



# INTERNATIONAL HOUSE TIMES

WINTER  
2007 - 2008

THE NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS & ALUMNI OF INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

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## FORMER AMBASSADOR MARTIN BRENNAN HEADS I-HOUSE

Martin G. Brennan, a Cal alum and former ambassador, took the helm of I-House on July 1, becoming the fourth Executive Director in the 77-year history of the House. "As a student at UC Berkeley, International House called me to the global arena," recalls Martin. "I am honored to return to Berkeley in service to an institution that means so much to so many."

Martin brings more than 30 years of diplomatic experience to his new role as Executive Director. He served as U.S. Ambassador to Uganda and Zambia and held posts in Rwanda, Burkina Faso, Taiwan, Portugal, and Ethiopia. Refugee work took him to Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos.

"I-House is a powerful catalyst for promoting cross-cultural connections, as many of our alumni can attest," says Martin. "The pull of this powerful force for a more tolerant and peaceful world is what attracted me to I-House. I am deeply grateful to have been chosen to serve as I-House's Executive Director."



Martin Brennan, center, with members of the 2007-08 Resident Council. Front row from left: Hadas Goshen (USA/Israel), Monique Porsandeh (USA), Nathaniel Rice (USA). Middle row: Luke Harley (Australia), Julia Hassen (USA), Naim Dargouth (USA/Tunisia). Top row: Ann Nisenson (USA), Pui-Wa Lai (Hong Kong).

"When I was a Cal student, the simple fact that the House existed and was such an impressive site added credence to the idea of thinking and acting internationally. It really was a beacon of international spirit and a great place to drink coffee and join in conversations with students from everywhere."

"The best part of being back at I-House is the opportunity to interact with residents and to be both teacher and student," says Martin. "Where else can you discuss the art of conversation and learn what constitutes polite or impolite behavior in different cultures and then discuss applications of string theory?"

"Thanks to Joe Lurie's talented leadership, a dedicated Board of Directors, generous and supportive alumni and friends and a committed staff, I-House is doing well," says Martin. "After three months on the job, I am inspired by the powerful commitment of alumni to the mission of the House and I am grateful we have a Board that cares deeply about this institution."

Chancellor Robert Birgeneau, Chairman of the I-House Board of Directors, announced

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## "I CAME INTO THIS HOUSE A KENYAN, BUT NOW I AM A GLOBAL CITIZEN!"

Sarah Amugongo, a Ph.D. student from Kenya, described the profound impact of her two years at I-House to the audience attending the May gala. For Sarah, what began with a friendly welcome when she first arrived at I-House unfolded into a life-changing opportunity for a young woman who had never before left her home country. As she describes the experience, "I came into this House a Kenyan, but now I am a global citizen!"



Sarah Amugongo describes the life-changing impact of living in I-House.

Sarah acknowledges that without the financial aid she receives from I-House, her Berkeley education would have been an impossible dream. Now in the third year of her Ph.D. program, she plans to pursue a career in biomedical research concentrating on bone diseases, especially osteoporosis.

Following are Sarah's remarks:

*Thank you, my name is Sarah Amugongo and I come from Gisambai, a small village in western Kenya near Lake Victoria. I am a Ph.D. student in biology.*

*It was on the 8th of August in 2005 when I first arrived in Berkeley. That was the first time I had ever left my home country. When I arrived at I-House, there was a student at the front desk named Kyle who worked in the Admissions Office and he said to me, 'We are very excited to have you here!'*

*He then directed me to the cashier's office and there I met a woman called Lin who said to me in a sweet motherly voice, 'We are ready for you!' I wonder how many places one would receive such a warm welcome. As you can see, I have never forgotten about them.*

*Since that day, weeks and months have passed, turning into two years. I came into this House a Kenyan, but now I am a global citizen. I would like*

*to thank all of you who are seated here tonight for making this all possible.*

*In addition to our specific areas of specialization in academia here at Berkeley, you open our minds in a way you cannot fathom. The International House, together with my wonderful host family, has given me a home away from home.*

Sarah spent the summer in Kenya investigating the variations in a baboon skeletal collection at the National Museums of Kenya as well as doing a survey for new paleontological and archeological sites in Tanzania.

Sarah was awarded fellowships from the Leakey Foundation and the Wennergren Foundation to pay for her tuition and a stipend this year. "And, most important," she says, "Thanks to generous donations, I've received I-House scholarships for two years!"

"By the end of my stay," Sarah adds, "I would like to take with me the confidence that we can pursue our studies to the highest levels despite poverty, contribute to global development, and fight degradation. All this can be accomplished by sharing ideas, which is only possible through the unity that is cultivated in International House."

## GOLDEN AGE TEA WELCOMES MARTIN AND REMEMBERS LOTTIE

Alumni from the 1940s and 1950s gathered with members of the Salz family for an afternoon tea in July to meet Executive Director Martin Brennan and dedicate the room of fellow alumna, Lottie Wallerstein Salz, who lived in the House from 1947 to 1953.

Family and friends shared memories of Lottie, who was originally from Prague, Czechoslovakia. When war came to Prague, her family was arrested and her parents died in concentration camps. Lottie survived three camps before escaping on a march to the fourth. At I-House, she became an active member of the House community and met her husband, Paul Salz. Lottie kept her I-House friendships very much alive throughout her life and is remembered with great warmth and affection.

Family members attending the event included Paul Salz (IH 1950-52), Dasha Salz Keig, her husband Dan Keig, and their daughters Annie and Janie (IH 2007). Janie followed in the footsteps of her

grandparents, Paul and Lottie, by living in the House for the summer.

A plaque for Room #398 was unveiled with the inscription:

*Dedicated to Lottie Wallerstein Salz,  
1921-1989*

*An I-House resident from 1947-53, Lottie was born in Prague and survived the Holocaust. Despite a concentration camp number tattooed on her arm, Lottie was dedicated to the principles of I-House and promoted tolerance, understanding, and peace throughout her life.*

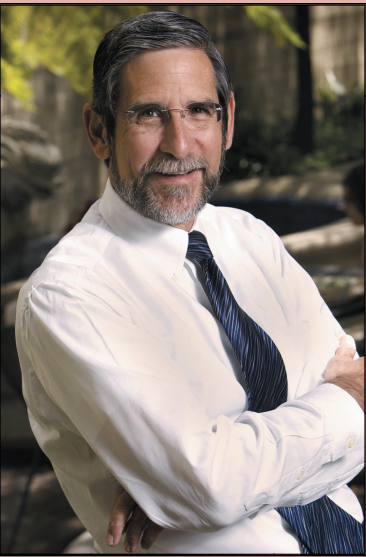
*Lottie met her husband Paul Salz at I-House who, along with fellow alumnus Charles Clapp, have dedicated Room 398 to her memory.*



The Salz family joins alumni to dedicate a room in memory of Lottie Wallerstein Salz (IH 1947-53). From left: Dan Keig, Thea Eckstein, Tibor Eckstein (IH 1947-48), Paul Salz (IH 1950-52), Annie Keig, Janie Keig, Dasha Salz Keig.

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ENCOUNTERS WITH ENLIGHTENMENT



Martin Brennan

As the new Executive Director, I wondered how I-House would welcome me. Much like Giovanna’s family, alumni, Board members, residents and staff have gone out of their way to embrace my arrival. I am grateful to feel so much at home in this unique community. I have been welcomed into the I-House family fold.

While in Bangkok, Giovanna and I hosted Sa and Weo, high school students who lived on a distant farm. They joined us each vacation to learn English. As often happens in cross cultural encounters, the teacher became the student.

One of their visits coincided with Songkran, the traditional water festival. For two scorching days, the Thai outsmart nature by tossing cool water at one another. I studiously avoided participating lest I compromise my status as a presumably respectable diplomat. That is, until Sa and Weo asked: “You know Songkran?” “Oh, yes.” “Do you throw water?” “No, I watch.” “Doing is better. You will please come with us.” They handed me a bucket and gently nudged me out the door. The heretofore proper village girls and perennially uptight diplomat took position in front of our apartment building along a busy street. To my dismay, the girls pulled the hose from our building to our gate. I hoped upon hope no one would recognize me.

A taxi slowed before us. Two well dressed passengers peered through the open window. Before I could shout, “Not them!” Sa and Weo tossed buckets of water with professional accuracy. I was in the process of apologizing when the two distinguished and drenched gentlemen pulled out water guns and let me have it. As the taxi sped off, Sa and Weo spotted a crowded bus heading our way and jumped up and down. I signaled the driver to keep moving. He stopped, opened the doors, and Sa and Weo let loose with the hose. The waterlogged bus riders cheered. Sa and Weo politely filled the riders’ cups and the passengers returned the water with gusto. Sa and Weo then dashed across the street and doused two policemen. As I pondered how to say ‘bail’ in Thai the police roared with laughter. I finally got the message. Vehicles and water streamed nonstop for hours. We even splashed the car of a somewhat dour government minister. I was having too much fun to care. Finally as we sloshed upstairs to our home Sa and Weo smiled and said, “Now you know Songkran.” I had learned to let go.

I had also learned that the journey of understanding and respect is lifelong and that memorable passages illuminate our path. The beauty of I-House is that so many of these paths converge under the Dome. Here we encounter the liberating fun of Songkran amid the swirl of other cultural encounters. We are transformational and relevant and I look forward to working with you as we strive to foster a more tolerant and peaceful world.

Mas

Martin Brennan  
Executive Director

At our Sunday Supper—my first ever—we explored forms of “welcome.” When I was an exchange student in Italy I met someone special, a university student named Giovanna. Three years later we proceeded to Giovanna’s small village near Padua to be married. The wedding was a family affair. Her brother, the village priest, performed the ceremony and her family filled the pews. Immediately afterwards, we overwhelmed the steps of the small church for the group photo. And then it happened. Giovanna’s family, all thirty of them, came forward one by one and kissed me Italian style on both cheeks. Each one looked me in the eyes and said, *Benvenuto in famiglia!* (“Welcome into the family!”) Before the wedding, I had wondered how I would be accepted. Their warm welcome said it all.



