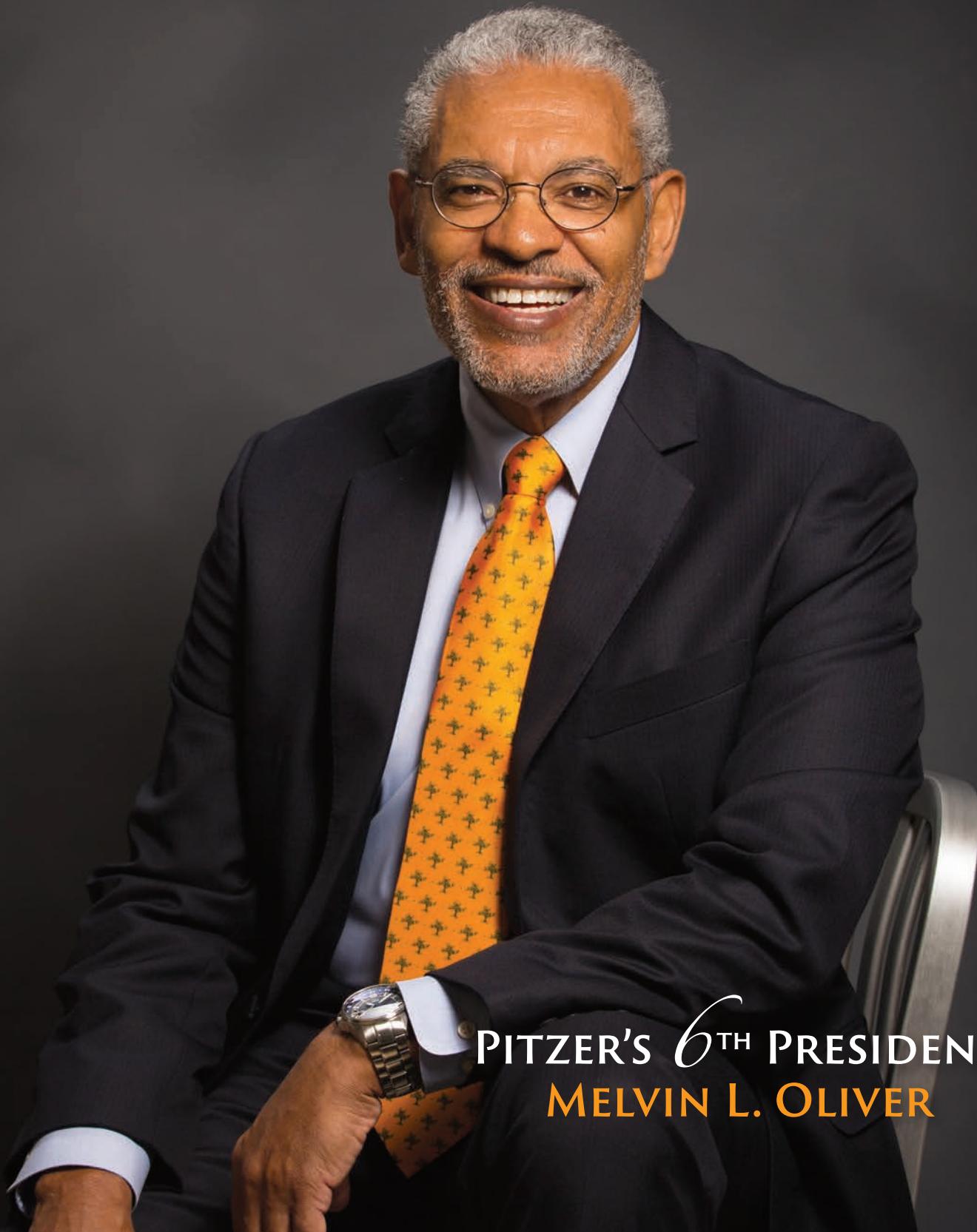


PITZER COLLEGE

The Participant

Vol. 49 No. 2

Fall 2016



PITZER'S 6TH PRESIDENT
MELVIN L. OLIVER



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Beginnings bring deep emotions and new feelings. For me, becoming the sixth president of Pitzer College is full of anticipation and excitement. When my wife, Suzanne, and I welcomed the Class of 2020 this fall, I realized that my feelings mirrored those of our entering class. Together with Pitzer's incoming students, we embarked on a new stage of our lives that is rich with opportunities for success, the potential for failure and the promise of growth. The overwhelming warmth and welcome from every member of the Pitzer community—students, faculty, alumni, staff, trustees and parents—made our beginning so meaningful. Thank you for welcoming us to Pitzer College and the Claremont community.

I began my presidency of Pitzer College during a history-making national presidential election that has challenged the founding ideals of our country—who can come, who can stay, who must go, and definitions of citizens' rights and responsibilities. A diverse college like Pitzer demonstrates to the world that the meaning of America—and Pitzer—is clear. Our community of people with different races, nationalities, gender identities and sexual orientations, of immigrants and non-immigrants, of the religious and the nonreligious, of rich and poor, brings its collective strength to our shared aspirations. The road to social justice is not always easy, and there will be obstacles, but we will find our way.



This is a particularly poignant moment for Pitzer College. We in higher education are on the front lines of cultural change and social justice. We are responsible for learning from the past and moving forward to shape a better future.

Today, student voices rise above democracy's cacophony in a way not heard since the 1960s, when Pitzer College was founded. Our students demand justice and challenge each of us to live our values. I am proud to be the president of a campus where students express themselves so passionately and stand firm in their pursuit of equality.

Together, we will find solutions, overcome today's challenges and build a stronger Pitzer for tomorrow's students.

Suzanne and I look forward to seeing you at Alumni Reunion Weekend in April. I personally invite you to my inauguration—a time to reflect on our past and look forward to our future together—on March 25, 2017.

Passion. Purpose. Pitzer.

Melvin L. Oliver
President, Pitzer College

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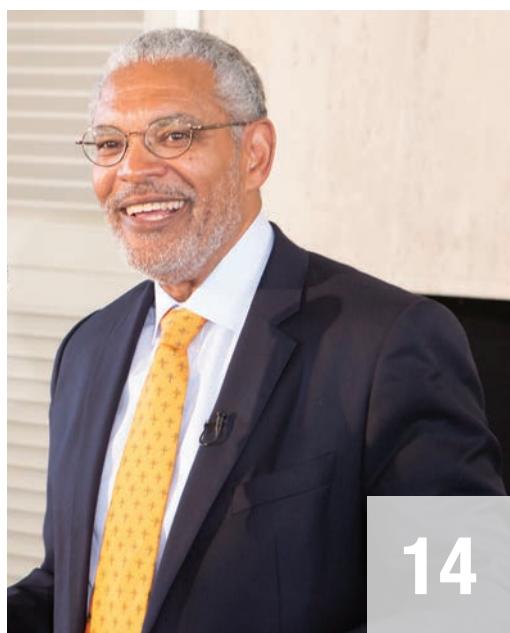
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The Participant

Fall 2016

President
Melvin L. Oliver

Editor-in-Chief
Mark R. Bailey

Managing Editor
Anna Chang

Editor
Susan Warmbrunn

Designers
Stephanie Estrada
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Contributing Writers
Lawrence D. Bobo
Brenda Bolinger
Stacy Elliott
Jenna Gough
Sam Porter

Photographers
Laurie Babcock
Juan Carlos Briceno
Liam Brooks '18
David Cross
Chance Kawar '17
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Maria Melendrez '16
Scott Phillips
Cam Sanders
William Vasta

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www.pitzer.edu

The diverse opinions expressed in *The Participant* are those of the individual profilees and do not necessarily represent the views of the editors or the College administration. *The Participant* welcomes comments from its readers.

Pitzer College is a nationally top-ranked undergraduate college of the liberal arts and sciences. Pitzer offers a distinctive approach to a liberal arts education by linking intellectual inquiry with interdisciplinary studies, cultural immersion, social responsibility and community involvement.



 **PITZER COLLEGE**
A MEMBER OF THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES



John Landgraf '84

transforming television one story at a time

As CEO of FX Networks and FX Productions, Pitzer alumnus John Landgraf '84 increased original programming 600 percent at FX since 2004. How? By developing award-winning, genre-bending shows such as *The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story*, *Fargo* and *American Horror Story*. In 2016, FX Networks earned 56 Emmy nominations and took home 18 statues, handily surpassing basic cable's previous record of eight.

The man who *Adweek* named TV Executive of the Year, and who producer Ryan Murphy thanked during the 2016 Emmy Awards for "being a leader of inclusion and supporting all types of storytelling," continues to be inspired by the ideas that made him a standout anthropology major at Pitzer.

"Storytellers have a unique place in human culture," he told the Television Critics Association this summer. "We are the only animal that tells stories."

Landgraf took the path less traveled and turned the human experience into TV shows we can't stop watching.

Follow your passion

PITZER
PATHFINDER

Pitzer alumni take the path less traveled...
and make a world of difference.

Introducing the Class of 2020

Two hundred and sixty-two first-year students



Students of Color: **36.3%**
First-Generation: **14.5%**
Average High School GPA: **3.82**



Applications: **4,142**
Acceptance Rate: **13.4%**

Women: **51.1%** • Men: **42.8%** • Another Gender **2.3%** • Undisclosed: **3.8%**
Out-of-State: **61.1%** • In-State: **38.9%** • International: **7.3%**

The Class of 2020 spent over **92,000 hours** living Pitzer's core values by engaging with communities both at home and abroad

Community Service
49,840 hours



Foreign/Cultural Exchange
26,844 hours



Student Government
10,401 hours



Environmental Action
5,806 hours

Before coming to Pitzer, the College's newest students...



