In the Flow with Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi

The Michelangelo of Trees

Brilliant "Pot-Shots"
Welcome to the first issue of the Flame, the Magazine of Claremont Graduate University. As we inaugurate the Flame, Claremont Graduate University begins a new era. For the first time in its seventy-five-year history, CGU is a fully independent member of The Claremont Colleges. At its May meeting, the CGU Trustees voted unanimously to separate CGU from Claremont University Center. With this vote, two years of intensive work spent crafting the corporate separation agreement came to a close. Assets and liabilities have been divided, and today Claremont Graduate University and Claremont University Consortium operate independently, where before they were joined as Claremont University Center and Graduate University.

I am pleased to make this announcement because an important result of this action is that all seven Claremont Colleges have a new understanding of the importance of keeping the Harvest of seven years ago when president-emeritus Joseph B. Platt played an instrumental role over the last two years in helping to craft the final settlement. We owe John and Joe many thanks for their vision and foresight in helping CGU to achieve full autonomy within the Claremont consortium.

The corporate reorganization will permit CGU to focus exclusively on its mission of graduate education. CGU is the largest of the Claremont Colleges, with more than 2,000 students. It is thus no longer appropriate for the Graduate University to manage the central programs and services of the consortium. Given CGU’s size and complexity, all efforts of the university must be directed to improving the teaching and learning environment, enhancing educational services, strengthening the academic culture, and building scholarly excellence.

In addition to dedicated faculty and able students, adequate financial resources are crucial for sustaining academic excellence in a contemporary university. Consequently, the separation of assets was of major importance to CGU in the corporate reorganization. The endowment of the combined corporation at the time of reorganization totaled slightly more than $111 million. Of this amount, approximately $91 million belongs to Claremont Graduate University. CGU will also post an endowment another $4.5 million that was negotiated as part of the separation of assets. Funds raised this year by CGU will bring the university’s total endowment near the $100 million mark, the first time over that its endowment has approached this milestone.

Endowment growth is the hallmark of the university’s careful stewardship of its resources. A $100 million endowment is a testament to the generosity of CGU’s friends and the strength of its leadership over the past 75 years. We proudly celebrate this milestone. Consider how CGU’s $100 million endowment compares to the endowments of other colleges and universities:

- Of the 3,700 colleges and universities in the U.S., only 368—about 10 percent—have endowments over $50 million.
- Most public colleges and universities have no endowments or only nominal amounts; two-thirds of private institutions have endowments of less than $5 million.
- The median endowment at private colleges and universities is roughly $10 million.
- Thirty-four colleges and universities have endowments that exceed $1 billion and of these, 26 are private.

In July 1998, CGU’s endowment totaled $74 million. Our fiscal strategies and development work during the past two years have resulted in rapid progress in reaching our goal of endowment growth. We will not, however, rest on our past accomplishments. A university of CGU’s quality and aspirations should have an endowment roughly six times its annual operating budget, or the equivalent today of about $200 million. We thus have much work to do in the years ahead.

For now, however, please join me in saluting the many individuals over the years who have contributed so generously of their financial resources to support CGU. Such enlightened philanthropy has provided an enduring legacy for high quality graduate education in Claremont, a legacy that is especially important now as we begin a new chapter in the history of Claremont Graduate University.

Steadman Upham
President

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The Flame

As part of President Upham’s “vision of renewal,” the CGU Graduate Student Council has been increasingly relied upon as a source of student opinion, activism, and vision. Under the leadership of last year’s president, Mandana Hashemizadeh, the GSC, with limited funding, made a concerted effort to establish itself as an active and collective student voice by securing graduate representation on many of the campus’s internal committees; by creating a forum for real-time discussion of campus-wide issues with a “Town Hall Meeting;” by assisting in the revitalization of CGU’s recycling program; and by serving as the “student voice” in CGU’s recent all-university retreat. Most important, though, was the council’s decision and dedication to direct support of the student body through Individual Travel and Group Conference/Project Awards. The council endeavored to help as many students as it could. This year we would like to help more.

As this year’s president, it is my hope that the Graduate Student Council will maintain and improve upon its presence within the university decision-making process, continuing a precedent established by last year’s success. We will re-focus on the student body, attempting to establish a more cohesive network of social and academic opportunities. Specifically, the GSC will attempt to resolve concerns regarding adequate student health insurance, seek to develop relationships with the other Claremont Colleges on a student level, generate a template for graduate student business cards, revitalize the now defunct Student Handbook, encourage mentoring relationships within departments between older and younger students, and assist in any way possible Dr. Laurie Richlin and the new Preparing Future Faculty program.

The success of President Upham’s vision of renewal will be based on the specific dedication of each separate element of the university to that vision. Be it board, faculty, student, or staff, each must commit among themselves, then act. This year the GSC will lead by example, dedicating itself to meeting the student portion of the call.

Graduate study is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It is a time of idealism, of dedication and growth. The “rhetoric of crisis” that permeates discussion about the contemporary state of the university on a national scale, so familiar to students in graduate schools, has crowded out the love that graduate students have when they begin this journey. The council’s commitment this year is to the student, it is to this love, and it is to “a rhetoric of opportunity” that will challenge the hopelessness we are often exposed to, in cooperation with President Upham’s vision of “a quiet revolution,” through idealization and action.

Michael James Mahin
Graduate Student Council 2000-2001

voices

Inspiration

Inspiration can be found in many places. Some people look for it in works of art or of science. Others seek it in the deeds of great historical figures. I find inspiration in the people around me—my family, friends, fellow students, and professors. Like many people, my first source of inspiration was my mother. As the age of 40, she found herself alone with five children to raise. She had no savings, little income, only an elementary school education, and she barely spoke English. Only her will to lift herself and her family from poverty ensured a better future for her children.

