



Spring 2010

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CIIS

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CIIS *today* Spring 2010

The Community Newsletter of California Institute of Integral Studies

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CIIS in the Community

In this issue of *CIIS Today*, we focus on the Institute's contributions and close ties to our community—how we both serve and learn from our neighbors and affiliated organizations, in different ways and contexts.

Counseling Centers Serve More Than Two Thousand Each Year *by Zack Rogow*



Directors of the CIIS counseling centers (l. to r.): Fernando Castrillon, Jessica Wallace, Dan Gottsegen, Stuart Gold, Lu Grey, Lani Chow

Through its six neighborhood counseling centers, CIIS provides psychotherapy to more than two thousand people each year who might otherwise not have access to mental health services. Named “The Best of the Bay” for reasonably priced therapy by the readers of the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, the counseling centers have, for twenty-seven years, provided high-quality mental health services at low cost.

“Very few of the clients have health insurance that covers therapy,” says Jessica Wallace, director of the Golden Gate Integral Counseling Center. “We base the fees on a sliding scale that takes into account the person’s income.”

The therapists at the centers are primarily advanced-level graduate students at CIIS, completing their clinical training. The staffs also include experienced alums who are fulfilling internships to learn a particular type of therapy and earn licensure. All of the therapists-in-training are closely supervised by licensed mental health professionals. None of the graduate student trainees are paid, and each volunteers hundreds of hours a year. “I find it moving to see the students become so dedicated by working with people in need,” says Director of Field Placement and Clinic Sites Becky McGovern.

The centers are located in communities around San Francisco. Each center is directed by a licensed marriage and family therapist or clinical psychologist. Every one has a unique approach, all grounded in the Institute’s holistic view. “For our students and for the clients, it’s important to offer different modes of therapy,” notes McGovern. Therapy is available for adults, children, couples, and groups, and is offered in English and in several other languages, which vary over time and often include Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese, Korean, French, Italian, and Hebrew.

The counseling centers first evolved out of the Integral Counseling Psychology (ICP) program. According to an article written in the 1970s by Ann Marie Berlin (ICP ’78), one of the first interns, “The Counseling Center began as a desk and a telephone in the reference room of the Institute’s library in 1973.” The centers have now developed into one of the main hubs for counseling in the Bay Area. In any given week, they see more than five hundred clients.

“The centers have now developed into one of the main hubs for counseling in the Bay Area.”

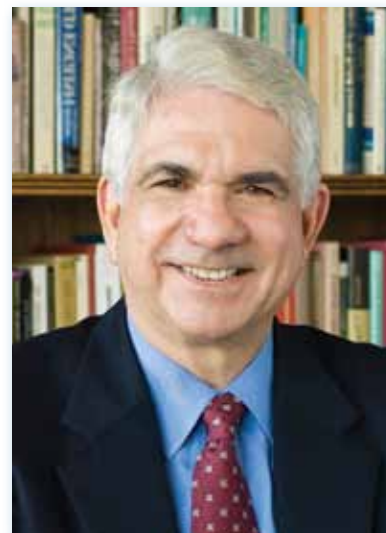
THE SIX COUNSELING CENTERS

Center for Somatic Psychotherapy is one of only a handful of somatic psychotherapy clinics in the country. Located on Market Street near Civic Center, the clinic has been open for more than fifteen years. Advanced-level students and *(Continued on page 12)*

Dear CIIS Alums and Friends

"CIIS continues to devote itself to the service of others. Social responsibility and community service are vital parts of our academic program."

President Joseph L. Subbiondo



Joseph L. Subbiondo

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CIIS today

The Community Newsletter of
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Inspired by its founding vision of inclusion and its tradition of engaged spirituality, CIIS continues to devote itself to the service of others. Social responsibility and community service are vital parts of our academic program.

As you read through this issue, you will see many ways in which CIIS helps others in both their personal and professional needs. The programs and activities described here also enable the Institute to expand its visibility in the Bay Area and well beyond.

In our local community, CIIS sponsors six counseling centers, which have been rated "The Best of the Bay" by the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*. In addition, CIIS offers a new MA program in Community Mental Health, which has been well enrolled. Support for these centers and this program comes from a variety of sources, including the City and County of San Francisco, The California Wellness Foundation, the Lisa and John Pritzker Family Fund, the J.C. Kellogg Foundation, and The San Francisco Foundation. This impressive backing from other organizations is unprecedented in CIIS history and is testimony to the quality of our work.

As a leader in higher education, CIIS serves other

colleges and universities by sponsoring national conferences. In February, CIIS Public Programs hosted "Expanding the Circle: Creating an Inclusive Environment in Higher Education for LGBTQ Students and Studies," which drew over 350 participants from over 150 colleges and universities. It also attracted as cosponsors leading national organizations in higher education.

As we expand our alumni gatherings around the country, we are being invited to serve other local communities. For example, at the recent gathering in Portland, alums were eager to have CIIS offer workshops in counseling psychology.

I am grateful to all of you, the greater CIIS community, for everything you do to improve the quality of life where you live and work, as well as to enhance the service of professionals in a broad range of areas.

A handwritten signature of Joseph L. Subbiondo in black ink.

Joseph L. Subbiondo
President

CIIS Hosts Conference on LGBTQ Issues in Higher Education *by Neil Freese*

CIIS recently hosted “Expanding the Circle: Creating an Inclusive Environment in Higher Education for LGBTQ Students and Studies,” a groundbreaking conference for higher education on a whole range of issues affecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer students and studies.

“Expanding the Circle,” which took place February 25–28 at the Hotel Nikko in San Francisco, drew participants from over 150 institutions, from community colleges to major research universities. Attendees came from all over the English-speaking world, including Australia, the United Kingdom, and Canada, as well as every region of the U.S.

The conference aimed to forge connections across academic disciplines and LGBTQ subfields, and between academic and student affairs. The attendees included faculty members, university chaplains, administrators, student life professionals, specialists in curriculum and faculty development, social justice advocates, and graduate students.