Helped engage and empower young women by developing sexual health and education classes in Nicaragua



Started a series of community dialogues in five high schools about racial discrimination and injustice



Planned and hosted a large benefit concert for Syrian refugees, not just to raise funds, but to inspire peers to address the migrant crisis

Members of the Class of 2020 are

citizens of 27 countries around the world...

77 have lived outside of the US

182 speak more than one language

PITZER ALSO WELCOMES

10 Transfers, **7** New Resources Students and **7** International Scholars Program Students

Yvonne Berumen '97

Admission VP, Advocate, Alumna

Neary 20 years after graduating with a degree in psychology and sociology, Yvonne Berumen '97 returned to Pitzer College as its new vice president for admission and financial aid. An advocate for underrepresented college students, Berumen was most recently the vice president of scholarships and academic support services at the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF), where her primary role was to oversee the HSF Scholarship and manage the Gates Millennium Scholarship. Prior to joining HSF, Berumen worked in admissions at Occidental College, Pitzer College and Mount Saint Mary's University.

In her new role at Pitzer, Berumen is responsible for developing a strategic outreach and enrollment plan that reflects Pitzer's core values and recruits a talented and diverse student body.

"I am passionate about finding students who will benefit from the Pitzer experience," said Berumen, who was the first in her family to go to college. "Pitzer students are engaged in their education. They are here to challenge and be challenged. Speaking as an alumna, I know firsthand that a Pitzer education serves a greater purpose."



A Calling Together

Pitzer's 2016 Convocation symbolized both a beginning and a bookend for incoming students.

"The word 'convocation' means literally 'a calling together,'" Interim Dean of Faculty Nigel Boyle said to a packed house in Benson Auditorium.

"We look forward to calling you together again in this very room at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 16, 2020, when you will be ready to process out to your Pitzer graduation."

On August 29, 2016, Pitzer's newest students formally kicked off their college careers while faculty and staff, in full regalia, welcomed them to the College and the start of their liberal

arts education.

Convocation 2016 also marked the beginning of what Boyle called the "Oliver Era."

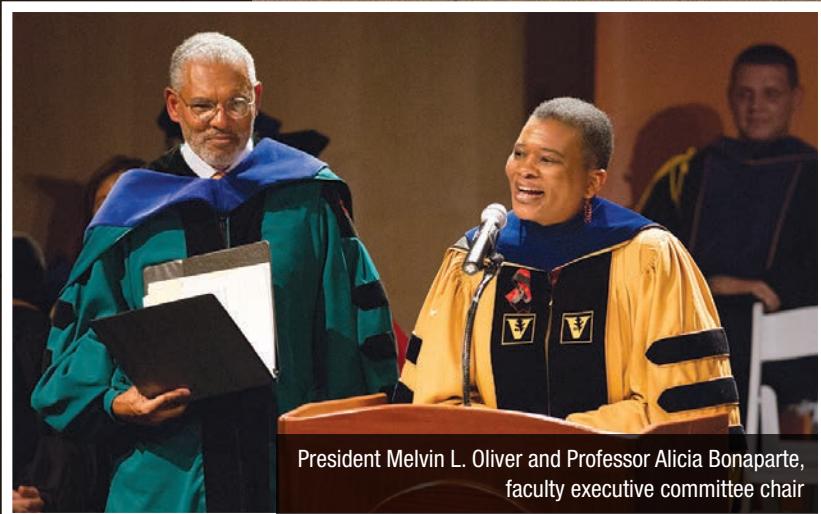
Melvin L. Oliver, who became Pitzer's sixth president only 59 days earlier, told the incoming students: "You and I are beginning our first year at Pitzer together."

"To take advantage of all that you have before you," he said, "you must take advantage of what I call the currency of the College...intellectual curiosity."



“Intellectual curiosity is the currency of the academic realm, especially of the liberal arts. In an environment with as many opportunities as ours, intellectual curiosity opens the treasures that await you.”

—President Melvin L. Oliver
2016 Pitzer College Convocation



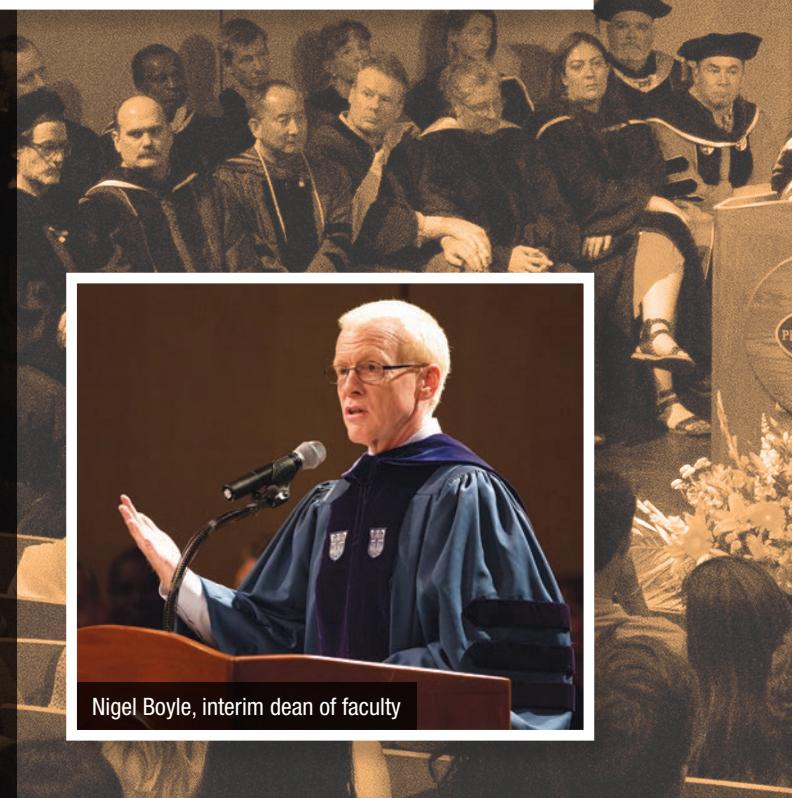
President Melvin L. Oliver and Professor Alicia Bonaparte,
faculty executive committee chair

Intellectual curiosity flourishes in a place Josue Pasillas '17, president of the Pitzer College Student Senate, called “my second home.”

“Welcome to an environment of support and success,” Pasillas said. “Welcome to the beginning of the next stage of your lives, where you will form friendships that last a lifetime.”

Brian Carlisle, vice president for student affairs, may have helped spark a few of those formational friendships when he asked students to turn to one another and look for a bit of themselves in the faces of their classmates. “You were meant for Pitzer,” Carlisle said. “You were meant to be here, with each other, for each other, during this educational and life journey.”

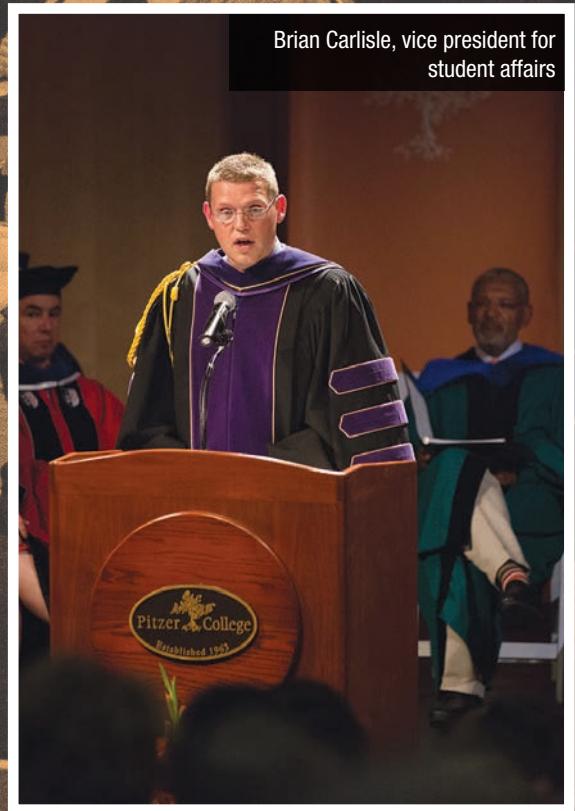
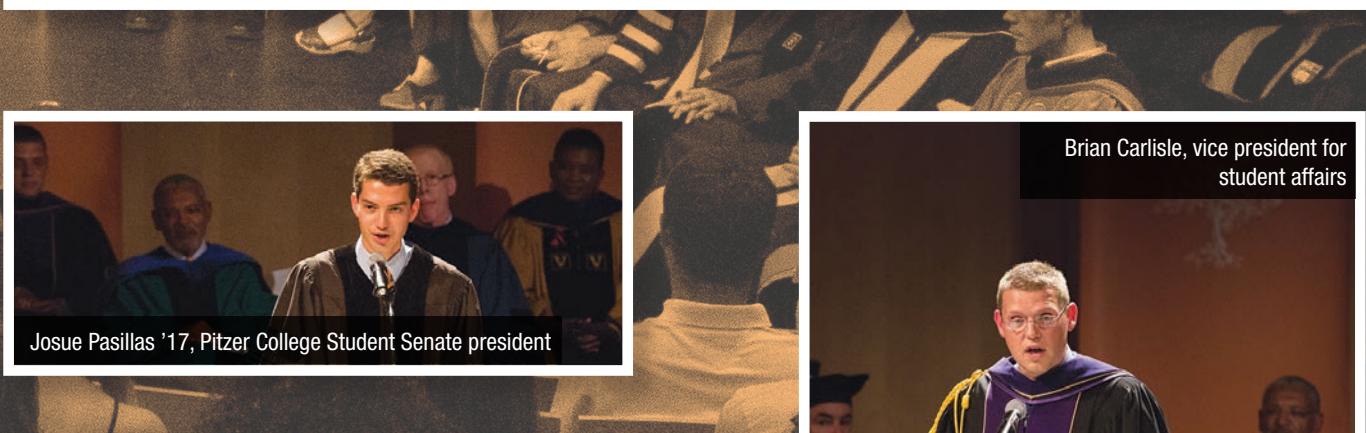
At the end of the ceremony, President Oliver and Faculty Executive Committee Chair Alicia Bonaparte officially introduced Pitzer’s new students, who walked out of the auditorium into a trellis of outstretched arms and hail of high fives from the awaiting Pitzer College community.



