



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

2020 SPRING

90 Years of Cultivating Peace Through Understanding

90

Time to:

***Celebrate
Commemorate
Contemplate***

Executive Director's Message

A Fond Farewell



As we move through our 90th year of service here in Berkeley, we have thought much about the legacy that International House has established over these nine decades. Given that we have provided housing and dining services to some 95,000 students, scholars, and researchers over this time frame, the sheer volume of our service dimensions is quite astounding. With so much traffic

moving through our building every day, we have been, and continue to be, a safe harbor to many and, at the same time, also a place where our residents and guests have their minds expanded in some profound ways.

Simply put, we have been a home base to so many individuals who have international aspirations for their lives and we have also been a place that draws people together and helps them engage with one another. I believe that in a highly polarized society characterized by polemics, nothing is more important than a place which builds community and demonstrates daily how important it is to get along well with one another.

This special I-House legacy is seen and experienced in myriad ways:

- It takes shape in the lifelong relationships that are founded here;
- It flourishes through the peer learning opportunities that are so evident among our residents;
- It is enhanced when our residents realize that there is more than one right approach to life;
- It multiplies its impact when our alumni leave and go out into the world with a changed mindset about international cooperation and understanding; and
- It is further cemented when our alumni decide to give back to this mission because they realize its importance for the future of our world.

As I come to the end of my own tenure of service at I-House, I have been assessing my own sense of legacy here. Beyond the daily tasks of efficient and effective administration and prudent management of our resources, I see my most important legacy as being one of establishing a strong sense of community in this enchanting facility and then re-establishing it annually as our cohorts of residents come and go. In this task, I have been supported by so many dedicated and talented colleagues, most of whom I have had a hand in hiring and developing. So, ultimately, for both the organization and me the primary legacy is not the facility or the significant number of improvements that have been implemented during my tenure,

but rather the sense of community found here that is forged by the staff and residents who make it such a special place.



Hans with I-House scholarship recipients

My heartfelt hope and desire is that the community spirit of I-House will continually deepen and flourish and that it will be known across the entire UC Berkeley campus as an exemplary service provider which cultivates a special atmosphere, which our alumni carry with them wherever they go in life. This spirit is embodied in the lives of all those who come through our doors. May the spirit of I-House be ever stronger and impactful into the very corners of the globe where our alumni will find their ways and establish their own communities, some of which may be modeled on what they experienced here in Berkeley. I would like to thank all of our alumni, staff, Board of Directors members, donors, and friends who continually strive to keep the I-House dream alive. ■

Hans C. Giesecke, Executive Director



Susan and Hans Giesecke

UC Berkeley Launches *Light the Way:* *The Campaign for Berkeley*



On February 29, 2020, UC Berkeley publicly launched **Light the Way: The Campaign for Berkeley** – a comprehensive effort to raise \$6 billion by the end of 2023 to invest in Berkeley’s extraordinary faculty and students; research for the public good; and learning, living, and work spaces. The campaign, among the largest ever undertaken by a university,

builds on Berkeley’s distinctiveness in transforming lives, fueling social mobility, and changing the world.

In this campaign, UC Berkeley is focused not just on funding new initiatives, but primarily on raising support for the university’s core strengths. With that in mind, Chancellor Carol Christ has identified four high-level, campus priority areas:

- **Faculty and Fellowships** to ignite the core of Berkeley’s excellence;
- **Research for the Public Good** to illuminate solutions for California and the world;
- **Undergraduate Opportunity and Experience** to brighten the brightest — our students;
- **Places of Possibility** to create new facilities and strengthen the beacon that is Berkeley.

The campaign will touch every part of the campus, from students and faculty to every school, college, and program, including International House.

International House Executive Director, Dr. Hans Giesecke notes, “As a UC Berkeley campus residence for students from the United States and around the world, we are pleased that the campaign includes gifts to I-House through the UC Berkeley Foundation. I-House Board Chair, Chancellor Christ has recognized student housing as a top priority under the umbrella of her **Places of Possibility** focus area through the campaign.” Giesecke expands, “International House is at the forefront of supporting Chancellor Christ’s campus priorities to illuminate solutions for California and the world. We seek to brighten the brightest through our programs offered by CIL, the Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership, in support of our mission — to foster intercultural respect, understanding, and leadership skills for a more peaceful world.”



“We are pleased that the campaign includes gifts to I-House through the UC Berkeley Foundation.”

All four key I-House funds may be supported as part of the Campaign at give.berkeley.edu.

The Fund for I-House provides crucial unrestricted support for day-to-day operations. This flexible funding can be put to work where the current need is greatest, supporting programs that promote the mission of the House, student jobs that help residents make ends meet, financial aid for promising students, and crucial maintenance in our well-loved and well-used building.

The Intercultural Programs Fund helps deliver vibrant residential programs, educational forums, festivals, and outreach activities to help connect our residents, friends, and alumni in ways otherwise unimaginable. These are the events that will be remembered for a lifetime. They help build bridges of friendship that facilitate understanding, respect, and enjoyment of differences.

The I-House Scholarship Fund enables deserving students in financial need to afford the opportunity to live at International House. Awards are granted to students regardless of national or ethnic background.

The I-House Architectural Heritage Fund was highlighted in the last issue of the *I-House Times* newsletter, “Building a Foundation for Global Fellowship.” After nine decades of service to more than 95,000 residents, our architectural treasure requires major capital improvements to ensure its service to new generations. Many millions of dollars are needed for seismic upgrades, retrofitting rooms, improving showers, improved fire alarms and safety access, and renovations and maintenance throughout the House, including the Sproul Kitchen and Gamble Lounge, the beloved I-House Café, Dome, and Great Hall. ■

90 Years of Peace Through Understanding

For nine decades, International House Berkeley has opened minds and broadened perspectives to prepare the next generations of leaders from around the world. Today, the ideals of I-House are more important than ever.

Join with the estimated 65,000 living alumni and countless friends all around the world to mark the occasion of the 90th birthday of International House on August 18, 2020!