Martin was welcomed warmly into his new Italian family at his 1973 wedding and into the I-House community this summer.

A LEGACY OF LEARNING

Roseavear Family Opens “Gateway” for I-House Students

This spring, Allan Roseavear, a retired aviation engineer in Irvine, California, read the newsletter from the UC Berkeley Physics Department and was intrigued by a unique I-House scholarship established in honor of Carl and Betty Helmholtz. Mr. Rosevear, an I-House alumnus himself, studied in the Cal Physics Department when it was chaired by Carl Helmholtz. He was captivated by the unique structure of the scholarship—an endowed fund that yields annual earnings for a student’s I-House room and board, for which the UC Grad Division provides a greater than dollar-for-dollar match through awards of tuition, fees, and an annual \$5,000 spending stipend. Within a matter of weeks, Mr. Rosevear, together with his wife, Kathleen, established a similar Gateway Scholarship endowment that will also shape a legacy of learning for students who otherwise might not afford access to UC Berkeley or the rich experiences that life at International House makes possible.

Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. Rosevear graduated from Earlham College in 1960 and received his master’s in Physics from Cal in 1962 after two years at I-House where he formed friendships with students from around the world. He later was employed at North American Aviation Autonetics Division, Rockwell International, and Boeing Company in Anaheim, CA, before retiring in 1998. His work included development and production of inertial instruments and navigation systems, computer systems design, and software engineering. His hobbies include gardening, hiking, travel, and model railroading and he is currently a volunteer at Orange Empire Railway Museum in Perris, CA.

The Allan and Kathleen Roseavear Gateway Fellowship gives priority preference to eligible students studying Physics or Astrophysics. The first scholar will be identified in the fall of 2008.



Allan Rosevear sports his new I-House T-shirt after establishing an I-House Gateway Fellowship.

International House Scholarships

Through Gateway and other scholarship funding, 17% of residents will receive financial aid from the House during the current year, through annual awards valued at nearly \$600,000. Martin Brennan together with the I-House Board of Directors aspires to increase these awards to total \$1,000,000 annually. “With the dramatic rise of tuition and fee expenses, the experience of studying at UC Berkeley and living at International House is becoming further out of reach for many deserving scholars,” says Brennan. “Thanks to the scholarship gifts from alumni and friends, gateways to new worlds of opportunity are opened.” Scholarships play a crucial role in maintaining and expanding the cultural, ethnic and economic diversity of International House. Contact Shanti Corrigan at (510) 642-4128 or [shanti@berkeley.edu](mailto:shanti@berkeley.edu) with questions or to get involved.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS MEET GATEWAY SPONSORS

Scholarship recipient Yuequing Wang (left), a Statistics Ph.D. student from China, attended the fall Lodestar Program with Michele Ü and I-House alumnus and Board member Kwei Ü. Kwei and Michele, who are supporters of the Adrian Hao Yin Ü Gateway Fellowship, have enjoyed close friendships with their scholarship recipients since their fellowship was launched in 2006. The 2006-2007 Ü Gateway Fellow, Ray Liu, also attended Lodestar and shared in the night’s celebration with the Ü family and Yuequing.



Martin Brennan accompanied I-House resident Nick Kardahji of England, the first Eltoukhy Gateway Scholar, to meet his scholarship supporters Atef Eltoukhy and his wife Fofa, at their Woodside, California, home. Nick is pursuing his Ph.D. in History with an emphasis on Middle Eastern Studies after completing his Masters in Middle Eastern Studies at Oxford. He presented the Eltoukhy family with an I-House poster as a token of thanks for their support.



ROOM DEDICATION PLAQUES HONOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Residents arriving at I-House this fall found plaques honoring alumni and friends on a growing number of rooms, conveying a sense of the lives of former residents and of the history of the House. Recently named rooms include:

- Room 478 is named in honor of **Betty Slater** (IH 1941-42) by Amy Slater, noting that Betty’s passion for people, travel and learning is an inspiration.
- Room 869 honors **Thelma and Hurley Couchman** and was named by Mark Couchman, noting their commitment to peace and support of Heifer Project International.
- Room 482 is dedicated to **Rebecca Elizabeth Hayden** (IH 1941-42), one of the first instructors of English as a second language and a textbook author.
- Room 339 is dedicated to **Elaine Elissondo Ove** (IH 1955-56)
- Room 495 is dedicated to **Jeanne and Ladd Griffith** (IH 1952-55)
- The 6th Floor Lounge is dedicated in memory of **Eugénie Carneiro**
- Room 664 is dedicated in memory of **Arthur Strock** (IH 1965-67)
- Room 745 is dedicated to **Choong Kun Cho** (IH 1955-58)
- Room 760 is dedicated to **Wolfgang Homburger** (IH 1950-51)
- Room 800 is dedicated in memory of **Dr. Stuart Chenoweth** (IH 1940-41)
- Room 81T is dedicated to **Ron Olson** (IH 1959-62)



Elaine Elissondo Ove with daughter Celeste visits her I-House room which will be dedicated in her honor.

At least seventeen more rooms will be dedicated in the coming months as plaques are completed and will be announced in future newsletters.

Room Naming Opportunities

Naming a room in memory of a loved one or in recognition of your experiences at I-House leaves a permanent legacy while supporting the preservation of the House. To learn more about naming opportunities, including naming a resident room with a gift of \$20,000 or more, contact Development Director Shanti Corrigan at (510) 642-4128, or visit <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/>.

# UNDER THE DOME

## RESIDENTS CHALLENGED TO CAPTURE I-HOUSE EXPERIENCE IN VIDEOS & WORDS

Day-to-day life “under the dome” is filled with thousands of daily interactions between residents across every imaginable boundary of cultural, religious, geographic, national and ethnic differences. Each year, the House challenges residents to capture the richness of these interactions through time-honored traditions like the *Barbara Lynch Crossing Borders Essay Contest*. This year, the Resident Council and Alumni Relations Office collaborated on a new initiative to expand the mediums that students use to capture I-House life—including videos uploaded to “You Tube.” A contest for the best five-minute-or-less video that “vividly conveys the I-House mission” concluded November 5, 2007 and a reception at Google Headquarters in Silicon Valley hosted by I-House alumni turned Google employees will be the setting for the announcement of winners. Visit the I-House website to view winning videos.

The *Barbara Lynch Crossing Borders Essay Contest* honors Barbara Lynch who worked in the Program Office from 1966 to 1988. Her warmth, laughter, friendship, and match-making talents touched the lives of thousands of residents. An endowment was established by Hugo and Elfie Tarazona to fund cash awards for winning essays. Faced with two exceptional essays this year, the review committee awarded two first place honors to Nick Broten and Thomas Kjaergaard. Second place honors went to Nazanin Shahrokni. Following are excerpts from their essays:



**Nick Broten (USA)**, excerpts from “Reinterpretation: Conversations with Katsumi”

*Katsumi first appeared to me as a wistful illusion. Our words together were sparse, scarcely penetrating the linguistic barrier that divided us. I connected imaginary dots in my mind: Katsumi is quiet, thus Japanese are a quiet people. On one of our talks, Katsumi nervously asked me if I would attend his wedding, to be held in the Home Room of I-House.... I soon learned that the friend that Katsumi had spoken of discreetly was his fiancée. Their dedication to each other, illustrated in many miles traveled, defied my newspaper understanding that insisted that in Japan, work trumped love. Their gentle embraces showed caring, not calculation. And the room, dancing with diversity, riddled with faces from across the country and world, proved that my insistent lectures to Katsumi on the culture of America were unneeded. Katsumi and his bride, in their journeys to meet each other, had reinterpreted the American landscape and made it their own. On his wedding day, as I presented him my meager bottle of wine, I was able to embrace Katsumi not as a stereotype, but as a friend.*



**Thomas Kjaergaard (Denmark)**, excerpts from “Cartoons, Culture and Communication”

*At the point in time when I was to arrive at the International House, the [controversial Prophet Muhammad] cartoon situation had cooled down.... But to my surprise I was not questioned about the Danish cartoons, our participation in the war in Iraq or the Danish immigration policy. It came up in discussions and was debated, but as a person, I was not judged for these issues. While the possibilities for debating the cartoon crisis with foreigners in Denmark were very limited, the I-House provided me with an opportunity to discuss it with people from many of the involved countries like Egypt and Pakistan. And even though we had different opinions, the discussions led to increased understanding and acceptance of standpoints. I especially remember my first breakfast in the dining hall and my first meeting with Ahmed from Egypt. We barely greeted each other before we started a discussion about the cartoons. To learn about other cultures and reach understanding can be a life-long commitment and to me the I-House initiated this development process.... We have to go out there and be ambassadors for the values that I-House represents.*



**Nazanin Shahrokni (Iran/USA)**, excerpts from “The Last Supper”

*Someone lights a candle.... It turns out that this is a ritual being performed in the last Sunday Supper of each year.... The Auditorium looks like the sky in the night with candle lights blinking like the stars. I look at the light as it travels from one person to the other, from one nation to the other, turning us, each, into ambassadors of light, of love, of peace. It is rare in your life to have the opportunity to see things from different angles. Here you learn as much about yourself as about the others. You become conscious that what you see and what you believe in makes sense only if one is standing in your place. What you learn here is not toleration, for toleration sometimes means putting up with something that you detest or disapprove of. What you learn here is empathy, learning to start walking with others from where they are standing, what you learn is to look at yourself from without... I look at him and try to figure out where he comes from. “Does it matter?” I ask myself. Despite our differences, we are all but one...one crowd...one community.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE RESIDENT COUNCIL CHAIR

At International House, we are surrounded by some of the most brilliant, intelligent, creative, fun, and exciting people in the world. This is a unique place. We are residents from around the world. More than 65,000 alumni have lived here in the past 77 years. This is our time now, and we have the responsibility of making I-House great, as a place of peace, rigor, beauty, and life. I-House can also improve; this makes living here, and helping make it better, both exciting and challenging. We show the world potential and possibility. I-House needs your help too, your ideas, your input, your action, and your passion for a better world. History shows the interactions here affect the world on a large scale. The understanding that comes from living here is real. What ideas can you contribute? See what the I-House Resident Council is doing at <http://ihousecouncil.com>.



