2014 Alumni of the Year: I-House Global Values in Action

World-renowned philanthropist Wendy Schmidt (IH 1978-80) and groundbreaking inventor Dr. Ashok Gadgil (IH 1973-75) were honored in April in front of a capacity Gala audience as International House Alumni of the Year.

The overlapping ecological focus of the honorees’ achievements were highlighted during the festive evening which included a wide-ranging conversation with Chancellor Nicholas Dirks, dynamic student performances, reminiscences of days “under the dome,” and both cautionary and optimistic outlooks on humanity’s future.

Renovations Enhance Intercultural Experience

Since I-House’s founding in 1930, virtually everything that happens at 2299 Piedmont Avenue—“from lunch to laundry”—can be an intercultural experience. The Board and staff of I-House is charged with maintaining an environment that is conducive to cross-cultural dialogue among our nearly 600 residents from 70+ countries and is in the process of tackling key projects that impact residents’ daily life.

A dramatic renovation of the first floor elevator lobby and laundry area was completed in May 2014. Twenty two laundry machines were re-arranged and a defined elevator lobby was created, featuring a tray ceiling and digital information displays. Best of all, a new student lounge offers couches and computers for students to work or socialize while taking care of necessities.

A vastly more ambitious project breaks ground in December 2014: The Dining Commons Transformation Project, where more than 1,000 meals are prepared and served daily!

Learn more on pages 10-11 and follow our progress online at ihouse.berkeley.edu.
On July 1, 2014, Jason Patent will join I-House as Director of the Center for Intercultural Leadership and I-House Chief of Operations. Together these new positions will enhance how programs and services are delivered to I-House residents, and will help build bridges to the UC Berkeley campus and beyond. Hans Giesecke says “Jason brings a wealth of academic, corporate and non-profit experience to this role and we are fortunate he has in-depth higher education service, scholarly credentials and broad in-country experience in his background as well.”

Jason has an undergraduate degree in East Asian Studies from Harvard, a Master’s degree in the same field from Stanford University, and he completed an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Linguistics at UC Berkeley. Jason is known for his ability to teach and to find practical uses for theoretical concepts. He is committed to using his skills and experiences to foster understanding and successful collaboration among international populations. His previous professional roles include: American Co-Director of the Hopkins–Nanjing Center for Chinese and American Studies in Nanjing, China; Inaugural Director, Beijing Center, Stanford Bing Overseas Studies Program; Consultant at Gap International; Vice President, Communications & Marketing at Orchestrall, Inc.

I-House Dining Commons – The Nexus for Intercultural Learning

Convening on Thursday, March 6th, the I-House Board of Directors made a historic decision to undertake a major renovation of the I-House Dining Commons. This decision was reached after extensive study and analysis of the dining experience at I-House, during which the Board reaffirmed the centrality of the dining experience to the mission of I-House. The renovations will focus on enhancing the interactive process between dining staff and I-House residents and on creating a dining experience that fosters deeper and stronger relationships within the I-House community.

These steps have been initiated to enhance the overall I-House experience and build a stronger sense of community among and between the residents and staff. With many outstanding and competitive dining options available in Berkeley, the food served by I-House must be both delicious and distinctive enough to keep our residents pleased and, occasionally, surprised. In addition, we must be able to meet the dietary needs of vegans, vegetarians, and offer the diverse flavors of the many cultures we serve through our offering of a variety of dishes.

Clearly, the dining environment is central to the enjoyment of the food. While I-House’s Dining Commons is one-of-a-kind, it definitely needs sprucing up and modernization. We also want to bring more entertainment into the dining room and are planning to build a small stage at the south end of the East side hall to enable more mealtime performances. Moreover, the kitchen and servery areas can be made much more environmentally-friendly through the purchase of new equipment that uses far less water and offers a greater degree of hygiene. These steps are all envisioned with one purpose in mind – to make the I-House dining experience positively unforgettable.

More than anything, we want there to be more contact and communication among and between the dining staff and the residents. Since the I-House experience is fundamentally about relationships, we hope there will be many more opportunities for our residents to interact with those who are serving them. We believe that such contact will enhance the quality of the food because those preparing and serving will have a better opportunity to observe and understand what the residents actually like to eat. Through such interactivity, we trust that many lifetime connections will be formed that those who dine with us will cherish throughout their lives.

What this all comes down to is more intercultural learning. When good food is shared and enjoyed with peers from around the world, something magical happens. Barriers break down and conversation flows. Individuals from diverse cultural traditions learn to understand one another’s ways even more. And, through such understanding comes a greater sense of respect, friendship, and camaraderie—which are the hallmarks of the I-House experience.

Welcome Claude Steele

UC Berkeley’s new Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, Claude Steele, is a social psychologist with a celebrated career in higher education. His ground-breaking research on stereotypes is captured in his best-selling book Whistling Vivaldi: How Stereotypes Affect Us and What We Can Do. From 2009 to 2011 he served as provost at Columbia University, where he met UC Berkeley’s new Chancellor, Nicholas Dirks. Steele was most recently Dean of the Graduate School of Education at Stanford. Chancellor Dirks, Chair of the I-House Board, has remarked: “When we talked about the position, Claude’s most enthusiastic responses came from the fact that Berkeley was not just excellent but that it was also public.” Says Steele: “This is where talented, motivated kids from anywhere can come and get the best education in the world.”

For Q & As with Claude Steele and Jason Patent, visit ihouse.berkeley.edu/bonus.
Resident Round-Up at Rotary Trips to Redding and Livermore

For several decades now the Redding and Livermore Rotary clubs have warmly welcomed International House residents to their communities and homes to experience the richness of California culture beyond Berkeley.

In Redding residents enjoy house boating on Lake Shasta and line dancing. Livermore trip participants visit a winery, ride horses and learn about the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. "This was a true cross-cultural adventure!" said Lennart Joos of Belgium (in blue jacket at right).

Rotary International is a service organization that brings business, civic, educational and political leaders together to provide humanitarian and community services, and to build goodwill and peace in the world. There are 34,282 clubs and over 1.2 million members worldwide.

I-House Events, Alumni & Residents Tackle Solutions to Climate Change

The Berkeley Energy & Resources Collaborative (BERC) is a multidisciplinary network of UC Berkeley students, alumni, faculty, industry professionals, and advisors who seek to turn world-leading research into world-changing solutions by tackling tough and timely energy and environmental challenges. BERC chose I-House to host their Fall 2013 Symposium that included an address by alumnus and MacArthur Genius Grant Winner, Saul Griffith, and which, like additional climate change events held since, have attracted many current residents of I-House.

This Spring, resident Gavin McCormick attended both a lecture and pre-evening informal dinner with Consul General of the Netherlands, Hugo von Meijenfeldt, who spoke on Global and Local Negotiations on Climate Mitigation. "I'm a Ph.D. student and entrepreneur developing a new "smart

Rand Paul Seeks Common Ground

"I believe what you do on a cellphone is none of the (government's) business," said U.S. Senator Rand Paul (above, holding a cellphone for emphasis) at a March 19, 2014 speech held at I-House for Berkeley College Republicans. The line drew applause and his speech garnered national media attention including a New York Times cover story entitled Rand Paul, Warning About Spying, Faults Obama.

