Alumni, parents, and friends shaping the future of Cal
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Biomedical research building gets go-ahead

The UC Board of Regents recently approved construction of a new facility on the Berkeley campus that will house teaching and research focused on the fundamental molecular mechanisms underlying human health and disease. The state-of-the-art Li Ka Shing Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences will replace Warren Hall, a 52-year-old building that is rated seismically poor and was judged too outmoded to retrofit.

Cal alum to lead campus fundraising operations

David Blinder M.A. ’78, Ph.D. ’81 has returned to his alma mater as associate vice chancellor for university relations. He will lead the University’s development enterprise — spanning all aspects of fundraising, including corporate and foundation relations, communications, operations, and events — and coordinate all fundraising activities across the campus. Blinder formerly served as vice president for resources and public affairs at Wellesley College.

Haas ranks No.2 in 2007 poll

The Haas School of Business jumped to No. 2, up three spots from last year, in the 2007 Wall Street Journal ranking of M.B.A. programs published this fall. This marks the strongest showing of the school’s full-time Berkeley M.B.A. program in any major, popular ranking. It was based on a poll of 4,430 corporate recruiters who could rate up to three schools from which they recruit M.B.A. graduates.

Keck, Hubble provide new view of Uranus’s rings

As the rings of Uranus swing edge-on to Earth — once every 42 years — observing astronomers are getting an unprecedented view of them and the fine dust that permeates them. Based on observations of the Keck II telescope and the Hubble Space Telescope, a team of astronomers led by astronomy Professor Imke de Pater reported significant changes to the rings of micron-sized dust since the last Voyager 2 photos were taken 21 years ago.

Community Partnership grants announced

Thirteen projects to improve the quality of life for Berkeley residents — including the Berkeley High student court and the Family Resource Center — were awarded grants from the Chancellor’s Community Partnership Fund at UC Berkeley, the campus’s Office of Community Relations announced. This is the second year of the grant program, which is funded by UC Berkeley through an agreement between the University and the city.

For more on these stories and the latest campus news, visit the NewsCenter or subscribe to Berkeley Online at cal.berkeley.edu.
Record-setting Hewlett gift helps sustain faculty excellence

Hewlett gift signals new era in public-private partnerships with far-reaching benefits

For example, the profits from Stanford University's endowment of $14 million will support graduate students and also be taken to enhance the investment of these endowed funds. The Hewlett Challenge will match gifts of $1 million dollar-for-dollar to create 80 new endowed chairs in each of the campus's 14 schools and colleges. It will also match 20 gifts of $1.5 million dollar-for-dollar to endow a stable and growing funding source to retain and recruit faculty and support graduate students.

The Hewlett Challenge represents a new model for financing faculty excellence by emphasizing a greater role for private philanthropy in building and managing the campus endowment base. The long-term result of the Hewlett gift is a recognition that public universities can and must compete with the best private universities and can only do so through a partnership between public funding and private philanthropy.

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last year yielded more than Berkeley received for its operating budget from the State of California. Endowments of this scale, and the revenue they are able to generate, have changed the landscape of faculty compensation.

The ever-widening gap in average salaries for faculty at Berkeley compared to those offered by its elite private peers is up to 20 percent in some cases. In addition, competition for top professors is growing. Since 2000, Harvard University has tried to recruit more of Berkeley's professors than any other private institution, and has been the most successful in luring them away.

Despite the salary gap, the campus has had a 72 percent success rate in recruiting new faculty in the past decade, and in the past five years it has retained almost 70 percent of faculty whom other institutions have tried to recruit. This success, however, has been achieved only through extraordinary and costly measures.

Said George Breslauer, UC Berkeley's executive vice chancellor and provost, "Some universities are phenomenal in three or four fields, but we have 35 departments that are ranked in the top 10 nationally. So we have to invest broadly in order to maintain that breadth and depth of excellence."

Although Berkeley is succeeding today in preserving the preeminence of the faculty, building the University endowment is increasingly seen as the only way to sustain the long-term excellence of Berkeley’s faculty and, to a larger extent, the vitality of public higher education.

"The intellectual environment here is so rich — nobody wants to leave it," said neurobiology professor Geoff Owen, dean of the biological sciences in the College of Letters & Science. "People here are that good, and when you are surrounded by people who are that good, the exchange of ideas and the excitement of learning is tremendous."

To find out more about the Hewlett Challenge, visit hewlett.berkeley.edu. Additional photos from the Hewlett Challenge press conference can be found on page 31.

In spite of the considerable growth of Berkeley’s endowment in the last 10 years, its market value is still small when compared with those of peer private institutions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Endowment (in US$)</th>
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<td>HARVARD</td>
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<td>STANFORD</td>
<td>$14 BILLION</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIT</td>
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<td>BERKELEY</td>
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As of fiscal year 2006
There are many worthy institutions and organizations for the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to support. How did you become engaged in discussions with Berkeley?

