WELCOME TO CMC! To celebrate President Chodosh’s September birthday, 150 students carried him from the President’s House on College Avenue to campus and introduced him to a venerable CMC tradition — a “ponding” in the fountain in Flamson Plaza.
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The best way to predict the future is to create it.

– Abraham Lincoln
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http://www.claremontmckenna.edu/inauguration/
To view the entire inauguration ceremony.

On October 4, a day-long series of events on the inaugural theme Liberal Arts in Action was held on the CMC campus. To view selected sessions, visit the inauguration website at http://www.claremontmckenna.edu/inauguration/
CMC Magazine welcomes reader questions, concerns and comments via traditional letters and social media platforms, ranging from Facebook to Twitter. Send traditional correspondence to CMC Magazine, 400 N. Claremont Blvd., Claremont, CA 91711-4015. Letters may also be faxed to 909-621-8100 or e-mailed to nicholas.owchar@cmc.edu and bryan.schneider@cmc.edu. All letters should include the author’s name, address, and daytime phone number and may be edited for length, content, and style if selected for publication.

A Great Time To Be a CMCer

I agree wholeheartedly with Trustee Harry McMahon's '75 message (“A Season of Change and Achievement for CMC”) in the summer issue—there's no better time than now to be a proud CMCer.

In the summer edition of the magazine, McMahon talked about what an exciting time this is for the College and gave a brief summary of the numerous triumphs CMC has achieved. The evidence to back him up is astounding—our alma mater has always managed to thrive, even in tough times, and continues to grow.

The $600-million Campaign for Claremont McKenna has been described repeatedly as “monumental,” and “ground-breaking,” words that we can easily become numb to hearing. But when I took a look at just what this record-breaking campaign has done for the College—from the creation of the Robert Day School to the Kravis Center to the soon-to-be-built Roberts Pavilion—I couldn't help but be amazed by the generous donations of my fellow CMCers.

The Campaign will be President Emerita Pamela Gann's lasting legacy. The College's recent achievements and changes should be credited to her superb leadership. I was sad to see President Gann depart her position at the school, but we have made an excellent choice in her successor, President Hiram Chodosh. I look forward to seeing where his vision will take CMC in the future.

But the impressive rankings, beautiful campus renovations, and exciting leadership changes aren't the biggest reasons to take pride in our College—the students are. These leaders are running nonprofits, helping to shape public policy, and starting their own entrepreneurial endeavors. They are inspiring younger generations (and older ones too, I'll admit) to create brighter futures for themselves, the College, and the world.

– Brittany Ruiz '08

A Tweet for Gann
#pamgann gets a standing ovation from #classof2013 and faculty during her last commencement as president at #ClaremontMcKenna

– Jake A. Petzold '12

2013 Commencement

Commencement always brings about a flurry of emotions. On the one hand I am ecstatic that friends have made it over this final hurdle, but, of course, it pains me to see them go. Now, as a senior, I find myself plagued with worries that I hope will seem menial in the future—senior thesis and the ever-elusive job. Yet the advice given by Trustee George R. Roberts ’66 during commencement was a reminder of how lucky I am to be at CMC and how important it is to move forward with confidence. I realize with even greater respect and pride that the go-getting attitude pervading this campus is, and will continue to be, one of the essential motivators that will get us to the top.

– Michele Kee '14
CMC, by the numbers

71
Number of students studying abroad this fall in 23 countries.

337
Entering freshman during the 2013 fall semester. For profiles of some of this year’s freshmen, see page 7.

86
Students enrolled in 1946 when Claremont College Undergraduate School for Men first opened its doors.

60
Number of miles that runner Lars Schmitz, assistant professor of biology, logs on a weekly basis.

5
Number of presidents during CMC’s 67-year history (George C.S. Benson, Howard Neville, Jack Stark, Pamela Gann, and Hiram Chodosh)
CMC’s 2013-14 academic year officially launched on a warm September morning with the Opening Convocation ceremony, featuring a keynote address by President Hiram Chodosh on the topic of “No Constraints.” CMC’s new president recounted his own struggles and achievements, and he challenged students to explore and test themselves in the new year.

“I will be celebrating the risks you take, your openness to new endeavors, your drive and perseverance to confront challenges. Because those are the lessons that will make you and all of us stronger, better....”

President Chodosh wasn’t the only person on stage in a new role at the College. The event also featured addresses by several members of the community, including Professor Nicholas Warner, who is Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty, and his two associate deans of the faculty, Professors Lee Skinner and Ronald Riggio P’10.

The event also featured a recognition of years of service for College faculty and staff; faculty teaching and merit awards; reflections by Associated Students President Gavin Landgraf ’14; and a rousing rendition of the Claremont McKenna song led by (who else?) the perpetually jubilant Professor Ward Elliott.

Students also received a special parting gift: an inauguration t-shirt emblazoned with the phonetic pronunciation of the new president’s last name. If ever in doubt, just remember: It’s CHO·DAHSH with an accent on the first syllable!

To read President Chodosh’s Convocation address “No Constraints,” please go to: http://www.cmc.edu/dof/convocation/Convocation2013.pdf
CALL IT MARCHING TO A DIFFERENT TUNE, walking the walk, or whatever—Brentt Baltimore ’10 is part of a select group of idealists that, well, practice what they preach.

You see, the 24-year-old Baltimore is making news for having turned down a six-figure job at a Los Angeles hedge fund to take a $33,000 position with a venture capital firm in Detroit even though that L.A. job would have helped him pay $38,000 in student loan debt.

A recent story in The New York Times pointed out that Baltimore belongs to “a small group of recent graduates who are forgoing large salaries to work for start-up businesses” in Detroit, Las Vegas, Cincinnati, Cleveland, New Orleans and other hard-pressed cities around the U.S.

The “Business & Money” section of Time magazine also recently reprinted a post that first appeared on the Drucker Exchange, a daily blog produced by the Drucker Institute at Claremont Graduate University. The post describes Baltimore’s unorthodox career path and his decision to sacrifice salary to make a bigger impact in a distressed American community.

Baltimore, who studied economics and finance at CMC, was accepted as a fellow in Venture for America (VFA) and has been working for the past year with one of the program’s branches, Detroit Venture Partners.

VFA—under the credo “Mobilizing Graduates as Entrepreneurs”—is a non-profit corporation designed to do for entrepreneurship what Teach for America has done for education: provide a pathway for young, talented grads to become business builders and job creators in areas of need.

It’s just the kind of organization that Baltimore believes can make a difference.

“The opportunity to follow my passions for entrepreneurship and ‘paying it forward’ are what motivated me to go for this job,” he said in a recent telephone interview. “I felt like this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me to not only join a great program like Venture For America, but also to bring my skills to a community that needs them most.”

Baltimore added that the VFA opportunity arose just as he was finishing a two-year stint in investment banking. It was a “matter of good timing.”

But his decision is also good timing in another way: A judge decided in August that Detroit’s historic bankruptcy filing would move forward to federal court.

“The work that that I’m doing here with Detroit Venture Partners and the startup scene will become that much more important now,” he explained. “We are one of many organizations in the area that are helping to re-build Detroit—for us, that’s through funding entrepreneurs and helping them grow the businesses in Detroit—and that is very exciting.”

Luring investment to Detroit hasn’t been easy. Many entrepreneurs don’t think of the city as an entrepreneurship hub.

“Ironically, some of the most notable entrepreneurs have strong ties to Detroit, starting with Henry Ford,” Baltimore said. “While it is difficult to convince a potential investor over the phone that Detroit is the right place to launch their business, once the entrepreneur visits Detroit and sees all that is happening, the apprehensive stance is usually replaced by a ‘lets get this done’ attitude.”

Not even one year into Detroit Venture Partners and Baltimore is already seeing the benefits of making the choice to favor a more socially responsible career path over a big salary.

“I’ve not only had the opportunity to help build a VC fund, but to spend time in the community,” he said. “I’ve had a chance to teach middle school students the importance of entrepreneurship and introduce them to the world of startups through a non-profit organization that I co-founded, Startup Effect.” www.startupeffect.org

Although he doesn’t consider eschewing a big salary to make a difference in a community as a “calling,” Baltimore does hope that he’s in the vanguard of a new trend.

“I think there are a lot of young, talented and motivated people who think about making a choice like the one that I made,” he says. “There are a host of reasons why they may be reluctant to jump into something risky and uncomfortable, but I can honestly say this is one of the best decisions that I’ve made in my life thus far. I’ve had a rare opportunity, at an early age, to truly follow what I’m passionate about.”
So much done, so much more to do

This fall, CMC welcomed a new freshmen class eager to make a difference.

BY LORI KOZLOWSKI ’00

ONE OF THE MOST STRIKING ASPECTS of every new class of CMC freshmen is how much they’ve already accomplished before arriving on campus. The diverse stories and backgrounds that they bring with them only make for a richer start to the new school year.

The Class of 2017 is no different. Director of Admission Jennifer Sandoval-Dancs says this year’s entering class of 337 is comprised of young people “who care deeply about the world around them with a strong sense of hope—a hope that is linked with their faith in the power of communication and the power of intellectual pursuit.”

Sandoval-Dancs adds that each student’s personal story showcases his or her willingness to push intellectual and personal comfort zones to find a call to action. The incoming freshmen, she says, are doing “what our current students and alumni have been doing for years—being incredibly productive both inside and outside of the classroom.”

Here’s a look at what three members of the Class of 2017 were doing before they arrived at CMC:

Rachel Lee

Hailing from South Korea, Rachel Lee has been both an activist lobbying for Fair Trade and an advocate for HPV vaccinations in her home country.

“HPV vaccines protect women from cervical cancer, the only cancer preventable with our current technology,” she said about her advocacy work. “The problem is, despite having been proven effective against cervical cancer and many more infections, HPV vaccines cost a lot without government funding.”

She developed a deeper interest in issues involving health and the welfare of patients after herself undergoing surgery.

“The experience of surgery taught me many lessons,” she said. “The most important was experiencing and witnessing the amount of pain that cancer patients and their families have to suffer. So, when I was offered an internship under a congresswoman, I lobbied for a bill that would make HPV vaccination both mandatory and affordable. After persuading my congresswoman to take an interest in this matter, I was allowed to write a bill proposal.”

Along with her determination to change the world, Lee is excited about attending CMC’s open pathways for a recreational reason.