**Nathaniel Rice (USA)**  
Chair, I-House Resident Council

## RESIDENTS INITIATE PLANS TO LIGHT THE DOME

The International House Resident Council hopes to light the dome and make it one of the few landmarks visible to the campus community after dark. “The aesthetics of the architectural detailing and the impact of the House would be greatly enhanced by the lighting project,” says Naïm Darghouth, who organized a student design competition which will be reviewed by a panel of architecture professors and a lighting design professional. A cash prize of \$500 was put forward by Joe Lurie, Executive Director Emeritus, and the 2006-07 Council allocated \$4000 to initiate implementation. All proposals make use of energy efficient lighting and most are powered by solar panels. Naïm will present the top three entries to the House Committee for review. Stay tuned for more in the coming months!



**I-House Council has launched an effort to illuminate the dome at night.**



I-House alumna and Board Member Kristin Weissman (left) is pictured with residents at a recruitment event in 2006. On November 13th, residents visited Google for a reception honoring winners of the *Experience I-House Video Contest*. Google’s CEO Eric Schmidt is also an I-House alumnus. Google’s VP for Engineering, Doug Merrill, will speak at I-House on January 24th, 2008.

## FESTIVAL OF CULTURES & CAL DAY ARE APRIL 12



**Residents prepare for Festival performances.**

The Festival of Cultures at I-House and Cal Day on campus combine to make April 12 a great day to visit Berkeley. Traditional dance performances, music, an international fashion show, consular booths, crafts, and tempting treats from around the world are highlights of the Edith Coliver Festival of Cultures. Thanks to an endowment from the estate of Edith Coliver (IH 1940-43), the long tradition of celebrating the world’s cultures continues. Details at <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/p/>.



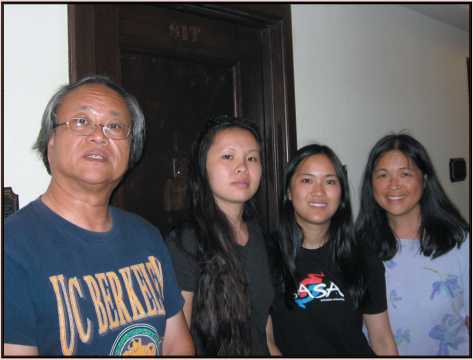
**Dutch students offer “poffertjes” pancakes at the 2007 Festival of Cultures.**

The campus also opens its door to the community for Cal Day on April 12 with free lectures, tours, and special activities. For more information, see [www.berkeley.edu/calday/](http://www.berkeley.edu/calday/).

### Bay Area Hosts Needed

Friends and alumni of International House are invited to extend the hand of friendship to an international student far from home by offering a holiday meal, outings to local attractions, and, most of all, friendship. To receive more information about the International Friendship Program, please return the RSVP panel on page 11 or email [ihprogra@berkeley.edu](mailto:ihprogra@berkeley.edu).

## SECOND GENERATION OF LEWS AT I-HOUSE!



Two generations of the Lew family at I-House. From left: Morgan (IH 1969-70), Jennifer (IH 2002), Evangeline (IH 2007), and Pattie Lew (IH 1972). **Evangeline Lew** moved into the same room (81T) in August that her father, **Morgan Lew**, occupied thirty years ago. Evangeline’s mother, **Pattie Lew**, lived in I-House and worked in the Program Office and SISS Office. Evangeline’s sister, **Jennifer Lew**, also lived at I-House in 2002.

### Do You Have a Generation Story?

Send your stories of two generations or even three generations of I-House alumni to [ihalumni@berkeley.edu](mailto:ihalumni@berkeley.edu) or to the I-House Times Editor (contact info is on the back page).

### Resident Wish List

The following list was compiled by residents as items that would contribute to the quality of life of residents of I-House. Contact the Development Office for details if you might contribute or to help make these dreams come true:

- Wireless access technology for resident floors
- New concert grand piano for performances
- Film projector and screen for Chevron Auditorium
- Natural gas line to allow fires in the Great Hall fireplace
- New sofas and drapes for the Great Hall

## HOUSE WELCOMES 2007-2008 RESIDENTS

For 77 years, International House has opened its doors to students and scholars from around the world. Some facts about this year’s residents:

- 571 residents represent 49 countries
- 173 residents are from the USA
- 53 students are from South Korea
- Men outnumber women, 60% to 40%
- China, Germany, Japan, Taiwan and the UK each have 20-30 residents
- Among our residents are students from Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Serbia, and Uganda.
- 62% are grad students or visiting scholars
- 38% are undergraduates
- 17% receive I-House financial aid
- 376 residents learned about the House and met fellow residents at fall retreats

## I-HOUSE ALIVE WITH SOUNDS OF MUSIC

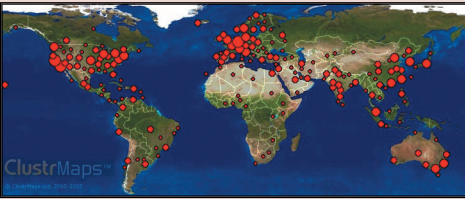


Dr. Tingkwan “Sam” Lau (IH 1985-87) with Justin Tan on the Yangqin, Suling Li, and Yi-Lei Tan on the Guzheng (from left) performed in the Great Hall with an “east meets west” theme.

Sam Lau, a music teacher at Hong Kong Chinese International School, recently completed a performance tour with sixteen of his accomplished students (ages 14-16), including a post-dinner performance in the Great Hall for I-House residents and staff on October 1, 2007. Featuring vocal and instrumental pieces blending western music with Chinese instruments, the concert included the distinct sounds of the Erhu, Yangqin, Pipa, and Guzheng. The standing-room only crowd gave rousing ovations and Sam remarked, “It was wonderful to perform in the Great Hall again.”

The site is of special significance since it was the location of Sam’s composition recital when he was a student at Cal living at I-House.

## I-HOUSE WEBSITE NEWS



This graphic on the I-House website chronicles every visitor to the site from more than 100 countries.

Our I-House website audience extends to regions around the world indicated by the red dots on the map above. Since July, when the mapping tool was added, more than 50,000 visitors have come to our website. View the map on our home page <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu> under “visitor locations”.

Other website enhancements include:

- Photo slide shows of programs and events
- Up-to-date Programs and Events Calendar
- Google language translator with rough translations of text
- Video clips of events and speaking engagements
- An extensive list of notable alumni
- A list of more than 1,000 couples who met their mates at I-House
- A secure section for residents containing a photo directory to match names with faces

Website statistics are used to improve and refine our content to meet the needs of a diverse audience of alumni, friends, future residents and community members. Top visited pages during the past six months include the calendar, room info, notable alumni, residential computing, virtual tours, and the always-popular dining menu!

We are interested in ways to use new technology to keep in touch with alumni and friends. In the spirit of cross-cultural communication, we strive to make I-House more accessible to all who visit our website. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please email [ihouse@berkeley.edu](mailto:ihouse@berkeley.edu) or fill out the website feedback survey linked at the bottom of each web page.

## STAY AT I-HOUSE

Plan a stay in one of two guestrooms and re-experience International House! Contact the Events Office at (510) 642-0589 or email [ihouse@berkeley.edu](mailto:ihouse@berkeley.edu). Guestrooms are popular so reserve well in advance.

## GOLDEN AGE TEA WELCOMES MARTIN AND REMEMBERS LOTTIE

(Continued from page 1)

Martin Brennan, who had been on the job as Executive Director for less than a month, shared anecdotes from his diplomatic career and outlined his thoughts on his vision for the future of the House. He encouraged alumni to educate him about the *Golden Age* which, indeed, was a special time in the history of the House. Residents of the 1946-53 era included refugees, resistance



Lottie Wallerstein Salz (IH 1947-53)

fighters, and Holocaust survivors who shared a deep dedication to promoting social justice and building a lasting peace. In *International House: An informal History*, an alumna recalls the activism of the era:

## FILM ON IRAQ WAR BY I-HOUSE ALUMNUS FEATURES CURRENT RESIDENT

*Free Campus Screening Dec. 6th*  
I-House alumnus Charles Ferguson (IH 1973-76) produced and directed *No End in Sight*, a candid documentary on “Iraq’s descent into chaos” and winner of a jury prize at the Sundance Film Festival. Current I-House resident, Omar Fekeiki from Iraq, was interviewed when the film was shot in Baghdad while Omar was a reporter and translator for the *Washington Post* before coming to I-House in the fall of 2006 to attend Cal’s School of Journalism. Alumni, friends and residents are invited to a free screening of the film at Cal, December 6th at 7 pm in Wheeler Auditorium, followed by a discussion with both Charles and Omar. The event is co-sponsored by I-House with support from Resident Council as well as the Journalism School and the College of Letters and Science.

Ferguson served as a senior fellow of the Brookings Institute, founded Vermeer Technologies, and was a visiting professor at MIT



Nina Belogolovny Jacobsohn (IH 1946-49), at left, and Peggy Post Grunland (IH 1946-51) enjoy catching up after not having seen each other in twenty years.

*the Berkeley hill area were challenged and fell. A Berkeley campus fraternity was racially integrated for the first time in University history by a group of International House residents.*

Alumni of the era also established the Rafael Rodriguez/Golden Age (RRGA) Scholarship honoring the memory of fellow alumnus Rafael Rodriguez from Costa Rica. The scholarship provides a room and board scholarship for an entering international graduate student of great promise. The 2007-08 RRGa scholarship recipient is Mr. Kwame Twumasi-Boateng from



From left, Mary Ann Quackenbush Fisher (IH 1947-48), Elliott Castello (IH 1946-49), Doralee Landon Castello (IH 1947-49), and Joan Obidine Rush (IH 1947-49).

