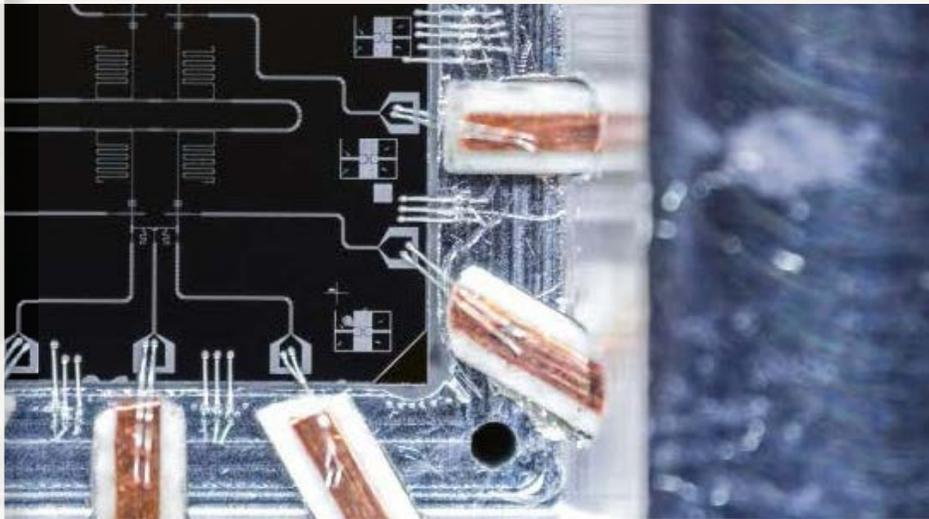


# CCS Notes

## 2015 Newsletter

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# A Message from the Dean...

I am pleased that, due to the recovering fortunes of the economy and the University's budget, the College is able to reinstate the CCS Newsletter, offering an annual summation of the circumstances and successes of the College and its students. While the economic downturn rendered the initiation of new majors impossible, the continuing eight majors of the College carried through, and our student body remained fairly stable in size. Equally significantly, the College continued to hire new Senate Lecturers, bringing to ten the number of these important faculty shared with cognate departments across campus. During the newsletter's hiatus, several noteworthy events transpired. We saw our first CCS Nobel Prize winner, Carol Greider (CCS Biology, '83) of Johns Hopkins University, and our first Lasker Prize (often termed the American Nobel) winner, Ron Vale (CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry, '80) of UC San Francisco.



Dean Bruce Tiffney

With less than 2% of the undergraduates at UCSB, this year we hosted 17% of the Regent's Scholars. All four of the individuals that UCSB was permitted to nominate for the nationally competitive Goldwater Fellowships were CCS students, of which two were selected for this award and a third recognized with an honorable mention. On campus, CCS students presented 14% of the posters in the annual UCSB Undergraduate Research Symposium, and in the associated oral research presentation competition, one-third of the finalists were CCS students. To cap this, our CCS students took second and third places. More on student awards on page 4.

Our Art and Music students presented their work to the campus, either hanging shows or providing recitals within the College and in other venues on campus. Our Literature students brought forth the College literature (*Spectrum*) and poetry (*Into the Teeth of the Wind*) journals, each with national participation, indeed competition, for representation. In short, our students continue to be extraordinary in their dedication and productivity. Our College remains a dynamic nest of young eagles.

A consequence of the decadal review of the College that transpired in 2013 was the mandate to restructure the Literature major within the College. For several intersecting reasons, the program had drifted from past established associations with the range of language and literature-related departments on campus. Following work by faculty and approval by campus governance, the College is re-initiating the Major as "Writing and Literature", with the participation of a new Senate Lecturer and Ladder Faculty from campus departments. The revitalized curriculum will afford our students a far greater range of opportunities within the College and especially across the UCSB campus. For an interview with the new Writing & Literature Program Coordinator, please see page 13.

As we look forward to our 50th anniversary in 2017, it is our hope that a substantial number of our over 2,750 alumni will be able to join us in celebrating the ongoing success of our extraordinarily imaginative and influential institution.

It is through trust that CCS thrives; trust in our students as junior colleagues of the faculty at the world-class research institution that is UC Santa Barbara. CCS represents an opportunity offered by UCSB, unique within research universities in North America. An opportunity in which our students take on the responsibilities and powers of their disciplines under the mentorship and guidance of dedicated staff and faculty. We have an extraordinary past that gains momentum through our present, to carry this way of learning by doing--by risking failure as well as earning success--on into our shared future.

Bruce

# Congratulations to the Class of 2015



## *Another Impressive Graduating Class*

The College of Creative Studies hosted its annual Commencement Ceremony in Campbell Hall on Sunday, June 7th 2015, awarding degrees to 83 students. Two-thirds of these graduating seniors are planning to attend graduate school in the near future, and most have already begun programs with summer's end. CCS is the smallest of UCSB's Colleges with 411 students. As the smallest of the undergraduate ceremonies, it was certainly the most intimate, and much like the College, the most original. Graduating Music Composition seniors provided musical scores that were performed by accomplished musicians, a distinguished CCS alumnus was invited to provide words of perspective borne of experience in an earlier CCS, three student speakers provided a current perspective, and the College presented its own awards.

Graduates are not required to wear full regalia so a variety of dress codes were observed. Some had academic gowns, others were dressed up, occasionally with the addition of a mortar board, and a few were in their usual mufti. While the Dean appeared in his academic robes and hood, in his annual nod to the quirky nature of CCS he was capped with a purple, silver-starred wizard's hat, reminiscent of the headmaster of Hogwarts himself. His traditional speech was rife with pop-culture references from the past year that effectively characterized CCS and proclaimed the importance of the day. Most importantly, and reflecting the intimacy of the College, the Dean had the privilege of introducing graduates individually, and of shaking their hands before passing them on to the Chancellor for the receipt of the "fauxploma" (the real diploma arrives in the mail).

This year's alumni speaker was Jack Van Zandt, CCS Music Composition '76. Van Zandt is the President of the American Composers Forum of Los Angeles. He is a veteran composer of music, sonic sculptures and computer designed and controlled new media works and ambient environments, and has lectured and written on the subjects of evolutionary musicology, ethnomusicology, musical science and philosophy. In partnership with Joel Wachbrit, a fellow graduate of the College of Creative Studies, Van

Zandt composes and produces music for television and film production libraries. He is a teacher and dedicated proponent of music education.

