Green Without Envy

MBAs get ahead by focusing on the environment.

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Music City Musings 26
Frank and Linda Nausin support CLU’s mission and tradition of Lutheran education

“We are people who have always made giving an important part of our life. When we began our estate planning, we decided that we should leave something to the institution that has made such a huge difference in the life of our family. It is just right to pass on to CLU some of the blessings that have come to us in life. In the meantime, we will continue to support CLU as God has so richly blessed us.”

Linda (Lewis) and Frank Nausin have had a long and fruitful relationship with CLU. Both graduated from California Lutheran College in 1970, and Frank is now a CLU regent and pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, just down the street from the University. Linda is coordinator of the doctoral program in CLU’s Graduate School of Education. Both of their sons, Tim ’97, MBA ’01, and Jeremy ’03, and a niece, Jenna Cristiano ’06, are CLU alumni.

The Orville Dahl Society was established to honor those who provide for the University in their estate. It was named in recognition of CLU’s founding president, Orville Dahl, who gave life to what was then California Lutheran College. As envisioned by Dahl, a key element to the fulfillment of our mission is the continued growth of the University’s endowment. Frank and Linda share that vision.

The Orville Dahl Society gives everyone the opportunity to carry on Dr. Dahl’s work. Membership in the society is open to all who have made some form of estate or deferred gift commitment of any amount to CLU.

If you believe that you qualify for membership or would like information on how to become a member of the Orville Dahl Society, call the Office of Estate and Gift Planning at 805-493-3166 or visit our website at www.clugift.org.
MBAs Do Well by Doing What’s Right

As the environmental bottom line becomes a focus of large and small companies, CLU is instilling managers with a new vision. An MBA trained in the science of renewable energy leads the way.

Delving Into Dreams Deferred

Global studies director Akiko Yasuike and her students begin a three-year project on the college experiences of undocumented immigrants in Southern California.

The Universe According to Jarvis

When religion professor Jarvis Streeter was diagnosed with cancer, he told himself he had nothing to complain about and everything to ponder.

Leap of Faith to Music City

Matthew Burgess ’90 lives an examined life on the road to and from Nashville, seeking the soul of every song and playing percussion until somebody gets famous.
The center of campus is set for transformation two years from now, when the new Dining Commons is standing across from Kingsmen Park, where the Student Union Building just came down.

Like other see-through buildings on campus, the two-level structure will draw in natural light with high glass walls. Its sloped roof will nod to the south, amid three large upper-level patios for eating and gathering.

Many of these key design features were temporarily axed under a scaled-back budget for the project. CLU Regent George “Corky” Ullman Jr.’76 and his brother Steve Ullman ’77 compared the two plans and ultimately decided to kick in $2 million to rescue the original $15 million design.

The gift comes from the Ullman Foundation, which also represents alumni Cody Ullman ’01 and Chad Ullman ’08. The family has provided support for CLU scholarships and facilities, including Ullman Stadium, for nearly 35 years. ☺
AUGUST 2012

$2 million gift buys wow factor for campus hub

The building is designed to meet requirements for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver status.

Refresh browser in fall for student radio

Junior Chad Phillips was deejay of a Wednesday-night country music show in spring and plans to return to iCLU this academic year.

Working out of a studio in the year-old building housing KCLU Radio, the student-run Internet station iCLU began streaming its weekday evening programming in April. So far it’s aired a talk show on gossip, tech trends and pop culture, a campus and professional sports wrap-up, and the varied musical picks of student deejays at icluradio.com.

“We really want everyone to use it as a way to promote themselves,” said Ashley Messersmith ’12, the first general manager. She envisions interviews with student musical acts and members of issue-oriented clubs, poetry slams and coverage of careers, majors and campus events.

“It’s been a very student-driven project, and I think it will be that way for a while if nothing goes wrong,” Messersmith said.

Junior Chad Phillips was deejay of a Wednesday-night country music show in spring and plans to return to iCLU this academic year.

Changing Chapel hours

Come September, visitors planning to attend University Chapel will need to adjust their itineraries by one day. Services will be held on Thursdays from 11:25 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. With the growth of student enrollment, the 10 to 11 a.m. time slot on Wednesdays has become prime time for class scheduling.
For six weeks this summer, 55 high school students are getting a taste of college life – living on campus, participating in personal growth workshops, visiting other college campuses and taking rigorous courses in math, literature, composition, foreign languages, science, public speaking and music.

The summer residential experience is part of CLU’s Upward Bound program that motivates and prepares low-income and potential first-generation college students to continue their education.

Thanks to more than $3 million in grants from the U.S. Department of Education, the largest five-year awards CLU has ever received for the program, the University will add 60 students a year from two Los Angeles County high schools, while continuing to serve 86 students a year from Oxnard’s public high schools.

In the last five years, CLU’s TRIO Traditional Upward Bound program has served more than 250 students whose GPAs upon acceptance ranged from 1.5 to 4.2. All of them graduated from high school, and 96 percent enrolled in post-secondary institutions. This year’s 27 graduating seniors have all enrolled in colleges.

briAn STEThEM '84
Earning a high school diploma was a major challenge for Tammy Rivera-Tubbs, who was caring for a 6-month-old baby boy at graduation time. Almost 30 years later, the Moorpark mother of six completed her doctorate in educational leadership and was selected to speak on behalf of her class at CLU’s Graduate Commencement ceremony in May.

Rivera-Tubbs’ parents were high school dropouts who placed a high value on education and had dreams of their daughter going to college. She hid her pregnancy from them for nearly half a year before finally having to witness their tears and disappointment. Still, they supported her and her decision to keep the baby. A few years after high school, she joined the Air Force, and she met her husband, Richard Tubbs, while they were both stationed in Korea.

When Rivera-Tubbs decided to leave the Air Force in 1996 with no idea of what she would do next, it was her husband who inspired her “to go the distance, to be more than I thought I could be,” she said.

What she did next was complete college and become a special education teacher. She also earned master’s degrees in special education and educational administration and has worked as a middle school teacher, dean of at-risk students and summer school assistant principal. She currently teaches in the Oxnard School District.

“I wanted to give my children the opportunity to go to college,” Rivera-Tubbs told the Commencement audience. The next day, she watched her daughter Brittany graduate from CLU and, in June, watched daughter Tajah graduate from Stanford University.

The first, 15-member cohort of students in the international MBA program based in Graz, Austria, finished up with two weeks of coursework in Thousand Oaks. They are pictured on campus on the day of Graduate Commencement and at Paradise Cove Beach Cafe in Malibu. The managers, entrepreneurs and civil servants studied part time for 15 months in Austria and online.
“Mountain men are hard to sell,” remarks former “Newlywed Game” host Bob Eubanks, indicating a painting hung at the Rolland Gallery of Fine Art. This one is not part of the $178,000 collection donated by Eubanks, but a piece on loan from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum. In it, a pensive face under a fur cap gazes skyward at something far out of our view, like a politician on a campaign poster.

Through Sept. 15, paintings and sculptures of horses, cowboys, native Americans, rodeo clowns, sheepdogs, landscapes and lonely houses from the Eubanks, Reagan and Rolland art collections are on exhibit in the gallery, under the winking title “Western Salon,” as in not a saloon. The paintings are displayed salon-style, closely next to and atop one another, and the curator has planned a series of informal salon gatherings around the exhibit.

Back at the Eubanks family cattle ranch in Santa Ynez, before it was sold, the late Irma Eubanks and later their son Trace hosted the Peppertree Art Show for 33 years, amassing and helping to market Western American art. That’s how Bob Eubanks learned about the glut of painted mountain men and the strict requirements of Western people who collect art.

For one thing, if you want to sell a horse – a painted or a sculpted one, that is, which in certain cases will set the buyer back as much as a live one – you’d better
make sure that you have the bone structure and the musculature right, and that you know horses. Thomas Lorimer shows this kind of horse sense in “Distant Thunder,” says Eubanks, commenting on one of the paintings he donated.

“If you’re a horse person, you understand that you tell a horse’s emotions by their ears. If they’re paying attention, they do like this,” he says, holding up cupped palms. “If they’re mad or determined, they put them back. If they’re scared, they go up and their nostrils widen. So he’s hearing thunder off in the distance.”

In short, says Eubanks, cowboy art succeeds not because it is romanticized, but because it’s authentic. The sole exception in his family collection is a whimsical Kent Butler painting of a cowboy drinking tea, which cowboys don’t do, according to Eubanks.

However, cowboys do make cowboy art. Maybe that’s why the big association for Western American art is called the Cowboy Artists of America. You can’t tell from the name who the cowhands are, the painters or the painted.

“That’s Martin Grelle,” Eubanks says of the rider depicted in “Workin’ Buddies,” by Martin Grelle. “He gets up every morning with that dog and he goes out and he rounds up cattle, and checks the cattle. That’s what he does.”

Another well-known Western painter, Donald “Putt” Putman, sold the Eubanks family a watercolor depicting Cotton Gray, the “roper and rough old cowboy” who ran the cattle ranch for perhaps 30 years. Eubanks has kept a few paintings in his Westlake Village home, including two “of my boys roping,” but did not have display space for the rest after selling the Santa Ynez property. He donated four sculptures and 26 paintings through his friend Rick Lemmo, a CLU regent and parent of a current student.

All of the donated works are by contemporary artists featured at the Pepper-tree show, according to Eubanks.

“[Irma] was so sensitive to the artists’ feelings that if an artist would come to the show and bring some pretty good stuff and not sell anything, she felt so bad about it that sometimes she’d just buy a piece,” Eubanks said. “So a lot of this art came along that way.”
When did your fascination with dance start?
I was a little kid living in Philadelphia. We were watching something on NBC, a ballet of some kind. And there was a ballerina there doing pirouettes, and she had on a tutu, and I said, “I want to do that.” I was 5, maybe 4.

What I did was go to the library and check out a book on ballet and started working on the positions by myself. Over time, I took a tap/modern ballet combination class at the Y, and did dance and gymnastics through high school. I started taking ballet classes in college at UC Riverside and have been taking them ever since.

And you founded a professional ballet company here on the West Coast. You also went to work in business and in municipal finance consulting. How did that come about?
Nobody wants you to be a dance major, at least not in my family. So as an avocation I always danced, and I majored in something else, eventually finishing with my bachelor’s degree in economics. Later, I was looking for an MFA program, but decided to do an interdisciplinary Ph.D. instead. My dissertation had to do with the way ballet companies are run in different countries.

Did you start researching dance in TV advertising because you liked ads with dance or because you couldn’t stand them?
Advertisers learned really early on that they had to go to aesthetics to get people to pay attention to their ads in the first place, because nobody wants to hear; “This is going to be good for you because…” Commercials like the Diet Pepsi “Brown & Bubbly” commercial, or the T-Mobile commercial in the Liverpool train station, or like the Kia Soul commercial with dancing hamsters: those are aesthetics. They’re beautiful art forms even though they reside in cyberspace or television. It was an iPod advertisement that actually got me really into this.

But there’s a problem, right?
Yeah. The problem is, the advertisers are taking something that would be considered sacred in a particular social setting and using it to further consumption of a product that people don’t really need.
Dances like hip-hop and jazz, or social dances like rave, are social commentary. When you see people out there dancing, they’re actually saying something back about the superstructure, making a commentary. When you take dance out of that context and change it so that it’s tied to consumption, you diminish it. You diminish the power that was there.

