A note from President Skandera Trombley

Dear Pitzer Community,

As we begin the College’s 48th year, it is time to take stock of who we are and what our vision is for the future. Students come to Pitzer College because of their identification with the ideals of the institution. There is a unique, bold, audacious and risky Pitzer identity of which we are very proud and strive to communicate to all of our students, parents, trustees, friends and alumni. We are passionate about educating young people to find their voice and to intellectually challenge themselves so they may positively contribute to their community and their world in conjunction with our core values.

In this issue, we recognize the excellence of our students and welcome the Class of 2015. In addition, we feature one of our most respected faculty members, Lako Tongun, associate professor of international and intercultural studies and political science, who shares with us his own role in the history of his country of South Sudan and the extraordinary changes that took place there this summer.

This past year, the College recognized and thanked two long-time faculty members who had an indelible impact upon the College. After 20 years, José Calderón retired as professor of sociology at his exuberant and moving retirement gathering. Professor Calderón has given his intellectual life to create a sense of purpose within an institution of higher learning and his surrounding community. His life and career exemplifies one of service, thought and commitment. We are better as a College, as a faculty, as a people because of Professor Calderón’s work. In his honor we have named two seats in the Benson Auditorium after him and his wife, Rose.

We also bid farewell to Steve Glass who, after four decades and seven years, decided that the time had come for him to retire. Professor Glass was one of the original 11 tenure track faculty to be hired upon Pitzer’s founding in 1963 and he is the last of the original 11 to retire from work. In his honor we have named two seats in the Benson Auditorium after him and his wife, Rose.

In this issue, we recognize the excellence of our students and welcome the Class of 2015. In addition, we feature one of our most respected faculty members, Lako Tongun, associate professor of international and intercultural studies and political science, who shares with us his own role in the history of his country of South Sudan and the extraordinary changes that took place there this summer.

We are very proud and strive to communicate to all of our students, parents, trustees, friends and alumni. We are passionate about educating young people to find their voice and to intellectually challenge themselves so they may positively contribute to their community and their world in conjunction with our core values.

These two faculty members epitomize Pitzer’s unique personality and standing and our commitment to our students.

It has been my honor and pleasure to be president of Pitzer and I look forward to the tenth year of my presidency.

Provida Futuri,
Laura Skandera Trombley
President

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Calendar of Events

October 2010
27 Sustainable Entrepreneur, Portland OR

November 2010
10 Men of Excellence, Pasadena, CA
12 Hall of Fame Dinner, Pitzer College
12 Reggae Festival, Pitzer College
24-25 Thanksgiving Break

December 2010
3 TreePeople Sustainable Design, Los Angeles, CA
12-16 Final Exams, Pitzer College
17 Residence Halls close at noon for Winter Break

January 2012
17 Spring Semester Classes Begin

February 2012
9 Pitzer Mixer & Networking Event, Pitzer College
17-20 Family Weekend, Pitzer College

March 2012
12-16 Spring Break

April 2012
5 Women of Vision, San Francisco, CA
17 Women of Vision, Los Angeles, CA
27-28 Kohoutek, Pitzer College
27-29 Alumni Reunion Weekend, Pitzer College

May 2012
4 Senior Class Gift Campaign Celebration, Pitzer College
8 Faculty & Staff Gift Celebration, Pitzer College
7-11 Final Exams, Pitzer College
12 Commencement, Pitzer College

Fall 2011

1 A Note From President Skandera Trombley
4 Celebrating the Class of 2011
7 Welcome Class of 2015
8 Continued Excellence in Fulbright Fellowships
12 Pitzer Students Take National Awards
14 Changemaker Making History: Lako Tlongun
16 What’s New at Pitzer?
22 Updates & Events
26 Class Notes
28 New Faculty Profiles
Fall 2011
32 Faculty Publications
32 Recognizing Retiring Faculty Members
34 José Zapata Calderón
34 Recognizing Retiring Faculty Members
34 Stephen L. Glass

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Pitzer College
A Member of The Claremont Colleges
The 47th Pitzer College Commencement Ceremony was held on Saturday, May 14, on the newly named Stephen L. Glass Commencement Plaza.

New York Times bestselling author and Pitzer College alumnus Max Brooks ’94 was chosen by the class of 2011 to serve as the keynote speaker at this year’s event.


Bennett Cross ’11 served as the senior class speaker. Following tradition, Cross was chosen by a selection committee. He comes from Sherman Oaks, CA and received a degree in multiple intelligences.

The graduating class selects a member of the staff or administration to be their honored guest and a member of the faculty to be their student marshal. This year, Dean of Students Maya Carter served as the honored guest and Professor José Calderón as the student marshal. Professor David Bachman was the faculty marshal, Chase Dyer ’11 presented the senior class gift and Gilbert V. Gonzales ’03 gave the alumni greeting.

Prior to the big day, the campus celebrated the Class of 2011 with a seniors vs. staff/faculty softball game, a party at the home of Assistant Professor Jessica McCoy, a baccalaureate ceremony and a reception at the home of President Laura Skandera Trombley. An exhibit of art by seniors, Phenogenesis: An Evolution of Expression, was on display from April 24 to May 14.

See pictures and video of the commencement ceremony at www.flickr.com/pitzercollege and www.youtube.com/pitzercollege.
Welcome **Class of 2015**

272 first-year students are from 237 different high schools

More than 41% of the class has a 4.0 GPA or higher

55% were in the top 10% of their high school class

38% of the class is from under-represented groups

7% are first in their family to attend college

58% of the class is from outside California

Students from the Class of 2015 have collectively volunteered almost 75,000 hours in community service around the globe by:

- Building bathrooms with running water for schools in Africa during the summer
- Creating a peace studies documentary on food ethics titled *Let Us Eat*
- Founding schools in Kabul
- Working with Seeds of Peace—promoting peace between Israelis and Palestinians
- Displaying artwork at the Guild Hall Museum in New York
- Engaging in an extensive research project on the history of the NRA and America’s obsession with firearms
- Being awarded Awarded Royal Thai Scholarship—the highest honor of any student in Thailand
- Winning Miss Teen Taiwan
2011-12 Fulbright Fellows

Serena Acker ’11
Leora Aquino ’11
Allison Backman ’11
Sam Brown ’11
Hannah Carr ’11
Janice Cho ’11
Liana Engle ’11
Romy Feder ’11
Emma Fisher ’11
Rachel Haney ’11
Anja Hughes-Stinson ’11
Paul Kim ’11
Katherine Kirby ’03
Sarah Lee ’11
Terra Michalowski ’11
Colin Mickle ’11
Lily Wiggins ’11
Ted Winslow ’11
Eliot Yasumura ’11
Christopher Young ’11

Additional 2010-11 Award Winners

Andrew Mellon Foundation Summer Research Grant
Roxanne Degens ’12
Dylan Farrell ’12
Emma French ’13
Isabel Neal ’12
Acadia Tucker ’11

Benjamin Gilman International Scholar
James Moss ’13

Harvard Model United Nations Best Delegate
Elizabeth Pedersen ’14

Kemper Scholarship
Leonardo Flores ’14

National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution Scholarship
Cody Klock ’12

New York State Summer Writers Institute Scholarships
Scott Hunter ’12
Sara Vander Zwaag ’11
Elise Wanger ’12

