



Spring 2015

## CIIS Today, Spring 2015 Issue

California Institute of Integral Studies  
CIIS, bshirazi@ciis.edu

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# CIIS TODAY

spring 2015

THE MAGAZINE OF CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF INTEGRAL STUDIES

## BLESS OUR UNION

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Chinese Medicine Merges with CIIS***

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# dear

## CIIS Alums and Friends

Bina and Haridas Chaudhuri founded CIIS 47 years ago to offer an alternative model of higher education—an integral education that could lead to their vision of “world harmony” through the study and practice of diversity-in-unity. Dr. Chaudhuri wrote, “The passion for diversity-in-unity is a central characteristic of Indian culture,” and he noted that “it has resulted in an appreciation of divergent viewpoints in the light of some underlying principles of unity.”

In October 2014, the CIIS Board of Trustees unanimously approved the President’s Initiative on Diversity, Inclusivity, and Intercultural Sensitivity. The Initiative was developed collaboratively by trustees, faculty, staff, and administrators to support our long-held understanding that cultural diversity and academic excellence are inextricably linked. In addition, our University has revised its Mission Statement and Seven Commitments (formerly Ideals) to reinforce its founding vision.

This issue of *CIIS Today* gives many excellent examples of how much CIIS is maturing as a university by expanding its impact and visibility locally, nationally, and globally. Moreover, it is doing so by being faithful to its founding responsibility, improving its distinctive integral model of education, welcoming diverse peoples and perspectives, and seeking global peace as its reason for being.

You will read about ways that CIIS continues to be inspired by its founding mission in advancing an education that instills a profound appreciation of

interrelationship, difference, and community while resisting dominance and uniformity.

We are dedicated to mind-body-spirit education at CIIS, and the merger with the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine as the fourth school at CIIS strengthens our claim of offering an embodied education. To expand our academic reach and strengthen our academic quality, CIIS has boldly improved its online learning capacity and technology. The recipients of our annual honorary degrees and Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri Award live the commitments of CIIS professionally and personally. Our public programs, conferences, summer institutes, and performances introduce CIIS to new audiences; and our increasing number of travel studies introduce our community to various parts of the world.

For CIIS to have the impact that we know it deserves, we need your help, especially in supporting scholarships for our increasing number of diverse students. Also, we want our facilities to reflect our academic quality, and we need your investment in our Building Fund.

Together we can move CIIS to the forefront of higher education, where it will steadfastly hold to its founding intention of creating “world harmony.”

Joseph L. Subbiondo, President

 **CIIS TODAY**  
THE MAGAZINE OF CALIFORNIA  
INSTITUTE OF INTEGRAL STUDIES

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### EDITOR IN CHIEF

Lisa Denenmark

### PHOTO EDITOR

Mustafah Greene

### CLASS NOTES EDITOR

Cynthia Mitchell

### DESIGNER

Anne Mellinger

### CREATIVE SERVICES MANAGER

Lisa Zamarin

### COVER IMAGE

Crystal Erlendson, Mustafah Greene

### CONTRIBUTORS

Rachel Bryant, Richard Buggs, Adeeba Deterville, Crystal Erlendson, Heather Fester, Neil Freese, Steve Given, Kathy Littles, James David Martin, Julie Pofsky, Laura Reddick, Dorotea Reyna, Michael Sano, Margaret Seelie, Dustin N. Smith, Frank Talamantez, Lisa Tsering, Deirdre Visser, Charles Wilmoth

### VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Dorotea Reyna  
dreyna@ciis.edu, 415.575.6135

### DEAN OF ALUMNI AND TRAVEL PROGRAMS

Richard Buggs  
rbuggs@ciis.edu, 415.575.6116

### DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

James David Martin  
jmartin@ciis.edu, 415.575.6165



MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT

INSPIRES

HOPE

In the Bay Area, our need for increased and better quality mental health services is urgent—and with it, the demand for qualified therapists and counselors who can provide those services.

BY RACHEL BRYANT (CMH '11)

**T**HANKS TO THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT (MHSA), or Proposition 63, San Francisco's public mental health system has received significant funding to expand services. Passed by a 54% majority of California voters in 2004, with strong support from state mental health associations and the large urban areas of San Francisco and Los Angeles, the Act imposes a 1% tax on personal income above \$1 million.

In fiscal year 2013–14 alone, MHSA was projected to generate more than \$21.2 million for San Francisco County.

In 2006, the San Francisco Public Health Department awarded CIIS more than \$1 million over six years to create the MHSA Project (the Project) in order to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups who enroll in the School of Professional Psychology.



As Director of the Project at CIIS, I am afforded the power and resources to inspire populations that have been historically viewed as recipients of services to join the workforce as highly skilled, licensed mental health professionals—effectively helping to transform the public mental health system.

The Project at CIIS attracts and retains at least 15 new additional students each year from racially, ethnically, and linguistically diverse communities, as well as students who identify as Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer (LGBTQ), and people with lived experience with, or family members involved in, the mental health care system.

We endeavor to achieve this goal through community outreach, public events, and expanded student services, such as career and academic advising, skill building, time and stress management, and resource referrals. In addition, we offer students and faculty professional workshops and trainings related to current issues of diversity, inclusion, and social justice within the field of psychology.

In March, the Project received the City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health's highest rating of "4—Commendable/Exceeds Standards."

## STUDENT-CENTERED SUPPORT

Tupi Worku, a first-year student in the Community Mental Health (CMH) program, is a self-identified Tongan-Ethiopian-black man. He knows what it's like to live in an immigrant community and in a family that doesn't have adequate support services. "There's a lot of isolation and loneliness, and you feel like your problems are your own," he says.

Tupi wants to become a therapist because his community is suffering from the impact of health disparities, racism, and poverty. "I see myself as a bridge. There's something special about having access—not just to systems, but access to knowing

that your suffering is legitimate."

Despite his lifelong commitment to social change and health equity, Tupi struggled to make the decision to earn a master's degree in counseling psychology at CIIS. "It's difficult to be a student in mental health when you come from a community where you feel you don't have a voice or that you matter. I had a lot of self-doubt and needed to feel that I belonged."

Fortunately, from the moment he decided to apply, Tupi connected with the Project through a peer referral. Thus far, he's benefited from individualized career counseling, admission to special events, textbook loans, and assistance completing a successful application for practicum training at a San Francisco County-funded mental health site.

The good news is that all counseling psychology students can take advantage of our services, and as Project Coordinator Sandi Esquivel points out, "we have the greatest impact when we can work with students from the moment they arrive, or even before." As a former student (SOM '12), she now publicizes valuable resources and opportunities that students probably wouldn't know about otherwise. "It's essential that our students connect with people who care about them and who want them to succeed."

According to Steven Tierney, Chair of the Counseling Psychology program, the Affordable Care Act has made access to mental health services possible for many people from diverse communities. "At CIIS," he says, "the MHSA Project works in the community to increase awareness of the potential benefits of psychotherapy for individuals, families, and communities.



LEFT TO RIGHT: CMH STUDENT TUPI WORKU AND MHSA PROJECT DIRECTOR RACHEL BRYANT

"Most importantly, through outreach, training, and support, the Project makes students from those communities feel welcome, included, and ultimately successful. This relatively small project is having a major impact on Bay Area mental health," he adds.

## TRANSFORMATION AT EVERY LEVEL

Though not every student in our clinical programs is seeking a career in public mental health, most will in fact earn their clinical hours toward licensure by working in a public or community-based organization. According to a recent survey of counseling psychology alumni, more than 70% are employed or volunteering at local agencies, at K-12 schools, and in the juvenile and adult prison systems.

MHSA promotes a community psychology orientation with an approach grounded in the belief that people can and do get better, and exit the mental health care system. It's essential that our students, the majority of whom will be trained in public systems—understand the need to be responsive to diverse perspectives about mental illness, and to respect interventions based on the cultural and spiritual values of the communities they serve.

At CIIS we're helping to create a new generation of clinicians who can provide



COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE SPONSORED BY THE MHSA

therapy based on wellness and recovery; we're enrolling future clinicians who will serve as leaders and change agents within the system; and we're inspiring our students with a diversity of ideas and analyses in the classroom. Perhaps most critical to our work is that we have begun, with faculty, to change the curriculum of psychology to include theories and models from people of color, LGBTQ authors, as well as indigenous perspectives on mental illness.

CMH student Adilia Torres says that participating in the MHSA Project has taught her "how to work with my Latina/Chicana and Queer communities—especially how to integrate the cultural and spiritual aspects of our beings, like self-testimonials, which is a part of our medicine." As a clinician, she says, "you can't dismiss the intersectionality of the whole person."

## STIGMA ENDS WITH ME

Students from marginalized communities and with disabilities are vulnerable targets for microaggressions in academic and professional settings; discrimination and fear of being stigmatized often silence their voices in the classroom and beyond.

I still remember, when I was a CMH student at CIIS, the conflicting feelings I experienced when I realized that I could now diagnose my entire family—including myself—from the DSM-IV Manual.

While it felt powerful to be able to label suffering, it also brought up anger, and generations of stigma and shame. I had to learn to quickly navigate between the opposing worlds of diagnosing and being the diagnosed.

Today, in my role as MHSA Project Director, I have the unique opportunity to model resiliency for my students by speaking openly about

my lifelong relationship with trauma and depression. I believe it is empowering for students to have a mentor who recognizes their human challenges as well as their healing potential.

Like me, students are coming to CIIS with their own experiences—or as the family member of someone—in the mental health care, social service, and prison systems. They hope to return to their communities as therapists because they have survived the harmful effects of oppressive systems, racism, ableism, and homophobia.

## REMEMBER WHY YOU CAME HERE

For Expressive Arts Therapy student Kami Cheatham, a Native American (Chahta) and African American-identified woman, the impact of peer support "has been massive." Kami, who already works as a peer provider for Pathways to Discovery, a Community Behavioral Health Services program, believes that the compassionate support she receives from the Project gives her the added strength to be successful in graduate school.

"No matter what challenges I've had in my wellness and recovery, I feel

empowered as a future clinician that I'm not relegated to one level of service. All the MHSA Project folks inspire me with hope that I can also be an instructor, a researcher, and a writer," Kami says.

In order to fully realize its vision, the Project facilitates spaces where students can openly discuss how to navigate their responses to the internal and systemic stigma and discrimination issues endured by marginalized communities within the field of psychology. We also support student-led affinity groups, such as Queer@CIIS, Transgress, Women of the African Diaspora, the Expressive Arts Salon, and POC Thrive with supplemental funding and supplies.

## EMBRACE THE UNCOMFORTABLE

That CIIS addresses these issues head-on is why CMH student Solymar Negrón chose to earn her counseling psychology degree here and not elsewhere. "We have adapted to, but haven't been trained in,

WE'RE ENROLLING FUTURE CLINICIANS WHO WILL SERVE AS LEADERS AND CHANGE AGENTS WITHIN THE SYSTEM, AND WE'RE INSPIRING OUR STUDENTS WITH A DIVERSITY OF IDEAS AND ANALYSES IN THE CLASSROOM.

wellness strategies rooted in who we are as a people in a hybrid, gentrified society," she says. "At CIIS I'm able to develop my own models and to be with a cohort of solid, like-minded people who think differently about how to bring wellness back to our communities."

*Continued on page 35*

# CIIS-ACTCM MERGERS AND INQUISITIONS

BY LISA DENENMARK

On Wall Street the key principle behind a merger is to create value over and above that of the sum of the two separate companies.

On Wall Street, it is also said that the best leaders follow their instincts and move quickly.

On Mission Street, Joseph L. Subbiondo, Lixin Huang, and Keith Cich are those leaders. The two presidents of CIIS and ACTCM, and the CIIS Board Chair, respectively, have orchestrated a merger of equals—a strategic combination around a shared mission and defining purpose.

“Lixin and I had been working for years creating projects that allowed our two institutions to get to know each other,” says Subbiondo. “I always thought that if CIIS were to have a medical school, it would be ACTCM. Lixin always thought that if ACTCM became part of a larger institution, it would be CIIS,” Subbiondo adds. “So Lixin and I invited Keith to dinner to get his business sense of a merger.”

“We are two institutions with the same heart,” says Cich, a CIIS alum (PCC ’02), who is also the CEO of investment firm Pacific Rim Partners. He first heard the idea from Subbiondo in late 2013 and then “made my one-second trader’s analysis: ‘This merger is going to make the world a better place,’” he says.

“Incorporating traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture as part of the

CIIS therapy package is a whole new way forward. Together we will be able to offer students something that no one else can.”

## THOROUGH AND TRANSPARENT PROCESS

In the summer of 2014, ACTCM and CIIS completed their due diligence work. Regional accreditor WSCUC approved the merger in November, citing the two institutions’ thorough and transparent analyses on issues related to governance, strategic planning, financial stability, enrollment management, student support services, and faculty.

“We have indeed gone about this in a very careful, responsible way,” says Huang, “budget-wise and in close communication with both boards and our communities.” The Information Technology department, as one example, has “plans in place for the merging of both network infrastructures and systems,” says Janet Cragin, IT Director at CIIS.

“As with any merger or acquisition, combining two different cultures and ways of doing things offers us an opportunity to look at what we have been doing with new eyes,” says Judie Wexler, Academic Vice President and Vice Chair of the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

## HEALING, HEALTH, AND HOLISM

For both institutions, the merger presents myriad possibilities—opportunities in research, coursework, and the intersections of their disciplines, says Bingzeng

Zou, ACTCM’s Vice President of Academic Affairs.

It’s apparent “in the pursuits of our students and faculty, who through Chinese medicine, psychology, and philosophy strive to integrate the mind, body, and spirit to create a more holistic world,” he says.

What makes this union an intuitive fit are the shared and recurring themes of transformation, integral education, healing, health, holism, and wellness.

In adding ACTCM, CIIS gets a college that is complementary to CIIS and shares commitment to a holistic approach to wellness. “We have known that one of the University’s strategic directions was to expand our offerings in the area of integrative medicine and wellness,” says Wexler. “The merger also gives us







an opportunity to explore the interconnections between physical and psychological well-being in new ways.”

Already under way is the new clinical collaboration at the Center for Somatic Psychotherapy, debuted in April, which now offers auricular acupuncture services to clients. ACTCM has been enrolling students in its accredited first professional doctorate (DACM) to begin this Fall, and seeds of exciting conversations are germinating about joint degrees. New modalities for health care providers, scholarships and cultural exchanges in China, and more clinic and community wellness offerings are also being discussed—especially as CIIS builds out its first floor.

Subbiondo is grateful for the many meetings and conversations with board members, faculty, students, and staff “who have assisted and supported us in this inspiring partnership. Their thoughtfulness, prescience, and generosity continue to affirm the shared mission and values of our communities.”

