

UC SANTA CRUZ

REVIEW

Fall 2015

PROUD PAST,
BOLD
FUTURE



SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

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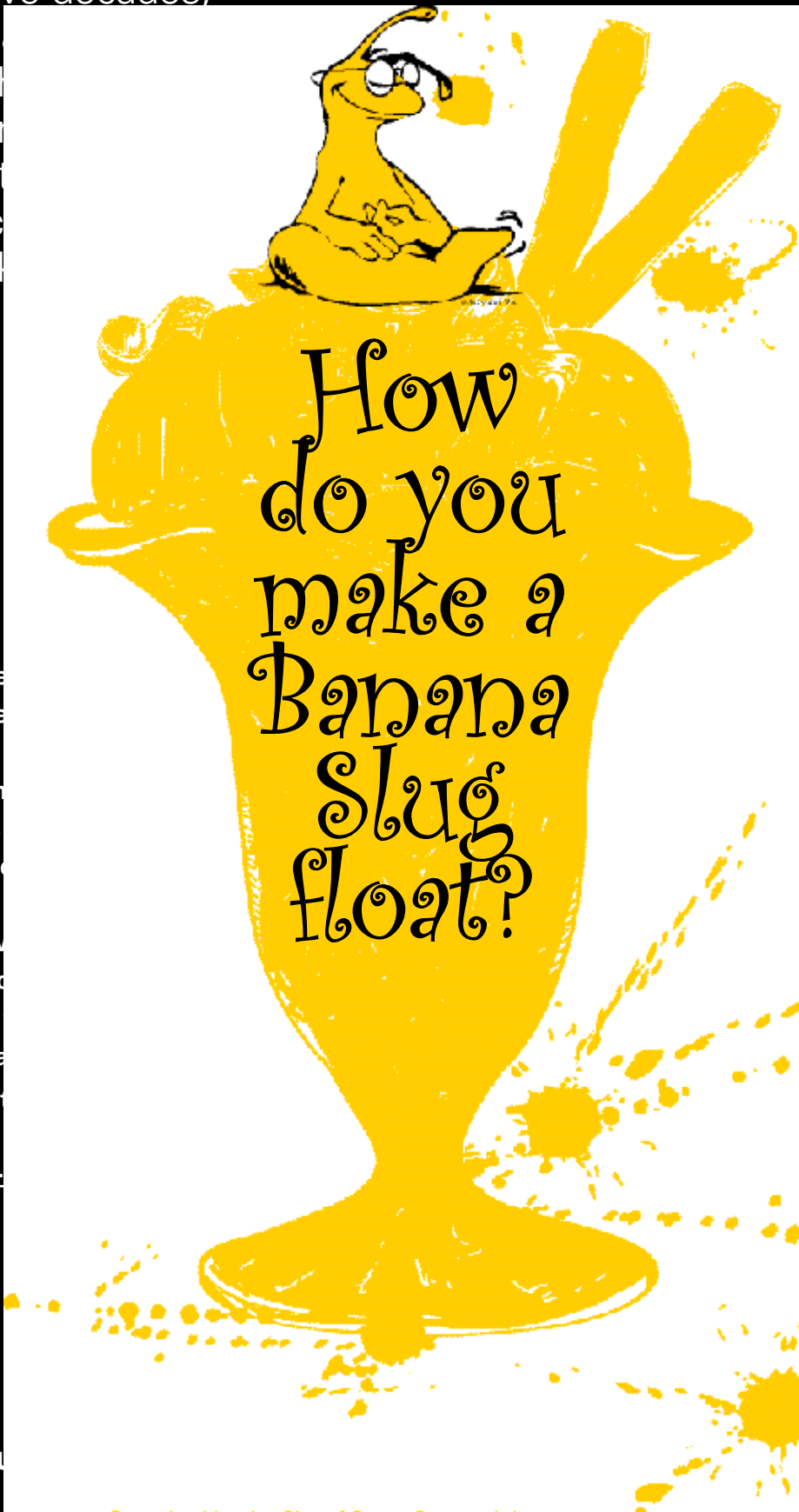
About the cover



Catherine Ramirez, associate professor of Latin American and Latino studies and director of the campus's Chicano Latino Research Center, is among the hundreds of UC Santa Cruz faculty whose bold ideas push boundaries and challenge assumptions.

Ramirez focuses on 20th century Mexican-American history, histories of migration and assimilation, Latino literature, feminist theory, and comparative ethnic studies. She is writing a book on the history of assimilation in the U.S., and she leads a team that was recently awarded a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for a project on migration, belonging, and non-citizenship.

UC Santa Cruz's Latin American and Latino Studies Department offers the only doctoral program in Latin American and Latino studies in the world.



Organized by the City of Santa Cruz and the
Downtown Association of Santa Cruz

With a past so audacious,
our vision of the future is limitless



Out on the terrace overlooking the Cowell College courtyard, I watched a spectacle unfold around me during our very special 50th anniversary edition of Alumni Weekend.

Hundreds of alumni from across the decades reconnected with each other and the campus, laughing, sharing memories, and feeling grateful for the years they spent here.

Our biggest Alumni Weekend yet made me more proud than ever to be the chancellor of UC

Santa Cruz. The celebrations of our 50th year have been a smashing success so far, with more to come this fall.

It's gratifying to see the UC Santa Cruz community recognize this anniversary and the strengths and accomplishments of our first half-century.

What will we do in our next five decades?

Considering its relative youth and modest size, this campus has made outsized contributions. We are consistently ranked one of the best young universities in the world, and our pathbreaking research has tsunami-sized effects that up-end disciplines.

We will build on this foundation during the next 50 years, making our mark in fields we can't even dream of today. After all, what did our founders know in 1965 about sequencing the human genome, one of our signature achievements?

UC Santa Cruz's leadership in bioinformatics opened the door to research and scientific breakthroughs that are transforming the medical field and ushering in the era of precision medicine. This is how we will decode cancer. It's how we will tailor treatment to individual patients.

Our breakthroughs in astronomy will yield stunning insights into our understanding of the universe, and our discoveries about the deep oceans and the coastal environment will prompt policy changes to protect these precious resources.

Our commitment to social justice will help us find answers to persistent questions of inequality, from feeding a growing population to providing access to education.

New forms of creative expression will sustain and challenge us, while scholarship in the humanities will enrich and transform our relationships with ourselves and one another.

We will grow our 100,000-strong alumni community, enhance the educational experience for a more diverse group of students than ever, and much more.

At the juncture of our first 50 years and the next, I am filled with optimism and eager to usher in the next wave of achievement.

Fiat Slugs, indeed!

George Blumenthal, chancellor

THE CAMPAIGN FOR UC SANTA CRUZ

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As our campus celebrates 50 years of original thinking and questioning authority, the Campaign for UC Santa Cruz is building resources for its future. As we collectively enjoy the look back and the year's special events, we are moving full-speed ahead to ensure we have the resources to continue our extraordinary education and research mission.

MAPPING OUR GENOMIC DIFFERENCES

A \$2 million gift to UC Santa Cruz from the W.M. Keck Foundation supports the building of the Human Genome Variation Map. The new guide will provide a means to name, identify, and analyze all common variations in the human genome, greatly enhancing both medical research and basic research in life sciences.

The gift comes as UC Santa Cruz celebrates the 15th anniversary of its assembly and posting of the first human genome. In the spirit of that project, when completed, the variation map also will be publicly and freely available to all.

The Keck gift follows earlier support from the Simons Foundation. Building support for the work of the UC Santa Cruz Genomics Institute is a key priority of the Campaign for UC Santa Cruz.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE COWELL PRESS

Alumna Patricia Rebele (Porter '88) and her husband, Rowland, made a gift of \$500,000 to the Cowell Press Endowment, established in 2013 by Cowell and Porter colleges. For more than 40 years the press has served as a center of hands-on creativity in typography and printing. The gift supports the Transformative Student Experience initiative of the campaign.

BRINGING BACK THE QUARRY

Building on strong student support (a commitment of up to \$6.38 million in fees) toward reopening the Quarry Amphitheater, alumni and other friends of the campus have given more than \$250,000. Another \$1.5 million is needed to reopen the iconic space. Learn how you can be a part of bringing back the Quarry at campaign.ucsc.edu. The Quarry is a priority in the campaign's Transformative Student Experience initiative.

A TABLE'S WORTH OF CHAIRS

When UC President Janet Napolitano announced a program to accelerate creation of faculty chairs on the UC campuses with matching funds of \$500,000 per chair, UC Santa Cruz was first to take up the offer. And it has now matched donors with all eight chairs available. Chairs bring honor to the recipient and provide critical support for faculty and graduate students.

Donors have funded chairs in each academic division and the library. They are:

Sage Weil Presidential Chair for Open Source Software (for more on the Sage Weil gift, see page 11)

Jordan-Stern Presidential Chair for Dickens and 19th Century Literature Studies, funded by John Jordan and Michael Stern

Wilton W. Webster Jr. Natural Reserves Presidential Chair, funded by the Helen and Will Webster Foundation

Stephen R. Gliessman Presidential Chair in Water Resources and Food System Sustainability, funded by the Helen and Will Webster Foundation

The Faggin Family Presidential Chair for the Physics of Information, funded by Federico Faggin

Kenneth R. Corday Family Presidential Chair in Writing for Television and Film, funded by the Corday Foundation

Richard L. Press University Librarian Presidential Chair held by UC Santa Cruz Librarian Elizabeth Cowell, funded by the Helen and Will Webster Foundation

Symantec Presidential Chair in Storage and Security held by Professor Ethan Miller, funded by Symantec Corporation

CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

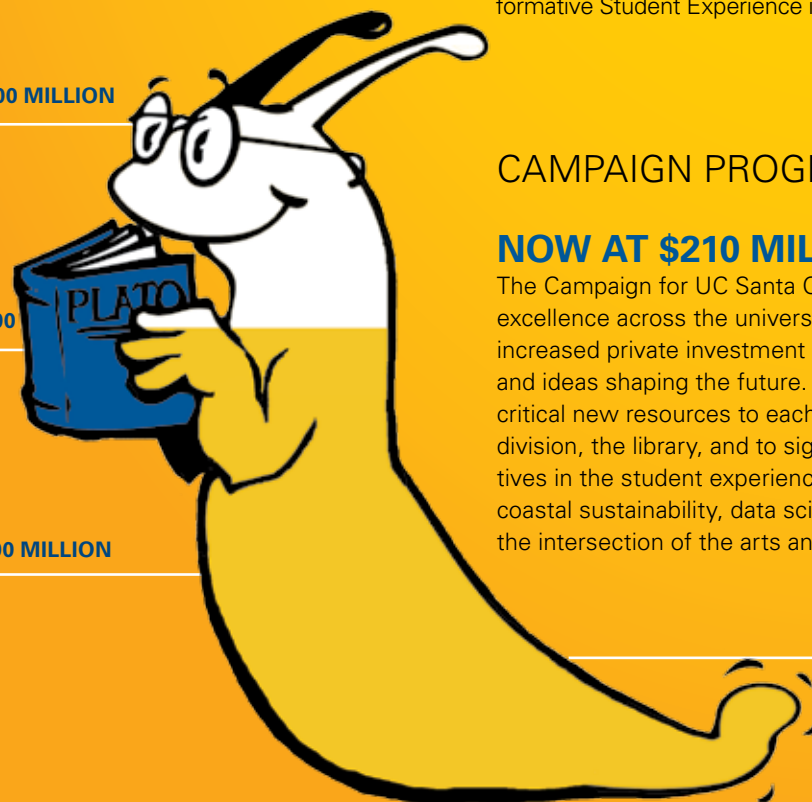
NOW AT \$210 MILLION

The Campaign for UC Santa Cruz supports excellence across the university through increased private investment in the people and ideas shaping the future. It is bringing critical new resources to each academic division, the library, and to signature initiatives in the student experience, genomics, coastal sustainability, data science, and at the intersection of the arts and sciences.

\$300 MILLION

\$200

\$100 MILLION



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MORE

campaign.ucsc.edu

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or (831) 459-1365

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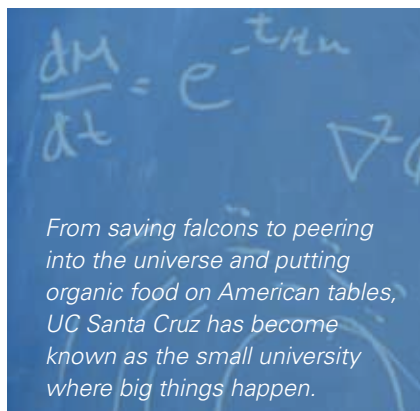
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UC SANTA CRUZ

REVIEW | review.ucsc.edu | Fall 2015



From saving falcons to peering into the universe and putting organic food on American tables, UC Santa Cruz has become known as the small university where big things happen.



Chef, restaurateur, author, and unapologetic spokesperson for sustainable food Alice Waters shares common cause with UC Santa Cruz.

**Big
ideas**

12

20

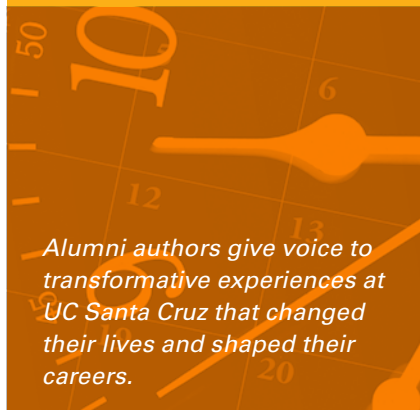
**Waters'
edge**

**Life,
realized**

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**Alumni
profiles**

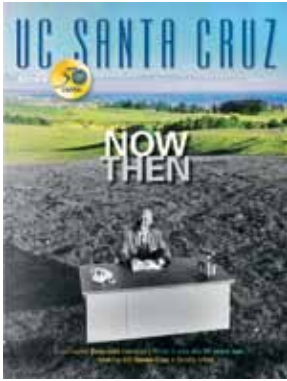


Alumni authors give voice to transformative experiences at UC Santa Cruz that changed their lives and shaped their careers.

In its first 50 years, UC Santa Cruz has produced extraordinary alumni who have taken the lessons they learned here and made their mark on the world.

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Memories



The spring '15 **UC Santa Cruz Review** magazine—the first of two commemorative issues this year celebrating UC Santa Cruz's 50th anniversary—opened the memory floodgates for alumni and friends, some of whom wrote in with detailed descriptions of how the campus enriched and changed their lives. Here are a few such correspondences. Write us with your own: review@ucsc.edu

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GRATITUDE FOR LASTING GIFTS

My wife Julie (Abramson) is a 1977 Crown grad. When I met her I was living with some dear friends who were attending UC Santa Cruz and living in a house at the end of Swift Street.

One of my closest friends to this day is Paul Sparrow [see an alumni

Our sons' academic and professional success is completely (in my humble view) due to the ethos, flexibility, and support of disciplined passion that Julie experienced at UC Santa Cruz. She passed this type of value on to our sons as their coach and mentor regarding the importance and essence of attending a great school, with outstanding professors, and enjoying the process, while it moves them forward toward their dreams and goals in life.

My deepest thanks, appreciation, and gratitude to a great institution of learning and all you have contributed to my friends and my family.

—William “Chuck” Morrison
Las Vegas, Nev.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

What a great surprise it was to find in my mailbox an issue of *UC Santa Cruz Review* tracing its first 50 years. I'm glad you found me. The issue brought back a veritable flood of memories.

I was a busboy in the Pogonip Polo Club (as it was called then) around '65 when ground was just beginning to be broken on the rolling green grassy hills above the club. I remember we were all a little wary about the action and what the consequences would be from this pretty serious ecological disturbance. These were hills we had grown up in, and on, after all. Looking back of course, the jewel that UC Santa Cruz became erased any qualms or misgivings I had.

Two years later, on weeknights during the school year, a friend and I would pedal our 10-speeds after dinner from Live Oak all the way up the excruciating grade to the campus, to while away the evening hours doing our homework at McHenry Library. As high school students still, we found it awe inspiring to wander

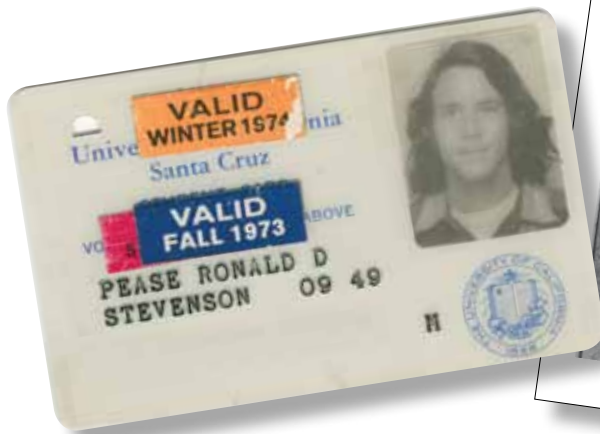


Above:
Robin Lewin, left, and
Larry Tyrrell, right

profile of Sparrow, page 30]. We grew up together and spent our high school years on Long Island, NY, fantasizing about “going to California.” Paul went to UC Santa Cruz, and I became a goldsmith working in Carmel Valley and commuting from Santa Cruz.

Robin Lewin (Kresge '79, communications and music) and Larry Tyrrell (Porter '80, aesthetic studies/music) also lived in our Swift St. house. Lewin is a video producer in Los Angeles today. He was a disc jockey and station manager at KZSC from 1976–79. Tyrrell is a world-famous Shakuhachi flutist living in Portland.

As for Julie, she is now Julie Morrison, and has been with me for the past 38 years. Her dedication to the type of education she received at UC Santa Cruz has served her well, and she has passed it on to our two boys.



Above: Mementos from alumnus Ron Pease, including his UC Santa Cruz student ID card and a group photo with his friends in Scotts Valley. "A number of my friends here were also UC Santa Cruz students at the time," said Pease. Pictured left to right are Peter Canepa, Ken Chelonis, Rick Jones (Cowell '73, history), Debbie Jones (obscured), Tim McCandless, and Pease with his dog, Yogi.

around that majestic edifice, in and out of the stacks, until we found our private corner to set up camp—at which time, totally to our surprise, as well as that of our parents, we found ourselves far more able to study there than anywhere else we had stumbled onto to that point. Of course it did not hurt, in fact it was an added perk, to be able to coast at death-defying speeds back down that grade, in the moonlit night back into Santa Cruz.

In '73 I found myself a student at Stevenson College in my junior year. I would purposely schedule my day around classes, making sure to park at the bottom of the hill at the entrance. This would enable me to hike through what surely must have been the most verdant and untouched, wild even, grounds of any university of UC Santa Cruz's stature. If I allotted enough time, I might be lucky enough to find some of my favorite redwood clusters unoccupied, and so would sit, meditate, and play my new silver flute. It somehow always prepared me, grounded and rounded out the experience I would have subsequently in class.

During that same year one of my favorite courses was *Birth of a Poet*, taught by that old rascal bard William (Bill) Everson, who, years later, became my friend and mentor,

although I have counted many others as mentors as well. But Brother Antoninus, né William Everson, was special. Bill would hold forth in a mesmerizing extemporaneous fashion befitting a poet of his talent, while I and other ragtag students lay on the dirt floor of the geodesic dome on the College Five campus that served as Bill's classroom. He hypnotized us with his eloquence, his way of speaking. Our assignment was to keep a journal of our dreams.

