

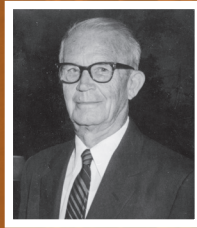
INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY



An Informal History

“The World is a beautiful garden
where truth, like flowers, unfolds
in different ways.”



— *Harry Edmonds,*
International House
Founder

“International House is like a ship. It does not belong to New York or Paris or any other great city in any part of the world, but it belongs to all of us who appreciate its purpose . . . Just as now, when we go on an adventure, we do not hamper ourselves with too many trunks and other pieces of baggage, so we do not carry onto this ship our trunks of worn-out prejudices and ideas about one another, but come on it free from encumbrances and ready for an adventure in living with folk.”

— Mrs. Florence Edmonds, 1928

ORIGINS

International House Berkeley was part of the larger “International House Movement” founded by Harry Edmonds who, as a young man working for the Young Men’s Christian Association in 1909, had a chance meeting with a Chinese student. Edmonds’ casual “Good morning” on the steps of the Columbia University library provoked the startled response: “I’ve been in New York three weeks, and you are the first person who has spoken to me.” Moved by this experience, Edmonds investigated the situation of foreign students in New York City. Attempting to counter the loneliness and isolation of these students, Edmonds and his wife, Florence, started to have teas and Sunday Suppers in their home. By 1911, this practice led to the development of the Cosmopolitan College Club. By 1919, the Club included over 600 students representing more than 65 countries, and its activities consisted of excursions, social events and housing assistance.



View of International House and the campus of the University of California, Berkeley, circa 1935.

Convinced of the need to find a place where foreign and U.S. students could live together and thereby promote international understanding, Edmonds encouraged John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to build International House in New York City. Funded by Mr. Rockefeller at a cost of \$3,000,000, it opened in 1924 as a residence and program center which served about 500 students. As its first director, Edmonds saw it as a place where people of diverse national and cultural backgrounds – without restrictions as to color, race, creed or sex – could share the common experience of everyday life; a place where person-to-person contact would contribute to combatting ignorance, prejudice and misunderstanding.

The immediate and exciting success of International House New York spurred Rockefeller to extend the idea. In 1926, Edmonds traveled west to evaluate possible locations for a second International House. Berkeley, California was selected because the Bay Area was the U.S.



“International House is a laboratory for a new kind of experiment – the day-to-day practice of international fellowship among men and women.”

— John D. Rockefeller Jr., *I-House Benefactor*

point of entry from the Orient and claimed the largest number of foreign students on the West Coast (in those days about 200).

John D. Rockefeller Jr.’s gift of \$1,800,000 to the University of California resulted in the establishment of International House Berkeley in 1930. In a letter to University of California President Robert Gordon Sproul, Rockefeller outlined his reasons for the gift:

“The idea of the establishment of this institution on the Pacific Coast was suggested by the success of a similar one on the Atlantic Coast, in New York City, which has become well and favorably known throughout the world. By bringing together in unfettered cooperation the educated young people of all lands, many of whom will in years to come be leaders in their several countries, and by giving them the full opportunity for frank discussion on terms of equality, there is being performed, I believe, a service for the well-being of the world, the importance of which it is difficult to over-value. International House is a laboratory for a new kind of experiment – the day-to-day practice of international fellowship among men and women.”

The Berkeley House, while owned by the University, was leased to a separate corporation whose Board of Directors, men and

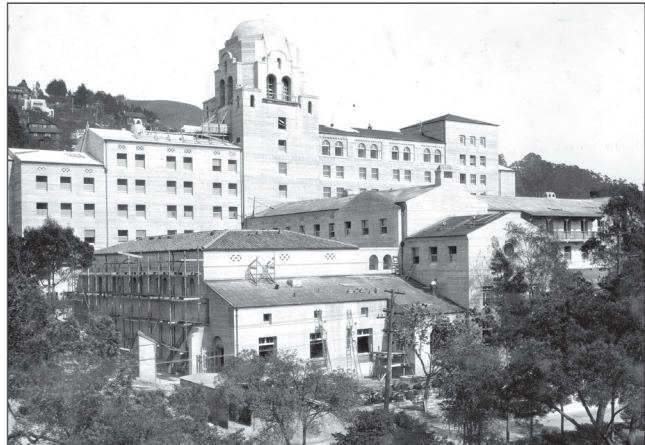
women of standing in the community, would be responsible for seeing that the purposes of the institution would be fulfilled.

Later in the ‘30s, Rockefeller established similar institutions in Chicago and Paris. He hoped that contact between the Houses would facilitate an exchange of ideas and experiences that would assist the carrying out of a kindred purpose.

RESISTANCE TO INTERNATIONAL HOUSE IN BERKELEY

Allen C. Blaisdell, Edmonds’ former assistant in New York, was appointed in 1928 to be the first executive director of the Berkeley I-House. Blaisdell was a Phi

International House under construction, April 1930.



Beta Kappa graduate of Pomona College, who developed his cross-cultural awareness during a teaching assignment in Japan. Soon after his appointment, Blaisdell encountered considerable resistance in the community. There was resistance to men and women living under one roof; there was hostility towards foreigners; and the notion that people of color would live with “whites” in an integrated setting was, to many, simply incredible. Many Berkeley landlords protested the construction of the House, fearing an influx of foreigners.