In the last issue of the *I-House Times*, the founding of the I-House movement was chronicled, and we shared the historic early efforts to build a foundation for global fellowship. In addition to highlighting the enduring mission of I-House, we shared exciting innovations in our program offerings and resident experience, our keen focus on intercultural leadership development, our efforts to foster diversity through expanded financial aid scholarships, and the ongoing preservation of the architectural heritage and critical physical infrastructure needs of our historic home.

In this issue, we share some of the many noteworthy highlights since our opening in 1930. We invite you to contemplate and to share with us additional insights and memories as we prepare for the countdown to our 90th birthday and beyond!

In 1930, the opening of I-House delivered a powerful message against racial segregation and bigotry – situated by design in its prominent location at the top of Bancroft in the heart of fraternity row. Protests and opposition from students and community members were insufficient to stop the groundbreaking coeducational, interracial living center and its promise of building mutual understanding and respect leading to a more peaceful world.



Sunday Supper, 1935

The turbulence of the 1940s and World War II saw I-House keeping alive the hope for a world of friendship for all peoples, despite being rented out to the U.S. Navy as “Callaghan Hall” from 1943-46. The leadership skills of I-House residents envisioned by the founders of the I-House movement were boldly mobilized by Executive Director Allen Blaisdell to bring reason, empathy, and attention to the causes of anti-internment and the desegregation of dining establishments in Berkeley.



I-House Residents, 1950s

After the war, the period leading into the 1950s has been affectionately called the “Golden Age” of International House – and golden memories are indeed abundant! International festivals, sock hops,

conversations in the Café, mind-opening programs, and traditional Sunday Suppers continue today.

Beloved Executive Director W. Sheridan “Sherry” Warrick made sure that free speech, social justice, and activism were alive, well, and transformative for I-House residents in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s.

Nowhere else on campus – itself also a crucible for change – could one find more side-by-side diversity of thought, experience,

and citizenship than among the fellow future leaders living, dining, and learning together at I-House. Beginning in 1963 and continuing for nearly two decades, the Lodestar retreats featured incredible conversation and discovery of self and the world. In 1969, students removed the doors separating the men’s and women’s lounges, and Sherry Warrick chose to “ignore” the transgression!



I-House Front Steps, 1960s



Callaghan Hall Newlyweds

Celebrate Commemorate Contemplate



Bellbottoms, bangles, and beads gave way in the 1970s, however intercultural ties between diverse residents from throughout the world continued to be the focus of learning about the pathways and possibilities for peace. In 1974, the I-House traditions of free speech and mutual respect were reaffirmed

after intense controversy over debates focused on the Middle East.

In 1980, I-House alumni and friends supported a much-needed 50th Anniversary Capital Campaign resulting in renovations to the Chevron



Auditorium, Great Hall, and administrative offices. In 1988, Joe Lurie took the reins as the third I-House executive director, inaugurating the I-House Annual Celebration and Awards Gala among many other popular innovations.



The 1990s saw a marked increase in room and board scholarship support for deserving students with financial need. This focus on financial aid via The I-House Scholarship Fund and named scholarships

continues today as one of the four principal areas of funding support, along with The Architectural Heritage Fund, The Intercultural Programs Fund, and The Fund for I-House. As the decade came to a close, residents promoted the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities worldwide.

The new millennium welcomed a new partnership between UC Berkeley and I-House in the form of the first Gateway Scholarship – a full scholarship package of tuition, room and board, and a stipend allowing UC Berkeley to compete with private schools for Ph.D. candidates. Each scholarship is a named endowment. Joe Lurie led a successful 75th Anniversary Campaign to fund scholarships, renovations, and

programs. Ambassador Martin Brennan, the fourth I-House executive director, initiated Navigating Cultures, the first for-credit UC class offered by I-House.

In 2010, I-House celebrated its 80th Anniversary. In July 2012, Dr. Hans Giesecke began his service as the fifth executive director of International House. His driving focus has been on making I-House students' residential experience a top highlight of their time at Berkeley. The Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership (CIL) has become a preeminent center of excellence for training to advance leadership, understanding, and collaboration across cultures.

For decades, International House has provided Berkeley and the greater Bay Area a diverse mix of ethnic dishes every day. Open to the public, our Dining Commons welcomes anyone to join I-House residents from more than 75 countries for breakfast, lunch, and dinner each weekday and for brunch and dinner on weekends. With the support of alumni and friends, and a generous matching challenge grant from **Eric (IH 1976-80)** and **Wendy Schmidt (IH 1978-80)**, the Dining Commons has now been renovated and lovingly restored. The stunning 2nd-floor dining room features rich wood tables, chandeliers, and a performance stage.



As International House prepares for its upcoming 90th Anniversary, please join us in remembering and saluting the many trail blazers, Nobel Laureates, ambassadors, United Nations staff, public service professionals, members of royal families, leaders in business, science, law, literature and journalism, arts, entertainment, and education who count their I-House experience as among the most transformative and inspirational in their lives.

To learn more about the rich history of I-House visit ihouse.berkeley.edu/about/history. ■

The Resident Experience

I-House Podcast: *From All Corners*



Residents attending the live event featuring current I-House resident Claudio Berther (Episode 4)

From the I-House Program Office comes the storytelling podcast, *From All Corners*. Featuring an array of I-House residents, the project was born of the notion that powerful stories can inspire intercultural learning and make friends out of strangers. Each episode is a jolt of empathy – spotlighting true stories about the people we meet, the heartbreaks we suffer, the lessons we learn, those frightful experiences that unravel us, and the moments of wonder that shape us.

Past episodes have transported listeners to a beloved community of farm laborers in the Central Valley, to scenes of political unrest in the streets of Hong Kong, and to other far-flung corners of the world. The release of each podcast episode is followed by a live event, where residents gather to share a meal and life stories, and in the words of a resident attendee, “increase our understanding of each other and deepen I-House relationships.” The impact of this new program was captured by Maria Wong, an I-House resident and the podcast’s host:



Maria Wong, podcast host

“Through interviewing a diverse range of guests, I have become more empathetic and understanding, realizing that there is always more than meets the eye and that everyone has a different life journey. I have met incredible people, and beyond refining my interview skills, I have gained new perspectives while becoming more understanding and compassionate.”