I saw Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta speak for the United Farm Workers in the Quarry. I had a class there, I think it was *The Anthropology of Religion*. There were many small musical events held there. I once fell off a skateboard in the Quarry parking lot, creating a permanent floating bone fragment in my elbow. Please, please, please bring back the Quarry! It was something of a shock to hear of its closure.

Thank you so much again for finding me.

—Ron Pease (Stevenson '73, anthropology)

A TIME OF FLUX AND FIRE

I am a 1971 graduate of Cowell College, and I was struck by your recent article about the early years

at UC Santa Cruz ["Original vision," page 22].

I cherish my college education, especially the relationships with the likes of Tom Vogler, George Amos, Marshall Leicester, and Norman O. Brown. They provided rich stimulation in an unprecedented academic atmosphere.

But there was more to our college experience than intellectual exploration. There was a backdrop of doubt, fear, and anger. The war and the threat of conscription weighed heavily on many of us, and we found ourselves confronting the values of our parents, who had sacrificed everything to defend the very freedoms that we challenged. Generations were torn apart. It was a time of flux and fire.

Add to this the widespread drug culture, which started out as fun, but led to the inevitable collision with real responsibilities.

The physical and cultural isolation of UC Santa Cruz raised doubts about the privileges that allowed us to be there at all.

It was a wonderful time to be young, but moral, social, and political confusion took some of the edge off the flossy magic that you describe.

—Frazier Crawford (Cowell '71, literature)

Editor's Note



We invited you to a special anniversary party ... and you came.

Alumni descended upon UC Santa Cruz in unprecedented numbers for UC Santa Cruz's 50th anniversary Alumni Weekend in April. You walked familiar paths, chatted with current students, called out to each other, and laughed in the sunshine. You asked questions in the classrooms, fired up your minds during lectures, and lingered over fine wines and plates of good food.

Where's Sammy? **Congrats go out to Estrella Woods**

(Porter '97, language studies), who was randomly chosen as the Sammy challenge winner for the spring '15 issue! She lives in Colorado with her husband and two dogs, and works in international sales at Telluride Ski & Golf Resort. She even gets to see some fellow Slugs who live in Colorado. | For the record, Sammy was on page 5, snuggled in the scarf of Dress-Up Day winner Emily Graily. | We received 30 responses to the Where's Sammy challenge. And now he's slithered off again! Can you find him? He looks like the Sammy at right. | We'll choose a Where's Sammy winner at random. So start the hunt—and Go Slugs! Write us at review@ucsc.edu.

The kids are alright

And you brought your kids. Children were here—kids of all ages, from babes in arms to toddlers and grade-schoolers. They were as adorable and fresh-faced as you can imagine. I also saw some high school kids hanging out near the photo booth and taking in the views.

I got to campus early Saturday to help set up the Banana Slug Kid Zone, where there were crafts, snacks, and fun stuff for the little ones. I guess I shouldn't have been surprised, but kids showed up, chased each other and made Play-Doh renditions of Sammy the Slug.

These children were being exposed to a college campus and seeing their parents being active alumni, attending lectures and thought-provoking panels, enjoying festivities, and connecting with a network of friends and supporters.

This seems like an invaluable gift.

College is not for everyone, and there are certainly other routes to success and fulfillment in life.

But when I looked at the faces of those beautiful kids at Alumni Weekend, I felt like they were already being encouraged to become their best, most authentic selves—just by being there, being exposed to ideas, intellect, friendship, tradition, knowledge, creative expression, and the unabashed eccentricity that is the hallmark of UC Santa Cruz.

I thought, as they darted between the redwoods and babbled during lectures, that those children might be observing their parents and feeling like college is a place that can open the mind, expand the heart, and teach life lessons from the divine to the mundane.

I hope I'll see those kids at future Alumni Weekends. But I wouldn't be surprised if, in 10 or 15 years, I also see a few of them in a classroom on campus.

Here's to the next 50 years!

—Gwen Jourdonnais, editor



Right:
Dress Like It's
1965 Day

Hot Dates

FOUNDERS *Celebration* 2015

September 25

Faculty Research Lecture

Susan Strome, professor of molecular, cell and developmental biology

September 26

Fiat Fifty

Dinner and Reception

Honorees

Foundation Medal

Alice Waters

chef, restaurateur, activist, and author

Fiat Lux Award

Pioneer staff and faculty

In conversation
with **Herman Blake** at
McHenry Library

True Originals: "An Incubator of Stars"

Moderated by
Chancellor George
Blumenthal, featuring
astrophysicist alumni

Douglas Duncan,
CU Boulder

Geoff Marcy,
UC Berkeley

Steven Hawley,
Kansas University



CELEBRATE

50 YEARS YOUNG



Other 50th events

September 12

Farm to Fork Benefit Dinner

September 12

Cowell Ranch Hay Barn Dedication

September 15

Retirees/Emeriti Brunch

September 20

Arboretum 50th Jubilee

September 25

Pioneer Alumni Welcome

Celebrating the incoming class of 1965

September 27

Pioneer Alumni Brunch

October 15

Ken Norris Memorial Lecture

Russ Flegal

Pete Raimondi

Kristy Kroeker

Moderated by

Ryan Coonerty,

Santa Cruz County

3rd District Supervisor

October 25

Slug Parade & Expo

Downtown Santa Cruz

November 10

Emeriti Lecture

Pavel Machotka

November 12

6th Annual Morton Marcus Memorial Poetry Reading

Al Young,

California Poet Laureate

UC Santa Cruz started in 1965 as an unconventional place that pushed against the stodginess of educational institutions, a place where innovation—no matter how messy—was part of the campus's DNA. | Our celebrations of the campus's 50th anniversary—a year of festivities, reunions, talks, and collaborations—have been sensational successes, with sold-out events, world-class talent, and capacity crowds. | At left and below is a guide to a few of the year's anchor events; to see the full list of events, visit **50years.ucsc.edu/events.html** | Join the fun and add your voice: **50years.ucsc.edu**.

DRESSING UP TO PARTY DOWN

In January, the campus kicked off its 50th birthday year with a fashion flourish with "Dress Like It's 1965 Day." Staff, faculty, students, and community members participated—and had a blast (from the past)! Outfits were judged by *Mad Men* Co-Costume Designer Tiffany White Stanton (Kresge '03, psychology). Check out the photos at **50years.ucsc.edu/kick-off**.

ALUMNI BASH

A record-breaking crowd of revelers took part in a special 50th anniversary Alumni Weekend. The buzz about returning for next year's reunion filled Cowell Courtyard. Plans for **Alumni Weekend 2016 (April 29–May 1)** are already underway. The party gets better every year!

See page 28 for more Alumni Weekend news and photos.

Fiat Fifty

This year's Founders Celebration, called Fiat Fifty, will be a spectacular evening under the stars in celebration of trailblazers, radicals, and legends. To be held September 26 on the campus's East Field, the evening—the crowning event of UC Santa Cruz's 50th celebratory year—promises to be a once-in-a-lifetime occasion.

The dinner will be unlike anything the campus has done before. In a pavilion overlooking the Monterey Bay, Kathryn Sullivan (Stevenson '73, Earth sciences), the first American woman to walk in space, will be our master of ceremonies as we honor chef and food activist Alice Waters with the Foundation Medal and our pioneer staff and faculty with the Fiat Lux Award.

See page 20 for more on Alice Waters.

We thank our Fiat Fifty sponsors for their generosity and support in making this a memorable celebration.

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AND TANYA RINGOLD

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Stevenson '70,
UC Santa Cruz
Foundation Trustee and
Chair, Campaign Steering Committee

Visit **50years.ucsc.edu/events.html** to see all 50th anniversary events.

This is UC Santa Cruz



Purevdorj Davaa, who partnered with UC Santa Cruz astronomy grad student Tuguldur Sukhbold on a project to bring telescopes to 44 schools in Mongolia, drives across the steppes on a delivery run.

Sharing the universe

For UC Santa Cruz grad student Tuguldur Sukhbold, doing advanced research in astrophysics on the wooded campus of Santa Cruz is a long way from his native country of Mongolia, where he had to build his own telescopes.

Opportunities he got at UC Santa Cruz allowed him to organize a project that, last year, delivered telescopes to 7 percent of the schools in Mongolia—44 in all—so that science-starved kids might be exposed to the wonders of the universe.

"A lot of these kids will probably never travel to another country, or even travel to a city," said Tuguldur of a country where horses outnumber people and where science education has lagged in the past 20 years. "Their world view is very limited. But with these telescopes, even if they can't see the world, they can see the universe."

Professor Hershatter joins American Academy

UC Santa Cruz History Professor Gail Hershatter has joined Nobel Prize-winning chemist Brian Kobilka, astrophysicist Neil de-Grasse Tyson, singer-songwriter Judy Collins, novelist Tom Wolfe, and UC President Janet A. Napolitano as a newly elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The 2015 class of 197 includes some of the world's most accomplished scholars, scientists, writers, artists, and civic, business, and philanthropic leaders.

One of the nation's most prestigious honorary societies, the American Academy is also a leading center for independent policy research.

Members contribute to Academy publications and studies of science and technology policy, the arts and humanities, international affairs and global security, social policy, and education.

Hershatter was recognized for her contributions to the field of history. She is best known for her pioneering field research and oral history among Chinese women, and for her major contributions to the history of women, labor, and sexuality.

Changing climate of climate change talk

Most of the discussion at the second annual UC Santa Cruz Climate & Policy Conference in March was not about how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but about how to plan for and adapt to the inevitable consequences of



those emissions, which are already changing the climate.

In his keynote speech, Penn State geologist Richard Alley provided a compelling overview of how our society's reliance on fossil fuels for energy is driving climate change, and he described how costly the impacts of global warming will be, in both economic and human terms. Alley also made the case that the technology is available now to make the transition to a sustainable energy system, and that it makes sense economically to do so.

"If you just look at dollars and cents, the economy is still better if we start to wisely reduce our use of fossil fuels," Alley said. "Dealing with it makes us better off—it gives us a stronger economy and more jobs."

Progress in AIDS vaccine research

Phil Berman has been working to develop an AIDS vaccine for nearly 30 years, first at the pioneering biotech company Genentech, then as cofounder of VaxGen, and now at UC Santa Cruz, where he is the Baskin Professor of Biomolecular Engineering. Since his arrival at UC Santa Cruz in 2006, Berman has established a major vaccine research effort funded by a series of grants from the National Institutes of Health, including two new grants in 2014 totaling \$2.6 million.

The latest results from this effort have Berman sounding optimistic about the prospects for a vaccine that can be effective in protecting against HIV infection. His lab has

History Professor
Gail Hershatter

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developed new vaccine candidates that he said are promising enough to consider advancing into clinical trials within the next two years.

Science? Or science fiction?

Tired of answering questions about cloning mammoths, Beth Shapiro, a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at UC Santa Cruz, wrote a book called *How to Clone a Mammoth*. (Spoiler alert: You can't actually clone a mammoth.)

Right, Sanjin Mehic; Below, Beth Shapiro



Shapiro is a leading authority on ancient DNA—how to recover it from fossils, museum specimens, and prehistoric remains buried in frozen tundra, and how to analyze it for clues to the evolutionary history of species and populations, both living and extinct. She has studied DNA from ancient populations of bears, horses, humans, and, yes, mammoths. But she is not a big proponent of “de-extinction”—the idea that scientists could use ancient DNA to recreate extinct species.

In *How to Clone a Mammoth: The Science of De-Extinction*, Shapiro addresses the scientific and ethical challenges that would confront any effort to bring back extinct creatures.

“I question if it’s something we should do at all, for many ethical and environmental reasons,” Shapiro said. “I’m trying to separate the science from the science fiction.”



Sleuthing a killer shrub

Wading her way through dense thickets of Scotch broom in Washington State, Jennifer Thompson, 22, realized just how damaging the plant could be.

Growing up to 12 feet in height, the perennial shrub with its bright yellow flowers had overrun land once filled with Douglas fir. But what was most interesting to Thompson was the fact that, even if all the Scotch broom were removed, the Douglas fir would most likely not regrow.

Thanks to a grant from UC Santa Cruz’s Dean’s Fund for Undergraduate Research and to Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Ingrid Parker, Thompson (Cowell ’15, plant sciences) spent a year doing research into the question of why the Scotch broom was so toxic to Douglas fir.

Thompson’s work is emblematic of a UC Santa Cruz ethos grounded in the founding days of the university: the opportunity for undergraduates to take part in research. In fact, a 2014 study conducted by the uni-

versity found 73 percent of graduating seniors had assisted in faculty research or creative projects during their time at UC Santa Cruz.

The rewards of research

Sanjin Mehic’s parents left everything behind when they fled war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina for the quieter streets of San Jose, Calif.

“My parents worked hard to get going and never looked back,” said Mehic (Porter ’16, biochemistry and molecular biology).

For Mehic, 24, that industriousness shaped his own life. Mehic is engaged in a research study that focuses on the role of bacteria in the production of an algal toxin called domoic acid in the Monterey Bay. Domoic acid not only kills marine organisms but also can cause neurological damage, sometimes fatal, in humans.

Thanks to Assistant Professor of Ocean Sciences Marilou Sison-Mangus and a grant from the Dean’s Fund for Undergraduate Research, Mehic is studying whether certain bacteria influence production of domoic acid during algal blooms.

Holy bacteria!

Bacteria found naturally on some bats may prove useful in controlling the deadly fungal disease known as white-nose syndrome, which has devastated bat populations throughout eastern North America and continues to spread across the continent.

Scientists at UC Santa Cruz isolated bacteria that strongly inhibited the growth of the white-nose syndrome fungus in laboratory tests.

Experiments are now in progress to see if treating bats with the bacteria can protect them from the disease, said Joseph Hoyt, a UC Santa Cruz graduate student who led the study.

Historic structure is 'barn again'

The Cowell Ranch Hay Barn at the base of the UC Santa Cruz campus is being "barn again."

The structure is being rebuilt as a center for UC Santa Cruz's environmental and sustainability programs and will become the home of the Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems and a campus and community hub.

The project, made possible by a \$5 million gift from the Helen and Will Webster Foundation, supports the Coastal Sustainability initiative of the Campaign for UC Santa Cruz.

When a weather-tight exterior is finished, the barn will contain a large multipurpose space for exhibitions, assemblies, barn dances, and more, along with a conference room, restrooms, and utility rooms. A future phase—still to be funded—will add other conference rooms, kitchenette, and exterior improvements.

The rebuilding will be celebrated with an event on Sept. 12. The doors of the barn will be opened at 7 p.m. and the community welcomed to an evening of lively music and refreshments.

The search for life

UC Santa Cruz astrophysicist Jonathan Fortney is one of 15 principal investigators for a NASA initiative that is embracing a team approach to the quest for life on planets around other stars. The Nexus for Exoplanet System Science (NExSS) will benefit from the expertise of several dozen scientists across the NASA science community in an effort to find clues to life on faraway worlds.

Fortney, an associate professor of astronomy and astrophysics at UC Santa Cruz, will lead a team exploring how novel statistical methods can be



used to extract information from the light emitted and reflected by planetary atmospheres in order to understand their atmospheric temperatures and the abundance of molecules.

Astronomers routinely analyze the light from distant stars by spreading it out into a spectrum of different wavelengths. Fortney is developing tools for analyzing the spectra of distant planets to determine molecular abundances in their atmospheres.

Ancient Egypt in 3D

Assistant Professor of History Elaine Sullivan received a Digital Start-Up Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to develop a three-dimen-

sional model and virtual tour that will demonstrate how an ancient Egyptian site evolved over more than 3,000 years.

The \$47,200 grant was one of 17 awards directed to development of new digital tools for study of the humanities that are part of a larger slate of 232 grants announced by the NEH.

Sullivan is co-principal investigator of a Digital Humanities Research Cluster funded by the Institute for Humanities Research (IHR) at UC Santa Cruz.

"I think of digital humanities as using new technologies to answer questions I can't answer now—opening up new realms of scholarship," said Sullivan.

Anita Hill speaks truth to power

Anita Hill's life changed forever in 1991 when a television audience of 22 million saw her testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee during the confirmation hearing for Supreme Court nominee Judge Clarence Thomas.

Her calm demeanor—as she was pressed to endlessly repeat the graphic descriptions of sexual ha-



Above: Anita Hill;
Right: Kate Schatz
(Stevenson '01,
women's studies
and creative
writing)

arrassment she endured while working for Thomas—struck a chord with the public and began a conversation about sexual harassment and power in the workplace that still resonates today.

Now an author and professor of law, public policy, and women's studies at Brandeis University, Hill came to UC Santa Cruz in February to deliver a free public lecture on the topic: "Speaking Truth to Power: Gender and Racial Equality, 1991–2015."

In a telephone interview from her office in Boston, Hill recalled the groundbreaking hearings that took place 23 years ago in Congress.

"The experience itself was surreal beyond anything that I think anybody could have prepared for," said Hill.

Short stands tall

Last Day of Freedom—an animated short by UC Santa Cruz Associate Professor of Art Dee

Hibbert-Jones and San Francisco artist Nomi Talisman—was honored with two awards at the 18th annual Full Frame Documentary Film Festival.

It received the Jury Award for "Best Short," qualifying the film for a possible nomination for an Academy Award next year in the category of "Best Documentary (Short Subject)."

In choosing *Last Day of Freedom* for the award, the festival judges noted: "This film demonstrates and reminds us of the simple power and intimacy of the human voice. It interweaves different visual styles of animation and engages the audience fully in an increasingly fraught tale that ultimately presents the supreme cost of doing the right thing."

The short blends animation with poignant testimony to create a haunting story of a man who discovers his brother has committed a serious crime.

Fighting cultural amnesia

Splinters in Our Ankles is UC Santa Cruz Theater Arts Professor Gerald Casel's choreographic response to what he calls "the collective cultural amnesia" about the Philippine national dance.

Born in the Philippines and raised in California, Casel actually grew up with little knowledge of the popular dance.

But recently, his research took him back to the Philippines to dig into the historical context of the national dance, which originated during the Spanish colonial occupation of the Philippines that began in the 16th century.

"As a choreographer, I question the most famous and beloved traditional dance, *Tinikling*, and why it is represented in such a lively and festive way," said Casel. "I argue that during the time it was being created, Filipinos were under Spanish colonial rule—a violent past that is not discussed when this dance is presented.

"I wanted to shed a light on this omission as 'cultural amnesia' to convey an alternative lens through which Filipino bodies can be represented and therefore not easily 'exoticized' and easily 'consumed' for entertainment."

The book of 'rad women'

"American history is filled with stories of brave and powerful men, but have you ever wondered where the women are?"

So begins *Rad American Women A-Z: Rebels, Trailblazers, and Visionaries Who Shaped Our History...And Our Future*, a book for kids by alumna Kate Schatz (Stevenson '01, women's studies and creative writing).

It features the stories of 26 women who have had a major impact on American life—from artists and abolitionists, to scientists and sports heroes, to rock stars and writers.





It also has the distinction of being the first children's book published by San Francisco's famed City Lights Publishers in the company's 60-year history. In May, the book debuted at No. 5 on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

Setting up for success

The UC Santa Cruz men's volleyball team spent its season honing sets and kills, doing conditioning, and watching game film. Team members also sold donuts and athletic gear, worked on their résumés, and picked up trash on the beach.

The unusual regimen was born not just from the financially strapped squad's need to raise money in order to compete, but also from Head Coach Todd Hollenbeck's decision to approach this team in a new way: by building solid human beings first, both on the court and in life.

