

Columbia College

Winter 2013-14

TODAY 

GLOBAL COLUMBIA



A Look at How Columbia College Helps
Students Have Global Experiences



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Exploring Global Opportunities

When I met with our students studying abroad while traveling in Beijing, Paris, London, Hong Kong and Shanghai earlier this year, I asked them about their global experiences. What were they learning in the classroom? In their city? What surprised them? Did they feel prepared? How was their experience abroad complementing their experience on our campus? How did they see it as enhancing their future? How did it influence their career plans? What could we do as a college to maximize the value of their global experience?

Their answers confirmed that these were questions they were thinking about as well. Our students were exploring the global opportunities we offer to immerse themselves in another culture, to gain proficiency in another language, to learn how to be effective in an unfamiliar setting and to build contacts in other countries. They wanted to challenge themselves, to test different skills and to expand their personal capabilities. They were also thinking about how their experiences related to their studies and to their personal, professional and academic lives.

Our goal as a college is to prepare students to be involved and effective global citizens — and engaging people, places and ideas throughout the world is a big part of that. In part we propel that engagement right on campus. There are 729 international students in the College who come from 83 different countries; these students bring the world right here to Columbia College, so that a variety of perspectives, experiences and opinions are encountered in our classrooms and residence halls. The resulting interactions prepare all of our students for the lives they will have after graduation, wherever they go and in whatever field they choose to pursue.

But direct, firsthand international experiences, whether academic or co-curricular, are also key for our students. This is why I often say that "College Walk doesn't extend from Amsterdam to Broadway; it extends around the world." Alumni often tell me that having the chance to work or study overseas opened doors of understanding in a way that nothing else could have. Global experiences, they say, prove that students are self-sufficient, ambitious risk-takers who will challenge themselves and contribute to the world. They help students develop a clear recognition of the breadth of philosophical, political and social structures that underlie different cultures; provide the ability to interact effectively with people of all ages and across all cultures; and increase awareness and understanding of their own cultures. They also enhance language and communications skills. In this respect, global education is an extension of the College's liberal arts curriculum. Like Contemporary Civilization, Lit Hum, Art Hum and Music Hum, and of course, the Global Core, an experience living or working abroad develops critical thinking, the ability to

make good decisions and the self-confidence that defines every Columbia College graduate.

The College provides hundreds of international opportunities for students, from a year in Berlin studying abroad with Columbia faculty to a summer internship with a micro-lending company in Mumbai. Students can study abroad during the year, intern or take classes abroad during the summer or do academic research abroad. We offer 16 Columbia-sponsored study abroad



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

programs, 110 opportunities to do internships in eight locations overseas and we are developing new programs and enhancing existing programs each year. We have also kicked off a Presidential Global Fellowship program, thanks to the support of President Lee C. Bollinger, which provides funding to first-years to study abroad during the summer on a Columbia program at any location where there is a Columbia Global Center. We want to provide every student who wants to do so the opportunity to study, work or do research abroad, and to offer opportunities for global experiences early in students' undergraduate careers. Early global experiences are brought back to campus and become part of students' lives for the remainder of their time in the College. Global experiences also influence students' interactions with one another, so the value of these early global experiences extends

to the entire student body. In effect, the experiences of individual students are leveraged for the benefit of all students.

While I was in Shanghai, one student asked me how I would judge whether a Columbia global experience was successful. Well, an international experience in one location must prepare a student to succeed in any place in the world. So, to answer her question I suggested the following measure of success: a student who has participated in one of our Columbia College global experiences is later sent blindfolded to a city somewhere in the world without preparation or knowing where she is going, and in two weeks has found a place to live, made a friend and gotten a job. Obviously, I was not being literal in the details here, or prescriptive in the time period, but I phrased the answer this way to focus on the key aspect of a global experience: enabling students to succeed personally and professionally no matter where life takes them. Global experiences, along with our broadly diverse and international student body, give our students understanding, life skills, self-sufficiency and competencies to adapt and thrive. International experiences, whether in Amman, Kyoto, Moscow, Santiago, Venice, or right here in Morningside Heights, are key to a Columbia College education and we are committed to expanding and enhancing these opportunities.

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Letters to the Editor

Wm. Theodore de Bary '41,
'53 GSAS

I was so pleased to read the article about Professor de Bary [Fall 2013], as I enjoyed those courses in Asian studies that he and Donald Keene ['42, '49 GSAS] taught. Their courses had a subtle but important impact on my outlook on life, for which I am most grateful.

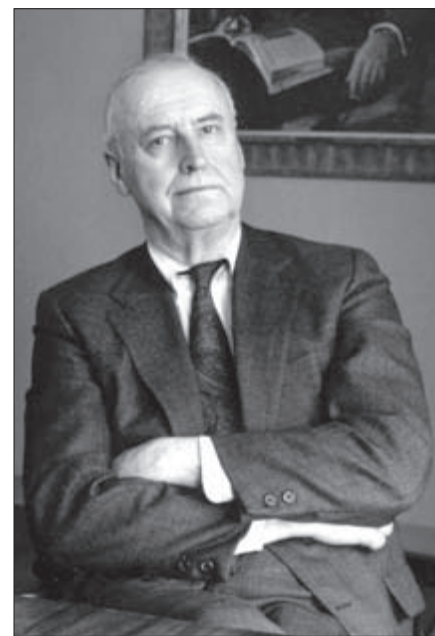
How lucky we were to have had such fine professors as Ted de Bary; Jacques Barzun ['27, '32 GSAS]; Moses Hadas ['30 GSAS]; Richard Hofstadter ['42 GSAS]; and many others. Certainly our lives were enriched by their efforts.

Thor Kuniholm '56
PHILADELPHIA

My compliments to Jamie Katz ['72, '80 Business] for his great article on Professor de Bary. It certainly represents an enormous amount of research and writing. As usual, CCT is full of highly interesting reading, for which I thank you.

Sol Fisher '36, '38L
PLEASANT HILL, CALIF.

Three or more decades ago, while I was still engaged in alumni activities on an intensive scale, I met Jamie Katz ['72, '80 Business], who at the time was the editor of CCT. I admired his work, told him so,



Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS
introduced generations of Columbians to
Asian studies.

PHOTO: ARNOLD BROWNE '78



and we became friends on several levels; quite by chance, he turned up as a neighbor in the Fire Island village of Ocean Beach, where my wife and I were summer residents for close to 40 years.

So when I saw his name as the author of a serious article about Ted de Bary ['41, '53 GSAS], a scholar and teacher whom I have long admired, I read it with care and delight. Ted has never needed humanizing — he has always been completely human both as scholar and teacher — but Jamie's comprehensive recount of his life and work and virtues was both vivid and moving, and all of it needed saying.

Reading it was more than a pleasure, for it brought my thoughts back not only to Ted (whom it was a pleasure to see and listen to at lunch in October to celebrate his newest book, *The Great Civilized Conversation*), but to Jamie as well, who himself worked miracles at CCT in his day.

Kudos to the subject, and to his celebrant!

Joe Russell '49, '52L
NEW YORK CITY

I was delighted to see that Ted de Bary ['41, '53 GSAS] is still going strong. It was a great privilege to take the yearlong seminar in Asian classics that he and Ainslee Embree ['60 GSAS] taught. I guess my enthusiasm showed, because two years later when I was about to do some teaching at Columbia while working on my Ph.D., I was given the opportunity to help out in the course. With some ambivalence I settled on Western Humanities, but I hope

Core Curriculum Knows No Borders

Daniel Gordis '81 had no idea when he was reading Homer's *Iliad* and Vergil's *Aeneid* in Literature Humanities, or the works of Plato and Aristotle in Contemporary Civilization, that 35 years later he would be exporting those classics to a startup college nearly 6,000 miles from Morningside Heights.

"We're bringing Columbia's Core Curriculum to Shalem College in Jerusalem," says Gordis, an author, commentator and scholar who immigrated to Israel in 1998. Gordis is s.v.p., Koret Distinguished Fellow and chair of the Core Curriculum at Shalem (the name means "complete" in Hebrew) College, which opened its doors to its first class of 50 students in October.

Shalem College is the first school in Israel based on the American model of liberal arts education; as such, Gordis says it will fulfill "a long unmet but very profound need in Israeli society." Other colleges there follow the European model where students choose a career path upon entering college and take courses designed to prepare them to work in that field. "There is no place anywhere in the Jewish state where there's a core curriculum that everyone takes regardless of his or her focus of study," says Gordis. "It's a way of creating not just an amalgam of courses but a four-year conversation. We are creating a community of learners."

Gordis was among a group of faculty and administrators from Shalem College that spent time in September meeting in New York with faculty and administrators from Columbia's Core Curriculum in preparation for the new school's opening. "It was quite an experience to be back in Hamilton Hall so many years later," he notes.

Gordis, who earned a master's and rabbinic ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary and a doctorate in social ethics at Southern Cal, was the founding dean of the Ziegler School of

Rabbinic Studies at the University of Judaism, the first rabbinical college on the West Coast. That caught the attention of leaders of the Shalem Center, an Israeli think tank created in 1994, who were exploring the launch of a liberal arts college. "I embraced it and became involved," Gordis says.

Shalem College is located at Kiryat Moriah in Jerusalem, on a campus rented from the Jewish Agency and near numerous other educational institutions. It offers a B.A. and is accredited by Israel's



Students from Shalem College attend a seminar at Tel Azekah, an archeological site not far from Jerusalem where plaques describe the nearby mythical battle between David and Goliath.

PHOTO: MAOZ VAYSTOCH

Council for Higher Education. The first cohort of students will choose between two major tracks of study: Jewish thought and philosophy or Middle Eastern and Islamic studies; founders plan to add other majors as the school grows. Classes are taught in Hebrew but all students are expected to be fluent in English and students in the Middle Eastern and Islamic studies track also must know Arabic. All students in the first class are Jewish, although Gordis and other school officials say a concerted effort was made to recruit Arab students and the hope is that Arabs will enroll in future years. All students are required to do community service, helping nearby Jewish and Arab residents.

For Gordis, helping to shape the humanities curriculum of Shalem College around "small classes with real conversations" and "a reverence for texts" is the latest step in a journey that found its course at the College. In a column published in *The Jerusalem Post* on October 18, Gordis wrote, "Columbia imbued many of us with a sense that ideas matter, that profound thinkers ought to be one's lifelong companions; we hope that at Kiryat Moriah, Shalem's students will emerge with similar commitments."

For more information about Shalem College, go to shalem.ac.il.

Alex Sachare

CCT welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not CCT, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space, clarity and CCT style. Please direct letters for publication "TO THE EDITOR" via mail or online: college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.

Professor de Bary will be glad to hear that when it came time for me to teach some of the same texts we'd read (like the *Tao te Ching*, *Monkey* or Gandhi's *Autobiography*) in "great books" courses I was able to draw on what I'd learned from him and his colleagues.

I recall two other acts of his kindness: the year after I graduated from CC, an essay I'd done for Professor de Bary's course appeared in *King's Crown Essays*, my first

published work but a total surprise — I assume he recommended it. And sometime around 1969 he attempted to talk sensibly with me about the Columbia "troubles," but I'm afraid my anti-war passion was too high to listen with an attentive ear.

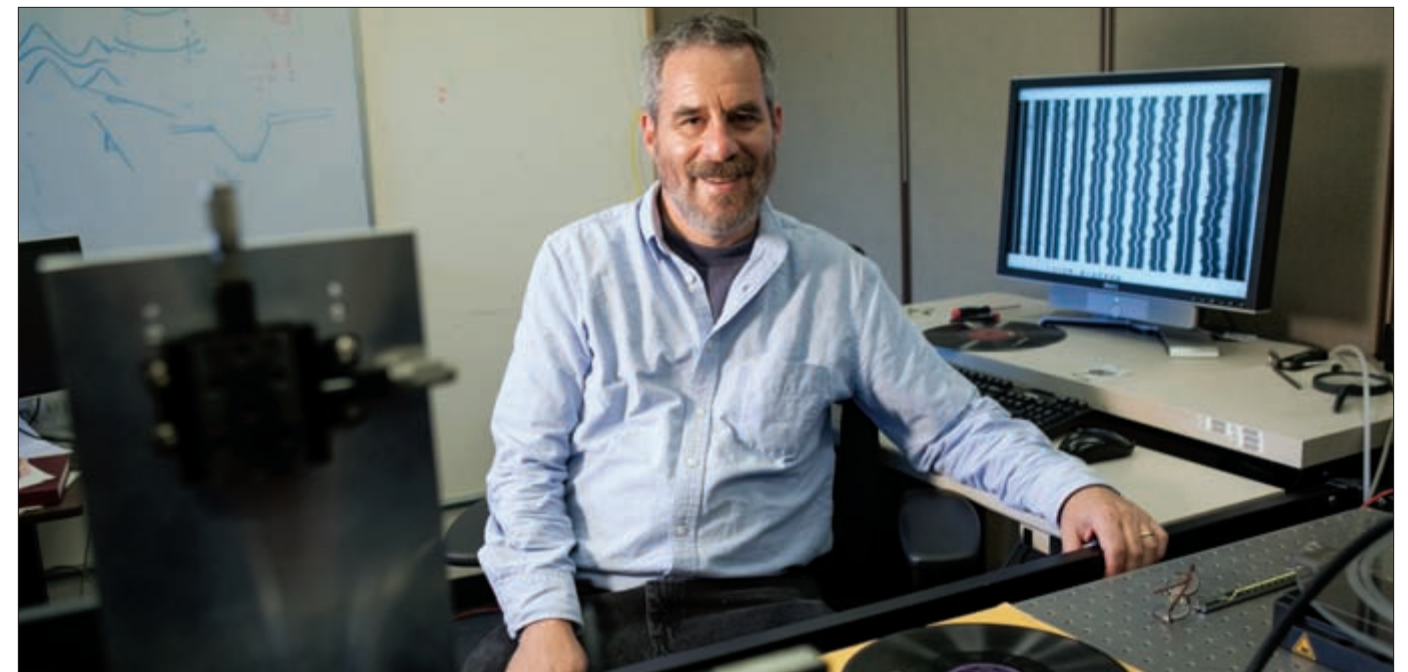
Gary Shapiro '63, '70 GSAS
RICHMOND, VA.

I took Oriental Civilizations with Theodore de Bary ['41, '53 GSAS], Donald Keene ['42,

AROUND THE QUADS

Sound Savior Carl Haber '80 Wins MacArthur Fellowship

BY ALEX SACHARE '71



Carl Haber '80, '85 GSAS says it took only one hour to restore the recording of Alexander Graham Bell's voice but 10 years to develop the process that enabled him to do so.

PHOTO: COURTESY JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

Carl Haber '80, '85 GSAS, an experimental physicist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, Calif., was among 13 men and 11 women named 2013 MacArthur Fellows in September. Known informally as "genius grants," the fellowships from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation come with a stipend of \$625,000 paid across five years.

Haber was cited for developing technologies for the preservation and recapturing of deteriorating sound recordings, technologies that arose from his work on instruments for use with high-energy

colliders. Recordings made on wax cylinders, lacquer discs and other materials have been retrieved by Haber and his colleagues, who use a technique that transforms visual data into a digital sound file.

"About 10 years ago, I happened to hear a report on NPR about the Library of Congress and their large collections of historic sound recordings, which described them in some cases as being delicate, damaged, deteriorating and so forth," Haber explained in a video released by the MacArthur Foundation. "I intrinsically appreciated when I heard this that this was an important thing — it's part of our culture and part of our history — and I had an idea that you might be able to use some of

the same very detailed techniques that we were using to restore the sound without ever touching them."

As anyone who ever owned a vinyl record knows, every time you play one, the contact of the stylus or needle wears down the grooves. Add in the scratches that come with use and general wear and tear, and gradually the sound quality of the record deteriorates. The same holds true with other materials used for earlier recordings, including lacquer, wax and aluminum.

"Our approach is in part based on photography," said Haber. "We take a picture of a phonograph record. This photograph is taken with great magnifica-

'49 GSAS] and Ainslee Embree ['60 GSAS] in 1961, the first year, as I recall, that there were alternatives for meeting the second-year CC requirement. I'm sure there were easier ways than facing off with three such heavyweights, but what did I, at 19, know? You quote Keene as saying de Bary can be at times "very forbidding." My recollection is that he was merely no-nonsense. I have a vivid memory, however, of his pausing once in his description of a period of political unrest in China, perhaps spotting a cliché lying in wait and formulating a way around it. From the back of the room, someone called out, someone with far more chutzpah than I, to offer the suggestion that perhaps the region in question had been "beset by civil strife." De Bary roared with laughter, and so could the rest of us.

Jerry Oster '64
CHAPEL HILL, N.C.

Remembering Karl-Ludwig Selig

About 30 Columbia grads met at 9:30 a.m. on October 19 at the Columbia Rowing Boathouses at Baker Athletics Complex before the Homecoming game, right on the shore of the Harlem River across from the big "C" on the cliff in Riverdale. The gathering was a memorial service for Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig. Some knew the professor very well through many years and some just from a class or the campus. Each, of course, had his own story to tell — some rather poignant, serious or funny, as anyone who knew the character of the professor might imagine — remembering how much he cherished his friends and the College.



Karl-Ludwig Selig
PHOTO: LORI GRINKER/CONTACT PRESS IMAGES

We saw the boat named for the professor some years ago, as he was a great fan of crew, having been a varsity swimmer at Ohio State after coming to America from Germany in 1938 (with a Nazi exit visa, which was displayed quite informally among other documents and photos). At 10 a.m. we gathered on the dock jutting out into the river. After a brief introduction by Ted Allegaert '85, Dennis Klainberg '84 played *Taps* as the professor's ashes were emptied into the Harlem River. We recited the *Kaddish* (Jewish memorial prayer) in the Sephardic style of the 15th-century Spanish Jews, which I guessed was fitting for a professor who spoke Spanish and loved *Don Quixote*.

We walked up to the balcony of the new 1929 Boathouse on the second floor, looked at some photos and personal artifacts while Brahms' *German Requiem* was played (*Selig sind die da lied tragen ... Selig sind die toten ... Blessed are they that mourn ... Blessed are the dead ...*) We lingered and talked and drank champagne in his honor till noon. This was his will, his wish — no formal funeral, no official University-sanctioned event, just his students and friends who will always remember him, and a very special Homecoming.

Dr. Joel Halio '74
GREAT NECK, N.Y.

Dr. George Yancopoulos '80, '86 GSAS, '87 P&S

I enjoyed the article "Vision Quest" [Summer 2013]. I thank the College for posting the 2013 John Jay Awards Dinner speeches on YouTube (youtube.com/watch?v=F257025ijmU), as my medical practice would not let me get away to attend the dinner. I recall Dr. George Yancopoulos ['80, '86 GSAS, '87 P&S] as a fellow Columbia College student heading to freshman football after we'd both listened to a lecture by our biochemistry professor and the current chief scientific officer of Sequenom, Dr. Charles Cantor '63. Once outside the lecture hall, for lightweight football, Bill Campbell '62, '64 TC, now chair of Columbia's Board of Trustees, engaged students for a different lesson. Of course, the recent John Jay Awards Dinner reunited not only George and Bill but also reminds what other excitements and advancements our Columbia will help foster among students, faculty and coaches.

Thank you for the excellent journalism. It keeps many of us connected to Columbia past, present and future.

Dr. Dennis T. Costakos '80
LA CROSSE, WIS.

Football, Basketball and CU Branding

Like it or not, performance in the major sports is partially how the public "brands" our academic institutions. Even though Columbia has ranked near the top of the nation's universities for years, the Columbia brand has become synonymous with losing because of the performance of its football and basketball teams. (This branding of Columbia was true even before the 44-game football losing streak during the mid-'80s.) Of all the Ivy League schools, Columbia has gone the longest without winning a football or basketball championship; 52 years in football and 45 years in basketball. Every other Ivy League university has won multiple titles since the inception of the league except Columbia.

For a number of reasons, I believe continued participation in these sports and the Ivy League is important. However, our teams should be competitive and win at least occasional championships. We are a university that strives for excellence and it should be so in all of our endeavors.

Involvement in athletics either as a performer or a spectator helps both groups bond with the University. Attending Columbia football and basketball games is a social event, a chance to spend time with classmates and other Columbia friends while watching the games. The bonding of athletes with the College is evident in their continued participation in activities as alumni and the high percentage of them who donate financially. Athletes also increase campus diversity.

If we are to change the perception of our brand, we must admit its truth before deciding how to address it. There needs to be an open debate among the administration, faculty, student body and alumni to bring about the necessary transformation. The time to start is now, with another disastrous football season under our belts.

Robert A. Levine '58
WESTPORT, CONN.

Alexander Hamilton Award Dinners

Reading that Joel I. Klein '67 will receive the next Alexander Hamilton Medal [Around the Quads, Fall 2013] brought back memories of the 1949 Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner. I had graduated in June and entered the Business School that fall. Through Joe Coffee '41, then a College development officer, I had gotten a job as a part-time assistant secretary of the Columbia College

(Continued on page 95)

tion; we're talking about gigapixels. There are techniques which are called image processing, which can take an image and mathematically digest the information in it and can extract in detail the motion of the groove and calculate what sound would be played if you indeed played it with a needle. If the record is broken, scratched, damaged in some way, we can still apply this process. It's all done as a mathematical algorithm on a digital computer.

"We actually got to hear, last year, Alexander Graham Bell's voice for the first time. You can hear the man speaking — that was amazing."

The method also has been used to successfully play an 1860 phonograph, the oldest known sound recording of a human voice, as well as a 100-year-old recording of the voice of author Jack London.

The end product of Haber's efforts is digital audio, which can be played on most electronic devices. "This isn't some exotic laboratory sound that can only be heard in these labs," noted Carlene Stephens, a curator at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. "We can hear these voices that have been lost anywhere in the world, and that's thrilling. A door has been opened, and on the other side are people, places, things and ideas we didn't have the imagination to know existed."

Haber has been affiliated since 1986 with the Berkeley Lab, where he is a senior scientist in the Physics Division. Since beginning research on the preservation and restoration of recorded sound in 2002, he has worked with archivists at the Library of Congress, the Thomas Edison National Historic Park, the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology and the Smithsonian Institution, among others.

Winning a MacArthur Fellowship left Haber speechless. "If you're in research, in academia, people know about the MacArthur Fellowship," he said. "But it's so unlikely that anyone would ever get a MacArthur award, I just didn't know what to say. The whole thing is a bit of a shock."

Haber said the grant would allow him to continue his research and to travel globally to restore recordings from remote parts of the world.

"I continue to be excited by any scientific or technical challenge where we can learn things and find elegant solutions to problems that matter to people, be they scientists, historians, ethnographers, anthropologists. It's a privilege and a pleasure to do that."

For more about Haber and his work, go to macfound.org/fellows/892.

Madigan Named Arts and Sciences EVP

David Madigan, who joined Columbia's faculty in 2007 and the following year became chair of the Department of Statistics, was named e.v.p. and dean of the faculty of Arts and Sciences in September. Madigan, who had held that role on an interim basis since March, succeeds Nicholas Dirks, who left to become chancellor of UC Berkeley.

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences consists of 29 departments in the social sciences, humanities and natural sciences; five schools: Columbia College, the School of General Studies, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the School of the Arts and the School of Continuing Education; as well as numerous institutes and centers.

Under a recent restructuring, Arts and Sciences is led by a three-person executive committee consisting of Madigan, College Dean James J. Valentini and GSAS Dean Carlos J. Alonso, a structure Madigan endorses. "This is a very complex organization and having an explicit leadership team that comprises representatives from the core arts and sciences is great, and it works extremely



PHOTO: MARTYN GALLINA-JONES

well," he told *Spectator*.

Asked about the relationship between Arts and Sciences and the College, which had been contentious but improved under the leadership of Dirks and former College dean Austin E. Quigley, Madigan told *Spec*, "First and foremost, we attract amazing students and we have amazing faculty, and with that comes a huge

responsibility. We have a huge responsibility to prepare them well and to give them an education that's relevant to today's global, interconnected world. In the past, there's been some tension between Columbia College and Arts and Sciences and these tensions are utter nonsense. We are a group of faculty and students, and so we either all win or we all lose. We are absolutely in this together."

Madigan mentioned improving faculty diversity as one of his priorities. "We have a wonderfully diverse student body. We have an appallingly un-diverse faculty, and this is not an easy problem to solve," he said. "From the trustees down, there is a strong institutional commitment to try to help with this. This is a major issue for us right now."

New Core Course To Replace Frontiers

Dean James J. Valentini has appointed a 17-member committee of faculty, students and alumni to develop a Core course that will replace Frontiers of Science, the one-semester course taken by first-years that was introduced to the Core on an experimental basis in 2004 and has been reviewed and revamped periodically since then. The Educational Planning and Policy Committee conducted the most recent review of Frontiers in 2012-13. "The charter of that committee was to see if Frontiers of Science should be continued in its current form or if we should do something else, and [the committee] said we should do something else," Valentini said.

In announcing the committee in a September 27 entry on his blog, Valentini mentioned "a need to integrate the course with the rest of the Core, connecting it in particular to Contemporary Civilization,

because science is most certainly a central part of 'contemporary civilization.' We also need to ask what the best route is to engage students as active and enthusiastic scholars pursuing the knowledge and understanding that we seek to impart in this course. How do we engage students in this Core science course the way we do in Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization?"

The committee, which has been meeting since September and is expected to complete its work by the end of the 2013-14 academic year, is co-chaired by Peter deMenocal, professor of earth and environmental sciences and chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences, and Philip Kitcher, the John Dewey Professor of Philosophy.

To read Valentini's blog entry and see the list of committee members, go to college.columbia.edu/about/dean/blog.

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14

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Edward Mendelson Ph.D., the Lionel Trilling Professor in the Humanities, is a professor of English and comparative literature specializing in 19th-century British literature and 20th-century British and American literature. He earned a B.A. from Rochester and a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins, and has taught at Columbia since 1981. He is the literary executor of the Estate of W.H. Auden, and his books include *Early Auden* (1981), *Later Auden* (1999) and *The Things That Matter: What Seven Classic Novels Have to Say About the Stages of Life* (2006).

Tell me about your background and how you came to be a professor.

I grew up in New York and went to Stuyvesant H.S. I thought I was going to be a biologist and follow in the family tradition of doctors, and then I discovered I enjoyed thinking about books more than I enjoyed thinking in the lab. One thing that affected me a lot in college happened at a dinner with a professor at the end of a course, when someone asked him, "Well, you taught the standard canonical list of authors — but who do *you* like most?" He said, "I don't like any of those canonical ones the most; I like so-and-so more." And I thought, it's possible actually to have a personal point of view rather than to accept what was told. That gave me a sense of personal engagement with the material that's stuck with me ever since.

What drew you to your field of study?

In graduate school I started reading W.H. Auden's poems and I discovered, here's someone who knew more about reality than I do. That was striking because an awful lot of literature thinks about

human beings as myths. But if I see someone as the embodiment of beauty or wisdom or something like that, it gets in the way of perceiving him or her as an individual. Virginia Woolf, Auden, all of the writers I admire most, are tempted by myths because they make great poems and great stories — but then they draw back and say, but I realize that the myth gets in the way of seeing who the real person is.

What do you teach?

Generally Lit Hum — I love teaching the Core — and an

we're going to send a plague. Do you recognize that in today's headlines? "We don't like the laws so we're going to destroy everything." So I don't care whether years later they can remember the details of the books, but if they can think about reality more clearly because they've read these books, that's the point.

What are your current projects?

I wrote a batch of reviews for *The New York Review of Books* about American writers in the 20th century, and I realized

could I have ever cared anything for him? An hour later, she's thinking he is the most wonderful man she had ever met.

What about a talent you would like to have?

I'm not going to answer that either.

I guess it would depend on when I ask you?

That's right. I'm sorry; I realize that you're asking a standard question for this kind of interview, but it goes against the grain to describe oneself as a simple cartoon figure.

Five Minutes with ... Edward Mendelson

Is it a variation on that question to ask, if you weren't a professor, what would you be?

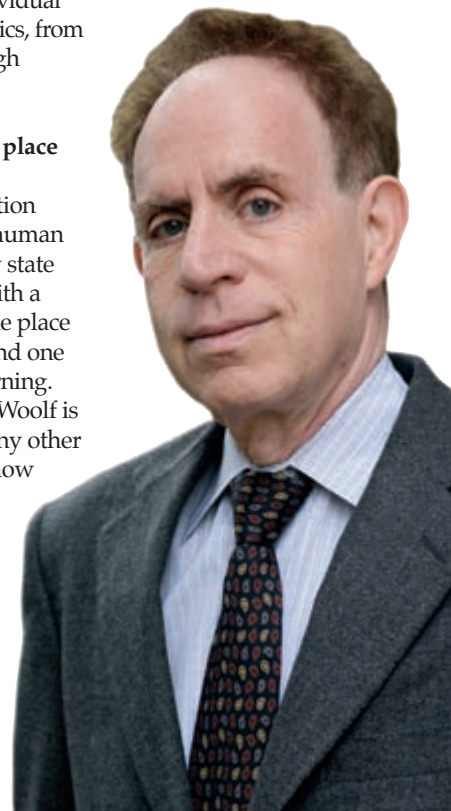
Yes. A life is ... everyone has too many choices to talk about life in this either-or way. I can't do it. I'm always amazed at people who can.

Interview: Alexis Tonti '11 Arts
Photo: Lynn Saville

they were all about how these writers thought about politics and the inner life, and the conflict between those. So my job right now is to turn those essays into a book. Then I want to start a book that comes out of thinking for many years about the kinds of books I teach in Lit Hum, about what it means to be an individual person in the great epics, from *The Odyssey* up through *Moby Dick*.

What's your favorite place to be?

I can't answer a question like that. It suggests human beings are in a steady state rather than people with a history. I like to be one place at 9 in the morning and one place at 10 in the morning. One reason I admire Woolf is that she, more than any other novelist, recognizes how people can think completely different things from one minute to the next. At the beginning of the dinner party [in *To the Lighthouse*], Mrs. Ramsay looks at her husband and wonders, how



Alumni Leaders Weekend

The ninth annual Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend took place October 11–12. This year's focus was multi-dimensional partnerships and how alumni and alumni organizations can collaborate in new ways with one another and with the University. The weekend opened on Friday night at Lincoln Center with two Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) panels, "The 21st Century City: Rethinking Partnerships" and "Experimenting with Our Urban Future." Attendees then enjoyed a reception in The Atrium in Rose Hall. Saturday's events, all held on campus, opened with breakfast roundtables on various aspects of volunteer involvement (below, left). The remainder of the day featured panels and discussion groups, a luncheon and an alumni book fair. The weekend closed with the CAA Alumni Medalists Gala, at which the 10 alumni honored at Commencement with an Alumni Medal — including College medalists Stephen L. Buchman '59, '62L; Dr. Marvin M. Lipman '49, '54 P&S; and Ira B. Malin '75 — were feted at a dinner in Low Rotunda. Speaking on Saturday were (below, middle), from left to right, Huei Ong '09, '09E; Mozelle Thompson '76, '79 SIPA, '81L; and Matthew Roskot '04 at the "Maximizing Social Media for Volunteers" panel, and (right) Dean James J. Valentini on the state of the College.

PHOTOS LEFT TO RIGHT: MICHAEL DAMES, BRUCE GILBERT, BRUCE GILBERT



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Questions? Email ccalumni@columbia.edu

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

■ Nine College alumni were listed in *Business Insider's* "SA [Silicon Alley] 100 2013: The Coolest People in New York Tech," published on October 24. Alphabetically, they are **Mike Brown Jr. '06**, **Jared Hecht '09**, **Doug Imbruce '05**, **Peter Koechley '03**, **Dan Loeb '83**, **Adam Pritzker '08**, **Robert Reffkin '00**, **Nitasha Tiku '01** and **Michael Wolf '84**. For more, go to businessinsider.com/silicon-alley-100-2013-2013-10.

■ **Nico Muhly '03's** opera *Two Boys* had its American premiere at the Metropolitan Opera in NYC on October 21. At 32, Muhly is the youngest person the Met has ever commissioned to write an opera. *Two Boys*, based on real events that occurred 10 years ago in Manchester, England, tells the story of a 16-year-old boy who nearly killed a younger boy after being encouraged to do so by mysterious people he encountered in an Internet chat room. In its review, *The New York Times* called it "a dark, ambitious and innovative work" and said that "Nico Muhly has a voice, a Muhly sound, and it comes through consistently in his opera."

Giving Day 2013:
We Did It Again!

Columbia College raised the most funds among the University's schools and programs on the second annual Columbia Giving Day, held on October 23 worldwide. The College secured the top spot last year as well. By the numbers, the results are:

- More than 1,500 Columbia College alumni, students, parents and friends donated in excess of \$2.4 million for the College.
- More than \$7.8 million was raised overall from 9,759 gifts in 50 states and 53 countries.
- By securing the top spot on the leaderboards, the College earned an additional \$75,398 in matching funds for the Columbia College Fund.
- The College was awarded an extra \$15,000 for having high alumni involvement.
- Young Alumni participation between 8 and 9 p.m. won the College another \$5,000.

For stats and more information, go to givingday.columbia.edu.

■ **John S. "Rip" Ripandelli '40** has been recognized as a knight of the Legion of Honor, France's highest prize, for his military service during WWII. Ripandelli was one of six Floridians honored by François Delattre, the Ambassador of the French Republic to the United States, at a ceremony at the Old Capitol in Tallahassee, Fla., on April 25. The Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon in 1802 to acknowledge services rendered to France by persons of exceptional merit.

■ **Susanna Wolff '10** has been named editor-in-chief of the comedy website CollegeHumor.com, overseeing and directing all editorial content and maintaining the overall tone of the site. She began her career at CollegeHumor in 2007 as an editorial intern, joined the staff upon graduation as articles editor and rose through the ranks to her most recent position as managing editor. Through the years, Wolff has written more than 500 articles for CollegeHumor, including "Facebook News Feed History of the World," in which she translated the entire history of the world into the style of Facebook news feeds.

■ Director **Bill Condon '76's** latest film, *The Fifth Estate*, premiered on October 18. It's the story of Julian Assange, the founder and editor-in-chief of the controversial, news-leaking website WikiLeaks. Condon won an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay for his 1998 film *Gods and Monsters* and was nominated in the same category four years later for *Chicago*. He also wrote the screenplay for and directed *Dreamgirls* (2006) and directed *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1* (2011) and *Part 2* (2012).

■ **Deborah Waxman '89**, a rabbi and historian of American Judaism, became president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College on January 1. Waxman, who had been v.p. for governance, will oversee both the seminary in Wyncote, Pa., and the congregational union, an umbrella for approximately 100 Reconstructionist congregations. She is believed to be the first woman to head a Jewish congregational union and the first woman rabbi to lead a Jewish seminary.



John S. "Rip" Ripandelli '40

■ **Amanda Peet '94** has added playwrighting to her list of credits. After working steadily as a film, television and stage actress for nearly two decades, Peet made her professional playwrighting debut with *The Commons of Pensacola*, a Manhattan Theatre Club production that opened at New York's City Center on November 21. The play stars Blythe Danner and, in a role Peet originally conceived for herself, Sarah Jessica Parker. Peet explained in an interview with *The New York Times* that she chose not to keep the role because she thought Parker "would probably succeed in the role more fully than I would. But I also felt it'd be better for me as an actress, and better for the play, to try to concentrate on one thing. I was scared I wouldn't have perspective if I was both performing and then making changes to the script, especially my first time out. I thought I might get immersed and lost." The play focuses on a mother-daughter relationship after the mother is forced to leave her luxurious New York life because of her husband's Wall Street scandal.



Deborah Waxman '89

Hire Columbians

Who better to hire Columbia students than Columbia alumni? That's the idea behind "Hire Columbians," a campaign by the Center for Career Education to get Columbia alumni to hire students for internships or full-time positions. For more information, go to careereducation.columbia.edu/hirecolumbians.

CAMPUS NEWS

■ **ATWITTER:** Jack Dorsey, chair of Twitter and CEO of Square, offered advice and inspiration to an audience of entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs in Roone Arledge Auditorium on September 16. The event was organized by the Center for Career Education and the Columbia Entrepreneurs Organization and opened Startup Weekend, presented by the Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs. Dorsey noted that much of Twitter's popularity was due not to its creators but to its users, pointing to #, @ and the retweet as examples. "All these systems weren't created or invented by us but by people using the system," he said. Asked about balancing schoolwork and entrepreneurship, Dorsey, a dropout from three universities, said there is no right answer. "Everyone learns differently. Some people thrive in a university atmosphere and some people don't. I was learning more outside of my university than inside it. It's the type of person that you are."



Jack Dorsey

■ **WE'RE NO. 4 (AGAIN):** Columbia was ranked fourth for the fourth consecutive year in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual rankings of national universities, announced in September. Princeton headed the list and Harvard, which had been tied with Princeton atop the 2013 rankings, dropped to second, with Yale retaining the third spot. Chicago, which had been tied with Columbia for fourth a year ago, dropped into a tie for fifth with Stanford. Duke, MIT and Penn tied for seventh and CalTech and Dartmouth tied for 10th. Schools were ranked on 16 factors, including graduation and retention rates, class sizes and alumni giving. Columbia's ranking is based on data from three undergraduate schools: the College, Engineering and General Studies.

■ **ARTS & SCIENCES:** Six Columbia professors have been elected members of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences: John Stratton Howley, professor of religion at Barnard; Donald C. Hood, the James F. Bender Professor in Psychology and professor of ophthalmic science; John D. Huber, professor of political science and departmental chair; Hervé Jacquet,

professor emeritus of mathematics; Duong H. Phong, professor of mathematics; and Barbara G. Tversky, professor of psychology and education at Teachers College. They are among 198 new members of the academy, which was founded in 1790 and includes more than 250 Nobel laureates, who were inducted on October 12.

■ **TEACH:** Columbia ranked sixth among medium-sized schools sending graduating seniors to Teach For America's 2013 teaching corps, with 35 of its newest alumni joining the nonprofit—up eight places from a year ago. Columbia has ranked among the top 20 schools for its size for the past six years, and 358 alumni have signed on with

TFA in its 23-year history. TFA, which recruits students from all disciplines who are willing to commit two years to teach in high-need schools, had 11,000 members teaching in 48 urban and rural regions across the country this fall.

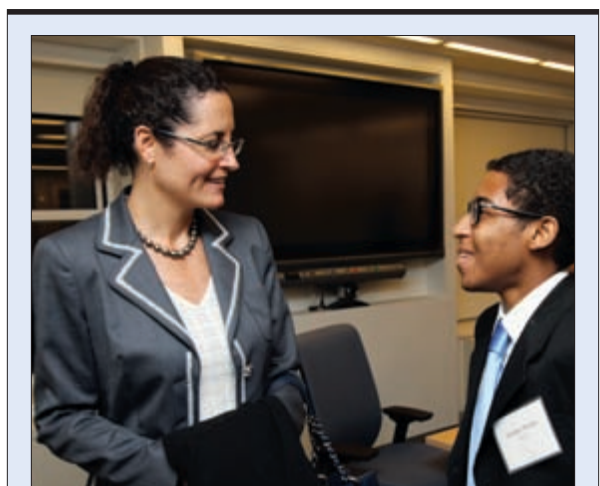
■ **ENDOWED:** Columbia's endowment portfolio produced a return of 11.5 percent for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, raising the total value of the endowment at that point to \$8.2 billion. Columbia's endowment returns over the past five and 10 years are the highest among peer endowments larger than \$1 billion, according to the University. "A key part of our success in maintaining Columbia's solid financial position has been the consistent success of our endowment investment managers year after year," said University President Lee C. Bollinger. "Over the past decade, our investment performance has consistently outpaced both the market and our peers, helping Columbia compete academically with other great universities that have far larger endowments."

■ **GRANTED:** The interdisciplinary team of Virginia Cornish '91, the Helena

Rubinstein Professor of Chemistry, Lars Dietrich, assistant professor of biological sciences, and Kenneth Shepard, professor of electrical engineering and biomedical engineering, won a three-year, \$1 million grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation to further their research in combining biological components and solid-state electronics.

■ **LIBRARIES:** The Rare Book & Manuscript Library (RBML) has acquired two collections, one from the foundation of Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev and the other from *Mad Magazine* illustrator Al Jaffee. The Serge Prokofiev Foundation chose Columbia as the repository for archival material from Prokofiev's 18 years in the West, 1919–36, while Jaffee, 92, and his wife, Joyce, donated the archives from his 70-year career, including 58 years with *Mad*. In addition, RBML has received a \$175,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support the publication of volumes 4 through 6 of the *Selected Papers of John Jay*, a scholarly edition of the papers of the first chief justice of the United States, a member of the Class of 1764.

In addition, the Libraries' Center for Human Rights Documentation & Research has acquired the papers of Amnesty International activist Joshua Rubenstein '71. Rubenstein worked for Amnesty International 1975–2012 and was its Northeast regional director for three decades.



Lisa Carnoy '89, a University trustee and head of global capital markets for Bank of America Merrill Lynch, spoke with students about her profession at the fall semester's first Columbia College Dinner & Discussion program, sponsored by the Center for Career Education, on September 17.

PHOTO: BRUCE GILBERT

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Ben Hirschfeld '16 Gives the Gift of Clean Light

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

Ben Hirschfeld '16's impetus to start Lit! Solar (litsolar.org), a program that has distributed sun-powered lanterns to more than 10,000 people in the developing world, emerged from a simple question: How do schoolchildren who lack electricity study after dark?

Hirschfeld was a high school freshman when he posed this question to his neighbor, Pam Allyn '88 TC, founder and executive director of the international literacy nonprofit LitWorld (litworld.org). Allyn explained that in places like Kibera, Kenya, where LitWorld works and where Lit! Solar's main program now operates, many people lack electricity and rely on kerosene lamps for light. Not only does kerosene pose a fire hazard, Hirschfeld learned, but it is also expensive, provides only dim light and, because of its smoke, can cause respiratory diseases, including lung cancer. Having suffered from respiratory ailments growing up, he was spurred to action by the findings. "Because of my own struggle with learning while not feeling well because of respiratory issues, I could empathize and understand how hard it must be," says Hirschfeld, who after further research determined that solar lanterns charged by daylight were a solution.

Under the auspices of LitWorld, Lit! Solar began as a pilot program in 2009. Hirschfeld set up a booth at a farmers market in his hometown of Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., and raised funds to send lanterns to 20 students at the Red Rose School in Kibera, the biggest slum in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi, through LitWorld's local partner organizations. After a second round of distribution, he sent questionnaires to assess the effectiveness of the solar lanterns. "It turned out that the kids were studying a lot more, that they felt more confident in school and that [the families] were saving a lot of money on kerosene," says Hirschfeld.

It was in July 2011, however, when he met people like Doreen Acheing during a three-week stint as a teaching assistant at

the Red Rose School, that he truly realized his project's potential to improve a family's health and finances. Acheing, a mother of two, reported her children's chronic pneumonia disappeared when the family abandoned its kerosene lamp in favor of a solar lantern. The \$8 lantern, says Hirschfeld, also enabled Acheing to work after sundown, which allowed her to expand her business of sewing school uniforms and raise money to purchase a second lantern for relatives.

"Being there and putting a human face on all of these issues really brought it all home for me — both the huge difference we could make in people's lives with this tiny piece of technology and the humbleness that comes from knowing how many people are still dealing with the same problems," says Hirschfeld.

In Kibera, Lit! Solar promotes the lanterns on the radio, at parent meetings at schools, and at festivals. Recipients do not have any upfront costs for the lanterns; instead, they are asked to donate, over time, part of the money they save on kerosene to help provide lanterns for others. "The families get all the health benefits, studying benefits and also economic benefits, because the parents can work at night," says Hirschfeld.

Lit! Solar has also donated solar lanterns to participants of LitWorld's LitClubs, which focus on empowering and educating girls in places like the Philippines and Haiti, and has expanded its scope to include Fiji and a Native American reservation in Arizona.

During the academic year, Hirschfeld oversees the overall operation of Lit! Solar and pursues opportunities to extend the program's reach, whether it means networking or giving his input on a contract agreement with a new partner organization in Kenya. (He also performs with the Columbia University Kingsmen.) Allyn praises Hirschfeld's ability to break down an ambitious project into manageable tasks. "He has great ideas, has created excellent protocols for the work and carries things through," she



Lit! Solar founder Ben Hirschfeld '16 with lantern recipient Doreen Acheing in her home in Kibera in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi.

PHOTO: JEFF OKOTH

says. "He thinks big but also understands that each of the successes comes from step-by-step work, which needs to be meticulously done."

Hirschfeld, who is pondering majors in sociology and sustainable development, has garnered financial support for his project in the form of several prizes, including a \$36,000 Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Award from the Helen Diller Family Foundation, which recognizes Jewish teen leaders. He also has received a Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, which carries a \$2,500 cash award, and a \$2,000 BIC 4 Good Grant from DoSomething.org.

In September, Hirschfeld was invited by the Clinton Global Initiative to attend the CGI Annual Meeting, a gathering of global leaders from businesses, nonprofits, NGOs and governments, at the Sheraton New York Times Square Hotel. There he met President Bill Clinton, of whose nonprofit work Hirschfeld has long been a fan. "What [Clinton] does is connect people, and the other attendees I met there will, I'm sure, help take Lit! Solar to the next level," he says.

Nathalie Alonso '08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for *LasMayores.com*, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website.

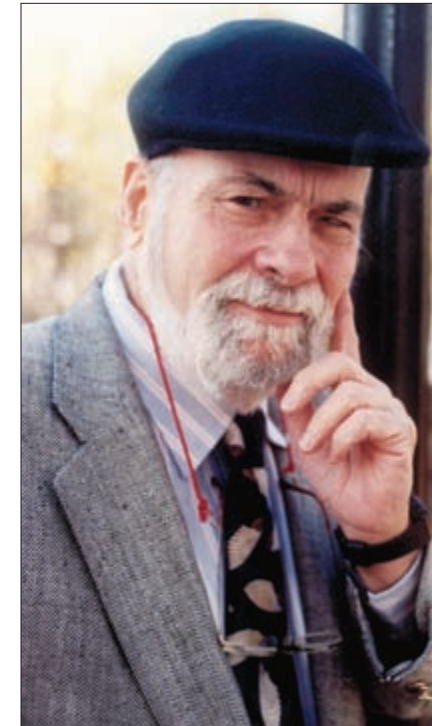
IN MEMORIAM

Arthur C. Danto '53 GSAS, the Johnsonian Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, an art critic and a philosopher, died on October 25, 2013, in Manhattan. He was 89.

Danto was one of the most prominent art critics of the Postmodern era. He was famously influenced by a 1964 New York Stable Gallery show that featured one of Andy Warhol's iconic reproductions of the Brillo box. Frustrated that the sculpture was indistinguishable from an ordinary object, Danto wondered what made it "art." In his 1964 essay "The Artworld," published in *The Journal of Philosophy*, he proposed that art became "art" because it was deemed meaningful by an artistically literate community — the "artworld."

Danto became a champion of avant-garde artists and the pop-art movement and was fascinated by how artists such as Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein could transform ordinary objects into art. His essay "The End of Art" radically proposed that art history had come to an end; that art was a medium of individuals and that in the contemporary world, a plurality of approaches would prevent any single style from dominating. In his book *What Art Is*, published this past March, Danto concluded that art was "the embodiment of an idea," forgoing the aesthetic and instead conveying "the power of meaning and possibility of truth."

Born in Ann Arbor, Mich., on January 1, 1924, Danto was raised in Detroit. He served for two years in the Army during WWII and was stationed in Italy and in North Africa. Danto studied art and art history at Wayne State, graduating in 1948. He aspired to become an artist specializing in woodcuts but took advantage of the GI Bill to study philosophy and



Arthur C. Danto '53 GSAS

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

earned a Ph.D. from GSAS. Danto began teaching philosophy at Columbia in 1951 and chaired the department for several years. He was named the Johnsonian Professor Emeritus of Philosophy after his 1992 retirement.

Following such famous art critics as Russell Sturgis, Henry James and Clement Greenberg, Danto became *The Nation's* art critic in 1984; he held this post until 2009 and was the longest-serving art critic in the magazine's history. Danto's critical style was influenced by his education, specifically the theories of 19th-century German philosopher Georg

Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel. In *The Nation's* article "Remembering Arthur Danto," Peter G. Meyer wrote that what distinguished Danto from other critics was "his ability to discuss the actual meaning of a particular work of art, and even where it was exhibited, something that few critics dared to, or cared to, do on a regular basis."

Danto published some 30 books including *Encounters & Reflections: Art in the Historical Present*, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1990; *Beyond the Brillo Box: The Visual Arts in Post-Historical Perspective*; and *Unnatural Wonders: Essays from the Gap Between Art & Life*, a collection of his essays and reviews.

Danto is survived by his second wife, Barbara Westman Danto, whom he married in 1980; and daughters, Ginger and Elizabeth. His first wife, Shirley Rovetch, died in 1978.

Karl Daum '15

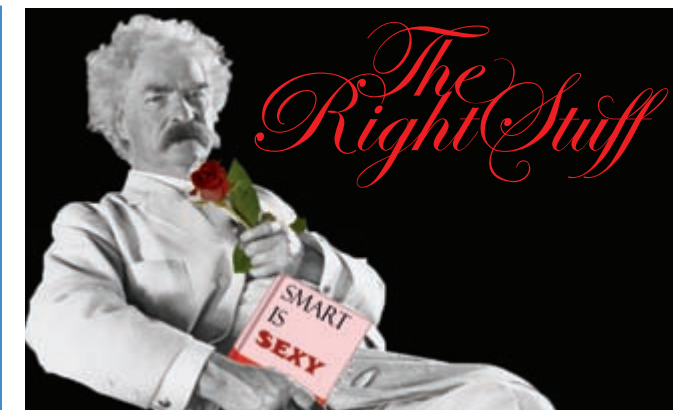
Request for Nominations

The Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors requests nominations for new members. If you or a fellow alumnus/a have an interest in being an active volunteer leader on the CCAA board, please contact us at ccalumni@columbia.edu for more information or to submit a nomination.

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Roar, Lion, Roar

Olympian Nzingha Prescod '15 Balances Fencing, Academics

BY ELENA HECHT '09 BARNARD

It is 10 a.m. on a Thursday and Nzingha Prescod '15, biting her lower lip, is poised in a deep squat on a strip in the fencing gym, eyes focused directly ahead, right arm gently bent — relaxed hand up, creased elbow down — like a cat ready to pounce. A blond boy stands to her right, holding a glove a few inches above her eye level. With no warning he drops the glove and, in a moment in which time seems to slow, Prescod extends her arm and, with a deliberate yet delicate power, drives her right foot forward into a lunge, catching the glove in her right hand with a practiced accuracy.

It is early September, and Prescod is not yet back to fencing after an intense summer of competition. But from even a

glimpse of the 21-year-old's conditioning workout it is clear that her footwork is exceptional and her composure otherworldly — not surprising for a Columbia fencing team captain who competed in the London 2012 Olympics. Couple that with her history-making gold in May at the Marseille Foil Grand Prix, a triumph that made her the first U.S. women's foil fencer to win a Grand Prix title, and there's no doubt: Prescod is a champion.

She is also no stranger to New York fencing. The Brooklyn native has been fencing foil, one of three weapons used in the sport, since she was 9, when her mother brought her for lessons at the Peter Westbrook Foundation (PWF), an organization founded by six-time Olympian Peter Westbrook that brings fencing to inner-city children. From the start, Prescod liked to win, and that thirst for success drove — and in many ways continues to drive — her dedication. For someone whose inclination to smile seems as natural as her skill with a sword, her fervor for athletic perfection is surprising — and Prescod knows it. "I keep it really hush-hush, but deep inside I'm super competitive," she says.

But ambition alone does not beget success. Michael Aufrichtig, Columbia's head fencing coach and former chairman of the New York Athletic Club fencing program, notes that Prescod — who is currently ranked No. 1 in the United States and eighth in the world — is in optimal physical form for the sport. "Also, mentally she is like that cool, calm, detached warrior," says Aufrichtig, who also draws attention to the combined power of Prescod's precise footwork and her sense of timing. "I feel she is one of the most talented, strong, creative, most impressive fencers in the United States and in the world."

It may seem daunting to balance an internationally successful athletics career with the rigor of a Columbia education, but for Prescod it is old hat: She has been harmonizing her academic life with sports-related travel since she was 13. This aptitude for maintaining balance has allowed Prescod, who came to the College from Stuyvesant H.S. and is majoring in political science, to strive for both fencing and academic success. She men-

tions making the Dean's List as a short-term goal before diving into her athletic aspirations — being on an international tournament podium again and with more consistency, and staying ranked in the top eight in the world. These coexisting goals require a busy schedule, with fencing practice six days a week, sometimes twice a day; volunteering at the Peter Westbrook Foundation Saturday Program, which offers fencing to youth ages 9–18 of all skill levels; traveling, often internationally, for competitions and training camps 11 months of the year; competing in the NCAA, national and international fencing seasons (which, to make things more complicated, overlap); and, of course, the demands of school.

But Prescod stresses that she thrives off a packed schedule. To train for the London 2012 Olympics she took the 2011–12 school year off (she entered Columbia with the Class of 2014), a time she describes as awful. "I needed a distraction. School is my distraction from fencing. And not a distraction in the bad way. I would go crazy from only fencing. Fencing is so mental and you really psych yourself out sometimes. ... I have to do something else."

Thanks to Columbia's reputation for strong fencing and a number of PWF and Fencers Club teammates who went to Columbia, Prescod had wanted to attend the College since elementary school, though she notes that fencing aside, she loves the school. But ultimately New York was the biggest draw because, she says, "I didn't want to leave my coach."

That coach is Buckie Leach, Prescod's coach of 10 years and a US Fencing Hall of Fame member. Columbia fencers are encouraged to train with other coaches at clubs throughout New York City so as to access the diversity of competition that club fencing offers. As a result, throughout her time at Columbia Prescod has continued to train at the Fencers Club in midtown three to four times per week with Leach, whom she credits with shaping her work ethic. He instilled the concept that "You've got to work hard all the time, 100 percent." So I have that attitude about everything I care about," she says. "He has shaped me as a person in a lot of ways."

As she moves through her third year on campus, Prescod has her sights set on the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, where she hopes to have a chance to march in the Opening Ceremony (in 2012 she was deterred by an early-morning event the next day). And though she does not think about it much, in a sport that is known for historically lacking in diversity — Westbrook's sabre bronze medal in 1984 made him the first African-American Olympic fencing medalist, not to mention the first American medalist in fencing since 1960 — the significance of being "one of so few who've gone this far in this sport and who are black" is not lost on her. "I'm really glad that I can do this so younger black kids see that basketball and football aren't the only sports that they can do and be successful in. Fencing can take you so many places and give you so many opportunities and make you such a better person," says Prescod. "I really hope younger kids can see that through me."

To view video of Prescod fencing, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Elena Hecht '09 Barnard is a New York-based writer and dancer, and a former Columbia College Today editorial assistant.



Columbia's men's cross country team and its supporters celebrate the Lions' Ivy/Heps win at Van Cortlandt Park.

