Telluride Celebrates Its First Century

By Hammad Ahmed, SP02 TA10

Over one hundred members of the Telluride extended family gathered in 2011 to celebrate the Association’s centennial. Associates and alumni flocked to Ithaca from August 12-14, and to Ann Arbor from October 14-16 to reflect upon Telluride’s first century of service and to share their visions for the century ahead.

For some attendees like Mike Southwell, SP55, the centennial was a chance to get back in touch with Telluride after decades of absence. For others, the centennial was a mini-reunion only a few weeks after their TASP had ended. Attendees mingled and shared stories despite the long time spans that separated their Telluride experiences. Some, like Eric Swanson, DS65 BB68 TA69, and Maureen Graves, SP74 CB75 TA77, were even brave enough to speak on tape, recording their Telluride experience as part of a centennial oral history project.

The centennial historical photo exhibit made the task of reminiscing easier. Nearly seventy photographs from Telluride’s archives and old computers, mounted on large glossy prints, proudly displayed the iconic people and places of our Association, and offered glimpses of everyday life in the programs. Several attendees spotted themselves or people they knew in the photographs. Ammon Allred, SP94, was surprised to find a photo from his TASP in which he and others were dressed in drag. He had not realized it had been kept in the Telluride archives! (The historical exhibit is available online at http://tellurideassociation.org/about/centennial/historical_exhibit.html)

Reminiscence turned to reflection during the organized panels and speaker events. During a panel entitled “The Past, Present, and Future of Telluride,” former Association president Marilyn Migiel, SP71 CB72 TA74 SPF04, questioned whether the Association was doing enough to encourage diversity—including political diversity—in its programs. Others chimed in to say that the Association ought to do a better job of fundraising and development. A few felt that Telluride could host more regional events, dinners, or lectures, and create a stronger public impact, while some were uncomfortable with the idea of expanding the programs without a clear mission or purpose. A central question to which conversation often returned: What are the goals of Telluride Association? While there was no consensus on an answer, the centennial celebrations served as a starting point for thinking about possibilities.

Other panels served to showcase the accomplishments of Telluride Association and its alumni. Authors Dani-

The following is an excerpt from remarks delivered by Carol Owen, SP78 CB85 TA86, at TA’s Centennial Celebration in Ann Arbor on October 15, 2011.

Let us not forget the brief but glorious era of the Boat Committee. As reported in the Telluride Bulletin, December, 1912:

“This fall our foremost senior member, Mr. Nunn, presented the Cornell Branch with a thirty-six foot steel launch, equipped with a forty five horse-power Fay and Bowen Engine, an Electric Search Light, cushion seats, and all things which contribute to the comfort of passengers. Air chambers in her bow and stern and also under the seats make her a particularly safe boat. There is room for about twenty. She clips off fourteen miles per hour very nicely. We expect to derive a great deal of pleasure to this much appreciated gift.”

This expectation was met, as reported in the Telluride Bulletin of 1913:

“The boat has afforded much pleasure this spring. Painted in fresh colors and bearing the name of ‘Timpanogos,’ she proudly plows Cayuga’s waters at a rate of fourteen miles per hour. There have been a couple of boat-rides on which young ladies have been present. The boat now has the distinction of escorting the inter-college crews when they row on the lake. This is done gratis, as the crew management was unable to secure a boat this year which could keep up with the oarsmen. The boat is taken out by members of the branch on these occasions before.”

Esther Dyson, keynote speaker at the Ann Arbor Celebration.

Kathleen Sullivan, keynote speaker at the Ithaca Celebration. Photo credit: Kathy Morris

Brian Kennedy, Chuck Pazdernik, and Carol Owen participate in a panel discussion at the Ann Arbor Celebration.
Women will soon be students at Deep Springs College, possibly as early as the summer of 2013. The college’s board of trustees voted in favor of coeducation on September 17, 2011, bringing a close to decades of passionate and sometimes acrimonious debate. The all-male admissions policy has been in place since the school’s founding by L. L. Nunn in 1917. Nunn founded Telluride Association in 1911.

Located in an isolated desert valley near Big Pine, California, Deep Springs is an independent two-year liberal arts college that admits about thirteen students annually. Students pay no tuition or fees, but, in addition to attending classes in the liberal arts, work part-time operating the college and its farm and ranch. Like residents of TA’s houses at Cornell and Michigan, the students also engage in democratic self-governance and have broad responsibility for selecting incoming students and resident faculty.

The trustees of Deep Springs had considered the coeducation question twice before, in 1979 and 1993, both times voting to continue the college’s all-male status. Some members of Telluride Association, which has been fully coeducational since 1964, were sharply critical of the policy. Many now greeted the decision with optimism about the future. “I have every confidence that this change will mark the beginning of a great new era for the college,” said Carol Owen, SP78 CB85 TA86, a former president of TA who served as a trustee of Deep Springs from 1998 to 2007. “I am particularly excited about new opportunities for collaboration between Telluride and Deep Springs, and I look forward to working with both institutions in the coming years.”

Kristi Graunke, SP93 CB94 TA95, currently a lawyer with the Southern Poverty Law Center, was one of three women from CBTA who spent parts of the 1995-1996 academic year at Deep Springs as members of the Student Body. This past fall she returned to the Valley to lecture as the college’s Withrow Chair. “Among the community, I saw many qualities I recall from my time as a visiting student: Passion for ideas and books, appreciation for the unparalleled desert setting and the challenges and joys of laboring within it, and all-around quirkiness,” Graunke wrote of her recent visit. “My hope for the transition, and modest prediction, is that these features of community life will intensify and diversity as women join the student body.”

In an email to the Deep Springs alumni community after the decision, Dave Hitz, DS80, chairman of the college’s trustees, described the board’s struggle as one concerning how best to realize Nunn’s mission of preparing leaders for a life of service to humanity. “Most trustees believe that effective training must include women and men working together,” Hitz wrote. He called the tenor of the debate “cordial” and “less polarized” than those of previous years. Near-consensus on the issue was reflected in the vote of the trustees: 10-2 in favor of the change. The thirteen-member body, made up largely of alumni and friends of the college, also includes by tradition two elected members of the student body and, ex officio, the president of Telluride Association.

The Association’s current president, James May, SP99 CB00 TA02, resigned his position on the board immediately before the vote, prompted by concerns about the effect of his participation on the legitimacy of the decision. In 1999, TA expressed its disapproval of the college’s all-male status by passing a By-Law that required its representative on the college’s board to vote in favor of changing the admissions policy. In anticipation of the upcoming vote, concerns were raised at Convention in June 2011 that the By-Law could not only diminish the TA president’s status as a good-faith participant in the discussion, but furthermore potentially provide an avenue for challenging the result in court, as the voting restriction might seem to impinge on the “duty of care” imposed on trustees by California law.

In light of these concerns, the members of TA chose to remove from the By-Laws the restriction on the president’s vote on coeducation. Recognizing that a mere abstention or recusal would not do justice to members’ strong convictions on the issue, they also permitted the president to resign his or her ex officio position on the college’s board if this seemed “the most appropriate way of honoring his or her duties to both the Association and the Trustees of Deep Springs.” This option was eventually exercised by May.

“Beginning and end,” May wrote in an email to the members of TA, “I argued for what I believed in – the end of the single-sex policy – but I heard many respectable contrary positions expressed, and was impressed by the thoughtfulness and care shown by the Board and the whole Deep Springs community in debating it.” He called his resignation – and the simultaneous resignation of David Neidorf, the President of Deep Springs, from his ex officio membership in the Association – “less a rupture than a cleaning of the slate.” According to Neidorf, the reciprocal trustee structure, whereby the presidents of each organization sit on the other’s board, is unlikely to be maintained. An ad hoc committee with representatives from both institutions has been
Adventure and Education in Madrid

By Elan Jones, CB09

Elan Jones, CB09, is the 2011 recipient of the Mike Yarrow Adventurous Education Award. She spent the past summer working with la Cruz Roja, the Spanish branch of the Red Cross.

“I have no idea what to expect”, or some other permutation of words that portrays a similar sentiment frequently infuse themselves into conversations concerning new journeys and adventures. I’m in a foreign country, miles, oceans, and multiple time-zones away from everything I’ve ever known, standing in front of one of Madrid’s numerous migrant inclusion centers. My adventure began a few weeks ago but I’d known exactly what to expect because everything had gone perfectly according to plan. I had done incredibly well in my Spanish immersion course, so I was slightly more confident in my conversational skills. I was still making mistakes. For example, I asked for cocaine (coca) instead of chapstick (coco), and you’d be surprised how similar “I am hungry” sounds to “like I have a man”. But I was getting through.

I had also taken my first few weeks in Madrid to get to know the city. Now, my heart beat to the rhythm of the calles and I could navigate the metro and Madrid’s labyrinth like streets with ease and confidence.  I, the reluctant adventurer, took comfort in knowing exactly what to expect.

