

Faculty Achievements and Activities – Spring 2010

CMC's faculty members continue to distinguish themselves in their respective academic fields. Following are highlights of current faculty activities:

- **Shane Bjornlie**, assistant professor of history, was invited to be a commentator at the Heidelberg Meeting of the International Network for the Study of Late Antiquity in June. He also is a finalist for the Rome Prize Fellowship at the American Academy in Rome.
- **Mark Blitz**, Fletcher Jones Professor of Political Philosophy, had an essay, "Natural Reich," published in *The Weekly Standard*, which examined Martin Heidegger's relationship to the Third Reich.
- **Brock Blomberg P'13**, Peter K. Barker '70 Professor of Economics and Roberts Fellow, along with Professors **Greg Hess** and **Yaron Raviv**, published an article, "Where Have All the Heroes Gone? A rational-choice perspective on heroism," in the December issue of *Public Choice*.
- **Richard Burdekin**, Jonathan B. Lovelace Professor of Economics, received a grant of \$15,000 from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation to support his sabbatical research on Chinese monetary policies.
- **Roderic Camp**, Philip M. McKenna Professor of the Pacific Rim, presented a workshop, "Military Cooperation, the Catholic Church, and Public Opinion: Drug Trafficking in Mexico," as part of the Smith Richardson Project on Mexican National Security at the Woodrow Wilson Center. In December, he also presented a lecture titled "Violence and Democracy, Which Produces Elite Changes in Mexico?" at the Center for Interdisciplinary Research at the National University of Mexico. Professor Camp recently completed a book manuscript on democracy and national political leadership in Mexico. The book has been accepted by Oxford University Press.
- **Mark Costanzo**, professor of psychology, is the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring Award from the American Psychology-Law Society. This national award recognizes teaching excellence, work in the community, and research and scholarship.
- **Henrik Cronqvist** and **Amir Barnea**, both assistant professors of financial economics, and colleague Stephan Siegel from the University of Washington, co-authored a study examining how genes affect investment decisions and personal finance. "Nature or Nurture: What determines Investor Behavior?" cross-referenced nearly 38,000 twins in the Swedish Twin Registry, the world's largest database of twin information.
- **Stephen Davis**, Russell K. Pitzer Professor of Philosophy, published "Resurrection" in *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Philosophical Theology* and "God as Present and God as Absent" in *The Presence and Absence of God*. This spring, he will participate and present papers at three academic conferences, including a conference scheduled for April in Teheran, Iran.
- **Lenny Fukshansky**, associate professor of mathematics, had several papers accepted for publication by such journals as the *Online Journal of Analytic Combinatorics*, *Acta Arithmetica*, and *Elemente der Mathematik*. He also received invitations for month-long research visits from Max-Planck Institute for Mathematics in Germany and IHES in France.
- **David German**, assistant professor of mathematics, gave two invited talks titled "Illiquid Markets and Demand-driven Prices" at the American Mathematical Society Fall Western Section Meeting at the University of California, Riverside, and at the Third Western Conference in Mathematical Finance hosted by the University of California, Santa Barbara.
- **John Goldhammer**, head track and field and cross country coach and professor of physical education, received the 2009 Men's Western Regional Coach of the Year Award by the United States Track and Field Cross Country Coaches Association.
- **Dianna Graves**, head women's volleyball coach and assistant professor of physical education, along with Registrar **Elizabeth Morgan** and Assistant Director of Institutional Research **Colleen Wynn**, will present a research paper, "Let the Games Continue: A comparison of academic performance and alumni giving among athletes and non-athletes," at the Association for Institutional Research 50th Annual Forum in Chicago in May.
- **Greg Hess**, James G. Boswell Professor of Economics, Roberts Fellow, and dean of the faculty, was featured on Bloomberg Radio's *The Hays Advantage* on February 3. He discussed the housing market and The Federal Reserve.
- **Paul Hurley**, Edward J. Sexton Professor of Philosophy, is helping to edit the March issue of *Philosophical Studies*, one of the top philosophy journals. He also is presenting papers at Pomona College and the Central Meetings of the American Philosophical Association in Chicago, and is serving as an external evaluator of the University of Delaware's Department of Philosophy.
- **Wei-Chin Hwang**, associate professor of psychology, was the recipient of the Western Psychology Association (WPA) Enrico E. Jones Award for Research in Psychotherapy and Clinical Psychology. He also was inducted as a Fellow of the WPA for his outstanding and sustained contributions to psychology through research, teaching, and service to the profession. Professor Hwang also received the Early Career Award for Distinguished Contributions in Scholarship, Leadership, and Dedication to Asian American Communities from the Asian American Psychological Association.
- **Dan Krauss**, associate professor of psychology, was recently awarded the 2010 Early Career Research Award by the Western Psychology Association (WPA). The award is presented to a WPA member who has demonstrated extreme promise in research.
- **Tomoe Kanaya**, assistant professor of psychology, recently co-authored several articles, including: "What does it mean to be Autistic? Inter-state variation in special education criteria for Autism services," which was published in *The Journal of Child and Family Studies*; and "A cross-linguistic examination of working memory development in bilingual children," which will be presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association later this spring.
- **Adam Landsberg**, professor of physics, published "Construction and Analysis of Random Networks with Explosive Percolation" in the December issue of *Physical Review Letters*.
- **Jay Martin**, Edward S. Gould Professor of Humanities, is working on his book, *Territoriality and Terror: A Biological Basis of Terrorism*, and an edited two-volume book titled *Politics, Law, and Economics in American Sports*.

