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Rise up, my love
BY BRIAN DOYLE. There are sanctuaries built for worship—and that carry beauty visible to everyone. Then there are the improvised places of faith, more subtle in how they speak to the wonder worked there.

The chaplain is in the House
BY JEREMY HERB ’08 WITH PHOTOS BY PAT SEMANSKY ’08. With the way things have gone recently in Congress, looking to the heavens for some help and guidance might seem like a very good idea. Enter Pat Conroy, S.J., M.Div. ’83.

Welcome to Citizenville
BY JIM COTTRILL. Who published the one book on government in 2013 that conservative firebrand Newt Gingrich told all true believers that they should read? Try Gavin Newsom ’89, California’s lieutenant governor and San Francisco’s former mayor.

A brief history of zealotry
Reza Aslan ’95 in conversation with three SCU scholars of religion—Paul Crowley, S.J., Catherine Murphy ’83, M.A. ’87, and David Pinault—about faith, politics, and how we talk about the life and times of Jesus of Nazareth.

These things are real
Gerdenio Manuel, S.J., M.Div. ’78 talks with Ron Hansen M.A. ’95 about finding grace versus succumbing to the dark side, requesting the last seat on the Titanic, and answering a question all Catholic priests face: How can you live healthily as a celibate?
The strength of her testimony
Religious studies lecturer Jean Molesky-Poz on the unique perspective of women preachers in the Catholic Church.

Maybe I’m amazed
Amy Tan in conversation with writer Ron Hansen M.A. ’95 about how her new novel, The Valley of Amazement, came to be. From the President’s Speaker Series.

Libros sin Fronteras
Cajas de Carton (or The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child) by Francisco Jiménez ’66 becomes part of the bilingual reading project Books Without Borders in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.

Victory is ours: For the season, the West Coast Conference championship. In the moment, Julie Johnston ’14 and Sofia Huerta ’15 after beating Fresno State.

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santaclaramagazine.com
From The Editor

Conversations worth having

You see those two words on the cover—Faith, Politics—and the white-collared cleric in black, and perhaps you think to yourself: On the one hand, East is East, West is West, and never the twain shall meet. Or, on the other hand, the luminous core of our beliefs about what is good and what is truth in the realm of metaphysics—these exert quite the gravitational pull on the economic and civic and social here in the constellation we inhabit. And comets and stars and planets move at a mind-boggling pace.

Or you surmise: On the one hand, we’ve got a First Amendment; can’t we all just get along? Get to the inner workings of the House of Representatives, and we know there are some things the GOP and Dems can see eye-to-eye on. For instance, there’s the Jesuit they selected to be chaplain of the House, right?

On the other hand, maybe you reflect on having faith in politics—you know, the mechanisms of representative democracy and so forth—and you ask yourself: Do I still believe? And if the answer is, “Yes, and I must make things better,” does that lead you, like it has for hundreds of thousands of folks across the nation of Ukraine in December, to take to the streets in the name of revolution—which, in this case, is another way of saying, in the name of wanting to be a normal country, like those to your west? Poland is one of those countries; it’s also some of the territory covered in the essay at the end of this magazine, a personal reflection on history and religion, compassion and forgiveness, Catholicism and communism, compromise and humility and persistence.

On a very different hand, what if you took the historical Jesus and, through your scholarship, put him back in the political context of a couple millennia ago? How would politics and faith look then? And what if somebody told you that you don’t have the right to ask those questions because of your faith?

On the other hand, where have you found the holy?

On the one hand, what if you’ve been a politician burned in effigy (first time: because of a program for the homeless that you introduced) and as mayor you began performing marriages for same-sex couples at San Francisco City Hall nine years ago, and you found yourself at the center of a firestorm, as they say—but, lately, some of the very folks who pilloried you for that have instead lionized you for ideas about changing the relationship between citizens and government in something we might call Governing 2.0?

On that note, what is the sound of one hand clapping? That, too, is a conversation worth having.

In the meantime, here’s an easier question: What’s the sound of 100,000 hands clapping? Let’s hear that now, okay? And let out a whoop and a holler because, all earnest discussion and quiet contemplation aside, just a few weeks ago the relentless and talented Santa Clara women’s soccer team capped their stellar season by winning the West Coast Conference championship and making the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tourney. They played their hearts out, and they were brilliant.

Keep the faith,

Steven Boyd Saum
Editor
LETTERS

One in a million
On the successful completion of the Leavey Challenge, noted in video, online, and in the fall print SCM.
Congratulations, Santa Clara, for a job well done on this incredible challenge. Well done to Santa Clara staff and supporters for making this happen.
JIM FREEBURG ’03
Seattle, Wash.

Wonderful news! Great job, Broncos!
ROSELYN SIINO ’03
San Francisco

Santa Clara never ceases to amaze me.
HONORED SANTA CLARA STUDENT
posted to the digital mag

Paying tribute to Charles Barry
Photographer extraordinaire who, for 25 years, has been catching Santa Clara’s stories in photos—some of which were featured in “Good Light” in the Fall 2013 mag. For the digital mag, Chuck tells more of the stories behind more of the photos.
Enjoyed the commentary, Chuck. The way that you work is so much deeper than merely your technical skill (which you also have—in spades).
DAN MCSWEENEY ’90
San Jose

Ask a few questions
From the perspective of the class of ’72, I am reminded that my Jesuit education did not necessarily teach me answers, but taught me to ask questions and gave me a solid foundation from which to seek answers, as Aslan has done. The keys: intelligence, research, grace under pressure, inquiry, understanding, appreciation.
DAN SAPONE ’72
Pleasanton

Despite my graduation from a nearby university years ago, and thanks to the Osher program on the SCU campus, I have become a Broncophile. SCU offers so many gifts, such as the Reza Aslan presentation (a Muslim alum presented to a full house on a Jesuit campus ... delicious), the irresistible President’s Speaker Series, and the joy of strolling through a beautiful campus, now massively enhanced by the new pedestrian promenade. The students also should take a bow for being so friendly and not dismissive of a decidedly older student generation. Next: On to the Leavey Center!
VILMA PALLETTE
Santa Clara

Thank you, Charley Phipps
“Keep the door open” is the title of Jeff Zorn’s tribute to Charles Phipps, S.J., as he retired from teaching and advising after nearly half a century. It appeared in the Spring/Summer 2013 mag and brought in lots of thank-you notes. Here’s another.
Loved Father Phipps as my academic advisor and his nephew Chris as the RA downstairs in Graham 300! These are the kind of people who make Santa Clara great.
TRACY GARFINKEL ’89
Oakland, N.J.

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TRACY GARFINKEL ’89
Oakland, N.J.

Fascinating! Thank you.
LYNDA BOOMER
posted to the digital mag

love it!!
HOLLY HANBURY-BROWN ’12
Santa Clara

Write us!
We welcome your letters in response to articles.
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President of the U.C. system

Kristen Intlekofer’s story on Janet Napolitano ’79 stepping down from her post as Secretary of Homeland Security to head up the University of California topped the charts for comments this time around. Such as:

I was also in Sec. Napolitano’s graduating class at SCU, and it seems to me that she has been denied the recognition she richly deserves for a list of truly impressive accomplishments. I have often heard experts on shows like Meet the Press or Charlie Rose talk about how FEMA has been completely turned around since Hurricane Katrina and how good its response has been during the large number of horrific disasters that have occurred during Napolitano’s tenure—yet I have never heard anyone mention her by name or give her credit for that transformation.

I went down to UCSF’s Mission Bay campus the day Napolitano was confirmed as president of the University of California system. The group of protesters chanting “Education, not deportation!” were mostly teenaged, well organized, and well behaved. I tried to imagine the courage it took for them to be there, and I admired their commitment to trying to effect change. I stood and chanted with them while holding aloft a hand-made sign that read “Welcome, Janet! We need you!” on one side and “You fixed FEMA, please fix UCI!” on the other.

I don’t think the demonstrators expected a middle-aged woman supporting Napolitano to also be supporting them. To their credit, some of them engaged me in conversation. They said Napolitano hated immigrants and had no background in education and should never be appointed. I asked them if they were aware of Napolitano’s record when she was the governor of Arizona; they were honest and said, “No.” I said that if they did some research, they’d find that for years she’d been talking about the desperate need for immigration reform in her speeches. Did they know what statements she had made regarding allowing the children of illegal immigrants to attend college?

I pointed out that Arizona has a state school system, too—including some large universities. And that, as governor, Janet would have been actively involved in issues pertaining to that system. Since the President of U.C. will have to tackle complex and difficult business issues such as funding, budgeting, and staffing, selecting a woman who had been in charge of the U.S. Coast Guard and had fixed FEMA sounded like an excellent choice to me. We disagreed—but we let each other speak. And I think we actually tried to listen.

I hope the people protesting will meet Janet. I feel certain she would admire their courage and commitment to work for change. And I know they would find not the adversary they imagine, but an accessible, caring, and thoughtful person, who would listen carefully to their concerns and continue working to find a solution to the deeply troubling situation these kids are in.

SUSAN FRY ’79
San Francisco

As an SCU alum, and now a U.C. faculty member, I want to remind your readers of another of Napolitano’s legacies that your magazine omitted. Under Napolitano’s watch, the Department of Homeland Security deported 400,000 immigrants a year. Between July 1, 2010, and Sept. 30, 2012, nearly a quarter of all deportations—more than 200,000—involved parents with children who are U.S. citizens. California is home to thousands of mixed-status families—including many SCU families such as my own—who have been impacted by the dragnet of raids, detentions, and deportations.

[In October 2013, California Governor Jerry Brown ’59 signed into law the Trust Act, which will limit local law enforcement’s role in immigration enforcement efforts through DHS’s devastating program Secure Communities. Janet Napolitano was a key endorser of this legislation, largely on the pressure of student leaders. I hope this marks a shift in her approach and a willingness to be a staunch and proactive supporter of education and security for all Californians and their families.

SHANNON GLEESON ’02
Associate Professor of Latin American & Latino Studies
University of California, Santa Cruz

Secretary Napolitano is a great selection for the U.C. system. Go fellow Bronco!

KEVIN DOWLING ’84
Hayward

If she runs the U.C. system anything like the DHS, they’ll be bankrupt in a year.

JOHN RIGGS ’08
Philadelphia, Penn.
Take me out to the ballgame
Memories inspired by the 1963 Santa Clara Snapshot, in which the Broncos hosted (and defeated!) the San Francisco Giants.

I remember that game, though I thought it was played early in April as the last exhibition game of spring training for the Giants. I was there, along with thousands of elementary school kids from public and Catholic schools in the surrounding area. School was a half day that day. I believe 11,000 fans were there to see the Broncos beat the NL Pennant winners (and possible World Series winners if that ball McCovey hit had been higher and to Richardson’s left). That day is really etched in my memory.

LARRY FREITAS ’76
Aptos

I was also there. Everyone at St. Clare’s elementary school walked over to Buck Shaw stadium for that game. To see Willie Mays play was a day I have always remembered. It was also my very first time seeing a professional team play in person.

VICTORIA MEREDITH
Santa Rosa

When home means Flint
Along with Alden Mudge’s review of Teardown by Gordon Young in the Fall 2013 SCM, the digital mag carried an interview with Young that brought in a few comments, including this one from a reader who, Young notes, moved just before things really started to go downhill in Flint.

My husband was transferred by GM out of Flint in 1977. We were a young couple, having been married only three years at that point. We spent the next 15 years trying (wishing) to be back in Flint. We laugh about it now—but that is the kind of hold the city had on folks who grew up there. As a child, I went to brand new schools and experienced the community school concept. I remember buses of educators touring the high school I attended (Northwestern).

BARB BLACK SNIDER

Yes, but is it the right thing to do?
In response to our Fall 2013 feature marking 25 years of work by the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics:

How about trying the federal government? Ethics does not exist there.

THOMAS CLAUSSEN MBA ’70
Marietta, Ga.

CORRECTIONS
Make that seven: In “Potions and Poisons,” our profile of B. Joseph Guglielmo ’73 in the Fall 2013 SCM, one of our facts was out of date. We said that Guglielmo, who is dean of U.C. San Francisco’s School of Pharmacy, has four grandchildren. Let’s make that seven. “That’s what happens when you have four daughters!” he says. —Ed.

Feature Contributors
Daniel Hertzberg illustrated “Welcome to Citizenville.” You might have seen his work in, on, and around The New Yorker, Time, or Rolling Stone. He plays hockey very often.

Jim Cottrill wrote “Welcome to Citizenville.” He’s an assistant professor of political science at SCU with research that includes work on the political environment’s effect on electoral outcomes.

Jane L. Curry adapted “What I’ve learned from cowboys, clerics, and communists” from a talk she delivered as SCU Faculty Senate Professor of the Year. She’s a professor of political science and, we might note, the first Fulbright Distinguished Chair for the University of Warsaw.

Brian Doyle (“Rise up, my love”) is the editor of Portland magazine and a prolific author with more than a dozen books to his name, including, most recent, The Thorny Grace of It: And Other Essays for Imperfect Catholics.

Leah Gonzalez ’14 (“The Materializer”) has worked with us as an intern since summer 2013 and is studying communication at SCU.

Ron Hansen M.A. ’95 interviewed Sonny Manuel, S.J., M.Div. ’78 for “These things are real.” He’s the Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J., Professor of Arts and Humanities, a deacon in the Catholic Church, and a writer of novels, essays, and stories—with books including Mariette in Ecstasy and She Loves Me Not: New and Selected Stories.

Jeremy Herb ’08 wrote “The chaplain is in the House.” He’s defense reporter for The Hill. He wrote “Future imperfect” for the Winter 2012 edition and teamed up with an old friend to photograph this piece.

Pat Semansky ’08 took the photos of Pat Conroy, S.J., M.Div. ’83 for “The chaplain is in the House.” A staff photographer for the Associated Press in Baltimore, he’s photographed events from the Gulf of Mexico oil spill to the London Olympics.

Sarah Wilkins illustrated “These things are real.” She hails from New Zealand and splits her time between Wellington and Paris. She’s done work for The Boston Globe, The New York Times, and other folks globally.
CU women’s soccer returned from its opening road trip to Virginia last August looking nothing like a team expected to exhibit greatness: two losses in two games by a combined total of 6 to 0. Even at the hand of top-ranked opponents, such defeats seemed ominous. But the players quickly made good on Coach Jerry Smith’s promise to learn from the drubbing. Back at Buck Shaw Stadium, they routed Long Beach State 4–0, setting the tone for the remainder of a season that was marked by stout defense and offensive torrents.

By the end of year, the Broncos had outscored opponents 62 to 25 en route to a Top 10 national ranking and the program’s 10th WCC title, its first since 2006.

The ingredients for success were obvious: an all-star roster headed by three WCC first-team selections, including seniors Morgan Marlborough, the league’s top scorer, and Julie Johnston, the WCC Player of the Year, a field general whom Smith calls one of the greatest to ever don a Santa Clara jersey.

“Julie is our best defender, best attacker, and best leader,” he says.

A star north and south

Come the NCAA playoffs, the brightest star may have been the youngest of SCU’s first-team selections—junior Sofia Huerta, whose speed and skills had already earned the attention of espnW, which wrote about her emergence as a budding star for Mexico, her father’s homeland. At the Under-20 FIFA World Cup in Japan in 2012, Huerta scored in each of Mexico’s first three games, propelling El Tricolor to the knockout round for just the second time in the event’s history. Her heroics earned her a call-up to the country’s full national team.
For Santa Clara, Huerta was also an offensive mainstay, finishing the 2013 regular season behind only Marlborough in goals. Once in the playoffs, her steady output turned as automatic as it had been in Japan.

In three games, Huerta scored three times, including the winning goal in the first-round victory over Cal and a lightning strike within the first 90 seconds against Boston University, the nation’s stingiest defense. That game propelled the women to a meeting against hosts Virginia Tech, the Broncos’ first appearance in the Sweet 16 since 2009.

**Sweet sorrow**

Against the Hokies, Huerta scored yet again, letting loose a rocket from outside the box that flew into the upper left corner to tie the game at 1–1. But in the end, the Broncos’ return to the state of Virginia proved a heartbreaker. With the score still locked at 1–1 after double overtime, the teams turned to penalty kicks to break the tie. Virginia Tech prevailed 3–1.

Coach Smith, who claimed his 400th coaching victory earlier in the season, was gracious in defeat. His team, which outshot the Hokies, played one of its best games of the season, staying on the front foot the entire game.

“We played our hearts out,” Johnston agreed, fighting tears after the loss ended her Santa Clara career. “It’s the cruel thing about this game, you just don’t which way it’s going to go.”

As for Johnston, where she went in December was to training for the U.S. National Team. And the National Soccer Coaches Association of America named Smith the western region’s coach of the year.

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**SCU Broncos beat BYU Cougars:** Sofia Huerta (11), Katie Speidel (27), and Morgan Marlborough (3). Final score 3–1.

**Broncos beat BYU Cougars:** Sofia Huerta (11), Katie Speidel (27), and Morgan Marlborough (3). Final score 3–1.

**Jump and kick:** Bronco

Morgan Marlborough ‘14
Teaching awards

Research, teaching, and service to the University are endeavors we like to see recognized. One of the places that happens is at the faculty awards dinner in September. Here are this year’s honorees.

Delivering the keynote talk of the evening—“What I learned about leadership and community from cowboys, clerics, and communists”—was Professor of Political Science Jane L. Curry, who had just finished her term as Faculty Senate Professor of the Year. Read an adapted version of her talk on page 48.

SUSTAINED EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP
Professor of English Michelle Burnham has produced a remarkable body of work that has had a significant influence on literary studies, history, American studies, women’s and gender studies, and ethnic studies. How? Through her meticulously researched and remarkably readable work in early American studies, a field in which she’s shifted the terrain with books that include Captivity and Sentiment, read by virtually every graduate student in her field, and Folded Selves: Colonial New England Writing in the World System. In 2013 she won the Richard Beale Davis Prize of the Modern Language Association in recognition of the best published essay in Early American Literature. Her latest project, The Calculus of Risk: Writing in the Revolutionary Atlantic-Pacific, has helped alter approaches and boundaries to the study of early America by attending to crucial global connections and economic features in an array of texts from the early American period.