PHOTO: GENE BOYARS

Lions Win Men's Ivy/Heps Cross Country Crown

Columbia won the men's Ivy Heptagonal Cross Country Championship at Van Cortlandt Park on November 2, placing three runners among the top five finishers. It was the Lions' first Ivy men's cross country title since 2009 and fourth overall. Columbia finished with 48 points to knock off three-time defending champion Princeton, which had 56 points.

Nicolas Composto '14 ran the 8K course in a career-best time of 23 minutes, 44.5 seconds to finish in second place behind Harvard senior Maksim Korolev, who clocked 23:28.2. Composto's time was the best Ivy/Heps time in Columbia history. John Gregorek '14 finished fourth in 23:45.0 and Daniel Everett '15 was fifth at 23:46.3. All three earned All-Ivy First Team honors, a first for Columbia.

Three more Lions finished among the top 21 in a field of 95 runners. Jacob Sienko '14 was 17th at 24:07.0, Jack Boyle '17 was 20th at 24:14.2 and Ben Golestan '16 was 21st at 24:19.3.

In the women's race, Waverly Neer '15 placed second for the second consecutive year with a time of 20:20.0 for the 6K course, trailing only Dartmouth senior Abbey D'Agostino, who posted an Ivy-record time of 19:40.8. In the team standings, Columbia's women finished fifth as Dartmouth captured the crown.

Columbia's men's team placed second in the NCAA Northeast Regional on November 15 and then finished 25th in the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind., on November 23. Composto led the way, completing the 10K course in 30:37.8 to finish 30th and earn All-America honors. Sienko finished in 121st place, Boyle was 171st, Gregorek 190th and Joe Kotran '14 196th. Neer finished 219th in the women's event.



Fencer Nzingha Prescod '15, who is currently ranked No. 1 in the United States and eighth in the world, with her gold medal from the 2011 Junior World Championships, held in Amman, Jordan.

PHOTO: MIKE DOTE

SCOREBOARD

4 Number of matches Zack Hernandez '16 won to capture the 184-lb. division of the Michigan State Open wrestling tournament.

5 Number of matches won by the Columbia men's doubles team of Ashok Narayana '15 and Max Schnur '15 en route to the ITA/USTA National Indoor Intercollegiate Tennis Championship.

8 The highest national ranking achieved by Columbia's Ivy League champion men's cross country team this season.

21 The number of Columbia fencers who finished in the top 32 in the first North American Cup of the year, thus qualifying for National Division I Championships in 2014.

27 The margin of victory as Columbia's women's swimming team defeated Harvard for the first time in school history, 163.5–136.5, in the team's 2013–14 season opener.

Narayana, Schnur Win National Indoor Doubles Title

Columbia's duo of Ashok Narayana '15 and Max Schnur '15 stunned the top-seeded and No. 1 nationally ranked pair of Mikelis Libietis and Hunter Reese from Tennessee 6-3, 6-2 to win the doubles draw of the ITA/USTA National Indoor Intercollegiate Tennis Championships on November 10.

"The guys they played have been No. 1 in the country since February, and they hardly lose," Lions coach Bid Goswami said. "It makes it that much better beating the No. 1 team in the championship. Now everyone will be gunning for us, but it's great to win this and have a national championship under our belt."

Columbia, which hosted the tournament at the USTA-Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, entered the doubles draw as a wild card and earned the program's first collegiate Grand Slam and national tournament crown. It was also the first national title earned by an Ivy League team since 1999, when James Blake of Harvard won the singles championship.

"Once we won the first set, the chants started coming, 'Let's go Lions!' and I think we fed off that really well," Schnur said. "It was a great atmosphere for us. We knew we could beat any team, but now we actually won a championship."

"We had good game planning and strategy," Narayana said. "We've been in these situations, so we knew if we played well we would have a shot."

Narayana and Schnur won their opening match of the four-day tournament over the No. 3 doubles team in the nation, Jackson Withrow and Junior Ore from Texas A&M, by an 8-4 score. The Columbia partnership continued their success with an 8-2 victory over Rafael Aita and Sam Williams of North Carolina-Wilmington, then advanced to the semifinals by beating Simon Felix and Deni Zmak of Embry-Riddle 8-3. Narayana and Schnur

earned a shot at the national crown by beating Florida State's Benjamin Lock and Marco Nunez 6-4, 6-4 in the semifinals.

Ruzika Honored by Athletics

Columbia Athletics dedicated the Richard M. Ruzika Theater and Classroom in The Campbell Sports Center on October 19 in honor of Richard M. Ruzika '81. President Lee C. Bollinger and Trustees Chair William V. Campbell '62, '64 TC were present at the dedication.

Ruzika, who played defensive tackle for the Columbia football team, had a successful career in international finance and became the commodities head at Goldman Sachs. A generous contributor to the University and to Athletics, Ruzika was a member of the College's Board of Visitors, received the John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 2006, was a member of the Columbia Campaign for Athletics Leadership Committee and contributed a leadership gift toward The Campbell Sports Center. He died on May 7, 2012, following a stroke that occurred three days after knee surgery.

"We are so thrilled to honor Rich with the naming of the Richard M. Ruzika Theater and Classroom," said M. Dianne Murphy, director of intercollegiate athletics and physical education. "Rich was such a generous and caring person. He was beloved by his teammates, coaches, classmates and colleagues. We are so honored that his wife, Ruthanne, and their children, Craig ['16] and Caitlin, could join us at the dedication."

The largest number of soccer alumni in Columbia history turned out on October 12 for the dedication of the Rocco B. Commisso ['70E, '75 Business] Soccer Stadium at the Baker Athletics Complex. The venue honors Commisso, a three-time All-Ivy player who led the undefeated freshman soccer team in 1967 and then co-captained, with Len Renery '71, the Lions to their first NCAA tournament appearance in 1970. The dedication took place between

the women's and men's matches against Penn and included soccer alumni from five decades. Commisso (bottom row, center) is the founder and CEO of Mediacom Communications, a cable TV and broadband provider, and has been an active contributor to the men's soccer program for more than 40 years. He co-founded the alumni advisory group Friends of Columbia Soccer and served as its chair from 1979-86, among other initiatives.

PHOTO: MIKE McLAUGHLIN



Young Basketball Lions Take the Court

Youth will be served this season on Columbia's men's basketball team. With no seniors on the roster, coach Kyle Smith is turning to the players he has brought to Morningside Heights during the past three seasons as he looks to build a title contender.

"This is our third recruiting class, and we finally have our group of guys who fit our style of play," says Smith, whose team went 12-16 last season and 4-10 in Ivy League play. That record is a bit deceiving, as Columbia beat two teams that reached the NCAA Championships (Harvard and Villanova) and lost eight Ivy games by six points or fewer.

Smith notes that while his team is young, four players have significant experience as starters and seven played at least 10 minutes a game last year. "We may be young," says Smith, "but these guys have had a taste of success and really want to take this program to a higher level."

With the graduation of Brian Barbour '13, the team leader in scoring and assists last season, and Mark Cisco '13, its rebounding leader, Smith is turning to Grant Mullins '16 and Cory Osetkowski '15 as key building blocks.

Mullins averaged 9.7 ppg and shot .374 from three-point range last season, and gained valuable experience this summer playing with the Canadian National Development Team, which compiled a 7-0 record at the Seven Nations Tournament in China against some of the top young talent in the world. Joining Mullins in a deep backcourt are Isaac Cohen '16, Maodo Lo '16, Meiko Lyles '15, Noah Springwater '15 and Kendall Jackson '17. Smith began

the season using a three-guard starting lineup, with Cohen and Lo joining Mullins for the opening tip.

Osetkowski, 6-11 and 258 lbs., is a deft passer with a good shooting touch who keys the frontcourt, and Smith will look to run the offense through him at center more often to take advantage of his skills. Luke Petrasek '17, a lean 6-10 forward, completed the starting lineup on opening night. Joining them in the frontcourt are Alex Rosenberg '15, who competed for the United States in the Maccabiah Games in Israel this past summer, and Zach En'Wezoh '16, who had an injury-plagued first season. Smith is hopeful that 7-1 center Conor Voss '17E will see more action as the season progresses.

The Lions began the non-league portion of their season with a strong 73-54 victory over Maryland-Eastern Shore before losing 71-70 to Manhattan in the final second of play and 62-53 at Michigan State, at the time ranked second in the nation. Columbia will open Ivy competition against Cornell at Levien Gym on January 18.

Save the Date!

Dec. 9 Women's basketball reception at Iona

Dec. 28 Men's basketball plays St. John's in the Brooklyn Hoops Winter Festival at the Barclays Center (televised by Fox Sports 1)

Jan. 18 Men's basketball opens Ivy League season against Cornell at Levien Gym

Feb. 8 Men's basketball reception at Penn

Feb. 17 Women's Consortium networking event

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One of the winning images from the Office of Global Programs' 2013-14 study abroad photo contest: *Arthur's Seat* in Edinburgh, just before sunrise.
PHOTO: MICHELLE ANN WORTHINGTON '14



GLOBAL COLUMBIA

More than ever, the College is taking steps to prepare its students to be engaged and effective global citizens

BY SHIRA BOSS '93, '97J, '98 SIPA



Maddy Cohen '13 (second row, far right) and other biology students visited the village of Xijiang, in Guizhou Province, China, in summer 2012 to discuss local forestry and agricultural practices. Left, the students at a banana plantation outside a village in southern Yunnan Province.

PHOTOS: TOP, COURTESY MATT PALMER; LEFT, SHAHID NAEEM



understanding research concepts from project planning to execution, something that is hard to do within the classroom."

At the end of her junior year, Cohen again went abroad, this time to China, with other biology students, with Matt Palmer, director of undergraduate studies for E3B, and with Shahid Naeem, professor of ecology in E3B and director of the Earth Institute Center for Environmental Sustainability. They presented research to students at Minzu University of China in Beijing and traveled to rural areas to learn more about how ethnic minorities are managing their forest and water resources.

Upon graduation, Cohen found ready employment in New York City with a sustainability management consulting firm. "I work with international clients, helping businesses improve their environmental footprint and social impact," she says. "It's a great job that combines several of my interests in helping people and the environment."

By virtue of being at Columbia University in the City of New York, College undergraduates have long enjoyed a cosmopolitan atmosphere. But now, more than ever, the College is taking steps to ensure that its students are thinking globally, opening their minds to and setting their sights on the world beyond Morningside Heights.

"We want the College to prepare students to be engaged and effective global citizens," says James J. Valentini, dean of the College and v.p. for undergraduate education, who hopes that all students who are interested in studying, working or doing research abroad have an opportunity to do so during their time at Columbia. "Alumni often tell me that having the chance to work or study overseas opened doors of understanding that no other experience

could have offered. But the global character of a Columbia College education is also delivered in our classrooms every day by our broadly diverse and international student body that exposes every student to a world of different voices, cultures and ideas."

Indeed, while "global" might be something of a buzzword in today's culture, it is nevertheless a big idea that translates in an array of meaningful ways to the realm of a College education. It applies to the content of the curriculum (both on campus and in the overseas academic programs the College runs), to the composition of the student body, and to the atmosphere and activities that are fostered on campus. It speaks to the way the University is expanding its footprint through the Columbia Global Centers as well as to the increasing range of international experiences available to undergraduates in research, work or study abroad. And it speaks to a mindset — to a broadening of awareness and ability to understand multiple perspectives — that is crucial to thriving in this new, interdependent world.

"My view is, if we're going to have our students educated for the world they will inhabit and lead," says President Lee C. Bollinger, "they should be familiar now with China, they should visit and work in countries in Africa, they should have been to India and done some of their coursework there, they should have a feel for South America. A lot of this is just introducing young people to this very, very interconnected world. The person who used to be a citizen of California, then became a citizen of the United States, now has to become a global citizen. And students, young people, know this."

Columbia encourages this crossover by having an Office of Global Programs (OGP), responsible for helping with fellowships as well as for bringing exchange students to Morningside Heights and sending students to study abroad. "Our students need not just to function in a global environment but to understand and tolerate ambiguity, to work collaboratively, to work where the rules are not clear," says Michael Pippenger, dean of undergraduate global programs and assistant v.p. of international education, "so they can succeed in that global environment, not just today or six months from now, but six years from now and 60 years from now."

Providing a global experience starts with

admissions, and building a class whose diversity includes students from many countries and cultures. "Columbia reaches out to prospective students from around the world in a variety of ways, including letters, emails and a special section of the admissions website," says Jessica Marinaccio, dean of undergraduate admissions and financial aid. "We also place great importance on face-to-face outreach. Members of the admissions staff visited more than 30 countries this fall, where they met with prospective students at high schools, held information sessions and engaged with international organizations that assist students applying to colleges in the United States."

Additionally, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions tries to connect prospective international students with current international students through its Global Recruitment Committee, a volunteer student organization that assists with international recruitment. GRC members, who hail from around the world, hold online chats and webinars for prospective students and write personalized postcards to admitted international students,

among other things. "The goal," Marinaccio says, "as it is with all of our recruitment efforts, is to help international students decide if Columbia might be the right fit for them."

This concerted effort is producing results: Sixteen percent of the College Class of 2017 hails from abroad — 47 countries in all — with the top countries represented being South Korea, China, the United Kingdom, Canada and India. Two decades ago, just four percent of the members of the Class of 1997 came from foreign countries, with 24 countries represented, led by China, Hong Kong, Pakistan, Germany and India.

Diversity of the student body is further enhanced through visiting international students, who come to Columbia for a semester or year, as well as exchange students who hail from the 14 institutions in Europe and Asia with which Columbia has student exchange agreements; these range from a longstanding arrangement with the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences-Po) to a more recently established partnership with The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. In addition to adding international perspectives to the residence halls, classrooms and campus activities, the exchange students — from 40 to 50 each academic

year — serve as ambassadors to introduce College students to these reciprocal study abroad opportunities. "When students are interested in going abroad to a partner institution, we make a point of connecting them with an on-campus exchange partner," says Scott Carpenter, OGP's associate dean of study abroad. "That's been valuable in terms of logistics and orienting them to what that institution is like."

Speaking of the Class of 2017, Marinaccio says, "Our international community is incredibly diverse. We continually strive to bring new perspectives to the Columbia community, and for the first time, students from Malta, Honduras and the Palestinian Territories are represented in our undergraduate population."

She adds that attracting a diverse and talented student body is an important goal of the Admissions Office, the College and the University. "Our endeavor is to create a class that represents a variety of perspectives and backgrounds, including those from all over the world, so that numerous voices are represented around a Core Curriculum table. This adds to the academic and student life community at Columbia and greatly benefits all students, who constantly engage with and learn from students who are different from themselves."

When the students converge on Morningside

Heights, they quickly are immersed in the crown jewel of a College education, the Core Curriculum.

"The Core is designed to shed light from multiple perspectives on the basic question of what it means to be human," says Roosevelt Montás '95, '04 GSAS, director of the Center for the Core Curriculum and associate dean of academic affairs. "As our world

"We want the College to prepare students to be engaged and effective global citizens."
Dean James J. Valentini

has become more integrated, and as Core classrooms have become more international, these skills honed in class discussion assume a global reach, equipping our students to understand their own lives in broad terms that emphasize our shared humanity.”

The specifically non-Western component of the Core is the two-semester Global Core requirement (formerly Major Cultures), which according to the Bulletin “asks students to engage directly with the variety of civilizations and the diversity of traditions that, along with the West, have formed the world and continue to interact in it today.” Students choose two courses from an approved list from various departments that explore the cultures of Africa, Asia, the Americas and the Middle East in a historical context. Examples are “Buddhism: East Asian” (religion department), “Economic Organization and Development of Japan” (economics), “Caribbean Diaspora Literature” (English and Comparative Literature) and “Global Urbanism” (sociology). “The aim is to expose students to a range of perspectives on fundamental human issues and to enrich their sense of themselves as members of a global community,” Montás says.

Such courses could also soon debut overseas. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation earlier this year awarded Columbia a grant to globalize the liberal arts curriculum, and four departments have proposed courses to be taught abroad, which are currently in the process of being approved. The syllabi for these courses, which include Art Humanities and Music Humanities to be taught in Paris, would be tailored to specific locales and allow students “to take advantage of the history, architecture and traditions you can find in a city like Paris,” says Giuseppe Gerbino, associate professor of music and chair of the Department of Music.

As Gerbino notes, “One of the most significant developments in the history of Western polyphony is associated with the construction of the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris and the musical repertory cultivated in that specific spatial and ceremonial context. While taking Music Humanities, students will be able to study the architectural spaces for which historically important works were created and in which they were first performed.”

Whether taught in New York or abroad, the Core nurtures an understanding and appreciation of all cultures. “Music Humanities participates in the Western Core, the texts and art works of which are in demand all over the world,” says Elaine Sisman, the Anne Parsons Bender Professor of Music and chair of Music Humanities. “By training students in critical listening practices we help them to engage with all musics, as well as enabling them to participate in the cultural life of the present.”

She notes that the department has taught musics of the world since 1971; Asian Music Humanities (one semester devoted to East Asian, and one to West and South Asian music), now part of the Global Core, was established in the mid-’80s; and, in addition to the history and theory of art music, the department also covers popular music (in America and elsewhere in the world), jazz, experimental and electronic music, African-American music, music

in society, music in cross-cultural perspectives, music from humanistic and social-science perspectives, and more.

Departments are becoming more globally minded — in faculty recruitment, course offerings, majors and concentrations, and opportunities for students to travel abroad for study or research. About one-third of the College’s more than 100 majors and concentrations are programs of study that are either specifically foreign (East Asian studies, French, Hispanic studies, Italian cultural studies, modern Greek studies ...) or naturally lend themselves to international scope (evolutionary biology of the human species, ethnicity and race studies, history and theory of architecture ...), including two of the newest additions, human rights and sustainable development.

The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race at Columbia University revised its curriculum three years ago to make it more comparative and global. “It was heavily centered on the U.S., and to some extent it still is; the U.S. is very important to the work that we do. But we thought it was also important for students to get a global perspective on race, ethnicity and other forms of social difference,” says Frances Negrón-Muntaner, associate professor of English and comparative literature and director of CSER.

Whereas the department used to have three separate majors that started with “Introduction to ...” Latino Studies, for example, and students then continued with more in-depth area studies, now all CSER students take three foundation courses, one each on a history of the modern world, theory and research.

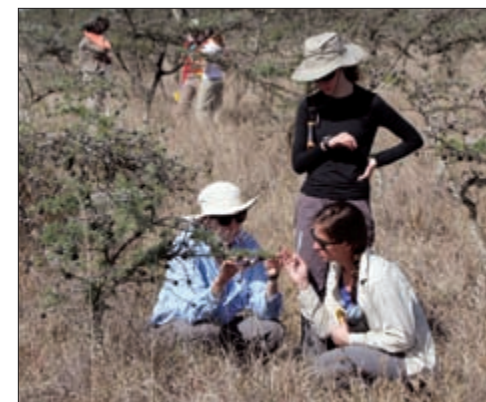
“This emphasis allows students to consider that what happens in the U.S. is related to and illuminated by what takes place elsewhere, and that there is a history to this interconnectivity,” Negrón-Muntaner says. “This approach underscores how sometimes very local experiences are connected to thoughts and practices many miles away.”

Although the department “highly encourages” its students to study abroad, Negrón-Muntaner makes the point that traveling is not the only way to gain a more global perspective. “There’s a tendency to think of global as foreign or ‘someplace else.’ It’s fundamental to the transformation of Columbia, and higher education in general, that globalization is understood as a shift in *thinking*,” she says. “Many shifts in thinking can occur when someone encounters an experience they’ve never had, but this is not simply the result of traveling. It is the result of thinking differently about the world.”

For several years running, an on-campus event has been organized to familiarize students with the myriad opportunities abroad and the ways to study or work internationally. Last year, more than 25 participants came together at the international expo to present their programs. The more obvious ones were OGP (study abroad) and the Center for Career Education (internships, jobs) but also included were Columbia Maison Française, the Weatherhead East Asian Institute and the Earth Institute.

“There’s more of an emphasis from many areas within Columbia to encourage experiences that develop skill sets in line with being a global citizen,” says Heather Perceval, associate dean of experiential education and student enterprises at CCE. “We hear

“The Core is designed to shed light from multiple perspectives on the basic question of what it means to be human.”
Roosevelt Montás '95,
'04 GSAS



Tropical biology students study abroad at The Mpala Research Centre in Kenya. Clockwise from top left: ants living in the swollen thorns of acacia trees warrant a close-up look; College and Barnard students in June 2011; a chameleon made for a friendly addition to the group.

PHOTOS: DUSTIN RUBENSTEIN

from employers more frequently that they are looking for students with global competencies: to be adaptable, to be flexible, to deal well with ambiguity. Those are in line with experiences you get abroad, having to navigate a new culture.”

Among the international internships that are available to students are those offered through CCE’s Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO) program (see “Passport to India,” Fall 2013), which sends students on summer internships to Amman, Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Shanghai, Singapore and, as of this year, Mumbai and Bangalore. The students are connected to local employers as well as to alumni mentors; they also live together in Columbia-sponsored housing and take part in local programming that helps them network and get the most out of being abroad. This past summer, 64 undergraduates participated, roughly 70 percent of them from the College.

“Launching a program in India this past summer was particularly significant,” says Kavita Sharma, dean of CCE. “Not only did CCE provide opportunities for 11 undergraduates to intern in India but we did it by leveraging our relationship with the Mumbai Global Center and securing funding from Citigroup via the U.S. State Department. A few of our student interns were even able to travel to Delhi to present their experiences as U.S. interns at a Strategic Dialogue on Higher Education between the U.S. and Indian governments.”

As in Mumbai, the Columbia Global Centers play a significant role in opening up opportunities for undergraduates abroad. There are currently eight centers, with the others being in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Nairobi, Paris, Rio de Janeiro and Santiago. Rather than establishing degree-granting branch campuses in foreign cities, as some peer institutions have done (for example, NYU Abu Dhabi and Yale-NUS College in Singapore), the centers — part of

an initiative that the University launched in March 2009 — are more like intellectual outposts, seen as “Columbia embedded in what is emerging as a global community of scholarship,” according to the centers’ website.

“We need to have bases around the world that will help our faculty and students learn about the world,” says Bollinger. “You’re not really going to have the impact on your own teaching and research through branch campuses that you will with something like Global Centers. In my view, it’s really our faculty and our students who need to have the opportunities to learn what the issues are, learn what they need to know, develop research programs, develop classes and courses — and that’s not going to happen if you have a branch campus.” (See “A Conversation with President Lee C. Bollinger,” on page 28.)

The centers maintain small local staffs, establish ties with local institutions and scholars, and can serve as a home-away-from-Morningside for faculty and students researching and studying abroad as well as alumni working or traveling in those areas. The Global Center in Paris, for example, is home to Reid Hall, where Columbia’s undergraduate programs have been located since 1964, and the Global Center in Mumbai hosts an orientation program and other events for undergrads interning in India as part of CEO.

“Our approach facilitates the learning that comes through dialogue with international academic partners while also allowing the Columbia community to share its knowledge and expertise in locales around the world where it can most powerfully help address 21st-century challenges. The Global Centers provide faculty and students with enhanced opportunities and in some cases, opportunities that they wouldn’t have had otherwise; to get out in the world, to discover, engage and learn, while at the



Two of the winning images from the Office of Global Programs' 2013-14 study abroad photo contest (top): a Nigerian marketplace; (above): camping on the banks of the Okavango Delta in Botswana.

PHOTOS: (FROM TOP) OMOYENI OLANREWaju CLEMENT '15; VICTORIA ROBSON '14

same time not mandating the use of the centers. They are the base of several interdisciplinary research projects, the home of important student programming across our schools and colleges, and the catalyst for partnerships with academia across the world."

Valentini's goal of having every student who wants to do so go abroad at some point in his or her undergraduate career could mean a student having an international experience as early as the summer after his or her first year through a study abroad program, or later on through a summer internship or research program.

"It's really an exciting and dynamic time," Pippenger says. "There's a fantastic focus right now on international opportunities for undergraduates. There is a tremendous amount of support and encouragement to innovate and deliver the next generation of global programs for Columbia undergraduates."

Another way to gain international experience is through the Alternative Break Program, started two years ago. Students sub-

mit proposals for civic engagement projects in the U.S. or abroad, form teams of student volunteers and travel to their site during winter, spring or summer break. A student board runs the program, with administrative support and matching funding from the Office of Student Engagement. Projects have included a three-week trip to Tibetan areas of China to create a sustainable waste management system for rural communities, a nine-day trip to Ecuador to plant trees and work on other community projects with an NGO and a three-week trip to Ghana to distribute eyeglasses, assist at an eye clinic and help educate local residents about eye care. The student proposal for the last project noted, "This will also be a great chance for each team member to mature as a global citizen, after having experienced the health-care scene in a completely different nation."

About 25 percent of Columbia students study abroad at some point in their undergraduate careers. [See "Study Abroad Grows in Popularity, Programs and Places," on page 36.] Eight years ago Columbia ran seven programs, all in Europe and Asia. Today there are 16 and they include locations in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. In addition, students can choose to study in any of more than 200 programs in 150 cities worldwide through special arrangements with institutions overseas.

The study abroad experience has evolved in recent years. "In the past, there was an assumption that study abroad for our students was somehow 'time off from Columbia' or somehow an 'add-on' to a Columbia education," Pippenger says. "Now that couldn't be further from the truth. Our students recognize the many benefits that come from a global experience as being an integral part of their intellectual development."

Spending a semester or a year abroad at a foreign institution are the traditional options, but departments, institutes and even faculty are designing their own programs to send students overseas.

OGP, in conjunction with the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, has for the past three years run the Global Scholars Program Summer Research Work-

shop. Students travel to several foreign cities — last summer they were Beijing and Santiago; 2014 will feature Beijing, Berlin, Moscow and Ulan Bator (Mongolia), with travel on the Trans-Siberian Railway — to conduct in-depth, comparative social science research. In the spring, students will take a seminar in the spring to prepare them for the summer experience.

Another example is the Summer Ecosystem Experiences for Undergraduates (SEE-U) program, run by the Earth Institute and open to undergraduates of all majors. Students study ecology and biology through lectures and labs and conduct fieldwork in places such as Brazil and Jordan; the latter is conducted in partnership with the Columbia Global Center in Amman and includes travel throughout the country, covering wetland, marine, freshwater, desert and forest ecosystems.

Starting next summer, rising sophomores will be eligible to receive merit-based grants to study abroad in Columbia-run programs where there are Columbia Global Centers through the new Presidential Global Fellowships Initiative. This program might be expanded to provide funds for students to travel for research or

to do work related to their courses. Bollinger cited as an example students working on water conservation traveling to the Global Center in Amman to examine the issue in Jordan and surrounding areas of the Middle East.

In addition, departments increasingly are working with faculty to send students abroad to work on their theses or for faculty-led research projects. "Students want to emulate the professors they see who have these fantastic careers," Pippenger says. "They see them going to these places around the world and want to be that 'in person' in their own careers."

Holger Klein, professor of art history and archaeology, department chair and a recent recipient of both the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching and a Distinguished Faculty Award, is involving undergraduates in his Istanbul Digital Mapping Project in Turkey. The project, with an on-location headquarters at the Columbia Global Center in Istanbul, is a topographical survey that documents the city's Late Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman monuments. Students are helping to conduct photographic fieldwork as well as archival research in Istanbul to create a state-of-the-art digital platform that will facilitate access to scholarly, archival, photographic and other materials pertaining to the history of Byzantium—Constantinople—Istanbul. It also will serve scholars, students and the public at large as a reliable source for an array of information on the city's history and monuments in preparation for site visits, individual study and research, and teaching in the classrooms at Columbia and beyond.

"I could not be more thrilled to provide Columbia students with an opportunity to study Istanbul's historic monuments on site and to contribute to their documentation and preservation at a time when these monuments are under particular threat due to the pressures of urban expansion and renewal projects," says Klein, who is preparing a second fieldwork season as part of Columbia's joint summer course with Istanbul's Boğaziçi University in June and July 2014.

Rubenstein, the E3B professor, has organized student travel separately to Kenya and Panama during the summer to do fieldwork on his research with birds and shrimp, respectively, in those locations. "Columbia students are amazingly bright and can adapt to new situations easily. Even those who haven't traveled abroad previously tend to do well when immersed in a new environment for the first time," he says.

He notes that his department's students go in many different directions after graduation, including graduate school, medical school, consulting, NGOs, even Wall Street, and that international experience is always helpful preparation for their futures. "Study or field work abroad teaches them how to think, how to write, to problem-solve, to troubleshoot, to design a project and interpret data — plus they're interacting with people from another culture. It gets them out of the Ivory Tower and allows them to apply what they have learned on campus in real world situations," he says. "All that translates to any career."

Rubenstein wanted to increase opportunities

for students, in particular science majors, to study abroad, so he has developed an intensive, one-semester program in Kenya that focuses on tropical biology and sustainable development. Open to all students but geared toward those majoring or concentrating

in E3B or sustainable development, the spring semester program, run in conjunction with Princeton, features four intensive classes of three weeks each along with immersion in fieldwork. Students work daily from sunrise to sunset for nearly three months collecting data, writing papers, developing projects, and interacting with wildlife and local communities.

Julia Pilowsky '12 chose to study abroad during one semester of her junior year, in South Africa, through the Organization for Tropical Studies. "It was an amazing experience. We traveled from national park to national park all over South Africa, and I got to do fieldwork on 10 projects and led the fieldwork on two of them," she says. "I gained a lot of skills because now I know how to do everything from survey tidal pools for species diversity to measure biomass of tree trunks."

Directly from there, Pilowsky traveled to The Mpala Research Centre in central Kenya for a six-week research trip to study the songs of the superb starling, a bird common to East Africa, under the direction of Rubenstein. Her project came about because on campus, Pilowsky had attended a presentation given by one

of Rubenstein's graduate students about how birds use simple calls to recognize relatives. The graduate student mentioned that nobody had studied their more complex songs. "I decided that I was going to be the first one to study it," Pilowsky says.

Rubenstein helped her develop a thesis topic about the function of birdsong, and E3B gave her a grant to complete the fieldwork in Kenya. When the thesis was finished it became an article, co-authored with Rubenstein, that was published in the May 2013 issue of *Animal Behaviour*, a leading journal in the field of behavioral ecology. Pilowsky credits the experience

with getting her into a Ph.D. program in biology at Tufts, where she now studies

as a recipient of the National Science Foundation's prestigious Graduate Research Fellowship. "But those are just the tangible markers of success," she says. "It gave me real confidence to be able to independently plan and carry out a field research project, even in a new environment. It was amazing to get to know researchers from all over the world. Not least, I'll always be grateful that I got to spend some time in the Kenyan savanna, which is surely one of the most beautiful ecosystems on Earth, and to observe some of the world's most fascinating animals. After all, it's a love of the natural world that got me into this field in the first place."

Whether by conducting fieldwork in Kenya or Panama, connecting with students from around the world in a seminar room in Hamilton Hall or signing on for any of the wide range of opportunities in between, today's students are continually engaging with and being shaped by experiences that will prepare them for citizenship in the global community. As Negrón-Muntaner of CSER says, "Global thought is not about being on the go all the time. It's something that we can do every day, wherever we are."

Shira Boss '93, '97J, '98 SIPA is an author and contributing writer to CCT. Her last feature was "Passport to India," about the Columbia Experience Overseas internship program, in the Fall 2013 issue.

"Our students recognize the many benefits that come from a global experience as being an integral part of their intellectual development."
Michael Pippenger



A Conversation with President Lee C. Bollinger



Belay Ejigu Begashaw, director of the Columbia Global Center in Nairobi, shakes hands with Jean Magnano Bollinger at the center's dedication on January 14, 2013, as President Lee C. Bollinger looks on.

PHOTO: COLLINS GITUMA

Lee C. Bollinger became president of Columbia University on June 1, 2002. Under his leadership, the University has expanded its international presence with the creation of eight Columbia Global Centers. In this interview with CCT Editor Alex Sachare '71, Bollinger talks about the philosophy behind the Global Centers, their impact on our students and faculty now and in the future, and what it means to be a global citizen in the 21st century.

How has the way you think about higher education and the mission of a university like Columbia evolved over the course of your tenure as president?

In the last decade, maybe decade and a half, the world as we have known it has changed and begun to change radically. There are many reasons for this, but there are two primary ones. One is the development of the global economy, the opening of markets all over the world in countries that before this were closed to the capitalist economy, and that brings not only trade but also foreign investment and movement of capital. There are many problems and many challenges posed by this, but it is a fact that economic forces are driving enormous changes in the world. The second major development is the expansion of new technologies of communication — the Internet and to some extent also satellite communications — that have made it possible for the first time in human history to communicate instantaneously all over the globe. I have been a scholar of free speech, free press and the First



Amendment for all my life, and every time a major new communication technology is invented the world changes significantly, as it did in the United States in the 1930s through the '60s and '70s with radio and television broadcasting. So the development of these two forces is making the world a very different and much more integrated place.

There always have been global issues, but the prevalence of them now, the centrality of them for basic life in any society, is much greater. We have a global economy, but we don't have a means of regulating that global economy, of organizing the elements of it. Climate change, issues of censorship globally, everything you look to now has a global character to it. That new world, and the changes that are being wrought by these forces, means you have to step back and think about the fields and the subjects that you do research in, the classes that you teach, the knowledge that you want to impart to young people. I think everything needs to be reconsidered, rethought and planned for this world, which appears to be the course the world would take over the next several decades and beyond. One never knows, of course, but that's the trajectory we're on.

Universities always stand in a somewhat removed relationship with the external world. That's by design, because we want to be able to reflect on major issues and do so independently over quite a period of time. We're different from other institutions in those ways. You don't want to get too removed, so removed that you're not thinking about real issues for humanity, but you don't want to become so close to the issues of the moment that you lose sight of the bigger questions that really are our bailiwick. When the world shifts in this magnitude, you then have to step back as an institution and rethink things.

What role do the eight Columbia Global Centers play in this rethinking of teaching and research at the University?

It's my belief that we need to help our faculty, our schools, our departments and our students learn more about this world and see how it will affect their fields, the subjects of their research, the lives of our students, and therefore the education they will receive. We need to have bases around the world to aid in this pursuit. We need to think of ourselves as explorers. We have to regain a sense of what the new reality is, because it's on top of that sense of reality that you then begin to come up with the questions that academic institutions are designed to try to address.

Obviously, Columbia is already one of the most global universities with a student body that is among the most international in the country and a faculty filled with eminent experts in all areas of the world. But when you talk to these faculty, they are among the first to say, I need to understand not only my area better, but I need to understand my area more in relationship to other areas. In order to understand China, you need to understand South America, and vice versa, and the role of countries in Africa in the emerging trade and so on. So even though we're extremely international to start with, and that's been part of Columbia's great identity and great character, that doesn't mean that we can sit back and just continue thinking as we have. So I set out four years ago to build up these centers, and many faculty and people in the administration have helped. As of last spring we had all eight of them launched with very, very distinguished leaders in each one. This had been worked on by Ken Prewitt, who was in charge of developing the Global Centers, followed by Safwan Masri, who is now in charge of them.



Students participating in the Arabic summer language program at the Columbia Global Center in Amman visit Petra, a world-famous archaeological site in southern Jordan.

Why Global Centers and not branch campuses, specifically?

Keep in mind that these are not individual centers. That's not the right way to think of them. They're really a network, and that's part of the understanding of the global interconnections.

We were approached to set up a school or schools in various places around the world. I decided not to do that, and I think that was a decision that was reflective of the institution's desire. Very few people at Columbia, very few faculty favored setting up branch campuses. There are several reasons why I think that's not the right course, at least not for Columbia. First of all, it's very difficult to maintain quality. Remember, by definition a branch campus is a kind of separate faculty and a separate student body. You hope that there will be some intermingling of faculty and perhaps of students, but actually the way these things work 99 times out of 100, there tends to be a discrete faculty and students. So it's very hard to maintain quality control.

The second reason relates to academic freedom. We cannot disengage with the world, but we have to be very careful that we don't sacrifice our core principles. So you need a strategy that allows you to leave a given place in the world if your core principles are threatened. If you have invested in a branch campus, with all the reliance that takes place by faculty, students and staff, that's very hard to do. So ease of exit is a second reason. A third reason is that what tends to happen when you do branch campuses is that you only go to places that have enormous wealth, and I think that tends to skew the experience that you're having. It's extremely expensive to set up a branch campus, so even very wealthy universities are not going to do it on their own. And the last reason, which is really, I think, the most important, is that you're not going to have the impact on your own teaching and research through branch campuses that you will with something like the Global Centers. In my view, it's our faculty and our students who need to have the opportunities to learn what the issues are, learn what they need to know, develop research programs, develop classes and courses, and that's not going to happen if you have a branch campus. I don't think it fulfills the philosophy needed.

How do the Global Centers inform and enrich the teaching and learning that is going at Columbia University in the City of New York?

It can happen in many, many ways. We recruit students from around the world, and the Global Centers are going to help with

that. We want to connect with our alumni, and they can help with that. We want to do public outreach, and they help with that. But the key is the teaching and research. Take the example of the faculty from the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, who decided two summers ago that they would take a group of undergraduate students and study urban planning, rural migration, and issues of extreme poverty in the development of cities. They utilized the Global Centers in Beijing and Mumbai, conducting their courses there. The Global Centers were not only able to provide space for this but also arrange for lectures and experts and outings and so on. This past summer they went to Beijing and Santiago, again a comparative approach. That's precisely the kind of experience that becomes transformative, both for students and also even for faculty. Holger Klein [see "Global Columbia," page 20] is a great example of someone who can talk eloquently about how the Global Centers helped his work. He was able to do things through the help of the Global Centers that he wasn't otherwise able to do. Women Creating Change, a group set up by many of the faculty in the Institute for Women and Gender, is looking at women's issues, gender issues, all over the world. The group has used the centers to hold meetings and conferences to experience a comparative global perspective on these issues and to figure out what research projects to pursue.

If you're a faculty member, in many ways you already have international colleagues and you're probably working on some issues that are global in dimension. But this can ease and enhance your ability to do that, and that's the key. For a student, it opens up a whole new way of experiencing the world in addition to the classic forms. Such an experience for a student in a foreign country, looking at a serious issue such as urban development or clean water, really can be transformational. My view is, if we're going to have our students educated for the world they will inhabit and lead, they should be familiar now with China, they should visit and work in countries in Africa, they should have been to India and done some of their coursework there, they should have a feel for South America. A lot of this is just introducing young people to this very interconnected world that is now, in a way, the source of the issues and problems and potential that we need to focus on.

How can the Global Centers influence undergraduate applications from those regions, and how can they benefit alumni who live or work there?

The number of international students in the College has gone up significantly in the past five years, and I think this is a really important development. We need to both help recruit and to decide who to bring to our campus and our global education. Just like 50 years ago Columbia was largely a New York City/Northeast university and eventually people from the West Coast started coming to Columbia and we ended up trying to make sure that we recruited the best students from all over the country, now we need to do that globally. That's the future for Columbia — a much more international student body. I don't want to overstate that, because there always is going to be a tension between being an American university and a global university, and that will have to be sorted out over time. But, in the end, you want to recruit the right students from the United States and from all over the world.

Whenever I present this to alumni, they are eager and enthusiastic about being able to take advantage of the Global Centers. I was at the Global Center in Istanbul this fall and we had a reception, and alumni who had been in the area traveling or working

came to the reception. We're thrilled to be able to do this. The sense of having actual Columbia places all over the world that are open to you and are willing to embrace you is meaningful to most alumni. Then, on top of that, I'm sure that over time we will develop programs for alumni involving the Global Centers.

Can you talk about initiatives involving the centers, such as the Presidential Global Fellowships?

I've authorized two funds to help faculty and students utilize the Global Centers. One, which Provost John Coatsworth set up, is called the President's Global Innovation Fund. It underwrites groups of faculty working on global issues. About 20 groups received grants for this year, and we'll continue that and it will grow. That's for faculty, although there will be students involved in those projects, I'm sure. And then for students, I've asked [Dean] Jim Valentini to develop a program to help students use the Global Centers and be introduced to and work on the global issues of their time. We're still refining that, but Jim has made a lot of progress, having just announced the first such set of fellowships to students. This is for all undergraduates to apply. It is starting with grants to students for doing academic work in the summer after their first year. But it may also be expanded to provide funds for students in courses to, as I mentioned a while ago, just go off for a short period of time and do work related to their courses on a global basis.

What we're going to find is that as the technology of communication gets better and better, it's going to be easy to have courses where faculty and students are at any place on the globe at any given time and yet able to continue having a "course." It will just become easier and easier to do, and more and more important to do. And then these very significant centers may also become places where we might even offer some courses. But we'll see — that's in the future.

In summation, could you address the question of what it means to be a "global citizen"? Is it an awareness, is it a different way of thinking — what is a global citizen?

I think it's a somewhat difficult term. We're all citizens of our individual countries, and nobody is trying to say we should give up our sense of national identity and only become some kind of floating global citizen. One has to be careful about that. But to me it points in directions that are really important. I think you need a basic sense of the world, a kind of feel of the world. You have to have been places, seen cultures; you have to have experienced them both as a traveler but I think even more importantly as somebody thinking and learning about what the world is like. Then you have to be aware of what the issues are, what matters to people and what matters to the future of the world both in its physical sense and in terms of its peoples.



Columbia faculty and students tour the Great Wall in Beijing, China, in 2012 during the Global Scholars Program Summer Research Workshop, co-organized by the Columbia Global Center in Beijing.

"We need to have bases around the world that will help our faculty and students learn about the world."

President Lee C. Bollinger

One hundred years ago, we could be very comfortable in individual states in the United States. The economy was quite local, people's lives were quite local, they didn't move around very much. Over the course of the 20th century, that all changed. We developed a national economy, people routinely moved around the United States and we developed issues that were national in scope — civil rights, environmental issues, financial — and everything became increasingly national, including my own field, freedom of speech and press. At the beginning of the century, individual states determined their own rules about free speech and free press, and by the end of the century it was a national First Amendment set of principles. Now that's all happening on a global basis, and we're just at the beginning of it. While I don't want to overstate it, I do feel that we're on the cusp of a much, much more integrated, interconnected universe. That means that it becomes increasingly unacceptable for someone to be an educated person and not to have been to other places around the world and to develop a sense of the world.

The person who in the past used to think of himself or herself as a citizen of California and then became a citizen of the United States, now has to become a global citizen. And students, young people, know this. Every time I have a meeting with them, a fireside chat, in my course or other ways, I ask these questions and it's clear that Columbia students know that their world is this bigger world, and they are really incredibly excited about experiencing it.



Global Students Find Home Away From Home at Columbia

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

PHOTOS: CHAR SMULLYAN

"The emphasis on the humanities and the Core is really important. It makes you a well-rounded person."
Hamza Khan '14

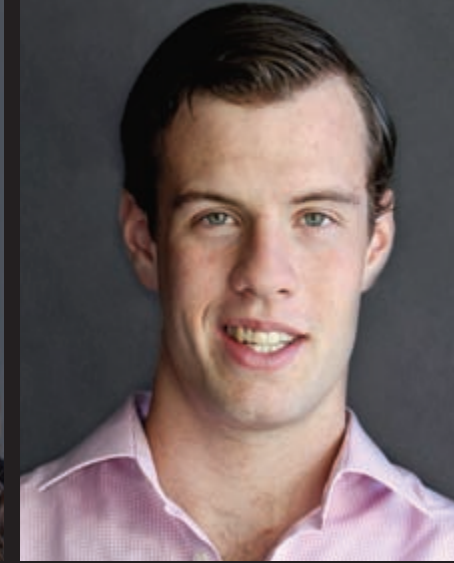
Each year at Convocation, the ceremony in which President Lee C. Bollinger and the deans of the College and Engineering officially welcome incoming undergraduates to Columbia, the leaders of the New Student Orientation Program (NSOP) parade the flags of every state and country represented in the two student bodies in celebration of the schools' geographic — and by extension, cultural and religious — diversity.

The College Class of 2017 includes students from 47 countries, bringing

Andrea Viejo '15



Clemens Auersperg '14



Shen Qiu '16



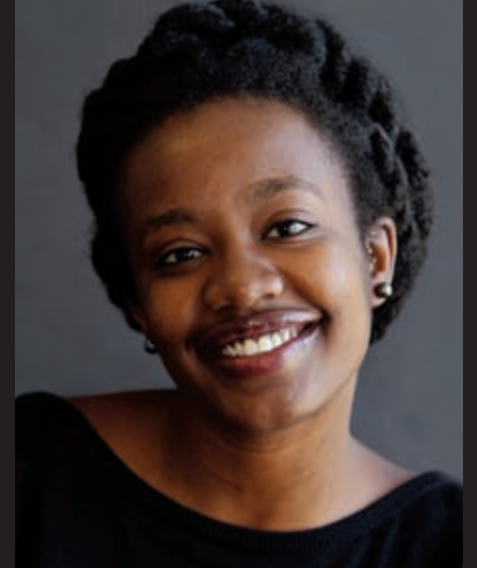
Lingzi Zhuang '16



Onella Cooray '14



Wangari Mungai '14



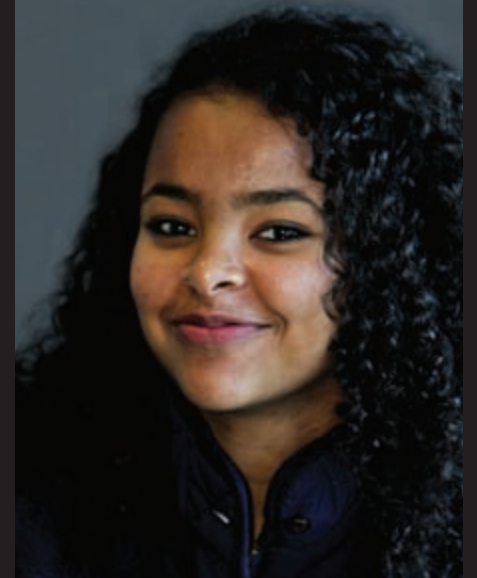
Hamza Khan '14



Pria Narsiman '15



Gelila Bekele '16



the number of international students and nations represented in the College in the 2013–14 academic year to 729 and 83, respectively. At the university level, Columbia recently was ranked fifth among all U.S. institutions for having the largest population of international students, according to a report by The Institute of International Education. Their ranks include those who are non-U.S. citizens and non-U.S. permanent residents who need a visa to enter the country, as well as U.S. citizens and permanent residents who went to school outside of America.

Despite the students' range of backgrounds, their reasons for choosing the College fall under similar themes: admiration for the Core Curriculum and the school's commitment to teaching liberal arts, and New York's appeal as an inclusive, cosmopolitan city.

"The emphasis on the humanities and the Core is really important. It makes you a well-rounded person and lets you think in new ways," says Hamza Khan '14, from Lahore, Pakistan. "We didn't have any kind of liberal arts education [in Pakistan]. It was very focused on the hard sciences and math."

Khan, who is majoring in financial economics with a concentration in sustainable development, toured the campus prior to his senior year of high school while visiting relatives and cites his familiarity with New York City as an important factor in his decision. "I was comfortable with the city. If it was a city that was new to me, it might have been a different story," he says. "Everyone in New York is pretty accepting and aware of differences."

Like Khan, other students, including Pria Narsiman '15, from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and Andrea Viejo '15, from Monterrey, Mexico, attribute their initial impetus for pursuing an undergraduate education in the United States to a dearth of liberal arts colleges in their own countries and elsewhere.

Narsiman, who was 5 when her family relocated from her native Sydney to Kuala Lumpur, researched colleges in the United Kingdom and Australia but ultimately focused on the U.S. "because it offers more breadth," she says. "In Australia or the U.K., I would have had to decide what I wanted to do straight out of high school and would have only taken classes in that area."

Viejo came to a similar realization: "Back home, I would have been forced to choose my academic track during freshman year — let's say business or politics — and stick to those classes. I found it fascinating that [the College] offered me the opportunity to study the Koran, a text I would probably never be exposed to in Mexico, and music from around the world."

Narsiman and Viejo had visited New York City only briefly prior to starting their undergraduate careers, yet for both, the Big Apple's reputation as a city that embraces foreigners gave the College an edge over schools in college towns. "I wanted to live in a city because I'm from a big city in Australia and I live in a big city in Malaysia," says Narsiman, who is pursuing majors in neuroscience and behavior and French and Francophone studies.

"For an international student, New York City is very welcoming because it's easy to find your niche."

Andrea Viejo '15

"I really wanted to go somewhere diverse."

Viejo, a political science and sociology major, echoes the sentiment and feels her decision is validated each time she goes to a Mexican restaurant or attends Catholic Mass in Spanish. "For me, it was location and the Core equally," she says. "For an international student, New York City is very welcoming because it's easy to find your niche."

In describing their transitions to the College, international students speak of the same emotions and concerns an American peer might express: the simultaneous excitement and trepidation of being away from home for the first time; the task of building new social lives while staying in touch with family and friends back home; and balancing heavy course loads with co-curricular activities. International students, however, often face additional hurdles that may include extensive travel times and the culture shock that comes with new academic and cultural norms. For some, there's also homesickness, the minutiae of purchasing a winter wardrobe for the first time and adjusting their palates to new flavors.

It took some time for Shen Qiu '16, from Shanghai, to get used to professor-student dynamics at Columbia, which he says are very different from China. "Here you can talk to the professor during class and after class, and people are much more open to discussion," he says. "In China, students think of teachers as being 'higher' than they are and are afraid of talking to teachers. Here, communication is facilitated by the free academic environment."

But while they may find their professors more accessible, Qiu and his friend, fellow Shanghai native Lingzi Zhuang '16, who transferred to the College after a year in Engineering, feel that they have had to work hard to bridge cultural differences with peers, particularly when it comes to casual interactions. Says Qiu, "When you are with a bunch of friends and they are talking about something that you have never heard of in popular culture, you sometimes feel isolated because you can't get involved in the conversation."

From the beginning, Zhuang felt at ease speaking English in academic settings but less so in social situations. "In the first few months, I felt uncomfortable," he says. "It was a painful realization that I needed to make an effort to be understood."

"Picking up on social nuances in terms of language and phrases" was a challenge early on for Onella Cooray '14, from Colombo, Sri Lanka. "When people asked, 'How are you?' I'd respond with an actual 'how' before I caught on that it was another cultural 'hi' and that people don't expect you to actually give an answer," she says.

As a first-year, Cooray, who is pursuing concentrations in earth and environmental sciences and sustainable development, suffered a common ailment: homesickness. Part of her yearning stemmed from her distaste for campus food, which she found bland compared to the spice of Sri Lankan cuisine. "I got my mom to ship over some of our condiments and I would sneak them into the dining hall and douse all the food with chili paste to make it palatable," recalls Cooray, who has mostly cooked for herself since her sophomore year.

Cooray's homesickness has so subsided that she spent all of last summer in Morningside Heights. She and Zhuang were the

student coordinators for the 2013 International Student Orientation Program (ISOP), a Columbia Student Affairs effort that takes place in the days leading up to NSOP. Begun in 2010, the program — which helps students transition to the U.S. and college life, and build community with one another — already has grown from 50 to about 100 students. Among other things, participants meet their academic advisers, attend sessions on American academic culture, are introduced to the Writing Center, explore New York City and can take advantage of a banking and cell phone fair.

ISOP was so central to Cooray's transition to the College in 2010 that she volunteered the following two years as an orientation leader prior to taking on the role of coordinator. One of her fondest memories of the College, she says, was being greeted by ISOP orientation leaders when she checked into the Hartley lounge as an incoming first-year. "I had a clueless 'no-idea-where-I-am-going' look on my face," she recalls. "It was really welcoming. I thought, 'Wow, I've finally arrived.'"

"I definitely found it useful to move in earlier and then get to know a group of people," adds Cooray, who says she has made some of her most meaningful college relationships during ISOP. "I feel if I hadn't had the opportunity ISOP gave me, I would have been less able to cope socially."

A positive ISOP experience also prompted Gelila Bekele '16, from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to partake in the program this year as an orientation leader. "It created a strong bond among international students that we still have," says Bekele, who notes that the experience of being an international student in the College is powerful enough to kindle friendships among peers with different backgrounds. "We're in the same boat. Even though some of my friends might be from South America or Europe, we still have something in common: the fact that we're far away from home. [Other international students] you meet, especially during ISOP, become your family."

As venues to connect with peers of common backgrounds and shared interests, student clubs and associations also provide settings for international students to build support networks. An active member of the Organization of Pakistani Students since his first year, Khan considers cultural clubs "a great way to meet people and build lasting relationships."

"You get to know other people who are dealing with the same problems and they can help you. Now I'm a senior and I can help freshmen coming in," he says. "It's a great community. We're all really close and really good friends."

Wangari Mungai '14, an earth and environmental science major from Nairobi, Kenya, who was a student coordinator for ISOP in 2012, had never traveled outside of her country prior to starting her college career and was homesick her first year. The African Students Association (ASA), which she calls "a little home away from home," helped her adapt.

"It's definitely gotten easier through the years," says Mungai, who occasionally gets together with fellow ASA members to cook her favorite meals. "It comes with figuring out other ways to think of home; it's not just a physical space now. Home is being able to talk to my family. It's finding friends on campus with whose expe-

"Home [is] not just a physical space now... It's finding friends on campus with whose experiences I can relate."

Wangari Mungai '14

rience I can relate. It's thinking about home as something beyond a geographical space."

Two Christian student groups, Columbia Faith & Action and the Columbia chapter of the Veritas Forum, have given Zhuang "a family of friends who share the same faith and similar interests," while Qiu notes that his involvement with Columbia Model United Nations in New York "has taught me a lot about the interpersonal protocol in American culture."

Similarly, Clemens Auersperg '14, a heavyweight rower from Linz, Austria, who is majoring in history, found that the camaraderie of belonging to a sports team and the support of Columbia University Athletics eased his transition. "When I arrived, I didn't know anyone in

New York, but being part of an athletics team, you immediately become friends with your teammates," he says. "Those fellow freshmen are still my closest friends at Columbia."

"The older members on the team were really supportive and helpful when it came to which classes to choose and how to balance schoolwork with athletics, which is not always easy. Being a varsity athlete has many benefits; you have a program behind you that tries to help you in any way possible."

More recently, support also has been added in the form of "International at Columbia," a series of informal monthly gatherings of international students held in John Jay Lounge, complete with snacks. Run through Columbia's International Students Programs and Services office, which was created in 2012, each session features upperclassmen facilitating a discussion of a topic relevant to life at Columbia and to the U.S. Topics have included dating and making friends on campus, and finding jobs and internships with a student visa.

In the spirit of giving back, some international students volunteer with the Global Recruitment Committee, which supports the Office of Undergraduate Admissions' recruiting efforts by hosting students in their residence halls during Days on Campus, visiting high schools in their home countries during winter and summer breaks, and expanding the reach of the Alumni Representative Committee by interviewing prospective students in places where not many alumni live.

Every year, GRC members also handwrite congratulatory postcards to international students who have been offered admission and encourage recipients to email them with questions. The memory of receiving such a postcard prompted Mungai to join the GRC. "In that excitement of having been accepted to Columbia, a written postcard was a very personal touch," she recalls. "When I heard about the GRC, I said, 'Oh! Those are the people who write the postcards.' I wanted to be part of that experience: to write postcards, to open my arms to international students who are not able to visit Columbia, to be a resource for them and to share my experience in the hope that it will make their experiences even better."

