



INTERNATIONAL HOUSE TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS & ALUMNI OF INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

2019 WINTER / SPRING

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Executive Director's Message

Aspiring Towards a More Welcoming Community



Life at major universities, such as the University of California Berkeley, can be full of daunting experiences. At International House, we have residents from nearly 75 countries studying in some 90 areas of academic inquiry. On their educational journeys, our residents are often confronted by academic challenges the likes of which they have never seen or experienced before. They are

also surrounded by highly talented peers who push and prod them in sometimes uncomfortable or challenging directions intellectually, culturally, and relationally.

International House plays a significant role in assisting our residents as they deal with the myriad pressures encountered daily as they go about their lives at the university. We know that when one is plunged into a foreign environment and dealing with significant cultural differences, there will be times when the world appears to be awry. Thankfully, I-House has a highly trained and experienced staff who help our residents deal with such instances of cognitive and social dissonance. Our most essential task is to welcome our residents home daily and make them feel like this is a convivial place that will give them a sense of belonging and purpose as they go about their academic pursuits.

More often than not, our residents go through various stages of adaptation to the Berkeley environment. First, they are amazed by the beauty of the surrounding campus and its stunning location overlooking San Francisco Bay. Then,

they are both simultaneously appalled and enthralled by the many cases of wild and crazy behavior they encounter on the streets of Berkeley and the overall sense of pandemonium they experience walking around the city. Finally, as they adjust to the stark differences between the campus and its surrounding environment, they start to see how this can be a very potent learning atmosphere because it does not paper over the many challenges that our society must deal with as we strive to be both more inclusive and just.

Given the sensory bombardment that our residents deal with on campus and in its surrounding environs, I-House's role as a welcoming community is critical to their emotional stability and sense of balance. We strive to be a place that our residents feel enthused about coming back to and finding friendly faces who make them feel both comfortable and accepted. The fact that all of our residents live and dine together creates a strong sense of camaraderie and warmth that cannot be easily replicated in other places at the university.

With the amount of turnover that we have in our resident body as individuals come and go, we constantly aspire to be an ever more welcoming community. This requires careful attention and focus on enabling this to be a place that is both accepting and inspiring to all those who walk in our front door. As life in Berkeley is replete with such challenges, there is a resulting need for a space that is conducive to love and laughter, support and guidance, acceptance and embrace.

International House is truly that place! ■



Hans C. Giesecke, Executive Director

Meet Bill Howley, Director of Philanthropy

"What would you like to change or preserve in the world?"

— Tracy Gary, Author of *Inspired Philanthropy*

Thank you for your continued support of International House at UC Berkeley!

In these challenging times, the I-House mission is as important as ever. As the new director of philanthropy, I very much look forward to meeting you, and learning from you how I-House has made a difference in your life. In answer to Tracy Gary's important question, changing the age-old patterns of distrust, lack of mutual respect, and the attendant societal ills of conflict, racism, and intolerance inspires all of us to preserve and to expand the I-House movement.



I-House's mission to foster intercultural respect, understanding, lifelong friendships, and leadership skills to promote a more peaceful world is indeed both a powerful catalyst for change and a set of ideals worthy of preservation.

I-House relies on philanthropic support from alumni, foundations, corporations, and friends to provide room and board scholarships for students with financial need, to preserve our historic home, to strengthen program offerings, and to position for the future.

I-House is such a powerful idea, with an almost 90-year track record of compelling excellence in opening minds and broadening perspectives among the next generation of leaders from throughout the world. As a key part of my new position, I have the pleasure of listening directly to the residents, alumni, friends, and supporters who visit I-House or write in with their valuable insights, remembrances, and gifts to keep the I-House dream alive today, tomorrow, and forever. I look forward to listening to you as well! ■

Global Homecoming

A Tasting Journey Around the World

I-House hosted our 4th annual Global Homecoming on Sunday, October 14th. Over 300 residents, alumni, and community members came to celebrate I-House's take on homecoming with an international twist. Activities included I-House executive director emeritus Joe Lurie's presentation



on "Cultural Disconnects with Refugees and Immigrants," an I-House Art and Architecture walking tour, the Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership's (CIL) interactive session on how humans react to cultural difference, the Global Table Talk

Lunch, and the ever popular international fashion show and tasting festival. It was a wonderful opportunity for participants to experience much of what has made I-House home to so many.

This year, Todd Koenigsberg, Executive Chef (pictured right), wanted to highlight lesser known countries of the 74 from which our residents hail at this year's tasting festival. With the help of CIL, he partnered with residents from Albania, Colombia, Kenya, and Vietnam to prepare delicacies from their countries and host a table for our Around the World Under the Dome tasting festival.



The residents chose their favorite dishes, shared family recipes, and cooked in the kitchen with Chef Todd and his staff to create a culinary experience for all the Global Homecoming attendees.



Current resident assistant (RA) Eranda Bregasi was very excited to represent Albania and share her culture. Coming to the United States, she has been exposed to many different cuisines. She believes that learning about another country's gastronomy gives one an enhanced perspective about its history and culture.



One dish Eranda and Chef Todd prepared for the tasting festival was Byrek. This dish is one of Eranda's favorites from home, and the recipe she used has been in her family for generations. Her mom, Mirjeta, played a very important role, even though she was on the other side of the world. She made sure via Skype that Eranda and Chef Todd had all the right ingredients and the correct methods of making Byrek. The calls were several hours long, and her mother participated throughout the night to make sure the dishes were prepared properly. Surprisingly, Chef Todd and his staff understood her mom even though she was speaking in Albanian, as they all carefully followed each step of the recipe, preserving the traditional way of cooking Byrek. Hence, the love of cooking can be understood in all languages. ■

Byrek me Djathe dhe Spinaq (Spinach and Cheese Pie)

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 400 g (12 sheets) Filo Pastry | 4 Tbsp Olive Oil |
| 200 g Spinach | 220 ml Water |
| 2 Eggs | ½ Tsp Dried Basil |
| 180 g Cheddar Cheese | |

Filling:

Ensure all stalks are cut off the spinach and place into a mixing bowl. Add the eggs and cheese. Mix so the egg covers all of the spinach.

