The Best of Berkeley

Remaining affordable to students in changing times

Help for Haiti
Cover Image: Oski, Cal's official mascot, points to a digitally reconstructed close-up of the hand of Ardi, a female of the species *Ardipithecus ramidus*. The most ancient hominid skeleton ever found was discovered by an international team of scientists co-led by Berkeley Professor Tim White (story on page 8). Photo illustration by Virginia Yeh. (Ardi hand image copyright Tim White and Gen Suwa.)

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Yudof on governor's budget

UC President Mark G. Yudof commended Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's January promise to hold the line on higher education cuts — including $371 million in additional money for UC, plus funding for Cal Grants — saying it “could give UC a secure financial footing for the future.”

promise.berkeley.edu/yudofbudget

Record number of applicants

More than 50,000 student applicants have applied for admission to Berkeley's fall 2010 freshman class, after campus admissions officials visited high schools and even chat rooms to connect with promising students.

promise.berkeley.edu/recordaps

Top grad students flock to Berkeley

Despite a budget shortfall and higher fees, Berkeley continues to attract more and higher-quality graduate students, according to new data from the Graduate Division. Students' top reasons for coming to Cal include the chance to work with distinguished faculty and to earn their degrees from world-class graduate programs.

promise.berkeley.edu/topgrads

Campus building updates

The UC Regents approved the retrofit and renovation of California Memorial Stadium, allowing the $321-million project to address existing seismic safety issues, modernize gameday facilities and services, and upgrade disabled access to move forward. Revised plans for the new Helios Energy Research Facility also were approved, clearing a path for the alternative-energy project. Finally, plans for a new Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive are being modified due to lingering economic uncertainty; repurposing a building in downtown Berkeley is being considered.

Tidal tectonics

Research by earth and planetary science professor Roland Bürgmann, graduate student Amanda M. Thomas, and seismologist Robert Nadeau shows the tidal effects of the sun and the moon can now be blamed for tremors detected 10 to 20 miles under the earth's surface. Though it might eventually help us understand seismic phenomena above ground, they've found no direct link to earthquakes on the surface.

promise.berkeley.edu/tectonics

The Campaign for Berkeley

As of December 31, 2009, the campus raised $1.69 billion toward the $3-billion campaign goal with 36% endowment and 64% non-endowment funding.
College costs nearing $31,000 next fall. A record number of applicants. An uncertain job market. These are a few of the dramatic changes Berkeley’s students and applicants face as they grapple with the rapidly changing economy and increasing educational costs.

Many of Cal’s undergraduates — more than 70 percent of whom receive some form of financial aid through grants, loans, scholarships, and work-study jobs — have found their families’ financial situations worsening, which can mean taking on an extra job or larger loans.

“It is not just tuition increases and the cost of living making students anxious, it is the overall economy,” says Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Harry Le Grande, who explains that many parents have lost jobs or are no longer able to use home equity.

“The number of students who qualify for Pell Grants normally stays fairly flat, but this year it’s jumped an astronomical 11 percent,” he says, meaning that about 900 Berkeley families have just fallen below the low-income threshold of about $45,000 a year.

Unable to afford Berkeley on his own, Ronald Lee, recipient of a Howard & Carmel Friesen Scholarship, describes his challenges to his scholarship donors:

“There are many obstacles I must overcome to succeed, many tests to pass, many papers to write, and many nights without a minute of sleep. I must also worry about money… not only to pay for my tuition, but also for rent, food, and other daily expenditures.”

Scholarship assistance took the financial stress off of Timothy Fei and his family during his years at Berkeley. Thanks in large part to three scholarships, the 2009 graduate focused on his schoolwork, enjoyed extracurricular activities related to his bioengineering degree, and even found time to join a swing dance troupe. During college, Tim tutored students at Cal and at Berkeley High School, and he now attends medical school at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.
Lee, a senior whose experience at Berkeley has inspired him to become a doctor, is grateful. He tells his donors, “Without your help, I would be forced to work more, and what would suffer most would be my education.”

**Scholarships Needed As Never Before**

About one-third of Berkeley’s 24,000 undergraduates come from families making less than $45,000, and this year nearly 1,000 students — an unprecedented number — submitted mid-year appeals to the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office to have their financial aid increased. Many received adjustments because their families faced changed economic circumstances, and the office is prepared for even more appeals this coming year.

“Our goal is to raise enough private support to double the amount of scholarships we can offer to deserving students,” says Le Grande. “Named scholarships are given to students with outstanding academic achievement who have demonstrated financial need. Today, even with many generous donors, we have only enough scholarships...”

**How Much of the $28,897 Cost to Attend Berkeley Are Students and Families Expected to Pay?**

- $8,500 for families with income of $20,000
- $13,500 for families with income of $45,000
- $26,500 for families with income of $100,000

Remaining affordable to Berkeley’s students in changing times

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<th>Income Level</th>
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...
to support about 2,600 of the 4,600 students who qualify based on these criteria. Reaching our goal would allow us to support additional students and, at the same time, lower the amount of work and loan burden that all students must pay.”

Private scholarships can help mitigate the impact of increasing costs — and ensure Berkeley’s public mission of educating students representing the full economic spectrum — by providing the University with the flexibility to augment students’ financial aid packages.

Even with limited means, Carissa Bussard can attend Cal because she has received scholarship support from Joan and Peter Avenali ’39. “Despite the Cinderella message that ‘Dreams can come true,’ I did not actually believe that I would ever be able to attend Berkeley due to financial complications at home,” writes Bussard. “I worked myself to the bone in A.P. and honors courses.”

**UNDERGRADUATE BUDGET 2009–10**

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<td>Other expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-Resident Budget</strong></td>
<td><strong>$51,615</strong></td>
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The drive to succeed comes naturally to Robyn Comfort, but receiving a scholarship motivates her even more. The sophomore from Napa, California, recently met her scholarship’s benefactors, and she finds their investment in her education continually inspiring. Considering a major in French, Robyn plays clarinet in Cal’s marching band, and her future plans may include studying abroad or graduate school.