In front of the migrant inclusion center, I started data collection for the first time. My Type A/borderline OCD persona—reinforced with clipboards, highlighters, checklists and pencils sharpened to meticulous points—served as a protective barrier between my social anxiety and this mandatory interaction with complete strangers. They were talking to a researcher, and I was talking to subjects. Within that paradigm my painfully introverted personality wouldn’t cripple me. Hiding behind my stack of questionnaires, I approached my first research subject. Eyes firmly affixed to the script I’d drafted and had been rehearsing for weeks, I delivered my monologue introduction:

“The plan I’d laid out for myself, and on which my Yarrow proposal was based, is a bit jumbled now because the experience I have gained over the summer has allowed me to see just how narrow-minded my approach to creating a better society has been. The change I’m hoping to inspire won’t come out of a questionnaire or an equation; it comes from connecting people to one another.”

I reassuringly clicked my highlighter and awaited their response. When silence greeted me, I hesitantly raised my eyes for the first time since approaching my subject. “That’s odd?” I thought, “I don’t remember them being so far away from me. Walking. Jogging. Sprinting? Away from me. Odd indeed.” But I filed that away under other researchable phenomena, honed onto another subject, approached him, and once again began to deliver my monologue. This time before I got through my first sentence, I was nearly knocked over as he brushed me aside with a gesture remarkably similar to that which one would employ when swatting away an annoying insect.

Three hours later, I’d been propositioned, asked for money and had a few words whose definitions can’t be found in traditional dictionaries hurled at me. Two weeks later I had zero viable responses, but more than discouragement, confusion was starting to set in. What was I doing wrong? I had a plan. Even more than just a plan, I had an Excel spreadsheet and a checklist. Nothing can go wrong when you have a checklist. Due to the schedule I had laid out for myself, I didn’t have time to properly address the issue. I had to be at la Cruz Roja (the Spanish branch of the Red Cross) in an hour for my first volunteer training session. The center was about a ten-minute metro ride away, so of course, I was already behind schedule.

There are about twenty other volunteers in my group. Students in their senior year of high school, a computer programmer, myself, the only non-native Spanish speaker, a third grade teacher, a retired banker, a photographer, and a stay at home mother just to name a few. Here we are. Strangers. But we’re learning, we’re laughing we’re sharing, all of us strangers. We’re connecting with one another and they’re sharing their life stories with me. They’re from Latin America, from all different parts of Spain, from right here in Madrid. They’re being patient with me and my virtually indecipherable American accent. I don’t have my checklist and I’m not being a researcher. I’m me and they are who they are. And they want to talk to me. I don’t have to probe. They’re asking me questions; they’re clarifying things that
Deep Springs Coeducation

(continued from page 2)

appointed to consider different forms of possible collaboration, under the leadership of Noah Rosenblum, DS03 TA05.

In preparation for the vote, the college’s trustees undertook a comprehensive program of consultation with the broader Deep Springs community, soliciting written comments and holding “listening sessions” around the country. The discussion was deliberately limited to considering the basic desirability, rather than the feasibility, of the change. Now a Transition Committee, including students, faculty, alumni, and outside educational experts, has been formed to begin planning for the change. “I think the biggest challenge will be balancing the need for new policies with the core mission of the college, which is to give students a high degree of ownership regarding their educational experience,” said Justin Kim, a former dean of Deep Springs and the administrative coordinator for the Transition Committee. Kim will be co-teaching a Michigan TASP in the summer of 2012.

In the meantime, the college’s trustees have petitioned the Inyo County Superior Court to permit a transition to coeducation under the terms of the Deed of Trust, the legal document by which Nunn endowed the college as an institution for “the education and development of promising young men.” In early March of 2012, two trustees, Kinch Hoekstra, DS82, and Ed Keonjian, DS55, requested and received a two-month delay of proceedings in order to file a counter-petition. On May 8, 2012, the two disagreeing trustees, Hoekstra and Keonjian, filed an objection with the Superior Court. All court documents are publicly available, including on the college’s website.

The relationship between TA and Deep Springs over the years has been both close and complicated. Traditionally TA’s Convention has been held at Deep Springs every seventh year (although that tradition will be interrupted for scheduling reasons in 2012). Nunn originally envisioned that graduates of his college would complete their studies at Cornell, in residence at CBTA. This pattern endured for decades, but in the 1960s the two institutions began to grow apart. The Cornell Branch, a majority of whose members were once Deep Springers, began instead to draw its residents – now including women – from the Hill and from the TASP’s, founded in 1954. Currently no Deep Springers reside at the Cornell Branch, and none has ever resided at the Michigan Branch.

In 1998, TA made a controversial decision to invest $1.8 million in a limited liability corporation, known as L.L. Nunn LLC, as a mechanism to help the college, then in difficult financial straits, to pay for the renovation of its campus. The LLC, of which TA holds a minority share, now owns the Main Building at Deep Springs. Beginning in 2019, TA has the option of requiring Deep Springs to buy out the Association’s stake by repaying, within seven years, the investment, with interest calculated from the Consumer Price Index. In 1999, TA mandated that the option be exercised when available if Deep Springs had not yet abandoned the all-male policy. The ongoing management of the LLC has been burdensome, but an attempt to wind it down in 2008 failed due to lack of agreement about its valuation. The future of TA’s investment is now unclear, and the policy on its investment in the LLC may be revisited.

Important differences between the two organizations’ cultures and values will, moreover, remain after the transition to coeducation. Some in TA have in the past viewed Deep Springs as too elitist and isolated to effectively train leaders for service, while others consider its intensity as a Nunnian experiment in communal living and self-governance to be an ideal for TA’s own branches. The college is also often either praised or deplored for its humanities curriculum, in practice focused on the Western canon. The past decade, however, has seen an apparent resurgence of interest in what the organizations share in common. In its current membership of just under one hundred, the Association counts fifteen alumni of Deep Springs; ten have joined since 2004, none of whom had participated in another Telluride program. The coming year will doubtless see vigorous debate about the shape of the future relationship between the two halves of Nunn’s legacy.
Marilyn Migiel and Jamie May participate in a panel at the Ithaca Celebration.

2010 TASPers at the Ithaca Celebration.

Centennial
(continued from page 1)

elle Evans, SP99, and Jenny B. Lee, SP93, discussed their published work and the challenges of writing fiction versus nonfiction, while Jack Newell, DS56, announced his upcoming biography of L.L. Nunn based on the amazing historical record he uncovered from letters newly obtained from the Nunn family. Miriam Aukerman, SP86 CB87 TA88, and Tom Hawks, SP85 CB86 TA87, retold the story of the opening of the Michigan Branch, and Carol Owen, SP78 CB85 TA86, Brian Kennedy, SP60 CB61 TA63, and Chuck Pazdernik, SP85 CB86 TA87, recounted steering Telluride’s finances over the years.

The centerpieces of the Centennial celebrations were the keynote speeches. In Ithaca, Kathleen Sullivan, SP71 CB72 TA74, gave a talk entitled “The Supreme Court and American Democracy” in Annabel Taylor Hall. She drew on her extensive experience as a litigator and constitutional Law professor to argue that the Court’s decisions, although sometimes appearing baldly political, were actually motivated by the Justices’ genuine wrangling over intractable philosophical questions. Only a few hours later, she was cutting a rug with others in the Cornell Branch living room to some funky jazz, thus demonstrating that once a Tellurider, always a Tellurider. In Ann Arbor, Esther Dyson, SP67, gave a talk entitled “Travel as Education” to a crowd seated in the Michigan Union. She recounted the risks she had taken in her early career, from spending half of her yearly salary to go and report a news story in Japan to spending a summer in Oujda, Morocco, and how these experiences had affirmed her conviction that travel is one of the most important catalysts for personal and professional growth.

Though the celebrations are over, the momentum they generated continues. Association members are following up with attendees to implement some of the visions that were shared. The committee of organizers of the centennial celebrations wish to thank everyone who attended for helping make the events such a special occasion.

Telluriders mingle with Kathleen Sullivan following her keynote address.

Photos on this page courtesy of Kathy Morris.

Yarrow Report
(continued from page 3)

are slightly confusing. They’re telling me what they do, what they did, what brought them here, how they came to be here, and at some point, sometime in between playing squawking like chickens as we practice age appropriate games and discussing what inherent rights all children have, something clicks.

I’m on the metro. The train makes a sudden jerk, and my hand, that is usually grasping frantically at my clipboard reaches out of its own volition to steady the woman standing beside me. “They just raised the fair an extra fifty cents,” I say. “You’d think they could afford to teach these people how to work them.” Twenty minutes later my clipboard-less hand is waving goodbye as she steps off. I’m waving goodbye to a woman who’s just told me about the impact this raise has had on her ability to buy food. She’s told me that she came here for a better job and to give her children better opportunities, but with the economic crisis there are no jobs and if she had known she wouldn’t have been able to find work, she would have stayed in Nigeria. During our conversation I’ve long since missed my stop, but I don’t mind. I’m lost in my thoughts and the significance of our connection as I ride the Metro for another hour, simultaneously retracing our conversation and my route home.