“There are a number of critical questions relating to LGBTQ students and studies that are not being addressed,” says CIIS President Joseph Subbiondo. “We created a forum to advance the conversation among members of the LGBTQ community and allies serving higher education.”

Conference Coordinator Dustin Smith notes that in higher education, LGBTQ students and studies are often marginalized. “By making LGBTQ issues and concerns the central focus, we were able to provide a space for a community to flourish,” he says.

“Given the state of LGBTQ studies, many professionals are working in isolation or with severely limited funds,” Smith says. “The more networking and community building opportunities we provide them, the better they will be able to serve students on their campuses.”

The conference featured workshops and discussion sessions dealing with leading-edge subjects such

as the intersection of the LGBTQ community and campus religious organizations. Scotty McLennan, dean for Religious Life at Stanford University, maintained in his plenary talk that campus religious organizations should be viewed as allies, rather than as obstacles, in working to make progress on LGBTQ issues on college campuses.

Another major theme of the conference was transgender and gender issues. Pauline Park, chair of the New York Association for Gender Rights Advocacy (NYAGRA), led a plenary session focusing on possible ways of transgendering higher education through the establishment of infrastructure and through a queering of curricula and faculty.

Other renowned figures who presented at the conference included Lee Knefelkamp and Sharon Marcus of Columbia University, Susan Stryker of Indiana University, Steven Tierney of CIIS, John Hawley of Santa Clara University, Kavita Ramdas of the Global Fund for Women, and poets Judy Grahn and Jewelle Gomez.

“We created a forum to advance the conversation among members of the LGBTQ community and allies serving higher education.”

According to Karim Baer, director of CIIS Public Programs, which organized the conference, one critical outcome was the creation of an “intentional community” spanning different generations. “The inter-generational component of this conference is crucial.

As educators and administrators who have been pushing from within the academy retire, we’ll need to keep the momentum.”

To that end, “Expanding the Circle” will be held again in March 2011. “There is a national mandate to do it now,” Dustin Smith says. “The response has been overwhelming.” ●



Lee Knefelkamp of Columbia University delivering opening-night plenary



Conference Coordinator Dustin Smith, Susan Stryker of Indiana University, and Vernon Rosario of UCLA



Connie Hills (CLN '98), CIIS Professor Brendan Collins, and Ellen T. Goodman of Simmons College

Increased Emphasis on

Volunteerism at CIIS

"To enter this community and witness, listen, and care—it changes your relationship to the world, to the city, to conceptions of self."

CIIS Community Helps Raise Funds for Public Television

In December, a group from CIIS met at the KQED studios in San Francisco to assist in the Winter 2009 Television Pledge Drive. Representing all three schools (SPP, SCT, and SUS), as well as staff, CIIS volunteers answered phones and took pledges for two hours, helping the station raise \$24,333. In addition, the volunteers had the pleasure of seeing themselves on live television wearing CIIS T-shirts and drinking from CIIS coffee mugs (both available at the Inner Light Bookstore at the CIIS Main Building).



Volunteering is on the increase at CIIS, from collecting donations for earthquake victims in Haiti to collaborations with major nonprofit organizations.

"CIIS identified community service as a major new initiative in 2010," says Dean of Students and Director of Diversity Shirley Strong. "Our first step was to expand our network of community partners to include two highly respected local organizations: Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco and the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in Oakland."

Students in the counseling programs provide volunteer services as part of their practicums, giving twenty hours of their time each week for an entire year. The beneficiaries are clients in as many as 120 Bay Area agencies, from Children's Hospital Autism Intervention to the Institute on Aging.

Many students also perform volunteer work as part of classes. The Women's Spirituality program, for instance, offers a course in Spirit, Compassion, and Community Activism. The course challenges students to "take their education and life skills into the larger community, transforming both in the process."

Becky Walsh, who recently completed her BA in Interdisciplinary Studies, was inspired by a CIIS course on ecological footprints to participate in the Green Café Network, a nonprofit dedicated to greening the coffeehouse industry. Walsh found out the organization didn't have enough staff to make use of the Internet to get its message across. "I volunteer for them as a media consultant and marketing outreach person. We now have 275 people in Green Café's Facebook network, and more than 500 followers on Twitter."

Another student who volunteers regularly is Adam Hudson, a doctoral student in Social and Cultural



CIIS volunteers get ready to bag at the San Francisco Food Bank (l. to r.): Annette Williams, Margie Lam, Jody O'Connor, Sarah Loomis, Sara Salazar, Karen Villanueva

Anthropology, who takes part in several activities at Glide Memorial Church. He often helps serve free meals there for the Tenderloin community and sings in the Glide Ensemble, the church choir. "To be a volunteer there is amazing," he says. "It is rewarding and transformative. To enter this community and witness, listen, and care—it changes your relationship to the world, to the city, to conceptions of self."

This past academic year, many members of the CIIS community have also joined together to help with a variety of causes, led by Student Affairs Coordinator Margie Lam, who regularly e-blasts volunteer opportunities to the Institute's listserv.

In July 2009, a team of eleven volunteers from the Institute took part as a team in the annual AIDS Walk San Francisco. The participants included staff, students, and faculty. The event benefits the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and other HIV/AIDS organizations serving six Bay Area counties.

In November, a group from CIIS went to the San Francisco Food Bank in Potrero Hill to bag food for local nonprofits that deliver nutrition to communities.

After the Haitian earthquake in January, the Institute's librarians organized a drive to supply shoes to victims of the disaster. Over 270 pairs of shoes were collected.

"I'm grateful for the many opportunities I've had in my life, so volunteering is my way of giving forward," says Lam. "It extends your horizons—you may be doing something you've never done or tried before, and benefiting others at the same time." ●



JAMES DAVID MARTIN

PCC Assistant Professor Elizabeth Allison

“When it came time to do a master’s degree, I had to choose between my interest in religion and spirituality, and my passion for environmental science. I chose both.”

