60 YEARS


ALSO INSIDE:
ANNUAL REPORT | TANGIBLE CHEMISTRY | MUSIC AND “THE GOOD LIFE”
inside the classroom:
MUSIC 10: INTRODUCTION TO MUSICAL LITERATURE
A GLIMPSE OF A DAY IN THE CLASSROOM THROUGH THE EYES OF A STUDENT
By Kimberly Law, a junior majoring in American Studies and Communications.

It is a Friday morning in January, and about 400 students in Music 10 look a little sleepy in the dimly lit Main Theatre. D. Kern Holoman, distinguished professor of music, takes the podium. The clock strikes 9am and students hurry to their seats as the quiz of the week begins. For 10 minutes, the theatre is silent except for shuffling papers and pencils tapping on desks. When the quiz is done, there’s a collective sigh. Holoman announces the subject of the day’s lecture: Gregorian chant during the Renaissance. This is Music 10: Introduction to Musical Literature.

Music 10 is a survey class, spanning the spectrum of music from medieval times to the present day. As Holoman discusses how Gregorian chant was used during the Renaissance and the music of 15th century composer Johannes Ockeghem, he plays the piano at the front of the classroom and sings a verse or two of the chants. He invites his students to embrace the music that they are hearing and to think critically about its meaning and application to the time it was created. As the hour unfolds, it is clear Holoman enjoys not only the subject of music, but teaching as well. He has taught Music 10 on and off for about 30 years, and hopes that the information he covers is valuable to students.

“Music is a serious part of how culture occurs in the United States,” he says. “I want my students to learn to observe, think, and critically reflect on what beauty is, because a life without beauty is not ‘the good life.’ Life is not about meeting requirements, rather, it is about the sense of wonder.”

Holoman approaches Music 10 with a self-described “missionary zeal,” and his teaching has changed the lives of many students who have taken it over the years. Several of his former Music 10 students have incorporated music into their everyday lives since graduation; they have become generous patrons of music, follow their favorite musicians and composers introduced in Music 10, or pursue music as a career.

Attending concerts put on by the Department of Music and outside the university is one of the requirements for Music 10 that has not changed throughout the years. The difficulty of finding affordable concerts and easy transportation for students is one of the reasons a new music recital hall is needed. Currently, Holoman does his best to obtain tickets for his students through the Mondavi Center’s Curriculum Connections program and elsewhere, but the task proves to be frustrating as tickets sell out quickly. And sometimes, even the location of the concerts can prove to be an obstacle. A new recital hall will give students in all of the music classes the opportunity to explore music near to them, and interact with other students and musicians.

When the present music building was built in 1966, the Department of Music looked very different than it does today. In the 1960s, the music program was small, but boasted robust curriculum concentrated in music composition, music history, and theory. Since then, the department has grown to be one of the most active and vigorous academic programs at UC Davis. Music 10’s enrollment has grown from 50 to 750 students per year, the number of undergraduate music majors from 11 to 150, and faculty consist of 13 professorial faculty and more than two dozen teaching staff.

Along with a $1M gift from Grace and Grant Noda, Holoman and his wife, Elizabeth, were lead donors to the new recital hall. He also donates most of the proceeds from his Music 10 textbook to the project.

“The new building will benefit generations of music students and scholars, and bring further distinction to UC Davis and its community,” Holoman says.

Holoman’s active teaching style has invigorated his students this winter morning, and it is clear why he won the UC Davis Teaching Prize for Scholarly Achievement in 1995. In the last minutes of class, students listen intently to a Renaissance piece that will be the subject for next week. Students who would normally be watching the clock to see when a lecture will end are sitting quietly, taking in the song and its last notes that “reflect teardrops.”

And in that lull, Holoman seems to know he’s done his work for the morning. He cheerfully dismisses his students and the Main Theatre empties, its students a little more thoughtful than when they arrived.
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CORRECTION: SPRING 2011 ISSUE Inside Front Cover/Bylines, pages 2, 3
The name of student writer Anh Thu Pham was misspelled. We apologize for the error.

COMMENTS?
Comments and questions about this issue of College Currents can be sent to the editor at currentseditor@ucdavis.edu.

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Editor/Writer: Amanda Price
Contributors: Andy Fell, Carly June Haase, Dave Jones, Kimberly Law, Caitlin K. Lee, Karen Nikos, Colleen Schulman, Kate Washington
Design: Annette Chow

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ON THE COVER: This collage of photos from the college’s six decades is only a small picture of what it means to be part of the College of Letters and Science at UC Davis. Have a great photo you want to share from your experience at UC Davis? Send it to: currentseditor@ucdavis.edu.

Photo Credits: Many photographers are to be credited for their work throughout the college’s 60 years. More recent photo credits go to: Robert Durell, Paul Estabrook and Karin Higgins.

This magazine was printed on paper from a well-managed forest, manufactured by an environmentally-friendly company that is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council.
On July 1, 1951, the College of Letters and Science was founded. Since then, the college has evolved into a place of excellence: with top-ranked departments and programs, groundbreaking research and innovative, cross-disciplinary, multi-national education. With more than 75,000 alumni and over 9,000 undergraduates, the college has been home to leaders in disciplines and professions across the globe.

This issue of College Currents honors those who have been part of the college in these past 60 years. We also proudly publish our annual report in this issue, a testament to the support that we get from charitable individuals and organizations to keep this college at its best.

As the deans in the College of Letters and Science, we wanted to share our thoughts with you on this important anniversary.

Letter from the Deans

“In Western culture, 60 symbolizes maturity. As the heart and soul of the university, the maturity of the College of Letters and Science marks the completion of UC Davis as a general campus. In Eastern culture, 60 symbolizes rebirth. It is a fitting time for the emergence of the next level of excellence for the college and the campus as a whole. The college’s 60th anniversary is time for all of us, colleagues and alumni, to celebrate our achievements and look forward to an even brighter future in the next 60 years.”
—Winston Ko, Dean of the Division of Mathematical and Physical Sciences

“The college has been a leading force in the UC Davis mission for six decades, and this milestone deserves special recognition as we work to move UC Davis into the ranks of the elite American universities.”
—George R. Mangun, Dean of the Division of Social Sciences

“Since I work on European music written 500 years ago, 60 years old seems rather young. I marvel that so many leaders from the early days of the college are still with us; their contributions are an ongoing inspiration. For me, the energy and vitality of the university are captured by the college’s anniversary. Look at what we’ve accomplished already. So happy birthday, College of Letters and Science—we have a lot to celebrate!”
—Jessie Ann Owens, Dean of the Division of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies

Dear Editor,

I was happy to see the Liquid Hotplates representing UC Davis a cappella with a photo and description on the recent edition of College Currents. However, the Liquid Hotplates are not the oldest co-ed group at UC Davis. They are actually five years younger than the oldest co-ed a cappella group, the Lounge Lizards. In 1995, the Lounge Lizards of UC Davis was founded. I was a member of this group from 2000–2003, and I remember that the Liquid Hotplates had only just formed recently. We did multiple shows with the Liquid Hotplates and the Spokes (a female group that spun off from the Liquid Hotplates). Just thought that I would point this out in an attempt to preserve the Lounge Lizards’ rightful place in UC Davis history.

Sincerely,
Derek Dockter
B.S, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 2002, and former Lounge Lizard

Dear Editor,

In the recent issue of College Currents, I noted the relocation of the Richard L. Nelson Gallery. Dick (Richard L. Nelson) and his wife were good friends and neighbors. He would be very pleased with the additional space made possible by the move to the University Club. Thought you might be interested in why that building was constructed and its earlier use. It was the Faculty Club dedicated in 1971.