Read more at NY Times online.
Center for Intercultural Leadership

This spring marks the third time I-House has offered the Intercultural Leadership Initiative to its residents and student staff. Some alumni from former semesters are still with us at IH and others are working all over the globe. One particular alumna from Germany—after finishing ILI and leaving I-House—got a job with a Japanese company first working in its London office and recently relocating to Berlin to support the German market entry. I-House residents share their thoughts on the ILI program below.

"At an interview for a prestigious multinational corporation in Japan the HR Manager asked: "What do you think is the benefit of diversity in a workplace?" Thanks to ILI, I was able to put my cross-cultural experiences into words; I got the job! I hope to make the most of my experience and become a future 'intercultural leader' in this company."
Kaori Abe (Japan), ILI participant Spring 2012

"Global leaders must be able to shift strategies and personal styles to fit different cultural environments. ILI taught me that we need to appreciate the similarities humans from all over the world have with each other. But, I also learned we definitely should not underestimate our cultural differences."
Kevin Laprocino, (U.S.A.), ILI participant Spring 2014

"ILI helped me recognize my preconceived notions, and not be afraid to challenge them. Global leadership perspectives are increasingly important and highly demanded in multicultural organizations today."
Jasmine Hui (Singapore), ILI participant Spring 2014

"I am now more tolerant and respectful of cultures different from my own. I have cultivated a heart of patience and understanding with people learning new languages who can be slow to communicate. I hope to encounter the cultural sensitivity and appreciation I have gained here at I-House as I also learn new languages and travel the world."
Rosalia Omungo (Kenya), ILI participant Spring 2014

Meet the Team!
ILI is a program of The Center for Intercultural Leadership, now staffed by Jess Delegencia (left) who joined us in February as CIL Outreach Officer. He collaborates with Breidi Truscott Roberts, Training Officer, under the leadership of Jason Patent (see page 2). Visit ihouse.berkeley.edu/cil for team bios and details on CIL’s evolving menu of offerings.
worldwide. “The connections I sought as a student living among a global community at International House have been expanded in countless ways as my work has brought a deeper understanding of humanity’s interconnectedness and increased my resolve to improve how we treat the Earth and each other,” says Mrs. Schmidt. “It’s an honor to receive this recognition from International House and UC Berkeley, especially in conjunction with Dr. Gadgil.”

Dr. Ashok Gadgil is a UC Berkeley professor in civil and environmental engineering and a physicist with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). He is hailed around the world for his ingenious approach to bridge the wiser use of energy with public health fundamentals. His best known inventions include a water disinfection system that uses UV light, and a less-polluting, more efficient cooking stove created to aid millions of refugees in Darfur. Among the many national and international accolades his work has garnered are the World Technology Award for Energy, the European Inventor Award, and the Zayed Future Energy Prize. “Living at International House is a kind of experimental laboratory where new relationships and new ideas can spark at any moment. It is a special place with its own remarkable energy. Mrs. Schmidt and I were both lucky to have benefited from these experiences and no doubt we share the values of International House in pursuing our work in the world today.”

Ashok also remarked that “I didn’t appreciate how influential living at I-House would be until later,” and he urged current residents to maximize this opportunity.

Ashok was introduced by Dr. Susan Amrose who runs his lab at LBNL and is herself an alumna of I-House. Wendy Schmidt was introduced by student Gavin McNicol, a former undergraduate IH resident now working on his PhD at Berkeley on research solutions to climate change. The lab is funded, in part, through the auspices of Wendy Schmidt. To the applause of Gala guests Gavin reported, “Thanks to gifts like those from this Gala, I’ve received a partial room and board scholarship that will help me return to I-House this Fall.”

Chancellor Dirks said at the conclusion of the night, “I-House really is a jewel in the crown of UC Berkeley.” Enjoy Gala photos and videos at ihouse.berkeley.edu/gala.
Summer Reading by Alumni Authors

We are pleased to add books featured below to the Summer Reading list at ihouse.berkeley.edu/alumni/

Mandela Honored at I-House:
In South Africa, the “hard work of reconciliation” remains a work in progress

By Cathy Cockrell, UC NewsCenter

Linda Biehl, right, whose daughter Amy was killed by South African anti-apartheid demonstrators in 1994, spoke in tandem with Ntobeko Peni, though convicted in the attack, Peni later became a partner with Biehl in helping impoverished townships. At a conference on “the hard work of reconciliation” held at I-House on April 28, 2014, survivors of Apartheid and human rights activists convened to share their personal stories during the first of a series of campus events celebrating the legacy of Nelson Mandela and the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of his election to the South African presidency. Panelists included South African Justice Albie Sachs, who helped draft South Africa’s Constitution and served as a jurist in the Constitutional Court, Linda Biehl, whose daughter Amy, a 26-year old American student, was killed in South Africa during an anti-apartheid demonstration and Ntobeko Peni, who was convicted in the attack but became a partner with Biehl under the Amy Biehl Foundation Trust to help youth in impoverished townships.

“Sometimes it is very important that wounds are touched, not for the purpose of inflicting pain, but for the purpose of proper healing,” Peni said. “If it were not for the reconciliation aspect that I experienced with the family, I would not be the person I am today.”

Manfred Jacobs, who was a young warden at Victor Verster Prison when Mandela was jailed there before his release in 1990 and a senior warden when Peni was imprisoned there also shared personal anecdotes about Mandela’s “transformative effect on prison guards.”

Residents Essays on I-House “Border Crossing” Connections

Each year, the Border Crossing Essay Award is given to three residents who best capture the essence of their I-House experience in a composition. This year, in an unprecedented tie for First Place, Alexandra “Lexi” Lambeck from the US and Vishwanath Bulusu from India both reflect on how I-House has broadened their view of the global community. Following are excerpts:

First Encounters, I-House Style
Alexandra “Lexi” Lambeck

“Is that a star on your necklace? Are you Jewish?” my new friend Franz asked one day at lunch last summer. When I said yes… Franz explained, “I’m from a small town in Germany, and I’ve never met a Jew before.” These days it’s embarrassing to admit but in that moment, I was very nervous. I had never met a German before, and I knew next to nothing about the country. I had no idea what, if any, kind of prejudices might still be present, let alone how an individual might feel. Now of course I know my nervousness was ridiculous, but the point is that, without I-House, who knows when I next would have had the opportunity to learn that?”

A Melodious Awakening
Vishwanath Bulusu

“If the world is my music, I-House is my stage. Living here has been a vibrant rhythmic ride. First, my dreams changed, then my spirit transformed and now I have had a melodious awakening. I still remember when twenty three Intercultural Leadership Initiative residents, each from a different culture, encouraged me to sing my national anthem and stood up in attention for the pride and honor of my country. I have never felt more Indian, I have never been more global.”

An Unexpected Grace
by Kristin von Kreisler (IH 1967). A novel about a woman and a golden retriever helping each other recover from violence and abuse.

Whim, Woe and Wonder: Tales for the Ever-Present Child by Craig Kandell (IH 1981). Story poem and prose tales that “will enchant adults, young adults, tweens and even precocious children alike!”

Green Buildings Pay: Design, Productivity and Ecology by Emanuele Naboni (IH 2012). Presents detailed case studies of how different approaches to green design can produce more sustainable patterns of development.