Nathalie Alonso '08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for *LasMayores.com*, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website. She writes "Student Spotlight" for CCT.



Study Abroad Grows in Popularity, Programs and Places

BY TED RABINOWITZ '87

As recently as 20 years ago, the College's study abroad program could have been described in terms of the big three — Oxford, Cambridge and the University of Paris — when students went for a semester or a year to get a dose of a different culture and a needed change of scenery.

But in the past two decades the destinations for study abroad have increased greatly and the types of programs have expanded, giving students opportunities to have experiences from studying business in China to excavating ancient villas with their professors in Rome. And if they want to see Art Hum come alive in the halls of the Louvre and the soaring cathedral of Notre Dame, that still will be an option, too.

"We're in a much different place now," says Michael Pippenger, dean of undergraduate global programs and assistant v.p. of international education. "Partially, it's because of President Lee C. Bollinger's vision of the Columbia Global Centers. But it's also because more students feel a need for more global exposure, and heightened interest has allowed these programs to grow."

No matter the program, though, the value in having a global experience is the same, and it extends beyond the obvious ben-

efits of language immersion and hands-on field study.

"We talk to students about being able to communicate cross-culturally, being able to handle ambiguity and to master content in a different context, understanding that there are multiple ways to solve complex, global problems," Pippenger says.

Pippenger, who came to Columbia in 2006 to develop an office of fellowship programs for the College (which expanded and later merged with the Office of Global Programs (OGP)), adds that there is a huge connection between winning a fellowship and study abroad. "If you study abroad, you're willing to take risks, be analytical, uproot yourself. This makes you a great fellowship candidate." Columbia has ranked in the top 10 for Fulbright Fellowship recipients for the last decade, a time frame that has also had success for students and alumni with other international fellowships such as Rhodes Scholarships, Marshall Scholarships, the Luce Scholars Program, the Churchill Scholarship and Gates Cambridge Scholarships.

The new approaches to study abroad come with an increase in the number of programs offered directly through OGP. (Other programs are offered in conjunction with foreign partners, or by third-party programs approved by the College.) Eight years ago,

there were seven Columbia-run programs; today, the number has risen to 16, and more are on the way.

Columbia's partnerships with other universities have also multiplied, expanding to include the University of Hong Kong, Pontificia Universidade Catolica in Rio de Janeiro, China's Tsinghua University, Boğaziçi University in Istanbul and others. And while the United Kingdom and France are still student hot spots — with 41 and 37 College students studying in those countries, respectively, in the 2012–13 academic year — there has been a surge of interest in China, and more students are going to Brazil and South Africa as well.

All told, Columbia students currently can attend programs in 50 countries on six continents.

One of the biggest shifts in study abroad programming is the opportunity for students to gain on-site, hands-on experience. "Students want to be in the field with their professors," says Pippenger. "They respond to professors who are working *in situ*."

Because these offerings are popular with faculty as well as students, professors often approach OGP with field ideas they want to develop into full programs ranging from life sciences to urban planning.

Dustin Rubenstein, for example, an assistant professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology, wanted to expand upon a three-week field course that he had run with Columbia students in Central Kenya since 2011. Pippenger liked the idea because OGP had never had a semester-long science program abroad. So, working in conjunction with Princeton, Rubenstein and Pippenger designed a

curriculum, and students in the program now live at a Kenyan research center, observing animals and plants. Student projects have included using RNA from starlings to study the birds' kin structures, analyzing birdsong for form and function, and tracking the prevalence of avian malaria in local bird populations.

OGP also has worked on the humanities end of the spectrum. Francesco de Angelis, an associate professor in the Department of Art History and Archaeology, is one of the lead archaeologists on the current excavation of the Villa Adriana (Hadrian's Villa) in the town of Tivoli, just east of Rome. "He wanted to teach Columbia students on a dig and take a seminar on archaeology preservation and conservation," Pippenger says.

In the past two decades the destinations for study abroad have increased greatly and the types of programs have expanded.

As a result, this summer Columbians will be exploring the home of one of Rome's Five Good Emperors, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and learning firsthand the fundamentals of archaeology. These include excavating, interpreting finds on-site, logging discoveries, analyzing stratigraphic sections and assessing ceramic artifacts from the dig, among other things.

Other Columbians studying abroad are looking for immersion in another culture. A traditional semester or year abroad offer this, of course, but OGP is creating other options. Among these are immersive programs that involve a shorter time frame (a summer semester, for instance) and are designed to increase students' participation in their host societies.



Melissa Chiang '14 Blogs from Shanghai

Eight weeks, one internship and a lot of distant relatives

Last summer, Melissa Chiang '14 participated in the Center for Career Education's Columbia Experience Overseas program in Shanghai, where she was a quality and safety intern with United Family Healthcare. The following excerpts are from a blog that she kept about all aspects of the experience; it can be found at melissainshanghai.tumblr.com.

PHOTO: COURTESY MELISSA CHIANG '14

Ethnicity vs. Nationality

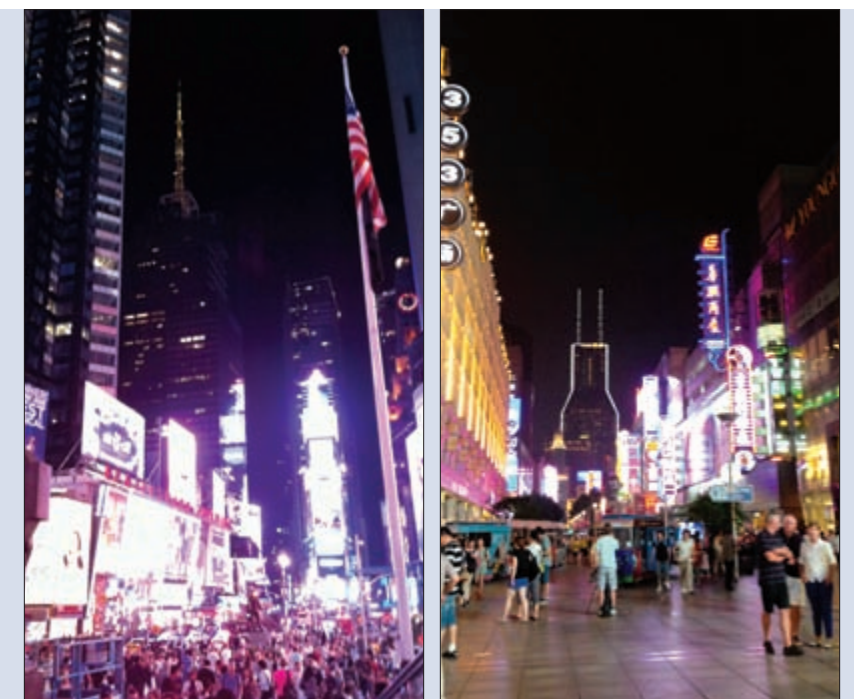
Multiple times during this summer in Shanghai, I have encountered someone — a cab driver, a waiter or waitress, and even a few random people on the street — who is confused by me. It usually starts out innocently, a simple observation of my accented Chinese and a question about my origin. That's when it gets weird.

I answer the question as any American would, with "I'm American." The response is what isn't anticipated: "You don't look American."

No matter how many times I hear that, I am at once curious and annoyed.

On one level, it makes sense. I am in a part of the world where the immediate association between ethnicity and nationality is not wrong very often. A similar physical appearance usually means a similar place of origin, similar life experiences, and similar linguistic and cultural knowledge. I can understand and appreciate the worldview from which these words are emerging.

Yet, on the other hand, that does not change the fact that, deep down, I consider myself American through and



Chiang calls this "Close, But No Cigar." Or, alternatively, "There's No Place Like Home." Left, Times Square, New York City. Right, Nanjing East Road, Shanghai.

PHOTOS: MELISSA CHIANG '14

For Tabitha Cohen '15, a Kluge Scholar who is studying East Asian languages and cultures and had always been interested in China, Columbia's Summer Business Chinese and Internship Program in Shanghai offered an ideal opportunity. Zhongqi Shi, a lecturer of Chinese in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, is the director. "He's hands down the best teacher I've had at Columbia," Cohen says.

The program begins with six weeks of intensive instruction in business Chinese including practice with a language partner and speakers who explain the realities of working in China; then follows a four-week internship with a Chinese business (Cohen was placed with developer Guangpu Real Estate). Cohen also had to sign an agreement that she would speak only Chinese during the 10 weeks of the program, which she took between her sophomore and junior years.

"Interning isn't well known or popular in China," says Cohen. "So the fact that American students are able to intern in China is incredible." (It's remarkable to other people as well — the program has been mentioned in *Newsweek*.) Today, Cohen is putting her experience to use through her job with Bergdorf Goodman; while attending the College, she works part-time translating for the store's Chinese customers and explaining their shopping customs to the staff.

For Domenic DeSocio '14, the immersion was a junior year spent in Germany, studying in an educational environment with emphases different from those in the United States. Through the Berlin Consortium

for German Studies (a year-abroad program in which Columbia participates with other top-ranked universities) DeSocio enrolled directly in the Freie Universität Berlin and lived as a German, not an American exchange student (although with extra instruction in German language and daily life). "People who go only for a couple of months, they have a mindset that they're Americans in a foreign culture," DeSocio says. "But if you go for a year, it's not an extended vacation. You're there to become a member of the culture."

DeSocio saw a dramatic difference in the classroom. "In Germany, the professor gives you one assignment at the end that sums up the semester. During the semester, the professor doesn't check up on you. You have the option of being fully involved in the course or not. You do it for yourself, not for the grade."

The immersion helped DeSocio become more independent. He cites learning how to deal with health insurance and taxes as examples. "I did two paid internships, so I had to fill out tax forms as a non-citizen," he says.

While fieldwork and immersion programs are both popular, interdisciplinary study abroad is OGP's fastest-growing segment. This reflects a nationwide trend; the number of interdisciplinary bachelor's has more than quadrupled since 1973, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics. "Thirty years ago it was one country, one specialty," says Pippenger. "Now more students are looking for interdisciplinary projects. We used to think, 'You go to England for a year. That's your study.' Now we're looking at shorter-term summer programs with multiple sites."

"Students want to be challenged. ... They want a transformative experience, and often they get it."

Michael Pippenger

through. Especially growing up near the immense cultural diversity of New York City, my view of a "typical" American is perhaps more a vague cloud of qualities rather than a defined look, experience or nugget of knowledge. So, viscerally, I am gutted; I want to say, "Americans can look like a LOT of different things!" or "Well, I am American, so therefore, I look American. Simple as that."

Alas, I keep my more reflexive reactions on the back burner but they do percolate in my thoughts. I know I have my own worldview and others have their own. Yet, there are things I wonder about and cannot know: Does it bother Chinese people that I more closely associate myself with those who look so differently from me than with them? Do they resent my parents and grandparents for leaving this country, or do they admire them? How did the rest of the world become so accustomed to Asian presences while Asia still treats those who look different as both lowly and godly, at the same time?

As much as I miss the cultural diversity of America and its normal status, being here in Shanghai has brought out these questions in a way that staying at home in the States never could.

For that, I am grateful.

And I have lots to think about.

10:02 a.m. July 24, 2013

Baozi, Bubble Tea, and Other Goodies

I thought it would be fine.

I thought I was already used to all of it.

I thought that I liked it.

Alas, I was wrong.

This is a blog post about food.

This is actually less of a blog post and more of a (hopefully amusing) reference dictionary from my experience with Chinese culinary life:

Baozi: buns, cheap and tasty; you'll probably get pork no matter what meat you ask for

Breakfast: could be buns, fried dumplings, hot soup, rice porridge, fried dough or anything of the sort; usually rather oily and served with hot soy bean milk

Bubble tea: readily available, use makeshift Chinese to ask for tapioca balls because you will never remember what they are called no matter how many times people tell you (hand motions help, too, as

He names the Global Scholars Program Summer Research Workshop, a collaboration among the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, OGP and the Columbia Global Centers, as one example. "Professors take students to two or more sites for a particular topic in the social sciences, like the rise of the megacity in Asia. They do coursework there, and then return to Columbia for a 'capstone' class that allows them to process what they've learned," he says. This past summer, the program sent students to Beijing and Santiago to study comparative economic development in Asia and Latin America.

Another example is the joint summer program Columbia conducts with Boğaziçi University in Istanbul. Combining coursework in history, Byzantine studies and urban planning with fieldwork and daily excursions centered on conservation, archiving and mapping, the program focuses on the artistic and urban history of Istanbul.

For all the additions to Columbia's study abroad programming, demand for Columbia's traditional year-abroad programs remains strong and OGP is committed to maintaining those programs. "It's important that we continue to grow the longstanding programs that have been hallmarks of Columbia global education," says Pippenger.

There have, however, been shifts in emphasis. "We're encouraging Paris students to consider directed research within the French university system," says Pippenger. "And we've worked hard with the art history and Italian departments to offer more classes in Venice, and to get Italian students from Ca' Foscari University of Venice, another partner, to take those courses alongside our own students as well."

Maria Gimenez Cavallo '14, who has been "obsessed by Paris" since she started to learn French as a high school freshman, felt the pull of Columbia's traditional programs early. "When I was apply-

ing to Columbia, I knew that it had the Reid Hall Paris program," she says. "I wanted to come to Columbia anyway, but the program was a plus."

Once she was in France, serendipity kicked in — as it is meant to in these programs. Cavallo's love of film hadn't found much scope in New York but in Paris she met *cinestates* on her wavelength. "Buster Keaton is one of my heroes," she says, "but at Columbia, we spent four hours on him. In Paris he was the subject of an entire class."

"I told the head of the program how I loved movies, and she encouraged me to be a critic," Cavallo continues. "Another director of the program helped me become an intern after I had knocked on every film door in Paris and been refused. The people with whom I interned took me on set and into the editing room so I got to see how a production company actually works. I didn't realize how complicated it was."

Cavallo's curriculum included self-directed study, which she used to write a screenplay. She attended the Cannes International Film Festival and joined a sit-in staged by one of her film professors when he was fired from his position at a movie theater. "My favorite period in French cinema is the '60s, and it was like Paris in May '68 is still alive now."

Cavallo's study abroad was the fulfillment of a dream; for Cohen, it was a unique opportunity to gain powerful business skills; and DeSocio used his year of study to become more independent and discover new academic cultures. But for all of them, it was life-altering. "Students want to be challenged to experience something radically different from what they have encountered on campus," says Pippenger. "They want a transformative experience, and often they get it."



Ted Rabinowitz '87 is a copywriter and author. His first novel, *The Wrong Sword*, was published last year by Musa Books under the pen name *Ted Mendelsohn*; the sequel will be out next year.

does pointing to the English menu)

Chopsticks: it's all in the technique. When all else fails, STAB.

Dumplings, frozen: yummy, cheap and easy to make. Get the kind with corn.

Dumplings, soup: tasty but will squirt boiling hot liquid all over you if you're not careful or don't know how to use chopsticks; come in thin cover and thick cover varieties

Fruit shops: everywhere and relatively cheap; take advantage of them!

Fuyuan: means waiter; say it, yell it, sign it, skywrite it

Hot pot: a good way to freak out people who have never had it, especially if you order tripe; FYI you will never feel full

(that) Japanese (place): get the Udon noodles!

(that) Thai (place): get anything. It's all good.

KFC: serves breakfast, also serves rice; may be bigger in China than in the States



Food pagoda, found at Mr. Pancake House in the Jingan District of Shanghai.

PHOTO: MELISSA CHIANG '14

Napkins: be prepared and bring your own

Nature Valley bars: that one versatile snack that you decided to pack that you have alternately eaten for breakfast, dinner, snack and random sustenance but will avoid for at least a month after getting back to the States

Noodles: EVERYWHERE. But actually, there are approximately 10 noodle shops on your block alone.

Oreos: So many options! Including inside out, birthday cake, various fruits, and half-and-halves.

Pocky: really good and should have had more of it

Starbucks: it's more watery here

Vegetables: always cooked, never raw (NEVER)

Western food: there's plenty of it in Shanghai — Mexican, crepes, burgers, Italian, etc.

7:08 a.m. July 29, 2013



For Global Alumni, Columbia Made a World of Difference

BY TED RABINOWITZ '87



Ashleigh Silver '04 (right) and friend Ambica Shiringi celebrate their newly minted British citizenship in summer 2013. PHOTO: COURTESY ASHLEIGH SILVER '04

Raised in Southern Indiana, Mark Minton '67 couldn't predict how he would be affected by the diversity he encountered at Columbia. His experiences led him from Morningside Heights to Japan, South Korea and finally Mongolia, where he served for three years as U.S. ambassador. He is now president of the Korea Society, a nonprofit dedicated to building greater cultural and social ties between the United States and South Korea.

Ashleigh Silver '04 grew up on an Ohio farm. She studied languages at Columbia and has worked for the last six years in London, where she is one of the most multilingual employees — speaking French, Spanish and Italian — at her steel-trading company, and travels for business throughout Europe.

Vikas Anand '11 was born on Long Island, "a New Yorker through and through." He developed his global interest in his first years at Columbia by interacting with "the most diverse

student body in the world. Just talking to someone who went to Taipei for a student competition blew my mind," he says. Since graduating, Anand has been a business analyst in Mumbai; he plans to work in Singapore or London next.

Columbia alumni are scattered across the globe like dandelion seeds. They have taken root in virtually every major city in the world, from Hong Kong, to Capetown, to Amsterdam, to Santiago; they have made their careers in places as far from Morningside Heights as Athens, São Paulo and Ulan Bator, Mongolia. When asked what drives the diaspora, global alumni point to the unique combination of a diverse student body, a famously cosmopolitan city and a rigorous liberal arts tradition grounded in the Core Curriculum.

Some alumni can point to a single class or professor who ignited their interest in global lives. For Minton, it was a survey course in East Asian studies, "a sort of second year of Contemporary Civilization," he says. "It had its own textbook of readings, the way that CC did at the time." Minton was so impressed that he continued in the department, taking classes with Columbia legends such as Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and Provost Emeritus; Donald Keene '42, '49 GSAS, University Professor Emeritus and the Shincho Professor Emeritus of Japanese Literature; and Gari Ledyard, the King Sejong Professor Emeritus of Korean Studies and Director Emeritus of the Center for Korean Research.



Bruce Steinberg '78's career in media includes the creation of two TV channels in the United Kingdom. PHOTO: DEBORAH HURFORD BROWN

For many Columbians, globalism was the natural outcome of living on a multicultural campus in a pluralistic city.

When Minton was drafted after graduation, "I assumed I would just be issued a rifle and helmet and sent into off into combat" in Vietnam, he says; but when he told the Army's assignment bureau of his background in Asian studies, he was sent to learn Japanese at the Defense Language Institute

Foreign Language Center, and stationed in Japan. From there, a career in the Foreign Service was a short step. "It was like a set of dominoes," says Minton. "Now that I think about it, the first and decisive clues as to my career happened at Columbia College."

U.S. diplomat Chris Dell '78 also points to an inspiring class for his career choice. "I went to Columbia as a pre-law and thought about going into politics. But taking Poli Sci 101, I decided I didn't want to be like all the other people in the room." Then, in his junior year, he took a course in strategic studies with Warner Schilling, and he was hooked.

Schilling helped to get him an internship at the State Department, after which Dell won a Euretta J. Kellett Fellowship to Oxford. He joined the State Department in 1981, and he has since been posted to countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. He is currently looking forward to a new private-sector career that builds on his experience in Portuguese-speaking Africa.

Of course, some alumni enrolled with the intention of focusing on international subjects. Michael J. Novielli '03, '09 TC grew up in Riverhead, Long Island. Thanks to an inspiring social studies teacher in ninth grade, Novielli was fascinated by Asia and "Columbia's Asian studies program was a primary consideration in choosing the school," he says. Through Columbia's Summer Language Program in Beijing, Novielli studied Mandarin in Taiwan and Beijing, and (like Minton) studied East Asian cultures with de Bary; he now works in Beijing, where he is co-founder and co-CEO of Due West, an educational company for Chinese students.

Then there are alumni like Silver, who came to Columbia because of its position as New York's Ivy and who chose to explore global studies on her own and used Columbia's language and international classes to achieve her goals. "My dad had always thought it was a waste of time to study other languages, but visiting Dijon the summer of my freshman year changed my mind. To communicate with the locals you needed to know French." She studied Spanish, Italian and advanced French at Columbia, and now uses all of them in her job.

Novielli also praises the quality of Columbia's language departments. "I had my strongest faculty relationships with my language instructors, like C.P. Sobelman and Hailong Wang."

For many Columbians, globalism was the natural outcome of living on a multicultural campus in a pluralistic city.

Reza Vishkai '85, '86E, a managing director of Insight Investments in London, fled Iran for the U.S.



U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia Mark Minton '67 with the head monk of the Amarbayasgalant Monastery in 2008; they are flanked by Kevin Nolan '10 GS (right), who was interning at the U.S. Embassy in Mongolia, and a Peace Corps volunteer (left).

PHOTO: COURTESY MARK MINTON '67

in 1979 with his family. He attended a boarding school in New Jersey and, when he began college, found a campus that was matter-of-fact about students from abroad. "Columbia is a very international university," notes Vishkai. "I might have experienced it more because international students tend to hang out together."

Anand, who for two years was a business analyst and strategist for Mahindra & Mahindra in Mumbai, notes that growing up on Long Island "was fantastic but limited; I wanted to get out of Long Island's monoculture even before Columbia ... to be in a place where I was exposed to a lot more."

He jumped into student life with both feet, joining extracurricular groups such as the Columbia University Bhangra Society and becoming executive secretary of the Activities Board at Columbia. It gave him a chance to see how student groups interacted with one another. "While students of the same culture did stick together, they were definitely open, and you could hang [with them] and see what was happening," he says.

Anand also felt enlightened by student political and cultural activity. "Seeing protests for and against the same issue at the same time, seeing a Japanese event on The Steps and a Caribbean event at Lerner at the same time, it was all very diverse."

For Lara Barazi '90, managing director of Kefalonia Fisheries in Greece, diversity came with her living arrangements. She had attended high school in Connecticut and found it "homogenous." At Columbia, one of her roommates was a ballerina and two others were from the Dominican Republic; the nearby neighborhood, meanwhile, was different from anything she had known. "Coming from a sheltered background, then coming to Harlem ... I was in a volunteer program where you could be a teacher's assistant in the local high schools. The kids



Michael Novielli '03 in Xinjiang, a province in northwestern China.

PHOTO: COURTESY MICHAEL NOVIELLI '03

In the end, most alumni discussions about Columbia circle back to the Core and the liberal arts tradition.

had a reality that I had never encountered," she says.

Michael Camacho '05, who grew up in the suburbs of South Brunswick, N.J., credits Columbia with giving him an "openness to other cultures" that helps him as an investment manager in Amsterdam. "I became involved in the Student Council, and through that made connections to people with international outlooks, and I've reconnected with them through the years."

Columbia's cosmopolitan atmosphere also comes from attracting students outside the U.S. American alumni are often unaware of the drawing power of Columbia's reputation elsewhere in the world. "The Columbia brand in Asia is a gold standard for education," says Minton. "Applying to Columbia is an aspiration for a lot of Korean and Chinese students."

That was the experience of Conrad Lung '72, the 2009 Hamilton Medal awardee and an international entrepreneur in clothing, manufacturing and investment banking. Lung turned down Hong Kong University, which would have ensured a career for life in Hong Kong, to pursue the College. "[When I applied] Columbia was better known in Hong Kong and China than Harvard or Yale," he says. "It was ranked No. 1."

Alumni volunteers outside the U.S. work hard to enhance that reputation. Anand and Lung helped establish and run local branches of the Columbia Alumni Association. Minton was an advocate for Columbia in South Korea, China, Mongolia and Japan. In Brazil, Diana Nasser '87 built a high-powered team of applicant interviewers for the local Alumni Representative Committee, helping to raise acceptances from one or two a year to 14 or 15.

Alumni also point to Columbia's network of Global Centers as a valuable resource. "The Mumbai alumni association was connected with the Global Center and coordinated with it for events," says Anand. He adds that many of the center's staff during his time in India were also Columbia alumni. "The Studio X space in Mumbai, [which is] the architectural program's physical space in the city, helped create a strong presence there, far stronger than the other Ivies."

Stephen Jansen '91, who was president of the Columbia University Club of London for seven years (2004–11; he was a CFO in the city's finance sector), notes that the Global Centers aren't the "satellite campuses" created by some universities. "Satellites create issues for academic freedom in some countries," he says, whereas "Global Centers ... provide a place for research and projects to be done. They're based on study and projects, not a curriculum."

In the end, most alumni discussions about Columbia circle back to the Core and the liberal arts tradition.

The Core helped some international students to understand their own cultures more fully. "When I left Hong Kong," says Lung, "I turned my back on everything that was Chinese. My overwhelming belief was that everything in America was great." But at Columbia, he found his worldview changing. "Taking the Core, I didn't just learn about the Western tradition; through it I came to understand my own tradition," he says. He began to see the parallels between the Western and the Chinese traditions. "The Odyssey is like the Chinese epic *Journey to the West*, a process of self-discovery, learning and maturity. In *The Iliad*, everyone has a role to play, just like in Ancient China. You can see the conflict between the assigned roles and the search for power."

Many alumni see Columbia as having taught them how to become lifelong learners — a vital skill when living abroad. Barazi moved to Greece with her husband in 1996, and ultimately took over his family's aquaculture farm. "I came in knowing nothing — no Greek, no aquaculture experience and no scientific background, but the Columbia training helped me to learn the business, to understand how to learn what I didn't know and not to be intimidated." It also helped put her on an equal cultural footing with her European neighbors and business partners.

Lung sees that training as akin to intellectual property: "Liberal [arts] education is becoming a global commodity that everyone will need to train their young people, and you don't have to look further than the Core Curriculum and the humanities for that."

For some alumni, the College's emphasis on critical thinking was crucial. "The Core gives me a level of curiosity and a critical attitude toward even well-accepted ideas that's formed my mindset and has helped in my career," says Camacho.

Some alumni see this as part of the humanist emphasis on exploration and free inquiry. "Columbia gave me my first opportunity to explore what excited me," says Bruce Steinberg '78, whose career in media and business includes the creation of two TV channels in the United Kingdom. "It gave me a thirst for knowledge and experience, and opened up my world."

For many alumni with international ties, the advantages of the Core become even clearer when compared with the education provided in the countries where they have lived and worked.

Lung sees the current educational model in China as oriented toward test scores and rankings to the exclusion of all else. "Chinese students think if they have a high score in TOEFL and a high SAT, that means their education is good. But they're not prepared



Diplomat Chris Dell '78 credits Columbia with inspiring his career choice. Left to right: Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, Gen. David Rodriguez, Robert Maggi, Vice President Joe Biden, Dell and Secretary of State John Kerry in Afghanistan in 2008.

PHOTO: JON SILSON

Many alumni see Columbia as having taught them how to become lifelong learners — a vital skill when living abroad.

for American education, they're just good at taking tests ... they are as bright, and more disciplined, but they are less entrepreneurial, less contextual."

Novielli echoes Lung; he founded Due West to teach local students the "soft skills" not being provided by the Chinese system. "Their system is entirely test based; the Gaokao college placement exam determines everything. The system doesn't emphasize these life skills, and the students are too busy to develop skills like time-management and leadership."

Both Barazi and Linnea Hincks '10 (who grew up in Sweden and is a press secretary in Sweden's Office of the Minister for EU Affairs) note that the European system is limited as well, with an emphasis on early career specialization and a cultural education that extends only to the national culture; there is much less exposure, however, to the concepts of multiculturalism, pluralism and non-Western cultures. Minton extends that critique to education in the U.S.

"It's distressing to see all the commentary assuming a strict one-to-one connection between education and career," Minton says. "That's an impoverished way of doing it. Columbia didn't give me a vocation. The genius of the Columbia education is that it affects the thinking of a student and opens doors through which a student can walk to his or her career. And this approach is the correct one. It's a different way, a more subtle way."

"It's the Columbia way."

Ted Rabinowitz '87 is a copywriter and author. His first novel, *The Wrong Sword*, was published last year by Musa Books under the pen name Ted Mendelsohn; the sequel will be out next year.



Governing the World

How global government has evolved from utopian concept to failed ideal

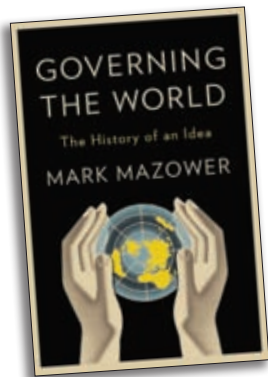
Mark Mazower, the Ira D. Wallach Professor of World Order Studies, chairs the Department of History. An Oxford graduate, he concentrates on modern Greece, 20th-century Europe and international history. His books include *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century* and *Hitler's Empire: How the Nazis Ruled Europe*, which won the *L.A. Times Book Prize for History* in 2009. His most recent book is *Governing the World: The History of an Idea*, from which the following excerpt is taken.



PHOTO: SARAH LEE

Governing the World is a landmark study of the idea of world governance from idealistic concept to often benighted reality. Nineteenth-century internationalists imagined "a movement of cooperation among nations and their peoples," as Mazower writes, with thinkers as diverse as Jeremy Bentham (who invented the word "international"), Karl Marx and Giuseppe Mazzini contributing sketched-out theories. The 20th century saw real-world attempts at global government in the shape of the League of Nations and its successor, the UN, but the geopolitical version of "cosmic harmony," long dreamed of, never materialized. In the closing section of *Governing the World*, Mazower studies the outlines and fissures of this failed ideal.

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard



Mazower writes, "International legislatures have never lived up to the hope of nineteenth-century internationalists." At right, members of the League of Nations' Disarmament Conference struggle with the difficulties of peace enforcement in Geneva in 1924.

PHOTO: © BETTMANN/CORBIS



That international institutions may not be internally democratic in their workings has been known for some time and does not appear particularly surprising. They are, after all, chiefly executive bureaucracies, and mostly their most powerful members like them that way. International legislatures have never lived up to the hope of nineteenth-century internationalists, and as the fate of the European Parliament and the UN General Assembly demonstrate, they are unlikely to make much impact on the twenty-first.

What does seem novel, in historical terms, is the collapsing importance of the public bodies that give national sovereignty meaning and the way that organs of international government and regulation have come to assail the internal legitimacy, capacity, and cohesion of individual states. They are not actually turning democracies into dictatorships — few people believe in dictatorships anymore — although the turn to Putin in Russia suggests such a drift is possible. But they are certainly hollowing out representative institutions and curtailing their capacity to act. Bodies that were once designed to foster sovereignty are now recast to curtail it. And this is not merely the curtailing of autonomy that is always implicit when states decide to join international organizations and respect their rules; it is the consequence of major changes in those rules themselves. “The pattern of influence and decision-making that rules the world has an increasingly marginal connection with sovereignty,” notes Koskenniemi in a recent article.

This multifaceted erosion of sovereignty is a momentous change that has been based upon a radical alteration in attitudes to the state and bureaucracy over the past thirty years. In its various nineteenth-century incarnations, after all, internationalism was preeminently a movement to restore sovereign power to the peoples of the world, and those who governed in their name. Its approach to the nation-state and its institutions was almost entirely positive. The originary moment of 1919 saw the goal of the League of Nations as a world made “safe for democracy,” a goal understood — in an imperial idiom — as a society of sovereign polities. After 1945, the United Nations promoted the creed of sovereignty more widely, more adamantly, and more deeply. Nazism’s assault on the sovereignty of small nations was repudiated and in Europe democracy was restored; colonialism’s denial of sovereign rights around the world was also castigated. The state was rendered sacrosanct, international boundaries were mutually recognized in Asia, Africa, and Europe, and the meaning of democracy itself was broadened to “promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom” (in the words of the UN Charter). International institutions enabled states to survive and flourish, and as civil services expanded rapidly, states enabled their citizens.

In the construction of this system of sovereign nations, no power played a more important role than the United States. Washington never had complete control of the process, of course, and there were compromises on all sides. After 1945, welfare states grew faster and economic nationalizations went farther across the globe than American policymakers might have wished, for example, and trade liberalization proceeded more slowly. But these points of disagreement and tension were not decisive. The American Century at its apogee coincided with the heyday of national planning in the Third World and the welfare state in Europe. American foundations funded roads, medical services, libraries, and schools, and American social sciences — from mid-century macroeconomics to modernization theory — provided

the legitimation for this expansion of state capacity around the world. Countries gradually became reintegrated in a global trade network, but capital movements remained restricted, and in general people made money from producing and exchanging goods rather than from money itself. As late as 1971, it was assumed that conditionality would not work if demanded by the IMF since client states would permit no interference in their internal affairs.

And then, between the mid-1970s and the early 1980s, all of this changed, as the United States ceased to support a version of liberalism embedded in strong domestic institutions. Confronted with an unforeseen challenge to reshape the rules of international order in a way that gave priority to the needs of the developing world — the Third World’s New International Economic Order — the United States reacted by moving against the old mid-century conception of the enabling state on several fronts: international human rights activism saw the state as tyrant and mobilized global civil society against it; the World Bank and the IMF exploited the crisis-prone character of the new financialization of the world to redraw the boundaries of public and private sectors in vulnerable debtor countries. As governance replaced government, welfare nets frayed, and income and wealth inequality rose sharply. Formal structures disintegrated and informal economies — black markets, smuggling, and crime networks — flourished, leaving only the ubiquitous concept of the “failed state” itself as implicit acknowledgment that states really were rather important. In turn, the threat of state failure rationalized invasions and occupations that returned swaths of Africa and parts of the Balkans to rule by international executive. This was in no sense a reversion to the emancipatory perspectives of mid-nineteenth-century internationalists but rather the crafting of a “leaner, meaner state” in one country after another across the world, dissolving society in the name of the individual, using international organizations as the handmaidens and new paradigms — the efficient market hypothesis, the Responsibility to Protect — to provide intellectual rationalization.

If the corrosive impact of this process on the idea of sovereignty itself has not much bothered mainstream American observers, it is partly because it has been moralized and turned into something virtuous, and partly because it has happened less there than anywhere else. The United States remains *the* exceptional power, able more than any other over the past half century to exempt itself from otherwise universally binding international commitments and obligations, its untrammled sovereignty jealously guarded by Congress. Combining the language of universalism with the status of the exception has allowed American values and influence to spread at relatively little internal cost in terms of policy constraint. And this freedom has actually increased with the shift from a world of formal treaty obligations — a world that had always made Congress unhappy — to one of informal rules and norms, which the United States itself has been well positioned to craft. Only in the fears on the American right of eroding sovereignty and the implausible specter of world government do we get a glimmering of what the stakes may be when the American era finally ends.

Beyond the borders of the United States, on the other hand, it has been far more self-evident that international institutions and norms have developed into means of curtailing sovereignty rather than enhancing it, trends that could not but affect the standing of international bodies themselves and undercut their ability to command continued support. The real-world challenges mount around us in the shape of climate change, financial instability, poverty, crime, and disease. With the WTO’s Doha

Round paralyzed and the World Bank chastened, the IMF incapable of helping to rectify the global imbalances that threaten the world economy, and no single agency able to coordinate the response to global warming, the institutions of international governance stand in urgent need of renovation. Yet the fundamental nineteenth-century insight that effective internationalism rests on effective nationalism remains pertinent. Voters around the world still see their primary allegiance to their national state rather than to any large polity, a fact that reflects the continuing role of the state as primary purveyor of public goods but that many international bodies are loath to acknowledge.

Now we are on the verge of a new era, and as Western predominance approaches an end, the prognosticators speculate on what will come next. Some American commentators seem particularly anxious at their country’s possible loss of influence. But taking a more detached view and in more formal terms, the mere fact that some states are gaining strength as others lose it says little. And so far as China in particular is concerned, it has much to gain and little of any consequence to lose from participating in a system designed to favor leading nations. Like any great power, it will use these institutions to further its own ends, but like its predecessors it will not always prevail. Thus there is no reason to think that the shift in the global balance need of itself mark the end of the international institutions established in the Anglo-American ascendancy.

In the ongoing atomization of society, citizens and classes have both vanished as forces for change and given way to a world of individuals.


Indeed from the perspective of the question of sovereignty, positive as well as negative consequences may emerge from the decline in American and European financial and political clout. As long ago as 1995, the British political economist Susan Strange argued that “the only way to remove the present, hegemonic, do-nothing veto on better global governance, is to build, bit by bit, a compelling opposition based on European-Japanese cooperation, but embracing Latin Americans, Asians and Africans.” The prospective lineup now looks different but the point remains valid. The rising powers, China above all, have little liking for the IMF, at least in its older incarnation, and attach much greater importance to the idea of preserving sovereignty and some space for domestic political discretion. If their influence grows, the institutions the United States created may be brought back under new direction to the principles that originally animated them. A broader array of voices and perspectives will enrich the rather rigid forms of economic thinking that have predominated since the 1970s.

Getting the institutional architecture right is the subject of endless position papers and reform proposals. But there are two kinds of more fundamental change that will need to take place too. In the current crisis, politicians have essentially acted as underwriters, essential but subordinate to the dictates of communities of financial market makers they hesitate to contradict. More generally, the politicians have become policymakers, who listen in the first place to private interests and their lobbyists and try to adjudicate among them. Time will show whether they are any longer capable of governing. If that fails to happen, the responsibility will not be theirs alone. One of the reasons for the mid-century popularity of the state and sovereignty was that both had proved themselves in extreme circumstances. Twentieth-century total wars were fought by states that mobilized entire societies

around shared perils and experiences. By creating models of equity, solidarity, and sacrifice, they transformed public attitudes in ways that endured into peacetime. Without a comparable transformation in our own views about the nature of government, the public good and the role of the state, without our developing a new kind of faith in our own collective capacity to shape the future, there is no real incentive for our politicians to change. They may not be trusted by their electorates — polls show levels of trust plumbing new lows — but they have no reason to care so long as this lack of trust does not translate into mobilization, resistance, and sustained pressure for reform.

To the nineteenth-century internationalists with whom this book began, the future conjured up a new dispensation for mankind, a dispensation they looked forward to with a confidence based upon their control over a universe of facts: hence Bentham’s vision of a perfect system of law that depended on the accumulation of all useful knowledge, or Karl Marx’s path to a communist future through the history of capitalism’s past. To twentieth-century institution builders from [Jan] Smuts to [Franklin D.] Roosevelt, from Robert Jackson to Walt Rostow, the future could be planned and tackled with foresight on behalf of entire communities and nations, perhaps even for the world as a whole. Today, when the primacy of the fact is challenged by the Web — a recent article hails the fact’s death — the future, more important than ever, has been privatized, monetized, and turned into a source of profit. An entire

corporate sector is dedicated to commodifying and modeling it; our financial markets in general take the future as the determinant of present values in a way that simply was not true a century ago. No one now feels the burden of an essential but unknowable future more acutely than the stockbroker and trader. But this money-driven individualistic future has crowded out an older vision of what the public good might look like.

In the ongoing atomization of society, citizens and classes have both vanished as forces for change and given way to a world of individuals, who come together as consumers of goods or information, and who trust the Internet more than they do their political representatives or the experts they watch on television. Governing institutions today have lost sight of the principle of politics rooted in the collective values of a *res publica*, even as they continue to defend the “civilization of capital.” As for the rituals of international life, these are now well established. The world’s heads of state flock annually to the United Nations General Assembly. There are discussions of reform and grandiose declarations of global targets, which mostly go unmet. Politicians, journalists, bankers, and businessmen make their pilgrimage to the heavily guarded Alpine precinct of Davos, seeking to confirm through this triumph of corporate sponsorship that a global ruling elite exists and that they belong to it. Our representatives continue to hand over power to experts and self-interested self-regulators in the name of efficient global governance while a skeptical and alienated public looks on. The idea of governing the world is becoming yesterday’s dream. 

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Alumni News

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Toomas Hendrik Ilves '76, president of the Republic of Estonia, addresses a Low Library audience on September 23 in conjunction with the Columbia University World Leaders Forum.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO



MESSAGE FROM CCAA PRESIDENT KYRA TIRANA BARRY '87

Entrepreneurship Is Thriving on Campus And Across the Alumni Community

As Columbia College Alumni Association president, I joined many other College alumni volunteers at the Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend October 11-12. We set a record for attendance at the event and, I would argue, for engagement, creativity and passion. At CALW we learned how the University, the Columbia Alumni Association, CCAA and many other Columbia organizations around the world are responding to changes and trends in economic conditions, career choices, and alumni and student interests. One of the most interesting is a new set of programs on campus this year that is organized around entrepreneurship.

A resurgence — if not a revolution — in entrepreneurship is taking place across the nation. Entrepreneurship activity is at its highest level in 14 years, according to the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, a joint venture of Babson College and the London School of Business, which began tracking such activity in 1999. In 2012, the average total, early-stage entrepreneurial rate increased to nearly 13 percent of students on college campuses nationwide, an all-time high since GEM began tracking.

This trend has had an impact on curricula, co-curricular programming and student life at universities across the nation. In fact, from the Morningside campus, one need look no further than Roosevelt Island, where Cornell and Technion Universities are creating a new academic model that blends equal measures of engineering and entrepreneurship education with industry and business community engagement. Columbia is also building its own infrastructure to support this growing sector.

The undergraduate student club Columbia Organization for Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE) has grown in triple digit percentages in the last year.

"The Office of the Dean is supportive and pleased to be a part of the growing campus-wide entrepreneurship initiatives," says Dean James J. Valentini. "We like the progress that CORE has made but we are especially proud of the contributions it is making to both the current student and alumni communities."

In winter 2012 President Lee C. Bollinger initiated Columbia Entrepreneurship, which launched in July 2013. CE now resides in the Office of the President, maintaining a close partnership with the University's Office of Alumni and Development. Its mission is to accelerate and encourage the culture of innovation

and entrepreneurship at Columbia and to drive cohesion among entrepreneurship resources on campus, the student body and the alumni communities. CE is already making it easier for Columbia entrepreneurs to launch businesses.

"In partnership with the many centers of entrepreneurship excellence in and around campus, we're building out a set of entrepreneurship programs and resources that includes co-working spaces, mentorship, workshops, lecture series and events," says Bollinger. "It is Columbia Entrepreneurship's goal to make it easier for young entrepreneurs to launch Columbia-born businesses."

CE is now a cross-campus organization working with all schools, student clubs and alumni communities in a hub-and-spoke model. It already has found operational success as a convening authority forging collaboration between centers of entrepreneurship practice across campus and across the Columbia alumni community. CE also offers practical programming where much-needed resources are missing and is helping individual schools build curricula and programming.

The CCAA Board of Directors has been very supportive of this effort, brainstorming with CE leadership on alumni needs and working closely with CE staff to provide support, advice and links to the College alumni community. We are very excited to partner with CE and to make sure its activities are well integrated into our own engagement initiatives.

The strong interest in entrepreneurship in the College alumni community was clearly apparent in the enthusiastic response and attendance at an event on September 16 featuring Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Twitter and CEO of Square. College students and alumni attended in huge numbers and the feedback given to CCAA and CE was that we should be doing much more.

I strongly encourage all College alumni, whether or not you are building a startup of your own, are a serial entrepreneur, are interested in supporting our students and alumni or just want to learn about the exciting new activities at Columbia, to visit entrepreneurship.columbia.edu to learn more.

As always, I look forward to your sharing your thoughts with me at ccaapresident@columbia.edu.

Kyra Barry



Members of Columbia Organization for Rising Entrepreneurs, one of the most popular undergraduate student clubs, gather outside Low Library.

Bookshelf

Robert N. Butler '49], MD: Visionary of Healthy Aging by *W. Andrew Achenbaum*. The author discusses Butler's contributions to the concept of healthy aging and argues the continuing relevance of his pioneering work in gerontology, geriatrics, medicine and social work (Columbia University Press, \$40).

True Successor: A Novel of the New Roman Empire by *Joseph H. Levie '49*. Levie writes an alternate history in which Emperor Charles Martel IV sits atop a contested throne in Charlemagne's revitalized empire (iUniverse, \$16.95).

Searching for the Best Medicine: The Life and Times of a Doctor and Patient by *Arthur Bank '56*. The author relates his experience in medicine to the field as a whole, discussing how one practices good medicine as well as the problems facing health care and health insurance in the United States (World Scientific, \$48).

The Great Rent Wars: New York 1917-1929 by *Robert M. Fogelson '58*. Fogelson traces the history of rent control in New York City, studying the rent strikes and conflicts that arose between tenants and landlords during the post-WWI housing shortage (Yale University Press, \$45).

Presidencies Derailed: Why University Leaders Fail and How to Prevent It by *Stephen Joel Trachtenberg '59, George B. Kawar and E. Grady Bogue*. The authors provide a collection of case stud-

ies, testimonies and literature reviews to examine and explain patterns of leadership failure in higher education (Johns Hopkins University Press, \$34.95).

Unrepresented States and the Construction of Meaning: Clinical and Theoretical Contributions edited by *Howard B. Levine '64, Gail S. Reed and Dominique Scarfone*. In this series of essays, the editors compile critical contributions to the development of the psychoanalytic field (Karnac Books, \$40.95).

Misuses of Poetry and Other Poems by *Les Gottesman '68*. Gottesman's newest collection challenges conventional style through a cynical and surreal approach to questions about the human condition (Finishing Line Press, \$14).

Makers of Modern Architecture, Volume II: From Le Corbusier to Rem Koolhaas by *Martin Filler '70*. Architecture critic Filler surveys works including Charles Renfro's High Line and Rem Koolhaas' CCTV Headquarters in Beijing (New York Review Books, \$29.95).

In Praise of Angels: A Novel of the Reconstruction Era by *Richard Smolev '70*. This work of historical fiction follows Philadelphia reporter Benjamin Wright as he covers the impeachment of Andrew Jackson and other events of the turbulent reconstruction era (Academy Chicago Publishers, \$35).

The Big Crowd: A Novel by *Kevin Baker '80*. Brothers Tom and Charlie

O'Kane must clear Charlie's name after he is linked to the death of a police informant that occurred 10 years earlier, during his term as NYC mayor (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$27).

Murder at Dacha by *Alexei Bayer '80*. Bayer's debut novel takes place in 1960s Moscow, where Sr. Lt. Matyuskin must solve the murder of a powerful Soviet boss (Russian Information Services, \$16).

Drive Me To Think: Driving Time Is "Law of Attraction" Time. Convert Negativity Into Miracles While Driving and in Life by *K. Scott (Kenneth Scott Hayes) '92*. Hayes uses driving and commuting time as moments for self-reflection and meditation in this spiritual guide book (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, \$14).

Mexico's Revolutionary Avant-Gardes: From Estridentismo to ¡30-30! by *Tatiana Flores '95*. Flores provides a thorough account of the early 20th-century Mexican Renaissance (Yale University Press, \$65).

Degraded Work: The Struggle at the Bottom of the Labor Market by *Marc Doussard '97*. The author outlines creative policy and organizing opportunities that workers and advocates can use to improve job quality (University of Minnesota Press, \$25).

Rewilding by *Jasmine Dreame Wagner '00*. Winner of the 2012 Ahsahta Press Chapbook Contest, Wagner's collection of poetry reimagines the

world with verve and originality using abecedarian form (Ahsahta Press, \$15).

My Funeral Gondola by *Fiona Szec-Lorrain '03*. Lorrain's second book of poetry offers meditations on the bittersweet struggles and inner intensities of solitary life (El Leon Literary Arts, \$18).

Harlem Nocturne: Women Artists & Progressive Politics During World War II by *Farah Jasmine Griffin, the William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African American Studies*. Griffin tells the story of three artists who embodied Harlem's spirit of creative work along with a social conscience during the 1940s (Basic Livitas Books, \$26.99).

Mass Flourishing: How Grassroots Innovation Created Jobs, Challenge, and Change by *Edmund Phelps, director, Center on Capitalism and Society*. Phelps, a Nobel Laureate in Economics, develops an argument for why nations prosper, calling for a commitment to modernity, grassroots dynamism, indigenous innovation and widespread personal fulfillment (Princeton University Press, \$29.95).

Columbia University in Pictures by *Lenny Pridatko*. This award-winning collection of 150 photographs showcases the University's campuses and community and offers lesser-known facts about Columbia (Luminance Press, \$59.95).

Karl Daum '15



David Epstein '02, '04J Examines the Complexity of Sports Science

BY ETHAN ROUEN '04J, '11 BUSINESS

In a sense, **David Epstein '02, '04J, '04 GSAS** started working on his best-selling book, *The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance* (Current Hardcover, \$26.95), as a teenage runner.

His suburban Illinois town of Evanston was a "mini Jamaican diaspora" with a high school that won 24 consecutive track and field conference titles. When Epstein moved from sprint to middle distance competition, which he ran as a member of the Columbia track team, the people passing him were Kenyan. And almost all of them were from the same tribe.

"I started asking questions about what was going on in these hot spots to make these people so good," says Epstein, a journalist who recently moved from *Sports Illustrated* to the investigative news organization ProPublica, where he covers sports science, medicine, energy and the environment.

These questions, though, don't have clear answers. *The Sports Gene*, which has received rave reviews in publications from *The New York Times* to *Nature*, provides a snapshot of where science stands in its quest to understand the human genome. Epstein devotes 300 pages to exploring the timeless nature versus nurture question, offering insights into compelling genetic research and examples of athletes accomplishing unbelievable feats.

Instead of shying away from the issues of race and gender that dominate sports science debates, he tackles them head-on. For example, are black athletes inherently better at some sports? Is there a scientific reason why male and female athletes should compete separately?

Epstein's conclusion: The answers may be as complex as the human genome itself.

"I thought readers would have trouble with the ambiguity, but I couldn't do anything about it," he says. "The reception to the book has emboldened me. People are willing to tolerate complexity."

For his reporting, Epstein traveled the globe, interviewing scientists and athletes. He discovered that, yes, there appear to be genetic advantages in some sports, but the Kenyans who consistently win long-distance races also avoided the comparatively sedentary western life as children. The science has not advanced enough to determine exactly what role genes play in ability.

This unwillingness to offer easy solutions initially concerned some publishers.

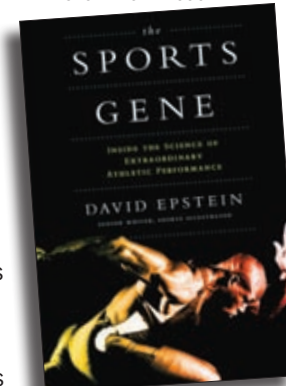
"The first questions I got when I spoke to publishers were, 'Is this the next *Born to Run*?' [the best-selling book that sparked the barefoot running craze] and 'Where are you going to come down on the nurture versus nature argument?'" Epstein says.

Despite answering "no" and "nowhere concrete" to these questions, the book has the addictive allure of a murder mystery, with each chapter offering fascinating insights brought to life by athletes doing the seemingly impossible.

The Sports Gene opens with Olympic and pro softball player Jennie Finch facing Mike Piazza and Albert Pujols, two of the greatest hitters in baseball history. The softball takes just as much time to cross the plate as a baseball thrown by a major league pitcher — and offers up a bigger target — but both men



PHOTO: ERICK RASCO



(and everyone else who was brave enough to face Finch) struck out.

Inherent reflexes, it turns out, are not as important to hitters as practice and memory — seeing enough pitches to know where the ball will end up as it is released from the pitcher's hand.

Then there's the story of Eero Mäntyranta, an Olympic gold medalist in cross country skiing who grew up in rural Finland, strapping on skis for the first time not long after he could walk. In addition to his years of experience, Mäntyranta has a rare genetic mutation that results in a red blood cell count up to 65 percent higher than the average man.

Sure, Mäntyranta had years of practice, but he also had an inherited trait that gave him the same advantage that many athletes risk their careers to attain through doping.

"This was my favorite chapter to write," says Epstein, who traveled to the Arctic Circle to meet the Olympic champ. "Here's someone who actually has a rare genetic mutation" that makes him a superior athlete.

Epstein's first book merges many of the passions he developed at the College, where he started as a science major who initially disdained the Core Curriculum.

His Lit Hum professor, Julie Crawford, "was the greatest teacher and dressed me down for being anti-intellectual," he says. "She changed the way I read and write. She had a concrete impact on my decision to end up writing."

During Epstein's sophomore year of college, his former training partner, Kevin Richards, died immediately after finishing a high school race at the indoor track they shared in Evanston, an event that would shape Epstein's career. Heartbroken, he was unsatisfied with the doctors' determination of heart attack as the cause of death.

Epstein asked Richards' parents for access to the medical records and learned that his friend had a genetic disease, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, which causes the left ventricle to thicken, sometimes reducing blood flow to the heart.

This investigation later led Epstein to write his Journalism School master's project on HCM, a story that became chapter 15 of his book (he completed a master's in environmental science at the same time). It also led to one of his first major stories at *Sports Illustrated*, an article about sudden cardiac death in athletes written after Ryan Shay died during the 2008 men's U.S. Olympic marathon trials.

"Chapter 15 is where all my sports science writing began," Epstein says. "I had hoped that writing about HCM would make it seem like Kevin didn't die in vain, so to speak. But he did die in vain, and I guess we can just hope that spreading knowledge might prevent that from happening to someone else. In some way, shape or form, I'll write on the topic for the rest of my life."

Ethan Rouen '04J, '11 Business is a Ph.D. student at the Business School and a columnist for *Fortune.com*. He is a former CCT associate editor.



Obituaries

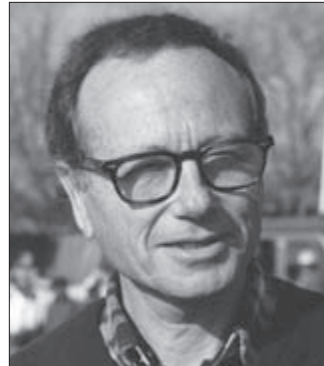
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Michael G. Kovach, priest, Millersville, Pa., on July 12, 2013. A native of St. Clair, Pa., Kovach was ordained in 1943 and was a priest of the Orthodox Church of America for 69 years. He also spent 26 years on the faculty at Millersville University. In the early 1940s, Kovach served as an Army chaplain for 2½ years. Ten years after the war, he earned a Ph.D. in American history from Pittsburgh. Kovach joined the Millersville College staff in 1959 and engineered

the 1962 conversion of Millersville from a state teacher's college to a liberal arts college. He retired from Millersville as dean of the Graduate School. For 14 years Kovach was spiritual adviser for the Orthodox Theological Society in America. He was predeceased by his wife of 67 years, Olga A. Hubiak, in 2011. Survivors include a daughter, Helene Dmochowski; sister, Verna Papinchak; brother-in-law, the Very Rev. Daniel Hubiak and his wife, Dunia; sisters-in-law, Ann Hubiak, Eva Hubiak, Marge

and Jean; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and godchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to establish a religious education fund to the Rev. Stephen Vernak, pastor of Christ The Saviour Orthodox Church, 5501 Old Locust Ln., Harrisburg, PA 17109.