Canada, a Ph.D. student in microbiology. Marion Ross was among those who enjoyed chatting with fellow alumni at the afternoon tea. “There was such a festive air at the gathering,” says Marion. “We Golden Agers are so fortunate. While coming through the Café, I noticed a difference between then and now with the addition of laptop computers to the ever present coffee cups and the absence of cigarette smoke! It is a different place. But, it is an even better place now.”

and Berkeley. He earned a B.A. in math from Berkeley in 1978 and a Ph.D. in political science from M.I.T. in 1989. Originally a supporter of the war, Ferguson was trustworthy enough to gain the confidence of former top officials.

Film critic Roger Ebert who, along with review partner Roper, gives the movie “two thumbs up” says, “Most of the people in the film were important to the Bush administration. They had top government or military jobs, they had responsibility in Iraq or Washington, they implemented policy, they filed reports, they labored faithfully in service of U.S. foreign policy and then they left the government.... The subjects in this film now feel that American policy in Iraq was flawed from the start, that obvious measures were not taken, that sane advice was disregarded, that lies were told and believed, and that advice from people on the ground was overruled....”

The film has been playing in theaters across the U.S. and is now available on DVD.



I-House alumnus Charles Ferguson (left) and current resident Omar Fekeiki from Iraq are respectively director and cast member in the award winning documentary *No End In Sight* about the Iraq War. A free on-campus screening with Charles and Omar is scheduled for December 6, 2007.

## ELDERHOSTEL PROGRAMS FOCUS ON EARLY MUSIC AND MIDDLE EAST

International House will again host two week-long Elderhostel Programs in June 2008. These programs are a great opportunity to return to the House, attend lectures by Cal faculty, and participate in activities with people who share your interests.

### A Feast of Early Music: The Berkeley Festival, June 2-8

Take a trip back in time to enjoy a rich variety of Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque music performed at the internationally acclaimed Berkeley Festival. Lectures by Berkeley music professors provide insight into the lives of composers and social history of the era. Novice and life-long musicians enjoy concerts, lectures, and opportunities to learn about period instruments. At least one of four included concerts will be a major Festival event. Additional tickets may be purchased independently for Festival concerts and dozens of low-cost “Fringe” events. Most concerts are held within walking distance (2-4 blocks). Program includes moderate walking on campus.

### Berkeley Forum On The Middle East: Culture, Politics, and U.S Foreign Policy, June 9-15

In this election year, UC professors explore the key cultural, religious, political, and historical considerations in the Middle East and options for US foreign policy. Topics include the changing role of the U.S. in the Middle East, prospects for democracy, transitioning to peace in Iraq, religion and politics in Iran, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Co-sponsored by the UC Center for Middle Eastern Studies, CMES Vice Chair Prof. Emily Gottreich returns by popular demand as our primary speaker. Afternoon field trips include a campus tour, docent-led tour of UC Botanical Garden, anthropology museum, and a day-long trip to the Monterey Bay Aquarium.



Elderhostel students enjoyed a stop at Sather Gate during a campus tour.

### Fees, Registration, and Information

Elderhostel is open to adults, ages 55 and better. A fee of \$715 includes lectures, accommodations, meals, and activities (four concerts during the first program and tours and the Monterey trip during the second week). To register or receive a catalog, call Elderhostel at 1-877-426-8056 or visit [www.Elderhostel.org](http://www.Elderhostel.org). Registration for June programs begins in mid-December. More information is available on our website at <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu> including concert schedules as they become available. To receive a flyer, check off the box on the RSVP panel on page 11.

## MARTIN BRENNAN ADDRESSES GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AT FALL LODESTAR



Giovanna Brennan, wife of Executive Director Martin Brennan, chats with Dorothy Shack, a member of the UC Section Club.

Executive Director Martin Brennan was the featured speaker at the fall Lodestar Program, addressing the topic of *Responsibilities of Global Citizenship: Lessons for International House*. Residents and alumni mingled at a reception in



Program Coordinator Nora Medina with Jennifer Yazdi, who sang a moving and appropriate Persian song.

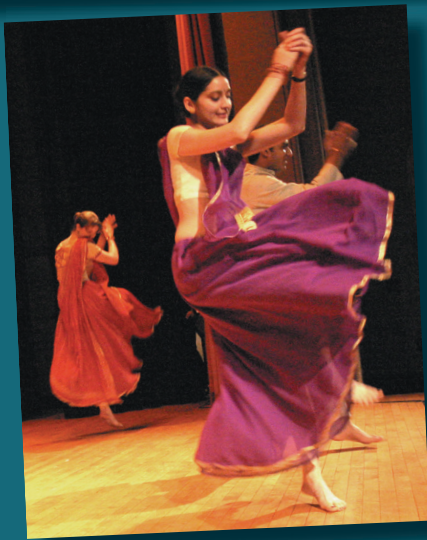
the Great Hall before enjoying a Mediterranean buffet in the Auditorium. Resident Council President, Nathaniel Rice, served as the master of ceremonies and Martha Hertelendy, Vice Chair of the Board, introduced Martin. For many

alumni, this was the first opportunity to meet Martin and hear anecdotes from his diplomatic posts around the world.

Following Martin’s talk, there was a lively question and answer session. Guests were entertained by residents Sunny Lai and Jennifer Yazdi. Jennifer, whose parents are from Iran, sang a Persian song called *Pol* in Farsi meaning bridge. The chorus contains a particularly meaningful message for I-House: “Let us put aside our differences and build a bridge of forgiveness between us.”

Alumni and guests are invited to join with students for Lodestar dinner programs. The events are a great way to hear speeches on timely topics and meet students and alumni. If you would like to attend a Lodestar, please check off the box on the RSVP panel on page 11.

# HONORING & CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL HOUSE



Dear I-House Alumni and Friends,

When I accepted the position of Chair of the International House 75th Anniversary Campaign in early 2004, I knew that this responsibility would require significant energy. I am, after all, somewhat of an energy expert.

What I hadn't anticipated was the terrific adventure that would accompany this effort. It has been a great pleasure to meet and engage with friendly and enthusiastic I-House residents and alumni from around the world not only "under the dome", but in Bangkok, Korea, London, New York, and San Francisco. I was even welcomed in 2005 by I-House Alumnus of the Year Jan Egeland into the United Nations Headquarters for a memorable discussion during which he, like so many people I met during this campaign, professed his love of International House and his gratitude for its contributions to his personal and professional life.

To everyone that joined in this adventure: thank you. I offer special appreciation to the House's Executive Director Emeritus Joe Lurie, whose dedication to I-House over two decades was fundamental to our success. Thanks also to our entire Campaign Committee and to the staff of International House. Together we have championed a cause that continues to be as vital today as ever: cross-cultural respect, understanding, friendship and tolerance for a more peaceful world.



With warm regards,

*Peter Robertson*

Peter Robertson  
Vice-Chair, Chevron  
Campaign Chair of International House 75th Anniversary



Friends,

I echo Peter's appreciation to all who have shared their heads, hearts, and hands in shaping the International House 75th Anniversary Celebration and Campaign. Not only were truly critical financial resources secured over the past four years, but thousands of new friendships that keep our mission alive worldwide were formed. Alumni reconnected with long lost friends. Donors met current residents, some of whom would not have enjoyed all that I-House has to offer without generous scholarships from alumni and friends. Thousands of handshakes, hugs, and smiles have been exchanged, which is, at base, fundamental to what International House is all about. In every language of I-House: thank you. We look forward to welcoming you "under the dome" some day soon.



With best wishes from Berkeley,

*Shanti Corrigan*

Shanti Corrigan  
Director of Development & Alumni Relations





London I-House reunion June 2004.



Rita Moreno helps launch the 75th Anniversary at Gala 2005.



New York reunion at the U.N. with Jan Egeland (2nd from right), October 2005.



Steven C. Rockefeller (far right) was keynote speaker at Gala 2006.



Dr. Sadako Ogata addresses Tokyo reunion, June 2006.



Joan and Egon von Kaschnitz with resident at the von Kaschnitz Patio.

*“It is here that the threads of our common humanity continue to be woven and honored.”*

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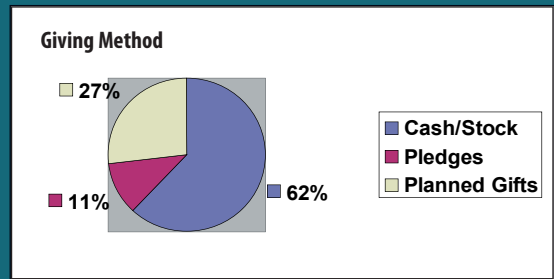
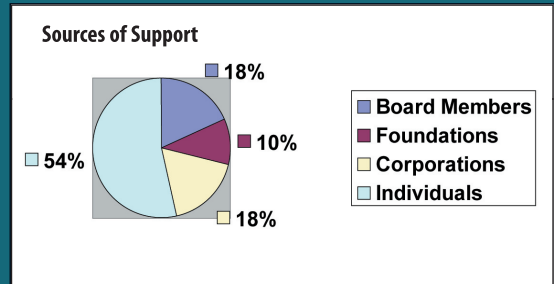
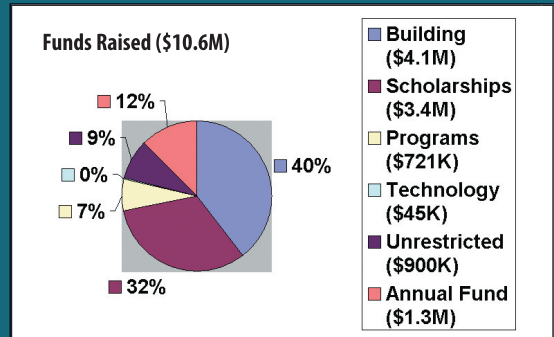
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Contributors who are so crucial to the success of this institution.

