Perspectives on the pandemic

60+ ways U of R has responded to the coronavirus

College admissions and aid during COVID-19
60+ ways U of R has responded to the coronavirus

From paying student employees for the entire semester to donating 10,000 pounds of food to the Family Service Association of Redlands and offering a walk-in medical clinic for the homeless, the University expressed its community spirit.

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College admissions and aid during COVID-19

Vice President for Enrollment Kevin Dyerly ’00, ’04 speaks to how the Admissions team is making a case for a personalized education at U of R and helping to meet students’ new needs.
“When this all began, this community came together to provide support for each other. That has been one of the most significant silver linings.”

—University Dean of Student Affairs Donna Eddleman, chair of the U of R Coronavirus Response Team

Letters to the editor

As a retired professor from Grossmont College, I was impressed with the last issue of Och Tamale magazine and the “five favorite words” shared by U of R professors [“What Are Your Favorite Words? on page 19 in Spring 2020 issue]. I was a geology major at Redlands, and I like the word “interstices,” which refers to a small layer of unidentified rock between layers of identified rock. In general, it embodies an unidentified time or space. In life, it is that opportunity to collect your wits. I wonder if others have favorite words they may wish to share, and why.

Robert Steinbach ’54

Much applause and accolades to President Kuncl and the contributing professors of the last Och Tamale. May I suggest a subsequent issue that will feature people who will continue the dialogue about language and its use/misuse in our society? The “theoretical” stage was set by part 1 [“The Power of Language” on page 20 in Spring 2020 issue]; its “real world” application would be a natural for part 2.

Bill Woolworth ’61

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 Dayadee* 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
VIEW FROM 305: THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT’S OFFICE

A spirit of resilience, innovation, and community

W

e are entering a new and challenging phase of the coronavirus epidemic—one that requires us now more than ever to respond to current circumstances using available scientific evidence and public health guidance, but with all the wisdom and creativity we can muster.

With lockdown fatigue and some progress “flattening the curve” on the one hand and the continued threat of potentially deadly cases of COVID-19 on the other, we are faced with striking a balance between resuming our activities to provide our students with a personalized education and protecting the health and safety of our community.

And we will find that balance. The choice between virtual and in person is not “either/or”; it is “both/and.” We will draw on the best science and the most authoritative sources, including county and state guidance, in charting a path forward. Our talented professors will leverage the tools at hand to continue to provide an engaging, personalized education in a responsive and safe environment. Faculty groups are currently meeting to explore the varied possibilities that honor both student choice and the realities of our public health environment. And we strive to accomplish these goals while fostering a diverse and inclusive community.

One day we will look back at the coronavirus pandemic of 2019–20 as many of us view other historical touchpoints, such as the Great Recession, 9/11, the HIV-AIDS epidemic, or the assassinations of the 1960s. And we will see that, through our resourcefulness and strength as a community, the University of Redlands retained its essence. The things that are great about U of R will persist—our warm and welcoming presence, our personalized education, our life-changing student experiences, our commitment to providing opportunity, our communitarian spirit and service. I think also about the perpetual beauty of our Redlands, Marin, and Salzburg campuses.

The “after pandemic” won’t be a terrible new abnormal in which we hardly recognize our prior lives. This episode will certainly change some behaviors, some symbolic, some real—we’ll likely become comfortable wearing face coverings in public, as some in other countries have been for decades. And we’ll habitually overuse hand sanitizers. But crises can also make for progressive changes, often great ones that should have been made long before. The Great Depression begat Social Security. And World War II begat the GI Bill and desegregation of the military.

In the case of higher education, this crisis, particularly with its home-bound isolation, should trigger a profound realization of the importance of social contact and the personalized interactions that are the essence of a Redlands education. There is no substitute for the inspirational Mortar Board Professor of the Year who knows your strengths and accomplishments and writes that letter of recommendation for the next job.

As a physician scientist, I have fundamental faith in our centuries-long history of ingenuity leading to vaccines and other life-saving biomedical discoveries. Smallpox, bacterial infections like strep throat and its sequela rheumatic fever, measles, mumps, polio, childhood leukemia, many forms of hepatitis, neuromuscular respiratory failure—all have dramatically been tamed in our lifetimes. In response to the current crisis, I have been impressed by how critical shortages of ventilators in New York and California have inspired “MacGyvered” ventilators at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City (Los Angeles Times, April 13), successfully transforming a $1,500 BiPAP device normally used for sleep apnea into a full-blown workable ventilator, capable of substituting for the typical $50,000 high-tech machine for patients with COVID-19 pneumonia. That’s innovation. And I’m equally impressed with the incredible speed of development of potential vaccines. I pray they succeed.

And that’s the spirit we will harness to get through these times at the University and to shape our future. We will rise to the challenge of doing more with less—and doing it better. We will look toward authoritative sources rather than panicked speculation or head-in-the-sand denial. And we will redouble our commitment to providing transformative opportunities for all of our students and caring for all members of our inclusive community.

We already have an uplifting and visionary message to tell our prospective students and to share with others. As Vice President for Enrollment Kevin Dyerly ’00, ’04 says in an interview in this magazine (page 34), the value proposition of a University of Redlands education couldn’t be stronger. The pandemic has highlighted our focus on health and safety and on emotional and financial support for our students (page 12), the flexibility to enact technology-supported personalized education (page 3), and the caring spirit expressed in the outpouring of support for this year’s graduating seniors (page 18) and for our employees with emergency needs (page 33).

In the face of these challenging times, we continue to build the future together as a vibrant, resilient, and inclusive community.

Forever yours,

Ralph W. Kuncl, PhD MD
President
University of Redlands
Mario Martinez joins U of R as next School of Education dean

On July 1, Professor Mario Martinez joins the University of Redlands as the Robert A. and Mildred Peronia Naslund Endowed Dean of the School of Education. Martinez comes to Redlands from the University of Texas at Arlington, where he was chair of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

“I look forward to collaborating with faculty,” says Martinez, “as we build on our strong foundation and continue serving our community and students to achieve greater equity and opportunity at all levels of education.”

Martinez has held professorships at the National University System based in San Diego and the Department of Educational Psychology and Higher Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

His career has also spanned a variety of professional activities, including as co-founder of Soft Skills Professional LLC (online and onsite training for higher education professionals); affiliate faculty member at the University of Minnesota Jandris Center for Innovative Higher Education; consultant with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; and vice president of strategy and innovation for seminar and management consultant company ServiceElements International.

Martinez (B.S., electrical engineering, New Mexico State University; MBA, University of Texas, Austin; Ph.D. in educational leadership and policy studies, Arizona State University) has authored six books, including the forthcoming The Science of Higher Education: State Higher Education Policy and the Laws of Scale (Stylus Publishers, 2020).

Martinez replaces outgoing Naslund Endowed Dean Andrew Wall, who has chosen to return to a tenured faculty role and to his first loves—teaching and scholarship. Wall will serve as a professor in the School of Education’s Department of Leadership and Higher Education starting in January 2021 following a six-month sabbatical.

Fletcher Jones Foundation awards U of R nearly $1 million

The Fletcher Jones Foundation, a longtime partner of the University of Redlands, recently announced a $950,000 leadership grant to support the expansion of the computer center on the main Redlands campus as well as increased technology-enabled learning. The 29-year-old computer center in the Armacost Library that already bears the foundation’s name will now be known as the Fletcher Jones Center for Experiential Learning, reflecting the breadth of integrated technology services it will offer the University community.

“This generous grant from the Fletcher Jones Foundation continues a long tradition of supporting technology that serves our students and faculty,” says the University’s Chief Information Officer Steve Garcia ’76. “Tools for experiential learning will help us provide students access to emerging business skills.”

The grant, which completes the $10 million Educational Innovation priority within the Forever Yours campaign, will allow for the modernization of the existing Fletcher Jones Computer Center—including upgrading and expanding the Makerspace, the Media Production Center, and Critical Information Literacy Lab, as well as creating a Collaboration Center with an augmented and virtual reality station and an Interview Suite with video technology. The grant will also enable access to loanable technologies, such as laptops, headphones, chargers, and recording devices.
The University of Redlands hosted its first-ever First-Generation Reception on Jan. 29, with approximately 100 students who are the first in their families to go to college. After remarks by President Ralph W. Kuncl, U of R Associate Vice President for Admissions Belinda Sandoval Zazueta, who was the first in her family to go to college, delivered the keynote address. “Your decision to be in college is changing your family’s legacy one degree at a time,” she said, noting she not only earned her degree for herself, but also for her family, future family, and the community around her. Zazueta went on to express her hope that first-generation students could find a power within themselves and become a voice for the voiceless.

The last portion of the evening included a symbolic lapel-pinning ceremony, led by Diversity and Inclusion Interim Director Monique Stennis. The students were pinned by designated “trailblazers,” first-generation U of R faculty and staff attending the event. “[The pins] represent family, community, and most importantly, your dreams,” Stennis said.

Many students left the event with an increased sense of belonging and appreciation. “The first-generation reception made me feel proud and part of a community that is very close,” said Zharit Brand Robles ’23. “The fact that the University acknowledges us this much is something really special to me.”
In a major update to its undergraduate admissions policy, the University of Redlands will shift to a test-optional admissions process, providing most applicants the choice of whether or not to submit SAT or ACT scores. The policy will go into effect for students entering college in the fall of 2021.

“Nearly a decade of internal data shows us that a student’s high school grade point average [GPA] is the greatest predictor of success,” says Kevin Dyerly ’00, ’04, vice president for enrollment. “We believe the test-optional admissions policy will assure greater educational equity for those seeking admission, without compromising our ability to make sound assessments of applicants.”

The University of Redlands has been studying the move for several years, including an analysis of the first two entering classes (2017 and 2018) taking the redesigned SAT. The team found that those students with the strongest high school GPAs persisted at Redlands at higher rates and performed well in the classroom, regardless of test scores.

Instead of standardized test scores, the University will assess other components of the application, including high school GPA, quality of writing, strength of curriculum, course sequences, contribution to the community, and community college courses taken, if applicable. All applicants will be considered for admission and achievement scholarships, whether or not test scores are submitted.

“As a parent of a daughter who recently applied to college, the idea of a test-optional policy is appealing,” says Caryl Forristall, professor of biology at the University of Redlands. “I believe students will feel empowered by the opportunity to decide how they present themselves to a school.”

For more information on admissions and aid during the pandemic, see page 34.

The University of Redlands is shifting to a test-optional admissions process in its College of Arts and Sciences, beginning with students entering in the fall of 2021.

The University of Redlands will offer an online geographic information systems (GIS) graduate certificate, with courses beginning this fall.

GIS Department Chair and Professor Fang Ren notes the program was created in response to many inquiries about online coursework.

“Working adults and professionals often can’t relocate to Redlands to study GIS, so we wanted to provide a learning opportunity for them,” she says. “In addition, the certificate provides a stepping stone to our master’s programs. A graduate degree can sound intimidating, and this certificate allows students to grasp the foundations of GIS through smaller-scale projects.”

U of R also offers two master’s degrees in GIS and an undergraduate minor in spatial studies. Many of the professors in the programs also work at nearby Esri, an international supplier of geographic information systems software, web GIS, and geodatabase management applications.

Ren emphasizes that GIS is no longer restricted to environmental sciences: “GIS touches many different parts of our lives,” says GIS Department Chair Fang Ren.

To learn more about the University’s GIS programs, visit www.redlands.edu/gis.
Events on campus

Before the University of Redlands closed its campuses mid-March, students had various opportunities to engage in person with politicians, activists, and technologists on campus.

1. Students celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year with a taiko drum performance on Feb. 2 in Orton Center.

2. Civil rights activist Terrence Roberts poses with student Maxine Mchunguzi ’20 at Hunsaker Center on Feb. 13 after his talk, “Lessons from Little Rock.” In 1957, Roberts was one of nine black students—subsequently named the “Little Rock Nine”—to first attend the formerly segregated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

3. “We all have a role to play on campus in ensuring there is a priority around mental health,” says Dori Hutchinson, faculty member and director of services at the Boston University Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, who gave the keynote address at the inaugural University of Redlands Mental Health and Wellness Summit on Feb. 14.

4. The University of Redlands Chapel Singers group takes the stage in the Stewart Chapel on the Marin campus. The Chapel Singers co-headlined the concert with Bel Canto at the San Francisco Theological Seminary alumni event on Feb. 23.
5 On Feb. 24, U of R hosts Southern California’s first Computing, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (C-STEM) Education Symposium, a collaborative effort of the U of R, Redlands Unified School District, and University of California, Davis. The daylong event brings together educators from across the region to discuss ways to transform math and computer science education with coding and robotics.

6 Esri’s Global Chief Technologist Mansour Raad delivers a talk to the School of Business community at the Casa Loma Room on March 11. His presentation, “On GeoAI in the Real World,” touches on the transformational impact of machine learning in geospatial data science, and demonstrates the application of automated modeling and predictive analytics to solve geospatial problems.

7 State Sen. Connie Leyva ’91 (D-Chino) shares the story of her political career with U of R students in the Casa Loma Room on March 5. “I really love what I do,” Leyva said to the group of students, staff, and community members. “I love [serving in] the state of California because we can actually get things done.”

8 The theatre arts spring production, The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds, was onstage Feb. 14 to 16. Theatre arts major and director Sophia Morrow ’20 says, “Through directing, I learned how to trust my team and let go of my anxieties. I put faith in people to do their jobs; as a result, I think the execution of this production came out beautifully. I can’t be more proud of the work that everyone did: designers, actors, management, the whole team.”
LESSONS LEARNED

We ask student-athletes: “What’s the best lesson you’ve learned from playing sports?”

“Football is a very demanding sport, mentally and physically. Mental toughness and extreme desire inevitably lead to wins, on the football field and in life.”
—Mason Carvalho ’23, football

“Football is a very demanding sport, mentally and physically. Mental toughness and extreme desire inevitably lead to wins, on the football field and in life.”
—Mason Carvalho ’23, football

“The best lesson I learned as a college athlete is how important it is to stay positive. Volleyball—and life in general—is a new adventure every day. Some of those days are not the best. A positive mindset is such a valuable quality to help keep everyone’s spirits high and to maintain a strong love for the game.”
—Ally Busch ’21, women’s volleyball

“Being an athlete is truly a gift; the early morning practices, the late-night bus rides, the times when you are on the top of the podium, and times when you are at the bottom. Don’t take for granted the moments you spend improving and building relationships with your teammates, as they can be stripped from you in an instant. I have learned to cherish every single moment.”
—Tucker Cargile ’21, men’s cross country

“The most important lesson I learned since coming to the U of R for soccer would be to strike with conviction. I have been taught many skills on the pitch, such as strategy, positioning, and teamwork; all of these are important, but you only really succeed by giving 110 percent, with the conviction that you can be the best. At U of R, I learned so many lessons that transition effortlessly off the field; I am so happy to bring those skills into the next chapter in my life.”
—Collin ChubbFertal ’21, men’s soccer

“Being a good role model for your peers is everything on a team. It is important to train hard and focus on your skills and abilities, but when you’re able to lift others with you as you grow, that’s what makes a good teammate.”
—Bradley Cummins ’20, men’s tennis

“As a student-athlete, I learned to cope with the stress of managing my time on and off the track. I had a very demanding major [biology], had vigorous practices six days a week, and was part of a sorority. Being a leader and role model in my sport helped me develop my capabilities in time management, communication, and motivation. I know I’ll continue to use these skills in my future endeavors.”
—Jessica Fields ’20, track and field

“Being an athlete is truly a gift; the early morning practices, the late-night bus rides, the times when you are on the top of the podium, and times when you are at the bottom. Don’t take for granted the moments you spend improving and building relationships with your teammates, as they can be stripped from you in an instant. I have learned to cherish every single moment.”
—Tucker Cargile ’21, men’s cross country
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University of Redlands Head Coach Jim Ducey ‘78 has announced he is entering phased retirement, stepping down from his current role as men’s basketball head coach, while remaining a senior member of Bulldog Athletics and continuing to teach courses in physical education. Ducey is a member of the Bulldog Bench Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame. In his 29 years at the University, he has led four different teams (women’s tennis, men’s tennis, women’s basketball, and men’s basketball) to Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships.