A month later, I’ve talked to more people than I count. I’ve been around the country, Córdoba, Barcelona, Sevilla, and Malaga. I’ve spoken to strangers. I’ve spoken to people about their past, their present, their hopes and dreams. I’ve heard stories of success. Of failure. Of loss. I’m gaining a better understanding of the contrast that sometimes exists between pre- and post-migratory perceptions of target destinations, (as it will be called in my thesis anyway) more interestingly known as, “Is your life here what you thought it would be before you decided to immigrate to Spain? Are you glad you came? Do you wish you had stayed in your home country?” I’m crying and laughing and sharing food with complete strangers.

For me, more important than the information I’ve gathered for my thesis, is the time I’ve spent with people. It’s the realization that I’m talking to people. I’m not hiding beneath my researcher hat and my clipboard. I’m able to see beyond big fancy words, statistics and journal articles. Beyond public policy, research institutes and symposiums. I’m seeing faces, and people, now I’m

(continued on page 8)
Thank you, to each of the 141 associates who interviewed summer 2011 candidates.

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**TASP**

**Cornell I**  
*Literature Takes on Moral Complexity*  
*Faculty:* Professor Kathleen Long and Professor Marilyn Migiel, Department of Romance Studies, Cornell University  
*Factotum:* Keyanah Freeland, Columbia University

**Cornell II**  
*Democracy and Diversity*  
*Faculty:* Professor Angelia Means, Independent Scholar; and Professor David Peritz, Department of Political Science, Sarah Lawrence College  
*Factotum:* James Durling, Davidson College

**University of Michigan I**  
*The Origin of Species and the Politics of Evolution*  
*Faculty:* Professor Benjamin Gregg and Professor David Prindle, Department of Government, The University of Texas at Austin  
*Factotum:* Jenny Sun, Rice University

**University of Michigan II**  
*Modernism Through Modern Art and Theatre*  
*Faculty:* Professor Charles Grimes, Department of Theatre, University of North Carolina, Wilmington; and Professor Justin Kim, Studio Art and Art History, Deep Springs College  
*Factotum:* Cory Myers, Deep Springs College

**Indiana University**  
*Don’t Believe the Hype: Facing Cultural Misinformation about African Americans with Historical and Legal Truths*  
*Faculty:* Professor A.B. Assensoh, Department of Afro-American Studies; and Professor Yvette Marie Alex-Assensoh, Department of Political Science, Indiana University  
*Tutors:* Marybeth Seitz-Brown, Columbia University, and Innocent Akurutu, Howard University

**University of Michigan TASS**  
*Mass Incarceration: Race, Punishment, and Contemporary Urban America*  
*Faculty:* Professor Ahmad Rahman, Department of Social Sciences, University of Michigan, Dearborn; and Professor Stephen Ward, Department of Afroamerican & African Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
*Tutors:* Aaron Johnson, Columbia University, and Alexandria Benfield, Northwestern University

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Yousef AbuGharbieh  
Beenish Ahmed  
Hammad Ahmed  
Karen Amano Tompkins  
Sarah Asman  
Martyn Atkins  
Ellen Baer  
Sarah Bagby  
Siddhartha Bajracharya  
Lisa Ban*  
Michael Barany  
Frederick Barber  
Desiree Barron*  
Jessica Bauman  
Joseph Beck  
Michael Becker*  
Taylor Black  
Megan Bott  
Tyler Brown  
Eve Buckley  
Sebrina Campbell*  
Jessica Cattelino  
Christopher Chapman  
Chen Chen  
Stacy Christopher*  
Yousef AbuGharbieh  
Elizabeth Cookson*  
Alexandra Cooper Ponte*  
Joel Dahl  
Sonia Dekhtyar  
Jacob Denz  
Wesley Dexn*  
Jessica Dragonetti  
Sasha Mae Eccleston  
Maximilian Eisenburger  
Ryan Erickson  
Siyi Fang*  
Marc Franzoni  
Carlos Garcia*  
Luis Garcia  
Olubukola Chadiegesin  
Martin Geiger  
Kristi Graunke  
Jennifer Green*  
Tamar Haddad*  
Tianhu Han  
Elston He  
Benjamin Healy  
Claire Horan  
Sarah Howland  
Yifeng (Frank) Huang*  
Elan Jones*  
Jonathan Jones  
Shili Kannan*  
Mona Karim El Gabry  
Stephanie Kelly  
Daniel Kesler*  
Peter Kesler  
Steve Kim  
Daniel Kinderman  
Michelle Kizer  
Laura Kling*  
Franz Kogler  
Melhes Konuk  
Selena Kyle  
Allison La Fave*  
Emily LaDue  
Holly LaDue  
Melissa Lang*  
Matt Leipazig  
Joy Liu  
Lara Makaymonko  
Aida Manduley  
Maia Manes*  
Anthony Mariano  
Leigh Marshall  
James May  
Marissa Medansky*  
Carolyn Miller  
Alan Mischler  
Kristofer Monson  
Kevin Moriarty  
Benjamin Morris*  
Alfredo Muzis*  
Habiba Musah  
Ryan Nefdt*  
Jon Noronha*  
Rebekah Nutter  
Kyle O’Malley  
George Ordal  
Carol Owen  
Poomima Paidipaty  
Oana Paltineanu  
Jennifer Pasternewck  
James Pautz  
Charles Pazdernik  
Govind Persad  
Benjamin Phelps Rohns  
Sasha Polakov Suransky*  
Todd Price  
Adler Prioly*  
Kenneth Pursley  
Daniel Ranweiler*  
Carolyn Miller  
Neil Rao*  
Adi Robertson  
William Rogers*  
Noah Rosenblum  
Rose Ruther  
Puneet Sahota  
Shannon Sakrewski  
Amy Saltzman  
Darby Saxbe*  
Theodore Schall  
Ella Schwalt*  
Michael Schwam Baird  
Mary Seitz Brown*  
Calvin Selth  
Dongeon Seo*  
Laura Shaiplov  
Matthew Slavton*  
Katia Sobolski*  
Charlie Sun*  
Irene Sun  
Sam Tepperman Geliant

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TASP  
Indiana University  
TASS  
*First-time interviewers*
College Choice

Congratulations to our 2009 TASSers and 2010 TASPers as they begin the next phase of their academic journeys.

**Cornell I TASP**
Mounia Abousaid—Columbia University
Sevonna Brown—Williams College
Audrey Dantzlerward—Princeton University
Aleksandra Gjorgievska—Yale University
Adam Khan—University of Chicago
Daniel Ki—Harvard University
Devon Kovacs—Harvard University
David Lee—Deferring
David Luna—Columbia University
Marissa Medansky—Yale University
Avani Mehta—Yale University
Alfredo Muniz—University of Pennsylvania
Joao Nascimento—Brown University
Sresht Rengesh—MIT
Rahul Sabbineni—Johns Hopkins University
Faheem Zaman—Harvard College

**Cornell II TASP**
Owen Barrett—Yale University
Ana Diaz—Columbia University
Julia Fine—Stanford University
Katherine Haller—Columbia University
Marquessa Henry—Cornell University
Tucker Kelly—Harvard University
Marcus Levine—Columbia University
Beatrice Malsky—University of Chicago
Taylor Rothlein—Cornell University
Brian Tich—Stanford University
Christina Zhang—Cornell University
Karen Zhou—Columbia University

**UT Austin TASP**
Asad Akhany—UC Berkeley
Jeremy Budd—Columbia University
Andrea Cohen—Georgetown University
Peter Daniels—Swarthmore College
Wesley Dixon—Yale University
Mara Freilich—Brown University
Alison Herman—Columbia University
Joseph Moo-Young—North Carolina State University
Mobashir Poonawalla—UC Berkeley
Nooreen Reza—Yale University
Benedikt Schopper—University of Oxford
Aparajit Srim—Brown University
Ira Syed—Yale University
Alaa Taha—Stanford University
Ivy Yan—Harvard University
Li-Ning Yang—Dartmouth College

**Indiana TASS**
Demetrius Baefsky—University of California
Patricia Ekpo—Brown University
Cheta Emba—Harvard University
Claude-Michael Ezie—Harvard University
Thaddaeus Gregory—Carleton College
AdePeju Oshodi—Indiana University
Aijalon Range—Tuskegee University
Nabil Zaman—Harvey Mudd College

**Michigan TASS**
Alexander Bolden—Bates College
Barbara DeLarm—Indiana University
Isiah Dodd—Grand Valley State University
Nathan Haist—University of Chicago
Jesse Idun—University of Pennsylvania
Tiara Jones—Wheaton College
Ibironke Otusile—Wesleyan University
Sylph Percovich—Harvard University
Adam Ratajczak—Harvard University
Morgan White—Yale University

A total of 1,354 TASP Applications were received this year. TA wishes to acknowledge the tremendous effort of the Cornell and Michigan Branches and Telluride associates who read individually and during reading days.

