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COLLEGE MAGAZINE

Pomona

Summer 2016

KEEPING THE FAITH

*Pomona students with different
faiths and philosophies of life share
their ongoing spiritual journeys.*

SPiritUAL *Journeys*

As told to Mark Wood
Photos by Carrie Rosema

Meghana Rao '16

"My experience with Hinduism has a lot to do with community, and the stories within that community. So one way that I express and experience my faith is through dance. I started learning kathak, an Indian classical dance, when I was about 7. It used to be a temple dance, and you would dance it to devotional songs. I don't know if most people think of dance as a religious experience, but a lot of those devotional songs are very personal for me, so dance has been a very helpful tool to keep me connected to my faith. It's my way of sharing my culture and my faith with other people.

"Back at home, my religious experience was very community-related. My family would tell the old stories. That community has been a little harder to find here. There is a Hindu community, but it's such a varied and diverse community that those aspects don't necessarily come up as much. That's not to say I don't connect with people here—I just connect with them in other ways, and my faith has been more of an internal, personal experience. I imagine it's similar for a lot of people who come here. You meet all these different people, and the ways that you connect are not necessarily through your faith.

"At home, every morning my sister and I would just sit and say this chant called the Gayatri Mantra, which you're supposed to say nine times every morning. It's about greeting the sun and accepting the knowledge that it gives you. Here, it just didn't seem like the space to do that. If you have a roommate, for example, she may sleep late and you don't want to wake her up. So that's become an internal thing for me. When I see the sun, I think about it, but I don't physically chant every morning. That's an example of how it was more of a communal activity for me at home, whereas here it's an individual thing that I say to myself. I don't want to impose my faith on other people. It is a personal thing, and I'm OK with that.

"A lot of Hinduism is kind of a philosophy about life. It's an outlook on how life should be lived. It's not necessarily tied to a higher power. There's freedom for you to shape your own philosophy and views on life within the culture and within the faith. The creation myths and things like that, I take as myths. I don't necessarily take them as true, and that's a personal choice. So for me there hasn't really been that conflict between faith and academics, because I think of it in more of a symbolic sense.

"Every night before I go to bed I say prayers. In some ways, it's more like a habit than something intentional, but I just can't go to sleep until I've said them, even if it's just kind of whispering them to myself. I think it's kind of a connection to home."



Jose Ruiz '16

"My parents are from Mexico and they grew up Catholic. It's ingrained in the culture. So just picking that up as I grew up at home, it became a part of me as well. In high school I really got curious about the religion itself, and the morals it teaches and the lessons that Catholicism has to offer. So I spent a lot of my free time just kind of exploring the Bible, exploring religious texts, spending time with youth groups at church.

"I think just coming to campus, you get this perception that there's no presence of religion here, or that it's kind of uncomfortable to talk openly about your religious beliefs. But as you spend more and more time here and talk to more and more people, you do find a sense of community, people who will relate to you on a religious basis. At the same time, you also end up talking to students who challenge your beliefs in terms of what your particular church has done in the past—different scandals, different wars, different administrative events that reflect badly on your religion. But I think at the end of it all, it's definitely very constructive to be able to listen to some of those concerns but still to be able to practice your religion, so that you can help to prevent those things from happening again in the future.

"I've met a lot of students here who are Jewish, a couple who are Hindu, and a lot of students who are of the Protestant or evangelical faiths. So they're always very interesting, in that a lot of our beliefs are very similar—like when you're talking about straight-up morals or how you act with other people. Obviously there are nuances in how different religious ceremonies are held—all the history that goes behind it—but I've definitely been able to talk to people of different faith backgrounds and help my faith grow because of that.

"Religion evolves over time, just depending on the experiences that you go through in your life, so I guess coming to college in itself can be a way for you to strengthen your religious beliefs and anchor yourself to the beliefs and the morals that are important to you. A lot of students come here and they take whatever opportunity they can get to let go of their religion—because it was imposed on them by their parents or it just didn't feel right or they want to experiment with other types of belief systems—and so I think in a sense that's a good way for us to mature and kind of figure ourselves out better.

"Just being challenged about my beliefs and being able to talk to other people about their beliefs and religious experiences, I was able to learn from those and strengthen my own belief in the Catholic Church and how it helps me get through life."

Andrew Nguy '19

"It's a story that a lot of young Buddhists share. Someone dies, and because of the funeral rites, there is some sort of religion involved, and Buddhism happened to be the one for my grandma, so her funeral was really where things started for me, and it's just grown from there.

"My daily routine has shifted over the course of the school year. The first semester I was pretty good, waking up early. I have an 8 a.m. class almost every day, so I would wake up at 6, brush my teeth, get some homework done if I needed to and spend about a half hour chanting the Universal Gate chapter of the Lotus Sutra for its emphasis on compassion and meditating before anybody else was up. Since then, it's gone from a morning routine to more of a nightly routine. Since now I have more time in the evening, I started doing that—same routine, half an hour or so, but more in the evening than in the morning. And then of course, these past few weeks, with finals coming up, it's gone from half an hour to 15 minutes to 10 minutes, to 'Oops, I forgot today. I'll try again tomorrow.' That's the life of a student.

"You won't see me meditating in class, but the things in Buddhism show up almost everywhere in life, and I can spot it now after being Buddhist for a few years. I can see how conflicts come about. And how, if I get angry as a response to that conflict, it usually only gets worse from there. Realizing that and being able to stop myself before impulse takes over, I'm able to keep the situation a bit calmer and more conducive to actually resolving an issue.

"Being a student, it's hard to have time in general, and time for what most people think is sitting around doing nothing is even harder. So my compromise is I do a lot of walking meditation when I'm on my way to class and in between classes. Instead of walking to class with a friend, having a nice chat about who-knows-what, I can walk and just kind of focus on my breath, focus on my footsteps as I'm walking, and just be mindful about what I'm doing. Another method I use is recitation. I use the name of Avalokiteśvara Bodhisattva, the main figure in the Universal Gate chapter, as a point of focus. Concentrating on the syllables of the name and the compassion it's associated with, I can use it as my meditation anywhere, even when I'm waiting in line for lunch.

"The purpose of it is more to be able to observe and understand the mind—which might have something to do with my being a psych major—but understanding the mind in a different context. I think the benefits of meditation show up in a lot of ways. If you were to have met me four or five years ago, before I really learned much about Buddhism, I was really impulsive and—I'm not going to lie—I still am sometimes. But meditation has helped me recognize the patterns and my habits. When I'm about to make a rash decision, it kind of pulls me back and says, 'Stop and think about that first.'"



Ilana Cohen '16

"This is not unique to Judaism, but the time and the cycle are very important. So for us, it's Friday night through the day of Saturday and observing that as Shabbat in some way. Here, that has meant being at Hillel on Friday nights, pretty regularly. A lot of times, that experience would start for me at about 11 o'clock on Friday when we would pick up the food from the dining halls and bring it over here to the McAlister Center and start cooking for the people who were coming to Shabbat dinner that night. Then we would get the space ready, and often—not every week, but often—I would lead services here in the library. That, for me, was a process of recapturing the Shabbat experience of my synagogue, growing up. Then we would all do dinner together.

"There are many prayers in Judaism that you can't say unless you have a minyan of people. You wouldn't say them unless you have that quorum, and there are lots of different reasons why that might be true, but my favorite that I've heard is that it's not that you need 10 voices so that God can hear you—it's because then somebody *does* hear you. There are people around you to make the prayer work, because now there are people who know that you've said that prayer and support you in doing that. So any time that I'm questioning—well, why am I doing this in a language I don't really understand?—I know that this is the way to build a community that will be supportive to me.

"So community is very important to me, and the music is also very important, and the fact that it is my history, and it almost wasn't. My grandmother came out of Austria on the Kindertransport. It's never why I've started a new Jewish practice, but there are always moments where I think, 'This is just my family's history.'

"Personally, I almost never use the word 'faith.' So when I was thinking about coming here, I was thinking, 'How am I going to answer these questions?' I see how it's a word that broadly allows for anybody's religious experience, but I think of its association with 'blind faith,' and believing or trusting. For me, the religious experience is much more about practice and about learning. Most importantly, from the time I was very little, any participation in Jewish practice was my choice.

Ideologically, nothing I've learned or been taught in college is in conflict with my understanding of Judaism, and I didn't expect it to be. I took a Religious Studies class my first semester, and that was the opposite of a conflict. And I would have done more, but I think I prefer studying it in the religious context, and knowing that I don't have to get that while I'm in college, because Torah study will be as large a part of my future participation in the Jewish community as religious services."

Jordan Shaheen '17

"I'm a big proponent of the war-room theory, which is that you fight all your battles in prayer, not in person. So I kind of get everything I need to get out in the morning in prayer, and then I know I've got something there that will get me through the day, until I recharge the next morning.

"I had a church back home that I still go to occasionally. I knew I wanted faith in my life and I wanted a relationship with God, but I'd never really figured out a way to do it. I struggled for years, always reading, always learning about it. There were times when I had atheistic tendencies, times when I wanted to be all-in but didn't know how to be all-in. Here at school, I finally found a place in the church and was able to really blossom in that role. Now I'm looking at going to divinity school and getting a doctorate of theology and going into the ministry. The thing I love about the Presbyterian Church most is that most ministers have doctorates, so it's more of an academic denomination, which I've come to really appreciate.

"I don't go out evangelizing—I don't talk about it at all unless people come to me with questions. It's something that's very important to me, and I'm more than happy to talk about it, but I think it's one of those things where people have to come to you with questions, or else it's not going to be a meaningful conversation. So I kind of keep to myself, but I think there are a lot more people here for whom religion is important than will say so. It's kind of an underground group. I know that sounds funny, but there are a lot of people here who are very religious—and not just people who will admit they're Christian or Muslim or Jewish or Buddhist or whatever, but people to whom it's very important but who don't talk about it much. So you just have to find a way to reach out to those people and you'll find a pretty cool community that you didn't know was there.

"I've never found that my religion clashes with my work here. A lot of what I do in my major is investigating the early forms of Abrahamic texts, looking at the Socratic traditions and the pagan traditions and their influence or lack thereof on the blossoming of Abrahamic traditions throughout the Mediterranean. So a lot of the texts I get to read are foundational Christian texts, foundational Hebrew texts, foundational Islamic texts. And I get a really good sense of how that all plays together. Are there questions that arise, or inconsistencies that I notice and look into? Absolutely. But as Reverend Tharpe, who used to be the Protestant chaplain here, always says, 'Any true Christian is agnostic three days a week.' If you're not questioning, you're not learning and growing."



Molly Keller '19

"I was raised Catholic, baptized, had my first communion, and went to an Episcopalian school from age 3 through fifth grade. Then I transferred to a very liberal private school where my friends were mostly Jewish. But even when I was going to church and Sunday school and at Episcopalian school and being taught religious knowledge, I never felt that invested in it. I remember in fourth grade we had to draw a picture of God, and I was very stubborn, so my compromise with the teacher was drawing a church with little squiggly lines around the steeple to represent a spirit. That was at age 9.

"I didn't really think about religion very much in high school. It just wasn't very relevant to my life. But interestingly enough, since coming to college, unexpectedly, I've been exposed to a lot of things that have forced me to reconsider. I definitely am not a devout Christian now or anything like that, but for example, my ID1 class was Cult and Culture with Professor Jordan Kirk, and a lot of the questions we focused on were around the manifestation of a God. And I think one of the things that really changed things for me was—we were reading *Stories from Jonestown*, and there was a passage about how, for some people, God can just be a warm meal and a job or a roof over their heads.

"And so, shifting from God as this man up in the sky to thinking of it as a word that fills in for certain significances—that kind of changed things for me. And then, I've been in Religious Ethics class with Professor Oona Eisenstadt, so being exposed to that, and the way different people have their own Tao in their lives, has changed my thinking.

"Religious Ethics, as she presents it to us, is a class that deals with how to live a good life and how different religions and different thinkers grapple with that question. So actually, a lot of the philosophies that came out of that class—whether they be from religious texts or not—kind of helped me think about how I live my life and how I interact with others. I really liked the *Bhagavad-Gita* but I also really liked Emmanuel Levinas and the way he talked about our intrinsic obligation to the "Other." And I think that you see that in religion, but it doesn't necessarily have to go hand in hand. So there are bits and pieces of philosophy that I use to guide my moral and ethical life.

"Again, I'm not a devout anything, and I don't know if I believe in a God or many gods, but I'm a little more open to the notion that there may be something out there worth believing in. I just haven't totally figured out what. But I'm not necessarily looking for anything. When religion was a big part of my life, I just sort of took it as it was. Since it hasn't been a part of my life, I haven't felt that anything was missing. But I'm open to things that come my way."

Vian Zada '16

"I go up on the roof of Pomona Hall often. Being in this quiet place—surrounded by birds and looking up at the clouds—reminds me of creation. It's a really nice way to clear my mind and remind myself of what matters to me. That's what praying does for me. It's really therapeutic because it dissolves whatever stresses I'm going through. It feels purifying. This may sound cheesy, but part of my faith is just looking at all the marvels around me. My love for life and science and how I see that every day just reinforces my wonder for a greater being.

"I grew up with strict but caring parents who tried to maintain the balance between their culture and sending their kids to American schools. I had a lot of rules at home. So being separated from my parents, it's been interesting to see how, in my lifestyle, I go about following the tenets of my religion without my parents watching me. No one tells me to pray. My parents are never there when I'm at a party and abstain from drinking. Those are things I do for myself.

"I'm not able to pray five times a day, but I do think about God every day. I do fast, for a lot of other reasons besides the reasons that are given to me. I trust my own judgment, and I make my own decisions. It's not like I look to the Quran as the only source of how to live my life. I'm in a religious studies class right now called Nourishing Life, and we look at a lot of ancient Chinese texts and a lot of Buddhist and Taoist primary sources, and I find myself agreeing with a lot of what I read. I just believe in taking what appeals to you from different religions and different ideas.

"In Islam there's a lot of emphasis on being compassionate and respectful toward all others—toward life itself. I think I developed my sense of compassion going to Arabic school every Saturday and learning from my mom—just the Golden Rule, basically. I think all religions are beautiful. Religion in itself is, I think, a wonderful tool for helping one shape one's moral compass.

"My religion also encourages education. Educating yourself is a duty that you're supposed to carry throughout your whole life. It's nice to know that I'm supposed to be here."



KEEPING THE FAITH

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Vian Zada '16 at prayer
(photo by Carrie Rosema)

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It was "emptiness" that drew Professor of Religious Studies Zhiru Ng to Buddhism. Now she delights in introducing students to the difficult concept. | BY MARK WOOD

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Faith and Spirituality

Pomona's original seal, emblazoned with the words "Our Tribute to Christian Civilization," adorned every Pomona diploma for almost a century. Appropriate in 1887 for a church-founded college where theology was part of the curriculum, it slowly became an anachronism, as the College cut ties with the church and drew students from many traditions. Steve Glass '57 still laughs good-naturedly about receiving a diploma imprinted with that motto just before going to Bridges Hall of Music to be married in a traditional Jewish ceremony.

Over the years, as American culture grew steadily more secular, American colleges—once places for reinforcing inherited belief systems—became, instead, places for questioning them. I was reminded of this fact as I prepared for this issue, when a couple of students declined to take part because their parents weren't yet aware of their evolving beliefs.

Just in the past decade, according to a study by the Pew Research Center, the portion of the "millennial" generation with no religious affiliation has grown from a quarter to more than a third. Pomona students may be slightly ahead of that curve, judging by the *Princeton Review's* rather eclectic rankings, in which Pomona seems to be perennially listed in the top 10 for "least religious students." (Last year, we were number nine.)

But another study, conducted at UCLA in the early 2000s, found that while religious affiliation typically declines during those college years, "spirituality"—defined as "an active quest for answers to life's 'big questions,' a global worldview that transcends ethnocentrism and egocentrism, a sense of caring and compassion for others coupled with a lifestyle that includes service to others"—actually increases.

That's one of the reasons why institutions across the country are beefing up offices that provide spiritual counseling and promote religious expression or community service. Here at The Claremont Colleges, for example, the Office of Chaplains recently appointed a new Muslim chaplain, who joins Catholic, Protestant and Jewish chaplains at the McAlister Center to support the needs of individual students and groups spanning a wide spectrum of beliefs.

Since 1914, Pomona's gates have welcomed students who are "eager, thoughtful and reverent" and encouraged them to "bear their added riches in trust" for humankind. Today we may understand those words a bit differently than when they were first carved. We may speak about reverence for truth instead of reverence for a particular deity. We may discuss the ethic of helping others without framing it in a religious context. But Pomona students continue to keep the faith in their own individual ways.

—MW

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Dying With Dignity

I read your "Before I Die" article with interest, as I am sure most of us from the Class of 1962 did. It is called current events. However, I suggest that there is one important part of the death process that was not included in the story.

Twenty years ago Oregon passed the nation's first Death With Dignity Act. Two years later an attempt to repeal it was soundly defeated. My wife and I voted in favor of the act both times, little suspecting that we would use it later. Since then, Washington, Vermont, California and Montana have passed virtually identical laws, and quite a few other states are considering such a law now. The law is nothing at all like the "death panels" that Gov. Palin carried on about for a long time.

In our case, my wife had colon cancer surgery and then breast cancer surgery within one year. Initially the doctors believed that the surgeries were successful. The colon cancer never returned, but the breast cancer came back three years later. After four more surgeries during the next six years, four rounds of radiology treatments (15 each) and close to 100 chemotherapy treatments, her body began to stop functioning. She did not want to get to a point that she would be a "vegetable" (her term) in a care facility, and the family could recognize that life, as any normal person would like to live it, was about over. She was bedridden and had stopped eating or processing food.

A two-week process is required, with certifications from two doctors that the patient's life will likely end within six months. The doctors referred us to Compassion & Choices, a fabulous group of volunteers nationwide who are leading the effort to expand legislation in other states, and who provide volunteers to help with the process. My wife took the medicine and passed away in less than an hour. She was satisfied with the process, as were all of the family, and friends when told about it later.

C&C can provide much more specific information on the subject. But with the law now in effect in CA, and with so many Pomona alums living in California, I believe it is important that information about Death With Dignity should be included in the otherwise very interesting article you wrote this quarter.

—James A. (Jim) Johnson '62
Portland, Ore.



Face to Face

We loved the latest *Pomona College Magazine* "Face to Face" feature. We wanted to share our relationship to last a lifetime.

In the summer of 1963, we each received a letter from Dean of Women Ina T. Nider informing us that we had been assigned to one another as freshman roommates. It was apparently a successful pairing. We were suite-mates sophomore year and roommates again our senior year. Linda was a religion major, active in Chapel Committee and the Claremont Committee to End the War in Vietnam. Lesley was a biochemistry major and spent most of her time in the chemistry lab.

After graduation, Lesley went on to obtain a Ph.D. in molecular biology at the University of Wisconsin, did two postdoctoral fellowships at UC Berkeley and then worked for 32 years at the Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, starting as an assistant professor and serving her last 20 years as provost. She has served as president of Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore., since 2009.

Linda worked in a garment factory in San Diego, then obtained her teaching credential and taught for 36 years in inner-city Los Angeles, the last 28 years at Manual Arts High School, retiring in 2009. Finding that unsatisfactory, she went back to school, obtained a master's in history at Cal State Los Angeles and is now an adjunct instructor at East Los Angeles College.

Through the years, we have shared annual trips to Disneyland with our kids, weddings, divorces, an untimely funeral and innumerable



photographs of adorable grandchildren. We currently see each other a couple of times a year, chat regularly on Facebook and compete daily in cutthroat games of Words With Friends.

Thanks, Ina T.

—Linda Baughn '67
Los Angeles, Calif.
and Lesley Moore Hallick '67
Forest Grove, Ore.

You do, indeed, publish a beautiful magazine! I usually start at the back, to see if any of my classmates are in the Class Notes. Then I page through the entire thing.

However, this month your "Face to Face" feature grabbed my attention right away, so I read all of these stories first thing. That was a clever and time-consuming project for you, I would think. Loved it! The only face I knew was that of Bob Herman '51. As I remember, he has led our class tours of the campus on Alumni Weekends. A terrific storyteller! My husband, DeForrest '61 and I met at Pomona, so the married couples who met there were of special interest. We've been married 52 years.

One of the many things I like about the magazine is how you include stories from the school's past, along with what is currently happening on campus. Of course, I love to read what the graduates have done recently. I'm always interested in the books they've published. I appreciate your including very short articles as well as longer ones in just the right mix. Some college magazines are so dense with material that there is no hope of reading everything.

DeForrest and I spent a bit of time studying Jeff Hing's gorgeous double-page photo of the campus. The snow-covered mountains with the clouds spilling over them were spectacular.

I've finished reading the "Letter Box." So, what to read next ... the story on Cuba, since some of my friends are traveling there? The article about the celebrity photographer? Maybe about that "youngster" Peggy Arnold, who graduated three years after I did.

My grandniece is a Pomona student at the moment, so I feel that your magazine is keeping me in touch with her there. I'm looking forward to my 55th reunion next year. How I love returning to that beautiful place, full of so many memories.

—Bonnie Bennett Home '62
San Jose, Calif.

As a friend of Pomona College, I have enjoyed reading *Pomona College Magazine* for many years. The latest issue moves me to send this appreciation of the continuing quality of the publication under your most competent custodianship. I especially liked the piece about relationships. This reminder of how important and durable they can be during one's collegiate interlude is nicely done. Thanks to you, your staff and contributors.

—Gilbert Pattison Joynt
Seattle, Wash.

Pomona Lifeline

Since my retirement in 2006, the *Pomona College Magazine* has become my cherished lifeline to the College and the Pomona family and community that was my home for so many years—and I miss so keenly. Each issue offers delight and fascination for me, as you offer marvelous

features about the extraordinary individuals within our diverse community whose creative lives have so enriched our world. As such, the magazine is a beacon of hope for me in a world so darkened by forces of bitter divisiveness and destruction. Our Pomona students, faculty, administration, staff and alumni all have voices within your magazine, and I read every word to learn more about their lives and accomplishments and to celebrate them.

May I say, too, as an English teacher forever enamored with fine writing, that the quality of writing in every article is superb. I especially enjoy your "Stray Thoughts," always a personal and engaging reflection on issues at hand from your marvelously unique and candid point of view.

Your layout and design are glorious indeed. You offer visual as well as verbal pleasures.

With every best wish for the flourishing of the *Pomona College Magazine*—and for your ongoing delight in your devoted and inspired efforts for us all.

—Martha Andresen Wilder
Professor Emerita of English
Claremont, Calif.

Note Correction

In the *Class of '59 Notes* in *PCM* Spring 2016, there are three entries: Epps, Lathrop Wells and myself. Two of us were botany majors (there were, in total, three botany majors in 1959. How's that for keeping the Pomona College connection? I think botany was unique because of the three-day field trip fall and spring to all of the vegetation zones of the West over a three-quarter-year span. These field trips formed a cohesion to the department and College, just as student research with faculty does today. Both Betsy and I had keys to the botany building—master keys at that—and this was a bonding element also. But somehow, my note in *Class Notes* ended short of the complete sentence. I intended for it to say: "I am rich in experiences, but in retirement short on pension. Pomona and Harvard shaped my life, and I will be eternally grateful for the expanding opportunities and challenges I took from them." I appreciate the correction. We are downsizing and I found 60-year-old 8-page magazines—a far cry from now.

—Garrison Wilkes '59
Hingham, Mass.

Alumni, parents and friends are invited to email letters to pcm@pomona.edu or "snail-mail" them to *Pomona College Magazine*, 550 North College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711. Letters may be edited for length, style and clarity.

From the Twitterverse

Choose the major you love, says @SenBrianSchatz '94 in his advice to students youtu.be/Z0dUg0L346M @brianschatz



Helpful tips from Prof. Char Miller @charmiller4our to plan your trip to a national forest bit.ly/1WQA7BF



This is the original cottage where Pomona College held its first class on Sept. 12, 1888 in the city of #Pomona.



Congrats Maya Weigel '17, #1 in country in 5,000m, wins West Region Track Athlete of the Yr bit.ly/1Z2YGte



@pomonacollege

[POMONIANA]

The Accolades of Spring

As usual, springtime at Pomona brought news of a flurry of highly competitive student and graduate awards, including:

16 Fulbright Awards

7 RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

- Benjamin Cohen '16 (Ukraine)
- Madeleine Colvin '16 (China)
- Amelia DeSnoo '16 (China)
- Nathalie Folkerts '16 (United Kingdom)
- Alexandra Goss '16 (declined in favor of Watson Fellowship)
- Elisabeth Hanson '16 (France)
- Marek Zorawski '16 (Poland)

9 ENGLISH TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

- Angeli Bi '16 (Colombia)
- Jamila Espinosa '16 (Portugal)
- Mia Hahn '16 (Taiwan)
- Janet Herrera '16 (Peru)
- Nana-Korantema Koranteng '16 (Bahrain)
- Thuy Tien Le '16 (South Korea)
- Edmund Pacleb '16 (Indonesia)
- Isaac Levy-Rubinet '16 (Colombia)
- Duong (Cody) Thach '16 (Vietnam)

2 Watson Fellowships

- Harrison Goodall '16 (Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, India)
- Alexandra Goss '16 (Argentina, Bolivia, Morocco, United Kingdom)

2 Downing Scholarships

- Fiker Tadesse Bekele '16
- Conner Samuel Kummerlow '16

3 Goldwater Scholarships

- Tanner Byer '17
- Ziv Epstein '17
- Nathan Sandford '17

2 Boren Scholarships

- Dallon Asnes '18 (India)
- Eli Tanenbaum '18 (Jordan)



Madi Vorva '17 (right) on the Baram River in Malaysia

EnviroLab Asia

Madi Vorva '17 has been an environmental activist since the sixth grade, when she and a fellow Girl Scout started a national campaign to pressure the organization to commit to using deforestation-free palm oil in their cookies. However, until this spring, when she joined a clinic trip to Malaysia and Singapore with the 5C initiative EnviroLab Asia, she had never actually visited the region she was working to save.

"This was the first time I've been on the ground with these issues, so it was a really meaningful moment for me, and I really appreciated the chance to finally connect my advocacy with my school," says Vorva.

EnviroLab Asia, begun last fall with a Luce Initiative on Asian Studies and the Environment (LIASE) grant from the Henry Luce Foundation, allows participants from The Claremont Colleges to study big environmental issues like water quality, forest health, social justice and deforestation of rainforests to produce palm oil.

