Next Move:
Five CGU experts discuss prospects in the Middle East

Somewhere Near Shangri-La
Crossing Borders, Changing Lives
In the early years of the last century, James Blaisdell, founder of the Claremont Consortium, was faced with a challenging decision. Should Pomona College expand its then-scarce capital on a building project, or should it spend its money to create a formal and official entrance to the college’s grounds? Despite the pressing need for classroom space, Blaisdell chose to build large and impressive gates on the northwest side of Pomona’s campus. In justifying this decision, he proclaimed to the college community that every “proper college” must have gates.

From the very earliest days of the university more than 1,000 years ago, gates have marked a real and symbolic passage into and out of the academic world. In the world of practice, the gates of the university symbolically identify these principles.

During its 78-year history, Claremont Graduate University has never had formal and official gates. CGU has also never had the opportunity to create a sense of place across its 20 acres to match the privileged intellectual space it has enjoyed for nearly eight decades. Now all of this is changing.

More than two years ago, CGU began a campus master planning project. Under the leadership of William Everhart, senior vice president for finance and administration, this initiative reflected the strong desire of the university community to create a meaningful “sense of place” within its grounds. These efforts are now bearing fruit thanks to the incredible generosity of the university’s friends and supporters.

A crucial first step in creating this sought-after sense of place has been made possible by two of CGU’s oldest and finest friends. Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. DesCombes. When the university announced its plans to construct gates, the DesCombes Family Gates will open to the quadrangle that holds the Blaisdell Fountain and the many marvelous inscriptions of Blaisdell’s wisdom and educational philosophy. Moreover, as the campus master plan unfolds, the DesCombes Family Gates will also become the primary portal to the University Commons, a large open quadrangle designed to bring people together in what Blaisdell called “the great conversation” that is higher education. Thus, we come full circle.

I am also pleased to report that the university has secured an anonymous gift from another long-time CGU supporter to advance the master plan. These funds will pay for the detailed architectural engineering of the University Commons and the major reorganization of campus parking and graduate student housing that is embedded in the plan. These projects, coupled with the recently completed renovations of Harper East Hall, McCuen Hall, and Stauffer Hall, have begun the transformation envisioned by the campus community of CGU’s space into CGU’s “place.”

I encourage you to come to campus to enjoy these changes and additions, and to relish in the sense of place that is being created at Claremont Graduate University. When you come to Claremont, I invite you to make a real and symbolic passage into the university through the newly constructed DesCombes Family Gates.

Steadman Upham
President

The Flame
Claremont Graduate University
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Drucker school accepts record challenge

Edward Jones and AIG SunAmerica Inc., two of the country’s leading financial services firms, are joining with The Starr Foundation in making a joint challenge gift of $10 million to be paid over five years to benefit the Peter F. Drucker Graduate School of Management. The gift is the largest in Claremont Graduate University’s history and the cornerstone of the new Drucker Legacy Campaign aimed at matching the funds by raising an additional $10 million from alumni and friends of the Drucker School within the next five years.

“I’m very optimistic about raising the matching funds,” said Cornelis “Kees” de Klijver, the Henry Y. Hwang Dean and Professor of Management at the Drucker School. “Our alumni and friends understand that this is only the beginning. This gift allows us to initiate our faculty growth plan, support outstanding students, and support research and scholarship at the school.”

The gift, presented on May 16, honors the leadership of John W. Bachmann, managing partner of St. Louis-based Edward Jones since 1980. Bachmann, who steps down as managing partner at the end of this year, also serves as a CGU trustee and chair of the Drucker School’s Board of Visitors.

Thank you for highlighting L-TAPL, the after-school program. From left: Peter Drucker, Doris Drucker, Katharine Bachman, and John Bachman at the gift presentation on May 16.

A third portion of the gift will establish the John W. Bachmann Scholars Program and provide a fund from which AIG SunAmerica Fellowships, The Starr Foundation Fellowships, The Drucker School accepts record challenge

The gift, which is being made in part from funds in Edward Jones’ charitable foundation, will establish the Peter F. Drucker Transdisciplinary Chair in Management and the Liberal Arts at CGU. Drucker, considered by many to be the father of modern management, has been a member of the CGU faculty since 1971. The graduate school of management was named in his honor in 1987. Drucker has been a consultant to Edward Jones for two decades. During this time, the firm has grown to nearly 9,000 offices in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. For the past three years, Drucker and other members of the faculty at the Drucker School have also provided customized executive education for Edward Jones employees.

“John Bachmann, a little more than 20 years ago, took over a tiny provincial brokerage house with a handful of branches outside St. Louis,” said Peter Drucker. “He built it into one of America’s leading financial services institutions and a growing multinational. And he did so preserving both the unique partnership structure of the firm and its distinct and unique mission, personality, and philosophy. Above all, he did so by training and developing people of the greatest diversity of personalities and talents into a cohesive leadership group.”

“The partners and associates of Edward Jones are pleased to make this gift to Claremont Graduate University in honor of John Bachmann, who has served as CGU’s chief executive for the past 23 years,” said Douglas E. Hill, who will become Edward Jones’ managing partner in January. “We owe much of this organization’s success to John’s devotion to Peter’s teachings on management, and we can think of no better tribute to John and to Peter’s influence on John than a gift that will enable generations of future leaders to gain that same understanding and appreciation.”

In addition, the gift will fund the Doris Drucker Chair in Global Management, Doris Drucker, a market researcher, author, editor, and entrepreneur, has been married to Peter Drucker for 66 years.

From left: Peter Drucker, Doris Drucker, Katharine Bachman, and John Bachman at the gift presentation on May 16.

A third portion of the gift will establish the John W. Bachmann Scholars Program and provide a fund from which AIG SunAmerica Fellowships, The Starr Foundation Fellowships, and fellowships from future donors will be awarded. The Bachmann Scholars Program fund will provide need-based scholarships to talented students recruited annually to the Drucker School. The first new donors to the fund are the Capital Research Management Company and four Capital executives who have contributed an additional $200,000.

“We are delighted to acknowledge the career accomplishments of John Bachmann and Peter Drucker through our gift to Claremont Graduate University, which we hope will help continue the university’s tradition of excellence in attracting qualified students from all socioeconomic backgrounds,” said Jay S. Wintrob, president and CEO of AIG SunAmerica and executive vice president, retirement savings, of AIG.

If you are interested in learning more about the challenge and The Drucker Legacy Campaign, please contact Gary Jimenez, director of development for the Peter F. Drucker Graduate School of Management, at 909-621-8237.
mathematics. It addresses issues of computation broader in scope and more complex than that normally addressed by computer science.