*“I love what I study because I have the chance to study what I love.”*

Robyn Comfort ’12
“Without this scholarship, I do not know exactly where I would be, but I certainly know that I would not be here,” says Bussard of the funding that allows her to attend what she calls “the greatest public university in the nation,” live in a residence hall, and pay for tuition.

**TAKING “THE BATON”**

Many in the Cal community are trying to help. UC Berkeley Foundation Trustee Michael Williams ’82 and his wife, Jeanne, recently created a scholarship in recognition of his “transformational experience” at Berkeley, which he says opened lots of doors. “If I could change the world, there would not be a student who could not go to Berkeley because he or she could not afford it. It’s not just a tragedy for that student and that student’s family, but for the rest of us who won’t benefit from seeing them reach their potential,” he says, noting that 98 percent of Berkeley’s freshmen come from the top 10 percent of their high school class.

To sustain access for talented students with great need, the University’s goal is to raise at least $300 million in new scholarship support. “While families with means may still consider Berkeley to be a bargain compared to our public and private university peers, we must stay within reach of the thousands of high-achieving, low-income students whose lives are changed through their experiences here,” says Le Grande.

The University is about one-third of its way toward its scholarship goal, says Le Grande, adding, “If I were at a track meet, I’d like our team to take the baton and start rushing toward the finish line to significantly increase those numbers.”

**ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP GIVING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Campaign for Berkeley seeks to raise at least $300 million in scholarship endowment, thereby more than doubling the amount of scholarships the campus can offer to students with academic distinction and demonstrated financial need. Your gift to the Berkeley Undergraduate Scholarship Fund will provide indispensable funding to future Cal students. To make an online gift, visit givetocal.berkeley.edu. For more information on department-specific and other types of scholarships, please contact 510.643.5810 or email calstudents@berkeley.edu.
What does it mean to be the best?

Is it earning a number one ranking or winning a prize? Or is it something less tangible? By any measure, 2009 was an amazing year at Berkeley, with highlights that included the Nobel Prize for Economics and *Time* magazine’s “discovery of the year.” But we have found that Berkeley’s excellence is as much in its quirks as it is in its accolades.

It is found in the moments that senior Jay Garg spent hammering nails alongside a family, helping build them a new home in Oakland. It is seen in the out-of-the-box thinking of faculty and students alike, who
design cockroach-like robots for earthquake rescues and tinker with microbes to create new biofuels. Preeminence shows its face when scientists studying ancient bones realize they’ve not only discovered the oldest hominid skeleton ever — but that this unexpected ancestor walked on her palms. It’s found in the vibrancy of a newly restored, nearly forgotten film and within the energetic conversations between Amani Nuru-Jeter and her students.

The following pages offer a glimpse of the dynamic people, inspiring work, and surprising places we’ve found to be among the Best of Berkeley.
**Discovery of the Year**

In 1992, an excavation in Ethiopia’s desert unearthed a mysterious fossilized tooth, the first of many fossils belonging to a hominid skeleton far more ancient than any previously discovered. Seventeen years later, the Middle Awash project — an international team of scientists co-led by Berkeley integrative biology professor Tim White — announced that they had completed the reconstruction of a remarkable “new” human ancestor, *Ardipithecus ramidus*, which they fondly nicknamed Ardi.

At 4.4 million years old, Ardi is perhaps the most widely heralded hominid ever found — both *Science* and *Time* magazine named her the No. 1 scientific discovery of 2009.

The Middle Awash team used a novel combination of computer modeling, computer simulation, and three-dimensional reconstruction to piece together the details of the new species. Ardi has a humanlike braincase and wrist, and a primitive pelvis, foot, and hand that bridge the gap between early hominids and more advanced species.

**Fermenting for fuels**

Led by Berkeley professor Jay Keasling, a team of scientists at the Joint BioEnergy Institute has genetically modified a harmless strain of E. coli bacteria to produce biodiesel. The engineered microbe breaks down plant sugars and hemicellulose (part of the “rebar” and “glue” that make up plant cells). If successfully scaled, the process could be used to convert fast-growing grasses directly into biofuels, filling tanks without raising the price of food crops or contributing to hunger and deforestation.

**MacArthur “Geniuses”**

Computer scientist Maneesh Agrawala and molecular and cell biologist Lin He were selected as MacArthur Fellows — Agrawala for his exceptionally creative work in graphics and human-computer interaction, and He for her promising research into cancer cell development. The young professors join the ranks of 28 current Berkeley faculty who have received the coveted fellowship, which provides “no strings” support to individuals who show outstanding potential to make important contributions in their fields.
photography, and micro-CT scanning to reconstruct Ardi’s skeleton and examine evidence of her environment. Their findings suggest that our ancestors were far less chimp-like than once envisioned. “Ardi was not a chimpanzee, but she wasn’t human,” says White. “When climbing on all fours, she did not walk on her knuckles, like a chimp or a gorilla, but on her palms.” The scientists are still studying surprising revelations within Ardi’s anatomy, which may indicate that males played a pivotal role in raising their young. According to White, “By merging the skeletal information with the data on biology and geology, we end up with a very, very high-resolution snapshot of Ardi’s world.”

A cast of Ardi’s skull and other discoveries from the project are currently on display in the Valley Life Sciences Building.

WACKY, WITH PURPOSE

Disposable robot “cockroaches” — These speedy, six-legged wonders (designed from laser-cut paper board and cell phone parts by graduate student Paul Birkmeyer) cost less than $1 to make, can climb obstacles, survive a 10-story drop, and may one day help find earthquake victims buried in rubble.