Top to bottom: 2011 UM TASPers paint the rock; 2011 Cornell TASPers pose for the camera; 2011 UM TASSers following a celebratory dinner out.
questioning. Researcher me didn’t get anywhere. When I was a researcher I was ignored, brushed aside, and disregarded. But as a person willing to listen, to engage and to talk, I was accepted. As a volunteer I was welcomed. As a tutor I was laughed with, rather than at.

According to my Yarrow proposal, the purpose of this trip was to gather information for the Masters Thesis I’m writing to submit to Ph.D. applications. The purpose of my adventure was to jump start my path to obtaining the Ph.D. I thought I needed to make a difference. Yes, this scholarship did allow me to gather that information and I could still write that thesis, and I probably will. But the most significant part of my adventure was not included in my proposal because it was completely unexpected.

This adventure has caused me to question what I’m doing with my life. Do I want to dedicate the next five years of my life to obtaining a Ph.D., or do I want to spend the next part of my life being the change that I’m hoping my research would inspire? Do I want to gather data and statistics and write about why improved immigration policies are vital in today’s globalized economy, or would I rather do something with a more direct impact? What can I do to help? Teaching English, volunteering at after-school programs, providing free childcare for working parents? What serves the greater good, contributing to research accessible to countless academic institutions, or directly contributing to the life of one family? Should I endeavor to provide research so that immigration policies can be empirically supported, or should I give my time support to one person in their endeavors?

The plan I’d laid out for myself, and on which my Yarrow proposal was based, is a bit jumbled now because the experience I have gained over the summer has allowed me to see just how narrow-minded my approach to creating a better society has been. The change I’m hoping to inspire won’t come out of a questionnaire or an equation; it comes from connecting people to one another. When people are connected they care and when they care they want to help, they want things to be better. No amount of reading or statistics can create a personal connection between you and me, or between anyone and anything. What I’m hoping to inspire requires people to connect with one another, not through books, articles or checklists, but by going out and experiencing the world and the people in it. I’m incredibly thankful that the Yarrow scholarship gave me the opportunity to do just that.

The Mike Yarrow Adventurous Education Award was founded in honor of C. H. “Mike” Yarrow (1910-1985). The recipient of the Yarrow Award receives a stipend to support their participation in a summer non-paying public service activity that is outside of an academic institution and is clearly in line with, and reflects, Mike Yarrow’s interests in peace and service to humanity.

Yarrow Report  (continued from page 5)

Spring Break at Freedom House

By Madeline Huberth, MB10

Freedom House is a unique organization. Housing approximately thirty refugees, mostly from sub-Saharan Africa, it is the only agency in the United States that provides comprehensive services to its residents, including legal services, health services, and temporary housing for after their asylum is granted.

For five days during spring break, I and five other MB-TAers spent our afternoons and evenings with the residents of Freedom House. We served as a language resource as the residents practiced their English, brought in a local financial advisor who discussed basic finances in the U.S. – how taxes work, how credit and debit cards work, and how to live within your means – and shared music, sports, and meals. At the initiative of the Freedom House staff, we were even included in their group prayer sessions as they wished their departing residents good luck in the courts or in their future homes.

For some of us, these five days were a step out of our comfort zone. Forming relationships with some of the residents required unreservedness and patience, but at the end of the trip, both the Freedom House residents and staff referred to us as family – a title I truly take to heart.

Through this trip, we saw how the strength of a community can provide for people who are in even the most tenuous states of security, and learned that mutual support is indeed a commodity that one cannot share enough.

I give my sincerest gratitude to Telluride Association for the resources that supported this trip. We hope to continue our relationship with Freedom House in the future.
Michigan Branch
Year in Review

By Yourui Yeo, MB11

For its 10th year, MBTA kicked off in September with a fun orientation session at River Hawk Lodge, where new and returning housemembers got to know each other in a relaxed atmosphere filled with laughter and fun activities like canoeing, campfire story-telling and over-consumption of s’mores. Shortly thereafter, new housemembers naturally partook in the House tradition of leaving their legacy in the form of handprints on the second-floor walls. The busy September ended with MBTA hosting the annual TADAS weekend, where MBTA members shared college experiences with the TASS alumni. The well-received, semester-long Saturday-Dining-Out initiative also began then, which aimed to bring housemembers closer by encouraging them to explore the Ann Arbor food scene together.

In mid-October, MBTA was buzzing with activities as the Centennial Celebrations took place and the House welcomed many distinguished TA members and friends of TA. Housemembers were very intrigued by the history of their beloved Michigan Branch, especially Carol Owen’s amusing tale of the acquisition of the House. The lovely weekend ended with an inspiring keynote speech by Esther Dyson, who reflected on the importance of travel in shaping her life. As fall finally settled in, housemembers enjoyed fresh cider, apples and doughnuts obtained through an apple picking initiative made by Dr. Obi, MBTA’s faculty guest from Nigeria.

In November, the house held its traditional Thanksgiving Dinner, during which housemembers took turns sharing about the things for which they were thankful. The last month of 2011 commenced with the last Telluride Lecture Series event of the year – a dance performance and presentation that was held on North Campus. As the semester drew to a close and exam stress heightened, MBTA’s entertainment committee sought to sweeten housemembers’ days with a well-timed dessert outing to the Cupcake Station and a relaxation event before finals.

As always, MBTA was actively involved in community service. MBTA members volunteered in the house project titled, “A Taste of Music and Museums” (ATOM2). Housemembers got to know residents at nearby homeless shelters and attended cultural events with them. Another House project was done in collaboration with Freedom House, a refuge shelter in Detroit. Housemembers visited regularly to practice English with the residents and befriended them. Most importantly, a discussion led by a speaker from the University’s Ginsberg Center for Community Service helped housemembers better reflect on the meaning of community service.

Finally, MBTA launched a new blog to better chronicle life at the House: http://telluridehouseannarbor.wordpress.com/
Cornell Branch Road Trip

By Jacob Krell, CB12

In the midst of a brief jaunt through New York City to decompress after thousands of miles in a beige station wagon affectionately dubbed the ‘eggmobile’ and nine interviews of prospective TASS and TASP applicants, CBTA residents Chris Levesque, SP08 CB09, Audrey Keranen, CB11, Uku Lember, CB11, and Jacob Krell, CB12 found themselves sitting with friends in a nearly empty, drably ornate dining room in the center of Flushing’s Chinatown around a table crowded with platters of beef stomach, cuttlefish, lotus root, and a sort of indefensibly obscene amount of thinly shaved beef, elements of the restaurant’s all-you-can-eat hot pot extravaganza. Fixated upon dunking strange object after strange object into the diabolically spicy broth, no one immediately reacted when one of the members of the party, exposed to the prospect of all-you-can-eat dining for the first time and bloated beyond the point of cognition referred to the whole thing as “Everlasting Christmas.” Ten seconds later, no one could stop laughing.

That metaphor resonated with Uku, Audrey, Chris, and Jacob’s entire week-long trip through Buffalo, NY, Pittsburgh, West Virginia, backwoods-Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., and NYC, an expedition full of unfamiliar things made hilarious or important or inspiring and familiar things becoming once again totally weird and novel and awesome. From eating beef sandwiches in Buffalo at a hole-in-the-wall where Harleys by some bizarre logic outnumbered patrons to spending a night in a small Virginia town that looked more conducive to filming Golden Era Hollywood musicals than to contemporary life, to interviewing a pool of impressive candidates, each one of whom brought something particular and strange and unprecedented to the table, nothing really went as planned, and nothing happened as expected.

We are, needless to say, still recovering.
1940s

Robert RICHTER, PB47, is completing a documentary, Leaving Home. The documentary explores life and marriage in the rural Indian village of Rankhandi. The film closely follows the life of a young woman in this community, Renu, and through it explores topics of gender inequality, women’s, and human rights.

1950s


1960s

In May 2011, Paul WOLFOWITZ, SP60 CB61 TA62, gave an interview with The Wall Street Journal on the democratic uprisings in the Middle East known as the Arab Spring. More recently, on April 13, 2012, Wolfowitz joined Telluriders for breakfast at CBTA. An effort some fifty years in the making, Isao FUJIMOTO, CB62 TA63, earned a PhD in Development Sociology from Cornell University in 2010. Fujimoto, a senior lecturer emeritus at the University of California, Davis, wrote his thesis on multiethnic efforts to organize immigrant communities in California’s Central Valley. Fujimoto began his dissertation in 1962 but put his work aside when recruited by UC Davis to establish a program in community development. In addition to his academic pursuits in rural sociology, farm labor issues, and social justice, Fujimoto also helped found the Asian American Studies Program at UC Davis, one of the first in the country.