As a trustee of Stanford, I hear about what's going on in higher education, and I kept hearing about the growing difference between salaries at Berkeley and salaries at the privates because of the rising cost of running research universities. I thought to myself, ‘This just can’t continue like this. Berkeley should stay right up there with the privates both because of the work that’s done here and because of its public mission.’ There’s no other place like Berkeley, and if we let the public institutions — starting with Berkeley — decline, that would be a very hard thing to reverse.

We owe it to our citizens of this state and the country to keep Berkeley strong. From everything I know there’s a huge amount of support for Berkeley among its alumni and supporters. If Stanford, Harvard, and Yale can get the kind of gifts they are getting from their alumni then there’s no reason that Berkeley can’t get the same kind of support.

Why did you choose to support a public university?

First of all, Berkeley is a great research university so it deserves support on those grounds alone — the same kind of support that a Stanford or an MIT deserves. But over and above that, as a public institution, it offers access to a large group of students who would not be able to attend private universities. I think our country has a great tradition of public education that goes back more than 100 years. It’s part of what makes us a great society, and it’s extremely important that we support and continue having great public institutions of higher education, and Berkeley is the crown jewel of public higher education.

How does this gift fit with the Hewlett Foundation’s mission?

The mission of the foundation really is to help solve some of the most difficult social problems we face in our society and in the world. To carry that out we have four or five program areas, including education. These areas only account for about two-thirds of our grant capacity. The other third we set aside for what we call extraordinary grants or think of as extraordinary opportunities — places where a big idea comes along where we feel the timeliness of it can really make a difference. So the grant to Berkeley is not part of the education program, it’s an extraordinary grant — an extraordinary opportunity and the right time to do it.

What are your hopes for the Hewlett Challenge?

First of all, I hope that donors will be as generous as they possibly can be. People have asked me how the Hewlett Foundation determined the size of the gift. This was the most money we could give for this at this time, which is to say that I hope we can give more at some point. Certainly, as one trustee, that’s what I would like to see. And what I’d like to tell other donors is “Be as generous as you can. This is an extremely worthy cause.”

Several years ago, the Hewlett Foundation made a $400 million gift to Stanford, your alma mater. How does it feel to be giving to Berkeley this time around?

I just love it. I have strong family ties to Berkeley. My mother, grandmother, grandfather, my mother’s brother and sister, and my own brother went to Berkeley. My wife and daughter also have degrees from Berkeley, so this is a really happy day for me. I’m really excited by this.
When the doors of Stanley Hall, UC Berkeley’s new state-of-the-art bioscience research facility, officially opened this fall, the campus grandly ushered in a new era in bioscience. More than a decade in the making, the new building brings together Berkeley’s preeminent bioengineers, biologists, chemists, and physicists under a single roof.

“Today, life science research is progressing toward problems of increasing scale and complexity with solutions rooted in the quantitative sciences: mathematics, physics, chemistry, and engineering,” says Chancellor Robert J. Birgeneau. “The research that will be stimulated here, at the crossroads of multiple disciplines, holds the promise of transforming human health, energy, and the environment.”

In the late 1990s, it became clear that Berkeley’s science and engineering departments were in dire need of new facilities if they were to remain at the forefront of discovery. In response, faculty members including the late Daniel E. Koshland Jr. (see page 12), Graham R. Fleming, and Paul R. Gray developed a creative plan to bring together scientists from different disciplines to advance solutions to the world’s most pressing challenges in health, energy, and the environment.

**A signature facility**

The signature 285,000 gross-square-foot facility that emerged from the planning, Stanley Hall, now rises eight stories above the ground, with three additional research floors beneath. In all, the building accommodates 650 faculty, students, and staff members. Along with modern classrooms and instructional labs, the building has 33 wet laboratories and eight computational laboratories. An area of the building was also specifically designed to house a regional nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) facility — the most powerful imaging technology available to support structural biology studies for drug development, nanoscale biomaterial, and fundamental research.

Designed by Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects LLP, the building is named for the late Wendell M. Stanley, a renowned UC Berkeley molecular and cell biology chemistry bioengineering structural biology chemical biology computational biology imaging tissue engineering bionanotechnology allied biology
biochemist and virologist who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1946.

The science inside

"Stanley Hall is really more than just a building," says Graham Fleming, the UC Berkeley director of the California Institute for Quantitative Biosciences (QB3), which is housed in the new facility along with the Department of Bioengineering. "By bringing researchers from different disciplines together in one location, Stanley Hall will actually help shape the way science evolves. The building’s collaborative environment will make discoveries possible that simply wouldn’t happen otherwise. And that impact doesn’t stop at the campus borders, because the scientists from other universities or industry who come to Stanley to use a core facility or conduct joint research will become part of our extended community."

