The Paw Print, in its 25th consecutive year of publication, is the monthly student-run newspaper of the Upper School. While the paper is distributed free at school, some members of the Poly community prefer to receive issues by mail. Subscription cost is $25 for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year for 5 issues ($20 for Poly alumni). To order a subscription to the The Paw Print, simply email thepawprint@polytechnic.org.

On the cover:
Sophomores in AP Chemistry perform flame tests on metal ions and enjoy the vibrant colors emitted by the excited atoms.

On the right:
Biology teacher Owen Kiely shows a student the various parts of a lily.

Oak Tree Times Editorial Staff
Leslie Carmell, Director of Communications
Michelle Feynman, Communications Officer/Photographer
Jennifer Godwin-Minto, Photographer
Carol Zorn, Zorn Design, Art Director

Contributors
Amanda Edwards ’92, Michelle Feynman, J. Dale Harvey, Irene Mason, Lillian Mecum ’13, and Debbie Reed
From the Head of School 2
From the Board 3
Building Boosts Bonds 4
Curiosity about Mars 8
Faculty and Staff Retirements 11
New Staff 13
New Faculty and Board Members 14
Campaign Update 16
Leaving a Legacy 20
Distinguished Alumni 21
Class Notes 24
In Memoriam 27
Athletic News 28
“We gather together…” These are the opening words of a hymn from my childhood, and I often found myself humming them as I walked to and from our fall gatherings, especially those that bring together a cross-section of our community. We began the year with the usual all-school assembly, at which we welcomed and introduced those new to the school, and we resumed our regular morning and community meetings that recognize the activities within each division. In this year free of construction, there have been numbers of special occasions for us to gather. The ninth-graders in their leadership retreat heard from Rebekah Hanley Heiser ’92, who was the ASB president at Poly during her senior year and is currently the assistant dean of the University of Oregon Law School. Rebecca Eaton ’65 brought her classmates from across the country to celebrate her being honored as Poly’s Distinguished Alumna.

Certainly the spotlight this fall has been on the opening of our new Upper School building and the opportunities presented by the new spaces that extend to every aspect of the program. In celebration of our inhabiting new science labs and math classrooms, we invited our entire community to attend a lecture by John Grotziner, Poly parent and project scientist for the Mars Science Laboratory mission. We were delighted to have 800 people, including current students, faculty, alumni, and friends, gather in Beckman Auditorium to hear Dr. Grotzinger describe the mission and the remarkable engineering that produced Curiosity rover.

In the week that I write this, we gathered for a program of song and spoken word with our grandparents and special friends in the gym for a Thanksgiving assembly. This program marks the beginning of the holiday season at Poly, a time that we celebrate together with song and dance and instrumental music. I am grateful for the many celebratory occasions for which the Poly community gathers. I am ever more grateful for the strength of the Poly community and for the spirit of generosity and kindness found here.

—Deborah E. Reed, Head of School
In late October, I was fortunate to attend a dinner honoring this year’s Distinguished Alumna, Rebecca Eaton. I found it notable that Ms. Eaton invited her ninth grade English teacher, Jenny Barthold, to the dinner. Ms. Barthold taught English at Poly for just a single year—Rebecca’s freshman year. Her passion for English changed the trajectory of Rebecca’s life. As her award states, “Rebecca serves as the executive producer of PBS’s Masterpiece series … During her tenure at PBS, Rebecca’s work has been recognized with honors, including 31 Primetime Emmy Awards, 15 Peabody Awards, a Golden Globe, and two Academy Award nominations.”

While I didn’t have the good fortune to attend Poly, my eighth grade algebra teacher played an equally important role in my life. My passion for math morphed into a love of stocks—I have now pursued my passion for investing for 30 years, and I expect to continue doing so for the next 30. Poly has long had outstanding math and science programs, and I’ve jealously watched my own children flourish in their classes. It is too early to know what paths my children will tread, but I continually encourage them to pursue their passions.

In his November presentation, Poly parent John Grotzinger pointed to his passion for rocks as leading to his current role of chief scientist on the groundbreaking Mars rover project. Be it a “rock” star like John Grotzinger, a teacher, a sport, or the arts, I am thrilled that Poly exposes our students to a wide range of potentially passionate pursuits. My imagination soars when I think about how the marriage of our new facilities to our amazing teachers and programs creates a dynamic environment in which our students can thrive. I look forward to hearing where our current students’ passions lead them and how their pursuits will, like Rebecca Eaton’s, have a positive and life-affirming impact on their community and the world.