“While [Ducey’s] robust list of achievements is impressive, it is likely impossible to capture in words how he has mentored and influenced thousands of young people, students, colleagues, and friends alike, throughout his coaching career,” says U of R Director of Athletics Jeff Martinez.

Eric Bridgeland will step into the role of U of R men’s basketball head coach. Bridgeland most recently served in this position for Whitman College and led that team to three Northwest Conference titles; in 2017, his team advanced to the National Collegiate Athletic Association’s Final Four.

“Coach Bridgeland’s teams are not only successful on the court, but have a demonstrated history of embracing the Division III philosophy of strong academic performance and a commitment to community service,” says Martinez. “All of those factors, along with a very impressive track record of successful fundraising efforts, make him a great fit for Bulldog Athletics and the University of Redlands.”

To learn more about the Campaign for Bulldog Athletics, visit foreveryours.redlands.edu/bulldog-athletics.
WORTH 1,000 WORDS

Keylana Jenkins ’22 is one of the students moving out of Grossmont Hall as the University closes its campuses to protect the health of its community during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Directed the community to reliable sources of information about the coronavirus outbreak, especially the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

2 Created a Coronavirus Response Team, later expanded to include members of the Emergency Preparedness Planning group, to manage the University’s comprehensive response to the pandemic

3 Identified and worked with specific liaisons at San Bernardino and Marin County public health departments to coordinate planning and responses

4 Posted a regularly updated coronavirus FAQ page, timeline, and COVID-19-related messages to the University community on www.redlands.edu

5 Provided guidance to the University community on the most effective ways to prevent the disease, including washing your hands frequently for 20 seconds; not touching your face; cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces; avoiding contact with others who are sick; and staying at home when sick

6 Modified Redlands campus operations to minimize risk, including increasing efforts to disinfect surfaces; expanding distribution and placement of hand sanitizers; and limiting self-serve options and increasing prepackaged options for food service

7 Canceled all gatherings that did not meet CDC guidelines, including visiting speaker seminars, conferences, wedding receptions, and Alumni Reunion Weekend

8 Prohibited all University-related travel to countries designated by the U.S. Department of State levels 3 (“reconsider travel”) and 4 (“do not travel”), as well as discouraging all non-essential domestic travel

9 Repatriated students on all study abroad programs, including the U of R Salzburg campus, reimbursing students for airline change fees

10 Canceled Bulldog Athletics programs, following the suspension of the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

11 Closed all eight campuses and moved classes across the University—in the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Education, School of Business, Graduate School of Theology, and School of Continuing Studies—to virtual platforms

12 Closed the residential communities on the Redlands campus, with a process in place to assist students with housing insecurity or international travel restrictions

“When this all began, this community came together to provide support for each other,” says University Dean of Student Affairs Donna Eddleman, who chairs the U of R Coronavirus Response Team. “That has been one of the most significant silver linings.”
With support from Associated Students of the University of Redlands, distributed free boxes to students packing up their belongings

Asked all employees to work from home, except for a few individuals needed on campus for essential operations

Invested about $25,000 in technology infrastructure improvements to support the change to virtual classes

Provided technical and academic support to faculty members moving classes online (learning management system Moodle came to average 3,000 users per day)

Thanks to Ben Aronson, Virginia Hunsaker Chair for Distinguished Teaching, remodeled luncheons for faculty to exchange ideas on teaching methods to weekly video meetings in which professors could help each other adapt their classes to virtual formats

Offered technical resources, database access, and human resources guidance for employees working from home, as well as dozens of online training sessions attended by more than 300 people on remote work tools

Guaranteed payment of all employees from the beginning of the work-at-home period in mid-March through April 26, later extended to June 30

Announced that student employees would be paid the remainder of the spring semester at their average number of hours per week, despite the fact most were unable to perform their campus jobs from home

Providing support
Mid- to late March

Provided virtual tutoring for students who needed supplementary academic support

Launched The Writing Lounge, a virtual weekly writing workshop space for School of Business students. Professor Allison Fraiberg gives a brief presentation on a specific aspect of writing, then opens the discussion to topics related to writing projects and assignments.

Continued to provide virtual library service while the Armacost Library building was closed, including research assistance, help identifying reading material for virtual courses, and electronic interlibrary loan

Provided students with remote counseling, medical consultations, and wellness resources, including live circuit training via @livewell_bulldogs

Began virtual career support for students and alumni, including virtual Career Studio hours and practice interviews

Started virtual online chapel services from the Marin campus hosted by Interim Chaplain Rev. Annanda Barclay on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays at 12:05 p.m.; other virtual activities for San Francisco Theological Seminary students included a book club and trivia nights

Streamed recitals by music students

Thanks to Professor Renée Van Vechten, the Pi Sigma Alpha honors club and Information Technology Services moved a scheduled undergraduate political science research conference online to accommodate virtual presentations

Allowed College students scheduled to study abroad in the fall to register for classes on the Redlands campus to limit course-selection challenges in case international travel programs are canceled

Launched new newsletters from the Provost’s Office, Hunkered Down, and from the School of Business, Bulldog Business Briefs, while leveraging existing newsletters and communications outlets in the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Education, Graduate School of Theology, Division of Student Affairs, University Communications, and Alumni and Community Relations to keep students, faculty, and alumni informed

The political science club of Pi Sigma Alpha, seen here at its annual induction event in February, switches gears and hosts a Western regional research conference on March 20 virtually. “We had to press ahead,” says Professor Renée Van Vechten. “Students worked so hard to prepare. … The ability to be agile and flexible and accommodate unexpected circumstances is a valuable skill—we can meet challenges and overcome them.”

Kaitlyn Garrison ’21 reflects on finishing the semester from home: “This spring will be remembered as one of the strangest, scariest, and most creative times for me and my classmates due to the coronavirus outbreak. The biggest challenge with the transition to online-based learning was that I didn’t expect my life to become busier than it was before. However, my classes provided me with ample reading material. Whenever I found myself feeling restless inside, these classes allowed me to get lost in a book and discover wisdom about myself and the world.”
A partnership between the U of R and Loma Linda University provides the homeless with a walk-in clinic on the Redlands campus. Here, clinic director Mark Milliron ’76, assistant professor of physician assistant sciences at Loma Linda University, consults with a patient. “These are challenging times as it is, and for those who are homeless and have chronic medical conditions, this becomes a daily fight for survival,” says Milliron, who initiated the partnership. “I’m amazed at how quickly these two universities came together to address this need.”

31 Began sending video messages to the University community, including a joint message from the president and provost; a “Take Heart” video from the Graduate School of Theology faculty to students, alumni, and friends; a series of reflections by Omer E. Robbins Chaplain John Walsh; messages from academic deans; and communications to admitted students by President Ralph W. Kuncl

32 Kept financial and administrative services, such as mail, delivery, check disbursements, cashier deposits, charitable gift processing, and other processes going, with limited hours and social distancing procedures

33 Provided toilet paper at cost to employees facing a shortage due to panic buying

34 Thanks to U of R Computer Lab Supervisor Iyan Barrera-Sandi ’08, ’15, ’22, responded to a request from City of Redlands Mayor Pro Tem Denise Davis ’06 to print pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) at U of R’s Makerspace, with support from a Redlands Community Foundation GoFundMe, and delivered the PPEs to Redlands Community Hospital, Loma Linda Medical Center, Loma Linda Veterans Hospital, and Arrowhead Regional Medical Center

35 Began the creation of a host of virtual Admissions events for prospective College of Arts and Sciences students—which include a virtual Admitted Students’ Day, Financial Aid Information session, Student Affairs webinars, Parent Perspective, transfer session, event in Spanish, and interdisciplinary panel on COVID-19, as well as sessions highlighting the Johnston Center, music, business, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), and psychology programs (see page 34)

36 Sent out a letter to all local high school seniors who had inquired but not applied, acknowledging the epidemic may have changed their plans, which resulted in 47 additional applications

Responding to additional needs

Early to mid-April

37 Partnered with Loma Linda University and Physician Assistant Mark Milliron ’76 to provide a walk-in clinic for the homeless on the Redlands campus during the California “stay-at-home” period when many homeless shelters were closed

38 Thanks to Bulldog Athletic Training staff, delivered personal protective equipment to Redlands Community Hospital

39 Began ringing the chapel bells on the Marin campus every evening at 8 p.m. in a gesture of community support and appreciation for first responders and other essential workers to correspond with a unique Marin County community activity called “The Howl,” in which everyone goes out on their porch and howls at the evening

40 Distributed prorated room and meal plan credits and refunds for all uncommitted funds to students who had to move when the Redlands campus closed

41 Launched School of Business COVID-19 scholarship for incoming students whose financial situation has been impacted by the epidemic, as well as crowdfunding for this effort at rfund.redlands.edu/SupportBusiness

42 Through Student Financial Services, continued to provide additional financial aid to students whose household circumstances changed due to the pandemic

43 Revised the University’s budget for this fiscal year to take into account unexpected expenses due to the pandemic

44 Held a special virtual meeting to bring trustees up to date on the University’s responses to COVID-19

45 Applied for about $1 million in additional grants to support students and their education via technologically enhanced learning

46 Postponed the annual Giving Day event originally scheduled for April 2 and instead launched a dedicated crowdfunding campaign at rfund.redlands.edu/StudentSupport for special student needs during the epidemic

47 Started offering alumni and friends virtual activities, such as meditation, yoga, career workshops, and the COVID Cuisine online recipe exchange

48 Thanks to U of R Bulldog mascot Addie (@urmscogumb) and Addie mark the occasion.
Leaning into ingenuity and community
Mid-April to mid-May

49 Launched a series of virtual interviews called Bulldog Bites, featuring more than two dozen alumni and friends

50 Donated 10,000 pounds of food, such as canned fruits, oatmeal, and pasta, to the Family Service Association of Redlands; 3,000 pounds of food, including 14,400 food bars and 480 cans of Spam, to Inland Harvest; and a supply of canned proteins and other hard-to-get items to Marin County’s ExtraFood.org to replenish stocks that had been depleted due to the growing need to combat hunger. Much of the donated food came from the University’s disaster preparedness food storage.

51 Launched the hashtag #weRtogether to keep students connected and informed; launched the hashtag #SOEstayHome for the School of Education (@soebulldog) community to share tips for online learning, self-care topics, and images of study spaces, loved ones, pets, and selfies

52 Hosted an online version of the Senior Art Show (see page 16)

53 With a partnership between U of R mascot Addie and photographer Coco McKown ’04, ’10, offered graduating students free senior portraits with the sought-after bulldog

54 Held virtual graduation ceremonies for Johnston Center for Integrative Studies, while rescheduling a celebration of graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Education, and School of Business graduates for Homecoming weekend in October

55 Celebrated graduating students in innovative ways by livestreaming department ceremonies, creating videos for Honors Convocation recipients, filming student speakers, and presenting social media well wishes with #CongratsURclassof2020 on www.redlands.edu (see page 18)

56 Shared via social media Phoenix Chamber Choir’s musical rendition of “The Longest Time—Quarantine Edition,” which included U of R Professor Nicholle Andrews and U of R student guest singers; the performance surpassed 1.9 million views on YouTube and elicited a complimentary email from singer/songwriter/performer Billy Joel. In an interview with the Redlands Daily Facts, Andrews said of the participants, “Everyone just wants to make the world a better place—especially right now.”

57 Held a virtual orientation for School of Education students, who started classes in May

58 Moved May Term classes to virtual formats

59 Held a virtual graduation for San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS), while planning for a double in-person commencement ceremony for the SFTS Classes of 2020 and 2021

60 Among the first universities (top 10 percent) to distribute Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to students

61 Initiated by President Ralph W. Kuncl, launched an Employee Emergency Fund to provide financial support for employees whose households face urgent, unanticipated needs; the fund was seeded with a donation of $25,000 from Kuncl, 100 percent participation from the President’s Cabinet, and support from trustees (see page 33)

62 Continued to accept decisions to attend the U of R from prospective College of Arts and Sciences students for an extra month, until June 1, if they needed extra time given the uncertain environment

63 Began contingency planning for academic and residential scenarios for the fall

Editor’s Note: The University continues to adapt to the changing coronavirus situation. While the list ends here, the responses do not.

The Family Service Association of Redlands receives 10,000 pounds of food from U of R’s emergency supplies on April 23. The University also donated food to Inland Harvest and ExtraFood.org.

Omer E. Robbins Chaplain John Walsh provides a series of video reflections for the time. Connor Licharz ’20, ’22 writes from Germany, “My whole family looks forward to watching [the videos] every week, and they have injected many positive moments into a time that so often seems bleak and weary, and filled with anger, fear, and hatred. ... Thank you for taking a lead in fighting the darkness by spreading love, peace, comfort, and gratitude.”

The bells on the U of R Marin campus ring every evening at 8 p.m., adding to the community’s daily expression of gratitude and support during the pandemic.
Senior art show moves online

Each year, as students in the College of Arts and Sciences enroll in May Term classes, complete term papers, and make plans for the summer, a small group of senior art students gear up to put their work on display. A culmination of a year’s worth of work, the annual senior art show gives students a taste of what it’s like to be a part of a real gallery opening. But this year, the show was quite different.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Redlands closed its eight campuses in March, making an in-person art show in the main campus’s University Gallery impossible. So, Professors Tommi Cahill and Munro Galloway began to think about how to adapt in the face of unforeseen circumstances.

“The senior art show is a big deal for students,” says Cahill. “Many of the students were designing pieces specifically for the gallery space, with a particular wall or corner in mind. Many of them had to restart their project altogether when they left campus.”

Once the California stay-at-home order was announced, Cahill began to have conversations with other faculty members in the Art Department about moving the show to an online format. As a result of those conversations, students were asked to take photographs of their final pieces and send them to Cahill and Galloway in order to build a virtual representation of the show on the University of Redlands website.

“We wanted to reproduce the experience of the senior art show that would give them a sense of culmination,” says Galloway. In addition to the website, students worked to produce a printed catalog—something planned long before there were murmurs of a public health crisis but that nonetheless aids in documenting these circumstances.

Both Cahill and Galloway acknowledge the additional pressure this adaptation put on the nine students featured in the show. Four disciplines were represented among the group members—photography, sculpture, painting, and graphic design. Painting students were left without access to studios; ceramicists found themselves without kilns; and sculptors had to leave installations behind when moving off the main campus.

Still, Cahill notes there was an unexpected upside, “While students are sad that they won’t have the usual celebration of the end of their program, they’re happy to have a virtual gallery. I think we’ll all appreciate it more once the dust has settled.”

Galloway also notes these circumstances speak to the resiliency of artists. “Artists are going to make work no matter what,” he says. “Graduating college is always a crisis for art students—while there’s tremendous opportunity, there’s not a designated career path. We’re always teaching students to be adaptable and to find opportunity, and this is a great example of that.”

“We’re always teaching students to be adaptable and to find opportunity, and this is a great example of that.”

—Professor Munro Galloway
For School of Education Professor Paul Jessup, a University of Redlands experience has always been built on the foundation of developing close faculty-student relationships and face-to-face interactions. Now, due to the pandemic, he’s trying to cultivate those connections in an online environment.

For the first time, Jessup, a former school district superintendent, is building a course on resource management for the summer term that will occur completely online. He says that his biggest challenge will be creating new relationships with students without meeting them in person—but he’s hopeful that technology will help facilitate meaningful conversations.

“Each of my colleagues have stepped up to the plate in different ways over the past few weeks to respond to the needs of students,” he says.

Like many U of R professors, Jessup has relied on the Academic Computing and Instructional Technology Services team to help him tap resources for online teaching. Fellow faculty members in the School of Education, namely Anne Blankenship-Knox, Andrew Wall (Naslund Endowed Dean), and Nicol Howard, have also provided valuable support, as have students themselves.

Peer support for the U of R faculty at large has also been facilitated by Ben Aronson, the Hunsaker Chair for Teaching Excellence in the College of Arts and Sciences, who reconceptualized luncheons previously held to exchange ideas and literature on teaching methods to weekly virtual meetings to help answer the host of new questions they had.