So would it be better to have ads without dance?
Look, everyone likes to have a good time. But I also know that we live in a world where fewer and fewer people are being exposed to dance in the streets and in the theater. I find that deeply troubling.
The other day I went to the Apple store and I downloaded some music, and I had it going into my subwoofers and my big speakers in my office at home, and I turned it up, and I’m standing there and I’m dancing by myself in my office. Back in the day, we used to do that in a group. You have your music outside, or you have it at a party. People might still be doing that – they probably are – but I think it’s happening less and less as a real social environment and it’s happening more and more virtually.
Why do advertisers think it's effective to use dance? Are they right?

It works in this area of awe. When you see people dance, you go, "Wow. Oh, man, that was really, really awesome." There's some relationship between a positive movement in your body, whether you know it or not, and a perception toward a brand. This is part of what we're looking into.

What happens in this car commercial for the Kia Soul, the one with the hamsters and the warrior robots dancing together in a post-apocalyptic landscape?
The animated cyborgs are so happy that they're dancing. They stop fighting.

I mean, what makes the ad interesting for you?

A car is a high-involvement product, and high-involvement products are candidates for emotional appeals. And the ad has lots of African-American dance, hip-hop or whatever, moved off of an African-American body and put onto animated beings.

Depending upon how you read that, it might not be so cool for you. Black social dance has been in the background of television advertising since the 1950s, since the dawn of television, but people could only swallow the aesthetic on the television if it was on a non-black person.

And here it's on cartoon hamsters and deadly robots. This seems like some sort of strange progression. In the Pepsi commercial, the can dances.

There's a human universal that people have danced since the beginning of time. Maybe what's happening is that the way that we dance is transitioning away from what it has been to something else. I don't know.

If you pull up a Yahoo page, you'll see a little ad over there with somebody dancing about getting a degree. The big question we should ask is whether this is favorable or detrimental. Do we get to a point in a society where we no longer have dance on the ground?
The past and present collide for a water polo player whose great grandfather lived in CLU’s water tower and worked on the Pederson Ranch when he first arrived from Oklahoma in 1930.

By Rhiannon Potkey
Reprinted with permission from the Ventura County Star

Morgan McCardell didn’t need a campus tour to convince her to attend Cal Lutheran. She was already sold on joining the women’s water polo team and working toward a degree in exercise science.

After an unhappy stint at UC Irvine, the family-oriented McCardell was eager for a fresh start closer to home and CLU felt like the perfect fit. Little did McCardell know just how close that connection to her family would be.

As CLU women’s water polo coach Craig Rond showed McCardell and her mother around campus, they arrived at the historic Pederson Ranch house and water tower. McCardell and her mother gasped. They had no idea both structures still existed, let alone were on CLU’s campus.

McCardell’s great grandfather, Edward Maurer, lived in the water tower and worked on the Pederson Ranch when he first arrived in California from Oklahoma in 1930.

“At the risk of sounding cheesy, it was one of those moments where everything kind of came full circle and I knew I was where I was supposed to be,” McCardell said. “It kind of brought it all together and brought a sense of family here. It made me believe everything happens for a reason.”
McCardell wanted to play Division I water polo after graduating from Rio Mesa High, but she never felt comfortable with her role at UC Irvine.

“They didn’t really have a spot for me,” the junior driver said. “I was a utility player and supposed to play wherever they needed me, but it really kind of turned out to work negatively toward me because they never really had a place they needed me.”

McCardell became more homesick during her sophomore season. She missed seeing her younger sisters play water polo, and didn’t even want her family at her own games anymore.

“I told my parents not to even come watch me because I knew I wasn’t going to play much,” she said. “In high school, I loved when they were there, but it just didn’t make me happy anymore.”

At the time, Rond was coaching McCardell’s younger sister, Madison, who was on a team with his daughter. The team had a game in Irvine one weekend, and McCardell came over after practice to watch. She struck up a conversation with Rond, unaware of his ties to CLU.

“I walked in and was totally beat down and looked terrible,” she said. “I had no idea who he was. I just thought he was some random dad. He asked how things were going. I told him things were not working out well, and he was really nice and told me to stay positive. That really made an impression on me.”

Although McCardell’s unhappiness at UC Irvine was emotionally taxing, it pales in comparison to the tragic upbringing of her great grandfather.

Maurer lived in an orphanage until he was 18. He had partial scholarship offers to play baseball in college but couldn’t afford the remaining tuition, so he decided to move west with some friends and find a job. He had only one dollar to his name, which he put in his shoe. The dollar remains in circulation with the family to this day.

Maurer eventually reached Moorpark and began knocking on doors asking for work. He found a position as a field hand on the Pederson Ranch and was allowed to live in the water tower. He remained in the county until his death six years ago on Christmas Eve.

McCardell’s mother, Julie, learned about her grandfather’s background while doing a midterm paper for a history class at Moorpark College.

“She came flooding back during the tour of CLU. Richard Pederson gave 130 acres, including the ranch house and water tower, to Cal Lutheran’s first president Orville Dahl in 1957. The house and tower were renovated in 1986 and moved from their original location to the northeast corner of Faculty Street and Regent Avenue.”

Rond was telling McCardell and her mother the history of the ranch as they approached the site.

“Her mom said her grandfather worked on the ranch and started talking about this water tower and how she has a picture of him on the steps of the water tower,” Rond said. “As she is saying this, we turned the corner and I said, ‘You mean like that one right there?’ It was crazy. It was like something out of a Hollywood movie.”

McCardell is working on the fairy-tale ending. Once again sporting her familiar smile, she is leading CLU in most statistical categories this season.

“It’s nice to be a needed player,” she said. “It’s nice to be somebody who, when games get tight, is put in and expected to perform. That is what I love. I love pressure and I love the feeling of having responsibilities. I feel like I play better that way.”

More important to McCardell, her parents and grandparents can attend nearly every CLU game, and she can watch her sisters play on a regular basis. If she needs even more family comfort, she can walk by the water tower at CLU to rekindle memories of her great grandfather.

“I couldn’t be happier,” McCardell said. “It is like night and day from the last few years. Going through what I did at Irvine has made me appreciate Cal Lutheran that much more. Everything just kind of worked out like it was destiny.”

Ventura County Star, April 17, 2012
CLU loses longtime athletic surgeon
By Carol Keochekian ’81

His place on the bench is empty – forever.

Dr. Melvin Hayashi, CLU athletics team physician for 17 years, mentor, educator and supportive friend, died March 11, 2012. He was 71.

“He was a fantastic surgeon who knew and understood the mind-set and psyche of an athlete,” said CLU Vice President for University Advancement Steve Wheatly ’77, who had more than one surgery performed by the talented orthopedist.

As the primary surgeon to CLU athletes, Doc (as he was known on campus) performed hundreds of operations and offered his expertise to student athletic trainers. He held free injury clinics and allowed them to observe surgeries.

“He gave so many volunteer hours with our students and with me and my staff,” recalled Head Athletic Trainer Kecia Davis, who brought the orthopedic surgeon to CLU in 1994. “He was such an amazing doctor, teacher and person.”

Diagnosed in 2010 with esophageal cancer, Hayashi stayed with CLU athletics through the year’s end, even joining the football team as they traveled to Linfield College in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Hayashi tended to athletes far beyond CLU, working with Conejo Valley high schools, Moorpark College, the U.S. National Soccer Team and at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. His talents earned him membership in the United States Olympic Committee Sports Medicine Society.

Hayashi’s Thousand Oaks office showcases his dedication to sports and athletes, with photos of his teams, award citations and trophies displayed on the examining room walls. Autographed photos of known sports figures dot the walls.

“Mel was a fixture on the sidelines at so many athletic venues throughout the community at CLU, Newbury Park, Westlake and Moorpark,” Wheatly said. “When you think about people who helped to build athletic programs in the community, he is the person you think about. It was tough looking on the sidelines this fall and not seeing Doc there.”

Britlyn Garrett already had the NCAA Division III women’s javelin title wrapped up. So the No. 2 seed’s final throw at the national championships was not a last shot at glory, as if this were an underdog sports movie set at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps.

But did she ever approach it that way.

“Coming down the runway, I heard the announcer say it was the last throw of my collegiate career,” said Garrett ’12, who graduated with a business degree earlier in May. “I wanted to leave it all out on the track.”

Garrett improved her personal best and the Cal Lutheran record by 2.41m, with a throw of 47.14m (154 feet, 8 inches).

She was the only NCAA track and field champion from the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference this year, in men’s and women’s competitions.
AUGUST 2012

Track, tennis, golf go to nationals

CLU athletes on four teams advanced to NCAA Division III championships this May, with several earning All-America status in their sports. The women’s and men’s track teams each sent two competitors to the national meet in Claremont, including NCAA women’s javelin champion Britlyn Garrett.

The Kingsmen tennis squad advanced to the second round of nationals, and Nicholas Ballou made the singles final in Cary, N.C., where he forced the nation’s top-ranked player to a deciding third set. With partner Ray Worley, Ballou also advanced to the doubles quarterfinal.

The men’s golf team played two rounds at the NCAAs in Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida, with Mikey McGinn advancing as an individual player.

All-America honors went to Garrett, to Ballou in singles and Ballou and Worley in doubles, and to Eric Rogers, who placed sixth in the men’s triple jump.

In April, the women’s track and field team won its first Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title, which it shared with Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. Sprinter Julea Juarez was named SCIAC Athlete of the Year in track, racking up individual and team victories at the conference level. She won the 400m championship and anchored SCIAC wins in the 4x400m and 4x100m relays.

At the conference championship, the 4x400m relay team of Julea Juarez (l), Lauren Rohach, Melissa Muntzel and Lauren Rasmussen broke a 14-year-old SCIAC meet record with a time of 3:53.12.

Nicholas Ballou is the national runner-up in men’s singles and SCIAC Athlete of the Year for men’s tennis.

Coach Slimak gets 500th win

A standout pitching performance clinched baseball coach Marty Slimak’s 500th win with the Kingsmen in March, at a home game during his 19th season in Thousand Oaks.

“If you stay around long enough, it is bound to happen,” a humble Slimak said after the 3-1 victory over Whittier.

Slimak’s go-to senior, Byron Minnich, threw a complete game, striking out nine as he scattered four hits and allowed no earned runs. The record of CLU’s winningest coach now stands at 514-268-7.

One day later, on March 3, Mike Gennette hit 200 career victories as CLU’s men’s tennis coach.

AUGUST 2012
Doing Right by Planet, MBA Students Do Well

By Kevin Matthews
Brendon Cussio, MBA ’10, is green but not an activist.
Let’s call him an accidental environmentalist – a businessperson who’s doing his part to keep life on Planet Earth livable.

Before getting his graduate degree with an emphasis in finance, Cussio worked for nearly a decade in the financial services industry. He moved on to a leadership role in the renewable energy sector a year and a half ago after a client at Wells Fargo, who was also the CEO of Ventura County-based SolarSilicon Recycling Services (SRS), made him an offer that included an equity stake in the company.