Between January 1, 2003 and March 1, 2007, a total of 2,325 contributors from 43 countries made 5,472 gifts ranging from \$1 to \$1,100,000 to support International House in honor of its 75th Anniversary.



These gifts, totaling \$10.6 million, have now been invested in critical upgrades to preserve our historic facility, offer scholarships to residents with need, support cross-cultural programs and expand technology resources. In the end, the community of I-House supporters grew by 25%, including 961 first-time donors to International House. We extend our thanks to all who have helped ensure a solid financial foundation for the future of International House.

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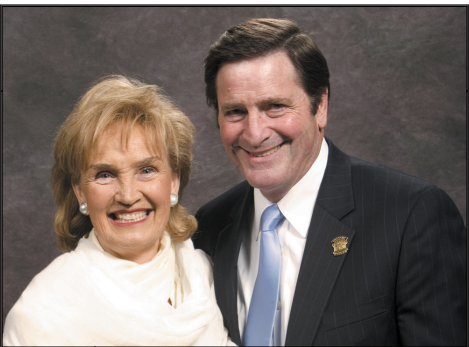
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HONORING INTERNATIONAL HOUSE AT 19TH ANNUAL GALA



Keynote speaker Patti Garamendi and Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi.

Patti Garamendi, former Associate Director of the Peace Corps, gave a moving speech recalling her Peace Corps experiences at the 19th annual Celebration & Awards Gala in May. As a young married couple, she and John Garamendi served as Peace Corps volunteers in Ethiopia. The experience was a life-changing international opportunity for the couple, who are enthusiastic supporters of the Peace Corps.

Ms. Garamendi announced the launch of the Joe Lurie Returned Peace Corps (RPCV) Scholarship Fund. John Garamendi, the Lieutenant Governor of California, delivered a proclamation from the State of California in recognition of Joe Lurie’s service as Executive Director. Isao “Steve” Matsuura was honored as *Alumnus of the Year* and Peter J. Robertson, Board Member and Chair of the House’s 75th Anniversary Campaign, was recognized as *Global Citizen of the Year*.

Students, many of whom were dressed in the traditional attire of their home countries, greeted guests who enjoyed a reception in the Great Hall. Chef Narsai David provided menu guidance for a memorable meal. Globe-spanning performances by talented residents included Latin Hip Hop, Japanese Bossanova, Classical Turkish music and a Korean Fan Dance. The Alseny Soumah Dance Company closed the evening with an electrifying performance of West African Music and Dance. The event raised more than \$110,000 to benefit the House with a portion of the proceeds going to the Joe Lurie RCPV Scholarship Fund.



Global Citizen of the Year, Peter J. Robinson (center) with his wife Candy, and daughters Nicole and Jemma and Leif Kalberg.



Alumnus of the year, Isao “Steve” Matsuura (center) with his wife Kathryn and Shusaku Kawamoto, a resident from Japan.



Alseny Soumah Dance Company performed West African music and dance.



Residents from Korea performed the traditional fan dance.



Marion Ross with Maria Vendetti (New Zealand), recipient of the 2006-07 Rafael Rodriguez/Golden Age Scholarship.

FAREWELL “ROAST AND TOAST” FOR JOE LURIE

Alumni, friends, family, staff, board members, and campus colleagues filled the Chevron Auditorium on June 2 to honor, roast, and toast Executive Director Joe Lurie for his nearly two decades of service to International House. It was an evening filled with hilarious stories, tears, surprises, and heartfelt thanks to Joe for the impact he has had on so many lives.



Firoozah Dumas, mistress of ceremonies for the evening.

Alumna Firoozah Dumas (IH 1986-87) served as a witty mistress of ceremonies for the evening, interspersing speeches with her own uproarious anecdotes. Guests took advantage of an open microphone to share stories and voice their appreciation to Joe.

Special moments included a phone call from actress and friend of I-House, Rita Moreno; presentation of an oil painting of Joe to complement the painting of Executive Director Emeritus W. Sheridan Warrick in the Home

Room; a touching video message from Rome from Sergio Iavicoli (IH 1994-96), a magic performance by Joe’s nephew Daniel Rosenthal; a “big splash” video from staff member Maureen Spolidoro; and a video from our own New York comedian, Sean Murphy (IH1999-2002), impersonating Joe’s fictitious alter-ego brother, Moe Lurie, with hysterical plans for the House as Joe’s successor. See page 10 for an update on Joe and his new book project. To view a slideshow and video clips of the event, visit <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/alevents/JoeLurieRoast.html>.

*I am very touched that you’ve all come to honor me in this way tonight. This celebration is also a tribute to all of those who have contributed to the success of I-House during my years here. The House doesn’t work without its residents, without its alumni nourishing its future residents, without its very committed staff and Board of Directors. I have been extremely privileged to have served with all of you.*

Joe Lurie (IH 1988 - 2007)

Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (RPCV) Gateway Scholarship Honors Joe Lurie

More than 164 gifts from 148 donors helped establish what is believed to be the first graduate student fellowship award in California for a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (RPCV). The Joe Lurie RPCV Gateway Scholarship is named in honor of Joe Lurie, a former Peace Corps Volunteer who served with distinction as I-House’s third Executive Director from 1988-2007. Since the inception of the Peace Corps, more volunteers have come from UC Berkeley than any other University, making Cal an ideal location for the launch of an RPCV fund.



Joe as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya.

FORMER AMBASSADOR MARTIN BRENNAN HEADS I-HOUSE

(Continued from page 1)

Brennan’s appointment, “Not only will Martin provide the expertise and vision needed to direct International House into the future, he will also serve as a great role model for residents of the House and for all Berkeley students studying and working in international studies.”

During his diplomatic career, Martin was actively involved in Angola’s and Mozambique’s peace processes while serving as Acting Director of the Office of Southern African Affairs for the U.S. Department of State. He also advocated for projects to combat the HIV-AIDS pandemic. Martin later served as Diplomat in Residence at the University of New Mexico.

“As a diplomat in Africa, Asia, and Europe, I witnessed the power of cross-cultural respect and came to appreciate how sworn enemies can bridge chasms of mistrust and misunderstanding,” says Martin. “I also learned that cross-cultural harmony does not simply envelop us like the evening fog. Life changing cross-cultural encounters flow from the day-to-day experiences of living in a diverse community.”

A Bay Area native, Martin holds a master’s degree from The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (1976) and a bachelor’s degree in African Studies from Berkeley (1971).

An accomplished linguist, Martin is fluent in

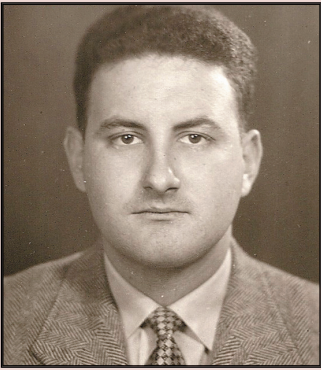
French, Italian, and Portuguese and has some proficiency in Mandarin Chinese. He lives in Berkeley with his wife, Giovanna, whom he met in Padova, Italy, while on a UC study abroad program. They are the parents of two adult sons and two college-age daughters, one adopted in Uganda and one in Ethiopia.

“It is wonderful to be home again,” adds Martin. “In the months and years ahead, I look forward to working with residents, alumni, staff, and friends to ensure that International House continues to forge the future in intercultural understanding. I invite you to join me in writing the next chapter of the history of this great institution.”

“THE PORTUGAL FLOOR”

*Established through Life Income Gift*

I-House alumnus Roy Portugal, 1955-1956, recently established a generous trust of nearly \$300,000 to benefit I-House. In recognition, the House has gratefully designated the sixth floor “The Portugal Floor.”



Roy S. Portugal in a photo from his original I-House application in 1955.

Trusts like Mr. Portugal’s provide life income and tax benefits to donors while ultimately providing crucial financial resources to institutions like I-House to help advance their mission.

LEGACY GIFTS TO I-HOUSE

Friends who include I-House in their estate plans provide crucial support for the future of I-House. Donors with such plans become members of the I-House Associates of Cal’s Benjamin Ide Wheeler Society - receiving invitations to an annual lecture, tea, and select campus events. Planned gifts can also provide tax and life income benefits. *Special legislation expiring December 31, 2007 enables tax-free direct gifts from Roth or Traditional IRAs under certain circumstances.* Contact Cal’s Gift Planning Office at 800.200.0575 or [ogp@berkeley.edu](mailto:ogp@berkeley.edu).

BOARD WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The International House Board of Directors welcomed five new members at its fall meeting.

**John S. Bronson**, an expert in the field of strategic corporate and operational development, served as Senior Vice President and head of Human Resources for Williams-Sonoma, Inc. after working with PepsiCo for 20 years. Mr. Bronson was a member of the Dean’s Advisory Board for the Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations and Chairman of the Board of Cornell’s Center for Advanced Human Resources Studies. He serves on the boards of several companies.

**Robert L. Duffy** is a partner with A.T. Kearney, Inc., a global management consulting firm, where he has served on the firm’s Board for 12 years and chaired the Audit Committee. Currently, he is on the Executive Committee of the Bay Area Council and the Executive Committee of the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. He is a member of the Board of Overseers of the University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management. Duffy holds a BS in business administration from the U of M.

**Atef H. Eltoukhy** is a Silicon Valley entrepreneur whose career includes investment management, finance, and philanthropy. He received his B.A. from Cairo University, masters from Cairo University and American University in Cairo, and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. Dr. Eltoukhy worked with IBM, TriMedia Corp/XIDEX Corp, and as Executive Vice President of HMT Technology and Nashua Corp. He founded Aurum Capital Management and the Eltoukhy Family Foundation.