Van Zandt gave an inspiring speech, reflecting on his time in CCS, and the many films and musical performances he attended in that very hall. He went on to state that "there is no separation of the types of critical and creative thinking required in the arts and in the sciences; they are one and the same. Creativity truly is an interdisciplinary phenomenon." To this end, he chose Sir Isaac Newton as an example because his understanding of music paved the way for his breakthroughs in physics. Van Zandt affirmed the value of an education from CCS, the exposure to all the different disciplines, and how "all of our disciplines relate to each other in the same way. As creative thinkers, there are no boundaries for us... What you learn about creative thinking here will serve you no matter where your path leads." He finished with a request that all graduates remember, "serving the greater good of humanity must always be the motivation for our thoughts and actions,"



Jack Van Zandt, CCS Music Composition '76

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# Student Awards

Students in the College of Creative Studies receive many prestigious awards, ranging from college-specific and departmental awards, to university-wide and national awards. The following is a partial list of awards received by our students over the 2014-2015 academic year.

## Chancellor's Award for Research Excellence

Daniel Chu, CCS Biology (pictured below)



## Thomas More Stork Award

Daniel Chu, CCS Biology

## Amgen Scholarship

Daniel Chu, CCS Biology

## 2015 Worster Awards

David Hyon, CCS Biology  
Farallon Broughton, CCS Biology  
Gabriella Najm, CCS Biology  
Beatriz Jimenez, CCS Biology

## Penland Award

Christian "Tay" Taylor-Graham, CCS Art

## Bentson Scholar Award:

Henry Morse, CCS Biology  
Jessica Bullington, CCS Biology

## University of California Leads Scholar

Kevin Dervishi, CCS Biology

## Wendy Ann Finkel Award, UCSB Dept. of Art (2014)

Rachel Jones, CCS Art

## 2015 Barry Goldwater Scholarships

Mark Rychnovsky, CCS Math  
Joseph Mann, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry

## University of California Education Abroad Program Undergraduate Research Award for 2013-2014

Alexandria Allen, CCS Computer Science

# Class of 2015 (cont'd)

and said he has no doubt of the Class of 2015's future success and place as leaders of tomorrow.

Between speeches were musical selections presented by graduating seniors in Music Composition, including "The Morning After" composed by Johann Velasquez. Of his piece Johann noted, "The Morning After is dedicated to my beautiful sister who passed away October of last year. She inspired me to never stop reaching for the stars and to always stay true to myself. I know she would be so proud to see me and my little brother, who is graduating high school today, following our dreams." The second piece was provided by Robert Johnson. Entitled "Dream Driving", it was written as a foray into contemporary film scoring with a salute to the influence of Japanese cinema.

*"Our college has given us the benefit of the doubt and treated us like the scholars we did not realize we could become. This attitude of pushing academic boundaries is exceptional in a world of checklists and expected outcomes."*

Many graduating seniors received top honors from departments across the University in ceremonies prior to commencement, but the College has its own special awards given to faculty-nominated students. This year's College of Creative Studies Faculty Executive Committee Commendation of Excellence Award was presented to Philip Saad, CCS Physics, in recognition of his enthusiasm, high standards, and achievements in research. Philip is currently attending Stanford with the goal of a Ph.D in Theoretical Physics. The CCS Student Service Award was presented to Boris Georgiev, CCS Physics, in recognition of his mentoring of fellow students, his creation of a forum for public speaking for students, and his efforts to develop a sense of CCS Community. Boris is now pursuing a Ph.D at the University of Waterloo. Daniel Chu, CCS Biology, was recognized campus-wide as the recipient of both the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research as well as the campuses' highest student honor, the Thomas More Storke



Philip Saad, CCS Physics '15



Boris Georgiev, CCS Physics '15

Award for Excellence. Daniel received these awards at a separate awards ceremony.

Student speakers included Alexandra Phillips (CCS Biology), Yin "Larry" Lin (CCS Physics), and Victoria Wu (CCS Biology). Alexandra received the University Award of Distinction for her volunteer work, having dedicated hundreds of hours to a variety of STEM outreach programs locally and in her hometown of San Diego. Alex studied the marine biogeochemistry of southern California waters in Professor David Valentine's lab and participated in a one-month trip on the oceanographic research vessel Atlantis. Alex is beginning her Ph.D program in geochemistry at Caltech.

Larry won the Physics Department's Arnold Nordsieck award for research promise, a result of his two publications in astrophysics, and was accepted to the Ph.D program at the University of Chicago.

Victoria worked in the Koegel Autism Center as a research assistant and is co-author of two papers on adolescents with autism. She is now attending UC San Diego's Medical School.



Alexandra Phillips, CCS Biology '15

All speakers provided insight into their CCS experience, and it was clear they held common perceptions of their time here: growing in the rigorous academic environment of the program (and consequently becoming better students and academicians for it), the sense of community that the College

provides, and recognition of the rarity of a place such as CCS, with its trademark kooky culture and academic prestige.

Alex succinctly summed up CCS students' devotion to their studies with her comment "all [CCS students] possess extreme excitement about some small niche of academia." She described the challenges she and her fellow students faced academically, but how in the end their experiences propelled them to a new level of achievement: "CCS has pushed us outside of our intellectual comfort zone...[it has] compelled me to take the harder of the two options at every junction in my education.

And I know that this path is echoed in the transcripts of my fellow graduating seniors. Our College has given us the benefit of the doubt and treated us like the scholars we did not



Yin "Larry" Lin, CCS Physics '15

realize we could become. This attitude of pushing academic boundaries is exceptional in a world of checklists and expected outcomes."

In a similar vein, Larry, a native of Taiwan, recalled that "the only thing that motivated me to fly all the way here was the promise made by CCS to provide a truly unique

educational experience for an undergraduate." He described how the College allowed students "to learn new material at an incredible pace, but more importantly, it provided the bonding opportunity between you and your peers. Instead of competition, we had collaboration. We learned from each other and progressed as a group together."

As an international student, Larry was all the more thankful to have this sense of community while so far from home. "It becomes even harder to find a community you belong to when the culture barrier exists, but I'm lucky enough to find the CCS community. CCS is like a shelter, both literally and figuratively, it is a place where you can spend your entire night doing homework without worrying about being kicked out; at the same time, it is a place where I could mess things up without consequences because everyone in this community is friendly and accepting. I'm truly grateful that I am a member of this community."

*"I am here not only to learn, but also to create."*

Victoria remembered a powerful conversation she had with her soon-to-be advisor which helped her develop the concept that, "I am here not only to learn, but also to

Continued on next page...

## Class of 2015 (cont'd)



Victoria Wu, CCS Biology '15

create. This philosophy embodies the unique essence of the College of Creative Studies in its successful production of artists, authors, musicians, scientists, and mathematicians: people who can and people who will change the world.

CCS trains us to push the boundaries of what we know by generating new knowledge.” Victoria concluded by noting: “In some instances, graduation day is one where you look around and you see hundreds and hundreds of people, and then you realize...wow I don’t know anyone here! But not today, and definitely not in CCS. When I look around this room today, there are no strangers, all I see are colleagues, mentors, friends, and family. This is the true spirit of the College of Creative Studies. To be able to walk into Building 494 and have Dean Tiffney greet you by first and last name...to engage with fellow CCS students and faculty during coffee hour...It is these seemingly ordinary moments in time that make CCS so extraordinary. This is the true spirit of CCS.”