My mother accomplished this through education. First, she obtained her high-school equivalency—while running her own business and raising five kids. She then completed a two-year accounting program in only one year—while working part time and, oh yes, raising five kids. Her next goal was to obtain a Bachelor of Social Work degree while working full time. After the five kids went out on their own, she graduated from college.

I see how my mother’s studies led to her—she enjoyed a good salary, a firm command of English, and the unshaking respect of her five daughters. In my mind, my mother had no choice but to face these challenges. The only alternative was poverty. In her children’s minds, however, she was an inspiration to follow in overcoming any barriers to achieving what we set our minds to do.

Students and professors at CGU also inspired me during my two years at the Drucker School. There were students who traveled great distances from across the US and around the world to study at CGU. Some overcame economic and social barriers to make it here, including other people’s misconceptions about age, culture, race, and gender. It has been truly inspiring to study alongside so many people who refused to allow any barrier to keep them from achieving their dreams.

We often bemoan the lack of heroes and role models in today’s society, but the truth is that we are surrounded by them—we just need to open our eyes and our minds to see them. I have found that the biggest difference between those who dream to one day do something and those who reach their goals is that the achievers have stopped saying, “One day I will…” and have actually taken action to start on their dream.

We all have the capacity to inspire others and, in turn, to be inspired by them.

Doris Gallan MBA, 2000

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Robert Wrigley wins $50,000 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award.

Robert Wrigley, a professor of English at Xavier University in New Orleans, was awarded the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award for 2000 in a ceremony held April 26 at the Los Angeles Public Library. Wrigley “undergirds images of water, mouse, cats, dogs, deer, and of course, snakes,” Upham noted, “with discourses on love, evil, spiritual seeking, life and death, faith, and man’s place in the universe.”

“Robert Wrigley seems to be just the poet the Tufts had in mind when they established this award,” said Alice Quinn, chair of the 2000 Tufts Award Committee and poetry editor for The New Yorker. “He’s a mid-career poet of evident distinction whose work is of such high quality that the Tufts prize is designed to add a poet who is beyond the beginning but not yet at the pinnacle of his or her career.”

The Kate Tufts established the Kingsley Tufts Award in memory of her husband, a writer of poetry and short stories. The award was created in 1992 with a $1.25 million gift to CGU. The annual prize is designed to add a poet who is beyond the beginning but not yet at the pinnacle of his or her career. Next year the prize will grow to $57,000.

The Kate Tufts Discovery Award was also presented on April 26 in Los Angeles. Winner Terrance A. Hayes is assistant professor of English at Xavier University in New Orleans. Muscular Music (Tia Chucha Press, 1999), his first book, “inhabits an urban landscape, where buses and basketball courts and subway stops and rainy streets provide the starting points for travel into the human heart,” said President Upham in giving him a check for $5,000.

The Kate Tufts Discovery Award, established in 1993, is given annually for a first or very early work by a poet of genuine promise. The judges selected Hayes from among 164 applicants.
Claremont Graduate University fares well in rankings

The U.S. News & World Report annual survey of graduate programs is out and CGU programs rank in the top 50 in their field. In its survey for 2001, U.S. News noted a combination of statistical and reputation data to establish its rankings, which are among the most influential in the country.

Of the more than 3,000 colleges and universities in the United States, nearly 1,000 grant graduate degrees. Not every university offers graduate programs in every subject, but for many graduate programs there are hundreds of schools competing in the rankings.

“I am so proud of CGU’s outstanding graduate programs,” says Provost Ann Hart. “In an academic world in which size is a huge factor in rankings such as these, CGU’s programs have again shown that national recognition sometimes points to quality as well.”

The Peter F. Drucker Graduate School of Management is ranked twenty-sixth among the nation’s top business schools in the general management category. The survey also recognized the Drucker School as one of the most selective schools in the country.

“We are tremendously excited to have our work recognized in this way,” said Cornelia de Kuyver, Henry Y. Hwang dean of the Drucker School. “It is only through a renewed focus on our mission to promote the practice of management as a liberal art that a small, boutique school like ours gets counted among the top business schools in the country. This ranking is a recognition and affirmation of our commitment to general management education.”

CGU’s studio art program was the highest ranked of the university’s programs, once again in the top twenty-five. “Once the years we’ve been consistently moving toward the top of the scale with the support of the administration and the Centers for the Arts and Humanities,” says Roland Reis, chair of the Art Department. “It is possible that we could lead the field at some point in the near future.”

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT 2001 RANKINGS

Economics – Ph.D. 44
English – Ph.D. 40
Fine Arts – MFA 19
Fine Arts Specialties: Painting/Drawing 19
History – Ph.D. 40
Peter F. Drucker Graduate School of Management 26
Political Science – Ph.D. 47
Psychology – Ph.D. 89

Claremont Graduate University

Math program gets federal scholarship grant

A $300,000 GRANT made this year to the CGU Department of Mathematics will provide four Ph.D. students with full tuition plus stipend for the entire length of their doctoral program. Ellis Cumberbatch, Ph.D., professor of mathematics, says that the funds from the U.S. Department of Education are designated for “Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need.”

Cumberbatch expects two students to receive support in the 2000-01 academic year, with the number eventually growing to four. A strong effort will be made to recruit minority students. Recipients should be interested in college teaching and in applied mathematics.

