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ABOUT THE COVER: Los Angeles and the greater Southern California region is an exciting playground and laboratory for Whittier College faculty and students.
**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**HELLO FELLOW POETS!!**

I first want to thank you for sending me the summer issue of the Rock. I really enjoyed it. I attended Whittier from 1975-1979. I was a president of the Sachsen Society and an honorable mention All-American soccer player. I don’t want to burst anybody’s bubble but there was an error that really ruffled my feathers in the last paragraph on page 34 (The Big Game) and told that I would be one of the few invited back to meet the President. Now, I was excited.

I’m not certain what led to my selection, but I do know that Whittier’s current successes in contributing to national goals to increase both college graduation and graduates’ entry into careers in science and math are known and respected by White House officials. And after all, Whittier had just received an invitation to the event because of its determination to succeed through expanding our curriculum in allied health, renovating and upgrading our science facilities, educating more budding scientists and science teachers, and partnering with schools in our community to encourage more young people to go to college.

The cover story of this issue, Working in Our Own Backyard, is another prime example of why Whittier College is being noticed on a national level. Our students are partaking in the best liberal arts curriculum nationwide and have the opportunity to learn—both in and out of the classroom—from excellent faculty like Cheryl Swift, Julie Collins-Dogru, Bill Kronholm, Irvina Soto-Hinman, and Natale Zappia. These professors engage students by sharing their research and using Southern California as a lab and playground. Along the way, students become better critical thinkers, scholars, and engaged global citizens.

These and many other of our successes I would have relished in sharing with President Obama. At the end of the day, my moment with the nation’s leader was a brief one. I was only able to thank him for the invitation and pose for my photo op. Yet, had I just another minute with him, I would have confidently told him that had he attended Whittier, he never would have transferred to Columbia.

Go Poets!

Sharon D. Herzberger
President

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**THE ROCK**

**THE MAGAZINE OF WHITTIER COLLEGE**

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STUDY ABROAD CELEBRATES 55TH ANNIVERSARY
EDUCATING ENGAGED GLOBAL CITIZENS

Studying abroad is not a recent idea. Ancient civilizations sent out their young people to investigate neighboring lands and peoples with the intention of having those scouts return to inform leaders about other traditions, farming and hunting techniques, military might, and governing structures. In the 21st century, young people continue to travel outside their borders to learn first-hand about foreign cultures. For the last five decades at Whittier College, students have been encouraged to be more than simple observers on these travels, but rather to engage in active learning and critical examination of diverse cultures and people. Leading the charge is the Office of International Programs (OIP), which aims to prepare students for a global society and evolving workplace by harnessing this outlook to build their own global citizenship.

OIP has recently launched another program to encourage more Whittier students to consider international studies. The Global Poet Ambassadors Program recruits current students who have studied abroad to serve as representatives of the program, and promote it among their peers. The goal is to help students understand that international study can work for practically any major and has concrete and exponential academic and professional benefits.

Professor Danilo Lozano, one of the first Global Poet Ambassadors, is a great example of this. Lozano, a child development major and aspiring teacher, participated in a month-long teaching practicum in Hong Kong last summer. (Read more about this program on page 7.)

“I had an amazing experience studying abroad and want to make sure other students take advantage of these opportunities,” said Lozano. “I’m thrilled that my teaching practice has become an employment opportunity for me and I will be able to have more experiences abroad in the near future.”

Looking toward the future of international education, Director of OIP Dr. Katie Roller said it would be fantastic for every college student around the world to have the opportunity to study abroad, for the financial resources to be allocated, and for college curriculums to require global mobility. Roller believes this is not out of the question.

“There is growing intellectual and intrinsic support for this kind of movement,” explains Roller. “The success of this model hinges on the collaborative efforts of the students, faculty and study abroad professionals. I would advocate for each college and university major to incorporate a ‘pathway to study abroad’ into the curriculum.”

WHITTIER COLLEGE WELCOMES POET GLOBAL LEADERS
ALUMNI TAKING RISKS AND EXPLORING THE WORLD

Through interdisciplinarily and multicultural studies, faculty-student research opportunities, an exponential approach to international education, and other intense co-curricular activities, a Whittier College education seeks to expand students’ worlds and to develop global citizens and leaders. Alumni across decades have applied this experience to careers in civil and military service, the Peace Corps, NGOs, international corporations, and numerous other fields.

During Whittier Weekend, in celebration of the 55th anniversary of the Office of International Programs, the College hosted a forum, Global Leaders in Service, with alumni panelists who have served abroad and are helping define leadership in our global community.

Panelists included Erin Clancy ’07, U.S. foreign affairs officer; Jeremy Curran ’97, president and CEO of Frontline Distribution; Alex Sheldon ’10, research analyst with the Movement Advancement Project; and Christine Volden Pereira ’95, CEO of Digital Lifestyle Media. Director of International Programs Dr. Katie Roller moderated the panel.

Recently retired Deputy Director of the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation José M. Garzón ’77 participated on the panel via a pre-recorded video.

“If you want to grow as a human being, get out of your comfort zone and study abroad, learn a foreign language, and acquire knowledge about a region, its culture, and people,” advised Garzón, who devoted three decades of his career to promoting democracy, governance, and conflict. “The future belongs to those who can work across borders.”

“Cultivate a mentality of fearless,” added Curran who harnessed this outlook to build his own business from the ground up. Sheldon, who developed an LGBT “Safe Zone” Training Course for the Peace Corps, took a philosophical approach when giving advice to the audience.

“I learned that from [Professor] Fred Bergerson,” said Clancy. “I learned how to debate and how to write. Writing is a critical skill not just to survive through college but also in the real world.”

Volden Pereira added, “The best skill you can have is to be adaptable. That is the best lesson that I learned at Whittier and in the Peace Corps; it came up in every single interview I had.”

FUNDING FUTURE GLOBAL POETS

A GROUP OF GENEROUS ALUMNI has united to help ensure that students continue to experience the incredible opportunities of international education. The Hunter-McBride Study Abroad Fund, named in honor of beloved political science professor Michael “Doc” McBride and former Director of International Programs Katie (Hunter) Perkins ’05, enables deserving Poets the opportunities to expand their world by helping subsidize the costs of international study.

Support international student travel today by making your gift at www.whittier.edu/giveonline.
Fulbright Awardees

Three Alumnae Teaching Across the Globe

Fulbright Program

Established in 1946 by the late U.S. Sen. J. William Fulbright, this is the U.S. government’s international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government. It is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and of other countries.

Recent Whittier College graduates Carlee Shults ’14, Elizabeth Cook ’14, and Amiya Moretta ’14 are spreading their wings across the globe as recipients of highly competitive Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship awards. Each is spending at least 20 hours a week teaching English at their assigned foreign school and conducting side projects.

Shults, a sociology and Whittier Scholars Program (WSP) double major, is serving in the coastal, Eastern European country of Croatia; psychology major Cook was assigned to Mongolia; and Moretta, a WSP major, is in Sri Lanka.

As the former president of the Urban Agriculture Club, Shults is using her gardening skills to create a food forest with her students in tandem with her teaching responsibilities. She hopes that the food forest, which is a form of native habitat rehabilitation through edible gardening, will give her and her students an opportunity to explore cross-cultural connections through local agriculture and food.

“I have never been to Eastern Europe and greatly look forward to the rich and diverse peoples, foods, and languages I will encounter,” said Shults. “I’m excited to represent the College and the country to the best of my ability, with honesty, compassion and perspective.”

Moretta previously studied in Sri Lanka through the Intercultural Fellows Program and was eager to return to teach English and build upon her prior experience.

“I wanted to go back and immerse myself deeper into the culture,” she said before leaving for her assignment. “I will be teaching English at a Sri Lankan university, with a focus on creative writing as an outlet for self-expression. I am most excited for the cultural exchange and the connections I [hope] to make with the people there.”

Cook previously conducted field study research on the production of tea and its role in society in Nairobi, Kenya. She decided to apply to Mongolia after seeing a fascinating exhibit of the diverse country during a field trip to the Annenberg Museum led by psychology professor Christina Scott.

“I feel like I have been given a gift and I intend to make the most of every opportunity,” said Cook. “The professors [at Whittier College] made it possible through their diligent instruction. They made me hungry to learn more.”

Moretta agrees. “I had a ton of support from many professors, such as Professor Jake Carbine who encouraged me to challenge my comfort zone by doing the Intercultural Program; [Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow] Michaela Chilcutt who guided and encouraged me in my last semester of college to pursue a career as a writer; and of course, Director of Fellowships Rosemary Cushine, who helped me through the whole fellowship process. I also enjoyed my poetry class with Professor Tony Burnette who was a joy to be in class with and a great source of guidance and encouragement.”

“Whittier College made it possible to do it all,” Shults said, “so I feel prepared to conquer whatever lies ahead. I know that I have been offered every resource to succeed, and I have a powerful network of mentors and friends to guide me.”

POETS TEACH IN CHINA

Cross-cultural Experiences for Promising Educators

Recent graduates Carolyn Heewonnerang ’14 and Elin Eulberg ’14, as well as Keilie Kaulana Quinquis ’15, Madilyn Stanley ’15, Tiffany Thai ’15, and Rebecca Robinson ’15 spent a month at a teaching practicum in Hong Kong last summer.

The group participated in pair-teaching at three different preschools operated by Victoria Educational Organization (VOE).

“Having been selected through a competitive application process, the students enrolled in the course, ‘Early Childhood Practicum in Hong Kong,’ for the 2014-2015 academic year. The course was co-taught by Professor of Education and Child Development Judith Wagner, director of the Broadoaks School, and Dr. Kate Roland, director of the Office of International Programs.

“During the spring term, students researched early childhood theories, philosophies, and policies in the U.S. and China. Fieldwork was conducted at Broadoaks to provide one example of preschool practices in the U.S. While in Hong Kong, the students maintained an interactive journal to continue their cross-cultural analyses, and completed two collaborative research projects that included a ‘multicultural learning walk’ and a book comparing the early childhood practices in each country. Students also had the opportunity to explore the various neighborhoods in Hong Kong and travel around China.

“The world out there is so much more diverse than I had experienced here in the U.S. I met people in Hong Kong that had experienced different cultural backgrounds and I was able to learn from them,” said Tsui.

With the support of the Office of International Programs, the Hubert Travel Scholarship Fund, sponsored by alumnae Tien Zee ’61, covered the students’ travel expenses. Dr. Maggie Koong L.H.D. ’14, chief principal of VOE, sponsored the students while in Hong Kong—providing housing during their month-long stay, a transportation stipend, and the fee for the practicum.

Koong recently joined the Whittier College Board of Trustees and received an honorary degree from the College in 2014. She is a tireless advocate for young children, especially those who are most vulnerable. Koong is president of OMEP (World Organization for Early Childhood Education), an international, non-governmental, and non-profit organization concerned with all aspects of children’s well-being, rights, and early education. Koong is an KGO representative to the United Nations and is also the current president of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization). She is a former member of the Chinese Government’s Women’s Affairs Association.

“Several students will return to Hong Kong next summer to continue to hone their teaching skills and take advantage of this practical study abroad opportunity.”

Fulbright Scholars Program

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BIOLOGY PROFESSOR RECEIVES FUNDING
DETECTING DANGEROUS AGENTS IN FOOD FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Sylvia Vetrone in the research lab. Masson Blow ’15 assists Professor Sylvia Vetrone.

Detecting Dangerous Agents in Food for Department of Homeland Security

Biology Professor Receives Funding

Evan evgil Alocilja, a $119,000 grant to conduct research on innovative ways to detect biological or chemical agents in food. Vetrone is one of 13 researchers nationwide to receive such funding this year.