Other degrees offered in the new School of Mathematical Sciences include masters and Ph.D.s in mathematics, the Ph.D. in engineering and industrial applied mathematics (jointly with California State University, Long Beach), and dual degrees with economics and teacher education.

Future plans for the school include a proposal for a Ph.D. in Computational Biology, possibly in partnership with the Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences. This new field will utilize mathematical modeling and high-speed computation to understand how biological mechanisms such as gene interactions work.

The school also plans a Ph.D. in mathematics education, a field that demands people with Ph.D.s. Says Angus, “For years reading received lots of attention from educators, in terms of the theories, but also the messiness of applying them in a real-world setting with all its various constraints.”

New math school responds to industry challenges

Over the years CGU’s math department has tackled problems as diverse as Earth-Mars communications, air pollution transport, automated word recognition, and wind-power generation. Now following a recent vote of the university trustees, the former department will become the new School of Mathematical Sciences.

“This gives us a better framework in which to grow,” says the dean of the new school, mathematician professor John Angus. “We don’t adhere to a set of narrow specialties like traditional math departments. Our goals are broad, and we welcome problems and ideas not just from the world of academia, but also the world of industry. Our research is applied mathematics, and we’re proud to have a large number of industry representatives on our advisory board.”

With its newfound status as a research-oriented school in the university, the math faculty is focused on chartering new programs and increasing the visibility, influence, and diversity of its research and education. It will also aim to expand quantitative concentrations in other Ph.D. programs at CGU.

The school will also continue to focus on mathematical modeling and computer science projects that have built the program’s reputation as one of the nation’s elite in applied mathematics. For nearly 30 years, graduate students and professors have worked directly with business, industry, and government, addressing real and challenging mathematical problems facing these organizations. This past spring semester, the CGU Math Clinic worked on projects in semiconductor modeling, monitoring flows of crude oil through pipelines, and optimizing communications between Earth and Mars.

“The clinic influences our curriculum,” says Angus. “We reinforce areas in our curriculum needed to solve contemporary problems in applied mathematics presented by the clinic industry. Our clinic bridges a serious gap in mathematics curricula at other universities. It better prepares students for work outside of academia, makes them more marketable in academia, and it takes a proactive approach to answering the age-old question among math students: ‘When are we ever going to use this?’”

The inaugural Colleagues event, held earlier this year at the Bal Air Home of CGU trustee Pamela Mullen, featured Drucker professor Richard Elsworth speaking on his book "Leading with Purpose." On September 16, the Colleagues will bring together leaders from religion, business, education, government, and the arts in a multicultural dialogue.

Globalization in Morocco

Susan Steiner, CGU associate vice president for sponsored research, and Dean Karen Torjesen of the School of Religion were among the participants at the Fez Festival of World Sacred Music, held June 6-11 in Morocco. Steiner was also a moderator at the colloquium titled “Giving a Soul to Globalization” in connection with the festival.

Steiner and Torjesen are coordinating a similar colloquium to be held in Los Angeles in February. It will bring together leaders from religion, business, education, government, and the arts in a multicultural dialogue.

Margaret Jagels honored

An afternoon tea was held on March 10 in honor of Margaret Jagels for her many years of generous support for the university, along with her late husband, George Jagels. A portrait of the Jagels was hung in the lobby of the building which bears their name at 10th Street and Dartmouth.
**Trustee's gift propels a student's dream**

Looking at Mario Villarreal, it’s not hard to see a future president of Mexico. “I haven’t decided about running for office yet,” he demurs. But the talent and the passion for public service are apparent. Villarreal is not a person for whom greatness was foreordained. His father was killed in an automobile accident when he was just a year old, leaving Mario’s mother a 26-year-old widow. She supported herself and her young son, with help from her mother and sister, by running a hair salon. After earning an undergraduate degree at the Institute of Technology in Monterrey, Mexico, Villarreal worked as a financial analyst for the Coca-Cola Company. He completed a master’s degree in economics in 1997 from the University of Nuevo Leon.

Wanting to pursue a doctorate, Villarreal applied to American universities three times. The first two applications yielded acceptances but no financial aid. He was about to decide that fate was telling him doctoral study was not in his future when a friend convinced him to give it one more try. He applied for a fullbright scholarship and this time got the financial assistance he needed.

“I’m a website client,” Villarreal says of Claremont Graduate University. “I read the School of Politics and Economics website and decided I wanted to be here.”

He believes it was the best decision of his academic life. “I’m so happy here,” he says. “It’s the whole package. It’s truly family.”

The close bonds he formed with faculty and students were strengthened last February 16. The night before he was set to take his final qualifying exam, he received word that his grandmother and two aunts had been killed—just like his father, in an auto accident. “I forgot about the exam,” the faculty told him. “Do you need money? Do you need someone to take you to the airport?” Says Villarreal, “That’s when I knew that SPE was family.”

Two weeks later Villarreal returned to Claremont and passed the qualifying exams. He hopes to finish his dissertation within a year and return to Mexico by 2004 to do research and teaching.

That timetable got a boost at the CGU commencement on May 17, when Villarreal was presented with the 2003 Pamela B. Mullins Dream and Believe Award. Mullin, who came to the United States from Scotland as a teenager, presents an annual award that enables a doctoral student to finish his or her degree without the distraction of having to earn a living, and allowed that student to move more quickly to pursue his or her dream. The award includes full tuition for a year, plus a $25,000 stipend.

Villarreal sees in the gift a lesson about life: “Pamela Mullin came here with 27 dollars in her pocket. She went into the private sector without anything and built something very important, and now is giving back,” he says. “Maybe I should do both things—start my own business consulting and then establish a scholarship fund.”

Whatever Villarreal decides to do, it will be rooted in his love of Mexico and its people. “I love our sense of humor,” he says. “I love our strength to fight back and to laugh even at the hardest situations.”

And it will involve helping others. “I want to be in public service,” he says, “to take care of those who can’t take care of themselves. To be a voice for the voiceless is very important.”

**Poetry at the Getty Center**

Award winners Linda Gregerson and Joanie Mackowski read from their books of poetry at the Eleventh Annual Kingsley Tufts Poetry Awards ceremony held at The Getty Center on April 12. Gregerson won the $30,000 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award for her book, What Water. Mackowski won the $10,000 Kate Tufts Discovery Award for her book of poetry, Twixtus. The Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award is the country’s largest monetary award for a single book of poetry. Both awards are given by Claremont Graduate University.

**Riordans receive honorary degrees**

Former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan and his wife, Nancy Daly Riordan, received honorary doctor of humane letters degrees at CGU’s seventieth annual spring commencement ceremony held on May 17. CGU Associate Professor of Economics Paul Zak (upper right), delivered the commencement address.

Riordan launched many nationally recognized programs benefiting young people all over Los Angeles.