Minority mentors bring community to CGU

When Christina Gonzalez came to Claremont Graduate University to study for her master’s degree in education, she expected to feel a sense of community. But she found CGU for the most part to be a commuter school. Christina says “there is very little activity on campus during the day or on the weekends.” So when someone gave her an invitation to attend a Minority Mentor Program orientation meeting, she decided to go.

The Minority Mentor Program provides participants with an opportunity to make new friends. “One friendship can often make the graduate school experience more comfortable and successful,” says Eloisa Johnson, Minority Mentor Program coordinator.

Christina met her mentor, Charmaine Jackson, at her first Minority Mentor Program meeting. “We just clicked,” Christina says. “Even though we really only had to meet once a month as part of the Minority Mentor Program, we took kick up boxing together, went out to eat, and studied together. We became very close friends.” Charmaine moved to Washington, D.C. shortly after completing her master’s degree in politics and policy in 1998, but Christina says that they still stay in touch by email.

“As a graduate student,” says Christina, “you are always in a state of turmoil. You ask yourself over and over, ‘Can I do this? Am I prepared to do this?’ Becoming a member of the Minority Mentor Program helped me to survive. We listened to each other’s gripes, and we celebrated each other’s successes.”

In May, Christina completed her program and marched with her classmates across the grassy lawn of Mudd Quad to receive her diploma. She says that she will stay in contact with the friends she has made at CGU through the Minority Mentor Program.

“Community,” Christina says, “is personal relationships, a sense of belonging, a welcoming feeling of support. These are people who gave me a hug when I was down. They enriched my days, and I feel fortunate that they allowed me to share space with them. There is something dynamic in the way we interact. They are my extended family.”

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In an era when merger and acquisition is the name of the game, it is amazing to find an entire intellectual endeavor involving two independent institutions that has survived and flourished for decades on what is basically a gentlemen’s agreement.

The Clarendon School of Theology (CST) and CGU’s School of Religion celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their joint graduate program in religion on May 11 and 12. This cooperative effort began, and has worked successfully, most of these years without a formal legal document or the exchange of money.

The endeavor began in 1970, when CST’s president, Ernst Coehn, and CGU’s dean, Luther Lee, wrote a proposal to the Danforth Foundation asking for funding that would establish a collaborative graduate program in religion. Jack Stahl, president and chief operating officer of The Coca-Cola Company, have named CGU as a beneficiary of The Coca-Cola Foundation makes new graduate fellowships possible

A $30,000 gift from The Coca-Cola Foundation makes new graduate fellowships possible

The School of Religion dreams of developing in the near future a field of study in comparative religion. “Our current strength is in Christian study,” says associate professor Lori Anne Ferrell. “We want to focus on religious communities and look at the way in which diverse religious groups define themselves within a region. We want to train students to understand different ethnic groups, to understand their history, and to understand their cultural context.”

The spirit of collaboration and friendship set by Coehn and Lee continues yet today. “We genuinely enjoy getting together,” says Ferrell. “The faculty meet informally for dinner from time to time and at those gatherings you can sense that we just like the company we keep. We have a great time together.”

Verheyden says, “It would be hard to duplicate the program in this country today. But, it works great here!”
In the Flow
by Marilyn Thomsen

So what is psychologist Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi doing teaching in a business school? “My wife was tired of the winters in Chicago,” he says. “We had a year at the Center for Advanced Studies in Palo Alto, where we experienced winters in California. After that, she wasn’t going to be happy unless we moved.”

Csikszentmihalyi (pronounced “Chick sent me high”) had taught in the University of Chicago’s department of behavioral sciences for almost 30 years, six as chairman. “I thought I would retire and write and not do anything strenuous,” he says. “But then I started having offers from USC and UCLA and CGU.” Much to the delight of CGU, he accepted the offer to join the Drucker School as Davidson Professor of Management, beginning in August 1999. Why Claremont? “I like the people; I like the environment,” he explains. “I thought maybe it could be difficult to get used to Los Angeles. But this community was much more livable and understandable.”

The arbored streets and airy classrooms of Claremont are a stark contrast to the bomb-scarred Italy where Csikszentmihalyi spent his early childhood during World War II. Yet it was the chaos he endured during the war that sparked his interest in the psychology of play and eventually led to his groundbreaking work on flow, the psychology of optimal experience.

“When things were really bad at the end of the war, I noticed that when I played chess, or read a good book, or played games with friends, during those times I was able to temporarily be out of the misery of the war and experience something much more enjoyable and vital,” he recalls. “Last year there was the movie, *Life Is Beautiful*, with the father trying to make his son forget the concentration camp. In a sense, [my experience in the war] was in part what made me realize that it’s possible to step out temporarily, at least, from a wretched reality and experience something different.”

Csikszentmihalyi came to the United States at the age of 22 to study psychology, academic departments in the discipline not existing at the time in Europe. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in 1965 and took a teaching position at nearby Lake Forest College. While teaching a senior seminar there, he developed the initial insight into what eventually would be called “flow,” a state of being in which a person is carried along by the joy of an all-encompassing activity.

In doing his dissertation research on creativity in artists, Csikszentmihalyi had seen flow in action. “I’d observed how artists could immerse themselves in their work for days on end and forget or ignore their environment and physical needs,” he says. At first, he thought such transformation was only possible for artists or musicians.
At Lake Forest, though, his students interviewed people engaged in a variety of activities adults consider play. As he diagrammed the common elements of these experiences on a chalkboard, one recurring theme emerged: enjoyable activities involve the interplay of challenge and control. "I realized that it’s not confined to creating work," he says. "Children and adults experience it in a variety of different ways, in everything from gambling to work."