—J. Dale Harvey, President, Board of Trustees
It is Wednesday afternoon, and physics teacher Richard White has invited me to take pictures of his AP Physics lab. When I arrive, the room is virtually crackling with energy. Students are in various stages of assembling equipment necessary to tackle a lab that explores the relationship between air drag and instantaneous velocity. I must look put off by the activity—after all, this isn’t exactly the most photogenic lab I’ve ever seen—and White laughs at me. He explains, “Actually, from a pedagogical perspective, it’s much more exciting to see students having to develop their own laboratory methods. They discover for themselves what works and what doesn’t.” I step back and see the room as he does. The seniors look completely engaged as they discuss what materials—paper plates, coffee filters, pie pans, and plastic cups among other things—they will let flutter to the ground. Students even stack desks on top of lab tables to vary the height of the falling material, while they use computers to measure the characteristics of the drop. Later, students will perform regressions on the data to determine which of several mathematical models best describes the motions observed.
Along with everyone on the Upper School campus last year, I witnessed the dramatic transformation of the former Mudd Building into the newly constructed Poly Building in just 14 months. Because I was given a hard hat and allowed in the construction zone to take weekly (and sometimes daily) photographs to document its progress, I feel very connected to this building. After concerning myself with the physical structure for so long, I appreciated the opportunity to explore what goes on inside the classrooms.

In the years before this most recent campus construction, the science faculty members were dispersed—scattered among three labs in the Mudd Building, a portable classroom, and a classroom in the Hixon building. Flash forward to their new integrated home in the Poly building: Chemistry and biology now each have two dedicated laboratories with a prep room in between. Physics classrooms have 20 built-in computer stations in two classrooms, as well as an anchor and an overhead track (more on that in a moment).

The campus plan also took into consideration the synergy between disciplines: Math and science classrooms are now adjacent. Prior to construction, Math Department offices were somewhat sprinkled throughout the Upper School. They are now centralized around a common room, making communication and collaboration easier. The department’s monthly formal meeting has been expanded to include a weekly lunch together as well. This central meeting place also is a boon to students: If a particular teacher isn’t available when a student needs assistance, students can ask other math faculty members for help.

The integration of technology into the classroom has also been spurred by the new space. With 10 computer workstations now available in each physics classroom, data collection and analysis have seen substantial improvement. As part of the tech curriculum, the freshman Conceptual Physics course now benefits from computer-based data collection and organization, strengthening students’ laboratory and analysis skills. Additionally, physics classrooms have an overhead anchor and a track that can support 2,000 pounds, allowing students to swing in harnesses demonstrating harmonic motion. They are also able to construct pulley systems with mechanical advantage to hoist themselves into the air. It is only as I’m writing this that I realize how extraordinary this is.

The new Upper School math-science-library building did not come about by accident. When asked about the planning process, White recalled a multitude of meetings. There were Science Department meetings, as well as meetings with architects, contractors, school administrators, and designers. Emails were sent between the architects and various members of the departments following up on facilities requests. This level of collaboration during the planning stage is impressive: “I’ve worked at a number of schools where new facilities were being built, but I’ve never seen more care or consideration given to faculty as a building was being designed and constructed,” White explained.

The new facility with incorporated offices and laboratories has greatly eased the logistical challenges associated with preparing laboratory experiences for students. Likewise, having an extra classroom has expanded opportunities: Students with free periods are now able to meet in a science classroom, and missed labs can be completed much more easily. Expanded equipment storage facilities have made a big difference in the physics classrooms. Stations now are equipped with everything students need for labs. A collaborative project with Caltech is enjoying the additional and updated facilities (see inset), and K-12 Science Department Chair Jill Bush is also looking forward to having a classroom in which students on Poly’s inaugural team for the Science Olympiad (which represents Poly in 23 events at a regional competition) can meet and prepare for their events.

New facilities aside, there has always been a collaborative spirit at Poly when planning curriculum. Indeed, students wouldn’t excel in their senior Physics classes without first learning derivatives, integrals, vector analysis, and cross-products in Calculus. In addition, learning about the pH scale is much easier after having had an introduction to logarithms. This may be helped in part by the fact that nearly all of Poly’s Upper School math teachers have science degrees. Of special note is one of Poly’s science teachers teaching Computer Science, which is typically viewed as a course offered by the Math Department, and two math teachers are offering Engineering and Energy electives that might be found in science departments at other schools. Crossover interests, anyone?

