

# Pomona

COLLEGE  
MAGAZINE  
FALL 2014

## CODE BLUE

OR HOW  
**MIKEY DICKERSON '01**  
HELPED RESUSCITATE  
THE PRESIDENT'S FLAT-LINING  
HEALTH CARE WEB

/ALSO/

### THE ASH HEAP OF SUCCESS

*The trials and tribulations  
of an expert witness [p. 24]*

### THE MESSAGE IN THE SONG

*Bats sing and prairie dogs bark,  
but what are they saying? [p. 29]*

### HACKERS

*A long day's night at the  
Spring 2014 Hackathon [p. 34]*

# Pomona

/CODE/

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### THE ASH HEAP OF SUCCESS

As an expert witness in an international biotech lawsuit, Professor Lenny Seligman expected to be challenged, but he didn't expect to find his own DNA research on trial.

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### THE MESSAGE IN THE SONG

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By VIRGINIA MORELL '71

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### HACKERS

Hackathon: an overnight rush to create something that might become a start-up, but is more likely to be recalled as one of those crazily fun things people do in college.

By ROBYN NORWOOD

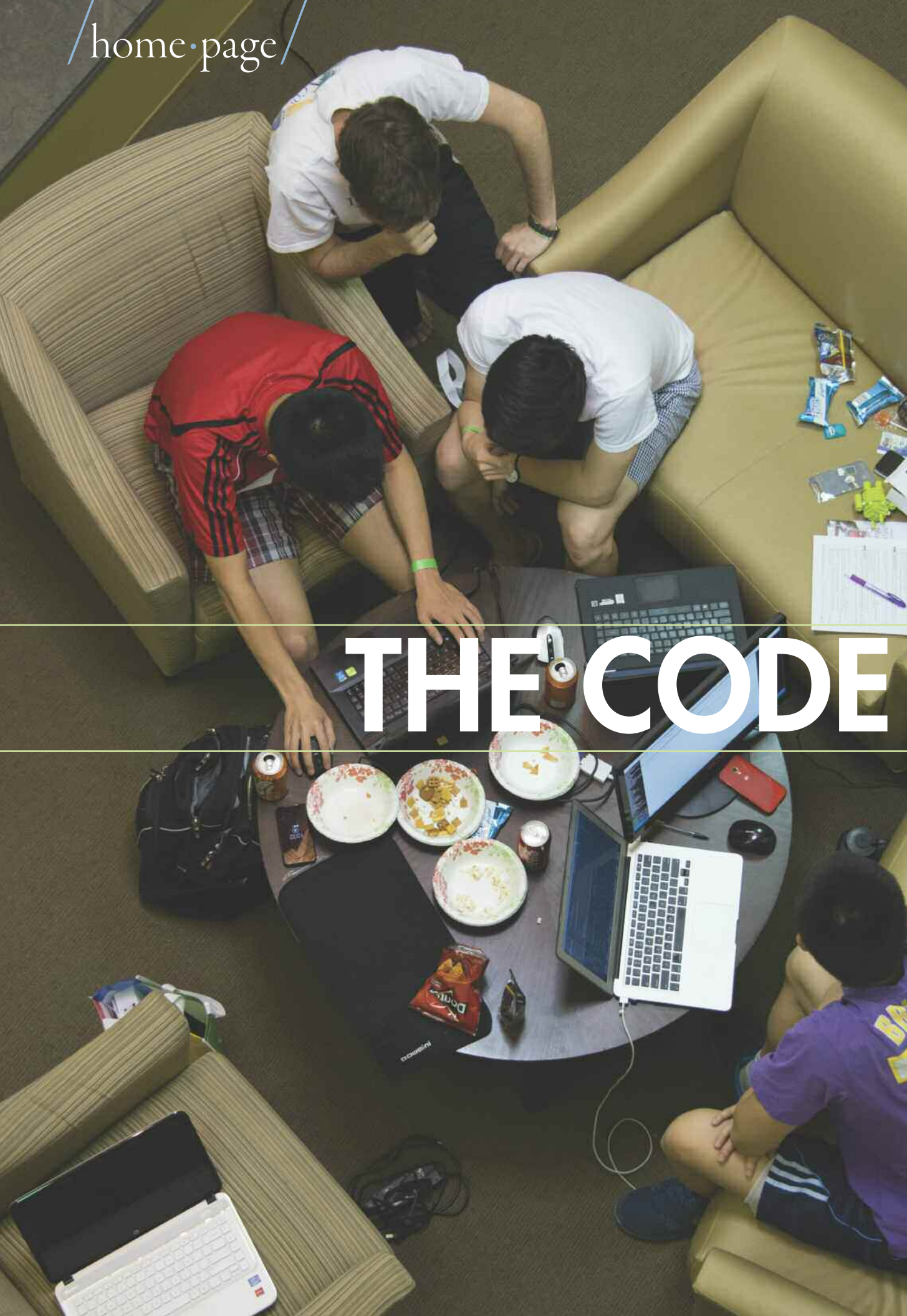
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## On the Cover

Photo of Mikey Dickerson '01  
by Robert Durell.



# THE CODE OF BEAUTY, THE BEAUTY OF CODE

BY VIKRAM CHANDRA '84

A geek hunched over a laptop tapping frantically at the keyboard, neon-bright lines of green code sliding up the screen—the programmer at work is now a familiar staple of popular entertainment. The clipped shorthand and digits of programming languages are familiar even to civilians, if only as runic incantations charged with world-changing power. Computing has transformed all our lives, but the processes and cultures that produce software remain largely opaque, alien, unknown. This is certainly true within my own professional community of fiction writers—whenever I tell one of my fellow authors that I supported myself through the writing of my first novel by working as a programmer and a computer consultant, I evoke a response that mixes bemusement, bafflement and a touch of awe, as if I'd just said that I could levitate. Most of the artists I know—painters, film-makers, actors, poets—seem to regard programming as an esoteric scientific discipline; they are keenly aware of its cultural mystique, envious of its potential profitability, ►

and eager to extract metaphors, imagery and dramatic possibility from its history, but coding may as well be nuclear physics as far as relevance to their own daily practice is concerned.

Many programmers, on the other hand, regard themselves as artists. Since programmers create complex objects and care not just about function but also about beauty, they are just like painters and sculptors. The best-known assertion of this notion is the essay ‘Hackers and Painters’ by programmer and venture capitalist Paul Graham. ‘What hackers and painters have in common is that they’re both makers. Along with composers, architects and writers, what hackers and painters are trying to do is make good things.’

According to Graham, the iterative processes of programming—write, debug (discover and remove bugs, which are coding errors, mistakes), rewrite, experiment, debug, rewrite—exactly duplicate the methods of artists: ‘The way to create something beautiful is often to make subtle tweaks to something that already exists, or to combine existing ideas in a slightly new way ... You should figure out programs as you’re writing them, just as writers and painters and architects do.’ Attention to detail further marks good hackers with artist-like passion:

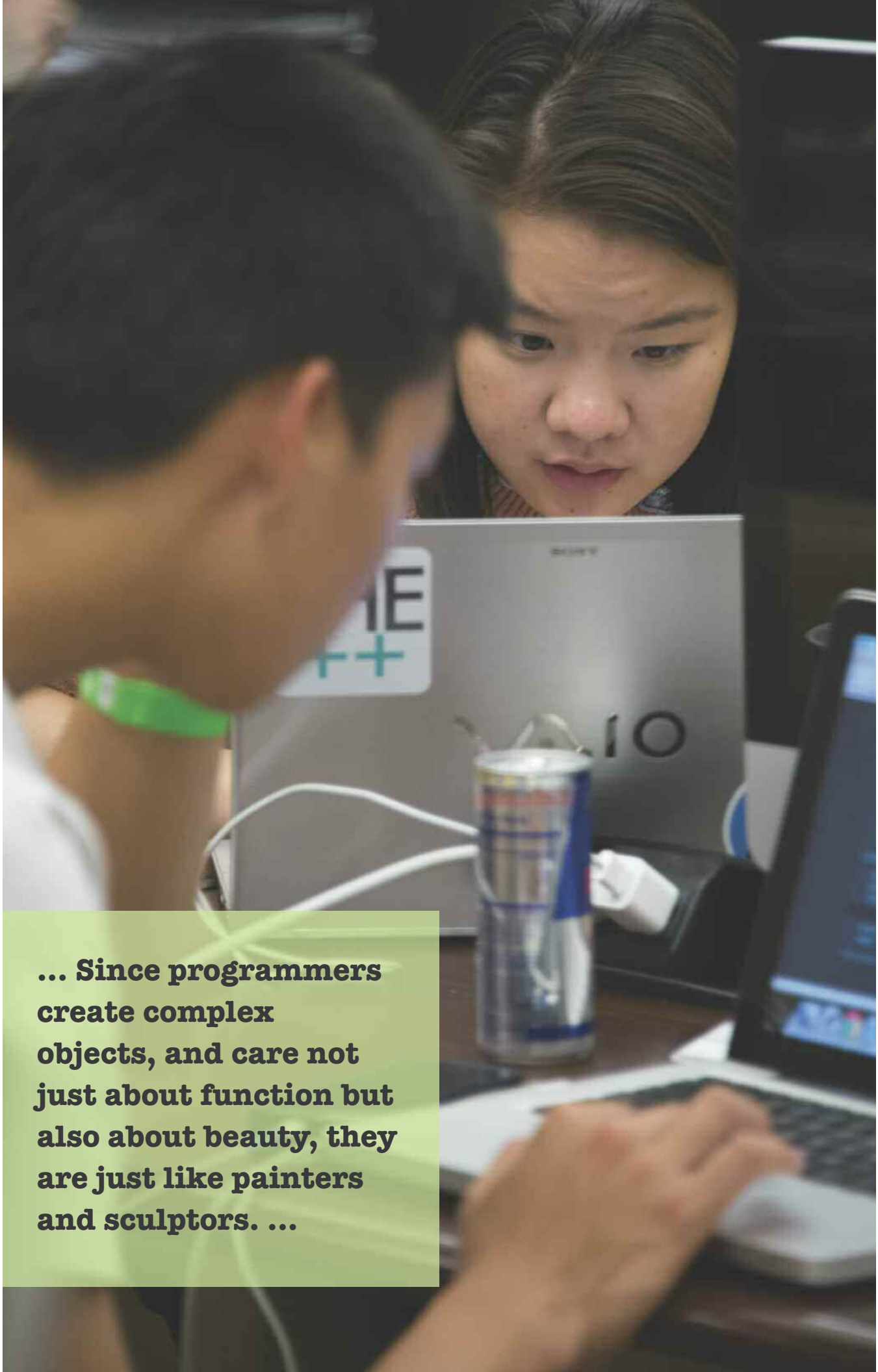
All those unseen details [in a Leonardo da Vinci painting] combine to produce something that’s just stunning, like a thousand barely audible voices all singing in tune. Great software, likewise, requires a fanatical devotion to beauty. If you look inside good software, you find that parts no one is ever supposed to see are beautiful too.

This desire to equate art and programming has a lengthy pedigree. In 1972, the famed computer scientist Butler Lampson published an editorial titled ‘Programmers as Authors’ which began:

Creative endeavor varies greatly in the amount of overhead (i.e. money, manpower and organization) associated with a project which calls for a given amount of creative work. At one extreme is the activity of an aircraft designer, at the other that of a poet. The art of programming currently falls much closer to the former than the latter. I believe, however, that this situation is likely to change considerably in the next decade.

Lampson’s argument was that hardware would become so cheap that ‘almost everyone who uses a pencil will use a computer,’ and that these users would be able to use ‘reliable software components’ to put together complex programs. ‘As a result, millions of people will write non-trivial programs, and hundreds of thousands will try to sell them.’

A poet, however, might wonder why Lampson would place poetry making on the same spectrum of complexity as aircraft design, how the two disciplines—besides being ‘creative’—are in any way similar.



**... Since programmers create complex objects, and care not just about function but also about beauty, they are just like painters and sculptors. ...**

After all, if Lampson’s intent is to point towards the future reduction of technological overhead and the democratization of programming, there are plenty of other technical and scientific fields in which the employment of pencil and paper by individuals might produce substantial results. Architecture, perhaps, or carpentry, or mathematics. One thinks of Einstein in the patent office at Bern. But even the title of Lampson’s essay hints at a desire for kinship with writers, an identification that aligns what programmers and authors do and makes them—somehow, eventually—the same.

**B**oth writers and programmers struggle with language. The code at the beginning of this chapter is in Microsoft’s C#, one of thousands of high-level programming languages invented over the last century. Each of these is a ‘formal language,’ a language ‘with explicit and precise rules for its syntax and semantics,’ as the Oxford *Dictionary of Computing* puts it. Formal languages ‘contrast with natural languages such as English whose rules, evolving as they do with use, fall short of being either a complete or a precise definition of the syntax, much less the semantics, of the language.’ So these formal dialects may be less flexible and less forgiving of ambiguity than natural languages, but coders—like poets—manipulate linguistic structures and tropes, search for expressivity and clarity. While a piece of code may pass instructions to a computer, its real audience, its readers, are the programmers who will add features and remove bugs in the days and years after the code is first created. Donald Knuth is the author of the revered magnum opus on computer algorithms and data structure, *The Art of Computer Programming*. Volume 3 of the *Art* was published in 1973; the first part of Volume 4 appeared in 2011; the next part is ‘under preparation.’ If ever there was a person who fluently spoke the native idiom of machines, it is Knuth, computing’s greatest living sage. More than anyone else, he understands the paradox that programmers write code for other humans, not for machines: ‘Let us change our traditional attitude to the construction of programs: Instead of imagining that our main task is to instruct a computer what to do, let us concentrate rather on explaining to human beings what we want a computer to do.’ In 1984, therefore, he famously formalized the notion of ‘literate programming’:

The practitioner of literate programming can be regarded as an essayist, whose main concern is with exposition and excellence of style. Such an author, with thesaurus in hand, chooses the names of variables carefully and explains what each variable means. He or she strives for a program that is comprehensible because its concepts have been introduced in an order that is best for human understanding, using a mixture of formal and informal methods that reinforce each other. ▶

Good code, then, is marked by qualities that go beyond the purely practical; like equations in physics and mathematics, code can aspire to elegance. Knuth remarked about the code of a compiler that it was ‘plodding and excruciating to read, because it just didn’t possess any wit whatsoever. It got the job done, but its use of the computer was very disappointing.’

To get the job done—a novice may imagine that this is what code is supposed to do. Code is, after all, a series of commands issued to a dumb hunk of metal and silicon and plastic animated by electricity. What more could you want it to do, to be? Knuth answers: code must be ‘absolutely beautiful.’ He once said about a program called SOAP (Symbolic Optimal Assembly Program) that ‘reading it was like hearing a symphony, because every instruction was sort of doing two things and everything came together gracefully.’

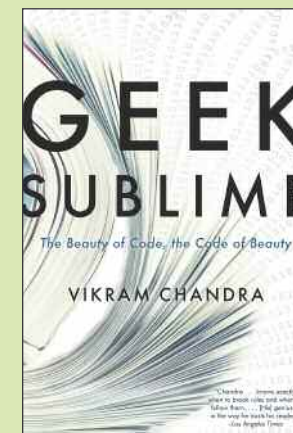
We are now unmistakably in the realm of human perception, taste and pleasure, and therefore of aesthetics. Can code itself—as opposed to the programs that are constructed with code—be beautiful? Programmers certainly think so. Greg Wilson, the editor of *Beautiful Code*, an anthology of essays by programmers about ‘the most beautiful piece of code they knew,’ writes in his forward to that book:

I got my first job as a programmer in the summer of 1982. Two weeks after I started, one of the system administrators loaned me Kernighan and Plauger’s *The Elements of Programming Style ...* and Wirth’s *Algorithms + Data Structures = Programs. ...* [These books] were a revelation—for the first time, I saw that programs could be more than just instructions for computers. They could be as elegant as well-made kitchen cabinets, as graceful as a suspension bridge, or as eloquent as one of George Orwell’s essays.

Knuth himself is careful to limit the scope of his aesthetic claims: ‘I do think issues of style do come through and make certain programs a genuine pleasure to read. Probably not, however, to the extent that they would give me any transcendental emotions.’ But in the many discussions that programmers have about craftsmanship, elegance and beauty, there is an unmistakable tendency to assert—as Wilson does—that code is as ‘eloquent’ as literature. ...

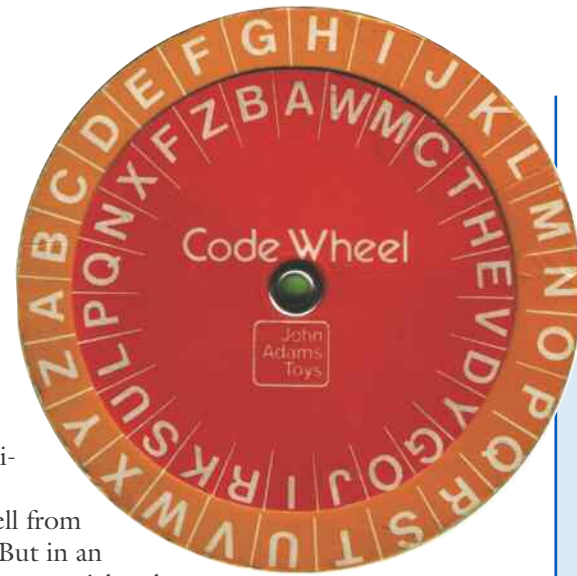
**T**he day that millions will dash off beautiful programs—as easily as with a pencil—still remains distant. The ‘lovely gems and brilliant coups’ of coding remain hidden and largely incomprehensible to outsiders. But the beauty that programmers pursue leads to their own happiness, and—not incidentally—to the robustness of the systems they create, so the aesthetics of code impact your life more than you know.

... Can code itself—  
as opposed to the  
programs that are  
constructed with  
code—be beautiful?  
Programmers  
certainly think so. ...



**T**his excerpt from *Geek Sublime: The Beauty of Code, the Code of Beauty*, by Vikram Chandra '84, scheduled for release in the United States by Graywolf Press on Sept. 2, is published with permission of the author. In his first venture into nonfiction, the noted novelist roams from logic gates to the writings of 11th-century Indian philosopher Abhinavagupta, in search of connections between the worlds of art and technology. Photos accompanying this excerpt are from the Spring 2014 Hackathon held in April on the Pomona campus (story on page 34) and are by John Lucas.

# Code



This is surely a first, so (cue the trumpet fanfare) welcome to the first editor's letter ever written in code.

Not all of it, of course—as you can tell from the simple fact that you're reading this. But in an issue on the theme of "code," in addition to articles about genetic code and computer code and decoding animal calls, there had to be something about the clandestine side of the word. But alas, try as I might, I was unable to unearth a single Pomona source for a story about ciphers. Which shouldn't have surprised me, I suppose, since the world of cryptology is, by its very nature, a secretive one.

So to fill that void, please forgive me for offering this light-hearted tutorial on a subject I've found intriguing ever since my secret decoder ring childhood.

Each paragraph below demonstrates a different cipher, and—don't say I didn't warn you—the codes get progressively harder as they go along. There are instructions in each paragraph to help you translate the next, but if you want to play along, you'll have to work for it.

We'll start with one of the oldest and simplest of codes—the Caesar cipher, named for the great Roman himself, who used it in his letters. In this substitution cipher, each letter is replaced by another a fixed number of letters up or down the alphabet. Once you figure out that number, the rest is easy.

Ecguct ekrgjtu ctg ejknf'u rnca vq fgeqfg, dwv vjga ctg cnuq vjg dcuku qh eqorngz eqfgu nkmq vjg Xkpgigtg ekrgjt, kp yjkej c yqtf rtqxfkgu vjg mga hqt ownvkrng Ecguct ekrgjtu kp c tqvcvki ugswgpeg. Vjg pgzv rctcitrj, hqt gzcornq, wugu "CDE" cu kvu mga. Vjwu, vjg hktuv ngvvtg ku qpg ngvvtg qhh, vjg ugeqpf vyq qhh, vjg vjktf vjtgq qhh, vjgp dcem vq qpg, cpf uq qp.

Sfb Ugddebqz tzq qgmrrfq sm yd skapbzixajb, asq hl zqwmmdqymgw, qgmpd yod dxlmrr jxrr tnparr. Red mkkw qqsix skapbzixajb bgmgco hq qgc "lmc-qhkb oya," vffbf rrcp zl bmrfaq qdvq zq x jcv. Sm adalcc, vns ptzqqyzs red lrlcohxk txksb nd bzae kcqsco hl qgc hdw (X dorzjp ycon; X bpsxkq 25) cqmj sfb dorhtxcks jbsrbq gk sfb lcpnydd. Yac 26 rl zlv mcdzrfuc odqrkr. Fllqz poyzdq xmb mtlzssxsglm, uehae zpb ccidrbc gk qcxk alcca lcpnyddq xmwztw. Qgc hdw edpb hq qgc chpps nxqydqymg mc sffr jbsrbq.

Bm ggc'nw wfqp rhna wsk qcw gyla fx rm ucxknghjd sc ysogg mw b of. Zs hweykewceokaarl.

And with that, welcome to the wonderful world of code.

—MW

[For those who don't have time, interest or patience for deciphering, the plain text of the encoded paragraphs is available on page 8.]

# Pomona

COLLEGE MAGAZINE

FALL 2014 • VOLUME 51, NO. 1

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**Pomona College Magazine** is published three times a year. Copyright 2014 by Pomona College. Send letters and submissions to: Pomona College Magazine, 550 North College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711 or [pcm@pomona.edu](mailto:pcm@pomona.edu). For address changes, class notes, scrapbook photos, or birth or death notices, email: [adv\\_update@pomona.edu](mailto:adv_update@pomona.edu); phone: 909-621-8635; or fax: 909-621-8535. For other editorial matters, phone: 909-607-9660 or email: [pcm@pomona.edu](mailto:pcm@pomona.edu). Magazine policies are available at: [www.pomona.edu/magazine/guidelines](http://www.pomona.edu/magazine/guidelines).

**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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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.

## Old and New

The spring issue was an amazing mix of the old and the new—descriptions of some incredible people keeping the values we cherished in more bygone days when I attended Pomona and later practiced pediatrics in Claremont, and the far-out stereoscopic pictures of beautiful California.

It was uplifting for me to hear of Dr. Juan Guerra's perseverance as he pursued his desire to truly serve his community. I was also pleased to learn that when he was told he wasn't going to make it because of his failure of a biology course, he seemed to realize that the art of medicine was more important than the science. I find that too much emphasis on the science of medicine can lock a physician into a system that won't allow innovation and cuts off knowledge the physician can gain by listening to his/her patients.

Matt O'Connor, the young man of many talents, unabashedly speaks of his part in Christian Athletes, which shows he is aware of where his talents come from.

The addition of the stereoscopic pictures of naturally beautiful California provided some real nostalgia and balanced the "old" with the "new."

Let me know if anyone remembers a kindly pediatrician who practiced in Claremont in the '60s. He has two pediatric books, with an emphasis on nutrition, that can be browsed on Amazon: books, Ralph Campbell.

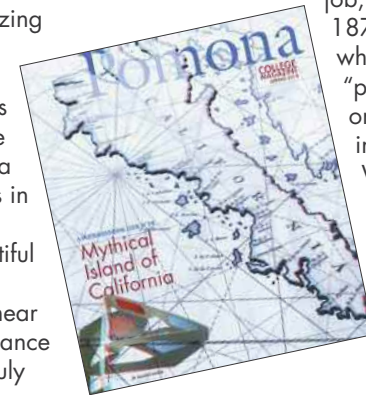
—Ralph K. Campbell, M.D. '50  
Polston, Montana

## 3D Collector's Item

I appreciate the quality of the content and the professional design of the *Pomona College Magazine* compared to similar endeavors from other colleges and universities. Your magazine outshines any others I have seen; and I hate to admit, I have attended classes or completed degrees at Scripps College, University of Colorado, University of South Florida, Western Michigan University, The University of Kansas, and Gonzaga University in addition to Pomona College (class of 1970). I am writing because you really outdid yourselves with the Spring 2014 issue. I absolutely loved the 3D photos and appreciated greatly the way you interweaved them from front cover to content to back cover. I have been in love with 3D since

the early 1950s Viewmasters and 1953 Hollywood 3D films. You did an outstanding job; what a find to have come across 1870s stereo views of California (I am what was known in the past as a "prune picker," an old term for someone who was born, raised and lived in California. My dad, Leland Williams [class of 1929], also had this distinction.)

Thanks so much. I will be adding this very special issue to my extensive collection of 3D photography.  
—Randy Lee Williams '70  
Spokane Valley, Washington



## Environmental Faux Pas

During my son's remarkable time at Pomona, his mother and I have immensely enjoyed the *Pomona College Magazine*. And this compliment comes from a magazine publisher (we own three in the field of recycling).

But the Spring 2014 issue was designed with a serious environmental error. The inclusion of 3D lenses was a major mistake on your part. Only two things can happen with these non-recyclable items. The reader might not put them on, and thus the lenses end up contaminating the paper recycling stream, or they end up in the trash. The other result is the reader uses them, and then throws them away.

So it seems your decision meant you harmed paper recycling or added to the waste stream. I think a so-called technology vendor sold you a bill of anti-environmental goods.

Again, I compliment you on a wonderful product. Your product is remarkably comprehensive and well-written. But in the future, please assess the environmental consequences when you consider any publishing changes (paper, inks, etc.). As one publisher to another, I'd love to provide advice to make sure poor environmental decisions such as this do not occur again.

Go Sagehens!

—Jerry Powell  
Portland, Oregon

## Time for Divestment

The time has come for Pomona College to divest its endowment from the fossil fuel industry and redirect its investments into the energy sources of the future. I don't believe I need to go into detail about why fossil fuels are problematic, as 97% of the world's scientists have long since identified human use of fossil fuels as the primary driver of climate change.

I am certainly not the first to suggest the College make such a move. For 18 months Pomona students have been asking for change, yet last September President Oxtoby and the Board of Trustees rejected divestment, claiming it would cost the school \$485 million in lost earnings and citing the many environmental initiatives occurring on campus.

I am proud of the work Pomona College has done to receive a gold rating from the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS), its LEED-certified green buildings, and its environmental analysis academic program. But that is not enough.

I live in Montana, a place with a lot of beautiful, unspoiled landscapes and rivers. But it also has coal strip mines, and its pristine nature is increasingly under threat from fracking as a means of oil and gas development. In addition to harmful climate-change emissions such as fugitive methane from oil and gas extraction, fossil fuel development has extensive impacts on the land, surface water, groundwater and air sheds. Aquifers are polluted, residents get nosebleeds from the fugitive methane, and spills occur regularly, killing fish and waterfowl.

People protest, and the fossil-fuel industry uses heavy-handed tactics to buy off politicians and silence dissent. This is happening here in my home, Montana.

I do what I can as an architect, homeowner and bicycle commuter to implement a fossil-fuel-free future, but I know that my action alone is not enough. And far too much is at stake. So I work long hours through a local citizens' group to hold industry and governing powers accountable. I would like to have my alma mater, Pomona College, as an ally in this work rather than as an opponent. And I am only asking Pomona to uphold its stated core values, as I have challenged myself to do.

I call upon President Oxtoby and the Board of Trustees to become committed and creative about working toward a divestment solution as though their lives depended on it. In the big picture, my life, my home and everyone's lives do.

—Ed Gulick, '94  
Billings, Montana

## Error Card

According to Wikipedia, an "error card" is "a trading card that shows incorrect information or some other unintended flaw."

Alas, your Summer 2013 issue's "Pomona All-Stars" baseball card of Mike Salk '00, which shows him standing in front of a large banner proclaiming Boston sports radio station WEEI 103.3 FM, has been rendered an "error card" just a half-year after the magazine's publication.

Although it was the perfect job for Salk, a known—and deeply knowledgeable—sports fanatic since his undergraduate days, it was also an impossible situation: ever since the advent of a rival sports radio station, 98.5 The Sports Hub, WEEI has been inexorably bleeding listeners, ratings and advertisers in the metro Boston market.

An upper-management shakeup, new hires (such as Salk) and other innovations have so far proven unable to resurrect WEEI's "brand," as 98.5 is now perceived as the younger, hipper alternative to the "dinosaur" that is WEEI. Not even a cross between the two Howards—Cosell and Stern—could revive WEEI's fortunes.

With his dedication, intelligence, and likeability, it is no surprise that Salk has already landed on his feet with a new announcing job at Seattle's ESPN 710.

Perhaps PCM can quietly airbrush out, Soviet-style, the "WEEI 103.3" from the online version of Salk's "Pomona All-Stars" card, and replace it with "ESPN 710"?

Teasing with affection...

—Doug Meyer '01  
Waltham, Massachusetts

## Drumbeats

**James Schlesinger**, the rare public servant who served in the Cabinet of both Republican and Democrat presidents, died last week. He was Secretary of Defense for Presidents Nixon and Ford, and later Secretary of Energy for President Carter. He also headed the CIA when its credibility was threatened at the height of President Nixon's Watergate scandal. Schlesinger was brilliant and blunt, two qualities that don't always show up together and don't always work well together in Washington. I met Jim in the 1990's when we were seated together at a luncheon. As people do in Washington, we looked for common ground. When I told him I was a graduate of Pomona, he immediately started singing, "Drumbeats, drumbeats, drumbeats rolled over the silence profound, high above Pomona, he ne terra toma." A Harvard man, Jim was in a college singing group when he heard the Pomona men sing "Torchbearers" nearly 50 years earlier. He called it the best college song he had ever heard, bar none. Neither of us knew that "Torchbearers" would become the painful subject of campus debate a few years later. Some were offended by the made-up dialect and the historically inaccurate imagery of Native Americans in the Pomona Valley. Those who loved the song and paid little or no attention to the words thought the

controversy was political correctness gone berserk. After a lengthy study, a special committee recommended (if my memory serves) that in the future the song should only be sung at alumni gatherings and only if the offensive words were changed. Sounds like a Washington, D.C., solution (unless it deals with the Redskins). I wonder what ever became of "Torchbearers." Like Jim Schlesinger, I've never been able to get those wonderful, haunting sounds out of my head. If today's students don't get to hear it, it's a shame.

—Allen Moore '66  
McLean, Virginia

## Saddened

**I was deeply** saddened to learn that my classmate, Emory Zimmermann had passed away. I sang first soprano in the Women's Glee Club, and Emory sang bass in the Mens' Glee Club. I earned Emory's annoyance one year by lining up not one but two speakers for the Annual Glee Club Banquet: my great uncle, Howard Ross ('04), an early member of the Men's Glee Club, and my grandmother, Katharine Bird Twinting ('04) who knew the origins of "Torchbearers." She knew Prof. Brackett and David Barrows who copied the music from the local Indians and turned it into Pomona's "Torchbearers."

"Torchbearers" requires low basses. Fortunately, Emory had a deep bass voice. One could always hear Emory singing the bass part. Though we grieve that his voice is now stilled, in my mind's eye, I can always recall the resounding sound of "Torchbearers" and Emory singing the low bass part.

He will be missed by us all.

I was also saddened to learn that my academic advisor, Edwin A. Phillips, emeritus professor of botany, had passed away. I rarely agreed with him, but I was part of the NSF grant studying hybridization of *Quercus dumosa* x *Quercus douglasii*. I did complete my Ph.D. *magna cum laude* in 1966 at the University of Bern, Switzerland, with a dissertation on photosynthesis.

I left biology for physics in 1970, but the Botany Gang was a unique group.

—Katharine Holtom Jones '61  
Alpine, California

[Alumni and friends are invited to email letters to [pcm@pomona.edu](mailto:pcm@pomona.edu) or "snail-mail" them 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.]

## Stray Thoughts (decoded)

Here is the plain text of the three enciphered paragraphs in the Stray Thoughts column on page 6:

### [Caesar Cipher:]

*Caesar ciphers are child's play to decode, but they are also the basis of complex codes like the Vigenère cipher, in which a word provides the key for multiple Caesar ciphers in a rotating sequence. The next paragraph, for example, uses "ABC" as its key. Thus, the first letter is one letter off, the second two off, the third three off, then back to one, and so on.*

### [Vigenère Cipher:]

*The Vigenère was thought to be unbreakable, but in cryptography, those are famous last words. The only truly unbreakable cipher is the "one-time pad," which uses an entire text as a key. To decode, you subtract the numerical value of each letter in the key (A equals zero; Z equals 25) from the equivalent letter in the message. Add 26 to any negative result. Ignore spaces and punctuation, which are deleted in real coded messages anyway. The key here is the first paragraph of this letter.*

### [One-Time Pad Cipher:]

*If you've come this far, you must be as intrigued by codes as I am. So congratulations.*

## Misidentified Legacy

In the photo of Pomona legacies—children and grandchildren of Pomona alumni—on page 51 of the Spring 2014 issue of PCM, we erroneously identified one of the students pictured as Matt Dahl '17. As Matt's mother patiently informed us, Matt is indeed a legacy, but he wasn't included in the picture. The misidentified student, as it turns out, is another legacy with the same first name, Matt Eva '17. The mistake happened as staff members were checking off students from a list as they arrived for the photo. We apologize to both families for the mistake.