Said Riordan, “I am humbled and honored to stand with Nancy today at this great institution. Claremont Graduate University and its alumni represent the best our world has to offer.”

Nancy Daly Riordan was also honored for her work on behalf of children. Among her accomplishments was founding the United Friends of the Children to support Los Angeles foster children and founding the Children’s Action Network, which advocates for children in partnership with the entertainment industry.

Riordan was also instrumental in creating the Los Angeles County Children and Family Services Department and Commission, as well as the county’s Family Preservation Program and Committee. In 1993, she chaired the Mayor’s Committee on Children, Youth and Families, and in 1989 was appointed by President George H.W. Bush to the President’s Commission on Children. Currently, she serves as cochair of the Advisory Council of the Universal Access to Preschool Initiative.

“I can only imagine how proud my parents would be today,” said Daly Riordan, “that through the foundation in life they gave me, they laid the groundwork that has led to my receiving this doctorate of humane letters, honoris causa.”
Devoted trustee and high-tech pioneer passes away

Dr. George Kozmetsky, a dedicated trustee and friend of CGU, died on April 30. He was 85. Well known in business, education, technology and philanthropy, Kozmetsky cofounded Telusdyne Inc. in 1960. After helping to build the company into a major conglomerate, Kozmetsky moved his family from Los Angeles to Austin, Texas, where he became dean of the business school at the University of Texas. Active in creating partnerships between business and academia, he was integral to Austin’s emergence as a thriving high technology center. Along the way, he founded a major think tank called the IC2 Institute. His personal generosity and that of the Kozmetsky family foundation he headed, the RGK Foundation, established Kozmetsky as a leading philanthropist.

At CGU, Kozmetsky introduced the concept of transdisciplinary scholarship to help explain the university’s long-standing commitment to teaching and research that transcends traditional academic disciplines. His idea was the principle motivation behind development of the university’s new academic plan in 2001. Kozmetsky’s generosity, shared by his wife Ronya, created CGU’s first university-wide transdisciplinary chair. Kozmetsky is survived by Ronya, his wife of 59 years, son Gregory, daughter Nadya Scott, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

By Marc Redfield

Dr. George Kozmetsky, a dedicated trustee and friend of CGU, died on April 30. He was 85.

By Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi

While many individuals feel that the typical workday is filled with drudgery and dissatisfaction, some visionary leaders have guided their companies to conduct business in a manner that is both successful and humane.

By Yi Feng

Feng combines political and economic analyses to study the effects of political institutions on economic performance. Traditionally, political scientists disregard details of economic conditions, while economists may ignore a systematic explanation of political regimes. This book examines the political determinants of economic growth and specifically the contingent question of the relationship between democracy and quality of life. Feng systematically studies three variables of a political system: political freedom, political stability and policy certainty, and relates them to economic development. He examines the political factors that may affect patterns of growth directly or indirectly.

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In 2003, Ronya, his wife of 59 years, son Gregory, daughter Nadya Scott, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

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From TRAGEDY to COMMUNITY

CGU student’s summer camp sparks laughter and support for children who lost parents in the 9/11 terrorist attacks

By Marilyn Thomsen

Parents could follow their children’s activities through a private website.

Parents could follow their children’s activities through a private website. COMMUNITY

The vision was to create a camp that would be incredibly fun, while recognizing that all of the campers shared a similar life experience of tragic loss. “We wanted to make it a fun camp, while kids would get to play basketball, water ski, go out in the woods,” says Dorfman. “But we wanted to acknowledge that grief issues were there and we were going to do our best to handle all kids brought with them and wanted to talk about.”

The Center for Grieving Children, based in Portland, Maine, joined the camp team to provide specialized, professional resources. Volunteers were so plentiful that Dorfman had to turn away his own friends if they didn’t have camp experience. Top counselors from top camps worked free of charge. Lawyers and accountants gave pro bono service. The best hairdresser in town provided free haircuts. Celebrities came, too, from football, basketball, and hockey. The Mats invited the kids into the clubhouse before they left for camp. A particular favorite was actor Vern Troyer, who played Mini Me in the Austin Powers movies. “He’s this,” says Dorfman. “He came up to my knees. His message was so wonderful about being happy with who he was. He had so much love he gave to the kids, and they gave it back.”

The 80 campers were diverse—rich, poor, black, white. “We had one family with five kids,” says Dorfman. “The family had lost the father, and the mother was dying of cancer.” Another girl had lost her dad, and her mother had died the summer before.

“Of course they were crying. They were the most precious part of their lives into the hands of strangers for the next week—strangers led by Jed Dorfman, a 27-year-old New Yorker soon to become an M.B.A. student at the Drucker School at CGU. Every one of the mothers was a widow who lost her husband on September 11. She was sending her child to America’s Camp. “It was just heartbreaking,” Dorfman recalls. “Here were the people I was worried about the first few days. She didn’t smile; she didn’t throw herself into things.”

Most of the children had not slept away from their mothers since the day their fathers died. One girl couldn’t get out of the bus. But the rest waved “Bye, Mom!” and jumped on board, eager to begin what would become a lifelong memory of living, grieving, and having fun.

Jed Dorfman was working 30 miles outside New York City at the offices of Camp Walt Whitman when the Twin Towers collapsed. An old friend died in the Cantor Fitzgerald suite on the ninetieth floor. “I remember being in the city the day the buildings collapsed, and the posters that were plastered everywhere saying, ‘This person has three children’. This person has five children.’ It just overwhelmed me. I kept coming back to the thought of these kids who had lost their parent. So many of them.”

Dorfman gave money. He gave blood. But he wanted to do more. “I was watching Rudy Giuliani giving a talk, and it was one of those moments when a light bulb goes off,” he explains. “I said, ‘Why don’t I put together a camp for these kids? That’s something I know how to do.’”

For nearly 20 years, Dorfman’s parents had run Camp Walt Whitman, a premiere east-coast camp located in the mountains of New Hampshire. While the camp had been sold to CampGroup, Jed still served as assistant director, something he’d done for the previous three years. “I went to propose to the CEO of CampGroup,” says Dorfman. “He called me about two minutes after I sent it and said it was the best idea he’d seen since he took over the company. If I would run the camp, he would agree to have CampGroup finance it.” Dorfman scheduled the camp for August 18-25, 2002, at a lakefront facility in Lennox, Massachusetts.

Jed quit his job and devoted the next 10 months to creating “America’s Camp,” offered free of charge to any child who had lost a parent on September 11. Directors of two other CampGroup camps joined in what became a collaborative project aided by the Twin Towers Fund and that New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani established to assist families of government workers killed or injured in the attacks.

