Past Present Future

The Inauguration of
Lara Tiedens as Scripps’
Ninth President
Lara Tiedens is inaugurated as the ninth president of Scripps College, April 29.

Photo by Elisa Ferrari
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In many ways, the Scripps of the present faces an era of experimentation similar to that of the 1920s.

Shifting economic, political, and societal currents have led us to a period of critical examination of the traditions, mores, and standards that have governed our individual and institutional behavior. We find ourselves working harder than ever to address the challenges that confront us—the worldwide disparities between women and men in economic opportunities, educational attainment, health, and political empowerment. We do this in the context where the society at large is questioning the value of higher education generally, particularly the value of liberal arts degrees. Some raise questions about whether colleges can produce an environment where all can learn and develop, or whether, enmeshed in their histories, they’re more congruent and comfortable for some students than others, and whether this leaves space for all voices and experiences. Others raise questions about the extent to which students at liberal arts colleges are exposed to a wide enough set of views, or whether the acceptable range of thinking is too narrow.

It is my strong belief that if there is any institution capable of proving the value of the liberal arts degree and reshaping the environment for that public debate, it is Scripps College. Here, we believe in the power of community. We value ideas, but not at the expense of the people who these ideas impact, and we seek to know and understand each other, and to care for each other, and to produce a better world.

Our image will not be of the Scripps student, but of the many Scripps students, each of whom has their own identity, their own path to Scripps, their own course to academic and personal development, and their own aspirations. We will cherish and replenish that richness. We must note that there have been times when, under the banner of advancing women, efforts have been carried out in a manner that has resulted in the advancement of some women and not others.
Women of color, immigrants, LGBTQ, and lower income women have often found their interests and needs obscured by the broad priorities of the feminist movement and women’s institutions. This cannot be our approach. We have been nourished by the wide range of individual backgrounds, goals, and ideas of our students, and our notion of Scripps must be large so that we can strengthen every one of those voices and imbue everyone who comes here with courage, confidence, and hope.

Students, faculty, staff, alumnae, parents, trustees, and friends: You all are at the heart of this institution, and we are collectively responsible for making this institution all that it can be and achieving its extraordinary potential. I believe that our success will depend on our ability to seek to understand more than to be understood, to learn rather than judge, to forgo self-righteousness in favor of empathy. We must be vigilant, aware, have high standards, and use our individual and collective power to push Scripps to its centennial. As we do so, I urge us not to shy away from what may be difficult conversations, and to remember throughout that there is far more that unifies us than divides us.

We share a desire to create an educational experience that produces and attracts tomorrow’s leaders, educators, and advocates. Scripps students and alumnae are living courageously. They’re astounding history, they’re disrupting their fields, and they are fearlessly plunging into life’s greatest challenges.

LARA TIEDENS
PRESIDENT
Newsflash

W.M. KECK DEAN APPOINTED

Dr. Ulysses J. Sofia has been named dean of the W.M. Keck Science Department, effective July 1. Sofia is currently associate dean for research at American University, where he previously served as chair and professor of physics. He will lead the expansion of the W.M. Keck Science Center, a joint project of Scripps, Pitzer, and Claremont McKenna Colleges that provides next-generation scientists opportunities to engage in groundbreaking research in a liberal arts setting.

GONZALEZ-DAY NAMED 2017 GUGGENHEIM FELLOW

Photographer and Scripps Professor of Art Ken Gonzales-Day has been awarded a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship. One of 173 scholars, artists, and scientists from the U.S. and Canada selected for a fellowship, Gonzales-Day will receive $50,000 from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation to support his work, which examines the history of photography and the limits of representational systems.

NEW HALL AWARDED LEED CERTIFICATION

Scripps has been awarded LEED Gold certification for its NEW Hall building. The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, is the foremost program for buildings, homes, and communities that are designed, constructed, maintained, and operated for improved environmental and human health performance.

SCRIPPS OLIVE OIL WINS AWARDS

Scripps College is noted for bottling olive oil from its campus olive trees. This year, the College submitted its olive oil to the Los Angeles International Extra Virgin Olive Oil Competition, and it won a silver medal in the Light, Delicate category for taste and a bronze medal in packaging for the bottle’s label design. Mary Alexandra Vaughn Antell ’19 created the award-winning label design.
Dr. Eugenia Cheng visited Scripps on March 29 to talk about her book How to Bake Pi, which uses recipes for treats like chocolate brownies as an entry point to understanding math. Cheng is senior lecturer of pure mathematics at the University of Sheffield and is currently on sabbatical in the U.S., where she is scientist in residence and senior lecturer at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

For more information about Scripps Presents, visit scrippscollege.edu/scrippspresents.
“Building bridges between fields builds bridges between people. It helps make progress for society and future discoveries.”

—Dr. Eugenia Cheng
CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

The Final Countdown

With over $140M raised as of April 2017, More Scripps is in its final stretch, with only a year remaining. SCOTT BUSIEL, associate director for advancement communications, sat down with MICHAEL ARCHIBALD, vice president of institutional advancement, to talk about the months ahead.

SCOTT BUSIEL: What has been accomplished as a result of the $140M in gifts?

MICHAEL ARCHIBALD: We have created over 30 named, need-based scholarship endowments, and we have established four new faculty professorships through the Weinberg Professorship Challenge. The Laspa Center for Leadership is now a reality, and we completed a number of major construction projects, including NEW Hall, the Joan and David Lincoln Ceramic Art Building, and the Katherine Howard Miller ’55 Wing of the Bette Cree Edwards ’49 Humanities Building.

I am thrilled that approximately 74 percent of alumnae have given to the campaign since it began in 2009—it has been exciting to see our community rally behind More Scripps. It’s also important to recognize the time and talent that that our community gives. Scripps alumnae, families, and friends regularly hire, mentor, host, and advocate for our students—when we think about measuring gifts, it’s important to count their contributions, too.

SB: President Lara Tiedens joined Scripps toward the end of the campaign. What impact has her leadership had?

MA: President Tiedens has been firmly committed to the campaign goals and priorities. This will likely be our biggest year in gift receipts, and this is due in part to the excitement around her arrival as well as her engagement with our community via the nine In Person events we hosted in 2016–17. At the same time that President Tiedens is helping Scripps finish what we started, she is positioning us for a new phase of strategic planning and a correlating fundraising plan to propel the College forward.

SB: As we look toward this final year of More Scripps, what are some of the remaining priorities?

MA: It is important for Scripps to build annual alumnae participation back over 40 percent. In 2015-16, only 29 percent of alumnae gave to the College. There are also still many unmet priorities. We have raised $67M to support our endowment, now totaling over $300M. A college’s
endowment undergirds its long-term financial strength and is an essential barometer for national rankings. It also critically supports faculty and students by providing academic resources and scholarships.

Financial aid and scholarships are a huge priority, and we have raised $21M toward our $35M goal. No gift is more important than one that makes Scripps possible for deserving students who may not have the resources to pursue higher education. Additionally, we would like to further reduce the loan portion of our financial aid and replace it with outright grant aid whenever possible.

There is also a need for more student mental health and wellness services. Scripps is committed to expanding its existing resources, and some have been asking how they can help in this area. If donors are interested in supporting students in this way, they may now designate their gifts online.

Scripps is in need of a new dance studio—the current facility supports hundreds of 5C students each week. We need another $4M in gifts to support this $8M project.

Looking ahead, we are hoping to make progress on a handful of projects that will be key priorities in the upcoming strategic plan. These include expanding the W.M. Keck Science Center, renovating the Drake Wing, which will house the Laspa Center, and establishing a new Humanities Common that will bring our curriculum to the broader community and serve as a resource for faculty and students.

In this last year of More Scripps, it is important to keep the commitments we made nearly a decade ago. We send a heartfelt “thank you” to donors who have supported the College at any level—we cannot do this work without you!
Trustee News

Board Chair Appointment

Lynne Thompson ’72

The Board of Trustees has appointed Lynne Thompson ’72 as chair, effective July 1, 2018. She will succeed the current Board chair, Mark Herron. Thompson brings a track record of active service to the College, a passion for the arts and education, and extensive expertise as an attorney. She received her BA in social psychology from Scripps and served as student council president. She also served as president of the Alumnae Association, was the 2003 Lois Langland Alumna in Residence and, most recently, sat on the Presidential Search Committee.

Thompson obtained her JD from Southwestern University School of Law and was formerly the director of employee and labor relations at UCLA. An active member of the Los Angeles literary scene and a Pushcart Prize nominee, she is the author of the award-winning book Beg No Pardon (2007), and her poetry has been widely published and anthologized.

New Trustee Appointments

Carolyn Wu Kurtzig ’97

Carolyn Wu Kurtzig ’97 is director of public relations at Apple Inc., responsible for the Asia Pacific region. Following graduation from Scripps, she worked at the White House as assistant to John Podesta, the chief of staff during Bill Clinton’s second term. More recently, she coordinated expat relations in Asia for Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign. Wu Kurtzig has been an active alumna, serving as a volunteer for Reunion Weekend, the Admission Office, and The Scripps Fund. She is also an Elm Tree Society member.

Wu Kurtzig lives in Beijing with her husband, Joshua Aaron Kurtzig, who is general manager of Beijing United Family Rehabilitation Hospital, part of United Family Healthcare, China’s premier private hospital system. They have two children, Sophia and Benjamin.
Libby Greig DeMeo ’95

Libby Greig DeMeo ’95 is COO of Benz Communications, a consulting firm in San Francisco that specializes in benefits and strategic human resources communication for Fortune 500 companies. She previously ran the DeMeo Group, a firm that specializes in business operations for small to midsize organizations, and she continues to be involved as a senior business consultant. Greig DeMeo was formerly president of the Scripps Alumnae Association and served on the Board from 2014 to 2016. She is currently a non-trustee member of the Institutional Advancement Committee.