“I’ve heard that the CMC campus is made for skateboarding,” she said. “First thing when I get on the campus, I’m buying a longboard and teaching myself how to slide and dance on it!”

Darius Bieganski

With a patent pending on an invention to detect Parkinson’s Disease, Darius Bieganski’s ambitions skew toward robotics, science, and medicine.

Between his junior and senior years of high school, he conducted research and developed a device that employs an Xbox Kinect. When it is placed in front of a Parkinson’s patient, the device can produce a diagnosis and progress report for the patient. The device is currently in the patent process.

In addition to that invention, Bieganski is a programmer and former captain of his high school’s robotics team.

“Being a part of the team was amazing,” he says. “My many hours in front of a computer is where I developed my love for computer science and programming.”

His academic goal at CMC is to major in Computational Neuroscience with a Pre-Med focus.

“When I learned of Claremont’s amazing Pre-Med advisor system, I was hooked,” said the Minnesota native.

Philippa Straus

Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, Philippa Straus’ background is rooted in being part of a nationally-ranked debate team and her work with incarcerated women and their children.

Straus also happens to be a self-professed history and politics junkie who very much looks forward to taking Government 20 with Jack Pitney, Crocker Professor of Politics.

Straus first learned about Aid to Inmate Mothers when she was in 7th grade, and since that time she has committed herself to working with incarcerated moms.

One of the projects in which she’s been involved is a book drive known as the “Storybook Project.” The inmate-moms who are incarcerated in Alabama’s only maximum-security women’s prison pick a book and are recorded and videotaped reading it to their children. The recordings are sent to their children, who have a chance to hear their mom’s voices and can see them on a video.

“The inmates are from all over the state and some of their families can’t afford to bring the children for once-a-month visits,” Straus explained. “It can be years before they see their children in person. The Storybook Project is about literacy, but it’s primarily about helping the moms and their children stay connected with each other emotionally.”

Straus said that she looks forward to working closely with her professors at CMC.

“After meeting lots of CMC students, sitting in on a philosophy class, and attending a Winston Churchill Society meeting, I could see that CMC really does have opportunities for more student-faculty interaction both inside and outside the classroom,” she said. “The students and faculty seem to really know each other and that was important to me.”

KOZLOWSKI ’00 is a writer for Forbes magazine and a member of CMC Magazine’s editorial board.
Eye on the Institutes

Editor’s Note: Institutes were polled for recent news and highlights of interest this fall at CMC.

**Berger Institute for Work, Family and Children** students completed internships during the summer at Families and Work Institute in New York, Kaiser Permanente in Oakland, and the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles. The Institute helped two students secure a fellowship grant proposal to develop and implement a sustainable, educational program for refugee children in Burma. A grant was received to conduct a return on investment (ROI) analysis on the issue of family homelessness. In addition, students and board members are creating a new Berger Institute webpage that will enhance the Institute’s online presence as a current, relevant place to come together and participate in discussions relating to work and family. Learn more at cmc.edu/berger.

**The Center for Human Rights Leadership** awarded 19 summer internships to CMC students who spent their summers working on issues such as poverty, human trafficking, refugees, HIV/AIDS awareness, conflict prevention, public health and, of course, human rights. This fall the Center is sponsoring an informal seminar with students from CMC and Harvey Mudd on the topic “Human Rights, Technology, and Poverty.” The seminar features several speakers, including Maurice Leblanc, who will share his experiences developing and providing an inexpensive artificial hand in Somalia; and Heather Callender-Potters ’87, a member of the Center’s advisory board, who will discuss her startup, Pharmajet, which has focused on alternative, unconventional delivery of immunizations. The Center is sponsoring three speakers in the fall at the Athenaeum: Thanassi Canbanis, author of *A Privilege to Die: Inside Hezbollah’s Legions and Their Endless War Against Israel*; a film screening of *Hannah Arendt* with a presentation by Roger Berkowitz, Ph.D.; and Gershon Baskin, who will speak on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Learn more at cmc.edu/humanrights.

**The Family of Benjamin Z. Gould Center for Humanistic Studies** welcomed painter Mary Weatherford, who is serving this fall as a visiting fellow of the Center. A leading practitioner of a style rooted in abstract expressionism, Weatherford worked on a large mural inspired by the Claremont environs that will remain permanently on display in the Athenaeum. The Gould Center also sponsored several important speakers, including Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Stephen Greenblatt (The Swerve, *Will in the World*) as Ricardo J. Quinones Lecturer and bestselling novelist Zadie Smith (*On Beauty, White Teeth*) as Golo Mann Lecturer. The Center is also featuring fall semester seminars by poet August Kleinzahler and documentary filmmakers Meg McLagan and Lynn Novick. Learn more at cmc.edu/gould.

**The Financial Economics Institute** hired seven CMC students in the summer to work as full-time research analysts on various finance-related projects for affiliated faculty. Research topics included: medical malpractice insurers’ market power, empirical regularities in private vs. public equity, Chinese banking and financial markets, the effect of mood on perceptions of fairness in the repeated prisoner’s dilemma, quartile regressions and prediction of financial statement errors, local investment biases and air traffic, and the relationship between exchange-rate expectations and balance of payments adjustment in economies with internationally integrated financial markets. This fall, the Boards of the Financial Economics Institute and the Robert Day School of Economics and Finance are merging. This is being done to prevent overlap and duplication of functions by the two organizations. The expected outcome is that the combined new Board will result in more optimized experiences for students. Learn more at cmc.edu/fei.

**The Keck Center for Strategic and International Studies** completed a major study on terrorism and protection of critical infrastructure in Asia. The study covers China, India, Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines. Led by Keck Center Director and Tom and Margot Pritzker ’72 Professor of Government Minxin Pei P’13, the research team—including Shree Pandya ’14, Alexander Pei ’13, and Tim Rotolo ’14—produced a 100-page report that gathers open-source information on terrorist threats, activities, and counter-terrorism efforts in these countries. FLIR Systems, a leading hi-tech company based in Oregon, sponsored the project. The team went to Hong Kong in May and presented their findings at a workshop held at the Chinese University of Hong Kong on “Terrorism, Counter-Terrorism, and Critical Infrastructure Protection in Asia.” For more on happenings at The Keck Center, visit: cmc.edu/keck.

**Kravis Leadership Institute** selected Juetzinia Kazmer ’15 (right, center) for a KLI Partnered Internship with Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE), a nonprofit organization that received the Henry R. Kravis Prize in Leadership in 2008. In a short interview by Annie Jalota ’13, Juetzinia shared her experience working with FAWE in Zanzibar, Tanzania, and she explained how her transformational internship helped her grow as a leader. “Zanzibar has been the most inspiring experience I have had in my life. I cannot stop thinking about how much FAWE Zanzibar and the individuals I have worked with have helped me grow more than I helped them.” See the full story: bit.ly/15AW7Wm.

**Lowe Institute of Political Economy** and **Rose Institute of State and Local Government** co-hosted a gathering of Inland Empire business and government leaders for the 4th Annual CMC-UCLA Inland Empire Forecast Conference in
October at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario, California. The half-day event featured a nation and state forecast presented by Jerry Nickelsburg, senior economist for the UCLA Anderson Forecast. Lowe Institute Director and William F. Podlich Professor of Economics Marc Weidenmier gave the regional outlook. The conference featured panels on healthcare, affordable care in the Inland Empire, and industry leaders reacting to the forecast. A team of Lowe Institute research assistants also worked this summer under the direction of Associate Professor of Economics Manfred Keil to generate the forecast and GDP estimates for the region and its major cities. Students selected to work on this yearlong project gain valuable applied economic analysis skills, bridging a gap between the classroom and real-world application. Often overlooked, the Inland Empire is the 12th largest metropolitan area (by populace) in the United States, offering a substantive body of data for study. Learn more at cmc.edu/lowe.

Roberts Environmental Center is building on the strength of its prestigious sustainability reporting, which has brought high visibility and contact with corporations and environmental NGOs, to develop a framework guiding the formation of partnerships between environmental groups and companies. This undertaking will offer a deeper assessment of actual environmental performance and best practices, examining environmental governance, and engaging in local consulting with firms, NGOs, and communities. The Roberts Center also welcomed the arrival this summer of William Ascher, Donald C. McKenna Professor of Government and Economics, as its new director. Learn more at www.roberts.cmc.edu.

Rose Institute of State and Local Government celebrated its 40th anniversary in October and co-sponsored the 4th Annual CMC-UCLA Inland Empire Forecast Conference with the Lowe Institute of Political Economy. The Institute also sponsored a luncheon address at the Athenaeum by Tom Ridge, former U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security and Governor of Pennsylvania. His talk was titled “Boston and Beyond: Homeland Security and the Hometown.” Learn more at cmc.edu/rose.

Salvatori Center for the Study of Individual Freedom focused this fall on the American Constitution, political philosophy, and public policy from a constitutional perspective with workshops, conferences, speakers, student and faculty research, and summer internships. The Center continued its series of lectures on various aspects of constitutional law, holding a major conference on the thought of Jean Jacques Rousseau, and holding several workshops on the thought of Leo Strauss. The Center supported research and workshops on liberal education, the Founders’ views of a national university, and the place in the American academy for those with conservative views. The Center also continued providing support to students serving internships in think tanks and government. Learn more at cmc.edu/salvatori.
IN ACTION: STUDENTS

Potholes, poverty, and the pursuit of peace

By Sesa Bakenra-Tikande ’15

When I was a child, international travel was something of a dream. As I grew older and more politically aware, I realized that immersing myself in this dream was possible with hard work and a concrete goal. This summer, I found myself living in Mae Sot—a town in Northwestern Thailand where I’d gone to work thanks to the support of a Davis Project for Peace Fellowship and CMC’s Center for Human Rights Leadership and Berger Institute for Work, Family, and Children.

I had designed a project to teach language and life-skills to Burmese refugee students living in Thailand. Despite being in Thailand, Mae Sot is made up primarily of Burmese refugees who have crossed, legally or illegally, the river that separates the two nations. My project also enabled me to donate medical books and materials to local hospitals near Mae Sot.

Near the end of my stay, I set off on an adventure that would redefine my trip in just a short span of time.

At the time, I had been in Mae Sot for almost two months, and I desperately wanted to go to Myanmar (Burma). I first learned about Burma in high school when I was randomly assigned the country for a report. I was shocked and appalled at the human rights abuses that the country imposed upon its citizens. During my time in Thailand, I felt that I couldn’t fully understand and appreciate my students unless I was able to visit their home country.

