

# Santa Clara Magazine



Listening is her  
Superpower: Anna  
Deavere Smith. *Page 18*

Ron Hansen on truth  
and fiction, heroes  
and villains. *Page 28*

\$30 million from the  
Leavey Foundation to  
fund innovation. *Page 38*

No longer stuff of sci-fi:  
artificial intelligence  
and public trust. *Page 42*

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE KID





04/05/17

EXPLOSION OF COLOR: purple and orange, blue and gold, red and white painting the length and breadth of California's landscape—hillside and meadow and desert wash. A superbloom a decade in the making. What caused it? A wet winter sparked unprecedented growth, says **Justen Whittall**, an associate professor of biology who closely studies California's native plants and trends in evolution of flowers' colors. The superbloom started in January in the deserts east of San Diego, then moved north and east. After a five-year drought, Mother Nature gave California the gift of brilliant bouquets of bright orange poppies, white dune evening primroses, purple sand verbenas, and other wildflowers. But not every place was so blessed. "A large portion of California has been overgrazed by cows or developed," Whittall notes. "There's not going to be a superbloom in those locations." Instead, look for little pockets of refugia: hiding places for native plants that haven't been eaten, overrun, or built over. And savor this spot in the remote Carrizo Plain National Monument—which this spring was put under executive order review, potentially opening it up to oil drilling and mining.

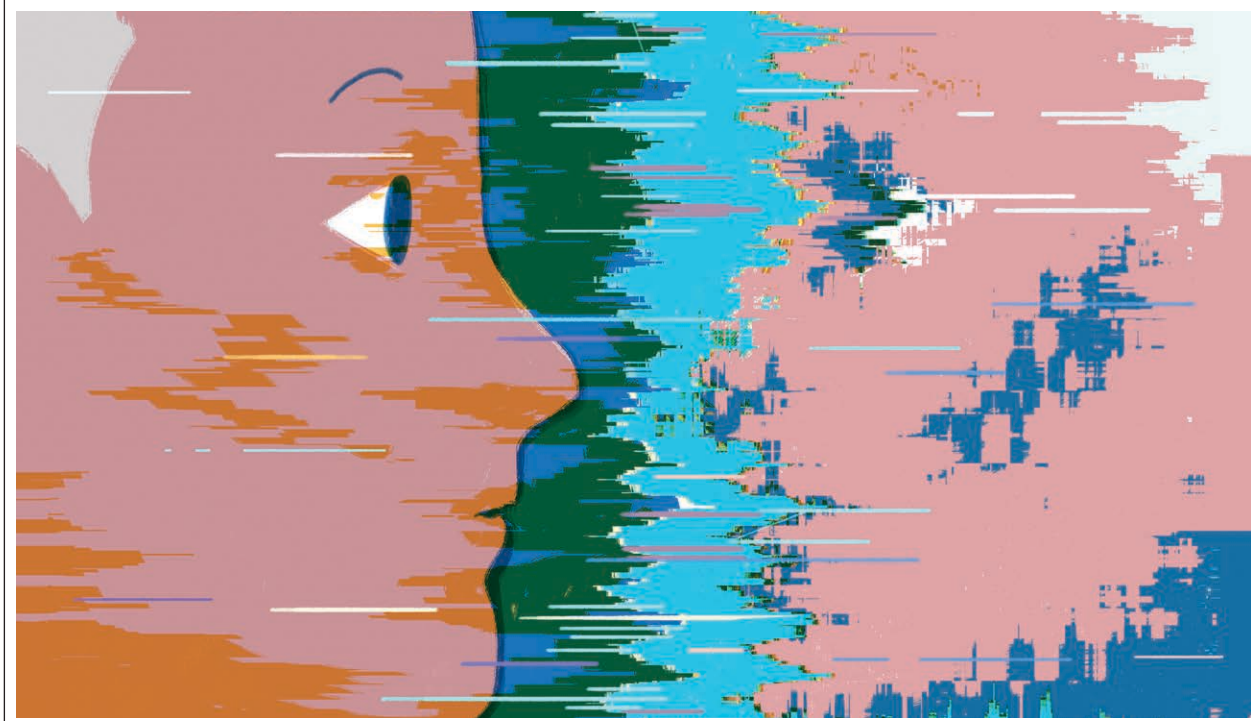


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**Where and what**  
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DIGITAL EXCLUSIVES

*Timely features, videos, slideshows, Letters from Japan, a freshman congressman, fruit flies, Darwinian yeast, the homeless of Missoula, and debating the finer points of bridges vs. walls. Here's some of the latest.*



**TWO FOR THE ROAD** U.S. Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera hit us with two original poems and a dazzling commencement address.



**CROSSROADS** Democracy means nothing if you won't fight for it. Former Secretary of Defense **Leon Panetta '60, J.D. '63** told law grads that protecting the rule of law is up to them.



**THE FIX** Can technology rescue democracy—or at least undo some of the damage it has done? **Eric Goldman, Irina Raicu, and Shannon Vallor** write—part of a series in *The Atlantic*.

## Good Guys and Bad Guys

“AND WHAT IS GOOD, Phaedrus, And what is not good—Need we ask anyone to tell us these things?” An excellent question, one taken from a Platonic dialogue—almost, which is to say almost asked under a plane tree, our old friend Socrates chatting with his occasional interlocutor Phaedrus. In this case, in the shade of the ancient Greek sycamore, the topic is love, but for some reason the conversation turns to rhetoric: modes of expression, how you say something well or badly. Truth be told, Phaedrus has been on my mind of late—on a few minds—since that almost-Platonic quote serves as the epigraph to *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* (a book I read at age 17 and that made me ready to head out across the country on an old Honda bike), but author Robert M. Pirsig is no longer working on a motorcycle called himself on this plane; he shuffled off this mortal coil in April. Yet the question remains: Good? Not good? Or some of both?

Enter the Kid, our cover fella, sometimes going by William or Henry or Billy, cattle rustler and charming ladies' man, gunned down by a former buffalo hunter and bartender and gambler turned sheriff. In border territory he lived and died, a time when who was in the right and who in the wrong depended on which judge in the employ of which businessman was issuing the warrant. So, the past, reimagined—something fiction lets us do exceedingly well. Enter the Future (it's here, kid): time of high-powered, cloud-computing artificial intelligence, already used to identify terrorist threats and assign criminals risk scores for setting bail and sentences. And how's that algorithm working out when it comes to advising your doc or when that new chatbot quickly learns how to spout white supremacist slurs?

Let's file that last part under *badly*. In *Phaedrus*, conversation turns to grasshoppers, music, justice. In these pages, no grasshoppers. Instead, among the questions posed: What can a biologist learn from an engineer? What of these islands sinking under the sea? What of the priest whose discernment leads him to say, “This is no longer my calling”? What of the president of a country who embraces power and refuses to let go—for decades? What of the heiress to the rifle fortune and the dreams that haunt her? What of the playwright whose work the Leader says will not be staged? Why does the high school basketball coach ask his players to say a prayer after every game? Why is the student from halfway around the world afraid to go home? What sparks the mind and heart of the engineering professor who teaches for half a century? How about that superbloom? Maybe that's where the grasshoppers are to be found.



COVER ILLUSTRATION BY TIM O'BRIEN; ILLUSTRATION THIS PAGE BY JOSH COCHRAN

MURAL AND FLAG PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY WIKIMEDIA; LEON PANIETTA PHOTO BY CHARLES BARRY; PLATO ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID PLUNKERT



# Letters



Let's look back at the future of STEM. Comments on our Spring 2017 mag. Read more, discuss: [magazine.scu.edu](http://magazine.scu.edu)

Write us: [scmagazine@scu.edu](mailto:scmagazine@scu.edu)

## WAKE-UP CALL

As I read the article about **John C. Cruden J.D. '74**, it brought back memories of my time as an admiralty attorney. On March 24, 1989, at about 4 a.m., I was awakened by a call from the general counsel of Exxon Shipping, who needed to negotiate a salvage contract. I told him to wait a moment; I put the phone down, got out of bed, washed my face, put on my bathrobe

Oil and water: cleaning up the mess after the Exxon Valdez



and went to the kitchen. I came back on the line and he explained the Exxon Valdez had run aground in Prince William Sound. He did not have many details, but believed it could be a serious oil spill. He desired to hire my client's three large ship-assist tugboats based in Valdez, Alaska, for docking and undocking of tankers. Over the next half hour, we worked through my client's standard salvage contract, reached an oral agreement, and the tugboats began assisting the Valdez. I got dressed and drove to my office in San Francisco to prepare the written agreement.

The following week, I completed contracts for three more clients to assist with cleanup operations. These contracts required almost daily modifications as equipment was added and subtracted from the operation. I received a status call at about 7 p.m. each evening to modify contracts and keep up with the facts. By May, my daily involvement tapered off and my wife and I went on vacation to get away from the intensity of this operation.

Following the enactment of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, the U.S. Coast Guard signed a master contract so my largest client's tugs, barges, and other marine equipment would be readily available in the future.

**Dennis Kelly '68**  
Hillsborough, California

## MOMENT IN TIME

Love the two-page photo of the South Fork of the Yuba River [Timestamp, Spring 2017] near Nevada City, California, during this great winter! I've enclosed a video of this wonderful old bridge taken from the newer one during similar conditions in February. The roar of the churning river adds a stunning effect. This stretch of Highway 49 has been bypassed by a newer span downstream. During the summer, the river is a mere stream, with intermittent deep pools, meandering down the canyon. The raging river pictured conceals the huge boulders in the riverbed. Locals frequent the site and it's common for daring young folk to jump from the bridge into the pools. Another fine issue!

**Woody Nedom '60**  
Los Gatos, California

We love our print edition, but this video is a sight to behold. Head over to the online mag at [magazine.scu.edu](http://magazine.scu.edu) to check out Woody's footage. —Ed.

When we saw **Kristóf Hölvényi's** photo of a man at the Serbian border, we were transfixed. It served as the Timestamp for our Summer 2016 edition. In March it was recognized with a



gold medal for photography from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. We weren't the only ones pleased about the award.—Ed.

Thank you for your letter sharing the news of **Kristóf Hölvényi's** award. He was also involved in the Hungarian Jesuit Refugee Service activities, and his pictures bring value to Hungarian people as well.

**Annamaria Jacso**  
Budapest, Hungary

## IN GOOD COMPANY

I am a third-generation alumna and current SCU staff member. I've been reading *Santa Clara Magazine* since I was a little girl. Even after my grandfather **John "Jack" Bonnel '52** swore an oath against **Fr. Locatelli** in the '90s, the most recent issue of *SCM* always held a place of pride on his reading table, just next to his beloved *National Geographic*. When my father, **Tim Bonnel '79**, would bring home our most recent copy, I would grab the magazine and take it up to my room as if it were addressed to me alone. I love your magazine and enjoy reading the beautiful hard copy you send to me. Best wishes to you and your team for continued success!

**Sarah Brockmeyer '07**  
San Jose

## LIKE A FOX

Page 8 of the Summer 2016 edition asked: "What would the Bay Area be without Santa Clara University?" That is an important question to me. The one thing that sets America apart from other countries is our spirit of entrepreneurship. It is okay to try, fail, dust oneself off, and try again with

renewed vigor. The whole Bay Area thrives on this.

I attended Santa Clara in what might be called the glory days of early tech—1970–74. I was exposed to the precision of **Gerald Alexanderson** as a teacher in mathematics and the beauty of discovery with **Dick Pefley** in mechanical engineering. I conducted experiments with **Larry Nathan** in inorganic chemistry and learned responsibility from **Tenny Wright, S.J.**, in religious studies. But I learned to think from **Geoff Fox '62** in physics.

Ever seen the Fox logo as a decal on a vehicle or as a logo on a piece of clothing? I can't drop my son off at high school without driving through the student parking lot seeing this decal proudly displayed on most vehicles. Well, what if I told you this logo originates with Geoff Fox, former student and teacher at Santa Clara? Fox is the founder and CEO of Fox Racing. It was comical as a student waiting each Monday morning in Daly Science Center to see what new injury Dr. Fox would have because he loved dirt bike racing. But he conveyed his passion and made it all quite practical for each of us to follow our dreams.

It is no secret in the Bay Area that undergraduate engineering students coming out of Santa Clara are something special.

**Bill Kerler '74**  
Grass Valley, California

## STAINED GLASS AND DNA

The Spring 2017 edition was truly fabulous. Terrific idea on the four-page foldout on the new STEM campus. And that nice page about the windows. One little glitch there: I was not the President at the time, I was the Rector of the Jesuit Community, which is why I was involved in the renovation, reconstruction of—and commissioning of the art work for—Nobili Hall.

I am so happy that you have created such an attractive and intelligent vehicle for communicating who we are and what we hope to achieve. You are explaining us well—and honestly.

**William Rewak, S.J.**  
Chancellor Emeritus

We're grateful for having our errors pointed out so graciously. While



Dirty business: physics teacher and motocross entrepreneur **Geoff Fox '62**

Wall of honor: **B.T. Collins '70, J.D. '73** with the **B.T. Collins Memorial Latrine** in Heafey Law Library. It was, of course, his idea. Read more about **B.T.** in our archives.



we're making corrections, here's another: "Cut and Paste Conservation" by **Emma Marris** made reference to amino acids where we should have referred to DNA. The right way to explain the CRISPR system: "Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats" of DNA that give the technique its acronym." —Ed.

## B.T. AND THE HUT

The shuttering of local watering hole *The Hut* has brought in a few more memories. Here's one.

I'd split a pitcher or two in *The Hut*, but I was hardly a denizen. Law school kept me pretty busy starting fall 1982. That was the year Silicon Valley got bombed with malathion to exterminate the medfly. It was a controversial move by the administration of Gov. **Jerry Brown '59**. The governor's chief of staff, **Brien Thomas "B.T." Collins '70, J.D. '73**, famously demonstrated the safety of the pesticide by drinking a glass of it at a press conference.

By second year, the panic was off and I could take some fun classes. Among them a class on legislation, taught by **Dorothy Gray J.D. '79**.

Dorothy had been in Sacramento among Jerry Brown's "kitchen cabinet" and became friends with Collins. She invited him to class.

B.T. lectured for well over an hour on how things really get done in the legislature. His case study was how he took the California Conservation Corps from one of the governor's barking dogs and converted it into a shining star by cracking down on discipline in the camps and making sure it got good press. "In politics," B.T. told us, "perception is more important than reality." He must have said that half a dozen times.

At the end of the lecture, B.T. invited us all to *The Hut* and the beer flowed freely. About halfway into the second pitcher, I said, "Hey B.T.," (we were all on a first name basis by then) "was there really malathion in that glass?" He said, "What do you think I have been trying to tell you for the past two hours?!"

**Thomas Bonte J.D. '84**  
Modesto, California

## MAGGIENIFICENT!

In April your magazine was honored with an unprecedented four *MAGGIE* awards, presented by the Western Publishing Association. The *MAGGIE*s honor the best of magazines west of the Mississippi and are presented at an Oscars-style ceremony in Los Angeles. The year's honors: best magazine published by an association or nonprofit; best consumer magazine publication design; best editorial photograph for "Where are they taking us?" by **Colleen Sinsky '10**; and best interview or profile for "Let There Be Light," the profile of **Frank Cepolina '59**, the NASA maverick who saved the Hubble Telescope, written by **Robert Zimmerman**. Check these stories out in our digital archives. When the news broke, here's what some readers had to say on Facebook:

Major congrats to Steven Boyd Saum and the *Santa Clara Magazine* team. Bravo! Santa Clara proud!!  
**Marie Barry '68**

Congratulations! This alum looks forward to every publication.  
**Anne Quaranta '89**

Excellent news. It's a fabulous publication. Congratulations.  
**Heidi LeBaron Leupp '84**



# Mission Matters

NEWS FROM SANTA CLARA



Madriz helped define the program. He was in the inaugural class of LEAD scholars, which celebrated its 10th reunion this year. The program was launched with a simple goal: Select 30 first-generation students and have them come to campus two weeks early for a crash course on college life. The experience led to much more: networking with key professors, making students aware of available resources, building community. Along with knowledge, it offered momentum.

For the next four years, LEAD students saw each other through good grades and bad, first loves and the passing away of parents. *Out of swipes on your meal card? Take mine. Lose your apartment? Crash in my dorm.*

**Yuridia Esquivel '07**, who now works as a buying manager for The Gap, remembers getting rides to the dentist from fellow LEAD scholars. "It was like my family," Esquivel says. "We always had each other." At The Gap, Esquivel finds herself mentoring younger employees. "I'm always going to try to do everything (to help), because I know how meaningful it is."

And the impact of LEAD has been passed down, class by class. For **Ana Romero '11**, LEAD helped her get the most out of SCU. As a first-generation student, college was less about fun than helping family. "College is actually about developing as a person," Romero says. "LEAD expanded that notion." Today, Romero is getting her Ph.D. in counseling psychology at UC Santa Barbara. She has volunteered as a mentor to first-gen students during her graduate and doctoral programs. Her dream? To have a job like Kimura-Walsh.

Last year, LEAD received a \$1.5 million grant from the Koret Foundation. The grant adds year-round counseling, career development seminars, faculty and staff positions, alumni mentors, and nearly doubles the number of scholars. A discretionary fund also gives students some financial flexibility for emergencies.

The new seminars and events also provide more support to students later in college and into the workforce. One class brought in representatives from nonprofits who discussed structure and funding sources. "I think we've identified a real need for our students in providing a bridge from college to career," Kimura-Walsh explains. "As first-generation college students, they don't often have access to family networks or social capital."

Madriz is thrilled at least three more cohorts will experience LEAD. The program makes a difference," he says. "It leaves a mark on students."

Learn more and support this cool program: [scu.edu/lead](http://scu.edu/lead)



## THEY LEAD

The trails they blazed: 10 years ago, **Pablo Madriz** (above) and his fellow LEAD scholars graced the cover of Santa Clara Magazine (inset). Photographer **Charles Barry** photographed them for a 10-year reunion. See it at [magazine.scu.edu](http://magazine.scu.edu).

NEAR THE END of April, **Pablo Madriz '07** moved across the country to start a new job with a law firm in Manhattan: mid-sized, focused on civil litigation. It's a great opportunity in a city he loves. He's excited. But it's also a big change. "I was a teacher, worked for a nonprofit, and then in public defense," Madriz says. "I'm very people oriented."

What Madriz is politely avoiding saying is that he is used to putting others first. While a student at Santa Clara, he was a LEAD scholar. The urge to serve—passing on the opportunity he got as a first-generation student—is strong. Putting his career first will take some getting used to.

"They want to be able to give back to their communities, to advance social justice," director and co-founder of LEAD Scholars Program **Erin Kimura-Walsh** says. "That's just core to who they are."

# &

**Rambis and Nash.** Too slow. Can't jump. Not quick, long, or strong enough. NBA scouts thought **Steve Nash '96** and **Kurt Rambis '80** had a lot in common. Now they have one more thing: the Santa Clara University Athletics Hall of Fame. Rambis inducted Nash at the Red & White Celebration in May and explained how he proved those scouts right—and how Nash got them canned.



To a guy like **Steve Nash** playing ball at Santa Clara in the early '90s, **Kurt Rambis** was a legend. Rambis was also a busy guy—what with family and winning four titles with the Lakers. So it was especially nice for Rambis and Nash to spend an evening together recently, with Rambis inducting Nash and his teammates from '93 and '96 into the SCU Hall of Fame.

Twenty-some years on, Nash's story remains improbable: a 6-foot-3 guard from Canada who parlayed his one and only scholarship offer into an 18-year NBA career. Rambis and Nash took turns trying to make sense of the ride.

Rambis pointed to the identical scouting reports but conflicting results. "I proved all of those scouts right," he said. "Steve got all those scouts fired."

Nash thanked his parents, teammates, and coaches at SCU. Nash's dad, a former professional soccer player, taught him to see the game differently: using angles and changes of pace to make up for his athletic limitations. Nash turned awkward into an art form.

Fatherhood taught Nash to appreciate his time at SCU even more. Santa Clara made him tough, he said. Having the stability of Coach **Dick Davey**, who continued the legacy of **Carroll Williams**, made that possible. Looking at his kids, he hopes they have coaches with the courage to be tough on them.

"I wasn't trying to go to the city or Silicon Valley, which didn't exist when I went here a million years ago. I wanted to play in the NBA. To go up against men

who were fighting for their job, you had to be so resilient. Coach Davey, every day, was a test in resilience," Nash said.

Lots has changed at SCU since Nash's playing days—for the better, he says. But underneath the new buildings are the bones that provided structure, and that's important to him.

"I feel so far away from the school sometimes, but my heart always feels so close to the school," Nash said. "At the end of the day, we all just want to be the best version of ourselves, whether it's a basketball player or a member of a community or parents or part of the fabric that is Santa Clara that permeates itself out into the world. That for me is what makes this school incredible, to see how far we've reached."

*Steve and Superman: a pair of Bronco basketball greats. We'll be sending a special commemorative illustration by artist Sean McCabe to readers who support the magazine. Become one: [magazine.scu.edu/give](http://magazine.scu.edu/give)*

PHOTO OF PABLO MADRIZ BY BUD QUICK. MAGAZINE COVER PHOTO BY CHARLES BARRY. WORDS BY MATT MORGAN.

ILLUSTRATION BY SEAN MCCABE. WORDS BY MATT MORGAN.



**On the Road.** The recruiting trail is a figurative term. A time, not a place, when coaches like SCU's **Herb Sendek** build their program. But for a three-month stretch each summer, it becomes more literal. Coaches head to cities like Dallas, Atlanta, and Indianapolis, bivouac in motels with continental breakfasts, and cram into gyms for amateur tournaments.

But the effort pays off. Take one of Sendek's recruits at N.C. State: **Julius Hodge**. Sendek doesn't exactly remember the first time he saw him, but he knows how many times he watched him play the last summer of his recruitment—64. "Basically, I saw all of his games in the July recruiting period except one."

It doesn't always take 64 games to land a commitment, but Hodge was worth it: five-star player, McDonald's All-American, gritty competitor, moxie for miles. Not only was he good, but tough—a mentality changer for your program. "He was a great competitor and really had tremendous self-confidence," Sendek says. "Those two in conjunction allowed him to almost impose a certain will on the contest."

Today, Hodge is an assistant coach at Santa Clara. He, along with Sendek and assistants **Jason Ludwig** and **Justin Gainey**, hit the road this summer. So, what do they look for? There's no hard and fast rule. "We want guys who have a great feel for the game," Sendek says. "Guys who have a good skill set, can make shots, put the ball on the floor, pass. Guys who know how to play."

Sendek has gotten big fish—Hodge and James Harden. But more important, he has a knack for finding guys who fit his system. Like Cedric Simmons in 2004—a top-35 recruit who became a first-round pick. Or Josh Powell in 2001, a top-65 player who played seven NBA seasons.

The summer isn't 64 games long anymore—more like 40—but that makes opportunities more meaningful. Sendek and his assistants divvy up the schedule. Games start as early as 8 a.m., don't wrap until after 11 p.m. Lunch is a quick snack from concessions or hospitality if you're lucky. And it isn't just X's and O's. Sendek watches potential recruits interact with teammates, reporters, fans, support staff: "You want as much information as possible," Sendek says. Ultimately, it's about fit, a cross section of who can play and who wants to come. Sendek just wants to be open-minded.

*Herb Sendek has four additions for '17-'18: **Matt Turner '21**, **Shaquille Walters '21**, **Josip Frankic '21**, and **Henry Caruso '18**, an All-Ivy League grad transfer.*



**RETRO RUGGERS** SCU rugby once ruled the roost. The U.S. won Olympic gold in 1920 and 1924 thanks to guys like **Caesar Mannelli '22** and **Rudy Scholz '18**, **LLD '20**. This year a new crop of SCU ruggers claimed honors of their own: winning the Jesuit Cup trophy in April. Coach **Paul Keeler's** seven-man club team out-scored opponents 154-50 in five games. "We're small, but we're very physical," **Tucker Smith '18** says. "We try to play fast and outwork people and stand our ground when we need to." With a senior class stretching 18 deep, featuring **Ryan Chavkin '17**, **Connor Leahy '17**, **Conor Rounds '17** (above), and **Nick Russo '17**, the Broncos were flush with experience. What does a tourney of Jesuits look like? "Tough and respectful is the short answer," Smith says. Winning the Jesuit Cup qualified SCU for nationals. The Broncos fell 2-4 but ended on a high note: winning 34-0 vs. Wyoming and 31-17 vs. James Madison University.



**SUPERLATIVE SENIORS** Before **Maggie von Massenhausen '17** (left) came to SCU, she had never played a day of lacrosse. Soccer was her game. The transition—to goalie, no less—was brutal. "After my first tournament, my legs were just covered in bruises," she says. "I wasn't moving my hands." She got better and eventually, great. A talented senior class that included **Claire Smoker '17** (right) led SCU to a 12-2 regular season and a second seed in the US Lacrosse WCLA playoffs. After winning the opening match 15-4 over Texas A&M, Santa Clara dropped three heartbreakers by a total of three goals. The Broncos finished eighth, with Smoker earning a spot on the 2017 WCLA Division I All-Tournament. Both win special spots in hearts at the Alumni Association, where mothers **Maria von Massenhausen '87** and **Mary Modeste Smoker '81** work.

*Hayden Shieh competed in 11 events as a junior, posting seven top-10 finishes and four top-three showings in his final seven tournaments.*



# THE GREATEST



*Cameron McCarthy has a combination named after her. The "Two-Cam-Two" includes a shovel hook thrown between two crosses.*

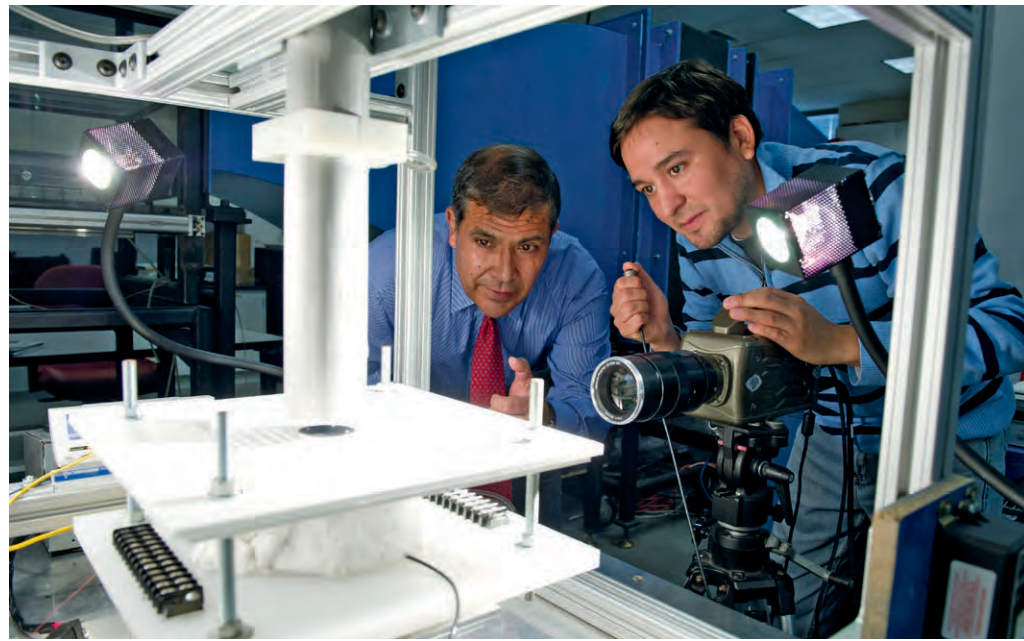
**CAMERON MCCARTHY '17** calls it her revenge streak. Three matches in the National Collegiate Boxing Association championships against three opponents who previously ended her season. First, McCarthy beat Kellsie Pence from University of Washington in the quarterfinals, then Eva Markosky from Penn State in the semis. But in the 119 finals, Vicky Zhao of UC Davis, a two-time national champion,

got the best of McCarthy again. "I found out they kind of trained to fight me, knowing I was going to make it to the championship," McCarthy says. "It was a little hard to lose that one, but if I was going to lose to anyone, Vicky was who I wanted to lose to." McCarthy fell short of her goal, but will go down as the best female boxer in SCU history. *Learn more about McCarthy on the inside back cover.*

## History in Motion

**HAYDEN SHIEH '18** started the road to his golf career on a pitcher's mound. He was in little league, a strong kid with a live arm. His coach wanted him to pitch. He did not want to pitch. "I hit like six guys in a row and I cried," Shieh remembers. Next came soccer. Fewer tears, but too boring. Then he started playing golf with his dad. He liked the solitude of it. Before long, he was winning tournaments. "Out there playing golf, I'm on my own," Shieh says. "If I lost, it's because of me, not because of someone else. I really like that about golf." Shieh did a lot of winning this year. He qualified for the NCAA tournament for the third straight year and regionals for the second time—the first golfer in school history to pull that off. He nearly became the first SCU golfer to win the WCC title but lost in a playoff. Shieh starts an internship with Ernst & Young this summer. He hopes to fit in some weekend tournaments, too. "That's the first taste in the real workforce," Shieh says. "It'll be fun."





**ASK THE ETHICS BOWL TEAM**  
Manufacturing guns in a 3-D printer isn't just a possibility. It's happening. What do we do about it? We asked **Jonathan Jaworski '17** and the SCU Ethics Bowl team for their take. This year the team went to nationals and took fourth—the first time a team from SCU has made it to the semifinals. Jonathan, take it away:  
“With 3-D printing, guns can suddenly be manufactured independently, easily, and cheaply. How do we balance technological progress and our need for safety and security? We can't stop 3-D printers from existing. Do we limit what we can 3-D print? We thought it was a violation of autonomy to make it illegal to print 3-D guns. The nature of 3-D printing makes it impossible for limitations to be put on the printers themselves. We proposed these guns could only be legally printed at certified centers that would test the gun for safety, place a metal rod in it to set off metal detectors, and add an ID number. We argued this using the framework of utilitarianism; this maximized societal welfare by putting effective safety measures in place, while not overly restricting technological advancements and autonomy.”