Fill the Pastry:

Take two sheets of pastry, add some of the filling along the long edge leaving about an inch underneath. Fold in both sides about two inches, then from the bottom, fold the inch left over the mixture then roll upwards to make a long sausage shape. Roll loosely into swirls or fold into horseshoe shapes.

Create six Byrek. Brush with olive oil and sprinkle with basil. Bake at 180 degrees for 30 minutes or until golden brown.

Recipe from myalbanianfood.com

Preparing Leaders of the Future

An Interview with I-House Resident Alexander Blom Vigsoe

For over five years, the Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership (CIL) at I-House has been offering leadership development opportunities for residents. The fall 2018 semester included our two-unit, skill-building course entitled “Global Leadership for the 21st Century,” our career workshop “Interviewing for Career Success,” the RA Leadership Development program, contributions to the New Resident Orientation Retreats, the Host Family Program, and other offerings.



Alexander Blom Vigsoe

I-House resident Alexander Blom Vigsoe, from Sweden, participated in both the Global Leadership course and the career development workshop. He kindly offered to let me interview him so that he could share his thoughts on how these two offerings have impacted him and his future.

JP: Alex, thank you for doing this. I’ve got a few questions about your work with CIL

last fall. The first question is a general one about the Global Leadership course. What would you say is the overall impact the course has had on you?

ABV: Eye-opening, if I were to use one word. What I mean by that is that I got so many perspectives I wouldn’t have gotten at Berkeley, couldn’t have gotten in Sweden, and probably couldn’t have gotten anywhere else. How do I know this? I have been living in an international dorm back in Sweden, and I thought of myself as being intercultural and good at interacting with people from other cultures. Taking the class made me realize that I wasn’t as intercultural as I thought I was. In class, I got to learn multiple dimensions of differences that I didn’t know about. It was very eye-opening hearing about it and I said, “Wow, there are many things that I didn’t know about.”

JP: Are there any examples that stand out for you?

ABV: The DIVER tool! [A tool for questioning judgments and faulty assumptions, expanding worldview, and welcoming diverse perspectives.] It was a good tool to question what you really know about a situation and to question whether you have a prejudice about a situation. I found that very valuable. I would recommend people take the Global Leadership class. It was extremely good. You can’t compare it to a pure academic class or pure seminar because it wasn’t like that. It was something that made you think, and challenged what you thought you knew. That was nice.

Jason D. Patent, Ph.D.

Director, Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership

JP: Are there ways in which taking the course has affected your life at I-House?

ABV: Yes. It has improved my communications with my peers, or whenever I meet new people. There are the standard questions, like, “Hey, what’s your name? Where are you from? What do you study?” But you don’t really get to know people by asking them that. What you want to know is, “What do you believe in? What drives you? What’s your goal? What gets you up in the morning?” Those are the things you want to hear about. By knowing how you can improve your communications — both what you put out and how you can interpret what you receive back — you can get some really meaningful answers and make some meaningful connections.

JP: Turning our attention to the “Interviewing for Career Success” workshop, how has that impacted you?

ABV: I was applying for internships for the summer when I took the workshop. I thought I knew how to write cover letters, but afterward I thought, “Yeah, I did not know how to write cover letters.” So I applied the principles from that workshop to every cover letter, and to how I communicate with people. I got eight interview offers, took six of them, and got three offers to choose from. Honestly, I don’t know how that would have been possible without the workshop.

JP: Is there anything from the Global Leadership course, or from the Interviewing for Career Success workshop, that you can see putting on your resume?

ABV: I will use the class as part of my master’s degree because people will ask me, “Hey, what is this course?” I can then share what the class is about. That will be a competitive advantage for me in a rapidly changing, globalizing world.

I-House residents: Stay tuned for further opportunities with CIL, including the next iteration of the Global Leadership course in fall 2019. ■



The Resident Experience Working Group

Cultivating Community: The Core of the I-House Mission

International House Executive Director Hans Giesecke has made a principal focus of ensuring that I-House students' residential experience is a top highlight of their time at UC Berkeley. Over the decades, tens of thousands of Cal alumni around the world recall their I-House residency as one of their fondest university-related personal memories, and have spread the values of I-House globally.

I-House emphasizes an integrated residential experience, with staff, alumni, and supporters working together to offer a wide variety of programs, events, activities, retreats, training, and community-building efforts in a seamless experience — from initial admission through meals and dining, lectures, films, and festivals with an international focus. In addition, workshops on leadership and intercultural skills are available to residents, as well as the campus and local communities.

The residential experience here at I-House is shaped by multiple departments. We have a collaborative team called the *Resident Experience Working Group*, comprised of staff from Admissions, Programs, Resident Support Services, and the Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership (CIL). All team members are working to create an intentional residential experience from the day residents arrive to the day they move on and carry the I-House mission with them throughout the world.

The Admissions team is where the residential experience begins. The team is responsible for marketing and outreach to the campus, to departmental partnerships, and to programs that bring international students into the Berkeley community to study and do research. Admissions assists applicants with room assignments, as well as with all the billing and administrative functions relating to a resident's stay at I-House. Admissions also oversees key resident services such as the Resident Service Center (RSC), the front desk operation, the mail room, package deliveries, and laundry, providing the facilities and services that contribute to a great I-House experience for the students who live here.

Creating a community that residents thrive in is an important goal of the Resident Experience team. There are many things that make International House a unique space for creating community, not least, the exchange of ideas and cultural sharing that play into how I-House is set up. The mandatory dining experience for all residents recognizes the importance of simply sitting across the table several times a week from someone who comes from a different background, having a conversation, and learning about that person in a one-on-one setting.