The vision was to create a camp that would be incredibly fun, while recognizing that all of the campers shared a similar life experience of tragic loss. “We wanted to make it a fun camp, while kids would get to play basketball, water ski, go out in the woods,” says Dorfman. “But we wanted to acknowledge that grief issues were there and we were going to do our best to handle all kids brought with them and wanted to talk about.”

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During the day the campers threw themselves into the plethora of activities. At night, in their cabins, they talked about losing their parent. Each cabin had a facilitator from the Center for Grieving Children. Dorfman says, “We had kids who hadn’t cried since 9-11. They were children of firefighters and policemen, and it wasn’t encouraged in their families. They lied with each other. Later I would walk by the cabins and see the counselors outside sobbing.”

At Buddy Central, any child who didn’t want to take part in an activity could go and talk to a counselor or work on a project such as a memory box. Children would tell Dorfman that they were making the box as a place for their mothers to keep the jewelry given to her by their father.

Coming to grips with loss was interwoven with swimming and tennis lessons, “We slept out at a campfire last night, and we had s’mores,” the boy enthused. “And the last thing that we did was I wrote a message to Dad and put it in the fire and the smoke went up to him in heaven. I knew Dad heard me that I love him.”

“Thanks to Jed Dorfman’s leadership and compassion, the America’s Camp will be there for the children of September 13 for many years to come.”
Five CGU Experts Discuss Prospects in the Middle East

by Bryan Schneider

Kugler: The U.S.’s main interest in the Middle East is stability, because our fundamental concern in the region is oil. That’s the bottom line. The U.S. wants a settlement in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to ensure stability. It’s the same thing in Chechnya, Afghanistan, or Kashmir. If these conflicts aren’t settled, the area will produce trained, active, terrorist-like groups that will end up exporting their capabilities.

Barkan: I do think that from the American perspective, if we unpack what is meant by stability, the U.S. is chiefly concerned with the export of terrorism. The U.S. intervention in Iraq, for example, has more to do with the war on terror, in that it puts a stake between Iran and Syria and leaves Syria surrounded by Israel, Iraq, and Turkey. If these conflicts aren’t settled, the area will produce trained, active, terrorist-like groups that will end up exporting their capabilities.

Snider: The U.S. wants to establish an American presence in the region in order to neutralize the kind of terrorist culture that is coming out of these Muslim societies. The problem, however, is complicated by the fact that the most threatening sources of modern Islamic terrorism are America’s so-called “allies,” Saudi Arabia and Egypt. These countries need to allow more free speech within their borders to stem terrorism.

Kugler: But so many groups are lumped together as terrorists. We have to be very clear to distinguish groups like Hizbollah pursuing domestic agendas from an organization like al-Qaeda that has a different reason for being. Al-Qaeda is an international terror group driven by an anti-Western outlook. Our invasion of Iraq is not going to remove that threat at all; because there was little, if any, al-Qaeda there.

The Flame: How can the U.S. be successful at influencing outcomes in the region?

Barkan: The U.S. has to be more sophisticated in manipulating and working with the different parties, because the Arab world is just as pluralistic as the West.

Snider: I think the U.S. needs to realize that the most dramatic forces that will shape politics in the area are those that are the least amenable to our kind of manipulation or “guidance.” I agree that the U.S. can be more successful by working with various groups instead of trying to engineer something on its own. Manipulation and coercion are not going to get us far.

Barkan: I’m not sure that’s true. The military force that the U.S. used was immensely successful. It really shook the Middle East. It contained Syria and Iran in terms of their ability to support extramilitary forces. The inability of the Iraqi army to resist has made people think twice. The question is—what is the U.S. going to do now that the country is occupied?

Kugler: Winning the Iraq war does not create stability. It creates opportunities that could advance stability in the region. But the U.S. is not pursuing those opportunities effectively.

At the global level, the U.S. split with N.A.T.O. on Iraq is also a serious concern. Long term, the only way we can maintain some semblance of international security is with the full cooperation of the European Union, along with potential agreement from Russia and China.

The Flame: Will Islamic fundamentalism flourish or diminish over the next five years, and will we see a corresponding growth or reduction in terrorism?

Barkan: Fundamentalism has grown in the Arab world, but it’s only in Iran that it has become a form of government. For 20 years, fundamentalism has failed to dominate other countries. In Iran, fundamentalism is on the defensive; it’s becoming less controlling of the government. So if you’re talking about the short term, there’s no reason to assume that fundamentalism will become victorious in the region. Its political impact is probably going to diminish.
Harrer: In my opinion, there won’t be any more fundamentalism than there is now. But if the Israeli situation is not brought under some kind of reasonable control, then it will become an impact for all those who argue that this is war between East and West, and between Islam and the West.

Further, it has been shown that poverty contributes to young males joining fundamentalist causes. Some of these so-called fundamentalist movements have a social justice aspect to them. They provide goods and services to poorer parts of society that the state has not been able to offer for a long time. This is a crisis that needs to be looked at very, very critically.

Schneider: I think Harrer’s point is particularly relevant to Harrs, which began because the political situation in the 1970s and 1980s, led by Yasser Arafat, was not supplying the goods and services to the poor members of the community.

When you have a large disparity between rich and poor, you have fundamental problems, because you’ve got a huge segment of the population that by definition is going to be angry and not part of the political or economic process.

Harrer: And these movements like Hamas need to be brought to the political table, just to move them away from the more radical causes that they espouse.

Kugler: I agree. Harrs has grown to the point of being a political party where it was a terrorist group. It becomes a legitimate, political organization. This is important to recognize, because when we talk about negotiating settlements in that part of the world, if you can identify this particular group, you can identify the people who are most involved.

Kugler: And these groups with their own culture and their own identity, that’s one of the challenges we have.

Schneider: Harrer is a fundamentalist group that has not only been politically acceptable, but also has consistent agreement with the U.S. on issues of security, and not favoring any of the outcomes.

Kugler: I agree. Harrer is a fundamentalist group that has not only been politically acceptable, but also has consistent agreement with the U.S. on issues of security, and not favoring any of the outcomes.

Kugler: Harrer has been greatly affected by the Intifada war. About a million men died on both sides. That is a huge demographic shift that has to be reflected at some point in how they form their future governments.

The Flame: Have conflicts and patterns going back to ancient times play out in the Middle East today?

Kugler: The form of government is a secondary issue for the U.S., it will be decided locally anyway. It is not to say, that the expected outcome is not important. When we took over Kuwait after the first Gulf War, for example, the U.S. did not impose democracy, because we knew that if free elections were allowed, the outcome would be unfavorable to U.S. interests.

Kugler: I agree with you. And if we want to maintain secular government in Iraq we will need a coalition of former Ba’ath party officials, Kurds, Shia, and some tribal support.