Teach for America Fellowships
Patricio Ku ’11
Sarah Lee ’11

Udall Scholarship
Isabella Thorndike ’12

W.M. Keck Foundation Summer Research Fellowship
Peter Rominger ’14
Participant The winner to Vietnam. techniques on Vietnamese recipes. Backman is Pitzer’s first cooking classes to examine the influence of French culinary to promote cultural exchange. She also plans to take traditions such as Mua Roi Nuoc into her teaching repertoire instruction, she will teach English and plans to incorporate communicative language techniques and content-based "Pho and Folklore: Teaching through Tradition." Through and social change, was awarded a Fulbright to Vietnam for Allison Backman ’11, who designed her major in psychology and encourage students to be lifelong learners and critical students to challenge themselves in an interactive and international and intercultural studies, received a Fulbright to Morocco. He will serve as an English teaching assistant, building on prior teaching experiences in Thailand and Ghana. Outside the classroom, he intends to expand his knowledge of and fluency of modern standard and colloquial Arabic and increase his understanding of Islam. Hannah Carr ’11, an environmental studies major, was awarded a Fulbright to Malaysia. As an experienced youth soccer coach, Hannah was deeply involved in tutoring incarcerated youth at Camp Afflterbaugh-Paige. In Malaysia, she intends to inspire students learning English by using a content-based approach focused on topics of health and the environment in Malaysia.

Janice Cho ’11 double majored in human biology and Spanish. She received a Fulbright to Belgium where her lab-based research will investigate tandem repeats in her host genes, MSSI1 and CYC8. Her research project, "Variable Tandem Repeats as Facilitators of Rapid Evolution," will be based at the Catholic University of Leuven.

Liana Engie ’11, a double major in physics and molecular biology, received a Fulbright to Indonesia. She will incorporate debate and role-play to encourage Indonesian students to express themselves and their opinions in English. Her Fulbright project builds on an independent education study project she undertook through the Pitzer in Nepal Study Abroad Program. She is the first Pitzer physics major to win a Fulbright.

Romy Feder ’11, a media studies major, earned a Fulbright to Costa Rica to create an engaging learning environment which teaches the English language skills through video art and poetry. Through the use of new media, she will encourage verbal, visual and emotional interaction. She also plans to work with a Costa Rican community on biodiversity conservation and film a documentary about rural landowners and the conservation of surviving tropical forests.

Emma Fisher ’11, a political anthropology major and Spanish minor, was awarded a Fulbright to South Korea. She intends to use the global food market as a lens to teach English by creating content-based, multi-sensory and communicative lesson plans. She will also research changes in Korean food consumption over the past 30 years.

Rachel Hany ’11, a history major and German studies minor, received a Fulbright to Australia. She will research the ways in which organic farming has furthered the humane treatment of food-producing animals at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna.

Anja Hughes-Stinson ’11, a double major in psychology and art, won a Fulbright to Mongolia where she will teach English by incorporating group projects, discussions and creative assignments. She hopes to foster cultural and artistic exchange by honing her students’ English skills. As a side project, she will engage the community in a commemorative mural project.

Paul Kim ’11, an international and intercultural studies major, New Resources student and Navy veteran, earned a Fulbright to Thailand. He hopes to inspire Thai students to develop an interest in American culture and language. He will also teach the teaching knowledge and experience to creatively engage students and enhance knowledge and skills in reading, writing and oral communication. He also plans to study Thai art and Buddhist philosophy.

Katherine Kirby ’03, an art history major who has worked in independent/alternative radio since she graduated, was awarded a Fulbright to Thailand. He hopes to inspire Thai students to develop an interest in American culture and language. He will also teach the teaching knowledge and experience to creatively engage students and enhance knowledge and skills in reading, writing and oral communication. He also plans to study Thai art and Buddhist philosophy.

Sarah Lee ’11, a double major in economics and studio art, won a Fulbright to Mongolia where she will teach English by incorporating group projects, discussions and creative assignments. She hopes to foster cultural and artistic exchange by honing her students’ English skills. As a side project, she will engage the community in a commemorative mural project.

Sam Brown ’11, a political economy major, was awarded a Fulbright to Morocco. He will serve as an English teaching assistant, building on prior teaching experiences in Thailand and Ghana. Outside the classroom, he intends to expand his knowledge of and fluency of modern standard and colloquial Arabic and increase his understanding of Islam.

Terra Michalowski ’11, a double major in history and romance languages, received a Fulbright to Armenia. Building on a variety of teaching experiences, including her involvement at the Afflterbaugh-Paige juvenile detention camps, she plans to create content-based curriculum using activities based on community and student input. In her free time, she will learn to speak Armenian and explore the country’s cultural preservation programs in the education system.

Colin Mickie ’11, a political studies major, was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) to Laos, an inaugural year for this program. Mickie will draw from past experiences to develop an interactive curriculum focused on food, music and other content-based learning activities. Outside the classroom, he will volunteer at a children’s center and talk Lao language classes in Vientiane.

Lily Wittgen ’11, a sociology major, earned a Fulbright to Indonesia. She will use the processes of storytelling and performance as means to teach English and apply the techniques she learned while volunteering at Camp Afflterbaugh-Paige. Additionally, she will research the effects of corporal punishment on student performance in the area.

Ted Winslow ’11 double majored in Spanish and creative writing and was awarded a Fulbright to Spain. He intends to build on his extensive teaching experience and will explore the multiple meanings of multiculturalism and multilingualism in the Spanish classroom. During his free time, Winslow will explore current trends in Spanish poetry.

Eliot Yasumura ’11, a New Resources student and Marine veteran with a self-designed major in religion, politics and global violence, was awarded a research Fulbright to Indonesia. His research project, "Mapping Islam in Jakarta: Religious Articulations of Urban Indonesian Youth," will investigate the ways in which Indonesian Muslim youth in urban areas negotiate their religious identities and how, in turn, the cities inform their religious views.

Christopher Young ’11, an international environmental policy major, received a research Fulbright to Bulgaria. His project will investigate the European Union’s Water Framework Directive on Bulgarian agricultural and wastewater treatment practices. Through archival research, on-site visits to wastewater treatment facilities and qualitative interviews with farmers, he hopes to better understand the dynamics between international environmental policies and its direct impact on the environment.

Of this year’s winners, President Laura Sandker Trombley said, "What a wonderful accomplishment! We are so proud of Pitzer’s Fulbright recipients. They represent the very best of Pitzer and stand as an example of the excellence of a Pitzer education.”

With these winners, Pitzer College students and alumni have been awarded 130 Fulbright Fellowships. In 2010, The Chronicle of Higher Education ranked Pitzer first in Fulbright Fellowships among liberal arts colleges and fifth among all colleges and universities nationwide.
Pitzer Students Win National Awards

In addition to the 20 Fulbright Fellowships awarded during the 2010-11 academic year, Pitzer students also received numerous other national awards.

Andrew Mellon Foundation Summer Research Grantees
Rosanne Degens ’12, Dylan Farrell ’12, Emma French ’13, Isabel Neal ’12 and Acacia Tucker ’11 received Intercollegiate Enrichment and Analysis Summer Research Grants from The Andrew Mellon Foundation.

Degens, who double majors in hydrology and politics and Latin American economic development, will conduct research in equity in provision of water services in Guayaquil, Mexico.

