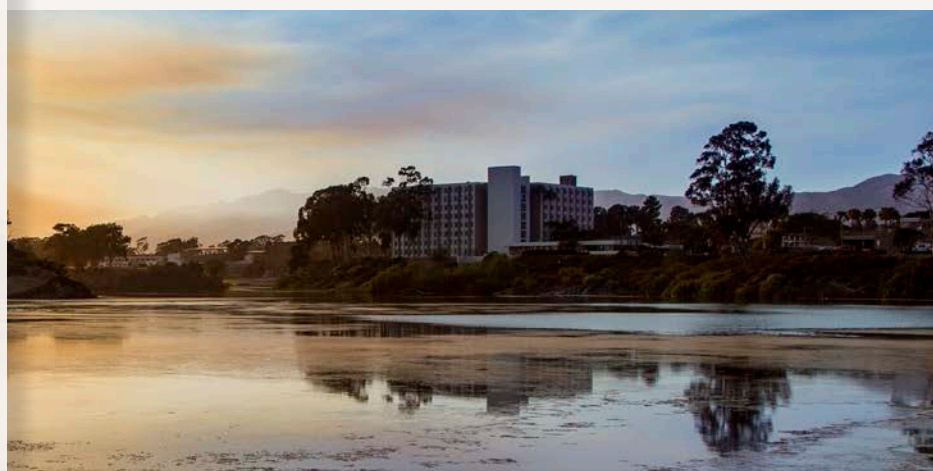


# CCS Notes

## 2016 Newsletter

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## A Message from the Interim Dean...

Now that classes are in full swing, Building 494 is humming! It was wonderful to see so many of our first-year students turn out for “Orientation Part 2,” hosted by CCS Student Advisors Julia Diamond and Sara Sterphone, and students in the various majors who already know the ropes. The CCS Student Council is sponsoring regular events to bring students together, including movie nights, game nights, and other programs.

The OLT is being used for a variety of musical and theater events, and *Spectrum*, the student-run literary journal, is underway. It’s been a real treat for me to pop in on the painters and to tour the Print Shop. Who *was* that blasting classic Sinatra one recent evening? I love it!

CCS had the great fortune to host three visitors to the College in



Interim Dean Kathy Foltz

Fall quarter. We collaborated with Arts & Lectures for *New Yorker* cover art editor Françoise Mouly, artist and author Maira Kalman, and landscape photographer Q.T. Luong to spend time in the College with students. The College will also sponsor Visiting Composers throughout the year. We are looking forward to even more events that bring together students from all majors, including a special UCSB-CCS Reads book club (stay tuned for details).

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed many parents and families to campus and to CCS for the Parents and Family Weekend, coinciding with our annual reception to launch CCS Science Week. Students who carried out research supported by the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) and other programs presented their posters, which remained on display in the CCS Gallery through the week. Several donors to the SURF program also attended, which allowed the faculty and staff, as well as the students they sponsored, the chance to thank them in person. I want to convey my personal gratitude to all of the donors to the SURF and the Traveling Undergraduate Research Fund (TURF) programs – it has a tremendous impact on students’ personal and professional development.

Looking down the road, we are getting organized for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CCS - watch for special announcements about this. We look forward to welcoming many CCS alums back to campus next year! I also am excited about CCS hosting high school students during campus visits this Spring. This will allow us to reach out to a richly diverse applicant pool. The College is partnering with other units on campus to provide opportunities for student visitors to learn more about the exciting opportunities at UCSB, including our wonderful, unique CCS.

On a more somber note, I would be remiss if I did not at least comment on how the Presidential Election has impacted the broader UCSB Community and CCS. There is no doubt that this was to be an historic election no matter how it turned out. My deep sadness is that in light of the results, so many students no longer feel safe, even on our beautiful campus. UCSB in general, and especially Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Margaret Klawunn, have held numerous events in an effort to give voice to student, staff and faculty concerns. In CCS, faculty and staff have discussed ways in which to support students who feel uncertain and even frightened. Still, it is a difficult time for many students. University of California President Napolitano and UCSB Chancellor Yang have reaffirmed the UC and UCSB campus commitment to inclusion, diversity and the equal opportunity to learn and explore. I want to reaffirm my personal commitment, as well as the College’s, to this mission.

As the daylight hours continue to decline and we experience yet again that amazing winter light on the local coastal range mountains at the beginning and end of each day, I want to wish everyone a peaceful holiday break and to encourage all of us to take time out to appreciate the many small wonders that occur in everyday life.

Looking forward to 2017,



# Hats off to the CCS Class of 2016



## 2016 CCS Commencement

The College of Creative Studies conferred degrees to 85 students at the 2016 Commencement Ceremony in Campbell Hall on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. As per tradition, CCS' Commencement was the first of UCSB's eight ceremonies over which Chancellor Henry Yang presided this past spring. CCS is UCSB's smallest college and its just under 400 students accounted for 1.5 percent of all UCSB graduates in 2016. CCS is small in size, but, as Chancellor Yang explained, "small is beautiful." The College had 19 percent [43-of-229] of UCSB's Regents Scholars, which significantly exceeds its share of campus. The creative originality of the College was evident with the attire that the graduates and Dean wore on stage. Some students took advantage of not being restricted to the traditional graduation garb, taking liberty with their outfits, while others opted for the full cap and gown. As usual, Dean Bruce Tiffney topped off his academic robes with his trademark purple, silver-starred wizard hat. A salute to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter, the hat symbolizes the College's out-of-the box thinking.

The 2016 ceremony was a truly special one. First, it was Dean Tiffney's final commencement as CCS Dean. This event marked the end of his 11-year tenure as the College's Dean. He will return to be a vital part of CCS and Earth Science faculty following his sabbatical this fall.

Dean Tiffney's final commencement speech followed Chancellor Yang's opening remarks. Over the past decade his speeches have characterized CCS by the pop culture—movies and television shows—of the day. He began this year's speech by stating why he always includes these references in his commencement addresses. He explained, "I see such evocations as the mythic voice of our times." Dean Tiffney went on to describe CCS as a place where people do not "fit into the expected slots." It is a place "for the odd-shaped pegs in a world of standard-shaped holes." His speech focused on togetherness, open-mindedness and how proud he is of the

graduates. He wrapped by saying, "Today we have chosen not only to believe in ourselves but in each other. Today there is not a man or woman in here who will stand alone."

Another extraordinary aspect of this year's ceremony was the alumni commencement speech given by Noble Laureate, and CCS Biology alumna ('83), Carol Greider. The Director of Molecular Biology and Genetics at John Hopkins University, Greider became UCSB's only Noble Laureate alum when she earned the 2009 Prize in Physiology or Medicine for elucidating the role of the enzyme telomerase in protecting the ends of chromosomes. This discovery greatly impacted our understanding of cell aging and organismal survival, and cancer. She shares the prize with her colleagues, Liz Blackburn and Jack Szostak.

Instead of "droning on and on" about how bright the graduates' futures are, Greider used a quote from Dr. Suess' *Oh the Places You'll Go*, the Chumbawamba line, "I get knocked down, but I get up again," and "CV of Failure" that was featured on NPR to tell a story about not giving up. The NPR story motivated Greider to compile her CV of Failure ►



Carol Greider, CCS Biology '86

because “our society encourages us to build up our CVs and resumes to show our success. But sometimes listing only the accomplishments blurs the reality of a much richer path.” Her CV included, “the schools that did not accept me, the many, many experiments that did not work, the papers that were not accepted [...] and the many grant rejections.” She gave three examples of how she did not let failures discourage her. Greider described that since her dyslexia resulted in low GRE scores, all but two graduate schools rejected her applications. She then mentioned when her lab made a mistake, she “was



Kuang Wei, CCS Physics '16

knocked down,” but then her motivation to “find out what went wrong” brought her back up again.

