PITZER COLLEGE
2011 REPORT OF EXCELLENCE
MISSION STATEMENT

Pitzer College produces engaged, socially responsible citizens of the world through an academically rigorous, interdisciplinary liberal arts education emphasizing social justice, intercultural understanding and environmental sensitivity. The meaningful participation of students, faculty and staff in college governance and academic program design is a Pitzer core value. Our community thrives within the mutually supportive framework of The Claremont Colleges, which provide an unsurpassed breadth of academic, athletic and social opportunities.

FOUNDED
1963 by Russell K. Pitzer, citrus rancher and philanthropist

PRESIDENT
Laura Skandera Trombley

PITZER CORE VALUES

At Pitzer, five core values distinguish our approach to education:

- SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING
- INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING
- STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
- ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
Pitzer students, faculty & staff volunteer more than 100,000 community service hours per year.

77% of the class of 2011 studied abroad.

Pitzer students named some of the happiest in the country and Pitzer food the 2nd best on any college campus in the US. — Newsweek

Pitzer was listed by U.S. News & World Report as one of the top 10 schools for Average Amount of Need-Based Aid Awarded

Pitzer is the first and only college in US to create a secular studies field group.

for the 2nd straight year Pitzer had the most student and alumni Fulbright Fellowship awardees among liberal arts colleges. — The Chronicle of Higher Education
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Calling Pitzer one of the nation’s
“Most Service-Oriented Schools,”
*Newsweek* also rated Pitzer among the
top 5 schools for activists.

Pitzer was named to the
*President’s Higher Education
Community Service Honor Roll*
for the 5th time in six years.

Pitzer awarded Carnegie Foundation’s Community
Engagement Classification of Curricular Engagement and
Outreach and Partnership.

Through Pitzer’s Community Engagement Center,
students, faculty & staff spend more than
100,000 hours
tutoring preschoolers, mentoring at-risk children, helping
prepare Native American youth for college, teaching
English as a second language to day laborers and much,
much more.

INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

Pitzer students studied in 29
countries learning 18 languages
in the 2010-11 academic year.

Almost 50%
of study abroad students pursued an
independent study project.

Pitzer called one of the top 10 schools for
*Lots of Race/Class Interaction*
by The Princeton Review.

150 acres in Costa Rica are set aside for
restoration and research at Pitzer’s Firestone Center for
Restoration Ecology.

**Vital vaccines** are developed through the
Marquet/Ferré Research Center on campus & in Botswana.
An ardent advocate of interdisciplinary education, Pitzer was named:

- one of the top colleges in the country
- one of the best in the west

by The Princeton Review on U.S. News & World Report’s list of top schools, jumping from #70 in less than a decade & ranking as the youngest college in the top 50.

More than 10% of the Class of 2011 graduated with a self-designed major.

100% of Pitzer’s tenured/tenure-track faculty hold a PhD or terminal degree in their field.

46% of Pitzer’s faculty are women, 36% are people of color and 69% are tenured.

The College was named one of the best values among private liberal arts colleges by Kiplinger.

Pitzer was again a top 20 pick among high school counselors. U.S. News & World Report.

Students help govern the College through the Student Senate, the College Council & planning committees.

Run the Green Bike Program, the locavore-loving Shakedown Cafe, the organic garden and the compost initiative.

Count among the happiest and most “free-spirited.” —Newsweek

Created the campus-wide recycling program.
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Pitzer is one of the 311 greenest colleges in the country—The Princeton Review.

16 tons: the amount of food waste the campus composes each year.

Pitzer’s landscaping is low-water and its dining hall is trayless to reduce waste and water use.

4 new mixed-use residence halls designed to meet LEED platinum standards are scheduled to open fall 2012.

Pitzer strives to be the first college in the US to have all gold or platinum LEED-certified residence halls.

50% Pitzer has cut water usage in half since 2002.

GO SAGEHENS

The Sagehen men’s water polo team became the 2011 Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) champions.

Top 10 Tennis: The Sagehen women’s tennis team was ranked 6th nationally and the men’s team was ranked 9th.

Sagehen women’s soccer tied for 2nd in the SCIAC and men’s soccer tied for 3rd.

Sagehen men’s and women’s cross country teams were named as All-Academic teams by the US Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Sagehen softball was ranked 4th in the nation in team GPA by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.
For the last 8 years, Pitzer College has been the national leader in Fulbright Fellowships per thousand students. Pitzer ranked 8th among colleges & research universities nationwide.

