FOR THE FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR AMONG COLLEGES OUR SIZE
Jenniphr Goodman ’84 Wins Third Annual Alumni Award

The Third Annual Distinguished Alumni Award was presented during Alumni Weekend on April 29 at the All Class Reunion Dinner. The award, the highest honor bestowed upon a graduate of Pitzer College, recognizes an alumna/us who has brought honor and distinction to the College through her or his outstanding achievements. This year, the College honored the creative energy of an alumna and her many achievements in film production. Jenniphr Goodman, a 1984 graduate of Pitzer, embodies the College's commitment to producing engaged, socially responsible, citizens of the world.

After four amazing years at Pitzer, Jenniphr received her B.A. in creative writing and film making in 1984. She returned to her hometown in Cleveland, Ohio, to teach art to preschool children after graduating.

She spent the next eight years earning her M.F.A. from New York University's Film School and graduated with an award as the best director in her class.

Jenniphr moved to Santa Fe after film school with Eric Pope (now her husband) so that he could earn his teaching credentials. They moved in with Eric's friend, Duncan, and spent many hours debating politics, the O.J. Simpson trial and the world in general. Jenniphr soon discovered that Duncan was a unique character, who became her inspiration for and co-writer of the film, The Tao of Steve, along with her sister, Greer Goodman. The film premiered with critical acclaim at the 2000 Sundance Film Festival and became one of the most successful independent films that year.

Jenniphr was named the sixth recipient of the Beverle Houston Memorial Award in 1993 at Pitzer College, to honor her many achievements in film production. Then in the spring of 1994, Jenniphr was the featured speaker at an Atherton Dinner at Pitzer. She is also a current member of the Pitzer College Board of Friends for the Arboretum and Grove House.

Jenniphr said she is thrilled to be named the 2006 Pitzer College Distinguished Alumna. Her life journey has been filled with joy and struggle and Jenniphr is grateful to Pitzer for nurturing her imagination and creative skills. Shethanks her Pitzer classmate and lifelong friend, Robin Wiener ’81, who also resides in Santa Fe, for nominating her for this incredible honor.

Jenniphr still lives in Santa Fe with her husband, Eric, and two daughters, Emerson and Sydney. She continues to write and has been working on another film script with her sister, Greer, for the past five years.
Welcome to all families and friends of Pitzer College and of course, to all of our 217 seniors. I would like to congratulate all the mothers and grandmothers with us today and I wish you all a happy Mother’s Day.

Forty-two years ago, the College held its first commencement in front of Sanborn Hall and bid a fond farewell to the class of ’65—a total of three students: Marlene Bates, Nicole Scheel and Katie Gibbs. The three women designed their graduation gowns and all our seniors today recognize the contributions of the first class by wearing graduation gowns in the same style and College colors.

Here with us on this special occasion is the Chair of the Pitzer College Board of Trustees, Gene Stein, and his wife Mindy, as well as other distinguished members of our Board. I would like to thank them for their generosity of service to the College.

Today we celebrate our Class of 2006 and I offer my sincerest congratulations to you all. Seniors, during your time at Pitzer College you have traveled the globe studying the world in all its beauty and conflict. You have taught young children to read in our Jumpstart program; participated in the local communities of Ontario and Pomona through our Center for California Cultural and Social Issues; engaged in the deliberations for the College’s master and strategic plans; helped design new residence halls that your children may live in one day as proud Pitzer students; triumphed in Sagehens athletics winning 12 SCIAC championships in baseball, men’s and women’s basketball, men’s cross country, women’s soccer, tennis, and water polo; celebrated four Kohoutek festivals—including the first alternative Kohoutek; and took part in action research projects studying sweatshops in Los Angeles, analyzing water quality in Costa Rica, organizing the Pomona Day Labor Center, and offering AIDS education in Botswana.

Our New Resources seniors have successfully managed the fine balance of work, school and family. You have been members of Student Senate and College Council and assisted in hiring the next generation of Pitzer College faculty. You leave behind beautiful cactus gardens that you designed and planted as well as murals and other forms of public art. And you participated in the inauguration of a new president and have mentored her patiently and kindly. I stand here today after four years at Pitzer College a senior with you.

Today we honor our students and our faculty, and the extraordinary work they have created together. We give our heartfelt thanks to our staff for their fine efforts and to all the facilities and maintenance people, the groundkeepers, custodial and food services staff who have worked together to provide us with this beautiful setting and reception.

Following philosophical principles established in 1963, Pitzer College maintains that education best begins with a conversation between a student and her professor, and that this exchange should continue long after the student becomes an alumna of the College. Pitzer has a clearly established identity within higher education, and we stand proudly among America’s great liberal arts colleges. In addition to their academic excellence, our graduates are known for their engagement with the critical issues that face our world.

The class of 2006 is exceptionally accomplished. Among our graduating seniors we have a Watson fellowship winner (one of only 50 awarded nationally) and this year a record 48 of our graduating seniors were nominated for Fulbright scholarships (nearly 25% of the senior class) and nine have already been awarded Fulbrights [the final count is 16, includes 3 alumnae] making Pitzer College No. 1 per capita for Fulbright Fellowships awarded to all colleges and universities in the United States.

Our graduates have plans to study at some of the world’s finest institutions—Columbia, USC, UCLA, Yale, Michigan and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. They will be embarking on careers in the arts, medicine, education, social work and finance. Among our graduates we also have a professional soccer goalkeeper for the China Super League. Class of 2006, this is a special moment in your lives, and today we celebrate your success.

President Laura Skandera Trombley
IN THE NEWS

“A glance at the summer issue of Internationalist: A debate on intellectual diversity”
Chronicle of Higher Education
June 15, 2006

In a review of the current issue of the journal Internationalist, the author summarizes the arguments of a Duke University Student and Pitzer’s Chuck Kralowec ‘06:

Kralowec argues against legislative intrusion into the academy. Certain curricula create a tendency toward certain political viewpoints, he says. English and philosophy departments, for instance, tend to lean left, he says, while economics departments tend to go rightward. Regardless, the “insidious ‘intellectual diversity’ solution is not the answer to these problems, from either a liberal or conservative perspective,” he writes. Moreover, he says it is very naïve to think there would be an unbiased way to enforce measures that promote intellectual diversity.

“Adequate Revolution”
Inside Higher Ed
(www.insidehighered.com)
June 14, 2006

A number of college presidents—along with foundation officials—gathered June 15 in New York City to talk about how the admissions process, particularly at competitive private colleges, might be changed. Among those participating were the presidents of Amherst, Barnard, Bates, Earlham, Grinnell, Pitzer, Reed, Swarthmore and Williams Colleges and Drew University.

Laura Skandera Trombley, president of Pitzer, says that moving away from the SAT reflects much more than just questioning the value of the test. (Pitzer is among the competitive liberal arts colleges that no longer requires it.)

“We have felt for some years that this was becoming far too numbers oriented, in terms not just of the emphasis on the SAT, but the ways in which colleges are interpreting and reporting back data to succeed with the various rankings,” she says. Moving away from the SAT is moving away from focusing on numbers, not students, she says. The numbers also make college admission seem like “a survival contest,” she says, rather than an educational process.

“Such Harsh Beauty”
Los Angeles Times
June 8, 2006

An article about landscaping with cacti and succulents was published in the Home and Garden section of the L.A. Times.

“Cacti are really growing in popularity,” says Joe Clements, director of the arboretum at Pitzer College in Claremont and former curator of the desert garden at the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino. “People have latched onto the idea that they look good all year round.” Pitzer has installed drought-tolerant landscaping around the campus, and the school’s president, Laura Skandera Trombley, recently ripped up an H2O-gulping lawn for a mix of local cacti and succulents.

Instead of overly linear gardening, “you want it to look natural,” advises Clements. “Nature is regular in an irregular way. Don’t do Chinese soldiers”—lining up cacti in rows like the terra-cotta warriors in the famed tomb in Xian, China. And also avoid the lone warrior syndrome, spreading the plants too sparsely.

The key, he says, is repetition of shapes and textures and making changes within that mix. For a starter kit, he suggests beginning with a cluster of five golden barrel cacti, larger is better—6 inches to a foot each—in a bed of rocks. Add some agaves for height and texture. For softness, bring in Nolina, a meadow-like bear grass, or desert spoon, a bushy blue-silver plant. Top things off with the rubbery leaves of several aloes.

“Pitzer College Creating Eco-friendly Residential Halls”
Inland Valley Daily Bulletin
April 15, 2006

The expansion of Pitzer College residence halls will be energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. Construction of seven new dormitories, which started in the second week of April, will follow U.S. Green Building Council standards.

The council promotes that construction projects use recycled materials and incorporate native plants into the surrounding landscape.

Since 2001, the college has studied the council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, and based dormitory architectural design on the program’s guidelines.

In doing so, the school is seeking a Gold certification for its residence halls, which is the second highest certification issued by the council.

For more Pitzer in the News items, visit the News Center at www.pitzer.edu

PAUL FAULSTICH, professor of Environmental Studies, appeared on CNN/Comcast, being interviewed about Pitzer’s Firestone Center for Restoration Ecology in Costa Rica. He was an invited speaker at the Fulbright Fellows Alumni Conference, Stanford University, in March with a talk titled *Down (Under) but Not Out*. Faulstich was voted Faculty Marshall at Commencement by this year’s graduating class.

JUDY GRABINER, Flora Sanborn Pitzer Professor of Mathematics, gave the invited talk, “Lagrange, Sufficient Reason, and Space,” at the Mathematical Association of America National Joint Meeting, in San Antonio, Texas, in January and at the UCLA History Department Colloquium in May.


TOM ILGEN, the Jones Foundation Professor of Political Studies, had his book on transatlantic relations published in April by Ashgate Press in the U.K. The book, *Hard Power, Soft Power and the Future of Transatlantic Relations*, is a collection of original essays about the future of U.S.-European relations that addresses security affairs, economic relations, domestic politics, and transatlantic values. Ilgen wrote the introduction and conclusion as well as an extended essay, “Atlantic Alliance and the Integration of Europe.” Contributors include: Joseph S. Nye (Harvard), Gregory Treverton (RAND), Benjamin J. Cohen (UC-Santa Barbara), Christopher Coker (London School of Economics and Political Science), S. Linn Williams (former U.S. ambassador for trade matters), Adam Sheingate (Johns Hopkins), Paulette Kurzer (Arizona State University), and Patrick Chamorel (Stanford). The volume’s origin was a conference held on the topic at the European Union Center of California in April 2004.

JESSE LERNER, associate professor of Media Studies, has been awarded a Fulbright-Garcia Robles fellowship for the 2006-07 academic year. The fellowship made possible with the support of the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board, the Council for International Exchange of Scholars and the U.S.-Mexico Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange, will enable him to research and teach at the Instituto de Investigaciones Estetica (Institute for Aesthetic Research, or IIE) at the National University (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, or UNAM), on their Ciudad Universitaria campus in Mexico City.

He will teach a course on the history and theory of documentary film and video and conduct research in a number of public and private archives in Mexico City. His research in Mexico looks at “Mayan modernism,” a strand within twentieth century painting, architecture and media arts that seeks affirmation for its radical aesthetics through references to ancient Mesoamerica.

Although individual practitioners from all over the world have participated in this regionally specific form of modernist primitivism, Mexico was always at its center, and Mexico City is the place where the majority of the archival materials are to be found. Lerner will also teach a graduate seminar on documentary video and film at the National University during his stay in Mexico.

“I’m delighted by the offer of this privileged opportunity to conduct archival research in Mexico City, research that will unquestionably enrich the text that I’m writing. The offer to teach at the Instituto de Investigaciones Estetica is just icing on the cake.” Lerner said.

