HSU Alumni
Who they are. Where they are.
And where they're going.
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HSU President Rollin Richmond takes a tour of the Campus Center for Appropriate Technology with CCAT student co-director Mitra Abidi, left, and student tour guide Juliana Wilken.

We also heard clearly that alumni value their experience at HSU. Many talked about the importance of personal connections with faculty, hands-on learning opportunities, and the strong sense of community at Humboldt. We heard about businesses, lifelong friendships and (no surprise) marriages that started as relationships on campus. One student ambassador met an alumna who had attended the same high school, and another who, like her, had played guitar in college. All of the students were changed by the experience. Alumni gave them plenty of personal and professional advice, and the students gained a broader appreciation for Humboldt.

The kickoff of the HSU Discovery Project has been a great success, and we plan to continue in the years to come. To learn more, visit alumni.humboldt.edu/discovery.

To our alumni who participated, thank you.

Sincerely,

Rollin C. Richmond
President
Standout Students Earn NSF Fellowships

A RECORD FIVE HUMBOLDT students were awarded prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships during the 2010-2011 academic year. Four of the students were also members of the Indian Natural Resource, Science and Engineering Program (INRSEP) or the Society for Advancing Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS).

“What makes these students outstanding scientists and engineers is a holistic understanding of their fields and the ability to express the value of their research and how people in the community can use it,” says Jacquelyn Bolman, who directs INRSEP. “There’s no doubt that they are going to do some awesome work.”

The fellowship supports students earning graduate degrees. It includes a $30,000 annual stipend and a $10,500 cost-of-education allowance.

Rosalinda Gonzalez, Oregon State University, Ph.D. program
As a child in the Southern California desert region, Rosalinda Gonzalez (’11, Environmental Science) always appreciated safe, drinkable water. In college, she focused on the range of life forms affected by water issues. As part of her doctoral studies, Gonzales hopes to utilize water sciences and fisheries as indicators of water quality.

Daniel Hernandez, University of California, Santa Barbara, M.E.S.M. program
Coming from a coastal, tribal culture, Daniel Hernandez (’11, Environmental Science) always felt a connection to the ocean and its wildlife. During his Ph.D. program, Hernandez will study coho and sockeye salmon populations as they relate to changes in temperature.

Dawn McCovey, Humboldt State University, M.S. program
“I already had the value of wanting to make a difference environmentally,” says Dawn McCovey (’06, Wildlife Man-

Ryan Ziels, University of Washington, Ph.D. program
As part of his Ph.D. program, Ziels (’11, Environmental Resources Engineering) hopes to modify existing wastewater treatment plant technology to treat food waste as well, through the process of biodigestion.

With biodigestion, treated food waste creates biogas and compost as byproducts. The resulting biogas can be used as a cleaner-burning renewable energy source, and the compost can be used as a nutrient-rich fertilizer. Ziels’ ultimate goal is to create a biogas renewable energy company.

Jeremy Rude, University of California, B.D. program
Rude (’11, Environmental Science) came to HSU as a C-student with a love of the tropics. But he turned things around.

AN ANONYMOUS DONOR HAS committed $500,000 to support Humboldt State University’s School of Business. The gift is the largest ever to the HSU School of Business and among the largest gifts given by an individual to the university. “This gift will help transform the school over the next five years,” says HSU President Rollin Richmond. “We are very grateful. We are proud to partner with someone who sees a need in our community and is willing to lead the way in helping HSU address it.”

The university is already committed to investing about $2 million over five years to significantly expand the size and scope of the school. It is also working with business leaders, alumni and others to raise at least $1.5 million in private support. The focus is on business fundamentals, entrepreneurship and sustainability.

Among other things, the recent gift will help fund more full-time faculty, renovate facilities and open additional class sections. The business curriculum will be enhanced, new interdisciplinary certificates will be created for students in other majors and for working professionals, and the MBA program will be expanded. There will be more opportunities for student internships with local businesses and for student research projects. There will also be additional support for the school’s faculty to conduct research and undertake special projects.

“What we have here is something rare in higher education—the chance to really transform a program in a relatively short period of time,” says Steve Hackett, an HSU Professor of Economics and the new Chair of the School of Business. “It’s an exciting time, and it’s inspiring that a community member has made such a tremendous investment in this effort.”

Schatz Fuel Cell Finds Home in Persian Gulf

YOU MIGHT REMEMBER THE cover story about HSU’s Schatz Energy Research Center in the Spring 2011 edition of Humboldt magazine. It showcased a number of milestones, and now they have another—the center’s first technology transfer with the Middle East.

Long established internationally with links to Asia, Africa, Central America, Europe, Canada and Mexico, the Schatz Lab recently confirmed a partnership with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It will provide a test station and accompanying fuel cells to the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology in Abu Dhabi, capital of the UAE on the Persian Gulf.

It all started when Masdar Professor of Mechanical Engineering Tarig Shamim came across the technology while teaching at the University of Michigan in the early 2000s. It was there he saw a Schatz fuel cell test station, a custom system built for the Walter E. Lay Automotive Lab.

Eager to replicate what he had seen there, he got in touch with Schatz Lab Director Peter Lehman to purchase both a fuel cell and research-grade fuel cell test station.

In 2009 in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Masdar is laying the groundwork to diversify the UAE’s oil-rich, but oil-dependent economy. It is aimed at incubating innovation and entrepreneurship to meet UAE and world energy needs.

The Schatz Center delivered the equipment in August. Two Schatz Lab engineers, Greg Chapman and Marc Marshall, traveled to Abu Dhabi to install the station and train Masdar technicians and faculty in its operation.
Humboldt State Teams with NOAA on Ocean Monitoring

A JOINT EFFORT OF Humboldt State and NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service is bridging a major gap in monitoring the northern section of the California Coastal System. NOAA is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Through a series of oceanographic surveys on board HSU’s research vessel, the two universities have gathered valuable data for the California Coastal Commission. One of the main goals of such long-term ocean observing is to support fisheries management off the North Coast and along the California Current as a whole.

“Eventually, we want to be able to develop flume-type specific predictions for, say, Chinook salmon returns several years out,” says Fisheries Biology Professor Eric Bjorkstedt. “Right now we’re beginning to examine whether the Southern California data might be useful in the short term, but in another couple of years, when we have five or six years of data, we can begin to do our own analysis to inform fisheries managers who are trying to predict salmon populations. The whole purpose of the effort is to support informed and effective resource planning.”

Student Finds Clues to Famed Pirate’s Identity

THERE’S AN OLD PIRATE legend about a forgotten place on the Trinity River named Sailor’s Bar. Now that saga has been revived—and revised—by HSU undergraduates.

Last summer, senior Wesley Korpela, an Anthropology major and avid fan of pirates and underwater archaeology, heard claims about a band of fugitive British sailors led by William English. The story was that a group of sailors made its way to Trinity County in 1842 after burning its ship off Cape Mendocino. The pirates were believed to have discovered and attempted to mine gold at Sailor’s Bar. If true, it would mean revising the history of California’s famed gold rush.

Bill Rich, co-director of the HSU Cultural Resource Facility, knew of Korpela’s intense interest in the subject. He explained that historians around the area had been probing the mystery for decades, but kept running into dead ends. He then asked if Korpela would be interested in using the facility’s resources to try to find something new. What Korpela uncovered was a mistaken name that led to the identity of a known pirate.

Recent Grad Recognized for Eureka Chinatown Study

A PAPER EXPLORING EUREKA’S lost Chinatown by recent alumna Yang Yang has caught the attention of national and international Geographers. Yang’s paper made “a strong contribution to ethnic geography,” they said.

Judges unanimously ranked Yang’s paper the best, even though she was up against formidable graduate school competition. “You should be particularly proud, given that you were the only undergraduate student to submit a paper,” an awards official said.

Yang’s success attracted plenty of media coverage in Humboldt County, as well as an interview on National Public Radio. Yang presented her paper at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting in Seattle, and was accepted in the master’s of science program at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She studied at Humboldt State through its partnership with China’s Xian Internationale Studies University.

To Ban or Not to Ban

Student Research Helps Arcata Weigh Plastic Bag Embargo

TO BAN PLASTIC BAGS or not? That is one of the questions facing the Arcata City Council. Student-led research is helping them find an answer.

