

Pomona

COLLEGE
MAGAZINE
SUMMER 2012

THE NEXT AMERICANS

The Immigration Issue

INSIDE:

FOUR PATHS FORWARD
ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

THE CREATOR OF PROMETHEUS
AT THE U.S. BORDER

THE CHINESE PEASANT
WHO WON OVER THE WEST

LAW; THAT I WILL PERFORM WORK OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE UNDER CIVILIAN DIRECTION WHEN REQUIRED BY THE LAW; AND THAT I TAKE THIS OBLIGATION FREELY WITHOUT ANY MENTAL RESERVATION OR PURPOSE OF EVASION; SO HELP ME GOD.

—THE UNITED STATES OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

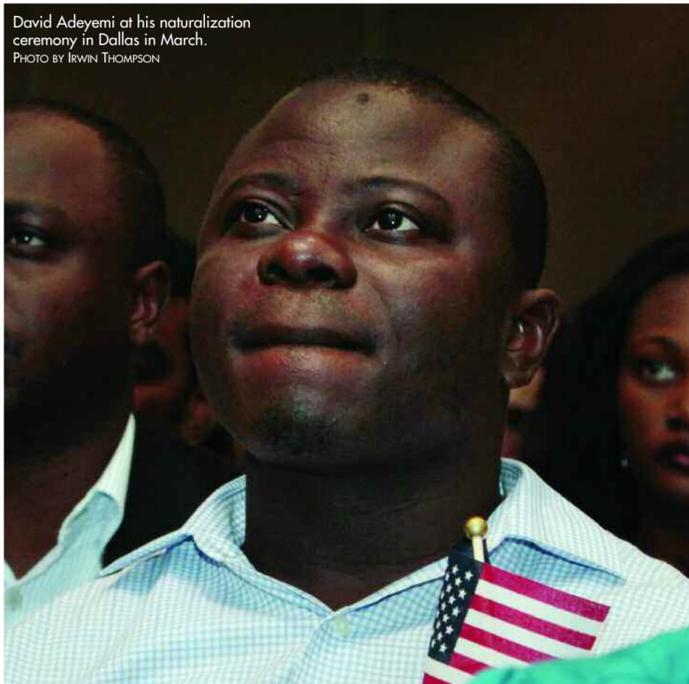
LAW; THAT I WILL PERFORM NONCOMBATANT SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES WHEN REQUIRED BY THE



Some 37 people from 26 countries were part of the naturalization ceremony at Taylor Allderice High School in Pittsburgh on May 16, 2012. PHOTO BY MARTHA RIAL



PHOTO BY MARTHA RIAL



David Adeyemi at his naturalization ceremony in Dallas in March. PHOTO BY IRWIN THOMPSON

I HEREBY DECLARE

BY SALLY ANN FLECKER



PHOTO BY IRWIN THOMPSON



The swearing-in event seen here, held in May in Pittsburgh, was one of a series of naturalization ceremonies Citizenship Counts helped host around the country, from San Diego to Dallas to Washington, D.C. PHOTO BY MARTHA RIAL

Most American stories start in other places.

Which, in a way, makes a naturalization ceremony the quintessential American experience. On this day, the high-school auditorium in Pittsburgh, Pa., abounds with red, white and blue—balloons, strings of lights, tinselly decorations—and chamber singers stretch for the high notes of “The Star-Spangled Banner.” But what America *means* can be found in the stories of 37 people from 26 countries who have just taken the oath of allegiance and are now being called to the stage to receive their naturalization certificates.

Some are very dignified, others giddy. Polish-born Marta Lewicka, a math professor at the University of Pittsburgh, turns to beam at the audience before she shakes the hand of a dignitary. Nader Abdelmassieh, a physician, poses at the end of the stage for a picture. He is a tall man with a quiet smile, but his face is shining as he waves a small flag like a child at a Fourth of July parade. America accommodates foreigners better than any other country in the world, he says later, adding, “Many people don’t realize this country is a gift and an opportunity.” ▶

ON OATH, THAT I ABSOLUTELY AND ENTIRELY RENOUNCE AND ABJURE ALL ALLEGIANCE AND FIDELITY TO ANY FOREIGN PRINCE, POTENTATE

STATE, OR SOVEREIGNTY OF WHOM OR WHICH I HAVE HERETOFORE BEEN A SUBJECT OR CITIZEN; THAT I WILL SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGAINST ALL ENEMIES, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC; THAT I WILL BEAR TRUE FAITH AND ALLEGIANCE TO THE SAME; THAT I WILL BEAR ARMS ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES WHEN REQUIRED BY THE

Pomona

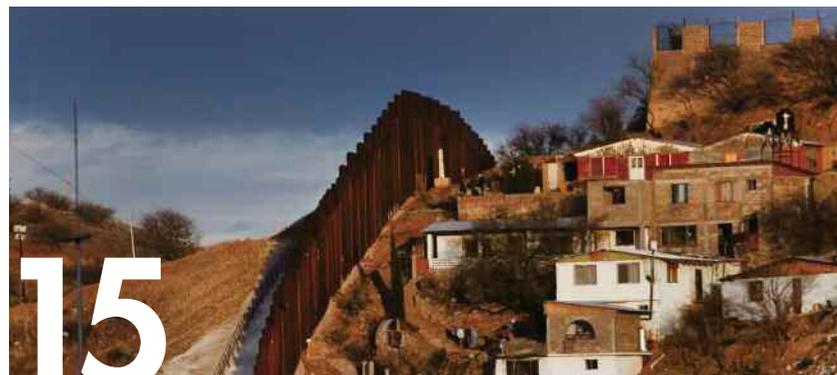
/THE NEXT AMERICANS/

FEATURES

BEYOND THE WALL

With the immigration debate stuck in stalemate, Pomona alumni offer possible ways forward:

1. **OPEN THE GATES... AGAIN** / BY JOEL NEWMAN '89
2. **EXPAND THE DREAM** / BY WILL PEREZ '97
3. **SECURE THE BORDER FIRST** / BY JOERG KNIPPRATH '73
4. **AVOID THE GUEST WORKER TRAP** / BY CONOR FRIEDERSDORF '02



OROZCO AT THE BORDER

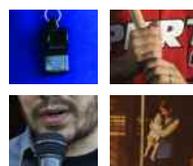
The Mexican muralist who painted *Prometheus* suffered more than his share of indignities at the border. / BY AGUSTIN GURZA



IMMIGRANT STORIES

For five young Sagehens, immigrant pasts have launched present-day career paths.

- AMY MOTLAGH '98: **REVOLUTION & REDEMPTION**
 ALDO RAMIREZ '00: **MIGRANT TO MENTOR**
 PETER WERMUTH '00: **AMBASSADOR OF BASEBALL**
 JOE NGUYEN '05: **A FUNNY THING HAPPENED...**
 ANBINH PHAN '01: **CREATIVE EMPATHY**



TO SHINE IN THE WEST

Fong Sec, Pomona's first Chinese immigrant student, faced abuse in the U.S. but overcame it all. / BY VANESSA HUA



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ON THE COVER

Elvira Rodriguez becomes a citizen at a ceremony in Dallas attended by John '64 and Diane Eckstein.

Story on page 1. Photo by Irwin Thompson

That lesson is front and center for John Eckstein '64 and his wife Diane. For the past four months, they've been traveling cross-country attending naturalization ceremonies—this one is their eighth—to promote Citizenship Counts, a nonpartisan nonprofit founded in 2008 by Holocaust survivor and 2010 Presidential Medal of Honor recipient Gerda Weissmann Klein.

Citizenship Counts has two missions—teaching a middle- and high-school curriculum on the rights and responsibilities of being a good American citizen and emphasizing our history as a nation of immigrants. “What better way to combine those two missions but to host a naturalization ceremony in the schools,” Eckstein says. Two of the speakers today fled Somalia with their families and spent eight years in a Kenyan refugee camp. One is a student at this high school, the other a recent graduate and newly minted citizen. “Students see that people from all over the world want to come to this country,” he says. “It’s a very meaningful ceremony.”

The Ecksteins' journey “from sea to shining sea” began at the end of January in San Diego and will end in New York City in June. By that time, Eckstein, a semi-retired physician from Phoenix, Ariz., will have racked up 3,500 miles by bike and on foot while Diane, a Citizenship Counts board member, follows in



Emma and Herman Eckstein in Bucharest, Romania, in 1921

a small RV with their dog Kipp. “We wanted Gerda to see this journey,” says Eckstein, “which we view as a journey of freedom and hope.”

The stop in Pittsburgh is a larger celebration for the Ecksteins as well. John’s grandfather Herman came to Pittsburgh in 1923 from Hungary, making a living selling furnaces, and able, after three years, to send for his wife and seven children. For today’s ceremony, John’s brother Paul '62, a Pomona trustee and lawyer from Phoenix, and his wife Flo, have joined them, along with first cousins from Pittsburgh, New York and Florida. Their generation, says Paul, includes two doctors, one lawyer and two librarians.

Their parents—Herman Eckstein’s children—all went to high school in this very building. In fact, the family home is just up the street and around the corner. A few years ago, in town for a family reunion, John, Paul and the cousins all trooped over to the old homestead. It was smaller than they remembered. They knocked on the door and asked if they could come in. “Certainly,” said the Vietnamese family who lives there now, opening the door wide and welcoming them in.



John '64 and Diane Eckstein take a picture with Adriana Antoietti at a naturalization ceremony in March in Dallas. PHOTO BY IRWIN THOMPSON



Sugey Blanquicett from Panama shows off her certificate after her naturalization ceremony in Dallas with Citizenship Counts. PHOTO BY IRWIN THOMPSON

ABOUT THIS ISSUE:

Where We Are Coming From...

Under the forgettable headline,

“Mexico Worker Issue Debated: Claremont Conference Takes Up Immigration,” a *Los Angeles Times* article told of a “record-breaking crowd” of more than 700 people gathered at Pomona College for an annual conference about U.S.-Mexican relations and immigration.

At the event, an American academic addressed “the influx of Mexicans to the United States,” while a Mexican border official upheld the “right to immigrate” and seek better prospects in the U.S. The two men did agree that a committee of immigration experts from both nations should be set up to look into the issue.

That was in 1928.

Being in Southern California, the College has long been touched by immigration. From the early days, Pomona has been part of the long-running debates over who to let into the country.

But this past year was different.

The 2011-12 school year brought events that, in the words of President David Oxtoby, drove “questions about our nation’s immigration policies into the very heart of our campus life.” Seventeen workers lost their jobs—let go by the College—after a review of Pomona’s workplace documentation procedures.

The issue was set off when a college employee made a complaint that Oxtoby’s administration (and previous ones) was not checking new employees’ documentation as the law requires.

The complaint went to leaders of the Board of Trustees, who decided it required them to investigate, and they brought in the Sidley Austin law firm to do so. Ultimately, the lawyers found the College had been following the rules. There also were some problems.

As part of the audit, investigators examined every employee’s paperwork and found “deficiencies” with the files of 84 of them. Most problems were cleared up—but not all of them. After a deadline passed, 17 workers still were found to be lacking the right paperwork.

On Dec. 1, those workers were fired. Administrators said they had no other choice under the law.

Sadness and anger followed. So did pickets, protests and a boycott of Frary Dining Hall. Faculty spoke out against the firings. Student tents went up on the lawn outside the administration building. Donations were collected for the workers (who also received severance pay).

Critics of the College’s approach questioned whether auditing employees’ documentation was truly necessary, or even appropri-



Silhouettes of 17 people painted on Walker Wall.

The complaint is received by the Chair of the Board.	Vice Chair of the Audit Committee retains the Sidley Austin law firm to conduct an investigation.	Sidley Austin begins review of I-9 documents for all staff, faculty and part-time employees.	Sidley Austin reports no wrongdoing on the part of the administration but identifies deficiencies to be addressed.	84 Pomona faculty, staff and part-time employees are notified that they have deficiencies in their work authorization files and that they should schedule an appointment with Human Resources.	17 Employees who are unable to correct deficiencies in their files lose their jobs. 150-200 staff, students, alumni and members of UNITE HERE protest. Members of the Board meet with staff, faculty and students. The Board appoints a subcommittee to review the investigation.	The subcommittee of the Board releases its report, concluding that there were “breakdowns in communication” and that the Board could have done “a better job of supervising the investigation,” but that the investigation was necessary.
FEB. 2011	MAR. 2011	JUNE 2011	SEPT. 2011	NOV. 2011	DEC. 2011	MAY 2012

- MORE INFORMATION ON:**
- WORK AUTHORIZATION EVENTS – www.pomona.edu/work-documentation
 - SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT [pdf] – www.pomona.edu/board-review2012
 - NEW POLICIES [pdf] – www.pomona.edu/whistleblower-policy2012
 - UNIONIZATION – www.pomona.edu/unionization
 - COVERAGE IN THE STUDENT LIFE – www.tsl.pomona.edu

ate. Some suggested enforcement action was unlikely. Others called on Pomona to refuse to comply with unjust laws. President Oxtoby agreed the regulations were too harsh and reform was needed, but said the College still had to obey the laws.

All this came in the midst of a unionization drive for campus dining workers. Union supporters on campus and beyond took up the cause of the fired workers. Groups ranging from the ACLU of Southern California to the National Council of La Raza joined the chorus. The issue played out in the media, reaching *The New York Times* and other outlets.

The College also had defenders, who said administrators were in a difficult situation and had to take the steps they did. And beyond campus, not everyone was sympathetic to the fired workers’ cause—witness the reader comments with the *Times* article.

As the school year closed, the Trustees released their own subcommittee report concluding, as *The Student Life* headline put it, that “Oversight Mistakes Were Avoidable, but Work Authorization Investigation Was Necessary ...”

Another class graduated, and summer break set in. Still, 17 Pomona College employees—no doubt people with families, commitments and bills—had lost their livelihoods.

With immigration reform stalled for now, it is inevitable that similar stories will unfold elsewhere, perhaps out of the spotlight. America’s long debate over who gets in—and who gets to stay—is sure to carry on.

That’s what drives this issue of *Pomona College Magazine*. We’ve delved into some Pomona-related historical tales to provide context and shed light on conditions earlier immigrants faced. We’ve asked four alumni with strong views on immigration reform to propose ways to move forward. Finally, we want to introduce you to young alumni with immigrant backgrounds and let them share their own paths, in their own voices.

We don’t expect to end the divide over immigration. We do hope to offer a glimpse beyond the wall.

—Mark Kendall

Excerpts from *The Student Life*:

Nov. 11, 2011
Pomona Reviews Employee Documents; WFJ Protests

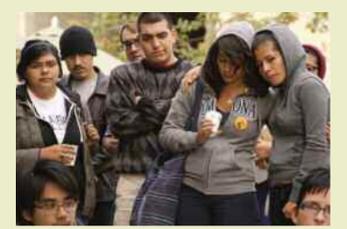
Pomona College began checking the work authorization documents of 84 of its employees, provoking widespread outrage from many students, professors, and staff



members. Supporters of Workers for Justice (WFJ), the pro-union group of Pomona dining hall staff, began demonstrating before dawn on Tuesday in opposition to what they saw as a campaign of intimidation, while college administrators insisted that the document-verification process was legally required because of an external audit that is unrelated to unionization. ...

Nov. 18, 2011
Faculty Resolve to Support Workers; Students, Staff Protest Document Checks

At a faculty meeting Nov. 16, Pomona College President David Oxtoby pointed to fears of potential involvement from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and reiterated that the college must re-verify the work authorization documents of 84 college employees before Dec. 1. The Pomona College administration has been under fire this week as students, faculty, and staff questioned the college’s decision to ask those employees to meet with the Office of Human Resources to provide valid federal work authorization documents. Opponents of the document reviews expressed their discontent in a vigil Nov. 11, a teach-in event Nov. 14, and a protest and press conference Nov. 16 that attracted local news media. ...



Dec. 2, 2011
17 Employees Terminated Over Documents; Boycott, Vigil Extended

Pomona College fired 17 staff members yesterday, after those employees were unable to meet the college’s deadline for submitting updated work authorization documents. The terminations, which most directly affected dining services employees, marked the end of a three-week verification process that has provoked outrage from many organizations and individuals, both within and beyond the Claremont Colleges. Demonstrations against the college’s actions are expected to continue into the weekend, as two of the community’s most visible groups of protesters signaled that they would keep up their efforts. ...

May. 16, 2011
Oversight Mistakes Were Avoidable, but Work Authorization Investigation Was Necessary, Report Finds

The Pomona College Board of Trustees made some mistakes related to communication and oversight of the investigation that led to the firing of 17 staff members last year, but the comprehensive audit of work authorization documents for all Pomona employees was necessary, according to a report by a subcommittee of trustees. The board voted Saturday to accept the subcommittee’s report. Pomona students, professors and staff received access to an online version of the report Monday. One day before the board accepted the report, the board’s Audit Committee adopted a new set of policies for handling complaints. Audit Committee Chair Terrance Hodel ’64 said that the new policies were necessary because there was no preexisting procedure for responding to complaints like the one that the board received last year, which accused the Pomona administration of having illegal hiring practices. ...

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Pomona College is an independent liberal arts college established in 1887. Located in Claremont, Calif., it is the founding member of The Claremont Colleges.

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NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Pomona College complies with all applicable state and federal civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination in education and the workplace. This policy of non-discrimination covers admission, access and service in Pomona College programs and activities, as well as hiring, promotion, compensation, benefits and all other terms and conditions of employment at Pomona College.



The Great Debate

Mark Wood's column, "When Bad Things Happen," marks the first time I've been truly angered by something I read in *Pomona College Magazine*. While one doesn't expect hard-hitting journalism from a publication whose main purpose is to stroke alumni and encourage donations, this was beyond the pale.

Comparing Pomona's controversy over the firing of undocumented workers, many of whom were trying to unionize (a facet of the story Wood mysteriously omitted) to the disturbing events at Penn State, Wood waxed poetic about "when bad things happen to good institutions." With all the subtlety of Rush Limbaugh on meth, he implied that it was somehow unfair and prejudicial not to "imagine good, caring thoughtful people agonizing over intractable problems," suggesting that a failure to do so was the moral equivalent of blaming people with cancer or AIDS for their illness.

It's hard to imagine a more offensive and intellectually dishonest argument. What happened at Penn State was the result of people—maybe good, maybe not so good—making truly horrible decisions, in the context of a campus culture that placed certain programs on a pedestal. It appears that seriously horrible decisions have also been made at Pomona. Whether they were in fact made by "good, caring, thoughtful people agonizing over intractable problems" remains at best a matter under dispute. In any case, good intentions are hollow without good judgment.

The decision to delay a more thorough examination of the firing controversy until the next issue was understandable, given the deadlines and lead times of a quarterly publication. To publish Woods' apologia in the interim suggests strongly that the whitewash is well under way.

—Bruce Mirken '78

San Francisco, Calif.

I'd like to compliment you on your article "When Bad Things Happen." It gives proper perspective on an unfortunate situation. It reflects the thought and care I would wish of all journalists. Keep it up!

—Bob Hatch '51

Laguna Woods, Calif.

I am writing in response to President Oxtoby's winter letter to alumni lamenting the termination of 17 college employees after the worker documentation investigation.

Few take pleasure in terminating employees. However, your sympathy may be misplaced, and

your willingness to use scarce college resources to support the discharged employees seems inappropriate and misguided. While the intent of the discharged employees in working illegally may have been benign—a better life for them and their families—the results of their action were harmful:

—They broke the laws of our country by entering illegally;

—They secured employment under false pretenses and in violation of the law;

—They compromised the integrity of Pomona's hiring practices and, thereby, stained the reputation of the College;

—They placed themselves ahead of the millions who are attempting to immigrate legally into the country;

—They deprived U.S. citizens and legal residents of employment opportunities.

Perhaps, unemployment is not an important issue for the college staff and faculty, but unemployment in California has been running over 10 percent, and at a much higher rate among African Americans. By hiring illegal immigrants, Pomona does nothing to relieve the suffering of the unemployed. Do you not think that the College has greater obligations to our own citizens than to those who have broken our laws and violated our trust?

I strongly urge that you renounce the misguided decision to provide health insurance to the discharged employees through June 30 and, instead, use the funds for an outreach program to potential replacement employees who are citizens or legal residents, especially African Americans.

—George Zwerdling '61

Carpinteria, Calif.

I sent this to President Oxtoby in response to his alumni/ae letter about the pain of firing undocumented college workers:

Responding to the dilemma of your valued long-term employees, who happen not to be citizens, doesn't seem so difficult an issue to me at all, if the institution has any ability to take a moral stand. Declare Pomona College a sanctuary. Defy the damn racist law.

Think of the university grounds in Mexico during 1968, declared sanctuary until the army violated it. Think of the European countries that allow non-citizens not only to reside and work, but to vote! I could go on and on and we'd inevitably end up with Jim Crow, the internment of Japanese-Americans and the anti-Jewish laws in Germany, so I won't. Still, firing the employees without a struggle is shameful.

—John Shannon '65

Topanga, Calif.

The Life of Liffey

Like Jake Smith '69 ("Class Notes" Spring 2012) I was moved by the article in the Fall 2010 *PCM* to seek out the complete series of Jack Liffey novels by my classmate John Shannon. John and I were dorm neighbors in Walker Hall freshman year, but had little contact after that and none since graduating in 1965.

Finding all of the books was made possible by Amazon's network of sellers of used books. Some of the earlier titles are actually library discards.

I enjoyed all of the novels, some inevitably more than others, but wouldn't hesitate to recommend the whole series, preferably read in order. The stories are well-told, the characters exceptionally well-drawn and the Los Angeles milieu fascinating. It is the latter that has drawn comparisons with Raymond Chandler, but because of the sense of history and the uncompromising social criticism I am more reminded of James Ellroy. But John's voice is very much his own and he is driven more by indignation, where Ellroy is driven by paranoia.

For a sometimes dark but always convincing vision of the hometown I left nearly 40 years ago, thank you *PCM*, thank you Amazon and especially thank you, John.

—Steve Sherman '65

Munich, Germany

A Sagehen Star

I just received your spring '12 "racing issue." Unfortunately, it appears to be missing an alumnus story that should have been included. I'm referring to the professional track career of Will Leer '07.

Let me say up front that I'm biased. I'm the managing editor of *Track & Field News*, a monthly magazine that covers the elite end of Leer's sport at the world, U.S. national and high school levels.

Will is a professional middle distance runner and aspiring Olympian, specializing in the 1500 meters, although he is now starting to explore the 5000 meters. At the '08 Olympic Trials, he placed fourth (three make the team). At the USA TF National Championships in the years since he has never placed lower than fifth. The '09 and '11 nationals served as trials for the World Championships, and last year Will missed a qualifying spot by 0.01 second. In 2010 at the USA TF Indoor Championships, Will placed second and went on to represent the U.S. at the World Indoor Championships in Doha, Qatar.

Will spent this winter training and racing in New Zealand and Australia with training partner

Nick Willis, the Beijing 1500 meters silver medalist, and other members of their training group. He spends his summers racing on the pro circuit in Europe.

Hopefully when your summer issue comes out Will Leer will be a London-bound Olympian, although this year's 1500-meter Olympic Trials final should be as tough a nut to crack as the event has ever seen in the U.S. The story of a Sagehen competing at the highest level in his sport is compelling either way, if you ask me.

—Sieg Lindstrom '84

San Francisco, Calif.