“The DHS grant is the second for Vetrone, and will serve to support the continued collaborative efforts between Vetrone and Dr. Evangelina Alocilja from the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering at Michigan State University, who developed the biosensor in 2009. In addition, biology major Mason Blow ’15, will also be supported by this new grant to work on the project as an undergraduate research assistant. Vetrone and Alocilja first began working together on this project in the summer of 2010. After the completion of the validation of the DNA-based biosensor to detect both intentional and unintentional food pathogens within liquid and solid food matrices, they hope to transition the biosensor towards a prototype for commercialization.

“We recently demonstrated that our DNA-based biosensor, which utilizes gold nanoparticles for signal amplification and magnetic nanoparticles for easy and clean separation from samples, can detect the non-PCR (polymerase chain reaction) amplified genomic DNA of the bacterial foodborne pathogens Salmonella,” said Vetrone.

PCR is a commonly used molecular biology tool for amplifying DNA. But, Vetrone’s system does away with the need for this step. “What makes our biosensor really unique is that it does not require DNA amplification. It is also semi-quantitative in nature, which can reveal specific amounts of a detected agent, and it only takes about six hours to achieve detection.”

Currently, all other commercially available DNA-based systems are not quantitative, require DNA amplification, and can take anywhere from 12–72 hours.

Another distinctive element of Vetrone’s DNA-based biosensor is its potential usefulness on the field. Since the testing system does not require a full laboratory, it could easily be used in a field resource-limited setting. Moreover, the samples are inexpensive to run, making it cost-effective.

While the team is using a less toxic agent like Salmonella for this test, the biosensor can be modified to detect bacterium agents such as anthrax, botulism, or E. Coli O157:H7. “Our previous studies demonstrated that the biosensor can detect pathogenic DNA in liquids, the next step is to test its ability in solids,” said Vetrone. “After this work is completed it can then be moved toward prototype development.”

“Thanks to the opportunity from Dr. Vetrone, I’m able to focus on academics, get financial assistance through the grant, and still have time to concentrate on football,” said Blow.

Research at the undergraduate level also teaches students what life as a scientist would be like. “Going to conferences has helped me see what other researchers are doing and where my research fits into the bigger picture of national food defense,” added Blow.

At the same time, Blow’s collaboration with Vetrone is providing him with experience that will advance his career opportunities and the development of critical skills that will serve him well as a professional in any field. “I want to go to graduate school and become a veterinarian of exotic animals at a zoo,” said Blow. “I’ve always loved animals as I’ve raised cattle, pigs and chickens since I was in 5th grade.”

The young biology major has other aspirations as well. “My lifetime goal is to create a documentary about endangered species,” said Blow.

FROM THE LAB TO THE FIELD

SCHOLAR-ATHLETE FOLLOWING HIS ACADEMIC DREAMS

Biology major Mason Blow ’15, from Santa Barbara County, CA has big dreams of becoming a veterinarian. Already, he is well on his way to becoming a scientist thanks to the faculty-student research opportunities on campus.

Undergraduate research has multiple benefits to the student—both personal and professional. It enhances self-confidence, independence, readiness for the faculty-student research opportunities on campus.

Undergraduate research has multiple benefits to the student—both personal and professional. It enhances self-confidence, independence, readiness for the next level of challenge, and ability to tolerate obstacles.

Blow is the undergraduate research assistant for Associate Professor of Biology Sylvia Vetrone and together they are working on innovative ways to detect biological or chemical agents in food funded by a Department of Homeland Security grant.

A transfer student from Allan Hancock College, Blow has lots of responsibilities to juggle as an upperclassman and a linebacker for the Poet football team.

I want to go to graduate school and become a veterinarian of exotic animals at a zoo.”

I want to go to graduate school and become a veterinarian of exotic animals at a zoo.”

AROUND THE ROCK

HANDS ON.

Mason Blow ’15 assists Professor Sylvia Vetrone in the research lab.
Whittier College has received $500,000 from The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation to support the redesign of the new Science and Learning Center (SLC). The SLC project—the largest capital project in the College’s 127-year history—involves a complete renovation of a primary academic building on campus.

Construction on the Center is slated to begin in spring 2015. This grant is the largest award Whittier has received from the Parsons Foundation. The College has now passed the halfway point in fundraising for the SLC. The SLC will house seven departments: biology, chemistry, environmental science, kinesiology and nutrition science, mathematics, physics, and psychology.

The SLC project—the largest capital project in the College’s 127-year history—involves a complete renovation of a primary academic building on campus.

Building on the success of the Whittier Fund for Science and Learning, the Parsons grant will help the College continue advancing in its role as a national leader in providing quality science and liberal arts education to its students. Moreover, as one of the most diverse liberal arts colleges in the nation, the new facility will support the College’s ongoing aim of educating underrepresented and nontraditional students in STEM fields.

When combined with the leadership gifts from members of the Board of Trustees and other individual donors, the College has now passed the halfway point in fundraising for the SLC. The SLC will house seven departments: biology, chemistry, environmental science, kinesiology, and nutrition science, mathematics, physics, and psychology.

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AROUND THE ROCK

Whittier College is the new home for the Institute for Baseball Studies (IBS), the first humanities-based research center of its kind associated with a college or university in the United States. The Institute is a partnership between Panama-based Baseball Reliquary and Whittier College. The Institute, which celebrates its grand opening in January with more than 200 people in attendance, is located on the third floor of Mendenhall building.

The Baseball Reliquary and Whittier College Establish Institute for Baseball Studies

GOD, BASEBALL, AND POETS

BASEBALL RELIQUARY AND WHITTIER COLLEGE ESTABLISH INSTITUTE FOR BASEBALL STUDIES

Whittier College Professor of Religious Studies Joseph L. Price and Terry Cannon, executive director of the Baseball Reliquary, will serve as co-Directors of the Institute. Professor of English Charles Adams and Professor of Political Science Mike McBride will serve as Associate Directors. An Advisory Board will soon be announced.

For more than two decades, the Baseball Reliquary was looking for a partner to house its research archives, we jumped at the opportunity.

The Baseball Reliquary is a nonprofit, educational organization dedicated to fostering an appreciation of American art and culture through the prism of baseball history and exploring the national pastime’s unparalleled creative possibilities.

The Reliquary’s research collection—books, periodicals, papiers collés and distinguished baseball historians and journalists, art works, photography, and a variety of other pertinent material—will form the centerpiece of the IBS. Professor Adams, McBride, and Price donated their own archives of nearly 1,000 baseball books to the Institute.

The goal of the IBS is to foster an intellectual community for creating and supporting interdisciplinary research and studies related to the cultural significance of baseball in American history and to prompt the exchange of ideas, the development of research initiatives, and the creation of public symposia and celebrations highlighting baseball’s significance in our culture.

The Institute is accessible to students, scholars, and the general public. For more information visit: www.whittier.edu/baseball

NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACCOMPLISHED PROFESSIONALS IN EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

JANET [JAR] CAUFFMAN

Cauffman taught school for more than twenty years before working as a book publisher. More recently, Cauffman put together educational programs for teaching geography and American history to elementary school children. She is passionate about education, particularly across for girls and women.

Cauffman and her husband, alumnus John Cauffman ’45, have been dedicated and generous supporters of Whittier College, having attained Poets Laureate status. Recently, they established the Jan Cauffman Fellowship for Innovations in Teaching, and over the years have contributed to several other endowed scholarships and capital projects. They are Poet sports fans and members of Purple & Gold. Cauffman was part of the Poet Council in 2013.

The Cauffmans live in Dana Point, having relocated back to California after many years in Arizona.

DR. MAY KAY (MAGGIE) KOOG L.H.D.’14

Koong is Chief Professor of the Victoria Educational Organization, which provides high quality education from preschool through high school in mainland China and Hong Kong. Koong has long participated in efforts to promote the health, well-being, and education of young children through advocacy and professional development in Hong Kong and throughout Asia.

During her six-year tenure as treasurer of OMEP (World Organization for Early Childhood Education), she helped the organization forge greater visibility for young children in public policies at the local, national, and global levels. She is currently President of WOCMEP and Vice President of OMEC for Asia.

Koong has been appointed to serve on key government committees on education, medical services, equal opportunities, and services for women, children, and youth. She has been regularly invited to share her insights and exemplary practices at numerous international conferences, in the areas of gender awareness in young children, family-school partnership, children’s rights, and bilingual education. Her leadership and contributions to the field of early childhood have been recognized with the 2000 Ten Outstanding Young Persons Award and the 2013 Bronze Bauhinia Star award in Hong Kong.

For many years Koong has supported the Broad Oaks School and, more recently of Whittier’s undergraduate and graduate students. Her newest goal is to attract recent graduates of the College’s credential programs to spend one or two years teaching at one of her schools in Hong Kong or mainland China. She holds a doctorate in education from the University of Durham and was awarded an honorary degree from Whittier in 2014.

ELIZABETH [LIZ] Y. KAY-IM ’89

Kay-Im is NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory’s (JPL) deputy division manager for the mission systems and operations division. She has been at JPL for 25 years, focusing on developing the new generation of science data systems that are scalable and reusable across earth, planetary, and astrophysics missions, reinforcing and expanding JPL’s core competencies in science data collection, processing, analysis, archiving, and distribution.

She has worked on the development of the instrument operation systems and image processing systems for many missions, such as Mars Exploration Rovers, Mars Pathfinder, Cassini, Galileo, Mars Express, and Magellan. Kay-Im advanced through management positions as technical group leader of the image processing system integration and test team, technical supervisor of the instrument product software development group, deputy section manager of the modelling and data management systems section, section manager of the instrument software and science data systems section, and was appointed to her current position in May 2013.

Kay-Im holds a double B.A. in math-computer science and business administration. She was a member of the Asian Student Association and choir. In 2013, Kay-Im served on the Poet Council. She lives in San Marino, California with her husband, Dr. Earlwood Im. The couple has a daughter, Alexandria, and a son, Aaron.

...when we learned two years ago that the Baseball Reliquary was looking for a partner to house its research archives, we jumped at the opportunity.

ELIZABETH [LIZ] Y. KAY-IM ’89

Kay-Im is NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory’s (JPL) deputy division manager for the mission systems and operations division. She has been at JPL for 25 years, focusing on developing the new generation of science data systems that are scalable and reusable across earth, planetary, and astrophysics missions, reinforcing and expanding JPL’s core competencies in science data collection, processing, analysis, archiving, and distribution. She has worked on the development of the instrument operation systems and image processing systems for many missions, such as Mars Exploration Rovers, Mars Pathfinder, Cassini, Galileo, Mars Express, and Magellan. Kay-Im advanced through management positions as technical group leader of the image processing system integration and test team, technical supervisor of the instrument product software development group, deputy section manager of the modelling and data management systems section, section manager of the instrument software and science data systems section, and was appointed to her current position in May 2013.

Kay-Im holds a double B.A. in math-computer science and business administration. She was a member of the Asian Student Association and choir. In 2013, Kay-Im served on the Poet Council. She lives in San Marino, California with her husband, Dr. Earlwood Im. The couple has a daughter, Alexandria, and a son, Aaron.

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Finding the Virtue in Virtual
Digital Media Expert Navigates the Web Frontier

The rapid-growth evolving of digital media has made its way into our lives whether we like it or not. Facebook checking is a daily and sometimes hourly ritual, tweets and hashtags are becoming a main source for headline news, and open forums allow commentary from anyone in the world who has an opinion. Howard Rheingold, a living legend of digital media and this year’s first visiting speaker for the Digital Liberal Arts (DigLibArts) program at Whittier, says that we are only beginning to understand how this evolution is changing the way our world works.