Returning to the University of Chicago in 1970, Csikszentmihalyi had the opportunity to pursue his study more deeply. Using a grant from the U.S. Public Health Service to research work satisfaction, he hired graduate students to interview people involved in all kinds of "autotelic" activities—those in which people are motivated by a drive within themselves, not just external forces such as family or wages.

During staff meetings, the term "flow" became shorthand for "autotelic" ("intrinsically motivated"), which Csikszentmihalyi considers fortuitous. "I am sure that if we had continued to use the precise but cumbersome ‘autotelic experience,’ few people outside the academic community would have paid attention."

But pay attention they did, especially as the volume of research on flow grew exponentially. "People tend to repeat activities that are enjoyable, and these activities eventually become part of a culture’s repertoire," he says. "So the lifestylers that define civilizations can be better understood in terms of the repetition of activities that produce flow, rather than in terms of the convoluted explanations of historical materialism or psychoanalysis."

The publication of Flow: The Psychology of Optimal Experience in 1990 brought Csikszentmihalyi's work front and center with leaders in government, business, and the arts. Now translated into 23 languages, its concepts have been used by organizations in a variety of settings ranging from the classroom to the boardroom.

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Recent Saturday afternoon, the students in the course taught by Csikszentmihalyi and Dick Ellsworth on Leadership and the Making of Meaning were stretched beyond expectation. Many expressed the view that the class had been life-changing as they had opportunity to explore issues deeply felt but rarely expressed by successful managers.

Though he teaches in a school that bears the Drucker name, Csikszentmihalyi, before coming to Claremont, knew little more about Peter Drucker than that he had turned down his request to be part of a study on creativity. Yet at the time Drucker wrote Csikszentmihalyi a letter—including in the book Creativity (page 14) saying he didn’t believe in creativity, he believed in productivity: work very hard, create the right conditions, and you are likely to come up with innovative or creative ideas.

"I wasn’t sure what he meant until I read his book," Csikszentmihalyi says, "and then I realized we actually were pretty close in our ideas. His notion of innovation and entrepreneurship is based on the same assumptions I’m making—paying attention to managers as a source of creativity."

"Does the master of flow experience it himself in his work? Sitting in his small but sunny office on a mild late spring morning, he smiles. ‘Not always,’ he admits in the indefatigable accent of a man who speaks seven languages and reads eight. ‘Writing can be flow-producing after the first half hour, forty-five minutes—after you’ve despaired that you can write anything good and [quit] trying to find some excuse to do something else.’"

These days, Csikszentmihalyi’s attention is focused on the Quality of Life Institute, housed in the Drucker School. It is one of three such centers across the country researching aspects of what is now called Positive Psychology—a movement to see psychology not just as the study of mental illness, but of what makes people happy and fulfilled.

"The one at the University of Illinois-Urbana is looking at the quality of momentary experiences: what makes the person feel happy or good about life at the moment," he says. "Ours here at Claremont is looking at the good person and the good life, which means quality of life looked at over the life span. The third center, in Philadelphia, is looking at the good community—how society, culture, and the environment promote a good life."

Initial funding is in place for four years, but Csikszentmihalyi expects it may continue longer. "Hopefully it’s going to run until we discover what makes the quality of life worthwhile," he says. "A thousand years?"

Perhaps mellowed by a thousand such inquiries, Csikszentmihalyi is patient when asked about his name—which seems nearly impossible for phonetically challenged Americans to pronounce.

"Csik," the first four letters, refer to our province which is in Transylvania, now in Romania. It’s under the mountains that divide Hungary from Romania," he says. In the fourteenth century, his family—believed to descend from the youngest son of Atilla the Hun—was given land there to farm in exchange for defending the pass, which they did with the help of 500 mercenaries from Germany.

"In 1699, at Christmas, there was such a snowstorm in the mountains that they figured nobody was going to come, so they invited all the soldiers for a big party," he recounts. "The Tartars actually did come through the pass, and they took seven members of the family back to Crimea. They sent letters—still well-preserved—asking for ransom. These Tartars knew what they wanted: 500 golden ducats. 12 liveries with silver buttons for the court, a pocket watch made in Paris. It took years for the rest of the family to gather up the stuff."

The phone rings. Csikszentmihalyi lays plans for yet another trip for yet another interview, this one on creativity with a dancer in her eighties. After a lifetime of research, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi is still obviously in the flow. His newest book, on Becoming Ash (with Barbara Schneider) just came out in May.

Writing can be flow-producing, after you’ve despaired you can write anything good.
The transformation of Sylvia Scott-Hayes from politics student to elected official

Sylvia Scott-Hayes dislikes being photographed, hates fund-raising, and doesn’t much care for the spotlight. If this seems like an odd recipe for a successful politician, Scott-Hayes is an unusual woman. Self-effacing and low-key, she downplays her accomplishments, preferring the role of humble public servant.

Two years ago, Scott-Hayes, a Ph.D. student in the School of Politics and Economics, was learning to run other people’s campaigns, not launch one herself. Today she is a college trustee, making decisions that affect thousands of classrooms in the largest community college district in the nation.

Scott-Hayes returned to school after she married and had children. As a migrant Chicana, she learned the value of education from a perspective different than that of many traditional students. It proved helpful when she became an educator at the college level. The demographics of Los Angeles provided a rich opportunity to work with a variety of non-traditional students. She developed programs to help non-native English speakers pass basic proficiency tests, and mentored and worked with athletes, young Latina women, and former gang members who had decided to pursue higher education.

