

May 1984

# Perspectives

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University of Houston System

## Honorary degrees awarded

Oveta Culp Hobby and George P. Mitchell received honorary degrees during the University of Houston-University Park's 50th commencement exercises, Saturday, May 12, in Hofheinz Pavilion. Each received the Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Lieutenant Governor William Hobby, Jr., accepted the degree on behalf of Mrs. Hobby.

"An honorary degree is higher education's way of honoring an individual. The degree is conferred on a person who distinguishes himself or herself in their profession, makes major contributions to the nation, and maintains an interest in higher education and an affiliation with the University of Houston," Dr. Richard Van Horn, UH-University Park chancellor, said.

The UH System Board of Regents endorsed the nomination of the two degree recipients.

Until a few months ago, Mrs. Hobby went to work every day as chairman of the board and editor of the *Houston Post*. The wife of former Texas Governor William P. Hobby and mother of current Texas Lt. Governor William P. Hobby, Jr.,

she was the nation's first Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare during the Eisenhower administration. A former parliamentarian of the Texas House of Representatives, Mrs. Hobby earned a law degree from Baylor University in 1950.

She received the Rotary Club of Houston's Distinguished Citizen Award in 1979

**continued on page 2**

## Houston Endowment funds NEH challenge grant

The Houston Endowment Inc. has awarded the University of Houston a grant of \$250,000 toward matching the National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant to fund the University's "Humanities and the Professions" program.

The Houston Endowment's contribution boosts the total amount of contributions in the NEH matching grant campaign to approximately \$1,400,000. Requiring a 3-to-1 matching amount, UH must obtain \$2,250,000 in funds from the private sector over a three-year period of time to match the \$750,000 NEH chal-

lenge grant, for a total of \$3 million.

The proposed "Humanities and the Professions" program will establish a series of ongoing academic relations with the professional schools of the University, bringing the perspectives of the humanities to bear on the way the professions of business and law are conceived and practiced.

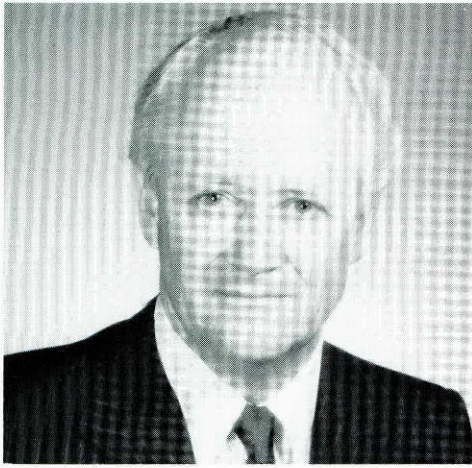
\$2 million of the NEH challenge grant monies and matching contributions will be used for endowment of two chairs, one in legal history and one in business history; \$600,000 is earmarked for library endowment and acquisition; and \$400,000 will endow a speakers series which will benefit members of the general community.

"We are indebted to the Houston Endowment for this endorsement of the program, and because of the NEH match, this grant will result in an additional \$66,667 coming to the University," said Dr. Charles E. Bishop, president of the University of Houston System.

"The 'Humanities and the Professions' program is of special interest to me in that it provides concrete evidence of the University's efforts to provide both a broad and practical education for its students concentrating in professional studies," Bishop said.



Dr. Charles E. Bishop, president of the University of Houston System, and Dr. Robert Knauss, left, dean of the UH Law Center, escort former U.S. President Gerald Ford into the Wortham House. Ford visited the University April 18 as the first speaker in the newly established Butler & Binion lecture series, sponsored by the UH Law Center.



John E. Kolb

## Distinguished alumni named

E. Virginia Barnett, John E. Kolb, and Charles E. McMahan are recipients of the 1984 Distinguished Alumni Awards from the University of Houston Alumni Organization, presented April 24 at the 32nd Annual Alumni Awards Banquet.