New Faculty: Elizabeth Allison

Elizabeth Allison, the newest faculty member in Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness (PCC), has always had an interdisciplinary focus. “When it came time to do a master’s degree, I had to choose between my interest in religion and spirituality, and my passion for environmental science. I chose both.” She completed two master’s degrees simultaneously at Yale University: one at the Divinity School, and one at the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. Allison went on to complete a PhD at UC Berkeley in Environmental Science Policy and Management, but her heart was still in combining religion with studies of the environment.

“During the course of my interdisciplinary studies of religion and ecology, people kept asking me, ‘What are you going to do as a career?’” she says. “I was delighted to learn about a position at the Institute that required my particular expertise, especially since I had been reading the work of CIIS faculty members Brian Swimme, Joanna Macy, and Charlene Spretnak in my own research. It’s remarkable to have colleagues and students at CIIS who are concerned both with the internal, emotional, spiritual, and social changes that need to take place to create a sustainable society; and with the external, ecological, and political changes.”

In her first year teaching at CIIS, she is offering courses that combine these areas of interest. One of her spring 2010 classes is on environmental ethics. “The class applies the basic ethical questions to the environment: do non-human beings have moral

status, do they deserve moral consideration, and if so, to what degree?”

Allison first got interested in questions of environmental ethics through her work in social justice movements during and after high school. She took a year off before starting college to work on hunger and homelessness issues. In Washington, DC, she participated in organizing a large number of people to sleep in the streets to dramatize the plight of the homeless. She also had an unusual job: she worked as a shepherd. In Arkansas, she tended goats and sheep to send abroad for a nonprofit that fights hunger by providing livestock to poor villages.

“When I took that year to do social justice work, I wanted to create space for the voice of the voiceless,” says Allison. “Then I realized that beyond the marginalized human populations, there was another realm of voicelessness: wild species and ecosystems.”

Her current projects include turning her dissertation on religion and ecology in Bhutan into a book, exploring the lessons from that country’s experiences.

Meanwhile, Allison is teaching the next generation of activists. “I’m excited to have a cohort of students who bring the integral perspective of CIIS to the ecology movement. One of the difficulties in the environmental movement is the loss of emotion or heart or spirituality at times, which can lead to burnout. We hope that our students, who are thinking about integrating spirituality and activism, can model and practice an impassioned environmentalism.” ●

City of San Francisco Gives Major Grant to School of Professional Psychology

CIIS has received a grant of \$367,000 from the City of San Francisco to help the School of Professional Psychology (SPP) better serve underrepresented populations. The funds became available through the Department of Public Health and the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), and are already aiding to recruit and retain students.

“We’re grateful for the support of San Francisco’s MHSA program,” says Professor Steven Tierney, chair of the programs in Counseling Psychology and Community Mental Health. “CIIS wants to continue to play a critical role in re-envisioning the field of public and community mental health. One main component of improving the current mental health system is to open it up to those who have been denied access. This means outreach to marginalized individuals, families, and communities. More importantly, it means welcoming individuals from these communities into our programs and our profession.”

The grant also provides support for SPP faculty and staff to participate in trainings in cultural competency, vital to diversifying



Joy Amao (ICP '10), student/community MHSA project manager

JAMES DAVID MARTIN

the student body and the curriculum. In general, the grant is being used to promote a recovery and wellness model of therapy to help clients at risk.

Staff member Joy Amao (ICP '10) is playing a key role in the programs funded by the grant. Amao’s work includes attracting and supporting students from underrepresented communities, LGBTQ students, and students who have struggled with mental illness or had family

members with mental illness. “As a graduate of the CIIS counseling programs, I’m thrilled to now be working here in the role of advocate for underserved students,” says Amao. “This grant will help CIIS prepare licensed therapists for our community who reflect the diversity of our state. That, however, is only the first part. What I find deeply fulfilling is that once we recruit new students, we have funding through the grant to provide a system of support services on campus that will help to ensure that each student successfully graduates and finds employment.”

Tierney concurs that the funds will have a long-lasting impact. “This grant is good news for the students and for the CIIS community, and will ultimately improve the health and wellness of all San Franciscans.” ●

“CIIS wants to continue to play a critical role in re-envisioning the field of public and community mental health.”

CIIS Board of Trustees Welcomes

During its February meeting, the CIIS Board of Trustees elected two new members: musician and record producer Peter Baumann, and visual artist and cultural anthropologist Lydia Nakashima Degarrod.

Peter Baumann, who hails from Berlin, Germany, was a self-taught musician when he founded the electronic music ensemble Tangerine Dream. The group released numerous successful albums and wrote over sixty film soundtracks. After he left the band in 1979, Baumann became a solo artist

and producer, eventually forming his own record label. As creative director and chair of the board of Private Music, he released albums by iconic pop artists and New Age musicians Yanni, Taj Mahal, Philip Glass, Ravi Shankar, Leo Kottke, Etta James, Ringo Starr, and Tangerine Dream.

Baumann sold Private Music in 1996 and pursued studies in Eastern and Western religion and philosophy. As a result of his investigations into the nature of well-being and quality of life, Baumann founded the Baumann Institute, a nonprofit

Student Profile:

Cria Merchant

Community Mental Health Program

Cria Merchant's path to the community mental health profession has taken some surprising turns. "I started out as a modern dancer," she says. "What I particularly liked was when we did performances for audiences who might never have seen a dance concert. I was most interested in their responses."

Born and raised in San Francisco, she moved to London to follow her career in dance but ended up working in a school for students much like the audiences she most enjoyed reaching out to. "The school was for young people who didn't fit into traditional academic programs, and many of them lived in foster homes. I was so impressed by their strength," she recalls. "I was hooked!"