**SHArK**

Students working on the Solar Hydrogen Activity Research Kit project, or SHArK, as it is known (the small “r” allows the acronym to be written as a sequence of chemical elements: sulfur, hydrogen, argon and potassium), appreciate both the additional laboratories, as well as the completely updated facilities. The group now enjoys a state-of-the-art fume hood, readily available deionized water, as well as all new safety features to aid them in this collaborative project with Caltech. Poly students are assisting with the endeavor, learning what it means to do scientific analysis, as well as getting a taste of the excitement of real-world research. As Caltech professor Harry Gray explains, “SHArK’s objective is to find a metal oxide that can use sunlight to split water into hydrogen (a storable fuel that could wean us from our dependence on fossil fuels). There are millions of possible metal oxide combinations. We need thousands of students to check them out.” Science Department Chair Jill Bush was confident many students would jump at the opportunity. “We are thrilled to give more students the chance to work on projects like SHArK. Now with more space, and flexible spaces, we finally have enough laboratory classrooms to go around. We’re just beginning to explore how the new building will enhance all aspects of our program.”
When the Poly Building was completed, the Science and Math Departments were not the only ones to get a new home: The Upper School Library was moved from Boswell (which was converted to visual arts studios and galleries) to the top floor of the new building. Aquita Winslow, Upper School librarian, discusses the new facility.

Q. How involved were you in the construction process?
A. I was very lucky to be able to contribute some ideas for the new library. It is every librarian’s dream to participate in the layout of a new library. The architects were great about listening to my ideas and finding ways to make them work. It’s really exciting to look at the plans, and then to see the reality of your ideas once the space is created.

Q. Faculty and students alike have commented on how the new library has become the hub of the South Campus. What features have made this possible?
A. Because the new library has many different types of spaces, students are able to work independently in study carrels or in groups in the classrooms; they can also relax in the nooks, eat lunch at the tables, and socialize in the couch area. The new library has a textbook collection that allows students to use their free time to work on homework. Teachers are bringing in their classes for research instruction—I can teach research skills to a class, and then give them the time and the space to practice what they have learned.

From an academic standpoint, the new space allows for more classes to use the library at the same time, while not impeding simultaneous independent student use. Students can use the library during their free periods, while we can also accommodate up to three classes who might be using the space. The new facility has a classroom and a conference room that allow for group study. Teachers have a place to work with groups of students during non-class time; some teachers even use the library classrooms for regular class sessions. While Boswell was always used for faculty meetings, the new library is used for all types of gatherings—grade level meetings, parent fireside chats, and even the sophomore movie night.

Physics teacher Craig Fletcher opines “that it makes sense to have the sciences and math in the same building. Every discipline has an intellectual tone to it. What we do in the sciences and what the math folks do in their classes have a similar tone.” And while it seems natural that there would be an increased collaboration between the science and math faculty based on the natural setting of the building, proximity is rarely a limiting factor in intellectual joint ventures. It has more to do with faculty who share related interests and who make the time to collaborate. After all, this is Poly—where the community comes together in a variety of wonderful and sometimes unpredictable ways. Upper School math teacher Derek Weisel journeyed to the Lower School earlier this semester to teach logic to fourth-graders. Science and math teachers alike have been called upon to elucidate the concepts of relativity and time travel to English classes to complement books that students read in class. Lower School students take part in joint science labs with the Upper School students. The list goes on and on, with most occurring without the convenience of close proximity.

“I’ve worked at a number of schools where new facilities were being built, but I’ve never seen more care or consideration given to faculty as a building was being designed and constructed,” White explained.

So what about the idea of collaboration between the Math and Science Departments? Bush notes, “The proximity makes it easier to continue conversations about the flow of the two curricula and how they can best complement each other.” Jonathan Fay, co-chair of the Math Department, is convinced there will be more crossover work with the in the future after faculty members get settled into their new spaces. Bush agrees: “We might reach a point when math teachers are teaching science courses and science teachers are teaching math courses. The point would obviously be to enhance the learning experience for the students, but for many of us it would be fun to branch out, too.”
Some collaboration has already begun. To wit, physics teacher Craig Fletcher and math teacher Dominika Watson are working together on a project with her Engineering elective class. It is one of several electives offered for seniors; other choices include Psychology, Astronomy, Anatomy, Computer Science, Forensic Science, Environmental Science, Global Health, and Energy. Engineering itself combines math and science, and adding a physicist to the mix further complements what the students are learning. As Fletcher explains, “Physicists try to understand and model the natural world at a theoretical level. Engineers take that theory and use it to create and build things.” For this class, students are drawing on their knowledge of calculus and physics, and are modeling different systems—physical and electromagnetic systems—and looking at circuits with the same math. As Fletcher sums up for the students, “There are times when analyzing a situation is most easily done using straight math, but there are also times when that is horrifically difficult and being ‘clever’ works better.” He then goes on to show the math (and he’s right—it is horrifically difficult) and then says, “Wouldn’t it be cool if we could circumvent all of this math and get the solution by being clever?” Then he brings in the physics.