Former Pitzer President, now Paris Artist

Marilyn Chapin Massey, who became Pitzer’s fourth president on July 1, 1992, and retired as president of Pitzer College on June 30, 2002, has been taking drawing classes from Philippe Henesal—beginning, advanced, and this year, urban landscape—for the past three years at Les Arts Decoratifs, an organization of four museums and three art schools in Paris.

“My school, Ateliers Du Carrousel, is in the Rohan wing of the Louvre,” she said. “The Louvre Museum itself has courses in art history and a few specialized practical art experiences, but no art school per se.”

“The exhibition of Ateliers de Carrousel ran two days, June 10-11,” she continued. “It is a biennial show of student work meant to promote the school. I never picked up a pencil or brush before I entered Philippe’s first class, but it was my dream to ‘see’ Paris through my own drawing if I could.”
JIM LEHMAN, professor of economics, will be presenting a paper at the Western Economic Association annual July meetings in San Diego. The session is “Measuring International Economic Interactions and Policies: Market Interactions,” and the paper is “Trade and Macroeconomic Interdependence.” Lehman will also be serving as a discussant in another session June 30, “China in the World Economy.” Additionally, Lehman has agreed to provide two entries for the Princeton University Press’ Princeton Encyclopedia of the World Economy (forthcoming), one on the “yield curve” and one on the “Federal Reserve Board.”


DAVID MOORE, professor of psychology, presented “Addition and Subtraction in Infancy: Sex Differences and the Role of Test Stimulus Familiarity,” and “Attention Control in Early Infancy: 2-, 3-, and 4-Month-Olds’ Ability to Inhibit Visual Attention to an Attractive Stimulus,” at the meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies in June in Kyoto, Japan.

GREG ORFALEA, director of the Pitzer College Writing Center, was asked to be one of three judges for the 2006 American PEN Award in Research Nonfiction. The other judges are a professor and award-winning writer teaching at Emory University, Tom Chaffin, and a former editor at the L.A. Times, Carla Lazareschi. Orfalea was recommended by columnist Patt Morrison.

RUDI VOLTI, professor of sociology, organized a session, “The Automobile and Public Transit in Southern California: Complement or Collision?” for the annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association. Volti also appeared on Comcast Local Edition / CNN Headlines during July. He discussed “the dispersed quality of Southern California ante dated the automobile, how the automobile reinforced that trend, and other factors that promoted the rapid and widespread adoption of the automobile.”

Professor Fought Makes the Rounds on National TV

Professor of Linguistics Carmen Fought appeared on NBC’s The Today Show on May 9 with Al Roker, Katie Couric, Matt Lauer and Ann Curry to talk about the use of the word “like.” On The Today Show, Professor Fought said the word “like,” as it is commonly used, functions as a discourse marker. “Well, we all need a little space to think sometimes about what we’re going to say, and this occurs in all languages—in Spanish they say ‘este,’ in French they use this weird ‘eu’ sound that I can’t even pronounce,” Fought said.

She also gave her point of view on English as the official language of the United States in an interview with anchor Gwen Ifill on PBS’ The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer on May 23. You may view the segments on Pitzer’s Web site at www.pitzer.edu.

Passing a law making English the official language of the United States does not teach one single person English. If they wanted to propose a bill to set aside huge sums of money to fund ESL programs all across the country, I would be strongly in favor of that and so would my linguistics colleagues.

—Professor Carmen Fought on PBS’ The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer
Students, Staff and Faculty Develop Teaching and Learning Center

The Pitzer College Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC)* consisting of faculty, students and staff was formed this past year to identify ways in which the college can support teaching and learning. The TLC engaged in a series of activities to identify the teaching and learning needs of the Pitzer community and also to examine the types of support and programming models that were available at other institutions.

On February 8-9, we held a two-day community event in which we invited Dr. Michael Reder, director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Connecticut College and chair of the Professional and Organizational Development Small College Committee, 5-C representatives, and additional teaching consultants to discuss teaching and learning programming at Pitzer. In his visit, Dr. Reder emphasized that a teaching and learning committee creates conversations about teaching and learning; helps support faculty at every stage of their careers; promotes diversity, interdisciplinarity, and excellence; makes the work of teaching a public activity; and does not require a dedicated physical space. Based on the feedback and insight gained from this community event, a subsequent faculty meeting, and an additional survey sent to faculty about specific programming interests, the TLC began its efforts by implementing a series of lunch discussions in the spring open to the Pitzer community.

Our first lunch discussion, Our Basic Aims as Teachers, was held March 22, and began with opening remarks by Professor Ron Rubin. In April, two additional lunch discussions were held: Encouraging Reflective Thinking, and a student-lead Discussion on Teaching and Learning at Pitzer. Given the participation and interest in these Pitzer-wide discussions, the TLC is planning to continue these lunches (as well as smaller, working group lunches) during the next academic year.

The TLC is also developing programming to introduce our six incoming new faculty to the Pitzer community that will include: a Fall orientation workshop to explore different models of effective teaching, advising, and mentoring; an ongoing year-long series of mini-workshops to address other teaching and learning issues as they arise; and linkages and opportunities for social gatherings with resource groups (faculty, staff and students who have expressed willingness and availability to respond to questions that new faculty members may have) for each of our incoming new faculty.

Other programming for the next academic year includes workshops for New Resources and transfer students, dinners to introduce students to the available majors at Pitzer, and opportunities to learn about creative student-teacher interactions among CIEL (Consortium for Innovative Environments in Learning) colleges, of which Pitzer is a member. In every case, efforts were made, and will continue to be made, to include all members of the Pitzer community in the various activities carried out by the TLC, with the ultimate goal of supporting teaching and learning at Pitzer College.

—Norma Rodriguez, professor of psychology

*TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Assistant Dean of Faculty Michael Ballagh, Annaka Blomfield '07, Carissa Clark '08, Lakshmi Eassey '07, Director of Information Technology Mark Ingalls, Professor Ethel Jorge, Monte Mueller '07, Professor Steve Naftilan, Professor Peter Nardi, Professor Norma Rodriguez, Professor Kate Rogers, Director of Career Services Karen Suarez and Professor Andre Wakefield.
Dan Bendett '06

Dan Bendett '06 has been awarded a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship by the White River Junction Rotary Club in Vermont for 2007-08. Bendett, a Pitzer Political Studies major, has a passionate interest in encouraging positive, peaceful and mutually beneficial relations between China and the U.S.

According to Bendett's academic adviser, Professor Nigel Boyle, "Dan is very self-reliant, quick-thinking and optimistic. Drop him on any street corner in the world and he would be interacting amiably with the locals within minutes."

An infectious personality with boundless enthusiasm and energy, Bendett was tenacious in his studies and enriched the classrooms in which he sat. He developed a strong interest in comparative and international politics during his sophomore year, especially in China. He continues to pursue this interest with language study and the study of East Asian history, politics and economics.

While at Pitzer, Bendett thrived on the Pitzer in China program, where he explored the culture and language through soccer.

Bendett will be a great ambassador for Pitzer College in China just as he was a great student-athlete here, serving as Pitzer-Pomona's soccer team's goalkeeper and captain during the 2005-06 academic year. Bendett was twice named an All-SCIAC Goalkeeper and all Western Coast Goalkeeper.

Sandra Gonzalez ’09

Sandra Gonzalez ’09 has been awarded a Kemper Scholarship. Gonzalez was also one of Pitzer's 12 students to be awarded a Núñez Scholarship (named in honor of Fabian Núñez, a 1997 graduate of Pitzer and Speaker of the California State Assembly).

Gonzalez is planning a concentration in economics while at Pitzer College. The scholarship will provide funding for the remainder of Gonzalez's education at Pitzer.

In the 2006-07 academic year, Gonzalez will serve as the Finance and Communications Coordinator for the Student Investment Committee (Event Coordinator, 2005-06); a Sponsor for Chicano Latino Student Affairs (CLSA); and serve on Student Senate.

In 2004, Pitzer College was selected by the James S. Kemper Foundation as one of 15 partner colleges in the Kemper Scholar Program. The Kemper Scholar Program, now in its fifty-seventh year, is one of the oldest programs of its kind. Colleges may participate only by invitation from the Foundation.

The mission of the James S. Kemper Foundation is to promote liberal arts education as an ideal preparation for life and work, especially in administration and business.

Nancy Castillo ’05

Nancy Castillo ’05, currently in Ecuador on a Fulbright grant, has been awarded a Coro fellowship for the 2006-07 academic year. Castillo will be in a Public Affairs program in Pittsburgh, Penn.

Her Fulbright in Ecuador focused on remittances, money sent by emigrants to their families in their home communities, which are an extremely valuable source of income to people in Latin America.

While at Pitzer, Castillo participated in Pitzer College's Summer Study in Japan program and the African Diaspora Studies program in Ghana.

Nancy's professional goals include economic development in Latin America and public policy or law in the U.S. with a focus on the Latino experience.
Jesse Rebert '03 has traveled to 17 countries on five continents and wants to see more of the world. As a Fulbright scholar to Venezuela in 2003-04, Rebert said that she made some great contacts with people in her field and found the networking a real asset to her future career.

Rebert, a sociology and art major while at Pitzer, will begin a Masters of Science program this fall at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, specializing in developing countries. Her plans include implementing preventative health programs in Latin America as a public health professional. She loves the Spanish language and knew she had mastered the language when she watched a television show, understanding it but not knowing if it was in English and Spanish. "I had to turn my TV back on make sure it was aired in Spanish," she said.

Rebert describes her Fulbright experience as adventurous, confidence producing and responsible for expanding her already large capacity for compassion.

"Everything came together during my Fulbright. My family's values, my Pitzer in Venezuela program and Pitzer's Costa Rica Health Program— all of which contribute to my desire to create positive change, even if only in one small part of the world," Rebert said.

During her Fulbright, she participated in a youth peer education program focusing on HIV/AIDS prevention, STDS and teenage pregnancy. Along with her peers, she published a book on these subjects that was distributed to public libraries in Venezuela.

"Following my Fulbright experience, I traveled to Guatemala and worked with health educators on 'Proyecto Payaso,' or Project Clown. A group of us dressed as clowns in colorful costumes to educate people in the rural parts of Guatemala on AIDS and the myriad myths associated with the disease," Rebert explained. Later, Rebert returned to Venezuela to introduce the program there.

Rebert enthusiastically talks about Professor Ann Stromberg: "She is always there for her students. She provided me with good advice and was very interested in public health. She is just a wonderful person."

What advice would she give to Pitzer's 16 Fulbright winners? "Be open-minded, flexible and take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way. Soak up the culture." She also adds, "People born in the United States are not aware of how great it is to carry a U.S. passport. It brings you a lot of freedom that people in other countries do not have available to them."

Rebert, a native of Hanover, Penn., served on the External Studies Committee and student government while at Pitzer. She also was a runner on the Pitzer-Pomona women's cross country team.

Jessie Rebert '03 plays her part with health educators in 'Proyecto Payaso,' or Project Clown. "A group of us dressed as clowns in colorful costumes to educate people in the rural parts of Guatemala on AIDS and the myriad myths associated with the disease," Rebert explained. Later, Rebert returned to Venezuela to introduce the program.
twenty-five years ago I walked into my Pitzer adviser's office (Ann Stromberg) and told her that I would not be able to continue attending Pitzer beyond my sophomore year, due to financial constraints. I had no idea at the time how sharing this sad news with my adviser would affect my life's course. Ann told me she had just received information about a scholarship that could provide me with the additional resources I needed and encouraged me to apply. I can say unequivocally that I would not have applied for or received the Truman Scholarship without the support I received from Ann and the Pitzer community.