“This is the perfect marriage,” says Cich. On July 1 it’s official. ■



# 7 Questions

for CIIS President Joseph L. Subbiondo  
and ACTCM President Lixin Huang

## WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

**SUBBIONDO:** CIIS has long been devoted to holistic education of mind, body, and spirit. The addition of ACTCM presents new opportunities for research in the areas that blend psychotherapy and Chinese medicine.

While our mission is now global, CIIS was founded to integrate Asian and Western studies, and the merger greatly helps this founding goal. Moreover, the culture, mission, and core values of ACTCM align with those of CIIS—especially in terms of our commitment to students.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FOR BOTH INSTITUTIONS?

**HUANG:** First, our timing is excellent. The merger presents a variety of possibilities for these two very successful institutions to develop new opportunities for academic inquiry and research. We will launch a new doctoral degree in Fall 2015 and are already exploring more future collaborations.

CIIS will gain more than 250 new students and 50 faculty, as well as the infrastructure and reserves to fully support the addition. ACTCM’s stellar reputation in the Chinese medicine community enhances CIIS’s status by adding another college to join the Schools of Professional Psychology and Health, Consciousness and Transformation, and Undergraduate Studies.

ACTCM was one of the first institutions to offer a Master of Science degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine as well as a Doctorate in Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (DAOM). As the fourth school of CIIS, ACTCM is the first institution to be approved by both ACAOM and WSCUC to offer the first



# MERGERS AND INQUISITIONS



professional doctorate. We will welcome our first class this September.

## HOW WILL THIS ALL WORK?

**SUBBIONDO:** My title and duties of President do not change. Lixin will become Vice President of China Projects and will serve as Executive Director of ACTCM during the transition years. Judie Wexler, who has been working directly with academic leaders at ACTCM, will continue in her role as Academic Vice President and Dean of Faculty, and Bingzeng Zou as ACTCM Academic Dean.

As we continue to work toward seamless integration of faculty, staff, shared space, and communication across our campuses, I want to iterate that no one will lose their job. ACTCM directors will report to CIIS directors, and when and if people move on to other appointments elsewhere, we will reconfigure. Our ability to be adaptive is essential to making the merger successful.

Academically, ACTCM has had to make many changes, including converting its four quarters to CIIS's three-semester system, creating a new academic calendar, and establishing new academic policies. ACTCM has already begun implementing that plan with full support of faculty, students, and administrators. Personally at CIIS, I have never seen this kind of support from faculty—a unanimous 100% favor this new relationship. The same enthusiasm is shared by the ACTCM community.

CIIS students will be able to enroll in ACTCM classes and utilize its clinics—as many are already doing. ACTCM students can also take classes at CIIS's three schools. Of course, prerequisites need to be met, and other details will be shared after the merger.

## IS THERE A FINANCIAL IMPACT ON STAFF AND STUDENTS?

**HUANG:** As Joe mentioned, no jobs will be lost during the merger, and ACTCM

staff will likely see an improvement to their benefits. Students will not see an increase in tuition due to the merger—though regular annual tuition increases will continue.

We want to make sure that every student graduates on time and does not experience any interruption to financial aid. Ensuring student success in this process is at the heart of every decision we make.

## WHERE WILL STUDENTS TAKE CLASS?

**SUBBIONDO:** Most ACTCM classes will continue at ACTCM's two campuses in Potrero Hill. CIIS classes will remain at Mission Street. However, we will look for creative ways to take advantage of CIIS now having three buildings and efficient ways to commute between them.

## INTERNATIONALLY, WHAT ARE SOME EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS?

**HUANG:** We are creating a unique approach in bringing Chinese medicine and acupuncture together with counseling psychology. We believe that the sky's the limit.

ACTCM is well regarded in China, and we have built our reputation over many years. Joe, Judie, CIIS faculty members, and I have made trips to China, and continue to establish relationships with prestigious Zhejiang and Fujian universities. And as we discussed in the Fall issue of *CIIS Today*, there is a huge need for Western models of counseling psychology in China that we, as part of the China Initiative, are positioning ourselves to fulfill. I truly see that down the road, in bringing these two amazing health modalities together, we will create a unique approach that will have great impact on people not only in China but also in the U.S.

In addition, ACTCM is continually growing opportunities for students to study in China. In 2016 and 2017, ACTCM is offering multiple student scholarships for three months of training at Henan University to study Chinese medicine.

## WHERE ARE WE IN A YEAR? IN FIVE YEARS?

**HUANG:** We think outside the box. To keep current with the changing needs of our communities, ACTCM recently rearticulated our mission and vision. We see beyond just traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture.

This year we began a partnership with Tonrentang, China's largest and most venerated supplier of medicinal herbs and herbal medicines, founded in 1669. For a year and a half, they have been searching for the perfect practitioners to help them establish their business in the U.S. After much surveying and analysis, they chose ACTCM as their ideal partner. They have given us \$1 million to fund our educational efforts and public outreach in the area of herbal medicine.

Again, the merger process is a first step. Once we're settled, we'll be guided by the natural energy and creativity coming from faculty, students, community, and the needs of our patients.

**SUBBIONDO:** We need to not only take advantage of the many opportunities that present themselves but also see what develops and adapt accordingly. The energy, interest, and mutual respect in how we have come together are a testament to the highly supportive atmosphere in both our communities.

It's important to understand that we don't need each other for survival. Many mergers occur out of necessity. CIIS and ACTCM made this decision because we recognized that together we are stronger. ●



# THE LONG HISTORY OF CHINESE MEDICINE, BRIEFLY



I can smell the faint traces of ginger, cardamom, and anise wafting from the door beside me. I could be searching for lunch in Chinatown, but instead I'm in the ACTCM clinic waiting for an acupuncture treatment. The entrance to the herbal dispensary is right off the clinic lobby, where more than 300 herbs are stored. Rows of wooden drawers contain herbs both dried and pulverized for teas and concoctions.



BY MICHAEL SANO

For those who prefer a more convenient and less flavorful prescription, there are also shelves of bottles: herbal formulas prepackaged in pill form. As it has been doing for more than 3,000 years, this is one example of how Chinese medicine has adapted to treat the modern patient.

Chinese medicine has a long history covered in much detail in ACTCM's History of Healing and Medicine class. In the course, students follow Chinese medicine across the Pacific to America. The medicine likely arrived with the first groups of Chinese immigrants to reach California, when it was still under Spanish rule. But the first records of its practice,

however, particularly outside of Chinese enclaves, are found alongside the wave of Chinese laborers who immigrated to work on the U.S. transcontinental railroad.

In Oregon, tourists can get a glimpse of this history at the Kam Wah Chung museum, originally built in 1871 as a general store and Chinese medical center. Doc Hay, the co-proprietor and resident acupuncturist, treated American settlers out of the center during the Spanish flu outbreak of 1918. According to local lore, all of Doc Hay's patients survived, an impressive statistic against a 10%–20% reported mortality rate in other parts of the world.

There are also records of other Chinese medicine practitioners successfully treating small numbers of patients outside of Chinatowns in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. But it was in 1971 that the journalist James Reston exposed the whole U.S. to acupuncture with an article in *The New York Times* covering his emergency appendectomy in China.

"Now, About My Operation in Peking" tells the story of Reston's surgery at the Peking Union Medical College and how doctors used acupuncture and herbal medicine for postoperative care. At the time of Reston's surgery, a huge corps of doctors was being trained across China to





serve a largely rural populace. The giant scope of this training led to the formation of what is now known as Traditional Chinese Medicine—a national unification of various systems of medicine practiced in China over millennia.

A year after Reston's story hit the newsstands, four UCLA students became the first known Westerners to study Chinese medicine in the United States. They studied under Dr. Ju Gim Shek, nicknamed Dr. Kim, in a Hollywood strip mall at what became known as the Institute of Taoist Studies. One of these students, Stephen Rosenblatt, traveled to Hong Kong with Dr. Kim and became the first Westerner admitted to the Hong Kong Acupuncture College. He later went on to found the New England School of Acupuncture.

That same year—1972—with the founding of the first U.S. acupuncture organization, the education of Chinese medicine expanded to include Western doctors and dentists. Soon after, states began enacting laws in regard to the training and practice of acupuncturists. Oregon was the first, followed quickly by Nevada and Maryland. Today, 44 states and the District of Columbia have licensed more than 27,000 practitioners of Chinese medicine.

This year ACTCM celebrates 35 years of educating acupuncturists. The college was founded in 1980 by Dr. C.S. Cheung, Yat Kae Lai, Howard Harrison, and Aik Kaw Wong. Within a year, they welcomed their first class of 34 students into a two-year certification program in Traditional Chinese Medicine. At the same time, the college first opened the doors of its clinic, which continues to serve patients from around the Bay Area.

ACTCM has been a leader in the field from its very first years of operation. Its library holds one *Continued on page 36*

## NEW CLINIC COLLABORATION

### ACUPUNCTURE AND SOMATIC PSYCHOLOGY UNITE

BY STEVE GIVEN

**T**raditional Chinese Medicine encompasses a holistic view of the individual and their environment. Good health is perceived as a balance between the different facets of mind, body, and spirit. Acupuncturists use many systems to assess this balance: yin and yang, the five elements, environmental conditions and other external factors, as well as the emotions.

This holistic approach is one of many that unite the philosophies behind the work of ACTCM and CIIS students and faculty, and one that will be at the forefront of the first clinical collaboration between the two institutions.

In April 2015, ACTCM faculty and interns began offering auricular acupuncture services at the Center for Somatic Psychotherapy (CSP), a CIIS clinic on Montgomery Street in San Francisco. The services are offered from 8:00 a.m. to noon on Fridays for CSP clients.

Clinic Director Steuart Gold describes CSP as “a CIIS counseling center staffed by Somatic Psychology program students and graduates that has provided low-fee, high-quality psychotherapy to adults and youth of diverse cultural, socioeconomic,

linguistic, and ethnic backgrounds; multiple gender and sexual identities; and varying abilities since 1991.” Current CSP students provide approximately 500 therapy sessions to their clients each month, as well as offer low-fee services to community-based organizations.

This partnership is part of a continuing evolution in clinical collaboration with CIIS that has previously included CIIS student clinicians and faculty coming to ACTCM for services.

“We hope to grow this new model of learning in multiple ways,” says Becky McGovern, Director of MCP Field





Placement and CIIS Clinic Sites.

"As our work moves forward and student clinicians in both acupuncture and counseling psychology may be working side by side, with supervision, they will see directly the benefits or challenges from complementary approaches to health and healing."

In years past, CSP trainees and interns provided free group counseling to ACTCM patients focusing on Cultivating Mind-Body Wellness. Using psychoeducation and experiential exercises, the trainees and interns facilitated peer-supported explorations, including body-sensing awareness, grounding and centering exercises, and methods for identifying and transforming negative beliefs.

This work is directed at addressing addiction recovery, pain management, and stress reduction. In addition, CSP staff regularly offer Managing Academic Stress workshops to new ACTCM students.

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## ACTCM FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: PAM OLTON

BY CRYSTAL ERLENDSON

When Pamela Olton sums up her teaching philosophy into just a few words, it boils down to "being honest, generous, and hands-on." Much of Olton's pedagogy was influenced by her martial arts teachers. Olton considers her former mentors' ideas about posture, breath, and intuition when teaching needling classes at ACTCM. "I think there are ways to actually hold hands in a very special way and encourage people to relax," she explains. "There is a true mind-body connection that you have to help train students to appreciate."

### FINDING A NEW PATH

When Olton moved west to San Francisco from New York, she began to adopt a more Eastern perspective about health and medicine. In New York, she had been a medical lab technologist and had planned to continue along that path by attending medical school. But that plan began to change after she started working at the Haight Ashbury Free Clinic. "I saw these medical students who were doing rotations, and they had a really harsh and unhappy way of being because they were feeding into a system that was just so shocking," she says.

At the time, she was also reading a lot about alternative medicine. A few years later, a serendipitous trip brought her to Tokyo to study martial arts. It was there that she met teachers who were acupuncturists and recognized her desire to diagnose and treat people through a holistic medicine and to model a life



of balanced health. Acupuncture, she realized, would be the perfect fit.

### THE FUTURE OF ACUPUNCTURE

Olton, who is pursuing her doctoral degree at ACTCM, is focusing her research on acupuncture in the public health sector. She's examining how acupuncturists can find a permanent position in the field and not depend on grants that come and go. "I think there are going to be other ways and avenues to figure out where we belong in public health, and that we are going to create new ways to collaborate."

As Chinese medicine becomes more integrated with Western medicine, more patients are seeking out acupuncture and other treatments. Olton believes that acupuncture can complement Western care and, for certain conditions, provide better care. She points to the number of ways that acupuncturists can treat a common cold. "People can come into our clinic, get an acupuncture treatment and

*Continued on page 36*



## ONLINE LEARNING'S

# HIGH-TECH LEAP



ONLINE LEARNING DIRECTOR KATHY LITTLES

### BY KATHY LITTLES

In late Fall 2014, CIIS took perhaps its biggest step to expand its global reach. After years of contemplation, meetings, and countless committees, the University signed a contract with Canvas, a learning management system (LMS) that will bring a state-of-the-art online teaching and learning platform to students and faculty.

Though CIIS has thrived online with the old platforms of Caucus and MyCIIS, expectations from higher education demanded a robust online platform.

What's the best thing about Canvas? For starters, teaching and learning are made a whole lot more innovative and creative. From one-touch video recording to interactive group discussions and live feedback on papers, the upgrade to Canvas has been immediately felt as we began rolling out a flurry of face-to-face and webinar trainings for faculty and staff.

### 24/7 MOBILE ACCESS

It's no secret that today's students demand a high-tech learning management system that allows for 24/7 class access on their mobile devices.

What's most exciting to me is that our relationship with Canvas has opened the space for CIIS to expand our reach as it pertains to its mission, and its spiritual and educational philosophy. Each department can now see itself having a stronger national and international multicultural and multidimensional teaching and learning environment. Even with the diverse teaching and learning style at CIIS, the online teaching and learning model can be individualized by department or faculty member.

The Transformative Inquiry Department (TID), an early adopter of online teaching, has been extremely successful for 20 years, while incorporating creativity and inquiry into the rigorous curriculum. Other academic disciplines, such as the new Human Sexuality PhD program, are also finding their own niche and success online with their students.

I always tell people when they inquire about online education at CIIS that what sets us apart from so many other online degrees is that our University has made a commitment to the notion that all departments that teach online courses must have a face-to-face component. When speaking to TID students, I am always amazed at how this practice eases the potential isolation issue that students may feel while taking a single course online or earning a PhD degree.

Each department can now see itself having a stronger multicultural and multidimensional teaching and learning environment.

Finally, our technology infrastructure here at CIIS is being led by two well-versed professionals: Manager of Education Technology Sarah Smetzer-Fox and Online Coordinator Angela Wong.