Up to three graduates are honored each year by the UH Alumni Organization for distinguishing themselves in successful careers, while continuing to support the University of Houston.

Barnett, who received a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1955 and a master's degree in business administration in 1956, is a past president and chairman of the board of the UH Alumni Organization, and is currently a trustee of the University of Houston Foundation. A certified public accountant in private practice, Barnett is a past national president of the American Society of Women Accountants.

Kolb currently serves as chairman of the UH Board of Regents, and has been active in the UH Law Alumni Association and the UH Law Foundation. He received his law degree in 1955, and is now a partner in the Vinson and Elkins law firm.

McMahan, a 1962 graduate with a degree in accounting, is president of Southwest Bancshares, Inc. He is a trustee of the University of Houston Foundation and the UH-University Park College of Business Administration Foundation, and advises the UH Executive MBA program.

### Honorary degrees, cont'd from p. 1

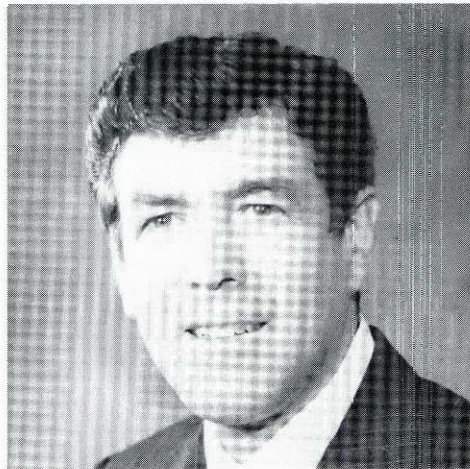
in recognition of her accomplishments to better the community.

Galveston native George P. Mitchell is president and chairman of Mitchell Energy & Development Corporation and has been the driving force behind the development of The Woodlands. He has set aside several hundred acres of The Woodlands for higher education. The UH-University Park Woodlands Institute and the Houston Area Research Center, a research consortium of Rice University, Texas A&M University, the University of Texas at Austin and UH, are already located there and a Texas Medical Center campus is being planned.

Together with his wife Cynthia, he has played a large role in the restoration of the historic Strand district in Galveston. He also initiated a biennial conference series on global growth problems and the related Mitchell Prize competition to encourage research in growth problems.



E. Virginia Barnett



Charles E. McMahan

## Luss receives 1984 Esther Farfel Award

Dr. Dan Luss, chairman of the chemical engineering department at UH-University Park, has received the 1984 Esther Farfel Award, the institution's highest award for a faculty member. He is the sixth recipient of the award.

The Farfel Award, a \$5,000 stipend, signifies outstanding teaching, research, and service to the university. It is awarded based on faculty and student recommendations, teaching evaluations, regional and professional recognition, and public service activities. Luss received the award at UH-University Park commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 12.

## Updike to participate in 'Writers in Society'

Renowned novelist and short story writer John Updike is one of three writers who will read from their works as part of the University of Houston's Writers in Society 1984-1985 series. Sponsored by the UH System Administration, the series provides the Houston community with an opportunity to encounter first-hand some of the most important writers of our time.