**Amy Slater**, a visiting lecturer at Berkeley’s Goldman School of Public Policy, was a founding member of the Ask Jeeves, Inc. management team and has worked with Oracle and LawTech LLP. Ms. Slater earned her law degree at UC Hastings where she also served as adjunct professor. She is President of the Board of East Bay Conservation Corps, a Director of the East Bay Community Foundation, and member of the Development Advisory Board for Doctors Without Borders.

**Andrew J. Szeri** is Dean of the Graduate Division of UC Berkeley and professor of Mechanical Engineering. Dean Szeri earned his B.S. at the University of Pittsburgh and M.S. and Ph.D. at Cornell. Previously, he served as an associate dean of the Grad Division where he focused on fundraising, financial planning, and IT security. He has served on key committees dealing with student services, enrollment balance, and graduate student instructor affairs.

**David K. Tu** is the co-founder and President of DCL, an independent contract manufacturing service. Previously, he was VP of The Shorenstein Company. As Chairman of the Project Committee, Mr. Tu managed the design and construction of the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. He received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Civil Engineering from UC Davis and holds an MBA in Management. Mr. Tu works with Self Help for the Elderly to develop a senior care center.

# News & Notes

## 1930s

**Jacklyn Butler Melchior** of Oakland, CA was one of many alumni who enjoyed the opportunity to be students again at the June Elderhostel programs. “I had a wonderful time! It was really great to be back at I-House where I have so many happy memories. The program was great, as it always is.” Jacklyn remembers calls of “Pedro” floating through the town during finals and the two Russian princes who lived in the House.



**J. Putnam Henck** of Skyforest, CA also attended Elderhostel. He recalled being the only freshman in the House. He had argued successfully that his presence would allow international students “to meet a real American hillbilly!”

## 1940s

**Matthew Brady** retired recently and lives in San Clemente CA with Marney, his wife of 58 years. Their children live in California and Hawaii and a son is on his third tour in Iraq. He serves on the Board of his homeowners’ association, enjoys kayaking, and writes, “Great memories of I-House and I-House friends.”



**Abraham Fradkin** (left) visited the House from his home in Tel Aviv and was delighted to receive his original 1947 application. He met his late wife, **Ruth Fradkin**, at I-House. Abraham enjoyed touring the House with their son (right).



**Marcia Tillson Gedanken** (center) chatted on the front steps after enjoying lunch in the Dining Room with our new Executive Director, Martin Brennan, and her godson.

**Jean Barker Matthai** writes from Santa Barbara, “At 87, with waning energy, it is very cheering to look back on much younger years with many happy memories.”

**Patricia Ryan Paton** writes, “My brief stay at I-House during my senior year left an indelible impression on me.” After graduation, she returned home to New York, worked for a senator in Washington, and later worked for the U.S. economic aid program in Lebanon, USOM. “I returned to New York, married a Scotsman, and lived in Edinburgh. Since 1958, we have lived in Denver, CO. International affairs remain paramount in our lives. We have been all around the globe!”

**Irving Tragen** is writing *Sparkle and the Nerd: A Love Story*, his memoir about meeting his wife, **Eleanor May Dodson**, at I-House and relocation of I-House residents into fraternity houses during WWII.

## 1950s

**Aurora Calimquim Barrozo** retired from positions as a consultant for the California Department of Education and as a professor at the University of the Philippines. When not shuttling between California and the Philippines, she provides free consultant services to Catholic schools. She also enjoyed the chance to be a student again at the 2007 Elderhostel at I-House. She recalled that an I-House scholarship made it possible for her to live in the House. When she received news of the award she was told, “We are making a human investment.”

**James Fell** is Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania. Since retirement in 1991, he spends four months each year in Iceland working on English translations of Icelandic Christian literature.

**Carl Graves** writes, “It was fun responding to the I-House survey as it brought back fond memories of long ago! And the teaching credential I earned while living at I-House directed a good part of my later life, including serving as City Treasurer.”

To find old friends, visit [I-House@cal](mailto:I-House@cal) or send a note to the Development Office and we'll forward it. Address the envelope to your friend, c/o I-House Development Office.

## SEND US YOUR NEWS!

If you enjoy reading News & Notes, please send us YOUR news on the RSVP panel on page 11. Photos will be published as space allows.

**Wolfgang Homburger**, Institute of Transportation Studies Lecturer Emeritus, received the Institute of Transportation Engineers’ *Burton W. Marsh Distinguished Service Award* in a ceremony held in March in Philadelphia. Homburger served as a lecturer, research engineer, acting director, and assistant director of ITS during more than 35 years at Berkeley. He has written and edited a number of transportation textbooks. The Institute of Transportation Engineers International Board elected Homburger as ITE’s 50th Honorary Member, its highest recognition of outstanding professional achievement.

**Joan Williams Hoover** serves as chairman of the Cosmos Club travel group in Washington DC. Last year, she visited Brazil, five Scandinavian countries, and St. Petersburg. She plans to visit Portugal and India soon and writes, “If I had been really clever, I would have been running around seeing the world in the early 50s when I had all that energy and by now I would have retired to live at I-House and let the world come to me!”

**Evelyne Rowe Rominger** writes that her granddaughter, Katherine, will be a student at Cal this fall and hopes to attend events at I-House.

## 1960s

**Ruth Krivonruff** and **Ernesto Lacomba**, who met at I-House, write, “We cannot visit but always remember our days at the I-House as the best.” They are married with a daughter and grandson. Ruth just finished her Ph.D. in architecture and works at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. She has contributed to and edited three Spanish-language books on solar architecture. Ernesto works in the math department at Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana and has received an award from Polytech in Mexico, a Tufts University fellowship, and an OEA distinction.

**John Pietrzyk**, resident of I-House in 1967-68, is President and CEO of Biomimetic Connections, LLC, a Bay-Area based firm bringing biomimetic and bio-inspired technologies from around the world to material scientists and product design engineers. His company helps corporations harness the “molecular and engineering wisdom” of biology for innovative, “green-inspired” design purposes. “A very dear friend at I-House, **Juliana Roth**, now working in Colombia, inspired my joining the US Peace Corps. I served in Malaysia as a physics teacher. Malaysia’s vibrant rainforests stimulated a deep respect for nature’s biodiversity and its engineering marvels!”

**Edie Weinstein Schwartz** still teaches ESL and is blessed with grandchildren.

**Merle Linda Wolin** writes, “My former roommate at I-House, **Valerie Forbes**, just sent me an e-mail telling me about the I-House alumni newsletter. I signed up right away and am delighted to be back in touch with the I-House community. And what a great community it is! I remember with great affection my years at the I-House, 1969 and 1970, and all the terrific, interesting friends I made from all over the world, many of whom I’m still close with today. If we knew each other then and you’re ever in Hong Kong, please give a shout. I’d LOVE to see you!”

## 1970s

**Susan K. Hori** writes, “I loved my years at I-House and am so glad other students can share that experience.”

**S. Shankar Sastry** was appointed Dean of the College of Engineering on July 1. The former chair of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences at the Berkeley has held numerous leadership positions on campus, most recently as director of the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS). Sastry lived in I-House in 1977-78. While at Cal, he earned his master’s degree in electrical engineering and computer sciences, a master’s in mathematics, and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering and computer sciences. Sastry will become the 12th Dean of the College, succeeding the **A. Richard Newton** who died this past January. Newton also lived in I-House, in 1975-76.

**Ponniah (Siva) Sivepalan** lived in I-House while working on a post-doctoral fellowship after receiving his Ph.D. from Rutgers University. He recently retired from his position as Director of the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka and is now a consultant to plantation companies.

**Mario Zetti** lives in Milan, Italy. He writes that living at I-House was “an unforgettable experience.”

## CELEBRATE I-HOUSE ROMANCE!

Did you meet your spouse at I-House? We know of more than 900 couples who met here and would love to add you to the list on the I-House Couples page: <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/a/notable/couples.html>

Please use the RSVP panel or send an email to [ihalumni@berkeley.edu](mailto:ihalumni@berkeley.edu) and let us know when and how you met.

## 1980s

**Rabbi Michael Berks** is President of the Rabbinical Association of Delaware. He serves as Rabbi of Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington.

**Sybil Climo** writes, “1989 was a year of enormous personal development for me. I thank I-House and its staff for this building, its people, and its raison d’être which delivered more of an education to me than any academic program ever would.... May our Grand Dame live forever both at the peak of Piedmont Avenue and in the hearts of her guests.”

**Michele Dillon** and **Paul Wink**, who met as I-House residents in the fall of 1984, have recently published a co-authored book: *In the Course of a Lifetime: Tracing Religious Belief, Practice, and Change* (UC Press, 2007).

**Heribert Hirte** was elected President of the European Law Faculties Association (ELFA), which promotes reform of legal education in Europe.

**Sunghoon Kim** finished a fellowship at St. Louis and is now a Pediatric Surgeon at Children’s Hospital in Oakland.

**Eric Muller-Borle** led the foundation of INS Luxembourg, a non-profit organization dedicated to CSR work. Its main purpose is to bring together the needs of charitable organizations and the resources of the corporate world and their employees.

**John Weinkopf** writes from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where he lives with his wife Julie, that he works as in-house counsel for the mining company, Companhia Vale do Rio Doce.

## 1990s



“The University is school...this is a home”, said **Robert Blackstone** (formerly Robert Avila) to his wife, Heather, who accompanied him on a House tour along with their children, Dakota and Payton. After traveling to Egypt to visit I-House friends and later living in Central America and surviving lymphoma, he now lives in Agoura Hills, CA and works at Wachovia.

### Joe Lurie Invites Alumni Contributions to Forthcoming Cross-Cultural Guide

Recently returned with his wife, Donna Rosenthal, from an extended trip abroad, Joe has begun work on a book about the impact of culture on perception. Largely inspired by encounters at I-House, the book focuses on amusing or serious misunderstandings resulting from different cultural assumptions. Stories for example, can include differing cultural approaches to dining, dating, studying, politeness, body language, communication styles, physical appearance, etc. Joe hopes the book can be used as an eye-opening guide for residents as they navigate the many cultural realities which make I-House extraordinary.