RECENT ACHIEVEMENT IN SCHOLARSHIP
Ed Maurer, an associate professor of civil engineering, has research writ in water. He won this award for work on large-scale modeling of land surface processes, including hydrologic modeling, predictability of runoff, and climate change effects on water resources. He’s published a couple dozen articles in the past five years and is in demand for talks at nationally significant venues and for investigative collaboration with the likes of Lawrence Livermore National Lab, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, The Nature Conservancy, U.C. Davis, the University of Washington, and Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands. A couple years ago, he wasn’t to be seen cycling near the Mission Campus, though; he spent his sabbatical at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile as a Fulbright scholar.

INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE
Regina Davis-Sowers is a lecturer in sociology who, in the past six years, has taught courses on social issues, diversity, and family, using real-life examples that help students understand the intricacies of diversity issues. She is a generous mentor, encouraging students to work with her on academic publications and taking them to meetings and conferences to acquaint them with the academic profession. She also, writes a colleague, “teaches in ways that permit everyone taking her courses to leave the classroom with the understanding that as human beings we are more alike than different.”

LOUIS AND DORINA BRUTOCAO AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE
Jeff Zorn, a senior lecturer in English, has taught generations of SCU students since joining the faculty in 1974. In earning this award, which solicits nominations from students and alumni, he is recognized as a “teacher’s teacher,” in the words of a colleague writing in support of his nomination. “He teaches with a traditionalist’s emphases on organization, argument, eloquence, and mechanical perfection supplemented by the profession’s best advances in the areas of process pedagogy, creativity, and multicultural awareness.” He is famously demanding of his students; but the obstacles and frustrations they face “are always fresh on his mind.” Among his favorite writers: Richard Wright and Sophocles, Camille Paglia and Hunter S. Thompson.

PRESIDENT’S SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD
President Michael E. Engh, S.J., also honored four SCU scholars for exemplifying and promoting the mission of the University.

Shoba Krishnan, associate professor of electrical engineering, requires as part of a final exam that students present projects to local industry professionals in a design review, a comprehensive report, or a hands-on demonstration. It’s one more way she connects understanding subject matter with its application in real-life problems. Graduates who worked with her as students on research projects in semiconductor chip design can be found at Silicon Valley companies such as National Semiconductor, Analog Devices, Nvidia, TI, and Varian. She herself might be found assisting the Center for Science, Technology, and Society; the Leavy School of Business; and the School of Engineering’s Frugal Innovation Lab in the search and recruitment of students for fellowship programs. She also helped found the student chapter of Engineers Without Borders.
Hoje Jo is the Gerald and Bonita Wilkinson Professor of Finance, and he serves as chair of the department. His research is both leading edge and influential, focusing on corporate social responsibility, ethics in finance, venture capital, and entrepreneurial finance. Twenty of his 60 articles have been published during the last three years; a 2009 co-authored paper, “The Economics and Politics of Corporate Social Performance,” was lauded as the top work in the field of quantitative research on socially responsible investing. He is a committed teacher and mentor to younger faculty colleagues, and he has devoted time to the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, the Korean Student Association, and elsewhere.

Tim Healy, a professor of electrical engineering, developed the Latimer Energy Laboratory on campus after the 2007 Solar Decathlon in recognition of the need for a campus-wide focus on sustainable energy. Today the lab serves constituents ranging from middle-school students to graduate engineering students. Its success led to the establishment of a $1.3 million endowment grant to subsidize its continuing work. He has worked for a number of years with team-based learning approaches that involve students working in class on energy solutions. Last year he extended his teaching to the field of active learning, which blends lectures with student problem-solving exercises in the classroom. He is a teacher and scholar possessing breadth of judgment, historical perspective, and foresight, with a sense of fairness.

We close on a sad note, recognizing the exemplary service that Dolores laGuardia provided for the University for 13 years. She lectured in English and in 2008 founded the HUB to support and celebrate writing for students, staff, and faculty. She co-authored four books on writing, tutoring, and multicultural literature and culture, and she was indefatigable in her commitment to creating a culture of writing at Santa Clara. She trained students as writing partners, developing a team to assist other students with class writing assignments and Pathway Reflection Essays. She mentored students to serve as “hired pens” to work with groups throughout the campus to draft texts or edit documents for websites and publications. She collaborated with International Student Services to provide writing and reading support. And she worked with faculty to design effective writing assignments across the disciplines. With gratitude for all that laGuardia did for SCU, the award was presented to her family. Her husband, David Palmer of the Leavey School of Business, and her son, Justin Kukendall, accepted the award on the family’s behalf. She passed away July 20, 2013.

Sparks here: From left, they’re Shoba Krishnan, Jane Curry, Hoje Jo, Jeff Zorn, Regina Davis-Sowers, and Michelle Burnham.
For your mental improvement

The first literary mag in the West marks a major milestone. Born as The Owl and rechristened The Santa Clara Review, it’s now (probably) in its 100th volume. Plus, some 19th-century archives have just been digitized for you to explore online.

1875 A series “Is the Monkey Father to Man?” declares Darwin’s theory of evolution absurd: “A certain class of naturalists, of this enlightened and highly civilized nineteenth century, flatly refuses to believe that man was created directly by Almighty God, pretending on the contrary, that he is the offspring of anthropomorphous monkeys; in other words, that our ancestors were not Adam and Eve, but a he and she chimpanzee, gorilla, or orang-outang.”

OCTOBER 1875 A black oval-framed lithograph on the cover bodes ill: The Owl announces it will cease publication. What happened? Historian Gerald McKevitt, S.J., points to student riots in September 1875, after which 20 students are expelled—including the author of the article announcing the end, H. M. Hughes. But the editors pass down a legacy: “After payments of all our debts we have between three and four hundred dollars of surplus gold left, wherewith to erect our tombstone; which is to take the form of An Owl Prize, Annually For Ever.”

DECEMBER 1931 The Owl is born again—as a monthly literary supplement to The Santa Clara, the student newspaper. James Pike ’34 is responsible for the resurrection. His aspiration: a journal again devoted to mental improvement and to recording “our college doings, to give proof of college industry and to knit together the boys of the present and the past.” Santa Clara, he writes, “has demonstrated the ability to conceive ideals and attain them. She has created for herself a name that is emblazoned forever in the historic annals of California.” Pike later founds the department of religion at Columbia University and is appointed Episcopal bishop of California. In 1969, while on a religious expedition in Judea, he gets lost in the desert; a search party doesn’t find him in time.

1903–20 The Redwood sprouts as the campus literary magazine, then in 1923 morphs into the yearbook.

SEPTEMBER 1938 The Owl takes flight from The Santa Clara and becomes a bird on its own wing.

1923 The Owl takes flight from The Santa Clara and becomes a bird on its own wing.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NARRATIVE HISTORY “WHO IS THE OWL?” BY LINDA LARSON ’78 WITH A NEW ADDENDUM BY STEPHEN LAYTON ’13. THE JOURNAL WAS FOUNDED WELL OVER A CENTURY AGO, BUT GIVEN 50-PLUS YEARS OF HIATUS, MOST EXPERTS AGREE THAT 2013 IS WHEN VOLUME 100 WENT TO PRESS. AND ONTO THE iPad.

DECEMBER 1869 A literary monthly “Devoted to Mental Improvement,” and “Edited by the Boys of Santa Clara College, S.J.” is hatched. The name: The Owl. Why? “We said to ourselves: ‘We’re owls, conning our books of lore in the night …’ Thus it is, and not through a superabundance [sic] of wisdom, that we have assumed the name of Minerva’s sober bird.” Among the “original matter” of early editions: scientific and historic essays, dramas, poetry, and humor. “Idle Notes,” the editorial column, tackles women’s suffrage and other topics.

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DECEMBER 1931 The Owl is born again—as a monthly literary supplement to The Santa Clara, the student newspaper. James Pike ’34 is responsible for the resurrection. His aspiration: a journal again devoted to mental improvement and to recording “our college doings, to give proof of college industry and to knit together the boys of the present and the past.” Santa Clara, he writes, “has demonstrated the ability to conceive ideals and attain them. She has created for herself a name that is emblazoned forever in the historic annals of California.” Pike later founds the department of religion at Columbia University and is appointed Episcopal bishop of California. In 1969, while on a religious expedition in Judea, he gets lost in the desert; a search party doesn’t find him in time.

1903–20 The Redwood sprouts as the campus literary magazine, then in 1923 morphs into the yearbook.

1875 A series “Is the Monkey Father to Man?” declares Darwin’s theory of evolution absurd: “A certain class of naturalists, of this enlightened and highly civilized nineteenth century, flatly refuses to believe that man was created directly by Almighty God, pretending on the contrary, that he is the offspring of anthropomorphous monkeys; in other words, that our ancestors were not Adam and Eve, but a he and she chimpanzee, gorilla, or orang-outang.”

1923 The Owl takes flight from The Santa Clara and becomes a bird on its own wing.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NARRATIVE HISTORY “WHO IS THE OWL?” BY LINDA LARSON ’78 WITH A NEW ADDENDUM BY STEPHEN LAYTON ’13. THE JOURNAL WAS FOUNDED WELL OVER A CENTURY AGO, BUT GIVEN 50-PLUS YEARS OF HIATUS, MOST EXPERTS AGREE THAT 2013 IS WHEN VOLUME 100 WENT TO PRESS. AND ONTO THE iPad.
**April 1953**


**Winter 1955**

This issue is dedicated to the recently deceased Edward Shipsey, S.J., who served as Owl advisor for 20 years. Richard Schmidt, one of Shipsey’s former pupils and a member of the English department faculty, establishes the Shipsey Poetry Prize. The prize, along with the McCann Prize for best short story, established in honor of Daniel McCann 1884, is awarded annually.

**Spring 1957**

“Provoked Owl” edition: “If this issue contains an article or book review which causes your intellectual adrenaline to flow, then we are succeeding in our endeavor.”

**December 1963**

“In Passing,” a photo essay from the Philippines by Jorma Kaukonen ’64, who regularly contributes photos and essays to the journal, is featured. Kaukonen goes on to become lead guitarist for The Jefferson Airplane and to found Hot Tuna.

**Spring 1976**

“Who is The Owl?” appears in the same edition as “The Great White Way,” a prize-winning story by Michael S. Malone ’75, MBA ’77. Some 35 years later, the prolific author and television producer returns to teach professional writing for SCU’s English department.

**Spring 1983**

Storm clouds brew: Christine (Long) Brunkhorst ’83 pens “The Student-Athlete Hoax,” an article describing NCAA rule infractions at collegiate athletic programs. Use of the word “crooked” to describe a University of San Francisco alumnus involved with infractions that led to suspension of USF’s basketball program brings an $80 million lawsuit for libel. With an apology issued, the suit is dropped.

**1988**

A new title is introduced: Santa Clara Review. Editors’ rationale: “The Owl as a name has outlived its effectiveness, and we wished to adopt a name which would both attract better submissions and identify the magazine more closely with the University and the community.” Contributions are solicited from around the country. But a Jesuit who teaches religious studies at SCU laments, “The new name seems a foolish attempt at prestige ... Will the Santa Clara Review end up another of the numerous unread dumps for fourth-rate authors who can’t get published elsewhere or for academics with their dull articles on the dreary road to rank and tenure? The Owl has flown. Alas.”

**October 1940**—featuring “An Experiment in Adjustment” by Guido Morengo ’40

**May 1943**

With the majority of Santa Clarans having “set aside their pens to take up the sword,” publication is suspended until 1946, when The Owl returns, “lacking a few of its familiar feathers and proud of a few new ones.”

**An Owl who’s who:** In the 1930s, editors editing by daylight

**VOLUME 100 2013**

What will you find? Art, fiction, nonfiction, and poetry from near and far. Editors deny the Review’s predicted slide into a dump for fourth-rate authors, but this judgment is ultimately reserved, as always, for the reader. Note that the iPad edition is recommended for folks ages 12 and up.

**WEB EXCLUSIVES**

At santaclaramagazine.com read and see more, including: the iPad edition of SCR and the 19th-century archives of The Owl. And share your favorite Owlish or Reviewish moments.
When it comes to exonerations, there are no easy cases, says Linda Starr, the legal director of the Northern California Innocence Project at the SCU School of Law. Once the gavel goes down, the criminal justice system isn’t built to reverse course quickly, cheaply, or easily—even when new revelations raise troubling questions about whether justice was served.

Yet in the dozen years since Starr and law school professor Kathleen “Cookie” Ridolfi founded the nonprofit with little more than a yellow legal pad, the NCIP has won 17 “victories,” as they put it, including three in just the first half of 2013. Nearly all these victories are exonerations; reversals on parole and a gun enhancement ruling have also been achieved.

Together, the three recent exonerees served more than 36 years behind bars on false convictions. One, Johnny Williams, was imprisoned 14 years for a rape before DNA testing absolved him. But the case that occupied the project like no other was that of George Souliotes, who walked out of prison in July 2013 after serving more than 16 years of a life sentence for arson and murder.

“The case was in our office for more than 10 years, and it tortured me for that long because it was just such a miscarriage of justice,” says Starr, who is also a clinical professor of law at SCU. A tragic fire in the night
In 1997, a rental property that Souliotes, a Greek immigrant, owned in Modesto burned to the ground in the middle of the night, killing a mother and her two young children. After two highly publicized trials, at which Souliotes faced the death penalty, he was convicted and sentenced to three consecutive life sentences.

But his family never gave up, contacting the Innocence Project and leading to the long fight to reverse the case. A DNA test can reveal certainty in seconds. But the Project and its partners had to pry back layers of mistakes—including flawed science, false eyewitness testimony, and ineffective counsel.

The case unraveled as new evidence debunked findings that the blaze was even arson or could be forensically connected to Souliotes’ shoes, the linchpin of the case against him. Last year a federal judge found that Souliotes had shown “actual innocence,” a ruling that eventually led to his release at age 72.

“They tried to execute him twice,” Starr told reporters at the time. “He is walking free because they can’t prove their case of arson or homicide, and he didn’t do it.”

If we don’t do this, who will?
Such successes are built on thousands of hours of work, supplied by the project’s own small staff, law firms that provide pro bono representation, and Santa Clara law students, who help with everything from tracking down witnesses in prison to interviewing experts during semester stints in the project.

Patrick Bell J.D. ’14, whose career interest lies in law enforcement, says the project was a major reason he chose Santa Clara for law school. Even someone more likely to be on the other side of a criminal case can learn important lessons from working for the wrongly convicted, he says.

“You’re much more able to realize what can happen, and so you’re aware
of how to avoid making the same mistakes,” Bell admits.

There aren’t a lot of takers for such cases. If NCIP doesn’t adopt them, very likely no one will, Starr says. Each year 800 to 1,000 people contact the project in hopes of getting help—a number far exceeding capacity. The project’s usual criteria include: The person must have been convicted in California of a serious felony, and he or she must be serving a substantial prison term. That, and he or she must always be asserting innocence, not challenging a conviction on procedural grounds.

That emphasis on representing the truly innocent provides much of the project’s power with officials, says Franky Carrillo, who knows as well as anyone. In 1991, Carrillo, then 16, was arrested for a drive-by slaying and sentenced to life, based on the testimony of six eyewitnesses, despite his protestations of innocence. While he was in prison, his father died. His baby boy became a man.

The break in his case occurred when the real perpetrator wrote a confession, leading the witnesses—including the victim’s son—to recant, acknowledging that they had been unable to see anything in the dark. Carrillo was released in 2011 after nearly 20 years in prison.

Now a student at Loyola Marymount University, he seems remarkably free of bitterness. He says he doesn’t want to carry that weight. But two years of freedom have done nothing to blunt his thankfulness to the people who rescued him from dying a prisoner.

“What the Innocence Project brought to the table was their reputation,” he says. “I feel such gratitude for what they did for me.”

Since 2004 the NCIP has also been part of the Innocence Network, a collaboration of projects across the United States, Canada, and Australia that Ridolfi co-founded. Last year Ridolfi stepped down from her post co-directing NCIP; she continues teaching as a professor of law at SCU. Filling her shoes on the project now is David Onek, who served as a commissioner on the San Francisco Police Commission and directed the Berkeley Center for Criminal Justice at U.C. Berkeley. Sam Scott ’96

**Patent trolls, beware**

The White House has brought on SCU’s Colleen Chien, a leading expert in patent law, as senior advisor.

Expertise in patent law has made Associate Professor of Law Colleen Chien a known presence in Washington, D.C., for a while. In spring 2013 she testified before the House Judiciary Committee on one way to fix the patent system in this country: reducing litigation by reducing the role the government plays. Since September 2013, she’s had the chance to have a hand in making that happen: She joined the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy as senior advisor for intellectual property and innovation under Todd Park, President Obama’s chief technology officer. She also counsels Park on issues related to privacy, open government, and civil liberties.

An internationally recognized expert in patent law, Chien was recently named one of the 50 most influential people in intellectual property worldwide by Managing IP magazine. She has served as an attorney with Silicon Valley firm Fenwick & West. A daughter of Chinese immigrants, Chien also worked with the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism as a Fulbright scholar.

Her most notable research and writing is on patent “trolls”—outfits that don’t actually make anything but that acquire patents so they can sue companies that do design, build, and sell. In a piece she wrote for Forbes a couple years ago, she asserted, “Patent law should be brought down to earth, so that it does not, on balance, divert resources away from the creation of products for customers and towards the creation of disputes for lawyers to settle.” Here’s hoping. Deborah Lohse & Steven Boyd Saum
The setting is a house, a duplex in Santa Clara where I lived with my mother and my father; my older brother, Peter; and my younger brother, John. Peter was the smart one. He played the piano well; he was treasurer of his senior class. I followed in his footsteps. I became secretary of my freshman class.

My father was an engineer. He was also an ordained Baptist minister. But he didn’t have a ministry—he would volunteer. He came from a family in China of 12 children and he was the oldest. My grandfather spoke perfect English. It was the language he first learned to read and write because he went to a missionary school. Everyone on that side of the family, the Tan family, was very religious, including my father.

My father was perfect. He could sing, he could speak English perfectly. Characters like that—people like that in your life—don’t make good characters [in fiction], because you don’t want perfect people.

My mother, on the other hand, was not perfect. My mother was born in Shanghai and was the daughter of a woman who lost her husband during the Spanish influenza pandemic. Her mother became a widow and, the story goes, she was forced to become the fourth wife to a rich man. Later, after her son was born, she killed herself. And my mother watched this happen. My mother was nine years old.

My mother was later married to a man—throughout my life I knew him as that bad man—and anything that I learned about dating or men or pregnancy related to that bad man, which basically meant that I would end up in jail and wanting to kill myself.