As an educator and community activist, she has a passion for two issues—women’s status in society and increasing access to higher education. Commitment to these causes led to her involvement in the political life of Los Angeles. Over the years she volunteered her time and resources to help candidates such as Richard Alatorre, Gloria Molina, Hilda Solis, Jackie Goldberg, and Gloria Romero get elected.

Though she had strong political alliances and an active support network, the thought of running for elective office had never crossed her mind. But when Gloria Romero ran for State Assembly, the college district trustee vacancy came open. People began to urge Scott-Hayes to run because she had a lot of active relationships and an excellent network of support. “I had a big mouth about the problems in higher education,” she laugh.

For the next seven months, her life became a blur. She tried to juggle classes, continue working, and run her campaign in her spare time. “It’s a great feeling to go to the polls and personally know nearly everyone on the ballot, and to know exactly what they stand for,” she remarks.

Gabriel Bueina first became involved in politics assisting with boycotts for the United Farmworkers. He raised funds and organized precincts against the controversial Proposition 187. He also worked on a key L.A. Unified School District campaign and on a campaign to increase affordable housing in Los Angeles County.

Bueina, a doctoral candidate in political science, lecturer in the Chicano Studies Department at Cal State Northridge, and an associate with Issues Management Network, has a particular interest in Mexican-American elected officials. His dissertation will examine candidates’ campaigns and voting records and other public activities, followed by interviews with elected officials, contrasting their stated perspectives with those of their actual record.

Local political activist James Potter ran for a seat on the Pomona City Council, he brought Marta Casper—a Ph.D. candidate in Politics and Policy and a community college teacher—on board as campaign coordinator. While there, a scandal occurred involving a political rival. “Having to deal with the scandal and watching the media treatment of it gave me an experience that not everyone has,” Casper says. “More importantly, it gave me a lot of material to bring back into education.”

Though Sylvia Scott-Hayes may be the most influential elected official in the student body, she’s not the only CGU student doing important work in politics. Students in the School of Politics and Economics are organizing farm workers, serving as strategic consultants, appearing on political talk shows, and helping to shape local and national races.

Jean Schroedel is the driving force behind an innovative new program in political education, the Master of Arts in Politics (MAP). “For a long time my colleagues and I were working with students after hours on an informal basis to help get them into politics. I asked myself, ‘Is this something we could be doing more formally?’”

Schroedel gathered key faculty together to see if there was interest in developing a more formalized process. Faculty members from across the political spectrum came together to form a new program that would systematically train students to work in politics.

The MAP program is designed to prepare political professionals for real-world work in the rough-and-tumble of American politics. It is a practical model that develops the knowledge and skill sets of individuals who want to shape society’s future through political action.

Several students in the program are already making an impact in California politics. Doctoral candidate, Frances Marquez’ political contributions include a remarkable behind-the-scenes career in California politics. Her resume reads like that of a seasoned veteran—field organizer for Senator Diane Feinstein’s race for governor, volunteer for Gloria Molina’s campaign for Los Angeles County Supervisor, Hilda Solis’ Assembly race, Xavier Becerra’s run for Congress, and field organizer for Clinton-Gore. Marquez is also a featured panelist on L.A.’s first TV weekly talk show on Latino politics.

“The average person has no idea what goes into a political campaign. They see the TV commercials, listen to sound bites, but they really have no idea how much work goes into an election,” says Marquez.

Lee Kersten is enrolled in the Ph.D. program with tracks in political philosophy and American government. He works for California State Senator John Lewis (R-Orange County). Kersten’s dissertation focuses on the California ballot initiative process. “It’s a great feeling to go to the polls and vote.”

Grassroots and beyond
As a trustee I have a voice and a vision—two elements necessary...to make our community colleges great..."
ORDINARY EYE SEES leaves, trees, and branches, Madrigal first spotted this particular root with its wood still damp and cool to the touch. When it turned out to be a tree root, pepper tree to be exact, he immediately recognized a potential Pinocchio.

Roberto Madrigal has worked at the university for 15 years. During that time, he has created more than 400 statues, put a son through college, and held three major exhibitions, at Garrison Theater, Pitzer College, and the DA Center for the Arts in Pomona. Pelicans, monkeys, and elephants grace the homes and offices of several professors. Roberto has proudly given away many pieces to faculty and admirers.

His tools are gnarled wooden mallets, a little like a sixteenth-century artisan might have used. His tool of choice is a weathered Old-Timer pocketknife and an occasional chainsaw for larger works, like the 500-pound California black bear, his personal tribute to the two Pomona College students killed by the falling tree in 1997, or the fierce, nononsense sheriff standing guard in the lobby of the security building.

John Regan is an anthropologist and professor of education. He studies and teaches semiotics—the interpretation of signs or visual intelligence. From a purely academic aspect, Regan finds Madrigal's work astonishing, particularly in his brilliant sense of form and inherently creative spatial composition.

"Roberto Madrigal is a fascinating study, a brilliant example of human semiotic potential," says Regan. "He perceives physical form as a creative medium, something humorous, beautiful, and innately creative. He is a pure artist, creating for the sheer joy of it."

Regan compares Madrigal's unique perceptual ability to famous sculptors whose groundbreaking perceptions changed art forever. "Rodin broke into the art world with a concept that didn't exist before. He began by perceiving people untethered in the conventional sense. Later, Degas saw form, spinning, cascading headdress of a proud Native American chief. The stem of an agave plant becomes the curvature of canvas on a pioneer's covered wagon. Shimkhada sees a Jungian influence in Madrigal's art, the unconscious bringing forward evocative images from his past, "the figures reflective of childhood memories in a Mexican village where cows and bulls roamed freely."