“It’s largely opportunistic,” said Cussio, vice president of marketing and finance at SRS. “This is a great business to be in. It’s growing at a very, very rapid rate. It’s very dynamic. It’s very volatile. It’s exciting.”

It’s also work that Cussio can feel good about. Using proprietary techniques, SRS recycles waste that comes from conventional silicon manufacturers and turns it into feedstock that can be sliced up for use in solar cells and panels that produce electricity, without adding greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Before SRS and its two international competitors came along, all that waste was destined for landfills.

“So we’re taking, basically, material out of a landfill and turning it into a green, renewable resource,” Cussio explains. Business has been booming because recycling ultimately reduces costs for solar energy producers.

As environmental sustainability becomes a permanent focus of large and small firms, including the great majority of Fortune 500 companies, all sorts of industries will need decision-makers with knowledge of law, engineering, finance, marketing and theory as they relate to green business.
That’s one reason why Cussio, along with other CLU alumni and local businesspeople, has joined forces with management lecturer Valeria Makarova in the effort to build a sustainable business program at CLU.

Makarova, a biophysicist with a Ph.D. in biology who has done fundamental research in renewable energy, earned her own Cal Lutheran MBA in 2008 and stayed on to launch graduate courses in Green Business and Corporate Social Responsibility. She soon began collaborating with faculty and School of Management Dean Chuck Maxey on a program to meet a growing demand in the business community.

MBA students this fall will be able to choose sustainable business as a professional track, on a par with other academic emphases from macroeconomics to marketing. Graduates might take up internships and later work at green businesses in this region, or they could lead efforts at startups and established firms to build a competitive advantage on social and environmental responsibility.

“The business community realizes this is not just about being good,” Makarova said. “It’s a big challenge how to show return on investment for sustainable initiatives, but speaking long term, it makes perfect sense from the standpoint of brand value and customer loyalty. And as regulations become stricter and stricter, you’re on the safe side if you’re at least a little bit ahead.”

A native of Russia who has worked in Germany and Korea and at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colo., Makarova has a global perspective on environmental challenges. Her personal mission, however, has less to do with resolving international disputes than with “bridging the gap between academia and industry.”

The experience in Colorado working on photosynthesis and biohydrogen production, she says, “was a turning point in my life. In that laboratory environment, we also had people addressing what we did in business terms. And I thought, ‘OK, I need to learn how to do that.’”

In recent years, as interest in sustainable business has grown “exponentially,” Makarova said, the working definition of the idea has changed. Managers and academics alike now speak of a “triple bottom line” used to evaluate a company’s performance in social, environmental and financial terms.

The approach has had an impact worldwide, including among graduates of CLU’s full-time MBA program for international students. Having completed two of Makarova’s courses, for example, Jefferson Matsuda, MBA ’11, returned to Maringá, Brazil, with a new vision for his family’s trucking company, which transports liquid cargo around southern Brazil.

Matsuda said he got support from his uncle and his father, the CEO and CFO of Rodoviário Matsuda, on two ideas that he came up with during the CLU courses: a sustainable new headquarters and company meetings conducted by teleconference.

“Besides reducing utilities costs, the building can also promote a better environment for the workers and increase productivity,” because of improved air quality and extensive use of natural light, writes Matsuda in an email.

With Matsuda on the Quality and Security Management Team, the company has new training for drivers and a speed control program to reduce accidents involving its 200 vehicles, which often carry hazardous materials. He reports that the company has begun an extensive recycling program and says that it is addressing carbon emissions with a low average fleet age, good maintenance and regular smog tests.

Such measures all could be considered baby steps, given the magnitude of global warming, declining biodiversity around the world and other serious ecological challenges. Calling herself a realist, Makarova said that dissent and critique from environmentalists have been very important, but that corporations will play a more decisive role in our future.

“We really think that this is a time to do something about [the environment], not just talk about it,” said Makarova. “But who will do that?”
Undergraduates set out on a three-year project to understand the experience of college students and recent graduates whose immigration status stands between them and their future.

Associate professor of sociology Akiko Yasuike, Rocio Ayala ’12, Maricela Bolanos ’12 and senior Lynzi Tarango want to shed light on a subject that often just generates heat: undocumented immigrants in the U.S. system of higher education.

CLU’s ambitious three-year project to collect the personal narratives of undocumented college students in Southern California is the brainchild of Yasuike, a Japanese immigrant who directs the University’s global studies program and whose courses explore a range of immigration issues. However, Yasuike could not easily have undertaken this project without...
the three undergraduate research assistants – all of them first-generation college students – and their networks of contacts.

In recent years, as Yasuike got to know and mentor undocumented immigrant students at CLU, their struggles became her cause.

"Just the fact that some undocumented students make it to college is itself a puzzle," she said. "I really wanted to explore what actually made them succeed despite the obstacles they face."

So she set out to ask them.

Yasuike put together her research proposal last spring and by summer had lined up the student-researchers to help her review literature on the subject, develop research questions and create an interview guide.

She also needed the students’ help to identify potential interviewees at community and four-year colleges in the region. In addition to contacting people they knew from high school and before, the research team members began connecting with student organizations on other college campuses in Ventura County and the San Fernando Valley, especially groups that fought to pass California’s Dream Act last year.

By fall, they were immersed in the interview process, exploring how the lack of legal status impacted social life, educational experiences and identity development.

The study will continue for two more years, with the goal of interviewing 10 undocumented college students or college graduates each year. While the first year’s sample was made up entirely of Latino immigrants, the plan is to expand the interviews to other ethnic and racial groups, including Asians and students from Middle Eastern countries.

Many of the students who were interviewed reported struggling to manage their social identity, particularly in high school. They often felt that they had to hide or lie about their status, and they lived with the sense that they were inferior to others and that no one would understand their plight.

They also learned from an early age that many in this country viewed them as criminals and opportunists bent on taking jobs and resources away from American citizens.

Perhaps most devastating, the CLU researchers found, the lack of legal status eroded the confidence and ambition of undocumented students, as they began to grapple with the reality that, despite hard work and dedication to their studies, they would be facing a future of limited opportunity and menial job prospects.

"I think being undocumented probably made me the best liar in the whole world, because you end up excusing for everything: for not having a driver’s license, for not having a car. So I can come up with a lie." – Becky

"I always try to put a front so no one ever knows that I was born in Mexico... I do not like soccer. I like the Chicago Bulls because they are the hot thing." – Erick

Though feeling deflated, these students often respond by redoubling their efforts, which is what makes their personal narratives so moving, according to student-researcher Rocio Ayala.

“That drive, that resilience they have to keep going is really inspiring," she said.

Ayala, herself an immigrant from El Salvador, said the study has highlighted the importance of social networking for undocumented students, with those interviewed pointing up the value of finding mentors and enrichment programs that helped them push forward despite the obstacles they faced.

The study also has underscored the empowerment that comes through higher education, with many interview subjects reporting how the college experience allowed them to dig into issues they had never explored and to start advocating on their own behalf for passage of laws to legalize their status.

“None of the students we interviewed were active politically before they came to community college or the University,” said
Ayala, who like many of the students she interviewed for the project has become an activist in her own right, speaking at high schools about her own experiences and taking to the streets to demand immigration reform measures such as the Dream Act.

“It’s amazing what the college experience does – it liberates students and allows them to push for social change,” she added. “A lot of undocumented students are now coming out of the shadows, and I want people to hear what they have to say.”

The study comes at a time when immigration, especially by undocumented migrants from south of the border, is a hot button political issue nationwide. By some measures, as many as 1.7 million college-age undocumented immigrants between the ages of 18 and 24 live in the United States.

Studies indicate that those who lack legal status are much less likely to enroll in college or earn college degrees. Those who choose to pursue higher education do so despite the fact that they do not qualify for government-sponsored financial aid, are legally barred from employment and could be deported at any time.

To help remove some of the hurdles, a dozen states now have statutes that allow undocumented students to pay in-state college tuition, according to a report by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

California lawmakers pushed even further last year, passing a two-pronged measure – known as the Dream Act – that allows undocumented students access to private grants and scholarships, and makes them eligible for government-sponsored financial aid.

But a federal version of that act, which would have given legal status and a path to citizenship to illegal immigrants who were brought to the U.S. at a young age and went on to attend college, stalled in 2010 amid a rising tide of anger over the perception that immigrants were being rewarded for illegal activity.

This June, President Obama issued an order that effectively lifted the threat of deportation for unauthorized immigrants under the age of 30 who came to the U.S. as children and have been here for five years, as long as they have no criminal record and are students, high school graduates or military veterans in good standing. Before the policy change, which allows the same group to apply for temporary work permits, undocumented students could not hold jobs on campuses, regardless of whether tax dollars supported their positions.

The strength of the CLU study lies in its attention to undocumented students’ social and emotional lives, beyond their legal predicament. Maricela Bolanos figured she already knew about the immigrant experience when she signed on as a researcher last school year. After all, her parents had crossed into the United States illegally from Mexico before she was born, lured by the promise of a steady paycheck and a better future. And she had plenty of friends who were undocumented and knew plenty of students at her Oxnard high school who lacked legal status.

Still, Bolanos was surprised by the depth of the isolation experienced by college students who struggle to hide their legal status from teachers and peers. And she hadn’t understood the degree to which their status dampens their future prospects, causing many to short-circuit plans for advanced degrees and professional careers.

“It’s really sad,” said Bolanos, who graduated in the spring with a sociology degree. “They’re being shut out from a society that would definitely benefit from their hard work and talent.”

Lynzi Tarango, the only member of the student research team who did not graduate in the spring, has signed on to take part in the project again next school year.

Tarango said it would be ideal if the study influenced new legislation that would help undocumented immigrants achieve legal status. But in the end, she said, what’s most important is to break down stereotypes and prejudices.

“We’re kind of giving voice to these students who don’t have a voice,” Tarango said. “These are people who are contributing a lot to our society and who would contribute a lot more if they were allowed to.”

Ultimately, Yasuike wants to publish the research and present it at academic conferences and community forums aimed at bringing better understanding about the roadblocks faced by undocumented immigrant students and steps that can be taken to help them fully plug in to the American experience.

“What I’m trying to do is put a human face on these undocumented people,” said Yasuike, who since her arrival at CLU in 2006 has encouraged her students to not only examine the challenges of immigration but to find ways to address them.

“All of the countries of the world are using immigration policy to bring the best minds to their countries,” Yasuike added. “Here we have a group of young people who are highly educated and who have a marketable skill set. Can we afford to lose all of them to other countries?”

Fred Alvarez is a high school history and journalism teacher who lives in Ojai. For more than two decades, he was a staff writer for several daily newspapers, including the Los Angeles Times and the San Diego Union-Tribune.
Evidence, experience and a broad education have shaped religion professor Jarvis Streeter’s views about the ultimate reality. His battle with cancer has not.

The story of everything, Jarvis Streeter thinks, goes back before the Big Bang 13.75 billion years ago, perhaps infinitely back through other universes. On distant worlds, intelligent, reflective creatures have probably lived inspired by revelations from God. And Homo sapiens will eventually populate other solar systems, provided we don’t first destroy ourselves.