"One of the reasons EnviroLab Asia is important is that it has helped us understand the global nature of local environmental issues," says Professor of Environmental Analysis Char Miller. "It's a way for us to understand our complicity in these issues and the ramifications."

Among the 5C students and faculty who accompanied Vorva on the trip were Ki'amber Thompson '18 and professors Marc Los Huertos (environmental analysis), Zayn Kassam (religious studies), Stephen Marks (economics), Wallace Meyer (biology) and James Taylor (theatre).

BRYAN STEVENSON ON CHANGE:

"For change, you have to get proximate. You have to change the narratives that are behind the problems that you're trying to address—there's a narrative behind the issues that we are dealing with. You have to be hopeful—that's my third piece of advice. You cannot change things if you are hopeless about what you can do. That's absolutely vital. And you have to be willing to do uncomfortable things. I don't think anything changes when you only do what's comfortable and convenient."

Acclaimed lawyer and social justice activist Bryan Stevenson, author of Just Mercy and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, spoke at Bridges Auditorium and conducted a master class at Pomona as part of the three-day Pomona College Criminal Justice Symposium held on campus in March.

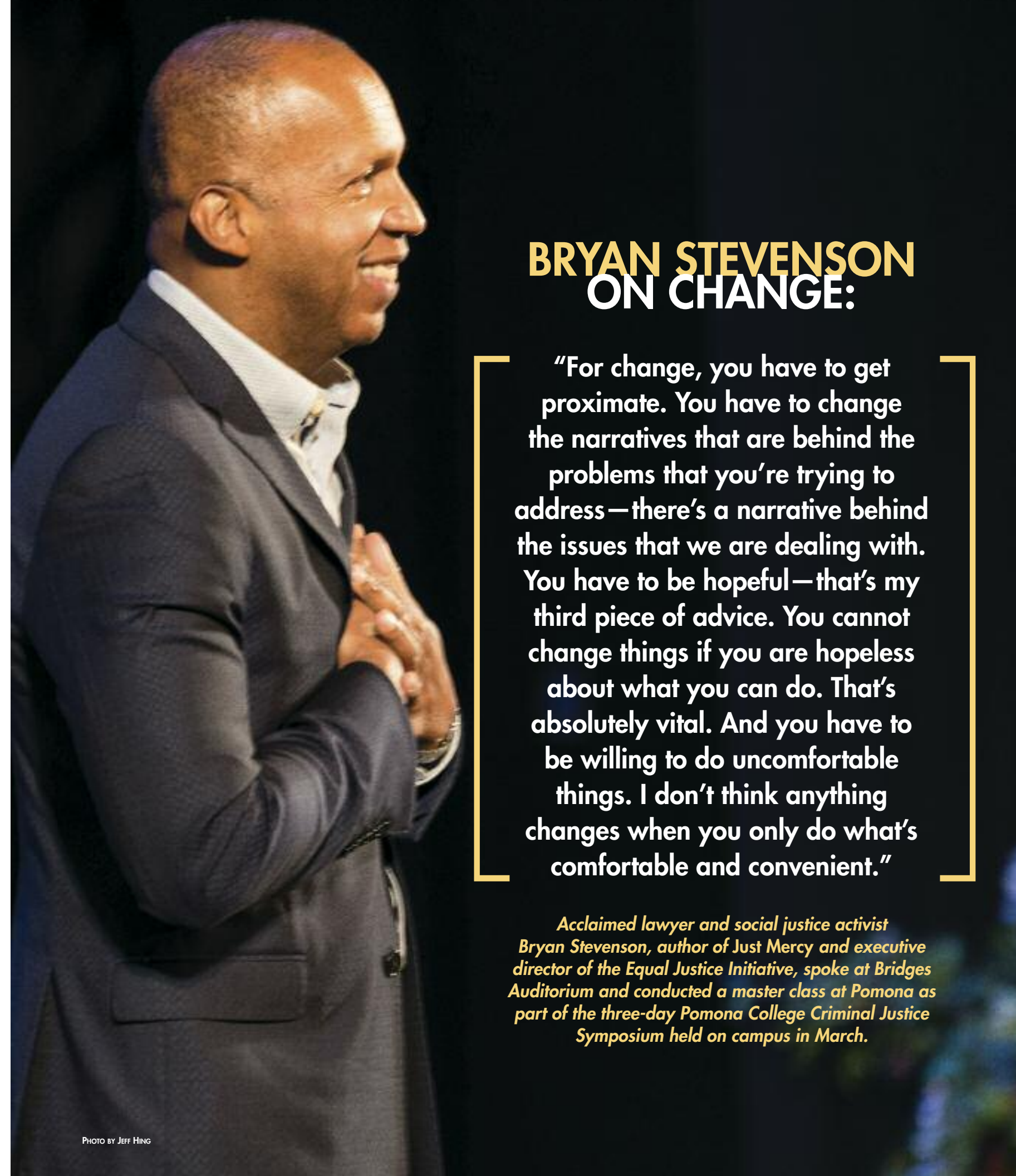


PHOTO BY JEFF HING

PAYS Keeps Perfect College Acceptance Record

This summer a total of 24 area high school students graduated from the three-year program known as the Pomona College Academy for Youth Success (PAYS). Of those, every last one has been accepted into a four-year college or university, maintaining the program's perfect placement record since its founding in 2002. Destinations for 2016 graduates include Harvard University, Amherst College, Swarthmore College, Columbia University, Bucknell University, various campuses of the University of California and Cal State and—of course—Pomona College.

The program, run by the Draper Center for Community Partnerships, aims to increase the pool of students from historically underrepresented backgrounds—including first-generation college students, those from low-income backgrounds and those who are African American, Latina/o, Native American, Pacific Islander or Southeast Asian—who are prepared to enter selective and highly selective colleges and universities.



Healing Labyrinth

As part of April's Healing Ways Week, students built a stone-lined labyrinth at the Organic Farm to be used in walking meditations. "We wanted to involve our community in making a public art installation that can be used for ongoing contemplation, practice, and study," explains Associate Professor of English and Africana Studies Valorie Thomas, one of the organizers of the weeklong event.

Titled "Healing Ways: Decolonizing Our Minds, Our Bodies, Ourselves," the series of healing-related events also included workshops, lectures, practitioner presentations, art, and performance focused on healing and social justice. "We particularly intended to offer support to students who have been feeling traumatized and stressed by current social events and who are shouldering the work of doing critical thinking and activism," says Thomas.

In an informal ceremony following the completion of the first stage of labyrinth construction, Thomas (above) stepped to the center of the labyrinth to read a passage from Jorge Luis Borges' short story, "The Garden of Forking Paths," which she describes as "a meditation on labyrinths and the benefits of occasionally losing your way."

Rooftop Gardeners

At right, Soleil Ball Van Zee '19, a volunteer mentor for the the Rooftop Garden Mentoring Program, works with local high school students in the container garden atop Pomona's Sontag Hall. A collaboration between the Pomona College Draper Center and Teen Green, a program organized by the local nonprofit Uncommon Good, the 5-year-old venture aims to increase activism and awareness around environmental justice, sustainability and gardening, as well as build leadership and presentation skills, according to Maya Kaul '17, one of the program's student coordinators. "When I see our hard work in the garden succeeding," Kaul says, "with a lot of our seeds sprouting, it reminds me of the other ways in which our investments in the program have 'blossomed' via the growth of community within our mentoring program."



Michelle Chan '17



After School Specials at the White House

The **5C a cappella** group The After School Specials performed at the White House in April, singing their powerful rendition of Lady Gaga's "Til It Happens to You," a song about sexual violence written for the documentary *The Hunting Ground*. Their performance was part of a White House Champions of Change event hosted by Vice President Joe Biden and attended by advocates for various causes from across the country.

The singers' path to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue was paved by both activism and talent. As participants in the It's On Us campaign to address the problem of sexual assault on college campuses, the singers won first place at the national Sing for Survivors competition, in which their video performance was judged by such pop music luminaries as Diane Warren, David Foster and LL Cool J.

The 18-member ensemble received the White House invitation just a few days before the event was scheduled, so the students took a red-eye flight into Washington, D.C., for their whirlwind visit. Amelia DeSnoo '16 says they knew the song inside and out and were prepared to deliver a solid performance for the vice president, other senior administration officials and their fellow advocates.

"The fact that we sang at the White House means that our voices, advocating for such an important cause, are being heard on a national scale," DeSnoo says.

Tenor Niko Tutland '17 says he was struck by "the amount of exposure this is going to bring to the message of the song."

DeSnoo believes the initial goal in this effort to combat sexual violence is to increase awareness of the problem. "The first step and the larger point of this campaign specifically in the short run is to allow college students to lean into the discomfort of knowing that this is an issue that is pervasive on all college campuses, even colleges like the 5Cs, which we consider to be a very safe space. ... We also need to recognize that no one can put themselves into the mindset of a survivor of sexual assault."

To see the group's winning video performance, go to www.pomona.edu/media_colorbox/26506/default/en.

New Faces on the Board

Three new faces and two familiar ones joined the ranks of Pomona's Board of Trustees this summer. Elected for the first time were Kiki Ramos Gindler '83, Osman Kibar '92 and Jeff Parks '02. Jennifer Doudna '85 rejoined the Board after a four-year hiatus, and ex-officio member Christina Wire '87 was elected to the Board in her own right.

Jennifer Doudna '85 is a professor of molecular and cell biology and chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, where she holds the Li Ka Shing Chancellor's Chair in Biomedical and Health Sciences and is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. As a co-inventor of CRISPR-Cas9, a process that revolutionized gene editing, she has received numerous honors, including the 2014 Breakthrough Prize and both the Gairdner Award and election to the Royal Society in 2016. A chemistry major, she earned her Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Kiki Ramos Gindler '83 earned her juris doctor degree from Harvard Law School and specialized in corporate and entertainment law. Today she devotes time to writing, civic affairs and support for the arts. The first Latina president of the Board of Directors for Center Theatre Group in Los Angeles, she serves on the boards of the Los Angeles Opera and the Music Center and is a member of the Blue Ribbon and the National Council for the American Theatre. A philosophy major, she has chaired Pomona reunion committees and hosted several alumni events.

Osman Kibar '92 is founder/CEO of Samumed, LLC, a firm developing drugs for degenerative diseases, regenerative medicine and oncology. Featured on the cover of *Forbes* Magazine's "Global Game Changers" issue, Kibar is an entrepreneur and inventor, has founded or co-founded numerous successful companies, and has authored or coauthored many publications and patents. An economics major, he pursued a 3-2 program that also earned him a B.S. in electrical engineering from Caltech. His M.S. and Ph.D. in optoelectronics and biophotonics are from UC San Diego.

Jeff Parks '02 is a founding partner of Riverwood Capital Management, a globally focused private equity firm that invests in high-growth businesses in the technology and services industries, across a variety of geographic regions and company organizations. He serves on the board of directors of several prominent technology companies, including Nutanix, Spredfast and LogRhythm. A double major in mathematics and economics at Pomona, he completed his studies in three years, so he identifies with both the Class of 2002 and the Class of 2003.

Since joining Google in 2007, **Christina Wire '87** has led a variety of groups across sales, marketing, operations, and corporate philanthropy. Today, she is the director of sales and business operations for Google Fiber. She has also held leadership roles at Intel, Stanford University, and the U.S. Department of State, where she began her career. She holds master's degrees from Columbia University and Northwestern's Kellogg Graduate School of Management. As National Chair of the Annual Fund, she was an ex-officio member of the Board from 2014 to 2016.

Pomona Welcomes New Academic Dean

Pomona's new vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college, Audrey Bilger, took up her duties on July 1. She came to Pomona from the nearby campus of Claremont McKenna College, where she had been professor of literature and founding faculty director of the Center for Writing & Public Discourse.

"I am thrilled to welcome Audrey to Pomona, where her experience in college governance, knowledge of faculty challenges and aspirations, passion for liberal arts education and her familiarity with The Claremont Colleges will be strong assets," said Pomona College President David Oxtoby.

In her new position, Bilger will serve as the chief academic officer and play a leading role in shaping and sustaining the intellectual life of the Pomona community.

"As a longtime member of the Claremont Consortium, I am familiar with Pomona's strengths and history," said Bilger. "I look forward to becoming even better acquainted with the community and to working with faculty, students, staff and other stakeholders to continue to foster the ideals of a liberal arts education in an inclusive environment."

At Claremont McKenna, Bilger served as chair of the Department of Literature and as coordinator of gender studies. She also served on major committees, including the Board of Trustees Academic Affairs

Committee, President's Advisory Committee on Diversity, curriculum committee, WASC reaccreditation and the appointments, promotion and tenure committee. Among other significant contributions, she chaired of the working group on academic resources for international, first-generation, low-income and underrepresented minority students.

In 2014–15 she held an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellowship at the University of California, Riverside (UCR), with a placement in the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, where she worked closely with UCR's leadership team. She was involved in major projects during her fellowship, including budget redesign, organizational excellence and a master planning study. She also participated in a working group charged with establishing a collaborative leadership model for faculty, staff and students.

Bilger has authored numerous scholarly articles and books, including *Here Come the Brides! Reflections on Lesbian Love and Marriage*, which was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award, and *Laughing Feminism: Subversive Comedy in Frances Burney, Maria Edgeworth, and Jane Austen*.

She is a member of the Ms. Magazine Committee of Scholars and serves on the editorial boards of Pickering and Chatto's *Gender and Genre* series and the *Frances Burney Journal*. Her work has appeared in *Ms.*, the *Paris Review*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*.

She received her doctoral and master of arts degrees in English at the University of Virginia and her undergraduate degree in philosophy at Oklahoma State University.

Bilger is married to Cheryl Pawelski, a Grammy Award-winning producer and cofounder of the Omnivore Entertainment Group, who serves on the National Board of Trustees for the Recording Academy.



Audrey Bilger

THANKS TO KEVIN QUANSTROM,
THE MESA OAK IS STAGING A COMEBACK.

Return of the Oaks

The mesa oak, with its bluish-green leaves and majestic stature, was almost completely wiped out from the landscape of Claremont and surrounding areas more than a century ago. Now Pomona's bringing this endangered native tree back to campus, thanks to the work of veteran groundskeeper Kevin Quanstrom.

Since 2006, crews have planted about 30 mesa oak trees, also known as the Engelmann or Pasadena oak, in and around the College. Quanstrom, assistant director of grounds and housekeeping, says adding the mesa to the campus' much larger number—in the hundreds—of coast live oaks helps diversify and strengthen Pomona's tree population.

More than the bluish leaf color sets the mesa oaks apart: These trees are less susceptible to sudden oak death caused by pests and disease brought on by the ongoing drought, which took its toll on some of the older coast live oak trees that once lined Bonita Avenue. Quanstrom and his team had to remove those damaged trees when the roadway was rebuilt a few years ago, replacing them with the mesa.



"It's important to understand native plants and to put native plants where you can," says Quanstrom, who has worked at Pomona since 2004. "When going from nonnative to native plants, you're always going to save water because native plants tend to be dormant in the summertime. People should care—these trees were part of the ecosystem before we got here, and once the trees are more established, they will help save water."

With new developments across campus, Quanstrom took advantage of the opportunities to lay down the mesa oak around the Studio Art Hall and Sontag Greek Theatre, along Columbia Avenue and on the east side of Oldenborg Center.

Quanstrom has extensive experience with native habitat restoration, and although the tree is not readily found at local nurseries or big-name home improvement stores, he tracked down a grower in Riverside who could provide them.

Though always outnumbered by the more prolific coast live oaks, mesa oaks were most plentiful up to the mid-19th century, thriving in an area running from Pasadena as far south as Baja California. Then

numbers dwindled as a result of logging. "It was very popular for lumber because it's a very straight oak tree," says Quanstrom.

At the same time, settlers began to fill the area and citrus trees replaced native vegetation, says Environmental Analysis Professor Char Miller, who notes that the mesa was a key timber used to shore up the new houses and buildings.

"My bet is that some of the College's earliest buildings may have contained lumber milled from this local tree. The mesa oak largely disappeared from its historic sites by the early 20th century, and its loss is one of the reasons my wife and I planted one in our backyard, a small reclaiming of this area's environmental past."

Back on campus, the oak plantings are part of a larger effort to introduce drought-tolerant plants, but Miller finds the return of the majestic trees to be a particular point of pride. "This restoration project is a marker of the College's sustainability commitments and our willingness to invest in making the grounds less thirsty, more resilient," he says.

—Carla Guerrero '06

The Cane Mystery

The tradition of college canes seems to have been fairly common in the United States during the 19th century and the early part of the 20th. At Amherst College, for instance, freshmen had to wear a beanie, but as sophomores, they could wear a class top hat and carry a class cane. At Dartmouth College, the eagerness of first-year students to gain these status symbols led to a yearly competition called the Cane Rush, eventually banned for the violence it provoked. Today few remnants of that tradition survive. At Dartmouth, during Commencement, graduating seniors still carry canes topped with carvings related to their senior society—such as a griffin or a phoenix. And at Amherst, the tradition had a brief revival in 2003, when the College awarded specially designed class canes to all of its graduating seniors.

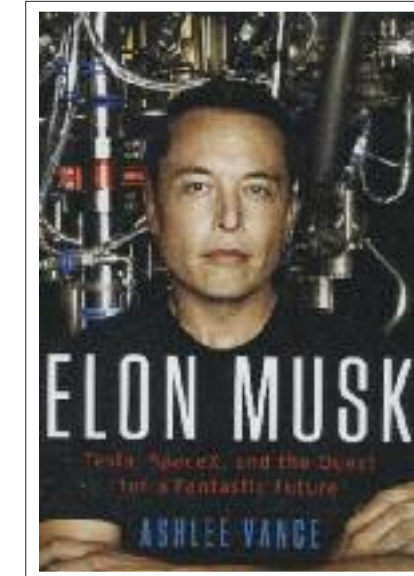
At Pomona there are only a few tantalizing references to the cane tradition. For instance, a description of campus activities in 1911 says: “If freshmen won both the Pole Rush and the subsequent freshman-sophomore football game, they got to carry around canes for a few weeks. If the sophomores won, they got to punish the freshmen by making them wear something embarrassing and smacking them with paddles if they refused.”

The cane pictured here is from the Class of 1926, as evidenced by the inlaid metal strip embossed with the totem pole design that was the symbol of that class, also to be found in the pages of that year’s *Metate* yearbook. Beyond that we know nothing. It was discovered in a closet of the Alumni Relations Office in Seaver House, its provenance and history unknown. If you have information to share about this cane or about the class cane tradition at Pomona, we invite you to contact us.

ITEM: Class cane
DATE: 1926
DESCRIPTION: Tapering hardwood walking cane 35 inches long, with a 5-inch curved handle.
ORIGIN: Unknown

If you have an item from Pomona’s history that you would like to see preserved in the Pomona College Archives, please call 909-621-8138.

The Full Elon



Elon Musk Tesla, SpaceX, and the Quest for a Fantastic Future

BY ASHLEE VANCE '00
 ECCO, 2015
 400 PAGES | \$28.99

In his *New York Times* bestseller *Elon Musk: Tesla, SpaceX, and the Quest for a Fantastic Future*, Ashlee Vance '00, veteran tech journalist and TV host of Bloomberg’s *Hello World*, reports on the daring business titan’s life and the rise of his innovative companies in finance, the auto industry, aerospace and energy. With exclusive, unprecedented access to Musk, his family and friends, Vance interviewed nearly 300 people for a book hailed as “masterful,” a “riveting portrait,” and “the definitive account of a man whom so far we’ve seen mostly through caricature.” Vance talked to *PCM*’s Sneha Abraham about the journey of the book and about Musk—a man both lauded and lambasted.

This interview has been edited and condensed.

PCM: Why write about Elon Musk?

Vance: When I started out and I was at *The New York Times* and places like that, Elon was just never really on my radar. I sort of felt like he was this guy who used to run around Silicon Valley promising all these wonderful things and never really delivering on them. I kind of pegged him as your run-of-the-mill techno-utopian guy. In 2012 everything started to change for me because SpaceX got to the International Space Station and Tesla came out with the Model S, which not just people in Silicon Valley but people in Detroit and around the world hailed as one of the best cars ever made. And SolarCity, his third company, filed to go public. That all happened in the span of just a couple of months.

I just thought, “Wow. This guy who’s been promising all of this stuff for all these years has just delivered in this huge way.” So I set out to do a cover story on him for *Businessweek*, and that’s when it really

became obvious to me that this is the book that I wanted to do.

I visited the Tesla factory, which is spectacular, and then the SpaceX factory, which is really what hooked me in. It was right in the middle of Los Angeles, and I thought they’d kind of be cobbling together this one rocket, but they were mass producing rockets in this gleaming white factory, with thousands of people running around, and there was

just this unreal energy to the place.

And then I interviewed Elon for the story, and he struck me as so much more interesting than I had ever really given him credit for. He has this amazing life story, this kind of self-made man from South Africa, who had a very difficult upbringing and all these trials and tribulations along the way. And then he was just way more authentic and down-to-earth when I interviewed him than I expected, and I thought, “Man, this guy has lived an incredible life and would make a great story.”

PCM: How did this book take off?

Vance: So after the interview for *Businessweek*, I sent him an email and asked, “Hey, have you ever thought about cooperating with a book about you?” And he said, “Look, a lot of people have asked me, and I’ve had to turn them down, and I just don’t think it’s the right time.” And I said OK, and then I went and I sold the book anyway in New York. I thought if I sold the book, it would sort of force his hand, and he would end up cooperating. So then, after I sold the book, we had a big hour-long meeting at Tesla’s headquarters in Palo Alto. And Elon came in and I gave him the whole spiel on why I ▸

wanted to do the book and why it was a good idea for him to do interviews and all that.

And two days after that meeting he sent me an email, and he said, “Look, I can’t do this.” And I think he thought I would give up on the project—and I did think about it.

I went out for this eight-mile run after that and was really distraught. I had already sold the book. I kind of rolled the dice and lost. And I just was out there running and I thought, “Well, what would Elon do in the same situation? He would just keep going.” So I decided to keep going, and then I spent the next 18 months interviewing. I interviewed about 200 people and it was all his friends, his family, his ex-girlfriends, his ex-employees.

PCM: So he didn’t send out a “Don’t talk to Ashlee” memo?

Vance: Yeah, that was a weird thing. I didn’t know how things would play out after he said no. I kind of thought he would tell people not to talk to me, but no, the opposite happened. A lot of people that I reached out to would, of course, write to him or call him and say, “Hey, this guy wants to talk to me,” and he gave approval to everyone. Nobody turned me down. And so that encouraged me because I thought, “He’s not making life as miserable for me as he could, and so I’ll keep pushing forward.” And then after those 18 months that’s when he called me at home one day, and then we had dinner shortly after that.

In the phone call he said, “Look, I might cooperate, but I want control of the book and everything.” So I was thinking, “Oh man, I’ve come this far and now there’s this thing that I just cannot agree to.” And so I was still sort of dreading that, and so then I got to the dinner and I had this huge speech. I had spent time rehearsing all these reasons that it made sense for him to cooperate and why I had to do it like a proper journalist and not give him control. And I got about five minutes into the speech, and then he just said, “OK, fine. Let’s do it.” My reaction then—I had to hold it all inside—but I was screaming on the inside. So much work had gone into it, this huge gamble and just this intense amount of pressure. It just felt like, “My God, this is all going to be worth it.” And I knew the book would be so much better with him participating in it.

PCM: How did your perception of him change as these interviews over the next year were happening? Because you write that you came in thinking he was just another big shot sort of megalomaniac.

Vance: My impressions had already started to change a bit after I did the cover story. I was always really impressed with how open he was. He never came in with any handlers or anything; it was always just me and him. So initially, for the first three interviews, it was frustrating because he was basically repeating a lot of things that he always talks about, and I felt like I wasn’t getting anywhere. And then it was around the fourth interview where he really started to

open up, and I felt like I was seeing a side of Elon that no journalist had ever seen before. We could talk about anything, and he never dodged questions or tried to deflect me. I felt like he gave me these really rich answers about his philosophies of life, and about all these moments in the history of the company, and I got this much deeper insight. We would sort of trade off-the-record information back and forth.

Even when I was first starting the book, he had accomplished these amazing things, but it was unclear how sustainable these companies were. If you really could make them enduring and still pull off all this lofty stuff. Half the people still thought that he was crazy.

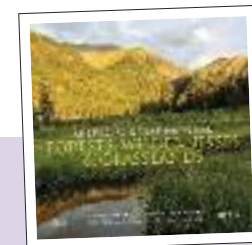
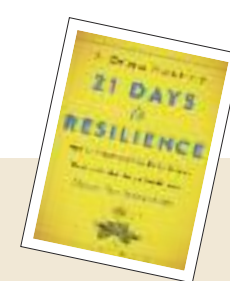
And over time, as I learned more and more about the companies and Elon, I just came away, not in a fanboy sense, but to sort of witness this guy firsthand and his resolve and how relentless he is, whether it’s him telling a story or it’s meeting the thousands of engineers around him. I just came away thinking, “Man, this guy. It may take him longer than he says—things might be more expensive sometimes than what he says—but this guy is absolutely going to accomplish what he sets his mind to.” In that sense, he’s unlike any exec I’ve ever interviewed. There are obviously very driven, intelligent people. But to me, what became obvious is—this is not a job for him; it’s a life’s calling. He is sort of playing on a different field, and a lot of people around him are as well. My big takeaway is that he was just more capable than I had even imagined.

I’d say the other thing I’ve learned over time is just that Elon really is a hard dude. You would hear more and more stories about what he expects from employees or the demands he puts on people, and then I started to feel that personally. It was a very rocky, back-and-forth thing that we had. Where he really didn’t want to be participating in this but was doing it and wanted to exert control, and I wouldn’t let him. So, yes, actually I felt all this stuff personally, and I feel like that gave me a taste for the full Elon.

PCM: How did he react to the book?