The legality of producing 3-D printed firearms was a favorite topic for the Ethics Bowl team. SCU didn't get assigned the topic at regionals, but they did get to offer a rebuttal. Their opponent argued that restricting printing was too great of a limitation on personal liberty. Jaworski countered they hadn't adequately balanced autonomy and safety concerns. Broncos win.



Ethics Bowl is not only about getting the right answer. It's the process. “How can we approach these problems in a way that's rational?” Jaworski says. “Santa Clara should be forming students who can hold rational beliefs and justify them and engage in debate with people who disagree with them. That's the key to democracy.”

“It's easy to be afraid to be wrong and if you realize that you are, just not back down,” teammate **Leilan Nishi '18** adds. “Bringing together a bunch of people with different points and having to defend your own view against them, sometimes you come up short and realize, ‘Hey, maybe I have to rethink this.’”

Other team members competing at nationals were **Alex Arnold '17**, **Derek Sikkema '19**, and **Evan Meyer '17**.

*Through his research, Alfonso Ortega (left) has worked with tech companies Cisco, HP, Intel, Facebook, and Microsoft. And he gets students involved.*

## DEAN OF COOL

**ALFONSO ORTEGA** IS in the vanguard of researchers seeking to solve the increasingly complex problem of cooling electronics integral to daily life—laptops, mobile devices, and data centers. And beginning in August, he becomes integral to the School of Engineering at SCU—as the new dean and John M. Sobrato Professor. He arrives at SCU from Villanova University, where he established the National Science Foundation Center for Energy Smart Electronic Systems, forged deep relationships with the U.S. electronics industry, and

served as associate VP for research and graduate programs. He is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from Southern Arizona Math, Engineering, and Science Achievement (MESA) for his contributions to the math and science development of Southern Arizona's underrepresented middle and high school students and their teachers—an award that now bears his name. He succeeds **Godfrey Mungal**, who served as dean for the past decade and brought SCU's engineering programs unprecedented national recognition.

## Gitmo in Person



AS A PLACE, Guantánamo Bay is beautiful: population 6,000, nice beach, a McDonald's, souvenirs for sale. “Life goes on,” says **W. David Ball**, an associate professor of law who specializes in criminal procedure. Several dozen people are still detained there accused of terrorism, Ball notes. Ball recently went to observe a tribunal hearing. The four-day visit was highly restrictive in what he could see, record, or ask. It stirred in him new moral

qualms about Guantánamo. Proceedings were slow: One defendant had two court appearances in four years. “He ended up withdrawing one of his pleas because the law had changed,” Ball says. “He could no longer be charged with one of his counts.” If the goal is keeping this chapter out of sight, out of mind, it's working, Ball says. Defendants had often been tortured before arrival and have inconvenient access to lawyers. “If you're concerned about legitimacy of these trials, then Guantánamo is not a great thing.”

*At night, W. David Ball stayed in tent housing formerly used by Haitian refugees. Rooms were kept frigid to keep out iguanas and nocturnal “banana rats,” as the resident 15-pound rodents are known.*

*Break bread: Elizabeth Drescher says the modern inclination to express spirituality through family, friends, and food isn't a radical theological shift. “The Eucharistic rite is modeled on a meal, not the opposite way around.”*

**You've written a book called *Choosing Our Religion*. Why?**

When you see a survey exploring “how religious America is” or whether “religion is declining,” researchers ask people, “Do you belong to an institutional religious group—a church, a synagogue, or a mosque? Do you believe in God? Do you study a sacred scripture? Do you pray?” When I asked my classes, “How would you describe what's religiously or spiritually important to you?” those were not the things that came up. When I surveyed people, what they talked about was pretty much the same for the religiously affiliated and unaffiliated—not conventional religious practices. I came to call what I heard “the four F's of contemporary spirituality”: family, friends, Fido, and food—enjoying time with family; enjoying time with friends; enjoying time with pets or

other animals; sharing and preparing food. The only conventional item on the top 10 list was prayer, which is sort of the mobile technology of religion. Anyone can do it, anywhere.

**What did you learn about prayer?**

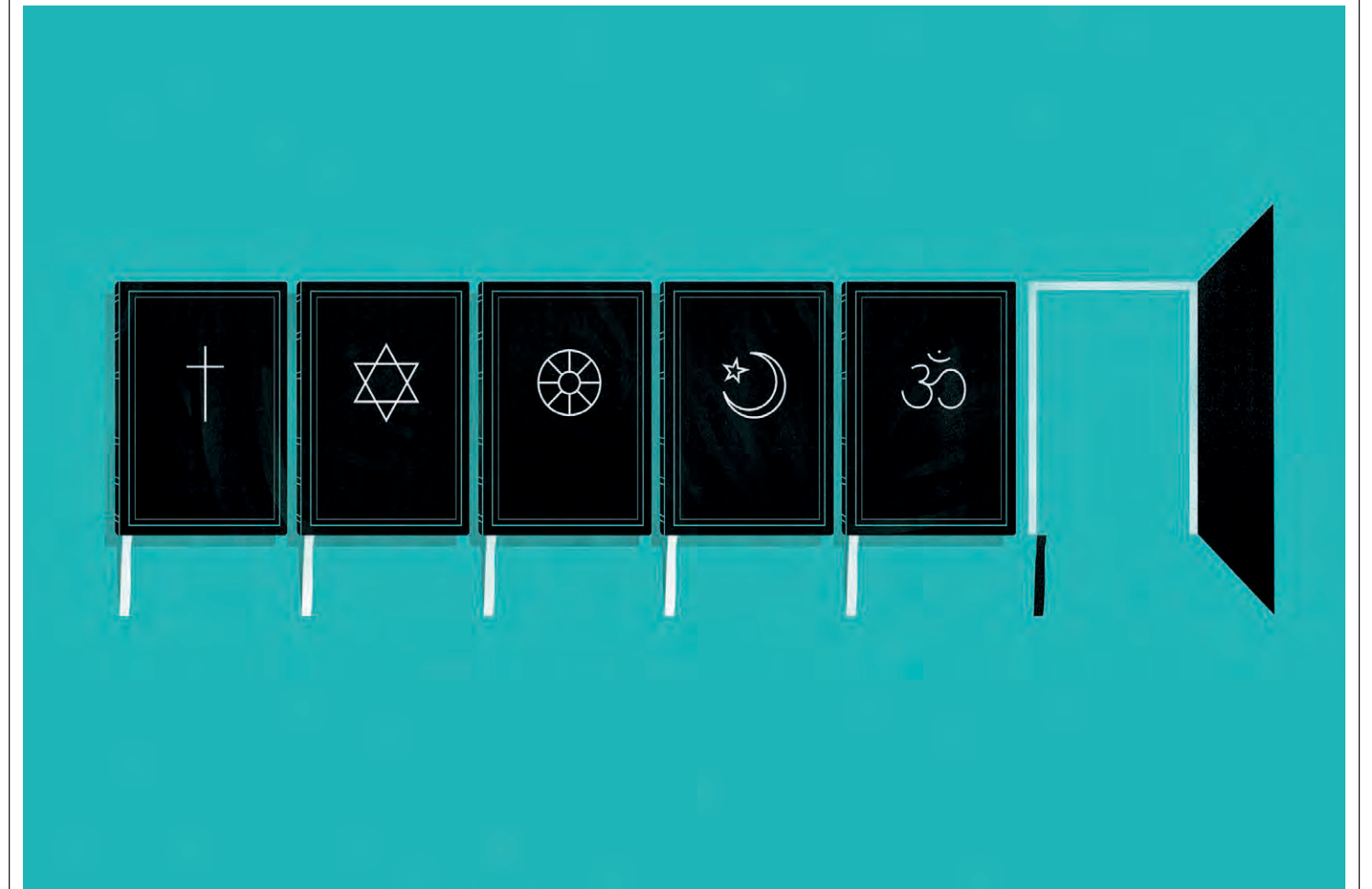
I had atheists who insisted they prayed and I would think “What is that about? Who do you pray to? What do you expect to happen?” Those were some of the richest conversations I had. What I came to understand was the word *prayer* itself has a capaciousness. It holds a certain kind of emotional content we don't have another word for. When I say, “I'm praying for you,” it's different than “I'm thinking about you.” I want to convey that I have concern and hope for you. The phrase “thinking about” doesn't hold that kind of paradoxical complex reality. I

also spoke with people who said, “I don't mean to pray. It sneaks up on me, but in certain circumstances it's the only thing I can do that addresses the emotional complexity of a particular situation.”

**Do you think we Americans are losing our religion?**

We're seeing a new elasticity to spirituality. But the important thing is that we're not seeing less religion and spirituality. We're just seeing it grow into something else. I don't think there's some big new spiritual awakening about to happen, as some have argued. Institutional religions are not going to dramatically, on their own, revitalize and draw people back in 10 years. Lots of new things are emerging, and the exciting thing about being a religion scholar at this point is you get to watch that happening.

**Nuns and Nones.** When **Elizabeth Drescher** was in grad school, she drove home cross-country each spring. She wondered what spirituality meant for those she encountered—not just the religious. So over the past three years, this associate professor of religious studies asked. From Maui to Maine, she turned to the religiously unaffiliated, the Nones, and said: Tell me about your spiritual lives.



ORTEGA PHOTO BY BARBARA JOHNSTON/VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY; GUANTANAMO AND 3-D GUN PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES; WORDS BY DEBRA ARORA, DEBORAH LOHSE, AND TIHA VOSSNICH

ILLUSTRATION BY GIULIO BONASERA. INTERVIEW BY MATT MORGAN



# WHO'S THE TERRORIST?



After immigration: For her next book project, *Anna Sampaio* is tackling Latina political participation and activism in the United States.

IN 2002 ANNA SAMPAIO '92 got a letter from the ACLU informing her they had come across Colorado police files classifying her a "criminal extremist." Her offense? Working with a coalition in Chiapas, Mexico, run by a 72-year-old Franciscan nun: putting on workshops, hosting panels, arranging speakers. For this, Sampaio was said to be intent on overthrowing the government. "Franciscan nuns can be pretty badass," Sampaio says. "But they're not anarchist revolutionaries." Sampaio, an associate professor of ethnic studies, survived professionally. But the discovery made her won-

der: What would happen to a Latina without her credentials? So she wrote *Terrorizing Latina/o Immigrants: Race, Gender, and Immigration Politics in the Age of Security* (Temple University Press), which chronicles 30 years of U.S. immigration policy. One finding: People of color are consistently viewed as criminals without cause. "The idea that [immigrants] need to be apprehended, incarcerated, even deported, because they present this threat is completely a discourse of fiction." Fixing the perception will take "more than just one comprehensive piece of immigration legislation."

## Emotional Investment



WOULD YOU BUY your mom a rose for Mother's Day or give her \$10? Both cost the same—but c'mon, go with the rose! What does this have to do with finance? Plenty, says **Meir Statman**, the Glenn Klimek Professor of Finance. "Stocks, bonds, and all other financial products and services are like roses, watches, cars, and restaurant meals, all providing utilitarian, expressive, and emotional benefits." Investment decisions, like everyday decisions, should be made with emotional and utilization benefits in mind. But normal people are not simply rational. In *Finance for Normal People: How Investors and Markets Behave* (Oxford University Press), Statman starts with this truth and helps people harness it. "It is models that must conform to people, not the other way around," Statman says. "Normal people are more complex than rational ones, yet normal people are who we are."

What's a normal person? When it comes to finance, says **Meir Statman**, we're "often normal-ignorant, sometimes normal-foolish, but always able to ... increase the ratio of smart to foolish behavior."



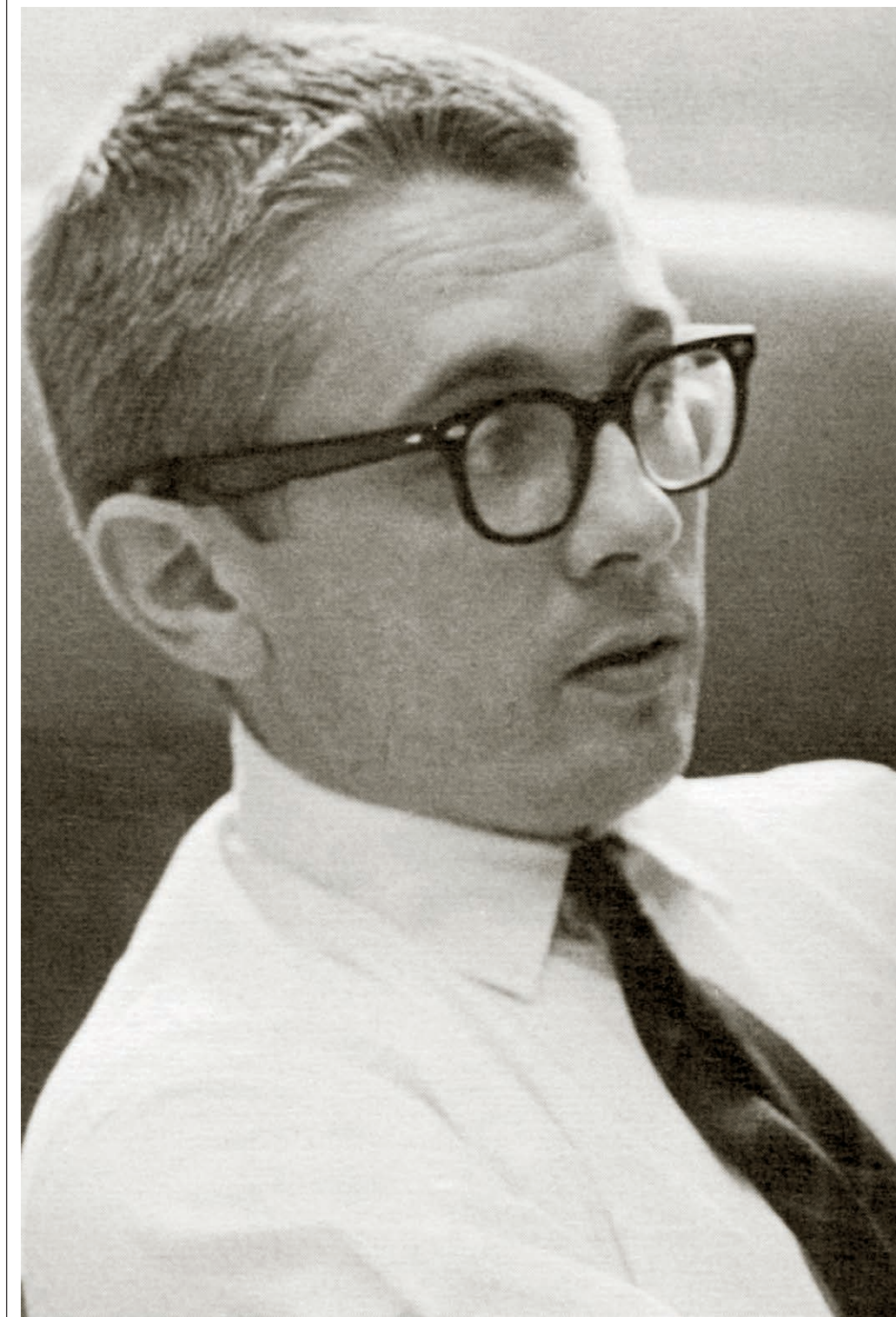
**MODELS AND MENTORS** Robin Shahar graduated near the top of Emory Law. After a summer clerkship with the Georgia attorney general's office, she was offered a job following graduation. But when the A.G. learned that Shahar—who is female—planned to marry another woman, the offer was rescinded. Shahar sued. She lost, won one appeal, lost another appeal, and the Supreme Court declined to review her case. In *Antigay Bias in Role-Model Occupations*, **E. Gary Spitko**, Presidential Professor of Ethics and the Common Good at SCU's School of Law, examines the impact of cases like Shahar's—specifically, how employment discrimination systematically eliminates role models from certain fields and caps expectations in those fields. "For the straight person as well, the lack of such gay pioneering role models hems in the concept of what it means to be gay," Spitko says. He uses data and demographic research together with personal anecdotes to trace the trajectory of employment stereotypes, biases, and discrimination.

**EPIC READING** The Village of Morville started taking shape in **Matthew Jobin's** head around age 14. Now he is an adjunct lecturer in anthropology. But he grew up in Canada, around creeks and rivers. He was fascinated by history—especially medieval. Soon his surroundings and interests merged. "I realized I not only had a world that I loved—but one I could put under threat," Jobin says. In *The Skeleth*, the second book of his Nethergrim Epic, readers follow Edmund, Katherine, and Tom as they combat the Nethergrim and a new foe, the Skeleth—an energy force that can control minds and bodies. *Kirkus Reviews* calls it "a solid contender for the teen answer to *Game of Thrones*." The third and final book in the saga is already scheduled to be published. Jobin calls it a final showdown with the Nethergrim. "It's a bit broader in scope," he says, "the largest of the three books."

INVESTMENT ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID PLUNKERT; IMMIGRATION PHOTO BY GETTY IMAGES; PHOTO OF WOMAN BY MARIAN AVOSTOLOVICI/ISTOCK; SKELETH COVER ART COURTESY MATTHEW JOBIN; WORDS BY PERILA LUNA '19, GABRY DEUTSCH '18, MAURA TURCOTTE '17, AND MATT MORGAN



**What Sparks Your Enthusiasm?** Professor **Tim Healy** is a live wire. Ideas swarm in his brain like extra electrons in his outer valence band, and for five decades he's brought that spark and connection to the SCU electrical engineering faculty. With an impish smile, bright blue eyes, and inquisitive and thoughtful nature, he is revered and treasured by students and colleagues alike.



Here are excerpts from an interview with **Heidi Williams '06**.

**Why engineering?** I grew up in Bellingham, Washington—born during a lightning storm, I'm told; I don't recall it, myself. My parents were lawyers. My uncle was a contractor, so he built buildings. I had a lot of respect for him. Because of him, I started out as a civil engineering student. The first day of class my father died ... I kind of blew off the first year and more or less flunked out of the freshman year at the University of Washington.

I went into the Navy during the Korean War and was sent to electronics school. I spent nine months of wonderful duty on Treasure Island in San Francisco and they taught me all about electronics. Then I wandered around the Western Pacific on an aircraft carrier for 14 months and loved it. When I got out I decided to go back to school and study electrical engineering.

**On teaching:** I love finding new ways to explain something. Discovering—seeking different ways to present something that I've maybe talked about for 40 years and all of a sudden found a new way to look at it—I get charged up.

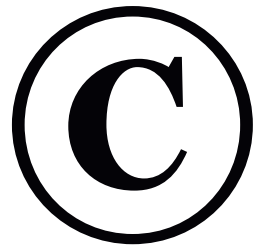
**On the future:** The Teacher-Scholar model will persist. I'm intrigued by the STEM idea. I just don't know where it's going to go. But we are living in an increasingly complex world. The marriage of biology and engineering is going to get stronger and stronger. Those problems are going to be really difficult: biological, physical, electrical, ethical. They're going to involve mechanics. The idea of convergence that we've talked about—that people with physics expertise and with chemistry expertise and with engineering expertise converge together to create teams that are effective in facing real, complex problems—that's an exciting future.

Read the full interview at [magazine.scu.edu](http://magazine.scu.edu).

**Tim Healy, circa 1968.** He says students today are more self-motivated and entrepreneurial. "Kids today do things nobody in my class would have thought about doing."

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY TIM HEALY





**Tsunami and Rebirth** animate a series of paintings by Bosnian-born artist Amer Kobaslija, whose chronicle of devastation, cleanup, and renewal filled the gallery in the new Edward M. Dowd Art & Art History Building earlier this year. When the 2011 earthquake and tsunami struck Japan, Kobaslija was horrified. Yet he found it hard to pull away from watching the catastrophe unfold live on television. “At first I could not

process the scope of the destruction,” he says. So how to make sense of it? He got permission to enter the port city of Kesennuma and traveled there to bear witness to the tragedy. In the work that resulted from the trip, meticulous detail meets loose painterly gestures and abstract passages in a way that seduces the eye and pulls you in. “You want the audience to enter into that landscape, not look at it,” he says. “The painting seeks to convey what it means to be there.”



**Above:** Desolate Houses on Oisehama Beach, South Kesennuma (*Tsunami Series*, 2011). **Left:** Plein Air Painter (*Florida Series*, 2015). **Right:** Riverscape with Landfills.

Tsunami-shattered houses and burning industrial sites realize a terrible beauty in the swirling clouds of black smoke and ruins of homes now exposed to the sky.

Kobaslija fled his war-wracked homeland in 1993 as Bosnian Serbs turned on their Muslim neighbors. When he was 17, his parents smuggled him and his younger sister out of Bosnia to Croatia. They made their way to a refugee center in Germany, where the family was reunited several years later. They immigrated to Florida in 1997 when the United States offered refuge to Bosnian refugees.

A fluid artist who learned to draw by copying his grandmother's needlepoint renderings of portraits by Frans Hals and other old masters, Kobaslija studied at the Kunstakademie in Düsseldorf, and after moving to the States, he completed bachelor's and master's degrees in art.

His home studio is now in New York.

Kobaslija's earlier work addressed his Bosnian past and the question of memory. With the tsunami paintings, “I wanted to create a chronicle, to paint the devastation, cleanup, and rebirth. Being from Bosnia, a person who experienced a different kind of devastation and tragedy—one caused by human hand, one caused by nature—it was my way of saying, ‘I care.’ I’m looking for meaning through the act of painting.”

Other works include lush, vital, and wonderfully disorienting landscapes and interiors. In skewed overhead-view pictures like *Sputnik Sweetheart of New Orleans*, “You have the weird sensation of being able to observe all four corners of the room at once. You’re everywhere and nowhere,” says Kobaslija, who speaks of the pervasive feeling of in-between-ness

that migrants experience. “That’s where that sensation of vertigo comes from.”

Then there is the unexpected grace of works like *Janitor's Closet II*, a beautiful still life with a stained sink, buckets, and a mop painted with the vibrant brushstrokes and colors of a Degas. There's something worth contemplating in these seemingly unremarkable and not particularly pleasant places.

“There is no such thing as ordinary,” Kobaslija says, “as long as you’re looking closely and paying attention. There’s energy in everything.”

Kobaslija is the first visiting artist to work in the new home for the visual arts. One of the benefits of the building is that it provides space for artists like him, enriching the work of students and colleagues alike.

—Jesse Hamlin





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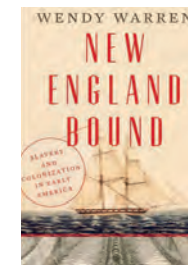
**Conscientious Capitalists.** The bottom line may be straight—but not always simple. Figures include success, failure, and lots of people. Doing right by people isn't always easy. So noted former Starbucks President Howard Behar, one of seven execs who explained where compassion fits in corporate America in the Conscientious Leadership Speaker Series at the Leavey School of Business.

*Behar's words:* I want to tell you a story about what caring really looks like. I was with Starbucks about two months and I got a call from a guy named Jim. He was a store manager in Seattle, one of our first stores. He called me and said, "I want to come to see you and Howard Schultz."

When Jim arrived, I walked him back to Howard's office and we started making small talk. Finally, being an A-type personality, I said, "Jim, what's up? What can we do for you?" He looked at Howard and said, "I'm dying. I have AIDS." Back then, none of us really knew what AIDS was. Those were the very early days. Howard said, "What does that mean?" He said, "Well, the doctors tell me I have about six months to live." Howard said, "Jim, what can we do?" Jim said, "Well, I'd like to work as long as I can." Howard said, "You can work as long as you want." Then Howard asked, "What will you do for money when you can't work?" Jim said there were agencies that could help. Howard said absolutely not. "You belong to us. We will pay your salary." Remember, this is a company that's losing money. We don't know where we're going. But here's a 33-year old CEO and he said we'll pay your salary. Howard asked Jim what he would do for health care—same thing, "There are people to help." Howard said absolutely not. "We will cover you on our health care policy."

What message did that send me? That I could do anything in service to another human being. That caring wasn't about whether you could afford it. Caring was about doing it whether you could afford it or not. That's the lesson I learned and one that's lasted to this day. We were the first organization to give health insurance to part-time workers in 1989. And you got the same coverage I got and the CEO got. People said we were crazy. We stuck with it even when health care cost almost as much as the coffee we sold. We gave everybody equity in the company. People went to college, bought a car, put a down payment on a house—baristas by the way, not just managers—because of the equity. We always thought we were in it together.

*Business isn't always about making money, according to Howard Behar. Sometimes it's just about serving others.*



**HISTORY, AMENDED**  
The Civil War ended slavery in America. It also set in motion a false narrative: that slavery was a Southern problem, not an American one. In April,

Wendy Warren '97, assistant professor of history at Princeton, was back on campus to discuss *New England Bound: Slavery and Colonization in Early America* (Liveright/W.W. Norton)—a Pulitzer Prize finalist. Through extensive research, Warren summons voices of slaves who fought, fled, and even killed themselves to escape horrific conditions in New England. One tragic tale, which Warren first encountered during her graduate studies: a firsthand account of rape and forced breeding in 17th-century New England. The story comes from the journal of an English traveler staying in the home of a colonist in Boston. The visitor was awakened by the screams of an unidentified slave woman at his door. "I'm often asked how I came to write this book," Warren said. "This woman is how I came to write this book."



**PLANET MERCURY** What would it mean to consider Freddie Mercury as one of the first big African pop artists? That was a question Christina Zanfagna's Music in Africa class was asked this winter, as part of a visit by musician and scholar Jason King. Mercury was born Farrokh Pluto Bulsara. He gained superstardom as the frontman of British rock band Queen. But he was native to Zanzibar, Tanzania. This fascinating shift in perspective changes the possible impact of African musicians like Manu Dibango. "We often think of everything emanating from the West, the McDonaldization of the world," Zanfagna says. Instead, we should take opportunities for "thinking through these other kinds of global flows."

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHARLES BARRY

SILK ROAD PHOTO BY CHARLES BARRY; WORDS BY LINDSEY MANDELL '18, MATT MORGAN, AND STEVEN BOYD SAUM

# TRAINING GROUND



EACH PERSON IN Navy SEALs training thinks they'll make it. Six months later, 25 percent do. The rest quit, mostly in the first month. Admiral Eric Olson, former Commander of Navy SEALs and of USSOCOM, wanted to know why. What he learned was more of a "when." Those who quit don't do it in the field but during breakfast or lunch. "People remove themselves from their greatest dream—in some cases a lifelong goal or ambition—for fear of failure," Olson says. "Not because they actually fail." The 25 percent who make it? "People who were

thinking past the moment," Olson says. Or past breakfast. Olson was one of six highly successful leaders in the Conscientious Capitalism speaker series, sharing insight on how to apply virtue and purpose to personal development and growth as business leaders. Among those joining Olson were David Krane, CEO and Managing Partner, Google Ventures; John Donahoe, former CEO, eBay; and Howard Behar, former COO of Starbucks (see previous page). One gem: "Talented people want to follow authentic leaders," Donahoe says.

*Galician bagpipes: Cristina Pato with the Silk Road Ensemble. For some numbers, SCU faculty played: John Kennedy drums, Bill Stevens piano, Dorian Llywelyn, S.J., harp.*

## Road Music

HOW CAN THE arts advance global awareness? That was the question Silk Road Ensemble set out to answer when cellist Yo-Yo Ma founded the group. This year, their journey brought them to the Mission Campus for a two-part residency—including workshops with students, as special guests of the New Music Festival, and a blowout concert in May. "Exploring Home" was the theme of a February concert, with instruments from the caravan route of the historic and conceptual Silk Road—from Japanese flute to Indian tabla—and a set that included "Going Home" from Dvořák's *New World Symphony*. The idea of home had a special resonance for the ensemble that night; member Kinan Azmeh, a Syrian-born clarinetist, was prevented from returning to his U.S. home by the travel ban put into effect late January.







# Listening is Her Superpower

*The West Wing* and *Nurse Jackie* brought Anna Deavere Smith millions of fans. Her work for the stage has been groundbreaking: focusing on moments of crisis and catching stories.

BY JESSE HAMLIN

ANNA DEAVERE SMITH let out a roaring, maniacal laugh, filling SCU's Louis B. Mayer Theatre with the sound of Taos Proctor, a 6-foot-4 Yurok Indian fisherman who had been kicked out of schools as a kid, sent to reform school, and incarcerated in state prisons, including San Quentin.

"Prison don't do nothin' but make you a worsen person. Got me so I didn't care if I hurt somebody," said the real-life character embodied by Smith in *Notes from the Field*, the celebrated actress and playwright's latest work of documentary theatre. It's about what's come to be known as the school-to-prison pipeline, kids of color who are set up to fail in school and end up behind bars.

"You stab somebody, you stab 'em five or ten times, you don't care. You know, I mean, they're worthless, who cares?" bellowed Smith, who transformed herself into the boastful Proctor and other vivid characters when she performed excerpts from the show in April as part of her fruitful SCU residency. Expressing character through timbre and cadence and gesture, she morphed into a sharp, funny Salvadoran-American mother trying to keep her kids away from saggy pants, gangs, and crime; the passionate, young African-American Mayor Michael Tubbs of troubled Stockton, California, decrying the numbing routineness of violence; a fed-up young man arrested for torching a police car during the Freddie Gray riots in Smith's hometown of Baltimore, Maryland; Congressman John Lewis, describing a tearful reconciliation in Montgomery, Alabama's First Baptist Church with a young, white police chief asking forgiveness for past injustices.