Residents enjoying the 2019 New Resident Orientation Retreat at Walker Creek Ranch in Marin County

Signature I-House programs start with new-resident orientation retreats. Sunday Supper is one of I-House's oldest and most-distinctive traditions. This special gathering of residents, alumni, and guests to share food, entertainment, and friendship always brings something memorable. Each Wednesday evening, residents gather in the Great Hall for coffee and treats. Residents can sponsor a special-themed Coffee Hour that features their home countries' cultural themes, music, and culinary specialties.

The Program Office coordinates social and educational activities that include community exploration and tours, performances, and sporting events. Residents showcase special talents by becoming a part of I-House's performance roster. Resident musicians, singers, dancers, and artists of all kinds perform throughout the year.

Residents enthusiastically use common spaces such as the Library, the Great Hall, the Game Room, and the Dining Commons, where they will inevitably engage with people in meaningful ways, instead of hanging out in their rooms with friends they already know. This kind of social setting is a necessary ingredient in the intercultural mix that we have nurtured here. The added social energy of having students from all over the world — some who are here for the first time, and some who are here for just a few short months — make most of the residents eager to get as much as they can out of this unique experience. This encourages friendships that often last a lifetime.

Today's digitally-connected I-House residents perceive and learn about the world in a much different way than residents did in 1930, and we've had to adapt intercultural learning to acknowledge that level of experience and exposure. This is where the intentional programming that the Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership team develops and implements really comes into play.

Leadership opportunities are something that the *Resident Experience Working Group* realizes is extremely important for I-House residents. In addition to formal traditional leadership roles, like Resident Council membership and being a resident assistant, I-House offers leadership opportunities for growth through our student workers.

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THE 31ST ANNUAL CELEBRATION & AWARDS

Gala

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019

The International House Annual Celebration and Awards Gala proudly honors advocates and trailblazers who embody the mission of I-House, to promote a world of greater peace and understanding.

This year we are pleased to announce that UC Berkeley Chancellor Carol Christ, Chair of the International House Board of Directors, will present **Oona King (IH 1989-90)**, with the *Alumna of the Year Award* to recognize her visionary leadership serving as the director of diversity strategy at Google, a member of the British Parliament, and an advocate for human rights.



Oona King, 2019 I-House Alumna of the Year

The event begins with a warm greeting by our Resident Hosts, many of them dressed in their traditional home country attire, followed by an elegant reception in the Great Hall. Guests will then be escorted to the Chevron Auditorium to enjoy an engaging awards ceremony, captivating resident performances, and an exquisite three-course meal prepared by the I-House Catering Team led by Todd Koenigsberg, Executive Chef.

We hope you can join us for this annual fête. Tickets are \$275 per person, or \$150 for those under 35 years of age, and can be purchased online at ihouse.berkeley.edu/gala.

For more information on our honorees and sponsorship opportunities, or to buy event tickets by phone, please contact us at (510) 642-4128 or ihalumni@berkeley.edu. ■



Resident Hosts await to greet guests at last year's Gala

SEIZE THE MOMENT 2019

BIG GIVE

3.14

The UC Berkeley experience is made up of a million little moments, and Big Give — UC Berkeley's annual 24-hour fundraising blitz — is one of them. Help make an impact on I-House residents with your gift at biggive.berkeley.edu between March 13th at 9 p.m. and March 14th at 9 p.m. (PST). Of course, you can donate anytime via ihouse.berkeley.edu/donate.

We invite you to join in on the Big Give fun and help us reach our goal of 150 gifts! All I-House Big Give donations go toward the Fund for I-House, which supports our mission and provides the I-House experience to more than 100 students from across the globe through our financial aid program.

Visit ihouse.berkeley.edu/biggive for specific contests, and to see how I-House residents and alumni seize the moments throughout the day. ■



Harry Edmonds' Lasting Legacy and That "I-House Magic"



In 1966, Harry Edmonds, founder of the I-House movement, embarked on a 104-day tour of 22 different International Houses around the world. His travels took him all across the United States, from New York to California to Hawaii, and then to multiple countries across Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. Edmonds' great-granddaughter, Alice

Lewthwaite, recently embarked on a tour to follow in his footsteps to revitalize the mission of International Houses Worldwide. Between January and March 2019, Alice is traveling to 18 countries and appearing at more than 25 I-House alumni events along the way.

On January 6th, I-House Berkeley was honored to welcome Alice on her world tour. A welcome reception was held for Alice and over 35 alumni from I-House Berkeley and I-House New York. In a ceremonial "passing of the light," Alice used a candle from I-House New York to light an I-House Berkeley candle. This candle relay will continue along the tour, symbolizing the light that International Houses have spread throughout the world. As we say in Berkeley, *Fiat Lux!* Joe Lurie, I-House Executive Director Emeritus, spoke about Harry Edmonds' lasting legacy. The evening ended with a group tour led by Hans Giesecke, I-House Executive Director.

Throughout her travels, Alice met many I-House Berkeley alumni along the way. In Maui, Hawaii, she met with **Lynn Erfer (IH 1981-83)** and enjoyed sharing I-House stories over lunch. While in Taiwan, **Grace Hong (IH 2016-18)** gave Alice a tour and took her to a traditional Taiwanese lunch. They also attended an I-House alumni gathering organized by I-House New York alumni. Alice then traveled to Hong Kong where she met **Nelson Fung (IH 2006)** at a small alumni gathering.



"The common theme when I meet alumni from any of the I-Houses is how it was, and that it is still, considered their home away from home. For many, it was also a place of sanctuary where they 'grew up' in a caring and nurturing environment. And most importantly, they learned how to appreciate and respect others no matter their nationality, religion, or gender. It is this experience that has often helped them flourish in their professional and personal lives. The 'I-House magic,' as Harry knew, is simply by interacting daily and living side by side; they learn we are all more similar than different."

