



Features . . .

Vanden Heuvel Reflects on 'Hope and History' Page 2

Telluride's World War III Page 6

Telluriders Participate in Lives of Service Page 10

TA Works on Anti-Racism Agenda Page 12

Telluride Responds to COVID-19

Branches Emptied As Classes Go Online
Convention Will Not Be Held in Person
Summer Programs Go Online
Endowment Takes a Hit

By Matthew Trail SP81 CB82 TA84

Like most of the country, Telluride is reeling under the impact of the COVID-19 virus. For the first time since the early days of World War II, Telluride Association's Branches have been closed down.

Telluride President Hammad Ahmed appointed a Branch Crisis Management Team, chaired by Vice President Morgan Whittler, to coordinate Telluride's response to the situation. Its primary goals include:

- Protecting the health and well-being of all program participants, members and staff, with a focus on both preventing and responding to any outbreaks.

continued on page 3

Also in this issue:

Leaving Cornell Branch in the Spring..... 4
Deep Springs Suspends Operations for COVID-19..... 4
Keeping the MBTA (Virtual) Community Together..... 5
International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife 5
Deep Springs Selects New President 5
Custodians Vote to Divest From Fossil Fuels..... 7
The Endowment and the Downturn..... 7
Documentary on Frances Perkins CBG60 Airs on PBS 9
LA Alumni Schmooze 9
Associate's Gallery..... 11
Spring Break on the Farm..... 12
News and Notes 13
Online Directory in the Works 14
In Memoriam..... 14

AD Baer Reflects on Coming Retirement

By Ellen Baer, Administrative Director

Rivaling the tenures of Johnny Johnson and Bea MacLeod, Telluride's Administrative Director Ellen Baer retires later this summer after nearly 20 years of service.

Yes, retirement. After almost twenty years, it is time to go. This was not an easy decision, but I know in my heart it is the right one. How did I come to the decision to leave at the end of summer rather than stay until Convention 2021 (which I had originally intended to do)?

In January, I spent many hours thinking about the timing of my resignation. I recognized that Telluride's decisions over the last two years to work on strategic goals has resulted in positive movement forward. This year, the newly formed Labor Working Group spent many hours identifying



Ellen Baer

structural and organizational improvements that are needed to make TA a more effective organization. This includes continuing its efforts to strengthen partnership with staff, recognizing that soliciting the voices of staff in an ongoing and collaborative way is essential to the health

continued on page 8

Vanden Heuvel Reflects on 'Hope and History'

By Noah Rosenblum, DS03 TA05

Cornell University Press has recently published the memoirs of Amb. William J. vanden Heuvel DS46 CB48 TA48 under the title Hope and History: A Memoir of Tumultuous Times. Vanden Heuvel was first interviewed by the Newsletter in March 1970, when he was a candidate for governor of New York. We took the occasion of his new book as an opportunity to catch up. Interview edited and condensed for clarity.

Rosenblum: Congratulations on this celebratory occasion! Can you tell us a bit about how this volume came together?

Vanden Heuvel: Katrina, my daughter, pressured me to do it! She discovered that I had about 25 years of oral history that I had done with Columbia, and convinced me that going back over it would be joyful—a chance to go back, recall the things that happened, and then look forward. She was right.

What were some of the events you most enjoyed revisiting?

Vanden Heuvel: It was interesting to go back to the Hungarian Revolution—a world event often forgotten today. I was in Hungary with the International Rescue Committee and Wild Bill Donovan, a fascinating man, whom I had the honor of serving for the last six years of his life. There, I saw the extraordinary combination of young people determined to exercise their right to freedom. I saw the dangers and the adventures involved in revolution. It was an eye-opener for me—to get a sense of the eruption of freedom, how determined people are if given the chance.

You're picking up on a striking feature of your book: how unexpected and varied your endeavors were.

Vanden Heuvel: I know—that sort of surprised me too! I was always interested in politics, but my life has involved a lot of serendipity. I worked for Adlai Stevenson in '52 and '56. And Robert Kennedy saw me campaigning in 1960, when I ran for Congress, and opportunities with the Kennedy administration opened up after that.

My life almost took a very different course, however. After working with Donovan, I was offered a position in the Solicitor General's office, in 1957 I think, in Eisenhower's second term. But for whatever the reason—and I think politics had a lot to do with it—after they hired me, I got a call from [Solicitor General] Lee Rankin, saying there's been a budget crisis and we've had to cut back. And I said to him: "But Mr. Rankin, as the chief legal officer in this context, I just want you to know that in reliance upon your offer . . ."—and I told him I'd left the Donovan firm and gotten an apartment in Washington, all of which is true. But he was not moved. So at the last moment I did not go to the Solicitor General's office. And then when I came back up to New York to look for work I heard that Averell Harriman [the Governor of New York] was looking for a new counsel. And that's how I went up and spent a year in Albany in the last year of his administration. And things followed after that.

It's easy to say "serendipity." But even I can see some recurring themes—your work for racial justice, criminal justice reform, and promotion of international cooperation, for example, which really do span your whole life.

Vanden Heuvel: I'll tell you: I never felt that it was "calculating the odds" with the jobs I took or anything like that. Mostly things were offered to



Rosenblum and vanden Heuvel

me. Almost totally, I never sought out the jobs I took. They just happened. I mean even my appointment by [President] Jimmy Carter! I met Carter right at the very beginning of the game for him, through his presidential campaign. And then, thanks to him and that meeting, I ended up at the UN, where I would have loved to have been all my life. Of course I'm not talking about the times I ran for office.

Indeed, your unsuccessful pursuit of elected office is a recurring theme in the book. But it's a charming feature of your memoir. It seems like on more than one occasion you ran for office, lost, but maintained meaningful friendships with the folks who bested you.

Vanden Heuvel: John Lindsay for example. Yes, it's true. Lindsay and I first met in Hungary, actually. He was working for [Eisenhower's Attorney General Herbert] Brownell. And it so happened that John and I flew back to New York from Vienna on one of those trips, sitting next to each other. We spent 8 hours talking about the 17th Congressional District. He had his eye on it. Now I had been the campaign manager for the Democrat who had run against the Republican incumbent, and lost by 315 votes. John saw that the seat was crumbling and so went into the Republican primary, chased the incumbent out, and beat another fellow for the nomination. Then he was elected, in 1958. The next cycle, in 1960, I was asked to run against him, and I tumbled over that decision, because I knew I couldn't win that district. A second term John Lindsay was much more formidable than an unelected John Lindsay! I ran, and lost.

Lindsay and I weren't friends by any means. But in the 1970s, when he was mayor, the city prison system was in crisis. And he called me, and asked me to serve on the City Board of Corrections. I was surprised, because I had no experience with prisons. But Lindsay had watched me in the 1968 gubernatorial campaign, and at the 1967 New York State Constitutional Convention and said: let's take a chance on each other.

Ultimately, the work I did on Attica, which I reproduce in the book, is some of what I am most proud of. It was in the middle of [Governor Nelson] Rockefeller's systemic notions of what prisons were about and what punishment was about. I was the head of the City Board of Corrections and a big critic of what Rockefeller had done. Even today, people pass over the fact that when Attica ended, with the assault by the state troopers on the prison in which 43 men were killed, Rockefeller tried to call that an assault by the prisoners. When a young coroner in Rochester, New York finally said they were all killed by the state troopers, that was a moment where you could do something and say something—where people looked each other in the eye and said: what are you going to do about it?

You just mentioned your service at the New York State Constitutional Convention, but you don't discuss it at all in your book.

Vanden Heuvel: I was thinking about that the other day. I don't know why I left it out. The Constitutional Convention was an important experience for me, because I was Senator Robert Kennedy's representative at the Convention, and he was totally uninterested. So I had a pretty free hand. You have to understand, Rockefeller had completely coopted the Convention. He used the same tactics Lyndon Johnson used after he became president. Adlai Stevenson would come to visit Johnson, and Johnson would go: "Oh please, you sit here Adlai, you should have had that seat behind the Resolute Desk, not me." Rockefeller did the same thing with the New York state representatives. So by the time it was finished it was a total Rockefeller Convention. Still, I learned a great deal about city and state government, because I was the chair of the Convention committee on style and arrangement—I wrote all the drafts! And in fact one of the prizes I've always kept on my wall is a letter from the Republican leader of the Convention, Earl Bridges, who had attacked me viciously in my first week up there when I gave the keynote address. He wrote to me at the end of the Convention to say that, ultimately, he never had occasion to doubt my fairness and after a while never even looked at the drafts I wrote up because he knew that they were fair. That meant a lot to me. And it was a powerful reminder that, although politics is a tough business, when you're running a government you've got to create alliances and put together coalitions.