Invisibility cloak — A team of Berkeley engineers led by Professor Xiang Zhang has designed a new metamaterial that can bend certain wavelengths of light around tiny objects, a step toward making them invisible. The technology, which has applications in microscope imaging and semiconductors, may one day lead to “invisibility” devices on a human scale.

Empathy: It’s in our genes

A new study provides the first direct evidence that the ability to empathize is hard-wired in our genes — specifically, the oxytocin receptor gene. Oxytocin is a hormone that promotes social interaction, nurturing, and romantic love. UC Berkeley graduate student Laura Saslow co-led the study, which measured the responses of approximately 170 participants and found that those with a specific variation of the gene were more skilled at recognizing facial expressions and maintained a lower heart rate under stress.

150 awards | $68 million
2009 federal stimulus garnered by Berkeley researchers as of February 2010

100 approximate number of start-up companies that have licensed Berkeley technology for private enterprise in the last 15 years
A Nobel Tradition

It’s no surprise that Berkeley professor Oliver E. Williamson used his high-visibility Nobel Prize lecture to inspire graduate students, telling them, “I think it is important to discover your passion. Once done, your job becomes a pleasure and you engage it with all your powers and energy.”

In addition to being an engaging teacher, Professor Williamson — who shared the 2009 Nobel Prize for Economics with Indiana University professor Elinor Ostrom — is a pioneer in the multi-disciplinary field of transaction cost economics and one of the world’s most cited economists. Williamson takes his place as the fifth Berkeley economics professor to win the Nobel Prize and the University’s 21st winner overall.

“I remember reading Olly’s work when I was in graduate school. I was blown away,” said Richard Lyons, dean of the Haas School of Business and a faculty colleague of Williamson’s, adding, “On top of his brilliance, Olly is also a genuinely warm, kind person.”

Williamson has described his own work as a blend of soft social science and abstract economic theory, and his interdisciplinary interests are reflected in his joint appointments at the Haas School of Business, the Department of Economics, and the UC Berkeley School of Law.

Two other 2009 Nobel laureates also had Berkeley ties. The bulk of the work for which Elizabeth Blackburn and Carol Greider won this year’s Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine — along with John Szostak — took place at UC Berkeley, when Blackburn was a professor of molecular and cell biology and Greider was her graduate student.

Drawing brilliant young faculty

Over the last ten years, Berkeley has rivaled MIT for the highest number of Sloan Fellowship awards — a measure of promising junior faculty — in the sciences and economics.
Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Robert Hass and award-winning ecosystem scientist Garrison Sposito co-teach Introduction to Environmental Studies, a course so coveted that its students wouldn’t sell their used course readers to a classmate who sought an extra. Combining field trips — from the delicate ecology of Strawberry Creek to the threatened marshes near Mt. Tamalpais — with a critical examination of environmental thought expressed in prose, poetry, and film, their students clarify what’s at stake in making a commitment to ecological citizenship and sustainability.

“To Dr. Marian Diamond, greatest teacher I never had,” starts a letter from engineering graduate Tom Caradonna ’01, addressing Berkeley’s renowned teacher of anatomy and neuroanatomy. A webcast of Diamond’s online anatomy class so inspired Caradonna that the ambitious student began to take pre-med classes while earning his M.B.A. Now a medical student at the University of Illinois, Caradonna says Diamond’s class was, without a doubt, one of the best he has ever had. “I just wish I could have taken it in person,” he says. Diamond, who has been teaching at Berkeley since 1960 and is known for carrying a human brain to class in a hatbox, says, “When I discovered the importance, beauty and mystery of anatomy, few people shared my enthusiasm. What a pleasure to experience this awakening at this time of life!”

Since starting at Berkeley just four years ago, standout Assistant Professor Amani Nuru-Jeter has set a new teaching standard. She’s so dynamic that her School of Public Health colleagues nominated her to receive last year’s Sarlo Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Award for Junior Faculty. Among the many students who wrote support letters, one said, “Her vibrant energy, her appreciation for you as a person, her critical knowledge of her discipline and the world of research, and her dedication help you attain your goals.” Nuru-Jeter is a role model for young women and students of color; especially since her research explores race and socioeconomic inequalities and the impact of race and stress, among other issues.
Some people might imagine museum or library collections as forgotten piles of old stuff. But, in fact, every collection offers entry into unknown worlds, each item revealing new questions and areas of research. An ancient book could form the basis for an entire field of study. One plant could lend clues to the effects of global climate change. A set of fossils could clarify a long-standing evolutionary conundrum.

Housed in libraries, museums, and archives, the University’s premier collections — containing hundreds of millions of books, art, artifacts, fossils, plants, animal specimens, and other objects — are the backbone of our mission. While it’s impossible to show every intriguing item, we share these outstanding pieces as a reminder of Berkeley’s accessible treasures.

**Campus collections:**

**Whispering Sidewalks,** directed by Denmei Suzuki in 1936, follows singer-dancer Betty Yoshida (played by Betty Inada) as she befriends a group of struggling musicians in Japan. Illuminating the country’s forgotten history of jazz and tap dance, the film was recently restored as part of a large-scale preservation project at the Pacific Film Archive. [bampfa.berkeley.edu](http://bampfa.berkeley.edu)

**Prince Wepemnofret’s funerary stela,** ca. 2625–2500 B.C., is one of the Hearst Museum of Anthropology’s most treasured objects. Slab stelae came exclusively from the elite cemeteries west of the Great Pyramid in Giza, Egypt. Of the 15 known to have survived — the Hearst has four — this is one of the oldest, largest, best preserved, and most complex. [hearstmuseum.berkeley.edu](http://hearstmuseum.berkeley.edu)

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**The nation’s best libraries**

UC Berkeley established the first university library in the state of California in 1869 with only 1,036 volumes. Today, the University boasts 30 individual libraries and more than 10 million items in the collections, including rare, unusual, or specialized resources that are not widely available. Standing at the center of Berkeley’s academic excellence, the Library is repeatedly ranked No. 1 among public research university libraries, according to the Association of Research Libraries. [lib.berkeley.edu](http://lib.berkeley.edu)
Campus collections: Irreplaceable records of our world

