BULLDOGS BUILDING BRIDGES

A portrait of three alumni who put relationships before politics
Students mobilize to increase voter awareness and engagement

“Our main goal is to create a culture in which students are always talking about voting and being civically engaged—and not just during an election year,” says Rosemary Montoya ’22.

An election like no other

How are the pandemic, a recession, heightened political polarization, and civil unrest changing the way the United States is conducting a presidential election? U of R experts weigh in.
“Every presidential election cycle, we hear, ‘This is the most critical election of our time.’”

—Steve Wuhs, political science professor and assistant provost for internationalization

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The “Och Tamale” cheer

Originally called the “Psalm of Collegiate Thanksgiving,” the “Och Tamale” cheer was written by cheerleader C. Merle Waterman ’20 and classmates Walter J. Richards ’21 and Jack Slutsk ’22. The “Och Tamale” is recited when the Bulldogs score a touchdown, at pep rallies, Homecoming, alumni events, or as a greeting to fellow alumni.

Och Tamale Gazolly Gazump
Deyump Daydee* Yahoo
Ink Damink Dayadee Gazink
Deyump, Deray, Yahoo
Wing Wang Tricky Trackey Poo Foo
Joozy Woozy Skizzle Wazzle
Wang Tang Orky Porky Dominorky
Redlands! Rah, Rah, Redlands!
*also spelled Deyatty

Letter from the editor

“Are you crazy?” That was one of the reactions we got to the idea of theming this issue of Och Tamale around the November 2020 election. Why take on such a divisive topic in a time when politics is dominating our news sources, provoking vitriol on social media, and prompting some of us to cut ties with our friends and relatives?

It’s a good question. But Bulldogs in California and across the country are wrestling with many of the same forces and frustrations. We wondered: How are Bulldogs coping? What are their priorities? What insights can U of R experts offer into the historic election ahead? We thought you might be interested in some of those answers, too.

Now for the disclaimer. We endeavored to represent a range of political perspectives in this issue. No doubt you will find some you disagree with. The editors of this magazine do not endorse any particular stand or political party, nor does the University. What we wholeheartedly endorse is the conversation, in the great liberal arts tradition of the U of R mission, that expands our understanding, broadens our perspectives on the world, and helps us to be informed participants in a democracy.

We hope you find this issue stimulating, relevant, and engaging. If you would like to share your point of view, please write to us at ochtamale@redlands.edu.

Och Tamale!

Warm regards,
Mika Elizabeth Ono

Letter to the editor

Just wanted to compliment you all on the meaningful and touching COVID-19 Och Tamale issue from summer 2020, beginning with masterpiece of a cover by Yuko Shimizu and the heartfelt contribution from President Ralph W. Kuncl. I have only read a third of the way through, but had to stop and send thanks for such a comprehensive picture of how sensitively the U of R has handled the tsunami of our lifetime. It is sad for a generation of students that has been caught up in unimaginable circumstances, in Redlands as in everywhere, but there is much inspiration in the pages of this issue.

Julie Grimm Gregg ’65
‘Out of many, one’

One of the challenges of leading an institution such as the University of Redlands is keeping the community informed and united through chaotic times—and there has been no shortage of such times in recent years. Our country is simultaneously facing a historic pandemic, a crisis in the real economy of jobs and wages, and also an increasingly polarized citizenry. Moreover, the last several months have turned our worlds upside down and exposed levels of inequality across race and class in our society.

Embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion is crucial to the University’s health and our educational purpose, and in line with a longstanding commitment expressed for many years in our mission statement. Throughout the last two decades at Redlands, we have undertaken many steps to create a more inclusive campus: In the early 2000s, the University launched the Office of Campus Diversity and Inclusion (originally called the Diversity Office), and Race and Ethnic Studies became an academic major. In 2015, the Open Forum on Diversity and Race Relations led to the formation of the University-wide Council on Inclusiveness and Community or UCIC, which is made up of students, faculty, staff, and administrators. In 2018, we brought in diversity consultant Dr. Jesús Treviño to identify strengths and challenges in campus inclusiveness. And Senior Diversity and Inclusion Officer Christopher Jones, J.D. arrived at the U of R in February and joined my Cabinet in July.

Right now, however, we are living in a moment of heightened awareness of how far we still need to go. Recent national events surely have impressed upon you—as they have upon me and the rest of University leadership—just how urgent it is to continue to work toward a blueprint for diversity, equity, and inclusion on our campuses. And that is why we need to harness the purpose and power of our community.

The force of education is still vital, even as we are all teaching, learning, and working remotely. That force is integrated from the plurality of life experiences, ideas, and values we each bring. By making institutional changes that recognize the value of diversity, equity, and inclusion, the University will be better positioned to use constructive disagreement as a part of intellectual inquiry, problem-solving, and knowledge creation. The purpose of our inquiry is to realize a welcoming and just community at Redlands, which then impacts the society in which we engage.

Some of the University’s most critical recent steps are highlighted in this issue (see pages 14–17). These include engaging a national survey to gain a more accurate sense of the climate for diversity and inclusion on our campuses; revising the University's anti-discrimination and equity policy to include language that clearly outlines the procedures for making a report and the process to investigate complaints; and tapping into collective university creativity and wisdom by creating the “Inclusive Community and Justice Fund,” which is now supporting seven projects from across the University. Our most recent milestone was holding the University’s first-ever Diversity Town Hall on Sept. 28, hosted by Jones and officially launching the University’s diversity strategic planning process.

I’d like to draw inspiration from and pay tribute to an extraordinary woman, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who worked toward righting the many inequities she saw throughout the legal system. She said, “Real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time.” This quote is meaningful to me because it implies how we each can contribute to the good we want to see in this world. I imagine her thinking those words of encouragement each time she ascended the 44 steps to the Supreme Court and saw the entablature inscribed above with “Equal Justice Under Law.”

We, too, can collectively make this moment in history an opportunity not only to say what we believe but to demonstrate what we will do about it, taking a journey of infinite steps to make the community and our country ever better. We can model our values in the classroom; we can embrace them in our residences; we can realize them in our teams, cohorts, ensembles, and gatherings (virtual or in-person). And, of course, we can vote.

Democracy derives its entire raison d’être from pluralism—E pluribus unum or “Out of many, one.” An act of Congress in 1782 approved the inclusion of this phrase on the seal of the United States, and it expresses the power of bringing together not only many states, but many points of view. I am mindful of the exhortation of our recently deceased U.S. Representative John Lewis about elections, the linchpin of democracy, as he said, “The vote is precious. It is almost sacred. It’s the most powerful non-violent tool we have in a democratic society, and we’ve got to use it.”

We all have a hand in directing our nation’s future as we approach the next election. Remember how fortunate we are to live in a country in which we can each vote our conscience, whatever it may be. By voting with our minds and hearts, we do what it takes to make our democracy ever stronger … infinite steps.

Forever yours,

Ralph W. Kuncl, PhD MD
President
University of Redlands
In the face of ongoing efforts against COVID-19, the University of Redlands School of Education awarded degrees to Class of 2020 graduates virtually on Aug. 8. Some graduates attended the online ceremonies wearing their caps and gowns. Many were in attendance in rooms with their partners, parents, grandparents, and children. Guests took part in the festivities from various countries across multiple continents and time zones.

The event began with a schoolwide gathering, in which Robert A. and Mildred Peronia Naslund Endowed Dean Mario Martinez underscored the importance of a commencement celebration to acknowledge students’ achievements. He noted that despite the stress brought about by the events of 2020, the graduating class has also encountered victory and growth.

“You are wired to think about the service to others,” he said. “We’re confident that your education at the University of Redlands has taught you the ideas of learning, equity, justice; it has also equipped you to find opportunity and challenge.”

The keynote speaker, Professor Andrew Wall, former Naslund Endowed Dean of the School of Education, gave his remarks following Martinez: “Resiliency and persistence are about small acts of daily living. They are about trying to make a difference by doing good things daily. While it may not change the system, it will matter for that one person. … If enough people take enough important steps, the world becomes the place we want to live in.”

Following the main event, separate receptions were held by the departments of Teaching and Learning, Counseling and Human Services, and Leadership and Higher Education. Martinez, the department chairs, and faculty members all gave congratulatory remarks at the receptions.

“It has been a weird summer, but it has been an amazing experience,” said Katherine Brookes Akridge ’20, who earned her master’s in educational administration. “And, I appreciate the effort people made to make [this celebration] special, too.”

“If enough people take enough important steps, the world becomes the place we want to live in.”

—Keynote speaker
Professor Andrew Wall
Sabrina Nunn ’21 has boundless energy and contagious joy—two distinguishing qualities that help her lead in this unusual year—as president of the Associated Students of the University of Redlands (ASUR).

A senior majoring in business analytics through the Johnston Center for Integrative Studies, Nunn is a native of Redwood City, California. Her Redlands journey began with a practical reason: “The University gave me a generous financial aid package, which was one of the major considerations during my college selection process,” she says. She stayed on, however, because “the close-knit community and small classes [at U of R] allowed me to build meaningful and supportive relationships with my professors and peers.”

Nunn spoke about her vision for student government and how ASUR is meeting challenges during the pandemic.

Och Tamale: What is your vision for your presidency?

Nunn: One of our key goals is to understand what students are going through during this pandemic in terms of adjusting to online classes and taking care of their mental health. I’m working with the ASUR team to find innovative ways to keep students engaged with the Bulldog community and supported with the resources they need to work through COVID-19.

Another goal is to focus on building relationships with the administration so that communication channels are open between both parties to make working together during these unprecedented times more seamless.

Och Tamale: How is ASUR meeting the challenges posed by the pandemic?

Nunn: ASUR is adapting to online models, where needed, for running events, hosting meetings, and staying in constant communication with those in the various areas in which we work. We are also challenging ourselves to be innovative by exploring ways we can keep our students involved and make our students feel supported—despite not being on campus.

To get students engaged, social media has been our strongest tool by far for polling students on topics that are important to them, encouraging them to attend social events and our upcoming speaker series, and boosting other organization accounts through our own platform. ASUR is run by students for students. So every event, project, survey, and meeting is done with our students’ best interest in mind because, at the end of the day, we are here to ensure that each Bulldog’s time at Redlands is one that is memorable.

Och Tamale: Bulldogs are resilient! What advice/tips do you have for students, and how are you keeping yourself motivated?

Nunn: Staying motivated and practicing self-care daily are really what dealing with COVID-19 and quarantine has been about for me, taking things day by day. Everybody has their own way of taking care of themselves. Keeping me motivated (and sane) are what I refer to as “serotonin shifters,” i.e., things that center you and make you happy. Mine are rollerblading, journaling, playing the ukulele, making a cup of tea, and cleaning the kitchen. Other people might listen to a favorite playlist, take a walk around the block, or FaceTime a friend. If you’re feeling stressed or are going through a bout of “screen fatigue”—which is 100 percent real—take 5 to 15 minutes, delve into one of your own shifters, and block out everything else for a little while.
On Aug. 24, the Class of 2024 made history in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS). As fall semester started remotely to protect health and safety during COVID-19, the class logged into the President’s Welcome Convocation on a Webex call instead of gathering in the Memorial Chapel.

CAS Dean Kendrick Brown opened the event by welcoming the College’s 625 new students (547 first-years and 78 transfers). Entering students represent 18 countries of citizenship and 42 states; 35 percent are first-generation college-bound, and 8.5 percent have a family legacy with the University.

When President Ralph W. Kuncl spoke, he noted, “Students at the University of Redlands have been part of a close-knit community since 1909; that means our community survived the pandemic of 1918, and we will survive this one.”

He also observed the group will be one of the most resilient classes the campus has ever seen. He noted that, even as the University is prioritizing health and safety by opening the new school year remotely, Redlands is still very much committed to providing an engaging and personal education.

This year’s two-day virtual New Student Orientation reflected that commitment. Director of Student Involvement and Success Erin Sanborn says the event was planned with the same care and love as in previous years: “We’re still focused on giving our students academic support, getting them excited about college, and building community.”

Ken Nwadike Jr., a peace activist and founder of the Free Hugs Project, closed the orientation sessions with an in-person appearance broadcast from the Memorial Chapel.

Having a guest speaker at the event was another new development, says Sanborn, but a welcome one. “Even though we are starting the school year remotely, we wanted to make orientation meaningful for our students,” she says. “After all, this is their first semester of college!”

“Our community survived the pandemic of 1918, and we will survive this one.”

—President Ralph W. Kuncl
Each July, members of the University of Redlands community participate in the Esri User Conference—which normally draws 20,000 geographic information systems (GIS) professionals to San Diego. This year, due to COVID-19, all of the conference presentations, plenary sessions, and the map gallery moved to an online format. That didn’t stop U of R faculty members and students from attending and delivering presentations on their research.

Professor of Race and Ethnic Studies Jennifer Tilton delivered a talk about racial and ethnic diversity in the Inland Empire, which was especially relevant as civil unrest gripped the country.

“I valued most the chance to connect with some of the other people working on racial and social justice mapping initiatives around the country and learning about Esri’s new Racial Justice Hub,” says Tilton. “Of course, it was also great to have the chance to learn about some of the newest features of Esri software—I’m incorporating what I learned at the conference into my first-year seminar.”

H. Jess and Donna Colton Senecal Endowed Dean of the School of Business Thomas Horan and Professors Avijit Sarkar and James Pick delivered a presentation on how organizations in the private sector are deploying GIS to gain insights about customers, expand business, and manage risk. Sarkar, Pick, and Tridev Raut ’21 co-authored a poster about spatial patterns and socioeconomic influences on American internet use.

Important discussions surrounding COVID-19 data collection and display abounded during the conference. Director of the Center for Spatial Studies Steve Moore says that tracking the virus is one of the biggest applications of GIS in recent memory and is something that the GIS community is proud of.

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**Summer Institute explores safety and equity in schools during pandemic**

On July 14, educators and administrators from across Southern California school districts gathered virtually for the 16th annual University of Redlands School of Education Summer Institute for Leadership in Educational Justice. The event, hosted by the Center for Educational Justice, addressed educational equity, leadership, and the future of schooling in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Education is a continuum—it’s all connected, and we need to advance toward a world where we understand how one part affects the others,” said Mario Martinez, the U of R School of Education’s Robert A. and Mildred Peronia Naslund Endowed Dean, during the event. “We all bring our own unique strengths, and the way that we partner together will define our spirited inquiry, how we learn together, and how we address problems.”

Throughout the day, 858 attendees participated in a variety of talks that touched on the history of activism in education, equitable virtual learning, leadership perspectives in addressing equity, and professional empowerment for teachers and administrators. The event ended with a superintendents’ forum that addressed reopening schools and student learning during a pandemic.

Closing the panel, Director of the Center for Educational Justice Jose Lalas delivered a charge to the superintendents and attendees, encouraging them to lead with generosity and courage in order to equitably meet the needs of their communities during the pandemic.
Black entrepreneurs share their experiences

On July 29, more than 50 community members gathered virtually to listen to local entrepreneurs talk about their experiences running small businesses in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and Black Lives Matter movement.

The event, co-hosted by the University of Redlands Office of Career and Professional Development (OCPD) and Campus Diversity and Inclusion, represented efforts to provide programming that speaks to students and the variety of identities they hold.

“Our office recognizes that you can’t separate your identities from your work, whether that be racial identity, sexual identity, gender identity, disability, etc.,” says Kelly Dries, OCPD executive director. “We believe career development plays an integral part in ending the economic disparities that impact certain communities. Black communities are impacted by racism daily, and we have and will continue to provide relevant resources to level the inequity unfairly faced by the Black community.”

Moderator Elizabeth Beck ’23 posed questions to the three panelists: Jacqueline Carrington, who founded beauty company People of Color; Duan Kellum, proprietor of custom screen-printing company Skool Boiz; and Andrea Russell, owner of The Cookie Jar bakery. Participants spoke about the early days of their ventures, how being a Black business owner has influenced their experiences, and the unique challenges and triumphs they faced.

“I am so proud of the Black community,” said Russell. “Now I see such a rally around supporting each other that I haven’t seen during my entire life. It means so much to me to see people who look like me, who want other people who look like us to succeed.”