Located in the building are scientists and students studying such diverse subjects as breast cancer antigen targets, stem cell performance during muscle repair; potential bio-friendly nano-sized light sources, and synthetically designed microorganisms that can detect environmental contaminants or digest toxins.

“The new space is wonderful, offering many opportunities for close interactions between labs,” says Jennifer Doudna, a molecular biologist who is investigating RNA structural elements that control gene expression. “Our lab is next door to two of our close collaborators, which fosters conversations between different lab members and is already stimulating new directions in some of our projects.”

Partnering for the future

“This building is the physical representation of the critically important public-private partnership needed to make revolutionary advances in biomedical science,” says Robert Tjian, the faculty director of the Health Sciences Initiative, a program launched in the 1990s to bring together experts in the biological and physical sciences, engineering, math, computer science, and public health.

In total, state support provided $80.9 million in funding for the building, and an additional $88.6 million was raised from individual philanthropists.
The world has lost one of its great scientists and the University of California its most influential educator with the death of Daniel E. Koshland Jr. His career spanned 60 years of creative biochemical research, and he was actively planning his next experiments just days before his sudden death. Those of us fortunate enough to have experienced Dan’s extraordinary personality will always remember his wisdom, sharp wit, and kindness, especially toward students and young scientists.

My first encounter with Dan was in 1969, when I was an undergraduate student in his renowned biochemistry class. He invariably started his lectures with some hilarious joke. However, we soon realized that Dan was both funny and very serious about science. Somehow he managed to teach us more about protein chemistry and the properties of biological macromolecules in 10 weeks than we thought possible.

Dan’s scientific contributions, especially “induced fit,” continue to influence our thinking today about how proteins and protein complexes work, from enzymes and receptors to transcription factors and signaling molecules. As befits Dan’s bold and creative science, he received many awards including the National Medal of Science (1990), the Albert Lasker Award for special achievement in medical science (1998), and the Welch Award in Chemistry (2006).

Not one to shirk responsibility or community service, Dan was elected president of the board at his children’s school in Brookhaven, Long Island, became chairman of biochemistry at Berkeley, took on the editorship of PNAS, and in 1985 became editor-in-chief of Science magazine. He was also an exceptionally generous philanthropist — a long tradition of the extended Koshland family.

Of all the “extracurricular” activities that Dan embraced, the one that stands out in my mind (and I believe in his) was spearheading the radical reorganization of the biological sciences at Cal, realigning faculty into three major departments. His leadership and philanthropy continues today with the next phase of the reorganization, which includes the recently completed Stanley Hall building and the new Li Ka Shing Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences.

Dan’s passing is a huge loss for science, UC Berkeley, his family, and the Bay Area — a loss too difficult for me to contemplate. Dan was more than a scientific role model — he was my hero, best friend, and trusted advisor; an extraordinary human being with an unwavering moral compass. His humor, humanity, and wit will be sorely missed.

— Robert Tjian

Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

This is excerpted from a Cell magazine article published August 24, 2007.
Flying high on a genius grant

What do airplanes and fruit flies share in common? For Claire Tomlin Ph.D. ’98, a professor of electrical engineering and computer sciences, it is the mathematics underlying each system. As a control theorist, Tomlin develops complex algorithms that can be manipulated to achieve a certain goal. Whether one is trying to prevent mid-air collisions or understand how a fly’s wings develop, the answer is in the numbers.

These clearly divergent interests — aeronautics and biology — garnered Tomlin the coveted MacArthur Fellowship, commonly called the “genius grant,” last fall. One of 25 winners, she was chosen for her exceptional creativity and potential for still more. The stipend includes $500,000 over five years to be used however Tomlin wishes. She is the 40th Berkeley researcher to receive the award since 1981.

Much of Tomlin’s research addresses problems in aircraft flight control and air traffic. The algorithms she uses consider a variety of constant and changing variables, from bad weather and equipment malfunctions to rerouted aircraft and bottlenecks. Applying her theories to today’s complicated hybrid systems ultimately improves their automated capabilities, helping air traffic controllers and pilots keep the airport’s efficient and skies safe.

Tomlin recently began applying control theory to biological problems. Partnering with Jeffrey Axelrod, a pathology professor at Stanford University, Tomlin’s team used mathematical models to predict protein concentrations produced by genes that are essential to creating a fruit fly’s wings. In the long run, this may help us understand developmental irregularities in humans.

For now, Tomlin plans to amp up her education and lab experience in the biological sciences. The fellowship acknowledges her ability to transcend the conventional limits of her field and connect seemingly unconnected disciplines in important ways.
For a graduate student, the input of a mentor — an adviser eager to share their knowledge, support, and experience as an academic — can provide invaluable guidance in the pursuit of an advanced degree.