Nigel Boyle, interim dean of faculty



Faculty, staff and students greet the newest members of the Pitzer community



US Presidential ELECTION REACTIONS

Ripple Across Campus

The morning after the 2016 presidential election, Pitzer's campus was quiet, almost still.

"It was a nice day, but nobody was out on the Mounds," said Chance Kawar '17. "The mood was somber."

As senior class president and the head of Pitzer Activities, Kawar had helped arrange an election night party. Like many people across the country, most students in the room expected Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton to become the first female president of the United States that night. Instead, just after 11:30 p.m. PST on November 8, the Associated Press called the election for Donald Trump, the Republican candidate who had proposed a temporary ban on Muslims entering the US, pledged to deport millions of undocumented immigrants and referred to climate change as a hoax during his nearly 17-month-long presidential campaign.

It was such a defeat," said Kawar, who is majoring in political studies at Pitzer. "Latino students, LGBTQ students, Muslim students and people who are generally not in a position

of power now feel particularly vulnerable. Viewpoints that were seen as extremist are being normalized. I think that honestly scares a lot of people."

The next morning, Pitzer College President Melvin L. Oliver called for students, faculty and staff to "come together to consider the implications for all members of our community and for a college committed to social justice and intercultural understanding."

"We need to express our fears and concerns and discuss how we can move forward," Oliver wrote in an email. "However each of us chooses to respond to the challenges presented by the results of this historic presidential election, I encourage us to care for one another and focus on our shared positive values."

That afternoon, more than 100 students, faculty and staff gathered in the Gold Student Health & Wellness

Miller Saltzman '17, above, and President Melvin L. Oliver, right, led a community dialogue the day after the election.



Center. Pitzer senior Miller Saltzman '17 and President Oliver led the discussion and listened as people shared their perspectives, their fears and their plans for action.

In classrooms, professors threw out their lesson plans. Professor of Psychology Mita Banerjee had a test scheduled for her Introduction to Psychology class. She postponed it and held a teach-in instead, incorporating previous readings about health, stress and coping into the discussion.

"I tried to tie the conversation to concepts, as well as emotions," Banerjee said. "I think the intellectual and interdisciplinary elements of a liberal arts education, and more specifically a Pitzer education, have the potential to help us understand what's happening and to find some ways forward to a better moment."

Professor of Anthropology Claudia Strauss, who studies Americans' views on immigration and economic fairness, spoke with her Field Methods class about using the anthropological method to understand the outcome of the election.

"I'm going to fight every attempt to pick on the most marginalized people in society, but we've got to give other human beings the minimal respect of trying to understand their world view," she said. "That is the heart of what we do as anthropologists."

Strauss, who organized a vigil in Claremont on the day after the election, says seeking such insight doesn't preclude taking political action.

"We are going to try to understand others and use that understanding to reflect on our own views," she said. "At the same time, we can voice our opposition to others' refusal to accord the same respect to ethnic and religious minorities."

In the days following the election, students across The Claremont Colleges and the country—from the University of Connecticut to



Hundreds of students, faculty, staff and community members marched under the banner of Claremont Colleges United Against Hate on November 11.

the University of California—stood up and took to the streets. Hundreds of people marched under the banner of Claremont Colleges United Against Hate. Pitzer sophomore Jacquelyn Aguilera '19 told *The Student Life* newspaper that she organized the event to “hold the Claremont community and institutions responsible to build upon their support for marginalized communities.”

The Pitzer Faculty Executive Committee issued a statement reaffirming professors’ commitment to the College’s core values and standing “in solidarity against the hate that has become normalized discourse in this campaign.”

President Oliver joined hundreds of college and university presidents who have signed a statement calling for the continuation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which gives more than 700,000 young people who came to the US illegally as children short-term protection against deportation and a two-year renewable work permit.

Members of the Pitzer College Student Senate introduced resolutions urging Claremont to become a “sanctuary city” and another “standing in solidarity with current and future undocumented students.”

President Oliver and the Pitzer College Board of Trustees declared Pitzer a sanctuary college, committed to protecting members of the college community “from unfair deportation, investigation or other forms of intimidation.”

Adrian Pantoja, professor of political studies and Chicano studies, says he has been reminding students since the election that “politics is not a one-shot deal.”

“Be engaged, stay engaged, run for office,” he has told them. “The baton is going to be passed to the next generation, so it’s up to you to take politics in new directions.”

Pitzer junior Hajar Hammado '18 plans to do just that. Hammado, who is vice president of Pitzer’s Student Senate and worked on California Attorney General Kamala Harris’ successful campaign for US Senate this fall, is applying to summer internships on Capitol Hill and hopes to examine the 2016 election in an independent study class next semester, focusing not only on what happened, but on what happens next.

“I feel like everyone is very lost, and I’m very lost,” she said. “But as someone who wants to go into public service, it’s important to find a strategic way forward.”

President Oliver and Board of Trustees Declare Pitzer a Sanctuary College

Dear Pitzer Community,

Over the past several weeks, in the aftermath of the recent presidential election, our campus has been actively engaged in discussions about “what is to be done.” Our campus, committed to social justice, intercultural understanding and the richness of diversity in our community, is rightly concerned that important members of our community—immigrant students, DACA students, Muslim students—will be targeted because of their immigration status or religious beliefs. As a community we stand with them, and as a college we pledge our support to them. It is for these reasons that I, and the Board of Trustees, declare Pitzer College to be a sanctuary college regarding immigration.

We join other colleges across the United States that have declared themselves sanctuary colleges. What this means differs from institution to institution. For Pitzer College, a sanctuary college includes:

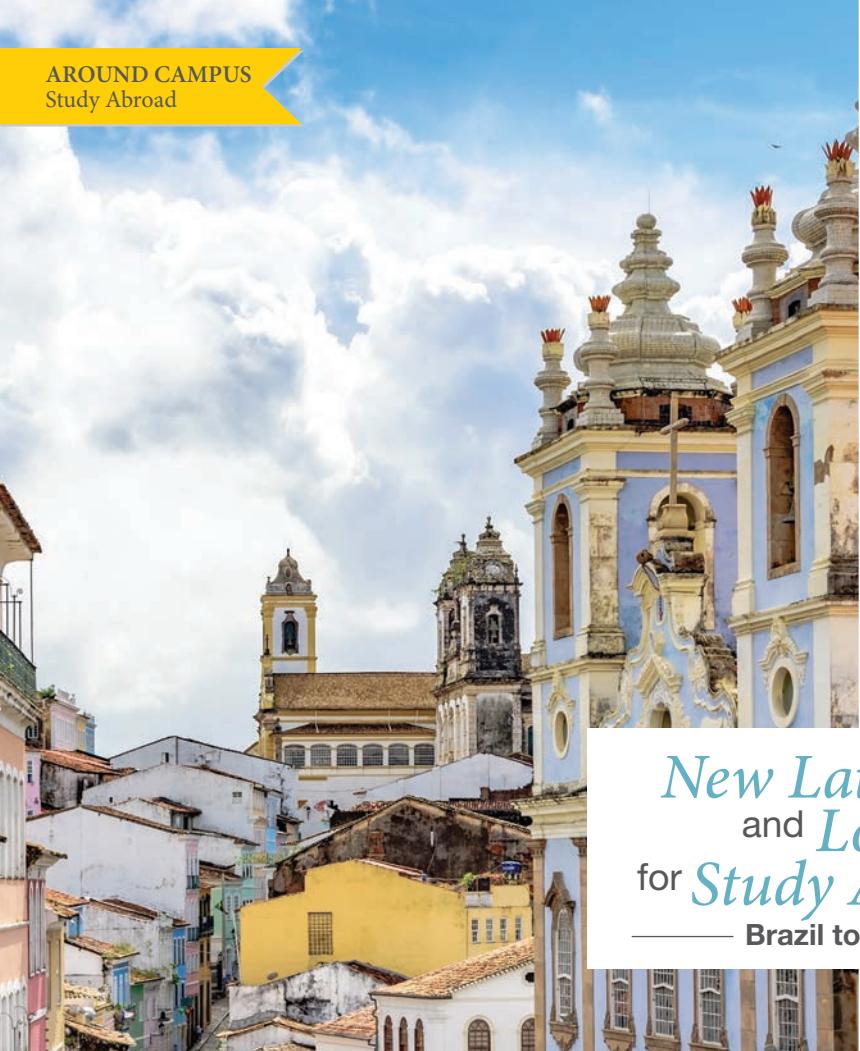
1. Pitzer College commits to protecting members of our community from unfair deportation, investigation and/or other forms of intimidation.
2. Pitzer College will not voluntarily comply with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or other public authorities, in any investigation of the immigration status of any member of our community.
3. Pitzer College will continue to uphold the right of undocumented and DACAmented students to complete their educations with Pitzer financial aid, and we will continue to recruit future such students as domestic applicants.
4. Pitzer College will provide enhanced support for undocumented and DACAmented students so they can continue to reap the full benefits of a Pitzer education.