For more Commencement-related articles, information, pictures, and a full recording of the proceedings, please visit [ccs.ucsb.edu/news-events/commencement](http://ccs.ucsb.edu/news-events/commencement).

## CCS Students

### CCS Residential Experience is Expanding

Thanks to UCSB’s Housing and Residential Services, for over a decade students in the College of Creative Studies have been able to apply to reside in Pendola House, one of the many separate residence halls in Manzanita Village on the west side of campus. This has provided a unique and engaging CCS residential experience, complementing and extending the sense of CCS community. However, Pendola can only accommodate about 50 students, and the demand for the “CCS House” has grown. Thus we are very grateful that we were able to expand this fall to encompass the adjacent Cuyama House, allowing approximately 100 freshman and continuing students to enjoy this special opportunity.

Two complexes means two Residential Assistants (RAs), and we are pleased to announce that our own Kelly Noah, CCS Biology '16, has joined seasoned CCS House RA Taylor Stoltzfus, L&S Economics and Accounting '17, as this year’s second CCS House RA.

Another new addition to the residential lives of CCS students will include special dinners for CCS faculty and students. This opportunity was made possible through a generous gift made by CCS parents Tayloe and Cynthia Stansbury with the goal of increasing community and connection between the majors. The quarterly dinners will be

open to all CCS students, whether or not they live in UCSB Housing. A feast in the Great Hall... a step closer to our very own Hogwarts!



CCS House BBQ and Celebration, Spring 2015

# First Ever CCS Student Council Created

Whether vaguely aware of annual elections, or intimately familiar with the details of UCSB Student Government, all students have at least heard the term “Associated Students.” About five years ago, AS decided to ensure that all three undergraduate colleges would be represented by “senators.”

Consequently, CCS now has a College Senator.

In addition to the established duties of the CCS Senator within AS (such as attending AS senate meetings and holding office hours), our current and past CCS Senators, Dustin Larrazolo and Liam Baker-Stanton, worked together to form what will possibly be the first CCS Student Council in the College’s history. This organization will ultimately consist of one representative from each major in CCS, with the current AS Senator as de facto Chair of the Council.

The major representatives will simultaneously take on additional responsibilities of the organization, and these roles will be reflected in their titles. While all major representatives will be referred to as Vice Chairs, some modified roles will include History and Social Coordination Vice Chair, Resource and Support Vice Chair, Secretarial Vice Chair, and Academics and Faculty Relations Vice Chair. The intention is to have eight different titles so that each member of the council will fill one of these specific roles.

The founding members originally met this past spring quarter to discuss structure and to initiate positions. In the

current year, Dustin expects they will meet more regularly, alternating Council meetings and open forums where all CCS students can put forth thoughts, concerns, and observations regarding various aspects of the College and campus.

One of the Council’s current objectives is to have the

CCS Student Council officially recognized by Associated Students. A goal of this incorporation is to create an avenue by which the CCS Council might access a portion of the funds administered by AS. Other issues Dustin hopes the

officers will address include investigating means to recruit underrepresented students to CCS, creating additional opportunities for the entire CCS student body to mingle and exchange ideas, and working toward an increase in diversity awareness and understanding. The Council will also act as a conduit through which the CCS student body can work with the CCS Faculty Executive Committee to address the concerns and needs of the students, bringing the students and the administration closer.

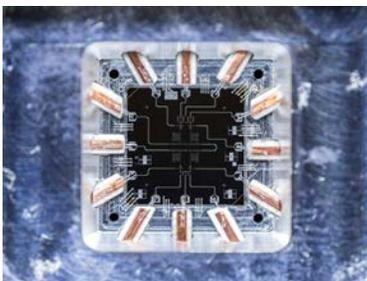
Although the Council is still in the early stages, CCS is eager see to how this essential form of student leadership will develop, and how it can contribute to the sense of community that is the hallmark of the College and its students, staff and faculty.

*“...CCS students can put forth thoughts, concerns, and observations regarding various areas of the College and campus.”*

## Alumni Profile

### Julian Kelly’s Quantum Leap from CCS Physics to Google

Julian Kelly, CCS Physics ’10, was first introduced to Professor John Martinis while an undergraduate at the College of Creative Studies. Julian’s interest in Martinis’ work developed after taking one of his courses, and his deeper association with the Martinis Group was aided by a strong recommendation from CCS Professor Francesc Roig. After graduating from CCS, Julian immediately began his graduate studies in UCSB’s Department of Physics with Professor

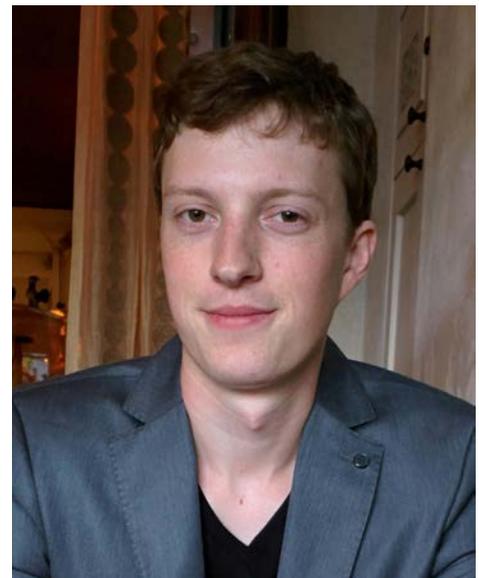


Top down view of the gmon qubit chip (0.6 cm x 0.6 cm) connected to microwave frequency control lines (copper) with thin wire bonds.

Photo Credit: Michael Fang, Martinis Lab

Martinis serving as his advisor. Fast forward to today, they are now colleagues.

“Generally speaking, staying at the same institution for graduate school that one attended for undergraduate is peculiar. In fact, it is often discouraged.” said Julian. “However,



Julian Kelly, CCS Physics '10

I really hit it off with John when I began working for him as an undergraduate, and our work of building a quantum computer using superconducting circuits was just too cool for me to pass up.”

After just four and a half years of graduate study, Julian

Continued on next page...

earned his PhD in March. He remains an important member of the Martinis Group, which has reached major breakthroughs recently. In fact, Julian was a co-lead author of a number of their big research advances which were featured in the journal *Nature* and also earned the attention of Google.