My parents came to the United States in 1949. I did not know a lot of these things—they’re backstory, so to speak. I didn’t know that my mother, for example, had been married before and that she had three daughters she had left behind. I didn’t know that her mother had killed herself. She told me that she was the first wife of a rich man who died accidentally.

I am now a child in 1964. I’ve grown up all my life in the Bay Area. I think I’m just like every other kid in my school. There are no other Chinese kids there. I am a little embarrassed because my mother cooks five-course Chinese meals and does not let us have frozen dinners. I was from a family that didn’t have a lot of money. We never went on vacation. If we went to a restaurant, it was often these $1.99 buffets—all you can eat. In the summers, I would read and watch caterpillars turn into cocoons and watch them hatch. I went to church every single day. I went to Bible study, choir practice, youth night—that was my life.

Everything changed one year when my brother became ill. Now, there’s a point in a story called “what happens?” Stories don’t always begin chronologically. It has to do with pivotal moments in your life—not that you are writing about these pivotal moments, but your stories somehow keep coming back to those pivotal
times that formed you as a person and as a writer. For me, that was the year 1967, in Santa Clara, when everything came together: my mother and my father and what they believed and what I had been learning, how I was this kid who was your typical teen growing up. And I had to ask myself what was happening and why this was happening and how this had happened: My brother had a brain tumor.

My father believed that it was a test of God and there would be a miracle if we believed enough. My mother also believed in a miracle—but, secretly, she also wondered if somehow we had done something, or she had done something, that had angered her mother or another relative. My mother, in fact, believed in ghosts … My mother also thought that I was somebody who came back from a past life to haunt her because she had done something terrible to me and I came back to torment her.

She was a mother who always protected us. If we were to cross the street, we had to look both ways like all kids. My mother would add a little emphasis so we would never forget. She would say, “You don’t look, you get smashed flat just like a pom-pom fish, both eyes on one side of your head.”

See, you never, ever forget things like that.

Her advice for not going crazy about boys was, “Don’t ever let a boy kiss you, because maybe you like and you can’t stop and then you’re going to have a baby. And you’re going to be so ashamed; you’re going to put the baby in a garbage can. And then police going to come, take you away to jail for the rest of your life. You might as well kill yourself right now.” I didn’t know what that meant. I barely knew what the real stuff meant. I was thinking to myself, What is so good that you can’t stop? That was the message.

So my mother, the protector of our family, was trying to find out the answer to what happened and why did this happen and how did this happen and how can I make this go away and not happen?

Well, despite all these things and all the prayers of my father and the congregation, my brother did not get better. And, in fact, my father came down with a brain tumor. It was so strange. In those days, people just didn’t get brain tumors. It’s really spiked up recently, but it was a very rare thing to have two very bad brain tumors in the same family.

My mother asked the doctor, “Why did this happen?” He said the worst thing possible: “We don’t know, Mrs. Tan. It’s just a lot of bad luck.” She went looking for the reason for that bad luck.

While working on her new novel, Amy Tan came across a photo that changed everything: her grandmother posing with other top courtesans in Shanghai.

**WEB EXCLUSIVES**

At santaclaramagazine.com, find out where Amy Tan’s mother took the family next to escape bad luck (think Old Dutch Cleanser)—and hear Amy Tan in conversation with Ron Hansen M.A. ’95 about her new novel.

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**ADMINISTRATION**

James Lyons came aboard as the new vice president for University Relations on Oct. 14, but folks who were here for Grand Reunion before that may have run into him on campus then. After all, he didn’t want to miss the biggest annual gathering of Broncos. He now heads up SCU’s fundraising, government relations, alumni relations, and marketing and communications activities (a division where this mag resides). No stranger to Catholic higher ed, he comes to us from University of Portland (perennial women’s soccer rival, we note), where he headed up admissions (result: 600 percent increase in applicants) and then was VP of university relations and point guard for Portland’s RISE campaign, a $175 million shebang that was the largest in the school’s 111-year history. He’s been president of the National Catholic Colleges Admission Association and directed admissions at Sonoma State University and Seattle University, the latter his alma mater (undergrad and grad). After college, he took a year off to travel the world. So maybe it’s no surprise that he says: “Santa Clara has all the ingredients to make a significant and lasting impact—from the Silicon Valley to sites throughout the globe.”
RISE UP, MY
There are the sanctuaries built for worship—and that carry beauty and grace for all to see. And there are the improvised places of faith, perhaps more subtle in how they speak to the wonder worked there. Writer Brian Doyle summons one such place in Oregon.

The university’s chapel again undergoing renovations having to do with bringing light to corners dim and musty since Jesus was a teenager, the noon Mass is again peripatetic, and today it was celebrated in an old classroom. All nine of us sat under an immense wall map of Rome “in the time of the pharaohs,” as the young woman next to me informed me helpfully.

To the south there was an oil portrait of a brooding benefactor and a bulletin board festooned with class assignments and stern remonstrations; west was Rome, in all its eternal glory; east was a stack of folding chairs, in case of a miraculous surge of celebrants; and north, behind the makeshift altar and the dapper Father Celebrant, was a huge thermostat, as big as a hat, and two tremendous windows facing the university’s central quadrangle. The students being gone for Christmas break, only surly jays and ebullient crows flitted by during Mass, that I noticed, although one time there was a sudden flurry in the grass, which may have been a hawk, or a grapple of squirrels.

The first reading is from the Song of Songs, my beloved spake, and said unto me, rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away, and miraculously my soul did leap, like a roe or a young hart, for reasons I do not understand, and realize I will never understand, and no longer care to understand; it’s not the words, lovely as they are, read with passion as they are, but some inchoate inarticulate knowledge that there is a One who loveth me, and looketh forth, and showeth Himself through the lattices, and driveth the flowers and the turtles, the birds and the figs, the foxes and the vines; and though He standeth behind a wall, and is hidden in the clefts of the rocks, and the secret places of the stairs, I do see His countenance, and hear His voice, in every blessed bruised moment, if my eyes and ears are open; even moments like this one, when the skies are moist and gray, and it is November in my soul, and my worries do crest as though they were floods in the blood, and my fears for those I love who are ill and dark do be legion.

The second reading is from Luke, and when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the spirit, and spake out with a loud voice, and said, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy! and again my heart leapt, against all sense and reason. It’s just a story, isn’t it? It’s just a story. It might well be fiction. It might well be a biblical editorial committee’s way to foreshadow the arrival of the One in flesh like mine, only younger and browner. It might be utterly and egregiously untrue, a dream, a lie from tip to toe. Yet my soul did leap for joy, and I too blessed the womb that carried that Child, and I too shuffled silently and moved toward the thermostat and the tremendous windows to eat the bread that is not bread; and having eaten it I was changed, in subtle ways I do not understand.

We do not often admit that the essence of what we say and think and believe is utterly nonsensical, in every way, from the belief that there is a Lover who showeth Himself through the lattices, to the bread that is not bread. But almost every time I am soaked in the waters of the Mass, especially when it is celebrated not in glorious cathedrals but in musty basements and dusty classrooms, on dining room tables and rickety boards propped on sawhorses, my soul doth leap, and a deep thirst is slaked in some way I do not understand, and I shuffle out cleaner, quieter, happier. I cannot tell you how this is so, and all the words I use are weak. Yet it happens to me, and it has happened to you. I do not know how this sweet crucial thing can happen, or what it means, or how to explain it, but the very fact that it is there for us, possible, waiting, daily, all over the world, in every language, no matter how many people have tried to kill and forbid it, is an extraordinary thing that we should occasionally, with something like awe, sing aloud; and so, this afternoon, I do.
It was the first of October, 2013. Days of fruitless negotiations and partisan bickering had passed, and Congress had failed. The government was shut down. Now, after hours of speeches during which lawmakers blamed the other side for the fiscal crisis, it was Fr. Pat Conroy’s turn to offer the first words in the House chamber since the shutdown had begun.

“This is a painful day for many across our land, and the sense of disappointment deepens,” Conroy said in his opening prayer. “May those who possess power here in the Capitol be mindful of those whom they represent who possess little or no power, and whose lives are made all the more difficult by a failure to work out serious differences.”
Conroy is the chaplain for the House of Representatives. His tenure on Capitol Hill comes at a perilous time for Congress. Approval ratings have hit record lows, partisanship an all-time high. The recent government shutdown and debt-ceiling fight have further eroded the body’s reputation.

It’s Conroy’s job to find some kind of middle ground, an often precarious perch he seeks through his opening prayers. The House chaplain says he doesn’t avoid the politically thorny issues of the day but instead tries to find a prayer that can appeal to all lawmakers.

It’s a difficult balance. And during times of governmental crisis like the shutdown, lawmakers and the broader public look to Conroy and his prayers. One senior Washington Post writer led his column on the first day of the shutdown by quoting Conroy’s prayer; that prayer was also shown at the top of the MSNBC show Morning Joe.

Conroy says he tries to emphasize the Jesuit ideals of showing conscience and compassion for the powerless. He hopes that the words will resonate with everyone, no matter their political beliefs.

“The members of this people’s House and all elected to represent our nation might work together humbly, recognizing the best in each other’s hopes …”

“...and not that one side would feel challenged and the other side vindicated in some way.”

His prayers also act as one of the few voices of compromise heard on the House chamber. In the days leading up to the shutdown, Conroy said that “as people look for causes and solutions, the temptation is great to seek ideological position … We ask that You might send Your Spirit of peace and reconciliation, that instead of ascendancy over opponents, the members of this people’s House and all elected to represent our nation might work together humbly, recognizing the best in each other’s hopes to bring to resolution the current impasse over the economy.”

Ministering to 435 college freshmen
To Fr. Conroy, members of the U.S. Congress are a lot like college freshmen. Working from his office in the bowels of the U.S. Capitol reminds him of his old stomping grounds a few miles away at Georgetown University.

“I’m like the campus minister,” Conroy says. “It’s a position he held for a decade at Georgetown and three years at Seattle University. Now, though, instead of introducing himself as “Father Pat” to college students, he is building relationships with high-profile members of Congress. While powerful committee chairmen and wide-eyed frosh might not seem to have much in common at first glance, the similarities between the U.S. House and a bustling university campus are striking from Conroy’s point of view.

In both instances, everyone is always intensely busy, he says, and people won’t make time for the campus—or Capitol—chaplain unless the chaplain makes himself available.

“When I was on a college campus, I worked my ass off to get freshmen to leave campus and go on the retreat. They’re all too busy to do that, until they did it,” Conroy says. “And they realize, too, I wasn’t whatever their stereotype of the Church and a priest would be. They take that chance, and they realize, ‘Oh, God, this is the best thing I ever did for my health.’” Congressmen are the same way, he says. “They know there’s stuff available. But they’ll go because they’ve seen me enough that they might trust me: ‘OK, I’ll come to something else because I kind of like Father Pat.’”

“The Jesuits sent me.”
Conroy, a graduate of the Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University, is the first Jesuit and only the second Catholic priest to hold the position of U.S. House chaplain. Now 63 years old, Conroy is easy enough to spot in the halls of the Capitol. Dressed in a white clerical collar and black suit, he moves at a pace decidedly less harried than that of the representatives and staffers in starched white shirts and red and blue ties racing to the next meeting. He is a jovial presence in the august Speaker’s Lobby just off the House floor, where he smiles and greets members taking a minute to chat with him during votes.

Conroy is a dynamic and deliberate speaker with a rhythmic drawl that rises and falls with the arc of his stories. And he is working in what might be considered his dream job after he was appointed House chaplain in 2011 by House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio. That’s because the Jesuit priest had set his sights on becoming a U.S. senator when he was a boy.

Raised in Everett, Wash., Conroy knew the names of his state’s U.S. senators from a young age: Henry “Scoop” Jackson and Warren Magnuson, two lions of the Senate who served nearly 70 years combined in the upper house. Conroy earned his undergraduate degree from Claremont Men’s College (now Claremont McKenna College), planning to get a law degree and become a politician. That all changed during his first
week of law school at Gonzaga University, when he had a fateful meeting with a Jesuit priest while standing in line at the student dorm cafeteria.

“I walked in and got in line behind a red-headed guy with a full red beard—this is 1972, so that’s not odd,” Conroy says. “He turns around and he says, ‘Hi, I’m Father Pat Carroll.’ The priest then asked if Conroy was a law student—something Carroll knew because he’d memorized the names of all the new students. It was a trick that Conroy later used himself as a campus minister.

“He and other Jesuits at Gonzaga just expanded my religious imagination,” Conroy says. “I’ve always been Catholic, and I never had issues with that, but I never allowed that I could be a priest because I had stereotypical categories for priests. And this guy didn’t fit that. And there were others that didn’t fit that.”

A year later, Conroy entered the Jesuit order and then earned a master’s in philosophy from Gonzaga. He still went on to get a law degree at St. Louis University, followed by a master’s in divinity from the Jesuit School of Theology in 1983. That year he was also ordained a priest.

Conroy practiced law for Native American tribes in Oregon for several years before transitioning to campus ministry at Georgetown, Seattle University, and most recent Jesuit High School in Portland, Ore.

“The Jesuits sent me back to law school, and ultimately the Jesuits sent me here,” Conroy says. “And so now I’m here not because of my ego, and not because I campaigned, and not because I inexorably climbed to get to this place where I wanted to be as a young man. It was actually by following God’s call in my life that I ended up here.”

When he was teaching high school and coaching JV girls’ softball, Conroy didn’t imagine where his calling would take him next. But coaching has offered some perspective on his current post; high school girls, he notes, are much better losers than politicians.

What does the chaplain do?
The official job description for the U.S. House chaplain is surprisingly simple.

“I could sit in here all day long every day and go up and give a one-minute prayer and I’d be doing the job,” Conroy says from his office, just steps from the front entrance to the Capitol. “But I would never see anybody.”

Conroy, of course, does much more than that in his day-to-day role as the House chaplain. He describes the essence of his job as “lurking with intent,” which means he goes where the people are: to votes on the floor, committee meetings, or events hosted by lawmakers.

He has to find the lawmakers because they simply won’t make time for him otherwise. Most members of

Church, state, and chaplains in the chambers

Congressional chaplains date back to the days of the Continental Congress in 1774, when Jacob Duché, rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, was elected to the position, according to a 2011 Congressional Research Service report on the chaplaincy. The first House chaplain, a Presbyterian minister from Philadelphia, was elected in 1789.

The Senate also has its own chaplain, who gets an august third-floor office in the Capitol overlooking the National Mall. While the House chaplain is elected to a two-year term like the lawmakers, the Senate chaplain has no set time period.

The congressional chaplain position has seen its share of controversy. In the 1850s, petitions to abolish both congressional and military chaplains complained that they were a violation of the separation between church and state. Later that decade, both the House and Senate stopped electing chaplains and used local clergy.

Critics also complained in the 19th century that the chaplain was overly political; frequent transitions and votes on the House floor with multiple candidates were not uncommon. Since the dawn of the 20th century, however, the position has been extremely stable: There have been only seven House chaplains since 1895.

What about the constitutionality question? At least three court cases affirmed legislative chaplains. The latest was a Supreme Court decision in 1983, Marsh v. Chambers, whereby the high court found that the custom “is deeply embedded in the history and tradition of this country.”

JH 20
Congress follow minute-by-minute schedules packed with hearings, votes, fundraising, and constituent meetings. Plus, lawmakers are only in the Capitol three to four days each week that they work in Washington.

Conroy’s job has taken him to all sides of the Capitol, whether it was giving a prayer at a chairperson’s portrait unveiling or serving as a judge in a cooking competition—which he did as a last-minute replacement when comedian-turned-senator Al Franken, D-Minn., held a “hot dish” cook-off competition for the Minnesota congressional offices.

That year the competition ended in a tie: The two winning “hot dishes,” which is Minnesota’s version of casserole, came from Franken—with “Mom’s Mahnomin Madness,” featuring mushroom soup and wild rice—and freshman Republican Rep. Chip Cravaack, who had scored one of the biggest Tea Party upset wins in 2010 and, in the cook-off, earned another victory with his egg-and-sausage-and-cheese-laden “Minnesota Wild Strata.”

I am (next to) Legend
The position comes with some perks. Conroy’s parking spot for his Prius is one of the closest to the Capitol itself. And he got a front-row seat to President Obama’s second inauguration, sitting on the same level as the president on the Capitol steps, albeit 40 yards away.

He was also at the presidential lunch that took place after the inauguration in Statuary Hall, full of former presidents, congressional leaders, and other famous faces. Among them Conroy spotted former President Bill Clinton, a Georgetown alumnus.

“I hadn’t met Bill Clinton, so I wanted to introduce myself as chaplain of the House, and also as chaplain of Georgetown for 10 years,” Conroy tells it. “He says to me something along the lines of, ‘Would you consider that this is a raise?’ That was a pretty good Hoya statement.”

Conroy also caught the attention of his former students at Jesuit High School during the inauguration lunch, because one of the television networks aired a shot of him standing next to singer-songwriter John Legend. Being seen with the classiest R&B singer going carried some weight.

“The kids are like ‘Oh, my God, Father Pat and John Legend!’” Conroy says. “There it was, all over Facebook. Because all the kids out West that I taught were watching … so it was kind of cool.”

A political firestorm
Conroy’s arrival in Washington wasn’t exactly quiet. But then, neither was the nomination of his immediate predecessor—Fr. Daniel Coughlin, the first Catholic to serve as House chaplain. Coughlin was named to the position in March 2000 by House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., but only after a major political and religious fight over the chaplaincy.

According to the Washington Post, Hastert had initially selected a Presbyterian minister for the role, but the House speaker faced accusations of bias from Democrats for not selecting a Catholic priest who had received support from a bipartisan task force. The issue even became embroiled in the 2000 presidential campaign, because George W. Bush was facing criticism for visiting Bob Jones University, which has promoted anti-Catholic teachings.

Four months after naming the Presbyterian minister, Hastert instead appointed Coughlin to the role. On the day Coughlin was sworn in, Hastert gave a blistering speech on the House floor accusing Democrats of “an unseemly political game” for alleging he held an anti-Catholic bias.

“Asked afterward if he was aware he was walking into a lions’ den, Coughlin quipped: ‘My name is Daniel,’” the Post wrote that day.

Conroy, too, felt the sting of a political firestorm when he was nominated to succeed Coughlin in 2011. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., let it be known that she was reconsidering her support for Conroy after “new information” came to light about settlements that the Oregon Province of Jesuits had paid out for sexual abuse lawsuits.