Greig DeMeo is very involved with Central Middle School and served on the board of White Oaks Elementary School, where she started an award-winning, curriculum-based outdoor classroom for third grade that incorporated science, math, and art. She cares deeply about children’s education and is committed to empowering children and youth. She lives in San Carlos, California, with her husband, Jonathan “Jon” DeMeo, and their two children.

Joan Isaacs ’71

Joan Isaacs ’71 graduated from Scripps with a degree in French literature, attended Loyola of Los Angeles Law School, and practiced law for over 20 years. In the mid-1990s, she took over management of a family real estate investment company, a position she holds to this day.

An active Scripps alumna, Isaacs currently serves as chair of the National Major Gift Committee. She is a member of the Collectors’ Circle, Elm Tree Society, and Ellen Browning Scripps Society. She has also served on many nonprofit boards, including Valley Community Healthcare, Sinai Akiba Academy, the Milken Community Schools, and the Los Angeles County Bar Foundation, where she was only the second woman president in its 70-year history. Among her many accomplishments, she is proud of raising a kind and generous 22-year-old daughter.

Christophe H. Jungels-Winkler

Christophe H. Jungels-Winkler is the son of Scripps alumna and former trustee Gabrielle Jungels-Winkler ’72 and the founder and managing director of Eisvogel Group AG, a private industrial holding company that invests in companies in the UK, Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. He was previously a partner and co-founder of Swarraton Partners for eight years, where he managed industrial and clean technology investments.

Jungels-Winkler has an EMBA from Columbia University and the London School of Business and a master’s degree in economics and history from Edinburgh University. He lives in Switzerland with his wife, Dr. Valerie Jurgens Jungels-Winkler, and their two daughters.
FOCUS ON THE FACULTY

Nathalie Rachlin

Margaret McKenzie Distinguished Professorship in Modern Foreign Languages and Professor of French

By Morgan Albrecht ’18
When Nathalie Rachlin began her career in academia, teaching her first few French courses at the University of South Carolina, she admits that having access to the school library was a key motivator in her earning her professorship.

“But of course, I really enjoyed teaching anyway,” she clarifies. Rachlin, who earned her MA in English and American literature from the University of Montpellier, France, and her MA and PhD in Romance languages from Princeton University, has continued to inhabit the intellectually curious mindset of a student in all of her years teaching. In her 28 years with Scripps, her love of learning has driven her to create myriad new French and interdisciplinary humanities courses for the College. Currently, she is designing two new classes for the 2017–18 academic year; Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité? will explore contemporary French culture and politics through issues of immigration and race, and another, untitled for the moment, will focus on the history of French cinema.

In laying out a roadmap for new courses, Rachlin always starts with the question, “So what?” “Why teach a course on current events in France to students in Southern California?” she elaborates. In part, this line of questioning reminds her to focus on subjects that are not only current and topical, but also interesting to Scripps students—meaningful, rich, and complex. While she hopes her students will come away with new perspectives on the world by the end of the semester, she also finds that creating and teaching new course material is a way for her to strengthen her own knowledge of a given area. “It is like a puzzle,” she says. “You construct a course piece by piece, but not necessarily in a linear fashion. It’s a lot of work, but it’s also a way of learning about something.”

Some of Rachlin’s most successful and pleasurable courses have been those she has taught with professors from other disciplines, especially for the Core Curriculum in Interdisciplinary Humanities. Having to learn the vocabulary and operative concepts in other areas of study has challenged her to see issues from different perspectives. “I love that challenge—it keeps you intellectually honest,” she admits. “When you teach with someone from another discipline, you have to be explicit about where you come from—you can’t rely on disciplinary assumptions. That’s fun—it puts you in the position of being a student again.” She believes the new theme for Core I, “community,” highlights issues that are of concern to students—notions of belonging, different kinds of identity, and the idea that we are social beings. Thinking about the theme in relation to her years teaching at Scripps, Rachlin reflects, “We have great, motivated students from different backgrounds with different interests—all women. Talk about community!”

Outside of the classroom, Rachlin’s research interests span modern and contemporary French literature, culture, and intellectual history. She is currently working on a project that examines some of the ethics issues that pertain to French documentary filmmaking. As she explains, typical documentary ethics focus on what the filmmaker “owes” the viewer (generally, truth and honesty) as well as what the film “owes” its subjects (dignity and respect). Looking at contemporary French documentary films, she is asking the question, “Is there a place for dignity in what the film ‘owes’ the viewer? In other words, is it a question of ethics when we are concerned about whether our film is going to degrade the viewer’s dignity?”

A native of the south of France, Rachlin is still struck by where life has brought her. “When I was an undergraduate, if you had told me that someday I would be teaching in the United States, I would not have believed you.” After a moment of contemplation, she concludes, “It doesn’t get much better than this.”
Members of the Class of 2017 at Graffiti Wall, 2017.
PAST PRESENT

Tradition at Scripps
by Judy Harvey Sahak ’64, Librarian Emerita
As an alumna and wannabe historian, I am interested in Scripps’ traditions—rituals and customs that draw the community together, practices that forge a connection with the past, and common activities that create a sense of identity and belonging. This essay takes a look back at Scripps’ history to describe a few of the traditions generations of our students have shared.

Ninety years ago, on September 20, 1927, the first class arrived at Scripps to begin their lives at this new college for women. Believing that the residential nature of the College was integral to its educational enterprise, the Board of Trustees determined that the first building on campus would be a residence hall. Scripps consisted of a lone white building, Toll Hall, standing in an empty field, with only the mountains as landscape, 10 carefully selected faculty members, and 50 intrepid students.

Upon the students’ arrival, Miss Dorothy Kuebler, house director, distributed a sheet of “hints,” which was really a list of rules and regulations. Here are a few:

- Everyone must be in at 10:10 on weeknights and at 11:30 on Friday and Saturday nights.
- The students are asked not to use the phone after 10:30, and to notify their friends that they are not to call them after that hour.
- The use of typewriters should be confined as far as possible to daytime use.
- The evening study hours should be entirely free from the noise of machines. No victrolas, pianos, or radios may be used during quiet hours.
- Students are advised not to bring automobiles. They are difficult and expensive to care for and generally are no encouragement to concentration upon the essential responsibilities of college life.

Finally, my personal favorite:

“Students are not to enter or leave a room by a window.”

(This must have something to do with having to be in by 10:10 on weeknights and 11:30 on weekends.)

By exerting influence on every aspect of their lives on campus, Scripps women created ways of celebrating moments of triumph and observance and marking passages in their education. Some traditions have lost their relevance or meaning, while others have survived.

RESIDENCE HALL CULTURE

Early on, Scripps students found ways of developing a sense of identity and belonging through the residence halls. They attended faculty book talks in their Browsing Rooms, hosted dances, plays, and performances in their dining rooms, and competed in intra-hall singing contests on Bowling Green. Most students lived in the same hall for four years, forming a loyalty that, in turn, supported the unity of the College.

In early residence hall life, singing was an important bonding custom. Students sang grace before dinner. They gathered around the living room piano or competed against each other in Spring Sing fests. When I was a student, we frequently sang between candlelight dinner and the serving of dessert. Everyone enjoyed this tradition, even those of us who couldn’t really sing. One song that we often sang—which I suspect dates to the 1930s—has these lyrics:

Girls can never change their natures.
That is far beyond their reach.
Once a girl is born a lemon, she can never be a peach.
But, the law of compensation is the one I always preach:
You can always squeeze a lemon, but just try and squeeze a peach.

From the earliest days, formal candlelight dinners with faculty guests brought the larger Scripps community together. Even in the three halls built in the 1960s, these dinners were an important part of campus life. A passage from the 1956 La Semeuse reads, “Furthering the spirit of unity and friendliness at Scripps is the faculty. Our professors are as indispensable to our tea time and play time as they are.
Kimberly/Wilbur dining hall, c. 1960s

The Dorsey Hall steps set the stage for a dramatic work, c. 1966
to our academic life. They may be found anywhere on the Scripps campus: at teas, barbecues, or hall dinners.” Indeed, friendly relationships that exist between students and faculty are still important hallmarks of the Scripps experience.

One dinner at which faculty and staff were special guests was considered the most important community event of the fall semester: the hall holiday party. Each hall had a theme; the oldest was the Grace Scripps Clark Medieval Dinner, which featured a boar’s head, a Yule log, pageantry, singing, and sword dancing. Dorsey’s theme was “Switzerland,” while the luminarias on the exterior of Browning Hall signaled its Spanish theme. Following the festivities in each residence, a procession formed, with the Glee Club carolers leading. The line moved from hall to hall, gathering guests holding lighted candles. The procession wound around campus until reaching the location of a frieze of a Madonna and child in the Margaret Fowler Garden.

The holiday party tradition, which extended into the 1970s, was brought to an end not only by an increasing awareness and sensitivity around cultural and religious differences but also by a change in the academic calendar. Before the 1970s, fall semester ended in late January instead of late December, as it now does.

SCRIPPS TEA

From 1931 until the early 1970s, afternoon tea was served daily in the Common Room. Tea provided a study break and some time to see friends and professors. The cup of tea and two cookies—and only two—was much more than an afternoon snack. It was an occasion for the Scripps family to gather in a so-called civilized fashion. Presiding over the tea tables were the head residents, non-students who lived in the residence halls and provided counseling and an adult presence. They also maintained certain aesthetic standards, adding touches of gracious living to the public rooms of the halls, with fresh flowers always in the living room, dining room, and hallways. The head residents were in charge of pouring the tea from a silver tea service into china cups for all in attendance.