See our Alumni section on our website for links to purchase books featured here. More authors in our Notable Alumni page in the Literature and Journalism section: ihouse.berkeley.edu/alumni/notable/
Residents “Click” with Peace Projects Worldwide

Since 2008, residents of I-House Berkeley have participated with other scholars affiliated with 12 other I-House communities to implement “Projects for Peace” made possible through the auspices of an extraordinary philanthropist, Kathryn Wasserman Davis (see obituary at right), who decided on her 100th birthday, to give $10,000 grants to young people around the world who could think creatively about working towards peace.

At the Fall 2013 Sunday Supper, resident Hannah Yang, an undergraduate student in International Development Studies and Business Administration, shared her experience with Clicking Together, her 2013 Davis Project for Peace. Children from two neighboring schools in Ambala, India were brought together in a four-week-long photography camp to explore class divides through the medium of photography.

Hannah credits her experience living at I-House for her perseverance with the project. “I was confident that our students, who come from diverse socioeconomic, religious and cultural backgrounds, would become friends mainly because I remember how quickly people from over 100 different countries became friends during the semester I stayed at International House at UC Berkeley.”

2014 IH Berkeley Peace Projects to Aid Ghana and the Philippines

Alinaya Fabros’ project in Eastern Samar, Philippines, Revitalizing Learning Spaces for Children Affected by Typhoon Haiyan aims to contribute to the recovery of the children affected by the typhoon through targeted activities for children and their care-givers. Alinaya is inspired by her vision of what could arise if the survivors of the Haiyan tragedy imagine and re-build their peaceful, stable community.

Davis Projects for Peace Awards from I-House Berkeley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Peace Camp &amp; Peace Center-Cambodia/Ana T. Villanueva</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>Writing Workshop-Cambodia/Alice Grunebaum</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Cafe Water for a Cafe World-India/Ayale Enseremo</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Cafe Water for a Cafe World-India/Ayale Enseremo</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Semillas del Futuro-Guatemala/Germán Macias &amp; Catalina Saldivia</td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>Vicente Nieto and Catalina Saldivia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Clicking Together-India/Shiv Tandan &amp; Hannah Yang</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Clicking Together-India/Shiv Tandan &amp; Hannah Yang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Mobile Library for Peace-India-Aravind Unni</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Mobile Library for Peace-India-Aravind Unni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Revitalizing Learning Spaces for Children Affected by Typhoon Haiyan-Philippines/Alinaya Fabros</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Revitalizing Learning Spaces for Children Affected by Typhoon Haiyan-Philippines/Alinaya Fabros</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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For more information on IH Berkeley Peace Projects, visit ihouse.berkeley.edu/programs/davis.php

In Memoriam:

Projects for Peace founder and author, philanthropist and scholar, Kathryn Wasserman Davis passed away on April 23, 2013, at her home at the age of 106.

Kathryn Wasserman Davis celebrated her 100th birthday in 2007 by contributing $1,000,000 to fund one hundred student-run Projects for Peace. “I want to use my 100th birthday to help young people launch some immediate initiatives—things that they can do during the summer—that will bring new thinking to the prospects of peace in the world.” Mrs. Davis graciously invited residents of International Houses to participate in 2008. The Davis family is continuing Projects for Peace this Summer in her honor. Since its founding, Projects for Peace has funded more than 830 projects in more than 100 countries.

Mrs. Davis and her late husband, Shelby Cullom Davis, US Ambassador to Switzerland (1969-1975), met on a train headed for Geneva in 1930 and quickly discovered a shared interest in world affairs. Following a courtship at I-House New York where both lived while working on their Masters’ degrees at Columbia University, the couple married on January 4th, 1932.

After her husband’s death in 1994, Mrs. Davis dedicated herself to philanthropy, with a primary focus on international education and world peace. She challenged today’s students, whom she referred to as “the real movers and shakers” to work together toward lasting peace.

“There will always be conflict,” she noted. “But I’ll remind you that love, kindness, and support are also part of human nature. My challenge to you is to bring about a mindset of preparing for peace instead of preparing for war.”

For more about Kathryn Wasserman Davis, see davisprojectsforpeace.org.
Good Times in Göttingen, Germany

I-House Executive Director, Hans Giesecke convened with alumni that spanned 40 years of I-House history at a gathering held at the University of Göttingen in early November 2013. Two dozen alumni from the 1960s - 2010s and friends participated. Alumna Alva Cornelius (IH 1998-2000) writes “It was a great time to connect... being part of I-House is like being part of a big worldwide family!”

Coffee Hour @ International House Paris

The City of Light was the home to a very special IH Coffee Hour at Cité Internationale (aka I-House Paris) in February, 2014. IH Berkeley alumni Benjamin Maurice (center, in green shirt) and Joël Thai (left from Ben) brought the Berkeley tradition with them which was enjoyed by IH Paris residents from Singapore, Canada, Sénégal, Italy, Libya, US, UK, Cambodia, and Pakistan.

2014 Summer Gatherings Abroad

LONDON, ENGLAND: SATURDAY, JUNE 7
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA: SATURDAY, JULY 5

Fabulous 50s Friends

“We’ve been married 60 years, said Helen Desai, pictured above, center, with husband Raj behind her, who she met at I-House. “And our wonderful family - including our friends - is all because of International House.” A total of seven alumni from the 1950’s and their loved ones gathered in January, 2014 to share lunch in the dining hall, reminisce and catch up with I-House staff. Hans Giesecke and Joy Iwasa were regaled with happy memories: “There is no place like I-House” said Raj.

Flashback 80s Reunion: Jumpin’ Good Time

“The kids had a blast but ultimately I think the adults had the most fun,” says Anne Crawford, who together with ten fellow alumni from 1987-88, “Americans descended on their British friends” in Kent, England with their families, including ten “Because of I-House...” kids. The reunion was graciously hosted at the home of Sarah Smith and Anne, who traveled all the way from Texas and California.

Alumni Reunions & Global Gatherings
Small world, big generosity

When Kwei Ü left Hong Kong for Berkeley as a 16-year-old physics major in 1961, he began a lifelong affinity with International House, a residential complex for both international and American students. It didn’t hurt that his father and an aunt had also lived there.

Ü attended medical school at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and returned to the Bay Area for a 30-year career as the only Cantonese-speaking neurologist in San Francisco’s Chinatown. He and his wife, Michele — then an open-heart surgery nurse — gave birth to a son named Adrian, but unfortunately, the infant did not survive surgery for a congenital heart defect. In 2006, they honored his memory by creating the Adrian Hao Yin Ü Gateway Fellowship, which supports room and board at I-House for a graduate student from Hong Kong, Taiwan, or China.

“Living at I-House was a unique experience for someone like me, from insular Hong Kong. We created the Adrian Hao Yin Ü Gateway Fellowship so more people could benefit from these rich intercultural experiences,” says Kwei Ü.

Here’s where the I-House world gets smaller: The fellowship’s current recipient is a physics Ph.D. student named Adrian who came from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, which was founded by Kwei Ü’s uncle.

“Without the Ü Fellowship, I couldn’t afford to live at I-House,” says Hoi Chun (Adrian) Po. “The convenience has saved me a lot of time in commuting and preparing meals, allowing me to study, focus on my research, and GSI duties while making new friends, including Kwei and Michele.”