In November 2011, William A. GALSTON, SP62 CB63 TA64, had an editorial published in The New York Times. The piece explored the idea of a mandatory voting requirement in the United States and examined how such legislation has panned out in similar countries such as Australia. Galston is a senior fellow at the Brookings Institute.

Matthew CLARK, SP65 CB66, took a break from classics to write a study of language and narrative, Narrative Structures and the Language of the Self, published in the fall of 2010 by the Ohio State University Press. He will return to classics, however, with a textbook, Exploring Greek Myth, to be published in 2012 by Blackwell.

Stephen GEIS, SP66 BB67, retired from his position as Head of the Management Planning Unit of the International Telecommunications Union, a welcome respite after nearly three decades of service. Based in Geneva, Switzerland, Geis writes that he looks forward to being able to spend more time stateside.

In October 2011, Walter ISAACSON, SP69, published the highly acclaimed biography of Apple founder and technological innovator Steve Jobs. Isaacson worked directly with Jobs and his family on the project. In addition to his bibliographical work, Isaacson is the current President and CEO of the Aspen Institute.

1970s

Elizabeth KOLBERT, SP78, had an article, “Two Degrees of Disaster” published in The New Yorker last November. The piece concerned itself with the effects—or lack thereof—of the Copenhagen Accord of 2009, an international agreement to limit the increase in global temperatures by two degrees Celsius. Kolbert has been a staff writer at the publication since 1999.

In 2010, Lars WULFF, DS79 UC85 TA86, became a father.

1980s

The American Enterprise Institute’s Michael GREVE, CB82 TA83, authored The Upside-Down Constitution, released in February 2012. Greve examines the role of federalism in our current political system, in particular through the lens of modern conservative thought.

David GOLDFARB, DS84 CB86, is presently working as Curator of Literature and Humanities at the Polish Cultural Institute in New York; his work focuses on cultural exchange between Poland and the United States. His wife, fellow Telluride alum Nina GUERRERO, SP82 CB83 TA86, is working as a research coordinator at the Nordoff-Robbins Center for Music Therapy at New York University. They have a four-year old son, Melchior.

Miriam AUKERMAN, SP86 CB87 TA88, began working for the American Civil Liberties Union office in West Michigan. In March 2012, Aukerman was honored at a dinner of the Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan. Recently, Aukerman has spoken out against a Michigan anti-begging law; in September of last year she filed a suit on behalf of two Grand Rapids residents who had been jailed on its account. She states “Removing the reminders of poverty from our sight is not the answer to Michigan’s economic woes.” A video of Ms. Aukerman explaining the case can be found at http://www.aclumich.org/node/1672.

Samuel LANEY, DS87 CB89, embarked in the spring of 2011 on a NASA-sponsored oceanographic trip to the Arctic Ocean. Traveling on a Coast Guard icebreaker, Laney’s role as a biological

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Paul Wolfowitz with Elizabeth Soltan, SP07 CB08 on April 13, 2012

A video of Ms. Aukerman explaining the case can be found at http://www.aclumich.org/node/1672.

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oceanographer is to better understand the algae in those waters and to determine what effect, if any, climate change will have on these species. A website documenting the work of the expedition can be found at www.espo.nasa.gov/ic-escape/.

Last year Carlos ROJAS, SP87 CB88 TA90, became an Associate Professor of Chinese Cultural Studies, Women’s Studies, and Arts of the Moving Image at Duke University – advancing from the post of assistant professor after only two years. In 2011 he also published “Discourses of Disease” in a special issue of Modern Chinese Literature and Culture. Other recent works by Rojas include The Naked Gaze: Reflections on Chinese Modernity and a translation of Yu Hua’s Brothers; both projects were carried out with partner Eileen Chow. The pair also celebrated the second birthday of their child Quince last November.

Following the release of his “Autumn Rain” science fiction trilogy, David J. WILLIAMS, SP88, has authored a new novel, The Pillars of Hercules, which hit the shelves on March 6, 2012. Written under the pen-name David Constantine, the book follows a band of characters in their struggle to save the world from the ravages of Alexander the Great. More information on David and his recent work can be found at www.thepillarsofhercules.com.

Shael POLAKOW-SURANSKY, SP89, has been named the Senior Deputy Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education. This appointment is the most recent in a long chain of achievements since Polakow-Suransky began working in New York City public schools in 1994.

Braxton POPE, SP89 CB90 TA92, recently completed post-production on his film, Hirokin. He is also working as a co-producer for the film, Way Down South. This newest project of Pope’s follows the story of an indebted gambler and small time crook who, in an effort to escape the wrath of a loan shark, steals a Civil War-era sword from a museum. The film is planned to be released in 2013.

1990s

Jessica CATTELINO, SP91 CB92 TA93, and Noah ZATZ, SP89 CB90 TA92, were thrilled last October by the birth of their daughter, Rosemary Quinn Zattelino. Both are professors at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Last summer Suzanne HAGEDORN, CB91 TA92, returned to teaching in the English Department at the College of William and Mary after spending time with her newborn son Ned. For his part, Ned has begun daycare. Hagedorn states, “He got a little fussy, but did pretty well.”

Rebecca SHEROUSE, SP91 CB92 TA94, married Jeremy Wohl in June 2010. She lives in the bay area and enjoys her job teaching English at Castilleja School for girls in Palo Alto.

Telluriders Mark GREIF, SP92, and Tim BARKER, SP08, have both become involved with the New York literary group The New Inquiry. The recently created nonprofit devotes itself to the “discussion… promotion and exploration of ideas.” While Greif maintains his post as editor at n+1, a literary magazine, Barker—a student at Columbia—has signed onto The New Inquiry as assistant editor. Of the publication, Barker states his motivation for participating comes from the desire to “discuss ideas at an extremely high level, without worrying about status or material support of traditional institutions: publishing houses or universities.” The New Inquiry can be found at www.thenewinquiry.com and n+1 can be found at www.nplusonemag.com.

Sasha POLAKOW-SURANSKY, SP96, joined The New York Times last year as Staff Editor of the Op-Ed Page. Polakow-Suransky had previously worked as the Senior Editor of Foreign Affairs magazine. A frequent writer on international issues, 2010 saw the publication of Polakow-Suransky’s The Unspoken Alliance: Israel’s Secret Relationship with Apartheid South Africa.

In October 2011, Chris FLEITAS, SP98 TA07, appeared as a two-day champion on the popular television game show Jeopardy.

Raj PATEL, CB98, appeared in a Democracy Now! interview. The discussion focused on hunger in the U.S and policies meant to address the issue. Patel was brought on to share his expertise in part due to his participation in an upcoming documentary, Finding North, which examines domestic hunger.

Last summer Derek LYON, DS99 TA09, began work as Product Manager for Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) – the central product for the web service division of Amazon.com. Lyon has relocated to Seattle for the position.

Since attaining a PhD in Philosophy from MIT in 2008, Seth YALCIN, MB99, has joined the faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, as an Assistant Professor of Philosophy. Yalcin devotes
much of his academic time to the study of the philosophy of the mind, metaphysics, epistemology, and linguistics. This spring he will be teaching a course entitled “Philosophical Methods”.

2000s

Shawnakim LOWEY-BALL, SP00 CB01 TA04, and John WYNNE, CB01 TA06, were married on August 27, 2011 in Milton, CT. Despite the arrival of Hurricane Irene that weekend, everyone, including fellow Telluriders Jamie MAY, SP99 CB00 TA02, Dan GALINDO, SP99 CB00 TA01, Lauren BOEHM, CB02, Nathan NAGY, SP01 CB02 TA05, and maid of honor Amy SALTMAN, SP02 CB03 TA05, had a fantastic time celebrating and dancing long into the night.

Last year the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned Michigan’s “Prop. 2”, a piece of legislation voters passed in 2006; the law effectively banned affirmative action from being used in the admissions processes of state-funded institutions such as the University of Michigan. Telluride alumnus Chase CANTRELL, MB01, was an appellate on the case, having originally been a plaintiff on a suit against the proposition that was dismissed in 2008. Cantrell is currently an associate at Dykema, a Detroit-based law firm, where he focuses on corporate and commercial finance.

After completing a Master’s degree in Education at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, Jawuan Miguel MEEKS, SS01 SP02 TA10, began a PhD in Education from Michigan State University. Meeks plans on use his education and career to assist in the revitalization of his hometown school system in Detroit.

Whitney SPARKS, SP02, completed a world tour last summer with stops in San Francisco, Korea, Thailand, India, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Switzerland, and New York City. Her desire for travel salivated for the time being, she began an MFA program in Zurich this past fall.

After receiving her PhD from Cornell University, last year Sarah WEIGER, MB02 TA03, joined the faculty of the English Department at the University of Portland. An Assistant Professor, Weiger will be focusing primarily on 19th century British poetry and prose, teaching a course on Victorian literature this upcoming spring.