Foundations support U of R’s COVID-19 response

The Fletcher Jones Foundation and HEDCO Foundation, two longtime foundation partners of the University of Redlands, have provided significant leadership grants to support the University’s unexpected expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

After awarding the University nearly $1 million earlier this year to support the expansion of the computer center on the main Redlands campus and increased technology-enabled learning, the Fletcher Jones Foundation recently provided an additional grant of $200,000. The second grant supports UR Connected Campus, a strategy that brings together eight physically separate campuses virtually to create a rich, seamless, and scalable digital learning experience. The grant also will support sanitizing and health-related supplies to ensure the safety of U of R spaces.

The HEDCO Foundation, whose past investments have supported faculty and capital projects on the main Redlands campus, has also provided a grant of just over $62,000 to create five “connected” smart classrooms. These frequently used learning spaces in Hedco Hall, part of the Stauffer Center for Science and Mathematics, will improve teaching methods and encourage growth for diverse learning styles. These updated classrooms also will support hybrid virtual instruction and keep the University on the cutting edge of education in the sciences.

Both grants also support Forever Yours, the $200 million comprehensive campaign.

“In light of these challenging times, both of these valued partners demonstrated a deep understanding of our urgent COVID-related needs,” says Vice President of Advancement Tamara Josserand. “We are most grateful for their continued generous support and their tremendous role in helping us navigate these uncharted waters.”
When the Office of Career and Professional Development (OCPD) team heard from 2020 graduates in April, the words most often used were “hopeless,” “frustrated,” and “uncertain.” Students had lost job offers or had internships rescinded. OCPD wanted to support students in unfortunate circumstances; at the same time, the alumni who wanted to help current Bulldogs were reaching out to the team. This synergy led to the creation of the Bulldog Endeavor program.

The goal was to help students who had a job or internship rescinded due to COVID-19 gain experience over the summer by working with alumni on a microproject (that did not exceed a total of 60 hours). It also provided recent U of R graduates and current undergraduates an opportunity to work with high-level professionals.

Eight alumni submitted projects; OCPD advertised to the students and received more than 50 applicants. Simmy Grewal ’22 lost an opportunity to study abroad at the London School of Economics and Political Science this summer. She applied to the program because it offered what she needed: a remote yet completely interactive online experience with the Bulldog community’s alumni. “These individuals understood where I [was] in my education and offered a summer of knowledge and skill-building,” she says.

“The focus on student outcomes, not just project deliverables, was really meaningful,” says Brian Brown ’15, strategic partner manager at software company Avalara and an alumni project host. “Ensuring that it would be a positive learning experience for them was definitely a priority. It also allowed us to more closely connect, to feel more like co-workers than just a mentor-student relationship.”

In the middle of the program, OCPD reached out to more alumni to establish projects; in the end, a total of 24 Bulldogs were set up for a summer project experience. Participants represented different parts of the University: 33 percent came from the School of Business and 67 percent from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Grewal was selected to work with entertainment company Don’t Tell Comedy, which gave her a chance to learn about logistics, financials, and marketing. “Don’t Tell Comedy made me feel like part of the team from day one,” she says. “My supervisor, Kyle Kazanjian-Amory ’14, became such a wonderful mentor and teacher, whom I hope to stay connected with.”

“The focus on student outcomes … allowed us to more closely connect, to feel more like co-workers than just a mentor-student relationship.”

—Brian Brown ’15, alumni project host

To find out about future OCPD projects, follow @redlandscareer on Instagram or email ocpd@redlands.edu with any questions.
While sour beer has always been popular with enthusiasts, it is now drawing attention in chemistry research circles as well. Thanks to research from the University of Redlands, brewers may soon be able to better understand the sour beer aging process to control flavor outcomes.

“Scientists are very interested in beer and especially sours because they are such complicated systems,” says U of R Chemistry Professor Teresa Longin, a principal investigator for the study with U of R Professor David Soulsby, who initiated the study two years ago. Redlands students also contributed to the research.

The team recently presented its study, “Analysis of organic acids and trace compounds in sour beer using NMR spectroscopy and LC/Q-ToF MS” at the American Chemical Society (ACS) Fall 2020 Virtual Meeting & Expo. The research was announced at an ACS press conference as “How sour beer gets so ... sour” and highlighted in Chemistry World magazine, on CNN, and in multiple media sources across the nation.

Regular, or non-sour beer, is typically made from water, malted barley, hops, and one strain of yeast—bacteria are always kept out. In contrast, for sour beer, wild yeast and bacteria are both allowed to grow in a brew known as "wort," which then ferments. The wort is often transferred to wooden barrels, where it matures for months or years. During that time, the microbes produce numerous metabolic products—including ethanol, acids, and esters—that provide much of the unique flavor of sour beers. The barrels themselves can infuse trace components that contribute to the flavor profile.

By partnering with local master brewer Bryan Doty of Sour Cellars, the U of R team was able to get samples of beer as it brewed from different batches, differentiating their study from previous studies on components in finished sour beers.

Soulsby and research student Alexis Cooper ’20 used a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer to examine the samples and a new analysis method for quantitating the data. They were able to track the levels of acetic acid, the main component of vinegar; lactic acid, which gives sourdough bread its distinctive taste; and succinic acid, which is found in broccoli, rhubarb, and meat extracts. They found each acid stabilized at similar concentrations in different batches, although some batches had greater variability.

“These organic acids give sour beers a lot of their flavor,” Longin says. Their balance produces different types of sour beer, ranging from a sweet/sour flavor to a "puckery" sour. She says this knowledge could be valuable to brewers: “If a brewer knows a particular combination of yeast and bacteria produces a desirable flavor profile, they can culture more of it.”

Research student Emily Santa Ana ’21 worked with Longin to search for other compounds that contribute subtly to flavor. She’s looking forward to working with the team again this year: “[Our research] brings the textbooks and articles to life.”

“If a brewer knows a particular combination of yeast and bacteria produces a desirable flavor profile, they can culture more of it.”

—U of R Chemistry Professor Teresa Longin (left), who recently presented a report on a study being conducted with U of R Professor David Soulsby (right) and students, including Alexis Cooper ’20 and Emily Santa Ana ’21.
CAMPUS NEWS

School of Business expands programs
New offerings include a master’s degree in business analytics and MBA on U of R’s Marin campus

The U of R School of Business has been busy expanding its offerings to meet demand. Its new Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) program debuted at the Redlands, Riverside, and Rancho Cucamonga campuses in August. And its MBA program will launch in the Bay Area in January.

M.S. IN BUSINESS ANALYTICS
The MSBA program prepares students to thrive in the expanding data science and business analytics fields—where demand exceeds the supply of qualified candidates.

“The modern business world needs professionals with the skills to gather, analyze, and make data-driven decisions that lead corporate strategy and execution,” says Thomas Horan, who is the H. Jess and Donna Colton Senecal Dean of the School of Business at University of Redlands. “Our program will prepare students to excel in this growing field in many industries and business disciplines.”

The nine-course program is designed for working professionals who want to advance their careers by completing an 18-month graduate school program with classes in the evenings or weekends.

With a unique curriculum curated from information technology, geographic information systems, management information systems, and business, graduates of the MSBA program will be equipped with a comprehensive understanding of business intelligence and data analysis.

“Our curriculum ensures we are doing our part to create a more skilled workforce in this critical business discipline,” Horan notes. “And since more than 25 percent of School of Business enrollments are Bulldog alumni, we hope to fill our cohorts with Redlands graduates who already know our value and can spread the word.”

The tuition rate for University of Redlands alumni for the entire program is $25,000.

MBA IN MARIN
Bay Area residents now have a new option for getting a quality MBA at a competitive price in their own backyard.

The 12-course U of R program is designed for working adults who want to advance their careers by completing a 24-month graduate program one course at a time, one evening per week. Students may choose to study general business management and administration or select a concentration in marketing, finance, global business, or location analytics.

“Our MBA provides strong foundational knowledge and business skills that have helped thousands of graduates accelerate their careers,” says Horan.

The Redlands MBA will now be offered at all eight University of Redlands campuses, fully online, and in a hybrid format for students who like a balance of online and on-campus coursework and interaction. It is competitively priced before financial aid or tuition discounts at around $30,000 to $40,000, and available to Redlands alumni for $25,000.

For more information about the School of Business, see www.redlands.edu/business. Application materials for all programs may be found at gpe.redlands.edu/apply.
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Kathryn Tucker, who arrived this semester to teach in the Department of Race and Ethnic Studies, is the new John and Linda Seiter Endowed Director of Writing. She specializes in writing studies, including composition, rhetoric, and writing center work. Her classes focus on ways to make effective choices in a variety of writing contexts.

In July, poet and dramatist Joy Manesiotis was named the Edith R. White Distinguished Professor of English and Creative Writing. She is the author of *They Sing to Her Bones*, which won the New Issues Poetry Prize from New Issues Press. Her individual poems and essays have appeared widely in literary journals, including *Poetry, The American Poetry Review, Massachusetts Review,* and *Poetry International.* Recently, she has staged *A Short History of Anger: A Hybrid Work of Poetry & Theatre*—a book-length hybrid manuscript, comprising speaker and Greek chorus—at festivals and universities in the United States and Europe.

Wendy McIntyre, whose research focuses on biodiversity and the history, policy, and management of public lands, is now the HEDCO Chair of Environmental Studies. Her research on common ravens as a threat to desert tortoises has been instrumental to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s efforts to control predation of desert tortoises in the Mojave Desert. She has published research on the causes of eutrophication of lakes in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and is currently studying mammal population movements in the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California.

In August, the San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS) at the University of Redlands Graduate School of Theology launched a Certificate in Theological Studies. Created for those who aim to spur personal or professional growth, the course is a guide on a self-paced path through the foundations of Christian theology.

“Many prospective students we spoke to this year were seeking theological studies for professional development or personal enrichment but wanted a shorter program than our master’s degree [in theological studies],” says Marin Campus Director of Enrollment David Altshuler. “This new program provides an excellent online overview of theological education.”

The certificate explores the disciplines of church history, New and Old Testament biblical studies, and systematic theology. Based on students’ unique needs and desired pace, the certificate may be completed in one or two years.

Students who enrolled for this fall semester will be able to complete the certificate online. When regional and national public health conditions improve, the program will pivot to a hybrid format with some offerings on the Marin campus.

Students interested in pursuing additional study in the field can use credits from the certificate to enter any of the master’s degree programs available at SFTS.

The new Certificate in Theological Studies is offered online by U of R’s San Francisco Theological Seminary.

For more information, see www.redlands.edu/theologicalstudies.

Faculty honored with endowed chairs

U of R Graduate School of Theology launches new Certificate in Theological Studies

CALI GODLEY

WILLIAM VAST

COCO MCKOWN ’04, ’10 WILLIAM VAST

CALI GODLEY

CALI GODLEY
STAYING CONNECTED
For a current list of University events, visit www.redlands.edu/news-events.

Virtual webinar series keeps Bulldog community connected
Borne out of the pandemic, Bulldog Bites hosts conversations with notable alumni and friends

In April, the Office of Alumni and Community Relations launched Bulldog Bites, a virtual webinar series that features KESQ news producer Evan Sanford ’17 and other hosts interviewing notable Bulldogs and friends. The hour-long show harkens back to Inside the Studio with Evan Sanford, which Sanford hosted as a student. Guests have included U.S. Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-Calif.); Grammy-nominated drummer, percussionist, and producer Steve Moretti ’96; and Dignity Health CEO Laurie Harting ’90.

To register to attend future live interviews, go to www.redlands.edu/alumni/bulldog-bites-interviews. Archives can be viewed on www.redlands.edu/alumni/bulldog-bites-interviews/previous-interviews.

Online meditation transcends pandemic and strife

“These weekly sessions give the ‘medicine’ of kindness and calm to people, which are good for health and wellbeing,” says Professor Fran Grace. “The gatherings show our potential for societal healing. When we experience small groups that are inclusive, intergenerational, and multi-dimensional, touching all of our senses and modes of expressing, allowing us to hold both heartbreak and hope, then we become capable of embodying that reality for humanity as a whole.” To learn more or register, visit www.redlands.edu/ochtamale/onlinemeditation.

Alumni trips
It’s hard to plan for the future in the middle of a pandemic—but, as the proverb goes, we know this, too, shall pass. And when it does, we want to be ready to travel with our fellow Bulldogs! So the following trips are in the works.

June 4–6, 2021
Paso Robles wine tour
Paso Robles, California
The wine region of California’s Central Coast continues to grow in stature, featuring some of the highest-rated wines in the entire country and the world. Many of the winemaking teams in Paso Robles are experimenting in exciting ways that we want you to taste and experience firsthand. In addition to sharing Redlands camaraderie, you will have personal access to the winemakers themselves. We hope you will talk to them about their process—how they create their wine, and what differentiates their product from others. You will come away with a richer understanding of how to drink and pair these fine wines, and enjoy the company of others as committed to the University as you.

June 4–18, 2021
60 years of Redlands in Salzburg
Bohemia, Danube, and Salzburg, Austria
This trip, originally scheduled for June 2020, has been moved to 2021, and there are still a few spots left! Your journey will begin with three days of exploration in Prague, where you will explore its stunning architecture, timeless art, and enthusiastic beer culture. Then you will head on to celebrate a mini-Oktoberfest in Vilshofen, the embarkation point of your luxury boutique river cruise adventure. As you journey along the Danube with AMAWaterways, you will see firsthand why this storied river has inspired generations of artists, poets, and musicians.

Bulldogs come together for a Week of Giving: Oct. 19–24

As we go to press, the U of R is hosting an entire week of giving from Oct. 19–24! With each day concentrating on a different area where support is most needed, Bringing Bulldogs Together: A Week of Giving leads up to our first-ever virtual Homecoming on Saturday, Oct. 24. Several generous donors contributed matching support up to $150,000, so every single gift makes a difference, helping us continue to provide a personalized Redlands educational experience for students this fall, despite the pandemic.

And it’s not too late to make a gift—visit www.redlands.edu/givingweek. Last year on Giving Day, we asked you to give to what you love. This year, we hope you will make a contribution because you love Redlands.
You could say that Tim Seiber ’04 knows the Johnston Center for Integrative Studies experience from every perspective.

Seiber entered the Johnston program as a student in 2000, and his emphasis, “Reading the Social: Political Philosophy and Cultural Studies,” combined humanities, social theory, and visual arts. Following a master’s degree and doctorate at University of California, Irvine, he became an assistant professor of science and media studies at the University of Redlands in 2010. When he started as a student, there were no full-time faculty in the Johnston Center. There are now three full-time faculty: Seiber, Professor of Film Studies Kelly Hankin, and Professor of Interdisciplinary Humanities Julie Townsend. The trio rotates the directorship every five years.

In July, Seiber succeeded Townsend as director; here, he talks about his plans and his mentorship of students in these challenging times.

Och Tamale: What are some of your goals as the new director?

Tim Seiber: My number-one goal is to get back to campus. Johnston is a living and learning community, so a lot of the ways that teaching and learning happens aren’t really based in the classroom. We have community meetings at the Holt lobby, and events—from parties to protests—on the front lawn. My favorite things include encountering students on the way to my office and being asked random questions. That’s an opportunity for me to listen, teach, and be in dialogue with my students. All that takes place physically, within our buildings. Right now, I’m feeling the loss of that part of our education. While I’m excited to simulate as much of it as we can online, I’m eager to work with the University to figure out how to open our living-learning spaces, because that’s so much of the value of Johnston. Within the spontaneous discussions, we have new attitudes and ideas constantly emerging.

Another specific goal for me is to make the Holt building completely American Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible. Through donor assistance from alumni and friends who have contributed to the Building Johnston Community Endowment, we have already remodeled the first floor of Holt with ADA-accessible doors. Eventually, we want to make the entire first floor accessible to students, faculty, and staff with mobility issues by remodeling the bathroom.

OT: How are you looking to put your own imprint on the Center?

Seiber: So many of our traditions were set up in 1969. We’re interested in maintaining our traditions and practices, which involve our orientation process, way of governing the Center through community meetings, and work with students to craft their own individualized education. It still works for a lot of students, but there are others for whom those traditions run against the need to, for example, have a job, take care of their families, or commute in order to make a Redlands education affordable. The Center has been adaptive to that reality over the past 10 years, and we’re updating the processes and practices for the reality of a 21st-century student.

We have also started supporting students who are food and housing insecure through internships over the summer [see page 46], and we’re moving all of our records online. I’m planning to spend a good amount of my time identifying co-collaborators to contact grant agencies and alumni to create a permanent fund to support programs that will make Johnston accessible to any student who wants this kind of dynamic and transformative education.

OT: Is the Center doing anything special for the 2020 election?