More than 800 people gathered in Berkeley to protest racial integration in the proposed International House. At that meeting, Delilah Beasley, a black reporter for the Oakland Tribune, passionately defended the concept to a disgruntled and stunned audience. And it was Beasley who stood up to the protests of property owners who feared that I-House would cause Berkeley to be overrun with Blacks and Asians.

Allen Blaisdell noted that one of the purposes of the House was to draw foreign students – particularly Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos and Indians – out of their semi-ghetto housing situations and into an international community.

When Harry Edmonds came to Berkeley to establish a site, he chose Piedmont Avenue, in part, because it was the home of fraternities and sororities which then excluded foreigners and people of color. By proposing the site on Piedmont Avenue, Edmonds sought to strike bigotry and exclusiveness “right hard in the nose.”

Originally the north side of the campus, an area ravaged by fire, was suggested, but Edmonds



Sunday Supper in the auditorium, 1935.

decided that this was the “back door” to the campus and insisted that International House must be at the “front door.” Here on Piedmont Avenue, the House faced the Pacific and so brought a symbolic joining of West and East.

OPENING OF I-HOUSE BERKELEY

International House officially opened on August 18, 1930, with single rooms for 338 men and 115 women, primarily graduate students. It was the largest student housing complex in the Bay Area and the first coeducational residence west of the Mississippi (at the time the University itself would not officially recognize coeducational housing). But because I-House was managed by a self-supporting corporation legally independent of the University, the coeducational concept became a reality. The intercultural housing facility also raised fears in the community about “mixed marriages.” And, indeed, many of the first interracial and cross-national marriages in the area were “born” at I-House.

I-HOUSE IN THE '30S AND EARLY '40S

In the '30s, I-House was one of the very few places in the Bay Area where black people could gather comfortably in an integrated setting. When the barbers on campus refused to cut black students' hair, Allen Blaisdell protested and got the practice changed.

Many of today's popular International House programs had their beginnings in the early years: "Sunday Suppers," discussion groups and speakers, for example. In the mid 1930s, a folk dance program began, and an elaborate yearly festival attracted people from all over the Bay Area. To this day, I-House alumni speak with deep affection and respect for staff member Eugenie Carneiro, who was responsible for the elaborate festivals.

This time also witnessed the beginnings of I-House ties with Rotary Clubs and other community organizations. An "Understanding Through Hospitality" program was started by Estelle Carlson in the early 1940s to introduce foreign students to American life. Students visited families at home for the holidays and went on excursions to farms, factories, schools and city

Residents in the library, 1948



council meetings. Local clubs were instrumental in helping organize such activities and also in developing the first I-House resident scholarships for foreign students.



Robert Sproul,
I-House Board President

WORLD WAR II

As World War II approached, the House took on special meaning. University President Sproul, who was also President of the I-House Board, noted that "...all the forces of darkness, not even those led by Hitler..." could prevail against I-House principles: "There are no inferior people, there is no master race set apart from common humanity. Friendship still has a truer, juster speech than that which rings in the clash of arms or the clink of traders' coins."

Sproul's words to an I-House audience in the fall of 1941 were later echoed in the House itself after war broke out. Harold Gilliam, former resident and now feature writer for the San Francisco Chronicle, writes:

I remember watching the lights go out all over the Bay Area during air-raid blackouts. There we were, Americans, Japanese, Germans, Europeans, Asians, Africans, students whose homelands were on both sides of the war – literally and figuratively holding hands in friendship as the candles flickered and the news flashes of fighting came in from Honolulu, from Manila, from Singapore, from London.

This period was particularly difficult for students who were Japanese citizens. Because the U.S. Government froze funds and travel for Japanese nationals,

they were unable to return home or provide for themselves here. Rising above national conflicts, I-House set up a bureau to help these young people reach their homes as soon as Government regulations permitted. The bureau also helped them with their finances by locating employment opportunities.

In 1943, International House was rented to the U.S. Navy and renamed “Callaghan Hall.” It was occupied by 800-900 Navy students (nearly double the pre-war occupancy), most of whom were not allowed to use the elevators so that they could stay in shape! I-House, in turn, rented for its traditional students four or five fraternity houses and organized customary programs and a central eating facility.

Moving to the fraternities caused I-House residents to give up the privacy of single rooms. Yet the sharing of rooms in close quarters seemed to promote greater understanding. Staff members during that period wrote in the 1945 *International House Quarterly* of special friendships formed across culture and race:

A Chinese girl from Hawaii, a black girl from the deep South and a white girl requested to live together and set the pattern for other international rooms. For three terms, this first group lived together, and their room was always a center of activity.

Following the War, the Navy returned the building to International House. But the large infusion of returning U.S. veterans threatened to force a reduction of the foreign student program at the University.

International House helped alleviate the problem by doubling up veterans with foreign students at its own facility. This took pressure off the University to reduce the number of students from abroad. University President Sproul addressed a meeting of the National Association



U.S. Naval students on the steps of “Callaghan Hall” circa 1944

of Foreign Student Advisors on this issue. Citing the example of International House Berkeley, he argued that it was not a question of the veterans or the foreign students, but both.

1946-1953 “THE GOLDEN AGE”

Of this uplifting and welcome post-war period, an I-House Board member writes:

The International House years 1946-53 are frequently referred to by residents of the time as ‘The Golden Age.’

The expression comes not from the fact that the residents of this period were rich – far from it. Many were World War II veterans living on the GI Bill of \$125 per month, and even though a double room at I-House cost only \$200 per semester, kitchen and dish washing jobs were at a premium and essential if these residents were to make it financially.