Philip S. Hobel, film and television producer, New York City and East Hampton, N.Y., on October 23, 2013. A Manhattan native, Hobel was an involved College



Philip S. Hobel '42

student, serving as president of his fraternity, Zeta Beta Tau, and a member of NACOMS, among other activities. He was a Navy lieutenant in the Pacific theatre during WWII, including service as an aide to several admirals. Hobel founded the Cortland Furniture Co. after the war and operated it until the '70s, when he entered the television and film business. The founder and owner of The Cinema Guild, Hobel-Leiterman Productions and Document Associates, Hobel was a producer and distributor of award-winning television series, documentaries and features, most notably *Tender Mercies*, which

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

Robert S. Greene '43, '58 Arts, Jazz Musician

Robert S. Greene '43, '58 Arts, a documentary writer, jazz musician and founder of The World of Jelly Roll Morton Band, died on October 13, 2013, in Amagansett, N.Y. He was 91.

After years of writing, Greene devoted the rest of his career to New Orleans jazz and the emulation of his jazz idol, "Jelly Roll" Morton, an early 20th-century jazz pianist known for his piano skills and influence on jazz. During the 1970s and '80s, Greene recreated the tunes of Morton's Red Hot Peppers, traveling the world with his tribute band.

Rather than copy Morton's songs note for note, Greene sought to master his stomping ragtime style within the New Orleans spirit of collective improvisation. Greene often remarked, "Jelly has taught me that you don't play the music; the music plays you."

Born to Oscar Greenstein and Elma Elsa Stern on

September 4, 1922, Greene grew up on the Upper East Side. While earning an M.F.A. in theatre arts, he began work at the CBS Radio Network, where he wrote documentary scripts. He was nominated for three and won two Writers Guild of America documentary awards. Greene taught script writing at Columbia and his books on radio writing and television writing were nationally recognized sources. Greene wrote for The Voice of America network during the height of the Cold War in the '60s. He then worked under Edward R. Murrow during the Kennedy administration and later as a speechwriter for the Johnson administration.



In the 1940s and '50s, Greene played piano at jazz clubs across New York. In 1973, he recreated Morton's seven-piece band at the Newport Jazz Festival with three of the original musicians. The band toured the world and played at venues such as Carnegie Hall in NYC and the Royal Festival Hall in London. The band's show in Hatfield, England, in 1982 was recorded and released in 1999 and was the last time three of the original members of the Red Hot Peppers played together.

Jazz critic Whitney Balliett wrote that Greene "is the best of the various Morton pianists; he gets inside Morton's music. He is emotional, reverent, and swinging."

Greene spent much of his time in New Orleans, where he played jazz piano. He contributed regularly to George H. Buck Jr.'s GHB Records to document and preserve traditional New Orleans jazz and played piano for the score of Louis Malle's film *Pretty Baby*. He often traveled to Denmark, France and Japan to perform, write, conduct research and visit longtime friends.

In an interview for *JoyZine*, Greene commented on his love of playing Morton: "If it was once done so perfectly, why do it again? I can only say: Because there's beauty there, there's excitement, there's love. If that can be transmitted to a live audience, some of the aroma of the original happens again ... to bring this music to life for people today, that's our challenge."

Greene's final wish was that he be remembered by "playing pretty, any time."

Karl Daum '15

was nominated for five Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and won two. Hobel also was a champion golfer. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mary-Ann (née Hirsch) '47 Barnard; children and their spouses, Joseph '75 and Marjorie, Michael and Michal, and Sara Hobel and Scott Mendel; and six grandchildren. He was predeceased by a sister, Bernice. Memorial contributions may be made to the Taub Institute for Research on Alzheimer's Disease and the Aging Brain at Columbia University (giving.columbia.edu/waystogive).

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A. Joseph Foa, retired insurance agent and real estate salesperson, Montgomery, Texas, on January 13, 2013. Foa worked in the insurance business for many years and retired but then decided retirement was not for him, so he obtained his real estate license and worked until his early 80s. He is survived by his wife, Roberta; daughters, Catherine Ranke and her husband, Richard, Barbara Laible and her husband, Robert, Virginia Voit and her husband, Steve, and Mary Jo Kutler and her husband, Shelley; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Dorothy Hayes. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia Ann Foa, and son, William.

1 9 4 8

Merrill L. Brockway, retired director and producer, Santa Fe, N.M., on May 2, 2013. Brockway was born on February 28, 1923, in New Carlisle, Ind., and began studying piano at 7. He served in the Army in Europe in WWII as a driver for a chaplain and provided music for the chaplain's services. Brockway earned an M.A. in musicology in 1952 from GSAS. After graduating he was an accompanist for singers. In 1953, Brockway joined WCAU in Philadelphia, moving scenery for *Action in the Afternoon*. Within a year he was promoted to director and worked on educational and children's programs. Brockway became interested in dance after seeing Martha Graham, with whom he went on to work. He was the original series producer for PBS' *Dance in America*, and he directed and produced it through 1980. Modeled after the dance numbers in Fred Astaire movies, the show became known for showing dancers' bodies mostly

John Hollander '50, '52 GSAS, Renowned Poet

John Hollander '50, '52 GSAS, a poet, scholar, critic and professor, died in Branford, Conn., on August 17, 2013. He was 83.

A master of verse, Hollander was known for his formalist and neoclassicist approach at a time when many poets were experimenting with form. He cited W.H. Auden as a major inspiration, and his earlier work sought to embody the poet's improvisation of literary forms as well as a sense of playfulness woven into traditional style.

Hollander's first collection, *A Crackling of Thorns*, was chosen by Auden in 1958 for the Yale Series of Younger Poets, which published the collection with a foreword by Auden. Among his Columbia literary influences, a mix of professors and classmates, were Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS; Lionel Trilling '25, '38 GSAS; Louis Simpson '49 GS, '59 GSAS; Daniel Hoffman '47, '56 GSAS; and Richard Howard '51. His greatest influence, however, was Allen Ginsberg '48, who shared Hollander's belief in the "mythological weight"

of poetic form. One of Hollander's best-known poems, "Helicon," tells of his excursion with the famous Beat poet to sell their blood for spending money.

By the end of his long and prolific career, Hollander's style had evolved from what he described as "epigram literature" to a less witty, more high-minded form of what he called "murmurs or chants," which divided critics, many of whom felt that his puzzling language and private meditations lacked subject matter. Others viewed this evolution as a reflection of his poetic eminence, as Hollander intricately explored

verse and stanza form, most notably in his works *Rhyme's Reason* and *Powers of Thirteen*; the latter won Yale's Bollingen Prize in 1983.

Hollander was born on October 28, 1929, in New York City. He attended Bronx Science, where he wrote a humor column for the newspaper. At Columbia he wrote for *Spectator* and was editor of *The Review* with Ginsberg. Hollander began a doctorate at Indiana, leaving in 1954 to join the Society of Fellows at Harvard

and returning to finish his Ph.D. in 1959. His dissertation was published as *The Untuning of the Sky: Ideas of Music in English Poetry, 1500-1700* in 1961, the first of many critical works.

Hollander joined the Yale faculty in 1959. He left in 1966 to teach at Hunter, but returned to Yale in 1977 and taught there for 25 years. He was named the Sterling Professor Emeritus of English in 1995 and retired in 2002.

Hollander published 20 collections of poetry, his last being *A Draft of Light*. He also wrote seven criti-

cal works and edited many more including the two-volume collection *American Poetry: The Nineteenth Century* for the Library of America.

Richard Poirier in *The Washington Post* in 1978 described Hollander as "the most intellectually daring, poignant, and thrilling poet writing in the Emersonian tradition of our poetry."

Hollander married Anne Loesser in 1953; they divorced in 1977. He is survived by his wife, Natalie, whom he married in 1981; daughters, Martha and Elizabeth; brother, Michael; and three grandchildren.

Karl Daum '15



PHOTO: T. CHARLES ERICKSON, YALE UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

in full. Brockway was nominated for seven Primetime Emmys and received two for the show. He returned to CBS in 1980 as executive producer of arts programming for the newly formed CBS Cable cultural channel. In 1993, he retired to Santa Fe. Brockway is survived by his partner of 17 years, John Eric Roybal.

Kennett P. Love, foreign correspondent, Sag Harbor, N.Y., on May 13, 2013. Born in St. Louis on August 17, 1924, Love attended Princeton and was a pilot in the Navy Air Corps during WWII. In 1946 he married Felicite Pratt (she predeceased him in 2002) and

matriculated at Columbia. Love's newspaper career began at *The Hudson Dispatch* in Union City, N.J. He joined *The New York Times* in 1948, working on obituaries before becoming a reporter in 1950. He was in Tehran in 1953 when the CIA executed a successful plot to overthrow Mohammed Mossadegh and replace him with Gen. Fazlollah Zahedi. While based in Cairo in 1954, Love wrote about the discovery of a 50-ft. boat that had been intended to convey the spirit of the pharaoh Cheops to the underworld. He also covered the Suez Canal crisis in 1956 and wrote *Suez: The Twice-Fought War*. Love left the *Times* in 1962 to

cover cultural and foreign affairs for the magazine *USA1*. He later taught journalism at the American University in Cairo and worked for the Peace Corps. Love is survived by his partner, Blair Seagram; daughters, Mary Christy Love Sadron and Suzanna Potter Love; sons, John and Nicholas; sisters, Mary Lehmann and Nathalie; and five grandchildren.

1 9 6 0

Howard A. Mudgett, retired financial services executive, Denver, on September 1, 2013. Mudgett was born on April 4, 1938, in Denver. He found success in the financial services industry, a career that

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

- 1939** Thomas H. Dawkins, retired plumber, artist, Middletown, Conn., on April 30, 2012.
Irving L. Schwartz, physician, Brookline, Mass., on April 2, 2011.
- 1943** Cedric C. Philipp, retired pharmaceutical representative, Audubon, Pa., on July 18, 2013.
- 1945** Joseph M. Stein, retired neurologist, Topeka, Kan., on July 24, 2013.
- 1946** Ernest C. Aitelli, retired urologist, Tehachapi, Calif., on September 16, 2013.
Robert F. Capon, reverend, Shelter Island Heights, N.Y., on September 5, 2013.
- 1947** Frank E. Karelsen III, attorney, New York City, on August 27, 2013.
- 1948** Paul H. Gerst, surgeon, Tenafly, N.J., on September 29, 2013.
- 1949** Frank M. Angeloro, retired insurance executive, East Greenwich, R.I., on February 7, 2013.
Lewis Kurke, retired psychiatrist and teacher, Scottsdale, Ariz., on May 31, 2013.
Cass F. Santos Jr., reverend, Mechanicsburg, Pa., on February 25, 2013.
Charles F. Wittenstein, retired attorney, Atlanta, on February 4, 2013.
- 1950** Carmine P. Bianchi, retired professor emeritus of pharmacology, Boothwyn, Pa., on August 13, 2013.
- 1951** Herbert H. Beardsley, retired Episcopal priest, Cutchogue, N.Y., on January 26, 2013.
Chester M. Edelmann Jr., professor of pediatrics, Bronxville, N.Y., on September 19, 2013.
- 1954** Morton A. Cohen, retired dentist, Bennington, Vt., on September 24, 2013.
John G. Daniels, Downingtown, Pa., on June 22, 2013.
- 1955** Calvin R. Jenkins, Salt Lake City, on January 28, 2013.
- 1957** Sheldon S. Hendler, scientist, physician and musician, San Diego, on November 12, 2012.
- 1960** C. Wayne Case, retired USN commander, Pittsfield, N.H., on February 1, 2013.
- 1961** Marshall H. Berman, author, academic and philosopher, New York City, on September 11, 2013.
- 1963** Richard L. Knopf, Manteca, Calif., on September 15, 2013.
- 1964** Henry F. Epstein, physician and neuroscientist, Houston, on February 2, 2013.
- 1966** Leonard V. Don Diego Jr., retired teacher, EMT volunteer, Manalapan, N.J., on September 17, 2013.
Douglas M. Strock, jazz pianist, Encinitas, Calif., on August 6, 2012.
- 1967** Alan Candiotti, university dean and professor, Madison, N.J., on August 19, 2013.
- 1969** Mark L. Drucker, professor, St. Louis, on August 12, 2013.
Joseph M. Hasset, physician, Portland, Ore., on February 13, 2013.
Arthur Schoengold, physician, Derwood, Md., on April 20, 2013.
- 1981** Alan J. Saffran, otolaryngologist, Winter Park, Fla., on September 27, 2013.
Jonathan Taffler, business executive, Wilton, Conn., on September 13, 2013.
- 1991** Solomon S. Johnson, East Orange, N.J., on September 3, 2013.

spanned four decades. Mudgett reached executive level positions in several Denver companies, and other positions took him to Chicago and Sacramento before he retired and returned to Denver. Mudgett's lifelong interests were academia, aviation, science, technology, history, art, travel and architecture. According to an obituary sent in by his son, Jeffrey, Mudgett "loved nothing more than exquisite literature, a baroque classic, an impressive bottle of wine and a warm Siamese cat. Howard was generous with his love of learning, never missing the opportunity to bestow the virtues of enlightenment. Howard relished his close friends, business associates and cronies. Always warm

with a sarcastic quip and highbrow humor, he took great joy in keeping those closest to him completely off-balance. Howard's heart took nourishment from opera music in the hills over Sante Fe. His restless soul awed at the towering canyon walls of the Colorado River. His unrelenting mind quieted at the sight of a Picasso. That's what gave him joy and peace." Mudgett is survived by his ex-wife, Melinda Anderson; son and his son's wife, Karrina; and two granddaughters.

1 9 6 4

Edward N. Leavy, attorney, Washington, D.C., on July 23, 2013. During his years at Columbia, Leavy rowed for the lightweight crew and was an active member

of Alpha Epsilon Pi. After earning a law degree from Brooklyn Law School and an LL.M. from NYU, he moved to Washington, D.C., to run the regional office for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. He later co-founded Leavy, Frank, and Delaney, a successful immigration law practice in Bethesda, Md. Throughout his life, Leavy remained a devoted and active member of the Columbia alumni community. Columbia nurtured his lifelong love affair with the arts, particularly music and theatre. Leavy was part of a Columbia College family that included his father, Maurice Charles Leavy '27, '29L; son Charles Katz-Leavy '02; and daughter-in-law, Michelle Leavy '02. Leavy is survived by his son



Edward N. Leavy '64

and daughter-in-law as well as his wife, Judy Katz-Leavy; other children, Neal Kayastha and Gabrielle Katz; sister, Isabella Levenson; and his grandchildren.

1 9 8 6

Kevin A. Hall, attorney, San Francisco, on November 12, 2012. Born on March 23, 1964, in Nairobi, Kenya, Hall attended Dover College in England, completing to his A Levels, after which he graduated from the College with a B.A. in history and French literature in 1986 and an M.I.A. from SIPA in 1988. He then earned a J.D. from Cornell in 1991. Hall embarked on an international law career, first as an associate with Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts and then with White & Case. In 1998 he moved to the New York office of Linklaters, where he became partner. In 2006, Hall joined Reed Smith as a partner and moved to San Francisco. He was a member of the American, New York, California and San Francisco Bar associations. In 2009, Hall transitioned from private practice to join LiveDeal as general counsel. He later was appointed president and CEO. Hall completed the E.M.B.A. program at the Stanford Graduate School of Business in August 2012 and was a member of the Board of Directors of the San Francisco YMCA and AIDS Legal Referral Panel. He is survived by his spouse, Mark Khoury; parents, Anthony and Gillian; and siblings, Melissa and Ian. Memorial contributions may be made to the San Francisco SPCA Development Department, 201 Alabama St., San Francisco, CA 94103; 415-554-3029; or sfspca.org/civicism/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=13.

Lisa Palladino

Class Notes

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John S. "Rip" Ripandelli '40, a retired actuary in Tallahassee, Fla., writes: "I was awarded, in April, the decoration of Knight of the Legion of Honor by the French government (by decree of President François Hollande on January 21) for service in WWII and as a 'Thank You, America' for liberating the French from the German occupation. The Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon in 1802 to acknowledge services rendered to France by persons of exceptional merit.

"I met with French Ambassador François Delattre on April 25 in Tallahassee and was presented with the Legion of Honor there along with five other WWII veterans."

CCT congratulates Rip on the honor. Your friends and classmates want to hear from you! Please send news about yourself or your family, or a favorite Columbia College memory, to CCT at either the email or postal address above. You also can send news online using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

This column is a wonderful way for classmates to stay connected. Please let us hear from you!

41

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No news arrived for this issue but don't let the quiet lull you. I know you have updates to report, nostalgia to indulge in and family happenings to share. We want to hear all about them. You can write me at either address at the top of

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of CCT prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of CCT, its class correspondents, the College or the University.

the column, or use CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. In the meantime, best wishes for an enjoyable holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

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On July 20, I received a note from Helene Dmochowski, daughter of Michael Kovach, reporting Michael's death at 94 in Millersville, Pa. Michael was born in St. Clair, Pa., and after graduating from St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, he was ordained in 1943 as a priest in the Orthodox Church in America, continuing in that role for 69 years. Starting in 1944, Michael served for 2½ years as an Army chaplain. Ten years after WWII, Michael earned a Ph.D. in American history from Pittsburgh. In 1959 he went to Millersville University, where in 1962 he engineered the conversion of the school from a state teacher's college to a liberal arts college with degree programs in philosophy and Russian studies. At the time of his retirement from Millersville, Michael was dean of its graduate school.

He was married for 67 years to Olga A. Hubiak, who predeceased him in March 2011. Michael is survived by his daughter; grandson, Ivan; granddaughter, Sasha; sister, Verna Papichak; and several nieces, nephews and godchildren.

At Columbia, Michael was a bit older than most of us in the Class of 1942. He was a member of the Slavonic Society and was a mature and friendly presence on campus. We send our good wishes and condolences to his family. Classmates desiring more information may contact Helene at helenedmo@me.com.

Multiple obituary notices in *The New York Times* on July 25, 26 and 28 reported the death of **Arthur S. Graham Jr. '42E, '50E** on July 24 at 92. Arthur had been in apparent good health a few days before his death, continuing his daily swimming exercises in a local pool. He was one of the most loyal and active alumni supporters of Columbia, serving as president of the Columbia University Club of Westchester County and as v.p. of the Society of Columbia Graduates. In June 2012, Arthur was one of

six classmates who attended our 70th reunion luncheon in Hamilton Hall. Another who was there has also died, Professor **Morris Grossman**; the four who remain are **Robert J. Kaufman, Immanuel Lichtenstein, Dr. Bernard Small** and your correspondent.

Arthur, a longtime member of the Westchester Reform Temple, served on its board and helped establish its special needs program. I wrote about Arthur in the Fall 2011 issue of CCT, when he and his wife, Ruth, celebrated his 90th birthday with a three-week cruise around South America. Arthur also came to several lunches arranged by the late Dr. **Herbert Mark** at the Columbia University Club of New York; attendees included **Nick Cicchetti** and your correspondent. The last of these was held in December 2005.

Dr. Gerald Klingon '42, who celebrated his 93rd birthday on September 22, is a retired neurologist.

Arthur came to Columbia from Townsend Harris H.S., an elite academic high school in Queens. During WWII he was an officer in the Air Force in the CBI Theatre, participating in the famous flying over the Hump operations.

Arthur earned an M.S. from the Engineering School in 1950 and had a long career as an engineer and consultant for many major corporations, including General Motors, Maxson Electronics, General Foods and Sterling Drugs. He retired as v.p. of A.T. Kearney. He was a member of Zeta Beta Tau, the American Institute of Industrial Engineers, the Institute of Management Sciences, the Material Handling Institute and the National Council of Physical Distribution.

Arthur is survived by his wife; children, Helen Gurny and Pat; and five grandchildren. We send condolences to Arthur's family, as we say thanks and farewell to one of Columbia's most devoted alumni.

The New York Times of August 14 reported the death on August 12 of Dr. **Harold Gabel '46 P&S** at 90 at Monmouth Medical Center in New Jersey. Harold came to Columbia from Stuyvesant H.S. After earning an M.D., he served in the Army through 1950. He then settled in Oakhurst, N.J., where he lived and was an internist for 60 years. Harold was on the staff at the Monmouth Medical Center, was

past president of the Monmouth Medical Society and volunteered at the Parker Family Health Center in Red Bank, N.J. Harold retired in October 2010, after which he enjoyed his interests in photography, woodworking, bridge and chess.

He was predeceased by his wife, Adelaide, on August 1, just 11 days before his death. Harold is survived by his children, Robert, Ted, Michael, George, Kathy, Steven and Daniel; and 15 grandchildren. We send our condolences to Harold's family.

Congratulations to Dr. **Gerald Klingon**, who celebrated his 93rd birthday on September 22. Gerry, a retired neurologist, earned his M.D. at Weill Cornell Medical College and had a long, distinguished career on the staff of that institution and in his private practice in Manhattan. A longtime generous donor

to Columbia's football program, Gerry has had season tickets for many years. Your correspondent last saw him at our Homecoming game versus Dartmouth on October 20, 2012, and as I write these notes, I hope to see him again at this year's Homecoming game versus Penn on October 19. Gerry's son, Robert, an Amherst and Boalt Hall (UC Berkeley Law) alumnus, often accompanies Gerry to the games at Robert K. Kraft Field and is an honorary member of our Great Class of 1942.

With best wishes and kind regards to all classmates, I welcome your email messages, letters and telephone calls (413-586-1517).

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Alas, no news from classmates. My monologue follows.

In the spring, Ralph Gladstone '47 took me on a personally guided tour of the Edgar Allan Poe House here in Philadelphia. Ralph is a scholar of ancient Greek literature and equally steeped in the life and career of the poet.

Intimations of mortality and immortality: I attended funerals or memorial services for three friends in June, and I met my 8-day-old great-granddaughter, Margaret,

in July. She was part of a pleasant, 10-member, weeklong family reunion on the south shore of Lake Ontario.

My wife, Audrey Evans (88), fell twice during the summer; she suffered an ulnar fracture of the right wrist, multiple bruises and lacerations that required suturing. She is now steadier on her feet when walking with a cane.

In August we went to Chicago, where Audrey accepted an award for her role in founding the Ronald McDonald House Charities 39 years ago. They are “homes away from home” where children and their families can be sheltered when in- or outpatient hospital visits are required. There are now more than 300 in more than 40 nations around the globe.

Also in August, Audrey and I visited Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, a children’s camp she initiated 27 years ago. It is in northeast Pennsylvania near Greeley. Children dealing with cancer, whether cured or still under therapy, can spend a week in a wonderfully run summer camp. No matter what the disability, whether it be loss of a limb or other disfigurement, the child is looked on simply as another camper. Siblings also may attend, carrying out the concept of “total care” initiated by the late, great Dr. Sidney Farber. He taught that a family with a sick child is a sick family and that all family members need help, care and understanding to mitigate the problems and stresses they undergo.

We have had several houseguests including a family of four from Taiwan, the son of a colleague from New Zealand and a Panamanian friend who came for a day. CC ‘43ers are always welcome at Casa D’Angio/ Evans.

In sad news, **David Norr**, a financial analyst, investment adviser and CPA who lived in Scarsdale, N.Y., died on August 19, 2012.

REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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Please bear in mind that our 70th reunion is almost upon us (Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1), a rare opportunity to meet up again after all these years. Tom Brokaw called us “The Greatest Generation,” and

we can prove him correct by sharing this occasion with all the other CC graduates whose key years will be similarly celebrated. Any present-day infirmities should not deter your attendance. Canes, walkers and wheelchairs will be readily accommodated. More details about the events will follow in the next issue.

I welcome submissions recalling fond memories of the College in the 1940s and/or reports on your

An accomplished pianist, **Rudolph Carboni ‘44** served for six years on the board of The Music School of Delaware and has enjoyed playing with various jazz groups.

current activities. I have the following vivid personal recollections of the academic side of life:

The first is of a 1942 course, “Geology s7, Maps,” taught by Professor Armin K. Lobeck, the leading geologist of his day. The concluding session was a field trip to a festive rendezvous in New Jersey. We were divided into groups of three, each threesome starting from a different location. My group included an enrollee from NYU, Erwin G. Harris, who by coincidence was a friend from Yonkers. Each trio was furnished with aerial photographs of the surrounding area to enable us to reach our meeting place.

We took the Yonkers Ferry (now defunct) across the Hudson to Alpine, N.J. We were supposed to follow the long ascending road to the top of the Palisades, thence to proceed to our destination. However, Erwin insisted that we save time and shorten our trip by scaling the Palisades. Halfway up, we encountered a precipitous portion rivaling the sheerness of the White Cliffs of Dover. An avalanche ensued, causing bruises and bloodshed to the three of us. Then, two New Jersey policemen appeared at the top; they bawled us out and told us to stay put till they could come back with a rope. Not wanting to be arrested and fearing an “F” for the course, we ignored their admonition and somehow climbed up. We arrived at our destination late, bloody but unbowed, to the cheers of our classmates. (We also learned that another trio, which was on the George Washington Bridge, had stopped to examine the aerial photos; when one of them jokingly began speaking in German, law enforcement officials quickly apprehended them, with the result that they never reached their appointed target.)

Years later, in 1960, Erwin made media headlines by seizing Fidel Castro’s Cuban government airliner while the leader was visiting New York. He had employed a court order, based on Castro’s alleged debt to him for services rendered. Stranded without transportation, Castro accepted the offer of Nikita Krushchev of a Soviet aircraft to take him home. Verification of this international incident can be found in the obituary for my old NYU

friend in *The New York Times*, dated March 18, 2013.

My second recollection is of a one-point elementary course, “Philosophy 13, Philosophy in Morals, Religion, Art,” taught by Professor Irwin Edman (Class of 1916), who was the eminent head of the philosophy department. I anticipated a deep, rather complex presentation from Professor Edman, who was one of the creators of Contemporary Civilization and who was widely quoted for his brilliant observations. Thus, I was pleasantly surprised when in the first class, discussing logic, he said: “All flubjubs are dingbats. This is a flubjub. Therefore it is a dingbat.”

My third recollection is of an elementary physics course taught by Professor John R. Dunning, who also taught the University’s most advanced physics course and who became dean of the Engineering School. Professor Dunning subsequently gained worldwide recognition for his critical contributions to the development of atomic energy and the atomic bomb. His work was based primarily in Columbia’s Pupin Physics Laboratory. Little did we appreciate at the time the thrust of his lectures, in which he frequently hinted at the magnitude of scientific progress that would later envelop the world and the Class of 1944. I recall how he reviewed great scientific achievements and how he predicted that they would be dwarfed by the then-embryonic stages of scientific advances.

I heard from **Rudolph Carboni**, who after graduation worked for three years for Pfizer as a research chemist. He then earned a Ph.D. in chemistry at MIT, which was followed by a 35-year career as a research chemist in the Central Research Department at DuPont. This culminated in a series of

technology management positions. He also wrote a book, *Planning and Managing Industry – University Collaborative Research*, published in 1991.

An accomplished pianist, Rudi served for six years on the board of The Music School of Delaware (2,000 students) and wrote a series of piano pieces published in a volume titled *Mel Bay Presents Fun Pieces for the Piano*. Never one to be idle, Rudi has enjoyed playing piano with various jazz groups. (Perhaps we can persuade him to entertain at the 70th reunion.) For the past 10 years, he has been attending classes and occasionally teaching courses in American literature (“The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway” and “Best American Short Stories”) at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute — Wilmington at the University of Delaware. Recently, Rudi co-authored *Shadows in the Lotus Pool*, a memoir about his co-author’s father and the father’s close but turbulent relationship with China’s President Chiang Kai-shek as a member of his inner circle during the emergence of modern China. The book was published in the United States in 2011 and translated into Chinese and then published in serial form by a Taiwanese literary magazine in 2012. Never single-minded, Rudi has had a number of his poems published in poetry magazines.

It has been almost 74 years since Rudi and I graduated from Yonkers H.S., and I am pleased that in his 90s he is definitely not a couch potato.

Alan Hoffman accepted my invitation to recall memorable events and emailed the following: “Dan Hoffman ‘47, ‘56 GSAS, the famous poet, was originally in our class, and I knew him slightly (some classes had alphabetical seating plans). Once, when he was already famous in his profession, I read in the newspaper that he was chairman of a committee awarding prizes for poems (or poets, I forget which). So I sent him a letter congratulating him for being a maven of bards, but he never answered.

“At the time, **Walter Wager** was writing the Class Notes. I wrote him at one point about his sensitivity to the mores of mathematicians, a ‘sacerdotal’ community. He wrote back that he was proud to have a classmate who could use the word ‘sacerdotal’ in a sentence.

“My first wife was a patient of the late **Richie Bader**. Once during a summer I went with her to the Baders’ office (run by Richie and his brother, the late **Morty Bader**), which was not far from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. It was crowded, with about 30 people

sitting in the waiting room. When we finally got to see him, he asked me to figure out why the office was so crowded. I said, ‘Because you’re the best doctor in New York?’

“He answered, ‘That may be true, but it’s not the reason there’s such a crowd.’

“‘Maybe you’re the cheapest doctor in New York? That’s surely false; I give up,’ I said.

“He replied, ‘Because I’m the only doctor in New York. Everybody else is in the Hamptons.’

“The late **Lenny Koppett** decided one day that he wanted to live in Palo Alto, and he persuaded *The New York Times* that the paper would save money if he covered western events from there instead of flying from New York, so I saw a lot of him during the eight or nine years that I hibernated at Stanford. I was so proud that in general intelligence (not technical knowledge, of course) he was as smart as anybody in that community, spoke clearly and wisely, and so on.”

I receive emails from **Dan Choy**, who can best be described by one word: indefatigable. He continues his intense work to market his device to relieve sufferers of tinnitus, “ringing in the ears” to the lay person.

I received a letter from Dr. **Martin Beller** ‘46 P&S, retired and living in Gaines, Pa. He began by thanking me for becoming the ‘44 correspondent, adding, “Your tenure will not be as long as **Walter Wager**’s for obvious age-related reasons.”

Martin continued, “Recent deaths include my CC ‘44 and P&S ‘46 classmates, Dr. **Richard E. Bader** and Dr. **Robert L. Rosenthal**. Bob and I also were classmates at PS 6 in Manhattan and the Horace Mann School.

“Wilma G. Kjelgaard and I celebrated our 66th wedding anniversary on June 29. We returned to her hometown in Gaines, Pa., in 1987 after I practiced orthopedic surgery in Philadelphia 1952–87. My early retirement was prompted by Felix DeMartini ‘43, ‘46 P&S, my medical school classmate, who made a similar choice.

“The later years in Class Notes in *Columbia College Today* do not include the things we thought interesting and important when I entered Columbia as a 16-year-old in fall 1940. I enjoyed working on *Spectator*’s Business Board, ending with a Gold Crown as circulation manager. I was elected to Nacoms in 1943. Acceleration gave me my B.A. with honors in 1944 after completing the first year at P&S. I continued medical school March 1943–March 1946; I was the youngest member of my class, receiving my M.D. one month before my 22nd birthday. Studies came first

with my election to Phi Beta Kappa at the College and Alpha Omega Alpha at the medical school.

“Wilma and I have been blessed with three children and nine grandchildren. Our granddaughter, Ruth Kjelgaard Foreman (B.S. from Penn, Ph.D. from MIT and M.D. from Harvard) has blessed us with a great-granddaughter (2).”

Recently, Roy Kallop ‘46 and I had a pleasant discussion about our days both at Yonkers H.S. and at the College. Midway through his Columbia studies, Roy joined the Navy, went to Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois, and served for 1½ years in the Pacific on the *William C. Miller*, a destroyer escort, returning to Columbia to earn a bachelor’s. He also earned a master’s from NYU. During his career as an actuary, Roy was v.p. of the National Council on Compensation Insurance, after which he retired. He is a lifelong resident of Yonkers and enjoys life, notwithstanding a partial loss of eyesight. Roy recalls the sage advice given to him by head track coach Carl Merner: “Always remember, your studies come first.”

Finally, we note, sadly, the passing of **Joseph Barata**.

45

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[Editor’s note: CCT welcomes **Charles Gilman** as the new CC ‘45 class correspondent. The notes below arrived at the CCT office before his tenure, but going forward, please contact Charles directly with news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels, or even to share a favorite College memory. You can contact Charles at either the email or postal address above, or you can send news directly to him online using CCT’s webform: college.columbia.edu/ctt/submit_class_note.]

Charles Gilman writes: “I entered Columbia College in fall 1941 as C. Malcolm Gilman Jr. The day after Labor Day in 1942 my name was changed by the Army to Charles M. Gilman Jr. but Columbia and my friends ignored that. It only matters that after the war I used my Army name.

“I was very proud of my freshman cap. I remember being startled by electrolytes in chemistry — why had I never heard of them? Why did I not know ancient philosophers discoursed subjects common to us? So much to learn and so little time. We knew what was coming.

“In Hartley Hall, I had some

great neighbors. I particularly enjoyed spending time with **James Keegan** and **Don Kasprzak** ‘51 P&S. We had a freshman crew that made a grown man cry — Hugh Glendon was our heavyweight crew coach. Unbelievably, we morphed into a 1943 depleted squad that beat the undepleted Navy.

“With my first and second wives, now both deceased, I raised eight children and lost one grown son. I had two careers. I helped build highways — New Jersey Turnpike, Massachusetts Turnpike, Garden State Parkway, Richmond Petersburg Turnpike and so on. From the ‘70s to the ‘90s I worked in automotive retail. Most of the career was in sales management. Now, I sell collectible stuff on eBay!

“I am in my 90th year. I would like to hear any news anyone cares to pass along.”

CCT welcomes **Charles Gilman ‘45** as a class correspondent. Looking back on his time at the College, he recalls being “very proud of my freshman cap.”

Paul Lewis lives in Plano, Texas. He writes, “Unfortunately, I lost my wife to cancer in 2010. My two daughters are married and live in the Dallas area. My son, who has three boys, lives in Austin. I am, of course, retired. My passion is getting out information on how to prevent cancer. I am program chairman of a local veterans group.”

46

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Herbert Hendin has devoted much of his career in psychiatry to suicide prevention; he is the CEO and medical director of Suicide Prevention Initiatives. A major focus of Herb’s work has been on suicide among America’s military and veterans, and he shares these thoughts:

“In recent years more U.S. military personnel and combat veterans are dying by suicide than are killed in combat. Post-traumatic stress disorder is the condition most associated with suicide in both groups. Most military personnel and veterans with PTSD, however, are not at risk of suicide. Persistent severe guilt over combat experiences is the major factor differentiating veterans who had attempted suicide and those who were seriously preoccupied with suicide from those veterans who were neither. This first became a problem in the Vietnam War.

“The chaotic nature of guerilla combat in Vietnam, the uncertainty about who was the enemy, the emphasis on body counts and the Viet Cong’s use of women, children and the elderly as combatants all contributed to combat actions about which veterans felt severe guilt.

“How the veteran experienced the combat events — i.e., the meaning of the combat experience to the veteran — was the key factor in determining the nature of the guilt and the risk for suicidal behavior. ‘Meaning of combat’ refers to the subjective, often unconscious perception of the traumatic event; it includes the affective state of the veteran before the event took place, when it took place, and the affects experienced subsequently. Recurrent nightmares are a cardinal symptom of PTSD. They are an invaluable tool in determining the meaning of the experience to the

veteran and the veteran’s risk of suicidal behavior.

“The nightmares of most veterans with PTSD correspond closely with the combat experiences and the terror over being killed that they engender. Veterans with severe guilt over their combat experiences are likely to have punitive nightmares and are at highest risk for suicide.

“A veteran [whom we’ll call G] who had made a serious suicide attempt had, under the stress of combat, lost control of his anger and directed artillery fire into a village he knew to be friendly. Through his binoculars, G had watched with excitement as the shells landed. As the village was being destroyed he saw an old woman with betel nut stains on her teeth running in his direction, shaking her arms trying to get him to stop the shelling. As she ran toward him, she was killed by an artillery round.

“After he returned to the United States, G was tormented by a painful recurring nightmare that expressed his intense guilt over the destruction of the village. In the dream he is captured by the villagers and paraded so that the villagers could throw stones at him, hit him, spit on him and curse him. The old woman with the betel nut-stained teeth is taunting him. He knows they are going to kill him.

“Understanding the subjective, perceptive experience of combat to the veteran is a crucial step to success in treating these veterans. A core of trust between the

veteran and the therapist needs to be established for this to take place. Even when that trust has been established, veterans may not be willing or able to reveal the combat experience that is most disturbing to them right away.

"The veteran needs to forgive himself for the behavior that triggered his guilt that is being expressed in a self-punitive way. When the veteran feels relief at having shared the experience with a trusted therapist, that therapist is in a position to help — to give him 'permission' to forgive himself, to work with the therapist to resolve problems that have developed in the course of the illness and to go on with his life. Guilt is a healthy human emotion that can be harmful when it is self-punitive but it can also be a powerful force for changing the direction of one's life.

"Although we see many veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with PTSD similar to the Vietnam veterans, the picture is complicated. The multiple tours of combat increase the exposure to combat stress and add significant stress to family and personal relationships. Casualties in the war in Iraq were largely due to improvised explosive devices (IEDs), which were responsible for the number of traumatic brain injuries (TBI) that have resulted from that war. Veterans with TBI are also more vulnerable to suicide. Guilt over combat actions, however, is less likely to be an issue for those veterans with TBI. In often exhibiting aggressive emotional behavior that is out of control, however, they have much in common with the veterans with PTSD who are suicidal."

You can read more about Herbert in the Spring 2012 issue.

From Post Falls, Idaho, **John McConnell** wrote about a four-day family reunion in Pullman, Wash., that celebrated his mother's birth 125 years ago (1888). John's grandparents homesteaded in Pullman as wheat ranchers. Sixty members of the family from multiple time zones as far west as Wake Island attended the celebration. The festive gathering included another Columbian, John's brother, David '48.

I regret reporting the death of **Robert Capon**, an Episcopal priest, author and freelance writer on food and wine for *The New York Times* and *Newsday*. He wrote 27 books, including the highly acclaimed *The Supper of the Lamb: A Culinary Reflection*, which became a Modern Library Paperback.

I am also sorry to advise the passing of **Bernard Goldman** in October. Notes from Bernie in Lakewood, Colo., appeared frequently in this column. His love of Colorado's mountains where he skied and vol-

unteered, and the community's high regard of him, are evident by the awards and distinctions that were bestowed on him through the years. In recognition of his service as an alumnus, Bernie was awarded the Columbia Alumni Medal in 2006.

47 **Columbia College Today**
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Dr. **Nicholas Giosa** last wrote in a year ago (see Winter 2012–13). He writes this time around: "At 88, I'm a widower. Have three sons, oldest graduated from Columbia (CC '76) and twins graduated from the United States Naval Academy. Presently, avidly involved with poetry, photography and maintaining the household.

"Fondest memory of Columbia: Professor Dick, who taught Humanities in 1942 and later was my instructor in a creative writing course on poetry. I still have the poems. He was old school: courtly, always wore a vest with a fob; always gentle and affirmative with his critiques. I cherish his memory. "Here is a poem I wrote:

A Brief Admonishment to Myself

*I looked at myself in the mirror,
and said, "Old man, at eighty-five,
do not allow pity to be your
shadow-companion or your guide; you,
a physician who tended so many at
the time
of their impending demise; you,
so aware
of the trajectory of this tale
that meows at its inception,
struts at its pinnacle
and then drools at its conclusion;
slog through your apprehensions
as you face each passing interval,
and whatever your allotted time,
embrace
it with an air of quiet dignity.*

*"Continue with your daily chores
and rituals: as you cut the grass,
hang your wet laundry on your frayed
clothesline and parade a canvas
of assorted shorts and underwear,
shirts, socks and other sundry goods,
to the afternoon sun, the drying air
and too, the immediate neighborhood.
Tend to your tomato plants and your
solitude, as your father used to do.*

*"Enjoy your spare meals with your
unfailing
glass of wine. Cherish your weekly
get-togethers
when you dine with the few old friends
that remain,
as you relish old yesterdays,
rectie and renew current aches
and pains,*

again and again and again.

*"Dwell on the gift of memories:
it is the one true possession
that tells what trials and felicities
we passed through to become who
we are,
that will sustain us as we try to
confront
the waning tomorrows with a head-on
fortitude;
and as you recall your labored journey,
may it be with some fair measure of
gratitude."*

August 14–17, 2010

George L. Kline Ph.D. '50 GSAS shares, "In the 'bad old days' (1950s–80s), my writings on Russian and Soviet philosophy and on Marxist-Leninist ideology and policy were harshly attacked by certain Soviet scholars. Now one of them, Professor Michael Maslin, much changed in philosophic outlook, has offered to translate into Russian an article of mine, "The Rise and Fall of Soviet "Orthographic Atheism" (2009), as well as an extended account of my scholarly work. (My title refers to the Soviet practice of writing Bog ['God'] as bog ['god'], Gospod' [Lord], as gospod' ['lord'], etc.) I have checked his translations and find them to be readable as well as accurate. Both of them are scheduled to appear soon in a publication celebrating the 70th anniversary of Maslin's Department of the History of Russian Philosophy at Moscow State University."

Thank you to Nicholas and George for writing in!

CCT needs a class correspondent to write this column. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime, please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels, or even a favorite College memory, using either of the addresses at the top of the column. You also can send news online using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected, and we, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

48 **Columbia College Today**
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
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Dr. **Frank I. Marcus** is a principal investigator on a National Institutes of Health study seeking a better understanding of the genetics, molecular basis and clinical manifestations of arrhythmogenic right ventricular

cardiomyopathy (ARVC). NIH recently awarded him \$1.4 million to study genetics, mechanisms and phenotypes of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathies.

Frank, professor emeritus at The University of Arizona's College of Medicine, Division of Cardiology and Sarver Heart Center, is a principal investigator for the multicenter study. He is a world authority on ARVC and received the European Cardiac Arrhythmia Society's Outstanding Achievement Award in 2011. That same year, he received the Pioneer in Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology Award from the Heart Rhythm Society.

According to a press release Frank sent to CCT, "A significant cause of sudden cardiac death in people under age 35, [ARVC] affects about one in 1,000 people. It primarily affects the heart muscle in the right ventricle, causing potentially fatal ventricular arrhythmias."

The five-year project is a RO1 NIH grant. Frank will work with Dr. Julia H. Indik, who will be in charge of the diagnostic core lab to evaluate right ventricular angiograms in enrolled patients to be certain they have ARVC.

The goal is to provide consistent diagnostic analyses of patients and family members with right ventricular and left ventricular cardiomyopathy. The study also seeks a better understanding of the genetics, molecular basis and clinical characteristics of these patients and progression of the disease over time.

Norman Kelvin Ph.D. '60 GSAS is Distinguished Professor of English Emeritus, CUNY. "I continue to write essays and reviews," he says.

We heard from **Fred Messner** of Woodcliff Lake, N.J. At 87, he's still working, as president of Messner Marketing Communications, an ad agency he runs with his wife, Violet, and son, v.p. Kenneth '87 GS. The agency is a B-to-B firm handling non-consumer companies. Fred and Violet have three other children, Steven '73, Lynne and Katherine; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren (2-year-old twin boys).

Fred also plays piano as well as teaches it and composes for it. He's proud to announce that his chamber music piece "More or Less Merengue" was played in November in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall by the trio Palisades Virtuosi and featured the flute, clarinet and piano.

Thanks to Frank, Norman and Fred for getting in touch!

CCT needs a class correspondent to write this column. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In

the meantime, please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels, or even a favorite College memory, using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected and we, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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49 **John Weaver**
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A gloomy, rainy night just before the autumnal equinox finds your correspondent searching his files for a note or two worth relaying.

Alas, my efforts are to no avail. I can only report that **Fred Berman** has been in touch regarding initial planning for our 65th reunion (see dates and Alumni Office contacts above). We are a thinning but plucky and stalwart group. Our voice is still strong and if our hearts keep up, we will have a joyous celebration. Make it your priority!

In the meantime, in the hope that winter finds you all in a warm place, surrounded by love for the holiday season and hope for the New Year, I send my greetings.

I also write these words with the anticipation that as the days grow longer again, as inevitably they will, you will find time to let us hear from you.

50 **Mario Palmieri**
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Bob Goldsby's book, *Molière on Stage: What's So Funny*, was selected this year by *Choice*, a periodical for academic and research libraries, for its list of Outstanding Academic Titles. In addition to his literary effort Bob is active in the theatre world. He recently participated in a seminar on Corneille, a 17th-century French playwright, at Antaeus, a classical theater in Los Angeles where Bob also recently directed *Cyrano de Bergerac* in a staged reading.

Bud Kassel, healed after his

skiing accident last spring (see Fall 2013 Class Notes), is rarier' to go again as a host at the Stowe Mountain Resort near Mount Mansfield, and he extends an invitation to all class members. Just ask for "host Bud Kassel" and he will treat you to the lift ticket.

Irving Kushner, although nominally retired as professor of medicine at Case Western, is still active. Irv, who has had a long career in medical research, was invited to deliver a lecture at the annual meeting of the American College of Physicians last April in San Francisco. The title of his lecture was "Making The Most of Those Rheumatology Tests." In addition, two of Irv's papers on medical history were published in medical journals last summer. "The 4 Humors and Erythrocyte Sedimentation: The Most Influential Observation in Medical History" appeared in *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* (August 2013); "The Crown of a Good Name: W. Barry Wood, Jr., and Daniel Nathans" was published in *The Pharos* (Summer 2013).

Bernie Prudhomme marked the end of his first year of residence in Thomson, Ga., with the observation that he doesn't miss the big city (Atlanta), where he resided for 43 years.

Al Schmitt, who commented in the Fall 2013 Class Notes that he "can't stand being retired," found some relief from the tedium when he and his wife, Joan, traveled to College Park, Pa., to see their oldest grandchild graduate from Penn State.

Sad to report, **Donald R. Lawrence** of New York died in June 2013.

51 **George Koplinka**
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I'm afraid we didn't receive any news in our class mailbox, virtual or otherwise, this time around. Please don't be shy! Your classmates want to hear from you. You can write me at either address at the top of the column, or use CCT's handy webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. In the meantime, best wishes for a bright holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

52 **Sidney Prager**
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In June 2008 your reporter took on the responsibility of writing the Class Notes column for our Class

of 1952.

The task was overwhelming that June because I had only 10 days to get my first column to the editor. However, I managed to do a fairly good job on my initial endeavor.

Five years have passed quickly, and it has been a gratifying experience. Speaking to many classmates who have accomplished wonderful objectives in their respective fields has given me uplifting admiration not only for our classmates but also for Columbia College and the part that it played in our lives.

However, being informed of the various illnesses and declining health of many of our once-vigorous classmates, and the passing of too many others, has left me with some sadness. Time can be healing but time is also the promoter and partner in deterioration.

It has been a privilege and an honor to have done this work for five years and, yes, it has involved work. But the rewards to me have been worth it.

Bob Goldsby '50's book, *Molière on Stage: What's So Funny*, was selected this year by *Choice* for its list of Outstanding Academic Titles.

I thank the CCT editors for all their help. Lots of good luck to the classmate who will succeed me in writing this column. Your reporter also wishes all the members of the Class of 1952 good health and good luck.

Now, for an update:

On behalf of **Jack Ripperger**, his wife, Kathryn Lodal, writes, "Jack and Kathryn celebrated 45 years of marriage in May 2013 with a trip from their home in San Diego to NYC for their 8-year-old granddaughter Lauren's first communion. They always enjoy time in New York with Lauren and her sister, Norah (4), and their adult children, Lisa '92 TC and Matthew '94. Upon their return to San Diego, Jack fell and fractured a vertebra. After six weeks of hospital and rehab, he is doing well."

CCT thanks Sid Prager for his service to the magazine and to the College. Class Notes help connect, and reconnect, classmates to one another as well as to the school that played a part in shaping them. Class correspondents perform a valuable service for classmates as well as for the College, and Sid Prager filled this role admirably for the past five years.

The column now needs a new writer. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor, at alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime,

please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels, or send a favorite College memory to cct@columbia.edu. You also can send news online using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

53 **Lew Robins**
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After reading in *The New York Times* that President Barack Obama '83 had nominated Jeh C. Johnson '82L to be the next secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, I telephoned our own **Jeh V. Johnson** to congratulate him on his son's prestigious nomination.

As we talked, I became increasingly fascinated by events in Jeh's life. For example, his father became the first black president of Fisk University. "In those days," Jeh explained, "when black people

came to visit Fisk, they stayed in our home because they could not stay at any of the white-only hotels in Nashville. The white professors and colleagues who came to see my father usually slept at one of the Nashville hotels, except for Dean Harry J. Carman [(Class of 1919 GSAS)]. Dean Carman stayed in our home. When he learned that I was interested in going to college to study architecture, the dean suggested I apply to Columbia. I took his advice and happily spent the next four years on Morningside Heights."

Through the years, Jeh traveled to towns and cities across the country looking for black churches and determining their history. "Some of the churches in the South were built from the pennies, nickels and dimes that black people raised," Jeh said. "Other churches were built from funds that were raised by people taking out second mortgages on their homes."

Jeh's stories of memorable events in his life are fascinating. Keep up the good work!

Dick Lempert sent the following obituary for a delightful friend and fraternity brother, **Francis P. King** '59L, who passed away on July 19, 2013: "Francis King, a prominent tax attorney in Denver, spent many happy years with his friends and family hiking and skiing in neighboring mountains.

“As a first-year Law School student, Francis was a member of a group of four close friends — the others were **Harry Brey**, **Dick Lempert** and Frank Walwer ‘52 — who took turns preparing lunches on a small, hidden stove in one of the dorm rooms. Writing about himself for a 50th reunion directory, Francis said, ‘I have the dubious distinction of having been taught evidence by our classmate and future president of the University, **Mike Sovern**. I raised four wonderful children and claim seven grandchildren. I remarried eight years ago to my beautiful wife, Susan, and picked up two beautiful daughters in the process.’”

Francis’ infectious enthusiasm will be sorely missed. [Editor’s note: See Obituaries, Fall 2013.]

In a telephone conversation, **Henry Villaume** reported that he has not allowed 13 or 14 heart attacks to stop him from being an active curmudgeon of conservative political philosophy. As a member of his town’s school board, he was able to cut \$600,000 from the school budget. As we reminisced about our days at Columbia, Henry indicated that he was going to write a book of political essays. Unfortunately, he hasn’t found a publisher with a conservative point of view that is willing to publish his manuscript. However, he assured me that if I gave my new address to his wife, Suzette, he would send along his conservative texts. (My wife, Sara-lee, and I recently moved; please note our new address, at the top of the column.)

When Suzette came on the phone, I learned that she grew up in the same town as Sara-lee and my brother-in-law, **Seymour Hendel**. “Seymour was in second grade when I was in first grade,” Suzette recalled. “As a matter of fact, Seymour scolded me for talking too loud and warned that if I wasn’t quiet, the teacher was going to write my name on the blackboard. Sure enough, our teacher wrote both our names on the board.”

After I gave Suzette our address, she added, “Seymour was a truly kind boy.”

Anthony Robinson writes, “I read that the reunion [this past June] was very nice, a fine gathering. Sorry to have missed it. (I’m feeling a lot better.) I’m coming out with a book called *New Water*, a collection of short stories I’ve written through the years.”

Having enjoyed Tony’s novels, I’m looking forward to perusing his short stories.

**REUNION WEEKEND
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54 **Howard Falberg**
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In a short period of time, we will celebrate the 60th anniversary of our graduation from Columbia Col-

lege. I understand this reunion will include opportunities to visit new facilities on Morningside Heights as well as farther uptown, including the Campbell Sports Center at the Baker Athletics Complex.

With help from the Alumni Office and the leadership of our class president, **Bernd Brecher**, our Reunion Committee has been formed and is planning events. At this point the committee includes Bernd and myself along with **Herb Frommer**, **Leo Cirino**, **Saul Turteltaub**, **Kamel Bahary**, **Richard Bernstein**, **Norman Kahn**, **Richard Kameros**, **Ron Sugarman**, **Al Thompson**, **John Timoney**, **Herb Hagerly**, **Al Hellerstein**, **Arnold Tolkin**, **Bob Weber** and **Dick Werksman**.

We would be more than happy to have additional volunteers to help with this wonderful gathering. Please let Bernd know if you would like to be active in this way; he can be contacted by email at brecher.services@aol.com or by phone at 914-961-4101.

I am certain that this coming reunion will be a source of both joy and pride.

Joe Pomerantz, a retired dentist, and his wife, Carol, enjoy their life in Florida, which includes volunteer work, golf, tennis and “the summer rain.” Joe had a close relationship with **Mort Cohen**, a retired dentist in Bennington, Vt., who passed away on September 24, 2013.

Please enjoy life and remain healthy so that we can meet one another at our reunion.

55 **Gerald Sherwin**
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There are quite a number of initiatives taking place on campus and overseas, and many are fed by the growth of the Columbia Global Centers. A special gathering of center leaders, led by VP for Global Centers Safwan Masri, took place in New York in September to discuss strategies and activities related to growth opportunities. “Outstanding” and “helpful” are two words that would describe the meetings.

Later in the month, key University people paid a visit to Paris (Reid Hall) to celebrate world literature. All lovers of literature, books and writing were invited to the inaugural Festival des Écrivains du Monde. It was the result of a partnership between Columbia and the brilliant library in Paris, La Bibliothèque nationale de France. (Did someone say: September in Paris?)

One of the hottest topics floating around the school on Morningside Heights is entrepreneurship.

This area is headed by two of our more creative and idea-generating minds: Trustee Emeritus Richard E. Witten ‘75 and Director for Entrepreneurship Chris McGarry. The potential and interest level was evident at a lecture given in mid-September by Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey; more than 900 students, faculty, alumni and administrators packed Rooney Arledge Auditorium in Lerner Hall.

Another area that shows terrific potential is online learning. The University has entered into a pilot agreement with an online platform called Coursera. In addition, there is a University-wide review of digital learning under way.

Columbia Connects (formerly CAA Worldwide Networking) took place in the fall, allowing alumni around the world the chance to network. An NYC event was held in a nice cozy retreat, Pranna, in downtown Manhattan in late September. Other events were held concurrently throughout the country and around the world.

Not only is Columbia doing well in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings and in admissions, but membership at the Columbia University Club of New York in midtown is at an all-time high and growing rapidly.

As for our classmates, **Bob Thonus** informed us that his former roommate, **Lary Faris**, was honored at the 100th anniversary of the USA National Shuffleboard Association. Lary has won many tournaments and is in the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. Bob was to make a whirlwind tour back East this past fall (visiting his high school in New Jersey, among other places). **Barry Pariser** shows up at various fencing reunions and lives in West Fishkill, N.Y. He has taken up piano (watch those hands!) and is working at the VA in Castle Point, N.Y. Too bad Barry can’t find things to keep him busy.

You have a chance to cheer for the old blue-and-white when the men’s basketball team travels to Brooklyn’s Barclays Center to play the St. John’s Red Storm on Saturday, December 28 (tickets may be purchased at gocolumbians.com). Who will be making the trek? **Igou Allbray**, **Stan Friedman**, **Donald Marcus**, **Alfred Gollomp** and maybe even **Joe Savino**, **Bob Schoenfeld** and our captain, **Ron McPhee**? Could we expect **Dick Kuhn** to put aside his law practice to make an appearance?

By the way, Stanley Maratos ‘53 sent belated get-well wishes to Ron after his stay in the hospital. **Abbe Leban** has passed the word that he is now living in San Francisco. It’s not Wilmington, Del., but you can’t have everything, I guess. **Bernie**

Kirtman might give Abbe and his wife the good-neighborly tour.