“Soda Jerk” Cements Place in I-House History

A January 2014 visit to the newly remodeled IH Cafe, formerly known as the Coffee Shop brought back warm memories for former resident employee Talib Haq (IH 1950-53 & 1956-57)

Talib Haq gained notoriety pulling sodas in the International House Café in the 1950’s. The “Coffee Shop” as it was better known as at the time was a central hub of activity, where residents, sorority and fraternity members and friends would gather socially to enjoy a soda, which included two scoops of ice cream for a whopping fifteen cents. “Working at the Coffee Shop in the evenings, I was able to get to know everyone very well. Since all the regulars usually ordered the same thing, I loved having their order ready for them just as they were sitting down,” Talib recalls.

Talib cemented his legacy in the café with an inscribed brick in the I-House Café patio that reads:

Add your own dedication inscribed on a patio brick. Visit ihouse.berkeley.edu/naming

Philanthropy Matters

First MasterCard Foundation Scholars Graduate!

International House congratulates Naa (Maa-naa) Barkor Pierre, Aisha Kigongo, Narissa Allibhai and Armanda Kouassi for their achievement as the first I-House residents to graduate from Berkeley as part of the MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program. The program targets 15,000 financially disadvantaged students in developing countries with full scholarships and comprehensive support for their education. A $30M grant to UC Berkeley will support 113 students at Cal between 2012-2020, among which all graduate students and many senior-level undergraduates will reside at I-House.

“I only applied to Berkeley to prove to myself that I could get into a great university. I never believed I would go because I knew my family couldn’t afford it. Then came the MasterCard Foundation, UC Berkeley, and International House - and everything changed.” - Naa Barkor Pierre

TRUSTEES CITATION AWARD

Longtime Board Member Martha Sam Hertelendy was celebrated at the UC Berkeley Foundation May 8, 2014 as a recipient of their prestigious Trustees Citation. Given to alumni and friends who are shining examples of service in support of the University’s goals, Martha’s name was put forward for consideration in view of her leadership as Vice Chair for the House’s 75th Anniversary Campaign and for her extraordinary philanthropic service across the SF Bay Area and around the world. Read more at ihouse.berkeley.edu/bonus.
Dining Commons Transformation Project

Beginning in December, 2014, a dramatic multi-million dollar overhaul of the kitchen, servery and key upgrades to the Dining Hall will transform how I-House residents break bread together daily.

Improvements to the Kitchen & Serving Area:

**Enhanced Customer Service**
Four interactive food stations replace the single entrée server, each with the chance for food preparers to connect in conversation with residents, improving feedback loops for constant improvements.

**Food Variety**
An expanded salad bar with more options will be established to complement four food stations: convection oven station (pizza anyone?), a grill (with varying options), International Entrée (with ethnic specialties), and Seasonal Entrée.

**Energy and Water Efficiency**
New lights, plumbing fixtures and cooking stoves will enhance the sustainability focus of the remodel, which furthers our recent improvements with composting and recycling to reduce waste.

**Better Space and Storage use**
Improvements to the flow of customers and food will save time and enhance operational efficiency.

**Presentation Kitchen**
A mobile teaching and prep table will feature an overhead mirror to allow demonstrations of cooking techniques from around the world. Staff, residents and occasional celebrity guest chefs will be invited to showcase their talents.

**ADA Improvements & Enhanced Ergonomics**
Attending to the height and spacing of kitchen and serving area elements will ensure a welcoming and functional experience for all our employees and guests.

Improvements to the Dining Area:

**An Elevated Performance Stage** – for Cultural Theme Dinners, Movie Nights and other occasions.

**New Sound, Lighting and A/V Equipment** – so the voices and images we share together from around the world look and sound their best!
Serving up Feasts and Friendships for 84 Years!

“Satisfying such diverse cultural palates has been an evolving challenge since 1930,” says Joe Lurie, Executive Director Emeritus (IH 1988-07), “but the conversation has always surpassed expectations.” A dedicated staff has through the years valiantly aimed to please palettes from 150 countries and virtually every U.S. state, and while there is no variety of rice we haven’t tried, what is really cooking daily at I-House is dialogue.

“Food brings people together” says IH supporter Rafi Salem, center, shown below (in headwrap) as he prepared an international BBQ when a student in the 1960s. Next to him is Lois Jean (Geffert), his future wife.

In April 2014, resident Shayan Khan of Pakistan shared lunch with her scholarship benefactor, alumnus Irving Tragen (IH 1942-45 & 1947), both affiliated with Berkeley Law. Irving recalled many meals shared in the dining commons with friends and his late wife Ele “Bunny” Tragen, who he met at I-House. “Even though Irving was a student here sixty years before me, it’s amazing we both experience an identical appreciation for how special this place is,” says Shayan.

“Sitting at the dining tables with people from all these different countries makes me feel like I can travel the world just by having lunch” says resident Nneka Okafor, a scholarship recipient and Berkeley Law student from Nigeria. “Every day when you walk into the dining room you can just sit down anywhere and be welcomed. It’s a different experience at every meal and one of the best parts of living at I-House.”

Ketchup, conversation and coffee have been staples of the IH dining experience, although residents today no longer smoke pipes and cigarettes at dinner like those in the 1940s.

Sravan Khan enjoying lunch with Irving Tragen

Where will students eat during construction?

Over the six -month construction schedule (December, 2014 – June, 2015) all 585 residents will enjoy meals next door at the recently renovated Field Club at Memorial Stadium. “It’s a stunning facility,” says Business Manager Shirley Spiller. “We are so lucky its features and convenience make this a perfect alternative for meals while construction is underway.”

Donors Make A Difference

Ever since John D. Rockefeller’s founding gift, generous philanthropic gifts have provided key support to I-House and its capacity to fulfill its purpose: a world of greater understanding and peace.

Dedication of I-House Dining Tables

All 34 original I-House Dining Tables have been designated by the Board as eligible for naming. Gifts will support the Dining Commons Transformation while providing a unique opportunity for those for whom I-House has made a lasting impression to create one of their own.

“I met my husband Tun Yin Chang over dinner in the dining hall, says Marciana Kui Chang (IH 1947-48), pictured here. “We married and had two daughters, one of whom followed in our footsteps as a happy resident of I-House. It’s wonderful to know our family history may inspire others who sit at these tables for generations to come...”

Architect Bob Wong together with his wife Sheryl Wong have also reserved a table dedication, inspired in part by Bob’s personal investment of time and energy over the past fifteen years as a Board member including his current role as Chair of the House Committee. “It’s going to be a beautiful place which will no doubt continue to shape meaningful connections for our residents,” says Bob.

Learn about this and other naming opportunities at ihouse.berkeley.edu/naming.
In January, more than ninety friends and family members gathered at I-House to celebrate the big 9-0 for a beloved “Golden Age of IH” alumnus, Paul Salz (IH 1950-52). Eleven friends traveled all the way from the Czech Republic for the occasion which also drew family, friends and fellow I-House alumni, including Paul’s granddaughter Janey Keig, who spent a summer at I-House in the recent past. Said Janey “It’s so special that my grandpa has been able to hold onto the wonderful people that he’s met over the last 90 years.”

Paul, originally from Czechoslovakia, was part of the Children’s Transport as a fifteen year old and was put literally on the second to last train to England before WWII launched -- one of hundreds of Jewish children whose lives were spared through this program. Originally from England, Paul’s life winded through India before the Bay Area and his path to I-House where he met his future wife, Lottie Salz. Lottie, a vibrant personality who loved music and dance was one of four girls who had escaped a death march from Auschwitz and, along with several other residents, bore concentration camp tattoos from their experiences just as they pursued joyful global friendships in the post WWII era.