In the early 1970s, the Common Room was converted into the Dean of Students office, and afternoon tea was discontinued. Then, in 2000, it was reinstituted as a weekly tradition, and today students enjoy their tea or lemonade in Seal Court in the Malott Commons. Now open to the entire 5C community, these social occasions are often centered on a topic or theme; student clubs as well as campus departments and centers sponsor teas as a way of getting information out about a cause or engaging students in dialogue around an issue.

STUDENT CELEBRATIONS

On the first Saturday of each May, beginning in 1929, the entire Scripps family gathered on Bowling Green for a festival celebrating first-years, their academic accomplishments, and their place in the community. The Freshman May Fete, as it was called, included crowning the Queen of May and dancing around a maypole. This tradition lasted until the early 1970s.

Another beloved student tradition was Surprise Day, an unexpected day off from classes. On the morning of the appointed day, student council members roused their classmates by banging pots and pans and running through the residence halls. Classes were officially cancelled, and everyone piled onto buses bound for a day of fun in the mountains, desert, or beach. Surprise Day came to an end when cross enrollment between the colleges increased. Scripps students didn’t want to miss a class elsewhere, and students from the other colleges complained about having to miss their classes.

Since 1931, Graffiti Wall, located between Toll and Browning Halls, has embodied the most enduring student celebration at Scripps. Each graduating class has made its mark on the wall, passing on elements of Scripps’ character and culture from one generation to the next. And, flanking a door through which students leave the campus, the wall unites current students, alumnae, and all who are part of the Scripps family.
The matriculation ceremony is one of Scripps’ more recent traditions. During academic convocation, the usually closed double doors on the east side of Denison Library are opened for first-years to enter, sign the matriculation book, and officially become members of the Scripps family. On commencement day, the doors are opened again for the graduating seniors to pass through on their way to the ceremony on Elm Tree Lawn.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND ACTIVISM

Scripps students have a long tradition of exercising their opinions and gaining leadership skills through student governance and administrative involvement. In the early days, the student council tackled such issues as the role of student opinion in the curriculum. They also insisted on student representation on Board of Trustees committees as well as sponsored dances, fashion shows, bridge tournaments, plays, and fairs to raise funds to support scholarships and financial aid.

Scripps students have always been engaged in important issues of their time. Their philanthropic endeavors helped unemployed Claremont families during the Great Depression, and students turned cutting gardens into Victory Gardens, where they tended vegetables as a way of contributing to the war effort during World War II. During the 1950s and 1960s, topics such as the national student movement, ethnic studies, the civil rights movement, and the Vietnam War dominated student government proceedings.

As the 1960s thundered into the 1970s, important political and social issues remained central to students’ lives, here and internationally. Some traditions began to be seen as old fashioned and irrelevant; when the Scripps community met in May 1968, it was not to celebrate Freshman May Fete, but to demonstrate for African American studies. When classes were canceled in May 1970, it was not for Surprise Day, but for a community meeting to protest the U.S. invasion of Cambodia. Today’s Scripps students remain actively devoted to causes and are prepared to rally around what they believe.

MEANINGFUL TRADITION

In the 1958 La Semeuse, the editors wrote, “What is tradition? Is it something someone thought up to please the Board of Trustees? Is it something someone endowed to perpetuate? No, a tradition is something that students did and do, and will do because it is meaningful for them now, not for those who came before and those who follow. And a tradition, if it ceases to be meaningful, ceases.” Since 1927, each class has established its own traditions and rituals and observed rites of passage in particular ways, entering into activities and opportunities that create their own vision of the College. Some have lasted, while some have faded away, but one thing is sure: there will always be traditions that are particular to Scripps, rooted in the character of its unique community.
In Person

Lara
with

Tiedens

A conversation with
Kalpana Singh Rhodes ’94
This past fall, Scripps President Lara Tiedens embarked on her national In Person tour, meeting alumnae and friends of the College in cities including Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco. At each stop, she participated in a live interview and audience question-and-answer session led by a Scripps alumna. On January 28, Tiedens visited the Women’s University Club in Seattle, where she spoke with alumna and trustee Kalpana Singh Rhodes ’94 about her initial impressions of Scripps as well as some of the issues that have come to the forefront since she began her tenure in August 2016.

Kalpana Singh Rhodes ’94:
What excites you most about the job now that you’ve been on campus for almost a year?

Lara Tiedens:
Scripps’ particular strengths make the job exciting. One of the questions I get asked a lot is: What’s been surprising to you about Scripps now that you are here? And the answer I usually give is that I went through a long process of research and interviews, but I didn’t really understand the character of this community until I was on the job. I think the Scripps community is very unusual. People are more connected to each other here, they support each other more, the campus has such a unique and beautiful look, and it has a deep dedication to the humanities—all of these things come together to make Scripps a liberal arts college with a very distinctive flavor. And I think that flavor is particularly well suited to address some of the biggest challenges that we face in the world today.
KSR: You touched on the humanities, which are under attack at some institutions across the country. How can we preserve the interdisciplinary humanities that are so important at Scripps?

LT: So many colleges and universities are trying to figure out how to rebuild the humanities, because they’ve kind of dwindled. Scripps doesn’t have that problem. The humanities are alive at Scripps in many ways, from our Core Curriculum to the Humanities Institute to Denison Library to our public speakers series. We don’t have to figure out how to rebuild, and in fact we have a faculty that is in a mode of constant innovation around the humanities.

Scripps also continues to push the notion of the public humanities—trying to link the central questions of the humanities to the problems of the world. Part of what’s happened with the humanities is that folks sometimes have a hard time seeing what the real-world relevance is. We often hear our students and alumnae talk about how their Core Curriculum courses allowed them to understand and engage the world in a deeper, more nuanced way. That perspective doesn’t make it into public discourse as often as it should, and I think Scripps is very well positioned to be a leading voice in that discussion.

KSR: At the same time, we are seeing over 20 percent of Scripps graduates earn STEM degrees while maintaining an interdisciplinary humanities focus. What does Scripps need to do to support these students?

LT: This is going to be just a big area of focus for the College over the next decade. We’ve seen an explosion in STEM class enrollment through our W.M. Keck Science Department. It’s been a challenge—our science building is bursting at the seams, and our faculty is overtaxed. But it’s also a great opportunity for Scripps. If you look at the most pressing problems in the world, solving them requires more than just one piece of knowledge or one discipline. If we are going to encourage students to get out there and change the world, to really engage with the pressing problems of our time, they’re going to need some knowledge of science. Scripps students recognize this.

Our other opportunity is that, when we think about the challenges facing higher education in our country, one problem is the underrepresentation of women and people of color in STEM fields. It’s interesting to think about this phenomenon in the context of our joint science program at Keck. We work with Pitzer and Claremont McKenna Colleges, and this is a gift—we couldn’t have the science that we have without this collaboration. Keck enrollment across all three colleges has been steadily growing, which is part of why we need to expand.
Innovation

STEM

Humanities
But the exciting thing to me is, at a time when the world is saying, (A) We need more scientists; (B) We need more women scientists; and (C) We need more scientists who are people of color—you should see who our Keck graduates are. If you think of just about any college out there—any coed peer of ours, not just in the 5Cs—what would you think the number of women STEM majors is? You’d say, if you pay attention to these things, something in the 15 percent range. And this is part of why people are worried. At Scripps, it’s higher, but that’s not that interesting. Looking at Keck as a whole, there are students from two coed schools and one women’s school participating, and 70 percent of them are women. At CMC alone, over half of STEM majors are women. This is in part due to Scripps—we’ve helped Keck reach a tipping point.

Once you involve a certain number of any underrepresented group, you start shifting people’s expectations and stereotypes about who can succeed or who belongs there. At Keck, the whole culture has changed to become a place where women love science and succeed in science. The same thing is now starting to happen with students of color and first-generation students; the Keck faculty has put a huge amount of effort into changing their pedagogy to be more inclusive, with some amazing results.

KSR:
Over the past few years, we’ve seen demonstrations around issues of race, class, and gender at college campuses across the country. Could you touch on how these issues have affected Scripps and what you see as the administration’s role in responding to student demonstrations going forward?

LT:
Last year at many colleges and universities across the country, there were protests having to do with issues of diversity and inclusion. And Scripps has been right there in that. I think that for some of our alumnae, this has come as a real surprise, and often the explanations for it have been very Scripps-specific. But I think the national patterns are important, too. There’s a wave of interest in political questions among this generation of college students and a particular concern around issues of diversity and inclusion that is best seen in terms of a generational lens as opposed to a college-specific lens.

That doesn’t mean that there aren’t college-specific ways in which these issues are playing out. Scripps is a tight and close community, and I think this makes our diversity and inclusion issues all the more important and all the more emotionally charged. What is it to feel excluded or marginalized in a context that so values inclusion and closeness? If you’re a place that says that part of what we offer students is community—that’s part of the contribution we make to your life as an institution—then it becomes really important that we follow through on that. Not everyone at Scripps feels included. There is a feeling community is oriented towards some people more than others. So this is part of what the College has been working on.

At Scripps, we are used to working together and figuring things out together, so I think when these conversations become contentious it’s surprising and a little hurtful to all sides. My sense, when I came in during the summer of 2016, was that there were a lot of wounds all around—for students, for alumnae, and among the faculty and staff.