Seiber: For many of our students, this will be the first election in which they are eligible to vote. We will support all initiatives through various groups on campus to help students register on the voter rolls. In addition, Kelly is teaching a class called Election Narratives as part of our curriculum this semester. Students will study the world around them while living the experience. I hope—and I know—this seminar will help our students think in more nuanced ways about elections.

OT: What are you most looking forward to during your tenure?

Seiber: In my time as Johnston director, it will be my responsibility to host our 55th Renewal. I’m excited about that because it will reflect the changes in our student population. We have more community college transfers, ethnically diverse students, and higher numbers of international students. As our student population transforms, I want to incorporate their ideas into the operations of the Center and putting our alumni in contact with our student body to make those connections across generations.
IN THE AFTERMATH of the death of George Floyd, the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement, and heightened awareness of racial disparities, people from across the University of Redlands have found ways to strengthen the community's diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

As the President’s Cabinet stated in a June 29 communication, “As members of a university, we believe in dialogue, interactive learning and teaching, and mutually respectful conversation. We will listen closely, speak from principles, and act to make the University of Redlands ever more inclusive … and as inclusively diverse as it can possibly be. ... We are committed to action, creating a University culture in which we all feel secure, heard, and respected.”
While efforts are ongoing, these are highlights of the work to date.

**Senior Diversity and Inclusion Officer**

The University’s first senior diversity and inclusion officer, Christopher Jones, J.D., whose expertise includes civil rights, law, and equal opportunity programs, arrived at the University in February and joined the President’s Cabinet on July 1. He leads the effort to create a University-wide DEI plan and expand opportunities for DEI training and discussion. The Office of Campus Diversity and Inclusion and Native Student Programs also are under his purview.

**Campus Climate Survey**

To measure the campus climate for diversity and inclusion and help evaluate where change is necessary, the University will use the Diverse Learning Environments Survey developed at the University of California, Los Angeles, beginning this fall. The survey is a national questionnaire designed to capture perceptions regarding the institutional climate, learning outcomes, and campus practices as experienced with faculty, staff, and peers. Three separate surveys—one each for faculty, students, and staff/administrators—will reflect multiple perspectives. U of R-specific analysis is expected to occur in early spring, and benchmarked data from UCLA will be available in July 2021. The organizing committee—composed of Naslund Endowed Dean of the School of Education Mario Martinez, Senior Diversity and Inclusion Officer Christopher Jones, and Vice President for Advancement Tamara Josserand—will also work with an advisory council for climate and culture consisting of faculty, students, and staff to help chart the University’s path forward in the climate work, encouraging participation in the surveys, contextualizing and talking about emerging results, and providing general counsel on recommendations and action plans.

**Application for Hispanic-Serving Institution Designation**

Following recommendations by a faculty study group and a University task force, U of R will seek designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) during the U.S. Department of Education’s next application cycle (with an anticipated January 2021 deadline). As an HSI, the University would have the opportunity to receive resources to support programs, facilities, or services that expand educational opportunities for Hispanic Americans as well as other underrepresented populations. The University is also considering application for Minority-Serving Institution status.

**Board of Trustees**

As it recruits new members, the Board has prioritized increasing racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in its membership to keep in touch with and be accountable to all the University’s constituencies. Trustees will also engage in DEI training as they work to be more intentional in leading an institution that prioritizes, supports, and invests in DEI.

**Inclusive Community and Justice Fund**

The University’s Inclusive Community and Justice Fund is supporting seven projects focused on inclusion and justice impacting U of R’s students, faculty, staff, and administrators. With $50,000 previously allocated to the 2020–21 Innovation Fund, grants were awarded to projects, such as a political science discussion group, a speaker series, and a display honoring Native Hawaiian history and culture (see page 16).

**Revised Equity Policy**

The University completed, approved, and published a more robust policy on discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, and retaliation, including a section that clearly outlines the procedures for making a report and the process to investigate complaints.

**Transparent Public Safety Policies**

U of R Public Safety's policies and procedures are publicly available on its web pages, including its Use of Force policy and its memorandum of understanding with the Redlands Police Department.

**School of Continuing Studies Offerings**

The School of Continuing Studies is creating a certificate program related to diversity, equity, and inclusion topics. A standalone anti-racism course, as well as a course specifically for the Redlands Police Department, are also in development.

**Programming and Events**

In addition to ongoing DEI programming through the Center for Diversity and Inclusion—which hosted 60 events attended by more than 5,000 people last year—and new programming funded by the Inclusive Community and Justice Fund, divisions and departments from across the University have a heightened focus on issues of diversity and inclusion.

- Almost 950 people attended a four-part alumni series, Challenging Conversations, hosted by Jones and sponsored by the University Advancement division during the summer.
- The Student Affairs division, in partnership with University Advancement and the office of the senior diversity and inclusion officer, are launching a one-week “Activist in Residence” program. Beginning in spring 2021, each fall and spring the program hosts an activist/thought leader/educator, who will engage in a week of education and dialogue.
- University Advancement sponsored a four-session alumni class on anti-racism taught by U of R Professor Keith Osajima.
- The Career and Professional Development office is directing 14 percent of its unrestricted philanthropic funds in 2020 to support career programming for Black U of R students and alumni, increasing the office’s anti-bias training, and creating identity-based networking groups and events.
Inclusive Community and Justice Fund supports innovative proposals

In August, the University announced awards from the new $50,000 Inclusive Community and Justice Fund to support initiatives impacting U of R’s students, faculty, staff, and administrators. All U of R faculty, staff, administrators, and students were eligible to apply.

“We were impressed by the range of excellent proposals we received,” says Senior Diversity and Inclusion Officer Christopher Jones, J.D. “We look forward to their contributions to the University’s diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.”

The following seven initiatives were funded:

Projects receiving grants were:

• **Center for Educational Justice 2.0**: Submitted by School of Education Professors Adriana Alvarado, Nicol Howard, Brian Charest, and Mikela Bjork with Naslund Endowed Dean Mario Martinez, this project aims to elevate the work of the Center for Educational Justice to strengthen equity and justice through education. Howard and Alvarado will focus on the Race in Education Analytics Lab, which analyzes big data sets that quantify kindergarten-to-graduate school equity and race constructs, while Charest and Bjork will advance the Inland Empire Educators for Social Justice group, which they started to empower educators, students, and community members with tools to actively work against racism.

• **Public Square Conversations on Social Justice**: Submitted by College of Art and Sciences Professors Jennifer Nelson and Jennifer Tilton, Public Square Conversations will be held weekly and will range from conversations about issues associated with experiences of racial marginalization and campus climate to more academic discussions on racism and social justice topics led by faculty drawing from their research and course content. The series will also include speakers from the wider community.

• **Inclusive Children’s Outdoor Play Structure**: Submitted by April Hewes, who is in the Graduate School of Theology Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program and a CPE intern, this project creates a dedicated space for children residing in student housing (populated mostly by families of color) on the Marin campus to have safe recreation and play areas. “Myself and my children along with other families and students have encountered great marginalization and opposition simply because of our shade of melatonin, our sexual preference, our genders, our disabilities...,” she writes in the proposal. “A children’s play structure outdoors would not only provide our children a safe space to play, it would also help support the school’s retention of students and the acquisition of new families and students.”

• **Political Science Discussion Group and Guest Speakers Series**: Submitted by College of Arts and Sciences Political Science Professor Althea Sircar, this initiative aims to provide a space for undergraduates interested in studying the practice of politics and discovering scholarly responses to racism, anti-Blackness, and white supremacy. The group will provide community and professional support for under-represented students in the political science major, while also providing a forum for interested students across the University to learn from political science scholars who are Black, Indigenous, or persons of color.

• **Information Security Internship**: Submitted by Chris Kincaid of Information Technology Services, this proposal provides an internship for an undergraduate student from an underrepresented group to train with the department in the high-demand field of information security. “Upon completion, it will be our goal for the student to be prepared to enter the workforce well prepared to begin a career in the information security field,” writes Kincaid.

• **Maopopo: Understanding the Native Hawaiian**: Submitted by English Professor Nicole Kanahele Stutz, this project will provide a permanent display (kiosk, wall, or similar form) to address Native Hawaiian history, culture, language, practices, and values. This display will consist of both historical and contemporary texts, and allow for revising and updating.

• **First-Generation Study Abroad Ambassador Program**: Submitted by Evelyn Lueker, Andrea Muilenberg, and Melissa Modesitt of the Study Away Office, this mentorship program expands opportunities for students of color to study abroad. This goal will be achieved through peer-led current practice analysis, participant recruitment, pre-departure programming, and re-entry programming.

If you would like to support DEI programming at the University, please visit www.redlands.edu/givingweek.
Senior Diversity and Inclusion Officer Christopher Jones, J.D., talks about coming to Redlands shortly before COVID-19, how his experiences contribute to his work, and plans for implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) measures at the U of R.

Och Tamale: What were your first impressions of Redlands?
Christopher Jones: My first day [at U of R] was Feb. 3, about six weeks before we locked down [due to COVID-19-related shelter-in-place orders]. In my listening tour during my first few months, which unfortunately had to take place mostly via video conference, I talked to several groups of faculty, staff, and students in order to get an impression of the campus. What has been different at the University of Redlands in particular is the desire and willingness to have somebody in my position. The campus is open to the pursuit of equity, inclusion, and justice. Part of the reason I came to Redlands was because I saw that willingness.

OT: Have you identified any of the biggest needs for the U of R yet?
Jones: Part of what I see as the most important thing—and this is the reason for the Diversity Town Hall that we held in September—is the need for a diversity strategic plan. There are a lot of people doing a lot of work, and I’m here to help form the foundation, or, as I like to say, “put the muscle on the skeleton.” In doing that, we’ll be able to institutionalize programs so they don’t dissolve when someone leaves. That’s one of my biggest priorities—to create a system that everyone can rely on.

OT: Was there something or someone in particular that inspired you to get into law, civil rights, and equal opportunity work?
Jones: Yes. As an undergraduate student at the University of Michigan, there was a movement called the Black Action Movement or BAM, which arose on three occasions during the 1970s and ’80s. Its third iteration occurred during my sophomore year in response to a couple of incidents on campus. I was involved with the Black student union at that time and would later become the president of that group. That was where my activism began.

I was also a Reserve Officers’ Training Corps student. My commander told me to start thinking about possibilities for professional school; my activism made me start thinking about law. During my senior year, I would meet once a month with Dr. Charles Moody, who later became U of M’s emeritus vice provost. He was a key influence in my attending Howard University School of Law.

In my first year at Howard, we had a mentorship program. The mentor assigned to me was a civil rights attorney in Washington, D.C., named Robert L. Bell. He gave me my first job as a clerk after my first year of law school and has been the most influential person in my career.

OT: How do your personal experiences with discrimination influence your approach to your work?
Jones: One day when I was a young boy, I was visiting extended family in South Central Los Angeles and playing with my cousins out in a small strip of grass between the houses. A group of seven or eight of us were together, and my back was to the street. All of a sudden, the kids took off running down the street, and I didn’t know why. I turned around, and two police officers were coming out of a car—and one of them had his gun pointed at me. He asked me about where I was from or where I lived, and I said that I wasn’t from here, that I was visiting my cousins. I pointed to the house, and the officer told me to go home. That was my first real experience in which I began to understand who I was as a Black male in America. In sixth grade, I was called the N-word for the first time by a female classmate who was white. Those kinds of experiences fuel my commitment to my DEI work.

OT: What would you say is the most valuable thing you’ve learned over the course of your career?
Jones: The importance of patience. People can mistake me for being quiet, but if I have something I have to say, I don’t have a problem speaking. My experience and training has helped me to understand that when I speak, it should be with purpose.

For more information on the University’s DEI work, visit the DEI FAQ web page www.redlands.edu/racial-equity-resources/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-faq and Racial Equity Resources web page www.redlands.edu/racial-equity-resources.
Three School of Education professors weigh in on the challenges school districts face and the solutions they’ve created for instruction

During normal times, the most important thing for school districts would be to open schools, says Jose Lalas, a professor of literacy and director of the Center for Educational Justice at the University of Redlands School of Education. “But these are not normal times.”

When the school year began for K-12 schools across the nation, news stories reported the various strategies for teaching and learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some schools are teaching all students on campus; others are completely virtual with instruction via computer; and some districts are conducting a hybrid in-person/distance-learning model.

While K-12 school administrators, teachers, and staff have spent months planning for all contingencies, the health and safety, financial, and technological hurdles continue to test these educators.

School districts tackle the digital divide

Lalas has been a board member of the Corona-Norco Unified School District for 25 years, and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are greater than anything the district has faced during his tenure, he says. The district’s schools opened with distance-learning only, which has provided a host of difficulties in the pursuit of equitable access.

“The digital divide is very real,” says Lalas. “The families with reliable incomes have computers and are able to help their kids. But thousands of kids don’t have computers or parents who can be at home to support their learning.”
Even as the Corona-Norco district planned to provide computers for its students, the delivery of 15,000 of the 20,000 laptops ordered for distribution was significantly delayed due to high demand by other districts. Corona-Norco also ordered 5,000 hotspots to be deployed around the district to enhance secure internet connectivity in homes currently without access.

“Emergency COVID-19 funding from the state to the district has helped make this possible,” he says. “Otherwise, school districts like ours would go bankrupt.”

Teachers were challenged as well; they reconfigured both lesson plans and mode of instruction this year. Luckily, wider technological preparations have been in place for nearly a decade, says Lalas, and today’s educators are well-versed in teaching with technology. “It used to be that content and the art of teaching were the most important part of teacher education,” he says. “Now, technology is just as important.”

A new on-campus experience

“Schools are primarily designed to educate students, but we rely on them for so much more,” says Professor Ann Blankenship Knox, who is also the coordinator of the School of Education’s Educational Administration program. “Schools serve as child-care providers—a safe place for our kids to be during the day, as major employers, and as food providers.” She adds that, until the spread of COVID-19 is under control and schools open, society won’t get back to normal.

The many strategies to making on-campus attendance safe include establishing student cohorts that do not interact with other cohorts. “Of course, that’s easier to implement in an elementary setting than a high school setting,” says Knox. Teachers now move from classroom to classroom while students stay in place, and forgo large in-person faculty meetings and training sessions. Other strategies include modifying building use—by designating one-way hallways, for example—and staggering students’ movement and schedules.

In the face of Herculean efforts required for students to again sit at their classroom desks, Knox is impressed with educators’ ability to pivot: “I’m overwhelmed by how hard our teachers, counselors, administratros, and staff worked over the summer to prepare themselves for the challenges and unknowns of reopening schools this fall.”

The way forward

“Nelson Mandela said, ‘Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world,’” says Nicol Howard, professor and coordinator of the Master of Arts in Learning and Teaching program. “Now is the time for us to use logic and education as a powerful weapon to inform a clear plan for the future. Society’s return to normal function should not be predicated on school buildings as the only place and space for learning. In fact, it is time for honest conversations about what has been defined as ‘functioning normally.’”

Howard adds that teachers’ skills will always need to expand alongside technological advancements, and there will be increased demand for faculty and other professionals to work with smaller groups of students.

“Additional guidance for districts, schools, and teachers will be imperative,” she says. “Educators now have an opportunity to improve systems—including family partnerships—to effectively prepare for a new kind of grand (re)opening of schools whereby all have equal access to education.”

“Schools are primarily designed to educate students, but we rely on them for so much more.”

—Professor Ann Blankenship Knox
Students mobilize to increase voter awareness and engagement.
In 2016, 51 percent of University of Redlands undergraduate students voted in the general election, according to data collected by the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE). A group of students and faculty thought the community could do better and mobilized to increase student voter registration and turnout rates.

After meeting with a handful of faculty members in March, political science major Montserrat Pineda ’22 sent a mass email asking students interested in voter engagement to get involved, and Leslie Estrada ’23, Brianna Hernandez ’22, Rosemary Montoya ’22, and Salvador Rico ’21 responded with enthusiasm. The group formed Bulldogs Vote, a student-led nonpartisan organization that aims to bring students, faculty, administrators, and staff together to engage in conversations about voting, the political process, and civic issues.

“Our main goal is to create a culture in which students are always talking about voting and being civically engaged—and not just during an election year,” says Montoya. “We want to make sure people are aware of everything that’s going on, such as smaller local elections and why they matter and why the people we put into office—not just candidates at the top of the ballot—are important. While this is obviously an election year, we want to make sure to keep the momentum going. It doesn’t stop after Nov. 3.”