Good move!
Robert S. Downie
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Emeritus
LOST YOUR KEYS?
When you lose something, your brain state might affect your ability to remember where that item is, according to new work by CHARAN RANGANATH, professor of psychology and researcher at the Center for Neuroscience, along with researchers at the Center for Mind and Brain and in the Department of Psychology. “It’s been assumed that the process of retrieving a memory is cued by external stimulus,” said Ranganath. “But we found that the levels of brain activity before items came up were correlated with memory.” The researchers measured a particular frequency of brainwaves called theta oscillations during a memory test. High theta waves immediately before being prompted to remember an item were associated with better performance. “The work goes against the assumption that the brain is waiting to react to the external world,” said Ranganath. In fact, most of the brain is busy with internal activity that is not related to the outside world — and when external stimuli come in, they interact with these spontaneous patterns of activity.

BOTTLE ON BOARD
Air passengers one day may be able to carry their soaps, shampoo and bottled water onto the plane again, thanks to technology originally developed at UC Davis to check the quality of wine. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Science and Technology Directorate recently awarded a contract to develop a magnetic resonance scanner that could be placed in airports and used to check bottles and cans for explosives without opening them. A prototype of the machine will be constructed in the laboratory of MATTHEW AUGUSTINE, professor of chemistry, who invented and patented the technology. Augustine began experimenting with the technology some years ago to check bottles of wine for spoilage without opening them.

DEEP EARTH MYSTERIES
Computer modeling by GIULIA GALLI, professor of chemistry and physics, shows that at extreme pressures and temperatures in the deep Earth, longer hydrocarbons may be formed from the simplest one, the methane molecule. Hydrocarbon molecules are the main building blocks of crude oil and natural gas, and determining their thermochemical properties is important to understand carbon reservoirs and fluxes in the earth. “Our simulation study shows that methane molecules can combine to form larger hydrocarbon molecules when exposed to the very high temperatures and pressures of the Earth’s upper mantle. We don’t say that higher hydrocarbons actually occur under the realistic ‘dirty’ Earth mantle conditions, but the pressures and temperatures are right,” said Galli. The finding is fundamentally important in pointing to possible microscopic mechanisms of hydrocarbon formation. The work was published in the Proceedings of the Natural Academy of Sciences.

A separate study, done by QING-ZHU YIN, professor of geology, has shown that early in the formation of Earth, some forms of the element chromium separated and disappeared deep into the planet’s core. It has been known for decades that chromium is relatively under-represented in the Earth’s mantle and crust, said Yin. Through their study, Yin and fellow researchers showed that lighter isotopes of chromium preferentially go into the core. Furthermore, the separation must have happened early in the planet-building process, probably in the multiple smaller bodies that assembled into the Earth or when the Earth was still molten but smaller than today.

BULLY BEHAVIOR IN POPULAR KIDS
While experts often view aggressive behavior as a maladjusted reaction typical of social outcasts, a new study finds that it’s actually popular adolescents — but not the most popular ones — who are particularly more likely to torment their peers. “Our findings underscore the argument that — for the most part — attaining and maintaining a high social status likely involves some level of antagonistic behavior,” said ROBERT FARIS, assistant professor of sociology. The study was co-authored by DIANE FELMLEE, a sociology professor.
It also finds that those students in the top two percent of the school social hierarchy — along with those at the bottom — are the least aggressive. “The fact that they both have reduced levels of aggression is true, but it can be attributed to quite different things,” said Faris. “The ones at the bottom don’t have the social power or as much capacity to be aggressive whereas the ones at the top have all that power, but don’t need to use it.” When it was published in February, the study received massive media attention, and was featured on the Today Show, in the LA Times, as well as in other media across the country.

GUANTÁNAMO DEMYSTIFIED
Fifteen juveniles spent time as prisoners at Guantánamo Bay detention camp — three more than the U.S. State Department had publicly acknowledged, according to a report published by the Center for the Study of Human Rights in the Americas. The finding is based on an analysis of military documents recently made public by the transparency organization Wikileaks. “This new report shows that even more children have been imprisoned at Guantánamo than our earlier research revealed,” said Almerindo Ojeda, director of the center and principal investigator for the center’s Guantánamo Testimonials Project (which is staffed by volunteers). “This is one more reason for a full, independent and transparent inquiry into the policies and practices of detention we have engaged [in] since 9/11,” said Ojeda.

THE MIND’S ARCHITECT
A small area deep in the brain called the perirhinal cortex is critical for forming unconscious conceptual memories, researchers at the Center for Mind and Brain (including Andrew Yonelinas, and Charan Ranganath among others) have found. This area was thought to be involved in conscious memories, but new results show that picture is more complex, according to lead author Wei-Chun Wang, a graduate student at UC Davis. “Imagine looking at a beach scene,” said Wang. “A little later, someone mentions surfing, and the beach scene pops into your head.” The study consisted of memory tests on people diagnosed with amnesia, who had known damage to the perirhinal cortex or other brain areas, understanding how memories are assembled in the brain, and how different types of brain damage might impair memory.

NIGHT VISION
The conventional wisdom about dinosaurs is that they were active by day, while early mammals scurried around at night, but according to new research led by Ryosuke Motani, professor of geology, this belief is actually incorrect. Motani and Lars Schmitz, a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Evolution and Ecology, studied the eyes of dinosaur fossils. Dinosaurs, lizards and birds have a bony ring called the “scleral ring” in the eye. Motani and Schmitz measured the inner and outer dimensions of this ring, plus the size of the eye socket, in 33 fossils of dinosaurs, ancestral birds, and pterosaurs. They took the same measurements in 164 living species. The team was able to confirm from their studies of the scleral ring that the big plant-eating dinosaurs were active day and night, while velociraptors and other small carnivores were night hunters. Flying creatures, including early birds and pterosaurs, were mostly day-active, although some of the pterosaurs were particularly night-active.

MORE THAN JUST A PAYCHECK
Studies have now shown that workers who lose their jobs are returning to work for lower pay. On top of that, a recent study co-authored by Marianne Page, professor of economics, shows that children of those workers are likely...
to suffer from lower wages, as well. The team of researchers, including Page, studied the wages of 60,000 father-child pairs from 1978 to 1999. Children whose fathers went through the country’s mass layoffs in the 1982 recession ended up with nine percent lower earnings than similar children whose fathers didn’t experience the job cuts. “When someone at the bottom of the income distribution loses their job, the loss of income is much more likely to involve losing things that matter for the family to sustain itself,” Page told the Wall Street Journal.

**MAGMA POWER**

When a team of scientists drilling near an Icelandic volcano hit magma in 2009, they had to abandon their planned experiments on geothermal energy. But the mishap could point the way to an alternative source of geothermal power. “Because we drilled into magma, this borehole could now be a really high-quality geothermal well,” said Peter Schiffman, professor of geology, and member of the Iceland research team along with fellow geology professor Robert Zierenberg and graduate student Naomi Marks. When tested, the magma well produced dry steam at 750 degrees Fahrenheit. The team estimated that this steam could generate up to 25 megawatts of electricity — enough to power 25,000 to 30,000 homes.

**BOUNCES OFF OF ME...**

According to a new study by Jeffrey Sherman, a professor of psychology (with co-author Thomas Allen), people are more likely to show bias against people who are different when they have low self-esteem. “When we feel badly about ourselves, we denigrate other people, and that makes us feel better,” said Sherman. The study used the Implicit Association Test (IAT) to investigate this claim. The study was published in Psychological Science.