Come visit. Once a year, Berkeley pulls out all the stops for the Cal family and community. Cal Day — April 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — offers more than 300 events, including faculty lectures, museum tours, open labs, sports, music, and more. calday.berkeley.edu

- Exceedingly rare and beautiful, the Codex Fernández Leal was produced in the mid-16th century and illustrates the lineage of Cuicatec rulers in present-day Oaxaca, providing invaluable information on Mesoamerica. Believed to have been lost, it was tracked down in a San Francisco bank in the 1940s and eventually donated to the University. bancroft.berkeley.edu

- Museum of Paleontology scientists discovered two of the youngest, most complete skulls of Triceratops. The smaller skull can fit on a dinner plate and reveals that even babies had horns. The second skull documents that “teenagers’” horns curved backward before re-curving forward. Scientists think these changes helped dinosaurs recognize one another as they grew up. ucmp.berkeley.edu

- Baker’s larkspur (Delphinium bakeri), a blue-flowered herb found only California, was nearly wiped out of existence when road workers used heavy machinery to unclog a drain in its sole habitat. The Botanical Garden is now growing hundreds of plants in hopes of establishing new populations in west Marin County. botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu

- The most important first edition in all of English literature, Comedies, Histories, & Tragedies, by William Shakespeare (1623), was prepared by several of Shakespeare’s friends seven years after his death. It contains 36 plays, 17 of which had never been published before. bancroft.berkeley.edu
At least 500 Berkeley students volunteer with local youth as tutors and mentors each semester.

Berkeley might be as well known for its tradition of public service as it is for its teaching and research. It is the only school in the United States to produce more than 3,000 Peace Corps volunteers since that organization launched in 1961. And about 5,000 students currently volunteer in 240 service-oriented programs on- and off-campus. Following are glimpses of three campus programs that were recently honored by the Chancellor for their excellence.

**Saluting the commitment to public service**

**Habitat for Humanity**

Each semester, Habitat for Humanity’s 200 Berkeley student members help build dozens of homes for low-income families in Oakland and San Francisco, often spending Saturdays painting, nailing, and roofing at project sites.

The Chancellor’s recognition “signaled to us that Cal valued the work we do,” says chapter president Jay Garg ’10, “and it reenergized us to continue our work as part of the greater public service effort at Cal.”

When they’re not building, members are fundraising — having raised more than $76,000 since the chapter formed in 1999. “Many years ago, our goal was to sponsor our own home, a home built by Cal,” Garg says, “and we find ourselves soon approaching this goal.”

**Y-PLAN**

It doesn’t get much more “hands on” than Y-PLAN, a course in which Berkeley students engage K-12 students in community planning issues. This spring, College of Environmental Design and Graduate School of Education (GSE) participants are working with students at three schools in nearby Richmond — giving them a chance to have a positive voice in a city struggling with crime and bad press.

About 20 Berkeley students are helping the children map their...
community, create an urban revitalization plan, and present their findings to the mayor, city manager, or other elected officials.

Initially, “the students think ‘no one’s going to listen to us,’” says lecturer Deborah McKoy Ph.D. ’00, who teaches the course. “But at the end, when they present to the mayor and city leaders, they say, ‘Wow, they really care.’ They realize that their voice matters — and that this work can lead them to college.”

Community in the Classroom

It began modestly in 2004, a dozen graduate students making chemistry presentations in local urban elementary schools. That effort — originally dubbed Chemistry in the Classroom — now counts 160 grad and postdoctoral students, and is part of a bigger, multidisciplinary program called Community in the Classroom.

“Science education had never been very strong in elementary schools, and it had been disappearing,” says chemistry professor Robert Bergman, who developed the program with the nonprofit Community Resources for Science. “The goal here was to try and increase the amount of contact with science that kids in grades 3–5 get.”

Formulating their own presentations, grad students teach such concepts as mirror-image molecule formations and their importance in the making of pharmaceuticals.

“The school kids really relate to the grad students,” says Bergman. “They want to be scientists when they grow up.”
Oh, the places he’s been

At age 95, Nestor Sander ’36, M.S. ’38 is the oldest member of Berkeley’s online alumni community @Cal and arguably among the most intriguing.

“Sandy,” an Oakland native and a UC Berkeley-trained paleontologist, was sent by the Standard Oil Company in 1938 on a month-long journey to Saudi Arabia to help map what became the world’s largest oil field.

Colonel of the ROTC regiment at Cal, in World War II Sander was a captain who watched Charles De Gaulle and Winston Churchill walk down the Champs-Élysées on VE Day. His geology career took him around the world — to marry a French woman, live in six countries, and learn four languages — but he still relishes the sights and sounds of Berkeley.

“I can remember quite well walking through the Sather Gate to take the English exam and seeing the Campanile for the first time — it was most impressive,” he says.

After earning his master’s in paleontology at Berkeley, he gave up on Ph.D. plans until war’s end when the Sorbonne awarded him a Docteur es Science naturelles. Sander’s 50-pound barnacle *Tamiosoma gregaria* and other fossils are still housed in Cal’s collections.

The nonagenarian recently produced numerous shows about World War II, Normandy cemeteries, and a series called Geology for Everybody (search “rednasrotsen” — his name spelled backward — on youtube.com). In 2002, Sander published his first book: *Ibn Saud: King by Conquest*, a biography of the Saudi Arabian king he met 70 years ago.

A generous scholarship donor, Sander explains: “I just wanted to say, ‘Thank you, Cal!’”
People’s Poet

On the eve of what was expected to be a violent 1969 People’s Park protest, poet Julia Vinograd ’65 expressed her passivism by blowing bubbles. “I planned to be out there all night blowing bubbles — they could arrest me if they wanted,” recalls the Berkeley icon known as the “Bubble Lady.” She was delighted when the policemen guarding the park asked, “Can we try?”