Burma was simply across a river, but getting there was easier said than done.

I was forced to wait until the very end of my trip. If I crossed the border to go to Myawaddy (the Burmese town directly across the river), upon return to Thailand my visa would have been restricted to 15 days and I would have had to go home early—and my project would have been cut short.

I also had to wait because that area had suffered greatly from a flood near the end of my trip, making it even more difficult to go. I was teaching at a high school called the “Love and Care School” and a fellow teacher wanted to take me there, but we heard rumors—they weren’t true, we later found out—that the bridge was broken and Myawaddy was still too flooded to visit.

Finally, however, on the morning before leaving Mae Sot for home, I was able to enter Burma.

In addition to the high school, I had been working for an orphanage called Heavenly Home. The director and his wife, Thant Zin and Lily, showed me around Myawaddy, noting that it was a good example of what most of Burma looks like. If this was true, I thought, I couldn’t even begin to imagine what we might have seen elsewhere in the country.

The roads of Myawaddy were dusty and full of potholes. At one point we saw a huge boat sitting idly on the main road near the bridge that separates the two countries. We got around by motorbike—often, in such small towns, there isn’t much to choose from in terms of public transportation—and we went to visit a small nursery near the town center. There I met the sister of one of the students at Heavenly Home Orphanage who had not been able to leave Burma.

Thant Zin and Lily briefed me on the issue of electricity… basically Myanmar makes a lot of money by exporting their electricity to countries like Thailand and China, but it doesn’t have “enough” for its own citizens. Thus people in areas close to Thailand such as Myawaddy have to buy Burmese electricity from Thailand!

The natural beauty of Burma is astounding. Elegant golden temples line the roads, and the mountains and rolling hills are as beautiful as one would expect to see in Southeast Asia.

The area we visited, though, was dramatically less beautiful. It had once been a small slum, and when I saw it, it was little more than a pile of mud and sticks. The experience of seeing a man sitting on a pile of rubble that used to be his home was very moving and sad. A few structures still remain, but most of the other houses were destroyed because the people are not allowed to use concrete to build since they don’t own the land. Conditions are clearly very poor, but the people were willing to let us take pictures because they want the world to know how they’re living—and, most important of all, that their government isn’t doing anything about it. Their rent is still due, they’re still expected to work (many work in factories), and they still have to find a way to eat.

Despite all of this, many are still smiling. They still see hope in their futures. There was nothing we could do to help the people at the time, but we prayed for them and assured them that their stories would not be forgotten. I hope to keep my promise by shouting from the rooftops that injustice and inequity are a reality in Burma and other developing nations...

“I hope to keep my promise by shouting from the rooftops that injustice and inequity are a reality in Burma and other developing nations...”

Sesa Bakenra-Tikande ’15 is a junior majoring in Human Biology (Human Rights Sequence). You can read more about her adventures abroad at her blog, Thai Burma Adventures: Making a Difference in Mae Sot (http://sbakenra15.wordpress.com).
Athletics Update

A new alumni program is boosting opportunities by building networks

By Rachelle Holmgren ‘16

A strong CMC alumni networking effort is spreading across the U.S. and could be coming to a city near you.

The brainchild of Aron Khurana ’09 and Rick Voit ’78 from the Chicago Chapter of the CMC Alumni Association, the program aims to help CMC jobseekers by connecting them to other alumni in the cities where they’d like to work.

The approach is simple. A mass email is sent out to gather contact information from alumni willing to help. Job-seeking students or alumni submit a resume to a resume book with details about themselves, and regional representatives email the completed resume to alumni located in the area where the student would like to work.

“By spreading out this contact/call for help, we allow our whole community to help with the effort and siphon job-seekers to those most willing and able to give them assistance,” says Khurana, who says this system allows alumni to help others without the worry of being contacted by an overwhelming number of job-seekers afterwards, many of whom they may not have the time or ability to help.

“Networking is statistically the most effective way to find a job or internship and our alumni are a willing and very valuable conduit for our students into the workplace of every major city in the nation and world,” says Diana Seder, CMC’s Director of Career Services. “It also makes our alumni happy because they find it rewarding to help CMC students and graduates.”

Khurana, who works for Credit Suisse and founded a summer basketball camp for at-risk youths in Chicago (covered in the article “Hoop Dreams” in the Winter 2013 issue of CMC magazine), says the relatively small size of CMC allows alumni to feel a greater connection to their alma mater and thus more responsible for contributing to the growth of the college, not least of which through the success of it’s students and alumni.

“The success of those who graduate after us will enhance the value of our diploma and make the school a better place for us to send our children,” he says.

Besides Chicago, this program has been implemented in New York City under the leadership of Susan Matteson King ’85, Amanda Yang ’10 and Roger Cole P’14. The hope is to spread the program to other areas such as Washington DC, San Francisco and Texas. Not only are volunteers needed to help launch the program in different areas, but also those willing to take students and recent alumni under their wing.

For more information on the program or how to get involved, contact Meghan Thompson in the Office of Alumni Relations at 909-621-8902, meghan.thompson@claremontmckenna.edu.

Rachelle Holmgren ‘16 is a sophomore majoring in Economics and Computer Science and a member of the CMS Women’s Swim Team.
IN ACTION: FACULTY

Ascher’s in the right environment

BY ERIC VAN WART ’14

How transparent are corporations when it comes to environmental practices and sustainability?
That question is a guiding principle of the Roberts Environmental Center, which has grown through the years into an important watchdog monitoring corporate reporting practices around the world.

William Ascher, the Donald C. McKenna Professor of Government and Economics at CMC, took the helm as the Center’s new director in July, replacing J. Emil Morhardt, the Roberts Professor of Environmental Biology.
“I am excited to build on the great work the Center has engaged in under Professor Morhardt,” said Ascher, who has studied the public policy impact of environmental issues since 1985. “The Center’s analyses have caused quite a few companies to upgrade their environmental and sustainability reports.”

The principal goal of the Center has been to involve students in real-world environmental issues and to train them to analyze the issues from as broad a perspective as possible, taking science, economics, and policy into consideration. The REC is named for Trustee George R. Roberts ’66 P’93, who provided the endowment to fund a center committed to such contemporary issues.

After first becoming an associate professor at Johns Hopkins University in 1979, Ascher served as professor of public policy studies and political science at Duke University, from 1984 to 2000. Also at Duke, he was director of the Center of International Development Research and chair of the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy.

Since coming to CMC in 2000, Ascher has served as Vice President and Dean of the Faculty from 2000 to 2005 and chair of the International Relations Program. He received his Ph.D in political science from Yale University.

After his appointment as REC director, Ascher began soliciting ideas from student managers and the Center’s Board on how to grow the Center. This brainstorming process has generated a number of ideas, including diversifying the Center’s activities and moving beyond what corporations are self-reporting.

“I want the Center to engage in the more difficult work of analyzing companies’ actual environmental performance,” he said.

Consulting would be another avenue the Center could pursue, Ascher added: “I am interested to explore areas where we can work with companies that are trying to both increase transparency as well as to lessen their environmental impact.”

Ascher sees great potential for impact going forward. “Today, environmental non-governmental organizations and corporations have much less adversarial relationships,” he noted. “I am excited to see how the Center can help broker productive, win-win relationships with corporations and NGOs.”

Eric Van Wart ’14 is a senior majoring in history and government. His article has been adapted from a report published in April’s The Forum.
The Demise of Guys
“There are already well-documented differences between women and men in terms of their social and interpersonal skills... but we are also seeing a widening gap between young men and women in terms of their leadership potential... Presumably, the lack of interpersonal interactions due to too much time online is causing boys to fall behind in terms of the critical interpersonal skills that leaders need to be successful. Couple that with the fact that proportionally fewer males are going to college, and this is the recipe for what Zimbardo calls ‘the demise of guys.’ ”
– from a blog entry by Ronald Riggio P’10, Henry R. Kravis Professor of Leadership and Organizational Psychology, for a column in Psychology Today, August 14.

A Tribute to Poet Seamus Heaney
“Thirty years ago, I became a graduate teaching fellow in a popular undergraduate course at Harvard University called Modern Anglo-Irish Poetry. What made it popular? The subject matter was certainly rich. But the professor, Seamus Heaney, was the special attraction... He was already a major figure in the poetic landscape; we watched him artfully mapping its peculiar geography... Few poets—even of visionary sensibility—could imbue lines with such a visceral, indelible sense of both diction and cadence.”
– from “An Appreciation: Seamus Heaney, animator of words” in the Los Angeles Times, Sept. 2, by Robert Faggen, the Barton Ecans and H. Andrea Neves Professor of Literature.

The Putin Doctrine
“By positioning Moscow alongside the Bashar Assad government and forcing Obama to blink first, Putin showcased his personal leadership, resolve and willingness to confront the United States. We should expect to see more of this doctrine in action, perhaps in the case of Iran.”
– from the op-ed “The Putin Doctrine: To build up Russia, he’s trying to tear down the U.S.” in the Los Angeles Times, Sept. 12, by Visiting Assistant Professor of Government Ilai Saltzman.

Gay Marriage and Wedding Tradition
“[Gays and lesbians] grow up with the same movies, go to the same rituals as straight people, and when we want to commit to one another it’s not surprising that we would choose the same forms. We’re claiming the right to equal citizenship—to dream the same dream as straight people. That’s a big deal.”

Science and Moral Behavior
“[Researchers] asked people to rate the morality of a transgression to see if it related to their belief in science. What they found was that the more people believed in science, the more strongly they condemned a moral transgression... They found across three separate experimental manipulations, using the priming technique, that when you get people to think about science, it makes them judge transgressions more severely. It also gets you to report that you have higher pro-social intentions (for example, that you’re more likely to donate to charity, give blood, volunteer). And finally, the researchers showed that priming in this way changes moral behavior.”
– from “Just Thinking about Science Triggers Moral Behavior,” in Scientific American, August 27, by Assistant Professor of Psychology Piercarlo Valdesolo.