I learned early on that we can have the most state-of-the-art LMS, but without a solid infrastructure, its impact will be minimal. In Fall 2015, all online courses and workshops at CIIS will begin using the Canvas LMS, further expanding our global reach. ●

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*Kathy Littles, PhD, is the Director of Online Learning, the Director of the Transformative Inquiry Department, and an adjunct associate professor in the School of Undergraduate Studies.*

A portrait of Zakir Hussain, a tabla maestro, sitting on the floor. He is wearing a green patterned kurta and white dhoti. He is barefoot and has his hands resting on his knees. In front of him are two tabla drums. The background is a dark, textured wall with some light-colored patterns.

# Zakir Hussain

Chaudhuri Award for Distinguished Service

Each year, CIIS honors an individual whose life exemplifies the selfless service modeled by its founders, Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri. In 2015, we presented the award to Zakir Hussain for his extraordinary achievements as a musician, composer, and cultural ambassador.

**BY LISA TSERING**

Grammy-winning tabla maestro Zakir Hussain's connection to Dr. Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri goes back decades. As a young man, he spent many hours at their Bay Area home, as their son Aushim studied music under Hussain's father, the acclaimed tabla artist Alla Rakha.

So when this fiery and compelling performer got the news that CIIS had selected him for the 2015 Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri Award, his sense of gratification was personal. "It's almost like a homecoming," Hussain says. "This prestigious honor coming my way, which I don't know if I deserve, is more of a blessing from Dr. and Mrs. Chaudhuri—who I knew since I was a teenager.

"It's a very special occasion for me, because of that relationship."

Like many other CIIS honorees, the Mumbai-born musician has devoted his life and career to bridging East and West—in his case, by creating a unique fusion of musical styles that introduces new, international sounds to audiences while keeping the highly demanding authenticity of classical Hindustani music intact. This spring, he embarked upon a 14-city tour called "Pulse of the World:

Celtic Connections" along with leading musicians from Ireland and Scotland.

"My father was traveling all over Europe, America, and everywhere else," explains Hussain of his childhood in India. "He and Ravi Shankar were a duo, and he'd bring back many records and tapes for me to listen to. Musicians from this part of the world would come to our home, because of my father. So I got to know them and say hello to them, whether it was George Harrison, or Paul or Ringo, [jazz multi-instrumentalist] Yusef Lateef or Duke Ellington."

Although he is best known as a performer, Hussain—a child prodigy who was playing professionally as a session musician at age 12—is also a composer, film producer, and actor (Merchant-Ivory's *Heat and Dust*), and holds India's Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan civilian honors among many other accolades, including a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. He won his first Grammy in 1992 for the groundbreaking *Planet Drum*, a collaboration with Grateful Dead percussionist Mickey Hart, and went on to win a second Grammy in 2009 for *Global Drum Project*.

Asked if he considers himself a humanitarian or activist, he demurs. "I don't know if I believe that musicians or artists should have any negative energy when it comes to politics," he says. "But we do, as musicians, get involved with things that matter, such as helping little kids or cancer victims or battered women, so I do benefit concerts for groups such as Doctors Without Borders and the domestic violence nonprofit Maitri."

As an adviser to Rolex's Mentors & Protégés program, he helps the watch company find mentors for promising talents, and offers his home and teaching experience to low-income students in India who show promise.

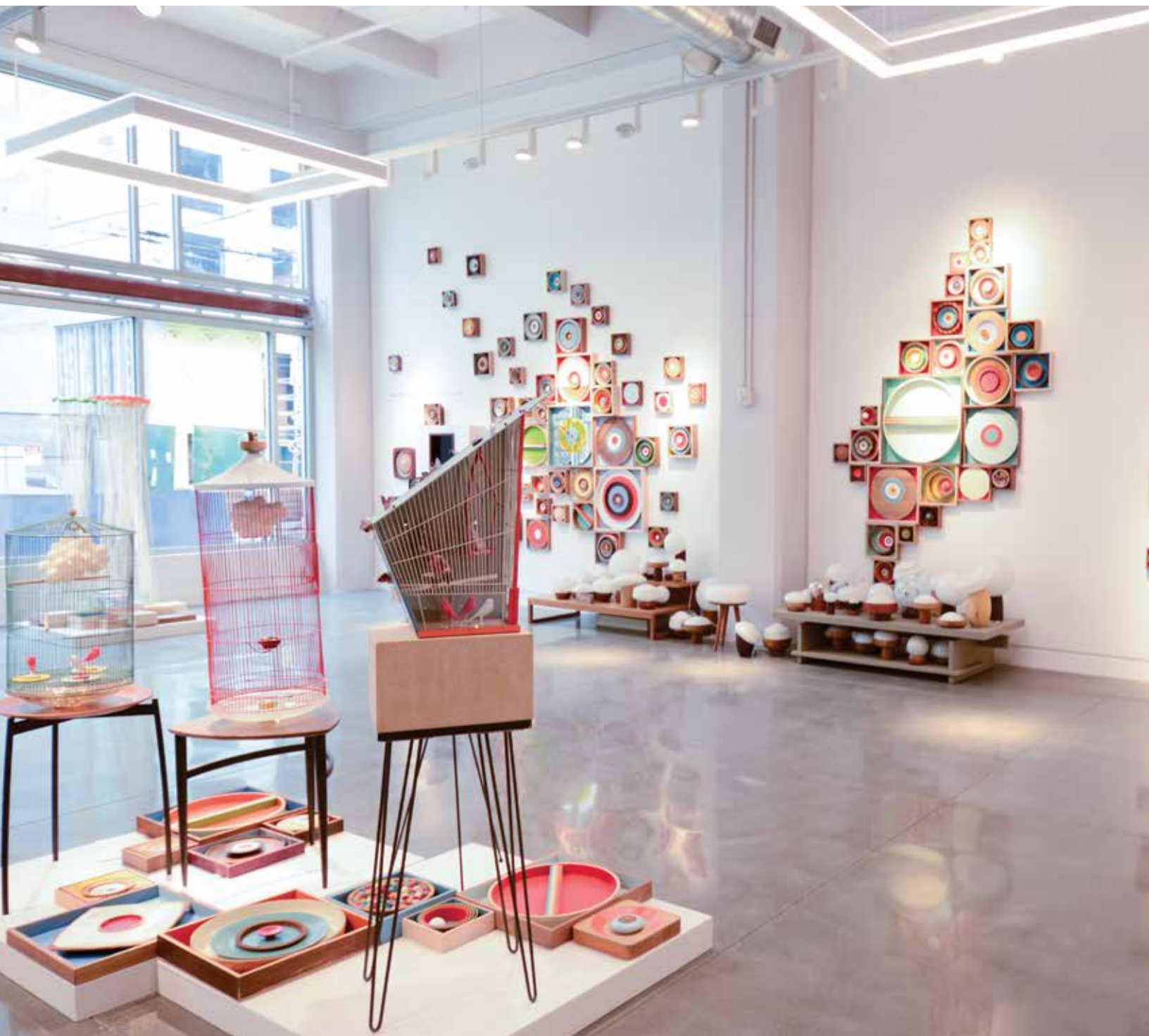
But one of the most distinctive things about Hussain is the way he loses himself in his music. If we are lucky enough to be there in the audience, we are blissfully lost there, too.

"We all believe that each instrument has a spirit, and half the battle is to get that spirit to accept you," Hussain says. "Once that's done, you are allowed an 'in,' and you can explore the world of music and

*Continued on page 31*



NEW FIRST FLOOR KEEPS TO OUR  
**CORE VA**



# LUES



**BY FRANK TALAMANTEZ**

**THE MISSION:** A renovated lobby that, while modern, still preserves the rich legacy of the neighborhood, welcoming community members to our University and adding vibrancy to a long-neglected part of Mission Street—one of the oldest thoroughfares in San Francisco.

The physical transformation of CIIS's first floor is nearly complete. It was a year in the making, and CIIS unveiled its new face in mid-March. Large windows, a new entry canopy, and an aesthetically exciting interior entice visitors to come inside.

What was once a small, dark lobby has become a modern storefront that welcomes students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Stepping into a spacious lobby, they are now greeted by a curved reception desk wrapped in the University's symbol, the Sri Yantra. A visually stunning ceiling consisting of colorful fabric-covered acoustic tiles draws the eye upward; the polished concrete floor reflects the bold colors of the café seating.

In early March, we launched the first-floor art gallery with the exhibition opening of two Bay Area-based artists, Jaime Cortez and Truong Tran. The gallery quickly filled with a celebratory crowd of roughly 300—many new to CIIS—who engaged deeply with the artists in a conversation facilitated by The Arts at CIIS curator Deirdre Visser. Among the comments overheard: "Wow, it's like a museum space, but with a better vibe," and "CIIS has really hit its stride."

Many more plans are under way at 1453 Mission Street for multidisciplinary exhibitions and public programming, such as lectures, receptions, performances, and readings. The former Gantner-Mattern building, built in 1912, was originally home to a knitting mill and swimsuit factory, which saw a dynamic period of labor organizing in the late 1930s as the union movement came into its own on the West Coast. The activist and

**A VIEW OF OUR NEW LOBBY INCLUDES  
TRUONG TRAN'S EXHIBIT *FRAMED TARGETS*.**



community-driven spirit of union organizing is still alive and well within these walls, and the new space was designed to enable many more conversations—some inspired by those begun early in the last century.

## RESTORE, PRESERVE, CONSERVE

The building, which CIIS moved into in 1999 and then bought eight years later, presented numerous structural challenges during our construction phase that tested the experience and resolve of the engineers and project team. Antiquated cast iron plumbing, hidden concrete beams not part of the original construction, century-old ceiling plaster, and multilayered wood flooring not seen since the days of the Titanic were among the issues we encountered—and, thanks to the team’s ingenuity, resolved.

In the design phase, great care was taken by architects and former Director of Facilities and Operations Jonathan Mills (EWP ’09) to incorporate many of the core values of the University—among them community, sustainability, and diversity.

In July 2014 the renovation commenced with the first pouring of concrete. Steel framing for what would eventually become the art gallery, the bookstore, and the restroom area was erected soon after.

“All of the renovations have been designed with environmental sustainability in mind, including low-water-use plumbing fixtures; natural and reclaimed materials, such as the wood paneling and polished concrete floors; and energy-efficient lighting and power design,” says architect Cheryl Lentini.

The pendant light fixtures provide a warm, inviting glow that beckons our community—both neighbors and passersby—to stop in and stay awhile. With the expansive northwest-facing 17-foot-high windows that line Mission Street, abundant sunlight will bathe the lobby, leading to a significant reduction in both energy consumption and utility costs. The lighting system utilizes dimming sensors responsive to ambient sunlight, reducing lighting levels up to 63% throughout the day.

The new lobby preserves much of the original building’s look and feel: Instead of a drop ceiling, the 19-foot-high ceiling was maintained to provide an open, airy feeling and to expose the concrete skeleton supporting the polished concrete floors. The electrical, plumbing, and mechanical infrastructure remains exposed throughout the space. Much of the original conduit is still in use and can be seen running perpendicular to the columns.

A living wall planned for the elevator vestibule will make visible CIIS’s deep relationship with nature. And, plans for an expanded iteration of the Consciousness Café, originally to be part of the first floor, are under way for the third floor.



We also designed multiple heating and cooling zones throughout the space to create microclimates for offices, open space, and the restroom area, which optimizes equipment efficiency, reduces energy usage, and minimizes the University’s carbon footprint. Earthy reclaimed wood, sourced from a Sonoma barn, lines the two walls behind the reception desk.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTEMPLATION

The University is grateful to trustee Helen Desai and former CIIS trustee Rajnikant Desai for their \$125,000 contribution to the First Floor Art Gallery. We are also grateful to CIIS alum Robert Matta (ICP ’01, EWP ’04) for matching the Desais with his gift of \$125,000.

Asked why she wished to contribute to the gallery, Helen Desai says, “I have loved art since I was a child, studying it in college, and I believe that having the opportunity to contemplate it keeps one elevated. Raj and I were good friends of the Chaudhuris,



MORE VIEWS OF OUR NEW LOBBY SPACE.

and it is an honor to support a project like the First Floor Art Gallery because we are happy to see all the many ways CIIS continues to grow.” The Desais were the 2006 recipients of the Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri Award for Distinguished Service (see p. 11).

Visitors to the gallery will be treated to an ever-changing palette of emerging and established artist exhibits; and visual display units will stream videos of lectures, poetry readings, and upcoming events. For the community, it will be an ideal introduction to CIIS and the breadth of amazing things on offer here.

“The expansive architecture of this space really allows us to bring to CIIS the fullness of what’s being made in contemporary art; possibilities abound to deepen the discourse within and between communities, and enrich the educational experience of our students,” says Visser.

## OPENING THE DOOR TO OPPORTUNITY

In the past year, CIIS has raised nearly \$500,000 for the First Floor Renovation Project—toward a total fundraising goal of \$1 million. In December, we held a Hard Hat Tour and reception that invited prospective donors to contribute to the project. Throughout the spring, the Development office has been scheduling visits with alumni and friends who may wish to make their own gift for the first floor.

Dorotea Reyna, Vice President of Development, calls the renovation a game-changer. “Down the road, through our merger with ACTCM, we will also be able to offer ear acupuncture clinic hours on the first floor to the general public,” she says. “We are delighted that CIIS will finally have a beautiful and creative space of first contact with new friends.” The grand opening, replete with a series of dynamic programming and events, is slated for the fall. ●

## RETRO AND MULTIGENDER

The multigender restroom, with seven private stalls, is designed to closely adhere to another core value at CIIS: celebrating and promoting the diversity within the community. Retro-style ceramic tile with warm colors accents the walls, and hexagonal floor tiles hark back to the early days of the swimsuit factory.

In addition to the lobby remodel, two rental spaces were renovated for our new tenants, Technical Credit Union and Sunverge Energy, a manufacturer of solar power storage units, which recently inked a five-year lease to occupy 8,000 square feet of office space facing Minna Street.

Much was done to preserve the original architecture of 1453 Mission Street, paying homage to the roots of this great city and street. The addition of bold, bright colors and high-tech elements embraces many of those same characteristics of our Mid-Market neighborhood—and point the way to a promising future.

This is truly an exciting time, not only for CIIS, but for the surrounding community as well. ●

*Frank Talamantez is Director of Facilities and Operations.*



# THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE ON DIVERSITY

## CIIS Strengthens Its Commitment to Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice

BY JAMES DAVID MARTIN

**T**he Board of Trustees (the Board) in fall 2014 passed a resolution on diversity that marked a key point in the evolution of efforts to diversify the CIIS community and academic curriculum. The timing of the resolution, which coincided with the creation of the University's 2020 Strategic Plan, provides an opportunity to weave diversity into every section of the plan and establishes it as an important objective.

The resolution, which established the President's Initiative on Diversity (the Initiative), set five areas of primary focus: curricula; student recruitment and financial aid; faculty and staff recruitment, hiring, training, review, and promotion; student advising and mentoring; and University structure and finance.