Kugler: Locally, however, the Shia are not a homogenous group. There are Shia who are secularists, who lived in Iran and saw the effects of theocratic rule close up and now believe in a separation between mosque and state. We can hope that these secular clerics gain supremacy over the theocratic politicians. Unfortunately, Saddam Hussein killed off or exiled most of the more secular senior clerics.

Harrer: Both in Iran and Iraq there is a great deal of secular sentiment. People do not organize their lives on the basics of religion. But the demographic shift has been greatly affected by the Iraq war. About a million men died on both sides. That is a huge demographic shift that will have to be reflected at some point in how they form their future governments.

The Flame: What is the road map for peace? What is the road map for peace? What is the road map for peace? What is the road map for peace?

Kugler: The road map for peace is a process of building trust. The road map for peace is a process of building trust. The road map for peace is a process of building trust. The road map for peace is a process of building trust.

Schneider: I think it for it to be successful, it is important for the surrounding states to become involved. As long as you have Saudi Arabia funding the family of anyone who blew himself or herself up, there’s no reason to end the Intifada, because economically, you’re better off with the problem. And there’s still the hurdle that you’re going to get more in the end, it is getting the surrounding states in line that is going to help.

Shia: In my opinion, there won’t be any more fun the surrounding states to become involved. As long as you have Saudi Arabia funding the family of anyone who blew himself or herself up, there’s no reason to end the Intifada, because economically, you’re better off with the problem. And there’s still the hurdle that you’re going to get more in the end, it is getting the surrounding states in line that is going to help.

Barkan: But the demo-...
In the back of a cab from the Beijing airport as black bicycles glided silently on rain-slicked streets under the glow of red lanterns, I began to glimpse the mystery and beauty waiting in China. This ride was the first of many, including tea truck, bicycle, log canoe, donkey cab, motorcycle, yak, richshaw, slow buses, fast trains, and planes that were to transport me on the adventure of a lifetime.

In the last year, five other alumni, faculty, staff, and students at Claremont Graduate University also followed their passions in China, thanks to grants made by the R. Stanton Avery Foundation. Michael Mahin, a doctoral student in English, studied martial arts while living in a monastery in northeast China. Wendy Martin, professor of English, learned about tea cultivation and production. Edie Young, faculty support in the Drucker School, stayed with farmers and studied how they built stone terraces in their fields. MBA student Nick Standish discovered great surf and bodyboarding in the South China Sea. Teacher education alumna Margaret Oldaker studied fashion design.

I had the opportunity to travel for thirty days in March searching for poets and oral folk verses. I found stark contrasts on my journey, as growth is exploding in China. Construction cranes and scaffolding fill the eastern cityscapes of Shanghai and Beijing. Arc welders blast at midnight, while in rural villages near the border of Tibet, workers carry boulders suspended from rope slings. Twenty-four-hour internet cafes feature the latest computer games while people without TV gather to watch movies together in makeshift tent theaters.

Everywhere there were surprises—silent Tai Chi in the morning streets of Beijing, groups of middle-aged Chinese men and women singing together in public parks, Sichuan peppers bubbling in vats of oil, and Improv-comdoo loamy bowels up on city sidewalks. As a Westerner, I was24 25 overwhelmed by an honored guest, dining with families, visiting homes, temples, and schools. Many asked to photograph this red-haired stranger with grandparents, fiancées, and babies.

The journey was marked by synchronicity. With no specific plan, but round-theclock assistance from Weng Diedie, a resourceful university student known as Butterfly, we found a total of 39 poets. With the aid of Butterfly’s cell phone, fluent Mandarin, Cantonese, and minority dialects, we met in teahouses, living rooms, and mountaintops. The trail of poets led 3,600 miles through central China to southwestern villages near Myanmar and Laos.

The language of poetry turned out to be universal. Poets and artists shared conversation, defining moments, and a desire to capture images reflecting the humanness of life. Poets provided hospitality, offering tangerines, serving chrysanthemum tea, bringing photographs of family, talking about artistic perceptions and the explosion of change in contemporary China. I was impressed by the generosity of the Chinese people and welcomed into homes and studios of poets and artists.

Through these encounters, I discovered the rich history of poetry in China. Poetry long considered the height of literary accomplishment. A number of sites immortalize poets’ contributions to public life, such as the Drabbey Leishan Buddha and the walleduped parks surrounding West Lake in Hangzhou, where Mac first met with former President Nixon. Several lushly landscaped memorial parks are devoted to renowned poets, such as Xue Tao, a poetess from the 12th century.

In an incredible stroke of good fortune, Butterfly and I learned of an important annual poetry festival taking place the following day. Chengdu is a center for cultural arts and home to some of the finest poets in Central China. A local news crew offered a ride in the newsvan. Great farmers herded flocks and villagers carried chickens and piglets to market as the newsvan bounced along a winding dirt road.

At the top of a mountain, in a plum blossom, a panel of 13 well-known poets surrounding a Nigerian teacher, were preparing to read their works. Moments after arriving, I was unexpectedly escorted to the head table where a bank of microphones stood waiting. I quickly penned a poem on a napkin. Though most of the audience spoke only Mandarin, they applauded us enthusiastically at the American poem as if their favorite poem had just been read. Poets were treated to a lavish banquet where delicacies such as eel and pig’s blood were served at communal tables. There were many rounds of toasts in
Everywhere there were surprises—silent Tai Chi in the morning streets of Beijing, groups of middle-aged Chinese men and women singing together in public parks, Sichuan peppers bubbling in vats of oil, and impromptu shampoo bowls set up on city sidewalks.

The villages of Lugu Lake are matriarchal societies. Women are heads of households. Couples never marry and engage in an alternative system called Asia or visiting marriage. Women choose male lovers who visit at night. These traditions are passed along to new generations through rituals, stories, and folk songs. Musuo children grow up in their mother’s home, raised by uncles. Fathers are not financially bound to the lower family. This society is regarded as a living fossil for the study of the development of maternal culture.

Many Lugu villages have beautiful singing voices. At night under the black, starry sky villages organize a communal campfire. One member from each of the village families come to dance around the fire. Singing traditional Musuo songs, Songs pay tribute to the beauty of the lake and this peaceful mountain life. Men and women sing counterpoint and the echo of the refrain bounces off the near mountains, “Madami, madami,” “lucky and happy.” The Musuo are a branch of the Naxi nationality with a population of approximately 15,000 and are the main ethnic group scattered throughout these lakeside villages. Butterfly and I plan to return to collaborate in doing ethnographic interviews and video-tape folk songs as they are sung around the campfire as part of a future research project.

