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Scripps Magazine Plus
The enhanced online version of Scripps Magazine can be found at magazine.scrippscollege.edu.
Women in Public Policy and Politics

Money and Politics
Political consultant Anna Ekindjian Edwards ’98 examines the “money race” impact on voters this political cycle.

Critical Connections
Julie Epstein Bronstein ’90 advances public policy causes through strategic connections.

Power Politics
Christina Noriega ’13 writes on the need for constructive discourse in the political process, in academic settings, and in the nation at large.

Ideas into Law
Katherine Taylor ’05 drafted groundbreaking child sex-trafficking legislation. Marylou Ferry gives insight into how a piece of legislation emerged from an idea.

Big Changes Ahead
Haeyoung Yoon ’12 engages in a Los Angeles election and discovers education beyond the classroom.

An Hour of Inspiration
A private meeting with noted economist Dr. Alice Rivlin at the Brookings Institution this summer inspires Elizabeth McElvein ’14, the Gabrielle Giffords ’93 Intern in Public Service at Scripps.

Blazing Trails in Washington

A Better World
Alison Omens ’06 puts the passion and commitment she gained at Scripps to give workers a voice.

Ending Childhood Hunger
Annelise Cohon ’07 writes how Scripps College empowered her to be a leader of positive change.

Mediating Justice
Amy Wind ’77 uses her problem-solving skills to move from argument to justice.

Pathway to Global Health
Erin Fry Sosne ’05 promotes policies addressing the needs of children in the developing world.

Let’s Debate the Issues—Productively
What Mandy Thompson ’06 learned in Scripps’ Core Curriculum in Interdisciplinary Humanities inspires her today as she confronts the dysfunction of modern-day politics.

Face Value
Michael L. Spezio, assistant professor of psychology, and Laura Loesch ’09, use brain imaging to discover how a politician’s physical appeal influences real electoral outcomes. Their groundbreaking research is published in a scientific paper in Political Psychology, May 2012. Professor Spezio explains the process and results.
I try to have an open mind. I watched the Republican and Democratic conventions. I listen to pundits and analysts on Fox News and MSNBC, and on networks that claim to be impartial. I tune in to both Jon Stewart and Bill O’Reilly. I read Charles Krauthammer, David Brooks, and Gail Collins. I’m glued to the debates. I steel myself against confirmation bias—where we selectively expose ourselves only to information that validates our own beliefs.

In short, my brain is ready to make the “correct” decisions in the November elections.

Not so fast.

I may be a victim of biased assimilation, a process where we may claim to be open to both sides of an argument or political position, but can’t help but selectively assimilate information. The theory, according to Harvard legal scholar Cass Sunstein, author of Going to Extremes: How Like Minds Unite and Divide, is that we give more weight to information that supports our original beliefs and tend to dismiss information that undermines those beliefs—no matter how well argued or reasoned.

If I buy that, it means I won’t be watching and listening to the candidates these next few days with such an open mind after all.

I’m not buying that entirely. Even if my brain is wired to react in a “red” or a “blue” way, it still can spot pandering, incompetence, and, yes, idiocy, as well as good ideas from candidates from all parts of the political spectrum. If I don’t believe that, then what’s a brain for?

I’m taking all I’ve learned into a voting booth on November 6, trusting that the American political process and my brain still work well. Or well enough.

In the meantime, my editorial colleagues and I invite you to enjoy this issue. We packed it with articles about, and by, students, faculty, and alumnae engaged in public policy and the political process—all using their brains very well indeed.

Many of the students and alumnae featured attribute their passionate public involvement to what they learned at Scripps and how they learned it—especially in the Core Curriculum in Interdisciplinary Humanities. That’s where they first debated multiple sides of an issue.

Also inside, Michael Spezio, assistant professor of psychology, writes how he and Laura Loesch ’09, a doctoral candidate at Caltech in computation and neural systems, are producing groundbreaking research on how the brain makes decisions regarding political candidates.

Read before voting.

Mary Bartlett, daughter of lifelong Democrats, likes Eisenhower, the Republican candidate for president in 1952. Glendale News-Press photo.
**LETTERS**

I just put down an excellent edition of the *Scripps Magazine*, which, to my delight, rooted itself in the natural wonderment of things...from sealife to trees! Among the many interesting articles was one featuring biology professor Bryan Thines. I was excited to hear about his work with plants. Like him, I’m fascinated by how trees and plants shape our lives. He mentions taxol in the beginning of his article, and that made me smile because I recently finished a series of radio programs about Pacific Northwest trees. One of the five stories centered on the Pacific yew and its use in taxol. I feature a woman who almost got poisoned by eating yew berries as a child, and then had taxol save her life as a breast cancer patient later on.

Another one of the five segments is devoted to the ginkgo tree. I first encountered that tree on the Scripps campus. I learned how the male trees actually release a moving, almost human-like tree sperm that can swim small distances to the female egg. Crazy! I learned that at Scripps and then later thought about that factoid when I was producing this tree series, and got to use it as the pilot episode.

Thanks again for the great magazine and the “Firmly Rooted” article.

*Sarah Yates Waller ’01*  
*Kirkland, Washington*

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I found some treasures and some very heartening articles in the summer 2012 *Scripps Magazine*. First of all: a photo of a class, which could have included myself, listening to Dr. Phil Gray, who later married my mother! Next, a photo of “serenaders” standing below balconies (I had one) with girls standing on them. Then, the several articles and references to the biology and environmental classes. Finally, the delightful article by Joanne Glass Keith ’63, whom I knew a little.

I entered Scripps in 1957. I wanted both humanities and biology, so took zoo and botany at Pomona. I took a minor in botany (later an MSc). I am so very glad these courses, especially the environmental ones, are offered at Scripps now. The experiences at Pomona were great, though, including field trips to the Arizona desert and plant collecting in the canyons of the San Bernardino mountains.

I have not been able to attend Scripps Camp (I live in central Canada and have family scattered from Pennsylvania to British Columbia), but long to revisit some favorite places, such as Dorsey Hall, the library, and Margaret Fowler Garden.

*Patricia Sumner Bidlake ’61*  
*Brandon, Canada*

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**Photo Caption Contest**

A picture is worth a thousand words... We want just a few of yours.

Send submissions for this issue’s photo caption contest to editor@scrippscollge.edu or to *Scripps Magazine*, Office of Communication and Marketing, Scripps College, 1030 Columbia Ave., #2004, Claremont, CA 91711. Deadline is January 3, 2013. Winner will receive an item of Scripps memorabilia.

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**Summer 2012 Photo Contest Winners**

**First Prize:**

“We said ‘Persimmon,’* not ‘Permission.’”

- **Ruth Glaser Thaler ’43**

*Inspired by the Persimmon Song of 1935, lyrics by Helen Ely Brill ’36, Marion Morgan Mangahas ’36, and Desda Ahlbug Friedrich ’36, set to the tune of Ivan Stravinsky Skavar, the winner at the 1935 Song Fest. The reference to the persimmon indicates its abundance on the campus in the 1930s.*

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**Honorable Mention:**

“So many Julistes, so few Romeos.”

- **Murray Langille**

“Expose yourself to [liberal] art.”

- **Ann Kendall Taylor ’70 and Leslie Taylor Vanden Bos ’07**

“Shhh. We’ll marry them and turn them into liberals.”

- **Felicia Ortiz ’02**
As you know from listening to the news, women’s issues have become a focal point of political rhetoric. While the attention being paid to women’s issues is well deserved, I am concerned about what is being said. I fear this rhetoric for the practical implications of what might be done and also for the damage these words can do for girls and women everywhere.

I stand before you, a group of young women who have chosen to attend a women’s college. As described in the book about women’s colleges, Taking Women Seriously: Lessons and Legacies for Educating the Majority, a women’s college is a place where: 1) women’s voices are heard—classrooms where women engage in discussion and where collaboration is the norm; 2) the success of women is the primary goal; 3) all roles (the athlete, the science genius, the class president, the poet, etc.) are filled by women classmates; 4) women are involved with women studying, participating in research, talking about their futures, and developing community; 5) faculty have high expectations and a strong belief in young women’s abilities.

My concern for you peaked when the Senate failed to pass the Fair Pay Check Act and when Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker repealed his state’s equal pay law because, in his words, “it was too expensive.” During discussions about the Fair Pay Check Act, congressional members would attribute the wage gap to women working fewer hours, working part time, or in lower paying jobs, knowing full well that the Act would have made it “illegal for employers to pay unequal wages to men and women who perform equal work.”

The wage gap is real. Research conducted in 2006 by economists Francine D. Blau and Lawrence M. Kahn (“Gender Differences in Pay,” J. Econ. Perspectives, 2006) shows that the gap has changed very little in recent years, from 73.8 cents to the dollar in 1996 to 77.4 cents today. More important, this research has shown that this gap cannot be explained by difference in occupations or factors such as education and skills. Other studies have shown that not only in professions such as law, engineering, and science, but also in traditionally female fields, like teaching and nursing, women make less than men even when they work the same number of hours, in the same job, with the same education or training.

Many senators who voted against the bill cited a possible increase in litigation. They suggest that there are better solutions to this problem, yet fail to offer any alternatives.

These discussions remind me that there are still those who cling to an outdated notion of who are the bread winners in today’s economy, and, sadly, they are not a small minority. The difference between their illusion and the American reality is staggering. Fewer than 20% of American children are raised by a stay-at-home mom and breadwinning dad. By contrast, 25.8% of American children live with a single parent; 71% of them have single mothers, while only 8% have single fathers (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). Thus, the majority of children in the U.S. depend on women’s wages, and women’s wages are of critical importance and cannot be dismissed.

The National Women’s Law Center reports that bridging
the wage gap would "give the average full-time working woman's family the money to pay for an additional four months' supply of groceries, five months' of childcare, three months' rent and utilities, five months' health insurance premiums, four months' student loan payments and five tanks of gas" ("Women Cannot Afford Unfair Pay Today," April 2012). These are staggering costs for the 72% of American families who rely on women's wages.

You are the ones who will show the world what bright, educated women are capable of doing.

I am the daughter of a single mother who instilled in me the confidence to do whatever I wanted. She was a strong role model who showed with her own life that she was worth more than many around her believed. It is this gift of confidence, which I received directly from my mother, that brought me here today: a woman in science, a chemistry professor, and a mother of three daughters. It is for those three girls and all young girls that I stand here today wanting to expose and argue against the obsolete and harmful normative values that continue to subjugate women.

It is here, and in places like Scripps College, where the fight for women's equality must continue. You are not only the beneficiaries in this battle, but, more important, you are the agents of change. You are the ones who will show the world what bright, educated women are capable of doing. You are the ones with big dreams and even bigger potential, and you are not alone.

It is our job, the faculty, staff, and administration of Scripps College, to support you in achieving your goals and in honing your skills for the fight. It is because of you and your predecessors—previous Scripps students—that, despite the current rhetoric against women, I have confidence in the future for my daughters. I know that, in your capable hands, their future will be filled with the opportunity to chart their own lives and to join the community of strong and capable women such as yourselves.

As I was preparing my remarks in the midst of New Student Orientation—on the heels of the Republican Convention and dinner conversations with our teenage daughter, who had questions about the differences between Republicans and Democrats—I could not help but note that we are not only marking the start of a new academic year, this is a presidential election year as well.

The challenge to take part in "difficult dialogues," a topic covered with faculty and new students in this year's new student orientation, stretches well beyond the campus and the consortium. It is a reminder that many of the discussions and debates at Scripps are actually part of the discourse on societal concerns occurring in local, state, national, and international arenas.

When I think about the issues being addressed at Scripps—such as: the continuous refinement of what is critical knowledge for each discipline and for each student and how it is best taught; the continuous attention to creating, maintaining, and celebrating a vibrant, inclusive, intellectual community; the continuous review of how best to allocate resources; the continuing development of students as well-balanced leaders, scholars, and engaged citizens—it is important to note that we are also contributing, whether with intention or by virtue of our existence, to the national dialogue on the value of a liberal arts education.

This year's "Difficult Dialogues" orientation speaker, Dr. Corina Benavides Lopez, defined dialogue as "a frank and open discussion between two people where honest feelings are shared in a respectful manner."

As we enter another year of frank and open discussions as a community, I encourage you to share what you think and to do so with respect and with consideration of opposing points of view. Let's move beyond setting common goals to identifying common ground so that we can move forward together.

On behalf of the student affairs staff, I wish once again to invite all of you to partner with us in developing an academic community of inclusiveness that challenges our assumptions, enhances our understanding of each other, and celebrates our diversity.
… to three Scripps College students who earned spots on the SCIAC All-Academic Team in swimming and diving for the spring 2012 semester: senior Kelly Chang and juniors Laura Jeddeloh and Dana Shaker.

… to professors Scot Gould, Emily Wiley, and Kersey Black of the W. M. Keck Science Department, who were invited to give a presentation on the Accelerated Integrated Science Sequence (AISS) at the Project Kaleidoscope conference at Pomona College. Gould also gave invited talks on AISS at the winter meeting of the Association of American Physics Teachers and at Colgate University.

… to Tony Crowley, the Hartley Burr Alexander Professor of Humanities, whose recently published book, Scouse: A Social and Cultural History, presents a groundbreaking and iconoclastic account that challenges many of the forms of received wisdom about language in Liverpool.