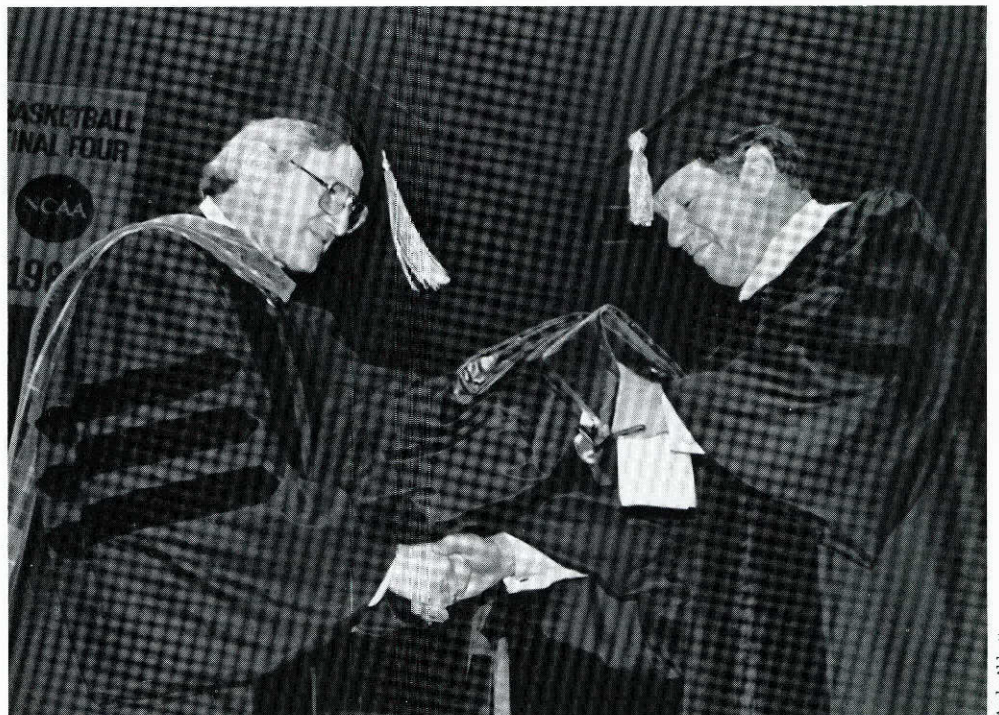
Critics have described Updike as "an acute observer of the human condition, whose prose is spare and rich, and whose characters are treated with sympathy and simplicity. His works include the famous Rabbit trilogy, *Rabbit Run*, *Rabbit Redux*, and *Rabbit is Rich*. One of the country's most read and praised modern writers, Updike is scheduled to visit the University in March 1985.

Italian novelist Umberto Eco, author of the highly acclaimed best seller *The Name of the Rose*, will participate in the series in October. Considered a leader of contemporary Italian culture, Eco is one of the world's leading theorists in the area of semiotics, the study of the meaning of signs and symbols as they occur in virtually every aspect of behavior, both verbal and non-verbal. He has for many years been a popular columnist for the magazine *L'Espresso*. Eco's 1983 novel, *The Name of the Rose*, is often described as a philosophical-historical novel masquerading as a detective story.

Ernest J. Gaines, a black American novelist and short story writer, is scheduled to read in September. His fiction portrays the individual lives and times of southern blacks, often in settings drawn from Gaines' native southern Louisiana. Character portrayal in Gaines' work is vivid and realistic, and has been compared to that of William Faulkner. His best known work is *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*.

The fourth author to participate in the Writers in Society series will be announced at a later date.

All events in the series are free and open to the public.



UH-University Park Chancellor Richard Van Horn presents Texas Lt. Gov. William Hobby, Jr., with an honorary degree for his mother, Oveta Culp Hobby.

## Irish peacemaker to speak at UH

1984-1985 marks the third year of the University of Houston System's Nobel Prize Winners Series. Now an annual event, the series presents throughout the year a select number of the world's foremost scientists and scholars, each of whom gives a major public address as well as participates in a variety of activities with faculty and students representing the laureate's particular areas of interest.

Betty Williams, one of two Irish women awarded the Nobel Prize for peace in 1977, will speak at UH in October. She received the prize for organizing the Community of Peace People, a worldwide campaign to end the sectarian violence between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland. Now living in the U.S., Williams has won a reputation in recent years as a brilliant and charismatic speaker on matters of war and peace.

Dr. Paul Berg, one of three recipients of the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1959, will speak at the University in March 1985. Berg is considered the "father of genetic engineering" for his work involving the manipulation of gene structures. He was also one of the first genetic researchers to urge a moratorium on such activities because of fear that the work could lead to the production of dangerous new forms of life.