Vance: Well, it kind of went in stages. He got the book and then he was going through it and he was emailing me all of the time, like every couple of pages. So that was kind of an interesting experience, but most of that was sort of harmless. He plucked out a couple of things that he disagreed with, and then at the very end of a couple of days of him reading it, he came back and said it was 95 percent accurate, which for Elon was hilarious, not only that he gave me a score, but also that it was that high. He said it was well done. A couple of weeks passed, and then the media finally got their copies of the book, and a couple of the early stories focused on what a tough boss he is, and he got really upset that that’s sort of the direction that the press was taking at the beginning. So then there was big blowback. He was really unhappy that he was kind of getting portrayed that way, and so our relationship has not been the same since. ▶

[BOOKMARKS]



First Words

On Dostoevsky's Introductions

Lewis Bagby '66, emeritus professor of Russian at the University of Wyoming, examines Fyodor Dostoevsky's use of forewords to introduce some of his greatest and most challenging works of fiction, from *Notes from the Underground* to *The Brothers Karamozov*. **EXCERPT:** “Dostoevsky did not wish to be overtly directive in his fiction. Nor did he wish to poke his nose out of his hole into the great world: in the manner of Gogol's Rudy Panko. Like his beloved Pushkin, he chose to remain in the background and to allow other voices to speak, not for him, but for themselves.”

Mediterranean Summers

Karen Heath Clark '66 invites you to join her, her husband and their dog, Roka, on an eight-year Mediterranean adventure aboard their 39-foot trawler. **EXCERPT:** “Roka went with us everywhere. She learned to sit between us on a motorscooter seat. She sat quietly under the table during dinner. She is an expert at taking escalators and elevators and riding buses. She learned to ride in a basket on Bruce's bike attached behind his seat and trotted on her leash alongside my bike, even in heavy traffic. She seemed to relish her time with us on the boat and the many adventures she experienced.”

Collier's Guide to Night Photography in the Great Outdoors

Nature photographer Grant Collier '96 shares his detailed expertise in capturing the beauty of nighttime scenes and the wonders of the heavens with a camera. **EXCERPT:** “I've seen many night shots where there is just a flat, dark horizon with the night sky above it. While the sky may be dramatic, the shots are little different from countless other images of the night sky. What really sets a good night photo apart from the others is the foreground. Not only does it make the image more unique, but it can also add depth to an image and draw the viewer into the scene.”

Fairfield's Auction

A Witherston Murder Mystery

An auction of rare Cherokee artifacts, Appalachian antiques and a young African grey parrot leads to murder in the second Witherston murder mystery by Betty Jean Craige '68. **EXCERPT:** “Why should this story matter to us Witherstonians? Because those of us living in the twenty-first century have inherited more than money and furniture from our ancestors. And we've inherited more than their genes. We have inherited perspectives and prejudices—through the stories we've heard at family dinners, the novels we've read, the songs we've sung.”

Red Flags

A Kate Reilly Mystery

In her fourth mystery about racecar driver Kate Reilly, Tammy Kaehler '92 offers up another high-octane thriller, this time from the world of Grand Prix racing. **EXCERPT:** “As a driver, I actively listened to the health of my racecar with my entire body. I was attuned to the feel of balanced suspension and a happy engine—in a Corvette C7.R set up for right and left turns. This IndyCar chassis might have a Chevrolet engine, but that was the only similarity. The car felt bent—less so on the banking than on the flat. But still broken.”

21 Days to Resilience

How to Transcend the Daily Grind, Deal with the Tough Stuff, and Discover Your Strongest Self

In this practical self-help guide, psychologist and health and wellness expert Dr. Zelana Montminy '04 offers a research-based toolkit to help people develop their capacity to handle whatever life may throw at them. **EXCERPT:** “Hope is our fuel. It's our choice. Resilient people choose to overcome feelings of hopelessness. They don't rely on changing experiences or emotions to define their reality. They choose to look forward, to hope.”

America's Great National Forests, Wildernesses & Grasslands

Professor of Environmental Analysis Char Miller and photographer Tim Palmer create an arresting tome about America's diverse public lands. **EXCERPT:** “The Sandhills of Nebraska, a vast stretch of rolling prairie in the center of the state, seem an unlikely place for a national forest, let alone one administered in conjunction with the iconic high-elevation forests of the Rocky Mountains. Yet the Nebraska National Forest's very existence is a perfect reflection of the ambition of late 19th-century and early 20th-century foresters to manage landscapes, treeless or wooded, and make them productive.”

The Babylon Complex

Theopolitical Fantasies of War, Sex, and Sovereignty

Associate Professor of Religious Studies Erin Runions examines the tangled intersection of religion and politics in the U.S., focusing on the ambivalent image of Babel or Babylon. **EXCERPT:** “For those bothered by the increasing diversity that appears within the nation as a result of globalization, Babel is a negative term. For instance, the conservative Pat Buchanan consistently applies the image to complain about difference: that the United States is converting from a Christian nation into the Tower of Babel (1997) or that love of diversity is producing the Tower of Babel and destroying the idea of America (2009).”

PCM: How does he come across, and how would you describe his personality?

Vance: The most basic thing is just he's the most intense, driven individual I've ever met and one of the most capable human beings in the sense that he's in all of these different industries. He's doing technical stuff, marketing, design, day-to-day operations of the companies. It's this incredible thing. As a person, there are different flavors of Elon. There's the guy that you sit down with at dinner, and he's not immediately charming and charismatic. He's more like an engineer. He's very serious and takes a little while to warm up. But then, even that guy, you warm him up and then he's obviously very bright, he's funny. He has an amazing sense of humor that I think most people miss. And he's amazing to talk to. It was the thing I would look forward to most every month. So there's that side to him—this surprisingly down-to-earth, intense, intelligent, funny guy. And then there's the other side to him, too. For the employees, he's super-demanding. He sets these incredibly lofty goals. He expects everybody to meet them. He can be really hard on people in meetings and in that sense comes off as unempathetic to his people and

He's very logical, I think, and so part of it is just if he sees something he wants to do, and he thinks it's the right thing to do, he's decided that he's going to do it. It's this very binary thing. He's just like, "This makes sense to me. I'm going to pursue it with all my energy." I think he's just wired a little bit different than most people.

PCM: So, he wants to turn humans into space colonizers. What do you think it reveals about his personality that his goals are so high?

Vance: I think it's oddly that logical side of him. I don't know. I guess you could think back to Columbus or Magellan or somebody, these really adventurous, flamboyant explorers. I think his original impetus for this is much more clinical and logical. "There should be a backup plan for the human species, and there isn't a very good one, and I'm going to go build it." And he does have this weird form of empathy, where he genuinely cares deeply, not about individual people as much but more about the human species. He would break down in tears when he was talking about the colony. It comes from this very logical, software-programmer place that you should back up your files and your work.

"He's a work in progress, and we don't know where some of his stuff is going to end. But even just the face value of what he's accomplished so far, you cannot find another human being that's changed industries as diverse as finance, aerospace, automotive and energy. I think on that level he has no equal today or really ever."

can come off as kind of callous and cold. And then, I think, for his friends there's a very different side. I think he's got a small circle of really close friends. And I think for them, he's a much more fun-loving guy who is a lot of fun to be around.

PCM: Where do you think his faith in himself comes from? Because you write about how he had this awful childhood, and reading about that, one would guess he wouldn't turn out to be the way that he is. Where does that sense of self-confidence that he can accomplish anything come from?

Vance: I think that his difficult childhood in a lot of ways hardened him and taught him to be willing to take risks. It's a similar story you see with lots of these guys. If you leave the country where you're born—say you go to Canada with zero in your pocket, and you're off on your own at this young age—there are few things later on that are going to be harder than that. In a sense, running a business and taking a risk and all of that pales in comparison to what you've already been through. He talks about it a lot. He learned to just sort of suffer. So things like long hours or a business collapsing or all this pressure, he deals with that really well. I think that self-confidence thing definitely seems like it was learned over time, because at Zip2 and PayPal you see this guy who is not a very sure-handed manager. He's really upsetting his employees. He's having fights with other board members. And I think it was during that process where he sort of learns to become who he is today, and his self-confidence grows almost out of necessity.

PCM: Do you think he has an equal today?

Vance: No. People always want to compare him to Steve Jobs or Edison or whatever. It's sort of hard. It's difficult because he's a work in progress, and we don't know where some of his stuff is going to end. But even just the face value of what he's accomplished so far, you cannot find another human being that's changed industries as diverse as finance, aerospace, automotive and energy. I think on that level he has no equal today or really ever.

I think clearly he has to get an affordable electric car out that is good and that people want and that they sell a lot of, in order for him to be considered a success with Tesla. I think SpaceX has to really get this reusable rocket technology done. He's got to get to Mars in order for that to be considered a huge, forever-world-altering success. For SolarCity, it has to be proven that that's a really sustainable business. There are a lot of people that argue that they're not going to be profitable going forward. And so yeah, there are all of these question marks about exactly where he ends up in the pantheon of inventors and businesspeople.

As far as equals today, Larry Page and Jeff Bezos come to mind. I feel like those three guys are all in this camp of people who are willing to spend money on big, long-term things that are far afield from apps and things like that. They're all working on these big computer services but also these crazy machines, and really bringing science fiction to life. So, in that sense, I think they're sort of in similar camps. But I think Elon's probably taken bigger risks so far and arguably been more successful with these other businesses.



"You're sitting here at the edge of opportunity. You have so much power and so much reach—much more reach than any generation before you. You have the same tools that we had—you can work hard, you can vote, you can speak out—but you have a whole set of new tools at your fingertips, literally, and that can help make the world not only better, but a little closer to the 9-year-old's ideal."

— Deborah Bial
Founder and president of the Posse Foundation, speaking to the Class of 2016 at Commencement

BIOLOGY: Assistant Professor of Biology Wallace Meyer

Fireproof Ants

Even a fire won't keep a good ant down, according to research at the Robert J. Bernard Biological Field Station (BFS) on the effects of fire on ants. But which plants grow back after fire and drought does affect ant communities.

For her senior thesis, Tessa Adams '16 was interested in determining if the ant community changed as a result of the September 2013 brush fire that charred 17 acres at the field station and The Claremont Colleges North Campus Properties. Expectations were that the effects of fire would be significant, but it turns out ants are a hardy, fireproof lot. Results show that there was minimal immediate and no lasting impact on the species from the fire, says Assistant Professor of Biology Wallace Meyer, director of Bernard Field Station, a preserve maintained by The Claremont Colleges that protects the rare native ecosystem of California sage scrub.

"It seems like ant assemblages can withstand a fire. And it makes sense—they are this super-organism. ... Fast-moving hot fires affect the surface; meanwhile the ants are down below," says Meyer. Plus, "fire is a natural component of the ecosystem."

However, Meyer says, following a fire, areas of land can potentially convert from native flora—in the case of BFS, California sage scrub—to nonnative grasslands, which do affect whether ants return. (Rest assured, 22 species of ants are still making their home at BFS.)

Drought, too, affects whether sage scrub or nonnative grasses grow back and which species of ants make their home in each type of habitat. In fact, Meyer says, drought—while not as manifestly dramatic—is actually a larger stressor than fire.

Meyer believes this research is significant because the effects of fire on anything other than plants and mammals are largely unknown. For purposes of conservation and biodiversity management, it is important to understand these effects, since fire is going to become more common, especially in light of global climate change. Adams' research findings will be used in conservation management plans not only at BFS, but by managers throughout Southern California.

What are the implications for conservation management? First, as long as native plant communities recover, no action is required, says Meyer. Second, which types of plants grow back favors certain ant species. Third, effects of extreme drought correlated with climate changes are real and felt, making long-term management difficult.

Thanks to her high school AP Environmental Science class, Adams came to Pomona knowing she wanted to do ecology research. She says when she stepped foot into BFS, she was awestruck by the California sage scrub habitat.

Adams' awe quickly turned into action. Adams started working on arthropod research at BFS as a volunteer her first year at Pomona and continued through the years, setting up research sites, collecting pitfall traps, sorting specimens that were collected—and she started seeing a wide range of arthropods at the station.

"After taking Professor Meyer's Fire Ecology in Southern California class last spring, I became interested in how fire can shape an ecosystem, and I realized that there is little research on the effect of fire on arthropods. I decided to focus my thesis on the effect of fire on ants because the lifestyle of ants, which live in colonies, has the potential to be greatly affected by fire," says Adams.

She conducted her research by pitfall trapping. She buried a test tube in the ground, with the lip of it level with the surface of the ground. The tube was filled about halfway with a preservation solution—either ethanol or propylene glycol. As the insects ran along the ground, they fell into the trap, and the collected specimens served as a survey of the insects present in an area.

But why choose ants? Adams points to the creatures as providing crucial ecosystem services that make them important to study because of their broad impact on other organisms and their value in helping to determine ways to conserve the environment they inhabit.

So in other words, remember the old proverb: Go to the ant ... consider her ways.

—Sneha Abraham

CHEMISTRY: Professor Roberto Garza-López

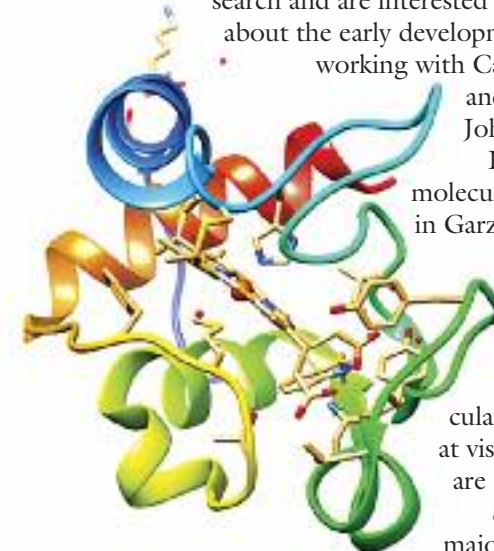
Molecular Origami

Pomona College Chemistry Professor Roberto Garza-López and his research colleagues have developed a new model that studies how protein molecules fold and unfold—work that has more than a few national institutes interested in the implications for understanding the development of diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's disease, Type II diabetes and certain types of cancer.

The research, published in the *Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry*, looks at the protein called Cytochrome c, focusing on the questions of what happens to this protein's molecules when they don't fold properly and how this improper unfolding is linked to cancers and other diseases.

Why does a protein fold and unfold in the first place? Long protein molecules start straight, explains Garza-López, but in order to interact with other molecules, they have to fold. "And they have to fold into a very specific shape," he says. "If they don't fold properly, then that's where negative things occur, especially disease. In the paper we published, we are looking at the opposite effect: we're looking at the protein that is already folded to see how it unfolds."

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are providing funding for further research and are interested in what the team's findings reveal about the early development of diseases. Garza-López is working with Caltech Professor Harry B. Gray and DePaul University Professor John J. Kozak.



In order to visualize the protein molecule's many folds, students working in Garza-López's lab create 3-D structures of some of the proteins, like Cytochrome c (pictured here). "Students are very good with computers, at visualizing molecules and doing calculations, but they're also very good at visualizing what those calculations are doing to those molecules."

Sabari Kumar '17, a chemistry major who is working in Garza-

López's lab, was acknowledged in the published paper and is now studying the folding and unfolding of proteins related to disease by performing molecular dynamics simulations.

The research by Garza-López, Gray and Kozak continues, and they're already finished with another manuscript looking at another protein called Intelectin-1, a protein of the intestines and lungs that is able to distinguish between human cells and the cells of bacterial invaders. "This could underpin new strategies to fight infections," says Garza-López. He adds: "Proteins are very complex. We start with a simple model and we do a lot with that model and try to understand new things about it. That's how science works."

—Carla Guerrero



Wig Winners for 2016

Each spring, juniors and seniors recognize outstanding Pomona professors by selecting the recipients of the Wig Distinguished Professor Award, the highest honor bestowed on faculty. This year's recipients are (left to right in the image above):

Pierre Englebert, H. Russell Smith Professor of International Relations and professor of politics, teaches courses like Advanced Questions in African Politics, Comparative Politics of Africa, and Political Economy of Development. He has been at Pomona since 1998, and this is his fourth Wig Award.

Sharon Goto, professor of psychology and Asian American studies, teaches courses including Asian American Psychology, Industrial/Organizational Psychology, and Psych Approaches: Study of People. She has been at Pomona since 1995, and this is her second Wig Award.

April Mayes '94, associate professor of history, teaches courses on Afro-Latin American History, Gender & Nation: Modern Latin America, and U.S.-Latin American Relations, among others. She is a graduate of Pomona, and has taught here since 2006. This is her first Wig Award.

Kyla Tompkins, associate professor of English and gender & women's studies, teaches 19th-Century U.S. Women Writers, Literatures of U.S. Imperialism and Advanced Feminist and Queer Theory, among other classes. She has been at Pomona College since 2004, and this is her first Wig Award.

Jonathan Hall, assistant professor of media studies, teaches courses that include Freud, Film, Fantasy; Japanese Film: Canon to Fringe; and Queer Visions/Queer Theory. He has been at Pomona since 2009, and this is his first Wig Award.

Johanna Hardin '95, professor of mathematics, teaches courses that include Linear Models, Computational Statistics, and 9 out of 10 Seniors Recommend This Freshman Seminar: Statistics in the Real World. A graduate of Pomona, she has taught at Pomona since 2002. This is her first Wig Award.

Michelle Zemel, assistant professor of economics, teaches courses that include Economic Statistics, Advanced Topics in Banking, and Risk Management in Financial Institutions. She has been at Pomona since 2012, and this is her first Wig Award.

Nicole Weekes, professor of neuroscience, teaches The Human Brain: From Cells to Behavior (with Lab), Neuropsychology (with Lab), and Introduction to Psychological Science. She has been at Pomona since 1998, and this is her fourth Wig Award.



PICTURE THIS

The Pomona College Glee Club, under the direction of Professor Donna Di Grazia, performs in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome during the group's spring tour of Italy.
—Photo by Alessia Giuliani

AS CALIFORNIA'S FIRST MUSLIM JUDGE, HALIM DHANIDINA '94
WANTS TO BE KNOWN NOT FOR HIS RELIGION,
BUT FOR HIS BELIEF IN THE AMERICAN LEGAL SYSTEM.

FAITH IN THE LAW

STORY BY AGUSTIN GURZA | PHOTOS BY LORI SHEPLER

HALIM DHANIDINA
JUDGE

The story was in the works for weeks. The *Los Angeles Times* was preparing a front-page profile of California's first Muslim judge, Halim Dhanidina '94. And the paper was carefully vetting its subject, checking his background as the son of Indian immigrants, interviewing former colleagues in the D.A.'s office, and watching him preside over criminal proceedings at the L.A. County Superior Court in Long Beach.

After three months, the judge remembers getting a call from the reporter with some bad news. Editors were considering killing the story. The reason: "We're not finding anything controversial."

In the end, the paper ran the article after all. As far as the judge was concerned, the only thing controversial was the headline, which he called "almost inflammatory." It read: *Faith Leads State's First Islamic Judge to the Bench*.

Though modified online, the printed headline played into the worst preconceptions about Muslims that Dhanidina had been battling since his student days at Pomona College. He thought the wording portrayed him as a zealot who would impose sharia law from the bench. Which is exactly what anti-Muslim critics warned against, at websites with names like Jihad Watch and Creeping Sharia. Some wondered whether a Muslim judge in "Caliph-ornia" could be impartial when sentencing "jihadis, honor killers and those who assault non-believers."

"If you're going to ask me about sharia law, you're going to be misled, because I don't know anything about it," said the judge during an interview at his tidy courthouse office, decorated with cheerful artwork from his two children. "I'm an American that works in the American legal system. You can ask me anything about that and I'll give you a better answer."

Dhanidina, who holds a law degree from UCLA, has been answering questions about Islam and the law since that day in 2012 when Gov. Jerry Brown announced his ascension to the bench as a milestone for Muslims. Dhanidina, just 39 at the time, says his religion had never been a defining issue in his career until then. During his 14 years as a deputy district attorney in Los Angeles, prosecuting gang-related murder cases, many colleagues didn't even know he was a Muslim.

Though he felt awkward at first, Dhanidina now embraces his high-profile role as a public figure from his community. Yes, he worries that carrying a religious banner may detract from his accomplishments. He wants to be recognized for his public work, not his private beliefs. Yet he believes the focus on his faith serves a purpose, because it makes him "a symbol of inclusion."

"Part of the value of diversity is for people to know about it," says the judge, who often speaks at schools and on professional panels. "The role of Muslims in American society right now is very tenuous. There are efforts to make Muslims feel they're not welcome in the U.S., that they don't belong here, that they should not be allowed to come, to stay, to participate in institutions."

For fellow Muslims, seeing his success proves the opposite: "There is a place for you, too."

The judge also believes that his public visibility can help change perceptions among non-Muslims, many of whom get their impressions about Islam from the media or the Internet. It's easy to believe in stereotypes about a group, he notes, when you don't personally know any of its members. "That's why Muslims in the public eye need to be open," he says, "because it helps to demystify this idea of what 'these people' are like." ▸

Of course, Dhanidina's work as a judge is an open book. His court is open to the public; his rulings are public record. That helps dispel any suspicions that he may be somehow secretly imposing his personal ideology on the court.

"People think that if you're a Muslim, you believe in chopping off heads and oppressing women," he says. "But it's very easy to say what a Muslim would be like as a judge if there aren't any Muslim judges. Well, now there is one here in California. So if anybody wants to know what a Muslim would do as a judge in an American court, they would come to Department Eight of the Long Beach Superior Court and see for themselves."



PRESIDING IN COURT one recent afternoon, Judge Dhanidina displayed a carefully studied judicial demeanor. He begins every day with a formal flag salute, "in respect of the rights we enjoy." On the bench, he is disciplined, efficient and formal, almost courtly. With defendants, he is respectful and encouraging, telling one who presented a good probation report to "keep up the good work." And throughout, he maintains perfect posture in a robe that looks tailored to his fit, six-foot-one frame.

His goal is to run a courtroom "with dignity and decorum," he says, where justice prevails and everybody feels they are treated fairly. "They would never know they were in the Muslim guy's court," he

adds, "unless somebody told them."

Outside the hallowed halls, the judge lets his hair down. An easy smile softens the slightly severe look of his gray goatee, precisely manicured along the ridge of his chin. He is friendly and chatty with a group of students from his daughter's elementary school, visiting on a field trip. "You were awesome in the musical," he says to one. "Are you playing softball in the fall?" he asks another.

"I want the young people to feel I'm just a regular guy," says the judge, because it sends a message that they can make it too.

In many ways, he *is* a regular guy. Softball coach, loyal Cubs fan, aficionado of Spanish rock, dad who drives his kids to school. But

"When I think of what values are important in a society, equality is right at the top. That's probably because I've never been in a majority. Of anything. Anywhere."

Dhanidina also is driven to excel, to be the best in whatever he does. He attributes his competitive streak to his immigrant parents, who always strived to succeed.

"When you meet Halim, or appear before him, what strikes you is not his faith, but that he's such a smart, hardworking judge," says Long Beach Supervising Judge Michael Vicencia. "So whatever kind of preconceived notions people may have had, the second they meet him all of that goes away because you're so impressed by what a good judge he is."

So far, nobody has formally complained about Dhanidina's performance, says Vicencia, who fields complaints against judges in Long

Beach. And nobody has raised concerns about his religion either.

At his swearing-in, Dhanidina assiduously sidestepped a potential public controversy, avoiding the brouhaha that erupted in Brooklyn last year when a fellow Muslim judge swore her oath on the Quran. Instead, he chose not to swear on any holy book, dismissing the issue as irrelevant.

For a judge with such an even temper, though, it's surprising to hear Dhanidina admit that he is "certainly sensitive to slights." When the governor's office received hate mail in response to his appointment, he acknowledges matter-of-factly that "it hurt my feelings."

Dhanidina, who won election to his first full term in 2014, doesn't consider himself a victim who harbors grievances. But he has experienced his share of prejudice in the past. Like the dinner-party guest openly expressing anti-Muslim sentiments. Or the thoughtless coworker using the pejorative term "towelhead."

Then there was the defense attorney who once tried to save a murderer from the death penalty with a thinly disguised appeal to religious prejudice. Dhanidina was the prosecutor at the time and had won convictions for the double homicide. In the penalty phase, the opposing lawyer argued that the jury should show mercy consistent with "our" Judeo-Christian values, not like those of the prosecutor who follows "different" traditions.

The strategy failed, but Dhanidina never forgave the judge in that 2008 case for not stepping in to stop it. "The argument itself didn't hurt me," he says, "but the fact that the judge did not officially stamp it as inappropriate, that stung more." Later, when he faced the same lawyer again in a different case with a different judge, Dhanidina made a preemptive strike, asking the court to prohibit him from making the same offensive argument. The judge agreed, admonishing the defense lawyer, "If this is not an appeal to prejudice, explain to me what it is."

"That was a very gratifying moment for me," concludes Dhanidina, "because OK, somebody else has acknowledged that this isn't right."

IT'S OBVIOUS, SAYS Dhanidina, that animosity toward Muslims has worsened in the quarter century since he worked for better interfaith relations as a student at Pomona. The terrorist attacks of 9/11 and subsequent Middle East wars have stoked public fears about the perceived connection between Islam and violence. The judge blames both sides: the terrorists, for cloaking themselves in a distorted reading of Islam, and self-serving politicians, for exploiting the violence to scapegoat an entire religion.

"It's baffling to Muslim people like myself, and millions around the world, who have never seen any kind of doctrinal link between violence and their religion," he says. "We don't understand how other people can make that connection."

Less than a month after the interview, the issue of Islam and violence was back in the news in a shocking way. In the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history, a gunman vowing allegiance to Islamic terrorist groups massacred 49 people at a nightclub in Orlando, Florida. Since many of the victims were gay, the case also refocused attention on the treatment of homosexuals in Islamic countries, including a handful where homosexuality is punishable by death.

The issue is not new to Dhanidina. Even fellow Muslims have asked him how he can reconcile legal issues such as gay marriage with

traditional Islam. Asked another way, can a Muslim judge be fair to homosexuals?

Coincidentally, Dhanidina had already addressed that question in a controversial case watched closely by gay rights advocates. The case involved a police sting that led to charges against a 50-year-old man for lewd conduct and indecent exposure in a public park. In a blistering, 17-page ruling handed down in April, Dhanidina blasted the Long Beach Police Department and local prosecutors for what he called an "arbitrary enforcement of the law" that specifically targeted gay men. The judge found that police "harbored animus toward homosexuals" and that the prosecution was fueled by "the rhetoric of homophobia."

"When I think of what values are important in a society, equality is right at the top," the judge says. "That's probably because I've never been in a majority. Of anything. Anywhere."

DHANIDINA BELONGS TO the Ismaili religious community, a historically persecuted offshoot of the Shia branch of Islam, known for its modern, progressive views. "We don't believe in the religious superiority of one group over another," says Dhanidina, whose Thailand-born wife was raised Roman Catholic. "We believe that different religions are just different paths to the same place."