In Memory of David Waring

We our hoping to establish an endowed scholarship fund to memorialize our late son, David A.T. Waring '03, who passed away at the age of 29 from the ravages of myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS), "an acquired neurological disease with complex global dysfunctions." David—who played a riveting lead guitar in his college band, "Dave and the Sweatpants"—had planned to study applied mathematics and music in a graduate program before he was stricken with ME/CFS just four days after his 23rd birthday.

The scholarship would be awarded to an incoming freshman whose dream of applying science/mathematics to an understanding of music reflects Dave's passion. We welcome contributions from the Pomona College and the wider communities to honor our late son. Donations, which are tax-deductible, may be made to the following: *The David A. T. Waring '03 Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Don Pattison, Director of Donor Relations, Pomona College, 550 North College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711*.

—Alan and Pat Waring

Parents of David

Irvine, Calif.

Missing Meg Worley

During the 2011–12 academic year, Pomona College lost superstar English Professor Meg Worley to Colgate in New York. From the perspective of alumni, it happened quietly. After a protracted tenure-consideration process ended in a surprising "no," Professor Worley decided to head east. For us English alumni, it is a sad way to say goodbye to a faculty member who provided so much stability and guidance during a period of significant changes in the English Department. From 2004 to 2011, Professor Worley saw a number of fellow English professors re-

tire, move, or pass away (including many of the department's institutional names: Martha Andresen, Paul Saint-Amour, David Foster Wallace, Steve Young, Rena Fraden and Cristanne Miller). During this time, her dynamic classes, patient mentoring and professionalism reinvigorated the department and it was no surprise to us when, in 2010, she won the Wig Award—the highest honor bestowed on Pomona faculty.

We would like to thank Professor Worley wholeheartedly for organizing the first senior-seminar colloquium and night readings of *Beowulf*, for spicing up course readings with non-traditional literary texts such as graphic novels, Arthurian myth and the Bible; for offering her grammatical expertise, without judgment, whenever the need arose; for writing countless letters of recommendation for graduate school; for always keeping her office open for impromptu visits; and for expecting a lot from students but giving back so much more.

In short, she represented the best of what Pomona advertises about its instructors: individualized attention, warmth and high-level intellectualism without pretension. She was a professor who brought creativity and energy to every endeavor she undertook. As one former student wrote, "No one could mistake a Meg-graded paper as you knew any assignment would be returned, every word read, and marked with one of her colorful array of pens and extraordinarily neat handwriting." She learned our names, kept in touch after we graduated and invited us to lunch when we returned to campus for a visit. Professor Worley was a reason to stay connected with Pomona and we are so sorry that future Sagehens will miss the opportunity to learn why.

All our best to you in New York, Meg! We should have kept you, but here's to new beginnings:

"Whan that April with his shoures soote..."

—Carlo Diy '06

—Emily Durham '07

—Meredith Galemore '06

—Coty Meibeyer '05

—Carolyn Purnell '06

—J.B. Wogan '06

[Editor's Note: The letter was signed by seven additional alumni.]

[Alumni and friends are invited to email letters to pcm@pomona.edu or to send them by mail to *Pomona College Magazine*, 550 North College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711. Letters are selected for publication based on relevance and interest to our readers and may be edited for length, style and clarity.]

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BOY IN THE BUBBLE



As part of Pomona's

annual De-Stress Extravaganza, a couple of students learn what it feels like to be a hamster in a hamster ball. These "roller-balls," inflated plastic bubbles floating in a wading pool, were just one of the many attractions, which also included a collection of pettable puppies and bunnies, music, and food offerings such as kettle corn and Italian ice. The extravaganza is held each year at the end of the last day of classes to give students a chance to relax before finals.

PHOTO BY JOHN LUCAS

ADVENTUROUS STUDENTS TAKE A 48-HOUR TEST IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Wild Time

Pomona's new Outdoor Education Center (OEC) offered its first Wilderness Survival class during the spring semester, making for some memorable moments in the woods. After four on-campus sessions covering such topics as edible plants and fire-making, the class culminated with students putting their new skills to use in the snowy Sierra Nevada, leading Lauri Valerio '12 to wonder, "What did I get myself into?" Here, we get the answer:

Hour 1: Snow starts falling as we drive to the trailhead. When we arrive, our group of nine huddles under a tree that periodically dumps loads of the white stuff on our heads. "Don't worry if you're freaking out, because I am too," jokes our experienced leader and OEC Coordinator Martin Crawford. At least, I think he's joking.

Hour 4: We find a dry camping spot under a rock overhang and begin scavenging for dry firewood. I can't tell if my shirt is drenched in sweat or if the moisture has seeped through. Either way, it's cold.

Hour 6: I discover that eggs fried on a rock are surprisingly filling, though a bit crunchy. Luckily, Martin had let us bring extra food and gear because of the weather. Life as herbivores,

we're quickly learning, would be near-impossible, though we discover some deliciously minty leaves I keep nibbling on.

Hour 10: The fire dies down and the cold sets in. Throughout the night, I wake up shivering in my sleeping bag.

Hour 24: The clearer skies brighten our mood as we split into pairs to practice making traps, snares and water collection systems. Now, we're spending less time on surviving and more on learning survival methods.

Hour 27: The running *Hunger Games* jokes become a bit eerie when Martin announces a friction fire-making competition. The Claremont McKenna students are sure they can beat us and, unfortunately, they're right. Though my group creates a few embers, we never even get a fire started.

Hour 35: Tonight, I put into practice the survival methods I've been taught. I put a water bottle of boiling water into my sleeping bag an hour before I hop in and cocoon myself with a trash bag and tarp.

Hour 45: Finally, the end. After an almost-warm night, I wake up early so we can clean up camp and head back. The trail is a breeze when it's not covered in ice and snow.

Hour 48: After devouring several pizzas, our group reluctantly piles into the Suburban and heads back to campus, where we face another type of survival situation: end-of-semester madness.

—Lauri Valerio '12

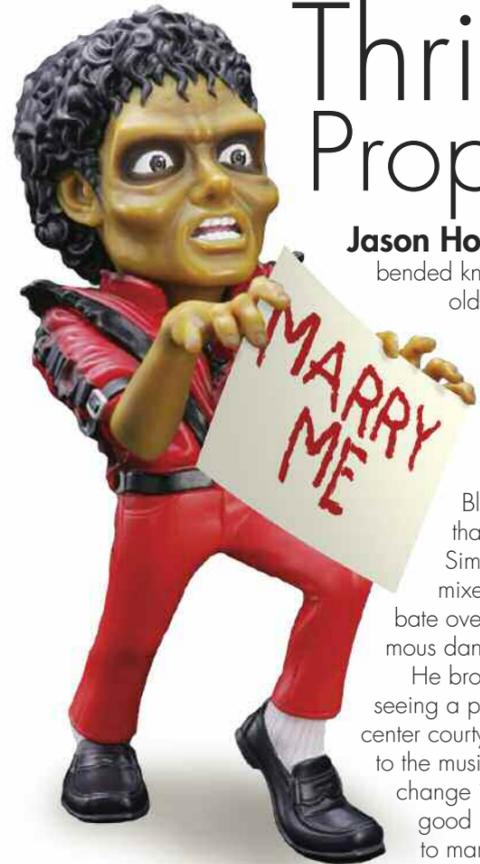


ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE BREEN

[CAMPUS TIDBITS, TRADITIONS, LORE AND MORE]



Thrilling Proposal



Jason Howie '03 eventually did get down on bended knee and propose to Jana Sims '07 the old-fashioned way. That was after the flash mob danced zombie-style to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" in the courtyard of the Smith Campus Center while a crowd watched on a spring-semester Saturday afternoon.

Howie, who works in the Office of Black Student Affairs, told *The Student Life* that he hatched the plan because he and Sims, who met at a Claremont Colleges mixer five years ago, had this ongoing debate over Sims' notion that everyone knew the famous dance moves to "Thriller."

He brought Sims to campus on the pretext of seeing a play, and as she arrived in the campus center courtyard, the student dancers started moving to the music while he snuck away to quickly change into suit and tie for the proposal. The good news: She said "yes." They are hoping to marry in Little Bridges next summer.

Vinyl Revival

Digital rules these days in commercial radio, but the turntables are still, well, turning at KSPC (88.7 FM). During spring semester, the campus radio station held a "Vinyl 101" workshop to "encourage students who didn't grow up with records to get to know" the medium, says station director Erica Tyron. "There are a lot of things that we have that were never re-issued digitally."

While visitors hung out and played old records from the station's still-extensive collection, Tyron noted that some students find working with LPs a tad intimidating because of the direct contact with the surface of the record: "People just get nervous that you're going to break something."

Still, roughly 30 percent of KSPC deejays make use of the records, thumbing through the well-worn album sleeves of yore for hidden gems. "It's a lot of fun to just find something," says Ella Schwalb '14, who has an underground music show. "You don't really know what to expect."



Fresh Addition

Some of the produce from Pomona's Organic Farm, which covers 2.5 acres at the southern edge of campus, may wind up being sold at the Coop Store after the student shop is expanded and renovated over the summer. According to *The Student Life*, the store is slated to feature fresh fruits and vegetables as well as staples like bread, milk, eggs and ready-to-eat sandwiches for those seeking relief from ramen. "It'll be nice to get fresh food right on campus," says Lauren Kershberg '15. "A fantastic idea," adds Kevin Burke '15. Not as food-smart as the students, we at PCM would still go for a campus-adjacent doughnut shop, though we promise to stick with the fruit fillings.

Top Crops

Gathered from student farmers, the five favorite fruits and veggies to grow at the Organic Farm are:

1. Strawberries
2. Broccolini
3. Tomatoes
4. Peppermint
5. Squash



The next time you are on campus, you may have an easier time finding your way around, thanks to new signs—about 60 in all—that will be installed over the summer. Pointing the way to Pomona locations old and new, the updated markers will be attached to existing light poles and are designed with history in mind. Their shape replicates the bronze plaque shield found on several of the College's historical structures and their beige color matches those older buildings as well, notes Project Manager Andrea Ramella.

Everything Must Go!

Before moving on, graduating seniors need to move merchandise and shed accessories. So, for weeks before Commencement, the daily Student Digger turns into a swap meet laden with "SENIOR SALES!" We looked past the expected futons and floor lamps for the finer things, listed here with the original asking price:



- Tempur-Pedic pillow: \$40
- Half-used 3.4-oz DKNY perfume: \$10
- Top hat: \$10
- Chin-up bar: \$15
- Cocktail shaker: \$5
- "The cutest toaster you'll ever see": \$10



- Pioneer PL-530 Turntable: \$120
- NFL Fever 2004 for Xbox: \$9
- Ski goggles: \$15
- Pair of sake cups: \$8
- Mosquito net "that you can hang over your bed to make you feel like a princess": \$10



Oscar at Pomona

The documentary *Saving Face*, which tells the story of two Pakistani victims of acid attacks, won the Academy Award for best short documentary early in the spring semester. And the night after their internationally-televised honor, the film's co-director Daniel Junge and reconstructive surgeon Dr. Mohammed Ali Jawad, who performed the work featured in the film, visited Pomona for a screening and to take questions from the audience in the packed Rose Hills Theatre. They brought along the Oscar statuette as well. "They were there until the very last person left," notes Shaila Andrabi, president of the Pakistan Arts Council and spouse of longtime Pomona Economics Professor Tahir Andrabi. "He (Junge) let every single person take a picture with him." And that golden statuette? "He let everybody hold it."



VERBATIM:

"I was just at the right conjugation of nerdy, alienated and hyper-alert that I identified instantly with Talking Heads. They sang songs about books! I got it immediately." —Jonathan Lethem, author

and Pomona's Disney Professor of Creative Writing, speaking about what drew him to the Talking Heads in a *Salon* interview about his new book on the group's 1979 album, *Fear of Music*.



Fork It Over

Beyond the gates of campus, there are amnesty programs for paying back taxes, parking tickets, even for acquiring building permits. Here at Pomona, plate pilferers and silverware snatchers get the chance to return—"no questions asked"—the dishware that somehow manages to find its way to dorm rooms. Amnesty boxes are placed outside the dining halls at the end of the semester, and Samantha Meyer '10 of Dining Services reports that "we get a lot of stuff back," allowing students to set off for summer with sparkling, spot-free consciences.





GABRIEL FRIEDMAN '12

HOW TO BECOME A MUSICAL MENTOR MULTIPLIER

Set on enlisting Pomona student musicians to give free lessons to kids, Gabriel Friedman '12 landed a \$10,000 grant from the Donald A. Strauss Public Service Foundation to help pay for cellos, violins and other instruments. But his path to becoming a music mentor began long before that.

1

Get

placed in a kiddie music class by your mom at age 3. Dig it. Begin piano in the second grade. Take lessons through high school.

2

Keep

at the keyboard after coming to Pomona to study neuroscience. Start giving lessons after getting introduced to a mom looking for someone to teach her daughters. Around the same time, sign on as a mentor working with low-income kids for the nonprofit Uncommon Good.

3

Land

a summer neuroscience fellowship in Vermont. Hear a speaker talk about the role of music training in children's brain development. Hatch a plan to have Pomona students give music lessons to kids whose families can't afford them.

4

Apply

for a grant to buy instruments. Set off for a semester of study abroad in Europe. Get the good news about the grant in a barely-audible call over a hostel phone in Rome. Return to Pomona and start enlisting mentors.

5

See

a slew of Sagehens sign up. Hold a fair for kids to check out different instruments. Watch the boys flock to the drums and electric guitars. Help the giddy kids try them out.

6

Carry

on weekly lessons. Hold a big recital at the end of the year. See the young musicians perform with aplomb.

7

Hand

off the program to next year's coordinator. Prepare to apply to med school. Plan to keep at the piano.

—Mark Kendall

PHOTO BY JOHN LUCAS

COACH, PLAYER, GRAD STUDENT—R.J. MAKI'S FIFTH YEAR IN CLAREMONT WAS A REAL JUGGLING ACT.

OVERTIME

BY JEREMY KNIFFIN

It wasn't until six months *after* he graduated that R.J. Maki '11 faced the most hectic day of his action-packed Sagehen athletic career.

He began that fall-semester Saturday in his role as a wide receivers coach for the Pomona-Pitzer football team while the Sagehens battled Claremont-Mudd-Scripps in the season's big rivalry game. Then, when the final horn blew around 4 p.m., he went straight to his car and drove the 60 miles across the Los Angeles Basin to play for the basketball team against Division I Pepperdine University.

Maki managed to make it to Malibu on time. His uniform didn't.

"One of my teammates was supposed to bring my jersey for me, since I couldn't go on the team bus," Maki says. "Then I got to Pepperdine, and unfortunately he had forgotten it. So I had to call Jake [Caron PI '11], and he drove it up to Malibu and finally got it to me just before halftime." Maki ended up playing six minutes in the second half, as the Sagehens gave the Waves a run for their money before falling 59-50.

"I can't say too many people have ever had a day like that," says Maki.

Maki had graduated from Pomona in May 2011 with a degree in sociology, but there were two things that were still unfinished in Claremont: an M.B.A. from the Drucker School at Claremont Graduate University and one more season of basketball eligibility, since he missed one season due to an injury. He took a graduate assistant position with the football team, and once basketball practice started in October, his staff locker also became filled with practice gear.

The jersey run wasn't the only time that Jake Caron has delivered something to Maki over the years. They grew up together in



PHOTO-ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN LUCAS

"THE THING ABOUT POMONA IS THAT PEOPLE VALUE ATHLETICS, BUT ACADEMICS ALWAYS COMES FIRST, AND I THINK EVERYONE WHO PLAYS HERE HAS EVERYTHING IN THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE."

Claremont, attending Pomona-Pitzer games and serving as ball boys at home basketball games. The two friends left the Claremont bubble to attend Cheshire Academy in Connecticut during high school, but both returned home for college, with Caron at Pitzer and Maki at Pomona.

"When I left, it wasn't my plan to come back necessarily," says Maki. "But when I gained exposure to the East Coast schools ... I saw how similar Pomona was. And ▶

it had the added benefit of being right in my hometown.”

The two were four-year teammates in Pomona-Pitzer football, with Caron breaking the school’s record for passing yards as a quarterback (8,408 career yards) and Maki setting the program’s receiving records (276 catches for 3,078 yards). After coaching in the fall, Caron signed on with the Utah Blaze in arena football, while Maki multitasked in Claremont.

The final basketball season turned out to be well worth it for Maki, as the Sagehens bounced back from a down year in 2010-11 and finished a close second in the SCIAC, losing the conference championship game to CMS in a nail-biter before a crowd of 2,470. That was despite having a young team that relied heavily on freshmen and sophomores.

“I wanted to do well and prove to everybody, myself included, that I could be part of a successful team,” says Maki, who played in all 26 games for his final season and scored a career-high 101 points.

Freshman guard Kyle McAndrews ’15 has praise for Maki: “R.J. was able to help me, through his example and through his advice, adjust to the collegiate level.”

In helping to coach football, Maki had a chance to work with sophomore receiver Ryan Randle ’14, who made big strides as a passing target, finishing with 40 catches for 470 yards and seven touchdowns.

Maki also leaves behind his own football records that will be very difficult to beat. Though he acknowledges that he—like everyone on the football team—would have liked to have won more games during his career, it’s a sacrifice that he’s more than willing to accept for the big picture.

“There’s no way I’d trade my experience at Pomona for a few more wins,” says Maki, who has moved to San Diego to work for a private banking/wealth management firm after completing his M.B.A. a year early under a special program. “I loved my time here. The thing about Pomona is that people value athletics, but academics always comes first, and I think everyone who plays here has everything in the right perspective. No matter what happens, we’re always proud to wear the jersey and represent our school.”

Even if the jersey arrives late.

/sports•report/
[Winter/Spring 2012]

CLOSE SHAVES

The difference between

victory and defeat is often a slender one, but for the Sagehens of Pomona and Pitzer, the winter of 2011-12 was a time of particularly nail-biting conclusions—none more so than in **WOMEN’S SWIMMING**, where Alex Lincoln ’14 pulled off not one razor-thin victory, but two in as many days.



PHOTO BY JEREMY KNIFFEN

At the SCIAC swimming and diving championship, Lincoln won what seemed to be a once-in-a-lifetime race when she captured the 200-yard freestyle by a fingertip, edging Margo Macready of Redlands by four-hundredths of a second (1:54.27 to 1:54.31). However, the following day, she pulled off another photo finish by winning the 100-yard freestyle by five-hundredths of a second (52.21 to 52.26) over Chandra Lukes of Redlands, winning her second SCIAC individual title by a combined nine-hundredths of a second.

Not to be outdone, Pomona-Pitzer’s **SOFTBALL** team turned heads with a 10-4 record in March as it emerged as a contender for the SCIAC crown, but what was even more impressive than the record was the way the Sagehens won many of those games. Six of the 10 wins came in their final at-bat, including five walk-off wins at home and an eight-inning win at Whittier. Kathryn Rabak ’13 was responsible for two of those walk-off wins, with a three-run homer in a 7-6 win over Staten Island, and a line-drive RBI single in a 5-4 win over Cal Lutheran.

In **MEN’S BASKETBALL**, in front of overflow crowds, inter-consortium rivals Claremont-Mudd-Scripps and Pomona-Pitzer each earned wins on the other’s home court with less than a second remaining. CMS won the first meeting at Voelkel Gymnasium with a

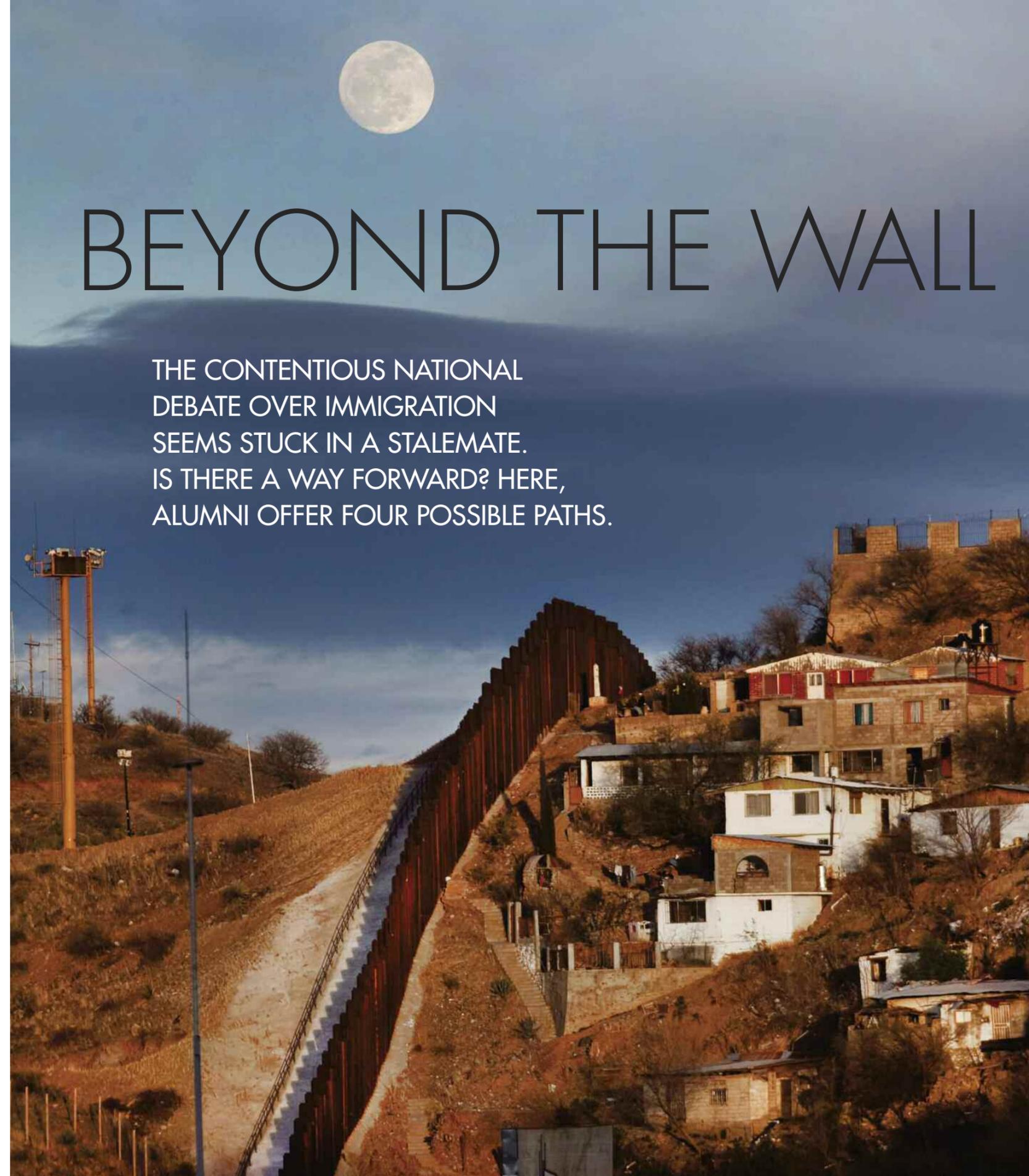
coast-to-coast lay-up with 0.6 seconds left, moments after Jack Klukas ’15 had tied the game with a three-pointer. In the rematch at Ducey Gymnasium, CMS took a two-point lead on a three-pointer with 10 seconds to go, but Kyle McAndrews ’15 was fouled shooting a three-pointer with 0.4 seconds left and made all three pressure-packed foul shots for a 51-50 win.

For the latest on Pomona-Pitzer sports, follow us on the web at www.sagehens.com.