If you have a lively, compelling story (up to 500 words), about a cross-cultural misperception, discovery or prejudice experienced at I House or elsewhere, please email it to: [JoeLurie@gmail.com](mailto:JoeLurie@gmail.com) or send a hard copy c/o the Executive Director’s Office at I-House.

**Cemal Gerkan** was appointed the Turkish Cypriot Scientific Advisor to the Committee on Missing Persons (CMP) in Cyprus. Working under U.N. auspices, it was established as an investigatory body to tackle the humanitarian issue of people who went missing between 1963-1974. Together with his Greek Cypriot counterpart, they will be responsible for the revision of all key aspects of DNA analyses and the co-signing of final identification reports. This process seeks to help bring closure to families and to contribute positively to the reconciliation process between the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities.

Congratulations to **Kathleen Mikulis** and **Mark Pilloff** who were married in Berkeley on August 12. They met at I-House over ten years ago. “We have very fond memories of living there.”

**Dariush Mirfendereski** (left) visited from London and attended the Candlelight Sunday Supper.

Dariush is a Managing Director and Head of Inflation-Linked Trading at UBS Investment Bank. He co-authored the book, *Inflation-Indexed Securities: Bonds, Swaps, and Other Derivatives* (Wiley Finance, 2004). Dariush lived in the House from 1986-92 while completing his Ph.D. in Structural Engineering.



**Michael Rohls** and **Anna Chromceck-Rohls** met at

I-House in 1998 and were married in May 2005. They currently live in Frankfurt, Germany and in 2006 they celebrated the birth of their daughter, Marie Gisele.



**Slobodan Simic** and his wife, Lela, are the proud parents of Emanuel Nikola Simic, born on March 10.

**Inge Van Doorn** writes, “I still think back to the I-House with very fond memories as it is the place where I met my husband, **Riccardo Cazzoli**. We started dating when we both lived in I-House in 1995 and married last year in Bologna, Italy. I-House allows you to form great friendships and in my case a fabulous relationship.”

**Bonnie Wasserman** teaches Portuguese at Rutgers University and is writing her second book on Brazilian film.

## 2000s

**Sara Bakhtary** and **Augusto Giovanni Gonzalez** stopped by I-House for a visit and shared news of their engagement. They met at Coffee Hour in the Great Hall.



**Brighten Godfrey** (trumpet), **Renee Asteria** (vocals), and **Jesse Engel** (guitar) perform in the Latin Reggae & Rock band, *Agent Double E*, which got its start as *The I-House Band* and developed into a unique cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary fusion. Renee says, “The opportunity to perform at Sunday Supper in spring 2006 and impromptu late-night jam sessions in the Great Hall brought us together. Little did we know that our musical ensemble would live on!” Their new album, *Faces of Agent Double E*, features Renee’s songs which combine great music with efforts to raise awareness about public health issues including prevention of Chagas and Dengue fever. The album was created in Buenos Aires by Renee, Jesse, and local musicians while Renee was a researcher in a Chagas disease prevention program and Jesse was traveling. For details, visit Renee’s webpage: <http://asteriarecords.com>.



**Lin Gu**, a journalist from China, and **Sandy Close** (IH1961-64) enjoyed a tour of the newsroom of the Pacific News Service (PNS) which Sandy directs. In 1995, she won a MacArthur “genius” award for developing “an innovative national news service on a shoestring budget.” Today, the nonprofit PNS produces daily newspaper stories, film, radio, and Internet websites that integrate ethnic, mainstream and youth media.

Congratulations to **Begum Guvenc** and **Fabrizio Bisetti** who were married on 7/7/7 in Tuscany, Italy!

**Nina Hansen** of Germany writes, “I have so much learned and widened my horizon at I-House as I had never experienced before and after my stay in 2001-02 as an international exchange student. I am very grateful.”

**Shyamala Mani** visited I-House earlier this spring. She holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Studies and Public Policy and serves as Programme Director at the Centre for Environment Education in New Delhi, India. She develops programs and materials to increase awareness about the environment and sustainable development, including the Fourth International Conference on Environmental Education which will be held November 26-28 in Ahmedabad, India, with the support of UNESCO and the government.

**M.d. Mar Rubio Varas** and **Daniel Morato Osés** met as I-House residents in January 2002. They welcomed their first son, Gabriel, on April 29th. They write, “We will have to explain to him that we first met at the other side of the Atlantic.”

# In Memory

R.S.V.P. WE HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

## 1930s ALUMNI

**Norma Thorpe Cantin**  
August 20, 2007

After giving the women's graduation speech to the Class of '35, she remained in Berkeley and was always very involved with Cal. Her late husband, A. Mackenzie Cantin, lived in the House in its first year, 1930-31.

**Marjorie M. Ingram**  
February 19, 2007

Member of the Cal Women's Hockey team, graduated in 1939 and lived at I-House 1937-39. Served as a social worker for the Nevada County Welfare Department and as assistant manager of the Santa Barbara Employees Federal Credit Union. Active in several organizations including the Santa Barbara Women's Club.

**Julius Jelinek**  
August 23, 2007

After earning two degrees at Cal (BS '38, MS'42), stayed on at the University doing post-graduate research in aircraft materials. He taught engineering at S.F. City College until his retirement in 1981. An avid traveler, woodworker, reader, and music lover. Predeceased by his wife of 47 years, Mary Jelinek.

**Louise Hendrix McClaughry**  
March 5, 2007

Resident of Long Beach, CA. She met late husband, Paul McClaughry, at I-House.

**Marion Gossard Smith**  
February 6, 2007

Resident of Malibu, CA. She met her late husband, Rulon Smith, at I-House.

## 1940s ALUMNI

**Harold Benson**  
December 29, 2006

A member of the University Symphony and volunteer with the Daily Cal, he graduated in Business Education in 1940. He owned his own insurance agency and served as President of Bayshore Rotary. Harold loved design and created many objects for his home and church. He enjoyed the ballet, opera and art museums and traveled with his wife of 64 years, Barbara Benson.

**Helen Schnacke Break**  
September 30, 2007

Graduated from Smith College in 1945 before coming to Berkeley where she earned a master's in English. She lived in the House from 1947-48 where she met her future husband, George. She taught English and history at the Sarah Dix Hamlin School in San Francisco, Scripps College in Pomona, and the Windsor School in Boston. An enthusiastic golfer, she won the women's championship ten times at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club. Survived by her husband, George Break, of Berkeley.

**Dr. Henry Hellmers**  
June 4, 2007

Professor Emeritus of the Botany Department at Duke University. Served in the US Navy during WWII and retired as a commander. Met his wife of 61 years, Lou Ann Moynihan, at I-House. At Duke, he designed, built and directed the Phytotron, a laboratory with controlled environment chambers and greenhouses for physiological plant research. Survived by his wife, Lou Ann Hellmers of Steamboat Springs, CO.

**Melvin Lane**  
July 28, 2007

Former *Sunset Magazine* publisher and conservationist who played a crucial role in protecting San Francisco Bay and the California coast. First chairman of the California Coastal Commission and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. Attended Cal and lived at I-House before eventually receiving a bachelor's degree from Stanford. Served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Survived by his wife of 54 years, Joan Fletcher Lane.

**Aileen Tobin Larson**  
January 2006

Graduated from the UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare. Aileen met her husband, Capt. Lewis Larson, USN, at I-House while he made a stop-over in San Francisco on his way to the South Pacific. Capt. Larson died a few weeks after Aileen. Both are buried at the Naval Academy, Annapolis.

**Henry "Nick" Nicholson**  
March 2, 2007

Resident of Redondo Beach, CA. He met his wife, Margaret Nicholson, at I-House.

**William Reifsnyder**  
November 3, 2006

Yale professor emeritus, science writer, meteorologist, and hiker, he specialized in the study of forest meteorology. His non-technical works concern hiking in the Alps and the White Mountains of New Hampshire. He received the American Meteorological Society's award for Outstanding Achievement in Bioclimatology and served as the chair of the advisory committee on climate to the U.S. Weather Bureau, the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Research. He lived in New Mexico.

## GIFTS IN MEMORY

The gifts below were received between March 1 and September 1, 2007. The name of the honoree is listed in bold followed by the names of donors.

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**Kay Mano Utsunomiya**  
April 4, 2007

Resident of Sun City West, AZ. Lived at I-House during World War II and received support that enabled her to graduate before being sent to an internment camp for Japanese-Americans during the war. In December of 1991, she made a donation to I-House and wrote, "My annual gift this year represents a portion of the redress check I received from the U.S. government together with a letter of apology for the internment of Japanese-Americans... I have been grateful for the financial and emotional support I received at that time and feel it is very appropriate that some of the redress money should be used to assist foreign and minority students who find themselves in such financial straits as I was."

**Cynthia Polakow Yudelman**  
October 11, 2007

Born in South Africa, Cynthia lived a full and active life. After serving in the South African Air Force, she was awarded a scholarship to Berkeley. At Berkeley and particularly at International House, she formed many friendships that lasted throughout her life. Passionate about maintaining her family relationships and friendships, she frequently visited South Africa, Europe, and North America. On becoming a grandmother, she wished for her grandchildren to have the same opportunities for travel and education that she enjoyed. Her last years were spent in Fort Myers, Florida. Survived by family members including three children and five grandchildren. The family requests that memorial gifts be made to I-House Open Gateway Scholarship Fund.

## 1950s ALUMNI

**Darcy Cavanaugh**  
March 9, 2007

Resident of Vancouver, BC. Lived at I-House 1951-54 while completing a B.S. in Business Administration.