Aronson was impressed by the lengths some professors went to continue to provide a personalized education. For example, Senior Lecturer Candy Glendening gave kitchen-based assignments for her class, Mother Earth Chemistry: “She figured out everything that students would need—natural dye to dye fabrics, components for making cheese—all of the items that any student in the course would need, and she mailed them to each student in the course,” he says. “If the student lived in Redlands, the items were delivered to them.” Professor Linda Silveira also mailed lab kits to her homebound students taking Issues and Techniques in Genetic Engineering during May Term.

Much student feedback from recent courses has focused on the successes of U of R faculty in providing supportive, interactive experiences, despite the pandemic.

Ethan Irey ’21, a media and visual culture studies major in Professor Heather King’s Reading Comics and Graphic Narratives class wrote to her saying: “Overall, I found this May Term to be an incredibly supportive, productive, and thought-provoking experience.”

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Ethan Irey ’21, a media and visual culture studies major in Professor Heather King’s Reading Comics and Graphic Narratives class wrote to her saying: “Overall, I found this May Term to be an incredibly supportive, productive, and thought-provoking experience. … I don’t take the sense of community I’ve felt from everyone as insignificant. You all made the discussions, reading, and projects engaging, but more than that, you all have helped me endure a strange and terrifying moment in our collective history, and allowed me to do so with a goofy grin on my face.”

—Professor Paul Jessup
Kristine Llanderal ’20 raises a toast to 2020 graduates.

A mosaic created by Piece by Piece, an organization that trains residents of Skid Row to make and sell art, memorializes Jacob Green ’20, who was granted his degree posthumously, in the Office of Campus Diversity and Inclusion where he was an intern. Green passed away in a car accident in November.

Graduate School of Theology Dean Jana Childers speaks to the student-chosen theme of the 2020 virtual commencement: transition and transformation.
University community finds innovative ways to celebrate graduates

While many official University events have been postponed and reimagined for the fall, a slew of grass-roots celebrations sprang up during the week Commencement was to take place, honoring new U of R graduates in creative, loving, and thoughtful ways. From living rooms to virtual chatrooms—within the College and throughout the School of Education and the School of Business—faculty, staff, parents, and friends found ways to recognize graduating students.

The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) transformed the Senior Honors Convocation into a virtual event and created the Senior Honors Recognition site, featuring faculty members and others presenting their student awards by video. The School of Education put together a video with advice from all its student award winners. Senecal Endowed Dean of the School of Business Thomas Horan delivered an appropriately social-distanced video of congratulations.

The Graduate School of Theology held a virtual celebration of its first graduating class since U of R merged with San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS) last July. The virtual ceremony included video remarks from President Ralph W. Kuncl, Provost Kathy Ogren, and Dean Jana Childers. Also addressing the graduates was trustee Rev. Jeannie Kim ’01 (M.Div.), SFTS 2020 distinguished alumna, who shared the moving story of her life and words of inspiration. This year’s SFTS graduates are also invited to attend a double graduation for the Classes of 2020 and 2021 in May 2021.

CAS student speaker Maxine Mchunguzi ’20 delivered her student Commencement speech on video, as did Denise Lopez ’20 from the School of Education and Carissa Gerry ’20 from the School of Business.

The Johnston Center for Integrative Studies celebrated its graduates with a virtual event on April 18 that mirrored its traditional ceremony. (See page 20 for more on the Johnston celebration.)

Several College departments—including Biology; English; Environmental Studies; Health, Medicine, and Society; Physics; and Theatre Arts—also held virtual celebrations to convey their support and commitment to graduating seniors.

“We were determined to recognize the achievements of this cohort and not let their graduation get lost in the chaos of campus being closed,” says English Professor Heather King.

Hunter Olivier ’20, the first student to graduate from the new Health, Medicine, and Society (HMS) program, was surprised

In a video address highlighted in the Wall Street Journal, College of Arts and Sciences Commencement speaker Maxine Mchunguzi ’20 recalls a journey of 10,000 miles that led her from her hometown of Johannesburg, South Africa, to the University of Redlands.

“We were determined to recognize the achievements of this cohort.”

—Professor Heather King

by a virtual celebration on April 8, arranged by Professor James Krueger and attended by HMS juniors, the women’s water polo team (which Olivier was part of) and coach, and family and friends.

“I was shocked at the number of people who were on to celebrate me and my accomplishments,” Olivier says. “I loved listening to all the stories and memories being told about me. My emotions were running wild and my heart was full of love. This little celebration did give me a sense of closure and helped my mental state knowing my hard work hasn’t gone unnoticed. The best part about the celebration was seeing everyone’s face and hearing the positive impacts I had made. I struggled a lot through this difficult time of my senior year and senior season of water polo being canceled, but this little gathering helped me know that this isn’t the end!”

Watch the University of Redlands virtual celebrations at www.redlands.edu/commencement2020.
Off Campus

Reflections on Johnston’s virtual commencement ceremony

By M.G. Maloney ’03

Two weeks before the University of Redlands students left campus, the Johnston class of 2020 finished their “senior meetings,” a series of discussions on Monday afternoons to plan their graduation celebrations. Ideas were shared, arguments made, and agreements built through consensus. Those details included selecting their commencement speaker, Professor Keith Osajima, director of Race and Ethnic Studies; asking alumni Adam Ghovayzi ’12 and Ilana Ludovico ’17 to emcee the ceremony; recruiting a classmate to design the cover art for the graduation program; and scouting the location of their faculty-senior dinner. With the event-planning details finalized by March 2, Johnston was in good shape going into graduation season.

But you know the rest of this story. The COVID-19 pandemic hit. Students packed up their lives, and the Class of 2020 left campus without saying goodbye. Feelings of loss, sadness, hurt, fear, and anger flooded the halls of Johnston Complex. I recall one senior saying, “Of course this is happening to our class!” Remember, this is the class that entered college during the contentious 2016 election.

The director of the Johnston Center for Integrative Studies, Professor Julie Townsend, then stepped up and proposed a “Johnston Community Graduation Celebration” for the seniors via video conference. Townsend received a resounding “yes” from Johnston faculty and staff, and the team got to work. Resident Director Maggie Ruopp ’16 tracked down seniors to confirm participation. Department Coordinator Kerry Robles fielded emails. Johnston Registrar Joselyn Gaytan, along with Robles, worked on the digital program. Townsend penned her opening remarks. Professor Tim Seiber selected pre-ceremony music, and Professor Kelly Hankin wrote a toast. As assistant director of the Johnston Center for Integrative Studies, I confirmed the participation of guests.

On April 18, Townsend welcomed attendees with the “Quaker shake,” a quiet hand-signal to show agreement. Osajima’s graduation address set a joyful and introspective tone. He opened his speech with two different drafts written pre- and post-closure of campus. The contrast brought humor to the forefront, followed closely by a deep, heartfelt reflection on the Johnston Class of 2020. Osajima said, “Your ideas and your voices can help shape a post-COVID world that is more just and humane.”

Ghovayzi and Ludovico gracefully carried on the ceremony, introducing each graduate and their presenters with respect and love. Quaker shakes abounded in gallery view with the smiling faces of graduates, their loved ones, and faculty and staff from across the College.

I often tell students their Johnston educations are individualized beginning to end. They decide the emphasis titles of their bachelor’s degrees; who will present them at graduation; who will address the audience of their family and friends. The range of presenters and the creativity in how they use their two minutes of time to introduce their graduate is as wide and diverse as their degree titles. But I wondered: Would Johnston’s creativity translate over the screen?

When graduate Anyi Guzman’s brother sang a sweet song and strummed the ukulele early in the ceremony, it was clear the magic of this program was still alive. Virtually together, socially distanced and all, attendees witnessed members of a smart, resilient, interesting, and quirky cohort saying goodbye in harmony.

“Virtually together, socially distanced and all, attendees witnessed members of a smart, resilient, interesting, and quirky cohort saying goodbye in harmony”

—M.G. Maloney ’03, Johnston Center assistant director
Perspectives on the pandemic

By Lilledeshan Bose and Mika Elizabeth Ono

From Wuhan to Milan, from New York to Redlands, the COVID-19 pandemic has been both a collective experience and one that is inherently personal. As we try to make sense of what we’re going through, University of Redlands faculty provide their insights into what we are learning, what has changed, and how we move forward.
On March 6, Psychology Professor Fredric Rabinowitz and study-away students on the University’s international campus in Salzburg, Austria, were asked by the U of R to return to the United States. “It was the middle of the semester, so I had that feeling of being yanked out of my reality,” says Rabinowitz.

The surreal feeling followed him throughout the trip home—only 30 people were on the plane, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) employees took his temperature upon landing in San Francisco.

As a psychologist, Rabinowitz is well-versed in helping others deal with their emotions. A pandemic, however, is different in one important way—no one had a framework for what was going to happen or how to handle it. “There was a collective vulnerability that I haven’t seen in my 36 years of teaching at Redlands,” says Rabinowitz, who also notes an upside to the fact that everyone is affected in some way. “When you look out at the world right now and see that everybody’s confronting the same thing, you don’t feel so weird—you’re not so strange; you’re not so lonely.”

Managing the stress and uncertainty, however, can still be framed as an individual process. As he told the Los Angeles Times, "People use whatever coping mechanisms have worked in the past. For some, it is to take control. For others, it is to protect themselves at all costs … [or to] avoid dealing with the reality of the situation.”

Despite the numerous stressors, Rabinowitz says the pandemic also presents an opportunity for reflection: “We’re usually insulated by having a schedule—be it work, school, or any other routine—and we don’t normally question what we’re doing. This situation has enabled us to look at our lives and ask, 'Where am I putting my energy? What do I care about? Who do I care about? What do I want to improve?'”

After all, you can control your reaction to your circumstances, but not always your circumstances themselves.

Rabinowitz has taken this insight to heart. He reworked his May Term class, Psychology of Interpersonal Relationships, to reflect the campus closure and the shift to online learning. Normally an interactive, experiential class in which students study how they form relationships in real-time, the course instead focused on how relationships are formed in a virtual world.

“Can we achieve a level of deeper friendship, of communication, of understanding, of closeness in this [virtual] modality?” He pauses, considering the question’s broader implications. “It’s an experiment. We’re going to learn new things.”

Despite the change of delivery method for his classes, Rabinowitz underlines one constant: “The trademark Redlands education is all about strong interactions. I’m trying to make sure we can still show care for students’ wellbeing.”

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"Collective vulnerability’

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—Professor Fred Rabinowitz
Coping by caring

Rev. Laurie Garrett-Cobbina is the Shaw Family Chair for Clinical Pastoral Education and director of the Shaw Chaplaincy Institute at the Graduate School of Theology (GST). As a faculty member, she teaches spiritual-care providers to care for the infirm. As a pastor, she provides spiritual guidance to her congregation.

During the pandemic, Garrett-Cobbina says she and many of her colleagues at the GST found new and vital ways to provide care and support through virtual classes and online services, such as those offered from the Marin campus. Apart from her work as a pastor and a teacher, Garrett-Cobbina, for example, is also working to provide a 24/7 spiritual hotline for marginalized African American communities hit hard by the virus.

“People have shown a tremendous capacity to care for their communities during this pandemic,” she says. “Although we are all affected, we also have an opportunity to create a new story of hope, survival, and resiliency. That is how people recover from a tragedy, from a catastrophic change in their lives.”

Professor of Religious Studies Fran Grace agrees that caring about others needs to be a central response to the challenges presented by the pandemic—and by life: “We live in a culture that is all about me, me, me. At this time, we’re learning that we survive because of other people who give us affection, attention, and love. Focusing on making [others] the centerpiece of life at the moment is so beautiful.”

In addition to self-care, perspective, acceptance, and reflection, Grace’s suggestions for coping during this time include reaching out by phone, letter, Zoom or FaceTime, or online group. She suggests encouraging others, thanking them for their contribution to our lives, or just taking the time to talk, laugh, sing, or cry for a few minutes. Grace is putting these measures into practice in her own life, including offering virtual meditation sessions to the University community.

She also notes “social distancing” provides opportunities to forge a deeper connection with those we live with. As one humorous example, she tells the story of overhearing a mother saying to her children early in the lockdown period, “It’s going to be a long three weeks if we can’t learn to get along!”

“The gift of this shift is to experience that we are connected in ways we hadn’t even realized,” Grace says. “We have a profound influence on each other. We can either bring the spirit of peace to others, or we can transmit fear. Let’s choose peace, humor, hope, clarity, and kindness.”

Déjà vu

A little more than 100 years ago, the country faced a pandemic, brought home by American soldiers returning from Europe during World War I. Making its way to Southern California in September 1918, the disease infected several University of Redlands students, prompting President Victor LeRoy Duke and the U of R faculty to close the University twice—the first time for two weeks in October, and then another week in November with an outbreak in the student barracks of the Student Army Training Corps unit.

Large public gatherings, including church events, were disallowed, even while many businesses remained open.

This ditty ran in the Redlands Daily Facts on Oct. 11, 1918: “Cover up each cough and sneeze. If you don’t, you’ll spread disease.”

“People were instructed to practice regular handwashing and stay home if they had any symptoms,” says Adjunct History Professor Nathan Gonzales. “They were told to wear masks, and local papers published detailed instructions on how to make them. But then, as now, no one knew much about the virus or how to deal with it long term.”

Gonzales notes it is remarkable how similar our public health toolbox is today.

The University didn’t have any casualties due to the 1918 influenza outbreak, but Gonzales says people learned a vital lesson. “My suspicion is that people had a heightened sense of the importance of cleanliness and keeping track of the spread of disease. In the same way, I think that sense will stay with us past the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Director of the Health, Medicine, and Society program James Krueger, who was discussing COVID-19 with students well before it arrived on American soil, notes that one approach to controlling pandemics is the tried-and-true method of case identification and tracking, combined with quarantine—a practice that has existed since the 14th century. In fact, the word “quarantine” comes from the Italian quaranta giorni or 40 days—the period ships were required to sit at anchor before arriving in Venice to prevent the spread of the plague.

“If you have aggressive measures in place for case identification and tracing, you can quarantine individuals,” says Krueger, who underlines the policy implications for today’s world. “If you don’t have that infrastructure, it means once cases start reappearing, you’ve got to shut everything down again.”
While disease and measures to control it have been a constant in human history, Steve Moore, director of the Center for Spatial Studies, believes that at least one important facet has changed—technology and the ability it gives us to compile and track data. Today, we have the technical means to track the number of infections, recoveries, and deaths from this communicable disease, and we're able to make that data available in granular detail.

"Government officials, commercial operations, news organizations, and health-care workers can use these incredible real-time data sources, which give us a great opportunity to respond to what's happening quickly and easily," says Moore, who teaches a spatial thinking class.

Geographic information systems (GIS) data visualizations don't just show the contagion itself. One site shows how well residents of various cities are practicing social distancing by tracking and mapping GPS locations from cell phone data. Another site maps how many hospital beds and ventilators are available in intensive care units across the country. The data can be used to redistribute other essential supplies, such as food, or to look at vulnerable populations so policymakers and health-care workers can respond.

That isn’t to say that there isn’t room for improvement. In fact, many of the barriers to good data have been human, rather than technical, including the lack of availability of COVID-19 tests and distrust of official numbers released by governments around the world.

Like Krueger, Moore says he and his students were tracking the coronavirus before it even hit the United States. "A big focus in my class is to help students become better consumers of data and look at data more responsibly," he says. "I try to illustrate to my students the incredible power of all this data and how we can leverage it."

And, with the disruption of the traditional classroom this spring, Moore kept his focus on students: "The students aren’t going to remember your Webex lectures or how quickly you adapted to teaching online," he says. "What they’re going remember is your compassion and empathy, and how you provided a sense of calm in a chaotic time."
“The power and pitfalls of technology can also be seen in the educational arena. The fallout of the coronavirus and the subsequent orders to shelter at home were deeply felt in students’ lives all over the country, at every grade level. Working parents suddenly found themselves expected to homeschool their children, with or without assignments sent electronically, as well as to provide childcare. Teachers struggled to deliver lessons online without prior guidelines.