Vinograd has spent decades blowing bubbles on Telegraph Avenue and writing gritty, poignant poetry that captures the street sentiment of the times. Few may know that she is a Cal grad with a master’s in fine arts from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop.

Her likeness is captured on a mural celebrating other Berkeley legends and activists at Telegraph and Haste. “They preserved my posterior for posterity,” says Vinograd. “I posed for it.”

Standing Tall

When 7’3” Cal basketball player Max Zhang walks across Sproul Plaza — or anywhere, for that matter — he tends to stand out. He is the tallest player in Bears history, a formidable shot blocker who is wildly popular among fans.

Zhang’s height and Chinese nationality inspire comparisons with Houston Rockets star Yao Ming, and many cases of mistaken identity.

“I admire Yao Ming as a person and an athlete,” says Zhang, 22. “He’s really smart and works very hard… a national hero. But I still want to be Max.”

Now in his third year at Cal, Zhang says Berkeley students are learning his name: “They call out to me, ‘Hey Max’ and it makes me happy.”

Solid Gold (and Blue)

The effervescent Ashley Wolfe ’10 is Cal spirit personified. As head of the Rally Committee, she directs some 400 students in all things blue and gold and is the official keeper of the Stanford Axe. She promises to put her body on the line — should it come to that.

“I tell my guards, ‘The chairman is replaceable — the Axe is not,’” laughs Wolfe, a Berkeley senior, who won’t disclose the extensive “security measures” in place to protect the Axe from thieves.

In addition to her studies in political science and linguistics, Wolfe works nearly full-time at the Seneca Center as a residential counselor for emotionally disturbed youth.

The granddaughter of Cal alums, Wolfe plans to attend football games for as long as she can: “Someday I want some kid to see me hobbling up the stairs in Memorial Stadium and say, ‘I want to be like that old blue.’”
The paintings of Craig Nagasawa, who has taught at Berkeley since 1994, explore our experience of when someone close to us passes away and we are suspended between memory and the present. *Fish’in Styx*, shown here, is part of the exhibition *Departures*, on view through May 7 in the Townsend Center for the Humanities, 220 Stephens Hall. promise.berkeley.edu/nagasawa
Helping hands for Haiti

Berkeley student leads campus effort to assist stricken nation

Freshman Michael Bloch didn’t wait long after the January 12 earthquake in Haiti to mobilize campus support for relief efforts. Shortly after the disaster, Bloch created a Facebook group, “Haiti Earthquake Relief – UC Berkeley,” to raise awareness.

Within a week of the earthquake, more than 2,500 people had joined. Call it another shining example of social networking sparking social action.

“It feels good to be doing something” to address the catastrophe, says Bloch, who is from Menlo Park, California, and plans to double-major in political science and pre-business.

The Facebook page provides links to disaster-relief organizations, along with an online gathering place for students to brainstorm other ways to help. It also promoted a weeklong event on Upper

A Disaster Magnified

Public health professor Lee Riley, M.D., who works with people living in urban slums, co-published a paper highlighting how slum conditions — densely packed, poorly built construction, with inadequate and sometimes flammable material — magnify natural disasters and hinder rescue efforts. A 2003 earthquake in an Iranian slum, for example, killed 32,000 people, yet a quake of the same magnitude in California a few days earlier killed two people. Riley, an expert in tuberculosis, visited Haiti two years ago at the request of his former colleagues at Cornell University who have worked in Haiti for three decades.

Riley says the disaster in Haiti brought attention to a population that is often ignored. “What happens to slum populations
Sproul Plaza, where campus groups including Cal’s Unicef and American Red Cross organizations provided donation information and raised more than $1,500 in relief money. And in early February, Bloch helped stage a Haiti-themed event on the Savio Steps that featured guest speakers from the campus and beyond.

“The need is simply staggering”

While some students are using Bloch’s Facebook page to share ideas about visiting Haiti to help with rebuilding efforts firsthand, three Berkeley graduate students recently returned from Haiti after having been caught in the quake and its aftermath.

Jessica Vechakul, a Ph.D. student in mechanical engineering, and Ryan Stanley, an M.B.A. candidate at the Haas School of Business, had been working about 140 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince, on a development project called Fuel from the Fields, when the quake hit. The third student, Glodine Jourdan, a native of Haiti and an M.B.A. student at the Haas School, was working on programs to assist Haitian farmers.

The students accepted UC Berkeley Risk Management officials’ offer to help them evacuate. Before leaving Haiti, Stanley sent out an e-mail to the campus describing what he saw.

is not just limited to natural disasters,” he says. “We just need to recognize that there are more than one billion people on this planet who, everyday, live in vulnerable conditions not of their own making.” Riley will continue to consult with Cornell colleagues and doctors working in Haiti where TB and other infectious diseases are expected to worsen.
“There is a lot of need right now both in Port-au-Prince and other regions that are beginning to receive the injured and displaced,” he wrote. “While organizations have begun rapid deployment of relief supplies and personnel, the need is simply staggering.”

While it’s too early to tell whether these students will return to Haiti anytime soon, at least one alumna is making plans to offer hands-on help in the near future. **Elizabeth Hausler M.S. ’98, Ph.D. ’02**, an engineer and founder and CEO of the nonprofit Build Change, hopes to visit Haiti by March to design and build earthquake-resistant homes there, as her group has done in Indonesia and China.

For current students, faculty, and staff, the UC system is offering free travel insurance coverage to anyone visiting Haiti to assist in relief efforts, even if going under the auspices of a non-UC entity such as the Red Cross.