But I do feel a real and continued desire on everyone’s part to figure out how to fix these issues and have these conversations better. Sometimes you have to have a difficult conversation to find a good solution, and I think we are in the process of recognizing the ways in which things aren’t going as well as they could be, but also trying to be unified in searching for solutions.
In an April 29 conversation moderated by Southern California Public Radio’s Alex Cohen, President Lara Tiedens, along with Heather C. McGhee, president of the public policy organization Demos, and Salle Yoo ’92, general counsel of Uber, explored questions around how women influence and inspire change in leadership positions. This is an excerpt of their conversation; a full video of their talk can be found at scrippscollge.edu/inauguration.
My daughter is just about to turn six years old, and this is about the time that curious grownups start asking, “Well, little girl, what do you want to be when you grow up?” She asked me the other day, “What did you used to answer, Mom?” I always had three standard answers, and I’d love to hear from the three of you in a moment what you thought right around this age, because things change.

I wanted to be a monkey trainer. For those of you who are a bit older, the Clint Eastwood film *Any Which Way You Can* had monkeys and orangutans, and I thought it’d be cool to train them. Or be a professional ice skater or an actress. None of those things really panned out. I’m very pleased to be doing what I’m doing now. I’d love to hear from each of you. When you were a little girl, what did you think you wanted to be when you grew up?

**Heather McGhee:** When I was little, I wanted to be a veterinarian. I was obsessed with animals. Then I remember I was getting a ride from a teacher after school who said, somewhat cruelly, I thought, “If you’re a veterinarian, most of the time you’ll be overseeing animals dying. You’ll have to put them to sleep.” He was trying to emotionally prepare me for life. I don’t know if it was immediately that I started to turn to different pursuits, but I do remember that conversation very well!

**Salle Yoo ’92:** Age six was an interesting year for me because it was the year that my family emigrated from Korea. When we got here, our first order of business was getting settled, and then the Asian American dream of being a doctor was pretty quickly imposed upon me by my immigrant parents. I think that I kept that dream until I got to high school and realized I disliked biology.

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**Alex Cohen:** I thought we could begin from a long time ago, when we were kids.

**AC:** President Tiedens, how about you?

**Lara Tiedens:** My parents are here, and I heard them laugh when you asked the question because they know the answer, which is that I wanted to pump gas. I thought those gas machines were very cool. I’m sure this did not match my parents’ aspirations for me, but, to their credit, somehow they found this little jumpsuit, and it had these patches of all the different kinds of gas stations on it, and I wore that thing every day for months. They supported my dream!

**AC:** That goes to show the importance of parental support! I’d love to hear a little bit from each of you about the arc of your career. How you go from having that dream of being a veterinarian or a doctor or a gas station attendant to doing something totally different?

**LT:** Very early on I was interested in psychology—interested how people felt about the world, thought about the world, and how that impacted their behavior. Throughout most of grade school and high school, that’s what I oriented myself toward, and then in college I became a psychology major. I was going to go in the clinical direction and tried that through some summer internships, but I realized how hard that work is and didn’t feel I was up to the task of it. But through that I became involved in research, which I fell in love with.

Then I applied to graduate school, and I began looking for academic jobs in psychology. I ended up at a business school, which was not the plan, but at that time business schools had become interested in psychology as important to the field of management. I became a faculty member, and I got involved in leadership and administration a bit by happenstance. I was asked at the time whether I was looking to do something
Moderator Alex Cohen leads Heather C. McGhee, Salle Yoo ’92, and President Lara Tiedens in conversation in Garrison Theater, April 29.
new, and I said, “Sure, I’ll try it. I can always go back to the fun stuff of being a faculty member,” and there you have it.

AC: Salle, I feel like you’re in closest proximity to your childhood dream—being a doctor or lawyer fits into that sense of “I’m going to do right in the world, have some success.” What drove your pursuit of a career in law?

SY: I majored in government, which is really about political ideas and how those ideas get expressed in society is largely through laws. There are other ways, of course, but the foundation is laws, so I thought I would like to go into the legal profession. After law school, I worked for a candidate for Congress. Unfortunately, she lost, which meant I had to go get a real job, so I ended up finding a job as a lawyer.

As I’ve met people throughout my life who’ve had interesting careers and interesting lives, they seem to have had a plan, but when you actually talk to them, a lot of them talk about the deviations along the way. That was certainly true for me. After I had entered the profession of law, somewhere along the line I read a study in the American Bar Association journal that said the probability that a minority woman would stay in the 200 largest law firms in the United States after 10 years was zero. So the chance that I, as a minority woman, would make partner was statistically zero.

That’s when a little bit of grit kicked in. I had been getting some indicators, no promises, that maybe I could make it, and I said, “You know what, I’m staying in the process. It’s not fun, but I’m going to try to make partner, try to figure out how to do this, and then teach other women how to do it, so that we can try to change that probability.” I was on this clear path, and then 2012 came along and a confluence of events opened me up to another path.

Very late in the day on a Friday, a new client called in, wanting to sue somebody on Monday. I had two associates—in law firms, you tend to work with very tight teams—one was on her way back from India, and the other had gone to San Diego to deal with a family health issue, so I was on my own. I had two very young stepsons, and their joint birthday party was that weekend. All of the things that we deal with as women, as men—all of the balancing—happened that weekend. And then I had lunch with a friend of mine, an associate who I had stayed in contact with as our careers progressed. She said to me, “Would you ever go in-house?” Until that point I had been committed to this path, to being a partner, figuring out that puzzle, trying to help other women crack that puzzle. But because of all these things, I said, “Perhaps for the right experience.”
Then she opened up her gigantic purse, and she pulled out this listing and put it under my face. As a good Asian woman, I politely looked down and read it, and it was a listing for Uber. And that’s how my path to Uber started.

To cut to the decision point: When I had been made an offer for the job at Uber, I sat down with my husband, and we asked each other, “What is the right question?” For me, it was, “What’s the chance that you leave this partnership, the startup tanks, and then you come back and you lose the partnership, the thing that you worked at all your life?”

There’s been this thing that you’ve been committed to your entire life. It’s more than about work. It’s really about a personal commitment to trying to help women advance. How do you drop that and move on to this other thing? Then I sat on it, and I thought, “Actually, I think the question at this point is, ‘When is the next time I’ll be offered the chance to be general counsel of a tech company?’” When I asked myself that question, the decision was clear.

One of the things that I encourage everyone in the audience, and especially young women, to think about is that it’s really important to have a plan, but be flexible. Otherwise, you’re going to miss those opportunities and those moments where you are trying to balance everything. Then, when you come to these decision points, make sure you’re asking yourself the right questions.

AC: When I started college, there was a feeling that I had to pick everything perfectly—every class, every exam. There was a feeling of, “If I don’t have it figured out by 20, then it’s never going to work,” and I feel like that pressure has only increased, especially for women. Heather, tell us a bit about your path and how you wound up doing what you’re doing.

HM: I was born in the first year of the millennial generation, and I think the pressure that you just alluded to was very real. The idea that you just do the right things, go to school, get into debt, and you’ll have a good job and retirement and healthcare and family security taken care of was just out of reach. Now there is a sense that you have to be better than and more competitive than everybody else.

I was an ambitious kid, and I was young for my grade. I went to boarding school when I was young, left the south side of Chicago for rural Massachusetts. I went to Yale for undergrad. But I always felt that, no matter what I did, it would be in the field of social justice. It felt very clear to me that so much work was needed in order to keep the world turning in the right direction, and what other thing could you do with these hands that you were given but be a part of that push?

At the same time, the question of how is a very intense, personal one. What do you do that gives you joy, that makes you feel connected, that makes you feel that you are walking through the world with purpose? That can be a very specific lane. That could be managing human resources and getting the best out of your colleagues. That could be communicating on a broad scale. That could be researching and writing. I knew what the general goal was for me—I want to see more democracy, and more justice, and more equality—but how do I do that?

I tried on a lot of different hats. I went to law school, I worked on a political campaign, and I’ve done a lot of media. I’ve done research where I’ve sat at my desk all day and night. I started working at Demos when I was 22, and now I’m the president.
I really loved how you said focus on the questions. I think if we take one thing away from this panel, it should be that. The question I’ve continued to ask is, what is my highest, best use at this time? The answer can be very different as you grow as a person.

AC: In your joy day to day, right now, what are some of the ways in which you feel like the fact that you are a woman makes a difference?

HM: I took over as president from a middle-aged white man when I was 33. The rest of our executive team was women, and we still are. In some ways, we take it for granted. We’ve done less soul searching about what makes our leadership different because we’ve had that echo chamber—of very different women, but still women.

The experience of moving from a very thick black working and middle-class community on the south side of Chicago to a very white rural Massachusetts school when I was 11 years old was probably the most significant experience in shaping my identity. When you grow up in a community that’s very much like you, you don’t think about your identity. It’s just who you are. Having that distance did so much. I got to see myself through the eyes of white families that had never had a black kid in their home, and I got to observe up close what it was like to be a white male Anglo-Saxon Protestant.

One thing I observed at a time when I was a little too young to have any emotion about it was how my classmates walked through the world with a certain confidence, just assuming that what they said and did would be received well by all the people in authority. It was this sense of entitlement that I didn’t think was bad. I think I adopted that at that early age. I just sort of decided that, as you do when you come into a friend group and you adopt their style, “Oh, well, I’ll just do that. I’ll just raise my hand. I’ll just assume. If I get an A-, I will litigate with the teacher about the fact that it should’ve been an A.” Of course, I am absolutely a woman. Of course, I am absolutely African American, and I’m young in many of the spaces where I am, but I just think it’s important both to think about the things you were born with and the things you adopt along the way.

AC: President Tiedens, what has it been like to be a woman in academia, especially going from a place like Stanford to a place like Scripps?

LT: I went from being on an executive team of eight people at Stanford, where I was either the only woman or one of two, to a team of eight at Scripps where there are two men and the rest of us are women. It was exciting to come here, to be in a setting where what was obvious and natural and normal was the valuing of women’s voices and women’s participation.