BEYOND THE WALL

THE CONTENTIOUS NATIONAL DEBATE OVER IMMIGRATION SEEMS STUCK IN A STALEMATE. IS THERE A WAY FORWARD? HERE, ALUMNI OFFER FOUR POSSIBLE PATHS.



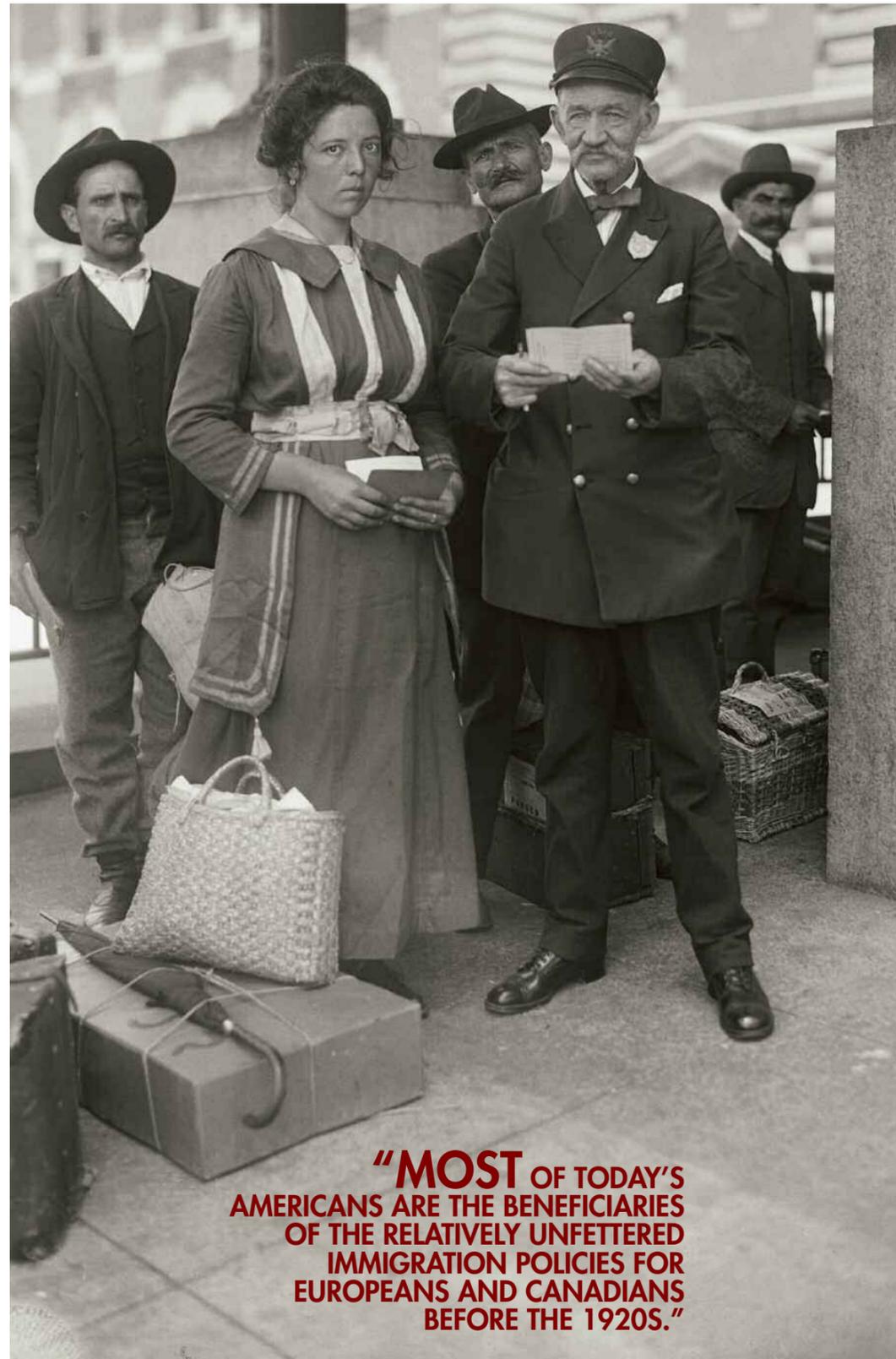
1 OPEN THE GATES ...AGAIN

BY JOEL NEWMAN '89

Arizona's Joe Arpaio, the self-described “toughest sheriff in America” whose deputies have targeted undocumented immigrants, has emphasized that his parents immigrated legally to the United States from Italy in the early 1900s, according to author and journalist Jeffrey Kaye in his book *Moving Millions: How Coyote Capitalism Fuels Global Migration*. He differentiates his parents from 21st-century immigrants who enter “illegally.” Arpaio may not realize that if the system under which his parents came to America still existed today, most of the immigrants he targets would not be “illegal.”

That more open approach served America well. In fact, we should replace our current immigration system with one similar to the old system, which generally allowed a free flow of newcomers. A 21st-century version would allow us to end today's debate over work authorization, border enforcement, deportation and labor exploitation due to immigration status.

The immigration laws that Arpaio's parents encountered were very different from those that exist today. Restrictions on European, Mexican, Canadian and other Western Hemisphere immigrants were few. To immigrate, they did not have to prove that they had a relative who was a U.S. citizen or legal resident, nor did they need to show that they had particular skills or prove that they were fleeing persecution. There were no annual numerical limits on immigration. Documentation was not required to work. According to Mae Ngai of Columbia University in her book *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*, deportations were infrequent, and “it seemed uncon-



“MOST OF TODAY'S AMERICANS ARE THE BENEFICIARIES OF THE RELATIVELY UNFETTERED IMMIGRATION POLICIES FOR EUROPEANS AND CANADIANS BEFORE THE 1920S.”

scionable to expel immigrants after they had settled in the country and had begun to assimilate.”

There were provisions to exclude immigrants who arrived in the U.S. and were determined to be mentally challenged, criminals, polygamists or members of other groups, but Ngai notes that only 1 percent of the 25 million European immigrants from 1880 to World War I were excluded.

This immigration system, which essentially had existed since colonial times (prior to the late 19th century, immigration had been controlled by states and colonies), ended in the 1920s with the enactment of annual numerical limits on European immigration and other immigration control features that continue to this day. This led to a dramatic reduction in European immigration levels.

A significant injustice with the older system was its ban on Chinese immigration (later to include other Asian immigrants). Notwithstanding this wrong and the concern many contemporary Americans had about the poverty, political orientation and ethnicity of many newcomers, few Americans today would claim that the much more lenient immigration system (at least toward Europeans) didn't work. While many European immigrants suffered from horrible working conditions and nativist hostility, they were able to start new lives for themselves and their offspring. And the country immensely benefited economically and culturally. Implementing a revised version of this older system, allowing immigration from all countries and only excluding entrants for health or security reasons, would reap similar benefits today.

It's also a matter of basic fairness. Most of today's Americans are the beneficiaries of the relatively unfettered immigration policies for Europeans and Canadians before the 1920s. It is unjust for the majority of the public, who owe their American citizenship to the milder policies of the past, to deny today's would-be immigrants the same opportunities. Had Arpaio's parents faced today's immigration laws, he likely wouldn't be a U.S. citizen, let alone the “toughest sheriff in America.”

Joel Newman '89 is an English as a Second Language teacher in Beaverton, Ore., working on a book advocating for open borders. He was a history major at Pomona.

2 EXPAND THE DREAM

BY WILL PEREZ '97

Most of the efforts for immigration reform in recent years have focused on the DREAM Act, which would provide a path to legalization to approximately 800,000 young adults who meet the age, residency, college enrollment or military enlistment criteria. Many proponents of immigration reform still believe it is the most politically viable legislation. While I agree the DREAM Act is a much-needed step in the right direction—much of my academic work has focused on the issue of higher education access for undocumented immigrants—I would also make the case for a slightly wider starting point for reform, one that would improve the lives of millions of children and young adults, many of whom are already U.S. citizens.

Often forgotten in the debates about immigration reform are the 4.5 million children and adolescents who are U.S.-born citizens growing up with undocumented parents. Overall, an estimated 14.6 million people are living in some sort of mixed-status home where at least one member of the family is an undocumented immigrant. One in 10 children living in the United States is growing up in such a household. Within these mixed-status households are a range of citizenship and legal residence patterns involving siblings: some born in the U.S. with birthright citizenship, some in the process of attempting to obtain legal status and some fully undocumented.

The lack of immigration reform and absence of clear immigration policies results in negative consequences for the well-being of both U.S.-born and foreign-born youth growing up in households headed by undocumented immigrants. Children and youth in households with undocumented members live in fear of being separated from parents or other family members. More than 100,000 citizen children have experienced their parents' deportation in the last decade. A recent survey of undocumented Latino parents found that 58 percent had a plan for the care of their children in case they were detained or deported and 40 percent had discussed that plan with their children. ▶

Above and beyond the disadvantages faced by undocumented parents due to lower levels of education, they also are excluded from obtaining resources to help their children's development. The threat of deportation results in lower levels of enrollment of citizen-children in programs they are eligible for, including child-care subsidies, public preschool and food stamps. It also leads to lowered interactions with public institutions such as schools.

Higher education poses another set of hurdles for undocumented youth. The rare few who are able to attend college have limited access to financial support to pay for their education. Most must pay their own way, so they have to take on extra jobs and work long hours, leaving little time for studying or forcing them to take time off from school to save money. Many aim to be public servants because their lived experiences have created a

desire to give back to their communities. They aspire to be doctors, lawyers and teachers, all professions for which bilingual and culturally representative candidates are greatly needed.

The DREAM Act, as proposed, would certainly benefit many undocumented young people, allowing them to attain legal status. But the undocumented status of their parents and other family members would still continue to have a negative effect on their emotional and academic well-being. Nearly 14 million individuals who live in mixed-status families would con-

tinue to suffer the devastating negative effects of undocumented status. Among them, millions of U.S.-born and foreign-born children and adolescents would still face the hardships that harm their development. Unless criteria is expanded to include all undocumented youth, their parents and the undocumented parents of U.S.-born children, the DREAM Act will fall far short of its promise to allow hardworking individuals the possibility to become fully integrated into American society so that they can fully contribute to our economic and civic vitality.

Will Perez '97, associate professor of education at Claremont Graduate University, is author of Americans by Heart: Undocumented Latino Students and the Promise of Higher Education.

"OFTEN FORGOTTEN IN THE DEBATES ABOUT IMMIGRATION REFORM ARE THE 4.5 MILLION CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WHO ARE U.S.-BORN CITIZENS GROWING UP WITH UNDOCUMENTED PARENTS."



Without recourse to unions or labor law protections, these parents endure work conditions that are not only poor but chronically so. The resulting economic hardship and psychological distress bring harmful effects on children's development. Among second-generation Latino children, those with undocumented parents fare worse on emergent reading and math skills assessments at school entry than those whose parents have legal resident status. Moreover, such disparities are evident at as early as 24 months.

Because parents' socioeconomic status has enormous effects on children's education, the negative influence of undocumented status may well persist into later generations. Children of undocumented immigrants have lower educational attainment compared to those whose parents are legal residents. But once undocumented immigrants find ways to legalize their status, their children's educational levels increase substantially.

SECURE THE BORDER FIRST

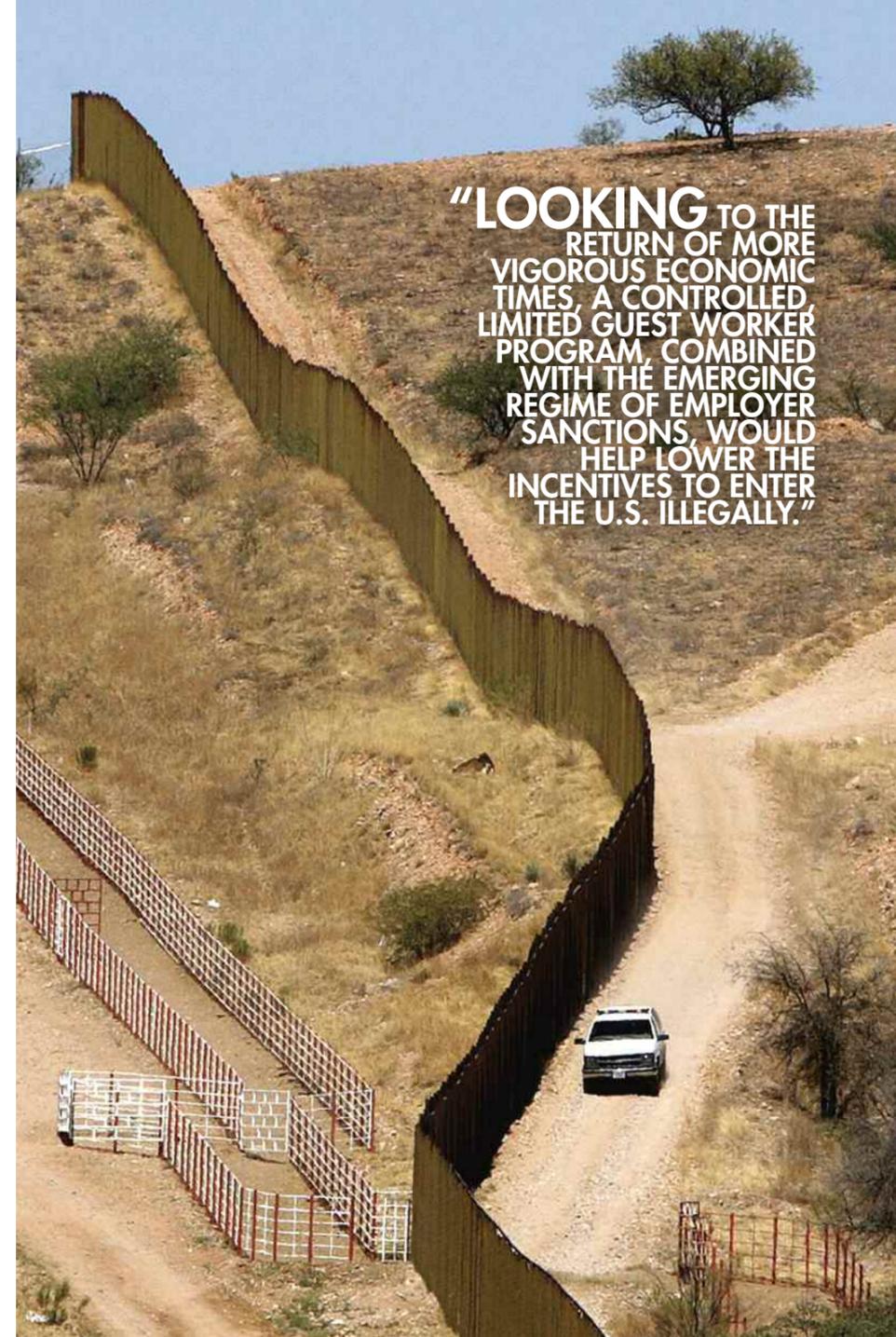
BY JOERG KNIPPRATH '73

Contrary to multiculturalist

and globalist dogmas fashionable among the opinion elite, Americans as a whole embrace the notion that the United States is a distinct cultural and political entity. The public understands that preserving that distinctness requires controlling immigration to promote assimilation of immigrants culturally and economically. Securing the borders becomes one means to that end, as well as being a matter of national security. It is not surprising that opinion polls show significant public support for control over illegal immigration, even for the demonized Arizona law whose supposedly controversial provision over determining some individuals' legal residency matches long-time federal law and the laws of California and many other states.

As a matter of political efficacy (as well as common sense), securing the border becomes the foundational task. The principal constitutional authority lies in the federal government. Once public confidence in the government's willingness to control the border has been restored, normalization of the status of those here for a long time or who are here illegally due to no fault of theirs would become politically more acceptable. However, the Obama administration, like its predecessors, has shown little appetite for a concerted push to control illegal migration. By default, some of the states most affected by this laxity have found it necessary to act.

"LOOKING TO THE RETURN OF MORE VIGOROUS ECONOMIC TIMES, A CONTROLLED, LIMITED GUEST WORKER PROGRAM, COMBINED WITH THE EMERGING REGIME OF EMPLOYER SANCTIONS, WOULD HELP LOWER THE INCENTIVES TO ENTER THE U.S. ILLEGALLY."



They have the Constitution on their side. That compact specifically obliges the United States to protect the states against invasion. While that language preeminently applies to military invasion, it is not so limited. Incursions by pirates were a recognized threat to Americans of the late-18th century. Today's conditions of insecurity in person and property that make the southern border area so dangerous and have taken the lives of innocent citizens are analogous to pirate depredations in earlier years. The federal government's breach of the constitutional compact justifies the reactions of states like Arizona, from increased apprehension of illegal entrants to sending the ►

National Guard to patrol the state's southern border. As James Madison rightly observed in Federalist No. 41, "It is in vain to oppose constitutional barriers to the impulse of self-preservation."

As a (legal) immigrant and son of (legal) immigrants, I very much sympathize with the desires of those who come to the United States seeking a better life. Though I was still a child then, I vividly remember the process of obtaining the right to enter and the joy that came with knowing that our family would have that opportunity. However, that experience also turns me unsympathetic to those who crash the party and make others, who obey the immigration laws, look like saps.

There is no perfect defense, and we must avoid Maginot Line-thinking. But as homeowners recognize, walls, fences (both physical and virtual) and patrols can do much to advance security. Lest anyone bring up a canard about the Berlin Wall, every rational being knows the difference between a wall or fence intended to keep people in and one intended to keep interlopers out. Think Great Wall of China versus Berlin Wall; think a fence around a residence versus one around a prison.

After the border has been secured, other matters can be addressed in due course. While the current economic doldrums seem to be discouraging many illegal entrants, one hopes that economic malaise will not be the new norm. Looking to the return of more vigorous economic times, a controlled, limited guest worker program, combined with the emerging regime of employer sanctions, would help lower the incentives to enter the U.S. illegally. At the same time, the unconstitutional practice of cities designating themselves as "sanctuary cities" must be brought to an end—these cities blatantly undermine federal immigration policy. Military service would be another way to show a civic commitment that merits a path to citizenship. Whatever the approach, there must be no cutting in line for illegal entrants over law-abiding applicants for immigration.

A final step would be to end the current policy under which any child born in the U.S.—even to parents here illegally—automatically receives citizenship, opening a path for the family to stay as well. Whether this would require a constitutional amendment or might be done through a reconsideration of the current interpretation of the citizenship provision of the 14th Amendment is a complex topic going beyond the political decision to do so.

As often is the case, the devil is in the details. But Americans are not eager to see a long-term subculture of metics as in ancient Athens or to embark on a "deport-'em-all" quest. Nor is there today the cultural inclination to adopt robust laws like Mexico's regarding illegal entrants. A sustained, comprehensive and multilayered effort is needed. The support among the people is there. What is in doubt is the political will of our leaders.

Joerg Knipprath '73 is a professor at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles, where he teaches constitutional law, legal history and business law courses.

4 AVOID THE GUEST WORKER TRAP

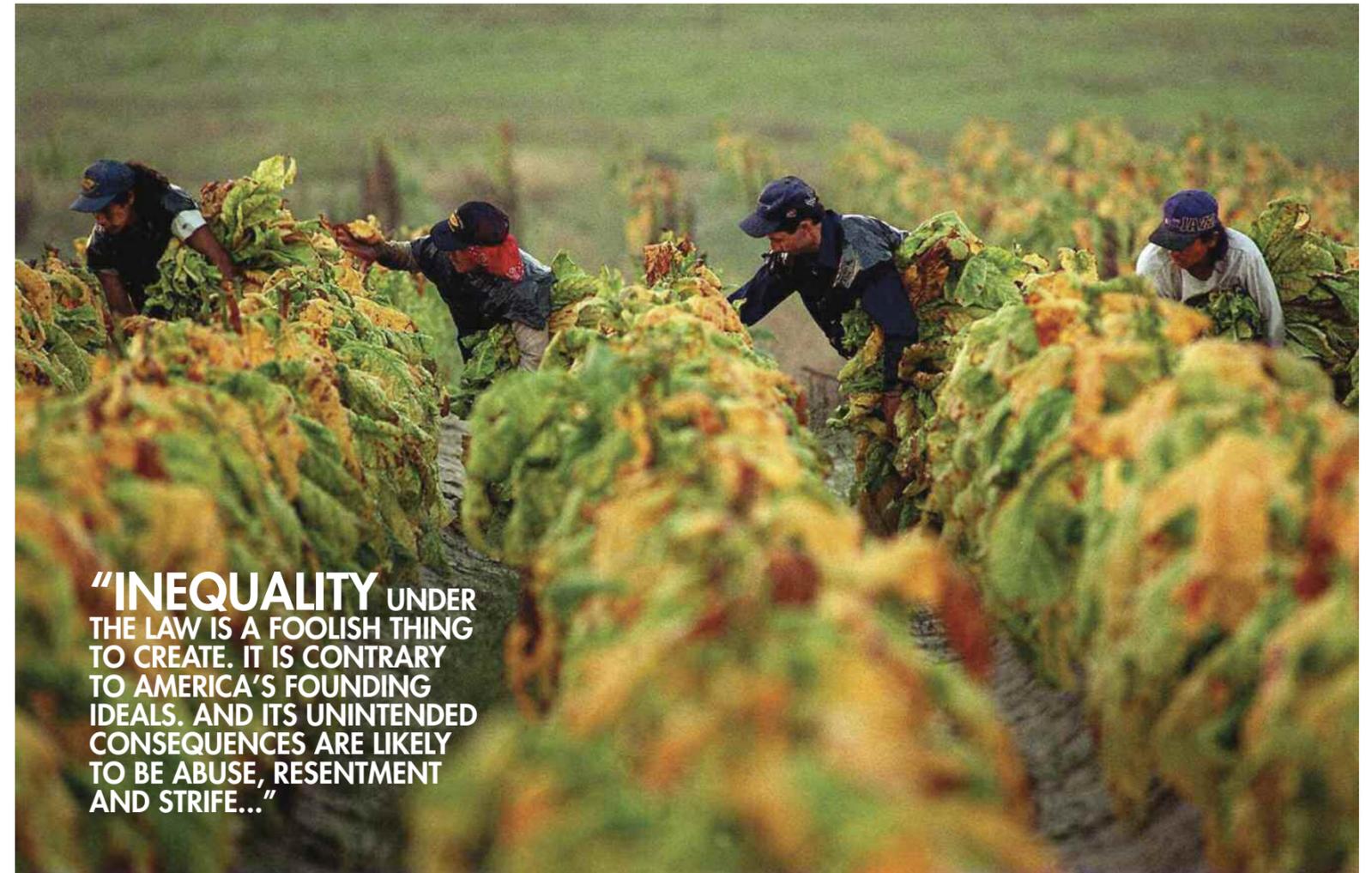
BY CONOR FRIEDERSDORF '02

Urgent as it is to reform America's immigration system, so that those here illegally can live better lives and newcomers can more easily become lawful residents, one sort of immigration reform is best avoided: the large-scale guest worker program. That may seem counterintuitive. During the Bush administration, the Republican Party was divided between restrictionists, who sought tougher enforcement of immigration laws; and moderates, who wanted to permit foreigners six-year stints as temporary workers before requiring that they return to their country of origin. Many liberals and libertarians decided that the latter approach improved on the status quo, even if they'd go farther given their druthers.

But the "guest worker" compromise isn't just a means of permitting more people to improve their lives by working in America. It is the fraught codification of their status as economic inputs, as opposed to humans on their way to being civic equals.