The Initiative deepens the commitment to making CIIS a more inclusive institution, as a primary goal outlined in CIIS's Strategic Plan "to embody and model a diverse, inclusive, socially just and interculturally sensitive learning community."

The Board called upon President Joseph L. Subbiondo to lead the Initiative in consultation with students, staff, faculty, administrators, alumni, and trustees, and to track its progress.

### BUILDING ON EARLIER FOUNDATIONS

Efforts to make the University more diverse and inclusive have been under way for many years. In 1999, Subbiondo formed the Diversity Action Team and created a new Director of Diversity position in 2004, with Lesa Hammond (TID '01) at the helm. Former Dean of Students Shirley Strong followed as director, and in 2007, she formed the Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice Committee (DISJ).

The Faculty Diversity Committee, also formally created in 2007, holds at least one retreat each year, a practice begun in 2004 by Academic Vice President Judie Wexler. Building on the work of Strong and the legacy of many others, as well as the 2015 Initiative, Arisika Razak, current Director of Diversity and DISJ Cochair, is collaborating with faculty, staff, and students to actualize CIIS's commitment to welcome and support a diversity of personal and cultural identities, within the classroom and in the institutional environment as a whole.



LEFT TO RIGHT: DISJ MEMBERS SARA MARIA ACEVEDO, MUSTAFAH GREENE, YASMINE KHAN, AND ARISIKA RAZAK

"In my work with students, staff, and faculty, the need for financial support for trainings, full scholarships for financially challenged students, and released time to do the work of updating and diversifying our programs and curricula has emerged as a pressing issue," says Razak, who is also a professor in the Women's Spirituality program.

Ensuring that all students are able to see themselves reflected in the curriculum from a place of strength is essential to providing the inclusive, affirming, diverse, and interculturally sensitive teaching and learning environment that the University aspires to.

Academic programs and faculty have been working to diversify their curricula, in large part because students of color have called for courses that reflect an understanding of their communities; understand the needs and demands of marginalized groups and communities; and master the facilitation skills that will help them support the challenges of teaching in the multicultural global classroom of the 21st century.

Faculty in the Expressive Arts Therapy program realized that a single course on diversity could not address such a complex set of issues. "'Diversity' and 'inclusion' issues are deeply embedded into the Expressive Arts Therapy curriculum," says Program Director Shoshana Simons. "And it's essential for our students to understand how their own social positionality and dimensions of difference might impact their relationships with the diverse range of clients they will be serving. We center our curriculum around the questions 'Who am I as a therapist?' 'Who are my

# SITY

clients?’ and ‘Which theories and modalities of practice are congruent with the specific needs of the clients I am serving?’”

## THE INITIATIVE IN ACTION

As well, a variety of staff and faculty are engaged in providing trainings to enhance the community’s knowledge of diversity, inclusivity, and intercultural communication.

In February, the MFA Programs at CIIS sponsored “28 Days of Blackness,” a series of workshops, performances, and lectures celebrating the lives of people of African descent in America. The series also created a forum for the CIIS community to explore and dialogue about the historical and ongoing racism in the everyday lived experience of African and black Americans.

Theatre for Change, a project of the Drama Therapy program developed in 2003 to educate and raise consciousness about diversity on campus (and beyond), continues its groundbreaking work.

For the past six years, CIIS’s contract with the City and County of San Francisco has underwritten the initiatives of the California Mental Health Services Act. (See “Mental Health Project Inspires Hope,” page 1.)

Recent Public Programs & Performances events have included Michelle Alexander discussing her book *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*; an evening with transgender actor and activist Laverne Cox that brought together the Bay Area’s LGBTQI community; Eduardo Duran speaking about his clinical work with indigenous native peoples; Cornel West’s lecture on “The Burden of African American Men”; and a concert series highlighting musicians from Mali.

June marks the Sixth Annual Expanding the Circle Summer Institute, which focuses on LGBTQ issues in higher education. The Summer Institute inspired a recently published book, *Expanding the Circle: Creating an Inclusive Environment in Higher Education for LGBTQ Students and Studies*, by former keynote speaker John C. Hawley.

And CIIS student affinity groups—new and longstanding—such as AWARE (Awakening

to Whiteness and Racism Everywhere), POC (People of Color) Thrive, Queer@CIIS, and Trangress are educating their constituencies about how to better respond to problematic interactions inside the classroom and in the University environment as a whole. The groups are open to students, faculty, and staff.

## WALKING THE TALK

Because of its broad representation across all areas of the University, the DISJ is a place where the Initiative intersects with the CIIS community. The DISJ comprises several subcommittees, which focus on curriculum, language and representation, recruitment and retention, and teaching resources, among other areas. Subcommittees also serve to help expand the definition of diversity, including a new area of focus for DISJ, disability.

Sara Acevedo, disability rights advocate and PhD candidate in Anthropology and Social Change, is leading the charge. “As long as there is silence around issues of disability justice in diverse educational institutions such as ours,” argues Acevedo, “we are not being inclusive, we are not being diverse, and we are ultimately not walking the talk.”

The DISJ is taking great care to identify program-specific definitions of diversity, noting how and where they intersect with the overarching goals of the University—where they dovetail, align, and do not align—then making recommendations to ensure that CIIS embodies a diverse, inclusive, socially just, and intercultur-ally sensitive learning community.

To that end, the Communications department has spearheaded a project to review and amend language in all official CIIS collateral (print and online) to make it more inclusive; and HR continues to revise the University hiring guidelines across all departments.

As the Initiative continues to find its form, CIIS welcomes the opportunity to engage in enriching and sometimes challenging conversations across different cohorts and communities within the larger CIIS community.

Key to achieving the 2020 Strategic Plan’s mandate of diversity and social justice as a core commitment is embedding them throughout the curriculum and ensuring that University policies and procedures reflect these values consistently.

“For CIIS to create the inclusive community that we have committed ourselves to requires that everyone at every level of the University participate,” says Subbiondo, “not just me, not just the DISJ. So many institutions, no matter how noble their intentions are, fall short in this work for a variety of reasons, and we cannot allow that here. We have to do better.” ●

James David Martin is Director of Communications.



POSTER FOR “28 DAYS OF BLACKNESS” BY NYE’LYN THO.





## PUBLIC PROGRAMS & PERFORMANCES: DISRUPTING EVENTS— STORYTELLERS, VISIONARIES, AND CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURS

BY LAURA REDDICK (PCC '13)

**L**ike the city of San Francisco, CIIS Public Programs & Performances is in the midst of a dynamic moment.

We are creating conversations that expand the important issues of our time by hosting people who are making change through passionate pursuit of their work. Our focus on spotlighting creative, visionary voices pushes us into a world where all people and beings can thrive.

But even as we stretch toward the future, we honor our lineage and the leaders who have helped shape CIIS. Recently I noticed a full-page ad from a 1996 magazine posted to the community board in the back of CIIS's Conscious Café. Luminaries including **Joanna Macy**, **Stan Grof**, **Angeles Arrien**, **Richard Tarnas**, and **Brian Swimme** appear in the ad. Though the publication predates Public Programs & Performances, we still regularly feature many of these great teachers. This spring

we hosted Joanna Macy as the keynote speaker of the Active Hope ecopsychology conference, and in fall 2014, we hosted the Expanding and Re-enchanting the Psyche Conference, a large, yet intimate, gathering in honor of Stan Grof's life.

Just as many of the presenters whom we've hosted over the past 25 years continue to grow, CIIS grows as well. We constantly innovate through our programming, hosting people whose work is shifting worldviews, holding the tension between mainstream popularity and society's radical reinvention. These are the people speaking truth, powerfully and without hesitation.

### TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

In late February, we welcomed **Brandon Stanton** of Humans of New York (HONY) fame. The HONY Facebook page has more than 12 million followers world-wide, and Brandon has met President Obama and traveled the world with the United Nations to raise awareness of its Millennium Development Goals. His presentation to 1,300 people at the Nourse Theater showed that Stanton is a gifted

storyteller and interviewer, who has a knack for identifying and highlighting the poignant details in the stories of each person he meets. Social media is as much a medium as his photography in revealing these stories to the world.

Malian musician, dancer, and actress **Fatoumata Diawara**, who graced the stage at the Nourse Theater in spring 2013, is another example of the up-and-coming world changers that Public Programs is courting. Diawara, with her powerful music, facilitated the conversation "Let's Talk About Africa." Through her candid lyrics and energetic stage presence, she opened a space for the audience to connect with issues such as female circumcision, forced marriage, and the persecution of musicians in Mali.

This May, Malaysian singer, songwriter, and fashion entrepreneur **Yuna** brought a bright pop sound to our stage. Her songs are powerful calls to individual agency for women, and her can-do attitude is infectious. Her career started with a strong following on MySpace, and Yuna is now redefining the image of an Islamic artist in the pop genre.

TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT: Joanna Macy, Fatoumata Diawara, Brandon Stanton.  
BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: Levi Felix, Richard Tarnas, Yuna.

In April 2015, **Levi Felix** invited us to remember how to play. His Camp Grounded summer camp for adults and Digital Detox both encourage participants to leave their devices at the door in order to forge true personal connections (and embrace their inner silliness). Fidget Wigglesworth, as he is called at camp, ushers us toward moments, days, and weeks of connection not with a screen, but with one another.

## MILLENNIAL SHIFT

Public Programs & Performances is maintaining a tradition of bringing changemakers to our community to impact us and be impacted by CIIS. “We constantly want to be featuring cultural provocateurs, change makers, and social disruptors, both embedded in the University and new voices, who are re-examining the world we live in and how we relate to one another,” says Director Karim Baer.

By hosting people like Brandon Stanton, Fatoumata Diawara, Yuna, and Levi Felix, Public Programs & Performances is amplifying diverse voices of a new generation that is deeply committed to pursuing their work and telling their stories. ●

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*Laura Pustarfi Reddick is senior program manager of CIIS Public Programs & Performances and a doctoral student in the Ecology, Spirituality, and Religion program.*

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THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

JUNE 10-13

# LGBTQ SUMMER INSTITUTE

BY DUSTIN N.  
SMITH (CAS '13)

CIIS Public Programs & Performances is delighted to present the sixth annual gathering of Expanding the Circle (ETC). The theme for 2015, Advancing LGBTQ Initiatives in Higher Education, from the Classroom to the Campus Quad, focuses on the holistic experience of LGBTQ students as they engage in academic and community-based learning.



SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL

Gender and queer theorist Jack Halberstam, professor at the University of Southern California, will deliver another keynote presentation that will address critical perspectives on contemporary visual culture, queer failure, gender variance, sex, and media.

For the sixth consecutive year, the Consortium of Higher Education LGBT Resource Professionals is partnering with CIIS, sponsoring a

faculty in residence and keynote address. It will also host a Western regional meet-up at this year's gathering.

At the Summer Institute, faculty, student life professionals, and administrators come together to discuss their work on behalf of LGBTQ students and studies. Dialogues on difference within LGBTQIQ communities, including topics that connect race, sexuality, gender, and transgender issues, are at the forefront of conversations around identity and alliance building.

Thanks to renewed support from the Small Change Foundation, ETC welcomes many notable educators and activists to the 2015 faculty, including LGBTQ student service

directors Tikesha Morgan (Emerson College), Shiva Subbaraman (Georgetown University), and Shaun Travers (University of California, San Diego).

Author, activist, and public health consultant Willy Wilkinson will deliver the opening keynote address on intersectional identity and how to connect academic and community movements. Wilkinson was recently honored with the Transgender Law Center's Vanguard Award and the Asian and Pacific Islander Queer Women and Transgender Coalition Phoenix Award.

We continue to build momentum for the National LGBTQ Studies Association initiative. A call for papers for this year's Summer Institute focuses on foregrounding cross-disciplinary research and scholarship in academic practice in three areas: LGBTQ Studies, as reflected in curricula and pedagogy; LGBTQ Studies and social justice; and student engagements beyond the classroom. ●



CYNTHIA BRIX AND WILL KEEPIN:

## Moving Through the Fire

BY MARGARET SEELIE

The story of Cynthia Brix and Will Keepin cannot be told without honoring the stories of many women, men, and LGBTI people around the world. Through the Gender Reconciliation project, the two have given workshops in Australia, Colombia, India, Kenya, South Africa, Europe, and the United States. They facilitate a transformative process of bringing gender injustices into the light that allows for a deep healing of the heart. The need for gender reconciliation is urgent: Domestic violence continues to be a leading cause of death for women worldwide.

"This work is volatile by its nature," says Keepin. "There are outbursts and strong aggression. Different people have strong charges around gender issues." Cultural norms, religious beliefs, governmental policies, familial experiences, the media, and everyday life can inform these fervent reactions. In workshops, he explains that these constructs are investigated by "creating a context where people can come into a level of intimacy, authenticity, and truth telling that is very rare in our society."

The Gender Reconciliation project began 23 years ago, prior to which Keepin and Brix did a tremendous amount of inner work to create the space necessary to harbor the stories that surface in workshops. Having completed his PhD in mathematical physics, Keepin found that "the whole dimension of inner life and inner development was pretty much left out of my training." To fill this gap, he moved to California in 1988



TOP: CYNTHIA BRIX AND WILL KEEPIN SPEAKING AT THEIR *DAWN OF INTERSPIRITUALITY* CONFERENCE, 2013. BOTTOM: BRIX AND KEEPIN IN GENDER RECONCILIATION CEREMONY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE (SOUTH AFRICA).

to attend CIIS and earned an MA in the East-West Psychology program. His time at CIIS "revolutionized" his life, and he co-founded the Satyana Institute where Brix took a job while completing two master's degrees and was ordained as an interfaith minister. The two married after five years, and cofounded Gender Reconciliation International and coauthored two books, *Divine Duality: The Power of Reconciliation Between Women and Men* (Hohm Press, 2007) and *Women Healing Women* (Hohm Press, 2009). Keepin, who is also a Fellow of the Findhorn Foundation, most recently published *Song of the Earth*:

*The Emerging Synthesis of Spiritual and Scientific Worldviews* (Permanent Publications, 2012).

The couple are also adjunct faculty at Holy Names University in Oakland, CA.

Their independent journeys have contributed to their abilities to create the inner space necessary to harbor some of the difficult stories that come up when discussing violations such as prejudice, objectification, homophobia, sexual assault, and molestation.

Brix asks, "How do we as facilitators navigate challenging waters and stay present and centered and able to move through the fire, so to speak, as those stories come out in a workshop? And how do we know that we'll get to the other side with that deep understanding, empathy, sympathy, compassion, and love for one another in community?"

Their resounding answer to these questions is love with a capital L. Love transcends cultures and religions, and empowers people to melt divisions created by the mind.