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## SMART GLASS

**Wesley Quevedo '14** models the latest thing in digital wear—Google Glass, the new wearable computer with optical display launched by Google last April. Quevedo, an environmental analysis major, was one of several Pomona students who had the opportunity to try out the high-tech frames on loan from Honnold-Mudd Library, which purchased them before the official product launch as part of the Google Explorers beta-testing program. He found it particularly helpful while reading an article for his Global Environmental Histories class, enabling him to conduct searches on Stalin, the Soviet Union and other important topics on the fly without losing his place.

# Wiki-ed Idea

Enter a term in your search engine of choice and the first hit will probably be a Wikipedia entry. Enter a classroom, and you'll probably hear that "Wikipedia is not a source," says Pomona College Professor of Politics Amanda Hollis-Brusky. But she thinks those assumptions about the Internet encyclopedia need to be challenged.

In Hollis-Brusky's Intro to American Politics course, the students work in groups either to create a new Wikipedia entry or to expand a current "stub" with sources and literature. The goal is to "improve the breadth, scope and quality of Wikipedia content; enhance student information literacy; and increase the number and diversity of contributors to the free-knowledge movement."

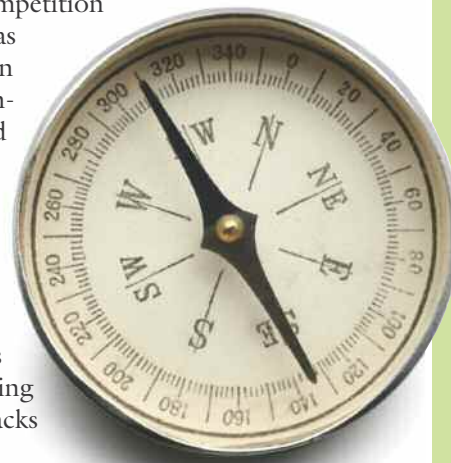
Since this may be the only politics course these students take, Hollis-Brusky says it's crucial to teach them information literacy. "They learn to distinguish a good Wikipedia article from a bad one, and as registered Wikipedia contributors, they have the skill set now to play an active role in improving it."

One entry that students wrote in class—"guest worker program"—has been viewed 40,000 times. "Which is far more than my research gets viewed," says Hollis-Brusky. "It's a public contribution they are making to the broader discourse."



# Campus by Compass

Camping and good-natured competition came together on campus last spring as Pomona College's Outdoor Education Center put on the Amazing Backcountry Race. Teams of students competed to complete more than a dozen "backcountry" tests, from building a fire to using a compass to pitching a tent blindfolded, and much more. "We came up with this idea because we wanted students to learn/practice their outdoor skills in a fun way," says Lisa Hirata, Pitzer College '16. Winning teams took home prizes such as daypacks and water bottles.



# DIY Physics

Tapping into the booming do-it-yourself movement, students in Professor Dwight Whitaker's electronics class expect their final projects to live on long after semester's end. Students posted their work to Instructables, a popular DIY website with step-by-step instructions for thousands of projects, as well as comments, ratings and suggestions from users. This year's projects included a jacket that uses acceleration receptors to produce musical sounds that respond to movement, a self-stabilizing system for cameras and a quadricopter. Last year, students posted 25 lab projects to Instructables, supplying directions for a skateboard speedometer, sleep-cycle alarm clock and other devices. "It's been great for the students to see their projects reach a global audience," says Amanda Ghasaei '11, who joined the Instructables team after graduating from Pomona. "One of the most fun things about publishing open-source projects online is to see what other people do with your code and schematics."

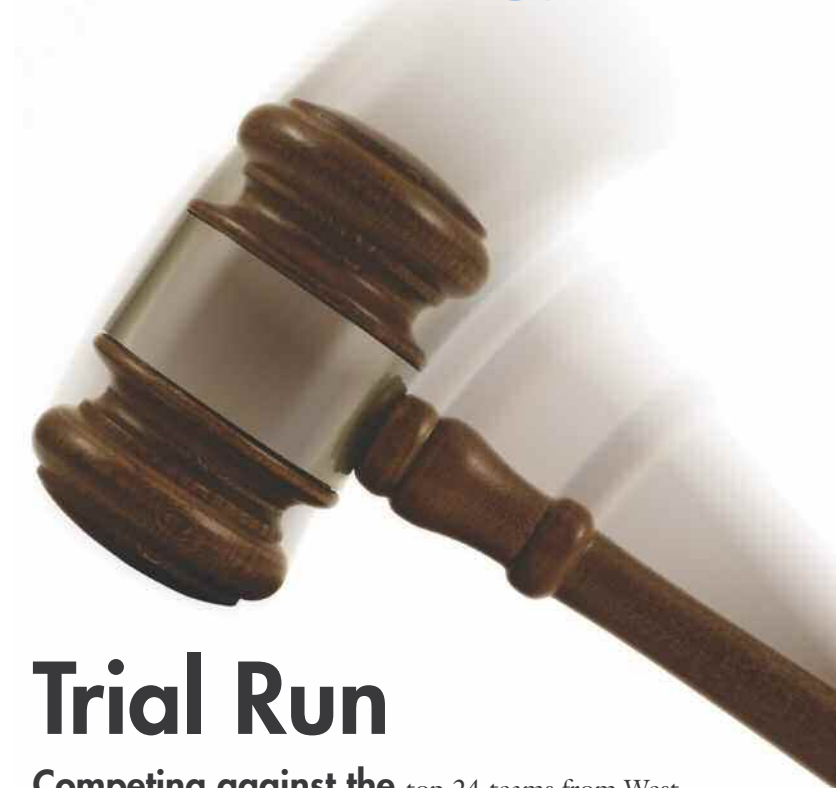


At the southwest corner of the Smith Campus Center, a new bright green fixture stands next to the bike racks. This pole, which enables bikes to be hung at convenient height, is part of Pomona's newly installed do-it-yourself bicycle repair station, which also includes attached tools like a hex-key set, wrenches, tire levers, screwdriver and tire pump. Environmental analysis major Johanna Rayl '16, who came up with the idea, notes that her "decision to take this project on was partly influenced by the fact that I had a flat tire at the moment I heard the idea and was frustrated that I didn't have the resources to fix it myself."

# Water Wisdom

Pomona College finished among the top five in the Campus Conservation Nationals 2014 water conservation competition, with students living in residence halls reducing their water use by 65,904 gallons. Leading the way in reducing water consumption during the Pomona WaterWise competition were:

- 1. Lyon Court **-15.4%**
- 2. Mudd-Blaisdell & Gibson Hall **-15%**
- 3. Norton Hall **-13.7%**



# Trial Run

Competing against the top 24 teams from West Coast regional tournaments, the Pomona College Mock Trial Team took top honors in the Opening Round Championship Series last spring in Newport Beach, Calif., beating out such teams as UCLA, USC and the U.S. Air Force Academy in a case revolving around a robbery and murder at an amusement park. The win earned the Pomona team a trip to the National Mock Trials Championship Tournament in Orlando, Fla., where UCLA topped Princeton in the finals. Earlier in the academic year, the Sagehen team, which only formed seven years ago, placed third at the UCLASSIC invitational at UC Irvine, first at a tournament held at Stanford University and first at the regional competition hosted by Claremont McKenna College.

Author/social entrepreneur Mae Coyiuto '16 understands success, both on and off the court.

# Hitting Winners

**Many collegiate** student-athletes arrive on campus with lofty aspirations. They might hope to represent their country in international competition one day. Maybe they dream of becoming published authors, or coming up with their own ideas for non-profit organizations and building them from scratch.

Mae Coyiuto '16, the top-ranked singles player on Pomona-Pitzer's women's tennis team, had already accomplished all of that before her first day at Pomona.

The inspiration to become a writer caught hold very early in her life.

"When I was about five years old, my mom got this new laptop computer," said Coyiuto. "To me, it looked like the shiniest, best toy ever, but my mom told me I wasn't allowed to play with it. In the morning, though, I would sneak in the living room and play around with the computer. I discovered this magical thing called Microsoft Powerpoint and I wrote my first story on a slideshow presentation. One day my mom caught me on the computer and instead of scolding me for disobeying her, she read my story. From that day on, I never really stopped writing."

By the time she was 10, Coyiuto was a published author, writing three children's books in her native Philippines. As she grew older, she was inspired to write a book of short stories at age 16, titled *Flight to the Stars*.

Even in those early years, Coyiuto knew she had found a life-long passion. Being behind a keyboard allowed her to open up in ways that were perhaps more difficult in real life.

"I've always been a person who never really said much, but writing has always been a venue where I can express myself. I can write the most bizarre things, and some might even call it creativity. One thing I love about writing is that no matter how old you are or where you're

Story and photo  
by Jeremy Kniffin



from, there is someone out there who will pay attention to what you have to say."

Coyiuto wasn't content with merely finding her own inspiration and seeing it through. She wanted others to have the same opportunity, so she started an organization to help build libraries in Habitat for Humanity communities in the Philippines. "The idea of our *"Gintong Isip"* (Golden Minds) library stemmed from both my experiences with writing

and tennis. My biggest role models were some of the kids I met in junior tennis. They all had big dreams of playing for the Davis Cup, ranking internationally or getting college scholarships. I'm very happy to say that some of these kids toured abroad and got full-ride scholarships to the top universities in the Philippines. I think that everyone should be given the chance to dream and strive for something the way these players have.

"I have been terribly blessed to find things that I love so much, and I wanted to help others find their passions, too. I think the best way to do this is through literacy. Exposing people to all kinds of stories can inspire them to dream. My main reason for coming up with the Golden Minds project was to help others (especially children) realize that they have this incredible potential to be whoever they want to be. Through the amazing help of Habitat for Humanity, we were able to put up our first library last summer. During the opening, there were kids there who told me that they wanted to be doctors, lawyers, and one even said she wanted to be the next president. The goal of *Gintong Isip* is to make these dreams a reality."

Coyiuto was also an overachiever on the tennis courts at a young age, winning several junior tournaments and representing the Philippines in the Junior Fed Cup in Malaysia in 2010. She still came to Pomona uncertain of how she would fare at the collegiate tennis level, but her very first tournament during her freshman fall alleviated any fears, as she advanced to the semifinals of the ITA West Regionals before falling to the No. 1 seed (Kristin Lim of CMS).

"That tournament will always be one of my best memories in tennis," she said. "Before coming here, I was really nervous about playing college tennis. But while I was playing in the fall tournament, I knew that I was going to love playing for Pomona-Pitzer. Even though we had been playing for three days and it was over 100 degrees out, every single member of the team was out there cheering for each other. It didn't matter that it was only my first year on the team or if my opponent was one point away from winning, they were all there for me. I've never felt this kind of support until I came here. The support my teammates gave me during that fall tournament helped me start to believe more in myself."

She felt the same support off the court as well, when tragedy struck last fall. She

was thousands of miles away when Typhoon Haiyan (Typhoon Yolanda, as it is known in the Philippines) devastated her home country, and although her family and local community were spared the brunt of the storm, she knew plenty of people directly affected.

"The hardest part about being away during Typhoon Yolanda was hearing about the casualties, seeing the destruction and feeling that I couldn't do anything to help. Thankfully, my amazing AAMP mentor, Kim Africa ['15], planned a fundraising dinner for the victims. This event made me realize how lucky I was to be part of the 5C community and the tennis team. I was so touched when my professors, even from my freshman year, sent me an e-mail checking up on me and asked if there was any way they could help with the fundraiser.

"Even with all their work and other responsibilities, my teammates spent hours helping me make Filipino desserts for the event. I also reached out to the CMS women's tennis team, asking if they could donate a basket for the raffle and they made the most beautiful basket I've ever seen. Seeing all my friends and teammates at the dinner made me realize that I've found my second home in this community."

Coyiuto played most of her freshman season at No. 2 singles, and led the team with a 17-6 record. As a sophomore this spring, she led the team in wins again (17-8) and moved up to the No. 1 position in singles, helping Pomona-Pitzer to a No. 6 national ranking and an appearance at the NCAA Regional finals. But ask her about specific goals she may have over the rest of her tennis career, and she turns attention away from herself after one sentence.

"I hope to grow more as a player and to never stop trying to get better," she said. "More than that, I hope that each member of the team meets her goals and loves the sport more and more during her time in Pomona-Pitzer tennis. I want to help continue the tradition of the PP tennis team as an area of support, love and family for each member."

Providing support and love to the greater community is one area where Coyiuto has always managed to hit a winner.

## Making History

The spring season saw the two newest Pomona-Pitzer sports achieve firsts in the brief histories of their programs. Women's lacrosse, which had its first year of varsity competition in 2008, earned its first-ever NCAA Division III Tournament bid by setting a new school record for wins in a season (16-5) and earning the top seed in the SCIAC Tournament. Women's golf, which had its first varsity season in 2011, had its first individual qualifier to the NCAA Championships, as Jennifer Kim '17 was invited to compete at nationals. Kim finished 22nd overall out of 110 competitors at the four-day tournament in Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida.

## Three-Peat

The women's water polo team won its third consecutive SCIAC title by defeating Claremont-Mudd-Scripps 7-4 in the championship match at Whittier. Sarah Westcott '15, Vicky Gyorffy '15, Mahalia Prater-Fahey '15 and Alyssa Woodward (Pitzer '15) earned All-SCIAC honors from a deep seven-member junior class that will try to cap off their careers next season with four league titles.

## Top Tennis

Both the women's tennis and men's tennis programs achieved top-10 rankings nationally during the spring and advanced to the NCAA Regional finals. Women's tennis, #6 in the nation, featured an All-America doubles team of Samantha Chao '14 and Lea Lynn Yen '16, who reached the semifinals of the NCAA doubles championships. Men's tennis, meanwhile, climbed up to #10 and defeated Texas-Tyler in the NCAA Regional semifinals, while also featuring an All-America doubles team of Chris Wiechert PI '14 and Antony Bello '17.

## Need A Bigger Mantelpiece

Simon Rosenbaum '16 earned a long list of post-season accolades after a remarkable season for the Pomona-Pitzer baseball team. He was named first-team All-America by both the National Association of Baseball Coaches (NABC) and D3baseball.com, earned the SCIAC Player of the Year Award and the D3baseball.com West Region Player of the Year Award and was an Academic All-District selection by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). He ended the year with a fitting stat line for a Pomona student, recording a .474 batting average (second in the nation) with 47 runs batted in.



## Ceremonial Selfie

Graduating senior and neuroscience major Olufela Adeleke Koleoso '14 snaps a light-hearted selfie with President David Oxtoby while receiving his diploma during Commencement 2014.

Photo by Carlos Puma



## On Board: Jack Long

Jack Long, chairman and co-founder of SchoolAdmin, LLC, and father of a Pomona graduate and a current student, has been named to the Pomona College Board of Trustees.

Long's SchoolAdmin produces web-based administrative systems for K-12 independent and charter schools—more than 130 in all. Long is past chairman and co-founder of PeopleAdmin, Inc., and Lone Star Overnight, L.P., both recognized in *Inc.* magazine's *Inc. 500* list of fastest-growing privately-held businesses. In 1994, he was named an

Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernst & Young. In 2003, Long became part of the founding faculty of the Acton School of Business, where he currently teaches. Prior to that, he was an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Austin McCombs School



of Business MBA program.

Long serves on the board of directors of Blue Avocado Company and Greenling, Inc. His nonprofit work includes serving on the boards of the Texas chapter of The Nature Conservancy, the Pilatus Owners and Pilots Association and the Board of Visitors of Vanderbilt University's Owen School of Business. He is a past trustee and finance chair of St. Stephen's Episcopal School. Long and his wife, Carolyn, have chaired the Pomona College Parent's Council for the last three years.

Currently pursuing a bachelor of science in astronomy at the University of Texas at Austin, Long earned his undergraduate degree in business administration from the University of Richmond and an MBA from Vanderbilt University.

Long and his wife make their home in Austin, Texas. He is the father of Adam Jackson Long '13 and Carlen Elizabeth Long '15.

AS ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR AND REGISTRAR OF THE POMONA COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART, STEVE COMBA WORKS TO CONSERVE ARTWORKS WHILE PROMOTING HANDS-ON OUTREACH.

# Art in his DNA

By Feather Rose Flores '17

Before he was cataloguing the nearly 10,000 pieces in the Pomona College Museum of Art (PCMA) collection, museum Associate Director and Registrar Steve Comba was earning a reputation among his fifth-grade classmates for copying Peanuts cartoons and drawing “Wanted” posters of his least favorite teachers—a feat which often got him into trouble. Comba still has a sharp, sly sense of humor, but when it comes to managing the College’s art collection, he’s all business.

Comba never set out to work for a museum. As an undergraduate, he attended the UC Santa Barbara College of Creative Studies, later relocating to Claremont, where he received his MFA in

Studio Art from the Claremont Graduate University in 1986. All he wanted was a teaching job that would enable him to pay the rent for his own studio. Until he could find a position, he took a part-time job photographing, mapping and framing prints at the Galleries of The Claremont Colleges, the former museum jointly run by Pomona and Scripps colleges. When two positions at the gallery opened up, Comba inquired about being gallery manager. “I thought it would be more appropriate for a studio artist to be the person who hangs the work, but the curator of collections thought I should look at the position of registrar instead,” he recalls. “My response was, ‘Okay... what is that?’”

As it turns out, it’s a lot. Comba’s official job description is to track everything about every object in the museum, whether it belongs to the PCMA collection or is on loan from another institution. If someone needs to know where an object is and how it’s doing, Comba is the person to call. He also oversees conservation efforts of pieces that have seen better days. “I get a lot of personal gratification when I’ve done something for an object that I know will further its preservation,” he says.

But for Comba, being the museum’s registrar is more than just cataloguing. When his daughter was a student at Sycamore Elementary, he enjoyed being able to supplement her class’s lessons

**“It’s a place. The place either enhances or detracts from the experience of the visitor. What’s exciting about the future is that our desire to expand is not just about making the museum bigger. It’s about having that relationship be fundamentally better.”**

about native peoples by bringing in real Cherokee sandals. Now he is one of the main coordinators of the museum’s two-year-old outreach program to local third grade classes. In the College-sponsored program, students take a field trip to the museum to see in person the artifacts they studied in the classroom. Comba advocates a hands-on approach, sometimes even letting students wear gloves and pass around a 130-year-old Cherokee lacrosse ball. He works hard to structure his lessons so that students have an opportunity to see the continuity of culture.

Comba is also an active figure in the museum’s internship program. He has been in the museum business so long—July marked his 28th year with PCMA—

that several influential figures behind the doors of larger institutions, such as the registrar of Pasadena’s Norton Simon Museum, were his students. However, the most rewarding part of the job for Comba is still his intimate connection to the art. “At a certain point, you can say it’s no longer a choice,” he explains. “The need becomes ingrained in the DNA. Whenever we travel on vacation and we’re anywhere within reasonable distance of a museum, my family knows that I’m going to start to sweat if I don’t get to go in there and see it. I was asked how I get ideas for my paintings and it’s the same thing. I no longer have to look for them, because every time I look out I see the world through a painting.”

As for the future of PCMA, Comba says that talk of a new, larger museum is in the works. With a collection that grows by 100 to 170 objects a year, adding more space only makes sense. “A museum isn’t just about the contents,” he explains. “It’s a place. The place either enhances or detracts from the experience of the visitor. What’s exciting about the future is that our desire to expand is not just about making the museum bigger. It’s about having that relationship be fundamentally better. It’s an exciting thing to be a part of.”

And yet, playing such a vital role in running a college museum was never what Comba initially imagined he would end up doing. “I lucked into it. It wasn’t a plan, but this gig with the museum is working out,” he says, laughing. “If you asked, I’d say I still don’t know what I want to be when I grow up.”

## Fall Highlights

### A sampling of coming events

Here are a few selected highlights from the list of events scheduled for this fall at Pomona:



#### EVENT:

##### Opening of Pomona’s New Art Hall

1:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 11

Opening festivities will begin at 1:30 p.m. and continue through the evening with tours, performances, installations and refreshments. Visitors will hear from wHY architect Kulapat Yantrasast, baste in a mirrored Steam Egg, dance to the experimental sounds of Daedelus and eat from a secret food elevator.

#### MUSIC:

##### Global Guitars: the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet

8 p.m., Friday, Sept. 19, Bridges Hall of Music

“The world’s hottest classical ensemble or its tightest pop band?” asks the *Los Angeles Times*. “However it helps you to think about the LAGQ, keep the emphasis on superlatives for its unrivaled joy, technical elan and questing spirits.” Music by Basie, Coltrane, Copland, Krouse, Sousa, York and others. (Contact: 909-607-2671; [concerts@pomona.edu](mailto:concerts@pomona.edu); [www.music.pomona.edu](http://www.music.pomona.edu).)

#### THEATRE:

##### “Spring Awakening”

8 p.m., Nov. 20–23; 2 p.m. Nov. 22, Seaver Theatre

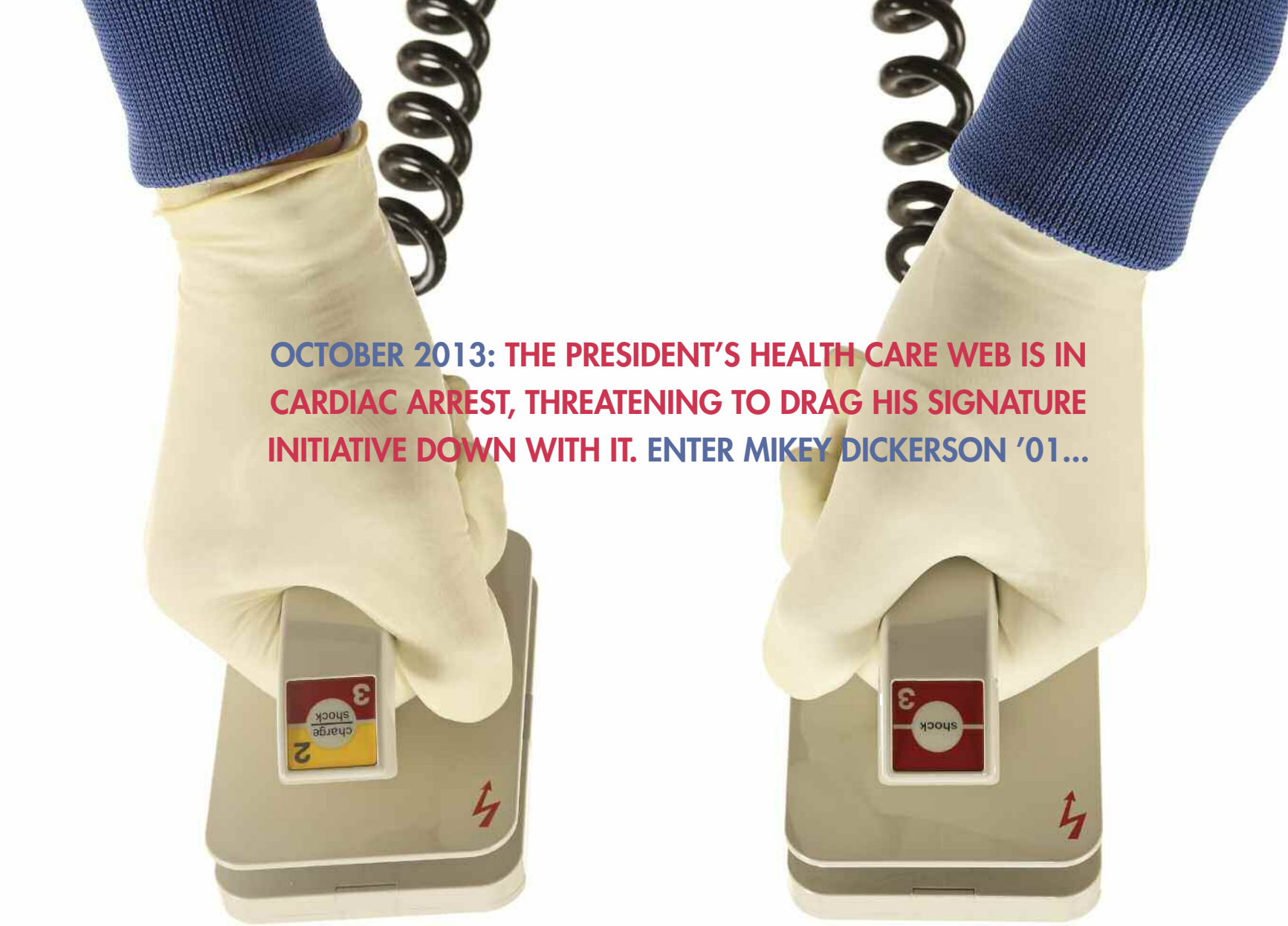
The musical, *Spring Awakening*, was inspired by one of drama’s most controversial masterpieces, so daring in its depiction of teenage self-discovery that it was banned. Adapted by Steven Sater, with music by Duncan Sheik. General admission: \$10; students, faculty, staff & seniors: \$5. (Contact: 909-607-4375; [www.theatre.pomona.edu/contact/ticket-information](http://www.theatre.pomona.edu/contact/ticket-information).)

#### EXHIBITION:

##### “Petrochemical America”

September 2 - December 19, 2014  
Opening Reception: Saturday, September 6, 5–7 p.m.  
The Pomona College Museum of Art

A collaboration between photographer Richard Misrach and landscape architect Kate Orff focuses on the industrialized landscape of the Mississippi River Corridor. (Contact: 909-607-3558 or [museuminfo@pomona.edu](mailto:museuminfo@pomona.edu); [www.pomona.edu/museum](http://www.pomona.edu/museum).)



OCTOBER 2013: THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE WEB IS IN CARDIAC ARREST, THREATENING TO DRAG HIS SIGNATURE INITIATIVE DOWN WITH IT. ENTER MIKEY DICKERSON '01...

# Code Blue

By Adam Rogers '92

Lunch was supposed to be casual.

Mikey Dickerson '01 was in Chicago catching up with Dan Wagner, a friend who'd been in the trenches with him on Barack Obama's campaign for the presidency in 2012. Wagner had since gone on to found a company, Civis Analytics; Dickerson was a site reliability engineer at Google, one of the people who make sure that the search engine never, ever breaks down. ¶ This was October of 2013, no time for the President's geekiest loyalists to have a little fun. Healthcare.gov, the sign-up website that was the signature element of President Obama's signature initiative, was a technological disaster. People couldn't sign up even if they wanted to—the site would break, or fail. Delays were interminable. Information got lost. Customer service was about as good as you'd expect from a cable TV company. The Department of Health and Human Services, responsible for the new health care system, couldn't seem to get it working.



¶ “So, we got this phone call yesterday,” Wagner told Dickerson. “HHS is looking for help with healthcare.gov. Can I list you as an advisor or consultant?” ¶ “Yeah, sure. If it's any value to you, list me,” Dickerson replied. It seemed innocuous enough. Today, he smiles at his own naïveté. “I had no idea what I was getting into,” ▶



**“We can barely find a case where, when two decisions could be made, they made the right one. But low-hanging fruit isn’t the right metaphor. We’re stepping on the fruit.” —Mikey Dickerson ‘01**



he says. About a week later, Dickerson found himself on a 5 a.m. conference call with a van full of technologists in Washington D.C., headed over to HHS. With him in the White House motorpool car was Todd Park, the U.S. chief technology officer. And Park, whom Dickerson didn’t know, was selling the group as a team of experts who could solve any tech problem. Dickerson realized: They’re saying I can fix healthcare.gov.

Without really meaning to, Dickerson had become an anchor of the Obama administration’s “tech surge,” a Silicon Valley-powered push to fix the bugs in the healthcare.gov system. But the system was more than just software. In D.C., Dickerson and his new team found an organization in bureaucratic and technological meltdown, unable to execute what any e-commerce start-up would consider basic prerequisites for being in business.

The crazy part is, they fixed it.

**To a Connecticut** native like Dickerson, good at math and computers but with no desire to attend a big university, Pomona shows itself off pretty well—especially on a campus visit in May, when Dartmouth might still have slush on the ground. It’s not that he was so avid about computer science—in those days, as a major, CS really ran out of Harvey Mudd anyway—it’s just that Dickerson was an ace. He felt like he was cheating just a little. “It seemed dumb to be spending all that money on something I was already good at,” he says. In fact, Dickerson was already coding for various companies while in school. After graduation, he ended up working in Pomona’s computer lab.

Then the 2000 presidential election came around, with its photo finish in favor of George W. Bush. “It was a trauma for me,” Dickerson says. “That razor’s edge. All that was intensely painful. Almost anything would have moved those last 200 votes.” So in 2004 Dickerson volunteered with a poll-watching group ... and caught the politics bug. Four years later he was working at Google, where CEO Eric Schmidt was (and remains) a multimillion-dollar Obama supporter. During campaign season an email went to a mass-distribution list that Dickerson was on, looking for people who could manage big databases for the Obama campaign.

Hey, Dickerson thought. I manage a group that runs large databases. And that was it. He worked as a volunteer in

Chicago, one of a small group of techies who, during their long nights, idly wondered if maybe they could do something useful for the campaign with better records of people’s voting history. When the 2012 campaign came around, he was still on the campaign organizers’ list. This time, though, he was no newbie—though still technically a volunteer, his experience made him a trusted veteran. Those vague ideas about leveraging voter lists went into practice, and Dickerson’s group became the analytics team, credited by some political analysts as having been the key to Obama’s re-election. Once the campaign was over, Dickerson went back to managing a site reliability engineering team at Google, but he stayed in touch with his friends—which is why Dickerson was at lunch with Wagner on October 11.

**The tech team’s** first stop, in Virginia on October 17, was PowerPoint Hell. Technically, it was a large IT firm working as a government contractor. “They scheduled a three-hour meeting and sent a VP with, I shit you not, a 130-slide PowerPoint presentation,” Dickerson says. Over beers in a bar on San Francisco’s Embarcadero, about a block from Google’s offices, Dickerson wears the uniform of the coder—hoodie, Google ID badge, Google T-shirt, close-cropped hair and unshaven chin. In San Francisco, that’s stealth armor. In Washington’s blue-sports-coated, khaki-pantsed hallways, he was an alien.

The group fought its way out of the meeting and took over the office of someone who was on vacation. Then they went wandering, finding teams huddled in cubicles and asking them what they were working on, which bugs they were trying to fix. But they weren’t—mostly they were waiting for instructions. In their defense, it was hard to figure out what needed fixing. Engineers weren’t really allowed to talk to clients or users, and the people who created the healthcare.gov website hadn’t even built a dashboard, a way to monitor the health and status of their own system. If you wanted to know whether healthcare.gov was functioning, the only way to find out was to try to log on. “We thought this would be a targeted assessment and we’d spend a few days there,” says Paul Smith, another member of the team. “When we realized how bad things were, we just independently decided, we’re not going home. This is what

“I give the worst sales pitch. I tell people,

‘This is what your world is going to be like: It’s a Lovecraft horror. ... But if you succeed you will save the lives of thousands of people.’” —Mikey Dickerson ‘01



we’re doing now, for an indefinite period of time, until it gets better.”

After a couple of days, Park asked them whether it could be fixed. “Todd, they have made all the mistakes that can be made,” Dickerson told him. “We can barely find a case where, when two decisions could be made, they made the right one. But low-hanging fruit isn’t the right metaphor. We’re stepping on the fruit.” The point was, some very simple fixes would yield some very big gains. Any improvement would be a massive improvement. Google site reliability engineers have a saying—they tell each other, if we have an outage that big it’ll be on the front page of *The New York Times*. Is that what you want? “But here’s the thing,” says Dickerson. “Healthcare.gov had been on the front page of *The New York Times* for four weeks. That was the silver lining. How much more could I screw it up?”

The group of coders decided that if no one was telling anyone what to do, they would. That’s when they started getting called “the Ad Hoc Team.” The name stuck. “We had a big stick, because we were the magical guys from the White House,” Dickerson says. “After a couple of days, we instituted a war room.” Every morning at 10 a.m., every team had to send a representative to a big meeting to explain what was going right, or wrong, and why. “It was an incredibly expensive thing to do—60 people in a room while we arbitrate disputes between two of them. But we made so much progress we stopped worrying,” Dickerson says. “Having a giant studio audience is better sometimes. It’s harder to say, ‘I didn’t do that because it wasn’t on my task order.’”

