Conference Aims to Uncover the Heart of Higher Education

In February 2007, CIIS and the Fetzer Institute will bring together faculty, student-life professionals, administrators, and students for a groundbreaking conference on integrative learning. Titled "Uncovering the Heart of Higher Education: Integrative Learning for Compassionate Action in an Interconnected World," the event will be held February 22–25 at the Hotel Nikko in San Francisco.

The rising interest in integrative learning supports a holistic approach to education, one that recognizes the need for students to integrate an inner life with an outer vocation. A primary aim of the conference is to draw together and articulate theoretical, pedagogical, and relational teaching perspectives.

“We hope that conference attendees will learn activities, programs, and techniques they can take back to their campuses,” said CIIS President Joseph Subbiondo. “They will have an opportunity to learn from each other and develop effective strategies to improve higher education.”

“As a leader in integrative teaching and learning in higher education, CIIS is a logical choice to take a significant and visible lead in this conference,” said President Subbiondo, who proposed the idea for the conference and began working on it with the Fetzer Institute, a Kalamazoo, Michigan–based foundation, several years ago. Session facilitators from CIIS include professors Brendan Collins, Don Johnson, Ariska Razak, and Robert McDermott, and Academic Dean Judie Wexler.

Topics of discussion will include contemplation, spirituality, and religion in higher education; the integration of emotional and academic intelligence; cross-cultural competency; integrative learning communities; learning through work and service; leading from within; and the major trends in research. Among the keynote speakers are Pulitzer Prize–winning author Alice Walker; educational activist and author Parker Palmer; Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela of the University of Cape Town and the author of A Human Being Died That Night; Robert Kegan, a developmental psychologist at Harvard University and author of The Evolving Self; and Alexander and Helen Astin, codirectors of the Templeton Project on Spirituality in Higher Education at UCLA.

For more details about the conference and to register online, visit www.heartofeducation.org or e-mail Joseph Subbiondo at heartofeducation@ciis.edu.
IN MY OWN WORDS

ANNE TEICH

In this issue of CIIS Today, we talk to alumna Anne Teich, who has not only been a supporter of the school but has also worked for the Institute since 1990. She is currently CIIS's Academic Affairs Projects Manager. Anne first began auditing classes at the then California Institute of Asian Studies in 1972. She went on to earn both a master's and a doctoral degree in Philosophy and Religion from CIIS.

What attracted you to CIIS?
I began auditing classes taught by Haridas Chaudhuri and other faculty. As I was unfamiliar with but attracted to Asian teachings, texts, and culture, the school afforded me with the opportunity to learn from teachers who were from those countries, direct from the source, so to speak.

What was the most valuable experience you gained from CIIS?
I am most indebted to Rina Szar, who introduced me to India and Burma through our many trips to those countries. The cocurricular activities and opportunities she created for her students, including vipassana meditation retreats, have significantly influenced who I am today. My time at CIIS has allowed me to be a part of the pioneering effort to create an East-West educational institution, as well as to introduce Buddhism to Americans.

What changes have you seen CIIS go through over the years?
The Institute began in a house on 21st and Dolores streets and has expanded to three buildings in San Francisco's thriving Civic Center neighborhood. It is wonderful to see the school grow up and to see its mission carried forward. Even though many of the school's programs have changed through the years, I still see Haridas smiling. After all, evolution was his thing!

Why is it important to give back to the school?
If the Institute is to continue offering quality programs to students, it needs to increase support from sources other than tuition. CIIS graduates are known for having a different view of things and are qualified to speak to the importance of the Institute's contribution to the world. Making financial contributions, attending events, networking with other alumni, and advertising the school help sustain the valuable work it is doing.

Why do you donate to the school?
It's my way of showing how grateful I am to have had this rare opportunity to learn in the way that I did. I'd like to ask my fellow alumni to reflect on their journey at CIIS and think about giving back to the school.

CIIS Launches Certificate in Sound, Voice, and Music Healing

In September, the first cohort of CIIS's new Sound, Voice, and Music Healing Certificate program embarked on a two-semester, 200-hour curriculum that explores using sound as a form of healing. “We are proud to be the first in the nation to provide this type of program to our students,” said Karim Rochester-Baer, Director of CIIS Public Programs.

Developed by the composer and therapist Silvia Nakkach, the program is based on a multicultural, multidisciplinary, and integral approach to the study of voice, music, and sound and their effect on the human mind, body, and spiritual development. The program combines Western techniques in counseling with an Eastern approach that includes spirituality and contemplative practice. Class topics include Sanskrit chanting; sonic meditations and deep listening; sound therapies; and drumming, rhythm, and overtone singing.

The academic study of sound grew out of the long spiritual tradition in many cultures of using sound for healing. Sound supports the process of transforming energy patterns, produces measurable effects on the physical body, and facilitates the mind-body-spirit connection. Today, sound is used extensively in scientific research and integrative medicine.

An outstanding lineup of experts joins Nakkach in teaching the sound curriculum, including psychoacoustics expert Joshua Leeds; Don Campbell, a recognized authority on the transformative power of music and listening; John Beaulieu, a naturopathic doctor and sound therapist who is overseeing molecular research on sound and the healing effects of tuning forks; Glen Velez, a Grammy Award-winning percussionist; cellist David Darling; and vocalist Lori Cortler. CIIS faculty members Steven Goodman, Jim Ryan, and Janis Phelps provide insights into Buddhism, meditation, and Western psychology.
Answering the Call to Action

Anthropology student Pei-Hsuan Wu pursues a life of social activism.