According to Nicol Howard, a U of R professor of learning and teaching, the pandemic has prompted educators to expand their thinking about the possibilities of educating students at home, but it has also raised questions of equity. As education news organization EdSurge reported, 14 percent of households with school-age children do not have internet access, and students from low-income backgrounds are likely to fall behind their peers if learning is paused for too long.

As a co-author of the books Closing the Gap: Digital Equity Strategies for the K-12 Classroom and Closing the Gap: Digital Equity Strategies for Teacher Prep Programs, Howard knew even before the pandemic that technology was an important issue for educators. The abrupt shift to online learning during the pandemic has highlighted some key barriers.

“Whether you’re teaching in K-12 or higher education, access needs to be considered, including availability of a device, internet connectivity, and bandwidth from students’ homes,” says Howard, who has also acted as a resource for her U of R colleagues during the pandemic (see page 17). “These are things that you don’t always ask when you’re in class because the students are using school resources. But when they’re at home—and some might live in rural areas—the first thing to think about is digital equity. We have to be creative about how we can get a hotspot to a student, and how to support students who don’t have connectivity from their residences.”

—Professor Nicol Howard

Schooling children and their educators

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—Steve Moore, director of the Center for Spatial Studies

Even before the pandemic, Professor Nicol Howard (second right) knew that technology was an important issue for educators.
"A crisis reminds us of the basic utility and function of a government, which is supposed to act for the collective to solve major problems," says Political Science Professor Renée Van Vechten, who points out that the coronavirus crisis is exposing the strengths and weaknesses of American government and its leadership at the federal and state levels.

The divisive topic of federal politics aside, Van Vechten notes that California was the first to issue a stay-at-home order with the intended effect of "flattening the curve" to allow hospitals to marshal medical resources. Even as Gov. Gavin Newsom was lauded for assessing scientific data to estimate the risks of COVID-19 and acting quickly, he also came under criticism for assuming power under a state of emergency.

"People who put a premium on freedom are particularly incensed by what they view as government overreach in this process," Van Vechten says. "So, you see two very bedrock American values clash—the tension between serving the public good and respecting personal freedom is exposed and raw in this situation."

The crisis may spark long-term policy changes, according to Professor of Economics Nicholas Reksten, who thinks the crisis has illustrated the value of social safety nets. "Many Americans can live in enough of a bubble that people don’t need to see themselves as part of society,” he says. "A pandemic really drives home that you can’t get away from being part of that society."

Krueger, the director of the Health, Medicine and Society program, believes that sick leave is one item ripe for revision: "How much economic efficiency would we gain if we had rational policies around sick leave? You don’t want employees who are legitimately sick coming into the office because they might spread the disease. But the current work structure makes that very difficult. Lower-wage workers, especially, have no flexibility. They usually can’t take a day off with pay when they’re sick."

Van Vechten agrees the challenges of COVID-19 have the potential to elicit policy changes. "A crisis will allow you to reposition and provide a window of opportunity for change." She adds, "Hopefully, we will put a little more thought into disaster preparedness."

"A crisis reminds us of the basic utility and function of a government, which is supposed to act for the collective to solve major problems."

—Professor Renée Van Vechten
"COVID-19 has catapulted us into the future of work."
— Johannes Moenius, the Johnson Endowed Chair of Spatial Economic Analysis and Regional Planning

"COVID-19 has catapulted us into the future of work," says Johannes Moenius, the William R. and S. Sue Johnson Endowed Chair of Spatial Economic Analysis and Regional Planning in the School of Business. "Everyone should understand that the future began in March, and what I expected to start in three to five years will already happen during our recovery."

The pandemic proved that employees could communicate and get business done remotely, which could mean companies are more likely to allow employees to work from home in the future. "Certain behaviors will change," says Moenius. "We don’t need to fly as much for business—we may not even need to drive as much! We may not need to have as many suits, or dress shirts, or ties."

But the acceptance of technology is not all upside. As Moenius wrote in a MarketWatch opinion piece at the height of the COVID-related restrictions:

"American workers are locked into their homes, avoiding contact with anyone and everything touched by others. Social contacts and supply chains are disrupted by coronavirus and the COVID-19 illness it causes. In the workplace, there is a solution that addresses both problems simultaneously: new colleagues immune to pandemics and ready to replace American workers—more robots."

In other words, Moenius says, the coronavirus episode will accelerate and alter a technology shock that has been in the making for more than a decade. The jobs most at risk for automation—the least likely to reappear during an economic recovery—are low-wage, low-skill positions.

The country is still lacking the data needed to accurately gauge when—and how—the economic recovery will happen. "If anyone tells you that they know how quickly that is going to happen, they have a crystal ball that the regular
"I’ve been really heartened that my students had the skills to process and explain what’s going on to their family and friends. It’s an amazing argument for a liberal arts education."

— Professor Nicholas Reksten
In the past few months, we’ve all felt challenged by the COVID-19 pandemic and its fallout. In the spirit of actor and filmmaker John Krasinski’s hit video web series, the University of Redlands is pleased to share “some good news” about its comprehensive fundraising campaign, *Forever Yours*.

- The *Forever Yours* campaign has officially surpassed the 90% milestone, with less than $20 million left to raise toward its ambitious $200 million goal.
- The *Forever Yours* campaign has five different priorities, each supporting different areas of the University ranging from financial aid to faculty resources, from study away to learning opportunities outside the classroom. To date, the campaign has exceeded its goals for two of these five priorities: Scholarship Promise ($112.8 million raised to date, over its original goal by 13 percent) and Educational Innovation ($10.1 million raised to date, over its original goal by 1 percent).
- During the *Forever Yours* campaign, donors have made nearly $127 million in gifts and commitments to the University’s endowment.
- In March, the Fletcher Jones Foundation announced it was awarding the University a grant of nearly $1 million to support the computer center expansion and technology-enabled learning (see page 3).
- The University has already established 59 new endowed scholarships during the *Forever Yours* campaign, which will support deserving Bulldog student recipients from the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business, and School of Education. As these scholarships are part of the University’s endowment, they will be awarded annually for all time.
- To date, this current fiscal year has been the best year on record for fundraising in the University’s 113-year history. More than $18.5 million in contributions have been received since July 1, 2019. The next closest year was in 2015–16, with $16.9 million raised.
Focus on your future

In these uncertain times, we reflect on the people and places we hold most dear and hold onto hopes for a bright future. With a charitable gift annuity, the University of Redlands can help you focus on your future—and ours. By making a contribution using cash, marketable securities, or other assets, we, in turn, pay you a fixed amount for life. With this type of gift, you can feel secure knowing you will receive guaranteed payments for your lifetime.

For more information or gift-planning assistance, contact Katie Cure at 909-748-8905 or katie_cure@redlands.edu.

Ultimately, the campaign’s greatest success is its impact on students, faculty, and the University community. Here are just two examples of students whose lives have been touched thanks to gifts to the Redlands Fund as part of the Forever Yours campaign:

“Thanks to you, I have the opportunity to study what I love and to be the first in my family to undergo a formal education at a university. By awarding me this scholarship, you have eased my financial burden and allowed me to focus on my academics. I hope that one day I can help other students and families just as you have helped me.”

—Fernando Hernandez ’22

“The University of Redlands, which I attend as a commuter student, continues to motivate me to strive for the best and achieve my goals. My scholarships and financial aid have made it possible for me to attend. The help I am getting is something for which I am truly grateful.”

—Kheren Candor-Gonzalez ’21

Bulldogs help Bulldogs

The Employee Emergency Fund launched in May to help U of R employees facing urgent, unexpected needs. Initiated by President Ralph W. Kuncl, the fund continues to attract new donations, adding to the $25,000 leadership gift from Ralph and Nancy Kuncl; 100% participation from the President’s Cabinet; and generous support from members of the U of R Board of Trustees and fellow U of R employees. To date, the fund has received more than $75,000 in gifts and pledges from more than 60 donors. These donors include a group of nine individuals, mostly retired employees, who call themselves “Old Geezers”; with their combined tenure of nearly 300 years of service, they noted they “carry fond memories of their University years” and were prompted by Kuncl’s leadership “to chip in modestly with a ‘Geezer Gift.’” The review committee has already awarded 12 grants.

Getting closer … but we still need your help!

91%

CAMPAIGN PROGRESS
$181.5 million
OF $200 MILLION GOAL

70%

PARTICIPATION
14,008 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.
College Admissions and Aid During COVID-19 Crisis

University of Redlands Vice President for Enrollment Kevin Dyerly ’00, ’04 speaks to Och Tamale about how his admissions and financial aid teams responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Och Tamale: How has recruitment changed during the COVID-19 crisis?

Kevin Dyerly: We shifted pretty quickly and dramatically to virtual recruitment strategies. We developed more than 30 virtual events—from campus tours to information sessions—for prospective and admitted students and their families. We’re mindful of students being bombarded electronically, so we also mailed them branded care packages, including a pom-pom, pennant, reusable bag, University of Redlands sticker, and pen. The mother of an admitted student told us her daughter was really struggling with missing out on the remainder of her senior year in high school. The care package in the mail from Redlands made her week!

OT: How have you made the admissions process simpler for students?

Dyerly: In addition to the previously announced test-optional policy (see page 5), we created more flexibility for admissions submissions and documents (such as being able to submit unofficial transcripts initially) across all the schools. We also extended the application deadline for prospective students in the College and reached out to local students who may now be more interested in attending college closer to home. Ultimately, we are working with students through the admissions and financial aid processes as best we can in these circumstances.

OT: What have you and your team learned through these changes?

Dyerly: One silver lining is it has forced us out of the traditional ways in which we have engaged with and recruited students. Now, more than ever, we’re meeting them where they are online. In the years to come, we’ll continue to augment our in-person strategies with the online programming. I’m also mindful of affordability concerns among our students. People don’t yet know the complete picture of how their financial situations might change, and it’s important for us to think about how we will adapt. In the School of Business, we created a scholarship for students who were impacted financially by COVID-19 and started the program this spring.

OT: Are some programs at the University particularly relevant today?

Dyerly: In the face of a global pandemic with social, political, health, and economic implications, perhaps there’s no better time to make the case for a broad, integrated, liberal arts and sciences education. Our programs in spatial studies and location analytics also help prepare students with critical knowledge for circumstances such as these.

OT: What are the most important things you want prospective students to know?

Dyerly: In uncertain times like these, the value proposition of a University of Redlands education couldn’t be stronger. Personalized education is the approach we take on a daily basis, and we’ve seen that thoughtfulness in the last months, with our students, our faculty, and our staff exhibiting the utmost care and respect for everyone’s safety and wellbeing. I want students and their families to know this is who we are as an institution, and should you choose to start a program here in the coming months, your health and safety will be at the forefront of our consideration.
Creating a lasting legacy

By making a planned gift to the University of Redlands, you join a group of dedicated supporters who treasure our University, ensuring a liberal arts education for future generations. This thoughtful and generous group is recognized as the George P. Cortner Heritage Society, and we are extremely grateful for its members’ commitments.

The George P. Cortner Heritage Society is named for a man who selflessly served the University of Redlands as business manager for many years. His legacy includes the magnificent oaks lining the Quad, which have provided shade for thousands of students over the years.

If you have included Redlands in your will, trust, or other part of your estate plan, or if you have questions about how to do so, please contact CortnerSociety@redlands.edu or 909-748-8905 so we can properly welcome you into the George P. Cortner Heritage Society.
“When you go to college, it is impossible to immediately know what doors the experience will open for you. Looking back, I see that attending the University of Redlands opened doors for me that still impact my life. It opened the door to a grounded education provided by professors who cared and were fully engaged with their students. It opened the door to the world when I attended a study-abroad program in Mexico City. It opened the door to friendships that I hold close today. It opened the door to my business career, introducing me to the wonderful community of Redlands, where I met my wife and where we raised our family.

The Redlands experience proved to be one of the seminal moments in my life. Today, when I think about what a unique and special place the U of R is, I want to do my part with an estate plan that ensures those ‘doors’ will still be open for future generations.”

—David Wilson ’63, with Heidi Wilson
ALUMNI NEWS

Class notes

Class Notes reflect submissions from Jan. 4, 2020, to April 8, 2020.

The College

1940
Eppie Piety Provost ’40 recently celebrated her 101st birthday with friends and daughters Carol Provost Gruber ’65 and Judy Provost Bonilla ’68.

1953
Rae McClellan Davies ’53, after much discussion and prayer with children and grandchildren, as well as many visits to various retirement villages, has chosen to stay at Covenant Living, run by the Covenant Church in Spring Valley, California. Near her family, she reports that it is a wonderful fit, and Covenant Living knows how to help residents age joyfully, serve, and fulfill their “bucket lists.” She invites U of R alumni to visit if in the area.

1954
The Class of 1954 is made up of octogenarians who are sharing the life-changing experiences associated with the recent pandemic. Class reporter Don Ruh ’54 reports, “As youth, we were called ‘depression babies,’ followed by the challenges of World War II and then the devastating annual polio epidemics. Many of our class lost their fathers and other family members as a result of that war (and others fought since), or from earlier epidemics. We are not complaining, nor are we worried about the alumni of the future. We know they too will turn today’s negatives to positive solutions, just as our generation and others have done in the past.”

Roger Cullen ’54 and his wife, Beverly, are still living in San Antonio, Texas. They celebrated their 62nd anniversary in March with their six sons, their in-laws, and eight granddaughters. At the celebration, Roger missed seeing his former U of R California Hall roommate, Larry Nugent ’54, who recently passed away.

Carl Davis ’54 recently enjoyed a visit to Great Britain. Among the sites he visited was Winston Churchill’s birth bed at Blenheim Palace at Woodstock. He lives in Redlands.

Ron “Squeek” Davis ’54 and his wife, Dionne, are adhering to the rules and regulations associated with the coronavirus at their La Quinta Cove home. The association pool has been closed, turning their thrice-a-week swims into daily walks of about one mile. He wishes all of his classmates well.

Don Ruh ’54 and Sandi Luchsinger Ruh ’57 were returning from a four-week vacation to Depoe Bay, Oregon, when a truck dropped a wheelbarrow in front of them. They hit it head on but made it home safely with a good portion of their car missing and a message to all: “Do not wing-wang wheelbarrows in the roadway.”

1956

The Class of 1956 thanks longtime class reporter Ed Brink ’56 for his many years of service compiling and editing class notes. If you would like to fill his big shoes, please email ochtamale@redlands.edu.

1958
Nancy Brock ’58 considers Mexico one of her favorite places to travel, dating back to her junior year of high school when she visited Mexico City and surrounding areas on a tour led by her Spanish teacher. Some years later, Nancy returned to Mexico to teach in the American School, which led to many more travel opportunities around the country. Her most recent trip was a week of “fun in the sun” in Puerto Vallarta, returning to Los Angeles on March 8 to the news of the COVID-19 epidemic. Since then, she has entertained herself in her quarantined home with wonderful memories. Says Nancy, “Never pass up an opportunity that comes your way to enrich your life, no matter what the age, for you never know what’s around the corner.” She gives the U of R credit for helping her adhere to this goal throughout her life.

Buz Buster ’58 and Marilyn Jones Buster ’68 along with Marty Adams ’57 and wife Sheryl, Dick Beiden ’59, Patti Willis Beiden ’62, Harry Covert ’60 and wife Nancy, Stan Lamb ’59, Sonya Davison Lamb ’60, Chuck Lippincott ’58 and wife Bonnie, Phil Mohan ’57 and wife Charlotte, and Loren Sanladerer ’58 were set to attend their annual Kappa Sigma Sigma mini rendezvous beginning March 23 when the coronavirus hit. The event, which was to be hosted by Bob Simms ’62 and Linda Nelson Simms ’62, did not end in total disappointment, as Bob and Linda created a virtual event that included a tour of the Carlsbad flower fields, Encinitas, and Moonlight Beach, topped off with a pickleball demonstration arranged by Buz. Linda invited attendees to submit their baby photos, and Marilyn won the contest by correctly identifying five out of 11 submissions. Even though they were unable to be together physically, the group was still together in spirit and is looking forward to their next reunion. Kudos to Bob and Linda!

Jane Goodwin Gropp ’58 and husband Louis are quarantined at Peconic Landing, a retirement community in Long Island, New York. Fortunately, they can take beautiful walks along Long Island Sound and keep in touch with their Brooklyn family via telephone. It is unreal—the best to all!