**HEAVY CREATION**

One of the fundamental puzzles of modern physics is to understand why, if matter and antimatter were created in the Big Bang in equal amounts and annihilate each other when they meet, there was enough matter left over to make up our universe. But thanks to a new study, the antimatter equivalent of helium nuclei has been produced by an international team of physicists working with the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Brookhaven National Laboratory. Two professors of physics from UC Davis are part of the team: MANUEL CALDERON DE LA BARCA SANCHEZ and DANIEL CEBRA.

“This is the heaviest antimatter anyone has ever created,” said Calderon. The discovery will help physicists test theories about matter and antimatter. “There is no process that we know that explains the amount of matter that we see in the universe,” said Calderon.

**NEW DINO COEXISTED**

Careful dating of new dinosaur fossils and volcanic ash around them by researchers at UC Davis and UC Berkeley casts doubt on the idea that dinosaurs appeared and opportunistically replaced other animals. Instead, at least in one South American valley, they seem to have existed side by side and gone through similar periods of extinction. Geologists from Argentina and the United States announced the discovery of a new dinosaur, Eodramaeus, or “dawn runner,” that roamed what is now South America 230 million years ago, at the beginning of the age of the dinosaurs. Isabel Montañez, professor of geology, conducted earlier studies of the ancient soils from the valley, dating layers of ash and researching how the climate changed. There are two major temporal boundaries in the geology of that era: the Carnian-Norian at 228 million years ago and the Triassic-Jurassic at about 210 million years ago. Geologists have long thought that dinosaurs jumped in number and variety at both points. But the carefully dated fossils from South America show no such increase at the Carnian-Norian boundary, said Montañez. “Those dinosaurs were perfectly happy before the Carnian-Norian transition. There’s no indication that the dinosaurs appeared and wiped out other animals.”

**GREEN ENERGY 2.0**

A team of UC Davis and UC Santa Cruz researchers is taking a novel approach to solar power. Transcending the old “one-photon-in-one-electron-out” paradigm of today’s solar cells, they are exploring the so-called Multi Exciton Generation (MEG) process to generate several electrons...
for each solar photon. Such MEG-cells hold the promise of increasing the efficiency of solar energy conversion substantially. The existence of the process was discovered in Los Alamos, but the utilization in and optimization for actual solar cells is still to be demonstrated.

The Davis and Santa Cruz researchers build their solar cells from silicon and germanium nanoparticles with unique coatings and inventive electrode layers. The project was recently awarded $1.5 million from the National Science Foundation. One reason for the optimism of GERGELY ZIMANYI, professor of physics and principal investigator is that the research team is genuinely interdisciplinary: it is assembled from professors of physics, chemistry, mathematics and statistics. The team will also collaborate with the California Solar Energy Collaborative, based at UC Davis, as well as disseminate its findings through the solarwiki.ucdavis.edu collaborative website.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES’ BOOST
A new graduate degree program in the study of religion has been approved to award the M.A. and Ph.D. Supporting this new program, professor of religious studies NAOMI JANOWITZ and her husband ANDREW LAZARUS gave $12,500 to create a new graduate student award in religious studies, which was then matched by the Soderquist Matching Fund created by the university to total $25,000. And, the $25,000 was matched by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, bringing the total to $50,000. The award is named for PAUL A. CASTELFRANCO, a founder of the Religious Studies Program and professor emeritus of plant biology.

OVER THE ROCKS
The key to a hydrogen economy could come from a common mineral better known as a black stain on a rock, according to researchers at UC Davis and Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. Chemists and materials scientists have been trying to reproduce what green plants have been doing for years: split water into hydrogen and oxygen. A cheap, efficient way to split water, powered by sunlight, would open up production of hydrogen as a clean fuel. “The hardest part about turning water into fuel is the oxidation of water,” said BILL CASEY, professor of chemistry and geology and co-author of a new paper discussing the route to splitting water.

The Monash team, working with Casey, developed a water-splitting cell modeled after a complicated manganese-based catalyst. When researchers examined the catalyst as it was working, they found it had decomposed into a much simpler material called birnessite, well-known to geologists as a black stain on many rocks. “Scientists have been making very complicated manganese molecules into copy plants, but it turns out they convert into a very common structure found on earth,” said Casey. “These minerals are sufficiently robust to survive tough use.”

GREAT EXPECTATIONS
An Angelina Jolie character who crushes a robot in “Tomb Raider” is perceived by young women as a better role model than a mouthy Kathy Bates character who carries a gun in “Primary Colors,” according to a study co-authored by LARAMIE TAYLOR, assistant professor of communication and TIFFANY SETTERS, an undergraduate student. The study, using recorded perceptions of movie
clips viewed by 122 undergraduate UC Davis students, found that movies reinforce and shape gender roles that expect women to be attractive and aggressive but also nurturing.

“The media content we watch affects what we expect of others, and probably of ourselves,” said study co-author Laramie D. Taylor, an assistant professor of communication. “When it comes to gender roles, watching these women who can effortlessly do it all leads us to believe, at some level, not only that women can do it all, but that they should.”

The study found that women as well as men — represented equally in the experiment — had increased expectations of women after watching movies in which female leads fulfill both feminine and masculine roles. “Exposure to attractive, aggressive female characters actually increases expectations on women, including potentially inconsistent roles — after viewing, women were expected to be both more independent and ambitious and more socially connected and nurturing,” the study stated.

CHINESE ECONOMY POISED
A new study co-authored by ROBERT FEENSTRA, the C. Bryan Cameron Distinguished Chair in International Economics, predicts that global economic leadership could pass to China in 2014. Feenstra, who is also the director of the International Trade and Investment Program for the National Bureau of Economic Research and the director of the Center for International Data, watches global market movements, especially as they relate to trade.

MILLION DOLLAR STUDY FOCUSES ON CHILDHOOD OBESITY
ADELA DE LA TORRE, professor of Chicana/o studies, received a five-year, $4.8 million federal grant to discover the best ways to help Mexican-heritage children in California maintain healthy weights. The study, called “Ninos Sanos, Familia Sana” (Healthy Children, Healthy Family) will take place in the Central Valley towns of Firebaugh and San Joaquin. “More than four in every 10 children born to parents of Mexican heritage are overweight or obese, and therefore at greater risk of early diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease,” said de la Torre. “We are fortunate that we have received unprecedented support from the community to tackle this issue, so that we can build a healthier environment.”

HOLLYWOOD HAPPENINGS
SARAH PIA ANDERSON, a professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance, is also a producer in Hollywood for shows such as Ugly Betty, 90210 and Grey’s Anatomy. Her latest production, a female detective drama series called Scott & Bailey, made an impressive debut in Great Britain with nearly eight million viewers for its premiere.

An associate professor in African American and African studies, CHRISTINE ACHAM, can count “award-winning filmmaker” in her titles as well. Her documentary (made with her life partner CLIFFORD WARD), Infiltrating Hollywood: The Rise and Fall of the Spook Who Sat by the Door, has been named best film in the San Diego Black Film Festival. The movie was also screened at the Sacramento International Film Festival.

NEW DEGREE HELPS FUTURE STATISTICIANS
The Department of Statistics announced the approval of a new degree: the B.S./M.S. integrated degree in statistics. The program allows undergraduates to enter and complete a B.S. and then M.S. degree in an accelerated timeframe (five years).
IRANIAN STUDIES GAINS NEW POSITION

The Middle East/South Asia studies program will establish its first visiting lecturer in Iranian/Persianate studies, bringing UC Davis closer to its goal of offering a minor in Iranian studies. The lecturer will teach Iranian studies courses each year, and the program will expand course offerings on Iran, offer additional conferences and support further academic research in Iranian Studies. “This will surely propel this program to a new level of activity and prominence,” said GEORGE R. MANGUN, dean of the Division of Social Sciences.