Madrigal may have first been inspired by the carved rock temple faces in his home town of Jiquilpan, Mexico. Like many villagers, his family didn't have much money. As a boy he began carving to make his own toys, then continued just to earn a little money.

Madrigal's son, Marco, is also an artist. Where his father's media are oak, orange, and lemon trees, roots, and eucalyptus, Marco Madrigal paints with oil in hot reds and vibrant golds on large canvases with titles like, "Midnight Infidelity." Marco is a 1998 graduate of Pitzer College with a degree in studio art. His paintings have an abstract sculptural quality, an almost evolutionary link to his father's statues. Marco says, "My dad has always been very generous and given his work away. He has an eye for seeing what's already there. He has always done it for the pure pleasure of creativity, finding life in life itself."

Almost any day of the week, a happy, creative figure in a floppy straw hat can be seen driving a little motorized cart around campus, looking up toward the sky, finding animals hidden in branches, art disguised as trees. Is it a monkey, a tiger, Geppetto?
Peter Boyer receives significant commissions to record with London Symphony Orchestra

“New Beginnings,” “Ghosts of Troy,” and “Three Olympians”

Peter Boyer, Smith-Hobson Family Chair in Music at Claremont Graduate University, has received three significant commissions to compose new orchestral works, premiering in locations around the United States between July and November.

The first commission is from the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, a leading regional orchestra in Michigan. This work was commissioned by Bronson Hospital to celebrate the opening of The New Bronson, a nearly $200 million facility that opens this fall. Boyer’s composition, a jubilant 12-minute work for large orchestra entitled New Beginnings, will be premiered at the opening concert of the Kalamazoo Symphony’s season, September 22, 2000, and recorded by the orchestra the following day. Conductor Raymond Harvey, who selected Boyer for the commission, will lead the orchestra. Harvey previously conducted Boyer’s award-winning tone poem Titanic with the Fresno Philharmonic.

The second commission is from the Oregon Mozart Players, an outstanding chamber orchestra in Eugene that received funding from the Hult Foundation in Eugene to commission this work from Boyer. The new 12-minute work for chamber orchestra, entitled Ghosts of Troy, is a tone poem inspired by the Trojan War. Ghosts of Troy, along with Boyer’s song cycle Joe DiMaggio is due... an existing work, will be premiered November 4-5, 2000, by the conductor Michael Fine, who also conducted Boyer’s Titanes, with the Fresno Philharmonic. Boyer describes as “contemporary mythology.”

The third commission is from the Conductors Institute at Bard College, a renowned summer training program for conductors led by Harold Farberman. This work is Three Olympians, a 15-minute work for string orchestra, composed in 1999 after serving as visiting professor since 1996, teaches courses that include composition, twentieth-century music, American film music history, and music technology.

Peter Boyer, originally known as one of the leading young American composers, has been praised in The New York Times, USA Today, and American Record Guide. Revealing himself as a conductor of distinguished ability, he is known for his able performance in venues such as John F. Kennedy Center, Los Angeles’ Shrine Auditorium, and Hartford’s, The Busnell. He is also an active conductor, and is on the conducting faculty of The Henry Mancini Institute at UCLA. Boyer, appointed to the Smith-Hobson Family Chair in Music at Claremont Graduate University in 1999 after serving as visiting professor since 1996, teaches courses that include composition, twentieth-century music, American film music history, and music technology.

Peter Boyer is recipient of significant commissions to record with London Symphony Orchestra.

Four decades after he published a paper about it, a plant genus has been named for Sherwin Carlquist (professor of botany, emeritus). “The plant was originally named Raillardella muirii by Asa Gray, the noted Harvard botanist,” says Carlquist. “The name was assigned by Gray because John Muir discovered the plant and sent a specimen to Asa Gray.”

Although studies by Bruce Baldwin, a professor at the University of California-Berkeley, confirmed the results of Carlquist’s 1955 paper, which showed that Raillardella muirii belonged, in fact, in the tarweeds, a group of the sunflower family in which it had not been placed before. “Because molecular studies show that the species muirii is in a line that diverges from the other tarweed groups, Bruce Baldwin has put muirii in a genus by itself, which he has named Carlquistia,” says Carlquist. Since the specific name muirii must be kept, the new name for this plant becomes Carlquistia muirii.

“I have enjoyed research just as much in retirement as I did before retirement,” Carlquist says. “Since retiring in December 1991, I have published 84 papers, all in books or in peerreviewed journals.”

Carlquist’s career at Claremont Graduate University began in 1952 and continued for 57 years. Carlquistia muirii
bookshelf

The Gulf of Nationality: Restricting Migration, Inhibiting Diaspora by Elazar Barkan, Associate Professor of Political Science (Princeton University, 2000)

Politics is littered with horrific crimes against groups of people. Nationalism’s greed for security justifies these actions in the name of protecting the nation’s borders and controlling the illegal migration of people. As such, the explanation of the politics of the national boundary between states is especially important. Barkan’s work examines the changing landscape of migration and the impact that it has on the politics of the nation-state.

The Homeric Epics and the Gospel of Mark by Dennis R. MacDonald, John Wiley Professor of New Testament (Yale University Press, 2000)

MacDonald’s work compares the Homeric epics of Greece with the Gospel of Mark. He explores the similarities and differences between these two works, highlighting the cultural and religious context in which they were written.

Making History Matter: On the Uses and Abuses of History by Elazar Barkan, Associate Professor of History (University of California, Berkeley) (The University of Chicago Press, 2000)

This book examines the role of history in the modern world. It argues that history is used to justify contemporary political and social practices, and that it is essential to be critical of this use.