Corrine Rohrbough Merritt ’58 and beloved husband Ernest Merritt enjoyed 59 years together before he passed away in August 2019. They celebrated his birthday in June 2019 with all of the family gathered together. Corrine continues to live in their family home in Chandler, Arizona, where she is surrounded by family and dear friends. Most recently she was visited by Marge Johnson Dieterich ’58 and husband Ted. In March, Marilyn Olsen Brewer ’58, Ginny Stinson Hanna ’58, and Lois Larusson Patton ’58 got together at Marilyn’s home, and with a call to Corrine, had another reunion of the “Fab Four” who went to Yosemite for 10 days after graduation. Sixty-two years later, they are still reminiscing about the great time they enjoyed.

Joyce Harkless Renshaw ’58 is adjusting to life after her husband, Ken, passed away in July 2019 from kidney failure. Her first husband, Wayne Strom ’56, passed away from COVID-19 on April 2. She continues to live in Cambria, California.

Roderic Stephens ’58 and wife Shirley are keeping their six-foot distance in Beaverton, Oregon, and so far, so good. Shirley is still supervising the continued
rehab of the dwelling they bought last year down the road from their apartment. They are preparing for the future, whatever that may be. They send hopes and prayers that we can come safely through this “war” that threatens our country and the world.

Chuck Thorman ’58 and niece Lisa Thorman Rusche ’78 stand in front of a window constructed in memory of Chuck’s mother at the Balboa Peninsula’s Christ Church by the Sea.

Chuck Thorman ’58 and niece Lisa Thorman Rusche ’78 spent Easter Sunday last year at Christ Church by the Sea on the Balboa Peninsula in California. At the church, there is a window with a white dove, which was installed in memory of Martha Thorman, Chuck’s mother, who was born mother in Grossmont Hall from 1956 to 1958.

Stennis Waldon ’58 and Joanne Bennett Waldon ’58 moved into Royal Oaks Continuing Care, located in Duarte, California, on Jan. 14. They have a wonderful two-bedroom apartment located on the second floor with two balconies. The timing of their move was ideal, just two months before the virus struck. Now their main meals are delivered to their apartment. They enjoy walking the lovely grounds twice a day, weather permitting, and have made a number of new friends. They continue to keep in touch with Irene Crum Mendon ’58, who lives close by, and Corrine Rohrbough Merritt ’58 by email. They love hearing from friends and family. Their son is one of many teachers teaching via the internet, and their daughter manages a nearby self-storage complex that remains open.

1959

Sue Blackwell Hurlbut ’59 traveled to Belize for birding, and she saw a jaguar and lots of howler monkeys! Afterwards, she went to England to explore old castles and later to British Columbia for whale watching and looking for grizzly bears. She took another recent birding trip to Arizona, for whale watching and looking for grizzly bears. She then called to the Arlington Community Church in California. He served interim the English United Reformed Church), and was called to the United Church of Christ, served in Hayward, California. He changed to the United Church of Christ in 1967. The same year, he earned a master’s degree in ministry in Laguna Beach, Sonoma, Tiburon, and the First Congregational Church of Montclair, New Jersey. He retired at age 75. Ken is proud to have attended the U of R and played freshman football there. He now calls on housebound, hospitalized, and elderly constituents in the Arlington Church, which he rejoined. The virus has limited his calling. Ken is married to Donna, who has a Ph.D. from University of San Francisco. Their daughter, Monica, is married to an actor, David Wilson Barnes. She and David live in New York City, where she is a dancer/choreographer, most recently having choreographed the dance scenes in the movie Little Women.

Arliss plugin a At Burchett ’61 celebrated the 50th wedding anniversary of Don Arata ’67 and Louise Burchett Arata ’70 with them on the island of Grenada in the Caribbean Sea. They were joined by the Aratas’ son, Mike, and his wife, Amy.

Carol Gustafson Jordan ’61 and James Jordan ’61 (known to all as Jim) welcomed their oldest daughter, Jenny, and her husband, Wayne, to live with them in Alaska. Jenny and Wayne are both teachers in Beijing at China’s International School. They were on vacation in Japan when the virus hit, and their school was closed. They expected to visit for only a couple of weeks, but it has now been two months. Jenny is a middle school art teacher, and Wayne teaches science. Jenny and Wayne do the shopping when needed, and the Jordans are working on downsizing. Jim and Carol will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary in September and were planning a party in June. Jim also is to receive an award for 50 years of accident-free flying! Both events may have to be cancelled due to the coronavirus.

Deanna Dechert Passchier ’61 encourages all U of R Salzburg students from spring 1960 to dig up old pictures of their European adventures in Salzburg and many other great cities they experienced with Dr. Brown, Dr. Gausted, and Dr. Moreland, as well as the Austrian instructors in the Hotel Germania on Faberstrasse. These memories can be shared with fellow travelers planning to attend the Salzburg reunion trip.

Judy May Sisk ’61 and husband John were joined by Annette Veenstra Bain ’61 and husband Gary, Gail Mungen Burnett ’61 and husband Bob, Barbara Summer 2020 | 39
Barlow Hirzel ’61, and Martha Nedrow Pierce ’61 at a weekend reunion at Annette’s home in Sunnyvale, California. They had a great time remembering Redlands memories and catching up on the last 59 years.

Clarice Giberson Wiggins ’61 and her husband, Harry, a graduate of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and University of Alabama, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this June. They have three grandchildren: one, age 14, lives with his parents in Falls Church, Virginia; the other two, ages 19 and 21, live in Chandler, Arizona, and both attend Arizona State University. Clarice keeps busy with church activities, a book club, and Jazzercise. Life is good!

1963

Judy Sundahl Armstrong ’63 relayed that her father knew Louis L’Amour from their days of growing up together in the same North Dakota town. She and her husband, Danny Armstrong ’62, are staying hunkered down through this dangerous time. Let us all send the strongest prayers to all of our classmates who are medically fragile.

Gary Barmore ’63 has spent some of his lockdown time exploring memory boxes in his attic. He found a birthday card from 1961 from his roamies at the time: Lowell Bosshardt ’63, Lawrence Harrison ’63, John Stevenson ’63, Keith Thompson ’63, and Norm Towers ’63. When he signs off on his emails, Gary has adopted the same message they included: Carry on! He can be reached at 714-641-3683.

Carol Abbott Montgomery ’63 is coping with missing her regular haunts: the Art Students’ League, the Brooklyn museums, theater performances, art workshops, and all the cafes and restaurants—sigh. But she can now paint her watercolors at home, sometimes working on more than one at a time.

Mary Stoecke Tipton ’63 visited Texas, Norway, Uganda, and Victoria, Canada this year. She was able to visit the Peace Corps office and the school where she worked in Kampala. Most importantly, she beat the virus home. What about her husband, Lee Tipton ’63? Well, Leland has not flown since his landing at Entebbe Airport in 1969.

1965

The Class of 1965 is feeling very depressed that our 55th reunion was cancelled. It rained during our 50th reunion, so we were unable to enjoy the traditional Sunday brunch at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Kuncl. We also were sad to miss that. However, we are still grateful to the University for 55 years of wonderful opportunities and experiences.

Judy Moore Bowman ’65 has moved to Plymouth Village in Redlands. She was fortunate to sell her home right before the virus hit and is happily settling into her new life. Last summer, she and Martha Hoke Kennedy ’66, ’68 spent three wonderful weeks in Ireland, and she hopes travel will once again be on our agendas before too long.

Sam Brown ’65 is sheltering in place on the deck of their pool in Key West, Florida, and is grateful for health and safety. He is frustrated with the impossibility of doing business in an environment where no physical contact is possible, third-party contractors are closed, capital markets are in lockdown, and generally everyone is fairly inefficient at whatever they do.

Dave Caminiti ’65 and Marilyn Martin Caminiti ’65 sent greetings. They are well but missing their activities.

Rita Cavin ’65 reports the good news that she has finished her cancer treatments and is transitioning to a maintenance program.

Sherry Davidson Gentry ’65 is catching up on projects at home.

Gary George ’65 entered the sixth novel in his “Smoke Tree” series, titled The Carnival, the Cross, and the Burning Desert, in a contest sponsored by Red City Review, a magazine published in Seattle. It won first prize in the mystery/thriller category—a small bit of good news in a bleak time. He will soon complete work on the seventh book in the series, Walks Always Beside You. He keeps in touch with Larry Nixon ’65, Chris Buller Thomas ’65 (with whom he has recently reconnected in Redlands), and Rick West ’65.

Brian Hebbard ’65 taught for a few years in Rialto, California, then went into law enforcement, where he spent 27 years in local agencies, retiring as a captain in 1998 after serving in traffic, canine, and SWAT. He bought a small tactical weapons and training company and soon discovered the business was not for him. He was the chief of police in a suburb of Denver for nine years, and is now living in Broomfield, Colorado. He has traveled throughout the U.S., but recently toured Cornwall, Scotland, and the Isle of Man doing genealogy research.

John Herrell ’65 and Connie Cooper Herrell ’67 lived in the California Mother Lode for 20 years but are now living on the Stanislaus River near Modesto, California. John is battling cancer but spoke happily of the 600,000 miles he has put on his large Harley touring bike over the last 25 years. He has been all over the country multiple times and spent 11 days touring 31 passes in the Alps.

Janet Putnam Johnson Kornmesser ’65 and husband Thomas just moved to a 55-plus community near Tucson, Arizona. They arrived just as the quarantines were imposed, so they look forward to participating in the many activities that the facility offers when the time comes. They sold their home in Port Orchard, Washington, on its first day on the market. Janet welcomes communication from any alumni in the area. Please send your request to Nancy Durein, dureins@comcast.net, and she will forward your message to Janet.

Dick Long ’65 is enjoying time at home and fondly remembers his time as resident faculty advisor in Salzburg in 1992.

Judy Merlin Ross ’65 has been visiting family and is sorry that planned trips have been cancelled.

Jim Schoning ’65, as a former Bulldog editor, is a proud supporter of the Howard Hurlbut Endowed Scholarship. He completed the Coro Fellowship...

Alice Randall Wallace ’65 is keeping well and staying home, socializing at a distance when possible.

1967

Gary Mason ’67, ’68 continues to practice law; although, he has downsized to one principal client who sends him on two international meetings a year, making him reluctant to completely retire. In 2019, Gary and his wife, Colleen, were in Grand Cayman and Montreux, Switzerland, courtesy of this client. Gary extended the Montreux trip by spending Bastille Day with friends whose apartment was only a block from the Eiffel Tower fireworks. Near Montreux, Gary and Colleen spent a couple of days sampling many wines. They then traveled to Zermatt, Switzerland; Annecy, France; and then Paris for several days each before finishing the trip in New York City. In addition to these “business” trips, the couple spent 12 days in Rome and Zurich in May, ending the trip with an emergency landing and layover in Minneapolis. They finished their 2019 travel with an exciting two weeks in Sioux City, Iowa, with Colleen’s family. In 2020, it looks like travel is going to be rather limited. They have spent a few days in Cabo (on business, naturally), but it appears that the next business trip to Quebec will be cancelled due to the coronavirus.

Rich Throner ’67 and Cathy Tavis Throner ’68 returned home from South America and the Antarctica Peninsula in late February, just in time to avoid the COVID-19 travel restrictions. Weather was superb, and in addition to enjoying fabulous landscapes and cultures, they saw many whales, seals, penguins, and other bird species. Since their fall 1965 U of R Salzburg semester, where they caught the travel bug, they have traveled to more than 95 countries, colonies, and overseas territories. They hope to resume travel later this year with another trip to Europe. When not traveling, they continue to reside in Lakewood, Colorado, and are enjoying their retirement and grandchildren.

1968

Laura Spencer Davis ’68 had to quickly learn how to use Zoom for teaching her 15 piano students online during the COVID-19 pandemic. Happily, they all opted to continue online and keep on progressing! She chose to teach private piano lessons and postpone retirement a few more years. It is exciting to learn to use new digital tools and apps to enhance her students’ experiences. What a wonderful opportunity to be able to keep on teaching, while giving kids and adult students something positive and beautiful to focus on in a difficult season. “This too shall pass.”

Sylvia McMasters Fellows ’68 and Bruce Fellows ’68 will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 15, 2020. Sylvia retired first from teaching elementary school music in the Orange Unified School District and then later as a silhouette artist at Disneyland. She works at Knott’s Berry Farm two days a week spinning, weaving, quilting, and

George Crisp ’74 publishes two books of song lyrics presented as poetry.
We believe this cast performed the play Godspell in the 1970s. If you have any information about the production and performers, we’d love to hear it!

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 41 of the spring 2020 issue:

Janet Gall ’50 recalls a snow day on campus in 1947, when sweetheart Jack Bourne ’48 played a joke on Merrill Hill ’50. “In the middle of the night Jack and his Chi Sigma Chi fraternity brothers got Merrill’s Model T in back of the dorm and pushed it to the center of the campus quad. There they took off the wheels and put them in the cab of the car, then they put milk crates under the axles and left quietly. That night it snowed a lot on the campus. The next day, we saw a large group of men around the Model T covered with snow. We could see and hear Merrill cussing, ‘You get those wheels back on that car now!’” Gall says Hill eventually figured out who the culprit was!

Ken Buxton ’66 and Linda Fuller Stallard ’68 both have memories of another snowstorm in January 1965, photos of which made the La Letra 1965 yearbook. That day, Stallard says, “a friend of mine climbed Administration Hill and skied down to Colton Avenue!”

Buxton adds, “[The photo] also brought to mind smudge pots. Back then Redlands students were often called upon in the winter to ‘go smudging’ in local orange groves on cold and frosty nights. Smudge pots no doubt helped keep the orange trees warm and frost-free, but they were also environmentally incorrect. Those nasty oil- or kerosene-burning stoves produced a fair quantity of noxious, oily, and odoriferous black smoke. And guys would return from a night of smudging looking like refugees from the coal mines.”

1969

Nancy Unsworth ’69 married Henry Anchondo on March 7. Theta sisters in attendance included Suzy Iversen ’68, Cathy Gage Odegaaard ’70, Sue Freed Rainey ’68, and Sally Bauman Trost ’70.

1970

Class of 1970: We are so sorry our 50th reunion, which was to be held in May, had to be cancelled. Mary Nelson Hunt ’70 and Bill “Whale” Lowman ’70 had already put in much time and effort planning a really fun weekend! Our reunion will take place over Alumni Reunion Weekend in May 2021. We can still have fun, and this gives us more time to gather a larger group to attend! Save the date!

Karen Tallent ’70 launched a start-up farm in 2011 along the Central Coast of California called The Groves on 41. She planted 4,000 trees for the production of extra virgin olive oil. She also operates a vacation rental and private event venue on the farm. This year, they opened for tours, educational groups, and tastings of her award-winning extra virgin olive oils.

Sally Bauman Trost ’70 heard from numerous classmates holding virtual happy hours and gatherings with Zoom or other apps to keep in touch and have the feeling of community while we are unable to physically get together. Keep up your spirits and be safe!

1972

Members of the fall 1969 Salzburg class enjoyed an authentic German meal at the residence of Jeff King ’72 and Pam Preston King ’72 last fall in honor of the class’s 50th anniversary. Other attendees included Richie Adams ’72, Tom Appel-Schumacher ’71, Linda Sears Behrens ’72, Jeanne Gordon Berkhire ’72, ’73, Paulette Marshall Chaffee ’71, ’72, Rebecca Dreis Dakota ’72, Marti Griffin ’71, Jane Hedgpeth Kessler ’71, Candy Pedroni Northrop ’71, David Rasmussen ’71, John Schram ’71, Tara Ryan Swanson ’71, Georgette Theotig ’70, and Kathy Talbert Weller ’71.

1974

George Crisp ’74 has recently published two books of song lyrics presented as poetry, Verse & Chorus and Sacred Verse & Chorus. Both volumes are available from Amazon.