She moved back to San Francisco and started working at a nonprofit that serves women who have been involved in the juvenile justice system and/or the underground street economy. "People came to me with histories of trauma, trusting me," she explains. "I thought I should go back to school so I could understand trauma and the psyche." The program at CIIS exactly fit this need, and she applied only to the Institute.

She is now in her second year of the new Community Mental Health program at CIIS, part of the initial cohort. "The first cohort is filled with



Cria Merchant, graduate student in Community Mental Health

JAMES DAVID MARTIN

people with amazing resources. The students are already working in the field we're studying," Merchant says.

"Whenever financial aid is available, there are more voices at the table. Working with such a diverse population, it's important to have clinicians who reflect that."

The majority of the students in the Community Mental Health program are supported by financial aid provided by grants from The California Wellness Foundation, the Lisa and John Pritzker Family Fund, and/or The San Francisco Foundation. "I wouldn't be able to attend the program without the scholarship," says Merchant. "Whenever financial aid is available, there are more voices at the table. Working with such a diverse population, it's important to have clinicians who reflect that."

She is also one of the first to do her practicum in the new Clinic Without Walls, currently based at Valencia Gardens public housing in San Francisco. "The idea of bringing services to where people live is very needed," she says. "We've only been here a few months, but we're starting to help people think differently about their situations and to have an impact." ●

Two New Members by Gwyneth Merner

organization dedicated to "exploring the nature of awareness and its relationship to human health and well-being."

Born in Concepción, Chile, Nakashima Degarrod has explored diverse themes such as violence and political upheaval in Chile, memory and emotion for Chilean migrants to the San Francisco Bay Area, and the experience of nature and community for bird feeders at Lake Merritt in Oakland. In her art, she often depicts hands or figures emerging from colorful landscapes. She states that she aims

to produce works that "convey the aesthetics of social events or places in which individuals share experiences of an extraordinary nature."

Nakashima Degarrod received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Hawai'i and her PhD in Anthropology from the University of California, Los Angeles. During her graduate work at UCLA, she studied with Claude Lévi-Strauss. She currently teaches critical studies and diversity studies at California College of the Arts. ●

CIIS *Academic News*

CIIS President Joseph Subbiondo Speaks at Parliament of World's Religions in Australia

Joseph Subbiondo spoke at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne, Australia, in December 2009. Subbiondo's presentation focused on the inspiration that Sri Aurobindo provided for CIIS founder Dr. Haridas Chaudhuri, and on Chaudhuri's realization that peace depends on a better understanding between East and West. "Dr. Chaudhuri knew that CIIS, like all colleges and universities, needed to promote interreligious dialogue and interfaith understanding in order for us all to stand together despite our deeply held differences," said Subbiondo.

Douglas Vakoch Named to International Academy of Astronautics (IAA)

Douglas Vakoch, a faculty member in Clinical Psychology, was recently named a corresponding member of the International Academy of Astronautics. Vakoch is one of only seventeen members worldwide in the field of social science who were picked for membership in this round. He was elected to the IAA in recognition of his research and leadership in the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI). Vakoch chairs the IAA's Study Group on Interstellar Message Composition, charged with the question: "Should we be transmitting messages to civilizations that may exist around distant stars, and if we do, what should we say, and how should we say it?"

Professor of Women's Spirituality Gives Loeb Lecture at Harvard

Adjunct Professor Marguerite Rigoglioso (WSE '01, HUM '08) of Women's Spirituality was chosen to give the prestigious James C. Loeb Classical Lecture at Harvard University. She spoke at that campus on October 16, 2009, on her groundbreaking book, *The Cult of Divine Birth in Ancient Greece*.

“Dr. Chaudhuri knew that CIIS, like all colleges and universities, needed to promote interreligious dialogue and interfaith understanding in order for us all to stand together despite our deeply held differences.”

New Books BY CIIS FACULTY

Professor Matthew C. Bronson of Social and Cultural Anthropology has coedited *So What? Now What? The Anthropology of Consciousness Responds to a World in Crisis*, issued by Cambridge Scholars Publishing. The coeditor, **Tina R. Fields** (EWP '01), earned her PhD at CIIS. In the volume, Bronson and Fields state their belief that "the greatest crisis of our times is a failure of the human imagination."

Professor Angana Chatterji of Social and Cultural Anthropology has authored *Violent Gods: Hindu Nationalism in India's Present: Narratives from Orissa*, published by Three Essays Collective. The book offers a revealing account of Hindu militant



mobilizations and their impact on people of other religious heritages in the Indian state of Orissa.

Professor Allan Combs in Transformative Inquiry has written *Consciousness Explained Better: Towards an Integral Understanding of*

the Multifaceted Nature of Consciousness, published by Paragon House. The book is a clear explanation of consciousness in its many facets and forms.

Professor Renée Emunah, chair of the Drama Therapy program, co-edited *Current Approaches in Drama Therapy*, published by Charles Thomas. This second edition of a basic textbook provides a compilation of drama therapy methods and models used and taught in North America.

Angana Chatterji Helps Document Human Rights Violations in Kashmir

Professor Angana Chatterji (HUM '00) of the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology has coauthored a report titled "Buried Evidence" on human rights violations in Indian-held Kashmir. Issued by the International People's Tribunal on Human Rights in Kashmir, the report calls for an international investigation into the unmarked mass graves of nearly three thousand people in Kashmir. Chatterji presented the report to the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland on March 17 and 18, 2010.

Riane Eisler Honored with Peace Leadership Award

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation presented Adjunct Professor Riane Eisler with the 2009 Distinguished Peace Leadership Award at their annual awards dinner on November 7, 2009, in Santa Barbara. Eisler's research demonstrates how structures of partnership rather than domination build peace both in the home and in the global political arena. She teaches in Transformative Leadership and Women's Spirituality.