A prolific author and creator of two successful virtual communities, Rheingold has explored different ways in which the Internet can be more humane and useful—goals and interests aligned with those of Whittier’s burgeoning DigLibArts initiative. Rheingold opened his lecture by addressing a common fear: that social virtual phenomenon is both fascinating and frightening. Yet, I believe that how we live our lives online matters, and it is important to improve the quality of the growing virtual world, rather than dismiss it.”

As he puts it, the question really is how can we use digital media to become empowered participants rather than passive receivers: grounded, well-rounded people, rather than “multi-tasking basket cases”?

According to Rheingold, there are five fundamental digital literacies that should be applied so that we can “restore an order and humanity to the wild west of the web.” They are attention, participation, collaboration, network awareness, and crap-detection (critical consumption).

“We now live in a world where the media is made up by the people. If you know how to participate, you can wield power.” We are a participatory culture, he adds; not only consumers, but creators of blogs, web pages, protests, and current circulating literature. But he also cautions that this call for participation is also a call for mindfulness and continuous communication. “We must begin to filter out and put priority on what matters most to us, in order to create a virtual community that works together, and makes the Internet a more beneficial place to navigate and explore.”

“Don’t think about catching up with the technology, think about keeping up with the literature,” he advised at the close of his thought-provoking lecture.

And though this cyber-frontier creates much concern and apprehension for those who grapple with it daily, a tangible hope is found in experts such as Rheingold who can offer clear,ritte, and peace-building. The event was co-hosted with OMEP-Whittier and sang “A Song of Peace.” The event was celebrated at the International Day of Peace on the campus of the Whittier College campus on September 22. Together with Whittier College students and with the goal of promoting peace, the children created a large human chain around the Campus Center Courtyard and sang “A Song of Peace.” The event was co-hosted with OMEP-Whittier College and part of a worldwide celebration dedicated to world peace and the absence of war and violence.

The International Day of Peace was first observed in 1982. In 2001, the UN General Assembly voted unanimously to observe September 21 as an annual day of non-violence, cease-fire, and peace-building. Organizers encourage everyone to commemorate the day through education and public awareness on issues related to peace.

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—from the day she set foot on campus as a first-year student, Vicky Mercado ’14 knew exactly what she wanted to study. And on that same day, she followed her instinct and declared her major in biology.

Four years later, the avid scientist and biomimetic scholar earned two competitive REUs (Research Experience for Undergraduates), grants that would enable her to pursue her interests at a graduate level, further develop her skills in the lab, and explore the challenging and mercurial topic of cell biological processes hands-on.

“Many people look at the relationship between animals and the environment and think on a macroscopic scale,” she says, “but I like getting down to the nitty gritty details about the cells—in the animals and in the plants. So for my REU project, I looked at endoplasmic reticulum and analyzed how different stressors affect the levels of a specific family of anti-apoptotic proteins.”

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And though this cyber-frontier creates much concern and apprehension for those who grapple with it daily, a tangible hope is found in experts such as Rheingold who can offer clear suggestions and guidance. And in the end, a digital world that strives for and enables positive change in our lives seems within reach.

— Hallie Gayle ’15

The Broadoaks Children’s School celebrated the International Day of Peace on the Whittier College campus on September 22. Together with Whittier College students and with the goal of promoting peace, the children created a large human chain around the Campus Center Courtyard and sang “A Song of Peace.” The event was co-hosted with OMEP-Whittier College and part of a worldwide celebration dedicated to world peace and the absence of war and violence.

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FROM CHAOS, ORDER
REU RECIPIENT RELISHES THE “MESS” OF THE SCIENTIFIC PROCESS

REU recipient relishes the “mess” of the scientific process.

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Student Orientation 2014
#WCWelcome

AROUND THE ROCK

ROCK TALK

MADALINE GERHART ’16 talks about her life-changing experience in Argentina with Project Abroad, where she served as an educator to young girls and women.

“TEN MINUTES LATER I [LEARNED] THAT I WOULD BE FLYING TO ARGENTINA IN TWO WEEKS. I FELT THAT I WAS BEING CALLED TO SERVE, AND THAT THIS WAS MEANT TO BE.”

Musician ARMANDO GONZALES ’14 recalls his senior concert with classmate Michael Urquidi ’14, the culmination of their musical study at Whittier.

“I DIDN’T FEEL ANYTHING. IT WAS TIMELESS TO ME, I PLAYED FOR A LITTLE BIT OVER AN HOUR, AND IT ALL JUST CAME REALLY FAST.”

STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER ALYSSA FLUSS ’14, encouraged her peers to live lives of action and achievement.

“We NEED TO EXTEND WHATEVER WE ARE MOST PASSIONATE ABOUT AND PURSUE THAT.”

At a celebratory send-off in early fall, former Vice President and Dean of Students JEANNE ORTIZ notes the best part of her tenure at Whittier.

“There ARE THREE THINGS I’M GOING TO MISS HERE AT WHITTIER: THE STUDENTS, MY COLLEAGUES, AND THE AMAZING FACULTY THAT I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH.”

Quaker Campus writer KRISTEN WILLIAMS ’14 reviews work from the 2014 senior art exhibition in Greenleaf Gallery last May.

“MARCO AERELIUS ’14 COMBINED MANY DIFFERENT SOURCES OF IMAGERY INTO HIS PAINTINGS… RECOGNIZABLE [CONTEMPORARY] CELEBRITIES, IMAGES OF CLASSICAL GREEK SCULPTURE. [THIS] CREATES A TOTAL CONTRAST, BOTH VISUALLY AND THEMATICALLY, THAT GRABS THE VIEWER’S ATTENTION.”

During a recent visit to campus, University CHRYSLER BOONE ISACS ’71, president of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, gave student valuable career advice.

“NEVER, EVER JUDGE SOMEONE ELSE BECAUSE OF THEIR JOB OR POSITION IN LIFE. BE RESPECTFUL OF EVERYONE YOU COME IN CONTACT WITH BECAUSE NO ONE KNOWS ANYONE’S CAREER PATH.”

In a QC article about the recent earthquake, witness MELISSA KING ’16 describes the experience in Ettinger Student Lounge.

“The WINDOWS WERE WAVING AS IF THEY WERE WATER, EVERYONE WHO WAS NOT FROM CALIFORNIA HAD A LOOK OF WONDER, BUT EVERYONE FROM CALIFORNIA LOOKED SHOCKED.”

During Hispanic Heritage Month, Cultural Center assistant director ANDREANNA MARTINEZ shared what being Latino means to her.

...FAMILY RECIPES, STRONG VALUES—MY GRANDMOTHER TAUGHT ME WHERE I COME FROM, HISTORY.”

Associate Dean of Students ANDRE COLEMAN comments on recent enhancements to residential hall social areas.

“THESE IMPROVEMENTS HELP US CREATE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY THAT IS CENTRAL TO THE RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCE, AND, BY OPENING THESE SPACES TO COMMUTERS, WE GIVE THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY THIS ASPECT OF COLLEGE LIFE.”

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ORTHOGONIAN SOCIETY UNVEILS PLAQUE
SOCIETY HONORS PAST AND FUTURE LEGACIES

Orthogonian Society members who attended Whittier Weekend 2014 were in store for a tear-jerking ceremony. In a meaningful gathering, Orthogonians unveiled a plaque at the Donald E. Graham Athletics Center which honors their brothers who have passed away.

Orthogonians named on the plaque were also honored with a gift to the scholarship fund in their name. Once fully endowed, the Orthogonian Memorial Endowed Scholarship fund will provide financial support to deserving Orthogonian actives. To contribute to this fund, contact Associate Director of Development Amy Carlton at (562) 907-4214 or acarlton@whittier.edu.

WINNERS: The Ionians were presented with the All-Society Alumni Participation Challenge Cup during Whittier Weekend. Winning the contest for a second year in a row, Ionian alumnae achieved a 42.4% participation rate. The Palmers finished only three gifts behind, with third place going to the Penns. Visit www.whittier.edu/GiveOnline to participate in the 2015 Challenge.
FACULTY PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, AND TRAVELS

- **Professor of Chemistry** PRISCILLA BELL and her students BRIAN PHUNG ’16, AARON AHN ’16, MYESEO KIM ’17, and EDWIN BENNETT ’16 presented a poster, “Evaluation of Anti-fungal Herbs on Filamentous Fungi Using a Rapid Screening Technique,” at the Experimental Biology Conference in San Diego in April 2014. The science project was done in collaboration with Professor of Biology ERICA FRADINGER.

- **Professor of Education and Child Development and Director of the Broadoaks Children’s School** JUDITH WAGNER delivered the keynote address at the 66th OMEP (Organisation Mondiale Pour l’Education Prescolaire) World Assembly and International Conference held in Cork, Ireland. Her speech, “Stolen Childhoods: Migrant, Refugee, Asylum-seekers and Exploited Children,” reflected the general theme of the conference—Children’s Cultural Worlds.

- **Professor of French** PAUL KJELLBERG presented the paper “Educational Transition to Middle School” for the 21st Annual Conference on Latino Deportes. His paper was published in the J Pedagogical Dossier on the Effectiveness of Interdisciplinary Studies.

- **Professor of Chemistry** CHRISTINA BAUER recently published the following article: “Homo- and heterometallic luminescent 0-D sheets: metal-organic frameworks in Delton Transactions.”

- **Professor of English** JONATHAN BURTON gave the keynote at the 21st California State University Shakespeare Symposium, sharing a paper entitled “Christopher Sly’s Arabian Nights.” The piece was published in June in The Journal of Early Modern Cultural Studies.


- **Professor of Business Administration** LANA NIND presented her paper, “Lessons of Professionalism for Graduating Business Students: Implications for Business Education and the Profession,” at the Arts, Humanities, and Social Science Conference in Hawaii. Her article of the same title will appear in the Journal of Academic and Business Ethics.

- **Professor of English** CHARLES S. ADAMS chaired a panel on baseball for the annual meeting of the Popular Culture/American Culture Association in Chicago.


- **English Professor** ANDREA REHN recently published an article on digital pedagogy in Persuasion On-Line, the journal of the Jane Austen Society of North America (JASA).

- **Associate Professor of Education and Child Development** ANNE SEBANC and Associate Professor of Mathematics JEFF LUTGEN co-wrote an article, “Transnational Relationships Between Latin/Amex/Hispanic and Academic Achievement During the Transition to Middle School,” for the Journal of Early Adolescence. The article is based on a study of 146 students that investigates whether friendship quality, academic achievement, and mastery goal orientation predict each other across students’ transition from elementary to middle school.

- **Professor of Economics** GREG WOROL retired at the end of the 2013-14 academic year after 38 years of service to the College. He remains affiliated with the department as he holds the rank of Emeritus Professor of Economics.

PHILOSOPHY PROFESSOR NAMED HARTLEY HOUSE MASTER

PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY PAUL KJELLBERG is the new Hartley House Faculty Master. He and his son Ford took up residency this past fall.

Kjellberg’s tenure in Hartley House will focus around the theme of “Cultural Arts at Work”—helping students understand the correlation between their Whittier education and future career prospects. As part of the program, Kjellberg will invite a wide variety of professionals with liberal arts backgrounds to meet with students. These professionals will speak about their own career paths and provide real-life advice.

“I participate in seminars,” explains Kjellberg. “The first is that there is no one-to-one correspondence between a major and a career. A liberal arts major can do all manner of things—succeed requires the ability to act on opportunities one could not have predicted ahead of time, the major is not the last but the first choice of many along a career path, and a relatively small one at that.”

The second goal is to encourage students to develop a portfolio of skills and attitudes that will support them along the paths that open up to them.

