

UC DAVIS

M A G A Z I N E

Volume 32, Number 1
Fall 2014

HIV's true colors

Surprising discoveries
from James Hildreth's lab



FREEBORN HALL RETROSPECTIVE • HOT CROPS



From the desk of Shaun Keister
Vice Chancellor for Development and Alumni Relations

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Sincerely,
Shaun



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UC DAVIS

M A G A Z I N E

Volume 32, Number 1/Fall 2014

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Disarming a Trojan Horse

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James Hildreth, dean of biological sciences, is training a new generation of scientists to rein in HIV.

by Sasha Abramsky



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If the planet keeps getting warmer, will the plants that sustain us thrive? UC Davis scientists are adapting staple crops to grow in drier, saltier conditions.

by Pat Bailey



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The box office is closed and the hall quiet, but Freeborn Hall still rocks in the memories of many alumni. Aggies recall some of their favorite concerts.

by Kathleen Holder

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About the cover:

Research from James Hildreth's lab reveals the AIDS virus as a Trojan horse that acquires potency by stealing proteins from host cells. See page 12 for a story about Hildreth's work as a leading HIV researcher, student mentor and dean of the College of Biological Sciences. Digital illustration by Russ Thébaud.



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UC DAVIS MAGAZINE

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Move over Gunrock, remember Ollie

[Re: "One to One: Being Gunrock, summer '14] Once upon time at a campus a long time ago (1960s), there was Ollie, the mascot of the Cal Aggie Mustangs. Sporting a golden paper-mache head and blue overalls with the distinctive CA logo on the chest, he was the leader of Aggie Spirit at home and away ball games. He was loved by all and loved everyone, especially little kids and the CA Song Girls. [The mascot was] the responsibility of the Rally Committee (Rally Com). No one really knew who made Ollie come alive—it just added a bit of mystique to keep folks guessing who it was "this time."

George Brown '67

Former Rally Com vice chair
Los Osos

What, no print Aggie?!

[Re: "Aggie's disappearing ink," summer '14] I worked on the *Cal Aggie* from 1964 to 1968 and cannot believe that there will be no print issue. We were the generation that [took the *Aggie* from a twice-weekly paper] to a print daily. It is shocking to me that UC Berkeley still has a print issue of the *Daily Cal* . . . but the *Cal Aggie* will be no more.

Howard Egerman '68

Oakland

Editor's note: Stay tuned. Aggie Editor in Chief Muna Sadek says she hopes to have the paper back in print as early as this January.

Twitter



@whscounseling3

Ms. Caruso & I [are] encouraging our students to #ReachHigher w/ our @ucdavis & @NewMexicoSt shirts. #aggies #TShirtTuesday



@babybirdsmom

Every day is #AggiePrideFriday @ucdavis #GoAgs

Instagram



datsyuk_the_frenchie



Gregory Porter

Grammy Award-winning
jazz vocalist

Mondavi Center, Jackson Hall

Jan. 19

Dance

Wendy Whelan

Mondavi Center, Jackson Hall

Jan. 24

Exhibitions

**Valentine Art Exhibition
and Auction**

Nelson Gallery

Jan. 17–Feb. 14 (with live auction on
Valentine's Day)

**Listening to the Stone:
Original Inuit Art**

Traditional and contemporary Inuit stone
sculpture, from a private collection.

C.N. Gorman Museum

Jan. 6–March 16, 2015

Outdoors

**Storytime through the Seasons:
Under the Redwood Tree**

Native Californian tales,
games and arts. Free.

Arboretum, Wyatt Deck
(Rain location: Environmental
Horticulture 146)

Nov. 9

Talk

Temple Grandin

Author of *Thinking in Pictures*,
this year's Campus Community
Book Project selection.

Mondavi Center, Jackson Hall

Feb. 10

Celebrations

Black Family Week

Feb. 9–13

Music

UC Davis Symphony Orchestra

Christian Baldini, music director and
conductor, and Blythe Gaissert,
mezzo-soprano.

Mondavi Center, Jackson Hall

Nov. 22

Dr. John & The Nite Trippers

Mondavi Center, Jackson Hall

Dec. 3

Music and Words Festival

Performances by So Percussion,
Empyrean Ensemble, Bob Ostertag,
UC Davis Symphony Orchestra,
emerging composers.

Mondavi Center

Jan. 29–31

More events

Mondavi Center
mondaviarts.org

Department of Music
music.ucdavis.edu

Department of
Theatre and Dance
theatredance.ucdavis.edu

Visitor Services
visit.ucdavis.edu

Arboretum
arboretum.ucdavis.edu

Craft Center Gallery
cru.ucdavis.edu, click on
Recreation & Activities

Design Museum
designmuseum.ucdavis.edu

Athletics
ucdavisaggies.com

C.N. Gorman Museum
gormanmuseum.ucdavis.edu

The Art Lounge
campusunions.ucdavis.edu

Richard L. Nelson Gallery
& Fine Arts Collection
nelsongallery.ucdavis.edu



More event information at ucdavis.edu/calendar.

THE GLOBAL COST OF CARS

MORE THAN \$100 TRILLION in public and private spending could be saved between now and 2050 if the world expands public transportation, walking and cycling in cities, according to a new report.

Additionally, reductions in carbon dioxide emissions reaching 1,700 megatons per year in 2050 could be achieved if this shift occurs, according to the report released by UC Davis and the New York-based nonprofit Institute for Transportation and Development Policy.

A related analysis by the International Council on Clean Transportation included in the report estimated

that 1.4 million early deaths associated with exposure to vehicle tailpipe emissions could be avoided annually by 2050 if governments require the strongest vehicle pollution controls and ultralow-sulfur fuels. Doubling motor vehicle fuel economy could reduce CO₂ emissions by an additional 700 megatons in 2050.

The report, “A Global High Shift Scenario,” is the first study to examine how major changes in transportation investments worldwide would affect urban passenger transport emissions.

Food innovation

UC Davis’ World Food Center and Mars, Incorporated, have agreed to pursue the establishment of a new institute designed to deliver big-impact, Silicon Valley-type breakthroughs in food, agriculture and health.

The chocolate company will commit a minimum of \$40 million to support the new Innovation Institute for Food and Health over 10 years, and UC Davis will provide \$20 million over the same period.

Links between UC Davis and Mars date back as much as 40 years.

‘Free will’ or brain noise?

OUR ABILITY to make choices—and sometimes mistakes—might arise from random fluctuations in the brain’s background electrical noise, according to a recent study from the Center for Mind and Brain.

“How do we behave independently of cause and effect?” said Jesse Bengson, a postdoctoral researcher at the center. “This shows how arbitrary states in the brain can influence apparently voluntary decisions.”

The brain has a normal level of “background noise,” Bengson said, as electrical activity patterns fluctuate across the

brain. In the new study, decisions could be predicted based on the pattern of brain activity immediately before a decision was made.

The researchers found that the pattern of activity in the second or so before the cue symbol appeared—before the volunteers could know they were going to make a decision—could predict the likely outcome of the decision.

The experiment builds on a famous 1970s experiment by Benjamin Libet, a psychologist at UC San Francisco who was later affiliated with the UC Davis Center for Neuroscience.

DDT and female waistlines

Exposure of pregnant mice to the pesticide DDT is linked to an increased risk of obesity, diabetes, high cholesterol and related conditions in female offspring later in life, researchers have found.

The study is the first to show that developmental exposure to DDT increases the risk of females later developing metabolic syndrome—a cluster of conditions that include increased body fat, blood glucose and cholesterol.

DDT was banned in the United States in the 1970s but continues to be used for malaria control in countries including India and South Africa. Scientists gave mice doses of DDT comparable to exposures of people living in malaria-infested regions where it is regularly sprayed, as well as of pregnant mothers of U.S. adults who are now in their 50s.

“We found that DDT reduced female mice’s ability to generate heat,” said

Michele La Merrill, assistant professor of environmental toxicology. “If you’re not generating as much heat as the next guy, instead of burning calories, you’re storing them.”

The study found stark gender differences in the mice’s response to DDT. Females were at higher risk of obesity, Type 2 diabetes and cholesterol, but in males, DDT exposure caused only a minor increase in glucose levels.

Sleepless with MS

Undiagnosed sleep disorders may be at the root of the most common and disabling symptom of multiple sclerosis—fatigue.

In what may be the largest study of its kind, researchers surveyed 2,300 people with MS in Northern California. More than 70 percent of participants screened positive for one or more sleep disorders.

“The vast majority of these sleep

disorders are potentially undiagnosed and untreated,” said Steven Brass, associate clinical professor and director of the Neurology Sleep Clinical Program and co-medical director of the UC Davis Sleep Medicine Laboratory.

CT scans in kids

Many children who get CT scans after apparently minor head trauma do not need them, and as a result are put at increased risk of cancer due to radiation exposure, researchers report.

After analyzing more than 42,000 children with head trauma, emergency medicine professors Nathan Kuppermann and James Holmes and colleagues have developed new guidelines to help doctors confidently decide when to forgo CT testing in young patients.

“Most children with [autism] are barely even getting diagnosed by then.”

—Sally Rogers, right, a professor at the MIND Institute who, with colleague Sally Ozonoff, a professor at the MIND Institute, conducted a pilot study that started parent-directed treatment in infants as young as 6 months old and significantly reduced their autism symptoms by the time they turned 3.



More at go.ucdavis.edu/autism



'GOLD' IN A MOUNTAIN OF MONKEY GRAVEL

UC Davis adapts mining technology to recycle primate litter.

THE CHALLENGE: Pea gravel helps keep rhesus monkeys active and healthy at the California National Primate Research Center on campus. The macaques get mental stimulation and enrich their diets by foraging for monkey biscuits in the gravel and grass in their outdoor corrals. And the gravel, unlike the grass, can be easily changed to keep the habitat clean.

But the soiled gravel poses a weighty problem for the campus—70,800 pounds a week, or 1,840 tons a year, that gets trucked to a landfill. Disposing of the old gravel costs more than what the primate center pays to buy it new. But more important to campus sustainability efforts, the gravel created a mountainous obstacle to reaching UC-wide goals of zero waste by the year 2020. Here's how they are solving the problem.

A true Aggie innovation

Finding a solution involved sustainability officials, primate center leaders and campus facilities employees—a number of them alumni:

Sid England, Ph.D. '95, assistant vice chancellor for environmental stewardship and sustainability

Michelle La '10, waste reduction and recycling coordinator

Dallas Hyde, Ph.D. '76, professor and former director of the California National Primate Research Center

Jennifer Short '82, assistant director of primate services at the primate center

Mike Fan, M.S. '99, manager of the wastewater treatment plant. Fan oversees a team that designed, tested and refined the device—apprentices Kelly Cowden and Servando Jimenez and their supervisor, Brad Butterfield.

"This was collaboration in the best sense with everyone working toward a common goal," said **David Phillips** '88, who oversees the wastewater plant as utilities director.

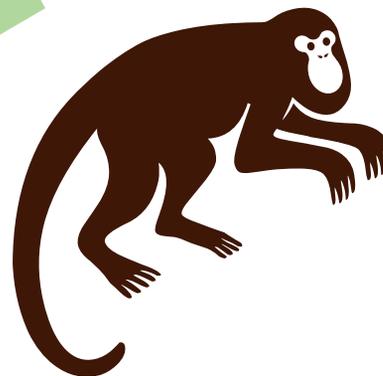
THE GRAVEL-

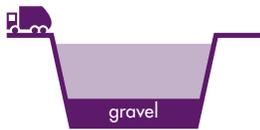
Soiled gravel is brought from the primate center to be washed.

Washing gravel

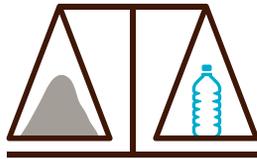
After trial and error, a team at the wastewater treatment plant devised a system that uses parts from a cement mixer and gold-mining equipment to clean the gravel with reclaimed water.

Clean gravel, if it tests virus-free, could be reused at the primate center.





Of **6,520 tons of annual waste**, monkey gravel comprises more than **25 percent**.



By weight, 1,840 tons of gravel is equal to **129 million empty water bottles**.



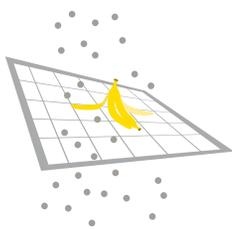
Recycling gravel will save \$40,000 a year compared to the costs of landfilling it and buying replacement gravel.

66%
current
diversion

76%
future
diversion

Recycling gravel will bring UC Davis' overall diversion rate to **76 percent**.

-WASTEWATER CYCLE



1

Soiled gravel is put through a screen to filter out large chunks of organic waste.

2



The gravel soaks overnight in lightly treated water.

3

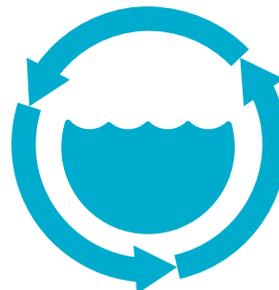


The gravel is run through a trommel for final cleaning, similar to gold mining.

Lightly treated water from the wastewater plant is used to wash the gravel.

IT'S NOT ONLY ABOUT GRAVEL: UC Davis' wastewater plant relies on microbes as part of the sanitizing process. Organic matter from the monkey gravel helps keep the digesting bacteria—and the treatment plant—in top working order during the summer and holidays when fewer people are around to keep it flush. "That's another great part of this story—organics going somewhere that they can be helpful instead of detrimental," said Camille Kirk, assistant director of sustainability.

Water runs back to the start of the wastewater treatment process.