His ethnic heritage traces to the Gujarati people of western India, an illustrious community that also includes independence leader Mahatma Gandhi, British actor Ben Kingsley, and Queen lead vocalist Freddie Mercury. His grandparents were born in Tanzania, part of the Indian diaspora in East Africa during British colonial rule. His parents, Lutaf and Mali, met at a Tanzanian teachers college. The couple came to the United States in the early 1960s when his father got a scholarship to Northwestern University. Eventually, most of the extended family came here too.

Born in 1972, Dhanidina was raised with his older brother in the Chicago suburb of Evanston, Illinois, where Northwestern is located. At home, language and food were a natural blend of Asian, African and Anglo-American influences. ("Growing up, I didn't even know which word came from which language.") He graduated from Evanston Township High School in 1990, still using the first name Al-Halim.

He arrived as a freshman at Pomona at the height of the First Gulf War, finding himself peppered with questions about Islam, "as if you were the spokesman for everybody." At the time, he was one of literally a handful of Muslim students on all five Claremont campuses combined. "We still managed to find each other to start the Muslim Students Association," he recalls. Initially, the group rallied around a campaign to keep dining halls open later during Ramadan, which requires fasting until after sunset. From that victory, the goals evolved, stressing education to combat stereotypes and promote better understanding.

Dhanidina, an aspiring diplomat who got a degree in international relations, knew he had come to the right school. Pomona's diversity is what drew him here in the first place.

"I think I would not be the person I am today if I had not gone to Pomona," says the judge, who still maintains strong friendships with a multicultural group of his freshman hall mates. "Everyone is encouraged to think big about the ways they want to make the world a better place. And I really bought into that."

IT WAS THE IDEA OF “EMPTINESS” THAT DREW PROFESSOR OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES ZHIRU NG TO BUDDHISM. NOW SHE DELIGHTS IN INTRODUCING STUDENTS TO THE DIFFICULT CONCEPT.

THE MEANING OF EMPTINESS

STORY BY MARK WOOD
PHOTOS BY CARRIE ROSEMA



When asked what she would save if the building were on fire, Professor of Religious Studies Zhiru Ng looks around for a moment at her office in Pearsons Hall. Like most academic offices, it is full of accumulated objects, big and small. There are two large, beautifully carved Buddhas, a hanging scroll with calligraphed Chinese characters saying, in loose translation, “Serenity illuminates,” and a long wall of bookshelves packed with volumes and small religious items, including a painted statuette of Dizang, a figure in Buddhist mythology about whom she has written a scholarly book.

Finally she points to her bookshelf. “I think my books are very much a part of me,” she says, “because to me, meditation is learning.” But then she shrugs and smiles. “Although if there is a fire, there is a fire.”

Sentimental attachments are not a part of Ng’s world. Her world is one of transience and acceptance. Or as she would say, emptiness. Not a very heartwarming word in English, and she says it’s pretty much the same in Chinese. But for Ng, emptiness isn’t something to be avoided. It’s something to be understood and embraced, even if it takes a lifetime of meditation and study.

As an example of what she means by the word, she points to the larger of the two Buddhas, inherited along with the office from her predecessor, Professor Emerita of Religion Margaret Dornish. “Like this Buddha,” she says. “Every day it is aging and it is undergoing change, right? But we don’t see that. We see it as a fixed form. ... So

emptiness is not saying there is nothing, but rather that the essence of things and of our lives themselves and the events in our lives are like this Buddha. They seem to have a fixed nature, but the nature is really never, ever fixed. It is in constant change, even though the naked eye can’t see it.”

And blind faith in permanence, she believes, has serious consequences for the human condition. “I think all human beings—the way we function in life is that we assume a permanence about everything, and that is the cause and root of a lot of our suffering.”

It was these concepts—all encapsulated by the word “emptiness”—that propelled Ng from simple curiosity about Buddhist traditions to a lifetime devoted to study and contemplation. “The first dharma talk I attended was by the person who would become my religious teacher,” she recalls. “And he was talking about emptiness, which was at that time totally over and beyond my head. But I ▶

“IT’S A REJOICING THAT IS NOT LIKE HAPPINESS THAT BRINGS YOU UP AND DOWN, BUT IT’S A REJOICING IN THE SENSE THAT THIS IS LIFE, AND LIFE ITSELF IS ALREADY ENOUGH AS IT IS, AND THAT IT HAS ALL ITS MIRACLES.”

remember, after the lecture, the friend who brought me there asked me, ‘So how was it?’ And I said, ‘I don’t quite understand it, but I’m very sure this is it, and this is something that I am going to pursue in life, and that someday, I’m going to understand this emptiness, and that will change my life.’”

GROWING UP IN SINGAPORE as a child of Chinese immigrants, Ng thought of Christianity as the religion of the educated, but personally, she found it too harsh and too culturally strange to be attractive. Her mother and grandmother, on the other hand, practiced a form of popular Chinese Buddhism known as Pure Land Buddhism that the skeptical young Ng dismissed as naïve and superstitious.

At school, she started off in the sciences, and then won a competitive government scholarship for a special program designed to produce English teachers. There, in classes of two to five students taught by British expatriates with doctorates, she fell in love with English literature. “Literature really made me explore life,” she explains, “because in English literature, or any kind of literature, I think, you’re going to raise the question of suffering. You’re going to raise the question of the meaning of life. You also raise the question of death, and the impermanence of life always runs through all their writing. And I was struck by that, but I also felt deeply that there was never really an answer.”

Then, during her last year of high school, her grandmother died, and Ng’s life changed. “When I attended the funeral, I became enthralled by the death-and-dying rituals,” she says, “because they talk about how you will be born into what is considered a pure land, and in that pure land, you have as your parents the lotus flowers.”

That peculiar image intrigued her, partly because it seemed to signal a release from the burden of filial piety, a Chinese tradition emphasizing the deep respect and devotion children owe their parents. “Filial piety is very, very much something I was raised with,” she says. “But I always felt guilt that I never really loved my parents as much as they loved me. And so, when I participated in those rituals, my grandmother’s death rituals, and I came across those verses, I was fascinated. Because how could my parents then be lotuses? And that actually started me off on my journey.”

As she continued her English studies at the National University of Singapore, she tried to learn more about Buddhism outside the academic setting. She signed up for classes with a Buddhist monk from Taiwan and was drawn deeper and deeper into Buddhist philosophy, which spoke to her as nothing ever had before.

She says: “I found, actually, in my study of Buddhism, that this is something that holds some answers for my existential questioning as to: What is the meaning of life? Why do people suffer? And how do we respond to people suffering? ... I found that teaching to be very

useful, but also very hard to realize. I wanted to dedicate my life to the study of Buddhism, whatever that means. So I decided after I finished my undergraduate studies that I would become a Buddhist nun.”

Since then, she’s never looked back. “Sometimes students ask me why do I become a monastic,” she says, “because in the modern world monasticism really means you are tying yourself down. We have lots of rules and regulations. ... But in early Buddhism, the idea of monasticism really means to go forth. It’s a path of liberation, in the sense that you put down things that are unnecessary baggage, and that allows you then to pursue this path. So it’s really a renunciation of certain patterns of thought. For some people like me, I guess, the monastic life is the perfect path to do that. Ideally in Buddhism, the monastic life should be an environment that really nurtures that kind of inner liberation.”

As a monastic, Ng continued on a spiritual journey that carried her from Singapore to Taiwan for her religious training, and then, unexpectedly, to the United States. “Originally I imagined that I would be going to maybe India or to Sri Lanka to study after my religious training, but my teacher actually was very specific. He really wanted me to come to the States.”

At the University of Michigan, she studied Indian Buddhism in the canonical languages of Sanskrit and Tibetan. Then she completed her doctoral studies at the University of Arizona, focusing on Chinese and Japanese Buddhism. In 2000, she joined Pomona’s religious studies faculty to replace the retiring Professor Dornish.

TODAY, STRIDING ACROSS the Quad or standing in front of a seminar class, Ng cuts a striking figure. With her tightly cropped hair and purple-gray monastic robes, she has become a familiar if somewhat singular presence on campus. Her classes—such as Worlds of Buddhism, Life Story of the Buddha, Religious Traditions of China, and the Lotus Sutra in East Asia—attract a wide range of students, from religious studies majors connecting the dots between world religions to Asian Americans hoping to get a better grasp of their cultural heritage to religious seekers searching for spiritual clues in Eastern thought.

“My colleagues say that they probably have fewer seekers than I do,” she says, “and I think that has to do with the way Buddhism is portrayed and understood in American culture, in the sense that Buddhism is often seen as a religion that’s less institutionalized, a personal religion, something that you could actually pick and choose from.”

But despite her evident dedication to her religious order, Ng isn’t trying to convert anyone. Buddhism, she says, is not that kind of religion. “Buddhism is really about epistemology,” she explains, “in the sense that you’re trying to unlearn how you know the world and



coming up with a different way of experiencing knowing the world that involves internal transformation. I always tell my students that we wear contact lenses, but we don’t see the contact lenses, so we already have preconceived constructions of things. So it’s always very good to expose yourself to something new.”

For most of the students in her classes, those “contact lenses” are shaped by the assumptions of Western culture—assumptions about life and death, time and change that are very different from those in Buddhist thought. “Much of what I do in my courses is about unpacking these kinds of assumptions with my students so that they are aware. And I think it fits very nicely into the liberal arts setting because you are really questioning culture and questioning the way you construct knowledge, including religious knowledge.”

Indeed, at a time when many religions—from Christianity to Hinduism—are dealing with a clash between the dogmatic teachings of churches, temples and seminaries and the more irreverent, scholarly approach of religious studies programs, Ng finds that Buddhism is something of an exception. The first stage of meditation, she says, is described in Buddhist texts as “hearing”—as in hearing the teachings of the Buddhist masters—but that word was part of an oral tradition. “Now for us hearing really means reading, right?” she says. “So it means studying, in other words.”

For most of her students, this first stage of meditation—study and

learning—will be as far as they go, but she believes that just wrestling with the concept of emptiness for a semester is enough to open a lot of eyes to a wider view of the world.

“When they first come across this, especially if they have never had any exposure to Asian thought, they might be a little bit perplexed,” she says. “It’s very difficult to get to the crux of it. But I think you’ll be surprised at how many of them feel that this is such a wonderful, different way of looking at things. And they enjoy the new lenses that it gives them.”

However, that is only the first step in what is, for Ng herself, a lifelong process. In Buddhist meditation, beyond hearing is contemplation, and beyond contemplation is internal transformation. That process, she says, may take a lifetime or—if you factor in the concept of rebirth—lifetimes. But Ng has no doubt that it’s worth it, not just in the end, but at every step along the way.

“It means not grasping onto anything in your life,” she says, “but accepting the fact that it is part of the impermanence, and rejoicing in the fact that there’s always that change. It’s a rejoicing that is not like happiness that brings you up and down, but it’s a rejoicing in the sense that this is life, and life itself is already enough as it is, and that it has all its miracles. And if you just open your eyes and look at this and accept the changes, you will find a lot of things that are joyous about it, and you will be much more at peace in your life.”

DONALD ABRAM '16 HEARD THE CALL BEFORE COMING TO POMONA,
BUT HIS STUDIES HERE HAVE GIVEN IT A WHOLE NEW MEANING.

THE CALLING

STORY BY SNEHA ABRAHAM | PHOTOS BY DREW REYNOLDS

Donald Abram '16

grew up on the South Side of Chicago with a single mother and a grandmother who took him to church every Sunday, no excuses—and he tried using them all, down to not having clean socks.

Every week he would see church members joyfully worship. He never really understood what that was about even though he was an active member of the congregation. Then, on a cold December day when he was 14 years old, Abram says he heard a distinct call from God.

After coming home from school and warming himself by his space heater, Abram dozed off. In a dream, he saw himself walking down the center aisle at church, but as a celestial being, not a physical one. He looked up to the pulpit expecting to see his pastor standing there, but instead he saw himself preaching. Abram says he woke up shocked and shaken.

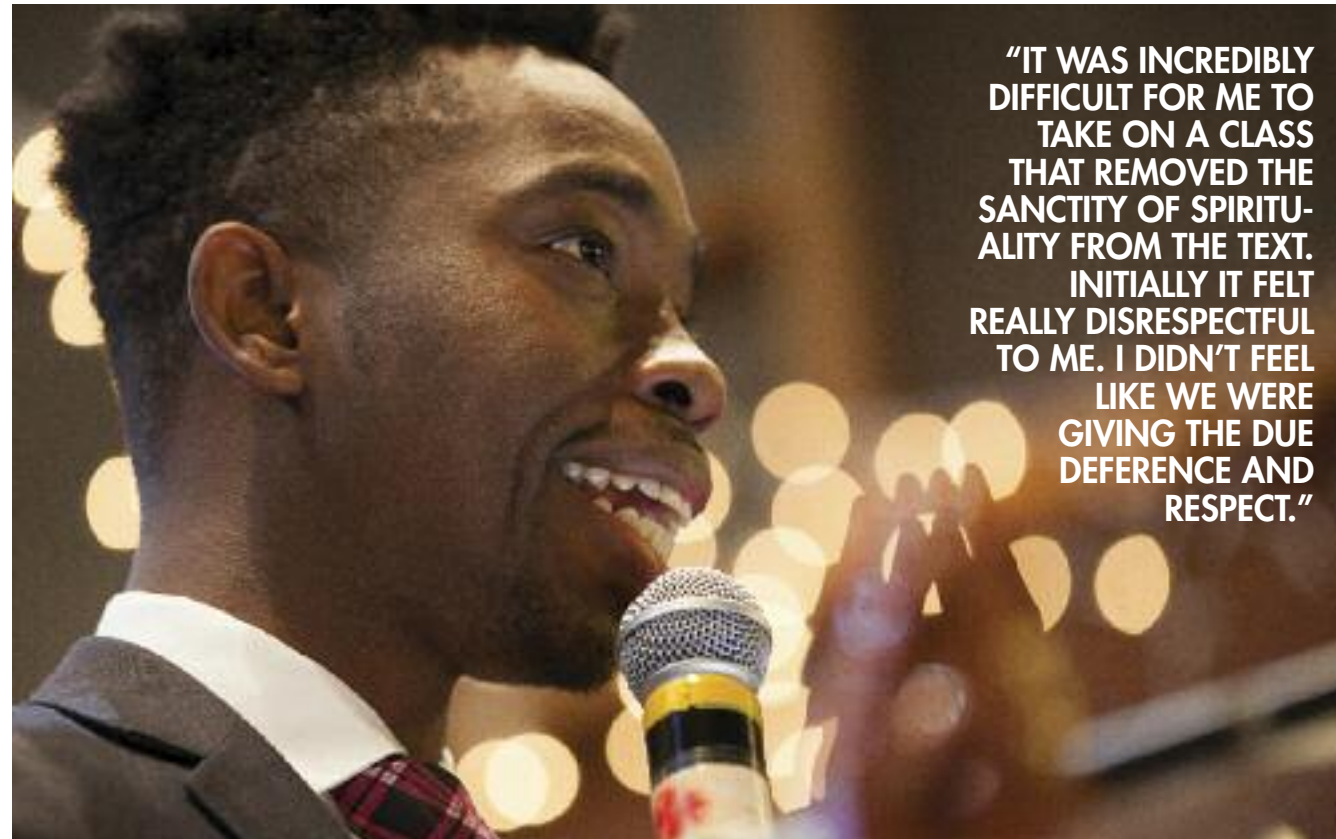
His father was a minister, and though Abram never lived with him, he knew the Sunday morning routine and what a preacher's life entailed—and he wasn't having any of it. Throughout his childhood, people had told him, "I see the call in your life," but he says he ran from it.

Abram wanted to be a force for good—but in the form of an FBI agent, not a minister. Still, he talked to family, seeking advice and interpretation about the dream, which was now recurring. Ultimately, he had to come to grips with the vision on his own: He decided that God was in fact telling him to preach. So he went to his pastor, who decided to test him with a trial sermon. Abram preached his first sermon, and the pastor and elders confirmed that this call was a real one.

He vividly remembers one moment in the sermon when he thought: "This is what I saw in the dream. This is what I'm supposed to be doing, and I know that."

You've heard of the preacher's kid. But this was a preacher kid. All throughout high school, Abram delivered sermons at Greater New Mount Eagle Missionary Baptist Church, a black congregation. At first he mimicked his pastor, but soon he found his own rhythm and style, earning the nicknames "Fireball" and "Firecracker" for his blazing energy. Abram says he feels communion with both God and the audience when he's in the pulpit.

"There are things that I will say and things that I will do that are not on my manuscript, and the Holy Spirit drops that down in my



"IT WAS INCREDIBLY DIFFICULT FOR ME TO TAKE ON A CLASS THAT REMOVED THE SANCTITY OF SPIRITUALITY FROM THE TEXT. INITIALLY IT FELT REALLY DISRESPECTFUL TO ME. I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE WE WERE GIVING THE DUE DEFERENCE AND RESPECT."

spirit and it comes out," says Abram. "I am just so in tune with that moment that I know this is what I'm supposed to do—this is what I've been called to do."

While growing up, Abram's interactions were mostly with black people. His original plan was to attend the historically black Morehouse College, which Martin Luther King Jr. and Spike Lee attended—that's where successful African American men went to school where he was from, Abram says. But when he received a Posse Foundation scholarship to Pomona, he began to rethink those plans. After researching the College, he decided to go west. Another big change was on the way.

THE DECISION TO come to Pomona was another turning point for Abram and the beginning of a four-year transformation. In the classroom, he was challenged to think of his faith more critically through courses like Professor Erin Runions' Introduction to the Hebrew Bible. Runions' goal is for students to approach the Scriptures as literature, from a scholarly perspective rather than a particular religious tradition. Looking at the Bible through this new lens created an inner struggle, he says.

"It was incredibly difficult for me to take on a class that removed

the sanctity of spirituality from the text," says Abram. "Initially it felt really disrespectful to me. I didn't feel like we were giving the due deference and respect."

But the no-holds-barred questioning of the Bible gave him permission to reexamine his belief system. "There were a lot of questions that came up that I didn't have the space to bring up on the South Side, with my pastor or my father," Abram says.

The perspectives and points that Abram thought were great in the classroom ran counter to what he was taught in the church. He grappled hard with his faith, controversial texts and the ways he saw the Bible used to perpetuate injustice. In conversations, family members and his pastor noticed his worldview shifting.

As Abram's advisor and teacher, Pomona College Politics Professor Lorn Foster witnessed that shift as well. Over time, Foster says, he saw an evolution in Abram and "a willingness to be more open about things than when he entered Pomona College. ... His faith was more dogma when he entered the door."

Abram would agree. Whereas before, he says, his spiritual practice revolved around a God that had a strict code of rules and regulations, at Pomona his perspective has widened and deepened into a recognition that the core of his belief is about relationship with

Christ, not religion, he says. This ongoing faith journey is one of both reclamation and tension.

It is also a journey of relationships. On campus, he says, he encountered types of people he never had before—students from marginalized backgrounds that were markedly different from his black Chicago experience. He met undocumented students, gay students, students with mental illnesses—identities and stories that were new to him and that he felt the church he was raised in either ignored or was blind to. Over time, Abram became concerned not just about God but also about God's politics, as he understood them. Another call began to stir in his heart.

Through his analysis of biblical texts, readings on black liberation theology, and his relationships with other students, Abram says he began to see Jesus not only as a spiritual savior but also as a revolutionary figure—an advocate for the poor and those on the fringes, who upended traditional religious institutions and whose central message was one of unconditional love. Religious leaders in that day were also government figures, and Jesus pushed back, Abram says. He points to the story of Jesus turning over tables in the temple in anger as a profoundly political act. "You could call it a protest. You could call it a sit-in. You can really call it an act of rebellion in many ways to

a system that keeps [down] those in society who are viewed as less than or who are viewed as different or not as valued. And he is saying, 'This system has to come down. This system has to stop. Because what you're doing now on a very micro level is taking advantage of people.'"

NOW RELIGION AND POLITICS have become one and the same for Abram. Yes, his call was a personal transformation, but he was also called to transform institutions and systems of injustice, the politics major says.

Whenever he returns to his home church sanctuary, he preaches a message on how life in the pew and life in the public square are inextricably intertwined. In his sermons he is subtle, but intentional and strategic in weaving in his politicization, Abram says, and the response has been overwhelmingly positive as he offers critiques of materialism and urges congregants to fight for the most vulnerable in society. "I think the church is not able to see those connections because we focus on abortion, gay marriage or passing out Thanksgiving dinners," says Abram. "We're not focused on structural change."

Abram points to inequities in the criminal justice system, massive wealth disparities and the behavior of Wall Street investors—and he believes the most effective ways to combat those inequities are through policy and government as well as a mobilized church. "Christ has called you to condemn that which is wrong," and Abram believes the church writ large has missed some of what he sees now as obvious sins.

Along the way, Abram has become a fierce advocate for the Black Lives Matter movement, which he believes is "an indictment of the black church." Of course, he says, the black church has held a key role in the civil rights struggles of the past. But on other issues the church has been silent at best.

"Black Lives Matter is actually doing what Jesus did. Not only are they saying, 'We're combating white supremacy.' They are combating misogyny, transphobia, homophobia, discrimination against those who are differently abled," says Abram. "I think Black Lives Matter has hit at the root of what it is Christ has called us to fight against but also the root of what the church has failed to address."

Abram has held two internships in Washington, D.C.—one at the Center for American Progress and another with Joshua DuBois, formerly the head of the Obama administration's Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. He remains hopeful that change will happen both in the church and in public policy.

In the fall, he will attend Harvard Divinity School for a master's of divinity degree. He may also pursue a master's in public policy. Inspired by DuBois's work, Abram wants to start a faith-based consulting firm, advising government, businesses and political campaigns. He says he may even run for public office someday.

"Jesus came as a liberator. Therefore in all that we do, we should do it in the name of liberation. And we should do that with conviction, with power and with strategy. ... I want to be in a position where my faith is central to policies or advice that I give so that it can be impactful and beneficial for those that are most marginalized in our society."

And preaching?

"I will continue to preach. I will always be a preacher."

From Abram's view, his call hasn't changed—it has only grown.

AFTER WITNESSING TERRIBLE WRONGS AS A MEDICAL STUDENT, DR. KAREN BENKER '67 HAS DEVOTED HER CAREER TO THE FIGHT FOR MEDICAL JUSTICE.

NO MÁS

STORY BY ALEXANDER GELFAND | PHOTOS BY CASEY KELBAUGH





**MOST DOCTORS HAVE WAR
STORIES FROM THEIR DAYS AS
MEDICAL STUDENTS: THEIR FIRST
ENCOUNTER WITH A CADAVER;
THEIR FIRST ROTATION IN THE
EMERGENCY ROOM. FEW,
HOWEVER, COMPARE
WITH KAREN BENKER'S.**

As a student at the University of Southern California's School of Medicine from 1967 to 1971, Benker did rotations at what was then the L.A. County Hospital (now LAC+USC Medical Center), a large public teaching hospital in the predominantly Mexican-American neighborhood of Boyle Heights. She became especially familiar with the obstetrics ward in the Women's Hospital unit, where she worked as an obstetric technician, delivering babies on the night shift.

It was an eye-opening experience.

On her very first day on the ward, Benker heard a senior physician declare how "wonderful" it was that the obstetrics department had just received "a big federal grant to cut the birthrate of the black and Mexican population." Soon after, she would discover that many African- and Mexican-American patients were in fact bullied into being surgically sterilized.

"You want this?" she recalls hearing one resident ask a laboring woman as he held a syringe full of painkilling medicine in front of her, a sterilization consent form at the ready. "Sign!"

"It was barbaric," says Benker, who is now an associate professor of health policy and management and associate dean for community public health affairs at SUNY Downstate College of Medicine in Brooklyn, New York.

In 1975, a small team of lawyers filed a class action civil rights lawsuit in federal district court against the hospital and state and federal officials on behalf of 10 Mexican-American women who claimed

"It was a good environment for people to do the wrong thing."

that they were coerced into undergoing a sterilization procedure known as tubal ligation. The lawyers argued that sterilizing their clients without their informed consent violated their right to bear children—a right guaranteed under the Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade*.

Once largely forgotten, the story of *Madrigal v. Quilligan* came to national prominence again in 2015 thanks to the release of *No Más Bebés* ("No More Babies"), a documentary film by Academy Award-nominated director Renee Tajima-Peña that explores the events surrounding the case. And the details of what transpired remain as disquieting today as they were when Karen Benker first witnessed them nearly 50 years ago.

Some of the women of *Madrigal* were sterilized without their knowledge while under general anesthetic, only to discover months or years later that they could no longer bear children. Others were

falsely assured that the procedure was medically necessary or easily reversible; most were pressured into giving consent while they were in active labor, their minds fogged by painkillers. Several were accused by nurses of "burdening the taxpayers" with their offspring, or harassed by doctors who insisted that their poverty and immigration status would make it difficult for them to raise any more children.

Although a resident at the hospital leaked evidence crucial to the case, Benker was the only hospital employee who testified in court on behalf of the plaintiffs; the rest either agreed with what had gone on or feared retribution. "She's a great heroine in my eyes," says Virginia Espinosa, the historian who produced *No Más Bebés*. "She would not be silent."

Although the judge found in favor of the defendants, the publicity generated by *Madrigal* helped draw attention to a pattern of coerced sterilization among minority and low-income women throughout the United States. (Other affected groups included African-Americans in the South, Native Americans under the care of the Indian Health Service, and working-class women in Puerto Rico.) The case ultimately helped drive changes to sterilization laws and consent protocols across the country, and expanded the conversation around reproductive rights to include not only abortion and birth control, but also the right to procreate.

As a result, says Benker, the women of *Madrigal* lost their case, but they won the battle.

Seated at a long oval conference table in the SUNY Downstate building, the surrounding neighborhood of East Flatbush visible through the window behind her, Benker—thoughtful, easygoing, and quick to smile—does not look like a firebrand. Appearances can be deceiving.

Growing up in the hamlet of Quaker Hill, Connecticut, Benker always dreamt of becoming a doctor. As an undergraduate, she was already riding the bus to USC to serve as a guinea pig in the School of Medicine's earliest experiments with case-based

learning—a model of medical training that has students meet immediately with patients, rather than spending their first two years memorizing material from textbooks. She was, she says, fairly naïve, her politics moderately conservative.