These are not essential beliefs for Streeter, an ordained pastor and a CLU faculty member in religion since 1988. They are just some of the guesses and inferences that he has made in roughly four decades of grappling with Christian faith, modern science and what he sees as their overlapping concerns. His notion of multiple universes, which he entertained before he was aware of related hypotheses by scientists, fits his vision of a God whose nature is to give life and seek creatures to shower with love.

By Kevin Matthews
"Theology is, to my mind, serious play," Streeter says. "It’s play in the sense that you are trying to conceive that which cannot be conceived by finite minds, and so you take your best shot. But anybody who knows much about it knows that whatever your best shot is is going to be ridiculously inadequate to the reality. You just hope you get a couple of central things right."

For more than three years, Streeter has been making progress on an ambitious, second book project called *God and the History of the Universe*, which will convey, among other things, his sense of religious awe about reality as it is described in the signature scientific discoveries of the past century. The universe offered up by Einstein, Hubble, Bohr and others is not something that theology can ignore, Streeter suggests, a view that aligns with Augustine of Hippo’s gesture to the Book of Nature as a source of revelation.

Streeter’s book will provide, in plain language, an up-to-date account of our universe’s development combined with “a theological understanding of where God fits into all of this – what God is doing, how God does it, what God can or cannot do.”

The stakes of this inquiry rose for Streeter last August when he found out that he had cancer of the pancreas. The first sign of trouble came one morning before the annual faculty retreat, when Streeter woke up so weak that he could hardly move his arms and became dizzy upon standing. Was it mono? A bleeding ulcer? "Excruciating" abdominal pain sent him on a second trip to the hospital with his wife, Susan, possibly to remove gallstones. More tests revealed the source of the pain to be at the bile duct, which was blocked by the growth, soon revealed to be malignant. All this happened in less than a week.

Under the stress of the unexpected news, Streeter’s thoroughly rational approach to living showed its worth, not for the first time. He recalls spending all of five minutes in a hospital room, still with his thoughts, “making peace” with a diagnosis that raised “the odds … very high that you don’t live very long.”

None of these thoughts ruled out hope for longer life. Characteristically, Streeter has become very familiar with the disease and the particulars of his case. He’s thorough. When he and Susan renovated their Santa Rosa Valley home in 2010, he took charge of the woodworking and decorative finishing, and designed a media room for sound.

He’s a perfectionist with a zeal for new subjects, says his friend Tim Hengst in the Multimedia Department. Religion professor Julia Fogg and philosopher Bill Bersley both describe him as a “Renaissance man” with a passion for the arts – painting, playing guitar and serving as president of the Kingsmen Shakespeare Company’s board – and a command of diverse subjects that touch on his writing.

Streeter lost about three months of work on his book late last year because of a major operation to remove the cancer from his abdomen and the difficult side effects of chemotherapy. He mentions, almost in passing, that he fell, cut his forehead and might have bled to death because of drug side effects that made him disoriented and dizzy during the night. That hospital stay stretched out to eight days when cuts to his foot led to systemic infections, another very close call.

This spring, he returned to teaching and writing on campus. You can sense the pleasure that Streeter, a person with a strong sense of having chosen his life’s path, has taken in getting back to choosing his daily routine.

During a session of his team-taught course on Faith and Reason, he responded to a student’s objections to the idea of free will. It’s highly unusual, he said, to think that you don’t make your choices. “I believe that the belief in freedom is fundamental. I believe it explains everything we do,” he added, before launching into a summary of Alfred North Whitehead’s account of freedom.

Here are some of Streeter’s choices: Walking out on his hard sciences classes in the late 1960s to think about social issues and...
Add this determination to the person Streeter always was – the sort of kid who quizzed his teachers about dinosaurs and dreamed of becoming an astronaut or an engineer in the space program – and you get a special kind of theologian. He has never shown an aversion to evolutionary theory or, for example, the idea that life has chemical origins. The thesis that science and Christianity are at odds, he explains, has a short and disreputable history.

Streeter is untroubled, and quite thrilled, by how much science has changed the picture of the cosmos, particularly in the last century. Observation of the visible universe – no one can say what fraction it is of what sort of whole – confirms the existence of perhaps 100 billion galaxies, all fleeing one another like dots on an expanding balloon. These visible galaxies must contain some $10^{23}$ stars, he writes, “or approximately ten times the number of sand grains on all the beaches and deserts on Earth, along with the planetary systems that surround some, perhaps most of them.” At the Big Bang, the whole contents of the universe occupied a kernel smaller than an atom.

The very distant future is an even stranger place for mammals to think about, in Streeter’s summary. All life in the universe will have long been extinguished a trillion years from now, when the last of the shining stars have exhausted their nuclear fuel. No creature will watch the remaining elementary particles decay into radiation, or feel temperatures sink to absolute zero, perhaps some $10^{150}$ years out.

A person might wonder, what is a dead universe for? “To me, it’s for the production of all of the life that’s lived,” says the professor. “It’s been not just for humans, but for all of the forms of life. The estimates are that something like 99.9 percent or greater of all the life that’s ever existed on this planet has gone extinct. That’s just a part of the natural world. We’ll go extinct eventually.”

In Streeter’s narrative the remarkable thing is how quickly life began on Earth – as if taking the first opportunity after the planet solidified, cooled and “quit getting bombarded by other things in the solar system.”

A fascinated Streeter tells Earth’s story as one of leaps in the complexity of life, all the way from single-cell organisms to, eventually, the production of mind, consciousness and the human ability to regard the self as an object.

“Thinking burns a lot of calories, and it’s about all I do these days,” he says with a smile. Before I leave his office, with its books and its waiting visitors and the unfinished thoughts on the monitor, he adds: “I can’t think of another time in my life when I’ve felt so happy or so at peace.”
Matthew Burgess ’90 takes the advice of CLU professors with him on the road from Nashville and back, playing percussion until somebody else gets famous.

They call him a sideman.
On tambourines, cymbals, congas, shakers and sometimes the piano, he’s the percussionist behind the drummer, the guy no one notices until he comes in with his part.

He’s also the easygoing fellow everyone likes to be around on the tour bus.

It’s spring and Matthew Burgess ’90 is touring with country singer-songwriter Drake White, who is opening for Eric Church and Brantley Gilbert. Burgess hopes the trail of gigs will take him to California by the summer. The rough life of a musician means never quite knowing where the next gig will come from. He wouldn’t have it any other way.

The CLU philosophy major was living in Seattle before moving to Nashville in a “leap of faith” seven years ago.

“I saw myself 10 years down the road and knew I needed a change. So I took time out to look at different music centers in the U.S. – New York, Los Angeles, Austin and Nashville. Of all those places, Nashville seemed to open its arms to me.”

Much more than a capital for country music, Nashville is a Mecca for pop, rock and musicians from all over the country. Among other things, the city generates the background sounds for the nation’s TV shows, according to Burgess.

“Being a musician in Music City is not that different from working at a university, where you can have a conversation that might not be understood outside the walls of the institution. Conversations here are like that,” he said.

Nashville living is also like being under the Big Top in a circus, Burgess finds. Neighbors are bearded ladies – assorted musical freaks. “We all get that we’re part of the circus,” he chuckles. “Here, I’m a sideman.”

When he’s not part of a band on tour, Burgess sometimes works one-on-one with a songwriter. Now and then he’ll help on the background sounds for a video game. Three recording sessions and one gig or writing session fill up a day nicely.

“I have a soft spot in my heart for singer-songwriters,” he reflects. “I like to help them bring out what they have going on at the core of their song and ask myself, ‘How do you express that? If the song is better without the part you’re playing, then you’re probably playing the wrong thing.’

On the road, Burgess’ record (so far) is 430 shows in one year. He’s played with Willie Nelson, Cindy Morgan, Three Door Down and Brandi Carlile, and opened for ZZ Top and John Fogarty. Because of Nashville’s central geographical location, he usually makes it home by midweek from shows running Thursday through Saturday.

Majoring in philosophy, Burgess says, was great preparation for the life of a sideman. He can fit into different situations without getting in the way, seeking balance between having an ego and letting the ego go.

“In some ways [a philosophy major] is the least practical, in some ways the most practical. It’s helped me get through life as a struggling artist.”

Professor Bill Bersley, a mentor and friend, would host Philosophy Club meetings at home and talk about Jean Paul Sartre and existential freedom. Burgess learned that an artist has to choose every day to be an artist, to renew a relationship with the muse.

“Bersley challenged me and changed who I am as a human,” Burgess recalls. “He would probably say that he ‘unlocked the door.’”

Also at CLU, theatre arts professor Michael Arndt put Burgess in charge of sound design for two plays. The projects gave him confidence in his abilities.

“He was the first person to get me to think out of the box artistically, to think about the visual qualities of music,” Burgess says.

The longer Burgess is in the music industry, the more the stories and nuggets of wisdom embedded in music professor Dan Geeting’s lessons make sense.

“He taught me the art of listening first, playing second.” Burgess said. “One saying was ‘I’ll play music for free; you just have to pay me to load in all my instruments and set them up.’

“Another saying was, ‘The fleas may bite the camel, but the caravan moves on, baby.’ I can’t tell you how many times that makes sense in the life of an artist, when the van breaks down on tour or you’re late on the rent because you’ve been out of town. It’s all those stupid little things that if you let them pile up will make you want to quit music.’

To learn more about Burgess, visit percussionator.com. The website is named for an instrument that he built out of pipes and hubcaps just after graduating from CLU. The original percussionator is still on display at a theater in his hometown of Everett, Wash.
**Say it with a picture!**

Upload photos of your family vacations, alumni reunions, and adventures around the globe at www.callutheran.edu/alumni/. We’ll run them in the magazine or post them on the alumni website.

And don’t forget to Follow the Flag! Request your CLU ALUMNI flag by email at alumni@callutheran.edu.

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**CLASS NOTES**

**‘64 Class Representatives**
Linda (Gulsrud) Harris
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Marty (Ronning) Schwalm
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Kenneth Hilt, Fort Collins, Colo., is retired and works part time at Budweiser Events Center as an usher for the Colorado Eagles Hockey Team and other events. In May he visited his son and daughter-in-law in Hørsholm, Denmark.

**‘65 Class Representative**
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**‘69 Class Representatives**
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Shannon Dunn ’01 (l), Erin Dunn ’03, T.C. ’09, Jeremy Hofer ’98 and Paige Daniels. MBA ’12, at Disneyland on Dec. 17, 2011. Erin and Jeremy were engaged just the day before.

Enjoying a family Thanksgiving celebration last November are (back row, l-r) Bill Embree ’69, Brian Embree ’05, Scott Barwick ’05 and Katie Roschke with grandparents John (’70) and Marsha (Otsea ’70) Embree; (seated) Patrick ’00 and Sommer (Embree ’00) Barwick holding Connor, Dan ’00 and Heather (Embree ’97) Roschke holding Micah, Jill (Embree ’99) and Clint ’99 Elsemore holding Nicholas, and Haley (Jones ’00) Bacon with Taylor (in lap) and Dane.
Kingsmen football fans are invited to pregame celebrations in support of CLU Athletics. Join us before every home football game for a BBQ-style tailgate party with all the fixins. $5 per person with proceeds benefiting Kingsmen and Regals Athletics. Wear your CLU gear.