## AMERICA WORD FOR WORD

The University's 2016-17 Frank Sinatra Scholar-Artist-in-Residence, Smith brought her keen mind and generous spirit to SCU during intensive spurts throughout the winter and spring. She spoke to the campus community about telling stories and listening—she tunes into how people say what they say, the sound and rhythms of their speech—and called for active civic engagement with the world. And she worked one-on-one with students creating their own documentary play, *Welcome to Claradise*, which came to focus on several incidents on campus last fall that stirred debate about diversity, intolerance, and inclusiveness. Among the troubles: vandalism of an exhibit commemorating the murder of 43 Mexican students; and vandalism by two students who drew a bloody swastika in a residence hall elevator. Famed for her roles on the TV shows *The West Wing* and *Nurse Jackie* and in movies like *Philadelphia*, Smith

is esteemed for her pioneering multivoice-and-viewpoint solo theater pieces that explore such explosive subjects as the 1992 Los Angeles riots after the Rodney King verdict (*Twilight: Los Angeles*); the tension between black and Jewish residents of Brooklyn's Crown Heights in the wake of the '91 riots there (*Fires in the Mirror*); and health care, the act of dying, and the resilient human spirit (*Let Me Down Easy*).

She creates these works solely with the words of the people she has interviewed, weaving many voices into a dramatic tapestry that illuminates the subject in all its complexity. She told an SCU audience in January that she set out "to become America word for word," by "putting myself in other people's words the way you think about putting yourself in people's shoes."

Introducing Smith before her April performance with jazz bassist Marcus Shelby, Theatre Professor **Aldo Billingslea**, who directed *Welcome to Claradise*, put it this way: "Listening is the superpower of Anna Deavere Smith. She's built a career on going into locations in a moment of crisis, where people have often stopped listening to each other. And she's made a practice of listening to all sides and to bringing those voices to life in such a compelling way that all sides can hear and be heard. It's a superpower sorely needed today."

Smith's method of inquiry inspired the play created by students in a seminar taught by Lecturer **Brian Thorstenson**. Thorstenson wrote *Claradise* from dozens of interviews with people across campus: students and groundskeepers, faculty, food service staff, SCU President **Michael Engh, S.J.** They were asked about moments of grace and moments of disruption that they had experienced in this serene place.

The students didn't know what the story would be when they began interviewing people last fall. But after those disturbing acts on campus in October, the questions about disruption and grace became particularly relevant.

## MORAL IMAGINATION

Smith, a professor at the Tisch School of the Arts at NYU, where she is founding director of the Institute on the Arts and Civic Dialogue, was heartened to learn that social justice is part of Santa Clara's mission. "The country needs a more enriched moral imagination," she said. "Art institutions have convening power. It's an opportunity for people to come together and talk about things they wouldn't otherwise be discussing and practice the potential of being an active citizenry."

*Smith found moments of grace working with "the dynamic trio" of Aldo Billingslea, Brian Thorstenson, and choreographer David Popalisky, as well as SCU students: "It made me joyous to spend time with those students in Claradise, to feel their passion and their will to do something good for the University."*



# WRANGLER and the JAZZMAN

A dog with millions of fans. And Bill Stevens, a blind jazz pianist, teaching students to do more than they imagined possible.

BY JESSE HAMLIN

It was JUST last fall that Wrangler joined **Bill Stevens**, the vibrant, double-fisted jazz pianist and SCU music lecturer. If you don't already know Wrangler, odds are one of your friends does. The yellow Lab became a star on NBC's *Today* show, where he appeared daily for more than a year with a trainer from Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

Wrangler won hearts around the nation before leaving showbiz to start six months of rigorous training at Guiding Eyes in Yorktown Heights, New York. Last year, he and Stevens were the subject of a *Today* segment filmed on and around the Mission campus.

"He loves the work and is doing really well," Stevens says of Wrangler, who likes to be where the action is. "Because he grew up on the *Today* show, he thinks everything is about him. He's definitely a ham. When the *Today* show was here trailing us around, he was in his element, just loving it."

At SCU, Stevens is very much in his element, too. He loves to swim, bodysurf, and practice the intuitive dance form called contact improvisation. He brings the same joyous energy and spirit of discovery to his classroom teaching and his SCU concert performances. His fluid playing, with its bracing block chords and long, melodic lines, draws on a wide range of sources, from Bill Evans and Keith Jarrett to Oscar Peterson and Earl "Fatha" Hines. His most recent album, *A Blues By Any Other Name*, was recorded live at SCU in 2014 with bassist **Ryan Lukas** and drummer **Frank Wyant**, who also teach in the music department. Since his new dog arrived, Stevens has been writing some Wrangler-themed tunes.

## "GUIDE THEM ON THAT JOURNEY"

Wrangler is the pianist's third guide dog. His first, Doris, was also a yellow Lab. So was his second, Tighlman, a trusty companion familiar to the campus community who's now enjoying a well-earned retirement with Stevens' folks in North Carolina. Unlike Tighlman, who was content to stay in Stevens' office while he taught in the adjoining room, Wrangler prefers the classroom, napping in a corner while the pianist moves about the space and engages with his students.

"I teach sight-reading—ironically," Stevens says as he sits in his apartment not far from campus, wearing a pale green polo shirt and a rakish Indiana Jones fedora. The fifth-year instructor also teaches melody, harmony, ear

training, and improvisation. He loves teaching, and his big goal is to get students to understand how to learn effectively, to realize that they are capable of doing more than they imagine and to have confidence in their ability.

"If I don't know how to do something, it doesn't mean I can't do it, if I know how to learn," Stevens says. "Be comfortable with partial progress. Keep showing up on good days and bad days ... I'm there to guide them on that journey. Music skills are the occasion for teaching that."

## DEEP LISTENING

After the pianist learned he was getting Wrangler—whose name was chosen by *Today* show viewers—he listened to a few of the show's clips and was stirred by the outpouring of love for this dog. "I'm hoping it's an opportunity to do more outreach about blindness," Stevens says, "and create more empathy in our culture about guide dogs and blindness and about diversity and difference in general."

The pianist and his new dog collaboratively negotiate their day-to-day world, getting to know each other better and refining their communication. Having a TV-famous dog isn't a big deal, and most people don't recognize Wrangler. But Stevens was impressed to learn that the dog who now shares his life appeared in a commercial during Super Bowl 50.

Stevens grew up on the East Coast. He has been legally blind since birth and almost completely blind since age 14. He earned a degree in music composition at The Oberlin Conservatory and a master's in piano performance at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He also studied deep listening with Pauline Oliveros, a noted avant-garde composer with a holistic approach to music.

"Deep listening is the practice of listening to all sounds, all the time," he says. "Her goal was to listen to all the sounds that are happening in the world as if listening to a piece of music. For me, that opened up doorways into meditation, using listening as meditative focus."

This in turn informs Stevens' approach to improvisation, allowing him to be more in flow. "What is the music impulse in this moment? Can I hear that? Can I reflect that? Can I have that come through?"

**JESSE HAMLIN** is a Bay Area journalist who has covered arts and music for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Read more about Bill Stevens and Wrangler, and listen to Bill's music, at [billstevensjazz.com](http://billstevensjazz.com).

*Bill Stevens performed his master's recital in total darkness to avoid the buzzing sounds of overhead lights disrupting the final dissipating note. "I wasn't willing to compromise," he says. "Without deep listening, I never would've keyed into that."*



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOANNEE LEE





# Casts a Shadow

The impact of recent travel bans on international students isn't clear—but it isn't good. Four graduate students tell their stories.

BY MATT MORGAN

**MARGI MEHTA M.S. '18** is fascinated by data. “Online shopping—it’s all about data,” she says. “Email is all about data. I can learn about any business through data. If you can treat data well, it gives you a lot more than you expected.”

Mehta came to the United States from India in 2016 to dig deeper into data: learn patterns, formulate predictions. Where better than SCU, in the heart of Silicon Valley, to earn a master’s in information systems? She lives with her aunt and uncle locally and hopes to work in the Valley. But she’s preparing for other possibilities since the rollout of the first travel ban issued by the White House in January.

Her status has not been threatened by the executive order. But when her uncle visited India in February, he worried whether he could return. “Everybody was tense, including me,” Mehta says.

Having a plan B is a common theme among international students now. They want to stay but they wonder: How appealing a job candidate are they if their status is in flux? As Mehta says, “It’s always there in the back of your mind.”

**Min Zhu MBA '17** saved for three years in China to pay for her graduate education. The uncertainty of what comes after graduation is stressful, she says. She once was determined to work in the States, and she will apply for an H-1B. But also, she says, “I’ll just go with the flow.”

## COUNSEL AND RISK

For **Susan Popko**, associate provost for International Programs, concern over the travel ban started a few days before the first one was announced. She knew that immigration orders were coming, and she sent an email to international students to prepare. But when the order hit, like most of the country, she and her team had to scramble.

“We were just trying to read the actual text and get into it and figure out what this means to our students,” Popko says. “There was so much confusion.”

International Programs supports 1,300 current students and recent grads. The undergraduate population is geographically diverse. The majority of graduate students in business and engineering are from India. Popko immediately identified who was affected by the ban, including three current students from Iran. She and her staff determined everyone was safe, then they set out to combat confusion with information online and in person.

One international scholar was blocked from traveling to campus in January. The immigration orders since—including announced plans to drastically change the H-1B visa program—have taken an emotional toll on international

students as they complete their coursework and plan for a life after graduation. The International Programs office has worked with hundreds of students in recent months; they’re anxious. Will they be able to stay? Can they travel safely? Can family visit? Popko tapped the School of Law, but rapid changes made it difficult to offer solid advice. Lawyers with expertise in immigration law were caught chasing ghosts: What’s true when you leave for spring break might not be true when you come back. The lesson? Every trip is a risk.

## DON'T SLIP UP

**Aya Masuo MBA '18** hails from Japan. Her visa was put on probation once, as an undergrad. She got sick—a stomach illness—and missed weeks of class. If you’re no longer a student, you can’t use a student visa, right? Doctor notes cleared up the confusion, but it was a lesson in how quickly visas can unravel. With the travel ban, the threat of a simple slipup in paperwork has intensified. “If I got sick tomorrow I’d probably be really worried,” she says. “Maybe that doctor note isn’t effective anymore.”

The concern came home earlier this year when Masuo’s grandmother became gravely ill. Masuo was worried if she went to Japan, she couldn’t return. “What happens to my apartment or my car? What happens to my program and graduation?” Masuo asks. “My family understands that I can’t come back, but why does my family have to suffer with this situation?”

## “AM I AN AMERICAN?”

In the beginning, every part of living in the United States was tough, says **Meera Tanikella M.A. '17**, who moved here when she was 15. From clothes to her accent, she didn’t fit in. Classmates struggled to understand her speech. But she liked singing. She listened well. She would learn.

Eleven years later, she’s a graduate of UC Davis, and she just finished her master’s in counseling psychology in June. She will have a year to find a work sponsor and apply for an H-1B. Each year, 85,000 H-1B visas are awarded by lottery. She will have one shot. She worries that changes to H-1B will make her chances even slimmer.

“I wouldn’t fit in in India,” Tanikella says. “The life I know is here. My family is here. My partner is here. I can’t even think of how it would work. I dress like one, I talk like one—am I an American?”

**MATT MORGAN** is the associate editor of this magazine.

ILLUSTRATION BY EMMANUEL POLANCO





*St. Peter's Basilica, 1965: Jim Purcell and a class of fellow priests are ordained. Inset: Purcell in the library, the intellectual heart of campus.*

# A Bigger Stage

First priest, then social worker, CEO, and teller of stories: Jim Purcell on what drew him to Santa Clara—and what Jesuit education can be.

BY STEVEN BOYD SAUM

THE YEAR WAS 1986. Congress had just passed comprehensive immigration reform, creating a path to citizenship for existing undocumented immigrants. At the time, one of the largest immigration counseling programs in the country was run by Catholic Charities, whose programs in the South Bay were led by **Jim Purcell**. That program was about to be swamped. “We had to double its size overnight,” says Purcell.

Santa Clara University was in the process of launching the Eastside Project, a program to bring together the work of the University with the community in East San Jose, especially the poor. It would both help the community and transform students through an understanding of the gritty reality around them. So **Dan Germann, S.J.**, one of the founders of the Eastside Project, came to meet with Purcell to see if Catholic Charities might partner with the University in hosting students to work with immigrants.

“We’ve got just the program,” Purcell told him.

After training by Catholic Charities, Santa Clara students helped with paralegal work and translation. They assisted people applying for citizenship. For SCU, Catholic Charities, and Jim Purcell, it was the beginning of a beautiful friendship. It was also the last time Congress passed comprehensive immigration reform.

This is a story that Jim Purcell tells on a sunny afternoon when we sit down to chat in the Harrington Learning Commons, Sobrato Technology Center, and Orradre



Library—the intellectual heart of the campus and one of Purcell’s favorite places at SCU. He remembers vividly the day the building opened in March 2008.

“The first wave of students that walked in were saying, ‘Wow! I can’t wait to study here!’ And this place has lived up to its promise.”

It certainly has. In 2017, the library won the equivalent of the Academy Award for libraries: best blessed university library in the country, based in part on how faculty

and students use its marvelous resources (see page 72). Purcell helped build this place. Beginning in 1997, and for the next 14 years, he served as SCU’s vice president of University Relations. Or, as he liked to refer to himself, “Storyteller in Chief”—helping nurture support for students, scholars, and programs at Santa Clara.

Other roles for Jim Purcell: eldest of nine children, born and raised in San Francisco’s Haight-Ashbury before it was known as such. High schooler taught by Jesuits at St. Ignatius College Prep. When it came time for college, he couldn’t decide if he wanted to be a lawyer or a priest. So he applied to Stanford University and the seminary. He was accepted by both. He opted for the seminary, figuring that if serving as a parish priest didn’t work out that he wasn’t meant to be a priest—and he could always become a litigator, like his father. Actually, there weren’t so many litigators like his father—who in the 1940s took on a case representing Mitsuye Endo, a Japanese-American woman interned during World War II, and argued it all the way to

ST. PETER'S PHOTO COURTESY JIM PURCELL; PORTRAIT BY JOANNE LEE



the Supreme Court. He won her release. That was young Jim's first lesson in social justice.

Purcell is a good Irish name. But, as Jim says, "My mother's father was 100 percent Lebanese. So I'm half Lebanese, half Irish." When he was growing up, some folks figured him as Italian. And when he was 12 years old, a Chinese family moved into the neighborhood.

"One of our Irish-Catholic neighbors came to my father and said, 'We gotta get rid of that family.' My father told that neighbor where to go, and it wasn't heaven."

In 1962, Jim Purcell was sent to study theology with the Jesuits at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He found himself witness to an epochal change in the Church: He was in Rome when Paul VI was elected pope and convened the Second Vatican Council. Purcell was ordained a priest in St. Peter's Basilica in 1965.

"It was an extraordinary time. I came home with a lot of hope and anticipation about all the changes that would take place in the Church. Some of 'em happened. Most of 'em didn't."

Why?

"The Second Vatican Council was like creating a vision that had no strategic plan to follow up with," he says. "Now, Pope Francis is clearly rejuvenating, and in some cases, reshaping the vision of the Church, but to what extent that vision will get translated into actionable strategic plans, that remains to be seen. He's clearly a prophetic voice. Prophets often don't get listened to."

#### YOUNG PRIEST

Back home in the Bay Area, Fr. Purcell went to work as a priest in Our Lady of Loretto parish in Marin County. Young families of the parish welcomed the liturgical changes being implemented. Purcell's fellow priests elected him to an advisory group to the archbishop and then secretary of the National Federation of Priests' Councils; he took on more deliberate work to promote Church reform. They examined the question of celibacy in the priesthood and argued for the option for priests to marry. Young priests hearing confessions also found the ban on artificial contraception problematic for their parishioners.

Many found the U.S. bombing of Cambodia in 1971 more deeply troubling. Purcell and his brother, Larry, then also a priest, were part of a delegation to Washington protesting the bombing. They were arrested in the Capitol and spent a night in jail, along with Benjamin Spock and William Sloane Coffin.

"One of my memories of that was 90 of us in a Washington, D.C., jail, singing at two in the morning, 'A Mighty Fortress Is Our God' in four-part harmony," Purcell says. "It sounded great."

For the record, Purcell sang tenor at the time.

Purcell's own discernment led him to leave the priesthood the following year. He went to work for Catholic

Social Services in San Francisco—now known as Catholic Charities. The organization was going through its own discernment process, realizing that it needed to do more than provide direct services—it needed to help empower people with community organizing.

#### A BIGGER STAGE

Purcell wrote his first grant. He also fell in love and got married. When he and Bernie Wetteland met, she was a nun in the parish where he was first assigned. They became friends and stayed friends after she was transferred to San Francisco. She found her life's journey led her away from the order in 1971. Two years later, Bernie and Jim were married by an Episcopal priest who was a good friend. They petitioned to be allowed to be married in the Church but were denied twice. "On the third time, I think they realized that I wasn't coming back. Bernie was pregnant with our second child. So finally, they said 'Yes.'"

Purcell was increasingly doing work counseling people in the community, so he enrolled in a master's in social work program at Catholic University of America. He returned to the Bay Area and went on to direct counseling services for San Jose Catholic Charities and later San Mateo County, then as overall director of Catholic Charities in San Jose. It was in that role that he began collaborating with SCU's Eastside Project. He worked for the Diocese of San Jose to raise money for its cathedral. After that, Hope Services, which supports people with developmental disabilities, approached Purcell about serving as its CEO. He led the organization for five years and helped them develop a strategic plan for the next five. That's when he got another call—from SCU President **Paul Locatelli, S.J. '60**, asking whether he would be interested in coming to SCU. Purcell told him he was happy at Hope Services.

"But Paul insisted, and Paul could be very persuasive," Purcell says. "In our first meeting, he didn't talk one word about fundraising. He talked about his vision for the University, educating men and women with competence, conscience, and compassion to make this a better world. I realized, 'This is a bigger stage for making a difference in the world.'"

#### DEFINING MOMENTS

He cites the 2000 campus talk given by Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J., then Superior General of the Society of Jesus, as one of the defining moments in his work. "He spoke about how a Jesuit, Catholic university needs to really have its students encounter the gritty reality of life. Well, the gritty reality of life is all about stories."

One of the programs that Purcell is most proud of is a project working with 21 socioeconomically diverse Catholic high schools in Los Angeles—involving SCU staff and alumni to counsel students who otherwise might not even imagine it was possible to study at Santa Clara.



"That first class graduated in 2013; 18 out of 19 of those students graduated in four years. Some went to law school. I got an email from one today. She's in Texas, working at an alternative school for the learning disabled. I'm so proud of the students who got that Santa Clara education that made it possible for them to do great things for the world."

**Martin Sanchez '02** helped run the program early on. As Purcell tells it, "One day, he gets a phone call from a student that he's following up with. She hadn't filed a FAFSA, the federal form for financial aid. So he says, 'How come?' She says, 'I can't file a FAFSA. My parents are undocumented.'"

Sanchez called the agency that controls FAFSA and asked how to fill out the form if one's parents are undocumented. He was told, "Just put all zeroes in the Social Security codes." The FAFSA went through. The student obtained a Pell Grant and was able to come to Santa Clara.

#### A LITTLE CONTEXT

Purcell stepped down as vice president in 2009 but stayed on until last year as a special assistant to the president. In that role he worked to support the Jesuit School of Theology—which has special meaning for him. "When I studied theology, the only people in the classroom were seminarians studying to be ordained. At the Jesuit School of Theology, not only is it more than half not Jesuits, but it's laymen and women studying for an ecclesiastical degree that will help them serve the Church and the world. And the way they teach theology there, they talk about contextualizing the understanding of theology—a faith that's lived in a culture."

For Purcell, part of living has meant becoming a father and grandfather. He and Bernie celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary in April 2017. After 25 years in Fremont, they now live in Los Gatos. Their son, Larry, is married and is the head of a middle school in Palo Alto. Their daughter, Jamalle, lives with her husband and their four boys in Southern California. "Her name is Arabic," Purcell notes. "It means beautiful inside and out."

Purcell may no longer have an official post at SCU, but along with playing a little golf and strumming guitar for his grandkids, he is still involved with the Society of Jesus. He was part of the task force advising the two provincials about the joining of the California and Oregon provinces. And he has helped **John A. Sobrato '60** and the recently opened Cristo Rey High School in San Jose with mentoring its director of development.

For Santa Clara, he's also looking forward to seeing how STEM education takes shape. "Fundamentally, it's about interdisciplinary learning—the whole understanding of what it means to be a human being in today's world. Take the issue of sustainability: That's an interdisciplinary issue."

Some years ago, Purcell wrote a piece for this magazine in which he quoted Microsoft founder Bill Gates on how we need both compassion and science. "To me, that's what Fr. Kolvenbach means by educated solidarity," he says. "We have a great chance to do that here at Santa Clara. It's about figuring out how to ask the right questions."

Read Jim Purcell's essay "Words Simple and Profound" from our archives at [magazine.scu.edu](http://magazine.scu.edu).

*Welcoming Pope Paul VI: Purcell was there. That's Jim at the top, left of the stairs with a bag over his shoulder at the Second Vatican Council.*

**"A Jesuit, Catholic university needs to really have its students encounter the gritty reality of life. Well, the gritty reality of life is all about stories."**

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY JIM PURCELL





# The Good, the Bad, and the Kid

In which we talk with **Ron Hansen M.A. '95** about truth and fiction and Billy the Kid—and when you can't tell the good guys from the bad guys.

**INTERVIEW BY STEVEN BOYD SAUM**  
**ILLUSTRATION BY TIM O'BRIEN**

RON HANSEN EARNED a place in American letters early on with a story collection, *Nebraska*, and two remarkable novels on the Old West: *Desperadoes*, about the Dalton Gang, and *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*—a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award and later made into a film directed by Andrew Dominik and starring Brad Pitt. His fiction has grappled with faith and identity—in the spare and haunting *Mariette in Ecstasy*, and in the shipwrecked lives of *Exiles*. He has told the tale of *Hitler's Niece* and, in *A Wild Surge of Guilty Passion*, traced the paths of a scheming couple who committed a murder in the 1920s that became known as the crime of the century. *Atticus*, his story of a prodigal son and grieving father, was a finalist for the National Book Award. His two most recent books are *She Loves Me Not: New and Selected Stories*, and a novel that returns to gunfighters' territory: *The Kid*, telling the tale of Billy the Kid like it's never been told before. "One of our most honored and prolific authors," assessed critic Sven Birkerts in *The New York Times Book Review*. "Easily one of America's truest and finest living writers," wrote the *San Francisco Chronicle*. ¶ Hansen has taught at Santa Clara since 1996. He directs the creative writing program and holds the Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J. Chair of Arts and Humanities. Born in Omaha, Nebraska, he graduated from Creighton University, went on to the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop—where he studied with John Irving—and held a Stegner Fellowship at Stanford University. He also holds an M.A. in spirituality from SCU and is a deacon in the Catholic Church.

**SCM:** *Let's start with a question that is usually answered by critics. Looking at your work—the cadence of the sentences, the voice, the subject matter—are there elements that you can point to, given the range of subjects that you've tackled over the years, and say they are uniquely yours?*

**RON HANSEN:** You know, I try to write differently with each book, but there is something inescapable about your own voice. And I think mine would be characterized by maybe an annoying fondness for turning nouns into verbs. I also have a fondness for imagery, especially metaphors. And I would like to think that you could read one story in the collection *She Loves Me Not*, and then another, and they would seem to be by someone else, but I know there are probably some elements that people are picking up that indicate, "Oh, this is by Ron." I don't know any more than that. I was thinking about how you develop a style. Most writers begin as imitators. I was very influenced by John Updike and Edgar Allan Poe early on, and so I was imitating their prose. But I don't write like either one.



Eventually, your own voice starts to leak through, and pretty soon for better or worse it's only yours, not anybody else's.

**SCM:** *What about the role of the exterior world in your work—the weather, the sense of the outside?*

**HANSEN:** I was once talking to John Gardner about my fiction, and he said, "You know, whenever anybody picks up a tool or a gun in your work, it gets hot." And he thought that about my descriptions of weather, as well. I'm not an indoor writer. I started as a painter—I wanted to be an illustrator for newspapers, of all things, and I got into doing portrait painting. Then I decided I could make multiple copies of books a lot easier than multiple copies of paintings. But that experience with visual art made me very aware of color, of the outdoors, and of particularity of detail. I wasn't very creative as a painter, I was just a copyist, and that's one reason why I decided to turn to fiction writing. I'm still a very visual writer, in that I'm actually seeing the scene appear before me while I'm writing it down. There's kind of a cinematic aspect to a lot of my writing because I'm already seeing the movie in my mind.

**SCM:** *What was it that drew you to writing about Billy the Kid?*

**HANSEN:** I read a nonfiction book by Stephen Tatum called *Inventing Billy the Kid* back in 1983. I was fascinated because he followed the journalistic accounts and showed how their perception of Billy changed over the years. Billy was treated as a demon at first, and then he became just an outlaw, but in 1926 in *The Saga of Billy the Kid* Walter Burns depicted him as a sympathetic, misunderstood swashbuckler. And he's mostly remained that way. Even the description of what he looked like changed as his hair transitioned from a satanic black to blond.

After reading Tatum's book, somebody asked me what I was gonna write next, and I said, "I think I'll do a book on Billy the Kid," and then I promptly forgot about that entirely. More than 20 years later, I went to receive the Golden Spur Award from the Western Writers of America for the screenplay adaptation of *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*. Someone in the audience said, "Whatever happened to that Billy the Kid novel?"

I had totally forgotten about that project. It just so happened that I was looking for something to write next, and I thought, "Why not complete a trilogy about the famous outlaws of the Old West?" I began by reading everything I could on Billy and Pat Garrett and then eventually started writing. In fact, chapter four is the first thing I wrote, because I was just toying with the right tone for the novel and that was a scene I felt was easy to do.

In chapter four, we meet Billy as he was then called Henry Antrim. He gets involved in a barroom fight and in desperation ends up shooting the oversized guy he was fighting. The Kid runs off and, in that escape, he chooses a new alias, William H. Bonney. His original moniker was William Henry McCarty, and then he took his stepfather's name of Antrim, and finally he became Bonney, which may have been his mother's maiden name.

There was kind of a narrative voice that I was looking for that would have the flavor of an Old West patois but would also have a vocabulary available to me now. There was a historian who was famous as the preeminent scholar on Billy the Kid, but he died without writing anything—and

some regret that he failed to put all he knew into a biography. So I imagined myself as him, an old codger living in the West but also a scholar who has access to all the research material out there.

**SCM:** *How did you find that voice? In the first line you're talking right to the reader: "You'll want to know about his mother, she being crucial to the Kid's becomings." You already sort of have the sense that the history is unfolding. And later on you have a cameo by Jesse James.*

**HANSEN:** Yes, there's a yarns around a cracker-barrel quality to some of the writing that I hope meshes with more literate and poetic prose. And that's supposedly a true story—that Jesse James was seeking out people to replace the gang that was shot up in the Northfield, Minnesota, raid, and he somehow had heard about Billy the Kid. He found him in Las Vegas, New Mexico, and tried to recruit him. But Billy told him that he only stole horses and cows; he didn't steal from people or banks or railroads. And so Jesse gave up on him, went back to Missouri, and found some rubes to do his bidding.

**SCM:** *How different are they in terms of character? Because I think a lot of your readers have Billy the Kid and Jesse James in the same constellation.*

**HANSEN:** I think that Jesse James was a charming psychotic who could con people with his seeming good nature. Whereas Billy was mainly sociable with only brief periods of violence, of anger, and usually he thought the anger was justified, that he was righting an injustice. Jesse thought that he was justified because he thought of himself as a guerilla in a Civil War that had never actually ended. But he still seems much more determinedly vicious than the Kid.

**SCM:** *One of the scenes that you write is when the Kid is still just a kid, and he gets back at the blacksmith who's been taunting and abusing him really horribly.*

**HANSEN:** He had to borrow a gun to do that. Even later, he was constantly having to acquire new guns after repeatedly having his weapons stolen or taken from him. Same with horses. Unlike most cowboys of that era, he didn't have a special horse he doted on or wrote cowboy poetry about. He would ride a horse for a while—the longest period he had a particular one was about three months—but after a while, he gave that horse away without a pang of regret and found some other horse to thief.

**SCM:** *In the novel, people are constantly stealing one another's horses, constantly stealing cattle—you name it.*

**HANSEN:** Even Pat Garrett, the supposedly noble sheriff, stole his first hogs and cows to get his ranch started. In unfenced, wide-open country with cattle herds of perhaps 10,000, it was a very common practice.

**SCM:** *It's hard to tell who the good guys and the bad guys are a lot of times.*

**HANSEN:** Right, it is. Because a lot of the businessmen were corrupt, a lot of the sheriffs and government agents were corrupt, chicanery was omnipresent. It was a wild and woolly time, and it often must have been hard for Billy to

determine what was the right thing to do, because he could see so many evil people working against him.

**SCM:** *There's even the scene where you have competing posses going after one another: "We're coming to arrest you." "No, we're coming to arrest you!"*

**HANSEN:** Exactly. It's an amazing period. The chief prosecuting attorney for the district court had himself killed a competing attorney in the lobby of a hotel, yet he pretended to be holier-than-thou.

Attorney Thomas Catron, the first elected senator from New Mexico, stole tens of thousands of acres from Mexican people who'd been living in the Territory for centuries and all because he argued they didn't have legal titles to the land. Everywhere the Kid looked, he found wealthy people trying steal something.