**Three-year plan**

As the group was forming, members were planning to hold events and organize on campus. But as the COVID-19 pandemic took hold, it became apparent that in-person work wouldn’t be possible. Still, the students remain committed and are organizing virtually. Members have outlined a three-year plan that includes goals to reinvent programming, bring other clubs and organizations into the conversation, increase funding for the group, and expand efforts into the greater community in the city of Redlands.

“In light of all the uncertainty that exists right now, we’re trying to prepare and research as much as possible,” says Rico, who has been investigating the best ways to register voters online while working with Montoya to update the group’s Instagram followers on voting news, dates of primary elections, and general knowledge for voters in advance of the election.

In addition to being active on social media platforms, the group is planning to host an open forum video call where members of the campus community can ask questions and learn about action items. They are also counting on a variety of campus stakeholders to further the conversation in their own circles. A mix of six faculty members and administrators—Director of Student Involvement and Success Erin Sanborn, Professor of Race and Ethnic Studies Jennifer Tilton, Interim Director of Diversity Initiatives Monique Stennis, Professor of Political Science Renee Van Vechten, Assistant Provost for Internationalization Steve Wuhs, and Director of Community Service Learning Tony Mueller—advise the group.

Tilton says, “A lot of U of R faculty members, along with Bulldogs Vote, are interested in making sure that students are exposed to their full power as citizens so they can see the ways they can work in organizations and civic society—both during election season and between elections—to make change.”

**Valuing their voices**

Each student leader is motivated by a different mix of experiences and interests.

For Hernandez, studying environmental science led to an interest in public policy. “I often see a big lack of interest in the environmental injustice that is happening,” she says. “In the end, the environment affects public health, which has really empowered me to think about what my vote means. Who we vote for determines how the environment will be treated.”

For her part, Pineda is inspired to help represent the underrepresented: “For a very long time, I was the only one in my family who was able to vote,” she says. “I’m very close to where I come from, so for me, it’s always been about making sure there are resources available to people. When I vote, I think about how the proposition or elected official will make sure that it’s meeting the needs of the people.”

Regardless of motivation, the group’s leadership maintains that getting young people to vote is critical to the country’s future.

“We often hear that it’s young voters who don’t vote,” says Estrada. “Looking at the issues around the country right now, I think it’s crucial we realize how important our voices are. Voting doesn’t only affect us in the present—it affects future generations and our country as a whole.”

By Katie Olson
There’s no denying that 2020 has been a historic year on many counts. A pandemic rages, businesses are shuttered, civil unrest erupts across the nation, and unemployment has reached the highest levels since the Great Depression almost a century ago.

“Every presidential election cycle, we hear ‘This is the most critical election of our time,’” says Steve Wuhs, a political science professor and assistant provost for internationalization at the University of Redlands—noting this year it might be true.

“We’re certainly in a moment where lots of things are happening that we didn’t think were possible,” says School of Education Professor Brian Charest.

How will the confluence of today’s issues impact the November elections? U of R experts weigh in with perspectives from a variety of fields.

Campaigning during a pandemic

COVID-19 has dramatically changed the way candidates interact with voters. There are few giant rallies or high-profile, in-person fundraisers. Instead, with voters homebound, candidates are sending out more mailers and buying more online ads. “They’re putting money where people are—sitting in front of their computers,” says Political Science Professor Renee Van Vechten.
On a local level, the pandemic’s impact on campaigning presents challenges for both the voter and the candidate. Without person-to-person networking, candidates have fewer ways to gain visibility with voters. “Lack of personal interaction with candidates could make some voters uncomfortable, but online resources will continue to be critical resources,” she says.

Still, people are fired up for the upcoming election—on the left and the right—says Charest. “There’s a real sense of urgency and desire among many people to be more involved, so they are trying to leverage technology and social media to engage voters.” Candidates are holding campaign events via video conference, and volunteers are writing emails, sending texts, and making phone calls instead of knocking on doors.

**Fear of falling**

“Presidents tend to get blamed or given credit for economic conditions based on what happens on their watch,” says School of Business Professor Satish Thosar, who holds the William R. and S. Sue Johnson Endowed Chair in Finance. While an incumbent presidential candidate tends to have an advantage, Presidents Jimmy Carter and George H.W. Bush both served only one term, in part because many voters blamed them for the bad economy.

What’s different these days, Thosar says, is many voters attribute their current economic woes not to the current administration, but rather to a once-in-a-century event—the pandemic. “Economics will still impact the election results, but it will not play the central role,” he predicts. Instead, people will make their choices based on other issues: racial disparities, health care, or public safety. “And many of them have already made up their minds.”

Like many economists, Thosar regularly looks at polls as a barometer for election outcomes. But he also checks what oddsmakers on gambling sites are saying. Unlike many pollsters, gamblers are taking into account wildcards such as the spread of disinformation and potential voter suppression. “People who are putting money on election outcomes are projecting the contest to be much tighter than the published national polls.”

What’s most notable about the 2020 economy is how it moved into free fall with lightning speed after pandemic-related stay-at-home orders, says Economics Professor Nate Cline, highlighting the disproportionate impact on the retail and service sectors. “That has never happened, so it makes the government response more difficult; we don’t have great tools to deal with a crisis we’ve never encountered before.”

Cline, who studies U.S. and international macroeconomics, believes the government should continue to give cash directly to citizens, although he acknowledges there is not a political consensus around the idea: “We want people to continue being able to pay their mortgages, rent, utilities, and other bills because the economy cannot recover in any reasonable sense while a pandemic is still raging.”

As for unemployment, Cline says studies show that its effect on the election will be less about current numbers and more about the trend: “If you have a job and unemployment is increasing, you are going to be pretty worried you might lose it,” he says. “However, if unemployment is high but decreasing rapidly, those who still have jobs will not be worried and may be more willing to vote for the incumbent.”

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“There’s a real sense of urgency and desire among many people to be more involved.”

—Professor Brian Charest

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<th>Casting a ballot in an age of social distancing and civil unrest</th>
<th>Skepticism and hope</th>
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<td>The pandemic has also introduced new significance to the option of voting by mail, as authorities continue to advise people to maintain social distance for health and safety reasons. While a few states—including California—have made the process more available by automatically sending vote-by-mail ballots to all registered voters, that’s not the case everywhere. In other places, politicians question the validity of a vote-by-mail process, claiming it will lead to fraud. Professor of Race and Ethnic Studies Jennifer Tilton says limiting mail-in voting—like closing polling places, enacting strict voter ID laws, and curtailing early voting—harkens to voter suppression efforts of the past. Tilton notes Black and Latinx communities are already disproportionately suffering the impacts of COVID-19, and recent decisions about mail-in ballots and changes to polling places could create overcrowding on Election Day.</td>
<td>U of R experts agree that one of today's biggest challenges is the climate of distrust around political institutions and news outlets. “It’s difficult for people to judge the veracity of news and information,” says Van Vechten. “Anyone can be edited or misrepresented because video and audio are easily manipulated, and it spreads so much faster because there are so many online platforms it can be disseminated on.” At the same time, it’s important to look for valid sources of information and to stay informed, says School of Business Professor Riaz Tejani, who is an expert in law and ethics. “Of course you should protect your mental health, but don’t check out from social media,” Tejani says. Given the short time until the election, he advises citizens to stay engaged. “Be critical about everything you read—look at sources and dates. And, if someone shares misinformation, correct it.” When people look solely to information sources that reflect their values and ideological base,</td>
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issues become that much more polarizing. “This makes the idea of reconciliation or establishing a common vision for the country challenging for candidates,” says Wuhs. “When you believe that your institutions don’t work, and you don’t necessarily agree with your neighbor about which institutions work, you end up with an electorate that is cleaved into chunks.”

But that makes participating in the democratic process all the more important. The upcoming election could feel like the most critical one not only because of breaking news like the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg or the president’s COVID-19 infection, but also because it’s the only one we can affect anytime soon. Thus, it’s our responsibility to use our votes wisely. Van Vechten urges voters to avoid the temptation of focusing solely on the presidential race and to broaden their view to include state and local politics: “Your vote carries more weight in local elections, so research your local candidates.”

While elections are important in the country’s trajectory, voting is not the only tool citizens can use to make changes they want to see. “One of the positive things about the amount of engagement that we’re seeing is that it has the potential to transform the way people think about being involved in a participatory democracy,” says Charest. “We’re seeing an uptick in folks getting involved in local issues at schools, city councils, or community organizing. And that bodes well for the future.”

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of U of R professors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the University of Redlands.
In the polarized political climate of 2020, there are no easy choices about how—or even whether—to maintain relationships with people who disagree with your most cherished convictions. Recent polls, such as those from Reuters/Ipsos and the University of Minnesota, show a growing number of us have cut ties with a friend or family member over political differences.

Here, *Och Tamale* magazine speaks with three Bulldogs of different generations who have prioritized relationships over politics—and why and how they managed to do it.
SALLY CUMMINGS ’56: ‘LISTEN, LISTEN, LISTEN.’

As a student at the University of Redlands, Sally Cummings ’56 learned about perspective and planning on the athletic fields.

“I learned from my professor, Dr. Craig, who was wonderful about not just telling us what skills to use on the field, but how those skills applied to everyday life,” she says. “In my discussions and experiences, I now always think, ‘What do I do when the ball comes to me? How do I respond and take charge?’”

She maintained this mentality during her career as a physical education teacher and continues to employ it in conversations about politics and current events with her friends and family.

EQUAL FOOTING

As the daughter of a Baptist pastor, she learned about the importance of tolerance and understanding while observing the racial prejudices that permeated many attitudes of the time. As a teenager, she moved to Southern California from the East Coast; meeting new friends allowed her to expand her horizons.

During attendance at an aquatic school in Arizona before her senior year in college in 1955, Cummings remembers noticing that one of the Black participants was absent during a group outing. She asked after him and found: “He wasn’t allowed to swim in the pool.”

U of R continued to shape Cummings’ worldview in myriad ways. Discussions in and out of the classroom with friends and professors helped her cultivate her keen observation of the world and an understanding that “we’re not all the same.” She carried the skills she learned, both intellectual and interpersonal, into her career as an educator.

“I came to believe strongly in the worth of an individual,” she says, “and that communities should be cared for in an equal way.”

STRENGTHENING TIES

Now retired, Cummings spends much of her time these days checking in with friends and relatives and listening to their perspectives, which range across the political spectrum. Recent conversations with her grandchildren have covered topics from protest to white privilege.

“My children, stepchildren, grandchildren, most of my relatives, and friends know exactly where I stand,” she says. “Many of them allow me to express that when it’s appropriate; many of them don’t, because it would probably entail a much heavier and controversial discussion than either one of us would want to take on.”

Realizing that these discussions reflect her family members’ lived experiences, Cummings feels proud of the decisions she made that helped her children broaden their worldviews. “I think that [attending elementary and middle schools with a diverse student population] was one of the greatest gifts they received,” she says. “They continue to keep in touch with friends from that period and were extraordinarily comfortable in high school and college.”

Cummings’ daughter, Leslie Best ’88, elaborates. “I went to one of the most impoverished schools in the district, and that exposed me to a lot—for example, kids who came to school without having had a meal. It eventually influenced my professional choices in terms of becoming a counselor and working in mental health.”

MOVING FORWARD

On the occasion a conflict arises in a conversation with a friend or family member, Cummings says she leans toward being nonjudgmental by valuing others’ opinions even though she might disagree with them.

“I tend to do more listening than I do talking,” she says, noting that she prefers face-to-face or telephone conversations, rather than speaking via text or social media platforms.

Like her mother, Best considers the importance of her relationships with friends and says that mutual respect is paramount to resolve conflict. “I often think about whether or not a relationship is strong enough to allow for us to engage in meaningful conversation in a caring way,” she says.

Cummings continues to broaden her understanding of others by belonging to groups that challenge her thinking. As a member of three committees at her church dedicated to social, environmental, and racial justice, these days she meets virtually with members of her congregation to talk about issues and initiatives that engage the community in conversation.

“It’s important for people to be unafraid of being in a space where everybody isn’t like you,” she says. “It challenges how you think. Get in a group where you can absorb new and meaningful ideas, and challenge the ones that don’t work.”

Offering advice for maintaining peace in these divisive times, Cummings harkens back to what she learned about perspective. “Listen, listen, listen,” she says. “I often use the phrase ‘Well, have you thought about it this way?’”

“I TEND TO DO MORE LISTENING THAN I DO TALKING.” — SALLY CUMMINGS ’56
Runbeck Elections Services Inc. sits behind Arizona’s Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. For years, its president and CEO, Kevin Runbeck ’79, has looked out his office window to see airplanes taking off and landing—hundreds, maybe thousands. Lately? Not as many.

VOTING IN A PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic has meant people haven’t been traveling, and airports have stopped bustling. Runbeck has seen first-hand other ways that COVID-19 is changing America as well.

As its name suggests, Runbeck Elections Services is a full-service election printing, equipment, and software company serving more than 20 states and a third of the country’s electorate. Runbeck’s father founded the company as a boutique advertising agency in 1972. In 1988, Runbeck purchased it; what started with seven employees now encompasses two buildings occupying 140,000 square feet, with almost 400 employees and a digital printing facility. If you’ve voted in California, Arizona, Washington, or Oregon, chances are your ballot was printed, mailed, or somehow verified by Runbeck’s firm.

Public health concerns have fueled interest in voting by mail, and Runbeck notes a lot of noise—allegations and conspiracy theories—now surround how trustworthy the process is. Runbeck is first to dispute the potential of widespread fraud because he knows precisely how meticulous the process is. Ballots are checked by the same systems that banks use to verify signatures on checks. Both electronic and human eyes verify them. If anything looks forged, the ballot gets kicked out, and the voter gets called for questioning and, in some cases, is prosecuted.

“It’s possible to change a few ballots here or there, but I have serious doubts that any entity could change ballots in a volume necessary to impact the election,” Runbeck says. “There’s just no way that someone could commit that level of fraud and not be caught.”

THE REDLANDS CONNECTION

Runbeck originally dreamt of being an oceanographer; he came to Redlands on a lark. After spending a weekend on campus during an orientation program, “I just knew I was home.” By his own account, he wasn’t the best student, but graduated from Redlands with an outlook that served him well.

“I am a classic entrepreneur, so I’m undaunted by failure,” he says. “The bottom line is you only have to succeed one more time than you fail, and you’re a hero. I took my less-than-stellar performance at Redlands as just an opportunity to apply myself better in the future.”

Runbeck’s pledge brothers from Chi Sigma Chi, whom he met at Redlands 40 years ago, are still some of his closest friends. He credits Redlands with helping him build and maintain incredible connections and teaching him to be comfortable dialoguing with people of different beliefs.

A ‘POLITICS-FREE ZONE’

Runbeck says his company is a “politics-free zone,” despite (and because of) the work they do. “Our mission is to defend democracy, and we do that by ensuring an accurate tabulation that represents what the voters wanted,” he says. “Our job
has nothing to do with who’s running or how we feel; it is to make sure voters who are entitled to vote got a ballot, and the person who got the most votes is elected. That’s it.”

Still, he requires each of his full-time employees to read the book Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting out of the Box by The Arbinger Institute—and takes time to discuss it with each of them. “It’s a two-hour conversation, and I have 180 [full-time] employees!” Runbeck says he holds four to five discussions a week in his office.

Brandon Johnson joined Runbeck Election Services as a solutions consultant in April. At their one-on-one conversation, Runbeck explained the rationale behind the reading requirement: “Kevin said that we all come from different worlds, from diverse backgrounds, and sometimes even speak different languages. Having everyone read this book creates that one common topic [at work] that we can all discuss first,” says Johnson. “It’s great to have a CEO so focused on making the business grow from a company-culture perspective, rather than just focusing on the bottom line.”

In addition, Runbeck wants all his employees to bring Leadership and Self-Deception’s key message to work with them: Whether speaking with family members, friends, or employees, it’s essential to recognize that the other person’s truth is just as valuable as your own.

“Afterward, we can debate on the best compromise so we can advance both our truths,” Runbeck says. “My mother, for example, is 92 and to the right of me, and we’ll have these lively debates. My children are generally more liberal than I am, and they’ll go the other way. You have to honor the fact they believe what they believe.”