The contributions of three such mentors, all members of the Berkeley faculty, were recognized at the University’s inaugural presentation of the Sarlo Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Awards. The Sarlo award, sponsored by the Sarlo Foundation of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund, reflects one of founder George Sarlo’s many ambitions: to improve the capacity of Bay Area institutions to provide quality education.

**THIS YEAR’S SARLO AWARD HONOREES ARE:**

**Maximilian Auffhammer**
Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
College of Natural Resources

*From the nomination:* “He willingly and, indeed, voluntarily devotes enormous amounts of time and effort to mentoring our students from their early days in our Ph.D. program up to and including their placement in excellent academic positions on graduation. He has set an example for our department that the rest of us can only hope to live up to.” (Professor Anthony C. Fisher, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics)

Currently teaching: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (covering topics including consumer and demand theory, firm, production and cost theory, competitive market theory, imperfect competition, welfare economics, choice under uncertainty and information).

**Sofía Berto Villas-Boas**
Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
College of Natural Resources

*From the nomination:* “She always makes me feel like a colleague rather than her student, gives me the freedom and confidence to develop my own ideas, and supports everything I do with enthusiasm…. Her enthusiasm and personality perfectly complement the high-quality education and stimulating and intellectual atmosphere our department and Berkeley in general provide for graduate study.” (Kristin Kiesel, Ph.D. candidate)

What she’s teaching next: Industrial Organization with Applications to Agriculture and Natural Resources (undergraduate course, spring 2008); Industrial Organization and Regulation in Agriculture (graduate course, spring 2008).

**José David Saldivar**
Professor of Ethnic Studies and English
Department of Ethnic Studies
College of Letters & Science

*From the nomination:* “Dialoguing with Professor Saldivar was always a fluid and gratifying experience because he was deeply respectful and committed — he always behaved as if he were talking to somebody he considered intellectually equal and he showed, in every meeting, an honest interest in my new developments.” (Mónica González, Ph.D. candidate in Hispanic languages and literatures, Department of Spanish and Portuguese).

Currently teaching: On sabbatical this year; during the 2006-07 school year, Saldivar taught an English graduate seminar on the cultures of U.S. imperialism and the War of 1898, as well as an English course focusing on the works of authors William Faulkner, Gabriel García Márquez, and Toni Morrison.
A high-spirited multigenerational crowd packed Wheeler Auditorium on a Monday morning in May for one last Leon Litwack lecture.

The renowned historian’s final lecture — embodying both showmanship and storytelling élan — did not disappoint. With the Isley Brothers’ rendition of “Fight the Power” playing in the background, the protagonist entered, stage left, to deafening applause and shouts of “four more years!”

For the final session of History 7B, “U.S. History Since 1865,” the Pulitzer Prize winner brought the black odyssey in America up to the present. His narrative spanned from the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s to the late 20th century, when “the crisis moved from the South to the nation,” he declared.

The 77-year-old scholar illustrated his theme with examples from popular music. In the 1960s, Litwack said, the black community’s belief in “America’s capacity for change” was soulfully expressed by artists who dubbed themselves the Supremes, the Miracles, the Marvelettes, and the Invincibles. “I know that change is gonna come,” crooned singer Sam Cooke. Today, in contrast, the hard-edged rap lyrics that Litwack liberally quoted signal a far less optimistic mood.

In his half century of teaching more than 30,000 students about America’s checkered racial history, Litwack won fans of all ages and persuasions. And, in his final semester at Berkeley, he won something else.

Two months before his final lecture, a group of student leaders on campus interrupted Litwack’s lecture to announce that the history professor had won the 2007 Golden Apple Award for Outstanding Teaching. The annual award is given to a faculty member by a committee of UC Berkeley students.

“These are the awards that really matter,” Litwack said, beaming as he was presented with a basket of Golden Delicious and Fuji apples. “My students have been wonderful and that’s what makes teaching exciting.”

To view a special Golden Apple lecture by Professor Litwack from April, visit links.berkeley.com.
The verdict is in: law students are stellar fundraisers

For the first time ever, students graduating from the Juris Doctor (J.D.) and Master of Laws (LL.M.) programs in the Boalt Hall School of Law achieved 100 percent participation in their gift campaign — raising a remarkable total of $106,000.

“I’m still wrapping my mind around it,” wrote Dean Christopher Edley in an email to UC Berkeley Chancellor Robert Birgeneau. “It demonstrates the willingness of our students to do their share to ensure the success of Boalt’s strategy for leadership.”

Among peer schools conducting similar campaigns last year, Boalt’s Class of ’06 led the way with 97 percent participation. According to Sarah Angel, a Class of ’07 committee cochair, having all 363 students participate this year was more important than the amount each individual gave.

“The campaign committee worked hard to encourage every student to give,” she says. “We were aiming to build a strong sense of community.”

Their dedication paid off unexpectedly. The average gift amount was $292 — significantly higher than many peer schools — and an anonymous gift helped bump the total to its impressive all-time high. Most students gave to specific funds that had supported their own education.