Faculty Achievements and Activities – Spring 2010 (continued)

■ **Marc Massoud P'89**, Robert A. Day Distinguished Professor of Accounting, was on sabbatical in the fall. During this time, he spent a month working on a research project at the International Accounting Standards Board in London. Professor Massoud also spent time conducting research at The Financial Accounting Standards Board in Connecticut.

■ **V. Samuel Nelson**, assistant professor of mathematics and computer science, was a speaker at the December Knots in Washington Conference at George Washington University. He also is completing a new paper, "Blackboard biracks and their link invariants," and plans to submit it for publication this spring. Professor Nelson also received approval to organize a special session on Algebraic Structures in Knot Theory at the upcoming American Mathematical Society Meeting at UCLA this fall.

■ **James Nichols**, Dr. Jules Whitehill Professor of Humanities and Ethics, had an excerpt from his book, *Alexandre Kojève: Wisdom at the End of History*, published in the French quarterly journal *Commentaire*. The excerpt is titled "L'enseignement de Kojève sur l'autorité" and was introduced by a brief essay titled "Le phénomène Kojève" by Pierre Hassner, who was at CMC a year ago as the College's Podlich Distinguished Lecturer.

■ **Suzanne Obdrzalek**, assistant professor of economics, will be presenting papers this spring at the Triennial Meeting of the International Plato Society in Tokyo and at the Third Meeting of the West Coast Plato Workshop in San Diego.

■ **Minxin Pei P'11**, Tom and Margot Pritzker '72 Professor of Government and Roberts Fellow and director of the Keck Center, published "China: The Big Free Rider" in *Newsweek* on January 22. The article also appeared in the February 1 issue of the print magazine. His book, *China's Trapped Transition: The Limits of Developmental Autocracy*, was also referenced in James Fallow's cover story, "How American Can Rise Again," in the January/February issue of *The Atlantic*.

■ **Jonathan Petropoulos**, John V. Croul Professor of European History, presented a lecture titled "Bridges from the Reich: The Importance of Émigré Art Dealers as Reflected in the Case Studies of Curt Valentin and Otto Kallir-Nirenstein" at the Wirtschafts-Universität Wien (Economics University) conference in Vienna. In January, he gave a presentation for Holocaust Remembrance day at the Italian Cultural Institute in Westwood. The title of his lecture was "The Holocaust in Greece and the Last Sonderkommandos of Auschwitz."

■ **John J. Pitney Jr.**, Roy P. Crocker Professor of American Politics, completed *American Government: Deliberation, Democracy and Citizenship* (2011) with **Professor Joseph Bessette**. He also reviewed Seth Masket's book, *No Middle Ground: How Informal Party Organizations Control Nominations and Polarize Legislatures*, in *The Forum*. This spring Professor Pitney will present a paper on autism policy at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. In January, he discussed Governor Schwarzenegger's efforts to improve California's finances during his last year in office on BBC's *The World Today*.

■ **Kathleen Purvis-Roberts**, associate professor of chemistry, received a research grant from the National Science Foundation to study reactions and fate of amines in the atmosphere emitted from animal feeding operations. She is collaborating with colleagues from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the University of California, Riverside. Professor Purvis-Roberts recently joined the board of editors for the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences journal, which will be published later this year.

■ **John Roth**, Edward J. Sexton Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, was elected to serve a four-year term on the board of directors of the Federation of State Humanities Councils, which is affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities.

■ **Paul Settles**, head men's tennis coach and assistant professor of physical education, was the recipient of the United States Tennis Association and the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Community Outreach Award for Southern California.

■ **George Thomas**, associate professor of government, recently published "Economic Liberty and the Original Meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment" in *National Affairs*. In April, he will talk about his book, *The Madisonian Constitution* at the Georgetown Law Center. Professor Thomas also will present his paper, "The National University and American Constitutional Development," at the Western Political Science Association Conference in April.

■ **Robert Valenza**, Dengler-Dykema Chair of Mathematics and the Humanities, recently taught a course, "Novelty, Meaning, and Form," at the School of Theology and Center for Process Studies.

■ **Calla Wiemer**, visiting associate professor of economics, published an op-ed, "Don't Revalue the Yuan Yet," in the *Wall Street Journal Asia* in January.

■ **Fan Yu**, associate professor of economics, had his article, "The information content of option-implied volatility for credit default swap valuation," accepted for publication by *The Journal of Financial Markets*.