INFOGRAPHIC BY RUSS THEBAUD/UC DAVIS



GREGORY UROUJAGA/UC Davis

MUSICAL DIGS

Shovels with cello scroll handles stand ready for a ceremonial groundbreaking for a new music recital hall and classroom building next door to current music, theater, dance and art facilities. The centerpiece of the building will be a 394-seat recital hall that will host about 100 concerts a year after it opens in fall 2015. The 17,000-square foot building will also provide classroom space, rehearsal studios, a recording control room and a production office. Gifts and tax-exempt bonds will finance its \$15 million construction; no student tuition, fees or state funds will be used.

CAMPUS NEWS

University medalist

Charles Hess, longtime dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and a professor emeritus of plant sciences, was awarded the campus's top accolade in June—the UC Davis Medal.

Hess served as dean from 1975 until 1989 when he was appointed by President George H.W. Bush to be the assistant secretary for science and education in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. When he returned to campus in 1991, he served as the director of international programs. He also has served as a special assistant to the provost and chancellor. He retired in 1994 but has never stopped working for his profession, his college and the university community.

An Aggie regent

Rodney Davis '71, a past president of the Cal Aggie Alumni Association and a former trustee of the UC Davis Foundation, has taken a seat on the UC Board of Regents.

Selected by CAAA for a two-year term, Davis will serve as an alumni regent-designate through June 30, 2015, then as an alumni regent with voting rights through June 30, 2016.

A retired appellate court judge and a volunteer Episcopal parish priest in Carmichael, Davis said he will focus on main-

taining the affordability of a UC education. "How we pay for education shows, in the end, how much we value it," he said.

Four alumni regents are in office at any one time: two as regents and two as regent-designates. The 10 UC campuses follow a rotating schedule in making alumni regent appointments.

"We have an opportunity here that mirrors the path of Silicon Valley."

— Chancellor Linda P.B. Katehi in a commentary in the September issue of *Comstock's* magazine about the possibility of a new UC Davis campus in Sacramento.

"If there's anything wrong with UC Davis' dining program, then we couldn't find it."

— Food and drink website *The Daily Meal* in naming the campus to its 2014 list for the 75 best colleges for food in America.

“We’re acting like the super rich who have so much money they don’t need to balance their checkbook.”

— **Richard Howitt**, professor emeritus of agricultural and resource economics and lead author of a report on the economic impacts of California’s drought, speaking on the state’s use of groundwater.

6.4 tons



The estimated weight of used UC Davis laboratory gloves diverted from the landfill through a RightCycle program that sends them back to the manufacturer for a “second life” as park benches, bumpers for car parking and other plastic products. As the program expands campuswide from veterinary and chemistry labs, the landfill diversion could grow to a **potential 12.8 tons**.

No. 9

UC Davis’ ranking **among the nation’s public universities** in the latest rankings by *U.S. News & World Report*. It marked the fifth year in a row that UC Davis has been ranked in the top 10.



1 million+

The number of online views of a TEDx talk given by law professor Karima Bennouna—“When People of Muslim Heritage Challenge Fundamentalism.” In the talk, Bennouna tells four stories drawn from the research she did for her 2013 book *Your Fatwa Does Not Apply Here: Untold Stories from the Fight Against Muslim Fundamentalism*. The book won a 2014 Dayton Literary Peace Prize.



Watch her talk at go.ucdavis.edu/bennouna

“We seem to be tantalizingly close to the beginning of a hydrogen transition.”

— **Joan Ogden**, professor of environmental science and policy and director of the Sustainable Transportation Energy Pathways (NextSTEPS). A recent report co-authored by Ogden found that—with new thinking by government and industry, falling costs, growing interest in climate change solutions and other converging factors—the hydrogen fuel cell vehicle could soon succeed.



Read the report, “The Hydrogen Transition,” at go.ucdavis.edu/hydrogen.

27

The number of current and emeritus faculty in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, with the election last spring of three new members in three diverse fields: **Margaret Ferguson**, English; **Robert Huckfeldt**, political science; and **John Wingfield**, physiology.

a guide to the AGGIE-BUILT CAMPUS

by Kathleen Holder

STUDENTS HAVE BEEN LEAVING THEIR MARKS

on UC Davis from the days of their first arrival in 1908–09—and by that we don't mean unauthorized nail holes in their residence hall rooms. Aggies over the years have literally helped shape the place—grading the first athletic track, installing an irrigation system for the Quad, digging a swimming pool, establishing a popular eatery and launching the bus system.

More than just physical monuments (though those dot the UC Davis landscape too), many Aggie installations have become an integral part of university life. Here's a self-guided tour of some student-created destinations that you can explore the next time you visit campus. (Be sure to check back often to discover what your student may have added to the map.)

Experience it for yourself

1. Eat a cookie.

Visit the Coffee House for a treat—or, if you're really hungry, have breakfast or lunch. Students established the CoHo in 1968, and they're still running the place—cooking and serving the made-from-scratch food (some of it with organic produce grown at the campus Student Farm). Depending on the weekday, you can try popular lunch entries like chicken tetrazzini, tofu chili, meatloaf and pasta with creamy tomato and feta sauce.

Among the top-selling desserts are biscotti and pumpkin cookies.

2. Swim laps.

After digesting your CoHo food, head north across the street to Hickey Pool. In the late 1930s, students used picks and shovels to help dig the hole for the pool, which was home to swimming and diving teams for nearly seven decades. The pool is heated and the seven lap lanes are short—25 yards. You can buy

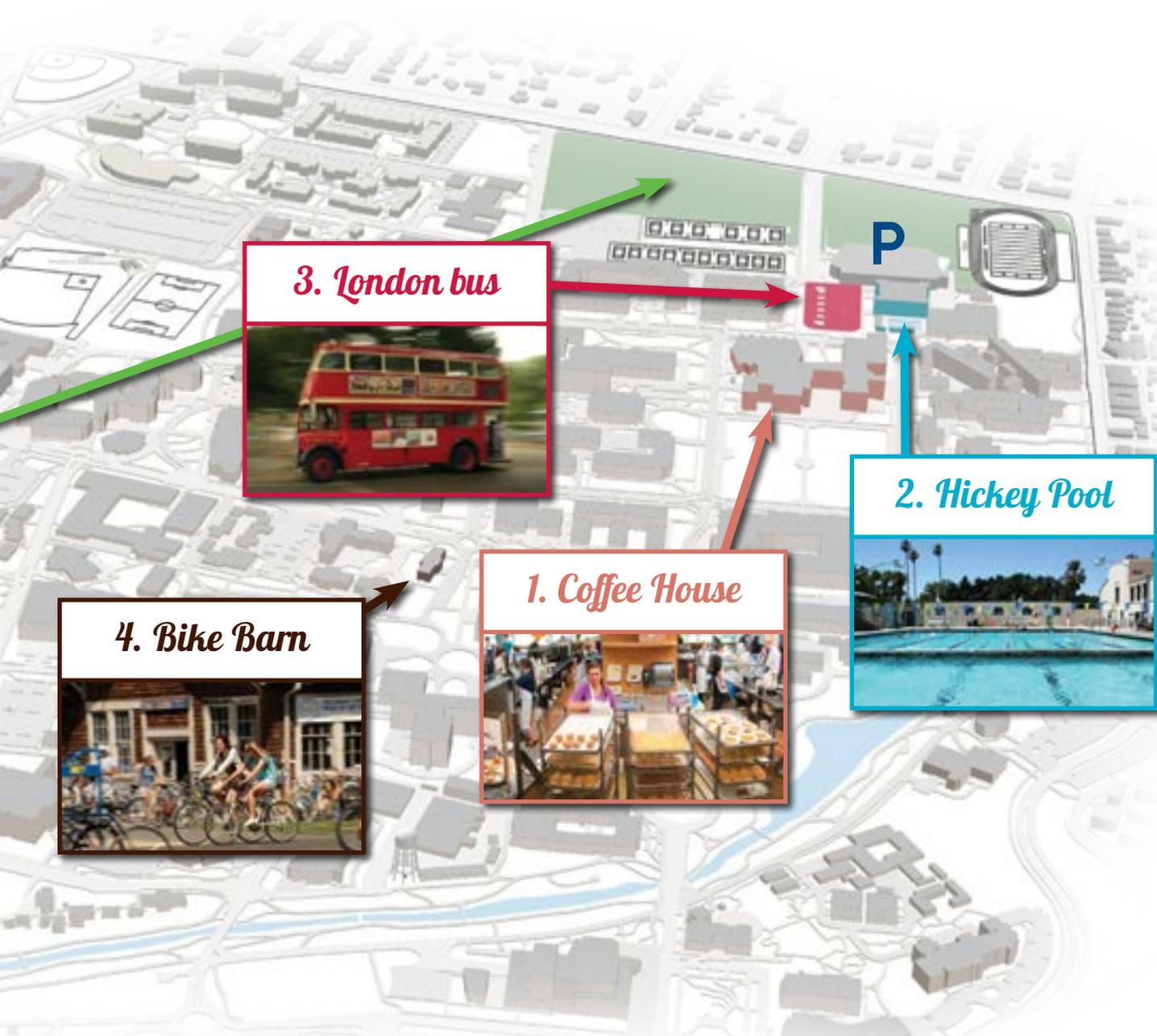
day passes for family members 18 years and older at the MU Games Area as well as the Activities and Recreation Center (ARC).

3. Ride a bus.

Just west of Hickey Pool is a Unitrans terminal. Hop aboard one of the red buses, and the first person you'll meet—the driver—will be a student. Students started the bus service in 1968, importing two vintage double-decker buses

5. Club sports





3. London bus



2. Hickey Pool



1. Coffee House



4. Bike Barn



5. Watch club sports.

from London. Today Unitrans serves the campus and the city of Davis with a fleet of 48 buses, most of them running on clean-burning fuels and all of them driven by students. The fleet now includes two modern double-deckers. If you want to ride a historic Routemaster, catch the E line to downtown Davis or the F line to the north part of town. The H line, which runs during the school year, will take you on a loop around the edge of core campus. Find schedules and maps for all

19 routes at unitrans.ucdavis.edu. The fare for nonstudents is \$1.

4. Ride a bike.

If you'd rather travel under your own power, rent a bicycle at the Bike Barn and pedal down one of the many campus bike paths. The Bike Barn, started as a bike tool exchange in 1971, is one of the oldest student-run bike shops in the nation. Bikes can be rented by the day, weekend or the week.

Head west down Hutchison Drive to La Rue Road, where some of the many student-run IM and club teams play. Depending on the season, you can find students playing flag football, soccer, Ultimate Frisbee or a Harry Potter-inspired game of Quidditch. Other teams can be found on other campus fields, in the ARC, at the MU bowling alley and, in the case of UC Davis-invented inner-tube water polo, at the aquatic center.



disarming a trojan horse

James Hildreth trains a new generation
of scientists to rein in HIV.

If there's a downside of being dean of the College of Biological Sciences, James Hildreth says, it's this: "I don't have much time to spend with my 'kids.'"

As he says that, he's surrounded by some of those "kids," or his trainees—undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral fellows who work in his lab researching the AIDS virus.

Looking over one student's lab manual, he shares a tidbit from his own scientific education: As a student he synthesized a biochemical detergent that the lab could not afford to buy from chemical companies.

by **Sasha Abramsky**

"I'm a chemist at heart—that was my undergraduate major," he tells them, then smiles. "I'm just trying to impress you. Things have changed a lot—you guys don't have to make any detergent."

They do, however, get to work with a leading HIV authority who is hailed by colleagues as a "scientific hero," sought after by conference organizers as a speaker, and revered by students from here to Maryland for his mentorship.

Among the many upsides of being dean, Hildreth says, is the opportunity to influence the education of a far bigger brood—thousands of



KARIN HIGGINS/UC Davis



UC DAVIS
COLLEGE OF
BIOLOGICAL
SCIENCES



The most fun part of my job is interacting with the undergraduates. I get great joy knowing we're playing a part in the lives of these individuals."

“**My life, as important as I like to think it is, pales in comparison to the importance of what I work on.**”

students. “It’s a humbling thing to be responsible for guiding this huge enterprise. But when I think about the wonderful students, faculty and staff here, I get inspired.”

In person, Hildreth comes across as a shy man. He seems uncomfortable trumpeting his many achievements: his undergraduate years at Harvard University, followed by a Rhodes scholarship to Corpus Christ College, at Oxford University, where he earned a doctorate in immunology; his work at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, as a student and then as a professor of molecular and cellular biology; and his groundbreaking discoveries in AIDS research.

“My life, as important as I like to think it is, pales in comparison to the importance of what I work on,” he once told a TEDx audience in Nashville, Tennessee, where he worked as a professor at Meharry Medical College before joining UC Davis in 2011.

That work involves understanding the biological mechanisms of AIDS, which has killed nearly 30 million people and made orphans of more than 17 million children around the world.

AIDS disproportionately affects Africans and people of African descent. Of the 35 million people afflicted with the virus, more than two-thirds live in sub-Saharan Africa. In the United States, African Americans make up 13 percent of the population but nearly half of all AIDS patients.

Addressing that disparity brings Hildreth back to a promise he made to himself as a young boy.



James Earl Hildreth grew up in the small segregated town of Camden, Arkansas, about 100 miles south of Little Rock, the youngest of seven children of R.J. and Lucy Hildreth.

When he was 11, his father, who was a laborer at the paper mill, was diagnosed with renal cancer but, as a poor, black man in rural Arkansas, received little treatment. “All that we could do was watch him wither away and die,” Hildreth told a group of Howard University students visiting a National Institutes of Health center in 2000.