The research was conducted in Engineering 308, an Environmental Resources Engineering course led by instructor Lonny Grafman (read about Appropedia.org, another project led by Grafman, on page 16). Students analyzed both the environmental impacts of single-use plastic bags and what kind of effect a citywide ban would have.

Among the students’ findings: Arcata’s shoppers use between 3 million and 5 million plastic bags annually. The energy that went into manufacturing those 3 million plastic bags is comparable to powering 774 desktop computers, eight hours a day for one year.

Grafman says students in the class learned how to use math and science to understand the environmental impacts of products and technologies—including the impacts of single-use plastic bags—and then use that information for real-world applications.

Although the student research is not a legal document like an environmental impact report, it does contain customized information that the city council might not otherwise have access to.

At this point, no decision on the citywide ban has been reached and the debate is ongoing.
Former Lumberjack Signs with New York Jets

Taylor Boggs
FORMER HUMBOLDT STATE FOOTBALL player Taylor Boggs has signed as an undrafted free agent with the New York Jets.

Boggs was an offensive lineman and four-year standout for the Lumberjacks. He also won the Award for Excellence in Intercollegiate Athletics or Sports Clubs at the 2010-2011 Outstanding Student Awards.

“Taylor was the true definition of a collar, lunch-pail guy. No one will work harder than Taylor to earn what he deserves,” HSU Head Football Coach Rob Smith said. “He’s always been a blue-collar, lunch-pail guy. No one will work harder than Taylor to earn a place on an NFL roster.”

The signing came days after the end of an NFL lockout that had halted contract activity and threatened to disrupt the 2011 season. Named an All-American following his senior year in 2010, Boggs showcased his skills at the Cactus Bowl all-star game in February. Following an injury sustained during training, Boggs was waived and placed on the injured reserves list. He is still signed with the Jets for a one-year contract and will have the opportunity to participate in training next season as a second-year player.

“Boggs has the talent and the intelligence to excel in professional football,” Smith said. “He’ll pick up the complex systems quickly.”

Boggs is the first Lumberjack to sign an NFL contract since Steve Cheek signed with the Kansas City Chiefs as a punter in 2004.

The NFL has previously drafted eight Lumberjacks. The last Lumberjack to be drafted was wide receiver Freeman Bay in 2008.

“We are extremely excited to have Taylor sign and join the New York Jets,” Smith said. “Boggs has the talent and the intelligence to excel in professional football.”

Wayward Whales Offer Students Rare Access

A GRAY WHALE THAT offered students a rare educational opportunity when it wandered into the Klamath River for nearly eight weeks this summer died in December. The 45-foot gray whale and her calf swam back out to sea on July 23. Scientists still aren’t sure why the 45-foot gray whale and her calf wandered into the Klamath River in late June. Scientists still aren’t sure why the 45-foot gray whale and her calf wandered into the Klamath River in late June.

Scientists have been studying whales that feed in the waters of Humboldt and Del Norte counties for 15 years. But never in a river and never up-close. The scientists still aren’t sure what caused the mother to stay in fresh water so long.

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After four months, NFL player representatives and the league’s owners signed a collective-bargaining agreement ending the lockout. Boggs reported for Jets training camp in New Jersey in early August.

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Kennedy Center Festival Takes Center Stage

The Department of Theatre, Film, and Dance has had quite a year: Not only did it produce the amazing Spring Dance Concert (check the Campus Scene on page 14) and the 44th annual Humboldt International Film Festival (page 18), it was host to the 43rd annual Region VII Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival—the largest Region VII festival in history.

FROM FEB. 14 THROUGH 18, over 1,000 students and faculty from 121 colleges and nine states converged on campus for their chance to participate in the nationally recognized theater program. This was the first time the event had come to campus since the region was redistricted, attracting students from Western states including Alaska, Colorado and Wyoming.

During the weeklong event, festivalgoers enjoyed and participated in on-stage performances, exciting and nerve-wracking auditions and intense hands-on (sometimes shoes-off) workshops.

On stage, students performed audition pieces and one-act plays. During the 10 Minute Play Festival, budding playwrights had their pieces performed in front of a live audience and received critiques from professional judges. In addition to shorter pieces, four visiting campuses put on full-length productions at the John Van Duzer Theatre. From Monday through Thursday, these full-length features served as the evening’s main event.

Off stage, students involved with technical design, lighting and set building were able to participate in skill-building, hands-on workshops and competitions of their own.

Festival awards were announced Friday, with three HSU students and alumni taking home a few of the top honors: April “Kitty” Grenot won first place in hair and makeup design, and represented Region VII at the national festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Student Jonny Barrett won a California State University Summer Arts scholarship in acting. He was awarded a stipend to attend Steppenwolf Classes West. And alum Kato Buss was the graduate student winner in the New West Drama Conference Scholarly Paper Competition. He is now engaged in graduate studies at the University of Oregon.

Acting wasn’t the only focus of the festival. From heart-pumping Broadway dance to tech-driven design and lighting, students from both sides of the curtain got a chance to sharpen their skills and expand their repertoires.

Students line the hallways of HSU’s Gist Hall, awaiting their turn to take the stage.

HSU student Brittany Williams rehearses with her acting partner, Matthew Kirchberg, for her Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship performance. Students must be nominated to qualify for the award and must pass multiple rounds of auditions at the regional and national levels.

HSU student Brittany Williams rehearses with her acting partner, Matthew Kirchberg, for her Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship performance. Students must be nominated to qualify for the award and must pass multiple rounds of auditions at the regional and national levels.

Students, faculty, staff and community members watch the festival’s 10 Minute Play Festival. With all seats filled, many people opted to sit on the floor rather than miss the show.

A student stands in the spotlight, helping the lighting team prepare the stage for that evening’s full-length play. Four visiting campuses were invited to put on full productions.
The Beginnings: 1913–1938

As the campus readies for a yearlong centennial celebration starting in fall 2013, Humboldt magazine will be highlighting the history of Humboldt State in a timeline that stretches through the next three editions.

IT'S BEEN NEARLY 100 YEARS since instruction began at Humboldt State Normal School on April 6, 1914 with only 55 students. There was no Founders Hall on that day. Instead, class was held in what one historian dubbed a “rather drab and austere” building on the corner of Arcata’s 11th and M streets.

Today, Humboldt State encompasses a beautiful 144 acres and enrolls 7,900 students. A lot has changed, and with HSU’s Centennial quickly approaching, planning has begun for a yearlong celebration beginning in the fall 2013.

Whether you graduated from Humboldt State Teacher’s College, Humboldt State College, CSU Humboldt or Humboldt State University, we want to hear your ideas for marking this occasion. Visit the website at humboldt.edu/centennial to share your ideas and help HSU make the most of this once-in-a-lifetime occasion.

Share Your Ideas for the 100th Anniversary Celebration humboldt.edu/centennial

1911 Eureka’s chamber of commerce begins an effort to win public support for a normal school. Eureka, Arcata and Fortuna offer proposals for the location of the school.

1913 A donation of 51 acres from William Preston and the Union Water Company ensures Arcata will be the home of Humboldt State Normal School.


April 6, 1914 Instruction begins at 11th and M streets in Arcata. Pictured above is one of the first applications to the normal school.

1915 Commencement day for HSU’s first graduating class of 15 women. Susie Baker Fountain is first to receive her degree.

1916 Humboldt State Normal School becomes Humboldt State Teachers College and Junior College.

1921 Humboldt State College establishes bachelor’s of science degree in education. Liberal arts degree programs in economics and business administration, speech and home economics are soon to follow.

1922 Construction of Founders Hall begins atop Preston Hill.

1924 Humboldt’s first president, Nelson Van Matre, retires and is succeeded by Ralph Swetman who serves from 1924 to 1930. Arthur Gist takes over in 1930 and serves until 1949.

