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Maynard, Arthur Oral History Interview

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FACULTY EMERITI INTERVIEWS
UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC ARCHIVES



Maynard, Arthur (1958-1985)
Professor and Chairperson Religious Studies

August 22, 2001

By Bob Blaney

Subjects: Course and curriculum emphasis, Collier Lecture Series, individuals admired, relationship of Pacific and local church community.

UOP ARCHIVES FACULTY EMERITI INTERVIEWS

MAYNARD (ARTHUR), 1958-1985

AUGUST 29, 2005

[TAPE 1, Side A]

[Begin Tape.]

BLANEY: Why don't we just run down the list, but feel free to skip stuff that does not apply but what brought you to UOP, Arthur?

MAYNARD: I was teaching at the University of Miami and we did not like several things about the situation down there. One was University of Miami was in the logical position to bring colored people into its program. But they refused to do so. Much many of their students were from New York City and would have been glad to have colored people on board with no question asked. But they didn't even want them on the football team. When I was there. And we did not like the physical climate there we were it always too hot and always too moldy and so I had seen the writings of Dr. Colliver was writing biblical commentary for the Methodist adult Sunday school literature.

BLANEY: And he was the first chair of the department

MAYNARD: Yes, and we were in correspondence and he was looking forward to his last year. And he was interested in my interest in coming to the University of the Pacific and he was looking forward to me being his successor. Unfortunately he died in the early part of the nineteen, well early part of the school year that began September 57. No, must have been 56.

BLANEY: Oh 56 cause you came in 58 right?

MAYNARD: He was establishing what he... What he called the Colliver lectures. They were designed primarily to carry the message of the university to the Christian communities. The primary audience was the clergymen who came in. But Dr. Colliver died before the lectures were over that day that year. And so that left of course a vacancy earlier than I had anticipated. We were in Miami, about January, I got a telephone call from Dr. Burns. He was in one of the Miami hotels and he wanted me and my wife to come down and have a conference with him. So we went down and talked with him. At some length and before we left we had an appointment for the following fall at the University of the Pacific. So that's how we got here. And so far as my first impression of the city and people in Stockton, I was much more involved with the university than I was in the city of Stockton. Although we were very active in the Grace Methodist Church, which was one of the main churches in the city.

BLANEY: You were very active in the UN association

MAYNARD: Yes. That was a little later on.

BLANEY: Oh okay

MAYNARD: Before I got interested in that. But I was for a while the president of the local chapter and sometime vice president of the Northern California chapter. The curriculum of the university as I got there was very extremely interesting. The one of my coproffessors was Dr. Lindhorst. And Dr. Lindhorst had been hired by the university to help churches. He had been, I think it was in Iowa, that he was the conference director of religious education. For one of the Methodist conferences. And he was spent his whole ministry in that work. And he maintained files of pictures that churches could borrow. In other ways he served as a liaison person between the University and especially the Methodist churches, of the whole conference. The other interesting appointment there was Lawton Harris, and Lawton Harris was in charge of the program in

BLANEY: Recreation and folk dance

MAYNARD: Yes, recreation and folk dance and he too was a graduate of the University of the Pacific in that area. And he was in the religious studies department rather than the physical ed area because Lawton... Colliver was interested in program primarily the YMCA. And so Colliver... Lawton Harris got affiliated with the department to help train people that would be skillful and YMCA work or in the community recreation programs. We discovered that Lawton Harris found plenty of his people who were more interested in physical education programs for cities than in YMCAs. (They) found it passingly strange to find his department in religious studies that there was a death which was 6 or 7 after years or so after I got there, but immediately after his death we transferred the department over to physical education.

BLANEY: What about the changes in the curriculum? Cause I remember at one time we required bible and then it became an option. And

MAYNARD: That's correct. Initially we started too with what was going on when I came there. Every student was required to take one or the other of the major courses in bible either Old Testament or New Testament.

BLANEY: And we were called the Bible and religious, Bible and religious education department?

MAYNARD: Yes yes

BLANEY: When you came.

MAYNARD: The religious education part had a professor who had had work in one of the major protestant denominations. But I forgot...

BLANEY: The Disciples of Christ.

MAYNARD: Yes

BLANEY: That was Kathleen Shannon wasn't it?

MAYNARD: Yes. And she had had work in that area I had only a masters degree in academics. But she had the major program of training people for work in physical education.

BLANEY: Religious education

MAYNARD: Religious education. The requirement in religion got changed from one or the other of two bible courses to any course out of the whole department. Then eventually the whole requirement was dropped. That was after you came?

BLANEY: That was after I came, cause I remember we were required to teach old and new testament.

MAYNARD: At first

BLANEY: At first and then it was optional. Then we lost

MAYNARD: Lost the requirement

BLANEY: Along with the modern languages requirement, and then we also changed the name of the department to religious studies and I'm sure that was under you, when you were the chair.