Farrell, a human biology major, will research effective microorganism treatment on compost.

French, who is currently undeclared, will conduct research in making sustainability profitable.

Neal, who majors in English and world literature, will conduct her research project titled “Beyond the Desert: Mapping Community Food.”

Tucker, an environmental science major, plans to research the effects of climate change and invasive herbivores.

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholar
James Moss ’13 received a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study in China this fall. He plans to conduct an independent study that would explore Yin and Yang and how it relates to China’s current society and culture. Moss majors in international/intercultural studies and English and world literature.

Harvard Model United Nations Best Delegate
Elizabeth “Biz” Pedersen ’14 was named a Best Delegate at the 2011 Harvard Model United Nations for her representation of Venezuela on the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Committee.

The Harvard Model United Nations Conference attracts more than 3,500 students from colleges and universities across the United States and 36 countries internationally. The program offers students the opportunity to experience the challenges of international negotiation and diplomacy through simulating the activities of the United Nations.

Kemper Scholar
Leonardo Flores ’14 was named a 2011 Kemper Scholar. The program is sponsored by the James S. Kemper Foundation.

Flores is completing his first year at Pitzer College. Through this grant, he will participate in two internships over the course of the next two summers.

The Kemper Scholars Program prepares students for leadership and service in the management of for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. The program aims to promote education in the liberal arts while providing students opportunities for career exploration and practical experience through internships.

National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution Scholar
Cody Klock ’12 received the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Endal Hall Griswold Memorial Scholarship.

Klock, a double major in economics and psychology, also earned a Critical Language Scholarship to South Korea and spent three months last summer in an intensive language and cultural immersion program.

Klock also serves as a contributing photographer for the College’s alumni magazine, The Participant.

The Enid Hall Griswold Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a deserving junior or senior enrolled in an accredited college or university in the United States who is pursuing a major in political science, history, government or economics.

New York State Summer Writers Institute Scholars
Scott Hunter ’12, Sara Vander Zwaag ’11 and Elise Wanger ’12 received full scholarships to the 2011 New York State Summer Writers Institute.

Hunter attended the four-week workshop to study poetry while Vander Zwaag attended the two-week session for intermediate and advanced poetry writing. Wanger attended the four-week workshop for fiction writing. All three are majoring in English and world literature at Pitzer College.

The New York State Writers Institute, established in 1984 by award-winning novelist William Kennedy at the University at Albany, celebrates its 25th annual summer program. Under the joint auspices of the Office of the Dean of Special Programs at Skidmore College and the New York State Writers Institute at the University at Albany, the summer program features creative writing workshops in fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

Teach for America Fellows
Patrizio Ku ’11 and Sarah Lee ’11 were awarded 2011 Teach for America Fellowships.

Ku, an environmental studies and anthropology major, will be teaching secondary mathematics in New Orleans.

Lee, a double major in economics and studio art, was also awarded a 2011 Fulbright Fellowship. She deferred her Teach for America assignment to complete her Fulbright year teaching in Thailand. She hopes to teach at a bilingual elementary school in Colorado through Teach For America upon her return.

Teach for America provides recent college graduates a two-year teaching commitment in urban and rural public schools to help bridge the educational gap for students living in low-income communities.

Udall Scholar
Isabella Thorndike ’12 was awarded a 2011 Udall Scholarship.

Thorndike is an environmental analysis major at Pitzer who has been recognized for her environmental leadership. After graduation, Thorndike plans to redefine “green building” by becoming a design-build professional who specializes in using modern techniques to enhance energy efficiency, embodied natural resources and the cultural value of existing buildings.

The 80-student class of 2011 Udall Scholars was selected from 210 candidates nominated by 231 colleges and universities. The Udall Foundation is an independent federal agency that was established by Congress in 1992 to provide federally funded scholarships for college students intending to pursue careers related to the environment, as well as to Native American students pursuing tribal policy or health care careers.

W.M. Keck Foundation Summer Research Fellow
Pete Rominger ’14 was the recipient of a W. M. Keck Foundation Summer Research Fellowship.

Rominger is currently investigating the molecular basis of bacteria-induced male killing in insects by using the fruit fly Drosophila melanogaster as a study system. He will use a combination of molecular and cell biological approaches to look at the chromosomes of flies infected with the male-killing bacterium.
This summer marked the long-awaited Independence Day celebration of the Republic of South Sudan and its liberation from radical Islamic rule.

On Saturday, July 9, 2011, over 550,000 people peacefully gathered in John Garing Square in the capital of Juba, some dancing, some chanting, some proudly bearing the country’s flag aloft. They waited for over three hours in blistering heat for Sudan president Omar al-Bashir to arrive, officially step down and witness the tearful jubilation of the South Sudanese, survivors of nearly 50 years of tyranny and decades of civil war that took the lives of more than 3.5 million of people. In the crowd, Professor Lako Tongun waited and wept with joy. It was a moment he had been waiting for all his life.

Tongun was one of six children born to a farming family in Luri, a village outside of Juba. At the time, South Sudan was embroiled in its first civil war, and when he was 10 years old, Tongun was jailed for being a bystander to an innocent conversation.

Four years later, he was one of five students who led a protest against the Islamization program of the military government. One student leader was jailed and armed officials were hunting down the rest. On November 22, 1962, Tongun and six other young boys fled the village, with no time to say goodbye to their families. The group hid during the day and traveled by foot at night so they would not be detected, surviving on handouts from missionaries and villagers.

“It was very scary,” Tongun says. “We were in the jungle and couldn’t see more than five feet in front of us. There were no roads, no paths.”

After a week, they reached Uganda where they were threatened with deportation so they fled to the Congo. However, the Ugandan government was compelled to provide them shelter in a refugee camp set up in Bongo, a town north of Kampala. He visited it this summer.

Among the refugees was a small number who were allowed to attend school, including Tongun and John Garang de Maboir. In 1983, Garang founded the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement & Army (SPLM/A), and he led the Second Sudanese Civil War until his death in 2005.

Tongun left Uganda for Kenya, where he attended high school. With the help of a couple from Berkeley who had been volunteering in refugee camps, he came to the United States in 1967 to attend St. Mary’s College of California and earn his bachelor’s degree. He was able to travel to Luri in 1976 and see his father and family for the first time since his escape. He returned to the States to enter a PhD program at University of California, Davis. In 1983, he returned to Juba to do research for his dissertation. He hoped to move back permanently and join Garang and others in the liberation movement. However as his eldest son was about to be born, he returned to California and completed his PhD. A month later, the war began, and Tongun was unable to return to the region until after it ended in 2005.

At Pitzer since 1989, Tongun teaches international and intercultural studies and political studies, focusing particularly on Third World politics and developmental economics. He also lectures extensively on the struggles of South Sudan and Darfur. In his early years in Claremont, he devoted time to raising his sons, Tongun and Ladule Lako. The two accompanied him to Luri in 2010. It was the first time he had been back in 27 years, and also the first time his sons visited his homeland.

In January 2011, a referendum was held with nearly 99% of the population voting for independence from Sudan. The results led to the formal independence on July 9, though disputes still remain, including the Abyei Area and the sharing of oil revenues from South Sudan, which present tremendous economic potential for one of the world’s most deprived regions.