The building itself was not ‘Golden’ in 1946-47. The Great Hall was torn-up for remodeling and off limits, and the west dining room was under construction, making the entire dining area unusable. Food cooked in the kitchen and carried to the auditorium was tepid. Diners sat on benches at picnic style tables. Only one entrée was offered and



Relaxing at the soda fountain, 1947

one carton of milk permitted per person.

Whenever a program was scheduled, the residents had to fold up the picnic tables and benches and clean the auditorium floor. When it was over, residents again cleaned up, returned the tables and benches before breakfast the next morning. All was volunteer labor.

The total residence, program and community activities staff consisted of three professional employees and two secretaries. Obviously, the residents did most of the work.

Social consciousness was high. Through some personal, and some official I-House actions, the Berkeley fire department was racially integrated, as were the public rooms at the Claremont Hotel. Restrictive covenants against minority ownership of residential property in the Berkeley hill area were challenged – and fell. A Berkeley campus fraternity was racially integrated for the first time in University history by a group of International House residents.

So, what made those years ‘Golden’? Friendships made on shared ski trips to Yosemite; the all-night conversations between British and Indian students who had gone through the pain of Indian independence; the heated discussions of

“The experience of living at International House influenced many in the way they have lived their lives and viewed the world.”

— International House Board member

the problem of the Middle East which resulted in free speech becoming an established principle of the House; the men and women who met at the House and later became husband and wife; the patio talk that often lasted from lunch to the dinner hour; language tables and Council meetings where communication was often louder than it was perfect; the Festivals where students of six different countries danced the tarantella and hundreds of campus and community people came to watch, enjoy and mingle.

So few foreign students had been studying in the U.S. between 1942-46 that to exchange ideas on a friendly international level was new and exciting for everybody. The International House motto ‘That Brotherhood May Prevail’ was taken seriously and considered a personal and individual responsibility.

Scores of these ‘Golden Age’ friendships have

I-House residents in national dress celebrate Spring Festival, 1949



continued for over forty years and have encircled the globe. The experience of living at International House influenced many in the way they have lived their lives and viewed the world.

FORMATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOUSE ASSOCIATION

The successes of the Rockefeller-funded I-Houses in New York, Berkeley, Chicago and Paris produced enthusiastic alumni who began to form groups around the world. November 10, the International House of New York's anniversary day, had become International House Day, an annual occasion for alumni of the Houses to gather in cities such as Stockholm, Oslo, Mexico City, Peking, Port-au-Prince and Copenhagen.

By 1947, these alumni groups had become part of a large umbrella organization, the International House Association. Berkeley executive director emeritus W. Sheridan Warrick describes the activities of the Association:

Founded under leadership that included David Rockefeller, the IHA sought to work toward the brotherhood of man by gaining better knowledge and understanding of the life and culture of all people and to cooperate with the International Houses and other organizations devoted to international understanding and world peace. By 1952, the IHA claimed forty-four chapters in twenty-seven countries.

Although IHA chapters around the world continued to be active for some years, escalating costs forced the central organization to terminate its activities in 1961.



I-House ski trip, 1944

THE LATE '50S

In June, 1957, the Berkeley House became the focus of a feature article in *Holiday*, then a well-known national magazine.

Written by an Armenian who had visited I-House, the article captures the magic and warmth of international living at the time:

In the evening I would take my tray to one of the regional tables in the dining room and practice French or German or Spanish. And after dinner, there was always some interesting activity that increased my knowledge of the culture and thinking of other peoples. One night, Scandinavian students put on their school caps and I sang with them a gay drinking song of Uppsala. Another evening, I watched Japanese perform their coal-miners' dance, then do a hilarious skit about their family mores.

On still another I listened to a debate between Americans and representatives of the British Commonwealth: 'Resolved, That the United States be allowed to rejoin the Empire,' with Americans upholding the affirmative and Commonwealth students the negative. The latter insisted that any country which uses tea bags cannot possibly be considered for admission to the Commonwealth.

With the nostalgic feeling of being one of them, I mixed with the foreign students. Bengu Oskay, a Turkish girl, sometimes poured my coffee or tea. 'Sabahiniz hayir olsun' 'May your morning be felicitous,' I would greet her. 'Allaha ismarladik,' 'I leave you to God,' she would say when I left the dining room, or when we parted after a chat in the Great Hall. I came to America from Istanbul, where she was born; she had lived in my home town, Trebizond. I had never talked with a Turkish girl



Dedication of the Fleishhacker library, 1968.

before; it was impossible in my homeland. But there were no barriers between Turks and Armenians here.

THE '60s AND '70s

In 1961 Allen Blaisdell, who served the House for 31 years, retired. W. Sheridan Warrick, appointed as I-House's second executive director, had previously served as the Berkeley campus foreign student advisor, assistant dean of students, and as a member of the History Department at the Davis campus. Like Blaisdell, Warrick continued to serve as the foreign student advisor while managing House affairs.

Whereas the '60s brought considerable turbulence to the campus during the "Free Speech" and anti-war movements, the House remained relatively quiet. There were, of course, the usual debates, which included intense discussions about the campus controversies. But the House itself was not directly embroiled in the campus conflicts, perhaps because it was already a "Free Speech" institution.

One resident from 1964 to 1966 observed that the campus crisis had significant impact upon the views of many residents. On the one

hand, some from abroad were shocked and dismayed to witness what they perceived as police abuses in a democratic society; others were amazed to see a degree of free expression unknown in their societies.