**Robert Oswalt**  
May 22, 2007

Worked for decades to preserve the endangered languages, stories, and songs of Northern California's Pomo Indians. A nature lover who lived with his wife of 55 years, Esther Oswalt, near Tilden Park in Berkeley. Earned a BS and MS in chemistry at Cal and lived at I-House (1946-47) where he met his wife. Survived by his wife, Esther Oswalt.

**Vincent Zetterberg Peterson**  
May 17, 2007

A physics professor who received his Ph.D. at UC Berkeley, Vince wrote that "Cal was a great experience for me, especially living at the International House, where I met and married Elisabeth (Tess) Peterson." Vince and Tess enjoyed their I-House friends throughout their lifetimes, and they often shared stories of their I-House years with their four children and five grandchildren.

**Alan Rene Talt**  
Aug. 27, 2007

Established a life-long law practice in southern California after earning his J.D. at Boalt in 1954. Lived at I-House from 1951-53, where he met his late wife, Marge Talt. Dedicated to community service and served as President of Girls Club of Pasadena, Director of Boalt's Alumni Association, and Chairman of various Bar Association committees. Survived by four children and 11 grandchildren.

## 1960s ALUMNI

**Edward "Ted" Defandorf**  
July 26, 2007

Earned a B.A. from Harvard University and B.Arch. from Berkeley, during which time he lived at I-House (1960-64). Worked as an architect for firms in Washington, DC and suburban Maryland. Enjoyed camping and backpacking trips and held long-term memberships in a number of earth-friendly organizations. Survived by his sister.

## FRIENDS

**Margaret Coope**  
March 2, 2007

Born in England, she grew up in Vancouver, Canada, and graduated from the University of British Columbia in 1930. The following year, she earned a master's in French at Cal. Taught French at George Washington High School and was active with many organizations, including the Society for Community Work and the American Association of University Women. She enjoyed spending time at I-House while a student at Cal and remained involved over the years.

**Paul Sackett**  
October 8, 2007

Served as Senior Manager in Dining Services from the late 70s through the 80s and returned as Dining Supervisor in the late 90s. A warm, outgoing, and kind-hearted gentleman who is fondly remembered by students and staff who enjoyed his cheery greetings and words of encouragement. He always appreciated I-House for the diversity of people, cultures, and nationalities he encountered. Survived by his wife, Ryoko, children, and grandchildren.

Please send information for In Memory to:  
I-House Times Editor, 2299 Piedmont Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94720 or email [johnsonb@berkeley.edu](mailto:johnsonb@berkeley.edu)

## YOUR NEWS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER:

## STAY INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE!

- ☐ Send me information about hosting students (see page 3).
- ☐ Send me news and announcements at the email address below.
- ☐ Include me in the mailing list for future Lodestar programs (see page 4).
- ☐ Send me an Elderhostel flyer for June 2-8 and 9-15, 2008 (see page 4).
- ☐ Add us to the list of I-House Couples (see <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/a/notable/couples.html>)
- ☐ I can identify potential corporate/foundation sponsors. Please contact me for details.
- ☐ Send me the book, *Vision of Hope*. Enclosed is my check drawn on a U.S. bank for \$10 or credit card number, expiration date, and security code.
- ☐ Send me the I-House T-shirt. \$15 US / \$28 International (see above for payment details).  
Women's V-Neck \_\_S \_\_M \_\_L \_\_XL  
Men's Crew Neck \_\_S \_\_M \_\_L \_\_XL  
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Baby Onesie \_\_3 - 6 mo. \_\_6-12 mo. \_\_12 - 18 mo.
- ☐ Please send me the PBS documentary about I-House, \$10 enclosed (see above for payment details). I prefer ☐VHS video or ☐DVD
- ☐ Send information on charitable estate and gift planning.
- ☐ I have included I-House in my estate plans.

## PLEASE UPDATE YOUR RECORD

Please circle: Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr./Prof./other:\_\_\_\_\_

First name Middle initial Last name

Name when enrolled, if different

Street address (if not printed on reverse)

City State/Province Postal code Country

Email Phone

Years at I-House 19/20\_\_\_\_\_ to 19/20\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation\_\_\_\_\_

Employer\_\_\_\_\_

Spouse title: Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr./Prof./other:\_\_\_\_\_

First name Middle initial/maiden name Last name

If applicable, his/her years at I-House: 19/20\_\_\_\_\_ to 19/20\_\_\_\_\_





The I-House Times is published periodically for alumni and friends of International House.

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Editor-in-chief  
Shanti Corrigan

Located at the University of California, Berkeley, International House is a separately incorporated, non-profit educational institution recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as tax exempt under section 501(c)(3).

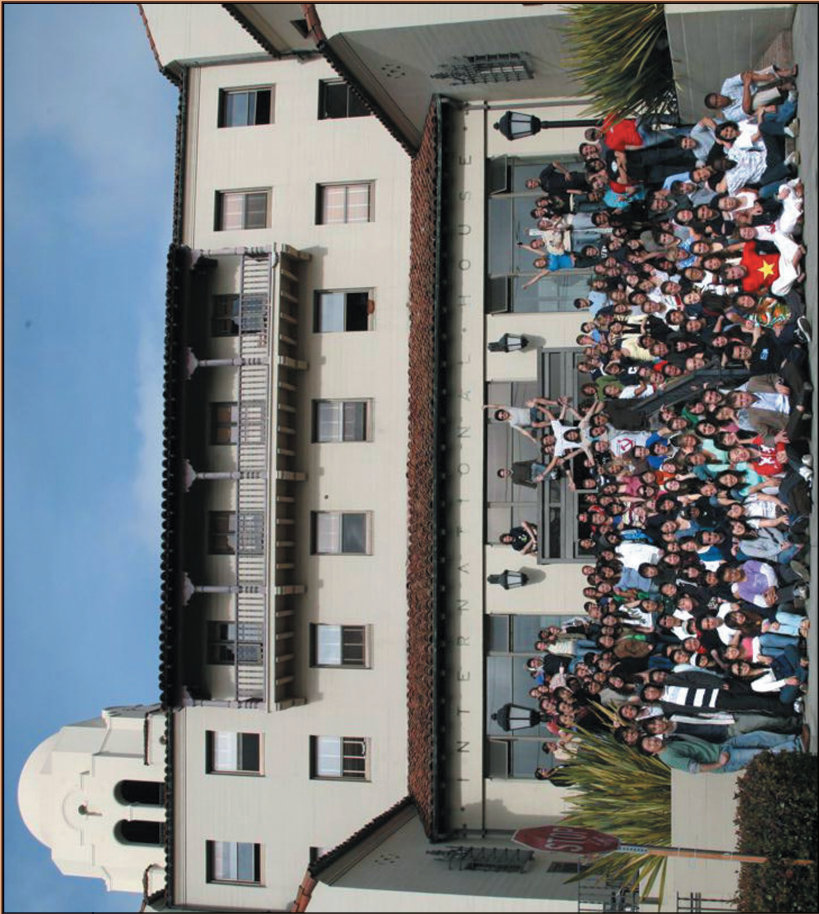
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please contact the Program Office (510) 642-9460 or Development Office (510) 642-4128 to confirm program information, or visit <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu>.

- December 6, 2007 Film screening of *No End In Sight*, 7pm Wheeler auditorium (see page 4)
- January 24, 2008 Globalization Series Lecture - Douglas Merrill, Google's VP of Engineering, 7:30 pm
- January 28, 2008 Host Family Orientation, 7-9 pm
- February 5, 2008 Mardi Gras Dinner, 6-8 pm
- February 8, 2008 Lunar New Year Dinner, 6-8 pm
- February 28, 2008 African American Dinner, 6-8 pm & Gospel Night 8pm
- March 14, 2008 Host Family Dinner, 6:30 pm
- March 17, 2008 St. Patrick's Day Dinner, 6-8 pm
- April 12, 2008 Edith Collier Festival of Cultures/Cal Day (see page 3)
- April 24, 2008 Festival de Seville, 6-8 pm
- April/May 2008 TBD Annual Celebration & Awards Gala
- May 5, 2008 Cinco De Mayo Dinner, 6-8 pm

### Ongoing Programs:

- Mon. 7 pm Social Dance Class
- Wed. 9 pm Coffee Hour open to residents, members and alumni
- Thurs. 7:30 pm Globalization Lecture Series, Homeroom 7:30 pm
- Mon & Wed. 5 pm Fitness Class
- Language Tables Weekly 5:30 pm Call the Program office for dates and languages featured. \$8.00 for dinner.



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### Alumnus is U.N. Special Adviser



Alumnus **Jan Egeland** (IH 1983) was appointed by U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon as Mr. Ban's Special Adviser relating to the prevention and resolution of conflicts around the world. Following the March appointment, Egeland began to strengthen peacemaking capabilities and manage a team that can be deployed to support peacemaking efforts.

As Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator from 2003-06, Egeland was acknowledged worldwide for his passionate leadership in seeking assistance for people caught in conflicts and natural disasters.

Honored by I-House as Alumnus of the Year in 2005, Egeland, a native of Norway, recalled:

*Living in I-House was like living in the United Nations without the bureaucracy. Every single day led to new friendships with engaging students and scholars from all over the world. My year as a Fulbright fellow at Berkeley, living in I-House, was my most liberating, happiest and social year ever.*

# INTERNATIONAL HOUSE TIMES

WINTER  
2007 - 2008

THE NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS & ALUMNI OF INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

## Preparing Global Citizens & Leaders to Shape a More Peaceful World



Residents gathered before welcoming guests to the 2007 Celebration and Awards Gala in May. Front row, from left: Liv Loechen (Norway), Mickey Barda, (Israel), Kim Nguyen (USA), Adwoa Osei (Ghana), Eric Jabart (USA/France), Mariagiovanna Di Feo (Italy)

Back row, from left: Emilio Martinez de Velasco (Mexico), Tandro Ramaharitra (Madagascar), Gaetan Pennecot (France)

**For more information:**  
<http://ihouse.berkeley.edu>

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