And, of course, because New Mexico was a territory rather than a state, there were a lot of things the government couldn't control. By 1912, New Mexico had gotten fences and roads and telephone lines, enabling it to seem respectable and worthy of statehood.

I loved writing the scenes with Lew Wallace, the general who came from Indiana but got an appointment as governor of the New Mexico Territory and hated it. He would have preferred to be an ambassador in the Ottoman Empire, which later happened. Wallace was writing *Ben-Hur* then, which seemed to occupy most of his time, but between pages he was dealing with Billy Bonney. Eventually, like Pontius Pilate, he washed his hands of the whole thing—and even though the Kid had been promised clemency by the governor, he went to trial.

**SCM:** *Another recurring motif is this: Because the Kid looks so young, and he's so much the ladies' man, people are always making fun of him and creating situations where he's gonna have to get back at 'em.*

**HANSEN:** He was about 5-foot-7 and weighed maybe 115 pounds. So, there was a lot of heavy work he couldn't do—he wasn't physically capable of vying with vaqueros, and he hated working indoors. But handling a gun he was very, very good at. So, he first got hired to be on night watch on cattle ranges, but gradually he found out he could steal a calf or maverick very easily, sell 'em for a few dollars, and move on.

Every memoir by those who knew him talks about how handsome he was, how magnetic, how funny, and what a nimble dancer and heartthrob he was. The description is



*"Sheriff Pat Garrett flicked ash from his cheroot with a fingernail and with a formality he thought of as Southern gallantry, he said, 'I have been told by higher-ups that you'll be needing to forswear your evil life and forsake your disreputable associates.'"*

completely different in the accounts of journalists of the period who thought of him as the offscouring of creation.

It's hard to account for this sporadic violence and the feeling that it was OK to kill an enemy. It might have been an aftereffect of the Civil War, where he was aware that friends would battle friends, and even loyal family members would try to kill each other. When the rebellion was over, they returned to their normal pursuits without much revenge, letting bygones be bygones. Perhaps the Kid thought that settling scores was natural and something he could just walk away from.

**SCM:** *The one photograph of Billy the Kid plays a role in the novel as well.*

**HANSEN:** I was struck by the fact that everybody talked about what a groomed dandy he was, how he loved fancy clothes—and then you see the sole photograph of him in which he looks really shabby. Instead of his usual sombrero, he's wearing kind of a stovepipe hat that's been caved in, an overlarge sweater, a sailor shirt, and frumpy trousers.



## The Habit of Larceny from *The Kid* (Scribner)



The Kid's grief over his mother's death first caused him to feel disoriented and in a trance, then fiery in his anger at Billy Antrim and, irrationally, the Silver City that had failed to heal her. There was a lot of Why me? in his ruminations. And it was his undoing that in his aloneness and loss he fell in with a wild and vice-laden crowd. Would have become an adored, happy, skylarking captain of all he surveyed had he not first linked up with miscreants like Sombrero Jack—so named because of the spangled Mexican hatwear he favored. Jack was ten years older, held a stonemasonry job, and just for company let a lonely fourteen-year-old orphan tag along like a tolerated little brother when Jack was pursuing thievery, an excess of whiskey, or the card games of monte and faro.

Was Jack who urged the Kid to leave his lodgings in the Star Hotel, where he was a waiter and dishwasher, and join him in Mrs. Brown's rooming house. And it was Jack who goaded him into stealing three pounds of fresh-churned butter from a buckboard, selling it to a grocer on Texas Street for fifty cents. Coroner Harvey Whitehill had just been given the job of sheriff, after the former officer of the law ran off with some of Lincoln County's funds. And the Kid was one of Whitehill's first arrests. But the new sheriff just smacked the boy's cringing head three, four times and wagged a finger as he lectured him, since he knew folks reacted hard to the loss of a mother.

Was Sombrero Jack, too, who one Saturday night smashed out a front window of the Chinese laundry owned by the Celestials Charley Sun and Sam Chung, Jack crawling through moon-glinting shards of glass in order to scavenge two Ruger Old Army cap-and-ball pistols, a stack of wool blankets, and the fineries floating and puffing on the backyard clotheslines in the soft October breeze. Skedaddling out of town and hiding his loot in Crawford's Mill, Sombrero Jack later realized it was doing him no good there, so he retrieved it and returned to Mrs. Brown's, telling the Kid he'd go halves with him if the worshipful boy would sell it.

A few days after that their landlady espied Henry Antrim, as he was still called, in an English gentleman's shirt with a stiff, winged collar and in frock trousers so overlong he'd folded the cuffs up high as his calves.

Mrs. Brown said, "You got yourself some fancy clothes of a sudden!"

With no hesitation other than forcing a smile, he answered, "My uncle died and left em to me in his will."

"Oh yes, passing on and passing the remnants along; that's what we all bound to do," she responded.

But she doubted him enough to investigate a steamer trunk in his closet when he was gone and found a soap-scented bundle of lady things and a Livingston suit he couldn't afford, so she hustled out to the sheriff's office to rain overdue judgment down upon Henry.

Sheriff Whitehill felt the late Mrs. Antrim would approve of him scaring her son into gallantry by locking him up in the county jail on the charge of larceny. Whitehill's children, however, were friends of Henry, sharing a pretty Englishwoman's classes in the one-room public school, and those seven children raised their voices against their father in high dudgeon that evening, and even the sheriff's wife wanted him to at least escort the fourteen-year-old to their house for a nice breakfast in the morning.

Sombrero Jack, by then, had heard of the Kid's arrest and skinned his way out of town and out of this narrative, but he would find Jesus and finally reform his life and wind up a justice of the peace in Colorado.

According to a jailer, the circuit court would meet in session in Silver City the third week of November, six weeks hence, so, forlorn with fear of a final conviction, the Kid conceived a plan to extricate himself from his dilemma. Working on the sheriff's instinct for leniency, Henry conned him into a free half hour of exercise each morning in the corridor outside his cell, and then when a jailer for once wasn't watching, the Kid ducked down into the fireplace and, skinny as he was, clawed and scraped and laddered his way up the narrow chimney flue until he could fall out onto the roof and then hurtfully to the ground.

A gardener with a hoe saw the Kid's soot-blackened hands and face and asked, "You playing in a minstrel show?"

"You won't tell on me, will you?"

"Oh, I'll tell. The fix you're in don't mean nothing to me."

Hearing of the escape and getting on his knees to peer up the tight fit of the chimney, Sheriff Whitehill was impressed, telling the jailer, "Henry has an ingenuity with which I have heretofore not been acquainted."

"You could tell he's a hard case," the jailer said. "He's got them dancing eyes."

I hypothesized that Billy had seen others in their finest clothes and formal poses and wanted to be completely different, purposefully dressing himself up like a tramp. He looks like a goof in that photograph, and I don't think that was unintentional.

**SCM:** *One moment that I love is near the end where you have him talking with a journalist. Of course the journalist wants to know, "What would you tell our readers? What's the lesson that we can get from Billy the Kid?"*

**HANSEN:** He said, "I would advise your readers never to engage in killing." He was always kind of skylarking and that may have been just a quip that he knew would play well in the papers.

**SCM:** *One of the other elements, in the confusion of who are the good guys and who are the bad guys, is that this takes place against a backdrop of what became known as the Lincoln County War. It's not just that people were going around and stealing.*

**HANSEN:** Lincoln County then was about as large as the state of Maine, a vast tract of mostly nothing, and the war was basically the Irish against the English. L.G. Murphy, Jimmy Dolan, Sheriff Brady—all these opportunists were Irishmen who journeyed to America during the potato famine, joined the army, and by hook and by crook acquired power and wealth, and they wanted to keep it. The Englishman John Tunstall, who owned a rival mercantile store, was a threat to that status and so he was murdered. Billy was just one of his cowhands who was out to exact revenge.

Alexander McSween was the only practicing lawyer in Lincoln County and on the Kid's side. There was also just one sheriff, who would finally be Pat Garrett, the Kid's killer.

### SURPRISE ME

**SCM:** *Let's talk about some of your earlier work. One character and inspiration you've turned to is Gerard Manley Hopkins. What first drew you to Hopkins—and has brought you back to him? Especially after a novel like Exiles, is he still very much a presence for you?*

**HANSEN:** I was a huge fan of Dylan Thomas when I was in college, and read his poems over and over again. Then I read something that said he was very much influenced by Gerard Manley Hopkins. My college poetry textbook only had two poems by Hopkins. But I started reading his other work and really loved it. What excited me about it is, every time I reread it, I found something new—Hopkins is limitless in the things that he hid inside his

poetry, because he was so multilingual, very much into etymologies, and fond of puns. His perfect wording was often very layered; he'd chosen it because it could mean two or three different things. A full poem of that groans with interest and complexity.

**SCM:** *What about Mariette? Is she a character who inhabits any special place?*

**HANSEN:** I really loved writing *Mariette in Ecstasy*. She's still with me in many ways. You can only stay with the process of writing a novel by liking at least one of the characters a lot, or finding them really intriguing or establishing some kind of identification with them. Soon after I started the book I registered for **Don St. Louis** course on Western Christian Spirituality here just to get somewhat current on convent life. And I liked that class and a dozen others so much that I finally earned a master's degree in spirituality. I was getting near the end of the novel when I took a Christology class from **Fran Smith, S.J. '56**. At the time, he was spiritual director for a young woman who was trying to decide whether she was going to get married or join a Carmelite convent. She told him that after two months of praying about nothing else she still had no clear idea what she should do. Fran said, "Well, maybe God's saying, 'Surprise me.'" As soon as I heard that, I recognized, "That's my last line!" So that did become the last sentence in the novel.

**SCM:** *The sense of surprise was something instrumental in the arrival of the book Mariette in Ecstasy in the world, too, after your first two novels—Desperadoes and The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford. There's a radical shift in tone and subject matter. You're not writing about dust and horses anymore, as one Hollywood person once described the first two books. But also, the role of faith in fiction came very much into focus.*

**HANSEN:** I think James Joyce was the one who used the phrase "saying the unsayable." A lot of people consider religion and spirituality too intimate to talk about. We used to be instructed, at least when I was growing up, to never talk about politics or religion at the dinner table. So there's a reticence to address a subject that's in fact extremely important to them. But I thought some of the greatest stories were those that had a religious background. I always thought that my Catholicism was at least subterranean in my first two novels; there's talk of Barabbas and Judas in the Jesse James book, and Jesse James is somewhat painted as a Jesus figure, at least in the way he's perceived by the public. But I wanted to be more overt about my faith, and I thought, "This is a really crucial part of myself. Why should I keep it secret?"

The Kid was asked by a journalist what he would like to share with a newspaper's readers. He said, "I would advise your readers never to engage in killing."



# RISK

Let's look at the biggest threats to our very existence. For a glimpse into the future, start with a tiny group of islands literally going underwater.

BY BRIAN PATRICK GREEN

BETWEEN THE SUMMER of 2001 and the summer of 2003 I lived in the Marshall Islands, in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, working as a high school teacher with Jesuit Volunteers International. It was a life-transforming experience in many ways, but the way in which it affected me most profoundly involves the relationship between humanity and our most destructive technologies. This is because the Marshall Islands have experienced and are experiencing these destructive technologies firsthand, and as I lived there, I saw their effects on my friends.

After World War II, the United States used the Marshall Islands to test nuclear weapons—including the first experimental hydrogen bombs, the largest nuclear weapons the U.S. ever tested. Entire islands were vaporized and became mile-wide craters, and due to lingering radioactivity, large areas of the Marshall Islands remain uninhabited. Scientific and military recklessness exposed the Marshallese to nuclear fallout, and they experienced radiation sickness, birth defects, lethal cancer, and other horrible effects from these tests—consequences that continue to this day.

The U.S. military still maintains a base in Kwajalein Atoll for testing ballistic missiles and interceptors, and its rent is a major source of revenue for the local economy. I have seen dummy nuclear warheads reenter the atmosphere white-hot, glowing like meteors, and I have seen ballistic missile interceptors go up (the roar of their rocket engines interrupting my class). But these are not the only technologies that have affected the Marshall Islands.

*Majuro, Marshall Islands: A boy named Frank, 13 at the time, stands on the wall that keeps the sea at bay from his family's home. At high tide, the sea breaks into the yard.*



PHOTOGRAPHY VLAD SOKHIN/PANOS

While I was in the Islands I taught life and physical sciences, algebra, history, and religion. In history, we learned about the legacy of nuclear testing. In religion, about right and wrong. In science, about technology and its effects on the world—including radioactivity, climate change, and sea level rise. (Global average sea level has already risen just under a foot in the last century or so, and it continues to rise.) During my time in the Islands, sea level had not yet reached critical levels; in the last 10 years, a threshold has been crossed. Now high-wave events regularly flood the islands. Because these islands are low-lying atolls—just sand and gravel bars on a limestone bed of fossilized coral, with an average elevation of less than six feet—in the next few decades, sea level rise will most likely make many of them uninhabitable.

In recorded history, nations rise and fall metaphorically, but never before have they had their land area literally submerged and erased from the face of the earth. The Marshall Islands now face this future, along with several other island groups, including the nations of Tuvalu, Kiribati, and the Maldives. If sea levels continue to rise, these islands will be the first, but not the last, nations devastated by anthropogenic climate change. Our fossil fuel technologies are leading us to this destruction.

In the midst of this depressing vision of the future, the U.S. military base on Kwajalein simply builds its seawall higher. Weapons testing must go on.

## SOMETHING REALLY BIG

The Marshall Islands are enduring the horrendous effects of two particular technologies, nuclear and fossil fuel, but something bigger is going on here. Over the past few decades, humanity has experienced an unprecedented technological revolution, propelling us from being of little existential threat to ourselves to being, perhaps, the single gravest threat to our own existence. Becoming collectively so dangerous was never any one person's intent. Fossil fuels and nuclear energy are both technologies humans intended for good (even if they've sometimes powered weapons of war). So how have these technologies come instead to represent such risks to us, their creators? Through our choices, of course. And where choice is involved, so too should ethics. This is why I work on the ethics of technology, and particularly, the world's worst risks.

Global catastrophic risks are those that threaten to devastate large areas of Earth's surface, whereas existential risks are ones that threaten the extinction of humanity. Today, there are at least 10 natural sources of global catastrophic risks (ranging from asteroid impacts and pandemics to ocean anoxia and supervolcanoes), and in the near future, there will be at least 10 sources of global catastrophic risks made by humans, ranging from nuclear weapons and anthropogenic climate change to bioweapons and artificial intelligence.

Scholars who study these risks seek to understand them and prepare ways to mitigate against or adapt toward them. Much begins simply with education. In my work at the School of Engineering and the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, I teach ethics to engineers. In my classes, we consider the dangers of viruses and malware to cyberphysical infrastructure and the benefits and dangers of artificial intelligence. We consider the democratization of biotechnology, the dangers of bioterrorism, and steps that can be taken for biodefense. And we consider the global situation and response to climate change. In my publications, I have





*In the event of a chemical attack: Students in Seoul, South Korea, learn to use gas masks in April 2017.*

sought to educate about these risks and provoke discussion on what steps might be taken to make our world more secure. There are actually many steps that we can take to make our world more secure against catastrophic risks, but all solutions begin with recognizing the risks (education) and organizing to respond to them (activism).

Engaging in the topic of global catastrophic risk involves not only scholarly research and teaching, but also engagement with businesses, governments, and nongovernmental organizations. For example, while it is widely anticipated that the U.S. federal government will now be less involved in the mitigation of climate change—particularly since the White House announced it was withdrawing from the Paris Agreement in June—perhaps there is now more of a role for subsidiary levels of government, for corporations, and for civil society to play. Many individual movements already exist to work on specific risks: against nuclear weapons, for environmental protection, even for finding dangerous Earth-crossing asteroids. Only recently have organizations formed to work against many kinds of catastrophic risks. Together, a movement is gathering to help guide technology toward good futures and away from bad ones.

Even religions have an important role to play in this movement. In his recent encyclical *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis stated that “The work of the Church seeks not only to remind everyone of the duty to care for nature, but at the same time ‘she must above all protect mankind from self-destruction.’” This is no minor point; the pope declared,

quoting Pope Benedict XVI that the duty of the Catholic Church is to protect humanity against its self-destruction. In the context of Christian history, in which the Church has already seen great civilizations collapse (not only their own civilization in Rome, but also other civilizations, like the Aztecs and Incas), this becomes an especially visceral call. It can happen, it has happened before, but can we remember the lessons learned and avoid having it happen again, on an even larger scale?

Additionally, the Catholic Church has a long history of advocating for certain kinds of technologies and opposition to others. In 1139, at the Second Lateran Council, the Church tried to ban the use of the crossbow against fellow Christians. The ban obviously failed; however, the idea of banning certain types of weapons has continued on to this day and has become encoded in international treaties that limit biological and chemical weapons, poison bullets, and blinding lasers, for example. A new movement has formed to ban lethal autonomous weapons systems, aka “killer robots.” The sections of *Laudato Si* concerned with technology (which have been both lauded and reviled) should be read from the perspective of Catholic history, where life-harming technologies should be limited and life-giving technologies promoted.

Needless to say, crossbows are now the least of our worries. We live in a very different world than medieval Europe. Today, humans are vastly more powerful. In every one of my engineering ethics courses, I repeat this same phrase: “Previously, humankind was constrained by its

weakness; now, we must learn to be constrained by our good judgment—our ethics.” Humanity is no longer what it once was; we have now gained powers greater than those of the Greek and Norse gods. As we bask in our self-satisfied glory, we might consider what it means to be newly powerful, mortal, and without good judgment.

#### THE ONLY THING

And yet we have the capability to solve these problems. Some technological problems can be solved with better technology, and many people are working on these tasks already—for example, renewable energy. With renewable energy, we can move our economy away from such carbon-intensive fossil fuels as coal and oil, and instead run the world on sun, wind, and geothermal. Nuclear fusion—the power behind the most devastating bombs in the Marshall Islands—may become controllable in the next few years and provide a nearly unlimited source of energy.

The transition to renewable energy helps to mitigate the risk of climate change, but merely stopping the rate of change is not enough. Atmospheric composition must be rolled back to pre-industrial levels if we want to restore the climate to which we are historically accustomed. That will require technologies to remove carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the air and sequester them elsewhere. One approach is to simply harness what nature has already given us in plants—organisms that naturally collect CO<sub>2</sub>—and then remove that carbon from the carbon cycle, for example by burying it as inorganic carbon. “Terra preta” in the Amazon reveals that humans long ago discovered the usefulness of incorporating charcoal into their soil, along with other fertilizers, to create a long-term gain in fertility while also storing carbon for millennia. Research in this field is ongoing.

In addition to mitigating the risks of climate change, we must also adapt to them. Some damages from climate change are inescapable—for example, the rise in sea level we are already experiencing. To respond, we must take simple actions, such as building flood control. Unfortunately, while flood control is a simple idea, it is also very expensive. For example, in the San Francisco Bay Area, studies have been done to determine the feasibility of damming the Golden Gate in order to maintain the Bay and Delta region’s sea level. The cost to build such a project would be tens of billions of dollars, but the cost to build hundreds of miles of levees would also be expensive, as would a “managed retreat” where property is abandoned to the sea. In the face of oncoming destruction, which pain do we prefer?

Climate change is a slow disaster, but other human-made catastrophes could be much faster. Nuclear weapons captured the world’s imagination during the Cold War, and nuclear stockpiles are now reduced. Yet there is still sufficient weaponry to reduce most of human accomplishment to ruins. Reducing nuclear weapons stockpiles should remain a vital moral priority.

Emerging technologies have dangers as well, but may also provide solutions to our problems. Artificial intelligence has long been maligned in movies such as *The Terminator*, but AI also may give us the power to better evaluate our risks and determine how to solve them efficiently. While AI is sometimes viewed as a panacea, where all will be fixed in a “singularity” or “intelligence explosion” that will lead to AI becoming god-like and salvific in its goodness, this is mere mythology. What we need even

more, whether we believe in God or not, is a revolution in our own behavior, in our ethics, rather than just a revolution in our technology.

While technological development surely is not easy, the more difficult problem is choosing to try to solve the problem of catastrophic risk on a much vaster scale, at the level of ethics and politics. We need ethical action and political cooperation to promote good technologies and limit bad ones—and, more than that, to change our hearts so that even when technology can be used in a bad way, we will choose not to do so. Ultimately, to paraphrase Shakespeare, the fault is not in our technologies, it is in ourselves. How can we create a future where technologies contribute to human flourishing and not to human destruction?

If there is one thing we can learn from history, it’s that a better future will not happen on its own. It will only happen by the hard work and dedication of many good people, organized and cooperating globally, for the good of all humankind. Our organizational scale must match our task, and the good we seek to preserve must be common to us all.

American writer and environmental activist Wendell Berry once said, “The only thing we can do for the future is to do the right thing now.” What is the right thing for me, as an individual, to do?

As an individual, what I can do in the world is marked by what I have done so far. I have grown up in America, lived in the Marshall Islands, and I work in academia. I have not gone into business, or politics, or the military; those paths are now far from me. I can only do the right

## We need a revolution in our behavior, in our ethics, rather than just a revolution in our technology.

thing here, and now. And so I teach and write, and hope that I might communicate something to someone, somewhere, which will help make the world a better place. I network with like-minded individuals in academia, business, government, and religion. We all have little things we can do.

Yet in the end, always, my thoughts are pulled back to the Marshall Islands, slowly going underwater. As I look back on my time there, it becomes so clear why I now do what I do. We have made these mistakes before. People have died, lives have been ruined, entire cultures changed. Nations remain, awaiting destruction ... or awaiting renewal and future flourishing. Our story is not yet finished. What future we make together is up to us. How can we work together on this great task?

**BRIAN PATRICK GREEN** is assistant director of campus ethics programs at the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics and adjunct lecturer in the School of Engineering.





*Thomas Leavey was humble about his business success. He was at the right place at the right time, he said. Yes, but he also had the right idea. He and wife Dorothy were also quiet about their philanthropy.*

# DISCOVER. INNOVATE.

A \$30 million gift from the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation to help build a new home for science and engineering

WORDS BY STEVEN BOYD SAUM

ILLUSTRATIONS BY OWEN SMITH

THE OUTSTANDING NEWS came out June 2: The Leavey Foundation is giving \$30 million to help build the Sobrato Campus for Discovery and Innovation. This is a project unique in undergraduate education—creating a space to bring together electrical engineers and biophysicists and mathematicians to solve complex problems.

You read in our last edition about the landmark gift from **John Sobrato '60** and **Sue Sobrato**: \$100 million, the largest gift in SCU history. That's to build the biggest building in SCU history, to make the University a part of Silicon Valley like never before—and to say to alumni and friends: Come join us.

In fact, more students *will* be joining us here. “The Sobrato Campus for Discovery and Innovation will allow us to increase enrollment by several hundred students in STEM-related areas,” says **Jim Lyons**, our vice president for University Relations. “High-tech leaders want more engineers, more mathematicians, more computer scientists. But normally these people all study in different buildings. They might not even talk to one another. In this building, they could be right next to one another, sharing lab and classroom space. From a curricular standpoint, they're going to work together across disciplines and across schools. That's what we need to solve problems in our world.”

## PREMIER PITCHER, SQUARE DEALER

Generations of students have benefited from the support of the Leavey Foundation, established by **Thomas E. Leavey '22** and **Dorothy Leavey**. Scholarships have made SCU affordable to a diverse range of students. A gift from the foundation made possible the construction of the Leavey Center, home to SCU Athletics. The foundation invested in programs to enable the Leavey School of Business to become nationally recognized.

So who was Thomas Leavey?

Third son of Irish immigrants, raised on a dairy farm in California's Humboldt County. His father wanted Thomas to go to college so he wouldn't spend life working “in the ditch,” like his dad. Thomas arrived at Santa Clara in January 1918. He studied, he played baseball—earning props as “the premier pitcher.” He served as an active-duty officer during World War I, returned to study, then headed east for a government job and to complete a law degree at Georgetown. The mid-

1920s found him in Los Angeles, working in banking. LA was booming; it had just become the largest city in California. The age of the automobile was going into high gear, too. Leavey made an observation: Rural drivers have fewer accidents than city drivers. So they should have lower car insurance rates. On that premise, he founded Farmers Insurance.

Business grew. And the stars aligned for Thomas in other ways: He met Dorothy Risley; they wed in 1930. A daughter, Kathleen, was born; and another, Dorothy Therese.

In the postwar boom, business thrived. In 1948 Thomas created a profit-sharing program to give employees a stake in the company's successes. And in 1952 the Leaveys created the Leavey Foundation to support causes they believed in. Thomas' classmate **Edwin A. Heafey '20**, namesake of the Heafey Law Library, drew up the papers.

Thomas Leavey became a founding member of SCU's Board of Regents in 1959. In recognition for his “service to both Catholic and secular education in America,” SCU awarded him an honorary degree in 1964. He joined the Board of Trustees in 1967 and helped steer the University through a time of great change in higher education. All the while, he and Dorothy gave—usually quietly—many millions to support educational, medical, and Catholic causes. Thomas died in 1980, and Dorothy continued to lead the foundation. In recognition of her work, SCU presented her with an honorary degree in 1989. She passed away in 1998—at 101 years.

## FOUNDATIONAL VALUES

Today the Leavey Foundation, based in Los Angeles, is chaired by daughter **Kathleen McCarthy Kostlan**. She values the education Santa Clara provides, producing “graduates not only with excellent critical thinking skills, but also the moral compass to put them to use for the greater good of the world around them.” Granddaughter **Kathleen McCarthy Duncan** carries forward hands-on involvement with SCU, serving on the Board of Regents. Grandson **Michael McCarthy '80** previously served as a regent and a trustee for SCU.

At the foundation, they're excited about what the Sobrato Campus makes possible: a focus on STEM and solving complex problems. That's in the DNA of Silicon Valley. We're pretty jazzed about it, too.





*Take what is good and make it better. Start with an ethical grounding in doing science, then bring together a range of disciplines to look at problems from different angles.*

## WICKEDLY COMPLEX

Emerging diseases, cyberterrorism, and food insecurity are tough nuts to crack. That's why we need to put scientists and engineers together to solve them.

BY MICHELLE MARVIER '90

As a biology major at SCU in the late 1980s, I spent hundreds of hours in the lab and field, doing science and not just reading about it. Beyond the classroom, I did research in a professor's lab—two projects actually, one of which led to a paper in the peer-reviewed scientific literature. At SCU, I gained amazing hands-on experience, and I was well prepared for graduate school.

But during my time studying science at SCU, I was not once exposed to engineering. Oh, I had friends in engineering, and I heard stories about their senior design projects. But I never entered their buildings. I never saw how they worked or what they did. And I was not exposed to design thinking, the engineering sister to the scientific method.

Now I've been a professor at SCU for 18 years, and for the first 15 of those, nothing had changed. Working in biology and later a new department of environmental studies and sciences, I never once stepped into the engineering buildings, only a few hundred yards from my lab. And students from the sciences and engineering had little contact with each other, outside of a few required introductory courses.

SCU's new Sobrato Campus for Discovery and Innovation will forever change that. When this new campus opens, every SCU undergraduate student—STEM majors and non-majors alike—will learn how scientists and engineers approach problems, and our majors will experience firsthand our ability to arrive at better solutions when we work together.

### ALL TOGETHER NOW

Today's problems, ranging from cyberterrorism to emerging diseases, food insecurity, and climate change, are wickedly complex. As we at SCU look to Silicon Valley, we see that the most innovative breakthroughs do not come from individuals working in isolation, and no single approach or methodology can save the day. The old model of siloed disciplines is gone, and we are transforming the way we train students to reflect this new reality. Our new STEM initiative is bringing faculty together across departments to rethink our courses, our research programs, and how our students work and play together.

And our new Sobrato Campus for Discovery and Innovation is key to this revolution. Soon we will leave our isolated science and engineering spaces, currently scattered across nearly a dozen buildings, and we will build a cohesive home for all STEM. Students entering this campus will find inviting spaces for conversation, study, and putting their ideas into action. Work that is currently shuttered behind doors will be visible to all who walk our halls. Makerspaces, innovation lounges, and classrooms designed for active learning will allow students and faculty to work together in new ways. Thanks to the generosity of the Sobrato family, and now the Leavey Foundation, SCU will be at the leading edge, training our next generation of STEM innovators and leaders.

MICHELLE MARVIER is a professor of environmental studies and sciences and the co-author of *Conservation Science: Balancing the Needs of People and Nature*.



# Artificial Intelligence and Public Trust

A future with artificial intelligence is no longer a sci-fi fantasy. But how do we ensure that it is shaped with moral intelligence?

WORDS BY SHANNON VALLOR

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JOSH COCHRAN

THE FUTURE IS here. With the exploding commercial market for high-powered, cloud-computing AI services provided by the likes of Amazon, Microsoft, and Google, the reach of artificial intelligence technologies is virtually unlimited. What does this mean for humans? How will we adapt to a world in which we increasingly find ourselves in economic, creative, and cognitive competition with machines? Will we embrace these new technologies with the same fervor as we embraced televisions and smartphones? Will we trust them? Should we trust them?

Popular essays and news articles about an AI-driven future often highlight grim warnings of science and technology luminaries like Elon Musk and Stephen Hawking, who raise the specter of the emergence of “superintelligent” machines that could threaten human survival or assume control of our future. Yet most AI researchers regard this prospect as highly unlikely, for it presupposes the emergence of artificial general intelligence (AGI)—the kind of flexible, self-aware, and fairly comprehensive understanding of the world that humans enjoy. The AI that we have today (and will be seeing a lot more of) is of an entirely different kind, one that fundamentally lacks the capacities needed for AGI. For the foreseeable future, humans will navigate a world populated by artificial agents that possess no general understanding of the world—or of us, or of themselves, or much of anything at all, really. What they will have is exceptional skill and speed at performing specific, well-defined tasks that used to require human intelligence. This kind of AI, powered by large datasets combined with advances in machine learning techniques, doesn’t recreate or even imitate our kind of smarts at all. It bypasses it—and does smart things without it. Although this kind of AI may seem far less scary than a self-aware Skynet that decides to wipe out human pests, the risks of this more mundane species of AI are nearly as profound.