Her final example regarded writing grant proposals. “On October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the grant proposal I sent in 5 months before was to be discussed at a meeting of 20 of my peers,” said Greider. “At 5:15 AM on October 5<sup>th</sup>, I received the phone call from the Nobel Committee that I would share the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine [...] and three hours later] when my grant came up [...] it was deemed ‘not worthy for discussion.’ I never got that grant, but the consolation prize is I got to go to Stockholm that December.” People still questioned her abilities even on the day where she earned the highest honor her field can bestow.

She concluded by stating all the graduates already know “that when you get knocked down, you get up again,” but she hopes that by describing her stories she will have “rein-

*“I never got that grant, but the consolation prize is I got to go to Stockholm that December.”*

force[d] your desire to get back up quickly.” Following her speech, Chancellor Yang asserted it was one of the most inspiring given at UCSB in recent memory. Chancellor Yang also awarded Greider with UCSB’s highest academic honor, the Santa Barbara Medal.

Three student speakers were then invited to the podium to give a unique perspective of the viewpoints of current CCS students. The speakers included Carolyn Kirwan (CCS Biology), Joseph Mann (CCS Chemistry and Biochemistry) and Alyssa Rogers (CCS Art). It is clear through the students’

addresses that CCS is built upon a strong sense of community. Through research, a motivated faculty and student body, and its small size, the College offers opportunities to students that are unparalleled at other tier-1 research institutions.



Carolyn Kirwan, CCS Biology '16

Kirwan spent much of her time in college volunteering with midwives and this fall began in Yale’s certified nurse-midwifery Master’s degree program. She started her address by explaining why CCS is a special experience for its students. She said, it is “a community of crazy, passionate, intelligent, and motivated individuals [...] that] were thrown together in a very challenging and exciting program and told to go create.” She illustrated how her goal to be a midwife would not have been possible without the supportive encouragement of the College’s faculty and the openness of the curriculum. When she described her plans to her academic advisor, Kathy Foltz, “not only was [Kathy] extremely interested in [...] what I wanted to do, she was completely supportive. She told me honestly that she had never had someone try to do this before, so she encouraged me to go find my own path.” Despite the fact that Kirwan’s interests were outside of the typical scope of the UCSB and CCS curriculum, the College allowed her to pursue her goals “by encouraging my passions, and by helping me seek out my own opportunities to study in my field.” She continued, “The school saw that I had a [...] dream and, far from telling me it wasn’t possible, actively helped me pursue it.”

Mann, a Regents and Goldwater Scholar, spoke next. He furthered Kirwan’s sentiment by explaining, “We are a ►



Joseph Mann, CCS Chemistry and Biochemistry '16



collection of students that fill every single classroom in our funky colored sanctuary until the wee hours of the morning. We enjoy being there.” CCS promotes the academic growth of its students by “challenging us to think like scientists [...and] understand[ing] the importance of undergraduate research and provid[ing] all the personal resources to help us mature within its complexity.” He concluded the College



Alyssa Rogers, CCS Art '16

prepares its students to “push the frontier of science. Our commitment to excellence, our insatiable desire to learn, and our willingness to take a risk on the next adventure [...] has created the most [...] honored and respected cohort of students on campus.” Mann graduated with the highest academic honors and is now supported by the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship while earning a PhD in Materials Science and Engineering at Stanford.

Rogers, the final student speaker, served as the arts editor for the UCSB literary magazines *Into the Teeth of the Wind* and *Spectrum* during her four years in CCS. Her address focused on the idea of genius. The Art graduate came into UCSB fixated on the idea of being a genius. But, as she then stated, “I have met way too many brilliant people at UCSB” to focus on that. “I have seen paintings by friends that will make it into history books, writing that made a whole room speechless, performances that brought visible physically manifested joy to a crowd, and video work that redefined a community.” Rogers said that CCS students’ hard work and persistence “prove that being a genius is overrated, and more than that—being a genius is a myth.”

A CCS Commencement tradition is to feature musical pieces composed by graduating seniors. This year, Jake Goldman, Andrew Manos and Cindy Shen (with Feng-Ying Chang) performed “Stockholm Syndrome”, “Piano Etude No. 1” and “Duet”, respectively.

The final phase before the Dean individually called the name and major of each graduate was for CCS to hand out the Commencement Awards. Chancellor Yang awarded Kuang Wei (CCS Physics) the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research – the highest academic honor award given to undergraduates at UCSB – for his research in experimental single-molecule biophysics and data-driven neuroscience. This year the CCS Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) honored five students with the Commendation of Excellence Awards. Dean Tiffney handed out the awards on behalf of the FEC to: Timothy Aikin (CCS Biology), Claire-Alice Hébert (CCS Physics), Joseph Mann, Ethan Nadler (CCS Physics) and Mark Rychnovsky (CCS Mathematics). Each of these students exemplified the true meaning of CCS by not only excelling in the classroom, but also for dedicating their time in CCS to research. They were each committed to creating original work as undergraduates and are now attending top graduate schools.

The event concluded with Chancellor Yang’s closing remarks about Dean Tiffney’s tenure as CCS Dean. Chancellor Yang did not talk about his many accomplishments, but rather his “style and passion for the students of CCS.” During his 11 years as Dean, Tiffney devoted many countless hours to the success and recognition of the College.

For more information about Commencement, and to see a full recording of the proceedings, please visit [www.ccs.ucsb.edu/news-events/commencement](http://www.ccs.ucsb.edu/news-events/commencement). ■

## CCS Students

### The Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

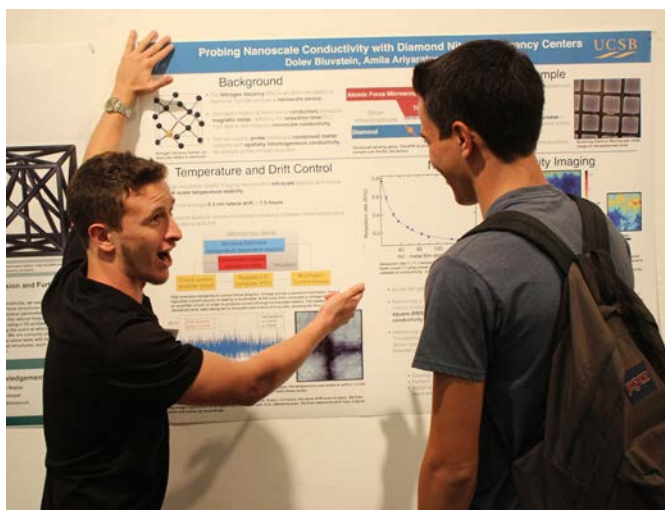
The College of Creative Studies’ Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program experienced another outstanding year in 2016. For the third year in a row, a record number of CCS students received SURF awards. The program has been a quintessential aspect of the CCS experience since its inception in 1985. A total of 458 math and science students have worked alongside UCSB faculty and graduate students on groundbreaking research in the program’s 31 years.

One of the preeminent reasons why CCS earns the moniker the “graduate school for undergraduates,” the SURF program provides donor-funded stipends to students, giving them the opportunity to experience graduate-type research in the summer. Duncan Proctor, a fourth-year CCS Biology student, spent his summer researching peripheral neuropathy under his advisor Dr. Stuart Feinstein. He explained, “The SURF program is instrumental in helping undergraduates do research on or near campus by allowing them funding for housing and the bare necessities that otherwise would be unobtainable.” SURF supports each

fellow to work in the lab full-time for the entirety of the program (up to 12 weeks). According to Proctor, since the research is “uninterrupted by classes, internships or other employment, it is a great way to maximize research productivity.”