There was a moment, though, that really sunk in. I had been at Scripps for two months and was really enjoying being here. I have this majority female team. Also, our board is majority female, and very intentionally so, so this was becoming my new normal. Then a friend of mine from Stanford shared an article that had appeared in the Washington Post. It was by a woman who had worked in the Obama administration talking about how, in the early days of the administration, there weren’t very many women, and at a certain point they realized their voices were not being heard. They had to collectively decide that they were going to support each other and hold up each other’s voices in a particular way.
This friend of mine sent this, saying, “We really need to do this at the business school at Stanford. We need to hold each other’s voices up better.” And I had a moment of thinking, That is absolutely right, but it does not impact my life here one bit because here our voices are already held. Our voices are loud. Our voices are here. I just had this relief about not having to fight for that.

**AC:** Salle, I’m curious to hear about your experiences as a woman who is general counsel at Uber. When you wake up in the morning, what’s your mission? What’s your goal?

**SY:** One of the reasons I hold Scripps so close to my heart is that it helped me set a framework for how I was going to approach my life. I didn’t really understand that back then, but in my 20s, in my 30s, and now in my 40s, the two words that always ring in my head, and that I think are critical to success whether you’re a woman or a man, are the words on Honnold Gate about courage and hope. Courage, because any inflection point where you’re going to grow is going to take a little courage. Hope, because if you don’t have that optimism that something will get better or that you’re working on something that will eventually push through and other people will see it, then you’re going to stop yourself. Those words have really stayed with me, and I hope that they have stayed with each of you and the women who are graduating and will be moving on, because I think that they are really critical to success in corporate America.

I approached my career as a series of small decisions to speak up. The first time you speak up in a meeting, wherever you are, it’s hard. I’m a litigator, and my heart would race in my own firm as I spoke up in a meeting, but the next time I spoke up it got easier. I encourage women to take those small steps.

One of the things I’ve observed is men chew off way more than they’re actually qualified for; women wait until they feel like they’re qualified. What I’ve tried to do in my own life is take off a little bit more. I knew what my fundamental skills were, but I’ll be honest, there was nothing in my résumé that said I should be the general counsel of a tech company, other than the fact that I was a fairly decent lawyer. You leap, and you’ll grow into it. Then, the next time, you’re ready to leap a little further, and you grow into it. I didn’t start at 21 where I am today. I got there by the small choices that were based on courage and on optimism. 😊
Inauguration Weekend Highlights

Visit scrippscollege.edu/inauguration for more highlights.
Scripps students and faculty discuss their research at the Academic Showcases on April 28.
In a tree planting ceremony, President Tiedens plants a native California oak in Jaqua Quadrangle on April 29. Board Chair Mark Herron and Tiedens’ son, William, help out.
The Scripps community and friends of the College gather for the inauguration ceremony on April 29.
Lara Tiedens is robed with the Scripps College medal, marking her swearing in as president.
The community gathers for a post-ceremony reception and dinner on April 29.
Alumnae News
Announcements and Updates for Alumnae and Families
From the Alumnae Association President

Kendra Armer ’93

As we have been celebrating Scripps’s 90th year and the inauguration of Lara Tiedens as our ninth president, we have been looking both backward and forward at our “Past, Present, Future.” We honor our history and celebrate those who came before us—earlier generations of alumnae, faculty, and staff, the eight prior presidents who advanced the mission of the College, and, of course, our visionary founder, Ellen Browning Scripps.

We have also been looking optimistically toward the future. Scripps is not the same institution as it was when it was founded, just as each of us is not the same as when we first came to Scripps. To help us move toward the future we want, the Board of Trustees is embarking on a strategic planning process for the College. Our prior strategic plan, completed in 2007, focused on Leading with Excellence, and called the Scripps community to “nothing less than excellence on all levels.” The new strategic plan will help us focus on what we want to become as we finish out our first century and embark upon our next one.

Following the College’s strategic planning process, the Alumnae Association will be updating our own strategic plan. We will be seeking alumnae input into both plans. Although the channels and timing have not been determined yet, know that you will have the opportunity to participate, so stay tuned for more information. In the meantime, if you have not yet joined the Scripps Community Network, there is no time like the present to do so! You can obtain your login credentials by contacting the Office of Alumnae Engagement at (909) 607-1542 or alumnae@scrippscollege.edu.

Best wishes,

Kendra Armer ’93

KENDRA ARMER ’93
MARRIAGES

2007
Sarah Holden Xu (New York)
I got married on September 10, 2016, to Eric Xu in a garden in Summit, New Jersey. It was my second wedding, but luckily this time I married the right guy! I designed and sewed my dress (again). Lily Virginia Carstens and Christine DuBois ’08 attended.

2009
Courtney Stallings Rosenthal (Miami)
In May 2015, I married Stephen Rosenthal (HMC ’09) and graduated from medical school at Touro University California College of Osteopathic Medicine. In July 2015, I began a residency program in psychiatry at Community Health of South Florida.

2011
Hope Whitney-Monical Eckert (San Jose, California)
Nine years after exchanging information in the rose garden, Robert Eckert (HMC ’09) and I got married on September 9, 2016, in a small family ceremony in Saratoga, California.

2013
Christina Noriega Bambrick (Eastvale, California)
I married my boyfriend of eight years, Josh Bambrick, on June 4, 2016, in Riverside, California. My bridesmaids included Bria Biesman-Simons, Katie Carter, Breanna Walker, and Patricia Ingrassia (CMC ’13).
2017 Alumnae Association Awards

The Scripps Alumnae Association annually recognizes alumnae who have distinguished themselves through lives of public service, leadership, and giving back to the College.

**Distinguished Alumna of the Year**

*Rev. Dr. Carolyn Sheets Owen-Towle ’57*

For over 20 years, Carolyn Sheets Owen-Towle ’57 has been making contributions to the San Diego community as a Unitarian minister and a patron of the arts. She served the First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego as co-minister with her partner, Rev. Dr. Tom Owen-Towle, from 1978–2002. She serves on the boards of the Mingei International Museum, the Ilan-Lael Foundation, and the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation, and her published works include *Step Off the Sidewalk* (1991), a collection of sermons, and *Damngorgeous* (2008), a memoir of her father, renowned artist and Scripps art professor Millard Sheets.

**Outstanding Recent Alumna**

*Sita Kuratomi Bhaumik ’02*

An artist, writer, educator, and cook, Sita Kuratomi Bhaumik ’02 is also the co-founder of the Bay Area public education and cooperative business project the People’s Kitchen Collective. She earned her MFA in interdisciplinary art and MA in visual and critical studies from the California College of the Arts, where she currently teaches. Her works include *Estamos contra el muro* (We are against the wall) (2011), a wall built from handcrafted piñatas in the form of cinder blocks that bisected the interior of the Southern Exposure gallery in San Francisco.

**Volunteer of the Year**

*Mariaestella Cuara ’89*

Mariaestrella Cuara ’89 has served the Scripps community in a variety of roles, including as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee for Alumnae Participation and Engagement and the Camp Scripps Creative Caucus.

A first-generation student, Cuara graduated with a degree in American studies and credits her ability to pursue two careers, in government administration and in higher education, to her Scripps education. She currently works for FA Solutions, LLC, a third-party financial aid services company that provides support to financial aid offices at colleges and universities.

For more information on this year’s winners and upcoming volunteer opportunities, visit [alumnae.scrippscollege.edu](http://alumnae.scrippscollege.edu).
BIRTHS AND ADOPTIONS

1993
Katherine Davis (Santa Fe, New Mexico) I gave birth to Autumn Claire in June 2016. Zoe (5) is a generous and attentive big sister; when not doting on Autumn, she enjoys dance, gymnastics, swimming, and dressing up in costumes. We live in Santa Fe and love it. I stay in touch with a few of my old friends and professors from Scripps, and would love to hear from more.

2000
Sarah Belanger Lantz (Claremont, California) My husband, Ray, and I welcomed our daughter, Evelyn, on October 21, 2016. Big sisters Lucy and Annalise couldn’t be happier.

2005
Michelle Flatley Hansen (San Diego) Mike and I welcomed a baby girl, Cecilia “Cece” Katherine Hansen, to the world on January 20, 2017.

2009
Jess Butler (Rancho Cucamonga, California) My wife, Madeleine, and I welcomed a daughter, Eleanor Grace Butler, on January 30, 2017. We are already planning for Ellie’s graduation from Scripps in 2039.

Eleanor Grace Butler, born to Jess Butler '09, on January 30, 2017

Lily Bixler Clausen (Redwood City, California) I delivered William Desmond Clausen, baby boy number two for David Clausen (PO ’08) and me, on June 11, 2016, which was my 30th birthday.
1942

Carey Rockey Evans (Portland, Oregon) I’m still riding horseback. It’s a great activity for older people.

1947

Patricia Odell Coulter (Shoreline, Washington) I had a great trip to New Zealand and Australia—a 14-day cruise, with a few days in Honolulu and time in Auckland and Sydney. Jean Boyd Ransdall (Sacramento, California) I retired from teaching in the Sacramento Public Schools. My husband passed away. I have taken up painting, which I enjoy very much. Could Scripps have influenced me?

1950

Beverly La Fromboise Carlson (Portland, Oregon) I welcomed a new great-granddaughter in November 2016. Shirley Travis Cropper (Waterloo, Iowa) Special greetings to the Class of 1950! I’m still in my own home and enjoying life, though not all that active at 88!