Pitzer College’s mission has distinguished itself with its focus on social justice and intercultural understanding. It is thus fitting that we join the struggle to support those in our community who may be vulnerable to new threats. We pledge to work with other institutions in the emerging sanctuary movement to fight against efforts that undermine the ability of undocumented and DACAmented people to pursue educational and employment opportunities.

As president of Pitzer College, I will continue to join other leaders in the higher education community to make our voices heard by the incoming administration on policies and other issues related to diversity, funding and oversight of higher education. As a first step, I have endorsed a statement by college and university presidents to national leaders in support of the DACA program and undocumented immigrant students. In addition, I will be working with the other Claremont Colleges presidents to ensure that all vulnerable students at The Claremont Colleges are supported and successful. And finally, I am working with a national task force of immigration educators and attorneys to monitor the current situation and to intervene in productive ways in emerging immigration policy.

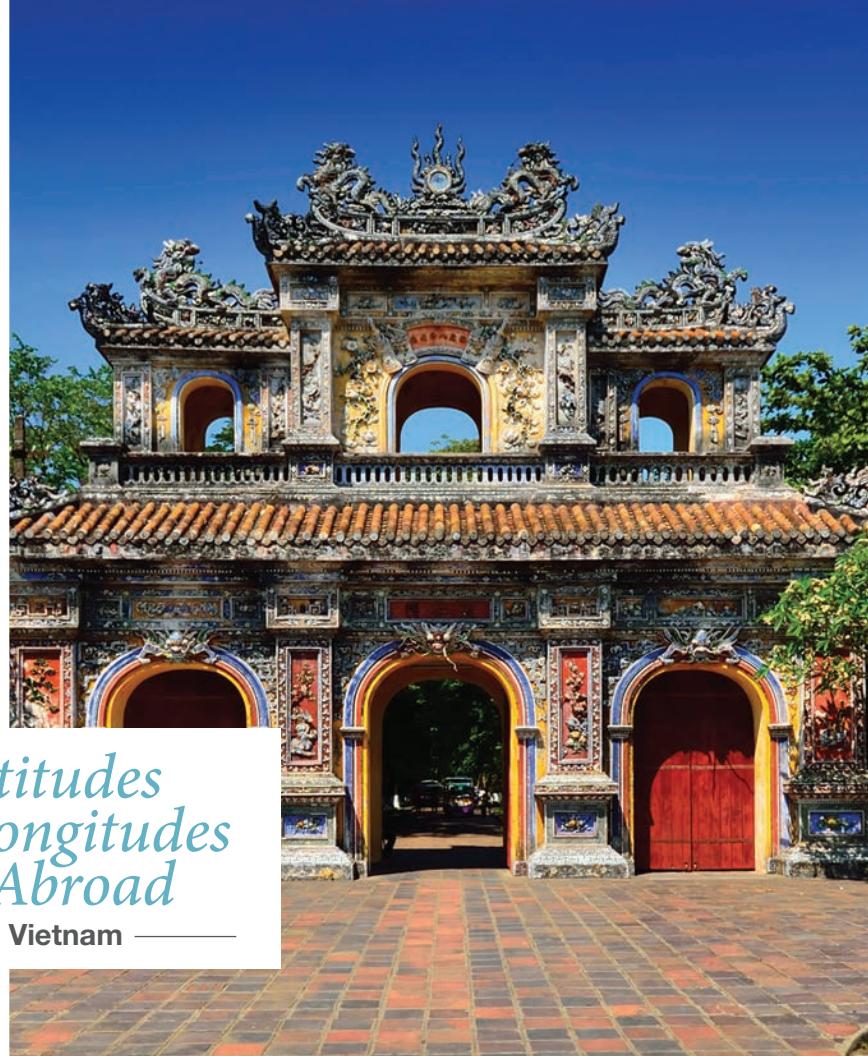
I am aware that these are small steps, some of which are already policy, but it is the beginning of a long process to ensure that all our students are protected to the fullest extent possible. This means that we will pursue resources to support those efforts so that all our students, including undocumented or of immigrant status, can continue to benefit from a Pitzer education and become socially responsible citizens of the world who truly make a difference.

Melvin L. Oliver
President



New Latitudes and Longitudes for Study Abroad

Brazil to Vietnam



This fall, Pitzer College added Brazil and Vietnam to its constellation of study abroad destinations. The two summer programs, in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, and Hué, Vietnam, are 10,000 miles apart, but they share a unifying goal: to give more students the chance to live in a new country and learn a new language.

The blueprints for the programs garnered a US Department of State 2016 Capacity Building Grant for US Undergraduate Study Abroad this past summer. Pitzer was one of 18 higher education institutions—and the only liberal arts college—to receive this grant, which is designed to increase participation and diversity in study abroad programs.

Shorter summer sessions, spanning approximately six weeks, make going abroad easier for students who work or help take care of family members, according to Michael Ballagh, associate vice president for study abroad and international programs.

"For a lot of students, going abroad for a semester might not be possible," Ballagh said. "In a condensed time frame, these two new summer programs combine all the cornerstones of Pitzer's approach to study abroad: intensive language learning, host family experiences, courses on key local issues, internships and study trips."

Pitzer's Office of Study Abroad collaborated with the Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures Field Group to develop programs that expand language offerings at Pitzer and The Claremont Colleges. Both Portuguese and Vietnamese are classified as "less commonly taught

languages" often not found in college course catalogs; the Brazil program adds an immersive component to Pitzer's Portuguese curriculum, and Vietnamese is not currently offered at the 5Cs.

The summer sessions will be central to what Ballagh calls a year-round "sandwich model" of language learning, with introductory Portuguese or Vietnamese courses in the spring, language immersion abroad in the summer and community-based exchanges with local Portuguese and Vietnamese speakers in the fall.

The new programs in Brazil and Vietnam underscore Pitzer's long-term commitment to developing programs outside common study abroad locations; more than half of US students who study abroad pack their bags for Europe, according to a 2016 report by the Institute of International Education.

Salvador da Bahia and Hué are both UNESCO World Heritage sites, known not only for their beauty but for their rich, complex histories. Salvador da Bahia is a center of Afro-Brazilian culture and lives with the legacy of the Brazilian slave trade and colonialism. Hué, the former imperial capital of Vietnam, lies in a region that played a critical role in the US-Vietnam War and is today home to many minority communities.

Christine Leung '19 and her twin brother, Peter Leung '19, attended the first information session for the Vietnam summer program. Growing up in Southern California, they traveled outside the US only to visit Mexico. They're interested in learning a new language, studying abroad during the summer and interning internationally, but, above all, they want to push the boundaries of familiar borders.

"We haven't been exposed to many different cultures, even though our parents come from Hong Kong," Christine said. "To be immersed in another culture for a summer would be amazing."

From the Archives

Pitzer's Presidents

In anticipation of the inauguration of Pitzer's sixth president, Melvin L. Oliver, the Pitzer College Archives looked back at the men and women who have led the College: a poet, an outspoken progressive, a pragmatist, a structural activist and an ambitious transformer.

During periods of national financial uncertainties, political crises, social change and concerns about the global climate, these presidents shepherded the College to emerge fiscally sound and with a reputation for educational innovation, international engagement and political, social and environmental activism.

An exhibition on Pitzer's past presidents is on display at the Pitzer Archive and Conference Center through the end of the 2016–17 academic year.

**TOP ROW:**

John W. Atherton (1963–1970)
Robert H. Atwell (1970–1978)

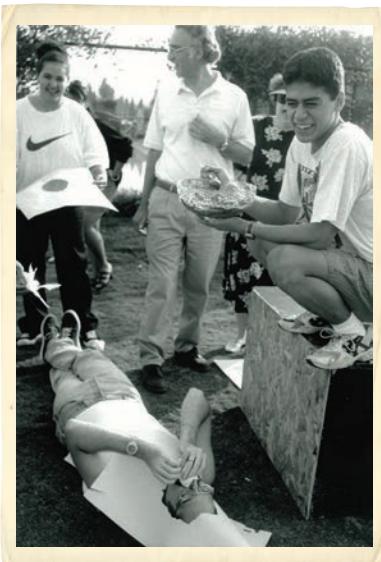
Bottom Row:

Frank L. Ellsworth (1979–1991)
Marilyn Chapin Massey (1992–2002)
Laura Skandera Trombley (2002–2015)

MYSTERY PHOTO

Do you know... .

...anything about this photo? We believe it was taken during a "pudding drop" in the late '90s. If you have more information, email archives@pitzer.edu.

**PREVIOUS MYSTERY PHOTO:
Still Mysterious**

We think this is a shot from a past Kohoutek Festival, but we're not positive. Details about the event remain...mysterious.

Interested in visiting the Pitzer College Archives or donating any "Pitzeriana" to our collection? Please contact Archivist Stacy Elliott at archives@pitzer.edu or call 909.621.8810 to make an appointment.

On behalf of the president and members of the NAACP Pomona Valley Branch 1085B, we send a strong welcome. We appreciate your commitment to social justice and education for all.

Jeanette Ellis-Royston, President, NAACP, Pomona Valley Branch



Proud to be part of the Pitzer community.

Wes Wu '94



Congratulations on your position as Pitzer College president. It is really important to see black leadership at The Claremont Colleges.

Janet Echeverria '15



Welcome to Pitzer and The Claremont Colleges. As you make history, keep the history of the Colleges in perspective. I look forward to supporting you.

Isaac Richard '81



Congratulations! So excited and cannot wait to see how you continue to move Pitzer in the direction of being the most amazing college ever!