The program has grown significantly over the past five years due to the generosity and support of CCS alumni, family and friends. The number of recipients has approximately doubled during this time, a direct result of more interest from the College’s supporters. As an example, the Francesc Roig SURF, created in honor of Professor Francesc Roig, annually supports SURFers. Since 2011, it has continued to be funded by friends and alumni of CCS. Each participant in SURF recognizes the magnanimity of these donors. Fourth year CCS Physics student and Roig Fellow XinPing Qian stated, “I am very grateful to the donors who provided me the resources for this fellowship. Without their support, my project would not have been possible.”

Each year the summer fellowship culminates in the CCS ►



Dolev Bluvstein (left) and Nick Rommelfanger (right) at the 2016 CCS Science Week Reception

Science Week reception. The 2016 reception was a huge success and was attended by over 120 people. During this annual event, SURF participants have the opportunity to not only discuss their research with students, faculty, donors, friends, family, and staff, but also learn about their classmates' work. Qian recounted, "The reception was a wonderful opportunity to share what I learned from my project and discuss with others the findings of my project. It was also interesting to learn about other people's projects." Many of the donors who make SURF possible

attended the reception. Daniel Spokoyny, a fourth year Computing major and Axline Fellow, described how it felt to meet with the person responsible for making his summer research possible. "It was really cool because my donor has a physics background and was familiar with some of the technical aspects of my research. We had a delightful conversation and he was very into my research. I got the sense that he thought his donation to my research was worthwhile, which is awesome." Spokoyny looks forward to letting Mr. Axline know when his research is published.



2016 CCS Science Week Reception

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

## CCS Student Council: One Year Later

In 2015, the College created its first ever Student Council. Although the CCS Student Council is still in its early stages of development, the group has made significant progress in establishing itself as an important entity that enhances the CCS community and brings students together. The Council is now a registered campus organization in the Office of Student Life and last spring they held their first elections for student positions. Eight students, one from each of major, were elected as representatives. Additionally, the CCS Senator, elected annually through Associated Students, sits on the council.

Over the last year, the group made some modifications to its structure, as well as its overarching goals. Originally, the Council focused on developing strategies to become an incorporated entity of Associated Students. Now, the organization is content with their status as a campus club. They have decided to focus on ways to strengthen the CCS community by creating programs and events to help students meet new people, take a break from their busy schedules, and simply have fun. Two Student Council representatives, Gabby Najm (Biology) and Ellia La (Biochemistry/Chemistry), took part in a Q&A to discuss the main objectives of the Student Council and the exciting new programs they are currently working on.

*"I would say the main purpose is to get students to interact with each other. [...] We also want to bridge the gap between students and faculty as much as possible."*

**What is the main purpose of the Student Council? What are some of its goals and tasks?**

**Gabby:** I would say the main purpose is to get students to interact with each other. Sometimes in CCS, students are isolated in their majors. There is not always an opportunity to mix with other people so we want to provide enrichment opportunities for them. For example, we want to give students a break to have fun at

our movie nights or board game nights, and we're trying to plan a yoga night during finals week. We also want to bridge the gap between students and faculty as much as possible, and we hope to get a good understanding of what the general population of CCS wants.

**Ellia:** The main goal is to bring all the different majors together, whether that's with social events or more informative workshops. We want to be able to have a voice for the students because it can be difficult for some of us to voice concerns to faculty and administrators directly. I think the best way to describe the council's role would be calling it 'a liaison between students and faculty.' ►

### Why did you decide to get involved with the Council?

**Gabby:** I thought it would be a really fun opportunity for me to give back to the College because my experience here has been awesome. People on the council saw the need to bridge people between different years in CCS. Our main purpose was to get people together, and that greatly interested me.

**Ellia:** I got involved because I was in ASB in high school. I'm not affiliated with UCSB Associated Students, and the politics of AS are a little too complicated for me. So I think this is a great way for me to channel the interest I had in ASB. I'm happy to be doing something chemistry related, while incorporating fun things like movie nights into my daily life.

### Looking ahead to the future, where do you see the Council going?

**Gabby:** Hopefully we can become more established and get more annual events going. We want to set up an event schedule for each year and establish a legacy for certain programs. We want to do little things that help CCS come together.

**Ellia:** In the future, I want student council to be a resource that everyone can take advantage of. Whether that's academic, like research, or other events to relieve stress. I want students to know that our council is available for everybody. It has not been exposed to everyone in every group of CCS yet, so that's one thing I would like to see change.

### What do you like about being a part of this Council?

**Gabby:** It's fun! I get to hang out with a bunch of people who have the same goals as me and care about this college as much I do. And I've gotten to meet so many new people in CCS that I wouldn't have otherwise.

**Ellia:** I like that I can see my ideas and thoughts become an action pretty fast. With school, I feel like if I have an idea for research, for example, it takes a while to develop. The council is a creative outlet for me. It's a way to make something and cause direct change.

### Any current projects going on that you're excited about? What are some of the projects/things the council is currently doing?

**Gabby:** Something exciting would definitely be our idea of an Art Week in spring that we're trying to do. The CCS students in the arts or humanities majors are lower in number, and we want to showcase them in a way similar to SURF. We want to showcase music composition, painting, book arts, literature. The students within these majors are looking to hold workshops. They've talked about doing mini concerts and sound-mixing sessions so they can show people how music composition majors do their work. We might do a painting session in the gallery to get people together, and the writing & literature majors might have a slam poetry night or a writing workshop. And at the end we would have people's work showcased in the gallery.

**Ellia:** We are currently pursuing a collaboration with CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services). We want to recruit students in CCS to have a focus group with the CAPS representatives to better inform the needs of the students. We ultimately want to have CAPS as a resource in the CCS building. We want to emphasize the importance of mental health on our campus, especially since CCS students pile a lot on their plates. We're looking to have a CAPS counselor in the CCS building maybe once a week or biweekly for students to come talk to. ■

*"I want the student council to be a resource that everyone can take advantage of."*

## New Programs: TURF and Transdisciplinary Seminar Series

The College of Creative Studies has introduced two more programs to boost the creative thought of its students! This past year, CCS set up the Travelling Undergraduate Research Fellowship (TURF) program and the Transdisciplinary Fund seminars.

The goal of the TURF program is to enable students to pursue their creative interests by providing them with the opportunity to attend conferences or workshops, present their work, partake in residency programs, or engage in other educational opportunities across the country and around the world. Seven students were awarded funds in the program's inaugural year. The activities ranged from attendance of the Northern Pacific Science Organization meeting to a workshop hosted by

Stanford's Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics. Many of these students would not have been able to go on these trips without the help of TURF. Stephanie Taylor, a third year CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry student, who attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Chemistry Conference through TURF, explained, "A few months before the award was announced, I found out about the conference and I really wanted to go. But it was just too expensive, so I couldn't go." She continued by saying she was "so happy" after the program was announced and she "applied immediately." At the three-day conference, Taylor was able to meet and go to workshops and seminars with leaders from across the Green Chemistry industry. None of this would have been possible without TURF. (continues on page 9) ►



# CCS Students: By the Numbers

## Students in each major for the 2016-2017 academic year:

- 31 Art students
- 71 Biology students
- 54 Chem/Biochem students
- 39 Computing students
- 66 Math students
- 26 Music Composition students
- 86 Physics students
- 26 Writing and Lit. students
  
- 8 Students are currently double majoring within the College.

The number of students enrolled in Fall 2016 was **385**. CCS officially graduated **91** students by the end of the 2015-2016 academic year.

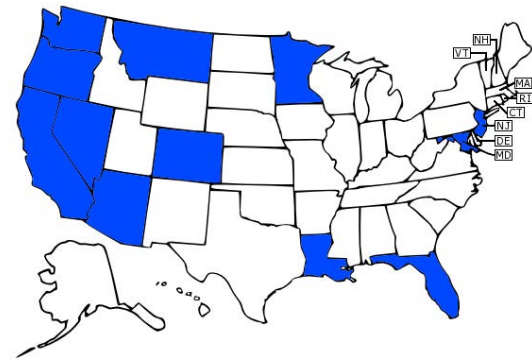
11 Members of the current student body also are **earning majors** in other colleges in the following subjects:

- Psychology
- Sociology
- Environmental Studies
- Film and Media Studies
- Music Performance

Most students enter the College as first years, but **9%** enter as second years and **3%** transfer in during their third year or later.