“The South Sudanese have what Barack Obama calls ‘audacity of hope,’” explains Tongun, who is writing up his research gathered from his emotional, month-long trip. He plans to take Pitzer students to South Sudan and Kenya next summer to assist in research on post-war reconstruction efforts, effects of war and development on the environment. He also plans to travel back and forth during summers and sabbaticals, and eventually return to South Sudan at retirement to contribute to development of the country. As he puts it, “Sustainable developmentism is my ideology.”

Changemaker Making History: Lako Tongun

On Saturday, July 9, 2011, over 550,000 people peacefully gathered in John Garing Square in the capital of Juba, some dancing, some chanting, some proudly bearing the country’s flag aloft. They waited for over three hours in blistering heat for Sudan president Omar al-Bashir to arrive, officially step down and witness the tearful jubilation of the South Sudanese, survivors of nearly 50 years of tyranny and decades of civil war that took the lives of more than 3.5 million of people. In the crowd, Professor Lako Tongun waited and wept with joy. It was a moment he had been waiting for all his life.

Tongun was one of six children born to a farming family in Luri, a village outside of Juba. At the time, South Sudan was embroiled in its first civil war, and when he was 10 years old, Tongun was jailed for being a bystander to an innocent conversation.
what's new at pitzer?

Fall 2011

17

Sagehen Sports Update

It was a terrific year for Sagehen sports:

Baseball
David Colin ’11 won the Most Outstanding Male Student Athlete Award from Pitzer College. He also was named to the 2008 All-Conference Second Team and to the 2009 and 2010 All-Conference First Team. Additionally, Colin was a 2011 Division III Baseball Preseason All-American Selection. Following graduation, he was drafted by the Seattle Mariners.

Cross-Country Men’s
The men’s cross country team was named to the Division III All-Academic Team and named an All-Academic Team by the US Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Football
Jacob Caron ’11 was named to the 2011 Hampshire Honor Society by the National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame, received the Daley Award from Pitzer College in recognition of outstanding athletic achievement, was named to the All-Conference All-American Football Team, was selected as the Most Valuable Player at the 2010 Tazon de Estrellas and was named the 2010 Conference Offensive Athlete of the Year. He also was selected to compete in the Division III Football Senior Classic.

Caron ended his college football career with more completions, more yards and more touchdowns than any other Sagehen.

Robert McNitt ’11 received the Pitzer College Jodie and Frank Fenton Award for Athletic Achievement, was selected to compete in the Division III Football Senior Classic and was named to the All-Conference Football Team.

Soccer-Women’s
Rachel Eckert ’11 was named to the All-Conference First Soccer Team.

Softball
The softball team was ranked #12 in the National Fastpitch Division III All-Academic Team.

Alexis Garcia ’11 received the Pitzer College Most Outstanding Female Student Athlete Award. She also led the conference in batting average and was named to the All-Conference First Team and All-West Region Team.

Tennis-Men’s
The men’s tennis team was ranked third regionally and ninth nationally by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

Max Sabel ’13 was ranked tenth in western region doubles by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

Tennis-Women’s
The women’s tennis team was ranked sixth nationally by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

Track & Field-Men’s
Colin Flynn ’13 won the conference 1500 meter title for the second time.

Water Polo-Men’s
The Collegiate Water Polo Association ranked the men’s water polo team first in the Preseason and Week Five Men’s Varsity Division III Top 10 Polls.

What’s New on Campus?

Campus Benches Decorated
As part of the Beginning Hard Building class, Anja Hughes-Stimson ’11, Isabel Gonzalez-Goodman ’14, Taylor Kamsler ’13, Emma Boron ’14 and Elena Thomas ’14 installed and produced original ceramic designs to enhance the appearance of campus benches. The class is taught by Assistant Professor of Art Timothy Berg.

Each student was tasked with researching their family’s genealogy and choosing a ceramic tradition from their mother and father’s sides to merge into a tile design. They individually submitted proposals to the College’s Aesthetics Committee for approval before installation. Each student’s design can be seen on the fronts and backs of the three benches closest to Benson Auditorium.

2011 Alumni Reunion Weekend
The 2011 Alumni Reunion Weekend was held on campus from June 10 to 12 and featured:

The State of the College Address by President Laura Skandera Trombley
The Distinguished Alumni Award reception and dinner
A reception for Fulbright Fellows
An exhibit by Kim Schoonstadt ’95
A master chef demonstration by Jenn Louis ’93, owner of Lincoln Restaurant, Portland, OR
A book talk with Casey Sicszka ’06, author of All the Way to Timbuktu
The Border Grill Taco Truck
The Green Parrot Party and Groove at the Grove House

The 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes an alumna/us who has brought honor and distinction to the College through his or her outstanding achievements.

This year, President Laura Skandera Trombley and Alumni Board President Claudio Chavez ’88 presented the award to Deborah Deutsch Smith ’68. Smith is a professor of special education at the School of Educational Studies at Claremont Graduate University and director of 999-West, which provides online interactive modules and other training materials for the education of students with disabilities.

A member of one of Pitzer’s first four-year graduating class, Smith has been a pioneer for those with disabilities and a stalwart supporter of Pitzer College. She has served on the board since 1985 and was elected an emerita trustee in 2003. Smith authored eleven textbooks, wrote over 31 chapters and book supplements and published over 50 refereed articles.

Joint Science Department Name Change
The Joint Science Department was renamed the W.M. Keck Science Department.

Campus Renovations
The Writing Center was renovated with new wall finishes, furniture and added learning space.

The Mead Courtyard renovations include new seating areas and landscaping.

Construction on a new elevator in the McConnell Center lobby was completed.

New Residence Hall Construction Continues
Work continues on Phase II of Pitzer’s Residential Life Project. Builders broke ground in December 2010 and the buildings are on schedule to open by fall 2012.

The new buildings will house 308 students, the Mosbacher/Gartrell Center for Media Experimentation and Activism, the Office of Study Abroad, seminar rooms, a digital photography lab, an art gallery and the Pitzer archives.

It will also include a demonstration kitchen, three apartments for live-in staff, faculty-in-residence and a visiting faculty member. Study rooms and lounges, along with decks, balconies and other outdoor spaces will be incorporated.

Some of the sustainable features include collection and use of solar energy, a gray water reclamation system, low-flow water fixtures, drip irrigation and drought-tolerant landscaping. Before construction began, the College employed a botanist and a biologist to ensure the identification, protection and relocation of sensitive flora and fauna in the area.

Once completed, Pitzer will be able to house approximately 93 percent of its students on campus, up from 78 percent, and the College expects to be awarded a platinum LEED rating for the project, the highest designation possible.

More information, architect renderings, floor plans and pictures can be found at www.pitzer.edu/offices/facilities/construction_projects.
Professor Tim Berg and students decorate campus benches.

Lavender Graduation.

Rachel Eckardt '11 learned to all-conference soccer team.

Reception for Fulbright Fellows during Alumni Weekend.

The men’s waterpolo team reached first in the nation.

Donor Recognition Dinner at the home of Eugene Stein, board member. Edie Bartnoff '07, '12, Matthew Bartnoff '12, Howard Bartnoff '07, '12, Judy Harris '11, Ben Harris '11, Jeffrey Harris '81, '11

Deborah Deutsch Smith '68, the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient.

What's new at pitzer?