"It's not about wins and losses," said Hollenbeck. "It's how can we score points when we're not even touching the ball. We do that in the

classroom, in applying for a job, and by volunteering."

The team ended the season with a 24-6 record and earned a visit to the NCAA Division III national championships in Hoboken, N.J.

Ph.D. thesis to
philanthropy

Alumnus Sage Weil (Ph.D. '07, computer science), who developed his thesis project into the highly successful open-source software data storage system Ceph, has given UC Santa Cruz \$2.5 million to support research in open-source software.

Weil's gift supports a faculty chair in open-source software and research led by Professor of Computer Science Carlos Maltzahn, who directs the Center for Research in Open Source Software at UC Santa Cruz.

"Sage was a brilliant student and a serial entrepreneur even before he came here," said Scott Brandt, professor of computer science and now vice chancellor for research

at UC Santa Cruz. "It's great to see one of our students succeed in such a visible way, and then for him to give back to us in this way is just extraordinary."

The gift supports the Data Science Leadership initiative at UC Santa Cruz.

50 artists,
5 decades

UC Santa Cruz alumni from across the country contributed their works to 50/50—an art exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of the campus that ran in February.


The show took place at both the R. Blitzer Gallery on the Westside of Santa Cruz, and on campus at the Porter College Faculty Gallery.

Featuring 10 artists from each decade of UC Santa Cruz's 50-year history, the exhibition spotlighted local and visiting alumni artists from Santa Cruz to New York City.

Visit **50years.ucsc.edu** for additional events celebrating the 50th anniversary of UC Santa Cruz.

Above: Photo at the 50/50 show by Charley Stern (Crown '69). Pictured are Martha Brown (Merrill '70), seated, and Greg Calvert (Cowell '70 and Grad. Div. '89) on the ladder. Original gelatin silver print, 1969 (reprinted as a 20 x 24 inch digital print for 50th anniversary).

Big

A portrait of Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz, a man with dark, wavy hair, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a black polo shirt under a grey cardigan. The background is a chalkboard filled with white chalk drawings and equations, including circles, arrows, and mathematical symbols like $e^{-\alpha r}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial r^2}$.

Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz is chair of the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, where innovative faculty have led breakthroughs in everything from telescope design to theoretical astrophysics.

ideas

From saving falcons to peering into the universe, sequencing the human genome, and putting organic food on American tables, UC Santa Cruz has become known as the small university where big things happen

It was May 2000, the race to sequence the human genome was on, and UC Santa Cruz Biomolecular Engineering Professor David Haussler was worried.

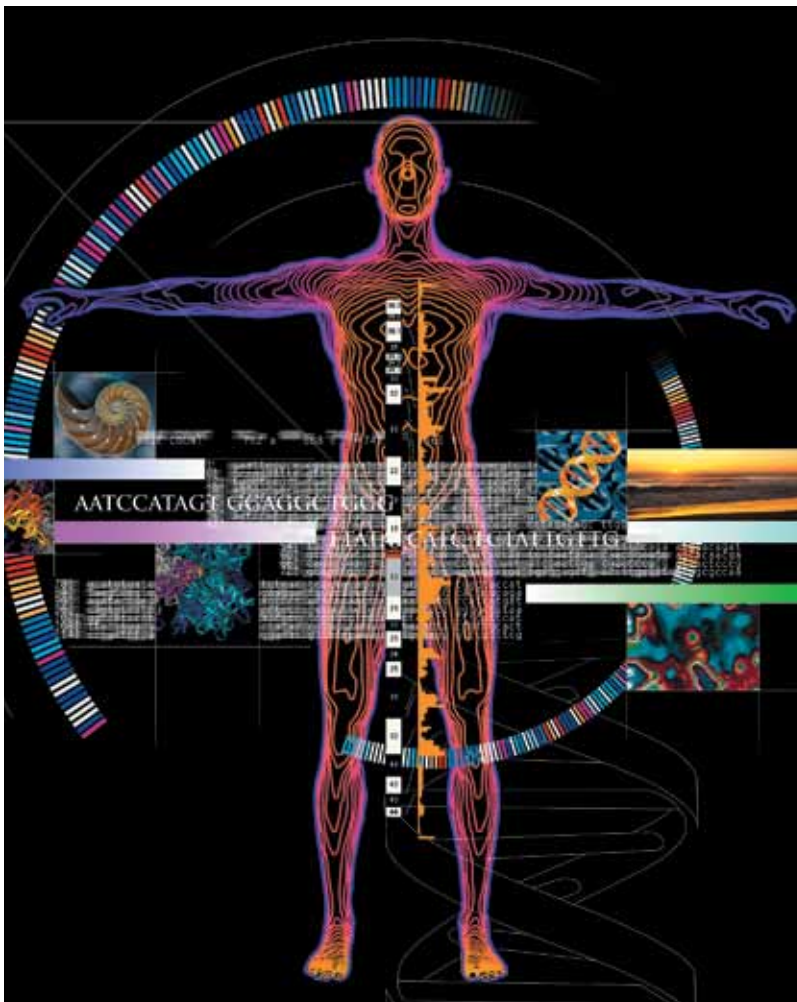
A private firm named Celera Genomics was beating a path to the prize with a big budget and what was reported to be the most powerful computer cluster in civilian use.

Meanwhile, an international consortium of public scientists—which Haussler had only recently been invited to join—was lagging behind.

The public institutions assigned to write a program that would assemble the 600,000 fragments of DNA the consortium had decoded into a comprehensible sequence were having trouble. On top of that, the heads of Celera Genomics and the public consortium had agreed to jointly announce the results of their work at the White House on June 26. The deadline was approaching like a speeding bullet.

What happened next was the stuff of movies, and also a reflection of the kind of maverick, can-do ethos that has pervaded UC Santa Cruz for all of its 50-year history.





Haussler, a tall man with a penchant for Hawaiian shirts, managed to wrangle 100 Dell Pentium III processor workstations—each with less power than one of today’s smart phones—and assemble a makeshift “supercomputer.” He then started a behind-the-scenes attempt to write an assembly program. The going was slow, however.

Enter Jim Kent, an unruly-haired UC Santa Cruz graduate student in molecular, cell, and developmental biology. He worried that if a private corporation sequenced the human genome first, thousands of genes might be patented—meaning that, for

a time at least, “open science” would have meant “open only to those who could pay.”

On May 22, Kent, who’d cut his coding teeth in the commercial world of paint and animation programming, e-mailed Haussler saying he thought he had found a way to write an assembly program using a simpler strategy.

Haussler replied with one word: “Godspeed.”

“So Jim went for it,” Haussler said. “It was a classic scene. I knew Jim was a genius and I thought, ‘It may be hopeless but, at this point, what have we got to lose?’ Celera had one of

the most powerful computer systems at the time, and we, basically, had 100 cell phones.”

Kent spent the next month huddled in the garage office at his Seabright home, writing 10,000 lines of code so furiously and for so many hours, he had to ice his wrists.

On June 22, four days before the White House announcement—and three days before Celera finished its computer assembly—Kent ran the first successful draft sequence of the human genome using the UC Santa Cruz computer farm and 13 sets of data sources.

The announcement of the successful sequencing of the human genome was hailed around the world.

Two weeks later, on July 7, Haussler and Kent had the honor of posting the first human genome on the Internet. In September, they also debuted the UCSC Genome Browser, a graphic web-based “microscope” for exploring the human genome that continues to be free to anyone who wants it.

Today, thousands of biomedical researchers worldwide use the UCSC Genome Browser in their work to uncover the causes of disease and develop treatments. The browser has been mentioned in more than 20,000 different scholarly papers in biomedical literature, an indication of its impact in disease research. The site gets about a million hits per day.

It was an audacious achievement but not the only time UC Santa Cruz has beaten the odds to make a difference. From saving falcons to peering into the universe and putting organic

food on American tables, UC Santa Cruz has become known as the small university where big things happen.

Here are just a few examples.

Bring back the birds

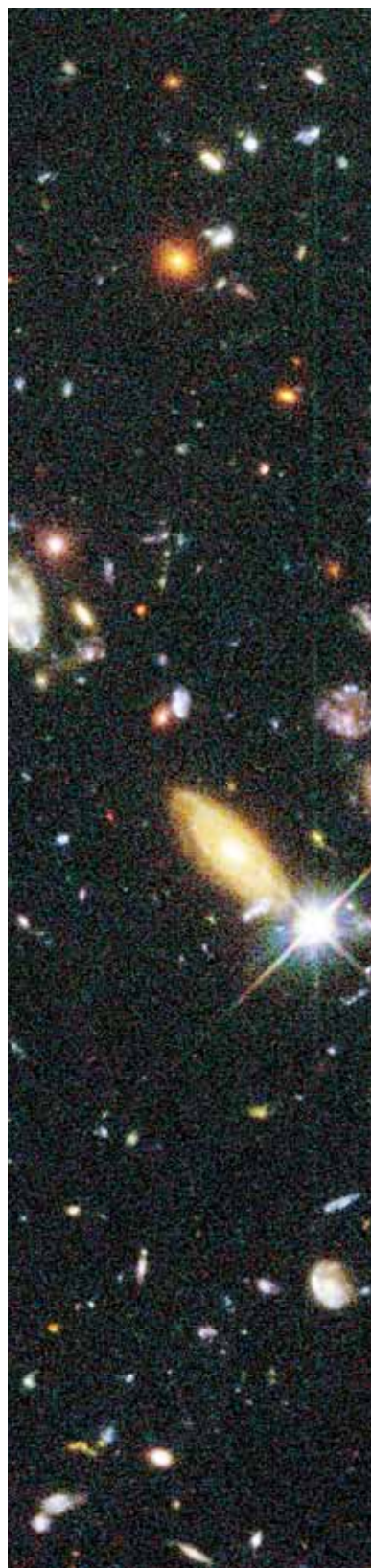
Peregrine falcons are the F-16s of nature. They can dive to speeds of up to 300 mph, snatch other birds out of mid-air, and have a ratcheting function in their feet that allows them to lock onto prey and hold it with very little energy.

But by 1970, there were only two breeding pairs left in California thanks to the pesticide DDT, which thinned the shells of the falcons' eggs, causing them to break under the weight of the nesting adult.

Today, there are nearly 300 productive pairs of the iconic bird, and their return is due in large part to a seat-of-the-pants organization started in 1975 on the UC Santa Cruz campus by the late Natural History Professor Ken Norris.

Like Haussler, the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group, as it was known, had to MacGyver its way to success. Led by a tireless scientific researcher named Brian Walton, the group sent climbers up rock walls with homemade plywood backpacks to retrieve falcon eggs, which they would replace with fake eggs created by the UC Santa Cruz Art Department.

According to Glenn Stewart, now director of the program, the falcon eggs would then be transported by volunteers to the research group's make-shift headquarters in the



Lower Quarry—which Norris had threatened to power with the “world’s longest extension cord” until administrators agreed to supply electricity to the site. There, the eggs would be hatched in modified chicken incubators and the chicks warmed on heating pads placed in cement-mixing tubs. The birds would be fed with ground pigeon or quail meat raised by staff and volunteers, watched 24/7 by program employees and students, and finally transported back to the nest for their “re-birth,” often to the surprise of their avian parents.

By 1999, the peregrine falcon had recovered enough to be removed from the federal endangered species list.

It was an impudent fight, headquartered on a campus known mostly for its lack of grades, and one that included a lot of improvisation, more than a few bent rules, and even the threat of arrest. (One volunteer was swarmed by a Los Angeles SWAT team while trying to capture pigeons from a freeway billboard in order to supplement the program’s food budget.)

“It’s one of the greatest environmental success stories of all time,” Stewart said.

In a galaxy...

About the same time the peregrine falcon population was taking flight, a group of scientists from UC Santa Cruz were revolutionizing the way we studied the heavens.

Two physicists, Jerry Nelson and Terry Mast, had recently arrived on campus from UC Berkeley. The two had con-

Right: Thanks to work done in part by non-profit Island Conservation, which has its roots in UC Santa Cruz, breeding tufted puffins were again spotted on Hawadax Island in Alaska.

ceived a radical telescope design that used segmented, hexagonal mirrors to peer more deeply into space than ever before. The result was a multimillion-dollar project to build two of these breakthrough 10-meter telescopes on the slopes of Mauna Kea in Hawaii.

In order to work, the telescopes also needed precisely crafted secondary mirrors, and, even though a few outside companies could make them, UC Santa Cruz scientists decided to tackle the difficult assignment themselves.

Then—professor of astronomy Joe Miller remembered: “I said, ‘We’ve got the well-equipped optical laboratory, a very experienced and great optician (Dave Hilyard), and superb support from Jerry Nelson, Terry Mast, and Harland Epps, who is the leading designer of astronomical optics in the U.S.’”

Today, the twin Keck telescopes use secondary mirrors built in a series of unassuming metal-roofed shops amid the redwoods of UC Santa Cruz. The Kecks are considered the most productive telescopes in the world.

Their success also inspired a new effort to build a 30-meter version of the Keck telescopes—an international endeavor with roots still deep in Santa Cruz.

But secondary mirrors were not the only instruments born amid the woods. Instruments conceived by astronomer Steven Vogt and by National Medal of



Mexican islands where feral cats were obliterating Cassin’s Auklets, Scripps’s Murrelets, and Black Storm-petrels.

The men knew what was happening on those specks of land was emblematic of a larger problem: Nowhere were extinctions

greater than on the world’s islands, home to 20 percent of bird, reptile, and plant species.

With the help of a legendary bobcat trapper, the determined but underfunded environmental tacticians went to work, managing to clear the islands of the destructive felines. Within five years, the two assembled a rag-tag team of graduate students, trappers, and Mexican conservationists, freeing nine islands off of Baja California of invasive rats, feral cats, rabbits, goats, and burros—allowing native birds and plants to return. They turned the group into a nonprofit called Island Conservation and established its headquarters in a rented space on the UC Santa Cruz marine-lab campus.

Today, Island Conservation is an independent, Santa Cruz-based nonprofit with a \$6.5 million budget and projects around the world.

“To us, it was: Why apply science just to describe problems?” Croll said. “Using science to find solutions seemed way more interesting.”

It was a culture born from early faculty like Michael Soulé, a professor of environmental sciences known as the father of modern conservation biol-

Science winner Sandra Faber have allowed researchers to discover scores of extrasolar planets, find direct evidence for the Hot Big Bang theory, and make major progress in mapping the evolution of the universe for the last 5 billion years.

UC Santa Cruz was also at the vanguard of adaptive optics, technological advances that combat atmospheric distortion so the images scientists see through telescopes are sharp and clear.

“We’ve developed and built these absolutely forefront instruments,” said Michael Bolte, UC Santa Cruz professor of astronomy and astrophysics, sitting in his campus office underneath a photo of one of the Keck telescopes. “The place where it all happened is right here.”

Lights, science, action

Down the hill and a few years earlier, a couple of research biologists and confessed seabird freaks from UC Santa Cruz embarked on a mission that would grow to save 389 species from possible extinction on more than four dozen islands in the world.

It was the 1980s, and Don Croll and Bernie Tershy had loaded up their surfboards and headed to a pair of wind-wracked

ogy, and the late Ken Norris, a UC Santa Cruz natural history professor who not only helped craft the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 but also co-founded the 756,000-acre UC Natural Reserve System, according to Croll.

Since then, the UC Santa Cruz researchers have helped bring about policy changes like a West Coast ban on fishing for krill, shrimp-like crustaceans that are a major food source for marine life, and are now working with postdoc Asha de Vos to examine a possible modification of shipping lanes that could help save Sri Lankan blue whales. Their students have helped stop construction of a liquefied natural gas plant in an environmentally sensitive area of Mexico and supported modification of rules so oil-spill money for seabird restoration can be used beyond spill boundaries to places the winged victims travel and breed.

"The ethos of this place is to encourage people to go out and do things," Croll said.

Beyond bars

When Psychology Professor Craig Haney arrived in Santa Cruz in 1977, he'd already witnessed the psychological damage prison could cause.

He had been one of the principal researchers in the famous Stanford Prison Experiment, which had student volunteers playing the roles of guards and inmates in a simulated prison setting, and which had to be halted because of the psychological mistreatment and breakdowns that ensued.

But now Haney found himself

in the real world of prisons, talking to inmates in windowless solitary confinement cells where the smells of 23-hour-a-day living and a sense of grief created an almost palpable heaviness in the air.

He witnessed prisoners break under the pressures of isolation and documented how others clung to slivers of humanity by imposing an almost obsessive order on their solitary lives. He saw inmates transition from a fear of being alone to appre-



hension about being around people, and chronicled the rise of the use of isolation in prisons around the country.

In 2012, he told a U.S. Senate subcommittee that, for many inmates, "solitary confinement precipitates a descent into madness."

Haney's four decades of prison research has taken him from frightening prisons in Texas to medieval-looking facilities in

Pennsylvania and to a federal supermax prison in Colorado. In California he saw men packed into a sweltering gymnasium with bunks stacked three high as armed guards patrolled catwalks above them.

"Men were living not for weeks or months but for years in these abysmally overcrowded, dangerous, and unhealthy environments," he said.

In 2011, Haney's testimony about the psychological effects of this kind of treatment became the cornerstone for a U.S. Supreme Court decision that forced California to reduce its prison populations because of cruel and inhumane conditions.

Sitting in his office in advance of a CNN interview about solitary confinement, Haney reflected on his work both inside and outside the university.

"I think when you see injustices that other people haven't, it's important to communicate those observations beyond an academic world," Haney said. "We have an obligation to share knowledge not just with students but with a larger society. Especially when that knowledge bears directly on things about which the public should know and care about."

Left:
Psychology
Professor
Craig Haney

The past is present

If you want to know about climate change, you may want to look deep into the Earth. That's what Christina Ravelo, UC Santa Cruz professor of ocean sciences, has done, and what she discovered has rattled the way scientists go about predicting the effects of climate shifts.

Ravelo, a paleoclimatologist



Big ideas *continued*

with a shock of dark, curling hair, has spent countless hours studying sediment cores harvested from deep beneath the ocean in hopes the past would shed clues on the present. Her interest is in an epoch known as the Pliocene Warm Period 3.5 to 4.5 million years ago, when temperatures were a few degrees higher and CO₂ levels roughly the same as today.

What she discovered was evidence of a permanent El Niño-like state in the tropics with its resulting drought, floods, and damaging storms. Her discovery shook the scientific community because modern climate-prediction models did not forecast that kind of result.

"The issue has fueled a lot of debate and a lot of scrutiny about how Earth responds to high CO₂ levels," said Ravelo.

"There may be even more radical changes that the models aren't picking up yet because we haven't been able to simulate a tropical climate accurately. We're trying to figure out why the models and the data from the Pliocene don't agree."

Her findings, along with those made by her colleague Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences Jim Zachos, and her use of a laser system to analyze the geochemistry of fossils in order to understand climate and ocean dynamics, has put her—and UC Santa Cruz—on the forefront of climate research.

Master Gardener
Alan Chadwick

Seed to table

If you've ever picked up a carton of organic strawberries from your local supermarket, you have an eccentric English gardener, a passionate farmer/plant ecologist, and UC Santa Cruz to thank.

The odyssey of those strawberries began in 1967 when a quirky master gardener named Alan Chadwick arrived at UC Santa Cruz. Tasked with creating a student garden, Chadwick and a host of young acolytes grabbed digging fork and spade, and soon turned a rocky hillside on the upper campus into a garden overflowing with flowers and vegetables. His technique, which he called the French Intensive Biodynamic method, would come to lay the groundwork for organic gardens around the world.