The Engineering class is taught in a flex classroom—a room set aside to be either math or science. Watson appreciates that her students now have many more power outlets and sinks in which to wash their hands. That may not seem like much, but for hands-on class, it’s a big gain. The first project that seniors tackled earlier in the semester was to design and build a guitar—requiring collaboration with Wood Design teacher Stuart Freed. Let’s remember: Last year this class inspired two seniors to design, fundraise for, and construct a tractor—a tractor that is in the final stages of completion before being donated to help a community this January. For more on this, visit dandhtractors.org.

And how are the students themselves receiving the building? In the November issue of The Paw Print, a handful of students were asked for their quick impressions of the new Poly Building, and the responses were positive. Junior Maddi Holder called it the “new heart of the campus,” and went on to say, “I don’t think you can go a day without finding some part of the building useful…The new building truly appeals to all students and is a great addition to our campus!”

It’s Tuesday morning, and I’m visiting Eric Strom’s math class. Strom, who was given the Faculty Appreciation Award by the Class of 2012, has a lively AP Calculus class. There is lots of laughter and chatter as the students attack the latest challenge. To someone who doesn’t remember math class as being this exuberant an experience, this is a revelation. Having a good time while learning is not limited to this class: I witness fun intertwined with the lesson of the day on a regular basis across this campus. I watch Strom’s class as a large group forms to work together, and Strom jumps to the board to further illustrate and clarify the task at hand. The students are searching for elusive points of intersection on polar curves in order to find the area of a shape. After the class, I ask Strom if anything has changed in his class as a result of the construction. His response is both eloquent and inspiring: “Personally, I did not gain anything monumental as a result of the move. The digital finery you observed in use was previously available, as were the boards, etc. In my opinion, it’s not the changes that make us stronger but rather the consistent love of learning displayed by our students and fostered by our faculty.” He further responds, “Science was certainly the primary benefactor with respect to the move because of the introduction of equipment and facilities that make teaching their discipline more effective. Everyone will benefit because of the collaboration possibilities amongst both departments. The bottom line for me is our people, our relationships, and the sharing of ideas make or break the deal.” Indeed. Students will enjoy more opportunities as a result of the updated and beautiful facilities, but the core of what makes Poly an exceptional school remains untouched.
To celebrate the completion of the new Poly Building on the Upper School campus, Dr. John Grotzinger was invited by the Alumni Board to speak about the Curiosity mission to Mars. Grotzinger, the Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) chief scientist, presented information about the launch, landing, and discoveries of the Curiosity rover in Caltech’s Beckman Auditorium to an audience of 800 Poly students, faculty, families, and alumni. Following the presentation, Upper School Science Department Chair Jill Bush and Poly senior Ryan Schiller led a question-and-answer session. NASA launched the MSL mission to Mars on Nov. 26, 2011, and successfully landed the vehicle on Aug. 6, 2012. Scientists hope that the rover will help solve several long-standing Mars mysteries, including the role of water in the planet’s history. Photo evidence and soil sample analysis performed by Curiosity will also further the understanding of Mars’ climate and geologic evolution processes.

Grotzinger reflected, “The landing was definitely the highlight of the mission thus far for me. Just knowing that what we’ve been building and leading up to for 10 years was not for lost was thrilling and a relief for everyone involved.”

A team of 400 engineers designed and built the rover over the course of the past decade. In total, the project cost approximately $2.5 billion. The body of the rover contains two spacecraft computers, three radio systems, a thermal fluid loop, batteries, power electronic devices, a rover motor controller, and 39 motors to control the rover’s mast, wheels, and arm, among other gadgets. A laser on the mast has the power to turn a solid rock sample into plasma, thus allowing the rover to perform sample analysis. On Earth, scientists can analyze the X-ray diffraction patterns of soil samples to determine their chemical compositions. In addition, antennas allow the rover to communicate with satellites orbiting Mars, which then send high-resolution photos taken by Curiosity’s color cameras to Earth.

Prior to its launch, Curiosity underwent thousands of equipment tests and eight simulations in Mars time. Martian days, or sols, are 40 minutes longer than Earth days, thus requiring engineers to report to work at midnight on certain days. Scientists on the team wear special “Mars time” watches to stay on track. The Curiosity rover was launched onboard an Atlas 541 rocket at Cape Canaveral in Florida. After an eight-month-long cruise, Curiosity landed safely in Gale Crater last August.

During his presentation, Grotzinger showed a short film produced by JPL scientists on the unusually complex entry, descent, and landing of the Curiosity, a process known as EDL. As the spacecraft approached the Martian atmosphere, the cruise stage separated from the rover, which was protected by an aeroshell and thermoshell. Then, a 100-pound parachute designed to withstand 65,000 pounds of force was deployed to slow the rover down to 200 miles per hour as it sped toward the surface of Mars. To ensure that the rover would land with minimal damage, MSL engineers designed a bold new landing system. Shifting from a parachute descent to a powered descent, the rover was guided to its landing site by small rockets, which slowed the rover down to a safe speed for landing. A sky crane detached the rover from the descent stage shell and lowered it to the ground. As the rover touched down, the rockets fired again and traveled a safe distance away to crash.