1927 Humboldt plays its first intercollegiate football game against Southern Oregon Normal School, losing 33-0.

1935 Another name change gives Humboldt the moniker Humboldt State College.

Sources: “A View from the Hill” by HSU History Professor William R. Tanner and “Humboldt State University: The Campus History Series” by HSU alumna Katy M. Tahja (’70, Communication)

Photos Courtesy of the HSU Library, Humboldt Room

Humboldt State University Timeline

Humboldt magazine | Fall 2011
Gravity Defined: The Spring Dance Concert

MEMBERS OF HSU’S DEPARTMENT of Theatre, Film, and Dance presented Gravity Defined for the 2011 Spring Dance Concert. In 10 performances, dancers staged an eclectic show of intricate and physically impressive dances featuring a range of aesthetic styles.

- A total of 46 dancers presented styles from tango, to hip-hop to postmodern and ballet.
- Every other year, the spring dance concert choreographers work with scenic and costume designers from the department of Theatre, Film, and Dance. More than four-dozen students worked backstage on scene construction, painting, lighting, costumes and makeup.
- “With those elements and a variety of large and small ensemble dances, we put together what I think was a visually stunning show,” said Professor Sharon Butcher, director of the Dance Studies program.
- The concert featured three dances by student choreographers invited to the Northwest American College Dance Festival Conference earlier this spring: A Step Behind by Kara Ajetunmobi, Elevated Contour by Lyndsey Lascheck and In This Place by Jacqueline Bookstein.
- “Something that was different this year,” Butcher added, “was the presence of some talented freshmen and sophomores in our spring concert. This level of accomplishment doesn’t usually happen until junior or senior year. So that was exciting not only for this year, but for years to come.”
Since its launch in April 2006, the website has attracted users from almost every country and has over 18,000 pages created by contributors.

Energy, construction and community, and health and safety are three of the most popular topics for readers. For example, you can find information on different compost methods, materials needed to make a compost pile and tips for how to use the finished compost.

Grafman sees a bright future for the site. “I hope that everyone can find a use for Appropedia in their everyday lives,” he says. “I want people to ask new questions and solve new problems instead of asking the same questions and making the same mistakes.”

We enlisted one of our staffer’s nieces, Hannah, 8 and Maggie, 5, to guide us through a very tasty project: making s’mores in a student-designed solar oven for kids. With less than $20 you can find everything you need for this project.

### You’ll Need
- Large glass bowl
- Black oven or BBQ spray paint
- Small metal cooking bowl (must fit entirely within large glass bowl)
- Lids for both bowls (or plastic wrap)
- Aluminum foil
- Tape
- Cardboard box (the box should be at least 18 inches on all sides)
- Oven mitt
- Ruler
- Scissors

### Classic S’Mores Recipe
- Graham crackers
- Chocolate candy bars
- Marshmallows

Sandwich a piece of chocolate and a marshmallow between the two crackers. Cook in the solar oven for 5 to 10 minutes.

According to Hannah and Maggie, the solar oven s’mores were delicious!
The Humboldt International Film Festival is many things. It’s the longest-running student-run festival of its kind. It’s a showcase for local and international filmmakers, alike. And it’s also a weeklong celebration of the revolutionary potential of the cinema and the current revolution unfolding within the world of filmmaking.

A Reel Revolution
HSU Film Fest Sets Spotlight on Independent Film

By Desiree Perez
“FILMS CAN CHANGE THE WAY people look at the world,” says festival co-director and Film major Jeff Cronise. "And in the film world, digital brought its own revolution to the industry—all you need now is the camera and the editing software.” Currently, film classes at HSU work primarily with digital, although a few still use film.

Since 1967, the festival has put HSU students to work building a venue for independent and alternative filmmakers to showcase their work. “Anyone can share their point of view,” says co-director David Fox, a Marine Biology major. “We have film submissions from six different continents and all different walks of life.”

Although the festival used to accept both film and digital submissions, for the past few years, submissions have been DVD only.

Tonight, it's Best of the Fest night for the 44th annual Humboldt International Film Festival, whose theme this year is simply, “revolution.” And right now the student co-directors putting on the show are trying to make sure everything goes off without a hitch.

It’s All in the Planning

PREPARATIONS BEGIN A YEAR before the festival. Students spend hours screening submitted films, whittling down the hundreds of submissions to the few dozen that make it to the screen. Students also put their entrepreneurial talents on display, raising funds and teaming up with local businesses to promote the festival.

Any student can join the film festival class and lend a hand to organize the event. Last year, Theatre major Brittany White took the class on a whim. Since then, she’s worked on three locally produced films. This year, she volunteered to take a leading role as house manager for Best of the Fest.

“I had never even seen short films before this class,” she says. “It helped spark my interest in film and in helping short films get noticed in all their different forms. To me, that’s the meaning of revolution: a new start and a way to bring attention to things that should be noticed.”

What begins for many as a desire to watch cool films develops into a yearlong training in critical film analysis and event coordination. “It can be stressful. It’s always on my mind,” Fox says. “But it’s so rewarding to see it all come together.”

To pull it off the festival’s student co-directors, Cronise, John Manning, Fox and Glen Webster work closely with staff advisor Joshua Nelson and the festival’s three guest judges, industry professionals Jessica Mae Stover, Al Hayes and Kevin M. Kearney.

On the morning of Best of the Fest, the group of professional and student film enthusiasts gets down to the business of deciding which films and filmmakers will be recognized that evening. Breakfast—and many cups of coffee—fuel the decision making.

While voting for films can sometimes be contentious, this morning everyone is in agreement over which entries will be honored at tonight’s event. The winning titles are kept secret, but these standout films are guaranteed to uphold the tradition of excellence expected of the film fest.

“Expect new ideas,” says Fox. “Expect things you’ve never seen before.” Leading up to today, each guest judge hosted a night of events, including a workshop and an evening of screenings.

Kearney, a screenplay writer and former member on the Public Works media board of directors, led Animation and experimental night; Hayes, a motion picture executive, hosted documentary night; while Stover, a professional film director, presented Narrative Night. In addition to hosting, guest judges had chosen winners from their respective categories.
And the Winners Were...

The Humboldt International Film Festival honors numerous films each year. You can view many of these films online humboldtfilmfestival.com.

Best of the Fest, and Best Animated Film
Swing
Director: Yen-Ting Kuo
An animated film about the influence the living have over people facing the brink of death.

Best Documentary and Most Revolutionary Film
Bye Bye Now!
Director: Aideen O’Sullivan
A documentary about the fate of the Irish phone booth as it moves to the verge of extinction.

Best Narrative Film
Zwischen Licht Und Schatten (Fading Away)
Director: Fabian Giessler
Recently Martha has been behaving strangely. Herbert, her husband, is desperate. Is she just forgetful or is it more than that?

Best Experimental Film
I Give You Life
Director: Latham Zearfoss
Mutated voices and deleted words try to find their way back home while a father tries to find solace and justice in the wake of his son’s murder.

People’s Choice Award
Lest We Forget
Director: Chris Godfrey
Two mates—Vietnam veterans—have settled into a life in a quiet town. They become aware of a dark undercurrent of domestic abuse and take decisive, if surprising, action.

Jim Demulling Speak Out Award
The Work of 1000
Director: Susan Edwards
Marion Stoddart fought to save one of America’s most polluted rivers, transforming herself into an environmental leader.

Ledo Matteoli Award for Best Immigration Story
The Stitches Speak
Director: Nina Sabnani
Tanko Bole Chhe (The Stitches Speak) celebrates the art and passion of the Kutch artisans associated with Kala Raksha. The film traces multiple journeys toward forming the Kala Raksha Trust and the School for Design.

Eagle Eye Award (Best Cinematography)
Last Seen on Dolores Street
Director: Devi Snively
In a hard-boiled town, a heartbroken woman must say goodbye to an old pet and hello to a new nightmare.

Honor Mention
Stan vs. Squirrel
Director: Lilly Ann Boruszkowski
What is a man to do when he wants to feed the birds but the squirrels keep stealing their food? Stan engineers a variety of devices to foil his furry opponents.

During his workshop, Hayes gave students an insider’s point of view on how to get established in the film industry. The workshop topics fed largely off audience questions and concerns, touching on ranges from attending the Sundance Film Festival to affordable insurance for shooting low-budget films. The biggest question on everyone’s mind was “How do I become a filmmaker?” And for Hayes, who comes from a political science background and first got into film in his 30s after law school, the resounding answer was: “You just have to try.”

“You have no excuses,” Hayes says. “With laptops, iPhones and digital cameras you have to go out and make movies, put them online and really distribute your work.”