Staff members Lynda Casey and Dora Garcia at the Faculty & Staff Gift Campaign Celebration.

Carolyn Maher spoke on April 12, part of the MCSI Spring 2011 series on Schooling in Mass. Societies.

The Women’s Tea featured an alumnae panel. Dee Misbah Rehman M.D. ’72, Jessica Hurley ’92, Judith Selby Lange ’72, Cindy Gentry P’11.

The State of the College Address by President Skandera Trombley at Alumni Weekend.

Rachel Eckerlin ‘11 named to all-conference soccer team.

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What’s new at pitzer?
What's New on Campus?

From March 31 to April 3, Pitzer hosted the Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference, organized by Assistant Professor Sumangala Bhattacharya. The conference gathered scholars from across the country to focus on how the nineteenth century conceived of and constructed nature and the relation of human beings to it. President Laura Skandera Trombley provided a luncheon address.

On April 5, alumni of the 7Cs gathered for an Alumni Power Breakfast at the Ambrosia Café in Sacramento, CA.

On April 7, 7C alumni met at The Blue Flame Café in downtown Los Angeles.

On April 7, Pitzer College alumni, parents and friends gathered for an evening of food, wine and conversation at The College Club of Boston. Hosted by Francine and Bill Crawford P'05, the event featured a discussion led by Michael Ballagh, assistant vice president for international programs, on Pitzer’s study abroad programs.

On April 9, Pitzer hosted the first-ever Day Laborer Film Festival, featuring a screening of Jornaleros en la Lucha, produced by Colectivo Tonantzin. The event also included speakers from the Pomona Day Laborer Center.

On April 12, 7C alumni gathered at the Good Eats Café in San Francisco.

On April 13, Citlali Chavez, a graduate student at UCLA, spoke on “Immigrant Rights and the Movement of AB-540 Students.” Chavez founded Graduates Reaching for a Dream Deferred, which encourages Dream Act students to pursue graduate degrees.

Pitzer celebrated Earth Week from April 14 to 21. Events included Low Carbon Diet Day in McConnell Dining Hall, a trip to clean up Seal Beach, a tour of Drake Dairy Farm, a Trashy Fashion Show and screenings of “Tapped, Crude: The Case Against Chevron” and “The Future of Food.”

From April 14 to 16, Pitzer hosted the Native American Film Festival and Speaker Series, organized by Scott Sicogon of the Community Engagement Center. The festival included screenings of “In the Light of Reverence,” “The Inquisis Speak Out for Mother Earth” and “A Circle of Women,” among other films, discussions with Native American leaders, sunrise ceremonies and talking circles.

On April 20, Pitzer welcomed Harrell Fletcher, who gave the Murray and Vicki Pepper Lecture. Fletcher, an artist working in Portland, OR, who is on the faculty of Portland State University, spoke on “Making Art With Strangers.”

On April 23 to 24, Pitzer held its annual Kohoutek Music Festival, organized by students. The 2011 lineup included Phantogram, The Octopus Project, Beat Connection, DJ Tony Fresch, the Modal Tease String Band and The Morning Birds.

The Fourth Annual Worker Solidarity 5K Run/Walk was held on April 23 to benefit the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center. The event began at Pitzer’s Brant Clock Tower, featuring a mariachi band, food and speakers and a run/walk route covering the 5Cs.

On April 28, the Pitzer Art Galleries opened Phenogenesis: An Evolution of Expression, the 2011 senior thesis exhibition, with a reception. Featuring work by 15 Pitzer seniors, the exhibit ran through April 14 in the Nichols, Atherton and Lenzner Galleries.

On April 29, the 7C Lavender Graduation was held in Balch Auditorium at Scripps College. The event celebrates the accomplishments of the College’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and ally graduates. Jehan Agrama, founder and former president of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, Los Angeles (GLAAD/LA), provided the keynote address.

On May 1, Pitzer alumnae gathered at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco for a panel discussion on “Women of Vision.” It was moderated by Cindy Gentry P’11, a senior partner at Mercer, Inc, and featured Jessica Hurley ’92, a producer/writer, Judith Selby Lang ’72, an artist, and Dee Mosbacher, MD, PhD ’72, a psychologist and filmmaker.

From May 1 to 5, the Field of Flags, a Holocaust memorial, was displayed on Commencement Plaza. Created by Mika Sato ‘11, each flag represented a person killed in the Holocaust.

On May 7, 5C Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) alumni gathered at the San Francisco home of Daniel Bendett ’06.

On July 12, PerpiTube: Repurposing Social Media exhibition co-curated by Pato Herbert and Alexandra Juhasz, professor of media studies, opened at the Nichols Gallery. The exhibition consisted of 29 weekly participants modeling a purposeful, complex and artful use of social networking technologies and the spaces that hold them. An archive of each presentation is available on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/PerpiTubeSpace.
1960s

- Deborah Deutsch Smith co-authored “The Changing Education Landscape: How Special Education Leadership Preparation Can Make A Difference for Teachers and Their Students with Disabilities,” the most downloaded article in Sage Publication’s Teacher Education and Special Education: The Journal of the Teacher Education Division of their Council for Exceptional Children.

- Elizabeth “Liese” Mueller ‘58 has semi-retired from teaching. She has been showcasing watercolors, which are mostly inspired by the Pacific Grove coastline and flowers.

- Susan Hall Pfitzer authored Lucky for Good, the final novel in her Lucky's Hand Pan trilogy, published in August 2011.

- Constance Blaine Van Eaton and her husband, Lon Van Eaton, were appointed delegates to the United Nations by the Conductor & Founder of the Symphony for United Nations.

1970s

- Hunter Lovins published Climate Capitalism in April. It was one of Amazon.com’s top 10 policy books.

- Elizabeth Coleman serves as educator at Colorado Academy. She was awarded a Fulbright-Hays to Syria and a Distinguished Teacher Fulbright. Her Distinguished Teaching Fulbright will take her to Israel and her Fulbright-Hays to Syria. Last year, Coleman won a TEA-IREX program.

- Lorni Brooks-Mansas celebrated her daughter Stephanie’s bat mitzvah on August 20.

1980s

- Bernhard Voelkel started his own consulting firm that provides solutions to communities on wildlife risk mitigation.

- David H. Wells was added to the Oryx Visionary program. David has been an admired and inspiring Oryx Pro. He specializes in in-depth photoessays for publications and exhibitions.

- John Waldman has a poem in the new edition of Slake, a Los Angeles literary magazine.

- Michael Philipp is an independent consultant developing and financing clean energy and energy efficiency projects. He works with countries such as Guyana, Colombia, Pakistan, Tanzania and China. He also co-authored a guidebook for World Bank staff on how to design energy efficient lighting programs.

- Sue Maberry co-curated an exhibition featured by Ms.

- Michael Parnes retired after 40 years working for the State of California. She continues to serve as a member of the National Park System Advisory Board, CA State Audubon Governing Board and the Land Trust Alliance Board of Directors.

- Verna Lee and her husband, Ron, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year.

- Anne Turley visited Rio de Janeiro with several of her best friends. In 2011, she moved back to Wilmington, DE, to care for her 95-year-old mother and reconnected with high school friends.

- Michael Philipp is an independent consultant developing and financing clean energy and energy efficiency projects. He works with countries such as Guyana, Colombia, Pakistan, Tanzania and China. He also co-authored a guidebook for World Bank staff on how to design energy efficient lighting programs.