Siddhartha BAJRACHARYA, SP03 CB05, is presently finishing his first year as a student at the New York University School of Medicine. Bajracharya is enrolled in the MD/PhD Dual Degree Medical Scientist Training Program.

Paul KATZ, SP04 TA10, is finishing a Master’s Degree in History in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he moved in September of 2010. In November 2011, an article written by Katz was published in the International Journal of Transitional Justice on the experiences of the Delegation of Argentine Jewish Associations during the years of Argentina’s military regime.

Daniel KINDERMAN, CB04, finished his PhD in Political Science at Cornell in 2011 and joined the faculty at the University of Delaware as Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Relations.

Julian PETRI, DS04, and Thomas MILLER, DS04 TA07, were married in October 2011 in Cambridge, MA. The two met on their way to Deep Springs College in 2004. They are both doctoral students at Princeton—Petri studies German literature and Miller studies classics.

Maia DEDRICK, MB05 TA11, began graduate studies in archaeology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in fall 2011.

Flojaune GRIFFIN, MB05, is presently volunteering as development director at TRG International, a nonprofit organization that seeks to connect minority youth in the US to underserved communities in South Africa. The organization’s primary goals include increasing access to education as well as leadership opportunities.
Ryan Alexander, SS06 SP07, is completing his undergraduate studies in biology at MIT. As an undergraduate, Alexander worked as a researcher at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research. Much of his work has focused on the role of microRNA in orchestrating the development and function of various bodily tissues. Alexander has also co-authored papers for academic journals and scientific reviews including Nature Cell Biology and Expert Opinion on Therapeutic Targets. Upon graduation, Alexander plans to attend the Biological and Biomedical Sciences PhD program at Harvard University and is considering focusing on stem cell and regenerative biology.

Joseph Blue, SS06 SP07, will be graduating this academic year from Syracuse University, double-majoring in marketing and business management and minoring in psychology. Blue will then begin work with JP Morgan Chase in its Investment Banking Operations Department.

Breanna Byington, SP06 CB07, is wrapping up a Masters in Education at the University of Michigan. Byington is focusing on physics education and aspires to teach high school physics after graduation.

Tsiti Hungwe, SS06, will be graduating this spring from Michigan Technological University with a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry. Upon the culmination of her undergraduate studies, Hungwe plans on attending the University of Louisville School of Dentistry.

Nina Idemudia, SS06, has recently been accepted into a number of urban planning graduate programs. She has decided to pursue her degree at the University of Southern California.

In August 2011, after studying at Cambridge on a Fulbright Scholarship, Beenish Ahmed, MB07, joined the staff of National Public Radio in Washington, D.C. Ahmed writes on an eclectic mix of social and political topics.

Mary Liu, SP07, will graduate from Yale University in May 2012. Her next step will be to start work as an analyst at the New York Stock Exchange in the Options group. Liu is very excited about her upcoming opportunities; she has aspirations to use her understanding of the exchange industry to help develop financial infrastructure in China.

In early April 2012, Nate May, MB07, performed a piano recital at the Canterbury House in Ann Arbor. After graduating from the University of Michigan with a BFA in Jazz and Contemplative Studies, May has established a blog (insectsandmachines.wordpress.com), about which he states, “It’s not about any one thing, but if it were, that thing would be music.” In addition to his writings, May performs as a dance accompanist for ballet, pedagogy, and improvisation classes at the University of Michigan.

Working as the lead industrial designer, Alex Sobolev, MB07, has, along with a small team of others, founded Weinreich Labs. The organization has developed a new manner of technology to electrically amplify violins and other classical string instruments. More information about the company and its creations, including music samples of instruments created by the organization, can be found at www.weinreichlabs.com.

Elizabeth Soltan, SP07 CB08, has been selected to receive a Fulbright Scholarship. She will be in Malaysia from January to November 2013 on an English Teaching Assistantship.

Brandy Doyle, CB08, participated in a discussion last summer with Democracy Now! in regards to an appeals court decision that overturned a Federal Communications Commission rule. The US Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia struck down the FCC’s rule which sought to facilitate the process of a media entity gaining ownership of a newspaper and broadcast outlet in the same market. Doyle, policy director for the Prometheus Radio Project—the organization that filed the suit—stated that, in addition to other causes for concern, “Media consolidation has a particularly terrible impact on ownership by those who are historically disenfranchised in the media system like women, people of color, workers, the poor, anyone whose voice is not already represented in our media.”

Cornell’s Knight Writing Institute presented Rachel Harmon, SP09 CB11, with the Elmer Markham Johnson Prize (aka, TA’s Chancellor E.M. “Johnny” Johnson) for a paper entitled “Who and Where Are You?: The Fragmentation of the Black Population in Ithaca.”

2010s

Jamie Gillies, MBG10, and Amanda Benjamin were overjoyed to welcome a baby, Hannah, into their lives last year. 2011 also saw James attain a PhD in political science from the University of British Columbia.

During the summer of 2011, Michael Olabisi, MB10, and his wife Laura held a naming ceremony for their new baby boy; the infant has been dubbed Elijah.

In 2011 Kush Patel, MB10, was accepted for membership in the University of Michigan chapter of the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society. The society’s purpose, as outlined in its charter, is to develop a network of talented scholars that works to foster a supportive academic environment for students.

During fall 2011, former Miller Scholar Marijana Vukovic, CB10, was awarded a pre-doctoral fellowship by the American Research Center in Sofia, Bulgaria. Hosted by Cornell University, the center aims to reconnect academic ties to the region.

Last summer Chaitanya Singhana, SP11, was mentioned in an article by the headmaster of St. Andrew’s School of Middletown, DE. The article extolls the virtues of the Association’s summer programs, including the emphasis on small communities, student ownership, and diversity. The article can be found at http://sasdelaware.wordpress.com/2011/08/04/educational-principles-from-the-telluride-association-summer-program/.
ARNOLD BENNETT, CB58, died in October 2011 at George Washington University Hospital due to an apparent heart attack. He was 71 years old.

Bennett was born in New York on April 12, 1940. He studied at Cornell University and the New School for Social Research. Bennett’s interest in healthcare and other social issues affecting the nation’s poor ultimately led to his service as an adviser to Bill Clinton; he was a key strategist behind that president’s push for healthcare reform in the mid-1990s. He also edited Looking North for Health: What we can Learn from Canada’s Health Care System in 1993.

During the 1990s Bennett and his wife move to Newfoundland, where he worked as a member of the Religious Social Action Coalition. Mr. Bennett’s projects during this time also included his film The Newfoundland Passion in 1998 and Messiah from Montreal about the poet Klein.

Bennett is survived by his wife, Nancy, his brother, Lawrence, his sons, Daniel and Jeremiah, and his granddaughters, Elorah and Serafina.

On October 9, 2011, ROBERT BOOCHEVER, CB36, died in his Pasadena, CA, home. He was 94 years old.

Born in New York City on October 2, 1917, Boochever earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Cornell University. Boochever joined the US Army to serve in World War II, retiring from service as a captain in 1945. After the war he traveled to Juneau, Alaska to practice law.

In 1972 he was appointed to the Alaska Supreme Court, serving as Chief Justice from 1975 to 1978. Two years later, in 1980, President Jimmy Carter selected him to serve on the San Francisco-based US 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Boochever was noted for his impartiality, dedicating equal degrees of energy to cases big and small. In the late 1980s Mr. Boochever gained semi-retired “senior status” in the Court, but continued to serve until 2008.

After 56 years of marriage, Boochever’s first wife, Connie Boochever, died in 1999. His second wife, Rose Marie Borden, died in 2010. Boochever is survived by his four daughters and eleven grandchildren.

DRAYTON S. BRYANT, DS32, died in Philadelphia on June 7, 2007. He was 91 years old. A prominent urban planner, Bryant worked in support of several Pennsylvania housing organizations including the Philadelphia Housing Authority and the Lancaster Redevelopment Authority. Bryant founded the consulting firm Drayton S. Bryant & Associates, focusing much of his professional energy on matters related to low-income housing. He was especially involved in policy regarding vulnerable groups; in 1980 he spoke about these issues before a special committee of the US Senate. He is survived by his three sons, two daughters, two brothers, sister, and a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

On January 26, 2011, W. DAVID CURTISS, CBG47, died in his home in Ithaca. He was 94 years old.

Curtiss was born on May 31, 1916, in Sodus, NY. He attended Cornell University, attaining a BA degree in 1938 and a JD in 1940. During his undergraduate years he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and as a law student he was appointed to the Order of the Coif.

In 1941 he was appointed District Attorney of Wayne County, NY, by Governor Herbert Lehman. At age 25, he was the youngest DA in the state. Curtis’ burgeoning law career was put on hold, however, at the onset of World War II. Joining the Navy as an ensign, by the end of his service he had reached the rank of lieutenant commander.