Pei-Hsuan Wu’s parents, both scientists, raised her to believe she could accomplish anything. But it wasn’t until she attended CIIS’s Cultural Anthropology and Social Transformation program, emphasis in Gender, Ecology, and Society, that she fully embraced her life’s work as a social change activist.

“The education I experienced in the master’s program was so ‘world rocking’ for me that I felt that it was only a beginning,” Wu said. “It started me on this era of self-reflection and of looking at the world and social justice in a whole different way.”

After earning a master’s degree in 2004, Wu immediately continued her doctoral studies in Social and Cultural Anthropology and expects to graduate in 2010. She credits anthropology professor Angana Chatterji for instilling in her a fearless—and fierce—determination to tackle even the most challenging of social justice issues, noting: “She cultivated me to be an empowered woman.” Over the years, Wu has been involved in numerous activist movements. She helped to organize four “Dialogue for Peace” events, sponsored by CIIS’s Anthropology Department, took part in antirwar and antiviolence protests, and organized the Kurdish Human Rights Conference at the Institute. She is currently focusing on Indo-American diasporic movements in the United States. After graduation, Wu would like to work for a human rights organization that focuses on gender issues.

Wu, who recently won a Union Bank of California Diversity Scholarship, is no stranger to social activism. She received a bachelor’s degree in environmental science from UC Berkeley, where she was active with the California Public Interest Research Group (CalPIRG), an environmental lobbying organization. After graduating, she joined AmeriCorps and became a computer teacher at an independent school in Marin.

In CIIS’s Anthropology Department, Wu says she has found a curriculum and community that invite and demand intense self-reflection and rigorous scholarship toward social justice. “The commitment of the faculty and students of the Anthropology program to respond with care to a world in disrepair has constantly encouraged me to expand my abilities and responsibilities to that world,” she said.

(continued on back cover)
Thank You for Your Support

As CIIS embarks on its 39th year, the Institute is pleased to recognize all those members of its extended community who made gifts during the 2005-06 academic year. These generous donors represent every segment of the CIIS community, including students, alumni, faculty, staff, friends, and trustees, as well as foundations, corporations, and businesses. Together, these donors contributed over $709,000 to ensure the Institute's continued growth, stability, and long-term success.

Gifts and grants were made to support a wide variety of CIIS programs, including scholarships, the counseling centers, the arts, academic and public programs, and the Haridas Chaudhuri Endowment for South Asian Philosophy and Culture.

All gifts to CIIS, whatever their size or purpose, are deeply appreciated as they contribute to the Institute’s academic excellence and expanding scope of influence. For questions about the Honor Roll of Donors, or to inquire about making your own gift to CIIS, please contact Dorotea Reyna, Director of Development, at 415.575.6135 (or dreyna@ciis.edu). Thank you for your gifts!

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BAC – Bachelor of Arts Completion
CER – Certificate
MA – Master of Arts
PhD – Doctor of Philosophy
PsyD – Doctor of Psychology

Guide to Program Abbreviations
CLN – Clinical Psychology
COU – Counseling
EWP – East-West Psychology
EXA – Expressive Arts Therapy
GES – Gender, Ecology, and Society
HOT – Human and Organizational Transformation
ICP – Integral Counseling Psychology
IHS – Integral Health Studies
IND – Individualized Studies
ISD – Integral Studies
MAB – Business
ODT – Organizational Development
PAR – Philosophy and Religion
PCC – Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness
PDT – Drama Therapy
PSY – Psychology
SAS – South Asian Studies
SCA – Social and Cultural Anthropology
SOM – Somatics
TLC – Transformative Learning and Change
TLR – Transformative Learning
WSE – Women’s Spirituality
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Alumni Notes (continued from page 3)

Lisa Miranda (ICP, ’05) has expanded her practice at the Health and Healing Center in San Francisco as a guided imagery practitioner. She is a member of the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress, where she is working on her board certification as an expert in traumatic stress. She is also working toward the advancement of therapeutic intervention for trauma survivors.

Sandy Miranda (WSE, ’04) drew upon her 19-part radio series, Women, Spirit, and Peace, to publish A String of Pearls: Listening to the Wisdom of Wise Women Elders. She was instrumental in recording world musicians for the 2006 Winter Olympics project.

Kathleen O’Hara (SOM, ’93) is living in her hometown of Philadelphia, where she maintains a private practice. This year she published A Grief Like No Other: Surviving the Violent Death of Someone You Love, a testimony to her oldest son, Aaron, and a story of the transformative power of suffering and how good can emerge out of even the most devastating experiences.

Jose Parappully (PSY, ’97) is living in New Delhi, where he founded Sumedha Centre for Psychology and Spirituality, a center for renewal of body, mind, and spirit through the integration of spirituality and psychology. He also counsels individuals and couples in his psychotherapy practice and leads workshops on topics such as “Midlife Dynamics” and the “Spiritual Journey.”

Ray Worthy (PSY, ’97) did his postdoc work at the Smoky Mountain Center in Waynesville and Sylva, N.C., part of the integrated state mental health system. He received his license in North Carolina in 2002. He started medical school at Tulane University in New Orleans in 2004, but was displaced for a year in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

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