CCS is currently hosting **18 international students**: **16** from **China**, and one each from **Canada** and **South Korea**.



The majority of CCS students are from **California**, but **18%** are **out of state**, including residents of **Arizona, Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington**.



2016 All College Photo

## A few historical facts about the College:

CCS moves from its original building to its current location - building #494.

1985

After two years of planning, CCS welcomes its 1st class of Computer Scientists.

1995

CCS gets a new paint job - morphing from dull brown to its current red, green and yellow paint scheme.

2009

CCS students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends celebrate the College's 50th Anniversary!

1975

Seven students participate in the first year of the SURF program.

1994

The Drama Department donates the Old Little Theater to CCS.

2003

CCS Alumna Carol Greider becomes UCSB's first alumni to win a Nobel Prize.

2017



The Transdisciplinary Fund was established through a generous gift from David Watson ('99 CCS Alum) and Vinitha Menon Watson ('99 UCSB Alum). The Fund supports CCS' efforts to increase cross-discipline collaboration and exposure to transdisciplinary thought with short visits by scholars or practitioners working at the intersection of two or more disciplines. Activities are open to all CCS students as well as undergraduate and graduate students and faculty from across campus.

The inaugural CCS Transdisciplinary Seminar Series featuring ocean engineer and artist Jane Chang Mi was a great success. The May 2016 activities included showing sections of, and discussing, her film, "The B-sides." Mi gave a special presentation in Prof. Valentine's *Introduction to Oceanography* course. The **Transdisciplinary Plenary Lecture** by Mi explored ways to express our contemporary relationship to nature and to each

other. Utilizing art, she augments her science and engineering background to work through these multi-layered and complex subjects, finding her work less constrained by linguistic signifiers and enabling communication across cultures and barriers, and therefore, permitting contact with a greater community on a level of global and human experience. Mi also offered two workshops to students. In **Exploring Bioplastics**, students created eco-friendly, biodegradable plastics and investigated their properties and uses. In **3D Digital Modeling**, held in the UCSB Library, participants used photogrammetric software to create three-dimensional content from still images in three stages using their cellphones. The related discussion covered how the images could become artwork and/or how they might be used in the service of science. ■

## Alumni Profile

### Roy Fowler: From CCS Art to New York City

Growing up in Santa Barbara, California, Roy Fowler, CCS Art Class of 1976, became fascinated by, and built a strong connection with, the ocean. Although Fowler has lived in New York for many years, his California roots are still evident in his artwork. Over the years, the focus of Roy's paintings been abstraction in nature and landscape. One of his favorite subjects is the ocean, which is evident in his current gallery exhibition at Fort Gansevoort. Titled *New Wave*, Fowler's exhibit features six watercolors, 6 medium sized oil paintings, and four 6' x 8' paintings. It fills all three of the Fort Gansevoort gallery's floors. This exhibit of abstract waves brings the semblance of the ocean to one of New York City's hottest new galleries within the heart of the revitalized Meatpacking District.

Fowler believes color in a painting triggers memory. "Each painting in the show is painted with a different blue pigment to create a variety of experience. I bought different brands of paint to find the brand with the most vibrant color, and used it without mixing it", explained Fowler. He continued by saying this is important because "color is responsible for creating a painting's impact."



Roy Fowler, CCS Art '76

Fowler's exhibit is more than just his paintings. The CCS alum explained, "There's a tradition of artists collaborating to include dance, poetry and music into gallery exhibitions. The Fort Gansevoort owner, Adam Shopkorn, suggested that we offer the gallery to anyone that I would like to bring in for an event." To this end, Roy and Adam scheduled a program that runs concurrently with the show. This includes author William Finnegan reading an excerpt of his book, *Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life*, a benefit for the Montauk Ocean Institute, a staging of a passage of Virginia Woolf's *The Waves*, two performances of *Rue Surf* by dancer Molissa Fenley and poet Bob Holman, and many more.

Fowler credits CCS with enabling and pushing him to pursue a career as a professional painter. He believes the most ▶



Fort Gansevoort Gallery, 1st Floor

valuable aspect of his CCS education was being able to see, in person, many influential artists. “I enjoyed the diversity of the guest lecturers,” said Fowler. “They included Buckminster Fuller, Robert Irwin, Jacques D’Amboise, Charles Garabedian, and other artists from New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco who taught seminars and gave slideshows and lectures. That made the College really valuable and opened up avenues of creativity for me.”

*“I enjoyed the diversity of the guest lecturers. That made the College really valuable and opened up avenues of escape for me.”*



Fort Gansevoort Gallery, 3rd Floor

Upon his graduation from CCS in 1976, Fowler made the decision to move across the country to what was then the center of the art world, New York City. He has lived in the same studio in Tribeca ever since. Fowler attributes this decision to artist Paul Georges, whom he met while Georges was guest lecturing at CCS. “He told me about the painting scene in New York and I thought it would be a really interesting place to go,” said Fowler. “You can study artists while you are in school, but you only know them through magazines and books. It was a valuable idea to go meet the

actual people and visit their studios.”

Fowler’s love of the outdoors goes well beyond the canvas. As an avid distance runner, he has run two marathons, two 60-kilometer (37.2 mile) races, and one

50-mile race. Most recently, after six months of training, he completed the Pine to Palm 100-mile run in 32 hours. Fowler was the oldest competitor to finish the race, which traversed 20,000 feet of elevation gain through the moun-

tains of Southern Oregon. When asked what drew him to such a challenge, he responded by saying that after he completed the Red Rock 50-mile in Santa Barbara he thought, “I’m on a roll, and it’s now or never, so I may as well try for a hundred [mile run].” He continued by saying “if you do the training, you will have the confidence that you will be able to complete the task.”

Fowler believes his plant-based diet helped him to achieve his physical milestones. “I really credit [the run] on eating a plant-based diet that emphasizes eating mostly fruit,” Fowler described. “I lost weight and felt light on my feet. It gave me the energy and health to run.” Since he was visiting Santa Barbara while he was training, Fowler was able to see many of the Central Coast’s beautiful trails and scenery

while running up to eight hours a day. “On the weekends, I would run 20-30 miles on Saturday and then another 15-20 on Sunday,” said Fowler. “It was really great to know that I would be up in the mountains for an eight-hour stretch.” Often he would not see another person for many miles and it would just be him and the brilliant landscape.

His time in CCS, as well as his love for the outdoors, helped accelerate Fowler’s career to the point where it is now. To this day, he is still motivated to share his experience of the outdoors through painting. ■

## CCS Writing Competition Prizes & Awards

Every year, the College acknowledges and rewards students for their original literary works. Two of the CCS’ notable prizes include the Brancart Fiction and Richardson Poetry Prizes. These awards 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). Established in memory of their grandmothers, Reine Brancart and Henrietta Wing Richardson, this competition fosters the CCS Writing and Literature program and encourages

young writers to continue pursuing their passion for writing.

This year the Brancart Fiction Award went to Hannah Atkinson (CCS Literature ’16) for her piece “Aftermath.” The Richardson Poetry Prize was awarded to Korrin Alpers (CCS Literature ’16) for her poem “For Six Months.”

Please see the next page for excerpts from the two winning pieces. The full list of winners and their works are available at:

[www.ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity/awards-and-prizes](http://www.ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity/awards-and-prizes)



# Excerpts from CCS Writing Competition Winning Entries

## Aftermath

By Hannah Atkinson

Absolutely nothing has changed. Anne's keeping it secret in the way Anne has, where she says very mildly that it's not worth mentioning yet, but there's a kind of steel behind it: that her mom knows but no one will tell her dad. She said it sitting together on the front steps of the high school, the awful stained concrete ones which are cold right through Ellie's jeans and make her fidget. Anne sat calm and still as a rock.