1952

Sue Marie Donat Hatch (Laguna Woods, California) Bob and I celebrated our 65th wedding anniversary last June with a trip by train to Portland, Oregon, for the wedding of a granddaughter who chose the same date. Our Pacific Coast is really spectacular, from beaches to mountains.

1953

Diana Kontou Colson (Sarasota, Florida) I have been working as a lyricist for two full-length musical plays with composer Tom Suta. We are in the process of placing them in theaters. Audrey Hadow Michie (Crozet, Virginia) I moved into my new house in November 2016. There is a lot still to do, but I’m very pleased with my new surroundings. I am within walking distance of the public library and the post office. So far, I am still driving.

1955

Brent Shaw Foster (San Diego) I am busy painting watercolors—figures, landscapes, and portraits. Millard Sheets was the head of the Art Department when I was at Scripps, but he taught studio painting, not watercolor. Alas. I did, however, win Final Prize in the San Diego Watercolor Society for a watercolor portrait.

1957

Diane Divelbiss (Langley, Washington) Maxine Borowsky Junge ’59 and I continue our eighth year in an un instructed drawing group. Grethe and I were with my sister, Carolyn Denning ’61, in Minden, Nevada, celebrating her October birthday. Norma Tanega ’60 visited us last summer; she continues to teach ESL in Claremont. I continue printmaking, painting, and drawing. I am on the City of Langley Arts Commission and still direct the Fine Arts Exhibit at the Whidbey Island Fair. Marylou Peterson Dunn (Long Beach, California) I am happy to be 80 years old and still contributing to my special alma mater.

1959

Perry McNaughton Jamieson (San Luis Obispo, California) The images of women my age, many holding children, walking from Syria to Europe, enhance my profound gratitude every day. Jim, our sons, grandsons, and I are all well. Incipit Vita Nova.

1961

Leila Tunis Hall (Albuquerque) We continue to love living in our “modern adobe” townhouse with fabulous mountain and sky views. Still working on pastels of some of them!

1962

Anne Charlotte Hanes Harvey (Lemon Grove, California) Michael (HMC ’61) and I still see Jill Levinsohn Drexler ’68 and Holly Smith-Jones ’67, both driving forces in local theater in San Diego. Sadly, we miss Pamela Smith Connolly ’68
and her husband Michael (CMC ’57), who left us in 2016. Michael and I continue working in San Diego theater in different ways. Lamb’s Players produced my play in May 2016—thrilling! Meg Chase Stockwell (Berkeley, California) I just returned from Myanmar—a trip of a lifetime. The art of questioning, and the insatiable curiosity my Scripps education awoke in me, enriched my experience. It was a fabulous opportunity for photography as well.

1963
Margaret Scrogin Chang (Bainbridge Island, Washington) Raymond and I are still enjoying life on Bainbridge Island. Visits with our three grandsons from Missouri brighten our days. It was a pleasure to meet President Lara Tiedens in Seattle in January at the In Person event. Marika Storm Dyckes (Evergreen, Colorado) Doug and I are reveling in retirement, with time spent playing with natural dyes from plants, scuba diving, and seeing our grandson. Susan Summer Sullivan (Fallbrook, California) I enjoyed visits to Kentucky and New Mexico to be with family and celebrate a “milestone” birthday.

1964
Margaret Schack Davis (Lakeside, Montana) My daughter, Margaret E. Davis ’89, published China Under the Covers, which has its origins in her Scripps Press experience, Chinese bookbinding, travel, and romance, plus photos by mom. Mary Brooks Roden (Evanston, Illinois) A ruptured appendix in September set me back health-wise, but I’m finally feeling much better. May we all see our way to make this strange and uncertain new America feel like home again—respectful, kind, and welcoming.

1965
Penny Geller Brewer (San Leandro, California) Our 50th reunion was a memorable occasion. So nice to visit with “shriveling alums.” Scripps provided a giant celebration. Thank you!

1967
Wendy Lamson Collier (Ellensburg, Washington) “Hi!” to all my former classmates. I am glad to support our Reunion Class Gift in honor of my mother, June Lowery Lamson ’40. Carol Crowley Lunkenheimer (Boalsburg, Pennsylvania) I had a big move this year, from Chicago to State College, Pennsylvania, to be near grandkids and my daughter and son-in-law. It is wonderful to see the boys grow up and to be a part of their lives.

1969
Elizabeth Ward Frank (Claremont, California) Our daughter, Irene ’04, has two children, Evan (4) and Olivia (2 months), so at last I am a grandmother! Kathleen “Kat” Snipes (Chapel Hill, North Carolina) I just started my third year of retirement in Chapel Hill. I’m now an affiliate at University of North Carolina doing my own research into the possible meanings of many of Jesus’ teachings and studying translations of idiomatic phrases from the Aramaic of his times and from Hebrew and Greek. I’m having lots of fun retiring in a university town; I’m thinking, talking, learning, studying, writing, and even finding time to really cook a good dinner served well—it’s what I always wanted.

1971
Sophia Susan Bowie-McCoy (Eugene, Oregon) Goodness, 50 years have passed since coming to Scripps. During that time, I have worked in higher education administration, gotten a PhD in organizational studies, married my beloved James McCoy, had one son, Spencer, worked in community food organizing, studied and taught social artistry, developed my own body of work, Moving Intentions, been blessed with two grandchildren through my stepson Silas and his wife, Rachel, and enjoyed a women’s circle with RitaWasil Fiedler. Scripps prepared me for the creative life. From reading Alumnae News, I know that your lives have been creative, too. Beth Culp Johnson (British Columbia, Canada) We were thrilled to welcome our second granddaughter, Charlotte, into our family. Her three-year-old sister, Brooklyn, is quite happy about having a baby sister, too. We are very fortunate to have all of our immediate family as well as our daughter’s in-laws living within a 15-minute drive. To make it even better, the combined families celebrate all holidays and birthdays together. I’ve been a Canadian citizen for 44 years as of November 2016, and I am looking forward to going to Ottawa to celebrate Canada’s 150th birthday on July 1, which is also my birthday. I am retired from local politics and consulting with local government and affiliated
organizations, and I am thoroughly enjoying a life of grandchildren, travel, walking, reading, and volunteering. My friend called it the “small life”—and she meant that in a very positive way. I admire and thank those who are still getting things done on the large stage, but for me, the small life is now a precious thing. Still loving to see and keep in touch with classmates Nancy Trimble Worthington and Joanie Isaacs.

1974

Mary Van Vranken Goldsmith (Livermore, California) I am enjoying retirement, especially getting together regularly with Janet Geehan Hoffman, Judy Smith Ferkel, and Ken Hoffman (CMC ’74).

Constance de la Vega (Oakland, California) The International Law Section of the California State Bar awarded me the Warren M. Christopher International Lawyer of the Year award in October 2016.

1977

Christina Beck Algeo (Tucson) I’m still in Tucson, still working for a school district. I’ve taken up quilting, which I love, but I haven’t begun to tackle fabric art, although that’s my goal. I’m enjoying the Tucson Scripps Book Club, and I have gotten to know some delightful ladies from other classes. Life is good! Diane Crisp Connolly (West Linn, Oregon) Our eldest son graduated from Georgetown Law and moved to California. He passed the bar and is looking for a job. Our younger son moved back to Portland after a four-year stint in San Francisco. He, like me, realized he’s a committed Oregonian. As I was an anthropology major and in the Asian studies master’s program at CMC and Claremont Graduate University, I can’t begin to tell you how excited I am about our upcoming trip to China. I hope to get a lot of ideas for my jewelry making. Toni deBeaubien Crichton (Manhattan Beach, California) I am happily married to my husband, Rod Raynovich, for seven years. I have decided to retire from my career with Northrop Grumman on July 1 after almost 35 years. My two sons are healthy and happy; one has returned to college and the other is an aspiring singer/songwriter in Los Angeles. My husband and I love to travel, which we will do more of starting this summer. Elizabeth “Ebet” Dudley (Beverly Hills, California) I was your classmate for only half a year before moving to Pomona College, so many of you don’t know me, but thought I’d notify anybody who’d like to make contact that I am new in town. I recently returned to California and just bought a house in Beverly Hills. At the moment I’m sewing pillows. Visitors are welcome! Susan Theurkauf Howe (San Diego) Rick (CMC ’76) and I are still living in San Diego and enjoying frequent trips to the East Coast and Midwest to visit our daughters and four grandchildren. Carolyn Nelson Lawson (Kennewick, Washington) I’ve enjoyed a busy life since Scripps. I earned my master’s degree from Washington State University and worked for the State of Washington for several years. I also worked at colleges and universities while earning my PhD in education at Seattle University. I retired from
Western Washington University but worked as a realtor when we moved to southeast Washington. (I wanted to be self-employed for a change, and I highly recommend it.) I officially retired about four years ago. I have a wonderful husband who is also retired, and we enjoy RV travel and volunteering for Kiwanis and World Relief as well as for our church. I’m also very active with Soroptimist and our signature project to stop human trafficking. Most of the projects I work on are to benefit women and girls so they can reach their full potential, so I continue to use many of the lessons I learned at Scripps. There have been some health challenges along the way, the most recent caused by a fall while playing basketball, when I broke my hip and my femur. But I’m determined to bounce back. I have two stepdaughters and five step-grandchildren who bring us joy and pride. I think Claremont will always be my real home, but Kennewick is very similar to the way Southern California was 40 years ago: vineyards, less traffic, a varied economy, and lots of sun to enjoy the great outdoors. If you are ever in southeast Washington, feel free to contact me.