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- Jane Rothfield moved to Philadelphia and works in advertising. She continues to play with her band, Red Hen Stringband. Her daughter, Shira, attends Berklee College of Music in Boston and her son, Jamie, just started high school.

- Brad Rothman works with the band Radio Eris with a CD due out shortly. He also works in the underwriting department at Aetna Insurance Company.

- Matt Lewis authored his first book, “When Feminist Art Went Public,” his current project at Otis College of Art and Design is titled “Do it in Public: Feminism and Art at the Woman’s Building.”

- Lorni Brooks-Mansas celebrated her daughter Stephanie’s bat mitzvah on August 20.

1990s

- Steve Prime and Natasha Goodwin Prime ’85 have been married for 21 years. Steve is the editor and co-producer on the sitcom “Mike and Molly.” Natasha is a counselor for special education students in middle and high school. Natasha has also started a teen center for local teens to have a safe and fun space to hang out. They have two children, Alexandra and Julian.

- Brian L. Carroll is a deputy public defender for Santa Barbara County. He’s been married to Karen Waite (‘86) for 20 years and they have two daughters, Natalie and Madeline.


- Yoan Jung Park returned to the US after living in South Africa with her family. She has a new affiliation with the African Studies Department at Howard University and is still researching, publishing and conferencing around issues related to Chinese in Africa. Her recent articles were published by Transformation, African Studies, African & Asian Studies and Source. She authored A Matter of Honour. Being Chinese in South Africa.

- Kipley J. Lytle married Diana Lukas in August last year in Montecito, California. Kipley serves as managing partner at Montecito Capital Management which Diana is litigation attorney with Snyder Law. Donald Cook ‘87, Robert Clanton ’86, Gordon Mize ’88, Charlie Black ’67 and Fichard Ten Chantal ’86 were in attendance.

- Stephanie Milter and her boyfriend, Todd, traveled the country on a baseball road trip.

- Adam Dorsey obtained his psychologist license. After 15 years in the corporate sector, he decided to pursue a doctorate in clinical psychology. He now works in private practice and the Center for Survivors of Torture. He has been married and has two sons. Peter Lear moved to Boulder, CO and works at Mental Health Partners as a clinical assessment specialist.

- Arij Bass and wife, Heather, three children and mother and brother traveled to Switzerland, Italy, Croatia, Slovenia and Austria.

- Seth Leibsohn and former Education Secretary William J. Bennett co-authored The Fight of Our Lives—Knowing the Enemy, Speaking the Truth, and Choosing to Win the War Against Radical Islam published by Thomas Nelson.

- Steven Fenton married Leesia Gabrel on April 20 in Beverly Hills, CA. Fenton serves as a member of the Beverly Hills Board of Education, Leesia, who co-authored “Entertaining Entertainment Tonight” for 16 years and hosted her own talk show, “Leesia,” for seven years, is currently the host of the PBS show, “My Generation.”

- Benjamin Heim Shepard co-authored The Beach Beneath the Streets: Contesting New York City’s Public Spaces published by State University of New York Press.

- Jack Hall made a generous donation to Pitzer in honor of thankingyou@pitzer.com

- Matthew D. Karatz was named mayor of the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Economic and Business Policy.

- Kevin Schommer was awarded the inaugural Catherine Doctorow Speaking the Truth, Choosing to Win Prize for Contemporary Painting from the Salt Lake Art Center and the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation.

- Ariel Lihiu just welcomed a daughter, Violet Desley Lihiu, into the world on August 27th, 2011. She weighed in at 6 ½ pounds and was 21 inches in length. Violet is her first child.

- Hayden Hamilton married Stephanie Brewer in Spannoccia, Italy on July 23, 2011. Hema Subramanian ‘89, Michael Hamilton ’82, Karina Nagin ’84 and Lena Rutrich ’84 were in attendance. Professors Jackie Levering Sulikan and Jack Sulikan attended their Oregon reception in August.

- Matty Morin is an office manager for linking, maker of interactive digital textbooks for tablet devices like Apple’s iPad. He’s also a licensed massage practitioner and lives with his boyfriend in San Francisco.

- Geoffrey Dennis and Rayen Pierattini Dennis ’03 married near San Antonio, TX, on October 10, 2016. They reside in Chicago where Ryan is an attorney and Geoff works for a public affairs firm.

- Ramona “Mona” Ausubel authored novels. No one is here except all of us and the story collection A Guide to Bring 80, both forthcoming from Riverhead Books. She is a contributor to The New Yorker, the Paris Review Daily, One Story: The Best American Fantasy and other journals.

- Tena Gonzalez Davies moved to Melbourne, Australia, after graduation. She married Chris Davies in June 2009 and the couple purchased their first home this April. Tena works as a child psychologist and cyber safety expert and is pursuing a doctorate in clinical psychology.

- Cynthia Norricks is the senior social media manager at Red Door Interactive. She was profiled in the March issue of 944 Magazine.
Kentaro Yamauchi is an artist currently living in Japan. His work was showcased at Metro Production Japan’s booth during Photo Next 2011 in June in Tokyo. He has a new photo book, Belgian Chocolate Truffles.

Katherine Kirby has worked in independent/alternative radio since she graduated and was awarded a 2011 research Fulbright to Italy. Her research will focus on how Radio Libre, independent radio stations formed in 1970s’ Italy have presented the topic of immigration.

Bennie Mackey presented the topic of immigration.

Libere, independent radio stations formed in 1970s’ Italy have researched Fulbright to Italy. Her research will focus on how Radio and Los Angeles.

Paramount Studios. They divide their time between Santa Barbara and Los Angeles. Ashley is the executive director of the Morris Squire Art Foundation and Clinton is a post-production supervisor based out of Santa Monica, CA. Ashley married Clinton Kyle Hollister on August 27 in Santa Barbara, CA.

Elise Salomon produced the feature film Paper Heart, which starred Michael Cera, Charlyne Yi and Jake M. Johnson. Paper Heart premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and won the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award. Her next project is her directorial debut titled, The Restless.

Chelsea Simms is an obstetrics services patient navigator at the University of California, Los Angeles Medical Center. She also volunteers both for the UCSF Volunteer Doula Program, a program she initiated in March of 2010 and continues to help and as a sexual assault crisis counselor for Bay Area Women Against Rape.

Derrick Boenysi co-founded As One Charity, a non-profit organization that ministers to the less fortunate community, particularly in downtown Los Angeles.

Marjorie Light released her solo album “Greige.” She also had her essay “Decolonization and the Filipino Arts Community in Los Angeles” published in the book Bayabayan: Filipinos and the Call of the Indigenous.

Katie Fahn (Lindenberg) married Jeff Fahn on July 16. Laurel Williams ‘05, Sydney Delaney ‘06, Kathleen Hall POM ‘09, Hannah Locke ‘07, Angela DiLaura ‘06, Kathleen Brooks ‘06, Carissa Clark ‘07, Jessica Meyers ’07 and Annie Lindberg POM ’03 were in attendance.

Christopher Ruth completed his masters of traditional oriental medicine from Emperor’s College of Traditional Oriental Medicine in Santa Monica, CA.

Gregory A. J. Ware attended the Foundation Polo Challenge for business.