...Ellie wonders about the secret gossip sometimes when she's hanging out with Anne. She doesn't know how she telegraphs it, but sometimes Anne looks at her kinda sideways like Ellie is failing some kind of social test with how much she's talking or not talking about it. She doesn't know which it is, or how to up her grade. There's no manual on this.

## For Six Months

By Korrin Alpers

it is bad-bad and hard  
and mean. Your mother whispers  
on the telephone to her mother, your sister  
watches Fox news even though it's not allowed, sees planes like  
your brother's video games. And someone is losing,  
crashing –and you better pray  
it's not Dad.

So when that black car drives down your street and two men  
–one holding a Bible, one  
fixing a crooked medal–walk towards your home, don't  
be sad when they knock on your neighbor's door, don't  
be sad when your mother breathes, *thank God*.

For the rest of “Aftermath” and to read more winning pieces, go to:  
[www.ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity/awards-and-prizes](http://www.ccs.ucsb.edu/creative-activity/awards-and-prizes)

## Tributes to Dr. Bruce Tiffney, CCS Dean 2005-2016



“The first time I interacted with him I was struck by how he was the perfect example of a CCS teacher. Everything about CCS, everything that made the college what it was, could be summarized by that one guy with the funny beard.”

“...I have so much respect for Bruce and for him to speak [the] words to me, to let me know that I wasn't a failure after all, will have a greater impact on my life than he will ever know.”

“One time I shook Bruce Tiffney's hand. It was one of the highlights of my undergraduate career.”



## The Other Side of Ömer Egecioğlu

Ömer Egecioğlu, a native of Turkey, joined the UCSB faculty in 1985. Since founding the College of Creative Studies' Computer Science program in 1994, he has split his time between both the Computer Science department and CCS. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey. Following his move stateside in 1978 to attend graduate school at the University of Minnesota for Computer Science and Mathematics, Ömer ventured to California and earned a PhD from UCSD in Mathematics in 1984.

We were able to sit down with him to learn about his experiences with CCS and the musical side of him that many – if not most – of his students and colleagues probably do not know.

working with Peter Cappello, Murat Karaorman and Provost Bill Ashby, we introduced our first computer science students in 1994. That is how this whole thing started. In the almost 25 years of the program, we have had many interesting and very smart students. Now called 'Computing,' it is the 8<sup>th</sup> of the CCS programs, which used to be a CCS 'emphasis.' It is healthier than ever before and doing extremely well. The tremendous demand for computing makes our applicant pool very wide.

### How has the program changed since its inception in 1994?

In my opinion, it has changed for the better. For one thing, the campus showed its appreciation by expanding the major's faculty, specifically hiring Phill Conrad. Also because now younger kids

are exposed to computing related activities and computer programming much earlier in life. So their interests have developed and by the time they hear of CCS they have already established an understanding of, and enthusiasm for, computing. This allows us to get a much wider and more comprehensive group of potential students. I was looking at my files in the early 90's, when I used to make up a Computer Science exam as an additional exam for high school students. In those years we extended offers to the students who performed well on the test.



Ömer Egecioğlu, CCS Computing

### Tell us about the beginning of the CCS Computing Program.

Well, it all started back in 1992 when Roger Wood, who was a professor of Computer Engineering, asked me if I would be interested in working with the brilliant students in CCS. After I agreed, Roger and Adrian Wenner, the Dean of CCS at the time (editor's note: Wenner was the Provost of CCS—the Provost's responsibilities transferred to the position of Dean in 2006) and I discussed the possibilities. We came to the conclusion that it would be a good fit and so I got to work on setting up the major in the College. After two years of building the curriculum and

### So back then you had to actively look to bring people into the program?

Yes, that is correct. Back then the dedicated CCS math faculty member Charles Ryavec was giving exams to California high school students to search for quality applicants. I ended up doing the same thing for my program. That was the only way to get good students back then. Now it is entirely word of mouth. People know how good we are and how fantastic a place CCS is. The only type of networking we do now is to invite students to come and see for themselves, to come and visit us. Once they come sit in on a few lectures, talk to the current students, and check out our campus, they get hooked on the collegial atmosphere of the CCS. ►



### **What is the next step for the program?**

We are lucky that the program is stable and increasing – but not much! The next step will be to extend our course offerings and coordinate with the other programs in the College. Right now it is difficult for students in the other majors to take Computing classes. We are looking at ways to make this easier. As it is, computer science has become increasingly universal, everybody uses it, and so we have to be able to serve everybody else in the College, as well as our cognate department in the College of Engineering. Eventually, we would like to cater, at least the basics, to everybody in CCS.

### **What do you enjoy most about being on faculty at CCS?**

I enjoy being around the students – they are amazing. You know, we have our annual mid-residency reviews where the students show off what they have been doing for the last few years. These presentations are always incredible and blow my mind. With just a little bit of guidance, CCS students can do wonderful things. They aren't here to just get an 'A' or 'B', they just really want to learn and understand concepts and start contributing. This is where creativity comes in. The faculty personally know and advise each student individually. The students are very capable and know what they are doing. It is the intimate atmosphere of the College and the advising process that makes all the difference. And did I mention that the students are all so bright?

### **How did you get into the field of Computer Science?**

Although I have been working in Computer Science, I actually come from a math background and have my PhD in mathematics. When I started my graduate studies at the University of Minnesota, I started studying both math and computer science. I didn't realize that the likelihood of someone getting two PhDs was/is very remote – it is just too difficult to do. When I arrived at UC San Diego, the professors told me I had to choose between the two subjects. I chose math, but I focused on the computer applications of it. The kind of work I do is between Math and Computer Science.

*"It is the intimate atmosphere of the College and the advising process that makes all the difference."*

### **In addition to CCS, you also have an interest in musical history. Tell us about that.**

I started researching topics in classical music back in the early 2000's. I guess it all started when I set out on writing the definitive book on Franz Liszt's 1847 visit to Constantinople (Istanbul), which, by the way, I have yet to finish. While I was in the process of doing research and collecting documents, often I got distracted with something new. I would read an interesting fact, which I would be compelled to follow. So I would put the whole project on the back burner while I branched out and researched the new topic. For example, while conducting research on Franz Liszt in an Istanbul library I came across this article about J. Strauss and a piece of music in the archives dedicated to an Ottoman sultan. The article talked about letters written, in French, back-and-forth between Strauss and the Ottoman palace. But Johann Strauss was from Vienna, so it shouldn't

have been written in French, I thought. Putting together all of the pieces became like detective work. I just had to write about this because it was so interesting and had so many moving parts. That particular J. Strauss turned out to be the Parisian musician Isaac Strauss, who used the name Jules Strauss! I ended up writing a whole book on the various Strausses and the pieces of music they dedicated to the Ottoman dynasty.

### **How do you normally pick the subjects you write about?**

Typically I try to find a bit that interests me. It is normally either something not known enough or something not known correctly. It could be the story of the Italian sopranists or the bogus ring that Beethoven received from the king of Prussia or how Felix Mendelssohn accompanied a singing Queen Victoria at the Buckingham Palace, or how Leonardo Vinci (without the 'da') the composer of over thirty operas died by poisoned chocolate. I research the topic, which, by the way, is certainly easier now because some things you can immediately look up on the Internet. But when it comes down to it you still have to do real in-person research, talk to people, dig up documents, do translations and connect the dots. Not everything you want is on the Internet and what's worse, what is there isn't always correct. So I have found that it is still important to actually go down to the primary sources to do reliable research. I suppose this comes from my science education.