… to Nancy Macko, professor of art and director of the Scripps Digital Art Program, for her participation in the exhibition “When I’m Sixty-Four,” from September 10-November 21, 2012, at Chaffey College’s Wignall Museum of Contemporary Art. The exhibition explores the lives of the nation’s “plus 50” population through the artists’ exploration of “the realities of the lives of our elderly, often through extremely private investigations into their own aging or the lives of their loved ones.”

… to Kitty Maryatt ’66, director of the Scripps College Press and assistant professor of art, who has been selected by The Center for Book Arts in New York to showcase her work and that of students in her book-making class in its Featured Artists Series. The center is dedicated to preserving the traditional artistic practices of book-making, as well as exploring and encouraging contemporary interpretations of the book as an art object.

… to the many enterprising and talented students who worked with Career Planning & Resources to gain significant internships and research opportunities this summer. We note a few:

Yasmine Acheampong ’14 received an Esterly Award to research the growth of Ghana’s democracy during the last 10 years. Lisa Beem ’14, who is majoring in environmental analysis, spent six weeks in South America alongside biologists and engineers in Ecuador’s Ministry of the Environment to help preserve the growth of healthy forests and to protect clean drinking water. Monica Dreitcer ’13 studied family planning practices at a Palestinian refugee camp on an internship grant. Anne Dreitcer ’13 was invited for a second summer by Livefyre in San Francisco to be a community manager and strategy intern. Savannah Fitz ’13 was a fellow on President Obama’s re-election campaign, communicating with women voters in New Hampshire. Amanda Hiatt ’13 interned with trustee Leslie Lassiter ’77 at J.P. Morgan Private Wealth Management in Los Angeles. Szeeyin Lee ’14 evaluated current startups at Golden Seeds and helped develop and program mobile apps; trustee Barbara Talbott brought the internship to Scripps’ attention. Monkgogi “MK” Othogile ’14 researched in Los Angeles why low-income families may not be as involved in reduce/reuse/recycle efforts as higher-income families. Briana Smith ’14 was a web development intern at Google.

… to six new tenure-track faculty who join the College this academic year:

Piya Chatterjee, the Dorothy Cruickshank Backstrand Professor of Gender and Women’s Studies, is a feminist scholar and activist who is interested in colonialism, postcolonial feminist issues, and transnational social justice work. Her first book, A Time for Tea, describes women plantation workers’ lives in India through a grassroots ethnographic study. She has also been involved in grassroots organizing with rural women in India. Her PhD is in historical anthropology from the University of Chicago.

Seo Young Park, assistant professor of anthropology, has conducted ethnographic research in East Asian urban cities, exploring how transnational networks of garment manufacturing and distribution shape urban landscapes and the temporalities of metropolitan life. Her PhD is in anthropology from UC Irvine.

New tenure-track faculty members include four in the W. M. Keck Science Department:

Aron Leconte, assistant professor of chemistry, received his PhD in chemical biology from The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, where he developed DNA systems with expanded genetic alphabets. He recently completed a National Institute
of Health National Research Service Award postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University.

**Babak Sanii**, assistant professor of physical chemistry, conducted his postdoctoral research at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, studying the self-assembly of biomimetic nano-materials. His PhD is in applied sciences from UC Davis. Dr. Sanii will join Keck Science in January.

**Colin Robins**, assistant professor of physical geography, received his PhD in geoscience from the University of Nevada Las Vegas, where he also completed a postdoctoral project to identify habitat criteria for the Las Vegas buckwheat, a rare and potentially threatened plant species endemic to the Mojave Desert. His current research spans a variety of topics in soil science, physical geography, environmental science, and geology.

**Lars Schmitz**, assistant professor of biology, received his PhD in geology from UC Davis, where he recently completed his postdoctoral research in the department of evolution and ecology. His research interests include paleontology and evolutionary biology.

...to **Sarah Williams ’15**, selected to be an Olympic torchbearer leading up to the London Olympic Games this summer for her volunteer efforts; Williams founded Creative Kindness, an organization that produces fleece blankets for foster children.

...to the **Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery**, one of 788 not-for-profit national, regional, state, and local organizations nationwide to receive a National Endowment for the Arts grant. The Williamson Gallery is recommended for a $10,000 grant to treat a Chinese textile altar panel of a dragon that dates back to the late sixteenth century.

**New to the Board of Trustees**

The following trustees have joined the board in 2012:

**Charlotte “Chalan” Helmholtz Colby ’61** graduated from Scripps with a degree in child psychology, then earned an MA in marriage and family counseling from Santa Clara University. Colby participated in Kellogg School of Management’s Executive Program “Governing the Family Business” prior to serving as family president of Laird Norton Company, from 2005 to 2010. She has also been a social worker at the Peninsula Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the counseling program director at Kara, a grief support agency for adults and children. Colby resides with her husband, C. Budd Colby, a retired biotechnology executive, in Los Altos Hills, California.

**Amy Drayer ’99** is the new Alumnae Association president. As an undergraduate, Drayer was president of the student body. Living in Denver, she is the vice president for strategic initiatives for the GLBT Community Center of Colorado. Read more about Drayer on page 39.

**Lucy Kereta-Block and Walter J. Block P’13** join the board as co-chairs of the Scripps Association of Families. They are the parents of Scripps College senior Kristina Block (pictured at right with her parents). Kereta-Block is CEO and founder of Certified Credit Reporting, Inc., and CEO of Certified Employment Screening, Inc. Walter J. Block is senior vice president of Pacific Western Bank. They live in San Clemente, California.

**David Lahar P’13** is president of Auriga Partners in San Francisco. He is also director of Beers Enterprises, Inc., vice chairman of Central Fiber, LLC, and managing director/owner of EOS Capital, Inc., among other professional activities. Lahar graduated from Harvard College and has an MBA from Harvard Business School. He and his wife, author Julie Westcott, are the parents of Livia Westcott-Lahar and the late Djuna Westcott-Lahar ’13. They reside in San Francisco.

**Elizabeth “Lili” Salzberg ’12** is the recent graduate trustee-elect. A graduate in studio art/American studies, she was social activities chairperson at Scripps during her senior year and co-president of the Activities Team. She lives in New York City and is community coordinator for The Knot, with The XO Group, a media company focusing on weddings, marriage, pregnancy, and new parents.
Driving Positive Political and Social Change

Scripps College is taking a leading role in empowering women worldwide to engage in public service. As a full partner in the Women in Public Service Project (WPSP), Scripps is advancing a generation of women leaders who will invest in their countries and communities, provide leadership in their governments, and change the way global solutions are forged.

The project envisions a world in which political and civic leadership is at least 50 percent female by 2050. Training, networking, and mentoring are at the core of the project.

The WPSP was initially developed as a joint effort between the U.S. Department of State and the East Coast “Sister” Colleges—Barnard, Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Smith, and Wellesley. Following the announcement of the project, President Lori Bettison-Varga wrote directly to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton encouraging her to expand the program to include the leadership of Scripps College. The result was the inclusion of Scripps, and later Mount St. Mary’s and Mills Colleges, in the project’s steering committee and the creation of the WPSP Institute for Women’s Leadership in Latin America.

Scripps and Mount St. Mary’s will co-host the institute on their campuses in March 2013 for 10 days. Created in collaboration with Mills College, the institute will bring together emerging women leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean to build critical networks, examine vital policy issues, and develop solutions for overcoming barriers that prevent more women from entering public service and government leadership.

“Women drive positive political and social change in our increasingly interconnected societies, and this institute comes at a dynamic time around the globe and in Latin American countries,” said Bettison-Varga. “California has important ties to this vital region, and the institute offers the opportunity to both build and bolster leadership networks.”

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, based in Washington, D.C., will soon become the permanent home of WPSP, institutionalizing Secretary Clinton’s vision and allowing the initiative to grow. For more information, visit womeninpublicservice.org.
“Meg will ruin our state.”
I reply, “Can I put you on hold?”
After a deep breath: “Sir, I’m sorry that you feel that way. Do you have a question I can answer?”

Talking to people and reasoning with them during the year I served in the Meg Whitman for Governor campaign assured me that I had committed myself to an important task. These conversations were different from the work I would normally do in the back of the campaign office. I worked in the political department, crunching numbers, trying to get endorsements and reading speeches to give them a youthful perspective. Politics had become a part of me, just like school.

I would take work home with me and go to phone banks on the weekends. On the Whitman campaign, I was exposed to brilliant political minds, opinions I did not always agree with, and tasks I was not used to. Each day was a new adventure—whether it was learning how to vet a list or calling San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders’ personal telephone line.

Being the only staffer under 25 and at times managing interns—all older than I—was an unexpected challenge. I was not old enough to vote, but I knew how important it was to choose the right leader. In a couple of years, that person, whose policies at the time seemed promising to me, might actually be helping California by cutting government spending, improving its economy, fixing our state’s education system, and creating jobs—all things that would eventually impact me directly.

I was called to sit in on important policy strategy meetings and stood behind Meg at her homecoming rally after she received the Republican Party’s nomination, and then again when she gave her campaign’s final speech.

When Meg Whitman was ultimately defeated in California, the disappointment I felt was crushing. Yet failure is often a greater teacher than success. Working on the campaign for 16 months helped me crystallize my personal political views, honed my communication skills, and made me realize—to my surprise—that I, too, was ready to steer myself into a role as a public servant.

Meg said: “I’m a big believer in the power of many. What we can do together, none of us can do alone.”

Hearing those words, I realized I am ready to be part of the political “we” of my country.

Ambika Bist’s many activities at Scripps include SAS faculty-staff relations chair, student representative on the Board of Trustees Finance Committee, secretary of the Economic Society, treasurer of Scripps’ Mock Trial, Student Investment Club member, program associate for the Malott Commons, and secretary for the Claremont Colleges Republicans.
10 Years of Success

Scripps College Academy (SCA), the innovative and vigorous year-round enrichment program for middle school and high school girls, has achieved 10 years of success. The national award-winning program not only benefits the lives of hundreds of students each year, it brings the Scripps College community together in a significant outreach endeavor. Above, SCA scholars, student facilitators, faculty, and program administrators celebrate SCA’s 10-year anniversary this summer on the steps of Balch Hall.
Karibu Tanzania!

Katie Lesyna ’12 is one of 16 recent Scripps graduates who were offered a Fulbright grant this year to teach English or conduct research abroad. She invites you to follow her adventures and her research on the Scripps College website:

magazine.scrippscollege.edu

Prior to leaving for Tanzania in September, she posted:

Karibu Tanzania! I can’t wait to hear those words once again, as I am welcomed into Tanzania.

I have spent my past two summers in Tanzania volunteering and coordinating for Support for International Change (SIC), an organization focused on limiting the impact of HIV/AIDS in rural communities in Tanzania. I also studied abroad in Kenya with the School for International Training (SIT). I couldn’t help but fall in love with East Africa and be inspired by the strength and selflessness of the people I met along the way, particularly those fighting against the HIV/AIDS epidemic in their own communities.

On September 14, I will arrive in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. While there, I will conduct public health research that will focus on the relationship between psychosocial characteristics of HIV-positive adolescents and their caregivers. My research will delve into how the caregivers’ perceptions and attitudes regarding HIV/AIDS impact the adolescents’ acceptance of their status, emotional wellbeing, and perceptions of their future. I will also audit classes in the Master’s of Public Health program at Muhimbili University of Health and Applied Sciences.

I am excited to return to the communities that welcomed me with open arms and get to know a new community, as I explore the city of Dar es Salaam.

I look forward to sharing my experiences online with the Scripps community.

Door Prize

The Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery offers its student interns the opportunity to engage in significant research and conservation projects, as well as help catalog and care for special collections and learn curatorial and museum administration skills; they also take field trips to meet leading figures in the Los Angeles art world. Top, from left, Wilson intern Sophia Forman ’13, Getty intern Lauren Thomas (Pitzer), Wilson intern Gretchen Allen ’14, and Getty interns Tara Contractor ’13 and Calyx Gaston ’13. Forman and Allen describe their exciting experiences this summer in Scripps Plus. Forman writes about how she discovered the many cultural benefits of living near Los Angeles, “one bus ride at a time.” Allen, shown above, spent a good part of the summer helping to conserve a significant piece of art on the Scripps campus—the bronze doors of the Malott Commons. She describes the process and viewers’ reactions. Go to magazine.scrippscollege.edu.
Summertime in Beirut

While conflicts in the Middle East generated headline news, this summer three Scripps College students lived in Lebanon and either met with Palestinian refugees or interned at a conflict management think tank in Beirut.

The students are seniors Monica Dreitcer, Bryn Morgan, and Claire Wilson, all majoring in Middle East and North Africa studies. In addition, Morgan is also pursuing a dual major in religious studies.

Dreitcer studied at the American University of Beirut last spring and stayed in Lebanon to interview Palestinian refugees on family planning practices. She relied on a translator to communicate.

“I found a community that was caring, hospitable, and soon where I was most comfortable. I was talking to women I had never met before, whose language I didn’t speak well, and whose futures were mostly much more limited than my own. But they welcomed me into their homes, gave me strong coffee, and answered my questions,” Dreitcer says.

