



Summer 2008

## CIIS Today, Summer 2008 Issue

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The Community Newsletter of California Institute of Integral Studies

# CIIS today



SPECIAL BULLETIN SUMMER 2008

## New CIIS Online Alumni Community Goes Live

Dean of Alumni Richard Buggs (CLN '96) is pleased to announce the launch of the CIIS Online Community, a free social networking Web site available exclusively to CIIS alumni and faculty. Designed not only to connect you with other alumni, but also to keep you up-to-date about the latest events and activities happening at the Institute, the social networking possibilities of this powerful new tool are endless. Through features like the Alumni Directory, the online community will enable you to get in touch with former classmates and to stay connected with the global CIIS alumni family—now more than 3,000—who live and work in more than 38 countries. By following a few simple steps you can create a home page and build your personal profile, upload photos, share professional information with other members, and access discussion boards. Members can obtain career support, register as a mentor or find a mentor in your field of interest, and work together to advance career goals. The online community also provides a venue for storytelling, showcasing projects and best practices that can be leveraged to create new knowledge resources available to everyone in the network, regardless of where you live and work.

**Get started today by logging on at [alumni.ciis.edu](http://alumni.ciis.edu). You will find your temporary username and password on the mailing label of this bulletin, directly above your name and address. Once you register with the CIIS Online Community, you can begin building your profile and accessing the wealth of resources available within the network of CIIS alumni.**

If you have questions, please contact Cynthia Mitchell at [cmitchell@ciis.edu](mailto:cmitchell@ciis.edu) or call 415.575.6278.

Log on today at [alumni.ciis.edu](http://alumni.ciis.edu)

## Letter from the President

Dear CIIS Alumni and Friends,

Happy 40th Birthday, CIIS!

During this year of celebrating our fortieth anniversary, let us pause to reflect on our founders, our history, our mission, and our community. To reach this moment, it has taken evolutionary vision, creative planning, and boundless commitment to advance a mission of integral education—an education that is as needed today as it was 40 years ago.



Joseph L. Subbiondo

Our student body has grown to nearly 1,200 in three schools: the School of Consciousness and Transformation, the School of Professional Psychology, and the School of Undergraduate Studies. Our public programs and conferences draw over 6,000 attendees annually, and we operate five counseling centers in the Bay Area, which just won “Best of the Bay” from the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*. With the purchase of the Mission Street building last spring, we not only moved into an era of stability but we also improved our learning environment. We have invested in more classroom and office space, more student space, and a wireless network for student access to the Internet.

As higher education seeks models of integrative learning, CIIS is taking a leadership role as evidenced by our sponsorship of Uncovering the Heart of Higher Education: Integrative Learning for Compassionate Action in an Interconnected World in 2007, which won an Award for Excellence from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

In the coming year, we hope that you will join us as we expand our vibrant and pioneering community in the work of transforming our world.

Warm regards,

Joseph L. Subbiondo  
President

# Integral Yoga Film Premieres At 40th Anniversary Celebration

To mark and celebrate CIIS' 40th anniversary, the Institute welcomed more than 200 alumni and friends to an open-house party on April 4. Joined by faculty, students, and staff, guests mingled and reconnected with friends and colleagues; enjoyed a delicious Indian buffet dinner prepared by the school's organic café; and listened to thought-provoking presentations by alumni who spoke on an array of topics related to integral higher education—from integrating Buddhist practice into psychotherapy to creativity and the art of collage.

Throughout the event, guests had the opportunity to explore the main building, CIIS' permanent residence since its historic purchase in 2007. The evening's celebration was capped by the U.S. premiere of the film, *Integral Yoga*, by director Mark Kitchell, who received an Academy Award nomination for his documentary, *Berkeley in the Sixties*, and producer and CIIS alumnus

Alan Baiss (ICP, '91). Kitchell and Baiss were on hand to introduce the film, which traces the history of Integral Yoga, from its early development in India by sage and yogi Sri Aurobindo to its introduction in the West by CIIS cofounders Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri.

The community gathering ended as it started—on a festive note—as guests danced in Namaste Hall to music provided by dj f flood.

### *Integral Yoga* on Sale At CIIS InnerLight Bookstore

*Integral Yoga*, a new documentary on early CIIS history by Oscar-nominated director Mark Kitchell, can be purchased in the CIIS InnerLight Bookstore. For more information, call 415.575.6179 or visit [www.ciis.edu](http://www.ciis.edu).