In other words, Dickerson had built into the system something no one had thought of: accountability. “What Mikey really excelled at was, if there’s a priority issue that needs to be addressed, how can people address it? What do they know? What do they need to know? What’s blocking them?” says Smith. “That’s just his demeanor and the way he operates.” The meetings were so productive and making so much of a difference in site performance that the Ad Hoc Team instituted a second one, making them twice a day, seven days a week.

When they weren’t in the war room, they coded. Problems started getting solved. A stupid little flaw that required the same

kind of wait to connect to the database every time went away with the change of a couple of configuration settings, and poof! An eight-second response delay dropped to a two-second delay. “And that’s still terrible,” Dickerson says. The site stopped crashing. People actually started signing up for health care.

**The work took** a toll, though. Except for a quick trip back to California to pick up some clothes—Dickerson had come to the East Coast with a carry-on bag and a Google computer, expecting a short visit—he was in the greater D.C. area from mid-October through Christmas. Dickerson estimated he ran 150 war-room meetings in a row.

After a couple of moves to accommodate bureaucracy, Dickerson ended up working remotely, alone, from an operations center in Columbia, Md.—three hours from D.C. in what locals sometimes call “spook valley” for its preponderance of government contractors. Since healthcare.gov’s original creators hadn’t built a ship-in-a-bottle version of the software to test updates and fixes, everything the Ad Hoc Team fixed had to get changed on the live site, and the primary maintenance window was when traffic was lightest, between 1 and 5 a.m. “It was literally 20-hour days a lot of time,” Dickerson says. “I was hallucinating by the end, hearing things.”

With 12 days left before the deadline, Dickerson was ready to go home. He gave a speech listing the five mission-critical things remaining, and attempted to flee back to California. But the bosses panicked. The Ad Hoc guys can’t go home, they said. They gave him the service-to-your-country pitch. They begged. So Dickerson agreed to stay through to the end—with some conditions. He got to set the specific technical goals for what his team and the rest of the government coders would do. And he got to hire whomever he wanted, without arguing the point. He wanted to be able to trust the new team members, so he chose them himself. Eventually a rotating team of Google site reliability engineers started coming through to keep the project on track.

Dickerson got to dictate those terms because he was getting results. He had become indispensable. “Mikey is an incredible talent who was seemingly built in a lab to help fix healthcare.gov,” Park says. “It’s not just the fact that he’s got a

sky-high tech IQ, honed over years as a star site reliability engineering leader. He’s also got tremendous EQ, enabling him to step into a tough situation, mesh well with others, and help rally them to the job at hand.”

The real bummer, of course, is that healthcare.gov, while an unprecedented attempt to link government services, private insurers and identity verification, shouldn’t have been *that* hard to build. “It’s basically a distributed, transactional, retail-type website, and we’ve been building those for years,” says Smith. “In the private sector, we know how to do that. We’re not forging new computer science ground here, right?”

**By April of 2014**, just a few days after Dickerson and I spoke, the Obama administration announced that over 7 million people had signed up for private health care through federal and state exchanges, and 3 million had signed up for Medicare. The program had made its numbers—barely, to be sure—because people, in the end, could actually use the website.

Dickerson is back at Google, but as he says, “you can never unsee the things you see in the federal government.” He has become an outspoken advocate for reform in the ways government builds technology, concentrating especially on trying to convince young technologists to go work for government. “You’re gonna eat free food and drink free soda in microkitchens and work on another version of what we’ll say, for argument’s sake, lets people share pictures of what they ate for breakfast, and tens of thousands of people will die of leukemia because we couldn’t get a website to work,” Dickerson says. “These are real people’s lives that will end in 2014, and you’re going to sit at your desk working on picture sharing.”

The problem isn’t competence. People who work on websites for the government are every bit as competent as the ones who work at Google or Facebook. “The mechanisms by which you do a contract with the federal government are so complex that it requires expertise in and of itself,” says Jennifer Pahlka, founder and executive director of Code for America, a group that connects software developers with local governments. “Fundamentally the process in government has evolved to meet government needs. A federal project has dozens of stakeholders, none of

whom represent the user.”

That’s why Code for America focuses on local governments, Pahlka says. The feds are too hard to crack, and anyway, most people’s interactions with government are at the state and city level—think DMV, local parks, or trash pick-up. So Dickerson has started stumping for Code for America, giving speeches at their events. And he is lobbying Eric Schmidt and his other bosses at Google to develop programs that would allow—maybe even encourage—software developers there to take time to work on government projects. Consider: The feds paid \$700 million for healthcare.gov, and it didn’t work. Imagine being able to bid for that contract at a tenth the price. “I don’t have to appeal to your altruism or desire to serve your country,” Dickerson says. “I can just say, ‘Do you want to make a ton of money?’”

Pahlka thinks the pitch might actually work—and not just because of capitalism. “The consumer internet has influenced the way a generation feels about doing things together,” she says. “You have a generation of people who value collective intelligence and collective will—not necessarily collective political will, but the ability to actually do things together.” Software designers and engineers are *already* political, Pahlka and Dickerson are saying; it’s just that the web generation is ignoring the greater good. Going to work at Twitter is a political choice just as much as going to work for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“I give the worst sales pitch,” Dickerson says. “I tell people, ‘This is what your world is going to be like: It’s a website that is a Lovecraft horror. They made every possible mistake at every possible layer. But if you succeed, you will save the lives of thousands of people.’”

The weird part: Almost everyone says yes.

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Shortly before this magazine went to press, Dickerson announced that he’s going to practice what he preaches, full time. He is leaving Google to join the Obama administration as administrator of the U.S. Digital Service, a newly created office overseeing government spending on information technology. And after signing on, he discovered that the lead designer on the initial staff for U.S.D.S. is another Pomona grad, Mollie Ruskin ‘08.

AS AN EXPERT WITNESS IN AN INTERNATIONAL BIOTECH PATENT SUIT, PROFESSOR LENNY SELIGMAN FINDS HIS OWN RESEARCH ON TRIAL.

# THE ASH HEAP OF SUCCESS

By Agustin Gurza

Expert witnesses at contentious trials can expect to be challenged, even discredited. But when he took the stand last year in a complex biotech patent case, Pomona Biology Professor Lenny Seligman never anticipated that his groundbreaking work at Pomona would be relegated to the “ash heap of failure.”

That attack line echoed from start to finish during the high-stakes federal trial in Maryland between two rival companies in the cutting-edge field of genetic engineering. The dismissive salvo was fired in the opening statement by the attorney for Cellectis, a large French firm that filed suit for patent infringement against its smaller U.S. competitor, Precision BioSciences, which had hired Seligman for its defense.

Seligman was more than just an expert witness. His research at Pomona had become a cornerstone for the case. Both sides cited Seligman’s work as a basis for the science on which their businesses had been built. Ironically, the plaintiff then found itself in the awkward position of having to undermine the validity

of his work. It did so by claiming he had not actually produced anything concrete in his college lab that would invalidate the firm’s far-reaching claims.

“I don’t hold that against him,” said the counselor. “This is very complicated technology. It does not surprise me that he wasn’t able to do it. What does bother me is Precision attempting to rescue his (work) from the ash heap of failure.”

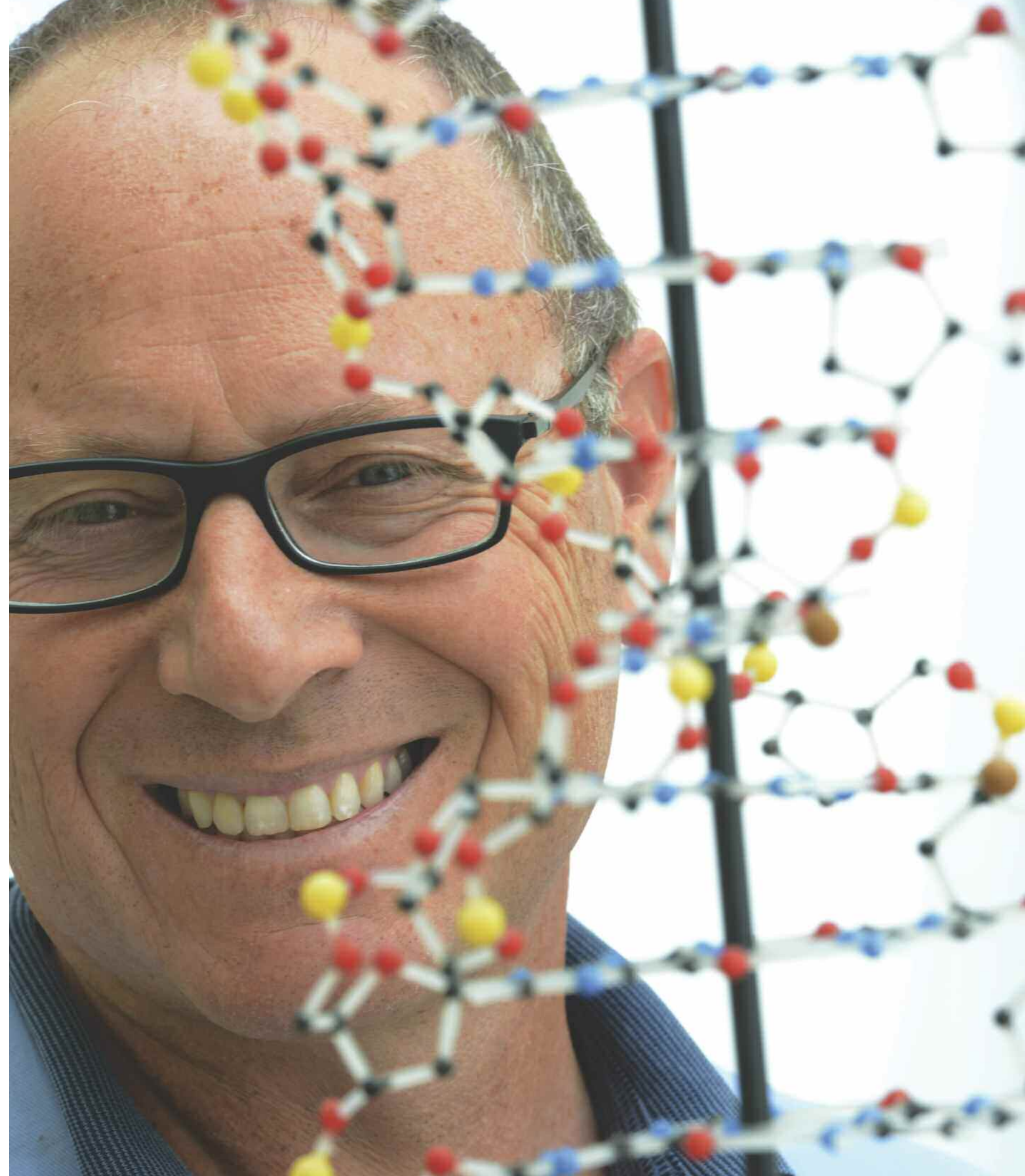
Seligman left court that day thinking, “Ouch! Did he really say that?” When cross-examined by that same lawyer, Paul Richter, Seligman found an opportunity to sneak in a mild retort, saying on the stand, “That was not very nice.” Considering the attack still in store, the lawyer might have mused, “If you thought that was bad, wait until you hear my summation.”

In those final arguments, though, Seligman’s side fired back with outrage and eloquence. Following a week of mind-numbing technical testimony, David Bassett, an attorney for Precision, rebutted the now infamous line. The court reporter transcribed the original reference as “ashes of failure,” but Seligman and others clearly remember it as a heap, and that’s the phrase that stuck.

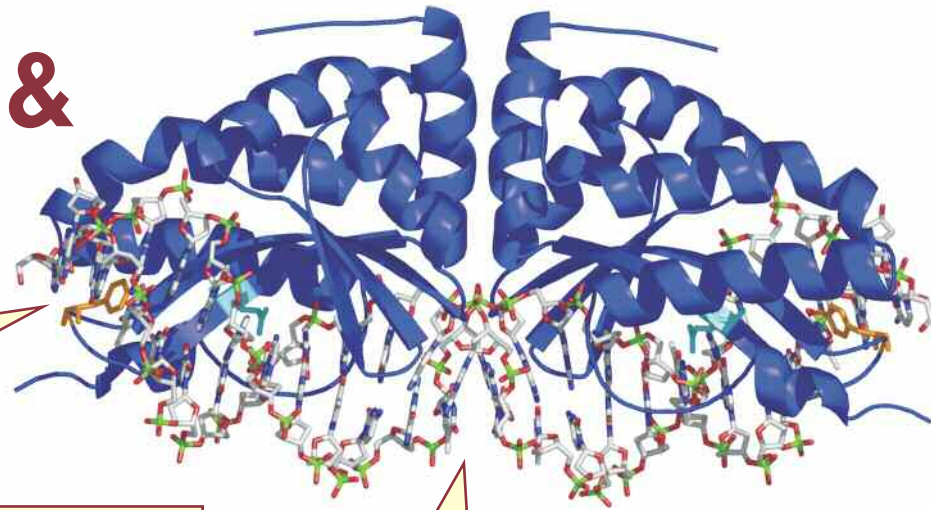
To say Seligman’s work belonged in the “ash heap of failure” was “as incorrect as it is offensive,” said Bassett. “To the contrary, Professor Seligman’s article represented a monumental success from a small lab at Pomona College where (he) does his research with undergraduate students, 18 to 22-year-olds. And it paved the way for companies like Cellectis and Precision to do their work. ... The real difference is that Professor Seligman was teaching the world what he had done and hoping that others would follow his blueprint.”

In the end, Precision won the infringement case and Seligman’s work was vindicated. The attack strategy against the likeable professor’s little-lab-that-could appeared to have backfired.

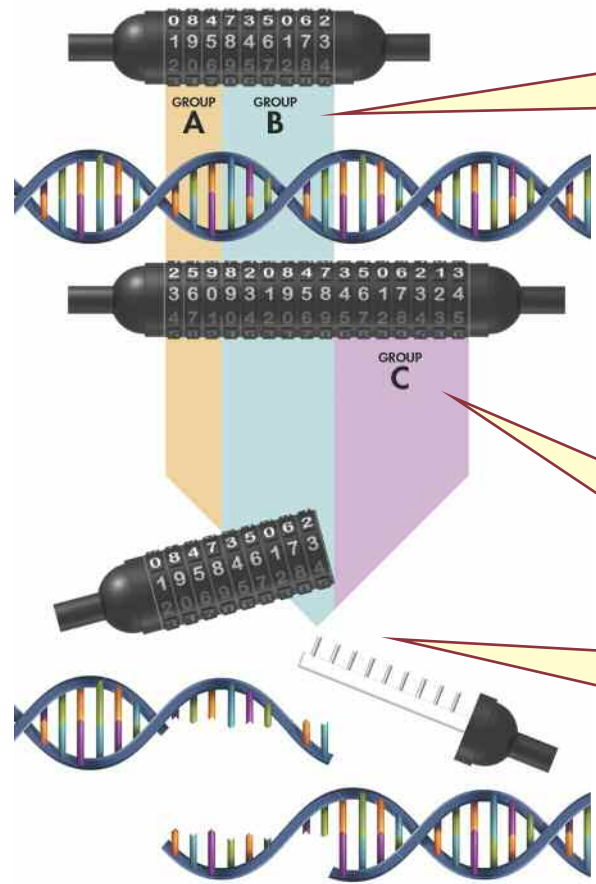
“I think that statement bit them in the ass,” he said. “Because even the jury kind of cringed when the lawyer said it. I mean, that’s really aggressive. And then when they got to ►



# Of Bicycle Locks & Flying Minivans



A meganuclease (here attached to a segment of DNA) is an enzyme that can make precise cuts in DNA without causing collateral damage. Researchers have discovered how to create mutant forms of these proteins, able to cut DNA at targeted sites.



**To explain how it works,** Seligman likes to use the example of a combination bicycle lock. A meganuclease protein molecule binds to a segment of DNA at nine contact points (divided into Group A and Group B). By changing the “combination,” researchers can create mutant versions that connect at different locations along the segment.

**New mutants** can also be made using changes in Group C, though that part of the protein doesn't actually touch the DNA.

**By “unlocking”** those contact points, meganucleases can cleave the DNA segment at a specific location without doing other damage. This makes them valuable in biotechnology, with lucrative applications in medicine, agriculture and other fields.

**Theoretically, that's the number** of possible combinations of amino acids in groups A, B, and C combined, so finding the useful ones isn't an easy task. Collectis argued that its patent covered any new meganuclease in which at least one change in Group A and one in Group B changed the molecule's DNA target.

322,687,697,779

**This is where Seligman** comes in. As far back as 2002, he and his student team, working with a meganuclease called I-CreI (above), showed that making changes to amino acids in a single Group B contact point produced a variant that cleaved DNA in a different location. Among other things, Precision argued that Seligman's prior and publicly shared work invalidated Collectis's too-broadly worded patent.

**Lawyers often rely** on metaphors to help explain complex concepts to a jury. But sometimes, the analogies can backfire.

“It's a little bit like I own a minivan,” said Collectis attorney Paul Richter. “Your neighbor comes over and says, ‘I'm going to put a DVD player in your minivan and now it's mine. You don't own it anymore. Even though I'm taking everything else—the engine, the wheels, the body, the car seats, the baby seat. I'm taking all of that because I put a DVD player in your minivan and now I own it and you can't have it. That's sort of what Dr. Seligman is saying by: ‘I put amino acids up here and I want all of this. I want your invention. You can't have it. It's not yours anymore.’”

The defense had a ready retort.

“This is not like putting a tape player in Mr. Richter's minivan,” said Precision attorney David Bassett in his summation. “This is making a change that alters the variant in ways that matter. It's like taking Mr. Richter's minivan and putting wings and a jet engine on it and making it fly. It is a different thing. It has been altered fundamentally.”

The flying minivan carried the day. Verdict for the defense.



know the witness—what a sympathetic guy I am—it was like, why would you do that? You could have made the point without going for the jugular like that.”

Indeed, it may have been the professor's disarming, down-home charm that won the day, as much as all the technical testimony about the DNA and microscopic structures called meganucleases. Beneath the complex science ran a compelling narrative that must have appealed to the federal jury empaneled in the district court of Delaware.

It was, in the end, a classic American underdog story. The synopsis: Powerful and imperious European firm with raft of lawyers and battery of full-time scientists is defeated by scrappy U.S. start-up and its folksy professor with his one-man lab and part-time student assistants.

**“IN CLASS, WHEN I GET A QUESTION AND DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER, THE FIRST THING I SAY IS, ‘I DON'T KNOW.’ BUT IF YOU'RE GETTING DEPOSED, YOU CAN'T FALL BACK ON THAT ANSWER BECAUSE LAWYERS WILL SHOOT BACK, ‘YOU DON'T KNOW? WELL, ON PAGE 285 OF YOUR THIRD REPORT, DIDN'T YOU WRITE THIS?’” —Lenny Seligman**

Seligman relished the role. In a PowerPoint presentation of the case presented recently to campus groups, he portrays the litigants as Team France v. Team USA. He uses slides to illustrate the uneven competition between the two companies and their dueling expert witnesses. For Collectis, we see the flattering portrait of an award-winning genetics researcher from a big university. For the other side, we have Lenny Seligman, but the slide shows a picture of Homer Simpson.

The visual gets a big laugh.

A year after the verdict, Seligman still expresses astonishment when recalling the whirlwind experience of being a central figure in an intense international dispute about science. Interviewed in his office at Seaver Hall, where he presides as Biology Department chair, he also reflected on the awesome amounts of money circulating in science today, and what it means for those trying to teach and do research at a small, liberal arts college like Pomona.

“Part of me is happy with how things turned out,” he says. “At one level, it would have been great to be able to continue working on the I-CreI project without competition. However, we would never, at Pomona College, in my lab, have gotten to the point these two companies got to in five years. They were putting products out there, they were making enzymes that cut specific DNA sequences. It would've taken us so long to get there. So in the big picture, this is great. These companies are doing it, and they're still graciously referencing our early work. It's all good.

“We just have to find something new to do.”

**Court and Class**

Watching Seligman's PowerPoint presentation about the case, posted online, gives viewers a flavor of his teaching style. He is engaging, enthusiastic and funny in a self-deprecating way. He's also informal, standing casually at a podium with his shirttail hanging out and joking about wearing a suit only for court. But most importantly, he has a knack for explaining complex con-

cepts to scientific novices, like college freshmen—or jurors.

The concepts in this case involved the business of protein engineering using meganucleases, which have been described as “extremely precise DNA scissors.” Scientists have developed ways to alter these naturally occurring enzymes and make them cut DNA segments at specific, targeted locations, with potentially lucrative uses in medicine and agriculture.

“Court is interesting because it's kind of like a class,” Seligman says. “But it's not like a class at Pomona where someone's going to raise their hand and ask a question and stop you. When I'm in a class and I'm lecturing off-the-cuff and I can see that I'm losing students, I'll stop and I'll ask them certain questions. You can't do that when you're an expert witness, but you can still kind of get the visual cues. You still could get a sense

that (the jurors) were with you, and I really felt that they were. They weren't glazing over.”

Neither were the lawyers. They were ready to pounce on every word, eager to point out the smallest inconsistency or weakness. And Seligman was trying to make sure he didn't slip up.

So there was no Homer Simpson on the witness stand. In court, Seligman's easy-going, spontaneous classroom persona was restrained. The transcript of his testimony shows a witness who is cautious, serious and coldly factual. By then, he had been through hours of grueling depositions, and he knew the name of the game—Gotcha!

“Well, the whole idea (of pre-trial depositions) is for them to get a sound bite that they can use in trial,” he says. “So they ask questions really quickly. The thing that was hard, especially for someone who's not a lawyer, is that they move from one aspect of the case to another, rapid-fire. ...Your mind is over here and they're trying to get you to slip up, so they can say to the jury, ‘But didn't you testify that...?’”

Seligman pounds on his office desk to impersonate an intimidating attorney.

“I felt really guarded. In class, when I get a question and don't know the answer, the first thing I say is, ‘I don't know.’ And so that's my default mechanism, because I'll figure it out, and we'll talk about it next lecture. But if you're getting deposed, you can't fall back on that answer because lawyers will shoot back, ‘You don't know? Well, on page 285 of your third report, didn't you write this?’” Here, his tone mocks a Perry Mason moment. “So you feel you have to be on your toes all the time, and really be thinking about everything you've ever written.”

At times, the legal wrangling was so contentious, even the judge sounded exasperated. During one testy confrontation, U.S. District Court Judge Sue L. Robinson threatened to give the lawyers “a time out,” like an angry parent with misbehaving kids.

Underneath, Seligman perceived a bitter dislike between the two companies. It was like a battle to the death. He speculates ▶

that Collectis's strategy was to put Precision, the much smaller firm, out of business, bankrupted by legal fees. So Precision could win the battle and still lose the war.

Call it the ashes of success.

"Cynically, a lot of us (supporting the U.S. company) thought this was all about trying to bleed them."

### Money and Science

The experience was not all cutthroat and high anxiety, however. Seligman also recalls the excitement of being swept up into the high-flying world of international business and high-priced corporate lawyers. He describes it with the wide-eyed wonder of a kid who grew up in Claremont and still uses the nickname he was given in kindergarten, rather than his full name, Maurice Leonard Seligman.

To Lenny, it was a thrill just being in New York for the deposition and looking out onto that breathtaking Manhattan skyline. He often punctuates his story with youthful expressions, like "awesome" and "oh, my gosh!" He breathlessly describes the "war room" where a battalion of lawyers in a suite of offices prepared for testimony. ("Oh, my gosh!") And he recalls how lawyers worked through the night preparing challenges even to illustrations planned for court the next day, putting pressure on a graphics guy to create instant substitutions. ("Oh, my gosh!")

"And you mix that with all this adrenaline and dread of being deposed—it was really exciting," he says.

science, but it's got to be small enough that you're not doing the same thing that the big labs are doing because we don't have the same resources."

### Focus on Students

Beyond doing good science, Seligman and his colleagues at liberal arts colleges have another mission to worry about—teaching undergraduates. In his own lab, he notes, research must also be a teaching tool, a training ground for future scientists. In this regard, he says, Pomona is in a perfect position to compete.

The work on meganucleases is a prime example. In the early days, before big money entered the fray, much of the research was being done by students at Lenny's lab. Today, they all have their names—as full-fledged co-authors—on those important research papers that figured so prominently in the trial.

These were not graduate students or post-docs. They were undergraduates like Karen Chisholm '01, Adeline Veillet '03, Sam Edwards '99 and Jeremiah Savage '98, who co-authored Seligman's pioneering 2002 paper, marking the first time researchers described making mutations in a meganuclease, called *I-Cre1*, that altered the site where it cleaved DNA. Two years later, Steve Fauce '02, Anna Bruett '04 and Alex Engel '01 co-authored another of Seligman's key research papers, along with Dr. Ray Monnat of the University of Washington, where Seligman got his Ph.D. and did his first work on meganucleases as a post-doc in Monnat's lab. Finally in 2006, five other Pomona

undergrads—Laura Rosen '08, Selma Masri '02, Holly A. Morrison '04, Brendan Springstubb '05 and Mike Brown '07—co-authored a third paper in which new mutant meganucleases were described.

Many former students praise Seligman as a great mentor who inspired them to pursue science in graduate school. At least 10 of these 12 student co-authors went on to get doctorates in biological sciences or M.D.'s.

"He really fostered a good environment for learning and being productive," recalls Morrison, who got her Ph.D. from UC Berkeley in molecular and cell biology. "He had several students in there at any one time, and everybody was really good about helping each other. It was not at all cutthroat competition. It was very much a supportive team mentality and there was also a camaraderie about it."

Today, Seligman speaks about his former students as if they were his kids. He makes a point of mentioning them in his PowerPoint presentation, and even notes who got married and who just had a baby.

"We are so lucky to be a place that gets such great students," he says. "It's our job to work with them, to get them excited about science and keep them excited about it. I have no doubt they're going to do really amazing things."

"And I'm going to sit back and smile."

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC WRITER VIRGINIA MORELL '71 TAKES US INSIDE THE RESEARCH OF SCIENTISTS WORKING TO DECODE THE CHITTERS AND TRILLS OF ANIMALS RANGING FROM BATS TO PRAIRIE DOGS.

# THE MESSAGE IN THE SONG

By Virginia Morell '71

At the Mayan ruin of Uxmal, Mexico, bat researcher Kirsten Bohn bends down beside a narrow crack in one of the ancient limestone walls. "Do you hear them?," she asks. "The twittering? That's our bats, and they're singing." ¶ I lean in, too, and listen. It takes a moment for my ears to adjust to the bats' soft sounds, and then the air seems to fill with their birdlike trills, chirps and buzzes. The twittering calls are the songs of *Nyctinomops laticaudatus*, the broad-eared bat—one of several species ▶

**THERE'S JUST SOMETHING THAT'S REALLY SPECIAL ABOUT OPEN SCIENCE, WHERE EVERYONE IS SHARING EVERYTHING AND BUILDING ON EACH OTHER. AND ONCE IT GETS INTO THE INDUSTRY, IT'S NOT OPEN SCIENCE. THEY'RE PROTECTING IT. THEY'RE HIDING IT UNTIL THEY GET THE PATENT ISSUED." —Lenny Seligman**

When it came to how much the defense paid him, the response might also be, "Oh, my gosh!" That pesky attorney made a point of making him divulge the fee in court: \$400 an hour. "It was more money than I had ever made in a short amount of time," he recalled in the interview. "It was a lot of money for me."

The amount of money these companies dumped on this lawsuit raises larger concerns about the corrupting influence of big profits on basic research.

"The whole privatization of science is something that's certainly to be looked at carefully," agrees Seligman. "Did I ever think to put a patent out? I'm glad I didn't, in retrospect. If somebody wanted to choke me like they tried to choke Precision, they would serve me and I would say uncle. There's just no way I would have the resources to fight. But beyond that, there's just something that's really special about open science, where everyone is sharing everything and building on each other. And once it gets into the industry, it's not open science. They're protecting it. They're hiding it until they get the patent issued."

Bringing it all back home, Seligman sees implications for his future work at a small college. How can his little research lab compete with wealthy companies, often with ties to large universities.

"That's what we worry about all the time in a place like Pomona College," Seligman says. "You want to do interesting



of bats that scientists have identified as having tunes remarkably similar to those of birds. Like the songs of birds, bats' melodies are composed of multiple syllables; they're rhythmic and have patterns that are repeated. ¶ And like birds, these bats sing not during the dark of night, but in the middle of the day, making it easy for us to see them, too. ¶ Bohn, a behavioral ecologist at Florida International University in Miami, presses her face against the crack in the wall, and squints. "Well, hello there," she says. I follow her example, and find myself eyeball-to-eyeball with one of the bats that's sandwiched inside. He scuttles back, but his jaws chatter at me, "Zzzzzzzz." ¶ "He's telling us to back off, to go away," Bohn says, translating. "He wants to get back to his singing."

That suits Bohn, who has traveled to Uxmal to record the broad-eared bats' tunes for her study on the evolution and function of bat song—research that may help decode what the bats are saying to one another with their songs, and even teach us something about the origins of human language.

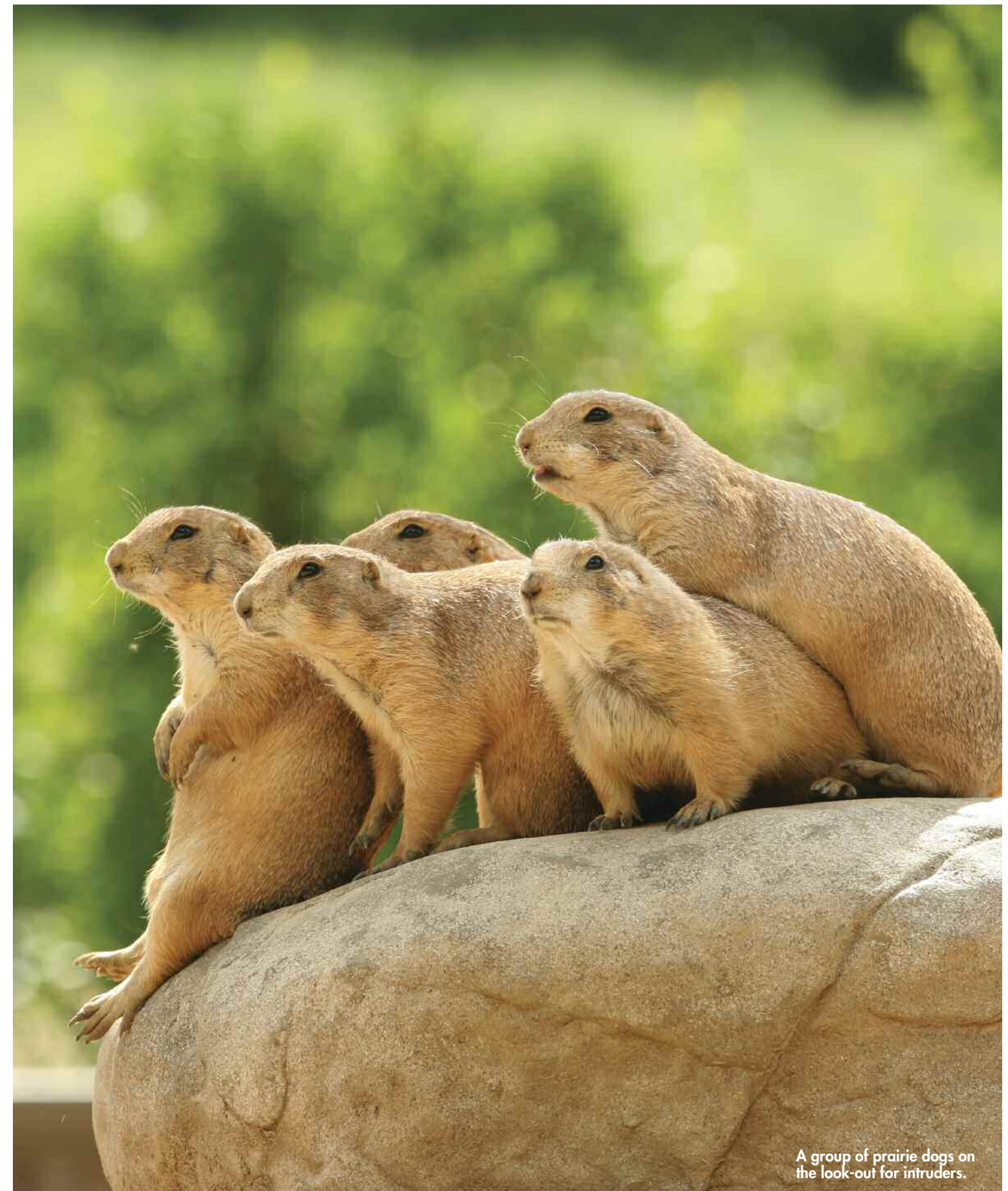
Not so long ago, most animal scientists and linguists regarded the sounds that animals and humans make as markedly different. Language was considered to be something only humans possessed; supposedly it appeared *de novo* instead of evolving via natural selection. And animals were regarded as incapable of intentionally uttering any sound. Songs, barks, roars, whistles: These were involuntary responses to some stimulus, just as your knee jerks when your doctor taps it. But since the 1990s, the notion of language as a uniquely human skill has fallen to the wayside as researchers in genetics, neurobiology and ethology discover numerous links between animal vocalizations and those of humans.