Kevin Runbeck ’79 credits U of R with teaching him to be comfortable dialoguing with people of different beliefs.
BULLDOGS BUILDING BRIDGES

THE PROJECT TWINS
For Joe Richardson ’93, the University of Redlands served as a place to explore his interests in government, political science, and law. Years later and now a practicing attorney, his curiosity remains and has led him to launch a podcast where he speaks with local and nationwide experts on such topics.

Equally passionate about civic life and public speaking, Richardson now merges the two with his Joe Speak! podcast, which has addressed timely issues such as COVID-19, policing, and student wellness. “I’ve always wanted the opportunity to talk to people who are experts in their field and inform an audience without politicizing the issues,” he says.

A PEOPLE PERSON
Growing up in South Central Los Angeles, Richardson learned about politics by having conversations with his father at a local café over breakfast. At the time, Los Angeles was under the helm of Tom Bradley, the city’s first Black mayor, who would become one of Richardson’s heroes. He began familiarizing himself with local political figures, many of whom came from careers in the legal field.

“I saw that being a lawyer would be a chance to help people,” he says.

As a first-year student at Redlands, Richardson used his interest in stand-up comedy to form bonds with fellow students, which helped him get elected as president of the Associated Students of the University of Redlands (ASUR) as a sophomore (he served in his junior year). In that role, he created the Greek Council, a committee that oversees Greek social organizations’ self-governance.

LEARNING TO LISTEN
When Los Angeles erupted in civil unrest following the Rodney King verdict, Richardson saw an opportunity to facilitate meaningful conversations around race on campus.

“The civil unrest took place during the last two days of my presidency,” he says. “I had a lot of very important conversations on campus with [then-president] Dr. James R. Appleton and other folks. Seeing peoples’ willingness to be vulnerable and honest about how they’re feeling meant a lot to me. I’m still friends with some of my classmates who came from very different backgrounds, and we still have those kinds of conversations that started all that time ago.”

In addition to being a practicing attorney and podcast host, Richardson regularly publishes articles and speaks to audiences of college students across the country. He says his student government experiences taught him how to relate to others and paved the way for his career.

“Change happens when you’re able to have conversations with people that you have relational influence with,” he says. “At Redlands, I learned how to listen and talk to people to validate and help them.”

UNDERSTANDING EACH OTHER
Greg Lewis ’94, a former U of R assistant basketball coach, says that meeting Richardson and maintaining their friendship has led the two to discuss a range of issues. “Joe is the same person today as he has always been—he’s just a genuinely nice and authentic guy,” says Lewis. “The conversations we had when we were in college have helped us to stay connected and have given us a platform to impact the communities we live in.”

“HOW YOU SEE THINGS DEPENDS ON WHERE YOU SIT.” —JOE RICHARDSON ’93

Joe Richardson ’93 says at Redlands he learned how to validate and help others through conversation.
WORTH 1,000 WORDS

Professor of Art Anna M. Gaitan demonstrates a relief print technique on video for her virtual fall 2020 class Introduction to Printmaking.
When Gary Beverage ’66 attended last year’s Celebrating Endowment Luncheon at the University of Redlands, he had what he described as an epiphany.

The annual event (which was cancelled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic) is traditionally held on the Friday of Homecoming weekend. It celebrates the generosity of endowment donors and members of the George P. Cortner Society who have made commitments to the University through their wills or other deferred gifts. Five years ago, Beverage and his wife, Nancy, included a provision in their plans to support two funds: an endowed scholarship for students in the sciences and a discretionary endowment for the physics department. At the luncheon, University of Redlands President Ralph W. Kuncl discussed the campaign theme, Forever Yours, and how endowments exist in perpetuity.

“He got me thinking,” says Beverage, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering with minors in mathematics and physics. “I realized that the benefits I gained from attending Redlands had only been possible due to those who helped me get here, especially my parents [Harold and Ardis Beverage]. They made many sacrifices so I could be the first in my family to earn a college degree, so we decided we should recognize them for their encouragement and commitment by creating a scholarship in their names.”
CAMPAIGN PROGRESS
$186.1 million
OF $200 MILLION GOAL

PARTICIPATION
14,067 donors
OF 20,000 DONOR GOAL

At this point in the campaign, every gift matters! Visit foreveryours.redlands.edu to make your Forever Yours gift and be counted in this campaign. If you have questions, contact the Office of Development at 909-748-8050.

“I wouldn’t have traded my Redlands experience for anything.”

—Gary Beverage ’66

He also wanted to acknowledge the role his maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Heilman, had in his education and did so by establishing an endowed scholarship for students in the new Graduate School of Theology (GST). He feels the U of R addition of San Francisco Theological Seminary under the umbrella of the GST as “one of the most strategic moves the University has ever made.” The recipients of these scholarships will be students of philosophy, religious studies, and theology, which Beverage cites among his family’s priorities: “They are important subjects, particularly in these current chaotic times.”

Beverage worked for 26 years at IBM (where he met Nancy) and credits the University with broadening his interests. “Not only did I get my feet wet in the sciences, but I had to take liberal arts courses, which I have used as much in my life as my technical training,” he says. “I wouldn’t have traded my Redlands experience for anything, and I am so glad it worked out the way it did.”

One of the most rewarding parts of the couple’s experience has been meeting the Bulldogs whose scholarships their generosity has made possible: “We love getting their photos and letters. It’s great to be involved in the lives of students in search of their own futures.”

For information on how you can establish an endowment to honor loved ones as the Beverages have, please contact Ericka Smith, senior philanthropic advisor, at 909-748-8357 or ericka_smith@redlands.edu.

After reminiscing with one of his classmates, Wayne Mitchell ’60 wrote this poem about visiting the University:

On Campus

Late spring –
Students everywhere
Like springtime bushes, flowers, and birds
Of brown, black, yellow, and white.

Students mingle everywhere –
Running, laughing, skating
In groups, in twos, or sometimes alone.
Some serious, some laughing, some even glum
Talking to themselves, or is it to a phone?

Kuncl rewriting his budget;
Science faculty pondering the cosmos;
And others defining a Sanskrit word, from far, far away.

In some classrooms
Are many students with laptops everywhere.
What might they be writing?

I see some gray-bearded, bald-headed profs.
Am I as old as they, I wonder?

I am an outsider –
Five absences per week for 49 years.
Shocking to contemplate!
The lecture is boring.
Are the students really listening?
Two or three of them go missing.
Afterwards, ice cream on the Quad.
Just like a kid from the Class of ’60.
It’s a trip to be back on campus!
To feel so groovy and cool, almost young again.
Damn, I really dig my alma mater!
The nourishing mother of my soul.

If you have reflections about returning to the Redlands campus, share them at forever_yours@redlands.edu.
ALUMNI NEWS

Class notes


The College

1948

Joan Berger Seifert ’48 and Gilda Oliveri Marchante ’48 are still the best of friends and visit each other whenever possible.

1950

Janet Gall Lynes ’50 published her first book, Loom of My Life.

1953

Rae McClellan Davies ’53 is traveling between her two families and spending time with grandchildren whose ages range from 8 to 31. She is blessed to have studied in Covenant Living Villages, a mission of the Covenant Church, which gives her a quiet retreat. Rae would love to hear from fellow 1953 alumni and those who sang in the Chapel Choir under J. William Jones.

1954

Philip Allin ’54 is alive and well, still living in Ventura, California. He retired 24 years ago, after 40-plus years working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. He certainly has not been idle, singing in two men’s choruses and completing hundreds of woodcarvings based on the designs of M.C. Escher. He has carved 27 different Escher designs ranging in size from 6-to-7-and-a-half feet.

Nancy Ford Blue ’54 moved to beautiful Carlsbad, California, 24 years ago after a long career of teaching in Arcadia, California. Her family lives nearby, and, apart from daily walks and hours spent volunteering, her four grandchildren are keeping her on her toes. She leads a wonderful life but feels a huge hole in her heart for classmates who are no longer with us.

Carl Davis ’54 is finally taking advantage of retirement. Good memories of his recent trip to the United Kingdom have partially offset his cancelled, early-season baseball trips. From his home in Redlands, he wishes all well.

Ron “Squeek” Davis ’54 and his wife, Dionne, continue to enjoy their home in La Quinta, California. It has been 15 years since the couple lived in Sun Valley, Idaho, where they moved after 25 years of living in Laguna Beach. Ron retired after serving 23 years as the athletic director at Del Mar High School. Some of his dearest friends are former U of R classmates, and he regrets having to endure so many activities. They wish all to be safe and healthy.

Mary Pierson Gray ’54 and her husband, Herb, have lived in Castro Valley since 1965 and are looking at a possible move to a senior living facility in Pleasanton, California. Mary taught kindergarten for 10 years, and Herb retired as vice president of extended education at Cal State University, South Bay before going into the travel business. They are proud of their family: daughter Elizabeth; son Rich Gray ’89, and his wife, Leslie Best ’88; and all of their grandchildren. They are so grateful for their wonderful lives and wish the best to their classmates.

Louis Head ’54 and his wife, Carol, have been married for 63 years and have lived in Whittier, California, since 1968. After graduating from U of R, he became a reserve U.S. naval officer (1956-1957) and taught high school from 1958 to 1960. After working for five years at Shell Oil’s offshore land management company, he began a 20-year career as a lawyer. Louis served as a L.A. County deputy public defender for 13 years, beginning his tenure at the time of the Watts riots. He still plays the piano and will be forever thankful for all he learned at the U of R.

Dave Moke ’54 and Irma Draper Moke ’56 continue to enjoy their lives in Falcon’s Landing, a military continuing care retirement center in the Potomac Falls area of Virginia. A retired U.S. Navy commander, Dave’s long military career has led the couple to happy retirement years. They wish their classmates well.

Don Ruh ’57 and Sandra Luchsinger Ruh ’57 have been in contact with many classmates from 1954 and have noted (now 71 years since attending U of R) a common thread still runs through their memories. They loved their experiences, including their twice-a-week chapel gatherings, their teachers, classmates, school spirit, and opportunities to be involved in many activities. They hope their alma mater will continue to hold to these truths that remain self-evident.

George Russell ’54 and Mary Rector Russell ’54 are living in Sun Lakes, California. They believe they may have officially set the record for the most years married by 1954 classmates (or perhaps Richard Buermann ’54 and Loretta Lutten Buermann ’54?). On July 31, the Russells celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with family and friends. Both report some health issues, and Mary added, “If I were a car, I would have already had my engine replaced several times by now.”

Bob Steinbach ’54 and his wife, Virginia, continue to live in one of their condos in San Diego. They claim the virus lockdown fits their more recently chosen lifestyle. The couple documents their life filled with adventures in their book, The Chronicles, now being shared among their fellow classmates. They have always found situations about which to giggle and hope their classmates might do the same.

1958

Marilyn Olson Brewer ’58 and friend, California to visit the Bay Area not only to join her children, but to have fun again with two former U of R classmates, Ginny Stinson Hanna ’58 and Lois Larusson Patton ’58.

Rod Stephens ’58 and his wife, Shirley, moved into a new home that Shirley has redecorated from top to bottom with stylish black kitchen cabinets and appliances, lovely soft carpet, and tile in the kitchen and bathrooms. They are loving the relatively cool temperatures in Beaverton, Oregon, having left behind the triple-digit heat of Redding, California, that their son is still feeling before he joins them up north. Rod has been signing petitions and supporting various causes leading to the important upcoming presidential election; we should be sure and vote in this life-changing election.

Joanne Bennett Waldon ’58 and Stennis Waldon ’58 have thought about friends, families, and classmates during this horrific pandemic. They miss being with family and friends, including grandchildren who long to be hugged by their grandparents. The Waldons appreciate the few messages from their classmates, most of which included cancelled trips and birthday or anniversary gatherings on Zoom. Their son, a teacher who pivoted to teaching online in March, retired and moved to Glenwood Springs, Colorado. He was allowed to stay with them for three nights under very strict protocol in June.

Carolyn Crocker Ziegler ’58 and her husband, George, moved from their Belmont, California, home of 55 years to a continuing care retirement
Annette Veenstra Bain ’61 paints still lifes of flowers in vases.

Wayne Mitchell ’60 stands with Tootsie, which he enjoyed on Broadway last October.

community in Pleasanton, California, four years ago. The following year, they completed their goal to take each family on one last trip with them, where they traveled to Atlantis, Paradise Island; Turks and Caicos (where Carolyn actually got to dive again); and Oregon for the eclipse. Both the “big move” and trips were very timely, since George passed away three-and-a-half years later in October 2019. During his lifetime, they enjoyed many amenities and activities together, and she continues to do so (via Zoom), even with the shutdown. Carolyn has three married children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

1959
Bill Haun ’59 and his wife, Charla, met up with Jim Hoopes ’59 and his wife, Frances, in Sydney, Australia, for three days the last week of January. Bill and Charla were in Sydney to board a cruise to Tasmania and New Zealand, then home to California. Jim and Frances live on Phillip Island, near Melbourne. All safely arrived home just prior to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Jim sends cheers to all from cold, rainy, wintry Phillip Island.

Marilyn Kerr Solter ’59 notes that travel is usually the biggest news from a class who graduated from the U of R 61 years ago! However, with the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, those stories are on hold for this Och Tamale. News from classmates include what everyone is doing to stay safe, healthy, and sane until the pandemic ends. Hoping this finds everyone doing their part as we learn a “new normal”!

1960
Kit Carson ’60 is busy with the process of publishing her book, The Tough Guy Book Club ... A Treasury of Books and People Behind Bars. With plans to publish in e-book and paperback, it should be ready in a couple of months, and she would love to have your reviews on Amazon. Kit is also riding a gaited horse belonging to a friend, which is fun and educational. She retired her Airbnb studio in December and is now renting it on a regular basis. All is okay; although, this pandemic is wreaking havoc everywhere. Hang on!

Joel Habener ’60 received the Alport Award from Harvard Medical School. The award is the highest honor bestowed from Harvard and is usually an automatic nomination for a Nobel Prize. Joel is the older brother of Steve Habener ’63.

Wayne Mitchell ’60 enjoyed a U of R alumni trip to New York City to see Tootsie on Broadway in October 2019.

John Valentine ’60 has continued the tradition of his dad, Vernon “Vern” Valentine ’32 (who was the U of R student body president in his time) by having family reunion gatherings at Alisal Ranch in Solvang. He hosted his 45th reunion this July, and three generations were represented. A fun time was had by all!

1961
Annette Veenstra Bain ’61 decided to use her free time to learn oil painting after retiring from teaching seven years ago. She enrolled in adult education classes, and over the years has sent paintings around the country and internationally to France and Ethiopia. Unfortunately all classes were cancelled due to COVID-19. After painting only landscapes for several years, she decided to challenge herself while in isolation and started painting vases of flowers. Now she has found a new art focus for the next year.

Frederick Olsen ’61 will be releasing The Kiln Book in the fall. The previous four editions have been in print for 47 years, and the book is recognized as the bible of kiln building worldwide. During his last invitation to China to give presentations at a wood-firing kiln conference, he was asked by the publisher of China Architecture and Building Press in Beijing to publish the book in Chinese. There is a growing need in China for his book since there is no equivalent information available to the ceramic field for education, industry, or independent potters. Fred is already working on his next book.

Clarice Giberson Wiggins ’61 and her husband, Harry, are doing very well. Even with this restrictive pandemic, they were able to have a visit from their grandson, Declan Kennedy, from Falls Church, Virginia. Because of shark sightings, they were not
In this photo, taken during an antiwar protest on Oct. 15, 1969, students headed a traffic stop while walking from campus to downtown. If you were there, tell us what you recall from the experience.

Send information to Och Tamale, University of Redlands, 1200 E. Colton Ave., P.O. Box 3080, Redlands, CA 92373-0999 or email ochtamale@redlands.edu.

In response to our photo from the archives on page 42 of the summer 2020 issue:

Lynn Turnquist Spafford ’76 says, “The picture in the most recent Och Tamale was indeed from Godspell, produced during the 1974-75 academic year. There is a picture of the production in the 1975 La Letra. The only faces that I can put names to are Cindy Michelson Klein ’77 and the late Ken Helms ’73. It was a wonderful production! I remember it fondly.”

Ann Hofferber ’77 adds that she still has the original Godspell photos published in the 1975 La Letra. She writes: “I was cleaning out my boxes of college stuff, and just last week I threw away the program for that play. Maybe someone else still has theirs? Och Tamale!”

1963

Judy Sundahl Armstrong ’63 and Danny Armstrong ’62 both celebrated health milestones: This is the third anniversary of her lung transplant, and it has been nine months since Danny’s heart issue. Be thankful and grateful.