You can learn more about the program *From All Corners* at ihouse.berkeley.edu/fromallcorners. Be sure to subscribe on Apple Podcast, Google Podcast, or Spotify. ■

From All Corners Episodes

Episode 1: In this inaugural episode, Benny Corona welcomes us with arms wide open, to the community where his formerly undocumented parents immigrated from Mexico. Benny then chronicles his journey as a young farm worker, a first-generation undergrad at UC Berkeley, a community organizer, and a graduate student at the Goldman School of Public Policy.

Episode 2: This episode follows Stephen Boyle and Igor Pereira on a journey through an autistic and a bipolar mind—giving listeners insights on everything from Greta Thunberg to the concept of neurodiversity.

Episode 3: This conversation between residents from Hong Kong and Mainland China is as rare as it is essential. It’s a candid discussion on civil unrest, the virulence of information echo chambers, and the hard work of building bridges across people in conflict.

Episode 4: In this episode, we follow Claudio Berther as he whisks us from snowy Switzerland to hilly Berkeley — sharing all the while how he navigates stigmas and chases down opportunities with inimitable zest and joy.

Building Trust Across Cultural Differences

CIL, The Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership

By Grace Michel, Assistant Director

Trust matters. Yet it is not uncommon to find team members who don't trust their supervisors, or feel that the supervisors don't care about them as people. If a supervisor is asked if they want to build a culture of trust in their organization, they generally say yes. They may even think that they are doing a great job at it. So why do so many fail miserably to build trust, and why is building trust so hard?

The problem is that different people have different ideas and different feelings about what makes someone trustworthy. What builds trust with one person might not with another; in fact, it could actually break trust. For one person, emotional vulnerability, sharing personal details, might make them feel like someone is authentic, and therefore trustworthy. For another person, when a colleague gets personal they might think "whoa, they're an over-sharer" and lead them to avoid that colleague.

The different ways people build trust are shaped by the diverse cultural identities that make us who we are - our racial and ethnic backgrounds, gender, where we were raised, age, sexual orientation, religious practices, etc., and how those identities shape our values, mindsets, and norms. In the workplace, these cultural identities influence our behaviors, communication styles, and whether or not we perceive people as trustworthy.

There are some behaviors most of us probably agree are trust-building - like whether or not people follow through on their word and whether they demonstrate consistency. But there are other behaviors people would disagree or debate about whether they build or break trust. What are some of the different culturally-influenced ways of communicating and behaving that build or break trust in the workplace?

1. How we express feelings: Is your communication style more emotionally expressive, or restrained? Those who are more restrained are likely to react to those who are expressive as being intense or dramatic, and those who are expressive might interpret those who are restrained as cold or overly shy. Just by being who you are, you could be perceived as untrustworthy by others with a different communication style;
2. Whether we prioritize tasks or relationships: Organizational management research shows that people tend to prioritize one over the other, even if they value both. If a supervisor chronically prioritizes results and tasks and doesn't cultivate personal relationships and a people-oriented culture, burnout and turnover may result;
3. How we approach giving feedback: Do you give critical feedback directly, or do you use a more indirect approach? Do you use the feedback sandwich - couching "growth opportunities" in between positive feedback, or, do you consider that to be soft, "sugar-coating," or coddling? Do you give feedback regularly, or hold back because you don't want to rock the boat?

There are many more examples of building/breaking trust depending on different cultural norms. For example, how we approach decision-making and risk-taking, and how we manage time. If we are not intentional about it, we will automatically and unconsciously trust those who are most like us. In our organizations and teams, this means those who don't fit the dominant cultural norms are more likely to feel excluded, leading to decreased collaboration and motivation, and higher turnover. To build inclusive workplaces where people are motivated and high performing, all team members, especially those in positions of formal authority, need to understand their preferences for how to build trust, seek to understand others' preferences, and take steps to bridge the divide.



Participants in a CIL workshop discuss their communication styles and preferences for how to build trust.

The good news is there are simple steps we can take to start building trust across cultural differences. Take a look at this list of micropractices you can start right now:

- Find commonalities: expand your ingroup by identifying things you have in common with those you perceive to be different;
- Practice appreciation: if you don't trust someone initially, identify something you appreciate about them. Appreciation helps deactivate the brain's threat response;
- Practice curiosity: ask your colleagues whom they admire, what kind of leadership they prefer, and when they feel at their best?
- Know and share your trust-building preferences: e.g. task/relationship, direct/indirect, feedback frequency, etc.; and
- Practice the Platinum Rule: you know the Golden Rule, but what about Platinum? Do unto others as THEY would have you do unto them.

Bridging the divide starts with empathy. New ways of behaving because you want to build trust with others can lead to powerful outcomes.

If you're interested in learning more about building trust on your team or within your organization, email us at cil@berkeley.edu or visit us at the Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership at cil.berkeley.edu. ■

90 Years of Notable Women at International House

Read about more notable I-House alumnae at ihouse.berkeley.edu/notable

The decision to open the university's doors to women on equal terms with men occurred in 1870, just two years after the University of California was founded. To commemorate this milestone, UC Berkeley Chancellor Carol Christ has designated 2020 as "150 Years of Women at Berkeley." The yearlong celebration will feature a series of events and activities that compile and present an archive of historical information covering the last 150 years of women at the university. This project encourages the community to explore the history of women and gender diversity more broadly at Berkeley. This rich history is full of tales of achievements, discrimination, and overcoming adversity.



A major campus-wide history project is underway with many other activities planned throughout the year. If you would like to participate in this effort, we encourage you to explore the 150W website: 150w.berkeley.edu.

International House has also contributed to breaking barriers throughout its 90-year history. When the idea of International House was first proposed to the Berkeley community in the 1920s, there was considerable resistance to men and women living under one roof.