Moreover, Kjellberg aims to create programming focused on sophomore students: his popular JanTerm course, “Simplicity and Buddhism,” which includes a week-long retreat at nearby Hsi Lai Temple, will serve as a model for an expanded sophomore experience.

Kjellberg has been at Whittier since 1993, after earning a B.A. from Yale and Ph.D. in philosophy from Stanford University. His specialty is Chinese philosophy and also works in Greek and German traditions. Recently his interests have broadened to include philosophy of education, American pragmatism, and the Quaker tradition.

Kjellberg succeeds Professor Sal Johnston who brought to Hartley House distinctive projects and programs related to environmental sustainability.
DIGLIBARTS CENTER IS UP AND RUNNING
RESOURCES FOR THE TECH SAVVY POETS

The ground floor of the Bonnie Bell Wardman Library now features mobile technology stations, large screen monitors, projectors, and other equipment designed to enhance liberal arts education at Whittier College. This space—part of the Digital Liberal Arts Center (DigLibArts)—is available to faculty, staff, and students providing them with the needed tools to make full use of the digital technologies that are reshaping pedagogical approaches and transforming research throughout the liberal arts. In addition to the physical space and technology, DigLibArts is designed to support and inspire faculty by providing personal assistance, workshop training and stipends, and other tools to integrate digital technologies into pedagogy.

FACULTY FILES

NOTED & QUOTED

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of President Richard Nixon’s ‘74 resignation from office, portions of a rarely-heard interview with former aide Frank Gannon have been published by the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Richard Nixon Foundation. Political Science Professor FRED BERGERSON offered commentary on the subject to the Whittier Daily News: “We can keep our perspective enough to learn what those tapes reveal. It’s likely we’ll learn more nuanced and sophisticated understanding of Nixon from Gannon’s material,” said Bergerson.

Associate Professor of English Language and Literature SEAN MORRIS was recently interviewed by the news site Quartz and helped explain how werewolves have been published by the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Richard Nixon Foundation. Political Science Professor FRED BERGERSON offered commentary on the subject to the Whittier Daily News: “We can keep our perspective enough to learn what those tapes reveal. It’s likely we’ll learn more nuanced and sophisticated understanding of Nixon from Gannon’s material,” said Bergerson.

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Whittier College’s transfer program was highlighted in the Los Angeles Times earlier this year. In an interview, English professor WENDY TURMAD-ADAMS spoke about the support transfer students receive at Whittier College.

Professor of Modern Languages GUSTavo GEIROLA presented at the 20th annual International Festival on Hispanic Theater in Miami. His lecture on Argentinean playwright Pablo Giagni’s Anónimo (2011) was singled out by the Miami Herald.

President SHARON HERZBERGER, who chaired the SCCA Division III Presidents Council, wrote the article You Don’t Have to Be a Fanatic to Be a Fan of DIII Sports, about Division III athletics for the summer issue of the NCAA’s Division III athletics for the summer issue of the NCAA’s Champion Magazine.

The poetic evidence gathered in the anthology ranges from ancient Egyptian inscriptions and the Mesopotamian epic Gilgamesh to the Greek bard Homer, and from Shakespeare and Milton and Keats to Emily Dickinson and Edgar Allan Poe. The collection also includes terrifying apocalyptic visions from a host of more recent poets, from T. S. Eliot and Sylvia Plath to Rita Dove and Billy Collins, from Allen Ginsberg and H. P. Lovecraft to Mulk Jackson and Zhu Zilin.

Traders and Raiders examines a vast cultural geography, including Southern California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Sonora, Baja California, and New Mexico, to demonstrate an interior world which nourished for centuries—before and after Spanish contact—‘outlihood to create an autonomous, intertextual Indigenous space that expanded and adapted to an ever-encroaching global market economy.’

Zappia specializes in colonial revolutionary North America with an emphasis on the early modern borderlands of the Atlantic World, Pacific Rim, and Native America. He has worked with several public history and community-based outreach projects related to California, food systems, and the American West, including efforts to promote the revitalization of the Los Angeles River. Zappia is author of several historical articles and books such as: Reckoning the East: Gardens and Communities in South Los Angeles, and a contributing author of The Many Faces of Edward Sheriff Curtis: A Collection of Portraits and Stories from Native North America.

According to the New York Journal of Books, “This collection offers the riches of a mature poet’s reflections on life and death, which cannot help but enrich our own lives as well.”

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Professor of Education and Child Development IVANNA SOTO-HINMAN’s most recent book, Moving from Spoken to Written Language with ELLs, demonstrates how oral language scaffolds writing skills and presents educators with tools to help English Language Learners (ELLs) develop oral language before facing the Common Core’s increased writing demands.

Soto-Hinman specializes in language acquisition, systemic reform for ELLs, secondary literacy and urban education. She has worked as a consultant with Stanford University’s School Redesign Network and WestEd, as well as a variety of districts and county offices in California, providing technical assistance for systemic reform for ELLs and Title III. She is also an author of LLL Shadowing as a Catalyst for Change and the co-author of The Literacy Gap: Building Bridges for ELLs and SELs. She’s also the author of a variety of articles on providing appropriate instructional access for ELLs and a contributing author on Graham Fletcher’s Reading Intervention Program Portals for ELLs.

Assistant Professor of History NATALIA ZAPPIA’s newest book, Traders and Raiders: The Indigenous World of The Colorado Plains, 1540–1859, was released last summer. Zappia’s newest publication is an expansive study of the complex indigenous world that inhabited areas of the American Southwest and Northern Mexico.

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ROGER WHITE’S third book, titled Making Sense of Anti-Trade Sentiment: International Trade and the American Worker was published in September 2014. White’s studied why Americans are so suspicious of imports according to the New York Journal of Books, “This collection offers the riches of a mature poet’s reflections on life and death, which cannot help but enrich our own lives as well.”

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In early 2014, Albert Upton Professor of English Language and Literature TONY BARKSTONE published a new book of poems, Resort in the Apartment.

The book is divided into five sections that include narrative poems and traditional sonnets.

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Broadway Comes to Chowdry Studio

Professors of Music Stephen Cook and Anilo Lozano have teamed up to record and produce a new CD for Tony-nominated Broadway singer and actress Susan Egan. The CD, titled Susan Egan: Softly, is scheduled for release in 2015. The project fully utilized professional artists from across Southern California.

Additional musical contributors include bassist Rene Camacho, pianist Joe Rotondi, and Whittier artist-in-residence and Latin jazz and charanga music. Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, and is best known for his work with Grammy Award-winning flautist, is a founding member of the

According to Kozeck, a long-time soccer fan, “Our goal was not to produce one definitive ranking list for people to read and agree or disagree with. Instead, we wanted a tool that allowed the user to create his or her own ranking list based on which parameters n/he thinks are most important. My colleagues and I were most interested in the information that accrue from studying the aggregate of all these individual ranking lists.” Kozeck adds that after receiving “several thousand hits,” the aggregate data seems to reinforce the notion that Brazil, Spain, Germany and Argentina were the pre-tournament favorites.

Math professors develop site for FIFA World Cup fans

Predicting the World Cup Champion

Math professors develop site for FIFA World Cup fans

Long-time Whittier College psychology professor Chuck Hill was named the 2014 Nerhood Award winner. Named for Professor Emeritus of History Harry W. Nerhood, the award recognizes overall excellence in teaching.

During the presentation of the award at the Honor Convocation ceremony, Dean of Faculty Charlotte Borst read from the comments submitted during the nomination process.

“As one faculty member succinctly described him, ‘he is truly a remarkable and compassionate teacher.’”

Borst added, “One student nominator described him as having ‘such a passion for teaching his students. His enthusiasm he brings to class every day is enough to make any student engaged in the classroom.’”

Others lauded Hill’s remarkable devotion to good advising. “He initiates contact with students who could easily become invisible to the rest of us, and intervenes in preventive ways that could alleviate difficulties at a later date.”

Hill has taught at Whittier College since 1982. He teaches introductory to psychology, social psychology, diverse identities, and statistics.

Hill has studied interpersonal relationships for more than 36 years and has co-authored a number of articles based on the Boston Couples Study—a 25-year examination of more than 200 couples. He is currently conducting an online cross-cultural study of intimate relationships in collaboration with colleagues around the world. He has also conducted research on ethnic and other identities among two thousand college students over a period of 13 years.

Hill graduated Phi Beta Kappa in physics from the University of Oregon, and holds an M.S. in physics and an M.A. in sociology from the University of Washington, and a Ph.D. in social psychology from Harvard University.

Professor Chuck Hill Receives 2014 Nerhood Award

Professor Awarded $106,000 Grant

Whittier College Professor of Spanish Gustavo Geirola has been selected to receive a $106,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to support a summer seminar in Latin American Theater. The grant will fund a four-week summer seminar in Buenos Aires directed by Geirola for 16 college and university teachers to get immersed in contemporary Latin American Theater as stage production and literature. The seminar is open to full-time and adjunct professors who teach on the subject as well as graduate students with an emphasis in modern languages and literature.

Each year, NEH offers tuition-free opportunities for school, college, and university educators to study a variety of humanities topics. The summer seminar led by Geirola and co-directed by Pasadena City College Emeritus Professor Lila Prado is one of them. Geirola is Argentinian with ample knowledge of the Argentinean theater world and Prado has studied Argentinean Theater since 1990 and is currently living in Buenos Aires. Through the NEH summer seminar, Geirola and Prado aim to explore in detail Latin American theater from the 1990s to the present.

“We invite scholars to join us in Buenos Aires and also participate in our seminar; it will be a great intellectual, cultural and linguistic experience for all of them and for us,” said Geirola.

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Professor Honored for His Passion for Teaching

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INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE & HONORS

**BASEBALL:** Third baseman and corner infielder Julian Bartosi ’15 had a fully decorated season earning 1st Team All-SCIAC, Jewish Sports Review’s First Team All-American, American Baseball Coaches Association/Rawlings Division III All-West Region Player of the Year, D1Baseball.com’s 1st Team All-West Regional Selection and 1st Team All-American, and NCAA Division III statistical champion for total home runs and home runs per game, among other recognitions.

Catcher Stephen Zauss ’15 was named 2nd Team All-Region from the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCBA) Rawlings Division III and 2nd Team All-SCIAC. Left fielder Ben Cerami ’15 also earned 2nd Team All-SCIAC honors. Outfielder Corey Jensen ’14 landed a spot on the ABCBA 3rd Team All-SCIAC.

**SOFTBALL:** "Third Base"
Mercedes Cundiff ’15 and catcher Samantha Melano ’15 both landed spots on 1st Team All-SCIAC, while teammates Courtney Delano ’14 and outfielder Micahla Connolly ’14 earned 2nd Team All-SCIAC honors. Outfielder Corey Jensen ’14 landed a spot on the ABCBA 3rd Team All-Region along with 1st Team All-SCIAC.

**SPORTS:** "Third Baserun"
Mercedes Cundiff ’15 and catcher Samantha Melano ’15 both landed spots on 1st Team All-SCIAC, while teammates Courtney Delano ’14 and outfielder Micahla Connolly ’14 earned 2nd Team All-SCIAC.

**WOMEN’S LACROSSE:** Seven players were named to the Intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Coaches Association Honor Roll and SCIAC All-Academic Team: Shaina Denny ’14, Heidi Koeger ’14, Tully Tampaken ’14, Bailey Kline ’14, Lilly Baxter ’15, Moeza Yorba ’14, and Tiffany Reyes ’14.

**WOMEN’S GOLF:** Ayaka Hamano ’14 earned 2nd Team All-SCIAC recognition.

**MEN’S LACROSSE:** Thomas Brook ’14 received All-American and Scholar All-American honors from the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association.