When asked about their hopes for the future, Brix replies, "My hope for the world is that this work is not needed anymore." She explains that to "live in the highest place of honoring one another ... we need to take time to really listen and hear the other person's story, whoever the other is in your life." ●

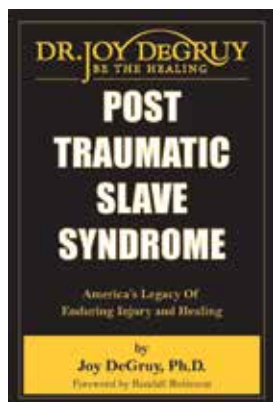
Margaret Seelie curated the event "The Other Side of Surfing" in April.

JOY DEGRUY

# A Catalyst for Change

BY ADEEBA DETERVILLE (BAC '10)

I was first introduced to the work of Dr. Joy DeGruy while attending the Essence Music Festival in New Orleans in 2002. She was one of the featured speakers in the Empowerment Experience that opens the multiday festival. One of the things that always stayed with me was how DeGruy was a recent graduate—having successfully defended *A Dissertation on African American Male Youth Violence: Trying to Kill the Part of You That Isn't Loved*—for her PhD in Social Work and Social Research the year before. Her dissertation was based on sociocultural theory, social learning theory, trauma theory, as well as her newly formed theoretical framework, Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome (PTSS), which takes into account multigenerational trauma.



I asked DeGruy to reflect back 13 years to her experience of being a (then) recent graduate and bringing her work to the world. “I was very sure about the significance of PTSS, but quite unsure about how it was going to be received in the broader community, so I had some concerns that there would be a struggle

finding receptivity,” she says. “But, much to my surprise, it was widely accepted and supported.”

CIIS has been very fortunate to be a part of the community that has embraced her scholarship—as one of the Seven Ideals of CIIS is a commitment to cultural diversity. DeGruy believes that her “experience with the school has been that many students and administrators have honest willingness to self-reflect and self-critique, and perhaps most important, to be accountable to change any identified weaknesses and shortcomings regarding culturally appropriate and competent teaching practices.”

This willingness was demonstrated during DeGruy’s most recent engagement with CIIS—an intensive four-day workshop that was open to students, faculty, staff, the Board of Trustees, and the community at large. The workshop has had a lasting impact on CIIS: It was the catalyst for the Board of Trustees to create the President’s Initiative on Diversity and Inclusion.

“I have never to date seen an institution of higher learning respond so expeditiously to the needs and requests of its student body with regard to teaching practices and policies!” she says about the Initiative. “While many institutions provide the acceptable language and lip service regarding issues of cultural competency, equity, and social justice, few move beyond this tertiary gesture. CIIS stood by their mandate and mission by being totally responsive to the needs of the CIIS community.



I am both humbled and honored to know that CIIS has so graciously embraced my work and has chosen to formally acknowledge my contribution to healing the wounds produced by racism in this country by awarding me with an honorary doctorate degree.” ●

*Adeeba Deterville is a doctoral student in the Transformative Studies program.*



# REACHING ACROSS THE GREAT DIVIDE

The *Journal of Holistic Psychology* and CIIS take aim at psychological splitting during an election year.

BY LAUREN GONZALEZ

Too often in this day and age, opinions pose as fact. Not that there's anything wrong with opinions—how skillfully (or not) we present them builds character and defines our personalities, or perhaps our quirks. It is essential, though, to remember that at the core of opinion is preference, and if we don't have the self-esteem to stand by our choices as just that, a choice, then we might succumb to the tack of making declarations so as to deflect challenge, to avoid debate. One does not have to reach too far into one's own mental archive to find an example of such a declaration from the ranks of politics, media, or entertainment.

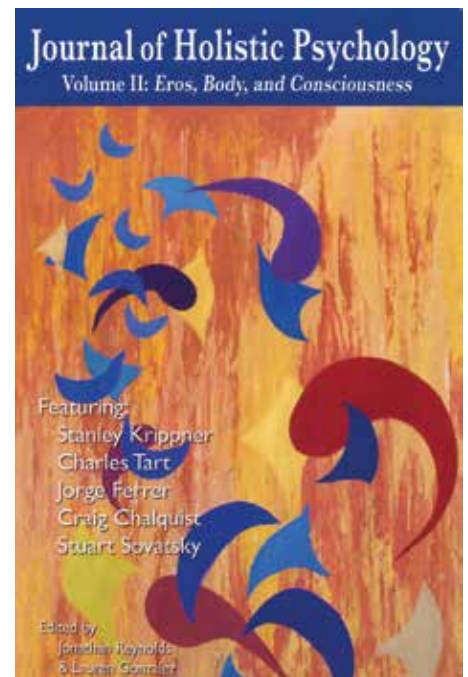
Our preferences for this or that, for one thing or another, a Democrat or a Republican, a Pepsi or a Coke, help us bond with like-minded friends as well as identify adversaries. And so we position our opinions as known facts so as to seek solace in a real or imagined collective, to find a place to call home, plainly situated across from the opposition. At its most benign it is sports-minded thinking, us versus them; at its most dangerous, it is jihad, genocide, war.

With the 2016 U.S. presidential election approaching, the *Journal of Holistic Psychology* (the *Journal*) has begun thinking about how opinion and fact will factor in as the divisions along political lines grow. In psychological terms, this divide is known as splitting, defined by black-and-white thinking, absolutism, fear, good versus evil, distortions, fanaticism, zealotry within an individual's psyche.

## FINDING A MIDDLE GROUND

One goal of psychotherapy is to heal this divide, to help people find a middle ground, the kernel of truth in every side of a story, interpretation of an event or statement, or belief system. When such splitting occurs in society, as it tends to during an election cycle, challenging this type of unhealthy thinking becomes complex, as the top-down modeling from individuals in the spotlight supports the bifurcation. The game becomes about convincing others that one holds not *a* truth but *the* truth.

Craig Chalquist, the *Journal's* executive editor and the East-West Psychology Department Chair, believes that the answer lies in exploration of the holistic approach in the truest sense of the term. "CIIS and the *Journal of Holistic Psychology* are collaborating on the theme



of politics for the next issue because holistic perspectives can investigate and, perhaps, begin to heal the splitting and fragmentation—the lack of wholeness—that characterizes the ‘hard’ reality of politics in our day,” says Chalquist. “The word ‘politics’ comes from a word for ‘flow,’ and yet in our time has congealed into stuckness and immobility. Where we should expect wisdom, discernment, and leadership we see unprecedented division, malfeasance, and outright folly. Why is this?”

When we're children, the difference between opinion and fact can be fuzzy.



The Anthropology and Social Change Department has been hard at work as a new member of the prestigious HAU Network of Ethnographic Theory. Andrej Grubacic, professor and Department Chair, has been selected to serve on the board as an

associate member of HAU: *Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.

HAU is an international peer-reviewed, open-access journal that aims to situate ethnography as the prime heuristic of anthropology and return it to the forefront of conceptual developments in the discipline. The most recent issue of the *Journal* included such topics as colloquia on water, anthropological knots, the ontological turn in anthropology, as well as the translation of Fernando Ortiz's classic essay “The Human Factors of Cubanidad.”

At a young age, to dislike a thing—whether peas, skim milk, or the classical music station one’s parents listen to in the car—might be to assume it is a fact that particular thing is terrible, and the person eating, drinking, or listening to it is simply uninformed or has bad taste. I blamed age for my parents’ poor taste in food and music. What did they know about cool things? They were adults.

We have become polarized, as is evidenced in everyday thinking. At the time of this writing, a viral social media meme is circulating that challenges viewers to see a photo of a dress as either black and blue or gold and white—apparently depending on one’s proclivity to visually process certain colors.

Many of us say, “Who cares what color the dress is?” Yet in this mass debate, which has captured the attention of

millions of people around the world, lies the heart of the matter—we seem to be living for the opportunity to both oppose and join, simultaneously, tirelessly seeking our place within the side upon which we can stand behind the line with our like-minded peers, hurling eggs at the rival.

Author and cartoonist Dr. Seuss captured dualistic thinking well during the Cold War with his antiwar offering *The Butter Battle Book* (1984), which famously presents the Yooks and Zooks, characters who both love buttered bread but disagree as to which side the bread should be buttered on—an argument that leads to all-out ... we won’t give away the ending.

The *Journal* believes that the term “holistic” is often misrepresented as a term of enlightenment that can be used to—you got it, polarize. Specifically regarding

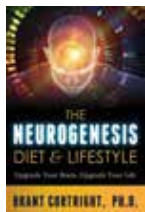
psychotherapy, a relatively young field in terms of healing arts and sciences, there have been many developmental phases and modalities, some of which live on the evidence-based, scientific side and others on the more experimental, experiential, and even spiritual side.

Holistic psychology, to us, is not only the latter but also the former. For to be truly holistic, one must consider all sides—a dialectic in search of many opposing, yet equally valid, truths. With our next volume, the politics issue, we will explore, for example, how splitting occurs in the psyche during an election term, and we’ll offer insight into the endorphin rush that research shows we experience when our side wins. Volume III will be available in print in summer 2016. ●

Lauren Gonzalez is co-founding editor of the *Journal of Holistic Psychology*.

## FACULTY work

### BOOKS



**The Neurogenesis Diet and Lifestyle: Upgrade Your Brain, Upgrade Your Life**  
Psyche Media, April 2015  
By **Brant Cortright**, PhD,  
Professor, Integral Counseling  
Psychology

This integral approach to brain health and guide for optimal brain aging builds on recent research in neuroscience that shows the brain produces new brain cells throughout our lives. Using the integral approach to consciousness developed by Sri Aurobindo, this book looks at enhancing the brain at every level—body, heart, mind, and spirit—for only such a holistic

program can do justice to the brain’s full potential.



**Ecopsychology, Phenomenology, and the Environment: The Experience of Nature**  
Springer Press, 2014

Edited by **Fernando Castrillón**, PhD, Associate Professor, Community Mental Health; and **Douglas Vakoch**, PhD, Professor, Clinical Psychology

This book seeks to confront an apparent contradiction: that while we are constantly attending to environmental issues, we seem to be woefully out of

touch with nature. Its goal is to foster an enhanced awareness of nature that can lead us to new ways of relating to the environment, ultimately yielding more sustainable patterns of living.



**Extraterrestrial Altruism: Evolution and Ethics in the Cosmos**  
Springer, 2014

Edited by **Douglas Vakoch**, PhD, Professor, Clinical Psychology

*Extraterrestrial Altruism* examines a basic assumption of the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI): that extraterrestrials will

be transmitting messages to us for our benefit. This question of whether extraterrestrials will be altruistic has become increasingly important in recent years as SETI scientists have begun contemplating transmissions from Earth to make contact.



**Travelers With No Ticket Home**  
Marsh Hawk Press, 2014  
By **Mary Mackey**, PhD,  
Adjunct Professor, Women’s  
Spirituality

In her seventh book of poetry, Mary Mackey offers her readers 58 intensely lyrical poems that are complex yet entirely accessible. The poems form a



visionary meditation on nature, childhood, the destruction of the rainforest of the Amazon, and the real and psychological landscape of travel.



## Play and Art in Child Psychotherapy: An Expressive Arts Therapy Approach

Jessica Kingsley Publishing, 2015

By **Ellen G. Levine**, MSW, PhD, REAT, Adjunct Professor, Expressive Arts Therapy

Through a series of case studies looking at the use of play and the arts in therapeutic work with children and their parents, Ellen G. Levine draws out the guiding principles and practices of expressive arts therapy and discusses the themes that regularly emerge in sessions with children and their families.



## Journeys in Complexity: Autobiographical Accounts by Leading Systems and Complexity Thinkers

Routledge, 2014

By **Alfonso Montuori**, PhD, Professor, Transformative Studies

In this book, fascinating autobiographical accounts by leading scholars in a variety of

fields and disciplines provide a rich introduction to the art and science of complexity and systems thinking. We learn how the authors' interest in complexity thinking developed, the key figures and texts they encountered along the way, the experiences that shaped their path, their major works, and their personal journeys.



## Partakers of the Divine: Contemplation and the Practice of Philosophy

Fortress Press, 2014  
By **Jacob Holsinger Sherman**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Philosophy and Religion

Through engagement with contemporary theologians and philosophers of religion, both analytic and continental, and through careful rereadings of historical figures such as Anselm and Nicholas of Cusa, *Partakers of the Divine* presents a contemporary argument in favor of the antique, participatory tradition of contemplative philosophy.

## EXHIBITS, PERFORMANCES, PRODUCTIONS



**Alec MacLeod**, MFA, Professor, School of Undergraduate Studies

Fernweh\*the good life  
Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts (2015)  
Nebraska City, NE (invitational)

Small Works  
Art Works Downtown (2014)  
San Rafael, CA (juried)

Collect!  
Berkeley Art Center (2014)  
Berkeley, CA (juried)

10x10x10  
Mighty Tieton Gallery (2014)  
Tieton, WA (juried)

Less Is More  
The Mitchell Gallery (2014)  
St. John's College, Annapolis, MD (juried)

3 Wishes for Deborah  
Ossuary, Heron Galleries (2014)  
University of Indiana, Indianapolis, IN (invitational)

Look My Way  
Beauty Matters: The Chautauqua National Juried Exhibition; Giles Gallery (2014)  
Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY (juried)

Going Somewhere  
Small Works, Limner Gallery (2014)  
Hudson, NY (juried)



**Mark Jackson**, Assistant Professor, MFA Theatre-Performance Making

Director of Anne Carson's *Antigonick* with choreographer Hope Mohr. March 19–April 26, 2015, at the Shotgun Players, Berkeley.

Creator, performer, and producer with Megan Trout, multimedia, physical theater performance *Now for Now*. Premiering July 9–26, 2015, at Z Space, San Francisco.



**Anne Bluethenthal**, MFA, Associate Professor, MFA Creative Inquiry, Interdisciplinary Arts

*Andares* features the musicians of El Salvador's Mezoamerika in collaboration with ABD Productions. The multidisciplinary performance work illuminates the music, art, and stories of that country's brutal civil war while speaking to the unity of all struggles for liberation. Premiering May 29–31, 2015, at the San Francisco International Arts Festival.

*Skywatchers* features an ensemble of residents of San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood who work together to create performances rooted in their stories, joys, concerns, and urgencies. Presented by ABD Productions and 509 Cultural Center in partnership with Community Housing Partnership. Performances at the Tenderloin National Forest, 509 Ellis Street, San Francisco.

## BOOK CHAPTERS AND ARTICLES

**Elizabeth Allison**, PhD, Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness; Associate Professor, Ecology, Spirituality, and Religion

"Religion Inscribed in the Landscape: Sacred Sites, Local Deities, and Natural Resource Use in the Himalayas," in Stanley D. Brunn, ed., *The Changing World Religion Map* (Springer, 2015).

"At the Boundary of Modernity: Religion, Technocracy, and Waste Management in Bhutan," in Megan Sijapati and Jessica Vantine Birkenholtz, eds.,

*Religion and Modernity in the Himalayas* (Routledge, forthcoming in 2015).