### **You also write about opera, right?**

Yes, that is correct. I have always enjoyed the opera and so I started writing reviews of various works. Most of them, of course, were in Los Angeles because that is what is close to us. Whenever there was an interesting opera I would watch it and write about it. I have written about interesting opera houses as well, like the ones in Oslo, São Paulo, Göteborg, Drottningholm, and even the Teatro Amazonas in Manaus, which appears in the cult movie *Fitzcarraldo*. I have also had the opportunity to interview a number of fairly well known composers, opera directors and singers.

### **How did you get started interviewing these musicians? Was it based on your reviews?**

Yes, and I think they could tell I was really interested. Normally, it is awfully difficult to reach these people as their time is really valuable, so it is hard to get them to commit. I have been very lucky to have met the Mexican-American composer Daniel Catán. He turned out to be a very nice person with a family history going back to Istanbul and we became friends. I interviewed him and he invited me to his premieres, like *Il Postino* with Plácido Domingo. This was the segue into the whole thing. Then I interviewed Kent Nagano, John Neschling, Verónica Villarroel, Angela Meade and Jake Heggie among others.

### **Where do these articles appear?**

Some of them get published in professional journals. ►

These works are quite technical and they get peer-reviewed. But for the most part they appear in magazines, mostly opera-ballet-musicology focused publications printed in Turkey. They are written in English, Turkish or sometimes both. It is curious that I have an article that appeared in Romanian.

### Is there anything that stands out about the musicians that you have interviewed?

What I am most impressed with is when I talk to them they are extremely gracious and are overall friendly people. It is a common sentiment that these high-powered artists have attitude problems, but my interactions with them have always been quite pleasant. It makes the interviews very enjoyable for me to do.

### Are there any parallels between your science background and your music research?

Well, the fact that I try to be really meticulous when it comes down to writing, definitely helps me publish articles easily, with very little criticism and editorial interference. Since I come from a science background, to me, anything I write has to be backed by a proof of sorts – why something is what I say it is. Of course, writing music history does not exactly work this way. Nevertheless, whenever I give something that is definite (a date or statement), I try and back it up by a reliable reference. This makes my writing seem heavy or dense – if not boring. But I have neither the aspiration nor the ability to write literature; I just try to give information about something, albeit without using colorful statements. I focus on what is, rather than the fluff. So my writings are a bit didactic sounding.

Here is the thing; most people think that you have to lock into a particular way of looking at things, the scientific way or the artistic way. In one, people think you must be a cold, calculating, unromantic mechanic; in the other, words are words and

*“I think it is significantly more rewarding to spread your interests and do things in a way that fulfills a variety of your passions.”*

they don't really matter too much. Of course, we don't have to choose either one of these because we are all much more complicated as human beings. Our interests lie in many different areas. We may not have the time to do everything, so we may have to choose something to make a living, but this does not mean that we should put blinders on and do nothing else. The music work, which is outside of my real work, is an outlet that makes me look at life in a slightly different way. It is enriching to feel not locked up in a role that is one-dimensional.

### Most computer scientists wouldn't even think about writing an article on the opera.

This is true, and it goes both ways. People think what they are doing is the answer to life's problems and complexities and nothing else matters. This happens on both sides of the aisle – science and art. I think it is significantly more rewarding to spread your interests and do things in a way that fulfills a variety of your passions. If you can do this, it is much more meaningful and satisfying because you don't get stuck focusing on one aspect of life. These passions are different for each of us, but I feel that what is most necessary is to develop passions to begin with.

*“Not everything you want is on the Internet and what's worse, what is there isn't always correct. So I have found that it is still important to actually go down to the primary sources to do reliable research.”*

### What are you currently working on music-wise?

The latest article I have written is about a transcription, a violin-piano work, which Jascha Heifetz put together in 1928. This will appear this winter issue of the journal *The Musical Times*. I recently interviewed Jake Heggie, a young and very



Dr. Eğecioğlu (center) with Dr. Tiffney (right) and Dr. Ashby (left)

successful American opera composer, who composed the operas *Dead Man Walking* and *Moby Dick*. I am invited to the premiere of his new opera, *It's a Wonderful Life*, to take place this December in Houston. I hope to write about this. Additionally, I am slated to give a talk at the Goleta Public Library on *The Barber of Seville* in May 2017. So I am staying busy and I am quite excited for these events and hopefully others equally interesting in the near future. Oh, I also want to finish that book on Franz Liszt's 1947 visit to Istanbul sometime.

To check out all of Ömer's music related articles and interviews, visit his website at [www.cs.ucsb.edu/~omer/](http://www.cs.ucsb.edu/~omer/). He keeps pointers to his musical work hidden behind the “Miscellaneous Publications” link. ■



## Faculty News

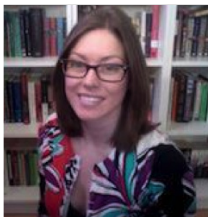
### Highlights from CCS Affiliated Faculty



In 2016 **Caroline Allen**, CCS Writing and Literature, published stories and essays in the following online and print journals: *Juxtapose*, *Formerpeople*, *Dead Housekeeping*, *Forge*, *Coup d'etat*, *Helen*, *The Door is Ajar*, and *Common Ground*. Paintings from her series, "Naked Mind," will be part of the group show "Night Thoughts" at the

Santa Barbara Arts Fund Gallery in December. She has illustrated and co-written a travel book about Iceland and has begun another one about Portugal. In the summer of 2016 she studied writing and cartooning with famed cartoonist Lynda Barry at the Omega Institute in New York. She will be teaching a new class on the Neapolitan Quartet novels of Elena Ferrante in the spring of 2017.

**Clarence Barlow**, Dept. of Music and CCS Music Composition. To celebrate his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, multiple organizations in Clarence's former home town Cologne (Germany) – including Cologne University, Cologne Music University and the Cologne Society for New Music – held a three-day festival of his compositions from July 10-12, 2016. Substantially supported by UCSB's Academic Senate, a recording of one of the concerts will be released on CD in 2017.



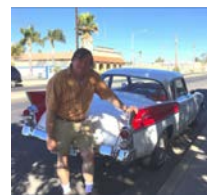
**Kara Mae Brown**, CCS Writing and Literature, and the Writing Program, recently won the *Green Briar Review Nonfiction Contest* for her recently published essay, "A Touch of Sugar on the Blood". She will also have a short story, "Dune Shack, Cape Cod, 1973" forthcoming in *Hawaii Review*. Last

spring, Kara Mae arranged for CCS Literature students Hannah Atkinson, Corrine Guichard, and Robert Wickham to attend the Santa Barbara Writer's Conference on a full scholarship, received from the Conference. Additionally, she is overseeing Writing and Literature students Corrine Guichard and Steenalisa Tilcock, who were each awarded a Raab Writing Fellowship by the Writing Program to do work on the UCSB literary magazine, *Spectrum*, this academic year.



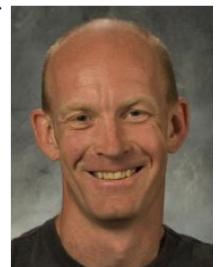
For the past 25 years, writers with a passion for the word have attended the Jackson Hole Writers Conference in the Grand Teton National Park's backyard. **Teddy Macker**, CCS Writing and Literature, has been invited to teach and share his work at the prestigious conference this summer.

**Kathy Foltz**, Interim Dean of CCS, CCS Biology and Dept. of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, was recently elected to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The AAAS is the world's largest multidisciplinary scientific society and a leading publisher of cutting-edge research through its *Science* family of journals. Kathy was nominated by her peers in the field, and received this honor for distinguished contributions to the developmental and cell biology of fertilization and egg activation, and in mentoring, outreach, education and undergraduate research in STEM fields. Kathy's research focuses on molecular- and cellular-level activity and signaling at the moment of fertilization and oocyte activation. Kathy also holds an appointment at UCSB's Marine Science Institute.