The class organized into small modules that raced to achieve the goal of 100 percent participation. Thanks to the enthusiastic leadership of Glenn Sulmasy, the LL.M.s reached the finish line first, an inspiring victory considering they only attend Boalt for one year.

“We are truly proud of this record-setting achievement,” says Dean Edley. “These students send a powerful message about the vitality of Boalt and the strength of its future.”

Boalt’s LL.M. Student Gift Campaign
For Berkeley alumni, reunion years are an ideal time to reconnect with the University, revisit fond memories, and give back to the campus. Younger alums, in particular, play a key role in fundraising efforts — once they settle into their careers, they frequently make reunion-year gifts to Cal.

Every reunion gift is appreciated, but some stand out for the generosity of the donor and the reasons behind the giving. In the cases of Tom Barber ’97 and Rich Chen ’92, M.B.A. ’99, their stories reflect continuing connections with Berkeley — along with their desire to help future Cal students make the most of their years on campus.

**Junior college, Berkeley, and beyond**

In 1994, Tom Barber (pictured left) applied to Cal as a community college transfer and was accepted for the spring semester. “I didn’t know it at the time,” he says today, “but being accepted to Cal was the most important thing that had ever happened to me.”

The challenge of working with top-notch students and world-class faculty drew the Sacramento native to Berkeley, but equally appealing was the value of the public-school education he received. “My family could not have afforded to send me to a $25,000-a-year institution,” says Barber, who graduated in 1997 with a degree in political science. “Cal gave me access to develop the skills that allow me to do what I do now.”

Today, he is a principal at Black Canyon Capital, a Beverly Hills-based private equity firm. And he’s one of more than 20 Class of ’97 graduates to commit more than $1,000 to their 10-year reunion fundraising campaign. As part of his reunion committee, Barber has also spread the word about the campaign to other alums.

Though he gives back to Cal every year, Barber felt a stronger pull than usual this time. “It was an opportunity to reflect on my time at Cal, how it helped me create the career I’ve got and become the person I am now,” he says. “Cal gave me all the tools I need to succeed, and for that I’ll forever be grateful.”

**Public education payback**

At age 10, Rich Chen (pictured right) emigrated to Albany, Calif., from Japan. A product of public schools, Chen eventually headed to Berkeley, where he earned two degrees before launching a career as a high-tech executive. Still, he hasn’t forgotten his roots: Earlier this year, he gave back to Cal by making a $20,000 gift to the Haas School of Business.

“At the very least I felt I could give back, having gone through public schools here in California,” says Chen, who received an undergraduate degree in political economy of industrial societies in 1992 and an M.B.A. from Haas seven years later: “It was high time I put back into the system rather than take out of it.”

Haas helped propel Chen into the high-tech world, where he worked for three years at a Japanese startup before returning to the U.S. in 2002. Back in the Bay Area, he joined Google, generating partnerships between the search-engine giant and companies overseas. Chen has since left Google to spend a “breather year” as a stay-at-home dad caring for his children. His generous gift to Berkeley coincided with his undergraduate class’s 15-year class reunion, giving a tremendous boost to the class’s giving levels. Chen’s connection to Cal is deepening further — he just started his first term as a UC Berkeley Foundation trustee.

“Apart from the financial side, I can also contribute my brain power back into the system,” he says.

Is your class celebrating a milestone anniversary? For details on your reunion gift campaign, and to learn more about Homecoming, visit homecoming.berkeley.edu or call 510.642.0957.
As an incoming freshman two years ago, Quanice Hawkins received quite a windfall when she moved into a Unit 1 residence hall. Brand-new bedding, lamps, a robe and slippers, towels, a backpack, and other essentials were stacked high in her dorm room. This warm welcome was orchestrated by Berkeley staff who pitched in $1,500 of their own money to help Hawkins and several other students who arrived at Berkeley without parental or financial support. These young adults are considered “independent” students because they are orphans, foster youth, or otherwise lacking support from a parent.

The welcome Hawkins and other independent students received began as a grassroots effort that has evolved into a fledgling program, the Cal Independent Scholars Network (CISN). Through CISN, Hawkins received help with everything from choosing the right shade of purple for her comforter to getting to campus from the airport.

“I had everything I needed the first day I moved in,” recalls Hawkins, a soft-spoken student from Inglewood, Calif. And she knew what she’d be getting, having been invited to select each donated item online.

Residential and Student Service Programs staffers Michelle Kniffin and Nancy Jurich spearheaded the endeavor, inspired by the story of Kimberly Armstrong ’06, who had been in the foster-care system. Armstrong arrived at Berkeley by bus as an incoming freshman with just a duffel bag. After watching her roommate unpack her many new belongings, then go to dinner with her picture-perfect family, Armstrong cried herself to sleep that night.