The third Nobel Prize winner to participate in the series will be announced at a later date.

All lectures in the series are free and open to the public.

## Clear Lake receives grant for computers

The University of Houston-Clear Lake has received a grant valued at approximately \$75,000 for computer equipment as part of a business-education partner-

ship aimed at helping youngsters with learning disorders make progress in school by using state-of-the-art technology as a teaching tool. The grant was made by the Apple Education Foundation, part of Apple Computer, Inc., of Cupertino, California.

UH-Clear Lake has teamed up with the Brazosview School for two years to share 30 Apple II-E microcomputers, four printers and modems, and telecommunications and other software provided under the grant.

The Brazosview School, a 220-student special education center in Freeport, Texas, is part of the Brazosport Independent School District. Its students have various types of communications disorders, and emotional and physical handicaps.

Teachers will combine the computer with textbooks and other learning aids to help sharpen speech, reading, listening, reasoning, and other related skills for a special group of 30-35 students—ages 6-17 years—with severe communications problems.

## Profile: Dr. Gordon Paul

Dr. Gordon Paul, the Cullen Distinguished Professor of Psychology at UH-University Park, is an expert on the treatment of the chronically mentally ill. He has spent 15 years developing an assessment and treatment program for the mentally disturbed that is now used throughout the United States and Canada.

Paul's research has focused on teaching coping skills to the mentally ill so they can function outside institutions. He has developed psycho-social environmental programs, structuring interaction so patients can learn new social skills and problem-solving in various small steps.

"You're simply not going to find a pill that's going to teach you anything," Paul said, explaining his concern about the widespread use of drug therapy.

"I think drugs can be useful, but my concern is that traditional mental health establishments have overdone drugs to the exclusion of alternative treatments, which are well-documented to be effective. These treatments are also more cost-effective than drugging people, and having them continue in the 'revolving door' of mental health institutions all their lives.

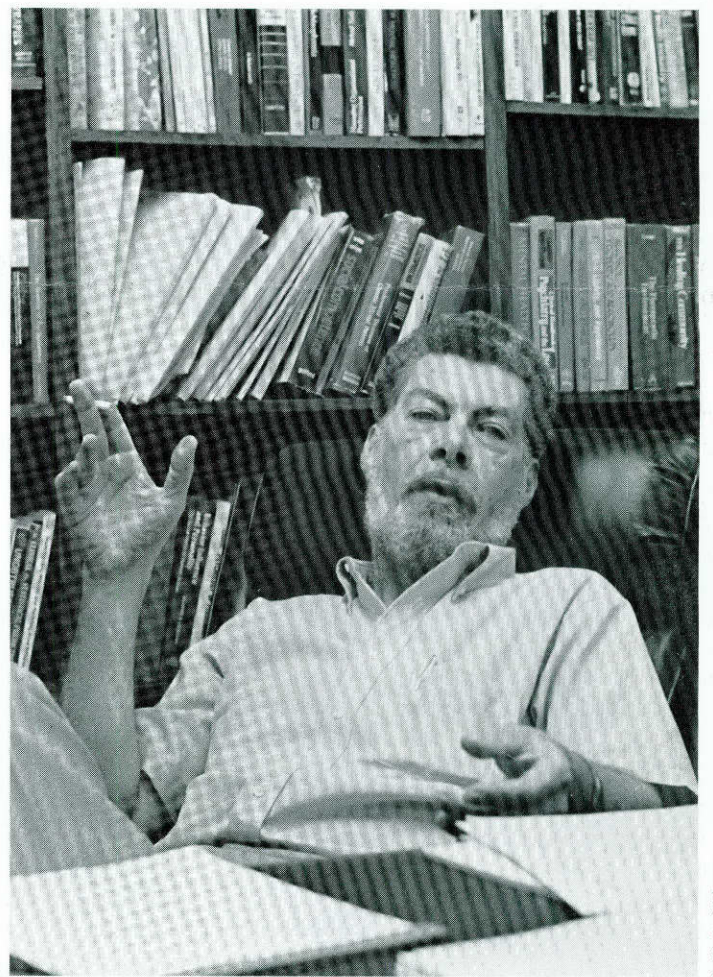
"We can't afford to 'warehouse' patients in hospitals. If not just from a humanitarian point of view, we can't afford it economically," Paul said. "But custodial warehousing historically has been a primary way of dealing with the disturbed—putting them in an asylum where the rest of society doesn't have to see them."