Morgan was a recipient of a Summer Internship Grant in Conflict Management, funded by Margaret Towne D’Albert ’54, which supports experiences at organizations dedicated to peace and conflict resolution. The grant funded her internship at the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies, a Beirut-based think tank. She also conducted interviews as part of her senior thesis research on young adults’ personal relationship with their religion, in light of the role sectarianism plays in Beirut.

“I got to do research that fascinates me to no end and experience and learn more about an amazing city and region!” says Morgan, who studies Arabic and who has previously visited Morocco, Egypt, and Jordan.

Wilson was a volunteer program instructor at Shatila, a Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut. She began volunteering at the camp while at the American University of Beirut this spring. She stayed in Lebanon for the summer after she was awarded funding from Scripps College’s Davis Family Foundation Leadership Internship Grant.

“I had the opportunity to dramatically improve my Arabic language skills, and I gained valuable knowledge of the process of humanitarian aid and development work,” says Wilson, who has conducted field research in Jordan. “All of this insight has played a valuable role in deciding my career path.”

Engaging the Big Issues

Lively discussion and informed debate are key to life at Scripps. The Malott Commons, through its signature speakers series, invites the College community to engage with prominent leaders in public policy commentary and outreach efforts. On October 2, filmmaker and philanthropist Abigail Disney gave a dynamic presentation on how women are changing the face of war and peace in our time and fielded questions from the audience. Others scheduled for the months ahead include:

Eleanor Clift
Alexa Fullerton Hampton Endowed Speaker Series
November 29, 2012
Clift is a contributor to Newsweek magazine and the Daily Beast website. She writes about politics and policy in Washington, D.C., and the partisan clashes that are the result of divided government. Clift has covered every presidential campaign since 1976 and brings her perspective on this year’s closely contested presidential election.

Charles Krauthammer
Elizabeth Hubert Malott Public Affairs Program
February 7, 2013
Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and named by The Financial Times as the most influential commentator in America, Charles Krauthammer has been honored for his bold and original writing from every part of the political spectrum, from the famously liberal People for the American Way to the staunchly conservative Bradley Foundation. MSNBC’s Joe Scarborough calls him “without a doubt, the most powerful force in American conservatism.”

Geena Davis
Alexa Fullerton Hampton Endowed Speaker Series
March 7, 2013
Academy Award-winning actress Geena Davis is founder of the nonprofit Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media and its programming arm, See Jane, which engages film and television creators to dramatically increase the percentage of female characters and reduce gender stereotyping. Chair of the California Commission on the Status of Women, Davis is also a partner with UN Women in the effort to change the way media represent women and girls worldwide.
Inspired by finding a colorful array of water-stained tissue paper in her grandmother’s basement, Maya Asante has developed a unique way of printing that uses colored tissue as her main medium: the tissue ink monoprint. In this technique, Asante stains heavy paper with the ink that bleeds out of brightly colored tissue paper saturated in water.

Asante describes herself as an “artivist,” so much of her work centers on political issues.

In the case of this piece, war is clearly viewed with disdain. The title, Look Down on War, says it all. The center of the piece [shown above] is emblazoned with a World War I-era black-and-white image; an African American soldier stands, eyes downcast, head bowed. The deep red in the work evokes the idea of a plume of blood slowly spreading across the page, pushing away the more welcoming shades of blue, green, and purple. Clearly, Asante wants to address the issue of war and the stains it makes over our past and present.

“The artwork was inspired,” notes Asante, “by my great-grandfather, Allan Freelon, Sr., who was a pioneer African American Impressionist painter during the Harlem Renaissance. The image is of Allan Sr., who was drafted during World War I. Allan disapproved of war and suffered a mental breakdown while serving. Once back home, he continued creating artwork, and his career flourished. I never got a chance to meet him, but I wanted to create a print that honored and exemplified his views about war, freedom, and creativity.”

This essay is taken from the exhibition catalog.
Mentor Extraordinaire:  
My Years with Adrienne Rich  
By Cheryl Walker

Adrienne Rich, whose passing in late March of this year was noted in a previous issue of Scripps Magazine, came to Brandeis University on a one-year creative writing fellowship in 1972, just as I was finishing my dissertation on American women poets. Though I was in awe of this well-published and much-admired personage, I got up the courage to ask her if she would be one of my readers, and she agreed. Thus began one of the most significant passages of my life. Rich worked over my puerile prose, challenged every facile statement I made, and became not just a “reader” but a mentor and a friend.

Her influence on my life was enormous. She not only spent hours discussing my work, she also gave my name to journal editors when she couldn’t do an essay or review they wanted. My first publications, in The Nation, were a result of her referrals. Adrienne helped me to improve my writing, listened carefully to my views, broadened my literary horizons, and in the end made me a feminist, something I had not been before.

I did not realize it at the time, but we were both at turning points in our lives. Her husband had died, a suicide, only two years earlier. For me at twenty-four, two years seemed like a long time; now I know it is barely a heartbeat. She was living with her three sons in Cambridge, where I too was living, and she had time for reflection, a light teaching load, and a lot on her mind. What she gave me was rare then and is extremely rare now, when famous writers and scholars simply don’t have such leisure to spend with an individual graduate student. When I think of what I was offered—hours at her house discussing poetry and politics, which sometimes shaded into dinner—I realize that I was phenomenally, almost unimaginably, lucky.

In 1974, I accepted a job at Scripps. Though I had received my PhD in 1973, we had kept in touch. I visited her in New York, and we wrote letters back and forth. Her life was changing. In time, I met her family and the woman who was to become her life-partner, Michelle Cliff. During my first year at Scripps, I was living in a tiny three-room college house on 11th Street. I find it hard to believe now, but when she came through town, I made a buffet dinner for 25 people, who jostled one another in my one main room and overflowed onto the meager grass outside. People stayed late, and she was happy to talk to them. In 1983, at my urging, she came to teach a four-week creative writing course at Scripps. She came again to teach a longer course in 1984. Each time, she gave a poetry reading, and, in 1984, a riveting lecture (“Resisting Amnesia”) that filled Garrison was much discussed and long remembered.

Adrienne Rich had an illustrious career, winning the Yale Younger Poets Series Award for a book of poems she had written in college, an unparalleled achievement, especially for a 21-year-old woman in the 1950s. She won almost every important award a poet can hope to win, wrote books of essays, literary criticism, and a book on motherhood, Of Woman Born.

I have taught her work repeatedly. This semester—teaching a course on American women poets—I am using one of her essays on Emily Dickinson. This essay is typical of Adrienne: brilliant, passionate, informed, and provocative. Adrienne Rich was the perfect embodiment of what Scripps stands for. She was a woman who thought deeply about women, an outsider who made the role of the outsider a road map for the future. She cared about the poor, the disenfranchised, the world, and her art. Now her words are engraved on the walk between Scripps and Keck Science: “The moment of change is the only poem.”

Cheryl Walker, who holds the Richard Armour Chair in Modern Languages, has taught English at Scripps since 1974.
Students look at their world

Scripps Magazine is proud to showcase the photography of several students. We will continue to feature the work of our talented students in upcoming issues. To view more of their photography online in Scripps Plus, go to magazine.scrippscollege.edu.

Clockwise from top right: student room by Alex Trimm ’14, high desert by Skye Olson ’13, nature at Scripps by Hannah Shoenhard ’14, violinists at Celtic Spring Levitt on the Lawn concert by Rachel Fidler ’14.
“I never tell my students which candidate I voted for, and I consider my class a success (in political, not economic, terms) if, at the end of it, they still have no idea what my political leanings are.”

– Kerry Odell, Scripps College professor of economics
Bold, informed debate begins in Core I, where students and faculty explore the relationship between historically informed critical thinking and engagement with contemporary issues. Students focus on issues such as justice, human rights, gender and sexual roles, race, universalism, cultural affiliation, and individualism and sociability. This interdisciplinary work continues for two more semesters, in Core II and III, which offer sharper focus on issues and more individualized, self-directed research and scholarship. Students often describe their Core experience as their first significant exposure to critical thinking.

The Core Curriculum in Interdisciplinary Humanities lays the groundwork for the remainder of a Scripps College education and prepares graduates to “think clearly and independently” and “contribute to society through public and private lives of leadership, service, integrity, and creativity.”

On the following pages, you will find students and alumnae living the words of the College’s mission, quoted above. The informed debates that began at Scripps College continue throughout their lives, as they tackle issues and devote themselves to public policy and political engagement.

As Mandy Thompson ’06 writes: “Our thesis advisors and Core mentors demanded that we confront tough questions and ethical quandaries head on. I now do the same thing in my job.”
Money and Politics

By Anna Ekindjian Edwards ’98

Political consultant Anna Ekindjian Edwards tells us how the fixation on big money can lead to psychological disenfranchisement of voters.

When I was a kid and new movies would open on a Friday night, the media would report how many tickets each film had sold nationwide and rank the box office winners.

I can’t pinpoint when this shift happened, but somewhere along the way, they stopped reporting ticket sales and started reporting how much money films gross on opening night.

It appears as though a similar metric has made its way into the 2012 elections.

Earlier this year, the expression “money primary” was normalized, and coverage included an analysis of funds raised and spent, cash-on-hand, and breakdowns of the candidates, party committees, and outside groups. Wealthy donors can give anonymously to social welfare organizations, but some choose to give to entities where their giving is disclosed, making them celebrities in their own right.

Fundraising emails arrive multiple times a day in my inbox, whereas they used to arrive multiple times per week. The Federal Election Commission requires candidates to file quarterly, and the candidates’ campaigns have created artificial monthly fundraising deadlines to create a sense of urgency for donors so they can report more frequently on their progress in the “money race.”

I worry not about what all of this money will buy, but what this fixation with money in politics may do to voter turnout.

There’s something called the psychological disenfranchisement of voters; Gloria Steinem was the first person I heard describe this effect. In earlier times, when those in power wanted to keep people out of democracy, they had laws on the books that prevented people of color and women from voting. Poll taxes and voter intimidation further disenfranchised voters. Now that it is more difficult (but not impossible) to use the law, those who want to suppress voter turnout can psychologically disenfranchise voters by essentially creating the notion that your vote doesn’t matter.

It happens when a Democrat and republican are married and say, “Our votes just cancel each other out, so we don’t vote.” It happens when a candidate starts a sentence with “I agree with my opponent on x, y, and z,” and reinforces the belief that all politicians are the same. It happens when someone says, “I feel like they’re all corrupt, and none of them deserve to be reelected.” It happens when third-party candidates get in a race and perpetuate the idea that the two main political parties are one and the same.

Some would describe this as “voter apathy” or “voter fatigue,” which puts the onus on the voter and suggests that the voter doesn’t care or is tired. It is true that, in a democracy, voting is a right, and we have a responsibility to actually go to the polls and vote. But placing the blame for their own disenfranchisement on those who do not feel their vote counts is a convenient way for people to shrug off responsibility for contributing to voter suppression.

“Don’t let anyone tell you that money matters more than your vote.”
This election cycle, I see the heightened focus on money in politics as the newest form of psychological voter suppression. At best, the likely voters who make an effort to follow the news and understand the candidates’ positions will get tired of the fundraising spam and hearing about the money race, and they will stop giving money to candidates and political organizations. We will lose small donors, but they will still vote.

At worst, a college student in Ohio will not go to the polls because she feels her vote won’t mean anything in an election year that is bought and paid for by the zillionaires on both sides.

If the entertainment industry wants money to be its measure of success, that’s fine with me. I don’t have a problem when it is a commercial contest between Batman and Spiderman. But when we’re electing leaders to the highest offices in the land, don’t let anyone tell you that money matters more than your vote.

Nothing matters more than your vote on November 6.

Anna Ekindjian Edwards is director of corporate relations and development for The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. She has worked as a consultant for the Middle East and North Africa team with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. She traveled to Cairo post-revolution to train political party leaders, parliamentary and presidential candidates, and youth organizers in Egypt’s emerging democracy. Edwards served as a long-term observer for the Jordanian parliamentary elections in the fall of 2010 to assess the freeness, fairness, and transparency of the election and make recommendations. During the 2008 U.S. election cycle, she served as the development director for America Votes. In spring 2011, she was the Lois Langland Alumna-in-Residence for a week at Scripps College.
Philanthropy, politics, and public policy are much like three siblings squabbling for attention—professionals in these fields fight to break through the clutter of messages blasting from media or landing in the inboxes of movers and shakers to secure action on their cause’s behalf. Alumna Julie Epstein Bronstein ’90 has carved out a career raising the profile and profits of all three—and she’s raising three delightful children, ages 4 to 10, along the way.

Her current focus is on philanthropy. Meeting with her on a late summer afternoon, I found her effectively organizing details for a Jane Goodall event in San Diego on behalf of a local philanthropist and working with a new client, Foundation for Women, a nonprofit that provides microloans to women in San Diego and Liberia. Her desk holds a collection of guest lists, reports, and budget spreadsheet sheets.

“Fundraising is an art,” says Bronstein. “Connecting those advancing a cause and those who have the means to support that specific cause is a strategic endeavor. Integrity, credibility, and a comprehensive understanding of the organization’s mission and work are the keys to crafting the connections.”