Kniffin shared Armstrong’s story with fellow staff and was “flooded with e-mails” from colleagues willing to donate money or supplies. With the help of the Financial Aid Office, Kniffin and Jurich located incoming students in need and invited them by e-mail to participate in the program. All said yes. Staff and student volunteers delivered supplies to the students’ rooms before they arrived.

“We did it with more heart than money,” says Jurich of the program’s first year, when staff donations covered room furnishings for two freshmen and academic supplies for eight others. But times are changing: For the past two years, alumnus Fred Selinger ’61 donated enough to cover room furnishings and academic supplies for 12 freshmen. This year, Cal parents Gary and Allison Beckman made a five-year pledge to fund a part-time staff position for the program. And in May, Deborah Lowe Martinez ’76 a Cal parent and child welfare attorney, was hired as the program’s coordinator.

One thing hasn’t changed: Participants must agree to serve as mentors to future independent students. “Students understand and appreciate that this is not charity,” Kniffin says. “It’s a pay-it-forward program.”

Support for the program’s 21 students comes from a dedicated group of mentors and volunteers throughout the campus. Each student is matched with a faculty, staff, alumni, or student mentor. That involvement begins in early August, before students come to campus. Mentors check in monthly with each student and update Martinez on any student’s needs or challenges.

Support and sweets

Those check-ins proved useful for Nathan Earnest, a CISN participant who arrived on campus this fall. The Denver freshman spoke with mentor Mary Lindquist ’73 four times in his first two weeks at Berkeley, seeking feedback on topics including his class schedule. “Sometimes it was just a quick call to say, ‘I had a good day today,’” says Earnest, who plans to study mathematics and Arabic.

Clearly, the support he’s received goes far beyond supplies for his dorm room and the $200 he was given to buy books, notebooks, and pens at the student store.

“She even baked me cookies,” Earnest says of his mentor: “She’s been like a second mother to me.”

For information on the Cal Independent Scholars Network, visit trsp.berkeley.edu or call 510.642.6151.
Biology professor uses funding to revise popular introductory course

Jasper Rine recently marked two milestones in his Berkeley career: the 25th anniversary of his arrival on campus as a faculty member, and the first anniversary of being named a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professor.

The four-year Hughes professorship has kept Rine, who serves on the faculty of the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, particularly busy. In 2006, Rine was one of 20 educators nationwide to receive $1 million from the institute, and he’s using that money to revamp the hands-on lab modules in Bio 1A, the University’s popular introductory biology course.

“The Bio 1A labs have been good, but they haven’t kept pace with the changes in modern biological research,” he says. “Our goal has been to try to bring the labs up to date, and to make them more quantitative.”

Ultimately, Rine and a team of colleagues plan to overhaul all 12 lab modules for Bio 1A. The money he was awarded is being used to support the salary of a Hughes fellow working on the Bio 1A revisions, summer salaries for five undergraduates on the team, and supplies and equipment needed for the lab upgrades.

With an eye to the transition undergrads make to college academia, Rine also enlisted the help of a Berkeley High School biology teacher: “I thought it would be really valuable for us to have a much more detailed sense of what students are learning in high school so we have a better idea of where they’re starting (in class),” he says.

Working with his team, Rine spent this past summer developing new modules for Bio 1A, which is taken by approximately 1,500 students each year — about 600 students per semester, plus another 300 during the summer.

First to be rolled out will be a bio-computing module that teaches students how to use the amazing amount of information on the human genome available on the Web. “These are the tools that modern research scientists use on a daily basis,” Rine says. “We’ll have exercises that teach students how to master the use of these tools in studying the functions of the different human genes.”

By stressing quantitative, math-oriented work in other Bio 1A labs as well, he hopes to improve how undergrad biology students learn the science. “We have to develop greater computational sophistication among our undergraduates,” says Rine, who also happens to serve as director of Berkeley’s Center for Computational Biology. “If they believe that math is not relevant to biology as undergrads, they’ll never develop the ability to use it in the future. We have to integrate computation and more quantitative aspects into biology education in the early stages.”

Rine still has three more years to use the remainder of the $1 million provided by the Hughes institute — and 25 years of teaching experience at Berkeley to help guide the process. No matter which direction Rine and his team take Bio 1A, the award-winning professor remains humble in the role he plays with his students.

“These will be the thought leaders of the future,” he says of his students. “I’m privileged to have an impact on them this early in their careers.”
Alumni, parents, and friends of the University of California, Berkeley contributed $267.9 million in gifts and pledges in the 2006–07 fiscal year to support students, faculty, and research to help extend Cal’s excellence.

The private support was mostly in the form of outright gifts, pledge payments, and matching gifts totaling $200 million. The balance of private support, $67.9 million, came in the form of new pledges.

There were 85,061 gifts and pledges from 57,850 donors. While overall private support declined from the record high of $347.6 million the previous fiscal year, the total number of gifts and pledges in 2006–07 represents the fourth highest level ever raised at UC Berkeley.