MAYNARD: Yes that was when I was the chair

BLANEY: What course or programs did you help to develop?

MAYNARD: One thing I was concerned about was to strengthen the academic background of the department. So far as, we had two people that did not have doctorates in the department. We kept them until Lawton Harris or Kathleen Shannon. Kathleen Shannon stayed longer with us than Lawton Harris did.

BLANEY: I remember you developed some special courses too. And you were the first, were you not to teach world religions?

MAYNARD: So far as I know, yes, I was first to do it and I did a course history in Christianity. I don't remember any other courses.

BLANEY: Well I remember you did Cults, Crazyies and Religion

MAYNARD: Oh yes

BLANEY: That was a very popular course

MAYNARD: Yes that was. That was after the

BLANEY: Jonestown

MAYNARD: Jonestown event. And I happened to be in New Orleans when the Jonestown event took place, for a national meeting of the society of biblical literature. But I had studied the cults before that time and I was quite interested in why they had the drawing power they did. Once that incident had happened with Jonestown, that Cults, Craziest and Religion became a very popular course.

BLANEY: And you brought in John Morse to speak too, did you not?

MAYNARD: Yes, he had lost one of his daughters at the Jonestown thing and was interested in telling people the better side of Jonestown.

BLANEY: I remember also, this was probably isn't a course, but you were the one that suggested that the annual conference have a Friends of the Pacific Luncheon?

MAYNARD: Well that was a long time after some other things that happened.

BLANEY: Yes

MAYNARD: Initially the annual conference gave a grant each year to Pacific. I was on the finance committee of the conference. At one of our meetings the people who handled our book work said we have got to cut back someplace cause we just aren't getting the money that we need to maintain the budgets we have. They suggested if the university was not given a grant out of the budget but was told that it could cultivate itself and ask for grants and so on from the different churches of the conference. And would make much more money for themselves that way, than the conference could pay them. Well I brought that word back to president Burns. And he was very upset by it. That was one of the things that started to stress the separation between the university and the Methodist church. It went from bad to worse.

BLANEY: You'll get a chance to comment on that later. I think, but you're right. Anything else under courses or programs or activities that you especially enjoyed? How about the faculty Christian Fellowship, you were a part of that were you not?

MAYNARD: No

BLANEY: Oh you weren't

MAYNARD: No, but I was very much concerned about Collier lectures.

BLANEY: Oh yes

MAYNARD: Very much concerned that they keep their original purpose of being directed toward faculties of, the pastors of religion throughout the whole area. We had some very strong programs...

BLANEY: Yes

MAYNARD: In that area

BLANEY: What about under roman numeral three, the people, the individuals at UOP that you have most admired, and why, or the ones that are most memorable?

MAYNARD: I think one of the most memorable was that guy who had good teeth of the faculty. Or something

BLANEY: Sam BLANEY

MAYNARD: NO. No

BLANEY: Jake Jacoby, Harold Jacoby

MAYNARD: He was a very strong person and one of the ones I really enjoyed and appreciated having around. Then surprisingly I was very interested in the gain of the school of pharmacy. Partly because I got a part of my training in chemistry. My first two years in college I was a chemistry major. I found him a very strong person.

BLANEY: I'm trying to remember his name. It wasn't Roscoe was it? Well anyway.

MAYNARD: I think it was Roscoe.

BLANEY: He was the Founding Dean.

MAYNARD: Founding dean over in the

BLANEY: Across the street, weren't they in what is now the Business School?

MAYNARD: Yes, of courses they have the big new plant across the river. Let's see. One or two other people outside of the department interested me. One was that man that came to fill the vacancy in philosophy and he is still around.

BLANEY: Herb Reinelt

MAYNARD: Herb Reinelt, he was, he is a very strong person, and I don't agree with some of the stuff that he promotes. But nevertheless, I found him to be an interesting and significant person. When the cluster colleges folded up and they moved the faculty of those colleges to the counterparts. The faculty got... I forget things

BLANEY: The ones we got

MAYNARD: Yes

BLANEY: Larry Meredith and Gil Schedler

MAYNARD: Yes and Larry Meredith was a very smart man and a very able teacher, but he didn't fit in well with the department. That goes way back, he first came to the university as a chapel speaker. Burns got so interested in him that he wanted to hire him as the chaplain of the university.

BLANEY: Actually Dean of the Chapel

MAYNARD: And he, Larry, stayed only a short period of time, and decided teaching was a better way to reach people and so he moved over to one of the cluster colleges.

BLANEY: Callison. Is it true though, that Burns never consulted you about the quarter time in our department for Larry?

MAYNARD: I'm sure I was never consulted about that

BLANEY: I didn't think so, but I don't want to put words in your mouth.