Susan Clasen ’63 now lives in a continuing care retirement community in Colorado called Covenant Living. She walks daily on their mile-long loop and loves being involved in genealogy research, environmental issues, birding, and book studies. She keeps close contact with classmates Penny King ’63, Judy Brodie Liddell ’63, and Carole York ’63.

Ed Collins ’63 recently celebrated his 49th wedding anniversary; Steve Habener ’63 commemorated his 54th anniversary; and Chuck Shakelton ’63 enjoyed his 50th anniversary. There are many more milestones from this class worth sharing!

John Demmon ’63 says life does not get any better than watching the sunset from his Colorado Springs home with a glass of wine in his hand.

Ron Gallen ’63 has advanced his long-buried interest in astronomy. He has even purchased a Celestron NexStar 8SE telescope to spend his nights in pure joy, which was not exactly the plan for his golden years.

Steve Habener ’63 has changed the oil in every one of his 13 automobiles.

Larry Horak ’63 gives a big shoutout to the many graduates from the U of R who haven’t yet appeared in Class Notes. Larry had three careers before he retired. He was one of the original interns in the University’s intern teaching program, and taught for 16 years. He then managed his family’s lumberyard for another 16 years, and then worked in the printing/mailing business. Have something to say to Larry? Dan King ’63 has his email address.

Bruce Hunn ’63 has become a “real desert rat” by living on an acre of desert in Corrales, New Mexico. His closest neighbors are straight out of Beatrice Potter. He has become a heavy user of Zoom, holding regular meetings with this technology.

Dan King ’63, Bert Marcum ’63, and Tony Taylor ’63 had to cancel their fishing trip to British Columbia. The same thing happened to Steve Habener ’63 for his trip to the Yukon and Hawaii. Others have had family gatherings and travel plans postponed to another time.

Norm Naylor ’63 was selected as the National Training Volunteer of the Year by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense chartered volunteer organization with more than 4,000 members nationwide.

John Oliver ’63 and Chuck Wilke ’63 were Bulldog roommates (and now forever friends) in Melrose Hall in their sophomore year. In recent years, they have been seeing each other regularly as Chuck travels from Seattle to Redlands to attend U of R Board of Trustee meetings. Before COVID-19, they enjoyed dinner, wine, coffee, and scones at their favorite restaurant, Caprice Café (owned by Chris Pepino ’00). Their COVID-19 response has been to talk more regularly on the phone and Zoom on occasion. John and Chuck know that there are a great number of friendships that were started in U of R dorm living, one of the many valuable benefits of their Redlands experiences.

Harold Phillips ’63 has been barred from returning to his home in Costa Rica due to COVID-19. His school there is growing with a current enrollment of 460 and a waiting list. Both his son and daughter-in-law worked for Microsoft before joining the operations in Costa Rica. The Microsoft experience has been a huge benefit to the school, putting them in the forefront of online education. For kicks, Harold has become a certified scuba diver.

Dody Rogers ’63 has used the time provided by the pandemic to expand her love of art. She has reorganized her studio and her artistic efforts. She now has a blog detailing her work and other...
Last fall, they were joined by walking trips together in the U.S. and Europe since Meyers ’64 have taken numerous cycling and/or the class’s first set of great-grandparents, at least may have something to say about it. Lee and his fully recommends. and two daughters of their clan. It is a vacation Tony with daughter Brynn; her husband, Galen Pewther; Hunewill Guest Ranch in Bridgeport, California, Tony Taylor ’63 and Sherryl Morrison Taylor ’64 vacation in Bridgeport, California, with family, including granddaughter Hazel.

Beth Josi Rubin ’63 has a very quiet life in one of the COVID-19 hot spots in Texas. She has been doing deep-cleaning activities, performing organization efforts, and getting to know a new pet—enough to keep one’s mind off the economic conditions of Midland, Texas.

John Stevenson ’63 and his wife, Valerie, have thought of their next step in life, now free from their other volunteer commitments. As they are retired and safe in their home, John poses that they can work on some of the major issues facing our planet and country. He suggests climate change and systemic racism as issues awaiting our thought and the benefits of discussion. John suggests that the U of R form a book club called “U of R Classmates” to discuss, learn, and share. If you are interested in discussing the thought with John, he is available on Zoom, and his phone number is 619-286-5689.

Ron Styn ’63 is saddened as his court in San Diego has been shut down, forcing him to become a farmer. He is not sure when he will see another jury.

Tony Taylor ’63 and Sherryl Morrison Taylor ’64 were able to run away for a five-day stay at the Hunewill Guest Ranch in Bridgeport, California, with daughter Brynn; her husband, Galen Pewther; and two daughters of their clan. It is a vacation Tony fully recommends.

Lee Tipton ’63 is preparing to celebrate more anniversaries, as he is scheduled to officiate the marriage of his niece in a grand wedding in Coronado on Oct. 10, though the pandemic may have something to say about it. Lee and his wife, Mary Ann Stoeckel Tipton ’63, have become the class’s first set of great-grandparents, at least according to reports received thus far.

1964

Don Coursey ’64, Joe Keebler ’64, and Dave Meyers ‘64 have taken numerous cycling and/or walking trips together in the U.S. and Europe since 1982. Last fall, they were joined by Steve Lincoln ’66 as they took to the wild and remote Shetland Islands. “It was a memorable trip, with spectacular scenery, cold winds, and abundant birdlife,” says Dave, whose parents were Scottish. “We have all enjoyed Scotland many times—particularly its wilder areas and its many islands—as a great place to both cycle and walk: rugged beauty, quiet roads, welcoming small inns, and warm hospitality. We hope for a return trip next year, if conditions allow it.” Over the decades, these Bulldogs have had a yearly ritual: riding for a week down Highway 1 from San Francisco to Santa Barbara. In 1987, they made their first overseas trip to pedal the “End to End” from Land’s End (on the bottom tip of England) to John O’Groats (the top tip of Scotland). They repeated this two-week, 900-mile journey in 1999. Since then, members of the group have enjoyed journeys by bike or on foot throughout the U.K. and to Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and Hungary, as well as across the U.S. Joe and Dave cycled from Astoria to Boston (3,300 miles) over seven weeks. These wonderful adventures spanning almost 40 years have given them many fond and lasting memories!

1965

Gary George ’65 has finished the seventh book in his series. Walks Always Beside You is available on Kindle or in print through Amazon.

Julie Grimm Gregg ’65 sends greetings from South Carolina. She and her husband, William, relocated from the Washington, D.C., exurbs to the Columbia region at the end of April. Moving this spring was fraught with anxiety as anything and everything was subject to closing or cancellation. They are happily sequestered in five acres of upland oak forest—from which to pursue all at-home retirement interests, hoping to outlive the cruel pandemic! She joins in admiration for classmates who have done great things, particularly Normajean Berger Hinders ’65 and Coralie Lampiasi Prince ’65, who were singled out at this year’s Alumni Awards.

Gloria Hornig Hickman ’65 has been able to design a few patio and small backyard landscapes for clients, an offshoot of her interior design business that pretty much shut down due to the virus. The nurseries remained open, and her landscaping contractor was still working, so she was able to keep busy.

Toby Larson ’65 was inspired by the wonderful summer issue of Och Tamale. He said it was very uplifting and made him proud to be a Bulldog.

“IT is very impressive to see what the U of R has done this spring for students, staff, the University community, and the community at large.”

Eileen Beerman Mason ’65 has been enjoying the “Mainly Mozart” concerts at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. A few musicians are scattered on the stage, and the audience is in their cars listening through a sound system or radio station.

Jim Tomlin ’65 has kept in touch with several of his classmates, including Rich McDowell ’65, Bill Thurman ’65, and Jack Vanderknyff ’65. He has read the Smoke Tree Mysteries series written by Gary George ’65, which Jim highly recommends for its character formation, detail, plot, and description. Jim has fond memories of many U of R faculty members, including Professors Morlan, Hurlbut, Phillips, Applewhite, Mayer, Burchill, and Jennings, as well as coaches Runner and Savage. He says he never had a bad professor during his four years.

Alice Randall Wallace ’65 and Craig Wallace ’64 are staying at home, walking, and enjoying virtual times with friends. Craig is recovering from a shoulder replacement.

1966

Dayton Dickey ’66 and Leslie Bertram Dickey ’69 set aside the puzzles and took their grandson to the Grand Canyon. They enjoyed the fresh air, views, and hiking. It was a good break from the inaction.

Jim Hogan ’66 joined 1964 U of R baseball teammates Bob Beck ’66, Jose Cortez ’64, Dayton Dickey ’66, Bill Hart ’64, Gil Lynch ’65, and Don Sawyer ’65 and attended a game at the Yard, mingling with current U of R players.

Susie Shutz Robar ’66 and her husband, Bob, have left their Northridge home and are living during these confining times in their completely restored beach chateau in funky Baywood Park, still in California. They are spending days upon days resting, relishing the weather and views, and feeling the sand between their toes. The proud parents boast of their daughter, Julie Robar Alvarez, and her nomination this year for an Emmy Award in the outstanding fantasy sci-fi costumes category, and their son-in-law, who directed Animal Crackers.
ALUMNI NEWS

Bill Schoen ’66 and his wife, Barbara, celebrated the birth of their sixth grandchild. They currently live in Mill Valley, California, but are spending part of their summer at Lake Tahoe. Bill still represents a condo association in Hawaii but is mainly retired from his law practice. He plays pickleball regularly, though all tournaments have been cancelled. Prior to COVID-19, Bill and Barbara traveled to Vietnam and Cambodia in early February. They noted that even then, most people in those countries wore masks, probably accounting for their better virus control.

Carol Rice Williams ’66 recently traveled 1.1 miles home from the Mojo Bike shop after picking up her newly acquired one-speed, slate blue Schwinn Meridian adult tricycle. She only lost control once in a stroller insisted she had the sidewalk right-of-way. (Hey, we can’t all be like Gary George ’65, who just won first prize with his sixth novel in the Smoke Tree series!)

1968

Jay Boone ’68 and Jerry Owns ’68 met Gamma Nu brothers Scott Harvey ’66 and Don Marshall ’68 for lunch in Napa Valley. Jerry, a retired doctor of veterinary medicine, handed out eggs and jam from his farm. They agreed they would not wait another 55 years before meeting again.

Chris Lampe ’68 edited and published his 15th California League record book for the 2020 season as the historian for the league. Sadly, with the cancellation of Minor League Baseball due to the pandemic, the 2020 California League Record Book has become a collector’s item for “The Baseball Season that Never Was.” He also publishes a weekly California League newsletter to keep baseball alive. In it, he has featured famous games of the past, the integration of the league, and famous personalities and players.

Sue Freed Rainey ’68 and her husband, John, spent a week with Sue’s sister, Steph Freed Mosely ’70, on Lopez Island in Washington, with a stop in Anacortes to stay with Cathy Gage Odegaard ’70 and her husband, Rod. To keep in touch with old friends, Sue organized some Zoom chats with sorority sisters. Nancy Bell Roskam ’68 in Vermont had to leave early because she and Craig were doing some Zoom teaching with their grandchildren in Australia and Hong Kong. Susy Wohlers Iverson ’68 had recently returned home to San Clemente, California, from a long day’s drive from Carbondale, Colorado, where she had vacationed with her daughter, Michelle, and family. Nancy Daum Johnson ’68 joined the conversation from Southern Arizona. She recommended her town of Arivaca as the safest place to be during the pandemic. Joining the Class of 1968 ladies were Cathy Gage Odegaard ’70, Sally Baumann Trrost ’70, Nancy Unsworth ’69, and Maggie Bell Williams ’70.

1969

Have you connected with classmates during the pandemic? Developed any new skills or hobbies? Please send your news to Nancy Bailey Franich ’69 at mightyLF@aol.com.

Steve Cochran ’69 is still limping along (literally) but otherwise in good health. He and Denise Woods ’72 are enjoying retirement even in the face of COVID-19. Fortunately, Steve is keeping busy with gardening when the weather is good, woodworking when it isn’t, and has the time to read! The rest of the time he works on the issue of climate crisis. The Class of 1969 may have hit the sweet spot of man’s history.

Class of 1969 Alpha Xis did not let the “stay-at-home” orders interfere with plans for an annual luncheon in San Juan Capistrano. Thirteen alumnae took matters into their own hands and arranged a Zoom party instead. This was such a success that it has become a monthly event. Besides all the laughter and chatter, it has become a source for what books to read, movies to watch, and new recipes to try. Attendees included Judy Mondy Armstrong ’69, Bette Bass ’69, Annie Chabot Brindissi ’69, Becky Campbell Garnett ’69, Muriel Febus Harkins ’69, Terri Lewis Judy ’69, Shirley Miller Masterson ’69, Vicki Jones Miller ’69, Jeanie Coughlin Mills ’69, Gail Pinkham Nelson ’69, Louise Smith Shappee ’69, Ann Austin Smith ’69, and Carol Downing Youmans ’69.

1970

Class of 1970: We look forward to celebrating your 50th class reunion during next year’s Alumni Reunion Weekend (May 21–23, 2021). Since your class was not able to come together as we originally hoped this May, we are excited to honor this special milestone with you.

Mary Nelson Hunt ’70 and Ken Hunt ’69 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 1! They began dating during the 1968 fall Salzburg semester. Class of 1970 friends have been enjoying a weekly Zoom get-together during the pandemic! These friends include Robin Loomis Flannery ’70, Leslie Miller Grafstrom ’70, Mary Nelson Hunt ’70, Sue Schmidt Johnson ’70, Alice Mozley ’70, Cathy Gage Odegaard ’70, Sue Farquhar Solomon ’70, and Sally Bauman Trrost ’70. Always a fun time!

1971

Class of 1971: We look forward to celebrating your 50th class reunion during Homecoming 2021 (Oct. 22–24, 2021).

Jeanette Eastwood Enslay ’72 lives in SaddleBrooke, a retirement resort community in the foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains in northwest Tucson. She was spared from the recent Big Horn Fire that burned more than 100,000 acres in these beautiful mountains. Her town also has been mostly spared from COVID-19. The community has 9,000 residents, but thanks to its relative isolation and willingness to follow guidelines, they have only had six reported COVID-19 cases and one death. Now she just has to survive the hotter-than-normal heat! She has been reviving cooking skills, playing the piano a lot, sewing masks, gardening, and having six-person church in her house on Sundays. Jeanette played violin with the Southern Arizona Symphony in a musical tribute to health-care workers (she is the white-haired violinist in red, screen left, at www.youtube.com/watch?v=-u6DSWh9vzo).

1972

Mel Kaetsu ’73 and Rick Ford ’71 are still surfing the great Hawaiian waves. “Older now but still shredding,” Mel lives in Honolulu and Hakalau, and Rick visits from California to surf four to six weeks per year, except when COVID-19 gets in the way. Mel is spending most of his time lately on his farm on the Big Island and surfing at his favorite breaks.

Tim Lashlee ’73 hosted a Super Bowl 2020 reunion in Garden Grove, California. Attendees included Laurie Hunter ’74, D.J. Jensen ’73, Barbara McCormick Krause ’73, Ward Krause ’74, Eric Pierpont ’73, and Stan Pierpont ’72.

1978

Robin Quinville ’78 is the deputy chief of mission (and current chargé d'affaires) at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Germany. A career diplomat, she arrived in Berlin in July 2018. Previous posts include London, Baghdad, Athens, Sarajevo, Nicosia, Brussels, Vienna, and Washington, D.C.

1979

Juliana Hinyard Mando ’79 is still reveling in the graduation of her son Carlo Mando ’19. She was also happy to see one of her classmates, Gerald Albright ’79, on television recently. Gerald is a jazz musician and just happened to be Juliana’s computer date for the Freshman Computer Dance!

Becky Paxson McFarland ’79 and Don McFarland ’76 are enjoying retirement in Brea, California. Their three granddaughters, “cute, cuter, and cutest,” provide joy and laughter. Just before the pandemic, they traveled to South America and the Holy Land. They are trying out motorhome vacations for a few years, so destination suggestions are welcomed! It was so good to see classmates at our May 2019 reunion.

1981

Glenn Coniflffe ’81 and his wife, Melvyn, enjoy life in the San Francisco Bay area.