One cannot deny the remarkable contributions to society made by women who resided at International House. Among our growing list of notable alumnae are trailblazers such as neuroscientist Marian Diamond; aviator Maggie Gee; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata; mountaineer and environmental health scientist Arlene Blum; philanthropist Wendy Schmidt, and Baroness Oona King.

Marian Diamond (IH 1949-52)

Marian Diamond, 2016 I-House Alumna of the Year, was a pioneering scientist and educator who is considered one of the founders of modern neuroscience. She and her team were the first to publish evidence that the brain can change with experience and improve with enrichment – what is now called *neuroplasticity*. A professor emerita of integrative biology at UC Berkeley, she achieved celebrity in 1984 when she examined preserved slices of Einstein's brain, finding that he had more than the average amount of support cells.



Maggie Gee (IH 1950-51)

Maggie Gee was one of the first Chinese-American aviators of the Women Airforce Service Pilots. Since female pilots were not allowed in combat at the time, she helped male pilots train for combat and also ferried military aircraft. After graduating from UC Berkeley with a degree in physics, she worked at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She is also featured in a number of books and documentaries.



Sadako Nakamura Ogata (IH 1956-57)

Sadako Ogata, 1992 I-House Alumna of the Year, was the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) from 1991 to 2000. She was also the Chair of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Board from 1978 to 1979, and as President of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from 2003 to 2012. She also served as Advisor of the Executive Committee of the Japan Model United Nations (JMUN). Please see Sadako Ogata's obituary on page 18.



Arlene Blum (IH 1967-68)

Arlene Blum, 2017 *I-House Alumna of the Year*, is a mountaineer, writer, and environmental health scientist. She is best known for leading an all-woman ascent of Annapurna, a climb that was also the first successful American ascent. She now serves as Executive Director of the Green Science Policy Institute.



Wendy Schmidt (IH 1978-80)

Wendy Schmidt, 2014 *I-House Alumna of the Year*, is president and co-founder of the Schmidt Family Foundation and the Schmidt Ocean Institute (SOI). In 2005, she became a trustee of the National Resources Defense Council and founded the 11th Hour Project to raise awareness about climate change and global warming. In 2006, Wendy and **Eric Schmidt (IH 1976-80)** established the Schmidt Family Foundation to address issues of sustainability and the responsible use of natural resources. In 2009, Wendy and Eric Schmidt created the Schmidt Transformative Technology Fund at Princeton University to support research and technology in the natural sciences and engineering. Closer to home, the Schmidt Matching Challenge spurred other generous contributions for the complete renovation of the I-House Dining Commons.



Baroness Oona King (IH 1989-90)

Baroness Oona King, 2019 *I-House Alumna of the Year*, has been an unparalleled visionary leader and a staunch human rights advocate. Among her many accomplishments is a lifetime appointment as Baroness King of Bow. As a member of the British House of Commons, she was voted by other members of Parliament to be “the MP, most likely to change society.” Oona founded the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Genocide Prevention in the House of Commons and received a commendation from the UN Security Council’s Expert Panel for her work on peacekeeping. ■



The University Section Club: Eight Decades of Supporting I-House Through Friendship and Philanthropy

The University Section Club, a non-profit UC Berkeley support group whose mission closely aligns with I-House, was founded in 1927.

Its mission and purpose is:

- To provide service to the university community;
- To raise funds to aid deserving students, support student-related groups, and foster international understanding;
- To provide a social milieu for members to interact while sharing common interests in the various activity sections of the Club.

100 percent of members’ donations support UC Berkeley students and scholars, including an endowment for I-House room and board scholarships.

The Section Club Scholarship Endowment for an I-House resident was established with seed funds in 1996. Both U.S. and international students are eligible to apply for financial aid to assist with partial room and board fees for an academic year. Section Club members contribute to the Club’s fund, and individual Section Club members have generously given directly to increase the endowment. This is one of the over 130 room and board scholarships I-House is privileged to dispense annually thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends.

“The University Section Club Scholarship has lightened my financial burden, which allows me to focus on the most important aspect of school-learning. Their generosity has inspired me to help others. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals, just as they have helped me.”

Current Section Club Scholarship recipient,
Deena Sabry, from Egypt



Executive Director, Hans Giesecke; current Section Club scholarship recipient, Deena Sabry; Section Club member Nancy Oldham; Susan Giesecke, and Section Club member Joan Jenkins

Global Gatherings

Always a Festive Time at Global Homecoming



The House is always buzzing with excitement on the Sunday of UC Berkeley's Homecoming weekend. Global Homecoming features the *I-House Architectural Heritage Tour*, the *(CIL) Robertson Center for Intercultural Leadership Interactive Session*, the *Global Table Talk Lunch* and the ever popular *Around the World Under the Dome Fashion Show & Tasting Festival*. **Werner Zimmerman (IH 1965-66)** and his wife, **Mercedes**, rekindled I-House memories at **Global Homecoming 2019**.

Bringing Berkeley to I-House Alumni



Irving Tragen (IH 1943-47) the 2018 *I-House Global Ambassador of Peace and Public Service Award* recipient, **Laurie Masten (IH 1987-88)**, and Associate Director of Philanthropy Joy Iwasa, enjoyed meeting current I-House scholarship recipient resident Armen Hodoyan at the San Diego Discover Cal event.



Anne Turhollow (IH 1981-82) shared stories with Joy Iwasa about living at I-House with her brother **Charles Turhollow (IH 1981-82)**, just as her parents, **Charlotte (Klein) Turhollow (IH 1949-51)** and **Anthony Turhollow (IH 1949-51)**. Anne also shared fond memories of the resident retreat and helping to prepare the meals for the event.



Henry (IH 1966-67) and Anne Mollet (IH 1966) attended the Monterey Discover Cal event with Joy Iwasa and appreciated learning about the latest updates at I-House. Henry and Anne recently pledged a meaningful gift through their estate plan that will create a lasting impact on the I-House Architectural and I-House Scholarship Funds.



Philanthropy Matters

Carla Itzkowich, (pictured right), and Ilana Ostrosky Frid, Director of The Moises Itzkowich Foundation, were delighted to be able to inscribe a tribute to her late father through the I-House Brick Dedication program. The date of Carla's visit was especially meaningful because it coincided with the second anniversary of her father's passing.