Latonya Turner Potts '97



Pitzer is a very special place that truly remains in the hearts of its alumni. I look forward to meeting you and engaging in thoughtful conversation about my beloved alma mater's future!

Bernadette Coghlan-Walsh '87



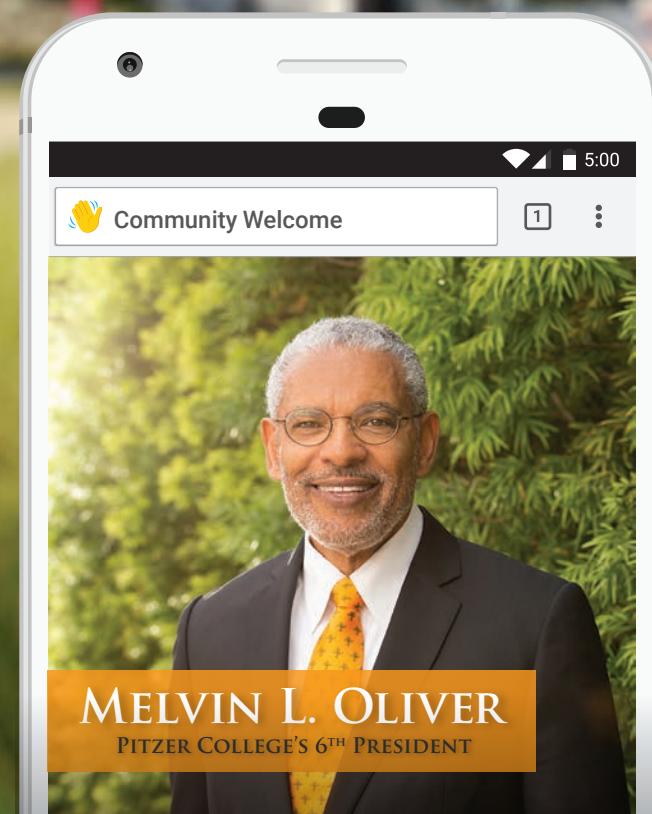
Do great things!!!!

Eileen Fonde



Congratulations to the Pitzer College Board of Trustees for their selection of Dr. Melvin Oliver. Dr. Oliver, I commend you on taking this next step in your illustrious career.

Karla M. McLucas, Professor, Bennett College



Time allows for transformation at every turn. Welcome to my school and my dream. Class of 1989!

Ranon Ross '89



He got that tie so right.

Neil Norton '86



Jason Morales '09



On behalf of the National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association and, personally, as a wealth-gap colleague, let me express our congratulations on your new position as president of Pitzer College.

Rudy Arredondo, CEO, National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association



Congratulations, Mel. You have indeed come a long way, as you said in your message to the Pitzer community. But you have worked hard to get to this place and are deserving of this honor and opportunity. Best wishes as you take over the reins and advance the mission of the College.

Margaret Simms, Fellow, Urban Institute



Melvin Oliver named Pitzer College president, first African American to lead a Claremont campus

@ruthhammond

Ruth Hammond, Editor, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*



Congrats to Melvin Oliver! & Good for Pitzer!

@mattdelmont

Matt Delmont, Professor, Arizona State University



Congratulations and best of luck ahead, Dr. Oliver. I think you'll find very dedicated and supportive folks there who will help move the College consistently forward.

Rob Peters P'18



Congrats!! "Melvin Oliver named @PitzerCollege Pres 1st African American to lead a Claremont campus" via @LATimes

@MSCollegeOpp
Michele Siqueiros '95



Shivani Kavuluru '19



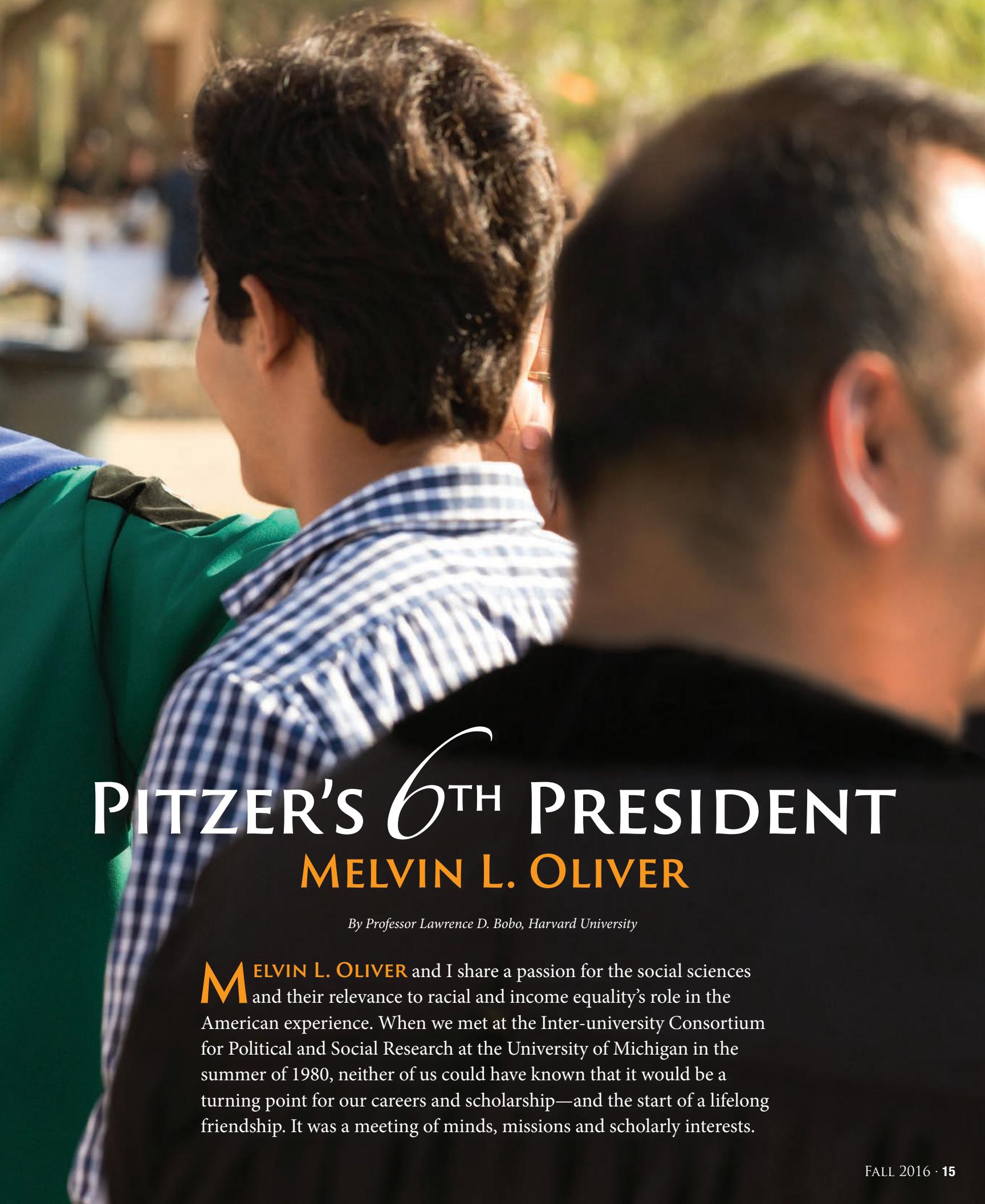
Congrats to Melvin L. Oliver in being named #AICCUschool @pitzercollege's 6th president!

@aiccucl

Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities







PITZER'S 6TH PRESIDENT **MELVIN L. OLIVER**

By Professor Lawrence D. Bobo, Harvard University

MELVIN L. OLIVER and I share a passion for the social sciences and their relevance to racial and income equality's role in the American experience. When we met at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan in the summer of 1980, neither of us could have known that it would be a turning point for our careers and scholarship—and the start of a lifelong friendship. It was a meeting of minds, missions and scholarly interests.



Higher education is challenged as never before. We have dislocations attendant to rapid technological change and computerization. We have the most globally, densely interdependent economy humans have ever known. Human action and now inaction threatens upheavals attendant to climate change. Inequality between rich and poor in the US and many other nations exceeds even that experienced before the Great Depression. The movement of people around the globe due to both voluntary and involuntary immigration is creating situations of great humanitarian need and political turmoil.

In this context, the world yearns for practical advice, for cogently articulated perspectives on our times and for thoughtful leadership. Colleges and universities, perhaps especially our liberal arts colleges, are increasingly pressed to establish their relevance to these challenges. The dilemmas of citizenship, of human meaning, and of how to cultivate self-reflective engagement in the world around us—the stuff of general liberal education from its earliest days—endure into the present. It is in times such as these that the academy needs leaders of special accomplishment and capacity; individuals who both know how to speak to the practical needs of the world around them and how to draw sustenance and inspiration from the great ideals of the liberal arts education tradition. In selecting Melvin L. Oliver as its sixth president, Pitzer College—one of the prestigious Claremont Colleges—has found just such a practical idealist, communicator and institution builder.

TRIPLE THREAT: TEACHER, SCHOLAR, LEADER

In the most robust sense of the term, Melvin Oliver is a triple threat. He is, first of all, an outstanding, award-winning teacher. He is a communicator of surpassing skill and achievement. Great teachers exude several qualities—an immense capacity to connect with students, communicating instantly an interest in them as individuals as well as faith in their capacity to grasp and make use of the subject matter at hand. Add to this a flair for sparking the curiosity and engagement of others and a deep, passionate subject-matter expertise, and you have the powerful mix of qualities of great teaching one finds in Oliver. Thus, he became the first University of California professor to receive the California Professor of the Year Award from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and was





IN SELECTING MELVIN L. OLIVER AS ITS SIXTH PRESIDENT, PITZER COLLEGE HAS FOUND A PRACTICAL IDEALIST, COMMUNICATOR, AND INSTITUTION BUILDER.

honored with the University of California, Los Angeles' Harriet and Charles Luckman Distinguished Teaching Award.