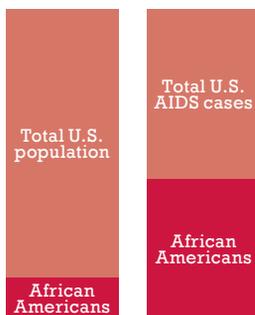
Deeply angry, the young Hildreth promised himself that he would become a doctor and return, one day, to help his community get equal access to medical care.

Months later, the assassination of his hero, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., in Memphis, Tennessee, fueled his rage. Hildreth credits his mother with helping him channel that anger for good. As he was growing up, Lucy Hildreth, a hospial cook, told him, “Your circumstances do not limit your possibilities.”

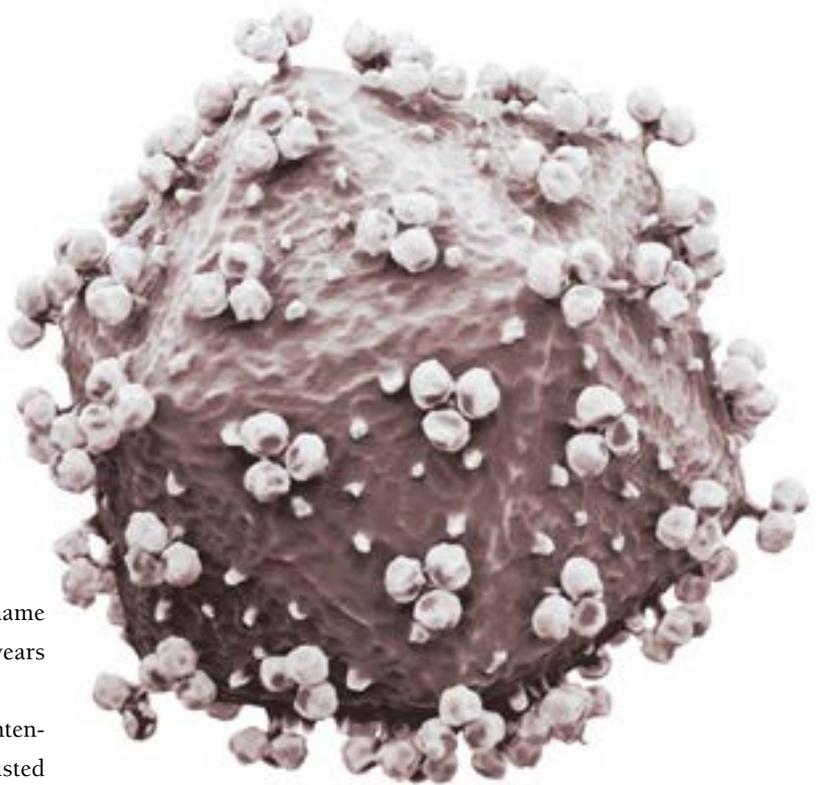
And so James Hildreth threw himself into his studies. He graduated top of his high school class and was admitted to Harvard, where he majored in chemistry and got research experience in an immunology professor’s lab.

While pursuing his doctorate at Oxford a few years

AIDS disparities



The AIDS virus acquires its potency by stealing proteins from host cells, but its need for cholesterol offers a way to thwart it—cholesterol-lowering statins.



later, he married Phyllis King. He added her surname to his name: James Earl King Hildreth, and in the years following they had two children.

All the while, his focus on biomedical research intensified. As a Johns Hopkins medical student, he insisted on sitting in the same front row seat for class lectures—“I wanted to take it all in.”

Hildreth began researching AIDS during his medical studies, and, by the time he graduated in 1987, decided on a career in science instead of realizing his earlier ambition of becoming a transplant surgeon. He joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins, and served as an associate dean. In 2005, he moved to Meharry, where he directed the Center for AIDS Health Disparities Research.

Among his many honors, Hildreth has been named a member of the Institute of Medicine (one of the National Academies of Science) and the Johns Hopkins Society of Scholars. This year, he was elected to the Harvard Board of Overseers, one of the university’s two governing boards. In accepting the position, Hildreth said he wanted to help “sustain the availability of a Harvard education for students from disadvantaged backgrounds—as was the case for me back in 1975. I am sure that the experience will help me be a much better leader for my students, faculty and staff.”



A deeply introspective man who loves art and works Shakespeare quotations into his scientific talks,

Hildreth is more comfortable immersed in his own thoughts than in making small talk.

On a flight to Zambia several years back, Meharry Medical College colleague Valerie Montgomery Rice had to coax conversation out of him. The two scientists were on their way to set up a study on a vaginal microbicide, or “chemical condom,” that Hildreth believed could inhibit HIV transmission in a country where more than one of every seven adults lives with the virus.

On the plane, Hildreth preferred to listen to his iPod, on which he keeps a huge, eclectic collection of music. Hildreth is a bass guitar player, and some of his friends believe he nurtures a secret fantasy to take his musical skills up to a professional level.

On Rice and Hildreth’s second trip to Zambia, however, Hildreth opened up more. The colleagues played Scrabble together for much of the journey. And they talked about Hildreth’s work in immunology.

The scientist had, in his years at Johns Hopkins and Meharry, established a reputation as one of the country’s leading HIV/AIDS researchers. He believed that the virus was a Trojan horse, a “thief” that, while possessing relatively few genes of its own—normally an indicator of a lack of biological complexity—acquired



KARIN HIGGINS/UC Davis

Postdoctoral researcher Ebony Coleman says that Hildreth “encourages you to think on your own.”

potency by stealing protein from other cells.

It was, he thought with a mixture of respect and horror, “an awesome example of what can happen when a pathogen has the ability to hijack or steal macromolecules from host cells. This virus appears to have evolved to avoid or neutralize all the mechanisms that deal with it. Or it has a way to escape them. It’s really incredible. It’s just an amazing pathogen.”

Let HIV run rampant and it would, inevitably, find a way to wear down the human immune system, which is capable of dealing with an almost unfathomable number of threats—at least a quintillion, or a billion billions, was Hildreth’s estimate.

Yet, in his years of studying the virus, Hildreth had also come to recognize its Achilles’ heel: HIV needs cholesterol in order to fuse with the cytoplasm of a host cell. If you could devise a way to starve it of cholesterol, you could negate much of its fearsomeness.

After years of work, Hildreth and his team found what they were looking for in statins, the medicines prescribed to millions of people to lower their cholesterol. Adding statins to the drug cocktails used to treat HIV could reduce the chance of HIV infection developing into AIDS. Statins also allowed doctors to prescribe lower doses of the powerful and sometimes toxic

antiviral drugs that form the backbone of current HIV treatments. And, rounding the achievement out, they reduced the transmission rates for the disease. Moreover, because certain microbicides can block cholesterol from reaching the virus, Hildreth’s team concluded that it would be possible to develop microbicides that could inactivate HIV during sex, in much the same way that spermicidal creams are used to prevent pregnancies. It was this insight that had led Hildreth to travel to Zambia to set up studies. That began what is still an ongoing process—to develop fully effective microbicides as a core part of the anti-HIV arsenal.

Over a number of years, they identified a set of microbicides that could be used this way. (One, beta-cyclodextrin, had long been used as an ingredient in toothpaste.) This was a key development, for while HIV has rapidly evolved to counter the cocktail of drugs used to fight it, Hildreth cannot see a way that it could dodge microbicides that interfere with the absorption of cholesterol. “We have confirmed that HIV that is resistant to all other classes of compounds is still sensitive to this one, and that’s a really important point,” he says. This finding suggests that beta-cyclodextrin may be useful against multidrug resistant strains of HIV.

Yet Hildreth doesn’t believe that simply developing better medical interventions can end the AIDS epidemic. At the same time as he works to improve treatments for those with HIV, he also works to improve prevention. While at Meharry he obtained a \$2 million grant from the federal Centers for Disease Control to

“Davis has a wonderful culture of collaboration. That’s how the big problems are going to be solved.”

bring anti-HIV strategies into at-risk communities with the help of African American ministers throughout the South. “My goal is to form partnerships with the churches and their leaders to embrace HIV prevention. What the black church leaders represent is that they are trusted messengers.”



In August 2011, Hildreth arrived at UC Davis as dean of the College of Biological Sciences, excited to join “one of the strongest units in the country and, I would say, the world.”

The college has 5,500 undergraduates and 450 graduate students, and Hildreth takes pride in getting to know as many of them as possible. “The most fun part of my job is interacting with the undergraduates. I get great joy knowing we’re playing a part in the lives of these individuals.”

Rice, now president and dean of Morehouse School of Medicine, believes that her friend “thrives on developing young scientists. That’s where his passion is.”

In a profile she co-authored last year in the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, Rice described Hildreth as a “scientific hero.”

Cathy Will, who works in the Office of Graduate Student Affairs at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, recalls Hildreth’s contributions there: “At the time only 4 percent of the student population was from under-represented minority groups. Hildreth told the dean

about recruitment problems.” He persuaded the dean to start a summer internship program for students of color.

Wanting to cultivate students’ participation in the creative work of research, he also helped set up a mentorship program, allowing students to choose their labs and then linking them up with appropriate mentors. “It took a decade,” Will says, “but it changed the culture of Hopkins.”

Hildreth’s students deeply admire the man and his methods. “I don’t think you can survive in his lab without independent thinking,” says Ebony Coleman, a postdoctoral scholar whom he recruited, along with two others, from Meharry when he moved to UC Davis. “He encourages you to think on your own. I had to get comfortable with that; it gives me a profound appreciation and confidence in my own abilities. Science is like art—you need to have your creative space.”

At Davis, Hildreth sees a unique opportunity to set his team of professors and students to work on some of the biggest challenges facing molecular biologists and immunologists today.

“The discovery of new knowledge is the thing that holds us all together,” says Hildreth, “and Davis has a wonderful culture of collaboration. That’s how the big problems are going to be solved.”



Relative rates of new HIV infections among American women

by Pat Bailey

HEAT CROPS

AS THE PLANET HEATS UP, SCIENTISTS WORK TO ADAPT GRAINS AND LEGUMES TO HELP THEM—AND US—THRIVE.

SOMETIMES IT PAYS TO HAVE WILD AND QUIRKY

RELATIVES. That's certainly the case for staple crops that help feed the world. It also helps—both the plants and the people who depend on them—to have leading geneticists searching for family traits that could ensure those crops thrive in a warmer, drier world.

Researchers at UC Davis and around the world are scrambling to develop new varieties of food and fiber crops that will produce abundant yields despite drought

and other effects of climate change. They're also exploring more water-efficient ways to grow existing crops.

It's estimated that 38 percent of the world and 70 percent of its agricultural output are already impacted by drought—numbers that will likely rise as climate change intensifies. To make matters worse, global population is spiraling upward, expected to soar past 9 billion by the year 2050.

In short, we're headed toward a future that will have billions of more mouths to feed with much less water, higher temperatures and no room to expand the global farm.

To be sure, there is no "silver bullet" to take down the twin beasts of drought and climate change. Here's why:

- It's not just about developing less-thirsty crops.

With reduced rain and irrigation water, you also get higher salt concentrations in the soil, meaning that many crops of the future will need to be salt-tolerant.

- And to dodge the warming temperatures, some crops now grown during the summer months will, in certain regions, become winter-season crops—meaning they'll also have to get by on the shorter stretches of daylight that accompany winter.

Juggling, heat, light, salt and scarce moisture is a tall order, but scientists are already finding such multifaceted solutions in the genes of both domesticated plants and their ancestors.

With some plants, they're searching for genetic "markers" that will identify the genes responsible for various stress-tolerance traits, speeding up conventional breeding. In other cases, they expect to insert genes from the wild relatives into existing crop varieties, better equipping them to adapt to climate change.

Here are snapshots of four crops and the scientists studying them:

LONGER LEAF LIFE

To make rice around the world more tolerant of drought conditions, plant scientist Eduardo Blumwald and his lab colleagues are investigating rice genes that will

"We are working against the clock."

—Eduardo Blumwald, professor of plant sciences

delay “leaf senescence”—that normal phase when the older leaves begin to decline and the plant, like an aging factory, begins to shut down.

Blumwald and team hope to develop rice varieties that don’t rush quickly into senescence during drought conditions, but rather continue the leaf-based photosynthetic process that yields the nutrients necessary to make the rice grains.

GENOMIC GIANT

The wheat genome contains 16 billion base pairs—the molecules that make up DNA—and is five times the size of the human genome.

Plant geneticists Jorge Dubcovsky, Jan Dvorak and colleagues are mapping, isolating and cloning genes from the massive wheat genome, investigating the critical stages of the development cycle, including genes that impact a plant’s drought tolerance.

For example, genes that allow wheat to flower a few days early—saving precious irrigation water—could be used to develop new climate-flexible wheat varieties. Dubcovsky’s laboratory also has recently identified a

region of a rye chromosome that, when introduced into wheat, increases yield and improves the water status of the plant under limited irrigation. Dvorak’s lab is working to develop salt-tolerant wheat that could be irrigated with poor-quality water, saving the better water for other uses.

CRACKING A NUTTY PUZZLE

The commercially grown modern peanut emerged thousands of years ago from a natural hybrid fusion between two wild peanut ancestors, meaning that scientists find themselves studying something of a double genome.

Research scientist Lutz Froenicke in Professor Richard Michelmore’s laboratory at the UC Davis Genome Center developed “ultra-high density” genetic maps for the two peanut ancestor genomes.

“We are getting closer and closer to a crunch in our food supply, so we better have the genetic resources at hand if we want to continue improving wheat and feeding people.”