Fulbrights awarded to students and alumni in less than two decades.

#1 for the most student and alumni Fulbright Fellowship awardees among national undergraduate institutions—The Chronicle of Higher Education

Pitzer students and an alumna were awarded Fulbright Fellowships in the 2010-11 academic year.
2011 STUDENT AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIPS

Serena Acker '11, Colombia
Leora Acquino '11, South Korea
Allison Backman '11, Vietnam
Samuel Brown '11, Morocco
Hannah Carr '11, Malaysia
Janice Cho '11, Belgium
Liana Engie '11, Indonesia
Romy Feder '11, Costa Rica
Emma Fisher '11, South Korea
Rachel Haney '11, Austria
Anja Hughes-Stinson '11, Mongolia
Paul Kim '11, Thailand
Katherine Kirby '03, Italy
Sarah Lee '11, Thailand
Terra Michalowski '11, Armenia
Colin Mickle '11, Laos
Lily Wiggins '11, Indonesia
Edward Winslow '11, Spain
Eliot Yasumura '11, Indonesia
Christopher Young '11, Bulgaria
MORE STUDENT AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Lisa Bastio ’13
2011 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship

Jacob Caron ’11
Signed with the Utah Blaze football team

David Colvin ’11
Drafted by the Seattle Mariners

Roxanne Degens ’12
The Andrew Mellon Foundation Intercollegiate Environmental Analysis Summer Research Grant

Dylan Farrell ’12
The Andrew Mellon Foundation Intercollegiate Environmental Analysis Summer Research Grant

Leonardo Flores ’14
Kemper Scholarship

Emma French ’13
The Andrew Mellon Foundation Intercollegiate Environmental Analysis Summer Research Grant

Braden Holstege ’14
Finalist, Madison Cup debate tournament at James Madison University

Scott Hunter ’12
New York State Summer Writers Institute Scholarship

Cody Klock ’12
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Enid Hall Griswold Memorial Scholarship

Patricio Ku ’11
2011 Teach For America Fellowship

Sarah Lee ’11
2011 Teach For America Fellowship

James Moss ’13
Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship

Isabel Neal ’12
The Andrew Mellon Foundation Intercollegiate Environmental Analysis Summer Research Grant

Elizabeth “Biz” Pedersen ’14
Harvard National Model United Nations Best Delegate

Peter Rominger ’14
W. M. Keck Foundation Summer Research Fellowship

Nicolas Rosa ’13
Finalist, Madison Cup debate tournament at James Madison University

Isabella Thorndike ’12
Udall Scholarship

Acadia Tucker ’11
The Andrew Mellon Foundation Intercollegiate Environmental Analysis Summer Research Grant

Elise Wanger ’12
New York State Summer Writers Institute Scholarship

Sara Vander Zwaag ’11
New York State Summer Writers Institute Scholarship
2011 FACULTY AWARDS AND HONORS

Timothy Berg (Art) curated the 67th Scripps College Ceramic Annual: Making Fun and had solo exhibition, on the brink, at the Dean Project in New York, NY.

José Zapata Calderón (Sociology and Chicana/o-Latina/o Studies, Emeritus) appointed to the Community Advisory Board for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Community Innovators Lab.

Ciara Ennis (Pitzer Art Galleries) judged the 2011 Lorser Feitelson & Helen Lundeberg Feitelson Arts Fellowship and served as a nominator for the Catherine Doctorow Prize for Contemporary Painting.

Received a grant from the Pasadena Art Alliance for the Synthetic Ritual catalog.

Paul Faulstich (Environmental Analysis) received the City of Claremont 2011 Excellence in Design Award for Sustainable Landscaping and was appointed to the Australian Research Council.

Named principal investigator and project coordinator for an Arthur Vining Davis Foundation Grant to develop an academic program on Sustainability and the Built Environment.

Azamat Junisbai (Sociology) received an International Research & Exchanges Board Short-Term Travel Grant for research on Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.

Jesse Lerner (Media Studies) served as film curator for Crisiss: América Latina, 1910–2010 at the Palacio Nacional de Bellas Artes in Mexico City and as a juror for the City of Los Angeles (COLA) fellowships.

Received a Creative Capital/Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant and post-production funding from the Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografía for his documentary The Absent Stone.

Leah Light (Psychology) appointed Associate Editor of the journal Consciousness and Cognition and chaired the Journal Advisory Committee of the American Psychological Association, 2010–2011.