Take grammar and syntax, the rules that determine how words can be combined into phrases and sentences. Most linguists still insist that animal calls lack these fundamental elements

**THE HIGH-PITCHED BARKS OF PRAIRIE DOGS MAY SOUND ALIKE TO US, BUT VIA SOME VARIATION IN TONE AND FREQUENCY HE OR SHE CAN SHOUT OUT A SURPRISINGLY PRECISE ALERT: "LOOK OUT! TALL HUMAN IN BLUE, RUNNING." OR, "LOOK OUT! SHORT HUMAN IN YELLOW, WALKING!"**

of language. But primatologists studying the vocalizations of male Campbell's monkeys in the forests of the Ivory Coast have found that they have rules (a "proto-syntax," the scientists say) for adding extra sounds to their basic calls. We do this, too. For instance, we make a new word "henhouse," when we add the word "house" to "hen." The monkeys have three alarm calls: *Hok* for eagles, *krak* for leopards, and *boom* for disturbances such as a branch falling from a tree. By combining these three sounds the monkeys can form new messages. So, if a monkey wants another monkey to join him in a tree, he calls out "*Boom boom!*" They can also alter the meaning of their basic calls simply by adding the sound "*oo*" at the end, very much like we change the meanings of words by adding a suffix. *Hok-oo* alerts other monkeys to threats, such as an eagle perched in a tree, while *krak-oo* serves as a general warning.

Scientists have found—and decoded—warning calls in several species, including other primates, prairie dogs, meerkats and chickens. All convey a remarkable amount of information to their fellows. The high-pitched barks of prairie dogs may sound alike to us, but via some variation in tone and frequency he or she can shout out a surprisingly precise alert: "Look out! Tall human in blue, running." Or, "Look out! Short human in yellow, walking!" ▶



A group of prairie dogs on the look-out for intruders.

Many animals use their calls to announce that they've found food, or are seeking mates, or want others to stay out of their territories. Ornithologists studying birdsong often joke that all the musical notes are really about nothing more than sex, violence, food and alarms. Yet we've learned the most about the biological roots of language via songbirds because they learn their songs just as we learn to speak: by listening to others. The skill is called vocal learning, and it's what makes it possible for mockingbirds to mimic a meowing cat or a melodious sparrow, and for pet parrots to imitate their owners. Our dogs and cats, alas, will never say "I love you, too" or "Good night, sweetheart, good night," no matter how many times we repeat the phrases to them, because they lack both the neural and physical anatomy to hear a sound and then repeat it. Chimpanzees and bonobos, our closest relatives, cannot do this either, even if they are raised from infancy in our homes.

Via vocal learning, some species of songbirds acquire more than 100 tunes. And via vocal learning, the chicks of a small parrot, the green-rumped parrotlet, obtain their "signature contact calls"—sounds that serve the same function as our names.

A few years ago, I joined ornithologist Karl Berg from the University of Texas in Brownsville at his field site in Venezuela where he studies the parrotlets' peeping calls. Although the peeps sound simple to our ears, Berg explained, they are actually complex, composed of discrete sequences and phrases. A male parrotlet returning to his mate at their nest, a hollow in a fence post,

makes a series of these peeps. "He calls his name and the name of his mate," Berg told me, "and then he's saying something else. And it's probably more than just, 'Hi Honey, I'm home.'" Because the female lays eggs throughout the long nesting season, the pair frequently copulates. And so, Berg suspects that a male on his way home after laboring to fill his crop with seeds for his mate and their chicks, is apt to call out, "I've got food, but I want sex first." His mate, on the other hand, is likely hungry and tired from tending their chicks. She may respond, "No, I want to eat first; we'll have sex later." "There's some negotiating, some conversation between them," Berg said, "meaning that what one says influences what the other says next."

Berg discovered that parrotlets have names by collecting thousands of the birds' peeps, then converting them to spectrograms, which he subsequently analyzed for subtle similarities and differences via a specialized computer program. And how does a young parrotlet get his or her name? "We think their parents name them," Berg said—which would make parrots the first animals, aside from humans, known to assign names to their offspring.

Parrotlets aren't the only animals that have names (or to be scientifically accurate, signature contact calls). Scientists have discovered that dolphins, which are also vocal-learners, have these calls, although these seem to be innate; the mothers aren't naming their calves. And some species of bats have names, which they include when singing, and in other social situations.



A parrotlet being examined by a researcher



A broad-eared bat in Uxmal, Mexico

**"HENCE, TRANSLATED INTO HUMAN WORDS, THE MESSAGE 'ABCED' COULD BE APPROXIMATELY: (A) 'PAY ATTENTION: I AM A P.NATHUSII, (B,C) SPECIFICALLY MALE 17B, (E) LAND HERE, (D) WE SHARE A COMMON SOCIAL IDENTITY AND COMMON COMMUNICATION POOL,'" THE RESEARCHERS WROTE IN THEIR REPORT.**

Bats sing, for the same reason birds do: to attract mates and to defend territories. They're not negotiating or conversing, but their lovelorn ditties are plenty informative nonetheless. After analyzing 3,000 recordings of male European *Pipistrellus nathusii* bats, for instance, a team of Czech researchers reported that the songs always begin with a phrase (which the scientists termed motif A) announcing the bat's species. Next comes the vocal signature (motifs B and C), information about the bat's population (motif D), and an explanation about where to land (motif E).

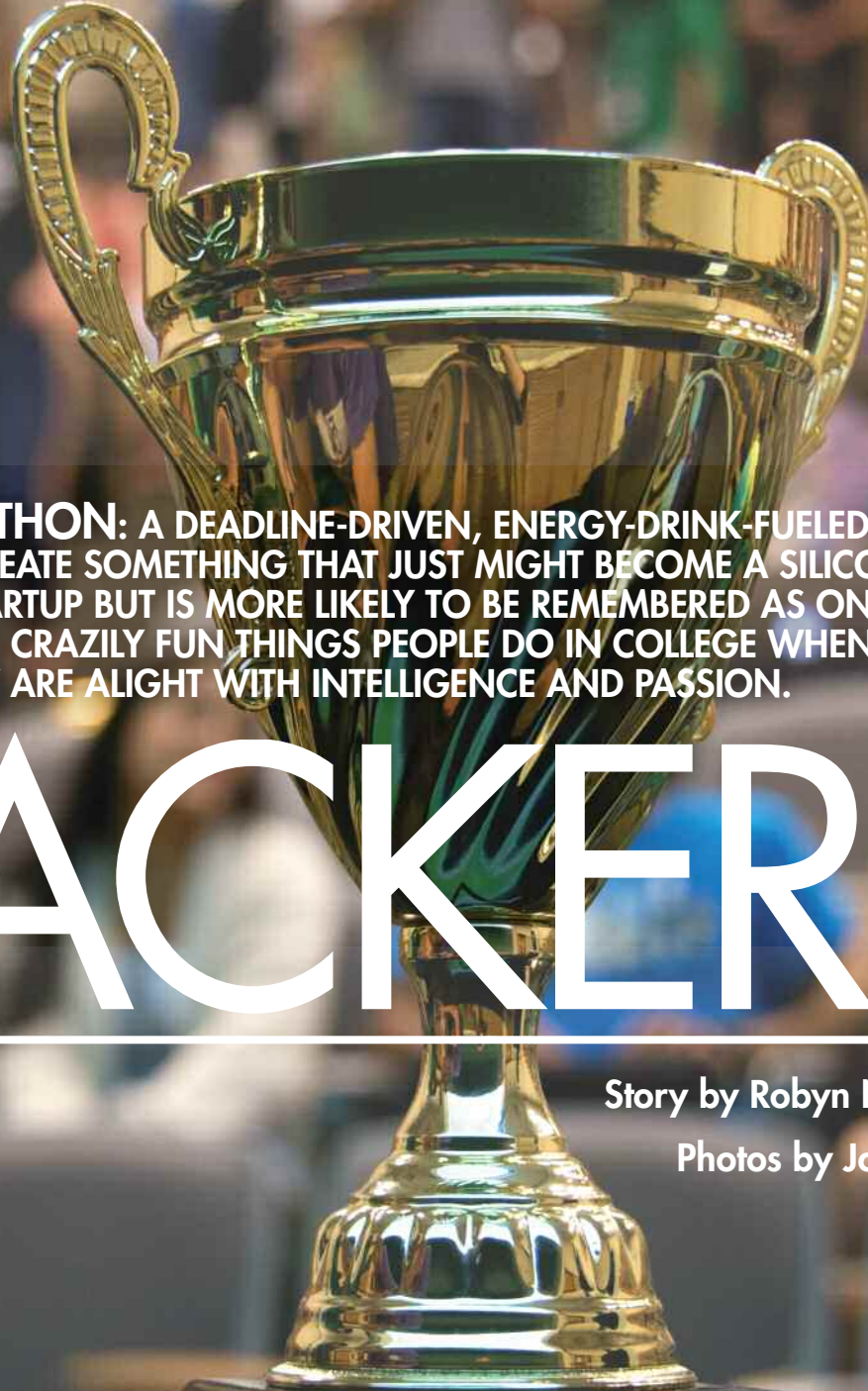
"Hence, translated into human words, the message 'ABCED' could be approximately: (A) 'Pay attention: I am a *Pnathusii*, (B,C) specifically male 17b, (E) land here, (D) we share a common social identity and common communication pool,'" the researchers wrote in their report.

Bohn suspects that the tunes of her bats at Uxmal convey the same type of information. "The guys are competing for females with their songs," she says, "so they can't afford to stop singing." She doesn't yet know what the females listen for in the voice of a *N.laticaudatus*, but expects that something in a male's intonation or his song's beat gives her clues about his suitability as a mate.

But her focus is on another question: Are these bats long-term vocal learners, as are humans and some species of birds, such as parrots? "If they are," she explains, "then they might be a good model for studying the origins of human speech"—which would make bats the first mammal ever used for such research.

Bohn had earlier recorded some of the bats' songs, and digitally altered these so that they sounded like the refrains of different bats—strangers. At the wall, she attaches a pair of microphones and a single speaker to a tripod, and points the equipment at the fissure, where the bats sing. Pushing a button on her laptop, she broadcasts the remixed bat songs to the tiny troubadours, who respond with even louder twitters, trills, and buzzes. Bohn watches their responses as they're converted into sonograms that stream across her laptop's screen like seismic pulses. These are territorial buzzes and contact calls, Bohn explains. "They know there's an intruder." She's silent for a moment, and then beams. "Yes! One of the guys is trying to match the intruder's call. He doesn't have it exactly right, but he's close—he's so close, and it's hard."

But there it was: the first bit of evidence that bats are life-long vocal learners. Just like us.

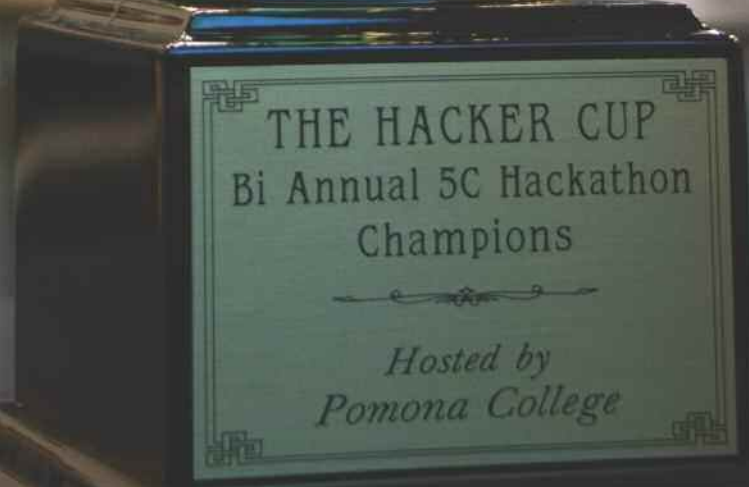


**HACKATHON:** A DEADLINE-DRIVEN, ENERGY-DRINK-FUELED RUSH TO CREATE SOMETHING THAT JUST MIGHT BECOME A SILICON VALLEY STARTUP BUT IS MORE LIKELY TO BE REMEMBERED AS ONE OF THOSE CRAZILY FUN THINGS PEOPLE DO IN COLLEGE WHEN THEY ARE ALIGHT WITH INTELLIGENCE AND PASSION.

# HACKERS

Story by Robyn Norwood

Photos by John Lucas



THE HACKER CUP  
Bi Annual 5C Hackathon  
Champions

Hosted by  
Pomona College



It was almost dawn outside Lincoln and Edmunds halls, and the clicking of laptop keys on a Saturday morning had slowed to a persistent few. Three students slept in chairs in the Edmunds lobby, one next to a lone coder at his keyboard. In the Lincoln lobby, a quilt lay seemingly abandoned in a clump on the floor. Then it moved, and the petite student who had been slumbering beneath it climbed into a chair and disappeared under the quilt again.

Upstairs, John Verticchio '15 looked around the windowless room where he'd spent the night working with three friends. "Is the sun up yet?" he asked. ▶

Welcome to the 5C Hackathon, the all-nighter that lures as many as 250 students from The Claremont Colleges each semester to stay up building creative and often elaborate software projects and apps in a mere 12-hour span. It is a deadline-driven, energy-drink-fueled rush to create something that just might become a Silicon Valley startup but is more likely to be remembered as one of those crazily fun things people do in college when they are alight with intelligence and passion.

The event is student-created and student-led, built from scratch by three Pomona College students in 2012 with a budget of \$1,000 and 30 participants. By the fifth 5C Hackathon in April, the budget had grown to \$13,000 and the semiannual event had drawn sponsors that have included Intuit, Google and Microsoft. The codefest also is supported by Claremont McKenna's Silicon Valley Program, which helps students of The Claremont Colleges spend a sort of "semester abroad," studying

app, replaces user passwords on websites with a wave of your smartphone and has been featured by *The New York Times*.)

"I came in my first year and I knew I wanted to study computer science, and I was hoping there would be, like, a scene here for people who like building stuff, and there wasn't then. There was nothing," said Pollak, who didn't start coding until his senior year in high school. "So I started trying to track down people who were interested in that sort of thing."

He found them in Byrne and in Merrill, who had planned to be an English major but started coding after an introductory computer science class as a freshman at Pomona.

The event they founded gave the 5Cs an early start on what has now become a national phenomenon. "Hackathons were a new thing and most were on large campuses," Merrill said.

Hackathons have exploded into prominence in the last two years. The second LA Hacks competition at UCLA in April drew

inspire her team to fashion a restaurant-ordering app for the Coop Fountain. This spring, continuing to teach themselves more programming languages with online tutorials, her team built a financial tracking system called Money Buddy.

It's the "forced deadline" of a hackathon, Tong said, that helps coders power through the inevitable snags and bugs of building a program. Pressing on is a huge part of the task. "When you're fresh, you could probably figure out those bugs decently quickly, but around 3 o'clock, it's past your normal bedtime and you're staring for hours at things you probably could fix when you're fresh," she said.

Tong's strategy is catnaps and sustenance. The spring 5C Hackers

game on campus. One called Expression uses a webcam and face recognition to automatically select music that seems to fit the user's mood. Another named Echo was a message-in-a-bottle app that allows people to leave audio messages for strangers that can only be heard when the person is standing near the same spot.

The Drinx app suggests cocktail combinations based on what ingredients are in the fridge. But the winning advanced project—sense a theme here?—was the Shotbot, a boxlike robot controlled by a Siri hack that makes mixed drinks automatically. Nonalcoholic, for demonstration purposes.

"Siri loves to serve drinks," the familiar voice said after taking an order.

"We definitely used it at parties the next few weeks," said Sean Adler, Claremont McKenna '14, who built the project, using Arduino, Python, iOS and Node.js, along with three other



while interning at a technology company in Northern California.

The 5C Hackathon is a one-night gig. Competitors are allowed to come in with an idea in mind, but "the rules are that you have to start from scratch. You're not allowed to have pre-written code," said Kim Merrill '14, one of the three co-founders. "It's all about learning, having fun, staying up all night. It's not a heavy competition."

As students wandered into the Seaver North Auditorium around 7 on a Friday night, Merrill, who will go to work for Google as a software engineer in the fall, sat on a table in front wearing shorts and a green H5CKATHON t-shirt as hip music played on the audio system.

The aspiring hackers—how odd that a term that once referred to computer criminals has become a compliment—carried backpacks and laptops, sleeping bags and pillows, the occasional stuffed animal and Google swag bags holding USB chargers, blue Google knit caps and Lego-like toys in boxes emblazoned with the words "google.com/jobs." This looked like serious fun, and contrary to the stereotypical image of computer geeks, there were women everywhere.

"Having Kim leading the whole thing, I think, has been really powerful for that," said Jesse Pollak '15, a former Pomona student who was visiting Claremont for the event he co-founded with Merrill and Brennen Byrne '12 before leaving school last year to join Byrne in founding a Bay Area startup. (Clef, a mobile

more than 4,000 registrants from universities that included UCLA, USC, Stanford, UC Berkeley and Harvard for a 36-hour event it touted as a "5-star hacking experience" with VIP attendees. Civic groups and government organizations have gotten into the act, too, with the second National Day of Civic Hacking on May 31 and June 1 featuring events in 103 cities, many focused on building software that could help improve communities and government.

While some hackathons have gone grander and glitzier—MHack at the University of Michigan awarded a \$5,000 first prize this year and HackMIT drew 1,000 competitors to compete for \$14,000 in prizes at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology last year—the 5C Hackathon has remained doggedly itself. "We really wanted, instead of pushing for bigger things, to think about how we can get more people into this," Pollak said. "You'll see people present (projects) in the morning who didn't know how to code at the beginning of the week and who actually built something. It'll be small and ugly, but it will work."

A centerpiece of the 5C Hackathon is "Hack Week," a free beginners' course of four two-hour evening tutorials leading up to the event, with students teaching other students such basics as HTML and CSS, JavaScript, jQuery and MongoDB, all of it an alphabet soup to the uninitiated.

Christina Tong '17 tried her first hackathon the fall of her freshman year, picking up ideas during Hack Week that helped

got an 11 p.m. food truck visit and a snack spread featuring clementines, jelly beans, Oreos, Krispy Kreme doughnuts, bananas and a veggie tray. And at 3 a.m., just because it's tradition, Merrill—who typically spends much of the night mentoring beginning teams—rallied the students for a two-minute, middle of the night campus run. "It can be hard to motivate people to run at 3 a.m.," she said.

By 4 a.m., someone had scrawled a message on a whiteboard dotted with listings for tutors: "Countdown 4 hours!"

Some didn't make it—"I think we lost a lot more teams than we usually do," Merrill said—but by mid-morning Saturday, 30 teams of two to four people had made one-minute slam demonstrations of their completed projects, roughly half beginners and half advanced.

Judged by America Chambers, a Pomona visiting assistant professor of computer science, and representatives of some of the sponsoring tech companies—this could be the new model of campus recruiting—the entries included efforts such as 5Cribbs and the Cyborg Dorm Chooser, designed to help students pick the best dormitory rooms or suites for them.

There was a Craigslist-type site exclusively for The Claremont Colleges and an app to help recreational athletes find a pickup



Two of the three Hackathon founders: Jesse Pollak '15 and Kim Merrill '14



Claremont McKenna computer science students—brothers Joe and Chad Newbry, both '14, and Remy Guercio '16. Their prize? Each team member received an iPad2.

The winners in the beginners' division, Matt Dahl, Patrick Shao, Ziqi Xiong and John Kim—all Pomona '17—won Kindle Fires for their project, a "confessions" site similar to other popular sites that allow people to post anonymous secrets or desires. The Pomona students added several features—systems for sorting posts, marking favorites and for hiding offensive content, often a concern on confessions sites.

The next 5C Hackathon will be in the fall, but with Merrill's graduation in May—she was working for the nonprofit Girls Who Code in San Francisco during the summer before starting at Google in Seattle in late September—the three founders have left Pomona. Andy Russell '15, Alope Desai '16 and Ryan Luo '16, all of whom helped organize and competed in the spring hackathon, will return to stage more all-night programming binges, the tradition now entrenched.

Russell, his night of coding done, walked out into the quiet of an early Saturday morning, unable to make it to the presentations. He had a Frisbee tournament at 8.

For more photos from the Fall 2014 5C Hackathon, see the inside front cover and pages 1-5.

# lives of the mind

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## FOSSIL FIND

**Robert Gaines**, associate professor of geology at Pomona, was part of the team that announced the discovery of a stunning new Burgess Shale fossil site in Canada's Kootenay National Park earlier this year. The massive deposit may be the world's most important fossil discovery in decades. In a paper published in *Nature Communications*, the team describes the new Marble Canyon fossil beds for the first time.

"We were already aware of the presence of some Burgess Shale fossils in Kootenay National Park," says Gaines. "We had a hunch that if we followed the formation along the mountain topography into new areas with the right rock types, maybe, just maybe, we would get lucky—though we never in our wildest dreams thought we'd track down a mother lode like this. It didn't take us very long at all to realize that we had dug up something special."



PHOTO BY CHRIS BOUIN

## book shelf

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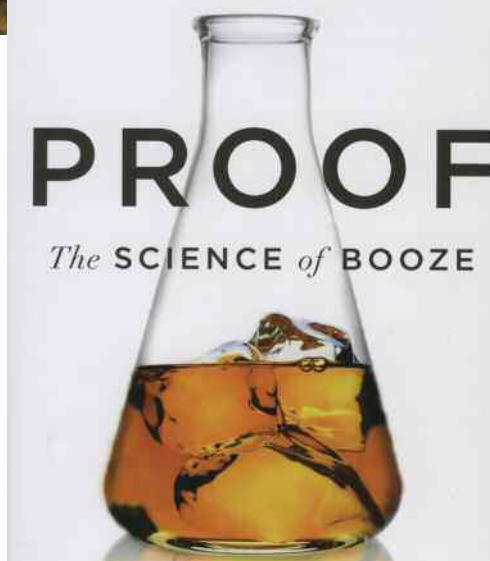
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# Boozology

By Mark Wood

ADAM ROGERS



### PROOF The Science of Booze

By Adam Rogers  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 /  
272 pages / \$26.00

**I**t all started with a fungus.

You could say that about the world of alcoholic beverages in general—which all began with a fungus known as yeast. And you could also say it about Adam Rogers' new book about that world.

Rogers '92 didn't have a book in mind when he began his research for a *Wired Magazine* article about a mysterious fungus invading a neighborhood where aging Canadian Club whiskey is warehoused. (As it turns out, the organism lives on the ethanol fumes seeping out through the solid oak walls of whiskey barrels.) But the story took on a life of its own.

"As you do for every big magazine feature, I did a lot of other reporting around it that I didn't use in the magazine piece," Rogers explains. "When I was talking to friends about it, one of them, a very good science writer, finally said, 'You know, you have a book in this.' I kind of said, 'Wait, I do what? Which part?' He said, 'All of it.'"

All of it, meaning: a survey of all the science surrounding the making, consumption and experience of alcoholic drinks. The topic was of such obvious interest to so many people that Rogers was sure someone must have already written a book about it.

"I went looking for it, and it didn't exist," he explains. "That became the first impetus for me to write it myself. Nobody had done it."

The resulting book is *Proof: The Science of Booze*, a book that takes that martini or whiskey sour or sauvignon blanc in your hand and traces its path from its origins in a cultivated yeast cell through its various transformations—fermentation, distillation and aging—and then follows its trek across the bar and through your sensory equipment, bloodstream and brain, concluding inevitably on the morning after with a chapter on hangovers.

Each step of the way, Rogers introduces us to the work of producers who are seeking ways to refine their processes and researchers who are trying to understand why and how it all happens—both in the distillery and inside our heads.

Therein, Rogers says, lay the biggest surprise that awaited him in his three years of research and writing.

"I really was shocked that the brain researchers haven't articulated a full mechanism for how ethanol affects the human brain," he says. "It really doesn't take long, when you talk to them, for them to say, 'We just don't know what it does.' That comes from the people looking at networks and regions of the brain. It comes from the people who are looking at small molecules and how those affect individual neurons and synapses. It comes from the people who study receptors. No matter what angle you come from, if

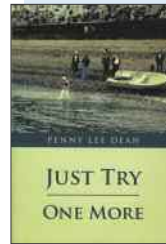
you're studying ethanol in the brain, they just can't tell you exactly how it does what it does. It's the only recreational drug that human beings use that that's true for."

In fact, those gaps in our knowledge become a theme, continuing right up to the end, with the mystery of hangovers and what to do about them. Rogers is straightforward through it all, offering tantalizing glimpses and competing theories and explaining the science behind what is known and what is suspected, while making sure in his often sardonic style that we understand where the holes are and how sketchy some of the science remains.

"I think we make a mistake sometimes in science journalism in thinking that the interesting stories are discovery narratives," he says. "That's a good tale to tell, but scientists are most excited, I think, when they don't have an answer, when there's a question. Questions are really exciting. I was, at first, chagrined and ►

**Just Try One More**

**Penny Lee Dean '77**

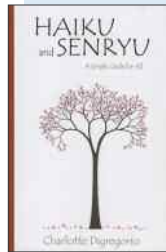


In this autobiography, swimming champ and former Pomona-Pitzer coach Penny Lee Dean '77 recounts her struggles to overcome adversity, leading to her record-shattering conquest of the English Channel. Balboa Press 2013 / 196 pages / \$14.99

**Haiku and Senryu**

*A Simple Guide for All*

**Charlotte Digregorio '75** gives



would-be poets a guide to one of poetry's most fascinating genres—the structured nature poems that originated in Japan and spread around the world. Artful Communicators Press 2014 / 248 pages / \$19.95

**"I Baked a Cake for Ike and Mamie!"**

*A Memoir of Douglas and Mabel McKay: Letters from Washington, D.C.*

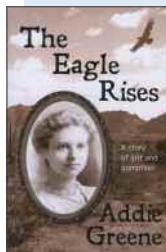


**Eileen Hadley Givens '65** offers this informal memoir of the Washington life and times of Douglas and Mabel McKay, part of President Eisenhower's Cabinet "family" from 1953 to 1956. Burbank Printing, 2014 / 264 pages / \$22.50

**The Eagle Rises**

*A Story of Grit and Gumption*

In her second novel, **Addie Greene '63** tells the based-on-truth family story of Midwestern bride Hannah Hamilton's experiences in early 20th-Century Mexico in the shadow of the Mexican Revolution. Laughing Dog Press 2014 / 324 pages / \$15.00



**Fog of Dead Souls**

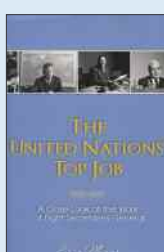
**Jill Kelly '68** offers up a richly layered and suspenseful thriller that one reviewer described as a "provocative concoction that occurs when you put a cowboy, a detective and a college professor in a literary blender with a psychopath." Skyhorse Publishing 2014 / 272 pages / \$24.95



**The United Nations' Top Job**

*A Close Look at the Work of Eight Secretaries-General*

After covering the United Nations for the *Christian Science Monitor* for many years, **Lucia Mouat '58** pulls together years of research and interviews into in-depth portraits of the eight men who have led that organization. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform 2014 / 530 pages / \$18.50



**Fire Season**

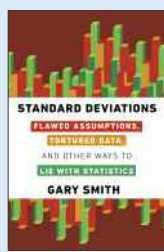
This first novel by **Miles Wilson '66**, drawing on his experience as a Forest Service hotshot during his years at Pomona College, won the Stephen F. Austin State University Press Fiction Prize for 2013. Stephen F. Austin University Press 2014 / 200 pages / \$20.00



**Standard Deviations**

*Flawed Assumptions, Tortured Data and Other Ways to Lie with Statistics*

Pomona Professor of Economics **Gary Smith** demystifies the science behind statistics and demonstrates how flawed statistics are used every day to defend mistaken or fraudulent arguments. Overlook Hardcover 2014 / 304 pages / \$28.95



then, I think, excited, also, by the fact that it didn't take me very long in any of the various fields of science that I looked into related to booze to get a scientist to say, "We don't know."

That makes the story more complex, but it also gives Rogers room to tell some intriguing stories just for the fun of it. "I spent a lot of time talking about Maria the Jewess, the alchemist who I say may have invented the science of distilling, invented the first still. Her story, whether that's true, is actually controversial. There's other science that puts the invention of the still in other places. One of the smartest historians and researchers in this field that I know doesn't think that Maria the Jewess invented the still at all. He thinks it was invented in China. He's a better scholar than I am, but I really wanted to tell that story, so I built an architecture where I could say this might not be true but it's a good story so let's tell it."

As a connoisseur of uncertainty, Rogers also has a little fun with some of the world's most pompous advocates of certainty—taste experts. In the chapter titled "Smell and Taste," in addition to a fascinating, blow-by-blow description of how we experience a sip of wine, he explores the problem of turning something so subjective into a verbal description—like the sommelier in the James Thurber cartoon who says, "It's a naïve domestic Burgundy without any breeding but I think you'll be amused by its presumption."

"I do nudge not just the wine sommeliers," he admits. "My furrowed brow also points at the professional tasters and writers in the worlds of whiskey and beer. The lack of rigor there does get under my skin a little bit, because it's presented with the air of objectivity and a certain air of science that I know isn't there."

As a man of words, however, Rogers is also sympathetic to those who are striving to describe the indescribable. He spends part of one chapter showing how the metaphors we use to explain what we taste have undergone a kind of professional standardization—making the results a bit more dependable—but in the end, it all remains highly subjective.

"You give us both the same glass of wine under the same conditions. You and I taste it. Arguably, it should taste exactly the same, but it doesn't taste exactly the same to both of us, and we don't really have a good way to explain to each other what that difference is. Because I'll say, "Well, it tastes like strawberries," and you'll say, "Oh, it tastes more like blackberry to me," but we might be tasting the same aromatic. We might be having the flavor of the same aromatic molecule touching the same set of dangling nerve endings in our olfactory epithelium. It's just that our language is different. Even that is still something that sense scientists are trying to solve."

After three intensive years of research and writing, Rogers isn't ready yet to launch into another book project, though he's mulling a few ideas over. None, however, has quite met his demanding criteria. Any future book, he says, will have to be on a subject that he finds so compelling that he simply can't leave it alone—like the subject matter of *Proof*. "It was a book that didn't exist and that I wanted," he says, "so I thought, 'Well, I'll write it then.' Now, I think that those are all necessary preconditions for writing another one."

# Mother and Warrior

## In Class with Professor Valorie Thomas

**In today's session** of Professor Valorie Thomas's class on AfroFuturisms, the discussion focuses on a painting by Christy Freeman and how the image both represents and challenges our conceptions of motherhood and reflects the blending of African Diaspora spirituality with Christianity.

**Thomas:** The belief is that when you are born, everyone has a protector, an Orisha who watches over your head, your "Ori," like a guardian spirit or a guardian angel. You might have relationships with one or more Orishas, and it is within your power as a human being to cultivate those relationships and to learn the lessons that Orisha has to teach you.

There are many Orisha and Catholic saint correspondences as a result of Africanisms encoded within Christianity. If you see images of Mary, and she's surrounded by stars and is in this archway full of color, and she's standing on a rock on the sea, all that ideography is consistent with Yemaya, the ocean

goddess who is seen as the ultimate protector and great mother figure. So she may be respected as Mary, but the figure will also be recognized and loved as Yemaya.

Each Orisha can have dozens of paths. There's Erzulie, a Haitian Orisha or Loa, who corresponds to the Yoruba Oshun and is also related to Yemaya. Erzulie is also connected to nurturing and motherliness, but she is the personification of love and the erotic, so she is seductive, flirtatious, loves jewelry, mirrors and sweets and wants to see people happy. But beneath that sweet façade, there's a formidable persona. I'm going to show you a painting of Erzulie Dantor, a different side or path of this deity. I'd like to have you respond to the image first, and then I'll tell you what fascinates me about it.