Peace & Joy Among Retired I-House Alumni

Joy Iwasa became Associate Director of Development and Alumni Relations in January and together with Shanti, whose name means Peace in Hindi, visited two Bay Area retirement communities where several I-House alumni reside to share and receive stories of I-House. “I’ve been lucky to work at I-House for a decade now,” said Shanti, “and there is no better way for Joy to absorb our history than to interact with our remarkable alumni.” Nearly two dozen residents of Piedmont Gardens and a dozen from St. Paul’s Towers attended afternoon discussions where a short film on I-House history was shared and reminiscences fondly recalled for all. Scholarship recipients Nneka Okafor, from Nigeria, a graduate student at Berkeley Law and Selina Makana, a PhD student in African-American Studies, also attended to give perspective on life at I-House today. Care to welcome Peace and Joy from I-House to your community venue? E-mail jiwasa@berkeley.edu to inquire.

Read more about Paul, Lottie and remarkable alumni in the collection of I-House Golden Age oral histories published by the Berkeley Historical Society, now in production for a second printing. Advance copies can be reserved by emailing ihalumni@berkeley.edu or calling (510)642-4128.
Jason Mehrdad Jazayeri (IH 1978-79)

Jason visited I-House with his daughter Nicole in January to show her his old haunts. She was accepted to Berkeley Law and is thinking of moving into I-House.

Khaled E. El-Khishin (IH 1983-84)

Khaled visited on October 17. He was delighted to meet an Egyptian architecture student like himself and said, “I saw myself in him.” He also met local news anchor and I-House Board Member Diane Dwyer, with whom he discussed the state of affairs in Egypt. He also states, “I was looking forward to returning to a place where I can feel and touch the human bonds which made my stay at UC Berkeley so memorable… I hope more opportunities and scholarships are provided for young Egyptians to come to the US and live through the wonderful experience I enjoyed so much and that made me a better person.”

Rachel Fidler (IH 1987-88)

Rachel and her family visited I-House on April 18th. She writes, “I had an I-House kind of memory of international understanding come back to me today. When we lived in I-House we British used to have a good few drinks with some Argentinian students we got to know. Only a few years before our countries had been at war over the Falklands/Malvinas. What a special place…”

Avaneendra Gupta (IH 1990-91)

Avaneendra (Avi) Gupta visited in April with his son Adarsh. The two came to town for the 45th UC Open Taekwondo Championship - and not only did Adarsh score two medals but the chance to see his parents’ former home (Mom Tabbassum is also an I-House alumna though she and Avi did not overlap as residents). Avi is President and CEO of SmartZip Analytics, and the family has offered to host an I-House reunion in San Jose soon - see ihouse.berkeley.edu/reunions to track reunion events!

Letter From... K.V. and Claire S. Ravi (IH 1963-65)

50 Year Anniversary!

My first day at I-House in September 1963 was memorable for many reasons, but one of the highlights was meeting Sherry Warrick, Director of I-House. As I was struggling up Bancroft with my large and unwieldy suitcase a distinguished looking gentleman walked by and struck up a conversation. He asked me the usual questions- where I was from, what I planned to study and where I would be staying. I had just come from India for graduate school and planned to stay at I-House. He said something like, “Yeah, I heard it is a pretty good place to stay.” He walked on without introducing himself.

Later at a reception for new students in the great hall I saw the same gentleman milling about and asked the guy next to me who he was and he replied- he’s the director of I-House, Mr. Sheridan Warrick!

I had two glorious years at I-House with the highlight being meeting Claire, wooing and marrying her. Sherry Warrick played an important role in this. When I wrote my mother in India about my intentions to get married to Claire she was very unhappy. She did not want her son getting involved with an American girl. She expected me to get my degree at Berkeley, come back home and marry a nice Indian girl of her choosing.

I mentioned my dilemma to Mr. Warrick and he made a remarkable suggestion. He was going to India for an education conference and he offered to fly down from New Delhi, the venue of the conference, to Bangalore in the south, meet my mother and assure her that Claire was worthy of her son! He did this, charming everyone in my family and smoothing the way for Claire and I to get married.

This September, on a beautiful sunny day, Claire and I went to I-House and had lunch on the café patio with Sherry and Betsy Warrick (photo above) for our 50th anniversary, reminiscing about the old days and the important role I-House played in our lives.

Do you have a unique I-House story or do you know an alum who’s doing something great? Email Alumni Relations at ihalumni@berkeley.edu.
1940s
Gilbert E. Haakh (IH 1946-47) Retired and living in Pasadena, Gil shared breakfast with Shanti Corrigan last fall and relayed a photocopied quote from Harold Evans’ memoirs about his stay at I-House Chicago in 1956 that portrays how times have changed when it comes to the price of breakfast! Writes Evans, “Courtesy of the university, I had a room in I-House, living with people of fifty different nationalities. … Like Rockefeller, I counted the dimes. In the cafeteria I was charged 35 cents for breakfast, 20 cents for cereal with milk and 15 cents for a banana - but I found a grubby supermarket where I could buy ten tiny packets of Kellogg’s cereals for 33 cents, milk for 10 cents, and a bunch of bananas for 15 cents. This meant breakfast for ten days on 58 cents instead of $3.50.”

Richard C. Rowson, (IH 1944-47) “I made it to my 65th Class Reunion in Berkeley (’47), I passed I-House (Then called Callaghan Hall) where my career in International Political Communication began. That’s 67 wonderful years inspired by the global perspective given all by I-House and UC Berkeley. I’m also an alumnus of I-House, New York. At 88 years, I remain an active Board Member of Community of Democracies, The United Nations Association, Washington D.C., a member of the Washington Institute of World Affairs and the Overseas Press Club of New York.”

Elizabeth Evans Weston (IH 1945-47) Elizabeth’s daughter, Susan Reed, shares a photo of her parents taken at her mother’s 22nd birthday. She writes, “My Mom met my Dad (Henry Weston) at I-House in 1945 when she was attending Cal working on her BA…. Money was extremely tight. Mom worked as a Roseie the Riveter to help pay for school as well as being a typist. My Dad was getting his Master’s in Zoology. The military had taken over I-House and residents were living in several different fraternities and would meet at one building for meals. Mom was doing very poorly in her Science class and my Dad overheard her talking about it one night at dinner. He offered to tutor her (he admitted later it was a ruse to get to know her) - she agreed, and she passed! They were married after both graduated in 1947. Because of the lifelong friendships developed with fellow students from India and Washington, D.C. I-House was a very special place for them. My father passed away in 2001; Mom is 89 years old.”

Bernice L. Youtz (IH 1946-48) “I continue to treasure my memories of I-House and continuing friendships from that era. My granddaughter, Katharine Youtz, is a graduate student at Sciences Politiques in Paris, lives at Fondation des Etats-Unis and is looking forward to meeting people from around the world as I did.”

1950s
Jacques V. De Guenin (IH 1954-55) “My stay in I-House has been a formidable opportunity to discover and appreciate people from different countries, races and religions from mine. Later in my life, I have been to some 50 countries for work or tourism. Thanks to my I-House culture, I have felt at ease in each.”

Patricia A. Heer (IH 1957-58) “My husband (Naranjan Heer UCB B.S. 1958, J.D. 1951) and I met in our senior year while living at I-House. We married during his first year at Boalt School of Law. I earned a teaching credential at Berkeley. We lived in the Bay Area, mainly Fremont, until his death Nov. 10, 1997. We have two sons and a daughter, all living in CA. I continue to reside in Fremont. We spent our careers - his in law, mine in education, mainly in Fremont.”