CIIS Integrative Health Coaching Model Garners National Attention

Professor Meg Jordan (WSE '96), chair of Integrative Health Studies (IHL), participated in a meeting in Seattle on November 20, 2009, as part of a series of sessions led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to set national health objectives. Jordan spoke on changing unhealthy lifestyles through cultural support, environmental advocacy,

and coaching. The IHL program features one of the few coaching initiatives in the nation that tackle health disparities among the poor. Together with Associate Professor Yosuke Chikamoto, Jordan will be serving on a national board to establish the first standards to deliver effective coaching for lifestyle change and integrative health practices.



Judy Grahn Wins Lambda Literary Award

Adjunct Professor Judy Grahn (WSD '00) of the Writing, Consciousness, and Creative Inquiry program has won the Lambda Literary Award for her collection *love belongs to those who do the feeling: New and*

Selected Poems (1966–2006), published by Red Hen Press. She won the award in the category of Lesbian Poetry. The Lambda Literary Awards recognize excellence in the field of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender writing. Grahn accepted the honor at a ceremony in New York City on May 28, 2009. In one of her new poems in the book, she writes: "There are dances, notions and inspirations/we can't know except for butterflies...what is the covenant/we must have with butterflies."

Gary Raucher (PDT '99), faculty member in Drama Therapy, is currently serving as the vice president of the National Association for Drama Therapy. ●

Professor Jorge Ferrer (EWP '99), chair of the East-West Psychology program, has co-edited *The Participatory Turn: Spirituality, Mysticism, Religious Studies*, from SUNY Press. The contributors to this volume discuss the "participatory turn," which proposes that individuals and communities have a vital role in bringing forth ontologically rich religious worlds.

Adjunct Professor Judy Grahn is one of several members of the CIIS community who authored chapters in the three-volume *Goddesses in World Culture*, due out in November 2010 from Praeger Press. The contributors also include alums **Miri Hunter Haruach (WSD '99)** and **Margaret (Peggy) Grove (WSD '98)**, **Margaret Kruszewska** (current PhD student in ACS), and **Vicki Noble** (member, Council of Sages).

Professor Robert McDermott of Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness has edited two books on Rudolf Steiner, both from Steinerbooks.

The first, *The New Essential Steiner: An Introduction to Rudolf Steiner for the 21st Century*, gives an overview of anthroposophy, with an introduction by McDermott. The second, *The Bhagavad Gita and the West: The Esoteric Significance of the Bhagavad Gita and Its Relation to the Epistles of Paul*, represents two volumes of *The Collected Works of Rudolf Steiner*.



Robert McDermott

Associate Professor Carol Whitfield in East-West Psychology has authored *The Jungian Myth and Advaita Vedanta*, issued by Arsha Vidya Centre Publications. This book examines C.G. Jung's ideas about the loss of a containing myth in the Western psyche and the need for a new myth in the modern world. ●

Profile: *Deirdre Visser* Arts Curator

I like to think of curating as facilitating,” explains the new arts curator, Deirdre Visser. “I facilitate conversations, literally and figuratively. I also see my work as imagining and realizing collaborations between CIIS and artists and organizations in the community.”

Visser comes to CIIS after a career of teaching photography, digital media, and art history at Mills College and California College of the Arts.

The first exhibition she curated at CIIS, “Between the Lines,” by local artist Annie Vought, drew close to 100 participants to the opening, and transformed the Institute’s Minna Center into an installation where



Deirdre Visser in front of installation by artist Annie Vought

cut-out and handwritten words brought the artist’s emotions and thoughts into sharp focus.

“CIIS is in a moment of wanting to expand the role of the arts both within the Institute and as a vehicle to reach out to the larger community,” says Visser.

Her vision for the arts program at CIIS is wide. “We’re trying to develop the capacity to bring emerging artists here from around the country,” she says.

But she’s also centered on the local arena. Visser

is working with neighborhood organizations and with community groups to pool resources to increase the audience for the arts South of Market in San Francisco. One upcoming project will include a collaboration with Counterpulse, a theater located just one block from the CIIS Main Building.

Visser hopes to build local ties through an upcoming project in development with renowned artist Pato Hebert. The planned collaboration involves the artist working with the Wellness Centers in three San Francisco

high schools. The art produced will be displayed both at the schools and at the Institute, and possibly in public venues as well.

Another initiative she’s working on is creating stronger ties between the student body and the arts exhibition program. “I’m very aware of the community function of art,” she says. “Peggy Schadler of 1000 Faces theater company in Virginia recently came here to give a mask-making workshop. As I was hanging the masks from the class in the hallway, people were already bringing friends over to see what they had created.”

One change Visser has made is to rename the arts program from its former title of Spirit in the Arts. “The new name is The Arts at CIIS,” she says. “‘Spirit’ is still very much part of the discussion, but now the name gives us more room to take in the full range of expression, in keeping with the Institute’s ideals.” ●

“CIIS is in a moment of wanting to expand the role of the arts both within the Institute and as a vehicle to reach out to the larger community.”

Alumni Profile:

Philip McAdoo

When he enrolled in the master’s program in Transformative Leadership, Philip McAdoo (TLD ’07) was a professional actor performing on Broadway in the musical *Rent*. In his free time during the day, he cofounded a nonprofit called Teen2Teen. The organization brings together young people from the inner city and suburbs to collaborate on theater projects. Since the Transformative Leadership program is offered online, McAdoo says, “My education at CIIS allowed

me to continue working with the programs in New York that I’d established. I was applying what I learned in class online on a day-to-day basis. The same questions that challenged me at CIIS, I used to challenge the kids: how to think about leadership, authenticity, and being centered.”

As his capstone project for his MA, he organized a trip to China for a group of low-income youth from the Lower East Side in New York City who had never traveled. “The experience of visiting another country

Technology Pioneer and Philanthropist Kanwal Rekhi

Receives 2010 Chaudhuri Award

This year's recipient of the Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri Award for Distinguished Service is Kanwal Rekhi, a leader in technology and philanthropy, who has also served as a role model and mentor to create opportunity in the United States and abroad.