1982

Cheryl Boag Cates ’82 and her husband, William, created Volunteer Network OC, an app- and web-based organization that supports nonprofits by providing volunteers for their events. By downloading the app, Volunteer Network OC helps users help others by identifying volunteer opportunities. Marna Bullard ’82, Linda Scott Cavarno ’82, and Melissa Townley Lloyd-Jones ’82 joined Cheryl at the organization’s first annual gala.

Catherine Abbey Hodges ’82 and Bill Hodges ’84 make poems, tunes, and (like the rest of the country) sourdough bread on the Middle Fork of the Tule River, just inside Sequoia National Forest. Catherine’s third poetry collection, In a Rind of Light, was published in March by Stephen F. Austin State University Press.

1986

Kathryn Kanjo ’86 is the CEO of the Museum of Contemporary Art of San Diego. She has been overseeing an ambitious expansion project that will quadruple the museum’s gallery space. The project is expected to be completed by October 2021.

1989

James Augur ’89 has retired after working for 28 years at the Ontario City Library in Ontario, California, as a reference librarian.
Class of 1969 Alpha Xis turn their annual luncheon into a Zoom meeting: (top row, from left) Carol Downing Youmans ’69, Louise Smith Shappee ’69, Bette Bass ’69, and Annie Chabot Brindisi ’69; (second row, from left) Gail Pinkham Nelson ’69, Muriel Febus Harkins ’69, Terri Lewis Judy ’69, and Shirley Miller Masterson ’69; (third row, from left) Vicki Jones Miller ’69, Becky Campbell Garnett ’69, Ann Austin Smith ’69, and Judy Mondy Armstrong ’69; (bottom row) Jeanie Coughlin Mills ’69.

Jim Hogan ’66, Joe Cortez ’64, Gil Lynch ’65, Bob Beck ’66, Bill Hart ’64, Dayton Dickey ’66, and Don Slawson ’65 (left to right) attend a U of R baseball game.

Juliana Hinyard Mando ’79 celebrates the graduation of her son, Carlo Mando ’19.

In a Rind of Light is the third book of poetry written by Catherine Abbey Hodges ’82.

Bulldogs celebrate the Super Bowl: (front row, from left) Laurie Hunter ’74 and Barbara McCormick Krause ’73; (back row, from left) Ward Krause ’74, Tim Lashlee ’73, Eric Pierpoint ’73, Stan Pierpoint ’72, and DJ Jensen ’73.

Cheryl Boag Cates ’82, Melissa Townley Lloyd-Jones ’82, Linda Scott Cavarno ’82, and Marna Bullard ’82 (left to right) attend Volunteer Network OC’s first annual gala.

Glenn Cunliffe ’81 and wife Melvyn reside in the San Francisco Bay area.

Carol Rice Williams ’66 acquires an adult tricycle.
Restoring hope in a pandemic

A registered nurse in behavioral health, Julie Craig ’02 (M.Div.) draws on her faith and theological education to understand patients in crisis

By Laurie McLaughlin

Ministry took her back to Wisconsin, to a small Presbyterian church, where she served for more than five years as lead pastor. She found it rewarding and intense work. When the time came to move on, she traveled to destinations across the globe on what she calls an off-and-on, “self-funded sabbatical” for a few years and thought seriously about where her professional journey would take her next.

In 2013, Craig celebrated her 50th birthday. “That’s the year I started nursing school,” she says. “The call to nursing was as strong as the call to ministry was years ago.”

As humanity negotiates new lifestyles and changes in routine brought by the pandemic, Craig is concerned that people may lose their trust in others, their ability to rely on each other, and faith in themselves to get through each day’s challenges.

“I look at people as children of God and know that we are more than just the crisis and problems that we present to the world,” she says. “We can give people the services they need, and we can restore their hope.”

“We are seeing an increase in the acuity of depression and anxiety as more and more people reach out for services to help themselves cope with their new realities during the pandemic,” says Julie Craig ’02 (M.Div.).
1990

Kiersten Larsen Garibaldi ‘90 is a retired stay-at-home mom, with her last child off to Oklahoma University for his sophomore year. She is living a calm life with her family, including her standard poodles. She finished her 200-hour yoga teacher training and has been guiding students for more than six months. She is about to take a huge road trip with two of her kids, seeing some national parks along the way, including the Badlands, Mount Rushmore, Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Jackson Hole, and Taos, totaling 3,250 miles!

Donald Kohler ‘90 had regular work trips to Florence, Milan, and Mexico City at the beginning of 2020, but with the onset of COVID-19 around the world, he has been “grounded” for almost six months. He has appreciated slowing down on the extensive travel. Summer vacation in August has been in Italy for the last 15 years, but this year it will be closer to home in the Hamptons.

Robyn Kontny Quaco ’90 and her husband, Kim, moved to Mooresburg in northeast Tennessee and built a house on Cherokee Lake after eight years in Cape Coral, Florida. They are about 45 miles from Knoxville and the Great Smoky Mountains, and they really love it. Robyn has stopped working in public relations and now volunteers for the local humane society and helps organize fundraisers.

Doug Speckmann ’90 is living in Severna Park, Maryland, with his wife, Karin, and their 2-year-old daughter, Reagan. He is the chief accounting officer with a local real estate developer.

Sydney Stevens ’90 has been putting her music composition degree to good use in recent years! Self-publishing with Water Music Publishing has been great. Her music has been available on CDbaby.com for years, as well as Pandora and Amazon. This past spring, she designed a new website for her Water Music label that includes her new Waltz of Life album along with her previous four CDs.

1994

Elizabeth Ramirez Callihan ’94 and her husband, Scott, continue to live in Monrovia, California, with their two sons, Phillip (16) and Peter (13). They have been telecommuting and distance-learning from home with one three-week break. With the loss of the baseball season, summer camp, and college campus visits, the family took a “bucket list” road trip from California through Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming before returning to their group home office.

Gloria Henderson ’94 continued to sing and dance on stage as Ladybug in James and the Giant Peach and Kitty in The Drowsy Chaperone this year after performing a bucket-list role of Christmas Eve in Avenue Q. She will soon reprise her role as Grace Farrell opposite her daughter, who will be playing the title role, in Annie. She loves sharing the stage with her family.

Jonathan Marion ’94 is a tenured associate professor of cultural anthropology at the University of Arkansas. He is currently working on his fifth and sixth academic books after he spent the first half of 2019 doing sabbatical research on Brazilian zouk in Brazil. He is also working as a transformational life coach with clients around the globe. He is trained through International Coach Academy, based in Australia, and is also a member of the International Coach Federation.

1995

Class of 1995: We look forward to celebrating your 25th class reunion during Homecoming 2021 (Oct. 22–24, 2021).

Class of 1996: We look forward to celebrating your 25th class reunion during next year’s Alumni Reunion Weekend (May 21–23, 2021). Since your class was not able to come together as we originally hoped this May, we are excited to honor this special milestone with you.

Leslie Ferguson ’95 has recently published four poems: “The Only Sound,” “Horsemom,” “Carry Me,” and “What We Are” in F**k Isolation: A Tribute to the COVID-19 Experience. Her Renga contribution, “I Wish for More Hauntings,” was published online by FWS: Journal of Literature and Art. Forthcoming publications include a personal essay, “This One Precious Life,” which will appear in Acorn Publishing’s Six Feet Apart … In the Time of Corona, an anthology about the COVID-19 experience from the perspective of women, and a poem titled “Purple Purpose,” which will appear in the 2020 Poetry Magazine Anthology. Currently, Leslie is working on a compilation of drawings for a coloring book, and she is seeking publication for her completed memoir.

Elizabeth Peale Hind ’95 graduated from Chapman University with a Ph.D. in education in May. Her dissertation research examined the experiences of educators participating in site-based, teacher-led reform through a Deweyan and critical lens. She and her husband of eight years, Dayve Hind ’94, live in Irvine, California, and have three amazing cats.

Tara O’Connor Shelley ’95 received the prestigious designation of Fulbright Scholar. As a Fulbright recipient and a representative of the United States, Tara taught comparative criminology and engaged in research with the Police Academy of the Czech Republic (POLAC) in Prague. She strengthened Tarleton State University’s relationship with POLAC, as well as the University of Prague in New York, to further educational opportunities abroad for Tarleton students. Tara is currently a professor in the Department of Criminal Justice in the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Strategic Studies at Tarleton State University – Fort Worth Campus.

1996

Class of 1996: We look forward to celebrating your 25th class reunion during Homecoming 2021 (Oct. 22–24, 2021).

Seth Harper ’00 has been happily married to his wife, Christy, for 14 years. They live in a rural area of the Coachella Valley called Sky Valley with their three children Kate (11), Emma (8), and Ben (6). Seth is a business and nonprofit insurance agent for Desert Cornerstone Insurance Service. He serves on his church’s leadership team and is on the board of directors for World Concern, a Christian nonprofit.

Leah Larkin ‘00 and Rob Seifert ‘02 are pleased to announce that their daughter, Emersen Larkin ‘24, is starting at the dear ol’ U of R in the fall.

Robyn Kontny Quaco ‘90 and her husband, Kim, relocate to Mooresburg, Tennessee.
Adam Shear ‘04 and his wife, Tracy, wed in a COVID-19 modified ceremony in April.

Davis, son of Jason Nam ‘06, ‘12 and Melissa Kendrick Nam ‘06, reads up on the latest Bulldog news in the summer issue of Och Tamale.

Baby Holly, daughter of Shelley Langford Puishys ‘07, meets her father Joe for the first time after his three-month deployment on a submarine.

Heather Piedrahita ‘08 hosts a Zoom baby shower during the pandemic for Linda Soriano-Copelin ‘08.

PUTTING JOHNSTON RESOURCES INTO JOHNSTON VALUES

By Laura Gallardo ‘03

At Johnston, philanthropic support helps interns develop professional skills and mitigate food and housing insecurity.
Each summer for the past three years, the Johnston Center for Integrative Studies staff have worked with student interns on meaningful projects that benefit the Johnston community. Previous projects have included archiving historical materials and gathering content for the center’s library. These internships, made possible through alumni support, provide hands-on work experiences as well as income and housing.

A Johnston yearbook

This summer, six Johnston students participated in the internship. Thanks to an idea by former Johnston Director Julie Townsend, the focus of the work was to create a print publication for 2020 graduates to try and make up for the lack of an in-person commencement during the pandemic. Working with Johnston Assistant Director M. G. Maloney ’03 and Johnston Resident Director/Admissions and Alumni Coordinator Maggie Ruopp ’16, the interns created a Johnston yearbook, Porch Party MixTape, with personalized pages for each graduate and excerpts from commencement addresses by Professor Keith Osajima and Maxine Mchunguzi ’20.

“We are physically separated, but we found that each intern could contribute to a single project remotely. We still had to individualize contributions to their own interests,” Townsend says. The interns, who also helped produce the Johnston alumni publication Coz McNooz, were divided into content creators and graphic designers. Content creators organized a call for submissions. For the graduation profiles, they reviewed photographs and Johnston graduation contracts.

The challenge was in collaborating remotely—yet closely. “We knew this was going to be a new and difficult experience,” says Shayla Dennon ’21, who is now proficient in Adobe InDesign due to the internship. “We would text each other questions and figure it out together.”

Kelly Sandoval ’21 also adapted to communicating virtually. “Although it was strange to be limited to Zoom or chats, the internship taught me that I could be collaborative in an artistic and visual way.”

Aria Hurtado ’21 appreciated the opportunity to help honor the 2020 graduates uniquely through the internship: “It helped me feel closer to the Johnston complex, which is my home and family,” she says. “It also gave [graduates] a sense of being honored individually.”

After the call for submissions was sent, Maloney received positive feedback about the book from several young alumni, and she hoped the book would give them a sense of closure and healing.

Addressing another need

In addition to gaining professional experience for their résumés, Townsend notes that the internship program had another vital outcome—helping to address student food and housing insecurity among the six interns.

“This is not a new phenomenon,” says Townsend, who recalls having a conversation with a 1970s Johnston alumnus who was homeless when he was a student. Ruopp says this need has grown over the past three years: “If you are not living somewhere secure or not sure when you are going to eat next, your academics will suffer. We have a duty to do something about that with the resources we have.”

Given the limited employment opportunities during the pandemic, the internship provided some resources to the interns. “Without this internship, I don’t know what would have happened this summer,” says Sandoval.

Long-term impact

The internship program was born of a conversation between Townsend and Larry Singer ’79 at the 50th Johnston Renewal dinner. Singer asked about current Johnston needs, and Townsend pitched the internship program. “The University and Johnston have done a terrific job using Cal Grants and other financial aid to provide opportunities for higher education,” says Singer, who made a leadership gift for the program with his wife, Patti Singer. “But for students who are homeless and food insecure between terms, there is a gap threatening that education. When we realized we could mitigate this issue with philanthropy, it seemed an easy call.”

Taylor Rockwell ’77 and his wife, Martha Wolf, also were proud to support the program. “My two years at Johnston were the most formative years of my life,” says Rockwell. “If our giving can help students have secure living space in the off-season, that seems a small way to help them become their best selves.”

Johnston Director Tim Seiber ’04 (see page 13) recognizes the internship program’s long-term impact and is hopeful that it can grow and be sustained in future years. “Johnston values education within the context of a community, and the pandemic altered how we can engage as a community,” he says.

“Learning doesn’t just happen in nine months of a year—that’s not how our lives work,” says Seiber of supporting students over the summer. “We are educating the whole person, and we are putting our resources where our values are.”

To make a gift to the Johnston internship program, please contact Ericka Smith, senior philanthropic advisor, at 909-748-8357 or visit www.redlands.edu/givenow.
Darien Martus '00 has a new album, Love in the Apocalypse, by Do It Records. This is his ninth album, and he is also a voting member of The Recording Academy.

Jeff Tape '00 was promoted to battalion chief in January after 17 years serving the Kern County Fire Department as a firefighter, engineer, and captain.

Bree Denison Tape '00 is a proud wife.

2002

Rachelle Cain-Wiggins '02 is the owner of Cain Event Planning, a wedding- and event-planning firm, as well as the wedding director for the Old Sugar Mill in Clarksburg, California. She continued her education, receiving a Master of Human Resource Management from National University. Rachelle currently resides in Elk Grove, California, with her husband and three boys.

2004

Shantrice Burton '04 earned a certificate of clinical competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in April and received her California license for speech-language pathology in May, allowing her to work in any area of her field. She also bought a house in Redlands and is excited to move back and settle down in a city that she loves.

Todd Echan '04 married his wife, Katie, at the end of 2019 in Graeagle, California. They now reside in Reno, Nevada.

Angelica Regalado '04 was officially promoted to vice principal. She teaches middle school students religion, social studies, and Spanish at St. Catherine

of Siena Catholic School in Rialto, where she just completed her fifth year. She spent 20 years at Bank of America as a branch manager before switching careers in 2015.

Adam Shear '04 married his wife, Tracy, in April. Their wedding date and celebration were not as planned due to COVID-19 restrictions, but it was still a special day filled with memories. They ended up getting married in their Southern California living room with all guests (stretching from Hawaii, Canada, and Vermont) attending via Zoom.

2006

Allison Frost '06 and her husband welcomed their second child in May, a boy they named Theodore. His big sister Gwyneth could not be more thrilled.

Jason Nam '06, '12 and Melissa Kendrick Nam '06 have a two-year-old future Bulldog, Davis, and make their home in Bloomington, Idaho.

2007

Shelley Langford Puishys '07 and her husband, Joe, welcomed daughter Holloway "Holly" on March 13. They are stationed in Bremerton, Washington, where Joe is in the Navy.

2008

Brianne Langlas '08 graduated Class of 2020 from USC with a doctorate in educational psychology.

Heather Piedrahita '08 organized a Zoom baby shower for Linda Soriano-Copelin '08. They were joined by Ashley Bogert '08, Ewon Chamberlen '06.

2009

Katie Van Sumeren Fleischman '09, '11 and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of their twins, Ivy and Evan, on Dec. 26, 2019.

Neal McKenna '09 and Catie Wytychak '10 were married on Sept. 3, 2017, in front of a wonderful crowd of family and friends, including Lena Carroll '10, Randall Crail '09, Nicholas Fisher '08, Yvonne Flack '06, Gia McKenna Handy '13, Gabe Huey '09, Ryan Mills '09, Fritz Nugent '07, and Chris Trippel '09. Neal and Catie live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with their dog, LuLu, and are expecting their first child this fall.

Sarah Slemmons '09 was awarded 2020 California School Counselor of the Year title. Sarah will now be in the running for the nationwide School Counselor of the Year title. Sarah was also engaged on July 11 to Taylor Romero.