1960s
Robert Eberhart (IH 1961-63) In memory of Alan D. Pasternak, Robert writes, “We shared some very happy times at I-House with Al. Carol (IH 1962) and I met at I-House, so it’s a special place for us.” Both are semi-retired and Robert teaches two classes at Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. They have three children, four grandchildren and “just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary with them.”

Lila de Araujo Rayol (IH 1966) “So far away in physical terms but so close to my heart, Berkeley is a treasured memory in my life.” Lila works as a Sworn Translator of the English Language for the State of Para, Amazonia, Brazil and has two daughters in the USA with whom she is “in very close contact thanks to telephone and internet connection.” Her granddaughter Angella is graduating from high school this Spring. Son Manuel is a Senate Officer in Brasilia FD and “a father-to-be with his first baby expected around September/October… All my children live away, so I treat students who come for my translating services as if they were my own kids, so everybody is happy!”

Ida K. Rigby (IH 1966-69) In retirement Ida Rigby has been keeping up the I-House spirit with travel. In 2013 she visited Colombia, Chile (including Easter Island), three Scandinavian countries, Iceland, Morocco, and New Zealand. Her current interests are focused on natural history, so highlights last year were hiking in the High Atlas Mountains, Patagonia and studying geology in Iceland. International travel reminds her that her heart remains in the I-House experience.

Duncan R. McPherson (IH 1960-63) “I was a resident of I-House while I attended law school at Boalt Hall. I worked the “antique telephone exchange,” in the Café and at the Front Desk. I appreciated the library with its foreign publications and the fellowship of the other residents. The dining room was a great place
to meet people and I remember the amusing directions on how to eat certain foods (such as artichokes) which were posted to aid residents who were not used to eating such things. I had a 7th floor room looking west over the campus and the Golden Gate which was the best view of any place I’ve ever lived.” Following graduation and the bar exam he “spent several months traveling 7,000+ miles in a VW bug over much of Western Europe with Phil Miyamoto (IH 1960-63)” before serving in the Army as a Judge Advocate split between Seoul, ROK and Saigon, RVN. “Since most of my work dealt with the local governments and foreign nationals my experiences at I-House were very relevant to my work.” Duncan lives with his wife Nancy in Stockton. He is principal in a law firm, specializing in subdivision, condominium development and finance.

Joan D. and Slobodan Mitric (IH 1968) Joan writes, “Slobodan was from Yugoslavia, and I was an undergraduate Scotch-Irish lass living in California when we met early in 1968 in the Great Hall and married that December, 45 years ago! The reception was at the “Aussies’ House,” where several I-House veterans lived. Many I-House alumni attended, including famed guitarist Hugo Tarrazona, who played entrance and exit themes by The Beatles and Dr. Zhivago. Slobodan and I reunited that same December in Serbia with Pieter Doelman and Tom Cooch in Slobodan’s village of Lipolist. Then we met I-House friends Thierry Trebert and Richard Hills at Tom Cooch’s apartment in Paris at the tail-end of our European honeymoon trip. We’re still in touch with many of these I-House friends today. We owe I-House and Berkeley for the friendship and global cultural connections brought into our lives.”

Ronald G. Olson (IH 1959-1962) writes in memory of Jesus Armenio. “Jesus was one of my first I-House friends. I worked at the information desk (shirt/tie, no beards allowed by Mrs. Sanford) and Jesus worked in the shipping/receiving dept. and had keys to everywhere in I-House.”

Bal Raj Sehgal (IH 1956-1960) “I was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Engineering in February 2013. I wrote a text book “Nuclear Safety in Light Water Reactors,” which deals with severe accidents like the one in Fukushima, Japan. It was published in 2012.” He is also a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences.

Kristin von Kreisler (IH 1967) “I’d like to alert you to my novel, An Unexpected Grace, which will be published in January, 2014 (see Summer Reading List, pg. 6). I lived at the I House in 1967 when I was getting a M.A. in comparative literature; and I still have I-House friends.”

Malati Chenik (IH 1979) “I’m a Registered Dietitian and obtained my MPH at UC Berkeley in 1981. I socialize often with past alumni, and am occupied working with the economically disadvantaged. If I had another life to live, I would choose once again to be a student at wonderful UC Berkeley, and would definitely choose to live at I-House. I need to acknowledge the impressive collection of books at the I-House library and the gourmet catering of meals when I lived there in 1979.”

Markos Kounalakis (IH 1977-78) “My wife and I just returned to San Francisco after nearly four years in Budapest, Hungary. My wife was the U.S. Ambassador to Hungary and I was working as a Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Media and Communication Studies at Central European University. I am currently a Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford. We have two boys, Neo (12) and Eon (11), and they are both fluent Mandarin Chinese speakers. Good to be back in the S.F. Bay Area!”

Anthony P. Robinson (IH 1974-75) “My new book, High-Performance Buildings: A Guide for Owners & Managers, has just been published by CRC/Fairmont Press in conjunction with the Association of Energy Engineers and Taylor & Francis. (See Summer Reading List, pg. 6) This book is a template and decision-making tool to optimize energy efficiency, resource management and overall performance of new or existing buildings. It’s designed to have broad appeal to the seasoned veteran and the new manager alike, but can also be used as a reference by professionals such as architects, engineers, and construction managers.”

Mark Winn (IH 1974-76) attended the UC Berkeley Los Angeles Discover Cal event and reminisced about his “unforgettable” time at I-House. Winn is a film, television and stage actor and will portray (see photo) Frederick Douglass in a new film entitled, Sons and Daughters of Thunder, the unforgettable true story of the beginning of the end of slavery in America. “I really enjoyed prepping for this project with a lot of historical research and reading to put myself into a 19th-century frame of mind.”

Hidefumi Yamagami (IH 1975-77) “It is always nice to remember my academic stay at Berkeley.”

1980s

Elaine Goodfriend (Adler)(IH 1977-80) “I live in Los Angeles and teach Religious Studies and History at Cal State University, Northridge. I am now a proud grandmother of one (so far!) and stay in touch with Sheryl Rosenberg (Thouin) (IH 1977-78). I met many wonderful people at I-House. I’m very happy I had that experience.”

1970s

Craig K. Kandell (IH 1981) “I wrote and illustrated a wonderful book! Whim, Woe and Wonder: Tales for the Ever-Present Child.” (See Summer Reading List, pg. 6). He also writes “My roommate, Mike Schultz was the I-House President and managed the coffee shop. Frank
Mraz, a JD candidate while GRA-ing at I-House went on to become a country doctor! I remember him stopping by my anatomy class (Dr. Diamond’s lab class) saying: “I think I might go to medical school!” Craig is working on two new books and volunteering as a Cal Ambassador, attending meet and greets for accepted students and vetting scholarships. He writes, “Curiously my I-House alumni status has some cachet in this internationally focused world we live in...my UC research diving certification was signed by Glenn Seaborg (IH 1934-35) the champion of Cal and coincidentally the principal discoverer of plutonium!”