— Alice Lewthwaite

Alice's journey continues to Delhi, Mumbai, Beirut, Istanbul, Athens, Rome, Paris, Berlin, Stockholm, Oslo, Helsinki, Copenhagen, London, and Chicago. To learn more about this extraordinary project and to see pictures from her stops along the way, visit grainsofsand.blog or her Facebook group at facebook.com/groups/grainsofsand19. ■

The Resident Experience Working Group

Cultivating Community: The Core of the I-House Mission

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Almost every department employs student workers, many of whom are residents. We provide support and guidance for their professional development while they are working in a variety of contexts at a number of different levels within our organization. Something that we are working on consistently is taking the CIL models for leadership development and intercultural awareness, and embedding those into our resident engagement and our leadership training. Bite-sized portions of that intercultural learning and training are embedded into new-resident retreats and training for resident assistants and student workers, as well as other general workshops and presentations that are created for growth throughout the year.

Together, the Resident Experience team is working to innovate while maintaining core values and traditions to keep the I-House dream alive and well. ■

The Golden Age of International House *Shines On*

The “Golden Age of International House” is an era that is legendary in the hearts and minds of many members of the I-House community; it spans the years 1946–1953, following World War II. These years of recovery and growth, and our residents who shaped this era, had a deep and resounding impact on I-House that embodied the idea of a community of students of different nationalities and backgrounds living together in friendship, harmony, and peace.

Jeanine Castello-Lin and Tonya Staros, editors of *The Golden Age of International House Berkeley: An Oral History of the Post-World War II Era* write:

Having survived the horror or at least the anxiety of the war, the survivors’ gratitude was palpable. From their first moments at I-House, the postwar students extended a friendly hand to strangers and compatriots alike. Regardless of whether the newcomer spoke the same language or was of the same race, the response was the same — to join in.

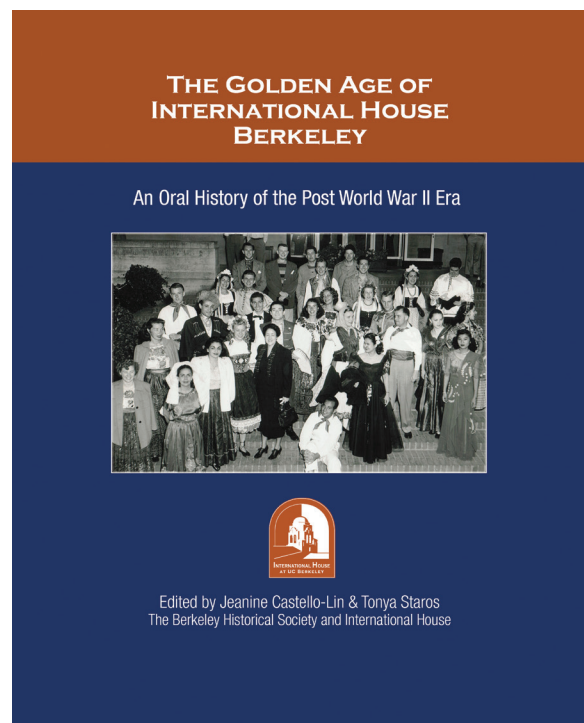
Students arrived at I-House with an effervescent appreciation of life and an amazing resilience of spirit that was contagious. The shared trauma of the war brought students together in enthusiastic determination to make a better future.

In the conclusion of *The Golden Age of International House Berkeley*, Castello-Lin and Staros write:

With its generosity and enthusiasm, the Golden Age cohort helps to remind us of the great potential of places such as I-House to heal in times of . . . challenge. We cannot help but marvel at this remarkable group of people who . . . possessed a distinctive spirit of passionate engagement with the world.

One of these remarkable Golden Age residents was Marion Ross. She lived at I-House from 1946–1951 and recently passed away on October 25, 2018 at the age of 94 (see Marion Ross’ obituary on page 17). In the Golden Age book, Marion reminisces about how I-House changed her:

My time at I-House was enormously rewarding. I was grateful then and I’m grateful now. I began to see finer distinctions of ethnicity than I had before and I realized the importance of the ethnicity of people. How did I-House shape the path that I took in life? Well, I might not have gotten a Ph.D. if I hadn’t lived at I-House... there was a core of very serious students that influenced me greatly. I thought I was going to change the world.



The Golden Age of International House Berkeley: An Oral History of the Post World War II Era, edited by Jeanine Castello-Lin and Tonya Staros is available for purchase at ihouse.berkeley.edu/alumni/store for \$20.

Although Marion didn’t feel like she did much, she did indeed change the world in her own unique way. First, by earning a Ph.D. in economics from UC Berkeley. She was one of the few women to achieve this advanced degree in the 1950s. She also served on the I-House Resident Council, whose purpose is to represent the residents, provide leadership, and liaise with the I-House administration.

“From their first moments at I-House, the postwar students extended a friendly hand to strangers and compatriots alike. Regardless of whether the newcomer spoke the same language or was of the same race, the response was the same — to join in.”

Beginning in 1959, she impacted many students and peers through her role as a professor of economics at Mills College, Oakland, over a period of 33 years. Additionally, through her service on the I-House Board of Directors for 15 years, she was the first woman to serve on the I-House Finance Committee, and also served in the roles of chief financial officer and chair of the finance committee.

Marion's concern for talented, but underserved students, resulted in co-founding an endowed fellowship for international students who otherwise couldn't pursue graduate work at Berkeley. Her passion and counsel was also illustrated by her service on the Financial Aid Committee of the I-House Board for many years.

As an I-House resident, Marion met Jean Sullivan Dobrzensky, who was a senior I-House staff member from 1946–56 and later, an administrator in the office of the Chancellor of UC Berkeley.

After their beloved Golden Age co-resident Rafael Rodriguez's early death in 1981, Marion and Jean decided to honor him and the special friendships of many Golden Age alumni, by initiating a campaign for an endowed room and board scholarship. In 1989, they reached out to over one hundred alumni and friends from the Golden Age to request contributions for this fund. In this way, the special cohort of Golden Agers, and their unique and gifted friend, "Rafe", an artist, botanist, and biologist, would create a poignant legacy.