—Jorge Dubcovsky, plant geneticist and wheat genomics expert



RICE

Rice is the staple food for more than half the world’s population—especially important in Bangladesh, Asia and Southeast Asia.

Drought already affects more than 56 million acres of rice fields globally.

Farmers can boost rice yield by 50 percent using more drought-tolerant varieties, but more productive varieties still are desperately needed.

WHEAT

Wheat is the most widely grown cereal crop in the world, accounting for about 20 percent of what we collectively eat every day.

In developing regions, it’s second only to rice as a staple food.

In just 25 years, we’re expected to be globally clamoring for 60 percent more wheat than we’re now producing.



These maps serve as frameworks for sorting the pieces of the legume's genomic puzzle and then putting them back together at the chromosome scale, better equipping the world to make sure that peanuts keep producing as the climate changes.

CORN'S ANCIENT LINEAGE

Maize spans global cultures and eons of time, having been domesticated some 9,000 years ago from wild tiosente grasses in Mexico and elsewhere in Central America.

Plant geneticist Jeffrey Ross-Ibarra is studying the genetic diversity and domestication of maize, as well as maize breeding.

He's particularly interested in how maize adapted from its origin in the lowlands of Mexico to growing in the high altitudes of Central and South America.

Genes for those adaptive traits might also prove invaluable in developing corn or maize varieties that can adjust to climate change.

Super Staples

For millions of the world's poorest people, who are the most vulnerable to famine, Simon Chan's research offers hope for more resilient staple crops.

Until recently, ensuring a plant inherited its parents' most valuable traits—such as drought tolerance or pest resistance—required generations of inbreeding. Chan's "breeding true" discovery bypassed the laborious process.

With support from some of the most prestigious grants in science, Chan was working to apply his discoveries to staple foods of the world's most impoverished regions. Just months after he received tenure in UC Davis' plant biology department, however, he died from a rare autoimmune disease at the age of 38. Inspired by his commitment to mentoring students and his impact on modern agriculture, his colleagues launched the Simon Chan Memorial Endowment—with a generous gift from an anonymous donor—in order to realize the global potential of his work.

—Corinna Fish

Read more about Chan's life and work at plb.ucdavis.edu/simonchan.

PEANUTS

The peanut is crucial for the daily nutrition and livelihoods of millions of smallholder farmers in Asia and Africa, many of whom are women. Globally, farmers tend nearly 60 million acres of peanuts, annually producing about 44 million tons.

This oil- and protein-rich legume also is a major cash crop in the South and Southeast, making the U.S. the world's third largest peanut-producing nation—right behind China and India.



CORN

Corn, or maize, is the top field crop in the U.S., where it is grown on 80 million acres—primarily for livestock feed.

This versatile crop also supplies food and food ingredients, biofuel and fiber around the world.





Our first-ever statewide campaign celebrates more than 100 years of innovation and industry collaboration in California—and world—agriculture.

Fruitful partnerships, writ large

SIGNS OF UC DAVIS' century-plus legacy of partnership with California agriculture are popping up in new places.

Billboards and other ads highlight a few of the ways that the university and its industry partners nourish the state with food, economic activity and better health.

The new messages follow last year's launch of the One UC Davis marketing campaign, which celebrates the uniqueness of everyone connected to the university.

In the same way, the new "One California" campaign recognizes our food and animal scientists, our students and alumni, farmers and ranchers and processors, and others working in California's \$45-billion-a-year agricultural industry.

In addition to billboards, the new campaign includes print ads; radio and TV spots; op-ed columns in local, state and national media; and a new "One California" website to amplify the message.

"We are growing California agriculture," the website

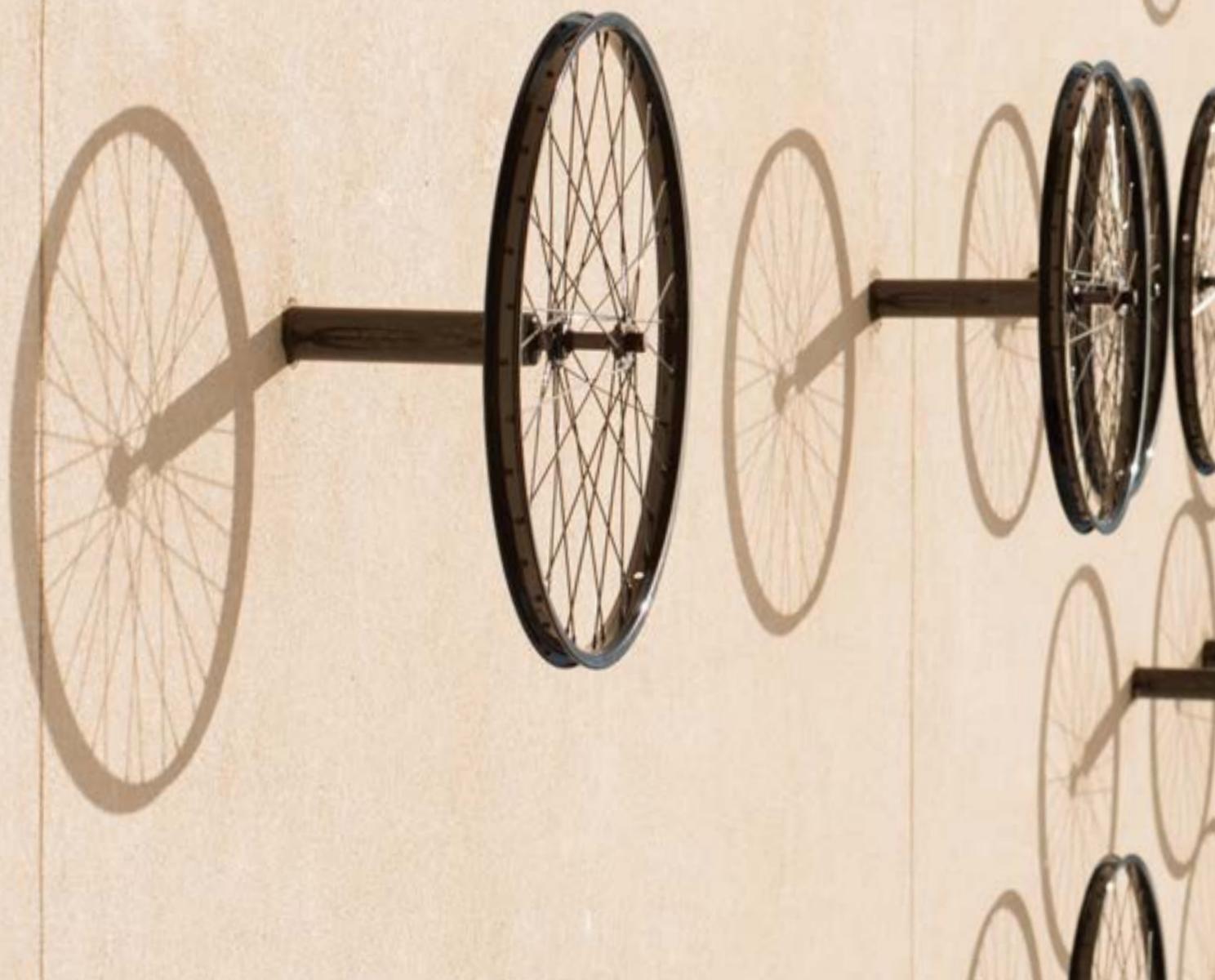


begins, as it invites people to learn more—in videos, news stories, profiles and more—about the synergy between farmers, ranchers and other producers, and UC Davis experts in agriculture and veterinary medicine.



Visit the site at onecalifornia.ucdavis.edu.

THE BIG PICTURE



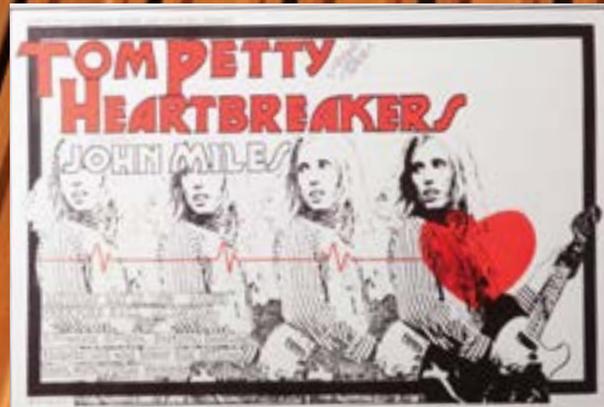
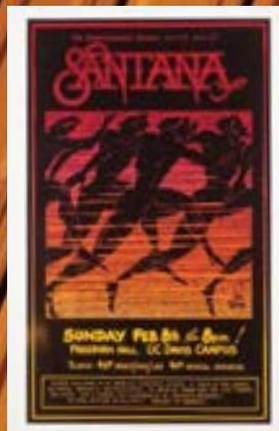
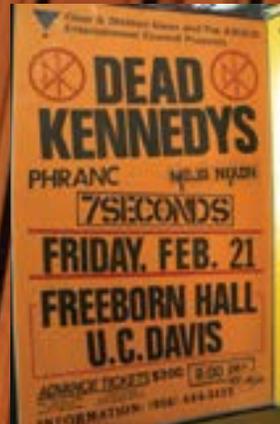
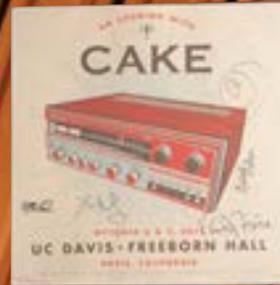
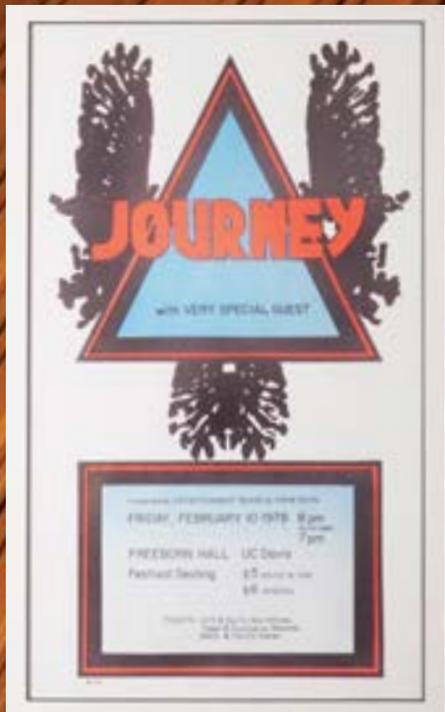


Bicycle wheel art adorns the wall of a new building in the Tercero residence halls area. Seven new environmentally friendly residence halls opened this fall. Each are named after trees—Curren, Hawthorn, Live Oak, Mahogany, Pine, Scrub Oak and Sequoia Halls.



For a slideshow of the new Tercero buildings, visit go.ucdavis.edu/tercero.

Photo by Gregory Urquiaga/UC Davis



FREEBORN HALL RETROSPECT

JOAN BAEZ SANG TO A FULL HOUSE of adoring fans seated on pillows. Journey introduced a “very special guest”—new lead singer Steve Perry. The Dead Kennedys played their last show on its stage. Cake received a pie, a gift from students. Steve Aoki crowd surfed on a rubber raft, and fell into the unfazed audience.

Freeborn Hall is dark now—its doors locked and the box-office windows shuttered while the campus decides whether to rebuild or to make seismic retrofits. But for more than a half-century the multipurpose auditorium was center stage of student life—and more. It also played a leading role in the region’s rock ‘n’ roll history, hosting a long-running series of big-name musical acts.

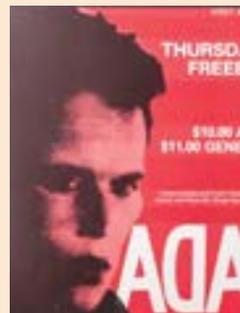
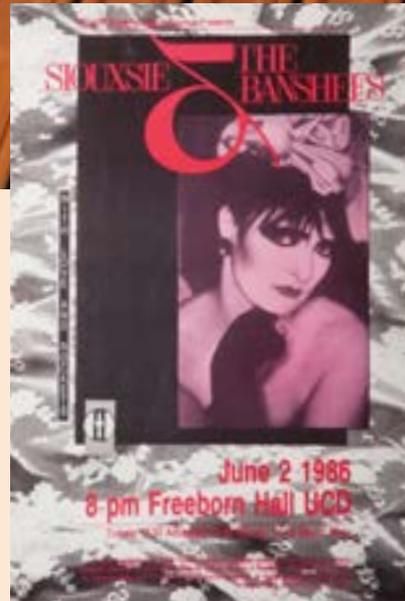
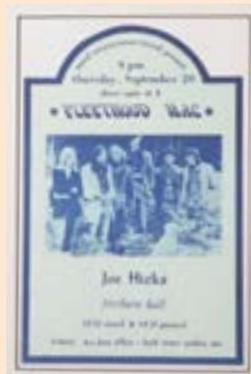
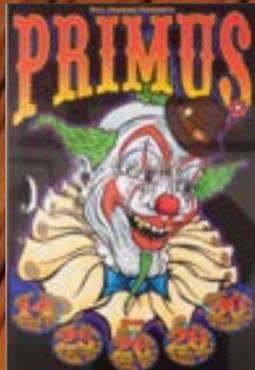
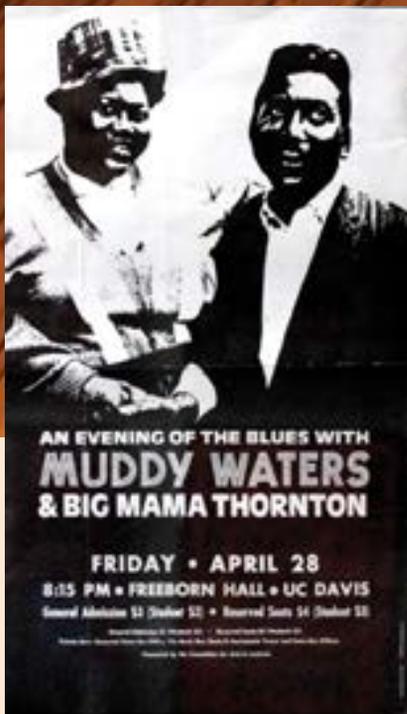


TIVE

Freeborn concerts helped make UC Davis a “center of rock music promotion” in the region, according to the Sacramento Rock and Radio Museum’s website. Many of those shows were produced by students—sponsored by the Associated Students of UC Davis and other organizations.