**Chloe:** In the heart on the crown, the top reminds me of ram's horns, giving the sense that this is someone who is tender and warm but also can defend herself. ▶



Class discussion centers around *Erzulie Dantor*, a painting by Christy Freeman.

### The Class: AfroFuturism

The course's name refers to Black science fiction, but extends far beyond that definition to engage futuristic, speculative and vernacular aesthetic modes that bend conventional genres and change perceptions of race, gender and what it means to be human.

### The Instructor:

#### Valorie Thomas

A member of the faculty since 1998, Valorie Thomas is an associate professor of English and Black Studies. She earned her B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from UC Berkeley and M.F.A. from UCLA. A recipient of Pomona's Irvine Distinguished Faculty Mentor Award, her research interests include African Diaspora literary and cultural theory, vernacular culture and language, Toni Morrison, AfroFuturism and contemporary Native American literature.

### From the Reading List:

- Octavia E. Butler, *Dawn*
- Teju Cole, (Seven very short stories about drones told through tweets)
- Edwidge Danticat, *Claire of the Sea Light*
- W.E.B. DuBois, "The Comet"
- Lorraine Hansberry, "What Use Are Flowers?"
- Sheree Renée Thomas, *Dark Matter: A Century of Speculative Fiction from the African Diaspora*



**Thomas:** Yes, this is reworking stories about the feminine, about gender, about power, breaking some of those conventional storylines that associate romance with sentimentality and weakness and docility. There's tension that comes through that might, in other contexts, seem diametrically opposed, but in this figure they are combined. The softness and hardness; the love, the heart, but also the dagger.

**Sophie:** It feels like a lot more emphasis on the mother figure, but then also there's a protective quality that I don't think is in Western portraits. Mary isn't usually actively protecting the baby and wielding a knife or wielding any sort of weaponry.

**Thomas:** What do we know as viewers about those images that you're talking about? Where Mary's not necessarily on watch, on guard; the child is just in his mother's arms. How does the story end? Those images of Madonna and child, that's the beginning of the story. We already know the ending. This is a disturbing image in that this Mary is thinking off script. It's a stance of agency and aggression, a huge intervention on the narrative and on the established, fundamental, archetypal, Christian narrative, even though it's still framed as Christianity.

**Byron:** I have a question about her necklace. I wanted to know: what's the significance of that as a Christian icon?

**Thomas:** It's a heart and what else? What is hanging below the heart?

**Chloe:** It could be a skull.

**Byron:** It looks like a nail.

**Thomas:** It's silver. Is it a nail, are we agreeing that it's a nail?

**Byron:** There is also something that looks like a snake.

**Thomas:** I'm so glad you brought up the necklace. We need to consider all those possibilities. The snake is an ancient Vodun archetype, not evil but representa-

tive of life and transformation. What about the line of that little dagger on the necklace? Where's the line going?

**Renata:** It's going right towards him.

**Thomas:** It's going right towards him, right? In this case, Mary's saying, "Well, I have a knife, too."



**Sophie:** The stars in the painting also are evocative for me. It's like faith of some sort, which maybe is nonsensical or unreasonable, because they also have resonance with anti-faith.

**Thomas:** In a particularly African-American or African diasporic context, how might you come to be thinking about the stars?

**Sophie:** A star guide for going home.

**Catherine:** Using the signs of the stars to move north.

**Thomas:** To move north because?

**Catherine:** Out of slavery. To freedom.

**Thomas:** The stars are the liberation narrative, at least back in the day of enslavement when knowing about astronomy was a useful skill in escaping and moving towards liberation. When I first saw this amazing picture it immediately tweaked my understanding of the character Sethe in Toni Morrison's *Beloved*. She commits infanticide when

the slave catchers are on her heels. The controversy, the tension in this story is the question: Is this motherhood? I think the painting also asks that same question. What if the knife ends up being something that is protecting the child by keeping it from the attacker who will certainly dehumanize and obliterate its spirit? Sethe says, "I wasn't going to let them take that child, wasn't going to let them make that child go through the monstrosity that I went through." It redefines the terms of motherhood as not only creator but also potential destroyer; nurturer but also warrior. That's the ultimate extreme case, extreme scenario, but it does bring the idea of the feminine principle into connection with the highest possible stakes of life and death.

Hong Deng Gao '15

# History & Change

An outstanding student who was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in her junior year, Hong Deng Gao has been on a mission since she came to Pomona College. ▶



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A native of China, Hong and her mother moved to Brooklyn in 2005. When her mother developed life-threatening liver disease, Hong helped her navigate the often confusing public hospital system. Determined to improve access to health care for other low-income immigrants, Hong developed a proposal through the Draper Center to train college volunteers as health navigators for patients with limited English proficiency and literacy. Hong devotes much of her free time to the Draper Center, working as a coordinator for programs such as Alternabreak, a community engagement spring break program.

### History as explanation

“Because of my immigrant background, I like to trace things back to their origins, whether it’s the earliest pilgrims, or Chinese immigrants who came in the 1800s, or recent refugee groups. It can really help explain some of what we see now. Why do Chinatowns exist in the U.S. today? What were the Chinese discriminatory laws that were passed back then and how do they still impact people today?”

### In the library and on the ground

“I’ve been working with Professor (Samuel) Yamashita on the impact Chinese restaurants have had on Chinese-American communities. In the summer after my sophomore year, I went to New York, where I interviewed and observed children who help out in their parents’ Chinese takeout restaurants and Korean grocery stores. I went back to New York this summer, and to Honolulu and San Francisco, where I conducted archival research in local libraries and museums on high-end Chinese restaurants. I wanted to know what these upscale restaurants mean in the context of Chinese immigration and race relations, and the history of restaurants in the three cities. So, in a sense, my research has been both sociological and historical.”



**Hong Deng Gao '15**

- **MAJOR:** History
- **SUPPORTED BY:** Financial Aid, Draper Center for Community Partnerships, Summer Undergraduate Research Program, The Annual Fund

**“THE IDEA I CAME UP WITH IS HEALTH BRIDGES, WHERE BILINGUAL COLLEGE VOLUNTEERS WORK WITH LOCAL HOSPITALS TO GIVE PARENTS LIKE MY MOM THE EMOTIONAL SUPPORT THEY NEED AND HELP THEM UNDERSTAND AND NAVIGATE THE SYSTEM.”**

### A mother’s struggle, a daughter’s inspiration

“My mom was the inspiration for my social entrepreneurship project with the Draper Center. She had liver disease, and from the time I was about 15 years old, I helped her deal with the public hospital system, because it was hard for her to do it on her own. She didn’t really speak any English and couldn’t read the signs or the documents or bills. When I got to Pomona, I started thinking more about this issue and how I could help other non-English speaking immigrants.”

### Building a bridge to better health care

“The idea I came up with is Health Bridges, where bilingual college volunteers work with local hospitals to give parents like my mom the emotional support they need and help them understand and

navigate the system.

The students are definitely going to be a lot more competent in understanding the hospital procedures than these immigrant patients who are already sick and tired and can’t really deal with the system anymore.” [Health Bridges is dedicated to Hong’s mother, Jian Li Lin, who died in 2011.]

### Coaching from the Draper Center

“Emily Arnold-Hernandez ’99, who teaches a social entrepreneurship workshop at the Draper Center, helped us develop our visions, goals and budgets, and to understand every single detail of how nonprofit organizations work. Where do you get funding? What are all the questions that you need to think about and have prepared before you can pitch the proposal to a funder? It was really great. I’m planning to start a pilot project this semester and, if it works out, to take a gap year before grad school to fully develop the program in different hospitals and expand it to other college campuses.”

### Academia and social change

“I’ve been thinking about the question of how to bridge academia with social justice and social change. Some people see them as very distinct fields, but I think as a scholar you can still make a huge impact in society. You can change the mindset of your audience. And if the audience is policy makers or other scholars or even college students, and if they go on and take this message with them, then that’s the impact that I’d like to have.”

### Daring Minds

“When I think of Daring Minds, I think of three characteristics. One is to have a vision; second is to be willing to take the risk of implementing that vision; and third is accomplishing your goal by taking concrete steps, not being afraid of failure and persevering until the end.”

—Mary Marvin

### Dinner on Marston Quad

was one of the more than 140 events and activities that made up Alumni Weekend 2014. Mark your calendars now for Alumni Weekend 2015, which will take place April 30 to May 3. *More photos on page 64.*





IT MAY BE MOSTLY A BLUE-COLLAR GRIND AND REQUIRE A LOT OF DIFFERENT HATS, BUT ANDREW KESSLER '03 SAYS LIFE AS AN NFL AGENT ALSO HAS ITS TRANSCENDENT MOMENTS.

# Jerry Maguire Moments

By Jeremy Kniffin

**The walls of the** Athletes First offices are filled with autographed jerseys, photos and other memorabilia from their National Football League clients, including such household names as Aaron Rodgers, Ray Lewis, Drew Bledsoe and Clay Matthews. Among the jerseys and photos in Andrew Kessler's office is a framed copy of *Newsday* from 2011 showing a photo of New York Jets quarterback and Athletes First client Mark Sanchez celebrating a 28–21 playoff win over the New England Patriots with an exuberant scream and a handshake over the front railing of the stands.

Kessler '03, who is a certified contract advisor and player agent with Athletes First in Laguna Hills, and who helped negotiate the (yes) 47-page rookie contract for Sanchez, is on the receiving end of the handshake. "My Jerry Maguire moment," he laughs. "That was an AP photo, so it ended up everywhere."

After graduating from Pomona with a degree in English, and playing for four years on the Sagehens football team, Kessler jumped right into his current field working at IMG Sports with Tom Con-

don, ranked by *Sports Illustrated* as the most influential sports agent in the country last year. Kessler, whose father has been a long-time legal representative for the NFL Players Association, had already served an internship with NBA agent Marc Fleisher while attending Pomona, traveling with 18-year old client Tony Parker to various NBA workouts (Parker has since gone on to win four NBA titles with the San Antonio Spurs and former Sagehen coach Gregg Popovich).

In his first two years at IMG, Kessler assisted Condon in putting together landmark contracts for Peyton Manning (seven years, \$90 million) and Eli Manning (six years, \$54 million), while also attending law school at the University of Texas. In his decade in the field at IMG and Athletes First, where he has worked primarily with David Dunn (No. 11 on the *Sports Illustrated* list of most influential agents), Kessler has been a part of negotiating contracts that total well over a billion dollars.

Most recently, Kessler helped put together a four-year, \$40 million dollar deal for Super Bowl champion safety Earl

Thomas of the Seattle Seahawks, making him the highest-paid player ever at his position. Kessler returned to his original home in New York City in February to see Thomas win Super Bowl XLIII at the Meadowlands, before helping to negotiate his landmark deal. Of course, Athletes First was guaranteed to be on the winning side of that Super Bowl regardless, as the firm also represents several members of the Denver Broncos, including wide receiver Wes Welker and linebacker Von Miller.

Kessler, who resides in Laguna Beach with his wife, Alison, and son, Jordan (2), has found success in a highly-competitive, big-money industry at an age when he has been younger than some of his clients. He draws some personal parallels to his playing days for Pomona-Pitzer football, when his teams went a combined 17–15 over four years despite fielding small rosters that were often significantly outweighed by their opponents.

"One lesson I learned from playing at Pomona is that you can't judge a book by its cover," he said. "Just about every game we played, we would lose the eyesight test. Sometimes if you just looked at the two teams in warm-ups, you'd think we'd lose by three or four touchdowns, but then the game would start and we'd win by playing harder, smarter or more fundamental football. You see the same things on the job, whether it be negotiating a contract or signing a player or issues with a client. The odds might look against you from the outside looking in, but you can accomplish your goals by digging deeper than the other guys and not being intimidated."

He is also quick to point out that his academic experience at Pomona has been a big influence on his career. "Most of what I have learned in this business has come from on-the-job training or from my dad," he said. "But the critical thinking and analytical skills that I use in my profession have come just as much from what I learned at Pomona, as an English major studying Henry James novels, as they have from taking law school courses in contract law."



New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez celebrates a 2011 playoff victory with a handshake over the railing with his agent, Andrew Kessler '03 (in the gray cap).

Although Kessler willingly made a reference to Jerry Maguire, the fictional sports agent played by Tom Cruise in the 1996 movie (best remembered for the phrase, "show me the money"), he does laugh at the way the movie portrays his line of work. "I imagine it's the same way that real spies view James Bond movies," he says. "People may see the eight-figure deals in the headlines, but there's a real grind and blue-collar element to the job, which I enjoy. It takes months of negotia-

tions and legwork to reach those deals. You can't just walk in and say 'give me this, I want it.' You have to justify your rationale to the team."

The life of a sports agent can also involve much more than negotiating the fine print of a 47-page contract, and Kessler feels that makes it even more rewarding. "One of my favorite things about this business is that you get to be involved in a lot of different charitable endeavors and other outside interests for

your clients," he says. "I've helped our clients raise money for sick kids, families of veterans, youth football organizations and all sorts of things. Some clients just want you involved in one specific part of their lives, and with other clients, you find yourself wearing a lot of different hats—relationship counselor, wedding planner, financial advisor, and you get to talk to them all the time."

Kessler may also have a career-building opportunity as the primary agent ▶

representing Marqise Lee, a second-round pick of the Jacksonville Jaguars in the 2014 NFL Draft. Lee has a Hollywood-type story of overcoming a rough childhood that saw him bounce around several foster homes before becoming the Fred Biletnikoff Award winner at USC as the nation's top wide receiver.

While his professional experience has been largely centered on the NFL, Kessler has also used his success at Athletes First to begin his own side project called K3 Tennis, which is representing Ernesto Escobedo, a 17-year-old rising star from West Covina. "I'm excited about it," said Kessler. "It's still in its early stages and if nothing else, it's really fun. Some might call it a risky move to invest in something on my own, but that's always been my personality. I traveled 3,000 miles from New York City to attend Pomona, which was a little bit risky, and I really liked my time at Pomona. When a risk like that pays off, you're more willing to take other risks."

His career as an athlete and as an agent has also given Kessler some philosophical perspective. Athletics is, by its nature, hyper-competitive, with a player's or team's value often defined by just a simple list of wins and losses. That attitude spills over into other sports-related industries as well. An agent's success can be defined by wins and losses in contract negotiations, clients signed and dollars generated. Failures happen, and he sometimes sees colleagues who take each defeat as hard as the players on the field do.

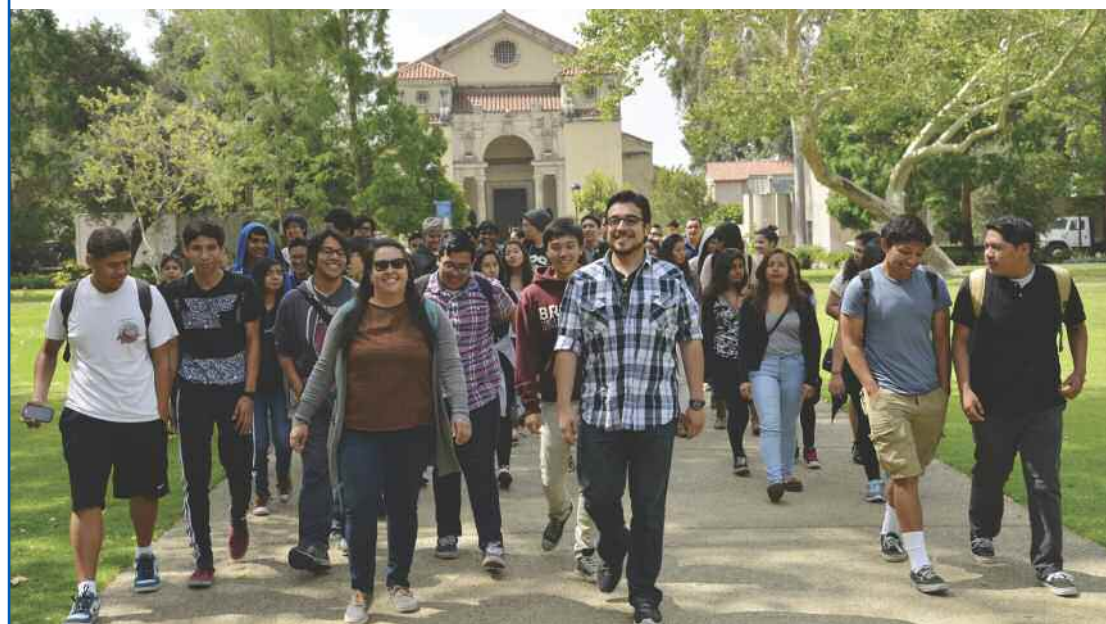
"You have to appreciate successes," he said. "You hear people say that they hate losing more than they like winning, and I understand that philosophy, but you have to have balance or you won't be happy. My bad days aren't really all that bad. On my good days, I've been there to see Earl Thomas win a Super Bowl. I've been there with Marqise Lee and his family when he was drafted, after he overcame so much adversity."

Of course, he was also there to celebrate a big playoff win with Mark Sanchez and end up with his picture in newspapers all over the country.

"If you can't enjoy a moment like that," he says. "Something's wrong."



**Pomona in the City, New York City:** Professor of Biology Lenny Seligman gave the keynote address when Pomona in the City came to New York City in March. The second annual Pomona in the City event "took Pomona on the road" to highlight the academic offerings of the College for alumni, parents and friends in the Big Apple. Sagehens got to choose two lectures from a variety of subjects. Other participating faculty included Professor of Economics Eleanor Brown, Professor of International Relations Cameron Munter, Professor of Sociology and Chicana/o-Latina/o studies Gilda Ochoa, Professor of Physics and Astronomy Bryan Penprase, Professor of Neuroscience Nicole Weekes, and President David Oxtoby, speaking as a professor of chemistry. The next Pomona in the City will come to Washington, D.C., on Sunday, November 16, 2014.



**Jason Torres-Rangel '03 (center right) and Rosa Jimenez '04 (center left)** lead a group of high school students from the new UCLA Community School at the Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools Complex in Los Angeles, which Torres-Rangel and Jimenez helped to found and where they now teach. The two Pomona alumni organized the visit to Pomona College for about 40 college-bound students. The school is one of five located where the city's old Ambassador Hotel once stood.

## Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Awards for 2014

The Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award honors alumni for achievement in their professions or community service, particularly those who have lived up to the quotation from James A. Blaisdell which is inscribed into the gates of the College: "They only are loyal to this college who departing bear their added riches in trust for mankind." This year, there are three winners:

**Ifeanyi "Tony" Menkiti '64** taught philosophy at Wellesley College for 40 years and is the author of four collections of poetry: *Before a Common Soil* (2007), *Of Altair, the Bright Light* (2005), *The Jubilation of Falling Bodies* (1978), and *Affirmations* (1971). He is the owner of the Grolier Poetry Book Shop in Harvard Square, the nation's oldest continuous all-poetry bookshop.

Born in Onitsha, Nigeria, he came to Pomona in 1961 on the ASPAU program (African Scholarship Program of American Universities). After Pomona, he attended Columbia University Pulitzer School of Journalism, New York University and Harvard University. In 1975, he received a fellowship in poetry from the Massachusetts State Council on the Arts and Humanities, followed in 1978 by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. In addition to his collections, his poems have appeared in *Sewanee Review*, *Ploughshares*, *New Directions*, *The Massachusetts Review* and other publications.

In 1996, he received the Pinanski Prize for Excellence in Teaching from Wellesley College.

**Joe Palca '74** has been a science correspondent for National Public Radio since 1992. He has covered a range of topics, from biomedical research to astronomy, and is currently focused on the series, *Joe's Big Idea*, which explores the minds and motivations of scientists and inventors.

Palca began his career in 1982 as a health producer for the CBS affiliate in Washington, D.C. In 1986, he began a seven-year stint as a print journalist, first with *Nature* and then with *Science Magazine*. In 2009, he took a six-month leave from NPR to become science writer in residence at The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens.

Palca has won numerous awards for his work, including the National Academies Communications Award, the Science-in-Society Award of the National Association of Science Writers and the

American Association for the Advancement of Science Journalism Prize. With Flora Lichtman, Palca is the co-author of *Annoying: The Science of What Bugs Us* (Wiley, 2011).

A psychology major at Pomona, he later earned both an M.S. and a Ph.D. in psychology at UC Santa Cruz, where he studied human sleep physiology.



**Rip Rapson '74** is president and CEO of The Kresge Foundation, a national, private foundation based in Detroit. Since 2006, he has led Kresge in developing programs in arts and culture, education, environment, health, human services and the renewal of Detroit, distributing approximately \$150 million annually.

Rapson was a political science major at Pomona, graduating *magna cum laude*. After attending Columbia Law School, he joined the Minneapolis law firm of Leonard, Street and Deinard. He was recruited in 1989 to become the deputy mayor of Minneapolis under Mayor Don Fraser, and was primary architect of the pioneering Neighborhood Revitalization program, a 20-year, \$400 million effort to strengthen Minneapolis neighborhoods.

Prior to joining Kresge, Rapson was president of the Minnesota-based McKnight Foundation and also launched the Itasca Project, a private sector-led effort to develop a new regional agenda for the Twin Cities.

He is the author of two books: *Troubled Waters*, a chronicle of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act legislation, and *Ralph Rapson: Sixty Years of Modern Design*, a biography of his father, a renowned architect.

## Inspirational Young Alumni Award

**Lt. Francine Segovia '04**, a U.S. Navy Reserve research psychologist at the Robert E. Mitchell Center for Prisoner of War Studies, assists survivors recovering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). She is part of a team of scientists and medical specialists examining how optimism and resilience may boost the health of extreme trauma victims.

Segovia, who will return to active-duty service at the U.S. Naval Medical Center in San Diego, attributes her research skills to experience she gained while at Pomona, including participation in the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP). "The critical thinking skills graduates from an institution like Pomona possess have a direct impact on all your work moving forward," she says. "These skills have moved me tremendously as I navigated my career."



Pacific Whale Foundation

## Hawaiian Seascapes (Big Island to Molokai)

With Geology Professor Rick Hazlett

Dec. 5-12, 2015

**Board the Safari Explorer** for a seven-day cruise from the Big Island of Hawaii to the island of Molokai, with stops on West Maui and the "private island" of Lanai. Enjoy dramatic volcanic backdrops, marine life sightings, and opportunities for snorkeling, kayaking and paddleboarding. Join Geology Professor Rick Hazlett for this seagoing tour, with a look into the islands' volcanic origins, unique history, and astounding diversity of sea life. Highlights include a night snorkel with giant Pacific manta rays, a marine life search in the Humpback National Marine Sanctuary, and an evening *pa'ina* (feast) and Hawaiian jam session on Molokai.

FUTURE TRIP:

## From Angles to Angels: The Christianization of Barbarian England

With History Professor Ken Wolf

TBA (2015 or 2016)

**The eighth** in a series of alumni walking trips with a medieval theme, this is the first involving the United Kingdom. Its purpose is to appreciate the fascinating history (captured by the Venerable Bede) of the conversion of the barbarian conquerors of England, starring the Irish and Roman missionaries who competed for the souls of the pagan Angles and Saxons. In Scotland, you will visit Kilmartin, Dumbarton and Loch Lomond; in England, Lindisfarne, Hadrian's Wall and Durham Cathedral.

For more information about these or any of our other trips, please contact the Pomona College Alumni Office at (909) 621-8110 or [alumni@pomona.edu](mailto:alumni@pomona.edu).

1927

After the deaths of **Richard and Kathleen Stevens Armour**, their son, **Geoff Armour '63**, found some unpublished manuscripts of his father's in a box in his parents' garage. After working on them for a while, editing and adding photographs, he has produced two books: *Lost Manuscripts*, published through the Richard Armour Press in San Diego and a forthcoming autobiography. See <http://armourpress.com>.

1937

**Ruth Westcott Kennan** was on campus for Alumni Weekend, May 3, 2014.

1939

On campus for Alumni Weekend was **Daniel Bulkeley** from Phoenix, OR.

1942

**BJ (Betty Jean) Caldwell Barnes**, Pomona, CA, writes that at age 93, she is now living in The Health Center at Mt. San Antonio Gardens.

1944

**Wendell Clauson Miller** was on campus for Alumni Weekend.

1945

"Sunny" **Schultz Stevenson** was on campus for Alumni Weekend.

1947

**Claire Kingman McDonald** and **Lee McDonald '48** were on campus for Alumni Weekend events for Claire's class. ♦ **Robin Shelton** was also on campus for Alumni Weekend.

1948

**Margaret Finlayson Maxwell** is this year's recipient of the State Library of Arizona's Polly Rosenbaum Award, which is presented annually during Statehood Day celebrations at the State Capitol. She was honored on Feb. 14, 2014, in Phoenix. The award honors an individual or group that cherishes Arizona's rich cultural resources and supports the work of the Arizona State Library Archives and Public Records. Margaret is retired from the U. of Arizona in Tucson, where she was a professor in the School of Library and Information Studies. She taught classes in Basic and Advanced Cataloging, History of Books, and her favorite, the History of Children's Literature. She is an award-winning author of a wide range of books and articles on Southwest history. Her work in library science and history was recognized with the U. of Arizona's Creative Teaching Award in 1982. ♦ **Jean Sones Mill** was on campus for Alumni Weekend.

1949

On campus for Alumni Weekend were members of the class of Nikeans: **Lila Hebel Bartz**, **James Bell**, **Nancy Strohecker Bell**, **Charles Chandler**, **Jean Hughes Chandler**, **Margaret Hamilton Ehrig**, **Austin Frank**, **Ruth Wheeler Fuller**, **Garland Harton Graas**, **William Hollingsworth**, **Craig Hubble**, **Selma Artz Johnson**, **Jo Poe Lowry**, **William Moremen**, **Gale Reynolds**. **Jean Belknap Rogers**, **Maggi Sanford**, **Marjorie Lindquist Sawyer**, **Paul Schwab**, **Shirley Barnes Schwab**, "Bobbie" **Dozier Spurgin**, **Lawrence West** and **Milton Wilson**. ♦ **Austin Frank**, El Cerrito, CA, writes: "I was able to return to campus on Alumni Weekend this year for our class's 65th reunion, and on Friday, a very hot day, I walked into Rains Athletic Center looking for a drink-



**Garland Harton Graas** with her granddaughter **Julia Fariss '07** at Alumni Weekend. (See classes of '49 and '07.)

ing fountain. The long ground floor hall has one wall covered with pictures of Pomona athletes, primarily from teams in the first quarter of the 1900's. Mostly men, of course, but I remembered my mother, **Martha Griggs '25**, had said she had been active in women's sports, so I searched. And there she was in two of the three team pictures! 89 years ago! On the Quad the next day I sought out the College archivist, **Jamie Weber**, and asked if she could get me copies. Instead she found and sent me an 'extra' copy of the *Metate* for that year with all the pictures in it, a fascinating, sentimental treasure.

♦ See photo for a picture of **Garland Harton Graas** with her granddaughter **Julia Fariss '07** taken on Alumni Weekend. ♦ On March 9, 2014, **Bill Moremen** achieved the world record for men age 85-89 in the 10K racewalk in Huntington Beach, CA, at the West Regional Racewalk Championships. He also holds nine national records.

1950

On campus for Alumni Weekend were **Joanne Sheets McDaniel Chandler**, **Helen Fowler Crawford**, **Dorothy Dozier Fountain**, **Ray Fowler** and **Don Moss**.

1951

On campus for Alumni Weekend were: **Elinor Todd Christiansen**, **Liz Anderson Moore**, **Hank Morgan**, **Mary Carolyn Reed Reid**, **Joyce Schomberg Reinke**, **Roger Reinke**, **Bob Tranquada** and **Jan Martin Tranquada**. ♦ **Gurnee Hart** reports he is now on the board of the French Heritage Society, which is dedicated to preserving the French architectural, cultural and historical heritage, and to fostering educational and cultural exchange between France and the U.S. He adds: "The New York Philharmonic continues to be a great interest."

1952

On campus for Alumni Weekend were: **Dick Dozier**, **Charlott Dallett Mathews**, **Grace Partin Moremen**, **Julia Salcido Nathanson**, **Marie Modesti Spencer** and **Helen Iest Tidwell**. ♦ In early Dec. 2013, **Harry Major** sent your class note editor a letter and enclosed his obituary, writing that he wanted it to be used when the time came. I replied that I would put it in his alumni file, but I was sure that I would be long retired before it would be needed. Little did Harry and I know how soon this was to be. (See Obits.) Harry was found by police on Feb. 12, 2014, murdered in his Hollywood apartment. A suspect has been arrested and is being held without bail. In his letter to me, Harry wrote that he tried

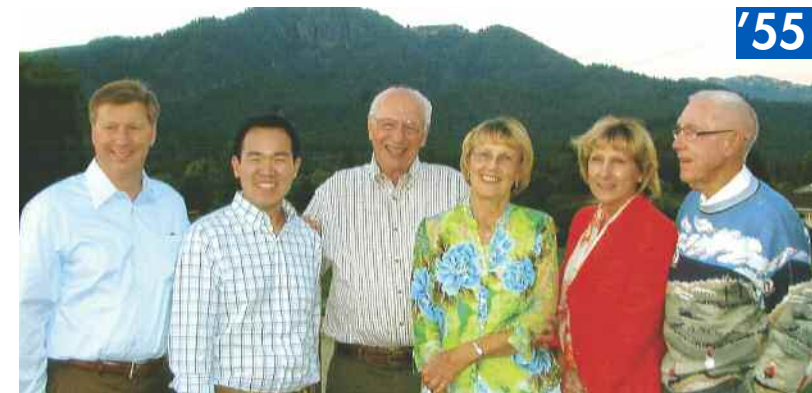
to introduce a "bit of humor into the routine announcements (i.e. class notes)," which I believe he generally did. ♦ The Episcopal Church has honored **Al Weirick** posthumously with its "Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Center of St. Paul" for his work in the church, specifically around the Palestinian issue. (See Obits, Spring 2014 *PCM*.)

1953

On campus for Alumni Weekend were: **John Cookson**, **Charlotte Sides Hotchkiss** and **John Thornton**. ♦ **Alan Cook** did two short performances with his puppets at the Skirball Puppet Festival in April 2013 at the Skirball Cultural Center on Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles. It was a family celebration of the wonders of puppet theater. Alan writes: "At the end of April, we vacated the Pasadena space of our International Puppetry Museum. Half the collection is already in Seattle at the Northwest Puppet Center. I am experiencing post partum, but since all my volunteers are older, it was time."

1955

**Dick Donat** writes: "After a three-five year 'rotational' assignment in New Jersey that lasted 34 years, Darlene and I have returned to Calif. and settled in Oakmont, a retirement community in Santa Rosa. It's a great location at the northern end of Sonoma Valley with sweeping views of mountains and vineyards out our back windows. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary here last summer with family and friends, including Sagehen graduates spanning more than 50 years." The photo includes from left **Chris Donat '91**, **Chris Ng '04**, **Dick Donat** with **Darlene**, **Linda Hatch Ainsworth '78** and **Bob Hatch '51**.



The 50th wedding anniversary of **Dick Donat** and **Darlene Donat**. (See Class of '55)

1957

**Jim Bogen** has been elected to the American Association for the Advancement of Science fellowship. He writes: "On the other hand, I just lost a game of chess to my 10-year-old grandchild, **Madeline Jo King**." ♦ **Lois Drake Ferguson** writes: "After living 36 years in the same house in San Diego, I decided to move to a delightful condo in Minneapolis, close to my younger daughter. I'm located near several lakes which I already enjoy walking around. Not only are Minnesotans friendly, but they are definitely outdoorsmen! There's definitely weather here, and if you don't like it, just wait a minute as it will change soon, sometimes dramatically. I love the seasonal changes; have been coming out here a lot the last 14 years and finally decided to make it permanent."

1959

**J. Cris Miller** is the author of a "double book." The first half of the book is *Tokens on the Table (A Tip is Not Enough)* #1 in the Death and Gambling Mystery Series with illustrations by **Will Husa**. The story on flip side is *Contrary Mary (All in Good Time)*, #1 in the Diamonds in the Dust Southwestern Romance Saga, illustrated by **W. G. Wilkin**. A JCMA Book published by **J. Cris Miller & Assoc.** Go to <http://www.stories-fromjcma.com>

1960

**Barbara Schuyler**, Columbia, MD, writes: "Thanks to the Supreme Court ruling, **Pat [Wilson]** and I married on our 36th anniversary last July 2013. We have just moved to a retirement residence and are loving it."

1961

**Ralph Bolton**, professor of anthropology at Pomona, was awarded the Liberator Simon Bolivar First Rank Medal of Distinction on May 9, 2014, by the National University of Trujillo, in Trujillo, Peru. On May 7th, he gave the keynote speech at the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Social Sciences Faculty and the School of Anthropology at the university and served as the official representative of the Society for Applied Anthropology. ♦ **Joe Grippo's** new book, *Public Speaking: An Art That Can Be Learned*, was released on Amazon in Feb. and is also available at Barnes & Noble. This is the 2nd edition of the book, first published in 2009, which won a Readers' Favorite Silver Medal for Nonfiction. This edition has many new software tools that have been introduced to enhance presentation visual aids.