In 1990, in partnership with the UC Berkeley Graduate Division, the Rafael Rodriguez/Golden Age Fellowship (RRGA) was established to provide an annual room and board scholarship, paid tuition, and a modest stipend at I-House. To date, 35 RRGA Fellowships have been given



Marion Ross with fellowship recipient, Heyuan Liu and guest Amy Nunal at the 2018 Fellowship Dinner reviewing a 2018 publication of botanical drawings of orchids by Rafael Rodriguez

to deserving first-year, international graduate students. This annual RRGA Fellowship became the model and inspiration for the annual Gateway Fellowships Program that followed beginning in 2004. Through individual donors who seek to help bring the best and the brightest Ph.D. students to I-House and UC Berkeley, and provide a smooth "gateway" to academia, the generous Gateway Fellowships Program continues to offer up to 11 fellowships annually.

With Marion's generous financial support and leadership, her legacy lives on to inspire others who desire to help deserving students through support to the I-House Financial Aid Program, which provides scholarships to both U.S. and international student residents. In just the past eight years, 982 students have received full or partial room and board support totaling \$4.8 million. For the current academic year, 50 U.S. residents and 84 international residents are the beneficiaries of full or partial room and board scholarship support. These scholarships are a result of the generosity of many I-House alumni and friends.

We are always delighted to hear from financial aid recipients who share stories of their achievements that were made possible by their time at I-House, and who wish to "pay it forward" in the future.

I-House continues to benefit from the inspiration and generosity of Marion Ross and Golden Age alumni and friends. Deserving students who follow in her footsteps continue to embody the overarching mission of International House as they move on to serve as global leaders. ■



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Ravikumar Ramachandran
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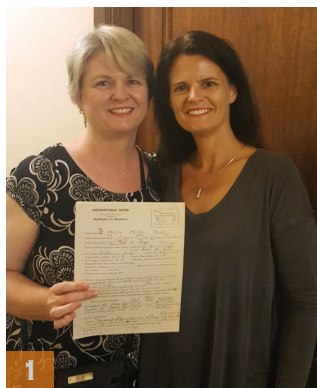
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We strive to be as accurate as possible; however, if you notice an error, please contact ihalumni@berkeley.edu or call 510.642.4128. Thank you for your generous support!

Back to Berkeley

Look Who Came To Visit!



1. Sisters Kim Ashby and Kari Park came to learn more about the history of their great-uncle **Wesley Burnett (IH 1937-38)**, who met his wife, **Ellen Kalbfell (IH 1937-39)**, at I-House. The sisters' grandmother, **Mollie Mckee Boggs (IH 1938-39)**, also lived at I-House during the same period. It was a highlight for them to receive their relatives' original applications and to see all the rooms they had called home. It made Kim's birthday visit very special!

2. Upon his visit back to Berkeley, **Irving Tragen (IH 1943-47)** sat down for breakfast with the Eleanor D. and Irving G. '45 Tragen I-House Fellowship recipient, **Diler Cavdar**. This scholarship fund, established in 2013, is held at UC Berkeley for partial I-House room and board support for a UC Berkeley School of Law student with demonstrated financial need.

3. **Vivien Petras (IH 1999-2000)** is a visiting scholar from the Humboldt University in Berlin who wanted to come back to see her old floor. In addition to seeing the door of her room, she was pleased to find the library looks as it did when she was here and that her favorite study place was vacant.

4. **Bruce Slavin (IH 1977-1979)**, while visiting from his home state of Idaho, dropped in to show his wife Nancy one of his favorite places at Berkeley when he was in optometry school in the seventies. He loved seeing his mailbox again.

5. **Andrew Harrell (IH 1971-74)** stayed in the Ambassador Suite while traveling for business in the Bay Area. He appreciated seeing his nine bricks on The von Kaschnitz Patio for the first time.

6. While visiting from New York, **Inge Van Doorn (IH 1995-96)** and **Riccardo Cazzoli (IH 1995)** brought their daughters to see the place where they met.

7. **Kathy Rai (IH 1990-91)** came by the I-House Alumni Relations Office to find more information on one of her I-House friends from Kuwait. She relished seeing the Great Hall and going down memory lane.

Back to Berkeley

Alumni are always welcome to visit their old home under the dome!



8



9



10



11



12



13



14

8. Seattle resident, **Kamran Nemati (IH 1984-95)**, on his way to vacation in Cancun, was able to see I-House during his layover in San Francisco. He is very proud to note that he is the resident to have lived the longest at I-House.

9. Harriet "Hatti" Sudell (IH 2013-14), a former resident program assistant from London, England, came by while she was in town for a friend's wedding to surprise Larnie Macasieb, from the Program Office.

10. While visiting San Francisco from London, England, **Christopher Ball (IH 1959-60)** made sure to stop at I-House to see his floor and the Great Hall. His tour sparked memories of when he met "a very young senator from the state of Massachusetts on campus." He was also very proud that his wife, when she was 17 years old, performed at Queen Elizabeth II's coronation.

11. **Hassan Sadrudoin Boolani (IH 1960s)** was delighted to walk through the halls of I-House again with his family. Seeing the I-House mailboxes again brought back many delightful memories for him.

12. I-House Board member and 1968 Cal alumnus **Bob Wong** hosted a group of 1968 I-House alumni to lunch and a tour. Three I-House alumni explored I-House again and enjoyed lunch in the Dining Commons.

13. It had been 43 years since **Michel Wormser (IH 1974-75)** was last at I-House. His tour revived his old memories from the time he lived at I-House when he was 21 years old. A few years after leaving I-House, he joined the World Bank. The years he spent at I-House were perfect preparation for his career and primed his passion for the richness that can be found only in diversity.

14. **Pierre Wallart (IH 1967)** came from France to visit his daughter and her family in Berkeley. They stopped by I-House to show his grandson where he lived when he attended Berkeley in the sixties.

If you would like to come back to I-House for a visit, please contact the Alumni Relations Office to schedule a time at (510) 642-4128 or ihalumni@berkeley.edu.