Waiting to see whether such a radical landing procedure would work was agonizing for both the MSL team and public who watched the event live. To add to the suspense, there is a seven-minute delay in Mars-Earth communication, which Grotzinger described as the “seven minutes of terror.”

Following his talk, Grotzinger turned over the presentation to Matt Heverly, lead driver of Curiosity, who also helped design the rover.
Heverly said the fact that Mars’ gravity is only three-eighths as strong as Earth’s gravity makes his task more challenging. Engineers built a nearly identical copy of Curiosity known as Scarecrow, which weighs as much as Curiosity would on Mars. By experimenting with Scarecrow, Heverly was able to assess how Curiosity would move across the Martian surface. Most drive tests were performed at the JPL MarsYard, a simulated Martian landscape used to test different robotic prototypes. Heverly “drives” Curiosity by sending it a list of commands twice each Martian sol. Heverly explained that communicating with Curiosity in real time would be impossible due to the time delay. Therefore, adjusting his work schedule to Mars time is crucial.

“The landing was definitely the highlight of the mission thus far for me. Just knowing that what we’ve been building and leading up to for 10 years was not for lost was thrilling and a relief for everyone involved.”

Heverly and his team returned to Earth time on Nov. 10, marking the successful completion of the first 90 sols of Curiosity’s mission. The mission is expected to last two Earth years.

Curiosity has travelled 492 meters so far at the time of this writing, still 10 kilometers away from the base of Mount Sharp. It is slowly trekking closer each day to its ultimate destination: the peak of the 5-kilometer-high mountain. Along the way, the rover will analyze soil samples. According to Grotzinger’s hypothesis, the layers of rock leading up to the peak will follow a timeline of Mars’ geologic history. Grotzinger describes rocks as “miniature time capsules” that can provide insight into the geologic evolution of the planet.
Grotzinger noted that the greatest challenge the MSL team faced while building Curiosity was designing the 39 motors that control rover’s finer movements. Curiosity’s launch date was originally scheduled for 2009. However, since the motor designs kept failing, the project was delayed until 2011, when Mars’ orbit realigned properly.

"[The delay] was emotionally devastating for us," Grotzinger reflected. "But we came back absolutely determined to do it better than ever. Looking back, this is actually the most complicated mission with the least problems ever launched, so I guess we got it right in the end."

Grotzinger’s passion for science began with his childhood love of the outdoors and his aptitude for AP Biology in high school. He developed an interest in early Earth geology during his college years at Hobart College.

Grotzinger spent three years as a research scientist at the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory before joining the MIT faculty in 1988. After teaching at the institute for 18 years, Grotzinger moved to Southern California and began working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 2004. His first Mars-related work involved the Opportunity rover mission. Through this project, Grotzinger and his team discovered evidence for water on Mars.

In 2005, Grotzinger was named the Fletcher Jones Professor of Geology at Caltech. His current research involves analyzing the environmental context of early biosphere and animal evolution. However, he is on a one-year hiatus from teaching to focus his efforts on the MSL mission.

Grotzinger says that, of all the aspects of the mission, he is most proud of MSL’s teamwork. He reflected, “Usually a tremendous amount of time is wasted squabbling over money and resources, which is a shame. We never had that problem with this mission. It’s remarkable the way that such a uniquely complex project, involving so many people and instruments, came together. We really set an example of teamwork for this industry.”

Looking ahead, Grotzinger says that the world can expect another Mars-bound rover to be launched in 2020 that will hopefully bring back a bowling-ball sized sample of Mars’ surface, the first sample-retrieval mission of its kind.

“I think that Curiosity gives people hope,” Grotzinger said. “For me, Curiosity is a symbol of what happens when a lot of people put their minds together and do something creative. It’s amazing how Curiosity touches people who aren’t even interested in science. The whole world is invested in this project. It’s just awe-inspiring.”
Retirements

Mary Bristow

Our primary grades have benefited from Mary Bristow’s steady hand and caring nature for 26 years. Since joining Poly in 1986, Mary nurtured confidence and a willingness to explore the world in the kindergarteners she taught. As someone who shared her classroom easily, she was a model for the Hixon interns and teaching assistants who taught with her. She gave those who were new to the profession the help and space they needed to find their voice and their style. A willing hostess, Mary provided the welcome to new members of our community and celebrations for so many occasions, bringing together faculty and staff from across divisions. Mary answered the call to serve, a summons from within to care for children to help them grow by recognizing the best in them. She now spends time with her family, doting upon her grandchild.