Defending Voter-Approved Ballot Initiatives
“Giving the Governor and attorney general this de facto veto will erode one of the cornerstones of the State’s governmental structure.... And in light of the frequency with which initiatives’ opponents resort to litigation, the impact of that veto could be substantial. K. Miller, Direct Democracy and the Courts 106 (2009) (185 of the 455 initiatives approved in Arizona, California, Colorado, Oregon, and Washington between 1900 and 2008 were challenged in court). As a consequence, California finds it necessary to vest the responsibility and right to defend a voter-approved initiative in the initiative’s proponents when the State Executive declines to do so.”
– from Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy’s Proposition 8 dissent this past June, citing CMC Associate Professor of Government Kenneth P. Miller’s book Direct Democracy and the Courts.
The Athenaeum Celebrates 30 Years

September 12th marked the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Athenaeum. An institution that has become an integral part of Claremont McKenna College, increasing its academic stature and providing a space for the leaders of tomorrow to engage with leaders today. Yet, to truly understand the impact of the Athenaeum, we need to return to its origin when in the winter of 1968, Donald McKenna sat down at his home and penned a brief memorandum recommending “a student-faculty club or atheneum” for the still nascent Claremont Men’s College.

The idea originated as a combination between an evening social and a lecture series. The memo suggested a unique approach to education by bridging the gap between the late-night dormitory discussion and the classroom environment. It was to be reminiscent of the ancient Roman academy or an Enlightenment coffeehouse.

Donald McKenna selected the name of this new institution for several reasons. Despite his initial concern that the Athenaeum was “too highfalutin and not as warm as the term ‘Faculty-Student Club’ or ‘Student-Faculty Club,’” McKenna wanted the name to evoke both an academic and personal environment. He noted that the Athenaeum of Ancient Rome was a school of oratory, philosophy, jurisprudence, and poetry founded by Hadrian in the fifth century and that the Athenaeum was also the name of a London literary club founded in 1823. Thus, the name perfectly captured his desire for a blend between the social and academic.

It took 15 years for that initial dream to be realized in the Athenaeum building that stands today, thanks to a gift from McKenna, Marian Miner Cook and the Security Pacific Charitable Foundation, helping to unveil the building in 1983.

Over the years hundreds of speakers have been welcomed to the Athenaeum, from high-ranking politicians and business leaders to musicians of every genre to groundbreaking mathematicians to professors of every discipline to esteemed writers and artists.

– Andrew Willis ’14

Alumni Cruising with Marine Iguanas and Polar Bears

This summer, an adventurous group of CMC and Pomona alumni and parents cruised through the Galapagos Islands aboard the Lindblad Expedition ship National Geographic Islander. They enjoyed a week-long experience of hiking, kayaking, and learning about these isolated islands while following in the footsteps of Charles Darwin. CMC’s next travel adventure will take place June 6-16, 2014 aboard the National Geographic Explorer, the newest addition to the Lindblad fleet. The group will travel to the Norwegian islands of Arctic Svalbard, known as the land of the ice bears, in search of seals, Arctic foxes, polar bears, and other wildlife. Information and reservations are available at https://online.cmc.edu/NetCommunity/ArcticCruise or by calling the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at 909-621-8097.

GALA OPENING, 30 YEARS AGO: (from left) Marian Miner Cook, with Donald and Bernice McKenna, and Jil and Jack Stark.


**Making Headlines**

Douglas Peterson ’80 P’14 P’15 and David Doss ’75 were recently appointed to senior executive positions. Peterson, a CMC Trustee who previously served as president of Standard and Poor’s Ratings Services, was elected by the McGraw Hill Financial Board of Directors to serve as president and CEO. Doss was named Sr. Vice President, Al Jazeera America. Previously, he served as executive producer for CNN’s “Anderson Cooper 360,” ABC News’s “Primetime with Diane Sawyer” and “NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw.”

Andrew Gordon ’84 has been appointed to the Federal Bench. Gordon, a respected civil litigator and partner in a major law firm in Las Vegas, was submitted for consideration by Senate Majority Leader, Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nevada, and nominated by President Obama. He was confirmed last Spring to be a judge in the United States District Court in Nevada. In confirmation hearing remarks, Sen. Reid referred to CMC as “the Harvard of the West.”

Two alumni running for state office in 2014. Hugh Hallman ’84, former mayor of Tempe, Arizona, is running as a Republican candidate for state treasurer in Arizona. Tyler Olson ’98, currently serving as an Iowa State Representative and chairman of the Iowa State Democratic Party, is running for Governor of Iowa.

**FALL 2013**

**THIS FALL: FACULTY BOOKS**

Peeling away the varnish on constitutional precedent

For Ralph Rossum P’01 P’08, what two words best describe the arrival of Justice Clarence Thomas on the Supreme Court?

Damaged goods.

“There was so much doubt and controversy surrounding him,” says Rossum, recalling Thomas’ scorching confirmation hearing in September 1991.

“The circumstances were extraordinary.”

For Rossum, however, who is the Salvatori Professor of Political Philosophy and American Constitution, that infamous moment has been supplanted by ‘Thomas’ far more important efforts at constitutional recovery.

“His work is vital to the Court’s future,” he says. “Over the past 22 years, in case after case, Thomas has proven himself to be of critical importance.”


“Understanding Clarence Thomas is a book that could not be more timely,” declares Gary L. McDowell, Tyler Hynes Interdisciplinary Chair of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond, in an advance review of the book.

As he did in his 2006 book about another intriguing Court figure, Antonin Scalia’s Jurisprudence: Text and Tradition, Rossum reads deeply in his subject’s writings on a host of issues – voting rights, interstate commerce, commercial speech, executive power, self-incrimination, the Fourth Amendment, and much more. He shows us Thomas’ fierce efforts to peel back precedent and ensure that the Constitution is being used in ways consistent with the intention of its original drafters and those who ratified it.

That work, Rossum says, is not unlike what a furniture restorer does – a metaphor that the author readily applies to Thomas in his new book.

“Imagine a finely-crafted piece of furniture covered in layers of paint that totally obscure the nuance and craftsmanship of it. Constitutional precedent is like that,” Rossum explains, “and what you see, when you start reading Thomas’ writings on the bench, is that he wants to scrape back to the bare wood.”

What surprising discovery did Rossum make in the course of his research? That Thomas changes his mind. Many times, in fact. It’s an evolution that Thomas has undergone, he says, whenever he’s grasping the complexities of a new issue.

“When he’s asked to write the majority opinion on an issue for the first time, Thomas can be very conventional, but later, on another case, you’ll see him break with his past opinions,” Rossum says. “He has epiphanies and is suddenly showing us why the conventional view is wrong. It’s fascinating to watch this as it happens. With this book I want readers to understand Thomas as he understands himself.”

Rossum’s is one of several new books by CMC faculty appearing during the fall publishing season. Other new faculty titles include The Economic Roots of Conflict and Cooperation in Africa by William Ascher, Hitler’s Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields by Wendy Lower (for an excerpt, see page 24), A Squatter’s Republic: Land and the Politics of Monopoly in California, 1830-1900 by Tamara Venit-Shelton and more. To read about these and other faculty-authored books, go to http://www.claremontmckenna.edu/news/news-releases
A TIME TO LOOK AHEAD, A TIME TO LOOK BACK

The October installation of new CMC President Hiram Chodosh was a time to celebrate the college’s past and contemplate its future. ‘We must never lose sight of our sense of innovation, our sense of family,’ Chodosh said.
welcomed Hiram E. Chodosh as CMC’s fifth president during a festive, colorful installation ceremony on October 5 in Bridges Auditorium. Robed faculty, trustees, alumni, and delegates from universities across the country marched in procession to Bridges with a bagpipe player in the lead—a reminder of the Scottish heritage of one of CMC’s central founders, Donald McKenna.

Before taking the presidential oath, administered by CMC Board Chairman Harry McMahon ’75 P’08 P’09, and before receiving the Chain of Office and the hood worn by CMC’s first president, George C.S. Benson, from Trustee David Mgrublian ’82 P’11, Chodosh was greeted and congratulated with speeches from various members of the community.

Speakers included representatives of CMC’s faculty, staff, students, alumni, and parents as well as Claremont Mayor Opanyi Nasiali (who teased President Chodosh about the pronunciation of his name), Claremont Graduate University President Deborah Freund (who presented him with coffee mugs from each institution in the Claremont consortium), and Bruce McKenna, who recalled his grandfather’s special vision for the College. Chodosh’s son Caleb and daughter Saja also offered touching tributes to their father on his special day and expressed thanks to their mother, Priya Junnar, CMC’s First Lady, for her support.

Chodosh’s address blended stories of courage in his family—of his maternal grandmother’s escape from European pogroms to realize a new life in the United States—with the courage of the College’s founders, who defied the odds and “turned the dry rocky land into CMC, a grand seminarium....,” he said. “Let’s remember all who are responsible for our success, all those who have taught and served us.”
...we have to remember why we’re all here, why we make these investments, why we choose the tough challenges we are aiming to tackle.

We must never lose sight of our primary objective: to grow the qualities we need in our next great generation.

We have to do more than just put the right students in CMC. We have to put the right CMC in our students. And to do that, we have to teach, to learn, to model (each of us and all of us) the creative vision, community collaboration, and ethical courage that our community, our country, our civilization so desperately needs.

I’m talking about the deeper thinking and creativity to solve intractable problems, the outgoing collaboration we need to transcend what divides us, the character of courage we need to overcome fear and uncertainty and risk—these CMC commitments will provide the value, the identity, the leadership we need most in the world today.

That’s the singularity of CMC, and that singularity shines a north star on our future horizon.

As we dream, work together, and lead in higher education, we must never lose sight of our sense of innovation, our sense of family, our scrappy, fearless sense of what we can achieve against tall odds.

In the Biblical story of David and Goliath, David initially put on a traditional suit of armor for a traditional battle of swords against Goliath. But he had second thoughts: “I cannot walk in these, for I am unused to it.” Then he picked up his slingshot and a few smooth stones.

So when we confront the Goliaths in our path, let’s remember the smooth stones in our pockets.

Let’s remember all who are responsible for our success, all those who have taught and served us.

Let’s remember how a few memos and donations, some vets in makeshift barracks, and the impulse to put learning to work captured the imagination and shaped the lives of our greatest generation.
A Place at the Table

What did Hiram E. Chodosh learn at his grandmother’s table? Why did an aspiring law student train as an actor? What was life like in Baghdad’s Green Zone? CMC’s fifth president draws on a lifetime’s worth of lessons as he looks to CMC’s future.