Renowned for his work developing the technology that allowed computers in a building or campus to network, Kanwal Rekhi was born in Rawalpindi in what is now Pakistan. His family fled to India during the partition of the subcontinent. Raised in India the third of eight children, he came to the United States to earn a master's degree in electrical engineering in Michigan with only \$10 in his pocket. At first he did odd jobs as a student, working as a dishwasher, busboy, doorman, and factory welder.

After graduating and moving to San Jose, at the age of thirty-six he cofounded and served as CEO of Excelan, a high tech company. Excelan pioneered Ethernet networking technology, one of the basic building blocks of the Internet.

When Excelan got ready to go public, there were no Asian Americans serving as CEOs in Silicon Valley in publicly traded companies. The investors, worried about having an Indian American as the chief executive officer, asked Kanwal Rekhi to step down. A retired Hewlett-Packard executive was appointed in Rekhi's stead. The new CEO didn't work out,



Kanwal Rekhi

and within a year, Kanwal Rekhi was reinstated as chief executive officer. One year after that, the company merged with and was sold to Novell.

Following his stint at Novell, Kanwal Rekhi helped energize The Indus Entrepreneurs, or TIE, a nonprofit support network to provide advice, contacts, and funding to Indian Americans hoping to start businesses. Through TIE, Kanwal Rekhi has counseled and aided an entire generation of innovators as they

have changed the face of Silicon Valley and high tech industry. As a philanthropist, he has made major contributions to education, supporting universities on two continents. He is a prime benefactor of a foundation in India that identifies talented students without funds, and provides them with college tuition and living expenses.

Kanwal Rekhi's work has improved thousands of lives, from leaders of high tech industry in Silicon Valley, to deserving students in the United States and India. He receives the Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri Award for Distinguished Service at a ceremony at the Crowne Plaza Cabana Hotel in Palo Alto on April 24, 2010. ●

“Kanwal Rekhi has counseled and aided an entire generation of innovators as they have changed the face of Silicon Valley and high tech industry.”

really meant a lot to those young people. Part of the project involved raising the funds for their plane tickets,” he recalls. “The Transformative Leadership program involved study, but it also was about actually doing something in the world.”

While at CIIS, he appeared on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. Oprah interviewed McAdoo about how the kids he worked with reacted to reading the autobiography of Sidney Poitier, the first person of African descent to win an Academy Award for Best Actor. “I got to eat dinner with Oprah and Sidney Poitier on his eightieth birthday,” McAdoo remembers. “Oprah asked Sidney Poitier if he was



Philip McAdoo

afraid of dying, and he said, ‘How ungrateful would that be?’”

Now McAdoo serves as the diversity director for Pace Academy, a private school in Atlanta. He also travels to South Africa every summer, where he coordinates the summer arts programs for the Ubuntu Education Fund, running camps for young people who have lost parents to AIDS in the township of Port Elizabeth. “Kids sometimes walk

for two hours to get to camp. One summer I taught them songs from *Rent*, which concerns HIV, and they sang ‘Seasons of Love’ on their way to camp. It’s an incredible experience.” ●




Counseling Centers

(continued from page 1)

graduates of the Somatic Psychology program staff the center. “In both our theory and our methods, we start from an appreciation that all that is experienced and expressed is done bodily,” says Clinic Director Steuart Gold (SOM ’00). “We view the body not only as central to how we organize our experience, but as an enormous resource in the process of healing. The center has a very diverse clientele that comes from all over the Bay Area, as well as a rich diversity among our clinicians.” In addition to its regular clients, the center has provided services to the homeless and to inmates at San Quentin.

“There is room for students to explore their strengths and to touch the places within themselves that are most challenging, in an environment of deep acceptance.”



Clinic Without Walls is the newest center. It started offering services in spring 2010 at Valencia Gardens public housing in San Francisco. Next year, the clinic hopes to expand to at least one other site. “We follow the model of Doctors Without Borders, taking services directly to clients,” says Clinic Director Fernando Castrillon (CLN ’09). The clinic provides psychotherapy, but also such innovative services as “therapy on the margins” (informal sessions in a variety of settings) and community-wide interventions (the use of psychotherapy interventions and sensibilities on a community-wide level). “The clinic is community-driven,” elaborates Castrillon. “We focus on what the residents ask for.” They use a wellness model where psychotherapy is part of a broad approach that includes linking the clients to resources to help with nutrition, parenting, exercise, transportation, and other needs. The trainees are all students in the Community Mental Health program.

Golden Gate Integral Counseling Center is staffed by ICP advanced-level master’s degree students and alumni interns who receive additional training toward licensure. “Our context is always transpersonal,” says Director Jessica Wallace. “Though therapeutic techniques vary by practitioner and client, we always hold a view of each person as inherently good and whole. The center is very community oriented, and it has the feel of a strong and adaptable family where students can grow to

their potential.” The Golden Gate Center opened in 2007, thanks to seed money generously provided by the J.C. Kellogg Foundation.

Integral Counseling Center at Church Street was the first of the counseling centers, founded in 1973. Church Street is staffed by advanced-level graduate students from the ICP program and interns who are completing an additional year of training. The center’s focus is Gestalt and humanistic psychotherapy. “Gestalt therapy involves a high level of self-responsibility and choices,” says Clinic Director Lu Grey, who has been with Church Street for more than twenty years. “The client sets the pace.” The vast majority of those receiving therapy come from the neighborhoods south of Market Street, including the Mission and the Castro.

Integral Counseling Center at Pierce Street was founded twenty-two years ago by CIIS Professor Emeritus Michael Kahn, who envisioned a training facility where students could learn about the evolving relationship between therapist and client. About two-thirds of the trainees are currently advanced-level graduate students from ICP, and one-third are interns who are alums of that program. Says Clinic Manager Susan Weiss (ICP ’87), who has served in that capacity for almost twenty years: “There is room for students to explore their strengths and to touch the places within themselves that are most challenging, in an environment of deep acceptance.” Adds Clinical Director Dan Gottsegen (ICP ’93, CLN ’03): “We work with a relational perspective toward healing the whole person. The clients are as diverse as the city itself.”