Melvin Oliver is, secondly, a scholar of rare distinction and accomplishment. He has long been recognized as one of the nation's leading students of race and ethnic relations and matters of socioeconomic inequality. He's done important research on the organization and dynamics of interpersonal networks among African Americans. He has done significant work illuminating the face of poverty in Southern California. In particular, his work shone a bright light on how job loss and related economic dislocations paved the way for tensions among African American and Latino communities that became an explosive precondition of the 1992 LA uprisings.

WEALTH DISPARITY AND INEQUALITY

Melvin Oliver's signal contribution comes in his book *Black Wealth/White Wealth: A New Perspective on Racial Inequality* (1995, with Thomas Shapiro). It is a groundbreaking work and will easily go down as one of the top books in sociology produced during the 1990s and among the top two or three in the subfield of race and ethnic relations.

Why is the book so important? It immediately challenged scholars working on racial inequality in a strong and lasting fashion. That is, research on social stratification is arguably the core of sociological research. What *Black Wealth/White Wealth* did was to show how fundamentally important to overall life chances and circumstances accumulated assets—not just individual human capital (i.e., education and training), job titles and workplace attributes—were to long-term material well-being. Of course, researchers “knew” that wealth mattered. But it is entirely fair to say that before *Black Wealth/White*



Wealth, the subject was rarely the focus of research. That is no longer the case. This book changed how core stratification researchers must conceive and execute their work.

The book has several qualities that mark it as paradigm establishing. It is a model of clear conceptualization. The case made for looking at assets, its distinction of different types of assets (gross versus net) for example, is very convincing. It tackles a number of important questions concerning the black-white wealth gap, such as the role of family structure, of education and of type of work. Furthermore, the book has strong public policy relevance. This is established, in part, by the careful way in which it develops the historical case and, critically, via the analytical framework—racialization of the state (e.g., bias in home mortgage lending policies), the great economic detour (e.g., the sometimes violently destructive response to successful black entrepreneurship at key stages in the American past), and the sedimentation of inequality (i.e., the role of inheritance and the cumulative nature of inequality).

Melvin Oliver has received a number of highly competitive and extremely prestigious awards. For *Black Wealth/White Wealth*, he received the Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award from the American Sociological Association, the highest honor the association confers. He also received the coveted C. Wright Mills Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems and the Outstanding Book Award from the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights.





TO MEET MELVIN OLIVER IS TO AT ONCE BE STRUCK BY HIS STEADINESS, INTELLIGENCE AND THE GENUINE WARMTH OF HIS SMILE.

A VISIONARY

In having selected Melvin Oliver, Pitzer College is not just bringing on board a talented teacher and paradigm-changing scholar, Pitzer is also entrusting its future to a visionary institution builder. Oliver is an experienced and innovative administrator. He was a founding co-director of the Center for the Study of Urban Poverty at UCLA. Under his leadership, the center helped train a generation of young scholars who are changing and diversifying the academy and its approach to issues of inequality.

In 1996, the Ford Foundation tapped Oliver to become its vice president for Asset Building and Community Development Program, a position he held until 2004. He restructured and directed the activity of a large international staff with a diverse portfolio of projects and initiatives, and an annual budget in the \$150 to \$250 million range. He restructured a major branch of the foundation, and he made the single largest award, of over \$50 million, ever given by the Ford Foundation. In the light of his many scholarly contributions and his continued presence as a thought

leader on issues of wealth and inequality, he received the 2016 ASSET Builder Champion Award from the Center for Global Policy Solutions.

He returned to the academy in 2004 to become dean of the social sciences and professor of sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he later became executive dean of the college. He was instrumental in fundraising, restoring faculty morale and enhancing the academic prominence of the division, and his tenure is widely regarded as an enormous success. From

deftly handling internal departmental conflicts to recruiting and retaining top-notch faculty, through sustaining an environment of intellectual challenge, learning and the highest academic standards, Dr. Melvin Oliver led with distinction.

For all his skills in the classroom, achievements as a scholar and effectiveness as an administrator, Oliver is also marvelously human and remarkably personable. To meet Melvin Oliver is to at once be struck by his steadiness, intelligence and the genuine warmth of

his smile. He is neither haughty nor bookish nor in any measure the aloof academic. Those of us lucky enough to fall into his orbit of friendship relish his wisdom, company and companionship. He has taught and inspired countless students. His work has altered how the discipline of sociology thinks about basic questions and processes of social inequality. He has a proven track record as an administrator and builder of rare breadth of experience and success. He is the practical idealist, the skilled communicator and the steady institution builder that higher education needs as we move to address the challenges of the new millennium.

Recently, when I called to congratulate Dr. Oliver on his appointment to the Pitzer presidency, he picked up on the first ring and, after some catching up, said, "There is something that some of our students are wrestling with that I'd like to get your thoughts on...." Decades of personal and professional history evaporated, and our more than 30-year conversation picked up again. Two tenacious intellects striving for insight and understanding for the benefit of our students.

Successful fulfillment of this mission requires the selection of leaders able to apply those qualities of pragmatic idealism, of effective communication and institution building. Pitzer College has risen to this challenge in the appointment of Dr. Melvin L. Oliver as its sixth president.

Lawrence D. Bobo is the W. E. B. Du Bois Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University. Founding editor of the *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, Bobo is also co-author of the award-winning book *Racial Attitudes in America: Trends and Interpretations*.





WELCOME TOUR

This fall, Pitzer alumni, parents and friends joined the College in celebrating the appointment of Dr. Melvin L. Oliver, our sixth president, at a series of welcome receptions across the globe from New York to Hong Kong.





These events provided excellent opportunities for a cross section of Pitzer community members to interact with President Oliver as he shared his vision for the future of Pitzer College.

For more photos: www.pitzer.edu/welcome-tour/





Passion. Purpose. Pitzer.

A Pitzer College education transforms passionate students into pioneering leaders of change.

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Office of College Advancement



Around the Mounds

News from Campus and Beyond



Debate Night

On September 26, more than 100 students gathered in the Gold Student Health & Wellness Center for a screening of the first 2016 presidential election debate between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump.



State Senate Leader Talks Politics

The Pitzer College Student Senate welcomed back California State Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León '03 to his alma mater in October. De León spoke about climate change, the economy, immigration and the value of higher education, calling his experience at Pitzer "life changing." The talk was part of the Student Senate's "Mindful of the Future" Speaker Series.



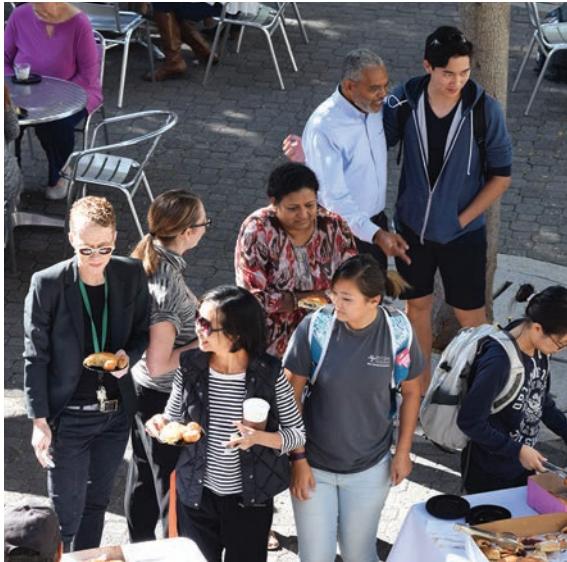
Fulbright, All Night

Students applying to the Fulbright US Student Program put the final touches on their applications—with hands-on help from Pitzer faculty and staff—during the "Fulbright All-Nighter" in Fletcher Hall.



FirstGen Fête

Pitzer's FirstGen Program hosted a reception to welcome the College's new and returning first-generation students. President Melvin L. Oliver, a first-gen college student himself, and his wife, Suzanne Oliver, joined students, families and faculty for dinner and dialogue.



A Warm Welcome

The community came together to welcome President Melvin L. Oliver and his wife, Suzanne Oliver, at the first Coffee Cart in the Scott Hall Courtyard.



Rising in Rankings

Pitzer rose to #32 in the new *U.S. News & World Report* 2017 Best National Liberal Arts Colleges rankings and counted among the top 20 liberal arts schools for "Campus Ethnic Diversity." The College also earned high marks for its first-year retention and four-year graduation rates, while high school counselors named it among their top picks. Overall, Pitzer has moved up 38 places since 2002 in the annual *U.S. News* rankings.

Pollution Problem Solving

The Robert Redford Conservancy for Southern California Sustainability at Pitzer College hosted the Air Quality in Southern California Summit on October 6. An all-star panel of experts discussed the implications of the massive Porter Ranch gas leak in 2015, state-wide greenhouse gas reduction goals and the policies of the South Coast Air Quality Management District and the California Air Resources Board. California State Senate President pro Tempore and alumnus Kevin de León '03 delivered the keynote address.



Understanding the Islamic World

"Islam: Beyond Ideological Narratives," the Munroe Center for Social Inquiry's 2016-17 speaker series, tackled complex contemporary issues in the Islamic world. Experts from around the globe explored modernity, fundamentalism, US involvement in the Middle East and the ripple effects of the Arab Spring. Speakers included Amat Alsoswa (above), former minister for human rights in Yemen, and Ouided Bouchamaoui, co-founder of the Tunisian civic organization that won the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize.