But the sixties were tumultuous times, and Benker, who speaks of the high school friends she lost in Vietnam and describes the Watts riots that raged across South Central Los Angeles in 1965 as "earth-shattering," remembers them as an era when many in her generation became increasingly aware of the injustices perpetrated within and by American society.

The experiences that she and her fellow students shared at L.A. County Hospital could only have hastened the process. For most, she says, their encounters with patients represented their first exposure to an impoverished black and Hispanic population, and "a first understanding of what it's like to be a 40-year-old mother with seven kids

who has to work 12 hours a day."

If time and place contributed to the awakening of Benker's social conscience, they also conspired to provide her with a singular opportunity to act on it.

In 1909, California became one of the first states to pass a law sanctioning the nonconsensual sterilization of the feeble-minded and the unfit, thereby propelling it to the forefront of the American eugenics movement. According to historian Alexandra Minna Stern, by the time California repealed its sterilization law in 1979 in response to *Madrigal*, the state was responsible for one-third of the more than 60,000 nonconsensual sterilizations carried out nationwide in state-run hospitals and homes.

Even after eugenics lost its luster after WWII, many in California and elsewhere continued to embrace sterilization as a tool for combating overpopulation by limiting reproduction among welfare mothers, immigrants, and others regarded as representing a burden on



society. In 1968, when Benker was in her second year of medical school, the Stanford biologist Paul R. Ehrlich published *The Population Bomb*, which predicted that out-of-control population growth would lead to mass starvation. By that same year, approximately one-third of all women of childbearing age in Puerto Rico had been coerced sterilized under a population-control program funded by the American government.

There were other factors at play, as well. The very notion of informed consent was still in its infancy: The National Research Act, which requires that doctors obtain informed consent from human research subjects, was passed only in 1974, following the revelation that hundreds of black men had been intentionally deprived of medical treatment as part of the Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male. What's more, the late 1960s saw a massive influx of federal funding for birth control and family-planning services, much of it pumped into public teaching hospitals like L.A. County, where residents often felt pressured by their superiors to perform a certain number of surgeries every day. And while not all hospital employees

harbored racial and ethnic prejudices, some clearly did: In her deposition for *Madrigal*, Benker described how physicians in the Women's Hospital referred to Chicana patients as "beans."

Add it all up, and you have what the sociologist Elana Gutierrez has called a "perfect storm" of circumstances leading to coercive sterilization. With its high proportion of African-American and Mexican-American patients and its factory-like atmosphere—Benker recalls the labor room as a small space crammed with women crying out in pain as nurses and doctors rushed about to free up beds—the obstetrics ward at L.A. County may have been especially conducive to such abuse.

"It was a good environment for people to do the wrong thing," she says.

It was also, for Benker, a crucible of sorts; she would devote the rest of her career to public health, advocating on behalf of immigrants, children, and other vulnerable groups.

After graduating from USC, Benker did an internship at Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx, an area whose large Puerto Rican population still bore the scars of the territory's mass sterilization program. While there, she helped establish the Committee to End Sterilization Abuse, or CESA ("stop" in Spanish), which convinced the New York City Council to pass a law requiring that a woman give consent no less than 30 days before being sterilized. Then she heard about *Madrigal*.

Antonia Hernández, the young Latina lawyer who served as co-counsel for the plaintiffs, came to New York to discuss the case and slept on the floor of Benker's studio apartment. Benker, in turn, flew to Los Angeles to help raise funds for the suit. In 1978 she gave her testimony in federal court, a lone doctor speaking out against what she had witnessed seven years earlier.

Back in New York, Benker served as director of programs for homeless families at the New York City Department of Health; conducted research for the Legal Aid Society on the health outcomes of homeless pregnant women, which led to reforms in the services provided to such women; and investigated the conditions of children living in foster care. After coming to SUNY Downstate in the early 1990s to work with HIV patients, she became director of the school's first Community Health Center and developed its Master of Public Health Program.

When Espinosa began researching *Madrigal* in 1994, Benker readily agreed to participate—just as she did when Espinosa and Tajima-Peña decided to make *No Más Bebés*. "Bringing the facts to a wider popular audience was thrilling to me," she says. "It meant a new generation of people could learn about this very disturbing aspect of medical and social injustice."

These days, Benker focuses on policy issues surrounding mental illness and spends most of her time teaching—or as she puts it, trying to develop a healthcare workforce that won't make the mistakes of the past. Mistakes that she has seen firsthand and has spent a lifetime trying to make right.

"It's a great way to get up in the morning," she says.

And with that, the heroine of *Madrigal* pushes back her chair, rises to her feet, and prepares to set an exam for her students—young men and women, many hailing from working-class immigrant families, whom she is training to take up a battle that she has waged for nearly half a century, and of which she has clearly yet to tire.

[ALUMNI VOICES]

Daring,
Feetfirst

BY STEFAN CASTELLANOS '11

To enter Los Angeles County from the southeast, follow Pacific Coast Highway through Seal Beach and onto a bridge spanning Los Cerritos Wetlands and the San Gabriel River. Off to your left, the marshy expanse turns to ocean. On your right, factory smokestacks stand against a hazy mountain range. The four-lane road narrows as it rises over the swamp. Go about a quarter mile until you reach a stoplight, where the road levels and widens again. You're in Long Beach now. There's a Whole Foods on the left if you'd like a snack.

Crossing this kind of imaginary line on a ho-hum stretch of highway is hardly noteworthy for drivers. Likewise for cyclists, able to coast up the easy incline in their own lane. But since I'm on foot, my experience is more visceral. I toe the rightmost white line of the bike lane and feel the surprising definition of the paint underfoot. I hurdle a semicircle of fibrous black rubber, being careful not to land in a puddle of shattered window glass. Still, I'm thankful to be on the road, rather than slogging through the mud as I did several days before. As for that imaginary line, it still isn't real, just like that tall can of coconut water isn't really a glass of champagne. Sure tastes like sweet, small victory though. Cheers to staying alive and feeling it, too.

At a table outside the Whole Foods, four cyclists who blew right past me on the bridge sit eating fruit and potato chips.

"How long have you been running, man?"
"Since Mexico. Only 30 more miles till L.A."

"Damn, dude! That's wild. I've never even thought of going that far."

"Ha, to be honest, I hadn't either. Just went for it."

The trip had come together quickly, almost foolishly so. I remember waiting to board an afternoon flight to San Diego while I took stock of my personal effects: a small CamelBak, an outdated guidebook, a four-year-old iPhone with a faulty battery, a sore left knee. Less than two weeks prior, I'd volunteered to travel the 150 miles from the Mexican border to downtown Los Angeles on foot, by myself, blazing the trail for others to make the journey this August. It would be called El Camino del Inmigrante—the Way of the Immigrant—a display of solidarity and a rallying cry for policy reform, an initiative proposed by my father.

A few months before, my father and I had completed the Camino de Santiago together, walking 500 miles from the Pyrenees to the Atlantic across northern Spain.

And as it so often does, emerging from such a crucible subconsciously compelled us to apply the principles of pilgrimage to our own lives, framing our goals and pursuits as a journey necessary for self-actualization. For me, the rite marked a return to running and a renewed will to explore. For my dad, it provided a means of mobilizing other activists and allies, using an inherently spiritual framework as a forum for discussing worldly issues. CEO of the Christian Community Development Association and longtime crusader for immigration reform, he's lived the past 25 years of his life in La Villita, a Mexican community on Chicago's West Side, feeling the struggle of the undocumented American on a personal level while giving voice to it on a national one. He is just the man for this mission. As for me—restless, a little reckless and perpetually in search of

purpose—I make the perfect scout. *Vamos.*

The real thing will be a 10-day affair, with dozens of walkers, plus nightly events and fellowship. (They will also be skipping the dangerous parts, for the record.) For this scouting trip, I'm giving myself only five days, on account of professional obligations back home.

Now, standing in International Friendship Park—as far southwest as you can go on



U.S. soil—I slap the wrought-iron border fence as if to start a stopwatch and take off, hoping the dirt trails will prove a safer alternative to the sidewalk-less streets. Before long I'm high-stepping through the muddy chaparral down dead-end paths, dodging boulder-sized tumbleweeds. There are

helicopters patrolling overhead, trying (I imagine) to catch me runnin' dirty. But it isn't just the danger or the adrenaline that gets my mind running wild. Rather, it begins with the diagnostic scan any runner naturally takes of his or her own body over those first few moments or first few miles, identifying any sensations—good, bad or otherwise—and weighing them against the reality of the distance ahead. For me, it's a hyper-awareness that can't help but radiate outward, connecting me to the street or the buildings or passersby.

Perhaps this is why so many people claim to do their best thinking on the move. Besides simply getting the blood flowing, the movement plants a tiny seed of symbiosis, sprouting into curiosity, empathy and compassion.

I make it out of the dirt-road labyrinth and up the Silver Strand to Coronado. Into San Diego via ferry and on to La Jolla, where I sleep in a van with a minimalist friend from college. Past Torrey Pines Golf Course, merging onto the sidewalks of Highway 101, I shuffle through Del Mar, then Encinitas, then Carlsbad, straight into an ice bath in the tub of an Oceanside motel. Two days, 60 miles down. Not fully awake yet, I find myself staring down the end of an automatic rifle. One does not simply jog into Camp

Pendleton, it seems. The chunky-necked marine lowers the barrel and points it toward the bus I have to take to the other side of the base. I hop out in San Clemente and continue on to Laguna Beach, fear-sprinting the last few miles on the shoulder of the narrow highway. I watch the sunset on a rock

and go out on the town for some beers, at least one for each of today's brushes with death. The fourth day is heavenly by comparison, past Newport, Huntington and Seal Beach on a long, leisurely stroll. And then, the bridge.

Back in L.A. County, mind as sharp as I can ever remember, I'm now headed in a clear direction. It's exactly the opposite of how I left five years prior. Lining up alphabetically to take part in commencement exercises, I could see the banners strung upright from the lampposts along Stover Walk. They were beaded with water from the drizzling rain, the 2-D portraits of my outstanding friends and classmates taking on a slick, watery shine. They were the faces of *Campaign Pomona: Daring Minds*, celebrating an attribute supposedly shared by all of us receiving diplomas that day. It was an unsettling sight, because my own mind felt as blunt as a butter knife. I was in a fog, stuck in the mud, wondering how I would make myself useful—let alone successful—outside of Claremont.

To say that the opposite of rumination is motion—literally moving forward—seems strangely metaphorical. "Moving on" in a psychological or emotional sense somehow seems far more practical, even though this act of personal progress is itself a metaphor derived from corporeal movement. "Walk it off" is sound advice after being plunked by a fastball, but it's hardly a tonic for indecision or identity crisis. Those are situations you reason and educate your way out of, carefully weighing the possible outcomes before starting down a path in earnest. It's not called "Campaign Pomona: Daring Bodies," mind you.

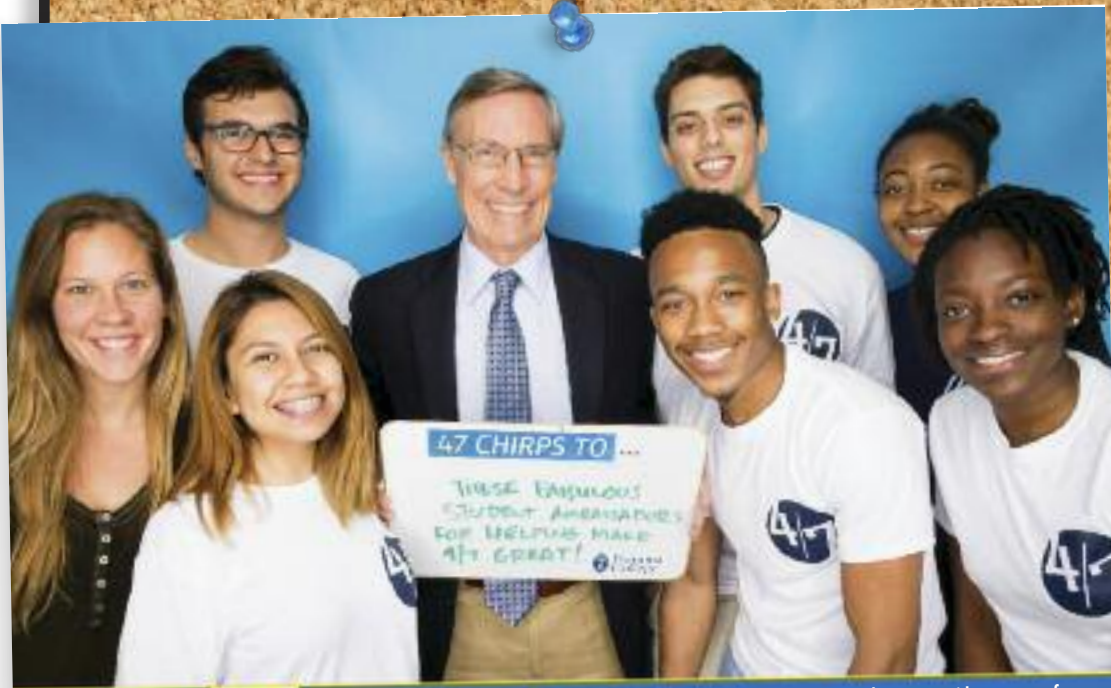
But as I returned home to Chicago as a new graduate, confused and neurotic, something strange began to happen. I started walking and running long distances, sometimes for exercise, sometimes because I was too broke for bus fare, but mostly because I didn't know what else to do. And the more I moved from point to point—across the neighborhood, across the city, across finish lines—the more connected it all seemed to be. Not just this house to that house or this train station to that office building, but this community to that one, this reality to one a world apart. After an interdisciplinary educa-

tion from a liberal arts college, this was my graduate course in Applied Everything. Each discrete skill was plotted on a map, and now I was learning to connect these disciplines to forge a purposeful path, one that had now led me back to where this meandering journey began.

I say goodbye to my new cyclist friends at the Whole Foods and jog the last few miles into Cambodia Town, Long Beach, where I stay for the night. Up and out of there at the crack of dawn, my fifth and final day seems almost ceremonial, just an easy 20-mile trot up the L.A. River bike path, through Skid Row and straight to the Westin Bonaventure downtown, the host hotel for the annual CCDA conference and the end point of the Camino. I slap the side of the building as if to turn off the stopwatch and call my dad. It's done and dusted—a clear, walkable line from the wrought-iron fence to a shiny marble bench there at the valet stand. I take a seat and stare down at my shoes. They're still caked with dried mud from the border field.

To claim that I suddenly understand the struggle of the immigrant because I ran a long way up a scenic trail would be ridiculous. I don't; I never will. If anything, an affinity for recreational pain is proof that I've suffered—truly suffered—very little in my lifetime. But to reduce physical effort to mere sport may be just as misguided. I've seen aimless tours of a city open the mind to life's beautiful web of alleyways and back roads. I've seen a cross-country trek take a father-son relationship from small talk to real talk. And I've felt a boldness of body spark an audacity of mind. So to say that this journey has made me a more engaged and empathetic individual, and that it may yet play a tiny role in some big change—well, that doesn't sound ridiculous at all.

The following day I return home. There's a letter from Pomona in my mailbox, announcing the conclusion of the historically successful *Daring Minds* campaign. And upon seeing it, instead of that undeserving, stuck-in-the-mud feeling from five years back, I feel proud, knowing that there was something daring in me all along. The only difference was, I had to dare feetfirst and work my way up.



President David Oxtoby poses with a group of student volunteers on 4/7 Day, 2016

Happy 4-7 Sagehens!

Sagehens Celebrate 4/7 with Good Deeds

On April 7, Pomona hosted the second annual Celebration of Sagehen Impact to honor and recognize the good work and good will of our community of "everyday Daring Minds." Sagehens around the world flooded the Pomona Alumni Facebook group with thousands of likes, comments and posts about alumni service projects, while more than 500 students braved spring rain on campus to celebrate this special day of community spirit. 47 chirps to Sagehens near and far for bearing your added riches, and for another year of uplifting community support that is solidifying the 4/7 Celebration of Sagehen Impact as a proud, new Pomona tradition! To see a sampling of posts from alumni participants, visit [facebook.com/groups/sagehens](https://www.facebook.com/groups/sagehens) and search for #SagehenImpact.

Pomona Book Club

In April, Pomona's new Alumni Learning & Career Programs team launched the **Pomona College Book Club** on Goodreads. The Book Club connects Pomona alumni, professors, students, parents and staff around a common love of reading. Become a member by visiting [pomona.edu/bookclub](https://www.pomona.edu/bookclub) to check out a summer reading list of recommendations from some of this year's Wig Award-winning faculty and share your own favorite books.



Thanks to Onetta

47 hearty chirps to **Onetta Brooks '74** for a year of thoughtful leadership and dedicated service as Pomona's 2015-16 President of the Alumni Association! Onetta proved a wonderful steward for the board's evolution to a more action-oriented group, and exhibited her commitment to a thriving alumni community throughout the year during alumni events and 4/7 activities, organization of responses to the Title IX policy and engagement in conversations about inclusivity. Many thanks, Onetta!

Alumni Weekend and Alumni Award Winners

Alumni Weekend, April 28 through May 1, 2016, brought nearly 1,600 Sagehens home to Claremont for a weekend of fun and reconnection. In addition to cornerstone activities such as class dinners, guest speakers, the alumni vintner wine tasting and the parade of classes, guests of Alumni Weekend 2016 enjoyed tours of the new Studio Art Hall and Millikan Laboratory, tasted local craft beers with the Class of 2016, attended a Presidential Search Forum and engaged in discussion with executive staff in a town hall-style forum regarding current campus issues. Looking forward to your reunion year or just pining for some California sunshine among hundreds of Sagehen friends? Be sure to mark your calendars for the last weekend of April and return to campus for Alumni Weekend 2017!

Alumni Weekend 2016 was also an occasion for guests to hear from 2016 Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award winners **Gretchen Berland '86**, **Ed Krupp '66**, **Julian Nava '51** and to honor Blaisdell winner **George C. Wolfe '76**, who could not attend the celebration. Alumni Distinguished Service Awards were presented to **John Edwards '64** and **Pat Riggs '71**. Learn more about these annual awards and their deserving recipients at [pomona.edu/alumni/services-info/awards](https://www.pomona.edu/alumni/services-info/awards).

For more photos, see Last Look on page 64.



Julian Nava '51 (center) with professors Tomás Summers Sandoval Jr. and Miguel Tinker Salas



John Edwards '64



Gretchen Berland '86



Pat Riggs '71



Ed Krupp '66

Travel-Study

Burgundy The Cradle of the Crusades May 29-June 10, 2017

Join John Sutton Miner Professor of History and Professor of Classics **Ken Wolf** on a walking tour of Burgundy. Burgundy, the east-central region of France so well-known for its food and wine, was also an incubator for two of the most distinctive features of the European Middle Ages: monasticism and crusade. This trip provides the perfect context for exploring "holy violence" in the Middle Ages and its implications for the 21st century.



'41 Attending the Diamond Sagehen reunion on Alumni Weekend were: **Dan Downer** and **Eleanor Forbes Pierson**.

'45 **Mayme Lou "Stevey" Bruce** has written *The Bruce Odyssey* about her late husband, **J. Stuart Bruce's** [42] family's adventures on the island of Cyprus. It was written so that family and friends may share the delightful stories of these adventures from 1926-1936. It's available on Amazon.

'46 Attending the Diamond Sagehen reunion on Alumni Weekend were: **Joan Watts Carter** and **Shirley Sturges Murguia**. **Ninety-year old Joan Benson** of Eugene, OR, has always liked to walk/hike. Throughout her life, she has sought out and found opportunities to discover the natural surroundings throughout Europe and the Far East. She is quoted in an article in *The Register-Guard* of April 4, 2016: "I went to places sometimes where very few Westerners had ever been." And so she keeps walking and hiking often today, but she has found that she can't always keep up with community walking programs created for younger seniors—55 and older. So she pushed and pushed the city of Eugene to create a slower senior group whose activities would be modified in speed and distance. Now the city offers slower-paced walks to meet the specific needs of seniors such as Joan. She hopes to find peers who will join her on these peaceful trail walks. The news and photo of **James Hueter's** sculpture-painting acquired by the Huntington Library, Art Collection and Botanical Gardens in the Spring issue of *PCM* was misnamed. The correct title of the work is "Thin Figure Rising." Our apologies to the artist.

'49 Attending the Diamond Sagehen reunion on Alumni Weekend were: **Kenneth McClain**, **William Moremen** and **Milton Wilson**.

'50 Attending the Diamond Sagehen reunion on Alumni Weekend were: **Donald Moss**, **Ralph Lautmann** and **Gordon Douglass**. **Clifford Browder** writes: "Last year, I self-published with Mill City Press a selection of posts from my blog about N.Y.C. titled *No Place for Normal: New York/Stories from the Most Exciting City in the World*. It has won two awards: first place in the travel category of the 2015-2016 Reader Views Literary Awards and the 10th Annual National Indie Excellence Award for Regional Non-Fiction." (Clifford's blog is: *No Place for Normal: New York*)

'51 Attending the Diamond Sagehen reunion on Alumni Weekend were: **Virginia Gist Abblitt**, **George Becker**, **"Skip" Burke**, **Nancy Price Burke**, **Carol Baber Herman**, **Bob Herman**, **Jack Keating**, **Liz Anderson Moore**, **Julian Nava**, **Mary Carolyn Reed Reid**, **Chalmers Smith**, **Deborah Bucquet Stoessel**, **Dorothy Cannon Webb**, **Lino Zambrano**, **Pat Wickersham Newton**, **Pat Pitzer Lautmann**, **Jan Martin Tranquada**, **Bob Tranquada**, **Sylvia Love McCallister**, **Dottie Shaver Decker**,

Robert Hatch, **Joyce Schomberg Reinke**, **Roger Reinke**, **Elinor Todd Christiansen**, **Hank Morgan** and **Prescott Cogswell**.

Robert Carlile, Sedona, AZ, reports he has published his fifth young-adult novel, *Hall of Mirrors*. See his website, www.windwalkersthebook.com. **Julian Nava** participated in the Daring Minds Speaker Series on Friday, April 29, held in Rose Hills Theatre during Alumni Weekend 2016. The Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award winner discussed his distinguished career in foreign affairs and multicultural education and political and social challenges confronting the Hispanic community in Calif. with Associate Professor of History and Chicana/o Latina/o Studies **Tomás Summers Sandoval** and Professor of Latin American History and Chicana/o Latina/o Studies **Miguel Tinker Salas**. **Patricia Wickersham Newton**, Pomona, CA, writes: "I am still here! I am so proud of my kids (3), seven grands and their various loved ones (four of whom are Pomona grads) and two adorable great-granddaughters who may soon finally be Pomonans." **In June, Roger Reinke**, completed his three-year term on the Alumni Association Board.

'51 Attending the Diamond Sagehen reunion on Alumni Weekend were: **Libby Warner Keating**, **Grace Partin Moremen**, **Marie Modesti Spencer**, **Chuck Voorhis**, **Bob Woods**, **Jeannette Merrill Muirhead**, **Dick Dozier** and **Bill Maule**. **Dessau Clarkson**, who played on the Pomona/CMC tennis teams from 1949-1952, won the La Jolla [CA] 2016 Tennis Tournament men's 80 doubles division. His grandsons, **Garrett** and **Brenner Ryan**, are now on the CMC/Harvey Mudd track and cross country team. **Marshall "Will" Hutchason**, Glen Head, NY, has been publishing "A Touch of Hutch" for Boyd Magers' *Western Clippings.com* for 22 years. **Sharon Russell**, Pacific Grove, CA, writes: "I am still an active volunteer at The Monterey Bay Aquarium and Point Lobos State Reserve as well as my resident community. Our motto in all is 'Go Green' and we do so." **Richard Spencer**, Porterville, CA, entered Pomona in 1948, where he was a pre-med, staying two years before transferring to Pacific U. School of Optometry. After practicing in this field for 50 years, he has retired to play golf.

'53 Thirteen members of the Class of 1953 celebrated their Sagehen Diamond 2016 reunion with **John Thornton's** champagne and lunch in Frank Dining Hall on alumni Saturday. They shared stories from the old days and caught up on the latest news. See photo: back row from left: **Nicholas Cortes '91**, son of **Joe** and **Nancy Kotal Cortes**, who was celebrating his 25th reunion, **John Thornton**, **Ginny Findlay Kruger**, **Dan Cornel**, **Eleanor Moore Foerster**, **Herb Foerster**, **Ann Davenport Glaser**, **Nancy Bardens Lyons** and **Barbara Turner Smith**. Front row from left: **Ann Ledford Evans**, **Alan Cook**, **Jean Morgan Burns**, **Cathie Moon Brown** and **Doris Schneider Soghor**. Though the College does not officially plan a party

for classes after they celebrate their 60th reunion, the Class of '53 created this with the College's assistance. ● A Latino lawyers' organization has changed its name to honor **Cruz Reynoso**, the first Latino Supreme Court Justice in California history, as well as an advisor to presidents from Jimmy Carter to Barack Obama. La Raza Lawyers will now be known as Cruz Reynoso Bar Assn., honoring his trailblazing career.

'54 Attending the Diamond Sagehen reunion on Alumni Weekend were: **Chester Horton, Patrice Crowder Horton, Bob Ihsen, Ann Walker Dozier, Charles Carpenter, Frances DuBose Johnson, Julia Donahue and Roger Soulanille.** ● **Frederick Duencel**, Hemet, CA, writes: "President Oxtoby's great service to Pomona under his leadership since 2003 makes me certainly glad I received my B.A. in economics in 1954."

'55 Attending the Diamond Sagehen reunion on Alumni Weekend were: **Joanne Bruce Ponce, Tom Harris and Jo Johnson Summit.** ● **Roy and Barbara McDermott Weymann** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June. ● At the May Sunday Salon of San Diego's Epsilon PBK, **Helen Rogers Wagner** heard **Lance Chang '87** speak on "Photography and the Creative Process." For the second year Lance has been chosen one of San Diego's "50 to Watch" visual artists." (See Class of '87 note on Lance.)