'55

1962

**Cheryl Peterson Norman**, American Fork, UT, on the national board of directors of the Music Teachers National Assn. (MTNA) 2012-14, received their prestigious Foundation Fellowship Award at their national conference in Chicago in March. Cheryl has performed as a pianist in China, Italy, Mexico and the Western U.S. and has taught piano at Brigham Young U. and Utah Valley U. She has served on the MTNA National Certification Commission and provided teacher training classes to music teachers in Utah and via Skype to those in other states. She has traveled throughout the world with archaeologist husband, **V. Garth Norman**. ♦ **Tracy Westen** writes: "My wife, **Linda Lawson**, and I have moved from L.A. to Dallas, TX, to spend time with Linda's older son, daughter-in-law and granddaughters. I've joined the board of Texas Common Cause, after a number of years on the National Common Cause board, and am looking forward to meeting new friends and finding interesting activities. Our son, **Tyler Westen** (Occidental College '08) is a rising young L.A. film composer, who has scored his first film and is writing songs for a new musical to premiere in Oct. 2014." Tracy has published a new book, *Voter Information in the Digital Age: Grading State Election Websites* (CGS 2012), which analyzes and grades the 50 states and District of Columbia's websites that present voters with electoral information.

1963

**Geoff Armour** writes: "Just wanted to let you know about two new books by my father, **Richard Armour '27** that are being published posthumously. After my father and mother, **Kathleen Stevens Armour '27** passed away, I discovered some unpublished manuscripts in a box in their garage. I've been working on these for quite awhile, doing a lot of editing and adding photographs and finally got them published." Information about them can be found on the website: <http://www.armourpress.com>, a site for Richard Armour Press, which is dedicated to Richard Armour, a prolific poet, satirist, teacher and wizard of whimsy. ♦ **Chris Henze** writes that the village of Zwochau, outside of Leipzig, Germany, changed the name of its main street to honor his great-great-grandfather, revolutionary Pastor **Johann Friedrich Baltzer** (1801-1885). The Hauptstrasse is now Baltzerstrasse. Chris and his sister donated the original portrait of Pastor Baltzer and it is now hanging in the foyer of his 12th century St. Martin's Church where he preached in favor of democracy and was sentenced to prison for it.

1964

In March, **Stephanie Stewart Covington** was in Stirling, Scotland, to participate in a United Kingdom-wide series of workshops on trauma-informed practice, something in which she is a leading world expert. She was invited by **Nancy Loucks Kenny '89** and her organization, Families Outside, a national Scottish charity that works exclusively on behalf of families affected by imprisonment. The workshop was also hosted by the Scottish Prison Service and the Women@Risk coalition. For further details see Nancy's note in '89. Nancy writes: "During our evening meal the

night before Day 1 of the workshop, we realized that she's Stephanie Covington of Pomona class of '64 and I'm Nancy Loucks of '89. Small world indeed!" (See photo in 1989.) Stephanie is with the Institute for Relational Development/Center for Gender and Justice based in La Jolla, CA. ♦ *Wandering in Paris: Luminaries and Love in the City of Light*, edited by Bay Area author and journalist, **Joanna Wallace Biggar** and Bay Area poet, novelist and travel writer, **Linda Watanabe McFerrin**, took top honors in the anthologies and collections category in the 2013 London Book Festival. The collection, which includes a foreword by noted Paris-based author and travel writer **David Downie** and the work of talented Bay Area writers, is the third in a series from the Wanderland Writers workshops ([www.wanderlandwriters.com](http://www.wanderlandwriters.com)) which has produced collections of essays on Costa Rica and Bali. ♦ **Ifeyanyi Menkiti**, philosophy professor and poet at Wellesley College and owner of an independent poetry bookstore, was recognized with a 2014 Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award at the "Through the Gates: Celebrating Pomona" program on Saturday, May 3, in Big Bridges Auditorium during Alumni Weekend. On May 28, 2014, he retired from Wellesley after 41 years of teaching.

1965

**Peggy Arnold** writes: "Seems like only yesterday we all studied and frolicked on the Pomona campus, and yet we're all either talking about or living out retirement as we approach our 50th reunion. Truly mind-boggling! Full retirement may forever elude me, but at least I'm now working only half-time, thanks to Social Security. I still coordinate our local community hospital's senior wellness program, but my work is edging more and more in the direction of end-of-life planning, as contradictory as that may sound. I teach a monthly advance directives class, am part of the hospital's Transitions of Care team, am speaker/coach and on the advisory group for The Conversation Project ([theconversationprojectinboulder.org](http://theconversationprojectinboulder.org)), and engaged with Death Cafes (Google it). I am also working with a dying retired physician in Sweden to record his story as he shares his journey from diagnosis/prognosis to the surprising twists and turns he's encountered along the way. I'm obviously all about bringing death and dying out of the closet and am most grateful to my mother, whose story is on the Aging with Dignity website, for opening that door while she was still alive." ♦ **Tony Chambers**, San Diego, CA, reports that he has retired after 43 years of teaching Japanese literature at Arizona State and Wesleyan universities. ♦ *I Baked a Cake for Ike and Mamie!* is the title of a recently published book by **Eileen Hadley Givens**. The book is an informal memoir of her grandparents, **Douglas** and **Mabel McKay**, who were part of President **Dwight D. Eisenhower's** cabinet "family" while Doug served as Secretary of the Interior from 1953-1956. Based on hundreds of letters written by Mabel to family and friends, the book also includes many historical photos. Eileen has been invited to give a "book talk" at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum on Ike's 125th birthday in October 2014.

1966

In Feb., **Tony Zold** was given a surprise 70th birthday party at his home on Lummi Island, WA. Shown in the photo are: **Lynne Willems Zold '67** and **Tony** with **Bill Savage** and **Diane Traverser Savage '68**. Bill and Diane braved a nasty snowstorm to drive up from Portland (over nine hours just from Portland to Seattle). Lynne adds: "You could label

tary, and our audience will be clearly advised which is which. I think the main thing The Marshall Project can offer that *The Times* or another general interest news organization cannot is an intensity of focus. We will be devoting a lot of fire-power and journalistic creativity to one very large subject." ♦ **Michael Starbird**, University Distinguished Teaching Pro-

'66



The 70th birthday of **Tony Zold**. (See Class of '66)

of the 'Fab Four' since it was the 50th anniversary of the Beatles on Ed Sullivan and we played a tape of that event and all 20 people at the party got quite silly. 50 years ago, Beatles records were banned in the girls' (yes, girl not women) dorms—not that it stopped us!"

1970

In Feb., *New York Times* columnist and former executive editor **Bill Keller** announced that he was leaving *The Times* to run a new nonprofit news organization called The Marshall Project. The Marshall Project intends to have a staff of 20-25 full-time journalists supported by donations from foundations and individuals. The online news outlet ([www.themarshallproject.org](http://www.themarshallproject.org)) will confront the failings of the criminal justice system in the U. S. In an interview with **Brian Stelter** of *CNN-Money*, Bill adds: "The reporting at The

fessor of Mathematics at the U. of Texas, Austin, received an Honorary Doctor of Science degree at Pomona's 121st commencement exercises on Sunday, May 18, 2014. He was presented by **Johanna Hardin '95**, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Pomona.

1971

Col. Retired **Peter V. Huisking** has joined the staff of U.S. Congressman **Ron Barber** (D-AZ) in the Cochise County District office. His duties include outreach to all the communities in Cochise County in the southeastern part of Arizona and along the border with Mexico. ♦ **Virginia Morell's** book, *Animal Wise: The Thoughts and Emotions of our Fellow Creatures* was selected as one of 14 "Notable Books of Nonfiction" for 2014 by The American Library Assoc. In March, Virginia was on assignment for

'71



**Virginia Morell** and friends on assignment for *National Geographic* north of the Arctic Circle. (See Class of '71)

Marshall Project will be held (by me) to *Times* standards of accuracy, fairness, skepticism, independence. It will be accountability journalism, intended to confront failings of the (criminal justice) system, but it will not be polemical or partisan. (There is a surprisingly broad and bipartisan consensus that our criminal justice system is broken.) Along with impartial reporting, there will also (be) streams of commen-

*Nat. Geo* magazine watching orcas and humpbacks in a Norwegian fjord 200-miles north of the Arctic Circle. "We snorkeled with the whales to watch as they herded masses of herring: the orcas have a very coordinated method for doing so; the humpbacks are more like big gulp feeders, just surging through the fish with mouths wide open. The photographers are still at work there, and it may

take them another season to get all the shots they need. I'll let you know when my story appears in the magazine. In the meantime, I'm attaching a fun group-selfie showing me with orca expert, Tiu Simila, and conservation photographer, Cristina Goetsch Mittermeier." (See Photo.)

**1972** A first-time event for Central Oregon, **Barbry Amberg Hogue** and **Mary Sicotte Manfredi '92** co-hosted an alumni get-together in Bend on May 3, 2014, "We planned the event to coincide with Alumni Weekend on campus and hope to make this a regularly occurring event for Central Oregon alumni. There are about 47 of us in total!" See photo: from left: Jim and **Carol Hallestoe Leach '55**, **Margaret Rattle '67**, Barbry, Mary, **Chris Manfredi '92**, **Lura Eisman Reed '88** and **Louis Dvorak '66**. Not pictured is the photographer, Barb Hagen P'13.



Alumni in Central Oregon at an event co-hosted by **Barbry Amberg Hogue** and **Mary Sicotte Manfredi '92**. (See classes of '72 and '92)

**1973** Twice knighted in 2013, **Eric Haskell**, Prof. of French Studies and Interdisciplinary Humanities and director of the Clark Humanities Museum at Scripps College, received two of France's most prestigious honors. First, he was named Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Minister of Culture. The Order of Arts and Letters recognizes individuals who have made exemplary contributions to the arts, literature and the promulgation of cultural heritage in France and throughout the world. Past recipients include Marcel Marceau, Audrey Hepburn, Rudolf Nureyev, Philip Glass, T.S. Eliot and former First Lady of France Carla Bruni-Sarkozy. Eric was presented with the Chevalier medallion on July 27, 2013, in Normandy at the Château de Bénouville, near Caen, France. On that occasion, he gave the inaugural speech for the new European Institute of Gardens and Landscapes on "The French Formal Garden: Creation, Realization, and Evolution of an Astonishing Landscape Art." Then in Nov., he was named Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques in a ceremony at Scripps College. Emperor Napoléon Bonaparte founded the Order of the Academic Palms to honor outstanding scholarly achievement. The oldest non-military French decoration and the most prestigious honor for academics, it recognizes distinguished teaching, uncommon schol-

arship and exceptional leadership over the course of a professor's career. The Palmes Académiques are awarded by the Prime Minister of France upon the recommendation of the Minister of Education. Eric has taught at Scripps College since 1979. His publications cover topics from 19th-century poetry to garden history, with a special focus on image-text inquiry. Along with his teaching and publishing, he has delivered over 550 public lectures in 27 states and in 12 foreign countries.

**1974** **Roberto Liebenthal**, Buenos Aires, writes: "Lars Tragardh '78 visited Argentina with his family. It was great to meet his wife and lovely twins, and catch up on what we did since Pomona. We both have great remembrances of our school and life experience in Claremont, some of the most important and fun years of our lives." ♦ **Joe Palca**, science correspondent for National Public Radio since 1992, received a 2014 Blaisdell Disting-



Alumni in Central Oregon at an event co-hosted by **Barbry Amberg Hogue** and **Mary Sicotte Manfredi '92**. (See classes of '72 and '92)

uished Alumni Award at the "Through the Gates: Celebrating Pomona" ceremony in Big Bridges on Alumni Weekend, May 3. ♦ **Richard "Rip" Rapson**, president and CEO of the Kresge Foundation, a national, private foundation based in Detroit, MI, received a 2014 Blaisdell Distinguished Alumni Award at the "Through the Gates: Celebrating Pomona" ceremony in Big Bridges on Alumni Weekend, May 3. Since 2006, Rip has led Kresge in developing programs in arts and culture, education, environment, health, human services and renewal of Detroit, distributing approximately \$150 million annually. ♦ **Alex Sanchez**, executive director of The Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara (HACSC), has been appointed and designated chair of the California Housing Partnership Corporation by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. This position requires state Senate confirmation. Alex has been HACSC director since 2001, and under his direction, it was the first agency of its type to receive a Standard & Poor's rating of "Strong Performer," the highest designation given to public agencies. In 2008, Congress recognized and designated HACSC as a Moving to Work demonstration agency. Alex was previously director of housing for the City of Santa Ana and deputy director of the City of Bell Gardens Redevelopment Agency.



Harwood Court Nun Hall mini-reunion in Ben Lomond, CA. (See Class of '80.)

**1976** **Bruce Bond** writes: "In recent years, the U. of No. Texas has been incredibly generous: I have received the first UNT Foundation Eminent Faculty Award, the Toulouse Scholars Award, the Creative Impact Award and the Kesterson Award for Graduate Teaching. Also I received a number of poetry prizes along the way including the Allen Tate Award from *Sewanee Review*. My newest books of poetry include *Blind Rain* (LSU 2008), *Peal* (Etruscan 2009), *The Visible* (LSU 2012) and *Choir of the Wells* (Etruscan 2013) and I have three books forthcoming in 2015: *For the Lost Cathedral* (LSU), *The Other Sky* (Etruscan) and *Immanent Distance: Poetry and the Metaphysics of the Near at Hand* (U. of Michigan). I invite old friends to come and visit."

**1977** **Frank Farris** was married to his partner of 30 years, William O. Beeman, at the First Unitarian Church of San Jose [CA] on June 7, 2014. Sagehens present were **Carol Farris '69**, **Denise Bergez**, **Kitty Kameon**, **Andy Bush '79** and **Brian Holmes '68**. A recording of the Peninsula Women's Chorus singing Gwenth Walker's "I Thank You God" was played in memory of Frank's sister, **Patricia Farris Hennings '71**. **Kathie Langsdorf Underdal '65**, a longtime member of the chorus, also attended. The church was hung with fabrics printed with images drawn from Frank's upcoming book, tentatively titled, *Wallpaper Waves: Creating Symmetry as Mathematics and Art*, to be published by Princeton U. Press in early 2015. Some of this art was shown in the Millikan Lab building during its last springtime of life before the reconstruction. ♦ **Gary Lindsay**, San Francisco, writes: "Mark [Foehringer] and I got married in New York in 2011 after 'living in sin' for 12 years. Life is well, but are we ever busy with my day job and running his dance company." ♦ **Michael Mareneck**, Shelter Island, NY, reports that he and wife Aimee are back in the U.S. after almost 20 unplanned years overseas and "finding it a big adjustment."

**1978** **Dorinda Ostermann** writes: "I have left the heat and humidity of Austin, TX, for the heat and intense humidity of tropical Singapore. I am now the technical director of the Geochemical Laboratories of the Earth Observatory of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University. Instead of running my own laboratory, I help scientists design new laboratories studying earth systems in SE Asia. So all friends who have ever wanted to travel in this region of the globe, now is your chance and '47' abounds. Peggy, my partner of 30 years, will spend the summer on Cape Cod and join me in the fall."

**1980** **Lee Farretta**, Alamo, CA, writes: "Life since Pomona has been well spent! Instead of going to law school as I had planned, I pivoted hard towards computers and technology, and the rest is history. Along the way, I have managed to find a wonderful wife [Marie], have a great son [Matt] and achieve a modicum of commercial success. Matt matriculates at St. Mary's of California in the fall filled with all the hope and aspiration of youth. He plans to study math, computer science and finance. Having inherited his father's love for sport, he will also take a crack at making their D1 soccer roster. Life comes full circle once again." ♦ In Nov. 2013, **Rachel Feldstein**, **Lisa Russell**, **Lynn Woosley Lawson**, **Nancy Smith Cox** and **Karen Kalthoff Joseph** gathered in Ben Lomond, CA, for a Harwood Court Nun Hall mini-reunion. Besides talking nonstop and tasting plenty of Calif. wines, activities included hiking, a cooking class and a visit to the Harley Farms Goat Dairy. (See Photo. L to R: Rachel, Lisa, Lynn, Nancy and Karen.) The girls add: "The Aging Room at Harley Farms Goat Dairy explains any visible post-graduation changes."

**1982** **Richard Bookwalter**, San Francisco, has been appointed to the California Board of Occupational Therapy by Governor Edmund G. Brown. Richard has been an occupational therapist for durable medical equipment and rehabilitation outcomes for Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Inc. since 2008. He earned his M.S. degree in occupational therapy from San Jose State U. ♦ Ninety-three of **Ruth Greene's** "books" appeared in a group show at Rosamund Felsen Gallery in Bergamot Station in July 2013. The artworks are 9" x 6" x 1/4" plywood with gesso and original titles in ink. (See examples at [www.ruth-greene.com](http://www.ruth-greene.com)) Three of Ruth's 36" x 36" monochromatic paintings were featured in a group show at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, Sept.-Oct. 2013. Her studio is in the historic Writers & Artists Building on South Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles.

**1983** **Leona Hiraoka** traveled to Japan in March on the 2014 Japanese-American Leadership Delegation (JALD) program, which brings 10 prominent Japanese Americans to Japan for a week-long trip dedicated to building people-to-people connections with Japanese leaders. In its 14th year, JALD provides opportunities for Japanese Americans to establish a meaningful role in strengthening U.S.-Japan relations across all sectors of society. Leona is vice president of communications at Points of Light, a nonprofit that is the world's largest organization dedicated to advancing volunteerism at the individual and corporate

level. She directs communications and public relations strategies, building greater engagement with the public and organizations around volunteer service and corporate partnership. She has an extensive background with NGOs and associations, with a specialty in public education. She is also CEO of Integrated Media, a five-partner communications and marketing firm. She is vice president of the Washington, D.C., chapter of the Japanese-American Citizens League and is a member of the Asian-American Journalists Assn. This is her first visit to Japan. ♦ Veteran Chicago journalist, **Dennis Rodkin** has joined Crain's *Chicago Business* to cover transactions, trends and important developments in the residential real estate market. He comes to Crain's from *Chicago* magazine, where he has written extensively about the area's housing market since 1991 and founded the publication's Deal Estate column in 1998.

**1986** In Feb., **Lida Citroën**, Greenwood Village, CO, hosted a book launch celebration for her new book, *Your Next Mission: A personal branding guide for the military-to-civilian transition*. The celebration was sponsored in part by the Student Veteran Organization-U. of Colorado, Denver, and was held at the U. of Denver. *Your Next Mission* tackles the job of helping veterans brand themselves for an audience of managers and human resources specialists who may have no working knowledge of military skills or terminology, by way of insights, tools, exercises and examples not found in any other military materials. The event was free, but donations were accepted in order to purchase books for veterans who have requested financial assistance. Lida is principal and owner of LIDA360, a brand consultancy firm based in Colorado. She designs and enhances identities of companies, executives and individuals globally. ♦ **Steven Gutkin** writes: "After more than two decades as bureau chief and senior editor with the Associated Press in places like Venezuela, Colombia, Singapore, Indonesia, Israel and Atlanta, I moved to India in 2012 and, together with my wife Marisha, set up a weekly newspaper called *Goa Streets*. It's a news and entertainment alternative weekly with lots of event listings and good articles!"

**1987** **Lisa Ericksen Hollier** has been elected assistant secretary of The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). She assumed her office on April 30, 2014. Lisa is a board-certified professor of maternal-fetal medicine and the director of the Division of Women's Health Law and Policy at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. She received her medical degree at Tulane U. School of Medicine in New Orleans, where she also earned a master's in public health. She is currently the medical director of Ob/Gyn for the Texas Children's Health Plan Centers for Children and Women. ♦ **Christina Rufenacht Wire** has become the new national chair for Annual Giving at Pomona. She began her two-year term on July 1, 2014, following **Steve Loeb '79**, who completed his extended three-year term. In this role, Christina serves as an ex-officio member of the board of trustees and is one of Pomona's top volunteers. She is senior director of Google Helpouts. She joined Google in 2007 as a manager on

Google's AdSense Online Sales and Operations team. Her experience spans a wide breadth of business functions, including sales, marketing, business analytics, sales engineering, operations, grants and customer support.

**1988** **Brian Ilfeld** married Anya Morgan on Oct. 4, 2013, in Volterra, Italy, and, had another wedding with family and friends on April 26, 2014, in the back yard of their new home in San Diego. Attending were **Deedee Brodke Savant**, **Jeffrey Ilfeld '91** and **Veronica Lombardi '91**. (See Photo.)



Wedding of **Brian Ilfeld** and **Anya Morgan**. (See Class of '88.)

her organization, Families Outside, an organization which works on behalf of families affected by imprisonment, hosted a two-day workshop in Stirling, Scotland, on trauma-informed practice. Invited to participate was **Stephanie Stewart Covington '64**, who is a leading world expert in the field. Nancy reports: "During our evening meal the night before Day 1 of the workshop, we realized that she's Pomona class of 1964! Small world indeed!" Also hosting the workshop was the Scottish Prison Service, and the UK-wide series was coordinated by the Women@Risk coalition, a group of fun-



Wedding of **Donald (Collins) Hollins** and **Anthony Collins** (See Class of '89.)

**1989** **Stephanie Po Ciletti**, San Francisco, reports that she has been working with the Permanent Medical Group for 15 years and is now with the Kaiser San Francisco facility. "Staying busy running the ophthalmology department and raising a rambunctious six-year-old. I wasn't able to attend the 25th reunion (yikes, has it been that long), but look forward to seeing pics of classmates on Facebook." ♦ **Donald (Collins) Hollins** writes that he and Anthony were married on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 2014. It was also, coincidentally, the fourth anniversary of the day they met. Anthony is finishing a program in economic analytics and graduates from UC San Diego in June 2015 in Operations Science. He spent two months in Shanghai in a Chinese language immersion program and internship. Donald was selected to run the new Independent Study Online (ISOL) Program at Torrey Pines High School and the Peer Assistance Leadership Support Program for the last two years after a dozen years of teaching at the district's continuation school with at-risk teens. "The change and new challenges have been awesome." (See Photo.) ♦ In March, **Nancy Loucks Kenny** and



**Nancy Loucks Kenny** and **Stephanie Stewart Covington '64** at Families Outside workshop in Scotland. (See classes of '64 and '89.)

ders and interest groups including Families Outside. Nancy is chief executive at Families Outside and also visiting professor at the U. of Strathclyde's Center for Law, Crime and Justice. (See photo of Nancy with Stephanie and with Kate Donegan, the prison governor in charge of the development of women's estate in Scotland and the new women's prison being built in Inverclyde.) Nancy adds that she wasn't back for her 25th reunion this year as she was here last year for Jan Hype's memorial service. ♦ In March, **Carrie Okinaga** traveled to Japan on the 2014 Japanese-American Leadership Delegation (JALD) program, which brings 10 prominent Japanese Americans to

Japan for a week-long trip dedicated to building people-to-people connections with Japanese leaders. In its 14th year, JALD provides opportunities for Japanese Americans to establish a meaningful role in strengthening U.S.-Japanese relations across all sectors of society. Carrie is general counsel and corporate secretary for First Hawaiian Bank, the oldest and largest financial institution in Hawaii. As corporate counsel of the City and County of Honolulu 2005-11, she served as the chief legal counsel and officer through three different mayoral administrations, overseeing a department of over 80 peo-



**Martina Vandenberg** receives the 2013 Stevens Award for Public Interest Law from Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. (See Class of '90.)

ple and a budget in excess of \$9 million. She is a member of the board of directors of Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation, Honolulu's semi-autonomous governmental entity responsible for the planning, operation, maintenance and expansion of the City and County of Honolulu's first elevated fixed-guideway mass transit system. The paternal side of her family is from Fukuoka.

**1990** **Alison Buist** writes: "After 15 years in D.C., nine of them as the health policy director at the Children's Defense Fund, I have moved with my family to the Bay Area (Marin County), where I'll continue with CDF. I hope to hear from friends visiting or living in the area! Email: [Alison@aya.yale.edu](mailto:Alison@aya.yale.edu)" ♦ **Martina Vandenberg** received the 2013 Stevens Award for Public Interest Law from Justice Clarence Thomas at the Supreme Court on June 13, 2013. Established in 1999, the Joseph E. Stevens Award is presented annually to a Truman Scholar-attorney who has made significant contributions to public service. Martina and her family were received in Justice Thomas' chambers. Later, both spoke to the assembly of the 2013 Truman Scholars. A Rhodes Scholar (St. Antony's, 1990), she is founder and president of the Human Trafficking Pro Bono Legal Center. She has spent nearly 20 years fighting human trafficking, forced labor and violence against women. (See Photo.)



Andrew Hong '13

# Science for the People



**Andrew Hong '13** wants you to start tinkering. As Public Programs Coordinator for the MIT Museum in Cambridge, Mass., Hong works to shine a light on the university's high-tech research breakthroughs while bringing science education to local communities. Along the way, he's found an outlet for his passion for getting people to engage with new technology and making the field of science less intimidating and more accessible for everyone.

## INNOVATION MEETS EDUCATION

At MIT, Hong organizes programs designed to demystify research and create a "public face" for the institution. To draw in children and families, the museum offers interactive discussions with MIT scientists who share their latest experiments and discoveries, from projects like creating new prosthetic body parts to designing better solar-powered lighting. Other events are geared more to an older crowd, like a program called "Drinkable Science" that explains the physics and chemistry behind the trendy art of mixology. The idea is to "sneak science into fun, everyday topics," Hong explains.

A key mission of the museum is encouraging people to reconsider their assumptions that a certain technology or concept might be too complicated to understand. Hong tries to make visitors feel more confident about their abilities by giving them a taste of the trial-and-error process that engineers and scientists wrestle with every day. "We structure our activities with failure built in," he says.

"There's an expectation that you're not going to get it right the first time."

## DELVING INTO DESIGN

One of Hong's favorite projects has been creating a new design and engineering space called the Idea Hub, where museum-goers can experiment with unfamiliar tools and learn skills like computer programming. Visitors do hands-on activities like assembling electronic circuits and creating art with 3D printers. "Our goal is to teach people—to give people this hands-on experience—so that they feel empowered to engage with technology in the future."

Hong has been building up his own expertise by taking advantage of the resources he's found in Cambridge. The job gives him access to courses at MIT, where his assignments include tasks like programming 3D printers to generate artistic designs and models. "Since getting here, it's just been a constant crash course in how to build things and how to tinker," he says.

By expanding his knowledge, Hong says he's been inspired to get others excited about tinkering. "It feeds back into my desire to show people that you can do this stuff. I'm a walking example of someone who didn't have a background in this field, and now is competent

enough to teach people creative problem-solving and the design process."

## FINDING HIS FIT

A neuroscience major at Pomona, Hong was always fascinated with the sciences, but didn't picture himself as a teacher or researcher. After sophomore year he began to chart his own path, starting with a SURP project at Professor of Art Mark Allen's L.A. nonprofit, Machine Project, where he was exposed to the idea of learning about technology through the use of art and creativity. The next summer he landed an internship funded by the Career Development Office at the Exploratorium science museum in San Francisco, known for its participatory exhibits.

His experience in Cambridge has given Hong a clearer vision for the future. His ultimate goal is to design educational technologies for the museum field, like the kind he uses every day in his work. Wherever he ends up, Hong says he will keep following his personal career philosophy, inspired by the advice of Pomona neuroscience professor Rachel Levin.

"Her advice to me was, 'Get really good at something you love, and convince someone that they need you.'"

—Daniel Gould



Pomona-Pitzer varsity basketball alumni game (See Class of '10.)

as a judicial extern to Judge Ann Williams in the Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. He concentrates his practice on toxic tort matters. ♦ The Alumni Office is very happy to report that **Kayla McCulley** has become permanent assistant director of alumni relations. She joined them in June 2013 as an interim assistant director.

**2010** Alumni of Pomona/Pitzer basketball teams gathered on Feb. 8, 2014, for an alumni game. Organizer **Kael Kristof** reports the event went well. "The game itself was very fun, with hardly any defense played (over 200 points scored in total between both teams). We had 23 players there, I believe, as well as two former players from the early 1980s who came to watch. The reception in Dom's [Lounge] was fun and allowed us all to get to know one another better. Then afterward, most of us went to dinner in the Village." The players included: **Gavin Cree '04**, **David Knowles (PZ '07)**, **Greg Wright '12**, **Dorian Bunker-Pardo (PZ '04)**, **Justin Sexton**, **Harrison Green '13**, **Zeeshan Hyder '08**, **Tyler Velten '04**, **R. J. Maki '11**, **Danny Brown '12**, **Shawn Stephan '11**, **Jason Howie '01**, **Greg Morales '05**, **Adam Chaimowitz**, **David Liss**, **Alex Lloyd**, **Jeff Quinn-Cane '05**, **David Brown '08**, **Andrew Grant '04**, **Evan Zahniser '12**, **Evan Flagg '06** and **Jabarri Reynolds '08**. (See photo.) ♦ **Patricia Nguyen** has been awarded the Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans, providing her with \$90,000 to pursue her Ph.D. in performance studies. Each year, the fellowship honors and supports the graduate education of 30 new Americans—permanent residents or naturalized citizens if born abroad or children of naturalized citizen parents. Patricia's parents escaped Vietnam as boat refugees and resettled in the U.S. in the 1980s. At Pomona, Patricia was active with the Asian American Resource Center, working with southeast Asian youth on probation and creating an arts empowerment program. She also co-founded Rare Diamonds, a 5C women of color collective that used performance and art as tools for political and self-expression. After Pomona, she went to Vietnam as a Fulbright Scholar, volunteered with the Pacific Links Foundation and founded the first arts education program for survivors of sex trafficking at the borders of China and Vietnam and Cambodia and Vietnam. She is now a second year Ph.D. student at Northwestern U.

**2012** **David Davila** participated in a world science communication competition, Famelab, and came in as a runner-

up in the final competition. Famelab was founded in the United Kingdom by Cheltenham Science Festival in 2005 and since 2007 has expanded to 23 countries across every continent, attracting more than 6,000 entrants and reaching millions through traditional and digital media. The young contestants have three minutes to explain a scientific theme in front of a live audience. Presentations are judged by a jury who ask questions and ultimately decide who will bear the coveted title of "Famelab International Winner." David, representing France, chose to explain how language takes shape in the brain. He was pictured in the website of *The Guardian* in a dispatch from the science desk posted by George Zarkadakis on June 9, 2014. Videos of the semi-finals and finals of the competition can be found on Youtube by searching for "Famelab 2014 (Semi-)Finals."

## Births/Adoptions

To **Beth Rostan '93** and **Andrew Clarke**, San Francisco, second child, girl, **Imogene Suzanne Joan Clarke (8/10/13)**.

To **Peter Brandon '95** and **Susan Cuozzo**, girl, **Vivienne Grace Brandon (1/20/14)**.

To **Maple Fung '96** and **David Svendsen**, Thousand Oaks, CA, boy, **Connor Svendsen (12/6/12)**.

To **Melissa** and **Bijan Modanlou '96**, San Francisco, second boy, **Niccolo "Nico" Stephen Modanlou (3/9/14)**.

To **Noelle Nelson '96** and **Leonardo Almagro**, Santiago, Chile, second boy, **Diego Almagro Nelson (9/29/12)**; he joins big brother **Federico Almagro Nelson (4/23/11)**.

To **Merav** and **Mark Ruthman '98**, Chicago, IL, second child, boy, **Liam Zachary Ruthman (3/9/14)**; he joins big sister **Haley (4)**.

To **Raj** and **Jessica Ratcliff Kumar '99**, Oakland, CA, second boy, **Rohan Nishant Kumar (11/26/13)**; he joins big brother, **Ravi (4)**.

To **Larry** and **Alicia Vanderpol Van Riggs '99**, Oakland, CA, second girl, **Rose Joye Van Riggs (12/8/13)**; she joins big sister **Sunshine**.

To **Rebecca Engel '00** and **Steven Lenard**, Brooklyn, NY, girl, **Clara Ollery Lenard (1/12/14)**.