Jim Hudson has been working on his MBO (Member-Based Organizations) project and promises to give an update shortly — he reports, though, that progress has been made. If anyone wants to know more, contact your trusted correspondent.

On Saturday, March 1, the battle for New England will take place, when the Light Blue cagers face the Harvard Crimson in Cambridge. We expect a big alumni gathering at both the reception and the basketball game. We’ll be looking for **Eddie Goldberg**, **Harold Kushner**, **Mike Vaughn**, **Walt Flanagan**, **Bernie Chasan**, **Sandy Autor**, **Kenny Parker**, **Guy Whitfield**, **Herb Cooper**, **Nick Avery**, **Nelson Nordquist** and **Ralph Wagner**.

A sad note to report: the passing of **Ronald Corn** and **Ludwig Dosch**. Condolences go to their families and friends.

My fellow classmates: Our 60th is just around the corner and moving closer (Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015).

Plans will be developed shortly to make this Alumni Reunion Weekend the most enjoyable and significant ever.

Make your reservations now — you won’t be disappointed.

Most of all, we want you there. Love to all! Everywhere!

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In September, our first after-summer class luncheon was held at Faculty House and was attended by **Ron Kapon**, **Mark Novick**, **Ralph Kaslick**, **Al Broadwin**, **Danny Link** and myself. It was good to get back to the Columbia campus on what started off to be one of the nicest end-of-summer days. As we were enjoying our lunch and the interesting discussions that take place whenever we get together, a downpour occurred. Fortunately, as we lingered longer than we should have, the rain stopped; thus, not only were we able to catch up on our various summer activities but we also got to spend an extra hour together. (It was also good for those of us who, not expecting rain, had not brought an umbrella.)

Our class lunches will continue to be held monthly. We will vary the venue between Faculty House on campus and the Columbia University Club of New York in Midtown. I encourage every class member who lives in or is visiting the area to join us. If you are not receiving my email notices about our luncheon dates,

please send your contact information to me: tball8000@earthlink.net.

On August 29, I attended a meeting at the Alumni Office, housed in the Columbia Alumni Center on West 113th Street between Broadway and Riverside Drive. In attendance were **Ralph Kaslick**, **Al Franco** ‘56E and myself, along with Sydney Maisel, our Columbia College Fund representative, and Jackie Morton, a Planned Giving representative.

The discussion focused on how our contributions are used and some of the factors that determine how they can be allocated. It is interesting to know that we are able to designate our gifts for a specific purpose — for example, the Core or scholarships — within the College Fund. Gifts to athletics teams count toward College Fund totals in reunion years. As always, I encourage classmates, if so inclined, to support the College Fund. You can give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling 212-851-7488; alternately, mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

Jerry Breslow, whose piano playing and singing we enjoyed at our 50th reunion, has written the following to give us an update on his life since then:

“There have been some changes in the lives of the Breslows. My wife, Harriet, and I were blessed with a grandchild, Jayna Rose Breslow — our first and probably our only — born in May 2011 to our son, Jeff, and his wife, Amie. I retired from the Board of Directors of the Strathmore Hall Foundation, where I was for 11 years secretary and parliamentarian as well as director. I continue to serve on its nominating and governance committee. My service on the research review committee at Suburban Hospital, a Johns Hopkins constituent, also continues.

“Five years ago I became involved with the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras (MCYO), a Strathmore artistic partner (which performs at the Music Center at Strathmore), rewriting its articles and bylaws. It is a 68-year-old organization that provides talented student musicians from third grade to high school with opportunities to perform with their peers from the Washington, D.C., area. I joined the MCYO board a few years later, and this past spring I became chairman of the board. Last year the kids performed at Carnegie Hall.

“In 2012, Harriet and I journeyed to Northern California and visited **Mel Eisenberg** and **Bill Schaffer**. Mel teaches at the law school at UC

Berkeley; we saw him and his wife, Helen, in San Francisco. We traveled to San Jose to spend the day with Bill and his wife, Gesine. Due to Bill’s Parkinson’s they moved from their lovely home in the hills above Los Gatos to a home on one level. However, they still have an active life. Together we saw the film about the Metropolitan Opera’s enormous set for Wagner’s operas.

“Last year, after many, many years, I got in touch with **Gordon Osmond**, the first classmate I met during Freshman Week. Gordon now lives in Brazil with his partner. He is a successful author, among other accomplishments.

Lary Faris ‘55 was honored at the 100th anniversary of the USA National Shuffleboard Association.

He has written *Wet Firecrackers: The Unauthorized Autobiography of Gordon Osmond*, which is highly amusing. Some of his reminiscences of our days at Columbia are quite interesting. Gordon also recently published his debut novel, *Slipping on Stardust*.

“I play tennis three days a week and see **Frank Neuberger** at least once a month for poker. If anyone visits D.C. and has the inclination to get in touch, please do (jerry@breslow.org).”

Larry Cohn and his wife, Judie, continue their hectic travel schedule. In May they went on a trip that started in India and continued on to Egypt, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Oman and Jordan (Petra). In September they traveled to the Ukraine, Romania and Hungary, and they plan to be in Africa January–February 2014.

I am another one of the traveling members of our class. My wife, Elke, and I spent a week this summer cruising in Alaska and have trips planned for this fall and winter to Mexico. After the breathtaking sights in Alaska, I encourage all class members who are traveling to exotic places to share their experiences with us.

Ed Botwinick reports that he has recovered from his back surgery, is now fully active traveling and is still flying. Ed is a trustee of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Institute frequently in connection with Columbia-related activities. I hope his visits will coincide with one of our class lunches.

Giora Ben-Horin works with his son in the land investment/development and syndication business in Phoenix. He visits New York occasionally and says he would like to attend one of our class lunches if it fits his schedule. We would wel-

come Giora, who last visited a class lunch in Midtown three years ago.

Len Wolfe, our class historian, recently moved with his wife, Ruth, from his long-term residence in Wilton, Conn., to New Haven, Conn.

Two of our class members recently had books published.

Alan Press said an expanded version of his North Korean article, “What’s a Smart(?) Jewish Boy from Brooklyn Doing in a Place Like North Korea?” with photographs, has been published online by World Voices Web del sol. If you are interested in reading about Alan’s fascinating trip and the reasons he went, type “Web del sol Alan Press”

into your browser’s search box. I still hope to have Alan host one of our class lunches and discuss his trip.

Arthur Bank writes, “My new book, *Searching for the Best Medicine: The Life and Times of a Doctor and Patient*, is now published. You can preview quite a lot of it on Amazon. Writing the book was a good chance for me to think about my life: my experience with cancer, my childhood and my family’s pretzel bakery, my wonderful education including the transformational experience at Columbia College, and my medical training and experience in internal medicine and hematology.

Writing gave me an opportunity to discuss medical care and treatment today along with other societal problems that have emerged in the past 55 years as we have seen our society’s priorities change from more lofty goals to an overwhelming power of money.”

John Garnjost, who recently visited NYC from South Carolina with his wife, Janet, to celebrate his birthday, was able to schedule a tour of the Campbell Sports Center. He writes, “The planned use of the unique architecture is most impressive. Once inside the building, the various levels make sense.”

Happy birthday to John, and let’s hope our athletics teams continue to benefit with “Ws” as a result of this new facility.

Again, please let me or **Lou Hemmerdinger** (lhemmer@aol.com) know of any news that you would like to share in Class Notes. Also if you have changed your email or mailing address recently please inform the CCT staff at college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus; this is part of our mission to connect all class members.

I wish everyone a healthy and enjoyable winter in whatever locale you may be spending it.

Columbia School Designations

In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

Arch.	School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Arts	School of the Arts
Barnard	Barnard College
Business	Graduate School of Business
CE	School of Continuing Education
Dental	College of Dental Medicine
E	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
GS	School of General Studies
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
J	Graduate School of Journalism
L	School of Law
Nursing	School of Nursing
P&S	College of Physicians and Surgeons
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College

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Martin Brothers wrote to **Stan Barnett** and a number of others. Stan shared the note with me, and now I share with you: "Thought of you last evening [August 26] as **Alan Brown** and I were attending a lecture and video presentation sponsored by the Columbia Alumni Association. The site of the Café Columbia Monday evening lectures has been changed from the PicNic Market & Cafe on Broadway to the more comfortable Columbia Alumni Center, where about a dozen attendees listened to art history professor Stephen Murray demonstrate his website project featuring detailed virtual tours of the major gothic cathedrals of Europe, including contextualized historical commentary and other information. You can see details of the cathedrals that you might never see if you were actually there. Check it out: mappinggothic.org.

"While there I also chatted with Dr. Bohdan A. Oryshkevich '68, whose sister teaches at Columbia. Her special interest is the architecture of New York City. He says she's lectured on many architectural subjects, including cathedrals and synagogues, bridges, famous edifices and lesser known ones as well. He thought she'd be willing to give a presentation (perhaps with slides) for our group at the Alumni Center. "If enough [of our classmates] indicate an interest, I will try to arrange for her to give a presentation for us on a mutually convenient date."

If you are interested in such a lecture, please contact Martin: mlbrothers@optonline.net.

Larry Boes has already weighed in, saying, "I would join in such a lecture or tour of NYC churches and cathedrals, maybe just St. John the Divine. ...

"There is a nearby Episcopal church on Amsterdam Avenue, maybe in the 90s, with beautiful Tiffany windows. I took a lecture course with a summer class at Columbia, taught by an architecture history professor from Lehman College, which took us to about 10 churches and synagogues across several months."

Jerry Werksman writes, "In 1959 and 1960, when I was in my last two years of the Law School, I inherited the job of Columbia sports correspondent for *The New York Times* from my brother, Richard '54, who had held it during his time at [the Law School]. In that role I went to more events — tennis, swimming, fencing, wrestling matches and baseball and basketball games

— than the director of athletics. Fortunately, the *Times* sent a full-time correspondent to cover football games. When I graduated, I vowed never to go to another college athletics event, Columbia or otherwise.

"Moving to Chicago shortly thereafter, and then 25 years later to Newport Beach, Calif., made that vow easy to follow. [Nevertheless] in late May 2013 I read in the sports section of the local newspaper that Columbia had won the Ivy League title in baseball and would be playing in Fullerton, not that far away, in the NCAA eliminations. The pride I have always had in Columbia and my love for it came to the fore and I was an eager spectator at the [game] that Saturday. The Lions were losing 5–0 to New Mexico before tying the game in the eighth inning — and then winning it in the 13th. Having broken my vow, I am looking forward to next year and another occasion to cheer Columbia."

Yours truly returned from a 3½-week trip to the West Coast, which began with the American Bar Association Annual Meeting in San Francisco. After three days of meetings I moved to one of my favorite inns in the Marina District, about halfway between the Palace of Fine Arts and Ghirardelli Square and a short walk from Fort Mason Center, for four days' vacation.

After that I flew to Los Angeles, meeting **Eugene Wagner** for lunch on the waterfront at Marina del Rey. My next stop was San Jose, to visit a couple I have known since law school and some of their children and grandchildren. From there I made my way by bus and train to Sacramento to visit my sister, my niece and her partner. From there I flew to Portland, Ore., and took a two-hour shuttle to Corvallis to visit my younger nephew, his wife and their 2-year-old boy. Then, after a most scenic train ride, I arrived in Seattle, where I have several friends.

Joe Dorinson '58 made his Hollywood debut last summer as one of the historians who appeared in the documentary *When Comedy Went to School*.

At the end of the trip I served as treasurer for the 2013 regional conference of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU), held at the University of Washington in Seattle. For some years I served as treasurer for a community light opera company in northern Virginia headed by one of SVU's leading members.

For those who are not familiar with the SVU, it was officially

organized in 1958. According to an SVU leaflet, "The initiative came from Czech and Slovak intellectuals living abroad during the time when the communist regime in Czechoslovakia had repudiated the country's historical traditions and suppressed free expression. The [SVU] wanted to provide a forum for the free development of Czechoslovak culture in exile and make the world aware of the Czech and Slovak cultural traditions, which date back more than a millennium. Its activities, as outlined in the original bylaws, consisted of supporting and coordinating the educational, scholarly, literary and artistic endeavors of the Czechoslovak intelligentsia abroad. Subsequently, the [SVU] was broadened into an organization open to all individuals, regardless of ethnic origin, interested in fostering Slovak and/or Czech culture."

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Our deepest sympathies go to **Stan Goldsmith** on the death of his wife, Miriam, on September 3, 2013. Miriam was an artisan skilled in handcrafts, particularly the restoration of porcelain objects. She and Stan, who were married for 54 years, have four children: Ira, Arthur, Beth and Mark, and eight grandchildren.

Joe Dorinson made his Hollywood debut last summer — an overnight success after only 70-plus years of developing his shtick. Joe was one of the historians and other talking heads who appeared in the documentary *When Comedy Went to School*. Directed by Ron Frank and Mevlut Akkaya, the film explores the roots of Jewish-American humor, focusing on the Catskills and featuring some of the comedians who got their start in

know, we actually had enough members of the '58 [*Spectator*] managing board to hold an editorial meeting. Ah, those were the good old days!"

Henry adds that, although officially retired, he is still active in the antiques and collectibles field and is a regular contributor of articles and photo stories to *Antique Toy World Magazine* and *Old Toy Soldier*. His articles also have appeared in *Maine Antique Digest* and *Antiques and The Arts Weekly*. In addition, he does appraisals of antique toys and was one of the principal organizers and catalogers of the Sotheby's auction sale of The Forbes Galleries' collection of toy boats and toy soldiers, which brought in nearly \$2.5 million.

The class lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Grill Room of the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. The cost is \$31 per person. Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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I want to begin by reminding everyone of Alumni Reunion Weekend, scheduled for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. This will be the 55th anniversary of our graduation and we should all try to be there. The Reunion Committee, chaired by **Allen Rosenshine**, **Steve Buchman** and **Ray LaRaja**, is working hard at planning activities. Suggestions are welcome and if you send your ideas to me, I will forward them to the committee.

Some of the longer submissions for this issue have been split into two parts due to CCT's space limitations. The remainder of the contributions from **Pat Mullins**, **Luigi Lucaccini** and **David B. Smith** should appear in the next issue. My apologies to them and to you.

Jack Kauderer (officially John) writes, "I vacationed in Avalon, N.J., a half-block from the beach, during the first week in June. While there, my wife, Kathy, and I were able to have all three sons and all six grandchildren spend time with us, in addition to one

of my wife's close friends. As my family is dispersed geographically, a week together was a rare treat."

Ben Miller muses, "I have retired, officially, meaning that I have used that word with my family ... LOL. Up until now, I have been saying that there is still something to do that I want to do. Well, there are a lot of things to do that I want to do. I just won't get paid for them anymore. That means I am retired. Right?"

Alan Michael Gelb writes, "On the afternoon of September 11, a photograph was distributed of President Barack Obama '83 and the First Lady, the Bidens and White House staff on the South Lawn of the White House, observing a moment of silence to mark the anniversary of the 9-11 attacks. A careful examination of the photograph showed [former United States] Ambassador [to the United Nations and now United Nations National Security adviser] Susan Rice in the front row and, immediately over her left shoulder, my son, Sam '13, just a few feet from the President. ('Dad, the aura projected by the President is palpable.') Sam graduated with a major in foreign relations and a minor in history, and he wants to pursue a career in public service. He resides in Washington, D.C., where he holds an internship with the Office of Presidential Correspondence, helping decide which of the letters to the President will be answered. The President remarked about such letters in his recent speech to the nation. Sam is also preparing to apply to law school and studies for the LSATs during evenings in the Library of Congress. ('The building is breathtaking,' he says.) I'm pleased to be able to offer this positive report during challenging times."

Ray LaRaja says, "This summer my family and I celebrated some milestones. We gave Adriana, my wife of 50 years, a surprise 75th birthday party. I had also recently, sadly or joyfully, celebrated my 76th. I took my immediate family of 10 on a cruise to Alaska to celebrate all these joyous occasions. As you can see, it's been quite a year! I hope to see as many guys as possible at our 55th. My best to all."

From **Jerry Goodisman**: "I've been meaning to send something in for a long time — sorry to wait so long. I have been a professor of chemistry at Syracuse since 1969, along the way picking up a vase, a gold watch, a barometer and other trinkets on five-year anniversaries, until the program was rightfully discontinued. Before Syracuse, I was at Illinois, although it's a little hard to believe that now.

"This summer was an eventful one. After spring final exams, my

wife, Mireille, and I decided 'one more year' would be enough, i.e., we announced our impending retirements to our departments (Mireille teaches French and Spanish at Le Moyne College). We started making plans and negotiating with our respective administrations. We also started planning the celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary, a dinner party for friends and relatives to be held on June 29 (our wedding took place in Paris on June 28, 1963).

"Exactly two weeks before the scheduled party, I had a heart attack. I had none of the risk factors, had been checked regularly and so on, so I didn't know what to make of it. Mireille did, and got me to the hospital very quickly (one of the great things about Syracuse is that you can get anywhere very quickly). I received terrific care, culminating in the insertion of a few stents in an artery. (Apparently, that artery was hereditarily malformed.) Recovery was swift, and the anniversary party went well. Our children and their families came — our daughter, Nathalie, is a French professor at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and our son, Michael, is a biology professor at Georgia Tech — as did a lot of friends. These included **Paul Kantor** and his wife and almost fellow alumna (no girls at Columbia then), **Carole Kantor** '62 Barnard.

"Subsequently I had a stress test, which I apparently passed, and was told I could continue my usual activities. They include, in addition to research in theoretical physical chemistry (mostly in collaboration with experimental colleagues) and teaching physical chemistry, cycling, tennis and, very soon, cross country skiing, which is my favorite. Two years ago the skiing was a disaster (global warming has its effects). Last year was a bit better, and we are hoping against hope for more improvement this year. However, I'm afraid we will never get back to the good old days in Syracuse, when it snowed every day and never melted. It would be nice to see that again, especially since we stopped shoveling our driveway a few years ago (and stopped mowing our lawn last year). My best wishes to everyone who remembers me, and even to the others."

Ronald Sommer writes, "When it was summer where you are, it was winter where I am. So, I will tell you how I spent winter in Lima, Peru. First, you need to know that I spent the entire winter here, which is unusual. I eschewed travel this year because I didn't want to miss what was forecast to be the worst August in many years. And it lived up to the hype. As a consequence I spent a great deal more time indoors than is usual for me. This time was used to

write the cookbook that I had been promising to write for 25 or so years. It is now in the editing phase, which is proving more difficult than the original writing. But I expect that it will be ready for publication in early 2014. Anyone who would like to read and critique an unedited chapter or two is welcome to write to me and I'll email a copy. My skin is thick and I take criticism well." You can write **Ronald** at rmsommer2001@yahoo.com.

Pat Mullins writes, "Greetings from Bumpass, Va. ... I am definitely planning to be at reunion. ... An update on my involvement in Virginia politics: In June 2012 I was elected chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia for a second term. I had no opposition and was elected at a convention of 5,000 delegates. (I was asked to take the chair position four years ago, which [at the time] was not something I wanted to do.) It's been the most time-consuming volunteer job I have ever had, and during the past four years we have been successful in electing Republicans and reaching out to Tea Party folks and to our ethnic communities. Despite my apprehension it has been a fun and exciting job, providing an opportunity to travel throughout our historic Commonwealth and to meet many folks and make many friends. So far, I have visited and spoken in about 90 of Virginia's 130-plus counties.

"I still have trouble adjusting to the position — having an aide that does all my scheduling and being driven to nearly every political event I attend. I stood beside our governor when he announced Virginia's vote at the Republican National Convention and was surprised how many friends around the country emailed to say they had seen me on TV. Moments that have stood out include speaking to 12,000 people at the convention (yes, despite what I was told about the TV lights blocking the crowd, I could see all 12,000 of them); meeting and spending time with many national leaders; signing Mitt Romney's certification papers as our nominee for president; and taking part in Virginia's traditional, pre-Election Day fly-around with the governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general (holding airport rallies in more than a dozen cities across a three-day period)."

More from Pat next time, in the Spring 2014 issue.

Luigi Lucaccini reports, "Occasional contact with classmates brightens an otherwise quiet life here in Mill Valley, Calif., a community seen by some as a western center of liberal affluence — a view reinforced by residual Obama-Biden bumper stickers on the BMW

SUVs passing by.

"Last year, before the Supreme Court's decision on the Affordable Care Act, I enjoyed an extended phone conversation with my freshman roommate, **Norman Vieira**, who is retired from teaching law at the Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and lives in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Norman, who published a detailed study of the politicization of the Supreme Court appointment process and has considerable insight into the court, and I, who have no such insight, both assumed that the court was likely to overturn the act, given its recent history and composition, but were proven wrong by events.

"Last fall, after attending a seminar at the Hoover Institution, my third freshman roommate, **Henry Rosenfeld** '59E, and his wife, Leonor, passed through San Francisco to visit the first-grade classroom of their daughter, Jessica Rosenfeld (who attended Teachers College), at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, a grammar school. In addition to visiting their bicoastally dispersed offspring in Boston and San Francisco, Henry and Leonor divide time between Florida and New York, depending on the season, and polish their golf games regularly in both places.

"This spring my wife, Margaret, and I saw **Alan Kahn** and his wife, Linda Parnes Kahn '71 Barnard, who maintain a second residence in San Francisco. They regularly visit their daughter Amanda Kahn-Kirby '94; her husband, Mason Kirby '94; and their grandchildren here. Alan recounts that six hours after retiring from the Wall Street firm he founded with his younger brother, he was recruited by a professor from the Business School to form a hedge fund-of-funds venture (van Biema Value Partners) based on the value investing principles that were developed at Columbia and that are still vigorously taught there. Alan reports, to mix metaphors, that 'it is like a combination of having a second childhood and being a kid in a candy store.'

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

"In an entirely different vein, Alan highly recommends the Gotham Veterinary Center for treatment and care of Manhattan pets. It is pure coincidence that his daughter, Kimberly Kahn '05 GS, happens to be a well-regarded veterinarian at the center. She did her pre-vet work at Columbia despite having spurned her father's earlier entreaties (and breaking his heart in the process) to attend Columbia as an undergraduate in favor of Amherst."

I have more from Luigi, which will appear in the Spring 2014 issue.

David B. Smith writes, "My wife, Helen, and I have been traveling abroad since April. [As I write], we're spending a month in Cabrerets, a village set along the Célé [in southwestern France]. The Célé is a small tributary joining

Portland. When it was built in 1912 it was the second largest organ in the world; it also was the first municipal organ built in the United States. Today it is one of only two U.S. municipal organs still owned by a municipality. In 1981, FOKO was formed to provide continued funding for a municipal organist and for the upkeep and restoration of the organ, which the city could no longer afford.

In his inaugural statement, Larry noted, in regard to a restoration project that will exceed \$2 million, that "the Kotschmar is one of the world's greatest organs with more than 6,800 pipes occupying the entire stage area behind the 'show pipes' that audiences see as well as a space in the ceiling of [city-owned] Merrill Auditorium for an 'antiphonal'

a sharp wit and an inquisitive and assertive nature."

The class sends its condolences to Howard's family and friends.

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Ed Auzenbergs '63E, '64 Business, who spent much of his career with TRW Automotive Holdings, wrote that the broad education he received at the College, the Engineering School and the Business School provided him with the breadth of conceptual and analytical tools and thinking needed to function effectively and contribute in a global corporate organization that dealt with a multitude of technical products in many countries and cultures. Ed held many positions with the company, including senior engineer, group foreman, director of manufacturing, director of operations support, plant manager and v.p. of operations. Later, he was director of product planning for rack and pinion steering systems and director/v.p. of planning and business development for TRW's steering, suspension and engine group, with 67 plants in 20 countries. He retired after 33 years of service.

In retirement, Ed and his wife, Ruta, have traveled extensively, including visits to Latvia, Ed's country of birth. He was president of his church council, performs community volunteer work and continues as adviser, minority shareholder and board member of several Ohio industrial firms. Ed golfs often in the summer and plays doubles tennis in the winter. He and Ruta have two children and three grandchildren.

Bob Salman has decided to continue practicing law without being exclusively affiliated with one law firm. He says this will provide him greater flexibility to avoid law firm conflicts and to increase his pro bono activities, and he will draw upon his former partners and colleagues for staffing needs. His areas of expertise are civil trial and appellate litigation, arbitration, risk assessment and litigation prevention, and internal corporate investigations.

Bob has been admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States; the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second, Third, Ninth and Eleventh Circuits; the U.S. Court of International Trade; the U.S. District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York; and the New York State Unified Court System.

He will teach a course on the

Nuremberg trials through Brookdale Community College's Lifelong Learning program next spring.

After 65 years of conducting synagogue worship, **Clifford Miller** retired from the congregation pulpit to Caldwell, N.J. (Previously he lived in Bayonne.) He reports that after 50 years of leading High Holiday prayers, he finally had the privilege of sitting beside his wife throughout services.

Although he is still employed more than 30 hours a week as a librarian at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Clifford says he almost feels semi-retired, writing, "Why didn't classmates tell me years ago what a joy retirement can be, while still blessed with the health to enjoy time with the grandchildren?" He sends warm wishes to one and all. Clifford can be reached at abuelo39@gmail.com.

While on a trip to the East Coast in June and July, **Gerry Brodeur** had lunch with **Bob McCool** and shared a day of golf and spent the night with **Wayne Hatfield** on Cape Cod, Mass. On the return trip to Las Vegas he spent two days with **Jack Kirik** and his wife, Sue, in Rock Island, Ill. Jack and Sue usually spend the winter in Las Vegas.

Jeffrey Rudell is a Vietnam veteran and is involved with a POW MIA project through the U.S. Army Veterans Support Command to recover remains of 1,146 MIAs in Vietnam. Jeff and several other members of the volunteer group went to Vietnam this fall. At this writing, the group was scheduled to have its fall meeting on October 20 at Bally's Atlantic City Hotel and Casino. If anyone is interested in participating in these activities, contact Jeff: 646-696-5233.

David Wilson suffered a heart attack in September but at this writing was recovering nicely and rehabbing at HCR ManorCare in Potomac, Md.

In sad news, **Marshall Berman**, an author, academic, philosopher and lyrical defender of modernism, Karl Marx and his native New York City, passed away from a heart attack on September 11 in Manhattan. He was 72. Marshall's death was announced by City College, where he had taught since 1967 and was a distinguished professor of political science. His son, Danny Berman, said the heart attack occurred while Marshall was eating breakfast with a friend at a restaurant he loved, Metro Diner on Broadway at West 100th Street.

Marshall's best-known book, *All That Is Solid Melts Into Air: The Experience of Modernity*, was published in 1982 and took its name from a line in *The Communist Manifesto*. Reviewing it in *The New York Times*, John Leonard called it "brilliant and exasperating."

In addition to his son, Marshall is survived by his wife, Shellie Sclan, and another son, Eli Tax-Berman.

A full obituary can be found in *The New York Times* of September 15.

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Peter Berman wrote to suggest that members of our class might enjoy "checking out my new sculpture website at peterberman.net. My 3-D printer arrives at the end of the month and then I will be in business!"

As I leafed through the Style section of *The New York Times* one Sunday in September, I came upon a wonderful photograph of **Jerry Speyer**, smiling broadly with other city luminaries at the National September 11 Memorial & Museum benefit dinner at the Waldorf Astoria.

It is with great sadness that I inform you that **Robert B. Glassman**, professor of psychology, died on April 27, 2013, after suffering an aortic dissection. In the words of Stephen D. Schutt, president of Lake Forest College, where Bob had taught since 1969: "Bob was a deeply dedicated teacher, a remarkably productive scholar and a beloved community member who graced our campus for more than 40 years. He will be sorely missed."

A native of Brooklyn, Bob was a proud graduate of Brooklyn Technical H.S. and earned a Ph.D. in physiological psychology from Penn. In 1974 Lake Forest granted him tenure, and in 1983 he was promoted to full professor. He chaired the psychology department for multiple terms.

Bob was a man of wide-ranging interests and broad expertise. His research areas included neuroscience, working memory capacity, theories of learning, theories of brain organization, religion and science, among others. He wrote dozens of articles, reviews and experimental studies in leading journals and received competitive research grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Mental Health, the State of Illinois and others.

Bob taught a broad range of courses including "Introduction to Psychology," "Developmental Psychology," "Neuroscience, Learning and Memory," "Persuasion and Truth in Sales Communications," "Robots and Brains: Fantasies and Facts" and "Science and Religion: Searching for Humanity."

Early in his teaching career, Bob commented, "I take teaching seri-

ously ... [and] try to make clear exactly what I do not know as well as what I do know; we [my students and I] thus learn together."

Recently one of his students wrote, "Professor Glassman was extremely funny, nice, helpful and easy to be around. It was a joy to be in his class. ... He provokes open discussion ... and embraces new ideas and perspectives. ... I was excited to come to class."

Bob is survived by his wife, Harriet; their children, Mark in Washington, D.C., Jill in Santa Cruz, Calif., and Dan in Los Angeles; and five grandchildren.

As for me, all's well in Vermont. Our garden has provided heaps of blueberries, endless tomatoes and cucumbers as well as basil, mint, peppers (green and black), some carrots and lettuce, and mountains of lemon balm, which we have no idea what to do with.

Please don't be shy. Write us about yourself and your family.

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With the launch of the academic year the Class of '63 has again started up its monthly lunches, and I'm happy to report that they are better attended than ever. You really should join us! Details are at the end of the column.

In August **Doron Gopstein** and I enjoyed taking part in Convocation, a ceremony that kicks off the academic year and welcomes the incoming first-years. We marched behind our decade's flag, along with other members of the '60s-era classes, in the Alumni Procession, then we listened as the deans greeted the new Columbians. The Class of 2017 is an impressive group.

As I write, I look forward to a great Homecoming and a record turnout from our class. I predict we will beat Penn and that you will all be there. By the time you read this, we will know the truth.

I was so busy describing our wonderful reunion in the last issue that I forgot to fill you in on some great news. We set a record for the most unrestricted funds raised for the Columbia College Fund by a class in its 50th anniversary year. Thank you for donating \$1,988,213. This beat the previous record by more than \$850,000. (Too bad we couldn't come up with the extra \$11,787 in time to make it an even \$2 million!) The College Fund received donations from 187 classmates. Overall, 206 classmates donated \$6,052,561 in total gifts and pledges to the University. The

participation rate for our class was 37 percent based on 558 active alumni. Not too shabby (and thank you all for your generosity!) but it still leaves us with a good goal for this year — let's make sure we break 40 percent participation.

Peter Zimroth was named to monitor the New York Police Department's controversial stop-and-frisk policy. *The New York Times* reported on August 13: "Mr. Zimroth, a lifelong New Yorker, said on Monday that he was 'honored' that the judge in the federal stop-and-frisk case, Shira A. Scheindlin, had selected him. He got her call about a week and a half ago, he said, met with the judge in her chambers, and accepted. 'I have always loved public service,' he said from a lakeside cottage in New Hampshire. 'It has been very important to me in my life.'"

To the *New York Daily News*, he stated, "I am going to be listening in the beginning of this. I'm going to be taking arguments from people who have stakes in this — the Police Department and others." The judge, he noted, "made clear that this is not an adversarial position. That's not my role. I am in a position of trying to help solve a problem, and that's what I'm going to do."

David Orme-Johnson writes in response to my question about what the College meant to us. "The first thing that comes to mind is that Columbia gave me a benchmark for how the top minds in the world think. I found that it was broad comprehension, a command of the facts and a sometimes disarming simplicity and straightforwardness. When you are from [smaller towns and places other than NYC], like El Paso, Texas, you don't know what the level is of the people in your life. I discovered, for example, that my science prodigy older brother, W.H. Orme-Johnson III, was a world-class mind and, sure enough, he became a tenured chemistry professor at MIT. Columbia gave me a framework for evaluating who is for real and who is worth listening to. And it gave us living examples of what to aspire to in our lives.

"And then, of course, it gave us a wonderful framework of knowledge, including the fundamental ideas, music and art underpinning Western Civilization, by which to understand the world, question its assumptions and hopefully move forward.

"Finally, it gave us a great set of friends to experience that most seminal time with, the best of which was my Vassar-educated wife, Rhoda, whom I never would have met if I were not at Columbia. And Columbia is in New York City!"

Richard Wells writes, "Upon graduation I joined the nascent

Peace Corps and spent nearly two years living and working alone in a tiny village high in the Andes Mountains (about 4,300 meters). After my stint was over I returned to the United States to attend Harvard Law, from which I graduated in 1968. Since then I have practiced law, served in government and been an entrepreneur. Just shy of my 60th birthday I completed a two-year course to become a paramedic and then began working full-time in New York City and Westchester. I received my state certificate to practice shortly before the terrible events of 9-11 and worked there for much of the first week until it became sadly apparent that paramedics were not needed. After a few years as a paramedic I concentrated on working with neonates, wee little bits of fluff, some below one kilo in weight.

"I have been married for 47 years. My wife, Jan, spent nearly 30 years in elective local and regional public office, winning 11 consecutive elections. We have two children and two grandchildren in elementary school.

"Now we are retired and spend five months a year at our home on a lake in the Adirondack Mountains, which has the added attraction of being within shouting distance of our grandchildren, who often visit.

"Until recently I was an avid skier, both Nordic and Alpine, a hiker, a camper and a sculler, but age has slowly eliminated those joys, remitting me to my restored mahogany speed boat, an inboard that makes a heart-stopping rumble when cruising.

"I am in frequent touch with **Don Margolis**, who is my first cousin and with whom I have been good friends since childhood."

Tom Bailey writes that after graduation and his commissioning in the Navy, he spent four years flying, sailing, getting married, having a son and applying to medical school: "I did pass **Jeff Thompson** a few times in the mid-Atlantic and we sent messages back and forth. With my Columbia degree and four years of maturity, I was admitted to the Albany Medical College in January 1967, the same time my son, Rick, was born. Four years later, I happily graduated with Junior AOA, summa cum laude, and a second child. I took an ophthalmology residency at Albany with one of the top ophthalmologists in the country.

"It has been a rewarding career. The first intraocular lens implants in upstate New York were done by our group. For several years in the early 1980s, we were the only ophthalmologists allowed to do implants in the Albany Medical

After 65 years of conducting synagogue worship, Rabbi Clifford Miller '61 has retired from the congregation pulpit.

the Lot at Bouzies. It's our second year here. The Célé has through the ages cut a deep valley in the Quercy limestone plateaus. The cliffs behind our house tower above. In the eighth century, someone built a chateau high above on the cliff face. The modern chateau sits along the river above its mill.

"We planned to leave here in mid-October for Venice and then head home in early November."

David has provided us with interesting information about the area which will also have to wait until the Spring 2014 issue.

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Congratulations to **David Kirk**, who this year was named a fellow of SAVE International. SAVE (Society of American Value Engineering) International is the premier international society devoted to the advancement and promotion of the value methodology (also called value engineering, value analysis or value management). Value methodology is used in government and in the design, construction and manufacturing industries to optimize projects, business and manufacturing processes, and product development.

Larry Rubinstein, who is in "retirement" in Portland, Maine, has become president of the nonprofit Friends of the Kotschmar Organ (FOKO). The Kotschmar Organ is a pipe organ owned by the city of

voice to surround the audience with sound. Each one of those pipes, as well as the support systems that each pipe has (wind chest, blowers, connections to the console, levers, bellows, tied rods and myriad other mechanisms both large and small) have to be either refinished or totally recreated. There are few mechanical devices used in this work. It is a return to medieval craftsmanship, and for me it is a connection to the origins of our western society."

Congratulations to Larry. Sad to report that **Howard Mudgett** died in his sleep at his home in Denver on August 31, 2013. Born and raised in Denver, Howard had a career in the financial services industry that spanned more than four decades; he held executive positions in several Denver enterprises including v.p. with U.S. Bancorp and president of First Trust of Denver. His career took him to Chicago and Sacramento as well. He returned to Denver upon his retirement.

Howard had a range of interests that ran the gamut: aviation, science, technology, history, art, travel, opera, architecture and literature. He was known for his warmth and his wit. Howard is survived by his ex-wife, Melinda Anderson; their son, Jeffrey, and his wife, Karrina; and two granddaughters.

Bill Verplank roomed with Howard at the College and the two remained lifelong friends. Bill offers this reflection on Howard's life: "He was a second-generation Denver banker, a private pilot and a strong supporter of the arts. Those who knew him will remember him as something of an iconoclast with

Center Hospital. I was privileged to do the first implant in our V.A. Hospital in 1983. As an associate professor in the eye department at the Albany Medical Center, I worked with many residents on their first transplants and helped with many eye trauma cases through the level 1 Trauma Center. In more than 40 years in practice, I restored vision to more than 9,000 eyes. Being able to change someone's life in such a positive way is an unbelievable feeling.

"Through the years, I have been on many committees and boards. At the end of my surgical career, several years ago, I was chief to the eye department and chairman of the medical staff at the Albany Medical Center South Clinical Campus, which is our eye surgery hospital. I work four days a week and fortunately have not had any medical problems to make me do otherwise.

"My main accomplishment, however, is my family. Lynn, my wife of 49 years, is doing high-end Alzheimer's intravenous drug research. My oldest son, Rick (now a lieutenant colonel), had an Army ROTC scholarship at Ithaca and received a Bronze Star for his duty as operations officer in 2006-07 at the Combat Support Hospital in Tikrit, Iraq. He has a daughter in Boston. My daughter, Debi, is an ob/gyn and delivery room nurse with three great athletic kids and a husband who is a lawyer with Boise, Schiller & Flexner here in Albany. My youngest son, Mike, is a cardiac rehabilitation specialist with two sons who also live here.

"We have been lucky enough to have the health and time to take educational trips around the world. We have been to China, Russia, Africa and Greece, among other places. Also, we have gone down the Colorado River twice (once with **Dick Kelly** and his wife, Shari). Spare time is spent at Killington, Vt. (still ski); Marco Island, Fla.; and Schroon Lake, N.Y.

"We have been blessed by the great start we had at Columbia and at 'the 533 Club,' the apartment on 112th Street (Jeff Thompson '83, **Dick Kelly**, **Jim Katzoff** and **Dave Dotson**), where she and I met."

Zev-Bar Lev writes, "Inspired by Albert Einstein (and former roommate **Dick Goldwater**), I repeat my almost unheard toast to Columbia at the 50th reunion.

"The greatest bounty I got from Columbia was my very own Barnard girl, my wife, Shoshana '63 Barnard (née Jane Wirth), who would years later bring me out of my five-month coma. Having loved kindergarten, I had stayed [in school] through a Ph.D. in linguistics and a 35-year career as

professor. But Columbia was the highlight. There I learned enough critical thinking to allow the next stage in our lives. For, returning from a year of study in the USSR, my wife and I were able to find our way to the text that formed the character of my 'role model,' Bertrand Russell. This world-famous atheist and nonconformist, growing up in the home of his Protestant aunt, defined his life by a single verse in Exodus: 'Don't follow the many to do evil,' which is good advice even if it does come from the Bible! This led us to the study of Hebrew and practice of Judaism and moving to Israel, where we lived for six years. I became a Torah reader and Hebrew teacher. Visit my website at languagebazaar.com for some of my innovations in language teaching and a lecture on Judaism and science that I gave to a world religions class, where I explain the TUOT (pronounced 'toot'): the Theory of the Universe and Other Things, with its Fifth Dimension. Feel free to get in touch: zev.barlev@sdsu.edu."

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are always a great place to reconnect. If you're in NYC, try to make one; it's always the second Thursday of the month. Check out cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next.

REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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The serious job of planning our 50th Alumni Reunion Weekend is under way. As I reported in the last column, **Steve Case** has agreed to chair the Reunion Committee, and he is getting help. As of this writing, an ad hoc committee has met twice in conference space graciously provided by **Steve Rodner** at his law firm in Manhattan. Subcommittees have been formed, and we plan to meet again before the winter holidays.

So far, those involved in the planning are **Joel Abramson**, **Adam Bender**, **Marty Isserlis**, **Howard Jacobson**, **Gil Kahn**, **Steve Singer**, **Lee Lowenfish '63** and **I. Mazel tov**.

Merv Rothstein, **Dan Schechter**, **Steve Solomon**, **Peter Thall**, **Allen Tobias**, **Ivan Weissman** and **Marty Weinstein**. Paul Neshamkin '63, who helped organize his 50th reunion, also has been very helpful.

If you have suggestions for the reunion, or want to go a step further and participate in the planning either in person or by conference call, please contact me or either of the Alumni Office staff contacts listed at the top of the column. A 50th reunion is special for many reasons. Let's make it memorable.

Bill Wargo writes from South Burlington, Vt., that he earned a master's from the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter and a J.D. from NYU Law. He has counseled foster children, drug addicts, disabled veterans, Bowery alcoholics and people in crisis. As an attorney, Bill has represented poor people living on Manhattan's Lower East Side, prison inmates, a municipality in Vermont and the Vermont Health Department. For more than 20 years he also has taught law at a number of colleges in Vermont.

Bill and his wife, Susan, have been married for 38 years. He adds, "Our daughter, Emily, has a master's in teaching with technology (yes, there is such a degree now), and she is an e-learning professional at a local college. Our son, Ben, has a civil engineering degree and is serving in the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic. He designed and supervised the construction of a water system that is providing clean, running water to people who never had such a luxury (to them)."

John Cirigliano was in New York City from Lexington, Ky., for Homecoming and other Columbia activities.

Beril Lapson has been traveling for business and pleasure to Mexico, Switzerland, Thailand and Turkey. **Allen Tobias** traveled to Israel and later to Boston, where he visited his son, David, who is in law school at Northeastern. At this writing, **Dan Schechter** is on a hunting trip in England.

For 15 years **Peter Thall**, an attorney in New York, has been special music counsel for all events, including television, held in the United States by Victoria's Secret.

Steve Rodner, like Peter an intellectual property lawyer in New York City, is a proud grandfather of two.

Five Columbians attended the bat mitzvah of **Ivan Weissman's** daughter, Julia: **Howard Jacobson**, **Gil Kahn**, **Steve Singer**, **Lee Lowenfish '63** and **I. Mazel tov**.

On November 1, 1963, under the *Spectator* headline, "Bunuel, Bresson, Kurosawa at Film Festival," **Philip**

Lopate wrote a review of the first New York Film Festival. While a "lack of both time and money" forced Phil to attend only 10 of the 21 films shown, he found the festival "an exciting, frequently rewarding experience." The review concludes with the "hope that its organizers will continue to bring to America as many exceptional films as they did this year."

Fifty years later, the festival has become one of the four most important film festivals in the world and Phil continues to celebrate — he has written a behind-the-scenes history of the festival as part of the recently published *New York Film Festival Gold: A 50th Anniversary Celebration*.

I am saddened to report that **Barry Shapiro** and **Gene Meyer** informed me of the July death of **Ed Leavy**. Gene writes: "I was fortunate to see Ed [the day before his death] at his final residence, ironically or perhaps fittingly, at one of the assisted-living group homes he established in the Maryland suburbs.

"Ed was a wonderful raconteur, intellect and fighter for justice as an immigration lawyer and, formerly, as the D.C. regional director of the Anti-Defamation League. Even as his health failed, he never lost his sense of humor, and he fought long and hard to live life to the longest and to the fullest. He loved Columbia, from which his son Charlie Katz-Leavy '02 also graduated, as did his father, Maurice '27, '29L (with Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS). Ed greatly appreciated the love and support of his wife, Judy Katz-Leavy. He also leaves another son, Neal Kayastha, and a daughter, Gabriella Katz. May his memory be a blessing."

Requiesat in pacem.

[Editor's note: See Obituaries.]

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Mike Cook, one of several of you who keeps me nourished with tidbits about our class, produced this effusion of praise for our ranks:

"Some classmates once complained that there were no 'captains of industry' in our class. At our class lunch on April 5, however, when retired U.S. Senior District Judge **A. Howard Matz** joined us, it struck me that we do, in fact, have many accomplished classmates. Howie told us that he was about to retire from the bench, having been a U.S. district judge in Los Angeles for about 20 years. He was considering the next chapter in his life. Howie's description of the ugly judicial

confirmation process was riveting. For the benefit of our non-lawyer classmates, Howie is a highly regarded jurist. Our judicial system was lucky to have him.

"Recent issues of *The New Yorker* also mentioned classmates. In a July 1 article, 'The Lyme Wars,' author Michael Specter said that 'Lyme [disease] was all but unknown until 1977, when **Allen Steere**, a rheumatologist at Yale, produced the first definitive account of the infection.' In a June 24 article, 'Before Night Falls,' author Dr. Jerome Groopman '72, '76 P&S mentioned **Dennis Selkoe**, co-director of The Center For Neurologic Diseases at Brigham and Women's Hospital, as belonging to the group of Alzheimer's disease researchers who 'contend that the beta-amyloid protein is the key to understanding the disease,' believing 'that the protein can be toxic, and that plaque deposits interfere with the transmission of signals at the synapses between neurons, causing dementia.' Groopman visited the center's laboratory, where Dennis took him to a kind of 'brain bank' for researchers — a large room filled with freezers that stored cross-sectioned brain tissue from dozens of people who had suffered from Alzheimer's.

"Plus, of course, **David Denby '66J** is a regular film critic for *The New Yorker*.

"**John R. Zeisel** is president of Hearststone Alzheimer Care, one of the country's leading providers of Alzheimer treatment centers.

"**Stephen A. Merrill** is executive director for scientific technology and economic policy at The National Academies in Washington, D.C.

"**Barry Kamins** is the administrative judge for criminal matters for the Second Judicial District and for the Criminal Court of the City of New York, having managed a successful criminal law practice and been president of the New York City Bar Association.

"**Elliot N. Dorff** is a director and distinguished professor of philosophy at American Jewish University.

"**Flemming (Nick) L. Norcott** is a justice on the Supreme Court of Connecticut.

"**Richard Taruskin** is a professor of musicology at UC Berkeley and has received many awards for his scholarship on historical musicology.

"These classmates have been modest enough not to trumpet their accomplishments to us but I would love to know if other classmates can tell us more about them. I'd also welcome additional names; I know there are more industry leaders among us!"

Shortly after Mike furnished his note, the L.A. law firm Bird Marella

announced that Howie (by then retired from his judgeship) was to rejoin the firm as senior counsel. He will be involved in representing clients in areas such as federal investigations and serving as neutral in arbitrations and mediations as well as serving as a special master, and sharing his rich experiences as guidance to the firm's younger attorneys. The press release also announced that Howie intends to contribute to the practice of law by advocating for the judiciary and offering pro bono and community services in the interests of civic betterment.

Those of us at the April 5 class lunch in New York can attest to

Richard Kagan '65 is getting to know a new city, Philadelphia, where he recently relocated with his wife of 30 years.

the little dose of civic betterment we received merely from being in Howie's presence. As I wrote to Howie afterward, the tone of our informal discussion was noticeably elevated and scintillating, and the only difference that I could perceive between that lunch and previous ones was his presence.

As a follow-up to Mike's reference to **Allen Steere**, a picture of Allen (looking youthful in 1976) appeared in *The New York Times* on September 19 — the date on which I am writing this column — in an obituary for Dr. Stephen E. Malawista '58 P&S, who with Allen co-led the team at the Yale School of Medicine that is widely credited with defining Lyme disease.

Robert W. Gunn, who was featured in our Class Notes in the Fall 2013 issue, has an updated LinkedIn profile. Bob's profile discloses that he is now the director of the Blanton-Peale Institute & Counseling Center Pastoral Care and Counseling Program (English) in the greater New York City area. Bob's retirement marches on!

Mike Cook also sent an article by Dan Hofstadter '66 that appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* of July 27-28. The article, "On Portraits of Italian Fascism," was a review of five books, published between 1947 and 2006, by Iris Origo, Bernard Berenson, George Santayana, Percy Winner and Luigi Barzini Jr. '30J. I recommend the piece for Dan's elegant writing style.

Richard Kagan (kagan@jhu.edu) says he was prompted to write by what he read in the Summer 2013 issue: "Since recent posts have all dealt with retirement, I will chime in on this subject as well. After 41

years of rewarding service as a history professor at Johns Hopkins, I retire, effective tomorrow, June 30. But as I have also been elected to a professorship in what is called The Academy at Johns Hopkins, other, still largely unspecified duties await me. And much like **Stan Sesser**, my freshman roommate, I expect to spend much of my retirement doing much the same thing I did over my career at JHU: reading and writing books and essays related in different ways to what has been and remains my primary area of interest — the history of Spain, Spanish America and the Atlantic World.

"At the same time, I will be getting to know a new city, Philadel-

phia, where I recently relocated with my wife of 30 years, Marianna Shreve Simpson, an art historian specializing in Islamic art. Here, surprising as it may seem, the two of us live in the same building as our son, Loren (28). In his capacity as a financial adviser, Loren assures me that I will not go broke even as retirement beckons. I am not so confident, and if need be I am gearing up to prepare stacks of Spanish-style tortillas and sell them, still warm, at the farmers market that gathers on Saturday mornings in nearby Ritzenhouse Square."

One of the happy perquisites of being class correspondent is that I get to correspond with so many of you. **Steve Shama** (steveshama@aol.com) took this a step further. He was coming to New York for a conference and arranged for us to meet for a drink in early August. We had a really good talk and here is Steve's summary of that conversation:

"We spoke for more than an hour reminiscing about Columbia. We also introduced into our conversation moments about life and retirement. I realized how privileged we were to have gone to Columbia and how great the Core Curriculum was. Before I went to Columbia I was just a simple boy from Brooklyn. After the Core I was a young man with opinions and perspectives on life. My Columbia education truly did make me as close to a whole man as I will ever be.

"You and I didn't talk too much about what we had done after graduation but we fast forwarded to the present. I told you I had retired from a 30-year career as a dermatologist and felt quite

blessed. I mentioned that the day I decided to retire, I had written on a small piece of paper on my desk, in between patients, 'I don't want to die on the job.' Where that thought came from, I will never know — but it was the beginning of a three-year process to end what had always been a beautiful career. I realized that medicine and dermatology were what I did but not who I was. It did not define me. If I retired from my medical profession, I would still be me. I was going to retire no matter what.

"My wife and I went to a financial planner who said that if we wanted to retire at 66 and live the rest of our lives with the same standard of living, and live until 95, we would need several million dollars, anticipating a conservative investment return rate of 7 percent. It all sounded reasonable except for the several million dollars! I would have to work even harder to generate that amount of money. I know of many of my colleagues who are absolutely miserable in their careers and would have to continue to work for many, many years to amass a sum of money that would last into their 90s.

"But what happens if you lower your standard of living, don't plan to spend as much money per year, are not so generous with the children and pay simply for college and not graduate school, and plan to die or at least run out of money by the ripe old age of 85? I asked the financial planner about this approach. He said I could retire in six months!

"At a certain point in all of our lives, hopefully we will come to the realization that life is to be enjoyed and that the goal of life is to be happy. I include generosity in this goal. I wonder how many of our colleagues believe that the workaholic ethic and obligations to others are what life is all about. May I suggest that there is another perspective and that we all should consider it ... gratefulness, gratitude and the pursuit of happiness. I now have a career in professional speaking during which I speak of these lovely moments in life.

"I have two children, Josh (34), who lives in Boston, and Julie (32), who lives in Los Angeles — and of course my wife, Jeannie Lindheim, who shall remain ageless. Since my retirement from medicine, Jeannie and I have been living in Parkinsville, Vt., a lovely small town in central Vermont, where no one cares what degrees you have earned. They simply ask, are you a steward of the land we call Earth? I like that! I feel at home.

"Wishing all of our classmates peace, happiness and good health." Finally, we received some sad

Stepping Out with “Dr. Banjo,” Pete Wernick ’66

BY MICHAEL R. SHEA ’10 ARTS

From playing College Walk as part of the Morning-side Mountain Boys in 1962, to performing live with Steve Martin on *The Late Show with David Letterman*, **Pete Wernick ’66, ’73 GSAS** has lived and breathed bluegrass music for more than 40 years.

The International Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame inductee formed his first real band at Columbia, rehearsing in Ferris Booth Hall, and soon after hosted a bluegrass show on WKCR — the only one of its kind in New York. “At 17 or 18 I became important, if you can call it that, as the guy who played bluegrass on the radio,” he says. Suddenly the kid who grew up

near the Bronx’s Van Cortlandt Park with a math teacher father and librarian mother — a kid who taught himself banjo by jamming with friends, and who was fast-tracked through junior high school and enrolled at Columbia at 16 — was back-stage at music festivals in the South and the standard-bearer of bluegrass music for the New York metro area. He interviewed the Stanley Brothers, the Greenbriar Boys, and Bill Monroe and his Blue Grass Boys, names that would come to define the genre, and broadcast them all citywide.

“A friend calls me ‘the Forrest Gump of bluegrass,’ because I was able to get my face into so many situations,” Wernick says.

“Rather than a fan who just gets an autograph, I got an interview, and then it ended up on the radio or in a book.”

After majoring in sociology at Columbia he stayed on, earning a Ph.D. in the same subject and soon after his moniker, “Dr. Banjo.” In 1970 he moved upstate to take a research position at the International Population Program at Cornell, and on a trip to Boulder he met his wife, Joan Leonard. They’ve been together more than 40 years and have a 31-year-old son, Will, a filmmaker in Los Angeles.

In Ithaca, Wernick founded the band Country Cooking and started making music for the then-new label Rounder Re-

cords. Around the same time he wrote what became the second instructional book for bluegrass banjo. “I unlocked the mystery of the Scruggs style, and it sold well,” he says, referring to the late, legendary Earl Scruggs and his revolutionary high-speed, three-fingered picking style. “I realized that with the royalties flowing, I could start a full-time music career without having to be dead broke.”

With the banjo book selling, he and his wife moved to Colorado to do just that, settling down by a dirt road outside Boulder. Soon thereafter Wernick produced his first solo record, *Dr. Banjo Steps Out*, and put together a band named Hot Rize, after the secret ingredient in Martha White Self-Rising Flour, an iconic sponsor of Nashville’s Grand Ole Opry.

With Tim O’Brien on lead vocals, mandolin and fiddle, Wernick on banjo and harmony vocals, Charles Sawtelle on guitar and vocals and Nick Forster — who went on to host the nationally syndicated radio show eTown — on bass, Hot Rize climbed to the top of the bluegrass mountain. Through the 1980s they regularly appeared on NPR’s *A Prairie Home Companion* and The Nashville Network’s *Ralph Emery Show*, and often appeared on the television show *Austin City Limits*. Hot Rize produced nine albums and became a hit international band, playing 47 states and 15 foreign countries and becoming one of the best-selling bluegrass acts of all time.

“The thing about Pete,” Forster says, “Pete is an organizer, he’s an instigator. He has a long history of making things happen. He did all the bookings in the early years back when it was a loose commitment for the rest of us. The only reason we stayed together was Pete kept booking gigs.”

He also authored books and produced DVDs on bluegrass and continued to teach, eventually developing the Wernick Method for bluegrass, which emphasizes group jam sessions rather than solo practice. Today the Wernick Method makes up the bulk of his business, drbanjo.com. He struck up a friendship with Martin, a longtime banjo player, after the success of Hot Rize.

“I stumbled across Hot Rize when I got Sirius Bluegrass radio. Pete’s playing was superbly clear and melodic. Always interesting and attractive to the ear,” Martin says. “Pete is a great teacher and opinionator. I have consulted with him many times on songs I was writing and playing technique on stage. He’s a good adviser.”