For independent filmmakers, the Humboldt International Film Festival can offer exactly that kind of exposure.

Show Time
BACK IN THE JOHN Van Duzer Theatre, the air is tense with anticipation for the big announcement. The projection of a giant red protest fist fashioned out of filmstrips illuminates the entrance to the building, which holds nearly 200 filmgoers.

And the Best of the Fest winner is ... the Taiwanese film “Swing,” directed by Yen-Ting Kuo. The film centers on how living people influence the perspectives of people on the brink of death. The universal subjects of mortality and love, paired with impressive animation, sealed the deal.

“It helped spark my interest in film and in helping short films get noticed in all their different forms. To me, that’s the meaning of revolution: a new start and a way to bring attention to things that should be noticed.”

Brittany White, Theatre major and film festival participant
As it nears its 100th year, Humboldt State has more than 50,000 graduates. They’ve spread out and settled across the country and around the world, making major contributions to their communities and in their professions—areas like education, forestry, natural resources, alternative energy, wildlife, art and more.

By Jarad Petroske

AS AN ALUM (‘06, German with a minor in Journalism), I know a bit about the strong connection graduates feel with HSU. Like you, I frequently meet other alumni—both when I travel or locally at the grocery store. In my role as a writer and now editor of Humboldt magazine, I come across many alumni success stories. But I was curious to know more about our far-reaching community.

WITH MUCH LESS THAN a fully developed plan, I set out. My first stop: The HSU Library’s Humboldt room, where librarian Joan Berman and archivist Edie Butler helped me delve into the earliest records of Humboldt State alumni. From a host of materials—commencement programs to yearbooks—I got to know the alumni who made up Humboldt’s earliest graduating classes. In 1915, the small Humboldt State Normal School graduated just 15 students. The campus would grow to 654 by 1950 (see fig. 1) and wouldn’t expand to its current size of about 7,500 students until the 1970s (A side note: In 1962 the California State University trustees predicted campus enrollment would reach 12,000 by 1990. Imagine trying to find a parking space). At the beginning of Humboldt State’s existence, even the split between genders was surprising. In the 1930s, when the school started keeping records of this sort, the campus was nearly three-quarters women (see fig. 2). In the 1950s and 60s, as the campus’ emphasis focused on natural resources, men made up the majority of students. By the millennium, however, women made up a slim majority of students—a figure that follows national trends.

Humboldt State Normal School’s first graduating class in 1914 was made up of 15 women. Football games in the 1920s were only possible when every available man on campus was forced onto the field. By the 1930s almost three quarters of the graduates were women. Then, from the 1950s to early 1970s, the campus population grew from 750 to more than 6,000 students, and men made up nearly two-thirds of the student body. By the 2000s, following national trends, women were once again the majority.

Oldest Living Alum

Ione R. Bradley
Graduated 1932, with a bachelor’s degree in Education

HSU ALUMNI

Who They Are.
Where They Are.
And Where They’re Going.

Oldest Living Alum

Ione R. Bradley
100 years, 3 Months
Graduated 1932, with a bachelor’s degree in Education

Fall Enrollment at the Start of Decades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>654</td>
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<tr>
<td>1960</td>
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<td>1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>7,654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>7,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>7,902</td>
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From Mostly Women, To Mostly Men, to Mostly Even

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1930s</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940s</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>41%</td>
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<td>1950s</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<td>1960s</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970s</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980s</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990s</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000s</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Humboldt State University | humboldt.edu

Fig. 1 Fig. 2
HSU Alumni
Where They Are Today...

Fig. 3

Data is from the HSU Development and Alumni Relations Office. It includes known addresses of 40,000 alumni.
Digging through the archives, it became clear the alumni of the 1920s and ’30s were especially committed to Humboldt State. They supported the growing school in many ways, including lobbying for support at the state level, offering housing for current students and even providing an early student loan program. In 1933 the Alumni Association published the Humboldt Alumnus, a precursor to this magazine.

In a stark reminder of the enrollment drop during the First World War, which threatened to close the school, World War II caused a major dip in the number of graduates. The 1944 graduating class from Humboldt State Teachers College, as it was then known, was only 27 students. By fall of that year, enrollment would drop to 178.

Following the war, enrollment soon rebounded and by the 1960s, Humboldt State alumni numbered in the thousands and the campus established the Who’s Who Award to honor outstanding alumni. The first award went to George E. Hogan from the class of 1933, and since then, more than 80 alumni have received this honor. Today, the tradition is continued with the Distinguished Alumni Awards. Humboldt Alumni seeks nominations from all members of campus, including alumni. In fact, if you know a deserving Humboldt State alum, drop by alumni.humboldt.edu and share their story.

In the 1970s, the Alumni Association continued its work of keeping former students connected to their alma mater. In 1975, the Humboldt Alumnus became the Humboldt Stater. During that time, however, campus enrollment began a decline, notably in the social sciences and humanities. After reaching 7,500 students in 1974, enrollment dropped to 6,735 by 1978. The following year, campus sought to increase campus morale and the Great Humboldt Spirit Celebration looked to the community to enhance homecoming. That year, the alumni king and queen were chosen from the class of 1917.

It wasn’t long before I had a real sense of who Humboldt State alumni were, and their contributions to campus. For one thing, alumni have never stopped giving back. In 2010, alone, an impressive 4,000 alumni made financial gifts to the university. Many of those gifts went to the Humboldt Loyalty Fund, which supports things like specialized equipment for labs, art supplies and digital art collections, talks by visiting scholars, student presentations at academic conferences, and much more. But I still wanted to know more. It turns out, the folks at Humboldt Alumni did to.

In their offices, I came across a survey HSU Alumni conducted in 2009 that gauged alumni attitudes on everything from opinions about campus today to their experiences as students. The responses were incredibly positive. About three-quarters of the alumni said attending HSU was a great decision, and the vast majority agreed their education prepared them well for life-long learning. A little more than half said they regularly promote HSU. Others praised the campus for its quality academics and the valuable relationships forged between students and faculty.

Alumni said they wanted more opportunities to stay connected with the university. They were clear they want social events for Humboldt State grads throughout the state of California—where more than 35,000 alumni live—and beyond (see our alumni map for more details on alumni living across the country).

In sitting down with the folks at the alumni offices, I came across a host of other information about Humboldt grads. Did you know more than 700 Humboldt Alumni have participated in the Peace Corps since its inception in 1961? HSU currently ranks No. 20 among schools its size for sending students into the corps. Beyond Peace Corps experience, more than 200 alumni are living internationally (see fig. 3). Not surprisingly, and I’m among this group, more than 10,000 alumni are still living in the Humboldt Area (see fig. 4). This number corresponds well with another set of data I came across concerning Humboldt State alumni. In 2010, the campus’ Institute for Research and Planning conducted a survey of graduating seniors. The most interesting finding? Almost a quarter of that class came from the Los Angeles area but more than 30 percent of respondents said they intended to...
Once the semester picked up, I sat down with the students from the Discovery Project and got a feel for the work they had done. “I wasn’t expecting to grow so much from this project,” said Vanessa Gonsalves, a Communication major, from San Jose.

“Talking to so many successful alumni really inspired me and excited me about my future,” said Jeff Bertotti, a Business major, from San Jose.

A few things alumni had to say...

“Seeing the graduates through the years really makes me proud to be an HSU student,” said Vanessa Gonsalves, one of the Discovery Project students.

“Making very close connections with fellow students. We used to call each other at 1 a.m. for help on assignments.”

“I enjoyed the hands-on experience I received and that the university cared about the environment.”

“Some of my favorite memories are riding my bike across Arcata and going to the farmer’s market.”

Where Students Come From (2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other States</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco Bay Area</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern California</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central California</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego Area</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other / Unknown</td>
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Where Grads Plan to Live (2010)

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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern California</td>
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<tr>
<td>Los Angeles Area</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego Area</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central California</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of State</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of Country</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not Sure</td>
<td>10%</td>
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What Grads Plan to Do (2010)

<table>
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<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate or Professional Study</td>
<td>31%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Service</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start a Family</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Further Under-Graduate Study</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armed Services</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Know the Land
Students Explore Native Traditions and a New Take on Land Management
By Desiree Perez

SUN BREAKS THROUGH THE FIR TREES and people, from children to tribal elders, circle the smoking campfire. A fine mist of frosted breath and steaming coffee fills the air as several campers crack open books and jot down notes for class.