As for the man or woman who's out there living and working, but still suffering from anxiety or depression, Paul advocates psychological counseling.

"Although it may seem expensive if you look at the cost per hour, effective treatment winds up being a relatively minor investment in terms of the changes it can make in people's lives. If you can, in 12-25 sessions, really turn a person's life around for the cost of, for example, a used car, it's well worth it in terms of decreased misery and increased productivity."

A native of Iowa, Paul studied music at the U.S. Naval School of Music in Washington, D.C., and traveled on the road as a dance band musician for several years.

"I had three bands of my own," Paul said, "but then I got married and had children. My wife convinced me that being with a dance band was not the best thing for a family man to do. At that time I had more hours in psychology than anything else, so my major decision was whether to go into psychology or psychiatry. I selected psychology because they were both going to take seven more years to finish, and I decided I'd rather spend that time studying human behavior than studying cuts and bruises in medical school."



Stefanie Gibbons

### Dr. Gordon Paul

Paul's observation of human behavior has been successful. From a list of honors and awards that consume almost a page of his vita are two that indicate he was rated, in 1975, as the 35th "most outstanding" clinical psychologist in the United States, and in 1970, among the "top 2% of creative psychologists receiving Ph.D.'s since 1956."

A 1960 graduate of the University of Iowa with a B.A. in psychology, Paul received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in 1962. He joined UH-University Park in 1980, after seven years as director of the clinical research unit at the Adolf Meyer Mental Health Center in Decatur, Illinois.

## Around the campuses

**Dr. Joe McCord**, UH-Victoria library director, has been appointed chair of the legislative committee of the Texas Council of University Librarians for 1984-85. In addition, he serves as newly appointed chair of the legislative committee of the Texas Library Association.

**Peter Wood**, UH-University Park assistant dean/associate professor of architecture, has been elected Southwest Regional Director of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

**Dr. Aurel Zajta**, UH-Downtown professor of applied mathematical sciences, has published an article entitled, "Solutions of the Diophantine Equation" in the journal *Mathematics of Computation*.

**Dr. Jerome Rosner**, UH-University Park professor of pediatric optometry, recently addressed the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education conference on "Assessment for the Teaching/Learning Process." While in Canada, he also lectured before both the New Brunswick and Alberta Optometric Associations on "Clinical Management of the Young Patient."

**Dr. Richard Duschl**, UH-University Park assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, has been appointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of Research in Science Teaching*.

**Dr. John M. Hart**, UH-University Park professor of history, has received an Andrew Mellon fellowship from the University of Texas at Austin. His fellowship will enable him to complete research for his book, "Texas and Mexico: The Dynamics of Economic Expansion."

**Dr. A. P. Kimball**, UH-University Park professor of biochemical and biophysical sciences, co-chaired a scientific session at the May 9 annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Toronto, Canada.

**George Hixson**, UH-University Park Office of Publications staff photographer, was awarded the CASE Grand Award for photography for a medicinal chemistry photograph titled "Graduate Studies in Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacology."

**Dr. Dale L. Johnson**, UH-University Park professor of psychology, recently conducted a workshop on "Families and professionals as allies in the treatment of the long-term mentally ill" at the Southwestern Psychological Association meeting in New Orleans.

**Keith Blinn**, UH-University Park professor of law and director of the energy studies programs, presented a paper "Energy and Natural Resources Projects in Federal Countries," at the sixth annual energy law seminar in Houston.