How did you go about doing that? How did you combine sticking to your principles with making alliance and coalitions?

Vanden Heuvel: I don't think of myself as ever having been ideological—sticking to an issue without understanding that there was something to be said about it by somebody else. That, to me, is the essence of liberalism. And I think that's important to understand for anyone who wants to deal, especially in America, where solidarity is important and where we're on the verge of losing so many of our historic gifts to the world. I was a

Rooseveltian! That was the miracle—that at the age of 7 or 8 I was so determined to support Franklin Roosevelt. I loved Roosevelt and the things that he stood for. Part of that was having European parents whose countries had been invaded and all of the pain that came with that. But it was something more. I mean it was a revolution he led! An extraordinary democratic revolution! He saw in his time—as you're going to see in your time—a constitutional crisis of very devastating proportions.

That's a sobering thought. It's upsetting to think that many of the issues to which you've dedicated your life—prison and criminal justice reform, environmental justice, the status of refugees and migrants, and the campaign against war—are still such major issues now.

Vanden Heuvel: A lot of politics—practically every important issue—can't be resolved in one person's lifetime or by a single group or by anything. These are the problems of human beings living among human beings in a terrifying and frightening world. So you have to start by understanding you're not there to solve the problem. You're there to contain it, reflect it. Roosevelt's success was in leading in a totally different direction. And in your lifetime, another Roosevelt will emerge, I hope; America will come forward again. There emerge people. The political process in our country still allows for forces that are new and fresh to surface and assert themselves, forces that see the world differently. It's going to be a great challenge. But history shows that hope is reasonable. That's what Roosevelt was to me. Hence the title of the book: "hope and history"—to say that sometimes justice and hope can be reunited. ♡

continued from cover

- Managing the process of transitioning the Branches to the new circumstances.
- Monitoring and coordinating Telluride operations with university partner, local, state and national guidelines and rules.

Telluride committees, staff, and officers are also working hard on the following:

- Planning for contingencies regarding Convention, Summer Programs, staff operations, and other Telluride events. As we went to press, the June in-person Convention has been cancelled, with online meetings to take their place.
- Telluride has also decided to replace TASS and TASP with online versions called the Telluride Association Online Seminars (TAOS).
- Keeping all members and program participants well informed of developments and resources.

It is still too early to know the impact of the pandemic on programs and operations later in the year. Telluride offered the option of remote (teleconferencing) interviewing for all summer program applicants, and postponed its April NYC alumni gathering, as well as planning for other regional events.

As permitted under university guidelines, graduate students and foreign students who cannot return home have been permitted to stay in the Branches and are required to follow social distancing and other safety guidelines. Telluride staff are largely working remotely.

"This has been a very trying time for all in the Telluride community, from applicants and alumni, to volunteers and staff, to branchmembers and TA members. We all must do our part to reduce the spread of the disease. Despite the challenges, many have mobilized to provide support and virtual community, and I am humbled by our collective response in the face of this crisis, which we will overcome."

— Hammad Ahmed, SP02 TA10, TA President

For further information on Telluride's response to the COVID-19 situation, please visit the Telluride website and social media (Facebook and Twitter) for regular updates. For general resources on staying safe and healthy, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> and your local public health department. ♡

TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

This publication is produced twice annually as a collaborative project between TA members, associates and staff.

Submit news, letters, or comments to:

Editor, Telluride Association,
217 West Ave., Ithaca, NY 14850

—or—

news@tellurideassociation.org

Editor: Puneet Singh

Managing Editor: Matthew Trail

Assistant Editors: Jawuan Meeks, Olivia Wood

Administrative Director: Ellen Baer

Layout & Production: Valerie McMillen, Arnold Printing

Additional Contributors: Matthew Bradby, Albert Chu, Marianna Coulentianos, Brie Dodson, Kelly Goodman, Brian Kennedy, Lone Locher, Elettra Repetto, Noah Rosenblum

Leaving Cornell Branch in the Spring

By Elettra Repetto CB19

Duhan appears in the room with some surgical masks and hands them to me. “You do not have them in Italy.” I look at her with gratitude while she goes on explaining to me how to use them, “Look, you have to take them in this way and then fold them like this.” Sharing became so obvious and natural since the beginning of March. Since I decided to leave the US to go back home, to Italy, I did not have to ask for anything; the material and spiritual support I needed was already there.

April. I should still be in the US, writing my doctoral thesis at Cornell. I am in Italy instead, writing from 6 hours in the future. The arrival of coronavirus changed my plans and I flew back home ten days ago, without having much time to process my own decision. I was afraid to fly. I knew that the more people you meet the more chances you have to be infected, and taking off from JFK scared me. An airport, at the end of the day, is surely one of the most crowded places in the world, and one where people coming from everywhere meet. Social distancing seemed impossible to achieve and I was afraid to travel for so many hours sharing my space with people whose previous travels were unknown to me, breathing their same air. Before me other Cornell branchmembers started leaving one by one, leaving the House more deserted the more the days passed, and yet I felt and still feel the community becoming stronger and stronger, more protective of its members and more resilient.

My own departure was more a collective event than a lonely adventure. Being a community is particularly difficult and yet of utmost importance in times of crisis and Telluride proved to be a strong group of people, who helped me find an inner balance. Community living and self-governance acquired new meanings the days before my departure, as well as intellectual inquiry – how should we read these ever changing data, how to contextualize them, how to understand the meaning of them, which measures ought to be adopted, where and for how long and with which consequences, became daily questions that each of us posed to others, if not to themselves. In those days of turmoil, branchmembers started to express their connection at their best, helping each other overcome a difficult time of mental stress. Taking care of each other became a natural habit, and suddenly we were all able to find the right words, or to respect each other’s silence. Those who knew how to cook made the House a home from the first days of isolation, spontaneously, before committees were organized and decisions passed. Others started cleaning, others organized Zoom movies from inside and outside the House. Matt gave a brilliant PubSpeak via Zoom and to this day people gather and celebrate birthdays notwithstanding the time difference, being scattered in at least three continents at the moment. People kept in touch from the beginning via Zoom, mail, WhatsApp, discussing House duties, organizing events and sharing personal adventures from Thailand to Italy, from Texas to NY. Housemeetings are now non-compulsory yet are nonetheless attended in good numbers, not merely to make decisions, but to check on each other, to take care of each other and be together from afar.

Before leaving, Duhan provided me with a trolley to store all my extra belongings, gave me masks and invaluable instructions on how to use them, and it is because of her I could fly being protected. Alice appeared



CBTA felting party, March 2020: L-R: Grace Zhang, Yana Kalmyka, Elettra Repetto, Ellen Baer, Nadine Gutierrez

at my door with a good luck bracelet and B12 vitamins to take on my trip, while Johan asked me if I had food with me, and all the others passed to say bye or wrote to me from their own quarantine, to be sure I would send them news once in Italy. Krystal passed by the night she left to say goodbye, keeping a physical distance that looked so unnatural in a goodbye moment. Nadine, my precious roommate, left Ithaca on the same day I did, symbolically ending this terrific experience.

These people are Telluride for me. Above and beyond the institution, it is the people that make choices every day and live together, putting into practice a substantive curiosity for one another, beyond formalisms. Telluride is a colorful kaleidoscope I had the chance to see changing from the inside, being a part of it. This group includes students, all the staff, from Marta, to the kind Gary, to Londell whom all of us could always rely on, Blane and the exceptional office, who made Telluride feel more like a home than a house. **This virus will pass one day, but it has surely already left the awareness that this House, this community is a tight one, a caring one despite its differences and its conflicts.** Its people consider what is morally right before what is convenient to do, especially in times of need like the ones we are living now. Telluride is an unexpected, enthusiastic encounter of people that will find other ways to be a community and that is willing and able to create ties across time and space. Its members are much more than a utopic group of scholars; they are vibrant, caring, critical, creative individuals ready to take on challenges from whoever and whatever they might come. ❖

Elettra Repetto is a Ph.D. student in Political Theory, writing her dissertation on Transnational Civil Disobedience, but interested also in migration issues. She is also an environmental activist and a passionate photographer.