Sadie Deeks McFarlane (San Francisco) Well, now that I’ve had a “large life event,” I might as well turn in a class note! At the beginning of this year, I retired from the University of California, San Francisco, after 32 years there, and am now free to pursue all my volunteer interests: being a docent at the De Young and Legion of Honor museums and at the San Francisco Conservatory of Flowers, helping out World Arts West with the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival, staffing and giving pop-up workshops at the Makers Lab at UCSF, hoisting boxes of produce at the San Francisco and Marin Food Bank, and helping on the Creative Caucus of Camp Scripps! Hopefully I’ll also be able to squeeze in some beach cleanup and habitat restoration work around the Bay Area and learn some new crafting skills, but I seem to be filling up all my newly available free time—I barely have time for all the political activism required these days! My daughter, Marisa (PO ’05), is director of experiential education in the School of Pharmacy at University of California, San Francisco, and has also recorded a solo album, written a children’s book, and appeared in a few indie movies, so it seems that busyness runs in the family.

Sharon O’Dair (Tuscaloosa, Alabama) I am still the Duchess of Malfi. Actually, I am professor of English at the University of Alabama, where I have spent my career as a Shakespearean, writing and lecturing and teaching and enjoying the international Shakespeare juggernaut. As they say here, “Roll Tide!”

Betsy Sansby (Minnetonka, Minnesota) I left Claremont in 1974 with Scott Stevens (a potter and then-MFA student of Paul Soldner’s) for Santa Cruz. I moved to Davis for the next nine years and earned a bachelor’s degree in textile design. In 1983, I received my master’s degree from California State University, Sacramento, and became a marriage and family therapist, and I have been practicing for the past 31 years. In 1989, I got into African/Afro-Cuban hand drumming and co-authored eight instructional books on the subject with my husband, Alan Dworsky. I started DancingHands.com, an online publisher/distributor of our instructional materials and choir information. In 2007, I founded the One World
Community Choir in Minnetonka, and I started a winter choir in Los Angeles in 2015. I have a daughter, Molly Dworsky, who is a comedian and performer in Los Angeles.

Joan Grein Sharron (Agoura Hills, California) I just retired from a 39-year career at IBM and am reconnecting with my love of art, which sat on the back burner while I worked and raised our four children with my husband, Matt, who also just retired from IBM. I am enjoying watercolor and oil painting and have participated in a number of art shows. It’s fun and a nice departure from corporate America! See my work on sharronmyart.com. Our eldest daughter, Jessica, a co-executive producer on Jimmy Kimmel Live, blessed us with two grandsons. We get lots of time with them, as they live nearby, as do all of our children.

1989

Renee Gonzalez Fong (Redondo Beach, California) My daughter is now a legacy Scripps student, Class of 2019. Amazing how my children get older and we do not!

1994

Gina Francis Hughes (San Antonio, Texas) In February 2016, my family transformed into a modern version of Yours, Mine and Ours. I married John Hughes, who has three wonderful daughters, so with my four daughters and one son we are a family of 10. Anne Iverson Peltier joined us for the wedding celebration. I opened a new office for Edward Jones Investments and love partnering with my clients far and near to understand what
is important to them. I have found my passion as a financial advisor. Two daughters graduated in May from high school. It’s easy to remember those first few weeks at Scripps with my roommates Jennifer and Tarpley. Good days!

1995
Rebecca Ennals (San Francisco)
My son, Henry, was born in 2014, two months early, and is now a thriving toddler. I just finished my fourth season as artistic director of the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. Life is busy and full of joy!

2000
Joanna Sullivan (Portland, Oregon)
We are doing well, and I am now the director of my midwifery practice in Portland and Milwaukie. My partner is working as an inpatient maternity social worker. Our son is three and started preschool this year.

2005
Melissa Balestri (Seattle)
I became a licensed architect, cofounded an industry organization, and adopted two cats (and promptly named them after Humphrey Bogart and an Audrey Hepburn character). Meris Mullaley (Renton, Washington)
My husband, Greg Bilsland, and I adopted a dog, Finn, in early December and named him after one of the lead characters in Star Wars: The Force Awakens.

2006
Kacie Berghoef (San Francisco)
My first book, The Modern Enneagram, was published in February 2017. Writing the book fulfilled a lifelong dream, and I couldn’t have done it without the rigorous writing and critical thinking skills I gained at Scripps.

2008
Margaret Creley Barnard (Orlando, Florida)
I was chosen by the National Apartment Association as the 2016 recipient of the NAA Excellence in Government Affairs Award on behalf of the bill writing and lobbying efforts I performed to help pass Florida House Bill 535. The legislation was a two-year effort and enhances the work that apartment maintenance workers can perform in Florida.

2009
Kari Oki (Wahiawa, Hawaii)
Two of my high school classmates and I raised more than $500 for Make-A-Wish Hawaii with our #Spotted: Make-A-Wish pop-up photo hunt on October 23, 2016. We also developed the nonprofit organization Project Yaytimes in 2013 as a way to channel millennials’ technology addiction into something beneficial to the Oahu community. I am a doctor of physical therapy.

2013
Julia Silsby Hughes (San Francisco)
I am engaged to Robert Cavanagh “Cav” Walters (CMC ’13). I am a fourth grade teacher at the Mission Preparatory School and Cav is a private equity associate with Kohlberg Kravis & Roberts and will be attending the Stanford Graduate School of Business beginning in fall 2017.

2015
Caroline Miller (Park City, Utah)
After finishing a year as project co-manager for GirlSportWorks with Larkin Sheldon, I applied to graduate schools for an MFA in screenwriting and moved to Park City for the winter to be a ski instructor and bartender and work as an intern with the Sundance Film Festival.

2016
Zoe Dilles (Philomath, Oregon)
I am in Darkhan, Mongolia, for a year as a Fulbright Fellow. I am teaching English to Mongolians enrolled in an agricultural university. Jasmine Kusamowidagdo (Long Beach, California) I moved to Long Beach in January 2017. I was sad to leave the Bay Area, but excited to meet new Scrippies and begin a new job at Windes as an accountant.

Rachel Holben ‘05 with her daughter at the Women’s March on Washington, January 2017
From the Scripps Association of Families and Parent Leadership Council Co-chairs

Cheryl and David Scheidemantle P’17

As our daughter, Sara ’17, prepares for graduation, we are having a hard time believing how quickly her years at Scripps have flown by. Wasn’t it only yesterday, as we enjoyed the shade trees and beauty of the campus for the first time, that she resolved that Scripps would be her college? However fleeting these four years may have seemed, they have been enough for Sara’s education, maturity, and growth to have taken root, to have gone deep. Sara chose well, and we like to think that so did Scripps!

At this juncture, we are drawn to reflect on our roles as parents in Sara’s postgraduate adult life—her future—as contrasted with our roles in her past, as a child, and in her present, as a college student. We also ponder the role of Scripps in the lives of those future students who will enjoy the shade trees, the beauty of the campus, and the education, broad and deep, that the College provides. Our reflections bring to mind The Shadowfall®, by Shirley M. Howard, as symbolic not only of our role in Sara’s life but also of Scripps’ role in the lives of many, past, present, and future:

Once earth
Called to me,
“Be a tree,
Be a tree.”
Acorn—I answered
With a leaf,
A stem,
And a brief
Root shooting down;
Sending a young trunk
Bending in the wind,
And a
New limb strong
Enough for just a bird
And a song.

Now I
Have heard
A thousand songs.
Stirred
In a thousand winds
And a Thousand leaves
Weave
Through my Branches.
My roots
Lie deep
And I keep
Thinking
That when
One is tall
The shadowfall
Is long
Upon
An afternoon

We are grateful for Sara’s experience at Scripps and believe in the necessity, especially in this era, of the women’s college experience, the women leaders who will emerge from it, and the strength of their leadership in our collective future. Please visit families.scrippscollege.edu and join us in staying involved with Scripps, even after graduation!

Warm regards,

Cheryl and David Scheidemantle P’17

MARGARET E. DAVIS ’89

China Under the Covers: A Binder’s Journey to the Roots of Books

Exploring the origins of the book, Davis traces the early history of communicating by paper pages. She offers illustrated instructions for four of the first forms of books on paper, developed by the Chinese, which can be replicated today using simple tools and available materials.

Published by Mao Nao Books, January 2017

KACIE BERGHOEF ’06

The Modern Enneagram: Discover Who You Are and Who You Can Be

Berghoef and her co-author, Melanie Bell, explore the principles of the Enneagram of Personality model to find guidance, strength, and knowledge for navigating life’s changes and challenges.

Published by Althea Press, February 28, 2017
Remembrances

The College has learned of the deaths of the following alumnae.