**Date, Visiting Team**

**Tailgate**

**Game time**

Sept. 15, Linfield

11:30 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

10th Annual Athletic Hall of Fame

Sept. 29, Pomona-Pitzer

6:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Oct. 20, Occidental

11 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

Homecoming & Family Weekend

Nov. 3, La Verne

6:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Nov. 10, Chapman

12:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

**Class Representatives**

1972

**Class Representatives**

Rebecca (Overton) France

rjf france@callutheran.edu

Alan Virgil

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Michael Lynn Adams,

Woodland Hills, Calif., had his still life painting “Velasquez and Burne-Jones” displayed at the Artists for the New Century exhibition in Bennington, Vt., in June. This magazine’s art director is among a small group of artists nominated for the invitational show by the editors of American Art Collector, Southwest Art and Fine Art Connoisseur magazines. In August, Mike will have a solo show at M Gallery of Fine Art in Charleston, S.C. He also is director of The Representational Art Conference 2012, an international academic conference that will be hosted by CLU’s Art Department at the Crowne Plaza in Ventura Oct. 14-17. Mike was director of CLU’s Creative Media Center for many years and now teaches drawing in the art program.


1974

**Class Representative**

Lea Lamp

lamplea48@yahoo.com

Gretchen Glick, Solvang, Calif., joined WRT Public Relations as managing partner in November. She has more than 25 years of experience in public relations and fundraising for nonprofit, arts and health/wellness organizations.

1975


**Linda Baglien**, Xinzheng, Henan, China, lives in the “Heart of China,” where she has taught English at SIAS International University for almost eight years.

1970

**Class Representative**

Paula Morgan-Martin

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Michael Lynn Adams,

Woodland Hills, Calif., had his still life painting “Velasquez and Burne-Jones” displayed at the Artists for the New Century exhibition in Bennington, Vt., in June. This magazine’s art director is among a small group of artists nominated for the invitational show by the editors of American Art Collector, Southwest Art and Fine Art Connoisseur magazines. In August, Mike will have a solo show at M Gallery of Fine Art in Charleston, S.C. He also is director of The Representational Art Conference 2012, an international academic conference that will be hosted by CLU’s Art Department at the Crowne Plaza in Ventura Oct. 14-17. Mike was director of CLU’s Creative Media Center for many years and now teaches drawing in the art program.


1971

**Class Representatives**

Adele Broas-Trent

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Don Hossler

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Mike Riley

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David Randle ‘71 at Disney’s Boardwalk Villas near Epcot theme park. Walt Disney World Resort.
Ed Godycki ’75, Park City, Utah, a former CTO of Fortune 150 companies, is semi-retired and has worked on an Indy Car Pit Crew for several years. “Since I am the same size as our driver, I usually work the internals of the car for last minute tire changing practice right before the race. The photo is me in the car right before the start of the [2011] Indy 500.” Although he isn’t licensed to drive the racecar, Ed takes his Aston Martin DB9 on the track from time to time. He lives in Park City during the winter and on a lake in Northern Maine during late spring and early summer.

MILESTONES

Garrett William Johnson on May 22, 2012, to Brooke (Adams ‘01) and Michael Johnson.

Mackenzie Anne Keenan on May 13, 2012, to Rebecca (Lewis ’04), M.S. ’08, and Kevin, T.C. ’09, Keenan.

Lina Victoria Kivikko on Sept. 24, 2011, to Meredith (Lawton ’93, MBA ’03) and Teemu ’94 Kivikko.


Dominic Michael Melucci on Sept. 12, 2011, to Danielle (Gunn ’98, M.Ed. ’04) and Michael ’99 Melucci.

Isaiah Joseph Sims on March 7, 2012, to Katie (Binz ’02) and Andre Sims.

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CLU MAGAZINE

MILESTONES

Chase Sebastian Jefferson

BIRTHS

Max Guy on Dec. 8, 2011, to Angie and Steve ’96 Guy.

Cooper Steven Hughes on Jan. 23, 2012, to Jennifer and Cory ’04 Hughes.

Chase Sebastian Jefferson on March 5, 2012, to Dena (Eastman ’91) and John Jefferson.

MARRIAGES

Nicole Hanley ’08 and Jason Dutcher on Sept. 10, 2011.

Andrew Gordon ’94 and Barbara Rousseau on Oct. 9, 2011.

Jessica Magro ’11 and Jordan Liebhardt ’11 on April 8, 2012.

Alisha Mansfield ’11 and Britton Briscoe ’12 on Aug. 6, 2011.

Amanda Mejia, M.S. ’11, and Brent Coffman on Sept. 10, 2011.

Sarah Mitchell ’08 and Benjamin Boye on Oct. 9, 2011.

Bobby Jean Sanders ’11 and Matthew Lee ’10 on July 31, 2011.

Cara Suarez ’10 and James Buckle on Nov. 12, 2011.

Shannon Walch ’06 and Ryan Fix on Sept. 18, 2011.

DEATHS

Larry Crouch ’71 on Feb. 6, 2012.

35 YEAR REUNION OCT. 19-21, 2012

‘76 Class Representatives

Vicki (Vasco) Green vg4jesus@gmail.com

Ken Woods kwood1@dc.rr.com

Jim Bower, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, retired from the L.A. Police Department in 2008 after more than 28 years on the force. His assignments included uniform, investigative, plainclothes and undercover work. Jim reports that he “was promoted to sergeant to a south central L.A. division just in time for the riot. And worked the San Fernando Valley just in time for the earthquake.” He spent seven years as a captain in the Detective and Patrol Division at LAX and retired while at the Professional Standards Bureau. Jim competed in the 2008 Ironman Coeur d’Alene shortly after arriving in Idaho and repeated the following year. He began teaching part time at the Police Academy at North Idaho College last year and expects to finish the first draft of his spy novel this summer. “Overall, life is good,” he says.

‘77 Class Representative

George Carganilla gcarg1@hotmail.com

Cynthia Biddlecomb, Los Alamos, N.M., is an office administrator at Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church while “on leave from call” as an Associate in Ministry with the ELCA. She volunteers with the Los Alamos Choral Society and Los Alamos Geological Society. She and her husband, Paul Bradley, visited London, England, Granada, Spain, and Bordeaux, France, last summer.

Steve, MBA ’89, and Dottie (Roman ’78) Sterling, Auburn, Calif., own Sterling College Consultants, a part-time business helping students with their college applications. “We encourage our clients to apply to CLU!” writes Dottie. She and Steve celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary in July. Dottie and CLU roommates Jocelyn
Hughes ’77, Mullen, Andrea (Bogiagis ’77) Pfahler and Marvie (Jaynes ’78) Paulson have gone on weekend get-togethers every year since 1977.

Chris Jones ’77, Heather (Whitwell ’78) Gudmundson, Doug Richardson ’77, Steve Wheatly ’77, Bart Gudmundson ’77 and Karen Jones (pictured clockwise from left) gather to hear Doug’s wife, Laurie Richardson, and her band, Little Lies, play at the Temecula Rod Run in March. Photo by Joyce (Kellogg ’79) Wheatly.

Class Representatives
Jon Backstrom
backstrom@yahoo.com
Dottie (Roman) Sterling
dottiesterling@yahoo.com

Heidi (Rumble) Ritterbush, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is an artist who specializes in pastels and graphics. Heidi, who was “pretty much born an artist” but majored in geology in college, picked up pastels about 15 years ago as a stay-at-home mom. She has won several awards in Westlake Village Art Guild shows and has also exhibited at the Hillcrest Center for the Arts and the Thousand Arts Civic Arts Plaza.

Marty Rouse, M.P.A. ’89, Moorpark, Calif., is the track and cross-country coach at Moorpark High School. He retired last year from the Ventura County Sheriff’s Department after 32 years.

Jeff Berg, Lancaster, Calif., has been pastor of Lutheran Church of the Master since December 2010.

Frank Berrier, M.P.A., Spring, Texas, retired from Spectrum Review Services, a national healthcare management company in Houston. He is past president and CEO of the company and currently serves as chairman of the board of directors. Frank holds doctorates in both healthcare management and psychology and is trained as a mediator and arbitrator. He has a private practice in Spring specializing in health care mediation and arbitration.

Class Representatives
Ginny Green
lhommeduphoto@aol.com

Shelley Wickstrom ’80 (above) and James Hazelwood ’81 are the first CLU graduates to become bishops in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). They were elected to six-year terms with the Alaska and New England synods, respectively, in April and June, about six weeks apart. Shelley has been coordinator for missional leadership in the ELCA’s regional office in Seattle, and James has been serving as pastor of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Charlestown, R.I.

Virginia “Ginny” Green, Alexandria, Minn., works as a banker, caretaker, cleaning lady, bouncer, photographer and lawn care worker; and volunteers with United Way, Red Cross and Relay for Life. As class “go-between,” Ginny reminds her classmates to email her at the above address or call her at 320-846-2394.

Gretchen (Grimes) Gutierrez, Cathedral City, Calif., is CEO of Desert Valleys Builders Association in Coachella Valley. The nonprofit trade association handles legislative affairs for construction and development industries in the Coachella and Imperial Valley areas. Prior to assuming her new duties last September, Gretchen was executive director for the Building Industry Association of Southern California/Antelope Valley Chapter for 16 years.

Claude Guinchard, Tuxedo Park, N.Y., is managing director of the Global Commodities Group at J.P. Morgan in New York City.

Ernie Sandlin, M.P.A. ’90, Moorpark, Calif., received the William E. Hamm Outstanding Service Award from the CLU Community Leaders Association in March. Currently the marketing representative for University Village in Thousand Oaks, Ernie served two years as president of CLA and one year as recording secretary. He volunteers for countless university activities.

Catherine Kiburtz, M.B.A., Pasadena, Calif., is a retired CPA who volunteers as president of GreySave, a not-for-profit adoption and support group in Southern California that rescues former racing greyhounds and adopts them into loving homes.

Jeffrey ’83 and Melissa (Putnam ’76) McConnell, El Cajon, Calif., made good use of their CLU alumni flags while vacationing on the Cumbres & Toitec Scenic Railroad in Colorado and New Mexico. Jeffrey’s came in handy when he ran short of cash, and Melissa’s helped keep the coal and cinders at bay.

Brian Barnett, Encino, Calif., is an arborist and owner of a small tree service company Out on a Limb. He volunteers with the Santa Monica Mountains Restoration Trust.
CLU Legacy Family

It is not every kid who decides at age 7 where she wants to go to college. But Zoe Rodriguez already plans to follow her brother, Michael ‘12 – and their dad, Mario ‘86 – to CLU.

A physics and math major, Michael graduated with highest honors in May. During his freshman orientation, Zoe attended the Lu Bound program for siblings and was hooked. Now 11 and starting middle school in the fall, she has her sights set on CLU, at least for now. Mario and his wife, Angel (a graduate of CSU Northridge), say they are happy to keep it all in the family.

“It has been great reconnecting with the school since Michael’s been a student. It has certainly been exciting to see the University moving forward to the future, but it also has kept its core values,” said Mario. “I’m glad he’s been able to have the same feeling of community. I’m proud of all he’s accomplished in the last four years and, now, proud to welcome him as a fellow alum.”

Congratulations to Michael ’12 and Zoe ’23.