But by 1981, Chadwick had left, and a campus farm born out of that first garden was struggling under a financial drought. Things looked bleak until an enthusiastic plant ecologist and farmer who'd just come from southern Mexico, where he'd worked the soil using traditional farming systems, arrived on campus. His name was Steve Gliessman.

Hired to teach a spring natural history field quarter, Gliessman was also asked to revive the struggling UC Santa Cruz Farm. His idea was to tie the Farm to academics in a science he called agroecology—the application of ecological principles to agriculture as opposed to factory farms' reliance on chemicals and what he saw as unsustainable practices.

Cobbling funds from philanthropist Alfred Heller and a state program that generated money from custom license plate sales, Gliessman turned the Farm into an outdoor classroom—the first formal academic agroecology program in the world and a program that would also help launch a movement that has changed the way America eats.

As part of the program, Gliessman and students began working with local farmer Jim Cochran in 1985 to study whether organic berry growing could be an economically viable venture.

The answer is evident in the organic produce grown by large-scale farms and sold in the likes of Safeways and Wal-Marts today.

“What we’ve done is call attention, on one hand, to the non-sustainability of the industrial approach to farming,” said the now-retired Gliessman while sitting under the silvery branches of an olive tree he had planted years before at the campus’s Sustainable Living Center. “And, on the other hand, we’ve developed a system of food health and justice from the soil to the people around the table.”

More greatest hits

In addition to the aforementioned big ideas, UC Santa Cruz is responsible for an impressive list of other groundbreaking achievements, including the following.

The Cancer Genomics Hub, built and operated by the UC Santa Cruz Genomics Institute, is an essential resource for scientists studying cancer genomics data with the goal of developing targeted

treatments against the disease. CGHub is the largest public database of cancer genome sequences in the world and the first “NIH Trusted Partner” authorized to distribute genome sequence data to biomedical researchers.

By mapping, at the atomic level, the structure of the ribosome, a complex molecular machine found in all cells that translates the DNA molecular machine into functioning proteins, Harry Noller, professor of molecular biology at UC Santa Cruz, and his colleagues have helped provide a basis for the development of targeted antibiotics.

UC Santa Cruz Professor of Anthropology Adrienne Zihlman’s critique of the “Man the Hunter” model changed the idea that male-dominated activities like hunting were responsible for evolutionary adaptations like big brains. Her notion that female gathering activities could just as easily account for these adaptations was responsible for a shift in evolutionary perspective that is now mainstream.

Retired UC Santa Cruz Psychology Professor Elliot Aronson’s work on cognitive dissonance and his invention of the Jigsaw Classroom as a way of reducing ethnic hostility and prejudice in schools resulted in his being listed among the 100 most eminent psychologists of the 20th century.

As leaders in the development of custom electronics and sensors for state-of-the-art particle detection systems, physicists at UC Santa Cruz’s Institute for Particle Physics have been at the forefront of high-energy physics experiments for the past 30 years. Their contributions include a significant role in the discovery of the Higgs boson at CERN, a large part in designing and building the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope, and ongoing work on upgrades to CERN’s Large Hadron Collider.

Nathaniel Mackey, professor emeritus of literature at UC Santa Cruz, won the Poetry Foundation’s Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize. The \$100,000 award goes to a living U.S. poet whose lifetime work warrants extraordinary recognition.

Researchers at UC Santa Cruz pioneered the use of satellite tags to monitor the migrations and habits of elephant seals. Their tags have recorded dives to well over a mile deep and tracked elephant seal migrations throughout the entire northeast Pacific Ocean and as far as the coasts of Japan and Russia.

The renowned Dickens Project began at UC Santa Cruz. A scholarly consortium of members from more than 40 universities around the globe, it is recognized as the premier center for Dickens studies and home to the popular summer Dickens Universe gathering.

Thanks to a **high-tech tracking collar** developed at UC Santa Cruz, researchers are able to monitor the movements of mountain lions and determine how much energy the big cats use to pounce, stalk, and overpower their prey.

The Jack Baskin School of Engineering started the first undergraduate major in computer game design in the UC system.

In the midst of the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, the UC Santa Cruz Genomics Institute released a free Ebola genome browser to assist global efforts to develop a vaccine and antiserum to help stop the spread of the disease.

The hows and whys of Earth’s reversals of its magnetic fields can be better understood thanks to a 3D simulation developed by UC Santa Cruz Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences Gary Glatzmaier. Along with a colleague from UCLA, Glatzmaier created the first computer simulation of the geodynamo in the Earth’s core, which maintains the globe’s magnetic field.

UC Santa Cruz’s Kudela Lab is a leader in understanding the effects of harmful algal blooms on the West Coast. Its founder, Professor of Ocean Sciences Raphael Kudela, is working with the California Department of Public Health to develop better monitoring tools for harmful algal blooms and is developing predictive models for forecasting when and where harmful algal blooms will occur.

In a paper published in *Nature*, UC Santa Cruz scientists—physicist Joel Primack and astronomers George Blumenthal and Sandra Faber—along with British scientist Martin Rees outlined a theory for the role of Cold Dark Matter in the formation of galaxies. It remains the dominant working paradigm for structure formation in the universe.

In recognition of the important work UC Santa Cruz scientists are doing with data storage and management, industry giants have partnered with the campus to form the UC Santa Cruz Center for Research in Storage Systems.



Alice Waters—who has an international reputation as a chef, cookbook author, and spokesperson for sustainable food—shares common cause with UC Santa Cruz's pioneering role in sustainable food systems

Waters' edge

In 1971, Richard Nixon was president of the United States, Vietnam War protesters converged on Washington, D.C., and the *New York Times* caused a sensation when it published the Pentagon Papers.

During that turbulent year, a highly ambitious Francophile and food obsessive named Alice Waters, along with a group of idealistic friends, opened up a tiny restaurant in an Arts and Crafts house along Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley.

The restaurant was centered around organic, locally grown food, ecologically sound harvest methods, and environmental stewardship—concepts virtually unheard of at the time.

On opening night, Waters wore a used polka-dot rayon dress from a neighborhood boutique called Bizarre Bazaar. She was crouched on the floor, nailing down a carpet, when the first curious diners wandered in.

Little did she know that the restaurant would still be thriving more than four decades later—and considered one of the best in the world.

From this humble beginning, her restaurant became legendary, while Waters herself soon gained an international reputation—not just as a chef and cookbook author but a spokesperson for sustainable food, unafraid to take controversial positions that have made her critics label her everything from a food zealot to an “absolutist.”

In advance of her visit to campus, Waters, who will receive the Foundation Medal during UC Santa Cruz's Founders Celebration Fiat Fifty dinner on September 26, spoke candidly with *UC Santa Cruz Review* about her career as a slow-food advocate, her life as a chef, her fight against the “fast-food nation,” and her common cause with the ideas and mission of UC Santa Cruz's pioneering sustainable agriculture program.

Editor's note:
Alice Waters will receive the Foundation Medal at UC Santa Cruz's Founders Celebration Fiat Fifty dinner on September 26, 2015.

Guests of Chez Panisse have a unique view of the kitchen as their meal is prepared.



Fellow travelers

The UC Santa Cruz Farm, building on the success of UC Santa Cruz's Student Garden Project started by Master Gardener Alan Chadwick, was founded the same year as Chez Panisse. UC Santa Cruz's Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) offers a popular Apprenticeship in Ecological Horticulture, an intensive organic farming and gardening training program (now in its 48th season) that has "seeded" the organic farming and food industry with a wealth of graduates.

Waters once visited with Chadwick himself while he was staying at the Green Gulch Farm near San Francisco. Waters has worked closely with several apprenticeship alumni from the UC Santa Cruz Farm, in both her restaurant as well as her Edible Schoolyard garden, where urban public school students

learn to raise their own food.

"The UC Santa Cruz program really trains apprentices for farming in a very particular way so they can come and, immediately, become a teacher for young children," she said.

Waters also said that farm apprentices, such as the ones in UC Santa Cruz's program, are more important than ever these days because "young people are redefining what it means to be a farmer, and they are bringing us out to the country, and showing us the culture of agriculture."

In the process, these hard-working apprentices are building more of a community around farming, she said.

"Even in the '60s, organic farmers, if they weren't on a commune, were mom-and-pop operations—hard work, and pretty solitary," she said. "We've never elevated the farmer in this country. We've taken them for granted the same way we've taken

our teachers for granted. Let's lift up the farmer and the teacher as the most important jobs of our country."

Chez Panisse and other like-minded restaurants have tried to do their part to "lift up the farmer" by listing the names of the farms that raised the food on their menus—a trend that has become so prevalent, it was spoofed on an episode of the satirical television show *Portlandia*, in which a diner got to meet the chicken he was about to eat.

Waters continues to embrace the idea of listing farm names because, in her view, it is a way not just of giving credit to the hard work of growers but forging a relationship built on transparency and honesty between the restaurant and its patrons. Diners, if they wish, could drive out and visit the farms themselves, she said.

She also spoke of the similar root systems of her restaurant and the UC Santa Cruz Farm program.

"We were really involved with *Diet for a Small Planet* in the '60s, and there was lots of dropping out (of the industrial food complex, which started in the 1950s) and growing your own," she said. "I felt that was a whole part of the hippie culture. At that time, there was this feeling: whatever you did, people would come and support it. I mean, we stopped the war in Vietnam. We had this strong sense of an idealistic world we could create ourselves."

It is that idealism, and that sense of adventure, that unites the mission of Alice Waters with the goals of CASFS, said Daniel Press, CASFS executive director and the Olga T. Griswold Professor of Environmental Studies at UC Santa Cruz.

"If CASFS is the mothership of California organic agriculture, Alice Waters is the matriarch of California chefs," Press said. "UC Santa Cruz's Farm & Garden and Chez Panisse both recognized early on the importance of sourcing food locally and establishing strong connections between growers, restaurants, local grocers, schools, and consumers."

"And of course, Alice Waters and CASFS have long insisted that our food should be grown in harmony with nature, based on sound agro-ecological principles, and with the strongest commitment to justice in our food systems," Press said.

Articulate, humble, forceful

Waters is an "articulate, humble, and forceful voice, speaking out at a time of a huge rise in food corporatization," said Amanda Rieux, a 1998 CASFS apprentice and one of the early garden teachers at the Edible Schoolyard. "The perspective Alice lends to the world is that everything about food matters—where it comes from, how it is grown, the variety, the season—that carefully engaged and loving attention to what we put in our bodies."

Rieux praised Waters for her strong emphasis on "educating the senses."

Growing, preparing, and tasting good food is a great way for children to engage with the world in an experiential way, regardless of economic background, she said.

"You can hone your senses and have a very rich life," said Rieux, who founded Mala'ai, a similar school garden/kitchen project at Waimea Middle School on the Big Island of Hawaii in 2005.

Fringe to mainstream

Since Waters started out, terms like "organic" have gone from fringe to ultra-mainstream.

This is encouraging, she said—though a little disarming at times. She finds it striking "that I am considered completely unusual," she said, even though, in her opinion, she's merely espousing "common sense."

She said that the fact that she stands out as much as she does suggests that "fast-food culture has really become the way people think, and it has changed the whole world."

But Waters is not at all hopeless about the future of good food in America. She is excited about efforts such as the UC Global Food Initiative, which aims to put UC campuses, the state, and the world on a pathway to sustainably and nutritiously feed themselves.

But the battle, she said, must be fought early on, and in the public school system, where children can learn to appreciate and grow high-quality food.

She is already doing this with her Edible Schoolyard Project, in which students at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Berkeley use a one-acre organic garden and "kitchen classroom" to learn every aspect of growing, harvesting, and cooking seasonal vegetables and fruit.



"We have to learn about farming when we're little, not when we're graduates," she said.

"It's in our DNA to love nature, and it doesn't take long for children to feel connected to the natural world and the cycle of planting, growing, and eating healthful and delicious food," said Waters, who has vivid memories of eating tomato salad and strawberry compote that came straight from her parents' garden. It was a taste that drew her into the world of food and that, even now, reconnects her to the spirit of childhood.

"If children grow something and cook it themselves, they will want to eat it," she said. "It's like falling in love."

Waters in the dining room of the restaurant she opened in 1971.

To read our Q&A with Alice Waters, visit news.ucsc.edu/2015/08/alice-waters-q-and-a.html.



Life, realized

Alumni authors give voice to transformative experiences at UC Santa Cruz that changed their lives and shaped their careers

'70s



Lawrence Weschler
nonfiction author, former
New Yorker staff member

Asked to recall a hinge moment, Lawrence (Ren) Weschler (Cowell '74, philosophy, Western civilization), a much-praised author of narrative nonfiction and former *New Yorker* staff member, offered up two classics.

"My first week at Cowell College, in a seminar for the Western Civ core course with 12 of us students being led by Harry Berger, I was

Looking back on our college careers, some of us remember certain pivotal moments that redirected us and shaped our futures, clarified an issue that puzzled us and troubled our sleep, or challenged us to examine our assumptions.

For this issue of *Review* magazine, we've asked a group of five distinguished alumni writers—one for every decade of UC Santa Cruz's existence—to reflect on some of those moments that changed their lives.

mouthed off about how stupid Plato's *Republic* was. 'No wonder Socrates wins all these arguments,' I declared. 'The people he is arguing with are a bunch of doofuses!' Harry looked over at me and said, 'The thing of it is, Ren, that Plato is a genius and you are a freshman, and he is playing you like a piano. Maybe you should try to make out to the music. Does it occur to you that as far as Plato was concerned, the tragedy of Socrates's life was that he never found someone to talk to—a worthy interlocutor—in his lifetime? And that the dialogues were sent out into the future in search of someone for him to have a conversation with.'

That was a pretty good lesson to hear one's first week in college—for starters that you should not assume that you necessarily know more than these masters, but more to the point, that you should always read actively, both read and monitor how you are reading and how you are being read. Which proved a good life lesson, whether engaging texts, or, later on, any sort of reportorial situation."

Along the same lines, Weschler relates how once, when studying with Marine Biology Professor Todd Newberry, he presented himself during office hours, floundering over some over-broad essay assignment.

"Newberry advised, 'Were you to be walking on a beach and come upon a dead walrus and wonder why it had died, you could do one of two things. You could pick up a piece of driftwood and start bashing its flanks, and all you would do is make a complete hash of things. Or you could take that same stick, go over to a boulder, pick up a stone and spend several hours sharpening the stick, at the end of which you would have a blade—thanks to which within minutes all would become clear.'

He paused and continued: 'When you are dealing with huge, amorphous issues, don't ask huge, amorphous questions. Spend 95 percent of your time honing the questions, after which the topic will open itself up to you.' Another lesson I regularly take to heart to this day."

'80s



Hector Tobar

Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist and author

For Hector Tobar (Oakes '85, Latin American studies/sociology), now a Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist and author, there were many decisive moments—and they started happening from the minute he set foot on campus as a 17-year-old in 1980.

"I'd grown up in a very flat, very dry series of Los Angeles neighborhoods—from the inner-city to the suburbs," he said. "I was awed by the landscape of the campus, with its soaring redwoods and expansive vistas. More than that, UC Santa Cruz was a cauldron of causes, of idealism and activism. I was a pre-med major, but quickly switched to the study of Latin American history, and to the theories of injustice and social change. Writing became my passion, in part because I was often in small classrooms where my professors worked hard at critiquing and editing my papers.

UC Santa Cruz made me a thinker and a writer. I spent many long hours in my apartment at Oakes College, and those of my friends, discussing and debating ideas and how the world worked and how we might make it better. I wrote for the 'minority'-run quarterly paper TWANAS (as in Third World and Native American Student Press

Collective)—and I wrote, for the first time in my life, very long essays and papers.

Back then, you might write a 40-page final paper for a class. I hacked these out on my typewriter, and then in the computer lab where something called 'word processing' was being introduced to us, on computers that were so big we weren't even in the same room with them. And then when we were done we'd drive or bike into town to celebrate, and then ride back, up to the meadows and the forests."



Martha Mendoza

Pulitzer Prize–winning AP reporter and author

Martha Mendoza (Kresge '88, journalism and education), Pulitzer Prize–winning Associated Press reporter and author, had an awakening with personal, political, and professional implications.

"My pivot moment came when I landed in Conn Hallinan's journalism class," she said. "He was lively and engaging, and as angry as I was about the wrongs of the world. For the first time I saw work I could do that had real meaning.

I had just spent a summer visiting Central America and was really perplexed by the role the U.S. was playing in several small Central American countries. Our military was getting involved in civil wars and domestic issues, going well beyond humanitarian aid.

To see what war looked like, in person, as a 19-year-old was outrageous. The refugee camps, bombed homes, towns made uninhabitable because of land mines were fundamentally disturbing. I was aggravated that there was very little public awareness about this.

Conn told me 30 years ago I had 'enormous potential as a professional journalist.'

No one had ever said anything like that to me. I believed him, and still work to live up to his belief in me."

'90s



Reyna Grande

award-winning author

Reyna Grande's hinge moment happened during one of those long-standing UC Santa Cruz traditions: a protest.

The future award-winning author (Kresge '99, creative writing, film and video) attended UC Santa Cruz on the advice of her junior college English teacher, who thought it would be good for her to get out of Los Angeles and see something new.

"At UC Santa Cruz, it was my first time being immersed in nature. The redwood forest offered peace and tranquility to my troubled spirit. I had left a home where I had been physically and emotionally abused by my father. In my dorm at Kresge College, I was free from the abuse. I finally felt liberated, and the beautiful surroundings helped me heal from my psychological traumas. It was there where I began to flourish.

When I chose to live at Kresge, I didn't know that most Latino students (there weren't many of us back then) were at Oakes College! Coming from L.A. where the Latino population is 50 percent, it was a shock to me to find myself as the minority. Often in my literature and creative writing classes at Kresge, I was the only Latina student. One day, as I was heading to class, one of my roommates—a Caucasian girl—asked me why I wasn't down at Hahn Hall with my people, protesting with them. I didn't know what she was talking about and I insisted that I needed to get to class. But she took me by the arm and dragged me to Hahn Hall because she said I needed to support my people in their protest.

When I arrived, I was in for a shock. There they were, the Latino students. Several hundred of them linking hands, chanting 'Sí Se Puede!' ['Yes, We Can!'] and 'El Pueblo Unido Jamás Será Vencido' ['The People United Will Never Be Defeated']. They were protesting Proposition 209, which abolished California's affirmative action program, a program that had benefited me.

That day I suddenly didn't feel alone anymore at seeing all those Latino students. And as I joined hands with them I silently thanked my roommate for bringing me there. I found it incredible that a non-Latina had held me accountable and made me support my people! That first protest showed me that we all have a voice, and that together, we need to speak up for the injustices that we see in the world.

I felt different after that day. I had more confidence in myself. I was more determined than ever to get a college education and really make a difference in my family, my Latino community, and my country."

'00s



Matt Skenazy assistant editor, *Outside* magazine

Matt Skenazy (Cowell '08, literature), assistant editor at *Outside* magazine, wasn't interested in writing before coming to UC Santa Cruz. But when he arrived on campus, he found out that Conn Hallinan, who so greatly influenced alumna Martha Mendoza, was about to teach his last class on campus. Also, Hallinan was a family friend (Skenazy's father is Paul Skenazy, a UC Santa Cruz professor emeritus of literature).

"For those reasons alone, I figured I should take it," Skenazy said. "The class changed everything."