With world politics and controversies a central concern of students, I-House became an extraordinary place from which to view the momentous events of the time. An alumna from 1968-1969 writes:

What I learned in the library and from my professors came alive when I returned 'home' each evening to International House. Over the dinner table, I remember having lively political discussions about Sihanouk with a member of his family, discussing the Vietnam conflict with students from South-East Asia, hearing of the Biafran war from an Ibo PhD candidate. Around the TV each evening, students from over sixty countries listened to Walter Cronkite conclude: 'And that's the way it is.' But I learned from my I-House friends that maybe it was not necessarily 'that' way.

The spirit of the '60s, which encouraged more student involvement in campus administration, was reflected at I-House. Residents were invited



Students socializing in the Great Hall circa 1970.

to serve for the first time as observers at Board meetings. By the early '70s, representative residents became Board members with full voting privileges.

During this period, the Resident Council gained a significantly broadened role. Whereas its activity had been limited to assistance in the shaping of resident programs and activities, it now provided input for the formulation of House policies.

Until the late '60s, male and female sleeping quarters were strictly segregated, the men in the east part of the building, and the women in the west, on the third and fourth floors. While females had restricted visiting privileges in the male quarters, men were barred from visiting the female section. Only men were permitted to use the elevators, this to discourage mixing on the upper floors.

“What I learned in the library and from my professors came alive when I returned ‘home’ each evening to International House.”

— *An alumna from 1968-69*

The present library was divided into two sections, the west wing, serving as a women's lounge, and the east wing, reserved for male relaxation. But “the times they were a changing.” A group of residents ingeniously removed the doors separating male and female sleeping quarters. Soon after, the male and female lounges were integrated. The result: the renovated library we know today.

Until the late '60s, I-House had provided maid service; rooms were cleaned regularly and beds were made daily. But growing resident



Residents descending the I-House front steps, 1967.

sensitivity to the issue of privacy, together with escalating residential cost led to the elimination of maid service.

Another major event occurred in 1964 when the House received a gift of \$300,000 from David Rockefeller. While most of the funds were earmarked for renovations and capital improvements, about \$35,000 was set aside, pursuant to Mr. Rockefeller's suggestion, to launch a community fundraising program. Today's Development/Alumni Relations Office owes its initial inspiration to the generosity and vision of Mr. Rockefeller.

The mid '70s saw the decline and eventual cessation of Sunday Suppers, a House tradition and ritual which did not respond to student tastes of the time. It was not until the early '80s that the tradition begun by Harry Edmonds in 1911 was revived at the Berkeley House.

In 1974, the House tradition of free speech came under attack. A number of controversial programs about the Middle East were felt by some to be culturally and politically offensive. This provoked a lively debate about what kinds of presentations and programs were suitable at



Residents on a retreat to Yosemite, 1964.

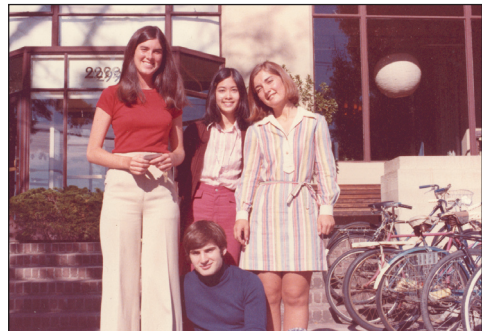
International House. In the end, the I-House Board of Directors reaffirmed the principle of free speech while underlining the crucial House policy of encouraging mutual respect and tolerance in the expression of differing views.

As in the past, the House welcomed distinguished visitors and speakers. Among those who came to I-House were U.N. Secretary General U-Thant; former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Adlai Stevenson; Senator Edward Kennedy; former Governor "Pat" Brown; the then future U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger; former Canadian Ambassador to Iran and I-House alumnus Kenneth Taylor; Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox; Madame Pandit, former Chair of India's delegation to the U.N. and Ambassador to Moscow; and South African anti-apartheid leader Allan Boesak.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Towards the end of the '70s, the House began to prepare for its fiftieth anniversary, the occasion of the largest fundraising drive in the institution's history. Under the dedicated leadership of Board member Bill Slusser, the House Board, administration and alumni raised almost \$2,000,000 in two years. The 50th anniversary capital campaign, which included a \$500,000 gift from the Chevron Corporation, was driven by the need for capital improvements, code corrections and renovations. The result was the renovation of all public rooms and administrative offices. In addition, the Great Hall and Auditorium underwent extensive renovation, painting and seismic reinforcement. The anniversary was formally celebrated in 1980 with the visit and speech of I-House alumnus and world renowned economist, John Kenneth Galbraith.

As the Berkeley House entered its sixth decade, its relationships with other International Houses were broadened. In addition to its ongoing communication with the Houses of New York and Chicago, the Berkeley House began to participate in a new series of international conferences with the leaders of Houses in the U.S., France, Great Britain, Canada, Australia



Residents pose at I-House entrance, summer 1974.

and Japan. These international conferences have promoted an exchange of ideas and the establishment of other international houses worldwide.

After 26 years of service, W. Sheridan Warrick retired in September 1987. In recognition of his long and dedicated service, the Regents of the University of California bestowed Warrick with the honorary status of executive director emeritus.

THE 1980s

1989 was highlighted by a visit and concert by famed balladeer, Burl Ives, himself an alumnus of I-House, New York. He charmed residents and alumni with his songs and reminiscences of I-House New York where he once served as night watchman, the only man to be trusted with the keys to the women's quarters! The House also welcomed over 100 of the finest young musicians from the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The Soviet-American Youth Orchestra's performance and stay at the House permitted residents to experience "glasnost" up close.