Inequality under the law is a foolish thing to create. It is contrary to America's founding ideals. And its unintended consequences are likely to be abuse, resentment and strife, as has been the case in some European countries where guest workers were brought in to alleviate labor shortages in the years after World War II.

The Europeans discovered that so-called guest workers often stay. Being people, they form local attachments, marry, conceive children and accumulate stuff. In America, they'd presumably do so in neighborhoods substantially made up of other guest workers. Unable to vote, they wouldn't get their say in how these enclaves were governed. Their legal status would be predicated upon their employment, making them more vulnerable to abuse by employers, for whom they'd be a depreciating asset with a six-year life, rather than human capital in which to invest. These



"INEQUALITY UNDER THE LAW IS A FOOLISH THING TO CREATE. IT IS CONTRARY TO AMERICA'S FOUNDING IDEALS. AND ITS UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES ARE LIKELY TO BE ABUSE, RESENTMENT AND STRIFE..."

inegalitarian features ought to be enough to sour liberals on the policy.

Conservatives should be wary too. For guest workers who reproduce, the result is a child who cannot be socialized by his or her noncitizen parents in civic participation. And if there is wisdom in sticking to long-held custom and tradition, it is surely worth noting that guest worker programs are a radical departure from what has been a fantastically successful model of immigration in the U.S.: When we've welcomed immigrants as citizens, the result has been a rapidly assimilating population that spawns generations of loyal, productive Americans.

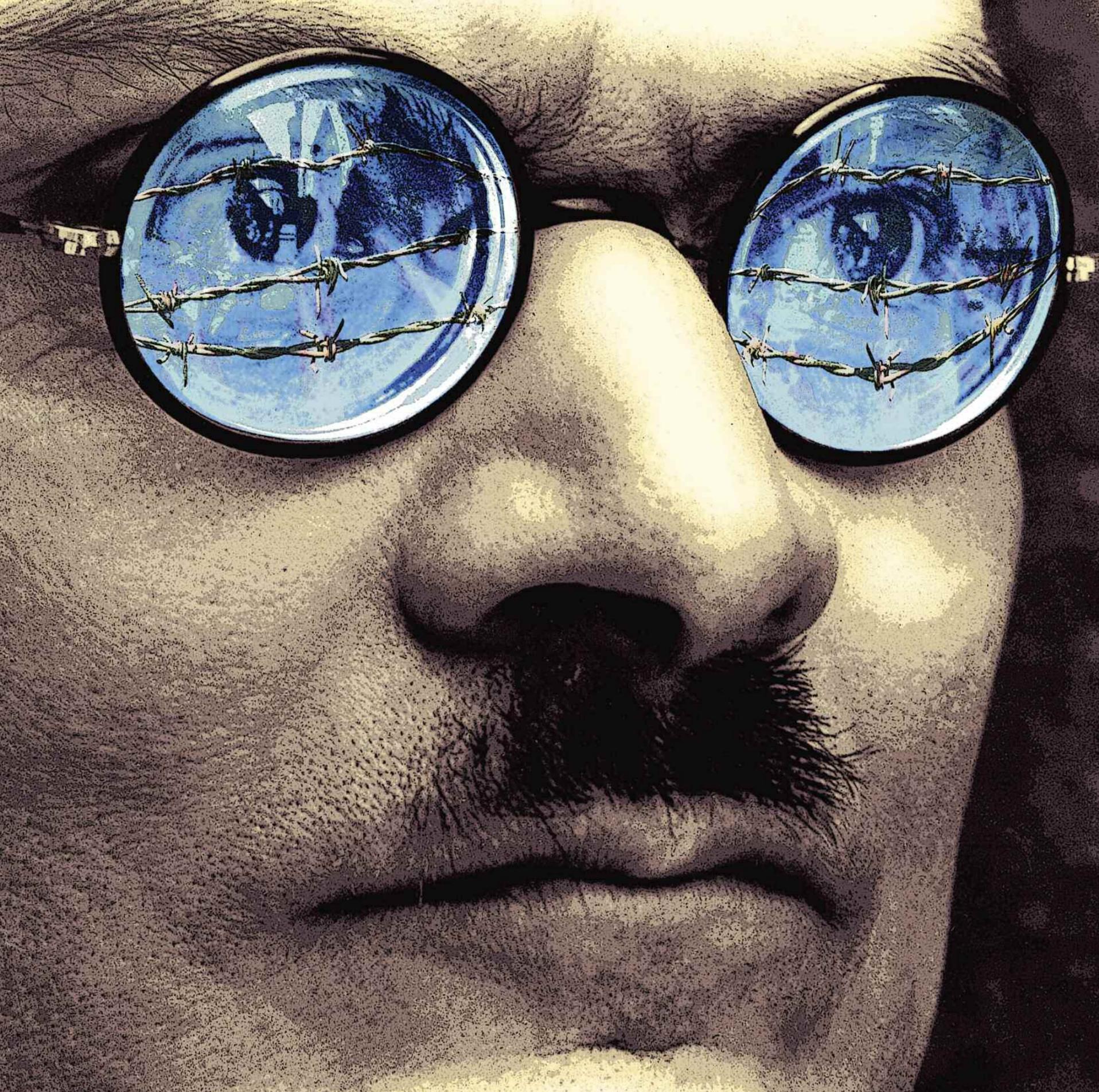
We've experimented very little with guest workers. What happens if we fill low-wage jobs with temporary residents whose only loyalty to America springs from the paycheck they collect? Might it produce second class noncitizens who become understandably disaffected with a nation that never granted their equality?

Fortunately, millions of people would like to seek citizenship and become Americans. Why would we purposefully entrench a system that instead favored noncitizen guest workers, marginaliz-

ing a whole segment of the population while ensuring that, at best, they cannot become fully invested in our country's future? One answer is that they'd be cheaper labor than permanent residents or citizens. That's why the business wing of the Republican Party embraced a guest worker program.

For people whose intent is to increase the number of immigrants who can come here legally, the guest worker temptation should be avoided, for its short-term benefits do not justify its major cost: changing how we see immigrants from equals whose future is wrapped up with ours to temporary labor for doing jobs that are beneath us.

Conor Friedersdorf '02 is a staff writer at The Atlantic and founding editor of The Best of Journalism.



THE MEXICAN MURALIST WHO PAINTED POMONA'S *PROMETHEUS* SUFFERED MORE THAN HIS SHARE OF INDIGNITIES AT THE U.S. BORDER. BUT JOSÉ CLEMENTE OROZCO'S BINATIONAL LIFESTYLE WAS KEY TO SHAPING HIS REMARKABLE ART.

OROZCO

AT THE BORDER

BY AGUSTIN GURZA

Crossing the border can be a cruel social leveler.

For José Clemente Orozco, as for many Mexican immigrants, entering the United States proved a harsh and humiliating experience. But unlike most of his compatriots, the renowned muralist endured immigrant indignities at opposite ends of the map, on both the southern and northern edges of the U.S.

Orozco's first and most famous frontier passage came in 1917, more than a decade before creating his heroic *Prometheus* at Pomona College. U.S. customs agents at Laredo, Texas, confiscated and destroyed most of the paintings he was carrying, claiming that they were somehow obscene. It was a bitter first impression of the country he had looked to for new artistic horizons. Instead, he found at first a vexing sort of censorship that would worry him for many years to come.

The second border incident is less notorious in art circles, though Orozco himself mentions it in his autobiography. This time, the brush with authorities

didn't involve his art. But it left a personal wound that might feel familiar to many fellow immigrants, regardless of profession, fame or social class.

During that same trip, Orozco made a tourist stop at Niagara Falls. At one point, he crossed into Canada to get a better view of the binational natural wonder. World War I was raging and authorities feared an assassination attempt on England's Prince of Wales, who happened to be visiting at the same time. Adding to a climate of international tension, Orozco recalls, newspapers blared "in enormous red headlines" an account by a "yellow journalist" about Pancho Villa's revolutionaries assaulting a train in Sonora and allegedly violating all the women on board.

"I had been there a couple of hours when a policeman detected something suspicious in my countenance and asked for my passport," Orozco writes of his aborted Canadian sojourn. "On seeing that I

was a Mexican he literally gave a jump and expelled me on the spot, himself conducting me back to the American side. ‘Mexican’ and ‘bandit’ were synonymous.”

In either incident, those border agents could not have imagined that they were deporting—or destroying the work of—an artist who was to become, in the words of Art Professor Victor Sorell, “the Michelangelo of the 20th Century.”

Although somewhat overshadowed by the other two members of the esteemed troika of Mexican muralists, Diego Rivera and David Alfaro Siqueiros, Orozco has gained increasing attention and respectability in the United States, especially in the past decade. He was the subject of a 2007 PBS documentary, *Orozco: Man of Fire*, and of a 2002 traveling exhibition, *José Clemente Orozco in the United States, 1927-1934*, organized by the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College, site of the last of three murals the artist created during that seven-year stay in this country.

In written essays and interviews, experts paint a portrait of an artist whose life and labor were deeply and permanently influenced by his binational lifestyle. Of Mexico’s big three muralists—Los Tres Grandes—Orozco was the one who spent the most time in the United States, a total of 10 years during four separate stays—in 1917-19, 1927-34, 1940 and 1945-46.

His visits coincided with the most convulsive global events of the 20th century, including both world wars. Orozco was living in New York the day the stock market crashed in 1929, becoming an artistic eyewitness who documented its aftermath in grim urban tableaux during the first years of the Great Depression. One of those paintings, 1931’s *Los Muertos*, depicts skyscrapers collapsing in a jagged jumble, an image that would be used 70 years later by a Mexican magazine to illustrate the tragedy of 9/11.

Seen through the prism of his immigrant experience, Orozco’s story will feel familiar even to those far from the rarefied art circles he inhabited. The Niagara Falls fiasco raises issues of xenophobia and racial profiling that still resonate to this day, almost 100 years later. Beyond that, all immigrants can relate to elements of the artist’s cross-border existence—the struggle to navigate the culture gap, to carve out a space where they’re not always welcome, to build a new life from scratch, to move forward despite crippling setbacks.

In Orozco’s case, that included periods of poverty and isolation, epic failures as an artist and early public scorn for his work. Not to mention the loss of one hand in a fireworks accident as a young man, a disability that would have sidelined most aspiring muralists, since it is such a physically challenging art form.

“He certainly represents that [immigrant] spirit of gumption and upward battle,” says Laurie Coyle, who wrote, directed and produced the vivid Orozco documentary along with collaborator Rick Tejada-Flores.

The incident in Laredo came as a culture shock for Orozco. Though no records of the destroyed paintings exist, experts believe they were part of a series of watercolors called *House of Tears*, depicting brothel scenes. They were studies in the human psyche, not sexuality. They may have been grim and hopeless, but not titillating.

“The pictures were far from immoral,” writes Orozco in his autobiography. “There was nothing shameless about them. There weren’t even any nudes.”

His reaction: Just keep moving.

“At first, I was too dumbfounded to utter a word, but then when I did protest furiously, it was of no avail,” he writes, “and I

that flares when Latin Catholic culture meets Anglo-Saxon Protestantism, he explains. Aesthetically speaking, that clash hinges on traditional distinctions between high and low art, a dichotomy that was of particular concern to Orozco and other Mexican artists of the revolutionary era who brashly worked to breach it.



Orozco, and he sees it as incredibly strange and irrational.”

Getting used to new rules would take time. For the two years he spent in the United States on that first visit, Orozco did not produce any art works of note. Instead, he painted movie posters and Kewpie dolls for subsistence. “I still believed that there was some law against art in the United States,” the artist is quoted saying in the documentary, “and I wasn’t taking any more chances.”

Orozco returned to Mexico in 1919, on the cusp of the country’s public mural movement. But Orozco’s first major commission in 1924 was soon plunged into chaos when angry conservative students defaced his murals at the capital’s National Preparatory School, because they considered them seditious and sacrilegious. Orozco recalls that he and Siqueiros were both “thrown out into the streets like mad dogs.”

The muralists managed to finish the work two years later, to great acclaim. But soon, government support for the mural movement dried up, and with it the hope for new commissions. With that discouraging backdrop, noting that “there was little to hold me in Mexico,” Orozco decided to set out once again for El Norte, arriving in New York in the winter of 1927.

“It was December and very cold,” he writes. “I knew nobody and proposed to begin all over.”

For six months, Orozco lived in virtual anonymity, until he met American journalist Alma Reed, who was to become his agent and chief cheerleader. She had been referred to the artist by another writer, Anita Brenner, daughter of Jewish emigrants to Mexico who was familiar with his work and expressed concern for his “sad and lonely and neglected” condition. But she warned Reed that Orozco could be difficult, a man “tortured by hypersensitive nerves” who was “easily hurt.”

In her own book about Orozco, Reed recounts going to meet the artist for the first time at his basement apartment in Manhattan. Instead of a temperamental grouch, Reed found “a gentle host” with a “cordial smile” and a “vague touch of the debonair.” She was incensed by the way her fellow Americans were ignoring him, a snub she called “a breach of international courtesy.”

“Not one of our very wealthy and socially prominent art patrons or subsidized cultural institutions had made the slightest gesture of welcome to this renowned master of the long-lost

technique of true fresco ...,” writes Reed. Impelled by a “nebulous desire to make amends,” she vowed to “let him know that one ‘Norteamericana’ felt honored to welcome him, though somewhat belatedly, to Babylon-on-Hudson and had come to wish him all the success and happiness he so richly deserved.”

In the next few years, Reed did much to make that success happen. She would be instrumental, in fact, in helping the painter land his three mural jobs, at Pomona and Dartmouth colleges and in New York at the New School for Social Research. And she helped introduce Orozco to a diverse and stimulating set of new contacts through the Delphic Circle, an intellectual and literary salon founded by Greek poet Angelos Sikelianos around a

sadly continued on my way to San Francisco.”

Though barely mentioned again, the border incident created a sort of philosophical angst for the artist, with long-term effects, according to Renato González Mello, professor of contemporary art at the National University of Mexico (UNAM) and the foremost expert on Orozco. The encounter represents a historic clash

“The incident makes him see that the distinction between high and low is subject to legal definitions,” González says in a bilingual phone interview from Mexico City. “What in Mexico would be a problem of good taste or bad taste, or simply a problem of class, in the United States becomes a matter of law enforcement ... This is like a completely different planet for

Orozco (front row, fifth from right) with an unidentified group in Frary Hall, where he would paint his *Prometheus*.

vision of universal brotherhood. The group, which had staged the ancient Greek tragedy *Prometheus Bound* in Delphi the same year Orozco arrived in New York, would be extremely influential in his work.

"I think the adoration that Alma Reed demonstrated toward him, the attention he received in New York at the ashram of the Delphic Circle, that kind of deified him in the same way that Rivera had been deified," says Sorell, university distinguished professor emeritus at Chicago State University. "His confidence must have grown exponentially."

Orozco spent more than two years in New York before landing his first mural commission at Pomona. Meanwhile, he survived partly by catering—or caving—to the trendy demand for Mexican art that developed in the United States and Europe during the 1920s and 30s. He made paintings of what writer and curator Diane Miliotes describes as "landscapes that verge on the folkloric ... with these stock images of a pueblo, or an indigenous woman and her child, and maybe a maguay plant or two."

In an essay for the companion book to the Dartmouth exhibition, Timothy Rub notes that "Orozco developed a keen if somewhat cynical awareness of what American patrons expected of Mexican painters." In the same book, González Mello puts it more bluntly: "The first thing Orozco does upon his arrival (in New York) is become a professional Mexican."

Personally, the artist found the whole thing distasteful. Even in Mexico, he was harshly critical of revolutionary artists who pandered to the folkloric, glorified the indigenous or idealized the concept of nationality, or *Mexicanidad*, all of which had been the bread and butter of the mural movement.

In the United States, he had to deal with the market on its own terms, at least to some extent.

"He's dealing with an audience that doesn't know anything about Mexico, except that it's exotic and exciting and violent," says Miliotes, who served as in-house curator for the Hood Museum exhibition. "And there's this wonderful vogue for it that he's trying to take advantage of, but it forces him to try to navigate that craze without feeling that he's totally selling himself out."

Those concerns would soon fade. In 1930, Orozco put himself firmly on the map as a world-class artist with his own daring identity when he painted *Prometheus*, the first fresco by a Mexican artist in the United States. The commission for the space above the fireplace in Frary Hall was pushed along by Catalan art historian José Pijoán, who was then teaching at Pomona.

At first, he considered calling on Orozco's rival, Diego Rivera. But it was Pijoán's colleague, artist Jorge Juan Crespo de la Serna, who steered the project to Orozco. Crespo de la Serna, then teaching at Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles, was a friend of Orozco and would become his assistant on *Prometheus*. "... The beauty of it is that a few kids and a few penniless professors had the faith and the courage to institute the proceedings and went ahead without committees, boards, or rubber stamps," Pijoán wrote in the *Los Angeles Times* shortly after the work was completed.

The landmark work would become "the first major modern fresco in this country and thus epochal in the history of the

medium," according to the late art historian David W. Scott, former chair of the Art Department at Scripps College.

Yet, as bold as the fresco was, Orozco at first avoided painting a penis on Prometheus, the heroic nude that towers over diners at Frary. While more lofty artistic considerations about classic representations of the male physique may also have been at play,



the artist was certainly well aware of his local critics and the risk of offending puritanical community standards. "Absolutely, I think he was hesitant (to add the penis) because there was disapproval that he was painting a very large naked male figure on the wall," says Coyle, the documentarian. "He was reading the press and some of these critical articles were actually appearing while

he was working on the mural."

Orozco didn't have to check the newspapers to find condemnation. He embarked on the project, he writes, "to the disgust of the trustees who would grumble as they made their way through the refectory and eye the scaffoldings askance, disposed to fall upon me at the first mis-step."

est painting in North America."

Despite the controversy, the Pomona campus community, especially faculty and students, defended the artist's right to express himself. The following year, in the face of yet another public outcry, administrators of the New School defended his depiction of Lenin and Stalin in his series of five frescoes with sociopolitical themes. The support in both cases must have been reassuring since he had seen how vicious public censorship could be, on both sides of the border. Later, the Dartmouth community also would stand up for his artistic freedom at a time when murals by Rivera in New York and Siqueiros in Los Angeles were being whitewashed or destroyed for political reasons.

Orozco returned to Mexico in triumph in 1934 and proceeded to create astonishing works of art that mark the pinnacle of his career. He completed his masterwork at Guadalajara's Hospicio Cabañas, crowned by the soaring image of *The Man of Fire* in the cupola of the colonial structure, dubbed the Sistine Chapel of the Americas. In 1940, hailed as a celebrity, he returned to New York and created the anti-war mural, *Dive Bomber and Tank*, commissioned by the Museum of Modern Art. Orozco wrote his final chapter in the United States in 1945-46, near the end of his life. This time, the trip was primarily personal. He came to this country for the last time out of love. And he left with a broken heart.

Earlier, the aging artist had fallen head over heels for the young and beautiful lead dancer for the Mexico City Ballet, Gloria Campobello. But when his mistress gave him an ultimatum and his wife Margarita refused to give him a divorce, the stage was set for a midlife crisis that ripped open the man's hermetic heart.

Orozco left his family and moved to New York to be with Campobello. But she soon abandoned him and returned to Mexico, ignoring his pathetic, pining letters. The artist found himself alone in Manhattan once again, just as he had started.

Now all he wanted was to go back home and he begged his wife to take him back: "I know that I have behaved very badly with you and I have paid dearly with my remorse," he wrote. "I don't want to live here anymore. I don't want any of it. Or even to see it again. My only thought is to return to you if you will take me back."

And she did. He returned to Mexico City, with only three more years to live. His final works evinced a premonition of death. When it finally came, on Sept. 7, 1949, it caught him in the midst of a new project, painting a public housing mural.

Orozco had come to this country as an unknown, and left as an artist of global stature. Far from leveling him, immigration had vaulted him to new heights.

"I really think his experience in the United States inspired him to speak to people across borders," says Coyle, the documentary filmmaker. "He did not want to be seen as a national artist or a Mexican artist. He really kind of chafed at those boundaries and divisions that people used to define themselves and what they were doing."

Orozco painting the god Quetzalcoatl in a fresco at Dartmouth College (1932-34)

IMMIGRANT STORIES

FOR FIVE young Sagehens, immigrant pasts have launched present-day career paths.

As told to Adam Conner-Simons '08, Hugo Martin '87 and Mary Marvin, stories are in abridged and edited form.

Amy Motlagh '98

Revolution & Redemption

Amy Motlagh's life journey has been book-ended by revolutions. Born to an Iranian father and American mother, she was 2 years old when her family left Iran for San Diego just months before the overthrow of the Iranian monarchy. Now a professor of English and comparative literature at the American University in Cairo, she has found herself caught in the middle of another series of uprisings in Egypt that have inspired her to see her own people's struggles in a new light.

When we left Iran,

my family settled in a very white neighborhood in San Diego, but I grew up hearing Farsi and knowing a few words. At that time, there was a lot of bad feeling surrounding Iran; particularly in the wake of the hostage crisis, I tried to distance myself from my Iranian heritage. Although he had lived in the U.S. before, my father was ambivalent about living there permanently, and he would often wonder aloud about the life we would have had if we had stayed. During the Iraq War there was a lot of tension at home. I remember intensely watching news from Iran. It could be your family's house that was being bombed.

I didn't start thinking about studying Iran until I took a Pomona class with Zayn Kassam called Women in Islam and did a project on [Iranian novelist] Nahid Rachlin. After graduating I finally returned to Iran with my dad, which changed my perception completely—I witnessed a very different Iran from the one I had seen on TV, and was amazed to find that even under this oppressive regime, there was such a vibrant culture. I loved hearing

Persian. It's a language that values wordplay and takes poetry seriously, and I quickly understood how important it was for me to master it.

Eventually, I enrolled in a Ph.D. program in Near Eastern studies at Princeton University. Although I was studying Persian literature, I also felt called to respond to questions about the Iranian diaspora being raised by books like Azar Nafisi's *Reading Lolita in Tehran*. As somebody familiar with the American and Iranian literary traditions, I thought I could offer a critical perspective on how these works fit into a longer history of immigration, assimilation and life-writing in the United States.

It was initially frightening to be in Cairo during the demonstrations in January and February. We would hear gunshots or tanks driving by and be scared for friends who were participating. But once we saw what was happening in Tahrir Square with our own eyes, we could see that the protestors were peaceful and well-organized. Their courage has been inspiring.

It's a bit ironic to be experiencing a revolution when my family tried to leave one, but in certain ways [being in Cairo is] redemptive for me: I always felt like I missed out on something that was a huge part of my generation's experience in Iran. My cousins grew up in a culture that was being radically remade, where people led double lives at home and in public, and where they had to deal with so many issues I didn't have to deal with. It seems important to now be part of what's happening in Egypt, even if it's from the sidelines.





Aldo Ramirez '00

Migrant to Mentor

I was born in L.A.

and very shortly after, my family had to move back to Mexico. We lived over there for three or four years. It was a very happy time. My parents and my grandparents were hard workers. They had cattle. They had some crops. So, that is what we did out there. Then my family started moving back to the U.S. as farm workers, moving up through California, Oregon and Washington.

My earliest memories of that time were picking apples and pears and peaches, nectarines and things like that in Washington State. ... We would get up really early in the morning, sometimes before the sun was out. It was not fun, I can tell you that. It was very hard, carrying a ladder in the morning. Your hands would freeze. Pulling the cherries from the trees, the stems would wear your fingers down. But during that time my parents always tried to stay positive. They always told us they wanted us to go to college and get a college degree so we wouldn't have to work out in the fields.