Deep Springs Suspends Operations for COVID-19

In late March, the Deep Springs Trustees passed a resolution to continue Term Five with nine on-campus students and twenty-one off-campus students, with learning and self-governing via Zoom; to maintain self-isolation of the College and social distancing through April 30; and to discuss and anticipate possible permutations for Term Six and Summer Term to maximize safety and ensure best student experience, and to aim to welcome the Class of DS20 on schedule. ❖

Keeping the MBTA (Virtual) Community Together

By Marianna Coulentianos MB17 and Ione Locher MB19

Now that the Michigan Branch of Telluride Association (MBTA) is officially closed, we are finding new and creative ways to keep the House community going strong!

New member interviews and preferment are ongoing, and all indicators point to a full slate of candidates for the coming year. The interviews are all being conducted virtually and have become a very pleasurable experience. Conducting interviews can be extremely taxing, but reconnecting with fellow housemembers before and after the interview makes it all worth it, especially in these times. Furthermore, the investment everyone is putting in demonstrates that we do show up, even when attendance points don't count! We believe wholeheartedly in this community and will do what it takes to keep it alive and well.

Meanwhile, the House has started to organize entirely new and creative ways to hang out together virtually. Slack has been the predominant mode of communication among housemembers all year, but now a few new slack channels have been created (*#separatedbutnotapart*, *#allthingsfood*, *#shelterinplacefitnessboss*). These new channels have been used to organize House phone calls during what used to be our regular PubSpeak times, share recipes and photos of the food we've been cooking and eating, and share shelter-in-place fitness ideas. It seems you can take the Telluriders out of the House, but not the House out of the Telluriders! ❖

Deep Springs Selects New President

The Deep Springs College Board of Trustees has selected Dr. Susan Darlington to be its next President, beginning in the fall of 2020. She will succeed David Neidorf, who is the longest serving President in Deep Springs history.

Darlington is currently Professor of Anthropology and Asian studies at Hampshire College, a small, innovative, liberal arts college in Massachusetts, where she has taught for thirty years. There she also served as Dean of Advising and Dean of Critical Social Inquiry.

Susan's book, *The Ordination of a Tree: The Thai Buddhist Environmental Movement*, reflects her teaching and research interests, which include socially engaged Buddhism, agriculture in society, and environmental anthropology. Educated at Wellesley College and the University of Michigan, Sue brings to Deep Springs a philosophy of collaborative teaching and learning to engage the whole student.

Welcome to the Nunnian community, Susan! ❖

--adapted from the Deep Springs College website

Thank You

To our dedicated TASS and TASP application readers for helping with very high numbers this winter, and to the interviewers who volunteered in extremely challenging circumstances to meet with our finalists, in person and remotely. *We couldn't do it without you!* ❖

Bradby Lauds International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife

By Matthew Bradby CB93 TA94

Editor's Note: This article was commissioned prior to the global outbreak of COVID-19, but is all the more timely in light of these developments.

The World Health Organization has declared 2020 the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife. This decision was inspired by the 200th anniversary of the birth of nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale and the recognition that the nursing workforce is an indispensable part of healthcare for individuals and communities globally: approximately half of all healthcare workers are nurses and midwives.



Matt Bradby

I have worked for The Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI), a nursing charity based in London, since 2008. The Institute has some parallels with Telluride. The two organisations are both, at their heart, educational charities, of roughly similar size and both with proud histories. The QNI was founded in 1887, originally to train District Nurses, which in Britain are not school nurses but those who deliver healthcare to people in their own homes.

Today the charity provides support to all nurses who work outside of hospitals, whether they work for NHS organisations, charities or the private sector, including nurses in community teams, general practice, schools, workplaces and outreach clinics. The support we offer can be through conferences, leadership programmes, academic awards, bursaries, professional networks, publications – and financial assistance for working and retired nurses who are in need. My job is head of communications, which includes managing websites, editing publications, managing social media, the press office, stakeholder engagement and just about anything else people ask me to help out with.

Florence Nightingale was one of the main movers behind the creation of the QNI, at a time when many countries were innovating to adapt to rising populations in rapidly growing cities, often with poor sanitation and a rudimentary grasp of the vectors of disease. Fever or isolation hospitals were used to contain epidemics but treatment options were very limited. In the 130 years since that time, most of the historic major infectious diseases of the Victorian era have been overcome and the health economy has changed dramatically, to focus on the chronic conditions of our aging and increasingly sedentary population, and the challenges of mental health and wellbeing.

Yet, despite all the advances in medical and pharmaceutical knowledge, society needs its nurses as much as ever before. As well as lifestyle diseases, we face new contagions such as HIV and COVID-19 that require intensive nursing interventions. Nursing is hard work and isn't associated with financial rewards; hence there is a global shortage of nurses (estimates vary) where wealthier nations rely on nurses who have trained in emerging economies.

I am inspired by the nurses I meet – by their passion and commitment to helping people who are in need. The ethos of nursing is something to be celebrated in this International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife. For more information, visit www.qni.org.uk and www.qniheritage.org.uk. ❖

Telluride's World War III

By Brian Kennedy SP60 CB61 TA63

In the illustrious 108-year history of Telluride Association, today's coronavirus assault represents only the third external shock upon the Association that could justly be called "wartime." In that sense, the coronavirus represents Telluride's (and the world's, but that's another story) World War III.



Brian Kennedy (far right) at the 2019 Telluride Day of Service, Chicago

THE WORLD WAR – the Great War, the Chemical War, the World War, the War to End All Wars – was touched off, in faraway Europe, in July 1914. In November 1916, Woodrow "He Kept Us Out of War" Wilson was re-elected president. In April 1917, Germany deliberately forced America to declare war by resuming unrestricted submarine warfare.

Just two months later, in June 1917, Telluride Association held its Convention, with difficulty and with great foreboding. Members were already heading off to war. Carroll Whitman delivered his presidential address *in absentia*, as he was in uniform in New Jersey. He expressed clearly the near-impossibility of an educational institution's maintaining its programs in a country under full-scale mobilization.

The Association's programs ground to a halt. In Ithaca, Telluride House was utilized as an officers' club. The endowment, like the markets, was volatile. Holding a summer 1918 Convention was flatly impossible. On November 11, 1918, Germany surrendered.

Telluride Association resumed with its 1919 Convention, presided over by Carroll Whitman. There was the flu pandemic. There had been deaths. It was a choppy but welcome re-start.

WORLD WAR II was touched off, in faraway Europe, September 1, 1939. Japan, on mainland Asia, had already been up to no good. America was not in this war, and in particular had an influential isolationist movement.

Telluride Association held its annual conventions of 1940 – and in November, FDR was elected to his unprecedented third term – and 1941. On Dec. 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. Days later, Hitler declared war on the U.S.

Just six months later, in June 1942, Telluride Association held its Convention, with difficulty and with great foreboding. Members were already heading

off to war. Jim Withrow delivered his presidential address, expressing clearly the near impossibility of an educational institution's maintaining its programs in a country under full-scale mobilization.

The Association's programs ground to a halt. In Ithaca, Telluride House was utilized to house Marines. The endowment, like the markets, was volatile. In 1943-44-45, two-day skeleton Telluride Conventions were held in Washington, D.C. – presided over, respectively, by Jim Withrow, Harvey Mansfield, and VP Armand W. Kelly (with President Fred Laise stationed in the Pacific). The attainment of Association-level quorums hung by a thread. Precautionarily, the quorums empowered non-quorums (primarily the Custodians) to make necessary decisions.

Telluride Association resumed with its 1946 Convention, presided over by Bob Sproull. Of 79 Association members, 45 had been in uniform. Of all associates, from the youngest Deep Springer upward, one-third had been in combat. There had been deaths. It was a choppy but welcome re-start.

WORLD WAR III was touched off, in China, apparently in November 2019, when the coronavirus attacked "Patient Zero." After December confusion and denial, China moved decisively in January 2020. But by that time the virus had jumped. The American stock market hit its all-time peak on February 19, 2020. After January-February confusion and denial, America began moving more decisively in March 2020.