**Michael Horvit**, UH-University Park professor of music, had two compositions premiered in May. His Concerto for Guitar and Orchestra was premiered by the National Symphony of Mexico on May 6 as part of the Festivo de Musica Nueva in Mexico City. On May 7, his Chamber Concerto for English Horn and String Orchestra was performed by the Arkansas Symphony String Quartet and the English hornist of the orchestra.

**Dr. Gerard M. Wellington**, UH-University Park assistant professor of biology, is the author of *Corals and Coral Reefs of the Galapagos Islands*, a new book co-authored by Peter W. Glynn and published by the University of California Press.

**Dr. George Lipsitz**, UH-Clear Lake assistant professor of humanities, presented a paper on "Urban Images in the Films of Samuel Fuller," at the American Culture Association meeting in Toronto. He also gave a lecture to the members of the Canadian Studies Programme at the University of Toronto on "Sports Stadia and Urban Development: A Tale of Three Cities."

**Dr. David Fairbanks**, UH-Downtown associate professor of social sciences, presented a paper entitled, "Eisenhower and Civil Rights: Was There a Hidden Hand?" at the 26th annual meeting of the Western Social Science Association in San Diego.

**Dr. John Leavins**, UH-Downtown assistant professor of finance and accounting, presented a paper, "The Auditor's Responsibility to Detect Management Fraud," at the Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Accounting Association in Biloxi, Mississippi.

**Dr. Allen R. Warner**, UH-University Park chairman of curriculum and instruction, has received the 1984 Ben E. Coody Distinguished Service Award in "recognition of significant contributions to the field of teacher education in Texas through active leadership and service to the teaching profession." The Texas Association of Teacher Educators presented the award.

### Perspectives

Perspectives is published monthly by the UH System University Relations Office. Executive Director: Farris Block. Editor: Steffanie Gibbons, 749-4147.

The University of Houston seeks to provide equal educational opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, handicap, or veteran status.

This policy extends to all programs and activities supported by the University.

## U.S. Solicitor General addresses law students

U.S. Solicitor General Rex Lee—one of the most important, but possibly least well-known of the federal government's legal staff—addressed graduating students and alumni at the University of Houston-University Park Law Center Friday, May 11, and was guest speaker at the Law Center Commencement Exercises at Hofheinz Pavilion on Saturday, May 12.

As Solicitor General, Lee represents the government before the Supreme Court, and decides which cases the U.S. will appeal at the appellate court level. He also recommends what cases the government should ask the Supreme Court to review, and decides what position the government should take.

Recently Lee decided the government position on such controversial issues as the "squeal rule," which would have required government-funded clinics to notify parents when teenagers obtain contraceptives; the "Baby Jane Doe" case, in which the government wanted to review medical records of a severely handicapped baby; tax exemptions for private schools; and sex discrimination in pension plans.

## Fulbright awards now available

The competition for Fulbright scholarships is now under way, with 800 awards available this year.

The Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), through the U.S. Information Agency, has received the list of awards available to American scholars from more than 100 countries all over the world, and information and applications have been sent to university campuses.

Usually covering periods of two to 10 months, Fulbright Scholar Awards are available in all academic fields and in a wide range of professions. This year's offerings include some 275 awards for postdoctoral research, about a third of the total. The remainder are for college and university lecturing, or for consultative or teaching positions with government agencies or professional institutions, such as hospitals, orchestras, theatres, museums, and the news media.

Applications deadlines for the 1985-86 competition are June 15, 1984 for Australia, India, Latin America, and the Caribbean, and Sept. 15, 1984 for Africa, Asia (except India), Europe and the Middle East.

Applications can be obtained from the Office of Grants, Contracts, and Sponsored Programs, or by writing the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, American Council on Education, 11 Dupont Circle N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

The Fulbright Program was created in 1947 to promote mutual understanding between the citizens of the U.S. and other nations, and is funded and administered by the U.S. Information Agency.