Melinda (Blaylock) Malaspino, Folsom, Calif., teaches English at Folsom High School. She earned her National Board Certified Teacher award and serves on the California Department of Education’s Literature Update Committee.

Laura Bullard, Sheridan, Calif., teaches government, economics and psychology at Woodcreek High School and is adviser to the Key Club. She is a 4-H leader and a member of the 4-H Citizenship Advisory Council for California.

Jean (Kelso) Sandlin, M.P.A. ‘90, Moorpark, Calif., was named Professor of the Year by the graduating seniors. After working in advertising, public relations and journalism for 20 years, Jean joined CLU’s communication faculty in 2007. She is completing her doctorate in higher education leadership this summer.

Debbie (Henderson) Maestas, Anchorage, Alaska, teaches kindergarten in the Anchorage School District. On June 1 and 2, she walked in the American Cancer Relay for Life in honor of her husband, Robert, and classmate Allyson (Koskey '85) Underwood and in memory of her brother, father and two uncles.

Class Representative
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Debbie (Elliott) Sellers
Class Representative
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Tom Bonds, Newport Beach, Calif., is a senior vice president with Morgan Stanley and was honored as Producing Branch Manager of the Year in 2010 and 2011.

Timothy Braatz, Ph.D., Laguna Beach, Calif., published two books last year through The Disproportionate Press. Grisham’s Juror, set in Laguna Beach, is about a high school math teacher who turns to John Grisham novels for guidance in how to avoid jury duty and soon is imagining a conspiracy at every turn. From Ghetto to Death Camp: A Memoir of Privilege and Luck is the story of co-author Anatol Chari’s experiences as a Jewish teenager during World War II. Both books are available on Amazon.com. Timothy is a professor of history and peace studies at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo. His earlier book, Surviving Conquest, is a history of the Yavapai Indians of Arizona and was published by University of Nebraska Press in 2003.

Elizabeth Berry, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is senior concerns advocate with Senior Concerns. Her column titled “Senior Advocate” appears in the Ventura County Star each Wednesday. She volunteers as a docent with the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum and is on the Advisory Council of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

Johnathan Hicks, Pasco, Wash., was promoted to budget supervisor with Energy Northwest in Richland. He volunteers with Arc of Tri-Cities, a nonprofit advocacy organization that promotes services and support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Paul Wenz, Riverside, Calif., was elected circuit counselor for the Riverside District of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. In this capacity, he supervises congregational call committees and helps mediates
problems in congregations and the district. Paul also continues to teach classes in the Hebrew Bible at Concordia University in Long Beach.

Scott Wolfe, MPA ’92, Thousand Oaks, Calif., was named planning director for the City of Westlake in July 2011. He previously served as senior planner for the city.

Kevin P. Kern, Pensacola, Fla., directed the Kingsmen Shakespeare Company’s production of Much Ado About Nothing in Kingsmen Park this summer. An adjunct faculty member at CLU from 1994 to 2004, he has both acted in and directed previous KSC productions and is a former director of the KSC Apprentice Company and Summer Theatre Camp. After teaching acting and improvisation at the University of West Florida for seven years, Kevin will join the faculty at the University of Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio, as a professor of theater this fall. He will continue as artistic director of the Pensacola Shakespeare Theatre, which he describes as “a small professional company modeled on what Michael Arndt has accomplished with Kingsmen Shakespeare.” Kevin and his wife, Natalie, and their two sons will move to Alliance in August.

Dena (Eastman) Jefferson, Colorado Springs, Colo., is director of communications for the Every Home for Christ International ministry. She and her husband, John, have five children.

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Angie (Shatynski ’90) and Dennis ’89 Blackburn inside St. Sophia Cathedral in Kiev, Ukraine, while visiting family last year.

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Tarra Dane, Westlake Village, Calif., recently moved back to the Westlake Village area. She is a certified public accountant and volunteers at the animal shelter.

Michael Wendelin, MBA ’91, Cambridge, Mass., a senior chief in the U.S. Navy Reserve (Mobilized), is pictured (l) with Sgt. Rodrigues of the Honduran Air Force. Michael flies with the Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 62 (VR-62) as a C-130 Loadmaster. “We are the Federal Express of the U.S. Navy,” said Michael, who has flown more than 3,100 flight hours and has been to 53 countries. He is stationed in Jacksonville, Fla., and was on a regular rotation at Naval Air Facility Atsugi, an hour south of Tokyo, when the Sendai earthquake struck on March 11, 2011. He and his team of six sailors delivered 54 tons of relief supplies during Operation Tomodachi, the U.S. Armed Forces disaster relief efforts following the earthquake and tsunami.

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February. Founded in 1984, the nonprofit supports educational programs at beaches and parks stretching along the California coast from McGrath State Beach through Gaviota State Beach. Melissa most recently served as executive director of Gull Wings Children’s Museum in Oxnard.

Nathan Hill, Santa Monica, Calif., joined Karl Storz Endoscopy as west region manager in December. He previously worked at Boston Scientific as territory manager and Automatic Data Processing as regional sales manager.

Class Representatives
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Sandi Herrera, Las Vegas, Nev., is Culture Ops Diva with Delivering Happiness (DH), a company and “movement” that grew out of the positive response to Zappos CEO Tony Hsieh’s 2010 bestseller Delivering Happiness: A Path to Profits, Passion, and Purpose. Sandi is responsible for internal culture and operations as well as overall project management at DH.

Class Representative
Dianne (Habring) Frehlich
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Tom Herman, Columbus, Ohio, was hired as quarterbacks coach at Ohio State in December. He was offensive coordinator at Iowa State the previous three years and at Rice University the two years before that. After graduating from CLU, he was a graduate assistant at The University of Texas at Austin and spent six seasons as an assistant at two other Texas universities before going to Rice.

Brian Padelford, Rockwall, Texas, is chaplain at Hospice Plus and director of children’s ministries at Cornerstone Rockwall Church. He and his wife, Karen ‘97, M.Ed. ’00, will celebrate their 17th wedding anniversary in August; they have four children, ages 10, 7, 4 and 1.

Matthew Sabosky, El Segundo, Calif., was promoted to sergeant in the Manhattan Beach Police Department in April. He has been with the MBPD for 10 years and is currently assigned to the SWAT entry team. He has an emergency medical technician certification from UCLA and also serves as SWAT’s medic. He received a medal of distinguished service in 2005 and a medal of valor in 2006. While in the Detective Bureau, he and his partner seized more than $250,000 in narcotics, more than $100,000 in U.S. currency, and made more than 100 arrests. He has spent the last two years working for LA IMPACT Group I investigating major narcotic trafficking organizations and assisting with surveillance.

Steve Seper, San Diego, Calif., is a broker associate with Zip Realty and Realtor/owner at YourDoorOpener.com. He also is a driver and EMT attendant for Schaefer Ambulance Service.

Alumni speed-networking leads to dream job

The bullying of gay youth made national news in fall 2010 when a Rutgers University student, Tyler Clementi, jumped from the George Washington Bridge after his roommate secretly videotaped his encounters with another man. Kevin Holt ’10 decided that he wanted to work for the Trevor Project, the West Hollywood nonprofit that runs a 24/7 crisis intervention hotline for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth, soon after graduating with a communication degree.

While working part-time jobs, Holt kept checking the organization’s website for a fit, finally turning up a position that sounded right even though it wasn’t in public relations or advertising. But what he really needed was an introduction.

Enter Brian McCoy ’95, vice president of sales for Underwood Insurance Group. McCoy was volunteering at CLU and saw Holt at Networking at Night, an Alumni Association speed-networking event in which professionals and job aspirants meet for three-minute rounds to maximize new connections. McCoy was able to open the door for Holt to Siana-Lea Gildard ’96, who at the time was Trevor’s director of institutional giving.

Holt said this introduction led to his getting hired as development associate at the Project in October of last year. He now works with the organization’s two major gifts officers and the special events director, and oversees third-party fundraisers.

“My parents pressed me to find work that I enjoyed doing, and it wasn’t easy. I stuck with the networking aspects of the job hunt, and finally, things really took off,” says Holt. He adds, “You’ve got to put yourself out there. You can’t just sit at home sending out resumes.”

The next Networking at Night event will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 13.
Act of Valor, the 2012 action film featuring active-duty Navy SEALs firing live ammo, had to stand or fall on its claims to realism. It succeeded with audiences – despite being panned by some critics as a state-of-the-art “recruiting poster” – taking in twice its $12 million budget on opening weekend in February and $70 million by mid-May.

Charged with getting the highest-quality images of bad guys, explosions and surfaced submarines was the technically adept Mike McCarthy ’06, a multimedia major who was the first intern and then the first fresh hire at Los Angeles–based Bandito Brothers, a maker of audiovisual content. He spent three years of long days on the unusual project.

“I was involved in every step of the post-production process, from setting up the creative editorial system, to overseeing the visual effects workflow and organizing the final DI (digital imaging) processing of the film,” explained McCarthy, now director of technology for the company.

McCarthy joined Bandito Brothers when it was a new company, opening the door to others from the Multimedia Department. As Jacob Rosenberg, the chief technical officer for the company, told the news outlet Tom’s Hardware, “Most of the people who work for me came from the Cal Lutheran pipeline. Most of these kids started off as interns, and we just really expose them to a ton of stuff.”

Aside from working on sets and in the editing room, McCarthy, 28, oversees everything at Bandito from the phone system to the Web servers. He credits the CLU program for his success.

“The multimedia program was small enough that the students played a role in developing and shaping it. That experience was very valuable in my role helping to develop and shape my company after I graduated,” he said. ☛

Read about more multimedia grads at tinyurl.com/multimedia-alumni.

Kim Wee, Washington, D.C., is owner of www.fieldtocity.com, a natural foods e-commerce store.

Julie (Baumgartner) Fisher, Bakersfield, Calif., is an interior designer and owner of Julie Fisher Design. She has two children, ages 4 and 2.

Korey Finstad, Denver, Colo., began his duties as pastor at Christ the King Lutheran Church May 1. He previously served as associate pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Rochester, N.Y., area.

Keith Oien, MBA, Santa Clarita, Calif., published Our Christmas, A Scandinavian-American Christmas/Fjul Season in Tradition and Practice (CreateSpace, 2011). The collection of stories, traditional crafts, songs and recipes is available from Amazon.com or on the Facebook page BooksByOien.

Gina Talty, Thousand Oaks, Calif., was promoted to document specialist at Compulink Business System in Westlake Village in December. She has been with Compulink for 13 years.

‘99 | Class Representatives
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Irene (Tyrrell) Moyer
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‘00

Dave Aranda, Logan, Utah, was named defensive coordinator for the Utah State University football team in January after spending two years at the University of Hawaii in the same role. Dave served as an assistant coach at CLU from 1996 to 1999 while finishing his degree and, later, spent two years as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach.

Kristy (Agosta) Fenstermaker, M.S. ’06, Woodland Hills, Calif., joined CLU’s Adult Degree Evening Program (ADEP) as an academic adviser in September. She had been a counselor for grades 7-12 at a San Fernando Valley charter school, focusing on students at risk for dropping out.