2011

Derek Johnson '11 is named to the Forbes Top Next-Generation Wealth Advisors list.

Emily Nicole Daniel '08, Lisa Delmar-Edmonds '05, Monique Dozier '06, Carrie Dill Levinson '08, Caroline Sasorski '06, and Sneha Subramanian '06.
filled with market uncertainty and volatility due to COVID-19, the list recognizes “next-generation” financial advisors who have demonstrated high levels of ethical standards, professionalism, and success in business. Derek is a partner at Itzen Wealth Management in Riverside, California. He has seven years of experience in the financial services industry.

2016
Maurisa Major ’16 earned an M.F.A. in English, creative writing–prose from Mills College in May.

Tayla Neugarten ’16 and Coltan Kissler ’16 were engaged on May 30.

Johnston
1994
Noah Wardrip-Fruin ’94 published How Pac-Man Eats, where he explores how the tools and concepts for making games are connected to what the games mean; examples range from Papers, Please to Dys4ia. Publisher’s Weekly included the book in its preview of fall lifestyle titles.

2002
David Brown ’02 has accepted a position with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Mid-Continental Region as the Wyoming member services coordinator. He is now living in Laramie, Wyoming, and has a faculty librarian position with the University of Wyoming. In his position, he is responsible for outreach and instruction within the mid-continental region.

2016
Crystal Marshall ’16 has relocated to Northern California to accept a job in elementary education.

Schools of Business and Education
1985
Forney Shell ’85 opened her own agency, Pan Piper Travel LLC, at the beginning of 2020. She will publish her book, Mastering the Bucket List, in December 2021; it will be available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble. She plans to start workshops based on the book in the near future.

1987
Deborah Williams McCart ’87 retired in June after 30 years as a teacher and administrator in Texas public education so that she could open a private practice in counseling specializing in young adults with disabilities and their families.

1988
William Fields ’88 is an art photographer whose new book, The Four Directions – A Southwestern Journey, won a gold medal as the Best Coffee Table Book of the Year in the Independent Book Publishers awards for 2020.

2002
Eddie Loussararian ’02 published 64 Life Hacks for Success, which he says “will help you exude confidence, develop your communication and leadership skills, and give you a clear vision of how to get the most out of your life.” He adds, “Maintaining a success mindset isn’t easy. It contains practical and inspirational messages to help when life gets in the way of happiness. These challenges drag people down because they appear to be insurmountable barriers.”

2003
Harvey Maruya ’03 completed his Master of Arts in Historic Preservation from Goucher College in June 2019.

2004
Kimberly Golbuff ’04 recently completed her Doctor of Business Administration degree.

2008

Class Notes for alumni of the Graduate School of Theology, home of San Francisco Theological Seminary, are listed in Chimes magazine (www.redlands.edu/chimes).

Class Reunion Update
Class reunions have been a long-standing tradition at the University of Redlands, giving Bulldog classmates a fun opportunity to return to campus and connect during milestone years after graduation. Starting next year, the Office of Alumni and Community Relations is excited to announce a new format for class reunions.

Beginning in fall 2021, we will exclusively celebrate the 50th and 25th reunion classes with in-person celebrations during Homecoming Weekend. We look forward to celebrating the Classes of 1971 and 1996 during our 2021 Homecoming (Oct. 22–24, 2021).

More information to follow! For questions, contact the Office of Alumni and Community Relations at 909-748-8011 or email alumni@redlands.edu.

Join the University of Redlands Alumni social media community!
Facebook.com/UniversityofRedlandsAlumni
Linkedin.com/company/universityofredlands
Twitter.com/UoRalumni (@redlandsalumni)
Instagram (@redlandsalumni)
Snapchat (@URBulldogs)
Redlands.edu/BulldogBlog (and click “subscribe”)
Passings

The College

Janet Cobban Dewar ’38, June 26
Leonard Confar ’45, July 11
Marilyn Mang MacEvicz ’46, May 1
Clara Baum Collamore ’48, Oct. 27, 2019
Betty Jo Coyle Graves ’48, March 4. Family members include son Craig Graves ’75.
Richard Kuhn ’48, May 9. Family members include brother Robert Kuhn ’50.
Virginia Boehme Barnett ’49, July 4
Jim Parker ’49, Aug. 9, 2019. Family members include wife Donna Hagy Parker ’55 and brother David Parker ’55.
Ellen Morris Alaka ’50, July 1
Russell Davis ’50, Nov. 1, 2019
Marianne Reith Hatfield ’51, July 14. Family members include husband Richard Hatfield ’51.
Laura Hethcock Lane ’52, Nov. 14, 2019
E. Winifred Kellems Ledford ’54, June 15
Denny Mann ’55, May 10. Family members include brother Gerry Mann ’60.
Charlene Bruton Sanford ’55, May 9
Glen Lovestrand ’56, June 23
Cynthia White Moe ’56, July 5
Wayne Strom ’56, April 2
Dick Eiles ’60, April 19
Betty Coon Obendorf ’60, April 15
Kay Davidson James ’61, July 15. Family members include husband David James ’61.
Mary Haid Knickerbocker ’61, May 17
K. Wayne Wall ’61, April 18
Ben Prins ’62, April 8
Ronald Sandys ’62, March 20
Glenn Anderson ’63, April 1
Nancy Goldsworthy Pinckney ’63, July 16. Family members include sister Patricia Goldsworthy Corns ’68.
Robert Rigg ’64, April 10
Elliott Mason ’67, May 29. Family members include brother Wayne Mason ’76.

Lee Walz Newman ’67, July 7. Family members include daughter Michelle Newman Borrego ’03.
Terrie Mershon ’69, April 9
Marjorie Rogers ’69, July 6. Family members include Benjamin Rogers III ’74.
John Rossi ’69, June 8
Grace Calderon ’70, June 28
Patti Hirata Gorman ’71, July 11. Family members include husband John Gorman ’71.
Bob McDonald ’72, May 14
Cheryl Lovingfoss ’79, May 5
Ercil Eschbach ’87, June 30
David Seale ’01, April 9

Schools of Business and Education

Barbara Griffin ’75, May 1
Marge Abbess ’76, July 17
Karen Hackworth ’77, May 9
Suzanne Hall Christian ’78, May 5
Jack Risen ’78, June 12
Margaret Schmidt ’79, April 13
Albert Ramirez ’80, March 16
Ruth Turpin ’81, June 1
Michael Mays ’82, July 27
Elizabeth Mack ’84, Jan. 14
Myrna Taft ’84, April 17
Michael Dillon ’86, June 23
Dennis Heintzelman ’89, May 28
Ravi Mathur ’95, June 4

Friends


In memoriam

Wayne Bohrnstedt passed away on Aug. 6. He was 97.

Born in Onalaska, Wisconsin, Bohrnstedt began playing piano at age five. He attended the University of Wisconsin at La Crosse and Northwestern University, then served in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946. Bohrnstedt was sent to school at the University of Michigan, majoring in pre-engineering and later pre-dentistry. After the war, he graduated from Northwestern in 1946 with a major in music composition. He was a member of Phi Mu Alpha (chapter president in 1946–47) and Pi Kappa Lambda. Bohrnstedt received his master’s from Northwestern in 1947 and taught there while going to graduate school. He was a professor of music at Bowling Green State University from 1947 to 1953, during which time he took a year off to study composition at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he received his doctorate in 1952.

Arriving at Redlands in 1953, Bohrnstedt served as a U of R professor of music for 40 years. Bohrnstedt was the University’s dean of fine and performing arts from 1968 to 1981 and again from 1991 to 1992. He also was director of music and was honored with the University’s Centennial Award.

A prolific and award-winning composer of classical music, Bohrnstedt composed 18 pieces for orchestra, all of which have been performed, as well as chamber and choral music pieces. Bohrnstedt was the organist and choir director at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Redlands for 15 years. He was commissioned to write music for several entities, including the City of Redlands Centennial and the Redlands Bowl 75th anniversary. Bohrnstedt also founded the annual Symposium of American Orchestral Music in Redlands, which ran for 11 years and premiered more than 70 new pieces for orchestra by American composers.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Lou Schaefer, in 2012. In addition to his sons, Ronald, Richard, and David, he is survived by seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

John Brownfield died on April 28 of natural causes at his Redlands home. He was 79.

Born in Chicago, Brownfield graduated from William Howard Taft High School. He earned a bachelor’s degree in fine arts from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1962.
Rebekah Ruth (Wright) McCalmont '53 died on May 27, followed by her husband Arnold McCalmont '53, '61, on Aug. 8. Becky, who fought a lengthy battle with cancer, was 89; Arnie was 91 and died of congestive heart failure.

A lifelong member of the Presbyterian Church, Becky grew up in Los Angeles. At the University of Redlands, she majored in sociology and was a member of Delta Kappa Psi sorority and the SPURS honors society, and married her college sweetheart, Arnie, in 1952. Becky received financial aid at the University as a minister's daughter, and her father later wrote to President George Armacost to repay the scholarship, with interest, in gratitude for daughter's education. She was a dedicated wife of 67 years and a stay-at-home mother who treasured her children and grandchildren, who affectionately referred to her as “Memere.”

Arnie was born in New York City, and grew up in Scottsdale, Arizona, and Fontana, California. After completing an associate of arts degree at Chaffey College, he earned a bachelor's majoring in art and design at Redlands, where he was a member of the Alpha Gamma Nu fraternity and was an All-Conference Bulldog student-athlete in football and baseball. He earned a master's in education from Redlands in 1961, during which time he coached the championship baseball team. He served his country in the Navy and was a graduate of the U.S. Navy Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, with advanced degrees in physics and meteorology. After the Navy, Arnie founded and became CEO of Technical Communications Corporation (TCC), a small high-tech communication security company. TCC honored Arnie's 60th birthday by endowing a scholarship in his name at the U of R, to which Arnie and Becky contributed throughout their lifetimes. Arnie retired from TCC as CEO in 1993 and as chairman in 1996. He was a cryptographer, former race car driver, photographer, and avid aviator who loved flying his aerobatic F22B airplane.

The couple is survived by their three sons and their wives: James and Regina, Marc and Tina, Stephen and Jennifer; and grandchildren Tiffany, Mikal, Neil, Christina, Drew, Alex, and Austin; and one great-grandson, Enzo.

Mary Holmes McCombs ’37 died on June 6 at the age of 104. Born in Neenah, Wisconsin, she came to California with her parents in 1919, settling in Riverside. A member of Alpha Sigma Pi sorority, McCombs graduated with a degree in sociology from the University of Redlands in 1937. After graduation, she started work at the Riverside County Welfare Department as a social worker. In October 1943, McCombs enlisted in the U.S. Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) and served in the Hospital Corps at Treasure Island Naval Hospital until the war ended in 1945. She was a charter member of Women in Military Service in America and returned to work, continuing until 1950, in Riverside. In 1948, she married Ray McCombs and moved to Rialto, California, where Ray was a building contractor. They raised five children.

In 1962, McCombs came to work for the San Bernardino County Adoption Service and placed several hundred adoptive babies until she retired in 1978.

McCombs was active in community and educational affairs, including those at U of R, where she served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and her class reunion committee. She was also instrumental in the establishment of the Class of 1937 Endowed Scholarship for the class’s 55th reunion in 1992. McCombs remained an active member of the American Association of University Women, Philanthropic Educational Organization, the San Bernardino Symphony Guild and Symphony, and the Rialto Historical Society. She was also an active member of Saint John XXIII Catholic Church (formerly St. Thomas Moore), where she served as a lector and in the Altar Society. She is survived by her sister, Betty Cooper; sons, Patrick, Thomas and Stephen; daughter, Catherine Downes; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Donald Shockley passed away peacefully on June 8, surrounded by his family. He was 82.

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, to his late parents Ira Babe and Maggie Belle Shockley, Shockley married his elementary school sweetheart, Mary Jim Lyons, during their senior year at Birmingham Southern University. She predeceased him in 2014 after 55 years of marriage. Shockley spent his career in the United Methodist Church, including chaplaincies at Birmingham Southern, the University of Redlands (1972–1980), and Emory University. He authored several books, including Private Prayers in Public Places: The Notebook of an Urban Pilgrim, a culmination of his lifelong passion of finding the spiritual in everyday experiences.

He is survived by his three children, Scott (Sandra), James (Scott) and Allison (Suellen), and six beloved grandchildren, Morgan, Jordan, Colin, Matthew, Jimmy, and Juno.
Let us celebrate you

My first introduction to the University of Redlands was in 1959 at the 25th class reunion of my father, Allen Braxton "Curly" Griffin '34. As a newborn, I was held in the arms of President George Armacost. My father loved Redlands, and I knew many of his U of R friends, including classmates Ralph Sanders '34, George Stevens '35, and Clarence Niedermeyer '34, as well as administrators Jack Cummings and Doug Moore. I learned the “Och Tamale” before I was 5 years old and was strongly encouraged to become a Bulldog, too. I was roommates with George’s granddaughter, Martha Armacost ’81, and I was in the same sorority as Ralph’s daughter, Jodi Sanders Parvin ’80.

I married Brad Hurlbut '81, and, between our two families, we have 14 U of R alumni, including our daughter, Carolyn Hurlbut Cullen ’08, who earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Redlands. I really enjoy being a class reporter and reconnecting with my classmates. I am so proud of their accomplishments. I have visited a classmate in Hawaii, and another gave me an insider tour of the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens. I can say, “Hey, I knew you when!” Plus, I want to visit more classmates and take more tours!

—Gina Griffin Hurlbut ’81
Rosanne O’Brien ’78 began her career as a secretary at Tiger International/Flying Tigers. While her supervisors continued to assign her special projects, she realized she could not advance further without a college degree. So, she enrolled in U of R’s Whitehead College (now School of Business), where she earned a B.S. in business administration. Twenty-six years later, O’Brien walked across the Alumni Greek Theatre stage once again—this time, as the 2004 commencement speaker for the School of Business.

Tina Vince, O’Brien’s older sister, remembers how proud O’Brien was to be a Redlands alumna. “Rosanne’s undergraduate studies at Redlands played an integral part in her success in the corporate world. It allowed her to break the glass ceiling, and she owed much to Redlands.”

Having earned her U of R degree, O’Brien completed an executive program at Stanford University and embarked on a remarkable career. She spent almost a decade at Glendale Federal Bank, where she rose to senior vice president and director of corporate relations. She then became vice president of corporate communications at industrial conglomerate Teledyne Inc. O’Brien retired in May 2008 after nine years at global defense company Northrop Grumman Corporation, where she served as corporate vice president of communications.

During her 2004 commencement speech, O’Brien imparted the knowledge she had gained from her career as a female executive: Businesses, she said, look for employees who are creative, solve problems, think critically, and pursue opportunities. Companies also value the ability to communicate clearly and concisely. “The better communicator will be the one who gets noticed—and will be seen as a leader.”

Just before her passing from ovarian cancer in February 2018, O’Brien worked with the University’s Development Office to establish an endowment that will provide School of Business students with study-abroad grants. While O’Brien did not study abroad as a Redlands student, Vince knows her sister valued the international business programs. “Rosanne believed that travel was one of the most impactful forms of education.”

As the executor of O’Brien’s estate, Vince partnered with the Development Office and Nicole Joko, principal at financial services firm Cerity Partners, to establish another endowment at Redlands, this time a scholarship in her sister’s name that supports women studying business. “[O’Brien] was so gracious,” says Joko, “and was very intentional about choosing where her wealth would go.”

Bob Shier was a longtime friend of O’Brien’s and a partner at Cerity Partners. “She saw herself as a trailblazer in more ways than one. … She thought women could do anything, and if she put her mind to it, she was going to do it.” To that end, Vince jokingly recalls after one of O’Brien’s many promotions, the company offered her a special parking space. “What she really wanted were stock options, and she got them!”

Vince also remembers when her sister delivered the keynote address at Northrop Grumman’s first-ever women’s conference in 2006: O’Brien described her career as having had “ups and downs, challenges, surprises—and even a few shocks.” These challenges taught O’Brien to “harness and channel ambition to achieve excellence, and take advantage of opportunities.”

Vince says mentoring women was a priority for O’Brien. “She was mentored and in turn wanted to continue that legacy with others in the corporate world. … Now this scholarship at her alma mater will help do that.”
Share your favorite Redlands memories with Addie and your fellow Bulldogs! Write to ochtamale@redlands.edu.