By the time he left to travel in New Zealand and Indonesia after graduating, UC Santa Cruz had provided a focus and framework for those journeys. "On those trips, I didn't bring a camera. If I wanted to remember anything, I had to write it down."

Looking back, he is grateful for Hallinan and another alumna and faculty member, lecturer and student media adviser Susan Watrous (Kresge '87, American studies), for encouraging him to write.

"When I was away, I'd send them stories. Nine months later, I came back to join the soccer team for pre-season in Brazil. I wrote a feature story for the school paper about the trip, which was the first piece I ever had published. I guess what I'm getting at is that though UC Santa Cruz no longer had a formal journalism program [the program ended in 2003], there were ways to develop as a nonfiction writer anyway; that is why we have such a long and wonderful list of alumni writers—Martha Mendoza, *New Yorker* staff writer Bill Finnegan, Lawrence Weschler, etc.

Later, I wrote a story for *City on a Hill* about noted author and magazine writer Dan Duane (Ph.D. '96, literature), also a UC Santa Cruz alum. He had a job I thought sounded great—traveling around and writing about adventures for *Outside*, *The Surfer's Journal*, and *National Geographic Adventure*. When I went to interview him, he was doing something in another room, but told me to look out the window and write down what I saw so I would have a scene to set the article in.

Of course, I started the story with him telling me to look out the window. So those trips, my experiences at UC Santa Cruz, and Dan taught me to look out windows, so to speak."

An Alumni Weekend to remember



Visit **50years.ucsc.edu/alumni-weekend2015** for an event recap and more photos.

And mark your calendars to help UC Santa Cruz start out its next 50 years with a bang at **Alumni Weekend 2016—April 29–May 1.**

Alumni Weekend in April celebrated and honored UC Santa Cruz's 50th anniversary in fittingly grand style. A record-breaking crowd of thousands enjoyed a farm-style lunch al fresco overlooking Monterey Bay, tours and scavenger hunts, musical performances, reunions, presentations,

alumni wines and beers, and each other's company.

The weekend included TEDx Santa Cruz; a keynote by M. Sanjayan (Ph.D. biology, '97), host of the groundbreaking new PBS nature series *EARTH A New Wild*; lectures by legendary professors Bettina Aptheker and Craig Haney; alumni panels; and more.

PHOTOS BY STEVE KURTZ PHOTOGRAPHY



Alumni Profiles

In its first 50 years, UC Santa Cruz has produced a body of alumni who have taken the lessons they learned here—risk-taking, creative thinking, intellectual curiosity, a passion for social justice—and made their mark on the world. With these representative profiles, we recognize and celebrate all of our outstanding alumni, who are evidence that life is, really, a joyful and eternal pursuit of knowledge in the company of friends.

1977

Paul Sparrow: Championing the First Amendment

Paul Sparrow during his thesis concert at UC Santa Cruz in 1977, and on the set of *America's Most Wanted*.

Editor's Note:
In June, Sparrow was appointed as the new director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, starting July 26.

The Roosevelt Library is one of 13 Presidential Libraries, which house the records of Presidents Herbert Hoover through George W. Bush and preserve and provide access to historical materials, support research, and create interactive programs and exhibits.



As a successful TV producer, Paul Sparrow helped catch murderers and child abductors. He guided a 100-person production team across the wilds of Morocco to document one of the world's toughest adventure races. He directed more than a dozen documentaries and 300 hours of primetime TV, and won two Emmys.

But ask the 61-year-old Sparrow about the accomplishment of which he is most proud and he'll skip all talk about awards and primetime TV. Instead, he'll tell you about being part of the team that helped design the Newseum, a museum of news and journalism that draws 750,000 annual visitors to its site on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C.

"It's an extraordinary facility that tells an important story," said Sparrow (Porter '77, music), who serves as the Newseum's senior vice president for broadcasting and new media. "The First Amendment has never been more critical."

Television and the First Amendment were the furthest things from Sparrow's mind when he came to UC Santa Cruz in 1975. Instead, the East Coast transplant wanted to study electronic music, and the coastal campus was one of the few colleges that not only owned a Moog synthesizer but also taught it.

Inspired by luminaries like Music Professor Gordon Mumma and visits by avant-garde artists like John Cage and Roger Reynolds, Sparrow

helped develop a music guild, which supported numerous concerts on campus. He earned a graduate degree at the Center for Contemporary Music at Mills College in Oakland but discovered after graduation that electronic music wasn't exactly a profitable line of work.

His trajectory changed when he was hired to work as a sound engineer for a documentary film about elephant seals at Año Nuevo State Park.

"(UC Santa Cruz Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology) Burney Le Boeuf was the first guy I worked with," Sparrow remembered. "In a way, I went full circle because that's how I got into film and TV."

Sparrow moved steadily through the television ranks after that first two-year project: from KPIX TV in San Francisco to co-executive producer for Fox's *America's Most Wanted* to executive producer of *How'd They Do That*, and, finally, senior producer of the Emmy-winning *Eco-Challenge: Morocco* on the Discovery Channel, the brainchild of reality-TV guru Mark Burnett.

"I found that making film and producing television has the same components of music," Sparrow said. "It's an ensemble sport. It's all about team. It has cadence and tempo. A lot of structural issues around storytelling are very similar to music."

But by 1999, Sparrow had become

a new father, and the grueling schedule that included 60-hour workweeks and months-long stretches of travel was wearing thin.

He shifted gears again, and was hired as part of the team that designed and built the Newseum at its current location. There were exhibits to plan, scripts to write, documentaries to make. One of Sparrow's films—a look at the media's coverage of the Holocaust while it was occurring—won him an Emmy nomination and CINE Golden Eagle and New York Festivals awards.

"Our mission is to champion the five freedoms of the First Amendment," said Sparrow, who is considered an expert in new media. "We are the

largest program to support the First Amendment in the world."

Now working on a new exhibit about the press and the Vietnam War, and updating an older FBI display, Sparrow said he is struck by the impact of the Newseum on its visitors. He sees people walking out of the 9/11 gallery with tears in their eyes and watches visitors standing enthralled by the photos in the exhibit dedicated to Pulitzer Prize winners.

"One of the things I learned at UC Santa Cruz was to follow your passion," Sparrow said. "Committing myself to something I'm passionate about is what has laid the foundation for everything I've accomplished."

By Peggy Townsend

1984

Barbara Garcia: Health mission

When Barbara Garcia was 23

and working to organize a free-lunch program for families living in migrant farmworker camps, she came to a realization.

"I would walk through the camps and see that the people who were feeding us were going hungry, and I associated that with a lack of food security and also a danger to health," said Garcia (Oakes '84, community studies).

So, five years later, when the opportunity came to help start Salud Para La Gente, a tiny health clinic for those same low-income residents in Watsonville, Garcia gave up her goal of being a teacher and jumped at the chance. Little did she know where that decision would lead.

Today, Garcia oversees 20 health clinics, two hospitals, and hundreds of programs in her role as head of San Francisco's mammoth Department of Public Health.

"It's a big job. It's a fun job," said Garcia, 59, who directs a department with a \$2 billion budget and 8,000 employees. "Every day is incredible."

Garcia grew up in a blended family of 18 children. Her father worked in the Long Beach shipyards and her mom worked in the defense industry. It was there, in the beachside city known for its port and aircraft industry, that Garcia got her first taste of community organizing.

At 14, she found a job in a food pantry at a neighborhood center.

"It gave me a great perspective on how to work with people in need," said Garcia, who was the first in her family to graduate from college. "The one thing I learned was how to give respect to people who were seeking basic needs."

It's a lesson that has guided her life and her career.

In 1989, when a 6.9-magnitude earthquake roared through



Watsonville, damaging its hospital, Garcia, then director of the Salud Para La Gente clinic, threw open the facility's doors. Residents flocked to her tiny center to receive medical care, food, and clothing—10,000 people in all.

When Garcia came to San Francisco as director of homeless services, she helped start an all-day triage-like event called Homeless Connect. There, volunteers and staff linked those living on the streets to services they needed—everything from finding an apartment to getting a new pair of glasses. The program has now been modeled in 56 cities.

Sitting in her office overlooking San Francisco City Hall, Garcia ran through a dizzying list of programs her department supervises: everything from restaurant inspections to running a health network that

serves 120,000 patients as part of the Affordable Care Act, to providing mental health services, and managing more than 2,000 units of housing.

She has lofty goals, like reducing HIV deaths and transmissions in San Francisco to zero, and sustaining a health network that will keep the two hospitals under her care strong and financially healthy.

But for Garcia, it's always about the community she serves—whether it was during her years at UC Santa Cruz where she was exposed to the needs of farmworkers and low-income residents or on the streets

of the city she now calls home.

"One thing I tell my executives is that they can't get lost in their own power dynamics. We have to keep to the mission we are here for, and that is to improve the health of San Franciscans," Garcia said. "We really have to focus on who we are here to serve."

Little known fact: During her free time, San Francisco Public Health Department Director Barbara Garcia trains and competes as a powerlifter. The 5-foot Garcia can deadlift 320 pounds.

By Peggy Townsend

1986

Kris Perry: Standing for equality

Kris Perry doesn't think about the way historians will tell her story.

Instead, the 1986 Merrill College graduate with degrees in sociology and psychology thinks how life will be different for children nationwide because of what she did.

Perry was the named plaintiff in a lawsuit that challenged, and eventually overturned, Proposition 8, a 2008 California constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriages. The decision opened the door for same-sex unions in the state.

Her effort also was part of the groundswell that led to a landmark decision by the United States Supreme Court in June, legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide. Her case, *Hollingsworth vs. Perry*, provided a foundation for other district court cases and for the marriage-rights movement in general. In addition, the public education she engaged in was part of the change in public opinion that led to more acceptance of gay marriage nationwide.

"Sandy (Stier, Perry's wife and co-plaintiff) and I are elated and re-



lieved that we now live in a country where everyone can be married," Perry said after the ruling. "We've both experienced not only the joy of marriage these past two years but also the sense of permanence and protection marriage provides.

"We are thrilled for our family and for all the families across the country who can celebrate their love and connection today."

Born in Bakersfield, Calif., Perry always felt like she was different.

Kris Perry, left, and wife Sandy Stier were the named plaintiffs in a lawsuit that challenged, and eventually overturned, Proposition 8, a 2008 California constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriages.

She just wasn't sure why until she came to UC Santa Cruz.

"The middle of my freshman year, I started to figure it out," Perry said. "I felt very supported as a person, and I found my voice, and how to be committed to a cause, and to put myself in situations where I made a difference. All the values that were emblematic of UC Santa Cruz were perfect for me at the time."

In 2004, she married her longtime partner, Stier, at a ceremony at San Francisco City Hall. "A couple of months later, we got a letter from the City of San Francisco saying they had to rescind the marriage," Perry remembered. "They'd attached the \$35 check we'd paid for the marriage license. That really was a punch to the gut."

Four years later, Prop. 8 passed and Perry was asked if she and Stier would be plaintiffs in a federal lawsuit challenging the same-sex marriage ban. Perry was working for celebrity activist Rob Reiner on early childhood education at the time.

It was not a hard decision, said Perry, although she knew it would put her family, including the couple's four children, under scrutiny. What was difficult, she said, was the pressure of having to represent an entire group of people with her story "in an authentic and useful way."

On June 26, 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to overturn a lower-court decision that declared the amendment unconstitutional, and Perry got a call from President Barack Obama telling her he was proud of what she had done.

Two days later, after the lower court unexpectedly lifted its stay of the ruling, Perry and Stier were married in a rushed ceremony at San Francisco City Hall.

"I was elated, overwhelmed, excited, happy, and a little bit in shock," said Perry of her marriage. "I probably felt as happy as I have ever felt except for the day the boys (her twin sons) were born." (The couple's two other children are Stier's from a previous marriage.)

"Future generations won't be limited the way I was," said Perry from her Washington, D.C., office where she advocates for early childhood education. "I felt shame about who I was partially because of the laws (regarding same-sex marriage) that were in place. Those laws will be ancient history before kids today are old enough to fall in love."

Today, Perry is executive director of the First Five Years Fund, an advocacy group promoting early childhood education, and is happily settled with Stier in the nation's capital.

But it's not hard for Perry to summon the memory of the early days when she felt shame, when she was bombarded by the judgments of others because of who she was.

"I expended a huge amount of emotional energy just to feel OK or to be OK when other people were using their energy for totally different things like their careers and relationships," Perry said. "I spent my life in a defensive posture."

By Peggy Townsend

1991

Melissa Nelson: Revitalizing native cultures

Melissa Nelson believes the best ways to teach Native American youth about their cultural past is through their hearts and minds, as well as their stomachs. Now she is using traditional and ancient teachings, crops, and food practices as a way of increasing their pride and health, and diminishing their reliance on junk foods.

Nelson (College Eight '91, environmental studies), is a Native American activist and scholar traveling the world to educate, inspire, and learn from indigenous cultures. She teaches American Indian studies at San Francisco State

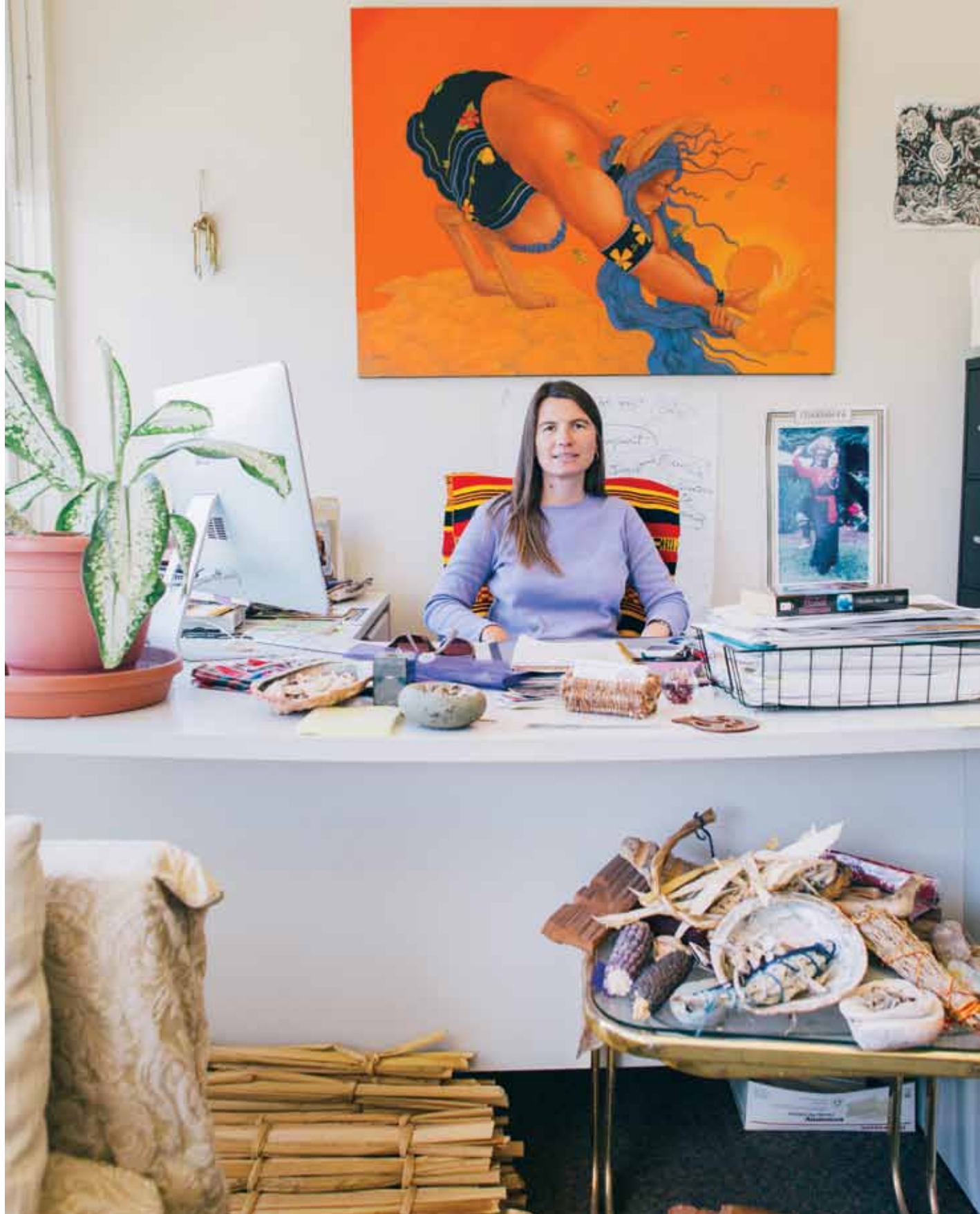
University and is the president of the Cultural Conservancy, a Bay Area organization that is involved in indigenous rights and the food justice movement, re-connecting Native Americans with healthy "heritage foods."

"We are making sure that these foods and plants are accessible to people who need them," Nelson said.

She credits her time at UC Santa Cruz with blending her diverse interests in biology, ecology, and religious studies with her strong interest in social justice. "I found my kin at UC Santa Cruz," said Nelson.

After graduation, Nelson explored various nonprofit organizations in the Pacific Northwest, and in 1992 started volunteering for the Cultural Conservancy. She went on to earn a Ph.D. from UC Davis in ecology with an emphasis on Native American studies.

In 1993 she became the first Native American executive director at the Cultural Conservancy. Through education and activism, she works hard to inspire and train youth. "Most native youth are living in urban communities and are cut off from their traditional lands," said Nelson.



Left: Melissa Nelson is surrounded by artifacts in her office at San Francisco State University.

Nelson is working to revive interest in tribal food traditions—and many of her former students, including Trevor Ware, now an intern at the Cultural Conservancy, are taking her lessons to heart. He now grows Native American food and medicine at the College of Marin. His harvest includes heirloom tomatoes, corn, and soap plants, which are being distributed in urban areas in Oakland and San Francisco.

"For me, learning how to plant, tend, and harvest these plants is of the utmost importance," Ware said. "When I lived among my people in Oklahoma I saw that the vast majority of them ate whatever Wal-Mart had to offer, or a dollar store, or, even worse, the food at convenience stores in gas stations."

Ware is just one of many students who came to San Francisco State to study American Indian studies and went on to work with cultural revitalization.

"Melissa has influenced me in many ways. She has motivated me to be an active participant in revitalizing our cultures, and she really demonstrates how to do this through the numerous projects she is involved in," said Ware.

The Cultural Conservancy also teaches traditional native cooking, which blends stories and histories along with lessons in basket weaving, canoe making, and woodwork.

Nelson's work in academia is also part of her mission to revive interest in Native American history and culture. When she arrived at the San Francisco State University 13 years ago, she was the only full-time American Indian studies professor. She's helped to rebuild the department to include four other full-time native faculty.

Nelson is a regular contributor to academic journals. Her first edited anthology, *Original Instructions—Indigenous Teachings for a*

Sustainable Future (2008), features three of her essays and focuses on the persistence of traditional ecological knowledge in contemporary native communities. She is currently editing a book on traditional ecological knowledge and sustainability, which will be published by Cambridge University Press.

In 2005, Nelson was the co-producer of the award-winning documentary film, *The Salt Song Trail: Bringing Creation Back Together*, and produces other media through the Cultural Conservancy.

Nelson has served on the boards of numerous environmental organizations including Earth Island Institute and Bioneers, and her activism and teaching have taken her to Bolivia, Paraguay, Australia, and New Zealand.