Today we remain at an earlier stage of the ensuing chaos, than in either of the two previous world wars that Telluride Association survived. But already, the endowment, like the markets, is volatile. Students almost everywhere in America have been sent home. Much, and more, of the American population is under unknown weeks of lockdown. A 2020 TA Convention will be conducted remotely. For the first time since 1953, Telluride Summer Programs (TASPs and TASSes) will not be held in person.

Yes, this is World War III, hitting America and the world. Any other appellation would suffer from the flaw of inaccuracy.

Thirty years ago, as I presented an important extended financial data set to the consideration of Telluride's 1990 Convention, I wrote that this data set comprises "an enormous timeframe, in terms of the possibilities encompassed: wars and rumors of wars (from world to local or even civil; declared or undeclared), stupefying technological progress, political and social change, booms and busts, creeping or galloping inflation or deflation, little government and big government, high prosperity and hair-raising depression.

"This endlessly expandable list, while rhetorical, is also important. So long and varied a time period permits not only all sorts of specific "what ifs," but also a general "what if," namely: if you had so long and varied a time period, what stabilities or instabilities (if any) will the various asset classes exhibit?"

Of course this question holds, not just for financial asset classes, but for Telluride's – and for everyone's – life in general. And the answer, now as then, is that life will be different. But it will go on. ❧

Brian Kennedy served as *pro bono* TA Treasurer from 1988 to 1991 and was the principal researcher and developer of Telluride's Association current long-term investment/expenditure strategy, "SI31," which was adopted in 1990. Brian retired at year-end 2008 as Treasurer and Senior Vice President of Finance for Health Care Service Corporation, Chicago, IL.

Custodians Vote to Divest From Fossil Fuels

By Kelly Goodman MB08 TA10, Chair, Telluride Board of Custodians



Telluride Custodians pay a visit to the Sierra Club

Revisiting long dormant connections between the Sierra Club and the Telluride Association, which hosted the creation of the local Sierra Club chapter in CBTA's Striped Room in the 1960s and hired Bruce Hamilton, now a Sierra Club leader, to teach the Cremona environmental policy "Field TASPs" in the 1970s, the Board of Custodians visited the Sierra Club Foundation in Oakland, CA on February 21 to learn about fossil fuel divestment and sustainable and renewable energy divestment. Continuing a conversation and investigation underway for years, the Custodians voted to replace the Association's domestic equity holdings, roughly one-third of the endowment's total, with fossil free alternatives and to continue to search for ESG (environmental, social, governance) options in other asset classes. Moreover, the committee is switching custodial banks to Amalgamated Bank of New York, which will make no new loans to the fossil fuel industry and is winding down its legacy positions. ♣

The Endowment and the Downturn

The weekend before the coronavirus sell-off began on Monday, February 24th, 2020, the Telluride Association Board of Custodians voted to divest one-third of the endowment, then valued at \$60 million, from fossil fuels and continue searching for sustainable and renewable energy equity investments. In close consultation with our investment advisors, the committee managed to exchange our entire domestic equity large cap holding for Vanguard's fossil free equivalent on Friday, March 6, some 10.4 million dollars. That Monday, the oil stocks we had just sold tanked, bringing the S&P 500 index down with it. Our values had value. However, since the beginning of the year, the two products now have similar returns as governments intervene to cut crude oil supply and find backup storage, and as banks seize shale gas reserves. While the precise estimate of our \$10.4 million investment will not be known until account books close, by the end of March it had fallen 20% since the beginning of the year, and now at the end of April is down around 11.5% .

You have surely seen educational institutions canceling programs, imposing across the board pay cuts as high as 20%, and freezing hiring, and noted the size of their endowments. Institutions cut because some of their investments are illiquid—they are locked up for months or years in private funds with complicated contracts—or because they do not want to sell liquid investments like stocks and bonds at a loss. In many educational institutions, administrators autocratically set budgets based on short periods of two,

five, or ten years of endowment returns. Democratically self-governing institutions like the Telluride Association set budgets collectively. SI-31, which Brian Kennedy discusses elsewhere in this newsletter, offers Telluride the stability of deciding spending based on full market cycles. Our values still have value.

Buoyed by good stock picks in the 1990s and the tech stock bubble in the early 2000s, the Association expanded programs, from overseas exchanges to a new Branch. At our investment consultants' direction and under our volunteer treasurers' watch, the Custodians began following Yale's portfolio management strategy, investing in private funds, timberland, and real estate in addition to our traditional asset classes of equities (stocks) and fixed income (bond-like products). Nonetheless, after the 2008 financial crisis, the Association made the difficult decision to cut two summer programs and decrease its spending rate. Now as the Association commits to summer program expansion, we again consider what kind of Telluridean education the endowment supports.

Before the Custodians' recent collaboration with Telluride's Financial Manager to streamline our record-keeping and fund-raising process, distributions from private investments piled up in our money market account, funding the Association's monthly operating costs while earning low interest rates. To maximize returns during the boom, the committee voted to instead keep our money in the market as long as possible, selling shares in funds that had appreciated the most every month. After hearing for several years from our investment consultant about an impending bust, the Custodians voted in the fall of 2019 to begin holding a three-month operating reserve, still small compared to typical institutions. Committee members' calculations estimated this choice would cost the Association around \$100,000 per year if performance continued as it had. Of course, it did not and the committee recently met virtually to supplement this reserve with the sale of a fixed income product we like to think of as expensive insurance—that is, higher fees than U.S. Treasuries for "total return"—our only investment with positive returns year-to-date at the time.

Thus, the Association is fully-funded through the end of the summer of 2020 without having to sell at a loss. After that, we have several options for the newly-seated Custodians committee to consider. Deep Springs College has until 2026 to pay back the agreed upon proceeds from the dissolution of the LL Nunn LLC. With a robust faction of Deep Springs alumni now in the Association, and several years of cordial exchange on difficult topics facilitated by the TA/DS liaison, we have stronger informal and formal relationships to negotiate plans for early payment than at any moment in the past. Even the full amount, surely negotiated at some discount of its approximately \$3.3 million value, would fund an Association lacking other revenue sources only for a year and a half.

What to do? We are invested over a full market cycle. Some of our investments will have positive returns, and we can sell those. We continue to receive distributions from funds that are winding down, and from a well-timed investment in renewable energy contracts that returns a monthly coupon. Our Financial Manager is diligently pursuing forgivable loans from the current federal stimulus package. And with interest rates at record lows, we can borrow from a bank like the Association's Ithaca-based Tompkins Trust. We can always sell at a loss. The concepts of fiduciary duty and intergenerational equity are just that—concepts that we as board members and directors weigh alongside our program participants' needs. ♣

Kelly Goodman MB08 TA10 is Chair of Telluride Association's Board of Custodians.

continued from cover

of the organization and supportive of any directions you decide to take. (By the way, our current COVID-related crisis has also led to other organizational adaptation. For example, we have been freshly motivated to develop forms and communication systems that make job roles and responsibilities more explicit. We have been Zoom-zoom-zooming in individual and group meetings.)



It's clear to me that TA can see the work that's ahead with clarity and commitment. The infrastructure and culture change that has begun will take several years to roll out; I believe that current TA members understand that this requires and deserves time and patience. Given that these changes are slowly being integrated into the culture of culture of Telluride and implemented in real ways, I believe it's a good time for me to move on.

Matt Trail is going to be the Interim Administrative Director. His experience as a previous AD, his expertise, and his availability make him a natural fit for the role. He will be able to provide stability that few people could during this transition period. He also carries the history of the organization which provides an invaluable resource for continuity through changing membership as well as changing times. The staff are grateful that he has agreed to this position.

I have a number of dreams for my own next steps, projects in the Ithaca community that are still emerging. Given what's unfolding in society, and particularly in our local community, I feel called to devote my time and leadership to this new challenge and social action.



With Marilyn Migiel SP71 CB72 TA74

It's been an amazing journey to work with Telluride over the last twenty years. What I deeply appreciate about TA is your ability to engage fully in topics so varied and complex. You debate these topics with focus and vigor. It's amazing to experience that even when you disagree, you walk away with respect and love for one another. It's been so special to be a part of the organization's growth, especially in these areas:

Diversity is something I am passionately committed to, and it has been a priority for most of my adult life. In my interview for the position, I was asked about this and informed that it was an important priority for Telluride, although it was a struggle to fulfill that commitment. This had a defining influence on my decision to accept the job.