Howie Farer

Soon after his graduation from Whittier College, Howie Farer was hired by legendary Poly head of school Willis Stork in 1967 to teach and to coach tennis. In recognition of his many contributions, Howie will lead the faculty procession at commencement one more time in June 2013, and he will be feted at the annual year-end faculty and staff party in June. Though he will not be on campus every day, he promises to cheer for Poly’s tennis team from the sidelines. He leaves behind big shoes to fill, with a record of 948 wins for boys’ and girls’ teams, along with 45 Prep League Championships.

Dave Ivory

After 25 years as a member of the Operations Department, Dave Ivory knew every inch of the Poly campus—every nook and corner, every lock and keyhole. Whether he was arriving before dawn to ready the campus or staying late to direct traffic after an event, Dave took pride in helping people at Poly. Despite his gruff exterior, Dave is a man with a heart: He often played Santa in the Lower School Winter Sing. His dedication to helping people at Poly was echoed by his activities off campus: He has helped raise funds for children with diabetes and disaster victims. He looks forward to spending time with his family, especially his twin grandchildren.

Continued on next page
Elizabeth Lanski’s many talents have resulted in her having many different assignments at Poly, from Development to Flagler to the Library. She brought order to every office in which she worked, and was always welcoming and professional. Caring for others may not be in her job description, but it is just what Elizabeth did in so many ways. Whether it was helping a retiring teacher pack up an office, setting up a book room, or providing care for a colleague, Elizabeth has always been one to reach out to others: As such, she decided to devote her time to a number of other interests and to a nonprofit organization that supports health and education initiatives in Uganda.

When Willis Stork interviewed Celinda Pearson in 1974, he noted in her file that she was “very personable and…well qualified; a good candidate for Middle School history or English.” Indeed — Celinda was at the heart of our Middle School for many years. During her time at Poly, she worked with a legion of administrators, five heads of school, and four Middle School directors. Celinda brought energy and an enthusiasm for life to her classroom — she encouraged creativity and thrived on activity, and even had a bit of a performer in her. “She brought out the inner musketeer in me,” reflected a past student. A founding member of the Polymorphs, Poly’s own faculty jazz group, Celinda retired from Poly to spend more time doing her favorite things: traveling, gardening, reading, and music. While in Florence, Italy, Celinda recently ran into Poly alumnus Andrew Esensten ’03 (see photo in Class Notes).
This fall, Tiffany Chen joined Poly as the assistant to the Upper School director. Having taught both math and Mandarin at JSerra Catholic High School in San Juan Capistrano, Tiffany understands the workings of a school from both sides of the desk. In addition to her teaching, Tiffany was the pep squad coach at JSerra and worked part time at the University of California at Irvine in sports marketing and community relations. She holds a bachelor’s degree in sociology from UC Irvine.

Joining Poly as the assistant to the Middle School director, Jessica Coronis graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Oklahoma City University. Jessica previously worked as an administrative assistant and as a guest services representative.

Adding to the Admissions Department is Admissions Coordinator Bobbie Jo Dobbs, who worked as an admissions administrator for the past four years at the Harvard-Westlake School. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Edgewood College in Madison, Wis.

Assisting in the Health Office is Carissa Gibson, whose office experience comes from having worked in a law office and for the City of Long Beach. Carissa earned her bachelor’s degree in violin performance at Cal State Long Beach and her master’s degree in violin performance from Claremont Graduate University.

Having worked for six summers with Poly’s SEP program, Ines Hernandez recently joined Poly as the assistant to the College Counseling Department. Ines has a bachelor’s degree in liberal studies from Cal Poly Pomona and a master’s degree in education from Point Loma Nazarene University. She previously worked at Pasadena City College as financial aid office assistant and had internships in counseling at both Monrovia High School and Baldwin Park Adult School.

Jessica Ngo, admissions coordinator, was the multicultural and admissions fellow at Saint Mark’s School in San Rafael last year. Previously she worked as an advancement intern at the Center for Early Education. She earned her bachelor’s degree in economics from the University of California, Los Angeles.

In June, Sharon McRainey Thompson joined Poly’s College Counseling Department as a college counselor and 12th grade dean. Since 1998, Sharon had been with the Phoenix Country Day School, where she was a college counselor, the Upper School head, and an English teacher in both the Middle and Upper Schools. Sharon has a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in English from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.
Joining Poly’s fellows team is Thomas Berrian, who earned his bachelor’s degree in applied mathematics from St. Thomas Aquinas College and a master’s degree in teaching mathematics from Western Governor’s University. An experienced outdoor educator, Tom has chaperoned Poly trips for a number of years, while earning a teaching credential.