Simon Lewis (IH 1981-82), Chief Executive of AFME, was awarded an OBE in The Queen’s New Year’s Honours list for “Public Service and Services to International Education through the Fulbright Commission.” Simon previously worked for The Queen at Buckingham Palace from 1998-2000, and for the Prime Minister from 2009 to 2010. Simon also worked as Communications Director for Vodafone where in his interview with then CEO Arun Sarin (IH1975-78) they realized their common ties to I-House and cemented a working relationship and friendship that has endured since.

Michel L. Lapidus (IH 1979-80) Dr. Lapidus became a fellow of the American Mathematical Society (as part of the inaugural class of AMS Fellows), Jan. 2013. In November 2012, he was awarded the ANASSILADS International Research Prize in Mathematics.

Amanda Barnier (IH 1998) Amanda visited in October to speak at a hypnosis and memory conference. A professor at Macquarie University in Sydney Australia, her research explores relationships among individual memory, individual memory in small groups, and small group “collective memory.” Check out her I-House blog at oliverandamandaineurope.wordpress.com/2013/10/03/memories-of-berkeley-and-international-house!

Michael P. Zingg (IH 1992-93) “As a Swiss exchange student from Sophia University, Tokyo, I felt very much at home at I-House. Even after 20 years I still have many fond memories of the fabulous dinners, wine excursions and mostly of the uncountable mind-opening discussions with so many bright and interesting individuals - some of whom I’m still in contact with today. After living in France, Switzerland and Germany, we have moved back to Japan for Novartis Pharma. I hope to visit I-House and UC Berkeley again in the future, bringing my family to show them what a special place this was and still is.”

2000s

Remy Champion (IH 2009-10) shared a photo from a Danish Christmas party at I-House this past December. “We all lived in I-House Fall ’09-Spring ’10. Such good memories!”

Justin Go (IH 2000-03) Justin lived and worked as an RA at I-House and has a debut novel coming out, The Steady Running of the Hour (Simon & Schuster; April 15, 2014 - see Summer Reading List, pg. 6). The Steady Running of the Hour has been chosen as a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers pick.

Roshan Gujar (IH 2003) “We were looking though old letters of my father’s (Ajit Gujar IH 1970-71) time at Cal and I found some from his I-House host family (Claude and June Hogan). It made me think deeply about how much I-House offers its residents and the larger international student population at Cal. I learned his first job in this country was as a dish washer in the Dining Hall. He also mentioned that the I-House event he most looked forward to was folk dancing on Friday nights. He smiled as he explained that there was music from Macedonia and nearby countries and everyone would mingle and dance. He even met his first (and only) American girlfriend at this event - who he was with until he met my mother as a proposed arranged marriage. I’m so proud to be an alum of the unique and special community that is I-House. Cheers to intercultural understanding - everyone needs to get turned on to what I-House offers!”

Rena Katsuyama (IH 2008-09) visited in September as part of research on law schools. “Great to be back at I-House.”

Robert Nelson (IH 2004-05) was back at I-House on Feb. 20th for the annual Beyond Academia career education conference that exposes UC Berkeley PhD students and postdocs to career options. “Living at I-House was a great experience to be among young, friendly people. It’s a very vibrant place,” he says. “The Dining Hall was great, and I really appreciated being able to easily make friends and not have to cook.” He currently is a lecturer on world history at San Francisco State University and freelances at an environmental foundation in San Francisco.

Daniel Morato Oses (IH 2002) & M.D. Mar Rubio Varas (IH 2001-02) met during an I-House excursion to the Tech Museum of Innovation of San Jose on Super Bowl Sunday. After the trip, they began sharing a table in the Dining Hall and the Chinese New Year celebrations in SF gave the pair an
excuse to go out again. Following their time at I-House Daniel and Mar married in 2007, the same year their elder son was born. “Our kids know we met in California, and someday we will bring them to I-House to show them where our little family started. We keep I-House in our hearts. And every year, the Super Bowl and Chinese New Year bring back our fondest memories.”

Andreas Schmidt (IH 2002-06)
Currently the CEO of AyoxxA Biosystems, Andreas is a mentor of current resident, Alvin Kok from Singapore and had strongly recommended I-House, vividly recalling the days when he and his friends had occupied the entire 7th Floor. Alvin states, “I think the bonds we forged many years ago remain tight to this very day.”

2010s
Clara Bourgi (IH 2011-12)
“May Peace Prevail on Earth”-these words are written on peace poles in front of I-House, between two residents from France, who were unaware this picture was taken. Antoine La Chaine and I spontaneously danced on the front steps at the end of a year full of fun experiences, unexpected adventures and life-long friendships. As I look back two years later, I’m struck by how perfectly it shows a moment of pure happiness and great friendship. Wherever we go - Berkeley, DC, Paris, Munich, Lyon, Singapore - he will be one of the people I care most about. Thank you I-House, for such a wonderful time!!!

Rohit K. Pothukuchi (IH current) writes about his non-profit initiative, “Verdentum is a non-profit social network connecting students around the world with policy makers like the United Nations to better understand and work towards solving global problems. The UN has expressed interest in potentially connecting over 1,000 universities in 120 nations through this network.”

Friends
Evangeline Buell (former I-House staff member)
Our family received great news last night from Tacloban. Bill’s niece-in-law, parents and family were found safe, but sadly their home was completely destroyed. Bill’s nephew Tim Buell was a resident at I-House in the 1980’s and this is his wife Rosa Linda’s family. We cried for joy to know they are alive. The I-House vigil was very meaningful for us.

James P. King

Rafi M. Salem
“You - and this place - inspire me!” said Rafi Salem to I-House Alumni Relations Director Shanti Corrigan, who was depicted along with the I-House dome in an original oil painting Rafi completed in the fall of 2013. Rafi, originally from Iraq, was a non-resident I-House member in the 1950’s with a distinguished professional career as a chemist and businessman in addition to his artistic talents. “What a wonderful tribute to my enduring ties to this amazing institution,” said Shanti, who also welcomed Rafi and his wife Lois to the I-House Gala 2014.

Staff News
Welcome New Staff!
Liliana Cardile, Front Desk Operations Manager
Arthur Dylag, Student Affairs Liason
Jess Delegencia, Intercultural Education Outreach
Joy Iwasa, Associate Director of Development & Alumni Relations
Karalyn Marshall, Events Coordinator
Deborah Preston, HR Manager

Nicole Callis (Catering Coordinator) welcomed baby Theo in November. He’s pictured here in his I-House onesie with mother Nicole and proud grandma Bonnie Johnston (IH Executive Asst.) representing three generations of I-House!

Board News
Many thanks to the following Board Members whose terms have been completed after many years of service to I-House: Yoshi Akiba, Kit Choy Loke, CV Ravi and John Sears.
In Memory

Golden Age’s Castello, Brewer

A. ELLIOTT CASTELLO (IH 1946-49) (October 29, 2013)
A third-generation Californian, Elliott transferred to UC Berkeley in the fall of 1940. He was one semester short of graduation when Pearl Harbor was bombed and was drafted into the Army Air Forces in March of 1942. He completed his Bachelors degree through Army officer training at Harvard. Mustering out in December 1945 as a First Lieutenant, Elliott re-entered UC Berkeley in the spring of 1946, as a graduate student on the GI Bill. He studied law, and then political science, living at I-House. Elliott retained many friends here and abroad, who remember him as an important part of the post-war I-House scene. He was always warm, welcoming, and politically-engaged. Many fondly remember his tenor voice serenading from the Home Room stairs with the singing group, The Jahoobos. All four Castello children delighted in listening to Elliott’s campfire cowboy songs accompanied on the guitar, during their numerous family Sierra camping trips. Elliott met his wife, Darlene Landon Castello (IH 1947-49), at I-House, and they married in 1953. Their daughter, Jeanine Castello-Lin co-edited The Golden Age of International House 1946-53 containing 19 oral histories of I-House residents.