Nothing serves as a better metaphor for Hiram Chodosh’s approach to people, and to his role as CMC president, than the image of a table.

For him, tables reflect the essence of the collaborative process.

“Tables are the places where we gather to share and discuss our thoughts,” explains the 51-year-old former dean of the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah. “If it’s a round table, even better. There’s no hierarchy, no head. Everyone’s equal. I love working in that kind of dynamic environment. That’s where I’ve always done my best work.”

In the course of 20 years in higher education, Chodosh—that’s CHO-dahsh, in case you’re wondering—has collaborated at plenty of tables: as an innovative educator, administrator, and law school dean; as a prolific scholar and author; and as a global justice expert whose mediation work has taken him to hotspots in Indonesia, India, and Iraq.

If you happened to hear his early remarks as CMC President-elect last December, you might recall that Chodosh invited the entire CMC community to join him around “the kitchen table” to discuss the College’s future. (And let’s not forget the pool table—Chodosh won tournaments during his years at Yale Law School. If he challenges you to a game of 8-ball at The Hub, don’t go easy on him.)

In the early fall, CMC Magazine sat down with him at another table to learn more about his upbringing, his experiences domestic and abroad, his family, and his excitement at becoming CMC’s fifth president.
CMC’s birth in 1946 is often one of the first things that people mention about us. CMC is so “young” in comparison to its peers, like Amherst and Swarthmore. Do you think our age is a disadvantage?

Not at all: in fact, what I really admire and appreciate about CMC is its youth. This College is scrappy. Many of our early, successful alums didn’t enjoy the same resources that some older institutions had, and they still managed to succeed and make so much for themselves. I think that ethos of swimming uphill and showing accomplishment is what I love and identify with at CMC. Many institutions in higher education have greater challenges with innovation. It’s harder for them because they’re burdened by so much tradition and history that there’s not as much natural drive and motivation to improve. What I’ve found here is an ethos of innovation and critical self-assessment, combined with one of the most eminent liberal arts programs in the country. We can do everything that our competitive peers can do, but also we can do better because we have this forward-looking, we-can-do-it perspective.

What did Priya, our new First Lady, and your son Caleb and daughter Saja think about moving from Utah to Southern California and CMC?

Priya grew up in Northern California, and I have a brother in Mar Vista—so California isn’t unfamiliar to us. It’s always hard to move, but the entire family was very excited. Opportunities like this come up maybe once in a lifetime, if you’re lucky. Priya and the kids love the whole environment of Claremont, a city known for its “trees and PhDs,” and especially how close we are to campus and the village. The chance to be part of the larger CMC family has been very rewarding for all of us.

You’ve said that if CMC had been “just any liberal arts college,” you wouldn’t have left the S. J. Quinney Law School. Why?

I’ve found that many liberal arts colleges have a tendency to be remote—geographically and programatically speaking. Higher education more generally and liberal arts specifically can seem too removed from the world, too self-absorbed. What really excited me about CMC was the level of its real-world engagement, whether you’re talking about the incredible speakers who visit the Ath every semester or the drive and motivation of our students—not just to succeed in the private sector, but to make a real, substantial difference in society. I really relate well to the impulse to put learning to work for others.

You started in higher education in 1993 as an educator and administrator at Cleveland's Case Western Reserve University School of Law, then you went to the University of Utah to become Dean of the S.J. Quinney School of Law in 2006. Now you’re the fifth president of CMC. Your family has had to move around a lot—like a military family.

(laughs) I suppose so. Well, actually, it’s not quite that bad. I was in Cleveland for thirteen years, and in Utah for seven. We haven’t been in constant motion, but when the opportunity arose at CMC, I think the family recognized the opportunity to become part of an extraordinary academic community. We also realized how important it is for our whole family to learn new things and take on new situations. We all share that sense of adventure.

You’ve had quite a sense of adventure when it comes to your international reform work.

Yes, I’ve worked on some tough issues in some pretty tough places—places that seemed impervious to change and innovation.

Such as?

Corruption in Indonesia; backlog and delay in the Indian court system; political and legal sectarianism in Iraq. My work in India is the longest-standing. In 1996, there was no such thing as mediation in the Indian legal system. Flash forward to today and you’ll find that thousands of cases are being resolved each year, and there’s a really innovative model, an Indian model, in place. The relaxation of some basic assumptions about mediation and an openness to grow new processes from Indian social conditions have driven that success.

Why are you drawn to tackling difficult issues in places around the world?

I’ve always had an interest in the different conditions under which people live and the conflicts that grow out of their interaction. This has been an essential question for me. Most of my work has focused on how to depolarize conflict. My early interest in foreign culture and language, intellectual history, and law, and my current commitments to mediating conflict have deep roots. People come at a certain topic or question from two more different perspectives, identities, sets of conditions, and often fail to see eye to eye initially because their values are shaped by their identities and the places they’re from. Theater, law, mediation in parallel ways all seek to humanize that conflict through exchange and dialogue and conversation. In places like Iraq, you really see these issues, both the devastation and the humanity of continued hope for a more secure, safer, more prosperous society.

I think my commitment to these issues started much earlier in my life. My maternal grandmother was one of the first people in my life who really made me aware of this larger perspective, and that helped me understand much more clearly the conditions of conflict around me, when I was growing up.

Your grandmother? How so?

Her name was Rose, and we called her Nana. She was the oldest of her generation in my extended family, and I was the youngest of mine. We spent a lot of time together, playing cards at the table in her kitchenette. She told me lots of stories in order to make me understand how fortunate I was, stories about what little she had, stories about the violence she fled in the early 20th century, stories about the importance of family.

In an important way, she taught me to think about experiences beyond the immediate parameters of my own. That stimulated my imagination and anticipation of those worlds. I’m sure she wasn’t happy when I started traveling. When I told her I was going to study in the Soviet Union, I’m confident she was not pleased, but her humor helped. I remember her parting words before that trip: “say hello to the Tsar for me.”
You mention the table in your grandmother’s kitchenette, and in your first remarks as President-elect, you also invited the CMC community to join you at “the kitchen table.” It’s more than a just a metaphor to you, right?

Yes, it’s much more than that. A lot of my intellectual training, actually, the core of it, occurred at my family’s dinner table, not in school. I think that was where I first really learned to pay attention to what was going on in the world and be engaged in conversations where I would be challenged. My siblings and parents were very independent-minded, very critical-minded, and I just remember the debates we’d have at the table. As a little boy in the midst of a very forceful, intellectual discussion, I had to get my two cents in. I learned to have opinions and to be able to back them up. Argument in my family was a kind of sport. I think I’m really very comfortable with disagreement because of that. Sometimes I savor it for the ability to get to a deeper level of understanding, or maybe it just makes me feel like I’m at home.

It must have toughened your skin, especially for your future mediation work in India and elsewhere.

That—and having four older siblings, including three older brothers … Yes, it does toughen your skin. But it also gives you a greater sense of empathy—the confidence that you can disagree sharply with people you love, people you would do anything to support.

You received an undergraduate degree in history from Wesleyan, but you didn’t head directly for law school. You worked for a while in a market research firm. You even flirted with acting and directing. Why?

I expected to end up in the academic world but I wanted to pursue some different experiences before I made up my mind. And I’m so glad I did, not just because of the complementary things I learned but also the self-realization I experienced. The business world taught me how much I loved negotiation, and theater taught me important social skills in active listening, the humanization of conflicting points of view, and how to improve the emotional dimension of experience. Yet neither had the intellectual challenge that I longed for, and law provided the opportunity to seek that greater challenge.

What did you like about acting?

It goes back to my fascination with how to reconcile the collision of different perspectives, emotions, experiences. I studied the Meisner Technique. It’s very focused on moment-to-moment responses of one actor to another, when their narrative and emotional lines bring them into direct collision. To be trained in it was really exhilarating, and again helped me work through the issue of conflict in a much more emotional and experiential way.

It sounds, in its way, like a form of mediation.

Yes, that’s exactly right. The mediator does for the colliding actors what they often cannot do for themselves and then moves them in directions where they can create better, forward looking outcomes (rarely seen in theater).
Harold read that card to his seminar students for years to extol the virtues of taking his class. (laughs)

How does Priya feel about being First Lady?
She's excited about it. She's spent 20 years in and around higher education, not just with me but in her own right, too. She's worked for an educational non-profit in NYC dedicated to helping kids (who didn't have resources) to go to college. She taught political science (IR and Indian Politics) at Case. And she has two graduate degrees—in international relations and an MBA. She spent a lot of time with me reading through multiple-choice questions for the bar, so she could have easily had a JD as well. And as a communications and marketing expert, she's worked in a variety of academic disciplines, from engineering to information technology. She's very comfortable in the college environment. She's been a great mentor and counselor to young people and to families, and I think that informal role will really appeal to her, and she already loves the students and the entire CMC family.

During your Utah deanship, you also shuttled between Salt Lake City and the Baghdad Green Zone to work on the Iraqi constitution. That must have added considerable pressures to your workload.

I traveled to Iraq, but I also did much of my work through videoconferencing. I'd juggle the duties of my day job, and then work at all hours of the night on documents to get them ready by the time it was morning in Baghdad. I worked as part of our thematic teams on many areas, including corruption, constitutional revisions, and judicial independence in particular. Our focus was to help find ways for Iraq to realize a vision of a federalist system. Sometimes, when videoconferencing wasn’t enough, I had to go there for special meetings or important work with my colleagues.

What did your family think?
The first time that I told them I had to fly to Iraq, my son and daughter said: “What? No way! That is the dumbest thing we’ve ever heard! Dad, you are not going to Iraq!”

Why did you go anyways?
My view at the time was, look, we’re sending these 18-year-old kids there to fight, and I have a real opportunity to make a difference. I didn’t feel that I could ever look one of those young soldiers in the face and tell them that I was too scared to spend time in the heavily-fortified Green Zone while they were getting into combat all over the country with much less protection. On that ethical basis, I just couldn’t fathom saying no. I had to go. I had to help. It was a real opportunity to use the experience and resources that I had to confront a serious set of problems.

Your work in Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East also has had a deep effect on how you view the nature of work and the goals of higher education. You’ve gained real insights in the course of your travels, haven’t you?

Definitely so. My work has taught me about the major challenges we face around the world, and the kind of critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving we need. In this sense, higher education bears a heavy burden to supply the human resources we need to tackle our steepest obstacles. I’ve also learned a great deal from the resilience and ambition of the people I’ve met and worked with, even people I’ve met while on the street or in the markets.