Although Freeborn stands quiet and empty now, in the memories of many Aggies (and in online videos), the place still rocks! ➡

by Kathleen Holder
photos by Gregory Urquiaga, KDVS alumni Facebook group and the Sacramento Rock and Radio Museum



“SOME OF THE BEST CONCERTS I’VE GONE TO WERE AT FREEBORN,” Marcelle Domingo ’08 wrote in a post on UC Davis’ Facebook page.

“What a great hall for concerts! It was small enough to see the artist up close, yet large enough to attract popular artists such as Tom Petty,” said **Jeff Mason ’81**, who saw Petty and the Heartbreakers perform there in 1978.

Katy True Bejarano ’65 was a freshman in 1961–62 when Freeborn Hall opened. Then, the addition to the Memorial Union complex was called simply the assembly hall (it was later renamed to honor UC Davis’ first chancellor, entomologist Stanley Freeborn).

Joan Baez gave the inaugural concert that September. “She never cracked a smile, but her music was amazing,” said Bejarano, who also saw the Smothers Brothers, Peter Nero and Louis Armstrong perform at Freeborn. “What a lineup!”

The lineups continued to amaze other Aggies over the years. Other alumni share memories of some of their favorite Freeborn Hall shows:

1960–70s

“I saw the great Duke Ellington for \$1, and later Glenn Yarborough and his warm-up act, a young Bill Cosby who was skinny and had hair.”

—**Howard Egerman ’68**

Favorite concert: Glenn Yarborough (“Baby The Rain Must Fall”).

— **George Brown ’67**

“The first time I saw chairs in Freeborn was at commencement; prior to that, the only seating I recall is pillows—as in pillow concerts. My most memorable Freeborn pillow concert involved Joan Baez in [December 1970]. I was not a Joan Baez fan, thinking her too smug and serious. But my boyfriend bought tickets, so I went. We were



JEFF MARCH/EDITPROS



BACKSTAGE PASS

about 20 feet from the stage. Joan asked that no one take photos, explaining that later she would sing a song specifically for photo takers and would smile throughout the song. After several of her trademark serious ballads, she announced it was photo time. She launched into a song titled, ‘Thank God and Greyhound You’re Gone,’ singing and smiling until every flashbulb had been expended. I left Freeborn a Joan Baez fan.”

—Cindy Milem Garman '72, M.S. '74

1980s

“I saw The Motels there in September 1982. Such a great venue and tix were affordable for a freshman like me.”

—Laura Carter Collamer '86 ➔

For many students, Freeborn Hall was more than a concert venue. It was a job that provided behind-the-scenes views of celebrity performers, like a weary Jackson Browne, left, after a 1974 show.

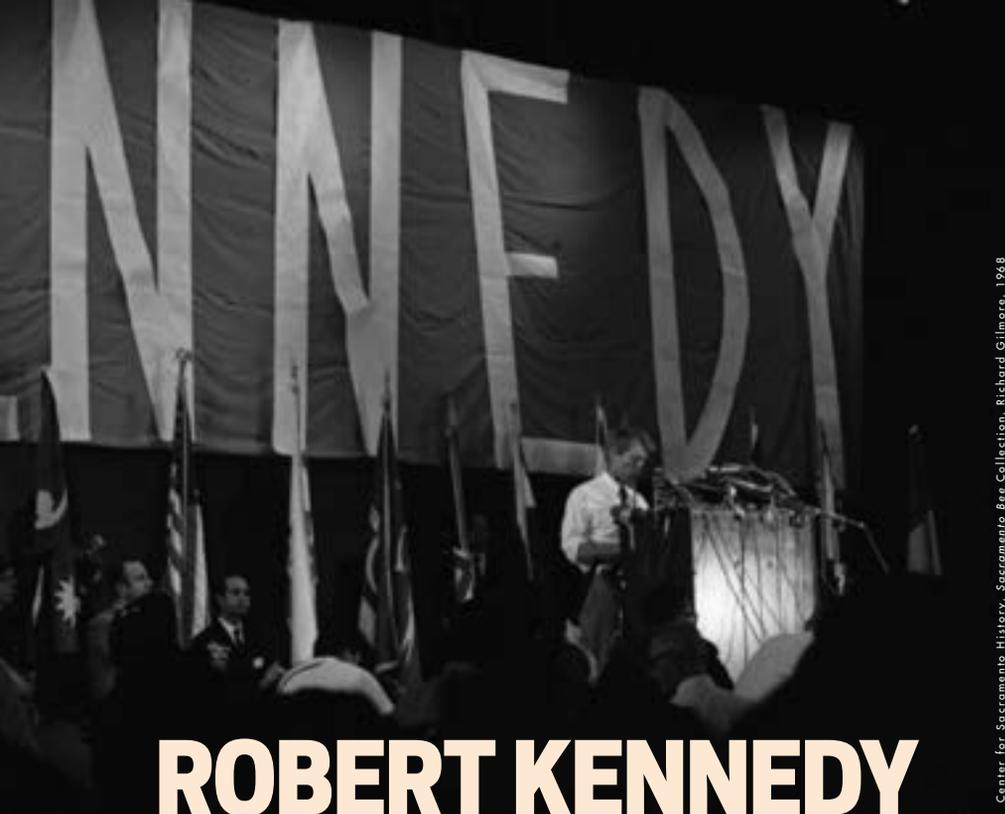
Cecilia Villalobos '01, who started as a student employee and later became facility manager, remembers the stars for the way they treated her Aggie crews. “Snoop Dogg was a good one—really nice guy,” she said. “Garbage was really interesting too. They came out and did meet and greets.”

After Cake insisted that no cake be served back stage, “students went and bought a pie,” Villalobos said.

Former student employees also fondly recalled the camaraderie they shared in setting up chairs, hanging backdrops, working the lights, mopping floors and other tasks.

“Freeborn became a part of my college experience, my professional experience and even my ‘family’ experience since, after all, both my husband [Justin Ward '99] and I met and worked together at Freeborn Hall,” said Christina Dawkins-Ward '98.

“I made many friendships and memories to last a lifetime,” said Lexie West, who worked there 2004–07.



Center for Sacramento History, Sacramento Bee Collection, Richard Gilmore, 1968

ROBERT KENNEDY

For many Aggies who attended UC Davis in the late 1960s, their most vivid Freeborn Hall memory was of a presidential campaign appearance by Robert F. Kennedy three weeks before his assassination.

Kennedy spoke to a packed house on May 16, 1968—one of three visits he made to the Sacramento region before the June 4 California Democratic primary.

Barry Kerr '71 was too young to vote then—the voting age at the time was 21—but his fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega, co-hosted Kennedy's visit to campus.

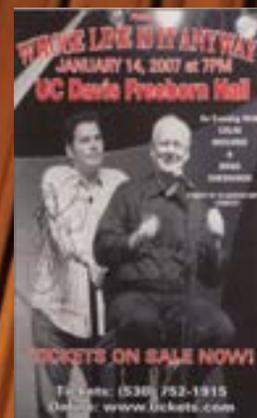
"I got to go to the Sacramento airport to help pick him up and bring him to the campus," Kerr said. "He was so charming, gracious and caring. I really enjoyed getting to meet this man who might have become president."

"He let me talk about when I was a sixth-grader and helped in my hometown of Grass Valley with his brother's campaign in 1960. I remember he said to me, 'It was people just like you who knew what a great man Jack [President John F. Kennedy] was, and who helped elect him.' I told him how sorry I was his brother had been killed, and he again said to me, 'I hope our family is finished with this kind of behavior from people.'"

After making his California primary victory speech, Kennedy was shot in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles in the early hours of June 5, 1968. He died the next day.

To watch a video excerpt of his Freeborn Hall speech, visit diva.sfsu.edu/collections/sfbatv/bundles/201659.

Other national politicians to appear there include Dick Cheney, who gave a January 1995 lecture between jobs as secretary of defense and vice president; and former President Bill Clinton, who stopped by to greet an overflow crowd who had heard his November 2002 Mondavi Center speech simulcast in Freeborn.



"My best Freeborn memory is a concert by the iconic '80s band Oingo Boingo. We were pressing toward the stage when front man Danny Elfman pulled off his T-shirt and threw it into the crowd. Unexpectedly, it flew right at

me, but when I reached up to grab it, another hand had part of it. In the thick crowd there was a brief moment of tugging before we looked at each other and simultaneously realized it was our roommate! We high-fived and went back to rocking out to the great music. Since I lived with the same three guys for my last three years at Davis, that sweaty T-shirt hung in our house for awhile, and although I can't say much for our decorating taste at the time, the memory makes me laugh."

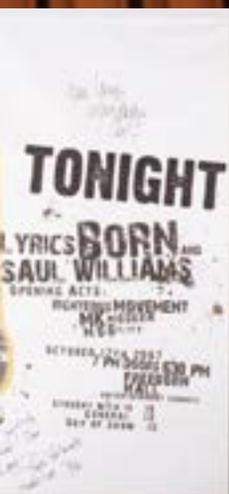
—Mark Johnson '89

"If I have to choose one favorite concert it was in 1986 when Phranc and 7 Seconds opened up for the Dead Kennedys. My date and I stayed for the first bands, but then left before the DKs, since she wanted to see a movie in 194 Chem that night. I was new to dating, so I assumed that meant compromise: We can do both events in one night, even if it means that I miss part of the show. Bummer that it was the DK's last concert ever before they broke up. But now I have a great story to tell—thanks to UC Davis and Freeborn Hall."

—Mark Harbison '90

1990s-2000s

"I saw a great Counting Crows concert there in the



THE CAMPUS GROWS UP

mid-90s. No one knew who they were. I also performed in a concert there where the maestro lost his suspenders and almost his pants! One of my favorite memories!”

—**Kristen Lovelady McInnis '97**

“I got to see Fuel rock Freeborn Hall hard! Great times and memories! Jimmy Eat World, Death Cab for Cutie, and Tegan and Sara.”

—**Ricardo Ertze '01**

“I saw Godsmack my first week there as a student. Fuel another year. And a few years after I graduated I saw Beck there (and got to meet him too).”

—**Julie Neller '03**

“For me it has to be [Nine Inch Nails] in 2005. Who would have thought one of the biggest alternative bands from the '90s and now would have done a rehearsal show on the UC Davis campus? Thankfully I was smart enough to take my student ID to buy tickets the day tickets went on sale. Scored a pair of tickets from the last 100 they had reserved for students only. I could have easily sold my tickets for rent money, but couldn't because it was NIN!”

—**Ben Zavala '06**

“Dance partying with Girl Talk for free and then bringing him down to Lower Freeborn Hall to record a radio drop for KDVS!”

—**Elisa Hough '08**

“The first time I ever went to a concert was the [January 2011] 30 Seconds to Mars concert. And it was here at Freeborn hall. It was amazing.”

—**Felix Gabriel Cuma '13**

Freeborn Hall was constructed as a multiuse replacement to the campus' old Recreation Hall, a wood-shingle 1921 building that in its early years did double duty as a gymnasium and a library.

The 1962 *El Rodeo* yearbook hailed the versatile new hall for its ability to keep pace with a fast-changing university.

Over the years, students have filed through the doors of Freeborn for a revolving series of events—class lectures, academic conferences, rallies, dances, commencement ceremonies and, before the days of online registration, to sign up for their courses.

During the annual Picnic Day, the hall resounded with the clatter of forks and knives at CAAA pancake breakfasts, the click of heels on runway at design students' fashion shows, the lilting music of the Danzantes del Alma dance performances.

It was also a community venue—hosting numerous Powwows, high school graduations and other regional functions. The last event held in Freeborn, said Villalobos, assistant director of Campus Recreation and Unions, was a dance for athletes of the 2014 Special Olympics Northern California Summer Games.

Before the 2002 opening of the Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts, Freeborn was also longtime home to the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra and the venue for campus arts and cultural programming.

Steve Weiss '86, former director of ASUCD Student Forums and former assistant director and director of University Cultural Programs, said Freeborn presented challenges as a venue. When he first began working there as an undergraduate, the seating in the hall was flat. “If you were back 15 rows, you better hope that nobody tall was in front of you.”

Renovations in the late 1980s included the addition of bleacher-style seating and ceiling baffles to improve the acoustics for orchestral music. Limitations remained, but Weiss said Freeborn allowed the university to book top speakers and performing artists—building a regional audience to support the construction of the Mondavi Center.

What will happen next to Freeborn? A committee of students, faculty and staff is working with architects to determine if it can be suitably rebuilt or if a new, bigger building is needed.

ALUMNI CALENDAR

Aggie Diner

Share your career and UC Davis experiences with students over dinner in a professional setting.

Nov. 13, 5:30–8:30 p.m.

Activities and Recreation Center Ballroom

Alumni Awards

Join us in honoring six outstanding alumni and friends of the university at our 42nd annual alumni awards gala.