See more ways to leave your mark at ihouse.berkeley.edu/naming.



Global Gatherings

I-House Alumni Gathering in Berlin



On November 8, 2019, the night before the 30th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall, I-House Executive Director Dr. Hans Giesecke and Susan Giesecke hosted an I-House alumni gathering in Berlin, Germany. More than 40 guests gathered at the Hilton Berlin to celebrate I-House, to share their memories, and to learn about the latest updates happening under the dome. The I-House spirit was strong in Berlin! Our thanks to **Morgan Randall (IH 2014-16)**, **Gabriela Contreras (IH 2004-06)**, **Eva Louisa Savinova (IH 2011)**, **Andrew Isaak (IH 2016)**, and **Peace Liz Sasha Musonge (IH 2015)** for assisting at the event.

I-House Alumni Thanksgiving Gathering in Taipei



Cheng-Huei Grace Hong (IH 2016-18), pictured center, along with I-House New York alumni **Wellington Chu** and **Tudor Pascu** wanted to bring all I-House alumni in Taipei together. So they decided to host an I-House Thanksgiving gathering on December 1, 2019. It was a perfect occasion to celebrate friendship, memories, and to strengthen the I-House alumni community in Taiwan. I-House Berkeley alumni **Rex Chen (IH 2017-18)**, **Derek Tai (IH 2017-18)**, and **Darsen Lu (IH 2005-07)** were amongst the attendees. It was indeed a representation of I-House's mission in action. Special thanks to Grace Hong for taking this initiative!

Activism Era Alumni Reunion



Stuart Pawsey (IH 1964-66) and his wife, **Glenda Pawsey (IH 1965-67)**, hosted a dinner on January 8, 2020 at their home with their Activism Era friends from I-House. **Dale Bratton (IH 1964-66)**, **Mardi Leland (IH 1965-66)**, **Judy Bratton (Wong Sing) (IH 1965-67)**, **Tanya Parker (Sansom) (IH 1964-65)**, **Sherri Sawaya (Pierce) (IH 1964-66)**, **Alan Kirschbaum (IH 1964-66)**, and **Roger Simons (IH 1964-66)** gathered with their spouses to reminisce about their time at I-House and to celebrate their longstanding friendship. The afternoon before the dinner the group came for a private tour with Associate Director of Philanthropy **Joy Iwasa**. It was a nostalgic time had by all.

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.

Back to Berkeley

Look Who Came To Visit!



1. **Irving Tragen (IH 1943-47)** visited with I-House Executive Director Hans Giesecke, his wife Susan Giesecke, and Resident Engagement Manager Valerie Ong while he was here for the “Inaugural Irving Tragen Lecture on Comparative Law featuring Katharina Pistor” on February 3rd. Irving was pleased to announce that his book, paying tribute to his beloved, late wife, **Eleanor “Ele” Dodson (IH-1944-47)**, *Two Lifetimes As One: Ele and Me and the Foreign Service* has been published this year. This touching autobiography covers the decades of marriage and service abroad of this I-House couple and how Irving could not have carried out his difficult assignments without the support of his loving wife, Ele.
2. **Ramesh Gidwani (IH 1967-70)** (left) came from Houston, Texas, to visit a longtime friend who lives in the Bay Area. Before his return flight home, Ramesh was able to get a tour with Angela Rauch and to see the Great Hall again.
3. **Dania Orta Alemán (IH 2015-17)** and **Zunaid Omair (IH 2016-17)** found love in the air when the new I-House couple came to take photos on their wedding day. Read the remarkable story of how they met, *I-House, a Gateway to Love: Mexico Meets Bangladesh*, at the I-House blog at ihberkeley.wordpress.com.
4. **Kayla Harris (IH 2013)**, former Event Assistant, was happy to see her former boss Tim Lynch during her stay in the Ambassador Suite, and to show her parents I-House for the first time.
5. **Elena Gavagnin (IH 2011)** was also excited to show her parents I-House for the first time. During a visit from Italy, they enjoyed seeing where Elena lived.
6. **John Christopher (IH 1994)**, **Frida Dicarlo (IH 1993-94)**, and **Mario Huerta (IH 1995-96)** bonded living at I-House in the 1990s. They stopped in to reminisce about their time at I-House together in the Great Hall.

Back to Berkeley

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



7. **Sandhya Sood (IH 1998-99)** appreciated having the opportunity to experience I-House's Diwali dinner with current I-House residents and I-House Board member Milan Kaur.
8. **Eduardo della Maggiora (IH 2003)** (front row second from left) shares, "17 years later, I'm back where I spent one of the best years of my life. Not much has changed on the outside, but UC Berkeley has become one of the main innovation hubs in the U.S., having the largest number of graduating startup founders of any public university in the world."
9. **Danielle Laurens (IH 1967)** and her husband Dr. Eberhard Haug traveled from France to celebrate their 50th anniversary. They shared a story about how they met: Danielle had just missed a bus to go on an excursion to San Francisco. Eberhard missed the same bus. They began talking while they waited for the second bus to arrive, and then sat together on the ride into the City. The rest is history!
10. **Antonio Garcia-Galan (IH 2014-15)** and **Laia Llinas Bertran (IH 2014-15)** both from Barcelona, lived next door to each other in I-House. Laia writes, "We could not skip the visit to where all of us met to recall the good memories: watching the sunset from the 7th floor lounge, sitting at the same spot in the library, and even the smell of the laundry room! Being able to recall all of this with the newlywed couple (Antonio and Keven Dao) and all the friends that were there from the beginning was such a lovely experience!"
11. **Mitra Forati (IH 1991-94)** visited from Boulder, Colorado. She enjoyed meeting Executive Director Hans Giesecke and also seeing all the upgrades in the building.
12. **Christina Boerner (IH 1999)** made sure to show her boys I-House during their visit in the Bay Area from Switzerland. They enjoyed their stay in the Ambassador Suite and seeing all of her favorite places in I-House.