One obvious risk: a new wave of AI-driven technological unemployment. Although economists’ predictions vary, an oft-cited 2013 study from the Oxford Martin School estimates that as many as 47 percent of American jobs could be at risk from AI-driven automation within a few decades. Even if artificial agents cannot wholly replace most human workers in the short term, the emergence of task-specific artificial intelligence across a broad range of new industries and social contexts is already rapidly transforming every domain of human activity, from commerce and transportation to education and medicine. Every system that makes,

**Lack of transparency in some “deep learning” algorithms means that even system programmers lack a clear view of how or why the system reached its conclusion.**

sells, or distributes goods and services to human beings has the opportunity to benefit—and to be radically destabilized by—the new wave of machine automation and decision support that task-specific AI makes possible.

## CAN WE TRUST AI?

Today, AI-powered software is used to identify terrorist threats and targets in voice, image, email, social media, and SMS data; to assign criminal defendants risk scores for judges to use in making bail, sentencing, and parole decisions; to tell your local law enforcement where they are most likely to encounter certain crimes; and to diagnose cancers and recommend personalized treatment plans. Task-specific AI algorithms are calculating how likely you are to “fit” into the corporate culture or remain with the company to which you have applied, how close a “match” a stranger is to your romantic preferences, how likely you are to repay the loan you applied for, or the chances that your kid will thrive at the selective private school you want her to attend. These decisions govern how well or how poorly our lives go: whether we live or die, whether we work or are unemployed, whether we are free or unfree. What would it take for you to trust a machine to make such life-changing decisions for you—or for your employer, loan officer, doctor, insurance company, or your child’s college admissions committee? In many cases, it’s already happening.

There is a common saying that commands prudence in matters of social reliance: “trust, but verify.” Consider this: In virtually none of these artificial decision support systems can you, as an ordinary person affected by the outcome, know how the algorithmic decision process is carried out, or what salient factors drove the algorithm’s result in your particular case. In many cases—due to the lack of transparency in “deep learning” algorithms that work without showing their internal logic—even the system’s programmers and administrators lack a clear view of how or why the system reached its conclusion. So who, what, and how do we verify? And if we cannot verify, can we still trust?

One might think that careful regimes of inspection can easily ensure that artificial agents are operating properly, and that what’s “under the hood” is not broken or poorly designed. Yet what’s under the hood in many such systems is not a set of clear, stable rules and inferences that we can examine and test for their validity, but rather a tangled mess of artificial neural networks arranged in complex layers with nodes and weightings that constantly rearrange







themselves based on changing inputs and outputs. Verification of such a system's accuracy and reliability, or reconstruction of a machine's pattern of reasoning, is often impossible in individual cases. At best we can say that as a statistical matter, over a large number of trials, the system produces acceptable results at least as often as a human would. In fact, the impressive power of many machine-learning techniques results from designs that simultaneously make it impossible to guarantee an accurate result in any particular case. In such systems, it is inevitable that they will sometimes, however rarely, produce "inappropriate" solutions—even wildly inappropriate, just because AI agents "reason" so differently from human intellects.

Ironically, at other times algorithmic systems will produce harmful and unfair outcomes for the opposite reason—that is, because their decisions will not be different enough from ours, if they are trained on human-generated data that infects them with our own harmful biases and falsehoods. Examples include racial bias found in criminal risk-score algorithms widely relied upon by U.S. judges, algorithms which produce the illusion of "neutral," "objective" analysis but in fact reproduce unjust human prejudices by mislabeling black defendants as high-risk reoffenders at far higher rates than similar white defendants are mislabeled. A less grave but still ugly example was Microsoft's notorious "Tay" teen chatbot that in 2016 began "learning" to adopt white supremacist slurs and conspiracy theories within hours of its release on Twitter.

#### WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?

One might be tempted at this point to say, "Well then, so much the worse for AI—let's just get rid of it and go back to relying on our own mental horsepower!" But this kind of neo-Luddite response to AI would be throwing the baby out with the bathwater. Due to the immense speed, adaptability, and computational power of these new software tools, they hold the promise of helping us solve countless urgent problems that human minds are just too slow, too distractible, or too constrained by evolutionary pressures to solve alone. Would you be willing to forgo—or forgo for your children and grandchildren—a cure for Alzheimer's, or cleaner and vastly more efficient power systems, or reliable weather and global climate forecasts, or better responses to drought and famine? Then we cannot afford to reject artificial intelligence out of hand.

This creates an unprecedented ethical imperative for AI researchers, designers, users, and companies and institutions that employ them. Artificial intelligence is immensely powerful, but it is not *magic*. It does not run without human intelligence—including, even chiefly, our moral intelligence. The future of an AI-driven world depends less upon new breakthroughs in machine learning algorithms and big data than it does upon the choices that humans make in how AI gets integrated into our daily lives and institutions and how its risks and effects are managed.

This imperative falls within the realm of ethics because core human goods and values are at stake. An artificial agent that ruins the rest of your life by falsely labeling you a high-risk defendant, or that denies you a home or a job because of a random algorithmic quirk that no one can see, is implicated in an injustice, especially when it is relied upon by other humans in ways that deny you due process or meaningful remedies. We cannot sit by and allow compassion, justice, liberty, and respect for human dignity to be sacrificed at the altar of algorithmic efficiency. Every AI-enabled decision process is still a human responsibility, all the

way down to its deepest, darkest, most inscrutable layers.

Things can be done to foster and earn the public's trust in artificial intelligence. First, companies that develop and market AI-driven technologies need to cultivate a sincere public conscience and internal corporate culture, supported by incentive structures, that reflect awareness of the unprecedented social power of these tools. Respect for human life and dignity is not incompatible with healthy commerce and reliance on markets. It's essential to it. If we don't tolerate profit-driven recklessness and contempt for public health and safety from companies that build and operate nuclear reactors or airliners, we cannot tolerate it from companies that build and operate AI, especially when they impact critical human systems and institutions.

Second, the public needs to adopt a more critical, questioning relationship with technology and its social effects. We each need to become better educated about the promise and the limits of artificial intelligence, and to actively demand and participate in AI governance and oversight, in both formal regulatory structures and informal citizen-driven structures. From the person who is asked by their doctor or employer to surrender genetic data to an AI-driven cloud platform, to the HR manager who downloads an AI hiring assistant to sort résumés or evaluate interview responses, to the juror or judge presented with an AI-generated risk score, we all need to ask reasonable questions and demand reasonable answers about AI-driven systems, such as: "What are appropriate uses of this tool? What are common inappropriate uses/misuses of this tool?" "What human biases could have skewed the data this system was trained on, and what measures were taken to identify or mitigate biased results?" "What kind of errors will this system most likely make, when it makes them?" "What auditing processes are in place to identify individual errors or harmful/unjust patterns in the results?" "What steps can I or my organization take to ensure that independent human checks and other due-process measures are available when an algorithmic decision is contested by an affected party?"

Third, institutions that rely heavily upon AI-driven solutions, especially those institutions that protect fundamental human goods such as education and health, need to develop institutional structures and incentives that ensure that fundamental human values central to the mission of the institutions are not lost or sacrificed to the rule of algorithmic "efficiency" and its opaque authority. Human judgment must remain in the loop in such a way that the vigor of human intellect, the virtues of moral wisdom, and an ethos of personal responsibility are preserved and given ample opportunities to be practiced and honed. Artificial intelligence can even be enlisted in this effort as artificial helpers and tutors that encourage and support the ongoing cultivation and refinement of human intelligence, rather than demoting or degrading it to a lesser status.

Artificial intelligence is already one of humanity's sharpest tools. But like any very sharp tool we have crafted for ourselves, it must be treated with care and discernment. We must know where and when it is safe to use, and where and when it is not. We must know with whom to entrust its use, and with whom to not. We must know how to keep its power from injuring or enfeebling ourselves, or those we love. And we must know that the tool and its power is always the responsibility of the one who trusts it.

SHANNON VALLOR is the William J. Rewak, S.J., Professor of Philosophy and the author of *Technology and the Virtues: A Philosophical Guide to a Future Worth Wanting* (Oxford University Press).

*We cannot sit by and allow compassion, justice, liberty, and respect for human dignity to be sacrificed at the altar of algorithmic efficiency.*





# WELCOME TO WONDERLAND

Observing elections near and far.  
Our tale: God Bless America, hell freezes over, and prayers for the dead.

BY STEVEN BOYD SAUM

*Red Army Street in Minsk. Stalinist architecture, yes—but nearby are Neo-Romanesque and baroque churches. Stability? In spades. They've had the same autocrat for president since 1994.*

A CONFESSION: I have never had much sympathy for those who don't vote, so long as their names are on the rolls and it's just a matter of showing up on Election Day or getting that ballot in the mail. But last September I was in Belarus to observe the country's parliamentary elections. Belarus has justifiably earned a reputation as Europe's last dictatorship: The same president, Alexander Lukashenka, has ruled since 1994. For a decade there was no member of the opposition in parliament; it has been more than 20 years since any election there was judged free and fair by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). So in Belarus, if you said, "My vote won't make a difference," that *means* something—even if the last box listed on every ballot is one you can mark "against all." More important, for the fall 2016 parliamentary elections, at least 50 percent of voters had to turn out in order for the election to be valid. So *not* voting could actually be a way to throw a wrench into the system.

I've observed elections for more than a decade in the former Soviet Union with the OSCE—the organization that has set the gold standard for election observation. In the days before the September election in Belarus, I worked with OSCE colleagues to visit polling stations to observe early voting, to talk with election commissioners about how the work was going, and to discuss with local independent observers the problems they had seen. On Friday night, I also got together for a beer with a couple musicians.

Aleksey plays bass and Siarhei plays percussion with Port Mone Trio. Call their work experimental: accordion carries the melody, and it's Belarusian roots music meets jazz and ambient sound. Call their songs mesmerizing and haunting and beautiful: Their 2014 album, *Thou*, was recorded live in a forest, "an appeal to the natural, pure, primordial aspects of the human soul that exist beyond social norms and regulation," as they put it in the liner notes.

I was running a little late for our rendezvous on the steps of Freedom Square, just outside the Burger King. While he was waiting, Aleksey tried one of their burgers for the first time. He hoped that I wouldn't be offended, but he confessed that he was unimpressed by this American fare. He also confessed, later, over a ruby-colored beer in a local pub that, until he had received the email from me saying I

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEVEN BOYD SAUM



would be in Minsk for the elections, he had forgotten about the elections. I found that amusing; ubiquitous billboards promoted the elections and scores of individual candidates. Perhaps all this just became more noise propaganda in a land run by the former manager of a Soviet state farm.

A friend of Siarhei's joined us for the second round. An editor for an online magazine, she was well aware of the elections—but would they mean anything? And would anyone beyond the borders of Belarus care what happened in this land of 9 million people—a population a little less than the state of Michigan's? Fair questions. After all, in the run-up to the elections, the story about Belarus that got the most coverage in the U.S. press was the fact that Steven Seagal—one-time action movie star turned friend to post-Soviet autocrats—had visited Belarus to meet with President Lukashenka. A picture of the two of them on Lukashenka's farm showed him admiring the president's produce, Seagal munching on an enormous orange carrot.

It was an arc back to the absurd. More serious was the news from fall 2015, when Belarusian writer Svetlana Alexievich was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature for her “polyphonic writings, a monument to suffering and courage in our time,” as the Nobel committee put it. A journalist by training, Alexievich has gathered stories from hundreds of people over decades and woven these

**“A time full of hope has been replaced by a time of fear. The era has turned around and headed back in time.”**

oral histories into chronicles of the war in Afghanistan, the Chernobyl disaster, the collapse of the Soviet Union. Lukashenka criticized her for throwing “a bucket of dirt” on Belarus. She said it was on “the regime, not its people.” In her Nobel Prize acceptance speech, Alexievich made an observation that speaks to events well beyond the borders of Belarus, Russia, or the whole of the former Soviet Union: “A time full of hope has been replaced by a time of fear. The era has turned around and headed back in time.”

**RESIGNATION**

Election Day was September 11 in Belarus—a Sunday. Anyone with a cellphone using a local provider got a text message reminding them to vote. For days, observers had heard concern expressed over inflation of voter tallies during early voting. After all, if you're going to lie about the number of votes that a candidate receives, you can't have the number of votes exceed the number of people who supposedly voted. There were occasional reports of ballot box stuffing—a stack of 40 or so ballots folded together, visible in the transparent ballot box.

Sunday afternoon at a polling station in Minsk I witnessed something I'd never seen: A member of the precinct electoral commission resigned in protest, accusing the chair and the rest of the commission of falsifying the numbers of early voters. The woman who resigned was part of

the opposition; one of the concessions to democracy made during this round of elections was that a handful of members of the opposition were actually allowed on the electoral commissions. Previous commissions had typically been composed of a range of pro-government people. It's easier to get the results you want in an election when everyone is working together.

The independent press was alerted; cameras caught the moment. The chair of the precinct commission shouted for the police to clear out the media. A policeman sauntered in, sized things up, then left; the journalists weren't breaking the law. A few years ago, that might not have mattered. But this election was supposed to be different.

When it came to counting, though, perhaps things were not so different. Too often, the process was more ritual than rigor: ballots dumped onto the table, then various election workers grabbing for all the papers that supposedly were marked for their candidate. There was no attempt to examine the ballots collectively, no double-checking, no showing the ballots to observers, no verbal announcement of the figures being entered into a computer: just a secretary silently writing down tallies that were announced at the end.

As a matter of principle, the OSCE works under the presumption that it has no stake in the outcome of an election. It only cares about the process: *Is the election free and fair?* Official results put turnout at 75 percent. Independent observers estimated far less—some closer to 25 percent. Based on that, one opinion piece assessed: In this election, the real winners were Boycott and Against All. Yet when votes were counted, out of 110 members of parliament, two members of the opposition were selected. Protests occurred the day after the election, but there was no violent crackdown, no police descending with truncheons on the square, hauling people away by the vanful. Reasons for hope?

The economy of Belarus needs help. The economy of longtime supporter Russia is struggling under sanctions (*Akh! Crimea!*) and low oil prices. So Belarus has sought more investment from China and better relations with the European Union and the United States. Improving U.S.-Belarus relations isn't hard in one respect; until recently, they have been terrible. Belarus kicked out the U.S. ambassador eight years ago and still doesn't have one. But Belarus is not North Korea. And many people in Belarus are wary of Russian intentions; look what happened to Ukraine.

**BAD MATH, BASEBALL, AND BERLIN**

A week after the elections in Belarus, Russia held its parliamentary elections. In the September 18 vote, Putin's United Russia party trounced all comers. Closed-circuit cameras caught commissioners stuffing ballot boxes in multiple precincts; those videos quickly popped up on YouTube. Where fraud was too blatant to ignore, the results were invalidated; a few days after the election, nine precincts had their results invalidated—including a couple where the number of ballots in the boxes exceeded the number given out to voters. *Oops.*

Along with the results of the voting, this election was important to Putin because of what would follow—or rather, what would *not* follow. There would be no repeat allowed of the 2012 protests on the heels of parliamentary elections, when tens of thousands of protestors took to the streets declaring “Putin is a thief!” In 2016, voter turnout was down significantly. But that's not to deny that Putin enjoys support across huge swaths of the country—just as Lukashenka has real support in Belarus. Though you have to qualify that support as being accompanied by—and



Six ways of looking at Belarus. 1. Ballot boxes. Two out of three are transparent. 2. Minsk graffiti: “It is an art to be docile.” 3. Freedom Square: proletariat meets The Colonel. 4. Campaign posters. 5. Suit up: A coffee advertising mannequin in the land irradiated by Chernobyl. 6. Voting just before the polls close on September 11.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEVEN BOYD SAUM



warped by—state-controlled media, and the fact that these are countries where dissidents and journalists are threatened, arrested, beaten, assassinated. The politics of post-truth gets along best with regime-friendly media.

Once more, Svetlana Alexievich offers some insight: “In the West, people demonize Putin. They do not understand that there is a collective Putin, consisting of some millions of people who do not want to be humiliated by the West. There is a little piece of Putin in everyone.”

As for me, I wasn’t in Russia for the elections. I was at the Giants game, enjoying the sunshine on San Francisco Bay while our boys in black and orange sleepwalked through a loss to the Cardinals. At the seventh-inning stretch, we sang “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” and then, as we have since the terrorist attacks in 2001, “God Bless America.”

That tune was composed by Irving Berlin, born in 1888 in the city of Mogilev, then part of the Russian empire, now in Belarus. He first penned “God Bless America” for a comical musical review during World War I—but the tone of the song didn’t fit. Two decades later, Berlin revised the lyrics for a radio broadcast by Kate Smith on Nov. 11, 1938—the first commemoration of Armistice Day. Twenty years after

## He found a shard of broken tombstone that had belonged to his great-grandfather. He placed a stone and he said a prayer for the dead.

the Great War ended on the 11th hour of the 11th month, this holiday was meant to celebrate peace and an end to war. But fascism was ascendant in Europe; Czechoslovakia had already been betrayed in Munich, and Hitler had already seized the Sudetenland. In introducing the song, Smith said, “As I stand before the microphone and sing it with all my heart, I’ll be thinking of our veterans and I’ll be praying with every breath I draw that we shall never have another war.” The song began with a verse that is usually not sung these days—but words that bear remembering:

*While the storm clouds gather far across the sea,  
Let us swear allegiance to a land that’s free.  
Let us all be grateful for a land so fair,  
As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer:*

For some across the sea, the clouds were not merely gathering; the storm had begun. The night before became known as Kristallnacht, the night of broken glass. Synagogues across Germany and Austria burned. Thousands of Jewish shops were destroyed, scores of people killed.

Irving Berlin tweaked the lyrics for “God Bless America” again when the sheet music was published in March 1939. A peace anthem no longer seemed right for the times. For a while, the song eclipsed “The Star-Spangled Banner” as the most popular patriotic song in the United States. There

were repeated attempts to make it the national anthem. Both FDR and Republican Wendell Willkie used it as a campaign song in 1940. Berlin gave all royalties to the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts. But the Ku Klux Klan was no fan of this song—penned, as it was, by an immigrant Jew; what right did he have, they asked, to invoke God and call America his “home sweet home”? Perhaps the plan to make the song the national anthem was part of a grand Jewish conspiracy. One American pro-Nazi paper opined that this was not “a ‘patriotic’ song, in the sense of expressing the real American attitude toward his country” but instead “smacks of the ‘How glad I am’ attitude of the refugee horde.”

The KKK called for a boycott of the song. (Thankfully, in the 21st century, this kind of white supremacist nonsense has all been consigned to the dustbin of history, right?)

As for the Giants, after that Sunday defeat, their bats woke up—enough to win the wild card and give the Cubs a run for their money in the playoffs. Here I should offer by way of full disclosure that I was born and bred in Chicagoland, and the geography of my youth has shaped my attitudes toward both elections and baseball: the elder son of a rock-ribbed Republican who took his boy to his first game at Wrigley at age 5, who set me on a path to believe that there could be a measure of truth to the notion that rooting for the Cubs was like rooting for world peace. It might not ever happen, but you couldn’t stop believing.

### PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

The whirlwind of World War II hit hard on the land where Irving Berlin was born. A quarter of the population of Belarus—2.3 million people—perished. Belarus also earned a reputation as a land of fierce partisan fighting; the reprisals, in turn, were brutal.

Work on the Friday before the election in 2016 took us near the village of Khatyn—a memorial of cruelty and sorrow. In March 1943, after a partisan attack on German soldiers nearby, SS troops rounded up all 150 villagers—including women and children—in a barn and set it on fire. Soldiers machine-gunned anyone who tried to escape. Then they looted and burned the village to the ground. Khatyn lies in an idyllic glen, and in the fading September day, golden light through the trees cast lengthening shadows. There are no houses in Khatyn now. There are stone chimneys as symbols of that which did not burn; each bears a plaque inscribed with the names of the family members of a household, and each chimney holds a bell. Every 30 seconds, the bells chime—sharp, brusque, not quite in unison, a stuttering echo across the fields.

Khatyn is not alone in what it suffered. Hundreds of such villages in Belarus were destroyed. But to make a pilgrimage to Khatyn is to look into the dark recesses of our collective soul. *We, as a species, are capable of this.*

A week after the election, Belarus was in the news again: backstory to an obituary of Shimon Peres, “one of the last surviving pillars of Israel’s founding generation,” as *The New York Times* obituary put it. He built his country’s military, then he tried to make peace. He was 93 years old.

The village of Wiszniew was part of Poland in 1923 when Szymon Perski was born there and when his father, a lumber merchant, emigrated with his family to Palestine. Then came war, the Holocaust, destruction of Jewish culture in the region. Then the rearranging of borders: Vishnyeva became part of the Belorussian S.S.R. By the time Shimon Peres returned for a visit in 1992, hoping to find the house where he was born, the Soviet Union had collapsed. The village was part of independent Belarus. Journalist Joanne

Levine, traveling with Peres, recalled how he sang a Yiddish lullaby his mother used to sing, then went house to house, knocking on doors, asking if people remembered his family. The house had been burnt down; so had all others that might have sparked a memory. He found a shard of a broken tombstone that belonged to his great-grandfather. He placed a stone and he said a prayer for the dead.

The next year, Peres and Yitzhak Rabin signed the Oslo Peace Accords with Yasser Arafat. It was a hopeful time. The Cold War was over, and peace in the Middle East seemed within grasp. The threesome shared the Nobel Peace Prize. A year later, Rabin was assassinated.

### HELL FREEZES OVER

And then it happened: the second of November, 2016. All Souls Day for Catholics. For baseball fans, the day hell froze over. A toss from Bryant to Rizzo for the third out and the Cubs won the World Series. Perhaps world peace was next?

Not right away. Instead, the next day, Steven Seagal was back in the news. Putin had made him a Russian citizen. The day after that, observers for the largest ever OSCE mission for a U.S. election arrived on our shores: nearly 300 short-term observers from member states, working under a couple dozen long-term observers from throughout Europe. (Russia offered to send its own contingent of observers—a political stunt, since Russia is an OSCE member.) The OSCE has sent a token force of observers to the U.S. since 2000. But in 2013, the Supreme Court struck down aspects of the Voting Rights Act. With heightened concerns about voter registration and electronic voting, the OSCE decided a serious contingent in 2016 was needed.

On the morning of Election Day in America, I headed to my son’s high school to vote. The Boy is 15; this time around, he wanted to come with me. And I wanted him to be engaged—to understand that the right to vote in a free and fair election is not something we can take for granted. Like a free press, it’s a cherished pillar of liberal democracy. (Of course, there were Macedonian teenagers who were *engaged* in the U.S. election as well: inventing clickbait red meat headlines and stories in a digital advertising ecology that rewarded such behavior. File that under *corrosive*.)

A question: What if the endgame of an election isn’t sustaining liberal democracy at all, complete with protection of minorities and freedom of expression—but instead transitioning to *illiberal* democracy? Or simply to an illiberal state? We don’t have to look as far as Putin’s Russia or Lukashenka’s Belarus. These days, just travel to Poland, where the nationalist-populist government has curtailed freedom of the press; or to Hungary, where Prime Minister Viktor Orbán takes inspiration from Russia, China, Turkey, and Singapore—because, he said, the economic crisis of 2008 showed liberal democracies couldn’t be competitive.

Things fall apart, Yeats wrote. The center cannot hold.

### THE PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

You’ve seen numerous recaps of the U.S. election—but perhaps not what the OSCE had to say. From a nonpartisan, international organization that has an interest in process, not outcome, a few verbatims:

*Recent legal changes and decisions on technical aspects of the electoral process were often motivated by partisan interests, adding undue obstacles for voters.*

*More than an estimated 35 million eligible voters were not registered for these elections, underscoring the need*

*for continued efforts to enhance voter registration, particularly among marginalized communities.*

*Intolerant speech by one candidate about women, minorities, and people with disabilities was frequent.*

*Contrary to good practice, 15 states use Direct Recording Equipment machines that do not provide a voter-verified paper audit trail.*

*In 13 percent of observations, observers noted malfunctions with electronic voting equipment.*

It helps, sometimes, to see yourself as others see you.

### “CHEER UP!”

Momentous political events—from the fall of the Berlin Wall to Tiananmen Square to the murder of the Jesuits in El Salvador—mark 1989 as an epic moment in history. A decade after the Velvet Revolution of ’89, I was in Prague for a conference celebrating the anniversary. Margaret Thatcher, Helmut Kohl, George H.W. Bush, and Mikhail Gorbachev were Václav Havel’s guests of honor at Prague Castle. Along with discussions, concerts, and rallies, there was disenchantment in the air; Gorbachev spoke of increasing backlash he saw against globalization. In a Q&A, I asked: What do you say to the people here in Central and Eastern Europe who feel they were misled—that democracy and a free market haven’t delivered what was promised?

Thatcher chimed in first. “Cheer up!” she said. More followed—but not enough of the stuff that would stir the heart and restore those whose faith in democracy was flagging.

In Russia, these were Boris Yeltsin’s final days as leader. On New Year’s Eve 1999, he resigned and apologized for some things that hadn’t gone as he had hoped, and he handed over reins to his chosen successor, Vladimir Putin.

ANOTHER CONFESSION: A deep-seated fear that we will look upon 1989 as the beginning of an era that has come to a close—in terms of commitment to global norms and rights and institutions that have kept the world from being a much more frightening and brutal place.

In the months since the autumn elections, there have been protests near and far. In Russia, in March, tens of thousands protested in scores of cities—raising their voices against corruption. Arrests were made. In Belarus, in March, people took to the streets to resist a new law against “parasitism”: Anyone who hasn’t worked in six months can be fined \$250. The law’s implementation was postponed, yet the outrage not assuaged. Four hundred people, including journalists, were arrested. On the eve of May Day, opposition figures were rounded up.

“We are not idiots,” said Belarus’ President Lukashenka in his annual address to the National Assembly. He accused EU leaders of pouring dirt on his country. “We see what is happening inside the EU itself.” He added, with crude swagger: “I want to tell all the European leaders: You really lack something between the legs ... You will soon realize your mistakes and will regret having made them. Why are you so stubborn? Where’s your democracy and tolerance?”

Indeed. It turns out that democracy is a messy and inefficient and fragile thing. And certainly never something we finish trying to achieve—unless we give up on it.

STEVEN BOYD SAUM is the editor of this magazine. Part of this essay appeared on KQED FM as “Belarus, Baseball, and Berlin.”





# Numbers Guy

Tom Bonfigli '75 has racked up more than 750 wins coaching basketball at a California high school. He's only had three losing seasons. But one night could have ended it all.

BY KERRY BENEFIELD

IN THE POCKET of Tom Bonfigli '75 are 18 prayer cards. They are tattered, yellowing, frayed at the edges. He reads from the cards—or rather recites their prayers, no reading necessary—every day. The words are memorized, called upon as needed.

“I always went to Mass, but not daily,” Bonfigli says, referencing his six weekly visits to 6 a.m. Mass. On Sundays, he allows himself to sleep in and attend the 7 a.m. service. “With alcoholism, you are never cured. If you are going to be able to function, you need a higher power.”

Bonfigli is precise, a numbers guy. He coaches basketball and remembers every game and every date. Last year, the number 12 became important. His 752 career wins at Cardinal Newman High School put him in the top 12 for wins among high school boys basketball coaches in California. A few more numbers: 13 North Bay League championships in 23 years at Cardinal Newman, 21 wins per season in 35 years.

Of all of the dates, figures, and stats, one day plays an outsized role: March 10, 1995. The day Bonfigli drank and drove himself straight into Sonoma County Jail, arrested for DUI.

A longtime party guy, Bonfigli hit his proverbial rock bottom and looked to the Church for guidance. He prayed to the Blessed Mother: If she helped him quit alcohol, he would help her children. Teach them. Coach them. Be faithful. Bonfigli says he heard an answer and kept his pledge. He has not had a drink in 22 years.

Bonfigli doesn't shy away from talking about his struggle, saying it's a way of teaching. In fact, his students have been part of his strength. The rosary he carries with his prayer cards was a gift from a student.

Darryl Vice, Cardinal Newman junior varsity basketball coach, was one of those students: a starting guard from 1983 to 1985. That was in the thick of Bonfigli's troubles. Even as a player, he heard stories about his coach.

“With high school kids, it's really tough to pull the wool over their eyes,” Vice said. “When I was playing, it never got in the way of what he was trying to do.”

Bonfigli described himself as a functional alcoholic at the time. But functioning isn't enough.

“When I was drinking, I was not the person I wanted to be around my kids all of the time,” he says. “Now, 95 percent of the time, I am the person I want to be around them.”

## OLD SCHOOL HOOPS

For Bonfigli, teaching basketball means mastering the basics. It's been the same for decades. You play against Cardinal Newman and you're going to reckon with a stifling defense and constant motion on offense. Old school? That's fine by him.

“It's the bounce pass, it's the way you stand, it's the way you close out, it's the way you box out,” says longtime assistant and brother, Jerry Bonfigli. “If the ball is loose and you're not diving on the floor, then we're doing some laps.”

Colleagues say no one spends more time in preparation than Bonfigli. But Bonfigli says his focus is teaching kids to do the right thing. If he does that, the wins will come, and they have. Cardinal Newman has twice vied for the state championship under Bonfigli and had just three losing seasons. Ever.

His responsibilities have evolved over the years. He has become more than just a basketball coach or teacher, which makes it more meaningful.