"Waste and Worldviews: Waste management challenges in Bhutan," *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture* 8, no. 4 (forthcoming in 2015).



**Fernando Castrillón,** PhD, Associate Professor, Community Mental Health

"Translating Angst: Inhibitions and Symptoms in Anglo-

American Psychoanalysis," *European Journal of Psychoanalysis* (July 2014).

"Traduciendo Angst: Inhibiciones y Síntomas en el Psicoanálisis Anglo-Americano," in *Miedo, sufrimiento y angustia* (Toledo, Spain: Editorial Ledoria).

**Craig Chalquist,** PhD, Associate Professor, East-West Psychology

"Forecasting the Weather: Unhumanizing Phenomenology for Decoding the Language of Earth," in *Ecopsychology, Phenomenology, and the Environment: The Experience of Nature* (Springer, 2014).

"On Earth as It Is in Heaven: Reimagining Archetypes as the

*Sacred Powers of the World*," *Journal of Holistic Psychology* (Fall 2014).

**Allan Leslie Combs,** PhD, Professor, Transformative Studies

"Art and the Evolution of Consciousness," *Eros and Kosmos* (August 2014).

"Transcend and Include: Wilber's Contributions to Transpersonal Psychology," in Glenn Hartelius and Harris Friedman, eds., *Wiley-Blackwell Handbook of Transpersonal Psychology* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2014).

**Renée Emunah,** PhD, RDT/BCT, Professor; **Gary Raucher,** MA, LMFT, RDT/BCT, Assistant Professor; and

**F. Antonio Ramírez Hernández,** PsyD, Assistant Professor, Drama Therapy

"Self-Revelatory Performance in Mitigating the Impact of Trauma," in *Trauma Informed Drama Therapy: Transforming Clinics, Classrooms, and Communities* (Charles C. Thomas Pub. Ltd., 2014).

**Joanne Gozawa,** PhD, Associate Professor, Transformative Leadership, Transformative Studies

"Contemplative pedagogy and compassionate presence," in O. Gunnlaugson, E. Sarath, C. Scott, and H. Bai, eds., *Contemplative Learning and Inquiry Across Disciplines* (SUNY Press, 2014).

**Andrej Grubacic,** PhD, Associate Professor, Anthropology and Social Change

"Exilic Spaces and the Capitalist World Economy," in Alexander Sasha Ross, ed., *Grabbing Back: Essays Against Local and Global Land Grab* (AK Press, 2014).

"The Balkanization of Bosnia," *Z Magazine* (February 2014).

**Glenn Hartelius,** PhD, Associate Professor, East-West Psychology

"Body Maps of Attention: Phenomenal markers for two varieties of mindfulness," *Mindfulness*, online first (2015).

**Don Hanlon Johnson,** PhD, Professor, Somatic Psychology

Preface, in Williamson, Batson, Whatley, and Weber, eds., *Dance, Somatics and Spiritualities: Contemporary Sacred Narratives* (University of Chicago Press, 2014)

**Meg Jordan,** PhD, RN, Professor, Integrative Health Studies

## INTEGRAL REVIEW FEBRUARY 2015 VOL. 11, NO. 1

**SPECIAL ISSUE EDITOR:** Bahman A.K. Shirazi, PhD, Adjunct Associate Professor, Integral Counseling Psychology

The online journal has showcased a sample of CIIS scholarly writings based on the 2014 Founders Symposium on Integral Consciousness.

**Debashish Banerji,** PhD, Assistant Professor, Asian and Comparative Studies

"Individuation, Cosmogenesis, and Technology: Sri Aurobindo and Gilbert Simondon"

**Craig Chalquist,** PhD, Associate Professor, East-West Psychology

"Integral Education in Light of Earthrise"

**Alec Macleod,** et al., MFA, Professor, School of Undergraduate Studies

"Positionality as Knowledge: From Pedagogy to Praxis"

**Barbara Morrill,** PhD, Associate Professor, Integral Counseling Psychology

"Unfolding Toward Being: Etty Hillesum and the Evolution of Consciousness"

**Karabi Sen,** PhD, Visiting Professor, Asian and Comparative Studies

"The Restoration of Wholeness"

**Bahman K. Shirazi,** PhD, Adjunct Associate Professor, Integral Counseling Psychology

"Integrative Research: Integral Epistemology and Integrative Methodology"

**Joseph. L. Subbiondo,** President, California Institute of Integral Studies

"The Dynamic Unity of the Opposites: Haridas Chaudhuri's Integral Method and Higher Education"

<http://integral-review.org/current.issue/index.asp>

Continued on page 34

## PASSIONATE PSYCHOLOGY:

## GLENN HARTELIUS

(EWP '09)

BY HEATHER FESTER

With all of the first-floor renovations and celebrations going on lately at CIIS, it might be easy to miss something else just one floor down in the Mission Street campus lower level.

In fall 2015, backed by a generous BIAL Foundation grant of \$50,000, research will begin in earnest on parapsychology related to consciousness in a new lab.

The grant that funds the first lab project was awarded to Glenn Hartelius, associate professor in East-West Psychology (EWP), who was hired in fall 2014, 11 years after he started coursework in the program as a student.

This coming fall, Hartelius will also be Chair of the newly formed Integral and Transpersonal Psychology doctoral-level program (pending WSCUC approval), an online degree with three

specialization tracks that he proposed and built. While the program will initially be housed in EWP, CIIS faculty and administration are hopeful that down the road it will evolve into its own program.

EWP Program Chair Craig Chalquist says the program “will offer transpersonal coursework to students who are unable to physically visit our campus. The program will highlight the best of what human consciousness is capable of.”

The newly formed degree program, approved by the CIIS Board of Directors at its fall meeting, will be linked to the research lab, which will offer students a place to explore and define holistic currents in transpersonal neuroscience, parapsychology, phenomenology, and consciousness through their own research.

Behind all the buzz about the online doctoral program, the

holistic neuroscience research being planned for the new lab, and the recently affiliated *International Journal for Transpersonal Studies* at CIIS is Hartelius. How has he brought together so much in such a short time at CIIS?

## EXCAVATING MEANING FOR THE FIELD OF TRANSPERSONAL PSYCHOLOGY

If you had asked Hartelius whether he envisioned a future as a psychologist when he was young, the answer would have been a simple no. “When I was six years old, I heard a lecture by an archaeologist, and at that point, I was no longer interested in being a policeman or a fireman or everything that little kids want to do. I just wanted to be whatever that guy was.” He had a chance to go on his first dig in Israel when he was only 16, and this precocious interest was followed by 20 years in the field, digging and doing scholarship.

Hartelius reached a turning point midcareer, however. “I needed something that would help relieve the suffering, difficulties, and challenges that people go through in their everyday lives.” That quest for meaningful work led him to enroll in the EWP program in 2003.

In 2007, Harris Friedman invited Hartelius to take over most of the operations of the *International Journal of Transpersonal Studies*.

When he graduated in 2009, Hartelius applied for a postdoctoral fellowship at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology (now Sofia University), a position that evolved into a full-time faculty position. He taught at Sofia for six years before he received the offer to work at CIIS. During that time, he also coedited with Friedman *The Wiley-Blackwell Handbook of Transpersonal Psychology*.

*Continued on page 35*



*The International Journal of Transpersonal Studies* (the *Journal*) is a peer-reviewed academic journal dedicated to theory, research, practice, and discourse in the area of

transpersonal studies. It is the official *journal* of the International Transpersonal Association and is sponsored by CIIS.

The *Journal* was founded in 1981 and published as the *Australian Journal of Transpersonal Psychology* until 1992. It was published under

its current title through the University of Hawaii from 1993 to 2002, and was then acquired and published by Saybrook University from 2003 to 2006 under the editorship of Harris Friedman and Doug MacDonald.

In 2007, Floragades Foundation assumed

responsibility for the *Journal*, publishing it under the coeditorship of Friedman and Glenn Hartelius from 2007 to 2009. Hartelius has been editor since 2010.

In this new role, Hartelius helped grow the readership from 25 print subscribers to 80,000 online readers.



# TRAVIS MATHEWS (ICP '03)

## CREATING INTIMACY IN NEW WAVE QUEER CINEMA

*A filmmaker of refreshing honesty, Travis Mathews is a new voice giving queer cinema a much needed injection of emotional intimacy.*

—John Cameron Mitchell, creator of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*



### BY CHARLES WILMOTH

*In Their Room*, *I Want Your Love*, *Interior: Leather Bar*, and the upcoming *Oscillate Wildly*—all films of CIIS alumnus Travis Mathews—have been screened in festivals and movie theaters worldwide.

Mathews moved to San Francisco to study in CIIS's Integral Counseling Psychology (ICP) program in 1999, imagining he would work as a therapist to sustain himself while he pursued his dream of making films. But filmmaking has since taken over, and that's where Mathews now puts all of his time and energy. He still lives in the same flat in the Haight that he shares with two roommates, and until recently, he used his bedroom as his office.

A recipient of one of the Film Society's sizable Kenneth Rainin Foundation producer

grants, Mathews got a reprieve from the bedroom office and now works out of the San Francisco Film Society's suite in North Beach, where he is hard at work on his upcoming film *Oscillate Wildly*.

It was the Web video series *In Their Room* that garnered critical notice and helped him gain a following, displaying his hallmark facility for capturing the intimate and quotidian facets of lived experience. *In Their Room* is a series of short videos of Mathews documenting the everyday rituals of gay men in their bedrooms begun in San Francisco in 2009, followed by Berlin in 2010 and London in 2012.

Part of what is remarkable about *In Their Room* is the way each episode's candid realism contrasts with the airbrushed and falsely glamorized images of gay men that one finds in most TV shows and movies—to say nothing of advertising

directed at gay men as a target market. Rather, viewers of *In Their Room* grow in complexity and dimensionality by encountering themselves through snapshots of small and ordinary, but universal, movements through the days.

Mathews connects his interest in and capacity for capturing intimate moments with his experience as an ICP student, which may have helped establish the template for the tonal quality of his films.

Mathews's first feature film, 2012's *I Want Your Love*, is a closely observed account of a group of queer bohemian men in San Francisco as they negotiate their relationships, jobs, and career dreams as artists making a counter-culture. Screened widely at LGBTQ film festivals, it garnered a strong critical reception. *The Guardian* UK grouped Mathews with filmmakers Ira Sachs (*Keep*

*the Lights On* and last year's *Love Is Strange*) and Andrew Haigh (the wonderful *Weekend* and the HBO series *Looking*), saying, "These filmmakers seek to describe the experience of being queer today through stories that resonate beyond that context." *I Want Your Love* is also notable for its explicit sex scenes, which develop naturally, organic to the story and imbued with their real meaning for the characters, not as titillating display for the viewer's objectifying gaze.

James Franco, the movie star and multi-arts gadabout, has made several experimental films, including *The Broken Tower*, which is about gay poet Hart Crane, and *Sal*, based on the last hours of Sal Mineo, one of Hollywood's first openly gay actors and a star of *Rebel Without a Cause*. (Mineo was murdered when returning home after a rehearsal to his

*Continued on next page*

apartment in West Hollywood in 1976.)

Franco's next experiment was to be a movie about the missing 40 minutes from William Friedkin's notorious film *Cruising*, which stars Al Pacino as a straight undercover cop in pursuit of a serial killer of men who frequent New York's gay S&M leather demimonde.

Franco was impressed by Mathews's handling of explicit sex in *I Want Your Love* and asked Mathews to help him direct the new movie, which came to be titled *Interior: Leather Bar*.

*Interior* premiered at the Sundance and Berlin International Film Festivals and has screened at 75 festivals internationally. It was released theatrically by Strand Releasing in 2014. As directed by Mathews, *Interior* becomes a movie about making a movie. While filming actors and nonactors in the re-creation of the explicit S&M acts purportedly cut from *Cruising*, Mathews also films Franco and his good friend Val Lauren, who plays the Pacino character. He documents how these two straight men wrestle with



SCENE FROM *INTERIOR: LEATHER BAR*

expanding their boundaries to come to terms with sexual acts so outside their frame of reference.

While watching the movie, one begins to wonder if Pacino might have had the same struggles as Lauren, who is playing at being Pacino. Fortunately, *Interior* has an emotional impact beyond a clever intellectual exercise, engaging the viewer in the very real struggle of personal growth and change.

Franco has become an important ally for Mathews, signing on as an executive producer and an actor in Mathews's upcoming feature, *Oscillate Wildly*, set to start shooting in Austin, Texas, this June. *Oscillate Wildly* (titled after the Smiths' instrumental song from the *Louder Than Bombs* album) developed out of a correspondence with a gay man who has cerebral palsy.

Mathews is also confident about his ability to handle the sensitive issues surrounding disability. He attributes this ease, in part, to his ICP education and training, which shows up in all his work as a focus on characters' interior worlds. He believes that his training as a therapist enables him to make actors feel safe and comfortable—whether it's a scene involving explicit sex or the rugged terrain of

heartache. They know "it's OK and good to be real with me," he says.

Mathews's life as a serious, up-and-coming filmmaker has taken him quite a distance from the provincial countryside of Licking County, Ohio, where he grew up. He now flies to New York to audition actors for *Oscillate Wildly*; he regularly attends the Sundance Film Festival; and his films are screened at festivals in São Paulo, Sydney, Copenhagen, Madrid, Taipei, and Tel Aviv.

Mathews says his desire for his films is "to make the artifacts I would have wanted for my 16-year-old self." ●

*Charles Wilmoth is Associate Director of Development.*

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**He believes that his training as a therapist enables him to make actors feel safe and comfortable.**

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## FROM NEW YORK TO VANCOUVER

BY RICHARD BUGGS

### NEW YORK CITY OCTOBER 30, 2014

Alums, students, and prospective students from the tri-state area—New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey—gathered at the Open Center in Manhattan on October 30, 2014, for an evening program that included welcoming remarks from Director Ralph White and updates from President Joseph Subbiondo on recent CIIS initiatives. A lively discussion of the integral vision in higher education followed.

### VANCOUVER FEBRUARY 27, 2015

Alums living in the Vancouver area gathered at the Water Street Café in the Gastown area for an evening of networking and reconnecting with CIIS. ●



TOP: ALUMS IN MANHATTAN, BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: LAUREL EDWARDS (EXA '04) AND ELENA HULL (CLN '06); ALUMS IN VANCOUVER, BRYNA ANDRESSEN (EXA '13) AND ALLISON RENNIE (WRC '13), JODY O'CONNOR AND PAUL COSULICH (ICP '12).



OCTOBER 25–NOVEMBER 1, 2015

Join Richard Buggs, Director of Travel, on this exclusive opportunity to explore the largest island in the Caribbean and discover its vibrant history, its rich culture, and its fascinating people; and experience tropical Cuba and delight in this leisurely paced adventure.