The Martinis Group has joined with Google in an effort to build a quantum computer as part of the Quantum Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. The Quantum AI Lab hopes to use superconducting quantum circuits to solve problems that are

*“CCS has been an extraordinarily important part of my career path so far. I’m sure that I would not be where I am today without the College...”*

impossible for modern computers. Reflecting on his experience at CCS, Julian added, “CCS has been an extraordinarily important part of my career path so far. I’m sure that I would not be where I am today without the College, and in particular, Francesc Roig who recruited me to the program. The classes are perfect preparation for

being a scientist because students are given problems to attack in their own way, rather than the fill-in-the-blank courses that are often taught. I had a wonderful experience in CCS and am proud to call myself an alumnus.”

## The Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

The Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program has been going strong at the College of Creative Studies since 1985. The program epitomizes the College’s founding commitment to engage undergraduates in original scientific research and discovery. Over the last 30 summers 442 CCS students in math and the sciences have completed the program.

Students immersed in exciting research projects, generally of their choosing, work elbow to elbow with faculty and graduate students. They develop more in-depth knowledge in their field and become familiar with lab protocol and related literature. SURF students have the opportunity to network with others who share their passion for a particular subject and gain skills that help prepare them for graduate studies.



Thanks to the generosity of alumni, family, and friends of the College, 29 CCS students were able to participate in the program this past summer, which is the largest number to date. A sample of the fascinating research topics studied include: human disease ecology, self-assembly of peptide amphiphiles into an artificial scaffolding for regenerative medicinal applications, oncological cell cycle control, enzyme engineering, supersymmetric gauge theory dualities, organic photovoltaics, and astronomical gravitational waves and lensing data analysis.



The fellows’ SURF experience culminated with posters summarizing their research results, which were displayed during CCS Science Week in October. Students, family members, friends, faculty and staff were invited to hear about the research during the opening reception in the CCS Gallery.



For more information about SURF, please visit [ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity](https://ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity).



# CCS Students: as Unique as the College Itself

Students in each major for the 2014-2015 academic year:

25 Art students



86 Biology students

66 Chem/Biochem students



41 Computer Science students

42 Literature students



59 Math students

17 Music Composition students



86 Physics students

You would think that makes our total 422 students, but 11 students are double majoring within CCS and are counted twice.

The **largest number of students** we had at a given time this year was **411**, and we officially **graduated 87** students by the end of summer 2015.

**10** Members of the graduating class in 2015 earned minors in the following subjects:

- Art History
- Educational Studies
- Music
- Science & Math Education
- Applied Psychology
- Physics
- German Studies
- Anthropology
- Black Studies
- Spanish



**3** Students earned a **second major outside of CCS** in Biopsychology, Biological Sciences, and Environmental Studies.



The majority of our students are from California, but 7% are out of state, including residents of Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

We also hosted **20** students from China, and one each from Canada, Taiwan, and Korea.



A few facts from around the halls of CCS (it's literally--the writing on the walls):

**1976** Freshmen students are confused because the campus directory still has CCS listed in its old location



**1998** After 3 sleepless nights in room 142, Loie, a physics major, calculates the time it would take her to hop around the world wearing a pink bunny suit



**1982** Shoulder pads are mandatory for Christy Lane's student led colloquium, in which aerobics workouts involving the funky chicken dance and the mashed potato are taught



**2004** CCS students collaborate to make a boat that carries this building to an island paradise where delicious foods of all kinds dangle from the trees like jewels and everyone loves each other

# CCS Student Awards continued from page 4

## Sea of Tomorrow Scholarship from Beneath The Sea

Jessica Bullington, CCS Biology

## University of California Education Abroad Program Promise Award

Jessica Bullington, CCS Biology

## Physics Departmental Awards

Physics Circus Award: Jacob Hines

Physics Research Honors Award: Krutik Patel, Ilan Rosen, Eli Wolf

Distinction in Physics Major: Lewis Chamberlain, Yin Lin, Krutik Patel, Ilan Rosen, Philip Saad, Eli Wolf

Physics Academic Honors: Charles Coombs Esmail, Boris Georgiev, Reilly Raab

Academic Highest Honors: Yin Lin, Krutik Patel, Ilan Rosen, Philip Saad, Eli Wolf and Joseph Wong

Physics Academic Excellence Award: Eli Wolf

Physics Arnold Nordsieck Award: Yin Lin, Ilan Rosen and Philip Saad

## Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Slam

2nd place - Tim Aikin, CCS Biology

3rd place - Sarah Amiri, CCS Biology

## Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Grants

Alex Sun, CCS Biology

Yishen Miao, CCS Biology

Janice Agustin, CCS Art

Christine Park, CCS Art

## 2014 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Awardees

Stefan Seritan, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry

Naomi Baxter, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry

Mark Rychnovsky, CCS Mathematics

Mingyu Chen, CCS Physics

Dripto Debroy, CCS Physics

Jacob Hines, CCS Physics

Dylan Oldenburg, CCS Physics

Andrew Saad, CCS Physics

Wei Dai, CCS Mathematics

Yin Lin, CCS Physics

Ethan Nadler, CCS Physics

Krutik Patel, CCS Physics

Yuanchi Qing, CCS Physics

Christopher Calhoun, CCS Biology

Thomas Kenney, CCS Biology

Carolyn Kirwan, CCS Biology

Chia-In Jane Lin, CCS Biology

Sean Nguyen, CCS Biology

Claire-Alice Hébert, CCS Physics

Eamon Winden, CCS Biology

Sophia Steffens, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry

Kyle Kawagoe, CCS Physics

Max Leograndis, CCS Physics

Zachary Lotze, CCS Physics

Joseph Mullin, CCS Physics

Aaron Simon, CCS Physics

Andrew Smith, CCS Physics

Eli Wolf, CCS Physics

## 2015 Vernon I. Cheadle Alumni Award

Cameron Gardner Hannah-Bick, CCS Biology



Cameron Gardner Hannah-Bick, CCS Biology

## 2015 United States Open Music Competition Awards

Treasury of Contemporary Scholarship, 1st place - Daniel Chu, CCS Biology

Showcase Piano Solo, 2nd place - Daniel Chu, CCS Biology

Outstanding Gold Medalist Award- Daniel Chu, CCS Biology

## CCS Writing Competition Prizes & Awards

### Brancart Fiction Award

1st place - Sophia Crisafulli, CCS Literature, for "Too Far Gone"

Honorable mentions - Sean Kittrick, CCS Literature, for "Snail Shell;" Korrin Alpers, CCS Literature, for "Soon, Soon;" and Connor London for "Namesake"

### Richardson Poetry Award

1st place - Caitlyn Curran, CCS Literature, for her poems

"GEORGIA; CORFU, GREECE 2012; SAN SIMEON EARTHQUAKE 2003; and EPISTLE TO THE FISH"

### Most Excellent Awards

#### Narrative Prose

1st place - Carlee Franklin, CCS Literature, for "Celebration"

Honorable mention - Bailey Loverin, CCS Literature, for "Learning to Hate"

#### Poetry

1st place - Caitlyn Curran, CCS Literature, for "HOGAN PLACE"