“Now you are a psychologist, sociologist, you are a troubleshooter,” Bonfigli says. “In some cases, you are the most important person in their life.”

Bonfigli has counseled and served as sponsor for former players and colleagues, including Vice. Eight years ago, Vice's wife reached out to Bonfigli, and the coach helped his former player become sober.

“He was a father figure when I was a kid, but now it's more like a big brother,” Vice says. “He's been through some of the same things.”

Sobriety has led Bonfigli to wear his spirituality on his sleeve. He says a prayer with students before class. His teams go to chapel before, and say a prayer after, every game.

“At Catholic school you don't have to be Catholic, but you need to be a better person,” he says.

Bonfigli will keep coaching and teaching as long as he has the will. When he retires, he will continue mentoring to remain true to his promise. “I am imperfect, but I'm closer to what I want to be. I've committed the last half of my life not to happiness but to serenity. I have suffered through some heartache and made some really bad mistakes, but this is a catharsis—like walking through fire.”

KERRY BENEFIELD writes for the Santa Rosa Press Democrat.

*“I'm at peace with my creator, at peace with myself, and I'm at peace with the people around me,” Bonfigli says. “If that isn't heaven on earth, I don't know what is.”*



# Bronco News

SCU ALUMNI NEAR AND FAR



had been under night-and-day building for 38 years, and Winchester, a virtual shut-in, had become the kind of enigma that Mirren finds totally intriguing.

"It's very similar to playing the queen," Mirren said on the last day of shooting. "There's so much to learn about her and yet at the very center of all the knowledge is this character of utter mystery."

Mirren doesn't believe in the supernatural, but she can empathize with Sarah Winchester. "I do believe in the power of belief," Mirren said. "I think human beings are driven, really, by their imaginations above all, and the power of that is endless."

Tomberlin's role as chief wrangler, cheerleader, and check writer for the \$14 million project during its decade-long gestation has very Santa Clara-centric beginnings. After college, he used alumni connections, and al-

most obsessive perseverance, to land a job with **Andy Ackerman '78**, famed for his work on a number of television comedies, including directing half the episodes of *Seinfeld*.

That led to a friendship with another *Seinfeld* alum, actor Jason Alexander, whom Tomberlin helped bring in as a last-minute fill-in for SCU's Golden Circle Theatre Party in 2006. With time to kill before the show, the pair took in a pair of local sights—the San Jose Flea Market, which netted Alexander a \$2 fedora—and the Winchester house, which resulted in much more. "After getting the whole tour, I said to him 'Do you see this as a movie?' and he goes 'I was just going to say that,'" Tomberlin says.

It took years to nail down the rights and much longer to get the project through myriad hoops and false starts. Fellow Bronco **Andy Trapani '95** was on board as an executive producer. But producing is not for the faint of heart. And 11 years later, the destination nears. The announcement of Mirren's involvement last year drove a surge of interest in showing the film, which is slated to open in early 2018. Michael and Peter Spierig are directing.

"We already have all our distributors," Tomberlin says. "We've sold out the whole entire world at this point, down to Iceland and all five theaters there."

*Look familiar? Only one photo of Sarah Winchester exists, with the heiress to the rifle fortune looking back from a carriage. Here, Helen Mirren recreates the scene during filming of the motion picture Winchester.*

## Haunted

VIRTUALLY AS SOON as he laid eyes on the eerie insides of the Winchester Mystery House, **Brett Tomberlin '03** knew he had discovered the foundation of a great movie. But back in 2006, even he might not have had the chutzpah to guess he would convince one of the world's most acclaimed actors to make it with him.

But that's exactly what happened. In May, Tomberlin, one of two producers for *Winchester*, was on location for the final shots of the supernatural thriller starring none other than the Queen herself—Helen Mirren.

The Oscar-winning actress plays Sarah Winchester, the reclusive heiress to the Winchester rifle fortune, who was convinced she was haunted by the vengeful victims of the family weapon. The spirits, she believed, had already killed her husband and infant daughter.

To appease the ghosts, she oversaw a campaign of ceaseless construction. By the time she died in 1922, the house

# T

**Muzhik of La Mancha.** Why would the Kyiv-born author of *The Master and Margarita* take on Don Quixote? Scholars **Scott Pollard '81** and Margarita Marinova set out to answer that, translating and explicating Mikhail Bulgakov's version of the play *Don Quixote*. By the 1930s, nothing Bulgakov wrote could be published or staged in Stalin's Soviet Union. Yet he saw himself as a playwright.

*Writer John Deever interviewed Scott Pollard. Here Pollard describes the parallels between Cervantes and Bulgakov—a "fellow sufferer, tragically familiar with social and political attempts to control the creative imagination."*

Up until publication of the first volume of *Don Quixote*, Cervantes' life was dominated by failure. He did not receive much of a formal education. As a soldier in the Battle of Lepanto (1571), he is wounded in the right hand and loses the use of it for the rest of his life; after the battle, on his way back to Spain, Cervantes is kidnapped by Algerian pirates, and it takes five years for him to be ransomed back home. Back home in Madrid, Cervantes attempts to become a playwright and fails. He reenlists in the army, becomes a requisitions officer, and is jailed for embezzlement. He goes bankrupt, is excommunicated, and finds himself in debtor's prison, where he begins *Don Quixote*. The novel is pirated, and Cervantes makes little money from it. A second volume is written by someone else, Fernández de Avellaneda, in 1614, to capitalize on the original's popularity.

Bulgakov's career was also marked by failure. Although he began his literary life as a successful playwright and novelist, he quickly ran afoul of the Soviet censors and Stalin. His plays were either pulled quickly from the stage or not produced.

Bulgakov and his work represent the individual—particularly, the creative artist—struggling against but stymied and silenced by social, political, and historical forces. *The Master and Margarita* is an amazing story—a fantasy really—about the creative artist's ability to challenge and triumph over an oppressive world. Conversely, Bulgakov's adaptation of *Don Quixote* is, in part, about the creative artist coming to terms with his limited power to challenge and overcome systematic oppression. It is Bulgakov's swan song. Bulgakov and his work—that's the story of the underdog, successful or not, to which everyone is attracted. It is a story that is as true for Ukraine's current struggle with Russia as it was for the abuses of Stalinist Russia.

*Choose your windmill: The Liberated Don Quixote. Read more of our interview at [magazine.scu.edu](http://magazine.scu.edu).*



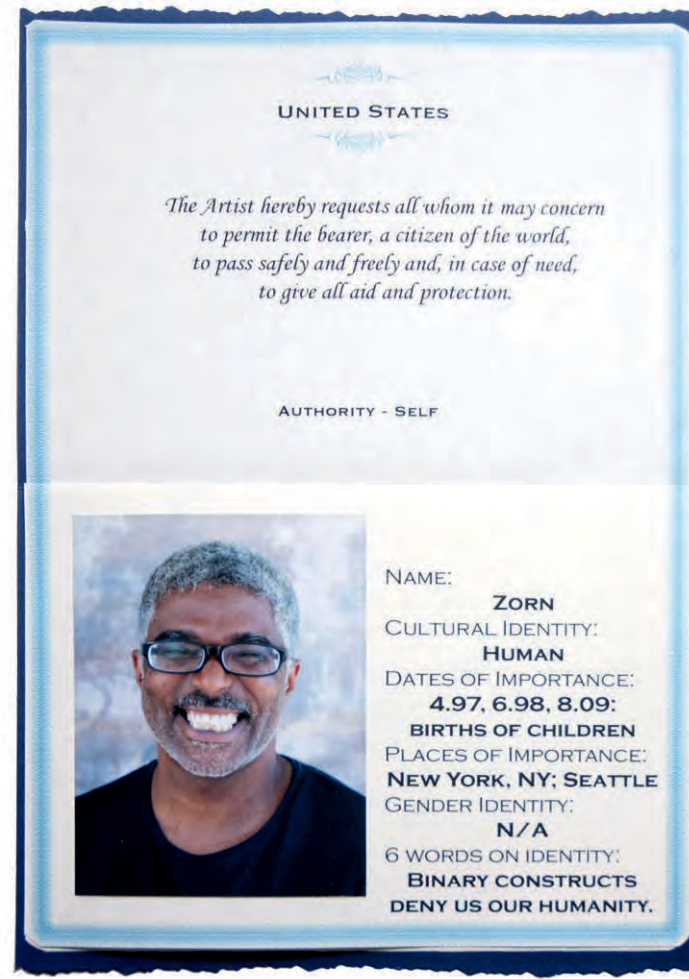
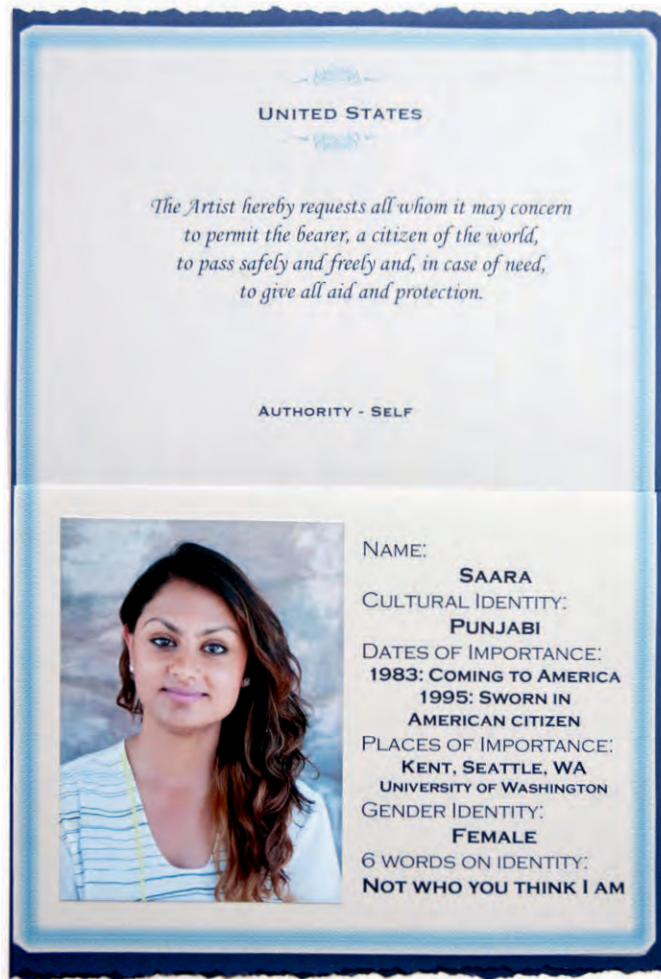
WOODCUT BY NIKOLAI PISKAREV COURTESY THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

WORDS BY SAM SCOTT '96; PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY CBS FILMS





**Who Are You?** Take five common questions asked on identity applications and reframe them to be open-ended. Instead of checking a box for race, ethnicity, or nationality, how would you define your cultural identity? Fill in the blank; use only one line. I am **Carina del Rosario '91**, and this is how I approached an arts project in Seattle that I call the Passport Series.



*Journalism often left Carina del Rosario '91 feeling like a mercenary—only showing up when bad stuff happened. Instead, she decided to use her skills as a writer and interviewer to tackle gentrification, redevelopment, and identity. View more of the series at [cadelrosario.com](http://cadelrosario.com).*

Instead of checking off a box for sex or gender, how would you define your gender identity or expression? I asked that question in particular, because the original idea for this project came out of a documentary and digital storytelling project I was doing with transgender folks. At the same time there was a big push for the DREAM Act.

I came to the arts through storytelling and journalism: editor of *The Santa Clara*, then work at a community newspaper focused on Asian Pacific American issues in Seattle. I found myself turning more and more to art to communicate—and to teaching. I now call myself a cultural worker and a teaching artist.

In the Passport Series, I take the five

most common questions that are asked on identity applications, and I reframe them. Working with transgender people, I learned that many did not have identity documents that matched how they live their lives; they are always at risk of discrimination when, for example, they come to a doctor's office and they are called "John" but they are very much presenting as a female. Documentation tends to separate us rather than allow us to express ourselves in our holistic, complex ways.

I set up temporary passport offices where I invited people to fill out my reimagined passport application. I found younger contributors asking, "Why do we even have these categories?"

The experience of completing the passport makes the lesson clear: This is how the U.S. government conferred rights on some people and denied them for others. For example, if you were going to mark "Asian," you either were not going to be allowed into this country before 1965, or you couldn't own property or marry a white person.

I have always loved photography matched with the written word. Because I was in the communication department at SCU, I was grounded in the social justice aspects of communication, the power of journalism to educate and to shine a light on things that are either misunderstood or ignored.



**BANNAN AWARD.** Call the Specchierla house Santa Clara: East. From Atlanta to New York, London to Palm Springs, **Larry Specchierla '63** and **Maureen Specchierla '65** have waved the Bronco flag for a half century: President's Club, Ambassadors Program, and the New Student Calling Program. They even helped establish the first tri-state alumni chapter for New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Larry worked in financial management at Texaco for 36 years—but he met Maureen through campus politics. The two volunteered making campaign signs for **Richard Bell '63**, a mutual friend. Bell won the student body presidency and Larry found love.

*The Vaughns (right) have a daughter, Jacqueline, and son, Joseph, who were both baptized by longtime friend Paul Locatelli, S.J. '60.*



**IGNATIUS AWARD.** In Dunne Hall, **Andy Kryder '74, J.D./MBA '77** was known for his food. Using a rogue rice cooker, he prepared ramen, hot dogs, and other dorm room delicacies for his hall. When he graduated, Kryder put his rice cooker aside: tax partner at Arthur Young; executive at Quantum and NetApp. Whenever he could, he looked to serve: Rebuilding Together, Kaiser Permanente, Villa Montalvo Arts Center, and the American Heart Association. But for Andy, the best way to give has always been food. In 2008, he founded Giving Gourmet, which donates gourmet meals—no hot dogs—for nonprofit fundraising. In all, charities have raised more than \$100,000 through the help of Giving Gourmet.

*Living generously: Andy Kryder (above left) and Jeff Miller (below) have turned professional success into lives of philanthropy.*

ILLUSTRATION BY KYLE HILTON. PHOTO OF JEFF MILLER BY SCCL PHOTO OF THE VAUGHNS COURTESY THE VAUGHNS. PHOTO OF ANDREW KRYDER COURTESY ANDREW KRYDER

**GRAND REUNION!**  
The big bash happens Oct. 12-15. Have you signed up yet?  
[scu.edu/reunion](http://scu.edu/reunion)

# FOREVER FAMILY

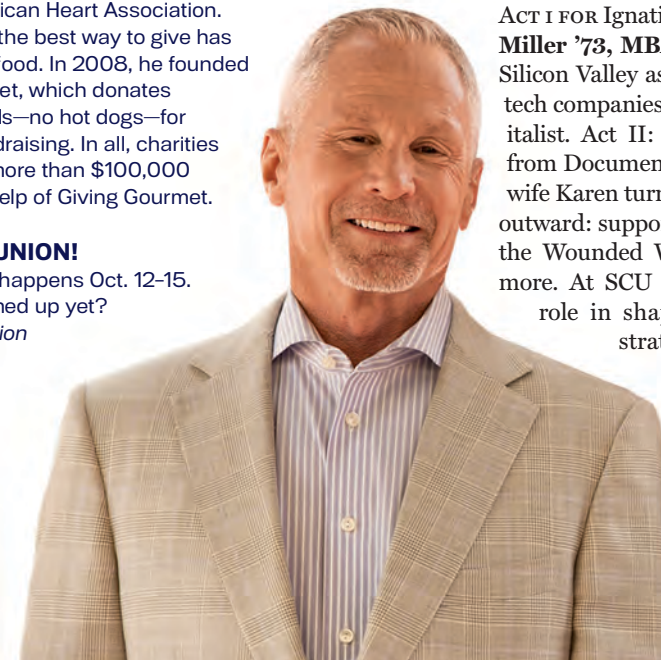


**LOCATELLI AWARD WINNERS Issac Vaughn '84** and **Maria Nash Vaughn '86** met because of football. And they found a life together thanks in no small part to President **Paul Locatelli, S.J. '60**. Recognizing the challenges Issac faced as a black student athlete at Santa Clara, Fr. Locatelli invited him to dinner. It was an enlightening evening; Issac found a greater sense of belonging. And the dinners didn't end. When Issac met Maria while coaching her powder puff football team, she joined the meals. When Maria's father worried about their interracial relationship, Fr. Locatelli offered counsel. In 1991, Issac and Maria wed at the Mission in a ceremony blessed by both families—with Fr. Locatelli presiding. The Vaughns have kept SCU in their lives. Maria sits on both the Board of Regents and Athletics Advisory Board. Issac, CEO of Ooyala, assists the Markkula Center and SCU athletics, and he stewards the Black Alumni Group. The Vaughns want everyone at SCU to feel valued, just like they did.

## Live for Others

**ACT I** FOR Ignatius Award winner **Jeff Miller '73, MBA '76** was a career in Silicon Valley as a senior executive at tech companies and as a venture capitalist. **ACT II:** Even bigger. Retired from Documentum in 2001, Jeff and wife Karen turned their good fortune outward: supporting arts and culture, the Wounded Warriors Project, and more. At SCU he took a leadership role in shaping the University's strategic plan and bolstering the work of what was then known as SCU's Center for Sci-

ence, Technology, and Society. He believed in the center's programs, so he and Karen made a gift in 2015 to help take those to unprecedented scale: \$25 million. Now known as the Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship, it assists the world's brightest social entrepreneurs in improving the lives of the global poor. By 2020, the Miller Center wants to positively impact the lives of a billion people. Jeff and Karen make an effort to see the impact of the work firsthand. And they've said that it's great working with CEOs, but you have to look in the eyes of those they serve to truly change your soul.





# It's not the Holy Spirit

letting up out of an oil-slicked puddle  
between the tracks on 9th Ave,  
that feathered blur flashing  
toward the N-Judah's windshield.  
It's only a rock dove, tail fan  
splayed, pewter wings spread  
wide, reversing direction mid-air.  
But tell me, what better prayer  
than this? The near miss, the heart  
shocked awake, that bird rising  
over sooted buildings, gated doors.

—Cheryl Dumesnil '91

FROM THE COLLECTION *Showtime at the Ministry of Lost Causes* (University of Pittsburgh Press), Dumesnil's most recent book. Her other works: the collection *In Praise of Falling* and the edited anthology *Dorothy Parker's Elbow: Tattoos on Writers, Writers on Tattoos*. We're delighted this English major comes home to SCU in spring 2018 to give a reading in SCU's creative writing series.



Martha Bratton (right), wife of Col. William Bratton, kept a large supply of gunpowder from British troops by blowing it up. "It was I who did it," she said. "Let the consequence be what it will."

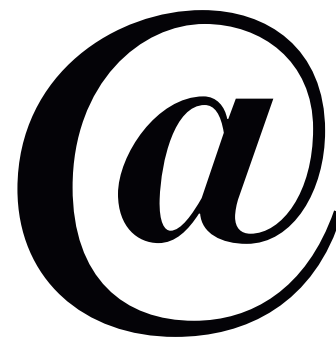


**RULE MAKER** Now the foremost authority on the rulebook of the National Football League, Mike Pereira '72 came to SCU a scholarship athlete in baseball and basketball. It wasn't until his junior year that his football career started as a youth official, working tripleheaders in East Palo Alto for beer money. Pereira details the transition from failed athlete and cancer survivor to the country's most prominent referee in *After Further Review: My Life Including the Infamous, Controversial, and Unforgettable Calls That Changed the NFL* (Triumph Books). After changing 76 rules in his nine years as director of officiating for the NFL, Pereira pioneered the job of rules expert in broadcasting, explaining the rulebook and officials' calls during nationally televised games for Fox Sports. Pereira's interests have lately turned from on-the-field justice to social justice. The Sacramento resident formed Battlefield to Ballfields, which offers financial assistance, training, and job opportunities for servicemen and women who want to become officials. Pereira thinks veterans have the requisite leadership, concentration, discipline, and fearlessness under pressure to make good referees.



**REVOLUTION!** In *Women Heroes of the American Revolution: 20 Stories of Espionage, Sabotage, Defiance, and Rescue*, Susan Casey '66 tells the stories of spies, nurses, resisters, rescuers, and soldiers—incredible revolutionaries whose legacies and influences were all but erased from history textbooks. This volume for young adults draws on letters, original documents, pictures, and narratives to deliver exciting stories of women like Sybil Ludington, who rode horseback 40 miles to warn of an impending British attack.

WORDS BY DEVIN COLLINS '17, ESTHER YOUNG '18, AND HAROLD GUTMANN. PEREIRA PHOTO BY AP. HANDS PHOTO BY ROB AND JULIA CAMPBELL.



**A Leg Up.** What happens when you offer a free Jesuit education to kids of limited means? Or open a network of contacts and resources to first-generation students? One single middle school can't change the world—or even transform Portland, Oregon. But President **Carolyn Becic '87**—along with a crew of Broncos on her staff—is opening doors for young people at St. Andrew Nativity.



Here's what compassion can do to the educational arc of a 12-year-old. As Leah Sparkman '21 puts it, she was a pretty outspoken sixth grader. Her teachers would say *outspoken* is putting it mildly. Sparkman was a bright kid and accustomed to speaking *with* adults. That doesn't always fly in middle school. "I wanted to be seen as—not equal—but have everyone respected for their opinions and where they're coming from," she says.

This is where perception changes reality. Talking back to teachers in middle school often begets punishment: detention at first, maybe suspension. Soon a student is missing classes, falling behind.

But for Leah, teachers at St. Andrew met her where she was. "I built those relationships so teachers understood what I needed," Sparkman says. "I learned when to be outspoken and who to be outspoken toward."

Make no mistake: St. Andrew is built on a challenging program. Classes run 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with up to two hours of study hall—a long day, but it gives students every chance to succeed. Study halls ensure that students get help from teachers so they finish homework. A full-time counselor sets up in-home visits to understand challenges facing families. Like this: 53 percent of St. Andrew students come from non-English speaking homes. Most are first-generation immigrants. St. Andrew helps with high school placement, FAFSA, immigration education, employment after college. "We play the role of a parent who's been to college," Becic says. They've even helped kids get braces and paid heating bills.

On average, students at St. Andrew jump five grade levels in three years. Each student is also guaranteed a free private education in high school and continued counseling. "It's a family in every way," Sparkman affirms.

She is set to graduate from St. Michael's University School in British Columbia. She'll attend SCU on full scholarship, already eyeing law school. She wants to study history, learn more about religion, and get involved in social justice, too. "Leah is so comfortable in her own skin," Becic says. "She'll find ways to be a leader."

*Years after graduating from St. Andrew, Leah Sparkman asked Carolyn Becic for advice on applying to college.*



# Class Notes

At [magazine.scu.edu/classnotes](http://magazine.scu.edu/classnotes) see the latest, post an update, share a photo—especially if it's your reunion year. For Broncos who have joined the Gianera Society—that's 50+ years since graduation—every year is reunion year!

**1966** Lieutenant Gen. Joseph K. "Keith" Kellogg Jr. is chief of staff of the United States National Security Council. At SCU he studied political science and played on the football team. He served two tours in Vietnam and altogether 36 years in the

NSC Chief Keith Kellogg served with the 101st Airborne in Vietnam and later commanded the 82nd Airborne.



Army, including in Desert Shield/Desert Storm; commanding the Coalition Provisional Authority in postwar Iraq; and directing all technical areas in the U.S. military command, control, communication, and computers systems. He has also served executive roles at Oracle and elsewhere.

**1967 REUNION YEAR** Larry Tomassini writes, "I am completing my 24th year on the accounting faculty at Ohio State University as well as my 48th year of teaching, which began during my doctoral program at UCLA. Living in Columbus, Ohio, with my wife, Eve, and my three adult children."

**1970** At Sacred Heart Nativity School's annual commencement ceremony, Cathy (Carlos) De Maria M.A. '71 received an honorary diploma for exemplary service from the San Jose school. This was a big year for Cathy and husband Joe, too: They

**SWEET TEETH** For nearly 20 years, Howard Peters J.D. '78 and his wife, Sally, have toured the U.S., sharing their signature presentation, "Chocolate—Food of the Gods." It explores the history and chemistry of one of America's favorite treats.

celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Feb. 16 with a renewal of vows at the Mission Church—where it all started!

**1972 REUNION YEAR** For his contribution to the field of electrical engineering and the advancement of renewable energy research and adoption, Richard "Dick" DeBlasio received the School of Engineering's highest honor, the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award. DeBlasio is a research fellow emeritus at the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). With a career at NREL spanning more than 35 years, he has been instrumental in furthering renewable energy research and adoption around the world. ¶ Charlie Rausch was appointed interim chief zoning administrator for the Department of City Planning in Los Angeles. Rausch has worked for the city for the past 40 years and is still having fun!

**1973** The Markkula Center for Applied Ethics welcomed Leslie Leonetti as an external relations manager, overseeing annual giving initiatives, cultivation events, and outreach to donors and alumni. She's proud to be a part of the Santa Clara employee family!

**1977 REUNION YEAR** Retired Superior Court Judge, County of Santa Clara, Eugene M. Hyman J.D. continues to speak about issues surrounding domestic violence in the criminal and family courts—especially with co-occurring issues of substance abuse and mental health. Hyman taught as a School of Law lecturer for more than 25 years.

**1978** SCU Law School Board of Visitors member Howard Peters J.D. and wife Sally received the 2016 Helen M. Free Award for outstanding public outreach from the American Chemical Society. ¶ James J. Rodriguez J.D. was recognized by *Continental Who's Who* among Pinnacle Professionals in law. A tax specialist certified by the California State Bar, he was named a 2015 Elite American Lawyer.

**1979** On June 1, 2016, Dave Fiore retired from the Oregon Education Foundation, where he worked for the past 16 years after teaching high school English in Bend, Oregon. He and wife Tracey (Hammond) '82 plan to travel, golf, and do whatever else they choose. ¶ For his impact on the semiconductor chip industry and the advancement of computing, Bill Holt M.S.

received the School of Engineering's highest honor, the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award. In his time at Intel, including as corporate vice president, processors became 3,500 times more powerful and 90,000 times more energy efficient. In Silicon Valley, the semiconductor industry exploded, in part, based on what's known as Moore's Law: the prediction that the number of transistors per square inch on integrated circuits would double every year. For more than 40 years, Holt led teams that drove the industry and proved Moore's Law to be true. ¶ Barry O'Brien is an executive producer of *GONE*, a new dramatic series from NBC Universal Television. The show stars Chris Noth (*Sex and the City*) and Danny Pino (*Law And Order*) and is filming on location in Pittsburgh. ¶ Paul Totah published *The Gospel of Everyone: A Poetic Retelling of the Gospel of Luke* (Resource Publications). This is his 32nd year working at St. Ignatius College Prep (SI) in San Francisco, where he serves as director of communications and editor of *Genesis Magazine*. Daughter Lauren Totah '11 is now his colleague, working as a counselor at SI. [We're fans of Paul's work with his magazine—and we sometimes tap him to write for ours. Check out his work in our archives. —Ed.]

**1980** Following her tenure as director of production finance at Arnold Shapiro Productions, Dorothy Duder joined MAK Pictures in Sherman Oaks, California, as director of production finance. She resides in North Hollywood with her Academy Award-winning husband, artist Doug Drexler. ¶ *Silicon Valley Business Journal* has named Terri Marcroft one of its 2017 women of influence in Silicon Valley. Through her consulting firm MarketSavvy Inc., she serves local tech companies as their "interim VP of marketing," developing positioning, messaging, go-to-market strategy, and execution. ¶ Rolanda Pierre Dixon J.D. served as keynote speaker at Mission College's African American Celebration Luncheon, which recognizes achievements made by African Americans. Pierre Dixon was the first African-American assistant district attorney in the history of the District Attorney's Office in Santa Clara County. In 1991, she established the first domestic violence unit in Santa Clara County. She retired in 2011 after 30 years of service. ¶ In February, Pete Woytowicz M.S., Ph.D. '93 presented "Printing the Next Revolution—Materials, Software, and Additive Manufacturing" as part of the Mechanical Engineering Seminar Series. Woytowicz heads the algorithms and

modeling group at Arevo Labs and specializes in software development and modeling and optimization.

**1981** Darby Winterhalter Lofstrand works as a senior lecturer in acting and voice at Northern Arizona University. Her 16mm short, *HeartSister*, was featured at the New York International Independent Film Festival. She is married to Tobias Lofstrand, the president of the Arizona chapter of the Swedish/American Chamber of Commerce, and enjoys travel and golf.

**1982 REUNION YEAR** Mary Alexander J.D. is a San Francisco-based personal injury attorney representing the parents of Griffin Madden and Michela Gregory, two victims in the tragic Ghost Ship fire in Oakland, California, in December. Over the past 30 years, Alexander has earned a national reputation for her work protecting consumer rights. She is a past president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and the Consumer Attorneys of California



and was named one of the Bay Area's top 10 trial attorneys by the *San Francisco Chronicle*. ¶ Sean Nalty J.D. '85 is a member of Ogletree Deakins' Life, Health, Disability, ERISA, and Employee Benefits practice. He specializes in ERISA and California litigation involving life, health, and disability insurance. ¶ Peter Coe Verbica J.D. '99 has been promoted to assistant vice president and senior financial advisor at a major investment bank. In March, he published three books: *The Missing Tales of Sherlock Holmes*, *Eighty-Eight Lost Haikus* (under a different pen name), and *Speak Easy and Other Poems*.

**1983** Republican David C. Long J.D. won re-election to the Indiana State Senate, representing the 16th District, a seat he has held since 1996. He serves as the leader of the Indiana State Sen-

**WRITE, DIRECT** Darby Lofstrand wrote the collection of short stories *Elephant Kisses: A Novel of Sweden Told in Five Stories* and the novel *Gang of Eight: The First*. Her stage adaptation of Susan Lowell's children's books *Josefina Javelina: A Hairy Tale* and *The Three Little Javelinas* was produced for three years by Peaks Theatre Fest.

ate. He and wife Melissa have two children, Adam and Erik.