It definitely helped with my endurance. I mean, in school it was pretty easy to put forward a lot of effort. When I was going to school, I didn't have to work in the fields so I loved school. Most of the teachers that I had were fantastic. They wanted us to do well. But my 8th grade teacher, Mrs. Copeland, she was especially kind. She taught me a lot about writing and literature. And she kept track of me when I was going through high school. And in my senior year, I had a

For Aldo Ramirez '00, school was an escape from a hard life toiling in the orchards and fields as a young boy. So, it is no surprise that after graduating from Pomona, he pursued a career in education. He is now putting his experience to work by helping young, low-income immigrants as principal of a small elementary school in the city of San Bernardino.

4.0 grade point average so she came over to the high school and she pulled me out and she gave me literature on Pomona College. And she said 'I think this is a very good school for you to go to.' She's the one who steered me that way and helped me put my application together. She just cared. She wanted me to be successful.

One of my first courses I took at Pomona was Raymond Buriel's Psychology of the Chicano. And that just resonated with me. It was so interesting to start thinking about the psyche of immigrants, specifically from Mexico.

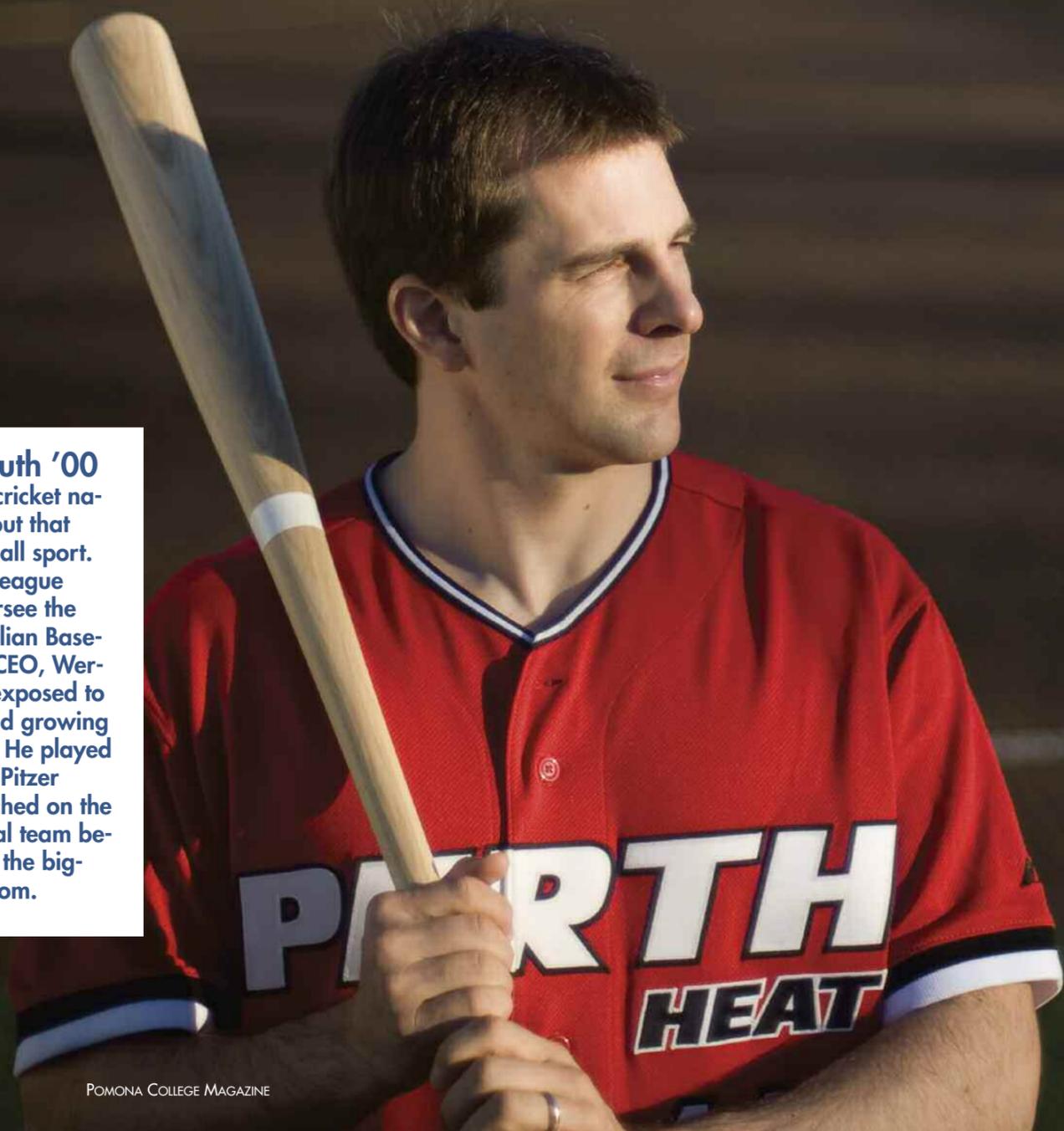
Because education was such a positive experience for me, I did some work as part of a mentor program for students from one of the Pomona Unified School District's middle schools. And so when I graduated I decided to go into teaching. And it was a perfect fit. I mean it gave me the opportunity to give back. Just like Mrs. Copeland helped me, I found myself in the position of being able to help the families of the students I was teaching.

I find as soon as I share my experiences with them and I show them pictures of my family, they relate really quickly. And they do look up to me and a lot of them aspire to do what I have done. The city of San Bernardino has a high concentration of English language learners. About 40 percent of the district is English language learners. About 95 percent of the district gets free or reduced-price lunches so we are working with a very needy population.

Peter Wermuth '00

Ambassador of Baseball

Peter Wermuth '00 is trying to get cricket nation excited about that other bat-and-ball sport. Sent by Major League Baseball to oversee the six-team Australian Baseball League as CEO, Wermuth was first exposed to hardball as a kid growing up in Germany. He played on the Pomona-Pitzer squad and coached on the German national team before heading to the big-league boardroom.



I started playing

baseball at age 10—my older brother went to college in America and brought some equipment back to Germany. We had no clue what we were doing: our first time out, we went to a schoolyard and set up a field with two bases and home plate. The catalyst for me was attending my first German-American Baseball League game in Mainz, my hometown. It was a great atmosphere—a big barbecue going, old men playing dominos on the side of the field, people playing music and even some Latin dancing.

There wasn't any German youth baseball in the country at the time, but the U.S. Armed Forces ran its own Little League, which I joined. I'd travel from one military base to another, competing against American teams and gradually losing some of my German accent. When I was 12, I applied to be the club's treasurer; they wouldn't let me, which I didn't think was reasonable at all, so I went off and started my own club.

I wanted to attend college in the U.S. All the other top liberal arts schools were in the Northeast, and with baseball being a big part of the decision, [Pomona] was an easy choice. At Columbia Business School, I ran the Sports Business Association and brought an M.L.B. executive to campus. After the talk he asked me what I was planning to do that summer and I told him, "I'm going to work for you." I did—and have been since.

I always knew I wanted to set up a professional league. Baseball in most countries outside the U.S. is not the national sport. It's difficult for an American to understand that 'if you build it' they will not necessarily come! In Australia there's cricket, rugby union, rugby league, Australian-rules football. You have to treat baseball as a niche sport. That's something I bring to the table because I lived in that sort of environment in Germany.

We're hoping to reach that second tier [in Australia]. My U.S. experiences inspired me to use what I think of as the minor league model, where it's framed as a fun family night out. Exciting promotions, mascots, upbeat music, a safe environment—baseball is almost secondary.

I'd love to grow the league as fast as possible, but we don't want the resources that we put in to exceed demand. It'd be a disaster to play in venues that we can't fill. Though we'll never be cricket or the Australian Football League, I think we can establish a really attractive product. This is likely the last chance baseball has to establish itself as a relevant sport in Australia, and I feel great responsibility for the future of the sport in this country.

Joe Nguyen '05

A Funny Thing Happened...

Joe Nguyen '05 grew up in the Deep South as the son of immigrant parents whose roots stretch from Germany and Austria to Vietnam. So, perhaps it's only natural that he decided to become a stand-up comedian. Nguyen holds on to his day job working for the state of California and does standup at night in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

My mom's

parents got married during World War II in a Jewish refugee camp in Shanghai. They wanted to move to the U.S. but because of quotas were sent to the Dominican Republic. That's where my mom and her sister were born and raised.

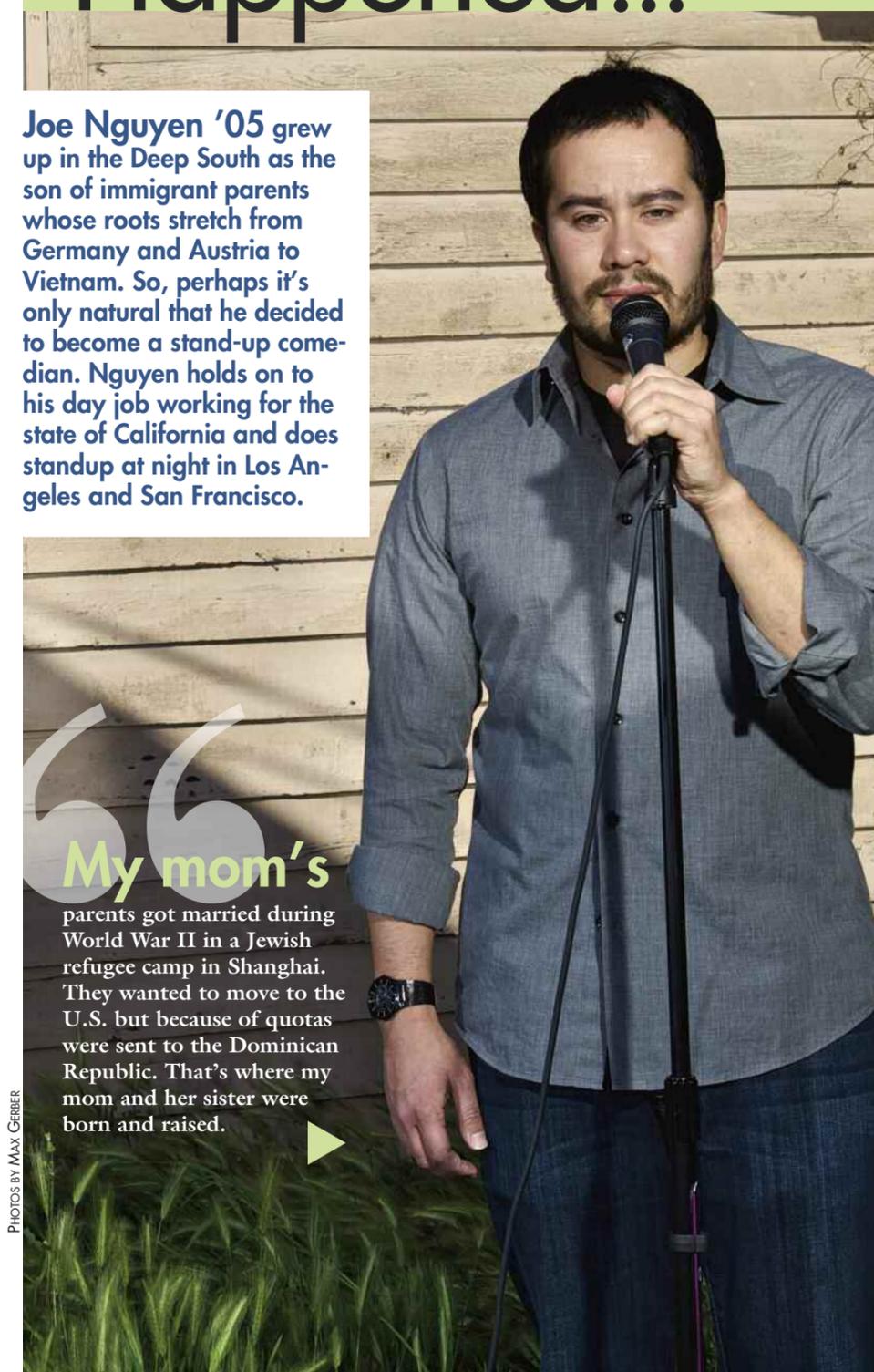


PHOTO BY CASEY KEIRBAUGH

PHOTOS BY MAX GERBER

My dad grew up in Vietnam and was an officer in the South Vietnamese army. He and his family narrowly escaped just as the North was taking over Saigon at the end of the Vietnam War.

My parents met while they lived in Michigan. They moved to Atlanta when my dad got an engineering job there, and that's where I grew up. When my family all gets together, it's a very interesting mix. I think that, apart from the kind of food that I enjoy, there's an open-mindedness that comes from growing up in a multicultural household.

I never considered myself a funny guy until sometime during college, when I realized I enjoyed cracking jokes and entertaining people. At some point, I started watching and listening to more stand-up comedy and thought, 'I'd like to try that; I think I can do it.'

I didn't have a job lined up after graduation, so I moved north with my girlfriend at the time. I took courses and performed at the San Francisco Comedy College, produced and hosted my own comedy show and, after a few years, started getting paid work at clubs. I moved to Los Angeles a few months ago and am learning the scene here and making connections.

My material used to be mostly about being different. From start to finish, it was 'Hey, I'm a Vietnamese Jew.' I think that's OK for a five-minute set, but when you do 20 minutes, people want something a little more relatable. Very little of my newest material is about my racial background. My style is slower paced, kind of dry and generally pretty clean, like observational comedy.

So far, my parents seem supportive. I don't know if it's because they're my parents or if they really approve of me doing stand-up comedy. They've been to a few shows in San Francisco and one in Atlanta. My dad still encourages me to go to law school, and I'm interested in business school, but we'll see about that. Whatever I end up doing, I don't think I'll ever quit standup.

I get a little crazy sometimes and look at reviews of my shows online. I'm happy to say that most have been pretty positive. But there was one comment on an article about a Kung Pao Kosher Comedy, a show featuring Jewish comics held every Christmas in a Chinese restaurant in San Francisco. It said, 'Joe was OK, but his material was too much about being Vietnamese and Jewish; he needs to focus more on being a philosophy major at Pomona.' And I said, 'Damn, I thought I was giving the people what they want.' He also complained about the food. I guess you can't please everybody.



Anbinh Phan '01

Creative Empathy

My parents worked

really hard in Torrance. We lived modestly so that they could send money home to Vietnam. At Pomona, my whole experience made me think much more deeply about self-identity, Christian faith and civil rights. Having that multidisciplinary education helped me start to see things through numerous lenses.

I focused on international trade after graduating. I did a fellowship in Vietnam for eight months and worked at the U.S. Treasury for several years. I got interested in human rights, since a huge part of international trade revolves around labor, the supply chain and how products are manufactured.

In the summer after my second year of law school in 2009, I worked for [the human rights organizations] Global Centurion and Boat People S.O.S. in Southeast Asia, and met human trafficking survivors in shelters and asylums in Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia. I only got glimpses of their lives, but they made a big impression on me, and I realized these people have aspirations like my family. They just want to create better futures for themselves.

During the trip I returned to Pulau Tengah, the Malaysian refugee camp I was born in, which was an amazing experience. To me it was this mythical place where my family had put so many hopes after surviving war and poverty. They were so brave to leave their country and have a child in the middle of the ocean. It wasn't a coincidence that my name means "peace" in Vietnamese—that's what my parents hoped for me on these shores.

When I came back to law school, I couldn't get the experience out of my mind, and I started devoting my research to that region. Even though I'm American, I can relate as a member of the Vietnamese diaspora—I speak the language and understand the pressures and fears they face. It's a natural empathy.

I feel privileged to be in America. I always wanted to pursue public service, because I didn't want my family to work for all these things just so I could benefit individually. My ultimate dream is for these people I'm trying to help to gain some sense of optimism about their future. I've not seen the things I'm doing accomplish that yet, but I deeply hope that's where we'll be soon enough.

Recently, I presented at the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Cambodia. It was an opportunity to emphasize the challenges stateless people face—no access to education or social services, and a high vulnerability to labor and sex trafficking—as well as to advocate for a solution. As much as it was about legal rights, it was also a human story. It was fulfilling to share information to empathetic ears; the stories we choose to tell reflect who we are and what we hope for in the world.

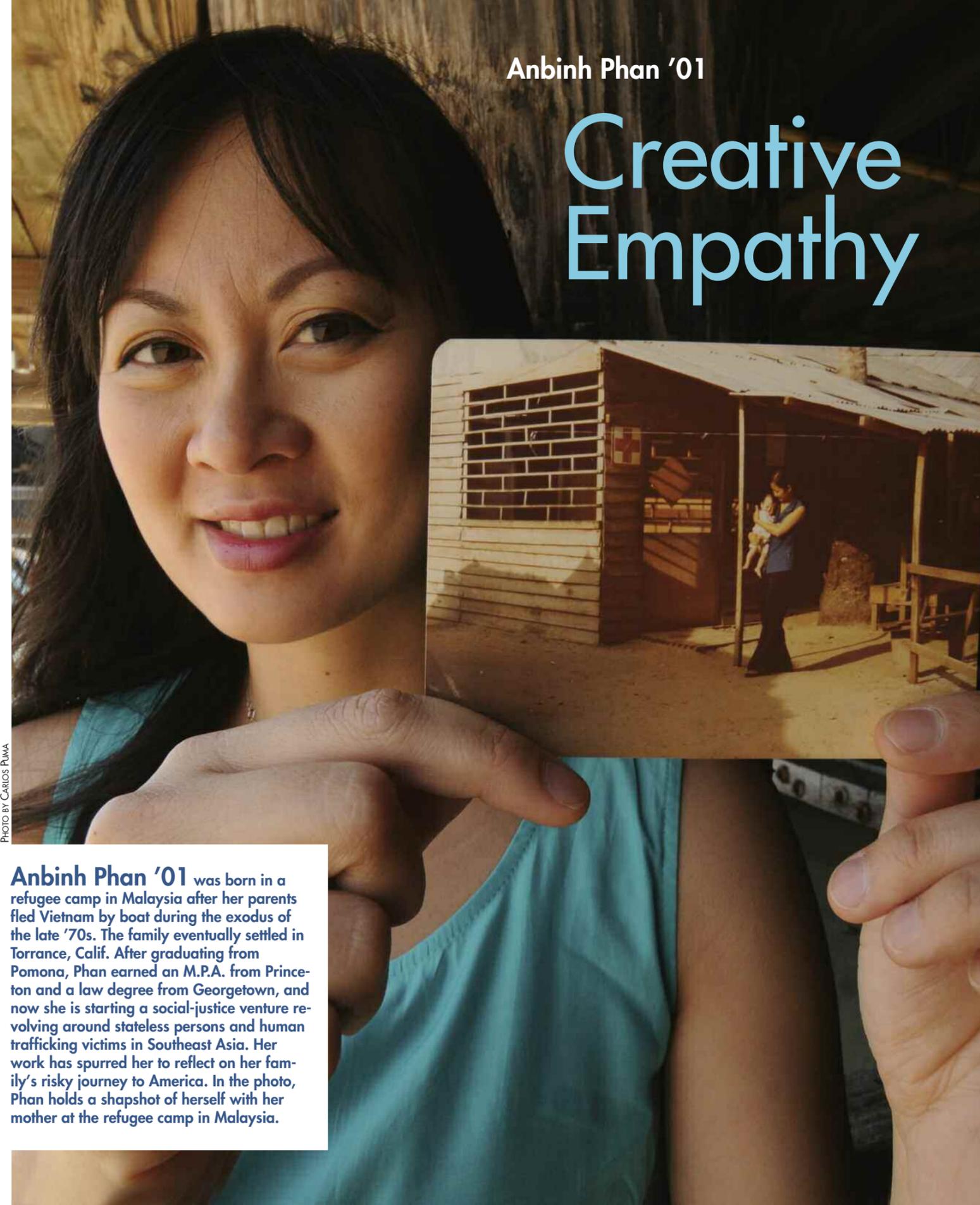
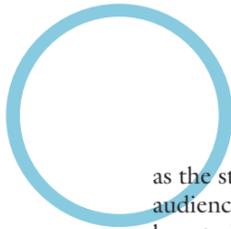


PHOTO BY CARLOS PUVA

Anbinh Phan '01 was born in a refugee camp in Malaysia after her parents fled Vietnam by boat during the exodus of the late '70s. The family eventually settled in Torrance, Calif. After graduating from Pomona, Phan earned an M.P.A. from Princeton and a law degree from Georgetown, and now she is starting a social-justice venture revolving around stateless persons and human trafficking victims in Southeast Asia. Her work has spurred her to reflect on her family's risky journey to America. In the photo, Phan holds a snapshot of herself with her mother at the refugee camp in Malaysia.

FONG FOO SEC, POMONA'S FIRST CHINESE IMMIGRANT STUDENT, WOULD BE HAILED AND CELEBRATED IN LATER YEARS AS A RESPECTED SCHOLAR AND GOODWILL AMBASSADOR. BUT HE ARRIVED IN THE U.S. IN 1882 TO FACE VIOLENCE, DERISION AND A NEW LAW THAT WOULD DRAMATICALLY CHANGE AMERICA'S APPROACH TO IMMIGRATION.



On a summer day in 1922,

as the strains of opera music and applause from the commencement audience faded away, President James Blaisdell presented a doctor of laws to Fong Foo Sec, the College's first Chinese immigrant student. It was only the third LL.D awarded since the College's founding 35 years earlier, and the story of a peasant laborer turned goodwill ambassador receiving an honorary degree attracted coverage from as far afield as the *New York Times*.

Fong had become the chief English editor of the Commercial Press, China's first modern publisher. At Commencement, he was praised as an "heir by birth to the wisdom of an ancient and wonderful people; scholar as well of Western learning; holding all these combined riches in the services of a great heart; internationalist, educator, modest Christian gentleman."

The pomp could not have been more different than Fong's arrival four decades earlier, when his improbable journey to Pomona began under the cover of twilight. After his steamship docked in San Francisco in 1882, the scrawny 13-year-old boy hid in a baggage cart, while his fellow passengers banded together to fend off attackers along the waterfront, in case the immigrants were discovered before reaching the sanctuary of Chinatown.

"I was received with bricks and kicks," Fong said, describing his reception in a magazine interview and in his memoirs decades later. "Some rude Americans, seeing Chinese laborers flock in and finding no way to stop them, threw street litter at us to vent their fury."

Fong's immigrant tale is both emblematic and exceptional: emblematic in the peasant roots, the struggles and dream of prosperity he shared with Chinese laborers of that era. Exceptional in the fact that Fong, though he came as a laborer, was able to get a college education in the U.S. and seize the opportunities it brought. He arrived at a time when formal immigration restrictions were scant, but also to a land gripped by anti-Chinese hysteria, just before a new law that, in the words of historian Erika Lee, "forever changed America's relationship to immigration."

IF FONG, IN HIS TINY VILLAGE in Guangdong province in southern China, had heard of such threats against his countrymen, he remained undeterred in his quest to go to Gold Mountain, a name California had picked up during the Gold Rush era. Fong's childhood nicknames, Kuang Yaoxi, "to shine in the West" and Kuang Jingxi "to respect the West" are revealing. "He was expected, or perhaps destined, to become associated with the Western world and Western culture," says Leung Yuen Sang, chairman of the History Department at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, who has conducted research on Fong.