The Future of South Asia by Gary Segura, Professor of History and Co-Director of the Center for Studying the Americas at the University of California, Berkeley (Chicago University Press, 2000)

Segura’s book provides a comprehensive analysis of the political, economic, and social developments in South Asia, focusing on the challenges and opportunities that the region faces.


This book provides a comprehensive analysis of the political economy of American federalism, focusing on the distribution of power and resources between the federal and state governments.


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This book provides a comprehensive analysis of the political economy of American federalism, focusing on the distribution of power and resources between the federal and state governments.
reading room


College of Medicine. During her tenure at the College of Medicine, she was a recipient of a Faculty Career Development Award, enabling her to attend the “Symposium: Cross-Cultural Bases and End of Life Care: Curricula for the 21st Century” in Washington, D.C., a Diversity Staff Development Scholarship Award that initiates a cross-cultural communication at the College of Medicine and the Technology Institute Award. Prior to her appointment in 1993, she was named Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Development Center at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

**A SHIELD OF BRILLIANT**

A shield is brilliant (M.A. Education, 1978) co-recipient of this year’s Distinguished Alumnus Award, is the founder of Brilliant Enterprises, which publishes, licenses, and distributes Pot-Shots (examples of which are featured on this page). Brilliant worked as an English teacher and professor of English at California State University, Fullerton, where he was responsible for business education. He is a certified financial planner who heads an accounting and investment managementfirm. He has appeared on television, radio, and in newspapers across the United States since 1982, and his Pot-Shots have been featured in an international exchange exhibition at the Palazzo dei Consoli in Florence, Italy. His Pot-Shots have also been translated into Italian. Brilliant has been soundly beat the previous record of $468.75 earning the most per word of any author in the world. Hallmark’s plans changed. Only three of the series of greeting cards featuring Pot-Shots, and $10,650 has been raised for the award. For example, Kim Dingle, who in 1997 was named Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Development Center at the University of California, Santa Barbara, was a recipient of a Faculty Career Development Award, enabling her to attend the “Symposium: Cross-Cultural Bases and End of Life Care: Curricula for the 21st Century” in Washington, D.C., a Diversity Staff Development Scholarship Award that initiates a cross-cultural communication at the College of Medicine, and the Technology Institute Award. Prior to her appointment in 1993, she was named Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Development Center at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

**POT-SHOTS ARE BRILLIANT**

Although Brilliant did not receive the Pulitzer Prize for his work, he can lay claim to earning the most per word of any author in the world. After receiving an advance of $15,000 from Hallmark Cards for a projected series of greeting cards featuring Pot-Shots, Hallmark’s plans changed. Only three of the cards were produced, so Brilliant calculated his pay at $75 per word, an amount that soundly beat the previous record of $15 per word held by Ernest Hemingway.

**OUR MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY**

**THE FRAMEWORK**

the FlasH Fall 2000

**POLITICS AND ECONOMICS**

Robert Trojillo, M.A., Government, 1975, was named a member of the “corporate elite” in the January/February 2000 issue of The FlasH. He is currently the director of the Learning Resource Center at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Previously, he was the academic deans coordinator and faculty member at the University of California, Irvine.

**ART**

**THE ART OF BEING**

Dr. Jill Agnensky, ABD, 1993, participated in an international exchange exhibition at the Palazzo dei Consoli in Florence, Italy. Jill Agnensky and other artists, Matthew Dinan-DeTrizio and Guillermo Marro, have also been creating a permanent monumental sculpture dedicated to joyousness at the “Santo Stefano Santerno della Scala,” a church that traces its history back to St. Francis. He took on his spiritual journey just when he left his family in Assisi and traveled to the region of St. Francis. Along that route there will be approximately 121 wooden statues of male saints, angels, and apostles. The sculptures are made of concrete and covered in ceramic tile and gilding, and will be dedicated this fall.

**DRUCKER**

Harold Stadler, M.A., European Management, 1973, was appointed senior vice president and general manager for the Orange County lending area. He is a certified public accountant and is married to Joseph Stanton (MA, 1972). They have two sons. Barbara Swift has served on local, county, and national boards and evaluating student examinations. She is married to seniors. Over a period of 15 years, Swift has been superintendent of the Salt Lake City School District since 1995.

**EDUCATION**

Marcia E. Robbins, PhD, 1974, recently published a book titled A Life of Hope. All proceeds from the sale of the book will be used to fund educational scholarships for children whose mothers died of breast cancer.

**BUSINESS**

Darleen Rebbe, MBA, 1976, was named vice president and COO of Interim Health Care. She has been with the company for 15 years and is a retired deputy director of the Salt Lake City Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, and the Director of the University of Utah’s International High Tech Park. She was appointed senior vice president and COO of Interim Health Care. She has been with the company for 15 years and is a retired deputy director of the Salt Lake City Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, and the Director of the University of Utah’s International High Tech Park.

**ALUMNOTES**

EUGenia TESTA, PhD, 1998, who in 1997 was named a member of the “corporate elite” in the January/February 2000 issue of The FlasH. She is currently the director of the Learning Resource Center at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Previously, she was the academic deans coordinator and faculty member at the University of California, Irvine.
HARPER IS ALUMNI DIRECTOR

Camille Harper, Ph.D. English, 1999, is the director of alumni and donor relations at Claremont Graduate University. Raised in Chico, California, Harper received her AB degree in English from the University of California, Davis. She worked in international programs at Drexel University Extension for four years before enrolling at Claremont Graduate University.