**1984** Jesper Rasmussen J.D. is a trial attorney who has practiced law in California for more than 30 years. He now specializes in employment discrimination, harassment, retaliation and wrongful termination, public entity defense, civil rights, business litigation, and anti-SLAPP litigation. He has never lost a case he has taken to trial, and he's appeared and argued before the California Supreme Court.

**1985** Phil Rehkemper MBA '89 was named VP and CFO of Freeman, a leading global provider of brand experiences and integrated services for experiential marketing. ¶ California State Senator Bob Wiczkowski J.D. has been selected to lead CSG West's Energy and Environment Policy Committee, the first California legislator to do so. Wiczkowski represents District 10 in the California Senate, which encompasses portions of Alameda and Santa Clara Counties. He also chairs the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality and the Budget Subcommittee 2 on Resources, Environmental Protection, Energy, and Transportation.

**1987 REUNION YEAR** Leslie R. Lopez J.D. is the deputy director and chief counsel at the California Department of General Services. ¶ Christopher Der Manuelian J.D./MBA is a personal injury attorney with offices in Jackson, Modesto, and Stockton, California. He worked as an insurance defense attorney in the Bay Area for the first 10 years of his career. ¶ Julie Mar-Spinola J.D. received the Alumni Special Achievement Award from the School of Law. She holds a dual business and legal role as chief intellectual property officer and VP of legal at Finjan Holdings, Inc. Mar-Spinola has served as a court-appointed mediator, specializing in patent and other complex disputes since 2011, and is a member of the High Tech Advisory Board for the law school.

**1988** For the contributions he has made to enriching the lives and furthering the prospects of the poor—and for his leadership within the Society of Jesus—Scott Santarosa, S.J., received the School of Engineering's highest honor, the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award. After serving Verbum Dei High School, he pastored Dolores Mission Church in

Los Angeles, a parish dedicated to social justice through serving the poor and immigrant. In 2014, he took on the role of Provincial of the Oregon Province of the Society of Jesus, and as the Jesuits merge the California and Oregon provinces, he will head Jesuits West. In just six years at Verbum Dei High in Watts, Los Angeles, Fr. Santarosa took that school on the verge of closing and transformed it into a Catholic prep school for low-income students with 100 percent of graduating students accepted to college.

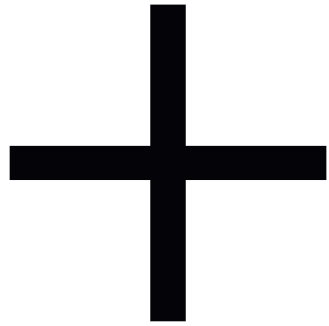
**1989** Jeffrey C.P. Wang J.D. is managing partner, Litigation Practice Group, International Corporate Transaction Group, at WHGC, in Newport Beach, California. He has been a frequent commentator in Chinese language newspapers regarding the legal significance of recent events that have impacted Trans-Pacific international commerce and the Chinese-American business community.

**1990** Sean Kelly has been a medical examiner for 13 years at The New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner, which conducts independent investigations using advanced forensic science in the service of families, communities, and the criminal justice system. ¶ It has been nearly 10 years since Jeff Park J.D. partnered with Hemant Habbu to form Habbu & Park Inc., which covers contracts and employment law. ¶ Sanjay Patel M.S. has served as founder and CEO of EDA Direct (edadirect.com) since 1997.

**1991** Bea Grause J.D. is leading the Healthcare Association of New York State. She joins HANYS after serving as president and CEO of the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems for 14 years.

**1992 REUNION YEAR** Larry Garcia leads the financial planning practice of the Pacific Wealth Management Group at Morgan Stanley. He has extensive knowledge and experience in retirement, business succession, estate, education, and philanthropic planning strategies. He and his wife, Kelley, are the parents of two daughters and live in Kirkland, Washington. ¶ Micki O'Brien, CEO and co-founder of Aligned Education, gave a TEDx Talk at Bellevue College. Titled "Tapping Your Superpowers," the presentation referenced the impact neurotypical and neurodivergent concepts have on





**Dueling Pianists.** Chris Wemp '12, M.A. '18 and Claire Kunkle '14 met through the piano bench of the Mission—neither wanted to cede the seat to the other. But as fellow music ministry interns and choir singers, they soon fell in love making music that celebrated their faith, exchanging vows Feb. 4, 2017, in the church where it all began—with President **Michael Engh, S.J.**, presiding.



For Claire's processional, Chris wrote parts for the couple's mutual music ministry friends, incorporating violin, trumpet, flute, piano, classical sax, and oboe.

While Chris was studying abroad at Casa de la Solidaridad in El Salvador, Claire joined music ministry and began playing piano to accompany the liturgies. Upon his return, both kept eyeing the other and wondering, "Who's this other person at the piano bench?" It didn't take long for a romance to blossom.

A liturgical composer, Chris penned original music for the nuptial Mass and collaborated with **Greg Shultz**, SCU's director of liturgy and music, on additional arrangements. For Claire's wedding processional, Chris composed the song "Woven Together," which he kept as a surprise until that day.

"I wanted to write something that felt unique and original to the nature of our relationship and captured its roots, colors, and connections beyond our initial

spark," he says. "The variety of instruments present in the piece represents our diversity of interests, community friends, and dreams that we have been able to share with each other while still upholding our own senses of self."

The resulting song captured a moment not soon forgotten: Due to a severe health condition, Claire's father escorted her down the aisle in a wheelchair. He passed away just a month later.

Alongside Fr. Engh, Fr. Tad Terembula from neighboring St. Clare Parish celebrated the Mass. **Austin Nickel '12** served as best man and **Maza Brady '14** as maid of honor.

"The sacrament of marriage is something we not only share together, but a call to turn outward to the larger community and give back," says Chris.

In addition to serving as director of professional development programs at SCU, Chris works at St. Clare Parish as a music coordinator and is completing his master's in theology at the Jesuit School of Theology. Claire is finishing up her doctorate in mechanical engineering at UC Berkeley and regularly visits local schools to help empower young women to become scientists.

This summer, the couple is heading to Peru for their honeymoon, with plans to visit the special towns and people Chris met on a previous trip researching the roles liturgical music plays in the Mass, the communal call for justice, and in celebrations of faith.

"I hope to continue to learn from the communities I visit and rethink how we provide liturgical music in America."

WORDS BY ALCIA K. GONZALES '08. PHOTO BY TORY JACOB PHOTOGRAPHY

## Lives Joined

**Bianca Placencia '01** married Christian Wilczoch on Sept. 17, 2016, in Carmel, California. Alumni in attendance included **Jose Placencia MBA '79** and friends **Julia (De Briyn) Tabery '01**, **Tara (Cano) Skipper '01**, and **Jamie (Ceccato) Perkins '01**. The couple lives in Santa Clara, where Christian works as an engineer and Bianca as a director of operations.

**Melissa (Eckel) Kueny '05** married Joshua Kueny on Oct. 8, 2016, at Vellano Country Club in Chino Hills, California. The two met in 2013 at The Walt Disney Company, where they both still work today.

In 2016, **Vanessa (Garcia) Zakes '05** married Kevin Zakes at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento, California, in a New Year's Eve ceremony.

**Maren Lovgren '06** married **Marcos Moreno '07** on Dec. 3, 2016, at the Saratoga Foothill Club in Saratoga, California. **John Sabine '07** officiated, and the ceremony included over a dozen fellow alumni and several dozen donuts.

**Stig "Patrick" Mowrer '06** married Elizabeth "Brette" Allen on Feb. 17 at the Manhattan Marriage Bureau. Brette, 32, helps manage advertising for luxury fashion brands at Google in Manhattan. Patrick, 33, oversees the development of apps at Updater, a company that helps with moving tasks. The couple met in 2013 at a mutual friend's party in Brooklyn.

**Amanda Martin Bates '08** married Daniel Bates on June 4, 2016, at Mission Santa Clara, surrounded by their family and friends. Alumni in attendance included **Allison Walewski '08**, **Grant Cassingham '08**, **Kiely Nose '08**, **Terri Bowles Reynolds '08**, **Hannah McCarthy Crowder '08**, **Andrew Shepard '03**, **Julianne Hausle Garnett '00**, **Dave Garnett '98**, **Lisa Fiscalini Hausle '75**, and **Steven Hausle '74**.

**Regina Clark '08** married John Holleman on Jan. 28, 2017, in Gilroy, California.

**Paige (Fujiu) Baird '09** married Kevin Baird on Oct. 28, 2016, at Terranea Resort in Rancho Palos Verdes, California. Alumni in attendance included **Jordan Crary '09**, **John Beadle '09**, **Megan Allen (McCormick) '09**, **Erica Swoboda (Mawbey-Lance) '09**, **Mark Swoboda Jr. '09**, and **Alexandra Zaretsky '09**. Paige is

a licensed marriage and family therapist and Kevin is the bassist of indie band Two Door Cinema Club.

**Natalie Lamar '09** married **Michael Aguilar '09** on Aug. 20, 2016. The couple met in Swig Hall their first year. Natalie is a pediatric nurse and Mike is a mechanical engineer. They live in Portland, Oregon.

On May 21, 2016, **Brittani Conley '10** and **Stephen Archer '09** were married at a vintage B&B in Northern California surrounded by loved ones, including many SCU alumni.

On Sept. 24, 2016, **Cassandra Anne Illich '10** married Shaun Michael Reed in a traditional Serbian Orthodox ceremony at the home of the bride's parents, in the wine and gold country of Northern California. The couple enjoyed a month-long African honeymoon on safari in Ethiopia, sailing around Seychelles Islands, and touring Morocco.

## Births & Adoptions

**Joe Manatt '02** and Alexandra Manatt welcomed their first, Theodore "Teddy" Richard Manatt, on Feb. 11, 2017. The family resides in Des Moines, Iowa.

**Stacy (Hartman) Greenwood '04** and husband Sean welcomed son Grant Joseph on July 7, 2016. He joins big brothers Landon and Cohen. The Greenwoods reside in San Jose, California.

**Matt Tuttle '05** and **Katy (Shumm) Tuttle '05** welcomed their third child, William Gary Tuttle, on Jan. 6, 2017. The happy couple, plus daughter Emily and son Jack, are overjoyed and thrilled to welcome "Sweet William" into their family. The family resides in Willow Glen, California.

**Paul Breucop '06** and **Lizette Faraji '09** joyfully welcomed daughter Phoenix Azadeh Breucop to the world on Feb. 21, 2017.

**Manjeet Singh '15** and **Anita Kumari '11** are happy to announce the birth of their baby boy, Avi Jakhar, born Dec. 7, 2016.

education and how the larger culture tends to focus on getting kids to fit in a "normal box."

**1994** In March, **Doug Purdy** and his wife premiered the feature film *Quality Problems* at the Cinequest Film and VR Festival in San Jose, California. This marks the couple's feature film debut, a tale of humor and raw emotion, in which they also star.

**1995** **Heidi Keefe J.D.** was named among the Top 20 influential women in IP law by Law360, and *The Recorder* listed her among the women leaders in technology law. She is a partner at Cooley and a first chair trial lawyer with two decades of experience representing some of the hottest tech companies in the world.

**1996** In 2016 **Kevin Albanese J.D. '08** was named a *Silicon Valley Business Journal* power executive. He is president and CEO of Joseph J. Albanese, Inc. Construction, founded by his grandfather. Albanese is a member of the Contractors State License Board, appointed by Gov. **Jerry Brown '59**.

**BE THE CHANGE**  
At her TEDx talk at Bellevue College, **Micki O'Brien '92** said society can create a "new normal" that celebrates the uniqueness of each person—one with more authenticity and love.

**1997 REUNION YEAR** *The Recorder* named **Elizabeth O'Callahan J.D.** to its 2016 list of women leaders in tech law. She is VP of legal at NetApp. ¶ **Karen (Mion) Pachmayer** is excited to be back on campus as an adjunct lecturer in the School of Engineering. She resides in San Carlos, California, with her husband and three young children. ¶ **Daniel Stollenberg M.S., J.D. '01** has joined Paul Hastings LLP. He brings a track record of expertise handling executive compensation issues in capital markets, private equity, and M&A transactions. He will be a partner in the employment law practice.

**1998** **Charles Mirho J.D.** is co-founder and chief legal counsel at TurboPatent, a venture-backed, AI cloud-based platform to aid patent attorneys in preparing, prosecuting, and analyzing patent documents. ¶ **Kathy Priest J.D.** is general counsel, VP, and secretary of the board at CData Software in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Priest is responsible for all company legal matters, including corporate and board governance, licensing, employment, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property, and running all HR functions. ¶ **Aruna Ravichandran M.S. '98, MBA '08**, is vice president



of global marketing and strategy at CA Technologies. Ravichandran presented at Gartner Symposium 2016 and wrote several articles, publications, and the book *DevOps for Digital Leaders*. In 2016, *Silicon Valley Business Journal* named her one of the top 100 most influential women in Silicon Valley, and she received the Most Powerful and Influential Woman Award from the National Diversity Council.

**1999** **Brian McQuaid J.D.** is a shareholder at Maupin, Cox & LeGoy. A Reno, Nevada native and fifth-generation Nevadan, he practices estate planning, taxation, probate and trust administration, and corporation and business law.

**2002 REUNION YEAR** **Michael Warren J.D.** is a partner at the law firm McManis Faulkner. He leads the firm's labor and employment litigation and compliance practice. Warren serves on the board of directors of the Santa Clara County Bench and Bar Historical Society.

**2003** **Chris Liebertz** has been working in aviation engineering since moving to Hawaii two years after graduating from SCU. ¶ **Rob Pereyda** is VP of VIZ Media. He is an entrepreneur, innovator, and expert in the field of Japanese entertainment, including anime, manga, and video games. His career spans a variety of corporate positions centered on unlocking the potential of Japanese intellectual property across the world. ¶ **Samantha Potts** is an inclusion specialist intern at High Tech High School in San Diego, California. Potts moved to Copenhagen, Denmark, for a year after college to work as an intern in the Child Development & Diversity program at the same school in which she studied abroad. Upon returning to the U.S., she spent the following decade working in the realm of special education and support services.

**2004** **Harbir Bhatia M.S.** writes, "Looking forward to reconnecting with SCU alums. Since graduating, I have been heavily involved in tech and community service. Also, I'm now a cultural commissioner for the City of Santa Clara. Hope to meet more of our alums." ¶ **Bryan Kohm J.D.** is a partner with Fenwick & West LLP and practices intellectual property litigation and focuses on representing high tech and life science companies in patent infringement and trade secret misappropriation disputes.



**2005** **Pamela (Salas) Nieting** was elected vice president of the San Francisco Professional Chapter of Engineers Without Borders-USA. She writes that the organization "supports community-driven development programs worldwide by collaborating with local partners to design and implement sustainable engineering projects." ¶ **Simon O'Connell J.D.** has been a district attorney with Contra Costa County for more than 11 years and serves on the District Attorney's Association Board. O'Connell was named Prosecutor of the Year by Contra Costa County for his work on the homicide team. ¶ **Benjamin Qiu J.D.** is a partner at Loeb & Loeb LLP in Beijing and Hong Kong. He is a registered arbitrator of the South China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission and has deep roots in Chinese technology startups.

**2006** In May 2016, **David J. Tsai J.D.** was recognized before the California State Legislature with the Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus Excellence in Civil Rights Award. Tsai is a partner in Vinson & Elkins LLP's San Francisco office and co-managing partner of the firm's Taipei office. He founded Santa Clara Law's Diversity Gala. ¶ **Robert Uy J.D.** is a partner at Uy Law Group, where he is an immigration and family law attorney. In 2015, he received a Minority Bar Coalition Unity Award from the Bar Association of San Francisco. He was chosen as a Super Lawyer Rising Star in 2014-17. Uy has also

*Lauren Baines '08 is a professional choreographer and dancer who presents her work throughout the Bay Area. She helped choreograph Finding San José, a multimedia stage poem that premiered in May.*

been appointed a commissioner for Parks and Rec in the City of South San Francisco.

**2007 REUNION YEAR** **Trina Sheedy** is a physician assistant in the department of otolaryngology, head and neck surgery, at UCSF Medical Center in San Francisco. She provides urgent and routine care for head and neck cancer patients during all stages of their treatment and monitoring.

**2008** **Lauren Baines** has joined the de Saisset Museum as its assistant director. Baines arrives with experience from the nonprofit arts sector within Silicon Valley, working with institutions like the Lucas Artists Residency Programs at Montalvo Arts Center as well as ongoing work with genARTS Silicon Valley.

**2009** **Kevin Carter** is a general partner of SV Angel, a San Francisco-based seed fund, where he originated investments in Snapchat, Pinterest, Casper, GroupMe (acquired by Skype), and Sunrise (acquired by MSFT). He was included in *Forbes* magazine's 30 under 30 in 2012 and 2013. He is also on the Engineering Advisory Board. While at SCU, he founded the CIE Mentor Program and was awarded "Outstanding Student Entrepreneur." ¶ **Ben Rice** is associate manager for Consumer Electronics at Walmart eCommerce.

**2010** **Linda (Wuestehube) Kahl J.D.** is senior counsel and director of OSI (Ownership, Sharing, and Innovation) at the BioBricks Foundation, which works to ensure that the engineering of biology is conducted in an open and ethical manner. ¶ **Richard Navarro M.S. '12** is working on Google's [e]Team, where he focuses on the sustainable operation of the company's European and Asia-Pacific-U.S. facilities. At SCU, he was the electrical lead on the Refract House, the entry to win 3rd place in the 2009 Solar Decathlon. ¶ **Tatiana Sanchez** won a 2017 Pulitzer Prize as part of the *East Bay Times* team that covered the tragic 2016 Ghost Ship fire in Oakland. Sanchez is the race and demographics reporter at *The Mercury News*. She got her start with *The Santa Clara* and studying journalism at SCU. [Watch for more in an upcoming edition of this magazine. —Ed.]

**2011** **Blake Coelho** has released his debut single "Crazy" as LA indie artist CASPR. Premiering on *Atwood Magazine*, the song can be

streamed via Spotify and SoundCloud and features classically polished vocals and chilling reverberations over an electro-pop-driven beat. ¶ Childhood friends **Michael Santos** and **Darren Harter** run The Futures Project, a private Bay Area foundation that focuses on community growth and promoting education, youth development, and juvenile justice.

**2012 REUNION YEAR** **Grace Kinder Fleshman** enters her fifth season at the San Francisco Giants baseball club. Grace met her husband of two years at USF while they jointly pursued master's degrees in sports management. They live in Sunnyvale, California, with their French bulldog and fur-child, Ozzie. ¶ **Lauren Orlando** is in her fifth year at Yelp, Inc., working in San Francisco, New York City, and now Chicago. She's lived in four other countries and has visited 13 countries thus far. ¶ **Quinn Peck B.S., M.S.** is a senior engineer with Arup. He has been involved in the design of building structures across a wide range of markets and project types, including high-end commercial office buildings, developer-lead high-rise towers, academic laboratories, and modular structures. ¶ **Dominic S. Irudayaraj, S.J., STL, STD '15** is a senior lecturer and senior research fellow teaching biblical courses in Hekima University College, Nairobi, Kenya. He is a Jesuit priest of Andhra Province, India, and writes that he's "glad to be in this green city (Nairobi) with its passion for the Bible—both in class and in the pastoral fields, sharing what the Jesuit School of Theology at SCU has imparted in the area of biblical studies."

**2013** **Nicholas Summary M.S.** is chief of biomedical engineering at the VA Central Iowa Health Care System in Des Moines, Iowa.

**2014** **Daniel Iritani** returns to SCU as director of external relations for the College of Arts and Sciences. Iritani spent the last four years working for U.S. Representative Ami Bera. During this time, he raised more than \$4 million to ensure the success of a \$14 million campaign. ¶ **Kiely Kreitzberg** served as an executive producer of the documentary *Mission for Good: Esperanza*. She is passionate about using the tools of microfinance and microsavings to empower women and their families in developing nations. ¶ **Mark-Phillip Pebworth** is a biomedical sciences graduate student at UCSF, studying brain development in the lab of Arnold Kriegstein. Last spring, he



**TWO CAPS** Entering her fifth season with the San Francisco Giants baseball club, **Grace Kinder Fleshman '12** serves as entertainment and in-game experience coordinator for the team. She's also the ballpark assistant to the voice of the Giants' Bay Area radio personality **Renel Brooks-Moon**.

*Jesuit School of Theology alumnus* **Dominic S. Irudayaraj, S.J., STL '12, STD '15**, presiding and preaching at the Wed'day college Mass in Nairobi, Kenya.

won an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. But more important, as he puts it, "I married Hanna Reisdorff on Sept. 5, 2016, and we're having a great time settling into San Francisco." ¶ **Nicole Shanahan J.D.** is the founder and CEO of ClearAccessIP, which uses AI to automate many of the costs related to creating a patent portfolio, managing data, analyzing inventions, and engaging in collaborative transactions. She is a Stanford CodeX Fellow and has been featured in *ABA Law Journal*, The Huffington Post, and MOGUL for her work in legal technology.

**2015** **Katie Franceschini** completed an M.A. in occupational therapy at USC. She hopes to pursue a career in pediatric occupational therapy and mental health. ¶ The concept of "simple living" is more than a motto for **Alex Garcia**—it's a practice. For work, she commutes to Google in Mountain View from Felton, California, where she shares a 400-square-foot house with her boyfriend. ¶ **Nicole Hines** is an operations program coordinator with Stanford University's Pre-Collegiate Summer Institutes. ¶ **Erica Riel-Carden J.D.** provides advisory services on AgTech and FoodTech opportunities both in the start-up market and public sector. Before law school, she assisted in preserving ornamental plant germplasm for the USDA-ARS. Riel-Carden sits on the advisory board for the SCU Food and Agribusiness Institute at the Leavey School of Business.

**2016** A first-year law student at UC Hastings, **Ryan Khojasteh** has been appointed to San Francisco's Immigrants Rights Commission, advising the mayor and Board of Supervisors on issues and policies related to

immigrants who live or work in San Francisco. ¶ **Jacob Leatherberry** reports that the solar microgrid he designed with **Nico Metais** and installed in the village of Alafiarou in rural northeastern Benin, Africa, is still up and running. In fact, it has more than doubled in capacity. Following graduation in 2016, Leatherberry returned to Alafiarou with **Constant Bossou, S.J., M.S. '17** to expand the microgrid and build an upgraded version based on research he conducted at the Latimer Solar Energy lab on campus. With both microgrids expanding steadily, at least 315 people in Alafiarou now have lights and can charge their cell phones. ¶ **Lizbeth Mateo J.D.** is an immigration-rights activist and organizer who contributes to The Huffington Post, Telemundo, Univision, KPFA/Pacifica Radio, Hoy Los Angeles, TruthDig, and La Gran Epoca about her battle to stay in the United States under DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). Mateo was one of the first five undocumented youth to engage in civil disobedience and was part of the "Dream 9" from the Bring Them Home campaign in 2013.

**2017 REUNION YEAR** **Casey Kiyohara** will be attending the Ph.D. bioengineering program at the University of Washington, starting September 2017.

*Did you graduate from SCU in 2017? Let us know where you're headed. Post a class note with your plans: [magazine.scu.edu/classnotes](http://magazine.scu.edu/classnotes). And update your address information so you'll continue to receive the magazine. ¶ If you're the parent of a Class of 2017 grad, let us know if you'd like to keep receiving the magazine. Otherwise, your subscription will end.*



PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY ROBERT SCHULTZE

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY DOMINIC S. IRUDAYARAJ



# Obituaries

We publish news of the passing of Broncos as we learn of it. Find obituaries published in their entirety at [magazine.scu.edu/classnotes](http://magazine.scu.edu/classnotes). Family members may also submit obituaries and photos for publication online and in print.

**1942** Gerald “Gerry” Graham passed away in Saratoga, California, on Jan. 29, 2017. A nephew of Charlie Graham 1898 (the namesake of Graham Hall) and cousin of Fran Smith, S.J. ’56, he played two seasons on SCU’s varsity baseball team. After the death of his wife, Jane, he was introduced to Allene, his wife of 50 years. He is predeceased by his youngest son, Steven, and survived by his wife and children, including Jane Ann Graham ’79, 10 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

**1950** Vincent A. DiTomaso was proud of the fact that he and his fellow Class of ’50 engineers held a class reunion every year—even for those serving in Korea in 1951. In 1964, Vince opened DiTomaso & Associates, an electrical engineering consulting firm in Van Nuys, California, and he later became a principal with Dalan Engineers. In 2002, he received the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award. He died peacefully in his sleep on Dec. 14, 2016. Son Joe DiTomaso said, “It is because of the lessons learned and the education he received at Santa Clara that my father became the great man that he was.”

Thomas L. Sapunor Jr. was born and raised in Sacramento. He and his wife of 65 years, Johanna, began married life in San Francisco, where their first three children were born and where Tom survived a bout with polio. A promotion brought the family back to Sacramento, where sons Peter and Stephen Sapunor ’82 were born. He earned a law degree and joined brother John Sapunor ’41 at a law firm before serving as a California administrative law judge for over 20 years. He is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchild, and nephew Jack V. Sapunor ’70.

Arthur L. Shiffar died Easter Sunday, 2016, at 89. Thanks to a football scholarship and the GI Bill, he graduated with a business degree from SCU. In 1949, he married his longtime sweetheart, Ruth Walsh. Arthur established Art’s Cart Trucking in 1960. While he loved driving, especially sports cars, deer hunting was his

lifelong passion. He hunted simply, with an old rifle, a rich knowledge of animal behavior, and a desire for a clean shot. He is pre-deceased by his wife and three siblings and survived by his daughters, companion Donna Boomershine, eight siblings, and dozens of nieces and nephews.

An SCU Athletic Hall of Famer, Ellery Williams passed away in his home surrounded by his loving family. After World War II, he was offered a scholarship to Santa Clara and became an outstanding football player who was part of the great 1950 Orange Bowl team that beat Kentucky. He went on to marry his sweetheart, Joan, and to play for the New York Giants. The couple moved to Los Altos in 1955 and had two children, whose little league and softball teams he coached.

**1951** Jack Robert Marasti died on Oct. 8, 2016. At 24, he started the Dodge/Chrysler/Plymouth family business, which he ran for 35 years with his wife, Patricia. After 52 years of marriage and Patricia’s passing, Jack became a substitute teacher; he taught until his passing at 87 years old. He is survived by his children, including Michael Marasti ’75 (his son Mark preceded him in death); grandchildren, including Richard L. Bianchi ’96; a large extended family; and his dear friend Lydia Lobdell.

**1952** Claude John Boyd, Jr. passed away on Nov. 18, 2016. He worked as an engineer at Sperry, Lockheed, Fairchild Instrument, Dalmo Victor, and IBM, where he retired in 1990. He leaves behind beloved wife, Evelyn, son Brian, daughter Corine, and eight grandchildren.

**1954** Leland Harris Taylor died peacefully on July 30, 2016. Following military service, he enjoyed a 31-year career at Bechtel during which he negotiated the Trans-Arabian Pipeline project. Never to be forgotten is his evacuation by tramp steamer from Cairo—along with the rest of the Trans-Arabian Pipeline negotiating team—during the Six-Day War. A longtime resident of Contra Costa County, Taylor expressed his passion for community by volunteering at the Contra Costa County Historical Society. He is survived by his wife Avice, daughter Audrey, son Leland Jr., and four grandchildren.

**1955** On Dec. 8, 2016, Anthony J. Escover passed away exactly how he wanted—peacefully, surrounded by family in

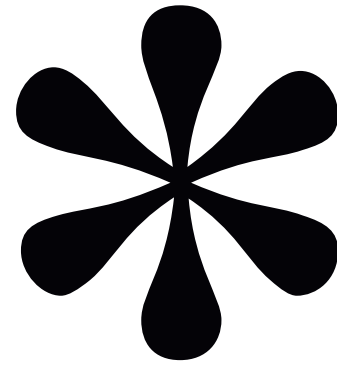
Hollister, California. The entrepreneur started a hydroponic greenhouse and sold tomatoes under the TP label, and he farmed walnuts and other crops. He grew zinfandel, syrah, and pinot noir grapes for surrounding wineries. He was preceded in death by son David F. Escover ’83 and is survived by six children, including Cathy Warshawsky ’81 and Joan Escover ’86, J.D. ’90, and 16 grandchildren.

**1956** Martin D. “Pete” Murphy passed away peacefully on Feb. 8, 2017. Pete spent his legal career at the venerable San Francisco law firm of Tobin & Tobin. He also was involved in nonprofit law, representing many Catholic entities and charities, including the San Francisco Archdiocese. He loved his volunteer work for Catholic Charities, which he shared with Joanne, his wife of 51 years. He is survived by his wife, three sons, including Martin Murphy Jr. ’88 and John Murphy ’90, and grandchildren.