This fall, Zora Bikangaga joined Poly as a humanities fellow. Zora is a graduate from Seattle Pacific University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in history and theatre. A familiar face on campus, Zora has been a favorite substitute teacher among Poly’s Middle School students and teachers.

Katie Booth has joined the Lower School faculty as a third grade teacher. Her experience includes teaching third and fourth grade in Fairfax County, Va., as well as teaching English during the summer to middle school age students at The American School in Switzerland. An enthusiastic traveler, Katie enjoys traveling with students. She holds both a bachelor’s degree in English anda master’s degree in education from the University of Virginia.

An experienced primary teacher, Emily Carlson joins Poly as a kindergarten teacher. For the past five years, she has worked in Minnesota in the Minnetonka School District as a literacy coordinator and a first grade Spanish immersion teacher. Emily earned a bachelor’s degree in Spanish literary studies and a master’s degree in elementary education from the University of Puget Sound and her reading licensure from Hamline University.

Teaching seventh grade English in the Middle School is Amy Jaffe, who was a sixth grade English teacher and an eighth grade writing specialist at St. Matthews School in the Palisades. Previously, Amy taught seventh grade humanities at Milken Community High School in Los Angeles. Amy earned her master’s degree in secondary education from Pacific University and holds her bachelor’s degree in English from the University of Colorado.

The Upper School Science Department now includes Owen Kiely, who holds both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in neuroscience and behavior from Wesleyan University, where he received the Maynard Award as the university’s most outstanding scholar-athlete. A long-time marathon runner, Owen was a member of the cross country team at Wesleyan and was an NCAA All-American in that sport. Previously, Owen taught science at Sage Hill and was a long-term substitute at Chadwick School.
New Faculty

A classics major from Williams College, Sara Plunkett teaches Latin in the Middle School. Sara previously taught ninth grade English at the Stoneleigh-Burnham School in Greenfield, Mass., where she was also a coach, advisor, and dorm resident at the boarding school. Sara played ice hockey in college and was an assistant coach at SUNY Cortland women’s ice hockey, where she interviewed, evaluated, and communicated with prospective student-athletes and their families.

Michele Sanchez, assistant director of admissions for the Upper School, comes to Poly with K-12 experience in recruiting and financial aid. Last year, Michele worked at the Bentley School in Northern California. Previously she worked in admissions at the Riverdale Country School in Brooklyn, and in Prep for Prep, a program similar to Poly’s SEP. Michele earned her bachelor’s degree in history and women’s studies from Dartmouth College. In the Upper School, Michele will also teach Human Development and be an advisor.

Teaching English in the Upper School is Betsy Sullivan, who comes to Poly from Immaculate Heart High School in Los Angeles, where she taught English and was also the college essay advisor for grades 9-12. Betsy holds a bachelor’s degree in English literature from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a master’s degree in literature from American University. A former reporter and college instructor, Betsy’s interests include art history and the study of language, including Italian.

Adding to the Div. 1 athletes already on our faculty is Jamie Bell, who holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration and marketing from Loyola Marymount. An NCAA Div. 1 scholar-athlete, Jamie has continued to play and coach soccer since graduating. She was the goalie coach for Poly’s girls and boys Varsity soccer teams last season. In addition to her experience in soccer, Jamie has worked as a personal trainer. At Poly, she will teach physical education and coach soccer.

Poly’s new strength and conditioning coach is Sheldon Williams, who for the past four years was the head fitness and conditioning coach at LaSalle. A seasoned professional in the field of fitness, Sheldon has administered athletic clubs, overseeing the development of programs and the training of instructors. At LaSalle, he developed program for Varsity athletes, as well as conditioning for those in grades 7-9.

New members join the Board of Trustees

Poly Alumna Ruth Zeronian Edwards ’83 is the senior vice president and chief banking officer of Union Bank, where she oversees all aspects of the banking product line. She leads the development of competitive credit and deposit products and manages the pricing, process, and risk associated with the banking offering. Ruth has a bachelor’s degree in business administration and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Southern California. She has two children in Poly’s Upper School—her daughter, Natalie, is a member of the junior class, and her son, Joseph, is a freshman.