MAYNARD: Well Burns did ask me about bringing him as a Chaplain. And I said no.

BLANEY: Oh, okay

MAYNARD: And proved my relationship to Burns. Also another thing we got out of the clusters was Gil Schedler. Gil Schedler was trained at the Lutheran church.

BLANEY: Missouri Synod

MAYNARD: Had a very strong background but he had dropped out of the Lutheran church completely. So we had part time person who had no real background in religion. Who eventually became chairman of the department.

BLANEY: In fact he was 60% religious studies and 40% English, when he arrived, and still is I think.

MAYNARD: I thought he was stronger in English than he was in religious studies.

BLANEY: Oh I think so too but I meant as far as the appointment he was.

MAYNARD: I though his stronger appointment was in English

BLANEY: Well that's the way it appears whenever he is listed but yes

MAYNARD: Anyway

BLANEY: Yah right, so that was certainly a change

MAYNARD: That was a change that I...

BLANEY: Do you see any changes actually ask about administrators from when you came until the present day?

MAYNARD: Of course when I came the central administration was the president of the university. He handled lots and lots of things that are now handled by deans and provosts and other appointments

BLANEY: And he was a Methodist was he not?

MAYNARD: He was a, I don't know for sure that he was a, I know his wife was originally a Presbyterian but she was attending the Methodist church all the time. And he was attending the Methodist church as much as his family allowed him to do so, and now, it doesn't make any difference what the president is, or if he is.

BLANEY: Well maybe that is the next issue I think we have already talked about programs but numeral number five, is what is your personal opinion of the administration past and present?

MAYNARD: Well past administration first of all was Burns who was a very strong person. Secondly we got a Dean of COP.

BLANEY: Harold Jacoby

MAYNARD: No. He might have had an appointment in there I don't re—, but did I don't think so. He was very active on campus but I don't think he was...

BLANEY: He was Dean when I came I remember in 1966 Jacoby was and then he went back to ?? I think Binkley came in his place. But any rate that's okay

MAYNARD: There was another dean in there

BLANEY: Clifford Hand or Sam BLANEY

MAYNARD: Sam BLANEY

BLANEY: Sam BLANEY

MAYNARD: Sam BLANEY was a good administrator. He and I had some argument sometimes practically when I was trying to get more money for salary for the department as a whole. So far as when COP was still a college, not the university. The administration was pretty good but once we got separated out from the university. And the university dropped the college as overall name and picked up the name of the university. Cliff Hand was a very good person. He was incidentally graduated from the same high school as I was a graduate of, in Iowa. But he had cousins and so on that were in the department when I was in high school but he was later on in the school system.

BLANEY: What about president De Rosa, or provosts Gilbertson the two people that are?

MAYNARD: I don't see the new program that they had suggested for the department of religious studies as any way appropriate. I don't see it moving over to be in with the humanities over there where they live. That program is just unbelievable to me... And I was glad they dropped the religious studies out of it when they did this last year. But I'm afraid they wouldn't stay out for very long. So anyway.

BLANEY: One of the other questions was and you can pass it on if you want, how did the controversies between the faculty deans and administration effect your department and its growth?

MAYNARD: I think basically that they have hurt the department and that the department doesn't have the strength in the university that it used to have.

BLANEY: Since your retirement in 1985, the department has not been able to have a replacement for you or Nyberg. One question here, how would describe the campus in the turbulent 60's and what do you remember of that time?

MAYNARD: During the sixties, the university as a whole was generally speaking not nearly as involved in things like Berkeley and so on. But we had a black minister who joined the department in the sixties.

BLANEY: John Diamond

MAYNARD: John Diamond

BLANEY: John C Diamond, he was a Ph.D. in theology from Barks University

MAYNARD: He was a very good professor but in addition to being a professor he worked with the black students on campus and got them organized, for organized to help the black community of Stockton. Unfortunately he did not stay too many years with us.

BLANEY: What happened you recall he led a protest and then he became the chair of the black studies program at the university.

MAYNARD: One of our best faculty members was... I forgot the name.

BLANEY: That's okay, what area?

MAYNARD: Your predecessor.

BLANEY: Oh, Phil Wogaman

MAYNARD: Phil Wogaman

BLANEY: Who's now at Foundry Methodist (Washington DC)

MAYNARD: Phil Wogaman was brought when the president, I have forgotten whether that was Burns or a later president.

BLANEY: I think that was Burns, yes it was Burns

MAYNARD: Got together with the...

BLANEY: Scottish Rite

MAYNARD: Yes Scottish Rite lodge, and got them to fund a program similar to a program that they were funding in Berkeley, I believe. I'm not sure where.

BLANEY: I think it was at Stanford

MAYNARD: Stanford

BLANEY: I'm not sure, the Pacific Center for the Study of Social Issues. Which you were chair of the board.