Keiko Lane (SOM, '02), Lisa Denenmark (SCA, '07)



Mariana Caplan (ICP, '94), Michelangelo Campisi (EWP, '05)



Nicholas Carlisle (ICP, '01), Lori Schwanbeck, Kate Northcott (ICP, '96)



Adam Dorsay, Aurianne Jacobs Dorsay (CLN, '98)

## CIIS then and now

**1951**

Louis Gainsborough creates the American Academy of Asian Studies (AAAS) in San Francisco. Haridas Chaudhuri comes to San Francisco from West Bengal to be a faculty member of AAAS.



L to R: Louis Gainsborough, Frederic Spiegelberg, Judith Tyberg, Haridas Chaudhuri, Alan Watts

**1951**

Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri create the Cultural Integration Fellowship (CIF).



**1968**

Haridas Chaudhuri forms the California Institute of Asian Studies (CIAS) as an educational branch of the Cultural Integration Fellowship.





CIIS President Joseph Subbiondo, Shipra Narruhn, daughter of Haridas and Bina Chaudhuri



Anjuelle Floyd (ICP, '95), Rachel Carpenter (SCA, '95)



Nanette Rowe (CLN, '93), Susan Weiss (ICP, '87)



Tony Rich, Meg Jordan (WSE, '96)



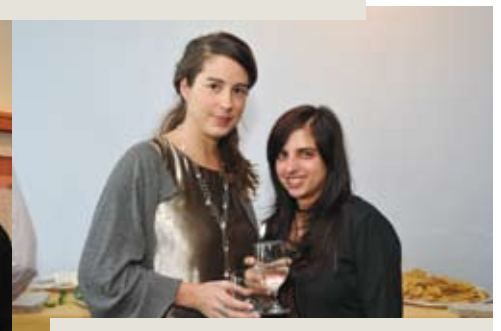
Integral Yoga producer Alan Baiss (ICP, '91) and filmmaker Mark Kitchell



Sophia Amargi (ICP, '97), Roger Marsden (ICP, '85, CLN, '91)



Jeff Aitken (ODT, '97, ISD, '07), Rachel Carpenter (SCA, '95), David King (SCA, '95)



Katherine Armer (BAC, '03), Simmy Makhijani (ACS, '04)



Cathy Coleman (EWP, '91), Ralph Metzner (faculty emeritus), Marguerite Rigoglioso (WSE, '01), Robert Owings (PCC, '01)



Connie Hills (CLN, '98), Richard Buggs (CLN, '96), Ellen McDermott, Joseph Subbiondo, Robert McDermott

**1981**

CIIS is granted full accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

**1999**

CIIS moves to its present location at 1453 Mission Street in San Francisco.



**2007**

CIIS purchases the 1453 Mission Street building, establishing a permanent residence for the school.

# CIIS Honors Two Public Health Visionaries with Doctorates at 2008 Commencement

At its 40th commencement ceremony on May 18, CIIS awarded honorary doctorates in Innovative Leadership in Service to the Community to two of the Bay Area’s visionary leaders in the field of public health: Barbara A. Garcia, Deputy Director of Health for the City and County of San Francisco; and Mimi Silbert, the president, chairman of the board, and chief executive officer of the Delancey Street Foundation.

**Barbara A. Garcia** is responsible for the San Francisco Department of Public Health’s Community Programs, a \$325 million division with more than 2,000 civil service employees and 150 community-based organizations delivering primary care, behavioral health, HIV/AIDS services, maternal and child health, indigent health, prevention and health promotion, and housing and placement services.



*Barbara A. Garcia*

While in this position, Garcia has implemented innovative programs to meet San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom’s priorities to reduce homelessness and violence, including a medically supervised sobering center and intensive care management program for public inebriates; citywide homeless outreach teams; violence response teams; and supportive housing.

**Mimi Silbert** is the dynamic force behind the Delancey Street Foundation, which for more than 35 years has provided its residents—ex-felons, prostitutes, substance abusers, the homeless, and others who have hit rock bottom—with the academic, vocational, and social skills, as well as the discipline, values, and attitude they need to live successfully.



*Mimi Silbert*

Although Delancey Street is her primary work, Silbert is also a recognized national expert in criminal justice. She designed adult and juvenile corrections master plans for numerous cities and states, evaluated the prison system for California Department of Corrections, and designed and conducted a groundbreaking study on prostitution and sexual assault. In her 40 years as a trainer, Silbert has designed curricula and provided training to more than 50 police, sheriff, and probation departments.



**California Institute of Integral Studies**

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