For complete itinerary and cost, and to register, please visit our website at [www.ciis.edu/travel](http://www.ciis.edu/travel).

For more information, contact Richard Buggs at 415-575-6116 or [rbuggs@ciis.edu](mailto:rbuggs@ciis.edu).

*This tour adheres to the highest responsible tourism practices and aims to support and economically benefit local communities we visit while also promoting a cross-cultural understanding between visitors and locals.*

## THE PEOPLE, ART, AND MUSIC

HAVANA, TRINIDAD, AND CIENFUEGOS

### HIGHLIGHTS:

Explore elegant, exuberant Havana, with its exceptional architecture and outdoor markets. Meet and mingle with its people—local musicians and artists—in their galleries and studios.

Relax in beloved Cienfuegos, the Pearl of the South. Enjoy coffee grown by local farmers in this sea-misted city named a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

- Travel through the rural countryside to bustling Trinidad, located above the Valley of the Sugar Mills, and glimpse a bygone era.
- Savor authentic foods in paladares—small, family-run restaurants in private homes.
- Visit urban community farming co-ops, and learn about the island's grassroots sustainability movements.
- Learn about Santería and the roots of this African religious tradition, very much alive in modern Cuba.

### TOUR LEADER

The trip is led by CIIS Director of Travel Richard Buggs, who will partner with Cuban artists, musicians, architects, and historians in making this an unforgettable journey. The tour is limited to 20 participants, so we encourage you to apply early! ●





**LINDA BENCANGEY GOLDSTEIN (EXA '96)** is a Registered Expressive Arts Therapist with the International Expressive Arts Therapy Association (IEATA) and has had a psychotherapy private practice since 1997. She was previously on the Board of IEATA and REACH (Reaching with Expressive Arts for Creativity and Healing) and currently is a member of IEATA. She also was president of the Creative Arts Student Association at San Francisco State University for two years.



**DOUGLAS P. CYR (PDT '98)** is the Northern California field consultant for the Federal Occupational Health Employee Assistance Program and works as an EMDRIA Certified Therapist in his law enforcement-exclusive private practice in Walnut Creek. He serves as the primary clinical responder for the San Jose Police Department and as a consulting trainer for the California Highway Patrol First-Line Supervisor's Academy. He recently received a Certificate of Specialized Training in Emergency Services from the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, where he has just been accepted into the Approved Instructor Candidate Program.



**MATTHEW SCHWARZMAN (TLR '98)** has been the executive director of the New Orleans Kids Project since 2011 and was a community organizer, artist, educator, and administrator with young people in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, California, and Louisiana since 1985. He has helped established youth programs in community organizations, high schools, and universities across the country and is coauthor (with cartoonist Keith Knight) of *Beginner's Guide to Community-Based Arts* (New Village Press, 2005).



**MINA ZAMINSKY (EXA '00)** is an expressive arts therapist, a trained sensory motor psychotherapist with a focus on trauma, and a certified addictions treatment counselor (CATC). She served as the director of outpatient services at Walden House and also has a private psychotherapy practice. She is adjunct faculty in the City College of San Francisco Drug and Alcohol Studies program, where she has taught a variety of classes, including Introduction to Drug and Alcohol Studies, Co-occurring Disorders, Group Facilitation, and Motivational Counseling.



**KARIN VON DALER (EXA '03)** is in full-time private practice in Copenhagen as a psychologist, EXA therapist, and student supervisor. She is also the cofounder of the creative body-oriented psychotherapy center Nyt Anastasis. In addition, she is core faculty at the Danish Art Therapy Institute, where she teaches intermodal and depth-oriented expressive arts. Karin plays harp in an ensemble with harpist Helen Davies, performing mostly in Denmark. She is working on a new online gallery, Evoarte, for expressive artists worldwide, where she will also be showing her own visual art pieces.



**AMY BUNN (ICP '04)** launched her new San Francisco practice specializing in parenting, abuse recovery, crises, and transitions. [www.amybunnmft.com](http://www.amybunnmft.com)



**NICKI KOETHNER (EXA '04)** is a multimedia artist and expressive arts therapist specializing in spirituality, sexuality, trauma, creativity, couples work, and parenting, and has led workshops and performances across the U.S. and internationally. She is an advisor to the International Expressive Arts Therapy Association, is an organizer for the Northern California Dance Collective, and

has a private practice in Berkeley. She also supervises at the Pacific Center for Human Growth and is involved as a trainer in an Innovation Grant for the County of Alameda to help raise awareness for the LGBTQI community.



**MAIA HUANG (EXA '05)** is the founder of Healing Arts Psychotherapy, and she specializes in working with individuals, couples, and groups from diverse backgrounds and lifestyles. In addition to holistic psychotherapy, her interests in guided imagery and the arts set the stage for a creative space of healing.



**FOLARINDE HARRISON (TLC '06)** is a licensed nurse with degrees from the University of San Francisco. She is the founder and president of Baoye, a nonprofit organization whose mission is "to help those who need help," and hopes to return to Ghana to feed the elderly in her ancestral compound in Cape Coast, Ghana.



**MATTHEW J. TAYLOR (TLC '06)** is the editor of the new textbook *Fostering Creativity in Rehabilitation* and author of nine of the chapters. He is an international leader in integrative rehabilitation, which provides practical, engaged processes for patients and providers. [www.creativityinrehab.com](http://www.creativityinrehab.com)



**VIVIANE DZYAK (EWP '98, WSE, '07)** has worked in the fields of law and education for 20 years. In 2011, she cofounded a socially conscious travel company, E-magine Journeys, which was designed to offer meaningful travel experiences. In addition to her business venture, she continues to teach, conduct research, and write about women's spiritual lives and the varieties of religious experiences throughout the world. [www.e-maginejourneys.com](http://www.e-maginejourneys.com)

**KATHLEEN CASELA (BIS '11)**

is the statewide Foster Youth Success Initiative liaison for the Foundation for California Community

Colleges. The Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI) is a statewide outreach and retention effort to improve the ability of foster youth to access postsecondary education.

**FRANCISCA LIZANA (EXA '11)**

began offering strength-based and culturally competent EXA approaches in Spanish and

English to adults and children in a variety of community settings. In 2011, she was invited to work with refugees and migrants in Chile and opened a private practice; she also facilitated expressive arts therapy for the outpatient adult population at an addiction treatment center. She has taught in an art therapy graduate program and has collaborated with Gloria Simoneaux (ICP '99 and founder of Harambee Arts).

**BEN RIVERS (PDT '11)**

is a founding member of the Freedom Theatre's Freedom Bus initiative (Jenin, Occupied Palestine) and a

cofounder of the Arab School of Playback Theatre (Beirut, Lebanon). He specializes in the use of applied theater for community mobilization, cultural activism, and collective trauma response. Ben has taught and practiced in Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East, and North America. He is a Registered Drama Therapist and an Accredited Playback Theatre Trainer.

**ERIC SUBIDO (EXA '11)**

has been working with children, youth, and families for more than 10 years in San Francisco.

He received his undergraduate degree in child and adolescent development, which inspired his passion for working with highly disadvantaged youth and schoolteachers. He has created an expressive arts program called Dance Your Art Out, which provides movement-based social learning experiences for children and adults through art, play, and the creative process. He teaches yoga to children in the public schools, incorporating the literary arts, improvisation, and theater. He also leads adult yoga classes emphasizing radical wellness and a socially conscious lifestyle.

**ERICA JONES (PCC '12)**

is a writer, poet, and integral ecologist residing in the Anderson Valley of Mendocino County, CA,

where she is writing a history of Mount Diablo, a mountain in the San Francisco Bay Area. She also practices astrology and incorporates nature-based practices for self-exploration into consultations. <http://realimaginal.com/>

**MARRISA KELLY WEILER (BIS '11, IHL '14)**

is the general manager of Innerstellar Yoga and has a wellness coaching practice

that focuses on transsexuality. She hopes to make Innerstellar Yoga a dynamic, safe, informative, and enlivening place to heal and grow strong. [www.innerstellaryoga.com](http://www.innerstellaryoga.com)

## New book? New job? New baby?

*If you have news to share with the CIIS Community, log in to the CIIS Online Alumni Community at <http://alumni.ciis.edu> and add a class note for publication. Don't forget your photo! You can also send your note with your high-resolution photo to Cynthia Mitchell at [cmitchell@ciis.edu](mailto:cmitchell@ciis.edu)*

**KENDRA HARRIS (TSD '14)**

is the director of social services at Elderly Care, a nonprofit located in the greater New Orleans

area, and a professor at Dillard University. [www.naturalgeniusadvantage.weebly.com](http://www.naturalgeniusadvantage.weebly.com)

**DEBORAH SANTANA (WSE '14)**

is the creator of the documentary *Women's Spirituality in Higher Education*. This film recently premiered at CIIS

as part of the Spring 2015 Alumni University Lecture Series. ●

## Zakir Hussain

*Continued from page 11*

art through the voice of that instrument to your heart's content.

"So when I'm performing, and playing, I'm in that relationship with my instrument. It's very deep, and it builds that

confidence and respect for each other, a love that has been built over many decades.

"There is no intention consciously to have the audience be a part of it, but I imagine the audience or people listening

to me—or any musician—who have that kind of a connection to music cannot help but notice it, and become a part of it, and take the plunge with us." ●

Our new exhibition space—in all its expansive elegance—is a love letter to the community, one that speaks of our commitment to the critical role of visual culture in the discourse of our time.

BY DEIRDRE VISSER



## JAIME CORTEZ: SELF EVIDENT

Truong Tran:  
Framed Targets

March 6–April 12, 2015

The Arts at CIIS proudly opens our new street-level gallery with two one-person exhibitions:

Jaime Cortez: *Self Evident*, and Truong Tran: *Framed Targets*. Each artist addresses the ways technology and the transformation of the physical, economic, and social space of the city inform individual and community identity. In the age of immediacy and disposability—whether the snapshot or the throwaway material goods—these artists reclaim what's been quickly discarded, rendering it beautiful through their obsessive attention, making visible what's becom(ing) invisible, and locating our collective desire for the expression of the self.

Jaime Cortez's *Self Evident* celebrates the classically beautiful and eminently imperfect, the empowered, and the abject, found in the uniquely contemporary form of self-portraiture, the selfie. With *Framed Targets*, Truong Tran—a gay man of color—investigates a complex and contradictory position of feeling both invisible and targeted by the economic forces driving the transformation of San Francisco.



## THE GRIOTS OF OAKLAND

Story For All; The Center for Healthy Schools and Communities, ACHCSA

February 6, 2015–June 20, 2015

This multimedia exhibition illuminates the brilliance, beauty, and humanity of African American young men and boys. Positioning them as the storytellers and praise-singers of their communities, *The Griots of Oakland* is an invaluable resource in the growing discourse about the cultural climate in which African American males are received and perceived.

This exhibition celebrates the work of a group of young men who are trained in oral history methodology and videography. These youths conducted peer-to-peer interviews with 100 men and boys aged 6 to 24. This complex and respectful project asks them who they are, who they perceive to be their families and communities, what they would change, and what gives them hope.

*The Griots of Oakland*—designed and produced by Story For All—was initiated and supported by the Center for Healthy Schools and Communities, a part of Alameda County's Health Care Services Agency.



## ECHOTHEATERSUITCASE PROJECT WITH VETERANS BOOK PROJECT

Fall 2014–Winter 2015

Krista DeNio

In conjunction with the purchase and exhibition of *Objects for Deployment: Veterans Book Project*, The Arts at CIIS and MFA Programs hosted Krista DeNio and EchoTheaterSuitcase project for a three-month intensive performance residency. EchoTheaterSuitcase brings veterans and nonveterans together onstage in collective dialogue. Performance ensemble members for this iteration included CIIS students and graduates, as well as members of our broader community.

Working with both material from the *Veterans Book Project* and stories and content from the lives of ensemble members, the final weekend of performances particularly illuminated the effect that military experience has on the families and loved ones of service members.

The culminating weekend included EchoTheaterSuitcase performances, an exhibition walk-through with artist Monica Haller and photobook collaborators, panel discussions, and informal conversation about the effects and

legacies of military experience, as well as the role of the creative process in catalyzing dialogue, addressing trauma, and building community.



## SKIN: JUNE YONG LEE

CHROMA Publications  
Spring 2015

*"As a primary sense organ, skin provides an active interface between the self and the world as well as a means of touching and being touched by others. The tactile mutuality of the skin attests to its presence as a site of interconnectedness and exposure."*

—Tina Takemoto, artist and associate professor of visual studies at California College of the Arts in San Francisco

This spring, The Arts at CIIS is proud to bring to publication June Yong Lee's project book, *Skin*. The images in *Skin* are 360-degree panoramas of human torsos laid bare, the skin seemingly untethered from the body. The body's largest organ here bears witness to personal histories and serves as a portrait that stubbornly refuses the conventions of traditional portraiture. The works invite the viewers into a multidimensional contemplation at once intimate and bodily, and strangely disembodied. ●



# Jesse Estrin (PCC)

BY JULIE POFSKY

In 2013, after an inspiring call to action by civil rights activist Michelle Alexander, who presented at a Public Programs lecture, CIIS created the Arc of Justice Scholarship Fund to support formerly incarcerated people to complete their undergraduate degrees.

To date, three scholarship recipients have enrolled in CIIS's Bachelor of Arts Completion Program, two of whom graduated in December 2014 after completing the degree in one year. The third recipient was able to start his journey toward degree completion in January 2015 because of very generous support from brothers Jesse and Eliot Estrin. Below is an interview with Jesse Estrin.

## **Tell me about your affiliation with CIIS.**

I discovered CIIS in 2009 after reading Richard Tarnas's book *Passion of the Western Mind*. I had already discovered Brian Swimme in high school because some friends and I had found his VHS video series in the attic of one of our parents. I learned that Brian Swimme and Richard Tarnas had helped create a program at CIIS called Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness, so I enrolled and later graduated with a master's degree in 2011.

Subsequently, I enrolled at Pacifica Graduate Institute to pursue a degree in counseling psychology. Currently I'm earning hours to be a licensed MFT. I work as a community

mental health clinic intern and teach at San Quentin State Prison through an emotional-intelligence, violence prevention, and mindfulness-based program called Guiding Rage into Power (GRIP).

## **What is your and Eliot's background in philanthropy?**

Being involved with family foundations has been a big part of our journey. Personally, I've learned a lot about strategic philanthropy and the smart- and not-so-smart ways to give money. There is a movement toward redefining philanthropy through things like impact investing and social-change philanthropy, which means addressing the core issues of injustice and inequality in our society and not simply addressing the symptoms of the inequality.

Now I give to organizations that I think will do great things with my investment in their mission. I'm drawn toward innovative, collaborative philanthropic models that actively engage the people they are trying to help in decisions about where the money should go.