Individuals gave the greatest share of private support, with alumni contributing $94.2 million in gifts and pledge payments, and other individuals donating $23.9 million.

“These gift totals highlight the role that individuals play in supporting the preeminent public university in the world,” said Vice Chancellor Scott Biddy. “Our alumni, Cal parents, friends, and even student donors all recognize the importance of Berkeley in their lives and in the world, and in the process they are building a new tradition of philanthropy here.”

Top gifts and pledges for the fiscal year, which ended June 30, include:

- $1.1 million in gifts and pledges, by the Simons Foundation, to advance the work of the Helios Project, a program in collaboration with the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. The Helios Project targets the development of efficient processes to produce transportation fuel from biomass or from solar energy-driven electrochemistry.
- $6.6 million, from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to support the Scholars in Health Policy Research Program, a two-year fellowship targeted to outstanding new Ph.Ds in economics, political science, and sociology to advance their involvement in health policy research. The University of California — through UC Berkeley’s School of Public Health and UCSF — is one of three institutions that participates in the program.
- $5 million, from the Fred H. Bixby Foundation, to support students through the Fred H. Bixby Endowed Fund in Population and Family Planning in the School of Public Health.
- $5 million, from the Sea Change Foundation, for the Helios Project.

A record $2.1 million also was raised online for programs across the campus through the University’s online giving site at givetocal.berkeley.edu. This included gifts from 7,828 donors.

For more information on the role of private support at Berkeley, visit campaign.berkeley.edu.
On display at the Graduate School of Journalism, “Wonderland: A Fairytale of the Soviet Monolith” is photographer Jason Eskenazi’s unflinching exhibition of images from the former Soviet Union. Eskenazi’s black-and-white photographs, taken in the 1990s after the collapse of Soviet Communism, capture the realities of everyday life in the former U.S.S.R. The exhibition runs at North Gate Hall through January 5, 2008.
The Discover Cal series brings UC Berkeley’s distinguished faculty to the extended Cal family for provocative lectures in an informal setting. Come hear their insights on issues that matter to contemporary society.

**Improving California’s Environmental Quality and Accommodating Its Growing Population**

October 23 - Santa Monica  •  October 24 - San Diego

**Economic Impacts of Weather, Global Warming, and Rising Sea Levels**

November 7 - Redwood City  •  November 14 - Sacramento

For registration and information, visit discovercal.berkeley.edu.

Faculty and donors gathered at the School of Public Health’s annual Appreciation Dinner, held at Doe Library.

1. Former field program supervisor Constance Fraser M.P.H. ’64, M.S.W. ’64 (left) catches up with Professor Emerita Helen Wallace.

2. Owen Patotzka (left), trustee of the Fred H. Bixby Foundation, and his wife, Barbara, pose for a photo with Dean Stephen Shortell.

3. Pictured (left to right) are Public Health Alumni Association past president Carol Woltring M.P.H. ’80, current president Leslie Louie ’82, M.P.H. ’85, Ph.D. ’90, and president-elect John Troidl Ph.D. ’01.

4. Nina Belogolovy Jacobsohn ’57 (left) and Peggy Post Grunland ’46 enjoy catching up at a tea for residents of International House from 1946–55. The event celebrated the dedication of the former room of Lottie Wallerstein Salz M.A. ’49, a concentration-camp survivor who inspired her fellow alumni with her dedication to building tolerance and understanding.

5. Martin Brennan ’71 (left), who began his tenure as executive director of International House, accompanies Paul Salz ’52 (center) and Paul’s granddaughter Janey Keig on a visit to the room of Paul’s late wife, Lottie Wallerstein Salz M.A. ’49. The room has been dedicated in Lottie’s memory thanks to generous gifts from Paul Salz and Charles Clapp Ph.D. ’66. Janey followed in her grandparents’ footsteps by living in International House.

6. Lana Kloch and Dr. Betty A. Toole ’66, Ed.D. ’79

7. Professor Dacher Keltner and Joan and Howard Poulter

8. Mary Catherine Birgeneau and Betty Helmholz

More than 300 members of the Benjamin Ide Wheeler Society enjoyed the 20th Annual Benjamin Ide Wheeler Tea. The event featured a lecture by Professor Dacher Keltner, followed by a tea hosted by Chancellor Robert and Mary Catherine Birgeneau. The Wheeler Society honors individuals who have included Cal in their estate plan or through a life income gift.
9. Alison Gopnik (left), professor of psychology, Lynn Merz (right), executive director of the Mimi and Peter Haas Fund, and Marcy Whitebrook (far right), director of Berkeley’s Center for the Study of Childcare Employment, celebrate the opening of the Haste Street Child Development Center.

10. Dean of the Graduate School of Education P. David Pearson (left) and Mike Wood, LeapFrog founder and UC Berkeley Foundation trustee.