Artful Insights

Pitzer College Art Galleries 2016 fall exhibitions, *Far from Indochine* and *Cannon Bernáldez*, opened on September 10. *Far from Indochine* provokes questions about perceptions of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam through film, photography, sculpture and embroidered cloth. In her eponymous show, Mexico City-based artist Cannon Bernáldez brings together photographs that reflect the climate of violence in Mexico.



FACULTY FIELD NOTES



The Portrait of an Artist

Associate Professor of Art **Jessica McCoy** is featured in the exhibition *The Makers: Portraits of Metro artists whose work enriches the rider's journey*, on display at Union Station in Los Angeles through February 2017. McCoy was one of 10 artists selected to create installations for the LA Metro Expo Line stations that opened in 2012. Her 24-panel piece, *Neighborhood Portrait*:

Reconstructed, at the Expo/Vermont station, depicts mosaic snapshots of life in the West Adams district. Pitzer alumnus and artist **Martin Durazo '90**, whose *Vamos Juntos/Juntas* is on display at the El Monte Station, is also featured in *The Makers* exhibition.



Talking Faith on Netflix

On an episode of *Chelsea* called "The God Question," Professor of Sociology and Secular Studies **Phil Zuckerman** talked with Chelsea Handler about everything from A-theism to Z-orooastrianism.



Politics Not as Usual

During a presidential election season that perplexed some pundits, the national media turned to Professor of Political Studies/Chicano Studies **Adrian Pantoja** and Associate Professor of Political Studies **Rachel VanSickle-Ward**. Pantoja shared his perspective on the role of the Latino vote in media outlets across the US, including NPR, *The Globe and Mail* and the *Miami Herald*. VanSickle-Ward wrote election-related op-eds for national publications, including *The Washington Post* and *U.S. News & World Report*, and served as a frequent commentator on Southern California Public Radio. In October, the two professors also shared a byline in a *Huffington Post* piece "Latina Voters Say Adios to Trump."



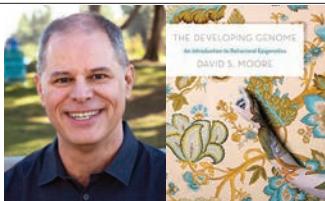
#bestjobever

National Geographic highlighted Assistant Professor of Environmental Science **Branwen Williams'** challenging—and chilling—research in Arctic waters, where she studies the impact of climate change on ocean health. In the article "Diving Deep Below Arctic Ice to Bring Back Our Ocean's Skeletons: #bestjobever," *Nat Geo* describes how Williams examines coralline algae and their skeletons, which, like tree rings, record changes in the environment.



The Last Word

Professor Emeritus of Philosophy **James Bogen**'s paper "Empiricism and After" appeared in *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Science*. Along with this citation, Bogen asked *The Participant* to include an epitaph he wrote to his academic publishing career: "Following the warning of Professor Emeritus **Steve Glass** that everyone has a really terrible paper inside them whose publication can only be prevented by giving up publication before it's too late, Bogen decided to make this one his last."



Defining the Epigenetics Era

Professor of Psychology **David S. Moore** won the American Psychological Association's 2016 William James Book Award for *The Developing Genome: An Introduction to Behavioral Epigenetics*. The book, which explores how experiences influence genetic activity, earned this recognition from APA's Division One for drawing together diverse subfields of psychology. Moore currently serves as the program director for the National Science Foundation's Developmental and Learning Sciences Program.



Michelle Dowd '90 and Jill Benton

Autographing a Biography

Professor Emerita of English and World Literature **Jill Benton** signed copies of her book *Avenging Muse: Naomi Royde-Smith, 1875-1964* at the Claremont Authors Book Faire in September. Pitzer alumnus and author **Joel Harper '95** also autographed copies of his work and discussed the new animated short film based on his book *All the Way to the Ocean* at the Claremont Public Library event.



Discovering Century-old Graffiti

Associate Professor of Environmental Analysis **Susan Phillips** discovered 100-year-old "hobo graffiti" under a bridge near the Los Angeles River. Written by wanderers who traveled the roads and rails of America in the early twentieth century, these "urban hieroglyphics" tell truncated tales of itinerant lives. News of her discovery made headlines around the globe, from the *Los Angeles Times* to *The Japan Times*. Phillips is currently working on a book, with support from a Getty Scholars grant, that traces urban development, societal changes and design history through a century of graffiti in Los Angeles.



Safeguarding Our Seas

Professor **Kathleen Purvis-Roberts**, currently a Jefferson Science Fellow with the US State Department's Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, helped organize the Our Ocean conference held on September 15 and 16 in Washington DC. The event was hosted by Secretary of State John Kerry and focused on key ocean issues—marine protected areas, sustainable fisheries, marine pollution and climate-related impacts on the ocean. The conference, which drew dignitaries from around the world, included special addresses from President Barack Obama and Secretary Kerry.

Purvis-Roberts, who teaches chemistry and environmental science, facilitated discussions on a range of oceanic issues between the State Department and representatives from the East Asian and Pacific region.

The 2016 conference generated more than 136 new initiatives on marine conservation and protection as well as new commitments to protect over 1.5 million square miles of the ocean. This year's event was the third annual Our Oceans conference; combined, Our Oceans has generated commitments valued at more than \$9.2 billion to safeguard the world's seas. Next year, the event will be hosted by the European Union in Malta.

Meet Pitzer's Newest Professors...



Barbara Junisbai

Assistant Professor of Organizational Studies

PhD, Political Science, Indiana University
MIS, Information Science, Indiana University
BA, International Relations, San Francisco State University

Professor Barbara Junisbai brings a global perspective to organizational studies at Pitzer. An expert on politics and society in former Soviet countries, Junisbai examines the nature of political organizations and opposition groups, with a cross-continental, comparative approach. She has served as a country expert on Kazakhstan and spent the last two years as a professor of political science and international relations at Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan. Her research has appeared in numerous publications, including *Perspectives on Politics*, *Europe-Asia Studies* and *Demokratizatsiya: The Journal of Post-Soviet Democratization*.

After teaching across the country and around the world, Junisbai is thrilled to be back at Pitzer, where she was a visiting professor and served as an assistant dean of faculty.

"I love the energy you get from Pitzer students. I especially admire their excitement about ideas and willingness to experiment with different ways of thinking about the world."

PhD, Biology, Northern Arizona University
BSc, Biology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Jenna Monroy

Assistant Professor of Biology
W.M. Keck Science Department

Physiologist Jenna Monroy wants to know how things move. How does a frog's tongue dart out of its mouth five times faster than the blink of an eye? How can a cheetah bob and weave at 70 miles per hour without falling on its face? Monroy researches the spring properties in muscles—from neural control and reflexes to the role of the protein titin—to understand how organisms make the moves they need to survive. Her work has been funded by two National Science Foundation grants and published in peer-reviewed journals that include the *Journal of Biomechanics*, *Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology* and *Exercise and Sport Sciences Review*. Prior to joining the W.M. Keck Science Department, Monroy taught physiology and other biology courses as an assistant professor at Denison University in Ohio.

Monroy says her approach to teaching mirrors her approach to research: everything starts with a question.

"I love students' questions. Every question leads to another question, which I might not know how to answer, but then we, as a class, answer it together."





Come Home to Pitzer

We saved you a seat.

Pitzer Alumni Weekend 2017

April 28–30, 2017

Save the Date

Join us for a very special Alumni Weekend as we welcome President Melvin L. Oliver to Pitzer College! All alumni are invited back to celebrate with the signature reunion classes of 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007 and 2012.

This year's festivities will be held in conjunction with Pitzer's Rockabilly Music Festival and the alumni weekends for Harvey Mudd, Pomona and Scripps colleges. Join us for what is sure to be a fun-filled weekend!

Registration will open in early 2017. Visit www.pitzer.edu/alumniweekend for more information, including a schedule of events and links to local hotels.



Chirp! Seasonal Sagehen Highlights



A Season of Change

Changes are afoot for Sagehen sports. This past spring, the Pomona-Pitzer Athletics Department received a \$2 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support team travel, recruiting, high-performance athletics gear, upgraded facilities and new staff positions. Since then, under the leadership of Director of Athletics Lesley Irvine, the department became the first NCAA Division III program to partner with Nike, hired a senior associate athletic director to help helm day-to-day operations, brought in a new coach for the women's basketball team and launched an app for all things Sagehens. At the start of the fall season, the department also prepared for the end of an era: After more than 20 years coaching Pomona-Pitzer Football, Head Coach Roger Caron announced that he will retire in May 2017.



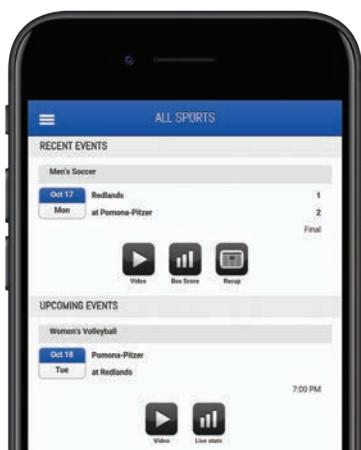
The Coach Caron Era

Football Head Coach **Roger Caron** tallied more than 65 wins since he joined Pomona-Pitzer in 1994. He coached numerous All-Region and All-Conference players, including his son, Pitzer alumnus **Jake Caron '11**, who played pro before returning to the Sagehens to coach quarterbacks. In his final season, the head coach earned the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) Coaching Staff of the Year award.

"I will forever be grateful for my time at Pomona-Pitzer," said Coach Roger Caron. "Coaching hundreds of talented student athletes over the years has been an honor and a privilege."