BIN LADEN STUDY REVISITED

As the death of Osama bin Laden hit the media, Religious Studies Associate Professor FLAGG MILLER started to get calls from national and local media. His previous research, which captured the attention of many when it was published, focused on the analysis of more than 1,500 audiocassette tapes taken from bin Laden’s former residential compound in Kandahar, Afghanistan, in 2001. Miller’s assessment of the tapes (of which only one has been made accessible to the general public) is that the conversations in the tapes reflect debates within bin Laden’s inner circle over the role of violence, especially against Muslims and non-combatants, as the terrorist leader crafted a militant message and tried to win followers. Miller believes militants will continue to cite bin Laden as justification for their attacks and get world headlines.

COMPUTER “SCRAPPLE”

The National Science Foundation has given an early career development award to TODD GREEN, assistant professor of computer science. The award is worth $550,000 over five years and will support Green’s work on making better use of data warehouses. Green’s project, called “Scrapple,” aims to save database query results and use them to generate answers to new, related queries. The name comes from a Pennsylvania dish made of pork scraps — in other words, recycled leftovers. The Scrapple project will involve both theoretical work and building a computing system to implement it, said Green. The source code will be released to the public.

NO COMFORT IN COMPANY

For the first time, researchers in the Department of Psychology have been able to produce a “social withdrawal” syndrome in female rodents. This development could yield to new insights into the physical basis of human mood disorders such as depression and anxiety, which are twice as common in women as men. “Social withdrawal is a common feature of mood disorders,” said BRIAN TRAINOR, assistant professor of psychology. Trainor asserted that although an animal cannot be diagnosed with depression, researchers can look for changes in behavior comparable to signs of human depression.

HUMANITARIAN HISTORY

One of the 20th century’s most infamous atrocities, the Armenian genocide of 1915, should also be remembered for fostering the modern humanitarian movement, says KEITH DAVID WATENPAUGH, an associate professor in the Religious Studies Program. Between one to one-and-a-half million Armenians in the Ottoman Empire died; the League of Nations’ belated rescue efforts recovered a few of an estimated 90,000 survivors, said Watenpaugh. People at that time established a defining characteristic of modern humanitarianism. “They began to reject the idea that suffering was natural or normal and concluded you could stop human suffering, that we had the intellectual tools, the social reforms, the science and medicine to do it,” said Watenpaugh. “It was just generating the international will to do so.” He hopes that his research will foster reconciliation by creating a better understanding of a shared past of trauma and violence in the region including Turkey, where the government still insists the genocide never happened.
**ALUMNI UPDATES**

Three UC Davis alumnae – **CHRISTINA CHIN** (B.A., Communication, 2009), **BRITTANY SMITH** (B.A., Communication, 2010), and **NATALIE SMITH** (B.S., Human Development, 2008 & M.A., Education, 2010) – were contestants of ABC’s new summer reality series *Expedition Impossible*. One of 13 teams, these “California Girls” travelled to Morocco to compete in intensive physical and psychological tests in hopes of winning the grand prize of $150,000.

**LUKE DONEV** (B.S., Physics, 2001) put together a nuclear explosion demonstration using a large model of mousetraps and ping pong balls while volunteering at the Sciencenter in Ithaca, NY. See the mousetraps in action: [http://www.sciencenter.org/programs/showtime.asp](http://www.sciencenter.org/programs/showtime.asp)

**CLAIRE BENNETT** (M.F.A., Dramatic Art, 2006) now works as an assistant art director for the popular ABC comedy *Modern Family*. She was part of the team that received the prestigious Art Director’s Guild Award for her work on the television show.

**ALUMNUS KENT A. STEINWERT** (B.A., Economics, 1974) was appointed Chairman of the Board of Farmers & Merchants Bancorp.

**BRENNAN BIRD** (B.A., Nature and Culture, 2011) is the 2010 “Greenest Student” according to website Think Green Live Clean. Infamous for collecting, cleaning and storing all of his personal trash last year, Bird refers to this challenge as “Operation Zero Waste.” Bird recently accepted a job as an environmental educator with AmeriCorps in the Bay Area and plans on using his experience as an expert trash collector outside of college to contribute to his long-term environmental goals.

**STUDENT LIFE**

**STEPHANIE LIN**, a third-year art studio major, took first place at the Student Showcase at San Francisco’s de Young Museum with her wood-and-glue sculpture, *Burn*. The de Young selected works by five UC Davis students to be included in a one-night-only show. The exhibition attracted an attendance of over 1,000 people. Lin’s piece helped her win $300 and placed her among the ranks of seasoned artists. “As a young developing artist, this experience was more than I could have hoped for or imagined. It has been a huge encouragement, and inspired me to keep pushing my work further,” said Lin.

Ethnomusicology graduate student **SARAH GELLER** has been selected as one of 13 finalists in the 2011 Do Something! awards. Geller was recognized for her non-profit organization, Arts Education International that sponsors music education for victimized children in Sierra Leone and Ghana. Selected from a pool of over 500 applicants, Geller is eligible to win one of five $10,000 awards, or the grand prize of $100,000.

Design student **HELEN TREJO** has been awarded a University of California Institute for Research in the Arts Action Research grant for her project “Zero Waste Constructed Fashions.”

**EMELE COLEMAN** and **GIOVANNA MONTENEGRO**, two graduate students studying comparative literature, have each been awarded Fulbright Awards to contribute to their studies. Coleman will be traveling to Tajikistan with her award and Montenegro will be heading for Germany.

**UC DAVIS DESIGN PROGRAM STUDENTS** designed red dresses to inspire awareness during American Heart Month. The dresses were modeled in a fashion show at the sixth annual UC Davis Women’s Heart Care Education and Awareness Forum for Community Leaders.
THE COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE TURNS 60

BY KATE WASHINGTON

The College of Letters and Science today is bustling with students and faculty, new buildings and innovative programs. Sixty years ago — when the college was founded with just five fledgling majors — it was already a busy place, but on a very different scale.

In 1951, as UC Davis transitioned from an agricultural school to the thriving research university it is today, few could have known what a crucial role the brand-new College of Letters and Science would play in shaping its growth and rise to become one of the nation’s top public universities.

THE EARLY YEARS

In the long-ago Farm School days, UC Davis only offered basic general education courses. By the postwar years, however, the school had expanded, laying the groundwork for five departments (English, history, botany, chemistry and zoology) to become the College of Letters and Science in 1951. The new college was headed by Herbert A. Young, a chemistry professor who became the college’s first dean; he remained in that role until 1964 and oversaw the rapid expansion of the college.

In 1951, UC Davis’ total student population was just 1,562 students. Of those enrolling that fall, only 76 were Letters and Science majors. The college graduated its first majors in 1952; Shirley Downie, a zoology major who graduated that year, recalls that just five College of Letters and Science graduates received their diplomas in a commencement ceremony held in a sunken garden south of the library.

Downie — who met her husband of 60 years while working her way through school at the cafeteria — recollects a simpler, smaller campus. She paid tuition and fees of $46.50 per semester, which included admission to football games as well as health care. “$46.50 was a lot of money for me!” she says.

Another alumnus, Roy Bishop — a history major who entered the university in 1951 — similarly worked his way through school, living on campus and unable to afford much for entertainment — not that the town of Davis offered a lot of excitement.