Wernick helped Martin with his banjo playing, and Hot Rize played the actor’s wedding to Anne Stringfield. In spring 2005, Martin asked Wernick if he wanted to join him and Scruggs (who died in 2012) at The New Yorker Festival for a talk on bluegrass and banjos. As a sort of last-minute bonus, the Letterman people called — having read of the festival talk — and asked them to play the show.

“When I think back to my Columbia days,” Wernick says, “if I thought in my late 50s I’d be on the equivalent of Johnny Carson’s show playing the banjo with Earl Scruggs, the greatest banjo player in the history of the planet, I’d say, ‘What else? Am I also going to be the king of the world?’”

To see Wernick perform, including his turn on *The Late Show with David Letterman*, go to *Web Extras* at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Michael R. Shea ’10 Arts is a freelance writer in New York City.



Pete Wernick ’66, ’73 GSAS (far left) performs with (left to right) Nick Forster, Tim O’Brien and Bryan Sutton at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival in Colorado.

PHOTO: NATHAN RIST

news from Dr. **Larry Guido ’69** P&S. He writes, “On September 18, 2013, my dear wife of 41 years, Jane Seymour Guido, passed away in her sleep. She had painfully suffered for many years with two incurable auto-immune diseases. I don’t know how she put up with me for 41 years!”

“The window that opened shortly beforehand was the birth of my fourth grandchild, Henry Wyatt Vincent Pascal, on July 1. He is the first child of my son, Laurance Jr. ’00, SIPA ’01, and his wife, Joanna (a Ph.D. neuropsychologist at Penn).

“Laurance, Joanna and Henry, along with our daughter, Pia, and her children, Raynie, Peter and Charlie Murphy (Peter and Charlie are 7-year-old identical twins), joined my wife and me on Nantucket for three weeks, starting in mid-August. Jane was so very happy to hold and love the newest member of our family and especially overjoyed that her entire family was gathered together in the very special town of Sconset, where we have been summering since about 1980. The warmth and love she felt was permanently and clearly expressed on her face during those few weeks. That was indeed a blessing and a great gift for all of us. I’m so very grateful for that and for the fact that she is now indeed free from pain.

“So now I have an entire new calculus to ponder for my future. As many wiser than I have noted: No major decisions should be made in the first year following the death of a dearly loved one.

“When a dear one passes, the memories become treasures. Keep those treasures close to your heart.

“I send my best regards to our classmates.”

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Gentlemen, it has been a year since I first reached out to you directly for information on your lives. The initial response was outstanding but now things seem to be tapering off. Remember, you don’t have to provide earth-shattering news every time; an update or an interesting/fun anecdote would be fine. Tell us how you misplaced your dentures and then sat on them, or something else along those lines.

Tom Chorba and his wife, Celeste, suffered substantial damage to their Fire Island house as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Tom has now been engaged in more than a year of battle with various bureaucracies to gain permission to rebuild as well as to receive com-

pensation. We can only imagine what so many others in this position, who don’t have Tom’s tenacity, are dealing with. On a brighter note, Tom is setting up a reading club to engage with some of our humanities classics. First on the list is *Oedipus Rex*, and joining Tom will be me and **Harvey Kurzweil** and our wives, Kathy and Barbara. I’ll let you know if we pass.

More on Harvey: He and Barbara are new double grandparents. Daughter Emily ’00 and her husband, Grady, in Portland, Ore., welcomed twins Edie and Sam in April. They also have a 3-year-old, Eva. Harvey and I attended the home football opener against Monmouth, where we took advantage of Ed Botwinik ’56’s parking pass, as Harvey’s spot is MIA due to boat house construction. We had a nice chat prior to kickoff with Ed Malmstrom ’65 and Tom O’Connor ’63.

Sad news about one of our classmates came to me from Walter Stein ’63. He writes, “**Leonard Don Diego Jr.** had been a friend and neighbor of mine for years. He passed away of liver cancer at home on September 17, 2013. He fought it to the end but was sent home on hospice from Memorial-Sloan Kettering. Lenny was a volunteer EMT for years, and we rode together on a volunteer EMS crew. He was a fascinating person and storyteller with a million friends. At his funeral, I sang *Sans Souci* and thanked him for his service to alma mater through the Alumni Representative Committee, of which I was regional chair for 28 years. We will miss him here in Monmouth County, N.J.”

Last summer, **Larry Nelson ’66** made it halfway (as planned) around the American Great Loop in his 48-ft. motor yacht.

Larry Nelson, a former Navy SEAL writes, “This summer I made it halfway (as planned) around the American Great Loop in my 48-ft. motor yacht *Grandad and Me* [RF: This is the navigation route around the eastern United States via the Mississippi, the Great Lakes and the Intra-Coastal Waterway.] My grandson, Clayton (13), joined me in Oswego, N.Y., for a rough ride across Lake Ontario followed by smooth sailing across Canada, the length of Lake Michigan, across Illinois and down the Mississippi to a stop south of St. Louis, where he had to leave to go back to school. The boat is ‘on the hard’ in Demopolis, Ala., waiting for Clayton to finish school so we can pick up again next summer and cross our

wake in Solomon’s Island, Md. There are lots of pictures (and I hope not too much narrative) on grandadandme.blogspot.com.”

Another voice from the past has called out. Former classmate John Longueil writes, “I spent a wonderful freshman year, in so many ways, at Columbia. Coming from the innocence of pastoral Rockland County, N.Y., into the midst of Manhattan was a true intellectual awakening, and I fondly recall long evenings debating Locke vs. Hobbes in *The Gold Rail* or in the lounges of Hartley Hall. Unfortunately, my fascination for the big city and all it entailed cost me the concentration necessary to maintain my grades, and I left after spring semester. My sincere compliments go to all of you who stuck it out. I also want to say how impressed I am with the low-key, modest way the contributors to this column typically describe their accomplishments.

“Since leaving the College, I have led a peripatetic life. I spent several years in the grand journey of self-discovery. I actually earned my sustenance for a time as a model for college art classes, before diet and pounds reared their ugly head. I also was employed for several years by an import firm and traveled extensively throughout Africa, picking up several native dialects in my journeys, including Swahili. I obtained an accounting degree from a local college and have managed a small investment fund for 37 years. Nothing spectacular but it pays the bills and allows me to visit excellent foreign museums for a month every year

so that I can indulge my love of early Impressionism. I also teach art history (unpaid) at a local night school. I had a close financial call several years ago when I lost a considerable amount to a well-known and now incarcerated fund owner I thought was a close friend. I have somewhat recovered but it is still occasionally a struggle. Caveat investor.”

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It’s been 50 years since the March on Washington, the assassination of President Kennedy and ... our

arrival as freshmen on campus. Alas, I only have two pieces of news, both of which reflect on the loss of classmates.

Jeffrey Herrmann writes, "In the November/December 2010 Class Notes there was a long communication from me about a group of us from the Class of '67 who had been getting together for dinner and conversation for a number of years. I now have to convey the sad news that **Alan Candiotti**, one of our group, died suddenly on August 19, just days before he was to assume the position of interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Drew University. We will never forget Al's brilliance and wit and shall miss him dearly."

Alan came to Columbia after graduating at 16 as the valedictorian of Francis Lewis H.S. in Queens; he earned a B.A. in mathematics followed in 1973 by a Ph.D. from Harvard. He arrived on the Drew campus in 1980 and was a professor of mathematics and computer science before being named assistant v.p. for university technology. At Drew, he earned the President's Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1992. Alan lived in Bernardsville, N.J., and was his family's historian, an active member of Congregation B'nai Israel in Basking Ridge, N.J., and a lifelong Yankees fan.

Bob Burdette wrote, "When the Summer issue of *Columbia College Today* arrived, I noticed with great sadness the passing of **Joel Linsider**. He was the gentlest human being I believe I have ever met. He was a close friend of **Mayer Freed**, who passed away in 2010. The three of us had many long conversations in Furnald Hall when we were freshmen. I joined them occasionally for a meal at the Jewish Theological Seminary, a few blocks away from campus. I also once visited the conservative congregation where they worshipped at their invitation. They were both extraordinary men.

"I have been retired for more than 11 years. I spent my career as a legislative attorney for the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress. Through the years I traveled extensively. My favorite destination was French Polynesia. I hope to return. Recently, I vicariously visited Bora Bora by purchasing a watercolor by an artist whose work I discovered and bought in 1982 in Tahiti. Even paintings can conjure up the lush tropical beauty of the place for me. It has been quite some time since I have visited New York."

Please write. You can send a note to my email address, at the top of the column, or by using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Happy holidays and best wishes for the New Year! Hard to believe we're about to roll into 2014. As you can see, we have an empty column but — after such a successful reunion — I suppose it's OK for us to take a breather. I want full reports for future issues, though. Please write me at either address at the top of the column or use CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014**
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On August 26, I represented our class and co-represented our decade in the Alumni Procession at Convocation. Convocation, which this year welcomed the Class of 2017, cannot match the majesty and excitement of Class Day, when a larger group of alumni march in honor of the graduates in cap and gown. Still, on a sunny late summer day, much like a sunny spring day, the campus looks great. And there was much excitement among those starting their College experience. Even as we approach our 45th reunion I am sure many of us recall with fondness at least some part of our "Freshman Week" — a name and set of events quite different from today's orientation.

Speaking of reunion, which is scheduled for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, planning continues apace. This column is filed a bit more than two months ahead of publication, and I expect you will by now have received updates on specific events. **Mike Schell** has again graciously agreed to host our opening cocktail reception on Thursday. We will gather on campus on Friday night for another reception. On Saturday, we will have both a class lunch and a class dinner. I am pleased to report that **Nick Garaufis** has agreed to be our dinner speaker. He is currently a U.S. district judge for the Eastern

District of New York.

I sometimes have the unhappy task of informing you of the passing of a classmate, and I am especially saddened to note the passing of **Mark Drucker**. I invite classmates to share remembrances of Mark. He will be remembered, at the very least, as our class president both sophomore and senior years. For those (including myself) who knew Mark well and shared a close friendship with him, he will always be an important part of our College recollections; we had many discussions on matters social and political, relating both to the campus and to the larger outside world. I can easily recall his smile. For me, a treasured part of each reunion has been catching up with Mark, and it is hard to think he will not be among us next spring. The last communication I had with him was an email exchange about forming the Reunion Committee.

Ron Rosenblatt '74 TC sent his first report for CCT: "During the past 45 years, as I have lived my own odyssey of life, I have thoroughly enjoyed reading about the amazing accomplishments, both personal and professional, of classmates. I have never felt the need or desire to communicate or portray the long and winding path that has been my past 45 years in this forum. However, it now seems like the time to do so.

"It doesn't seem so long ago that I walked into my first CC class and realized that I was in over my head. Suffice it to say that I owe my graduation to my high school buddy and two-year roommate in Hartley Hall, **Bob Kahan** (the voice of WKCR); my senior year roommate, **Tom Garnevicus**; and close friends **Jim Alloy**, **Max Carey**, **Rick Rose** and **Marty Domres**, all of whom continually encouraged me to do the work and to have fun. I graduated on time by the barest of margins and with less than a 4.0 grade point average.

"After graduation and my failure to pass the draft board's physical standards, I married and began a quite enjoyable teaching career in a public high school. In 1974, I received a master's from TC and, with my wife, promptly packed everything we owned into our VW van and moved to Moscow (not that one), Idaho. The U of I was enamored enough with my two Columbia degrees to offer me a T.A. position and, three years later, a Ph.D.

"Then it was on to Manhattan (not that one), Kansas, and a professorship at Kansas State in education and economics. Divorced, married again (to Susy, a TV news anchor), tenured, seven more years of teaching, then gave it up to follow

Susy to the anchor desk at the NBC affiliate in Des Moines. Changing professions to mortgage banking seemed like the obvious path to take (really). I started at the bottom for First Union Mortgage, then on to AmerUs, Wells Fargo, Principal Financial Group and, finally, e.v.p. at American Home Mortgage Investment Corp.; I commuted from Des Moines to New York every week for four years ... pretty dumb.

"Meanwhile, Susy and I were graced with two darling daughters, one in 1987 and one in 1989. Unfortunately, neither was able to see the extraordinary advantages of a Columbia education, choosing to attend schools in Philadelphia and Boston instead. Today, one daughter works for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission chasing after bad guys who manipulate trading or do fraudulent trading in electricity and/or natural gas, while the younger one attends law school in Washington, D.C.

"Susy is retired from TV and from her second career as an executive for Planned Parenthood of the Heartland. I retired from mortgage banking, played a lot of golf, then started a financial services business with two young partners who work very hard, are fabulous at their jobs and think that I am way smarter than I really am. Please do not tell them differently! Thanks to all of you who crossed my path those four years [at CC] and helped me become the very lucky and happy man that I am today."

Roger Podesta was named Litigator of the Week by *AmLaw's Litigation Daily* on July 25. Roger is a litigation partner at Debevoise & Plimpton. He successfully represented American Airlines against negligence claims brought by the developer of the World Trade Center, who sought to hold the airlines whose planes were flown into the towers on 9-11 liable for the resulting damage to the towers. On July 18, a judge of the Southern District of New York blocked the claims.

From **William Stark**, now professor of biology at St. Louis University, come some memories of our College years: "When I was a freshman, *Marat/Sade* was a popular Broadway show (about the persecution and assassination of Jean-Paul Marat as performed by the inmates of the asylum at Clarendon under the direction of the Marquis de Sade). Initiation was not telling freshmen to change from the express to the local on the IRT at 96th Street. The local let you off at 116th and Broadway, between Columbia and Barnard. The express let you off farther east. 'Oh, there's Columbia, up that hill through that

park.' (That's Morningside Park, a no-man's land.)

"The most notable (annoying) advertisement on the radio was for Dennison, the men's clothier, Route 22, Union, N.J. — 'money talks, nobody walks' — presumably because you could only get there by car. The standard fare in Chinese 'cuisine' featured column A (cheap stuff like egg fu yung) and column B (upscale stuff like sweet and sour pork). Family dining, a few people shared a few dishes.

"Chemical Bank. If you needed money for the weekend, you better get down there around 110th Street and wait in the teller's line for half an hour. Don't try the Chemical Bank diagonally across the street; you don't have an account there. On the walk up to Columbia from 105th Street just east of Broadway was a Chock full o' Nuts, great coffee with cream and donuts. Also there was an Orange Julius, where I could pick up a large cup, whipped up with a raw egg for an extra fee, to last me through my first class. There was also a grocer, one of those famous New York ones with nice fruit stands up on the sidewalk.

"In spring 1968, Columbia started building its new gym in the neighborhood's Morningside Park. Black students protested by taking over the arts and sciences building, and then the Students for a Democratic Society took over many other buildings. A long stand-off ended in a bloody bust. The morning after, someone played Bob Dylan's 'Desolation Row' loudly out a dorm window onto Amsterdam Avenue. The editorial in *Spectator* was blank [an empty space surrounded by a black border]. That gym was not built.

"I was home for Easter break when Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. In Mt. Lebo, we only had the news to know what was going on, and saw many ghettos in flames. My flight back was to LaGuardia at a time when a taxi across town cost \$5. As the taxi departed from the relative safety of the busily guarded corners on one avenue and plunged into the narrow and lonely streets toward the next avenue, I got pretty nervous.

"Special thanks go to Allison Steele, the night bird, the all-night DJ. She liked to play two versions of the same song back to back. So do I. I thought she liked 'Scarborough Fair' particularly, playing it twice in a row, then later found out that the version in *The Graduate* was doubled. Fly high, Allison, award winner who died young and lives in my memory each time 'The Night Bird' comes on my iPod (yes, I found her ethereal interludes on the Internet). There

was a time when **Christopher Donald** said we should go see B.B. King at the Fillmore East. 'Some albino dude from Texas is opening for him.' I've seen Johnny Winter a few times since then.

"When I was courting my wife, Sharon, in 1968, her family came to New York for Thanksgiving. I took her to see Jimi Hendrix live at Philharmonic Hall [now Avery Fisher Hall] in Lincoln Center. Orchestra seats, \$7.50 each. We left with only half our hearing."

Steve Steindel writes: "It has been a terrible juncture for the Pittsburgh Penguins but one fan is returning home all the same. My wife, Lisa, and I are about to exercise a reverse exodus, leaving the Boston Bruins, Patriots and Red Sox for a new home in the Squirrel Hill area of Pittsburgh, where we previously served Congregation Beth Shalom as rabbi and rebbitzen for 23 years. What could possibly be the attraction? Daughter Shiri '01 Penn and her husband, Josh Friedman, are committed to raising their three children in Pittsburgh and invited us to come. It didn't take long to realize how blessed we would be to be near them on an

Sheldon Danziger '70 is the newest president of the Russell Sage Foundation.

almost daily basis, so our answer was 'of course.' Our daughter Sara '99 and her husband, Andrew Dauber '00, have four children in Brookline, Mass., and we will visit whenever we can. Our third daughter, Sivya, a 2004 graduate of The George Washington University, and her husband, Keith, a 2003 graduate of Maryland, live in Minneapolis. We enjoy time with our grandchildren and look forward to lots of airplane connections."

From **Bob Rabinoff**: "Just wanted to brag: My daughter Eve successfully defended her Ph.D. dissertation at Boston College. She wrote on Aristotle's theory of perception and the impact it has on his ethics. She now teaches at Boston University. My son Joseph and his wife, Kirsten Wickelgren (daughter of the late Wayne Wickelgren and Norma Graham of Columbia's psychology department), are beginning their careers as assistant professors of mathematics at Georgia Tech. My son Daniel has a couple of years to go toward his doctorate in philosophy at the University of Toronto, and my daughter Shoshanah is an R.N. and mother of Nathaniel (15 months). I'm still in Fairfield, Iowa, doing freelance programming and sliding toward retirement (gasp)."

I have some good news of my own to share: My daughter, Abby Oberman '10 (now Finkel), married Bryan Finkel at the Essex House in NYC on September 28. See photo near the CC '10 column.

As this column reflects, there is news and there are memories worth sharing with classmates. May I ask you to be one of our classmates to email me an item for the next issue?

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I was overwhelmed by the enthusiastic response to my request for news. I even heard from classmates I had not heard from in a long time.

Professor **Samuel Estreicher**, a leading authority on labor and employment law, has joined Schulte Roth & Zabel as of counsel in addition to being the Dwight D. Opperman Professor of Law and director of the Center for Labor and Employment Law at NYU. Sam was editor-in-chief of the *Columbia*

Law Review as well as a law clerk to Supreme Court Judge Lewis Powell Jr. I remember Sam during freshman week in Carman, when he was debating the true meaning of one of the classics that had been recommended for summer reading. Sam has reached the highest level of accomplishment in the field of law and we should all be proud of him!

Another classmate of whom we should be proud is my old friend **Dr. Paul Rosen**, a double-boarded physician in family medicine and psychiatry and neurology. Paul was the principal investigator of a study looking into the utility of feverfew (*T. Parthenium*) as a safer alternative to NSAIDs for the treatment of osteoarthritis. He had a clinical trial published in *Integrative Medicine: A Clinician's Journal* in July. Paul works with an underserved patient population in the South Bronx and North Central Brooklyn in addition to conducting clinical research and teaching medical students and residents. He has a strong interest in helping develop and deliver primary care services to mentally ill patients with limited resources and limited exposure to primary care medicine. He sends a special hello to all of his fellow Bronx Science alums in the class.

Chuck Silberman and his wife, Susan, were thrilled to welcome their first grandchild, Max Hudson Goldstein, on June 27. The proud uncle is Jeff Silberman '08.

Sheldon Danziger is the new president of the Russell Sage Foundation. Previously he was the Henry J. Meyer Distinguished University Professor of Public Policy, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, and director of the National Poverty Center at Michigan.

Ralph Bradburd's book, *The Robin Hood Rules for Smart Giving*, which he co-authored with Michael Weinstein of the Robin Hood Foundation, came out in May. The book makes the case that philanthropic organizations and the donors who fund them should rely on benefit-cost analysis in allocating their resources and elaborates on ways to do those benefit-cost analyses correctly. Ralph also became the director of Williams College's Center for Environmental Studies, which offers six majors in environmental science and environmental policy and maintains a 2,600-acre forest for research and teaching. He divides his time between the center and the school's Department of Economics.

My friend **Frank Motley** reported the birth of his second great-grandchild.

Another Bronx Science friend and distinguished professor at Northwestern, **Robert Launay**, survived a heart attack in July and is now, alas, reduced to ramping down his food intake and ramping up his exercise. But at least Robert is more or less back in the groove.

Richard Smolev's second novel, *In Praise of Angels*, based upon the Credit Mobilier of America scandal surrounding the building of the transcontinental railroad, was published in July.

David Lehman says, "[At this

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writing], my *New and Selected Poems* is set to publish on November 5. A big moment in the life of a writer.

"It has been a busy year. I continue as series editor of *The Best American Poetry*, which I launched in 1988. We celebrated our 25th year with an anniversary volume of highlights from the first 25 volumes in the series. That came out in April, with selections made by former poet laureate Robert Pinsky. In September came Volume 26, *The Best American Poetry 2013*, which begins with a foreword by me (as the series editor) and an introduction by guest editor Denise Duhamel."

David also notes, "In 1970 I was lucky enough to win a Eureka J. Kellett Fellowship for two years of study at Oxford or Cambridge. I chose Clare College, Cambridge, where John Berryman had spent his seasons as a Kellett. Other noteworthy Columbia-educated poets had studied there as well. On April 23 of this year I returned to Clare at the invitation of the college's master. The poetry reading I gave in the master's lodge preceded a champagne reception in the Fellows' Garden adjacent to the Cam.

This past summer, Arnold Horowitz '72 was on the road with his family, traveling to Prague and Berlin.

The sunset was breathtaking — it was the first real spring day — and then came dinner with benedictions and toasts, a printed menu and a superb bottle of port. Made this old boy feel blessed."

Terry Bazes' book, *Lizard World: the Graphic Novel*, illustrated by Louis Netter, will be published in February. "Readers fond of dark comedy and the macabre may get a kick out of this oddly compelling (and sometimes disturbingly graphic) tale," says *Library Journal*.

Another old friend, **Dan Feldman**, sent this note: "I happily teach full-time at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and do some technical legal work one day a week for New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli.

"Other than having at long last returned to the general Columbia vicinity (my wife, Cecilia, and I moved to the Upper West Side in November 2012), I only have typical academic world-type news: My fifth book, *The Art of the Watchdog: Fighting Fraud, Waste, Abuse and Corruption in Government*, officially comes out January 1 but apparently the warehouses will have some copies ahead of time. My 2010 book, *Tales from the Sausage Factory: Making Latas in New York State*, was co-authored by SUNY

New Paltz Professor Gerald 'Jerry' Benjamin '70 GSAS; this one, by David Eichenthal.

"I also wrote the chapter on the New York State Attorney General's Office in *The Oxford Handbook of New York State Government*, also edited by Jerry and published at the end of 2012. In July I became the perspective and commentary editor of *Public Administration Review*, the leading journal in public administration."

Anthony Grant '80 SIPA, who has lived a most interesting and exciting life, reports: "After a very long time, I visited the campus this summer to show family around. I was overcome with nostalgia. For the lion's share of the past 40 years I have worked overseas and presently work in Tanzania as managing director for Exim Bank. This year, Exim was shortlisted by *African Banker* magazine as one of the continent's top five retail banks. The bank also runs subsidiaries elsewhere in East Africa (Djibouti and Comoros Islands), so I travel frequently. Earlier, banking peers in Africa elected me president of the 16-country West African Bankers' Association. Even earlier, I held

terparts, under primitive canvas in the woods, sleeping on straw and leaves. They assembled for three days, along with more than 10,000 other re-enactors, marched, counter-marched (usually uphill) and then went into 'battle.' On the final day, Ralph's unit, the 3rd New Jersey, stood behind a stone wall at the extreme right flank of the Union line to repulse, once again, Pickett's Charge. A great time was had by all, especially as they shook hands and embraced the 'resurrected' Rebels when the show was finally over!

Ralph adds, "How many of you out there can say you helped repulse Pickett and save the Union? Columbia was represented!"

Joel Mintz and his wife of 38 years, Meri-Jane Rochelson '71 Barnard, welcomed a second grandchild when their son, Daniel, and Daniel's wife, Sarah Allison, welcomed Karl David Mintz into the world in Ann Arbor on July 8. Joel was designated the 2012–2013 Distinguished Law Professor of the Year by Nova Southeastern University, an award given for outstanding achievement in scholarship, classroom teaching and public service. Daniel continued a family educational tradition when — like both his parents and Joel's father — he earned the terminal degree in an academic field (in his case, a Ph.D. in English and Jewish Studies from Michigan).

Edwin P. Rutan II of Park City, Utah, writes, "I retired in June after 10 years as Salt Lake City's city attorney. I also received the Utah chapter of the American Society for Public Administration's Distinguished Service Award. In addition, I'm writing a regimental history of the 179th New York Volunteers, the Civil War regiment that my great-great-grandfather served in, at 179thnyvolunteers.org."

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News is light this month — just one item: Columbia University Libraries/Information Services' Center for Human Rights Documentation & Research has acquired the papers of Amnesty International activist **Joshua Rubenstein**. Based on information from CHRDR, I report:

Josh was a staff member for Amnesty International USA (AIUSA) for 37 years, 1975–2012. He became a member of Amnesty USA in 1974, helping found Boston's Adoption Group 54. In 1975, he joined the staff and was appointed AIUSA New England coordinator. Between 1976 and 1978, Josh, on behalf of the national office, led initial efforts to

organize Amnesty adoption groups in the Midwest and South. In 1983, when the regional office in Boston was enlarged, he was named Northeast regional director.

Josh's papers document his decades of AIUSA leadership, his work in developing the organization's membership and staff, and his role in organizing and leading the Northeast Regional Office, including development and event planning.

Josh noted in the press release, "I feel very honored to see my Amnesty International papers being collected so responsibly by Columbia's CHRDR. I hope that the history of AIUSA will inspire both researchers and activists to join our efforts and advance the cause of human rights."

Josh was deeply engaged in AIUSA's major programmatic initiatives such as the Campaign to Abolish the Death Penalty and the Campaign Against Torture. He worked extensively on issues related to Israel, helping to reorganize the Israeli Amnesty Section in 1985, and also conveyed AIUSA's concerns to American Jewish organizations. As a specialist on Russian and Soviet history and politics, he became a strong advocate on the behalf of prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Union. He also worked to establish and mentor an AIUSA Soviet Coordination Group in the Boston area.

An accomplished independent scholar, Josh authored the first general history of the Soviet dissident movement, *Soviet Dissidents: Their Struggle for Human Rights*. He also is the author of *Tangled Loyalties: The Life and Times of Ilya Ehrenburg and Leon Trotsky: A Revolutionary's Life*.

If you are not receiving the '71C eNews and would like to, please email me. You can send updates for Class Notes to either of the addresses at the top of the column or through CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Remember back 47 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

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This past summer **Arnold Horowitz** was on the road with his family, traveling to Prague and Berlin. He writes, "The trip brought forcefully to mind the passage of time: It was my first time in Prague since 1970, when Professor Vojtech Mastny helped me get a summer

travel grant to study *Ostpolitik*. It has been 43 years — 1970 was considerably closer in time to the Munich Agreement [i.e., 1938] than it is to the present day — a sobering thought. And it was my wife's first visit to Berlin since 1983, when her family drove to East Berlin from the Soviet Union. Standing at the Brandenburg Gate (eastern side), her father told her that he might not live to see it, but surely in her lifetime the Berlin Wall would come down. He overshot — he is alive and well, and the wall has been history for more than a generation."

Looking to the next generation, Arnold notes that his older son, William, is applying to college this year, and Columbia is on the list. "Fingers crossed," he says.

When I invited **Charlie Gardner** to bring us up to date on his life, he responded, "OK, I'll bite." Charlie practices psychiatry in Greenwich, Conn. "Paid my dues as department chair at Greenwich Hospital for long enough, and gave it up. Also gave up my academic appointment at Cornell but I am still on the faculty roster at the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research. I want to be a simple country doc now, just taking care of people and giving them all I've learned."

Charlie is a member of weekly peer supervision and men's bible study groups, saying, "Our church and our clubs are central to our lives. ... Our third kid graduated from Kenyon this year. Freedom. To celebrate, my wife, Janice, and I hiked for a week in the Dolomites in September. All three kids work in NYC, and we have a 1-year-old grandkid, Charlie Gardner (the 5th), who happily lives just down the street."

Sadness inevitably intrudes, he adds: "Both of my parents died this year. Dad had been a distinguished professor of psychiatry at Yale. That has been difficult and leaves me and my sibs to try to maintain the old family farm in the Berkshires. I'm sure we are all going through similar things."

Arthur Ensroth and his wife recently visited NYC, which evoked these thoughts: "Columbia taught me to love NYC but I prefer living in the Boston area today. We were down for the weekend to see the exhibit at the Met about American art and the Civil War. Nineteenth-century American painting is something I learned to love at Columbia, thanks to Professor of Art History Barbara Novak '50 Barnard et al. Then we went to Birdland on 44th Street to hear Pablo Ziegler and a set of nuevo tango. In 1968 I was excited about going to jazz clubs but I can better afford it now.

"We stopped in New Haven on

the way home to see the recently renovated Yale University Art Gallery. My wife said, 'If Harvard and Yale have great art museums, what about Columbia?'

"I said, 'We just went to the Columbia art museum; it's at 82nd and Fifth, not on campus.'"

Reflecting on **Peter Darrow's** recent passing, **Doug Altabef** noted, "The creeping intimations of mortality are unsettling. They also should, in my view, strengthen one's resolve to make the most of the time that we are allotted." Hence, Doug will retire from his firm at the end of the year and pursue opportunities in Israel, where he's lived for a number of years while commuting to work in NYC. "While I have enjoyed my work and have been a vital part of my firm, I feel like I am old enough and young enough to embrace new chapters. *Aliyah* [immigrating to Israel] of course is a major new chapter."

Finally, some of you undoubtedly saw **Jerry Groopman's** October 13 review of the new book by Columbia English Professor Rachel Adams, *Raising Henry: A Memoir of Motherhood, Disability, and Discovery in The New York Review of Books*.

The review began with a reminiscence about our days at the College and noted how some things have changed: "Homer and Herodotus, Sophocles and Plato, Aristotle and Dante, Shakespeare and Milton. All names engraved in the edifice of Columbia's Butler Library. They may be 'dead white men,' but to undergraduates in the 1960s, they seemed very much alive in the classes where we engaged their texts and debated their ideas. The skills in thinking that we sought could be applied to professions like law and medicine and finance, but we felt the pure scholarship of our professors was the pinnacle of intellectual life. Some 45 years later, students still begin their education at my alma mater with *The Iliad*. But the competition to read it on Morningside Heights has become much more fierce. Freshmen are drawn from a pool of applicants with stratospheric SATs and near-perfect GPAs, winners of Intel competitions and math Olympiads."

Thank heavens for the old days.

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Post-reunion apathy has reared its ugly head. Send, send, send. Send! Write to my email address above or contribute online using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/

cct/submit_class_note.

James Minter enjoyed catching up with old friends at reunion but he missed some, and hopes to see even more at our 50th. (He hopes the entertainment then will be the "apparently now bionic" **Joe Seldner**.) A highlight of Alumni Reunion Weekend for James was the walking tour of the High Line led by his Carman 8 floormate **Steven Cantor**.

Pat Sharkey was once again named a "Super Lawyer" in Texas; he remains with the firm of Jackson Walker.

And there you have it. Until we tweet again.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014
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"New and improved!" the TV ads scream nightly, but rarely can you discern a difference. The same cannot be said about the new and improved (compared to our days) Columbia campus and Morningside Heights neighborhood! Yes, the red brick dorms are still there with their classic green copper roofs. And the lower campus is still punctuated by the imposing Low Library, offset by the equally imposing Butler Library. But the feel of being on campus — and wandering around the neighborhood — is certainly different.

Depending on when you were last there, you may notice that a new student center has replaced Ferris Booth Hall and that there are additional dorms in the East Campus (between the Law School and what we knew as the SIA Building) and at 113th and Broadway. More recently, a 188,000-sq.-ft. science building arose on 120th and Broadway (above the Dodge Physical Fitness Center). The South Field dust bowl has been replaced by grassy fields that are surrounded by English gardens. The lone tennis court by the John Jay cafeteria is now a beautiful plaza.

Our favorite restaurants on Broadway are still (mostly) there, albeit in a "toned-up" version. The Campus Inn diner is now called Deluxe and advertises, "Try our new coffee: Hazelnut Roast." The old M.I.L.L. Luncheonette (the name rumored to have come from the initials of owners Mo, Izzy and Larry) is now Mill Korean. Tom's

Restaurant, whose facade was featured on *Seinfeld*, has added organic salads to its menu of greasy diner food that we all had so often (also outdoor dining). In fact, there are so many restaurants on Broadway between 106th Street and 116th Street that now have outside dining that one was actually called the area "Paris on the Hudson." I think that may be exaggerating things a bit although, to be fair, I recently counted 10 restaurants with outdoor tables in just the two blocks below 114th Street. I'm sure there was no outdoor dining while we were on campus!

Bordering the southern side of the main campus, the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine (the world's largest cathedral), now has wondrous new carvings around its portals and a soaring south tower of hand-carved blocks. To the north, The Riverside Church and Grant's Tomb are magnificent though largely unchanged. But further north, between 125th Street and 133rd Street, the new Manhattanville campus expansion is rising from Broadway to 12th Avenue with new buildings for the Business School, the Engineering School, the School of the Arts and SIPA. Up by Baker Field (now the Baker Athletics Complex) is the new Campbell Sports Center.

You can see all this and more when you return to campus for our 40th Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1! Tours of campus will be available and we are hoping to hold events in some of the new spaces. You won't want to miss your chance to be part of this dynamic moment in Columbia's history!

Speaking of the big weekend, Dr. **Robert Kraft** writes, "I am looking forward to the reunion. Where have 40 years gone?" He is in private practice doing plastic surgery in Forest Hills and is president of The Medical Society of the County of Queens. His older son, Michael '05, was in investment banking with the Bank of America until "the lure of the high-tech world and San Francisco [proved] too strong." Mike is now doing strategic management at Yahoo! Bob's younger son, David, "recently returned to the United States after a year of intense study in Singapore," where he was learning about industrial design for the entertainment industry (computerized 3D design of characters and backgrounds for video games). David will continue his education at Red Engine School of Arts and Design, an industry school in Los Angeles.

While on a West Coast theme, we received word from **Patrick Dowd**, retired president and CEO of Coventry Health Care, a major

national health care provider. He writes, "After many moves, my wife got to choose where to settle down in retirement. She chose Eugene, Ore. Runner-up was Colorado, where I lived for 20 years." (In light of the recent flooding in Colorado, this is yet another lesson on why we should listen to our wives!) Patrick has two children and five grandchildren. He posts frequently on Facebook of his world travels.

Dan Angius wrote in from Walnut Creek, Calif., saying he is "in the process of 'winding down' as managing partner of my law firm, Angius & Terry." In a year or two he hopes to turn the reins over to his partners and "spend more time with my family, traveling and working on my golf game." Dan and his wife, Jacque (whom he says "many of my Columbia classmates will remember"), have three kids: Dan, Lauren '08 and Jeff. And he became a grandpa a few months ago!

From further south in California comes word from **Louis Klonsky**. He lives in Pasadena and has retired from a long career as a staff geologist with Chevron. His "retirement," however, has led to a new career as educator: "I teach (undergraduate and graduate) at several Cal State universities in the L.A. area. I teach geophysics and petroleum geology. In addition, I teach 'Intro to Geology' at the New York Film Academy." (He explains that while the academy is headquartered in Greenwich Village, its main campus, mysteriously, is in Burbank, Calif.) He has "two grandkids from my social worker daughter" and his other daughter is completing her M.B.A. at USC while working at a hedge fund in L.A. Lou concludes, "So, in short, life is great in sunny California."

Not a lot of mail from the center of the country but sometimes Class Notes result from serendipity. At a new parents gathering at Columbia Prep, I met David Poppe '86, who realized I was a fellow Lion when I said I had read *The Iliad* and *The*

Odyssey in my freshman year. While I was looking up his email address in the alumni directory (always close at hand), I stumbled on a listing for **Richard Popper** Ph.D. '83 GSAS. The 2006 directory I have at work said he was a "Group Leader, Ocean Spray Cranberries" in Plano, Texas. I had visions of Richard being in hip waders in a cranberry bog. Further research revealed that last July he became the CEO of Pervyam & Kroll Research Corp., a marketing research firm. It ends up that, according to a press release, "Richard is a recognized expert in sensory, consumer and marketing research."

Who would think someone in the construction industry would also be a playwright? Answer: You'd think it if the person were a Columbia College graduate! **Michael Fixel** is president of Jerry Fixel, a home building company in Jacksonville, Fla. His second play, *Freefall Fostbite*, premiered in August at the prestigious New York International Fringe Festival. His "dynamic, large-ensemble, full-length verse play" had a score written together with Broadway veteran musical director Marc Irwin ("whom entertainment lawyer **Stewart Levy** would have known as Irwin Cantor when we were in high school"). The play was directed and choreographed by his daughter, Juliet. (Side note: Stewart is a partner of Eisenberg Tanchum & Levy in midtown Manhattan.)

Joe Barone, who lives in Old Saybrook, Conn., seems to be transitioning gradually to retirement. He writes, "My most recent 'full-time employment' situation was with a small biotech company headquartered in Wilmington, Del. But we 'persistently' live in southeastern Connecticut and the weekly, two-way commute got too much to bear. Currently, I simply consult from home for this firm."

You might have missed the listing in the Fall 2013 issue of CCT of the 62 "Alumni Sons and Daughters" who began as part of the College and Engineering Class of 2017 this semester. On the list was George Van Amson '17, son of **George Van Amson**, who is managing director at Morgan Stanley in NYC. The younger George finished high school at the Trevor Day School in Manhattan.

"I won't" yelled the Facebook message from **Arthur Schwartz**. Arthur (NYC) was re-elected Democratic district leader for Greenwich Village (a position he held 1995-2005). His campaign literature said, "I am running as the pro-kid, pro-park and playground, pro-labor, pro-parent, pro-participatory democracy candidate." Elsewhere he said, "I lead a very busy life — a

busy law practice; four kids (two still under 10); husband; Hudson River Park activist; Community Board member; president of a new nonprofit, Advocates for Justice; and Democratic State Committee member for the Lower West Side of Manhattan."

And you thought *you* were busy! It's amazing what you can discover by trolling through the Web. Here are three items of interest I recently found:

First, in the credits of the popular HBO series *The Newsroom* was a screen that said **Leon Wieseltier** (longtime literary editor of *The New Republic*) is a consultant to the show. Clicking away, I found out that *Mother Jones* describes Leon as "long being friendly with HBO" — which might explain how he had a walk-on part on *The Sopranos*. Revving my mouse into hyperdrive, I stumbled upon the commencement address Leon gave at Brandeis last May; in it, he railed against "our society inebriated by technology" that "represents the greatest assault on human attention ever devised: they are engines of mental and spiritual dispersal, which make us wider only by making us less deep." (Google "Leon Wieseltier Brandeis" for a fascinating read of this "Defense of the Humanities" speech.)

Second, want to know what is really happening in the Middle East? Try a Google search of "Steven Simon IJSS." You'll be able to read commentary from **Steve Simon**, executive director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Until a year ago, Steve was the senior director for the Middle East and North Africa at the National Security Council at the White House. Hard to find someone with greater insights into this complex region.

Third and final, I got a Facebook post from our own Alumni Office (facebook.com/alumni) that said: "Columbia University in the City of New York is ranked No. 18 on The Daily Meal's '60 Best Colleges for Food in America' list. What is your best — or worst — food story from your undergraduate days?" Princeton is No. 19, Stanford is No. 20 and Harvard is No. 21. So much for the fancy eating clubs at Princeton and the house system at Harvard!

There you have it. A taste of what you will see at the "new and improved" Columbia when you return for Alumni Reunion Weekend: classmates choosing different ways of spending their 60s — enjoying their old or new careers, winding down, or outright retiring — and of course, a lot of news about our kids and grandkids. As we are in the holiday season, I want to remind you of the classic

Vietnam-era chant, "I'd be Ho-Ho-Home for Christmas, if it wasn't for Ho Chi Minh!" I look forward to seeing you all in May!

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Jim Dolan and his wife, Jasmin, are busy taking in the sights, sounds and slurps of their new environs, Philadelphia. They recently were aboard the *U.S.S. New Jersey* for the MGK Brew Blast.

Gerry Keating and Dr. **Joe Vassallo** (Columbia roommates and Chaminade H.S. classmates) and **Bob Schneider** (whose sons went to Chaminade) have been chatting after reconnecting through these Class Notes! Gerry is reading *Duel with the Devil: The True Story of How Alexander Hamilton & Aaron Burr Teamed Up to Take on America's First Sensational Murder Mystery* by Paul Collins, about how Hamilton and Burr were co-counsel representing the defendant in a sensational capital murder trial in New York City in 1800. It is the first fully recorded murder trial in U.S. history. Gerry finds it intriguing that the trial took place more than 200 years ago, as he has participated in almost 30 murder trials himself. Columbia is featured prominently in the book; Columbia students and faculty marched with Revolutionary War veterans on New Year's Day 1800 in the parade for George Washington's funeral.

Sports labor lawyer **Jeffrey Kessler** attended the Bloomberg Sports Business Summit in New York City in September, speaking at the panel "At the Table with the Player's Union." In an article about the event, he was quoted as saying NFL and NBA players unions could help top-level college athletes by offering them associate memberships. "You can't organize college players into unions," he said. "They're not considered workers; the NLRB won't recognize them as workers. So it has to be an association that's not a union."

On a personal note from Jeff, grandson Jordan is bouncing along to the "wonderful" twos — at least for his grandparents. No comment from Jordan's dad, Andrew!

On his 59th birthday, **Bob Schneider** and his wife, Regina Mullahy '75 Barnard, were blessed with a granddaughter, Elizabeth Marie (Elsie) Schneider, daughter of their son John '07 and his wife, Stephanie Pahlmer '06 Barnard. Congrats to John and Steph and to grandparents Bob and Regina.

Randy Nichols (that's me!) had a very busy few months. Since

Stars Fade, Michael Musto '76 Keeps Shining

BY ETHAN ROUEN '04J, '11 BUSINESS

If the people **Michael Musto '76** writes about had the ability to dance around irrelevance the way he does, we might still be doing the hustle and walking like an Egyptian.

Musto is to gossip what Ernie Pyle was to war. From Warhol to Madonna to Gaga, he has served on the cultural front lines for nearly three decades, wading through the ever-changing mire of New York City nightlife to document the zeitgeist that has come to consume American readers.

"You have to be a chameleon to keep up with the landscape," he says. "My tone and writing have stayed the same but the scene has evolved, and I've covered it as accurately as I can."

As a columnist for *The Village Voice* from 1984 to 2013, Musto played a significant role in creating the modern journalistic genre that attempts to bring zest to the quotidian motions of the latest celebrity stumbling down the alphabet toward the C List. Unlike the new wave of paparazzi, though, he has always relied heavily on reporting to bring to life the thrill of being in the center of it all while also using his pulpit to advocate for gay rights and to "attack the power folks and celebrate the downtrodden," he says.

Still, before he outed celebrities who became activists, helped solve a murder that changed New York City nightlife forever and became a must-read for anyone who was (interested in) anyone, Musto was a first-year student lurking around *Spectator*.

"I would sit in the office every night hoping somebody would give me an assignment, and they never did," he says.

He finally got a gig writing theatre reviews for the *Barnard Bulletin*, and it wasn't long before the editors at *Spec* snatched him away from the sister college's paper.

During his time at the College, Musto was honing his voice, wrestling with whether to focus on acting or writing and trying to care as much about Homer as he did about Cher. He was inspired by Kenneth Koch's class on playwriting and poetry, even if his classmates didn't exactly get Musto's parody of several classic American plays.

Columbia didn't offer a major in journalism, so Musto, who was raised in Brooklyn, took to Manhattan, working as a freelance writer on various subjects for weekly newspapers by his senior year.

After graduation, he took a "9-to-5 job with a trashy fan mag to pay the rent," but he spent his nights writing about New York City's club scene just as it was becoming the center of the celebrity universe. A bit awkward and shy, Musto was amazed that as people became more intoxicated, they became more willing to talk to him.

"Once I got a taste of the nightlife, there was no turning back," he says. "Disco provided an escape and haven and check-your-mind-at-the-door hedonistic experience."

By the time disco died, Musto was a gifted chronicler of the shifting scene, and the *Voice* soon hired him to be one of the stars of the New Journalism it was pushing. He didn't disappoint.

Musto threw himself into the center of the party, giving depth to the lives of party people, showing that they are still just human beings chasing that intangible dream, and providing those on the sideline a reason to care about them.

Openly gay his entire career,



Michael Musto '76 covered celebrities and nightlife for *The Village Voice* for almost 30 years.

PHOTO: JASON RUSSO (HEYMJRJASON PHOTOGRAPHY)

appearances on TV shows on stations ranging from E! to PBS.

But whether championing rights, comforting the afflicted or trashing a pop star's outfit, Musto remains an institution because of his ability to write with humor and passion.

"My colleagues at *The Village Voice* always knew when I was editing Michael's column by the sharp bursts of laughter that would emerge from my cubicle," says Charles McNulty, the *Voice's* former theatre editor. "It astonished me that he was able to keep his column so comically fresh, week after week, year after year — it has to be some kind of journalistic record."

That record came to an end in May, when

the *Voice*, in what many press-watchers said may be the storied weekly's swan song, laid off Musto.

Unlike some of the stars he covers, Musto was on to the next thing before he even packed up his desk. He now writes regularly for Out.com and Gawker and continues to freelance and make frequent appearances on TV.

Musto seems eternally young, pedaling through late-night New York City on his bicycle, chronicling the next famous teenager and the 25-year-old has-been who will always give him something to write about.

"I don't get tired of it," he says. "If I ever take up complaining that I get to go to fabulous nightclubs, that would be insane."

Ethan Rouen '04J, '11 Business is a Ph.D. student at the Business School and a columnist for *Fortune.com*. He is a former CCT associate editor.

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

returning to the Baltimore area several years ago, I've rediscovered a love for sailing, especially on Tall Ships. In August, my sister and I celebrated mutual birthdays with an evening cruise on the *Lady Maryland* followed by a five-course dinner with great wine pairings at the Living Classrooms Foundation in Bawltmer's Fells Point.

During Labor Day weekend I went to Ohio, where I rode every (adult) roller coaster at Cedar Point, spent a day in Put-in-Bay touring the *Niagara* (the Tall Ship of Pennsylvania) and did several day sails (on the *Windy*, the Tall Ship of Chicago, and the *Matthew & Hailey*). The next day, I participated in the very real 200th anniversary reenactment of the Battle of Lake Erie, with 17 tall ships taking part. Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is unusual in that it is a place celebrating the durable peace between the United States and Canada, but largely due to the outcome of the battle. I encourage you to visit; it's well worth the while!

I ended the trip with a visit to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, where a special exhibition was celebrating 50 years of The Rolling Stones. Of course, there's lots going on in the Baltimore area, too, and I've been to events marking the 200th anniversaries of both the Battle of St. Michaels and the Battle of North Point. Finally, in mid-September, I was in Madison, Wis., for an Alzheimer's walk with my cousins, honoring the 'strong Nichols women' who succumbed to this pernicious ailment. (We lost two of them just last year, both in their late 80s, and most others lived into their 90s — so I come from long-living but compromised genes. We miss them all and are proud to call them our forewomen!)

Of counsel with Baker Donelson in the firm's Atlanta office, **Joshua Tropper** concentrates his practice in the areas of intellectual property and technology law as well as appellate litigation. Josh has extensive experience in counseling, licensing and litigation to protect clients' copyrights, trademarks, patents and trade secrets. Recently, he defended hardware and software firms from claims asserted by patent "trolls." (I hope he doesn't mind that I found him through one of my "bots"!)

Josh and his wife, Jeanne Watson '83 Arch., '83 PH, have finally emptied their nest and are looking forward to some peace and quiet before deciding what to do next.

As usual, I can't write a set of Notes without including a request or two. The kickoff to planning for our 40th Alumni Reunion Weekend (save the date: Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015) took

place during Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend in October, and a number of classmates have already agreed to be on the Reunion Committee. We'll keep reaching out to others but if you're willing, please contact me!

Also, the Fiscal Year 2014 Columbia College Fund is open and accepting donations. I've already made my first contribution to this year's fund (in time to deduct it this year, too!). Have you? Some of you will be getting emails or calls soon — please respond and be generous! You can give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling 212-851-7488; alternately, mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

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Ira Cooper is celebrating his 30th year with Travelers Insurance. "I guess I feel secure under that umbrella," he says.

Kevin Berry has plenty of news: "My new granddaughter, Leighton Hope Kaho, is getting lots of attention. My daughter, Keeley, is getting married soon and her

Franco Mormando '77 was promoted to full professor of Italian at Boston College, where he chairs the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures.

sisters, Emily (Thomas Jefferson University) and Leah (Temple), are in graduate programs; for me and my wife, Meredith, that will make it six out of six children with graduate degrees. My commercial trial practice remains active. I recently successfully concluded a trial in Chicago and am looking forward to the next one on the West Coast. A hearty shoutout to my classmates and teammates."

Louis Anon will make you jealous with this account of his first year of retirement: "My partner and I now spend summers in Nova Scotia and winters in Florida. We are leaving for two months in Italy this fall. We plan to come back to Florida and spend the winter sailing; it's really very beautiful on the southwest coast. Lots of great anchorages."

All has been too quiet lately. Your classmates want to hear from

you! Write with news about your life, whether career, family, travel or accomplishments, and I'll share it in a future issue. You can use either of the addresses at the top of the column or send a note via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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This season I received notes from just two classmates, which I hasten to share.

Congratulations to **Franco Mormando** on his promotion to full professor of Italian at Boston College, where he chairs the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. His latest book is *Bernini: His Life and His Rome*, the first biography in English of the great Baroque artist. Franco duly notes that he first encountered Bernini in an Art Hum course "all the way back in 1973."

Congratulations also to **Jon Lukomnik**, who in June received the 2013 International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN) Award for Excellence in Corporate Governance. Jon is executive director of the Investor Responsibility Research Center Institute and is recognized as a leading thinker on corporate governance and responsibility. I was interested to read excerpts from his acceptance speech, where he encouraged — nay, admonished

— 500 or so listeners to reflect, in long-term and broad-scope ways, on the social purpose and impact of investment strategies. I doubt that Jon started considering these things in Art Hum but I can attest that he was already a big-picture guy when he worked at *Spectator* — and that, too, was almost 40 years ago.

By now you're used to the infectiously upbeat tone of this column, I expect, but we need to take a break for a moment. We are entering that period where CC '77 obituaries will no longer be so unusual. A few columns back, I was struggling with the whole topic of memorials. On the one hand, I couldn't provide one for everybody if I wanted to; on the other, I don't think we should ignore the topic, either. So, tell you what: I'm open to including memorials to classmates in the column if you want to offer one. After all, we

already print memories of events, experiences, places and people such as faculty and staff.

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Does it seem the seasons fly by quicker all the time? I remember the four years at Columbia passing as if they were a lifetime, months to be savored and semesters that each contained the texture and experiences of a new and strange adventure. I miss that sense of discovery and the slowness of experience that those days brought. A raw and innocent time. But here we are 35 years later. Our edges are sanded and smoother now.

Marc Bogatin's son, Jacob, is taking a year off from Syracuse and now leads an outdoor adventure program in Mexico. Younger son Joshua is a freshman at Oberlin; he hopes to be a filmmaker. While dropping off Josh, Marc bumped into **Gary Blackman** and his daughter, also starting at the Ohio school.

Ted Faraone writes, "At Alumni Reunion Weekend I was asked to introduce **Ric Burns**. He was fantastic. A total professional. I also taught the Alumni Office that in a room as big as what we had for the dinner, the audience questions need to be miked. At least I learned something from a lifetime in TV. In addition to seeing the guys, it was great to meet **Chris Dell's** wife and to reconnect with **Lesa Rader '78 Barnard**, **Amanda Kissin Low '78 Barnard** and **Jami Bernard '78 Barnard** as well as to enjoy **Chuck Callan's** hospitality at the pre-reunion lunch he hosted at his beautiful house on the Hudson."

Rob Blank says, "It was great to see everyone at reunion. I would have enjoyed one more day. Since then I've become fully engaged in my new position at the Medical College of Wisconsin and am working to get my lab up to full speed. My wife, Sue Coppersmith, and daughter, Deborah, are both thriving."

Seth Josephson writes, "I'm the proud father of five fabulous girls, ages 4–15! Certainly my greatest accomplishment. I've moved around the East Coast quite a bit since my Columbia days but have settled in quiet northern New Jersey. I stumbled into medical sales nearly 25 years ago and had just one brief hiatus from it. I am an account executive with Thermo Fisher Scientific."

Russ Frazer reports, "I am now a senior member of the Institute of

Electrical and Electronics Engineers. My recent elevation in membership was due to my managerial work for the New Jersey Coast Section."

David Beazer writes, "I'm digital content associate editor at *Consumer Reports*, where I've worked since 2006. In August 2012, my wife and I moved to Dutchess County, N.Y."

Tom Mariam writes, "My mother, Lisa Mariam, recently passed away at 97. It was quite comforting to hear from many of my Columbia classmates during our period of mourning. I thought I'd share two somewhat relevant notes concerning my mom:

"First, denied the opportunity to go to college in Germany as a Jew in the late '30s, my mother waited until I graduated from Columbia to earn her own B.A. She was well into her 60s. And second, though not much of a football fan, she will always have a connection to Columbia football with her name on a seat at [Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A.] Wien Stadium, which I dedicated when the stadium was built in appreciation of what my parents did to make my Columbia experience possible."

Barry Rosenblatt reports, "After 30 years in the bio-pharmaceutical industry, I have been an independent consultant helping small, emerging companies develop their biologics. I can honestly say that I am having the most fun and energizing time since my early days in a start-up [Janssen Biotech, formerly Centocor Biotech]. I have even had time to come back to New York and see shows and movies — I recently attended the New York Film Festival and saw the world premiere of *Captain Phillips* from the fifth row — and shop at Zabar's!"

James (Huck) Hill writes, "Performing some poetry of Edgar Allan Poe and enjoying his dark visions. I don't recall studying Poe in our Lit Hum classes. What's up with that, is he too Goth? ... Is there any room for bohemians in the College anymore, or are they all superstars?"

Dave Danner says, "Greetings from Olympia, Wash., where my wife, Lauren, and I have made our home for 20 years. I chair the state's utilities commission and am a member of the governor's cabinet. Rest assured I am putting to good use my comparative literature degree and everything I learned from Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig. I get to New York fairly often. Last year, we took our daughter, Sophie (13), to see the campus and enjoyed lunch at Tom's Restaurant with my freshman roommate, Scott Morgan '77. The menu hasn't changed all that much since college, even if Scott and I have aged slightly."