TO SHINE IN THE WEST

BY VANESSA HUA

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CHINESE IMMIGRANTS: Arrival of Nearly 1000 More at this Port.
 San Francisco Chronicle (1869, Current File); Jun 14, 1882.

Born in 1869, Fong tended his family's water buffalo and planted rice, taro and sweet potatoes, but did not begin school until he was 8. Often hungry, he went barefoot and wore patched clothes, reserving his shoes for festival days, Fong wrote in his memoirs. But his father saw a way out for Fong. From the start of the 19th century, his clansmen, driven by bandits, floods, war and rebellion, went abroad to seek their fortunes. After seeing villagers travel to America and return with "their pockets full," his father asked Fong if he'd like to go too.

To pay for his ticket, the family borrowed money from relatives and friends, a common practice for would-be travelers. In January 1882, accompanied by his neighbor, Fong left for Hong Kong where he stayed before sailing for San Francisco on the *S.S. China*. In the crowded hold, amid stormy weather and high waves, he learned his first words of English and picked up advice. Fong's steamship was one of scores jammed with thousands of his compatriots who began rushing over while the U.S. Congress debated a moratorium on most immigration from China.

According to his memoirs, Fong arrived sometime after the passage, on May 6, 1882, of what became known as the Exclusion Act, but before it took effect 90 days later. The *San Francisco Chronicle* published the arrivals and passenger load of steamships from the Orient, noting in March of that year, "It is a matter of some interest to know just how many Chinese are likely to be pressed upon our shores."

The *Chronicle* also wrote of crowded, unclean conditions aboard steamers, which were anchored on quarantine grounds and fumigated to prevent the spread of smallpox. In headline after headline, the newspaper created the sense of a city besieged: "More Chinese: Another Thousand Arrive in This Port," "And Still They Come ... Two Thousand Others on the Way," "Another Chinese Cargo: Eighty Thousand Heathen Awaiting Shipment to This City."

ANTI-CHINESE SENTIMENT had been building for decades on the West Coast. During economic downturns, the immigrants, with their cheap labor, became scapegoats. Mob violence flared against them, and in San Francisco, in 1877, thousands of rioters attacked Chinese laundries and the wharves of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, the chief transpacific carriers of the laborers.

California had already passed its own anti-Chinese measures, and after years of pressure, particularly from the West Coast, Congress took unprecedented federal action in the form of 1882's Exclusion Act. The 10-year ban on Chinese laborers would be the first federal moratorium barring immigration based upon race and class. Only merchants, teachers, students and their servants would be permitted to enter thereafter.

At first, confusion reigned. When the Exclusion Act took effect, a *Chronicle* headline proclaimed that the arrival of the "last cargo" of Chinese in San Francisco was "A Scene that Will Become Historical." Still, the Chinese continued arriving as enforcement in the beginning remained haphazard. The act represented the U.S. government's first attempts to process immigrants, and officials at the ports weren't sure how to handle Chinese laborers under the new regulations, says Erika Lee, director of the Asian American Studies Program at the University of Minnesota.

But in time the law succeeded in reducing Chinese immigration, which plummeted from 39,579 in 1882 to only 10 people, five years later. The Chinese population in the West shrank, as immigrants moved east to work and open small businesses. In the months and years to come, restrictions would tighten, with Chinese required to carry certificates of registration verifying legal entry. Later on, the right to re-enter the U.S. would be rescinded, and the act would be renewed.

"Beginning in 1882, the United States stopped being a nation



Fong (seated bottom right) on the steps of Pearsons Hall with the Class of 1905

of immigrants that welcomed foreigners without restrictions," Lee argues in her book, *At America's Gates*. "For the first time in its history, the United States began to exert federal control over immigrants at its gates and within its borders, thereby setting standards, by race, class, and gender for who was to be welcomed into this country."

AFTER ARRIVING IN SAN FRANCISCO, Fong was forced to hide in a basement his first few days in Chinatown, a neighborhood of narrow alleys and cramped tenements, but also of temples and gaily-painted balconies. Laws targeting Chinese—their tight living quarters and their use of poles to carry loads on sidewalks—

reflected the simmering resentment. "The city authorities, because they had not been able to prevent their coming, tried to make it difficult for [the Chinese] to settle down here," Fong wrote.

Like many immigrants, Fong turned to kinsmen for help. He left for Sacramento to live with an uncle, a vegetable dealer, who found him a job as a cook to a wealthy family. He earned \$1 a week, along with the occasional gift of a dime, which he treasured "as gold." He—like many Chinese immigrants—sent

"BEGINNING IN 1882, THE UNITED STATES STOPPED BEING A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS THAT WELCOMED FOREIGNERS WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITS HISTORY, THE UNITED STATES BEGAN TO EXERT FEDERAL CONTROL OVER IMMIGRANTS AT ITS GATES AND WITHIN ITS BORDERS, THEREBY SETTING STANDARDS, BY RACE, CLASS, AND GENDER FOR WHO WAS TO BE WELCOMED INTO THIS COUNTRY."

—ERIKA LEE

money back to cover the debt incurred to cover his passage to America and pay for family expenses.

At his uncle's urging, Fong studied English at a night school set up by the Congregational Church in Sacramento's

Chinatown, but he started gambling and stopped going to class. Scolded by his uncle, he returned to school and a new teacher, Rev. Chin Toy, became his mentor.

Fong found himself debating whether to convert to Christianity. Among his parents, relatives, and friends, not a single one was Christian, and he hesitated giving up the idols his ancestors had worshipped for generations. "If Christianity turns out to be unreliable, I will lose heavily," he wrote in his memoirs.

After a fire gutted the heart of Sacramento's Chinatown and destroyed his few possessions, Fong had to move into a dark basement room, thick with his uncle's opium smoke. Fong then asked if he could stay in the mission church, and Rev. Chin consented to the unprecedented request. From age 15 to 17, Fong

lived in the mission, where he learned Chinese, the Bible, English, elementary science, and read books such as *Pilgrim's Progress* and *Travels in Africa*. Six months later, he was baptized, but it took the Salvation Army to stoke his religious passion.

Drawn by the sound of the bugle one night, coming home from his cook's job, Fong watched the preachers in the street, fervent despite a jeering crowd. Their zeal led him to question his faith and whether his sins had been forgiven. Struck by a vision of Christ's breast streaming with blood, he knelt during a church service and repented.

His conversion was unusual—missionaries in those days did not make deep inroads among Chinese immigrants, who "did not seem to see the efficacy of a god who sacrificed his son on a cross," says Madeline Hsu, director of the Center for Asian American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. "Until there was a better sense of community and utility in attending church, missionaries seemed largely ineffectual."

The Salvation Army, unable to proselytize among the Chinese until Fong joined up, sent him to their San Francisco headquarters in 1889 for six months of training. As a preacher, Fong became the object of "laughter, bullying, and insults. As a Chinese, I suffered more than any Westerner," he wrote. Still, for more than a year, Fong evangelized in California, Oregon and Washington.

One night, a brawny man in the street started beating Fong, who could not defend himself, and the teenager escaped after a woman intervened. Another time, while Fong passed a football field, boys swarmed around him, spitting and assaulting him until he found refuge in a nearby house.

After a labor meeting to discuss measures against the Chinese, boys began following Fong, who brandished a paper knife to ward them off. He might

have found his greatest peril in Tacoma, Wash., where mobs in November 1885 drove out every Chinese, part of a wave of xenophobic violence sweeping the West. During an evening meeting sometime after the anti-Chinese riots, Fong's friends heard voices outside and urged him to change out of his Salvation Army uniform, hide in a friend's house and then aboard a ship anchored in the harbor where he spent the night. "Later, it came to light several hundred people had gathered outside the door of the meeting place, ready to seize me," he wrote in his memoirs.

Fong endured. After taking typing and shorthand in night school, he became a clerk at the Salvation Army, and then was promoted to secretary to a major, the organization's ranking leader on the Pacific Coast. The next few years had "significant bearing" on his future, he wrote, because he associated with people of "superior class" who spoke fluent English. On his own, he studied history, archeology and literature, and honed his public speaking and debate skills.

BUT FONG HAD AMBITIONS that would lead him to Pomona—and, eventually, back to China. "If I could obtain higher ►

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learning, I could go back and be of service to society,” he wrote in his memoirs. “To spend my whole life in a foreign country did not seem to me the most ideal solution.”

In 1897, Fong met Pasadena businessman Samuel Hahn, whose son, Edwin, attended Pomona. Fong shared his dreams with them. Edwin Hahn, in turn, told Cyrus Baldwin, Pomona’s first president. Not long after, President Baldwin called upon Fong in San Francisco at the Salvation Army headquarters, urging him to come at once. Fong’s \$300 savings, and his pledge to work part-time, would cover his tuition, the president assured him. Years later, Fong would name his first-born son Baldwin in gratitude.

Fong entered Pomona’s prep school, cleaning houses, waiting on tables, typewriting, picking apples and cooking to cover his expenses. Like some students, Fong built a wood shack to save on rent and prepared his own meals, harvesting vegetables from a friend’s garden, according to classmate Charles L. Boynton, who contributed to a memorial volume after Fong’s death. Rev. Boynton would become a missionary in Shanghai. (With the College’s Congregationalist roots, a good number of Pomona students went on to become missionaries in the early days.)

As a student, Fong helped bridge the gulf between cultures and countries, a role that would become his life’s work. He was seen as an expert on his homeland. Under the headline “The Views of a Bright Chinese Student,” the *Los Angeles Times* printed the transcript of a lengthy address Fong had given in Los Angeles regarding current events in China. And Boynton asked Fong—known as “Sec” or “Mr. Sec”—to speak with students planning to become missionaries in China, to share what he knew of the country and to make a personal appeal for evangelization.

Fong also began his decades-long involvement with the YMCA during this time, after hearing about a fellow student’s account of young people surrendering their lives to Christ at a gathering on the hillside overlooking the ocean at sunset in Pacific Grove.

He interrupted his studies at Pomona twice: first, shortly after enrolling to accompany General William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, on a tour of the United States, and for a second time, in 1899, after he contracted tuberculosis and a physician ordered him to recuperate in a mountain camp for a year. “I was under the impression there was no cure for the disease and that it was a matter of a few months before my life, with its hopes crushed and work undone, would come to an end,” Fong later wrote in a letter.

A friend reasoned with him, helping restore his enthusiasm, and he looked fondly upon his time at Pomona. “Five years in college and all the assistance from friends—these I cannot forget.”

After four years in Pomona’s prep school followed by a year of regular collegiate enrollment, he transferred to the University of California at Berkeley, where he graduated with honors with a bachelor of letters in 1905. He then headed east to Columbia, where he earned dual master’s degrees in English literature and education—fulfilling a prophecy. A generation ago, a fortune teller told Fong’s grandfather that an offspring would be awarded high academic honors.

FONG RETURNED TO CHINA in 1906 after a quarter-century absence. “The people are my people, and it doesn’t take long for me to forget that I had seen life—lived, struggled—in the West, and I was one of them once more,” he wrote.

He taught English and landed an appointment at the Ministry of Communications before taking his post at the Commercial Press in Shanghai, which published textbooks and translations. Such work contributed much to the educational development of China, which he considered vital to ensuring the country’s survival. Fong believed Chinese students also had to understand sciences, art, history, law and the government of Western countries.

In the decades ahead, Fong would become a prominent volunteer leader in Rotary International and the YMCA, and travel to Europe, Australia and the United States. And yet, despite his degrees, despite his accolades, under the Exclusion Act, he was not unlike the lowliest Chinese laborer who returned to his village after spending years in Gold Mountain.

America, it seemed, wasn’t ready for them. Permanent settlement in the U.S. was not an attractive option, because Chinese were prohibited from becoming naturalized citizens and faced a limited set of economic and social options. Many Chinese Americans were barred from certain professions, such as practicing law, even if they were college graduates. “It is notable that he ‘made his mark’ in China, not the U.S.,” says Lee.

During this time, the U.S. system for dealing with immigrants was becoming more and more formalized. Only a few years after Fong returned to China, an immigration station for detaining new and some returning Chinese immigrants opened on Angel Island in the middle of San Francisco Bay. By then, the Exclusion Act had set into motion new modes of immigration regulation that would give rise to U.S. passports, green cards, a trained force of government officials and interpreters, and a bureaucracy to enforce the law.

When Fong died in 1938, the Exclusion Act was still in effect. It wasn’t until five years later, when China and the United States became allies during World War II, that Congress repealed it. Large-scale Chinese immigration wasn’t allowed until the passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act two decades after the war’s end.

But throughout his life, Fong had remained optimistic about the power of education to alter American attitudes toward the Chinese, even if the laws hadn’t caught up to reflect that change. He exuded that spirit in an interview with a YMCA magazine, *Association Men*, in 1922, the same year he returned to the U.S. to receive his honorary degree from Pomona.

“The presence of several thousand Chinese students in your colleges and universities has given you a truer conception of us, than you get from the Chinese laundrymen,” Fong said. “The change which has come over the American is truly remarkable ... you receive me with cordiality and friendliness. I am hailed as an equal.”



FIRST IN A HISTORICAL SERIES MARKING 125 YEARS

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SHOWBIZ STALWART DAVID MISCH '72 DELVES INTO THE HISTORY OF HUMOR AND TAKES COMEDY SERIOUSLY IN HIS NEW TOME.

The Birth of Mirth

BY GLENN WHIPP

If you're reading

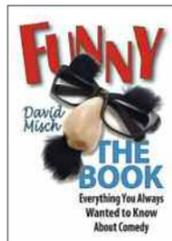
James Thurber and Robert Benchley and composing comedic poetry at the tender age of 7, then writing a book that examines humor from every conceivable angle doesn't feel like that much of a stretch. Indeed, when David Misch '72 began putting together *Funny: The Book* three years ago, it felt like the next logical step in a four-decade career that has included stints as a comedic folk singer, stand-up comedian and writer for such shows as *Mork and Mindy* and *Saturday Night Live*.

Misch credits his days at Pomona for both the beginning of his life's work and its latest chapter. During his senior year, Misch was goofing around, making up songs on guitar with some friends in his Clark dorm room. Their laughter prompted a concert booking at the Smudge Pot coffee house and a post-graduate career as a “professional funny folk singer,” an occupation that, Misch notes, ►



“went out around the same time as ‘buggy whip maker.’”

Misch adapted, though, writing for sitcoms, selling a handful of screenplays and serving as a special consultant on *The Muppets Take Manhattan*. When it came to time reinvent himself once again, Misch thought about teaching and remembered a multidisciplinary course he took during his senior year at Pomona titled Freud, Marx and Contemporary Literature.



Funny: The Book

By David Misch '72
Applause, 2012 / 160 pages / \$18.99

“I remember my mind being blown by the way the class brought all these things together,” Misch says. “So I got the idea to study comedy from every conceivable angle—science, biology, history, philosophy and psychology—and not just its manifestations in movies and television, as it’s usually studied.”

As Misch dove into the research, a literary agent friend told him he should fashion a book out of the material. *Funny: The Book* stands as the greatly abridged version of two years of study, as well as something of a companion to the course, *Funny: A Survey of American Comedy*, he taught last fall at the University of Southern California. In it, the witty Misch surveys the history of humor, considers the scientific nature of laughter and, amid a fart joke or two, makes a convincing case for comedy to be taken seriously.

“You’re up against it when you have people like Woody Allen saying that comedy is frivolous and inferior to drama,” Misch says. “But in my study, I was unable to discern any difference in the properties of comedy and drama, nor any difference in their complexity. The only difference: one produces laughter, the other tears.”

Misch blames the Greeks—Aristotle and Plato—for the persistent idea that laughter is

cruel and immoral and thus somehow shameful. He trots out his own heavy hitters, citing Carl Jung’s belief that frivolity makes life worth living and functions as a crucial aspect of what makes us human. Misch also loves the notion propagated by author Philip Pullman that laughter ranks as one of life’s greatest pleasures, a simple delight that people can summon at will.

And, of course, there’s Norman Cousins, who believed a daily dose of the Marx Brothers, along with a lot of Vitamin C, helped him live another 36 years after doctors diagnosed him with heart disease. Scientific studies of the correlation between humor and health aren’t conclusive, Misch says, but there does appear to be evidence that laughter does help a little.

“And a little is better than nothing,” Misch says.

But what’s humorously healing to Misch might be a source of irritation to someone else. And vice versa. Misch didn’t need to endure the quizzical stares of some of his USC students or the occasional wave of head-scratching he noticed while teaching a

“AFTER ALL THE SCIENTIFIC DISSECTION I DO, IT’S STILL A LITTLE MYSTERIOUS WHY ONE SENTENCE IS FUNNY AND WHY ANOTHER SENTENCE, THAT’S ALMOST IDENTICAL SAVE FOR ONE WORD OR SOMETIMES ONE PIECE OF PUNCTUATION, ISN’T. TO ME, THERE’S MAGIC IN THAT MYSTERY.”

course in musical satire last spring at UCLA to know that comedy is totally subjective. For him, that’s just another aspect of humor that elevates it above drama as an art form.

“That subjectivity gives comedy a mystery that drama lacks,” Misch says. “What makes something funny? After all the scientific dissection I do, it’s still a little mysterious why one sentence is funny and why another sentence, that’s almost identical save for one word or sometimes one piece of punctuation, isn’t. To me, there’s magic in that mystery.”

THE LOST DAUGHTER

Lucy Ferriss '75 examines the nature of love, marriage and motherhood through characters who struggle with secrets from their past.



The Berkley Publishing Group, 2012 / 402 pages / \$15

FULL BODY WAG

According to author Lisa Gray Fisher '70, *Full Body Wag* “unites a creative writing class of eccentric women and their dogs with a mangy pack of independent filmmakers headed by a one-eyed charismatic healer of canines.”



Sunstone Press, 2011 / 266 pages / \$22.95

IOWA? IT'S A STATE...OF MIND

Dan Hunter '75, a die-hard Iowan, provides a humorous take on what makes his home state and its residents so special.



Hunter Higgs, 2011 / 79 pages / \$19.95

TRANSNATIONAL SPORT GENDER, MEDIA, AND GLOBAL KOREA

Rachael Miyung Joo '98 draws on research conducted in Seoul and Los Angeles to “tell how sports shape experiences of global Koreanness,” focusing on “superstar Korean athletes and sporting events produced for transnational consumption.”



Duke University Press, 2012 / 336 pages / \$25.95

Launched by Professor’s Praise

Children’s author

Barbara Brooks Wallace '45 has racked up more than her share of awards and rave reviews in a career spanning five decades. And, at 89, she’s still at it, with the Cinderella-themed *Diary of a Little Devil* released in December and another book in her *Miss Switch* series coming in the fall.

But she hasn’t forgotten her shaky start. Wallace, who today lives in a retirement home in McLean, Va., credits her success to an initially-nerve-wracking encounter with her freshman-year English professor at Pomona.

Wallace had always pleased her high school teachers. But at Pomona she came to realize she was prone to “flossy” overwriting and for the first time in her life, she was making C’s on papers. Then English Professor Charles C.

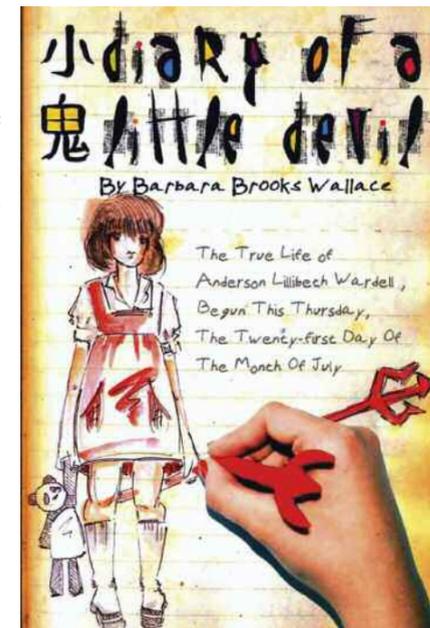
Holmes called her into a meeting.

“He pushed my two essays across his desk and said, ‘There really isn’t much I can say to you.’ My heart nearly stopped because my immediate thought was that my writing was so bad, there was no hope for me,” Wallace says.

His next words stunned her: “If these were done by a professional writer,” Holmes said. “They’d be good enough for *The New Yorker*.”

Holmes went on to tell Wallace to continue taking English and writing classes—advice she heeded some years later. But first she transferred to UCLA, majored in international relations, got married and had a son. It was her sister Constance Brooks Schindehette '43 who reminded Wallace of Professor Holmes’ advice.

Wallace enrolled in a creative writing course at Santa Monica City College, and eventually tried using her childhood in China as a setting for a fantasy children’s story—resulting in a



Diary of a Little Devil

By Barbara Brooks Wallace '45

Pangea Publishing, 2012
158pages / \$10.99

book that Wallace says was terrible. “But that story hooked me on writing for children, so that’s what I’ve done ever since.”

Claudia, the tale of an 11-year-old girl overcoming the ups and downs of that age, was Wallace’s first published book.

She has earned acclaim ever since. Praised by the American Library Association, *The New York Times* and *Kirkus Reviews*, Wallace has been honored with two Edgar Allen Poe Awards from the Mystery Writers of America for *The Twin in the Tavern* and *Sparrows in the Scullery*. She also earned the NLAAPW Children’s Book Award and International Youth Library “Best of the Best” for *Claudia*.

Her many works include Victorian-era mysteries, fantasy novels, a biography of her mother,

her autobiography, picture books, teleplays and musicals. *The Trouble with Miss Switch* and *Miss Switch to the Rescue* were made into Saturday morning animated specials for ABC, both of which were the highest-rated films in the TV series.

Wallace’s latest book is *Diary of a Little Devil*, a Cinderella-themed story (“No handsome prince, but a happy ending nonetheless!”) of a young girl, Andy, whose widowed father remarries someone with twin daughters who—once they all return to their home in China—make life miserable for Andy.

Between shooting a YouTube video of her reading a chapter from *Diary* and preparing for the fall release of *Miss Switch and the Vile Villains*, this octogenarian is keeping at her keyboard. “What’s next for me is to go on writing one way or another,” she says.

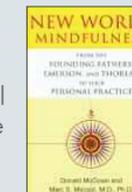
—Sneha Abraham

YOUR EMOTIONAL TYPE

Key to the Therapies That Will Work for You

Marc Micozzi '74 and Michael Jawer help readers understand their emotional type and how to use this knowledge to treat chronic illness more effectively.

Healing Arts Press, 2011 / 192 pages / \$14.95



THE PONZI BOOK

A Legal Resource for Unraveling Ponzi Schemes

In this comprehensive resource, Kathy Bazoian Phelps '88 and Hon. Steven Rhodes detail the issues that come up in this common type of investment fraud.

LexisNexis, 2012 / \$225



SHIFT AND SHOUT

Two Urban Boomers Prove You Don't Need to Retire to Move to Paradise

Dewey '68 and Susan Watson describe how leaving city life for “a new adventure” in Northern California’s wine country has “defined our third phase.”

West County Publishing, 2011 / 152 pages / \$12.95

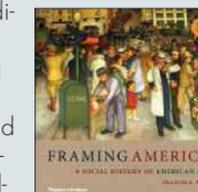


FRAMING AMERICA

A Social History of American Art

In this third edition, Frances Pohl, Pomona professor of humanities and art history, updates the well-regarded textbook with word of the “socially conscious art that has defined the first decade of the 21st century.”