And on the fundraising front, the Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC) is engaging in a friendly competition with other universities to see which institutions can raise the most money for Partners in Health, a nonprofit that brings modern medical care to poor nations. Berkeley is facing off against Stanford, Dartmouth, CalTech, and Washington University in St. Louis. The ASUC notes that if every Cal student kicked in $5, donations would reach $170,000.

Berkeley seismologists are fine-tuning a system that could give people as much as one minute’s advance warning of an earthquake.

The system analyzes a quake’s most damaging shock waves — and predicts where the waves would be strongest, transmitting a warning signal to those locations. In recent tests, it notified BART engineers to stop trains in advance of a mock quake.

“Even a few seconds of warning could save many lives,” Richard Allen, associate director of the Berkeley Seismological Laboratory, recently told the San Francisco Chronicle.

Aware of its potential, the U.S. Geological Survey has earmarked $10 million in stimulus funds for the project.
An 18-year nightmare ended last August when UC Police Officer Ally Jacobs (left) and Manager Lisa Campbell combined grit and intuition to help unveil the horrific story of alleged child molester Philip Garrido and victim Jaycee Dugard.

In the ensuing six months, Campbell and Jacobs have been inundated with thousands of grateful messages from people around the world and have appeared on Oprah and in People magazine.

The odyssey began when Garrido wandered into Campbell’s office at the UCPD in late August to discuss an event he hoped to organize on campus. The former Chicago police officer became troubled by the contrast between Garrido’s animated, rambling speech and the wan 15- and 11-year-old girls at his side. She invited Garrido to meet again the next day and consulted Jacobs, who ran a background check that revealed Garrido was on parole for rape and kidnapping.

After meeting with Garrido and the girls the following day, Campbell and Jacobs just stared at each other: “We had this horrible feeling that there was something that should be done, but we couldn’t do it,” says Jacobs, who explains they had no basis to arrest Garrido.

Jacobs took the critical step of alerting Garrido’s parole officer — an act that within hours led to arrests and the discovery of Dugard.

In the media storm that followed, Jacobs and Campbell have used their “15 minutes of fame” to raise awareness about child sexual assault through an organization called the Innocence Mission and via other speaking events.

“This is what I was born to do,” says Jacobs about the successful police work. “It just affirms why I do what I do.” Adds Campbell: “It affirms who I am spiritually — with a uniform or without.”
Parent gift restores library hours:

“CONSIDER THEM OPEN!”

Imagine you’re a sophomore who needs to study for one last exam. But at 11 p.m. the night before, the coffee shops are closed, and your roommates are boisterously celebrating the end of their exams. Where can you find a quiet place to hunker down?

Thanks to a generous gift from Richard ’79 and Lisa ’82 Steiny, the library remains your best bet. Moffitt Library, which serves undergraduates, and the Gardner Stacks typically stay open 24 hours a day during finals. State funding cuts, however, threatened this service last semester. When Chancellor Robert Birgeneau discussed the cutback with The Cal Parents Board in October, Richard, a board vice chair and the parent of two students, spontaneously said, “Consider them open!” He and Lisa made an immediate $30,000 contribution to reinstate this vital service.

“The potential closure really hit home,” says Richard, who is also a trustee of the UC Berkeley Foundation. “While at Cal, both Lisa and I spent long hours in the libraries as a reprieve from the noise at our housing units. I’m not sure what we would have done without them!”

Victoria Phoumthipphavong ’10, who studies molecular and cell biology, acknowledged the inconvenience it would have imposed. “It’s helpful to study in groups. We would have had to find someone’s house where we could meet, make sure it was okay with their roommates, and get there ... it just seemed a lot more complicated than meeting at the library.”

“During exams, extra study time with friends is as welcome as a care package from home,” says University Librarian Thomas Leonard. “Cal parents should be proud of our libraries and night owls.”

Excited by the Steinys’ generosity, the Chancellor also tapped The Cal Parents Fund to restore operating hours at branch libraries across campus through the end of the school year, proving once again the role that parents can play in maintaining Berkeley’s high level of excellence.

“There is no doubt that Cal will emerge from these challenging times strong and with a continued reputation for greatness,” says Richard, “but it won’t happen unless we give something back for what we have received.”

The Cal Parents Fund supports campus programs that enhance student life, including the retention of top faculty, specialized advising services, and discovery-based learning. In 2008–09, more than 5,000 parents joined together to raise a record $1.87 million. To make a gift, visit calparents.berkeley.edu/gifts
Jon Toellner ’80, a Los Angeles-based aerospace engineer and self-described lifelong learner, was understandably surprised when a podcast of a UC Berkeley physics class helped him tackle a particularly puzzling assignment at work.

Toellner, who designs sophisticated inertial navigation systems for use in satellites, helicopters, and fighter jets, stumbled on iTunes podcasts of Physics for Future Presidents last spring and began listening to them on his morning commute. “I had just finished the lecture about gases, and having that fresh in my mind helped me solve a tricky leak rate problem,” he recalls.

Taught by award-winning Professor Richard Muller, Physics for Future Presidents touches on hot-button topics such as climate change and military technology. Toellner was hooked, and began adding Cal’s astronomy courses to his daily commute. “A lot of it I knew,” says Toellner, “but there was a lot I didn’t and Professor Muller made it intuitive.”

Toellner exuberantly praises the podcasts, which have sparked his imagination and inspired him to consider teaching. So, when student callers contacted him about making a gift to Cal, he did not hesitate to pledge $500.

“This helped me get reconnected,” he says.

“We are teachers because we love to teach,” says Muller, who has received e-mails from listeners in 91 countries, “but donations are particularly helpful during this hard time.”

“The experience for Berkeley students doesn’t end at graduation,” says Ben Hubbard, the manager of Berkeley’s audio and video content. “Cal alumni are proud that we open this window to learners around the world.”

Toellner agrees. “I will definitely give on a regular basis,” he says. “Considering how much I’ve gotten from the lectures, it’s the least I could do.”