This unique camp-out, not far from the banks of the Klamath River near Orleans, Calif., is part of Humboldt State’s annual Ethnobotany course, also known as Anthropology 485. The program is a partnership between HSU’s Department of Anthropology, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and members of the Karuk Tribe, including several basket weavers and herbalists.
“We need to understand how important these plants are individually and as groups. And we need to understand Native American people and communities as essential parts of the ecosystem.”

Kathy McCovey Barger, Ethnobotany course instructor

During the three-day, two-unit course, students from a variety of majors meet with instructors from tribal and land-management agencies. The two groups provide an approach to land management that makes sense for the area and the cultural needs of tribal groups. One goal is to introduce students to groups and ideas they might not find in a traditional classroom setting.

“Tradition and science speakers from both the tribe and the state agencies set the stage for the course’s lessons and experiences. The new kind of forestry, called eco-management, is important,” says HSU graduate student and course instructor Kathy McCovey Barger. “If you don’t know the members of the community, then land managers don’t really know what they’re managing for.”

“Anyone who has more than a casual relationship with this area is going to get a full understanding of the area’s natural history, its flora, and its history. We also need to understand how important these plants are individually and as groups,” says Barger. “And we need to understand Native American people and communities as essential parts of the ecosystem.”

Fire suppression has also led to a dense and tangled understory, impenetrable and unusable to humans and many animals. “A lot of area is not being used to its full potential,” Barger says. She cites a study about how native people of Orleans, Calif., utilized fire. “The Pomo people used fire to manage the landscape. Indian women set fires in a two-mile radius. The result was a fine-grain mosaic of vegetation.”

“We need to understand how important these plants are individually and as groups,” she says. “And we need to understand Native American people and communities as essential parts of the ecosystem.”

Kathy McCovey Barger, Ethnobotany course instructor

“Is there really a difference in plant materials after they’ve been burned? My studies show that fibers that haven’t been burned don’t have the plasticity,” she says. As the sun begins to set, the whole camp prepares the evening potluck. Fire-hot rocks are dropped into a pot of soaking acorn meal to create a soup. Indian potatoes and a handful of mushrooms picked from the native plant garden are placed over the fire next to salmon and eel fished from the nearby Klamath River.

Once every camper has a full plate, everyone gathers to hear traditional Karuk tales told around the fire.

Storytelling is a way to pass lessons down from generation to generation,” Pereira says. She also says it is a way of sharing cultural understandings with students. “It’s important to keep an open mind because there are different ways of knowing and understanding things. I feel really grateful to this community for opening its doors to us. I’m definitely going to do it again.”
I was happy to hear that one of my students who had just graduated was rolling through Chicago and wanted to meet me for dinner and introduce me to his fiancée. I was at the University of Chicago on sabbatical in 2005 and Soren and I had just finished a paper titled “Is There a Housing Bubble in Humboldt County?” A few months earlier, he was busy looking through old records to get historical housing prices and rents. In that paper, we found that housing prices in Humboldt County were not sustainable given market fundamentals, and that if the bubble popped, a severe reduction in prices may result.

In March 2006 the Humboldt housing market peaked, and today inflation adjusted prices are over 40 percent lower. Humboldt County’s housing market experienced the same boom and bust as other areas of the country. We also experienced the same deep recession as the rest of the nation. While many local people speak of how different things are behind the “redwood curtain,” my students and I know better.

I’ve had the privilege of working with fantastic undergraduate students on applied research projects, and our work gets noticed. One student and I published a paper on the local gasoline market. A couple of years ago, as housing markets collapsed, students and I created a new real estate webpage and our site was in the top 10 Google searches for “real estate economics.” Two other students collected historical foreclosure data from the county and showed that local foreclosures are at record levels just as foreclosures nationally are at record levels.

Many student projects are with the Humboldt Economic Index. The index was created 15 years ago by economics faculty at Humboldt State because they saw a lack of current business indicators for our remote, rural region. Today, business boards, real estate agents, marketers and economic development agencies use the index to determine where our economy stands—and where it might be headed.

We’ve had a number of students work on the index over the years. The student assistant analyst is in contact with businesses and agencies and compiles the index. The student assistant editor writes the index each month and tells readers how our local economy compares with state and national conditions. While reporters come to me for economic insight, I always remind them that the index is produced by students.

At this year’s commencement, an outgoing index student assistant told me how happy he was to come to HSU to study economics and that he couldn’t imagine getting the same experience anywhere else. I could see how sincere he was in his appreciation for his education. Many students are very excited by their research. This past semester I worked with students to begin to form a new measure of marijuana production in the county. That project is critically important for Humboldt County and I’m proud of the work that they’ve done.

I tell my friends, many of whom are faculty at other colleges, how thrilled I am to be working with Humboldt State students. I simply cannot believe the level of maturity that is exhibited by them (a level that is far greater than I had at their age!). Humboldt State is an ideal place for faculty to work. I can push my undergraduate students hard and they usually step up to the challenge. I’ve spoken with many HSU faculty and what I hear over and over is that they came here because of the fantastic quality of students and the liberal arts environment.

Where is the Humboldt economy headed? Predictions are difficult to make, but I’ll give two scenarios. It seems more likely to me that we are “near” the bottom. Housing prices will stop falling within two years and unemployment begins to rise. Two unique factors that influence the Humboldt economy are government finances, since a large portion of our workforce is employed by the government, and the legal status of marijuana production.

Next year, my students and I will begin tracking manufacturing in the county and we will have results from our new entrepreneur survey. I’m looking forward to a great year!
Jim Tietz Keeping Careful Watch on the Farallon Islands

TO SAN FRANCISCANS, THE Farallon Islands are the sign of a clear day—as in, you can “see all the way to the Farallones.”

Days that clear are rare. This granite archipelago, 27 miles off the San Francisco shore, is cold, wind swept and pointedly indifferent to its few human inhabitants: researchers from Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) Conservation Science, led each fall by HSU grad Jim Tietz.

A quiet, thoughtful songbird specialist, Tietz (’94, Environmental Biology; ’06, Wildlife) is the head biologist for PRBO’s Humboldt Magazine, led each fall by HSU grad Jim Tietz.

In his five seasons on Southeast Farallon Island, Tietz has discovered Asian and eastern American birds blown wildly off course, and rare hybrids, such as a Philadelphia vireo / red-eyed vireo cross, whose identification earned publica tion in the journal Western Birds.

Tietz didn’t grow up birding, and came to Humboldt with no clear plan for his future. “When I took Field Ornithology,” he recalls, “I didn’t even know what a robin was.” Tietz credits HSU Professor Dan Norris’ General Botany course for sparking his interest in field biology. “It was just blown away by how amazing biology is,” Tietz says. “It’s always a source of amazement for me to step outside and catch a glimpse into the natural world and have a partial understanding of what’s going on out there. That just keeps me wanting to learn more.”

1950s

LEWIS SBRANA, 1956 Music Education, is enjoying retirement after 33 years teaching high school music. He is now on the other end of the spectrum, making music with the New Horizons Band of Sonoma County, in Santa Rosa, Calif.

JOHN CHERRY, 1959 Wildlife Management, retired in 1993; he was associate regional director for the National Park Service in San Francisco and spent 32 years with the U.S. Department of the Interior.

1960s

MICHAEL E. WALKER, 1962 Biological Sciences, is approaching the end of his real estate career in Sacramento, Calif. Michael lives on a two-acre property in Auburn, Calif., with his wife and two collies. During his recent visit to HSU in May 2010, he participated with the Tau Kappa Epsilon alumni group.

ROBERT ADAMS, 1964 Forestry, has retired several times and is now 12 years into a new career at Flight Safety International.

HARRY BARTLEY, 1964 History, has worked in his minor field as an applications engineer for the company Tektronix since graduation. Harry jokes that he is currently the only History major working at Tektronix. Computer Aided Drafting and Engineering have provided him a career path in teaching drafting classes at Marysville High School and providing training and support in computing and high technology.