Steve Bargonetti writes, "In addition to being able to hear my guitar and banjo playing on *Sesame Street*, I've been recording music for Steven Van Zandt's TV series, *Lilyhammer*. I'm also scheduled to play guitar for the musical *Holler if Ya Hear Me*, featuring the music of Tupac Shakur, which is coming to Broadway."

Billy Holden reports, "Effective this October I became a faculty member (professor, preventive medicine) at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai, after far too many years as a wage slave in the pharmaceutical industry."

John Crabtree says, "River-Market Bar and Kitchen, my new restaurant/greenmarket/specialty wine shop, has opened for business in Tarrytown, N.Y., by the Hudson River. It features Hudson Valley farmers' products (meats, produce, cheeses, etc.), both in the market and in the restaurant, and biodynamic/organic wines in the wine store. It's a short walk from the Tarrytown train station on the Hudson Line from Grand Central Station."

Marvin I.C. Siegfried reports: "Still teaching high school in Brooklyn. Will be glad to see the back of Mayor Michael Bloomberg; what he has done to education in NYC is nothing short of terrible. Stepson and stepdaughter both got married earlier this year; both weddings were great. Couldn't make the 35th reunion despite plans to go. Hoping to make the 40th."

Paul Phillips writes, "This year marks my 25th year as director of orchestras and chamber music at Brown and my 20th year as music director of the Pioneer Valley Symphony, which celebrates its 75th anniversary this year."

Jeffrey Moerdler says, "I have been bumping into **Mike Schuller** a lot lately, as his in-laws live in my building. My son, Eric, is going for a master's in real estate development at the Architecture School; he and his twin brother, Jonathan, graduated from NYU last spring. Eric from NYU College of Arts and Sciences with a major in architecture and urban planning and Jonathan from the undergraduate NYU Stern School of Business. Jonathan's wife of one year, Kayla Freilich Moerdler '13 Barnard, is going for a master's in occupational therapy at New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center."

Tim Weiner writes, "Raising two fantastic daughters, happily married to a wonderful woman for 20 years, happily separated from **Tom's Restaurant** with my freshman roommate, Scott Morgan '77. The menu hasn't changed all that much since college, even if Scott and I have aged slightly."



Four alumni tailgated at the Jets-Patriots game on October 20 (left to right): Brian Krisberg '81, '84L; Dale Meyer '80E; Jess Drabkin '79; and Wade Black '99 GS, '05 Business.

sional trip to my favorite hellholes like Afghanistan and Sudan, life has been very, very good to me."

Chris Dell is retired from the State Department after almost 33 years as of October 31: "I'll be moving to Mozambique with my wife, Tedi, who will be at the USAID [United States Agency for International Development] mission there, so the break from Uncle [Sam] isn't quite as clean as I'd like. However, I will be starting my second career, in the private sector, there, and am excited about the changes."

Daniel Mikulsky reports, "I completed requirements for my second master's, an M.A. in homeland security from American Military University. It was all virtual and yet in some ways built upon the education that I received at Columbia."

Thanks for the great response we have been getting for the column lately. Let's keep it up!

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014**

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News from **Jeffrey Light** focuses on the splendor of the outdoors, as he recently "finished a beautiful multi-day hike of California's High Sierra Trail with some buddies. The view from the top of the trail is pretty inspiring. Hope all's well with my fellow Lions. Greetings from the Left Coast!"

Robert Bo Newsome writes, "My wife, Phyllis, passed in 2002. I am happy to share that I have remarried, and it will be four years come February. I met Prim, who is Thai, while attending a festival at a

Thai *wat* [monastery temple] near home. She was a stockbroker in Bangkok before immigrating to the United States. Now she is an entrepreneur selling sweet and savory Thai desserts and drinks through local ethnic markets and at festivals.

"Last fall I retired from playing competitive rugby ... for the third time. I had been playing for the old French International Team, aka the Alexandria Roosters Rugby Football Club, for the past three years. It was a blast! Many of the players are affiliated with the French Embassy and the coach, Tony Flay, is a New Zealander who played for the United States in a World Cup. I can see myself running down the pitch with a whistle in hand, not as a ref — my skin's not thick enough for that — but as a coach in the not-too-distant future. I hoped to catch a bit of the Old Blue [Rugby Football Club] game during Homecoming weekend."

Robert C. Klapper: "For the last three years my second career has been as a radio talk show host on ESPN. The show is called *Weekend Warrior*. It has allowed me, with the blessing of my bosses at ESPN, the incredible renaissance luxury of combining the worlds of art, medicine, surgery and sports. The experience culminated on a recent weekend with my taking two art history experts from The J. Paul Getty Museum and 50 sports fans to the museum to compare the great 20th-century artist Pablo Picasso with Laker great Kobe Bryant, and the tortured painter Vincent van Gogh with the tortured Yankee Alex Rodriguez."

"The morning of the museum visit, my guest on the radio show was *Sports Illustrated* senior writer David Epstein '02, author of an incredible book, *The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance*. (He has since moved on to a position with ProPublica, which produces investigative journalism in the public interest.) As we spoke he compared elite

quarterback Peyton Manning and his masterful football skill set to that of a grand master chess player and to the musical abilities of Carlos Santana and Miles Davis. This magnificent analogy took my breath away, which isn't good when you are a voice on the radio. It was at this moment that my producer's voice entered my ear and said, 'Dr. Klapper, ask him where he went to school.' Mr. Epstein's response: 'I went to Columbia.' [Editor's note: See feature on Epstein in Bookshelf.]

"Now, my fellow '79-ers: How cool is it that whatever path we alumni follow after graduation, we each still see the world in a Core Curriculum kind of way? It made me proud."

Roar, lion, roar!

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Congratulations to **Carl Haber**, who in September was named a 2013 MacArthur Fellow [see Around the Quads]. The "Genius Grant," as it's often called, comes with a stipend of \$625,000 paid across five years. Carl is an audio preservationist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, Calif., and was the first person to hear Alexander Graham Bell's restored voice, speaking from 1885.

My wife, Marianne, and I had dinner with **Jay Kutlow** and his wife, Diana Wood Kutlow '80 Barnard, on their recent East Coast trip. Jay produces high-quality sports broadcasts for ESPN and MLB on the West Coast. We had a great discussion over a bottle of chardonnay on hitting a baseball.

The pros from Dover had an opportunity to tee it up with the Columbia men's and women's golf teams at The Tuxedo Club.

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook



Check out the Columbia College Alumni page!
[facebook.com/alumnicc](https://www.facebook.com/alumnicc)

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings,

Eric Blattman, Joe Ciulla, Shawn FitzGerald and I spent an afternoon with Shawn's son, Christian '17, hitting wedges and making putts. Both teams are loaded with great players and will be a pleasure to follow this season.

Jim Gerkis and I attended the Columbia College Fund's Fund Development Council meeting in early October and were impressed with the fundraising plans for this year. We really need your support for this year's campaign. You can give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling 212-851-7488, or mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

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Winter is nearly upon us, and no news to report! But I know that doesn't mean that no news is happening. Take a few minutes to share with us — what's the latest with you, your family, your career, your travels? You can write me at either address at the top of the column or use CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. In the meantime, I wish you a happy, healthy holiday season.

82

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Greetings, gentlemen. I hope all is well and that the Federal Reserve's "tapering" activities won't cause any of you to delay your retirement plans. An odd personal note in this regard: I recently met economist Janet Yellen (at this writing, nominated as Fed chair) on a flight from Denver to San Francisco and commented, in response to her rather substantial piece of carry-on luggage, "now I know where you're hiding all those bonds you've been buying." She was quite a good sport about the comment but refused to give me any details. Ah, well ...

I'm pleased to report that we had a nice, somewhat sports-themed response this quarter, featuring baseball, hockey and a tale of extraordinary determination and endurance!

First, baseball. Our accomplished and "camera-ready" classmate, **Frederick Katayama** '83J, let us know that he recently received the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) National Journalism

Award for a story he did at Reuters TV on the pitch that baffles batters (and catchers) — the knuckleball. He writes, "I pursued this topic with my producer, Zach Goelman '08J, after then-Mets knuckleball pitcher R.A. Dickey hurled two one-hitters in a row." The story is titled "The Knuckleball: The Science Behind Why It's So Damn Hard to Hit." It's an interesting piece of journalism and available for viewing on YouTube — just enter Frederick's full name and "knuckleball" as your search terms. At the same event, Marcus Brauchli '83 won the Leadership in Diversity Award from AAJA.

Congratulations and nicely done! Now we move on to hockey. The esteemed **John J. Cifu** has updated us on his career, family, marriage of 28 years, scholarly children and recent, rather surprising family acquisition. Clearly, John, you have some valuable "life" wisdom. But let's hear it in his own words:

"I've been in Palm Harbor, Fla. — 20 miles west of Tampa — for 15 years and I'm the director of accounting at Pinch A Penny (Florida-based pool store chain with more than 200 locations). My daughter, Amanda, recently graduated from FSU and my son, James, is a senior at USF. Both are Florida state schools. I have been married 28 years to Annmarie Canavina '80 Baruch. The big news is that my baby brother, Douglas '87, has become an owner of the NHL's Florida Panthers, in Sunrise, Fla. I know he would never have the time to send anything in, so I wanted everyone to know."

How cool is that? Finally, a tale of extraordinary determination from the erudite **Steve Sullivan**. He sets it up admirably with an epigram:

"Gradual school is where you go to school and you gradually find out you don't want to go to school anymore." — *The World According to Garp*, (1982), G.R. Hill (director), John Irving (author), Steve Tesich (screenplay)

"It took nearly a quarter-century of halting progress and two doctoral sponsors — Jim Shenton [49] passed away and Ken Jackson wouldn't let me quit — and my family is still (surprisingly) speaking to me. But *A Social History of the Brooklyn Irish, 1850–1900* is done and my fourth Columbia degree is on the wall: B.A. '82, M.A. '84, M.Phil. '88, Ph.D. '13. ... Eric Foner [63, '69 GSAS] and Jackson both went to bat for me on more than one occasion, each believing in me and my research. It's no record but 25 years puts me in some sort of pantheon of slackers, right?"

Steve, I must admit that I'm impressed and I greatly enjoyed the

comment from your mother that you included in your dissertation dedication: "The impossible just takes a little longer."

Keep those notes coming!

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Several of our classmates were listed in my Harvard Law anniversary report.

Howard Adler '82 is a partner at Clifford Chance. His practice focuses on the treatment of executive compensation and employee benefits matters in M&A transactions.

Miguel Estrada is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. He co-chairs the firm's Appellate and Constitutional Law Practice Group. From 1992 to 1997, Miguel served as assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States. He is a member of the Board of Visitors of Harvard Law. In 2011, Chambers and Partners named Miguel as one of a handful of attorneys who ranked in the top tier among the nation's leading appellate lawyers. In 2001 he was nominated by President George W. Bush to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

David Hershey-Webb writes, "In September I argued before the New York Court of Appeals. The case involved a son's right to succeed to his mother's Mitchell-Lama apartment."

In May, I attended a Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting where details were given about the Class of 2017, for which the College and Engineering received a combined 33,531 applications. Columbia was ranked, once again, fourth among universities by *U.S. News & World Report*.

In addition, 62 members of the College Class of 2017 and six members of the Engineering Class of 2017 are sons or daughters of College alumni. The list includes Bradley Davison (Peddie School in Skillman, N.J.), son of the late **Henry Davison Jr.**; Mira Frenkel (Catalina Foothills H.S. in Tucson), daughter of **David Frenkel**; Olivia Harrison (Riverdale Country School in the Bronx, N.Y.), daughter of **David Harrison**; and Gregory Momjian (Radnor H.S. in Radnor, Pa.), son of **Mark Momjian**.

It was great to see Dr. **David Kriegel** at Alumni Reunion Weekend. David is a nationally recognized Mohs skin cancer, cosmetic and laser surgeon. He is director and founder of the Manhattan Center for Dermatology in NYC. He also

is the director of the Division of Dermatologic and Mohs Surgery at The Mount Sinai Hospital in NYC, a position he's held since 1997, and the director of the Procedural Dermatology Fellowship program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Department of Dermatology, a position he's held since 2003.

David has been a featured expert in the media, appearing on news programs and in magazines such as *Cosmopolitan*, *Reader's Digest*, *Good Housekeeping* and *Redbook*. He has been recognized as a skin cancer expert in *The New York Times* as well as by Lou Dobbs on CNN.

In connection with the American Masters documentary on Mel Brooks, **Eddy Friedfeld**, who also consulted on the Emmy-winning program, conducted a lengthy interview with Brooks that was published in *Cinema Retro Magazine*. Eddy notes, "In 1982 I bought 10 copies of the *High Anxiety* soundtrack, the flip side of which included the songs from all of the other Brooks films, to give as holiday gifts to friends. When I presented it to one of my college friends, he clutched the LP to his chest and ran off eager to play it. Flash forward to 1995, when I get a box in the mail — it was the *2000 Year Old Man* boxed set that had just been released on CD with a note from that friend thanking me for the LP 12 years earlier."

That friend was Dennis Klainberg '84. Eddy, Dennis and I remain close friends.

Jon Ross sent some incredible photos from his Micro Aid project in Peru. In this case, a family had lost its adobe home in the 2010 floods and had been living in a shack, and Micro Aid built a beautiful new home for them. It has five rooms, is 1,400 sq. ft. with a second-floor foundation, and is designed to withstand floods and earthquakes. Twelve people will live there. Jon notes, "Our work helped the community by employing people and injecting much-needed cash into the local economy." (Read a profile on Ross in the Spring 2013 CCT.)

Steve Holtje keeps busy with a mix of editing and music work: He is the content editor of Culture Catch.com, for which he also writes music articles; a freelance reviewer for eMusic.com and the magazine *The Big Takeover*; a developmental editor working on neuroscience and psychology books for Oxford University Press; a jack of all trades (A&R, PR, marketing) for venerable record label ESP-Disk, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year; runs his own micro-label, MechaBenzaiten Records, which offers electronic music of the dark and droney sort; and is a prolific composer of classi-

cal art songs with a modern twist.

While attending a College/Barnard reunion event, Sharon Dizenhuz '83 Barnard saw my original Sam Steinberg painting and afterward send me a photograph of the Columbia icon. She writes, "I was thrilled to connect with you so we can work together to create future fun Barnard/Columbia joint events. As for the Sam pic, you can print it and tape it to the back of your framed original to establish 'provenance' for your progeny."

David Rubel writes, "My daughter, Abigail, will graduate from high school in three years." David was invited to participate in the CAA Alumni Author Book Fair that was part of Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend, held October 11–12.

Wayne Allyn Root plans to publish a new book, *The Murder of the Middle Class*. It is scheduled for release in summer 2014.

Teddy Weinberger's daughter, Rebecca, represented Israeli basketball in the Maccabiah Games. The first game was against the United States. Rebecca had a fantastic game. Israel tied the United States at the buzzer but lost in overtime.

A memorial service was held for Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig on October 19 at the new Boat House before the Homecoming game. About 30 Columbia graduates and friends participated, including George Wilson '83, Ted Allegaert '87, Joseph Cabrera '82, Michael Schmidtberger '82, Jim Weinstein '84, David Filosa '82, Dennis Klainberg '84, Tom Vinciguerra '85, Chuck Callan '78, Mark Gibson '86, Adam Belanoff '84, Joel Halio '74, Alex Demac '78, Dean Dakolias '89E, Rob Toggweiler '75, Bill Basri '84, Phil Donahue '84, David Godfried '84 and me.

Professor Selig's ashes were dispersed in the Harlem River while Dennis played *Taps*. For a more detailed description, please see "Letters to the Editor" and read the moving note from Joel.

Ted, the executor of KLS' will, shared with us some photos and personal artifacts including the following letter that Professor Selig wrote to *The New York Times* on April 29, 2005:

"I read with great delight the article by Dana Bowen, 'By Cheese Possessed,' Dining, April 27, 2005. But a favorite cheese of mine, an important part of my life, was not mentioned in the florilegium of the many cited. Fortunately I can get this cheese in a very caring and lovely neighborhood store. It is the Spanish cheese Rocinante. We are in an important literary anniversary year and want to honor and celebrate one of the greatest, universal and global works of art of all times.



Frederick Katayama '82 (center) and his wife, Kaoriko Kuge, with Marcus Brauchli '83 at the Asian American Journalists Association Awards Dinner, which took place in August at the New York Hilton Midtown. Both Katayama and Brauchli received awards at the event.

Don Quixote was published in 1605. And Rocinante was the Knight Errant's loyal dapple and steed."

Ted also notes, "KLS was one of a kind. God bless him for having enriched our lives the way he did. He having done right by me when I needed a favor, I was glad to help him out all those years later. Little did I know that in the process I would join such a rich circle of friendships, and that in pursuing our common purpose of making Professor's last years tolerable, a warm sense of community and shared commitment would take root. I'd like to think we all succeeded against great odds in materially brightening his days until the very end."

REUNION WEEKEND
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Remember Convocation? It took place just after our parents dropped us off on Broadway and marked the start of Orientation Week. If memory serves, it was held in Low Library, and the main speaker was Dean Roger Lehecka '67, '74 GSAS.

I remember his speech included shout-outs to the high school valedictorians, class presidents and other overachievers, the goodly number of NYC high school graduates, the athletes, the gifted musicians and so forth. His view was that we, the men (at that time, of course), were blessed "because wasn't the sky Columbia blue?"

Well, these days Convocation is a family affair, very much like Class Day, and it includes the Alumni Procession. The alumni are grouped by decades, and yours truly is proud to have represented our class. The gaggle of '80s grads also included Dr. **Fred Fisher** (this time in tribute to his daughter Rebecca '17; daughter Talia '13 graduated in the spring), and Mark Momjian '83 (whom I met on day one, 9 a.m., in a Lit Hum class taught by Professor Peter Awn, now dean of GS).

In response to my e-blast sharing Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig's 1975 *Columbian* essay, **Michael Kittel** wrote, "Selig was the best, although I mainly knew him from speaking in the elevator." To which I responded, "And that's exactly what made him great. He was always willing to reach out to students, even (and perhaps especially!) those who did not take his classes!"

Peregrine Beckman writes, "Here's the latest from Los Angeles: Daughter Eleanor '16 did well in her freshman year, lived in Carman and appeared in the musical *A Party Worth Crashing* in Lerner Hall, which I got to see on a felicitously timed trip to NYC. She's in Nussbaum this year, a dorm that

was an apartment building when we were students. She was here in L.A. this past summer, working at the production company Original Productions, where I usually work.

"I'm producing and editing a new show for History Channel, *The Legend of Shelby the Swamp Man*, a spinoff of its *Ax Men*. My wife, Elizabeth Leicester '87, is at the Asia Institute in UCLA. We recently parted with our former roommate, Shipherd Reed '86, at his 50th in Tucson."

Eric Wakin writes, "My wife, Kathryn Kaminsky, and I have relocated with our three children to the Bay Area, where I'm an associate director of the Hoover Institution at Stanford, a research fellow and director of its library and archives. We look forward to connecting with Columbians in the area."

Thomas Dyja reports, "My book, *The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream*, was published in April and was featured twice in *The New York Times*: on the front cover of its *Sunday Book Review*, as well as in one of its daily editions. Here's a link to my website: thomasdyja.com."

Michael Sauerman celebrated his 50th in Japan; adopted a female cat, a beautiful calico, from Bidawee on East 38th Street; and purchased a home in Brooklyn Heights in July with his partner, Tim. Says Michael, "Life is good."

Daniel G. Berick has been named Cleveland Securities/Capital Markets Law Lawyer of the Year for 2014 by *Best Lawyers*, a long-standing and well-respected legal peer-review publication. Dan is the Americas chair of Squire Sanders' Global Corporate Practice, focusing on securities law, corporate finance and corporate transactional matters. He is consistently listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for corporate, leveraged buyouts and private equity, mergers and acquisitions, and securities law.

Randy Lerner, Daniel's family friend — their fathers, Jim Berick '55 and Alfred Lerner '55, were College friends and business associates — and a fellow Clevelandite (turned Hampton-ite) was reported in *The Wall Street Journal* to have developed The Inn at Windmill Lane in Amagansett, N.Y., a luxury inn, with additional super-luxe cottages being finished for this fall.

At Homecoming, the ashes of our dearly departed friend and professor, Karl-Ludwig Selig, were scattered in the river in front of the Boat House; all took place before a gathering of former students and friends (per his will). For a most poignant description, please see "Letters to the Editor" and read the note from Joel Halio '74.

Our 30th reunion is next spring, so please consider attending. Details to follow via email.

Stay in touch!

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October marked two years since **Jim Lima** started his own strategic planning and real estate development advisory firm, James Lima Planning + Development. Work includes helping craft a business plan and selecting a location for a proposed National LGBT Museum in Washington, D.C.; development feasibility work for a new The Water Institute of the Gulf on the Mississippi in Baton Rouge; and creating a destination waterfront park along St. Anthony Falls in Minneapolis. Jim recently testified at the New York City Council, where he shared his research on the real estate development potential around what should be a new world-class Penn Station transit hub, and at The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission in support of protecting the nation's first workforce housing (on the Upper East Side) from demolition. He also writes that he is "recently 'gay separated' after 28 years with my college roommate, but obviously thrilled about marriage equality."

Tim Tomasi reported going through old photos from a Glee Club trip to Quebec (including some of yours truly with what Tim reports is a "'70s/'80s suave look." Tim is a superior court judge in Vermont. He writes, "It is still a pretty steep learning curve. My practice had been focused on civil litigation but now I am in charge of the family and criminal dockets as well. Plus, the civil docket is filled with collections, foreclosures and landlord tenant cases, which, again, I did not do. So, some days are pretty taxing. Plus there is a lot of stress with the abuse, juvenile and criminal cases. But each day I learn more and (I hope) get a bit better."

On September 7, several track and field teammates gathered at the Acquadotto Romano Polo Club, which is just south of Rome, Italy, for the wedding of Massimo (Max) Fielding Elser '85 GS and Tessa Laura Fahlbusch of Göttingen, Germany. These included Steven Carrara '84, John Schuttly '80, **Terry Jones** and Lance Warrick '79.

Dale Smith has been named head of school at Isidore Newman School in New Orleans. Dale, born and raised in the Crescent City, began his teaching career as a middle

school math teacher at the Collegiate School in NYC. He returned to New Orleans in 1990 and began his career at Newman as an upper school teacher of mathematics and computer science. He earned an M.S. in counseling from Loyola in 2007. As Dale made the transition at Newman from the classroom into educational leadership, his administrative responsibilities included department chairman, dean of students, upper school head and associate head of school. He also was head of school at Pine Crest School, a large PK-12 independent school in South Florida with 2,600 students and more than 250 teachers on two campuses.

A plug for the Alumni Representative Committee (ARC): I know many of you interview prospective Columbia students as part of the admissions process. It is a great way to assist and participate in the process of keeping the best students front and center for the College. ARCs in many regions cannot interview all of the interested candidates (there are more than 30,000 applicants annually). Whether for interviews, College fairs or internship opportunities, I know that all help is always appreciated. You can find out more at undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/admissions/archandbook/.

And speaking of admissions, the Fall CCT listed the legacy members of the College and Engineering Classes of 2017 and I am pleased to say that our class leads the way with nine students! Congrats to **David Avigan**, **Pace Cooper** (with twin boys in the class), **Jinduk Han**, **Gary Jacobs**, **Joseph Lang**, **Frank Nelson**, **Mark Rothman** and **Mischa Zobotin** — and, of course, their children.

Just think — only 18 months until our 30th Alumni Reunion Weekend. Save the dates: Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015.

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It's been 27 years since graduation and we have **Josh Cabat's** first update, which he wrote during the summer — "possibly inspired by the fact that my only child, Melissa, is to leave for Oberlin in a couple of weeks. I am the chair of English at the Roslyn (N.Y.) Public Schools and celebrated my silver anniversary in October. I taught in the NYC public schools for a dozen years, helping to found the High School for Leadership and Public Service on Trinity Place.

"I made the move to the 'burbs (to work, not to live) more than a dozen

years ago, the first nine as teacher and the last four as chair. Yet when I think about it, my days on the Heights have never left me; when I got to Roslyn, I founded a popular humanities program that is essentially the Core adapted for some really bright and energetic high schoolers. For the last few years, I have been the teaching artist for the Young Film Critics program at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (thank you for the inspiration, Professor Andrew Sarris '51, '98 GSAS). I also do a lot of workshops and speak at conferences across the country on behalf of the Folger Shakespeare Library (thank you for the inspiration, Professor Jim Shapiro '77), work that began with the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute and really took off when I co-founded the New York City Student Shakespeare Festival in the mid-'90s. I've also had the great fortune to do a lot of work with Apple, and I co-created one of the first K-12 courses for iTunes U (check it out — it's called 'History of World Literature' and will look familiar to any College grad).

"When I set off for Columbia 31 years ago (!), the only thing I knew for certain was that I would never become a teacher. Fortunately, I ignored myself completely, and the 25 years in the classroom have felt like 10 minutes. With the exception of a brief stint in Brooklyn, I have lived in the East Village since I returned from grad school at Chicago. Who would have thought that the neighborhood, which was wild, edgy and wonderfully heterogeneous in the late 1980s, would evolve into a glorified strip mall? (I nearly chained myself to the door in protest when 2nd Ave Deli was replaced by a Chase branch.)

"As sad as that has been to watch, the neighborhood has become progressively safer, enough so that my wife, Susan Scheer, and I decided not to move when my daughter was born. Raising her in the East Village has been one of the great experiences of my life, and I love the fact that she expects the world to look as diverse as her homeland. And yet, off she goes to Ohio, to a town with three streets on a good day. Watching her prepare to leave reminds me of my own arrival at the College, and of how what I learned there still has an impact on my world every day and is being passed on to new generations of students. So a big thank you to Columbia and hello to the Carman 13'ers, my fellow river rats and especially to my concert band and Marching Band buds."

Time definitely feels like it's passing faster now. Please take five minutes and update the class on whatever you like.

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As we in the northern climes prepare for hibernation, let's take a few minutes to remember summer 2013 as those lazy, hazy, crazy ... actually, the crazy days begin to disappear from view!

First we take a moment to recall the early summer, where in Washington, D.C., the government was ablaze with mass negotiations over President Barack Obama '83's recess appointees. **Sharon Block** wrote in with the best news of all about this latest government kerfuffle. Although as a result of the negotiations her term as a member of the National Labor Relations Board came to an end, she is now senior counselor to Secretary of Labor Tom Perez. "I'm thrilled to have found a new place in the administration to continue to work on issues related to American workers," she says.

In a story that some (like me) might describe as the trip of a lifetime, **Rebecca Laber-Smith** reported that she and her husband, Chuck, decided to leave their jobs and take their boys, Cal (14) and Toby (11), on a summer-long trip across the country. They detailed their 43-day adventure on their blog, Great Green Iguana (greatgreeniguana.com).

Next we head over to Chilmark, Mass., on Martha's Vineyard, where **Joe Liu**, his wife, Megan Glasheen, and daughter, Simone (13), spent a week with **Steve Abrahamson**, his wife, Maritza Guzman, and their daughter, Sofia, and Steve Cancian '86 and his wife, Hanne Rasmussen. Joe reports that Steve A. is the direct mail guru at Planned Parenthood and Steve C. is a landscape architect in Los Angeles. Joe directs campaign strategy for AARP. Lazy days on the beach and at the agricultural fair were interrupted only by Joe's triathlon workouts. Since finishing chemo for lymphoma in December, he has bounced back and participated in three triathlons, a 50-mile bike race and the Ragnar Relay Series from Saratoga Springs to Lake Placid. Joe said they were all wondering whether there are other 1980s-era Columbians on the island in August who might want to meet up for a family picnic at Black Point Beach next year.

My version of life in academia-land is not much different. I finally had the opportunity to walk in a graduation ceremony, almost one year after defending my dissertation, but there is nothing like the ritual of being hooded to bring home the reality of having completed this (very long) journey. Like Cathy, I have been publishing in academic journals, though on topics such as women in existential psychology, and film and neuro-cognitive psychology. In addition, I am managing editor of Saybrook University's New Existentialists website, newexistentialists.com, which features the work of existential-humanistic psychologists from around the world writing on the relationship between this very human, non-diagnostic, respectful way of working with people and the issues of the day, globally and

locally. **Madeleine Villanueva** has joined the academia club. She recently began a nine-month professional placement as part of National Urban Fellows, which culminates in an M.P.A. fellowship. Madeleine says, "The placement is with The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, an advocacy and direct services organization that stresses building upon existing strengths and fostering self-sufficiency. During this mentorship, I will be developing a Spanish language financial literacy curriculum geared toward their clients — women, mostly, who operate home-based day care centers."



Massimo "Max" Fielding Elser '85 GS and Tessa Laura Fahlbusch were married September 7 at the Acquadotto Romano Polo Club, south of Rome, Italy. Among the attendees were (left to right) Steven Carrara '84; Nickie Mai; John Schuttly '80; the groom; the bride; Terry Jones '85 and his wife, Dominique; and Helene Alexopoulos and her husband, Lance Warrick '79. Also in attendance but not pictured was Gabriella Lorenzotti Moncada '85 Barnard.

surviving the insane weather that blew through Oklahoma City and its environs.

Not content to just take on the duties of chair, Cathy also took a group of students to Italy and France, some of whom had barely been out of Oklahoma, much less the country, and published an article on the French author and filmmaker Jean Cocteau in an academic journal. In addition, Cathy went home to Connecticut for her 30th high school reunion.

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Diane Orlinsky had much to report after attending our reunion, writing, "Our 25th reunion was fantastic! My only regret was that I didn't make it to enough activities and didn't get to catch up with everyone."

"**Claudia Kraut Rimerman** lives in Stamford, Conn., with her husband and three children. She runs a boutique consulting firm specializing in health care reform

and wellness, performs in local musical theatre, sings with a classic rock cover band, runs obstacle races like the Rugged Maniac 5K Obstacle Race and Warrior Dash, and has seven belts in Muay Thai kickboxing.

"**Laurence Holzman** '92L and his wife, Lara Hopfl Holzman '92L, live in Westchester with their sons, Andrew and Zach. Laurence still collaborates with **Felicia Needleman Levinson**, writing and producing original works of musical theatre.

"**Jonny Roskes** lives near Columbia (having moved back to NYC after a decade in Hong Kong), is a lawyer at Merrill Lynch and loves life in the city and otherwise."

Diane continued, "I live in Baltimore with my husband, Eric, and four children. I am a partner in a dermatology practice and an assistant professor of internal medicine and dermatology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. In my (little) spare time, I serve on the boards of the Johns Hopkins Alumni Council and the Family Tree in Maryland, as well as volunteer at Pathfinders for Autism, the Dermatology Foundation, Columbia's Alumni Representative Committee and my four children's schools."

As a relatively new father of two who is still struggling with the

basic work/life balance, I read the previous paragraph with awe and amazement.

Todd Johnson wrote from Omaha, where he lives with his "great wife of 19 years, Mary (we met in London while getting our grad school degrees; she was/is from Omaha ... I returned to Omaha). We have three great boys and, Mary claims, four boys under 49. Our sons, Ed, Sam and Charlie, are active in baseball, basketball and lacrosse. Note: No soccer players, so my coaching days ended mid-YMCA years.

"I have been with Gallup for 19 years. The first half of my career was spent running our various businesses around Latin America, and now I head Gallup's job creation and entrepreneurship practice. My hobbies consist of driving the boys to and from their practices and events (I hope that will change when the eldest turns 16) and running global marathons. [The company has] a group called 'Gallup Runs the World' and our 25th race was in Dublin in October."

Keep the updates coming! You can write me at either address at the top of the column or by using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. I look forward to hearing from you.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014**
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It's been a celebratory 2013 for many classmates, and we've now learned of another two who have said, "Bye-bye, bachelorhood."

On February 9, **Dan Loflin** married Diane Vrkic in a western-themed wedding appropriately set near the Alamo in San Antonio. **Matt Assiff** and **Russell Glover** were in attendance at the ceremony, which took place at Mission Concepcion, a historic mission established in 1716. The formal reception was held at the Briscoe Western Art Museum on the Paseo del Rio in San Antonio. Dan is an e.v.p. at Locus Energy in San Francisco.

Across the country, in New York City, **Jared Goldstein** married Amanda Levy in July at Flushing Town Hall, a historic, Victorian-era building in Queens. Among the Columbians in attendance were **Chris Mulligan**, **Tom Kamber**,

Adam Schneider '90, **Mark Novitz '91**, **Jonas Abney '92** and **Gabe Fischbar '87**. Jared writes, "Rabbi David Kalb '89 JTS, my Delta Phi brother, officiated. He and I go back to ninth grade, which made the ceremony even more meaningful. The band was Gent Treadly, which is kind of a descendant of the Columbia band DreamSpeak. People loved the music and the fact that the singer goes back years with me and Amanda, allowing him to personalize his emceeing."

Chris Alexander '90 runs communications at 20th Century Fox Television for *Modern Family*, *Glee*, *New Girl*, *The Simpsons* and many other series.

"Amanda is on her way to a Ph.D. in science curriculum development at TC. She is a water ecologist and epidemiologist at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. I own a NYC tour business, JaredtheNycTourGuide.com, through which I and associated guides give private walking tours to individuals, groups, schools and corporations. I also do tourism consulting on the business and creative ends. Amanda and I met in Tompkins Square Park in Alphabet City in 2009."

Of the event, **Tom Kamber** writes, "The wedding was gorgeous. Jared and Amanda are a beautiful couple and they found a lovely space in downtown Queens for the ceremony — it was like an urban oasis. They also tapped Jared's contacts in the music world to assemble the best band I've ever seen at a wedding. They rocked Flushing Town Hall like it was CBGB."

I've heard from many of you who are planning to attend our 25th Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. It's a big one, and I hope to see you there. More details will be available next time around but for now registration is most important. Go to reunion.college.columbia.edu to stay updated on the event; registration opens in the early spring.

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Chris Alexander is the man about town(s)! In September he wrote, "**Janice Min** and I cross paths quite a bit, as she quite literally has transformed the flailing trade *The Hollywood Reporter* into Hollywood's 'must-read' weekly with stories, interviews and photography that rival *Vanity Fair*'s. Recently Janice

was kind enough to be the featured speaker at my company's (20th Century Fox Television) monthly 'salon series,' in which we invite movers and shakers from all over the map to inspire our executives with stories of how they rose to the top of their fields and what fuels them creatively on and off the job. Guests have included film and TV producer Garry Marshall, Heart's Nancy Wilson and then-MOCA director Jeffrey Deitch. Of course, I made sure to pose several ques-

tions about our time at Columbia and how it figured into her success, because what publicist could resist a shameless plug for alma mater?"

"More recently, we threw a premiere for our Emmy- and Golden Globe-winning [TV show] *Homeland* in the nation's capital. My fellow Columbia Musical Theatre Society pals **Melissa Landau Steinman** and **Liz Lubow Poston** joined the festivities at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, where we screened the third season premiere with the cast, creative team and Washington notables such as Maureen Dowd, Lawrence O'Donnell, Martha Raddatz and Bob Schieffer in attendance. Melissa and Liz are both successful (Melissa as an attorney specializing in sweepstakes issues and Liz as a public relations executive who works in crisis communications) and live a short distance from each other, so in some ways their adult lives mirror 1986, when they met in Carman. In many ways our reunion felt like no time had passed, although the refrain 'We're old' crept into the conversation more than once.

"I run communications for the studio behind *Modern Family*, *Glee*, *New Girl*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *The Simpsons*, *Family Guy* and about 30 other series, so life is hectic but mostly fun. My partner, Michael, and I have been together for more than 14 years (and still haven't tied the knot, despite the fact that it's now legal in California) and are the dotting dads of two dogs and a bird. My spare time is spent on the tennis court, riding horses in the Hollywood Hills and in frequent visits to Massachusetts, where my three nephews are growing up at an alarming rate."

I always enjoy an update from **Gemma Tarlach**. She writes, "After nearly two years at McMurdo Station in Antarctica (see profile in January/February 2011), I headed to Norway to investigate an em-

ployment opportunity on a remote island a few hundred miles above the Arctic Circle in Vesterålen. To reach the place from Oslo, I had to take a plane to a bus to a boat to a bus to a boat to another bus to a Zodiac inflatable. Although the job didn't turn out to be as advertised, I did spend an amazing month surrounded by some of the most beautiful landscape I've ever encountered (and don't forget I've lived in New Zealand!). I returned to Milwaukee and joined the staff of the recently relocated science magazine *Discover*. In addition to editing, I write features now and then, including two in our December issue — one of which is an interview with Columbia's own Dr. Stephen Morse about pandemics.

"I purchased an adorable 1922 cottage that is a block away from the family home (and still part-time residence) of Gov. Scott Walker and though I have yet to ask to borrow a cup of sugar from the gov, the state troopers parked across the street 24/7 are always friendly. And watchful. Very watchful.

"When not pulling up carpet or writing about tissue conduction technology, I'm enjoying spending time with my adoptees from our local animal control (where I volunteer): Charles, an older cat, and Tyche, a 7-month-old pit bull mix who is the sweetest, most social dog I've ever had. One of the main reasons I quit the nomad lifestyle and left my beloved Antarctica, believe it or not, was to experience the joy of waking up with a furry something snuggled against me once again, and both Charles and Tyche (named for the Greek goddess of fortune) are fulfilling that role quite nicely. My dark historical novel, *Plaguewalker*, is selling particularly well in Spain and the United Kingdom. Also: I did not make any of this up."

Classmates, I'd like not to have to make anything up about anyone but if no one writes to me, well, we shall see what my fingers end up typing on the keyboard. Happy holidays to all!

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I'm sorry to report that **Solomon Johnson** passed away in September. Solo was football's Ivy League Rookie of the Year for 1988 and many of you will remember that he scored the winning touchdown in the historic game against Princeton that same year, which ended our 44-game losing streak. After school, he got into the music business, married and had two children. He

was surrounded by family and friends when he passed away. Thank you to **Greg Abbruzzese** and **Javier Loya** for letting me know.

Carl Marci and his wife are thrilled to announce that they had a son in February. They live and work in Boston, where Carl divides his time between the faculty of Massachusetts General Hospital at Harvard and his company, Innerscope Research, which does consumer neuroscience.

Beth Moorthy moved from Myanmar back to New York in 2007. Then, restless after five years at the United Nations Department of Political Affairs, she moved with her husband to Monrovia, Liberia, in November 2012. She is now the head of the United Nations Agency for Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) in Liberia, working on land and conflict issues, and plans to stay one more year. Lacking the amusements that NYC offered, she is also learning to surf the epic West African waves (unsuccessfully so far).

Debra (Gualandri) Williams is the Upper School principal of the International School of Florence in Italy, where she lives with her three daughters and wine-maker/archaeologist husband.

I hope you all have a joyous holiday season! Until next time ... cheers!

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Let's start with some unqualifiedly good news. **Brad Randelman** reported that not only was he promoted to full professor at Emory but he also published his first textbook, *Corneal Collagen Cross-Linking*. Congratulations on both counts, Brad!

We lost a classmate since I last wrote. I'm sad to report that **Meredith Norton** passed away on August 2, 2013. I think the best indication of how loved and dear Meredith was to so many of you is the number of independent emails I received from you, making sure that I knew about her passing and giving me information to include. There have been many wonderful words written of Meredith. Of those, I think the most fitting to share is a paragraph from her obituary, shared with me by her father, John Norton '57:

"All who knew Meredith agree that trying to describe her exhausts synonyms and adjectives for an energetic, incandescent free spirit who was amusing, argumentative, brilliant, challenging, creative, dramatic, engaging, generous,

humorous, imaginative, insightful, inspirational, irreverent, kind, mischievous, multi-talented, off-the-hook, unconventional, unique and witty. She is remembered unanimously as someone who always had a different slant on every subject and was willing to try something new and interesting."

I couldn't agree more. Which brings me to some news about the future of this column: I'm going to be saying goodbye.

I have completed 21 full years of providing you updates, news both happy and sad, and a slice of life from our classmates. It has been genuinely fun, and an absolute privilege to do so. But I've realized that it's time to pass the torch. I am grateful that I am able to do so to someone who I am completely confident will be able to handle the task.

He's a journalist, and has handled press conferences with no one less than the President of the United States. I'm speaking of **Olivier Knox**, who, in between flights on Air Force One and camping out in the Rose Garden while on assignment for Yahoo! News, will begin bringing you all of your class news. If you treat him half as well as you treated me during these two decades, he's in for a great assignment. Please send your news to Olivier at oknox9602@gmail.com or via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

I will certainly miss this space but I know I will still see many of you at reunions. Thank you for making this an enjoyable and long-lasting endeavor.

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Not a lot to report for this issue, but first, some condolences. Our thoughts go to **Kevin Connolly** and his brother, Michael Connolly '92, over the loss of their father, James F. Connolly, in late May. Condolences also go to **Julie Davidson Hassan**, who lost her mother, Jane M. Davidson, unexpectedly in late August.

Congratulations to **Brad Stone** on the release of his book *The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon*, which was published in October. I saw Brad interviewed on a number of morning shows the week his book was released, including *CBS This Morning* and *MSNBC's Morning Joe*, among others. Brad is a senior writer for *Bloomberg Businessweek* and lives in San Francisco with his twin daughters.

Please send your updates to either of the addresses at the top of the column or submit a note using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Many of us saw each other last spring at Alumni Reunion Weekend but that's no excuse for letting the volume of news abate. And if anything, now is a perfect moment to strengthen our recently renewed connections! I look forward to hearing from you.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014**
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Hi folks! I hope you're all saving the date for our 20th reunion next spring. Who can believe that it's been two decades since we left the Low Steps, Butler Library and our Columbia College days behind us? It will be great to catch up and relive old memories. More details to come in the next issue.

And in the meantime ... Happy news from **Mark Robi-lotti**, who married Karin Mazurs in July. The newlyweds divide their time between Manhattan and Connecticut, where Mark is executive counsel for transactions and finance at General Electric. Among the many College alums in attendance at the wedding were Mark's sister, Elizabeth Robilotti '99, and her husband, Rit Aggarwala '93.

On the career front, an exciting update arrived from my fellow Minneapolitan **Alan Berks**: This fall he began a position as director of communications for Pillsbury United Communities, one of the largest and oldest human service agencies in Minnesota. It's the umbrella organization for five diverse neighborhood centers, more than 60 specific programs and a number of innovative social enterprise/business ventures.

For the past three years, Alan had been communications director at Pillsbury House + Theatre, one of those neighborhood organizations, and in his new role he will apply the creativity his team used there across the Pillsbury United Communities network. "The belief is that more creative communications strategies can help make the service work itself easier, better and even more inspiring," Alan writes. "As a creative writer, I'm looking

forward to the chance to hear stories from all these amazingly different communities and people. I relish any excuse to ask people probing questions about their lives, so this is like Christmas for me."

Congrats to both Mark and Alan, and thanks for sharing the news. Everyone else — please send an update! You can use either address at the top of the column or submit one through CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Until next time!

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David Webber and his wife, Irit, have added a daughter to their family. Eliane arrived on July 1 and enjoys the company of her brothers, Boaz and Noam. The family moved from New York to the Boston area three years ago, where David is a professor at Boston University School of Law. He specializes in shareholder activism, shareholder litigation, securities fraud, M&A litigation and, more generally, in the limitless ways in which people fight over money. David has appeared on Nightly Business Report and NPR's Marketplace and has testified about pension governance issues in California and New Hampshire, according to his BU web page. He writes, "I love writing and teaching and am very grateful for the chance to do both. Locally, I see my first-year, eighth-floor Carman roommate **Alex Cortez**."

David also caught up with **Ryan**

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Mossman, Craig Bernstein, David Attanasio, Alex Cortez, Hilton Romanski and Bert Galleno '96 at Ryan's 40th birthday party in Houston last fall. David would love to hear from Boston-area alums.

Speaking of Hilton, he lives in Palo Alto, Calif., has been at Cisco for 12 years and is s.v.p., corporate development, leading the company's M&A and investment strategy. He says the work is still fun and challenging.

Hilton and his wife, Emily Meyer, have two kids: Clement (5), who will begin kindergarten next year, and Georgia (3). Emily is the co-founder of a successful kids clothing company, Tea Collection. (I can report that the brand is wildly popular on the Upper West Side and a favorite of my 3-year-old daughter.) Check out some lovely photos of Hilton, Emily and the kids here: teacollection.com/about-tea/people. The brand is "bringing global influences into accessible designs that are just awesome and fun for kids to wear," Hilton writes.

As for Ryan, he writes that the last year was full of Columbia reunions. He and his wife, Sydni, celebrated their 10th anniversary with **Jon Berkun** and his wife, Lauren, in Miami, dancing the night away at a club, Liv. "As much as I hate to admit it, we were definitely the old people in the room," Ryan writes. "At least Jon and I had beautiful dates."

Ryan also celebrated pre-wedding festivities for Shane Mogensen '96 in Copenhagen, Denmark, with Hilton and Josh Shoemaker '96. The highlight of the trip was eating at Noma, he writes, "the top-ranked restaurant in the world. We ate a very unusual 18-course menu that included ants, Swedish moss, crab and scallops with squid ink, to name some of the more interesting and delicious items."

The wedding itself was held in Bozeman, Mont., he adds, and among the other guests were Hil-

ton, **David Webber**, Gabe Stadecker '96, Slain Jamison Wilde '94, **Thad Tracy** and Glen Morgan '93.

Finally, Ryan writes, the reunions this year so far have been limited to **David Attanasio**, in New York and in Texas, for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Ryan also caught up with Tom Kitt '96.

Thanks for the news, and please send in updates about your own 40th birthday celebrations with classmates.

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Malik Rashid joined the Asian Development Bank in Manila, Philippines, about 1½ years ago. His wife and 2-year-old daughter joined him there last fall. Malik says he and his family are enjoying the adventures of living in Southeast Asia and hope to be back in New York after his assignment ends in 2015. If you find yourself in Manila, Malik welcomes your getting in touch: mmr20@columbia.edu.

Jill Van Beke is the East Tennessee director for Launch Tennessee, which supports high-growth entrepreneurial activity in the state. Jill and her husband, Chris, had another daughter last November, so now they have Anna (3) and Charlotte (1).

Kelly Koch, my Carman 5 floormate, is at Convergys in Cincinnati, working in market research analytics for several financial services, government, healthcare and technology clients. Kelly designs research studies and analyzes data from multiple sources to deliver strategic recommendations to clients.

Stefania Van Dyke (née Rosenstein) lives in Denver with her husband, Geoff, and their boys, Sebastian (6) and Leo (4). Stefania has worked at the Denver Art Museum since December 2012 as a master teacher for textile art and special projects, helping with the reinstallation of the museum's textile art collection and developing an exploratory education studio. The reinstallation was the impetus this past summer for a museum-wide celebration of textiles called "Spun"; all manner of fiber art invaded every nook and cranny of the museum.

Alisa Tang, who has been in Asia for 11 years, now lives in a small cabin on a riverine island near central Bangkok. In September 2012, she and her husband, Landry Dunand, welcomed a daughter, Luciole, which means "firefly" in French. After freelancing for several years, Alisa recently

started as a correspondent for the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the humanitarian news arm of Reuters. She edits news from around the world and reports stories from the Asia-Pacific region. For the time being, she works mostly from home, and each evening takes Luciole for a bike ride around the island to see the birds, lizards and fireflies.

Sameer Ahuja writes that he and his wife, Sima (née Saran) '96 Barnard, are doing well. They live in NYC and have two daughters, Anya (4) and Ella (almost 1). Sameer recently launched a hedge fund, Dera Capital Advisors, which specializes in the systematic trading of global financial and commodity futures. Sima works for Bloomberg.

Rhonda Moore was looking for international human resources experience so she is living in the Caribbean. Now, she shares, she recently edited the first (January 2013) human resources magazine, *HR-MATTERS*, in Trinidad and Tobago. It has been distributed in hard copy to various government agencies and ministries in the country. You can check it out at hmmatters.com/downloads/hr-matters-v1.pdf. Rhonda is the HR manager and human capital consultant at a new Deloitte on Trinidad and Tobago. As part of her volunteer work, she is the HR education/research officer for HRMATT (Human Resource Management Association of Trinidad and Tobago).

Moha Desai Patel is taking a sabbatical from her professional career advising on healthcare matters to dedicate herself even more to her community and family. Her second son, Vikram, was born on August 6. Moha; her husband, Vinit Patel (an IP attorney); and her older son, Devraj (5 and in kindergarten), are enjoying spending time with him!

Michael Cavanaugh joined Resilience Capital Partners, a leading private equity firm, in 2006 and has been responsible for deal origination, investment due diligence and portfolio company oversight. Prior to joining Resilience, Michael was a turnaround consultant at Conway MacKenzie, an M&A attorney at Kaye Scholer, and a distressed securities trader and investment banker at Merrill Lynch. Michael earned a J.D. from University of Michigan Law and an M.B.A. from the University of Michigan Business School. He also holds the CPA/ABV and CTP designations.

Keep those notes coming, folks. For all of you *Breaking Bad* fans, I leave you with this:

"If that's true, if you don't know who I am, then maybe your best course would be to ... tread lightly."
—Heisenberg aka W.W.

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CC '97, our Class Notes are quite short this time. Please remember to share all of your exciting goings-on by writing to me at either of the addresses at the top of the column. You can also submit a note via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Here's the news I do have:

Karen Lee and her husband, Jean-Marc Grolier, welcomed baby Bryce on August 28. He joins triplets Charlotte, Alex and Devin (1). Having four babies under the age of 2 keeps Karen busy!

Kavita Kumar Puri had a second daughter, Maya Kumar Puri, on December 19, 2012. She also has left Arnold & Porter and will be an appellate litigator for the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission in Washington, D.C. Kavita and her family live in Arlington, Va.

Sabra Gandhi was married at the beginning of 2012 to Parker Sellers and they had a son, Rohan, on August 1, 2012. Sabra has a law practice in Los Angeles and also recently joined Nest Seekers International as the managing broker of its soon-to-open Beverly Hills real estate office.

Jason Klein has moved back to NYC and was elected president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association in March. It's a two-year, volunteer position. This summer, after seven years as the Hillel director at University of Maryland Baltimore County, he became director of the Center for Jewish Life at Jewish Community Project of Lower Manhattan. Shortly before leaving Baltimore, Jason and Hussein Rashid '96 spoke together on a panel about creating LGBTQ-inclusive religious communities.

And **J. Sarah Katz**, was honored this fall to be named one of Philadelphia's *The Legal Intelligencer's* 2013 "Lawyers on the Fast Track."

98 Sandie Angulo Chen
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I hope you're all having a wonderful winter. Here's a look at what '98ers have been up to recently.

Congratulations to **Rebecca "Rivi" Handler-Spitz** Ph.D., who has joined the Asian languages and cultures department at Macalester, a liberal arts college in Saint Paul, Minn., as a tenure-track assistant professor. Rivi will teach such courses as "First Year Chinese," "Masterpieces of Chinese Literature" and "Translating Chinese:

Theory and Practice." She is also working on several scholarly books, including a volume of scholarly essays and a translation with Columbia University Press. Before her position at Macalester, Rivi, who earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. from Chicago, was an assistant professor at Middlebury.

Another round of congratulations is in order for **Jeannette Jakus**, who is a board-certified dermatologist and has joined a private practice with offices in Manhattan and Long Island. In the fall she left New York for a yearlong fellowship in the south of France with Galderma, a pharmaceutical company specializing in dermatologic drugs, where she will learn about early drug development. What an amazing adventure for Jeannette, her husband, **Ben Kornfeind**, and their children, Sam and Lily.

I inadvertently left some baby news out of my last column: **Suehyun Kim** is the mother of boy-girl twins born in December 2012. That's the reason she was unable to attend Alumni Reunion Weekend in May — the babies were only 6 months old — and she says she and her husband, Michael Lindo, had only just figured out how to get them to sleep plus they weren't ready for traveling. The babies, who turn 1 this December, are named Michaela and Christian Lindo. Suehyun and Michael, a licensed clinical social worker with his own counseling and consulting practice, live in Santa Monica, Calif.

That's it for this column but if you're on Facebook, please join the Columbia College Class of '98 Group! And please send notes to my email address at the top of the column or through CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014**
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By the time you read these Class Notes, we'll be six months shy of our 15-year Alumni Reunion Weekend. The festivities kick off with an evening reception on Thursday, May 29, and last until Sunday, June 1, when we conclude with a brunch.

The Reunion Committee consists of me, **Sameer Shamsi, Tony Mu-**

noz, Nina Tannenbaum, Eunice Lee, Stacy Rotner, John Bennett, Adrienne Carter, Charlie Leykum, David Kwon, Allison Margolin, Christina Cue, Alisha Alexander, Eleisa Coster, Jodi Materna, Lauren Gershell, Steve Boothe, Robert Hora and Caitlin Pannese.

Friday has multiple events on campus and then a cocktail reception hosted by one of our classmates (details to come). Saturday is the day not to miss. The Alumni BBQ will be held on South Lawn followed by a wine tasting in the early evening. Our class reception and dinner will be held in the C.V. Starr East Asian Library in Kent Hall on Saturday. The event is a step up from our 10-year reunion dinner, which was held behind Uris Hall. With that said, our 10-year reunion had the largest turnout compared to any prior class' 10-year reunion and I'm sure we'll have another great turnout in 2014. Saturday night will be capped off by the Starlight Reception on Low Plaza.

Hotels on the Upper West Side book up quickly, as other Columbia classes and schools hold their reunions the same weekend. So start planning! Hope to see many of you in May. In the meantime, don't hesitate to send a note to say hello and let us know how you are doing. Use either of the addresses at the top of the column or CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Nugi Jakobishvili and his wife, Isabelle Levy '05, welcomed Raphael Levi Jakobishvili in June. The proud parents write, "Big sister Flora adores her new real-life doll."

Jeremy Kadden and his wife, Jana, welcomed their second son, Emmanuel Jasper (Manny) on August 26, "just a smidgen under three years after our first son, Siggie, was born (in September 2010)." Jeremy has lived in Washington, D.C., since 2002 and has worked in and around government for most of that time, including a seven-year stint working on Capitol Hill for several members of Congress. Since August 2012 he has worked at InterAction, a coalition of foreign aid NGOs, where he is a lobbyist.

Please share news about yourself, your career, your family and so on! You can write me at either address at the top of the column or by using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. I hope to hear from you.



Joel Bass and Michelle Grzan '01 were married August 24 at Red Maple Vineyard in West Park, N.Y. Pictured left to right are the bride's parents, **John and Milvana Grzan**; the groom; the bride; and the bride's brother, **John-Michael Grzan '06**.

PHOTO: MARISSA MASSIMO

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I hope everyone enjoys the holiday season. Best wishes for a wonderful and safe New Year!

Michelle Grzan and Joel Bass were married on August 24 at Red Maple Vineyard in West Park, N.Y. **Jaime Pannone** gave a rock star performance of "Ho Hey" by the Lumineers during the ceremony. Other Columbia attendees included **Kelle Oberle Bowersox** with her husband, Mark, and daughter, Avery; **Rebecca Siegel Bradley** and her husband, John; **Anne-Marie Ebner** and her wife, Jamie; **Sarah Weakley**; John-Michael Grzan '06; and Namrata Khimani '06.