Global Gatherings

Alumni Reunion in Norway

Hans and Susan Giesecke hosted an I-House alumni reunion in Oslo, Norway, on August 10, 2018. More than 50 guests gathered to celebrate I-House and hear about the latest updates happening under the dome. It was a fun evening for all!

We would like to personally thank our alumni reunion committee members who assisted with the event: **Lucia Crespo Campo (IH 2012-13)**, **Trygve Harvold (IH 1964-67)**, and **Ole Bjørn Røste (IH 1995)**.



I-House Alumni Reunion in Taiwan

I-House board member Eugene Yano was pleased to host an alumni reception in Taiwan on June 19, 2018. Nearly 30 I-House alumni and Berkeley Club of Taiwan members gathered at Le Té in the Palais de Chine Hotel to share their I-House and Berkeley memories. That Cal spirit was strong in Taiwan. Go Bears!

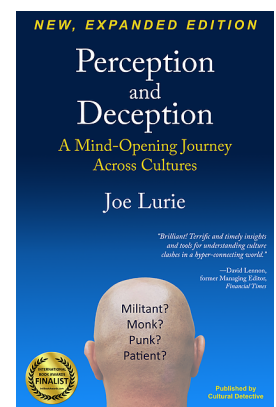


Commonwealth Club of California in San Francisco

On January 16, 2019, Joe Lurie, I-House Executive Director Emeritus, presented a spirited and insightful discussion based on the expanded edition of his award-winning book *Perception and Deception: A Mind-Opening Journey Across Cultures*. The event was offered in association with International House and the Northern California Peace Corps Association. To listen to the podcast of Joe's presentation, visit commonwealthclub.org/podcasts.



From left: **Chacko Neroth (IH 1967-70)**, **Lara Elamin (IH 1991-92)**, **Joe Lurie**, and **Linda Sarkis (IH 1970-73)**.



Read reviews and order at:
perceptionanddeception.com

Would you like to reunite with I-House friends around the world?
The Office of Alumni Relations can help you spread the word.
Email ihalumni@berkeley.edu or call (510) 642-4128.

Alumni News & Notes

1950s

Mina Parsont (IH 1954-56) writes, “I am a hidden child of the Holocaust. My sister and I were hidden in a little town called Chabanais near Limoges in France. We survived the Holocaust, thanks to a very courageous Christian family, who risked their lives by hiding us. They sheltered us twice, and the second time lasted for six months. We looked for their five children for many years, and we had our first reunion with them in August of 1998 after 52 years! I am now 83, and a retiree after a long teaching career. Since my retirement, I’ve spent most of my time with my grandchildren.”

Helen Crane (IH 1951-52) who met her husband **Raj Desai (IH 1951-52)** at International House and married in June of 1954, sent an update: “Raj celebrated his 90th birthday last year. Thank you, I-House and UC Berkeley. We are so grateful!”

1960s

Arlene Blum (IH 1967-68) Congratulations to *I-House 2017 Alumna of the Year*, **Arlene Blum (IH 1967-68)**, for being inducted into the California Hall of Fame. Former California Governor **Jerry Brown (IH 1960-61)** presided at the event titled *Honoring Californians Who Change the World!* Other 2018 inductees were Joan Baez, who was honored at our 2012 Gala, Belva Davis, Thomas Keller, Nancy McFadden, Robert Redford, Fernando Valenzuela, and UC Berkeley alum, the late Ed Lee, former mayor of San Francisco. Congratulations to all the honorees!

Ron Choy (IH 1965-68) writes, “The first time I saw my wife, **Susan McDougall (IH 1966-68)**, I knew she

was the one, and after more than 50 years, she still is. I made lifetime friends at I-House: **Stuart Pawsey (IH 1964-66)** and **Glenda Pawsey (IH 1965-67)**, and my departed friends, **Shannon Flynn (IH 1967)**, **Maureen Haight (IH 1966-74)**, and **Keith Haight (IH 1967-68)**.”

Professor Krishna Bhattacharjee (IH 1965-66) updated us on his work as the executive director of the Centre for Human Settlements (CHS-Habitat), an institute that delivers welfare services to marginalized children, women, and families in India by providing education and vocational training. He is actively seeking volunteers, and more information can be found on the CHS website: chshabitatcal.org.



Professor Bhattacharjee visited I-House during Global Homecoming 2018 and presented Hans Giesecke with a copy of his latest book, *Architecture: Creating Green Buildings & Sustainable Habitat*.

Ron Bolstad (IH 1963-65) writes about meeting the love of his life at I-House. “Marilyn was one of ten women from Mills College who traveled to I-House for dinner and some social time in April 1964. We dined across from one another in the dining hall, strolled the upper portion of the campus, and now here we are 54 years later, still very much in love. Thank you, I-House!”

Florence Yee (IH 1964-66) (pictured right) was visited by Joy Iwasa, associate director of philanthropy, while Joy was visiting family in Hawaii. Florence shared some of her favorite memories of I-House.



Lila de Araujo Rayol (IH 1966) writes, “I turned 81 years old, and my youngest grandchild, Eduardo, celebrated his first birthday. Warmest wishes to all I-House managers and residents!”

1970s

Valerie Henderson (IH 1973-75) writes, “I still look back on the wonderful friends I made and the experiences I had living at I-House. I am now in Los Angeles with my son Charles, who is applying to graduate school in engineering.”

1980s

Rhett Livengood (IH 1985-87) reflects on his time at I-House: “I remember the meals, the ballroom dance classes, and the view of the Golden Gate Bridge from my window. I remember watching the Golden Gate Bridge’s 50th Anniversary. So many people walked on the bridge that it actually flattened out!”

Alumni News & Notes/Staff Transitions

Tahir Masood (IH 1983-92) joined the National Engineering Services Pakistan (NESPAK) as its president and managing director on July 13, 2018. NESPAK is the largest state-owned consulting engineering company in



Pakistan, with over 5,300 employees. As an I-House resident program assistant, he organized several in-house events, tours for the residents, and orientation sessions.