SANFORD “SANDY” WILBUR, 1966 Wildlife, is celebrating 15 years of retirement after a 35-year career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is about to celebrate 50 years of marriage to fellow alum Sally Harris, whom he met in the dorms in 1959. He is currently in the process of completing the manuscript for his fifth book, a history of California as told by the California condor.

JAMES (JIM) BONDIMIN, 1966 Physical Education, retired from teaching at Red Bluff Union High School in June of 2003. He has six children and a grand total of six grandchildren. He is currently coaching American Legion baseball.

STEVE ASKAY, 1969 Wildlife, retired after teaching biology for 38 years in Ventura, Calif. He spends his free time surfing, fishing, walking his dogs and playing with his grandchildren. His wife, Cheryl Linnett (’70), is also retired and spends her free time with her horse and singing in her church choir.

1970s

CRAG BASHORE, 1970 Psychology and Sociology, recently retired with his wife, Debbie, and bought a home in Astoria, Ore. They say it’s quite a change after 35 years in the Palm Springs area, and are glad to be back “in the rain.”

CHARLES P. MEACHAM, 1970 Fisheries Biology, spent 50 years in Alaska as a commercial fisherman, seafood inspector for the U.S. Army and seafood processor for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. He is now living in Washington state with his wife, Charlene Heriot Meacham, (’90, Art), and has three children and three grandchildren.

1980s

PETER PEDROZA, 1970 Physical Education, retired after 35 years as an adapted physical education specialist. Peter lives on a comfortable three-and-a-half acre property in Monterey County with his wife of 32 years, Beatrice, who is a retired elementary school teacher. They have two children, Aaron and Abraham.

KATHY McPike, 1971 Business, spent 12 years in New Orleans before moving back to California nine years ago. She is the manager of strategic planning and training for the California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues.

MICHAEL O’BOYLE, 1971 Natural Resources, retired in 2010 after 20 years in the natural resources field as an animal control officer. He is living in Mendocino County with his wife of 37 years, Ray, and has four children and six grandchildren.

DARELLE R. SCOTT, 1971 Home Economics, after earning her bachelor’s degree at Humboldt State at age 40, she taught high school home economics in San Lorenzo, Calif. She then earned her master’s degree in educational leadership at age 59. When her husband had a job opportunity in Valley Forge, Pa., she enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania and earned a doctorate in human sexuality education at age 65.

ROBERT WILLIAMS, 1971 Physical Education, retired in Texas in 2008 and is living in San Diego after teaching for 36 years with Modesto City Schools. He is currently working in the life skills classroom (special education) at John Guyer High School in the Denton Independent School District as a classroom para-professional.

MARY ELLEN BOYNTON, 1974 and 1978 English, taught English and journalism at U.S. Department of Defense schools for 23 years in Germany, Bahrain and Japan. She retired in 2007 and returned to Humboldt County.

KATHY DUNN, 1974 Nursing, is currently working as the clinical nurse specialist at the Spinal Cord Injury Center with the Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System. Dunn also moderates a website for people with spinal cord injuries (SCI). She was inducted into SCI Hall of Fame in 2008 and awarded Clinical Nurse Specialist of the Year award in 2003.

ROBERT KLAMT, 1974 Fisheries Biology, worked 32 years for the North Coast Water Quality Control Board, the last eight months of which were spent as executive officer. He was mostly monitoring and assessing North Coast waters, and in the most recent years of his career, working with the timber industry on water quality issues. Robert retired in November of 2010.

JOHN S. WRIGHT, 1974 Journalism, is living in Kenmore, Wash., with his wife and two kids. He is the Latin America news editor for “Energy News Today,” and has recently published two books: “The Obama Haters” and “Life Without Oil.”

JEAN MCGURK, 1974 Psychology, has been a real estate agent since 1985 and lives in Stockton, Calif. Annually, she connects with a group of fellow HSU alumni and their families for a summertime camping—they enjoy these so much that the ladies have developed splinter groups for spring and fall reunions.

JOSE BERRIOS, 1975 Physical Education, has taught for 32 years in Victorville, Calif., which includes coaching football and wrestling. He led his 1987 team to victory during the California Interscholastic Federation State Wrestling Championships along with head coach, and fellow HSU alum, Sam Gallman (’71, Physical Education.)
Veronica Vega
From Bio Lab to Brewery

“I DON’T THINK ABOUT the story of how I became a brewer very often,” says Veronica Vega. “But I always had a feeling that I would do something awesome.”

Vega (B.S. Biology) didn’t grow up with aspirations to brew great beer—but that’s where she ended up. For the past five years, she has worked for Deschutes Brewery in Bend, Ore.

After changing her major from English to Biology and earning a bachelor’s degree at HSU, Vega landed a job working as a biology field technician for the National Park Service. “I was going from park to park,” she says. “It was exciting.”

But after spending time in Bend, Vega decided that was where she wanted to settle. Although odd jobs weren’t too hard to find, Vega had trouble finding a career near her new home. “I was about to give up,” she says. “In just one week, my life could have been drastically different. I feel extremely lucky things turned out the way they did.”

Vega believes it, she says. “In just one week, my life could have been drastically different. I feel extremely lucky things turned out the way they did.”

She ended up working at Deschutes in Bend, Ore., instead of working for the brewery, she could have found herself working the same week that I was hired at Deschutes.”

SHELLEY GARDNER, 1976, Art, moved to Oakland, Calif., in 1976 to attend graduate school at the California College of Arts and Crafts. She makes and exhibits sculpture primarily in the San Francisco Bay Area, and looks back fondly at her memories of HSU.

PATRICIA CARLON KUSHER, 1976 Teaching Credential and 1977 Environmental Education, retired in 2006 from 25 years of teaching elementary school. She now works seasonally for the United States Forest Service in El Dorado National Forest.

RICHARD OHNSMAN, 1976 Journalism, retired after 28 years as a public information officer for the Idaho State Police. Richard is now running True Light Photographics, a small photography and graphics business.

TIM HAMAKER, 1977 Fisheries Biology, has been on an assignment to Southern California since March 2010 as the environmental compliance manager for a 3.1 billion wind energy project near the Tehachapi-Mojave region of California.

LEE ANN LANNING, 1977 Psychology, has been working with the Eureka City Schools District for 24 years in various positions, including school psychologist, director of special education and elementary school principal. Now head of human resources and special education, she has recently been appointed interim supervisor for the Eureka City Schools Board of Education.

ROY W. LOWE, 1977 Wildlife Management, is currently project leader for the Oregon Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex. In 2005, he received the Refugeman of the Year Award from the National Wildlife Refuge System, and the Federal Land Manager of the Year Award from the U.S. Department of the Interior in 2006.

KEVIN TIGH, 1977 Business Administration, is a certified payroll professional and assists about 100 payroll departments as a client service representative. He has a green thumb and enjoys growing orchids, palm and baubea trees, cactuses and more. He reminisces about his days at HSU when he would help his friends with dendrology class, although as a business major he was never able to take a class himself. Tigh is a cancer survivor.

DUNCAN MCCUSKEY, 1978 Fisheries Biology, was in the Ecology Outdoor Group at HSU and has since continued volunteering his time in the community. He has generally volunteered about 400-450 hours per year. Among his many areas of service, Duncan has volunteered at the local, state and international level with Special Olympics and has volunteered with the Seabees sports for 17 years.


EUGENE TASHIMA, 1979 Sociology, graduated from University of California, Los Angeles, in 1985 with a master’s degree in Asian American studies. She has since been teaching full-time at Victor Valley College, where she served as head football coach from 1987-94.

1980s

JOHN ALVES, 1980 Wildlife Management, moved to Colorado after graduation and has been employed by the Colorado Division of Wildlife for 22 years. John is currently senior aquatic biologist responsible for fisheries management in southwest Colorado. He has been married to his wife, Yvonne, for 27 years, and has a 12-year-old daughter, Shannon.

JAMES FREEMAN, 1980 English, has taught language and literature at Bucks County Community College in Newtown, Pa., for 29 years. A collection of his stories, “Irish Wake: In Loving Memory of Us All” will be published in 2012.