The end of the decade witnessed an expansion of fundraising efforts which focused on the need to increase financial aid for needy residents. Two generous grants from the Bernard Osher Foundation permitted the House for the first time to extend needed financial assistance to U.S. nationals, especially minority students.

As a result, residents from 60 countries now had a better opportunity to understand U.S. diversity while increasing numbers of U.S. residents from minority backgrounds were exposed to other cultures. A young Chicano resident, for example, helped to dispel stereotypes and ignorance about Chicanos among residents from Latin America. At the same time this young man – an Osher grant recipient – was introduced



Friendships spanning cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds are central to the purpose and legacy of I-House

through his Japanese roommate to a host of new ideas and perspectives.

Financial assistance for residents from abroad was given a boost at the first fundraising gala in House history. The 1989 celebration which honored alumnus W. Michael Blumenthal – former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury – netted over \$40,000, most of it earmarked for resident scholarships. When Mr. Blumenthal returned to I-House for this event, he went straight to the kitchen, proudly showing his family where he once worked.

The first gala was to set the stage for the Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration in 1990, when I-House welcomed and honored David Rockefeller for his family's vital contributions which made the I-House idea a reality. On that occasion, members of the Rockefeller family were joined by relatives of I-House Founder Harry Edmonds.

THE 1990s

The '90s were marked by an emphasis on securing significant outside support to strengthen financial aid, cross-cultural and building renovation programs. Thanks to a notable increase in giving from alumni, along with major support from a variety of foundations and corporations, the House was successful



I-House alumni wed in a cross-cultural ceremony on the Heller patio, 1998. The House has documented nearly 1,000 I-House couples and the list continues to grow!

in implementing a variety of new initiatives. Consistent with its commitment to socio-economic diversity, the financial aid program grew from about 30 recipients annually in 1989 to over 100 by the turn of the century. On the programmatic side, our cross-cultural collection of books, videos and other materials grew in important ways. And these materials helped fuel an expanded Speakers Program, bringing residents to local schools and civic organizations. At the same time, the international festivals involving performances, cultural displays and food from around the world were ever popular, attracting thousands of visitors from the community.

But because life at International House depends on a functioning and adaptable facility, the most ambitious and necessary work during the '90s and the first few years of the 21st century was to begin a comprehensive and aesthetically sensitive renovation of our aging facility. From 1995 through the summer of 2003, about 75% of the building was renovated, which included seismic safety improvements, provisions of internet access in all resident rooms, enhanced access for the disabled, and major improvements

“We came to grips with each other as real entities, not images on travel posters.”

— *I-House Resident*

to the dining room and other common as well as business related areas.

The beginning years of the 21st century were marked by the production and release of a national television documentary about the history and influence of the House over seven decades. It was seen on public television outlets throughout the United States.

The events of September 11, 2001, underscored the continued importance of the mission of International House in the 21st century. Residents of this era were responsible for helping create new security systems within the House and founding a Debate Club where residents and guests could explore important themes of the times ranging from conflicts in the Middle East to Bay Area legislation on same-sex marriages. As a direct result of 9/11, the offices of Services for International Students and Scholars, long housed within I-House, were expanded to support UC Berkeley students from outside the U.S. who confronted new challenges navigating visa and immigration services.

75 YEARS OF CROSS-CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

The 2005-2006 academic year marked the seventy-fifth anniversary of when International House Berkeley first opened its doors. This milestone was fêted beginning in late 2002 with the launch of an ambitious 75th Anniversary Celebration and Campaign and the convening of a series of alumni reunions around

the world including Taiwan (2002), Paris (2003), Los Angeles (2003), London (2004), Milan (2004), New York (2005), Singapore (2006), Melbourne (2006) and Tokyo (2006).

Under the guidance of the Board of Directors and a Campaign Leadership Committee, the Anniversary Campaign sought an unprecedented \$10 million dollars in contributions from alumni, friends, corporations and foundations in order to pursue four crucial objectives for the future of the House. These aims were: to preserve and protect the building for new generations; to provide scholarships to ensure continued socio-economic as well as geographic diversity among residents; to support diverse ongoing cross-cultural programs; and to invest in technological and communications resources for residents and alumni in service to the House's mission.

The principal campaign focus was to preserve the building so the traditions and transforming impact of cross-cultural living experiences at International House would flourish in the decades ahead. Six million of the campaign's goal was dedicated to efforts to replace original piping and ventilation systems servicing the restroom and shower facilities throughout the House, while simultaneously improving amenities for persons with disabilities. A resident room naming opportunity was introduced to encourage supporters to participate in the campaign, as was a brick inscription program for the International House Café patio

Additional Anniversary Celebrations brought together hundreds of alumni and friends at the



The House's 75th Anniversary was toasted in 2005 by alumni, friends and two of three Executive Directors who guided the house over three-quarters of a century: Sheridan Warrick (top row with bow tie, 1961-1987) and Joe Lurie (front row, 4th from right, 1988-2007).

House. A special Valentine's event in 2006 drew dozens of couples from a compiled list of over 900 documented marriages among I-House alumni throughout its history. The 75th Anniversary Gala in 2006 welcomed Steven C. Rockefeller, grandson of House benefactor John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who highlighted how timely the mission of the House remains and its relevance in his work on the worldwide Earth Charter Initiative.