Jessica McCoy (Art) Artist in Residence at La Macina Di San Cresci—Greve in Chianti, Italy; recipient of the Purchase Award from the Woodbury Art Museum and the People’s Choice Award at Au Naturel: The Nude in the 21st Century exhibit at Clatsop Community College.

John Milton (Biology) received a National Science Foundation Research Grant for his project, Noise, Delays and Development of Expertise.

David Moore (Psychology) received a National Science Foundation Grant for a workshop, Exploring the Concept of Homology in Developmental Psychology.

Received a National Science Foundation Grant for intercollegiate research and training in cognitive neuroscience.

Brinda Sarathy (Environmental Analysis) awarded a visiting fellowship at the Center for Place, Culture and Politics in New York.

Andre Wakefield (History) awarded an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Fellowship for Experienced Researchers.

Michael Woodcock (Art and Creative Studies, Emeritus) exhibited at the University of La Verne, the Pacific Northwest College of Art, the Huntington Beach Art Center and Mt. San Antonio College.
2011 FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Brent Armendinger (English and World Literature) “A la Recherche d’Rechercher,” text and image collages, Court Green, vol. 1, no. 8 (March 2011). With Benjamin Fife.

“This Is What I Have Been Made For,” poetry, Volt, vol. 1, no. 16 (April 2011).


Nigel Boyle (Political Studies) “Coaxing Fulbright Applications from Non-traditional Students,” Fulbright Program Adviser Newsletter (June 2011).


Ming-Yuen S. Ma (Media Studies) “Specters of Memory: An Artist Statement (Displaced),” in Gina Marchetti and Tan See-Kam, eds., Hong Kong Screenscapes. Hong Kong: University of Hong Kong Press, 2011.


In 2011, Pitzer alumni included a Pulitzer Prize winner, a state Supreme Court judge, a California state senator, a restaurateur of the year and at least two “local heroes.”

Jacob Adams ’78 named executive vice president and provost for the Claremont Graduate University.

Ramona Ausubel ’01 authored the novel No One is Here Except All of Us and published short stories in The New Yorker and The Paris Review.

Bridget Baker ’82 gave the keynote speech at the 2011 District CASE VII Conference.

Max Brooks ’94 gave the keynote address at Pitzer’s 2011 Commencement. The movie starring Brad Pitt based on his bestselling book, World War Z: An Oral History of the Zombie War, is scheduled to be released in 2013.

Margaret Carothers ’80, Pitzer’s director of financial aid, and Jessica Hardy ’01, were honored with the President’s Award by the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

Kevin de León ’03 was elected to the California State Senate.

Martin Durazo ’90 was awarded a 2011 California Community Foundation Fellowship for Visual Artists.

Susan Feniger ’76 named 2011 CalTravel Restaurateur of the Year by California Travel Association, Los Angeles Chefs of the Year by Planned Parenthood and received the Visionary Award from the Program for Torture Victims.


Ruett Foster ’81 and Rhonda Foster ’82 named 2011 Local Heroes by KCET and Union Bank.

Mary Beth Garber ’68 appointed as new executive vice president for radio analysis and insights at the Katz Radio Group.

Rebecca Goldfarb ’96 had her work included in the California Biennial at the Orange County Museum of Art.

Steven González ’85 appointed to the Washington State Supreme Court.

Jeff Gottlieb ’75 won the Pulitzer Prize for public service and the George Polk Award in Journalism, among other awards, for exposing corruption in the city of Bell in the Los Angeles Times.

Nancy Judd ’90 had her 2009 work “Obamanos Coat” added to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture’s permanent collection.

Matthew D. Karatz ’94 appointed deputy mayor of the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Economic and Business Policy.

Seth Leibsohn ’91 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.


Bryan Mu ’97 appointed the new vice president of program and primary research for The Style Network.

Matt Nathanson ’95 released his eighth studio album Modern Love.

Susan Patron ’69 authored Lucky for Good published by Simon & Schuster/Atheneum Books for Young Readers.

Elizabeth Russell ’74 named chief executive officer of SCAN Health Plan Arizona and SCAN Long Term Care Arizona.

Kim Schoenstadt ’95 awarded the inaugural Catherine Doctorow Prize for Contemporary Painting from the Salt Lake Art Center and the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation. She also developed a site-specific installation for the Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions.

Deborah Deutsch Smith ’68 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 Teacher Education and Special Education: The Journal of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children.

Kenneth Weisbart ’91 selected as a 2010-11 Coro Executive Fellow.