'56 **Jack Barchas, M.D.**, a neuroscientist and psychiatrist, whose research has dealt with basic and clinical studies of neurotransmitters, including endorphins, was formerly at Stanford and UCLA. He has now been chair of psychiatry at Weill Cornell in Manhattan in N.Y.C. for 23 years and is psychiatrist-in-chief of New York Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. His late wife, **Patricia Ruth Corbett Barchas**, who earned her Ph.D. in sociology at Stanford and was also a faculty member there, is viewed as an early founder of social neuroscience. He is married to Rosemary A. Stevens, Ph.D., a social historian of medicine and an artist, who was chair of history of science and then dean of arts and science at Penn. She is now a scholar at Weill Cornell. Her new book, *A Time of Scandal*, deals with the Harding scandal and the formation of the Veterans Administration. Jack and Rosemary live in Manhattan and have a log cabin in the

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'53 Members of the Class of '53 at the Sagehen Diamond 2016 reunion. (See Notes '53)

Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. ● **Marianne "Nan" Dimock Brigham**, Bethel, VT, reports she lives up the road from her brother, **Davis Dimock '67**. In her working career, she was active in social work and the National Assn. of Social Workers in three states and was in direct treatment, administration and teaching. She is currently a deacon of her church.

● **Helen Pashgian**, a visual artist who lives and works in Pasadena, received an honorary doctor of fine arts degree at Pomona's 123rd commencement exercises on May 15, 2016. She is a pioneering member of the Light and Space art movement which developed in So. Calif. in the 1960s. ● In April, **Judy Devalon Sockman** wrote: "I regret that Ted and I are unable to attend my 60th reunion celebration, but health issues preclude our traveling to So. Calif. at this time. I certainly will miss seeing all of you. But maybe in 2021!" ● **David Wark**, St. Paul, MN, writes: "Just received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society for Clinical Hypnosis, the largest group of health care professionals in the use of hypnosis in treatment. Also welcomed Ziva Rose, grandchild #6. Still 'practicing' retirement at the office every day, seeing clients, writing papers. Hard to let the old skills go!"

'58 **Chuck Quibell**, Santa Rosa, CA, writes: "Still living in the dream house that my father, **Charles H. Quibell '27**, built 1975-80. I retired from 30 years of teaching botany at Sonoma State U. Now turning decorative and utilitarian bowls from native and exotic woods."

'59 **Linda Williams Day**, Monson, MA, writes: "I am enjoying an active retirement in the Massachusetts woods with second husband, John, and would love to hear from my friends from the Class of 1959, especially **Cynthia Cudney Siebel** and my freshman housemates, **Cile Clark, Sally Marshall and Katie Brix**. I married for the first time and left Pomona in my sophomore year. After bringing up four children, I finally graduated from Eastman School of Music in 1990 and moved to Austin, TX, to join



'63 Stephen Dudley, Annabelle Lee and Nancy Johnsud Dudley on a volcano in Vanuatu. (See Notes '63)

the symphony orchestra there." dayvioletteacher@gmail.com.

'61 **Judy Wright Aplin**, Allentown, PA, writes: "I have moved to the Leigh Valley of Pennsylvania with my single-dad son, Gordon, who found a new job here. I continue caring for my two granddaughters, 5 and 14. We live across from a large park and are treated to gorgeous sunsets." ● **Sue Wellington Bordner**, El Dorado Hills, CA, writes: "I received my level-one Sogetsu School (Japanese floral design) teacher certificate in 2012. I have exhibited in the Sacramento camellia show, The Pence Gallery in Davis 'Bloom 1' and 'Bloom 2,' which is a bouquet to art show, and other venues." ● **Candie Anderson Carawan**, New Market, TN, writes: "Thank you to all my classmates who contacted me when my husband, Guy, died last year. I am still based at the Highlander Center in Tennessee, continuing my music and my support of social justice campaigns throughout the South."

● In early April, **Nelly Bly Young Cogan**, Oxford, OH, wrote: "Fun to see that crazy 'Atomos' logo I designed is still being used! I don't often get to Laguna from this Ohio farmland, but you all are

welcome see me here. Have a great reunion #55. I'll be thinking of you all."

● **Katharine Holton Jones**, Alpine, CA, presented a paper on Aug. 13, 2015, at the Conference of the Society for Photo Optical Instrumentation Engineering in San Diego. The title of her paper was "Multiconjugate Adaptive Optics."

● **Anne Gill Kellogg**, Los Osos, CA, writes: "I live on the beautiful Central coast, overlooking the bay, with my husband, Fred, and one black lab, Ebby. Montaña de Oro State Park is in my backyard, and Diablo Nuc only 10 miles away. Active in justice issues: Mothers for Peace; closing down of Diablo and a jail program in art—Restorative Partners." ● In June, **Peggy Schuler Olson** completed her three-year term on the Alumni Association Board.

'62 **Peter Young**, an art major at Pomona, left after his sophomore year to go to New York. His work is represented at the Wendi Norris Gallery in San Francisco.

'63 **Edith Youtsler Bergstrom** writes: "The world has not slowed up for Erik and me as we are not retired. I am still painting. I had a piece included



'64 Jerry Kelly, Bill Wissler and Jim White on a ski trip to the Matterhorn. (See Notes '64)

in the show, 'Still Life, Capturing the Moment' (Dec. '15-Feb. '16) at the Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert. I am still represented by A Gallery Fine Art in Palm Desert. My art website is:

www.palmpaintings.com. My latest oils are not yet posted. I am also an avid gardener and you can see my garden at www.bergstrompalmgardens.org. The last couple of years, it has hosted a number of tour groups including volunteer groups from San Francisco's Golden Gate Park's Hall of Flowers, Gamble Gardens, the Stanford Museum and Filoli. The important part of our lives is the Erik E. and Edith H. Bergstrom Foundation, which we began in 1981. We now have a staff of two. We support family planning projects in Latin America and East Africa. We talked up our grant giving recently and to date, we have given more than \$60 million. Our goal is to stabilize the population in selected countries where the population increase is not sustainable. Our foundation does not have a website because it does not accept unsolicited requests." ● **Stephen Dudley** writes: "It isn't often you find Sagehens at the summit of an active volcano, but that was the case when **Annabelle Lee '78, Nancy Johnsrud Dudley** and I were on Mount Yasur, a place we visited on a South Pacific expedition trip that stopped at remote Tanna Island, Vanuatu. Appropriately, all three of us had taken a geology class from [the late] Professor Donald McIntyre." (See photo.)

'64 In Feb. 2016, **Jerry Kelly, Bill Wissler** and **Jim White** had a fabulous ski trip to Zermatt, Switzerland, and the Matterhorn. "We skied six straight days under some brilliant sunshine and Swiss Alp scenery. We even skied over to Italy on an eight-mile run that included a wonderful 'white tablecloth' luncheon with wine on the outdoor patio. Our only regret was not kidnapping our Pomona heart-throb **Dinah Dodds** and taking her with us!" (See photo.) ● **Robecca Novelli**, writer and painter, has written *The Train to Orvieto*, due out in Oct. by Black Heron Press. It is a novel, set in Italy, in which she explores her interests in marriage and family relationships, art and the Italian language and culture. She speaks and reads Italian and frequently travels to Italy. When she isn't writing, she prefers to paint and is working on a series about

women and a series on Death Valley. Her varied career has included freelance writing and posts as communications director, events manager, publicist, publications manager, textbook writer, magazine editor, high school English teacher and ESL teacher for recent refugees. A graduate also of CGU, she holds an M.F.A. in fiction from Antioch U., Los Angeles, and was a member of Jim Krusoe's advanced fiction workshop at Santa Monica College. ● **Layton Olson**, Dawson, AL, reports he has moved from Chicago and now spends part of the year in Dekalb County, where his wife, Annette Robinson (U. of Alabama), grew up, and enjoys work with university-linked civic innovation service learning. ● **Dale Whitney** writes: "After trying to retire at the end of 2014, but being called back into service in June 2015 much like Cincinnatus reassuming leadership of the Roman Army after he had returned to his life as a farmer in the fifth century BC, I have finally achieved full retirement and have received my last paycheck from the Harbor Area Farmers Markets as of March 31. But life is still busy. Since Jan. 2015, I have been serving as the president of a homeowners association board in Santa Barbara, responsible for about \$30 million worth of property, including my mother's house which is still furnished with her collection of family heirloom furniture. Wish me luck!"

'65 **Virginia Corlette Pollard, Kathie Langsdorf Underdal** and **Celia Williams Baron** write: "Borrowing from the Class of 1964, we had a women's luncheon at our 50th reunion in 2015. Suggestions that we needed more time together evolved into the idea of a women's retreat. In July 2015, we began planning, and as a result, 35 women gathered in June 2016, at a retreat center in Los Altos, CA, to spend nearly three days together. We wanted our classmates to have time to connect, explore serious topics begun at our 50th reunion and have fun together. Our themed discussions allowed for deep and meaningful sharing in large and small groups. We also had ample time to enjoy just being together. We spent a special evening remembering our deceased classmates, aided by recollections



'65 Class of '65 women's retreat in Los Altos, Calif. (See Notes '65)

50 Years Ago:

Miss California for 30 Minutes

The 30-minute tenure of **Donna Danzer Wells '67** as Miss California is the shortest on record. Then a junior at Pomona, Wells renounced the crown she had just won because it would have prevented her from returning to Pomona for her senior year.

"When I was crowned Miss California shortly before midnight on June 26, I broke into tears," she wrote in an article published in *Family Weekly* on Sept. 4, 1966. "Not tears of happiness. Not tears of relief. But tears of honest-to-goodness fear! I knew I didn't want the title. I didn't want to compete in Atlantic City Sept. 10 for the Miss America crown. ... Being a beauty queen, I was told, would be a full-time job. My life would no longer be my own. Wherever I went, I would be accompanied by eight to 10 people. Continuing my education, even studying in spare hours, would be impossible."

In the end, she said, the experience had helped her understand what was most important to her in life: "being with my family, my friends, and continuing my education."

tions sent in by classmates and assembled into a booklet which the College will print and distribute. Pomona's Alumni Engagement Office also gave us the opportunity to invite Pomona Art Professor Lisa Auerbach to join us. We appreciated her presentation about her work and a follow-up session on her students' class projects. We had gender, age and connection with Pomona in common, but each one of us arrived at the retreat knowing only a few other attendees well. When we left, we felt connected by a deep bond. It was indeed a special shared time, as expressed by one of the attendees: "Our retreat was one of the peak experiences of my life. It gave me a rare second chance, an opportunity to become acquainted with more of you than I had the first time around during our years at Pomona. I feel greatly comforted by the knowledge that we will have each other through the years ahead." (See photo.)

'66 **Ed Krupp** participated in the Daring Minds Speaker Series on Friday, April 29, of Alumni Weekend 2016. The Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award winner gave a talk titled "A Discourse on Domes: A Life and History of Southern California Observatories." Brackett Observatory was dedicated in 1908, a little more than 20 years after the founding of Pomona. In 1964, when Astronomy Prof. Robert Chambers lodged Ed in Brackett Observatory as resident caretaker, telescope demonstrator and meteorologist, he had no idea the experience would turn him into an unwitting collector of observatories. That trajectory led him to the Griffith Observatory, a world icon of public astronomy. The curiously intertwined histories of Brackett and Griffith observatories was the focus of his talk, along with Griffith's \$93 million renovation and expansion and the fundamental principles behind it. Ed is an astronomer and has served as the director of Griffith since 1974.



'68 Tom and Kathy Kemalyan Starbird, with Rick Nebeker, in Aselund, Norway. (See Notes '68)



'69 Celebrating 1947 birth dates and 47th anniversaries at 47th reunion. (See Notes '69)



'69 Celebrating 50 years of friendship at the 47th reunion. (See Notes '69)

● Miles Wilson has been named distinguished professor emeritus at Texas State U. His literary archive, including material related to his three prize-winning books, has been acquired by the Southwestern Writers Collection at the Alkek Library which also holds the papers of Cormac McCarthy, Sandra Cisneros and Larry McMurtry.

'67 In April, Jill Anderson, Shell Beach, CA, wrote: "In mid-May, my husband Steve (UCLA Med School '76) and I will travel to Ashland, OR, with Derek and Beth Marking

Westen to attend the Shakespeare Festival. This will be our third trip there together."

'68 Tom and Kathy Kemalyan Starbird, along with "Rick" Nebeker '70, climbed hundreds of steps in Aselund, Norway, to get to a lovely viewpoint. See photo for the first numbered step on their way up!

'69 Chino, CA, city attorney, Jimmy Gutierrez, has observed his 40th anniversary on the job. In the winter of 1976, at the age of 27, the

young Chino attorney succeeded his senior law partner, Bill McVittie, in the city position when the latter chose to run for the state assembly. Jimmy has his law degree from UCLA. ● Born in 1947, attending their 47th reunion and married 47 years! See photo: from left Andy and Anne Woltmann McCammon, Fred and Sandy Carpenter Brewer, Dave and Julie Swan Hatoff and Linc and Susan Williams Spaulding. With non-Sagehen partners, our class event numbered 47 attendees at most of the alumni events. To underscore the coincidental numeracy of the Class of '69, we are mostly all 69 years old! ● Whether visiting the Getty, walking historic streets of L.A., marveling at the delights of Disney Hall, soaking in the bucolic beauty of the Huntington Gardens, or enjoying college reminiscences with Chuck Timms at a superb local eatery in Pasadena, Vickie Hood Console, Scott Dunshee, Judy Shaw Wolstan, Julie Swan Hatoff and Susan Hammer Miller celebrate 50 years of friendship. "We are from the famous (infamous?) Class of 1969, most of us 69 years of age, born in 1947 and attended our 47th reunion. Numerology is on our side. (Take THAT, Class of 1968!) (See photo.)

'71 In April, Thomas Newlin wrote: "Debbie Hinshaw '73 and I are still living in Columbus, IN. We are looking forward to the reunion."

'72 Jeanine Carroll Robertson reports that she retired July 2014, as assistant superintendent of educational services for the Charter Oak Unified School District in Covina, CA. ● California State U., Northridge Biology Professor MaryElena Zavala has named the first Latina Fellow of the American Society of Plant Biologists, in honor of her services to the society and her distinguished and long-term contributions to plant biology. The ASPB is a professional scientific society devoted to the advancement of the plant sciences worldwide.

'73 Lucinda ("Cindy" to her Sagehen friends) Law assumed the presidency of the American Society of International Law at its annual meeting in Washington, D.C., on March 31, 2016. She will serve a two-year term. This organization focuses on education about, and promotions of, international law. She continues her legal practice as a partner at Steptoe & Johnson LLP in Washington, D.C., where she heads the firm's FCPA/Anti Corruption practice. She adds: "Making good use of all of the interdisciplinary strands of a liberal arts education."

'74 In June, Sandra Lauterbach had a month-long solo exhibit of her art, "Material Matters," at the LA Artcore Brewery Annex in Los Angeles. Drawing on her family's history in the textile industry, designing, manufacturing and importing colorful fabrics, she has put together the abstract constructions that become wall sculptures shown in this solo exhibit. She is a mixed-media artist with a studio in Los Angeles. In 2014, California Open Exhibition at TAG Gallery's juried exhibit, her work received an honorable mention. For three years, she has been selected for the Los Angeles Art Assn.'s Open Show, which

is juried by national museum curators and features the best in emerging art. Though her work features fibers and textiles, she often incorporates paint and other media. The Textile Museum in Washington, D.C. is currently exhibiting her work.

'75 Nelson Arnstein writes: "On May 24, 2016, Harris Kagan '84 and I attended a concert by 'The Who' at Staples [Center]. For me, this marks 47 years of following this band since my first concert at Tanglewood in Mass. in Aug. 1969. That number just keeps showing up! I have been to about 15 Who concerts since then, including two while at Pomona (1971 and 1973). When Harris and I met up last week, we decided we had to send in this picture for PCM." (See photo.) ● James Blancarte has been elected to the position of court commissioner by the judges of the Los Angeles Superior Court. He is the judicial officer that presides over Dept. A of the Pasadena Courthouse. ● In June, Anne Bachman Thacher completed her term on the Alumni Association Board, having served in 2015-16 as immediate past president.

'76 Kris Fossum retires from Pomona's Dean of Faculty office at the end of July after 17 years. She returned to Pomona in 1998 to work in the dean's office, moving up to asst. dean of the college in 2003 and to assoc. dean for academic affairs in 2012. She earned her Ph.D. in English from Princeton U. ● Jeff Gudman writes: "All is well in Lake Oswego, OR. I am taking my wonderful education at Pomona, my business experience, my volunteer experience and my elected experience on the Lake Oswego City Council to the next step as a candidate for Oregon State Treasurer in Nov. 2016." ● In April, Marcy Helfand, Dallas, TX, wrote: "My daughter, Alexis, is getting married May 7 in Miami, FL. I'll be the one with tears of happiness running down my face. If not for this, I would attend reunion." ● On May 3rd, George Wolfe was nominated for two Tony Awards for writing and directing the Broadway musical, "Shuffle Along or The Making of the Musical Sensation of 1921 and All That Followed." It has also been announced, that he is planning a film with Oprah Winfrey. HBO will produce the medical detective story, "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks." George received the Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award on Alumni Weekend.

'77 Edward Sission, Rehoboth Beach, DE, sent in an update. He left Pomona at the end of his sophomore year to attend MIT for their architecture courses. After graduating MIT, he moved to the L.A. area and then to San Francisco where he worked as an apprentice architect. He fully intended to return to MIT for graduate work, but had begun to write plays and produce the works of live performances of others and ended up by not going back. Instead, he began producing works of avant-garde directors George Coates (George Coates Performance Works) and Chris Hardman (Antenna Theater) and producing the San Francisco International Theater Festival, 1980 and 1981. In 1988, he entered law school at Georgetown,



'75 Nelson Arnstein and Harris Kagan at a concert by The Who. (See Notes '75)



'78 Rick Counihan and Lorig Charkoudian co-coach their sons' baseball team. (See Notes '78)

graduating in 1991. After clerking for a federal judge for a year, he joined the law firm of Arnold & Porter, first as an associate and then a partner, leaving in 2006. The last 10 years have been spent researching, writing, monitoring family assets and raising his two children. He just moved to Rehoboth Beach.

'78 Rick Counihan and Lorig Charkoudian '95 were assigned by the Takoma Park Silver Spring Baseball League to co-coach their sons' team. They hit it off right away, but did not realize they were both Pomona alums until well into their first season when Lorig overheard Rick chirping under his breath while throwing pop-ups to the kids. They

have now coached together for three seasons and plan to name next year's team the Silver Spring Sagehens! (See photo.) ● Kurt St. Angelo is the author of a recently published book: *Busted—A Whistleblower's Guide to the War on Drugs*. The book asserts that drug laws within America's states have been falsely enforced and that the war on drugs is solely the result of bad lawyering.

'80 In May, Alison Rempel Brown became CEO and 16th president of the Science Museum of Minnesota. She is the first woman to hold this position. Previously she was chief of staff at California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, a position she held for 17 years. ● Andy and Curt Dale, owners of the popular Dale Bros Brewery, have changed the name of their company to Last Name Brewing. After using the Dale Bros moniker for 13 years, they made the change for trademarking purposes. It officially went into effect May 1.

'81 Susan Beard has been nominated inspector general of the Dept. of Energy (DOE). She has served as assistant general counsel for General Law at the DOE since 2004. Prior to this, she served in multiple positions at DOE including as asst general counsel to general law. She received her J.D. from UCLA's School of Law. ● Walter Campbell, Novato, CA, has retired after a 30-year career at Pacific Gas & Electric Co. ● Judith King-Calnek, Yonkers, NY, is head of the Humanities Dept. at the United Nations International School, where she teaches anthropology and the history of knowledge. "If in N.Y.C., give a shout-out," she adds.

'82 Vincent Beatty has become senior vice president and chief financial officer for Washington Federal Inc. Previously, he was CFO for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle from 2008 until its merger in 2015 with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines. He earned his M.B.A. from UCLA's Anderson School of Management. ● Monti McGovern reports that those class members attending the Alumnipalooza concert in Bridges Hall of Music in Feb. had a mini-reunion with Raj Bhimani and Katharine Rawdon at a party after the concert and at a get-together the next day at Margo Berman Tanenbaum's home.

'84 Vikram Chandra received an Honorary Doctor of Letters (Litt.D) at Pomona's 123rd Commencement Exercises on May 15, 2016. He is an award-winning author and novelist whose work has been translated into 19 languages. His first novel, *Red Earth and Pouring Rain* (1995), won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book. His most recent book, the nonfiction *Geek Sublime: The Beauty of Code, The Code of Beauty* (2014), was a finalist for the Book Critics Circle Award in criticism, and was selected an Editor's Choice book by *The New York Times Book Review* and a Best Book of 2014 by *The Telegraph*. He earned an M.A. at Johns Hopkins U. and an M.F.A. at U. of Houston. He is a senior lecturer in creative writing at UC Berkeley. ● Denise Lynn Galindo writes: "I am in Santa Ana, CA, teaching in an elementary school. If you would like to volunteer to help first

graders learn to read, please look for me at Hoover School on East Santa Clara Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92706."

'85 Kevin Costello has been the artistic director for Stockton [CA] Civic Theatre for three years and is stepping down to become director of campus ministry at St. Mary's High School in Stockton. Graduating from Pomona with a degree in theatre, he also has an M.A. in liturgy. At St. Mary's, he will be responsible for liturgy, oversee student ministry, serve as a spiritual presence on the 900-student campus and also teach a drama class. He comments that the position at St. Mary's was a healthier situation for him and his family, as the artistic directorship at the Civic Theatre was a 24/7 position. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have four sons.

'86 Gretchen Berland participated in the "Daring Minds Speaker Series" on Friday, April 29, on Alumni Weekend 2016. The Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award winner spoke on "Why Filmmaking Makes Me a Better Doctor: A Conversation about Career Change and Risk," with Vian Zada '16, a senior pre-health liaison and former intern with Doctors Without Borders. Gretchen is an associate professor of internal medicine at Yale School of Medicine. Graduating from Pomona as a biology major, she went to the PBS NOVA series, where she worked on science documentaries. In 1993, she attended medical school at Oregon Health Sciences U., completing further training at Washington U. School of Medicine in St. Louis and a fellowship at UCLA. She is recipient of several prestigious awards including an Emmy Award and the MacArthur Fellowship in 2004. ● Alan Lindgren is currently writing and organizing a major work, a two-volume series. It is non-fiction, but will include some of his most significant poetry: *Journeys I: Historical Streams and Personalities* and *Journey II: Humanity in Waste of Materialism*,

'87 Mike Blitz has been appointed vice president of sales for Great Basin Scientific, Inc., a molecular design optic company in Salt Lake City, which is expanding their leadership team. Mike had more than 19 years with Meridian Bioscience where he was director of regional sales and North American sales development. ● Lance Chang has been selected for 2016's "50 To Watch" artists for the second year in a row. Fifty visual artists from the greater San Diego area are selected for the "50 To Watch" showcase of San Diego's diverse creative talent. In addition, last year, the National Museum of Dance in New York accepted some of his fine art images into its permanent collection. www.changstudio.com ● Hugo Martin's first children's book, *Pablo's Christmas*, which was published in 2006 by Sterling Publishing of New York, was sold out of its first printing, but some copies may still be available with online booksellers. He is working on other children's stories.

'88 Susanne Meyer Brown has been promoted to city attorney for the city of Concord, CA. She had been assistant city attorney since 2012. She has her law degree from UC's Hast-

ings College of the Law. ● Janet Hollins Duliga has joined Jo Ann Stores, a leading fabric and craft supply company, as senior vice president of human resources. She has an M.A. in psychology and received her J.D. degree from UC San Diego School of Law.

'89 Rebecca Platt Pepin writes: "In April, I had a fabulous trip to Pomona, where my daughter and niece toured the campus and considered Pomona for their futures. The visit brought back wonderful memories and made me miss Karen Shafer and Christine Lee. What a great college! What a great impact it had on my life! Thank you, Pomona!"

'90 Mark Brimhall-Vargas has become chief diversity officer and associate provost at Tufts U. in Medford, MA. He moved from U. of Maryland where he was deputy chief diversity officer in the university's office of Diversity and Inclusion. ● In July 2016, Andrew Harris moves back to California to become dean of the College of Liberal and Creative Arts at San Francisco State U. Since 2012, Andrew has been dean of arts and humanities at Keene State College in New Hampshire. A history major at Pomona, he has his M.A. and Ph.D. in history from Stanford U. He taught history at Bridgewater State U. in Massachusetts along with other administrative positions including associate provost and assistant to the president.

'91 Chris and Maria Schwarz Ashley write: "Chirp, chirp to all our friends in So. Calif. It is hard to believe that our oldest is heading to college next year. Sorry to have missed the palindrome 25th. See you at the 50th." ● Sarah Johnson has become director of the Cahoon Museum of American Art in Cotuit, MA. Formerly curator of the Greater Hudson Valley Health System's art program, she has 20 years experience as an art historian, curator and historic preservationist.

'92 In June, Brenda Peirce Barnett completed her three-year term on the Alumni Association Board.

'94 Brian Schatz, Democratic Senator from Hawaii, was on campus in April to give a special talk: "Climate Change: Call to Action." He is a key advocate for research and tax incentives for clean energy and for regulating carbon pollution among other environmental issues. He serves on the Appropriations, Commerce, Science, Transportation and Indian Affairs committees. He spent the day on campus: led a master class, talked careers with students over lunch, visited the Draper Center for Community Partnerships, where he also presented a talk and stopped by Pomona's organic farm. He has been named by *The Hill*, a political newspaper published in Washington, D.C., as one of 10 rising stars in the energy and environment world. He is the first Pomona graduate to serve in the U.S. Senate.