After graduating from Scripps College, Bronstein earned a master’s degree in public administration from USC with a specialization in intergovernmental relations. From there, she pursued her interest in the political and policy realms, working for both Lt. Governor Gray Davis and Congresswoman Lynn Schenk. She went on to posts that tapped her public policy skills, serving as manager of government relations for the Motion Picture Association of America as it tackled issues surrounding filming and jobs fleeing California. Bronstein later was director of government relations and helped manage the Verizon Foundation’s efforts toward improving literacy throughout California. Her talents also aided the campaigns of Senator Dianne Feinstein, Lt. Governor John Garamendi, and California List, a political organization dedicated to helping pro-choice Democratic women become elected to state-wide office.

“I have always been interested in issues and solving problems,” says Bronstein. “I like to help people who feel the same way, with an emphasis on helping the less fortunate.”

Speaking of her work today, Bronstein says: “Focusing on fundraising is rewarding. I am a realist, and I know that advocacy and the good work the organizations I partner with require significant funding to accomplish their goals. Furthering their efforts gives me a great deal of satisfaction.”
was first introduced to the concept of power politics in an American politics class I took during my first year at Scripps. The professor presented different dimensions of power, including the claim that our system is an open one in which everyone might feel free to voice his or her grievances. The line of reasoning continues that if certain individuals do not choose to participate, it is their own fault.

By the end of the discussion, many in the class realized that while this ideal open system may exist in theory, it does not always exist in fact.

As an example, the professor offered our very own experience as students. An authority figure might insist that a particular space is safe for open dialogue about politics; but this statement may serve only the administration’s own end to present a tolerant front. Merely stating that an arena is open does not necessarily empower a student belonging to a political minority to feel validated to speak. This was an important message for us students to hear, and the fact that it came from a professor made it that much more significant.

Certain political views are undoubtedly dominant among the Scripps student body and community. But this does not mean that every last person shares those views. In presenting the example that he did, the professor was actually validating those students of the minority.

This particular class made me think about the source of discord in our nation at large. When a viewpoint is offhandedly dismissed, this same dimension of power comes into play. Dialogue is no longer possible with statements that presume an already perfect understanding of an unshared position, or deny even the possibility that a particular viewpoint maintains a logical basis.

This phenomenon is not unique to a specific geographic region or group of people but, unfortunately, is manifest even in the Scripps community. Nevertheless, critical thinking well-learned is uniformly critical. Though there might still be disagreement at the end of the day, honest exercise of the skills Scripps instills in us will promote a discourse that is constructive, intellectually honest, and prepares us to hear all viewpoints, in theory and in fact.

Noriega is a senior at Scripps College, dual majoring in legal studies and philosophy. She spent the fall semester of her junior year studying Italian language, history, and politics in Rome and intends to pursue a doctorate in political theory.
“Human trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world today. This form of modern-day slavery is tied with arms as the second largest international criminal industry—behind drug dealing.”

Ideas into Law

by Marylou Ferry

Nonpartisan counsel Katherine Taylor ’05 drafts groundbreaking child sex-trafficking legislation.

Emerald green forests and snow-capped mountain peaks meet the Pacific Ocean and cradle the deep blue waters of Puget Sound, home to the second-busiest port in the Western United States—Seattle.

The stunning natural beauty belies an ugly secret, one that Scripps alumna Katherine Taylor ’05 confronted.

The state was a hotbed for the recruitment, transportation, and sale of people, revealed the Washington State Task Force Against Trafficking of Persons. What makes Washington an ideal gateway for human trafficking is the richness of the state’s riveting geography: an international border with Canada, an abundance of ports, and vast rural areas.

“I was surprised,” said Taylor, a Seattle University School of Law graduate who serves as nonpartisan counsel for the Washington State Senate on the Higher Education and Judiciary committees. “I had no idea Washington State was a leading destination for child sex trafficking.”

Human trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world today. This form of modern-day slavery is tied with arms as the second largest international criminal industry—behind drug dealing. The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that between 14,500 and 17,500 people are trafficked into the country each year.

In 2008, the Seattle Human Services Department reported that 300 to 500 Seattle children were being exploited and that there were even advertised escort services that included the sale of children for sex.

To combat this practice, Washington State Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles (D–Seattle) and 13 of her Democratic and Republican colleagues sought to propose a law that would require classified advertisers to validate the age of escorts.

Taylor, whose nonpartisan role means she supports both Republican and Democratic senators in the legislative process, was assigned to Senator Kohl-Welles to help take the proposal from an idea to a piece of legislation. It needed to be ready for introduction in the 2012 session as a law regulating advertising of commercial sexual abuse of a minor.

Although Washington was the first state to pass a law criminalizing human trafficking, and on this issue boasts the most stringent law in the country, problems remain. Victims of sex trafficking often do not come forward for help because of language barriers, lack of awareness of services, and fear and suspicion of law enforcement.

Under Washington State law, it is a serious felony to recruit, harbor, transport, or obtain any person for labor or services using force, fraud, or coercion. That includes sex trafficking and other forms of forced labor, from domestic servitude to sweatshop work. Yet, victims range from “mail-order” brides to sex workers and children. In Washington, victims have come from as far as Russia, the Philippines, China, and Mexico.

To expand protection of sexually exploited children, Taylor drafted another first-of-its-kind law that goes after classified advertising companies that don’t demand an ID to verify the age of people in sex-related ads published in print or online.

The bill was first heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee,
where as part of her responsibilities staffing the bill, Taylor presented the legislation and responded to questions from senators. The bill passed by a unanimous bipartisan vote and was sent to the full Senate, where it also passed without amendments and with unanimous bipartisan support.

The process then began again in the House of Representatives, where it passed on final vote without objections and with bipartisan support, 96-0.

“While I play a nonpartisan role, I was gratified to have been a part of addressing an issue that I had not known was victimizing children in my home city and state,” said Taylor. “I learned a great deal about the issues surrounding sex trafficking as I met with the various advocates, mothers of victims, and heard from victims of sex trafficking.”

On March 29, 2012, Governor Christine Gregoire signed SB6251 into law, one of a dozen targeting sex trafficking passed in 2012.

The website Backpage.com sued the state of Washington in June, claiming the new law requiring classified advertising companies to verify the ages of people in sex-related advertisements is invalid. The company sued in U.S. District Court in Seattle to block the law from being enforced, pending a judge’s decision on whether it should be struck down.

Federal law defines severe human trafficking as:

Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act is under 18. The recruitment, transportation, harboring, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud or coercion, for the purposes of subjecting that person to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

To learn more about how to identify, stop, and aid victims of human trafficking, visit Scripps Plus. Go to: magazine.scrippscollege.edu.
Big Changes Ahead

by Rosa Santana

Recent graduate Haeyoung Yoon plays a key campaign role with the Korean American community in Los Angeles.

Her political career already crosses continents and cultures. In the summer of her junior year at Scripps College, Haeyoung Yoon ’12 advocated for injured migrant workers while on an internship for a nongovernmental organization in South Korea.

“It was an awesome experience,” says the 22-year-old. But, the work was limiting.

Yoon realized that in order to help improve the lives of Southeast Asian migrant workers who sought jobs in South Korea, politicians needed to intervene and propose legislation that would protect the laborers whenever they were injured at work.

The politics and international relations major returned from that internship determined to pursue a career in politics. When she spotted a Scripps College Career Planning & Resources posting announcing an internship for a significant political campaign in Los Angeles, she applied and interviewed with fellow alumna Emma Lowry ’09—who is also on the campaign—before being selected.

Since spring 2012, Yoon has worked as an intern on Los Angeles City Councilmember Eric Garcetti’s campaign for mayor of this country’s second-largest city.

“This is another type of education that I’m getting outside of the classroom,” Yoon says of the campaign.

Yoon, who is fluent in Korean, has served as the campaign’s informal liaison to Los Angeles’ influential Korean American community, among other roles.

“Many Angelenos are happy to see a Korean American on the campaign trail,” she says. While at the College, Yoon was an intern at various organizations that offered her a variety of hands-on experiences.

In the fall of her junior year, she taught English to elementary-age students in France. During her summer as a sophomore, she interned at a public policy think tank in South Korea.

“Traveling is very important—to see how people in other cultures live and how that can challenge your values. It makes you a well-rounded person when you get out of your comfort zone and meet people from other countries,” Yoon says.

Eventually, Yoon would like to return to South Korea, where her family lives, to get involved in its politics.

“We’ll see where I go in life. I want to be part of big changes. I plan to remain in politics.”
An Hour of Inspiration

by Elizabeth McElvein '14

I was a D.C. summer intern. I was one of the thousands of doe-eyed young professionals who swarm the nation’s capitol eagerly seeking an insider’s perspective on an infamous town. I clocked my 40 hours a week at the Brookings Institution, a centrist public policy think tank committed to researching and developing public policy that bolsters American democracy, fosters economic and social welfare, and secures a just, cooperative, and prosperous international system.

I was amazed by the array of political dignitaries and academic authorities at Brookings, but one expert in particular caught my attention.

Dr. Alice Rivlin is a senior fellow of economics at Brookings with a seriously impressive history of public service. She is a member of the President’s Debt Reduction Committee, the founding director of the Congressional Budget Office, and the former vice chairman of the Federal Reserve.

A petite lady of 81, this larger-than-life economic powerhouse rendered me “scholar struck.”

I soon learned that Dr. Rivlin was slated to testify before the Senate Finance Committee on her newest debt reduction proposal. I took advantage of a slow day for me in the office and trooped up to the Hill, excited to see Dr. Rivlin exemplify Brookings’ commitment to constructive debate and policy impact.

Calm and composed under the scrutiny of senators, Dr. Rivlin drove a discussion of international political and economic import. She confronted the largest economic demons plaguing the United States today and respectfully countered pointed questions with admirably unassuming eloquence.

I returned to Brookings that afternoon eager to congratulate Dr. Rivlin on her performance and to ask her a few questions about her career in public policy. One hour and dozens of drafts later, I sent her a brief email. Shortly thereafter, I was delighted to find that she had replied and invited me to stop by her office.

A few days later, I found myself outside Dr. Rivlin’s door armed with a list of questions and a notepad. I knocked, introduced myself, and sat down to chat with one of the most illustrious scholars at the Brookings Institution.

At the end of the hour, I reached a shocking conclusion: Alice is a regular human. She switched her major as an undergraduate student; she worked several entry-level jobs and developed patience and problem-solving skills indispensable to any team—especially one charged with reducing a trillion-dollar debt.

Reminded of the human side of political, economic, and academic dignitaries, I left the office feeling assured that with hard work, self-confidence, and luck, I, too, can become a successful professional.

Should I have the privilege of achieving such a level of professional distinction, I vow to emulate Dr. Rivlin’s humility, and to remember that an hour is just enough time to inspire one D.C. intern.

Elizabeth McElvein holds the 2012-2013 Gabrielle Giffords ’93 Internship in Public Service at Scripps College, honoring alumna and mentor Gabby Giffords and aiding students with demonstrated interest in public service, activism, and issues of social justice.
BLAZING TRAILS IN WASHINGTON
Trailblazing is a Scripps College tradition, starting with its founder.

Ellen Browning Scripps was a woman ahead of her time. An independent thinker who graduated from Knox College in 1859, she maintained great curiosity toward world events and issues all her life, traveling and writing about her adventures abroad. She actively supported women’s right to vote. She helped her brother start a successful newspaper enterprise and invested wisely. Her frugal living and astute financial skills eventually enabled her to make significant contributions to society in the founding of such institutions as Scripps Memorial Hospital, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, the San Diego Natural History Museum, the Zoological Garden and Research Laboratory in Balboa Park, and what she called her “crowning jewel”—Scripps College.

Miss Scripps’ legacy is one of public spirit and world involvement, of utilizing one’s education, skills, and passions to make a positive difference. That spirit and involvement describes what many Scripps alumnae in Washington are doing. We feature a few of these dedicated trailblazers, who are finding new ways to productively and positively engage in societal issues—and building on what they learned at Scripps College to do so.

“Standing up for one’s own integrity makes you no friends. It is costly. Yet defiance of the mob, in the service of that which is right, is one of the highest expressions of courage I know.”

– Gabby Giffords ’93 at Scripps College Commencement 2009

Former Congresswoman Gabrielle “Gabby” Giffords ’93 prepares to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, on September 6, 2012. Giffords is the first Scripps alumna elected to national public office. She continues to inspire Scripps students and alumnae around the world to engage in public service.
One of my feminist icons, Gloria Steinem, whom I first discovered at Scripps, never spoke truer words when she said, “The truth will set you free—but first it will piss you off.”

There are a lot of pleasant adjectives to describe the Scripps experience: beautiful, engaging, inspiring, poetic, meaningful. Scripps was many of those things for me. But it was also where I got—dare I say it?—angry.

Six years later, I’m putting that passion to use. I believe that imagining our world as better than it currently is, is profoundly human—regardless of what one believes is the path to create it.

In my better world, I see social and economic equality, more respect for our natural resources, access to information, access to power for every person. I hope to create, inspire, provide comfort, equalize, innovate, and build.

I currently work for America’s labor movement because I believe that through economic empowerment and a voice at work comes power over one’s life and the access to whichever door one would like to open. In my job, I tell people’s stories because I believe we need to understand what’s happening to people—what each other is going through.