Feb. 6, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento

Parent and Family Weekend

Tailgate

Enjoy great food, Aggie camaraderie and student performances before the Aggies battle Northern Colorado. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Nov. 1, 2–4 p.m.

Aggie Stadium tailgating field

Celebrating One California

One California Dinner

Savor the legacy of UC Davis' lasting partnership with agriculture at this San Francisco food-and-wine event.

Dec. 3, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

**One Market Restaurant,
1 Market St.**

Sunday brunch

Breakfast with campus leadership.

Nov. 2, 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

UC Davis Conference Center

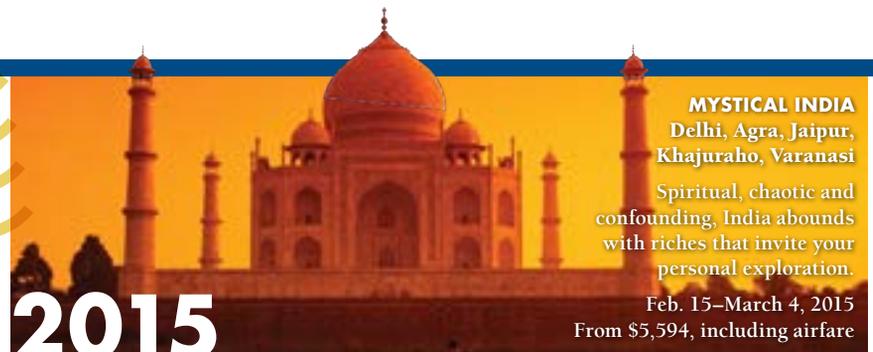


For more CAAA events, visit
alumni.ucdavis.edu



For a full list of Aggie Adventure travel opportunities, trip details, deadlines and cost, visit alumni.ucdavis.edu/travel, call 530-752-4502 or email aggieadventures@ucdavis.edu.

Dates and prices are subject to minor changes.



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May 7–15 • From \$3,295

UNDISCOVERED APULIA

Polignano a Mare, Bari, Ostuni, Trani
May 12–20 • From \$2,395

CAAA MEMBER PROFILE

Cookie Lee wants women to have their cake, and eat it, too

by Corinna Fish

AT THE CENTENNIAL PICNIC DAY, entrepreneur millionaire Cookie Lee (Debra Lee '78) made sure to stop by the program that drew her to UC Davis in the first place. Visiting Everson Hall transported her to a time in her life filled with creativity, design and exploration.

Lee, who is the founder and former chief executive officer of a national jewelry sales company, transferred to UC Davis from UC Berkeley to pursue her passion in textile design, though ended up majoring in agricultural business management.

“The design work helped me realize how much I loved it, and my business professors helped me understand how to apply theory to the real world in a way that made sense. I think the opportunity to mix creativity and practical experience is what sets UC Davis apart from other schools, and it was terrific preparation for my MBA.”

After graduating, Lee thrived in a high-powered corporate career, eventually spearheading Mattel's marketing in the mid-1980s. Despite this success, Lee knew she didn't want to work outside the home once she became a mom. So she started brainstorming an alternative career.

Her “aha” moment came during a jewelry-making class and in 1985, Lee launched her baubles business



LEONARD ORTIZ / The Orange County Register

under the moniker Cookie Lee.

At first Lee pursued the business after office hours and then, in 1992, she began recruiting independent contractors. Soon, the unabashed bling with the unforgettable name captivated the home-party sales circuit, ultimately growing to over \$100 million in annual retail sales and 40,000 independent consultants.

“I had no clue that it was going to be such a big company! But I hunkered down, worked hard, focused on what I wanted for my family, and focused on my vision of women helping women,” said Lee.

With her two kids now in college, she sold the business in April. She is keeping happily busy with family and community service while exploring what's in store for her next.

“Everything I learned at UC Davis—creativity, applied business management, thinking outside the box—really made a difference,” said Lee, who is a life member of the Cal Aggie Alumni Association. “If I hadn't transferred, I wouldn't have started Cookie Lee. Becoming an Aggie was the best decision I could have made, for myself and my education.”



Visit alumni.ucdavis.edu for more of her story.

CLASS NOTES

1966

An international jury selected conceptual artist **Bruce Nauman**, M.A., as this year's laureate of the Austrian Frederick Kiesler Prize for Architecture and the Arts. The prize comes with 55,000 euros, or close to \$73,000. Jury members described Nauman as "one of the most radical and successful artists of his generation" and one of the "world's re-inventors." He lives near Gallisteo, New Mexico.

1968

Melita Wade (Drane) Thorpe, M.A., won an award from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific in August for "exceptional service and outstanding support." Her San José travel company, MWT Associates (melitatrips.com), offers tours around the world for viewing the aurora borealis, meteor showers, eclipses and historical astronomy.

1970

Executive coach **Russell Bishop**, M.A. '75, has joined Morgan Samuels

Keep in touch

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Phone: 530-752-0286 or 800-242-4723

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President:

Ramak Siadatan '99, M.B.A. '06

Vice President/President-Elect:

Debby Stegura '79

Executive Director:

Richard Engel '90, Cred. '91

consulting firm as a senior partner. An expert in personal and organization transformation, Bishop previously started Insight Seminars and four other successful companies and has consulted to leadership teams at Fortune 500 companies around the world. The author of *Workarounds That Work* (McGraw-Hill, 2010), he helped develop sections of *The Huffington Post* focused on improving quality of life as well as a Huffington-Post.com stress reduction app, GPS for the Soul.

A new novel by Alaskan historian and author **Steven Levi**, Cred. '72, is available in paperback and as an e-book. *A Walrus with a Gold Tooth* is a fictionalized account of how Anchorage locals kept the mob from gaining a foothold during the city's post-World War II economic boom.

David Requa, M.S. '71, received a lifetime achievement award in March from WateReuse California for his leadership in advancing water recycling. He served 24 years on the national WateReuse Association board of directors and, as president in 1998–2000, guided the expansion of the California-based trade group into an international organization. He retired from Dublin San Ramon Services District in October 2013 after 18 years as assistant general manager-district engineer. He spent 15 years with Black and Veatch Consulting Engineers and 27 years with public agencies including Union Sanitary District and Contra Costa Water District.

1973

Jan (Bridges) Bardsley wrote the book *Women and Democracy in Cold War Japan* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2014). She is

associate professor of Asian studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her partner, **Phil Bardsley** (attended 1969–71), works as a research associate at UNC-Chapel Hill's Carolina Population Center.

1974

Kent Steinwert, chairman, president and CEO of Farmers and Merchants Bank of Central California, is a new member of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's 12th District Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council. The council provides input to the Federal Reserve's Board of Governors on economic and lending conditions.

Hot Bed, a comedic mystery novel by **Rex Thomas**, M.A. '78, is available as e-book on Amazon. The manuscript was edited by Berkeley's Alan Rinzler, who has worked with luminaries like Hunter S. Thompson and Toni Morrison. "Alan agreed to work with me after I won a Bay Area novel writing contest," said Thomas. A real estate investor and former advertising and public relations writer, he lives in Oakland.

1976

Still Here: Not Living in Tipis, a collaborative book with photos by **Sue Reynolds** and poems by Victor Charlo, is available at www.blurb.com. Reynolds, a Walnut Creek fine art and documentary photographer, has been taking photos at powwows and other Native American ceremonies since 2005. Her website is susanreynoldsp photography.com.

1977

Sacramento State University Professor Emeritus **Lorie Hammond**, Cred.,

Cred. '88, M.A. '93, Ph.D. '00, is academic director of a growing private, nonprofit school in Davis. Peregrine School, which she launched with a preschool program in 2007, moved over the summer into bigger quarters that will allow its K-6 elementary program to eventually expand to K-8.

1978

Mark Pierson, an associate professor of mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering at Virginia Tech, has been named the first director of its nuclear engineering program.

1979

Carolyn La Jeunesse, D.V.M. '83, was chosen by the American Veterinary Medical Association as a scientific adviser to Congress on animal and public health policy. She is an emergency and critical care veterinarian in Port Orchard, Washington, and past president of the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association.

1980

Environmental lawyer **Brian Haughton**, a founding partner at San Francisco firm Barg Coffin Lewis & Trapp, has been named to *Super Lawyers*' 2014 "Northern California Super Lawyers."

John Meyer left UC Davis in June after 14 years as UC Davis vice chancellor of administrative and resource management. His administrative portfolio included everything from finance and planning to the campus's physical operations and sustainability. West Village at UC Davis, the largest planned zero net energy housing development in the nation, took shape under his watch. He

ALUMNI WINEMAKERS

Q: How will the drought affect the California wine industry?

Jeff James '85

Owner, James Family Cellars, Cotati (Sonoma County)

Wines: Pinot Noir, Syrah, Chardonnay



"Fortunately we are not feeling too much impact as we have always utilized water conservation measures, farm in a rela-

tively cooler part of the state and, thankfully, have not had to use our precious water for frost protection in the past two seasons. We should see somewhat lower winegrape yields due to a lack of water for irrigation. Wineries, like all segments of California agriculture and food processing, will need to be more efficient, prioritize and economize."

Mike Cox '91

Winemaker, Schug Carneros Estate Winery, Sonoma County

Wines: Pinot Noir, Chardonnay



The wine-growing industry was already looking at more responsible ways to farm, and that includes looking at

water use, both in the vineyard and in the cellar. . . . Grapes actually don't need 100 percent water. Not giving the vine everything it needs can produce a better quality grape."

Kristine (Stone) Schug '89

Chef, Schug Carneros Estate Winery



"It's in the nature of the grapevine to respond to challenging conditions, and it's the job of grape growers to remind

the vine that it's capable of doing so. Typically, older vines are not irrigated on a regular basis, and some of the best wines come from dry hillside conditions."

The Alumni Wine Program offers an array of opportunities for alumni and friends of UC Davis to share their wines with fellow alumni, parents and friends of the university through wine events, tours and tastings, and wine education programs.



To learn how you can become involved, visit alumni.ucdavis.edu

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previously spent 10 years as Davis' city manager.

1981

President Barack Obama nominated **Leslie Bassett** in June to be the next U.S. ambassador to Paraguay. A career member of the Foreign Service, Bassett has been deputy chief of mission in Seoul, South Korea, since 2012. She served previously as the deputy chief of mission at the U.S. embassies in Manila, Philippines, Mexico City, and in Gaborone, Botswana. Her career also includes service in Colombia, Israel, South Africa, El Salvador and Nicaragua. In addition to her UC Davis degree, she holds an M.A. from Johns Hopkins University and an M.S. from the National War College.

Brian Tillemans has retired from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power as watershed resource manager for the Northern Aqueduct. During his 32-year career with the agency, the biologist worked to restore habitat for fish and wildlife in the Owens Valley. He and his wife, Tina, live in Bishop.

1984

Patrick Hicks, a founding shareholder at the Las Vegas office of Littler employment and labor law firm, was named to *Human Resource Executive* and Lawdragon.com's 2014 list of the nation's "Most Powerful Employment Attorneys."

Darryl Hunter, a Roseville oncologist and an Air Force Reserve colonel, received an Excellence in Medicine Award from the American Medical Association Foundation for his service to veterans, students and underserved communities. He founded three Northern California nonprofit organizations that work to reduce cancer deaths.

1985

Nancy (Tingstad) Pekar retired from the Army Reserve in July as a lieutenant colonel. She served as an Army dietician for 28 years—the first eight years on active duty and 20 years in the Reserves. Her last assignment was operations officer for the 4th Brigade Health Services, 100th Division at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. She continues her career as a dietitian with the Central Texas Veterans HealthCare System in Temple, Texas, where she has worked for the past 10 years.

Micheline Plummer Golden joined the Fresno Unified School District in March as chief information officer.

1988

Super Lawyers named **David Ongaro**, a trial attorney at the San Francisco office of Thompson & Knight to its "Northern California Super Lawyers 2014" list. His practice focuses on class-action and employment cases.

1990

Davis author and animal advocate **Charlene Logan Burnett**, M.F.A., received a \$1,000 grant from The Pollination Project for her Oct 10–Nov 14 curated art exhibition, *Sheltered: Art Benefit for Animals*, at Davis Arts Center. Her website is charleneloganburnett.com.

G. Michelle Ferreira, a tax attorney and managing shareholder of the San Francisco office of Greenberg Traurig, was honored by *The San Francisco Business Times* in June as one of the "Most Influential Women" in Bay Area business. In 2013, she was named by the *Daily Journal* as one of the "10 Emerging Law Firm Leaders in California."

1991

Yee Han Chu joined the faculty at the University of North Dakota as an assistant professor of social work in August, after earning her Ph.D. there in teaching and learning with a higher education emphasis. Her dissertation is titled *Common Core State Standards: Beware The Trojan Horse*.

1992

Dan Peters received an Independent Publisher Book Award gold medal for his book *Make Your Worrier a Warrior* (Great Potential Press, 2013). He is a licensed psychologist and co-founder and executive director of the Summit Center in Walnut Creek. He writes regularly for *The Huffington Post* and *Psychology Today*.

1993

Sue Westwood received her Certified Public Accountant license in February and now works at Carbahal & Company in Davis.

Adam Inlander is the new executive director of Temple Bat Yahm in Newport Beach. He had held a similar position at Temple Beth Shalom in New Albany, Ohio, since 2007. A native of San Francisco, he is a senior member of the National Association for Temple Administration, and was elected to its board in 2013.

1995

Stephen Brock, Ph.D., is the 2014–15 president of the National Association of School Psychologists. He is professor and coordinator of the school psychology program at Sacramento State University.