Alumni News & Notes

1950s

Marion Stoddart (IH 1950-51) writes, “It was great to visit I-House last year for the first time since I was there 70 years ago! It brought back many happy memories.”

Dr. William Shane (IH 1951-52) shared, “I am currently studying the distribution of dark matter around galaxies, something quite unheard of 70 years ago when I was studying astronomy at UC Berkeley. The more we learn the more exciting it gets!”

John Olmstead (IH 1958-61) and **Eileen Olmsted (IH 1960-61)** shared that they have downsized from a large two-story home with hillside garden to a single-level condominium in Pittsburgh, PA.

1960s

Jane Bowers (IH 1960-61 & 1964-66), now living at St. John's on the Lake in Milwaukee, WI, shares that she recently submitted a book proposal to the University of Illinois Press about blues singer Estelle “Mama” Yancey.

1970s

Nancy Chan (IH 1970) writes, “I am now with Intero Commercial in Los Altos, helping people buy and sell residential and commercial properties. I also run a support group for adults with selective autism and their parents.”

Angela Gedye (IH 1971-73) says, “Wow! Almost 50 years since I lived and loved in I-House. Fond memories, great folks, one of the most enriching periods of my life.”

George Ho (IH 1970) shared, “I am pleased to inform you that I was appointed president of the Hong Kong Red Cross in September of this year.”



William Rowe (IH 1972-74) recently completed an aquifer restoration program in an economically impacted community in Southern California. He writes, “I-House provided me an invaluable perspective in understanding world cultures.”

Laureen B. Chang (IH 1973-74) writes, “My parents met at I-House, and my mother at 93 years old continues to live independently in Mountain View and remains in touch with her friends from 1946-48. I also remain in touch with my MBA classmate, Henrich Stuck, in Paris. I am enjoying life in San Marino, CA, active with philanthropy, travel, and family.”

Catherine Sproul (IH 1974-75) shares, “I loved living at I-House for my sophomore year at UC Berkeley. Sometimes I dream of going back there to continue my education!”

Markos Kounalakis (IH 1977-78) sent word that “my wife and I are honored to be so engaged with UC Berkeley and the entire University of California system. Since my wife, Eleni Kounalakis, was elected Lt. Governor, she has served as a UC Regent and paid particular attention to student costs. I recently completed my term on the

Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. President Barack Obama appointed me to the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board in 2017. During my term, I got to apply many of the lessons I learned about international education and exchange during my years at I-House. My family wishes everyone a healthy and prosperous 2020.”

Cecilia Barbosa (IH 1979-81) writes, “Seven former I-House residents and their significant others came from far and wide to gather in Costa Rica for a most memorable reunion celebrating 40



years of friendship.” From left: **Marco Rimolo (IH 1979)** (Santa Teresa, Costa Rica), **Oscar Crisalle (IH 1979-81)** (Gainesville, Florida), **Liz Lee (IH 1979-80)** (Brighton, England), **Jaime Benchimol (IH 1978-80)** (Manaus, Brazil), **Cecilia Barbosa (IH 1960-61)** (Richmond, Virginia), **Nico De Leon (IH 1978-80)** (Richmond, Virginia), and **Prakash Bathini (IH 1979-81)** (Berkeley, CA and Chennai, India). All came to I-House sometime between 1978-1981 from Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, England, India, and USA.

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

Alumni News & Notes

1980s

Alumni **Laurie Masten (IH 1987-88)** (pictured second from left), **Annie So (IH 1982)** (center), and their guests attended the San Diego Discover Cal event with Associate Director of Philanthropy, Joy Iwasa (second from right).



During the visit, Laurie confirmed her thoughtful gift in her estate plans. We are grateful for supporters like Laurie for leaving a legacy gift to International House.

2000s

Andrey Kolobov (IH 2003-04) writes, “I still fondly remember my time at I-House in 2003. I hope many more generations of students live the experience I did!”

2010s

Anushree Avasthi (IH 2019) is currently working on a project with the Econ faculty at UC Berkeley.

Jeremy Chu (IH 2019) writes that he is “starting my first year as a Ph.D. student at Stony Brook University.”

Satya Gontcho A Gontcho (IH 2012) writes, “I am traveling to Rome next week to receive the Giuseppe Sclacca International Award under the sponsorship of the European Union, the President and Ministries of Italy, and the Vatican. Apart from recognizing its

recipient for excellence in their field, this award acknowledges efforts made to be a role model for future generations. Significant steps of my journey towards realizing the impact that I could have on the world around me, and how to use this for the best, were made during my time at I-House and Berkeley Lab in 2012.”

Patricie Uwase Mavubi (IH 2013-15) is now the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure in Rwanda. She plans to return to Berkeley for a presentation on campus this spring.

Joël Thai (IH 2010-11) shares, “I went to Seoul for an I-House wedding — the bride and groom from South Korea and Germany met at I-House! Besides the wedding, we also had a ‘Friends Day’ where the bride showed us around the city. It was another fantastic I-House reunion, with California weather.



Above is a picture of us when we dressed up with traditional Korean outfits and visited a temple!” Pictured from left: **Jonghwan Kim (IH 2007-08)**, **Joël Thai (IH 2010-11)**, **Haemin Lim (IH 2010-11)**, **Hyesoo Yoon (bride)**, **Martin Sehr (IH 2010-11)** (groom), and **Ayako Hirata (IH 2010-11)**.

Caitlin Whitter (IH 2019) is continuing her Ph.D. in computer science.

I-House Staff Transitions

October 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020

Welcome New Staff

Emily Goulart	<i>Catering Coordinator</i>
Shannon Fields	<i>Custodian</i>
Shanea Gideon	<i>Resident Evening Coordinator</i>

We would also like to congratulate Roxanne (Heglar) Pifer on her promotion to *Director of Admissions & Housing*.

We strive to be as current and accurate as possible in this newsletter. If you have a correction or suggestion, contact the news team at ihalumni@berkeley.edu.