While Conroy is a member of the province, he had no connection to any abuse claims or payouts; he even blew the whistle after one accusation against
another priest. But his membership prompted abuse victims’ groups to lobby against his nomination. The controversy received coverage in national media outlets like Fox News and congressional newspapers Roll Call and The Hill.

But the alleged scandal died out as quickly as it had blossomed. Conroy followed up with Pelosi’s office—explaining that he had mentioned the legal settlements in his interviews, and that he had no connection to them. Less than 24 hours after Pelosi had said she was reconsidering his nomination, she announced that she would support it.

Conroy looks back now with a bemused attitude toward being the subject of a “Washington scandal.”

“It wasn’t personally about me,” he says. “So while the storm was raging, it was a little like, ‘This is not comfortable’—but also it wasn’t personal, either.”

“I Want It That Way”

Fr. Conroy’s Washington office is full of pictures and memorabilia revealing the wide swath of people he’s known from all walks of life and across the United States. One photo shows Conroy with comedian and actor Robin Williams—the two were in an improv comedy group together when they were undergraduates at Claremont, long before Williams was a household name.

Conroy has a wedding photo of Geoff Tracy, who owns a popular restaurant in downtown Washington and is married to NBC television anchor Norah O’Donnell. Conroy was Tracy’s next-door neighbor in the dorms at Georgetown when Tracy was a student.

Vice President Joe Biden’s son, Hunter Biden, was also a student of Conroy’s at Georgetown, and he wrote the younger Biden a letter of recommendation to help him enter the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Then there’s the guitar: an acoustic-electric and pick at the ready. They’ve come in handy in Conroy’s role as House chaplain. He went to the House Republican retreat last year with guitar and amplifier in tow for a sing-along with the congressmen.

The priest led the lawmakers through classics like “Brown-Eyed Girl,” “Build Me Up Buttercup,” and “500 Miles.” He says he even had the buttoned-up congressmen getting down and singing along to the Backstreet Boys’ “I Want It That Way.”

“Everybody groaned when I started,” he says. “By the end of the song they were all standing up and doing the video moves.”

The former campus minister is making the most of his job in the Capitol, even if he isn’t there as a senator. He says it comes close enough that he can cross off “senator” from the bucket list he made when he was young. The other items on the list—lawyer, rock ‘n’ roll star, movie star, athletic champion—he’s also fulfilled in one form or another, like being in the improv troupe with a future movie star or playing in a Jesuit rock band at Gonzaga, where he honed his craft covering songs like Three Dog Night’s “Celebrate” and The Beatles’ “When I’m 64.”

He hits that mark next year. Conroy says he does not know how long he will remain the chaplain, but he doesn’t see himself leaving anytime soon.

“My predecessor didn’t say much to me, but one of the things he said was to think clearly, speak confidently, and act courageously in the belief that all noble service is based upon patience, truth, and love.

May they be great enough to be humble and good enough to keep their faith, always regarding public office as a sacred trust. Give them the courage and the wisdom to fail not their fellow citizens nor You.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

A prayer in the House
SPoken nov. 18, 2013

Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Help us this day to draw closer to You, so that with Your Spirit, and aware of Your presence among us, we may all face the tasks of this day. Bless the Members of the people’s House. Help them to think clearly, speak confidently, and act courageously in the belief that all noble service is based upon patience, truth, and love.

May they be great enough to be humble and good enough to keep their faith, always regarding public office as a sacred trust. Give them the courage and the wisdom to fail not their fellow citizens nor You.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.
Ten years after his election as mayor of San Francisco, and three years into his term as lieutenant governor of California, **Gavin Newsom ’89** enjoys a well-deserved reputation as a politician who does not shy away from controversy. Newsom’s latest book, *Citizenville*, exemplifies this trait by proposing a number of provocative new ideas for improving the connections between citizens and their governments through increased transparency and data sharing. In doing so, Newsom—who describes the experience of seeing himself burned in effigy as “one thing you never get used to”—is sure to fan the flames of current debate over the concept of personal privacy and the extent to which privacy is an individual right protected by government.

Newsom’s central premise is that technology joins us together as citizens in ways that we are only just now beginning to appreciate, and that government must begin to leverage this connectivity in order to better serve the people. Government, in Newsom’s view, needs to remove regulatory and bureaucratic barriers to innovation that prevent us from making full use of the wealth of public and private data that could improve decision making if only it were accessible to citizens (a point that Newsom seemed to be echoing symbolically in early September when he officially opened the new span of the Bay Bridge by cutting a steel chain “ribbon” with an industrial welding torch—literally removing a barrier to connectivity). Newsom also incorporates the theme of “connectivity” into his research for the book, calling on his wide network of personal connections to well-known figures in industry, politics, and entertainment for their thoughts on technology and government, including Cory Booker, Sergey Brin, Bill Clinton, George Clooney, Al Gore, Ariana Huffington, and Joe Trippi.

Through a number of personal vignettes and conversations with political and business leaders, Newsom articulates a vision of government in which technology improves performance in three critical areas:

**TRANSPARENCY:** Government has the ability to make important data readily available and usable by citizens, but it must overcome an inherent inclination toward secrecy. Government data on things like crime, poverty, and public health should be made openly available to citizens and to entrepreneurs, who can design apps that can both serve the public interest and stimulate local economies. For example, Oakland Web designer Mike Migurski, during a two-week holiday break from work, used publicly available crime data from Oakland’s CrimeWatch website to create an interactive website, called Crimespotting, that citizens could use to analyze crime trends in their neighborhoods. Newsom also cites his own experience helping to implement Open 311, “the first national application programming interface in government history,” as a model for how government can increase both the availability and usability of public data.
Citizen Newsom

FROM A CONVERSATION WITH GAVIN NEWSOM AND SCM EDITOR STEVEN BOYD SAUM IN OCTOBER 2013 AT FOUNDERS DEN, A SPACE FOR STARTUPS AND ENTREPRENEURS IN SAN FRANCISCO’S SOMA NEIGHBORHOOD, WHERE NEWSOM’S OFFICE IS LOCATED. REMARKS HAVE BEEN EDITED AND CONDENSED.

Citizenville is a very Silicon Valley kind of book. Or maybe it’s better to say very Founders Den? Probably Founders Den, yeah. Frankly, I moved my office—in fact I never even moved into the state building. I specifically left City Hall and came down here. It wasn’t symbolic. I wanted to connect with the world around me in a much more meaningful and substantive way. It’s an analogy to my arguments in the book: I could sit there on the eighth floor, top down at the state building, disconnected in many ways from the world around me—or I could be here, bottom up, in an incubator with 40 startups all around me, connected to the world that I’m living in, squarely where I need to be in terms of trying to understand the contours of change versus the old ossified, opaque, hierarchical, top-down, bureaucratic model that’s defined government as we’ve known it and institutions of all types—including universities—for over a century.

Government is on a collision course with the future. We are on the leading, cutting edge of 1973. And we need to wake up to that reality. The world is dramatically changing around us, but government is still operating in silos. It’s still top down, it’s still hierarchical; we are selling down a vision. We are still building up big IT infrastructure, and it’s simply not relevant to this world.

Justice Brandeis said, “In a democracy, the most important office is the office of citizen.” As government leaders, we don’t do things with citizens, we do things to citizens. We treat the public as subjects, not co-producers. Sure, we amplify your voice during elections so you can turn out the vote for us, so you can volunteer for us or write a check to us. But once the election is over, we turn off those voices. No longer are you amplified and truly engaged.

We are using the technology relatively effectively to get elected. We are just using a lot of it ineffectively to govern. How do we govern in a two-way conversation and create more active, not inert, citizenship where people feel more engaged, more a part of the life of their city, state, nation, and the world we are trying to build?

The book has brought some surprising reactions. I did not anticipate getting support from Alex Castellanos and Newt Gingrich. Even Eric Cantor and I sat down and had a really great conversation about it. He comes off pretty well in the book, I think. Darrell Issa and I are on a panel next week on the principles of citizenship and the issue of government as a platform—and not government as a vending machine, where you put in a dollar in taxes and get limited services. The debate has been about the size of the machine as opposed to a whole new way of thinking about government as a platform where we are, as my friend Eric Lu says, big on what but small on how. We are less prescriptive on how we achieve goals, but we are audacious about what goals we want.

**EFFICIENCY:** Allowing citizens and private-sector companies to use public data can increase efficiency by eliminating red tape and gridlock and produce quicker, less expensive results. Bypassing government through peer-to-peer, social media approaches can speed up the process of finding solutions that work for ordinary citizens. Newsom envisions a future in which citizens will use game platforms that have been developed by private companies (think: FarmVille) to play games in which the tokens or money earned from game play would be used to make actual improvements in the player’s neighborhood. In this way, technology can be used to provide powerful individual incentives for citizens to directly initiate improvements in their neighborhoods and communities without any of the delays, red tape, or inefficiency of government.

**INNOVATION:** Social networking approaches can improve dialogue between citizens and public officials and increase the range of policy ideas that are brought forward. For example, Representative Eric Cantor (a highly visible Republican member of the House of Representatives) has utilized Facebook’s “Open Graph” protocol to create an interactive program called Citizen Cosponsors, which allows constituents to co-sponsor legislation that they support, to offer comments and suggestions, and to receive automatic updates on the legislation to their timeline and news feed. In addition to social incentives, both government and private industry can use the Internet to promote contests that provide material incentives for innovative new ideas. Newsom cites several recent examples from both government and private industry, including the Bright Tomorrow Lighting Prize, designed by the Department of Energy to speed the shift to more energy-efficient lighting, and the Progressive Insurance Automotive X Prize, which encourages the creation of cars that can go at least 100 miles on a single gallon of gas.

A final important theme underlying Newsom’s argument is that these improvements in government performance can best be realized at the local, rather than the national, level. In example after example, whether the issue is crime, education, or maintenance of roads and infrastructure, Newsom demonstrates how technology could improve the responsiveness and efficiency of local government. As former Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis once said, states and local governments are the “laboratories of democracy.” On the surface, it’s unsurprising that a former mayor like Newsom would embrace this
view. However, it may also seem ironic for many readers to learn that a Democratic politician like Newsom, who first drew national attention for championing the liberal cause of marriage equality, seems so committed to core conservative values like the “devolution” of most governmental responsibilities to the local level and the elimination of burdensome regulations that inhibit innovation from private industry. Even more shocking—conservative firebrand Newt Gingrich has embraced the book and encouraged fellow conservatives to read it!

But probably the most controversial idea in the book is that—like it or not—our common conceptions of privacy no longer exist in our technologically connected world. Throughout the book, in sections with titles like “Living in a Glass House,” “We All Have Paparazzi Now,” and “The End of Boundaries,” Newsom hammers home the point that our expectations of privacy are rapidly withering away as the social networking generation comes of age. We have become increasingly comfortable sharing our personal data with others, and because the data are already used by corporations to target us for advertising, why shouldn’t they be used to improve the ability of governments to improve public safety and deliver services? Newsom clearly believes that our increasing willingness to share our data can have a variety of positive implications for the performance of government.

But the devil is in the details, as supporters of Edward Snowden might point out. Since the initial release of Newsom’s book, revelations about the National Security Administration’s surveillance programs have heightened public awareness about governmental intrusions on personal privacy. Given this increased concern, many readers may conclude that voluntarily sharing information with your friends on Facebook is not the same thing as releasing that data more widely for use by anyone, particularly the government.

To be fair, Newsom does recognize that transparency and sharing can sometimes be problematic. For example, making the calendars of elected officials publicly available (as has been done recently in San Jose) can have a chilling effect on the willingness of political rivals to meet and discuss compromise. But on the whole, Newsom is convinced that the benefits of transparency and data sharing far outweigh the potential harm. And while this is certainly a position that will spark controversy and debate, it is also one that has real potential for improving government performance, particularly at the local level. In the end, despite the controversy (or perhaps, because of it), it is a conversation worth having.

to achieve dealing with income inequality, health, and ignorance.

It’s interesting how it resonated with a lot of conservatives. In fact, Newt Gingrich infamously said, at CPAC, “The one book that all Republicans should read ...” Then I got a call from Politico, and I told them, “You’re lying, he never said that.” Since then, we’ve had many conversations and email exchanges.

People think that an ex–San Francisco mayor and a Democratic lieutenant governor would write a partisan political book. I have zero interest in doing that. I want to focus on what to do. I’m a businessperson first and foremost, and if I sat around and spent all my days complaining about my competitors, I would be out of business.

I tried to make it a book by a politician that could have been written by anyone except a politician. And I offer my own perspective in terms of things that we tried, things that we failed, things we tried where we succeeded, things that were left undone that we could have done better. And a blueprint of best practices for cities large and small and what I think the state and nation can do.

**When you were having the conversations and the interviews that went into this book, what were some counterintuitive things you heard?**

I interviewed over a year and a half about 68 people. Bill Clinton was particularly interesting, because we got deep into the WikiLeaks conversation—though it predates the Snowden revelations about the NSA—this idea that we live in a glass neighborhood, that “privacy” is dead. My argument was that transparency is a disinfectant and a default value. Clinton subscribed to that but not completely. He said that in many ways WikiLeaks makes us more distrustful, not less so. He said, “Consider this: If we know our emails are going to be exposed, then why are we going to be honest in our exchange? Chances are we are not. So now we are not having as constructive a conversation that aids and advances the public.” He thought it would lead to more opacity, more distrust within organizations.

**You’re a regent of the University of California system, with Janet Napolitano ’79 as president. How do you work ideas about technology and education on that scale?**

This is my answer to your question. [Pushes a draft report across the table.] We are laying it out. This will be out in six weeks. We’ve been working on this for about a year. I’m not one of those people who thinks technology is going to solve every problem, and I sure as heck don’t want to see teachers go away. Teachers will matter more than ever in a hyper-connected world where everyone is connected to the Internet of things, where literally our watches are sending information to our T-shirts about our heart rate and our blood pressure. (I’m not making that up—that’s where Cisco is going, where the world is going, as the cost of sensors and technology drops.) Teachers will matter more, though not as lecturers, not as vessels for communicating or to lecture at us, but as mentors, as coaches, as people who are able to engage in a more Socratic way—which is one of the great things about Jesuit education that I love and why Santa Clara is better than most.

**On Pope Francis:** I kind of like our new pope, too. St. Francis of Assisi, our city’s patron saint. A good Jesuit. (By the way, everything I was taught at Santa Clara University walked me down the path of doing gay marriage in San Francisco. It’s about celebrating our diversity and our openness. Those are values I credit the Jesuits for teaching.) But I think boy, the Pope understands those sentiments of building community and he understands that change can’t just disseminate top-down. And I think he’s listening to folks, so it’s not just inside-out, it’s outside-in. He’s sensitive to the fact that we’ve got to be talking about the larger issues of ignorance and poverty and disease and things that should unite all of us. Powerful. That’s why I’m proud of being Catholic, I’m proud of my Jesuit education—and I was feeling particularly disconnected from the Church in the last few decades.
The publication of Reza Aslan’s Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth in summer 2013 rekindled discussion of the historical Jesus. Not surprising are the questions about historical judgment that greet a popular work of religious history. But along with the book itself, it was an interview for Fox News that generated a storm of controversy—when Aslan was asked, repeatedly: As a practicing Muslim, does he have the right to write a book about Jesus?

In a program co-hosted by The Commonwealth Club/Silicon Valley, SCU brought Aslan to campus on Oct. 3, 2013, for a discussion about the broad range of questions his book has raised—and what the ethical implications are behind those questions. Aslan, who studied at Harvard Divinity School and completed a doctorate at U.C. Santa Barbara on the history of religions, is the author of books including No god but God: The Origins, Evolution, and Future of Islam. His interlocutors: Paul Crowley, S.J., the Jesuit Community Professor of Religious Studies; Catherine Murphy ’83, M.A. ’87, an associate professor of religious studies who has navigated scholarly publishing with work on the Dead Sea Scrolls and reached a broader audience with The Historical Jesus for Dummies; and David Pinault, a professor of religious studies and scholar of Islam, with works including Horse of Karbala: Muslim Devotional Life in India. Here are some condensed excerpts from the conversation.
**Paul Crowley:** I think we understand that you’re not presenting this as a Muslim view of Jesus. You’re presenting this as Reza Aslan’s view of Jesus, and you happen to be a Muslim. But one of the things you’ve said is that you have been obsessed with Jesus for 20 years or more. I’m wondering if that might have been a motivation for your writing of the book.

**Reza Aslan:** Most definitely. I first heard the gospel story when I was 15 years old. I was absolutely transformed by it and converted to a particularly conservative brand of evangelical Christianity and spent the next four or five years preaching that gospel, as I understood it, to everyone I met, whether they wanted to hear it or not. Then when I went to school here and studied with you “godless atheists,” as Glenn Beck called you—You mean the Jesuit priests?—I had the experience that a lot of people have in my situation, where you are suddenly confronted with the fact that a lot of what you thought you knew about Jesus and the origins of Christianity were incomplete. Despite the fact that I ultimately left Christianity as a religion, I continued to delve into the scriptures and the historical Jesus because, to be perfectly frank, the person with whom I was confronted felt more real to me, more interesting, more appealing.

**Paul Crowley:** One of the things you also point out is that your view of Jesus is not precisely that of Islam. Does that create any tension for you?

**Reza Aslan:** No, it doesn’t at all. My Muslim faith plays a zero role in this book or, frankly, in any of my academic work. That is not to say that this is a purely objective look at Jesus. There’s no such thing. I am bringing my own personal perceptions and even biases into this text, as we all do when we deal with sacred history. But that bias has nothing to do with Islam. It has everything to do with, again, you darn Jesuits, because the Jesus whom I was taught at Santa Clara University is the Jesus who is founded upon the preferential option for the poor, the Jesus whose entire ministry is predicated on the reversal of the social order, whose notion of the kingdom of God is an utter transformation of the world that he himself knew, not necessarily the world to come.

To a larger extent, I should say—and this is true of most people in the academic study of religion—we have to separate the historical study of religion, even if it’s our own religion, from the issues of faith that inform our spirituality. It’s our fault that people look at us with such confusion and mistrust, because we do such a poor job of communicating our ideas to the popular realm. In fact, when we do so, we get criticized for it, for being amateurish, or not serious enough, and that is a detriment to our discipline.