‘01

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Angela (Namba) Rowley
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‘02

Stacey (Scanlan) Adams, Palmdale, Calif., is a professor of accounting and lead accounting instructor at Antelope Valley College, and owner of Stacey R. Adams, CPA. She completed her MBA with an accounting concentration at Benedictine University in December.

Chris Dingman, Newport Beach, Calif., founder and CEO of The Dingman Group, appeared in OC Metro magazine’s Hottest 25 of Orange County for 2011. The list
2012 Outstanding Young Alumna

Julie M. (Brown ’01) Sykes

The CLU Alumni Association Board of Directors is pleased to recognize Julie M. (Brown ’01) Sykes as the 2012 Outstanding Young Alumna.

As an assistant professor of Hispanic linguistics at the University of New Mexico, Sykes uses technology to take students beyond the walls of the classroom. She designs place-based mobile games and has created an all-Spanish synthetic environment called Croquelandia, a virtual space with interior rooms where students learn to make requests and apologies much as in a foreign country.

Sykes told the audience at this spring’s Honors Colloquium that she got her introduction to architecture on a travel study adventure with professor Jerry Slattum. At the time, she asked herself what a Spanish major was doing “in Russia in the middle of January with art history office of the U.S. Navy.

The “amazing” Mediterranean Cruise included visits to Barcelona, Monaco, Florence, Pisa, Rome, Naples, Pompeii, Mykonos, Istanbul, Ephesus and Athens. Natalie teaches third grade at Sycamore Canyon School in Newbury Park; Cheri is an adjunct lecturer in the Counseling and Guidance Program at CLU and is a counselor in the Simi Valley Unified School District; Shannon McCabe ’03, M.S. ’10, was named Ventura County Fire Department's Dispatcher of the Year in February. She started working as a dispatcher in 2008 and joined the department in 2010. Nicole was assistant director of Alumni and Parent Relations at CLU before becoming a dispatcher.

Tell us about the extraordinary alumni you know! callutheran.edu/award_nominations

honors “movers and shakers – the people shaping business, social, educational and philanthropic circles.” The Dingman Group offers nationwide relocation and real estate services for professional athletes. Chris is also affiliated with Don’t Worry Be Happy, a foundation that sells shirts to help cancer patients pay their bills. See dwbhshirts.com.

Lorraine Mulick, M.S., Ed.D. ’09, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is a resource specialist with the Simi Valley Unified School District and the owner and founder of Reach Higher Achievement, a learning center specializing in elementary education.

Laura Waayers, Alexandria, Va., has been an archivist with the Naval History and Heritage Command in Washington, D.C., since 2009. The NHHC is the official history office of the U.S. Navy.

Justin Barkhuff, Thousand Oaks, Calif., and his business partners opened a photography business in the baggage claim area at McCarran International Airport in March, selling photos to visitors on arrival featuring the famous “Welcome to Las Vegas” sign. More information can be found on their website at confessmedia.me.

Tia Cochrane-Otis, Ventura, Calif., is a clinic administrator for Juvenile Facilities at Ventura County Behavioral Health. Tia has two daughters, ages 3 and 1.

Nicole Hackbarth, M.S. ’05, Camarillo, Calif., was named Ventura County Fire Department's Dispatcher of the Year in February. She started working as a dispatcher in 2008 and joined the department in 2010. Nicole was assistant director of Alumni and Parent Relations at CLU before becoming a dispatcher.

Class Representatives

’03 Nicole Hackbarth
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’04 Holly Halweg
HollyHalweg@gmail.com
Rachel Geiger, Milwaukee, Ore., was promoted to associate director of Financial Aid – Traditional Programs at Warner Pacific College in Portland in November. She previously was senior student financial services counselor in the Office of Student Financial Services at the Mt. Tabor campus.

Ryan Palmer, Colorado Springs, Colo., is an aerospace engineer and orbit analyst at Naval Satellite Operations Center (NAVSOC) at Schriever Air Force Base. He moved to Schriever in October from NAVSOC Ventura County Naval Base at Pt. Mugu where he had been a satellite engineer III since 2007.

Class Representatives

’05 Ryan Lisk
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Scott Barwick, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is an account executive with On Call Consulting.

Lindsey (Rarick) Carnett, Camarillo, Calif., is CEO and President of Marketing Maven Public Relations, the company she founded in 2009. In April, Pacific Coast Business Times ranked Marketing Maven among
the top 10 public relations and marketing firms in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. Lindsey was named to “Top 40 Under 40” by the San Fernando Valley Business Journal in 2010.

Emily Moore ’05, Seattle, Wash., and fiancé Dominic Smargiassi enjoy roaming the market stalls and bookstores at Pike Place Market in December.

Michelle Townsley, M.A., Ventura, Calif., is a math and science teacher at Rio del Valle Middle School. She is membership chair for the Ventura County Math Council and a board member for Project Experience for Youth. Michelle also is a research support teacher in the Computer Science Department at Harvey Mudd College.

Class Representative
Amanda (Walker ’06) Schaub
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Barbara Chilton, Agoura Hills, Calif., is a facilitator with the Life Empowerment and Awareness Program (LEAP). She and her colleagues lead free workshops for parents and teens on stress management, communication skills and out-of-the-box thinking. Barbara is the mother of four teenagers.

Carlos Delgado, MBA, Oxnard, Calif., a certified financial planner with Meador & Associates in Thousand Oaks, joined the Estate Planning Council of Ventura County Inc. in January. Carlos is volunteer coordinator for the nonprofit Breakfree.org, a free, online financial literacy center for underserved women provided by CLU’s California Institute of Finance.

Whitney Fajnor, MBA ’11, Camarillo, Calif., was promoted to planning associate at Harbor Freight Tools in February. She had been a barcode administrator in the Art Department since the previous April. Whitney also was marketing and sales manager at Silverstrand Seaglass Ltd. for the past four years.

Carla Benassi, MBA ’07, Thousand Oaks, Calif., and Michael Falcone ’06, Newbury Park, Calif., pictured in Beverly Hills in January, were engaged the following month. Carla is marketing manager at Servoy, an international software development company she joined in 2007. Michael is a concrete carpenter with his father’s construction company. He is also a singer/songwriter/pianist who performs at private parties, weddings and restaurants. He and Carla give free ballroom dance lessons to anyone who wants to learn. Michael will perform his original music with a full band and special guest performers at his CD release concert at 8 p.m. Oct. 13 in Samuelson Chapel. Most of the songs he will be performing at the concert are inspired by Carla and appear on his CD Album “All This Because of You.” For tickets and information, go to www.michaelfalconemusic.com.

Martin Flannery, Newbury Park, Calif., joined Poms & Associates as vice president of Property & Casualty in the Woodland Hills office in March. He previously was vice president of Marketing & Sales at ISU Bob Gabriel Company Insurance.

Melissa (Bozeman) Hernandez, M.Ed. ’11, Oxnard, Calif., opened her business Rocksteady Fitness last October in Ventura offering personal training, group exercise classes and massage therapy. In addition to holding three National Academy of Sports Medicine personal training certifications, she is a certified massage practitioner and Zumba, yoga, Pilates, cardio-kickboxing, body pump and indoor cycling instructor.

Jonathan Vevia, Bend, Ore., is a music teacher at Trinity Lutheran Church and
Becoming a brother in Ukraine

Chris Kajtor ’07, M.P.P.A. ’10, Canoga Park, Calif., a Peace Corps volunteer in Khmelnitsky, Ukraine, is pictured (back right) teaching a session on Becoming a Man. The purpose of the class, which is modeled after one he started at CLU, is to help young men become responsible, compassionate citizens of the world. Kajtor also works to combat the stigma associated with attending such a class.

In April, Kajtor and two fellow PCVs, with the help of the U.S. Embassy, local officials and sponsors, opened a “Windows on America” center in the city’s main library. The center provides English resources, language and technology lessons, book and current events discussions, informational sessions and, “most importantly, a safe place for students to gather and be inspired to create positive change in their communities.”

Kajtor initiated and runs a Big Brother/Big Sister project, helped to start campaigns against domestic violence and human trafficking, mounted a monthlong “Free Hugs” campaign, and gave a presentation in March about HIV/AIDS with funding from PEPFAR (President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief). Rates of new HIV infections in Ukraine are among the world’s highest.

“What shocked me,” he said, “is how little many of the educated professionals such as professors, administrators [and] government officials knew about the disease and yet it seems as if everyone knows someone with it.”

This summer, in partnership with the Ukraine Gender and Development Council, Kajtor is holding two baseball camps that will provide an opportunity for more than 100 boys and girls from different parts of Ukraine to participate in an American-style sports camp. Lessons and activities will focus on gender issues. Kajtor is raising funds for food, housing and equipment at http://tinyurl.com/Ukraine-baseball-2012.

Emily (Melander) Barany, Ventura, Calif., is a project coordinator with Dyer Sheehan Group, where she handles marketing, outreach and special events planning. She is executive director of Housing Opportunities Made Easier and works with the Ventura County Housing Trust Fund and the Annual Ventura County Housing Conference. She was named to “40 under 40” by the Pacific Coast Business Times last October.

Kelli Lighthizer, MBA ’10, Agoura Hills, Calif., joined Macerich as Events and Communications manager at Santa Monica Place in early May. The company owns and operates shopping malls. For the past two years, Kelli has served as director of Community Relations and Events for the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Jeffrey Solomon, MBA, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is owner of CFO On The Go, a consulting practice he started in 2011. He is also treasurer/vice president at Temple Etz Chaim. Prior to starting his own firm, Jeffrey was chief financial officer at the entrepreneurial manufacturing company UPM Global.

Ashley (Noonan) Steere, Port Hueneme, Calif., is a registered nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Ventura County Medical Center. She is also a volunteer nurse with the American Red Cross.

Jean Libby ’07 (l) and her wife, Margaux, at Retiro Park in Madrid, Spain, where they now live.

School. He moved to Bend to start the music program at the high school. He and his wife, Kyla, have a 1-year-old son.

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Jessica Blackshear, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is graduate resident director at CLU. She is pursuing her master’s in counseling and guidance with a specialization in college student personnel.
Scott Jones ’08 in the La Encrucijada Biosphere Reserve in Chiapas, Mexico, where he was conducting research on the fishing cooperatives that operate within the reserve. He was conducting the research for his master’s degree in human dimensions of natural resources from Colorado State University.

Sarah (Mitchell) Boye, Vancouver, Wash., is a housing specialist with Luke-Dorf, a licensed provider of mental health and alcohol and drug treatment services with a focus on recovery and community integration. She joined the company in November.

Ist. Lt. Jon-Erik Livingston ’08 is on assignment in Kandahar, Afghanistan, with the 3rd Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment.

Erin (Kim) Cabrera, Simi Valley, Calif., is a special events coordinator for ICS Services. She and husband Juan have a 1-year-old daughter.

Katelyn Harrison, M.Ed. ’11, Camarillo, Calif., is the girls varsity head basketball coach at Agoura High School.

Dan Loughry, Yuma, Ariz., embarked on a yearlong global Christian mission trip with World Race in January. Follow him and see photos at danloughrytheworldrace.org.

Juan Pablo Ortiz, Lynwood, Calif., is a math instructor at El Camino College, Compton Center.

Giovanni, Ed.D. ’08, and Fatima Triviño, South Gate, Calif., were married on July 2, 2011. Giovanni is a special education administrator with the LAUSD.