**TENNIS:** David Konstantinov ’16 and Chris Schommer ’14 made history this season, becoming the first men’s tennis players to earn spots in the NCAA Division III Championships. Both were named All-Americans in singles and doubles. Each player added to their success with All-SCIAC 1st Team and 2nd Team honors respectively. Teammate Samuel Farmer ’16 also landed himself a spot on 2nd Team All-SCIAC.

**SWIMMING:** Scott Robins ’15 finished 5th in the SCIAC Championships. Women’s Swimming and Diving Team earned College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Academic All-American status. And, Marissa Rife ’16 broke Whittier College’s One-Meter Diving record with a 370.50, now the 6th highest score.

**OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD:** Kevin Cartells ’14 was named to the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) All-Academic Team. Alex Jungsten, ’14 became the SCIAC Champion in 110m Hurdles. The Women’s Track and Field Team earned themselves a spot on the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) All-Academic Team. And, Lianisha Ross ’16 broke Whittier College’s 400m record with a time of 58.61.

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**BASEBALL:** Third baseman and corner infielder Julian Bartosi ’15 had a fully decorated season earning 1st Team All-SCIAC, Jewish Sports Review’s First Team All-American, American Baseball Coaches Association/Rawlings Division III All-West Region Player of the Year, D1Baseball.com’s 1st Team All-West Regional Selection and 1st Team All-American, and NCAA Division III statistical champion for total home runs and home runs per game, among other recognitions.

Catcher Stephen Zauss ’15 was named 2nd Team All-Region from the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCBA) Rawlings Division III and 2nd Team All-SCIAC. Left fielder Ben Cerami ’15 also earned 2nd Team All-SCIAC honors. Outfielder Corey Jensen ’14 landed a spot on the ABCBA 3rd Team All-SCIAC.

**SOFTBALL:** "Third Baserun"
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ALUMNI COMPETE IN LACROSSE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
FORMER POETS REPRESENT FOUR FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Four Poets lacrosse alumni participated in the Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) 2014 World Championships held in Denver last summer.

Ben Barchey ’09 (Englewood, CO) played attack for the Korean national team.

Seth Mahler ’10 (Waterbury, CT) played attack for the Korean national team.

Ben Brown ’09 (Englewood, CO) stood firm as the goalie for Thailand.

Seth Mahler ’10 (Waterbury, CT) assisted as a midfielder for Israel.

Sam Russell ’12 captained team England.

Whittier College’s strong tradition in lacrosse was established by Whittier College Hall of Famer and Coach Doug Locker ’79. The only NCAA Division III program on the West Coast, Whittier’s lacrosse team celebrated its 25th year in 2013. The Poet lacrosse team has been a national NCAA contender every year since 2000.

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ATHLETICS

ENTERING his 30th year with the Poet program, cross country head coach Greg Phillips has had his share of personal honors and in 2012 and 2014 led the men’s team to impressive 5th place finishes at the NCAA Regionals. Moreover, his women’s team has received top academic honors for the last seven years. Reflecting on his three decades at Whittier, Phillips recently spoke with The Rock about his teams’ various accomplishments and about the 2015 season.

Q: You started your career at Whittier in 1985; how has the sport changed since then?

A: It has definitely changed over those 30 years. Cross country has really taken off, and there are many colleges that offer this sport. As a result, the supply-demand equation is quite tight, which makes it much more competitive compared to 1985. Also, there has been a lot of progress at Whittier in terms of reducing the responsibilities of coaches, so we can focus on recruiting. Recruiting, that has changed a lot. It has become much more competitive and more time-consuming.

Q: What are some of the challenges that cross country runners face?

A: Runners will at some point, kind of hit a sticking point, a plateau. So some of our runners are on that rise part and that is motivational and it is motivating them because they are improving their times. Others are grinding it out right now and we are waiting for that next breakthrough to come. There is no single training program that works best for every runner which also adds to the complexity of coaching the sport.

Q: In what ways have you seen growth for the team, from some of your continuing runners or even the freshmen since they’ve started?

A: I really consider myself an educator more than a coach because they are really the same thing or should be the same. And that is what the College really wants among the coaching staff. Watching these athletes grow from freshman to senior year as people, in terms of character development, and just every aspect is very rewarding but it is not just about the sport.

Q: What are some of the goals and prospects of next year’s teams?

A: The men have high goals to qualify for the national championships. And it is certainly a possibility; there is enough talent on the men’s team to do that. All of our women return next season so it will be awesome watching this group develop into a top-five program. —Light Mary Phase’17

Additional Notes:

2014-15 SEASON UPDATE

Women’s team: Finished 12th in the 21-team west region during the NCAA West Regional Meet in Sacramento, California. First-year Julisa Tobias finished 3rd overall with a time of 22:40.54. Tobias went on to compete at the NCAA Division III Championships in Mason, Ohio. She was one of 38 freshmen to qualify to the regional and placed 8th among her class. Grooms Team: Sophomores Ryan Grooms and Tobias finished 6th in the West Regionals and 5th among west region runners at the National Championships. The men ended the season in 4th place in SCAC standings.

quality for nationals. We’ve had a lot of individuals make it, and every time that happens, it is a special occasion for that individual and for me, as well.

Q: How do you prepare your team for each race, and what does your training regime look like?

A: It is a lot of hard work. It’s just pure hard work of a cardiovascular nature for the most part. (Compared to other sports), we are not in need of the weight room to pump up our muscles, but we are in need of cardiovascular fitness—and taking that to an extreme. For example, in a demanding training day, many of our men run over 20 miles in two workout sessions. Our top men will run over 80 miles per week and our top ladies will run close to 70 miles per week, so it’s not just going out for a little jog. There’s also pace-work, hill-work, and speed-work so it’s very intensive training.

Q: How have you made any changes to your training program?

A: Our seniors on the men’s team have had three years under my training program. To give them just a fourth year of what we’ve been doing is probably not going to help them improve much more. So coach James O’Brien has come in to tweak the program a little bit because you need to change the program over so often to stimulate those neuromuscular adaptations and try to find another way to make more capillaries, make more red-blood cells, and to make more mitochondria. These are the physiological things that enable us to run faster and farther. Coach O’Brien has been doing a lot to improve the men’s team.

Q: What has been some of the team highlights from your experience coaching at Whittier?

A: 1994 was a special year, when our women’s cross country team—in a real upset and in surprising fashion—qualified all the way to the national championships. Whittier College really made news during that time because we were reported to be the smallest school to ever qualify at the DIII level. We were able to repeat that success again in 2009-2011. During those seasons, our program was ranked really well nationally. I remember our 1990 and 2000 men’s teams were really strong, both placing 3rd at the NCAA Regionals. And in 2012 and 2014 the team had an amazing 5th place finish at the NCAA regionals, again just knocking on the door of championships. We also have had a lot of strong individual athletes. I think one of the nice things about this sport is in addition to working toward team success, as an individual you can achieve personal goals. You improve your performance, and

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MEN’S WATER POLO WINS BACK-TO-BACK SCIAC TITLES

The Whittier College men’s water polo team captured the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) title for a second year in a row. Whittier finished the season with an impressive 11-0 SCIAC record and 23-12 overall. With the win, the Poets also finished the regular season No. 1 in the Collegiate Water Polo Association Division III polls.

The top-seeded Poets jumped out to an impressive 5-0 lead to secure a solid start in the championship match against No. 2 Claremont-Mudd-Scripps and never looked back en route to the 11-5 victory for the regular season title. Earlier in the season the water polo team earned the title of NCAA Division III National Champions after defeating Johns Hopkins University 11-9 in a fight for the championship at the Gary Troyer Tournament in Claremont, CA. The Poets defeated the top four teams from across the country, going 4-0 with victories over Washington & Jefferson, George Washington, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Johns Hopkins.

ATHLETICS RENOVATES

GEOGE ALLEN FITNESS CENTER

The words over-crowded and stuffy can no longer be attributed to the Graham Athletics Center’s George Allen Fitness Center. The Center, named after the Whittier Hall of Fame coach, received an overhaul last summer with new cardio machines and strength building equipment. The College’s concept for the new fitness room was to make the greatest use of the available training space by creating multi-purpose stations that provide athletes the ability to perform multiple exercises at a single station.

In addition, two new “mim” weight rooms located in the Stauffer and Wanberg residence halls will provide additional workout space for both athletes and non-athletes. Legendary football coach George Allen was at Whittier College from 1955-56. He then served as coach for the Los Angeles Rams, Chicago Bears, and Washington Redskins. During his time in the National Football League, Allen was the Coach of the Year Four times, had a 70.5 winning percentage, ranks as the second best in the league among coaches who coached more than 10 years, and is the only NFL coach of that time span not to have a losing season.

FIELD, COURT, POOL

2014 PURPLE & GOLD HALL OF FAME CLASS INDUCED

On a weekend of homecoming festivities and athletic events held all over campus, the Whittier College Athletic Department and Purple & Gold Hall of Fame Committee inducted its 23rd Athletics Hall of Fame Class. The 2014 inductees included two standout student-athletes, an honorary coach, and one of the most successful men’s basketball programs in Whittier College history.

Athletic achievements for the Class of 2016 include the following:

ROBERT FRITH, CLASS OF 2001
Whittier Baseball’s Most Valuable Player in 99-00 and 00-01 and Purple & Gold Male Team Sport Athlete of the Year in 00-01, Robert Frith, has a Career Doubles Record (64) (98-00) which still stands. With 11 games, he ranks number one in complete games in a career. His athletic achievements with the Poets also translated into the football field as he lettered for Whittier football in 98-99 and 99-00. Frith received his bachelor’s in physical education and recreation in 2001 and his master of arts in 2006 from Whittier College.

SERGIO MACIAS, CLASS OF 2001
Macias was a Poets standout in the pool since his first year at Whittier. Named Men’s Water Polo Rookie of the Year as well as Purple & Gold Freshman Athlete of the Year in 97-98, he captured the Water Polo team posted impressive victories against Point Loma, Cal Poly Pomona, and Cal Baptist. The team selected to play in the NAIA (32-Team) Championship at Kemper Arena in Kansas City and went in the tournament as the 10th ranked team in the NAIA.

HUGH MENDEZ, HONORARY COACH
From 1973 to 1989, Mendez dedicated 18 years of service to Whittier College Athletics. As the head football coach, Mendez became the first African-American football coach at a four-year California college. During his career, he coached nine Hall of Famers, three All-American football players, and two NFL coaches. As an assistant coach at Whittier, Hugh’s defensive team led the nation in rushing yards allowing a mere 34.3 yards per game. As head coach, he won back-to-back SCIAC titles in 1981 and 1982.

1976-77 MENS’ BASKETBALL TEAM (ALSO SHOWN BELOW)

The 1976-77 Men’s Basketball Team was one of the finest teams in Whittier’s rich history of collegiate basketball. Ranked as high as No. 2 in the country at one point during the season, the team posted impressive victories against Point Loma, Cal Poly Pomona, and Cal Baptist. The team selected to play in the NAIA (32-Team) Championship at Kemper Arena in Kansas City and went into the tournament as the 10th ranked team in the NAIA.

Three members of this team currently reside in the Whittier College Athletic Hall of Fame: Mike Brown ’79, Ralph Oldeady ’79, and George Hightower ’78. Brown presently stands as the only student-athlete to have his jersey retired within the Whittier College athletic program.
FRESH IDEAS

INTRODUCING THE CLASS of 2018

AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR ACADEMIC YEAR, THE WHITTIER COLLEGE COMMUNITY WELCOMED 500 NEW POETS TO CAMPUS: ENTERING FIRST-YEARS AND TRANSFER STUDENTS. IN THE TRADITIONAL ADDRESS GIVEN AT THE PRESIDENT’S CONVOCATION DURING ORIENTATION, DIRECTOR OF ADMISSION KIERON MILLER SHARED A FEW DETAILS ABOUT THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR WHITTIER FAMILY.

