# February 2021 News from the OHC

From all of us at the Oral History Center, we are wishing you our best in these challenging times.

We hope that you and your loved ones are staying safe and healthy.

### From OHC Director Martin Meeker

At the Oral History Center, spring begins in mid-January. Usually for OHC staff this means longer lines for morning coffee and scarce parking spots becoming rarer still. While we're not experiencing these early signs of spring in 2021, we are looking forward to another early



seasonal ritual: our annual Introduction to Oral History Workshop.

This year the workshop will differ from those we've hosted in the past in two key ways: it will be hosted remotely, so that we remain safely socially-distanced with the added benefit of making is accessible to those who don't live nearby; the second difference is that it will be held over two days (Friday March 5 and Saturday March 6) to better accommodate those who are in not in the same time zone as Berkeley.

In addition to the slight changes in format this year, OHC faculty will focus more on the practice of remote interviewing. When the pandemic struck about this time last year, we put a hold on our almost-always-in-person oral histories and dedicated ourselves to a study of how we might conduct our interviews remotely while still establishing good rapport with narrators and capturing quality audio and video in our recordings. By August we optimistically put our toes back in the oral history waters by recommencing with our interviews. We've learned a great deal in the six plus months (and suffered no major tragedies) so we're eager to share what we've discovered. Although we are all looking forward to the day when in-person interviews are once again the norm, we also recognize that remote interviewing now has a place in our work going forward — and we suspect you'll want to know about this practice.

**Registration is now open for the Introductory Workshop** as well as for the **Advanced Oral History Institute**, held every August. We look forward to seeing you (virtually!) and together pursuing oral history in this strange new world.

#### The Advanced Summer Institute

The OHC is offering an online version of our one-week **advanced institute** on the methodology, theory, and practice of oral history. This will take place from August 9-13, 2021. Applications will be accepted through July 16, 2021. **Apply now!** 



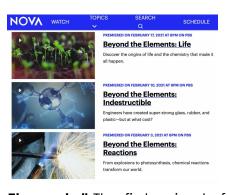
The cost of the Advanced Institute has been adjusted to reflect the online nature of this year's program. This year's cost has been adjusted to \$550. See below for details about this year's institute.

The institute is designed for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, university faculty, independent scholars, and museum and community-based historians who are engaged in oral history work. The goal of the institute is to strengthen the ability of its participants to conduct research-focused interviews and to consider special characteristics of interviews as historical evidence in a rigorous academic environment.

We will devote particular attention to how oral history interviews can broaden and deepen historical interpretation situated within contemporary discussions of history, subjectivity, memory, and memoir.

Instruction will take place online from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Pacific Time, with breaks woven in. There will be three sessions a day: two seminar sessions and a workshop. Seminars will cover oral history theory, legal and ethical issues, project planning, oral history and the audience, anatomy of an interview, editing, fundraising, and analysis and presentation. During workshops, participants will work throughout the week in small groups, led by faculty, to develop and refine their projects.

#### Applications are now open!



## Roger Eardley-Pryor Reviews NOVA's "Beyond the Elements" Script

Last March, the OHC's Roger Eardley-Pryor was asked to review three scripts for the science series **NOVA**, the most-watched prime time science series on television with nearly five-million weekly viewers. The result is three-part series "Beyond the"

**Elements."** The first episode focused on molecular **Reactions**, the next on virtually **Indestructible** molecules, and the third episode explored molecules of **Life**.

Read more about Roger's experience reviewing the scripts on our blog.

## **New Interview Release:**

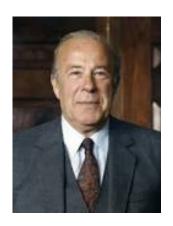
## Lawrence Sambado: A Life and Business in California Agriculture

Lawrence Sambado is an agriculturalist in Linden, California. Born in 1938, he is the head of Sambado and Sons, an operation that specializes in the growing, packing, and marketing of walnuts, cherries, and apples under their Primavera and Prima Frutta labels. He is a graduate of UC Davis, where he earned a degree in Pomology before returning to Linden to join his father in the family business. Under Lawrence's direction, the operations of Sambado and Sons expanded significantly, becoming one of the largest operations of cherries and walnuts in California. In this interview, Lawrence discusses the history of the Sambado and Boggiano families; the farming community of Linden; the practices of walnut and cherry growing and how such practices have changed over the decades; as well as the growth of the family business and the challenges faced today in the new era of agriculture.

Todd Holmes' interview with Sambado is now online.

## In Memory of George P. Shultz (1920-2021)

George P. Shultz passed away on February 6, 2021. He had worked as a Distinguished Fellow at the Hoover Institution until then, publishing reports and opinion pieces in newspapers as recently as the previous fall. A graduate in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mr. Shultz became a professor and later Dean of the Graduate School of Commerce, Industry, and Labor at the University of Chicago. During the Nixon



Administration, he was appointed Secretary of Labor, the first Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and Secretary of the Treasury. After a period as the President of Bechtel Corporation, Shultz was asked to replace Alexander Haig as Secretary of State for the remainder of the Reagan Administration, where, among other achievements, he led negotiations with the Soviets that brought an end to the Cold War. In 2015, Center historian Paul Burnett conducted ten hours of interviews with Mr. Shultz.

Watch a clip from Paul's interview with Shultz here.

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