“To give you an idea of how small Davis was, for a date, my friend Joan and I would bicycle out in the country to the Milk Farm restaurant, near Dixon,” Bishop remembers. “The sign is still there [visible from I-80], but the restaurant is long gone. That was our big date! And then there were taffy pulls and Picnic Day — back then, we had hayrides and we’d walk by Putah Creek.”

Social life on campus in the earliest days was constrained by an uneven ratio of women to men. “All the war veterans were back to college, and they wanted to make up for those lost years and get on with their lives,” recalls Downie. “There were a lot more fellows than women — 1,500 students, and a couple of hundred girls. That wasn’t too bad!”

Professor Emeritus of Physics John Jungerman remembers seeing a similar ratio among students in his classes. “Female students were treated like queens by the male student population,” he says with a laugh. “I think the ratio was about 7 to 1. By the late ’50s, though, there was a pretty even number of women and men. A lot of women came to the College of Letters and Science because the majors were more attractive to them.”

Those majors, as they developed, were rigorous. “We spent a lot of time studying!” recalls Downie. Bishop concurs, remembering his coursework as a history major. He

“When I came to UC Davis, I had a feeling of freedom. The whole world was available,”
Roy Bishop (B.A., History, 1955)
also appreciated the personal attention and mentoring available at the time.

“It felt like a very small program,” Bishop says. “At UC Davis, I got the opportunity to get a higher education that I’d never thought I’d ever get. No one in my family had ever gone to college. Some had finished high school. So it was an achievement just to get through college, and I got through with honors. I think it’s largely because of the people at the university at the time. They had the personal touch, and they took an interest in making sure I was okay.”

Although the campus of the early 1950s may have seemed quiet, the college’s foundation was marked by a burst of energy as UC Davis expanded to become a general university serving a larger student body made up of California’s growing population.

New faculty members were attracted by the opportunity to build new programs and departments from the ground up, as Jungerman recalls. “It was kind of liberating to have the whole future before you, so you could form it rather than trying to work yourself into some established institution,” he says. “When I came to UC Davis, I had a feeling of freedom. The whole world was available. I used to keep a graph of the number of students in the college. It increased about one-third every year for half a dozen years.”

Faculty and resources grew, too. Physics, a department of three faculty when Jungerman was hired in 1951, was originally housed in an old garage (now the art annex) along with the new music (founded by music professor Jerome Rosen, who recently passed away — see page 15) and philosophy departments. Physics was combined with mathematics in the early days and it was hampered by a lack of research equipment: “Of course, there was nothing to work with compared to being in the Radiation Laboratory in the Department of Physics at UC Berkeley,” says Jungerman. “When I came [to UC Davis from UC Berkeley], the chair of the combined math and physics departments prided himself on giving money back to the administration at the end of the year!” In the mid-1950s, however, the physics department — with support from the administration and help from UC Berkeley — began to grow rapidly, adding a Ph.D. program and a large new cyclotron. Jungerman was the first director of UC Davis’ Crocker Nuclear Laboratory, and the building housing the lab was recently renamed John A. Jungerman Hall. Today, the physics department is one of the top-ranked in the nation.

Professor Emeritus of German Clifford Bernd — who came to UC Davis in 1964, and retired this summer as the longest-serving faculty member at the university — recalls a similar growth.

Bernd, who came from a position at Princeton, was attracted to UC Davis by the opportunities it presented. When he was first recruited, he had never heard of UC Davis, and thought he would turn down the opportunity. But then, he says, “I asked several others, and they said you better take that position fast. I said, ‘What kind of a place is Davis?’ They said, ‘Oh, it’s in California; it’s expanding greatly and they’ve got lots of money. Super!’” And by the early 1960s, following the implementation of California’s master plan for higher education, there was indeed more money available to expand the university.

“There were flourishing conditions here at the time,” Bernd recalls. When he arrived, there was a single foreign languages department; it was soon broken into three major departments, and three new Ph.D. programs (French, German and Spanish) were founded. Similar changes were implemented in many other departments — a key part of the growth that has made the College of Letters and Science what it is today.

**TODAY**

The College of Letters and Science may have started small, but today it has grown to be the largest of the ten colleges and professional schools at UC Davis. It offers more than half of the university’s majors to more than 9,000 College of Letters and Science undergraduate and 1,400 graduate students, and employs nearly 600 faculty members. Over the past 60 years, the number of alumni has grown to 75,000 — more than the entire population of the city of Davis today.

Thanks to those loyal alumni, in 2010–11 the college received more than $8 million in philanthropic support. And in 2009–10, its faculty received $43 million in research awards. Those gifts and grants have helped research and education grow and thrive in the College of Letters and Science despite today’s challenging budgetary climate.

The college today includes three divisions: Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies; Mathematical and Physical Sciences; and Social Sciences. Each of these areas is governed by its own dean. And all three divisions boast significant achievements. Prestigious, high-profile institutes, projects and research centers bridge the disciplines and include the Center for Mind and Brain, the California Lighting and Technology Center, and the UC Davis Humanities Institute. College faculty leadership in such international research efforts as the Large Hadron Collider and the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope exemplify the areas of excellence throughout the college. The arts, too, continue a tradition of excellence; the college counts well-known artists such as Wayne Thiebaud among its emeritus faculty, and Deborah Butterfield and Bruce Nauman among its alumni.

Famous writers associated with the college include Yiyun Li,
associate professor of English and a recent MacArthur Award recipient, and poet Gary Snyder, professor emeritus of English. Other star faculty members include evolutionary psychologist Sarah Hrdy, professor emerita of anthropology; Geerat Vermeij, distinguished professor of geology and a MacArthur Award recipient; Leah Krubitzer, professor of psychology and also a MacArthur Award recipient; and Pulitzer Prize-winning Professor of History Alan Taylor.

A BRIGHT FUTURE

With such a distinguished faculty, talented student body, and diverse range of disciplines, it’s no wonder the College of Letters and Science continues on a path toward a bright future for generations to come. But given the current budget climate, both challenges and opportunities lie ahead, according to UC Davis’ new Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Ralph J. Hexter.

Hexter came to UC Davis in January 2011 after serving as president of Hampshire College, a small liberal-arts college, and before that as executive dean at UC Berkeley's College of Letters and Science. In an interview with College Currents, Hexter—a classicist by training—said that he sees the broad education provided by the College of Letters and Science as a fundamental part of all university students’ education, whatever their home disciplines might be.

“There is a continuum of education at the university, from more fundamental education in the College of Letters and Science, to more translational education such as in the Colleges of Engineering, Biological Sciences, or Agricultural and Environmental Sciences,” he says. “No matter where a student might sit along this continuum, it is important that all students have the basics. Chief amongst them is the ability to write well. Writing clearly is the best marker and testimony to clear thinking.” The University Writing Program, one of the top in the nation according to US News and World Report, is housed in the College of Letters and Science and offers writing courses for all of the disciplines in the university.

Looking forward, says Hexter, the College of Letters and Science will provide an education that benefits students for generations to come: “Ever more important is the need to understand the cultures and histories of all fellow global citizens,” he says. “Whether a student is in the College of Letters and Science or not, he or she will use the resources in the College of Letters and Science to gain insight and promote a growing understanding of our world as it is today, and how it may be in the future. The chancellor and I want to see more undergraduates have a truly international experience in their time at UC Davis. The evolution of our new global view means that all students will be well served by learning a language other than English.”

According to Hexter, the future of the College of Letters and Science lies precisely in educating such global leaders and in innovative new interdisciplinary partnerships—a way of capitalizing on the breadth of excellence at UC Davis. “We must not dilute our resources, but we can see areas of study in the future that cross domains—for instance, anthropology and law,” he reflects. “There is a new human rights minor, residing in the College of Letters and Science, that is both fundamental in its study of philosophy and ethics, and translational into the very aspects of our humanity.”