1975

Guy Silvestri ’75 is not yet retired. After 30 years in the volatile semiconductor industry, he transferred to the aeronautics industry eight years ago, putting all that Redlands knowledge to good use. Now more than ever, he appreciates the many lessons learned, academic and otherwise, during his days at Redlands. He has kept in contact with a few classmates and is looking forward to seeing more of them at the next reunion.

1976

Majid Ali ’76 and wife Ahnjiel are acupuncturists and herbalists in Culver City, California. Now that their boys are grown, staying fit keeps both of them busy, along with their practice.

Marshall Brewer ’76 helped his parents down-size from their home of 52 years. Buried deep in the family archives, he found his aerograms and postcards from Salzburg from fall 1976. He continues the favor by sending email and paper mail to his parents’ new place, where they are behind locked doors against contagion.

Tim Campbell ’76 says “hi.” No special news from his world.

Don Damschen ’76 is in his fifth year as a part-time adjunct instructor at Madera Community College teaching general chemistry, which is a prerequisite for nursing and transfer students.

ALUMNI NEWS

making lace. Bruce works in the financial office for a wholesale used car business, buying and selling cars at the wholesale dealers’ auctions. They have lived in Anaheim, California, for 48 years.

Sue Freed Rainey ’68 was elected chair of the Riverside County First 5 Commission, which serves the families and children of the county using tax dollars generated by Proposition 10. She was appointed to the commission by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. Sue and her husband, John, live in Riverside, California.

Jim Sulger ’68 has been retired as a residential appraisal manager for four years, most recently with PMI Mortgage Insurance Co. Married 46 years, he and his wife, Olga, have three beautiful daughters and four granddaughters. He has volunteered for the Pleasanton Library and Open Heart Kitchen, and is currently volunteering at the Cancer Center for Stanford/Valley Care Hospital. The couple lives in Pleasanton, California.

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1970

Class of 1970: We are so sorry our 50th reunion, which was to be held in May, had to be cancelled. Mary Nelson Hunt ’70 and Bill ‘Whale’ Lowman ’70 had already put in much time and effort planning a really fun weekend! Our reunion will take place over Alumni Reunion Weekend in May 2021. We can still have fun, and this gives us more time to gather a larger group to attend! Save the date!

Karen Tallent ’70 launched a start-up farm in 2011 along the Central Coast of California called The Groves on 41. She planted 4,000 trees for the production of extra virgin olive oil. She also operates a vacation rental and private event venue on the farm. This year, they opened for tours, educational groups, and tastings of her award-winning extra virgin olive oils.

Sally Bauman Trost ’70 heard from numerous classmates holding virtual happy hours and gatherings with Zoom or other apps to keep in touch and have the feeling of community while we are unable to physically get together. Keep up your spirits and be safe!

1972

Members of the fall 1969 Salzburg class enjoyed an authentic German meal at the residence of Jeff King ’72 and Pam Preston King ’72 last fall in honor of the class’s 50th anniversary. Other attendees included Richie Adams ’72, Tom Appel-Schumacher ’71, Linda Sears Behrens ’72, Jeanne Gordon Berkhire ’72, ’73, Paulette Marshall Chaffee ’71, ’72, Rebecca Dreis Dakota ’72, Marti Griffin ’71, Jane Hedgpeth Kessler ’71, Candy Pedroni Northrop ’71, David Rasmussen ’71, John Schram ’71, Tara Ryan Swanson ’71, Georgette Theotig ’70, and Kathy Talbert Weller ’71.

1974

George Crisp ’74 has recently published two books of song lyrics presented as poetry, Verse & Chorus and Sacred Verse & Chorus. Both volumes are available from Amazon.

1975

Guy Silvestri ’75 is not yet retired. After 30 years in the volatile semiconductor industry, he transferred to the aeronautics industry eight years ago, putting all that Redlands knowledge to good use. Now more than ever, he appreciates the many lessons learned, academic and otherwise, during his days at Redlands. He has kept in contact with a few classmates and is looking forward to seeing more of them at the next reunion.

1976

Majid Ali ’76 and wife Ahnjiel are acupuncturists and herbalists in Culver City, California. Now that their boys are grown, staying fit keeps both of them busy, along with their practice.

Marshall Brewer ’76 helped his parents down-size from their home of 52 years. Buried deep in the family archives, he found his aerograms and postcards from Salzburg from fall 1976. He continues the favor by sending email and paper mail to his parents’ new place, where they are behind locked doors against contagion.

Tim Campbell ’76 says “hi.” No special news from his world.

Don Damschen ’76 is in his fifth year as a part-time adjunct instructor at Madera Community College teaching general chemistry, which is a prerequisite for nursing and transfer students.
Indian Springs High School teacher Joe Kelly ‘96, ’98 has inspired dozens of his students to attend the U of R.

By Laurie McLaughlin

Indian Springs High School teacher Joe Kelly gets a bit emotional talking about one of his former students. “I get teary eyed thinking about Kimberly graduating,” he says of Kimberly Rios-Hernandez ’20, who earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Redlands in April. “She’s a great student and will do great things in life.”

Kelly, who earned both a B.A. in history and a master’s in educational administration from the University, is as proud of the 20 or so other students he taught who are currently enrolled at the U of R. As a college and career resource teacher and former coordinator of Advancement Via Individual Determination (commonly known as AVID), he guides students of all backgrounds toward higher education.

“This fall, another six of my students will be going to Redlands,” says Joe Kelly ’96, ’98.

There’s an argument to be made that Kelly has inspired so many students to attend college because it’s his job. “Well, it’s my job for a reason,” he says. For Kelly himself, finding Redlands was a turning point. “The first university I went to wasn’t right for me, and I didn’t do very well there,” he says. “Then, I ended up at Redlands, and everything clicked.”

He shares his bumpy collegiate start with his high school students, who live in San Bernardino: “We talk a lot about how to find the school that is a good fit for who you are as an individual.” This is particularly important, he adds, because so many of the students at Indian Springs will be the first in their families to attend college.

As a first-generation college-bound student, in high school Rios-Hernandez had the talent and ambition to go to college, but she felt she needed guidance: “Mr. Kelly is the reason I’m at Redlands. He was always looking out for us. He made sure we got our application-fee waivers and helped us with the financial aid forms. We had no excuse not to take the SATs. He really went above and beyond for all of us.”

Several of Kelly’s Redlands students over the last several years, including Rios-Hernandez, are recipients of the Annexstad Family Foundation Leaders for Tomorrow Scholarship, a program that financially supports deserving students at select universities. Due to this scholarship, Rios-Hernandez, who earned her degree in psychology and plans to enter the medical field, graduated without college debt.

“When I got my award letter,” she says of her senior year in high school, “I showed it to Mr. Kelly, and he was so excited for me.”

Rios-Hernandez recalls that Kelly is known for saying, “if you don’t play, you don’t win” about applying for admission and scholarships.

After being accepted and registering at Redlands, Rios-Hernandez and fellow Indian Springs High School graduate Peter Rubalcava ’20, a biochemistry major, met with Kelly, who wanted to make sure they were ready and helped them pick their first-year seminar classes.

Kelly still keeps in touch. He recently attended an art exhibit featuring former student Isaac Rodriguez ’22 (also an Annexstad Scholarship recipient), and he sees other former students at football games, where he is an ever-present fan. (Kelly served on the U of R football coaching staff for about nine years.) “I’m very proud to have introduced students to Redlands,” he says.

Rios-Hernandez thinks that Kelly’s introduction changed her life: “I like to say that the University spoils us. There was so much that Redlands gave me— I met a lot of great people and had a lot of great professors. I’m very grateful.” 

"This fall, another six of my students will be going to Redlands," says Joe Kelly ’96, ’98.
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Alpha Gamma Nu members reunite: (front row, from left) David David ’78, Mark Myers ’77, and Scott Lapsley ’78; (back row, from left) Bill Godwin ’80, Gary Boseck ’78, Gary Koston ’76, and Ernie Caponera ’78.

Guy Silvestri ’75 appreciates the many lessons he learned during his Redlands days.

David David ’78, Debbie Sauder David ’78, and Alex Boggs ’77 (left to right) tour the Taylor Guitar Factory in San Diego.

Regina Miller Black ’79 (left) and Juliana Hinyard Mando ’79 are all smiles at their 40th reunion.

Hoss Christensen ’77 is visited by Debbie Sauder David ’78, and David David ’78 (left to right) at his San Clemente home.

Joe Irvin ’80, Ed Irvin ’51, Ruth Ann Irvin Walker ’79, Amy Irvin Myers, and Andrew Irvin ’84 (clockwise, from top left) celebrate Ed’s 90th birthday in Redlands.

Stephen McNamara ’81 is retired after practicing law for 35 years.

The Class of 1979 reconvenes for their 40th reunion.

Matt Clabaugh ’81 (far right) and wife Deborah (second from left) are empty nesters, with daughter Angeline and son Bryce off to college.
For now, Wendy is a part-time reading specialist teacher in Long Beach, California. She has two great cities to visit for “surf and sun” and “oysters and jazz.” Golf index is in the low teens. Their vineyard in North Santa Barbara County is still under construction: no wine yet, but the bees love their pinot. His U of R education has come in handy this last year, with multiple entrepreneurial opportunities under evaluation. Recent travel highlights included five states and two countries, the total eclipse of the sun, and Germany’s Oberammergau in the offering.

Ruth Ann Irvin Walker ’79, along with siblings Joe Irvin ’80, Patricia Slaven Irvin ’81, Andrew Irvin ’84, and Amy Irvin Myers, hosted a 90th birthday party for their father Ed Irvin ’51. The event was held at the Kendall House at Plymouth Village in Redlands, where Ed resides. Also in attendance were grandson Russell Walker ’08 and his wife, Liddy Price Walker ’08. Among the 90 guests were some of Ed’s U of R classmates, as well as nearly family alumnae Kathie Hennigan Bautista ’75 and Renee MacLaughlan Bozarth ’79.

1980
Wadsworth Murad ’80 was inducted as the president of the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California.

1981
Matt Clabaugh ’81 has two kids in college, so now they are empty nesters with financial deficits but have two great cities to visit for “surf and sun” and “oysters and jazz.” Golf index is in the low teens. Their vineyard in North Santa Barbara County is still under construction: no wine yet, but the bees love their pinot. His U of R education has come in handy this last year, with multiple entrepreneurial opportunities under evaluation. Recent travel highlights included five states and two countries, the total eclipse of the sun, and Germany’s Oberammergau in the offering.

Glenn Cunliffe ’81 has not aged! He and wife Melvyn celebrated their anniversary on Boracay Island in the Philippines. They live in the Bay Area.

John Edwards ’81 and wife Chris went to Zion and Arches national parks in October. They ventured into the Fiery Furnace, for which it is difficult to get entry passes. Their next trip is India. John has begun sculpting. Their daughters, Megan and Sarah, live and work in San Diego, and they enjoy having them near. He would like to have an alumni get together in the San Diego area, as he knows Walter Nishioka ’81 is living in Encinitas and Kathy Mann Wolff ’81 and her husband, Joaquin Wolff ’80, are in Poway. He knows several others in San Diego County as well—perhaps a beach day when the beaches reopen?

Janine Mason Kramer ’81 is enjoying the slower pace for the time being. She has been producing videos for her church; her cooking segment has 500 views!

Dan Lewis ’81 is excited to report Simon & Schuster has just purchased the worldwide rights to his new book, tentatively titled Rooted: The Past and Future of the World in Twelve Trees, a species-by-species story of 12 trees that have changed, are changing, and will change the world. It will be out in 2023. It is his fourth book, and his first with a trade press.

Stephen McNamara ’81 is pleased to say he retired this past January after practicing law for 35 years and managing his own firm since the early 1990s. His wife, Valerie, is also an attorney and of counsel to Stephen’s firm. She retired late last year, and the two of them plan on traveling and pursuing various hobbies. One of those is Stephen’s recording avocation, which has seen the release of various albums and EPs since founding his label and recording studio, Signature Tunes, in 2001. Stephen and Valerie have three children: a son working in the Bay Area as a software engineer; a daughter working in public affairs at the University of Missouri in
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Kansas City; and a daughter finishing her double-major studies in documentary film and orchestral bass performance. So apparently no more lawyers ... or grandchildren yet (perhaps one of these days).

Larry Zucker ’81 is concentrating on writing his second book, Forget All You Thought You Knew About Charity Auctions, due to all of the charity events in which he is involved being postponed through the end of August. This book will focus on the changes that events will see after COVID-19, ranging from virtual events to using different concepts to maximize the returns to nonprofits. Larry is staying home with his wife, Jackie, and three pugs.

1983
Linda “Serene” Edwards daRae ’83 has recently moved to Redlands to help take care of her parents. She would be happy to connect with anyone in the area, as she will be working in San Bernardino if all goes as planned! Her kids, ages 20, 23 and 26, all live in different parts of the country.

Gregory Eaton ’83 is now a lecturer in organ and harpsichord at the Butler School of Music of the University of Texas at Austin. He currently teaches a studio of six students and gave his first faculty recital on Feb. 6.

Nate Truman ’83 was diagnosed with Philadelphia chromosome positive acute lymphocytic leukemia in January, and after three weeks in isolation and on chemo, he did not go into remission. To help further research, he is joining a clinical trial at the University of Southern California’s Norris Cancer Center to try a pair of new drugs to see if this new treatment can slow or stop the progression of the disease.

1985
Stuart Hoffman ’85 successfully completed his American Board of Orthodontics recertification in November 2019. Stuart is finishing his 15th year as an adjunct professor in the division of orthodontics at the Ostrow School of Dentistry at University of Southern California. He continues to serve on the UI of R Greek Alumni Advisory Council.

1991
Kirsten Fuller ’91 moved to Mountain Center, California, in October 2019, and now resides in her dream home in the mountains. Her two grown children are doing what they love: Her son is on active duty in the Navy and deployed on the USS Eisenhower; her daughter is finishing her first year at California State University, San Marcos and soon transferring to University of Hawaii as a biochemistry major. Kirsten is very proud.

1995
The Class of 1995 is sad that our 20-year reunion was cancelled due to COVID-19, but we hope to find another time to gather and reconnect. Our class would also like to express our gratitude to the health-care workers on the front line working in hospitals. In particular from our class, Marc DiCarlo ’95 and Erica Peasley Okenfuss ’95, thank you for your service! The Class of 1995 is also filled with many teachers and administrators who recreated the love and learning from their classroom to a digital platform almost overnight. Thank you to John Albert ’95, Sarah Hubbard Bauer ’95, Colleen Cunningham ’95, Marejetta Geerling ’95, Carissa Krizo Ghosh ’95, Gary Giannoni ’95, Molly Morgan Hickerson ’95, Rona Kaneshiro ’95, Ashley Payne Laird ’95, Deann Leoni ’95, Kelly Brousse Mattocks ’95, John Rockwell ’95, Celeste Sawtelle ’95, Christa Stone ’95, and Dulce Trice ’95 for your dedication to the future.

Jeff Hughes ’95 was engaged to Jennifer Adaman in Indiana.

2000
Teal Seward Conroy ’00 published her second book, Always in Your Heart, which validates the emotion that come with loss and encourages the joyful notion that your departed loved ones will remain always in your heart.

2004
Nick Cavanagh ’04 and Alanna Soli Cavanagh ’04, with co-owners Sarah Soli Shipley ’09 and her husband, Chris Shipley, are opening Movement Brewing Company in Rancho Cordova, California, this summer. The 7,000-square-foot space is being renovated into a fun place to have great beer, listen to live music, and grab grub from a local food truck. This has been in the works for years, and they are excited to finally be opening the doors!

Tiffany Johnson ’04 was awarded outstanding teacher of the year in 2019 for her dedication, service, and leadership in biology, anatomy, and physiology at the annual Tampa Bay Engineers Week Banquet. She began her teaching career in 2015 after working in the hospitality and real estate fields. She incorporates social media into the classroom with the handle @biologybombshell.

Jocelyn Neudauer ’04 lives in Redlands near her family and earned her J.D. in 2013. She has worked for San Bernardino County as a deputy public defender for the past three years and is currently assigned to the juvenile unit. Every year, she gives presentations on issues related to the Americans with Disabilities Act and speaks at grade schools about her hearing loss and her career, including a specific trial case.