Psychological Services Center is located in the Fox Plaza building on Market Street. “One thing that’s unique about the center is that all the trainees are doctoral students in the Clinical Psychology doctoral program,” says Clinic Director Lani Chow. “We work from a psychodynamic or relational framework.” In addition to providing short- and long-term therapy to individuals and couples, the center offers psychological assessment services for adults seeking personality and cognitive testing; as well as academic, vocational, and diagnostic assessment. The assessment services, like the therapy sessions, are offered on a sliding scale.

For contact information and more detailed descriptions of the counseling centers, visit www.ciis/counseling. ●

Poet and Visual Artist

Recognized at 42nd Commencement Ceremony

by Gwyneth Merner

At the 2010 CIIS commencement ceremony, poet Coleman Barks and artist Mayumi Oda will be awarded honorary doctorates to celebrate their creativity and cultural achievements.

Coleman Barks is best known for his translations and free verse renderings of the poetry of Sufi mystic Jallaludin Rumi. When the poet Robert Bly introduced Barks to a scholarly translation of Rumi in 1976, Bly urged, "These poems need to be released from their cages." Since then, Barks has published over a dozen collections of Rumi's works and has created an enduring position for Rumi's canon in the English-speaking world.

Barks was born and raised in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and educated at the University of North Carolina and the University of California, Berkeley. He has been a student of Sufism since 1977. His own books of poetry include *Winter Sky: New and Selected Poems, 1968–2008*. The evening of Saturday, May 15, 2010, Barks will be appearing at a private reception at the CIIS 42nd Anniversary Alumni Reunion as a benefit for the Alumni Scholarship Fund. The event will be hosted by President Joseph L. Subbiondo and Dean of

Alumni Richard Buggs. For more information, please contact Cynthia Mitchell at cmitchell@ciis.edu.

Japanese-born artist Mayumi Oda has exhibited her silkscreen works, etchings, and paintings internationally since 1969. Her voluptuous, dynamic, and brightly colored nudes and goddesses from numerous cultures have often drawn comparison to Henri Matisse. She graduated from the Tokyo University of Fine Arts, and her artwork is in the permanent collections of many institutions, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and the Library of Congress. Oda began a Zen practice in 1978 and later moved to the U.S. to train at the San Francisco Zen Center's Green Gulch Farm. She wrote about her experience at Green Gulch Farm in her illustrated book *I Opened the Gate, Laughing: An Inner Journey*. In addition to her activism against nuclear proliferation, Oda currently runs an organic farm and retreat center called Ginger Hill on the island of Hawai'i.

The commencement ceremony will take place on May 16 at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre in San Francisco. ●

Rumi

translated by Coleman Barks

Today, like every other day,
we wake up empty
and frightened. Don't open the
door to the study
and begin reading. Take down
a musical instrument.

Let the beauty we love be what
we do.

There are hundreds of ways to
kneel and kiss the ground.

from *The Essential Rumi*, © 1995
by Coleman Barks



"Hariti," scroll
by Mayumi Oda, courtesy
of Ren Brown Collection.
© 2010 by Mayumi Oda.

JOHN ZEULI



Coleman Barks

DEIDRE VISSER



Mayumi Oda

Class Notes

To send a class note, please email Dean of Alumni Richard Buggs at rbuggs@ciis.edu. If you include a digital photo, please send a high-resolution image.

Pat Lind-Kyle (EWP '80) has published a new book, *Heal Your Mind, Rewire Your Brain*, drawing on recent breakthroughs in the scientific understanding of how the brain works. His handbook applies this new science in practical ways, by providing a training program to re-pattern behavior and thereby change the ways the brain is wired.



Greg Bogart
(ICP '88)

Greg Bogart (ICP '88) is a faculty member in the Integral Counseling Psychology and East-West Psychology programs at CIIS and author of the recently published book *Dreamwork and Self-Healing: Unfolding the Symbols of*

the Unconscious, published by Karnac Books (London), exploring therapeutic dreamwork, archetypal themes, complexes, and symbols.

Paul Fleischer (CLN '98) started a private practice, HealingWorks, in Asheville, North Carolina, specializing in integrative psychotherapy and behavioral medicine. He has also launched his own line of guided audio programs that include meditation, relaxation, and imagery.

Jane Brunette (ICP '99) has led and helped to develop "transformational learning journeys" to India for students between high school and college, with the journey itself used as a group process, including retreats in the U.S. and India for integration. The program features innovative opportunities for service work in various parts of India, and family home-stays for cultural immersion. She recently spent three months in Ecuador teaching meditation and working on several book projects.

Stephanie Elliott (ICP '99) has completed nine successful years working in agency and private practice settings. She recently founded Willow Family Therapy, Inc. in Pacifica.

Juris D. Ahn (BIS '08) has had his first book of poetry, *The Heaping Up of Small Things*, published by the Invisible College Publishing House. About half of the pieces were composed during his year in Cohort R, and the introduction is by CIIS Professor Fernando Castrillon (CLN '09).



Paula Noel Macfee
(ISD '01) and daughter

Paula Noel Macfee (ISD '01) is applying her CIIS degree work in Recovery of Indigenous Mind by remembering ancestors, tracking genealogical name migrations, honoring sacred landscape, dreaming lucidly, and healing an incurable disease called multiple sclerosis. As a philosopher and educator, she consults with students of all levels on coursework, papers, theses, and dissertations. She also assists with "ancestral healing" for individuals, families, and communities through decolonization, dreaming, genealogy, and self-reflective narrative. Paula is a spokesperson for the Volunteers of America Family Relief Nursery in Portland, Oregon, and enjoys CrossFit Portland, curling, Irish dancing, and being a full-time mother raising her daughter. Her latest interest is gathering alumni of the Pacific Northwest to share local knowledge and bridge CIIS with the Portland community.