Among this group are students from 24 different states and 14 foreign countries...students from Hawaii, Oregon, Colorado, Michigan, Illinois, Texas, New York, Brazil, Croatia, Switzerland, Vietnam, and China.

24 STATES
14 COUNTRIES
240 SCHOOLS

There are six Josephs, five Emilys, four Jacobs, three Lauras, two Oscars, but only one Brady in the whole bunch.

This is a very talented and accomplished group. We have a published novelist, a student who owns an apparel company, a professional aerial dancer, a water polo Junior Olympics champion, and a freelance graphic designer, to name a few.

FOLLOWING ARE FOUR PROFILES—A RANDOM SAMPLING OF THESE NEW, YOUNG POETS—THAT DEMONSTRATE THE KIND OF DRIVEN, DIVERSE, AND ACCOMPLISHED STUDENTS FOUND IN ABUNDANCE TODAY ON THE WHITTIER CAMPUS. WE WELCOME THEIR SPIRIT, THEIR ENERGY, AND THEIR ENTHUSIASM TO OUR MIDST, AND WE ANTICIPATE THE BRIGHT FUTURES THEY WILL ENJOY AS FELLOW WHITTIER ALUMNI.
FRANCESCA CAPRARO  
HOMETOWN:  CORONA, CA

How did you hear about Whittier College?
My mom grew up in Whittier, so I knew about the school.

What is your favorite place on campus so far?
My favorite place on campus so far would be Stauffer Lounge because it’s where most of my new friends hang out.

What is your favorite class right now and why?
My favorite class right now is Spanish 1; the teacher is very passionate and caring.

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What specifically made you choose Whittier?
The location is amazing—close to home, but yet still far. The academic resources have been a great help. The size of the student body allows me to get to know everybody that I meet. Small classes equals more individual times with professors. Basically, the atmosphere is just so warm and caring.

What is your favorite class right now and why?
That is a hard question because I enjoy all of my classes. All of my professors are interesting and they give it their all during every class session.

Do you plan to study abroad at some point?
Yes, I’d like to do a summer program in Germany. Actually, I hope I can do it every summer while here.

College is a time to try new things and experience many “firsts.” Are you involved in any extra-curricular activities different from your high school days?
I’m a pretty driven person with a lot of very different interests, and I look forward to pursuing these interests through all of the internship opportunities and study abroad programs that Whittier College makes available to us.

Career aspirations now?
To work in the film industry. I’m so glad to be at Whittier College because I think it will help me obtain a well-rounded education and eventually make me a force of nature in the job market.

What are you most looking forward to over your college career?
What’s really exciting about college is that it is whatever you make of it. I’m a pretty driven person with a lot of very different interests, and I look forward to pursuing these interests through all of the internship opportunities and study abroad programs that Whittier College makes available to us.

Having “searched extensively for the right school,” Aidan moved across the country to attend Whittier College, drawn by its proximity to Los Angeles and the entertainment industry, small class sizes, and opportunity to devise his own major through the Whittier Scholars Program. With a plan to focus his studies—and eventual career—on film and business, he intends to explore a breadth of interests, including production, direction, marketing, and performance. Continuing to build his resume and hone relevant skills while at college, Aidan is involved in both Poet Entertainment and the Video Production Services Club.

What is your favorite class right now?
Asian Anthropology. My professor is very intelligent and down-to-earth. She makes class an enjoyable, informative experience and inspires and motivates me to get out into the world and just do my thing.

If you intend to study abroad, where are you likely to go?
To Hong Kong to study the film market. I’d also like to go to Scandinavia.

Have you found any campus activity of particular interest?
The film screenings/discussion series. There have been some really gripping documentaries that deal with such difficult, yet important, subject matter.

Childhood career ambitions?
A million different things—a magician, a scientist, an actor, a Firefighter.

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The community-based culture and the amazing opportunities for student involvement and leadership. These have been key to my development as a person, so I decided to choose a campus where I could expand on that.

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Closing out your first semester here, are you involved with any extra-curriculars?
I'm involved with the Film Club, the Student Senate, the Film and Media Studies Club, and the Film Studies Club.

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Closing out your first semester here, are you involved with any extra-curriculars?
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What are you most looking forward to over your college career?
What specifically attracted you to Whittier College?
The community-based culture and the amazing opportunities for student involvement and leadership. These have been key to my development as a person, so I decided to choose a campus where I could expand on that.

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Los Angeles and the greater Southern California region is an exciting playground for artists, scholars, and researchers. The area spans from the edge of the central valley to the U.S.-Mexico border, includes 10 counties, a population of 24 million—larger than that of many states in the nation. Southern California features a distinct history, diverse neighborhoods and ecosystems, and thriving cultural and art communities.

Whittier College has always taken advantage of having such a unique “backyard,” one that promotes educational experiences and cultural exchange. Not surprisingly, Whittier professors often choose to carry out projects that have local impact, using this backyard as a laboratory for individual research and as an extended classroom.

Whether it be learning about the drought effects on native plants, researching public health and environmental issues on an international border, examining the educational system for English learners, becoming immersed in the history of food systems and social justice, or pushing the boundaries between mathematics and art, Whittier College faculty find endless ways to use their scholarship to make a positive impact in Southern California. And, by bringing their pupils into their playground, these educators foster in their students the development of advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills, teach essential research methodologies, and immerse students in the practical application of scholarly work.

In the following pages we share impressive work being carried out by Professors Cheryl Swift, Julie Collins-Dogrul, Bill Kickholm, Irmina Boto-Human, and Natalie Zappia who fully embrace Southern California as their laboratory and classroom.
What Sparked Your Interest in This Field?
I first became interested in plants during my first upper division botany class. And, in my ecophysiology class I got excited about Mediterranean ecosystems because I grew up in Southern California. Here, our spring starts in January and goes through June. The beauty and diversity that can be found in this Mediterranean ecosystem is kind of inspiring; the flowers found here are drop to your knees beautiful. As an ecophysiologist you are looking at how plants respond to stressors. In particular I became interested in riparian (streamside) ecosystems because no one was looking at them.

Can You Describe Your Current Research?
I’m involved with a project that has to do with riparian habitats in the Tujunga River in the Angeles National Forest. This is something I’ve been working on for the last 20 years. These streamside communities have water because they’re next to a stream, but if you step back and you think about it, the attributes that are going to enable plants—specifically trees—to grow rapidly and to outcompete other individuals for light are the same attributes that place them in great risk during drought. We already have this extended summer drought so we’ve been working on what happens to these species and how they respond but we’re also interested in looking at mortality as a result of the ongoing drought in California.

Another project I’m working on is located in the Puente Hills and it studies the effects of restoration practices on a handful of species, in particular the way they use water. Our preliminary results, which have been presented at a couple of meetings, suggest that restoration that involves irrigation actually places plants under stress. Water stress occurs when plants have to use more energy to remove water from the soil. For all the species that we examined, those that were exposed to irrigation when they were establishing, were under more water stress during the dry season in the summers, than the control individuals that occurred naturally.

Then, we did some measurements on individual plants that were not watered and those individuals behaved more like the control group.

What Are the Implications of Your Research?
These restoration projects involving irrigation are mitigation for other projects that are destroying coastal sage scrub in other parts of Los Angeles County. One of the pieces of an approved mitigation project is achieving a certain amount of native tree cover within a certain number of years. These are mostly mitigation projects for the destruction of gnatcatcher habitat. These areas are watered to get the cover to a point where gnatcatchers will use them. But, the long term effect of watering may reduce the resilience of this community to drought. And, it’s very possible that we’re not just in a one year or two year drought, we’re probably in a decadal drought cycle.

If the restored areas that are currently hosting gnatcatchers aren’t resilient, the long term outlook of restoration projects for gnatcatcher habitat may be problematic.

How Do Students in Your Environmental Studies Courses Participate in Your Research?
Students in many of my courses have the opportunity to conduct hands-on research related to my work in ecology. During one trip to the Tujunga River, students in my integrated research methods class were introduced to different ways of analyzing a community, including basic surveying. Students camped out overnight allowing them to conduct two days of research, surveying, data gathering, and sampling along the stream. I want my students to understand that we are in a global diversity hotspot in Southern California. I want them to be able to appreciate how humans impact this system and know that we can change how we impact this environment.

Southern California’s ongoing drought is an issue that Professor of Biology Cheryl Swift is very familiar with. Two of her research projects—carried out in the Puente Hills and along the Tujunga River—focus on the effects of weather phenomena on native trees, and more specifically how these native plants adapt in areas designated as restoration projects that serve as mitigation for habitat destruction.

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Public health issues and environmental safety are typically seen as concerns that must be addressed by our various government agencies. But in southern California, especially in the U.S./Mexico border region, these topics have taken on a transnational scope. The question arises, “How do agencies address health and environmental concerns in an area where disease and environmental issues know no boundaries?”

I grew up on the U.S./Mexico border in San Diego County with a lot of immigrant Latinos, crossed the border multiple times in my childhood, and was really interested in Latino immigration and health problems since I was young. So I pursued this study as an undergraduate, but my first job out of college was health related. I worked with the Women’s Health Initiative and later a YWCA program that provided mammograms for uninsured women of lower income. When I went back for my Ph.D., I wanted to see how I could meld my long-term academic interest in Latino immigration and my professional experience with public health. I found that the border health focus was the way to bring those worlds together.

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO PURSUE THIS TOPIC?

I use a case study methodology which means collecting different types of data including interviews, participant observation, congressional transcripts, newspaper coverage, and organizational characteristics. Last fall students in my “Social Problems: Comparative and Global Perspectives” course visited the border to help clean up trash from the Tijuana River. They carried tiny notebooks in which they wrote event reflections and talked to people in real time about why they volunteer. This data was a form of event ethnography which gave me a better sense of what the event was like for participants. The previous summer Whittier College helped me fund two students, one Spanish-speaking and one English-speaking, who helped me compile a list of organizations that self-identify as border health or border environment organizations. The students then helped me compile two databases that enabled me to track changes over time in the population of organizations. I love working with my students to make the case that shared problems require shared solutions.

HOW HAVE YOU INVOLVED YOUR STUDENTS IN THIS RESEARCH?

As a sociologist, I’m interested in cross border cooperation around public health and environmental issues. I have a number of publications about the management of cross-border public health problems and am currently conducting research on environmental agencies. My plan is to conduct a comparative study between the two. U.S. and Mexican public health professionals have been cooperating on shared public health issues since the 1940s and environmental groups have been working together since the 1970s. Cross border cooperation around health and environment increased and formalized in the 1990s during and after the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Though originally NAFTA was designed to only promote trade, people on the border seized the opportunity to protect the environment and promote public health. Bilingual and bicultural professionals are valued and do much to advance cooperation because they are more likely to understand both U.S. and Mexican political, cultural, and organizational systems. Cross border inequality makes cooperation difficult. Cooperation is also hampered by rules and regulations that impede cross border projects, for example government and foundation restrictions on spending money in Mexico. To counteract these problems people work to make the case that shared problems require shared solutions.

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“Professor Julie Collins-Dogrul co-organized a trip to the U.S. Mexico border that allowed students to observe firsthand the health and environmental impacts of immigration policies.”
Bill Kronholm

BEYOND CONFINES OF MATHEMATICS AND ART

Professor of Mathematics Bill Kronholm’s research interests focuses on the new and growing field of Applied Algebraic Topology, a branch of mathematics that uses tools from abstract algebra to study topological spaces. In true interdisciplinary fashion, Kronholm has, for the last few years, collaborated with Los Angeles-based artist Aaron Bocanegra on an interactive math/art project that experiments with a reactive environment in which participants create a musical experience controlled by movements through space.