Two books were published to mark this milestone year. *Close Encounters of a Cross-Cultural Kind: 75 Years at International House Berkeley* is a compilation of dozens of testimonials from alumni and friends on the transforming power of the I-House experience. *A Vision of Hope: Reflections on Turning Ignorance into Understanding* includes ten essays from residents, alumni and friends that speak to prejudice and stereotyping in the wake of 9/11.

With broad and generous support, the initial success of the Anniversary Campaign led to an

unprecedented \$500,000 challenge grant from The Kresge Foundation to spur the House towards the successful conclusion of its historic \$10 million effort to protect its services and purpose for the new millennium.

THE LEGACY

As national frontiers blur, and as walls and curtains between nations crumble, diverse peoples are being thrust together to an extent never imagined. Looking to the 21st century, International House is likely to welcome increasing numbers of black and white South Africans, Soviets of different ethnic backgrounds, and eastern Europeans, for decades isolated by ideology.

All together, under one roof, they will join an international community and will, like former residents, be forever changed:

We came to grips with each other as real entities, not images on travel posters; one in which we had to deal with the realities of our own ethnocentrism, and not abstractly either...one in which we were bent, hurt, pleased, delighted, enlightened, CHANGED.....in short, one in which we grew.

Harry Edmonds' chance encounter with a lonely Chinese student in 1909 helped create an institution where university students from across the country and across the seas could find a vibrant international home where, as one Turkish resident puts it, "you never feel like you are a foreigner."

Now, nearly seventy-five years after its establishment, I-House Berkeley counts among its residents the children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of former residents. They had heard from relatives about the Sunday Suppers, National festivals, language tables, distinguished speakers, cross-cultural discussions and coffee hours. And these



The distinctive dome atop International House has become an iconic landmark not only of the UC Berkeley campus, but of the East Bay hills.

I-House traditions of international fellowship will form the basis of their House memories and the stories they will tell to their children.

A NOTE ABOUT HOUSE ARCHITECTURE AND FURNISHINGS

The architect responsible for International House Berkeley was George W. Kelham, who played a leading role in the construction of San Francisco's Palace Hotel, Public Library, Civic Center and Federal Reserve Bank. International House was Kelham's essay in Spanish Colonial Revival, a style chosen because it was thought to be indigenous to California. Much of the architecture and design of the House reflects the Moorish influence upon Spanish culture. Some specific reflections of Spanish influence include: the iron chandeliers in the Great Hall and dining room, the domed tower, the balconies, the dining room's sunken patio, and the extensive use of painted tile.

The decorative painting and furnishings of the House also reflect a Spanish style with Moorish influences. The Great Hall's ceiling was originally hand painted to resemble the fir or pine wood ceilings commonly found in Spain. And the

Home Room ceiling is said to be an adaptation of that in the anteroom to the capitular Chapel in the Cathedral at Toledo.

In the Auditorium, tiny patterns in black and white upon the rafters and beams are painted replicas of those found in the finest mother of pearl and ebony ceilings of Spain.

THE I-HOUSE EXPERIENCE

Hundreds of testimonials from former residents speak to the transforming power of the I-House experience. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s prophetic vision of a House whose influence would extend beyond the campus, the state and the country into many nations is aptly suggested by alumnus, Dr. Abdelkader Abbadi, U.N. Deputy Director of Political and Security Council Affairs:

I-House is an institution which prepares generations of young men and women for a world characterized by interdependence in practically every field, by nations and peoples increasingly stretching their hands towards each other across oceans and frontiers. I owe a great deal to I-House which prepared me so well for an exciting and challenging task at the United Nations.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This updated historical retrospective owes much to Harry Edmonds' *The Founding of the International House Movement*, and Allen C. Blaisdell's *Oral Memoirs: Foreign Students and the Berkeley International House 1928-1961*.



PHOTO BY LORI A. CHEUNG

Rotary World Peace Scholars release doves in remembrance of September 11, 2001.

I am particularly grateful for the special contributions of W. Sheridan Warrick, Susan Klee, Stuart Pawsey, Jean Dobrzensky and Josiane Siegfried. In addition, many former and current members of the staff and Board have helped me to refine the text. Finally, I am indebted to Donna, my wife and I-House alumna, for having provided perspective, patience and a loving editor's eye.



Joe Lurie, *Executive Director*
1988-2007
August, 2006

NOTABLE ALUMNI

Among the more than 60,000 residents who have lived at International House, there are many who have achieved prominence in areas of intellectual, political and social life. Today's residents share meals in the dining room, relax in the Great Hall, and participate in auditorium events as did these distinguished alumni, some of whom are listed below with positions they hold or have held:

Trail Blazers

Daima Lockhart Clark, Scholar of African philosophy and religion

Edith Simon Coliver, First woman Field Office Director for the Asia Foundation. The annual Festival of Cultures at International House was endowed by Coliver and is dedicated in her memory

Maggie Gee, Physicist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, one of the first Chinese-American women pilots

Sergio Alejo Rapu Haa, First native islander to serve as governor of Easter Island

Wendell Lipscomb, First African American to complete residency at Kaiser Hospital, psychiatrist, trainer of Tuskegee Airmen

Pauli Murray, Attorney, poet, first African-American woman Episcopalian Minister

Sandeep Pandey, Recognized for his commitment to transforming the lives of India's marginalized poor

Victor Santiago Pineda, Disability rights activist

Emmett Rice, Berkeley's first African-American firefighter and later a member of Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Board

Julianne Cartwright Traylor, Chair of Amnesty International USA, first African-American woman to hold this position

Khatharya Um, Associate Professor of Asian Studies, UC Berkeley, first Cambodian woman in the U.S. to earn a doctorate

Delbert Wong, First Chinese American Judge in the continental U.S.