"I've really worked to integrate my academic and activist work in a reciprocal way," she said.

By Amy Ettinger

1995

Devin Hibbard: Beads and blessings

Devin Hibbard was walking through the slums of Uganda when she saw a woman named Millie sitting on her front stoop rolling trash paper into tight little beads.

At the time, Hibbard (College Eight '95, community studies) had already been exposed to crushing poverty. She'd spent time in the field in India as part of her undergraduate thesis helping women in poverty. When she saw Millie's resourcefulness, she just had to learn her story.

Hibbard discovered that Millie had fled to the slums during the civil war. The only way to make any significant money in the city was to use dynamite to blow up rock in a quarry, then break up the pieces by hand, using hammers and other tools.

"She and all her children worked in the quarry," said Hibbard. Millie made the beads in hopes of making a little extra money for her family, as did other women in the slum.

Hibbard bought a few necklaces and began wearing them around town, where their inventive and flashy designs got noticed right away. Before she and her mother left Uganda they bought a necklace from each of the 100 women who lived in mud homes in the slum.

"We didn't have any experience selling products," Hibbard said. "We just wanted to create some economic activity."

After returning home to the U.S., Hibbard hosted an event at home to try and sell the beads. It was so



popular that Hibbard decided to move back to Uganda to form Bead for Life, an international nonprofit organization that helps women lift themselves out of poverty by becoming self-sustaining entrepreneurs.

"My experience at UC Santa Cruz, and specifically with community studies, was formative in creating my desire to do work that matters and makes the world a better place," said Hibbard.

Women enrolled in the Bead for Life program commit to an 18-month training program where they learn bead-making as well as entrepreneurial skills and business savvy.

Bead for Life has grown exponentially during its 10-year existence so far. It got a big boost in November 2004, when *O* magazine ran a 250-word article about the organization, and helped transform it into a phenomenon.

"We sold \$90,000 worth of beads in six weeks," Hibbard said. These days, Bead for Life sells about \$2 million worth of jewelry and other items per year.

Hibbard marvels at the impact the organization has had on Millie's neighborhood.

"It has transformed the community," said Hibbard. Children who weren't being fed three times a day now have access to healthy meals, and 98 percent of the children of women enrolled in the program are in school.

The nonprofit has reached more than 40,000 people in Uganda. Women have started 2,290 micro-businesses as a result of the Bead for Life training, which offers more than just business know-how. It also encourages these women to have a greater sense of themselves and realize that a life outside of extreme poverty is within their grasp.

"We help poor women become self-sustaining entrepreneurs," said Hibbard. "Access to money is not the biggest barrier. Access to confidence is."

The group's success has inspired others to follow suit. Now 100 other nonprofit groups and for-profit businesses are selling beads

made of recycled paper in Uganda and around the world.

"We really created a cottage industry," Hibbard said.

This fall, Bead for Life is launching a global initiative. "Our goal is to reach 1 million women around the world," said Hibbard.

Meanwhile Hibbard continues to travel worldwide so she can get a close-up view of the potentials and struggles of communities across the globe.

She met her husband, Mark Jordahl (Stevenson '93, Chinese religious studies), while they were enrolled at UC Santa Cruz. The pair is committed to spending time outside of the United States and exposing their two sons to the wider world.

"My 8-year-old lived about half of his life in Uganda and is constantly lobbying to move back," laughed Hibbard.

"If you don't get out," she continued, "you have no perspective of life in the U.S."

By Amy Ettinger

1995 **Tlaloc Rivas:** Opening doors through theater

The 2007 story of Johanna Orozco haunted director/playwright Tlaloc Rivas for more than six years.

The 18-year-old Orozco, an orphan raised by her grandparents in a tough part of Cleveland, Ohio, had been shot in the face by an abusive ex-boyfriend. She survived months of surgery and grueling rehabilitation, then went on to inspire a change in Ohio law that gave more protections to teens in abusive relationships.

"Her story coincided with my desire to upgrade the narrative of Latinos in the U.S.," said Rivas, a professional director and playwright and an assistant professor of theater at the University of Iowa. "The current narrative in pop culture, the media, and Hollywood is that we are only represented by what we do in society. We are only recognized as people who pick the crops or clean houses or cook in the kitchens or do your landscaping. We are much more than that in this country."



In May, Rivas (Stevenson '95, theater arts) directed his original play based on Orozco's life, *Johanna: Facing Forward* for Cleveland Public Theater—a proud moment that has taken him from Watsonville High School to UC Santa Cruz and finally to his role as a prominent voice in the world of Latino/Latina theater.

"In my career, I have had one foot in the classical world, but also a foot in social activism and in theater that changes minds and hearts—one that creates a dialogue between art and the audience," Rivas said in a telephone interview from his part-time home in Iowa City, Iowa. He also lives in Pittsburgh where his wife, Megan Rivas, teaches at Carnegie Mellon University.

Rivas's interest in social activism runs deep. His father, a school counselor, not only served as mayor of the farming town of Watsonville but he also founded a night school for migrant workers in Vista, California. His mother went

back to school to become a nurse.

Rivas planned to study history and political science in college, but an acting class at Cabrillo College resulted in the discovery of his true passion. After an internship with El Teatro Campesino, Rivas and three other students went on to found Chicano Theatreworks, which continues to stage plays today.

Still, it wasn't until his senior year at UC Santa Cruz that Rivas was able to overcome doubts about his life's calling.

"I chose to direct a play, *The Shrunken Head of Pancho Villa* by Luis Valdez," Rivas recalled. Inspired by UC Santa Cruz Professor of Theater Arts Kathy Foley's work with Southeast Asia theater, he added an element of Bunraku, traditional Japanese puppet theater, to his production. He won numerous awards for his work.

"If I hadn't gotten that validation," he said, "I'm not sure I would have

considered pursuing the craft."

Besides teaching, Rivas's theater work takes him around the country. His work has been seen in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, and other venues. In September he was set to direct the original play *In Love and Warcraft* for the Halcyon Theatre Company in Chicago, and in 2016 he will direct *Prospect* by his friend Octavio Solis for the Boundless Theatre Company in New York.

But even as society becomes more diverse, Rivas said, the theater world, especially major companies, is only beginning to make room for Latinos and Latinas.

He is determined to change that.

"I want to be able to make an impact for others," he said. "I want to be able to update the narratives of where I came from, my culture, my background, and to advocate for others."

"I want to open doors."

By Peggy Townsend

2000 **Akiva Schaffer:** It's all funny business for *Saturday Night Live* alum

The six-lane boulevard in front of Akiva Schaffer's crummy Los Angeles apartment gave off a freeway-like roar, a backbeat to the old cars he and his two roommates drove, the canned chili they ate, the dead-end jobs they worked, and the comedy shorts they churned out at night, in which they were writers, actors, and directors.

Little did Schaffer (Oakes '00, film) know, but those nights with his high school buddies—Andy Samberg and Jorma Taccone—were actually prep work for a career that would lead them to a stint on *Saturday Night Live*, a series of iconic music video parodies, movie credits, and



even a role as cultural touchstones for the Internet era.

"We were putting ourselves through boot camp without any idea of what we were doing it for," Schaffer said of those years, which became the genesis for the now-famous Lonely Island comedy troupe he started with Samberg and Taccone. "We were training ourselves for the jobs we got."

Born in Berkeley of transplanted New York parents, Schaffer was a "shrimpy, short, white guy in a school that was not full of shrimpy, short, white guys," he said. He, Samberg, and Taccone bonded over their mutual shrimpy-ness and their love of movies like *The Jerk*, *Austin Powers*, and *Airplane*.

After he graduated from UC Santa Cruz—where Schaffer studied computer science for two years and also, he said, received a good grounding in filmmaking—the three friends moved to Los Angeles, resisted the lure of sitcom-writing jobs, and churned out overnight comedy videos.

"We didn't mind being broke and really wanted to take a shot at having our own voice the way Monty Python or the Zucker brothers or Woody Allen did," said Schaffer, as

he drove to his Los Angeles office from his Hollywood Hills home.

The plan worked.

In 2005, Schaffer and Taccone were hired as writers for *Saturday Night Live* while Samberg (who studied at UC Santa Cruz 1996–98) got an acting spot on the show. That December, the trio created a rap parody video titled "Lazy Sunday," about a couple of lame guys planning to get some cupcakes and go to a Sunday afternoon matinee of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. The video was broadcast on *SNL*. It was also posted on what was then a little-known, video-sharing site called YouTube.

Five million views made "Lazy Sunday" the first viral video. The phenomenon was arguably a tipping point for YouTube, and also pushed traditional broadcast media into the digital age.

The Lonely Island went on to produce more parody videos, was nominated for three Grammys, and saw the men also branch out into their own careers. Samberg became a movie and TV star, Taccone went on to direct the movie *MacGruber*, and Schaffer directed feature films, including the 2012 *The Watch*, starring Ben Stiller,

Jonah Hill, and Vince Vaughn.

He, Taccone, and Samberg are now working on a music-centric film acquired by Universal and produced by Judd Apatow. The three are writing the script and music, and Schaffer and Taccone will co-direct—just like old times.

"It's all good when we're apart (for different projects), but when we get back together and start working, that's our thing," Schaffer said. "It's always clear then that we're at our best and doing what we're supposed to be doing."

Little known fact: The name Lonely Island came when Jorma Taccone brought the video *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* to the trio's low-rent apartment on a noisy Los Angeles street. Samberg and Schaffer made fun of Taccone for being so theatrical. He left, and the pair watched the movie, inspiring Schaffer to write a prank Tennessee Williams one-act play with lots of overwrought analogies, metaphors, and drinking. Schaffer called it *The Lonely Island*, referring to their apartment, which was located in a sea of speeding traffic. The name stuck for both the apartment and the group.

By Peggy Townsend

2007

Cody Townsend: Steep thrills

It's almost impossible to breathe for the full minute-and-a-half video that shows Cody Townsend hurtle himself on skis through a narrow crevice on an insanely steep, rugged Alaska mountain.

Townsend broke the Internet earlier this year with his 90-second YouTube clip, entitled "Most insane ski line ever," from the ski movie *Days of My Youth*. To date, the clip has received more than 8.5 million hits.

The stunt earned the free-skier the "Best Line" prize for the best ski line at the 2014 Powder Awards.

At the end of the clip Townsend declares: "That was the scariest thing I've ever done." But the 31-year-old is planning for even more adrenaline-inducing adventures.

Townsend (College Ten '07, linguistics) has some advice for skiers who want to improve: "Go ski with people who are better than you. Surround yourself with people you can learn from."

Part of the thrill from watching that video is the sense that the terrifying ski run was spontaneous, as if he put on a pair of skis and jumped down the mountain. But





Townsend's approach was methodical, not impulse.

"It was a five-year process of preparation," he said.

The Santa Cruz native grew up near the waves, but it was always the slopes that captured his heart and imagination. His parents own a cabin in Squaw Valley. Townsend's first memories involve skiing.

"I knew what I was going to do my whole life," he said. "I was obsessed with skiing from the time I was 6."

The immense popularity of the YouTube clip has given Townsend the freedom to pursue his own film project. That worldwide attention created its own momentum. "It was such a big thing—and people in the ski world want to see what's next," he said.

After receiving a boost in confidence as well as notoriety, Townsend hired a cinematographer to shoot his own movie called *Conquering the Useless* this spring in British Columbia.

Channeling the same boldness that motivated him to leap down that mountain, Townsend decided to veer away from the formula of many downhill skiing movies—which often rely on the sort of footage that some in the ski world refer to as "ski porn."

"Ski porn is basically the highest performance skiing in the world set to music," he said. "I wanted to step outside of that and show the human involvement, the pure fun that we have as well as new forms of adventure in the mountain. As skiers and athletes we have our own interpretation of the sport, and I want to bring the audience inside those stories."

Townsend is also using his savvy off the slopes. In 2010, he co-founded Arcade Belt Co., with the aim of making functional and lifestyle belts with an athlete's needs in mind. Based near Lake Tahoe, the product now has national distribution.

Cody Townsend takes big-mountain skiing to a new level on a vertical chute in the Alaska Tordrillo Mountain Range, earning himself the "Best Line" award at the 15th annual Powder Awards. Visit YouTube and search "Cody Townsend best ski line of 2014" to view the clip.

The company website includes a photo and self-effacing statement from Townsend, who referenced Santa Cruz locals who made fun of him “for being so obsessed with the oh-so-uncool sport of skiing. Who’s laughing now? Well, they still are because they have big-

paying jobs and skiers don’t make [expletive] for money.”

Townsend’s plans for the future include more exploration and adventure, as well as pushing himself to keep improving.

“I want to keep trying to find more

unexplored areas, where you have to step outside of established areas and use your own power and wit to go further than before,” he said. “There are so many more unexplored mountains out there. Those are the ones that are enchanting to me.”

By Amy Ettinger

2008 Stephanie Foo: Story hunter

A couple years out of UC Santa Cruz, Stephanie Foo decided she wanted to work for the radio show *This American Life*.

She was a frustrated journalist working as a graphic designer and, in her own words, became obsessed with the show. So, the 2008 Stevenson College graduate with a degree in modern literature did what any self-respecting UC Santa Cruz student who’d lived through the 2005 bus strike would do: She hitchhiked to the world’s biggest porn convention with a load of borrowed radio equipment, talked her way inside with a fake press pass, and began a podcast she called “Get Me On This American Life.”

It worked.

Even though Foo claims her first pieces were awful, she sent them to UC Santa Cruz alumnus and Public Radio International host Jesse Thorn (Porter ’03, American studies), who introduced Foo to Roman Mars of *99 Invisible* podcast fame. A short internship later, Foo was a producer for the NPR show *Snap Judgment*, which brought her to the attention of Ira Glass of *This American Life* and a full-time job.

“It was sort of meteoric,” Foo admitted recently, as she sat in her tiny Manhattan *This American Life* office, its walls spotted with radio show posters and the kinds of letters from prison inmates that journalists tend to get.

Foo’s job as a radio producer takes her into lives she never imagined: A



Japanese comedian who became the subject of a cruel reality TV show, a lowly government official who was picked to assume the presidency if all the attendees at the State of the Union address were suddenly wiped out, and a 60-year-old man with a fetish for Asian women and a 30-year-old wife from China.

“One of the things I care about is showing the world there are other perspectives,” said Foo, 27. “I try to educate people to open themselves up to others and to different ideas, to make this a less binary world.”

To that end, she spends her days scouring the Internet, scrolling Facebook, and striking up conversations in a search for stories. “It’s keeping your eyes open all the time,” she said.

It helps that Foo, who was on her own by the age of 15, has a streak

of natural curiosity and a tough work ethic. She’s often at her office until late into the night. She also has a strong sense of social justice, which, she said, was nurtured during her years at UC Santa Cruz.

While there are plenty of successes — *This American Life* has 3.6 million listeners—there’s also a lot of failure inherent in the job, Foo said. Interviews fall through, stories come unraveled, pieces are rejected.

“I wasn’t good at failure for a long time because it made me feel less-than,” Foo said. “But since I’ve been here, I’ve come to embrace failure, and, every time it happens, I say, ‘This is great. I just learned something today.’”

“One of the things this job has done is given me the courage to fail.”

By Peggy Townsend

Tiffany Loftin: Changing the narrative around higher education

Tiffany Dena Loftin met President Barack Obama for the first time just minutes after he delivered his famous speech about the death of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed black teenager in Florida:

"... this could have been my son," Obama told the nation. "Another way of saying that is Trayvon Martin could have been me 35 years ago."

When Loftin (Oakes '11, political science), a young African American activist, met the president in the Oval Office that day, she was overwhelmed and nervous, but she managed to pull herself together.

After all, she wanted to talk with him about a pressing civil rights issue that had been on her mind for many years—the right for everyone in this country, including under-represented groups—to have access to an excellent and affordable higher education.

She must have made quite an impression. In February, Loftin, 26, found out that she had been appointed to the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans, which focuses on improving student achievement.

The commission hopes to increase the number of African American students applying to, persisting in, and successfully completing college to ensure that the United States meets the president's 2020 goal of becoming the world leader in college graduates.

The news of her appointment came as a big surprise to Loftin since she didn't apply to the position. She found out she was in the running only after receiving word from the White House.

Loftin is the youngest person on the commission. Her work involves changing the conversation about higher education in this country.

"I believe education is not a privilege—it's a right," said Loftin. She's been fighting for this right ever since she started at UC Santa Cruz.



During her time on campus Loftin served as Student Union Assembly president. She was also a part of the movement addressing recruitment and retention for students of color through programs like Destination Higher Education (DHE), and hate crimes and safety toward the black community on campus.

"Because of hate crimes at several UCs in 2010, it was a scary time to be a black woman on campus," she said.

Loftin also served as president of the United States Student Association (USSA) until 2013. The USSA was founded as the National Student Association in 1946 and

is the largest student-run and student-led organization dedicated to advocating for college students in the United States.

Loftin grew up in Los Angeles, the daughter of a single mom. She is the only person in her immediate family to graduate from college. Her life story adds urgency to her mission and her message: "We need to change the narrative around higher education," she said. "It should not be about whether or not college is worth it. If I hadn't gone to college, I don't know where I'd be."

Part of her job is to confront barriers to education including costs.

Loftin, who is currently paying off her student loans, dreams of a time when no qualified student defers or cancels plans for college because of financial constraints.

Loftin's energy and enthusiasm seem tireless—she holds down a full-time job with the labor organization AFL-CIO and travels across the country for her activism work with campaigns like Freedom Side and #BlackLivesMatter. She's charismatic and talks fast and efficiently. She talks with

pride about President Obama's suggestion that she run for office. In spite of that glowing endorsement, she's happiest as a grassroots organizer and activist.

Loftin maintains contact with many of the organizers she met through SOAR/Student Media/Cultural Arts and Diversity (SOMeCA).

"A lot of the networks I work with today," she said, "I built with the support and development I received at UC Santa Cruz."

By Amy Ettinger

Names of Fame

Philanthropy Focus

The names of UC Santa Cruz's unique colleges, buildings, and centers may seem natural and inevitable, as much a part of the campus's landscape as its famous towering redwood trees and rambling meadows. But each name evokes a surprising story about visionaries, benefactors, legacies, and leaders who shaped the vision of the campus—sometimes in obvious and direct ways, and sometimes by sheer inspiration.

Many of UC Santa Cruz's roads were named in honor of people whose support was vital to the founding of the campus. Pictured are (left to right): Frances McAllister, a generous donor; Ella Barrows Hagar, widow of Regent Gerald Hagar; Regent Daniel Koshland; Sylvia McLaughlin, widow of Regent Donald McLaughlin; and Virginia Meyer, widow of Regent Theodore Meyer.



COWELL FAMILY

After driving over the Santa Cruz Mountains on a blistering summer day, the UC Regents, scouting out possible locations for a new Central Coast campus, felt the cool ocean breezes on their faces.

Up at the Cowell Ranch property, high in the foothills overlooking downtown Santa Cruz, it was just the right combination of sunshine and temperature. As legend has it, Almaden Valley in San Jose, another potential location for the campus, was so hot and muggy that the Regents groaned in discomfort and would speak no more about locating the campus there.

Soon the UC Santa Cruz campus began to take root at Cowell Ranch, adding a brand-new chapter for a piece of land that was already rich with history.