2nd place - Alyssa Evans, CCS Literature, for "IF I WERE MADE OF WORDS"

Honorable mention - David Hyon, CCS Biology, for "New Rich Text Document" and

Cassandra Miasnikov, CCS Literature, for "To My Little Sister, Who Should Be an Entomologist and not an Engineer"

#### Essay

1st place - Alyssa Evans, CCS Literature, for "An Exploration of Beauty in The Unbearable Lightness of Being"

2nd place - Léna Garcia, CCS Literature, for "Senses of Entitlement in Cancerous Uncles and Twenty-Year-Old Girls"

Honorable mention - Carlee Franklin, CCS Literature, for "The Houses and the Mangoes: An Essay"

### Screenwriting Contest

Bailey Loverin, CCS Literature, for her screenplay "DEATH ON THE NO 19"

# Where Science Becomes Art: Field Painting on the UC Reserve

Rolling hills bathed in golden late afternoon light greet students as they arrive at the Sedgwick Reserve for a course in field painting. The breeze is welcome given the heat of the day, and the growing shadows appear to beckon to a nearly idyllic educational experience for the students enrolled in the CCS course “Field Painting with an Artist and a Naturalist.”

But what is it really like? Traumatic, brutal, a challenge that each will regret more times than they’ll ever want to confess. Here’s what it feels like... You step out of your car, take hold of your easel and equipment as though you know what you are doing. But what are you supposed to paint? There’s no end, no margins, and everything is all around you in three dimensions. No, worse. You can see even in your first ten minutes that time is against you, snatching and dragging those promising shadows into totally new shapes. What now? Is anyone going to tell you what to do? How to do it? There’s nothing here that looks like a painting. There’s too much and it has no structure or sense. And there’s that fly biting your wrist. No one told you vampires were included.

Yet at the end of the course, the reviews come in, and like so many difficult passages, this one too, gives great rewards. Through eight mornings and afternoons at Sedgwick, the students repeatedly wrestle with composition, color and predicting in their minds the course of lengthening shadows as afternoon passes towards sunset. As they do, they gain greater confidence, developing painting expertise or honing it, and learning not only about painting, but also about the nature of the hills, the plants and the natural history of the landscape in which they have immersed themselves.

The course began 19 years ago, the culmination of a conversation between Hank Pitcher, local artist and CCS Art Instructor, and Bruce Tiffney, botanist, paleontologist, and currently Dean of the College of Creative Studies. Tiffney recalls, “Hank and I long ago agreed that art and science are both about observation; the distinction lies in how those



*“Hank and I long ago agreed that art and science are both about observation; the distinction lies in how those observations are recorded.”*

observations are recorded. In science, the individuality of the scientist is constrained by a common language and protocol to try to ensure everyone understands precisely what is being communicated; there is no room for individual nuance. By contrast in art, the power of the resulting work is dependent upon the insightfulness of the artist and how individuals capture the essence of the scene before them. However, as artists, they need to be able to fully understand what they are observing, to ‘truly see it’ so that they can then instill their own perspective as a conscious act. This is difficult, as

so many of us operate on the ‘automatic self’ where preconception makes us see what we expect we are looking at, rather than what is there. By example, we all expect that trees have brown trunks and green foliage because that

is our typology of trees. However, most trees have grey or multicolored trunks, and foliage that ranges from green to red, yellow, blue, white, purple, depending upon time of day, lighting, and the actual leaves. Look, and if you have the sight of a scientist or an artist, you will see, rather than simply suppose.”

The course spans three weekends and two separate locations: The Sedgwick Reserve and Coal Oil Point. In

Continued on next page...



addition to painting, students' days are filled with demonstrations and brief lectures focused upon the biological, geological and artistic aspects of these two great Natural Reserves. The schedule of painting

*"You don't have to be an artist to take this course."*

during the day optimizes painting conditions. For instance, it is critical that the artists paint at very low-light angles, meaning that they must rise early (around 6:00 am) to begin their painting. They continue until the sun is high in the sky when it effectively "flattens" everything out in terms of lighting, minimizing shadows. The artists then take a midday break and begin painting again in the late afternoon, continuing on until it gets dark, again taking advantage of the long light angles. Throughout the course, they enjoy meals catered by a local chef, who uses only local ingredients for her very creative meals. After each painting session, all of the students hang their recent work, and a "crit" takes place in which instructors and students discuss each piece to understand the vision, and intentions, and to help solve technical problems. Finally, they wind down and retire to their tents, exhausted.

Most students will complete about

14 paintings over the course of the three weekends. At the end, they line all of the paintings up sequentially by order of creation. The result is often startling, with marked changes in style, handling and skill from the first to the final paintings.

Developing the ability to observe as an artist and a scientist is a skill anyone can learn. In fact, the unofficial tagline for this course is "you don't have to be an artist to take this course." Both Hank and Bruce insist that you might even get more out of the course if you are a less experienced artist. The experience teaches both the techniques necessary to "capture" the natural landscape through painting plus an introduction to the features of geology and flora that make a particular landscape

distinctive. The class is open to all majors across campus, and to students at all levels, as well as to members of the community through the UCSB Extension Open University. The only requirement is an interest in the natural world and the desire to make it come to life on canvas.



# CCS Writing and Literature

## *An interview with Kara Mae Brown*



Kara Mae Brown, CCS Writing and Literature

The College of Creative Studies is pleased to announce the hire of Kara Mae Brown as a faculty member and Program Coordinator for the newly revitalized Writing & Literature major. Kara Mae comes to CCS from the Department of English at Northeastern University English Department in Boston, Massachusetts, where she was the Director of First-Year Writing. She was selected as the result of a rigorous, nation-wide search and is jointly appointed in CCS and in the Writing Program in the College of Letters & Science. Kara Mae was kind enough to participate in a Q&A to help the CCS Community get to know her.

### **Please give us a little background about yourself.**

I was born and raised in central Ohio and moved to Boston, MA in 2006 to pursue an MFA in Creative Writing at Emerson College. There, I also started teaching writing. After graduation I started teaching at Northeastern University.

### **What is your teaching philosophy?**

I always say that my job is less about making students “better” writers (because really, what does that mean? I’m still trying to make myself a better writer after about 12 years of studying the craft) and more about helping students understand themselves as writers. I want students to leave my writing classes with a better understanding of how to use language to

express themselves and why they might want to use language to participate in the world around them. (And, yes, in the process of reaching that greater understanding, they do usually get a bit better at writing.)

### **What is your favorite/best class that you’ve ever taken and why?**

In graduate school, I did a group directed study with John Trimbur that taught me almost everything I know about rhetoric and composition. That was a transformative experience for me. As a creative writing student, this opened my eyes to a whole new way of understanding writing. It changed me as a writer and as a teacher. The other students in the directed study are still some of my closest colleagues, collaborators, and friends to this day.