In October, **Jeremy Haladyna**, CCS Music Composition, Dept. of Music, finally found - after about 20 years of wishing for - a 1959 Studebaker Silver Hawk, which was promptly purchased (Photo on the left taken on the day it was driven home). There were no Golden Hawks in 1959. Owning this car has been a lifelong dream since he was 4 years old. It is still Studebaker powered, with the same engine it had at birth, a Studebaker 259V8. Jeremy said, "Since the car has prominent fins people may find it interesting or artistic! Absolutely no pretense to anything academic, except that I'm learning a lot about how old cars work!"

**John Latto**, CCS Biology and Dept. of Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology, received a 2015-16 Distinguished Teaching Award from the Academic Senate for his enthusiasm and commitment to teaching. All six of the CCS Biology faculty members that teach classes in CCS have now won this award. In September he started as an Associate Dean in the Division of Undergraduate Education in Letters and Science. Last December he ran his first (and probably last) ultra-marathon and he and his wife adopted a second rescue dog (not on the same day).





Over this past year, **David Low**, CCS Biology, published three papers and received a Grand Challenges Explorations award. GCE is an initiative funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The program funds individuals worldwide to explore ideas that can break the mold in how we solve persistent global health and development challenges. To receive funding, Low and other GCE winners demonstrated a bold idea in one of five critical global health and development topic areas. David's research focuses on a new way to deal with serious bacterial pathogens that are becoming resistant to many once-powerful antibiotics.

**Jane Mulfinger**, CCS Art and Department of Art, participated in several exhibitions and activities over the last year. They include A Two-Person Exhibition - WINDAUGE, site-specific collaboration with Graham Budgett, Beaconsfield Gallery, London 6/24/16 – 9/18/16, and SCAPE, curation, video series, Beaconsfield Gallery, 8/10/16 – 9/18/16, London, U.K. Her work was exhibited at several group exhibitions: "The Guildless Age," 9/3/16 – 10/29/16, Torrance, California; "The Place," curated by Elena Drago, CR arte, Palazzo Taverna, 5/18/16 – 30/6/16, Rome, Italy; "Ufology," curated by Kio Griffith, Outpost Gallery, 03/19/2016 – 07/19/2016, Joshua Tree, California and "Mujeres," Galeria Alejandro Sales, 10/3/16 - Barcelona, Spain. Additionally, Jane undertook two artist residencies in 2016 - in Beaconsfield Gallery in London and in the American Art Academy in Rome.



**Madeleine Sorapure** is in her second year as Director of UCSB's Writing Program. This fall, she is delighted to be teaching her first course in CCS: "Digital Storytelling." The course introduces CCS Writing and Literature students to strategies and tools for multimedia composing, with brief hands-on segments focusing on typography, image editing, audio, and video.

**Jenni Sorkin**, CCS Art and the Art Department. Jenni recently published her first single-authored book, *Live Form: Women, Ceramics, and Community* (University of Chicago Press, 2016). Her recent exhibition, "Revolution in the Making: Abstract Sculpture by Women, 1947-2016" (Hauser Wirth & Schimmel, Los Angeles), was the subject of an extended review in the December issue of the Atlantic magazine.



**Jervey Tervalon**, CCS Writing and Literature. Jervey is the Founder and Director of *Literature for Life*, a Los Angeles based online literary journal, salon, and resource for educators designed to spark a love of reading and writing. Jervey was recently profiled as a "Visionary" for his work on this project. The fourth issue of *Literature for Life/Locavore Lit. Los Angeles* is out; they are accepting submissions for the next issue. An interview with Jervey highlighting his writing philosophies is available at Jervey Tervalon - Power of One Blog (<http://powerofone.brianbiery.com/2016/10/jervey-tervalon/>). His piece, "Why We Need to Keep iPads Out of the Classroom" appeared in the online *Time Magazine*. And last but not least, he is now the literary director of the LitFest Pasadena, the 2nd largest literary festival in southern California.

This past June, **Bruce H. Tiffney**, CCS Biology and Dept. of Earth Science, was named one of five recipients of the Margaret T. Getman and William J. Villa Service to Students Award. The annual awards are in recognition of extraordinary commitment to the general growth and development of students and the quality of student life. After stepping down from the Deanship of the College in July, Bruce took a quarter's sabbatical leave to clean his office and lab and initiate research with a colleague at Arizona State University on the fossil history of oaks in North America. OK, he could not stay away from CCS as (even on sabbatical) he participated in the CCS Biology Colloquium in the fall. In the winter quarter he will co-teach Principles of Paleontology, and in the spring Paleobotany.



## When I was an undergrad...

"When I was an undergraduate in CCS' Literature program, it was the early 1980s and a lot of students had either taken time off to work or travel after high school or they'd taken time off in the middle of their undergraduate education. Consequently, there were a lot of students who were older than the average student in my classes. There were a lot of us in our mid-twenties and thirties. There was even a woman in her late 70s, who became the oldest graduate of the UC System. There were also high school students from Santa Barbara, taking courses through The Young Scholars program. It was interesting to have students with varying years of life experience writing stories for Marvin Mudrick and Max Schott's writing classes. I think we all learned a lot about life in those classes, from the discussions the stories brought up."

-Caroline Allen, CCS Literature (UCSB CCS, '85)



# CCS 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 2015-2016 academic year.

**Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research**  
Kuang Wei, CCS Physics

**The Wendy Anne Finkle Memorial Scholarship**  
Rose Spanbock, CCS Art

**Philip Francis Siff Memorial Scholarship**  
Troy Yamasaki, CCS Art

**The Promising Artist Achievement Award**  
Troy Yamasaki, CCS Art

**William Dole Memorial Scholarship**  
Troy Yamasaki, CCS Art  
Ashleigh Pillay, CCS Art  
Mona Luo, CCS Art & CCS Biology  
Alyssa Rogers, CCS Art

**Award of Distinction, Department of Art**  
Troy Yamasaki, CCS Art  
Ashleigh Pillay, CCS Art  
Mona Luo, CCS Art & CCS Biology

**Gail Berkus Memorial Scholarship**  
Ashleigh Pillay, CCS Art

**Raab Writing Fellowship, UCSB Writing Program**  
Corinne Guichard, CCS Writing & Literature  
Steenalisa Tilcock, CCS Writing & Literature

**Poetry Competition at the Santa Barbara Writer's Conference, Honorable Mention**  
Corinne Guichard, CCS Writing & Literature

**2016 Barry Goldwater Scholars**  
Kevin Dervishi, CCS Biology  
Christina Garcia, CCS Physics  
Qicheng Zhang, CCS Physics

**Penland Award**  
Ashleigh Pillay, CCS Art

**FEC Commendation of Excellence Awards**  
Timothy Aikin, CCS Biology  
Claire-Alice Hebert, CCS Physics  
Joseph Mann, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Ethan Nadler, CCS Physics  
Mark Rychnovsky, CCS Math

**2016 MARC Scholars**  
Shelby Shankel, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Colin Kim, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry

**The Gene Lucas Scholarship**  
Sarah Amiri, CCS Biology

**Physics Circus Award, Physics Dept.**  
Jacob Hines

**Academic Excellence Award, Physics Dept.**  
Kyle Kawagoe

**Outstanding Senior Award, Physics Dept.**  
Ethan Nadler

**Arnold Nordsieck Award, Physics Dept.**  
Claire-Alice Hebert  
Jacob Hines  
Kuang Wei

**2016 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Recipients**  
Tiffany Cedeno, CCS Biology  
James Cogan, CCS Biology  
Gabiella Najm, CCS Biology  
Duncan Proctor, CCS Biology  
Niyati Rodricks, CCS Biology  
Noah Rubin, CCS Biology  
April Savage, CCS Biology  
Kalana Dulaney, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Samuel Holton, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Coulter Keeler, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Stephanie Taylor, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Zitang Wei, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Daniel Spokoynny, CCS Computing  
Nicholas Dibble-Kahn, CCS Math  
Nicholas Geis, CCS Math  
Tamara Gomez, CCS Math  
Zhixing Guo, CCS Math  
Landon Settle, CCS Math  
Benjamin Spitz, CCS Math  
Kayla Wright, CCS Math  
James Chow, CCS Physics  
Mayer Feldman, CCS Physics  
Aidan Herderschee, CCS Physics  
Tynan Kennedy, CCS Physics  
Neeraj Kulkarni, CCS Physics  
Christopher Madsen, CCS Physics  
Avik Mondal, CCS Physics  
Kate Osterhoudt, CCS Physics  
Riley Peterson, CCS Physics  
Marvin Qi, CCS Physics  
XinPing Qian, CCS Physics  
Emmett Sams, CCS Physics  
Sergiy Vasylyev, CCS Physics  
Phillip Masterson, CCS Physics

**2016 Travelling Undergraduate Research Fund (TURF) Recipients**  
Jessica Bullington, CCS Biology  
Andi DeRogatis, CCS Biology  
Katherine Duncan, CCS Biology  
Daniel Spokoynny, CCS Computing  
Stephanie Taylor, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry

**Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Slam**  
1st- Kevin Dervishi, CCS Biology  
2nd- Nicole Bush, CCS Biology



CCS Biology's Kevin Dervishi (left) and Nicole Bush (right)

**Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Grants**  
Linnea Palmstrom, CCS Biology  
Mona Luo, CCS Art & CCS Biology  
Kalana Dulaney, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Colin Kim, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Kelly Noah, CCS Biology

Carolyn Kirwan, CCS Biology  
Andrea (Andi) Derogatis, CCS Biology  
Duncan Proctor, CCS Biology  
Emma Maul, CCS Biology  
Douglas Martin, CCS Biology  
April Savage, CCS Biology  
Michael Maser, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
Andrew Dawson, CCS Chemistry/Biochemistry  
William Fisher, CCS Biology  
Kevin Dervishi, CCS Biology

**CCS Writing Competition Prizes & Awards Brancart Fiction Award**  
Hannah Atkinson, CCS Writing & Literature

**Richardson Poetry Award**  
Korrin Alpers, CCS Writing & Literature

## Most Excellent Awards

**Narrative Prose**  
1st-Korrin Alpers, CCS Writing & Literature, for "Driving to the LAX Airport, I Remember"  
2nd-Hannah Atkinson, CCS Writing & Literature  
Honorable Mention: Robert Wickham, CCS Writing & Literature

**Poetry**  
1st-Robert Wickham, CCS Writing & Literature  
2nd-Abigail Breneman, CCS Writing & Literature  
Honorable Mention: Jack Betz, CCS Writing & Literature

**Essay**  
2nd-Robert Wickham, CCS Writing & Literature

**Corwin Awards, Music**  
2nd-Work for Large Ensemble  
Madeline Marcin, CCS Music Composition  
3rd (tie)- Work for Large Ensemble  
Nick Mazuk, CCS Music Composition  
Tristan Perez, CCS Music Composition  
3rd- Solo or Chamber Ensemble Work  
Cindy Shen, CCS Music Composition  
3rd- Percussion work  
Jack Aron, CCS Music Composition

# Alumni Updates



**1970 Norman Badler**, CCS Math, is the Rachleff Professor of Computer and Information Science at the University of Pennsylvania. Over the past 42 years he has supervised or co-supervised 61 PhD students, many of whom have become academics or have contributed to the movie visual effects and game industries. He recently co-edited two books on Crowd Simulation. His latest

research efforts have been to simulate human crowd reactions to both thermal and body density situations, and to create a mapping from human personality types into motion modifiers. He welcomes you to visit his websites [www.cis.upenn.edu/~badler](http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~badler) and [cg.cis.upenn.edu/](http://cg.cis.upenn.edu/).

**2003 Stephen Fiacco**, CCS Chemistry, received his Ph.D. in Chemistry working in Prof. Richard Roberts group at the University of Southern California. During his graduate work, Dr. Fiacco was involved in the creation of a platform technology for the design of macrocyclic peptides with antibody-like binding characteristics, and small molecule-like pharmacokinetics. Following his graduate work, Dr. Fiacco became a scientific cofounder and CEO of EvoRx Technologies. Dr. Fiacco has secured more than \$5mil in non-dilutive funding, more than \$60mil in licensing agreements, and has been a part of multiple drug discovery programs with large cap pharmaceutical companies.



**2004 Alex Scordelis**, CCS Literature, is a writer for the television comedies “Difficult People” and “Billy on the Street”. In 2016, he received his first Emmy nomination for Outstanding Writing for a Variety Special for his work on “Triumph’s Election Special.” Alex also directs live sketch

comedy shows at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre, and writes for Esquire and Playboy. He and his wife Melissa Seley (a writer and CCS Literature grad) live in Los Angeles.

**2006 Amber Kaplan**, CCS Biology, studied immunology for her PhD at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. She did her post-doctoral work at UCLA in the Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics department. She has a long-standing love of all things infectious, which began in the lab of Dr. Armand Kuris, during her time at CCS. She is currently taking a “sabbatical” from academia at a small biotech startup. In her spare time, she chases her progeny around (two small boys), enjoys cooking, volunteers as a mentor to aspiring and young scientists, and participates at the local and national levels on initiatives to further women and minorities in science.



**2006 Adam de Boer**, CCS Art, is currently an artist living and working in Los Angeles. While at the University of California, Santa Barbara, he studied painting and drawing under Dan Connally and Hank Pitcher. In 2012, Adam earned an MA in Fine Art from the Chelsea College of Art, London. For the past six years, he has travelled throughout Java, Indonesia to investigate his Eurasian heritage. His

recent work employs imagery and traditional crafts from the region as a way to connect his artistic practice with those of his distant cultural forebearers. In 2016, he was awarded a Fulbright research fellowship to Indonesia to continue those experiments. Adam has shown at various commercial and not-for-profit galleries both domestically and internationally. His grants include those from Arts for India, The Cultural Development Corporation, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and The Santa Barbara Arts Fund.

**2007 Deena Drewis**, CCS Literature. Since graduating, Deena went on to become the founder and editor of Nouvella, an independent press dedicated to novellas. Nouvella titles have been selected as a National Jewish Book Award winner, a Lambda Literary Award finalist and an Amazon Best Book of the Month, and have gone on to help launch the careers of New York Times Bestselling authors such as Edan Lepucki and Emma Straub.



**2008 Andrew Mutz**, CCS Computer Science, is currently Chief Scientist at Appfolio. His work at Appfolio focuses on improving software infrastructure, hiring, recruiting and new product research. In addition to his work at Appfolio, he is currently teaching Computer Science at UCLA. His course, “Scalable Internet Services,” teaches students how to design internet services that can handle millions of users.

We love to feature our esteemed alumni in our newsletters, on our website and on our social media pages. If any alumni have any interesting updates-including publications, exhibits, awards, shows, and milestones-we want to hear about it! Please send the information you would like featured to Will Proctor, CCS Communications Associate, at [will.proctor@ccs.ucsb.edu](mailto:will.proctor@ccs.ucsb.edu).



# College of Creative Studies

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**Dr. Tiffney showing CCS students around Lotusland in Montecito, California**

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## College of Creative Studies

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The mission of the College of Creative Studies 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.

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*“As a CCS student I became involved with research early on as an undergraduate. This early exposure allowed me to gain valuable insight into the complexities of the research process and has prepared me well for navigating the challenges of graduate school.” - Andrea (Andi) De Rogatis, CCS Biology ‘16*