Ashley Woods married Clinton Kyle Hollister on August 27 in Santa Barbara, CA. Ashley is the executive director of the Morris Squire Art Foundation and Clinton is a post-production supervisor based out of Paramount Studios. They divide their time between Santa Barbara and Los Angeles.

In Memoriam

Robert (Bob) Albert, emeritus professor of psychology, passed away in May. Professor Albert joined Pitzer in 1965 and will be remembered as remarkable teacher, advisor and scholar.

Claude de Chirico, a French instructor and a dormitory resident during the early years of the College, passed away in Paris on June 20. Although only at Pitzer for four years, she was very much a Pitzer stalwart in those early days.

Lauren H. Yamashiro Gerum ’01 passed away due to complications from a stroke in July. Laura was a member, motivator and friend to many at Pitzer. She helped establish the Center for Asian Pacific American Students (CAPAS). She majored in psychology and Asian American studies at Pitzer.

Newspaper October 2011

24 The Participant

FALL 2011 25
Branwen Williams is a new assistant professor of climate science for the W.M. Keck Science Department. She earned a PhD in geological sciences from Ohio State University, an MSc in biology from the University of Quebec in Montreal and a BSc, with honors, in marine and freshwater biology from the University of Guelph in Ontario. She also served as a postdoctoral fellow in chemical and physical sciences at the University of Toronto.

Williams’ research, which she often conducts through drilling, scuba and snorkeling collection, centers on the study of soft corals in the Pacific Ocean and how data obtained from these studies can be traceable to recent global warming.

On joining the Claremont Colleges, Williams says, “I am excited about the small class sizes and ability to interact closely with the students while teaching.”

Melissa Hidalgo received a PhD in cultural studies from the University of California, San Diego, and an MA in English from the University of Chicago. A Ford Foundation diversity fellow, her work explores issues of contemporary Chicana/o Latina/o education and pedagogy through Chicana/o Latina/o literature, film and other cultural forms.

Her publications include *Going Native on Wonder Woman’s Island: The Exoticization of Lesbian Sexuality in “Six and the City”* and her research will form the basis for her upcoming book about Mexicans, Chicanas/os and Morrissey.

At Pitzer, Hidalgo is teaching English and world literature. “I am most excited about working in an environment that supports faculty creativity and students’ active engagement with the outside world,” she says.

Ruti Talmor is a new assistant professor of media studies at Pitzer. She holds a PhD and a MA in anthropology from New York University, and previously served as the Mellon Research Fellow at the Humanities Center and as a visiting assistant professor of anthropology at Haverford College.

Talmor’s diverse work includes curating the Possible Cities: Africa in Photography and Video exhibition, as well as organizing the international symposium Imaging Africa. Her upcoming publications include *I Came to Meet Your Absence: Western Girls, Rasta Boys and Transatlantic Romance in Ghana* and her upcoming documentary film projects include *Sankofa: Building African Futures*.

“I am thrilled to be part of the Pitzer community. The ethos of the College, the students, faculty and staff, all the possibilities and potential collaborations, academically and through art and media practice,” says Talmor.

Bryan Thines earned his PhD in molecular plant sciences from Washington State University and his BS in biochemistry from State University of New York at Plattsburgh. He joins the W.M. Keck Science Department as an assistant professor of biology.

Thines’ research focuses on understanding how the circadian clock regulates rhythmic gene expression and optimizes growth in plants. He comes to Pitzer from a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, Berkeley.

“This type of educational setting allows for more interactive and dynamic lectures that one cannot experience at other institutions,” remarks Thines. “I look forward to class discussions that go beyond textbook material and also examine how our rapidly expanding scientific knowledge impacts daily life.”
Faculty Publications

Brent Armentinger (English and world literature) published his poems "This is What I Have Been Made For," "For Mount Billy," "What is a Prayer," "Catch and Release" and "Thieves Can't" in Prism Review and UJ.

Sarah Gilman (biology) co-authored "A Framework for Community Interactions under Climate Change," which was published in Trends in Ecology and Evolution.

Melinda Herrold-Menzies (environmental analysis) published "Muraviovo and Muraviovo Park," in Zhusek.


Alex Juhasz (media studies) authored "A Truly New Genre," which appeared in Inside Higher Education.

Brian L. Kenney (philosophy and science; technology and society) published "Career Advice: Getting a Job in Philosophy" in Inside Higher Education.

Jesse Lerner (media studies) authored "The Maya of Modernism," published by the University of New Mexico Press.

Leah Light (psychology) co-authored "Effects of Repetition on Associative Recognition: Item and Associative Strengthening," which appeared in Psychology and Aging.

Ronald Macaulay (linguistics, Emeritus) published "Book Drop" in Higher Education.

Bill Anthes (environment in China at the University of California, Berkeley.

Brent Armentinger (English and world literature) gave poetry readings at the Queen Faculty Symposium and at the Empty Globe Reading Series. In addition, he and students in English 128 (Writing the Body) facilitated a Community Writing Workshop at the Foothill AIDS Project.

Michael Ballagh (modern languages, literatures and cultures) co-presented a paper on "Interweaving Cultures" at the annual meeting of the International Studies Association.

Michelle Berendfeld (anthropology and history) co-authored "World History: Departures and Variations," which was published in A Companion to World History.

Sharon Snowsill (political studies) wrote "Ancient Futures: Science, Traditional Chinese Medicine and Ecology," which was translated into Chinese and published in Modern Philosophy.

Emma Stephens (economics) co-authored "Incomplete Credit Markets and Commodity Marketing Behavior," which appeared in the Journal of Agricultural Economics.

Anna Wenzel (chemistry) co-authored "Characterization and Dynamics of Substituted Ruthenocyclobutanes Relevant to the Olefin Cross-Metathesis Reaction" in the Journal of the American Chemical Society.


Daniel Segal (anthropology and history) co-authored "World History: Departures and Variations," which was published in A Companion to World History.

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Melinda Herrold-Menzies (environmental analysis) published "China’s Ethnic Peripheries" at the annual meeting of the National Ethnic Studies Association.


Alex Juhasz (media studies) authored "A Truly New Genre," which appeared in Inside Higher Education.

Brian L. Kenney (philosophy and science; technology and society) published "Career Advice: Getting a Job in Philosophy" in Inside Higher Education.

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Marion Preest (biology) led seminars on “Hormonal Stress Response and the Influence of Reproductive State in New Zealand Common Geckos” at the University of California, Irvine and Loma Linda University.

Kathleen Purvis-Roberts (Keck Science Department) presented posters on “Heavy Metal Contamination at the Pomona College Organic Farm” and “Concentration of Ethylamine and Methylamine Salts Measured by a Particle-Into-Liquid Sampler (PILS) and Ion Chromatography” at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society.

Norma Rodriguez and Leah Light (psychology) co-authored several papers with students that were presented at the Western Psychological Association Meeting and the Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science. Among the co-authored works were “The Green Eyed Network: Exploring Jealousy in Online Romantic Relationships,” “Betrayal in Past Relationships Affects Current Experiences of Jealousy,” and “The Role of Culture in Perceived Jealousy.”

Zhouchua Irene Tang (biology) co-chaired a panel on “Gene Expression and Signaling” at the International Fission Yeast Meeting, where she presented a co-authored paper titled, “LAMMER Kinase Kctp Exhibits Regulated Expression and Is Involved in Pre-mRNA Processing.”