For alumni who have moved, changed email or mailing addresses, or simply want to tell us what you have been up to since leaving I-House, please fill out the “Stay in Touch” form on our website at ihouse.berkeley.edu.

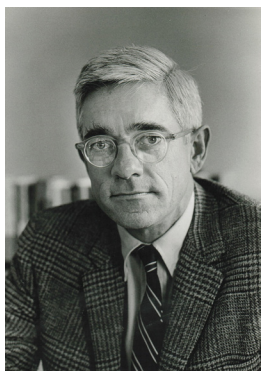
I-House Community Survey

As part of the preparations for our 90th Anniversary, and as a means of gathering wise counsel and other important untold stories, please share with us your reflections, guidance, ideas, and special memories. We’re preparing a survey of members of the I-House community spanning the decades, and we hope that you will participate! Be on the lookout for this opportunity to share your experiences and ideas as we celebrate, commemorate, and contemplate the significance of nine decades of fostering intercultural respect and understanding, lifelong friendships, and leadership skills for a more peaceful world.

In the meantime, please keep in touch, come back and visit, or send a message to ihalumni@berkeley.edu.

In Memory

*W. Sheridan “Sherry” Warrick
August 9, 1921 – January 21, 2020*



Executive Director Warrick,
1969

It is with heartfelt sadness that we share the news about the passing of Sheridan “Sherry” Warrick on January 21, 2020. Sherry Warrick served with great distinction and longevity as executive director of International House Berkeley from 1961 until 1987. Serving throughout the tumult of the 1960s and 1970s, Sherry embraced the dramatic social change of that period in a cheerful, calm, and measured way. Assisted

immeasurably in this role by his wife Betsey, who passed away last summer, Sherry kept alive the spirit of I-House for nearly three decades before passing the leadership baton on to Joe Lurie in 1988. Sherry was then able to enjoy some 32 years in retirement, spending his summers along the shores of Lake Michigan, until his passing at the age of 98. What a remarkable life he led!

Known as Sherry to his colleagues, friends, and family—and to the new acquaintances he made at every turn—he was a beloved figure around the UC campus, and in fact, around the world. During his time at I-House, he befriended thousands of students and visiting scholars. He was the institution’s second director since its founding in 1930. In December 1942, Sherry met Betsey Fowler, a Smith College freshman, at an Amherst fraternity dance. Thus began a romance that lasted for three-quarters of a century. Sherry and Betsey together created an extraordinary legacy within the I-House Berkeley community.



Chatting with residents in the cafe, 1971

In a public statement on May 12, 1987, I. Michael Heyman—then UC Berkeley chancellor and I-House board president—bowed to Sherry’s two and half decades of contributions. Those years, Heyman said, “included severe

Resident Retreat, Asilomar, 1984



Betsey and Sherry on the Heller Patio
in late 1980s

campus unrest, critical international incidents, economically challenging times, and visitations to International House by national and international dignitaries.” The chancellor also lauded him for mounting a capital campaign to honor I-House’s 50th year.

I-House was made for the gregarious ex-lecturer. He whistled swing-era tunes en route to his office, greeted staff and residents in the hallways by name, and oversaw the permanent opening of a door between the men’s and women’s wings. With Betsey, he served as charming host and deft conversationalist at countless dinners, parties, and picnics.

He was forced into more demanding roles by events of the late 1960s and 1970s: the Free Speech Movement, the demonstrations over People’s Park, the Vietnam War, the Six-Day War between Israel and its Arab neighbors, and the revolution in Iran.



Sherry and Betsey at their
70th wedding anniversary
celebration at I-House

Yet with Sherry’s level stewardship, I-House remained largely a refuge—a place where students could be students, where distrust between nations and religions dissolved into lasting friendships. Maintaining that feeling of fellowship and welcome was his proudest achievement—that, and staying close to his family and to his huge circle of friends. His kindness, intelligence, curiosity, affability, love of music, and count-me-in spirit are deeply missed by all.

He is survived by his daughter, Becky, and her husband, Ron; son Dan and his wife, Karen; son Doug; granddaughter, Ali, and her fiancé, Mark; as well as by grandsons, Morgan and Tom, their wives, Christina and Jeanetta; and great-granddaughter Maya—and by Ruben Montano, who brought happiness and comfort to Sherry in his last years of life.

A memorial is being planned for the fall. In the meantime, at the request of his family, contributions in Sherry’s memory may be made to International House for The Sheridan and Betsey Warrick Scholarship Endowment, 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley CA 94720.

In Memory

1930s

Virginia Rogers (IH 1935-37)

Virginia Rogers passed away at home after a remarkable life of 104 years. She earned her master's degree in education from UC Berkeley in 1940, and one of her favorite adventures as a Cal student was dancing on the top of the north tower of the Golden Gate Bridge before its cables were installed.



1940s

Rebecca Hayden (IH 1941-42)

Rebecca "Becky" Hayden passed away at the age of 98 in San Francisco. She continued to enjoy the SF Symphony, Opera, and Ballet events on Sunday afternoons with friends. Soon before her passing, Becky wrote "All best wishes for I House's future. I-House offered a wonderful home in my senior year (1941-42), although we had a lot of upsets: Pearl Harbor on December 7; and in the spring, innocent Japanese students moved to detention camps." She went on to become one of the first female editors in the college textbook industry.

Hugh Macbeth Jr. (IH 1941-44)

Hugh Macbeth Jr., who died Sept. 14, 2019, at the age of 100, was an extraordinary figure. In collaboration with his father, Hugh resisted the infamous 9066 Executive Order imposed on Americans of Japanese descent during World War II. The Macbeth family's work on instrumental cases such as *People v. Oyama* not only halted enforcement of the Alien Land Act against Japanese Americans, but established the legal grounds for future Supreme Court civil rights cases. After 30 years of private practice, Hugh Jr. administered the



largest family law court in Los Angeles County.