It’s pretty easy to live in Washington and forget what drives you. Partisanship, power plays, resentment, and egos make you want to throw up your hands.

But then I remember what Scripps taught me: how to be a woman who doesn’t give up and how to be inspired by the people around me, all of whom are driven by the same passion.

Alison Omens is director of media outreach for the AFL-CIO in Washington, D.C., where she oversees a 15-person department. She is a seasoned communications professional with responsibility for message development, tactics, and implementation.
Ending Childhood Hunger

BY ANNElISE COHON ’07

Strong women mentors at Scripps led Annelise Cohon to tackle ongoing and serious social issues.

My time at Scripps seemed like a fairytale college experience. I made wonderful friends, learned from engaging professors, and lived in a community of student activists—I was surrounded by individuals committed to social justice, my passion.

I will never forget my first class at Scripps, which was “Feminist Ethics,” taught by Susan Castagnetto. The idea of taking a class about feminism in general excited me, but after I had that first class, I knew Scripps could and would empower me to be a leader of positive change.

Since graduating, I have enjoyed a career tackling important social issues. I have dipped my toes in the pond of education equity, disability rights, and human trafficking. Currently, I am engaged in efforts to end childhood hunger. My job as program coordinator at the National Education Association Health Information Network allows me to work with outstanding educators from across the country to implement breakfast in the classroom as a way to increase the number of K-12 students participating in the federally funded school breakfast program.

This year, I am working in 10 school districts and looking to feed breakfast to more than 20,000 additional students on a daily basis. This is no small undertaking! I have visited a number of schools and talked to hundreds of teachers. I am amazed by their dedication and commitment to each of their students’ academic, emotional, and physical growth.

When I visited one classroom in Reading, Pennsylvania, I asked the teacher if she thought she had any hungry students. I expected to hear of one or two. She brought me over to her desk, opened a drawer, and revealed a sizable box of granola bars and snacks for the students who come to her class hungry. She told me that she spends on average $20 a week on food for her students. While shocking, this revelation made me realize why the work I am doing is so important.

There are no easy answers to the issue of childhood hunger in this country. But my experience at Scripps with strong women mentors has shown me that with hard work and dedication, anything is possible.

Cohon recently started a graduate program at American University and says that even though she is a “Scrppsie at heart,” she has embraced her new university mascot, Clawed, the Eagle. She enjoys running, yoga, and going to as many concerts as possible, as “music is the best medicine.”

“Scripps could and would empower me to be a leader of positive change.”
Amy Wind’s social justice career began at Scripps and continues today as she uses her skills to solve people’s problems.

Considering Amy Wind ’77 lives in Washington, D.C., she hears the rumblings of the political wars all too often. Partisans on both sides of the aisle battle over issue after issue without giving an inch, preferring to posture and take positions rather than roll up their sleeves to hammer out deals, compromises, and real legislation.

Wind is setting an example that political Washington should heed. As chief circuit mediator, she is responsible for the mediation programs of the U.S. Court of Appeals, U.S. District Court, and U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the District of Columbia. Her daily goal is simple: bring opposing parties together in civil cases to find common ground and practical alternatives to litigation.

“It’s all about problem solving. I went from many years of arguing people’s cases as a trial lawyer to listening as a neutral to other people arguing their cases,” says Wind. “As a mediator, the parties need to trust you to understand their side of the story and to help them find different ways to accomplish their goals and achieve justice. My work often involves having the parties sit down, listen to each other, and find a pragmatic way to end their dispute.”

As one of only 13 federal chief circuit mediators in the country, Wind oversees the activities of 150 attorney-mediators volunteering for her courts’ mediation programs. She also handles an array of her own mediations, from complex environmental issues to employment law to disputes over the constitutionality of federal regulations. Wind has taught mediation skills for well over a decade as an adjunct law professor and trainer at federal agencies and the Federal Judicial Center.

The transition from trial lawyer to mediator was a natural progression for Wind. As a lawyer, she handled contentious employment cases for 12 years—writing briefs, conducting trials, arguing appeals. Eventually, she reached a point where, she says, “I just got tired of arguing.”

After receiving training in mediation and taking a sabbatical to Africa, in 1994 Wind opened her own practice, in which she mediated hundreds of cases. Wind also worked for several years with the nonprofit Search for Common Ground, where she used her mediation skills to bring liberal and conservative organizations together to work on joint projects related to race relations and affirmative action. Wind was appointed chief circuit mediator in 2008.

Wind cites her experience at Scripps as the beginning of her foray into social justice and the foundation upon which she built her varied and successful career path.

“Since my days at Scripps, where I helped establish the College Council’s first diversity chair, I have been interested in the practical aspects of implementing social justice. So, my career choices probably make sense,” Wind says.
"At a time when many Americans are struggling to feed their own families, it can be difficult to make the case for spending U.S. tax dollars overseas."

Erin Fry Sosne is a government affairs officer with PATH in Washington, D.C. On August 11, she married Justin Sosne. The photo above was taken in Istanbul on their honeymoon.
I am a legislative assistant to a United States representative from California. My portfolio covers 16 topics, including women’s rights, crime, drug enforcement, homeland security, immigration, civil rights, and appropriations, among others. I closely track these issues and provide counsel to the congressman on votes. Additionally, I draft speeches, lead meetings with businesses, community groups, local officials, and citizens, and, best of all, help introduce legislation.

When I tell people I have worked in the House of Representatives for six years, I’m often asked how I can stand the dysfunction of modern-day politics. I don’t argue against this observation: Congress is at its lowest approval rating in years, and this is justified when politicians cannot even manage to reauthorize essential laws such as the Violence Against Women Act.

However, I also like to remind people that stalled lawmaking is not always “politics as usual.” The Capitol is home to a passionate democracy, the meeting place of deeply held but clashing convictions about how our laws should operate. This is the kind of environment in which I believe Scripps women can make the most positive difference.

At Scripps, our thesis advisors and Core mentors demanded that we confront tough questions and ethical quandaries head on. I now do the same thing in my job. This past year, I have authored legislation with my boss that would increase protections for refugees fleeing persecution and abuse and a bill that would help prevent wrongful deportations of immigrants and citizens with mental disabilities. We will soon be introducing legislation that incentivizes states to remove juveniles from adult courts and prisons.

We are dealing with contentious issues, and we do not always win popularity contests by bringing attention to them. But we are fighting for what we believe in and advocating on the House floor for those who do not have representation. When I receive emails from constituents or Congressional offices to join us in becoming involved with these issues or a phone call from a member saying, “Tell me more about this,” it makes the sweat and toil worth it. We’ve planted a seed of thought and started a discussion that can begin to grow.
Thompson works in the office of U.S. Representative Pete Stark (D-California). At Scripps, Thompson self-designed a major in criminal law and psychology. Outside of work, she likes to wander the halls of the Smithsonian Institution and spend time with friends. She also volunteers several evenings each month as a sexual assault emergency responder for the D.C. Rape Crisis Center.

“We are dealing with contentious issues, and we do not always win popularity contests by bringing attention to them.”
The United States aspires to, and often is taken to represent, an actual “deliberative democracy,” one driven by ideas, character, and outcomes, in which well-informed people choose their elected representatives after careful thought. Democracy in the U.S. also aspires to a “participatory democracy,” to full inclusivity, and full participation of eligible voters.
Anyone reading this, however, recognizes how difficult it is to realize both of these aspirations at the same time. No one wants to, or should, prevent eligible voters from voting. Yet, at the same time, everyone wants, or claims to want, fellow citizens to step into the voting booth only after careful thought and deliberation about the issues and outcomes at stake.

What if a portion of the citizenry does not deliberate—maybe because of time pressures or cultural forces that equalize good political discourse with its entertainment value and that identify substantive political engagement as dry matter for passionless people?

There might be no problem at all, as long as the choices of those deliberatively disengaged but entertained citizens did not affect real-world electoral outcomes. In that case, all could feel relieved because current conditions would allow full participatory democracy and deliberative democracy to exist side by side, with deliberation winning the day.

It has taken the last 20-25 years, however, for political psychologists to build a descriptive case against the happy coexistence of deliberation and participation. Note that no one is suggesting that the U.S. or any other democracy limit participation. The work of political psychologists—as scientists—is descriptive only, and all of us want to uphold the voting rights of all citizens.

Yet, descriptively, a number of us at least are making choices that have nothing to do with issues or positions or outcomes; rather, we are choosing according to a politician’s physical appearance alone. Indeed, Laura Loesch ’09 and I published a scientific paper in the May 2012 issue of the leading journal *Political Psychology* on just this topic, revealing a rather surprising detail that no one had guessed would be the case.

First, though, let’s back up. How do we know that a significant number of people choose to vote for candidates based only on physical appearance?

In work that dates back to 1987 or so, political psychologists presented 10-minute silent film clips of candidates’ speeches to real voters who knew nothing about those candidates’ views on any issue, or even who those candidates were. Despite there being no sound, with only the physical appearance (e.g., face, hair, clothing, posture, movement, facial expression) to go by, people in the experiments were better than chance at picking the winners and losers of real-world elections. That could only be the case if enough real-world voters also cast their vote on the basis of appearance alone.

Now, fast-forward to the years between 2005 and today, when scientists showed that seeing still images of political candidates allowed naïve experimental participants to identify winners and losers of real-world elections at better than chance, even when those images were presented for only 30-100 milliseconds; that’s less than one-tenth of one second. Scientists have replicated these findings in the U.S., in Mexico, in Canada, in Europe, and throughout Latin America, always within the local political contexts and always with the pictures of local politicians.

So, the influence of a candidate’s physical appearance on the choices of at least a significant proportion of the electorate looks to be largely reliable, cross-cultural, and widespread. In other words, it is likely that if you sat 500 people down and asked them to decide on the 2012 electoral races based on still pictures of the candidates alone, and then went to Las Vegas and used their decisions to bet on the elections, you...
would make money. Not that anyone really should do this.

What in our psychology links candidate appearance and how well they do in elections? In a paper published in 2008 in the journal *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, I asked this kind of question. My research assistants and I were careful to control for ethnicity, gender, and the size of the head and face in the pictures used. This is important, since we already know that there are biases based on gender and ethnic heritage. We used a neuroimaging technique (functional magnetic resonance imaging: fMRI) to investigate how the brain responds to pictures of real candidates who ran against each other in real elections.

Surprisingly, we did not find that the brain consistently responded to positive aspects of a winning candidate’s appearance, such as competence or attractiveness. Instead, the brain most consistently responded to negative aspects of a losing candidate’s appearance. In other words, people who choose by appearance are most consistent in deciding which candidate’s appearance they like least—and then picking the other one. This is called “negative voting,” something political scientists have noted for some time as very influential in real elections. It turns out our brains do this almost without us even needing to consciously weigh the options.

However, one key aspect of that 2008 paper, and of the field in general, did not feel right to rising senior Laura Loesch as she thought about doing an original, highly creative senior capstone project. Laura knew that the prevailing belief was that a candidate’s face alone was all that mattered in linking appearance to electoral success. She thought that this might not be quite right, so we worked to design an experiment that used images that had only the faces of politicians in real elections or that had only the appearance outside the face and any skin surface.

The results were surprising. Along with facial features, Laura discovered that aspects such as a politician's hair, clothing, posture, and jawline do matter for people who choose based only on appearance. Her exciting work was featured in a special issue of the journal *Political Psychology* focusing on biological approaches to political science. She continues her great work as a graduate student in the program of Computation and Neural Systems at nearby Caltech.

What might this mean for deliberative democracy? If a politician’s appearance only exerts an influence on voters via the candidate’s face, then we really might be prisoners of our biology. Most of us cannot, at least within the usual limits, control the kind of face we have. However, if aspects of appearance such as hair, clothing, and posture are important as well, then politicians have greater control over how they appear to their given constituency. Those who successfully work to match their constituents’ preferences in appearance might also be successful in building the coalitions and support to get real political work done. There is no guarantee of this, of course, but it seems the better possibility, on the face of it.

Still, as a deliberative democracy, we continue to aspire to voter choice based only on issues, positions, character, and outcomes, none of which have any known determinate connection to physical appearance.

So, for those of us still concerned about the upcoming election and about enhancing a thoughtful electorate, what might we do?

Perhaps we can become more informed about the science, and then inform others, motivating them to move away from easy, but misleading, intuitions about what physical appearance really tells us about a person’s ability to govern democratically and honestly. Indeed, research shows that the more people know about the issues and a candidate's views about them, the less they rely on unreliable shortcuts like intuitions based on what a politician looks like.

As long as we work hard to know our candidates, and to know our own views and the reasons for them, our aspirations for a thoughtful, deliberative democracy may yet be realized.
Laura Loesch ’09 was a double major in cognitive neuroscience and humanities at Scripps. She entered as a biology, pre-medicine student, but decided to adopt a second major in humanities after taking Core, the three-semester signature academic program at Scripps. She said that the interdisciplinary school of thought in the Core program introduced her to “a way of approaching the world in which one tries to ignore conventions and disciplinary boundaries and find connections between different fields.”