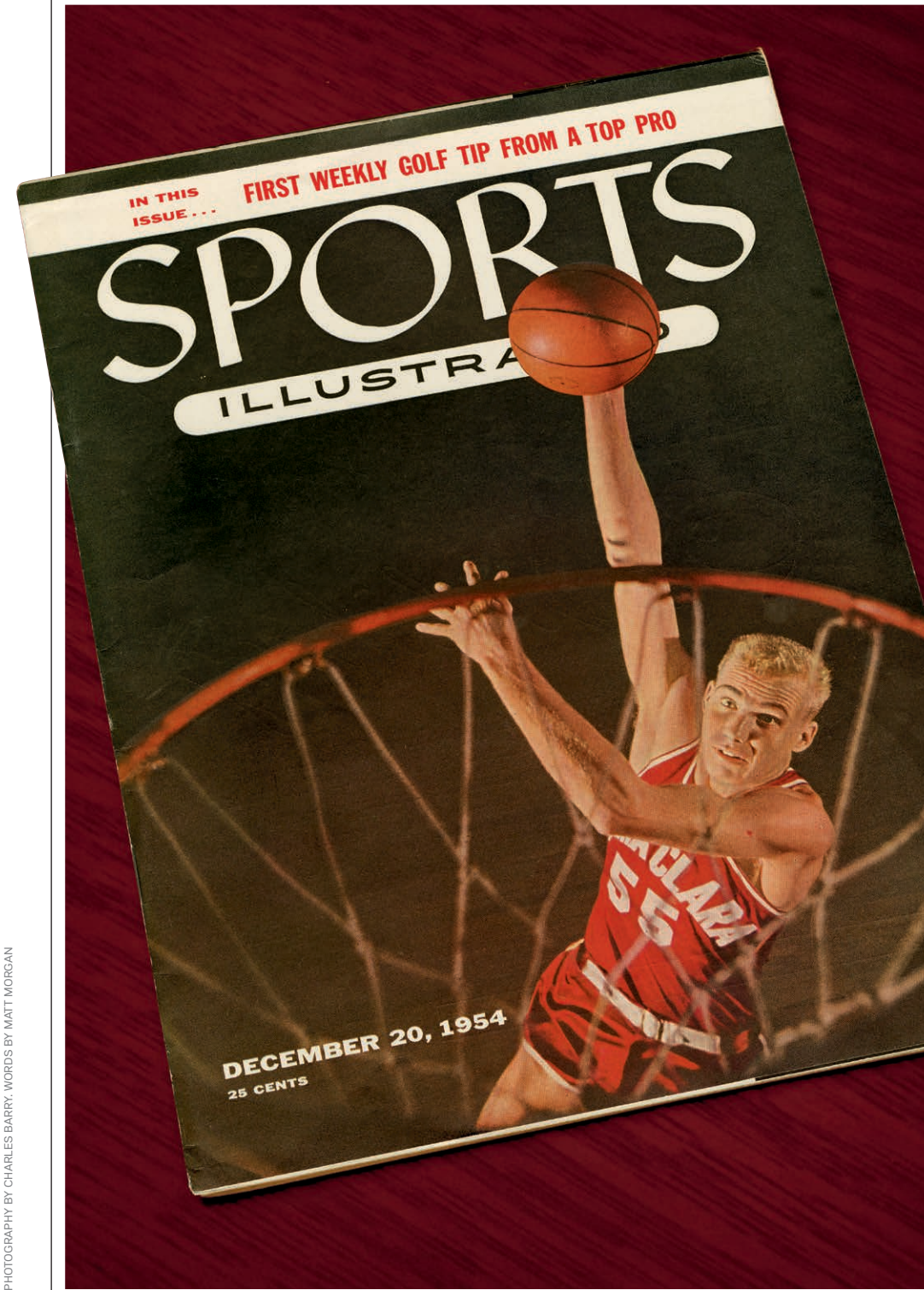
Frank “Bruce” Oneto J.D. died June 30, 2015, of congestive heart failure at age 91. He led a successful career at the Ruffo Law firm in San Jose, founded his own practice, and served the Park Mutual Water Company in Boulder Creek, California, becoming an advocate for sustainable water policy. He was preceded in death by brother John Oneto ’56 and stepson Jeff and is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

**1959** David H. Colby M.S. ’67 took pride in writing down his early memories of living in San Leandro and stories from his Navy years for his children. He always asked his kids about the “three fluids of life”: car oil, financial liquidity, and, “How’s your gut?” He fixed breakfast every morning for family, and he was called “Dr. Dave” for his ability to fix small wounds or big problems. He died Dec. 24, 2016, surrounded by his family. He and Judith Titus, whom he always called “his bride,” raised two children in Fremont, California.

**1960** David Ramm was awarded a four-year basketball scholarship to SCU before starting a career in Livermore, California, teaching middle and high school students and coaching basketball, tennis, track, and flag football. He and wife Georgia took students on international tours. As avid motocyclists, they toured the States on their Harley. He passed away March 15 from mesothelioma. Survivors include his wife and daughters Carla and Sherry.



**Go Big, Go Home. Ken Sears ’55** put Santa Clara in the Final Four and himself on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*—then shrugged. In an era when West Coast big men like Bill Russell, Lew Alcindor, and Wilt Chamberlain became icons, Sears had other plans. After six years as a Knickerbocker and two with the Warriors, he returned to Watsonville and became a different kind of legend.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHARLES BARRY. WORDS BY MATT MORGAN

His game was ahead of its time. Kenny Sears could play inside but also drove past defenders and shot from outside. He was a face-up big man before the term existed. “I thought he was the best of his era,” former SCU basketball coach Carroll Williams says. Williams played against Sears at San Jose State. “Everybody had special things they did well. He was really versatile and did everything well.”

Sears didn’t talk much. Friends agree on that. He was unassuming, uninterested in championing his accolades, but there were plenty: two-time West Coast Player of the Year (once winning over Bill Russell), a third team All-American in 1955. He led SCU to the Elite Eight twice and Final Four in 1952, beating UCLA on the way. He was the first basketball player on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*, in 1954. As a pro, he was twice an all-star and averaged 16.2 points per game.

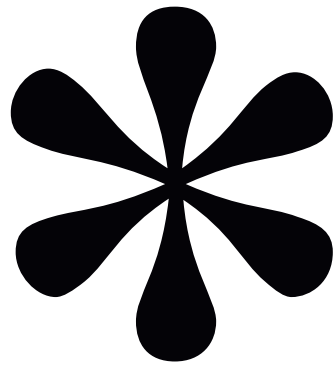
Sears enjoyed small-town life after basketball. He owned a beer-only bar in Freedom, California, named Kenny & I or Sears and I or Kenny Sears and I, depending on who you ask. He also sold RVs, for a while. He traveled to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico with his wife, Eunice, for a month at a time. At first, they stayed in an RV and eventually bought a condo. Before trips he would collect bikes and skates to give away to locals in Mexico, who knew nothing of his basketball past.

Dick Garibaldi ’55 recalled a time he visited Sears in Mexico. He hooked a sailfish on his boat and turned to his former teammate for help. “I was afraid of losing it,” Garibaldi says. Sears closed the deal and landed the fish. “We came back and I was yelling at all our friends ‘Come on, bring a camera.’” But by the time the camera arrived, locals had stripped the fish as Sears watched with a smile. “All there was was bones,” Garibaldi laughed. “So we never got a picture of it.” That’s because Sears always gave away his fish.

Playing basketball didn’t make Sears rich. His first contract was just \$8,500. He almost skipped the NBA to sign with an AAU team, the Oklahoma Phillips Oilers, where he would play and work for the company. But Sears had plenty: a wife and a son and a daughter and three granddaughters, friends and a boat. He had a life and lived it well.

*Ken Sears was one of the first basketball players to ever shoot a jump shot.*





**A Field of Dreams** is what **George Chiala '64** saw when he looked across an unprepossessing 40-acre plot covered with row upon row of jalapeño pepper plants. Commuters racing by on 101 near Morgan Hill likely didn't see the future he imagined there: a bell tower and ranks of classroom buildings in Mission Revival style. The school's name: Saint John XXIII College Preparatory High School.



*Wherever you are in the world, you've undoubtedly tasted the produce George Chiala '64 grew. Once upon a time, it started with strawberries. Read more at magazine.scu.edu.*

Chiala was no ordinary farmer. Innovative and entrepreneurial, gentle and unrelenting, he became one of the South Bay's most important community leaders and philanthropists. Morgan Hill named him Man of the Year in 2005 and gave him the city's highest honor, its Leadership Excellence Award, in 2014.

Son of a pioneering Cupertino farm family, he worked summers at his father Vito's Morgan Hill farm. One summer day in 1967, George stopped by the local drugstore for an ice cream cone and met Alice, a San Jose State food science major working at her uncle's shop. They wed after graduation, worked office jobs, then went all in on George's dream of his own farm.

"It was hard at first," Chiala said. "We planted 20 acres of strawberries and 90 acres of sugar beets, along with tomatoes and peppers. Then we began to experiment with sweet corn ... lots of it. And

after that, garlic." History will credit Chiala with perfecting the processing and packaging of minced garlic—today a multimillion dollar industry—that helped put nearby Gilroy on the map.

Alice worked as a substitute teacher and raised their four children. When school was out, they all worked the farm. Their two sons, **George Jr. MBA '02** and **Tim**, now run the business. George Sr. looked to turn his start-up farm into something bigger. He raised capital to buy more farmland and construct a new food processing plant. Business took off.

You may have never seen Chiala farm produce—but you have tasted it. In the unassuming Chiala food processing plant, there on the family farm, more than 100 million pounds of garlic, onion, jalapeños, and other crops are prepared every year, using a proprietary dehydration-brining-IQF freezing process, and diced

or minced to be shipped in barrels to food manufacturers throughout the world. They become the kick in V8 juice, the tang in Heinz ketchup, the secret ingredient in Nestlé's cocoa, and, as George liked to say, "the spark in Velveeta cheese."

George developed techniques for planting, irrigation, and water conservation; he worked with a local scientist to produce energy from plant waste. Chiala didn't like to talk much about the honors he earned, saying only that Santa Clara "taught me to have respect for everyone and see charity and good works as an expression of faith."

George Chiala passed away on Jan. 2 at age 74. He did not see the high school that he dreamed of built, but at his memorial service San Jose Bishop Patrick Joseph McGrath surmised, "George is probably working with Jesus right now to find a way to make it happen one day."

**1961** **Jon Edmund Jagger** and his loving wife of 53 years, Patti, raised four daughters in Arizona while Jon worked for the family farming business, Apache Distributors. A devout Catholic, John attended Mass every day, volunteered on the school board, and was a supporter of his alma maters. His love of deep-sea fishing, tennis, and keeping fit gave him great pleasure. He lost his battle with brain cancer Feb. 11 at age 77. He is survived by his wife, daughters **Stephanie Gann '89**, **Kim Jagger '91**, **Katy Spencer '90**, and Shannon Burke, and 11 grandchildren.

After **Jeremiah John Lynch II** received a law degree, he and his high school sweetheart, Katie, settled in Foster City, California. There they raised their five children, and many others, until moving to Boise, Idaho in 2011. They were wed for 55 years. Jerry was a trial attorney specializing in eminent domain and condemnation. He died peacefully in Boise and is survived by his wife and children, including **Sally Lynch Randall '91**. He was known as "Papa" by his 13 grandchildren.

**1964** **Dennis "Denny" Devitt** passed away July 16, 2016. After receiving his law degree, Denny worked for the Los Angeles County Counsel's Office for 25 years, followed by a partner position at Nossaman LLP until his 2008 retirement. Prior to his wife Michelle's passing in 2003, they raised two beautiful daughters, Tamara and Catherine. In May 2005, he married longtime friend Barbara Messerle. He is survived by Barbara, children, grandchildren, step-grandchildren, brother **Michael Devitt '62**, and sister Martha.

**1966** **Barbara Grant Kangas Armor** was working as a teacher in Monterey, California, when she met and married John Kangas. Barbara later moved to Springville, becoming a soccer coach, 4-H leader, and substitute teacher for more than 20 years. In 1997, she wed Bill Armor, who survives her, as do her children and siblings and grandsons. Barbara passed away Jan. 16.

Born Guillermo Gonzalez to Spanish immigrants, **William Edward Glennon J.D.**, came to Saratoga, helped organize the city's incorporation, and served eight years as its second mayor. He worked as a business and estate lawyer for 27 years. In 1984, Santa Clara County named him Lawyer of the Year. Glennon was always active: He played with the St. Louis Nationals soccer team that won the U.S.

amateur title in 1939. (He was later one of the first investors in the NASL San Jose Earthquakes.) And in 1979, he organized a Saratoga runners club to train for locals marathons, completing the New York Marathon himself in 1980 at 62. A lovely part of his story: He married Susie Raney in 1945, and they remained married for 71 years until his death on Jan. 8.

**1968** A retired attorney, pilot, and family man, **William Hugh Baber III J.D. '71** passed away Oct. 24, 2016, at 69. When Bill was growing up, his grandparents took him up in their twin engine Cessna; he always attributed his love of flying to his grandfather. In 1974, Bill moved to Chico and started his family. He was an avid pilot and loved to fly for both business and pleasure, receiving his private pilot's license in 1979. Flying his family to the Nut Tree for breakfast and taking the train to the restaurant was one of his favorite flying trips.

**1972** On Oct. 14, 2016, **John William Otter M.S.** joined his lifelong sweetheart, Elda, in eternal rest. The couple shared six decades together, giving life to three children, nine grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren. John is survived by his beloved sister and friend, Anne Woods. He taught high school math for nearly 40 years and loved the outdoors and yard work—trimming trees so his grandkids could more easily climb. He was always up for a road trip to the very end.

**1973** **Kevin McCarver** died at home Feb. 2, 2017. After about a decade working for Intel in Oregon, Kevin enrolled at Fresno State to study winemaking. Upon graduation, he took a job as the oenologist at Edgefield Winery, working there 22 years and developing a reputation for "steering the wines from harvest to bottle with a jovial, mischievous style all his own." Kevin was also an avid vegetable gardener and talented bread baker. He is survived by his wife, **Betty "JoJo" O'Connor '69**.

**1974** An ardent friend of SCU, **John Hopkins M.S.** passed away December 2016. He enjoyed an illustrious career in public works leadership for the cities of Sunnyvale and Belmont, receiving service awards from the School of Engineering, Department of Homeland Security, and American Public Works Association. He also served on the Board of Fellows, the Department of Civil Engineering's

**GLOBAL WIN** After passing the State Bar, **Bill Baber '68, J.D. '71** practiced law with the Minasian Law Firm in Oroville, California, for 32 years. His practice included water rights, civil litigation, and business law. As a young litigator, Bill brought the case *Royal Globe Ins. Co. v. Superior Court* before the California Supreme Court—and won.

**SWEET MUSIC** As the sound technician for the SCU student band **Oliver Sudden, Kevin McCarver '73** toured with the players in Europe in the summer of '71. While there, he worked the harvest, picking grapes in Bordeaux, France—his impetus for joining the wine world.

Advisory Board, the School of Engineering's Alumni Board, and as a perennial judge of the Senior Design Conference.

**1976** A world traveler and storyteller, **Virginia "Dinna" Moody MBA** pursued higher education throughout her life, earning degrees from Notre Dame de Namur, Stanford, and SCU. While stationed in Germany, she met Lt. Col. Gordon Moody, whom she married at Mission Santa Clara in 1980. Upon his passing in 2005, Dinna bought a house across the street from her sister and began attending seminars on campus. She was a lector and Eucharistic minister at the Mission Church. She also enjoyed weekly visits with women incarcerated at the Santa Clara County Jail through the Diocese of San Jose Restorative Justice Program and was an active member of the Catala Club. She died tragically after a motorist hit her while she was walking her dog. Dinna is survived by younger brother **Tom Amos '65, MBA '67**.

**1977** An avid tennis player and sports enthusiast—plus a lover of music, wine, and food—**Damian "Chris" Huttenhoff** will be remembered for his dedication to the students of Broward County. He passed away June 22, 2016, vacationing in Santorini, Greece. He was 60 years old. He and wife Donna had been married 29 years and were celebrating his retirement from Broward County Public Schools.

**John Padilla J.D. '80** was born and raised in San Jose. He established a law practice and earned recognition and appreciation for his work in family law and handling of many juvenile dependency cases—often pro bono. In 2003, he was honored by the SCU Alumni Association with the Ignatian Award for his service to others. He passed away Dec. 26, 2016. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, **Adoralida (Lopez) Padilla '86**, and their son, Jonathan.

**1982** After a decade-long fight with breast cancer, **Anne Hamill Maricle J.D. '88** passed away Sept. 26, 2015. Although a *summa cum laude* graduate, Anne was not a bookworm—she enjoyed skydiving and piloting and snow skiing. Before marrying Christopher Maricle, she served in the Consumer Advocate's Office of the Attorney General for Nevada. She was charming, intelligent, and determined and she will be missed. She is survived by her husband, children, parents, brothers, and friends too numerous to count.

WORDS BY MICHAEL S. MALONE '75, MBA '77. PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHARLES BARRY



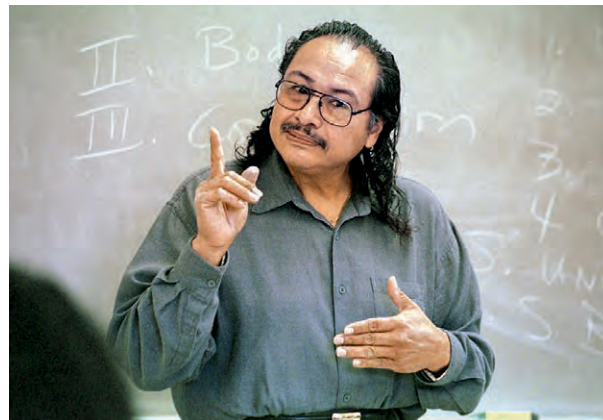
**1983** A loving father and husband, **Tim Haslach J.D. '88** married his true love, Sara Burton, in 2014—just four months after his bladder cancer diagnosis. He enjoyed an illustrious legal career, the crowning jewel being the formation of the Open Connectivity Foundation, the guiding standard body for the “Internet of Things.” An intellectual property attorney, he was included in the Oregon Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers in America directories. Tim loved to swim and was an All-American and U.S. Masters swimmer, competing in multiple English Channel relay swims.

**1997** Family man **Keith Richard Schieron** passed away Dec. 31, 2016, from a glioblastoma brain tumor. A lifelong music enthusiast, he joined several punk rock bands at SCU and adopted the moniker “Reverend Keith” while working as a DJ and general manager for KSCU. During this time, Keith met his wife, Sarah, whom he married in 2000. They traveled the world, living in London, Boston, and Seattle before settling on Vashon Island, Washington with their two fearless boys, Cooper and Woodrow. Embodying the core philosophy of punk, before his death Keith created the documentary *We Jam Econo*, dedicated to seminal punk band The Minutemen. He is survived by his wife, sons, mother and father, and brother, Mark.

**2017** When **Devin Kelly** was born, his family fell madly in love with him. Growing up, Devin adored the water and the Ventura County Fair, and like most boys—video games, sleepovers, and raiding the refrigerator with his friends. As Devin grew older, he began exploring the outdoors and at surf camp earned the nickname “The Natural.” He also had a creative side, developing a passion for drawing, playing guitar and ukulele, singing, and writing. Preceded in death by his sister, Juliette, Devin is survived by his parents, brother, grandmother, extended family and close-knit friends. He died on March 21 at 21 years old.

**William David Taylor** was a proud member of Sigma Pi fraternity and avid athlete, active in intramural sports, and he played years of basketball. He coached young athletes on Mercer Island, Washington, through the Boys and Girls Club and Little Dribblers Program. He enjoyed skiing with his family, boating on Lake Washington, and rooting for the Seahawks. He died March 4. He is survived by his parents, sister and brother, and extended family, as well as many friends from Mercer

**LOVE OF WORDS**  
**Devin Kelly '17 met writer Ray Bradbury at age 11 and the two developed a friendship that inspired Devin to become a writer himself. His family often told him he was named Devin—which means poet in Gaelic—because “the world needed more poets.” Amen.**



*“West Fresno is still in me,” Ramón Chacón said at a speech in 2013. “That’s where I’m staying tonight—zip code 93706 ... Never forget where you came from.”*

Island, SCU, and elsewhere—including his girlfriend, **Paige Olson '17**.

**2018** On Feb. 21, **Julian Willets Gustavo Fraser** passed away after an 11-month battle with cancer. A graduate of Greenwich High School, he was captain of the swim and water polo teams and a high school All-American swimmer and water polo player. While pursuing degrees in economics and political science, he was selected twice as an academic All-American from the SCU water polo team. A young man of great humility and a quiet leader respected by his peers, Julian was a great friend to all who knew him. He is survived by his parents, brothers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

## Faculty, Staff, and Friends

**Ramón Chacón**, associate professor of ethnic studies, was a force of nature: a flurry of passion, justice, logic, and guts. One of ten children born to farmworkers living in west Fresno, Chacón was an explosive performer in the classroom and fierce advocate for students outside it. He earned degrees in history and Spanish at Fresno State and a Ph.D. in history, specializing in modern Latin America, from Stanford. He taught at Humboldt State before coming to Santa Clara in 1981. He served as chair of ethnic studies three times. In the classroom, Chacón was a showman: his lectures a dance that challenged students to keep up. He tackled tough topics and challenged thinking. He excelled as a mentor. Generations of students are forever changed and

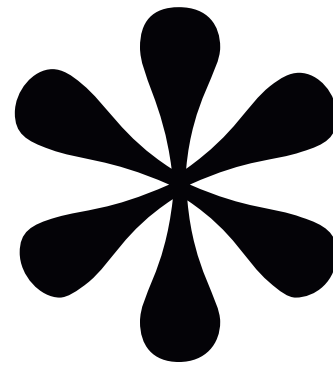
emboldened by his presence in their lives. He died from cancer on Feb. 7 at age 72.

**George Fegan** was professor emeritus and chair of the Department of Applied Mathematics as well as associate dean of the School of Engineering’s graduate programs. He made his pasta from scratch. He gave Johnny Mathis his first gig. He got his master’s in English and his Ph.D. in math because, “Why not?” As an altar boy, he nearly burned down the church (this was possibly an accident.) He was a published poet. He was a published mathematician. He was George Lucas’ favorite high school teacher. He could still arm wrestle you under the table at 80. He once flew halfway around the world to show up on his future wife’s doorstep unannounced. His wife, Sophie Chung Fegan, and children, including son **Jeff Fegan '79**, will miss his mushroom risotto and questionable sense of humor. They will not miss his singing voice. He died Dec. 20, 2016.

After being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer four years ago, **James “Jim” Robert Blair** died surrounded by his family Oct. 5, 2016, in Parker, Colorado. A successful real estate developer in Silicon Valley and Denver, Jim served on the Board of Regents and Campaign Leadership Council at SCU and had a family of Broncos, including son **Ron Blair '93, J.D. '98, MBA '99** and daughter-in-law **Lisa Blair '94, MBA '99**. He enjoyed playing golf, downhill skiing, scuba diving, and running. In 1964, Jim wed his childhood sweetheart, Donna. They spent most of their married life in San Jose before relocating to Colorado to be closer to their sons and grandchildren. Jim was a lover of life and enjoyed traveling extensively—he and Donna visited all seven continents and spent several years aboard *The World*, a residence cruise ship.

**Bernadette Allen** was a friend of SCU and member of the Bergin Legacy Society. During her lifetime, she established a scholarship for students in pastoral ministries and religious studies. She passed away Nov. 22, 2016, but her gift to SCU will benefit students for years to come.

A member of the Catala Club, **Florence G. Honore** passed away in her San Jose home Dec. 22, 2016. She was 103 years old and a woman with a strong work ethic. It was on the job at the old San Jose Creamery where she met her husband, George Honore—one of the few men with a car who would give her a ride home. They were happily married 64 years and loved the outdoors, spending happy times fishing in Alaska, Mexico, British Columbia, and on the many Sierra Lakes. She is survived by her two sons, grandchildren, and 12 adoring great grandchildren.



**Larger Than Life** only begins to describe **Kevin Starr**, arguably the greatest California historian, period. He wrote the most comprehensive history of the place. He served as State Librarian of California. We were blessed to have him teach here on the Mission campus. Santa Clara also honored him with a Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, in 1995. He was proud to be an honorary Bronco.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL MACOR FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE. WORDS BY STEVEN BOYD SAUM

He was a man of towering intellect and immense generosity of spirit. He wrote (and could he write!) a sweeping eight-volume history of the Golden State, the *Americans and the California Dream* series: Gold Rush to Progressive Era to a Silicon Valley-fueled *Coast of Dreams*. “I grew up in California, a fourth-generation Californian,” he said, “but I discovered California as the theme for history as a graduate student at Harvard, which meant that I perceived this history from a national and comparative perspective.” American history, only moreso.

His story: Born Sept. 3, 1940, in San Francisco. His parents divorced when he was a child and his mother had a nervous breakdown when he was 6; he and younger brother James were placed in a Roman Catholic orphanage in Ukiah. Five years later they returned home—living,

on welfare, with their mother in public housing in San Francisco. He took two paper routes.

He was schooled at St. Ignatius College Prep and University of San Francisco. He served as a lieutenant with a tank battalion in West Germany. He wrote for a newspaper and worked as a political aide to SF Mayor Joe Alioto. He earned a master’s in library science at Cal and became San Francisco city librarian, then state librarian. He wed; he and wife Sheila were blessed with 50 years together (and two daughters, Jessica Starr and Marian Starr Imperatore, and seven grandchildren). He taught: beyond SCU, at Cal, UC Riverside, Stanford, and as university professor of history at USC. He was honored: with a Guggenheim Fellowship and a gold medal in the California Book Awards, presented by The Commonwealth Club of California.

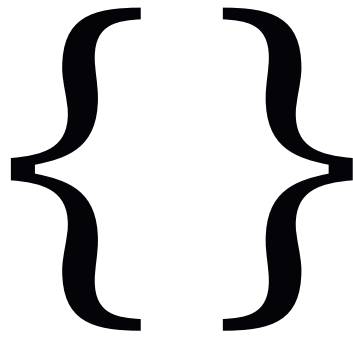
He was at work on a new multivolume epic. The first volume, *Continental Ambitions: Roman Catholics in North America: The Colonial Experience*—was published in 2016 by Ignatian Press and chronicles the role of Spain, France, and Catholic England. “It’s how these particular cultures came into the New World during the colonial period,” he said. It is an epic project, as was his life.

Gov. **Jerry Brown '59** said, “Kevin Starr chronicled the history of California as no one else”—capturing the play of people and historical forces. Poet Laureate of California Dana Gioia composed a eulogy in verse for Starr. Let some of his words conclude our farewell:

*He was not only a great intellectual figure. Kevin Starr was—for decades—the living memory of California.*

*Admired from the Golden Gate to the Sierra to SoCal: Kevin Starr “was the greatest historian Los Angeles and California ever had and ever will have,” surmised former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan '52.*





**Best Academic Library in the World.** That's not hyperbole. SCU's Harrington Learning Commons, Sobrato Technology Center, and Orradre Library earned the 2017 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. Call it the Academy Award of libraries. Nobody is better at putting resources in the hands of students and faculty. Their philosophy: Reflect, engage, transform.



THE MAIN LIBRARY  
Soc. Calif. 1894

**VARSI LIBRARY**, opened in 1931, was named after **Aloysius Varsi S.J.**, the university's sixth president. Four gorgeous wooden tables from Varsi now serve as reading tables in University Archives and Special Collections.

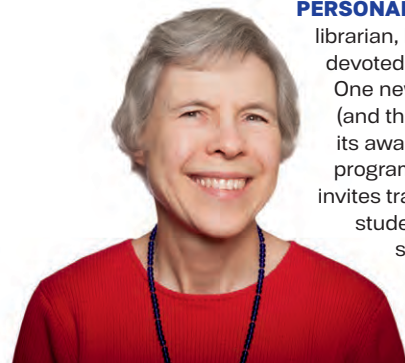


**THE ORIGINAL** The first central library was housed on the second floor of the Adobe Lodge. The Main Library housed some 270 Mission era volumes. When access was limited to faculty, most of whom were Jesuits, the space was known as the Father's Library—so student sub-collections formed around campus.



*Tucked away around the back corner of this photo is an unfinished "secret" fourth floor. As University Librarian Jennifer Nutefall tells it, the restricted level offers a prime view of campus and the Valley.*

*A gift from California rancher and University Regent Michel P. Orradre funded the construction of Orradre Library in 1964. A bonus: To make way for the library, the University razed a building that had once housed a tannery—and students said still smelled awful. Michel's son, Michel J. Orradre '60, continued the family's legacy with a \$2 million gift to support construction of a library for the 21st century in 2008.*



**PERSONAL TOUCH** As humanities librarian, **Leanna Goodwater** has devoted four decades to her work. One new innovation she loves (and that helped win the library its award): A personal librarian program, launched in 2015. It invites transfer students, international students, LEAD Scholars, and select others to personally connect with library staff.



**THE CRANES** The Automated Retrieval System (ARS) is a card catalog meets *The Jetsons*. Three large cranes (Hart, Ichabod, and Stephen), move up and down rows of metal bins, offering on-demand access to 800,000 books, journals, documents, and microfilm. From click to book takes less than five minutes.

91. NOSTO NARYN TEBORDEY BY ERYN BROWN  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOANNE LEE. ARCHIVAL IMAGES COURTESY SCU ARCHIVES. WORDS BY DEVIN COLLINS '17

## CAM'S CORNER

IT WAS THE first tournament **Cameron McCarthy '17** ever boxed in. Trying to get in the right head space before her fight, she heard "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" over the loudspeaker. She was ready to clobber the DJ. Instead, the 5-foot-1 brawler took it out on the competition: making nationals three of four years and finishing second in 2017. **† Marty Sammon '56** also knows about boxing. He has officiated 51 world championship bouts as a judge and referee. He played a ref on the big screen in *Million Dollar Baby*. He says boxing is like taking a course on courage. That he knows, too. As a young officer in the 101st Airborne, he was dispatched to Little Rock, Arkansas, when Central High was being integrated in September 1957. Nine African American kids just wanted to go to school. We're honored to have Marty on our side. So is Cam. How about you? [scu.edu/give](http://scu.edu/give)







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