Michael R. Sheehy (ACS '01, PAR '07) is director of Tibetan Literary Research at the Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center at the Rubin Museum in New York. He is also a faculty member in the Religious Studies Department of the Eugene Lang College at the New School. He serves as executive director of the Jonang Foundation.

Kenji Liu (CAS '03) has published a new book of poetry, *You Left Without Your Shoes*. The

collection is part of Finishing Line's critically acclaimed chapbook series. As a 1.5 generation Japanese-born Taiwanese American expatriate from New Jersey suburbia, Kenji explores the politics of migration, memory, culture, history, mourning, and joy. He has studied with award-winning writers Suheir Hammad and Ana Castillo. His previous publications include poetry, interviews, and academic reviews. Kenji is currently working on a full-length collection experimenting with printed images, poetry, prose, memoir, and other textual fragments. He lives in Oakland.

Liza Behrendt (HOT, '04) is the founder of Beauty of Water, a multi-year project dedicated to expanding the human appreciation for water through artistic collaborations. The Arts and Healing Network presented her with an ANH 2009 award.

Judith Kinst (EWP '04) recently accepted a core faculty position at the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS), a school affiliated with the Graduate Theological Union. She will teach classes in Zen Buddhism and Zen Buddhist meditation, in Buddhist pastoral care and counseling, and in integrating traditional Buddhist psychology with contemporary Western psychology. She is also developing an MA/MDiv program for Buddhist chaplains and IBS's connections with Buddhist chaplaincy training programs in the Bay Area and New York, as well as a certificate program in Buddhism and Psychology.

Jane Leung (ICP '05) recently opened a private practice in Walnut Creek and provides culturally sensitive psychotherapy in English, Cantonese, and Mandarin.

Elizabeth Husserl (EWP '06) has been developing Inner Economics, a body of work that helps individuals and groups create healthier relationships to money. Her work was recently featured in the German magazine *Wirtschaft*

Join the CIIS online alumni community at <http://alumni.ciis.edu/getusepass.asp>

Analyse in the English-language article, "Inner Economics: Inner Work, Outer Rewards."

Robert Mullen (BIS '07, ACS '08) has written an article, "Holy Stigmata, Anorexia, and Self-Mutilation: Parallels in Pain and Imaging," which was published in the *European Journal for the Study of Religions and Ideologies*.

Glenn Hartelius (EWP '10) is the main editor of the *International Journal of Transpersonal*

Studies, the second-longest-running transpersonal journal, dedicated to the advancement of theory, research, practice, and discourse in the area of transpersonal studies. He has taught courses in transpersonal psychology at CIIS and at Naropa University. He currently holds a full-time teaching/administrative position as a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, Palo Alto, and is the secretary of the recently revived International Transpersonal Association.

At the National Association for Drama Therapy Annual Conference held in White Plains, New York, in November 2009, eight alums of the Drama Therapy program presented: **Gideon Zehavi** (PDT '00), **Emily Burkes-Nossiter** (PDT '05), **Susana Pendzik** (PDT '97) with CIIS core faculty member **Antonio Ramírez** (PDT '00, CLN '08), **Laurel Carangelo** (PDT '08) with **Lance McGee** (PDT '10), **Evan Hastings** (PDT '09), and **Sheila Rubin** (PDT '96). ●

—Richard Buggs

Alumni Reunions

October 16, 2009 *New York City*

The third annual New York reunion was again held at the Harvard Club with alums in attendance from nine different degree programs and from graduation years 1977 to 2009. There was a great deal of enthusiasm as alums reconnected, networked, and updated one another on recent personal and professional ventures. Many prospective students also took part, all eager to speak with our alums about the value of their CIIS degrees and ask general questions about the experience of moving to the West Coast. Many of the alums offered their email addresses and phone numbers to continue the conversation.

During the program, President Joseph Subbiondo introduced board members Elizabeth McCormack and Stuart Diamond, then spoke of the progress CIIS has made over the past year. Dean of Admissions Mike Griffin welcomed the prospective students and described the many benefits of studying at CIIS. Dean of Alumni Richard Buggs gave a brief update on our international alumni community and the newly established online community for alums.

Alum Kathleen O'Hara (SOM '93) concluded the event, speaking passionately about the value of her CIIS education and her efforts to create a national program for families who are survivors of violent crime. O'Hara has been interviewed extensively on the topic and spoke about how her Somatics degree

prepared her for dealing with a personal tragedy that led to the writing of her book, *A Grief Like No Other*.

January 30, 2010 *Portland, Oregon*

President Joseph Subbiondo and Dean of Alumni Richard Buggs hosted the first-ever reunion of Portland CIIS alums on January 30 at the Oba Restaurant in the Pearl District. The twenty-five alums who participated were clearly delighted that CIIS brought them together, since most did not know any other alums living in Portland. Graduation years spanned several decades, from 1977 to 2009, with one alum telling the group about her experience of having the Institute's cofounder, Haridas Chaudhuri, as her advisor. Many of the alums inquired about whether CIIS could have a continuing presence in the region. Several volunteered to help organize an active Portland circle. Next steps include presentations, workshops, and trainings for psychotherapists. Several alums from counseling programs reported successful private practices because of the fine

reputation that CIIS has for training clinicians.

Eight prospective students also attended. Alum Ernest Courant (PCC '03) spoke about how one goes about applying a CIIS degree. His view was that there are endless possibilities available to alums and that he valued the ways in which his degree in Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness prepared him for work as an educational consultant. ●



NEW YORK: Michael Sheehy (ACS '01, PAR '07), Elizabeth McCormack, prospective student



PORTLAND: Ross Cohen (ICP '04), Nina Watt (ICP '04), Gavin Flanagan (ICP '01)




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