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT:
Carol Mount Clark ’42, Helen Wilcox Gordon ’40, Margret Small Hart ’49, Leslie Wickland Frazee ’62, and Dorothy Ewart Lynch ’62
Helen Wilcox Gordon of La Verne, California, on November 12, 2016. Originally from North Dakota, Helen spent her teen years in La Jolla and Pasadena, California. She earned a scholarship to attend Scripps, where she studied philosophy, psychology and religion. Upon graduating, Helen attended the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing in Baltimore, becoming a registered nurse in 1943. She served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in Germany immediately following World War II and, over the next 40 years, she worked in a variety of nursing roles in hospitals, emergency rooms, public health organizations, and schools. Helen was a strong, independent woman with a sense of adventure; as a student, she bicycled from hostel to hostel in New England, and during her U.S. Army Nurse Corps leave she explored postwar Germany on her own. Back in California, Helen met and married Earl Gordon. They bought a house in Altadena just a half mile from her mother’s; it was home for 47 years before they retired to La Verne. Helen loved to learn about people; she read biographies, studied genealogy, visited the homes of several ancestors, and wrote stories about her own life as well as her parents’ and grandparents’ lives. She served as church librarian at First United Methodist in Pasadena and La Verne Church of the Brethren. All her life, Helen practiced the biblical guidance of Philippians to “Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.” She is survived by her two children.
Carol Mount “Mountie” Clark, of Eastsound, Washington, on December 11, 2016. After graduating from Scripps, Carol joined the Women’s Army Corps at the urging of her father, who was serving in WWII. Her last posting was at Camp Gordon, Georgia, where she was in charge of Motor Transport; she and her troops repaired all manner of Army vehicles, including tanks damaged in the European theater. While there, she met Second Lieutenant Walter Clark, whom she married in 1943. Their delayed honeymoon took them to Orcas Island, Washington, where Carol’s sister raised Angus cattle. On a whim, Carol and Walt bought a farm in Crow Valley; there they raised and showed registered Hereford cattle and Arabian horses. Carol was a 4-H leader, Boy Scout merit badge advisor, and charter member of the Orcas Library and Orcas Island Yacht Club. She served on the Orcas Island School Board and the Washington State School Directors’ Legislative Committee, and she was a member of the American Youth Horse Council. In addition to civic activities, farming, and oil painting, Carol lived a life rich with journeys, traveling to almost everywhere. She rode in or on balloons, yaks, ostriches, horses, mules, motorcycles, elephants, Sherman tanks, tractors, and tall ships. Her last trip was taking the Honor Flight for WWII veterans to Washington, D.C., in 2016. Carol was the first student to design a mosaic mural for Seal Pond—the one in blue with seagulls on the west end of the north-facing wall—and was so happy for the work the Seal Pond Mosaic Murals Restoration Advisory Committee did helping with the restoration of Seal Pond. She was very pleased and proud to have been involved in that public art project under the direction of Millard Sheets. She is survived by her two daughters and two grandchildren.

Mary Tolman Kent, of Berkeley, California, on January 11, 2017.

Barbara Stetson Carman, of Tacoma, Washington, on February 8, 2017. Barbara was born in Oakland, California. While at Scripps, she met Pomona student Joseph L. Carman III, whom she married in 1949. They settled in Tacoma, establishing their home and family on American Lake. Intelligent, capable, and curious, Barbara lived her life to the fullest. She was an active member of the Tacoma Garden Club, Garden Club of America, Tacoma Aloha Club, Junior League, Seattle Sunset Club, and the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America. An avid gardener and plant collector, she established a lovely garden around her home and traveled around the United States judging at Garden Club of America flower shows. Barbara was also a remarkable seamstress and knitter and had a passion for reading, surrounding herself with an extensive and cherished book collection. Her true joy, however, was her family. She was a loving wife and raised four children, dedicating herself to their success in hobbies, educations, and lives, parenting them to become imaginative, kind, contributing members of their communities. Throughout her life, the results of her Scripps education were palpable.

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Margret “Peg” Small Hart, of Santa Barbara, California, on June 22, 2016. Peg was born in Chicago, but her family moved to Tuscon, Arizona, in 1939 after her father purchased the Tucson Daily Citizen. After graduating from Scripps, she enrolled in the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, earning a degree as a registered occupational therapist. She then took a position at the Oakland Veterans Hospital in California. While living in San Francisco, she met and married Lieutenant David Fellows Hart. After his Navy duty was over, they moved to Long Beach, California, where David resumed his job with Shell Oil Company. Their two children were born there; later, David was transferred to New York and they located in Darien, Connecticut, where they lived for the next 30 years. Peg was involved in her children’s school activities and with the local Episcopal Church. She also served as a volunteer and, later, a part-time employee at the Darien Red Cross. After David retired, the couple moved to Santa Barbara, where they were avid golfers and active in the Episcopal Church. Peg is survived by her two children and three grandchildren.

Beatrice Taggart, of Altadena, California, on February 5, 2017.

Leslie Wickland Frazee, of San Diego, on December 2, 2016. Leslie studied journalism and art at Scripps, where she met Nicholas Frazee, a football player for Claremont Men’s College. Brought together by a bike’s flat tire and a
coincidental pick-up on a deserted Claremont road, they married in 1961. Leslie loved all things green, driftwood, old trucks, her own green truck, animals and stray dogs, reading, running marathons, writing, collecting sea glass, rainstorms, big hugs, country music, gardening, music, quiet moments, and friends. She wrote in her book Life Lines: Things I Want My Kids to Know Before I Go: “There comes a time when, if we are smart, we willingly accept a reality in our lives: the reality of growing older. It’s not a threatening truth unless we allow it to be because it acknowledges where we have been, where we are going and all of the memories of a life well lived in between. Yes, as we grow older there are sorrows which accompany the joys, good times to remember and not so good. But being able to grow old with these memories is a gift and I cherish that gift.”

Dorothy “Jean” Ewart Lynch, of Balboa Island, California, on December 5, 2016. As a young girl growing up in Pomona, California, Jean loved riding and taking care of her horses and working at her father’s business, Ewart’s Men’s Store, founded by her great-grandfather and grandfather in 1908. After graduating from Scripps, she married Daryl J. Butcher, a graduate of Claremont Men’s College, and had a son. Jean began her lifelong career as an elementary school teacher in 1963, teaching for many years in the Newport Mesa Unified School District. Jean was divorced from Daryl, raising their son in Corona del Mar, when she met and married Larry D. Lynch. Jean had an incredible adventurous spirit. She loved camping, skiing, sailing, touring Europe, and sharing many joyous times with a close-knit group of family and friends. Survived by her son, Jeff, and his family, and by her sister, Ann Ewart Hughes ’65 (Dennis), and her family, Jean will be remembered for her love of life, sense of humor, and devotion to friends and family.

1978

Patricia Lightfoot, of Sleepy Hollow, New York, on March 6, 2017. A former resident of Claremont, Patricia was a graduate of St. Mary’s High School in Manhasset, New York, St. Vincent’s Hospital School of Nursing in New York, Scripps College, and Claremont Graduate School. In 1968, she married Dr. Paul Ryan Lightfoot. Paul predeceased his wife. Patricia was an intrepid world traveler and loved visiting countries with rich history and culture, such as Syria, Iran, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Myanmar, and many others. She was a tireless community speaker and advocate on end of life and healthcare issues, and she embraced ethnic and religious diversity. She is survived by her two children, four grandchildren, and three siblings.

1997

Pamela Ryan Sternberg, of Washington Heights, New York, on March 22, 2017. She is survived by her husband and four children.
Monday, June 19, 6:30pm

Levitt on the Lawn: The Dustbowl Revival

Big, brassy, upbeat: The Dustbowl Revival’s vintage soul-meets-country blues has wooed critics and audiences alike. Named the best live band in LA by LA Weekly, this octet, replete with tuba, washboard, accordion, fiddle, and mandolin, cruises eastward for summer fun on Scripps’ Bowling Green.

This program is part of an ongoing series supported by Levitt Pavilions and Elizabeth Levitt Hirsch ’74.
Thursday, June 29, 7:30pm  
Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, Los Angeles

**Scripps Presents Downtown: Arundhati Roy in Conversation**

Twenty years after her novel *The God of Small Things* won the Booker Prize, Arundhati Roy returns to the world of fiction with *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*. In a rare stateside appearance, Roy will read from the new book and discuss her career as a writer and political activist. Join Scripps Presents for its inaugural downtown Los Angeles program, presented in partnership with the Library Foundation of Los Angeles’ ALOUD series.
Ellen Browning Scripps founded Scripps College in Claremont, California, in 1927.

Her philosophy was to educate women to be leaders of commitment, leadership, and engagement. Ernest Jaqua, Scripps’ first president, officially proffered his resignation at a Board of Trustees meeting in June 1942. At the meeting, Mrs. Albert Shirk, who had been active on the Board for 12 years, was named acting president. She made the following statement: “War is always an emergency, education is a long, continuing process. Scripps College, with its emphasis upon integrated humanities, seeks to prepare its graduates for responsible leadership.”

Mrs. Shirk helped Scripps by ably dealing with problems confronting both peace and wartime education. She was an excellent administrator, straightforward and honest when speaking with others. I can still see her standing at the lectern in Balch Hall telling us about a problem that had occurred so that there would be no gossip. I learned to be a good administrator from observing her.

After my sons were grown, I became a director of special education and a college professor. During the 1980s and 90s, I published several articles on learning disabilities. I retired in 2003 and moved to Montana, where I supervised student teachers. In a small, underserved school, I founded a Visual-Motor-Cranio-Sacral Program, training adult volunteers to work with the children who have reading problems. In 2013, I turned the program over to another volunteer chairman, but continued working on the initiative, publishing a training manual as well as several articles on the project. I attribute my accomplishments and knowledge to Mrs. Shirk, Scripps staff, and my Clark Hall dormmates.

We first-years did not realize it when we arrived at Scripps, but the Board was looking for a new president. They were impressed with the credentials of Dr. Frederick Hard, a professor at Tulane University. His wife had graduated from Wellesley College, and they had two children. The Hard family visited Scripps in November 1943, and my classmates and I were told, “He is here to see if he likes the Scripps students!” Dr. Hard started as president on January 3, 1944. His inauguration was held in Balch Hall. It was very solemn—there was a lighted stage, he wore his cap and gown, and he stood at the lectern and made his statements seriously. And, he had a moustache! Balch was filled with trustees, staff, and students as well as representatives from Pomona and Claremont Men’s College.

I am so very pleased to be able to participate in Dr. Tiedens’ inauguration ceremony as an alumna marshal. I do not know Dr. Tiedens yet, but I support her as the Board’s choice as an appropriate president for Scripps, and I am sure that she will continue the work of strengthening the College in the tradition of the great past presidents.

Once a Scrippsie, always a Scrippsie!
YOUR

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