CATHERYN HALVORSON RUDOLPH, 1980 Psychology, notes that it has been 30 years since she and her husband attended HSU. This year it is a special treat to have both daughters attending Humboldt State, who will be graduating in May, and Layla, who just started last August. Both are on the science track and enjoying all that Humboldt has to offer.

DAVE MAUSER, 1980 Wildlife Management, is a supervisory wildlife biologist and was named the National Wildlife Refuge System Employee of the Year. Mauser was recognized for his work in developing the Walking Wetland Program where wetlands are part of the crop rotation with agricultural lands.

JOHN MOTTOSM, 1980 Physics, has been an electronics engineer for 30 years in industrial, consumer and medical product development.

SAM STERLING, 1980 Botany, has worked as an adjunct professor of botany at various university of California, Humboldt State University and California Community College campuses, and as an adjunct professor of trade skills. He has also worked for San Francisco Public Library and as a volunteer interpreter for Native American material culture, and studied ethnobotany and flint knapping at various California regional and state parks, Indian museums and the National Park Service.

ERIC WIEGERS, 1980 Journalism, is a senior vice president of communications and local government affairs for the California Apartment Association in Sacramento, Calif. He has two kids who are both recent college graduates “Finally,”

LAURALEE WOODRUP, 1980 Psychology, entered HSU in 1976 with one goal in mind: to become a teacher. She married another infant, Khalil. She is now practicing as a licensed mental health practitioner at the Community Mental Health Center of Lancaster County in Lincolnton, N.C. With husband Nathan Woodruff, she is enjoying being grandparents of three, volunteering for disaster response with the American Red Cross and teaching yoga classes at Sheafell (HSU Business graduate and Lumberjack basketball player).

JUDITH LANGLEY, 1982 English, stayed in the area, because, “It is so beautiful”. The climate is perfect: Neither too hot nor cold. She currently stays in Medical-Surgical units and Pediatrics for many years, has been a Short Stay Unit nurse for the past dozen years. Paula and her husband, Michael, have three children: Mia, Gna and Jackson. Mia (HSU Communication graduate) married last fall, and she and Sheafell (HSU Business graduate and Lumberjack basketball player).

Bill Martin, 1983 Wildlife Management, is senior project manager at the U.S. Corporation, conducting environmental review, impact analysis and environmental permitting.

Campbell Ingram
Delta Conservancy’s First Director

CAMPBELL INGRAM (’91, Natural Resources Planning and Interpretation) is now the first director of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy.

The California legislature created the conservancy in 2010 to manage habitat restoration and economic development in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The area is the West Coast’s largest estuary and serves over 25 million people.

“The delta is a magical resource and an incredibly rich ecosystem, but there is a desperate need to get out and make real improvements,” Ingram says. “I am grounded in the delta, and I have a real sense of love for it. It’s not going to be easy, but I have a chance to help implement meaningful projects.”

Some of those projects include sustainable water delivery, balancing human and animal needs and hundreds of restoration efforts up and down the Central Valley.

The son of a military father, Ingram enrolled at Humboldt State while living with his family in Korea. Once in Arcata, he found his calling in Natural Resources Planning and Interpretation. He also met his wife, Kimberly.

When the two graduated, they traveled to Paraguay with the Peace Corps. Ingram later pursued environmental work from Texas to California, including projects in the delta region, working for the federal government, contracting with the military and later working with the nonprofit, Nature Conservancy.

Ingram spent several years in the Peace Corps. When he returned, he took a job with the Nature Conservancy. He says he has a deep love for the delta, and is passionate about making improvements.

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Uncovering the Hidden Signs of Alzheimer’s

TOM DORST, 1964 Math, is currently the business manager for the propulsion and power generation business unit of the Northern Grammar Corporation. Dorst continues to run when he can, participating in local races.

MICHAEL J. MORALES, 1984 Liberal Studies, joined the Peace Corps after graduation as an agro-forestry volunteer in the Philippines. He has been working for the National Park Service for the past 23 years and has spent the majority at Channel Islands National Park. He and his wife, lma, have raised their two children in Ventura, Calif. Their daughter Maya starts school at HSU in the fall semester.

JEFF SCHORI, 1984 Forestry, has been appointed as the new unit chief for Tehama-Glenn Unit of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Tehama County Fire Department.

PHILLIP W. KRAEMER, 1985 Business Administration, is currently living in Washington state and is a senior strategic account manager at WILD Flavors, Inc., and has over 25 years’ experience in the food science industry.

NANCY WEITZ, 1965 and 1968 Theatre Arts, went on to receive her doctorate in English from Ohio State University. She taught at various universities in the United States before moving to the United Kingdom in 1999. Wetz now runs her own company, Architella, which specializes in Internet strategy and online learning.

CHRIS BREY, 1987 Fisheries Biology, joined the Peace Corps after college as a fisheries volunteer in the Dominican Republic. He has worked as a fisheries biologist on the Bering Sea, and managed a salmon hatchery in Washington state. He has transitioned to environmental work in biotechnology industry and grew into a facilities management role, where he has been able to exercise his passion for sustainable business practices. He is married with two children and lives in Mountain View, Calif.

TERESA CHILDERS MATERA, 1988 Music, has been teaching elementary school music for the past five years in Alameda, Calif. She says she loves her job and is happy she finally gets to work in her field. Teresa lives in Mariposa, Calif., with her wife, Fran, and two teenage boys, Zach, 17, and Ben, 14.

LYNN ENEANEM PRETZEL, 1988 Journalism, has remained local and is a college counselor and executive assistant at St. Bernard’s Catholic School in Eureka. She previously worked for the Times Standard and still does freelance writing and photography. Lynn enjoys spending time with her kids, Adam and Amanda, and loves attending HSU football games.

IRENE GREG ESTRELLA, 1988 Wildlife Management, spent 20 years with the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, then decided he would have more success in positively impacting the environment by working in the younger city youth in Los Angeles. He says that he is trying to be a role model for them, as well as create a few little environmentalists. He has been teaching since he graduated from HSU.

JAMES R. HAMILTON, 1988 B.A., recently went into retirement after 11 years as development services director for the city of Redding, Calif. Before he became top planner for Redding’s construction industry, he worked six years in the international armed forces. He spent part of his service at Mather Air Force Base out of Sacramento as a flight controller, coordinating B-52s and Boeing KC-135 landings and departures on parallel runways. Hamilton plans to spend the early years of his retirement doing freelance work, taking art and agriculture classes at Shasta College, and spending time with his 16-year-old daughter, Stephanie.

KATHLEEN (SALINAS) BAKER, 1989 Psychology, recently relocated to Seattle to begin work as director of housing and residence life at Seattle University. She lives with her husband, James, and three children: Adam, 6; Sarah, 5; and Ethan, 19 months.

KRISTI HANSON, 1989 Journalism, is teaching biology, marine biology, health and environmental studies in an inner-city high school in downtown Los Angeles.

1990s

MARI BANCHER, 1990 Liberal Studies, is a science coordinator for Santa Clara Unified School District and a member of two, ages 4 and 13. She owns three bakeries with her pastry chef husband in the San Francisco Bay Area. Also, she owns a bakery in Fremont, Calif., and A Piece of Cake in Santa Clara, Calif.

LESLIE HENRY, 1990 Nursing, is a public health nurse with the California Tuberculosis Control Branch. She works as a nurse consultant in the multi-drug resistant tuberculosis treatment and the outbreak response team.

TOM SRAKEY JR., 1990 Psychology, has been priest-in-charge of St. Edward’s Episcopal Church in San Jose, Calif., since 2009.

JONATHAN TIMOTHY WRIGHT, 1990 Education, was married to Sue (Neal) Wright (’88), and is assistant principal and athletic director for the ‘10-‘11 academic year at Emmett High School in Emmett, Idaho.

CHRIS OLDSTONE, 1991 Marine Fisheries, is raising three girls and fishing commercially with the family business Shuel Associates, as its call, “Living the dream.”

JON DOLHIN, 1992 Biology, is currently the director of the New York Aquarium in New York City, and was recently promoted to vice president of the Wildlife Conservation Society.

AMY DURRELL, 1992 Recreation Administration, is a fifth grade teacher for the Lost is Unified School District and living in Cal, Calif., with her husband and two children, Shane, 9, and Marie, 2. She says she is looking forward to seeing her HSU family soon.