After the war, Curtiss joined the faculty at the University of Buffalo Law School. Returning to his alma mater the following year, he started a teaching career at the Cornell Law School that stretched until his retirement in 1986. While at Cornell, he specialized in criminal and local government law. On the eve of his retirement, then Law School Dean Peter W. Martin praised Curtiss: “A committed and compassionate teacher, David has won the respect and affections of thousands of students.”

Curtiss is survived by his wife of over 60 years, Mary F. Curtiss, their two children, David and Melissa, and their five grandchildren, Joanna, Sean, Christina, Alex, and Austin.

NORTON DODGE, DS43 CB46 TA46, died on November 7, 2011 in Washington DC. He was 84 years old.

Born in Oklahoma City on June 15, 1927, Dodge spent two years in high school in Tucson, AZ; there his pursuits included involvement in student government and rodeo roping competitions. The latter experience would prove particularly beneficial when, at age sixteen, Dodge came to Deep Springs College where he served as student body president, student trustee, and labor commissioner. Dodge developed a strong interest in economics, nurtured by then Deep Springs Director Simon Whitney, DS19, and went on to Cornell University to study the subject at the undergraduate level. While in New York, Dodge lived at Telluride House and joined TA. Dodge went on to complete a Master’s in Russian regional studies, and then a PhD in economics at Harvard.

In an effort to carry out research for his dissertation, entitled Trends in Labor Productivity in the Soviet Tractor Industry, Dodge traveled to the USSR in 1955 with his father. The first of many, Dodge’s research trips ultimately provided content for an array publications on matters related to the Russian economy including his 1966 book Women in the Soviet Economy.

In his travels, Dodge became introduced to, and then captivated by, the Russian underground art scene. Defying Kremlin mandates on acceptable forms of artistic expression, the artists of the society produced and exhibited their works in relative secrecy. Through a number of channels, both legitimate and illegitimate, Dodge was able to procure thousands of pieces of this underground art and have them transported to the US. So successful...
was Dodge in this pursuit that he had amassed the single largest collection of Soviet dissident art on the planet, most of which is now a permanent fixture at the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University. Says art critic Victor Tupitsyn, “It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that Norton singlehandedly saved contemporary Russian art from total oblivion.”

From 1956 to 1980 Mr. Dodge taught economics at the University of Maryland. Later, he taught at St. Mary’s College of Maryland. For much of this time Dodge lived in Cremona, an estate of around 1,000 acres on the Patuxent River which he bought in 1966. It was here that Dodge proposed in 1972 to establish and host an environment-focused TASP, which ran from 1973 through 1975.

Mr. Dodge is survived by his wife, Nancy Dodge, sister, Alice Wallace, nephew, William Wallace, and niece, Margaret Wallace.

Through her engagement in both Chicago and New Haven, Nina earned a reputation as a deep thinker concerned with social issues, particularly as they related to the legal profession, including service accessibility. Foucher spent time volunteering for Shults-Lewis Child and Family Services as well as Tabitha’s House, both social service organizations.

Foucher is survived by her parents, Sherman and Barbara, her brothers, Daniel and Sherman, and her sister, Erin.

Robert Gorrell, CB34 TA35, died on December 25, 2011, at his home in Reno. He was 97 years old.

Born in Bremen, IN, in 1914, Gorrell completed his undergraduate education at Cornell University. Upon graduation, he worked for various newspapers before beginning a career in teaching. He taught at both Deep Springs and Indiana University before arriving at the University of Nevada, where he carried out the remainder of his career.


On June 13, 2010, Edward Hoenicke, DS46 CB48 TA49, died at the age of 80. He was a former president of Deep Springs College.

Born April 12, 1930, Hoenicke began studies at Deep Springs College, later describing those times in his memoir with the fondest terms. Hoenicke later studied economics at Cornell, where he met Janice Gravel, to whom he was married for 51 years. Hoenicke served in the US Air Force from 1951 to 1953, and then completed his JD from the University of Michigan in 1956.

In 1968 Hoenicke was named president of Beech-Nut Corporation. While working for Beech-Nut, Hoenicke also served as a trustee of New York’s Lawrence Hospital, was a member of the Bronxville School board, and spent time as a deacon of his local church. In 1977, Hoenicke joined United Airlines as senior vice president and general counsel, a post he retained until his retirement in 1990.

Upon retirement Edward traveled with his wife and pursued a variety of hobbies including golf and sailing. Hoenicke returned to Deep Springs to serve as president from 1990 to 1992.

Hoenicke is survived by his daughters Jeanne and Anne Hoenicke as well as his four grandchildren, two sisters, and a number of nieces and nephews.
DANNY IHARA, DS64 BB66 TA68, died in March 2012 as a result of complications of Parkinson’s Disease. He was 65 years old.

Born on December 7, 1947, Ihara moved with his family to Gardena, CA when he was a child. At the age of 17 he began his studies at Deep Springs, which he said had a lasting impact on his commitment to community service, environmental stewardship, and devotion to the ideal of a better world. After his time at Deep Springs, Ihara continued his undergraduate education at the University of California, Berkeley. The culmination of his educational career came in 1991 when he graduated from the University of Oregon with a PhD in economics.

Teaching courses in economics and sustainable international development at Humboldt State University over the course of his nearly two decades at the university, Ihara also supervised the execution of dozens of thesis projects. Supplementing his work at HSU, Ihara served on the board of the Manila Community Service District and as the Director of the Center for Environmental Economic Development. From 2005 onward, Ihara began working as a researcher at the HSU Foundation and since 2009 had carried out additional research activities at the Center for Environmental Economic Development.

Ihara is survived by his wife, Nancy, his brothers, Craig and Richard, his daughter, Rachel, his son, Nathan, his granddaughters, Olive, and a number of nieces, nephews, and other relatives. A passionate environmentalist and academic, Ihara chose a green burial and donated his brain for the purposes of Parkinson’s research.

FRANK LESH, DS44, died on March 12, 2007, in Livingston, NJ. He was 79 years old.

Lesh was born in Buffalo on April 11, 1927. The youngest of five children, Lesh attended Hutchison Central High School for three years before transferring to Deep Springs. Mr. Lesh subsequently enrolled in Tufts College in 1945 before transferring to Cornell, where he attained a BA in economics. Lesh then went on to earn an MBA from Harvard University.

Lesh is survived by his four children, Lydia, William, Andrew, and Carrie, as well as his two sisters, Bessie Testa and Pauline Gnozzo.

ANDREW LINEHAM, DS73, died on January 8, 2010, in Portland, OR. He was 54 years old.

Born on June 15, 1955, in Paris, Andrew was the son of a US Foreign Service Officer; as a result, he spent his youth in a diverse number of locations around the world, including Canada, Australia, Liberia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Washington DC. He completed high school in Bethesda, Maryland, and went on to Deep Springs, becoming president of the student body in his final year there. Lineham attended Reed College in Portland, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Upon receipt of a BS in International Studies in 1978, Andrew worked for the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and the Brookings Institute in Washington, DC until 1979, when he entered the Peace Corps, serving until 1981 in Mauretania. Returning to the US, Andrew was awarded a two-year fellowship to the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and graduated in 1984 with an MS in Public Policy and Urban and Regional Planning.

Lineham was the president of the Portland City Club. He was also a founding board member of the American Wind and Wildlife Institute, and in 2007 was appointed by President Bush to the federal advisory committee for wind power of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Lineham is survived by his partner of 20 years, Carl Snook, his mother, Janice, his brother, Mark, his sister, Sarah, and his niece, Ruth.

GREG LOKEN, SP69, died on April 2, 2008, in Colorado. He was 55 years old.

Loken earned his Bachelor’s, Master’s, and JD from Harvard University. Starting in 1982, he began working at the Institute for You Advocacy at Covenant House in New York City. There he was able to help draft and pass landmark legislation such as the Child Protection Act of 1984 and the Child Abuse Victims Protection Act of 1986. Director of the Institute in 1990, Loken left the organization to teach law at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut. During his tenure, Loken published in a number of law journals including the Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review, the Brigham Young University Law Review, and Temple Law Review; much of his written work focused on legal issues related to children within the juvenile justice system. A well-liked educator, he was chosen as professor of the year by students in 1993, 2002, and 2004.

HARVEY “SCOTT” McMILLIN, JR., SPF69, died on March 29, 2006. He was 71 years old.

McMillin was born on June 29, 1934 in Pittsburgh. McMillin graduated from Princeton with a BA in English.

After graduation, McMillin moved with Ann to New York City where he worked as a banker. In 1957 he joined the Navy where he was stationed at Fort McNair in Washington, DC. There, he founded and operated a bookstore. McMillin earned a PhD in English Literature at Stanford University in 1963. The following year he began work as an assistant professor of English at Cornell University.

During his long tenure at Cornell, McMillin focused on all things associated with Shakespeare’s plays, particularly their production. His written works include The Elizabethan Theater and the Book of Sir Thomas More, The Musical as a Drama, and The Queen’s Men and Their Plays for which he and his co-author

Deeply committed to campaigns of social justice, in 1990 he co-founded the Harlem Literacy Project, an initiative designed to develop an interest in reading among inner-city youth. A faculty fellow of Ujamaa Residential College, Scott participated in 1969 movements that established Cornell’s Africana Studies Program. McMillin also devoted his time to anti-apartheid efforts in the 1980s.