The Cowell family had relocated from San Francisco in the late part of the 19th century, after amassing a sizable fortune during the Gold Rush. Henry Cowell bought into a lime rock company near Santa Cruz and moved his family down to the Central Coast. Cowell had six children—Roland (who lived only one year), Ernest, Isabella, Sarah, Samuel Henry (known as S.H. or Harry), and Helen.

Cowell Ranch became a self-contained community with orchards, a dairy, lumber yard, hay building, and stables. The Cowells prospered there—and also faced tragedy. In 1903 Cowell's daughter Sarah was thrown from a horse and died, giving rise to a legend that her ghost still haunts a meadow on campus.

The heartbroken Henry Cowell died just a few months after his daughter. Ernest Cowell died in 1911, and then his sisters passed away. But S.H. lived long enough to impart a strong environmental legacy that helped bring about the creation of a fledgling campus; instead of selling off the old ranch property, he took pains to preserve it. A staunch environmentalist, he deeded Cowell Beach to the

City of Santa Cruz, as well as the area that became Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. In 1955, S.H., the last Cowell, died and provided in his will for the creation of the S.H. Cowell Foundation. In 1961, the UC Regents purchased the ranch for \$2 million, with the Cowell Foundation donating back \$900,000 of the final price.

"Harry Cowell would be delighted to see all those smart, environmentally conscious young people at the university," said Ann Alpers, president of the Cowell Foundation. "I can't stress enough how grateful the foundation is to have the university be a good steward for the magnificent land that was the Cowells' home."

PORTER FAMILY

The Porter family's roots in the Santa Cruz area go back even further than the Cowells'; in fact, their history in the region spans more than 160 years.

Benjamin Porter moved to California from the East Coast in 1851 and, with his cousin George Porter, acquired the Soquel Tannery on what is now



Celebration of Porter College and the Porter Endowment in May 2013. (The Cliff family members are descendants of Benjamin F. Porter.)

Front row: Sheila Houser Cliff, Nell Sesnon Cliff, Diane Porter Cooley, and Molly Cliff Hiltz (Molly Porter Cliff, Porter '81); Back row: Peter Cliff, Lee H. Cliff, Daniel Cliff, Shanti Cliff Aurell (Susan Harker Cliff, Merrill '86), and Paul Aurell.

Porter Gulch. After marrying Kate Hubbard, he went on to become one of the early directors of Santa Cruz County National Bank. The couple's only surviving child, Mary Sophia, an artist, married William T. Sesnon, a politician from Alameda.

In 1911, to honor Mary's parents, the Sesnons built the Porter-Sesnon House (then known as Pino Alto),

a summer home on the original Porter property, currently home to Cabrillo College. Pino Alto became a place for artists and free thinkers to gather, along with patrons and dignitaries of the day. These summer soirées would often go on for days.

Molly Cliff Hiltz is Mary's great-granddaughter—and a UC Santa Cruz alumna (she was Molly Porter Cliff in her student days).

"I feel a strong artistic kinship with my great-grandmother," said Cliff Hiltz (Porter '81, art), mentioning their shared focus on community and celebrating artists. As a student, Cliff Hiltz, a Portland artist, had her first exhibition at the Sesnon Gallery in 1981, when the college was named for her great-great-grandfather.

"Coincidentally, my senior show was exhibiting at the Sesnon Gallery during the Porter dedication, and I remember my grandfather walking through the gallery that day," she said. "It was the first time he had seen my body of work from college."

The Mary Porter Sesnon Art Gallery was established in 1968 with a gift from Mary's daughter,



Left: Henry and Harriet Cowell in front of the Carriage House at the Cowell Ranch. Date unknown, probably late 1800s.

Below: Peggy Downes Baskin and Jack Baskin; right: UC Santa Cruz founding chancellor Dean McHenry, left, and Joseph Long at a 1978 UC Santa Cruz McHenry Library Special Collections exhibit in honor of Long

Barbara Sesnon Cartan, in memory of her mother.

Cliff Hilts is now developing an exhibition that honors her great-grandmother through a contemporary lens that could tie into the gallery's 50th anniversary in 2018.

The Porter and Sesnon families have a longstanding legacy that continues to this day on campus. If you were to look through their family tree you would find UC Santa Cruz alumni and recent donors to the campus, as well as a former UC Santa Cruz Foundation trustee and president.

BASKIN FAMILY

Members of the Baskin family have been important supporters of UC Santa Cruz since 1971. The Baskin School of Engineering and Baskin Engineering Building are named in honor of engineer, retired developer, and philanthropist Jack Baskin, whose gifts to the Baskin School of Engineering since 1971 total more than \$10 million.

While engineering has always been Baskin's passion, he and his family have given widely and generously across the disciplines. The family has also contributed to the Elena Baskin Visual Arts Center, the Institute of Marine Sciences, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, feminist studies, an endowed chair in psychology, a scholarship in literature, and instruction in the arts.

Since 2007, the Peggy and Jack Baskin Foundation has contributed \$765,000 for girls in engineering and science programs, and scholarships for women from local community colleges. The foundation plans to continue contributing to humanities and feminist studies.

"By supporting access to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) as well as feminist studies programs, we are highlighting the intersection between these fields and the need for a comprehensive approach to creating a foundation of human equality," said Nicole Baran, executive director of the Peggy and Jack Baskin Foundation.

LONG FAMILY

Joseph Long, an entrepreneur and founder of Longs Drugs, had a strong friendship with UC Santa Cruz's founding chancellor Dean McHenry. Out of loyalty and friendship, the highly successful East Bay-based businessman contributed \$1.9 million to the university's fledgling marine sciences program.

His most significant gifts were a discretionary fund for the chancellor and a capital gift to build a marine mammal research center at Long Marine Lab. Each of these contributions was more than \$650,000.

Created in 1966, the Joseph & Vera Long Foundation continues to support the university.



"We've had a good relationship with UC Santa Cruz," said Milton Long, grandson of Joseph and executive director of the Joseph & Vera Long Foundation. "We've wanted to continue to support the marine lab. It fits in with the foundation's mission of conservation and education in Northern California."

The foundation has continued to invest in the development and growth of the Long Marine Lab. It helped fund the building of the Seymour Marine Discovery Center with a \$250,000 capstone gift to the capital campaign, and gave \$250,000 toward the Center for Ocean Health and \$1 million to renovate the marine mammal research center.



Joseph's son, Bob Long, continued to give personal gifts for decades to assist the Friends of Long Marine Lab/Seymour Center.

Joe and Bob, through the Joseph & Vera Long Foundation, also supported South and Southeast Asian studies, UC Santa Cruz's libraries, endowments for Pacific Rim studies and marine sciences, the



Seymour Center's education programs, and the apprentice program at the Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems.

HAHN FAMILY

One of the first names any incoming student at UC Santa Cruz ever hears is that of Alfred E. Hahn, a toy manufacturer so humble and reclusive, he chose not to be present for the building's renaming ceremony.

But it's only right that his name graces the student services center. For one thing, the building's original name—Central Services—was rather boring and prosaic, especially considering it was the very first

building completed on the campus. Aside from this, Hahn—in spite of his bashfulness—deserves remembrance; his commitment to education was genuine, and so was his desire to help struggling students in need of financial assistance.

The structure now known as the Alfred Hahn Student Services Building was completed in 1965 for \$465,000.

Unfortunately, the original building was doomed. In April 1971, a frayed extension cord sparked the most devastating fire in UC Santa Cruz history. Hahn Student Services burned to the ground, leaving only the concrete foundation. But the administration wasted no time in building an updated replacement. Hahn Student Services now houses student services offices including general administration, registrar, financial aid, student housing, and disability resources.

Hahn bequeathed a \$1 million trust fund to UC Santa Cruz in 1984, creating the Leadership Opportunity Award, which provides scholarships for students from each of the local community colleges, and the Hahn Scholarships, for students with modest academic qualifications who nevertheless show evidence of having sufficient dedication, determination, and ambition to complete a college education successfully given adequate financial support.

"Santa Cruz is a new university without a lot of established alumni, so I felt that anyone who could help should step forward..." the late Hahn explained. "I didn't do any of this for the publicity. If I can just help one student, that's what I want to do."

WHAT'S IN A (COLLEGE) NAME?

A quick rundown of how UC Santa Cruz's colleges got their names.

Cowell College is named for Henry Cowell and the Cowell family, former owners of the Cowell Ranch property that is now the site of UC Santa Cruz.

Stevenson College honors Adlai E. Stevenson, former governor of Illinois, Democratic presidential candidate, and ambassador to the United Nations. He was selected because of his life of public service and his dedication to the principles of democracy.

Crown College is named after the Crown Zellerbach Paper Company, which gave the initial donation to fund the college.

Merrill College is named after Charles E. Merrill Jr., whose father, Charles E. Merrill Sr., was the founder of wealth management firm Merrill Lynch. In 1968, the Charles E. Merrill Trust donated funds for the construction of the college.

Porter College is named for Benjamin Porter, grandfather of three University of California benefactors: Porter Sesnon, Barbara Sesnon Cartan, and William T. Sesnon.

Kresge College was originally endowed by the Kresge Foundation. The Kresge family fortune was derived from the Kmart chain of discount department stores.

Oakes College was named after philanthropists Roscoe and Margaret Oakes.

Colleges Eight, Nine, and Ten are as yet unnamed and still seeking eponymous philanthropists.

For information about naming a college, please contact Jeff Shilling at shilling@ucsc.edu.

AlumniNotes

We'd like to hear from you. ► E-mail review@ucsc.edu ► submit a note via the web at alumni.ucsc.edu

(go to Alumni Notes) ► and get social on Facebook: facebook.com/ucsantacruz To get alumni news

delivered to your inbox, subscribe to the UCSC e-newsletter: news.ucsc.edu/newsletter

COWELL COLLEGE

'69 Robin Barker retired in 2012 after a career in libraries, mostly in Bellingham, Wash. For her first post-retirement activity, she decided to take in a foster child, a teen boy, never having had children of her own—a stressful but rewarding experience!

'71 Father James K. GRAHAM recently celebrated his second anniversary as pastor of St. Joseph Melkite Greek Catholic Church in Lansing, Mich. He continues to wield the red pencil (only figuratively now) of the "Authoritarian Grammarian" as copy editor of *SOPHIA*, the journal of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church in the United States.

'72 Frank O SMITH's novel, *Dream Singer*, was published in October 2014. In manuscript, it was a finalist for the Bellwether Prize, created by best-selling novelist Barbara Kingsolver, "in support of a literature of social change." In December, it was named a Notable Book of the Year in Literary Fiction by *Shelf Unbound*, the international indie book review magazine. In June 2014, *Sonny Days*, a book that Smith ghostwrote, was published. It's the story of a former federal undercover narcotics agent who became a champion of community policing. Smith lives with his wife on the coast of Maine. He can be reached via frankosmithstories.com.

'75 Sue PERRY is a disaster scientist at the U.S. Geological Survey and, after long hiatus, has resumed writing novels (currently a speculative detective series) and enjoying live music. Her twins have launched toward med school and into parenthood. Life is good.

'78 John KENNEDY is busy in Davidson, N.C., serving on the board of the Davidson

The UCSC Alumni Association

Proudly celebrating the first 50 years of UC Santa Cruz. Courageously planning for the next 50.

For five decades, UC Santa Cruz alumni have been original thinkers, rebels, visionaries, and change-makers with the courage to forge new and different paths. Your Alumni Association has begun its evolution toward a more inclusive community. No membership dues required. New networking opportunities provided. Connecting. Mentoring. Thriving.

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Lands Conservancy and the Town of Davidson planning board. He was recently part of a fulfilling project at Lowe's that helps to benefit communities in the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico: www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtARIDEU2M8

'81 Sherri BABCOCK-WELLS's small farm in Fresno was certified organic in 2014 by CCOF. Her husband was featured in a news story about farmer/veterans.

'83 Peter GOLDSTEIN has been appointed vice president for communications and marketing at the Population Reference Bureau in Washington, D.C. PRB is active in analyzing demographic data to inform policy and practice in health, gender, youth, inequality, and the environment. Previously, he was with InterMedia, a global research group active in the international development field.

'88 Hammon P. ACUNA was appointed as senior vice president of business development by the Cooperative of American Physicians. He lives in Silverlake, Calif., with his husband, Jeff Muehl, and their five-year-old daughter, Lola.

'90 Gregory CANILLAS is an assistant professor of clinical psychology at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology (Los Angeles campus). He also serves as co-chair of the Commission for Youth and Children (Long Beach). He presented his research at a number of national conferences over the past year and is working on a book on infidelity. He is co-chairing an EOP Reunion that will celebrate the Summer Bridge program with classmate Laurene DOMINGUEZ (Merrill '92).

'91 Dyane LESHIN-HARWOOD is the founder of the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) of Santa Cruz County, and facilitates free support groups for women. She's thrilled to announce that her book, *Birth of a New Brain—Healing from Postpartum Bipolar Disorder*, with a foreword by Dr. Walker Karraa, will be published by Post Hill Press in fall 2016.

'98 Jennifer (CLARK) Caloyeras is a novelist and short fiction writer living in Los Angeles. Her short stories have been published in *Monday Night Literary*, *Wilde Magazine*, *Storm Cellar*, and *Booth*. She has been a college instructor,

elementary school teacher, and camp counselor. She is the dog columnist for the *Los Feliz Ledger* and the *Larchmont Ledger*. Her latest book, *Strays*, is a novel set in Santa Cruz and published by Ashland Creek Press. She will speak about her book at UC Santa Cruz and Bookshop Santa Cruz in spring 2016.

'99 Brian Patrick FARRELL is an actor in Los Angeles and was in Universal Pictures' *TED 2*, which premiered in summer 2015. You can follow him on Twitter @boopityba.

'02 Sarah Mae NELSON, conservation interpreter at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, was honored along with seven others by the White House in February as one of its "Champions of Change for Climate Education and Literacy."

'04 Elizabeth HERBERT set out April 28 on a year-long trip around the world, and is writing about it. Check out her website and travel blog at www.betsyherbert.com.

'06 Joey ROCCO is COO and cofounder of San Diego-based tech startup The Control Group. He has been a driving force behind the growth of the tech culture in San Diego. The company has sponsored many events to educate youth about coding and web development and has created numerous tech jobs in Southern California.

'09 Catherine COURTIER has been working as a research intern since January at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama City, Panama, with Dr. Aaron O'Dea on a paleoecology project. She is also writing for an environmental company in Santa Barbara called Loatree. In June she moved to San Diego to pursue her master's of advanced studies in marine

biodiversity and conservation at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

'11 Halley FARWOOD went on to a doctoral program in clinical psychology. As part of both her dissertation and a fellowship at her school, she designed and produced an educational video game about clinical depression. Happymart will be a free online game to help people learn about depression.

STEVENSON COLLEGE

'69 Lorrie (MCCLAIN) Farrelly's novel *Timelapse* has won First Place in Time Travel in the 2014 Cygnus Awards for SciFi and Speculative Fiction. *Timelapse* also won a 2014 Readers' Favorite International Book Award and a gold medal in the 2014 Authors Cave Annual Book Awards.

'70 Tom WEINER used his aka—Wyner—for much of his career (e.g., as listed on IMDB), but his name is Weiner, as it was when he attended UC Santa Cruz.

'75 Laurie SAIN was thrilled when her first book, *The Hidden Leader: Discover and Develop Greatness Within Your Company* (Amacom Press, 2015), hit the No. 8 spot on the nonfiction best-seller list at the *Washington Post* in February. She sustained a concussion in a fall from her horse in October, so it took a few months before she could contribute to the book's success, continue her writing and editorial consulting business, and, of course, get back on her dressage horse, Dezi. She has lived in Lander, Wyo., since 1993.

'86 Michael SHIPLEY has worked as a writer/producer for TV for 19 years. He's written for more than a dozen shows including *Family Guy* and *My Name Is Earl*. Two years ago, he and Eva Longoria sold a show to Hulu. Currently, he is an executive producer on Tim Allen's ABC sitcom, *Last Man Standing*. He's also released an album of original songs, works with Native American nonprofits, and just got very happily married.

'89 Karen WILLEMSSEN is the

education director for Define American, a media and culture campaign about immigration, identity, and citizenship. The campaign piloted a high school curriculum on the film *Documented*. Check it out at defineamerican.com. Go Slugs!

'92 Timothy WEINER was commissioned as a captain in the California State Military Reserves, and has been assigned to the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps, Southern Detachment, at the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base. In civilian life he is still serving as a criminal prosecutor with the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General.

'00 Brie (WELDEN) Jensen was promoted to partnership with Pacifica Law Group in January. **Nathan LOWENSTEIN** is managing partner of Los Angeles patent litigation firm Lowenstein & Weatherwax LLP. The firm is changing its name from Goldberg, Lowenstein & Weatherwax LLP to its original name of Lowenstein & Weatherwax LLP, and intensifying its focus on its primary practice areas of patent infringement litigation and post-grant patent office litigation.

'09 Quinn LATHROP received his Ph.D. in quantitative psychology from the University of Notre Dame in May 2015. He is now working as a research scientist for Northwest Evaluation Association, an educational nonprofit in Portland, Ore.

CROWN COLLEGE

'69 Vincent VITALE graduated from UC Davis School of Law in 1972 and went to Alaska for a year as a VISTA attorney with Alaska Legal Services. Thirty-five years later, he left Alaska for retirement in Arizona. During his Alaskan adventure he participated in one successful appeal before the U.S. Supreme Court and numerous appeals before the Alaska Supreme Court. In the 1980s he became one of fewer than 2,000 attorneys nationwide to obtain the designation "certified trial advocate" from the National

Board of Trial Advocacy. He and his wife, Judy Rich, co-authored a novel that was published in 2012: *The Claimers—a Tale of Skullduggery on the Backstretch*. The novel was well received by reviewers.

'75 Alan B. LILLY celebrated his 60th birthday by rowing a boat 280 miles down the Grand Canyon. **Pete GROSS** provided expert advice on how to run the rapids. **Lorraine Clarke YOUNG** was the 2015 recipient of the UCLA Serge and Yvette Dadone clinical teaching award at the David Geffen School of Medicine. **Charles R. CALLEROS** has completed his 34th year of teaching as a professor of law at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, where he teaches contracts, international contracts, and civil rights. He has published three books and more than 30 law journal articles, is a member of the American Law Institute, and has earned numerous awards for teaching and social justice. He and his wife Debbie once studied and performed flamenco dance. He still plays drums, now in an 11-piece soul band, the Repeat Offenders.

'78 Dan WARRICK is the author of a University of California Press book called *The Way to Make Wine*—one of the press's only how-to guides. The book includes advice and perspective from Environmental Studies Professor Daniel Press, executive director of the Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems. Warrick is also an alumnus of the UC Santa Cruz Science Communication Program.

'81 Amy Schrut CONTARDI continues to work as a Spanish and ESL teacher in the public schools and vineyards of Sonoma County. She also produces three radio programs on North Bay public radio stations KRCB and KBBF. She has lived in Sebastopol since 1991.

MERRILL COLLEGE

'90 David C. WOOD has been promoted to partner at law firm Perkins Coie. He is a member of Perkins Coie's Emerging

Companies & Venture Capital practice. He focuses his practice on the representation of emerging growth companies, venture funds, and other early stage investors. **Dan GLUESENKAMP** was recently appointed by Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency (and fellow alum) **John LAIRD** (Stevenson '72) to serve on the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee, where he will provide advice to state agencies on invasive species issues. Dan is executive director of the California Native Plant Society, living in Sacramento with his wife and first-grade daughter—who just volunteered at a Sacramento chapter UC Santa Cruz alumni event!