Shayla Bonnie ’09, San Diego, Calif., and her husband, Justin, celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary with the purchase of their first home earlier this year. Shayla is a certified program planner and assistant coordinator for the Single Marine Program at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

Dan Nicolas, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is a research associate in Research and Development at Monsanto.

Michelle Stevens, Silver Spring, Md., is a senior research assistant at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Beltsville Human Nutrition and Research Center. She earned a Master of Science in clinical exercise physiology from George Washington University and owns a business as a wellness coach.

Jaymes White, Middle Grove, N.Y., returned to his alma mater, Saratoga Springs High School, to coach the eighth-grade football squad last fall. After taking the winter off to finish his master’s degree in school counseling, Jaymes returned in the spring as throws coach for the girls track and field program.


Elizabeth Bridge, Burbank, Calif., is a development assistant at Sinai Akiba Academy in Los Angeles.

Rui Cang, M.S., Playa Vista, Calif., is a program counselor with New Visions Foundation in Santa Monica. She joined...
New Visions, where she provides support and guidance to foster youth, in June 2011 after serving as a counselor/therapist at Valley Trauma Center and Community Counseling Center.

Benjamin Hogue ’10, Grand Junction, Colo., is a Peace Corps volunteer in Kolky, a village in Volynska Oblast, Ukraine.

Marjorie Diehl, M.P.P.A., Camarillo, Calif., was named compensation manager at ValleyCrest Companies of Calabasas in May 2011.

Nina Elissa Hughes, Newbury Park, Calif., is marketing and recruiting coordinator for Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP in Century City. She has recently organized events for charitable organizations including Public Counsel, the Lance Armstrong Foundation “LiveStrong” and the Salvation Army Westwood Transitional Village.

John Larisey, Moorpark, Calif., joined GCube, a leading provider of insurance services for the renewable energy sector, as Vice President of Underwriting in November. During his 31 years in the insurance industry, he has held a range of underwriting and senior management positions including senior vice president at Axis Capital.

Class Representatives
’11
Kristen Luna
kluna@callutheran.edu
Kim Hamon
khamon@callutheran.edu
Jesse Knutson
knutson@callutheran.edu

Megan Allen, Simi Valley, Calif., joined Wells Fargo as a premier banker in January.

Kayla Bailey, Moorpark, Calif., was crowned Miss Ventura County 2012 in February and competed in the Miss California pageant in June. In the county pageant, she sang Puccini’s soprano aria “O mio Babbino Caro” and tied with another contestant for the talent award. Kayla is pursuing a master’s degree in vocal arts at CSU Northridge and teaches private voice lessons.

James Jackson ’11, Camarillo, Calif., on vacation with his wife, Christa, in Los Cabos last Christmas.

Alisia Bonnell, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is executive assistant at Data Exchange Program in Camarillo.

Alisha (Mansfield) Briscoe, Canyon Country, Calif., is marketing coordinator for Stonefire Grill Inc.

Evan Buechler, New Haven, Conn., is operations and retail coordinator at Stamford Downtown Special Services District. In May, he and Joy Cyprian ’10 went to the Czech Republic.

Amy Fausset, Ventura, Calif., is director of marketing for Tower Paddle Boards in San Diego. She created the Tower Girls...
brand and does the photography and videos for that website as well as much of the instructional photography for Tower Paddle Boards. In March, the owner of the standup paddleboard company appeared on the ABC series *Shark Tank* and received a $150,000 investment from billionaire Mark Cuban, owner of the Dallas Mavericks.

Danielle Griggs, Camarillo, Calif., competed in the 2012 Miss California USA pageant as Miss San Buenaventura. Danielle, whose grandmother died of breast cancer in 1993 and whose mother recently survived breast cancer thanks to early detection, used the pageant to talk about the importance of mammogram screenings.

Megan Johnson, Honolulu, Hawaii, is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Liane Law, Aurora, Colo., is a software engineer with Northrop Grumman.

Kaitlyn Noli, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is a MAGIS (Master of Arts in Global and International Studies) candidate at the University of California Santa Barbara. As a research fellow, she is working on a faculty-student research project titled “Promoting Community Justice in Ventura County: Integrating Science Into Civic Engagement.” Her role in the project focuses on collaborating with community-based organizations to help educate and mobilize the low-income, immigrant community in Oxnard around local environmental issues. Kaitlyn earned her bachelor’s degree in international studies, and her experiences while studying abroad in Spain helped motivate her interest in social justice and human rights.

Katie Peterson, M.S., Canyon Country, Calif., is a counselor at Santa Clarita Valley International Charter School.

Anne Sherman, Agoura Hills, Calif., appeared in the world premiere of *Perfect Quiet Place* with the Elite Theatre Company in Oxnard this spring. She also performed in two commercials for Neftin Volkswagen and Mazda.

Isiah Gomer, Paso Robles, Calif., is operations manager with Paso Robles Waste & Recycle. His volunteer activities include coaching youth football and educating teens about recycling at youth learning centers.

Kelly Mason ’11 (r) and Rebecca Garner ’08 in front of the Notre-Dame de Reims Cathedral in Reims, France, in November.

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Anything Helps, Thanks

I saw homeless people every day, because to me they weren’t invisible.
I got hooked on audio podcasts because I liked to listen. And then I had an idea.

By Robert Duff ’10

Jean and Steve, who were candid about their chronic alcoholism, began a romance while living on the streets.

Jason, shown with his dog Scarlet, described breathtaking views of mountaintops on a freight train ride in Oregon.

I found Sean standing next to a stop sign, holding a handwritten cardboard sign asking for help. He had a shopping cart next to him with all of his belongings and looked young, maybe 19 or 20. Here in Ventura, there is a wide spectrum of individuals living on the streets, and one of the goals of my podcast, The Voices Among Us, is to make that clear.

For the unfamiliar, podcasts are essentially radio talk shows without the radio. You download episodes from the Internet and listen to them on your own time via a mobile device like an iPhone. I had no interest in podcasts until 2010, when I moved to Ventura with my wife and then began graduate school in Santa Barbara. While burning up gas on the hourlong commute, I soon realized how interesting, funny and touching they truly could be.

Last winter, I bought a used USB microphone from a creepy man in a trailer park in Los Angeles and began my quest to share the voices of homeless people, with anyone willing to listen. Nearly every week now, I sit with a homeless person at a coffee shop or right on the curb and ask them questions about their lives. I have had interviews with elderly people and teenagers, people with stories of abuse and abandonment, and others who have chosen the streets due to some internal sense of restlessness.

I learned from Sean that he was originally from the United Kingdom and came to America with his parents. The father and son ran their family-owned skate shop together in Long Beach until Sean’s mother died. Sean was fairly well known as an in-line skater, having competed since he was 10. The way he tells it, his mother’s death changed everything. His father finally abandoned him, and he found himself on the streets.

He was hardly alone. On any routine trip to the grocery store or to the beach in Ventura, I see five to 10 individuals standing on the street, asking for money. Although I have been exposed to homeless people all of my life in Southern California, having this constant reminder of the issue began to stir feelings within me. I wanted to make a difference in some way, while maintaining my own well-being. I knew I would go broke very quickly if I were to help people with my own money as often as I would like to.

After hearing Sean’s story, I searched the Internet for his old skate shop, Urban Rolling. I discovered not only Web pages about the shop, but also interviews with Sean and YouTube videos of his skating. It blew my mind that someone could fall so far in a matter of months.

I reached out to some people who had interviewed Sean to see if they were aware of his situation. Many people on a roller blading message board turned out to know Sean and soon offered to help in any way possible. Over the next few months, he was showered with care packages and donations from all over the United States.

Before Sean and I stopped communicating, I was able to use donated money to buy a ticket on his behalf and send him to Orlando, where he went to live and work with old friends.

More than anything, I hope the stories on The Voices Among Us inspire people to not look the other way. No one is less human for living on the streets. Take the time to listen, and you will learn something. I’ve learned about this issue, about life and even about myself from doing the podcast, possibly more than I’ve learned from any other activity.

Robert Duff is working toward a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His blog and links to The Voices Among Us podcasts are available at www.homelessinterview.com.
**July**
20-29  Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival
   *Romeo and Juliet*, 8 p.m. (20-22, 27-29)
28  An Afternoon with Bob Eubanks, 2 p.m.

**August**
3-5  Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival
   *Romeo and Juliet*, 8 p.m.
18  “Variations,” classic Western theme scores, 2 p.m.
   Master pianist Mikael Oganes

**September**
1-4  New Student Orientation
6  Chanticleer, “An Orchestra of Voices,” 8 p.m.
8  Football Tailgate at PLU, 11:30 a.m.
15  Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, 10:30 a.m.
15  Football Tailgate, 11:30 a.m.
16  Faculty Recital, Eric Kinsley, piano, 2 p.m.
22  Alumni Board of Directors Meeting, 8:30 a.m.
   (all alumni welcome)
22  Chinese Moon Festival Concert, 7 p.m.
29  Football Tailgate, 5:30 p.m.
30  Faculty Recital, Dan Geeting, clarinet, 2 p.m.

**October**
11  “Afro-Colombian Hip-Hop: Globalization, Transcultural Music, and Ethnic Identities,” 5 p.m.
   Christopher Dennis
13  Concert, Michael Falcone ’06, 8 p.m.
14-17  TRAC2012: The Representational Art Conference
   Crowne Plaza, Ventura
19  Founders Day Convocation, 10 a.m.
   Keynote speaker, the Rev. Frank Naunin ’70
19  Suzanne Freeman Memorial Concert, 8 p.m.
19-21  Homecoming & Family Weekend
20  Student Research Symposium, 9 a.m.-noon
20  Football Tailgate, 11 a.m.
21  Homecoming Choral Concert, 2 p.m.
24  Center for Equality and Justice Lecture Series, 7 p.m.
   “Does Facebook Make Us Better Citizens?”
   José Marichal
26  Organ Concert, Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, 7 p.m.
27  Danish Stories from the Titanic, 2 p.m.

**November**
3  Football Tailgate, 5:30 p.m.
8,9,10  Theatre Arts Production: The Trojan Women, 8 p.m.
10  Football Tailgate, 11:30 a.m.
11  Areté Concert, 2 p.m.
11  Jim Koenig, Los Angeles Film Festival, 3:30 p.m.
13  Alumni Networking at Night, 6:30 p.m.
14,15  Theatre Arts Production: The Trojan Women, 8 p.m.
16  Wind & Jazz Ensemble Concert, 8 p.m.
17  Theatre Arts Production: The Trojan Women, 8 p.m.
18  Theatre Arts Production: The Trojan Women, 2 p.m.
29  World AIDS Day 2012 (observed), 2 p.m.
30  Christmas Concert, 8 p.m.

**December**
1  Christmas Concert, 8 p.m.
2  Christmas Concert, 4 p.m.

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**Much Ado About Nothing**
Directed by Kevin P. Kern ’90
**Final performances July 13–15, 8 p.m.**

**Romeo and Juliet**
Directed by Brett Elliott
**July 20-22, July 27-29 and Aug. 3-5, 8 p.m.**

For tickets and more information, visit
KingsmenShakespeare.org
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