MAYNARD: When Wogaman got a call to come and join the faculty of the Methodist University in Washington

BLANEY: Wesley Theological Seminary

MAYNARD: He had turned down one job offer the year before, but he wouldn't turn down that one. So we fortunately got you as replacement.

BLANEY: That's one activity the Center for the Study of Social Issue that you were very active in while you were up until your retirement. Were there any other issues that you were involved in stand out in your memory that were important to the growth and development of university?

MAYNARD: I was very interested in Phi Kappa Phi

BLANEY: And you're a Phi Beta Kappa?

MAYNARD: Yes, I'm Phi Beta Kappa but we didn't get Phi Beta Kappa there. But Phi Kappa Phi we had, I had two or three different offices in that, during the years. Another faculty person I was very appreciative of was Charles Schilling.

BLANEY: Charles Schilling

MAYNARD: Yes who was the organist for the chapel and who was professor of organ in the music school. He and I and his wife and my wife became very good friends. This is not relevant to that.

BLANEY: Do you want me to stop it?

MAYNARD: Yes

(Background conversation)

MAYNARD: I'm so disappointed in the future.

BLANEY: Wait a minute though we're still at UOP today I think. Roman numeral six. There is a feeling among the campus community that today that UOP has entered a period of change with new planning documents. Would you agree to this assessment and I think probably they are referring to the review process which suggested our department be eliminated etcetera... I'm not sure, but?

MAYNARD: I'm disappointed in the whole future of the university. They are not living up to their, what they were founded for, and I don't think that much of what they're planning to do, is certainly not in my greatest interest.

BLANEY: Then on the community, what are you involved in currently at UOP which holds your greatest interest, you are not involved?

MAYNARD: I'm not involved at all with the UOP at the current time.

BLANEY: What contribution do you feel the UOP has made to the Stockton Community?

MAYNARD: Well there have been a lot of contributions to the Stockton community in a number of different ways. A lot of the things my predecessor did at the university were related to the community.

BLANEY: That would be Lindhorst, right?

MAYNARD: Well Lindhorst and

BLANEY: Colliver, in founding Clay Methodist church, or whatever.

MAYNARD: My wife and I were both involved in United Nations Association and that part of the community. I don't know.

BLANEY: Maybe we should move onto the future what did you see as being special about UOP and then what we hope for campus development in the future?

MAYNARD: In the distant past UOP was making significant contributions to the community through the religious studies department and all the different programs they were doing especially people like Lindhorst and Shannon.

BLANEY: Shannon and Lindhorst

MAYNARD: And then Nyberg when came along with a doctorate un religious education

BLANEY: We had summer training programs for?

MAYNARD: Yes we had managed to teach summer school to make an extra nickel. So I think that our department was more involved in the community than almost any other department in the university. So that is what I see as special about the university in the past. Hopes that I had for the future, I frankly have given up hope for the future. It has grown in strength as university but I don't see it making the contributions to the community that it could make.

BLANEY: Anything else you want to add?

MAYNARD: No I don't think so but I appreciate being asked to do this.

BLANEY: You have given me a sermon that you gave at a faculty retreat?

MAYNARD: I think that faculty retreat was probably in 59

BLANEY: Yes it was in 1959

MAYNARD: I think this goes with the others

BLANEY: It's titled "And you will know the truth and the truth will make you free," based on the gospel of John Chapter 8 Verse 31 following

MAYNARD: That was a worship program that was done in response to request of President Burns

BLANEY: Yes, ok.

MAYNARD: That probably should be typed in up there.

BLANEY: Okay

MAYNARD: And this could go with it

BLANEY: And your field was I forgot to say that was bible and you've published a book?

MAYNARD: Yes I published a book

BLANEY: 2 books oh that's right one of them was used in the bible class what was the name of that I'm trying to remember, it had red cover.

MAYNARD: That name was based on something out of Isaiah

BLANEY: Well I have a copy of it somewhere, and what the other book was on the gospel of John

MAYNARD: Yes. And I had a third book one that was accepted by the same publisher as the one that did the gospel of John

BLANEY: Oh

MAYNARD: They... It had a lot of Greek in it and they turned it over to a guy in the south to translate it. It had a long summary table or

BLANEY: Graph... Appendix maybe

MAYNARD: A kind of table at the end, summary table it was long... Was about sixteen pages long and it had a lot of Greek in it and he quit when he got to that part. I think his problem was he didn't know how he was going to get that table set up in the book itself. But anyway he quit. The people that ran the publishing plant seemed too to quit at the same time he quit.

BLANEY: Oh that's too bad

MAYNARD: The wife had wanted me to try to still get it published but I can't

BLANEY: Well thank you very much.

MAYNARD: Thank you very much

[End Tape]

End of Interview