

The Undergraduate Research Center welcomes the Participants in Summer Research 2007!

Dear Students,

Welcome to the summer research program! We in the URC are excited to have you here for the 10 dynamic and rewarding weeks of the program. We urge you to turn to our office with your questions and take advantage of the various social and entertainment events that will take place in the coming two months. We realize that commitment to your research is as important to you as building a diverse community from which you can learn and to which you can contribute. That's why the URC encourages you to GET INVOLVED☺! There will be plenty of opportunities...

Below, as well on the URC website, you can find a brief summary of events for the first week of the program. Any suggestions regarding the sports, cultural, and social events you would like to take part in are more than welcome. You can e-mail igeorgieva@oxy.edu with your ideas. Last, you will be receiving information from us in your mailboxes, so please don't forget to check them regularly! Information about this week's speaker David Axeen is included below.

Calendar 05/29-06/04

May 30, 2007 12:00 noon	SRP Opening Luncheon Welcoming Remarks To be announced David Axeen, American Studies Dept. Lower Herrick
June 1, 2007 4:45 pm	Get Acquainted Social Everyone welcome Sycamore Glen, includes snacks
June 2-3, 2007 12:00 noon-5:00 pm	Pasadena Museum of California Art 490 E Union St Pasadena CA 91101 http://www.pmcaonline.org
June 3, 2007 11:00 am-8:00 pm	Los Feliz Village Street Fair Vermont Avenue between Hollywood Boulevard and Franklin Avenue http://www.losfelizstreetfair.com/

Honoris Causa

David L. Axeen

*Introduction by Eric M. Frank
Interim Dean of the College and Vice President for Academic Affairs*

When the Occidental President Richard Gilman named David Axeen dean of faculty and vice president of academic affairs in 1987, eight faculty colleagues had held the dean's post during the prior 18 years. Hoping to establish some stability in the crucial post, President Gilman offered the American studies professor a yearlong sabbatical if he stuck with his new assignment for three years.

Three years turned into almost 15 as the fair-minded, far-sighted Axeen helped lead Occidental into a new era. Under his leadership, Occidental's faculty increased both in diversity and in its scholarly strengths. "I credit David with providing the leadership that helped the College recruit one of the most diverse faculties of any liberal arts colleges in America," said President Emeritus John Brooks Slaughter, Gilman's successor and one of three presidents Axeen served as dean. Axeen is credited with boosting undergraduate research—Occidental's program is widely regarded today as one of the country's best—and with increasing Occidental students' success in national award competitions. He also helped shepherd the campus through successive phases of new computer technology, including the launching of a campus-wide e-mail system in 1995 and the development of the Occidental website.

A native of Albert Lea, Minn., and the grandson of Swedish immigrants, Axeen grew up in Iowa, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Iowa. After completing his master's and doctoral studies in history at Yale, he came to Occidental in 1969 and was awarded tenure just three years later. After twice serving as chair of the American Studies department (and serving as a Fulbright professor in Italy in 1974-1975), Axeen was named associate dean of faculty in 1980. He is retiring this year as a professor emeritus after serving Occidental for 38 years.