Chas Phillips ’04 and Alisha Wolf welcomed their son, August Wolf Phillips, in March.

Ellen Steinlein ’04 started a new job as performance excellence manager at Colorado College in April. She also welcomed a daughter, Summer, in July 2019.

2005
Alina Garrison Johnston ’05 and husband Chris welcomed their first child in April 2019.

Brooke Hawley Taylor ’05 and husband Garrett have four great kids, Logan (7), Hank (6), Cheyenne (4), and Dakota (2). They reside in Wellsville, Kansas.

Nick Cavanagh ’04, Alanna Soli Cavanagh ’04, Sarah Soli Shipley ’09, and Chris Shipley are opening Movement Brewing Company this summer.
Clay Botkin ’06, ’14 and Ashley West Botkin ’05, ’14 celebrated their 10-year wedding anniversary in April. Clay is a management consultant, and Ashley is a director of corporate strategy. They live in Huntington Beach with their two children, Jack (4) and Weston (1).

Kristen Dowling ’06 is the women’s head basketball coach at Pepperdine University.

Elizabeth Emmons Ortiz ’06 is proud of her husband, who is a major in the U.S. Marine Corps and will be promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel this year. He also has been accepted into a Ph.D. program in Monterey, California, starting in May. They have two beautiful kids, Alexander (5) and Emma (3).

Tim Westmyer ’06 and his wife, Jennifer, welcomed their first child, Adam, as a Leap Day baby on Feb. 29 in Alexandria, Virginia. The Bulldog pup is looking forward to visiting Redlands later this year.

Amir Zamanian ’06 recently took a position as the director of strategic accounts at Attentive in the Bay Area.

Halle Resch Amaral ’08 and mom Jennifer Silvestri ’12 celebrated Mother’s Day in 2019 with baby Lia, daughter of Halle and Flavio Amaral.

Jenna Shaffer Stewart ’09 and husband Travis welcomed son Evander on Dec. 25, 2019.

Christina Barber Schmidt ’11 married Ambrose Schmidt on Nov. 23, 2019, in the company of their friends and family in the Yarra Valley, just outside their home of Melbourne, Australia.

Karly George Semper ’11 and husband Logan welcomed daughter Karter on Sept. 8, 2019.

Erica Antonia ’13 married Alex Doyle on March 7 with her Alpha Xi Omicron sisters in attendance, including Aracely Mendez ’13, Isabel Moreno ’13, Ivy Ortega ’14, Brieanna Pantele ’13, Marymar Ramirez ’14, Laurie Resendiz ’13, Dulce Rojas ’13, Heather Sanchez ’13, and Shelly Velez ’14.

Marie Kenna ’13 married Zack Dixon on Nov. 16, 2019, in Columbus, Ohio.

Peter Kinney ’13 returned home from his first race with the United States SailGP team, earning a fifth-place finish at the Sydney event. Peter and the U.S. team now turn their sites to San Francisco, where they will compete in the second event of the SailGP season, looking to improve on their efforts in Australia. Peter is a grinder and will be critical in the team’s effort to reach sailing glory and take home the $1 million prize. He has been chasing down records in some of the fastest boats for more than seven years. A veteran of the offshore racing scene in Southern California, Peter holds the Pacific Cup and San Diego to Puerto Vallarta records set onboard the behemoth Rio100 maxi racing program, the same year he won the Melges 32 World Championship onboard Volpe.

Omar Ávila ’14 and his fiancé, Stephanie Ferro, welcomed their baby boy, Omar De Jesus Ávila Jr., on Sept. 9, 2019.
Isaak Berliner ‘14 proposed to Allie Dearie on Aug. 9, 2019, at the Ponte dell’Accademia in Venice. Their expected wedding date is Sept. 18, 2021.

Tori Roach Day ‘14 and Danny Day ‘12 welcomed son Desmond Day in August 2019. He joins big sister Payton, who is 2 years old.

Hannah DeWitt ‘14 earned her Master of Arts in early modern literature, text and transmission, from Kings College London. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Edinburgh.

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Lily Diaz ‘14 was engaged to Alexander York on top of Mount Tanigawadake, Japan, on Feb. 17.

Tasha Greenberg ‘14 married Derek Jimenez on April 4 with friends and family in virtual attendance, including Isabel Boker ‘14, Francesca Grater ‘14, Colleen Mahoney ‘14, Alyssa Stinson ‘14, and Kate Van Vuren ‘15.

Max Hardman ‘14 and Hannah Ashton ‘15 were engaged on Sept. 26, 2019, at their home in Solana Beach, California. He proposed right before their flight to Salzburg, Austria, seven years after they both studied there together in fall 2012. Max and Hannah were neighbors in Williams Hall during their first year at Redlands in 2010, which is where their story began.

Ashley Keller ‘14 graduated from American University with a master’s in public administration and policy in May 2019. In October 2019, she started her first full-time job with the City of Vista in the recreation and community service department as a recreation leader.

Tommy Leander ‘14 and Faith Vander Voort were engaged in London over the Thanksgiving holiday. Tommy is on the federal team for Lyft in Washington, D.C., where he manages tax and labor policy. Faith is the deputy director of congressional and legislative affairs for the Department of the Interior. They will be married at the Rollins Mansion in Iowa in April 2021.

Keaton Lynn ‘14 just published his first book, InnerChallenge: 52 Weeks to a Better You, which can be found on Amazon.

Erin Meyering ‘14 earned her MBA in 2018 and currently serves as the president for the Great Basin Community Food Co-Op in Reno, Nevada.

Nancy Navas ‘14 earned her master’s degree in sport management from the University of San Francisco in 2017. She was recently promoted to partnership marketing manager at Monster Energy headquarters, where she started as an intern. Since graduating, she has traveled to South Africa, London, Paris, and Thailand. Every other month, she volunteers at an orphanage called City of Angeles in Tijuana, Mexico. Anyone interested in volunteering may connect with Nancy.

Rachel Phillips ‘14 and Jake Lee ‘14 met in Merriam Hall at the beginning of their first year at Redlands. They became best friends that year and, as their Merriam friends predicted, they started dating during their sophomore year. Eight years later, in October 2019, Jake surprised Rachel with a beautiful romantic proposal at her favorite place, Hermosa Beach. Several Redlands friends, childhood friends, and family were there to witness and celebrate the proposal. Their wedding date is scheduled in June. The U of R brought Jake and Rachel, two people who were destined for one another, together. They are truly Bulldogs for Life!
Isaak Berliner ’14 proposes to Allie Dearie on Aug. 19, 2019, at the Ponte dell’Accademia in Venice.

Tasha Greenberg ’14 marries Derek Jimenez on April 4 with friends and family in virtual attendance.

Atop Japan’s Mount Tanigawadake, Lily Diaz ’14 is engaged to Alexander York on Feb. 17.

Tommy Leander ’14 proposes to Faith Vander Voort in London over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Max Hardman ’14 proposes to Hannah Ashton ’15 right before their flight to Salzburg, Austria, seven years after they both studied there in fall 2012.

Jakub Kukla ’14 completes plein-air painting in Colombia with a young lad he met on a trout farm.

Hannah DeWitt ’14 is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Edinburgh.

Tori Roach Day ’14 and Danny Day ’12 pose with their Bulldog pups, Desmond and Payton.
Like so many, Stephanie Bruce never could have imagined what she ended up doing this spring—in her case, on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic response helping families feed their children.

“We distributed 132,000 meals yesterday,” says Bruce during a phone interview last April. “We didn’t realize how easy normal was until normal got turned upside down.”

A School of Business MBA graduate who still stays in touch with her professors and “great connections and great friends” from the University of Redlands, Bruce has served as the director of nutrition services for the Palm Springs Unified School District for seven years. Her department normally provides breakfast, lunch, and supper daily to students at 27 school sites, about 21,000 meals a day, when school is in session. For more than two months, she and her staff have literally transplanted their food services operation from the cafeteria to the curb at 12 locations to continue feeding the district’s students. While schools closed in mid-March to stem the spread of the virus, kids were still in need of nutritional support.

“Any of our students who are 18 and under may get a week’s worth of meals on Wednesdays,” says Bruce of the district’s food distribution program, which spans Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Palm Springs, Thousand Palms, and a portion of Rancho Mirage. “We are going to continue to do this until the students go back to school.”

In the first week of the program, Bruce’s staff was distributing breakfast and lunch daily—which totaled 29,000 meals on the fifth day. They quickly realized it was safer and more efficient to distribute a week’s worth of food, 10 meals per student, on a single day. “We are now operating more like a food bank,” she says.

The program is similar to the district’s summer meal program, except now only adults may drive-up to the site for pick up, and there are strict protocols for handling (for example, one staff member may touch a car door or trunk lid while another sets the box in the car), as well as for social distancing, wearing masks and gloves, and constant surface sanitizing and hand washing.

“We work with food normally, so we always have strict sanitation policies,” says Bruce. “But we’re doing everything we can to protect the community and ourselves right now.”

Despite the region’s reputation as a resort destination, the year-round population’s income is below average, with about 90 percent of students qualifying for the free and reduced-fee meal program. Now, with so many parents out of work, Bruce says, “I’m serving about 130 percent of the meals I was serving when school was in session. Most other school districts are serving 30 percent.”

Bruce’s staff have received lots of thanks for being among today’s front-line heroes, and she is hoping the appreciation for the program’s nutrition staff, custodians, and bus drivers will be long-lasting. OT
2017  
Noemi Avila '17 welcomed son Noe on June 9, 2019.
Logan Taylor Purvis '17 received a master’s in public policy from the University of California, Riverside. She graduated as a dean’s student ambassador, a nominated policy fellow for Imagine H2O, and a member of the UC Water Academy’s second cohort in June 2019, with a degree in environmental and resource policy. In January, Logan was published by Elsevier in their water security journal.

Johnston

2005  
Heather Horn Vasquez '05 and husband Osokwe welcomed son Asher-James in June 2019.

2008  
Iyan Barrera-Sandri '08, '15 eloped with Christian Barrera-Sandri during the coronavirus pandemic in between Iyan assisting Redlands professors with transitioning to online learning. Krystal Roberts '09, '14 provided witness (bridal warrior) and Kat Reyes Marsaro '08 provided background art. Mr. and Mr. Barrera-Sandri plan to have a ceremony and reception at the Alumni House.

2014  
Jakub Kukla '14 has lived in the Czech Republic, China, and Mexico doing exactly what he studied in Johnston. Jakub has been connecting with people through music, language, and art, which has been his primary focus for several years. Recently, he was fortunate enough to travel around Colombia for his brother’s bachelor party (unfortunately the wedding had to be postponed). While there, he did lots of plein-air painting, but a highlight was the opportunity to paint with Ivan, a young lad he met on a trout farm after a hike to a waterfall. Jakub is in the process of applying to a master’s in fine art program in China, which would require him to complete a one-year, Mandarin-intensive language course. His goal is to gain fluency by 2023 and paint as much as possible in the meantime. If you are interested in following Jakub on his journeys, you can sign up for his newsletter on his website, www.jakubkukla.com.

Schools of Business and Education

1988  
Bruce Kline '88 retired from Vons grocery after 41 years. He and his wife, Susan, plan to travel and visit family.

1995  
Janice Miller '95 is the managing partner of Berke Miller Law Group, which was rebranded Miller Haga Law Group, LLP in January. The firm is located in Calabasas, California.

1998  
Jonathan Jarboe ‘98 was elected the president of the Baptist Foundation of California. He has been employed with the foundation since July 2019.

2000  
Jason Blanchard '00 recently left the Republic of Malawi in Africa, where he was responsible for the management of three hospitals and 20 clinics.

2010  
Nathan Goodly '10 is a program specialist within the alternative education division of the Orange County Department of Education. Nathan is also an adjunct professor at California State University, Dominguez Hills.

2019  
Ramin Milani ‘19 will take part in a state and federal exam to become a skilled nursing facility (SNF) administrator in the fourth quarter of 2020. He considers it a privilege to help University of Redlands alumni and students who are interested in becoming SNF professionals.

Class Notes for alumni of the Graduate School of Theology, home of San Francisco Theological Seminary, will be listed in Chimes magazine, which will be distributed later this summer.
Kirsten Clark Stathes works in the emergency room at Redlands Community Hospital. When she arrives home from her shift each day, she immediately removes her scrubs, puts them in the washing machine, and takes a shower. “I’m always cautious and sterilize everything when I get home,” she says. This routine is just one of the many new “norms”—both large and small—that have become an integral part of her life.

A physician assistant for nearly 20 years, Stathes is no stranger to long days. In the past few months, however, caring for COVID-19 patients has intensified her duties. Still, she says “the biggest hardship is on the home front,” as she fears bringing the virus home to her husband and 6-year-old daughter.

Stathes, a Redlands native, graduated from U of R in 1997 with a degree in biology and a minor in Spanish. As part of a genuine Bulldog-for-Life family—“we are all Redlands through and through,” she says—the months serving on the pandemic’s front lines have kept Stathes away from her extended family, including her dad, Ron Clark, who earned a history degree at U of R in 1969; her mom, Donna Clark, who worked at the University for 30 years; and her sister, Kelli Clark Granillo ’03, who earned a master’s in communicative disorders. Stathes’ husband, Tom Stathes, also earned a bachelor’s in history at U of R in 2000.

While she misses her family’s weekly “Taco Tuesdays,” Stathes is grateful she is able to serve others in need during a time of great crisis. The changes within the emergency room have been both demanding and educational.

“As cases increased in the Inland Empire, we had to convert several rooms into negative-pressure rooms, which made our ER look less like a peaceful setting intended for healing and more like a construction zone,” says Stathes. “I began seeing fear in the eyes of the providers and staff as we kept dealing with the unknown. The fear is not understanding the illness, and that’s scary. I have never experienced anything like this in my medical career.”

With experience comes confidence, however. One challenge has been keeping up with the continuous flow of information from medical experts and health agencies about best practices, changes in policies, and potential treatments, she says. “It’s like going back to school because you want to be sure you have the latest and most current information, and you want to do your best for each patient.”

She’s also grateful to the community for the outpouring of support for those who work in health care. “The crisis has brought light to the important roles in our hospital,” she adds, pointing out that vital personnel includes not just medical professionals but also administration, ancillary staff, and custodial crews. Stathes, who also works per diem at the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center’s emergency room, credits both hospitals with providing its workers with plenty of personal protective equipment.

The ER is constantly fast-paced and impacted, she says, but Stathes and her colleagues hope they have turned a corner. “Yesterday’s shift was almost normal, and I’m feeling better now because I’m more comfortable with the new norm.”

If you are among the Bulldog alumni serving on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic like Stathes, email ochtamale@redlands.edu and tell us your story.
The Alumni Association Board of Directors is proud to recognize six University of Redlands alumni through its annual awards program. These worthy Bulldog recipients were to be publicly recognized during this year’s Alumni Reunion Weekend, which was regrettably canceled due to COVID-19. Their outstanding contributions to service, leadership, and their professions will instead be honored at the Alumni Reunion Weekend in May 2021.

Don Ruh ’54 will be presented with the Community Service Award, recognizing exceptional service to the community on a local, national, and international level. Retired since 1994, Ruh was a math instructor at Mount San Antonio College. He was also coach and director of the school’s track and field team, a role in which he has received international acclaim. He is a longtime volunteer for track and field and cross-country invitational events, including those at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. The LA84 Foundation was created following these games and is an organization for which Ruh continues to volunteer. He is a charter member of the Walnut Valley Kiwanis Club, has served on his class reunion committee, and volunteers as a Class Notes reporter.

Normajean Hinders ’65 will be recognized with the Distinguished Service Award. Hinders is a former teacher, counselor, author, church elder, and retired marriage and family therapist, and continues to demonstrate a high level of commitment and service to her alma mater. As past president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, she has served on the University’s Board of Trustees. She has also volunteered with Bulldogs in Service and her class reunions.

The “R” Award will be presented to Scott Lacy ’90 for outstanding service that brings honor to the University. Since 2001, Lacy has organized numerous hikes to maintain the historic “R” by clearing non-native brush and shrubs so the “R” remains defined and visible within the San Bernardino Mountains. Over the past two decades, he has led nearly 500 individuals—including alumni, students, staff, and community members—on these hikes, ensuring volunteers have water, snacks, gardening tools, and cameras. During the University’s Centennial Celebration, he researched and installed lights around the “R” to honor the occasion.