## Obituaries

### Trustee

**Burnell H. DeVos**, trustee emeritus of the Pomona College Board of Trustees, died at his home in Pasadena on February 12, 2014. He was 87. He served on the Board from 1983 to 1997. He was on the Development Committee, Audit Committee, the Finance Committee and the Ways & Means Committee. In 1997, he was named as Trustee Emeritus. Born in 1927, he was known from very early on as "Dusty," a nickname that followed him the rest of his life. His student days at Pomona College were interrupted by service in the 20th Air Force at the end of WWII, but he returned to Pomona, where he was a member of Phi Delta fraternity, and graduated with the class of 1949. He received his M.B.A. from Stanford University School of Business in 1951 and joined the Los Angeles office of Price Waterhouse as a certified public accountant in 1951, a company he remained with for 37 years. During those years, he worked two years in their Nashville, Tenn., office. His partners then asked him to transfer to the firm's national office in New York City to assume the duties of vice chair of accounting and auditing services. He subsequently became co-chair and deputy senior partner of Price Waterhouse, a position he held until he retired in June 1988. His loyalty to Pomona found him not only on the Board of Trustees for the College, but also as president of Pomona College Associates, on the Torchbearers Board (2010-14) and chair/co-chair of 25th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th and 60th reunion fund committees. His other extracurricular activities included service as president of Town Hall of California, president of University Club of Los Angeles, a trustee of Flintridge Preparatory School, vice president and director of California Society of CPAs, as well as on boards (often as treasurer) and member of various civic and charitable organizations. He was a long-time member of the Valley Hunt Club in Pasadena. Dusty is survived by Bonnie, his wife of 64 years, two sons, **Burnell III** and his wife **Jenny**, and **Douglas**, as well as two grandchildren, his brother, **Richard**, of Ohio and numerous nephews and nieces.



ter's in piano. She came to Pomona in 1943 and taught voice and music theory for more than three decades until her retirement in 1980. She also taught voice at the Claremont Graduate School (now Claremont Graduate University), and continued to teach privately into her early 90s. A number of her students went on to have professional careers, including **Sylvia Brigham Dimiziani '59** and **Lucy Shelton '65**. A student of **Rudolf Ganz**, Professor Briggs was also a fine pianist and accompanied her students in recitals. She also teamed with the late Professor of Mathematics **Elmer Tollsted**, who was a keen amateur cellist. She has left her Steinway piano and a collection of sheet music to the College. She is survived by her niece **JoAnn Sheldon of Torrance, CA**. In accord with Professor Briggs' wishes, there will be no public memorial service.

### Paul McRae Routly

who taught astronomy at Pomona from 1954 until 1963, died May 2, 2014, at a skilled nursing facility in Rockville, MD, of congestive heart failure. He was 88. Born in Montréal, Canada, he displayed an early aptitude for math. In 1947, he earned two degrees from McGill University, one in pure and applied mathematics and the other in theoretical physics. Attracting the attention of astronomy professor **Lyman Spitzer, Jr.**, at Princeton University, he was awarded a generous fellowship and earned a Ph.D. in astrophysics there in 1951. After a two-year post-doc fellowship in the labs at the Canadian National Research Council, he accepted another fellowship at Caltech in Pasadena. At the age of 28, he switched from research to academia and came to teach astronomy at Pomona College. While at Pomona, he co-founded the Summer Science Program, an immersion program for gifted high school students at the Thacher School in Ojai, Calif. He came up with the curricular concept for the program—known as the "asteroid orbit determination project"—which continues to this day (later run by Pomona's late astronomy professor, **Robert Chambers**). He described his summers at SSP as the "highlight" of a teaching career that also included stints at Rutgers University, University of Maryland, Montgomery College and the Smithsonian Institute. He earned a reputation as a popular but demanding professor who would fail his students for poor writing—even if they got the math right. After leaving Pomona, he became the first executive director of the American Astronomical Society, then headquartered in Princeton, now in Washington, D.C. After four years, he went to Washington to lead the Astronomy and Astrophysics Division at the U.S. Naval Observatory, a position he held until a stroke in 1986.

### Faculty

(See also *In Memoriam* on page 63.)

### Margery Smith Briggs,



professor emerita of music, passed away at the age 99 on Saturday, May 17, 2014, at the Claremont Manor in Claremont, where she had lived for a number of years. She was born May 29, 1915, in Nampa, Idaho. In 1936, she earned her bachelor's degree in music education, voice and piano at Chicago Musical College, from which she also earned a mas-

### Alumni

**1931** **Francis C. Darby**, La Mesa, CA (12/3/2012), at age 103; Alpha Gamma Sigma; participated in dramatics, on track team and worked on *The Student Life*; M.Ed. in education, U. of Oregon, and taught school in rural Oregon before service in U.S. Army in Europe, WWII; assistant superintendent of schools, San Diego County Dept. of Education; in

1967, took a leave from San Diego and worked with USAID in Jordan until the six-day war interrupted and he was transferred to Afghanistan; retiring from San Diego County in 1974, became part of a team of educators on assignment with San Diego State U. Foundation, consulting in Brasilia, Brazil; after another assignment back in Afghanistan, became travel agent and president, Pathfinder & Tours, Inc., which he continued well into his 75th year; delivered Meals on Wheels well into his 90s, taking final retirement in 2000 and moving into a senior community where he was active in the daily life.

**1933 Frank Youkstetter**, Redondo Beach, CA (12/17/2011), at age 99; accompanist and piano soloist for the Men's Glee Club; after graduating, continued his piano studies in NYC; M.A. in music, USC; became a professional pianist, making his professional debut in Los Angeles in 1937, followed by 57 appearances in leading schools and colleges throughout the U.S., including Pomona with Prof. Kenneth Fiske conducting the orchestra; performer and teacher.

**1934 Evelyn May Knight Weatherall**, Rancho Santa Fe, CA (12/8/2012), at age 98; a music major, she concentrated on the organ; upon the death of her first husband, Duncan Engel, she took over his wholesale record distribution company in Escondido, CA; church organist including for Rancho Bernardo Community Church.

**1935 Edith Frances Eellis**, La Verne, CA (2/3/14), at age 99; member of both Pomona Glee Club and Choir; spent her entire teaching career with Pomona Unified School District; pioneer in establishing local teachers' organization, serving as president in 1945; remained active with its successor, the Associated Pomona Teachers; her other activities at the time were the Junior Red Cross, Pi Lambda Theta, PTA and Sunday school superintendent at Pilgrim Congregational Church, where she was a life-long member and was the longest, oldest surviving member at the time of her death; held leadership roles at the church including moderator, trustee, chair of Earthquake retrofit fund drive, co-chair of Pilgrim Memorial Endowment fund and an active supporter of the Boys' and Girls' Brigades; also active member, past president of the Women's Auxiliary of Pomona Valley Community Hospital, and was a volunteer at the hospital gift shop until she could no longer drive; founding member, Pomona Valley Hospital Foundation and served as board member and member emerita until her death.

**1936 Margaret Fischer Black**, Encinitas, CA (3/25/2009), at age 95; attended Pomona 1932-34; member of Choir; on social committee for freshman class; treasurer, A.W.S., sophomore year; Hawaii lured her away, and she received her B.A. from U. of Hawaii.

**1936 Louise Moulton Hanson**, Lompoc, CA (1/26/14), at age 99; at Pomona on staff of *The Student Life and Metate*; senior year, was named Hon. Lt. Col., R.O.T.C., and was vice president of Masques; after graduation, studied ani-

mal husbandry at College of Agriculture, UC Davis, and while there, was appointed Hon. Col. of California National Guard by Gov. Merriam; shared management of 22,000-acre Moulton Rancho Niguel at El Toro near San Juan Capistrano, CA, in Orange County, with her widowed mother and every year participated in annual Moulton Roundup at which time over 1000 calves were branded; she remained as owner and manager in cattle ranching for the rest of her life, not only at El Toro, but later with cattle and grain ranches in central Santa Barbara County; rode and attended ranch business almost daily well into her 80s.

**1936 Rosalie Davis Matlovsky**, South Pasadena, CA (9/9/13), at age 98; member of Pomona Choir and Orchestra; graduate work in zoology/life sciences, UCLA, 1936-38; during WWII, did plasma and related research at Gallinger Municipal Hospital in Washington, D.C., where her husband, Lloyd, was stationed; after raising her children, she was a clinical laboratory technologist, Thatcher Clinical Lab, Pasadena, and Alhambra Medical Clinic; in mid-1950s, the couple took ballroom dance lessons from Gene and Milli DeWald and became demonstrators and assistants for DeWald Studio in San Gabriel, thus beginning their many years of ballroom dancing (later known as American social dancing) which included as a dance team on cruises; many years teaching classes at So. Pasadena Senior Center, instructors for Lockheed Employees Dance Club, demonstrators for Glendale Recreation Dept. and Pasadena City College; they traveled overseas often to dance with local groups; later enjoyed Elderhostel trips; Rosalie also worked for Pasadena Reads literacy program where she tutored Chinese ladies in English; in 1993, they were representatives at Los Angeles County Older Americans Recognition Day at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion where they were recognized for their many years of providing ballroom dancing instruction and Rosalie's lessons in ESL at Pasadena Senior Center.

**1937 Arthur B. Balingier**, Vancouver, WA (6/10/2011), at age 96; Phi Delta; on baseball and track teams, winning letters; U.S. Army, WWII; radio and television announcer; freelance motion picture and television film narrator.

**1937 John G. Casenave**, Upland, CA (4/1/14), at age 99; Alpha Gamma Sigma; on varsity baseball team; a French language major, he earned his secondary teaching credential in French, CGS; during WWII, saw service as French translator for U.S. Army Signal Corps in Algeria and participated in D-Day+1, landing in Ste. Maxime in southern France; became a French interpreter; French, Spanish and math teacher, Chaffey Union High School, retiring in 1981; active member, Pomona Valley Astronomers Club and 35/Color/Camera Club; volunteered as business adviser for Junior Achievement; was a California Credit Union League director, 1953-60; superintendent, Christian education, First Church of God, Ontario, CA; later elected "Skipper" for the Mariners Group of the First Presbyterian Church, Upland, a post he held for 16 years.

**1938 Gloria Ann Jacobs Gay**, El Centro, CA (3/30/14), at age 97; at Pomona, participated in drama productions and was a member of Masquer's; moved to El Centro with her husband Alex and family in 1954; began her teaching career in 1956 and taught elementary grades in the El Centro School District until her retirement in 1982 after 25 years; volunteer with El Centro Regional Medical Center Auxiliary ("Pink Ladies"); active with El Centro First Presbyterian Church and later with El Centro First Christian Church, El Centro Women's Club and P.E.O.; bridge tournaments and lots of travel; founding member of Imperial Valley Master Chorale and performed with that group for more than 13 years.

**1939 Marion Gordon Mackey**, Alturas, CA (4/12/14), at age 97; attended Pomona 1935-38; chair of social committee, freshman class and on social committee of junior class; named honorary lieutenant colonel of Pomona College R.O.T.C. unit for annual formal and ceremonies in Jan. 1938; became a rancher on a ranch she owned with Robert Mackey '38 (1915-2005), whom she married in 1939; also an artist and member of Modoc County Arts Council.

**1940 Margaret Bussert Meschuk Cuthbertson**, El Segundo, CA (11/18/13), at age 94; attended Pomona her freshman year; president of Meschuk Properties, Inc.; M.S. in psychology, Pepperdine U. in 1974.

**1940 W. Burton Lewis**, Albuquerque, NM (5/12/2012), at age 94; Phi Beta Kappa; Alpha Gamma Sigma; M.A. in chemistry, UCLA; his war years were spent at the chemical warfare branch at Northwestern Technological Institute, 1941-45; upon transfer to Caltech in Pasadena, he was drafted into the Navy for a year's service; this was followed by his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry, M.I.T., in Sept. 1948; many years, research scientist with Atomic Energy Commission at their laboratories in Los Alamos, NM, retiring as associate group leader; author of three-page report on the 19th-century history of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties from a genealogical perspective.

**1940 Robert G. Moses**, Santa Cruz, CA (1/3/2003), at age 92; served in U.S. Navy, WWII; a math and physics major at Pomona, he earned an M.A. at CGS, and took graduate courses at UCLA and UC Berkeley and later a secondary teaching credential, Pasadena City College; teacher and chair of Dept. of Engineering & Technology, Pasadena City College; past president and member of Temple City [CA] Board of Education, 1959-66; in 1966, took a leave of absence and, with his wife, Ruth, went to Malawi, Africa, for a two-year administrative post at Malawi Polytechnic School in Blantyre; married Ruth Yoder '30 (1910-1991) in 1935.

**1940 Priscilla Platt Thompson**, Flagstaff, AZ (10/1/13), at age 95; secondary teaching credential, CGS; taught high school in Exeter, CA, before her marriage to Champ Thompson '42 (1918-1983) in 1942; president, board of directors, San Fernando Valley Inter-

faith Council; on the board of The Valley Shelter.

**1941 Robert M. Boddy**, Tustin, CA (2/16/14), at age 94; Kappa Delta; received Varsity Golf Award junior and senior year; served in Third Infantry Division, U.S. Army, WWII, 1941-46, receiving a field promotion to captain and becoming company commander; the Third Division made amphibious landings in North Africa, Sicily and Italy, his battalion receiving a Presidential Unit Citation at Mt. Rotundo during Monte Cassino campaign and his company receiving Presidential Unit Citation for action at Anzio; Bob was awarded the Silver Star, Legion of Merit and Bronze Star; after the military, began a wholesale nursery business, Descanso Nurseries, named after the Descanso Gardens built by his father in La Canada, CA; had nurseries located in San Gabriel, Chino and Alta Loma, where he grew roses, azaleas and other ornamental plants; in 1953, he and his wife Mildred purchased 110 acres on Hanson Road south of Ft. Bragg, CA, where he began growing rhododendrons, moving there permanently in 1969; operated the nursery there until he retired in 2011 at age 91; pioneer in rooting rhododendrons from cuttings; later interested in heathers and introduced many new varieties to No. Calif. gardens; served as chapter president, Calif. Assn. of Nurserymen, Western regional president for the International Plant Propagators Society and on first board of directors for the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens, for which he donated hundreds of rhododendrons; had a keen eye for promising new plants; spent years selecting 20 of the best rhododendrons for commercial production from the thousands that local resident, Dr. Leonard Charvet hybridized; married Mildred LaFevre Scott '41 (1919-2000) in 1942.

**1941 Katharine Sutherland O'Brien**, Newport, RI (2/15/14), at age 93; president of Mortar Board and on A.W.S. board senior year; on WAA board, the religious council junior year; after studying at Gibbs Secretarial School in Boston, became director of student employment at Radcliffe College; taught second grade at the former Linden School in Middletown, RI, for over 20 years; member, Middletown Town Charter Commission and planning committee for Middletown High School; served as elector in the Electoral College for 1956 presidential election; after retirement, re-located to The Point area of Newport where she became active in local community, including as a member of Point Assn. where she organized historical records for "Green Light Bulletin;" many years member of United Congregational Church and P.E.O. International; avid gardener, reader and traveler.

**1942 Alton F. "Bunky" Baker**, Eugene, OR (4/27/14), at age 94; secretary, then vice president, Phi Delta; played varsity baseball, winning a baseball award for two years; served four years in U.S. Army Air Corps, WWII; joined his family's newspaper, *Eugene Register-Guard*, in 1946 as reporter, becoming editor in 1954, editor-publisher in 1961 and chair-editor in 1982, retiring in 1987 after 41 years with the newspaper; president, Lane County chapter, American Red Cross

1954-55; in retirement, wintered in Borrego Springs, CA, and summered in Eugene; loved golf and into his early 70s, played his age and had five holes-in-one during his lifetime; 50-year member, Eugene Country Club, a favorite of the courses he played, and 30-year member De Anza Country Club in Borrego Springs; avid reader of biographies; loved the outdoors, especially in Oregon.

**1942 Joyce Smith Eggleston**, Bakersfield, CA (10/29/13), at age 92; participated in dramatics, May Masque; on W.A.A. board, junior year; an honors art major at Pomona, continued her studies at the Art Center School in Los Angeles; with her then husband, opened an art studio in Los Angeles for art advertising and illustrations; attended CGS for teaching credential and taught at Oakmont Elementary School in Claremont for three years before moving to Susanville, CA, to teach there; author and illustrator of a children's book, *Things That Grow*; finished her M.A. in English at U. of Nevada, Reno, and taught first grade in Reno, retiring in 1972; moved to Paradise, CA, and had a radio program, "The Promise of Life" broadcast from KKXX Radio, Paradise, every Saturday.

**1942 Virginia Jones Jennings**, Glendora, CA (11/9/13), at age 92; on Harwood Court Board, sophomore year, sponsor junior and senior years; after graduating, worked at Caltech then joined aircraft industry working at such places as Vultee Field in Downey, CA, and Convair in San Diego, altogether for six years in the industry, with such job titles as "aeronautical engineer," and "stress analyst"; also worked on the fore-runner of the Atlas missile; in 1949, earned general secondary teaching credential at CGS; taught math in Riverside and at Monrovia High School; was part of a group of Class of "Cyclops" women who produced "Cyclops Topics" and kept track of the class of '42 service men and women during WWII.

**1943 Alison Hawke Augustin**, Menlo Park, CA (4/15/14), at age of 92; attended Pomona 1939-41, before joining her British parents in Jamaica; enlisted and became a lieutenant in Women's Royal English Navy, working in Washington, D.C., and San Francisco; after the war, remained in S.F., working at the *San Francisco Chronicle*; had great passion for the arts and volunteered in numerous drama and talent show productions at Menlo-Atherton High School; in 1980s, was driving force behind San Francisco's Dancer's Stage ballet school; 20 years volunteer with A.C.T. in San Francisco; loved outdoor activities—skiing, camping, hunting, fishing and swimming.

**1943 Mary Adeline "Macky" Cooke Miller**, Claremont (12/18/13), at age 91; captain of hockey team; senior year, president, Spanish House and on Residence Council; after graduation, served two years in WAVES, WWII, as Link Trainer instructor in flight simulators, instructing pilots in instrument flying, Naval Air Station, Atlanta, GA; M.A. in psychology, CGS; worked for Bureau of Occupations, UCLA, before traveling to France on GI Bill to study French at U. of Grenoble; teaching credential, CGS; began her teaching career in Claremont,

went on to Valle Vista School, Rancho Cucamonga, where she taught kindergarten and bilingual first grade until retiring in 1983; attended a Spanish immersion program in Cuernavaca, Mexico, and took courses at Cal Poly Pomona for bilingual certificate; in retirement, was volunteer tutor and became part-time staffer, past president, Volunteer Vital English, a nonprofit offering free English-as-second-language lessons in homes and workplaces; ardent supporter of many humanitarian causes; loved nature and was encyclopedic in knowledge of trees, birds, flowers and constellations; enjoyed gardening, crossword puzzles, music, the Lakers basketball and Dodger baseball.

**1944 Nancy Burbank Sears**, Oakland, CA (4/18/14), at age 91; attended Pomona her freshman year; after taking a drafting course, became a young Hewlett-Packard's first draftsman; then attended Academy of Advertising Art in San Francisco; designer of publications for Pepsi Cola Scholarship Board; did freelance art while raising four children in Palo Alto; after a divorce in 1969, became art director for Mayfield Publishing, a college textbook publisher in Palo Alto; in 1985 attended a local community college, completing enough prerequisite courses to be accepted into UC Berkeley as transfer student, graduating Phi Beta Kappa in 1991; continued her artwork; had her first solo exhibit in 1994.

**1944 Donald M. Van Sickle**, Roswell, NM (3/17/2012), at age 90; Sigma Tau; his time at Pomona was interrupted by service in U.S. Navy, WWII; geologist with U.S. Geological Survey, with last assignment bringing him to Roswell in 1967 as regional geologist; retired in 1980 to become a consultant; president of Roswell Geological Society, 1970-71; married Isabel Culver '45 in 1946.

**1945 Helen Brandhorst Krumboltz**, San Francisco (2/28/14), at age 90; member of Choir; vice president, Mudd-Blaisdell, junior year; on A.W.S. board, senior year; M.Ed. in education, Washington U., St. Louis; Ph.D. in counseling psychology, U. of Minnesota; taught at San Jose State U and behavioral sciences at Stanford U; wrote two books, *Changing Children's Behavior* (Prentice-Hall 1972), co-written with former husband, John Krumholtz, and *Getting There: Taking Charge for Personal Change* (Prentice-Hall 1985).

**1946 Richard S. Vanderhoof**, Long Beach, CA (12/4/13), at age 88; attended Pomona his freshman year before being called to active duty in the U.S. Navy, in their pre-med V-12 program at Occidental College; while at Pomona, was on the track team (he excelled in pole vaulting at So. Pasadena High School holding the record there for several decades); served in Naval hospitals in San Francisco, Texas and San Diego; finished his B.A. at Stanford and went on to earn his M.D. degree, Stanford Medical School; completed his general surgery residency at L.A. County/USC Medical Center; general surgeon in private practice and at Arcadia Methodist Hospital; retired to Alamitos Bay in Long Beach.

**1947 Delbert "Del" L. Smeltzer**, La Verne, CA (2/26/14), at age 90; Nu

Alpha Phi; attended Pomona for his senior year, after service in U.S. Army, WWII, and prior to that attending Chaffey College; M.S. in education (1950) and Ph.D. in education administration (1970) from USC; was supervisor of industrial arts and teacher of physical education in San Gabriel, CA, before being recalled to active duty in U.S. Army in 1951; spent 35 years in public education, 23 of those years as superintendent of Savannah School District in Anaheim, CA.

**1948 Herbert L. Baird**, Bellingham, WA (12/23/13), at age 90; Phi Beta Kappa; entered Pomona after service in U.S. Army, WWII, and attending Santa Ana Jr. College; M.A. in Spanish and Ph.D. in romance languages, U. of Chicago; teaching career took him to No. Illinois U., UC Riverside, seven years at Pomona and Claremont Men's College, Lewis and Clark College in Portland and finally to Western Washington U. in Bellingham, where he retired in 1986; loved to travel and in summer of 1971, circumnavigated the globe by the northern route, air to Tokyo for three weeks in Japan guided by Prof. Leonard Pronko, Trans-Siberian RR and on to Moscow, Leningrad, Paris and finally Spain; continued to travel to out-of-the-way places after retirement; loved to cook and garden; enjoyed opera and symphony concerts.

**1948 Jane Adams Brookey**, Jenks, OK (1/25/14), at age 87; 25 years, librarian at Pershing County High School, Lovelock, NV.

**1948 Paul V. Cooper**, Washington, D.C. (12/26/13), at age 89; Alpha Gamma Sigma; member of Glee Club and Choir; M.A. in education, Putney Graduate School of Education; graduate work in music/business, CGS; M.A. in linguistics, American U. (1969); language analyst, National Security Agency (NSA), Washington, D.C., whose assignments included a tour of duty in England at British Foreign Office; chief of language training branch, Agency for International Development; directed foreign language division of English Language Services; vice president, International Center for Language Studies; returned to NSA in 1973, becoming chief of branch that engaged in research and liaison with British and Canadian counterparts; 1989-92, assigned to Defense Attache's Office, U.S. Embassy, Vienna, Austria; other assignments included work at CIA on multi-agency publications project, at Pentagon with joint Chiefs' National Military Joint Intelligence Center, at NATO headquarters in Naples, Italy, on Balkans crisis and at Defense Intelligence Agency as NSA representative before retiring end of 1995; directed church choirs, composed music, played jazz-style piano and volunteered to read newspapers to the blind; world traveler; married Florence "Wren" Davie '48 in 1950.

**1949 Grant D. Brown**, Prescott, AZ (3/7/14), at age 90; Sigma Tau; served in U.S. Army, WWII, before attending Pomona; played on the baseball and basketball varsity teams; a botany major at Pomona, he continued his studies with an M.A. in botany from CGS; agricultural inspector with Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner's Dept. and then joined the L.A. County

Forestry Dept., becoming assistant head forester and fire warden; in 1983, served on State of California board of Forestry Technical Advisory Committee for the southern forest district; in 1990, after 38 years residing in Pasadena, moved to Prescott, where he was active in No. Arizona Genealogical Society and the Westerner's Club; also member of 'E Clampus Vitus' and the Flycatcher Fishing Club; married Margaret "Midge" Mudge '49 (1927-94) in 1948.

**1949 Frank Farner**, Topsham, ME (4/7/14), at age 86.

**1949 Francis "Frank" P. Graves**, Bayfield, WI (12/23/13), at age 90; served in U.S. Army, WWII, before entering Pomona; Kappa Delta; served in Korean War; resigning from the military in 1957; moved to Phoenix, AZ, where he earned a degree from American School of International Management; a career in sales for Ecolab took him and his family to Mexico, Panama, Canada, Connecticut and Minnesota; while living in St. Paul, MN, was active in Republican Party serving as national committeeman; retiring in 1993, moved to Bayfield where he was active in the community serving on boards, commissions and founding the Bayfield Community Education Foundation; loved to sail throughout the Apostle Islands and beyond; active member, Zion Lutheran Church in Ashland, WI; author of a novel, *Balancing Power* (2012).

**1949 Howard "Deac" Hunter, Jr.**, Whittier, CA (3/2/14), at age 91; served in U.S. Army Air Corps as bomber pilot, flying 35 missions over Germany before entering Pomona; played on varsity football team, winning a letter, and on the (unofficial) Smiley Hall poker team; sang in Choir and Glee Club; his early post-Pomona career was spent helping build the new family business, Hunter Tools, selling Magic Tip Screwdrivers and Smitty Wrenches out of his car trunk at first and later from a plant in Santa Fe Springs, CA; loving acting, singing and telling stories, he began in the mid-1950s, to teach at Stevenson Jr. High School in Los Angeles, soon creating his own drama program for the school; taught drama for 26 years at both Stevenson and John Burroughs Jr. High; on his retirement, the school district changed the name of the theater at Stevenson to "Hunter Hall;" in 1961, joined the Whittier Community Theater, serving over the next 50 years as president, board member, perennial director, legendary actor and the voice on the answering machine; continued to act into his late 80s, performing in the Victorian Feast to benefit the Whittier Historical Society; founder, first president of Hunter Foundation which provides vocational scholarships to Whittier Union High School District graduating seniors; played his last round of golf with his children and grandchildren at the age of 91; married Nora Brink '48 in 1948.

**1949 William R. Mais**, Temecula, CA (6/27/13), at age 87; entered Pomona in the fall of 1943 and in fall of 1944, was inducted into U.S. Army and served two years in the Pacific, WWII; returning in 1946, he graduated with a geology major; began his career in oil exploration with Shell Oil Co. as a junior

geologist; after 18 years in oil exploration, he took a sabbatical to purchase 50 acres of Rancho, CA, citrus land and planted Navel and Valencia oranges; self employed geologist, rancher; married Ruth Mary Scott '49 in 1949.

**1949 Donald P. Woolsey**, Medford, OR (12/26/13), at age 86; Kappa Theta Epsilon; champion player on tennis team; after graduation, returned to his hometown, Ventura, CA, to work with his father at El Rio Rock Co.; when company sold, he and his family moved to Woodland, CA, where he farmed a 600-acre ranch; returning to Ventura in 1959, became involved with his father in land investment/development; past president, Ventura Unified School District Board; served on Community Memorial Hospital Board, and was a member of Ventura Grand Jury; active with Ventura Rotary Club among other organizations; continued to play tennis though mostly social; in 1984, he and his wife, Mary Moseley '50 (1928-2007), whom he married in 1950, retired to Santa Barbara where he continued to enjoy tennis; later they moved to Rogue Valley Manor in Medford; they both loved fly fishing and spent many enjoyable years at their cabin in Idaho and later at Black Butte Ranch.

**1950 Robert M. Douglass**, Las Vegas, NV (2/19/14) at age 85; Sigma Tau; Ph.D. in geology, UC Berkeley; most of Bob's professional career was spent in Los Alamos, NM, where he held a highly classified position with the Atomic Energy Commission; retired in 1969 and, with his wife Pat, moved to a remote, rustic cabin outside of Montezuma on El Cielo Mountain in NM, living there 30 years before moving to Las Vegas; had more than 1,000 miles of white water rafting experience in Western rivers and was Forest Service certified as National Ski Patrolman and avalanche instructor; played classical guitar.

**1950 Clyde E. Mitchell**, Spanish Springs, NV (12/13/13), at age 90; Sigma Tai; served with U.S. Air Force WWII, prior to entering Pomona; M.A. and secondary teaching credential, CGS; after two years teaching at Calif. Institution for Men, spent the next 26 years teaching, counseling and directing the international student program at El Camino College, Torrance, CA; retiring in 1979, he and wife Ruth moved to Idyllwild, CA, where he established an art gallery and Ruth started a travel agency; conducted watercolor workshops in many parts of the world, some taught by Milford Zornes, who was teaching art at Pomona.

**1950 Magdelyn Stucki Sabichi**, Denver, CO (2/10/13), at age 84; played cello in College Orchestra and String Quartet; attended Pomona freshman and sophomore years; B.A., U. of Colorado; M.D., U. of Colorado Medical School; specialized in internal medicine; joined Colorado Kaiser Permanente Medical Group as one of early female physicians, Jan. 1970, retiring in 1994; Rotary volunteer with husband Francisco Sabichi '50, whom she married in 1950, dedicated to improving quality of life and health care in several developing countries; accomplished amateur photographer, capturing and sharing beauty and spirit of people, nature and her beloved

mountains; avid hiker and backpacker, successfully summited all 54 the 14,100-foot Colorado peaks.

**1951 Mark R. Peattie**, San Rafael, CA (1/22/14), at age 83; Kappa Theta Epsilon; a member of the National Guard while at Pomona, he served in U.S. Army, 1952-54, including an assignment in counter-intelligence in Europe; after completing his M.A. in history, Stanford U., he began his career as cultural diplomat with U.S. Information Agency, serving two years in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, followed by nine years in Japan, first in Sendai, then in Tokyo, where he trained intensively in Japanese language before serving as director of American Cultural Center in Kyoto; in 1967, after a final year in diplomacy in Washington, D.C., he earned his Ph.D. in modern Japanese history, Princeton U.; taught at Pennsylvania State U., UCLA and U. of Massachusetts, Boston; many years, research fellow at Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard U., then a senior research staff member of Hoover Institute on War, Revolution and Peace at Stanford U., before becoming a visiting scholar at Shorestein Asia-Pacific Research Center also at Stanford; author of numerous books on Japanese history including: *Sunburst: The Rise of Japanese Naval Air Power, 1909-1941* (Naval Institute Press), *Nan'yo: The Rise and Fall of the Japanese in Micronesia, 1885-1945* (U. of Hawaii Press) and *Kaigun: Strategy, Tactics, and Technology in the Imperial Japanese Navy, 1887-1941* (with David C. Evans, U.S. Naval Institute Press); world traveler, often with Stanford alumni as lecturer for their cruises.

**1952 Eugene "Tony" A. Burns**, Carpinteria, CA (1/11/14), at age 82; Kappa Theta Epsilon; Ph.D. in analytical chemistry, MIT, in 1956; began a career involving practical application of chemistry and engineering over a broad range of technical areas; through employment with Jet Propulsion Lab and Stanford Research Institute, gained experience on solid and liquid propellant fuels and skills to characterize hazardous and toxic materials, as well as experience in what was to become his principle career focus: technical marketing and the organization, planning and preparation of proposals to win and implement government contract services; in 1962, began 15 years with TRW Systems, Redondo Beach, CA, solving problems with fuels used in Titan II and Minuteman Weapon Systems, then involved with testing and evaluation of LEM Descent Engine for Apollo program; in 1970, was responsible for TRW's first contracts from EPA, which centered on pollutant-control process and research; in 1977, invited to set up a chemistry lab for Systems, Science and Software in La Jolla; spent 15 years at S-Cubed Maxwell Labs, which performed work for many government agencies and commercial clients; named senior vice president of their environmental technology sector in 1990; gave many technical presentations throughout U.S. and overseas; has over 100 open literature publications, four chapters in tutorial books and 24 issued patents; retired early in 1994 to oversee family's 18-acre avocado ranch in Carpinteria; married Kay Edmundson '52 in 1951.

**1952 Harry R. Major**, Los Angeles (2/12/14), at age 82; Harry had two careers: a high school English teacher and a property investor; he asked that his obituary omit the usual lists of career, family, travels, honors, interests, etc.; he wished that we print the epitaph he wrote for himself: "His life, though it zigged and zagged a little, generally moved in the direction of adequacy." (See 1952 class note.)

**1952 Irene Fialkoff Nevil**, Los Angeles, CA (1/13/14), at age 83; Mortar Board; participated in drama, Lab Theatre, Aquacade; graduate work in drama, Columbia U.; her working career included 10 years as vice president of Meridian International, an export management firm which she helped build with then husband, Charles; in the 1980s, had her own international business consulting firm, Nevil & Assoc., working with U.S. firms involved in international trade and/or overseas firms needing a market study or a buying office in the U.S.; with her business well established and children grown, she began to volunteer for Los Angeles' unit of Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic (now Learning Ally), where she recorded countless volumes, served as board member, twice as chair, devoting more than 30 years to this organization; loved traveling, learning about new places, hosting dinners and entertaining.