#SagehenPride

Pomona-Pitzer Athletics introduced the **Champions of Sagehen Athletics** engagement and fundraising initiative this fall. By building on Pomona-Pitzer's tradition of cultivating athletic and academic excellence, this initiative is a new way to celebrate, support and, in a word, champion Sagehen scholar-athletes.



Sagehens Go Mobile

Download the new Sagehens Presto Sports Front Row Mobile app and keep up to date on live scoring, stats, recaps and videos. Now you can follow Pomona-Pitzer teams from the front row wherever you go.



The **Men's Water Polo** team won the 2016 SCIAC Postseason Tournament Championship after finishing the regular season undefeated in conference play.



Joining the Team

Angel Mason joined Pomona-Pitzer Athletics in September as senior associate athletic director and senior woman administrator. In this new role, Mason is working with Director of Athletics Lesley Irvine to run the Department of Physical Education and Athletics while serving as an athletics liaison. Prior to Pomona-Pitzer, Mason shaped athletics at Hamilton College, California Institute of Technology and her alma mater, Butler University, where she played basketball for the NCAA Division I Bulldogs.

In other departmental news, **Anthony Avila** joined the Sagehens team as the new assistant sports information director, and Pomona-Pitzer Swimming and Diving programs added three new coaches.



Sagehens Women's Soccer team scored the SCIAC Regular Season Championship and advanced to the Elite 8 of the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history.



Linebacker
**Bulolo
Jonga '17**



Bringing Her A-Game to B-Ball

Jill Pace, who helped coach Tufts University in the NCAA Division III National Championship game last season, became the new head coach for the Sagehens Women's Basketball team this summer, following the retirement of Coach **Kathy Connell**.

Before coaching at Tufts, Pace was an assistant coach at Smith College, where the team qualified during her tenure for its first NCAA tournament appearance. She played NCAA Division III basketball at Bowdoin College.

ALUMNI ClassNotes

We love to hear your news



1960s

'68 Sarah Michael will extend her years of backpacking without lugging 50 pounds on her back: llamas will now do the work, carrying tents, sleeping bags and other supplies. She and her husband, Bob Jonas, plan to spend three months in summer 2017 traversing five mountain ranges near their home in Sun Valley, ID.

1970s

'71 Nancy Hawver donated 4,000 postcards published by Edward H. Mitchell to the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley. This is the largest collection of Mitchell postcards the library has ever received.

'73 Patricia Zavella, professor of Latin American and Latino studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz, won the 2016 American Anthropological Association's Committee on Gender Equity in Anthropology Award in July.

'75 Sue Celniker received the George W. Beadle Award from the Genetics Society of America at the Allied Genetics Conference in July for her outstanding contributions to *Drosophila* research.



Sue Celniker '75



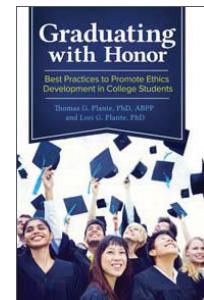
➤ Sarah Michael '68

'78 Amy Gerstler participated in a poetry reading at Book Soup in West Hollywood, CA, earlier this year. She is the author of more than a dozen poetry collections, two works of fiction, various articles, reviews and collaborative pieces with visual artists.

1980s

'80 Deborah Halperin, who teaches at Thurgood Marshall Elementary in Seattle, WA, won a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Halperin says she learned to think critically at Pitzer, where Professor Sharon Snowiss served as her adviser and mentor.

'82 Lori Goldfarb Plante co-authored *Graduating with Honor: Best Practices to Promote Ethics Development in College Students*. The licensed psychologist and retired Stanford University School of Medicine faculty member wrote the book with her husband.



'85 Joel Fields, a television industry veteran, serves as executive producer and lead scriptwriter for the FX television series *The Americans* and as executive producer for TNT's *Rizzoli & Isles*.

CORRECTION: The Spring/Summer 2016 Participant incorrectly identified Pitzer alumna Eloisa Klementich's class year. She graduated in 1992.



'08 Yael Berenson married **Benjamin White '08** on July 12, 2015, in Mendocino, CA. Many Pitzer and 5C alumni joined the celebration, including **Lina Cohen '08**, **Alexis Ding '08**, **Randy Gomez '08**, **Joshua Mecouch '08**, **Emma Norman '10**, **Emilie Sasson '08**, **Marvin "Ricky" Smith '08**, **Anna Spector '08**, **Nora Superfine '08**, Zach Lupei HMC '08 and Samantha Weisman SCR '08. The couple lives in Chicago, IL, and both work as teachers in Chicago public schools.

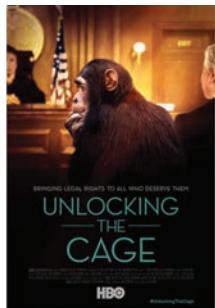
1990s

'98 Ernesto "Tito" Clarke developed a patent called "RAAF Merger, Acquisitions, Divestiture Technology," which Clarke says was "born" on March 10, four days before his daughter's birthday.

2000s

'06 Jason Rivera analyzed proposals to make college tuition-free at public higher-ed institutions in his article "Free College for All, but Where's the Choice?," which appeared in *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*.

'08 Monica Miller was featured in the HBO documentary *Unlocking the Cage* in connection with her legal work on the Nonhuman Rights Project. The film premiered in January at the Sundance Film Festival.



'09 Janine Kapp is an attorney at a New York-based boutique labor and employment law firm that represents both employers and employees.

2010s

'10 Josh Brown was recently named department chair of special education at Oliver Wendell Holmes Middle School in Los Angeles, CA. Brown earned two fellowships in the 2015–16 academic year: a TeachPlus Teacher Policy Fellowship and an Earthwatch Teacher Fellowship. He plans to develop an environmental education curriculum based on research he conducted in summer 2016 on the effects of climate change on caterpillars in Ecuador.

'10 Steven Liang directed *Afura*, which premiered at the LA Film Festival in June. He shared that Pitzer faculty and staff were instrumental to his growth as an artist.

'11 Caitlin Tanaka Moore married **Chris Moore '11** in June with many close friends from the Pitzer community on hand to help celebrate. The newlyweds met during their first year at Pitzer.

'13 Max Kaplan established an acclaimed furniture business and recently finished an artist-in-residence stint at the Anderson Ranch Arts Center. Kaplan was also named a Rising Star by the American Craft Council/American Craft Week.

Share your milestones:

alumni@pitzer.edu
Pitzer College Office of Alumni Relations
1050 N. Mills Ave., Claremont, CA 91711-6101

Submissions may be edited for content and length.





Noemi Larrondo '14

'14 Noemi Larrondo married Tony Navarro on July 9 in Gurnee, IL.

'14 Jaya Williams gave *Apartment Therapy* a tour of the 1,250-square-foot “creative sanctuary” she and **Maggie Shafran '14** created in the apartment they share in Silver Lake, CA.

'15 Nate Pennebaker joined Pennebaker Hegedus Films and has been working on publicity, promotion and legal clearances for the HBO documentary *Unlocking the Cage*, featuring attorney Monica Miller '08. Pennebaker previously interned at VH1 and MTV.

'15 Emily Phipps recently returned to Nepal to work with NGOs, residing temporarily with the host family she lived with while studying abroad on the Pitzer in Nepal program in spring 2014. Phipps created a short film as part of a fundraising campaign she launched on Generosity.com for those devastated by the 2015 earthquake in Nepal.



In Memoriam

Rosamond “Rizz” Arthur Roberts **Dean P'84, GP'09**, a Pitzer College trustee from 1985 to 1991 and a lifelong housing activist, passed away on July 15. She was 93. Dean’s son, **James Arthur '84**, and granddaughter, **Marie Arthur Eggebroten '09**, attended Pitzer.

Tom Hayden, an anti-war and civil rights activist and visiting professor at Pitzer College, passed away on October 23. He was 76. Hayden’s classes at Pitzer included “Social Movements through the Present” and “From the ’60s to the Obama Era.”

INTRODUCING PITZER switchboard

Pitzer’s new online platform helps connect alumni, parents, students, faculty and staff. With Pitzer Switchboard, you can search for—or offer—jobs, volunteer positions or just good advice.

“I’m thrilled to have a place where we can easily connect with each other. I hope you will use this resource to connect with other members of our community and find great opportunities to support today’s Pitzer students.”

—*Brian Christiansen '93, Pitzer College Alumni Association President*

Joining is easy!
Get started at: pitzer.switchboardhq.com

Pitzer Participant

Providing for Pitzer Students

JON GRAHAM '82 made the most of his Pitzer College education as a student and now helps support his alma mater as an alumnus. This relationship has grown deeper and stronger over the years. He was a trustee from 1997 to 2011 and served as a class representative during Pitzer's 50th Anniversary commencement ceremony.

Jon and his wife, Elizabeth, established the Jonathan P. Graham '82 and Elizabeth B. Ulmer Endowed Scholarship, ensuring opportunities for new generations of students to benefit from the Pitzer experience.

"Elizabeth and I support what Pitzer stands for," said Jon, who is senior vice president, general counsel and board secretary for the biotechnology company Amgen. "We are committed to helping students build their futures."

Jon Graham, like so many of his fellow Pitzer alumni, lives the values of his Pitzer experience.



For information about how you can join Jon Graham in providing for Pitzer's students, please contact the Office of College Advancement at 909.621.8130 or giving@pitzer.edu.



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SAVE THE DATE

THE INAUGURATION OF PITZER COLLEGE'S SIXTH PRESIDENT

MELVIN L. OLIVER

Saturday, the Twenty-Fifth of March
Two Thousand and Seventeen