From his 1941 application for admission to I-House, Mr. Macbeth Jr. wrote: "The International House provides an opportunity for inter-stimulation of people of widely variant social, cultural, national, and racial backgrounds. More than this, it provides the only true medium through which foreign people can know, understand, sympathize, and fully realize the essential unity of all mankind and their community of purpose and problem, that is, personal and continued contact. My immediate parental background is such that the need for international and interracial understanding and cooperation has been deeply impressed upon me. Nor am I oblivious of world conditions today which shout that same need."

Hans Rausing (IH 1948-49)

Hans Rausing, a true titan of industry, passed away at the age of 93 in his home in Wadhurst Park, East Sussex. He is known for leading Tetra Pak, founded by his father, and growing the company from a handful of people in Sweden to 36,000 employees.



Hans was born in Gothenburg, Sweden, on March 25, 1926. He studied at Lund University before joining his father's company. He later became chief executive and led the company until 1995. Hans was also a dedicated philanthropist who gave money to a variety of institutions. In 2006, Mr. Rausing was made an honorary Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire for his services to charity and educational institutions.

Phyllis Haakh-Duffy (IH 1948-49)

Phyllis Haakh lived at International House in 1948-1949 while she studied psychology at UC Berkeley. She went on to earn her Ph.D. in family psychology from the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City, and was a pillar of the Mexican Humane Society and of the Mexico City Kennel Club. Phyllis' love for animals, especially dogs, was boundless. She was author of a wonderful book in Spanish: "Dos Perritos con Suerte," which tells the moving story of two abandoned sibling puppies and their adventures in the search for affectionate homes.



David Armstrong (IH 1949-50)

David started college at Caltech at age 17, but stopped to join the navy during WWII where he was trained in electronics as an electronics technician's mate (ETM) on Treasure Island. After the navy, he finished his undergraduate studies at UC Berkeley, graduating in 1949 with a major in genetics. Eventually David decided to follow his longtime dream of becoming a medical doctor, and spent the last 12 years serving as chief of staff at Metropolitan State Hospital.



Carroll Brentano (IH 1949-51)

Carroll Winslow Brentano, after a life of optimism and adventure, died at age 92. She lived in International House while earning her M.A. in history from UC Berkeley in 1951, after working at the Army Security Agency in Washington, DC. She was a founder, editor, and frequent contributor to the *Chronicle of the University of California*, and was an active member of various



In Memory

intellectual communities on campus. When she wasn't on campus, Carroll was an intrepid traveler, and she and her husband, Bob, lived almost every summer of their long marriage in Italy.

1950s

Minto Keaton (IH 1950-52)

Minto often spoke about witnessing the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and the following years that she spent picking pineapples and attending school wearing a gas mask. It was at UC Berkeley's International House that she met her husband of more than 30 years, Harry Keaton, an immigrant from Czechoslovakia, who was attending law school.



Lois Schwarze (IH 1951-52)

Lois passed last year at the age of 91. The fifth of six children, Lois graduated from UC Berkeley and San Francisco School of Nursing, followed by a masters in social work from Sacramento State. Lois found a career as a public health nurse in Louisiana, Lodi, and Sacramento. She worked in adoptions for the State of California. After retirement, she volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and Solar Box Cookers. She loved the outdoors, worked out at the Sacramento YMCA, and traveled extensively in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. She was a compassionate and loving person. She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Sadako Ogata (IH 1956-57)

Sadako Ogata, a high-profile Japanese diplomat who served as the first female United Nations high commissioner for refugees from 1991 to 2000, died at 92. A scholar and mother of two, Ogata



was among a handful of Japanese female leaders in world diplomacy. She demonstrated her ability and leadership in carrying out critical humanitarian missions to save numerous refugees' lives in Iraq, Turkey, Rwanda, the former Yugoslavia, and other places around the globe. Ogata began her stint at the U.N. refugee agency as civil conflicts and ethnic cleansing erupted in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda. Over the years, she made numerous visits to conflict zones. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe writes, "Ms. Ogata ... was consistently at the front line of humanitarian and development support, always showing compassion to those who were suffering."

Liane Reif-Lehrer (IH 1956-57)

Liane Reif-Lehrer fled the Nazis with her mother and brother on the ill-fated S.S. *St. Louis*, which was bound for Cuba with 937 Jewish refugees but forced to return to Europe, where they disembarked in France. Despite the many challenges she faced, Liane eventually became a faculty member and director of the office of academic affairs at Harvard Medical School, and in 1981, she founded the Women in Science Network, to help women to navigate the challenges of career advancement.



Friends

Shirley Connor

Shirley passed away two weeks short of her 93rd birthday. She had a long and fulfilling career as an instructor in the dental assisting program at the College of Alameda, and was active in many volunteer activities, including as a former board member for I-House. She served as the first woman president of the University of California Alumni Association, which included a term on the Board of Regents. As a relentless Cal Bear supporter and football season

ticket holder, her biggest regret may have been never seeing her Golden Bears in a Rose Bowl.

Carolyn Peters Paxton

Carolyn Paxton was a distinguished educator, teaching at Concord High School and then serving as assistant principal at San Rafael High School. Later, she worked in troubled districts, consulting in the field of elementary and high school curricula. Among the great pleasures in her life were the numerous occasions when she encountered a former student who warmly thanked her for having called them on their misdeeds in high school and offering them her counsel.



Carolyn was the third generation of her family to attend UC Berkeley, and she maintained strong ties of service to the university over her life. Her daughter, Laura, serves as the strategic advisor to the chief innovation and entrepreneurship officer of the UC Berkeley Campus, and her son-in-law, Ron Hassner, is the Chancellor's professor of political science. Her grandchildren and family were the light of her life, as was her marriage to I-House Board Member Jay Paxton for more than 50 years.

Contributions in her honor may be made to the International House at the University of California, Berkeley, to School Rule in Marin, or to Hospice by the Bay.



Gifts in Memory: October 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020

We are extremely grateful for the gifts to I-House made in honor or in memory of someone special. Names of honorees are in bold, followed by names of the donor(s).

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Joan Glassey

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Yukiko Grace Kobayashi

Joseph Lurie & Donna

Rosenthal

Claire Ravi

Dorothy Shack



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.

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

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2020 SPRING

I-House Residents 2019



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