He is survived by his wife Sally, his sons, David, Paul, and Andy, and his three grandchildren.

IRVING MERRILL, CB38, died in February 2012 in his Rossmoor, CA home. He was 92 years old.

Merrill pursued undergraduate work at Iowa State University, ultimately transferring into Cornell University. In 1942 he graduated with a BA in speech and drama.

Merrill served as an officer in the 284th Field Artillery of Patton’s 3rd Army; during his time in service he participated in the Allied 1944 invasion of Europe. Even after the close of the war, Irving maintained his connections with the military, participating in the Army Reserves for around three decades. Merrill retired as a colonel.

Merrill attended the University of Illinois, earning a Master’s in journalism and communications in 1952, and then a PhD in mass communications in 1954. Thereafter, he served as Director of Television Research at Michigan State University, and then Director of the Communications Office for Research and Teaching at UCSF. Irving was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for the 1967-68 academic year, spending it at Guy’s Hospital in London, England. The subsequent year Merrill was the acting President of the Health and Science Communications Association.

Interests outside of academia included mountain climbing, photography, and music; he played violin for the Bay Area’s Peninsula Symphony in the early 1980s. Irving also annotated and edited his grandfather’s diary which he published in 1988 as Bound for Idaho: The 1864 Trail Journal of Julius Merrill.

Merrill is survived by his wife, Ginny, his children, Cindy, Vance, Jay, Guam, and Bob, his grandchildren, Jon, Vanna, Amalia, Jessi, and Zoe, and his great grandchildren, Julius, Aida, and Uma.

HUGH NASH, DS41 CB46 TA46, died on September 15, 2011 in Lancaster, CA. He was 88 years old.

Born on March 4, 1923 to two professors, Nash spent his childhood near Yen Ching University in China. His adolescence involved traveling throughout the United States as he accompanied his father on a lecture tour on world federalism. Both of Nash’s parents secured teaching positions at Deep Springs while he was a student there.

Upon graduation from Deep Springs, Nash joined the US Army, training for which gave him the opportunity to study Japanese at Cornell University. As World War II drew to a close, Nash returned to Cornell to complete his studies while living in Telluride House. He earned a BA in Government in 1947. Nash served as the editor for World Government News until 1951 when he joined the Carrier Corp. in Syracuse as associate editor. Leaving this position in 1953, Nash worked for Time’s Architectural Forum until 1964. Pursuing a passion for environmentally-focused work, Nash left New York and moved west to work as an editor for the Sierra Club. Nash then worked for Friends of the Earth until his 1981 retirement.

Not limiting his environmental activism to the confines of editorial work, Nash participated in a number of environmental campaigns. Among other accomplishments, Nash’s work helped prevent a nuclear power plant from being placed on the San Andreas fault; he also testified before Congressional subcommittees in opposition to the damming of the Colorado River. Nash also found other ways to bring his environmental ideals to life: In 1986 he built an off-the-grid solar-powered home in view of Mt. Shasta, a place he loved to hike, and lived there for around two decades.

Nash is survived by his nieces Eve, Sara, and Christina, his cousin, Jeanie, his great-nephews, Vern and Giorgo, and his “adopted” children, Binky, Cindy, Keith, and Sabrina.

WALDO RALL, DS40, died in Pennsylvania on February 10, 2010. He was 85 years old.

Born in Los Angeles on March 20, 1924, Rall and his family eventually moved to Washington, DC where he attended Western High School for two years in the late 1930s. After attending Deep Springs, Rall enrolled in Washington University at St. Louis, graduating in early 1943 with a BS in Physics.

Immediately after graduation, Rall found work at the University of Chicago’s Metallurgical Laboratory doing research of some relevance to the war effort. After the war, Rall began pursuing a PhD in Physics at the University of Chicago but transferred to Indiana University; there he finished his dissertation, Scintillation Counter Studies and the Branching Ratio of Osmium 185, in 1949. He then assumed an associate professorship at Yale. Rall subsequently worked for US Steel Research until his retirement as director.

Rall is survived by his son, Tony, his daughter, Vicky, his stepdaughter, Andree Haberle, his stepsons, DJ, Chris, and Craig Campbell, and his eight grandchildren.

EDWIN RUST, DS29, CB32, TA32, died in July 2010 in Memphis, TN. He was 99 years old.

Born in 1910, Edwin grew up in northern California, attending Deep Springs in the late 1920s. After Deep Springs, Rust went to school at Cornell University, rounding out his academic career with an MFA from Yale University. He then worked as head of the fine arts department at the College of William and Mary in Virginia.

Rust played a pivotal role in the development of the Memphis College of Art while pursuing the creation of his own art. Famous for his bronze and plaster works, his portrait subjects included
Rhodes College president Charles E. Diehl, among others. His work was exhibited at the Metropolitan, Whitney, Philadelphia, Carnegie Mellon, and Memphis Brooks museums. His own Memphis College of Art honored him with solo exhibitions, once in 1993 and again in 2005; the school’s main building was dubbed Rust Hall in his honor. He also received an honorary PhD in fine arts from Rhodes College. A series of photographs of Mr. Rust and his works can be found at http://www.commercialappeal.com/photos/galleries/2010/jul/31/ted-rust-1910---2010/26613/. Rust is survived by four nieces and two nephews.

JOHN “JACK” SCHAAR, SPF70, died of cancer on December 26, 2011, while in Ben Lomond, CA. He was 83 years old.

After graduating from a high school, Schaar traveled to California, lured by the promise of an affordable higher education. According to the memory of an old Army companion, Schaar situated himself in an abandoned trailer near Los Angeles and enrolled in UCLA. By the late 1950s he had earned a BA, MA, and PhD from the university’s political science department.

As a professor of political science at the University of California, Berkeley, Schaar was deeply involved in the free speech movement of the 1960s. He wrote extensively on the application of social science methods to the political sphere, contributing to publications such as The Nation and the New York Review of Books.

Beginning in 1969, he taught at Deep Springs. Remembered as an incredibly passionate educator, Schaar lectured on a variety of topics including the complexities of the notions of patriotism and national loyalty. One Deep Springs alumnus noted, “Jack’s concept of community and authority may have had the most enduring effect on the living (and still evolving) philosophy of Deep Springs.” Following his year of teaching at Deep Springs, Schaar joined the political science faculty of UC Santa Cruz. While at the university, his publications included Loyalty in America, Escape from Authority, and Legitimacy in the Modern State.

In 1970, Schaar taught his first TASP (The Idea of Community) at Deep Springs College with Dean Randall Reid, DS49. He would go on to teach a total of eight TASPs at the College, including one in 1989 with his wife, Hanna Pitkin, SPF89.

Schaar is survived by Pitkin, and by his son John.

HERMAN SINAIKO, SPF87, died October 2, 2011, in Chicago. He was 82 years old.

At the age of 16, Sinaiko enrolled at the University of Chicago, where he completed his Bachelor’s degree two years later. In 1954 he began teaching humanities courses at his alma mater, and also embarked upon doctorate study, earning a PhD in Social Thought in 1961. His dissertation formed the foundation for his book, Love, Knowledge and Discourse in Plato: Dialogue and Dialectic in the Phaedrus, Republic and Parmenides, published in 1965.

A beloved professor, Sinaiko developed the University of Chicago Great Books Institute, and played an invaluable role in the preservation of the University Theater, serving as the organization’s faculty director. He was honored with the Llewellyn John and Harriet Manchester Quantrell Award for Undergraduate Teaching in 1963, the Amoco Award for Long-Term Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 1994, and the Norman Maclean Faculty Award in 2003.

In 1987, he co-taught the Chicago TASP entitled “The Individual and Community” with fellow UC faculty member, Sheila Sullivan.

Sinaiko is survived by his wife, Susan Fisher, his children, Benjamin, Jane, Jesse, Eve, and David, and four grandchildren, Eli, Maia, Asher, and Zachary.

NANCY SUE VON QUALEN (nee Elston), SP64, wife of fellow Telluride alum Douglas VON QUALEN, DS64 CB67, TA68, died in April of last year after a brief struggle with cancer. She was 64 years old.

Von Qualen was born on April 15, 1947. A strong academic performer, she attended the 1964 Cornell TASP and subsequently went on to complete her undergraduate degree at the same institution. While at Cornell she met her future husband, Douglas. She is remembered by friends and family as a content, exceedingly kind woman.

WILLIAM McDOWELL JR., DS64, died in 2004.


Also Remembered

DIANE CARTER, SP70 CB71
PHILLIP HOWARD, PB47, died on April 4, 2011. He was 81 years old.

WILLIAM McDOWELL JR., DS64, died in 2004.

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