Erin Andrews (IH 1989-91) is living in Seattle with her husband and daughters and is the founder of two chocolate companies: Cotton Tree Chocolate in Belize, and Indi Chocolate in Seattle, WA. When she is not out hunting beans, you can usually find her in the chocolate factory or Indi Chocolate in Pike Place Market in Seattle. She is always searching for the next great flavors in chocolate, so if you know of any cacao farmers, please contact Erin at info@indichocolate.com.

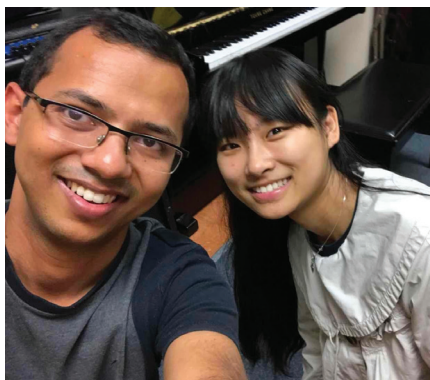


2000s

Michelle Bravin (IH 2008) writes, "Over the past years, I have been working in the contract furniture industry. I am now the vice president of KBM Hogue furniture!"

2010s

Kezhou "Melody" Lu (IH 2016-18) shared a sweet story: "I am a big fan of classical piano, and I was a frequent music practice room user. I found someone who was very good at classical piano and always practicing next door. I loved his music, and somehow we always found ourselves practicing at the same time. Before the end of summer, I finally brought myself to knock on his door. His name is **Rohan Sahai (IH 2018)** and he is from India. Since then, we've been very good friends!"



Eda Yu (IH 2014-16) graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in chemical biology. She has since pursued a career as a writer, working at many notable tech firms in the Bay Area. Her writing has appeared in publications like *VICE*, *HuffPost*, and *KQED Arts* (NPR), among many others. Visit the *HuffPost* to read her recent article, "What It's Really like To Be a Young Woman of Color in Tech."



Joël Thai (IH 2010-11) writes from London, "One of our I-House friends had a wedding in Bali so several of us flew from different parts of the world to make a reunion trip out of this wedding. We are planning to celebrate our 10th friend-versary next year (2020) in Berkeley." Pictured from left (names in bold are IH alumni 2010-11): Howard Cheng, **Ivy Chu**, **Cynthia Or**, **Benjamin Maurice**, **Como Shin**, **Jeff Yuk**, **Peter Thomas**, **Karin Vernooij**, **Joël Thai**, and Ankit Mishra.



If you enjoy reading News & Notes and would like to be featured in our next newsletter, please send your news and photo to ihalumni@berkeley.edu.

Staff Transitions

June 1, 2018 - March 1, 2019

Welcome New Staff

Maria Gonzalez Guiza – *Custodian*
Bill Howley – *Director of Philanthropy*
Chaoqiang Huang (Simon) – *Cook*
Pou Leng Lei – *Custodian*
Charles Scott – *Custodian*
Morgan Townsend – *Cook*
Lisa Wafer – *Custodian*

Farewell

Ivan Barrios – *Cook*
Aaron Clark – *Resident Life Coordinator*
Sean Garcia – *Cook*
Maribel Guillermo –
Manager of Resident Support Services
Christina Lo – *Purchasing Clerk*
Kimi Mojica –
Student Engagement Officer
Jacqueline Trovato – *Custodian*

In Memory

1940s

Nancy Anderson Chirich (IH 1945-47)



Nancy — writer, editor, publisher, and environmental advocate — passed away on January 13, 2015 in Berkeley at the age of 91. After

graduating from the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism in 1947, Nancy worked for the American Embassy, on assignment for the United States Information Service as photographer and journalist.

During her return to the Bay Area, she authored *Life With Wine*, a collection of California vintner interviews, and founded mystery novel publishing company, Cliffhanger Press, which gained critical acclaim as an independent press with its Edgar-nominated authors.

On the third anniversary of her passing, her ashes were scattered along the Pacific coastline, amongst family and friends. Contributions are being made to her favorite local public radio station, KALW, to honor her affinity for fine journalism.

Harvey Kennard Holden (IH 1946-48)

Harvey passed away peacefully at home after a beautiful life spanning 95 years. He attended Beverly Hills High school in 1936 with several future movie stars, then California State University at San Diego, and ultimately received his MBA from UC Berkeley. He made many lifelong friends at International House.

Joining the Air Force at the start of WWII, he served in Florida, the Philippines, and Japan as an officer in charge of entertainment and morale for the troops. His career included being a business manager for several large

packaging firms before starting and running his own successful packaging business until his retirement.

He is survived by his sons, Paul and Alan, their wives, children, and grandchildren.

Dayton O. Hyde (IH 1946-50)



Dayton Ogden “Hawk” Hyde Sr. passed away December 22, 2018, with family at his side. Hyde was not only a rancher and author,

but also a naturalist, environmentalist, cowboy historian, rodeo photographer, and rodeo clown. He appeared on several television shows, including “The Dick Cavett Show,” “Good Morning America,” and “National Geographic Today.” *People Magazine* described him as “an amazing American.”

Over the years, Hyde was featured in *Life* and *Parade* magazines and received many awards. Among his many honors, he was named Conservationist of the Year by three different Oregon governors and the National Cattlemen’s Association Environmentalist of the Year; his book, *Don Coyote*, was named one of the ten best books of the 1980s by the American Library Association.

Lily S. Rose (IH 1948-52)

Lily S. Rose passed away on August 21, 2018, at the age of 92. Lily and her family escaped Nazi Germany and settled in Chicago. She went to Senn High School, Roosevelt University, and the University of California Berkeley for graduate work. She stayed in San Francisco, teaching special education and then working in human resources. After her husband’s passing, Lily returned to Chicago with their two children and went to work at Roosevelt

University. She became the director of admissions and assistant dean of students, acting as a leader and helping generations of students succeed.

Marion Ross (IH 1946-51)



I-House Alumna of the Year 2001, Marion Ross, intrepid world traveler, professor emerita, and a former dean at Mills College, died

on October 25, 2018, at her Berkeley home at the age of 94.