Not only was I deeply honored to be selected as the Truman Scholar from the state of Washington, I was thrilled to be able to stay at Pitzer. I chose Pitzer because of its more alternative nature and the opportunities it gives its students to develop their educational path. Thanks to the Truman Scholarship and Pitzer's flexibility, I was able to create my own external studies program at the National University in Mexico City, as well as attend a Masters of Science in Experiential Education (University of Minnesota), the Truman Foundation supported me all the way. I received a call one Saturday from Louis Blair, former Executive Secretary of the Truman Foundation. In his thick southern drawl he asked me, “Sheli, how’s your school?” After I described my studies, Mr. Blair exclaimed “We’ve got plenty of Harvard law school graduates. What you’re doing is innovative, and that’s leadership and that’s what this scholarship is all about!” Though I did not take the conventional path, the Truman Foundation echoed the mandate I was given by Pitzer: “go forth and do it your way. We believe in you.”

This vote of confidence is powerful, and has a strong ripple affect. Through following my heart, with much support from Pitzer and the Truman Foundation (and my family), I’ve been able to discover and share what I’m passionate about with others. I bring to the youth at the Daly City GED Center my love of outdoor education (rock climbing, hiking, ropes courses, sailing), creative expression (workshops on “Finding Your Voice and Your Dreams”, mural project), meditation (guided relaxation/visualization for test anxiety and stress reduction), and an appreciation for lifelong learning within a supportive community. Having learned, through personal experience, that there definitely is funding out there to continue one's education, I applied for and received a grant to develop a program helping GED students transition into higher education. The majority of our graduates, most of them first-generation college students, are now going on to post-secondary education (with financial aid and scholarships)!

The graduate program I created through the Truman Scholarship helped me express myself in the world. Inspired by my practicum in expressive arts, I began writing songs, singing (after a 30-year hiatus!) and performing around the Bay area. More recently, I’ve been developing and performing a solo theatre piece about my experiences in Sri Lanka, which I’m happy to report has been very well received and supported. This is immensely satisfying and encouraging for me to continue following my dreams.

Looking back on how deeply my Pitzer experiences and the Truman Scholarship have affected my life, I feel very fortunate. I’m grateful to the Pitzer community and the Truman Foundation for their critical role in helping me understand, experientially, that opportunities to create one’s own unique pathway of education and public service are not only possible, but make for an incredibly enriching career.

Sheli Sameth ’83 resides in San Francisco. She will be performing an excerpt from her solo show at the Julia Morgan Theatre in Berkeley on July 25, 2006 and would love to see Pitzer alumni attend. For more information or to be in touch, contact Sheli at zs.sameth@yahoo.com or go to her Web site, www.zoeplanet.com.
Campus Beautification by Muralist Paul Botello

Paul Botello, the renowned muralist who painted the vivid murals in the Mead Hall courtyard, is working with students on a mural on the side of McConnell Hall, above Susan's Garden, which was dedicated in fall 2005 in honor of Susan Pritzker's years of service as chair of the Board of Trustees. Below: a detail shot shows the central portion of the mural.

Admission Numbers

The Pitzer College Office of Admission improved the rate of admittance to the College for yet another year. Pitzer received 3,437 applications, the largest number in College history. The admit rate dropped to the lowest ever at 37 percent. Twenty-one African Americans and 30 Latinos accepted offers of admission. Students of color make up 34 percent of those accepting the College's offer of admission. Nine percent of Pitzer's 2006 first-year class is African American as compared to 2 percent of UCLA's incoming class. Pitzer continues to successfully enroll a class of diverse students.

Admission officers visited 471 high schools across the country this year. In addition to the tremendous amount of outreach to find those students best suited for Pitzer's unique education, the College also hosted 51 students at the Diversity Open House program, the largest number of students of color to ever attend the event.

Pitzer expanded its On-Campus Days to two in the fall and two in the spring (admitted students only) due to the increase of students and their parents wanting to attend these events.

L.A. in the Age of AIDS

Public television station KCET featured "Visions of L.A. in the Age of AIDS" in the California Stories section of its Web site in conjunction with the Frontline series on the history of HIV/AIDS that ran for two weeks this spring. Two of the projects on the KCET site are from Pitzer faculty and students: "Video Remains" by Alex Juhasz at http://www.kcet.org/explore-ca/california-stories/age-of-aids/video-remains/ and "REACH LA Club Reel," by Tomas Aguilar '06, Mariel Rivera, and faculty adviser Gina Lamb at http://www.kcet.org/explore-ca/california-stories/age-of-aids/reach-la/
"Brilliant." That's what Professor Emerita of Sociology Ann Stromberg had to say about Professor Peter Nardi's presidential address at the annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association Conference (PSA). The association is the nation's oldest regional sociology society and is one of the two largest sociology associations with more than 1,200 members.

This year's annual meeting was held in Los Angeles at the Universal City Hilton, where Nardi delivered the address titled, "Sociology at Play, Or Truth in the Pleasant Disguise of Illusion." Stromberg also gave glowing reviews of the professionalism of the Pitzer students who presented their papers at the conference: Angela DiLaura '06, "Sex Education and Sexual Behavior in Students at the Claremont Colleges;" Corey O'Malley '06 and Isaac Speer '06, "Transcendent Motivation of the Islamic Revolution;" David Price '06, "A Skateboarder's Journey;" and Garett Staley '06, "Don't Fold Before the Miracle Happens: Poker Recovery and a Sense of Belonging."

Nardi served as president for the 2005-06 academic year. His primary responsibility was to organize the annual meeting and work with the executive director on other association matters. Prior to serving as president, Nardi served for four years as the editor of the PSA's journal, Sociological Perspectives.

Pitzer faculty Kathy Yep, Rudi Volti, and Jonathan Markovitz also presented scholarly papers in sessions, and Beth Jennings organized/chaired the session of student presentations. Other faculty attended the meetings and a number of the Pitzer sociology faculty worked closely with the students who presented their papers.

Attending the conference was Susan Price '70. "I was delighted to see that Pitzer continues to attract, retain, and produce students with creative minds, a professional approach, the desire to improve the world, and the ability to cogently and intelligently describe the importance of their education and experience. I was particularly delighted that my nephew was one of them...us," Price said.
The students who presented at the 2006 Pacific Sociological Association Conference reflect on how the opportunity to conduct independent research as an undergraduate added to their satisfaction with their Pitzer College educational experience:

Angela DiLaura '06

"Conducting independent research for my senior thesis allowed me to struggle with the process and succeed in producing results of which I'm proud. I feel more confident in my abilities and this project ignited my passion to continue on to graduate school to keep conducting research. Pitzer provided a great opportunity for me to create my own thesis, combining aspects of my human biology major and Gender/Feminist Studies major. The experience was exciting, challenging, and fascinating, and now I understand why researchers want to spend their whole lives doing this kind of work."

Corey O'Malley '06

"I've found Pitzer to be an extraordinarily supportive academic environment. I've been able to do interesting research in several of my classes, including the Social Movements class for which Isaac's and my paper was originally developed. The professors at Pitzer are genuinely interested in helping students develop their ideas and explore new ways of thinking, both inside and outside the classroom. I couldn't have done the presentation without their support, and I certainly wouldn't be going off to graduate school in sociology without their help and encouragement. Pitzer really does have an amazing faculty."

Garett Staley '06

"I feel completely prepared for graduate school. Professor Stromberg was an amazing qualitative teacher—very organized and she made us be organized. Qualitative was probably my favorite class; I saw sociology at work in real life and have now found a lifetime's worth of things I could do further study on.""

Isaac Speer '06

Pitzer College's excellent sociology faculty has prepared me to do research using a variety of methods and to conduct independent studies. The breadth of the Pitzer sociology curriculum was demonstrated by our panel at the PSA Conference; we had one student doing survey research, two students doing qualitative studies, and Corey and I presented our historical analysis of the Iranian Revolution. My sociology classes have provided me with several opportunities to engage in qualitative, quantitative, and historical research. Corey and I decided to use a joint paper we had written several years ago, but we each had several other research projects that we could have presented. I feel like my Sociology education at Pitzer has equipped me with the tools and inspiration to conduct independent research projects and to begin a career as an academic."

David Price '06

"Professors at Pitzer give you the opportunity to research a topic that you are truly interested in learning more about. They help students focus and guide them in the usage of various research methods. Beth Jennings was very supportive of my research, which will be instrumental in my future work."

O'Malley and Speer will be attending UCLA in the fall to pursue the Ph.D. program in sociology while Staley will attend USC for a Master’s in Social Work. DiLaura will spend the summer as an intern at a community clinic where she will analyze data and plan projects in the clinic’s financial division, which she said will prepare her well for a Master’s in Public Health.

-- Susan Andrews, vice president for marketing and public relations

Beverle Houston Memorial Award Reception

Irwin Swimoff '00 was honored as the 2006 recipient of the Beverle Houston Memorial Award on May 2 at the offices of Bruce Corwin in Los Angeles. Irwin is a “do-it-yourself” impresario, an emerging super-8 filmmaker, and the music director of KUSF, the radio station at the University of San Francisco. He has shown his film work at the San Francisco Cinematheque, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, and the Gallery of the San Francisco Arts Commission. Irwin’s work has a strong relationship with the handmade-film classes he took at Pitzer; more formally it retains a grassroots film sensibility. The evening included a screening in Corwin’s private screening room where some of Irwin’s work was shown as well as work by Tomas Aguilar ’06. The Beverle Houston Award is given to a faculty member who has an inspirational impact on students. This year, Angela DiLaura ’06, who is also a Pitzer alum, was honored for her work in the Media Studies Department and for her support of this event. The award was presented by Beverly Houston to Irwin Swimoff and Tomas Aguilar.
Pitzer’s Accreditation Process
A Commitment to Excellence

Every 10 years, Pitzer College comes up for accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Its goal is to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of an institution’s educational mission and capacity to provide excellence in student learning experiences.

Accreditation is a voluntary and non-governmental process that “aids institutions in developing and sustaining effective educational programs and assures the educational community, the general public, and other organizations that an accredited institution has met high standards of quality and effectiveness” (www.wascsenior.org/wasc/).

New schools and colleges must meet a rigorous set of criteria focused on student learning objectives, financial resources and organizational structures to support the educational goals, and a commitment to assessing educational outcomes.

For colleges already accredited, such as Pitzer, the process is a more proactive one designed by the institution under review. WASC reviews and validates the accreditation plan by focusing on two core commitments: Commitment to Institutional Capacity and Commitment to Educational Effectiveness. The institution should provide detailed evidence that it's an effective learning-centered campus and has the capacity to evaluate and sustain its educational programs.

The accreditation process occurs in three stages during a four-year span: (1) the Institutional Proposal, (2) the Capacity and Preparatory Review, and (3) the Educational Effectiveness Review. The proposal is the first step that Pitzer has just completed. It is a 15-page research design, a formal plan of action, and a framework for addressing the entire multi-stage accreditation review process. In this proposal, we select three key themes the College would like to study during the next few years. With input from students, faculty and staff, Pitzer is centering its review on three areas:

(1) Linking the Academic with Residential Life: As a residential liberal arts institution, the centerpiece of Pitzer College’s academic experience is integrating the physical elements of our campus with the programmatic dimensions of our unique educational objectives. We will investigate the Residential Life and Learning Project, and focus on the relationship between the new environmentally sensitive residence halls and the impact on student learning, retention, satisfaction with Pitzer, environmental awareness, community values and diversity.

(2) Comprehensive Reviews of Academic Programs: Pitzer proposes to create an ongoing assessment of this newly instituted process of periodic assessment by external reviewers of field groups and programs. The goal is to understand how well our programs are providing quality learning experiences for our students. We will evaluate how effective these external reviews are, how well field groups respond to them, and what impact they have had on the field groups and programs. It's an assessment of our assessment procedures!

(3) Connecting the Global and the Local: For almost two decades, the College has required that Pitzer students acquire a somewhat vaguely specified level of international and intercultural understanding. Our intention is to clarify and further develop the college’s approach to achieving international and intercultural understanding informed by an increased connection between global processes and local communities. This part of our WASC evaluation will involve evaluating programs that enhance students’ opportunities to engage in issues emerging from global and local connections and to act on those issues in meaningful ways.