To explore Berkeley’s online content, visit webcast.berkeley.edu or find us on iTunes U and YouTube.
Coleman Fung ’87 isn’t afraid to think outside of the box.

“I have a dream that, one day, a Berkeley engineer will reside in the White House,” he says.

To realize this vision, Fung, one of the co-chairs for The Campaign for Berkeley, made an extraordinary $15-million gift to establish the Coleman Fung Institute for Engineering Leadership. It will offer new master’s degree and certificate programs to increase students’ global leadership and entrepreneurial capabilities in areas such as energy, health, and poverty alleviation.

“Our students must step outside of their technical comfort zone to become CEOs, professors, or politicians — to change and improve our world,” he says.

Other Berkeley initiatives Fung has supported include the new C.V. Starr East Asian Library and the Cal Independent Scholars Network, which gives former foster youth and orphaned students the resources they need to thrive at Berkeley. He hopes his leadership will inspire other alumni, parents, and friends to contribute to the landmark $3-billion campaign.

“Giving to Berkeley tells people that you want to make this precious university even stronger,” he says. He also serves on the Chancellor’s Executive Advisory Council.

Calling himself a “classic poster child for the American dream,” Fung emigrated from Hong Kong at age 16. He studied at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for two years, served in the U.S. Army for three years, and graduated from Berkeley in industrial engineering and operations research. He was a derivatives trader before founding OpenLink Financial, a software developer for the commodity, energy, and financial services industries.

Driven to give back to the country that welcomed him as an immigrant, Fung has devoted significant resources to a range of other educational and environmental causes.

“I find niches where I know I can make a difference,” he says.
We’ve all heard the stereotypes: Greek organizations are all about socializing. But a recent action at Cal debunks that perception.

Last fall, the Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Council, which oversee the campus’s 48 sororities and fraternities, established two scholarship funds of $50,000 each to help their members develop critical leadership skills. Chancellor Robert Birgeneau allocated an additional $100,000 in campus matching funds, bringing the total to $200,000.

Tabby Miller ’10, the Panhellenic Council’s finance officer, said they wanted to use surplus annual operating funds to serve their members in a positive, continuous way.

“Our scholarship targets women who don’t qualify for financial aid, yet whose families are feeling strain from the rising cost of tuition,” says Miller. “It also recognizes their influence both within and outside of the Greek community.’’

One scholarship beneficiary, Amy Qin ’10, has held two offices in her sorority, Alpha Chi Omega. But her work via her major in development studies and political science has been most meaningful to her. The daughter of Chinese immigrants, she developed a blog based on her travels in China and coordinated a panel for San Francisco’s Commonwealth Club called “China: Great Power Interrupted.”

“I hope that cultural and ethnic prejudices will one day diminish, but for now, I am proud that I have contributed to the cross-cultural dialogue in my community,” says Qin. She will apply her scholarship toward tuition.

“The councils have taken an unprecedented action to support The Campaign for Berkeley,” says Anna Bonderenko, a major gift officer with the Office of Student Affairs. “They have set an important example for other student groups, and have demonstrated the importance of involving the entire campus in meeting critical student-life goals.”

Illustrations from the 1955 Blue & Gold Yearbook

Greek students push past old-school stereotypes

Illustrations from the 1955 Blue & Gold Yearbook
The University presented honorary degrees to 41 Japanese American students — and family members representing another 75 former students — whose Berkeley studies were disrupted during 1941–42 by Executive Order 9066. The degrees were presented at a special ceremony during the December convocation.

In October, Berkeley Law held its 2009 All-Alumni Reunion.

4. Diane Yu ’77, chief of staff and deputy to the president of New York University, and former CourtTV host Jami Floyd ’89 served as panelists.

5. Jeff Bleich ’89, United States Ambassador to Australia, and Ted Lee J.D. ’59, M.B.A. ’66, president of the Urban Land Company, reconnected following Bleich’s keynote speech at the Berkeley Law reunion dinner.

6. Former UC Regent Gerald Parsky, State Sen. Joe Simitian ’77, Boalt Hall Alumni Association Board President James McManis ’67, and Dean Christopher Edley spoke on California’s fiscal and governance crisis.

7. Eileen Van Heuit ’54, Don Auslen ’54, and Jane Koll ’50 came together at the Cal Alumni Association’s 25th Annual Leadership Award Recognition Luncheon to honor Alumni Scholars and celebrate the 75th anniversary of CAA Alumni Scholarships.

1. Chancellor Birgeneau presents a degree to Fusaye Inouye Mitoma.

2. Honorees on stage during the commencement convocation at Haas Pavilion.

3. Barbara Chow M.P.P. ’80, Alumnus of the Year for the Goldman School of Public Policy, with Professor David Kirp, whose generosity helped establish the Dean’s Fellowship in Education, Children, and Youth Policy.
14. Janet Cronk ’69 mingled with Dean Andrew J. Szeri of the Graduate Division and Selma Meyerowitz ’68, M.A. ’70 at the quarterly gathering of the Class of ’68.

13. Virginia Rudd and Andrew Rudd M.S. ’72, M.B.A. ’76, Ph.D. ’78 celebrate with Ashok Gadgil Ph.D. ’80, the newly appointed Andrew and Virginia Rudd Family Foundation Distinguished Professor of Safe Water and Sanitation.

12. Gary Freedman ’66, UCBF trustee and Southern California Honorary Committee member, introduces the “Brainy Science” session.

11. Public Policy Professor Robert Reich discusses the economy in a session entitled “Watch Your Wallets.”

10. Peter Chernin ’73, former News Corporation president and Southern California Honorary Committee co-chair, and Nancy Tellem ’75, senior adviser at CBS, ponder the future of show business in the session “That’s Entertainment!”


8. Fox Business Network anchor Liz Claman ’85, Chancellor Birgeneau, Janet Broughton, acting executive dean of the College of Letters & Science, and Berkeley Law Dean Christopher Edley share the stage to discuss issues in public higher education.