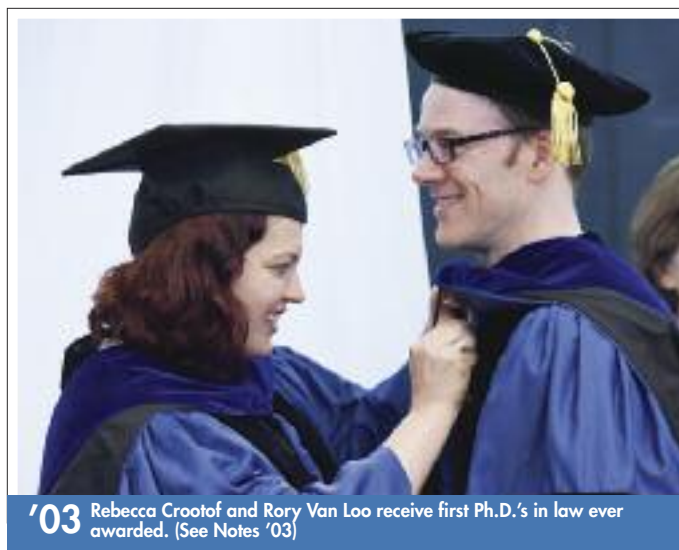
'95 Kris Ashley writes: "Josh Berkus (Pitzer '92) and I have left the foggy town of San Francisco for the slightly rainier Pacific Northwest. We're

now in Portland! Outer Northeast neighborhood. Is there a Pomona Sagehen happy hour in Northeast? ribby@aglidbs.com ● **Taziwa Chanaiwa** has departed Pomona for a new role at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. At LACMA, he now serves as director of development operations, directing a sizeable team in gift processing and acknowledgement, database management and reporting and department budget oversight. His long-time service to Pomona included his work as assistant and then associate director of alumni relations and most recently of engagement analysis and process manager. He is past president of the Alumni Association, served as a member of the president's Advisory Committee for Diversity and as secretary for the Alumni Board. He brought intelligence, collegiality and unfailing sensibility for the Pomona way of doing things. He is and will be missed. ● **Lorig Charkoudian** and **Rick Counihan '78** were assigned by the Takoma Park Silver Spring Baseball League to co-coach their sons' team. They hit it off right away, but did not realize that both were Pomona alums until well into their first season when Lorig overheard Rick chirping under his breath while throwing pop-ups to the kids. They have now coached together for three seasons and plan to name next year's team the Silver Spring Sagehens! (See photo in Class of 1978 notes.) ● **Nick Henning** lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Maria Scremin, and his two children, Joaquin (9) and Aimara (5). After teaching high school history and coaching soccer in the Watts community and being a teacher educator at both UCLA and CGU, he is now an associate professor in the secondary education department of California State U., Fullerton. He is co-author of *Preparing to Teach Social Studies for Social Justice: Becoming a Renegade*. Nick adds: "Facebook has been a good way to keep in touch with classmates, but would rather see folks face to face. Maybe next reunion?" ● **Eric Oldrin** has been promoted to global creative lead of emerging platforms at Facebook. He writes: "After leading the creative strategy for the launch of advertising on Instagram, now defining the creative direction for other emerging platforms like Messenger and Oculus. Hoping to make Prof. Erickson proud with an existential exploration of chatbots, virtual reality and the threshold of identity."

● **Eric Oldrin** has been promoted to global creative lead of emerging platforms at Facebook. He writes: "After leading the creative strategy for the launch of advertising on Instagram, now defining the creative direction for other emerging platforms like Messenger and Oculus. Hoping to make Prof. Erickson proud with an existential exploration of chatbots, virtual reality and the threshold of identity."

'96 **Matt (Melish)Thompson** has been accepted as a fellow of the Kravis Leadership Institute, an institute based at The Claremont Colleges, which promotes the understanding of responsible, innovative leadership in the public, private and social sectors. This is a three-year fellowship in which he will participate in and help coordinate leadership development programs. **Donald Swan '15** has also been accepted into this fellowship program. KLI was founded by renowned private equity investor Henry R. Kravis, a 1967 graduate of CMC.

'97 **Jeff Mack** was promoted to Lt. colonel in the U.S. Air Force on May 31, 2016, and is currently serving as an expeditionary air support operations squadron commander at an undisclosed location.



'03 Rebecca Crootof and Rory Van Loo receive first Ph.D.'s in law ever awarded. (See Notes '03)



'03 Helena Koelle shows off her lucky number for a triathlon. (See Notes '03)

'99 **Jodie Hollander** was invited to take part in Varda Artist's residency for the month of May 2016. During her residency she lived aboard the *SS Vallejo*, a 100-year old ship docked in Sausalito, CA. She used this time to complete her third book of poems, but she also gave some readings, shared stories, ideas and meals with the three other artists also living on board. She is published in numerous journals. Her debut publication, *The Humane Society*, was released with Tall-Lighthouse (London) in 2012. She is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship in South Africa, a Hawthornden Fellowship in Scotland, a residency at Château de La Napoule in France and awarded a MacDowell Colony Fellowship in 2015. Last fall, she was guest editor for *Poetry Quarterly* and is currently poetry editor for GARO, the new online journal for the Rocky Mountain Land Library. ● **Ajitav Mick Misra** has joined the Frutkin Law Firm as senior counsel. His practice focuses on corporate and business law, tax law and renewable energy. He has his J.D. degree from Georgetown Law School and an M.B.A. from UCLA. He has received several academic distinctions and is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia. ● **Rory Van Loo** was one of three who received a Ph.D. in Law from Yale Law School and the Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. This is a first-ever Ph.D. awarded by any law school in the U.S. What also makes this degree special is that of the three awarded this pioneering degree, two were Sagehens. The second Sagehen was **Rebecca Crootof '03**. (See photo in 2003 notes.)



'03 Wedding of Fletcher Dennison and Jacqueline Craig. (See Notes '03)

ried Jacqueline Craig (Scripps '03) on May 15, 2015, in the 13th-century Dornoch Cathedral located in the Scottish Highlands. The couple is living in Los Angeles, where Fletcher is director of operations at SimplePractice.com in Santa Monica. Jackie is an independent screenwriter. (See photo.) ● On May 21, 2016, **Helena Koelle** competed in the PEAK Triathlon in Missoula, MT, a fundraising event to support the Fit to Fight program that empowers cancer survivors to improve their quality of life through a program of fitness and health. Wearing her "lucky" number 477, Helena finished in the top 18%. The triathlon consisted of a 500-yard swim, a 12.4-mile bike ride and a 3.3-mile run. (See photo.)

'04 There was a mini-reunion at Mercersburg Academy in Mercersburg, PA, in early May. See photo: pictured are from left **Lindsey Barske** (with Nate Potash on her shoulders), **Colleen Smith Davis** and **Betsy Mark Potash** holding Lucy Potash. ● **Daniel Jones** reports that he and his wife, Elisabeth, are living in the Boston area, where he is working as a medical direc-

tor at Biogen. (See Births/Adoptions.) ● **Julia Stiglitz** married Vijay Karunamurthy on May 7, 2016, at the Kunde Family Winery in Sonoma, CA. Julia is the vice president for business and market development for Coursera, an online education start-up in Mountain View, CA. She has an M.A. in education and an M.B.A. from Stanford U. Vijay is the chief executive of Nom, a food and cooking website in San Francisco. He graduated from U. of Illinois and received his M.A. in computer science from Stanford and an M.B.A. from UC Berkeley.

'05 This year, **P. C. Fleming** began as an assistant professor of English at Fisk U., where he also directs the W.E.B. Du Bois honors program. His first book, *The Legacy of the Moral Tale: Children's Literature and the English Novel, 1744-1859*, was published by the U. of Tennessee Press in Feb., 2016. ● **Kristl Dorschner Tomlin** is finishing her last year of her residency in ob/gyn in Phoenix, AZ, and then she moves on to a fellowship in pediatric and adolescent gynecology next year, also in Phoenix. (See Births/Adoptions.)



'04 Mini-reunion, with kids, at Mercersville Academy. (See Notes '04)



'11 Wedding of Vincent Tenorio and Kate Dzurilla. (See Notes '11)

'07 **Maggie Fick**, West Africa correspondent for the *Financial Times London*, was one of Reuter's team that was named as a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in International Reporting for their coverage of the disintegration of Iraq and the rise of ISIS. Maggie was a 2007-08 Fulbright Fellow in Niger and has worked as a journalist since 2010, reporting from 10 countries in Africa and the Middle East. Working for Reuters, she covered the military coup in Egypt in 2013. She moved to Lagos, Nigeria, in 2015 for the *Financial Times*.

'08 **David Brown** and **Kate Walker '07** were married in Sept. 2015, in Des Moines, IA. There were a number of 5-College friends in attendance: Raeesa Hyder, Allie Nourafshan (SC '07), **Warren Doyle**, **Matt Freiberg**,



'13 Wedding of Nick Clute-Reinig and Meredith Course. (See Notes '13)



'13 Wedding of Brian Fung and Sammie Cho. (See Notes '13)

Andrew Nourafshan '07, **Ted Couch '07**, **Lauren Pedley '07**, **Femke Oldham Freiberg '07**, **Ilia Saddler Flagg '06**, **Evan Flagg '06**, **Jill Duffy**, **Mike Cohen**, **Kael Kristof '10**, **Hailey Flemming**, **Justine Sexton '10**, **Jabarri Reynolds**, **Zee-shan Hyder**, **Megna Greenwald**, **Holly Underhill (SC '13)**, **Joey Greenwald '07**, **Pat Flemming '07**, **David Liss '10** and **Prof. Lorr Foster**. (See photo.) ● **Margot Miller** and **Jonah Roth** were married in



'08 Wedding of David Brown and Kate Walker. (See Notes '08)

thor. His high school tutoring company can be found on his website www.lovetheSAT.com

'11 **Vincent Tenorio** and **Kate Dzurilla** were married on May 28, 2016. They had a small ceremony officiated by a friend in the courtyard of Harwood Dormitory, where they both lived freshman year. They are both graduate students at Yale: Vincent, at the Yale School of Management and Yale School of Forest & Environmental Studies for a joint MBA/Masters of Environmental Management; Kate is at Yale School of Nursing for her MSN to become an Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. (See photo.)

'13 **Nick Clute-Reinig** and **Meredith Course '12** were married at The Seaver House in May 2016, with a number of college friends attending: **Kelsey Gross (CMC '13)**, **Ben Pyle (CMC '13)**, **Andrew Hong**, **Sameera Mokkarala '12**, **Ashley Smart '10**, **Margaret Nguyen '10**, **Alejandro Lopez-Lago (HMC '11)**, **Marco Lobba**, **Nick Lawson '14**, **Deirdre Lee '14**, **Kelsey Jensen '12**, **Ted Fowler '69** and Prof. Karl Johnson. (See photo.) ● **Brian Fung** and **Sammie Cho** were married on June 12, 2015, in the Memorial Garden with the reception in the Richardson Garden, Seaver House. Sagehens attending were: **Will Keith**, **Nicola Lew**, **Sandra Ofori**, **Claire Ruberman**, **Maria Zhu**, **Hannah Chasnov**, **Amber Datta** and **Caroline Yoon**. (See photo.)

'15 **Donald Swan** has been accepted as a fellow of the Kravis Leadership Institute, an institute based at The Claremont Colleges, which promotes the understanding of responsible, innovative leadership in the public, private and social sectors. Donald will participate in and help coordinate leadership development programs. **Matt Thompson '96** was also accepted for this three-year fellowship. KLI was founded by renowned private equity investor Henry R. Kravis, a 1967 graduate of CMC.

'09 **Christian Heath** is the author of *Ultimate Time Management for Teens and Students*. Christian is a professional SAT tutor, entrepreneur and au-

Births & Adoptions

To **Jason Becher** '97 and Laura Taylor Becher (SC '98), Glendora, CA, third child, boy, Ronan Lewis Becher (3/24/16), joining Kennedy (12) and Declan (8).

To Christian and **Teresa Abruzzo Heger** '00, Seattle, WA, third boy, Edward Ysidri "Sid" Heger (5/8/16).

To **David Jones** '04 and Elisabeth Greer, Newton, MA, fourth child, boy, Reid Greer Jones (9/23/15), joining Eliot, Hattie and Graeme.

To **Seth** '05 and **Helen Beckon Kerstein** '04, Davis, CA, girl, Laura Rose Kerstein (3/2/16).

To Hayden and **Kristl Dorschner Tomlin** '05, Phoenix, AZ, second girl, Noa Chloe Tomlin (12/20/15)

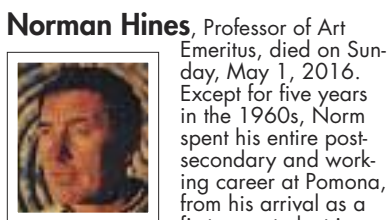
To Hudson and **Caroline Crocker Moore** '06, N.Y.C., boy, Blake Henry Hudson Moore (2/26/16).

To Sean and **Jordi Viuker Brennan** '07, Larchmont, NY, boy, Elan Klein Brennan (4/25/16).

To **Anna Mebust** '08 and Terence Wong, Concord, CA, girl, Elise Kathleen Wong (1/29/16).

Obituaries FACULTY

Walter E. Ambord, member of the athletic coaching staff in the Physical Education Dept, died Feb. 19, 2016, at his home in San Clemente, CA, at age 85. He came to Pomona in 1960 as assistant to Football Coach, "Chuck" Mills, becoming head coach in 1962, coaching football through 1977. During this time, the team placed second in SCIAC four times. His overall coaching record for football was 51-90-4, including a 6-2-1 record in 1966 and a 6-3 record in 1970. Walt was also assistant golf coach under Ed Malan from 1968 to 1978, but took over as head coach for one year in 1975, with the team finishing 13-4 overall and 11-1 in SCIAC to win the conference title. He coached the wrestling team from 1967 through 1974, with the 1967 team finishing 8-3 overall and 6-0 in SCIAC. He continued as assistant coach from 1975 to 1978. He was also head baseball coach in 1961, 1962 and in 1985 when head coach, Mike Riskas was on sabbatical. Walt also began and ran the successful Pomona College Swim School during the summers, hiring many young people, including students and others of the community. After leaving Pomona, he became owner/operator for 30 years of First Cabin Refurb Co. in San Clemente, in which his artistic talents emerged in the specialty painting for his business. He is survived by his wife, Bridget, 10 children/step-children, 16 grandchildren as well as five great-grand children.



Norman Hines, Professor of Art Emeritus, died on Sunday, May 1, 2016. Except for five years in the 1960s, Norm spent his entire post-secondary and working career at Pomona, from his arrival as a first-year student in 1957 until he retired as a faculty member in the spring of 2000. An English major as a student, he served the College in a variety of capacities from physical education instructor to assistant dean of admissions and finally as professor of art from 1973 until his retirement. After graduating from Pomona in 1961, he earned his master of fine arts degree at what was then the Claremont Graduate School. As an artist, he started out as a ceramicist, but built his reputation as a sculptor working in a wide variety of materials, including granite, marble, bronze, metal, ceramic and wood. The enormous scope of his work is visible in the public art here on campus, ranging from the stone megaliths of "First Principle" in the Richardson Garden to the soaring stainless steel of "In the Spirit of Excellence," which stands to the west side of Rains Center. Norm was probably best known for his environmental sculpture known as Caelum Moor which was originally installed in Arlington, Texas, in 1985. It took him almost two years to complete this masterwork, composed of five arrangements of pink granite megaliths ranging from 15 to 34 feet high. After the sculpture was dismantled for economic and political reasons in 1997, he worked tirelessly to get the 540-ton artwork restored. He finally succeeded in 2009, when the work was re-installed by the City of Arlington as part of its Entertainment District. In retirement, he and his wife, Marjorie Harth, Director Emerita of the Pomona College Museum of Art, traveled back and forth between Southern California and Fiji, where they had built a home. In Fiji, Norm worked on a series of stone carvings based on Fijian myths at the waterline of his ocean side property, where the high tide would cover them over.

ALUMNI

'38 **Louise Bell Saurenman**, Pasadena, CA (1/9/16), at age 99; member of Orchestis and on WAA board, senior year; teaching credential, Whittier College; 30 years, teaching first through third grades for Arcadia [CA] Unified School District; in the late 1940s, she and her husband Philip and family moved into her father's house in Pasadena and there she spent the rest of her life; in retirement, was a volunteer for the Gamble House and Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church.

'39 **Margaret Mussell Crawford**, Vacaville, CA (2/27/16), at age 99; marrying James Crawford '38 (1915-2003) in 1930, they lived and raised their three boys in Hawaii, the San Joaquin Valley, Oceanside and finally in Fairfield, CA; she taught school and sold real estate; proud of her many awards earned in floral design competitions.

'40 **Jean Wilson McClure**, Walnut Creek, CA (9/28/15), at age 97; while living in Pasadena, CA, was elected two terms to the board of the Pasadena YWCA; while living in Walnut Creek, she was a resident of Rossmoor, a community for seniors for over 30 years; served on the budget panel of the United Way of the Bay Area (covering five counties) and began a career in accounting; auditor for Billeter & Pingree in Lafayette, CA; went on half-time in 1986 and full retirement in 1989; volunteer treasurer for HUD senior housing project.

'42 **Carolyn Moore Schaeffer**, Mount Solan, VA (4/1/16), at age 94; active in dramatics at Pomona as member of Masquers Society and as a sponsor; resided in Palos Verdes Estates for most of her life and, before moving to VA in 2006 to be near daughter, held the distinction of being the longest continuing resident of that community; there she enjoyed activities with Palos Verdes Community Arts Assn., involvement with Chadwick School and American Field Service among other organizations; an artist, she enjoyed watercolor painting; most of all, she was a proud homemaker.

'43 **Peggy Craddock Elliott**, San Luis Obispo, CA (5/14/16), at age 94; B.S. in home economics, Oregon State U.; longtime resident of Lafayette, CA; teacher in Mt. Diablo Unified School District; lifelong member/supporter of AAUW; avid reader, knowledgeable gardener, skillful bridge player and accomplished tailor.

'44 **Theodosia "Dosis" Robinson Geisler**, Chiloquin, OR (11/25/2007), at age 86; attended Yale U. Divinity School for a year before marrying Armin Geisler, a chaplain in the U.S. Navy; was a homemaker raising four children; moved to Ore. in 1987 to be near daughter, Theo.

'45 **Clare-Louise Drakeford Bates**, Magalia, CA (2/7/16), at age 92; B.A. in business administration, Merritt Business School; worked for the Australian Consulate in San Francisco before becoming a secretary for UC Berkeley's Agriculture Publications; later administrative assistant, UC Berkeley Cooperative Extension; was passionate about opera and theatre, holding season tickets with and contributing to the San Francisco Opera; enjoyed and supported the annual Bear Valley Music Festival; marrying Kenton S. Bates '31 (1908-1996) in 1971, they traveled the U.S., Europe and China; they enjoyed camping, fishing and hunting; after moving to Magalia in Butte County, she supported the local arts; for the last 17 years, taught "The World of Opera" through Other Lifelong Learning Institute at Cal State U., Chico.

'45 **Dorothy "Dottie" V. Eley**, Seattle, WA (2/1/16), at age 92; Phi Beta Kappa; Mortar Board; at Pomona, played in the orchestra all four years; was badminton manager; co-chair and treasurer of Women's Athletic Assn.; student director of camp counselor training program; a math major, she became an instructor in the Math Dept. for 1946-47; began her life-long career with

YMCA as office secretary with Pacific S.W. Area YMCA, Los Angeles, and was promoted steadily to higher-level positions including associate executive responsible for accounting and young adult and student programs; when YMCA was reorganized in 1970, she was chosen to be vice president for financial management in Greater Seattle area; retired in 1988 and was honored with establishment of Dottie Eley Scholarship to encourage low-income students to strive for college; in retirement, volunteered in various financial positions with No. American Fellowship of YMCA Retirees as well as with her church, Magnolia United Church of Christ; traveled extensively, not only for the YMCA, but for pleasure; enjoyed the Seattle Symphony concerts.

'45 **Jane Thomas Herrick**, Carpinteria, CA (12/1/15), at age 93; at Pomona, was member of choir all four years; president, Clark Hall, on Residence Council and on AWS board, her senior year; received advanced degree in occupational therapy, USC; family moves found them living in Texas, Japan, New Jersey and England, but Pasadena, CA, was pre-retirement home base, where she was active with Lake Avenue Congregational Church; practiced her occupational therapy skills with adults with disabilities at New Opportunity Workshop and co-wrote an assessment tool for them; she and her husband, Hugh, retired to Carpinteria and lived there for 30 years enjoying many community activities.

'45 **Frances Ford Hybertsen**, Mountain View, CA (4/16/15), at age 91; spent only her sophomore year at Pomona where she sang in the glee club; following her departure from Pomona, she was a Red Cross recreation worker at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Washington, D.C.; marrying Martin Hybertsen, whom she met in her freshman year at Oregon State College, in 1944, they lived their post-war lives in Mountain View, where she was asst. librarian for SRI in Menlo Park and The Beckman Co.

'45 **Margaret "Peggy" Bird Kuder**, Marlton, IN (4/4/16), at age 92; at Pomona, was in choir, president of Music Club and chair of Student Church senior year; a harpist since early childhood, she attended Juilliard School of Music in NY, for two years after graduation, studying harp under Marcel Grandjany; also studied the history of sacred music at the Union Theological Seminary and was a volunteer Red Cross Gray Lady Music Specialist, playing her harp for veterans in hospitals; married Joseph Kuder in 1948, and they remained in NJ until his job as supervisory architect for Boy Scouts of America, took them to Irving, TX, where she was active with Irving Symphony League, Irving Community Hospital Auxiliary, AAUW and other activities.

'46 **Margaret Babcock McKay**, Los Osos, CA (1/16/16), at age 91; at Pomona, was chair of Art Crafts Room; junior and senior year; craft counselor for W.A.A.-sponsored camp counselor training, senior year; vice-president, Blaisdell Hall, junior year; in 1970, earned secondary teaching credential,

Cal State U., Fullerton; talented in many artforms, including: weaving, tatting, knitting, sewing, tole painting, leather tooling, calligraphy, matting/framing, among others; married her second husband, Joe McKay, in 1976; they lived in Garden Grove, CA, Perryville, AR, on Joe's family property, and then many years in Brandon, OR, where she opened an art gallery, The Clock Tower Gallery, selling art prints and gifts and providing custom matting and framing services; after Joe's death, moved to Santa Maria, CA, in 2005, where she opened a matting and framing shop in Orcutt; in 2010, moved to Los Osos, CA, and relocated her business, "Maggie's Meticulous Mat & Frame Shop," active volunteer in a number of organizations throughout her life, starting with A.A.U.W., League of Women Voters, Girl Scouts, and helping to found and run the nonprofit Artisans' Guild in Garden Grove; later in life active in Lions Club.

'46 **Ruth Moody Nicastro**, Los Angeles, CA (3/28/16), at age 90; Phi Beta Kappa; at Pomona, was member of choir, chair of Forensics, on Executive Council, junior year and publicity editor for A.W.S.; after graduating, worked for Macmillan Publishing Co. in San Francisco and New York; met and married Leo Nicastro in N.Y.; they returned to Los Angeles in 1954; when youngest of three sons was 12, she returned to work, becoming director of communications for the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles (150 churches in six counties); besides producing a monthly newspaper, she was involved with national and international church communications that took her to Hong Kong, China, Japan, Singapore, Nigeria, Canada, England and many parts of the U.S.; 1986-89, was president of church-wide Episcopal Communicators and in 1988 was a member of the international Lambeth Conference communications team; in 1980, awarded the first Polly Bond Award, thereafter presented annually, for a diocesan newspaper supplement titled "The Homeless Millions" which addressed the international refugee situation; retiring in 1993 after 20 years, she was presented the Janette Pierce Award for outstanding service to the church; in retirement, traveled with Leo, volunteered and did some freelance writing and editing.

'47 **Priscilla Osgood Collings**, Los Altos Hills, CA (3/11/16), at age 89; attended Pomona for two years before transferring to Purdue U.; received B.Sc. in psychology, 1948; married Joe Collings, and they lived on the Collings family farm just outside Lafayette, IN, where they established a large hog and corn farming operation; in 1964, they moved to Fresno, CA, to further Joe's career in agriculture; 1974-76, they lived in a remote region of Iran working for a government agricultural project; returning to Fresno, she was a travel agent and enjoyed international travel; alumni volunteer at Calif. State U., Fresno chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority; was an avid reader, a quilter, enjoyed bridge and tennis; moved to Los Altos Hills in 2013 to be near her daughter.

'48 **Bernard W. Porter**, Seal Beach, CA (3/9/16), at age 93; Alpha Gamma Sigma; entered Pomona after service in U.S. Navy, WWII; with his wife, Helen (dec. 1980) were "charter members" of Pomona's Vet's Village, located behind Frary across from the football field; graduate work in electrical engineering at UCLA (1948-51) and USC (1952-53); joined the staff of Navy Electronics Lab in San Diego, involved at the time in studying the effects of the A-Bomb; after short stints at various aerospace companies, joined staff of Space Technology Labs, which became TRW; during his career at TRW, led a team in design of the antenna on the Voyager satellites as well as the Apollo missions among other programs; retired in 1986; in retirement moved to Indiana for summers, returning to winter in Seal Beach; he and his second wife, Dorothea, loved traveling in Europe, Australia and around the U.S.

'49 **Jane "Jinx" Goltry Adams**, Anaheim, CA (9/15/15, the day after her 87th birthday); a transfer student from U. of Redlands, entered Pomona her sophomore year; active in junior class activities; was secretary in Physics Dept. while a student; worked in her husband, Adrian's office when he was starting out as self-employed lawyer; received teaching credential, Calif. State U., Northridge in 1970, though never worked full time as a teacher; enjoyed traveling with husband, tennis and their house at Channel Islands Harbor.

'49 **Beverly Spicer Carroll**, Sunriver, OR (12/17/15), at age 88; married David Carroll '51 (1928-2011) in June 1949, the day after graduation and lived in Vet's housing on campus until Dave's graduation; lived in several So, Calif. communities as well as San Francisco during his 36-year career with Pacific Telephone Co.; Beverly taught parent education in San Diego in the 1950s; organized a Head Start program in Pasadena in the 1960s; was involved with child abuse hotline in San Francisco in the 1970s; was a nursing floor volunteer at the Huntington Hospital in Pasadena, Scripps Hospital in San Diego and the new Irvine Hospital in Orange County, where she organized the volunteer and nursing floor programs; they moved to Sunriver on Dave's retirement in 1989.

'49 **Howard I. Dickson**, Fullerton, CA (11/13/15), at age 88; Phi Delta; played football and was freshman representative on A.M.S. Council; entered the U.S. Army after freshman year and returned to graduate; many years in management for Environmentals, Inc. in Anaheim, CA, then with Angelicas Health Care Service; married Shirlee Ann Page '47 (1925-2004) in 1949.

'49 **Paul Salzman**, Arcata, CA (11/16/2012) at age 92; attended Iowa State College for two years before entering the U.S. Navy, WWII; attended Pomona 1947-1949; M.Sc., UCLA; clinical social worker, St. John's Hospital, Community Health Center; went into private practice in Santa Monica in 1970s, retiring at age 91.