There are so many other great ones though, like Writing the Nonfiction Book with Doug Whyntott, where I learned to love structure; a class on English and Irish poetry that I took at Bath Spa University College during a study abroad in England; or Ecocriticism, where we got to do a lot of trekking about in the woods. I also loved taking classes outside my major in undergrad. There was this one Natural Resources class I took where we learned all about the natural and geographic history of Ohio. As I write that it sounds really boring, but I loved it!

### **What is your favorite thing to write about?**

I’m still learning the answer to this question. I recently realized that almost everything I write is set at some point in the past, either my own personal history or during historical moments that I’m interested in. My roots as a writer are in writing creative nonfiction, so I naturally gravitate towards mining the past through memory. As I grow as a writer, I’ve found ways to explore the past and memory through fiction or reportage. For instance, right now I’m writing about the punk scene in Columbus, OH in the early aughts, which I participated in as a young woman. I’ve been interviewing some of my old friends to try to get a sense of what being a punk at that moment in time meant to them. It’s been so much fun.

*“I always say that my job is less about making students ‘better’ writers...and more about helping students understand themselves as writers.”*

### What is your favorite book?

I could never pick just one. I'm an omnivorous reader. I love fiction, nonfiction, memoir, sci-fi, fantasy, comics, etc. There are definitely books that have been turning points for me as a writer: Mary Karr's *The Liar's Club*, Edward Abbey's *Desert Solitaire*, Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* series (I mean, time-travel historical romance? amazing!), so many more.

How about my favorite books I've read this year? Those would have to be Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See* (for language) and Emily St. John Mandel's *Station Eleven* (for story).

*"I think it is really important for young writers to learn about things other than writing, to collect experiences and knowledge that can provide material for their work. I want to see CCS Writing and Literature be the hub where students bring back those experiences and that knowledge to transform it into something new through writing."*

### What do you hope to bring to the CCS Writing and Literature program?

I'm really excited to work with others in the Writing and Literature program to think about new ways to get students thinking about their writing. The way CCS works provides this really amazing opportunity for students to make use of all the various resources across the university. I think it is really important for young writers to learn about things other than writing, to collect experiences and knowledge that can provide material for their work. I want to see CCS Writing and Literature be the hub where students bring back those experiences and that knowledge to transform it into something new through writing.

### What drew you to the College of Creative Studies?

I think I knew it was a place I wanted to be when I came to visit in the spring and saw the class photos hanging on the walls. In those pictures, there are a lot of costumes, a lot of silliness, a lot of quirkiness. I remember looking at those and thinking, "these are my people."

### What is your favorite Literary quote?

This one is specifically about novel writing, but I think it applies much more broadly: "There are three rules for writing a novel. Unfortunately, no one knows what they are." -W. Somerset Maugham

### Why did you choose a career in academia?

I'm not sure I ever made a conscious decision about it. After completing my MFA, I was super passionate about teaching writing, so that's what I did. I keep coming back though because of the people. It is a pleasure and privilege to work with young writers and I've had opportunities to work with the most interesting, thoughtful, and generous colleagues.

For more information about the Writing & Literature Major, please visit the CCS website at [ccs.ucsb.edu](http://ccs.ucsb.edu).

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## CCS Writing Competition Prizes & Awards

Each year, the College recognizes great literary works by UCSB students. The 2014-2015 year generated another spectacular collection. Among the awards presented are the Brancart Fiction and Richardson Poetry Prizes which are given each year thanks to an endowment created through the generosity of CCS alumni Christine Lehner (CCS Literature '73) and the late Jeffery Hewitt (CCS Literature '74). Intended to foster the College of Creative Studies literature program, these prizes were established in memory of their grandmothers, Reine Brancart and Henrietta Wing Richardson, who respectively, served as great motivators in Christine and Jeffery's lifelong love of writing.

This year Sophia Crisafulli (CCS Literature '16) won the Brancart Fiction Prize for her piece "Too Far Gone". The Richardson Poetry Prize went to Caitlyn Curran (CCS Literature '15) for her poems "GEORGIA," "CORFU,

GREECE 2012;" "SAN SIMEON EARTHQUAKE 2003;" and "EPISTLE TO THE FISH".

You can find a full list of winners across all categories on page 10 of this newsletter and read their complete work at [ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity/awards-and-prizes](http://ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity/awards-and-prizes).

Please see the next page for excerpts from two of the winning pieces.

# Excerpts from CCS Writing Competition Winning Entries

## Too Far Gone

by Sophia Crisafulli

I was six the first time my Dad left. He was gone for three days. When he came back, he was dirty, and tired, and he had a look in his eyes that told me not to ask any questions. Mom bandaged up a big scrape on his elbow, and then we all pretended nothing had happened. We were pretty good at pretending, but it got harder when he left again. I was eight the second time, when he left right after Sunday breakfast and didn't come back until the following Saturday, when it was dark. I was in bed already, but I got up when I heard the door open and slam shut, hard. Even from my room, all the way down the hall, I could smell my dad – cigarettes, and leather, and a hint of cinnamon. I got out of my bed and crept down the hall, standing on tiptoe and skipping that one floorboard that always creaks when you step on it. I crouched at the end of the hall and slowly poked my head into the living room, where I could hear Mom and Dad whispering. He was hurt worse this time. There was a big gash on his forehead, and blood was trickling down into his eyes, making his whole face red and raw-looking. Mom dabbed gently at the wound with a handkerchief, dipping it in something that made Dad wince every time it touched his skin. I couldn't make out what they were saying, but I could tell by the tone of Mom's voice that she was angry. Her eyes, though – her eyes weren't angry at all. Her eyes just looked sad.



Photo Credit: Luis Velzquez, CCS Art '14

## GEORGIA

by Caitlyn Curran

At night the frogs come  
throwing themselves up  
to the patio, the tree  
frogs stuck to the stucco walls.

It's because of the rain  
that will soon tear through  
the sky and the lightning  
that straightens your spine,  
spins around in your irises.  
You want more. It comes.

You're visiting your aunt  
and you both take the horses  
for a trail ride across the property,  
through a wood, under a patchwork  
of thick-sapped trees, where  
bugs you've never seen chatter  
around your horse's ears.  
You stand in the saddle to brush  
them away.

Through a meadow,  
running with the dogs, velvet German  
Weimaraners, you head to the acres-away  
neighbors to stop and say hello.  
Coming back, through the pond,  
and the warm brown water  
swallows your boots, up to your knees  
as the undulating horse beneath you  
leaves you feeling perfectly  
peaceful and powerless.  
Once the swim is over, your aunt warns you,  
"He'll see the barn and want to run,  
don't let him." But you do,  
because you need to feel that wild  
hot wind between your teeth.