**Paul Crowley:** There’s also a widespread inability simply to talk about religion in a calm manner in our culture—in many cultures. One of the things that we try to do in places like this is to give people the equipment to have a discussion about religious matters. Culturally, that just doesn’t seem to be possible, because there are all kinds of prejudices that become controlling in many conversations about religion.

**Reza Aslan:** That’s because religion is far more a matter of identity than of beliefs and practices. I’m not saying beliefs and practices are not important. Of course they are. But it’s when you say, “I am a Christian,” “I am a Jew,” “I am a Muslim,” you are making an identity statement. It is hard to have a calm, rational conversation when people think that you’re attacking who I am as a person.

**Paul Crowley:** I try to maintain a deep appreciation for faith; a lot of people in our field look at faith the way biologists look at microbes.”

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**David Pinault:** Part of what intrigued me about your book is that I happen to be a Christian who has published on Islam.

**Reza Aslan:** How dare you!

**David Pinault:** Exactly. An interesting set of questions have come up for me in the course of my career. If you’ve ever had the experience of being someone who acknowledges that you are a Catholic, and you’re giving public lectures on Islam in Muslim countries such as Pakistan, you will be challenged. It’s been a series of challenges that have caused me to reflect more fully on: “So what do I mean by being a Christian?” Is it simply identity politics, as it is for many people?

I was thinking about your own personal odyssey, and I was struck by how the conclusions that you came to rally up against traditional Islamic teaching. One of the ineradicable facts that we can’t get away from when we’re talking about the life of Jesus is the crucifixion and its historical reality. Traditionalist Islamic teaching denies the reality of the crucifixion. Then there is the issue of the virgin birth; the teaching of the virgin birth of Jesus is very dear to the hearts of even Muslims.

**Stop the presses!**

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You challenge traditional Islamic teaching about them both, because you mention in the book, “There’s really no evidence of this virgin birth.” Second, the fact that, actually, if anything happened in the life of Jesus, the crucifixion took place.

**REZA ASLAN:** I’ve gotten concerned emails from very conservative Christians, but I’ve gotten just as many emails from conservative Muslims who are shocked by that aspect of it. Because Islam agrees with a great part of the gospel narrative except for the last part, which is the crucifixion. Islam traditionally believes that Jesus’ spirit left his body and entered another body and that the person crucified was not actually Jesus. We can trace that idea to the second century. It’s one that was clearly borrowed by Islam; this would be the story of Jesus that the Prophet Mohammed would have heard most often. So it’s only natural that it would become part of the Quranic teaching about Jesus.

People say to me, “How can you call yourself a Muslim if you don’t believe X, Y, and Z that the Quran says?” My answer is, “Because I don’t call myself a Quranist.”

The notion that these texts are things to believe in, that they are an end instead of a means to an end, is something I rejected when I rejected evangelical Christianity. I try to maintain a deep appreciation for faith; a lot of people in our field look at microbes. But I don’t, and I know that many faculty at Santa Clara do not, which is what makes it such a special place. I hope that respect for people’s faith comes across even when I am challenging the most basic elements of it. But I would be lying if I said that I hadn’t received a fair share of quite angry emails.

But it’s a conversation that I enjoy having. We do this because we like to argue. This book is intended for a general audience. It’s a very easy-to-follow version of a very complex idea. Because of that, the fact that many faculty at Santa Clara do not, which is what makes it such a special place. I hope that respect for people’s faith comes across even when I am challenging the most basic elements of it. But I would be lying if I said that I hadn’t received a fair share of quite angry emails.

**LOVE WHICH ENEMIES?**

**CATHERINE MURPHY:** One of the things that makes communicating with popular audiences difficult is that we do debate, looking at the fine points and the historical data, trying to evaluate. We have to persuade one another. To do that, we have to have criteria for making judgments. We have to agree on what those are; bringing other people into that conversation can be a lot to try to do. In your first footnote in the book, you acknowledge one of the most important historical Jesus scholars, John Meier. He’s got four volumes that are about this thick each, and he’s not done. He has criteria that most scholars agree must be used when we’re trying to assess the historical Jesus. It’s never a matter of certitude. It’s more a matter of what’s more plausible and less plausible. Which methods were most important for you in the book?

**REZA ASLAN:** The methodology for [looking at] these kinds of scriptural acts of Jesus has been in place for a very long time, and John Meier is great at constantly putting them into the forefront: whether we have multiple attestations or what I jokingly with my students refer to as the “sore thumb theory,” whereby if something sticks out like it doesn’t belong, it probably is more likely to be historical than not. In the end, it’s all about taking the claims of these gospels and analyzing them to the best of our ability with what we know about the world in which Jesus lived. I reject the birth in Bethlehem, as most scholars do. Is it possible that Jesus received this dramatic trial before Pilate, and Pilate did everything in his power to release him? Sure, it’s possible. Is it likely? No, no. It’s not likely. Is it possible that Jesus could read and write? It’s possible. Is it likely? No, it’s not likely.

**CATHERINE MURPHY:** In terms of the issue of likelihood, it would be interesting to hear an example of a tradition that most historical Jesus scholars do think is historically likely, but you’ve made a different judgment. For example, the love of enemies. We don’t have it in—at least that we know of—any other Jewish tradition at the time. You say that if Jesus said it at all, he meant it about fellow Jews: that you’re supposed to love your fellow Jewish enemies, but not other enemies.

**REZA ASLAN:** That is part of the Jewish context of his teachings, and it goes to the fundamental postulate.
around which this book is based: that Jesus was a Jew; that his teachings were Jewish teachings for Jews, founded upon the Torah, which is the only scripture that he would have been even remotely familiar with; that the only God that he would have any experience of is the God of the Hebrew Bible; that the only religious emotions that he would have had access to were those that were based in the Second Temple Jewish cult. So everything that he said has to be seen through the Law of Moses.

In the gospels, which were written post-70, post-destruction of Jerusalem, we see a deliberate attempt to transform those teachings into abstract universal ethical principles instead of keeping them within their ethno-nationalistic context. I want to keep them in that context.

AUDIENCE Q&A— OR, THE QURAN AND ABBEY ROAD

AUDIENCE MEMBER: I’m just starting out at the Jesuit School of Theology in the master’s program. I don’t think I ever really heard how the academic you has perhaps affected the you as a person of faith.

REZA ASLAN: It goes back to this: My job as an academic is to study religion, not faith. I recognize faith. I take it seriously, but it’s not my field. For me, faith is ineffable. It’s indescribable. If you are talking about God, you are talking about something that is by definition beyond everything. All religion, as far as I’m concerned, is a language made up of symbols and metaphors that help us to express what is fundamentally inexpressible, to ourselves and to each other. What’s important is to not confuse the language for the thing itself, not to confuse the religion for what the religion is expressing. The Sufis talk about religion as a signpost to God—that it’s not an end in itself, it’s a means to an end.

PAUL CROWLEY: As a scholar, you’re putting that in brackets—but to the practice of your faith, the Quran is not just any old text. That would certainly be true of Christians as well. One way or another, they understand it as a humanly mediated, inspired word of God.

REZA ASLAN: Look, I believe that the Quran is divinely inspired, but I also believe Abbey Road is divinely inspired. I believe that God is in constant communion with his creation. As a Muslim, I don’t believe that there is any separation between creator and creation. I think that they are one and the same. People say, “Oh, well, then you don’t believe that Jesus is God. That’s why you’re not a Christian.” No, you’re misunderstanding me. I don’t believe that Jesus is exclusively God. I believe that everybody is God, because I refuse to acknowledge that there can be separation from God; that if you exist, you exist only insofar as you share in the existence of the only thing that exists necessarily.

PAUL CROWLEY: Very Sufi.

REZA ASLAN: The way I express that thought is through the symbols and metaphors that are provided by Islam. I’m not a Muslim because I think that Islam is more right than Christianity. It’s not. I’m a Muslim simply because the metaphors that Islam provides for God, humanity, the relationship between creator and creations—they make more sense to me. I appreciate these other metaphors and I’m familiar with them. When I say language, I mean that quite literally. I speak Spanish and French and Arabic and Persian, but I think in English. In the same way, I speak Christianity and Judaism and Hinduism and Buddhism, but I feel in Islam.

“Tis is what we do.” That’s how Reza Aslan wrapped up the conversation about history and theology. “It is fun,” he said. “It’d be better if we had beer.” If you’d like to imbibe of more—and read Catherine Murphy’s scholarly review of the book—pour yourself a cold or hot beverage of your choice and, at santaclaramagazine.com, read on, listen up, chime in.
These things are real

A conversation with Sonny Manuel, S.J., M.Div. ’78 about prayer, finding grace versus the dark side, requesting the last seat on the Titanic, and a question all Catholic priests face: How can you live this life healthily as a celibate?

BY RON HANSEN M.A. ’95

Gerdenio “Sonny” Manuel, S.J., graduated from the University of San Francisco in 1971 and entered the California Province of the Society of Jesus that September. After receiving his master of divinity degree from the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, he was ordained in 1979, then went east to Duke University, earning a Ph.D. in clinical psychology in 1985. Hired by Santa Clara’s psychology department that fall, he also co-founded the Eastside Project—which became the Pedro Arrupe, S.J., Center for Community-Based Learning—and for 13 years was a clinical psychologist in private practice.

Fr. Manuel’s service to the Society of Jesus has included the positions of director of Vocations, director of Jesuits in Formation, and rector of the Jesuit Community at Santa Clara University, where he was also the first dean of the School of Education, Counseling Psychology, and Pastoral Ministries, and vice provost for university programs and multicultural education. All those experiences have contributed to his wise, sympathetic, and eminently practical Living Celibacy: Healthy Pathways for Priests, published in 2012 by Paulist Press. Enlisting the aid of well-chosen stories and homilies, dispelling myths about the Catholic priesthood, and reflecting on late-night conversations with his Jesuit brothers, Manuel presents five pathways for ensuring the psychosexual health of seminarians, priests, and others who seek guidance about love and commitment.
RH: Could you define for our readers what celibacy means?

SM: Well, celibacy in its simplest form is the commitment not to marry. But all Christians are called to live chastity: to live in a very core way a fundamentally loving life where love is the priority, not instant physical or sexual gratification.

RH: When interviewing candidates for the Society of Jesus, how do you determine if they have the charism to be celibate?

SM: There’s a notion I’m kind of famous for, which is that joining a religious order can seem like you’re asking for the last seat on the Titanic. Entrance into religious orders or clerical life is in decline, and its very effectiveness as an institution has been under question. So in this age of clergy sexual misconduct, I always ask: Why would you want to put your face behind that collar? What I look for is some acknowledgment that these things are real. It’s problematic if people minimize or deny it, and it’s really exceptional when applicants say with a certain sense of humility and without exaggerating that there but for good fortune I would go. In the end, the vow of chastity is to be in touch with reality, because in the end as priests we’re called to celebrate the holy.

RH: Meaning through prayer?

SM: Prayer is to priests what sex is to people who marry,
because the way in which we can be with others is to pray, and certainly as a priest a lot of that prayer comes out of separation and even abandonment, but there is an intimate connection there. Eternal love is in all our prayers, in every sacrament. Most people experience it around the whole struggle with death and dying, but we vowed religious experience it through all these separations that we have. We are not without the desire to have permanent, lasting, and true relationships, but we cannot have them in the flesh.

**RH:** Have you found that most people misunderstand or mischaracterize this particular vow?

**SM:** Yes. Part of why I wrote the book is because we don’t talk about celibacy in a clear way so that our religious vows are accessible to the laity in a way they understand. For too long we have made it just a life of mystery, and I think that has caused a lot of problems. I wrote the book during my sabbatical year, and there are parts of it that I had in my head from having done workshops for Jesuit superiors, the dioceses, and priests. The connection between finding God in deep, thoughtful encounters with God’s creation, with God’s people, and with God’s self is the beginning of a vocation and lands, in the end, on celebrating the holy. That doesn’t just happen in priests’ lives; it happens in every life where God and Christ and love have taken root. The giving just becomes automatic and unquestioned, as with couples after a long marriage. You know, “Whatever’s mine is yours.” There’s just no question about it. I don’t know that that came so easily to me in religious life 40 years ago. You say it, you promise it, but it’s because you’ve lived it through all that time that you can give it away with greater confidence.

**RH:** And what about the hope some have that in the future Catholic priests would be allowed to marry?

**SM:** I don’t think what makes priesthood holy is necessarily chastity and celibacy. Whether a priest is married or unmarried, all the terrible things that can happen will still happen. They’ve done ministry studies across denominations, and married clergy have the same issues around sexual misconduct and alcoholism. Whatever our vocation is, the goal is to live saintly lives. I’ve seen a lot of really wonderful things done by people who don’t have clerical office or recognition but who are either caregivers or service providers and have a generosity about giving their lives and a way of attending to others that I think is sacramental.

**RH:** Could you summarize the five healthy pathways you present in Living Celibacy?

**SM:** The first is to live close to God in our deepest desires. It’s the whole question of, Where have you found the holy? When you find grace in your life, what does it ask of you and what do you want to give in return?

Then I point out that priests have to ask who and how they are connected to human community. We tend to look at sex as functional and not relational. To promise to be celibate is not a promise to not be relational. And the other reality is that it’s the very relational quality of community that calls one to priesthood in the first place. We need to develop relationships and communities of support.

The third healthy pathway is a tipping point for everybody; it’s whether they have the humility and courage to ask, “Do you love me?” Because we are loved first, and it’s in realization of that gift that we automatically become generative. One of the ways we stay faithful to the love we’ve received is by continuing to trust in it, which means to be able to ask for love. You can ask from your spouse, your partner, your children, “Will you do this for me?” If you’re not alive enough to ask for love, you won’t hear it from the people who are asking for love from you. If you don’t know what it’s like to be neglected or not acknowledged, you won’t recognize when someone is really in need of attention and care.

The fourth thing I recommend is that you have to learn how to deal and cope with stress. Stressors are either going to turn you to grace or turn you to the dark side. You have to be able to discover and acknowledge what’s happening in you that might be dark, and then you need to be able to interpret and understand where this feeling is coming from. “Why am I acting so desperately? What is it I’m not getting? Is this playing out earlier scenarios in my life that need attention?” Because I feel deprived in some way, I may have a public life that is one thing and a secret life that’s another, and that becomes deeply fragmented.

And finally I recommend celebrating the holy. To celebrate the holy is to celebrate that your life is not your own, that you do give your life over to God, and then it’s just a following of a movement that is taking place in your life all along the way.

**RH:** I have read that at any given time, 65 percent of the world is celibate, unmarried, or alone. Could your book provide healthy pathways for them, too?

**SM:** A lot of those people might be single because their spouses have died. Their lives may be touched by tragedy or physical or financial circumstances that really don’t allow them to have a partner. But the real question is, Are you ever really alone? If God’s promise is to say to each person, I am here, I am with you, I am for you—if I can find that as a celibate priest who’s alone—that can be, I hope, a witness to other people. ☝️
The Materializer

At age 18, she raised a million bucks for her startup.

BY LEAH GONZALEZ ’14

In 2013, the youngest college graduate in the world to raise $1 million in venture funding was 18-year-old Brienne Ghaourifar ’12, a freshly degree Santa Clara econ major trying to juggle her studies with her extracurricular activities, which included managing a startup. This fall I sat with her on one of the couches in the industrial third floor of a building in Palo Alto where that company is now snuggled among other startups, and she says she remembered asking herself, “‘Should I drop out, should I stay in, or should I do both at the same time?’”
The dilemma: Months before graduating, Ghafourifar, then 17, and her brother Alston, 20, came up with an idea that would bring all digital communications on every device into one ecosystem. A solution and a company, Entefy, was born. The name means “to materialize.” “The idea is to have your entire digital identity in one place,” Ghafourifar says, calling Entefy a “cross-device” application that will reach across one’s menagerie of digital devices and bring together email, text, voice, video, and social messages.

It’s fair to say that keeping things streamlined and organized has manifested itself in Ghafourifar’s work before Entefy. She graduated from high school at 14. “It took a lot of work to just say, ‘I’m going to finish up college as fast as I can and go full-time in the startup,’” she says.

She began studying at Foothill College and transferred to SCU, attracted by the focus on social justice, social entrepreneurship, and unique programs such as the Global Social Benefit Incubator. Her teachers, especially Mario Belotti, the W.M. Keck Professor of Economics, and William Sundstrom, professor economics, were instrumental in keeping her on track and inspired. “They teach you real-life skills that you’re going to need to apply,” she says.

Likewise, Ghafourifar’s parents, fellow entrepreneurs, prepared her to tackle the startup world, often engaging her and her brother in business conversations as they were growing up. Entrepreneurship and community impact were favorite topics.

Professor of Management Jennifer Woolley is another mentor—though their relationship began after Ghafourifar graduated—and helped with Entefy’s beginnings. Fellow Santa Clara grad Karen Williams ’88 serves as an advisor.

Consolidate yourself

Ghafourifar not only raised $1 million in venture funding for Entefy by her 18th birthday, she and the Entefy team closed additional funding in summer 2013 at $2.5 million. Entefy aims to launch in private beta in early 2014, with sights on becoming the next disruptive solution that will consolidate today’s fragmented communications market. “We can only get to such an extent when we’re managing what, 75 to 100 apps at a time? It just can’t happen. So the next step will be to consolidate,” Ghafourifar says.

The app will emphasize the importance of communicating with people rather than thinking about the protocol first. “It’s all about people. The format and how messages get delivered aren’t as important.”

Therein lies what she calls Entefy’s “secret sauce.” “It’s really to simplify people’s lives and it’s really to make sense of all that fragmentation that’s out there right now in the marketplace,” she says.

You might see Ghafourifar on the big screen soon. She is profiled in the forthcoming documentary She Started It, about rising female entrepreneurs in the U.S. and Europe.

“I think just bringing awareness to the issue in general is great,” Ghafourifar says. She’d like to see more women venture into the world of entrepreneurship. [1]
This year marks half a century since the late Richard Coz, S.J., formally launched Study Abroad at Santa Clara. What started out as a small program for 30 to 40 students each year has grown tenfold. Today, more than one-third of all SCU undergraduates have the opportunity to develop a deep understanding of the global context of their lives and work while studying in places such as Italy, Argentina, and South Africa.