Once our proposal is accepted by WASC this summer, we must then begin designing the evaluations, create a “culture of evidence” that seeks indicators supporting the specific outcomes we expect from these three areas, and provide visiting teams of WASC evaluators sufficient information to demonstrate our capacity to carry out these educational activities at a high level of quality.

In the fall of 2008, we complete the second phase of the accreditation process: the Capacity and Preparatory Review, a report presented to a visiting team of evaluators that documents the resources, fiscal stability, structures, processes, and policies of the institution that exist to carry out the institution's educational objectives as stated in the three themes of the Institutional Proposal. It assesses the institution’s preparedness to undertake the Educational Effectiveness Review that is scheduled 12 to 18 months later, possibly in the spring of 2010.

This third phase, the Educational Effectiveness Review, is a report that must demonstrate sustained engagement by the College on the extent to which the institution fulfills the educational objectives as outlined in the original Institutional Proposal’s three themes. It should present clear evidence of the collection, review, and use of data that assure the delivery of programs and learner accomplishments. A site visit by a team of evaluators will occur at this point and a recommendation will then be made to WASC for a 10 year reaccreditation.

To read the WASC Institutional Proposal and monitor the progress of the other phases, visit the College’s Institutional Research Web page, www.pitzer.edu/offices/institutional_research/, periodically beginning in the fall.

—Peter Nardi, professor of sociology and director of institutional research
Brevissimo, studenti! Of Pitzer’s record-breaking number of Fulbright winners this year, 87 percent participated in Study Abroad. All of our Watson, Coro, and Rotary award winners studied abroad. Goals regarding interdisciplinarity, study, intercultural understanding, diversity and equal access to study abroad opportunities can remain mere rhetoric elsewhere, but Pitzer has delivered.

Pitzer’s Study Abroad programs have provided wide access to powerful, cultural-immersion experiences. Nine awardees were on five Pitzer programs: four in Costa Rica (Sabrina Briggs ’02 and Michelle Swanson ’06), one in Italy (Alex Page ’06) and one in the Pitzer program in Turkey (Yvonne Hong ’05). Two were on a Pitzer exchange (Chris Burwick ’06 and Kathleen Brooks ’06 in Germany). One undertook an overseas research project with a Pitzer professor (Blair McGregor ’06 in China/Russia). Three were on non-Pitzer programs (Kate Sherwood ’06 in Spain, Raunene Rahatzad ’06 in Jordan and Traci Kutaka ’06 in England).

Altogether, of the 16 awardees, 11 had immersion/homestays, 13 studied a foreign language abroad, and 11 did an independent study or internship for credit. The winners also represent a diversity of students traditionally underrepresented in study abroad and in Fulbright competitions: students of color, non-traditionally aged (New Resources) students, science majors, recent alumni and males. Intercultural understanding and social responsibility in action!

Elise Carlson ’03, a Fulbright fellow to Turkey, is now a Foreign Affairs Officer in the State Department’s Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor covering nine Middle Eastern countries. In a recent e-mail to Study Abroad, she said, “I am convinced that I got my job almost solely on the basis of my experience in Pitzer in Turkey and my Fulbright project with the Kurdish people.”

—Carol Brandt, Vice President, International Programs

The Ecology Center at the Firestone Center for Restoration Ecology in Costa Rica opened in June.

Bamboo construction has been completed on two projects designed to showcase the use of bamboo as an innovative, sustainably produced building material at the Firestone Center for Restoration Ecology in Costa Rica. The teaching pavilion is an open-sided design by architect Darrel DeBoer of San Francisco in collaboration with master bamboo builder Martin Coto of Costa Rica. It occupies the ridge top, ocean-view site on the property. The project employed a large number of 10 meter (40 foot) bamboo poles grown and harvested on Pitzer’s property and was assembled by a group of U.S. and Costa Rican volunteers together with Pitzer’s Spring 2006 External Studies Semester in Costa Rica students and our full-time Firestone Center Reserve employees. The construction of an observation tower, designed by volunteer Jo Scheer, is pictured at left. It overlooks the banana grove, bamboo forest, and mountain range across the valley from our property.
ENGAGED WITH THE World

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), an international medical agency, has worked in Uganda since 1986 and assists, among others, the people in 19 camps who are displaced due to an armed conflict. Activities consist of the provision of medical care, nutritional support, counseling and provision of drinking water. There are more than 300,000 internally displaced persons living in the refugee camps. Some people have been displaced for upwards of 20 years. Sherri Stiles ‘87 contacted The Participant to share a typical day of her work with MSF. Given the magazine’s focus this issue on Pitzer graduates engaged with the world, the article was perfectly timed.
I'm rattling down the road near the camp for internally displaced persons (IDP) in Agoro, Uganda. I'm trying to think of how I can describe the situation here so that you can see the tragedy, but not feel pity. The people of northern Uganda are strong and resilient and not to be pitied, but rather admired for their courage. They have lived in a war zone for more than 20 years—a war zone unknown to many. Agoro is located approximately 20 miles from the Sudanese border. The green, hilly scenery is lovely and provides a stark contrast to the appalling circumstances in which the residents live. Huts are so close together that the roofs touch. The ground in the camp is dry right now, but it is the beginning of the rainy season and soon the gullies between the huts will become fetid streams. In some areas of the camp, 70-100 people must share one pit toilet. In other places, there are no latrines at all. The soil in Agoro is so poor that it is not uncommon for the latrines to collapse.

I am traveling to Agoro because I am the mental health officer in Uganda for Médecins Sans Frontières. Today, I am doing clinical supervision with Benard, the counselor stationed in Agoro. We first meet with a 14-year-old boy who was abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) several years ago. He spent years in the bush fighting for the LRA and in the past has talked to Benard about the horrific acts he was forced to commit. Luckily, he escaped. His parents are deceased and he lives with his aunt and uncle, both of whom are indifferent to his situation. He tells Benard that he is no longer having the nightmares that plagued him in the past months, but he says that his short-term memory is causing him difficulties. He says he is constantly in trouble at school and home because he can't remember things from one minute to the next. There are no other aid agencies operating in the camp, so Benard is his sole contact with mental health services. The boy agrees to return to see Benard in a few days.

In the afternoon, Benard and I make home visits. On our way out of the MSF office, we pass the Ministry of Health clinic, which is empty. Even when the poorly motivated staff comes to work, they must contend with chronic drug and supply shortages. One first stop is to visit a 16-year-old polio survivor. She is unable to walk or use her legs. She spends her days sitting on the ground outside of her hut. Benard thinks she is depressed. She would like to go to school, but has no way to get there. We meet with a few other people and attempt to check in on two HIV positive clients with whom Benard is working, but they are not home. Some of the IDP camps in Northern Uganda have an estimated HIV prevalence rate of 7-10 percent.

In the evening, the whole MSF team is back at the compound in the camp doing a pharmacy stock count. About 10 p.m. we hear several rounds of gunfire near the military barracks, not far from where we live. We wonder among ourselves if rebels have been spotted by the military or if, more likely, a drunken fighter is firing at civilians. In the morning we learn that our second guess was correct. Unfortunately, physical and sexual violence carried out by armed groups toward the residents of the camps is an all-too-frequent occurrence.

At the end of the week as we drive back to Kitgum town, I think about what it would be like to live in Agoro for years. Would I be able to rise above my circumstances? Would I be able to laugh with my neighbors and care for my children? Or would I collapse under the weight of what sometimes seems like a hopeless situation? I don't kid myself that I know the answer.

SHERRI STILES '87 is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed Social Worker from Austin, Texas. She has worked in East Africa for two years. She has been a counselor and administrator in psychiatric services, HIV, and adoption for 15 years. Her e-mail address is ssstiles@aol.com.
Brazilian Americans at Pitzer

Once I went to the U.S. post office in New Haven, Conn., to mail a package to Brazil. The address of my family in São Paulo was clearly written on the outside. The post office clerk looked at the package and said “Brazil? Where’s that?” Somewhat shocked, I said “South America.” “You’d better write that on the package,” he replied.

From the mad passion of Carnaval to the immensity of the dark Amazon, Brazil is a country of mystical proportions. Brazil is one of the largest countries in the world. With a population of 178 million, it is the fifth largest in the world, just slightly smaller than the continental U.S. Overall the Brazilian economy is the ninth largest in the world. Brazil has a per capita income of $8,020, about one-fifth the level of the United States, and suffers from enormous income inequality.

While historically a nation of immigrants, Brazil became a nation of emigrants about two decades ago, primarily for economic reasons. Large numbers of Brazilians started to come to the U.S. from the city of Governador Valadares and the state of Minas Gerais. But now large numbers also come from the states of Goias, Parana, and Santa Catarina. According to the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, approximately 1 million Brazilians now live in the United States. But partly because many of them are undocumented, the U.S. 2000 Census counted only 223,000 foreign born Brazilians and 44,000 of their native born children. Most Brazilians live in the states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Florida and California.

The majority of Brazilians are of mixed race. Brazilian notions of race, which differ significantly from American notions of race, are seriously challenged when Brazilians come to the U.S. Race is generally viewed as a spectrum in Brazil, but as a black/white duality in the U.S. Furthermore, Brazilians in the U.S. tend not to self-identify as Hispanic/Latino, and the U.S. Census does not officially classify them as Hispanic/Latino either. This is partly because they speak Portuguese in Brazil, and not Spanish.

As an immigrant community, Brazilian Americans feel an enormous love, or more accurately “saudade” for Brazil, which is most clearly on display when World Cup soccer games are being played. At the same time there does not appear to be much community participation or solidarity within the community, particularly when it comes to financial interests. There are complaints about Brazilians in the U.S. selling jobs to one another.

Here at Pitzer College we now have three Brazilians on our faculty, significantly over-representing their share of the U.S. population by a factor of 15. Leda Martins is an assistant professor of anthropology. She was born and raised in Boa Vista, the capital of the northern Brazilian state of Roraima. She did her undergraduate work at the University of Brasilia, and then came to the United States to do her graduate work at Cornell University. She joined the Pitzer faculty in 2004.

Kathryn Miller is a professor of art. She was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro. People from Rio are called Cariocas. After graduating from high school in Rio, she came to the United States to attend college at George Washington University. She joined the Pitzer faculty in 1993.

And I am a professor of economics, and have been at Pitzer since 1988. While I was born and mostly raised in the U.S., I carry a Brazilian passport because my Japanese family is from São Paulo. People from São Paulo are called Paulistas. There are, in fact, more Japanese in Brazil than in any other country outside of Japan.

Whenever we can, Leda, Kathryn and I like to go to Green Field, a Brazilian churrascaria in West Covina where you can eat endless amounts of Brazilian barbecue washed down by either caipirinhas or guarana. If you ever want to go, we would be happy for you to join us and talk with you about Brazil.

—Linus Yamane, professor of economics
Pitzer College achieved a record 16 Fulbright Fellowships for the 2006-07 academic year. Thirteen 2006 graduates and three alumnae have been awarded Fulbright grants to continue in their fields of study in either a teaching or research capacity. Pitzer College has exceeded last year’s Fulbright national record of nine 2005 graduates and one alumnus fellowship for schools of its size.

The 2006-07 Fulbright awardees include Bianca Barragan ’06 (South Korea); Veronica Briggs ’02 (Indonesia); Chris Burwick ’06 (Germany); Rainbow Chung ’06 (China); Yvonne Hong ’05 (Turkey); Patrick Leue ’06 (Venezuela); Alex Page ’06 (South Korea); Blair McGregor ’06 (South Korea); Kate Sherwood ’06 (Thailand); Raumene Rahatzad ’06 (Azerbaijan); Sabrina Dence ’06 (Panama); Michelle Swanson Lightfoot ’06 (Spain); Katrina Sitar ’06 (Moldova); Kathleen Brooks ’06 (Bosnia-Herzegovina); Traci Kutaka ’06 (South Korea); and Pauline J. Yao ’93 (China). Kathleen Brooks will be the first Fulbright representative ever to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

“Our Fulbright scholars reflect the global perspective of the College’s curriculum, the excellence of its study abroad programs and the high scholarship of its students,” Pitzer College President Laura Skandera Trombley said.