I like to tell a story about a mason I encountered in Amman who described his work this way: “I am building the most glorious house of worship that humanity has ever known.” That story made me realize how we tend to collapse into the pedestrian functions of our daily work—the papers we correct, the Powerpoints we prepare, the meetings we slog through—and how we need to infuse all of that basic, important work with greater purpose. I believe that higher education would be more responsive, more successful if it committed itself to improving the human condition through its teaching, research, and service missions. Again, that’s why I love the ethos of the founders of CMC and the real-world impulse of the school, to put learning to work, to make a difference.

— Nick Owchar ’90

YESTERDAY AND TODAY: The President and First Lady with daughter Saja and son Caleb on inauguration day; in Cleveland during the 1990s.
Some information can’t be found on Google or in a library’s microfiche room: You have to go into the field to find it. That’s what Wendy Lower discovered. The John K. Roth Professor of History and George R. Roberts Fellow, Lower describes her efforts to recover forgotten Nazi documents in the following excerpt from her new book, Hitler’s Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields, published in October by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and a finalist for this year’s National Book Award.
In the summer of 1992 I bought a plane ticket to Paris, purchased an old Renault, and drove with a friend to Kiev over hundreds of miles of bad Soviet roads. We had to stop often. The tires blew on the jagged pavement, there was no gas available, and curious peasants and truckers wanted to look under the hood to see a Western automobile engine. On the single highway stretching from Lviv to Kiev, we visited the town of Zhytomyr, a center of Jewish life in the former Pale of Settlement, which during the Second World War had become the headquarters of Heinrich Himmler, the architect of the Holocaust. Down the road to the south, in Vinnysia, was Adolf Hitler's Werwolf compound. The entire region was once a Nazi playground in all its horror.

Seeking to build an empire to last a thousand years, Hitler arrived in this fertile area of Ukraine—the coveted breadbasket of Europe—with legions of developers, administrators, security officials, “racial scientists,” and engineers who were tasked with colonizing and exploiting the region. The Germans blitzkrieged eastward in 1941, ravaged the conquered territory, and evacuated westward in defeat in 1943 and 1944. As the Red Army reoccupied the area, Soviet officials seized countless pages of official German reports, files of photographs and newspapers, and boxes of film reels. They deposited this war booty and classified the “trophy” documents in state and regional archives that would remain behind the Iron Curtain for decades. It was this material that I had come to Ukraine to read.

In the archives in Zhytomyr I came across pages with boot footprints and charred edges. The documents had survived two assaults: a Nazi scorched-earth evacuation that included the burning of incriminating evidence, and the destruction of the city during the fighting of November and December 1943. The files contained broken chains of correspondence, tattered scraps of paper with fading ink, decrees with pompous, illegible signatures left by petty Nazi officials, and police interrogation reports with the shaky scrawls of terrified Ukrainian peasants.

I had seen many Nazi documents before, while comfortably ensconced in the microfilm reading room of the U.S. National Archives in Washington, D.C. But now, seated in the buildings that had been occupied by the Germans, I discovered something besides the rawness of the material I was sifting through. To my surprise, I also found the names of young German women who were active in the region as Hitler’s empire-builders. They appeared on innocuous, bureaucratic lists of kindergarten teachers. With these leads in hand, I returned to the archives in the United States and Germany and started to look more systematically for documentation about German women who were sent east, and specifically about those who witnessed and perpetrated the Holocaust. The files began to grow, and stories started to take shape.

Researching postwar investigative records, I realized that hundreds of women had been called to testify as witnesses and that many were very forthcoming, since prosecutors were more interested in the heinous crimes of their male colleagues and husbands than in those of women. Many of the women remained callous and cavalier in their recounting of what they had seen and experienced. One former kindergarten teacher in Ukraine mentioned “that Jewish thing during the war.” She and her female colleagues had been briefed as they crossed the border from Germany into the eastern occupied zones in 1942. She remembered that a Nazi official in a “gold-brownish uniform” had reassured them that they should not be afraid when they heard gunfire—it was “just that a few Jews were being shot.”

If the shooting of Jews was considered no cause for alarm during the war, then how did women respond when they actually arrived at their posts? Did they turn away, or did they want to see or do more?

Excerpted from HITLER’S FURIES: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields by Wendy Lower. Copyright © 2013 by Wendy Lower. Used by permission of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. All rights reserved.
Somalia’s Pirates Walk a Tightrope

Fortune 500 executives aren’t the only ones who want to maximize profits and minimize risk. There’s plenty of calculation in how pirates choose the ships they raid.

By Brock Blomberg P’13 P’16, Ricardo Fernholz, and John-Clark Levin ’12

Somali piracy is a hot topic today thanks not only to Tom Hanks, who stars in the new hijacking thriller “Captain Phillips,” but also because of CMC’s own experts, whose work in the following essay has been adapted from an article published this spring in the Journal of the Southern Economic Association.
What are the roots of maritime piracy today?

Although the answers to that question are frequently debated, it’s difficult to argue with the economic payoffs of the pirate business off Somalia, and more recently off West Africa. During the height of the Somali piracy epidemic, the average Somali pirate made $10,000 from a single hijacking, while standard ransom payments rose from less than $1 million to around $5.4 million.

Between 2005 and 2012, according to a recent article published in the Daily Mail, more than 3,740 crewmembers “from 125 countries fell prey to Somali pirates. Nearly 100 of them died.” Pirate activity, that report continues, has risen “50 percent each year since 2006,” also driving up shipping insurance premiums and the cost of everyday items.

Why Somalia? It’s a war-torn country that is dangerous and poor, which makes piracy even more attractive. Not surprisingly, citizens with lower income all over the world are more likely to commit property crimes, of which piracy is an extreme example. What really sets Somalia apart, though, is that its government has been unable to control wide stretches of its territory, which enables pirates to safely keep hijacked ships for long periods during ransom negotiations.

In an economic sense, piracy is a rational act as it seeks to maximize profit while minimizing risk, a point that is demonstrated in clear detail by Peter T. Leeson, who provides the inspiration for the longer version of this article appearing in the Journal of the Southern Economic Association. This rational aspect of piracy also has been examined by Leeson, Anja Shortland, and Marc Vothknecht.

The average pirate group has two main strategies:
• to keep costs low
• to maintain efficiency

This means that pirates seek easy prey, while avoiding targets that maintain vigilance and are able to put up a fight. Thus, killing or capturing pirates is not the main way to reduce their effectiveness. Rather, making ships hard to hijack drives down piracy’s return on investment and encourages pirates to stay ashore.

One single pirate attack can affect the economy in many different ways. For example, a hostage crisis caused by pirates often affects the origin state of the vessel, the people aboard the vessel, the destination state of the vessel, and the future costs of cargo. Furthermore, because much of the world’s oil goes through pirate-threatened waters, global fuel prices can be affected if the transportation of oil is disrupted in any significant way.

The surge in attacks by Somali pirates since 2008 has endangered the Gulf of Aden, a strategically vital conduit for much of the Middle East’s oil as well as trade between Europe and Asia via the Suez Canal. The only alternative for ships is rounding the southern tip of Africa, which drives up fuel costs and causes long delays.

WHAT DO TERRORISM AND PIRACY HAVE IN COMMON?

The increase in piracy over the past decade can be partially explained by some of the similarities that exist between piracy and terrorism.

Both pirates and terrorists do not fight for a specific country but instead fight for themselves as part of a particular religious, political, or economic cause. Both pirates and terrorists have intelligent leaders that command extreme allegiance from their followers, forming a tight-knit, mutually supportive group. Both pirates and terrorists are willing to sacrifice to achieve their aims. In addition, pirates have created the impression of a “devil-may-care” attitude of extreme recklessness that is reflected in various terrorist organizations around the world as well.

Walter Enders and Todd Sandler point out that studies on terrorism have written about the three main elements of terrorism: (i) extreme violence; (ii) the “underground” nature of terrorist acts, individuals, and organizations; and (iii) publicity, i.e., the intended effect on a broad audience. These three aspects of a typical terrorist organization are directly comparable to most pirate organizations.

Like terrorists, pirates do not and cannot act alone. Both piracy—particularly in the Gulf of Aden and off West Africa—and terrorism affect multiple international actors at once, presenting various diplomatic and jurisdictional challenges.

The global community is still searching for a solution to terrorism, and it is important that we recognize the difficulty in finding a solution to piracy as well. It is a complicated global industry that takes advantage of corrupt police and legal institutions. Pirates and terrorists blend into the local population, making it very difficult for authorities and outside actors to track down the culprits.

But are pirates and terrorists similar in how they select a nation as their target?

Using a new data set, our analysis suggests that the similarity between pirates and terrorists stops there.

WHAT FLAG ARE YOU?

Data for terrorism has long existed; data about piracy is steadily growing—but the two sets have never been combined and examined together even though this exercise potentially offers us a greater understanding of the dynamics and pressures of these phenomena as they affect struggling nations around the world.

Addressing that need for a comparative analysis is what we have done in our longer paper in the Journal of the Southern Economic Association. That effort, we hope, will contribute to the current efforts to create better, more efficient counter-strategies to both piracy and terrorism.

Using data sets spanning nearly two decades—from 1992 to 2008—we used a regression analysis to see how the probability of a pirate attack against a particular ship increases with the income of the ship’s flag state. Not surprisingly, that same probability also decreases when there are strong counter-piracy activities run by the ship’s flag state.

For terrorism, however, the same analysis didn’t find such a strong empirical link between terrorism and economic payoffs. Our results suggest instead another conclusion that may not be surprising: That terrorism may be driven by noneconomic factors and hence may respond noticeably to changes in noneconomic payoffs.

The data for our comparative analysis was drawn from several main sources:
• Penn World Table—a compendium of global economic data, per-capita GDP growth rates
• ITERATE—data on terrorist actions, International Terrorism: Attributes of Terrorist Events
• Data on a nation’s internal conflict supplied by Ted Robert Gurr, Monty Marshall, and Marshall Jaggers
• SIPRI—military expenditure data, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
• Piracy Reporting Centre—data on pirate attacks, starting in 1992

Several of these data sources have been described and considered in previous work, so the discussion in our longer article centered mostly upon the piracy data, which comes courtesy of the Piracy Reporting Centre of the International Maritime Bureau, a specialized division of the International Chamber of Commerce that was established in 1981 to serve as a focal point for efforts to stamp out maritime crime. In 1992, spurred by alarming growth in piracy, the IMB created the PRC, which was funded by contributions from shippers and maritime insurers.