Thames & Hudson, 2012 / 616 pages / \$70



Applied Sci-Fi

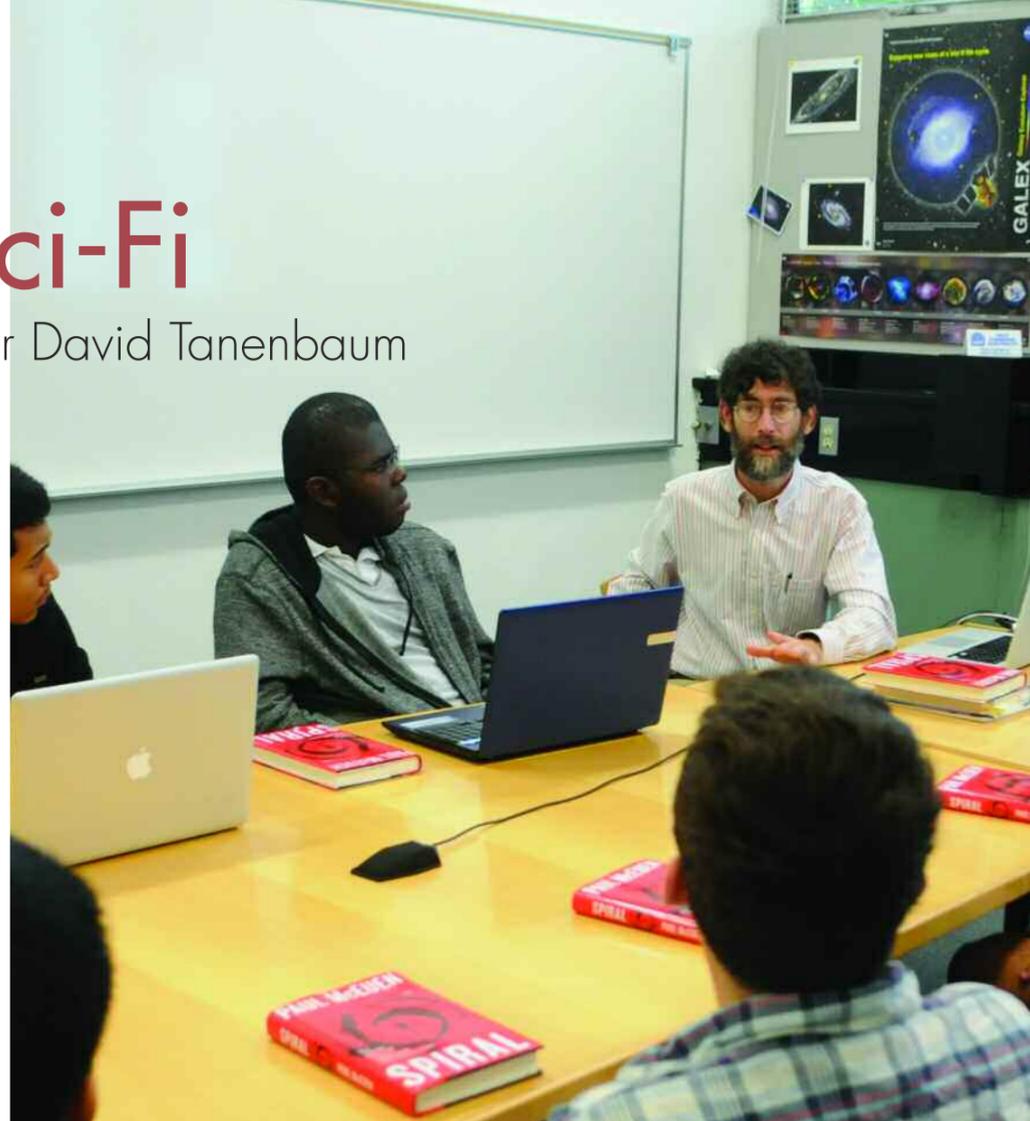
IN CLASS with Professor David Tanenbaum

In today's first-year seminar, Nanotechnology in Science and Fiction, students visit a lab in Millikan, where Professor David Tanenbaum grows carbon nanotubes. Particles of iron and molybdenum are combined with methane, hydrogen and argon and heated to 1,000 degrees to create cylindrical molecules, with diameters of one to two nanometers.

Next, a student-led discussion focuses on *I'm Working on That: A Trek from Science Fiction to Science Fact* by William Shatner and Chip Walter, and covers topics ranging from wearable computers and biowarfare to cryogenics and virtual reality. Tanenbaum asks the students to consider whether scientific developments have an effect on science fiction or whether the stories we read lead to innovative ideas for new technology, and the abridged and edited discussion follows:

Tanenbaum: There are a lot of virtual 3D video games where you wear glasses and play them, and you feel pretty much that you're inside the virtual reality space. ... Virtual reality is used in rides where people are in a room that is shaken or accelerated or pushed or pulled, so they think the shaking could be associated with a rocket blasting off or an earthquake. We've also read about the idea of live feedback in clothing. If you can put on the right gloves and shirts, those things can give you physical tactile responses. It can feel like someone put his hand on your shoulder, even if it's just your shirt getting tighter.

Connor: Shatner also has a chapter about wearable computers, and I realized that Apple has done a lot of that by combining the iPhone and an mp3 player and PDA (personal digital assistant).



The Professor: David Tanenbaum

On Pomona's faculty since 1997, David Tanenbaum is a professor of physics. He received a B.A. from Harvey Mudd College and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder. His research interests include experimental condensed matter physics, materials science and nanotechnology, which have applications related to solar cells, microscopy and methods for fabricating computer chips. He spent the 2010-2011 academic year on sabbatical working on plastic solar cells in Denmark.

The Class: Nanotechnology in Science and Fiction

The field of nanotechnology—which combines physics, chemistry, biology and engineering—is currently one of the most heavily funded and fastest growing areas of science. Depending upon what you read, nanotechnology may consume our world or enable unlimited new materials, destroy life as we know it or enable immortality, lead us to squalor or utopia, or simply make better electronic gadgets. We will examine how the existing media and literature influence and define both the science and popular culture of nanotechnology.

Tanenbaum: How many people do you see wearing their earpieces 24 hours a day, seven days a week? I think we're already there. I want to ask a question that gets at both virtual reality and the wearable computers. Can we say anything about the interplay between fiction and reality? Is there a connection between what we see in the science fiction we read and futuristic technologies? For example, the cell phone we have today is modeled—no doubt—on the flip communicator in the 1960's *Star Trek* series. Science looked at that and marketing looked at it and said it would be cool to have a communicator. Before the new iPhones and flat tablets, all the sexy phones were flip phones. Do you think the science fiction is inspiring companies to develop the products, or is it the other way around?

Mathieu: It makes a lot of sense that when scientists are growing up they would be influenced by science fiction that they read, and it would definitely have an impact on them.

Mauricio: I think it's more a mix. I feel that a lot of science fiction writers look at what's being developed and then come up with applications, which in turn are taken by the science community. A science fiction

Selections from the Reading List:

"Autofac" from *Selected Stories of Philip K. Dick* by Philip K. Dick

Engines of Creation: The Coming Era of Nanotechnology by K. Eric Drexler

"Microcosmic God" from *The Complete Stories of Theodore Sturgeon* by Theodore Sturgeon

Nanovision: Engineering the Future by Colin Milburn

Queen City Jazz by Kathleen Ann Goonan
Spiral by Paul McEuen

The Diamond Age: Or, a Young Lady's Illustrated Primer by Neal Stephenson

writer might see a regular telephone and think it would be cool to take that everywhere and build on each other.

Andy: I know a lot of scientific pursuits are not just "Can we make a hologram?" but "Can we make the hologram from *Star Wars*?" It's to set a goal for what you want to design.

Hanna: In the article they talk about the back pack, which takes GPS to the next level. It not only knows where you are but nudges you in the right direction, which is one step from the technology we already have.

Tanenbaum: How many have read the preface to *The Diamond Age* or the book we're going to read, Katherine Goonan's

Queen City Jazz? In the prefaces and author's comments, both writers include Eric Drexler [sometimes called the godfather of nanotechnology] in their lists of what inspired them to write their books. We've talked a lot about science fiction leading science, and people who say it's a two-way thing with science sometimes leading science fiction. If you look at Arthur C. Clarke's novels, the fact that we had a space program and were putting up satellites and people in orbit had a great influence on his being able to write *2001: A Space Odyssey* because it was an extension of existing science. That science helped inspire the trajectory for the story. The influences work in both directions.

—Mary Marvin

BRYAN COREAS '11

"FROM THOSE TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVEN..."

Bryan Coreas '11 has been involved with the Pomona College Academy for Youth Success (PAYS) since he was admitted to the summer program as a high school student in 2004. He worked as a student coordinator while he was attending Pomona, and this year was hired as the post-baccalaureate fellow in charge of educational outreach. When his 16-month appointment ends, he plans to attend graduate school and become a math teacher.

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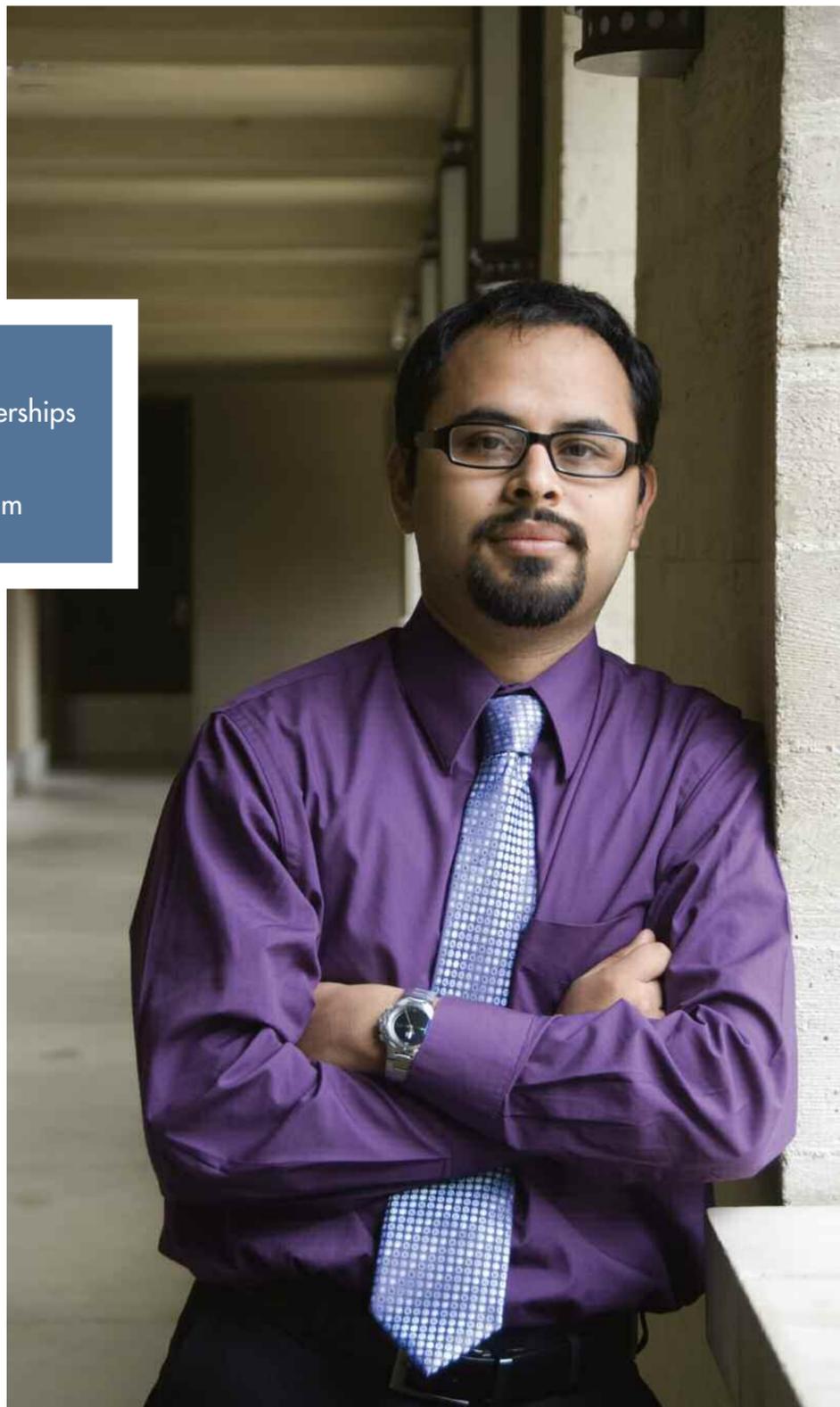
- ▶ The Draper Center for Community Partnerships
- ▶ The Draper Family Scholarship Fund
- ▶ Student Undergraduate Research Program

An Introduction

"I started PAYS when it was still called the Summer Scholars Enrichment Program. Back then, there wasn't an option to live on campus during your first summer, so I commuted from La Puente. It was amazing being at Pomona and getting to meet people from other schools, learning about other students' experiences. I knew then I had to go to college. That's where the program had the biggest impact for me."

Getting In

"During the school year, I would meet regularly with Laura Enriquez '08. She was the only college advisor back then, and I remember her driving to all our houses, reminding us to keep our grades up and take our SATs. Laura, along with Wendy Chu, guided me in applying to a few colleges, including Pomona. When the acceptance letter finally came, I was at a conference for student government, so my mom called me to let me know. She was emotional about it. I was very calm: 'All right, I got in.' After I hung up, it sunk in, and a feeling of relief and joy set in."



Full Circle

"I did research with Professor Roberto Garza-López and took a class from Professor Gilda Ochoa during the summer program, and both of them continued to have a big impact on me when I came to Pomona as a college student. They helped me feel I was part of a supportive community and made me think about what kind of impact I wanted to have as a teacher. One of the things I know I want to do is recreate what happened for me here—professors listening, inviting you out to grab a bite, really creating a bond with the students."

Becoming a Teacher

"I got involved with the Draper Center during my first year. They needed Latino males to be role models for Pomona Partners' weekly mentoring program at Fremont Academy and asked if I would help out. It was fun, and very different from what I'd been doing as a college student. It was also the first time I had hands-on experience in the classroom and it made me excited about the possibility of becoming a teacher. The next fall I started doing college advising with PAYS students and helped guide three high school students through the applications process."

Shaping the Clay

"It's been great to be back at the Draper Center and with PAYS. There have been so many changes in the program since I first came here, with the addition of more college advisors and community meetings in the residence halls that help students from all three classes get to know one another. As the post-bac fellow, I'm getting the chance to really dive in, to help shape the clay. After the summer, one of my projects will be working on developing a new Draper Center program for sixth- to 12th-grade students."

"...Much is Expected"

"Pomona is a special place. It has given me a lot. Maria Tucker [director of the center] likes to say, 'From those to whom much is given, much is expected.' I believe in that ideology. I was given this opportunity and want to use it to the best of my ability."

PHOTO BY JOHN LUCAS

First Decade PAYS Off

When 30 high school students cross the stage in Big Bridges in July, the ceremony will not only recognize their success in completing the Pomona College Academy for Youth Success (PAYS). The event also will cap the first decade of the popular program geared toward promising teens who come from low-income families and are often the first in their families to attend college.

Founded in 2003, the college access program has made it possible for participants from local high schools to attend some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the country, including Harvard, Yale, Stanford and each of the five undergraduate Claremont Colleges. And it's free. The high school students get room, board and classes at no charge.

Each summer, Pomona College welcomes 90 high school students to campus for the four-week academic program. The students—rising 10th-, 11th- and 12th-graders—live in one of the residence halls and attend writing seminars and math classes taught by Pomona professors. In the third year, PAYS students conduct research with professors on topics ranging from Shakespeare to robots. College students, most of them from Pomona, work as teaching and resident assistants and writing and math tutors. Each T.A. also designs and teaches an elective.

"The hallmark of our program is that students start as 9th-graders and spend three consecutive summers with us," says Maria Tucker, director of the Draper Center for Community Partnerships, which oversees PAYS. "Not many college access programs do that."

Workshops about leadership and college admissions are offered to all students, while students about to enter their senior year meet one-on-one with members of the Pomona admissions staff to work on essays and hone their interview skills. Meals in the dining

hall, pick-up Frisbee games, field trips and opportunities to participate in theatre and other extracurricular activities round out the introduction to college life.

"We try to mirror the campus environment, where there are tugs on your time and you have to learn to say 'no' if you have work to do," says Tucker. "We get feedback from parents, who tell us that the person they dropped off at the beginning of the summer is different from the person they picked up. They see an increased level of independence."

The PAYS program doesn't end after four weeks. The staff offers year-long college advising, an SAT prep program and bilingual financial aid workshops, and works with local schools to identify qualified students for the summer session.

They also meet with the families of current PAYS students to talk about the steps needed to apply to college. As a result of these efforts, 100 percent of the students who graduate from PAYS go on to college, according to Tucker.

In the past seven years, 24 PAYS graduates have enrolled at Pomona, the highest number of any college or university. Six of those students, who will be part of the class of '16, will return to campus this summer for the PAYS graduation. At the end of the ceremony, they will hear their names and college destinations announced, along with those of their fellow alums. It's an emotional moment for the students and their families, almost as much as it is for Tucker and her staff.

"You put your energy and love into it, and these kids are going to amazing colleges that many of them and their families never thought could be possible," says Tucker. "People's lives are forever changed."

—Mary Marvin



Draper Center for Community Partnerships
Campaign Goal: \$10,000,000
Progress: \$5,722,577

www.pomona.edu/daring-minds

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ECOLOGIST JESSICA BLICKLEY '02 SHATTERS THE MYTHS ABOUT OUR ECCENTRIC MASCOT...

THE BIRD IS THE WORD



Wearing her "Shake Your Tailfeathers" t-shirt, Jessica Blickley '02 is ready to face the flock:

"I'm excited to see so many Sagehens in the room!" This time, Jessica is referring to the audience eagerly awaiting her Alumni Weekend lecture on the College's quirky mascot. More often, however, when Jessica expresses excitement over a group of sagehens—known to ornithologists as sage grouse—she is on the plains of western Wyoming, conducting research on the bizarre and beautiful birds.

A Ph.D. candidate in ecology at UC Davis, Blickley recalls hearing colorful stories about the College's beloved bird while a Pomona student, and being unclear at the time which were true. But now she is ready to debunk a number of myths about the fascinating fowl.

Among the falsities she exposes is the notion that sage grouse don't fly. Yes, they do, up to 50 m.p.h. And thank goodness, lest the Pomona fight song lyrics require amending: "Our foes are filled with dread/Whenever Cecil Sagehen flies overhead!"

But a misnomer still exists in the song's title, "When Cecil Sagehen Chirps." He doesn't. The bird's unique vocalization is more of a "coo-coo-pop-whistle-pop," explains Blickley, who majored in biology at Pomona.

Here, Blickley addresses both the science and the sublime of the sage grouse, which ranges across much of the Western U.S., but also faces a variety of environmental threats.

How did you get interested in the sage grouse?

I always heard stories and rumors about the sagehen while I was a [Pomona] student, but I didn't start off wanting to study them, probably because I didn't know how cool they were. Then, at UC Davis, my advisor, Gail Patricelli, was studying them and I became intrigued—it was sort of a fortuitous accident. I had originally been interested in noise issues as related to birds and, with all of the noise pollution problems that sage grouse are facing, it worked out well to apply this interest to this species. It started to become clear to me that there's a real need for work and research related to the sage grouse, and it's really great to have an influence on what happens with conservation.

There's talk of placing the sage grouse on the endangered species list. Is the bird in trouble?

Currently, it's a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined they warrant official protection. But the species isn't in immediate danger of going extinct—there are still as many as 200,000 birds, which sounds like a lot until you consider that there used to be as many as 16 million. There are many things causing populations to decline, including wildfires, invasive [plant] species, livestock grazing and, probably most importantly, habitat loss due to human development. I wouldn't be surprised if they are listed in the near future, but right now, there are still enough sage grouse that other species closer to extinction take priority. But even so, there's a lot of work already being done to help protect them.

What's it like to hold one?

Well, they are very large birds, and they have very strong, powerful wings. The good news is that if you hold them properly, they don't struggle. But if a wing gets away and hits you, it's a little startling. Generally, they're pretty docile.

Is it hard not to laugh at their elaborate mating display, or is it all about serious science?

We definitely have to laugh. Part of it is that they take it so seriously—[the males] strut around, they fight, they do their displays to impress the females, but from our perspective, they look pretty silly. And while it's hard for us to tell the males apart based on their display, the females are very picky. There may be as many as 200 males, but most of them will never see any action in their lives. One of the things that my lab at UC Davis is trying to figure out is what makes some males' displays so much sexier than the rest.

For research purposes, how do you tell them apart from each other?

When we're able to capture them, we put colored bands on their legs, and then it's really easy. But there are so many and they're hard to catch. So, for unbanded males, we rely on their distinctive pattern of white dots on their tail plumage.

I understand there's a layman's term for this?

Yes, we call that the "butt print."

I've read that the sage grouse is known for its loyalty to a certain area. In what way does this make it a fitting mascot for Pomona?

It's true, male sage grouse are very loyal to their home lek [a.k.a. "strutting grounds"]. Both males and females tend to return to the same one every year. In the same way, I think a lot of Pomona alumni have loyalty to the school and are excited to come back. I certainly feel that way. Also, the sagehen is a pretty quirky bird, and I'd say the average student at Pomona is pretty quirky as well.

—Brenda Bolinger

Renery to Buenos Aires: “Women Can Play”

“**Fanaticism**” is the word that Anna Renery '06 uses to describe Buenos Aires' relationship with soccer. Just one example: In the capital of Argentina, all taxi horns sound at the same time whenever a star scores a goal. So when Anna—who played on the women's varsity soccer team at Pomona—moved there for a job about three years ago, a couple of things took her by surprise.

First, she saw no organized events like the ones she had grown up playing in. Second, opportunities for girls to play soccer were few and far between, largely due to the *machismo* toward sports found in many South American countries. Anna recalls that she had a hard time finding other girls to play pick-up games with.

For Renery, this was a call to action. Eager to share her love for soccer, she and two partners set out to create the first and only international amateur soccer tournament in Argentina—the Buenos Aires International Soccer Tournament, or BA Cup for short. Renery notes it is the only such tournament in which girls can participate.

The inaugural BA Cup, held in summer 2011, drew more



Anna Renery '06

than 2,000 girls, boys and adults representing more than 10 different countries to Buenos Aires to compete and participate in seminars and clinics. The second cup will be held in July 2012.

The BA Cup is designed to help participants develop values such as teamwork and commitment and learn how to lead a healthy lifestyle. Anna says, “I think that being an athlete ... teaches life lessons that are valuable in any kid's life.” She also hopes that the cup helps “people see that women *can* play, *should* play.”

Down the road, Renery hopes to further expand the BA Cup as she envisions the tournament growing to become one of the largest in the world, with around 50,000 participants.

Renery credits her Sagehen education for her innovative choice of post-undergraduate plans. “Pomona instills a little bit of an entrepreneurial spirit in its students in that you're really encouraged to do what you want to do and to try new things,” says Renery, who was named most valuable athlete during her senior year at Pomona. “It was always OK to do something less traditional.” More information: www.ba-cup.com.

—Marisa Cherry '15

bulletin·board

Events:

Come Celebrate Pomona's 125th



Pomona College's 125th anniversary will be celebrated in 2012-13. The main event, scheduled for Founders Day, Sunday, Oct. 14, will be a grand, campus-wide, open house centered on Marston Quadrangle.