**1953 Cliffe D. Joel**, Williston, VT (1/9/14), at age 81; Phi Beta Kappa; Alpha Gamma Sigma; past president, Chemistry Society; lab assistant for Chemistry Prof. R. Nelson Smith; M.A. in medical sciences, Ph.D. in biochemistry, Harvard U.; president, Harvard Graduate Student Council; while working at Harvard Medical School, his research on role of polyunsaturated fatty acids in the brain was related to current omega-3 fatty acid trend; 30 years, professor of chemistry, Lawrence U., Appleton, WI; a "sports fanatic" (his words), ran major marathons and served as president of Midwest Collegiate Athletic Conference; sang in choirs; became a trained Stephen Minister in United Methodist Church; retired and moved to Oceanside, CA, where he enjoyed the view of the Pacific, gardened and volunteered with National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, and was organizer and facilitator for their first ongoing support group in Calif. for people recovering from mental illness; in 2010, due to progressing health problems, moved to Vermont to be near children.

**1954 George J. "Bud" Carr**, Bainbridge Island, WA (12/30/13), at age 81; Nu Alpha Phi; ASPC elections chair, senior year; O.D., Los Angeles College of Optometry; served in U.S. Air Force as an optometry officer, Lackland Air Force Base hospital, San Antonio, TX; for 28 years, had optometry practice in Ojai, CA, where he was involved with church and community affairs; retired in 1988 and moved back to his origins on Puget Sound; continued to practice part time in Seattle, Silverdale and Bainbridge Island; active in Poulsole Rotary Club and Rolling Bay Presbyterian Church; his model railroad layout has been enjoyed by many area railroaders; he and his wife, Lind Bloomenshine '56, whom he married in 1956, were avid bicycle riders and

despite his blindness in recent years, they continued to ride, transitioning to a tandem bike.

**1954 Shirley Wheeler Dare**, Stockton, CA (4/9/14), at age 82; swam in Aquacade; vice president junior year, president senior year of K.M.E. (Math Club); in her 30s, she took up flying, participating in coast-to-coast Powder Puff Derbies; earned her commercial and instrument ratings; after children grown, traveled to exotic/unusual places and rafted several rivers, including the Colorado, the Taten-shini and Alek Rivers in Alaska; taught Bible studies, and spoke for Stonecroft Ministries and to Christian women's groups; volunteered for St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center and Hospice of San Joaquin; loved to garden and to attend her grandchildren's activities.

**1954 Anthony G. MacLeod**, Berkeley, CA (11/3/2006), at age 73.

**1954 Pat Minor Macneal**, Livonia, PA (2/14/14), at age 81; came to Pomona after two years at Colorado A&M College; Phi Beta Kappa; played violin in College Orchestra; member of Writers Workshop and reporter for *The Student Life*; senior year, was on MSS editorial board; after graduation, studied for a year at U. of Munich, Germany, on Fulbright Scholarship; in late 1960s, began volunteering in Millheim [PA] Outreach Center's War on Poverty, gradually building a career while helping others help themselves; in 1972, founded Center Pennsylvania Village Crafts, a cooperative which taught women to make handcrafts for market; her ability to write grants put her on the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts; in 1995, founded The Northern Tri Cultural Alliance, to oversee and support artistic and economic programs in that culturally underserved region of the state; author of *Headwaters and Hardwoods*, describing folklore, history and traditional arts of the Pennsylvania Northern Tier; a member of St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Rebersburg, she taught Sunday school, was choir director and organist; started a kindergarten in Penns Valley and taught it for two years before it was included in the Penns Valley Unified School District; member of State College Choral Society.

**1954 Bobbe Anne Eiche Ostengaard**, Las Vegas, NV (12/24/2007), at age 74; reporter for *The Student Life*; International Relations Club and delegate to Model United Nations Conference, 1953; real estate representative, Forest E. Olson, Inc., Costa Mesa, CA; earned a real estate certificate, Orange Coast College, 1971; by 1973, had her own real estate office for the Fountain Valley, Newport, Huntington Beach and Costa Mesa area; marrying Walter Ostengaard in 1975, moved to Stuart, FL, where she joined Century 21 as real estate agent; widowed by 1995, retired to Las Vegas.

**1954 Calvin D. Philips**, Oakland, CA (2/1/2005), at age 71; Kappa Theta Epsilon, vice-president, president, Glee Club and Choir; secretary, treasurer, Inter Fraternity Council.

**1954 John H. Roney**, Hermosa Beach, CA (10/5/2002), at age 70; attended Pomona his freshman year and

then transferred to Occidental College for their Air Force ROTC program; following graduation, served in U.S. Marine Corps; LL.B., UCLA; attorney/partner with O'Melveny & Myers, Los Angeles.

**1954 E. Alfred Silva**, Hilo, HI (11/7/13), at age 90; served in U.S. Army, WWII before entering Pomona; J.D., U. of Chicago Law School; transportation service manager at the former Andrews Trucking Co., in Hilo.

**1955 Donna L. Brooks**, La Jolla, CA (3/9/14), at age 80; Mortar Board; Choir; member of Aquacade (director of routines), W.R.A. swim manager, and swimming pool guard; secretary, P.E. Club; sophomore year, elected AWS secretary; junior year, treasurer of AWS and then elected president; on Faculty Committee for Student Affairs; senior year, on Vet's Unit Council, May Day Court Princess; certificate in physical therapy, USC; physical therapist, Rancho Los Amigos Respiratory & Rehabilitation Center, working with polio, spinal cord and amputee patients; M.D. Women's Medical College, Pennsylvania, and resident in obstetrics & gynecology at their hospital; in private practice of Ob/Gyn in San Diego; author of *Making Doctors: A Century of Lessons on the Practice of Healing* (2013, Heather Wood Ion); in retirement, became a patient advocate often accompanying patients through surgery; took up sculpture, creating terra cotta figures often finished as life size bronzes; also took courses in jewelry making.

**1955 Nancy Irvin Davison**, Boulder, CO (12/2/13), at age 80; Mortar Board; active in College Choir, drama productions and Masquers Society; dance director for the student-written and produced musical revue, "Run for Cover;" junior sponsor; an art major, she received The Rembrandt Club's Art Prize both junior and senior years; elementary teaching credential, Mt. St. Mary's College; worked 10 years as visiting art teacher, chiefly in Los Angeles schools; led art workshops for teachers in school districts from San Diego to Washington state; designed, edited and illustrated *The King's Salad*, a book of classroom art activities developed by teachers; moved to private sector in 1980, joining a small design firm; closed her working career in Calif. as a self-employed graphic designer; retired with her husband, Roy Davison (CGS '51) whom she married in 1956, to Boulder in 1990, where she volunteered for various causes; kept active in art with personal projects; sang with small choral group; became dedicated student of nature, walking mountain trails in summer, skiing and snowshoeing in winter.

**1955 David P. Williams**, Boca Grande, FL (4/14/14), at age 80; Kappa Delta; four-year member of varsity basketball team; a member of R.O.T.C. and upon graduating, was designated "Distinguished Military Graduate of Pomona College-Claremont Men's College R.O.T.C. Unit;" served 11 years in U.S. Army Reserves; M.B.A., Kelley School of Business, Indiana U.; his retailing career included administrative positions in the family business, L.S. Ayres Department Stores, managing their branches, vice president/general manager of home furnishings; after a period where he was

president/CEO of Robinson's of Florida Department Stores, returned to Indianapolis in 1978, to become president/CEO of L.S. Ayres & Co.; after five years, became president, then chair of Caldor, Inc.; his career culminated when he became president of Associated Dry Goods in New York in 1984; throughout his life, volunteered by serving on boards of various organizations including as president of Indianapolis Public Television Station WFYI, director of Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, director of Merchants National Bank & Trust, director of Indianapolis Convention and Visitors Bureau, among others; retired to Boca Grande in 1986; married Karen Froseth '56 (1934-1999) in 1956.

**1956 Frank P. Stagen**, Seattle, WA (1/16/13), at age 78; Kappa Delta; attended Pomona freshman and sophomore years; B.A. and L.L.B. UCLA; after working in real estate and investment banking in New York and Los Angeles, formed the firm, Nitze-Stagen, with Nitze in New York in 1970, investing in real estate in California, Pennsylvania and other markets before he relocated to Seattle in late 1981; opened an office of Nitze-Stagen six years later and remained very active in real estate development of Seattle; lived downtown and enjoyed long walks around the city.

**1956 A. Ruth Steward**, Santa Rosa, CA (11/5/13), at age 78; Phi Beta Kappa; a transfer student from La Verne College, she attended Pomona her junior and senior year; a chemistry major, she was teaching assistant in Chem I; active in American Friends Service Committee and College Church; M.A. in teaching, M.S. in chemistry, Yale U.; in 1961, was member of the first group deployed by the Peace Corps to Nigeria, where she taught math and English at U. of Nigeria in Nsukka; science teacher in Watts, the Los Angeles Unified School District; in 1964, spent a summer as a civil rights worker in Mississippi; after a year-long recovery from a car accident and a retreat to southern Arizona, she became interested in its fragile ecosystem, this plus her concern for the use of Agent Orange in Vietnam, prompted her return to school where she earned her Ph.D. in pharmacology/environmental toxicology, UC Davis; following a post doc fellowship at Medical College of Virginia, she joined Buffalo State College as research scientist in the Great Lakes Lab; the final 10 years of her career was spent as research scientist for New York State Dept. of Public Health, Center for Environmental Health, Troy, NY; traveled to Beijing to consult on pollution problems there and to Costa Rica and Nicaragua to participate in water projects; long active with Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), participating in activities to promote world peace and environmental sustainability; retired in 2011 at age 76 and returned to Calif. to be nearer family and join Friends community at Friends House where she passed away.

**1957 Janet Hill Lamott**, San Diego, CA (4/26/14), at age 78; transferred from Stanford for her junior and senior years; member of Pomona's Aquacade; earned certificate as medical lab technician, St. John's Hospital, Santa Monica; medical lab technologist, Frank

Mill Lab, San Diego; became forensic alcohol/narcotics analyst and expert witness in court cases; an avid swimmer since childhood, she was master open water swimmer in her adult life; accompanied Carol Sing to solo the English Channel, the oldest woman to do so at that time (regulations allowed her to swim one hour in the water and one hour out, alternately, in the accompanying boat); also swam from Lanai to Maui in Hawaiian waters, until recently, the oldest woman on record to do that; a year-round daily swim in the La Jolla Cove was routine for her; also part of an international competitive outrigger canoe crew; after retirement, she and her husband, David Lamott '57, whom she married in 1956, traveled and spent time with family in their Hawaii home; she loved to snorkel in many of the world's undersea gardens, including in the South Pacific and the Indian Ocean.

**1958 Marilyn Cathcart**, Bogota, Colombia (3/1/14), at age 77; played cello in Pomona Orchestra; member of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship; secondary teaching credential, CGS; M.R.E., in Christian education, Fuller Theological Seminary; commissioned by Wycliff Bible Translators in 1964, was sent to Colombia in 1965 to work with the Cacua people, a native tribe, living in the southeastern jungles; spent the rest of her life (49 years) working with them, introducing them to Christianity, teaching them basic reading skills and working with them on the translation of the Bible; taught herself the Cacua language/dialect; with help from her advanced students, completed a published/printed version of New Testament in Cacua language *Dios Naawat tolib* (God's Telling book) in 2005; was working on Old Testament at time of her death; with her American colleague, she made significant progress in improving the lot and life of the Cacua people, enabling them to overcome their slavery to another jungle tribe in the area, in spite of well known drug trafficking prevalent in jungle areas of Colombia; honored in Feb. 2001 by Glendale Presbyterian Church for her work.

**1958 Albert E. Schuh**, Valencia, CA (3/24/14), at age 78; attended Pomona his freshman year, transferring to UC Berkeley, followed by service in U.S. Navy as medical corpsman; B.A., UCLA; M.D., UCLA Medical School, followed by internship, internal medicine residency and rheumatology fellowship at UCLA/Wadsworth Veteran's Administration system; 26 years in internal medicine and rheumatology at Kaiser/Permanente in Panoramita City, CA, including as head of Rheumatology Dept.; retired in 1994 at age 58, but continued to volunteer to teach rheumatology to residents in the Olive View/UCLA Valley program; an avid fisherman, tying his own flies and fishing in rivers of American West; great outdoors man, hiking and camping in his beloved eastern Sierras; traveler, including to Chile to hike and fish; married Carol Ann "Carrie" Henderson '58 in 1959.

**1959 Jean Schoenstadt Anoff**, Charlotte, NC (8/12/2012), at age 74; attended Pomona 1955-57 and participated in drama, Lab Theater, secretary on Coop board; for over 30 years was owner

of SESCO, Inc., a promotional products company; chair of Summit House; past president, Women's Commission of Mecklenburg County; 12-year member of Council of Aging; volunteered for Hadasah and was past president of B'nai B'rith Women.

**1959 Keith R. Echeverri**, Kihei, HI (9/24/13), at age 76; Nu Alpha Phi; on freshman track team, earning letter in high jump, broad jump, followed by a letter in high jump on varsity team senior year; participated in intramural football and baseball; M.A. in education, CGS; elementary principal, Glendora [CA] Unified School District; education research specialist, Office of Research, California State Assembly, Sacramento; principal consultant, Joint Committee on Educational Goals and Evaluation, California Legislature; editor, *Education for the People, Vol. I and II*, (Calif. Legislator); owner/manager, Houdini's Food & Spirits, Coolin, ID; gallery director, Lahaina Galleries, Inc. Lahaina, Maui, HI; teacher, Lokelani Intermediate School, Kihei, HI.

**1959 Donald H. Lamb**, Upland, CA (10/27/13), at age 82; served in U.S. Navy Air Force as aviation electronics technician and had two years at Chaffey Jr. College before coming to Pomona; Kappa Delta; played forward on the Rugby team; with late Richard Vernon '59, built the first analog-type computer for Pomona, which was installed in the new Robert A. Millikan Laboratory (it took them 130 hours to construct); M.S. in engineering science, Caltech; dynamics engineer, Convair, a division of General Dynamics, Pomona; research engineer, Aeronutronic, Newport Beach; on technical staff, senior staff engineer, project manager and consultant, Hughes Aircraft Co., Fullerton.

**1959 Gerald R. Litel**, Salado, TX (3/11/2001), at age 65; U.S. Navy before entering Pomona; played on the varsity football team; M.D. and training in neurosurgery, Baylor U. Medical School, Houston, TX; neurosurgeon, St. Patrick's Hospital, Lake Charles, LA; became involved with amateur boxing when the National AAU championships were held in Lake Charles, becoming resident neurosurgeon for the meet, and was called to action when a boxer was found to have a blood clot after the meet and needed surgery; joined medical subcommittee for AAU boxing and accompanied the U.S. team to Moscow in winter 1980; Master's of Public Health, U. of Texas-Houston, 1997; on senior staff, Scott & White Clinic in Temple, TX.

**1959 Karene Rogers**, El Segundo, CA (8/2/2009), at age 71; played violin and/or cello in Pomona Orchestra; M.A. in psychology, Immaculate Heart College; self-employed marriage/family/child therapist.

**1959 Don C. Smith**, Arcadia, CA (12/16/13), at age 83; came to Pomona after two years of junior college; attended CGS and worked toward a secondary teaching credential in art and education; many years, art teacher, Arroyo High School, El Monte, CA.



**1959** John H. Wilson, Oxnard, CA (1/27/2005), at age 67; Phi Beta Kappa; participated in varsity track, running the 440.

**1960** Norma Jo White Maidel, Camarillo, CA (12/25/13), at age 75; Delta Sigma Rho; at Pomona, participated in Frosh Show, Plug Ugly, section leader/Dorm Board; M.A. in education and reading specialist credential, UCLA; taught in Washington State, Santa Monica, Malibu and Somis, CA; education consultant; dedicated her life to philanthropy and education well into retirement; involved in various organizations including World Affairs Council (vice-chair) Ventura County, AAUW (past president), Political Caucus and Cal State U. Channel Islands; world traveler; married Mark Maidel '60 in 1960.

**1960** J. Dan O'Neill, Tucson, AZ (3/9/13), at age 74; Nu Alpha Phi; active in various campus committees including a 1959 initiative with four other students to suspend/reconstruct the ASPC constitution; left end of junior year to attend U. of Arizona; B.A. in political science and J.D., U. of Arizona; 30 years, lawyer; career in public service began as assistant city attorney, Tucson; after many years as southern Arizona district representative to U. S. Congressman Morris K. Udall, returned to private law practice; had participated directly in legislation affecting Arizona wilderness areas, US-Mexico cooperation and trade, immigration reform, worker rights, clean air and water, the Central Arizona Project and preserving Native American water and land rights; board service included Kino Learning Center, Desert Survivors, Project Vote Smart and Exercise Democracy; cherished the view of Catalina Mountains from his "old adobe home," originally built by SW artist Maynard Dixon; other passions included family, politics, golf and Arizona Wildcats.

**1960** Robert "Bob" R. Poole, Redlands, CA (3/24/14), at age 75; Phi Delta (president); known as "Iron Man" on track team, earning letters all four years; worked for NASA for a few years before obtaining his M. A. in math, UC Riverside; graduate studies at CGS and USC; 26 years, professor of math, U. of Redlands; received a heart transplant in Sept. 2005, extending his life; in retirement, worked in his garden growing prized boysenberries, peaches and more; regularly sold produce and flowers at Market Night in Redlands; loved hiking, crossword puzzles, farming, and boogie boarding; married Patricia Ann Wittich '60 in 1960.

**1960** Anthony "Tony" Thompson, Honolulu, HI (7/28/13), at age 74; member of Pomona's fencing team; served in U.S. Naval Reserve; founding member, Pomona College Junior Alumni Club; an economics major, attended U. of Chicago Business School before entering into the carwash business; later became a stockbroker and Certified Financial Planner; retired as vice president at Morgan Stanley; in retirement, enjoyed spending half of each year on Kauai, HI; a longtime resident of Pasadena, CA, was active in the community; in early 1970s, was leader of "Community Together," an organiza-

tion supporting integration of public schools; was an advocate of monitoring of redevelopment and the preservation of Pasadena's neighborhoods; helped form "Neighbors for Open Government," a group that successfully challenged Pasadena's redevelopment process; leader for PRIDE (Pasadena Residents in Defense of the Environment), an organization responsible for passage of an initiative limiting the growth of the city and led to revisions in the General Plan; served on boards of Pasadena Heritage, The Friends of the Pasadena Public Library (founder), The Pasadena Minority History Foundation, and The Pasadena Oral History Project (founder); in 2002, was honored by Pasadena Heritage for his "extraordinary commitment to the community;" married Susan Otsubo '62 in 1962.

**1960** Linda Moore Tucker, Fredericksburg, VA (1/31/14), at age 75; member of Choir and Glee Club (on their board senior year); Aquacade, sectional director, junior year; elementary teacher, Corona [CA] School District, the Air Force Dependent Schools in England and the Bonita School District in Calif. before marriage and move to Florida; owner Tuckerbag Stencils, specializing in custom stenciled wallpaper borders, cards, stationery, gift items; then owner, Sequoyia Beadworks; married Bruce Tucker '60 (1938-99) in 1985.

**1962** Virginia "Ginny" Saunders Gebhardt, Panama City, FL (11/18/2012), at age 71; freshman representative to W.R.A. board and president her senior year; AWS cabin manager (Halona) sophomore year; on women's basketball team; self-employed editorial consultant.

**1963** Donald A. Johnston, Boulder, CO (4/19/14), at age 73; Alpha Gamma Sigma; M.D., California College of Medicine, UC Irvine; residency training in psychiatry, U. of Colorado, Denver; chief of psychiatry inpatients, Denver VA Hospital and instructor in psychiatry, U. of Colorado Medical Center.

**1964** Tsung-Kuang "T.K." Lin, Des Moines, IA (12/21/13), at age 73; came to Pomona as a special student on an international scholarship for the 1963-64 year; born and raised in Taiwan, China, he was active athletically, known as an elite baseball pitcher, but represented his province and island in soccer, track and field; matriculated from Tung-hai U. before coming to Pomona; went on to earn M.A. and Ph.D. in international relations/East Asian Studies from Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts U.; 36 years, professor of history, Drake U., Des Moines, IA; an activist for the independence and democratic movement of Taiwan; past president, North American Taiwanese Professors Assn.; world traveler, his proudest trip was in 2012, after being diagnosed with cancer, was to take his entire family for 10-day, family only, bus tour around Taiwan treating them to his introspective and a historical discourse of the island.

**1964** Creed Wood, Santa Rosa, CA (2/3/14), at age 71; Sigma Tau; on football and track teams; freshman sponsor his senior year; M.D., Yale U. Medical School; completed his residency in ortho-

pedic surgery at UC San Francisco Medical Center, after which he served in U.S. Navy as Lt. commander in the medical corps and later for the U.S. Air Force National Reserve; private practice as orthopedic surgeon in Seattle, Petaluma and San Rafael, CA; retired in Dec. 2007; member of Rotary Club of Santa Rosa; loved a good joke, fishing and golf; avid historian with particular fondness for Civil War era; world traveler.

**1965** David K. Beavon, Jr., Indianapolis, IN (12/12/13), at age 70; attended Pomona junior and senior year; Kappa Theta Epsilon; member of College Band, Lutheran Club; secondary teaching credential, California State College (now University), Long Beach; science teacher, Central Community Jr.-Sr. High School, Burlington, IL; supervisor, Learning Center, Homewood Christian Academy, Homewood, IL; quality assurance manager, Cadbury Schweppes USA; beverage flavor research chemist, Universal Flavor Corp.

**1965** John F. Petrini, Bakersfield, CA (12/19/2008), at age 64; Alpha Gamma Sigma; attended Pomona his freshman and sophomore years; vice president, freshman class; on varsity football team; B.A., UC Davis; upon earning his J.D. from UC Davis, became UCD Law School's administrative dean; deputy district attorney, Sacramento County; attorney, Burton, Petrini & Conron in Bakersfield; president, Kern County Bar Assn.

**1965** F. Gary Robbins, Kalispell, MT (3/29/14), at age 70; Sigma Tau; on varsity baseball and basketball teams, earning letters in both sports; received NAIA District III Honorable Mention recognition for basketball his senior year; M.D., USC followed by service in U.S. Army Medical Corps, earning rank of captain; did his residency in general surgery, L.A. County/USC Medical Center; practiced general and vascular surgery with James S. Bonner, M.D., in Kalispell for 27 years; was first fellowship-trained peripheral vascular surgeon in the state of Montana; served in multiple capacities at Kalispell Regional Medical Center including A.L.E.R.T., Dept. of Surgery chair and chief of staff; supporter of Boys and Girls Club and various veterans' services; avid sports fan with encyclopedic memory of sports, geography and early rock 'n' roll music; traveled to college basketball and football games and tennis and golf tournaments around the world.

**1970** Emily L. Ranseen, Brooklyn, NY (11/10/13) at age 65; after graduating, lived in New York, working in publishing, radio, health research; BSLA in landscape architecture, City College, City University of New York; 13 years a landscape architect for N.Y.C. Housing Authority; member, American Planning Assn., Landscape Architecture Foundation; worked on her MLS at Pratt Institute; received the Library Administration & Management Assn.'s 2002 Award for best student essay on library as place, the article appeared in the *LAMA Quarterly* in fall 2002; as a result of a bicycle accident her senior year at Pomona, she lived with epileptic seizures until a successful brain surgery in 1994.

**1971** Kathleen Smith Long, Denver, CO (8/10/2012), at age 63; M.L.S., UCLA School of Library and Information Science, 1976; the last years of her life were not easy as she was retina pigmentosis blind and suffered from M.S.

**1974** Andrea P. Lepay, Claremont (1/7/2011) at age 58; attended Pomona her freshman year.

**1981** Robert "Bob" A. Franz, Honolulu, HI (4/12/13) at age 54; a Pomona Scholar and Phi Beta Kappa; a math major, began his working career as an APL programmer with Alexander, Scriver & Assoc. in Denver, CO; soon his mathematical abilities transferred to financial management: vice president, Quantum Investment Advisors in NYC; director of quantitative research and portfolio manager at Invesco Funds, Denver, CO.; chief investment officer of Westpeak Global Advisors in Boulder, CO, a company Bob co-founded; in 2006, established his own company, Sikora-Franz Investment Advisors, in Honolulu, where he worked to help individuals and small businesses secure their financial future; loved music, numbers, puppies and his life-long Pomona friends; enjoyed hiking especially the 14'ers in Colorado and the magnificent ridges of Oahu Island; married Sharon Sikora '81 in 1984; they met the first day of school at Pomona in 1977 and were in the same sponsor group.

**1981** Cynthia A. Longoria, San Jose, CA (1/30/14) at age 54; J.D., Loyola Law School; practiced law in San Jose.

**1981** Rebecca N. Mass, Juneau, AK (2/12/2005), at age 46; attended Pomona 1977-79; transferred to UCLA; attorney at law in Pomona.

**1998** Scott T. Steen, Oakland, CA (4/17/14), at age 38; at Pomona was volunteer in Admissions Office including as senior interviewer, becoming an outside reader in 2000; M.B.A., Thunderbird International School of Management; had successful career as sales executive; fluent in Spanish and picked up other languages easily; his interest in other peoples and cultures led to extensive international travel and work experiences; enjoyed hiking, camping, skiing and swimming.

**2000** Richard M. Mendoza, Pasadena, CA (3/1/14), at age 35; a math major, he was an Admissions Office intern and coordinator of the tour guides program; spent his junior year semester abroad in Budapest, Hungary, studying at College International; J.D., Yale U. Law School where he was elected editor of *Journal on Regulation* and served as editor on *Yale Law Journal*; after graduating from law school, he clerked for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit Judge Ferdinand Fernandez; became an associate at Los Angeles-based law firm of O'Melveny & Myers, later moving to the Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena as lead attorney and tax manager; tutored children in mathematics; was a court-appointed special advocate, serving as a representative for children involved in family and children's court; loved good food and to travel.

## Hillary Gravendyk

1979–2014

Assistant Professor of English



Hillary Gravendyk, assistant professor of English, died May 10, 2014, after a long illness. She was 35 years old.

A gifted poet, scholar and teacher, she came to Pomona in 2009, after earning degrees from Tulane University, the University of Washington and UC Berkeley. She had already published a chapbook of poetry, *The Naturalist* (Achiote Press 2008), and in short order went on to publish the critically acclaimed *Harm* (Omnidawn 2011), along with a variety of individual poems in prestigious journals.

She was the recipient of numerous fellowships and awards, including the Roselyn Schneider Eisner prize in Poetry (twice), the Emily Chamberlain Cook Prize in Poetry and the Squaw Valley Community of Writers Scholarship.

At the time of her death, she was editing a book, *Through, Plain: A Memoir*, by Larry Eigner.

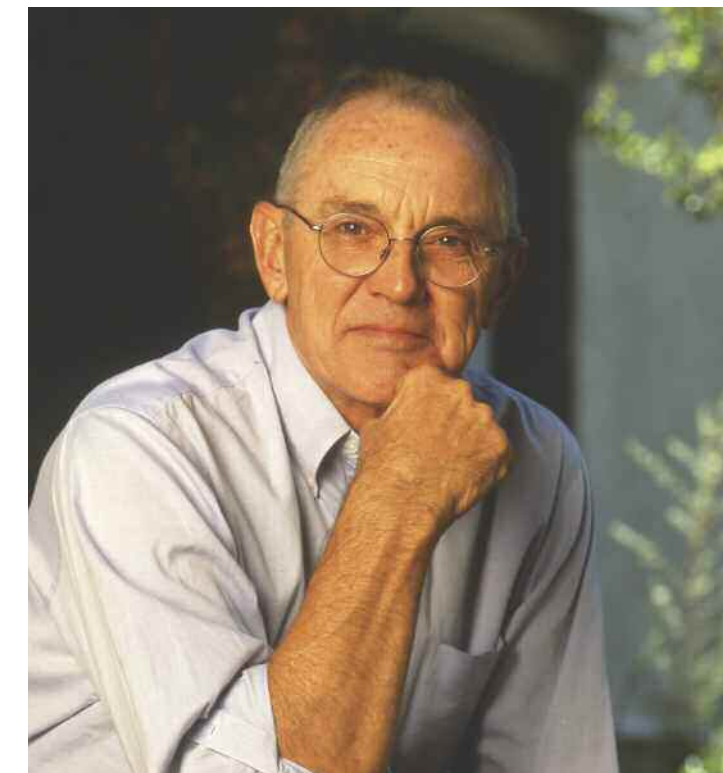
At Pomona, she taught both creative writing and literature courses on topics including feminist poetics, California poetry and the experience of illness. She was known as a talented teacher and dedicated mentor to her students.

A memorial service was held in Pomona's Memorial Garden on May 15 before the close of the school year.

## Steven C. Young

1938–2014

Emeritus Professor of English



Steven C. Young, Professor of English at Pomona College from 1967 to 2004, died April 20, 2014, in Seattle, Wash. He was 75 years old.

A graduate of Princeton University, he earned his master's and doctoral degrees from UC Berkeley, also studying at the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-upon-Avon.

At Pomona, he taught courses in British, American and European drama for more than three decades. His teaching was characterized by "a desire to stimulate the minds of young writers and actors and an insatiable mastery of the material," according to a 2004 *Pomona College Magazine* article. He himself said that he viewed the classroom as a "field on which forces for change, inner and outer, meet." He was known for classes that combined analysis with performance. A skilled carpenter, he installed a portable stage, complete with sound and lighting systems, in a basement classroom where his students took part in traditional classroom discussions spiced with the first-hand experience of dramatic performance.

He retired as the Dr. Mary Ann Vanderzyl Reynolds Professor of English in 2004. In retirement, he was active in theatre on Lopez Island, Wash., where he lived, and continued to pursue other interests, such as deep-sea fishing and auto racing.

# Cryptic Crossword

by Lynne Willems Zold '67 and Thomas Kimball

**DIRECTIONS:** Cryptic puzzle clues have two parts—a simple definition and a “cryptic” clue such as an anagram, a homophone, two definitions, a word with added or deleted letters, or an answer hidden in the clue or in the initial capitals. (Example—Clue: “Tree got mixed up in mess. Period.” Answer: “semester” [Definition: “Period”; Cryptic clue: anagram, signaled by “mixed up,” combining “tree” and “mess.”]) **Answers are on page 54.**

1	2	3	4	5	6	
7			8			
9						
		10				11
12						
13	14		15		16	
			17			
18						
19			20			
21			22			

**ACROSS**

- 1. Augur diameter. (4)
- 4. Rethink mean sobriquet. (4)
- 7. Time changes something. (4)
- 8. Rotten door: bit of a stench. (4)
- 9. Market rap telling about your business. (8)
- 12. Say, see stream trout that looks like a spiny lobster. (8)
- 13. Place to sit on coccyx. (8)
- 18. Fail to notice a high place with a good view. (8)
- 19. Telegraph: metal connector. (4)
- 20. Computer guide that's handed out in a restaurant. (4)
- 21. At first everyone loved seeing each other. (4)
- 22. Walk pets awkwardly. (4)

**DOWN**

- 1. Gobi sects lose 2 founding members, then divides in two. (7)
- 2. Additional person pestered out of bed. (5)
- 3. Temp typist at heart is hollow. (5)
- 4. Shaky tone can be sung. (4)
- 5. Slow movements primarily are deemed as graceful ideals of sensuality. (7)
- 6. Gangster's girlfriends heard about big shopping centers. (5)
- 10. Those who imprison wardens. (7)
- 11. Physical stunt on the rise. (7)
- 14. Roman village has archaic blacksmith's tool. (5)
- 15. Lambs create emollients. (5)
- 16. Nobody after the middle of the day needs to add a little energy. (2, 3)
- 17. Unfettered reef swimming. (4)

# Alumni Weekend 2014

drew alumni back to campus from all across the country and around the globe, with more than 1,500 attendees taking part in one or more days of the four-day event. In its 50th reunion year, the Class of 1964 set new records for attendance and for reunion giving. Pomona's first Diamond Reunion, for alumni 60 or more years out from graduation, was a huge success, with 75 attendees at the Saturday gathering.

Next year's Alumni Weekend has been scheduled for April 30 to May 3, 2015, and will feature the first-ever 47-year reunion. PHOTOS BY CARRIE ROSEMA





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**“Look out!  
Tall human in  
blue, running!”**

**Is that really what they're saying?**

**(Story on page 29)**