Such partnerships and exciting new educational fields represent an enormous future opportunity for the college’s scholars, he says. “Our resources are strained, but the communications revolution has led to demands in productivity. We are only at the first stages of understanding what this total availability of information means for us,” he says. “It is a challenge and opportunity for faculty to accelerate their exploration of inventive and new forms of teaching.”

Opportunities abound for the college. Ambitious plans include the Campaign for UC Davis, a fundraising initiative that aims to raise $1 billion for the university and $70 million for the college. That $70M will help fund a new art museum to showcase UC Davis’ $30 million collection and serve as a teaching space for students in the study of the visual arts; a recital hall to address the university’s need for additional performance and teaching spaces; more endowed chairs to support the university’s mission to cultivate the research and teaching of top faculty; and student scholarships and fellowships, among other exciting goals.

As the College of Letters and Science faces the challenges of educating an ever-growing population of students requiring a top-notch global education, the students and faculty of today’s college may find that they have more in common with early days of the college’s founding than they might think. Today’s College of Letters and Science commencements have a lot more than five students (three annual ceremonies to celebrate the graduation of 3,000 students per year); the physics department has long since moved out of a garage; you can’t bicycle to the Milk Farm for a date; and add at least two zeroes next to the 1951 tuition of $46.50. But the adventurous, entrepreneurial, can-do spirit that characterized the College of Letters and Science from its earliest days is alive and thriving on campus today, and it’s that spirit that will lead the college to even greater growth and successes in its next 60 years.

To learn more about the college’s history, go to www.ls.ucdavis.edu.
Louise White McNary, 82, passed away in February 2011 at the age of 77. Forbes joined UC Davis in 1969 and played an integral role in the creation of the NAS department at UC Davis, UC Berkeley and UCLA. He also served as chairman of NAS for many years before retiring in 1994.

Forbes’ passing was recognized by the California State Assembly on February 28th when it adjourned out of respect for Forbes and his work.

He was a longtime resident of Davis and is survived by his wife, Carolyn, and two children from a previous marriage. Donations to the Jack D. Forbes Memorial Fund in Native American Studies can be made online at http://giving.ucdavis.edu/fund.

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Louise White McNary, 82, passed away in April 2011 after a battle with cancer. A resident of Woodland, she was an avid musician and longtime supporter of the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra. She is survived by her husband Don, her five children, David, Jane, Nancy, Barbara and Patti, as well as 10 grandchildren. Memorial donations may be made in Louise’s name to the McNary Scholarship Fund (payable to UC Davis Foundation) at the UC Davis Alumni Association, One Shields Ave., Davis, 95616.

Flora Elizabeth Olivera, a psychology student, passed away in May 2011. She was 30 years old. A resident of Orchard Park, she is survived by her three children and father.

Donald H. Owings passed away at home in April 2011 after battling prostate cancer for more than 24 years. He joined the UC Davis faculty in 1971 after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Washington. His research on animal behavior earned him national recognition and he was awarded the 2010 Animal Behavior Exemplar Award for his endeavors. Owings also served as chair of the Psychology Department and the Graduate Group in Animal Behavior and enjoyed traveling with his family in his spare time. He is survived by his loving wife, Sharon Calhoun Owings, his mother Erin, his children Ragon and Anna, as well as grandchildren Isaiah and Elizabeth.

James Woodress, most renowned for his literary biography of Willa Cather, died in May at the age of 94. Beginning his teaching career nearly 40 years ago at Grinnell College, Woodress joined the UC Davis faculty in 1966. He also directed graduate studies and served as the chairman of the Department of English before retiring in 1987. Woodress was married to his wife, Roberta for 67 years; she passed away in 2007.

Andrew MasaTaka Murase

Andrew Murase, a mathematics major, received a posthumous B.A. degree at this spring’s commencement for the College and Letters and Science. Andrew passed away in February 2011. Andrew understood, loved and enjoyed mathematics. During his time at UC Davis, he was also involved in the Japanese American Student Society, where he served on the cabinet and participated in the Japanese community. Cheryl Murase, Andrew’s mother, wrote of the importance of receiving the degree. “Andrew’s father and I are very proud of Andrew’s accomplishments. We are extremely pleased to know Andrew was associated with not only one of the best institutions in the world of higher learning, but an institution that shows its students and their parents support and compassion.”

Michael Kato, a friend and fellow student, wrote, “To the man who brought life into every day we saw him, to the man who could make us laugh anytime of the day anytime of the week, to a man who made my first day in Davis a memorable one, to Andrew who we all loved, cherished and will never forget.”

Jerry reveals in his work, and it was contagious,” Holoman said.

Rosen is survived by his wife of 67 years, Sylvia; children, Michael, Elizabeth, Emily and Margaret; a sister, Evelyn Sackler; and 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The family has designated two beneficiaries for memorial donations: the Department of Music (payable to the “UC Regents”), One Shields Ave., Davis 95616; or Yolo Hospice, P.O. Box 1014, Davis.
BUILDING THAT HOUSES CROCKER NUCLEAR LABORATORY HAS A NEW NAME

By Andy Fell, University Communications

In June, after over 45 years, one of the campus’ most historic science buildings received a name — John A. Jungerman Hall. Home of the Crocker Nuclear Laboratory, Jungerman Hall was built to house the laboratory’s cyclotron (a type of particle accelerator) and opened in 1966. Jungerman, now professor emeritus of physics, was the laboratory’s founding director.

Jungerman helped acquire the cyclotron, which physicists and other scientists have used to conduct nuclear research, measure air quality in national parks, test the authenticity of historic artifacts, make radioisotopes and treat eye cancer.

“This building was a big challenge for our department, because we needed a research facility for our graduate program,” Jungerman recalled in remarks at the event. “It’s gratifying that after 45 years the cyclotron is still serving the campus and the community” Jungerman said.

Jungerman joined the faculty at UC Davis in 1951, the same year that the College of Letters and Science was formed. He was a graduate student at UC Berkeley and Los Alamos National Laboratory during World War II, and worked on the Manhattan Project. He witnessed the first test of an atomic bomb, ‘Trinity,’ at White Sands, N.M. in 1945.

UPCOMING EVENTS FALL 2011–WINTER 2012

DOUBLE VISION: NEW WORKS BY HULLEAH J. TSINHANAHJINNIE

When: September 23 –December 2, 2011
Where: C.N. Gorman Museum

In collaboration with the Great Plains Art Museum at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, artist and C.N. Gorman Museum director Hulleah Tsinhnahjinnie (who is also an associate professor of Native American studies) presents new works derived directly from the Gorman’s permanent photographic collections.

A KINETIC INSTALLATION: BIRDS

When: September 29 to December 11
Where: Richard L. Nelson Gallery

Chico MacMurtrie is a leader in the field of computer-driven kinetic sculpture. This exhibition will feature a dozen pairs of plastic bird wings that inflate, flap and deflate in eerie grace and silence.

STATISTICS CONFERENCE

When: October 8
Where: Mathematical Sciences Building, Colloquium Room

The Department of Statistics will host an interdisciplinary conference focusing on problems at the intersection of statistics, astronomy and cosmology. The day-long event will feature speakers from UC Davis and from abroad to discuss a diverse range of topics. More information: http://www-stat.ucdavis.edu

GYRE, A GRAND TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

When: October 10–December 2
Where: Design Museum, in its new location at Cruess Hall

Photographs and objects in an installation of flotsam gathered from the Pacific. Video installation: Kamilo Twisted Waters. A moving mandala reflects on the fouling of the oceans. Robert Gaylor responds to plastic waste floating in the North Pacific Gyre. Known as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, it is growing rapidly and now covers an area estimated as twice the size of the continental United States. It is the world’s largest rubbish dump trapped in place by circulating ocean currents.