The ancient tradition of tea

CGU professor of English Valentyna Martin traveled to China in March 2003 in search of tea houses and to learn about tea cultivation and production. This was Martin’s first trip to mainland China, though she had been to Hong Kong and Singapore. Tea comes from a variety of the camellia bush, and the hills are filled with waist-high bushes. Martin scheduled her trip to China during the first tea harvest when tender green shoots emerge in early spring. According to law, these leaves are only to be picked by young unmarried maidens, because only their fingers are delicate enough to touch these prized tea leaves.

Though everyone still drinks tea, few in the cities of Hangzhou and Suzhou, where fine teas are grown, know the differences between kinds of tea, nor did many still practice tea rituals. When Martin gave a lecture at the University of Hangzhou she asked, “How many of you have been to the National Tea Museum?” Though the museum was only two minutes away, not one of the 300 students had visited. The National Tea Museum, one of the best in the world, contains beautiful teapots, and the museum has thoroughly researched and documented early stoneware and tea. Interactive displays tell the story of tea from the time it was discovered by a monk who used it as a way of detoxifying his system, in approximately 3000 B.C. The museum contains a very relaxed kitchen in the tea fields. Women pick each leaf very carefully and put them in straw baskets, which they carry back to the village on their backs. As tea pickers get warm, they hang their jackets on the tea bushes. Men sort and toast the carefully picked leaves.

Martin attempted to go back many times. “I’ve been thinking about how the trip changed my consciousness and how to hold on to that,” she says. “I think that’s what Stanton Avery had in mind.”
Three unlikely allies—a Palestinian, an Israeli-American, and a Jew from Beverly Hills—are attempting to do what decades of generals and statesmen have thus far failed to achieve: bring lasting peace to the Middle East. Their tool is a business plan for Jozoor Microfinance. Their aim: “We want peace for the next generation, and this can be achieved, not with idealism, but sound economic principles.”

That Beverly Hills resident Bryan Berkett, a senior English literature major at Columbia University, ever met up with Stanford senior Uri Pomerantz and Hisham Jabi, an MBA student at the Drucker School at Claremont Graduate University, is unlikely enough. That they formed a business partnership transcending cultural, national, and religious differences in pursuit of a common goal seems almost miraculous.

The three are united by a common bond of suffering. Pomerantz lost his great-aunt last year to a terrorist shooting on a busy street in Jerusalem. Jabi’s cousin was killed by a stray Israeli bullet as she nursed her 13-day-old baby on the balcony of her West Bank home. Berkett is the grandson of Holocaust survivors.

The idea for a microfinance venture grew out of Islamic culture and history courses that Berkett took at Columbia. He was concerned about peace in the Middle East and was surprised by the polarization he found on campus. “I used to think Sharon should come in to the West Bank with tanks,” he recalls. “Palestinians were just as militant on the other side.”

Berkett watched a documentary film about a young Palestinian, “a young guy, a good guy,” he says. “I kept feeling that he was the Palestinian version of me. Then at the end of the movie he said, ‘I’m thinking of becoming a suicide bomber because I have nothing to live for.’ It was shocking to hear him say that.”

Mulling over what he had seen, Berkett wondered if part of the solution to Palestinian despair might be found in microfinance loans for small businesses. It is an approach used in many developing countries to help people lift themselves out of poverty and is encouraged by the United Nations. Through a string of friends and relatives, Berkett discovered Stanford student Pomerantz, who shared the same vision.

The two decided to write a business plan for a microfinance venture and enter it in competitions sponsored by major business schools.

One of the competitions, however, required that an MBA student be part of the team. “I sent an email to a good friend, explaining the business model and asking him to join the team,” Berkett says. “I got an email back saying, ‘F--- them. I don’t want to help any f---ing Palestinians.’ I was shocked by his response.”

Friends and coincidence led Berkett and Pomerantz to Hisham Jabi, a Palestinian Clinton Scholar pursuing dual degrees in management and information science at CGU. Jabi studied the project idea for two months before committing himself. It soon took over his life. “We pushed each other really hard,” says Pomerantz. “When we were not in class, we were doing this 30 hours a week for seven months.”

Jozoor Microfinance, as they named the project, won the Stanford Social Venture Business Plan competition in late May and was selected as a finalist in the Goldman Sachs-Berkeley-Columbia competition. Along the way it became a life passion for the partners, one that has continued to consume them since they collected their diplomas this spring.

They are actively raising money for a pilot project to test the business model and are seeking an on-site director. They hope to launch Jozoor soon.

“We came up with the name Jozoor,” says Jabi—the word means “roots” in Arabic—“because we want to solve the conflict from the roots.” Whereas nearly all microfinance projects elsewhere have offered small loans to women, Jozoor targets rural Palestinian men between the ages of 20 and 29. According to a World Bank report, says Jabi, unemployment in Palestine...
is about 60 percent, and half of the population lives in poverty, defined as two dollars a day. “Statistically, most suicide bombers come from people who live in these areas,” Jabi says. “If we give them hope, they can channel their energies in productive ways rather than leave them in frustration that can lead to violence.”

Jabi has already seen the microloan plan work successfully. A family friend in the West Bank suffered repeated financial losses when the cucumbers he was taking to market spoiled in the hot sun while he waited for clearance at Israeli checkpoints. He asked Jabi to loan him funds to turn the cucumbers into canned pickles that would not spoil in transport and was able to start a successful side business.

Based on Jabi’s intimate knowledge of the West Bank economy and society, the partners chose the village of Salfit, located between the major Palestinian cities of Ramallah and Nablus, as the site of the pilot project. Salfit is surrounded by a number of Israeli settlements which annexed Palestinian olive groves. It is also home to a more educated population than is found in other West Bank villages.

The aim is to test the business model with an initial round of 50 loans with an average value of $800 each. Depending on their experience and collateral, clients will receive a loan as an individual or part of a group loan. Jabi’s model is inspired by the Grammen Bank, the world’s first and largest microlending organization, located in Bangladesh. Grammen requires group members to approve or reject other members’ business proposals before a group can receive its loans. Each member of the group is also required to guarantee the loan of the other members of the group as well as his own, thus reducing any possible social pressure for each of the members to repay their loan.

A unique element of the Jozoor business plan is the training and mentoring offered to clients. Four weekly training sessions will help the young entrepreneurs learn how to recognize a good business opportunity, how to develop a sound business plan, how to pay taxes, and how to develop other marketable skills.

After completing the workshop, clients will be assigned to a sector focused on the type of business they plan to start, such as agriculture, food services, construction, transportation, or manufacturing. Mentors who are running successful businesses in that sector will meet individually with each client to provide coaching. Peer networking will also be available.