A few years ago, Pitzer College had just a handful of Fulbright Fellowship nominees, mostly Political Studies majors. Now the College nominates talented students from across the College—including those traditionally underrepresented in Fulbright competition: students of color; “non-traditional” age students; science students; recent alumni; and men.

Our Fulbright nominees this year included 10 Latinos, seven Asian Americans, one Native American and one African American. A further three students were of Middle Eastern origin and one of Romany. Of our 16 awardees three are Latina, five are Asian American, one is Iranian American and one is Romany American.

Several awardees were the first generation in their family to attend college. Two were non-traditional age New Resources students—Katrina Sitar and Blair McGregor (who came to Pitzer after serving in the U.S. Army).

Three awardees (Rainbow Chung, Sabrina Dence and Yvonne Hong) were science majors, two others (Veronica Briggs and Michelle Swanson Lightfoot) were pre-med.

The key to Pitzer students’ success in gaining Fulbright Fellowships has been widening access to high quality programming. The Costa Rica program provided access to science-oriented students (four of whom have won awards). Professor Melinda Herrold-Menzies’ summer research project in China and Russia provided the opportunity for a non-traditional student (Blair McGregor) to study abroad.

Most of the students were in Pitzer cultural immersion Study Abroad programs. These programs provide Pitzer students with great intellectual and personal depth and make them formidable candidates for postgraduate fellowships.

The flagship international educational program sponsored by the United States government, the Fulbright Program is designed to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the people of other countries.” With this goal, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 250,000 participants—chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential—with the opportunity to study and teach in each other’s countries, exchange ideas and develop joint solutions to address shared concerns.

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by former Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. Approximately 250,000 “Fulbrighters,” 94,000 from the United States and 155,600 from other countries, have participated in the program since its inception more than 50 years ago. The Fulbright Program awards approximately 4,500 new grants annually.

Fulbright alumni include Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners, governors and senators, ambassadors and artists, prime ministers and heads of state, professors and scientists, Supreme Court justices and CEOs.
Michelle Swanson Lightfoot has acquired fluency in Spanish as a second language and Nepali as a third. This has taught her the requisites and rewards of language acquisition that she will employ as a Fulbright scholar to Spain.

"More than just learning new vocabulary, language acquisition taught me new ways to express myself, opened my mind and influenced my interpretations as I discovered new ways to understand and be understood," she explained.

Swanson Lightfoot completed an internship in Loma Fria, Nicaragua, where she worked on a women's coffee cooperative simultaneously leading and/or co-teaching Spanish grammar and math to several women from the community.

Swanson Lightfoot faced new challenges while working for Pitzer's Center for California Cultural and Social Issues. She worked on the Prison Literacy Program, another non-traditional teaching environment.

Swanson Lightfoot participated in the Pitzer in Darjeeling program. She also studied in Costa Rica.
Raumene Rahatzad graduated on Sunday and received the wonderful news on the following Tuesday that he was awarded a Fulbright to Azerbaijan, a country in Southwest Asia. He will research religion as it affects Azerbaijan’s national identity. Azerbaijan’s literal translation is “the land of eternal flames” and is a country with deep Zoroastrian roots, a majority Muslim population, and a country in search of its identity since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Rahatzad will complete a four-month training program of intensive Azeri to assist in his field work, and will complete Azeri language courses at Western University in Baku. His research will focus on documented observations and interviews with locals in Baku.

An active student leader at Pitzer, Rahatzad was the founder and president of the Iranian Students Association of the Claremont Colleges; and was founder and co-president of the student organization Justice for Israel and Palestine from spring 2004 through spring 2006.

During his junior year at Pitzer, he studied abroad in Amman, Jordan, researching how westernization has affected traditional notions of Arab beauty as expressed in classic literature and poetry. He graduated with honors in International/Intercultural Studies with a focus on the Middle East.

Bianca Barragan did not think she had the level of patience, flexibility and creativity required to teach after her first teacher assistantship one summer. “I am an easy-going person, but after a week of breaking up fights, wiping tearful eyes, and answering the complaints and questions of very curious parents, I was ready to quit.” Barragan explained.

Barragan, an English and World Literature major with a minor in Spanish, always thought she would be a writer. Her calling began to shift during her second summer as a teaching assistant and was later reinforced after teaching came into her life again during a Fulbright in Ecuador program.

“I like Pitzer and felt instantly wanted to distance myself because I grew up in a nearby town. I like the small classes and believe this lends itself to excellent class discussions, because the teachers respect each other’s opinions,” Barragan said. She considers Laura Harris and Marina Perez de Mendola highly inspirational and supportive professors.

Barragan still likes to read and is navigating her way through the works of Dorothy Parker. She would like to teach high school American literature when she returns.
Pauline J. Yao '93, who had a combined major of Chinese language and art history at Pitzer, has received a Fulbright fellowship to study contemporary art in China in 2006-07. Yao’s studies will be an extension of her specialization in modern and contemporary art during her graduate studies and in her career. Yao earned her M.A. in East Asian languages and civilizations at University of Chicago, specializing in twentieth century visual culture in China. After graduate school, she was an art collections manager for the Wujuzhai collection of Chinese painting in San Francisco, a curatorial assistant in Chinese art at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, an adjunct faculty member at the California College of Fine Arts in San Francisco, and assistant curator of Chinese art at the Asian Art Museum.

Pitzer professors Carl Hertel and Judy Grabiner made a lasting impression on her, Yao said. So, too, did the year she spent abroad in Beijing.

“I am most looking forward to spending another extended period of time in China,” Yao said of her Fulbright opportunity. “I want to polish my language skills and spend time with private collectors of art in China. Private collections are a relatively new development in China.”

Yao’s Fulbright is Pitzer’s second to China.

Sabrina Dence will be conducting research on the small island of Isla Colon in Bocas Del Toro, Panama, as a Fulbright Scholar. She will be studying primate research methods and conducting primate ecotourism research at a local field school.

“I intend on teaching the knowledge to the people who can make the best use of this information, the Panamanian children and adults. By teaching the people about their impact on the environment, I hope they can develop a stronger appreciation of their ecosystem, thereby promoting conservation,” Dence said.

Dence has received an invitation of acceptance to the Institute for Tropical Ecology and Conservation (ITEC) at Isla Colon, in Bocas Del Toro, Panama, a non-profit education, research and conservation corporation that offers field ecology courses to undergraduate and graduate students. Her studies at the Institute cover multiple aspects of the environment in Panama, from the canopy of the tropical rainforest to the coral reefs.

“Studying primate ecotourism in Panama will make me a well-rounded researcher and help me achieve my long-term goal of acquiring a Master’s in Zoology,” according to Dence.

Dence participated in Pitzer’s summer health program in Costa Rica.
BLAIR MCGREGOR ’06
SOUTH KOREA

Blair McGregor is not your typical college student. After spending four years in the military, he took five classes per semester and worked full time to put himself through Pitzer. Teaching English in South Korea is a just reward for all of his hard work.

McGregor chose Korea because it was a country that he had visited briefly in the military and wished to learn more about.

Last summer, McGregor traveled to China and Russia with Professor of Environmental Studies Melinda Herrold-Menzies. While in Russia, McGregor spent time working at an English Language Immersion camp in Muraviovka Park.

“I still correspond with some of my students from when I was teaching in Russia,” McGregor said. “Professor Herrold-Menzies has greatly influenced my time at Pitzer. She is a tremendous resource for advice.”

McGregor majored in International/Intercultural Studies with an emphasis on Asia. He plans to pursue a law degree focusing on international law after his time in Korea.

“I grew up in Arizona, but I completed my last years of high school here in Claremont,” McGregor explained. “When my father was alive, he wanted me to attend one of the Claremont Colleges. I knew Pitzer would make me a better person because of the kind of college it is. And it has.”

KATRINA SITAR ’06
PITZER’S FIRST FULBRIGHT TO MOLDOVA

To most Americans, little is known about the Republic of Moldova, which was part of the USSR until 1991. Historically, the Roma people in Moldova have been a persecuted minority and the poorest population in all of Europe.

Katrina Sitar will study contemporary visual representations of Roma as a form of identity construction.

“Romani identity in the region became closely associated with their status as slaves between the 14th and 19th centuries. From 19th century posters advertising Roma slave auctions to the Third Reich’s use of photography in eugenic studies, images of Roma have functioned as evidence of their ‘otherness,’” Sitar explained.

Sitar said she plans to use insights gained from her Fulbright experience in her future academic studies in art history in which she hopes to contribute to the inclusion of Roma in the existing art history discourse on ethnic identity.

Sitar was a New Resources student at Pitzer College. The New Resources program was established in 1974 to bring the Pitzer experience to students of non-traditional college age. The program was founded with the conviction that a truly diverse campus is one eager to encounter the added dimension brought by students of a range of ages as well as backgrounds and interests.
Yvonne Hong devoted most of her undergraduate years studying smoking-related disease and will continue her pursuit in Turkey fulfilling her proposed study of research:

"Kicking the Butt: Anti-Smoking Initiatives and Cultural Perceptions in Turkey."

Why will she research smoking-reduction initiatives with women and women professionals in Turkey? Hong said, "Women are at a pivotal moment in Turkey's smoking culture and I intend to research women's responses to anti-smoking initiatives in a society where both smoking and gender play a significant role in daily life."

According to Hong, the importance of studying this issue is to use the information collected to create more effective anti-tobacco programs to stop the increase of female smokers in Turkey.

Hong studied abroad in the Pitzer in Turkey program and the Pitzer Summer Health Program in Costa Rica, and worked in the Admission Office.

"My long-term career plan is to get my masters in public health with a focus on epidemiology. Pitzer professors that have inspired/influenced/helped me in my time of need include Ann Stromberg, David Sadava, and Nigel Boyle," Hong said.
"I am so stoked to get the Fulbright," Kate Sherwood said. "Stoked is such an overused word, but it is truly how I feel!"

Sherwood, who will be completing her teaching assistantship in Thailand, wasn't sure about making the commitment to apply for the Fulbright. An active member of the 5-College improvisational group Without A Box, a leader of the Pitzer Outdoor Adventure Club, and an avid worker in Pitzer's Arboretum, she already had a full plate. However, Sherwood was won over by the enthusiasm of two of her professors, Carol Brandt and Nigel Boyle.

"I welcomed the opportunity to reflect further on my experiences studying abroad in the fall of 2004 in Spain in my classes with them," Sherwood explained.

An art history major and nearly fluent in Spanish, Sherwood first thought she would visit a Spanish speaking country for her Fulbright. However, as she did more research on her options, Thailand caught her attention.

"I decided that I should go somewhere very different that I might not normally get to visit. The culture, food, language-everything is so different there," Sherwood said.

Reflecting on her time at Pitzer, Sherwood noted that she has most enjoyed developing close relationships with the faculty and staff.

"All of my friends who go to UCs are shocked that I can walk through campus and say hello to professors. It's great," Sherwood said.

Alex Page is excited to have the opportunity to spend a year teaching children in South Korea. Page, an English and World Literature major, is interested in ceramics and mixed media as well as Environmental Studies. While at Pitzer, he taught outdoor education to fifth- and sixth-graders as part of Pitzer's LEEP (Leadership in Environmental Education Partnership) program.

Page has spent his summers as a camp counselor on an organic farm where he served as the assistant camp director for about 100 children ranging in age from 8 to 16.

"Pitzer was a great environment for me. I could not have asked for anything else from the College," Page said. He credits Al Wachtel, Jill Benton, David Furman, Nigel Boyle and Carol Brandt as particularly inspirational and supportive faculty while at Pitzer.