Harper was an intern in the Office of Development at CGU for a year before assuming her current responsibilities in August 1999.

As director of alumni and donor relations, Harper is responsible for all institutional alumni programs, including management of the President’s Alumni Circle and other institutional alumni groups. In the coming months, she will implement an alumni relations program to strengthen the ties between Claremont Graduate University and its alumni.

SCOTT HAS HIGHEST LEGISLATIVE SUCCESS RATE

Jack Alan Scott (Ph.D. History, 1972) was selected as co-recipient of CGU’s 1999-2000 Distinguished Alumnus Award. Scott is currently a member of the California Assembly, representing the Forty-Fourth District. Prior to his election in 1996, Scott had a distinguished career in academia.

He served as a member of the faculty of Pepperdine University for 10 years, where he remains a Distinguished Professor of Higher Education. In 1973, he became dean of instruction at Orange Coast College, and in 1978, he was appointed president of Cypress College.

Scott assumed the presidency of Pasadena City College, the third largest community college in the nation, in 1978. The hallmark of his presidency was the launching of a $100 million master plan to meet the college’s needs into the twenty-first century.

Scott is also an accomplished writer. His book on John Witherspoon, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was published by the University of Delaware Press in 1978.

During his first term in the California Assembly, Scott enjoyed the highest legislative success rate among his colleagues, with 83 measures signed into law. The measures included watershed legislation instituting tough new gift and loan restrictions on elected officials, legislation prohibiting convicted sex offenders from working in California schools, and a measure bringing gun manufacturers under state regulation. Scott also received attention for his legislation streamlining the adoption process, legislation requiring full disclosure by HMOs, and a package of bills increasing teaching standards and making interest on student loans tax-deductible. He was re-elected to a second term in 1998.

Throughout his academic and political careers, Scott has been active in civic and community affairs. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Coalition for a Non-Violent City and serves on the Board of Directors of the California Community College Administrators and a former Chair of the Board of the Community Friends of International Students, including three years as president, and has volunteered for over a decade at Casa Colina Children’s Center. She has volunteered at House of Ruth for more than six years. In 1995, Dr. Arkin was voted House of Ruth’s Volunteer of the Year, and she represented House of Ruth at the Beijing Women’s Conference.

news and notes

The Claremont Graduate University Office of Alumni Relations is currently seeking nominations for the 2000-2001 Distinguished Alumnus and Distinguished Service Awards. If you know of an alumnus/a who you believe deserves recognition for his/her achievements or service, please contact Camille Harper, Director of Alumni Relations, at 909-607-3962 or camille.harper@cgu.edu.

Alumni: What are you doing?

Please use the space below to update us on your personal or professional life. Add additional pages if needed, and do send photos, though we apologize that we cannot return them. Updates may be published in future issues of the Flame or on the CGU website. Detach this form and send with your mailing label to: Office of Alumni Relations, Claremont Graduate University, 165 East Tenth St., Claremont, CA 91711.

Name* Address City State Zip

Home phone Fax

Work phone Email

Year of graduation or last class taken:

Program/School

Education SBOS Arts & Humanities

Religion Drucker IS SPE

Degree(s) earned at CGU, with year(s):

Additional sheets)

Brief description of personal or professional activities (you may attach additional sheets)

* Include maiden name if it has changed since leaving CGU

SBS

Thomas Johnson Dougherty, Ph.D., Cognitio Psychology, 1992, died on July 13, at his home in Los Altos, California. He was 58. He was an interaction designer and usability specialist at Taltinct, Inc. from 1992 to 1999. From 1990 to 1992, he was a senior programmer Cognitio Psychologie and Computer Human Interaction consultant, principally employed by Intersect Research Corporation, Palo Alto, California.

He was also an accomplished musician and composer.

Marcia Selz, Ph.D. Government, 1972, was recently selected as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Polytechnics (AICP). He was honored for individual achievements in the field of urban and rural planning. Dr. Bos recently retired from his position as Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at California Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Mokh Wome, Ph.D. Government, 1972, was recently selected as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Polytechnics (AICP). He was honored for individual achievement in the field of urban and rural planning. Dr. Bos recently retired from his position as Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at California Polytechnic University, Pomona.
COMING EVENTS:

September 8, 2000
Opening of School Convocation
3:00 p.m. – Garrison Theater, corner of Tenth Street and Dartmouth Ave., Claremont
Reception to follow in DesCombes Quadrangle

September/October (date T.B.A.)
Paramount Pictures Movie Premiere Night
Fundraiser to benefit the Anniversary Fellowship Fund
For more information, contact Camille Harper at 909.607.3962 or camille.harper@cgu.edu

COMING CELEBRATE CGU’S 75TH ANNIVERSARY!

October 6-7, 2000
Thornton S. Bradshaw Seminar in the Humanities
"Visual Representation and Cultural History"
The Edward S. Curtis Photographs of North American Indians
Reservation is required
909.621.8612 or www.cgu.edu/hum

in conjunction with

October 2-27, 2000
Exhibition of Curtis Photographs from the collection of the Capital Group Foundation
Peggy Phelps Gallery
521 East Tenth Street, Claremont 909.621.8071

and

August 29-October 20, 2000
Edward S. Curtis Photographs of North American Indians: Representation or History?
Exhibition portfolio holdings of the Libraries of The Claremont Colleges
1030 Columbia Avenue, Claremont 909.621.8136

October 18, 2000
Alumni Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction Ceremony
Faculty House, 703 N. College Way, Claremont
For more information, contact Camille Harper at 909.607.3962 or camille.harper@cgu.edu