From 1963 to 1995, Fr. Coz taught economics, officiated at rugby matches, and photographed numerous sporting and student-sponsored events. He also created the Durham, England, study program, which quickly became a popular summer abroad destination for many Broncos. His international economics course, annual pub crawl, field trip to Stratford-upon-Avon, and Elizabethan banquet—complete with mead, but without utensils—were staples and treasured memories of this annual experience for more than 20 years.

To honor Fr. Coz’s contributions and the 50th anniversary of the Study Abroad Program, the Alumni Association is proud to announce Then & Now—SCU in England, our alumni travel destination for summer 2014.

Past meets present as we travel from London to York to Durham on this distinctively Bronco study abroad excursion. Tim O’Keefe, professor emeritus of history, and Dennis Gordon, former executive director of international programs and current chair of the political science department, will lead us on personalized tours, share insider’s knowledge and little-known facts, offer educational lectures, and contribute their 50-plus combined years of English history, politics, geography, and Santa Clara connections.

Trip highlights include a matinee at Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, a reception with local alumni and SCU students currently studying in London, a trip to Fountains Abbey, a visit to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, dinner in Durham Castle, a visit to Hadrian’s Wall, and plenty of free time to explore and find your favorite pub.

We also recently received approval from Durham Cathedral to place a commemorative bench on the River Wear in honor of Fr. Coz. We will host a dedication ceremony while in Durham to permanently recognize and memorialize Fr. Coz for his role as the founding father of the Study Abroad Program. I’m sure a goblet of mead will be in order!

Visit our website (address below) to learn more about Then & Now—SCU in England.

My one regret during my time as a Santa Clara student was not studying abroad. But I realize it’s not too late! So whether you want to relive a fond memory or create a new one, I hope you’ll join me on what I know will be a rich learning experience, memorable journey, and unique opportunity for a global context in our lives and work.

Go Broncos!

Kathryn Kale ’86
Assistant Vice President, Alumni Relations
three daughters: Anna-Kristina, Elisabeth, and Alexandra. He is a partner of the San Francisco law firm Bertrand, Fox & Elliot.

John Fox is director of Multilateral Nuclear and Security Affairs at the Department of State in Washington, D.C.

Steven Mattos writes, “Moved to Lodi, Calif., in semiretirement state, and will be consulting with Amazon on its opening of a new 1.2-million-square-foot fulfillment warehouse in Tracy, Calif. Still blessed with four children and four grandchildren, with one more due in March. Hello to all my fellow Broncos, Class of 1974.”

1975 Celia Jaehn Lang, director for the Antarctic Support Contract, is responsible for operations (Science Support, IT, Infrastructure and Operations, Transportation and Logistics) at the three U.S. stations in Antarctica and associated field camps and support nodes. Lang lives in Denver, Colo., with periodic travel to Antarctica during the austral summer. Husband Larry and son Robert live in Shell Beach, Calif.

1977 John Hagerman MBA ‘77 has joined CEO Advisor Franchising Inc., a franchise of business advisory firms serving the needs of CEOs, presidents, and business owners, as CEO advisor of Silicon Valley.

Rob Uyttebroek is currently working for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C., and living in Alexandria, Va.

1978 Modesta Garcia provides college admissions consulting and coaching for Ivy League, international, transfer, and general college admissions planning. For 24 years she had been a faculty/academic counselor at College of San Mateo, from which she retired in 2011. She credits her SCU experience and particularly her mentors, Professor Francisco Jiménez ’66 and Laura Jiménez ’67, for providing inspiration and a foundation for her career in higher education and service leadership, for which she has received numerous awards.

Pamela Lister writes: “I’m working in the South Bay. My new position is with The Camp Recovery Program in Scotts Valley, marketing this wonderful program.”

Brian R. McDonald has been appointed CFO of Meru Networks Inc., a leader in Wi-Fi networks.

Larry Specchiera ’63 remembers vividly when it was announced that Santa Clara University would admit women starting in fall 1962. He was front and center with a group of mourning students who lowered the flag on campus to half-staff.

When he looks back, he can only shake his head.

“It’s the best thing that ever happened to Santa Clara,” he says. And it just might be the best thing that ever happened to Larry Specchiera. One of the first co-eds at SCU would be his future wife.

This fall Larry and Maureen Specchiera ’66 celebrated two golden milestones—Larry’s 50th reunion and their 50th wedding anniversary. They have three grown children (two of whom are SCU grads) and five grandchildren, and they have lived and worked in Atlanta, New York, and London.

So the Specchieras’ philosophy for good living should not come as a surprise: “Don’t stay static,” Maureen says. “Grow, adjust, and adapt—but that doesn’t mean compromising your values!”

Their involvement with SCU embraces change. When they lived in New York, the Specchieras helped educate graduating high schoolers about a certain Jesuit university out west. Next, they were the parents of Broncos. Now they have included SCU in their estate in order to help fund scholarships.

When they look back and see the difference Santa Clara made in their own lives and the lives of their children, it only reinforces their belief in the impact a Jesuit education can make on a life.

“ ‘No matter what students’ economic situations are, they need to have access to the rock-solid foundation for life that SCU provides,’” Maureen says.

“It’s why we invest in education,” Larry adds. “For the students.”

Gift Planning

Banner day

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For a no-obligation rate quote, please contact:
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giftplanning@scu.edu • www.scu.edu/giftplanning
James R. Ebert was admitted to practice law in the state of Nevada, along with California and Georgia, as well as before the U.S. Supreme Court. Ebert continues to practice in Irvine, Calif. He was featured in an article published by The Wall Street Journal and Chicago Tribune about a $22.5 million arbitration award he won against a major bank for his clients.

Brad Mandell is now VP of Global OEM Big Data Sales at WANDisco, a provider of high-availability software for global enterprises.

1981 After moving back to New York in late 2013, Deirdre Cherry has been appointed Northeast Division Structured Lending Exec for Merrill Lynch Wealth Management.

1983 Kevin Vogelsang recently left RBF Consulting after 11 years to become the director of federal business at Alta Vista Solutions, an engineering services firm based in Richmond. He is establishing a new Alta Vista Solutions office in San Diego. Vogelsang and his wife, Patty, remain active presenting Catholic weekends for Worldwide Marriage Encounter in Southern California.

1984 REUNION

Mary Beth Riley and Joanne Pasternack J.D. ’99 made the Silicon Valley Business Journal’s Women of Influence list for 2013. As executive director of the San Francisco 49ers Foundation, Pasternack heads an organization that has donated more than $20 million to support nonprofit programs for youth leadership and violence prevention. Riley serves as the director of admissions for Notre Dame, where she established a program that helped increase enrollment; she now leads the oldest private secondary school for girls in California. She has served on the Catholic School Advisory Board at the SCU School of Education and Counseling Psychology.

Steven Ryan has been working in Jakarta, Indonesia, since 1996 as senior management in the field of freight transportation and logistics and is currently pursuing his MBA. His wife, Elvi, is from Indonesia and their two boys, Vincent and Lawrence, attend an international school.

1985 Merlene (Medeiros) Akau continues to live in Hawaii with her 22- and 24-year-old daughters. She is a personnel director for the State of Hawaii Department of Education.

Laura (Boltz) Holck and her husband, Phil, have been called to serve as co-pastors at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Cross in Calgary, Canada. Laura received her doctor of ministry degree in preaching in May 2011.

1986 Kenton Chow MBA ’96 is now the chief operating officer of RetailNext Inc., the leading big data analytics software company for physical retail stores worldwide. He and his wife of 19 years, Teri, live in Almaden Valley in San Jose with their two daughters, Kendra, 17, and Kianna, 14.

1987 John Savage, baseball coach for UCLA, was named Coach of the Year this past season by both Collegiate Baseball Newspaper and Baseball America magazines, and he was also named the ABCA West Region Coach of the Year this summer. Savage led the Bruins to their first national baseball championship at the recent College World Series. He has also led the Bruins to their third College World Series appearance in four years and to a top-three Pac-12 Conference finish in each of the last eight seasons, the only Pac-12 team to do so.

1988 Kelley (Kornder) Bell lives in Ken Lomond, Calif., with her husband, custom furniture designer and creator Timothy Bell. They have two funny and amazing girls, Charlotte (11) and Sadie (5). Kelley is the global director of Community and Environmental Initiatives for Driscoll’s Berries and sits on the Global Executive Team.

Amy (Kremer) Gomersall writes, “Still living in and loving Chico, Calif., with husband, Edson, and three kids: Peter, (16), Nicholas (14), and Grace (9), Celebrating 22 years of marriage, 20+ years of freelance graphic design with SCU, and 25 years with the Class of 1988. Looking forward to our 25-year reunion with Stucco House gals Molly Emrick Scragg ’88, Liz Vierra Malone ’88, Linda May Fitzgerald ’88, and Diane Dunn ’88!”

Paul Lindblad MBA ’92 writes, “At the start of the year we relocated to Shanghai, where I have taken over responsibility for Wacker Chemical’s business in China. My wife, Monica ’90, and my two daughters are settling back into Asia, though they are missing friends in Germany.”

The family of Dan Stevens includes wife Katie Stevens and three children: Ben (11), Olivia (9), and Estelle (5). Stevens has been with Wells Fargo Bank for 12 years as a mortgage broker.

Kaiyo Young resides with his wife, Dana, and 11-year-old triplets Kease, Male, and Makana in Oakland. Young is an owner/partner in the Oakland law firm of Bartlett, Leader-Picone & Young LLP. His specialty is debt collections and creditors’ rights in bankruptcy.

1989 REUNION

Mario Lieverino, a restaurant executive with 20 years of experience, has opened Ciao’s Modern Latin Flavors, a restaurant in downtown Campbell.

Luis Rodriguez J.D. ’92, the first in his family to attend college, is the first Latino and the first active public defender elected president of the State Bar of California. “I’m the first Latino and that’s something to celebrate, but at the same time, it’s a stark reminder of how long it takes for certain groups to move up and become part of the leadership of the community,” said Rodriguez. He was admitted to the State Bar in 1994 and is a former president of the California Latino Bar Association, the Mexican American Bar Association, and the Latino Public Defenders Association.

1990 Sandy (Dallas) Herman writes, “The Herman family—husband, Mike, and three sons: Jack, 11, Nicholas, 7, and Luke, 5—has moved to the Montréal golf community located atop Mt. Rose, Nev. Mike is VP of Business Development at Ruvato, and when I am not chasing our three kids around, I spend time doing human resources consulting.”

1992 Lani L. Biafore is serving as in-house staff attorney for Delta Gamma Executive Offices in Upper Arlington, Ohio. While at Santa Clara, she was a member of Delta Gamma Fraternity. She, Laura (Boltz) Holck, and husband Dr. Michael S. O’Mara, moved to the Columbus, Ohio, area in 2012.

Lisa Stevens was recently profiled at newsok.com. She is the head of small-business banking at Wells Fargo and president for West Coast Regional Banking. She’s married with three kids and lives in Pasadena, Calif.

Oscar Zavaleta started Montez Group Inc., an engineering consulting firm specializing in quality control/quality assurance.

1993 Paul M. Nuti and business partner Alborz Wozniak opened a new environmental engineering consulting firm, Veritas Environmental Consulting Inc., located in Pleasant Hill. He and his wife, Elizabeth (Goebel) Nuti ’93, live in Pleasant Hill with their two children, Julia and Emma.

Kevin Smith is the VP of software development for Ellician, a leading provider of software and services for higher education institutions. Smith currently resides near Washington, D.C., with his wife, Kate, and their three boys: Jackson, Sean, and Daniel.

1994 REUNION

Rudolph Garcia left Wells Fargo Bank after a 24-year career. He now is senior VP
Lauren (Ruzicka) Newberry ’90 and Joshua Newberry Newberry on May 5, 2011.

Chris Richardson ’98 and Charity Shaller on June 29, 2013. In attendance was groomsman Erik Harvey ’98. Chris is a senior program manager for ID in Tacoma, where the couple resides.


Valerie (Martin) Visse ’03 and Nicholas Visse ’05, MBA ’10 on March 23, 2013. Attendants included Kalie (Bass) Ward ’03, James (Jamie) Armitz ’05, John Paul Vasicek ’05, Diana Passadori ’03, J.D. ’06, Daniel Figoni ’03, MBA ’07, Matt Ward ’03, and Bobby McCarthy ’05. The couple lives in Sunnyvale.

Noel Fonseca ’04 and Kyle Davidson on July 5, 2013. In attendance were Manuel Perez ’04, Kanh-Thy Gonzales ’04, Juan-Carlos Guzman ’04, Deanna Saitten ’06, and Lecturer in Communication Charlotta Kratz.

Becca Johansen ’04 and Marc Auten on Aug. 24, 2013. In attendance was Mary Chandler ’04, J.D. ’07. The couple lives in Portland, Ore.

Emily Erol ’05, M.A. ’14 and Rene Cardenas ’04 on July 9, 2011. They were married by English professor Theodore Rynes, S.J. Alumni in attendance included Lisa Catalan ’08, Diana (DeRigo) Wells ’03, Elizabeth Foley ’06, Marshall Mort ’05, Lawrence Elrod ’71, MBA ’77, Annette Erol ’73, James Foley ’68, MSCE ’70, Susie Foley ’70, Gina Catalan ’10, Phil Catalan ‘73, MBA ’75, Dennis Garvey ’75, Alexandria Kavalari ’07, J.D. ’10, Anahita Razmazma ’05, Claire (Romero) Shaw ’05, M.A. ’11, Arun Delacroix ’09, and Ken Wells ’08, MSCE ’07. They live in Willow Glen.


Lauren Feeney ’07 and Colin Brown on Sept. 22, 2013. Attendants included Stephanie (Young) Renfro ’06, Mary Pat Lee ’07, Jenevieve Francisco ’07, Stephanie Edwards ’07, Tessa Weston ’07, Sara Pau ’07, Mia Stephenson ’07, Katy Lackey ’07, Omid Faghiri ’07, Tanya Landsberger ’06, and Jeff Renfro ’06. Lauren is a senior research associate at Genentech Inc., and Colin works as a character animator. They live in Mountain View.

Clayton Hoefler ’07 and Katrina Ostergart ’08 on July 13, 2013, in the Mission Church.

John Burke ’08 and Molly Fitzgerald ’08 on July 27, 2013, in Boston. There were many Broncos in attendance, from classes 2007 to 2013. The couple lives in San Francisco.

Brent Haase ’08 and Hillary Boller ’06 on Aug. 24, 2013, at Mission Santa Clara. Fr. Arthur Liedsbergh ’09 presided, with dozens of Broncos from the classes of ’72 through ’11 there for the celebration. The couple lives in Littleton, Colo.

Susan Wacker ’08 and Aaron Forde on May 11, 2013. Present were the parents of the bride, Jane ’76 and Doug Wacker ’76, and Jennifer Bartolo ’95. Susan is a human resources manager at Target. They live in Covington, Ga.

Bryan Reeves ’99 and Annie Drinkward ’11 on July 13, 2013. Fellow alumni in attendance included Dan Drinkward ’00, Dan Ruffoni ’09, Andrew Smith ’09, Mikhail Warm ’11, Ross Ruecker ’09, Aimi Cobb ’11, Chelsea Verhasselt ’11, Steven Connolly ’10, Kim Aagaard ’12, Nick Devich ’11, Anthony Galvan ’09, Chris Haley ’09, Maria Jarrell ’09, Ryan Ono ’09, Geoff Demander ’09, Kate Rawlings ’10, Jimmy Shoven ’08, Meghan Doocy ’10, Ryan Carlton ’08, Brendon Bula ’09, Josh Shumsky ’08, and Josh Schneider ’09.

Brett Riese ’09 and Lisa Hill ’09 on Aug. 24, 2013. The wedding party included Lisa’s sister, Jennifer Hill ’11, along with Colleen Kleier ’09, Tara O’Flaherty ’10, and Jonathan Boales ’10. The couple lives in Renton, Wash.


1997 Joanne Conca just moved back to Santa Clara County with her husband and two children after living in Colorado for eight years. Both she and her husband are involved in their real estate investment business.

2000 Linus Lau has been chair for the Music Video, Film and Television Program at Musicians Institute since December 2012, in addition to being adjunct lecturer of film studies at Long Beach City College. He is also the composer of the upcoming feature Bread and Butter, starring Bobby Moynihan of Saturday Night Live.

Gina Policastri J.D. ’03 is a partner at Lonich & Patton LLP in San Jose. She is certified by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization as a family law specialist. She and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Bianca, in 2011. The family lives in Willow Glen.

2001 Jacey Prupas J.D. ’04, an associate in the Reno office of Snell & Wilmer, has been appointed to the Nevada Board of Bar Examiners. Prupas’ practice includes representing businesses in all types of contract disputes, complex tort actions, and product liability matters. She has been recognized for several years as a Nevada Super Lawyers Rising Star.

Anna Weyher is the principal investigator and founder of the Kasanka Baboon Project, formed in 2010 for the study of a group of Kinda baboons (Papio cynocephalus kindae) in Kasanka National Park in Zambia. Weyher has also set up a long-term research site dedicated to the study and conservation of the Kinda baboon, as well as developed science, environmental education, and conservation programs for the community.

2002 Carly A. Dadson is special counsel at Dannis Woliver Kelley in Long Beach. She advises and counsels public school district clients on a wide range of personnel-related matters.

Read more (and see photos) at santaclaramagazine.com

I put my creative, editorial, and writing skills to use. Since 2010, I’ve worked at Finlimridge Preparatory School as the director of communications. In 2010 I married Jason Trevor, a senior research engineer. We have a wonderful life in La Cañada Flintridge, Calif.

1995 Nicole Trevor Haims writes, “I received my MFA in Creative Writing (poetry) from the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop in 1998. My first job was at Wiley Publishing, where

and manager of SBA Lending for Community Bank of the Bay.

1996 Jacqueline Barnet Walker, Matthew B. Walker ’95, and sons, Barrett (7) and Casey (5), embarked on a new adventure in life by moving to St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands with Matt’s employer, Ocwen Mortgage Servicing Inc.

1999 Reunion OCTOBER 9–12, 2014

Lives Joined
In April 2013, Noelani Salings joined San Jose Jazz as director of business development. This organization has been around for more than a quarter of a century, focusing on education, performance, and music.

2005 Ashley (Miller) Ellingwood has been promoted to VP with JP Morgan Private Bank. She has been with the company since 2007. Ashley and her husband, Andrew, relocated to Palo Alto this summer after a brief time living in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Steven Riccoboni received his M.D., with a concentration in global health, from Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City this May. He is returning to California to begin an emergency medicine residency at UCSF-Fresno.