The Southern California celebration for The Campaign for Berkeley drew approximately 450 alumni, parents, donors, and friends of the University to Santa Monica last fall for faculty and alumni lectures and a gala dinner.

The Charter Gala 2010 recognizes the accomplishments and service of outstanding alumni, including Alumnus of the Year Richard N. Goldman ’41. Proceeds from the benefit will support the Cal Alumni Association.

alumni.berkeley.edu/chartergala

Upcoming Events

Charter Gala 2010
Saturday, April 24
The Ferry Building, San Francisco
This Cal Alumni Association annual event celebrates the founding of the University and recognizes the accomplishments and service of outstanding alumni, including Alumnus of the Year Richard N. Goldman ’41. Proceeds from the benefit will support the Cal Alumni Association.

alumni.berkeley.edu/chartergala
**Upcoming Events**

The New California Dream: Can We Fix the Golden State?

Broken politics. Education cuts. Overcrowded prisons. **Steve Raphael**, professor of public policy, and **Maria Echaveste**, lecturer in residence at Berkeley Law, discuss what’s ailing California, and what we can do to recover the dream.

**Atherton** — Tuesday, April 27
Menlo Circus Club

**Lafayette** — Wednesday, April 28
Veterans Memorial Building

**Los Angeles** — Tuesday, May 4
Los Angeles Public Library

Register at discovercal.berkeley.edu

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15. **Bill Lyman ’65** talks with authors **Daniel Mason** and **Sara Houghteling** in Doe Library, following a reading from the novelists’ works-in-progress. About 200 Library friends attended the annual program, which includes a luncheon in the Morrison Library.

16. **Andrew Dubois M.S. ’61** and **Ros McIntosh** view a bridge exhibit at the recent Meet the Graduate Dean Reception, held at the Autodesk Gallery in San Francisco.

17. Alumni who enjoyed Elderhostel at International House included **Marcelle Scholl ’52**, **Hal Kerber ’47**, **Jeanne Griffith M.S.W. ’54**, and **Constance Fraser M.P.H. ’64**. The next Elderhostel program, June 6–12, will explore Middle East peace prospects.

18. **Ben Richey M.B.A. ’10** and **Ian Shea M.B.A. ’08** enjoyed the Haas Homecoming Fiesta.


21. Mikoko and Haruki Satomi M.B.A. ’12 were among those in attendance at Washoku and Wine, a benefit for the Center of Japanese Studies.

22. Andy Grove Ph.D. ’63 gives his prescription for cutting health care costs during the A. Richard Newton Global Technology Leaders Conference. Joining him was Safeway CEO Steve Burd.


24. In Bangkok, Paniti Junhasavasdikul ’95 (center) welcomed alumni and friends to hear about what’s new at Berkeley Law and to meet fellow alumni and prospective students in the area.

25. Berkeley Club of Hong Kong Executive Committee Members Lisa Lum ’99, Jennifer Haigh (Visiting Scholar ’03), Dave Wong ’84, Travis Darrow ’98, Clara Sigrid Lo ’95, and Winson Tai ’05 attended the Berkeley Scholarship Ball in Hong Kong.

26. Francesco Bandarin ’77, director of the World Heritage Center, and Nicolas Tolet ’05, Berkeley Club of France president, hosted an alumni event at UNESCO headquarters in Paris in November.
Ever since the first class graduated in 1873, students have created their own version of Cal mythology. Some traditions, such as those surrounding the Stanford rivalry, have endured the test of time; others, such as the rowdy Freshman-Sophomore Brawl, are a thing of the past. We asked some student campus ambassadors (aka tour guides) to share their favorite Cal story.

It’s quite exciting when a room full of students sings the Cal Drinking Song as the Bears beat the Stanford Cardinal. When you first hear it, you wonder how everyone knows this ridiculously long song. As a sophomore, you pipe up for the familiar parts. By the time senior year arrives, the true moment of glory arrives. You finally have the confidence to lead it as Stanford students sulk because they don’t have a cool song to respond with.

— Andrea Hardlund ’10

In 1878, a tradition began in which the freshmen burned two standard textbooks — Bourdon’s *Elements of Algebra* and Minto’s *Manual of English Prose Composition* — and ceremoniously buried the ashes. In later years, students donned costumes and processed mournfully around campus, ending at a roaring bonfire. This playful commotion eventually became a riot, and the administration banned it in 1903.

— Lindsay King ’10
For a long time, incoming freshmen painted their class year on a hillside above campus until the next freshman class attempted the same thing. Since the sophomores never wanted their number to come down, a huge fight called “The Rush” would ensue, and it got crazier each year. In 1905, the students ended their rivalry and built a big concrete “C” instead to represent the entire campus. For more than 100 years now, the Big C has stood as one of Cal’s greatest symbols.

— Laurel Johnescu ’12

My favorite Cal fable involves a former University president, his dog, and the students. Apparently Pedro, the president’s beloved pup, disappeared right before finals. The president promised that he would cancel exams should the missing mongrel be found. The rest of the story is unknown, but if you listen closely, you may still hear echoes of anxious students screaming “Peeedrooo!” in a last-ditch effort to have their finals cut.

— Kayla Nalven ’12

**Cal Fun Facts**

- **The Bancroft Library** holds what is believed to be the first nugget of gold that set off the California Gold Rush.

- One of architect John Galen Howard’s unused plans for **Sather Tower** (the Campanile) placed two-bedroom student apartments on each floor.

- **Oski**, our campus mascot, is no longer allowed to flirt with girls, brawl with the Stanford Tree, throw pies at opposing chancellors, or shimmy up goalposts.

- The **periodic table of elements** includes lawrencium, californium, berkelium, and seaborgium (but not stanfordium) — all discovered by Berkeley researchers.