His campus activities include serving as the president of the Social Activities Committee, coordinating the Bob Marley Festival, and participating in the Pitzer Outdoor Adventure group. He participated in the Pitzer in Italy program during his junior year at Pitzer. His sister, Juliette, graduated from Pitzer College in 1996.

Page is a bass guitarist and has played in the student band Erica and the Dream Fight for the past four years.
Over coffee at the Grove House with Professor Nigel Boyle during a visit back to her alma mater, Veronica Briggs made the determination to submit a Fulbright proposal to fulfill her desire to increase "Cross Cultural Dialogue and Mutual Understanding."

Briggs' participation in the Pitzer in Nepal program inspired her interest in teaching: "From the moment I finished handing the alphabet on the wall, I understood the importance of education. I had spent the day drawing 'rungichung' ABC's, and the kids at the orphanage were responding with energetic awe at the colorful additions to our home," the 2002 graduate said.

Enthusiastic about building upon these and other Pitzer opportunities, Briggs said that she relished the chance to work as a teacher again while a student at Pitzer.

"During my senior year, I traveled to numerous Los Angeles schools to give interactive presentations about Nepal and my experiences while a student there," she explained.

Briggs graduated with a combined major in anthropology and Environmental Studies from Pitzer College. Following completion of her Fulbright, she plans to pursue a Masters in Public Health with an academic and career focus on international health policy and administration.
Patrick Leue originally applied for a Fulbright to Uruguay. However, when the institution decided to award him the fellowship to Venezuela instead, he was equally thrilled. "I've actually been studying a lot about Venezuela this year," Leue explained. "I think it is probably the most fascinating country in South America in terms of politics."

Leue became interested in teaching while in middle school when he tutored kindergartners in literacy acquisition. He said he believes that his most rewarding and challenging teaching experiences occurred during Professor of the History of Ideas Barry Sanders' "Teaching in the Prisons" program at Pitzer. The program used education as a primary vessel to facilitate social change and involved Pitzer students teaching prison inmates.

"Barry has been the most influential professor for me in terms of ideology and how education works," Leue said. "Also, Professors of Spanish Ethel Jorge and Martha Barcenas helped me so much in learning the language, and became dear friends to me."

A double major in psychology and International/Intercultural Studies, Leue said he would like to continue teaching internationally after he completes his assistantship.

"I am sad to leave all the amazing people at Pitzer," Leue said. "But I really do feel that I have gotten everything I could have out of my time here at Pitzer."

A native of Hawaii and a psychology major at Pitzer, Traci Kutaka said she views learning about other cultures as a precious cycle of reciprocity. "I hope to enter Korea not only as a teacher, but as a student of my peers, of my pupils, of my host family, and of a culture that has much to offer the world," she said.

Kutaka explained that the opportunity to experience and learn about other cultures has fueled her passion for teaching art history, poetry and analytical writing. During her time at Pitzer, she completed an internship program in London where she worked with children with multiple learning disabilities and/or autism spectrum disorder.

Pitzer College and Southern California introduced Kutaka to a large Spanish speaking population. She found that reading books to her assigned ESL student in the Jumpstart Program bridged the gap between cultural and linguistic worlds.

In South Korea as an art history enthusiast and teacher, Kutaka will use her non-teaching time to conduct a research project on the revitalization of traditional Korean painting styles. Her passion for the painting of Song Soo-Ryan, whose work reflects Lao Tzu's Taoist philosophy, has inspired her artistic direction since observing her exhibition at the Los Angeles Korean Cultural Center.
With concrete trucks pouring into the construction site, the “footprint” for Pitzer’s new Residential Life Project has begun to take shape—outlining the shapes of the College’s three new residence halls. If this were an archaeological dig, students in one of Professor Sheryl Miller’s courses would have a field day deciphering what the shapes and orientations of the walls really mean about Pitzer daily life and culture.

The summer has arrived with construction still on time and on budget, and with anticipation for the Project continuing to build among students, parents, faculty and staff.

“The Residential Life Project epitomizes Pitzer’s core values—integrating living and learning in a holistic experience for each student” remarked President Trombley recently. “In the same way that the liberal arts connect ideas, the Residential Life Project will connect people and their experiences through landscape and architecture. The Project and the campus’ new master plan will deepen these connections for generations to come.”

**Construction as a Spectator Sport?**

Pitzer’s construction webcam has been a popular destination for Pitzer people surfing the internet. For anyone who played with blocks, Lego blocks or maybe an erector set as a kid, the webcam offers an opportunity to vicariously experience the excitement of the construction process—allowing members of the Pitzer community to become “armchair” builders. When you visit the webcam, you may also check out recent updates to the Residential Life Project Web site at www.pitzer.edu/rlp.

**Brick Campaign Launched in Style**

The much anticipated Brick Campaign was launched at Alumni Weekend this spring, garnering more than $6,000 as a result of the reunion weekend. President Trombley and her son, Sparkey, were first to purchase a brick using the on-line form available at www.pitzer.edu/rlp. Sparkey took advantage of the opportunity to make a strong statement about how his entire family feels about Pitzer College.

Pitzer would like to encourage everyone to make a gift, and also to consider making group gifts to honor a favorite professor, to recognize the achievement of a sports team, or simply to honor your special cohort of friends. The Brick Campaign offers a wonderful opportunity, particularly with the larger bricks at the Artisan, Mason and Master Building levels, to use the brick inscription to craft a message with special meaning.

**Fundraising Progress Reaches 79 Percent of Goal**

Fundraising has continued to make strong progress with $14.2 million received in cash or pledge commitments. That puts Pitzer more than 79 percent of the way toward its fundraising goal of $18 million for the Residential Life Project. Our three lead gifts from the Pitzer, Pritzker and Gold families and strong support from our generous Board of Trustees has brought us to this remarkable level of achievement. During the coming year, everyone in the Pitzer community will be offered opportunities to get involved with this exciting effort—by buying a brick, supporting a study room, or help with a bench or niche. Everyone’s help will be needed to complete our fundraising goal on-time, and everyone will be invited to participate in the dedication ceremony in the summer of 2007—the first Pitzer sleepover for alumni is being planned in our new residence halls. Please plan to join us!

—Richard Chute ’84, director of Capital Projects
The Pitzer Parents Association would like to extend a warm welcome to the students, parents, and family members of the class of 2010. Congratulations to your sons and daughters who are part of the most selective class of Pitzer students in the college's history. We look forward to welcoming you and your student to campus.

As parents and family members of an incoming Pitzer student, you are the newest members of the Pitzer community. Beginning with Welcome Receptions this summer you will be invited to events throughout the year, receive monthly newsletters and be kept abreast of happenings at Pitzer College. Please see the calendar on this page for important dates and visit www.pitzer.edu/new_parents for helpful information.

We would also like to congratulate parents of graduating seniors. Your sons and daughters are among the most accomplished senior class to ever graduate from Pitzer. Among their remarkable accomplishments are a record number of Fulbright Scholars, a Truman Scholar, Watson Fellow, a Coro Fellow, and a Rotary ambassador, among other awards. Your sons and daughters are extraordinary people and we look forward to their many future achievements as alumni.

Thank you to all the parents and family members who have stayed engaged with the college this year by reading The Participant, the monthly newsletter, attending Parent and Family events, and contributing to the annual Silent Auction as well as the Parents Fund. Once again we enjoyed record attendance at Parent Orientation and the annual Family Weekend and Silent Auction. Pitzer is an outstanding College thanks to your support and involvement. Please plan to join us on campus this year and let us know if there are additional ways we can help keep you connected to Pitzer College.

For more information on parent involvement at Pitzer, please visit www.pitzer.edu/parents. You may also e-mail or call Catherine Okereke, Assistant Director of Parent Relations, at catherine_okereke@pitzer.edu or (909) 621-8130.

Pitzer College
WELCOME RECEPTIONS

Welcome Receptions provide an opportunity for you and your Pitzer student to meet incoming and current students, fellow Pitzer parents and alumni living in your area. Whether you are the parent of a first year, sophomore, junior or senior we hope you will plan to join us. This is a wonderful setting for new parents and students, as well as returning parents and students to get together with fellow Pitzer folks in your neighborhood. Welcome Receptions also create the chance to meet with Pitzer staff prior to Welcome Week to address any questions or concerns.

The tentative reception dates and locations are listed here. Printed invitations will be sent out in the coming weeks with confirmed times and locations for all of the Welcome Receptions.
SPRING ROUNDUP

BASEBALL
The Sagehens rounded out their season with wins against CMS and Occidental. The young team showed potential as they defeated Cal Lutheran and had a three-game sweep against La Verne. The Hens finished fifth in SCIAC.

SOFTBALL
The Sagehens finished fifth in SCIAC with an overall record of 11-23. The team enjoyed success this season by beating Cal Lutheran for the first time in Pomona-Pitzer softball history and swept games against Colorado College, Menlo and Occidental. Pitzer's Leanna Guillermo '07 was awarded Team MVP, the Golden Glove, and Rookie of the Year.

MEN'S TENNIS
After winning their last two SCIAC matches, the Hens competed in the post-season tournament at Ojai April 29-May 1. Following his fifth place finish in conference, Neil Patel '07 lost in the first round in singles and lost his first round match in doubles at the tournament.

WOMEN'S TENNIS
Completing a successful SCIAC season in second place, the women's team competed at the Ojai tournament April 29-May 1. Pitzer's Jessica Kaswick '09 and Pomona's Rebecca Lange '09 lost in the quarter-finals doubles match to the eventual tournament winners from Fresno Pacific University.

WATER POLO
Posting wins against Cal Tech and Redlands, the Hens finished second in SCIAC. The players were disappointed with the SCIAC finish, as they said they thought they could have played much better. The Hens were the No. 1 seeded team going into the Division III National tournament held at the University of Redlands, May 5-7, and finished the tournament in third place. Pitzer's Lara Kruska '06 received first-team all conference honors, while Noelle Heise '07 and Sarah Sinclair '08 received honorable mentions.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD
The Sagehens men finished third while the women finished sixth at the SCIAC Championship meet at the University of Redlands. Pitzer's Maddie Kieselhorst '09 scored points for the team in her first championships, finishing sixth in the 400 with a time of 61.34. Pitzer sophomore Alec Lentz competed in four events, including the 400, 200, 4 x 100 relay and he ran the lead leg for the 4 x 400.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S RUGBY (CLUB)
The Claremont Colleges men's and women's rugby teams competed in USA Rugby's Collegiate Championship Tournament in Sanford, Fla., April 22-23. The men's team upset Wisconsin-Milwaukee 35-23 on April 22, qualifying for the final four the next day. Though they lost to last year's champion, Northern Colorado, Head Coach Wally Cox said the team "played phenomenally," finishing in third place. Pitzer senior and team captain Ryan Altick scored five times for the team. The women's team lost on April 22 to Plumas State, but came back to win their consolation game against University of Georgia the next day, tying for fifth place.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL (CLUB)
The Pomona-Pitzer Volleyball team was the Division II, Silver Division Champion at Nationals. This was the team's second trip to nationals in as many years. The men finished ninth in the nation in 2005. Demolishing CMS was a highlight this year for the team and the Hens played well against Division 1 teams, such as UCLA and USC.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
The women's team finished 21st in the country out of 173 teams. The team went 5-5 for the season and made it to the playoffs for the first time as a Division I team and twice defeated athletic powerhouse USC.
Pitzer student-athletes gathered April 29 to celebrate this year’s accomplishments with the annual sports dinner and awards ceremony. David Knowles '07 (basketball) received the Daley Athletic Achievement award; Jonathan Tigeri '06 (volleyball) received the Judi and Frank Fenton Athletic Leadership award; Katie Lindberg '06 (swimming) received the Most Outstanding Female Student Athlete of the Year award; and Dan Bendett '06 (soccer) received the Most Outstanding Male Athlete of the Year award.