I believe, as most of you do, that education is the foundation of our freedom and is vital to the development of every individual's potential. But there are those who have access and those who are denied access based on social identity. With its resources, Telluride has the power to continue to make an even greater impact on equitable access.

At my first Convention, I looked out onto a sea of predominantly white (albeit friendly) faces. In 2020, the membership is very different. Diversity

and inclusion changes are hard, and this journey has required willingness to tolerate some discomfort and conflict. I am honored to have been a part of this change.

Some highlights in this area that I am most proud of include: At the 2006 Convention, I brought a proposal to create a TASS Alumni Development and Alumni Support (TADAS) committee. Its purpose was to expand the positive effects for the TASS participants beyond the six weeks as rising juniors by bringing them back for a weekend early in their senior year. We wanted to offer them additional levels of support and invite them to become involved in other TA activities. This program continues today and is a huge success.

In 2011, I spoke with the Vice President for Student and Academic Services. I asked her if she thought Cornell would be open to funding a TASS, given the success of our TASP's over the last sixty years. To my delight, she thought it was a good idea and put me in touch with the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education. In 2012, Stephanie Kelly SP05 CB06 TA10 and I went to meet with her, and three years later, our first TASS started at Cornell. We now have two TASSes every year at Cornell which are supporting our equity and inclusion priorities.

In 2013, I helped organize the twenty-year celebration of the beginning of TASS at Indiana University. This was a very successful event, and I hope that Telluride will invite me back to be part of a thirty-year celebration in 2023.

A third highlight in my time at Telluride has been my role in expanding our training for factotums. I found the historical training to be too short (two hours) and loosely organized to adequately prepare factotums for their responsibilities. I saw a need for more structure and information-sharing, actual skill training, and focused education on issues such as communication, mental health, issues of race, and more. In collaboration with many members over these twenty years, the revised training program now lasts about six days. It is an ever-evolving process but one in which the factotums are much better equipped to take on their leadership roles.

On a personal level, I've had opportunities to learn and change as a person and a leader at Telluride. You might say, it's been quite the twenty-year Telluridean education! My writing and speaking skills have sharpened, my soft skills in communication have widened, my supervision skills have been deepened and honed, and while I still don't like public speaking, I am much less likely to go into sheer panic when handed the mike! The current times have also helped me to learn to lead and supervise staff virtually, which has been challenging but not without benefits.

And finally, in an environment surrounded by people with high levels of communication confidence and comfort with debate and competition, I found my voice. Over time, I developed the confidence to express many ideas that needed to be heard by the organization to support its staff, its health, and its mission.

I had hoped in my transition to see many of you in person to say good-bye. At Convention, I was hoping to raise a glass or two with members and guests. Many esteemed guests had already committed to coming to the August alumni weekend, and I am really going to miss that time together. Thank you so much to the gang (you know who you are) who jumped right in to help get ideas off the ground. And what exciting plans were forming! I hope that the momentum of emailing reminiscences of your time at CBTA continues. Those emails are a treasure in themselves.



With CBTAers Joaquin Brito Jr. CB17 TA18 and Rumit Singh Kakar CBG16.

In my last months at the Branch, I was also looking forward to simply seeing alums visiting Ithaca. But now, no one is traveling. We won't even be having our summer programs in person this summer, so I won't get to connect with the factotums, program assistants, or participants. This is a real disappointment, but please know that I hold you all in my heart.

I will be working with Matt over the summer to transition leadership and to help with the organization in any ways I can.

This "Reflections" article is intended to connect with you, and hopefully it will not be my last opportunity to do so.

I want you all to know that Telluride has been an important part of my life. This organization changes lives. If there's one thing I have heard more than anything else over the twenty years, it is that "Telluride changed my life." I'm so grateful to have been a part of its life. I'm also so grateful to have worked for many years leading and supporting your talented staff. They've had my back (and yours) and I have been incredibly lucky to work with such competent and devoted people.

I urge you moving forward—with your strategic goals, your transition to a new director, and possibly a whole new way of offering programs given the havoc that this pandemic is wreaking—to continue ensuring that everyone has a voice.

My hope is that in whatever directions you go, that you remember and nourish what is deeply Telluride . . . that you all have a voice, that you can agree, or disagree, and that you continue to do your work with love and respect. You will continue to change lives. I know you have changed mine. ♡

Documentary on Frances Perkins CBG60 Airs on PBS

Cornell Branch Holds Reception for Local Premiere

This March the national PBS network aired a new documentary on the life and career of Frances Perkins, Franklin Roosevelt's longtime Secretary of Labor and often regarded as the "architect of the New Deal." As many Telluriders know, Frances spent most of the last five years of her life at Cornell and was a beloved faculty guest at Cornell Branch from 1960-65 (and was, in fact, Telluride's first female resident).



Above: Mick Caouette, Brad Edmondson DS76 CB80 TA90, Tomlin Perkins Coggleshall

At left: Administrative Director Ellen Baer, Chris Breiseth, and Jim Hedlund SP58 CB59 TA61.

The documentary is called *Summoned: Frances Perkins and the General Welfare*, and was produced by filmmaker Mick Caouette. It features interviews with David Brooks, Nancy Pelosi, Amy Klobuchar, Lawrence O'Donnell and others while telling Perkin's story in the context of the history of women in politics, Social Security, and American attitudes toward immigration, poverty, Socialism, and the role of government.

Cornell University hosted a local premiere of the documentary in February, and Cornell Branch held a small reception afterwards. In attendance was Chris Breiseth, CB58 TA59 SPF69, who was on the Branch committee that invited Perkins to live in the House. Among many other accomplishments in higher education (including a stint as President of Deep Springs College from 1980-83), Chris is the past president and former CEO of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and currently serves as the treasurer of the Frances Perkins Center. He is also the author of "The Frances Perkins I Knew" and has consulted in numerous studies and treatments of Perkins' career and legacy.

For more information on the film, please visit <https://www.southhillfilms.com/summoned-frances-perkins/>. ♡

LA Alumni Schmooze

Rodman Reads From His Latest Blockbuster

By Ellen Baer

In view of the current difficult world situation, it cheers me to remember what a wonderful time we had in LA back in February. The alumni gathering was a great success! Thank you to my co-hosts, the gracious Jessica Cattelino SP91 CB92 TA93 and Noah Zatz SP89 CB90 TA92 and their two adorable girls, Mica and Rosie. Howard Rodman, SP66, read from his book, *The Great Eastern*, and then took questions. It was a delightful hour of adventure and great conversation. We then shared hours of food, wine, and more reminiscences. Lovely time! ♡



Telluriders Participate in Lives of Service

By Matthew Trail SP81 CB82 TA84, Alumni and Development Officer



LaFave (front row, third from right) and TeenSHARP group

Preparing young people for leadership and service in the broader world has always been one of Telluride's key missions. That tradition is alive and well today. Below are just a few examples of nonprofit organizations that Telluride members and alumni are currently serving and supporting. We'd love to hear from other Telluriders about the nonprofit organizations they serve and actively support.

Matt Bradby, CB93 TA94, was a Telluride Lincoln Scholar and currently lives in London, England. He directs communications for the Queen's Nursing Institute, a nursing charity based in London. See Matt's article on Page 5 in this issue on the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife.

Maia Dedrick, MB05 TA11, is currently vice-chair of Telluride's Cornell Branch Committee:

I like to volunteer for the Alliance for Cultural Heritage, the nonprofit arm of an organization called InHerit (in-herit.org), affiliated with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The mission of the organization is to "celebrate indigenous heritage through progressive collaborations that educate, conserve, and advocate for native languages, traditions, and rights to the past." When conducting archaeological research in Yucatán, Mexico, I help to coordinate outreach activities that have included school field trips to archaeological sites and museums, Yucatec Maya language workshops, cultural events, and student exchange programs. This has been possible thanks to the support of the Alliance for Cultural Heritage. The engagement and outreach activities are important to me as an archaeologist for two reasons. First, a lot of times the outcomes of archaeological research are not made known to the people who live nearby, who may have ancestral ties to the sites. Second, my own research has been possible due to the generosity of many people who have allowed me to work on their land

and who have participated in interviews and shared knowledge. I do my best to share resources and information in return.