Randy Kaufman ’86 was named as a recipient for the “R” Award in 2019 but will be honored in May 2021 since he was unable to accept the award last year. Col. Kaufman’s outstanding service to his country as a decorated Air Force pilot, instructor, expert, and leader culminated with the honor of assuming a professorship of air and space studies. Before his retirement, he flew B-1 combat missions in Iraq, graduated from the U.S. Air Force Weapons School, earned two master’s degrees (national security and decision making, as well as airpower art and science), and has received many government awards.

Coralie Lampiasi Prince ’65 will be recognized with the Alumni Career Achievement Award for extraordinary career achievement and leadership in her field. Prince has devoted her life to many aspects of music, playing instruments, teaching, managing, performing, and volunteering. Her commitment to the field of music started in her youth, and Prince’s involvement has garnered many accolades in the worlds of music and education, including the 2007 California Music Educators Association’s Outstanding Music Educator of the Year Award.

Catarino Arias ’99, ’06 will be presented with the Impact Award in recognition of his outstanding career achievement and potential for greater success in years to come. Arias exhibited leadership during his undergraduate years at the U of R, serving as Associated Students of the University of Redlands (ASUR) president and contributing to student diversity and civic efforts. He obtained a master’s in public administration from California State University at Northridge and now serves as director of translations for the Los Angeles Unified School District. In this role, Arias provides means of communication for non-English speakers, leads initiatives supporting low-income families and promoting parent education, and acts as a liaison between families and the district.
ALUMNI NEWS

Passings

We are deeply saddened by the loss of all the University of Redlands community members listed here and would like to acknowledge among this group the unexpected death of some who were afflicted by the coronavirus. Their names are included in this section with other alumni and friends whose memories we wish to honor. Please know that we share our deepest condolences with loved ones.

—Tamara Michel Josserand, vice president for advancement

The College

Lynward Johnson ’38, March 3. Family members include daughter Carolyn Johnson Snyder ’64.

Gladys Gray Brannum ’41, Jan. 9. Family members include daughter Sheila Brannum Tedone ’75.

Thelma Thomas Royer-Cartwright ’41, Jan. 24, 2019

Kathleen Cook Gray ’47, Jan. 4

Harvey Root ’48, June 5, 2019

Lois Clay Campbell ’51, Jan. 15

Betty Boysen Hoff ’51, Feb. 8

Jack Aplin ’53, Jan. 20. Family members include sons Thomas Aplin ’82 and Reese Aplin ’90.

Chuck Hubbs ’53, Jan. 23

Bill Baker ’54, March 2

Jeanette Johnson Henderson ’54, Feb. 12. Family members include daughters Jeanne Henderson Carino ’86 and Joni Henderson ’90.

Anne Hollenberg Derfer ’55, Dec. 9, 2019. Family members include brother Lee Hollenberg ’49.

Dick Avery ’56, March 15

Verna Billard Grendyke ’56, Jan. 23

Emily Barrett Baker ’58, Jan. 8

Diane Cottrell Tompkins ’58, Jan. 2

Jim Cunningham ’61, Feb. 19, 2019

Joel Vandezande ’61, Jan. 8. Family members include wife Marjorie Potier Vandezande ’63.

Gayle Wirz ’61, Feb. 22

Doug Detweiler ’62, Nov. 12, 2019

Kenneth Roberts ’64, Jan. 24

Jackie Bonfiglio Fortier ’65, Jan. 18

Beth Green Abbott ’68, Jan. 25. Family members include husband Don Abbott ’69.

Sue Reynolds McElvany ’69, Dec. 23, 2019. Family members include husband Kenneth McElvany ’69.

Ellen Nasello French ’72, March 2

Robert Kelch ’73, Feb. 4

Bruce Smith ’74, Dec. 27, 2019. Family members include sister Karla Smith ’79.

Griffith Gerrard ’91, Feb. 5. Family members include father James Gerrard ’72.

André Wilson ’07, Apr. 22, 2019

Jeff Ghazarian ’08, March 19

Jacob Green ’20, Nov. 20, 2019 (see page 18)

Tyler Jacobson ’20, March 15

Schools of Business and Education

Nicholas Comitas ’73, Feb. 22

Marilyn Sowinski ’77, March 30

Barbara Rudnicki ’78, Feb. 29

Catherine Ewoldt ’81, Feb. 13

Robert Shirey ’83, Feb. 21

Louis Yankey ’83, March 13

Anita Burnett ’86, Dec. 31, 2019

Swanna Blaue ’88, Feb. 17

John Alexander ’90, Jan. 8

Nick Mendoza ’93, Oct. 13, 2019

Patricia Dasse ’94, Jan. 29

Sally Cawthon ’97, Feb. 29

Friends

Joyce Bender, Nov. 1, 2019.

Morton Bender, March 30, 2019. The Benders established an endowed scholarship and lectureship series in memory of their son, Douglas Bender ’76.


In memoriam

Ralph Angel, the Edith R. White Distinguished Professor of English and Creative Writing, passed away March 6 following a brief illness. He was 68.

A world-renowned author, his profoundly lyrical books of poetry and published poems received countless awards, including a PEN USA Award, a Pushcart Prize, a Gertrude Stein Award, a Fulbright Foundation fellowship, and more. He once said, “Poetry is the language for which we have no language.” He taught at the University of Redlands for 39 years and was concurrently a member of the MFA in Writing faculty at Vermont College of Fine Arts. Angel was an inspiration and mentor to students and colleagues alike. A lover of literature, nature, art, and music, he was a deeply spiritual soul and generous friend. His love for his family and his Sephardic heritage was of utmost importance to him. He was admired for his passion for life, his legendary sense of humor, and the many stories he shared of his extensive travels and life adventures. He is survived by his wife, Mary Angel, who was by his side when he passed; sisters Joanne Angel and Vicki Rosellini (and husband Albert); nieces Courtney Mahoney (and husband Brendan) and Cameron Rosellini; nephews Stanford (and fiancée Caitlin) and Barrymore Rosellini (and wife Kerry); great-niece Avery Mahoney and great-nephew William Mahoney.

For more information, see article in the Bulldog Blog at www.redlands.edu/ochtamale/ralphangel.

Agnes Moreland Jackson ’52, ’97, passed away on April 8 after a long illness.

Jackson, a Distinguished Professor Emerita of English and Black Studies at Pitzer College, was a member of the University of Redlands Alumni Association Board of Directors from 1998 to 2001. As a Redlands student, she majored in English and was involved with student government, SPURS, and La Letra yearbook. She served on her class reunion committee and with the Redlands Admissions Assistance Program. She went on to earn a master’s degree from the University of Washington and a Ph.D. from Columbia University. She received an honorary doctorate from U of R in 1997.

A social justice community advocate and community leader, Jackson served as a Pomona Unified School District Trustee for eight years. A resident of Pomona for more than 50 years, she was a charter member of the

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Frances Ella Peckham Verdieck, Distinguished
Rev. Harold Andrew Jackson Jr., predeceased
Sigma Theta Sorority. Her husband of 56 years,
Pomona Valley Alumnae Chapter of the Delta
University of Redlands Faculty Wives Club
and the University Club. In 1980, she received
an appreciation award by the University of
Redlands’ National Alumni Association in
recognition of her leadership.
Verdieck’s passion in life was tennis; she
played for 70 years. While at Colton Union
High School, she was the No. 1 singles
player for four years. She taught tennis at the
YWCA and was chair of the Racquet Club’s
U.S. Tennis Association Junior Sanctioned
Tournaments. In 1970, she was named
Mrs. Tennis by the Redlands Racquet Club.
Throughout the Verdiecks’ marriage, they
traveled to many foreign countries to conduct
tennis clinics and attended many professional
tournaments, including Wimbledon, Queens,
the U.S. Open, and the French Open.
She was predeceased by her husband and
her daughter, Debbie Macomber. She is
survived by her children and their spouses,
Christine and Jay Sholes, Doug and Juli
Verdieck, and Randy and Kristin Verdieck;
her son-in-law, Jeffrey Macomber; her
 grandchildren, Tandi, Trista, Casey, Matthew,
Abigail, Clara, Ruby, Chloe, Charlee, Noah,
Tucker, Dutch, Cooper, Charlotte, Mariano,
and Madden.

Bettimae Lagather Sherman, Distinguished
Professor Emerita of Physical Education,
passed away on Feb. 27. She was 87.
Sherman joined the University of Redlands
in 1958. She was one of the first women on
the athletics staff and was highly respected among
her colleagues and student-athletes. She taught
aerobics to the senior visitors from the not-for-
profit organization Elderhostel (now known as Road Scholar). She was also a founding
member of the University of Redlands Faculty
Club. She retired from teaching after 24 years
in 1982.
Sherman was an avid golfer and an active
member of the Redlands Women’s Golf
Association at Redlands Country Club for
many years. She also loved to ski and travel.
She served as a trustee and docent of historical
landmark Kimberly Crest House and Gardens
for 12 years and was a member of the April
Morning Club.
Sherman married Ken Sherman (who
served as the UI of R men’s golf coach from
1990-1995) in 1952 after graduating from the
Bemidji State University in Minnesota
with a degree in physical education and music.
The couple enjoyed 58 years together before
his death in 2010. Their son, Michael Scott,
predeceased them in 1977.
Sherman is survived by a sisterhood of pals:
locals Cindy Andrews, Jo Dierdorff, Jennie
Gaylord, Natalie Kille, Monika Krebs, and
Dawn Romo; her former colleague, Kathy
Mohn; and her childhood friend, Marguerite
Kause of Vienna, Virginia.

Frances Ella Peckham Verdieck, the UI of R
women’s tennis varsity team coach from 1970
to 1973, died on Feb. 8. She was 98.
Verdieck was best known as “Fepie,” a
nickname given by her high school sweetheart
and later husband Jim Verdieck, a celebrated
football and tennis coach at the University of
Redlands. She earned a bachelor’s degree in
physical education at Occidental College
and married Jim during her senior year.
She then served as a counselor and physical
education teacher at Chloe P. Canfield School
for Girls. She was twice president of the
University of Redlands Faculty Wives Club
and the University Club. In 1980, she received
an appreciation award by the University of
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Verdieck, and Randy and Kristin Verdieck;
her son-in-law, Jeffrey Macomber; her
 grandchildren, Tandi, Trista, Casey, Matthew,
Abigail, Clara, Ruby, Chloe, Charlee, Noah,
Tucker, Dutch, Cooper, Charlotte, Mariano,
and Madden.

Tony Pejsa ’59 died on Feb. 1 from
complications following a stroke. He was 82.
From his childhood in La Cañada Flintridge,
California, Pejsa was a talented basketball
athlete. Following Muir High School, he entered the University of Redlands and played the
sport he loved. Pejsa achieved first team
All-League honors in his senior year at the
UI of R and was a member of fraternity Kappa
Sigma Sigma. He also met Ann Cornwell
Pejsa ’61 at Redlands (although they had
attended the same middle school), and they
were married for 58 years.
After graduating with a degree in
economics, Pejsa and his Redlands
roommates, Bill Haun ’59, Jim Smith ’59, and
Ron Johnson ’59, enjoyed a three-month “trip
of a lifetime” through Europe on their Vespa;
they remained lifelong friends. Pejsa went to
work at the family business, Champion Brass,
a sprinkler and valve manufacturer. Although
he originally wanted a coaching career, he
remained with Champion for 31 years. He
worked in sales, finance, and manufacturing
before being named CEO; he retired in
1997. An avid golfer and deep-sea fisher, he
played 15 consecutive years in the Bob Hope
Classic Pro-Am Tour and entered fishing
tournaments in Hawaii and Cabo San Lucas.
After his retirement, he enjoyed life in Santa
Ynez planting trees and showing Arabian and
Quarter horses throughout California. Pejsa
was a lifelong supporter of his alma mater and
generously contributed to the Campaign for
Bulldog Athletics and his beloved sport
of basketball.
Pejsa is survived by his wife, Ann;
their children, Brett and Kerry; and their
five grandchildren, Faith (23), Forest (19),
Steve (20), Christopher (19), and
Elizabeth (16). The family is proud of its
distinguished three-generation Redlands legacy, with
Let us celebrate you

When I retired after 40 years in active ministry, being a Class Notes Reporter was a small way I could give back to the University that gave so much to me. It has been a wonderful way to reconnect with classmates, lifting up their accomplishments and special life events. I came to Redlands as a first-generation college student because of its excellent reputation and was given a much-needed scholarship. The small classroom instruction offered me an excellent education, and, more importantly, gave me the tools to become a lifelong learner and world citizen. I was a freshman the year that Crawford Endowed Professor of Religion Bill Huntley joined the faculty, and he made a meaningful impact on my life. I developed other lifelong relationships through the Salzburg Semester program and Alpha Gamma Nu fraternity. I can’t begin to tell you how many weddings of fellow alumni and their adult children I have performed over the years; a smile of gratitude washes over me every time I do. Most of all, I’m grateful to Redlands because that is where I met my wife, Debbie Sauder David ’78, nearly 50 years ago.

—David David ’78

CLASS NOTES REPORTERS

To volunteer as a class notes reporter or to send contact information updates, please contact ochtamale@redlands.edu.
Oh, the places you'll go

By Laura Gallardo ’03

As a young girl, Ann Halligan ’76 was drawn to aerospace by watching the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo missions on a black-and-white television from her childhood home in San Gabriel, California.

“My mother said it was history in the making,” remembers Halligan, who graduated from University of Redlands with a degree in political science and history. She later earned her master’s in public administration from the University of Southern California and became a Presidential Management Intern, a highly selective U.S. government leadership development program.

Halligan’s 30-year career focused on government contracting, which brought together her interest in political science and fascination with aerospace. While serving with the United Space Alliance, she led negotiations for the 10-year, $6.9 billion Space Flight Operations contract, the largest authorized by NASA at the Johnson Space Center at that time. Halligan spent 15 years with Boeing Corporation’s space exploration business division, where she provided contract oversight for the international space station and space flight operations.

She credits her Redlands education as key to her success in this niche field. Recalling Professor Henry Dittmar’s history classes, she says, “Two of my biggest takeaways were learning to think analytically and write cohesively, and that foundational experience served me well.”

At the U of R, Halligan also attended the Salzburg Semester in spring 1974, which she describes as “an eye-opening experience.” A descendant of Irish immigrants, Halligan connected with her cousin, Sheila, in Dublin, who served as a conduit to other family members. Halligan’s still-vivid memories from this semester include seeing works from the Italian Renaissance, visiting the Eastern Block and Auschwitz, and going to Paris on her 20th birthday. Inspired by these first experiences abroad, Halligan has now traveled to all seven continents; some of these trips have been with Delta Kappa Psi sorority sisters, organized by travel agent Susan Cook Lynch ’76.

Other ways in which Halligan has maintained a strong connection to her alma mater include serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, on the Salzburg Campaign Committee, and as commencement speaker. Halligan also has included the University as a beneficiary of her retirement account, including provisions for the Salzburg Semester and general operating expenses.

“Supporting the general fund is always critical, and, because of Salzburg, I am richer in the way in which I look at the world,” says Halligan, whose nephew, Steven Halligan ’09, and his wife, Aimee Roach Halligan ’09, are also Redlands alumni. “I wanted to recognize the University for the tremendous experiences and education I received, which provided a solid foundation for my professional career.”

For information on how you can include the University as a beneficiary of your retirement account like Halligan has, please contact Katie Cure, director of planned giving, at 909-748-8905 or katie_cure@redlands.edu.
Hearing the call for action

As we go to press with this issue, we confront the aftermath of the death of George Floyd and the impact of the Black Lives Matter movement, heightened awareness of racial disparities, and a groundswell of demands for change. Look to www.redlands.edu/alumni for discussions and interviews; www.redlands.edu/racialequityresources for tools, resources, and statements; and the Bulldog Blog (www.redlands.edu/bulldogblog) and the next issue of this magazine for articles on these topics.

—The Och Tamale editorial team