Featured speaker Gregg Silver '90 (baseball, track) encouraged students to invest in their experiences as a student-athlete at Pitzer. He reminded them to be cognizant of the bonds created through the sports program as they go beyond the game and graduation. Finally, he prompted students to take advantage of their relationships with professors and touted President Laura Skandera Trombley's support of the athletic program.

A special thanks to Trustee Arnold Palmer, Steve Fenton '92, and Dan Daley '89 for their continued support of this important event.

Katie Lindberg '06
Most Outstanding Female Athlete

Katie Lindberg '06 worked hard to earn her award, but her four years on the swim team weren’t only about swimming hard.

With a 3.6 GPA in her major of psychology, Lindberg truly is an outstanding student-athlete. In fact, the night she received her athletic award, she also received a Psi Chi award for her academic performance.

The Seattle native said she feels Pitzer has taught her to open her mind to life.

"Pitzer has made me so much more socially conscious," Lindberg said. "Before I came to Pitzer, I thought within a very small box. Now, after my years here swimming and studying abroad in Costa Rica, I am able to think outside of the box."

Dan Bendett '06
Most Outstanding Male Athlete

If you attended a home soccer game last year, you might have heard a crowd of people cheering for goalkeeper Dan Bendett. The pack would be chanting: "Whose house? Dan's house!"

"Being the only Pitzer player on the team, it really meant a lot to me. And then to have it trickle down to the administration was great. It demonstrates all the support I have had from Pitzer."

Bendett’s skill for handling the field made him captain this year. He was twice named All SCIAC Goalkeeper and All Western Coast Goalkeeper. Additionally, he holds the record for the number of shut-out games at 9 straight.

"I have enjoyed every minute of my Pitzer experience. I love the soul of Pitzer. Everyone is so friendly, the professors are so helpful," Bendett said.

David Knowles '07
Daley Athletic Achievement Award

Receiving the award gave David Knowles '07 a chance to see his feelings about Pomona-Pitzer sports reflected in others.

"Sports have been in my heart since I came here," Knowles said. "Going to the dinner, not only winning the award, and hearing people echo sentiments that have been in my heart all along, makes me very proud to be a student-athlete here at Pitzer."

Knowles said speaking with the award’s founder, Dan Daley '89 was another highlight of the dinner. "I thanked Daley after the ceremony. He said that he knew about me from the Sagehens Sports Reviews. I think getting the alumni and current students interested and keeping them up to date with the sports here is helping to develop the spirit of sports on campus."

Jonathan Tigeri '06
Judi and Frank Fenton Athletic Leadership Award

Jonathan Tigeri's surprise at receiving his award couldn't have seemed more genuine.

"Men's volleyball is a club sport, so it is really nice to get recognition," Tigeri said.

The men's volleyball team is one of few club sports that are specifically Pomona-Pitzer, not five-college. The players recently competed in the National Championships and won the Silver Division competition.

Tigeri is a double major in romance languages and sociology.
Alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends celebrated Pitzer College's 2006 Alumni Weekend. Highlights from the weekend included the Welcome Back Dinner hosted by President Laura Skandera Trombley and her family, the Presentation of the Third Annual Distinguished Alumni Award to Jenniphr Goodman '84, the Twelfth Annual Alumni College, a special breakfast with Professor Emerita Agnes Moreland Jackson and a 3-College wine tasting with Scripps and Harvey Mudd alumni.

Class of 2001 alumni Joey Mata, David Sawhill, Reena Mathew, Marisol Camarena, Akila Ramaswamy, Jess Warner and Deidre Schupbach enjoy the Alumni Barbecue.

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2006

Alumni Weekend Planning Committee Co-Chairs Ruet Foster '81 and Lee Kleinman '81 cheer the success of Alumni Weekend with Alumni Association President Ella Pennington '81 (center).

1981 graduates celebrate their 25th reunion at the All Class Reunion Dinner

Josephine Doubleday John '69, Chris Campbell North '66 and Sara Smith '66 at the Harvard House for the Welcome Back Dinner

Pitzer alumni with Professor Emerita Agnes Moreland Jackson at her special breakfast

Squeakin' Wheels performs at Alumni Weekend, led by Pitzer New Resources alumnus Dave Millard '92 (left).
Claremont Alumni Network Speaker Series

The Claremont Alumni Network (CAN) hosted a Speaker Series in April featuring famed Hollywood producer and Pitzer College parent Lynda Obst P'02. The event was a tremendous success with alumni from the Claremont Colleges gathering to network and hear the “inside scoop” from one of Hollywood’s top producers. The CAN is a network of alumni from the Claremont Colleges who share business referrals, resources and information.

For information: www.claremontbusiness.com

1969
Elizabeth (Mueller) Marcum
(Pacific Grove, CA)
In addition to continuing my career as a teacher, I am now the owner (along with my husband) of a bookstore/coffee and tea shop in Pacific Grove.

Cheryl Sigler Thornett
(Birmingham, England)
Alumni weekends always take place when I am preparing my ESOL students (English for Speakers of Other Languages) for their exams. [Sound effect of self-pitying snuffles] However, I am visiting my family in Southern California and the Bay Area mid-August this year, with no husband or children in tow for the first time. I’d love to see some old Pitzer friends again, if anyone is around. Does anyone remember when we ate at CMC and Harvey Mudd? When there was no landscaping, just rocks, or the early landscaping that looked like a cross between a miniature golf course and a landing strip? The Mead fire? Being a women’s college? (I could go on...and on...) I would really like to see anyone from the early days, or even just ring you up to say hello. It’s a long way from Birmingham, England, so this is a rare chance for me.

1971
Lisa (Ackerson) Lieberman
(Lake Oswego, OR)
I published my first book. It is called “A Stranger Among Us: Hiring In-Home Support for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and other Neurological Differences.” Published by Autism Asperger Publishing Company, it is a comprehensive guide to all aspects of hiring support people to care for children with disabilities. I am currently a clinical social worker in private practice specializing in “living with disability in the family.” In addition, I travel regionally and nationally as a speaker. This summer, my 18-year-old son Jordan (who has autism) and I have been accepted to present at the Autism Society of America’s national conference in Providence, Rhode Island.

1974
Kathryn Bautista Wolters
(Ventura, CA)
After 30 plus years with GTE/Verizon, I finally retired and am working on my second career—a career of the heart—doing historical re-creation of clothing, jewelry and accessories. I’ve actually done it for fun on the side for 28 years—it’s an exciting new challenge to create a business with it now.

1975
Rebeca Barron
(Seattle, WA)
I take great pleasure in announcing the merger of The Barron Collection Ltd. with Around the House in San Francisco. As you know, I am a native Californian and owned and operated retail stores in San Francisco prior to relocating to Seattle. This represents a wonderful opportunity for me and The Barron Collection Ltd. I couldn’t be happier! www.barroncollection.com

1978
Andrea Schneider
(Chino, CA)
I am teaching in Pomona and taking on the challenges of learning to become a good teacher. My daughter Julia (age 12) is having fun acting in plays at the local community theater. Hi to old friends. Hope all is well. Would love to hear from you.

1980
Ilene Schwartz
(Seattle, WA)
I am on faculty and the Special Education Area Chair at the University of Washington College of Education, and recently I was appointed by the Superintendent to Seattle School District’s Special Education Advisory Board.
**CAPAS Dinner**

Grant Chang '93 of the Korea Times spoke at the Fourth Annual Center for Asian Pacific American Students (CAPAS) Student and Alumni Dinner on April 7. The CAPAS Dinner honors the accomplishments of our graduating Asian Pacific American seniors.

**CLSA Dinner**

Michele Siqueiros '95, associate director of the Campaign for College Opportunity, was the keynote speaker for the Seventh Annual Chicano/Latino Student and Alumni (CLSA) Dinner on April 25. The CLSA Dinner celebrates the achievements of our Chicano/Latino community at Pitzer.

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**1981**

**Ellen J. Weissbuch**  
(Barcelona, Spain)  
Hello all. Finally took the time to check in here. I'm still single (though I've got a special someone in my life), childfree and living a 5-minute walk away from the Mediterranean and 45 minutes south of Barcelona. I earn my living doing things I love: teaching yoga to kids at a local colegio, belly dance and kundalini yoga and selling my high-fired ceramics. I also play frame drum in a kirtan group.

**1985**

**Suzie Haberland**  
(Seattle, WA)  
Hi all—my husband Stasa and I recently adopted a baby girl, Cassidy Rose. She was born January 11 and is growing like crazy. I'm still working at Starbucks, became a Coffee Master last year, and am looking forward to some international travel this year.

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**1992**

**Geoffrey Groener**  
(Bend, OR)  
I am living happily in Bend, Ore., with my wife, Beth, and daughters, Anika and Sophie. Call if in the area (541) 390-4488.

**Joshua Nusbaum**  
(Portland, OR)  
We're very excited to be expecting our first child.

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**Thanks for the input!**

The Public Relations Office extends its gratitude to those of you who took the time to respond to the survey with your thoughts and preferences regarding *The Participant*. Your input is vital as we seek to continually improve your alumni magazine. And remember, you can always contact us at participant@pitzer.edu to tell us how we're doing.

Congratulations are in order for the three winners of $25 Barnes & Noble Gift Certificates: Joanna Sapir '96, Barbara Sagat '81 and Aurora Ignacio '04.
Buy a brick to help build new residence halls

You are invited to purchase a piece of Pitzer's new residence halls—literally! The beautiful Admission Office courtyard will be surfaced with attractive brick pavers, offering you an opportunity to make a real impression on the College's future.

You may choose one of four sizes/styles of bricks to be engraved with your name or the name of someone that you would like to honor. Bricks are a great opportunity to congratulate a recent graduate, to honor a family member or loved one, to pay tribute to a favorite professor, or to celebrate your Pitzer experience.

Bricks will be available for a limited time only beginning in spring 2006 and ending June 30, 2007. Bricks will be installed by the end of the fall semester of 2007; once installed, you will be sent information about the location where it has been placed and you will be listed in the Residential Life Project section of the Annual Donor Honor Roll.

**Master Builder**

$2,500

12"

Gold Lettering plus Special Placement

**Mason**

$1,000

12"

**Artisan**

$500

8"

**Craftsman**

$250

8"

8"

**GOLD**

$100

8"

4"

4"

*Graduates of the last decade receive a special price on the Craftsman-level brick donation, limit of one brick at this reduced price.

To order your brick today, go to www.pitzer.edu/rlp or contact the Advancement Office at (909) 621-8130
Poseidon Film Benefit

Members of the Pitzer community enjoyed a special pre-premiere screening of the film Poseidon on May 11. All proceeds from the film benefit went toward the Pitzer College Annual Fund. A special thanks to the Pitzer College Board of Trustees for donating their tickets to members of the Claremont community, including Claremont High School, Claremont City Hall, and Mt. San Antonio Gardens. Many thanks to Marc Broidy '95 and Bruce Corwin for their involvement with this event.

1992
Jenna Whorton Mann
(Claremont, CA)
My family and I recently moved to a new house in Claremont. Also, we just had our third child. Caidan Islay Mann was born March 8, 2006, at 7:28 p.m. We are enjoying her very much.

1994
Mitch Numark
(Norman, OK)
I completed my Ph.D. from UCLA at the end of 2005. Currently I'm teaching South Asian history as a visiting assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma. I'll be in India for much of this summer but will return to the University of Oklahoma in August for the 2006-07 academic year. I recently attended the wedding of Kier Deleo '93 in Long Beach. I look forward to keeping in touch with old friends from Pitzer. I hope everyone is doing well.

2001
Rachael Baker
(Ann Arbor, MI)
I received my Masters Degree in Environmental Policy from Bard College in 2005. I am presently living in Ann Arbor, Mich., and am the resource manager at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Mich.