Andre Wakefield (history) was awarded an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Fellowship for Experienced Researchers. He will spend the 2012-13 academic year in residence at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, writing a book about Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz.

Michael Woodcock (art and creative studies, Emeritus) held one-person exhibitions at the University of La Verne and the Pacific Northwest College of Art. He also exhibited in group shows at the Huntington Beach Art Center and Mt. San Antonio College.


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Brinda Sarathy (environmental analysis) is a Visiting Fellow at the City University of New York’s Center for Place, Culture and Politics. She also organized panels on “Environmental Apartheid and Justice in the Inland Valley” and “Bringing Critical Ethnic Studies to Environmental Studies” at a conference on Critical Ethnic Studies and the Future of Genocide.

Susan Seymour (anthropology, Emerita) presented a paper titled “Multiple Childcare and Attachment: A Discussion Using Two Contrasting Case Studies” at the Lemelson/Society for Psychological Anthropology Conference on Rethinking Attachment and Separation in Cross-Cultural Perspective.

Laura Skandera Trombley (English and world literature, President) co-organized the Malo Humanitas Council’s Summer Institute panel on “Why Mark Twain Still Matters: Exploring the Mississippi River Books.” She also presented at the American Humor Association/Mark Twain Circle Quadrennial Conference, the Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities, the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books and Talloires Network Global Leaders Conference.


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Michael Woodcock (art and creative studies, Emeritus) held one-person exhibitions at the University of La Verne and the Pacific Northwest College of Art. He also exhibited in group shows at the Huntington Beach Art Center and Mt. San Antonio College.


José Zapata Calderón

José Calderón gets emotional when talking about the highlights of his Pitzer career.

The professor of sociology and Chicana/o-Latina/o Studies, who retired this May after 20 years with the College, recalls some of the most exciting and uplifting moments of creating social change with students—on campus, in local communities and beyond—his eyes welling at times with tears of pride and memory.

One such moment occurred in 1995 when Pitzer students worked with Peter “Brother Pete” Velasco, one of the original leaders of a 1965 Filipino farm workers grape strike to change grapes served in McConnell Dining Hall from non-union to union-only grapes.

“Brother Pete was really moved. When he left Pitzer, he wrote a 27-page letter to the students saying that this was one of the brightest moments of his life, because the students treated him as a scholar, not just a farm worker,” explains Calderón, his voice cracking.

He spent 13 years organizing in his community and developing community centers. He later earned a fellowship to attend a PhD program in sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles. Through his PhD studies, Calderón was introduced to participatory research, which led to his position at Pitzer.

At Pitzer, Calderón connected students to social change, influencing many graduates who now work in labor, education or government, like Michelle Siqueros ’95, executive director of the Campaign for College Opportunity, Fabian Nunez ’97, the 66th speaker of the California State Assembly, and Kevin de Leon ’03, member of the California Senate. Two of his sons, Joaquin Calderón ’99 and José Luis Calderón ’03, also attended Pitzer.

This year, Calderón was chosen by students to serve as marshal at commencement. During the ceremony, he was lauded by President Laura Skandera Trombley. Trombley noted that over the past two decades Calderón presented more than 100 professional papers, brought over $1 million in grants and fellowships to Pitzer and founded the Pomona Day Labor Center. She also announced that two seats in Benson Auditorium would be dedicated to Calderón and his wife, Rose.

In his retirement, Calderón says he plans to travel to study democratic spaces, like factories run by workers in Spain, and continue his research and collaboration with MIT CoLab. “Now at 65, what Cesar Chavez said to me when I was 22 is really, really true,” reflects Calderón. “From that time to the present, I can truthfully say that I used every minute, every moment to empower others and I did it in such a way that I would always keep my principles and values.”

By Michele Botwin Raphael ’92
When Steve Glass retired this May, it marked the end of an era. Glass, the John A. McCarthy Professor of Classics, was the last remaining founding faculty member teaching at the College.

As classrooms and dorms were constructed around them, Glass and his ten colleagues constructed Pitzer. “We had to put a curriculum in place, and we had to have a few basic rules in place, but outside of that, we made the conscious decision not to determine the ethos of the College until the students arrived. We could talk it out with them and make them part of that decision,” Glass says. “We trust our students. We have always trusted our students.”

Glass continues, “Consider the notion of being or starting a new college in the 1960s. What are you going to do with it? There was a general awareness of social issues. When you went to Pitzer, you had to at least confront them, whether you bought them or not. It was a singular phenomenon. The students and the faculty became close, old friends as we all went through the same experience.”

Glass joined Pitzer after he earned his BA from Pomona College and his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. He received a call from a former professor about a position at Pitzer, recalling, “It was a snowy day in the Midwest and I thought about the matter for 30 seconds or so and decided to apply for the job.” A force in the classroom, Glass evoked “invigorating terror.” Some of his most memorable comments on student work include, “Sigh”; “This would be compelling if it were true” and “One wonders if you are a student in this class.” Yet, this jazz guitarist voluntarily listened to hard-rock radio stations to ensure he could connect with his students—and surprise them with references to Slipknot.

Nancy Rose Bushnell ’69 remembers Glass in class, saying, “In the classroom, he opened up new worlds in a mesmerizing way while teaching us to question ideas and information. He was incredibly demanding for which I am very grateful today.” In recognition of Glass’s contributions to Pitzer, Bushnell, with her late-husband David, founded the Stephen and Sandra Glass Annual Humanities Lecture in 2004.

Outside the classroom, Glass coached the Sageshens soccer team and became, with his wife Sandy, a renowned host to decades of Pitzer students and faculty. An avid oenophile, Glass has held several wine tastings on campus, most recently during the 2011 Alumni Weekend.

Other students also fondly remember Glass. “Professor Glass gave me my first C- on a paper. It was actually a wonderful learning lesson,” says Nancy Hawver ’71. Michael Pearson ’06 remembers, “Professor Glass has an amazing ability to articulate the intangibles of what makes Pitzer special. He is one of the reasons I love my alma mater.”

President Laura Skandera Trombley honored Glass at the 2011 Commencement Ceremony, recognizing him as “a living link between Pitzer’s past and present,” bestowing him with an honorary degree and announcing the creation of the Stephen L. Glass Commencement Plaza.

During his retirement, Glass will travel and continue to research the history and monuments of Greek athletics, his specialty. He says, “I want to read things I haven’t read, I want to see things I haven’t seen, even drink some wine I haven’t drunk. I want to fill in the blanks. That is how I am spending the time remaining.”

By Michele Botwin Raphael ’92
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Family Weekend

February 17-20, 2012

Friday, February 17
Opening reception with student performances

Saturday, February 18
Interactive sessions led by faculty and students
“State of the College” address by President Laura Skandera Trombley
Dinner and live music

Sunday, February 19
Walking tour of Pitzer’s native landscape

Monday, February 20
Closing breakfast
Class with your student

Visit www.pitzer.edu/familyweekend for more information.

Alumni Weekend

April 27-29, 2012

Reconnect with friends from the Claremont Colleges who will be celebrating their reunions too.

Visit www.pitzer.edu/alumni for more information.
For the eighth year, Pitzer College students and alumni were awarded the most Fulbright Fellowships per 1000.