2006 In May, Alicia Rice was a special guest performer in Aquamanivia: A Blast from the Past, a water ballet integrating elements of swimming, dance, and gymnastics. A former Olympian, Rice was a performer in La Reve at the Wynn Las Vegas Resort from 2007 to 2012 and recently returned to the Santa Clara Aquamaide—the most decorated synchronized swimming club in the world—to assist with choreography and artistic development.

2007 Patrick J. Rufo received his doctor of physical therapy degree from UCSF Medical last spring.

2008 Lauren Baines is one of three winners of the Leigh Weimers Emerging Artist Award. She just started the MFA program at Mills College, majoring in choreography and performing arts. Baines is also project manager for education and artistic programs at Montalvo Arts Center and assistant artistic director for the Cardboard Box Theatre Project.

Lindsay Wenger received her doctor of medicine degree from Oregon Health & Science University in June 2013. She is beginning her general surgery residency at University of Nevada Affiliated Hospitals, Las Vegas, Nev.

Nick Fedeli '92 and Lisa (Kellers) Fedeli '92—Cormac Frank Fedeli on April 11, 2013. Brother Aengus could not be more elated. The family lives in Reno, Nev., where Nick is the controller for Campus Dining/Chartwells at the University of Nevada. Reno, and Lisa stays at home with the boys and two basset hounds.

Lisa DeMattel '93 and Koray Ergur—their daughter, Zeynep Sofia Ergur, on June 8, 2013. The family lives in San Francisco.

Helen K. Yi '03, James S. Choi, and son Andrew—David Choi on April 16, 2013. Helen continues to serve as general counsel for The Matteson Companies.

Justin Beck '95 and wife Betty—their first child, Evan, on Jan. 25, 2013. Justin is currently the director of training and development for the Pabst Brewing Company.

Christopher Donaldson '97, wife Tressa, and son James—Andrew Friedrich on July 12, 2013. They live in Laguna Niguel, Calif.

Kristi Martinez '97, Chad O'Hara, and daughter Sabine—a girl, Deryn Josie O'Hara, on Aug. 18, 2013. The family lives in San Carlos.

Giovanna Gaitan O’Grady ’97, Kevin O’Grady ’96, and 2-year-old sister Carine—a boy, Callum O’Grady, on June 20, 2013. The family lives in Sunnyvale.

Ben '99 and Alli (Brandt) Fargo '99, and son Riley—Andrew George Brandt Fargo on Sept. 6, 2013. The family resides in Los Angeles.

Ben '99 and Alli (Brandt) Fargo '99, and son Riley—Andrew George Brandt Fargo on Sept. 6, 2013. The family resides in Los Angeles.

Christina Beck Drogin '00 and Jason Drogin '00—Mia Edie Drogin on Aug. 29, 2012. Mia joins big brothers Wil, 6, and Jake, 4.

Claudia (Vasquez) Torres '00 and Ramiro Torres—Damarion Torres on Aug. 22, 2012. The family resides in San Jose and looks forward to traveling.

Carrie (Fuller) Asprinio '01, husband Jim Asprinio, and 2-year-old brother Braylen—a boy, Kyler Max, on March 5, 2013. Proud grandpa and SCU alumnus Jerry Fuller ’74 couldn’t be happier. The family lives in Seattle, Wash.

Brendan O’Brien '01, Lauren (Russell) O’Brien ’02, and son Liam—a boy, Declan Charles, on April 5, 2013. The family lives in Burlington.

Stephen Tonna '01 and Margery (Blain) Tonna '02—Christopher on July 6, 2013. Joshua, 3, is already educating Chris all about planes, trains, and tractors. Steve and Margi both work at Apple, and the family lives in San Jose.

Maya Vestal Apolinario ’02, Paul Apolinario ’02, and 3-year-old brother Marco—Sara Alexandra on Oct. 12, 2012. The family lives in San Jose.

Kristin (Love) Boscia ’03, J.D. ’08, Chris Boscia J.D. ’08, and sister Kate—Evelyn Love Boscia on July 26, 2013.


Lisa (Eskey) Rodriguez MBA ’05, husband Steve, and 2-year-old Jack—a son, Cobey Gage, on April 20, 2013. They live in Pleasanton.

Katy (Shumm) Tuttle ’05, Matt Tuttle ’05, and sister Emily—John “Jack” Ryan Tuttle on March 21, 2013.

Christina Ogburn-Chow MBA ’08 and husband Daniel Chow—a son, Zayden Sui Yuen Chow, on April 4, 2013. The family lives in Foster City.

Tera (Linsley) Almassy ’02 and Mark Almassy ’08—their first child, Matt Conroy, on August 13, 2013. They live in Brooklyn, New York.
John Kidde decided to do something crazy and quit his job to take a monthlong internship in South Africa. From there he will circle the globe by going to Hong Kong and then meet Sean Murphy ’09 in Tokyo before heading home.

Brahmani (Nandamuri) Nara has taken over as the executive director of Heritage Foods Ltd., after completing her MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business. She has previously worked with the venture capital arm of Temasek Holdings and as VP for Heritage.

John Michael Reyes M.Div. ’13 is currently the campus minister for liturgy at Seattle University and cantors for Christ Our Hope Parish, the newest Catholic church in Seattle, Wash.

2010 Joanna Savio has been hired by Google as a program coordinator in the recruiting department.

2011 Paul Kosloski recently finished a year of service in Anchorage, Alaska, with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest. He served at Bean’s Café Day Shelter and then Karkuk Manor Housing First. Both service placements involved support and companionship for people experiencing chronic alcoholism and chronic homelessness.

2012 Jason D. Catalano is serving as a military police officer in the 2nd Cavalry Regiment in Vilseck, Germany. He assists theprovost marshal of the regiment in anti-terrorism operations, force protection, physical security, detention facility operations, and discipline of the unit. He is currently deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as an officer in charge of a bomb-detecting dog unit.

Holly Hanbury-Brown is now an associate editor at Discovery Girls Magazine. She writes, “Thank you to Steven Saum for teaching me so much about publishing a quality magazine with high standards and a mission to better our world. Shout-outs to Chuck Barry, Clay Hamilton, and Russ Morris, too. Long live Bucky! [Aw, shucks. But we’re darn proud of the role interns like Holly play with the mag. —Ed.]”

2013 Brenna Donnellan of San Rafael has been accepted into Teach for America and will teach high school biology in southwest Texas. She graduated early, with honors, with a double major in environmental science and ancient studies.

Nate May was awarded the American Institute of Chemists Foundation Award in recognition of a record of leadership, ability, character, and scholastic achievement. He began graduate work toward a Ph.D. in applied chemistry at the University of Michigan in fall 2013.

Sarah Perkins has accepted an editorial assistant position for Professional Roofing magazine. She is living in the Chicagoland area.

Spencer Rahn writes that he is actively seeking a job in the field of analytics, using his love of numbers to solve problems and deliver solutions.

Justin Viele was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in the 2013 MLB June Amateur Draft. The former Bronco shortstop joins one-time teammate Lucas Herbst ’12, drafted by the Orioles in 2012.

1970 Huntly Gordon MBA has been dubbed The World’s Most Interesting Man by the Santa Cruz Sentinel for his 35 years of adventure travel. “The mystique of a different culture is what [I’m] after, the allure of crossing borders, the great human drama,” said the 68-year-old Santa Cruz resident.

1973 Bill Ducas J.D. writes: “My very best good wishes to those classmates attending the reunion.”

Mitch Lyons J.D. writes, “As I looked at the pictures that flashed on the website’s 1973 page, I [remembered] Dick Cunha J.D. ’73, Rick Watters J.D. ’73, Joseph Kalashian J.D. ’73, and Dan Martin J.D. ’73. Joanne and I are retired and enjoying our first grandchild. I started the Social-Emotional Learning Alliance for Massachusetts (www.SELE4Mass.org) to reduce violence and addictions via a long-term educational plan.”

Andrew Swartz J.D. has been a partner for Spiering, Swartz & Kennedy law firm located in Monterey, Calif., since 1974. He is married to Kiane Swartz, and they reside in Monterey. They have two grown sons: Adam, a longtime Chicago firefighter married with one daughter, and Alex, a business analyst for Visa.

1975 Timothy M. Bergquist MBA received the 2013 President’s Award for Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership at Northwest Christian University. He is a professor of quantitative analysis and has been at NCU in Eugene, Ore., since 1996. He and his wife of 42 years live in Eugene.
1976 Chi-Chia Hsieh Ph.D. is chairman of Taiwan Science Park Associations.

1978 Patti White J.D. has been appointed vice chair of the California Committee of Bar Examiners. She is a semiretired shareholder with Littler Mendelson in the San Jose office.

1983 Teri Graf-Pulvino MBA and her husband, Ken, live in Fruitillar, Chile. They launched Darwin’s Chiloé (www.darwinschiloe.com), a geotourism adventure following Darwin’s Voyage of the Beagle in the Patagonia region.

1984 Timothy McMahon J.D. was selected as one of the top 100 trial lawyers in California by the National Trial Lawyers Association and one of the top 100 Irish-American attorneys in the United States by the Irish Voice for 2013. Tim and his wife, Lisa Twomey McMahon ’83, live in Los Gatos with their three children.

1985 Jeffrey Rickard J.D. joined Needham Kapner & Fish LLP in San Jose after many years at Alexander Hawes LLP. He was given the Santa Clara County Trial Attorney of the Year Award in 2008 and again in 2011. He married Lynne Coates in 2011 and his son, Ryan Rickard, is a senior at the University of San Diego.

1986 Acting Santa Clara County Counsel Lori Pegg J.D. has been appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown ’59 to the Santa Clara County Superior Court bench. She has been a county lawyer since 2001 and previously specialized in employment law for a number of local law firms.

1989 Thomas Watson J.D. has been appointed by the city of South Lake Tahoe to serve as city attorney. In 2002 he established his current firm, Fike, Boranian & Watson. Since 2008, he has served as the city attorney for Mendota and has been Woodlake’s city attorney for more than 16 years.

1990 Joseph Angelo Gulino M.S. writes, “We moved from San Jose to Laramie, Wyo., in 2008. For five years I worked for an extension program at the University of Wyoming, where both our children attended. We have two grandchildren and another due in February. I started JAG Engineering LLC at the beginning of 2013.”

1995 Jill Klees M.A. has joined the Career Center team at Santa Clara as a counselor for alumni as well as graduate students in counseling psychology, education, and pastoral ministries. Klees has worked in the career-coaching field for more than 15 years.

2002 On completing three terms as program director at Don Bosco Renewal Centre in Bangalore, Joseph Thannickal M.A. has been granted a sabbatical year at Fordham University and JST Berkeley to complete some writing work.

2005 Leslie Davidson writes, “We’re leaving the Bay Area and moving to Boise, Idaho. I plan to start a private practice there and may run some groups at the VA Hospital. I was fortunate to gain such a solid foundation for my new career as an MFT from SCU’s Counseling Psych program. Thanks to all who made that possible.”

Diane Liang J.D. writes: “I recently moved to Hayward, Calif., with my family and am working as an attorney in the Bay Area.”

2006 Kevin Morris MBA writes, “Married to Helen and have two amazing kids: Kieran and Isla. We moved to Austin in 2011 after 12 years in the Bay Area. We are enjoying life in the Lone Star State and continuing to get used to the weather.”

Johan Sulaiman MBA joined OneWest Bank in Pasadena, Calif., as VP of forecast and modeling.

2009 John Hogan MBA was recognized as a Champion of Change by the White House for answering the administration’s Youth Jobs+ challenge. Hogan is the CEO and founder of TeenForce, a San Jose–based nonprofit dedicated to solving the youth employment crisis.

2010 Jerry Shen joined Yahoo’s mobile engineering team at the company’s Sunnyvale headquarters after Yahoo acquired Shen’s company, Bignoogins, which he founded three years ago to develop a series of mobile apps for players in fantasy sports leagues. Apps such as “Fantasy Monster” and “Draft Monster” helped Shen finance a trip around the world that his wife, Adrienne, blogged about at www.shenventure.com. The application he built his company on was his class project at Santa Clara.

Sara Swenson MBA is leading a new startup: Boatbound, the fully insured pier-to-pier boat rental marketplace. She lives in Santa Cruz.

2012 Alessandra Czamanski Silva M.A., MFT writes, “Dear Psy fellows, I moved to Texas. I cannot believe that I left California, but life changes directions and we don’t always know why. I hope to find professionals as good as the ones I had the privilege to meet during grad school at SCU!”

2013 Melanie “Mimi” Fang M.A. is an intern at Fremont’s Youth and Family Services and Christian Counseling Center. She leads individuals and families on grief, motherhood, stress management, social skills for kids, and parenting education through talk and play therapy.

Wes Helmholtz J.D. joins the Los Angeles office of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe.

IN PRINT

New books by alumni

LIFE’S A CIRCUS

Growing up in a fragmented family in a small Central Valley town during World War II, Nick Weber was propelled by two seemingly contradictory passions: to become a priest and to become a circus clown. How those two were reconciled is the tale told in a sensory and surprisingly meditative book, The Circus That Ran Away with a Jesuit Priest: Memoir of a Delible Character (Dog Ear Publishing).

Weber charts the unexpected journey of religious formation that led in the early 1970s to the creation of the comically named The Royal Lichtenstein Circus, an official ministry of the California Province of the Jesuit Order. For 22 years Weber and his tiny, rotating band of circus performers, some of them students from Santa Clara University where Weber harboired in offseasons, crisscrossed the country bringing their unusual, performative ministry to schools and college campuses. “The real journey was ourselves,” Weber writes later in the book, after recounting the soul-expanding adventures and misadventures of the road and offering an insider’s view of the nitty-gritty details of circus life.

In its heyday, the circus attracted favorable national attention as a spiritual experiment growing out of Vatican II. Even Time magazine reported on the circus and its “low-key morality plays.” But, as Weber ruefully notes in the final chapters of this memoir, times changed, the Church changed, and he himself changed. Or, as the title states, the circus ran away with Weber, leading eventually to his decision to leave the Jesuits. Alden Mudge 📚
Below are obituaries of Santa Clara alumni. At santaclaramagazine.com/obituaries you’ll find obituaries published in their entirety. There, family members may also submit obituaries for publication online and in print.

OBITUARIES

1939   John “Jack” Edward Richter, June 20, 2013. The San Francisco native was born in 1916 and enjoyed building his “cabin” in Felton, where his family spent many happy days. He started his career at Wooldridge Manufacturing Company and later joined Gould Bros. as a partner and engineer. He could tackle any task, from electrical to automotive to woodworking.

Frank R. Ryan, July 31, 2013. Born in 1917, he served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, was on active duty 1940–45, and was in the Air Force Reserve until 1960, when he retired as a lieutenant colonel. He joined his father at Frank J. Ryan and Co. for more than 42 years. He was proud that his son William Ryan ’82, MBA ’91 and grandson Sean Brown ’97 also graduated from SCU.

1941 Louis M. Caserza, April 28, 2013. He was the father of Rosemarie ’80 and Elizabeth ’81, uncle of Teresa ’75, and great-uncle of Timothy ’05. Caserza was a lifelong parishioner of Holy Angels Church since 1916 and a proud retiree of 34 years with Bechtel.

1942 William Howard Royer, April 8, 2013. Born in 1920 in Jerome, Idaho, he served as a U.S. representative from the 11th Congressional District of California 1979–81. Before that, the Army Air Corps veteran was on the Redwood City Council for 16 years, including as mayor. Relatives include grandson Whitney A. Sangiacomo ’91, grandson Brady W. Royer ’93, and son Dennis W. Royer ’65.

1944   Louis M. Caserza, April 28, 2013. He was the father of Rosemarie ’80 and Elizabeth ’81, uncle of Teresa ’75, and great-uncle of Timothy ’05. Caserza was a lifelong parishioner of Holy Angels Church since 1916 and a proud retiree of 34 years with Bechtel.

1945   Berry Royer, April 28, 2013. Born in 1902 in Jerome, Idaho, he served as a U.S. representative from the 11th Congressional District of California 1979–81. Before that, the Army Air Corps veteran was on the Redwood City Council for 16 years, including as mayor. Relatives include grandson Whitney A. Sangiacomo ’91, grandson Brady W. Royer ’93, and son Dennis W. Royer ’65.

1945   Louis M. Caserza, April 28, 2013. He was the father of Rosemarie ’80 and Elizabeth ’81, uncle of Teresa ’75, and great-uncle of Timothy ’05. Caserza was a lifelong parishioner of Holy Angels Church since 1916 and a proud retiree of 34 years with Bechtel.

1950   Michael González, Aug. 9, 2013. Born in Fairfield, Calif., in 1924, he served as a Marine and afterward opened his own furniture store, Michael’s Home Furnishings, in Vacaville. The avid sports fan, husband, father, and friend also served as Vacaville city councilman and president of the chamber of commerce.

1951   Ronald Joseph Santucci, June 7, 2013. Born in
Seattle, he was a proud Marine and retiree from Wells Fargo after a 40-year career. He served on numerous association boards and was active in his community. A talented athlete who attended SCU on a baseball scholarship, he played tennis and pickleball into his 80s. Family—including son John MBA ’00—was his primary focus and most valued legacy.

1952 James William Daly, June 10, 2013. He was 82. A medical pioneer, in 1964 Dr. Daly became the first gynecological oncologist in the U.S. military. He taught at the University of Florida, pioneering cancer treatment and gynecological surgery. Daly later chaired the departments of obstetrics and gynecology at two universities. He was married for nearly 60 years and had three children.

1953 Dewey Lawes Falcone, Aug. 15, 2013. Born in Hermosa Beach, Calif., in 1931, Falcone was the sea that his family floated on. He practiced law with his father for 34 years, served as ambassador to the Mariana Islands, and worked as a judge for 20 years in the Norwalk Superior Court. To Falcone, family came first.

1957 James Donahue Cooney, July 3, 2013. He was 79. Cooney was born in San Francisco and was general manager and chief engineer at the San Francisco Water Department. He and his loving wife, Joann, moved to Sonoma to retire.

1961 Charles “Chuck” Larson Sr., April 9, 2013. He worked at Varian, Lawrence Livermore Labs, Plasma Kinetics, and EBT in Santa Clara. Of all his titles, Larson’s favorite was “Poppy,” given to him by his 11 grandchildren. He was 82.