The PRC gathers data on pirate attacks and attempted attacks from
many sources, including the shipping industry, coalition navies, and non-governmental organizations (NGO). Since 1992, it has created and promulgated an annual report on all known and suspected incidents of piracy worldwide. This information has become increasingly detailed over the years, and now most entries have arrived around a dozen categories of information including the location of the attack, weapons used, countermeasures deployed, and flag of registry.

What did we expect our data to confirm? We started with the following hypotheses:

*That the flag states of victim ships might rationally influence pirates’ actions as it provides pirates with information about two key factors in determining their behavior: the likelihood of receiving a large ransom and the likelihood of military retaliation.*

The United States and NATO, for example, more generally have been known to react with a significant military force when their ships are hijacked. Pirates certainly must think of that when they see a ship associated with either, right?

By contrast, smaller nations and flag states of convenience—those countries that draw ship owners to register there because they can take advantage of lax safety and labor laws—lack the resources to forcefully defend sailors on ships flying their flags. As this pattern becomes clear to pirates, they have an incentive to target ships flying vulnerable flags, while avoiding ships flying flags of NATO countries.

**WALKING A TIGHTROPE**

Although world piracy has had several hotspots in the time the IMB PRC has been in operation, the most serious piracy epidemic, and that which forms the focus of our article, has its origins in Somalia. Much of that country has lacked a functioning government for two decades. Since pirates face little to no land-based interference on the wild and rugged coastline of Somalia, this area has become a hub for piracy. This situation has allowed pirates to grow in organization, sophistication, and boldness and has led to an influx of foreign investment and ransom payments that total several hundred million dollars.

Over the years, an increase in the frequency of attacks in the Gulf of Aden, which is a strategically vital waterway that forms the eastern entrance to the Red Sea, has prompted the world’s navies to send considerable forces there to address the problem. Today, however, the area threatened by pirates is too wide to control effectively as pirates’ reach has been greatly extended to an influx of foreign investment and ransom payments that total several hundred million dollars.

As mentioned earlier, pirates in general are more likely to attack ships registered to flag states of convenience because these represent the largest proportion of the world’s shipping tonnage. Furthermore, a string of successful military operations in the Indian Ocean may also have increased pirates’ incentive to target ships flying flags of convenience.

The United States has responded with overwhelming force when ships flying the Stars and Stripes have come under attack, and European nations have often done the same. Pirates surely know that every time they hijack a Western ship or kidnap Western sailors, they increase political support in the West for swift and severe military retaliation. At the same time, pirates certainly must think of that when they see a ship associated with either, right?

By contrast, smaller nations and flag states of convenience—those countries that draw ship owners to register there because they can take advantage of lax safety and labor laws—lack the resources to forcefully defend sailors on ships flying their flags. As this pattern becomes clear to pirates, they have an incentive to target ships flying vulnerable flags, while avoiding ships flying flags of NATO countries.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

To learn more about the authors’ article, “Terrorism and the Invisible Hook,” visit the Southern Economic Association at http://journal.southerneconomic.org
Profile

Rocket Man
How Allan Klumpp ’53 helped the Nation take One Giant Leap into Space

By Laura Masko

Continued on next page >

any children have dreams of becoming firefighters, ballerinas, doctors, or teachers, but when Allan Klumpp ’53 was a boy, he wanted to become a mechanical engineer. That boyhood fantasy turned into a career that helped propel the dream of a nation.

A precocious child, Klumpp discovered his love of engineering in the backyard of his childhood home in La Cañada Flintridge. In response to the severe flooding of the Los Angeles River in the 1930s, he built his own flood control channels to copy those being constructed around Los Angeles.

“I asked my mom,” said Klumpp in a recent telephone interview. “ ‘Could you please buy me some concrete so I can build my own flood control channel?’ ”—and she did.

Rather than go straight into studying engineering in college, Klumpp first enrolled at CMC to study engineering and business.

Klumpp transferred to MIT after two years at CMC (where he annoyed his classmates by receiving the only A-grade in a math of finance course, thereby ruining the grading curve), and graduated from MIT in 1955 with a B.S. in mechanical engineering.

After graduation, Klumpp took a job with Douglas Aircraft and developed the control systems for Navy planes.

After two years at Douglas, he returned to MIT to study for his master’s degree. It was then that he received what would turn out to be the offer of a lifetime. The California Institute of Technology’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory was given the task of developing the nation’s newly-funded lunar and planetary space program, and they wanted Klumpp’s help. He started out working on the Ranger program, which sent unmanned spacecraft to photograph the surface of the moon and transmit the images back to Earth.

In 1960, he was appointed to a team charged with evaluating and developing proposals “to get a man on the moon.” Using ballistic missile reliability experience to compute the probability of a successful manned trip to the moon and back, Klumpp determined that “if we didn’t improve reliability, we would have a 10% chance of returning each crew safely.”

On July 1, 1963, he joined the MIT Instrumentation Laboratory (later renamed the Draper Laboratory) to work for the “more ambitious” Apollo program. Though determined not to take all of the credit (he is quick to acknowledge that the equations used were derived years earlier by George W. Cherry), Klumpp was the principal designer of the Apollo Lunar Module on-board descent software.

Apollo 11, the first mission to use Klumpp’s software, landed on the moon on July 20, 1969.

“One person was responsible for each of the phases of the mission,” he said. The orbit down to the surface of the moon, which took 11 minutes, was Klumpp’s responsibility. He says the task was a daunting one because “there was no possibility you could try again.”

Fortunately, Apollo 11 landed safely on the moon and with one giant leap, history was made. “I can’t tell you how many times it has been repeated to me that the sound of the moon landing was ‘Klumpp’ ”

The Lunar Module on-board descent software was used on every mission that landed on the moon. Thanks to Klumpp and his fellow engineers, 12 astronauts were able to set foot on the lunar surface.

After Apollo, Klumpp wrote the preliminary design for space shuttle ascent steering which was used in most, if not all, space shuttle missions. This innovation is what he considers one of his biggest accomplishments.

In 1975, years after the Apollo program had ended, Klumpp was told by his supervisor in the Draper Lab that opportunities in space were declining but he “could always work on weapons.”

Having read that some planes he worked on at Douglas Aircraft were being

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >
A good time to connect and stay engaged

In this, my first letter to you, I’d like to thank the Board of our Alumni Association for electing me as president for 2013-14! I appreciate their confidence in me; I promise to repay that support by working to make sure that together we have another year of growth and achievement for our Association.

I would also like to thank our immediate past president, Carol (Oliver) Hartman ’86, who led us over the last two years. Her energy, positive attitude, ability to identify and nurture talent, and willingness seemingly to be everywhere at once leaves a legacy that will be hard to match.

Our outstanding alumni volunteers deserve kudos, as well. The Alumni Association relies on volunteers to design and implement our programs and events, from the newly invigorated Alumni Weekend to the personal mentoring of students with Mentor Connect. The variety of local chapter events across the country and around the world is a testament to our energetic volunteers. The results speak for themselves. Of course, they are CMCers, so I don’t think their hard work and enthusiastic leadership surprise anyone.

These are exciting times for our College and our Alumni Association. The inauguration of our new president, Hiram Chodosh, brings new opportunities not only for students and prospective students, but for alumni, too.

What do our new opportunities and success look like? I believe they are captured in two words: connect and engage.

We succeed when we connect with other alumni, with current students, and broadly with the College and its faculty. CMC has almost 12,000 active alumni; the Alumni Association is the link that connects us to each other, to students, and more closely to the College.

Once connected, we need to engage. Engage in career advancement, in student mentoring, and in the admission process.

We can help pull our kind of prospective students—smart, community leaders—into applying, mentor them through school, help them begin careers, and then connect them with other alumni in successful advancement through life.

Now it’s time to generate the kind of alumni community our peers have long enjoyed. College is more than the classroom—it’s about the connections we make and how we leverage them throughout our lives.

It’s how people are hired, and how they advance. We can make that happen for our fellow CMCers. Need a doctor? Find a CMCer. Need a lawyer? Find a CMCer. Need a VC? Find a CMCer.

Need a teacher, a salesperson, a plumber, a writer, an actor, a musician, a farmer, a sports marketing manager? Yes, find a CMCer.

Connect and engage. That’s the insider secret. That’s what adds value to our degree. As alumni, that’s what we need to do—add value to the student experience, add value to our degrees, add value to being in a community of fellow alumni, and add value to the world at large.

It starts with you—individually. The value of your degree and the value of your alumni experience are increased by how much time you give—by being willing to answer an email, to have a cup of coffee, and to engage in a conversation with fellow alumni.

It’s time to connect and engage.

Sincerely,

John McDowell ’79
2013-14 CMC Alumni Association President

“CMC has almost 12,000 active alumni; the Alumni Association is the link that connects us to each other, to students, and more closely to the College.”

New Gann Award goes to Jennifer Waggoner ’95

Jennifer Waggoner ’95 (pictured, right), the president of the League of Women Voters of California, received the inaugural Pamela Gann Leadership Award during the presidential inauguration weekend in October. Established by the CMC Alumni Association to honor President Emerita Pamela Gann’s (pictured, left) tenure at CMC, the award will be given annually to acknowledge the significant leadership of notable trailblazing alumni, as exhibited by their impact and influence in the advancement of community-building, volunteerism, or social entrepreneurship. Gann served as award co-presenter with CMCAA Past President Carol (Oliver) Hartman ’86.

CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE
ROBERT E. "BOB" LONG ’52 passed away from lung cancer on July 19. He was born in the South Pasadena Hospital across from the City Hall on Mission St. on Dec. 10, 1926 to Henry and Modjeska J. Long. The family lived in the Arroyo Seco neighborhood, later moving to Meridian Ave., before settling on Marengo Ave. Long attended Marengo Avenue School and South Pasadena-San Marino High School, graduating in 1941.