Allison LaFave, SP05 TA17, currently serves as chair of Telluride's Summer Program (TASP Committee) and sits on Telluride's Board of Custodians:

Since October 2019, I've been leading the Camden site of TeenSHARP, a college access and leadership development program that serves approximately 60 high school students from the Camden area and Philadelphia. TeenSHARP's mission is to prepare talented low-income, African-American, and Latinx students to attend and thrive at our nation's top colleges. This mission is in service of a bold vision that one day the diversity of those occupying our nation's highly-skilled jobs and highest leadership positions will be as rich as the diversity of our population. Each Saturday during the academic year, I oversee daylong programming. This programming includes interdisciplinary college-style seminars taught by local doctoral students, math and writing support, academic skill building (e.g., time management, note taking), and general college knowledge. Throughout the week, I have one-on-one advising sessions with individual students and their parents. I also encourage our students to apply to summer programs (like TASS and TASP!) and scholarship opportunities.

Being able to talk about how TA programs have had such a profound impact my life helps me motivate students to apply to our programs and programs like ours. My work on SPARC and TASPCom has given me a better understanding of what our students can do to stand out in competitive application processes. As a direct result of my committee work, I also feel more comfortable liaising with colleges and other institutional partners, evaluating our programs, and hiring diverse seminar instructors.

For more info on TeenSHARP, visit <https://www.teensharp.org/apply/teensharp-at-rutgers-camden/>.



Sumeet Patwardhan, SP12 TA18, is the chair of Telluride’s Finance and Budget Committee:

I’m a member and officer of the Graduate Employees’ Organization (Local 3550 of the American Federation of Teachers), which is the union representing graduate student instructors and graduate student staff assistants at the University of Michigan. GEO uses collective action and bargaining in order to protect and advance the rights and interests of Graduate Student Instructors, Graduate Student Staff Assistants, and all graduate

students. I joined GEO for some of the same reasons that I joined Telluride - its democratic, volunteer-run structure appealed to me - as well as some different reasons - I was interested in learning more about and contributing to union organizing. This year has been especially interesting and important, as this is the ‘bargaining year’ of our three-year contract cycle, so we are negotiating for a new contract. Please feel free to reach out if you are interested in learning more about GEO!

Puneet Singh, MB16 TA17, is the chair of Telluride’s Communications Committee and also serves on the Board of Custodians:

I have been volunteering for the Sikh Family Center since 2016 and joined as a Board member in January 2020. The Sikh Family Center is a grassroots community-based organization that helps create healthy, violence-free, more equitable communities by bridging gaps in access to public resources and social services, and providing education and direct support to community members using an empowerment approach that attends to cultural tradition, immigration experiences, and language access. One of the unique services that SFC provides is a nationwide non-emergency helpline run by trained peer counselors to provide crisis intervention, discuss the available options and provide appropriate referrals to resources in local communities. Most of my volunteer work has been in helping create surveys, write and compile reports, translate resources, and design publicity materials for the organization.

I am very proud of the work we do and hope to continue to support our mission in the future. Check out our work at <https://sikhfamilycenter.org>

Morgan Whittler, SS08 SP09 TA14, is currently Telluride’s Vice President:

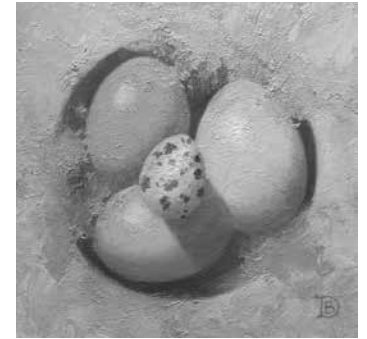
I’ve recently begun working for the national nonprofit NPower, which provides free IT training to underserved young adults and veterans who haven’t had exposure to IT career pathways or opportunities to explore the IT field. NPower began its work in Metro Detroit in Fall 2019 with a grant from Robert Smith’s Fund II Foundation. In my role as the Recruitment and Admission Manager, I work with other Detroit-based nonprofits, metro area schools, and government funded programs to spread awareness of our training opportunity.

My work interviewing and reading applications for Telluride has definitely prepared me to be an effective Admissions manager and our conversations about who we’d like to serve with our programs is what pushed me to seek out an opportunity working with an organization looking to help young adults transform their lives.

Check out what NPower is up to at npower.org!

Associate’s Gallery

Brie Dodson, SP76, a painter and printmaker, keeps her studio and home in Virginia. Her family includes four sons, ages 18 to 38, and her husband, Tom, a classic car buff.



Clockwise: Sacred Ground, Emergence, Cinderella’s Secret. Top right: Brie Dodson



Windmuller in his CBTA days, 1974.

Tom Windmuller, CB74 TA76, served in the Foreign Service and retired in 2015 as the Senior Vice President of the International Air Transport Association:

Most of my volunteer work is coordinated through an organization called “Serve the City – Geneva.” (<https://www.servethecitygeneva.ch/language/en/>). One of the activities in which I participate is called “Samedi de Partage” (or “Sharing Saturday”). Twice a year, volunteers go to about 100 of the main supermarkets in the Geneva area to ask shoppers to fill (or partially fill) an extra bag (that we give them)

with groceries for the most needy and marginalized people in the city. (Yes, even Switzerland has poor and marginalized people.) My involvement is both in the collection process (at the supermarkets) and in the sorting (at a huge warehouse). Also through Serve the City, I also help out at a soup kitchen in downtown Geneva. Aside from that, I support my wife in helping to integrate asylum seekers into our local community in a suburb of Geneva. My role there involves supporting “friendship meals” where members of the local community dine together with the asylum seekers. While I love spending time with these people, most of whom come from Eritrea, South Sudan, Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, I end up spending most of my time in the kitchen, preparing the food, setting the tables and cleaning up afterwards. ♡



Spring Break on the Farm

By Lone Locher, MB19

This year, after an 8-year hiatus, the Michigan Branch of Telluride Association (MBTA) brought back an old tradition of organizing an Alternative Spring Break (ASB). For our ASB trip, five housemembers used a grant from the University of Michigan's Ginsberg Center and funding from MBTA's discretionary service project budget to travel to Port Royal, Pennsylvania to volunteer for a week at Gita Nagari Eco Farm, an organic and cruelty-free dairy farm. While on our trip, we worked and stayed at the farm, integrating into the daily activities of the intentional living community living at and operating the farm year-round.

It did not take long after our arrival at Gita Nagari for all of us to realize that we didn't know the first thing about dairy cows. The first thing to know is that cows are, in fact, quite enormous, and taking care of all their needs is no small undertaking either. We appreciated the hard work it takes to milk the cows twice daily, feed them, and



Housemembers getting acquainted with a Gita Nagari resident. Left-to-right: Anamaria Cuza, Ariel Roy, and Tina Al-khersan.

to undertake "waste management" at a farm scale after trying our hand at some of these activities. Other service activities focused on different aspects of food production: we spent two days helping to refurbish a large hoop house that will one day become a functioning greenhouse and planting seeds for Gita Nagari's organic vegetable garden. After engaging in this work,

we all left with a deeper sense of the resources and effort required to produce food.

From the beginning, we planned the ASB trip with an interest in learning more about sustainable



Housemembers receiving certificates of completion at the end of the week-long program. Left-to-right: Keshi Das (Gita Nagari resident), Anamaria Cuza, Lone Locher, Chris Opila, Ariel Roy, and Tina Al-khersan

living, and in connecting sustainable living to service in a meaningful way. (Sustainability, and initiatives to improve MBTA's sustainability, have been an ongoing theme in conversations about self-governance in the House throughout the year.) We found plenty at Gita Nagari to inspire us. While eating the wonderful vegetarian meals served three times a day at the farm, we talked about vegetarianism as an environmental movement and the politics of the farming industry. And while learning about sustainability efforts within Gita Nagari's intentional living community, we were able to compare and contrast similarities to our own MBTA experience. By the end of the trip, we all felt excited to bring some of these discussions back to the broader MBTA discussion about the role of sustainability in education and in communal living.