Marion served on the resident council when she lived at International House from 1946 to 1951. After attending the London School of Economics for a year, she began doctoral studies at UC Berkeley, completing her Ph.D. in economics in 1956 — one of the few women at that time to achieve a doctoral degree in economics from UC Berkeley. She became a Fulbright Scholar to India, and then taught economics at the University of Michigan-Flint for three years. Marion’s love of sailing and backpacking prompted her return to the Bay Area.

Later, she was the first woman on the I-House Finance Committee, serving for 15 years as a member of the Board of Directors, chief financial officer, and chair of the finance committee. She co-founded the Rafael Rodriguez/ Golden Age Scholarship endowment for international students.

Marion is survived by her nieces Ann and Barbara, nephew Ross, several grandnieces and grandnephews, and many loving friends. Donations in her honor can be made to the Rafael Rodriguez Golden Age Fellowship at I-House. Learn more about Marion’s extraordinary contributions to I-House on pages 8 and 9.

In Memory

1950s

Michael Belton (IH 1959-62)



Michael James Scott Belton was born and raised in England. He graduated from the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, before coming to the United States

and earning his Ph.D. at the University of California, Berkeley. He joined Kitt Peak National Observatory in 1964, and was particularly interested in the origin and evolution of planetary systems. For his contributions to the exploration of the solar system, the Division for Planetary Sciences of the American Astronomical Society awarded him the prestigious Gerard P. Kuiper Prize. Those who wish to continue his efforts in planetary science may make a contribution to the Planetary Science Institute, 1700 East Ft. Lowell, Suite 106, Tucson, AZ 85719, or visit psi.edu.

1960s

Thomas Martin (IH 1963-1966)

Tom lived at I-House in the 1960s while he attended Boalt Law School. He worked with summer program students while at I-House and eventually joined the Peace Corps in Panama. He later went on to receive a Ph.D. at Stanford in communications research, taught at University of Southern California (USC), then Syracuse University before retiring in 2008.

Over the years, he taught in China, Brazil, Peru, Malaysia, Thailand, and India, and was a world traveler. His specialties were human interaction with computers, and international information policy. He became ill in 2009 and passed away April 1, 2014.

Friends

Rick Arnitz

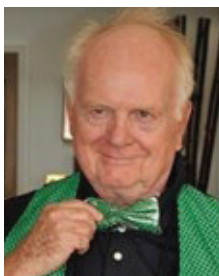


Rick Arnitz lost his life to cancer on September 9, 2018. He served as an I-House security guard from 1975 to 2006, and is remembered fondly by staff who

worked with him. Rick received his BA, MA, and MFA from the University of California, Berkeley. His work has been exhibited widely in the Bay Area since 1975, including a solo exhibition at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in 1989, and is included in numerous private and public collections including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the San Jose Museum of Art, the Berkeley Art Museum, and the Oakland Museum of California.

To honor Rick's memory, friends are encouraged to support local artists and arts organizations, and to dig deep into his artwork at rickarnitz.com.

William D. Buell



Bill died peacefully at Piedmont Gardens where he had been residing for five years. He was the youngest of six children born to Clyde and Kathryne Buell. He

is survived by his beloved wife of 32 years, Vangie, who was the first public events coordinator for I-House. In addition, he leaves behind eight nieces and nephews and their respective families, cousin Winnie, three stepdaughters, and four grandchildren.

Bill received his BA from the University of Minnesota in philosophy and literature.

He worked as a data system analyst at State Fund of California, retiring after 25 years. His hobbies included studying Homeric Greek, as well as singing with the Berkeley Community Chorus and Orchestra and with the Oakland Bay Area Community Chorus.

Dorelee Landon Castello



Dorelee Landon Castello graduated from high school in 1942. Since money was tight back then, she started at the Modesto Junior College. In 1944, she had the

opportunity to join the WWII Women's Auxiliary Naval Reserve (WAVES), where she sailed throughout the Caribbean. She completed her time of duty in 1946 and went to UC Berkeley on the GI Bill.

Even though she never lived at I-House, it played an important role in her life. Dorelee would regularly stop at I-House after classes and made many dear friends there. She attended many I-House dances, where she met her future husband, Elliott Castello.

After graduating from Cal, she became passionate about teaching. She convinced Elliott to follow her and become a teacher as well. They married in 1953 and had four children. Throughout her life, she realized her dream of traveling throughout Europe and kept up with her many I-House friends from the Golden Age (late 1940s and early 1950s). Dorelee passed away on September 10, 2018.



I-House Executive Director Hans Giesecke is serving as lecturer on the California Alumni Association tour to Croatia from May 20-31, 2019.

If you would like to join the tour, visit: alumni.berkeley.edu/travel/cal-discoveries/europe/croatia-and-dalmatian-coast

Gifts in Memory: June 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019

Marvin Abraham

Olaf S. Leifson

Alfredo Anderson

Margaret A. Guheen

Robert Baque

Ronald D. Morrison

Rose G. Buck

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International House is a program center and campus residence for students from around the world, including the United States. Our mission is to foster intercultural respect, understanding, lifelong friendships, and leadership skills to promote a more peaceful world.

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UPCOMING SIGNATURE I-HOUSE EVENTS:

BIGGIVE 3.14.19

CAL BIG GIVE, Thursday, March 14th

Help us reach our goal of 150 gifts at ihouse.berkeley.edu/biggive2019. Please see page 6 for details.

CalDay

Cal Day Under the Dome, Saturday, April 13th

Get a glimpse of the I-House experience on Cal Day! Enjoy brunch in our Dining Commons, resident performances, and tours. Brunch is \$15 for the public or \$13 for I-House alumni.



International House Celebration and Awards Gala, Thursday, May 9th

Proceeds from the Gala benefit the Fund for I-House and our mission to advance a world of greater understanding and peace. Visit ihouse.berkeley.edu/gala to purchase tickets. Please see page 6 for more details.