Nobel Laureates

Melvin Calvin, Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1961

Owen Chamberlain, Nobel Prize in Physics 1959

Willis Lamb, Nobel Prize in Physics 1955

Julian Schwinger, Nobel Prize in Physics 1965

Glenn Seaborg, Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1951

Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson, Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1973

Royal Families

Haakon Magnus, Crown Prince of Norway

Laurent Benoît Baudouin, Prince of Belgium

Ambassadors

John Kenneth Galbraith, Professor of Economics at Harvard, author, and Ambassador to India

Robert C.F. Gordon, U.S. Ambassador to Mauritius

Heraldur Kroyer, Ambassador of Iceland to the U.S.

Abdul Majid, Ambassador of Afghanistan to U.S.

Michael Okeyo, Ambassador of Kenya to the U.S.

Andres Petricevic, Bolivian Cabinet Member and Ambassador to the U.S.

Joao Baptista Pinheiro, Ambassador of Brazil to the U.S.

Joan Plaisted, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands

Kenneth Taylor, Canadian Ambassador to Iran

United Nations Staff

Abdelkader Abbadi, U.N. Deputy Director for Political Affairs

Jan Egeland, U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs

Takehiro Nakamura, U.N. Environment Programme Officer

Sadako Nakamura Ogata, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees

Public Service

Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, Prime Minister of Pakistan, non-resident member and dining room staff

W. Michael Blumenthal, Secretary of the Treasury, U.S., former dining room staff colleague of Ali Bhutto (above)

Jerry Brown, Governor of California, Mayor of Oakland

Soon Cho, Mayor of Seoul, Korea and Former Deputy Prime Minister

Jeymoon Chung, National Assemblyman and Chair of Foreign Relations Committee, Korea

Vernon Ehlers, Representative to Congress from Michigan

Marcos Espinal, Executive Secretary of the Stop TB Partnership

Adriana Gianturco, Director of the Department of Transportation in California

Laura Castillo Sena de Gurfinkel, Minister of Education, Venezuela

Pyoung Hoon Kim, Senior Protocol Secretary to the President, Republic of Korea

Oona King, Member of Parliament, U.K.

Tetsuo Kondo, Minister of Labor in Japan

Wissanu Kreangam, Deputy Prime Minister, Thailand

Robey Lal, Country Manager for The International Air Transport Association (IATA) in India.

Mauricio Cardenas Santa Maria, Minister of Economic Development, Colombia

Milton Marks, California state Assemblyman and Senator

Sudarmo Martonagoro, Foreign Minister of Indonesia

Widjojo Nitisastro, Minister of State, Indonesia

Ogbonnaya Onu, Governor of Abia, Nigeria, and presidential candidate

Venkataram Ramakrishna, Director, South East Asia Regional Bureau for Health Promotion and Education

Sir Desmond Rea, Chairman of the Northern Ireland Policing Board

Elsie Gardner Ricklefs, Chair of Hupa Tribe, California

Martin Rosen, Co-founder and President, Trust for Public Land

Emil Salim, Indonesian Minister for Population and Environment, Professor of Economics, University of Indonesia

James C.Y. Soong, Governor, Taiwan Provincial Government

Vicenzo Visco, Minister of Finance, Italy

Pete Wilson, Governor of California

Laura Zegna, Chair of Italy's Special Olympics Organizing Committee

Law

Rose Bird, Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court

Barnet Cooperman, Judge L.A. Superior Court

Adrian Kragen, Professor of Law, UC Berkeley, argued cases before the Supreme Court

George Kraw, Advisory Committee of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Ernst Pakuscher, Chief Judge of the Federal Patent Court in Germany

Stefan Riesenfeld, Professor of Law at UC Berkeley

Leigh Steinberg, Leading sports attorney

Sanford Svetcov, Partner with the Appellate Practice Group of Lerach Coughlin, SF

Wakefield Taylor, California Court of Appeal in SF

Raymond Terlizzi, Magistrate Judge of the District of AZ

Business

J. Dennis Bonney, Vice Chairman, Chevron Corporation

Charlene Wang Chien, President, First International Computer, Inc., Taiwan

Choong Kun Cho, President of Korean Airlines

Paritish Choksi, Executive Vice President, ATEL Capital Group

Jan Fandrianto, President, Sipura Technology, Inc.

David Fischer, Vice President, AOL Europe

Jawahar Gidwani, Chairman and CEO of KARMA2GO, LLC

Richard Goldman, Founder of Goldman Environmental Prize and founder of Goldman Insurance Services

Kazusue Konoike, President, Konoike Construction Co., Ltd., Japan

Kakutaro Kitashiro, General Manager, IBM Asia Pacific.