“In Core, I remember being struck by the notion that anyone could propel a field forward by simply refusing to take the standard set of assumptions for granted,” Loesch wrote in Scripps Magazine in fall 2010.

Her Scripps academic background has served Loesch well. She is breaking new research ground at Caltech, where she is pursuing a PhD in computation and neural systems, working with Scripps psychology professor Michael Spezio, who also has an appointment at Caltech.

As a Scripps undergraduate, Loesch began challenging assumptions into current research about how voters view physical characteristics of political candidates and how they incorporate this information into their voting decisions.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

We're listening; are you speaking?

This year, the Alumnae Leadership Council (ALC) is refreshing its long-range plan. After a year of soul searching, we know we want to continue our:

- commitment to volunteerism and connection among alumnae
- support for the initiatives of the College (including financial!)
- support for flourishing diversities in our community
- effective communication about our work

The last long-range plan and alumnae survey established these priorities, similar to those from the previous plan. Our focus as a body remains clear.

Now is the time for you to tell us how you want the priorities of the ALC to play out. What are you passionate about as an alumna? How do you want us to help connect you to the College and to other alumnae? How should we effectively work to amplify the voices of age, class, race, culture, nationality, and other unique identities within our community?

This December, via email or other format, you will be receiving our alumnae survey. Take the time to fill it out. We're listening, so start speaking!

Not yet familiar with the ALC? Unclear who we are or what we do? We're too exciting not to learn about. Log in to www.MyBrowsingRoom.com to learn more.

We'll be profiling our members in the next few issues of the magazine. This time around, you'll get to know our Regional Associates programming vice presidents, Marga and Catherine, who describe their thoughts and interests on the opposite page. If you just can't wait for the serial version, you can meet all of us at one time online through the MyBrowsingRoom portal.

Even better, why not join us? There are volunteer leadership positions available in regional programming, the Annual Fund, communications, academic initiatives, and diversity initiatives.

You'd like us to do something else as well? Let us know, and we'll put you to work. There are opportunities at every level of time commitment, interest, and expertise. The only requirement to volunteer is a passion for Scripps and a desire to connect with alumnae.

What an exciting time to be active in the ALC! While the College is, of course, always evolving, there are particular incarnations in the next few years that will find us newly energized and enthusiastic about our relationship with Scripps. They include: the creation of the new office of alumnae and parent engagement and the Scripps Fund; the addition of new academic space and student housing; the Women in Public Service Project; and the chance for the ALC to renew ourselves through our revised long-range plan. All these activities reinforce the feeling that our Scripps College community is indeed thriving.

Thank you for your support, and enjoy the fall and holiday seasons!

Amy Drayer ’99
Alumnae Association President
Welcome, Alumnae Association President
Amy Drayer ’99

If you want a leader with energy, passion, and commitment—and an infectious smile that telegraphs a terrific sense of humor—meet Amy Drayer.

So far in her life, she’s taken on numerous jobs and challenges that mark her as an enthusiastic and successful organizer and motivator.

As an undergraduate, Amy was president of the student body for two years. During her tenure, she served on the Architectural Review Committee for the Malott Commons, which opened in 2000. After graduating, she volunteered as GOLD representative for the Annual Fund; later she was a regional associate in Washington, D.C., and a volunteer for her 5- and 10-year reunions.

Amy, a Seattle native, currently lives in Denver, Colorado, with her wife, Erin Atwell. She is the vice president for strategic initiatives with the GLBT Community Center of Colorado. She manages marketing strategy, corporate sponsorship, and community engagement. She also coordinates several fundraising events annually, including the center’s signature event, Denver PrideFest, which draws more than 325,000 attendees annually. She has served on the Board of the Colorado Festival and Events Association and the Community Relations Council of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

Amy moved to Denver in 2006 from Washington, D.C., where she worked in the progressive movement for more than six years. Initially, she directed field operations for Choice USA, a national youth-oriented educational foundation, and, subsequently, Voters For Choice. In 2000, Amy coordinated a multi-city tour for Voters For Choice and Gloria Steinem; she worked with dozens of colleges, including Scripps, and managed volunteer coordinators at each location, with rallies ranging from 300 to 1,000 people.

After leaving Voters For Choice, Amy was campaign manager for Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.), working as a consultant with Brazile & Associates. While in D.C., she volunteered as finance chair for the Women’s Information Network (WIN). There, she helped coordinate their Women Opening Doors for Women annual fundraiser, which held 25 dinners throughout the district. She also managed on a volunteer basis the 2004 and 2005 Affairs of the Heart gala for the Washington Free Clinic, then the oldest free medical clinic on the East Coast.

Fortunately, Amy has lots of energy and good ideas on tap to put to work for Scripps.

Welcome, Amy!
Jennie and Derek Werner

Giving back to country and college

Jennifer “Jennie” Jackson ’81 and Derek Werner (CMC ’80) met as students in college and soon became best friends. After graduating, they both went into business and eventually married.

But at age 30, they wanted to do something service-oriented, so they joined the U.S. Army. According to Derek, they intended to serve only four years and then return to their business careers.

Four years somehow turned into 23. During their time as military intelligence Polish linguists, the Werners learned about a special Army officer program in which one serves in U.S. Defense Attaché Offices in embassies around the world learning foreign languages.

“We thought it sounded most intriguing,” said Jennie. “We love to travel—we even took a 10-month backpacking honeymoon around the world. This appealed to our sense of adventure and offered us both unique career opportunities.”

The Werners, who call themselves “basically vagabonds,” have lived in Germany, Poland, the Philippines, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Colombia, China, India, Austria, and now the UK during the last two decades with the U.S. Army.

“We have both absolutely loved it,” they say. “We have been fortunate enough to travel in more than 140 countries embracing cultures, foods, and people all over the world.”

A cancer survivor, Derek is now retired, but actively accompanies Jennie on their continuing adventures, and they share a love of theatre (they just saw their 385th play since moving to London in December 2009) and music.

Jennie and Derek Werner

A win-win way of giving

Through a deferred charitable gift annuity, Jennie and Derek Werner found an excellent and thoughtful way to give to the College that will provide an income stream for themselves to enjoy at a later date.

“We can’t think of a better win-win proposition,” says Jennie. “Scripps women will benefit when we are gone, and we have created an important source of retirement income in the near future.” The Werners have continued this way of giving for more than 20 years.

A deferred charitable gift annuity could be the perfect gift for you. Such a gift is funded with cash or stock that is exchanged for a Scripps College obligation to pay the annuitant(s) an income at a future date. At the death of the last annuitant, the remainder goes to Scripps.

Here’s how it works: A couple makes a gift to Scripps to ultimately endow a scholarship of $100,000 in the form of a deferred gift annuity.

If the couple was 55 at the time of the gift and wished to begin receiving income payments at age 70, the annual payments would amount to $7,400 for the rest of their joint lives. The remainder would ultimately pass to Scripps to create a scholarship fund bearing their names.

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<tr>
<th>Age at time of gift</th>
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<td><strong>Single Life</strong></td>
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For additional information on how the Deferred Charitable Gift Annuity can work for you, please contact Kimberley Valentine, Office of Gift Planning, (909) 607-1876 or kimberley.valentine@scrippscollege.edu.
House That for Coincidence?

There are close to 100 million single detached homes in the United States, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. There are 12,307 Scripps College alumnae, living and deceased. So, what are the odds that one house would have been home at separate times to three non-related Scripps College alumnae?

We asked Associate Professor of Mathematics Chris Towse (rhymes with house) this question. His answer: “Using what’s called the Poisson Approximation… the answer is approximately .003106%. In other words, there’s a one in 32,196 chance, roughly, that there will be at least one triple of people who all have lived in the same place.”

Towse said that this is a much higher probability than one might expect (and that he did the math quickly). Any mathematician with a different method or answer—let us know.

The residence in question is on McClendon Street in Houston, Texas, in the family-friendly University Place neighborhood. Built in 1940, the two-story traditional has been home to the late Molly Ivins ’66, Marga Rose Hancock ’69, and Katherine Harper ’01.

Did this shared location play any role in the subsequent lives of these three alumnae? Marga does not consider that the house itself influenced her life; however, Molly Ivins certainly influenced her.

“From early on, I read and took strength from Molly’s bold words,” Marga said. Both women left Scripps near the beginning of their college careers: Molly transferred to Smith, Marga stepped out for a year. Both returned: Marga to graduate from Scripps, and Molly to deliver the Commencement address in 2003. It was Marga who encouraged Molly to accept the invitation from Scripps to speak.

Katherine was only 18 months old when her family moved into the McClendon house—and the house is still in her family, although she now lives in Los Angeles. She recalls that there were “tons” of children in the neighborhood, all about her age. “It was a lot of fun growing up on that street.”

Today, both Marga and Katherine remain engaged in Scripps activities. Marga is a vice president for regional associates on the College’s Alumnae Leadership Council, as well as the Class of ’69 reunion co-chair and class scribe. She was on the creative caucus that originated Camp Scripps, first held in 1994, which endowed the Lois Langland Alumna-in-Residence program.

Katherine is involved with the College in many ways as well: as a class scribe, an alumnae admissions interviewer, a reunion volunteer, and a regional associate.

Hmm, two alumnae—both regional associates, both class scribes, both reunion volunteers. Both grew up in the same house. Now, what are the odds on that?

Return

by Dottie Schlesser Ashley ’77

We are returning
Planes soaring and landing
Intertwined in a luminosity layered
As a Costco apple pie
Incomings hang like happy lanterns
In this smooth summer sky
Sifting in the black horizon
One after another and another
A certainty though we know
This could all be taken from us

Grateful for our reunion, gathering
Illuminating histories from nearly half a century
Promising rekindled desire
A secret garden hedge
Beyond framed stucco walls and tile roofs of
Spanish memories and ancient missions
Mixing our age with silent swishing robes and
slapping sandals.
At the liquid sapphire pool
Coeds in hats and board shorts
Pour over computers and spiral notebooks
A mature body slips into the far side
Of the outlined lap lengths.
We hope we are the best we can be
Bent and broken fingers cradle each other
We feel our tender stories like brittle bones
The journey still matters
But so too does this arrival
We are rapt and filled
And brave enough now
To ask questions
About physics for poets
Or after an ailing husband
Or about a malingering lover
To know such secrets takes away their power
This has become the freedom we
Gracefully gift ourselves.
36 Ellen Smedley Smith (Fayetteville, AR) January found me facing thoracic back surgery to remove a small benign tumor on my spinal cord. The operation was successful, and, with 24/7 help, I was able to be at home. Therapy has enabled me to walk with a cane. This summer, I celebrated my grandfather’s sesquicentennial trip in 1862 across the plains from Omaha to Salem, Oregon. His diary of the trip was published on his 75th birthday and again in 1994. We will publish it again so that the younger generations will have copies of Across the Plains in 1862 by W. M. Smedley. All the generations of his family will gather to view the tiny leather-bound diary now in the new Colorado Historical Museum, visit the family home at Aurora, and celebrate the day at The Smedley School. I was so pleased to learn that a graduate of our Fayetteville High School, Kelyn Hultind, had won a scholarship to Scripps and is entering this fall.

43 Rosemary Longwood Hunt (Bellevue, WA) Your summer Scripps Magazine arrived, and I was disappointed to see so few entries from the 1940s. I am a member of the 1943 class, although I attended only from 1939-41, then transferred to the University of Washington. I did want you to know, however, that there are some ’43ers still alive and kicking. Three of us got together this summer in Seattle to share pictures and happy memories. Ruth Adele Hedgecock Campbell and I both live in Copper Center, Alaska, where she is a community organizer. Don’t take 1943 off your roster yet!

47 Marian MacEachron Boggs (Asheville, NC) Sorry to have missed the class reunion, but I remember our last one with warm memories. My granddaughter, Marian, is now an army specialist in mechanics, of all things. Eudora Young Payne (Owensboro, KY) Though I remember many of the girls in my class (Marky Hardin, for example), I doubt if they remember me unless they lived in Clark Hall, and then possibly they do.

49 Marilyn McDonald Moon (Eden Prairie, MN) Last November, I joined a small reunion at Pismo Beach of alumnae from CMC and Scripps. I didn’t know anybody when I arrived, but they were very gracious to include me. It was wonderful to walk on the beach again and breathe the salty air.

51 Dorothy Denbrink Rechtin (Rolling Hills Estates, CA) I am so impressed with the award-winning Scripps College Academy and the dynamic and creative administrator who is an alumna [Kelly Hewitt ‘08]. Three of us who are involved with AAUW’s Tech Trek program for math-science enthusiasts (8th graders) had a stimulating morning meeting to learn more about their program. Inspiring!

55 Jeanne Fisher Chandler (Los Altos Hills, CA) I appreciate more and more my short time at Scripps.

56 Judith Richmond (Santa Maria, CA) I’m still living on the Central Coast and enjoying the sea and rolling hills. I visited with Astrid Jansa Gallagher ’57 a short time ago and enjoyed it very much.

59 Sandra Bennett Caldwell (Riverside, CA) I am renovating my family home and researching my family tree.

60 Betsy Edmonston Evans-Banks (Tucson, AZ) Suzanne Stooff Nystrom and I see each other quite often in Tucson; our trip back to Scripps for our 50th remains a fond memory.