He entered the U.S. Navy Aviation Cadet Program and was sent to the College of the Pacific for one year, followed by Pre-Flight at St Mary’s College in Maryland and primary flight training in Glenview, Ill. After Intermediate Flight School in Corpus Christi, Texas, he was transferred to Pensacola, Fla., where he received his wings in 1947. He flew the F6F Hellcat in Jacksonville, Fla. before assignment to fly the F8F Bearcat with Air Group 13 in North Island, Calif. aboard the USS Princeton. After a tour of Hawaii, Guam, Japan, and Tsingtao, China, Long completed his five years of service and was separated in July 1949. He remained in the Naval Reserve and retired after 21 years of service.

At the recommendation of a neighbor, Long investigated Claremont Men’s College and was accepted as a transfer student in February 1950. He graduated in 1952 cum laude and entered the F.B.I. as a special agent. Following one-and-a-half years of service, he was accepted by Stanford Law School. Due to various circumstances, he was forced to withdraw after one-and-a-half years and moved to Southern California. Long worked with the Insurance Company of North America for eight years while completing night school at Southwestern University in 1965. He was admitted to practice in January 1966 and subsequently practiced as a trial lawyer in Los Angeles and Glendale.

Long served as executive director of the California Soldiers’ Widows Home Association for 20 years, now called The Military Women In Need, which provides housing assistance for female veterans. He was president of the Westwood Bar Association, the Foothill Apartment Association, the Wilshire Town Club, and the Claremont McKenna College Alumni Association (1969-70), and was on the boards of the La Canada Flintridge Republican Club, the Glendale Bar Association, and Claremont McKenna College, where he served as an alumnus trustee of the College and participated in the CMC Alumni Association for 50 years. He belonged to the La Canada Flintridge Country Club and wrote monthly notes for its Super Senior tennis group. He also was a member of Tigers ’44, his South Pasadena-San Marino High School reunion committee. Long was a recipient of the CMC Alumni Association’s Jack Stark ’57 Distinguished Service Award and the Eugene L. Wolver, Jr. ’51 Lifetime Service Award. He also was the long-time “scribe” for the CMC Classes of 1951 and 1952, for which he received the Class Liaison of the Year award in 2011.

Long married the former Grace Quitasol in September 1999 and they enjoyed many happy years of travel and their life together in Glendale. Bob’s pet beagle, Ulysses, was a faithful companion. He is survived by wife, Grace, son, Bob Long, Jr. and sister Betty Flippen.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Friends of the College Memorial Fund at Claremont McKenna College online at www.cmc.edu/giving or by mailing a check to Claremont McKenna College, 400 N. Claremont Boulevard, Claremont, CA 91711.
ROBERT W. “BOB” ESSIG ’50 of Petaluma, Calif., died Aug. 13. He was 92. He was born and raised in Iowa during the Great Depression. He loved baseball and played briefly in the minor leagues before World War II. During the war, he flew the B24 Liberator for photo reconnaissance in the Pacific theater. During his days at CMC, Essig was senior class president, member of the student council and student court, and elected “Greatest Asset to CMC” in The Analyst, June 1, 1950. After his studies at CMC, Essig received a master’s degree in economics from Claremont Graduate University. Essig later moved to Marin County where he was a popular political science professor at College of Marin for over 35 years. Together with his wife, Sylvia, he maintained an avid interest in American politics, economics, and civil rights. He will be dearly missed by his sons Scott Wardner Essig and Raul Camarigg Essig and will join his wife, Sylvia, and son Kevan Essig, who passed before him. Tiffany and Tracy, his daughters-in-law, also will miss him, as will his grandchildren, Melina, Olive, Samuel, Amika, and soon-to-be-born Liam.

DANIEL B. FREEDMAN ’52, died on Sept. 3. He was 83. Dan was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. on April 6, 1930 to parents Ruth and Max Freedman. His father was a renowned local businessman, entrepreneur, and true philanthropic presence. A man with a passion for learning through stories, Dan pursued a business administration degree while at CMC. Dan thoroughly enjoyed golfing and staying fit. He also enjoyed the beauty of art, music, theater, and dance. He was known for his enthusiastic entrepreneurial spirit in his business activities. Local affiliations included over 50 years as a member of Oakwood Club, and board membership on the local chapter of the American Jewish Committee. He is survived by his wife of over 57 years, Barbara; his children Mark, David, and Marcy; son-in-law Dr. Steve Kelley; daughter-in-law Deborah; and grandchildren Spencer, Benjamin, and Andrew Kelley, and Gabriel Freedman; and his sister Joan Freedman Eigner and her children Jody Turano, Laurie Aronoff, and Susan Regal, and their spouses and children.

FRANK ROBERT MILLER, JR. ’53 of Santa Barbara, died on Jan. 30, 2012. He was 79. After graduating from Beverly Hills High School, Miller transferred to CMC, where he was active in the ROTC program. After graduation, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army at Camp Gordon. He then attended graduate schools at both UCLA and USC, landing a job with a “Big 8” accounting firm after graduation. In 1963, he married Katharine Eleanor Howard. Shortly thereafter they moved to Santa Barbara, where he began his CPA practice, which involved helping non-profits become qualified with the IRS and California as public foundations. Frank served his community through many organizations including Work Inc., Kiwanis, Mission Archive Library, Braille Institute, Scripps College, Community Arts Music Association, The Foundation Roundtable, and All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church. Through the Henry E. and Lola Monroe Foundation, of which he was a trustee, Miller was a perennial supporter of CMC’s Community Service Internship Fund.

Miller enjoyed traveling with his wife and family and showing his old cars. He is survived by his son Frank Robert Miller III and his wife, Susie, son Arthur Howard Miller and his wife, Patty; and his grandsons, Austin and Blake. His sister and brother-in-law, Patricia and William Worden of Pasadena, and their sons Ken and Jim and their children, also survive him.

WALTER COLOQUIT FICKLIN III ’71 of Madera, Calif., died March 10, after a long illness. He was 69. Ficklin was raised on the family farm in Madera, helping his father in the vineyards. At CMC, he was a political science major, interrupting his education to serve his country in the United States Navy, completing a tour in Vietnam. After working at McGraw Hill in New York City, he went back to school at the Culinary Institute in New York and became a chef. He is survived by his brother, Steven H. Ficklin, and his wife, Susan, of Monterey, Calif.; his nephew, Steven B. Ficklin, his wife, Victoria, and their daughter Tyler; and other nieces, nephews, and cousins.
Beware of ‘her’ presence

A ghost in the old admission office? One alumna discovered the truth … or did she?

BY CHRISTINE CROCKETT ’01

In a now-forgotten corner of campus, currently occupied by part of the Kravis Center, there once stood a decayed but beloved building. In a former age, it had been the toast of a growing and flourishing campus scene and served as the first location for the illustrious Athenaeum. In another incarnation, the building also had been The President’s House. As the home of CMC’s president, it was once the brightest gem in CMC’s crown; a Spanish Colonial-style home that boasted windowed walls, a breezy courtyard, and an imposing yet cheerful fireplace.

Time’s bending sickle eventually claimed the building, transforming it into the well-worn, but well-loved, Admission and Financial Aid building. Long ago, in the furthest of back corners, in the smallest of tucked-away closets, student assistants went spelunking through caverns of paperwork and used the wisdom of their elders to manage the dreaded frantic phone calls that sometimes came from parents.

Back closets in old buildings, as we all know, are also where the dark dwells and fear lives.

Rumors of a spirit haunting the President’s House floated through the various offices, sticking to a doorknob here, winding ’round filing cabinets there, and (of course) these rumors eventually made their way into the topmost corners of the dank and dreary attic where the oldest files were kept. It was said that the spirit of a former Ath speaker, disappointed by the turnout at her event, lurked in the shadows, creaked her way up the stairs, and slammed doors shut to revenge herself upon those at CMC.

It was said that spiritualists and santeros had been consulted to help the College rid itself of the specter. They tried everything, from counseling sessions, to group hugs, and even chocolate cookies, all to no avail. She would not budge. It was said, in fact, that the house itself loved the ghost and would not be parted from her. And so, She remained.

The creaking of the building and the rustling of who-knows-what reminded us all of Her presence. Mostly, She let us do our work. That is, until one sunny afternoon as I typed away in the tiniest of miniature closets and felt… a Presence. I looked to my left. The head administrative assistant was working furiously on an Important Report. I looked to my right. I saw nothing but the filing cabinet’s gape-mouthed collection of yellowing files. I continued to type.

Suddenly, I heard a slight rustling noise above my head. I looked up. Above me the ceiling gently drooped under the pressure of some unknown force. Before I could react, a stream of liquid dropped from the distended ceiling tiles directly onto my head. I screamed aloud, pushed myself away from the desk, and collapsed onto a nearby filing drawer. My coworkers, from all parts of the Admission and Financial Aid offices, came flying to my aid, no doubt hoping to catch a glimpse of the elusive spirit.

After expressing their disappointment that our ghostly friend was not to blame for my outburst, an expert in ceiling-related maladies was brought in.

Two days later, we learned who was to blame for the strange ceiling phenomenon. Our office guest was none other than Didelphis virginiana, or the common opossum. She had taken up residence in the house some months before and had created quite the charming nest in the crawl space above our offices. I will leave it to the reader to guess what, exactly, had fallen on my head during the dreadful catastrophe that led to her discovery.

Does this mean, then, that the old President’s House was haunted only by a stray rodent? I suppose it depends upon what happened to the rodent; for, you see, we never heard from the animal control specialist after he removed the opossum from the house. Perhaps the ghost of the opossum returned and remains with us. Perhaps the spectral scorned Ath guest was real and gained a rodent familiar who now helps her vent her frustrations. Perhaps, when there’s an unidentified creak or groan in the Kravis Center, what students are really hearing is a reminder that we have yet to rid ourselves of our unwanted spectral visitors.

And perhaps, when you hear a strange noise above your head as you sit in the Kravis Center, you will remember this tale and think twice before looking up.

Crockett ’01 is visiting assistant professor of literature and the associate director of CMC’s Center for Writing & Public Discourse. Her story is adapted from a version published in Myths, Legends & Tall Tales II: A Book of CMC Stories.
Intrigued?

For more information about the Res Publica Society Speakers and Membership, please contact Nicole Parsons nparsons@cmc.edu 909-607-1929

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The best way to predict the future is to create it.
– Abraham Lincoln
WELCOME TO CMC! To celebrate President Chodosh’s September birthday, 150 students carried him from the President’s House on College Avenue to campus and introduced him to a venerable CMC tradition — a “ponding” in the fountain in Flamson Plaza.