Simon Lewis, Director of Communications and Public Policy, Vodafone

Andre Manoliu, Managing Director, GrowthPlans LLC

Hans Rausing, Founder and Chairman, Tetra Pak

Arun Sarin, CEO of Vodafone

Hamid Savojo, Senior Vice President, Magma Design Automation

Eric Schmidt, CEO of Google

George H.B. Verberg, President of the Intl. Gas Union

Science

Mario Bancora, Director of Argentina's Atomic Energy Commission

Hans Peter Duerr, Director of the Max Planck Institute

Drew Gaffney, Space Shuttle Astronaut, Professor of Medicine at Vanderbilt University

William Haseltine, CEO, Human Genome Sciences

Wilmot Hess, NASA official and Associate Director of the Department of Energy

Alan Pasternak, Energy expert and staff scientist, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Cyril Ponnampereuma, Director of the Chemical Evolution program, NASA Ames Research Center

Rafael Rodriguez, Costa Rican botanist and artist, specializing in orchids

David Scheuring, Founding Director, Yolo Land Trust and Director of the Cache Creek Conservancy

Mohammed Ahmed Selim, Head Engineer for the High Dam in Egypt

David Seaborg, An evolutionary biologist who does scientific research on evolutionary theory

David Shirley, Director, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

Theodore Taylor, Atomic weapons scientist who campaigned against nuclear weaponry

Chien Shiung Wu Yuan, Considered by many to be the greatest woman physicist

Literature and Journalism

Amir Acel, Author of *Fermat's Last Theorem*, *Descartes' Secret Notebook*, *The Mystery of Aleph*

Marianne Likowski Alireza, Author of *At the Drop of a Veil*, published in 1971

Arlene Blum, Author and leader of the first all-women's ascent of Annapurna

Gray Brechin, A historical geographer, journalist and television producer, taught geography at Berkeley

David Brock, Author of *Blinded by the Right: The Conscience of an Ex-Conservative*

Sandy Close, Executive Director, Pacific News Service

Richard H. Dillon, Author of many books on American history

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, Author of *Mistress of Spices*, *Sister of My Heart*, and more

Firoozeh Jazayeri Dumas, Author of *Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing up Iranian in America*

Markos Kounalakis, President and Publisher of *Washington Monthly*

Harold Gilliam, Environmental columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, author of *The San Francisco Experience*

Ved Mehta, Author of 13 books and *New Yorker* staff writer for more than 30 years

Gustav Olivercrona, Swedish television commentator

Donna Rosenthal, Author of *The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land*

Robbie Clipper Sethi, Author of *Fifty-Fifty* which celebrates diversity's complexities

Edmundo Paz Soldan, Bolivian author of *The Matter of Desire*

Dick Wilson, Author of more than 20 books about Asia including *They Changed India*

Art and Design

Dietrich von Bothmer, Distinguished Research Curator of Greek and Roman Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Tshewang Dendup, Starred in a film, *Travelers and Magicians* about Bhutan

Wilton Dillon, Senior Scholar Emeritus at the Smithsonian

Yoshiko Kakudo, Curator of Japanese Arts, de Young Museum of San Francisco

Emenegildo Zegna, Italian fashion designer

Education

Margaret Andrews, Executive Director, MBA Program, MIT Sloan School of Management

Helmer Aslaksen, Professor of Mathematics, National University of Singapore

John Bahcall, Professor of Natural Science at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton and President Emeritus of the American Astronomical Society

James Cason, Professor of Chemistry and Dean of the College of Chemistry, UC Berkeley

Marian Cleeves Diamond, Professor of Integrative Biology, UC Berkeley, and Director of the Lawrence Hall of Science

Heinz Eulau, Professor of Political Science, Chair of the Department of Political Science, Stanford

George Foster, Professor of Anthropology, UC Berkeley

Francesca Gobbo, Professor of Intercultural Education, University of Turin, Italy

Gregory Grossman, Professor Emeritus of Economics, UC Berkeley, expert on Soviet economy

John Heilbron, Professor of History, Vice Chancellor, UC Berkeley

Wolf Homburger, Director, Institute of Transportation Studies at UC Berkeley

Cigdem Cizacka Kagitcibasi, Turkish social psychologist
William J. Knox, Professor Emeritus of Physics, UC Davis, helped found I-House Davis

Nobuaki Kumagai, President, Osaka University

Eugene C. Lee, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, UC Berkeley, Director of the Institute of Governmental Studies

Choh-Ming Li, Vice Chancellor Chinese University of Hong Kong

M. Ishaq Nadiri, Professor of Economics, NYU, economic advisor to Afghanistan

A. Richard Newton, Dean of Engineering, UC Berkeley, leader in the founding of UC's Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS)

Bora Özkök, Director of Cultural Folk Tours and scholar of Turkish culture, folklore, and music

Karl Pister, Dean of the College of Engineering, UC Berkeley, Chancellor, UC Santa Cruz

Lisbet Rausing, Senior research fellow at Imperial College, London

Alison Dundes Renteln, Director of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics, USC and Professor of Political Science & Anthropology

Roger Revelle, One of the world's most articulate spokesmen for science and an early predictor of global warming

Marion Ross, Professor of Economics Emerita and Dean of the Faculty, Mills College

Urvashi Sahni, Education reformer in India

Shankar Sastry, Director of UC Berkeley-based Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS)

Robin Sharwood, Warden Trinity College at the University of Melbourne

Hla Shwe, UC Davis Professor of Physics and President of the Davis International House Board of Directors

Sir Albert Sloman, Chairman of United World Colleges

Yasuhiro Torii, President, Keio University, Japan

Wayne Vudnich, Professor of Eastern European Studies, Stanford University

Founded in 1928, International House Berkeley opened its doors in August 1930 to welcome scholars from around the world and throughout the U.S. Since then, more than 60,000 alumni have benefited from residential and cultural programs and services shaped by the House's mission:

*To foster intercultural respect and understanding,
lifelong friendships and leadership skills for the
promotion of a more tolerant and peaceful world.*



I-HOUSE 1930



I-HOUSE TODAY



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