FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26, 2018

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International House at University of California, Berkeley to Recognize Alumni at 30th Annual Awards Gala

BERKELEY, Calif. (March 26, 2018) – International House (I-House) at UC Berkeley will hold its 30th Annual Celebration and Awards Gala on Monday, April 9th, 2018. Each year, I-House proudly celebrates and honors advocates and trailblazers who embody the mission of I-House to promote a world of greater understanding and peace. This year’s Gala will welcome UC Berkeley Chancellor Carol Christ as the Chair of the I-House Board of Directors. In addition, I-House will present Irving Tragen (IH 1943-47), with the Global Ambassador of Peace and Public Service Award for his over 55 years of service in Inter-American Affairs in Latin America. Also, WattTime will receive the Young Alumni Initiative Award, for creating the idea for a revolutionary tech start-up at I-House. WattTime produces cutting-edge technology to fight climate change, clean-up the power grid, and empower energy users.

Now in its 30th year, this annual event raises funds to benefit the community of nearly 600 scholars from 73 different countries residing at I-House, while honoring alumni who exemplify the I-House mission of fostering intercultural respect and understanding. “We are thrilled to publicly recognize this year’s recipients as champions of I-House principles,” says Dr. Hans Giesecke, Executive Director of I-House. “The Gala continues to serve as the signature event of I-House that alumni, students, and friends look forward to year after year.”

Proceeds from the Gala benefit The Fund for I-House. Joy Iwasa, Director of Development and Communications at I-House, points to this Fund as an important resource, providing scholarships and financial aid, mission-centered programming, and maintenance for the historic 87-year-old building. “Our programs and our home must continually evolve to meet the needs of our residents,” Iwasa says.

I-House is also pleased to introduce Todd Koenigsberg as our new Executive Chef. He hails from the famed Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York and has worked with renowned chefs Bobby Flay and Mario Batali. Chef Koenigsberg will be preparing this year’s gala feast and will be participating in this year’s Gala Raffle. He volunteered a private dinner for up to eight guests paired with premium wine for this year’s grand prize. He is looking forward to working with the winner to create a unique menu tailor-made for the occasion. Gala raffle tickets are $60 each or $100 for three, and limited number of tickets will be sold. Please contact us by email at ihalumni@berkeley.edu or by phone at (510) 642-4128 to purchase gala tickets no later than April 6th at 5:00pm.

The Gala will be held on Monday, April 9th in Chevron Auditorium at International House, located at 2299 Piedmont Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94720. Tickets are $275 per person, or $150 for those under 35 years of age, and can be purchased online at ihouse.berkeley.edu/gala. For more information on our honorees, sponsorship opportunities, or to buy event and raffle tickets by phone, please contact Angela Rauch at (510) 642-4128.

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*International House is a non-profit living and learning community at the University of California, Berkeley that fosters boundary-breaking discoveries, intercultural friendships, and global leadership for a world of greater understanding. Since 1930, we have served 90,000 students and scholars representing 150+ countries, including the U.S.*