In keeping with the anniversary's theme of community, we are reaching out not only to the immediate Pomona family—faculty, staff, trustees, students, alumni, parents—but beyond, to The Claremont Colleges, the cities of Pomona and Claremont, and particularly to school children and their families, many of whom are

working with Pomona students through the Draper Center for Community Partnerships and its outreach programs.

Founders Day will offer a festive mix of events, including music and dance performances, special exhibitions, a behind-the-scenes campus tour and activities for children. We'll also have refreshments and birthday cake for all our guests.

Anniversary observances will extend throughout the year with special events and programs now in the planning stages. The virtual center of this effort will launch in the fall on the College's web, including an innovative timeline that will both update our history and invite ongoing participation from all members of the community, thus creating a vibrant record of life at Pomona in our 125th year.

Please save **Oct. 14** on your calendars now, and look for more information in coming months at www.pomona.edu/125.

Travel Study:

Sicily: Heart of the Mediterranean

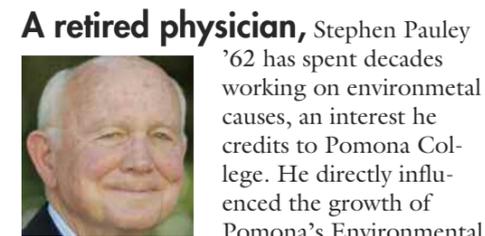
With History Professor Ken Wolf
May 14–26, 2013

Sicily's position at the very heart of the Mediterranean has ensured that it would always serve as one of the world's greatest crossroads. For centuries the island has been subject to a succession of foreign powers: Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Goths, Tunisians, Byzantines, Normans, Aragonese and British. Join Professor Wolf and Peter Watson for this walking tour through history. Price not set at press time.

alumni·awards

TRUSTEE MEDAL OF MERIT

Stephen Pauley '62



A retired physician, Stephen Pauley '62 has spent decades working on environmental causes, an interest he credits to Pomona College. He directly influenced the growth of Pomona's Environmental Analysis (E.A.) Program, and has supported a number of initiatives at the College through his family foundation, the Edwin W. Pauley Foundation, including the Pauley Tennis Complex, the Sontag Greek Theatre, the Sontag Faculty Research Fund and the Pauley Summer Program. In his home state of Idaho, he has tackled light pollution and the diminishing salmon population of the Snake River. Four towns in his area have passed dark-sky ordinances thanks to the efforts of Pauley, who is known locally as “Dr. Dark.”

Before the Stephen M. Pauley '62 Professorship in Environmental Studies was estab-

lished in 2000, Pomona's E.A. program was nascent and Pauley and his wife Marylyn '64, a trustee since 1983, had to help educate the board about the discipline. The major is now one of Pomona's most popular. “Without Steve's support the Environmental Analysis Program would never have taken flight,” says Richard Hazlett, who holds Pauley's name-sake professorship.

For many years, Stephen and Marylyn also participated in Operación Esperanza, a non-profit medical organization in Ecuador. With Marylyn serving as translator, Stephen performed reconstructive cleft lip and palate surgeries. He also has ties with the University of Hawai'i, where he is an adjunct professor. Stephen and Marylyn have two sons, Scott '87 and Clarke, and four granddaughters.

BLAISDELL DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Richard Frank '46

An economics major, Richard N.



Frank '46 was president of the Associated Men Students, a photographer for the *Metate* and served on the College's social and traditions committees.

Frank's involvement with Pomona continued long after graduation as a trustee and trustee emeritus; as a member of the advisory council and as past president of Torchbearers. Due to his gift, Frank Dining Hall—fittingly—bears his name. As a restaurateur and businessman, Frank continued in the family tradition.

His father, Lawrence Frank, and uncle, Walter Van de Kamp, established the Tam O'Shanter restaurant in Los Angeles and the original Lawry's The Prime Rib Restaurant in Beverly Hills. For many years, Frank also served as president and chief executive officer of Lawry's Foods Inc., which produces Lawry's Seasoned Salt. Frank remained in the service of Lawry's Foods

until his retirement in 1988. His son Richard R. Frank '78 is now president and CEO of Lawry's Restaurants.

Attending Pomona is another family tradition that includes his wife Mary Alice '47; his daughter Laurie E. Wilson '72; his son Richard R. Frank '78; his grandchildren Sarah B. Wilson '99 and Ryan Wilson '03; and his late sister Lorraine Frank Petitfils '46. He also has a daughter, Susan D'Angelo.

Frank was on the board of trustees for Pasadena's Westridge School, the Crippled Children's Society and Art Center College of Design. He has also been active with the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association.

BLAISDELL DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Tom Redburn '72

Long-time journalist Tom Redburn



'72 is the former managing editor of the *International Herald Tribune* and currently the international economics editor at *The New York Times*.

Prior to his four years in Paris at the *International Herald Tribune*, Redburn had various reporting and editing jobs at *The New York Times*, including deputy business editor. He was a reporter for the *Los Angeles Times* for 14 years, both in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. He recently returned to *The New York Times* to spearhead coverage of economics for the foreign desk. Redburn has reported on a variety of economics and business issues, and, as an editor, shepherded stories about financial upheavals from Enron to Greece.

A sociology major at Pomona, Redburn was a member of the student committee for social change and a student-faculty committee on curriculum reform. He was named most valuable player in track and field, setting or tying school records in the 100-yard dash, the 220-yard run and as a member of a sprint relay team. He was honored with the Blair Nixon Memorial Award, given each year to a senior student who exemplifies the high ideals of the College in scholarship, sportsmanship and organized athletics, and was later inducted into the College's Sports Hall of Fame. Not surprisingly given his career choice, he was the opinion editor for *The Student Life* and editor of the literary magazine *Spectator*. ▶

Galapagos Island Cruise

With Professor of Biology and Associate Dean Jonathan Wright
August 3–12, 2013

Join Jonathan Wright on his third trip to the Galapagos Islands aboard the 48-passenger Lindblad Expeditions *Islander*. The animals here have no fear of humans, so you can get close to the birds, sea lions and iguanas—as well as snorkel with penguins and sea turtles. Prices start at \$6,260, not including airfare. Email alumni@pomona.edu or call 909-621-8110 to request a brochure.



FACULTY ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

Jonathan Wright



Associate Dean and Professor of Biology Jonathan Wright led his first alumni travel/study program to Alaska in 2000. The trip was so well reviewed, he has since led four more alumni trips: one to the Sea of Cortez/Gulf of California, two to the Galapagos Islands and one down the Amazon River. He also leads Pomona's yearly alumni whale watching day trips off the California coast.

"It is always a uniquely rewarding experience to lead alumni trips and share interesting company while exploring some of the world's most magnificent and unspoiled ecological sanctuaries," says Wright. "Some of my most rewarding experiences have come from sharing observations and insights with guests, young or old, and visualizing their excitement, whether it be the feeding behavior of humpback whales, spawning crabs in the Sea of Cortez or the bubble raft of a pelagic sea snail."

Wright joined the Pomona faculty in 1998 and has taught Animal Physiology, Invertebrate Biology and Introduction to Ecological and Evolutionary Biology. His research focuses on arthropod physiology and how selection has shaped different physiological systems in the evolutionary transition from marine to terrestrial life. He has twice received the Wig Distinguished Professor Award for Excellence in Teaching.

INSPIRATIONAL YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD



Elena Shih '04

While on campus, Elena Shih '04 found the quest for social justice ingrained in the Pomona experience: "Looking back, my involvement in different pursuits for social justice during my four years at Pomona never had to be classified as a distinct form of activism; social justice was a way of life."

For Shih, her social justice calling led her to an academic and nonprofit career focused on helping trafficked people, analyzing current anti-trafficking programs and policies with a critical eye, and balancing that perspective with practical solutions. She earned her M.A. in sociology from UCLA in 2009, studying faith-based approaches to anti-trafficking work, and is currently working on her Ph.D., conducting research on trafficking victim reintegration programs in China.

Shih discovered her interest in anti-trafficking during an internship at L.A.'s Asian Pacific American Legal Center during her junior year. She did a Fulbright after graduation, conducting research at the Beijing University Center for Women's Legal Aid and working as an intake counselor. Later, she co-created a community arts program in China, Border Statements Collective, which uses contemporary and traditional arts practices to empower youth in a particularly troubled area. When she is in Los Angeles, she works with the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, wherein local artists lead workshops on everything from photography to film to collage for trafficked individuals.

PUZZLE SOLUTION (PAGE 55)

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Hidden word: CLAREMONT [deletion of first letters and anagram of "moral" and "cent"]

Cryptic Wordoku

"THEY ONLY ARE LOYAL TO THIS COLLEGE WHO, DEPARTING, BEAR THEIR ADDED RICHES IN TRUST FOR MANKIND."
—JAMES BLAISDELL

/ in memoriam /

Gary E. Troyer

1940–2011

Gary E. Troyer, emeritus professor of physical education, died Dec. 10, 2011, following a heart attack he suffered while volunteering for the community during a violent windstorm that swept Southern California in early December. He was 71.



"Coach Troyer was a giver," says Athletic Director Charles Katsiaficas. "He loved Pomona College, and he loved teaching and coaching here, which was evident in the way he so generously served the students. We will all remember Gary for his loyalty, warmth and willingness to give of himself."

Born in Oakland, Calif., in

1940, Troyer dove into athletics at an early age, as Coach Kirk Reynolds puts it. Captain of his high school football and swim teams, he went to the University of Redlands, where he was a three-year starter on the varsity football team—including a stint as frosh football captain—and a member of the swim team. After earning his bachelors and masters degrees at Redlands, he taught history at San Bernardino High School while also coaching football and swimming teams there. Then he coached at his *alma mater*.

He came to Pomona College as the water polo and swimming coach in 1970. Here he took the women's swimming team to two SCIAC titles (1977, 1978) and the men's water polo team to one (1981). He mentored numerous all-conference athletes, toured with SCIAC water polo players in the People's Republic of China and taught courses in scuba diving, sailing and windsurfing, as well as various Red Cross classes.

A noted chef, Troyer often treated his teams and fellow department members to smoked salmon or *carne asada* on the deck of Haldeman Pool and to lobster cookouts, surfing and off-coast diving at his beachside cabin near Ensenada.

Married to Linda, Coach Troyer retired from coaching water polo in 2001 but coached swimming and diving for three more years. He was inducted into the Pomona-Pitzer Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005 for distinguished service and, in 2007, received the SCIAC Distinguished Service Award.

In retirement, Troyer was a volunteer scuba diver for the Coast Keepers of Orange County, and he made trips to Borneo, Micronesia, Belize and Cozumel, Mexico. Part of Claremont's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), he also served as a member of the board of directors and volunteered for the Claremont Chapter of the Red Cross, which made him Volunteer of the Year in 2011.

/ in memoriam /

John A. Payton '73

1946–2012

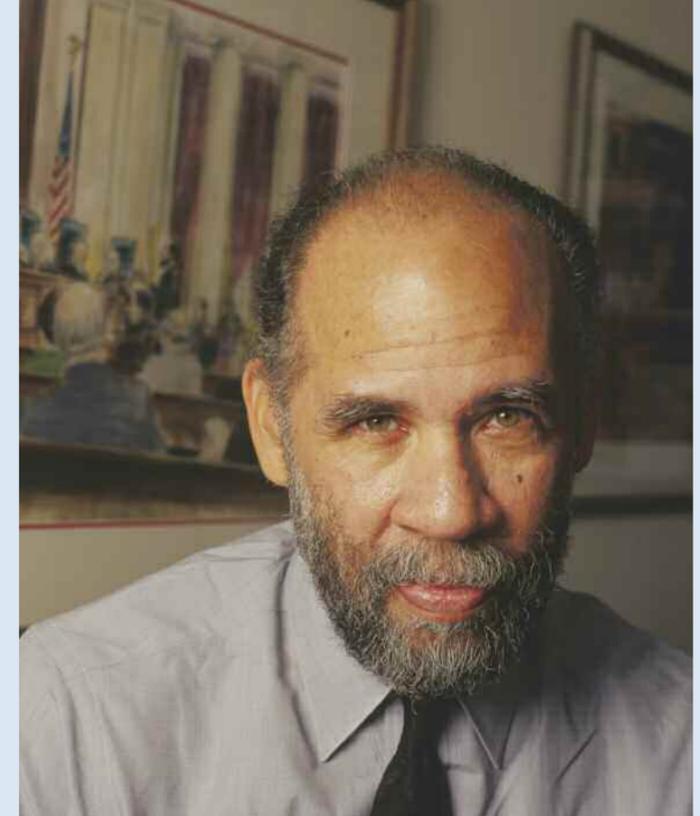
John Payton '73, renowned civil rights attorney, president and director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and member of the Pomona College Board of Trustees since 2005, died on March 22, 2012. He was 65. The evening of Payton's death, President Barack Obama issued a statement calling him a "true champion of equality, who will be remembered for his courage and fierce opposition to discrimination in all its forms." Pomona President David Oxtoby noted, "This is a tremendous loss for all who knew him, as well as for Pomona College and for the country. He was a tireless advocate for justice, equality, and opportunity."

As Stanley Crouch, columnist and former instructor at Pitzer College, wrote recently in the *New York Daily News*, Payton is widely recognized as one of the most important lawyers ever to fight for civil rights cases. The most recent of these was in 2003 "when he triumphed before the Supreme Court on the matter of affirmative action in higher education. He is said to have brought an argument of such eloquence and brilliance that Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas became mute with bitter reverence."

A native of Los Angeles, John was born in 1946 and graduated from Pomona with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics. A Pomona College Scholar, he also received the prestigious Watson Fellowship and traveled and studied in West Africa.

John and I met during my first year at Pomona. He kept to himself in those days, and this was not at all surprising. In 1966, among the 1,200-plus students at Pomona College, only five were African-American. It was easy to be lonely ... it was not easy to connect with one another. In 1966, before we became conscious, we may have actually *feared* connecting with one another.

For over 40 years, we forged a friendship built on mutual respect and support, and I was privileged to watch John develop from a 1960s revolutionary outsider to a person who would challenge and effectively change the system from the inside. Payton was part of the triumvirate that led the movement that resulted in the creation of the Intercollegiate Department of Black Studies and the Intercollegiate Office of Black Admissions, which he then directed for three years. As that movement progressed, John's keen intellect, his sense of strategy and his ability to stay focused on the goal became distinctly evident. And although John, like the rest of us, knew fear, he acted from a place of courage—with a hope in the capacity for institutions to right themselves.



After Pomona, Payton earned his law degree, cum laude, from Harvard Law School; clerked for U.S. District Judge Cecil F. Poole, Northern District of California; then joined the firm that became Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering, rising to partner. From 1991 to 1994, he was Corporation Counsel for the District of Columbia; and, in 1994, he and his wife, Gay McDougall, served as election monitors for the first democratic elections in South Africa.

Payton was a past president of the District of Columbia Bar Association and served in leadership roles with a number of civil and human rights organizations including the National Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights under Law and the Free South Africa movement. He was a member of the American Law Institute, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a master in the Edward Coke Appellate Inn of Court.

For Pomona College, Payton was an enduring friend, always eager to follow the progress of students, whether his peers or those he had encouraged to study here. At the memorial service held at The Claremont Colleges in April, the program noted that John Payton was gentle, with a playful sense of humor; and that he had an irrepressible enthusiasm for books and for anything electronic, including the latest gadgets. He was also a jazz enthusiast who loved John Coltrane, David Murray, Ray Drummond and Stevie Wonder.

At the time of his death, Payton was vice chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees and co-chair of *Campaign Pomona: Daring Minds*. Pomona presented him with an honorary LL.D. (Doctor of Laws) degree in 2005.

—Eileen Wilson-Oyelaran '69,
Pomona College Trustee and
President of Kalamazoo College

Lee T. Harlan '55

1934-2012

Lee Harlan '55, emeritus director of alumni relations, died April 1, 2012 at his home in Mount San Antonio Gardens in Claremont. He was 78.

Lee's mother, aunt and cousin attended Pomona College, so he was destined to become a Sagehen. After graduating, with a major in economics, he served as a postal clerk in the U.S. Army, and then worked for the state of California from 1957 to 1969 on such projects as the California Aqueduct and freeways throughout Southern California.

In 1969, Lee moved to Claremont with his wife Joan to direct the alumni relations program at Pomona. During his 29-year tenure, the alumni population grew from 11,000 to 18,000. He developed a regional chapter program that included 19 different volunteer groups stretching from New York to Hawaii. The initial class reunion giving program, guided by Lee and some alumni volunteers, provided important financial support to the College through the Alumni Fund. In 1976 he began an alumni travel/study program that was one of the first of its kind for a liberal arts college. Lee expanded and enhanced Alumni Weekend from a one-day program into the four-day extravaganza that it is today.

Lee hired me at Pomona College in 1989 and served as a role model for me and scores of other advancement professionals. He valued and respected people. He knew everyone's name, and he was quick to offer men a warm handshake or women a kiss on the cheek. He was the consummate ambassador for the College.

In this age of electronic communications that can circle the globe in an instant, Lee wrote hundreds of handwritten thank you notes each year. He also sent more than 800 letters after one alumni directory survey, replying to every person who made a comment on that survey.

One Pomona graduate contacted Lee, concerned about the encroachment of athletic facilities into Blanchard Park—otherwise known as The Wash. Rather than penning a generic response, Lee walked the campus for the better part of a week, counting trees (which numbered into the thousands). He then sent this alumna a reassuring letter.

Lee was presented with the Tribute Award from the Far West District of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, in recognition of his exemplary professionalism and for mentoring countless colleagues in the field. For decades, he spoke at professional meetings and conferences. As Kit Dreyfuss '55 put it: "His confidence in articulating Pomona values and his



sense of humor were huge assets. Lee was that rarity, a 'certified adult.'"

Verne Naito '77, a former president of the Alumni Association, spoke for many when he said, "I was fortunate to have been an Alumni Association volunteer during Lee's tenure. I say fortunate because I learned a lot from him, I enjoyed myself while working with him and I basked in his enthusiasm for our alma mater. I have yet to encounter anyone who could rival his skill and patience while working with volunteers or his zeal for Pomona."

In addition to his alumni duties, Lee also managed the college mail room for six years, served as director of corporate relations for two years, was instrumental in establishing the Torchbearers program, and he designed literature, handled donor recognition, helped in major gift solicitation and planned special events in conjunction with a six month, \$1 million campaign to restore Bridges Hall of Music.

Lee retired as alumni director in 1997, and went on to serve as district governor for Rotary, as a deacon and an elder at the Claremont Presbyterian Church, and vice president of the Gardens Club and a director of Mount San Antonio Gardens. His love of travel took him to all 50 states and 47 (!) countries.

Alumni Weekend 2012 was dedicated to Lee's memory. It was the first Alumni Weekend Lee had missed since he began working at the College in 1969. In the biography he wrote for his 50th reunion Lookbook in 2005, Lee finished his entry with the words, "How blest I've been." Lee, it is we who have been blessed by you.

—Nancy Treser-Osgood '80

Memorial contributions to the Lee and Joan Harlan Seaver House Fund may be sent to Don Pattison, Donor Relations, 550 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711

Cryptic Duo

Answers on Page 52
By Lynne Willems Zold '67 and Angela Zold

1. Cryptic Wordoku

DIRECTIONS: This puzzle is a type of Sudoku in which letters replace the numbers 1 through 9. The letters to be entered in the grid are written in a scrambled order below the puzzle. When you solve the puzzle in the usual way, a word will be formed in the shaded boxes of the grid reading left to right in the columns. There's also a cryptic which, when solved, will also give you the answer to the scrambled word.

		A	N	R		L	T	
	O				M		R	
	C	N	L					M
	E	C			R		L	
			C			O	N	
N		O	M		T		A	
C		R	T				M	L
		E				T	O	
O				M	L			

T O N A L M E R C

Cryptic clue: Amoral scent is headed off, transforming a pleasant town.

2. Cryptogram

"GSVB LMOB ZIV OLBZO GL GSRH XLOOVTV DSL VVKZIGRMT, YVZI GSVRI ZWWWVW IRXSVH RM GIFHG ULI NZMPRMW."

—QZNVH YOZRHWWOO

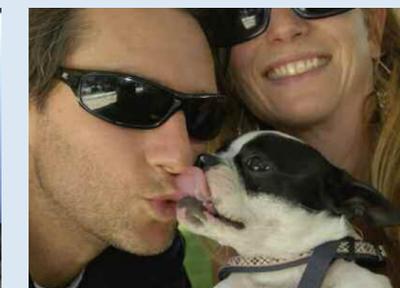
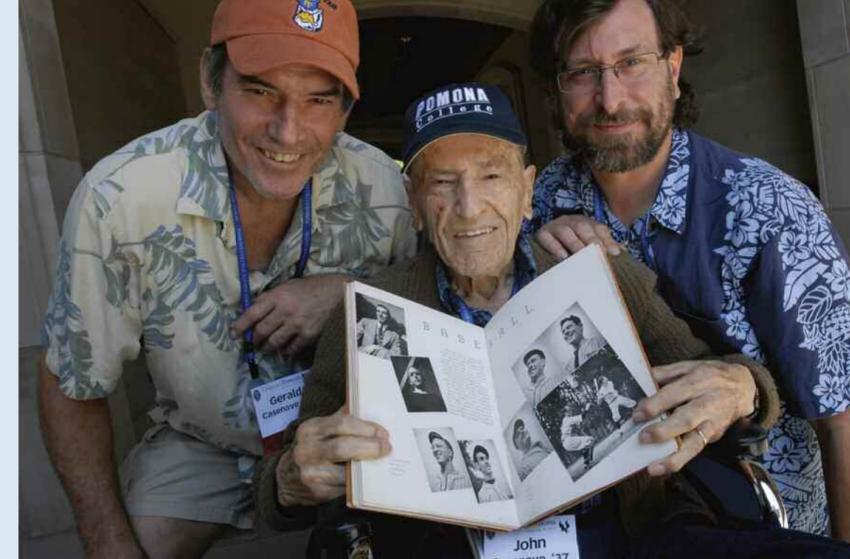
" _____

_____ "

Alumni Weekend 2012

Pomona College welcomed

more than 1,500 alumni and friends for our annual Alumni Weekend in April. Alumni from class years ending in two and seven visited the campus—including the class of 1947 and two members of the class of 1937—and took part in more than 170 events, including the Alumni Vintner Wine Tasting, the Parade of Classes, the All-Class Dinner, and the *Daring Minds* lecture series. The annual "Through the Gates" program celebrated our 2012 alumni award winners (see page 51). A new offering this year, memory sharing with Pomona, brought 48 alumni and friends in front of a video camera to share their favorite memories of Pomona.



Opposite page: Alumni tour the new Pomona Hall. This page, clockwise from top left: John Casenava '37 with Gerald Casenava '72 and Michael Kimbell-Auth '87; the other representative of the Class of '37, Ruth Westcott Kennan, with Cecil; two alums with their best friend; Keith Garcia '97 giving his son Deshawn a lift; Wendy Chu '07 checks out Pomona's new residence halls; Mike Linsenber, Ed Cerny and their families lead the Class of 1992 in the Parade of Classes; Trustee Medal of Merit winner Steve Pauley '62 chats with a friend during the Parade of Classes; alumni gather Saturday evening at the Sontag Greek Theatre for beer and talk; alumni from the Class of 2002 compare memories over a scrapbook. Back cover: Paul Roach '07, director of the Claremont Colleges Ballroom Dance Company, gives dance lessons on Marston Quad. PHOTOS BY CARRIE ROSEMA





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Alumni Weekend 2012

More photos inside