

McDONALD
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ing for some journalism classes. They include *When Words Collide*, *Graphics of Communication*, *The Search*, *Uncovering the News*, and *Mastering the Message*.

Before joining the staff, he studied journalism as an undergraduate at Ohio University and then joined the Navy during the Vietnam War. He later ended up at the University to finish up his graduate work in labor economics.

Then he and his wife bought a newspaper chain, which included the Veneta and Junction City papers, while he worked as a photographer for *Sunset* magazine.

In 1978 he was asked to teach one journalism class and stayed on, making a name for himself.

"For reasons unknown to me today, I accepted it," he said. "I really am pretty much a hang-loose kind of person. If anybody would have told me I would write a couple of well-known college textbooks, I

would have laughed."

"I think I've had good fortune," he said, "backed up by very hard work."

At Columbia his work will be equally as challenging, he said, and he'll be mixing with a different type of crowd.

"It's exciting. I hope I can do it," he said. "I was honored to be asked. There are times when I wake up at 3 a.m. and ask, 'What have I gotten myself into?'"

And, he points out, some of the people are "pretty hoity toity."

"I have to dress up," he said as if he's just thought of it for the first time. "We're talking suits. We're talking about some pretty big bangers out there."

McDonald is officially taking a leave of absence from the School of Journalism and so there is a possibility he'll return. He said he has two years to let the school know.

But for now it looks like a permanent goodbye.

"I'm a little wistful," he said about leaving the students. "I really did like them — for the record."

CALIFORNIA

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which has 20 campuses and serves 362,000 students a year.

Parents have a legitimate fear that a degree that once took four to five years to complete could now take six to eight years because students can't get the classes they need, McCarthy said.

Last year at registration, 1,600 students at San Diego State University walked out without getting a single class, he said.

"A number of Californians say they are looking at out-of-state colleges because they're not considering the state colleges in California," Buch said. "They have no confidence in them."

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