For the rest of "Too Far Gone," and to read Caitlyn's other winning pieces, "CORFU. GREECE 2012" and "SAN SIMEON EARTHQUAKE 2003" go to: [ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity/awards-and-prizes](http://ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity/awards-and-prizes)

# Faculty News

## Highlights from CCS & Affiliated Faculty



Associate Dean **Gerardo Aldana** co-edited a new book: “Achaean astronomy and the Maya”, Oxbow Books (2014) which illustrates archaeoastronomical approaches to ancient Mayan architecture

and hieroglyphic records. He also published “14C and Maya Long Count dates: using Bayesian modeling to develop robust site chronologies” in the journal *Archaeometry* (2015).



**Maribel Bueno Cachadina** received the Mochizuki Memorial Fund Teaching award from the Mathematics Department. Her paper on “Large vector spaces of block-symmetric strong linearizations for matrix

polynomials” was published in *Linear Algebra and Its Applications*, 2015. Other authors listed on the paper were F. M. Dopico, S. Furtado, and Maribel’s student, Mark Rychnovsky (CCS Math).



**Linda Ekstrom’s** solo exhibit: Re-Binding: Sacred Word into Sacred Object, was on display at the Center Art Gallery, Calvin College, Grand Rapids this past January. Last November

several of her works were included in the exhibition, *Odd-Volumes*, at Yale University Art Museum.



**Ania Jayich** of CCS Physics received the National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) award. It is among the NSF’s most prestigious awards, presented to young faculty who

most effectively integrate research and education.



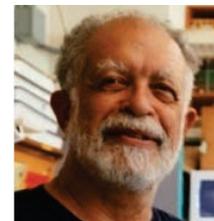
**Paddy Bartlett** is taking a one year leave of absence from UCSB to spend on research and teaching in Auckland, New Zealand, and looks forward to returning with new ideas to CCS in 2016-17.

**Maribel Bueno Cachadina** and **Paddy Bartlett** led the UCSB Mathematics Research Program for Undergraduates this past summer, with twelve undergraduate students engaged in NSF-funded research in a number of beautiful problems.



Graduating Seniors from the Computer Science Department selected **Phill Conrad** to receive the Outstanding Teaching Award. One student remarked, “What I like most about this

school is professors who are earnest and effective, and Conrad goes above and beyond in these regards.”



**Armand Kuris** has been conducting research in Africa on schistosomiasis, a parasitic disease found in tropical and sub-tropical climates. His work, along with UCSB colleague David Lopez-Carr and several other researchers, recently

received substantial NSF funding toward studying a potential means of control.



**Teddy Macker’s** first collection of poetry and prose vignettes, *This World*, was published spring 2015 by White Cloud Press. The great variety of poems, which are described as ‘hymns to the actual’, paint a

picture of the beauty of everyday life.



**Harry Reese**, who founded the book arts program in UCSB's College of Creative Studies in 1985, and his wife and partner Sandra Reese, received the 2015 Oscar Lewis Award from the Book Club of California at a special ceremony in recognition of contributions to the field of book arts in San Francisco.



Following on the heels of a novel (*Monster's Chef*) released last year, **Jervey Tervalon's** article "Technology Is Not a Panacea for Struggling Schools" was published in *ZÓCALO* on June 18, 2015, and his review of the Black nerd culture movie, "Dope" appeared in the Los Angeles Times on June 19. Tervalon is founder of Literature for Life, uniting writers, artists, and educators to ignite young minds with a love of reading, writing, and the visual arts. CCS student Griffin Davis is currently interning there as Assistant to the Managing Editor.

## CCS Welcomes:

Kara Mae Brown, CCS Writing and Literature Program Coordinator (see page 13)

Karel Casteels, CCS Math Lecturer

Patrick Gilbert, 2015-16 CCS Art Fellow

Patrick Mooney, 2015-16 CCS Literature Fellow

# CCS Performance of EVEN GREATER BRITAIN

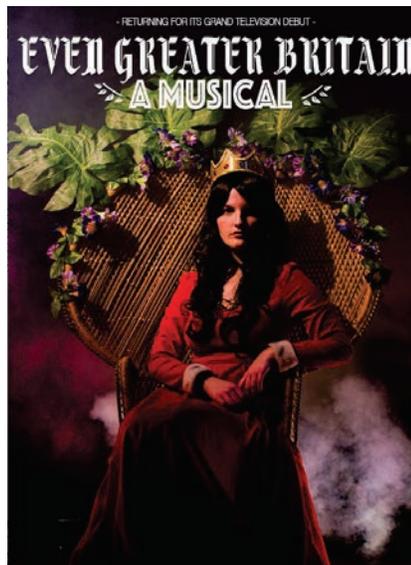
On July 25th, in an Isla Vista movie theater that doubles as a classroom, excited students both from CCS and the broader campus gathered to witness a grand premiere. The completed television version of *EVEN GREATER BRITAIN*, the 5th television musical from CCS, was ready for students who had patiently waited months to see the finished production in a special showing on the big screen.

Recently, their efforts debuted on a local arts programming channel. It is also live streaming 24/7 on UCTV, the nationwide television presence of UC. It takes the combined talents of about fifty students to make a CCS Musical, collaborating across the disciplines within CCS and drawing talent from UCSB's other colleges and graduate programs.

A typical recipe might go this way: take 4-6 scriptwriters, add in a dozen undergraduate music composers, recruit a stage acting cast of about fifteen, corral and rehearse a live orchestra of about 10, then garnish with additional students sewing costumes, painting sets, and hanging stage lights. Shake and mix for an entire academic quarter (normally Winter), sample under moderate heat with 3 live shows early in the Spring, and —finally—serve up to TV cameras as the

pièce de resistance.

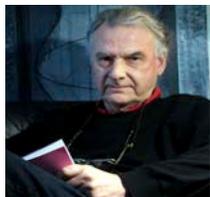
Not to be left out of this recipe are the 3 faculty required: one anchoring the creative phase during Fall, overseeing



the writing of both book and music (CCS faculty and project head Jeremy Haladyna); a second, bringing the property to life as stage director and choreographer (CCS faculty Gerry Hansen); and a third (junior faculty Tim Wood) planning and executing all the stage tech. This year's show, *EVEN GREATER BRITAIN*, is the story of a young prince who really *wouldn't* be King on a strange little island monarchy, lonely and adrift in the Pacific. Its Queen, Hadley Brave, fell out with her royal family, so well known from Buckingham Palace, and set up her own desperate shop here. Now the state is failing and she is ready to escape, if only her young son will take the reins. Through a series of unlikely events involving even the island's giant and lethal cassowary birds, the young Prince Charles Brave does an about-face

and steps up to the task, though not without a little help from a lady magician wielding island mana. The attempt of an ambitious royal counselor to democratize the island falls short, and the love of a young prince for his subjects and his princess triumphs over all. **Look for the CCS production of *EVEN GREATER BRITAIN* on cable screens and UCTV!**

# Alumni Updates



**1969 John Nava**, CCS Art, studied art under Howard Warshaw and did his graduate MFA work in Florence, Italy. His work is found in numerous private, corporate and public collections throughout the United States, Europe and Japan including the National

Museum of American Art in Washington D.C.; the Museu Europeu d'Art Modern (MEAM), Barcelona, Spain; the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) of Hawaii; the Triton Museum in San Jose, California; and the Museum of Ventura County, Ventura, California.