ZONA ROSA, WRITTEN BY CARLOS MORTON, DIRECTED BY MICHAEL BARAKIVA

When: October 13–15, 8pm; October 16, 2pm
Where: Wyatt Pavilion Theatre

A timeless love story set amidst the famed entertainment district in Mexico City known as “Zona Rosa”—a place where
gay people congregate. Based on the life of Dr. Francisco Estrada Valle (1957–1992), whose murder has never been solved.

**CAUSEWAY YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL**

**When:** October 23, 7pm  
**Where:** Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center  
Internationally-recognized composer Samuel Hazo is the featured conductor and clinician of this third Causeway Youth Band Festival. Hazo’s own compositions will be featured and he will conduct key rehearsals and performances of two “Festival” bands (one 7–9th grade and one 10–12th grade); both concert bands of UC Davis and Sacramento State University will participate and perform.

**UC DAVIS HUMANITIES INSTITUTE CIVILITY PROJECT PREMIERE**

**When:** October 27  
**Where:** TBD  
In January 2011, the UC Davis Humanities Institute launched its Civility Project, which is jointly funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the UC Davis Office of the Chancellor. The Civility Project is grounded in the premise that the public university, as an environment in which diversity and the exchange of ideas are vital and in which citizens are trained for various modes of participation in society, is an essential site in any critical conversation about civility. More information:  
[http://dhi.ucdavis.edu/?page_id=5368](http://dhi.ucdavis.edu/?page_id=5368)

**PHILOSOPHY HONORS**

**When:** November 11–12  
**Where:** TBA  
The philosophy department will host a conference in honor of Gerald “Jerry” Dworkin on the occasion of his retirement. More information at:  
[http://philosophy.ucdavis.edu](http://philosophy.ucdavis.edu)

**UNDERGRADUATE PRIZED WRITING**

**When:** November 17, February 16  
**Where:** Voorhies Hall  
The University Writing Program’s Prized Writing contest selects outstanding undergraduate writers and publishes an anthology of their papers. Prized Writing student authors read from and discuss their prize-winning, published work.

**ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD, DIRECTED BY FALL 2011 GRANADA ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE MICHAEL BARAKIVA**

**When:** November 17–19, 8pm; November 20, 2pm; December 1–3, 8pm  
**Where:** Main Theatre  
Playwright Tom Stoppard uses *Hamlet* as springboard into an absurdly comical examination of life’s most fundamental question: how do we know what we know? The answer, as the titular characters Rosencrantz and Guildenstern learn, is anything but black and white. More information at:  

**EMPYREAN ENSEMBLE**

**When:** November 19 and 20, 7pm  
**Where:** Nov 19 Vanderhoef Studio Theatre, Mondavi Center; Nov 20 Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center  
Fabian Panisello (artist-in-residence) is a conductor and composer, and he will conduct the Empyrean Ensemble in a program of his works on 11/19 in the Vanderhoef Studio Theatre at the Mondavi Center. Then, on 11/20 he will conduct his own violin concerto with the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra in Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center. Also on the program is the *Berceuse and Finale* from Stravinsky’s *The Firebird*, and Strauss’s tone poem *Don Juan* (both conducted by Christian Baldini).

**L&S COMMENCEMENT**

**When:** December 10, 10am  
**Where:** ARC Pavilion  
The College of Letters and Science will hold the winter commencement ceremony for its graduates on Saturday, December 10 at 10am.

**NEED AND DESIRE, WORK FROM BLANKBLANK**

**When:** January 23 to March 16  
**Where:** Design Museum, in its new location at Cruess Hall  
Curated by Rob Zinn, founder of blankblank—a Northern California design firm that works with a select group of designers and artisans to produce furniture, lighting, and limited edition art, this show alludes to the ambiguities Zinn sees between art and design, form and function, and individual and society through examples from its collection, interviews with its designers, insight from its artisans, reviews, photographs, sketches, models, renderings, proofs, and prototypes.

**UC DAVIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**When:** January 29, 7pm  
**Where:** Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center  
Christian Baldini, associate professor of music and conductor, Wagner: Overture to *Tannhäuser*; To Be Announced: Winner of the UCDSO Composition Award 2011–12; *Leoncavallo: Intermezzo sinfonico* from *I Pagliacci* Elgar: *Cello Concerto in E Minor* with Jeremy Tai, cello (Winner of the Mondavi Center’s Young Artist Competition)

**MFA CHOREOGRAPHIES**

**When:** February 16–18 and 24–26, 8pm; February 19 & 23, 2pm  
**Where:** Vanderhoef Studio Theatre, Mondavi Center  
More information at:  
COLLEGE SEES STRONG YEAR IN CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING

The College of Letters and Science received $8,094 million in charitable contributions for the fiscal year 2010–11, which ended June 30. The total is nearly equal to the previous year’s record-setting total of $8,152 million, and above the $7.5 million goal for the year.

The gifts provide much-needed support for students and faculty, and research, programs, and capital projects such as the planned UC Davis Museum of Art and the UC Davis Music Recital Hall.

“We are so grateful for the philanthropy the college has received,” said Maureen Miller, assistant dean for College Relations and Development. “Gifts from alumni, friends, corporations and foundations make a critical difference in the quality of education and research in the college.”

In total, 2,554 donors made charitable gifts, compared to the previous year in which 2,360 donors made contributions. The College of Letters and Science Annual Fund, which raises money for areas needing the most assistance during the year, such as student scholarships and fellowships, and faculty and research support, saw contributions of more than $85,000. 1,626 donors gave to the college’s annual fund, over 600 more than the previous year.

Other noteworthy gifts in the past year include:

- A $1.485 million gift from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support research in the humanities over the next seven years. The grant is the largest single award to UC Davis from the 41-year-old foundation, the country’s biggest philanthropic organization with a dedicated commitment to supporting the humanities and the arts in higher education.
  - The funding will underwrite four research initiatives, each spanning three years. The first two initiatives will focus on early modern studies and environmental humanities.

- Alan Templeton (B.A., Art History and Psychology, 1982) donated $500,000 to create the Alan Templeton Faculty Fellowship in European Art History. The endowment will support the study of European art before 1800.

- The college was awarded a $500,000 grant from the Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship Fund, a program of the Bilinski Educational Foundation. The grant allows the college to offer dissertation fellowships in six of its top-ranked programs in the Division of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies and the Division of Social Sciences.

- The Large Synoptic Survey Telescope Corporation gave $383,000 toward deep pipeline research to support Distinguished Professor of Physics J. Anthony Tyson’s leadership on this project.

- The PARSA Community Foundation donated $250,000 to help the Middle East/South Asia Studies Program establish its first visiting lecturer in Iranian/Persianate Studies. The grant, together with gifts from members of the Iranian American community and campus funds, will fund a lecturer to teach Iranian studies courses each year and allow the program to expand course offerings on Iran.

- Faris Saeed, a Dubai resident who supports several programs within Middle East/South Asia Studies, gave $250,000 to launch the Faris Saeed Lecture Series in Arab Studies. The gift also supports new Arab studies curriculum.

- Michael and Renee Child have endowed a $250,000 fund in the Center for Mind and Brain that will provide annual “seed funding” for new research, with an emphasis on studies related to the health and well-being of children.