This collaborative work, which takes the form of a small device consisting of a circuit board with two antennas, is not only testing the boundaries between mathematics and art, but challenges popular notions of the role of art in mathematics and that of mathematics in art.

**HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN THIS TYPE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECT?**

This work grew out of the collaboration Aaron and I have been working on for the past few years. Aaron and I have been exploring the ways in which mathematics and art can collaborate to create new directions in both art and mathematics. Together we have developed a system which uses custom made RF transceivers to determine the topology of a sensor network. Mathematical properties of this communication network can then be reinterpreted in any number of ways.

Our first exhibit, the Homology Project, was the result of two years of experimentation. This was followed by Resonant Refraction, a collaboration with Julie Pate to create an interactive, immersive experience in which network topology and light are transformed into sound.

For our current piece, we chose to have the sensor network view the visual art created by artist JULIE PLATE and combine that data with the network topology to CREATE SOUND that reflects Julie’s work.

**HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO INVOLVE YOUR STUDENTS IN THIS WORK? IF SO, HOW?**

In fall of 2011, Aaron was the Visiting Artist in Residence at Whittier College, thanks to the Los Angeles Integrated Arts Project and the Andrew Mellon Foundation. During Aaron’s residency, he and I team-taught a COM2 course: INTD 235 Math/Art: Collaborative Practices. The students in this course used the technology that Aaron and I developed as the framework for their own interactive immersive art projects. The students’ work was presented to the campus at the end of the semester.

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**THE ART OF MATH.**

Using colorful circuit boards, wires, sound, and mathematical equations, Professor Bill Kronholm is challenging the boundaries between art and math.
REFORMING THE SYSTEM FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

Ivannia Soto-Hinman
Associate Professor of Education Ivannia Soto-Hinman has devoted her professional career to ensuring that immigrant children receive the same challenging academic experiences and meet the same achievement standards as their English-speaking peers. Her work focuses on language acquisition, systemic reform for English Language Learners (ELLs) and urban education. Soto-Hinman has served as a consultant to Stanford University’s School Redesign Network, WestEd, and a variety of school districts in California, providing technical assistance for systematic reform with ELLs and Common Core implementation.

WHAT SPARKED YOUR INTEREST IN THIS TOPIC?
The impetus for my research interest has been my mother’s story, which represents the stories of many immigrants and ELLs when they enter our school system. My mother struggled in school to acquire English at a level that allowed her to become proficient in adequate amount of time, when we didn’t know what to do with our ELLs. Unfortunately, we continue to have similar results with our English learners today, especially when 59% of ELLs at the secondary level are categorized as Long-term English Learners (ELLs who have been in the same district for six years or more without making adequate progress in conversational or academic English). We must systemically rethink how we teach language and content, in an integrated fashion, in order to have different results.

HOW HAVE YOU ADDRESSED THE NEEDS OF ELL STUDENTS IN YOUR WORK?
My recent research looks at the connection between spoken and written language. Specifically, how academic oral language can be used as a scaffold for writing when teaching ELLs. In each of my three books, I have explored different aspects of academic language development. In the Literacy Gaps, my co-author and I explored the academic language development similarities between ELLs and standard English learners (students who speak non-standard form of English). We also looked at ways to close achievement gaps between these two groups of students. ELL Shadowing as a Catalyst for Change (2012), focuses on how much time English learners spend practicing academic oral language during the school day in order to create urgency around their academic language development needs. Finally, in From Spoken to Written Language with ELLs, I explore how much time English learners spend practicing academic oral language during the school day in order to create urgency around their academic language development needs. Finally, in Prom (Spoken to Written Language with ELLs), I explore how a series of academic language development strategies can scaffold the writing process for ELLs within the rigorous expectations of the Common Core.

This summer, with generous grant funding from the California Community Foundation (CCF), I am launching the Institute for Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching (ICLRT) at Whittier College. The goal of ICLRT is to provide research-based and practitioner-oriented professional development services and resources for K-12 systems and teacher education programs serving ELLs and SELs.

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THIS SUBJECT LENDS ITSELF TO BOTH SERVICE LEARNING AND COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH. HOW DO YOU INVOLVE STUDENTS IN YOUR WORK?
In fall 2013, history professor Nat Zappia and I designed and taught a paired course, EDDC 250 Issues in Urban Education and HIST 359 Early American Environmental History, which incorporated several layers of experiential pedagogy outside the walls of the classroom. Throughout the semester, 22 Whittier College students built and maintained a garden with high school students identified as ELLs at nearby La Sierra High School. The goals of the service-learning garden project (sponsored by the Center for Engagement with Communities) included providing an alternative classroom for college and high school students, while also simultaneously enriching their environmental literacy and academic language skills. Results from the classroom pre- and post-surveys completed by Whittier College students demonstrated a significant increase in content understanding for the college cohort, both regarding meeting the academic language needs of ELLs and environmental literacy.

Similarly, last fall, students in my EDDC 250 Urban Education course engaged in a mentorship program with ELL students at Whittier High School. The mentoring process included shadowing an ELL (in order to get to know their academic needs), leading students through a goal setting process called the Road to Reclassification, and individualized tutoring sessions focused on reading and writing. The culmination of the project was a campus tour of Whittier College.

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Natale Zappia

THE INTERSECTION OF FOOD SYSTEM HISTORY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Professor Natale "Nat" Zappia is a scholar trained in early American, environmental, and borderlands history. His work aims to better understand patterns of production and consumption between regions and communities across North America. Zappia’s research and teaching also explores the ways that continental trading networks, food pathways, and ecologies transformed North America over the past three centuries. His work on long-term environmental change intersects with his interest in modern food systems and community-based movements related to urban farming, environmental sustainability, and food justice.

WHAT SPARKED YOUR INTEREST IN URBAN GARDENING?

As a historian my methodology is to always serve in the community, to use history as a tool to empower communities that are on the margin, that have been overlooked. As a doctoral student, I came across the Master Gardener program run by the University of California and decided to join. There they teach you how to farm or do urban farming over a course of semester and you’re charged with 50 volunteer hours a year of teaching low-income communities how to grow food. I started thinking of how history can inform the teaching that I was doing. How could I bring the history of food and teaching gardening together?

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR MOST CURRENT RESEARCH?

Food Frontiers is a new book I’m working on. I’m interested in connecting ancient with modern and exploring environmental trends that cut across time periods. I’m fascinated with bridging colonial periods, colonial food systems, and environmental issues with California and the West of today. For example, how did people consume water in 16th century California compared with today, and what does that say about history? I’m always interested in looking back and seeing the cycle. Another project I’m working on is called Play the LA River, Project 51, which is a collection of artists, professors, and historians that got together to redraw the environmental map of Los Angeles, to make the Los Angeles River its center. This river is 51 miles long and is now mostly concrete and it cuts through all different neighborhoods, ethnic communities, rich and poor. People are trying to revitalize the areas around it and to change the narratives of these communities. I’m really interested in those narratives.

HOW DO YOU INVOLVE YOUR STUDENTS IN YOUR WORK?

I try to model what I teach. Last fall, my environmental history class went into Whittier’s urban garden. I taught them basic gardening skills and how to succeed on a micro level. They learned how to grow crops native to the area, harvested them, and in our last class session, we cooked together, and had a meal from the harvest.

In addition, my students worked on individual case studies or eco-histories of different parts of the San Gabriel Valley. For example, one of my students did an eco-history of the city of Whittier and another one did an environmental history of an urban farm at a homeless shelter off the Los Angeles River. So there’s a synergy of students doing research and giving back to local communities by teaching them what they have learned. At the same time, students’ research findings have been presented in academic and community settings.

My goal is to help students make the connection between history, scholarly research, and the communities that they inhabit.

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Zappia currently serves on the Board of Directors for Garden School Foundation. At Whittier several of his courses require students to engage in food history through urban farming in the College’s Sustainable Urban Farm (SURF) program, where he serves as co-director.

WHAT WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR MOST CURRENT RESEARCH?

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MORE THAN 1,000 POETS—ALUMNI, FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS—PARTICIPATED IN THE 2014 WHITTIER WEEKEND FESTIVITIES. THE THREE-DAY CELEBRATION INCLUDED THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY BRUNCH, LEADERSHIP FORUM, WHITTIER WEEKEND FESTIVAL, HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME, 43RD ANNUAL TARDEADA, AND MORE.
JOHN GREENLEAF WHIT'TIER SOCIETY (JGWS)

IN 1923, WHITTIER COLLEGE ESTABLISHED THE JOHN GREENLEAF WHIT'TIER SOCIETY (JGWS) FOR LEADERSHIP DONORS, HONORING A MAN, WHO, AS A LIFETIME ACTIVIST, SAW SO MUCH FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OTHERS. TO THIS DAY, JGWS RECOGNIZES THOSE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE AS THE COMMITMENTS OF WHIT'TIER COLLEGE THROUGH THEIR GENEROUS, ANNUAL SUPPORT.

JGWS members contribute to the inner circle of Whit'tier College's community and experience unique benefits with frequent invitations to campus events such as The Feinberg Lecture Series and VIP Dinner Event, and Whit'tier College's Choir Holiday Dinner, as well as other exclusive opportunities to witness exploration, discovery, debate, and enlightenment throughout the academic year.

The goal of JGWS gifts from JGWS members makes scholarship possible, ensures the advancement and enhancement of Whit'tier's historic campus, underwrites the needs of our athletic teams, and funds summer internships and professional research projects that allow students to develop meaningful, personal relationships with the College's world-class faculty. These essential gifts sustain an atmosphere of collaboration and exploration where students acquire skills, and form attitudes and values appropriate for leading and serving our global society.

John Greenleaf Whit'tier Society members set the standard for annual charitable contributions to Whit'tier College through their generous giving, and we proudly recognize their leadership support.

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- Jennifer P. Pofahl '06
- Gifts of $250 or more from graduates in classes of 2009 – 2013
- Maria P. '10 and
- Marcy A. Guadalupe '10
- Gifts of $50 or more from graduates in classes of 2013
- Handsome Schumacher '14
- Gifts of $10 or more from graduates in classes of 2013
- Handsome Schumacher '14
- Gifts of $5 or more from graduates in classes of 2013
- Handsome Schumacher '14

Senior Class Gifts of $50 or more from the class of 2014
- Jonathan M. Aexel '14
- Jonathan M. Aexel '14
- Gifts of $25 or more from the class of 2014
- Handsome Schumacher '14
- Gifts of $10 or more from the class of 2014
- Handsome Schumacher '14
- Gifts of $5 or more from the class of 2014
- Handsome Schumacher '14

WHITTIER.EDU
IT'S THE WORLD LEARNED ABOUT LONNIE JOHNSON.
That's the message behind The Original Guitar Hero and The Power of Music, the latest books by Dean Alger '70.

The book, Alger’s sixth, delves into the untold story of rockabilly and rock ’n’ roll pioneer Lonnie Johnson—an influential and pioneering musician whose contributions have often been overlooked by historians.

Dean Alger relied on extensive research and first-hand accounts from national and blue lamarins, including the legendary B.B. King, to reconstruct Johnson’s story.

“He made me promise to send it to him when I was done,” says Alger. “I have.”

The book has been praised by musicians, music executives, and historians for filling a crucial gap in American music literature.

Join us in the spring for more Poet Talks—and please send us your input on topics that would be of interest!