Charles Bernard Gass Jr., May 26, 2013. A Phoenix native, he joined Arizona Public Service in 1961 and retired in 1995 as fuel supply manager. Hobbies included fishing, camping, hiking, tennis, reading, dirt-bike riding, gardening, and genealogy. Gass was married to Margo for 43 years and had four children. He was 74.

1962 Joseph Eugene Jellison, Nov. 24, 2012. Born in Santa Cruz County in 1938, he spent most of his career at Aerojet General in Rancho Cordova, Calif., as an aerospace engineer. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was married to Marlene Kojan for 53 years and raised three daughters.


1965 George Thomas Sullivan M.A. ’66, May 26, 2013. Born in Pasadena, Calif., in 1944, the retired Naval commander and former U.S. diplomat had a successful career in information security. He was married for 44 years to Jolanda and had five daughters. He played tenor saxophone for a swing band in the East Bay and was a eucharistic minister.

1966 Richard Thomas Bigotti Jr., May 5, 2013. A 23-year cancer survivor, Bigotti was born in San Jose and was one of the early entrepreneurs in the computer industry. He served for many years as the vice president of operations for Kavlico in Moorpark. Bigotti was an avid athlete, sailor, cook, and host. Survivors include his brother Jerome ’74.

Thomas “the Cat” Casazza, July 24, 2013. Born in Minneapolis in 1945, he established a law practice in Sacramento that flourished for many years. Survivors include his first wife, Victoria Berezin ’66.

1967 Alex S. Bauer M.S., May 31, 2013. Bauer was born in Komádi, Hungary, in 1922. As a Holocaust survivor, he touched many people with his compassionate nature and dedication to Holocaust education for more than 30 years. In the Bay Area, Bauer worked as an electronics engineer for several microwave companies. Survivors include his son Ken MBA ’97.

Frank Boyd Shelledy M.S., June 6, 2013. Born in 1936 in Littleton, Colo., he was a leading mechanical engineer for employers including Boeing, IBM, and StorageTek. He also did pioneering work in tape head development. The avid cyclist loved hiking in the Colorado mountains and spending time with his family.

1968 Gordon Belcourt, July 15, 2013. The executive director of the Montana-Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council—a powerful regional and national voice for Native peoples—Belcourt was born in 1945 and grew up on the Blackfeet Reservation. He was given the name Meeksskumapi, or “Mixed Iron Boy,” the father of eight was a Holocaust survivor, he touched many people with his compassionate nature and dedication to Holocaust education for more than 30 years. In the Bay Area, Bauer worked as an electronics engineer for several microwave companies. Survivors include his son Ken MBA ’97.

Howard Anawalt

Clara’s client counseling and national trial competitions, advised the Santa Clara Law Review, administered the Tokyo summer program, and served as advisor to The Santa Clara Computer and High Technology Law Journal. He held a deep passion for teaching and a commitment to his profession even after he retired in 2003.

Peter Filice, S.J., served the University 1993–2004 through Campus Ministry and as minister of the Jesuit Community. He was well known on campus for his pastoral presence and warm heart. Whether he was leading retreats or conducting Bible study for faculty, staff, and students, he approached life with fullness and a great spirit of generosity. He died on Oct. 1, 2013.

Stephen J. Corio ’68, MBA ’76 had a successful career with IBM and decided, in his “second career,” to come home: He joined the faculty in the Leavey School of Business in 1998, teaching in the marketing department. He was dedicated to his undergrad and MBA students alike. He died on Oct. 5, 2013. Together with his family, we mourn Steve’s death while also thanking God for the gift of his life.

Victor Valdez ’84, M.A. ’94 worked from 1988 to 1998 as a resident minister in the dorms and with the Alumni Association. With his great faith in Our Lady of Guadalupe and inspiration from the writings and spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, he dedicated his life to God, working at St. John Vianney, St. Athanasius, and St. Denis, in Menlo Park. He planned retreats and gave talks and workshops at faith-formation conferences in San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Arizona. He was 51 when he died on July 17, 2013, from recurring brain tumors.

Luís Rivadeneira, staff member in Information Technology, died unexpectedly on Sept. 14, 2013. He joined Santa Clara in 1999 as a telecommunications technician and became the campus expert on wiring systems, making regular visits to offices. He earned a reputation as a friendly and accommodating man ready to help.

Law student Luciana Manriquez, 29, died on June 25, 2013. She worked for the Northern California Innocence Project and hoped for a career with activist organizations to effect change. She was tough but kind and had a huge personality and could make anybody laugh.
1969 Mary Catherine Kornel, April 30, 2013. For longtime Los Altos resident and South Bay native Dr. Kornel, patient care wasn’t a job, it was a passion—but so was bread baking, travel, and everything else she did. She would bicycle to work in her white lab coat carrying medical charts in side baskets, and she often made house calls. She was 65.

1971 Richard Certo, May 19, 2013. A resident of Scotts Valley, he was born in Oakland and spent more than 25 years working in business and venture capitalism. He loved sports, good food, family, and friends.

Michael John Clark M.A. ’72, July 23, 2013. Born in Richmond, Ind., in 1949, he grew up in Campbell. After marrying Maryanne Patricia Scott, he worked for Atascadero Unified School District for more than 30 years as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, and principal. His students and family were everything to him.

1972 John Justin Proulx MBA, July 10, 2013. He was 75. A resident of San Jose and a native San Franciscan, he was an auditor, an IT manager, and for 28 years a CPA who operated his own accounting practice. He was married for 45 years to Bernadette and had two children.

1973 Edward P. Davis Jr. J.D., July 19, 2013. The former federal attorney and lawyer for the San Jose Mercury News rarely lost a case. He was a witty man who had the ability to think on his feet and regale friends with stories. He was born in La Jolla, Calif., in 1948. His wife was Sheryl Cook M.A. ’80. He also taught law at Santa Clara University.


1980 Stephen Louis Pessagno Sr., June 9, 2013. He was born in 1928 in San Francisco. His deep love for winemaking and the Monterey area eventually led to the ownership of his eponymous winery.


1985 Thomas J. Bahr, April 21, 2013. A resident of Mountain View, he was born in 1963 and was active in a group devoted to the music and dance of his Croatian heritage. His real passion was graphic design.

David J. Osborne J.D., June 3, 2013. A public defender, he gave his life to and for his clients. Born in 1956 in Grand Rapids, Mich., Osborne helped found the SCU student chapter of the National Lawyers’ Guild. He had a photographic memory, a sharp intellect, a fondness for music festivals, and a zest for life.

Edna “Teddy” Marie Pescatore Renzullo M.A., June 8, 2013. Born in Torrington, Conn., in 1940, she was a teacher for more than 40 years. When not in the classroom teaching, Edna was bowling, playing cards, or supporting her grandchildren in their various endeavors.

1987 Steven Griffin Jay, May 26, 2013. He was married to Laura (Hyndman) and had three children. He was 47.

Lynn Alison Samsel MBA, March 30, 2013. She was 56. Born in San Francisco, she relocated to Lincoln, Neb., but always returned for trips to the ocean and redwoods. She was an avid reader, poet, writer, spiritual director, and marketing professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

1990 Kathleen Davey, June 21, 2013. A resident of Campbell, she was married to Mike Davey ’80 and daughter of Connie M.A. ’83 and Jerry McGrath ’56, M.A. ’72. The Santa Clara Valley native had a career as a paralegal and caseworker. Her most treasured accomplishment was being the mother of two daughters. She was 46.

Henry Joseph Greiner M.A., May 17, 2013. He always said, “The two best things I ever did were get ordained and get married.” He was born in 1943 in Keota, Iowa, and served as pastor in many parishes in the diocese. He married Anne Blair M.A. ’90 and lived in Palo Alto. Greiner worked as the administrator of the El Retiro Jesuit retreat house and as a financial planner.

1993 Katherine Pak J.D., July 9, 2013. A resident of San Jose, Pak, 47, passed away at her home surrounded by her family. She was married to Breck E. Milde J.D. ’85.

1994 Cynthia D. Waddell J.D., April 3, 2013. A resident of Danville, she was born in 1952 in Long Beach. She was the executive director of the International Center for Disability Resources on the Internet and a world-renowned advocate for the rights of people with disabilities. She was married with two daughters.

1996 Carol Anne Lies MTS, June 7, 2013. A wonderful wife, supportive and insightful mother, and generous and funny friend, she was a passionate advocate for peace and social justice, championing farmworker housing, prevention of nuclear proliferation, and abolishment of the death penalty. She was born in Minnesota, raised in Wisconsin, and lived to be 65.

2001 Brian Patrick Sweeney, June 29, 2013. Born in Seattle in 1979, he worked as a stunt producer on the TV series Fear Factor. He loved all aspects of his life in Los Angeles, had a very adventurous spirit, and loved to travel and write. Survivors include brother Paul Sweeney ’00.

2006 Cindy Avitia J.D., Aug. 22, 2013. She worked on staff for Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren J.D. ’75 from 2006 to 2010. As an immigration attorney, Avitia was a strong advocate for immigration reform. She was board chair of Alpha Public Schools, a network of public charter college-preparatory schools. She was 33.

2011 Adrian Francisco Morales, Aug. 21, 2013. He was born in 1989 in Redwood City and raised in San Francisco. He served as an intern with both the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute and the California State Assembly before serving as a congressional aide.
January

28 Alumni Association 4th Annual Bronco Idol

29 Seattle SCU Men’s Basketball Game Watch
29 Peninsula SCU Men’s Basketball Game Watch

February

1 Santa Clara Valley AFO Chaperone Nativity Students at SCU Basketball Game
6 San Francisco Economic Forecast Dinner
7 Alumni Association First Friday Mass and Lunch
8 San Diego SCU vs. USD Men’s Basketball Game and Reception
9 Young Alumni Mass and Reception
15 Alumni Association Pasta Feed and Bronco Legends Night
19 Alumni Speaker Series Study Abroad and Organic Cooking in Italy
20 Santa Clara Valley Economic Forecast Breakfast
21–22 Santa Clara University Family Weekend
27 Los Angeles SCU vs. LMU Men’s Basketball Game and Reception
28 Alumni Association Alumni Spiritual Retreat

March

1 Young Alumni Tahoe Ski Trip

1–2 Alumni Association Alumni Spiritual Retreat
4 Monterey/Salinas 10th Annual Dinner
7 Alumni Association First Friday Mass and Lunch
8 Santa Clara University Golden Circle Theatre Party
17 Sacramento Annual St. Patrick’s Luncheon with USF and St. Mary’s
18 San Francisco SCUBrand4U: Personal Branding Lecture
20 Peninsula/Santa Clara Valley SCUBrand4U: Personal Branding Lecture
20 Los Angeles 36th Annual Santa Claran of the Year Award Dinner
22–29 Alumni Association AFO New Orleans Immersion Trip
27 Santa Clara Valley Sixth Annual Night at the Shark Tank
30 Peninsula/Santa Clara Valley/San Francisco SCUBrand4U: Personal Branding Workshop

What’s important to you?

“The event was well planned, well staged, and so much fun. My class at SCU is like family to me, and seeing everyone is the best reason to recommend the Grand Reunion.”

TIM HASLACH ’83, J.D. ’88

Grand Reunion

Save the Date:
Grand Reunion 2014,
October 9–12

Remember

Reconnect

Renew
My scholarship for the last 40-plus years, in Poland and other hot spots of repression under communism and in its aftermath, has involved talking to and learning from people who made things happen: journalists, dissidents, and Communist Party and government officials—about what they did and why. They’ve taught me both negative and positive lessons about leadership and community building—from mistakes at the top that wore down the systems and, ultimately, brought an end to communism; and from the courageous people who changed things for the better.

These lessons built on others I’d learned while growing up in Arizona with parents who lived the values of their cowboy and lumberjack families and while coming of age as the girl next door to a community of Jesuits committed to learning from living in the “real” world. I’ve taken these lessons into the classroom and into my life as a mother, a teacher, a scholar, a friend, and an activist.

Lessons from cowboy culture
My grandparents, like many settlers in the West, left families and pasts behind, and they built new communities in places they had to make hospitable. They understood that you were what you did, and that you survived because your community survived—but that you did not accept that things couldn’t be made better. My parents lived these pioneering values in their professions and passed on simple but true lessons such as: If you don’t do what you promise, no one will trust you again.

From my mother: If somebody needs help, you help, whether or not you have the money or time.

My father was an authority on multiple use of wilderness. But he was the first to acknowledge that even if you’re an expert, you make a better decision—and get better results—if you bring competing parties together (in his case, cattlemen and sheepherders, developers and lumbermen) and let each start with what they think is right—then build to an agreement that could work for all.

Lessons from clerics
Beginning graduate school in New York City in 1971, I and my roommate moved into a rent-controlled apartment in a building where, we discovered, a third of the residents were Jesuits. They had moved to the city for their last three years of theological training; in a multiethnic and multireligious environment, they learned how lay people lived. In the apartment next door to us were seven Jesuits finishing their training and two professors. I was Protestant and my roommate Buddhist, but the friendships we forged have been transformative.

Dinner was a daily event and our main class in what it meant to be a Jesuit. There were amazing graces, great food (most nights), and three or four arguments going on at once. No premise was taken for granted, no issue not worth rethinking. Those who could not handle being interrupted did not last long. Only one phrase could stop the conversation: “I have a problem.” Then we listened.

Even as the Jesuits wrote major books and completed their preparations for ordination—and I did my graduate work—they took on babysitting and pet sitting; assisted the recluse who lived in the building; and welcomed in and helped people they found on the street. Everyone worked together. Doors often were left unlocked.

All this was overseen and egged on by Avery Dulles, S.J., then a young 59. In those years and in decades since, he taught me through stories of his family and his own life—including misadventures. The stories made clear that you and he were merely human; that family is important, even during times of disagreement; and that you cannot judge situations without knowing the whole story.

In 2001, Avery became a cardinal. In the early ‘70s, he was already prominent in the Church, but he never pulled rank when it came to chores like grocery shopping or cooking (at which he was a novice). He took his vow of poverty very seriously. He drove his uncle’s 1950s car until it died, and he wore clothes until they were threadbare. He was also open to others’ ideas and sought out my comments on articles about theology, though I was no expert there.

He taught me to listen. He also gave me the courage, as my research on Poland began, to call famous people there and to ask to hear their stories.

Lessons from communists and communism
I traveled to Poland in 1967 to study Russian (which, I learned, the Poles hated) on the first exchange program behind the Iron Curtain where students stayed with families. My hosts have given me a lifetime second home. Research and teaching have taken me back time and again, with each extended stay occurring just before every one of Poland’s five major upheavals. Often there with my children, I lived almost as Poles did. In the worst of times, we queued up at 5 a.m. for meat and milk; we watched every window and line to see what there might be to buy; and we acquired goods in the most incredible ways.
Lived out, communism clearly did not bring people the good lives it promised. Failures were papered over by claims of great achievements, censorship kept anything negative out of the media, and fiascos were celebrated as what one friend called a “Mahler symphony of successes.”

The Soviet-imposed system was not one that Polish leaders could make work. But they were trapped; most feared the USSR more than they believed in the virtues of communism. Wives, children, and old friends of party leaders sometimes told them how things really were. Many of these communists weren’t particularly well off and lived in cramped apartments, but in their human hunger for knowledge, they filled those apartments with books. And they developed alternative sources of information, such as reports from western radio stations, the secret police, or the censors themselves.

Part of the problem was that leaders were surrounded by yes-men who proclaimed that everything was wonderful in order to advance their careers. When leaders did try to bring in independent thinkers capable of solving problems, few with the abilities so desperately needed wanted to ruin their reputations by joining the yes-men in government. Then, when the system crashed, the former yes-men turned on it (and their leaders) to try to hold onto power.

The way decisions were made, with no transparency or true voice for the people, fostered a culture of “us versus them.” No matter who you were, “they” were always at fault. Many Poles also spent countless hours trying to divine what was behind government decisions—often positing explanations that made the regime look worse than an honest telling would have. That alienated many Poles and made them less willing to comply with decisions. Sometimes, decisions were simply ignored. Other times, demonstrations broke out that were followed by arrests—and compromises.

With the rise of Solidarity and increasing calls for change, in 1980 the government tried to limit those demands by revealing just how wrecked the Polish economy was and how much money was owed to the West. Workers responded: “They told us how wonderful things were when they were bad. Now they are telling us lies so we will give in.”

Yet Polish communism, for most of its years, was the least draconian in the Soviet bloc. Poles had learned over centuries to work together to survive oppressive foreign rule. They lived by their own moral compasses. Men and women who could have had safe careers instead organized to speak truth to power in underground periodicals and by supporting strikers. Journalists and others dared to share their stories with me. The country’s international film festivals were beacons throughout the bloc for those who questioned. The Catholic Church had its own university and theology schools, even in the worst times—so priests like Karol Wojtyła skied to mountain huts on the border to teach Czech priests when, for them, even believing was illegal.

In the end, General Jaruzelski—the man who had ordered martial law and interned hundreds of Solidarity activists and intellectuals—realized that the system, even when it made concessions, could not go on. He initiated a turnover of power that, inadvertently, started the collapse of communism in 1989. It was a courageous decision.

When the opposition took over, they kept a crucial commitment: not to do what had been done to them. The opposition named Tadeusz Mazowiecki, a Catholic activist and intellectual, as prime minister. There was no valedictory. The old rulers and those around them, including those who had reported on their friends and co-workers, were not jailed. Instead, Mazowiecki created a cabinet that brought together dissident idealists, economists intent on tough reforms, and the very men who had interned him. The cabinet met weekly, with sessions going late into the evening, until all had their say, so the dramatic changes that needed to be made garnered support from all sides. Disagreements were allowed to be open. As a consequence, when economic reforms brought more than 500 percent inflation, popular backing remained.

Mazowiecki (who died in October 2013) and others on both sides were models for ethical leadership in times of change. Needless to say, the past 25 years have not always been smooth sailing for Poland. Post-communist politics there and elsewhere are often contentious. But, like the lessons of my pioneer grandparents and the Jesuits with whom I lived, the ideals they lived—such as “I have a responsibility to respect and do what I can for others”—are timeless.

This essay is adapted from Jane Curry’s speech as Senate Faculty Professor of the Year. At santaclaramagazine.com read the whole shebang.
New Day Rising: The women’s rowing team at Lexington Reservoir. The 2014 season begins in March. Photo by Denis Concordel.