Jabi and his partners are dedicated to the project. “I haven’t even gone on a job interview because I am committed to this 100 percent,” says Berkett, who graduated from Columbia University in May. “My friends are asking themselves, ‘Will I make $60,000 or $70,000 when I graduate?’ I haven’t even thought about that.”

They are not political, and they are not starry-eyed idealists. They know that the Middle East is incredibly complicated. But they see Jozoor as one way they can make an impact at the grassroots—“to help problems in the here and now.” It’s a message that these three unlikely allies are striving to communicate by the way they work and the way they live—as partners.

Questions

“Would you suggest your bat mitzvah friends to read on their summer vacation?”

Now that this distinct post-president is over, Vaclav Havel can be read and appreciated again once outside the limelight of Prague’s cattle-dirty. I would recommend Open Letters: Speeches, Writings, 1989-2006, and in particular The Power of the Waterfall, a long essay composed in 1979, less than a year before his imprisonment for “non- conformist” thinking. Along with a bold and prescient dissertation of the “post-totalitarian” society against which Havel struggled, readers will get a penetrating look into the “deep chasms of traditional democracy” and a thoughtful criticism of “the automation of technological civilization.”

Jani Kantt, Doctoral candidates in History (European Studies)

I recently read the historian Richard Hofstadter’s Anti-intellectualism in American Life, which won the Pulitzer Prize for Non-Fiction in 1964. Far from dated, Hofstadter’s analysis of the roots of American intellectualism is profoundly relevant for anyone who wishes to understand the rise and make sense of President George W. Bush and the current deadening of national and moral political debate. Hofstadter’s work provides an insight into the landscape of contemporary American religious belief and culture.

Veronica Finn, M.A., Literature and Film, 2003

I found Stupid Westerns by Philip Moore to be absolutely witty, full of research and absolutely satirical. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to have a debate on special interest groups and their influence. It offers much for a balanced view of our world. Good journalistic writing.

Albert Bangs, M.B.A., Class of 2004

For fun summer reading, I’d highly recommend Philip Pullman’s trilogy, His Dark Materials—children’s books in the same vein as Harry Potter. The books are set in alternate, interconnected worlds quite similar to the one we think we know, although in one world John Calvin became pope! The thoughtful yet well-paced story followed the journey of two children as they attempt to uncover the secret of a strange phenomenon called Dust. Dust, which may be created by angels, may be sentient, or just may be the very essence of grace. Giant armored bears, daemons, good witches, and bad angels also complicate the children’s adventure. The trilogy begins with The Golden Compass, continues with The Subtle Knife and ends with The Amber Spyglass.

Cathy Gordon, Ph.D. student, Educational Studies
MEET CGU’S NEW ALUMNI DIRECTOR

When Joernayzawski Kliewer (Ph.D. Education, 1987) first discovered CGU after finishing his B.A. in Economics at UC in Irvine and UCLA, she felt she had found a hidden treasure. “I loved the small, student-centered community, the beauty and intimacy of the campus,” says Kliewer, who started as CGU’s new director of alumni relations this past April.

Kliewer comes to CGU from Angers University in Orange County, where she served as founding dean of the School of Education. At Angers, she was credited with launching the university’s first teacher education program and broadband in the school to 20 students to more than 200 stu-
dents. Kliewer has taught courses on education, evaluation, and planning, and consulted on research projects for Pomona College, Claremont University Consortium, and the Center for the Study of Community Colleges at UCLA, among others.

Kliewer completed a Ph.D. in education with a concentration in higher education. Studying under professors Jack Schuster, Daryl Smith, and David Drew she worked as a teaching assistant, a research associate, and a program coordinator for the Howard R. Brown Institute for Policy Research in Higher Education. “I had a wonderful experience here as a student and great mentors with whom I have stayed connected,” says Kliewer.

In 1993, Kliewer published a book, The Innovative Campus: Nurturing the Engaged Learning Environment (Dryden Press Greenwood Publishers, 1993). She has served as keynote speaker at the 30th anniversary conference of the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University and president of the Association for the Advancement of College and University, an organization dedicated to enhancing the professional development of alumni.

Her outstanding goals are to nurture lifelong connections between alumni and the university and to build programs to enhance the personal and professional development of alumni.

Specifically, Kliewer plans to expand online and on-campus student engagement and alumni involvement in the university’s academic schools and centers, engage alumni in new student recruitment, alumni relations, and newsletters, and enhance the alumni website and online directory (www.alumni.cgu.edu).

Kliewer also wants to get the word out on existing alumni benefits such as career services, library privileges, tuition benefits, and CGU’s free alumni email forwarding and online alumni directory services. She can be reached at 909-621-8027 or jkliewer@cgualumni.edu.

“Kliewer recently published her arti-
cles on the ‘The California Town’ in "California" magazine, and "The Los Angeles Times." She is the author of six books and has given numerous workshops and presentations on higher education and society at universities, conferences, and colleges throughout the U.S.

Richard H. Swift, Ph.D., 1964, is emeritus professor of health sciences at Cal State Fullerton and author of two books. He is currently writing a third book on the history of health sciences and health care.

Jill Nemiro, Ph.D., Education, 2002, has served as assistant dean of the College of Public Policy at the University of Texas at San Antonio to conduct a one-year study on the role of the U.S. Army in the War on Terrorism. She is currently working on a book on the history of the U.S. Army in the War on Terrorism.

Mark H. Stevens, Ph.D., History, 1965, is a professor in the history department at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he teaches courses on modern European history.

The Innovative Campus: Nurturing the Distinctive Learning Environment (Oryx Press/Greenwood Publishers, 1999), which is based on her dissertation at CGU. She has presented workshops across the country on the topic of innovative education and, most recently, served as a keynote speaker at the 30th anniversary conference of the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University.

Currently, Kliewer is developing a strategic plan for alumni engagement at CGU. Her overarching goals are to nurture lifelong connections between alumni and the university and to build programs to enhance the personal and professional development of alumni.

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A little girl drown in the family pool. Young Ethiopian siblings struggle to make ends meet after the death of their parents. A grieving couple starts a charitable foundation in Southern California. What do these stories have in common? They all compose a saga of tragedy and benevolence in the life of Solomon Negash (Ph.D., Information Science, 2001).

Negash started the Bethany Negash Memorial Foundation with his wife, Mekele, in October 2001, shortly after the accidental drowning of their 2-year-old daughter, Bethany. The idea came when friends and relatives donated $4,000 to help defray costs associated with the tragedy. The Negashes instead added some of their own money and started a charitable foundation benefitting orphaned Ethiopian children.

In battle. Their mother, who worked hard to support them, fell victim to AIDS four years later. Sana and Medfin’s grandfather took custody of them after their parent’s death, even though their grandfather was too ill to work. The only financial support came from the grandmother’s day labor—baking bread, which in a good week garnered only 9 birr (equivalent to $1 per week).