Post-Script: Now that so much of daily life has been upended by recent events, it feels almost surreal to remember that less than a month ago, we were busy bedding straw in a barn and learning to drive oxen teams and not much else. However, the lessons we learned on the farm about the importance of community and the value of local food systems are perhaps all the more poignant as we all face broad disruption to our daily lives. Now more than ever, I am deeply grateful for having been able to participate in this Alternative Spring Break, the connection I made while on the trip, and the ideas I took from it. ❖

TA Works on Anti-Racism Agenda

By Albert Chu SP13 CB14 TA18

For the past several years, TA has been engaged in the work of producing a strategic plan. At several points during the discussion of the plan, Association members expressed the desire to take a more focused approach towards the Association's commitment to social justice. This desire was reflected in a mandate for the Strategic Planning Support Committee (SPSC) of 2018-2019 to write a Vision Statement which included language about diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). At Convention 2019, Chisara Ezie-Boncoeur SS03 TA18 and Theo Foster SS03 SP04 TA09 gave a presentation about social justice in TA, discussing past approaches to social justice and DEI and starting conversations about how TA could move forwards. The PROSE (Privilege, Race, Opportunity, and Social Equity) committee was rechartered at Convention 2019, carrying with it the old mandate from SPSC to write a vision statement, a new mandate to amend TARP to reflect TA's commitment to anti-racism, and other mandates to solicit feedback and self-reflection reports from other parts of TA.

This year's PROSE is tackling the first two mandates. At Convention 2020, we plan to introduce a BIRT which ratifies a TA anti-racism statement. This statement will express a high-level commitment to anti-racism. First, it will emphasize the importance for TA, an educational nonprofit, to actively fight against racism and other forms of injustice both in our programs and internally. Second, it will center literacy in social justice and the ability to work across differences in identity and power as key learning goals of TA pedagogy. The anti-racism statement will form a philosophical framework and provide context for our proposed TARP amendments. These TARP amendments will speak to actionable directives relating either to TA's programs or internal TA operations themselves. Several other TA members and committees, such as SPARC, have already begun the work of amending TARP to better reflect our programs' values; we hope to continue that work.

Leading up to Convention 2020, we plan to gather as much feedback as possible from the TA membership to incorporate in our legislation. We hope that our draft legislation and the feedback-gathering process will spark lively conversation regarding TA's relationship to social justice and anti-racism. If you have any questions or thoughts about PROSE's work, please feel free to reach out to us at prose@tellurideassociation.org. ❖

1960s



Many thanks to Barbara Herman CB64 TA65 SPF78 for sending us this picture of the 1965 Cornell Branch. Frances Perkins is center row, left. Can you find that term's catputter?!

MATTHEW CLARK, SP65 CB66, writes: "As of July 2019 I have retired from my position as Professor of Ancient Greek Literature and Culture at York University in Toronto, though I will continue to teach one course post-retirement for a couple of years. Meanwhile, my new book, *Debating Rhetorical Narratology*, in collaboration with James Phelan, will be out in February of 2020. My post-retirement plans include a study of myth in the Greek travel writer Pausanias."

WALLACE LOH, CB65, is retiring as President of the University of Maryland, College Park in June 2020. In 2018 the University began hosting a Telluride Summer Program (TASP) there, and two TASSes are planned for 2021.

JOHANNES LINN, CB68, reports "I thought you might be interested to note for your next Newsletter that I had the honor to serve in 2019 as the "Global Facilitator" for the First Replenishment of the Green Climate Fund, the multilateral organization set up under the Paris Climate Agreement to support climate mitigation and adaptation investments in developing countries. The year-long intergovernmental negotiations, which I chaired and supported, had a successful outcome, with total pledges of US\$9.8 billion for 2020-2023 — and that (very unfortunately) without the participation of the US and Australia. The Obama Administration had pledged US\$3 billion for the initial resource mobilization phase five years ago, of which it paid US\$1 billion. The Trump Administration reneged on the remaining US\$2 billion and did not pledge for the first replenishment. An embarrassment for us Americans, to put it mildly!"

ERIC SCIGLIANO, SP69, says "My latest book, *The Big Thaw: Ancient Carbon, Modern Science, and a Race to Save the Planet*, has been published by Braided River Press. Natural

History magazine will publish an excerpt as cover story. It concerns both Arctic permafrost and an unusual program of the Woods Hole Research Center, helping undergraduate students design and conduct original field research with some resemblance to a TASP."

1980s

DAVID PORTER, SP82 CB83 TA87, is wrapping up a five-year term as Chair of the Department of English at the University of Michigan, a milestone he intends to mark by enrolling in a week-long boat-building class deep in the soothing isolation of the northern woods.

We received a notice in late March that **JEFF BEHRENS'**, SP84 TA95, company LabShares Newton is making free lab space available for COVID-19-related research projects.

EERO CARROLL, SP87, is a policy analyst at the Swedish Agency for Public Management, and also supervises B.A. thesis students at the Department of Sociology at Stockholm University. He is also the contact person for the Sweden for Bernie network, a campaign organization parallel to Democrats Abroad Sweden, and running for Democratic Convention delegate in 2020.

NOAH FELDMAN, SP87, testified to the House Judiciary Committee during its impeachment proceedings on President Trump on December 4, 2019. Feldman is Professor of Law at Harvard University.

1990s

Random House's new imprint, Make Me a World, recently published **SARAH DEMING'S**, SP90, novel *Gravity*, about a Dominican-Jewish girl with dreams of being an Olympic boxing champion. Named one of the Best YA novels of 2019 by Publishers Weekly, *Gravity* is based on Sarah's experience as a Golden Gloves champion, sports journalist, and coach at the free community boxing gym NYC Cops and Kids.

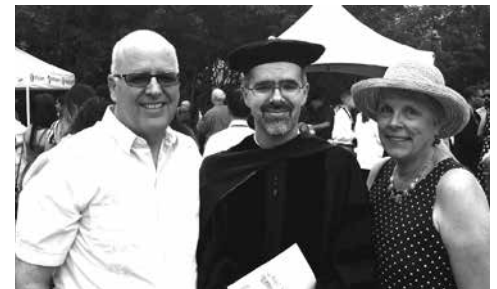
SUZANNE HAGEDORN'S, CB91 TA92, research into the medieval St. William of Perth is featured on the College of William and Mary website on December 12, 2019. <https://www.wm.edu/news/stories/2019/forgotten-saint-sparks-wm-professors-curiosity.php>.

AFUA BRUCE, SS98 SP99 TA06, joined DataKind as Chief Program Officer in February 2020.

MICHAEL DHAR, SP98, sends the following: I recently (end of 2019) became the managing editor of a local, volunteer-driven news site in Chicago called LoganSquarist.com. Also at the end of 2019, I became, for the first time, a co-author on a scientific research publication, due to my ongoing bioinformatics work for NYU biology: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-019-12604-9>.

2000s

JESSICA FALCONE, CB04 TA07, was promoted to full Professor of Cultural Anthropology at Kansas State University in March.



Alec Arellano SP06 PhD

ALEC ARELLANO, SP06, received his Ph.D. in Government from the University of Texas at Austin in August 2019. His dissertation was entitled "Tocqueville and Mill on Doubt and the Demands of Democratic Citizenship." During the 2019-2020 academic year he is working at Occidental College.

AMALIA SKILTON, SP09, completed her Ph.D. in linguistics at Berkeley in the summer of 2019. Next up for her, in 2019-2021, is an NSF postdoctoral research fellowship, studying children's acquisition of language, gesture, and general interactive skills in an indigenous Amazonian community. During the fellowship, Amalia will split her time between Peruvian Amazonia, UT Austin, and the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics. Other happy news is that Amalia and Julia Calagiovanni were married in the Bay Area in September 2018.

continued on page 14

WESLEY DIXON, SS09 SP10, is working at Vassar College as the Special Assistant to the President and Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

2010s

CELINA SCOTT-BUECHLER, SP13 CB14 TA16, is a Legislative Fellow in Senator Cory Booker's office leading his environmental and climate justice portfolios. She continues to be a doctoral candidate in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Cornell.