'49 **Langhorne P. Withers**, Springfield, VA (4/30/16), at age 92; Kappa Theta Epsilon; before entering Pomona, served in U.S. Army, WWII, in the infantry; fought in Battle of the Bulge and lived to tell how he escaped from a Nazi prison camp; after graduating from Pomona, led platoons in the Korean War; received a Bronze Star and three purple hearts; retired from the Army as a Lt. colonel in 1968; in 1970, settled in No. Virginia, where he had a successful second career as civil service statistician with U.S. Army Operational Test and Evaluation Agency until 1991; an avid bike rider; enjoyed making furniture and entertaining his children and grandchildren with stories, math puzzles and magic tricks.

'50 **Alfred D. Chamberlain**, San Mateo, CA (3/9/16/), at age 88; attended UC Berkeley and served a year in U.S. Navy at end of WWII, before entering Pomona; B.A., U. of Washington; M.D., UC San Francisco Medical School; general practice residency, U. of Colorado, Denver; began his practice in San Mateo in 1956; from 1969-71, he was in the Peace Corps and he, his wife Jean [Moremen '48] and their four sons were in Recife, Brazil, where he served as Peace Corps physician to 200 volunteers; returning to his practice, was chief of staff for Mills Memorial Hospital (1976-78); completed a second residency in internal medicine at Highland Hospital, Oakland, and began a new practice in 1978; retired in 1993; loved working with his hands and, with help from family and friends, built a home in Inverness above Tomales Bay, CA; avid skier, hiker and back country camper and continued to play tennis and cello well into his 80s.

'50 **Charles M. Magistro**, Claremont, CA (4/21/16), at age 91; attended Pomona one semester, 1946-47; B.S. in physical therapy, Columbia U.; began his physical therapy career at Casa Colina in Pomona; in 1954, was recruited to develop the first hospital-based physical therapy program in the region at Pomona Valley Hospital, where he remained as director of the department until his retirement in 1989; 50 years later, the department had a staff of 50 licensed physical therapists specializing in 14 areas; participated in the development of similar physical therapy departments at four other local hospitals and played an active role in the development of the profession; received many honors and awards for his contributions to the growing field.

'50 **Barbara Inglis McAusland**, Bend, OR (5/22/16), 4 days shy of age 88; Phi Beta Kappa; Mortar Board; freshman class treasurer; member of Ski Club; editor, *Metate*, junior year; Rembrandt Club Art Prize, senior year; living in Seattle, WA, she had a career as an artist/designer and art teacher; M.F.A. in printmaking, U. of Washington; moving to Bend in 1994, she skied, hiked and maintained the Todd Lake Trail in company of her Labrador Max; worked tirelessly for sustainable growth in Bend through service on the public schools site committee, Friends of Bend, the board of River West Neighborhood Assn. and citizen participation in City Council meetings.

'50 **Frederick W. Munz**, Eugene, OR (2/27/16), at age 86; earned his M.A. in zoology at UCLA before serving in U.S. Army Counterintelligence in Germany; returned to UCLA and earned his Ph.D. in zoology in 1958; after a post-doc in England, he joined the faculty at U. of Oregon to teach biology remaining until retirement; made significant contributions to the field of "visual ecology," researching how retinal visual pigments evolved to support vision in fishes; later compared visual pigment absorption spectra with radiometric study of underwater light quality; with a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1968, he took his family to Europe to continue his research; collecting trips took him to many lakes and rivers in Ore., Hawaii and to Eniwetok Atoll; enjoyed camping and backpacking adventures and cross-country skiing, seeking out remote natural places as well as best small-town bakeries; loved birdwatching and was the first person to report spotting a Cerulean Warbler in Oregon (2012); in retirement, enjoyed language studies and world traveling with his wife, Dorothy, until her death; avid cook and baker, fly tyer, fisherman and vegetable gardener; married Dorothy Sorem '53 (1932-2003) in 1954.

'51 **Ruth Ecke "Crix" Dealy**, Encinitas, CA (3/25/16), at age 86; attended Pomona her freshman year, leaving to marry Bill Dealy; they moved to Ore., where she attended classes at Oregon State U.; in 1951, they moved back to Encinitas; a member of Solana Beach Presbyterian Church for 60 years, she was a trained Stephen Minister and a long-time Bible Study Fellowship leader.

'51 **Marcia Moore Smith**, Seattle, WA (9/17/15), at age 85; at Pomona, participated in class and dorm activities/committees; after several years of traveling with husband Clyde Smith's [CMC '51] Navy duties, they settled in San Gabriel, CA, where they raised their family; Marcia worked some 20 years for several insurance companies as claims adjuster and litigation specialist; moved to Bellevue, WA, in 1978, where she completed her career, retiring in 1995; moved to Camano Island, halfway between Seattle and Canadian border, where she enjoyed volunteering with her church and the community.

'51 **George H. "Jerry" Zaback**, San Francisco, CA (4/22/16), at age 87; a member of the R.O.T.C. at Pomona; writing in his 50th reunion bio, he reported that he lived in Hollywood, San Diego and Sacramento, before moving to San Francisco in 1965; for more than 30 years, had two concurrent careers, the main one in administrative law enforcement for the State of Calif. which allowed time for a continuing commitment to the army, where he had several tours of active duty during three wars; in retirement, spent time in political activities in S.F.

'53 **William B. Bader**, Sykesville, MD (3/15/16), at age 84; Phi Beta Kappa; Nu Alpha Phi, Ghosts; participated in track and field (880 and pole vault); junior and senior representative on Judiciary Council; sponsor; after graduation, studied in Europe with Fulbright

Fellowship; served in U.S. Navy, 1955-58; earned his Ph.D. in history, Princeton U. in 1964; in late 1960s, worked for Senator J. William Fulbright, and was one of the first people to cast doubt on the official reasons given by the Defense Dept. and the White House for escalating the U.S. military involvement in Vietnam; also helped investigate abuses and events surrounding the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin Resolution; in mid-1970s, was on staff of Senate investigative committee led by Frank Church (D-Idaho) and helped expose a variety of unsavory practices by the CIA, including attempts to topple governments and assassinate foreign leaders; later worked in the Defense Dept. before returning to the Senate as chief of staff of the Foreign Relations Committee (1979-81); 10 years with SRI International, a research firm and government contractor; president of Eurasia Foundation in Washington, D.C. (1992-95); was assistant secretary of state for education and cultural affairs, 1991-2001; over the years, lectured at many universities; in the early 2000s, his book, *Austria Between East and West* (1966), was revised and translated into German with an introduction by renown historian/author, Gordon A. Craig; in 2006, he and his wife, Gretta Lange '53 (1931-2014), whom he married in 1953, lived in Genève, Switzerland, where Bill was visiting professor at The Institut universitaire de hautes études internationales and senior advisor to an international asset management company; in 2013, he received the Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award on Alumni Weekend.

'53 Donn Chappellet, St Helena, CA (5/22/16), at age 84; Kappa Delta; three years on varsity tennis team, winning three letters; after graduating, went into a coffee vending machine business, Interstate United Corp., with a friend in 1954; 14 years and 7,000 employees later, sold his share in the company and moved his wife, Molly (Scripps '53), and five (soon to be six) children to the Napa Valley; founded Chappellet winery on their new property; named the area, perched at the top of Sage Canyon Road in St. Helena, after Charles Pritchard, who had once owned the land there; trademarked Pritchard Hill, the sub-region in which their property lies, and never allowed it to become an official American Viticultural Area; they farm over 200 acres, producing cabernet sauvignon, merlot, chardonnay and chenin blanc (from 30-acres of vines already planted when they arrived in 1967); all the children have worked at the winery and son, Cyril, was named chair in 2013.

'53 Signe Culbertson Frost, Watsonville, CA (1/13/16), at age 83; Mortar Board; active in many college and class activities including WRA Board, Aquacade, College Church Board, and member of May Queens's Court, senior year; master's of divinity, Yale Divinity School, 1956; married fellow Yale classmate in 1955; they and their family moved to Malad, ID, then San Jose, CA, and finally to Watsonville in 1964; master's in psychology, Santa Clara U. in 1976 and was a licensed marriage and family therapist; director of Family Services Agency of Wat-

sonville, 1977-85 and again 1996-2001; her interest in archetypal and transpersonal psychology deepened over the years and she developed a personal, therapeutic and spiritual process which she taught; author of *SoulCollege* (2000) and the second, *SoulCollege Evolving*, was a Silver Medal winner in 2011 Nautilus Book Awards for significant contributions to conscious living and positive social change; was accomplished painter, sculptor, poet, writer and gardener with love of roses.

'53 Margaret Avil Wherrette, Seattle, WA (2/25/16), at age 84; at Pomona, was editor for *Sagehen* and *The Student Life*; worked for ACLU of Washington, then in 1975 to the Pike Place Market where she did advertising, special events, publicity and a weekly live show on KIRO for the Market's Merchants Assn; also edited the *Market News* and helped write the *Market Notebook*; after 12 years, she left to write freelance food columns and ad copy for local newspapers and markets; returned to the Market to work in the food industry and lastly became a semi-retired book seller.

'54 James R. Kostoff, Layton, UT (4/26/16) at age 83; Kappa Delta; Ghosts; president, freshman class; on various campus committees including Honor and Elections (chair) committees; ASPC secretary, junior year; J.D., UCLA Law School; attorney/partner, Nichols, Stead, Boileau & Lamb in Pomona, CA, retiring in 2000 as president; named to board of Los Angeles County Fair in 1970 and served as chair, 1983-2002, when he was named director emeritus; dedicated his time to organizations throughout the community including Fairplex Child Development Center, Pomona Valley YMCA, Leroy Haynes Foundation, American Red Cross, Pomona Rotary Club, Pomona Chapter of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, among other organizations; recipient of Pomona Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award, 1989; moved to Utah to be close to daughter; married Pat Stevens '57 (1935-2013) in 1956 (see Obituaries in this issue).

'54 Franklin O. Stavros, Altadena, CA (6/13/2010), at age 76; Phi Delta; dynamics engineer, Con-vair; technical specialist, Aerojet General Corp., Azusa, CA; member, chair, Pomona [CA], Planning Commission; engineer with Walter V. Sterling, Inc., consulting firm.

'55 Paul T. Mannen, Dallas, OR (4/12/16), at age 82; attended Pomona his freshman year before serving in U.S. Army for two years, part of which was in Korea; attended Oregon State College, graduating in 1958; after a year at U. of Oregon Medical School, he found his passion—teaching; teaching credential and M.A., Oregon State College; teaching and coaching career took him and family to Orland, CA, to Hilo, HI, where he taught math, coached all sports, acted as athletic director and managed a dormitory at the private Hawaii Preparatory Academy for nine years; returning to OR, studied athletic administration and taught and coached

in Milwaukie, Rainier and finally in Dallas, OR; retirement allowed time for volunteering and he was recognized in the Dallas community as the "Good Samaritan," and by Oregon Athletic Directors Assn. as outstanding athletic director for state of Oregon.

'55 Herbert "Herb" S. Mooney, Longmont, CO (2/26/16), at age 82; Kappa Delta; M.D., U. of Pennsylvania School of Medicine; 1959-65 was spent in graduate training in general surgery followed by three years surgery practice with U.S. Army in Heidelberg, Germany, and briefly with his father in Los Angeles before moving to Longmont; 46 years in general surgical practice at Longmont United Hospital, Loveland Memorial Hospital/McKee Medical Center; clinical professor of medicine, U. of Colorado School of Medicine; retired in 2014; active member of Colorado Medical Society and Boulder County Medical Society; married Rugeon Ann Peters '55 (1934-80) in 1958.

'56 Peter G. Grey, San Francisco, CA (4/5/16), at age 80; Phi Delta; after graduation, joined U.S. Army, training at the army's Monterey Defense Language Institute and then stationed in Washington, D.C.; after which, moved to S.F., where he lived the rest of his life; had a career in the insurance industry, but his main interest was in books and chess; a chess scholar and dedicated player; for years, worked with George Koltanowski, the *San Francisco Chronicle's* chess columnist, and occasionally wrote a guest column; member of Mechanics' Institute chess group and missed only a handful of their Tuesday night marathon tournaments after the tournament's inception in 1971.

'56 Joseph S. Patrick, Martinez, CA (1/28/2012), at age 77; B.A., UC Berkeley; M.A. in economics, UC Berkeley; M.A. in sociology, U. of Washington.

'56 Jean McMann Stein, Novato, CA (3/27/15), at age 80; attended Pomona 1952-54; M.A. in design, 1976 and Ph.D. in architecture, 1991, College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley; gifted teacher of grade school to college level; potter, creating many decorative ceramic pieces; loved poetry and quoted it often; the 1970s saw the beginning of fascination of megalithic art and dwellings of Western Europe; author of *Riddles of the Stone Age* (Thames & Hudson, 1980), *Loughcrew: The Cairns: A Guide* (After Hours Books, 1993), a guidebook to sites of her studies and *Altars and Icons: Sacred Spaces in Everyday Life* (Chronicle Books, 1998); loved to sing and play folk music

'56 Kenneth B. Wright, Ojai, CA (5/7/16), at age 81; Phi Beta Kappa; Phi Delta; member of Rally Committee and chair senior year; on ASPC Executive Committee senior year; in R.O.T.C., served in its six-month program after graduation; U.B., Stanford Law School; practiced law in L.A. for 40 years, specializing in civil litigation; active in Bar Association committees; president, Pomona College Alumni

Association, 1970-71; in 2008, he and his wife, Soni Smith '59, whom he married in 1959, moved from Sherman Oaks to Ojai.

'57 Nannette Figel Chapman, Woodside, CA (5/9/16), at age 80 (born in 1929, a "leap year baby," she celebrated her real 20th birthday in Feb. 2016); at Pomona, wrote a column for *The Student Life*, on several social committees and was an occasional substitute on KSPC; a love of horses began at age 7 and was a life-long passion; she owned many American Saddlebred horses which she successfully showed throughout the West Coast, winning awards and competitions; continued to show her horse, "Jackie," through 2015 season; co-founded Menlo Charity Horse Show in 1970, serving 46 years as a committee member, raising over \$6 million for Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired; a talented writer/editor, she was in charge of publicity for many of the numerous organizations to which she belonged; a longtime resident of Atherton, CA, she was the first woman to be elected a member of Atherton City Council, serving 20 years before moving to Woodside in 2000; served two terms as Atherton's mayor, 1986-88 and again 1998-2000.

'57 James E. Garton, Chico, CA (1/30/16), at age 80; Kappa Delta; on freshman banner spring committee; played freshman water polo and then on the varsity team for three years as guard or center, earning letters; guard on All SCIAC First Team, senior year; upon graduation, was commissioned Lt. j.g. in U.S. Navy, serving as chief communications officer for the eight ships of Commander Landing Ship Squadron One; his working career was in manufacturing and included as manager, manufacturing division, for Best Line Products, Inc., a household cleaning products company in San Jose, CA, and finally as director of manufacturing and sales marketing for International Marketing Management, Inc. (IMMI) based in Switzerland, for which he traveled extensively to Europe, Asia, Africa and So. America; in spite of busy work schedule, found time to be Cub Scout Master. Little League coach as well as hunter, fisherman, camper, accomplished gardener and cook; upon retirement, he and wife, Pat, moved to Chico, where they built their dream home; there he was vestryman for his church, member of Elks and SRS, board member of North State Symphony and founder of a men's book club.

'57 Beth Little Hamilton, Lincoln, NB (5/1/16), at age 80; at Pomona, participated in class activities, College Church, choir and glee clubs; delegate to model U.N. in San Francisco, sophomore year; Assoc. Colleges World Affairs Council, senior year; attended Yale Divinity School for two years on a Rockefeller Bros. Theological Fellowship; J. D., Santa Clara School of Law, 1979; had a long, distinguished legal career at a number of firms in San Jose, CA, specializing in environmental law; was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court; moved to Lincoln with husband, Lyle Hamilton, in 2001,

where she volunteered with Meals on Wheels, active in Heritage League and with Westminster Presbyterian Church.

'57 Patricia Ann Stevens Kostoff, Los Angeles, CA (4/10/2013), at age 77; attended Pomona through fall semester of sophomore year; on Homecoming Float Committee and was freshman homecoming princess; B.A., UCLA; elementary school teacher and taught over 20 years in Pomona and Upland school districts; loved teaching and giving back to the community through volunteering in local organizations; married James Kostoff '54 (1932-2016) in 1956 (see Obituaries in this issue).

'58 Sally Brand Cotter, Bend, OR (3/11/16), at age 79; attended Pomona her freshman year; returned to her home state, Hawaii; B.A. U. of Hawaii; an artist whose works can still be seen in Hawaii.

'58 Laurence "Larry" Laubscher, Aptos, CA (3/28/16), at age 80; attended Pomona 1953-Feb. 1955 and then took a leave of absence to enter military service; returned to Pomona to graduate in 1960, but chose to be with the Class of 1958; a math major, spent much time in Millikan Lab, but found time to work backstage on drama productions; had a long career in computer programming; on the ground floor with several computer companies, Agilent Technologies his most recent before retiring in 2004 from Hewlett Packard; mathematics, computers and friends were his passions; in 2009, moved to Burkina Faso, Africa, where he established a computer learning center for children; began translating the language, customs and mores into a compendium of references for future generations; returned to Aptos when health issues needed attention.

'58 William N. Littlefield, Newport Beach, CA (11/2/15), at age 78; fifth generation Californian, only child of Verne Denver Littlefield '33 and Elizabeth Nelson '33; Alpha Gamma Sigma; on freshman football team and was varsity football manager, freshman year; on C.L.C. as non-voting member; chair, Traffic Committee, junior year; member, R.O.T.C. and chaired R.O.T.C. Ball on campus; M.A. in economics, Stanford U., followed by service in U.S. Army and Reserves; taught economics at Long Beach City College for 30 years, rising from instructor to full professor, retiring in 1992; president, California Teachers' Assn.; served on Academic Senate, 1979-83 and 1988-92; 1982-86, was chief negotiator for faculty; 1988-91, was chapter president, California Community College Assn.; while living in Irvine, CA, was active in community; Irvine General Plan Committee for Parks, Open Space and Environment, Irvine committee for developing economic model for general plan impact, Irvine Sports Committee representing AYSO, Irvine Bobby Socks and Irvine Soccer Club; 12 years coach, 10 years referee, for AYSO and Irvine Soccer Club; in 1997, moved to Newport Beach; avid genealogist, tracing his roots back to the Mayflower; loved to travel and in retirement, spent three to

four months of the year traveling the world; married Joan Kohler '58 in 1958.

'59 Marilyn Sarah "Sally" McHenry Mier, Yellow Springs, OH (2/23/16), at age 78; graduate work in child development, Bryn Mawr College and in psychology at Ohio State U.; devoted her working career to children and adults with developmental disabilities; worked at facilities in Greene, Clark and Licking counties in Ohio, before her 20-year tenure at the Montgomery County Board of MRDD (now DDS); was a trustee for Toward Independence, Inc. in Xenia, OH; after retiring, she co-founded the Yellow Springs Leadership Institute and was board member of League of Women Voters on both local and state levels; was proud to participate in swearing in of new citizens in Judge Walter Rice's courtroom.

'60 Martin "Marty" E. Olson, San Marino, CA (4/21/16), at age 77; Nu Alpha Phi; on varsity cross country/track team, winning letters and wrestling; on Rally Committee (chair 1959-60); cheerleader; on Athletic Council, senior year; a math major, was president of Math Club; sang bass in choir and glee club; graduate studies, Stanford U. after graduation; married Peggy Schuler '61 in Little Bridges on her graduation night, June 1961; taught computer programming and continued in computers for 12 years; general manager and vice president, GLS Building Corp.; self-employed property manager and referee; took up in-line skating in his early 60s and won medals in the 60+ division, usually finishing in top third in 5k and marathons; with his two sons, participated in Indian Guides, coaching and refereeing baseball, soccer and track; volunteer timer/judge at high school track meets; joined L.A. High School Track Starters Assn. and started high school track meets for 17 years; in 2001, became certified to start college meets and in Feb. 2002, was starter for a meet at Pomona; sang in various small community theatre musicals including "Sound of Music" playing Captain von Trapp, thus marrying Peggy 36 times (one in real life and 35 on stage); practitioner of transcendental meditation for 43 years; loved to travel with Peggy and his family.

'61 George H. Baker, San Diego, CA (1/19/16), at age 76; Kappa Delta; on varsity football team (guard), freshman and sophomore years, earning letters; on varsity baseball team (catcher), earning letters; M.B.A., George Washington U.; professional career was spent with U.S. Navy's Naval Audit Services, rising from auditor, to team leader, to senior auditor; in retirement, became a management consultant.

'61 H. Hadley Batchelder, Jamul, CA (2/7/16), at age 76; Nu Alpha Phi; president, Junior class; president, secretary, of Delta Sigma Rho, honorary forensic fraternity and member of a number of winning debate teams; treasurer of Pi Sigma Alpha, political science fraternity; a member of R.O.T.C., was commissioned after graduation and in U.S. Army Reserves; J.D., Boalt Hall, UC Berkeley School of Law, followed by a year of active duty in U.S. Army; attor-

ney in Del Mar/San Diego; taught at Thomas Jefferson School of Law (formerly Western State U.) for most of his career; went on to be an arbitrator and mediator, solving disputes throughout Calif.; was a friend and mentor to many in the San Diego community and beyond; upon retiring, grew roses and fruit trees on his property in Jamul; loved good food, good wine and a good debate; married Maria Weiss '64 (1942-88) in 1972.

'61 Marilyn Maldonado Terman, Mountain View, CA (12/20/15, her 76th birthday); at Pomona, was member of Canterbury and Cosmopolitan Clubs and folk/square dancing group; on Harwood Court Dorm Board, junior year; married Terrance Terman at end of junior year, but remained in school; joined Los Altos/Mountain View League of Woman Voters; when they discovered she had been a math major at Pomona, she became their treasurer; realizing she needed more knowledge of accounting, she took a basic accounting course locally and later entered San Jose State U. earning her B.S. in accounting, 1989; hired as part-time treasurer of Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, where she was a member and enjoyed singing in their choir.

'63 Julia Elizabeth Rodgers, Lompoc, CA (4/26/16), at age 74; at Pomona, was member of choir, orchestra (piano and oboe), and senior class activities; lived in Claremont while obtaining her elementary teaching credential and M.A. in music, CGS; played for the San Francisco Ballet, gave music lessons and taught fifth grade until moving to Santa Barbara where she was a registered mail clerk at Goleta Post Office for 20 years; moved to Lompoc in 1987 and fell in love with the art community; dabbled in batik, calligraphy, bead jewelry, pen and ink, but finally settled on watercolor as medium of choice; rediscovered her musical talents by accompanying local singers, high school and church choirs; last job was at Lompoc Presbyterian Church as choir director, pianist and organist.

'66 Stephen D. Helmer, Ithaca, NY (12/1/15), at age 71; Zeta Chi Sigma; attended Pomona freshman and sophomore years; participated in glee club, Blue and White Quartet, choir; B.A., Principia College, Elsau, IL; during his college career, switched major from music to political science, to urban planning, architecture, art history; M.A. in art history, Arizona State U., Tempe; Ph.D. in art history, Cornell U., Ithaca, NY, in 1980; worked in Dept. of Labor Relations at Cornell until 1996, when he became professor of art history at Principia College for 10 years; now a widower, he retired, and pursued foster parenthood; in 2012, returned to Ithaca where he and his late wife, Liz, had lived for 22 years; there, he sang with local choral groups including Cornell U. Chorale and Ithaca Voices.

'67 Craig E. Taylor, Torrance, CA (5/31/2014), at age 68; attended Pomona 1963-65; B.S., U. of Utah; M.A., Ph.D. in philosophy, U. of Illinois; when last heard from (1974), was

lecturer in philosophy, U. of Illinois, Urbana.

'75 Vance P. Edwards, Darrington, WA (4/16/16), at age 62; operated for many years, a boat maintenance business, Harbor Diving & Maintenance, out of Ventura Harbor, Ventura, CA; was an accomplished sailboat racer; winning famous Transpacific Race to Honolulu with "Wind Dancer" was among his many first-place finishes; also loved hiking the North Cascades in Darrington with his domestic partner, Janet Lloyd '79.

'76 Anna Fan, Chicago, IL (4/15/16), at age 61; at Pomona, sang in the choir; member and co-treasurer of Math Club; M.A.T. (Master of Arts in Teaching) in math, UCLA; and then it was off to Beijing U., where she studied Chinese and taught English conversation; earned M.A. in ESL, U. of Arizona, 1984; lived again in China in the late 80s, but returned to U.S. in early 1990s; system analyst for Northern Trust Co. in Chicago.

'86 Scott R. Skiles, Portland, OR (10/10/15), at age 51; attended Pomona freshman and sophomore years, playing on the soccer team both years; transferred to Oberlin College; had many vocations in his life: carpenter, musician, teacher and activist; upon acceptance into an English teaching program in Japan, completed a self-taught crash course in Japanese, including to read and write Kanji, an ability he used the rest of his life to take personal notes; taught preschool, elementary as well as business professionals and seniors; had an amazing ear for music, reproducing pieces he heard on the piano, guitar or harmonica; would surprise many jazz musicians and fans when he played Miles Davis' "Kind of Blue" on a harmonica during open mike nights; was longtime activist for peace and environment; his later years in Portland were difficult as his mental health deteriorated, but still he connected with many from all walks of life who are touched by his life and death.

'90 Robert W. Bailie, Moosic, PA (3/15/16), at age 48; after graduation, attended CGS for M.A. in philosophy; for over 20 years, worked in computer software development and investment management with Charles W. Schwab and other firms in San Francisco area; enjoyed outdoor sports, particularly rock climbing and mountain hiking; volunteer leader in outdoor experiences for inner city youth.

'90 Paul J. Jurica, Tucson, AZ (4/27/16, one day shy of age 48); Ph.D. in psychology, UC Berkeley; worked many years in the behavioral health field, most recently as quality analyst at Connections Southern Arizona.

'91 Alexander E. Auseklis, San Francisco, CA (10/24/2012), at age 43; his passion in life was rugby, motorcycles and inventing creative labor-saving devices.

LAST LOOK



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2016



For information about Alumni Weekend 2016, see Bulletin Board, page 52. PHOTOS BY CARLOS PUMA





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Detail from bronze relief in the floor of the Smith Campus Center | Photo by Alexa Miller