By 2006 the entire family was eating two complete meals a day. The children’s income has increased eight-fold. Sarah hopes to become a commercial pilot someday and Medfin a medical doctor.

Seeing education as the key to escaping poverty, the foundation is currently helping 12 orphans and their families through financial assistance, tutoring, and mentoring. Resources are committed to these children until they complete their education and develop employable skills. They must meet certain scholastic and behavioral standards to retain the funding. The tutors hired to help the children are college students who are themselves orphans. In need of this employment to pay their educational expenses, the ultimate aim of the foundation’s support is to make the orphans’ guardians, and the tutors self-sufficient.

A good example of those helped by the program is Sara Abebe and her brother, Medfin. Both lost their father seven years ago when Sara was eight and her brother was only a year old. Their father, a volunteer soldier, lost his life early March, raising over $30,000. A partnership with Albertson’s grocery stores allows customers to obtain a card giving 2 percent of the money spent at the stores to the Bethany Foundation. The foundation recently completed a successful book drive, gathering 30,000 books to benefit Ethiopian college libraries. Future plans include expanding the number of orphans helped, creating a network of partnerships with other organizations, and building a new public library in Ethiopia.

For more information about the Bethany Negash Memorial Foundation, go to www.bethanymemorial.org, or call 1-866-501-KIDS.
upcoming

SEPTEMBER
17 "Corporate Entrepreneurship: Top Managers and New Business Creation." Vijay Salhe, speaker. Reception 6 p.m., presentation 6:30-7:30 p.m., Burkle 16, 1021 N. Dartmouth, Claremont. RSVP to dimexforum@cgu.edu or 909-607-8725.
23 "How Mormons Are Christians: Placing Mormonism in the Religious Landscape." Jan Shipp, speaker. Mudd Theatre, Claremont School of Theology. 7:30 p.m., Religion and Culture, Claremont Graduate University. 909-607-9592.
27 "Measuring Corporate Performance." Peter F. Drucker, speaker. 1:30 p.m., location to be announced. Executive Management Program, Claremont Graduate University. 909-607-3359.

OCTOBER
2 "Process Contributions to Love-and-Science Symbiosis." Tom Cordin, speaker. 4:10-6:00 p.m., Hadden Conference Room, Claremont School of Theology, Center for Process Studies. www.cgu.edu/inst/iasa; 909-607-3350.
10 "Know Globally, Act Locally: How to Define Your Market." Peter F. Drucker, speaker. 4:00 p.m., location to be announced. Executive Management Program, Claremont Graduate University. 909-607-3359.
15 Comments on the United States retirement system. John C. Scitlano, speaker. Reception 6 p.m., presentation 6:30-7:30 p.m., Burkle 16, 1021 N. Dartmouth, Claremont. RSVP to dimexforum@cgu.edu or 909-607-8725.
28 The Howard R. Bowen Lecture. Robert Bimbaum, professor of higher education, emeritus, University of Maryland, speaker. 7:30 p.m., Board of Trustees Room Harper Hall, School of Educational Studies. 909-602-8317.

November
5 Imagine Peace: Knowing Reality and Imagining the Possible." Mary Elizabeth Moore, speaker. 4:30-6:15 p.m., Hadden Conference Room, Claremont School of Theology, Center for Process Studies. 909-621-5330.
8 Drucker School Alumni Day. Burkle Family Building, all day. 909-607-7359 or www.druckeralumni.org.
14 "Major Trends in World Society and World Economics." Peter F. Drucker, speaker. 4:00 p.m., location to be announced. Executive Management Program, Claremont Graduate University. 909-607-3359.
19 "Accelerating the Growth of Mid-sized Business Ventures." Ian Somerville, speaker. Reception 6 p.m., presentation 6:30-7:30 p.m., Burkle 16, 1021 N. Dartmouth, Claremont. RSVP to dimexforum@cgu.edu or 909-607-8725.

Alumni—Has Your Address Or E-Mail Changed?
E-mail alumni@cgu.edu or phone the Office of Alumni Affairs at 909-621-8827 with your e-mail, address, or phone updates to ensure that you continue to receive the Flame magazine and invitations to alumni and campus events. Updates can also be faxed to 909-621-4202, attention: Office of Alumni Affairs.
In 1992, Sandra Cox (Ph.D. Education, 1985) was preparing for a well-earned retirement following a long and distinguished career as a school psychologist in the Los Angeles Unified School District. But then came the Los Angeles riots, decimating neighborhoods and creating a crisis of unparalleled proportions for the city she loved. Cox decided her retirement would have to wait.

As the rioting subsided, Cox got on the phone with friends and colleagues in the mental health profession, urging them to join her in helping the communities hit hardest by the violence.

“One of the key things I learned from my professors at CGU was that the underclass have no stake in society unless they have the tools for progress,” says Cox.

Her colleagues heeded the call, forming a temporary volunteer team of 15 crisis counselors offering free services to the affected communities.

“Originally we planned this to last for three weeks but soon figured out that wouldn’t work,” says Cox. With a grant from the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health, the group, now called the Coalition of Mental Health Professionals with Cox as executive director, became a long-term service provider for South Los Angeles residents.

The coalition continues to offer free services in individual and family therapy, crisis intervention, HIV AIDS counseling, domestic violence counseling and classes, conflict resolution, and stress management training. The coalition also operates apartments for homeless individuals with chronic mental disabilities. The Raymond and Odessa Cox Villas, as these apartments are named, honor Cox’s parents, from whom she draws much inspiration for her community work.

“It’s in my genes to do good for humankind,” says Cox. “My parents imbued this in me.”

Cox’s father was a union organizer and, in 1948, one of the first African-Americans to run for elective office in California. He lost that election but opened the door for many African-American candidates who followed.

Her mother fought for 30 years to get a community college built near their South Los Angeles community, with the hope that her children wouldn’t be forced to travel long distances for their education. In 1967, she accomplished her goal, being one of the principal founders of Los Angeles Southwest College.

Recently, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation chose Cox from among hundreds of nominees to receive the prestigious Community Health Leadership Program award. The award carries a $15,000 personal prize for Cox, and $105,000 to benefit the coalition.

According to Catherine Dunham, director of the Community Mental Health Leadership Program, the award honors the unsung heroes of community health, those who are determined and relentless in their work and bring badly needed resources to underserved communities.

Cox came to CGU in 1996, after completing her master’s degree in educational psychology from the University of Southern California. She received a Ph.D. in education with a concentration in social psychology.

“I don’t regret one day I spent at CGU,” says Cox. “I was getting a hold of valuable concepts and applying them to life. My professors pushed me to my limits, but the skills I learned were life lessons.”