**1979 Dr. Alexei Filippenko**, CCS Physics, is currently a professor in the Department of Astronomy at UC Berkeley. He is involved primarily in observational studies at optical, ultraviolet, and near-infrared wavelengths. Named the 2006 US

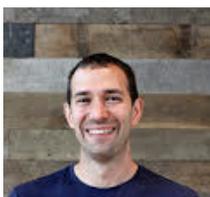
National Professor of the Year, he is known for his ability to communicate complex subjects to the public. He has appeared in about 100 TV documentaries, including 7 seasons of "The Universe" series on H2, and he has produced several astronomy courses for The Great Courses.

**1980 Dr. Diana Kraemer Abson**, CCS Chemistry, is a neurosurgeon in Seattle, Washington. Dr Kraemer turned her interest in chemistry and physiological psychology at UCSB into a career in neurosurgery, with a sub-specialty interest in epilepsy surgery and the surgery of movement disorders. She received her medical degree from David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and has been in practice for 25 years. She lives with her husband and two sons in Seattle. Her oldest son entered UCSB as a freshman this fall.



**2004 Jenny Marek** (formerly Phillips) CCS biology and a 2008 Graduate of UCSB's Bren School - emphasis in Pollution Prevention and Remediation. She is now employed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's field office in Ventura as a Fish and Wildlife

Biologist. She deals primarily with the effects of environmental contaminants on wildlife and their habitats. Her favorite part of her job is with a program called Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA). When an entity causes an oil or hazardous materials spill, Jenny's job is to work with other entities to understand how the oil/hazardous materials have injured wildlife and other natural resources. In addition, she has been heavily involved in the Refugio Bay oil spill.



**2005 Ryan Burns**, CCS Computer Science, is currently a software engineer at Clever in the San Francisco Bay area. He is passionate about distributed systems and mentoring other engineers. Previously, he led the Infrastructure Engineering team at Pixar helping create

the film pipeline they use today. Ryan is originally from San Antonio. Depending on the day outside of work, you can find him designing and building everything from embedded devices to purely artistic endeavors.



**2005 Emily Gogol**, CCS Biology, earned her PhD from UCSF and is now a Senior Scientific Researcher at Genentech. Outside of work she has raised over \$200k and led hundreds of volunteers in the last 7 years to support and create new public gardens in San Francisco, including co-founding Pennsylvania Street Gardens ([psgsf.org](http://psgsf.org)) and serving as the Garden Coordinator for the Connecticut Friendship Garden. Emily has been recognized by numerous city organizations and the State of California for this volunteer work.

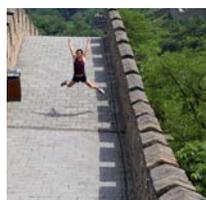


**2012 Dylan Rodriguez**, CCS Physics, works at FLIR Systems in Goleta as a Systems and

Applications Engineer working with infrared detectors. According to Dylan, FLIR Systems is the world's largest commercial company specializing in the design and production of thermal imaging cameras, components and imaging sensors. When he's not at the factory working on new development, he's traveling to customer sites to capture their market needs and work those back into system level requirements for commercial products. For him, there is always a new product around the corner and there are always new places to visit, including Sweden, Denmark, England, Ireland, Germany, and every corner of the continental US.

**2012 Brad Axen**, CCS Physics, is pursuing his Ph.D at UC Berkeley. He is spending the year at CERN in Switzerland working right at the forefront of his field, and writing and contributing to papers that will be sent for publishing to the Physical Review D journal.

**2012 Chelsea Harris**, CCS Physics, is pursuing her Ph.D at UC Berkeley. Since graduating, she was awarded the Department of Energy Computational Science Graduate Fellowship (DOE CSGF)—which was only awarded to 10 people nation-wide. Currently she is at the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, Colorado doing a "practicum" for her fellowship. This project entails spending 12 weeks there doing renewable energy research.



**2013 Yidi Wang**, CCS Biology. Since graduating, she worked for two years in the lab of Dr. Ken Kosik at UCSB, studying early neurodevelopment. Concurrently, she interned as the Companion Care co-coordinator for Doctors Without Walls, Santa Barbara Street Medicine, helping

to connect underserved patients with local medical care. After finishing the lengthy medical school application process this past May, she spent 3 weeks in China visiting relatives and traveling to Beijing and Chengdu. Most recently, she worked on a summer research project in Dr. Chris Walsh's lab at Boston Children's Hospital and started Harvard Medical school in the fall.

**2013 Evan Geller**, CCS Physics and CCS Computer Science, is a graduate student in Applied Physics at Yale University.

Calling all CCS Alumni: Do you have updates you'd like to share? Want to be included in our next issue or online? Please visit [ccs.ucsb.edu/news-events/media](http://ccs.ucsb.edu/news-events/media) for information on how to submit your news!

# College of Creative Studies

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Mr. Leonard A. Zilz & Mrs. Anni E. Zilz  
Mr. Jeffrey Zira

\*Deceased

\*\*Young Alumni Chancellor's Council



Student Panel at the CCS Celebration Reception hosted by CCS Parents and Donors Chris and Julie Proctor, May 2015

## College of Creative Studies

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This publication is also available online. If you would like to receive an e-version instead, or to opt out, please visit [ccs.ucsb.edu/news-events/media](https://ccs.ucsb.edu/news-events/media). Questions, comments, concerns? Please direct them to Jen Duncan, CCS Communications Associate, at [jen.duncan@ccs.ucsb.edu](mailto:jen.duncan@ccs.ucsb.edu).

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The mission of the College of Creative Studies (CCS) is to recruit the most talented and imaginative undergraduates, and provide them with the intellectual environment and advice that allows them to undergo the transition quickly from consumers of knowledge to colleagues in the act of human creativity in the arts and sciences.

If you or someone you know might be interested in the College of Creative Studies, please visit us on the web for more information at [ccs.ucsb.edu](https://ccs.ucsb.edu).

*“As a new addition to the CCS community, I think my favorite part so far is the sense of community and opportunity that exists within the college. Through CCS I have grown, and I feel blessed to be a part of such a creative community, where everyone is so eager to collaborate and work together to help one another improve and move closer to our dreams.” -Tristan Perez, Music Comp*