Rabia Saeed wrote with exciting news: "My husband, Parker, and I welcomed Sylvie Elan Hayden into the world on July 31. She weighed a not-so-whopping 6 lbs., 12 oz., for which mommy thanks her. We couldn't be more thrilled."

Alisa Amarosa Wood and **Alastair Wood** welcomed their third child, Theodore (Teddy) William Wood, at 9:25 a.m. on August 23. He weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz.

Cambria Matlow and Ben Bach were married this past summer. **Eileen McGinnis** and Sol Swords

were married in Austin on September 2. In attendance were **Stephen Luk, Brian Gum, Michael Shy** and **Ada Yung**.

Congratulations to all the new parents and newlyweds! **Stuart Dearnley** writes, "Three years ago, I left the advertising industry to pursue my dream of being a fiction writer. To that end, I'm getting an M.F.A. at the University of Arkansas and have been teaching undergraduates 'Comp 101.'" Stu also won the *Playboy* College Fiction Contest; it came with a \$3,000 prize and his story was published in the October issue. It can be accessed online through playboy.com.

Congratulations, Stu! Thanks to all who wrote. Please keep in touch using my email address at the top of the column or through CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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We have a host of exciting updates, and I would like to share one of my own as well. Our second son,

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook



Check out the Columbia College Alumni page!
[facebook.com/alumni](https://www.facebook.com/alumni)

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings,

Aarish, was born on July 13. My husband, Aroon, and I are incredibly grateful for this wonderful addition to our family.

Orit Barnea Seif and her husband, Yehuda '00, welcomed son Ilan Yaakov on June 13.

Jane Yang finished her vascular surgery fellowship at the University of Miami and is now a vascular surgery attending and an assistant professor at UCLA and Olive View-UCLA Medical Center.

Purdy Tran Bailer and her husband, Josh Bailer, welcomed their first child, Maximilian Hudson Bailer. Max came in weighing 7 lbs., 6 oz., a week early — he was eager to meet the world. They love the time with their future Columbia Lion.

Justin Wall recently completed two consecutive three-year retreats in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition and now runs a retreat center in the smoky mountains of Tennessee.

Mariel Wolfson took a new position as a HarvardX Fellow at Harvard. HarvardX is the university's recently launched online education venture, part of the EdX partnership between Harvard and MIT. She will work on using technology to increase access to higher education and also on integrating technology into traditional courses.

Evan Bass has his first feature film credit as a producer and is aiming for distribution this fall; it's called *The Eve* and is a Hitchcock-styled psychological horror-thriller set on Martha's Vineyard on New Year's. He also has launched a YouTube Channel (eBassEntertainment) that features new comedic Web series and sketches every Monday. And, on the acting/writing front, Evan was in England for a few weeks working on the National Institutes of Health-funded Alzheimer's Theatre project with Hearstone Alzheimer Care (writing, studying and developing interactive plays specifically for individuals with Alzheimer's). He writes, "We are in our final year of development and are working on developing training materials so people all over the country/world can put on these types of plays, which have already been shown to battle depression in this population equal to, if not better, than medication." Aside from that and other acting projects, Evan continues to expand the NYC-based tutoring company that he runs.

Sara Velasquez lives in Pakistan, where she consults for various INGOs, and gave birth to a daughter in March 2013. She had a supporting role in a movie, *Edwin: My Life As a Koont*, which was screened recently at the Los Angeles Comedy Festival (spookypictures.co.nz/FeatureFilms/Edwin/Edwin.html).

David Epstein's first book, *The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance*, came out August 1 and was given a coveted Kirkus Reviews star designating it a "book of exceptional merit." David writes that the book covers "all that we've learned about the genetics of athleticism in the decade since the sequencing of the human genome, and reporting the book took me below the equator and above the Arctic Circle. It has since reached No. 9 on the list of *New York Times* best sellers in hardcover nonfiction." [Editor's note: See Bookshelf.]

Zecki Dossal '13 Business has been co-heading the private equity and venture practice at Gerson Lehrman Group and overseeing its work in social impact.

Elisabeth Ryan is deputy general counsel for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. She also teaches courses in legal writing and firearms law at Harvard Extension School - Harvard University.

Samantha Lee '03 lives in Brooklyn Heights and recently joined Animal Planet as director of development.

Miriam Sheinbein writes, "I work for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte as associate medical director for primary care, and I teach in the UC San Francisco General Hospital Family and Community Medicine Residency Program." She adds that if any Lions are in her neighborhood (the Mission in San Francisco), they are invited to check out the restaurants she owns with her husband, Yaron, and Yaron's brother, Noam Elcott '00. They are Local's Corner and Local Mission Eatery; in addition, they will also be opening a grocery market.

Daniel Lupo graduated from Warrant Officer Candidate School in August and has entered the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence in Fort Rucker, Ala.

03 Michael Novielli World City Apartments Attention Michael J. Novielli, A608 Block 10, No 6. Jinhui Road, Chaoyang District Beijing, 100020, People's Republic of China mjn29@columbia.edu

It's been nice to connect with a number of you during my recent travels.

Will Hu and I caught up over dinner while I was in San Francisco,

and it was great to hear about Will's married life (to Jessica Meksavan '05 Barnard) and work in real estate. Will mentioned that he often meets up with **Danny Lee**, who is based in Los Angeles.

I also had dinner with **Shaun Ting** in Singapore — he runs Ting Capital Partners and travels extensively throughout Asia for business — and met up with a few Columbians for drinks at Club Street Social, a bar opened by Min Chan '05 in Singapore. These included **Kenneth Sim** (whom I had not seen in more than 10 years), who works in different capacities for the Singaporean government; **Clara Kim '06**; **Daniel Chen '06E**; and **Chee Kin Gan '05E**. Club Street Social has quickly become one of the most popular places for good drinks in Singapore. Enough from me, though — now on to your updates.

Francis Lora writes, "As a therapist, life coach, writer and speaker, I aim to improve everyone's quality of life through teaching,

writing, workshops and media communications; I help people find, identify and realize their mission so that my services are no longer needed.

"To accomplish this, I left my job at the New York State Psychiatric Institute's Washington Heights Community Service inpatient unit and now work at Inwood Community Services' Get Centered Mental Health Clinic and began working independently, traveling across NYC to people's homes and offices to provide my services as 'The Traveling Therapist.'

"Due to my new schedule, I have been better able to balance my work and personal life. I recently enjoyed my five-year wedding anniversary with Jennifer Guerrero '03 Barnard, as well as our son's, Alejandro Miguel Lora, second birthday."

Samantha Lee writes, "I live in Brooklyn Heights and recently joined Animal Planet as director of development. I work with producers to develop new shows and have the bonus of getting to help out with the Puppy Bowl. Life is good!"

Fiona Sze-Lorrain's second book of poetry, *My Funeral Gondola*, was published in May. She also has translated two books of poetry by contemporary Chinese poets, Bai Hua and Yu Xiang, both out this year.

Thomas E. Anderson II writes, "I completed a summer internship with Lifeforming Leadership Coaching, where I assisted the director of training with program development."

Graciete Lo writes, "Things are going well in Hawaii. I have been living here for almost 2½ years now! Can't believe it. I am a clinical psychologist at the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. I visited NYC in September and had a brief reunion with **Karolina Dryjanska**. Even though I miss New York, I am staying in Hawaii indefinitely. You can't beat the perfect weather, scenic beaches and mountains, and the aloha spirit.

"Since I don't know a whole lot of people here, I have been involved with revamping the Columbia Alumni Club of Hawaii and trying to get more local alums involved. In August, I hosted a send-off event for students starting at Columbia in the fall, and in early October I hosted a 'Columbia Connect' happy hour networking event. It was great meeting alums who are at different stages in their lives and careers as well as those from schools other than the College."

Mario Lugal writes, "I moved to Oakland, Calif., three years ago and work at the Kapor Center for Social Impact. That year I also co-founded the New American Leaders Project, which partners with immigrant-serving organizations to identify, recruit and train first- and second-generation immigrants to run for elected office."

Beth Murphy (née Priest) writes, "My husband, daughter and I welcomed a son, Cameron Edward, on December 3, 2012. We live in Chicago, where I am a senior project manager for a small architecture firm. We sadly missed the reunion this past spring but plan to visit Columbia while in New York during the holidays."

Jonathan Manes writes, "My wife, Nicole Hallett, and I recently moved back to New Haven, Conn., from Brooklyn. Our son, Ezra, is almost 1. And we both recently started work as clinical teaching fellows at Yale Law. I teach in the Media Freedom and Information Access Clinic, where I supervise law students litigating open government and First Amendment cases. We had a big win recently when the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court ordered the government to declassify decisions about NSA surveillance in response to a motion that we filed together with the ACLU. I would love to meet up with any '03 grads in the New Haven area."

Andrea Paul writes, "My husband, Jacques Paul '03E, and I moved from the United Kingdom

to Boston in early September. I am a corporate associate at Mintz Levin, and Jacques is designing jet engines at General Electric. We are thrilled to be back in the United States and we would love to connect with any Columbia alums in Boston."

After taking an almost two-year hiatus in which he studied improv comedy and acting, **Steve Ling** recently moved to Bermuda to resume his career as a consulting actuary for Tokio Millennium Reinsurance Co. He loves the island life and is delving into as many new and exciting activities as he can find, many of which involve water. He expects to be back in the NYC area by mid-2014.

REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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Greetings from New York City! This year is coming to a close, and I hope you all had a spectacular one. I'm sure that 2014 will have plenty of surprises and adventures — one of which is our 10-year Alumni Reunion Weekend! Mark your calendars: Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. I am expecting a strong showing from our class. There are some great events scheduled, and it will be wonderful to see familiar faces strolling around campus again.

Congratulations to **Alisa K. Weilerstein**, who married Rafael Payare in August. Alisa is a cellist and in August played with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at the Ravinia Festival in Highland Park, Ill. Last November, she performed with the New York Philharmonic at Avery Fisher Hall. In addition, she was a 2011 MacArthur Fellow.

Congratulations also to **Andrew Leibold**, who reports, "I married Carly Weisenberg on August 25, which was also the one-year anniversary of my business, Karaoke Heroes. **Jeffrey Chubak** and **Ilna Golant** were in attendance as were Jaime Sneider '02; Marc Tobak '05; his wife, Elizabeth Berkowitz '06; Steve Melzer '05; his fiancée, Tracy Massel '06 Barnard; and my gazillion family members with Columbia degrees of one type or another whom I will not list because I don't want to offend anyone by leaving them out."

Francoise Villeneuve writes, "This year, my husband, Ed, and I



Erica Yen '05 and Phuong Le were married in August at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Among the guests were (top row, left to right) Johnny Lan '05E; Michael Sin '05; Kenneth Yen '06E; Vivian Chiang; Yan Ting '06E; Emily Tsai '05E; Jennifer Lee '05; and the brother of the groom, Huy Le; and (bottom row, left to right) the bride, Justin Wei '05E and Jennifer Yang '06 Barnard.

PHOTO: LIN & JIRSA PHOTOGRAPHY

welcomed Jacques Edward Andre Hardy into the world. He's our first child and a cheery little lad. **Samantha Debicki** gifted him a Columbia onesie and he seems excited about lion noises, so in a few years, who knows?"

Oleg Iltchev and his wife had their first child, Adriana Iltcheva, in May.

Alex Hardiman and **Brian Platzer** welcomed their son, Owen Hardiman Platzer, in July.

Congratulations to all the new parents!
Alex Davis recently finished a one-year clerkship at the U.S. District Court in New Jersey. He is now in San Francisco, where he will soon start work in the commercial litigation department at Kirkland & Ellis. He looks forward to connecting with other alums in the Bay Area and can be reached at agd36@columbia.edu.

Sophia Beal is an assistant professor of Portuguese at Minnesota. **Phil Matricardi** '12 Business is a financial consultant for Sapient Global Markets. He lives in Brooklyn.

Joshua Arthur writes, "After nearly five years in the civilian world following my time in the Army, I went back to business school and started at Carnegie Mellon in August. I plan to work in management

or strategy consulting following school. I have yet to connect with **Michael Landau** but I know he's here in Pittsburgh as well!"

Craig Hollander recently earned a Ph.D. in 19th-century American history from Johns Hopkins and will spend the next couple of years as the Behrman Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of History at Princeton.

Aaron Schwartz lives in San Francisco, where he runs Modify Watches.com with Ayo Oluwole '05, Modify's v.p. of marketing. They create custom watches for big companies (e.g., Google, Nike) and have been featured in *The New York Times* and *Self*, on *Good Morning America* and more.

Jason Burwen reports, "It's been a big year. I married Eleanor in July on the Russian River in California. **Mischa Byruck** served admirably as a groomsman and MC, and I was lucky enough to have **Mark Weiner**, Elizabeth Dwoskin '05 and Leah Yananton '04 GS join the celebration. We left San Francisco and moved to Washington, D.C., where I work on energy innovation policy at the Bipartisan Policy Center."

David Molko writes, "I recently relocated from Atlanta to Hong Kong, continuing my work as a senior producer for CNN Interna-

tional. However, I'm moving away from day-to-day news and working across all our feature programming in Asia Pacific. For example, I'm producing an interview with the Thai prime minister in Bangkok and took one of our other programs on the road to Shanghai in October. All very exciting but after five years of a somewhat peaceful life in Atlanta, I'm having to relearn how to live in an urban environment, and everything that comes along with that. Still, it's great, because there's just no way to get bored in Hong Kong and the region."

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of Class Notes! Please keep your submissions coming, and happy 2014!

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Hello, Class of 2005! Ten years ago we were babies taking CC together. Today (spoiler alert), our classmates are having babies and teaching CC! Let us begin this chapter in Class Notes with the weddings and babies:

In Croatia, Lisa Stubić '06 Runs Down a Dream

BY KIM MARTINEAU '97J

When the elite women marathoners finished the NYC Half last spring, newscasters announced the names of the Africans in first and second place but struggled to identify the 98-lb. Croat on their heels.

Lisa Stubić '06 is used to surprising people. She holds Croatia's marathon record and last year became the first marathoner — man or woman — to compete in the Olympics on Croatia's behalf. In March, Stubić achieved world-class

status with her third-place finish at the NYC Half, followed by first-place at the Zurich Marathon just three weeks later.

At Columbia, Stubić was a strong runner but no one expected her to make a living at it. Her unlikely success started with a gamble: the decision after graduating to move to her father's native Croatia to learn the language. There, she discovered a knack for endurance running.

The intense yet flexible life of a pro athlete can sometimes feel to Stubić like a continua-

tion of her days at Columbia. She rises early, trains hard in the morning and spends the rest of the day reading, eating and napping, with a light workout in the afternoon. In the typical week, she logs 110 miles. "It's fun for me," she says. "I feel like I'm in college without the classes."

Pushing her body to its physical limit did not come naturally. Stubić had to be prodded by a gym teacher at Crosby H.S. in Waterbury, Conn., where she grew up, to pick a sport. She went out for the swim team but found swimming laps so tiring

that she quit after the warm-up. Next she tried cross country. "I told myself I'd do one race," she says. She won it and steadily grew faster. As a junior and senior, she was selected All New England in cross country and both seasons of track and field, setting several league records.

With offers from two Division I schools, American and Iona, Stubić chose Columbia for its political science program but after two semesters realized she was too "quiet and shy" for politics. Running, by contrast, allowed her feet to do the talking. As a junior, she came in second at the NCAA northeast regional in cross country and a year later finished 10th at the national championship in steeplechase. She credits her first

coach at Columbia, Craig Anne Lake, for teaching her winning habits like eating well and getting enough sleep.

"I used to tell them [the students], the dorkier they could be, the better," says Lake, who now sells real estate in Boston. "Lisa seemed to listen. It is a hard concept to grasp because most people see it as a sacrifice."

Academically, Stubić gravitated toward the arts. Her major in music theory, it turns out, set her on the path to becoming an Olympic athlete. The summer of her junior year, she went to Croatia on a music-exchange program led by Jane McMahan, a Barnard associate in music. For three weeks, she played flute with a group of musicians performing in tiny medieval villages across the Grožnjan region.

The experience stayed with Stubić. While pouring lattes at Chokolat Patisserie, the coffee shop near Columbia where she worked, Stubić kept coming back to that "magical" summer. In January 2008, she flew to Croatia on a one-way ticket and went to live with her aunt. Eight months later, armed with a basic command of Croatian, she moved to Zagreb to teach English.

There, she found a coach with an unusual training regimen that involved running at five pace ranges set by how much lactic acid is in the body. The five paces, from slow-recovery to super-fast, are determined from blood samples taken after running at different speeds. Over time, Stubić's coach became convinced that her competitive advantage lay in the marathon, not steeplechase.

Once again Stubić took a leap. Confident in her training but with no actual marathon experience, she quit her day job as an English instructor, aiming to qualify for the Olympics and simultaneously earn the backing of the Croatian Olympic Committee. She ran the 2010 BMW

Berlin Marathon in 2:33:42, several minutes under the qualifying time she needed. In 2012, she went to London expecting to finish in the top 20 but a back cramp near the 15-mile point foiled her plan and she finished 52nd, in 2:34:03.

The failure taught Stubić a lesson. She needed to strengthen her back and core, so she added weightlifting to her regimen. That may have led to her breakout performances at the NYC Half, where she won \$5,500 and set a Croatian national record at 1:09:18, followed by her first-place finish at Zurich, where she set a Croatian marathon record of 2:25:44 (also her personal best).

Stubić credits a birth defect with helping her to run faster and farther. Born two months premature, her nostrils failed to fully develop, leaving her without a sense of smell or taste. A surgery at 19 largely restored both senses, allowing her to experience foods by their flavors rather than colors corresponding to their saltiness, sourness or bitterness. In addition to giving her a taste for dark chocolate, the surgery had another bonus: She immediately shaved a full minute off her best cross country time.

The Olympics are three years away but Stubić already has eyes on Rio, with plans to fly there with her team to train on the city's steamy streets. The humid weather makes the prospect of record times unlikely, but the demanding climate will give experienced marathoners a distinct edge. By 2016, Stubić expects to have it, with at least nine marathons under her belt.

To view a video of Stubić running the Zurich Marathon (she is featured at the beginning and end), go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Kim Martineau '97J writes about earth and environmental science at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory.

Isabelle Levy and her husband, Nugi Jakobishvili '00, welcomed Raphael Levi Jakobishvili in June. Sister Flora adores her new real-life doll.

Erica Yen announces, "I was married in August to my law school sweetheart, Phuong Le, at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. A number of dear college friends came from near and far and even overseas to help celebrate, including bridesmaid Jennifer Lee, Michael Sin, Emily Tsai '05E, Johnny Lan '05E, Justin Wei '05E, Yan Ting '06E, Kenneth Yen '06E and Jennifer Yang '06 Barnard. I am in my sixth year at Reed Smith doing business litigation in downtown L.A. I miss playing with the Columbia University Orchestra but I get to play violin with lawyers and judges as part of the Los Angeles Lawyers Philharmonic ('L.A.'s only legal orchestra, 'har har')."

Tracy Reuter (née Bucholski) writes, "This past year was quite the year for me and my husband, John Reuter. After five years in San Francisco, last October we moved just outside of Philadelphia, where we bought a big old house to renovate. Not long after moving in we found out we were expecting our first child! John William Reuter aka 'Jack' was born on August 1 at 9:53 p.m. He was 7 lbs., 8 oz., 21½ inches long and is absolutely gorgeous. We couldn't be happier."

On September 18, Larry Manis and Amalia Goldvaser welcomed their first child, Izzy Brendan. Alexandra Harman reports, "I married Breene Murphy on September 7. We met in my hometown of Laguna Beach, Calif., through mutual friends. Breene was a member of UCLA's golf team and graduated in 2005 with a B.A. in international development studies. He graduated from USC in 2011 with a master's in creative writing."

On August 23, Steve Poellot and Alexandra Dika Seggerman welcomed their daughter, Lucy Dika Poellot, born at NYU Langone Medical Center.

Now on to the extremely interesting careers, including many an educator:

Elizabeth Dwoskin recently moved to San Francisco to write for *The Wall Street Journal*. Her beat is big data/big brother. Previously she was in Washington, D.C., where she covered politics and policy for *Bloomberg Businessweek*.

Kathryn Ebner reports, "I work for a new start-up, Pave, that provides a way to invest directly in people. We connect financially accomplished backers with ambitious and driven young people. It's unique and we have actually had some Columbia graduates use the platform to raise money as well as

some Columbia alumni who have invested."

Erika Gibson writes, "After a few years working at the Governor's Energy Office in Colorado, I am pursuing a J.D. at the University of Oregon School of Law. As a Native Environmental Sovereignty Fellow I am exploring strategies for tribes to stop mercury pollution and also working on cutting-edge climate change litigation."

Brendon Jobs says, "I'm still teaching history, only now at the Girard Academic Music Program. What a joy to be around such creative kids. Activist work on the board of Teacher Action Group keeps me pretty busy besides. My family and friends have been such a blessing. At the school, I'm constructing an elective called 'Black Music as Rebellion,' meant to prepare my students to compete in this year's National History Day competition."

Elizabeth Dwoskin '05 has moved to San Francisco to write for *The Wall Street Journal*; her beat is big data/big brother.

Suzanne Schneider writes, "After a combined 11 years at Columbia, I will finally graduate in May with a Ph.D. in Middle Eastern studies. I am a cultural historian of the 19th and 20th century Levant, specializing in the histories of religious modernist movements in Jewish and Islamic societies. In addition to finishing my dissertation, I am teaching CC for the second year, which continues to be the uncontested high point of graduate school."

"My husband, Jonathan Reich '04, '07L, and I recently moved into a house in Park Slope with our twins, Sophia and Charlotte, who will be 3 in January. We love Brooklyn, especially since my former roommate and all-around best friend from Columbia, Eliana Meirowitz, lives on the first floor of our house with her husband and their baby boy. Any Columbians in Brooklyn are welcome to stop by our commune and say hello!"

Xan Nowakowski says, "For the past 3½ years I have been living in Tallahassee, Fla., and working on a variety of research projects for the Florida State University College of Medicine. My research focuses primarily on the experience and management of different chronic diseases, especially those that cause pain and/or functional limitation. I also provide input on study design, human subjects protections and data analysis techniques for a variety of team-based projects."

"Working for FSU has provided

me with wonderful opportunities for service to the broader community. I and several of my colleagues participated in an effort to bring affordable health care services to the rural community of Havana, about 20 minutes north of Tallahassee. Our group recently formed a partnership with a Tallahassee-based community health clinic, Neighborhood Medical Center, to establish a full-service primary and specialty care clinic open several days a week. In a similar vein, I also serve on a statewide committee dedicated to addressing health disparities through creative research and collaboration.

"In addition to my various research and service activities, I have enjoyed a variety of teaching activities during my time at FSU. I have advised fieldwork for graduate students in multiple health-related disciplines, taught directed independent studies for undergraduates

in health sciences and been a career mentor for students of all ages and backgrounds. I also teach a special topics course in medical sociology for undergraduate students.

"In addition, between August 2011 and September 2013, I completed my Ph.D. in medical sociology! Prior to earning a doctorate I earned an M.S. in medical sociology from FSU and an M.P.H. in health systems and policy from Rutgers/University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. I loved my time in the Ph.D. program, so much so that after graduating I immediately accepted an appointment to continue as an adjunct professor. I am also working with my department chair at the FSU College of Medicine to develop an early-career faculty position, which will allow me to focus on publishing my dissertation research and pursuing specialized training in advanced research methods.

"My Ph.D. program conferred two additional benefits, one that I had hoped for and one that I did not expect. It allowed me to turn a long history of negative experiences with my health — at 24, after nearly losing my life the previous year, I was diagnosed with an incurable autoimmune disease that causes severe inflammation in all of my mucous membranes — into a positive means of understanding and having an impact on the world. It also allowed me to meet, on my first day of study, an amazing person who quickly became more than just



With a time of 1:09:18, marathoner Lisa Stubić '06 finished third at the 2013 NYC Half.

PHOTO: COURTESY NEW YORK ROAD RUNNERS



Daniella Zalzman '09 and Joshua Robinson '08 were married September 1 at the Loeb Boathouse in Central Park. Celebrating were (left to right) Anand Krishnamurthy '07E; Zack Hoopes '12; Jonathan Kamran '08; David White '08; Chelsea Ward '09; Max Puro '09; the groom; Jonathan Tayler '09; the bride; Angela Radulescu '11; Jonathan August '09; John Atlas '09, '09E; Jacob Schneider '10; Tina Gao '10 Barnard; and James Long '08.

a colleague. The two years that I have spent with my partner, social psychologist J. Sumerau, have easily been the best of my life.

"While I will always face significant challenges with my health, I have found my way into a life and career that make these struggles feel worthwhile, and I give thanks for this good fortune every day. I hope that all of my Columbia friends are finding similar satisfaction on their own journeys. When I read our Class Notes I always feel so impressed by how all of you are giving back to the world, each in your own ways, and becoming the visionary leaders our professors and Dean Austin E. Quigley always told us we could be. I find it hard to believe that more than eight years have passed since we graduated. The memories we built together feel as fresh as if they happened yesterday, and the inspiration we found in one another is just as great."

Edward A. Rueda is honored to have taken part in the August 20 launch of Al Jazeera America, the United States' newest 24-hour cable news network. He is a digital producer for *Consider This*, a current

affairs talk show hosted by Antonio Mora, which airs weeknights at 10 p.m. Edward works alongside fellow digital producer Leslie Hart '10 and they hope you tune in to the show. In his off-hours, Edward and his wife, Alexandra Zendrian, enjoy exploring the wonders of Long Island, often with their neighbors, Andrew Liebowitz '06 and his wife, Gail.

In August, Juliet Grames was promoted to associate publisher at Soho Press.

Chaim Kagedan reports, "I recently concluded a clerkship with Judge Robert W. Sweet of the Southern District of New York and now am a senior litigation associate in the New York office of Venable. My wife, Heather '05 Barnard, and I recently hosted a few alumni in an effort to convince them to join us in the suburban haven of Teaneck, N.J. Among the lucky recipients of our hospitality were my college roommate, Binyamin Berkovits, and his wife, Rachel '05 Barnard (née Pollack), as well as Nessa Heilpern Liben '06 Barnard and her husband, Noah Liben '05 GS."

Lauren Mancía writes, "On August 27, I began a position as

an assistant professor of history at Brooklyn College (CUNY)."

Congratulations on growing up, Class of 2005!

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Kathleen Carr Adams writes, "Happy news! My daughter, Grace Hattler Adams, was born on July 3 in Washington, D.C. She weighed 8 lbs., 14 oz. and was 21½ inches long. My husband, Ford, and I call her Hattie. She joins brother Wells (4). We are with the Department of State at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India, and will remain here through May."

Emily Bregel has returned to newspaper journalism after a two-year stint working on organic farms in the Southwest. She is an investigative reporter for the *Arizona Daily Star* in Tucson.

Julia Nagle earned a master's in public policy from UC Berkeley in 2011. She stayed in the Bay Area after graduation and works in education philanthropy.

Jaime Madell and Negisa Balluku '06E recently celebrated their second wedding anniversary (and their 10th year together). Jaime practices corporate law at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, and Negisa practices bankruptcy law at Dechert.

Stephen Kunen writes, "On June 29, I married the beautiful Handie Peng at Holy Rosary Church on Staten Island. We had our reception at Nicotra's Ballroom, also on Staten Island, and an extraordinary time was had by all. She and I met during our time at Emory, where I completed a J.D. and she completed a Ph.D. Brian Ruby '06E and Stefan Hildebrandt were among the groomsmen. Thomas Rudy, Arijit "Bobby" Ghosh '06E, Ali Daggett '06, Lizzy Smith '08, Jason Yang '00, Ben Jacobs, Emma Baratta and Ryan Abreca were also in attendance.

"Second, I started a law firm, Kunen Law, in March. I work in intellectual property and business law with a focus on small businesses and mixed martial arts companies. I encourage alums to follow my law blog at kunenlaw.com."

Laura Schnaidt has resumed use of her maiden name, lives in

New York City and would love to hear from classmates. Write her at lauraschnaidt@gmail.com.

I hope everyone has a terrific holiday season. Write to tell us all about it! You can send a note to either of the addresses at the top of the column or submit one using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Jimmy Vielkind, who moved back home to the Albany area after graduation, has started a job with the three-year-old news site Capital New York, which was purchased by POLITICO parent Robert Allbritton in September. Jimmy had been covering New York state politics and government for Albany's *Times Union* since 2010, including the administration of Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

He says, "Writing for the paper I grew up reading has been an incredible experience, and I can't begin to count all the things I've learned or the wonderful friends I've found among such terrific colleagues. I'm very excited to be part of a new venture and look forward to new opportunities at Capital; it's also great to be reunited with several old friends from my days at *The New York Observer*. If anybody's ever around the Capitol or Albany, drop a line!"

Tara Erer has been promoted to v.p. of international sales at FilmNation Entertainment. Tara was one of the founding members of the Film Nation team. Her credits include *The King's Speech*, *Mud*, *Looper*, *Lawless*, *Magic Mike* and *Side Effects*.

Shari (Gross) Lauer '07 Barnard and Jonathan Lauer announced the April birth of Ezra Yitzchak Lauer. Ezra has two proud older brothers, Eitan and Abie.

Caryn Epstein shares, "I moved to Baltimore this fall to start a master's program in public health at Johns Hopkins, where I'll be studying patient safety and quality of care. Missing New York tremendously but eating a ton of delicious crab to drown my sorrows."

Philippa Warodell writes, "I married Johan Warodell '09 GS, '12 GSAS in the classroom where we met, Hamilton 313, with three guests and one officiant in June 2012. It was a brief and beautiful ceremony, made memorable by 104-degree heat and the much-appreciated, last-minute assistance of the Alumni Office and Professor Jutta Schmiere-Heller. We followed

this with a 'wedding tour' that included small celebrations in New York; Chicago; Park City, Utah; London; and Göteborg, Sweden.

"One year later, we still live happily in Stockholm, where the beyond-beautiful summers make up for the unbelievable winters. After earning an M.Sc. in management from the Stockholm School of Economics last year, I joined the Boston Consulting Group, where I am enjoying the variety of projects and working on my colloquial Swedish."

Alison Desir recently launched a blog and running coach business, Powdered Feet (powderedfeet.com). As a running coach, Alison focuses on the interconnections between fitness and mental health to help individuals find meaning on the run.

John Schneider shares, "It's been a big year for me here in Houston. My wife, Stephanie Pahlr '05 Barnard, and I bought a house in May and my daughter, Elizabeth Marie Schneider, was born on June 26. We are all healthy and happy, and now the big debate is whether she will attend the College like me and my father, Robert Schneider '75, or follow in the footsteps of my wife and my mother, Regina Mullahey '75 Barnard."

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Elizabeth Smith has some big news to share: "On August 30, my boyfriend of 8½ years, Jason Yang '00, asked me to marry him! He proposed on the roof deck of our building, which overlooks the sparkling lights of Manhattan. (Spoiler: I said yes!)"

"In other news, we had a busy summer as proud new parents of two kittens. They are quite a handful but a constant joy!"

Elizabeth and Jason also managed some travel; she writes, "We spent a beautiful July 4 weekend in Breckenridge, Colo., and in August I enjoyed two weeks visiting my family in England and Croatia."

Stephanie Davidson moved back to NYC (Crown Heights) after graduating from Harvard Law and has embarked on a yearlong fellowship as an attorney with the Urban Justice Center's Domestic Violence Project.

Caroline McNamara did a 717-mile road trip through California at the end of August. She started at the wedding of Meg Lundy in Napa, then drove to the Mojave to visit Rebecca Kelly '09, and ended in Los Angeles with Paul Soto and Sam Roberts. She says, "It was a great adventure and I feel lucky



Classmates celebrated the wedding of Rebecca Johnson '10, who married Jeremy Lancaster (not pictured) on September 7 in the Hudson Valley. Left to right: Rebecca Salley '10, Anne Kwei '10E, Christopher Yee '10E, the bride, Courtney Chin '10, Gunnar Aasen '10E, Dayana Azuaje '10 and Hiroki Kimura '10.

PHOTO: SARMA & CO.

for all my Columbia friends who made my trip possible!"

Daniella Zalzman '09 and Joshua Robinson were married on September 1 at The Loeb Central Park Boathouse. Their bridal party included John Atlas '09, '09E; Angela Radulescu '11; Jonathan Kamran; Chelsea Ward '09; and Jonathan Tayler '09.

Keep the updates coming! You can write me at either of the addresses at the top of the column or send a note through CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014**
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If you enjoy reading Class Notes to learn what your classmates have been doing during the last few years, then mark your calendar for our five-year reunion! The Class of 2009 will celebrate its first Alumni Reunion Weekend Thursday, May 29-Sunday, June 1. Go to reunion.

college.columbia.edu to stay updated on the details; registration opens in the early spring.

Daniella Zalzman and Joshua Robinson '08 were married on September 1. Many of their classmates and friends from Columbia joined them to celebrate; in fact, 83 percent of their bridal party was composed of CC alumni.

Alidad Damooei and Lauren Gentry '10 became engaged this summer. The College was an important part of the day, as Alidad popped the question on the sundial, where the couple sat and chatted for several hours after their first date in fall 2008.

Shana Bush is a jazz and blues vocalist in New York City. In April 2013, she released her first full-length album, *Shoshana Bush & Friends Live at Catalina Jazz Club*, and will celebrate its release with a performance at Birdland jazz club on Thursday, December 12. The album is available on iTunes as well as on shoshanabushmusic.com.

Shana is also excited to share that she opened for jazz vocalist Jane Monheit in a mid-November gig at the Blue Note Jazz Club. To stay informed of Shana's gigs, email her: shoshanabushmusic@gmail.com.

Ernest Herrera recently returned to his hometown of San Antonio, where he has joined the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund as a staff attorney. Ernest will focus on voting rights litigation and workers' rights issues.



On September 28, Abby Oberman '10 married Bryan Finkel at the Essex House in NYC. Left to right, bottom row: Samantha Taube '10 Barnard, Lan Wu '10E, Shira Berenson '08, Rachael McMillan '09, Sara Hershman '10 Barnard and Jeffrey Conn '08; left to right, middle row: Charlotte Moses Fischman '67L, Julie Taylor '10E, Carrie Leone '10 Barnard, Katherine Vucelic '09 Barnard, the bride and Arielle Fox '11; left to right, top row: Emma Brockway '10 Barnard; Nicole Scalamandre '10E, '11 Business; Christine Espinoza '08; Ester Murdukhayeva '09; the groom; father of the bride Michael Oberman '69; Gary Naftalis '67L, '67 SIPA; Arnold Rady '69E; Gershon Locker '69; and Mark Webber '69. Also in attendance but not pictured was Nora Feinstein '11 JTS, '12 Barnard.

PHOTO: FRED MARCUS STUDIO

He enjoys reading about all the awesome pursuits and achievements of his classmates and is happy to share tips with anybody who comes down for South by Southwest (SXSW) or anything else in Texas.

After completing the Exotic Animal Training and Management program at Moorpark College in Southern California, **Quincy Sweeney** continues to work with a variety of exotic animals as a zookeeper at the Reid Park Zoo in Tucson, Ariz. She is excited to train capybaras as well as meet a baby tapir in the upcoming year. While loving life now, the thought of higher education continues to tantalize and all doors remain open.

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Thanks for all of your fantastic submissions and keep them coming. Let's get right to the notes!

Isabel Broer writes, "After three years in Denver, I'm back on the East Coast for law school at Harvard. It broke my heart to leave

Colorado but I'm already relishing being a student again, instead of a teacher. **Valerie Sapozhnikova** and **Sue Yang** are in Cambridge, too, and I'm looking forward to running into more 2010s."

Valerie must have been on the same wavelength as Isabel, as she submitted her own update saying she's excited about going back to school and beginning her legal education at Harvard Law. She reflects that it's strange to be away from New York for the first time in so many years but says she is looking forward to exploring Cambridge and Boston, as well as meeting up with Columbia alumni in the area.

Giselle Obregon also started school this fall, beginning the M.P.H. program in the international health department at the Boston University School of Public Health. She writes, "Boston is a great place to be not only as a person interested in healthcare, but also because I've already run into a number of Columbia alumni! A fellow CC '10 happens to be my next door neighbor. I plan to go abroad next summer and am searching for healthcare jobs or research internships in Latin America and/or Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa. If anyone has recommen-

dations (or is ever in Boston and would like to meet up), please email me: gmo2102@caa.columbia.edu."

Danielle Ash became engaged to Alex Yampolsky on September 3. He is a pharmacist who owns Medicine Man Pharmacy at 511 Washington St. in Hoboken, N.J. She graduated magna cum laude from New York Law School in May and is a first-year associate in the real estate department at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison as of September.

On September 7, **Rebecca Johnson** married Jeremy Lancaster in an outdoor ceremony in the beautiful Hudson Valley. Columbians in attendance included bridesmaid **Courtney Chin**, **Gunnar Aasen '10E**, **Dayana Azuaje**, **Hiroki Kimura**, **Anne Kwei '10E**, **Rebecca Salley** and **Chris Yee '10E**. The group participated in a lively chanting of the Columbia fight song and danced the night away!

Emory Dabney married Jay Dolan '08 Middlebury in Richmond, Va., on June 8. They met at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech. Jay is an associate veterinarian at Bold Springs Veterinary Service in Pearisburg, Va., while Emory is finishing her D.V.M. They

reside in Blacksburg, Va., with their ever-growing menagerie, which currently includes their terrier mix, Benny; cat, Phineas; and crested geckos, ShakaSmart and Mooney.

Nora Nicholson Calhoun (née Weber) writes, "My husband, Alexander Calhoun '11, and I had a daughter on August 5. Frances Rose Nicholson Calhoun weighed 10 lbs. even and was 22 inches long, born at home with the help of a midwife, my mother, my sister and **Genevieve Deleon**. We are totally besotted and thank God for His goodness toward us. We live in the Columbia neighborhood and she was baptized on September 8 at Corpus Christi Church on West 121st Street."

Ian Spafford is an actuary at The Travelers Indemnity Co.

Congratulations to **Susanna Wolff**, who was named editor-in-chief of CollegeHumor.com in September. She started her career at CollegeHumor.com in 2007, through an internship held while at Columbia.

And finally, the latest musings from **Chris Yim**: "SF > NY. It's certainly not as attractive of a city, and the glamour isn't there like it is in NYC. However, if you like the outdoors, spending less money, living healthier and having more work-life balance, then SF may suit you better. This is all part of my campaign to get great people out to California and near me.

"As of September 8, I will have been in San Francisco for six months, and I have to say that I'm in a good place. I work and live with my best friends, and we are engaged in a mission that I care about. My days are filled with unique challenges that have me going back and forth among an early-stage business, a long-distance relationship, managing work/friend relationships (they've become one and the same) and establishing a life for myself. All in all, I am content in the challenge. Every man must hunt his kill to feed himself and his family.

"I haven't mentioned so much with regards to [my son] Jackson and that's because I've handed him off to my folks. We've decided that until I hit the jackpot, it'll be best if he can be in a place with more stability and have attentive adults around him. I know that he'll be well-fed, loved and nurtured in their home in Virginia. Virginia, after all, is for lovers.

"Lastly, here's my shameless plug. If you'd like to support our mission of connecting the minds and resources of teachers and students around the world to ensure all students have access to high-quality education, then please contact me at chris@uclass.org. A few CC alums



Lions celebrated the September 7 marriage of Katie Goble and Derek Turner '12 in Phoenix. Left to right, behind the bride and groom: Ashley Byrd '02, Linda Boama-Wiafe '12, Frannie Laughner '12 Barnard, Nathan Chang '10, Barry Weinberg '12, Todd Nelson '12, Adam Kuerbitz '12, Jordan Hollarsmith '12, Amirah Sequeira '12, Leah Greenbaum '12, Jason Han '12, Sy Hoekstra '10, Toukam Ngoufanke '09E and Emile Barraza '13E.

are involved in our growing company, including Justin Leung '09 and **Daniel Kanak**; thanks to them for their contributions."

11 Columbia College Today
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The only news to report, sadly, is that **Colin Sullivan** has stepped down from his duties as class correspondent. CCT thanks him for his time at the helm of the column, a position he has held since graduation, and appreciates all that he has done to keep classmates connected to one another and to the College.

A new correspondent is needed, and CCT welcomes all who would like to apply. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor, at alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485 for more information. The column publishes quarterly and is a great way to keep in touch with classmates and to give back to Columbia.

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From producing a Britney Spears musical to working with the Yankees, the Class of 2012 remains as busy (and awesome) as always. I encourage everyone to continue sharing updates! Send to my email address, above, or through CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Adam Behnke is working his dream job with the New York Yankees. As a sales associate, he customizes ticket plans and corporate events for fans and companies. He helped several Columbia groups this past summer and fall and writes that "they had an absolute blast!" He is working with the Columbia College Young Alumni Board of Directors to organize a group event for next year and looks forward to helping as many Columbians as possible get to the stadium for a fun night.

Patrick Blute has joined forces

with **Cori Capik**, Sara Miller '13 Barnard and Max Druz '15 to produce the musical *Spears: The Gospel According to Britney*, which held a funder's preview on November 7 at the Snapple Theater in Midtown. For more information, visit spears.themusical.com.

Paul Hsiao kicked off an awesome summer by attending a high school reunion with **Chris Cheung**, **Lisa Lian**, **Brian Watson '12E** and **Sarah Gordon '12E**. He also spent time in New York with **Sonal Bothra**, **Alex Harstrick**, **Sarah Ngu** and **Chuck Roberts**, "going to back-to-back musicals on the weekdays and exploring Brooklyn one hipster bar at a time."

In early September, **Yin Yin Lu** launched the Lexicography Society's YouTube channel (youtube.com/user/LexicographySociety) as well as its inaugural video series, "What's Your Word?" Yin writes, "From its conception, the series has been almost one year in the making. Filming officially began in December, and the latest round was in September, with many months of editing in between!"

"The premise of the series is

simple. Each video features one person speaking about one word. The word has to resonate in either a positive or negative way; it has to arouse intense emotion. There is no prescribed structure or style, and the word can be from any language.

"Moreover, each video is as much about the speaker as it is about the word. How they speak is as remarkable/revealing as what they say. The videos are miniature portraits of selves, in a direct sense."

Yin will continue filming in the United Kingdom, as she has decided to return to Oxford to pursue a master's in English language. If you are interested in participating in the video series, send a message to lexisoc@gmail.com.

Michael Mazzullo has returned to his high school, Fordham Prep in the Bronx, to teach history and to coach soccer.

After spending the summer organizing the hackNY summer Fellows program, **Aditya Mukerjee** returned to school this fall in the inaugural class of Cornell Tech, a new graduate school in NYC. While studying for a master's in computer science, Aditya will

work with engineers at Google to extend the open-source IPython project to help instructors create interactive online textbooks for use in teaching computer science and statistics.

Joseph Rozenshtein '13 SIPA spent this past summer in Northern Virginia training for his first assignment as a foreign service officer with the State Department. He left for Kyiv, Ukraine, in late September and is looking forward to new adventures. He writes that no matter where his job takes him, "the city" will only ever mean New York!

David Spencer Seconi sent in an update from Bogota, where he has lived since two weeks after graduation: "Dissatisfied with the senior job recruitment process, with a sub-intermediate level of

Spanish and not a single drop of Latino blood in my body, I packed most of my things into two suitcases and flew rather blindly to Bogota. To put a roof over my head and food on my plate I took a job at a local hostel, which I discovered upon arrival was actually the night shift as the entire building's security guard, letting cars and people into the building 9 p.m.–3 a.m.

"Struck with the existential burnings of jumping from an Ivy League education into international security services, I didn't last long in my role and was quickly forced to find new lodging. What followed was the adventure of a lifetime, in which I taught English, was accepted into the country's most well-known university for a master's and worked for a subsid-

on September 7 in a beautiful ceremony in Phoenix. Many Lions surrounded them on their special day. Congratulations!

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I hope this column finds our class well and engaged in exciting endeavors! Whether you are embarking on a new job, living an artistic dream or continuing studies at graduate school, I hope everyone is enjoying their first brush with post-college reality. Here is what a few of our classmates are up to:

Stuart Cohen '13 began his education with the Class of 1981 and completed his degree this year as a proud member of the Class of 2013.

iary of the *Financial Times*. Now I am with an investment bank for a Colombian brokerage firm (and the only foreigner in the firm). I came to Colombia with little knowledge of where I was going or what I wanted to do, but I learned how the honesty, hard work, cultural sensitivity and constant goal-setting that Columbia taught me could carry me to success in the farthest reaches of the globe."

Last but not least, **Derek Turner** and **Katie Goble** were married

Michelle Abramowitz and **Eric Feder** were married on June 9 at Temple Beth El in Cedarhurst, N.Y. Celebrating with them were many Class of '13 friends such as **Jason Levine**, **Etan Zapinsky '14E** and **Michael Rubin**. Michelle and Eric were both involved in the Columbia/Barnard Hillel, and met there during their NSOP week. One challenging "Calculus III" course, countless group projects and four years of college later, they got married. They now live in Washington Heights. Eric is pursuing his interest in mathematics as a professional data scientist while Michelle is performing clinical research in a psychology lab, hoping to pursue a Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

Soon after graduation, **John Kenney** began an internship at Pivot TV, where he worked on *Raising McCain*, a new documentary-talk show centered on political celebrity **Meghan McCain '07**. After finishing the internship he spent the remainder of his summer at home with family in North Dakota and Minnesota, then moved back to the Northeast. In fact, he is back on Columbia's campus as a first-year at the Law School. John is currently buried in introductory course material — essentially the Core of law school — and he hopes to narrow his focus to the intersection of law and sports.

Good luck, John!
Mila Rusafova is also beginning a law career and will start at Chicago Law in fall 2014. Between now and then (she took a year's deferral), she is a legal assistant to

Harvey Fishbein, a solo criminal trial defense lawyer in downtown Manhattan. Mila has assisted him since her senior year at Columbia and has been exposed to a number of pivotal cases, the biggest of which is currently *People v. Pedro Hernandez*, regarding the highly publicized **Etan Patz** disappearance in 1979. She has assisted in court and at trial for some cases, and hopes to apply these experiences to her course material as a law student. She looks forward to a year of "making it on [her] own in New York City," as she puts it, and hopes to spend next summer traveling and resting before the school year commences.

Nathan Ratapu has begun his post-college career as a programming analyst at Syfy in New York City. He helps put together the TV network's air schedule and scouts for international programming. He looks forward to continuing his learning experience at the network and to pursuing a career in the entertainment industry.

Congratulations go to **Stuart Cohen**, who began his education at Columbia with the Class of 1981 and completed his degree this year as a proud member of our Class of 2013. In his words, "I was supposed to graduate in 1981 but failed physical education. After 32 years I decided it was time, so I got my credit and I am now a real graduate. No more living a lie!"

Now based in Juneau, Alaska, **Stuart** is a proud father of two and a successful author. Since graduating, he received news that his fourth novel, tentatively called *This Is How It Really Sounds!*, will be published. Some words of wisdom from Stuart to our class: "I read virtually none of the Core Curriculum when I was in school but I have read just about all of the books now, in their entirety. I guarantee you they read much better 30 years later, and are much more profound. I especially like **Plutarch**, who identified concentration of wealth as a threat to society long ago, and **Cervantes**, who is so profound about the separate worlds we all live in. So, keep re-reading: you're just getting started."

A final note: This December marks our seventh month in "the real world" — may our fresh memories of college life provide an impetus to give back and donate to the Columbia College Fund. You can give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling the Alumni Office at 212-851-7488, or mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.



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Letters

(Continued from page 6)

Alumni Association, then headed by **Frank Hogan** ['24, '28L].

One of my first jobs was to play a role in organizing the dinner, to be held in the Waldorf-Astoria. It turned out to be a tough assignment

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for me and the alumni dinner committee. The honoree was **V.K. Wellington Koo** (Class of 1909), China's ambassador to the United States. The feeling about China and **Chiang Kai-shek** was bitterly pro and con at that time and to get 450 people to come to that dinner was a Herculean task.

Thomas Dewey ['25L] was the principal speaker. I never saw anyone more confident or sure of himself. Certainly the majority attending the dinner that evening thought he had already won the Presidential election. **Harry Truman** soon thereafter upset that prognostication.

As I recall, the next **Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner** was a much easier sell, with the recipient being "**Wild Bill**" **Donovan** [(Class of 1905)], who headed the Office of Strategic Services (a precursor to the Central Intelligence Agency) during WWII.

John C. Thomas Jr. '48
NEW YORK CITY

Alumni Corner

(Continued from page 96)

I've sometimes said I'm from an Italian family, was born in New York and live in France, all of which is true, and ask them to decide what I am. Occasionally I have doubts myself. After 20 years abroad, some things in America seem very foreign (automatic transmission, air conditioning in homes, the government shutdown), but I don't feel French. My 9-year-old daughter is more confused. It helps having a wife who picks up languages quickly.

Journalism has certainly become more international since I started, when my co-workers were almost exclusively Yanks, Brits and Aussies. Now I have plenty of Lebanese, Italian, Russian or Korean colleagues who could do my job just as well, and might even have the same Columbia degree.

Technology has obviously changed as well. My first job was on an IBM typewriter. In London in the late '80s, I'd often hang out for

the lunch after press conferences before ambling back to the office to write the story. Sadly, thanks to cost cuts, there are fewer free lunches now. It's a shame, because these days I've generally banged out the story from my laptop during the press conference and would be free to stick around sans guilt. Younger reporters for some publications just tweet from press conferences.

It's amazing how many young people still want to work in what's reputed to be a dying profession, and aspiring reporters frequently ask for advice. I haven't a clue what the business model is going to be. But what's clear is that reporters have to work fast, and across multiple platforms: print, video, graphics, podcasts, blogs, radio or whatever other media the folks at Apple and elsewhere come up with. There will always be a demand for content. Let the business owners figure out how to make money out of it.

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Answers to Quiz on Inside Back Cover

- Sixteen percent of the College Class of 2017 comes from outside the United States and represents 47 countries.
- In March 2009, Columbia opened its first Global Centers in Beijing, China, and Amman, Jordan.
- In January 2013, Columbia opened its eighth Global Center in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Nevis, British West Indies.
- Sixty-four students held Columbia Experience Overseas summer internships in 2013 in eight cities.
- France, to study at Reid Hall.
- 1964.
- Estonia.
- Twelve Columbians currently are overseas on Fulbrights: **John Bailey '12** (Spain), **Janine Balekdjian '13** (Ukraine), **Caitlin Brown '13** (Andorra), **Kyle Bukhari '13 GS** (United Kingdom), **Serena Dasani '13** (Indonesia), **Scout Katovich '11** (France), **Krizia Lopez '13** (Nicaragua), **Aaron Primero '13** (Philippines), **Katharina Shaw '13** (Germany), **Elizabeth Shen '11** (Philippines), **Lewis West '13** (India) and **James Wiseman '13** (Czech Republic).
- Spanish, with 532 students enrolled in classes in 2013–14.

ALUMNI CORNER

An American Journalist in Paris

BY GREGORY VISCUSI '85, '91 SIPA

Although upon arriving at Columbia College I became an instant believer in the importance of the Core Curriculum, I just as quickly decided I didn't like Plato. I also didn't have the gall to begin my freshman year arguing with my professor that the founder of Western philosophy was pompous and pretentious. That was probably a good call for my future at Columbia but also a good lesson for my career.

In 25 years of journalism I've met some unsavory types, from Islamic radicals in Lebanon to creepy U.S. civilians running Iraq to deceitful corporate PR spinners to National Front politicians in France. But they've all had at least some valid point to make, and I've always told their side of the story. After, of course, double checking everything they say and seeking out opposing points of view. A reporter's job is to expose and explain, not to preach or mock.

Maybe it was growing up partly as an expat in France, in a family where we discussed politics from an early age, or our extensive travels in Europe and Africa where my father worked, but I knew since high school in the States that I wanted to be an overseas-based journalist. At Columbia, professors dismissed many of my papers and exams for their "journalistic writing style;" I was never so satisfied with the resulting mediocre grades.

I joined WKCR's news department as soon as I arrived at Columbia and continued to file reports from my 1983-84 junior year abroad at the University of Edinburgh. Those were heady years in the United Kingdom, with the miners' strike, the invasion of Grenada and protest against the installation of U.S. Pershing missiles. After graduation, I presumed my career would involve covering those same issues of war and peace. It was a shock to discover every newspaper job on offer required a car. I was a city boy and didn't even have a driver's license. I don't know how I was so clueless but it probably didn't make much difference. Newspapers were already cutting back in 1985 and the jobs were in business news.

A year after joining Dow Jones in downtown Manhattan, I was sent to London to cover currency markets and banking. After

two years there and then some personal travel in South America, I came back to New York for a degree at SIPA. A year at *Forbes* magazine followed before joining in 1992 what was at the time a start-up called Bloomberg News. I was hired to open its Milan office, becoming Bloomberg's fifth reporter on the continent. Now there are about 600 in Europe. We were about half that when I moved to the Paris bureau in 1997. Sometimes I miss those early chaotic days when we were starting a news service from scratch but the hours were insane, and obviously we weren't the influential media company we are now, even if along with size inevitably comes a certain bureaucracy and anonymity.

I have no regrets about a career in business journalism. When

you come down to it, all stories are economic. Bloomberg takes a wide view, covering almost any subject where money is involved. There are plenty of days working the phone from the office or sitting through interminable press conferences. But over the years, I've also reported from looted oil fields in Iraq, from the Vatican about its finances, from Olympic Games on their sponsors and from a Greek frigate searching for pirates in the Indian Ocean. I've visited a fair share of Italian and French cheesemakers. I've accompanied French presidents to African countries as they drum up business and to numerous European capitals for all-night negotiations to save the euro. Nicolas Sarkozy was exhausting and exciting to cover, full of energy and an initiative a day. He could also boycott us for weeks if he didn't like our questions. François Hollande is patience defined, never losing his cool and always pleasant with the press. But unlike Sarkozy, he refuses to play the game of "feeding the beast," and sometimes the Elysée press corps returns from his overseas trips without a story to tell.

While I'm often the only non-French reporter on these trips, I've never felt any hostility. And that's been true of living in Europe generally, even at the height of French bashing in the U.S. during the first Iraq war. Even in the Middle East, I've never hidden that I'm American, although to soften the blow

(Continued on page 95)



Bloomberg News reporter Gregory Viscusi '85, '91 SIPA in front of the Elysée, "the French White House," in October.

A Global Columbia Quiz

In keeping with the issue's theme, this quiz also has a global bent.


Try your hand at these questions (answers on page 94):

1. What percentage of the Class of 2017 comes from outside the United States, and how many countries are represented?
2. When and where were the first two Columbia Global Centers opened?
3. When and where was the most recent Columbia Global Center opened?
4. In what country was Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778) born?
5. How many students held internships in Summer 2013 through the Center for Career Education's Columbia Experience Overseas program, and in how many cities?
6. To what country does Columbia's largest contingent of study-abroad students go?
7. When did Columbia begin offering undergraduate programs at Reid Hall in Paris?
8. Toomas Hendrik Ilves '76 is the president of what country?
9. How many Columbians are studying overseas on Fulbright grants this year?
10. What language (in addition to English) is most popular to study at Columbia?

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College Walk on a wintry day, from *Columbia University in Pictures* by Lenny Pridatko.

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