## **Why did you both choose to support the Arc of Justice Scholarship Fund at CIIS?**

I gave to the Arc of Justice initiative because I believe it's a really great model of including and supporting a group of people who have been marginalized and ignored for so long. I think that it's a really important pioneering

model that will eventually get further adopted as people see that it makes sense. People coming out of prison have so little access to services. Right now, the government is not offering real help or effective modes of re-entry, such as help finding employment, housing, education, and rehabilitative programs. Any support to help these individuals get back on their feet and find their path forward is inestimable.

I really believe in the work that CIIS does and the Bachelor of Arts Completion program; it's one of the best degree completion programs around.

## **Why do you believe that CIIS offers the perfect learning environment for formerly incarcerated people?**

CIIS has an awareness about really important and complex issues of identity such as race, class, privilege, gender, sexuality, and how all these issues intertwine with additional layers like economic and racial justice, education, politics, and the environment. CIIS addresses traumas and stigmas directly and has the ability to really listen to people's stories and learn from their perspectives.

## **What role do you feel that education plays in helping to break the cycle of violence in the U.S.?**

As cliché as it is, education is power. Education allows people to broaden their minds and enhances their capacity

to participate in the world. On a personal level, it helps people to become empowered and confident. On a practical level, education paves the way for jobs and helps fight recidivism among the formerly incarcerated.

## **Why should others donate to the Arc of Justice Scholarship Fund at CIIS?**

Whether we realize it or not, we are all impacted by the huge numbers of people that have been locked up in the U.S. We think it's happening in someone else's backyard, but the world is interconnected. If we don't respond to these hundreds of thousands of people being released back into our communities without opportunities for education or reintegration, we are all going to feel the consequences.

Most importantly, when we invite these people back into society, we enrich our communities. The Arc of Justice Scholarship is a way to support and celebrate people who are triumphing and achieving. ●

For more information about the Arc of Justice Scholarship Fund, contact Julie Pofsky, Associate Director of Development, at [jpofsky@ciis.edu](mailto:jpofsky@ciis.edu), or call 415.575.6216. To donate, please visit <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/ciis>.



# THE HERITAGE SOCIETY: FARIBA BOGZARAN AND DANIEL DESLAURIERS

## REMEMBERING CIIS IN YOUR WILL

BY DOROTEA REYNA

The Heritage Society comprises a group of individuals who have remembered CIIS in their wills and estate plans. CIIS is grateful to these donors whose gifts will help ensure that the University continues to educate generations of students to come. CIIS alumna Fariba Bogzaran (MA, EWP '89; PhD, EWP '95) and CIIS faculty member Daniel Deslauriers (professor, Transformative Studies) share why they are passionate about CIIS and why they have decided to leave a gift to CIIS in their will.

### Why is CIIS important to the world?

CIIS is a unique academic institution that at its core focuses on integral vision and diversity. It acknowledges the complexity of the individual and embraces a holistic education. As a beacon of inclusivity, CIIS is a point of light in the world of higher education. As a learning community, it is a creative social experiment looking for ways to create a better, more loving, and just world.

### How has CIIS inspired and supported your research?

CIIS supports interdisciplinary studies, and we have both benefited from such an environment for our research and teaching. At CIIS, we found the freedom to explore meaningful questions that connect the transformative nature of the arts, psychology, and spirituality. One outcome is our book, *Integral Dreaming: A Holistic Approach to Dreams* (SUNY, 2012).

### How have you seen CIIS grow?

Since our involvement with CIIS [Fariba since 1985, Daniel 1990], we have seen CIIS develop from a small institution to an international leader in holistic education. CIIS has given birth to many incredible scholars, researchers, teachers, and therapists.

### What do you believe is its future?

CIIS will continue to attract people from all over the world because the vision of integral education is what our world needs at this time. It will continue to create strategic alliances with like-minded institutions across the globe and broaden its reach.



### Why have you remembered CIIS in your will?

Because it has so profoundly supported our careers, we feel that it is important to support CIIS to ensure its well-being for future generations. Our bequest feels like a very natural reciprocity. ●

For more information about the Heritage Society and remembering CIIS in your will or estate plans, please contact Dorotea Reyna, Vice President of Development, at 415.575.6135, or [dreyne@ciis.edu](mailto:dreyne@ciis.edu).

## FACULTY work

Continued from page 25

"Healing Circles: An Ethnographic Study of the Interactions Among Health and Healing Practitioners From Multiple Disciplines," *Global Advances in Health and Medicine* 3, no. 4 (July 2014).

**Robert McDermott**, PhD, Professor, Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness

"Wisdom in Western Philosophy," in Roger Walsh,

ed., *The World's Great Wisdom: Timeless Teachings from Religions and Philosophies* (SUNY Press, 2014), 185–212.

**Alfonso Montuori**, PhD, Professor, Transformative Studies

"Just Like Gumbo: Creative Diversity and the Future of Planetary Pluralism," in Kwok-Bun Chan, ed., *Universality, Transnationalism, Cosmopolitanism, and Hybridity* (Springer, 2014).

**Alfonso Montuori** and **Ronald E. Purser**

"Humanistic Psychology in the Workplace," in James F.T. Bugental, Kirk J. Schneider, and J. Fraser Pierson, eds., *Handbook of Humanistic Psychology: Leading Edges in Theory, Research, and Practice* (Sage, 2014).

**Barbara Morrill**, PhD, Associate Professor, Integral Counseling Psychology

"The Abstract: Unfolding Toward Being: Etty Hillesum

and the Evolution of Conscious," in *Integral Review* 11, no. 1 (2015).

**Kaisa Puhakka**, PhD, Professor, Clinical Psychology

"Intimacy, otherness, and alienation: The intertwining of nature and consciousness," in D.A. Vakoch and F. Castrillon, eds., *Ecopsychology, Phenomenology, and the Environment* (Springer, 2014).

"Encountering the psychological research paradigm: How

## MHSA INSPIRES HOPE

*Continued from page 3*

Another way the Project is having an impact is by supporting faculty and staff in gaining the skills they need to engage in difficult conversations. In Fall 2014, we invited nationally recognized psychologist, speaker, and author Dr. Ken Hardy to work with CIIS staff and faculty over a three-day period. Hardy appreciated the commitment and curiosity of the people he interacted with toward issues of diversity and inclusion, calling it “an honor and a privilege to be a part of your community these past several days.”

“It is rare that I visit any educational institution where members of the faculty are willing to meet after 5 p.m., or where the president clears his schedule to attend a three-hour meeting devoted to diversity and inclusion,” he says. “Both occurred at CIIS!” ●

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*The MHSA Project team includes Rachel Bryant (CMH '11); Sandi Esquivel (SOM '12), project coordinator; MCP students Adilia Torres and Channing Richmond; and Josefa Molina, Principal Investigator and CMH Chair.*

## GLENN HARTELIUS

*Continued from page 26*

### MORE THAN DEAD MATTER

“The other day, I was listening to the radio, and there was this NPR segment on mirror-touch synesthesia. That’s when someone sees another person being touched, and they feel it. ... They were talking about it as a *neurological defect*, and I thought, ‘What is wrong with you people?’” In his own work, Hartelius relies on his access to the emotional field experiences of those he’s working with, an experience similar to mirror-touch synesthesia. This is a gift that a lot of therapists have, he says, and viewed holistically, it is *not* a defect.

“Because neuroscience is out there, and it’s a great way to measure things, we should be doing that in transpersonal studies, too. But, we need to measure across the spectrum from what the nervous system is doing to what the experience is and translate it. The nerves are moving, and people are having the experience. That’s the reality. Reality isn’t over there on the nerve side. Reality is on both sides. Reality is the whole package.”

### DUSTING OFF THE DEPTH STRUCTURES

Beyond the new research he’s calling for, Hartelius is also passionate about ways in which the field can organize and

disseminate its knowledge more widely. This effort has shaped the ITP PhD program itself, which will be opening with three tracks as part of its new design. One track offers graduates of counseling master’s programs a place to come back and continue building the field through scholarship; another invites exploration of contemplative approaches to neuroscience; and the third will pioneer with its new students the country’s first doctoral-level offering in somatics.

While he’s busy creating so many new offerings, Hartelius stays balanced by sharing what he has learned with others. Together with his partner, Michaela Aizer, Hartelius has started teaching presence-based skills using an approach they call Attention Dynamics, which they presented as a workshop for Public Programs & Performances in late March.

“It’s one thing to teach in an academic environment. But I don’t feel like our job is done until we’ve brought it to the public,” says Hartelius. “Really, that’s what it’s about.” ●

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*Heather Fester is Director of the Center for Writing and Scholarship.*

*Find out more about Attention Dynamics at <http://www.attentiondynamics.com>.*

Buddhist practice has fared in the most recent phase of its Western migration,” in E. Shonin and W. Van Gordon, eds., *Buddhist Foundations of Mindfulness* (Springer [in press]).

**Benjamin Tong**, PhD,  
Professor, Clinical Psychology

“Wu Wei: The Way of Effortless Effort,” in the *International Transpersonal Journal* (France; forthcoming).

**Leland van den Daele**, PhD,  
Professor, Clinical Psychology

“The Music Apperception Test: Coding, research, and application,” in *Rorschachiana* 35, no. 2 (2014), 214–35.

**Zara Zimbardo**, MA, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Bachelor of Arts Completion

“It Is Easier to Imagine the Zombie Apocalypse Than to Imagine the End of Capitalism,” in Mickey Huff, Andy Lee Roth, and Project Censored, eds., *Censored 2015: Inspiring We the People* (Seven Stories Press, 2014).

“Cultural Politics of Humor in (De)normalizing Islamophobic Stereotypes,” in *Islamophobia Studies Journal* 2, no. 1 (Spring 2014). Islamophobia Research & Documentation Project, UC Berkeley. ●





## THE LONG HISTORY OF CHINESE MEDICINE

*Continued from page 8*

of the most extensive Chinese medicine collections in the U.S. It developed opportunities for students to study at Chinese hospitals in 1985, the same year it was approved to receive international students in its own classrooms. The following year, ACTCM became the first school in the country to offer a Master of Science degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine.

The founders of ACTCM and the faculty who continue their legacy are deeply committed to all aspects of Chinese medicine. Acupuncture is the most frequently discussed aspect of the medicine in America, but ACTCM is also well-known in the field for its herbal medication faculty and curriculum.

In 1984, the college's expertise was sought out for creating the Chinese Medicinal Herb Garden at the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden. Students at ACTCM created their own Chinese medicinal herb garden at the Potrero campus as a living study aid. The garden continues to be tended to season after season by current students.

ACTCM is dedicated to advancing standards in the field of Chinese medicine. For over a decade, the college has been offering advanced education to practitioners through its postgraduate doctoral program. This year, as ACTCM celebrates 35 years of educational excellence, the college is proud to announce its newest degree program as well as its merger with CIIS.

2015 is the year of the sheep in Chinese astrology. ACTCM looks forward to a year of peace and harmony as it forges a new identity with CIIS and continues its legacy in the expanding field of Chinese medicine.

Sitting beside the door to the ACTCM herbal dispensary, I keep smelling herbs: lavender, chamomile, and a dozen others that I can't name but I'm sure my acupuncturist could prescribe to keep me balanced throughout this exciting year. Maybe I'll even request a special 35th-anniversary concoction. ●

*Michael Sano is ACTCM's Director of Student Affairs and Alumni Relations.*

## COLLABORATION PAVES NEW PATHS TO WELLNESS

*Continued from page 9*

### NEW PATHWAYS TO WELLNESS

The collaboration gives students at both ACTCM and CIIS an opportunity to explore the interface between Chinese medicine and mental health in an integrated care environment. Acupuncture interns will provide community-style acupuncture services to CSP patients, helping patients with complaints as diverse as anxiety, depression, pain conditions, and digestive complaints. Patients will be referred to the auricular acupuncture clinic by CSP clinicians.

With this, the first of many such integrative care approaches between ACTCM and CIIS, McGovern believes that "we'll see the clinical theater come alive in new ways. Assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, research, practice, evaluation, and all the complexities of effective and evidence-based work will be enriched." ●

*Steve Given is ACTCM's Dean of Clinical Education and Academic Assessment.*

## ACTCM FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: PAM OLTON

*Continued from page 9*

get some herbs, and actually feel a whole lot better."

She's pleased to see that in California, acupuncture is now listed as an essential health benefit. "As long as people can have a choice and live in a culture where they have access to different

healing modalities, that is what is most important."

### STRENGTH IN COLLABORATION

As ACTCM and CIIS continue hitting their merger milestones, Olton believes the collaboration between the two is a positive move that will fundamentally benefit both schools. "Everyone gets changed a little bit, and change is a good thing," she says.

"It's going to open up our scope of our world at ACTCM and help both schools become academically stronger. CIIS will learn from our medicine and the energetic, hands-on nature of our profession." ●

*Crystal Erendson manages ACTCM's Communications efforts.*



# circle of giving

By Dorotea Reyna

Every gift, at every level, is a way for our donors to say thank you to CIIS, and to stay collectively connected to the values and ideals that inspire the University.

**I**n my 12 years leading the Development program at CIIS, I have always been inspired by how passionate people are about their involvement with this University. Whether they be students, faculty, staff, alums, trustees, or simply friends, every segment of our community seems to deeply value the unique space that CIIS holds in higher education, and its great-hearted efforts to “walk its talk” through manifold ways of service.

Underlying this passion, I sense feelings of wonder and gratitude—wonder at the pioneering explorations by our students, faculty, and other seekers attracted to CIIS, and gratitude that such explorations are encouraged and supported. I believe that we all know what a bold experiment CIIS has been from the very beginning, and thus we can feel a collective sense of creative fulfillment as its adventures continue to unfold.

## EVER-BROADENING POSSIBILITIES

Each day, the Development office seeks scholarship support for students committed to serving their communities, and research support for faculty such as Glenn Hartelius, whose scientific explorations of consciousness tilt at one of CIIS’s most audacious tenets, “other ways of knowing.”

The University’s \$1 million Mental Health Services Act contract with the San Francisco Department of Public Health demonstrates the confidence that the broader community has in our abilities to educate vitally needed, culturally competent therapists; and the momentum we have created through the merger with the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine (ACTCM) and the China Initiative reveals ever-broadening possibilities for global collaboration.

CIIS is very grateful to the hundreds of donors who support our many initiatives each year through their gifts. In the words of Fariba Bogzaran and Daniel Deslauriers, many of our donors believe that giving back to CIIS is a form of “natural reciprocity” for all they feel they have received from the University. Every gift, at every level, is a way for our donors to say thank you to CIIS, and to stay collectively connected to the values and ideals that inspire the University.

If any of the stories in this issue inspire you to make a gift, and you would like more information, please let me know. I am always happy to connect with the amazing people that make up CIIS’s exciting, multifaceted community. ●

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*Dorotea Reyna is Vice President of Development.*



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