SANTINA PITCHER, 1992 Political Science, has worked at several universities throughout the years and has finally settled at University of California, Berkeley, as a career counselor. She has worked at Berkeley since 2010 with the College of Engineering and has served as a liaison to the Disabled Services Program.

JOANNE STRALBY, 1992 Philosophy, went on to graduate with a master’s of philosophy in poetry from Cambria University in 2003. She now works at the University of California Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism. Joanne continues to publish her poems in various publications, including The Paris Review, Red China Magazine, and The Denver Quarterly. She lives in Berkeley, Calif., with her husband and two kids.

JAMES C. CONROY, 1993 Social Science, served 21 years in the Army National Guard, and has retired to work as a paralegal agent with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in Eureka. He plans to retire in the coming year and move to Alaska.

PEGGY MOLLOY, 1993 Arts, currently has two featured programs on Humboldt’s radio station, “Happy Molloy Dance Class,” and “Serious Music Humboldt.” “Serious Music” features the work of HSU emeritus Music Professor Leonard Barlow.

DALE POOLEY, 1993 Environmental Science, married alum Jennifer Wilson in 1997, and after many years of working at Redwood State Park. They have two sons, ages 8 and 6. Poole has been in environmental consulting for 12 years after working in the park and recreation industry and in museum science education. Wilson is back with the California Department of Parks and Recreation after community relations work with utilities and agencies. Wilson is also program director of an outdoor science school.

PAUL RUNNELL, 1993 English, is living and working in Las Vegas, Nev., as group reservations manager at the Venetian Hotel and Palazzo Resort, which entails coordination of all aspects of hotel room reservations for group events, trade-shows, and conferences.

ELLEN THERESA HALL, 1994 Physical Science, is currently living in Portland, Ore., with her family where she teaches chemistry, physics and earth science.

RYAN SUNDBERG COMES FROM A tradition of public service. His uncle serves as chairman of the Trinidad Rancheria and for years, his grandmother shuttled between Sacramento and Washington, D.C., lobbying on behalf of Native Americans.

So it came as no surprise last year when Sunberg, who is of Yurok descent, decided to run for Humboldt County’s fifth district supervisor. The McKinleyville native won the seat in November on a campaign emphasizing job creation.

“It was brought up to give back,” says Sunberg (’02, Business Administration). Before taking office, he was an insurance broker and member of the tribal council for the Trinidad Rancheria, which operates a casino and harbor north of Arcata.

Sunberg recalls one particular experience at Humboldt State that significantly influenced his later success: an assignment from Professor Michael Thomas to write a business plan for a local business. Sunberg chose the Seaplace Restaurant in Trinidad, which had recently been acquired by the Rancheria and was struggling financially. His suggestions, he recalls, were just what the restaurant needed to get back on its feet.

“Sometimes you go to school and you don’t know whether you’re going to apply what you’ve learned in the real world,” Sunberg says. “For me, it was different.”

Years later, Sunberg used the skills he acquired as a business student to help the Rancheria secure more than $50 million in state and federal grants, fund several community improvement projects and create hundreds of local jobs.

“I think education was definitely a big piece of it,” Sunberg says. “I wouldn’t be in the position I am today without it.”

“Side by side scans of living brains show amyloid plaque in the patient with Alzheimer’s disease (left) and the absence of plaque in the control patient (right). The scans were made visible with Mathis and Klunk’s traceable dye.”
Marija Vojkovich
President Obama’s Pick for Fisheries Commission

MARIJA VOJKOVICH (’74, Fisheries Management) was recently appointed by President Obama as Commissioner in the Western and Central Pacific Fishery Management Commission. But her connection to the sea goes far beyond her work.

“I grew up on Catalina Island in a commercial fishing family,” she says. “I knew since I was in 8th grade that I wanted to work with fish.”

Vojkovich wanted to work as a fisher after high school, like her father and grandfather. But her father insisted she go to college first. Humboldt State had one of only two fisheries programs in the Northwest, and Vojkovich decided to enroll. In the classroom, she learned to conduct research and interpret data. But her father helped her take her education even further.

“He’d take me to public meetings that NMFS (the National Marine Fisheries Service) was having for fishermen so I could be an executive officer to the assistant vice chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force at the Pentagon.”

ROSANE CENISIOLANO, 1995 Psychology, is living in her hometown of San Diego, Calif. She has been married seven years with four kids (the youngest are twin boys). She works as an RN at Rady Children’s Hospital of San Diego in the outpatient psychiatry department for the past 10 years as a child and family psychotherapist.

HELEN YOLISA DULEY, 1995 Liberal Arts, received her master’s degree in education from the University of Hawaii at Hilo in 2003, and worked as a school counselor until 2010. Helen has since begun her doctoral studies at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, with a focus on indigenous knowledge practices concerning health and well-being. She is presently conducting research in the rural Eastern Cape and volunteering at the community pre-test.

KEVIN KILPATRICE, 1996 Sociology, has two young adult fantasy novels published, and has been invited to the Humboldt County Authors’ Festival in October 2011.

KATHY MOLEY, 1996 Geology, has been working out of McKinleyville, Calif., at the geology consulting firm Pacific Watered Associates for the past 15 years.

ELIZABETH P. HUNT, 1996 Recreation Leadership, married fellow alum Dennis Fishberry (’99 Environmental Science) in 2003, and is currently living in beautiful Bellingham, Wash., with her husband and their two cats.

ADAM BERNSTEIN, 1997 Industrial Technology, is currently employed as a designer and engineer for the Double Star Corporation, which manufactures firearms in Winchester, Ky.

ABBY HENDRICKS, 1997 Anthropology, is a published poet, former member of the San Francisco Bay Area Women’s Poet Society. She has two children, a dog and a hamster.

THE best part about my job is collaborating with our local, state and federal partners to achieve the department’s mission which, at the end of the day, is ultimately about serving the public.”
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if you do not want to receive information from our partners, you may do one of the following:

1. print, complete and fax this form to (707) 826-5148
2. submit this form online: alumni.humboldt.edu/privacy
3. fill out, sign, and send this form to us (consider making a copy for your records):

humboldt state university
department of alumni relations
hsu football home games

oct. 1 • 6 p.m. vs. dixie state college (homecoming & family weekend)

name (w/ middle initial)

address/zip

phone

email

signature

homecoming & family weekend

sept. 30 through oct. 2
humboldt state university
humboldt.edu/homecoming

hsu volleyball home games

oct. 19 • 7 p.m. vs. sonoma state
oct. 21 • 7 p.m. vs. cal state monterey bay
oct. 22 • 7 p.m. vs. cal state east bay
nov. 11 • 7 p.m. vs. cal poly pomona
nov. 12 • 7 p.m. vs. san francisco state

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DU CHENG (‘11, Biology) is a Cellular Molecular Biology exchange student from the Henan province of the People’s Republic of China. Since transferring to HSU, he has been recognized for his original research on tick-borne disease. In 2011, Cheng was named an HSU Outstanding Student. He is continuing his education through an M.D.-Ph.D. program at Stanford University and hopes to eventually become a medical researcher.

MAKING BREAKTHROUGHS
“Curiosity is where my passion comes from. The research project I’m doing is something original. After I do that it’s going to actually contribute to the scientific community.”

CULTURE SHOCK
“I found out that there was a Chinatown in Humboldt, but in the 1850s it was moved to San Francisco. I want to help bring diversity into this university. If you’ve never been to China, I can bring China to you.”

HELPING HAND
“I feel international students need a lot of help figuring things out and adjusting to American culture. Since I’ve been through it, I want other students to get through it and be successful, too. I like to help, even if it’s just picking up international students at the airport.”

TECH TOYS
“I like to take things apart and put them back together to see how they work. I like to come up with new ideas too. Anthony Baker helped me make an adapter that allows me to take high-quality photos through my microscope—on my iPhone!”

Humboldt is known for outdoor adventures. Even National Geographic Traveller has caught on, calling Arcata one of the next great adventure towns. HSU’s Center Activities gets students, staff, faculty and alumni into the outdoors with a host of classes and workshops.
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Valentina Midence—daughter of Stephanie Yanzer ('05) and Pablo Midence and a member of the HSU class of 2032.