2003
Zach Putnam
(Los Angeles, CA)
The projector company Infocus built a minisite (www.infocus.com/presents) with live footage and interviews from the shows I did with the bands Bedtime for Toys at the South by Southwest Music Conference in Austin, Texas. Check it out. In addition, I was hired to fly out to Chicago and New York to do shows with the bands Pretty Girls Make Graves and Giant Drag on their national tour. I also did both bands' visuals at the Glass House in Pomona on June 2 and the El Rey in West Hollywood on June 3.

Julia Nemon
(Washington, D.C.)
I received an MA in International Affairs and Development from George Washington University as a Wolcott Fellow in May 2005. I am leaving the State Department, where I have been working on human trafficking policy for the past two years, to take a position at Amnesty International.
100% Participation in Senior Gift

The entire graduating class of 2006 at Pitzer College, that's right, 100 percent, contributed to the senior gift, the highest number in the College's history. The feat brought the coveted "pig" from the Claremont Colleges for attaining the most participation among the 5-Colleges.

At left, Dean of Students Jim Marchant pledged that if the seniors reached 98 percent participation he would get a tattoo of the Pitzer tree. True to his word, Dean Marchant got his permanent memento on his upper left arm on May 11. Below, Senior Gift Committee members included, from left, Tim Russell, Gracie Vargas, Matt Turzo, Portia Boni, Assistant Director of Annual Giving Molly Weinstein '04, Miri Plowman and Kat Rorke.

IN MEMORIAM

New Resources alumnus Chris Cicotello '03 died of brain cancer on June 23, 2006, at home in Covina, Calif.

Chris was a Religious Studies major and was inducted into the honorary society for Claremont Colleges Religious Studies majors in 2003. He had been attending the Claremont School of Theology as a graduate student.

"Chris was a warm person who exuded sincerity. He was also one of the best student writers I have encountered in my fifteen years at Pitzer—an amazing, gifted writer," Professor of Psychology Norma Rodriguez said.

“He was dearly loved by our department. What a loss, and what a tragedy. I am so sad," Religious Studies chair Zahn Kassam said.

A vigil and funeral service were held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Pomona, with internment in Olivewood Cemetery, Riverside. Chris is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Whitcher; his mother, Pamela Morton; his father, David Cicotello; and two sisters, Camille Cicotello and Nicole Seilhymer.
Alumni Health Insurance Program

The Pitzer College Alumni Association is pleased to announce a new program that offers a variety of insurance products to Pitzer alumni. Through Meyer and Associates, a firm that is nationally recognized for its alumni insurance programs, Pitzer alumni will be able to access a variety of valuable insurance services. Especially important among these will be Short Term Medical insurance (STM) for recent graduates who will no longer be covered by their parent's insurance, but who have not yet been covered by either a new employer or a graduate school. STM is frequently less expensive than COBRA options through a parent's policy.

In addition to Short Term Medical Insurance, Pitzer alumni, students, faculty, and staff, as well as their spouses, domestic partners, parents, children, and siblings are eligible to obtain excellent group rates on a wide variety of insurance products, including:

- Health
- Student Medical
- Travel Medical & Accident
- Auto
- Homeowners
- Renters
- Other
- Life Insurance
- Life for Life ($100K+)
- VIP Life ($<100K)
- Children’s Life
- Accidental Death

Meyer and Associates was selected for this service because of their strong reputation for excellent customer service. For more information, visit http://www.pitzer.edu/gateway/alumni/resources.asp#insurance

“Baxter Names Jeanne K. Mason Corporate VP, Human Resources”

Disease Risk Factor Week
May 7, 2006

Baxter International, Inc., (BAX) announced that Jeanne K. Mason ’82 has been named the company’s corporate vice president, human resources.

She has responsibility for the global human resource function, including staffing and leadership development.

“Jeanne brings the right mix of leadership, management and international experiences necessary to strengthen and leverage our talent base in support of our businesses,” said Robert L. Parkinson, Jr., Baxter’s chairman and chief executive officer.

Mason joins Baxter from GE Insurance Solutions, a primary insurance and reinsurance business, where she was responsible for global human resource functions.

The announcement on Mason’s hiring appeared in more than 15 journals and weekly publications focused on health and life sciences.

“Activist’s Persistence a Driving Force in Boycott”

Los Angeles Times
May 1, 2006

Three days before the planned nationwide boycott for immigrant rights, one of its chief local organizers was still working the crowd.

At a Mexican fast-food restaurant in Ontario, Jesse Diaz Jr. ’02 urged two Latino laborers to skip work and march in downtown Los Angeles. The sell was met with polite nods until Diaz threw out a wisecrack: "They want our food," he said between bites of a bean burrito, "they just don’t want our people."

As an original member of the March 25 Coalition, Diaz, 42, helped orchestrate the massive march through downtown Los Angeles in protest of a federal bill that would make illegal immigrants felons.

Now, Diaz, a doctoral candidate at UC Riverside who also works as a landscaper, has emerged as an unlikely player in a burgeoning movement—a man who mows lawns in between planning marches.

PHOTO POLICY

Photos should be a JPEG file attached in 300 dpi resolution or mail us a hard copy of the photo. All original photos will be returned. Please include your name (maiden name if applicable), class year, and identify everyone in the photo. We welcome photos of alumni gatherings and other special events.

Next deadline: October 15, 2006

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Pitzer alumni gathered at the Pomona-Pitzer Seventh Annual Alumni Baseball Golf Tournament on April 30 during Alumni Weekend festivities.

(L-R: Jose Cortez ’03, David Sawhill ’01, Robert Ruiz ’03, Jeff Lamb ’04 and Nick Bulaich ’01)
Your gifts to the Pitzer College Annual Fund help open doors for wonderful young people to attend a college with an array of unique opportunities second to none.

This year our Fulbright and Fabian Núñez scholars received scholarship aid made possible due to your generosity. Our Pitzer graduates are equipped with the skills, knowledge and values to better the world.

With the nearly infinite number of ways to give back to the world, choose the one that will have an extraordinary impact—Pitzer College.

visit: www.pitzer.edu/giving

call: (877)357-7479
I admit it—I'm an unrepentant child of the '60s. I was just 14 when I began working with local civil rights groups in 1966. In short order, I became deeply involved in the antiwar movement, student rights, and the struggle to lower the voting age to match the draft age. In college, I continued my activism against the war, organizing sit-ins, teach-ins, and getting arrested for peacefully blocking a local military recruiting center.

But what made my activism a permanent part of my life was spending a semester in Harlan County, Ky., in 1972. There, at the height of the Vietnam War, I saw firsthand the harsh realities of poverty and racism in rural America, and began to grasp the connections between a wide variety of domestic and international social issues. Nowhere was it made clearer than by the group of ex-nuns I met who, while leading anti-strip mining efforts, also managed to introduce me to the modern feminist movement.

Civil rights, Vietnam, the women's movement—my political bearings developed in a period in which everything was being questioned, and none too politely. I was not alone. Thousands of young Americans developed their political hearts and souls in the crucible of the 1960s and '70s. It was not just the arrogance of youth that led us to believe that we could change the world. It was the passage of the Civil Rights Act, the ending of the Vietnam War, the launching of the War on Poverty—concrete changes that happened in our lifetime, in part because of our actions.

Against this backdrop, many young activists, using time-honored community-organizing skills, launched thousands of community-based organizations. Our impetus was one of social change; our demand was for community control. At the outset, we intertwined the provision of services and programs with an explicit social change agenda.

Time and circumstances, however, have taken their toll. Many organizations— including those with leadership forged in the civil rights and other social movements—have had difficulty maintaining an active commitment to social justice. I worry that the ties to social change will weaken further when my contemporaries and I pass on the torch to the next generation of nonprofit leaders, who are coming of age in a markedly different era. At the same time, I believe that this inevitable generational shift is an opportunity to address some of the critical weaknesses of the nonprofit sector.

“How we handle this transitional period is the real test of our commitment to community and to social change.”

The High Cost of Professionalization

For many leaders of community organizations, the pressure to keep their operations afloat has moved them away from a social change agenda. Both public and private sector funders, in their drive to make nonprofits more businesslike, have increasingly favored short-term programmatic funding, which has forced many organizations to focus narrowly on specific deliverables at the expense of ongoing community organizing.

Without resources for organizing and advocacy, in turn, many community-based organizations have lost touch with their communities—a process hastened by the fact that their communities have become more diverse and complex. The push to professionalize has also led nonprofit leaders to recruit board members based on the material resources they can bring to the organization, rather than on how well they represent the communities they serve. And organizations have found little support for general operations, limiting their ability to strengthen their infrastructures and decreasing their agility in responding to community needs and changes.

This is not to say that it hasn't been a good thing to require more financial discipline; nor has it been wrong to demand more accountability from those who use public and charitable resources. But funders in both the public and private sectors have not necessarily understood how their practices impact the social change missions that are at the heart of many community-based organizations. As a result, much of the nonprofit sector has become unmoored from its social change roots.

Bridging the Generation Gap

The next generation of nonprofit leaders will inherit these problems. And unlike my generation, which rode in on a wave of broad social movements, prosperity, and unbounded optimism, we are now in an era of shrinking government, widening inequality, and deepening cynicism. I wonder whether the new leadership will be able to reenergize the social sector's commitment to social justice, and have been thinking about the role my generation can play during this transition.

A first thought is that my generation can't be of much help unless we're willing to strip away some of the nostalgia about our own role in social change. Sure, we did a lot of great things. But we made tons of mistakes, too, particularly in letting government off the hook for not meeting our communities' basic needs. We need to find the space to be frank and
self-critical, and then figure out how to share what we’ve learned. We have to be honest about the choices and concessions we’ve made—to examine, for example, how well we’ve balanced funding and political realities with maintaining ties with the communities that spawned us.

And given that some of us have moved into influential positions, not just in community organizations, but also in government, philanthropy, and the private sector, we have to figure out how to use our individual and collective clout to strengthen the nonprofit sector’s social change bearings. From redirecting funding so that it adequately addresses core operating needs, to providing greater support for advocacy and organizing, there’s much we can do to challenge the status quo.

We also need to extend ourselves, professionally and personally, to the next generation of leaders. That includes creating a lot more opportunities for cross-generational exchanges. Yes, we’re concerned that nonprofit management programs may have replaced our learn-it-on-the-fly organizing experience. But what are the strengths these next generations bring to the table? It would be the height of arrogance, and would be turning our back on our own history, to think that our younger colleagues don’t have as much to teach us as we have to teach them.

A number of us in philanthropy have begun to support “next generation” leadership programs. While varying in form, they commonly provide management training and peer support to the Gen X and Y’ers in leadership positions. We’ve also begun to assist critical community institutions (community centers and the like) with their generational changes in leadership. In both these efforts, I am struck by how important it is to prioritize and make explicit the building of intergenerational ties.

Finally, we have to learn when and how to exit gracefully. While we’re worried that some of our younger colleagues may lack our commitment to social change, they’re probably worried that we’ll never step aside. Each of us may need a different path, but at some point we have to let those who follow take the reins and lead us into the future. If we fail to do so, the next generation may well get tired of waiting for leadership opportunities, and turn away from the nonprofit sector. That is a risk none of us can afford.

At the same time, many of my contemporaries have never made much in salary, and lack resources for retirement. Philanthropy must help craft thoughtful transition strategies and support for these longtime leaders, who can still contribute for many years to come.

It is too early to write my generation’s epitaph, but it’s not too early to care about what our enduring legacy might be. How we handle this transitional period is the real test of our commitment to community and to social change.

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COMMENCEMENT 2006

Pitzer College conferred degrees to graduating seniors May 14, 2006, on the Brant Clock Tower Lawn. Fabian Núñez ’97, speaker of the California State Assembly, delivered this year’s Commencement address to a class that included a record number of Fulbright Fellows and several other recipients of national awards. For President Laura Skandera Trombley’s opening remarks and more pictures, see pages 2-3.