The Poet Talks season is featuring events held throughout the year. Visit www.whittier.edu/alumni for the schedule of upcoming events.

—Steve Whittier '83 Alumni Association President
OPENING MUSICAL DOORS TO CHINA
ALUMNUS MAKES HISTORY WITH THE HARPSCICHORD

F

Erickson’s next stop was Japan, where he conducted a week-long workshop “Rethinking Bach” at Tokyo University. After graduating from Whittier College with a music degree, Erickson earned a Ph.D. in history of music from Yale, where he studied under world-class harpsichordist, Ralph Kirkpatrick. Erickson was the founding Director of the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College of the City University of New York, as well as the College’s Dean of Arts and Humanities before retiring in 2008. In addition to country transportation, lodging, and some meals, these trips provide abundant educational opportunities in the form of hands-on experiences, insider tours led by local, expert guides, and customized lectures and discussions.

HOLLAND & BELGIUM: CHOOSE THE MAGNIFICENT WATERWAYS & CANALS MAY 1-9, 2015

Tulips and painted pottery, tatted lace and diamonds—these iconic treasures are found in the pastoral countries on the North Sea coast. And, there is no better way to experience the beauty, history and culture of Holland and Belgium than by cruising their legendary waterways. Travel into the heart of one of Europe’s most colorful and fascinating regions with a unique educational program that creatively combines learning, recreation, relaxation and fellowship aboard the elite and modern MS Amadus Silver. Explore 700-year-old Amsterdam, a bustling city of canals and museums. Witness nature in a Technicolor palette at Keukenhof Gardens. Step into The Hague and feel the vibrations of political history. Glimpse the scenes Vermeer immortalized in the picture-perfect vistas of Delft. See the renowned Zeland coast. In Belgium, admire the unrivaled charm of the important port city of Antwerp and the amazing architecture and art of Bruges. End your life with this special travel program, an educational adventure you will never forget! Space is limited, and this trip is sure to fill up quickly, so make your reservations today!

For more information please contact the OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS, (562) 907-4222 or alumni@whittier.edu, or visit www.whittier.edu/alumni/poetravels.

READ THIS

BOOK ENTHUSIAST GOES MOBILE IN UNEXPECTED WAY

B

e who in the Los Angeles Times, Dawn Finley ’00 is changing the way Angelenos are exposed to feminist literature. Currently the co-owner/operator of FLOW (Feminist Library on Wheels), Finley and her partner have created a niche mobile library with a twist: it’s housed on three wheels and powered by pedals.

The tricycle, or “bookcycle,” is painted a bright yellow and features a triple stacked bookshelf under a delicate, shading parapet—an unusual sight on the streets of Los Angeles, to be sure. Much like a brick-and-mortar library, the available selections, all donated by friends and supporters, offer a range of publications for the discerning borrower: from erudite textbooks to engaging novel to some, that as the article notes, “may not even seem like overtly feminist texts at first glance.” Nonetheless, FLOW is receiving good word-of-mouth thus far, and Finley and her partner are hard at work on development of a consistent route, creating public events to promote their enterprise as well as refining their borrowing, return, and library membership systems. Having successfully achieved seed funding through crowd-sourcing, and having more than 100 library members, the duo hopes to grow both their initiative and local comprehension of what “feminism” is all about.

As Finley describes it, FLOW is “redefining what means to be a card-carrying feminist. It doesn’t tell you what feminism is— it gives you a tool to figure that out for yourself.”
THE ROCK

and Crystal Zamorano

SPRING 2015

before the 2014

LEGACY

tagging along to their college classes,

Sophia was hesitant to apply to Whittier daughters, April and Crystal, attended,

very involved on the Whittier campus graduates; it’s something that we share

seriously [Sophia] took her Whittier growing Poet family

Memorial Stadium and the Zamorano

College like it was her second home

prouder knowing how proud we've

made our parents

THREE SISTERS ARE STARTING A WHITTIER LEGACY

IN THE FAMILY

E

Though the Zamorano family was

"I was very proud to see how

many different areas like

advice in many different areas like

of Whittier, we were able to offer Sophia

college experience with her, as graduates

years apart, both sisters were consecutive

majored in child development; while

Maria Galbreath, director of the Ortiz

psychology professor Chuck Hill, Luz

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"When I told him a veterinarian, he

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for Sophia, Ortiz’s faith in

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decision I have ever made

"Though we did not get to share the

family connection that brought Sophia to Whittier. In middle

school, Sophia met Martin Ortiz '48, who lent his name and legacy to the Ortiz

Programs. Ortiz took the Zamorano family under his wings, encouraging the sisters to

become the first in their family to attend college. For Sophia, Ortiz’s faith in

her inspired her desire to pursue a higher education.

“Martin once asked me what I

wanted to be when I was older,” she

said. “When I told him a veterinarian, he
told me that he had a friend that was a

veterinarian and that he would set up

an internship for me; I was twelve at

the time. Martin believed in me before I

believed in myself.”

Sophia’s other mentors include

psychology professors Chuck Hill, Luz

Maria Galbreath, director of the Ortiz

Programs and Cultural Center, and, of

course, her sisters.

Her eldest sister, April '04, was

involved in the Thalian Society and

majored in child development; while

Crystal majored in psychology. Only

two years apart, both sisters were consecutive

presidents of the Hispanic Student

Association and played the Whittier

softball and volleyball teams.

“Though we did not get to share the
college experience with her, as graduates of Whittier, we were able to offer Sophia

advice in many different areas like

pledging, choosing a major, and helping with

her senior papers,” Crystal explains.

When the time came to transfer, however, Sophia could think of only one

place to apply: Whittier College.

“it couldn’t be anywhere anywhere else,”

recalls Sophia. “It has been the best
decision I have ever made. Whittier feels like

a second home for me.”

But it wasn’t just a family connection that brought Sophia to Whittier. In middle

school, Sophia met Martin Ortiz ’48, who lent his name and legacy to the Ortiz

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Alumnae News

CLASS NOTES

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My Journey

After nearly 10 years abroad in "The Land of Smiles," Bill Kelley is learning Thai and plans to reside in San Diego, CA.

[Description of the second edition of Christopher Cross's bestselling book, Political Education: Setting the Course for State and Federal Policy, was released earlier this year by Teachers College Press. The book provides a comprehensive analysis of federal education policy. Cross is the chairman of Cross & Joftus, LLC.]
Angus McKelvey '92

In 2013, Angus A. Quezada, Jr. was named the executive director of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles. Quezada became the first Hispanic executive director in the chamber's history. He is also the founding editor of the HCC's quarterly magazine, "Entrepreneur at Heart." Quezada is a Whittier Alumnus and has been an active member of the Whittier community since 2000.

Jedidiah Bushman '98

Jedidiah Bushman is a Whittier Alumnus and has been an active member of the Whittier community since 1992.

Bernard Veljacic '94

Bernard Veljacic '94 (left) has retained his seat as Superior Court Judge for Clark County in Washington State. Since 2007, he has served as a judge in the family law division of the Clark County Superior Court. He was elected to another term in Hawaii's House of Representatives.

In 2015, Long Beach City College President Michelle Lujan German '86 (top right) has been named the new head coach for the Long Beach City College women's water polo team. "He is a visionary leader with a passionate commitment to excellence and will be a great asset to our program and the young women under his tutelage," said Michigan Athletic Director Dave Brandon in a statement. "Bernard's diversity experiences and strong leadership qualities will help bring unique perspectives to the Clark County Superior Court." said Governor Jay Inslee in a media statement. "He combines public service with deep compassion, and I know he'll serve the people of Clark County well."

In 2013, Oliver de Boer '91 (right) has been named the new head coach for the University of Michigan's women's water polo team. "We are excited to announce Oliver de Boer as our new head coach," said Michigan Athletic Director Dave Brandon in a statement. "Oliver has an extensive coaching career, leading the team to a national championship in 2009. He is currently the women's national youth team coach, which will be competing this summer at the Youth World Championships in Madrid, Spain."

In 2013, Krista Bishop-Peever and her husband Larry welcomed their first child, Lauren. In early February 2015, they reside in San Diego where she is vice president of marketing at a holdings company.

In 2013, Min Koo '00 (left) has been named the new head coach for the University of Colorado's women's water polo team. "We are excited to welcome Min to Colorado," said Colorado Athletic Director Mike Bohn in a statement. "He combines public service with deep compassion, and I know he'll serve the people of Clark County well."

In 2013, Marcelo Leonardi '98 (top right) has been named the new head coach for the University of Michigan's women's water polo team. "His experience as a player and coach at all levels of the sport will be extremely valuable for our program and the young women under his tutelage," said Michigan Athletic Director Dave Brandon in a statement. "Marcelo's diversity experiences and strong leadership qualities will help bring unique perspectives to the Clark County Superior Court." said Governor Jay Inslee in a media statement. "He combines public service with deep compassion, and I know he'll serve the people of Clark County well."

In 2013, a Whittier Alumnus was recently appointed Assistant Principal at Yuba Linda High School in Yuba Linda, CA.

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IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE KENNETH TENOPIR ’48, ’49, a beloved member of the Poet Family, passed away on September 21, 2014. He was 90 years old.

Born in 1923 in Friend, Nebraska, Tenopir served with the Army in World War II before completing his studies at Whitter College where he met his wife Jane Longwell ’47.

Tenopir earned a B.A. and master’s degree from Whittier. He returned to his studies at Whittier when he was 11. A daughter, Susan Melissa Snyder, died in 2005.

Lee, a native of Kowloon, China, who came to live with the Snyders when he was 87. Her books lauded with Newbery Awards were The Egypt Game, The Headless Cupid, and The Witches of Worm. When asked why she wrote, Snyder once said that writing fiction is “a lot like being in love. The similarity lies in the tendency of people truly in love to see everything not only through their own eyes, but also through the eyes of the person they love.”

At Whittier Snyder majored in philosophy and was a member of the Palmer Society. She met her then-future husband Larry Snyder ’49 in the Campus Inn, where they both waited tables. Larry, a music major, was playing piano when they met. The two married in 1955, lived in Washington state and Alaska during his time with the Air Force, and finally settled in Berkeley, where for nine years she taught the upper grades of elementary school. It was teaching in the upper elementary grades that influenced her decision to try to write for children. Her first book for young people came out in 1964, Saison of Pomegranate, and her forty-fourth book, William’s Midsummer Dreams, was published in September 2011.

The Snyders were avid world travelers and Zilpha visited Whittier College regularly.

In addition to her husband Larry, a former dean at Sonoma State University, Snyder’s survivors include a son, Douglas, and foster son Benton Lee, a native of Kowloon, China, who came to live with the Snyders when he was 13. A daughter, Susan Melissa Snyder, died in 2005.

Whittier College alumnus and Newbery Award recipient, ZILPHA KEATLEY SNYDER ’48, who captivated two generations of children and young adults authoring more than 40 books, died on Oct. 7 in San Francisco, CA. She was 87. Her books lauded with Newbery Awards were The Egypt Game, The Headless Cupid, and The Witches of Worm. When asked why she wrote, Snyder once said that writing fiction is “a lot like being in love. The similarity lies in the tendency of people truly in love to see everything not only through their own eyes, but also through the eyes of the person they love.”

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Whittier Law School offers a unique legal education that prepares students with real-world skills and experience needed to launch into practice immediately after graduation.

Experience the Law is an innovative experiential teaching style that is used in more than half our courses. So, instead of just reading legal theory and ideas, students will find themselves arguing a case in front of a judge, cross-examining witnesses, and submitting documents into evidence, even as a first-year student.

National Jurist magazine named Experience the Law the “6th Most Innovative Idea” offered by law schools around the country.

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