1930s Alumni

Verlinda Silva Clark (November 19, 2012)
Verlinda (IH 1930-39) graduated from UC Berkeley with her B.A. in Humanities in 1942.

1940s Alumni

Augustus “Bart” Berger, Jr. (August 7, 2013)
Bart enlisted in the Army Corps (Air Force) in 1942. He flew over 50 missions during World War II as a P-38 pilot and reconnaissance photographer and earned two Silver Stars. After returning from the war, he lived at I-House while earning his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering in 1948. Bart worked for the California State Highway Department for 28 years until he retired in 1977. Bart was an early member of the Berkeley Camera Club, where he met his wife June Elizabeth Fountain.

Shirley Kahn Rosenberg (October 22, 2013)
Shirley graduated from UC Berkeley where she met Robert (UCB ‘41), her husband of 66 years. Shirley worked for the San Mateo Union High School District where she supervised 120 aides within the eight district schools. Shirley was active with the League of Women Voters and her congregation, Temple Beth El.

Lester Curtis Elmore Jr. (October 13, 2013)
Lester received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering (UCB’49). He was a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honors Society and the Pi Tau Sigma International Mechanical Engineering Honor Society. From 1944-46, Lester took a hiatus from his studies to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II, attaining the rank of Captain in the 3rd Infantry Division, 10th Engineer Combat Battalion. Les built a career in research and development for the defense industry, and founded PulsePower Systems, Inc., where he served as President for more than 20 years. Lester’s daughter Paula is an I-House alumna (IH 1987-88).

1950s Alumni

James F. Vedder (January 1, 2014)
Dr. James Forrest Vedder resided at I-House while serving as a teaching assistant in the Physics Department, and received his Ph.D. in Physics in 1958. He is survived by his wife Lesly Garrow Vedder, also UC Berkeley alumni (1950).

Mary “Bette” (Jack) Chevron (September 18, 2013)
Bette was a “Golden Age” resident who met her husband Robert R. Chevron (IH 1950-51) while at I-House. She received her M.A. in French from UC Berkeley in 1951.

1970s Alumni

Stein Arild Stromme (January 31, 2014)
Stein was a Professor of Mathematics at the University of Bergen, Norway. He passed away on January 31, 2014 at the age 62.

Friends

Helen Barber (October 14, 2013)
Helen met her late husband Thomas Barber at I-House and was a member of the Section Club. Her volunteer leadership included the Junior League of the East Bay, the Claremont Book Club, and Town and Gown. She founded and chaired the first Berkeley Repertory Theatre (BRT) Board of Directors and led a successful capital campaign to build BRT’s first theater on Addison Street.

Yale Braunstein (July 25, 2012)
Yale joined the faculty of the UC Berkeley School of Information (then the School of Library & Information Studies) in 1983. He authored or co-authored more than 50 articles in the fields of economics and information science and served as Head Graduate Advisor and Departmental Equity Advisor for the School of Information Master’s Program. Yale was also an active member of the UC Berkeley Academic Senate. He established the Pacific Telecommunications Council’s O.S. Braunstein Prize in 2007 for the year’s best student research paper in telecommunications in honor of his late father, a chemist, photographer, and businessman. Yale is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, his son, Alex, and his sister, Hetty Jane.

Florrie M. Milligan (February 9, 2014)
Florrie, a student of Political Science,
married her longtime family friend, William J. Milligan (IH 1947-49), following his time at UC Berkeley. After traveling through Central America and living in Denmark (where Bill was raised), they returned to Berkeley to raise a family and open a business together.

Florrie and Bill stayed in Berkeley until their retirement in 1980, after which they moved to the north coast of California. They enjoyed years of extensive travel together until Bill’s death in 2004. The generous financial bequest of Florrie and Bill will continue their life-long support for International House’s goal of advancing cross-cultural understanding for a more tolerant and peaceful world. This gift will provide annual scholarship assistance for I-House residents with financial need.

Claire Rothenberg (June 1, 2013)
Claire co-wrote several songs; one, “A Whole Lotta Loving” was turned into a hit single by Fats Domino but to her six kids, her version is far superior! In 1966, she moved to Berkeley with husband Don Rothenberg and their family. Claire was a soloist with the Berkeley Community Chorus. She also worked and volunteered at the Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Community Center.

Gifts in Memory / Gifts in Honor

The gifts below were received between September 1, 2013 and February 28, 2014. Honorees in bold, followed by names of the donor(s).

Gifts in Memory
Ward R. Anderson
Elaine Anderson
Alfredo Anderson
Margaret Ann Guheen Anderson
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The Castello Family
Dr. Al Garren
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Jeanette Mahoney
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Ellen Gunther
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Marna Feldt
Susan Klee and David Stoloff

In Loving Memory of Damon Alan Frick

A valued member of the I-House custodial team since 2011, Damon Frick is remembered as a quiet, gentle spirit who was dedicated to his work, serving the mission of I-House, and as a devoted family man. He passed away on April 9, 2014 after sustaining injuries on April 7th while at work to prepare the House for a series of events. He was 45 years old.

A memorial service was convened at I-House and a bus later chartered by I-House to bring both staff and residents of International House to a family service with dozens of longtime friends and members of Damon’s family including parents Ron and Bonnie, brother Dylan, his loving partner, Denise, and his children Claudia and Damon Junior. Damon’s ready smile and friendly demeanor were recalled by all.

Tammy Scott, Human Resources Service Coordinator at I-House, recalled of Damon that “he would come in after his shift and sort through our candy bowl to try and get the green ones, so he could give his kids their favorite candy. When he came home, they’d check his pockets … they’d expect he’d have a treat for them.”

During the 2014 I-House Awards Gala, Hans Giesecke led a moment of silence and stated, “my personal hope is that Damon’s family, and especially his children, will receive an outpouring of support from the extended I-House community and they will tangibly feel the respect and appreciation that we have for his service here, and for all those who on a daily basis work to advance our cause.”

Donations to support Damon’s family are being collected by I-House and a trust-fund is being created for Damon’s children. Online gifts accepted at youcaring.com (search for Damon Frick).
Printed copies of IH Times are mailed to contributing alumni and members. Sign up for free email version of I-House Times at our website or contact ihalumni@berkeley.edu.

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INTERNATIONAL HOUSE TIMES
THE NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS & ALUMNI OF INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

84 Years and Going Strong!
Since August 18, 1930: A Beacon of Hope for a World of Greater Understanding.

This watercolor of the Berkeley Hills featuring International House was recently sent to us by Sarah Miller who shared this story of its origin. The artist is UC Berkeley alumna Mabel Minnich Miller, shown at right with IH in the background, who graduated in Fine Arts at UC Berkeley in 1937. Her high school sweetheart, Francis E. Miller - an electrical engineering graduate student - proposed under the Campanile and they were married in Berkeley in 1936, the year she created this painting.

Learn more about the remarkable history and vibrant history of I-House online at
ihouse.berkeley.edu

Archival prints available at www.MabelMinnichMiller.com
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