'91 Jennifer A. JORDAN is a sociology professor at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. Her book, *Edible Memory: The Lure of Heirloom Tomatoes and Other Forgotten Foods*, came out from the University of Chicago Press in April. The book was mentioned in the *New Yorker* in the "Briefly Noted" section: www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/05/11/briefly-noted-all-involved

'92 Ruth RABINOWITZ, a partner in Rabinowitz Family Farms, finds herself serving as the family's point person for managing 10 farms in six Iowa counties as well as one farm in South Dakota.

'95 Suree TOWFIGHNIA's new documentary explores the impact of uranium mining on the water, land, and people of the Great Plains. *Crying Earth Rise Up* is now on the festival and university circuit and will be broadcast on public television this year. Please reach out if you are interested in seeing the film.

'00 Melissa BARTHELEMY is a Ph.D. student in the Department of History at UC Santa Barbara. She is curator and project manager for a remembrance exhibit honoring the victims of the May 23, 2014, tragedy that occurred in the residential community by the UCSB campus, in which six UCSB students were killed and 14 other people were injured.

The exhibit was up from May 20–June 20 and had more than 1,100 visitors. The exhibit was so well received by the families and the larger community that the team has been asked to extend the duration of the exhibit.

'01 Wilson TAI is the lead actor in the film, *Will of the Sun* (2015), a documentary on a Bay Area crew of cyclists riding the longest and steepest paved road on Earth to the 10,000-foot summit of a volcano. In 2015, he established his company, Metrotuned, a creative agency empowering #localheroes with influential marketing in social media platforms.

'02 Nick LEVIN recently married Erica Garcia (UC Berkeley '06) in Los Angeles, where they reside. Nick works as an engineering manager for Netflix, building partnerships with movie studios and technology companies throughout the world.

'11 Jake D. PARENT recently published his first novel, *Only the Devil Tells the Truth*. The book is about a working-class teenager from San Jose who falls into addiction. It has been well received and highly praised in reviews.

PORTER COLLEGE

'70 Denzil VERARDO and **Jennie DENNIS Verardo** (Merrill '70) have been travelling the world since their retirement from public service. They also keep busy with their writing—they are co-authors of *The Sempervirens Story: A Century of Preserving the Redwoods* among others. Denzil is a commissioner on the California Senate Cost Control Commission.

'76 Laura DUFRESNE was named director of medieval studies as of fall 2015 at Winthrop University, Rock Hill, S.C. Her book *The Fifteenth-Century Illustrated Tradition of Christine de Pizan's The Book of the City of Ladies and The Treasure of the City of Ladies* was published by Mellen Press in 2012.

'77 Steve EMERY and **Kathleen LIPINSKI**, a married couple whose landscapes celebrate the natural beauty of Marin County, were chosen in January by the county Cultural Services Commission to be

honored with the 2014 Cultural Treasure Award. **Cynthia Anne HAAGENS** graduated from California State University, Northridge, with a bachelor in music degree and minor in creative writing in December 2013. Her second bachelor's degree included magna cum laude honors.

'91 Maureen O'LEARY Wanket's second novel *The Arrow (Children of Brigid Trilogy Book One)* was released in 2015 by Geminid Press. She has short stories in *Revolution John* and *Night Journal*, as well as Shade Mountain Press's anthology *The Female Complaint*. Her entry won the poetry prize in Heyday Books' Sacramento Valley Writing Contest and is slated for publication in a book about the Sacramento Valley next year.

'92 Michelle MACH's book, *Unexpected Findings: 50+ Clever Jewelry Designs Featuring Everyday Components*, was published by Interweave in late fall 2014. She sells her handmade jewelry online and in selected galleries.

'97 Jill (GRABOWSKI) Hogan is a graduate student in UC Irvine's Department of Criminology, Law and Society.

'01 Jacqueline DANZIGER-RUSSELL graduated from San José State University with a master's degree in library and information science. She previously achieved an M.A. in children's literature from Roehampton University, London (2005) and is the author of *Girls and Their Comics: Finding a Female Voice in Comic Book Narrative* (2012, The Scarecrow Press, Rowman & Littlefield). She is pleased to report that a copy of her book may be found in UC Santa Cruz's own McHenry Library.

'02 Nate COOPER worked in the Film & Digital Media Department until 2006, then moved to New York City, and most recently started a company and wrote his first book, *Build Your Own Website: A Comic Guide to HTML, CSS and WordPress*. The book has ranked consistently in the top 10 for Computers, Internet, and CSS categories on Amazon.com, peaking at No. 2 in each category. **Nicholas DOAN's** first graphic novel, *Monster*

Elementary, an all-ages comedy/adventure, was published in the spring of 2014 and won a gold medal in the 2015 Independent Publisher Book Awards for best "Graphic Novel/Drawn Book—Humor/Cartoon History (U.S.)." Nick shares this award with his wife, **Gwendolyn DREYER** (Porter '04), who served as editor and contributed the layout and design, as well as the eight artists who brought his written words to life.

KRESGE COLLEGE

'78 Joan E. DONOGHUE, who has served as a judge on the International Court of Justice since 2010, received this year's Thomas Jefferson Foundation Medal in Law. The Thomas Jefferson Foundation Medals, given in the fields of law, architecture, and leadership, are the University of Virginia's highest external honor.

Margaret REED starred in the Tony Award-winning play *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* in Cleveland and Rochester, N.Y., in April and May. She is best known for her roles as the kooky romantic Shannon O'Hara McKechnie on the long-running soap opera, *As the World Turns*, the furious ex-date Mary Contardi in "The Baby Shower" episode on *Seinfeld*, and the recurring role of tough lawyer Felicia Chatham on *Law and Order: SVU*.

'88 Eric RIDENOUR has been with SERA Architects of Portland, Ore., for the past decade, where he specializes in campus and community planning. He finds himself back in the Bay Area quite a bit these days, working with clients such as Stanford and Google.

'95 Robert SCHMITT was selected by the city council to be the city attorney of the City of Roseville, starting February 2015. The City of Roseville is approximately mid-way along I-80 between the cities of Sacramento and Auburn, and is a full-service city with four city-owned utilities.

OAKES COLLEGE

'84 Lizz HODGIN is still a music and theater freak. She is in her 20th year of being a licensed "Music Together" Center and in that time has served over 42,000

students throughout Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties. She and her son were honored as "2015 Family of the Year" by Special Parents Information Network (SPIN) for all of the volunteer work they do to support local families who have children with special needs. She performs in various musical and theatrical venues throughout Santa Cruz County and goes out dancing as often as possible.

COLLEGE EIGHT

'76 Henri/etta (FINGOLD) Bensussen has a chapbook of poems, *Earning Colors*, out from Finishing Line Press in KY. She serves on the board of the Mendocino Coast Writers Conference and manages its blog, blog.mcwc.org; is an active birder with Audubon; and devotes herself to writing, gardening, and walking by the ocean.

'83 Anne BIKLÉ moved to Seattle in 1991 and will soon publish her first book—*The Hidden Half of Nature: The Microbial Roots of Life and Health*. Events that began in the backyard when she and her husband broke ground for a garden launch them on a stay-at-home journey. They uncover startling parallels between the wild and alive world around the roots of plants and the human gut and make the case for microbial stewardship in agriculture and medicine—employing the mind of an ecologist, the instincts of a gardener, and the care of a doctor.

'84 Donna MEKIS is currently serving as the president of the UC Santa Cruz Alumni Association.

'86 Erica SCHAFER is happily practicing gentle chiropractic in Santa Cruz and trying to save the world one back at a time, or one sports injury at a time. Married to fellow Slug **Rex WALTERS** (Merrill '71), who is a busy business broker. She loved her entire UC Santa Cruz experience and is proud to be a Slug.

'87 Lawrence COATES has two books coming out this fall, his fourth and fifth. His fourth novel, *The Goodbye House*, is set in San José in 2003. His fifth book, a novella, won the Miami University Press novella contest.

His first book was a Barnes & Noble Discover selection, and he's won the Western States Book Award in fiction as well as received an NEA Fellowship in Fiction. He did a reading at UC Santa Cruz in 2004, and he hopes to do another this spring.

'91 Paul ALMEIDA is a sociology professor at UC Merced. His book, *Mobilizing Democracy: Globalization and Citizen Protest*, was selected for the 2015 Distinguished Scholarship Award from the Pacific Sociological Association.

'94 Usha SUNDARAM was admitted to medical school but decided to leave the medical

school track. She attended the UC Berkeley School of Public Health Genetic Counseling Program and worked as a genetic counselor for many years, but had a shift during her personal life and lost touch with her profession. She leaned against writing during this time and brought forward a series of writing collections of Old/New English poetry and essays in four published books. She founded the Akasha Spiritual Faith, a self-realization process. She sends her gratitude to UC Santa Cruz for offering its own freedoms that allowed her the ability to expand her thinking

and forge her own way.

'98 Carol Harper PHILLIPS worked for many years doing electronics for telescope instrumentation at LLNL, UC Observatories at both Lick and Keck Observatories, and in the UCSC shops. She also worked for NASA as a beta site observer for the Kepler planet search project on Mt. Hamilton. She is currently homesteading along the Klamath River in Siskiyou County and in the Santa Cruz Mountains, and enjoying horse and mule packing along the Pacific Crest Trail.

'05 Virginia JAMESON graduated in May 2014 with a dual master's degree in international affairs and natural resources and sustainable development from American University. She recently began work as the deputy state director for California at the American Farmland Trust. **Stacy FULLER** lives in Washington, D.C., and is in her second year of law school. She works as a research assistant and as a student attorney in the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic.

COLLEGE NINE

'92 Michael SWEET lives in Davis, Calif. He is a professor of biology at American River College. He takes his marine biology students all over the coast, including to Año Nuevo State Reserve, where he used to tag elephant seals on the island as a graduate student.

GRADUATE STUDIES

'83 Shannon M. BROWNLEE (College Eight '79) was featured in the ARCS Alumni Hall of Fame in their recent national newsletter. ARCS Foundation is a national organization of women committed to advancing science in America through raising funds for scholar awards. The Northern California Chapter supports UC Santa Cruz students.

'84 Jenelle (KAISER) Ball has been awarded the 2015 James Bryant Conant Award by the American Chemical Society as the outstanding high school (Chico High School, Chico, Calif.) chemistry teacher in the United States. She gave her award presentation at the ACS national

meeting in Denver in March.

'93 Lynet UTTAL journeyed from UC Santa Cruz via Memphis and ended up in Madison, Wisc., since 1998. She is a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and recently completed her M.S.W. in social work and is trying to become fluent in Spanish. She is doing community-based research and education with Latino immigrants and Tibetan refugees. She is still married to Dan Veroff and they have three sons, David (27, who lives in Santa Cruz), Eli (24), and Benji (21).

'99 Lochlann JAIN is an associate professor in Stanford's Anthropology Department, where she teaches medical and legal anthropology. Her latest book, *Malignant: How Cancer Becomes Us* (UC Press: 2013), received positive reviews, including in *Nature* and *Discover* magazines.

'12 Calvin MCMILLIN discovered, restored, and wrote the introduction for Frank Chin's previously lost novel, *The Confessions of a Number One Son*, which was published by the University of Hawai'i Press in March 2015.

IN MEMORIAM

'88 Stuart Wayne CULLEN (College Eight) passed away at home in Hillsboro, Ore., on Oct. 2, 2014. He was only 55 years old. He only had symptoms for one-and-a-half years before his death from congestive heart failure. He graduated with honors from UC Santa Cruz with a B.S. in computer engineering. He wanted to thank all his instructors for helping him attain his dream of being a computer engineer. His strong faith helped him through his illness. In the end, he would say, "See you on the other side."

'91 Juan R. PEREZ (Merrill) served with his wife Amanda Guzman-Perez as preceptors for Oakes College Biko House. He passed away on January 27 in Arcadia, Calif., after going into cardiac arrest. He was very loved and will be missed tremendously. To contact the family, please e-mail Amanda Guzman-Perez at agpjr@gmail.com.

Volunteer profile



Shelley Alingas
Porter '10

Residence:
San Francisco

Employment:
Digital communications
for the University of San Francisco

Why do you volunteer with UC Santa Cruz?

I volunteer because, like most of us, I have an inexplicable heart-connection to Santa Cruz. Choosing to go to UCSC was one of the best decisions of my life. Plus, I love connecting people. And Slugs are some of the best people in the world!

What types of things do you do as a Slug volunteer?

I plan and host fun and meaningful events in the Bay Area that all types of Slugs would enjoy. My pride and joy is our annual UCSC Day at the Oakland A's (let's go OAKLAND!).

What has been the most rewarding thing about volunteering with your alma mater?

Simply providing a space for Slugs to interact, converse, laugh, and learn with each other. I know it's been a successful day when alumni ask for more.

Words of advice for those thinking of volunteering with UC Santa Cruz?

Think about what drives you to volunteer and why you want to reconnect with UCSC. From academia to socializing to cultural history, so many of our events were sparked by alumni who expressed their strong interests. That's where our best ideas come from.

What's your best memory from your time at UC Santa Cruz?

Whether I was on Mainstage, the Barn Theater, or in Porter Dining Hall, my best memories happened while rehearsing and performing with my friends. That camaraderie and playfulness was very special.

For more on UC Santa Cruz alumni volunteer opportunities, visit alumni.ucsc.edu/volunteer.

alumneye

This alumni photo submission feature highlights and celebrates the experiences, travels, and artistic insights of UC Santa Cruz's diverse and fascinating alumni.



In May 1974, Dale “Eddie” Kinnamon (College Eight ‘87, biology) was driving north on U.S. Route 395, then turned northwest on California State Route 89 heading toward Lake Tahoe. “Even though I was in a hurry to find a place to camp,” he wrote, “I had to stop to try to capture this, the most spectacular sunset I have ever witnessed!”

We’ve selected this image for publication in this issue and included the story behind it. To learn more, and to view previous photos and honorable mentions, visit review.ucsc.edu. Send future submissions to review@ucsc.edu. See the rules and guidelines at review.ucsc.edu/submissions.html.

The University of California, in accordance with applicable federal and state law and university policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran, special disabled veteran, or other covered veteran. The university also prohibits sexual harassment. This nondiscrimination policy covers admissions, access, and treatment in university programs and activities. To view UCSC's Sex Offense Policy and Procedures for Reports of Sexual Assault(s) and Sexual Harassment, please contact the Title IX Coordinator/Sexual Harassment Officer, 831.459.2462, or go to www2.ucsc.edu/title9-sh. If you need disability-related accommodation to access information contained in this publication, please call 831.459.4008. To view current retention and enrollment information on the web, please visit planning.ucsc.edu/irps/. UCSC's annual security report may be viewed by contacting the UCSC Police Department or by accessing the following web site: ucsc.edu/about/crime-stats.

McHenry Legacy Lives On



UC Santa Cruz's founding chancellor Dean McHenry set the tone for the campus's remarkable combination of large research university sophistication and intimate residential colleges when it opened 50 years ago.

Dean McHenry and his wife Jane made arrangements for funds from their estate to support UC Santa Cruz, with gifts that will enhance the Colleges Endowment as well as support the Arboretum, Long Marine Lab, the Farm & Garden, and sports on campus.

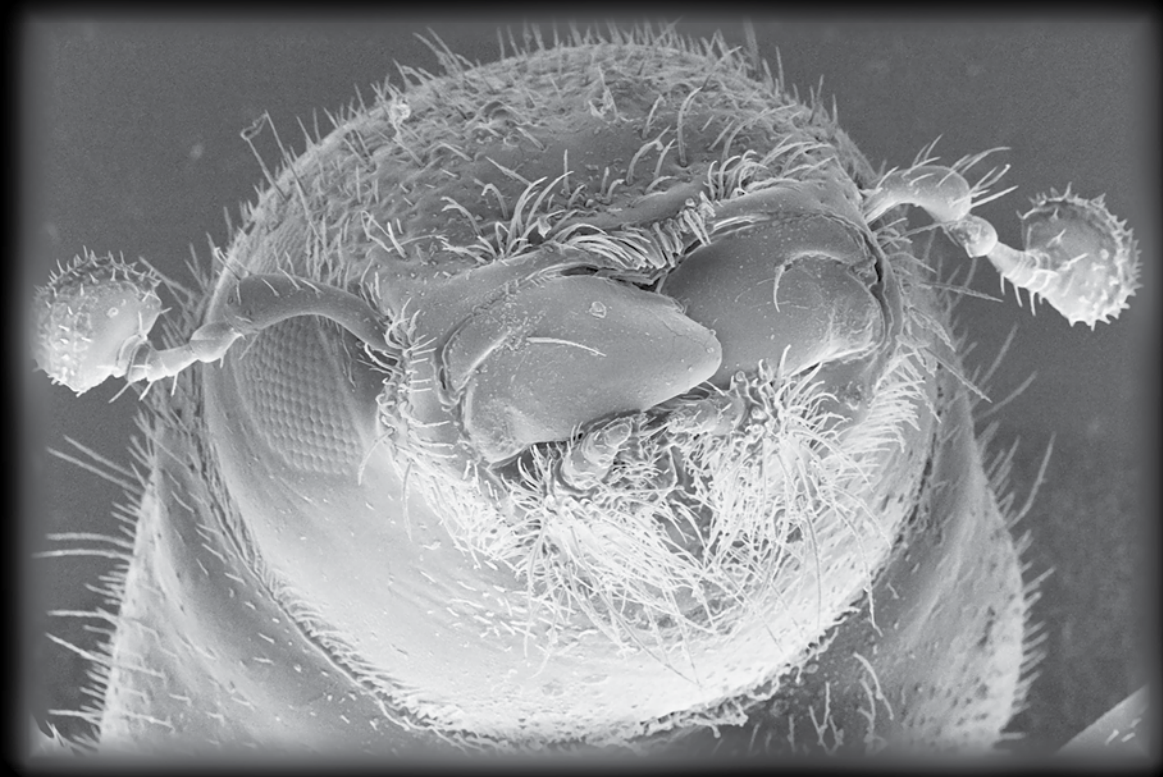
Your Legacy is Our Future.
If you have included UC Santa Cruz in your estate plan, please contact the Office of Planned Giving at (831) 502-7112 or gift.planning@ucsc.edu.

Dean E. McHenry, UC Santa Cruz's founding chancellor and a driving force behind the growth of California's multitiered system of public higher education, died in 1998 at 87; Jane McHenry, who, with her husband, personified UC Santa Cruz for a decade after the campus opened in 1965, died in 2013 at 101.

CELEBRATE
5 YEARS YOUNG



THE CAMPAIGN FOR UC SANTA CRUZ



Who says a music professor can't fight invasive species?

When a music professor from UC Santa Cruz started recording bioacoustic interactions between insects, he discovered that disrupting this interaction might save a tree from the ferocious appetite of the bark beetle—creating a new way to fight expanding insect populations, deforestation, and ultimately global climate change.

Breakthroughs come from a willingness to question

the status quo. And for 50 years, UC Santa Cruz has been blazing a trail of bold, progressive inquiry that benefits both the individual and the planet. No university in the world has research cited more often than ours.

Is it really possible that some of the world's most exciting inquiry is being conducted in a redwood forest on the campus of UC Santa Cruz? Go to [UCSC.edu/whosays](https://ucsc.edu/whosays) to see for yourself.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA CRUZ

THE ORIGINAL
AUTHORITY
ON QUESTIONING
AUTHORITY