61 Roxie Scott Stouffer (Phoenix, AZ) I sold my house after Jim passed away and am now living in a delightful two-story patio home near my grandchildren and their parents.

63 Mary Boehringer Blackburn (Redlands, CA) Tom and I moved to Redlands to be closer to our five grandchildren in California. We have two girls, almost two and almost four, in Redlands. Roxana and Jasmin are the youngest. Our only grandson, Avedis, lives in San Jose and will turn 7 in November. Our third child’s family is located in Carpinteria. Svenja is 10 and Silke is 6. I enjoyed the Scripps Book Club in Tucson and am still reading some of their current titles. I look forward to meeting up with my Scrippse classmates next year for our 50th reunion in Claremont.

65 Catherine Coulson (Ashland, OR) I’m still working at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and enjoy seeing Scripps families in August when they come see plays.

66 Sharon Terryl Maldonado (Berkeley, CA) I’ve been active in the local Occupy movement, Grandmothers Against War, and Hands Off Social Security and Medicare. Retirement is much busier than I expected.

Class Scribes
Marga Rose Hancock marga@margainc.com
Evie Nelson Senior ensenior@verizon.net
Dale Reeves Nichols Gaucha2@pacifier.net

70 Susan Roby Fernandes (Austin, TX) Frank and I are celebrating our 40th anniversary with an 11-day Baltic cruise. We are especially looking forward to the three days we will spend in St. Petersburg. I just learned that Jane Douglas Barna will be back in Austin this winter. This will be the third year, and it is always fun to spend time together when she is here escaping Boston winters. Last year, Ann Dutton visited Jane in Austin, and we had a fun lunch talking about the years since Scripps. Laurie Nelson Schmidt (Reno, NV) I lost the love of my life, my husband, Johnny, on the 21st of June. He was a graduate of San Francisco State, quarterback, pitcher, and as fine a man as I ever met. Difficult to be grateful for the nearly 25 years we had together, but I’m working on it.
Barbara Roensch Fake (Torrance, CA) For this city dweller, there is nothing like a trip to Alaska to bring things into perspective. The awe I felt circling Denali in a plane for the first time and watching glacial ice hundreds of years old calve into the bay was a welcome change from the feelings of frustration I get when I read the news. Add to that the wonder and delight at the birth of a new grandchild (our eighth) and I am filled with enough hope and inspiration to carry on a little longer. May the renewed spirit of friendship I felt at our reunion continue on to the next one.

Molly Hoffstetter Huffman (San Francisco, CA) My daughter, Brooke ’04, and I went on the Scripps trip to Athens, Istanbul, and places between with Vicki Wilhelm Plavchak and her daughter, Aimee. We had a blast, and I would and will go again when Scripps hosts another tour. The people were terrific, and we had the Williams College alums with us. The history professor from Williams was great, and Lori [President Bettison-Varga] gave a wonderful talk on the geology of the area. It left us all glad that the big one did not hit Istanbul while we were there.

Chutatip V. Umavijani (Bangkok, Thailand) At this stage in life, I try to take good care of myself physically and mentally. I go swimming almost every day (if I can), play badminton when I have time, and do mindful meditation both morning and night, if time allows. I try to perceive the world as it is and enjoy every moment. At present, I have less teaching, only two courses, so I am preparing for my full retirement in 2015. This year, I have to repair many parts of me, such as my eyesight, my teeth, and my weight, which I easily gain. Difficult to handle physically, but the mind should not be disturbed from it. The first of my two kids, Plois, is in Paris at the moment and will study design after an MA in psychology and BA in communication science. The second one, Plue, is studying for his MA at King’s College, London, in ancient history and may follow his parents’ path into teaching. Socrates and the Buddha seem to agree that the art of dying is the practice to live more fully. At present, I am caring for a sister (she is 74, a mathematician, and head of the Mathematics Society of Thailand). We are best friends, as my husband, Montri, passed away six years ago. I would love to travel more after my retirement, certainly to visit my Scripps friends in the U.S.

73 Linda Young McArdle (Carlsbad, CA) Jim and I are enjoying being grandparents. We travel frequently to visit our daughters in San Francisco, Nashville, and soon Austin, Texas, where Kate will start grad school in the fall. We moved a few miles to Carlsbad—downsizing!

Ainsley Smeeth Lafferty (Versailles, KY) I am enjoying work at VCA-Woodford Animal Hospital as a licensed vet tech and pet sitting for local clients. This summer, I took a trip to Heilborn, Germany, to visit my foreign exchange student, Lisa Veith, and her dear family. All grandchildren are doing well.

Julie Dart Swiatek (Scottsdale, AZ) In May, I moved from Indianapolis to Scottsdale to work at the Arizona Republic as a publishing editor, a new position that combines copy editing and online editing duties for the features and business sections. I loved living in Indiana for the past 25 years, but feel like I’ve finally come home. I spend much of my free time running and hiking in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve and will become a steward there in the fall. Son Jon just finished his first year at Indiana State, and Chris will be entering his third year in the USC School of Cinematic Arts, studying interactive entertainment. I’m looking forward to getting back to Scripps more often.

Sarah McCulloch (Oakland, CA) I’m busy with my two kids, Eliza and Elliot. Eliza started at Emerson College this fall. I’m also busy with my jewelry design company.

Bella Mahaya Carter (Studio City, CA) I’m writing The Raw Years: A Midlife Healing Memoir and teaching “Write Where You Are: The Art of Being Present on the Page” and “Body Talk Creative Writing and Movement.” I also work with clients around the country as a writing, life, and creativity coach.

Margaret Pumpelly Finnegan (South Pasadena, CA) I’m happy to announce the publication of my new novel, The Goddess Lounge, by Lucky Bat Books. It is dedicated, in part, to my wonderful Camp Scripps sisters, who have taught me that owning your own life means owning your own fun.
96 Jennifer Stallard (Camarillo, CA)
This fall, I will celebrate nine years at SAGE, an academic publisher in Thousand Oaks, California, where I manage teams of freelance copy editors, proofreaders, and indexers from around the world. I love my job, especially because all the work we do supports education and learning. I’ll be traveling to SAGE’s London office for a few weeks this fall—adventures abound! I also teach spinning (indoor cycling) classes three or four nights per week at 24 Hour Fitness and was recently voted best fitness instructor at my local club. In Camarillo, I enjoy being close to family and the beach.

Class Scribe
Sarah Prehoda Turpin
sarahprehoda@hotmail.com

01 Cheryl Galindo Kushida (Palo Alto, CA) Compass Legal, the estates and trusts law office I founded, opened a new location in Palo Alto.

Class Scribe
Katherine Harper
katherine.A.Harper@gmail.com

02 Jessica Warren Schaeppi (Minneapolis, MN) I love being a mom even more than I imagined and decided to stay at home with the little guy. I am also hoping to build a philanthropic and development consulting practice. We enjoyed life in the Twin Cities as a family this summer with plenty of trips to Lake Harriet for swimming, splashing, and playing in the sand.

Class Scribe
Katie Van Heest
katinavanheest@alumna.scrippscollege.edu

03 Caitlin Phillips LeGros (Montgomery Village, MD) Our new family is moving back to Baltimore for my new nurse midwife job at Mercy Medical Center and where Robin is a fourth-year medical student at the University of Maryland. We are looking forward to finally all working and living in the same city.

Class Scribe
Sofia Ahmed
sahmed@alumna.scrippscollege.edu

04 Cori Badgley (Juneau, AK) My fiancé and I moved back to our hometown of Juneau, and I started a new job working for the Alaska attorney general. We are happy to be closer to family and back in the beautiful state of Alaska.

Class Scribe
Laurel Horn
laurel.horn@gmail.com

05 Elizabeth Obreza Hurst (Alexandria, VA) Elizabeth is living in D.C. with her husband of four years, Phillip. She has had some freelance writing success lately with a cover article about the urban bike lifestyle for Momentum magazine and a feature article about public health for Rails-to-Trails magazine. Her communications job at Society for Neuroscience also keeps Elizabeth busy and frequently reminds her of the neuroscience fundamentals class she took at Scripps back when the major was new. Case Hynes (Upland, CA) I have spent my last four years teaching middle school math and science in Los Angeles (two of which were as a Teach For America corps member), and earned two master’s degrees, one in urban education and one in school leadership and administration from Loyola Marymount University. I am currently an assistant principal for Green Dot Public Schools, working towards reversing the academic achievement gap in Los Angeles’ low-income communities. Lauren Kingston (Tucson, AZ) My fiancé, Adam Searcy, and I live in a cute old house with two dogs, five chickens, two turkeys, and lots of vegetable plants. We met in Mexico on an archaeological dig during the summer after my graduation from Scripps. I will complete my master’s in anthropology at the University of Arizona in May 2013. Cambria Minott-Gaines (Aptos, CA) I volunteered as a London ambassador for the Olympics, welcoming visitors to the city. Alexendra Pauley (Oakland, CA) I have started my third year at UCLA Law in the Public Interest Law and Policy Program. I’m thrilled to almost be done with law school and am hoping to pursue a career in indigent criminal defense. My partner and I are living together in Oakland and will celebrate our five-year anniversary this fall. This summer, I interned with the Contra Costa County Public Defender’s Office and am now interning full time with the Prison Law Office in Berkeley. I miss my lovely Scrippies ladies now more than ever, but I am so glad I’ll get to see some folks regularly now that I’m in school in Los Angeles. Amalia “Mali” Picus (Houston, TX) I got married! I was married to Todd Davis, of Corpus Christi, on June 10, 2012, in Houston, Texas. I was honored to have Marissa Butler, Tessa Williams Schulze, and Margaret Scheuermann share the happy moment with me. It would not have been as special without my fellow Scrippies there. I am in my last year of optometry school and am looking forward to seeing what my career, marriage, and future throw in my path.

Class Scribe
Kate Kosco
katinakosco@gmail.com

08 Whitney Eriksen (Philadelphia, PA) After working for two years as a lab manager in a neuropsychology lab at UCLA, I decided to shift gears and go back to school. I am currently working on my BSN and PhD concurrently as a Hillman Scholar in nursing innovation at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. My focus is in pediatrics and developmental disorders, specifically autism spectrum disorders. Though I have had some “culture shock” moments (after so many years on the West Coast), I am really enjoying life in Philadelphia. Claire McNamara (Seattle, WA) After a year and nine months working as the administrative coordinator at the immigrant rights advocacy group OneAmerica, I am moving on to pursue a degree in law from Seattle University, focusing on immigration and family law. I am in a fixer-upper house with Harvey Mudder Oliver Johnson; come over if you want to join our painting/tiling/grouting party! Ariane Mohr-Felsen (Tucson, AZ) I’m heading off to Southern Africa this fall to teach for The Traveling School, a place-based study abroad program for girls. We start in Zambia, continue through Mozambique, and finish in South Africa, all the while learning about local literature, history, politics, and natural science. I’m so excited for the opportunity to empower young women to discover more about themselves and the world at large. Shara Neff (Castro Valley, CA) I’m starting my third and final year of law school at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento. I interned with Legal Services for Prisoners with Children in San Francisco this summer; they provide legal advice and various referral services.
as well as visit inmates in prisons around the state and advocate for their rights. **Kara Schnabel** (Cambridge, MA) I’ve worked at Boston University for two and a half years and recently started a new position as assistant director of stewardship and donor relations. I’m also starting up a beer blog with my dad.

**11 Erin Coleman** (Chicago, IL) I’m currently a label manager at Carrot Top Records and a gallery event coordinator at Saki, a record store, gallery, and performance space.

**12 Christina Boardman** (Santa Barbara, CA) Certain people in the class of 2010 will be happy to know that I graduated from Scripps, in cognitive neuroscience. Katherine Erickson ’10 drove all the way from Palo Alto to see me graduate. It meant a lot to me to have her there. To the class of 2012, I want to say that the best part of my unusual path through college has been the opportunity to get to know so many of you amazing women. Just after graduation, I went on a road trip with Athena, one of my best friends from grade school/high school/life, and Melody, one of my best friends from high school. For our first night, we were in a youth hostel in a lighthouse, with a spectacular view of the coast just north of Half Moon Bay. We met up with Katherine in Palo Alto. In the city, we visited Fisherman’s Wharf, and I spent an unfortunately short amount of time with Giselle Sullivan ’10. This June, I started a neuroscience research fellowship at Emory University through their Post Baccalaureate Research Education Program. I am excited about this next part of my life, although it seems surreal that being a Scripps student will not be part of it.

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**Outstanding Young Women Wanted!** If you know an outstanding young woman applying to college, encourage her to investigate Scripps. As an added incentive, present her with the certificate below—a waiver of the $60 application fee. Applications for Early Decision I and for scholarship consideration are due November 15, 2012. Regular Decision and Early Decision II applications are due January 2, 2013.

**SCRIPPS COLLEGE APPLICATION FEE WAIVER**

This certificate entitles the applicant named below to a waiver of the $60 application fee.

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**NAME OF APPLICANT**

**ALUMNA’S NAME AND CLASS YEAR**

**ALUMNA’S ADDRESS**

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Clockwise, from top right:

Margaret Schuemann ’08, Tessa Williams ’08, and Amalia “Mali” Picus ’08, from left, share a timely reading with Picus on her wedding day, June 10, 2012.