- The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation recently awarded two grants to the College of Letters and Science. The foundation gave a $225,000 New Directions Fellowship to Christina Cogdell, an
We appreciate the many donors who doubled or tripled the impact of their gifts through their employers’ matching gift program. For more information about matching gifts, you can go to http://giving.ucdavis.edu/ways_to_give.html.

Herbert A. Young Society: Strong Membership for FY 2010–11

The Herbert A. Young Society, established for donors who give $1,000 or more in unrestricted funds to the College of Letters and Science, had an excellent year: 86 members gave $139,000 in charitable donations. “Unrestricted gifts to the college provide a much-depended-on stream of flexible funding that the deans can allocate to keep core programs operating,” said Colleen Schulman, director of development and manager of the program. “Our first priority is education, and these programs are crucial to student success. We rely on the generosity of alumni and friends to support this upcoming generation of graduates.”

LAWRENCE J. ANDREWS CIRCLE
($10,000 to $24,999)
Diane and Bruce Edwards*
Alison and James Carbone
Mary Jane and Fred Corson

LEE MAYHEW CIRCLE
($5,000 to $9,999)
Nancy† and William Roe
Deborah and Jeffrey Weber*

PETER A. ROCK CIRCLE
($2,500–$4,999)
Kim and Kevin† Bacon
Pearl Brinhurst
Bryan Cameron*
Julia and James Davidson
Beverly and Mitchel Etishoff*
Nicholas Fintzelberg*
Barbara and Jackson Gualco†
Richard Piper
Nancy and Greg Sterling†
Rosanne and Tim Sweetland†

DEANS’ CIRCLE
($1,000 to $2,499)
Diane Appel and Daniel Cotton
Evelyn Armstrong and William Marks
Mary Radu and Richard Auger†
Victoria and Nathan Austin*
Patricia and Clarke Bailey*
Karen Jernstedt and A. James Barkovich**
Jacque and Wayne Bartholomew*
Dorothy and Donald Benson*
Katie and F. Paul Brady*
Pauline and Michael Brandmeyer*
Hollis Kim and Harry Bowles
Laurie and Kevin Carnahan*
Catherine Cerny
Renée Z.† and Michael C. Child
Anne and Rupert Cox
Susan and J. Rodney Davis*
Cathy Dugar Angell and Sundeep Dugar†
Carolyn and Timothy Ferris*
Debra Fischer
Rocky Freal
Sandra Redenbach and Kenneth Gelatt
Asha Gilson
Nancy and Rodney Gibson
Lois and Darryl† Goss
Anne Gray†
Doris Grimley
Pamela and Alan Grossbard*

Cydney and Jonathan Harris
Yim and Arthur Hermann
Deborah Pinkerton and Bret Hewitt††
Gwyn and Rex Hime*
Yasuko Ikeda*
Barbara K. Jackson*/
Shari and Stephen Kavelo*
Jeanie Steinmetz Kay*
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Anna Hom and Paul Ko
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Marilyn Bloch and Gil M. Labrucherie
Diane† and J. Albert Loranger
Shirley Maus*
Maureen Miller*
Janet and Robert Morrison*
Doris and Douglas Murtha
Fanny and Jon Nisbet
Jeanette and David Osias
Anne Hoffmann and Jesse Ann Owens*
Ruth McKenzie and Christopher Quan ’89
Kathleen and Stephen Richards*/√
Robert Rommelle
Helen and William Rogers
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Rosie and Ronald Soohoo
Meg and Tom Stallard*
Beverly “Babs” Sandeen and Marty Swingle
Marilyn and Joseph Thomas*
Terri V. Thomas
Cynthia Ifner Traum and Jeffrey Traum†
Marya Welch
Stephen Williamson
Debbie B. Wilson
Reggie Winner
Harriet and Edward Yu*
Maria Yang and William Zeile

† indicates Deans’ Advisory Council
* indicates Charter Member
√ indicates emeritus member of Deans’ Advisory Council

Associate professor of architectural and design history. And the foundation awarded a $173,000 grant to Marisol de la Cadeña, associate professor of anthropology, to conduct a year-long seminar that will bring together international scholars across academic disciplines to explore ways in which environmental concerns intersect with indigenous cultures throughout the world.

The Joseph H. Silverman Fellowship was established in the Department of Spanish and Classics with a gift transfer of nearly $240,000. The transfer was from UC Santa Cruz at the request Silverman’s daughters, Susana Chavez Silverman, and Sarita Chavez Silverman, who wanted to honor their father’s work with UC Davis Professor Emeritus Sam Armistead. The late Joseph Silverman was a professor at UC Santa Cruz and his family created the endowed fellowship at UC Santa Cruz in his memory. The fellowship supports advanced graduate students doing research in early modern or medieval Hispanic literatures.
This list of donors reflects gifts and grants made to the College of Letters and Science during fiscal year 2011 (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011). It does not reflect gift pledges. Gifts made elsewhere are not included in this report. We have made every effort to ensure that the names are listed accurately. However, if you notice an error, please call us at (530) 752-3429 or email ledonation@ucdavis.edu so we may correct our records.
Donors

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UC DAVIS COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE
THEORETICAL CHEMISTRY BECOMES TANGIBLE

BY COLEEN SCHULMAN, COLLEGE RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

We have all seen moments captured in plaster of Paris—a child’s handprints, perhaps. But what might it be like to hold a model of the molecular structure of the plaster in those hands? That is exactly what the Department of Chemistry is able to do, thanks to a new 3D printer.

Professor Dean Tantillo leads a research group centered on theoretical organic chemistry. Henry “Hoby” Wedler, a Ph.D. student in the group, uses spatial reasoning skills to visualize his theories on chemical reactivity at the molecular level. “The thing is, nobody can see an atom,” says Wedler. Indeed, it is difficult for anyone to visualize chemistry on that level, but it is particularly challenging for Hoby, who happens to be blind.

Jared Shaw, assistant professor of chemistry, first proposed the idea of employing 3D modeling to facilitate Hoby’s theoretical chemistry research, and this approach was quickly implemented with the help of many members of the Tantillo group. First, Hoby calculates the geometry of a molecule using quantum chemistry software. Using a computer-aided design program (CAD), Hoby can specify exactly how he wants to “see.” Following the data input, the printer comes to life, with a molecule taking shape one-3000th of an inch at a time from a bed of Plaster of Paris powder. Once complete, the molecule is “excavated” from the leftover powder that will be recycled for the next project. To overcome the fragility of plaster, the final product is coated with a type of superglue. With a print time of approximately three-to-four hours for a final product about the size of your fist, the machine is relatively efficient for research applications. This particular printer can also apply color, and the research team is already looking for ways to code distance information on molecular bonds.

The technology helps sighted students as well. With 3D printing, students can create models that are much more precise and often unbuildable using standard plastic modeling kits. This is extremely important when one is examining exotic molecules that challenge the rules of bonding that students are initially taught. In addition, the models are great teaching tools in the classroom: “The more things that enable education, the better,” says Shaw. Hoby is already taking the models on the road, demonstrating the accessibility of the field and encouraging blind children to study chemistry. In July, he ran the chemistry track at the National Federation of the Blind’s Youth Slam in Baltimore, MD.

The department has had the printer since June 2010, and has since had requests from other departments on campus. The printer technology has a wide range of applications, from chemistry to engineering and veterinary medicine. To learn more about large-scale use of 3D printing, check out the February 12, 2011 issue of The Economist.

The National Science Foundation, supplemented with funding from the Herbert A. Young Society and the Department of Chemistry, supported the project.

For more information about the Herbert A. Young Society, please call (530) 752-3429, or visit us on the web at Is.ucdavis.edu.
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