Tax attorney **Jonathan Flora**, M.A., has joined the Philadelphia office of Montgomery McCracken as a partner.



Marie Ouano-Kim '95 and **Miles Conrad '96** take a “selfie” during a free moment between patients at San Francisco General Hospital. Ouano-Kim is a staff radiologic technologist there and Conrad is an attending radiologist.

1996

A “Jordan Insider” tour offered by **David Cater**’s Engaging Cultures Travel was selected as one of *National Geographic Travelers* magazine’s 2014 list of “50 Tours of a Lifetime.” Cater spent several years living in Tunisia with his wife and two children. He is now based in Monterey but travels to the region.

Erwin Taganas produced *African Big 6 Safari Videobook* (EAT Productions, 2014), with eight short films that can be viewed inside the book. The innovative publication is available on Amazon.com and on the App Store as an iBook. This year Taganas and his wife, Andrelee, also celebrated the arrival of their daughter, Victoria Anne, who was born three months early.

1997

A short story by **Halina Duraj**, M.A. '03, won an O. Henry Prize in May. “Fatherland,” originally published in the winter 2012 issue of *Harvard Review*, was among 20 stories selected for this fall’s anthology *The O. Henry Prize Stories 2014*.

Elizabeth Dutton wrote *Driftwood: A California Road Trip Novel* (Skyhorse Publishing). She teaches English at a community college in Chesterfield, South Carolina.

1998

Nevin Brownfield, a commercial litigation attorney at the San Francisco office

of Thompson & Knight, was named to *Super Lawyers*’ list of “Northern California Rising Stars 2014.”

Sarah Newton married Daniel Scott on May 17 in Volcano.

2000

Tax attorney **Joseph Cruz**, J.D., was recently promoted to principal at Ernst & Young’s office in Irvine.

A graphic novel by **Anya Ulinich**, M.F.A., *Lena Finkle’s Magic Barrel*, was released by Penguin Books this summer to critical praise by the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Slate*, *Publishers Weekly* and other publications. Her 2007 novel, *Petropolis*, has been translated into 10 languages. She has taught at New York University and Gotham Writers’ Workshop. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her two daughters.

2001

Construction attorney **Alan Bishop** joined the San Francisco office of Hanson Bridgett as an associate. He is also a licensed civil engineer, who spent six years working on the design, construction and inspection of State Water Project facilities for the California Department of Water Resources.

2002

Preet Bassi is chief executive officer of the Center for Public Safety Excellence, based in Chantilly, Virginia. Since graduating, she has earned an M.P.A. from the University of Southern California and worked for the California State Assembly, city of Anaheim and the International Accreditation Service.

2003

After an intensive two-year training program, **Ryan Frank** was licensed by

the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission to supervise control room operations at the Byron Nuclear Power Generating Station near Rockford, Illinois. He previously spent six years in nuclear operations onboard the *USS Nimitz* aircraft carrier, and also earned an MBA and M.S. dual-degree from Boston University Graduate School of Management.

Rose Soza War Soldier received a doctoral degree in American history with an emphasis in American Indian history from Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. She received a graduate student teaching excellence award. Her dissertation focuses on the San Francisco-based American Indian Historical Society. She plans to teach at the college level and promote college educational opportunities in the Indian community.

2004

San Rafael business attorney **Michael Lopez** spent six weeks in London studying the English legal system this past spring as part of an American Inns of Court exchange program. He was one of just two U.S. lawyers selected by the professional organization to be a 2014 Pegasus Trust Scholar.

Adam Smith, a middle-school math, science and ukulele teacher in Hood River, Oregon, joined an expedition to the Arctic in June as a National Geographic Grosvenor Teacher Fellow. He blogged during his trip to the Svalbard archipelago at arcticadam.wordpress.com. In an essay for the *Hood River News*, he called the expedition “the best professional development ever.”

2005

A debut novel by **Stephan Clark**, M.A., *Sweetness #9*, was released in August by Little, Brown and Company. His short story collection, *Vladimir’s Mustache*

ALUMNI

(Russian Life Books, 2012) was a finalist for the 2013 Minnesota Book Award. Clark teaches English at Augsburg College in Minneapolis and blogs at stephannclark.com.

Kathleen (Flanagan) Cheatham and husband, Corey Cheatham, welcomed their first child, son Corey Jr., on June 4. They live in Castro Valley.



The **Dalai Lama** honors **Susan Dix Lyons, M.A. '05**, as an “Unsung Hero of Compassion” in San Francisco in February for her work in running a sustainably designed health-care clinic for women and children living in poverty in Nicaragua. A former journalist, she founded Clinica Verde in Boaco, Nicaragua, in 2007. It now serves more than 1,100 patients a month.

2006

Josh Diedesch received two honors in April for his work as an investment officer at California State Teachers' Retirement System, with his selection as an *Institutional Investor* “Rising Star” and one of *aiCIO* magazine's “40 Under 40” up-and-coming asset managers.

Capt. **Anthony “Tony” Pucci**, commander of the 1st Squadron, 38th

Cavalry Regiment, recently returned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, from Kosovo, where he was in charge of a peace-keeping mission involving 700 soldiers from 10 countries.

2007

Sergey Frenklakh and **Kathryn Winsor '08** married in August in Monterey. They live in Walnut Creek.

Navina Khanna, M.S., won a 2014 James Beard Leadership Award for “her work as a food justice activist organizing across communities for equitable and ecological food systems.” A fellow at the Oakland-based social change consulting Movement Strategy Center and co-founder of Live Real, she focuses on reshaping food systems.

2008

Peter Abboud, a teacher at Napa's New Technology High School, won an award from the nonprofit New Tech Network for a quadratic equations problem-solving project he assigned his algebra class. Students watched a video of snow falling and calculated how much snow would fall in a 24-hour period; viewed a clip of the movie *Hot Rod* and determined mathematically if a Moped stuntman played by Andy Samberg cleared a jump over 15 buses; and watched a clip from *Les Misérables* and determined how tall the bridge would need to be for suicidal police inspector Javert to finish singing his song before hitting the water.

2010

Mary Menezes earned a pharmacy degree from Harding University College of Pharmacy in Searcy, Arkansas, and works as a long-term care pharmacist for Allcare in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

2012

Rachel Carter's first novel, *The Black Mage: First-Year*, was published as an e-book by Astraea Press in August. The young adult fantasy is the first of a four-book series. Carter lives in Placerville. Learn more at www.facebook.com/theblackmageauthor, [@blackmageauthor](https://twitter.com/blackmageauthor) and theblackmagegirl.wordpress.com.

Katrina (Garvey) Jones, M.S., has been awarded a five-year fellowship from the Knowles Science Teaching Foundation. She is pursuing a teacher certification at Central Washington University while working at an alternative high school.

Rose Wilson was featured in a Q&A in the Okinawa, Japan, edition of the *Stars and Stripes* newspaper in August for her work supervising counselors at Camp Adventures, a program run by the University of Northern Iowa for military children on bases around the world. As a child, she learned to swim at a Camp Adventure at U.S. Marine Camp Foster in Okinawa.

2013

Eddie Yoo, a Peace Corps volunteer in Kyrgyzstan, spent a week away from service to play an ancient mancala-like game, *toguz korgool*, in the first World Nomad Games. With only two hours of training and a week of practice, Yoo placed 10th out of 21 and helped the US team place fifth.

2014

Self Lender, a company co-founded by **James Garvey** to help consumers establish good credit records, was one of 26 teams selected to compete in the Start-up Battlefield contest at TechCrunch Disrupt SF 2014 conference in September. The Denver-based firm was runner-up for Accenture's Open Innovation Enterprise Disrupter Award.

IN MEMORIAM

Wendell Shipman '40, Carmichael, age 98, June 7. Retired engineer, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co.

Arthur Aseltine Jr. '52, Forbestown, age 83, June 3.

John Lindt Jr. '52, M.S. '60, Gaithersburg, Maryland, age 85, June 18. Army veteran, rice researcher and retired World Bank agricultural project official. Charter member of the Cal Aggie Alumni Association.

David Erickson, Ph.D. '63, Santa Rosa, age 84, Feb. 1. Korean War Army veteran and Purple Heart recipient. Retired consultant and food chemist whose six patents included one for the Swift Butterball self-basting turkey.

Wayne Gardner, Ph.D. '67, Woodland, age 94, April 19. World War II veteran and retired plant sciences professor at South Dakota State University. Among survivors are daughter Susan Gardner Larock '68 and granddaughter Mary Lee '17.

Richard Hastings, M.A. '69, age 83, July 14. Air Force veteran and architect, archeologist and Sacramento's first preservation director.

Henry Hagedorn, Ph.D. '70, Cross Plains, Wisconsin, age 73, Jan. 12. Professor emeritus of the University of Arizona, Tucson, and expert on reproductive physiology of mosquitoes.

Tamara (Oates) Navarro '70, M.S. '72, Ph.D. '88, Sacramento, age 65, July 9. Retired marriage and family therapist.

Ronald Soriano '72, Lebanon, New Hampshire, age 64, May 21. Retired congressional staffer and U.S. Commercial Service export official.

Donald Burke '81, Long Beach, age 53, June 11. Chief of anesthesiology, Fountain Valley Regional Hospital.

Kristen Bidwell '07, Camarillo, age 28, Feb. 15. Kinder Care teacher.

Camille Barr, J.D. '12, Irvine, age 44, May 27. Evolutionary biologist and patent attorney.

Faculty

Allan Adelson, a professor emeritus of mathematics, died May 25 at his Sacramento home from complications of early onset Alzheimer's disease.

David Jacobson, an emeritus professor of history, died Jan. 24. A Davis resident, he was 80.

Behavioral biologist **Peter Marler**, whose research on how birds learn to sing provided groundbreaking insights into animal communication, died July 5 at age 86. His death occurred in a Davis nursing home after a wildfire forced Marler, who was in hospice care, and his family to temporarily leave his Winters home. A faculty member from 1989 to 1994, he helped establish the Center for Neuroscience. He was a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Royal Society, the British equivalent of the National Academy of Sciences.

Michael "Mick" Mount, an emeritus veterinary medicine professor, died in January at his Woodland home at age 66.

Professor Emeritus **Thomas North**, a biochemist who contributed to therapies for HIV infection and AIDS, died June 23 in Atlanta. He was 64. A faculty member at the Center for Comparative Medicine in 1997–2010, he studied



Jan Conroy '77—who, as a graphic designer, editor and manager—helped shape the direction of *UC Davis Magazine* for 29 years, died June 12 when his car drifted off a levee road near Walnut Grove. He was 67. During his 1977–2012 tenure with the university, he also designed logos, fliers, brochures and the UC Davis Medal. His continuing contributions in retirement included a Doxie Derby illustration in a spring 2014 feature, "100 Picnic Days."

feline immunodeficiency virus infection of domestic cats, and simian immunodeficiency virus infection of rhesus macaques at the California National Primate Research Center.

Larry Teuber, a plant scientist whose genetic research improved alfalfa production, died May 19 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. A Davis resident, he was 62. He also served as director of the UC Foundation Seed Program in 2002–10 and had been executive director of the California Crop Improvement Association since 2006. Survivors include his wife, Suzanne (Jamond) '83, M.D. '87.



BEATING THE ODDS

by Sarah Colwell

HEN WERNER, a recent transfer to the anthropology department, was in the financial aid office filling out paperwork when she got to a field that stopped her short: “Parent Information.”

Walking to the desk with her usual confidence, she handed the form to a financial aid officer, saying: “I had to leave this part blank. I don’t have anyone.”

Werner had spent her childhood in foster care. Luckily, as the financial aid officer explained to her, UC Davis had just instituted a new Guardian Scholars Program dedicated to providing emotional, academic and financial support to former foster youth.

Werner enrolled and found the support network she needed. She participated in community service projects, studied abroad, and graduated in 2011 with a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and a 3.4 GPA. “Although my husband was always supportive, this program gave me the academic reassurance I needed,” she said. “The financial help was a godsend, but they also helped me with test preparation, were there if I had questions, or even if I just needed someone to cheer me on. It made all the difference.”

Now a high school teacher in Elk Grove, Werner is back at UC Davis pursuing a master’s degree in education, having completed her teaching credential last academic year. And a new program, the Guardian Professions Program, is helping to ensure she succeeds.

The Guardian Professions Program is the first and only program of its kind in the



GREGORY URQUIAGA / UC Davis

nation that is dedicated to help former foster youth pursue a professional or graduate degree. The program was made possible by a \$450,000 grant from the Stuart Foundation and support from other donors including Sleep Train, Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedmann & Girard law firm, and The California Wellness Foundation, but ongoing support is needed.

“We support students who are qualified and have the skill set to pursue either an undergraduate or graduate degree, but often don’t—either because of financial reasons or because the transition can be difficult,” said Sylvia Sensiper, director of the Guardian Professions Program. “Often these students don’t know much about the informal aspects of academia that usually comes through the close interaction of mentoring and can be so critical in ensuring a student succeeds in college. When we can give them the support they need, they can accomplish anything.”

A rough start

Placed in foster care when she was a year old, Werner lived in foster and group homes until she was 11. At one point, she and her younger brother, Jon, were placed with a relative who had a heroin habit. Deciding it was safer to live on the San Francisco streets, the children left.

“I had an unstable childhood and

didn’t trust many people,” Werner said. “It was hard to place me in foster homes.”

In the early 1990s, a religious family adopted Hen, Jon and 11 other foster children, and moved the group to a small town in northern Washington. Living off the grid, the church group taught Werner farming skills, but didn’t provide her a formal education.