Samantha “Sam” Weisman ’08 and six of her close friends from Scripps and Claremont McKenna Colleges hold a mini-reunion on Weisman’s wedding day, September 18, 2011. From left: Shauna Larson ’08, Amanda Ries ’08, Lizzy Balch (CMC ’08), Rachel Travolta ’08, bride Sam, Meredith “Molly” Strauss ’08, and Ferrin Ruiz ’08.

Jessica Warren Schaeppi ’02 with husband Brad and son Asa, born last November.

Erin Fry ’05 with Justin Sosne—the couple was married on August 11, 2012.

Scripps friends and bridesmaids Marika Lucas Medrano ’02, left, and Emily Allen ’00, right, share the special day with bride Sherrie Rose Maleson Mayle ’02, on July 22, 2012.

Pretty in purple bridesmaids Megan Sirras ’08, left, and Noel Simpkin ’08, right, support classmate Ann Harvey Rossum ’08 on her wedding day, September 24, 2011.
The College has learned of the deaths of the following alumnae:

1935 Elsa Marston Pettit, of San Diego, California, on June 11, 2012, at age 98. After graduating from Scripps, Elsa settled in Bonita and, with her husband, Gordon, raised five children. “Doonie,” as she was known to her friends, and Gordon shared a lifelong interest in anthropology, a passion that began in college while attending summer field schools in New Mexico. They traveled the world together, often focusing on particular archaeological sites. Doonie was an avid gardener and converted their home and ranch into gardens of roses, fruit trees, and wandering paths. She is survived by four children, 13 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband; daughter Susan, who died in infancy; son Arthur; and all her siblings.

1938 Winifred Wig Smith*, of Newport Beach, California, on May 21, 2012, of kidney failure, at age 95. “Winnie” kept close ties to Scripps throughout her life. Her daughter, Susan Allred ’77, accompanied Winnie to the Orange County Holiday Luncheon sponsored by the Elm Tree Society at the Balboa Bay Club in December 2011. In 2004, Winnie established the Winifred Wig Smith Endowed Scholarship at Scripps. She was sister of the late emerita trustee Mary Wig Johnson ’35 and aunt of current trustee Donald P. Johnson.

1940 Mary Schoenbrun Dinerstein, of Flemington, New Jersey, formerly of Minneapolis, on June 27, 2012, at age 93. After Scripps, Mary pursued her interest in painting at the Art Institute of Chicago. She and Robert, her husband of 67 years, raised their three children in Park Forest, Illinois, where she taught elementary school. She joined the staff of the Erikson Institute of Early Childhood Education, which was instrumental in developing the Head Start Program. She also put her interest in art to work as a consulting designer for a local fabric manufacturer. She is survived by a son, Robert; a daughter, Susan; three granddaughters; and four great-grandchildren.

1942 Elizabeth “Betty” McKenzie Pettit, of La Cañada, California, on July 13, 2012, at age 92. After Scripps and during WWII, Betty specialized in pediatric nursing, a skill she later found valuable as she raised her five children. Betty will be remembered as a loving wife and mother, as well as an avid and able equestrienne who rode her champion American Saddlebred horses well into her eighth decade. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Dr. Donald W. Pettit; three daughters and two sons; five stepchildren; eleven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

1944 Barbara Booth Craig, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on March 4, 2012, at age 89, after a brief illness. In 1945, Barbara married her eighth-grade sweetheart, Gordon Craig, who became president of Booth Newspapers, Inc. and the Inland Press Association. Barbara raised her family in Birmingham, Michigan; taught reading in the British Virgin Islands; and last resided at Glacier Hills in Ann Arbor. She is survived by three sons, a brother, and a sister.

1955 Claire Gustafson, of Huntington Beach, California, on May 4, 2012, at age 78. Born and raised in Pasadena, California, Claire taught school in Alta Loma, California, and in the Palm Springs area. She is survived by two daughters, three brothers (one her twin), and three grandchildren.

1966 Linda Jo Pym, of Seattle, Washington, on April 26, 2012. Her niece writes: “My understanding is that she entered Scripps an abnormally shy freshman and left it a confident young woman. She always spoke fondly of her time at Scripps.”

1969 Wilma Elizabeth Bott Hieronymus, of Belmont, Maine, on June 29, of cancer, at age 65. Elizabeth worked at Harvard University for several years prior to receiving her MBA from Boston University in 1981. She was an analyst in mortgages, real estate, and auditing for Unum Corporation until retiring in 1999 to Belmont. While at Unum, Elizabeth received the Chairman’s Award, an achievement given to only three employees of the corporation. Elizabeth was an avid gardener, adventurous traveler, and voracious reader. She chaired the Art Festival for Belfast Senior College, where she served as secretary of the college between 2004 and 2009. Elizabeth is survived by her husband of 25 years, Leonard C. Hieronymus; her mother; and two sisters.

1988 Sheila Faris-Penn, of Fullerton, California, on May 28, 2012, of cancer. Sheila was director of advancement web development at California State University, Fullerton; she joined the university in 1995 as a researcher in advancement. She is survived by her husband, James Penn; sons Zachary and Andrew; her mother and father; and sister.

1993 Melissa Cary Houston, of San Diego, California, on May 17, 2012, at age 40, as a result of a car accident. Melissa was vice president of information technology for the restaurant company Rubio’s. She was also a marathon and triathlon coach who worked with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Team in Training program. After Scripps, she received an MBA from the Freeman School of Business at Tulane University. She is survived by her husband, Mike; two daughters, Ainsley (8) and Kaleigh (5); her parents; and grandparents.

1998 Evelyn Amy Zaid, of Santa Barbara, on August 30, 2012, at age 36, in a tragic accident. After graduating magna cum laude with a degree in philosophy, Evelyn earned a JD from Boston University School of Law. She worked in the legal profession, including the patent law department at Google. A true student of the humanities, Evelyn would spend all of her lunch breaks attending the broad range of interdisciplinary lectures on the Google campus and her evenings attending classes at Stanford University. Her sister, Lisa Zaid ’01, writes: “Brilliant, insightful, and kind, Evelyn was deeply inspired by the Scripps community. She recreated her Scripps environment wherever she was—often living in places with beautiful gardens and even drinking coffee each morning from her favorite Scripps mug. Like a true Scrippspie, Evelyn was interested in everything, and after Scripps she learned to surf, ski, make jewelry, row crew, kayak, paint, play banjo, and cycle long distances. Evelyn loved reading classic literature and was always carrying a copy of Goethe’s Faust with her. She loved sharing this quote with her family and friends: “The world is so empty if one thinks only of mountains, rivers, and cities; but to know someone who thinks and feels with us, and who, though distant, is close to us in spirit, this makes the earth for us an inhabited garden.” Evelyn is survived by her family and friends.

* Member of the Elm Tree Society, having made a planned gift to Scripps College during her lifetime.
Emerging Talent

Each year, The Masters Review selects 10 of the best short stories written by students in the nation's graduate-level creative writing programs. The goal of publication is to expose the best fiction and narrative nonfiction of emerging authors.

This year, Rachael Warecki '08, an MFA candidate at Antioch University Los Angeles, is one of the 10. According to the editor of The Masters Review, "Rachael Warecki has a rare talent, and her ‘The Rites of Summer’ is about so much more than the wedding her wry narrator attends."

As an undergraduate at Scripps, Warecki was editor of the student newspaper, voice. After Scripps, she joined Teach For America for two years and wrote of her experiences at a charter school in Watts, California, in Scripps Magazine, spring 2009. To read Warecki’s “The Rites of Summer,” go to magazine.scrippscollege.edu.

Jean Davis Davison ’59
Mother of Fire: An Iraqi Woman’s Journey from Mosul to Malawi

Anthropologist Jean Davis Davison writes of the trials that Amina Rassam, a rebellious young Iraqi woman, faces when she leaves home to pursue her dream of becoming a “daughter of wisdom” in France. Mother of Fire is a true story of courage and defiance. This is Davison’s fifth book, through Kirinyaga Publishers.

Davison is best known for her books Voices from Mutira and The Ostrich Wakes. She earned a PhD in international development education and an MA in anthropology from Stanford University.

Emily R. Gill ’66
An Argument for Same-Sex Marriage

Political scientist Emily Gill draws an extended comparison between religious belief and sexuality in her latest book, An Argument for Same-Sex Marriage. Gill contends that all citizens of the U.S. are protected under the First Amendment’s freedom of religion clause and should therefore be able to marry as they see fit. According to Gill, civil marriage is a public institution, and to exclude some couples from a state institution is a form of inequality.

“[This] brilliant and sane book reminds us that… marriage equality is at the very heart of the birthright of all Americans, our democratic constitutionalism, protecting, as it does, the basic human rights of all Americans.”
—David A.J. Richards, Edwin D. Webb Professor of Law, New York University

Gill is Caterpillar Professor of Political Science at Bradley University. She is the author of Becoming Free: Autonomy and Diversity in the Liberal Polity and co-editor of Moral Argument, Religion, and Same-Sex Marriage: Advancing the Public Good.

Jessica Pierce ’87
The Last Walk

Jessica Pierce’s moving book The Last Walk chronicles the final year of her cherished dog Ody’s life. Pierce explores the practical, medical, and moral issues that confront pet owners when dealing with the decline and death of their pets. Pierce asks her readers, “Given what we know and can learn, how should we best honor the lives of our pets, both while they live and after they have left us?”

“Jessica Pierce takes a brave and honest look at the hardest decision all of us who share our lives with dogs must face—whether and when to put to sleep, put down, euthanize, terminate, kill our boon companions. She does not make it easier—it never gets easier—but she does succeed in cutting through the euphemistic obfuscation that so often obscures every aspect of the subject.”
—Mark Derr, author of How the Dog Became the Dog: From Wolves to Our Best Friends

Pierce graduated Phi Beta Kappa in religion at Scripps. She went on to earn a doctorate in ethics and has pursued a career as a bioethicist and writer. This is her sixth book.
Finding Sisterhood in Unexpected Places

by Sarah Prehoda Turpin ’96

In 1996, I graduated from Scripps with a degree in politics and my bags packed for Washington, D.C. My views then (and now) were solidly to the left of the political spectrum. I worked as a legislative aide for a liberal California congressman. I earned a master’s in public policy and worked as a policy analyst for several federal agencies. I came back to campus to sit on career panels and talk to students. For a time, I did things that were interesting and relevant to 21-year-old policy wonks.

Last spring, I came back to Scripps for my 15-year reunion very different than who I used to be, than who I thought I would be at my 5-year, even 10-year, gatherings. I am now a stay-at-home mom—something many of my classmates with small children list on their résumé. I am also married to a career officer in the U.S. military. My life is no longer as interesting to career-focused seniors. I don’t know the firsthand dynamics of the Hill anymore or the current state of the federal hiring process. But I have learned many lessons about one of the core elements I took from Scripps: how important female relationships are. And how you can find sisterhood in the most unexpected places.

Increasingly, though, I realize that it doesn’t matter if they vote red instead of blue. I find myself bonded to other military wives because they get it. We may not vote the same way, but we understand things others simply can’t. A decade into the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, there is little sense of shared sacrifice or common burden among most of the general population, but among military wives, there is a deep sisterhood.

This sisterhood manifests itself in many ways. Military wives are quick to say hello, share information, and extend social invitations. When we moved to our current duty station in Hawaii, women I had met only a few times helped make a birthday party special for my daughter, who three weeks before said goodbye to all her friends and the only home she remembered. Last spring, following a tsunami warning, one Army wife left her door open all night so I could slip in after evacuating my kids, dog, and everything else I could fit in the back of the car.

During deployments, the network of military wives can be a saving grace, especially for those stationed far from family. A few years ago, I gave birth to my second child three months into my husband’s yearlong combat deployment to Iraq. Army wives, some of whom I barely knew, brought me meals for weeks. They watched my kids grow during that long, stressful year. The showing of kindness and generosity was one expected from deep friendships cultivated over years, not a mere handful of months.

After more than nine years, I frequently still feel like an imposter. It is difficult for me to embrace many Army spouse traditions. I refuse to carry a bag made out of my husband’s camouflage. I temper my political comments on Facebook, but my bookcase displays my true views. It’s not always easy, but who I grew into at Scripps helps give me the strength to forge bonds in unexpected places.

No one will ever replace the women I met at Scripps. Yet I am thankful for the military wives who help get me through day to day and for the sisterhood they offer. I hope I am able to return the favor.

...I am thankful for the military wives who help get me through day to day and for the sisterhood they offer. I hope I am able to return the favor.
Behind these doors…

are scientists and psychologists, artists and anthropologists, political leaders, and possibilities. Behind every door at Scripps College is a glimpse into the future.

Your gift to the Annual Fund is an inspiration to Scripps women to reach their full potential, whatever path they choose, and to transform the world as they go forward.

Open the door to the future for a Scripps woman with your gift to the Annual Fund today at www.scrippscollege.edu/giving or (909) 607-1542.

The bronze doorway, *The Doors of Life*, designed by Lawrence Tenney Stevens in 1939, grace the northwest wing of the Malott Commons.
“Double Rainbow at Scripps,”
by Manon Zouai ’13,
August 30, 2012