SALOMEE LEVY, SS18, is the winner of the Billy Michal Student Leadership Award, a student leadership award from the National World War II Museum to honor one student leader from each state. She will be going to New Orleans in late May to receive this award. ♡

Online Associates Directory In The Works

Like a chrysalis awaiting its transformation into a butterfly, or a groundhog stirring from a deep winter's sleep, Telluride's long-dormant online Associates Directory project is once again in active development, under the leadership of the Information Technology Advisory Committee. By the time you read this, we should be in beta testing, with a hoped-for rollout on Telluride's website (www.tellurideassociation.org) this summer. Please stay tuned for an announcement, and periodically check out our website for the grand unveiling! ♡

Social Media Sites

Web: www.tellurideassociation.org

Facebook: Telluride Association

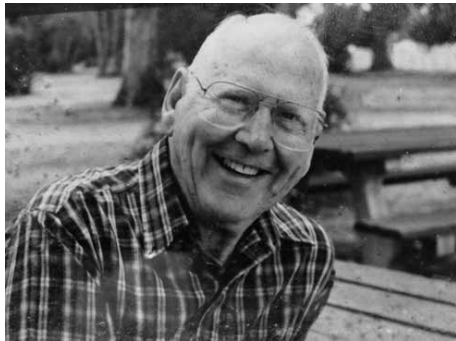
Twitter: @TellurideAssoc

Instagram: tellurideassoc

LinkedIn: Telluride Association (and Telluride Association group)

IN MEMORIAM

BRUCE JOHNSTON, CB39 TA40, age 100, passed away peacefully on February 1st, 2020. After service in World War II, in October 1945 Bruce joined General MacArthur's staff in Japan, where he had responsibility for price controls, rationing and distribution of food to the Japanese people following the war. Bruce returned to Stanford University as a graduate student at the Food Research Institute in 1948. He received his M.A. and then his Ph.D. in agricultural economics in 1952. His Japanese experience fostered his lifelong career in agricultural development focusing on developing countries, especially in Asia and Africa.



Bruce's colleague **John Mellor**, CB46 TA48, writes, "As a long-time collaborator with Bruce I have vivid memories of his countless thoughtful contributions to how we view and think about the economics of agricultural development and its impact. He brought a critical and unique perspective. His residence and professional activities in Japan and the consequent interactions brought to broader view the extensive and intensive work of several Japanese scholars on mainland China and through that a

new perspective on the agricultural development process. China has an important history and valuable lessons for others that tends to be obscured by language and conceptual barriers. These were studied by key figures in the Japanese academic world and brought to broader light by Bruce Johnston's analysis and publications."

RICHARD LOOMIS, DS43 CB53 TA54, died August 2, 2019. After service in the Navy in World War II, Dick returned to college, earning an undergraduate degree in English from John Carroll University, and, inspired by "An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine," among other writings, became a Catholic. He then joined the Trappist monastery at Gethsemani, Kentucky for three years, following which he earned a Ph.D. in English from Cornell University. He was a professor of English at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, PA, and Nazareth College in Rochester, NY. He wrote many scholarly works as well as historical novels on medieval Welsh and Icelandic history throughout his career and into retirement.



Loomis at the Gethsemani Monastery, 1952.

I N MEMORIAM

Dick was also a faculty member at Telluride's third Summer Program, in 1956. **Michael Davidson**, SP56 CB57 TA58 SPF69, writes: "The theme of our 1956 TASP was Conflicting Ideals of Communism and Democracy as seen through three disciplines: history (the Director, Charles Brickley); government (George Malley), and literature (Dick). In the literature component, Dick guided us through an examination of English society through the lens of Shaw's *Major Barbara* and Russian society through the lens of Dostoyevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*. This introduction to interdisciplinary learning was perhaps the central enduring feature of our extraordinary experience. Dick, together with George Malley, were also TA Representatives, as they were called, who engaged us in the Nunnian world of public speaking (through debates) and self-government in organizing visits and discussions with Cornell faculty and Telluride members."



TASP 1956.

The Loomis name will not be unfamiliar to many Telluriders. Dick's brother Ed (DS42) was a Director of Deep Springs College in the 1960s, and Dick's son Leonard was DS73 CB76 TA78 and Mario was DS76 CB79. (See the October 1990 *Newsletter* for Leonard's memorial).

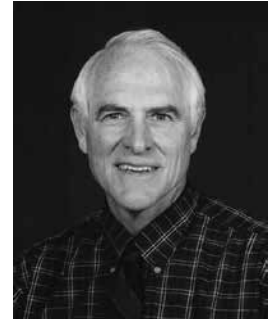
We recently learned that **ALLEN WHITING**, DS44 CB46 TA46, died January 11, 2019. A leading expert on the foreign relations of China, Allen served in several capacities in the U.S. Department of State in the 1960s, including head of the Far Eastern Division of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research and deputy consul general in Hong Kong. Allen also had a long career in academia as Professor of Political Science at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and the University of Arizona, and authored several seminal studies on Chinese foreign policy making.

KOYA AZUMI, PB51, died on December 19, 2019 at the age of 89. As a youth, Koya joined the Quaker community in Japan. Beginning in 1949, he spent two summers as a volunteer in the "Houses for Hiroshima" project led by Floyd Schmoie, a Quaker peace advocate. He received his Ph.D. in sociology in 1966 with a focus on labor and industry. Koya taught at several American universities including Rutgers, New York University, and the University of Wisconsin at Madison, before returning to Japan in 1989 to teach at International Christian University.



ALAN GRUNDMANN, DS51, died in February 2019 at age of 85. Alan was the former/founding Administrative Director of Stanford's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve (1976-93) as well as former assistant Provost for building construction, renovation, and university lands.

S. DAVID WEBB, DS53 CB56 TA56, died in September 2019. David was the former distinguished research curator emeritus of vertebrate paleontology and a University of Florida professor. Webb served as curator from 1964 to 2003 and authored more than 100 scientific publications covering a broad range of topics. Much of his research focused on the Great American Biotic Interchange – the migration of animals between North and South America – and the evolutionary family tree of mammals with cloven hooves, with a focus on camels. He was known as a prolific scholar, a fieldwork enthusiast, a beloved mentor and a popular speaker. After retirement, in addition to continuing his professional work, David and his wife Barbara operated a bed and breakfast ranch in southwestern Montana.



S. David Webb. Photo courtesy Florida Museum of Natural History

MICHAEL HILLS, DS65 BB68, died unexpectedly in December 2019. **Eric Swanson** DS65 BB68 TA69 and **Jim Partridge** SP64 DS65 write:

"Michael Raymond Hills was a man of exuberant enthusiasms and astonishing erudition. He held strong opinions, enthusiastically shared, and always backed by an astonishing number of literary citations that frequently left one thinking 'I've got to go read that.' In his own words, 'I feel sorry for anyone following my reading. I worked in a bookstore for 30 years and could take home and read any book I wanted and have wandered far off the beaten path for far too long. I do know what I like. I have collected enough interesting facts. I'm more interested in other people's experiences as they process them...' His co-workers were in awe of his ability to locate the most obscure books.

For 30 some years after leaving Berkeley he lived in Fayetteville, Arkansas, with his wife Roselyn in a former church that also served as Roselyn's ballet studio. Mike became an enthusiastic cook with a vast and varied collection of cookbooks. In the garden, he was an equally enthusiastic cultivator of hot peppers. Over the years he perfected his recipe for Hogzilla Hot Sauce, completing the 2019 batch just before his untimely death.

Mike was the conscience – and sometimes altered conscious – of our class. He was quick to denounce hypocrisy and to challenge authority. He was a good friend, a pleasure to know, and he will be deeply missed."

BENNY WIDYONO, CBG04, (Hong Lan Oei), passed away in March 2019 at the age of 82 in Stamford, Connecticut. An advocate for peace and human rights, he served at the United Nations for over 35 years, as an economics officer for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand, as head of the Regional Commission's Liaison Office in New York City, heading the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia in Siem Reap, and finally as the UN Secretary General's Representative in Cambodia. Upon retiring, he became a visiting scholar at the Kahin Center for Asian Studies in Cornell University, where he wrote *Dancing in Shadows: Sihanouk, the Khmer Rouge and the United Nations in Cambodia*. ❧



TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

217 West Avenue | Ithaca, NY 14850

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Ithaca, NY
PERMIT No. 251

Change Service Requested

Send Responses To:

Telluride Association

217 West Avenue,
Ithaca, New York, 14850

Ithaca

(607) 273-5011 fax (607) 272-2667

Ann Arbor

(734) 668-6039 fax (734) 668-2117

Email

news@tellurideassociation.org

*Prefer to receive the Newsletter
electronically? Just send us an email.*

All Your News That Fits We'll Print

Your friends and Telluride associates are interested in what has become of you. Send us information about your recent travels and adventures, honors and awards, books or papers published, promotions or job changes, and family news for Newsletter publication.

Please notify us of any changes to your address.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone(s): _____

Email: _____