“I wanted to leave as soon as I got there, but they had my little brother and wherever he was, I had to be,” she said.

Werner waited until her brother turned 17. Then they both completed their GED degrees and left Washington—her brother joined the Navy and Werner hitchhiked back to Sacramento.

Now as a teacher at Laguna Creek High School, she often shares her life story with her students, especially those who come from underprivileged situations, to encourage them to continue with their education.

“I’ve spent a majority of my time teaching students in 12th-grade government [courses]. And what I loved about it was I had all these students in this liminal state—they are about to become legal adults, but they are still children—and they are at this jumping off point,” Werner said. “I have this opportunity help them get where they want to go. And I find that really inspiring.”

UC Davis programs for foster youth that need your support

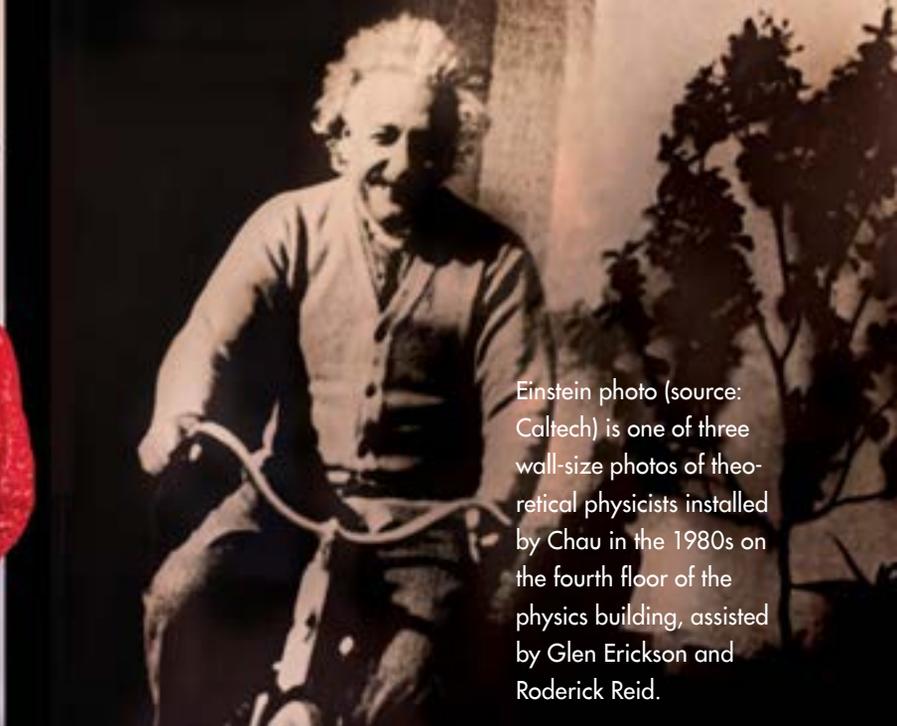
Cal Aggie Camp, founded in 1961 and funded by ASUCD philanthropy, brings more than 150 children from the foster care system and underserved communities to summer camp at no cost to parents, agencies, or foster parents.

Guardian Scholars provides comprehensive services and support for former foster youth to maximize educational opportunities and pursue undergraduate degrees.

The Guardian Teacher Scholarship supports former foster care youth to pursue careers in teaching in California.

The Guardian Professions Program Scholarship, which grew out of the program for teaching credential students, provides funding to students pursuing any advanced degree.

To make a gift, contact Janet Berry, 530-754-2001 or Cindy Spiro, 530-752-4703.



Einstein photo (source: Caltech) is one of three wall-size photos of theoretical physicists installed by Chau in the 1980s on the fourth floor of the physics building, assisted by Glen Erickson and Roderick Reid.

Snapshot Sisters Photography

A PHYSICIST'S QUANTUM LEAP

PROFESSOR EMERITA OF PHYSICS Ling-Lie Chau (喬玲麗) was 10 years old in 1949 when the Chinese Communist Party took over much of China and her family fled from Shanghai to Taiwan.

“Looking back, I actually have benefited from this historical upheaval,” she said. “I received an excellent education from the Tainan Girls’ High School. Many of our teachers were elite intellectuals uprooted from mainland China and an outstanding science teacher got me interested in physics. I still remember the joy I had when I could understand centrifugal force!”

Chau’s passion for physics blossomed. She went on to blaze trails in the field—the only female student in her graduate physics program at UC Berkeley, where she earned her doctorate in 1966; the sole female physicist at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, and the Theory Group of Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York; and in 1986, the first woman to join the UC Davis physics department faculty—and the only one until 1994.

Through her estate plan, Chau has endowed a chair

for an outstanding female professor in theoretical physics until there is a faculty gender ratio of 1:1 in the field.

Chau said she never personally experienced any gender or racial prejudice and was always recruited to her job positions, although she lived through the racial prejudice her son faced during his youth and made major efforts to help him overcome.

She feels fortunate for “always having been in the right place at the right time.” And for nearly three decades, the right time and space have been on campus.

In transitioning from solely research institutions to UC Davis, Chau embraced the new challenges and opportunities of teaching—bringing visiting theoretical and mathematical physicists to campus to do research and give talks; organizing international conferences on mathematical physics and publishing proceedings; participating in faculty hiring; creating new materials for mathematical physics courses; and bringing the excitement of frontier physics to nonscience students.

In addition to the physics chair, she supports a fellowship for physics graduate students and an award for brain research.

“UC Davis is the one place where I can pursue my passion for research in theoretical and mathematical physics,” said Chau, “and my compassion by making charitable contributions.”



Read more at go.ucdavis.edu/chau.



Your legacy is our future.

As the No. 1 agricultural school in the world, UC Davis is addressing society's most important issues, such as finding a way to feed 9 billion people globally. Make a lasting impact on the future of our planet with a planned gift to UC Davis.

**Niyah Foster, Class of 2028,
photographed at the
UC Davis Student Farm**

To learn more about how you can unite your legacy with the future of UC Davis, visit plannedgiving.ucdavis.edu.

ONE WORLD
One UC DAVIS

UP AGAINST THE CHAMPS

Aggies Alyson Doherty, right, and Kelsey Harris work for a rebound in last year's away game with the University of Connecticut. UC Davis women will kick off their 2014–15 regular season with a Nov. 14 home game against the defending NCAA National Champion. This year's schedule also includes road games with rival Sacramento State on Nov. 18 and Pacific-12 Conference powers Stanford and Arizona State in December. UC Davis advanced to the quarterfinals last year, and will return to Southern California for the 2015 Big West Tournament in March. "We have high expectations for the 2014–15 season and we cannot wait to get started," Coach Jennifer Gross '97 said.

QUOTED:

“Doubt creeps in . . . Is it time for retirement? I don’t know. But then at the same time, I’m hungry. I know I can continue to play.”

— **Daniel Fells** '05 in a July 30 *New York Post* article about the veteran NFL player’s battle for a position as tight end with the New York Giants.

DREAM CHASER

KIM CONLEY '09, the former Aggies assistant track coach who ran the 5,000-meter race in the 2012 Olympics, keeps shaving time off her personal records. This summer, the professional runner won the women’s 10,000 meters at the 2014 U.S. Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Sacramento.

What’s your favorite race distance?

I really love to race everything from the 1,500-meter to the 10,000-meter. I think I am probably best at the 5,000-meter, but it also feels the hardest for me.

How do you keep getting faster?

My progression is due simply to consistency in training. I’ve had one coach [former Aggies track and cross-country coach Drew Wartenburg] for six years now, and I have a great support team around me that keeps me healthy and training at the level I need.

How many hours do you spend training?

A typical practice session lasts two hours, and I have 10 to 11 of those per week.

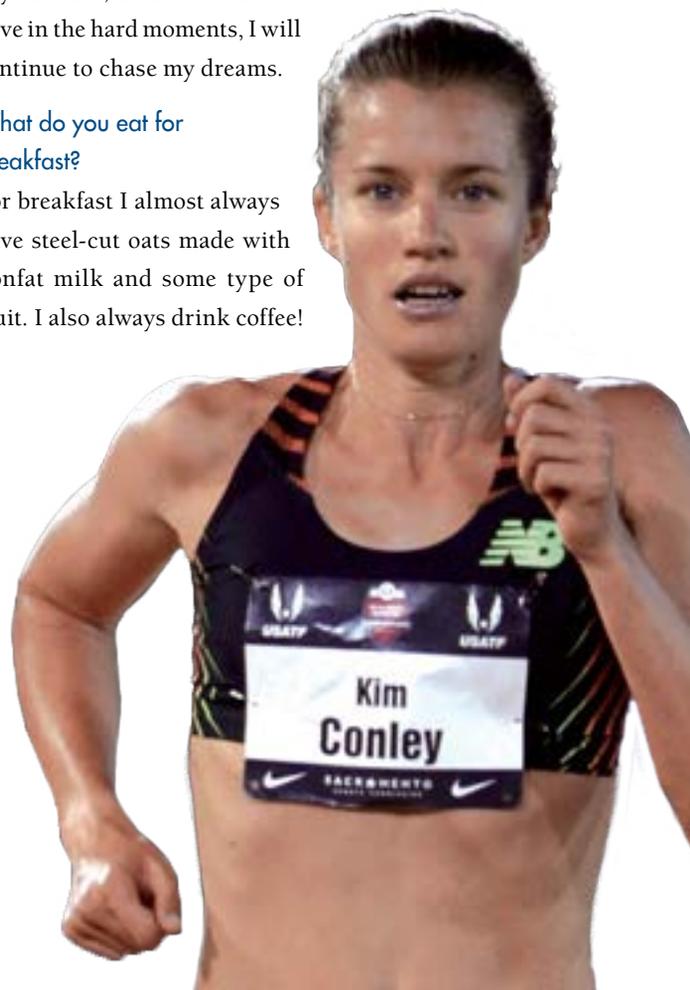
Do you have a lucky charm?

No, but I do like to wear a necklace that my mom gave me several years ago, just after I had had a very unfortunate end to my collegiate career. I had been contemplating trying to run professionally, but after not achieving my goals that season, I started to think that maybe I should give up on running. We went out to

dinner, and my mom gave me a necklace with a little kite charm and a note about always daring to chase your dreams. She told me she thought I should continue trying to compete at a high level. It meant the world to me . . . After I made it to the Olympics, she got me another charm with the London Olympics logo on it. I wear it with the kite now to remind me of the journey and that, no matter what doubts I have in the hard moments, I will continue to chase my dreams.

What do you eat for breakfast?

For breakfast I almost always have steel-cut oats made with nonfat milk and some type of fruit. I also always drink coffee!



KIRBY LEE/USA TODAY Sports

DAVID BUTLER II/USA TODAY Sports

WEARABLE ART



THE NEWEST SCARF in a UC Davis collection offers Aggies an artistic way to show their pride—and support students at the same time. The limited edition original artwork by Oakland painter Squeak Carnwath—*Connecting the Dots, Learning Today*—features scanned images by the artist layered on top of a map of the campus. The silk scarf sells for \$50 at UC Davis Stores (ucdavisstores.com). Proceeds benefit student scholarships and fellowships.

The UC Davis scarf and tie collection, launched in 2011, displays the talents of faculty, students, visiting artists and alumni as well as works from the Design Collection, the C.N. Gorman Museum and the Fine Arts Collection at UC Davis.

Carnwath is a former UC Davis art faculty member and a UC Berkeley professor emerita.

 For other uniquely UC Davis gifts and products, visit goodlife.ucdavis.edu.

Aggie gear at a store near you

The list of retailers carrying UC Davis T-shirts, hats and other products keeps growing.

Brick and mortar stores:

- Costco in Woodland
- Davis Sport Shop in Davis
- Finish Line at Arden Fair Mall, Sacramento
- Lids stores at Westfield Galleria in Roseville, Arden Fair Mall in Sacramento and Citrus Heights Mall in Citrus Heights

- Target in Davis and Woodland
- UC Davis Stores at the MU, the ARC (Activities and Recreation Center), the Welcome Center and downtown Davis

Online:

- Aggie Pride Outlet
- Big Sky Shop
- Big West

- College Fan Gear
- Fanatics
- FansEdge
- Finish Line
- Prep Sportswear
- UC Davis Amazon Store (davis.amazon.com)
- UC Davis Stores





"Preserving
THE LAKE'S
clarity and health
HAS BECOME
my life's work."

—Scott Hackley, UC Davis '79, M.S. '82, limnologist
UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center

Scott Hackley immerses himself—literally—in lake research. He snorkels along the shoreline year-round, collecting algae and water samples that offer clues about where and how the lake is changing.

"I want future generations to see the beauty and allure of Lake Tahoe in the same way I did growing up, when my family and friends would visit to hike, swim and ski."

Scott's 35-year commitment to the lake reflects UC Davis' investment in preserving its iconic blue waters. For half a century, we've advanced science and education that inspires new ways of thinking about Lake Tahoe, ensuring its future stays crystal clear.

Find out more at terc.ucdavis.edu.

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(ID 2469)

42ND ANNUAL CAL AGGIE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ALUMNI AWARDS

Friday, Feb. 6, 2015
6 p.m.
Crocker Art Museum
Sacramento

Aggie Service Award
Eamonn Dolan '83

Distinguished Friend of the University
Emmy Werner

Distinguished Achievement Award
Garen Wintemute, M.D. '77

Emil M. Mrak International Award
René González-Mejía '86

Outstanding Alumnus Award
Alfred Chuang, M.S. '86

Young Alumna Award
Gita Sai Ram '07

Jerry W. Fielder Award
Kevin Bacon '72



alumni.ucdavis.edu/alumniawards

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