11. Alba Witkin, a generous friend of the University and the city of Berkeley.

12. Supporters of the Incentive Awards Program donors gathered at the June 9 Incentive Awards Dinner at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. From left to right: Bill and Ute Bowes, Incentive Awards Program alumnus Jerry Arellano ’96, Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Harry Le Grande, and Bernard and Barbro Osher.

13. George Craig ’39, founder of the George and Viola Western Timber Association Award, and Danielle Fuchs ’07, the award’s 2007 recipient, joined more than 250 students, faculty, and guests to celebrate the accomplishments of College of Natural Resources students at the college’s Spring 2007 Student Award Ceremony.

14. Claude Babcock ’52, M.S.W. ’80 and Betty Sousa ’07 at CNR’s Spring 2007 Student Award ceremony. Sousa, who graduated in May with a degree in nutritional sciences, was awarded the Kenneth L. Babcock Prize in Environmental Science. She was also one of four finalists for the University Medal, Berkeley’s highest undergraduate honor.

15. Berkeley Art Museum supporters Herb and Bobbi Wiltsek and Chancellor Robert and Mary Catherine Birgeneau enjoy each other’s company at the preview and reception for the 37th Annual University of California, Berkeley Master of Fine Arts Graduate Exhibition.

16. Professor Emeritus George W. Chang Ph.D. ’67, Steven Chu Ph.D. ’76, director of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and UC Berkeley Foundation Vice Chair Katherine Lau ’88 were on hand at Doe Library’s Morrison Reading Room for the September 10 announcement of the Hewlett Foundation’s gift to the University.


18. National and international media outlets reported the September 10 announcement. The Hewlett gift was a front-page story in the Los Angeles Times, and was featured on ABC TV’s Good Morning America and National Public Radio. Overseas, the news appeared in the International Herald Tribune and was on Russia’s Pravda news Web site (in English).
Now that they’re here...

Sixty-nine new professors join Cal this year, bringing the total number of faculty to 1,554. We asked them what attracted them to teach at Berkeley and their first impressions.

David Gamage, Assistant Professor, Boalt Hall School of Law

“Berkeley is without a doubt one of the very best research universities in the world. It is simply thrilling to have so many outstanding colleagues both in the law school and in the University as a whole. I’m struck by the physical beauty of the Berkeley campus and the intellectual energy that surrounds the place. I truly feel blessed to be here.”

Beth Piatote, Assistant Professor, Department of Ethnic Studies (Native American Studies)

“The combination of public access and institutional excellence attracted me to Berkeley. While in graduate school at Stanford, I often visited Berkeley and was always invigorated by the intellectual and social culture. My classes have a wonderfully diverse mix of students, and I’m grateful for the opportunity to contribute to their educational experience.”

Andreas Stahl, Assistant Professor, Department of Nutritional Sciences & Toxicology

“I truly feel that my peers and the leadership teams are genuinely interested in my scientific progress and success here at Berkeley. I am also quite impressed by the quality and diversity of both undergraduate and graduate student populations, and look forward to interacting and sharing my enthusiasm for research with them.”

Paul Fine ’95, Assistant Professor, Department of Integrative Biology

“I loved my undergraduate experience. It is a dream come true to return to Berkeley and teach at the world’s greatest university. It is an incomparable and exciting diversity of people, opinions and ideas, surrounded by unmatched natural beauty.”

Mark Peterson, Associate Professor, Department of History

“I was attracted to teach at Berkeley initially by the strength and reputation of other faculty members in history. But now that I’m here, I’ve also come to appreciate the resources and the sheer beauty of the University and its environs, as well as the quality, energy, and enthusiasm for learning that I have encountered among the students. I have also been very pleased by how warm and welcoming my colleagues have been.”

Rachel Morello-Frosch ’88, M.P.H. ’93, Ph.D. ’97, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management, and School of Public Health

“I’ve returned to the best public institution of higher education that has taken a decisively interdisciplinary approach to studying and addressing environmental problems. It’s a huge place, with a lot going on, which can seem overwhelming but is also very exciting. The diversity of approaches to examining environmental problems forces one to think differently about the issues that they are working on.”

Sarah Song, Assistant Professor, Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program, Boalt Hall and the Department of Political Science

“There are many things that attracted me to Berkeley, but a key factor was the combination of a top-notch faculty community and incredibly diverse student body that makes UC Berkeley such a special place. I am particularly impressed by the intellectual collaboration and dialogue across different departments and schools on areas of common interest through the many centers, institutes, and workshops around campus.”

Catherine Cole, Professor, Department of Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies

“Bright students, a top-notch graduate program, cultural diversity, proximity to San Francisco, and being able to continue employment in the UC system. The students are indeed bright, diverse, and highly motivated. But they don’t necessarily know everything, which is good, for it means I have something to teach them.”