the year, Natasha, Pierre and The Great Comet of 1812, become available on April 22, with the Preview performance on May 9.
Monday, May 13 Luncheon Menu

**Entrée Choices:**

- Roast salmon with lemon cream sauce
- Cauliflower steak with lemon cream sauce
- Fruit plate with cottage cheese

**Luncheon Reservation and Dues Payment Form**

Voluntary Dues for 2023-24: $12/Single, $24/Couple

Attendees are encouraged to arrive by 11:30 if you wish to socialize.

Online and print ordering deadline is noon, May 6.

To pay by credit card (preferred): https://umarket.utah.edu/um2/uuemeriticlub/product.php?product=1

(Please use the dropdown menu to select your meal choice. If you plan on bringing a spouse/guest, be sure to update the quantity box to “2”, and fill out the info for your guest’s lunch selection.

Make sure you get an email with “Payment Confirmation” in the subject line after online ordering.)

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**To pay by check:**

Name ______________________________ Roast salmon _____ Cauliflower steak _____ Fruit plate _____

Spouse/Partner ______________________ Roast salmon _____ Cauliflower steak _____ Fruit plate _____

Guest(s) ____________________________ Roast salmon _____ Cauliflower steak _____ Fruit plate _____

Email: ______________________________ Telephone # ______________________________

Number attending @ $20 each_____ Luncheon $_____

Dues $_____

TOTAL $_____  

Please check here_____ if this is your first luncheon as a new member. (Hey! It’s a free lunch!)

Make out the check to Professors Emeriti Club and send to:

Barbara Brown
1332 Dover Road
Salt Lake City, UT  84108