James Terrile is a senior vice president and portfolio counselor for Capital Research Company and a vice president of AMCAP Fund. James received an MBA with Beta Gamma Sigma distinction from Columbia University Graduate School of Business and a bachelor’s degree magna cum laude in music from William Paterson University. He is on the board of Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and A Noise Within, a theatre company based in Pasadena. He currently has two children at Poly—son Julian is a junior and daughter Sophia is in eighth grade; his son Christian graduated Poly this past June.
In these final weeks of *The Next 100 Years* campaign, our community is poised to make Poly history ... but we still need you! It’s not too late to join the extraordinary momentum and help us reach the final goal. Together our community has revolutionized the opportunities available to Poly students in scientific inquiry, creative thinking and performance, and advanced library research. Let’s finish the job!
When Dana and Toi Treister joined the Poly community 13 years ago, both the school and their family looked very different from the way they do today. Watching their children—Olivia ’13, Natalie ’14, Alexandra ’16, and Jackson ’20—grow into unique and confident individuals, the Treisters are keenly aware of Poly’s positive influence as an adaptable and developing institution.

“We see Poly trying to grow and improve itself,” Dana says. “The school provides a first-rate education to students from diverse backgrounds and continues to contribute considerable resources to reaching others in the broader community.” Each with their own Pasadena upbringing (Dana attended John Muir High School, and Toi went to Mayfield), the Treisters find some of the benefits of both experiences at Poly.

In their children, Toi also sees evidence of Poly’s engagement with the world beyond the school. “They all seem to be comfortable in a variety of roles. They don’t hesitate to take on leadership responsibilities or speak up about their ideas,” she explains. “There is no question that these qualities are fostered and nurtured at Poly.”

In supporting The Next 100 Years campaign, the Treisters are confident that Poly can eventually become accessible to a wider cross-section of the Pasadena community. They see continuing potential in the school that has become home to them over the years. Dana says, “Watching the new facilities go up has reminded us that Poly will be hard at work for a long time to come.”

The fact that both Claire ’11 and Madelyn Drolen ’14 have a strong affinity for science is a bit of a surprise to the whole family. Although their parents are scientists—Melany Hunt is Caltech’s vice provost and a mechanical engineering professor, and Bruce Drolen is an aerospace engineer at Boeing Company—Melany says, “We have had many dinner conversations that involved science and math, and there was a lot of eye rolling and groaning from the girls when they were younger.” Over time, however, Claire and Maddy both developed a genuine interest in science, sparked and supported by Poly teachers.

From the time their daughters each started at Poly in prekindergarten, Melany and Bruce have found teachers who are dedicated to students’ individual growth. Such personalized attention has helped sustain the girls’ excitement about learning, and Melany says there has never been a morning either of her daughters has said she didn’t want to go to school. While delving into a rich curriculum in languages, the arts, English, and history, Claire and Maddy have also both enjoyed and excelled in chemistry.

“Over the years, we have looked for opportunities to give back to Poly,” Bruce explains. Their daughters have relished roles in the Girls’ Service League and Poly Ambassadors, and Melany serves on the board of trustees. Their support for The Next 100 Years campaign reflects gratitude for all Poly has offered along with a deep confidence in the school’s future. Bruce says, “We are inspired by how deeply Poly values a diverse environment, creative inquiry, and individuality.”
Poly’s entire campus has been transformed to meet today’s educational needs and the school’s potential offerings to future generations. An incredible wave of support from this forward-thinking community has helped realize unprecedented goals for funding Poly’s Next 100 Years.

- More than 650 community members have given for construction, endowment, and other campaign purposes.
- More than 3,000 community members have supported the campaign through their continued giving to the Annual Fund.

You can still make a critical contribution! Contact Campaign Director Beth Kopley at 626-396-6342, or give online www.polynext100.org.
Larry Perkins ’95 is proud to be called a Poly “lifer,” having started in prekindergarten and graduated from the Upper School. He credits his Poly years for invaluable perspective and a work ethic that served him well in business school at USC and later, as he worked for established consulting companies and ultimately built his own firm.

“The Poly experience was at times humbling because I learned that there could be people who would outperform me in just about anything I did, whether in the classroom, on the stage, or on the field,” Larry says. “I learned that being well-rounded was the way that I would ultimately find success, and as an entrepreneur, that has proven to be the case.”

Larry and his wife, Nichole, take every opportunity to deepen their relationship with the Poly community, as he now leads the Alumni Association and serves on the board of trustees. This involvement has shown him how much thought, effort, and resources go into sustaining the school, so he and Nichole wholeheartedly support The Next 100 Years campaign.

“In our minds, the campaign is absolutely critical to Poly’s current and future success,” Larry says, adding, “It has demonstrated that Poly can achieve previously unbelievable goals when the community sets its collective mind toward them. While the first 105 years have been remarkable, The Next 100 Years campaign sets Poly up for an even more remarkable next century.”
The Grace Henley Society—named in honor of Poly’s beloved second principal who served from 1915 to 1946—includes all those who have thoughtfully provided for the school through bequests, deferred gifts, or other planned gifts. A planned gift to Poly becomes part of the school’s endowment, helping to ensure that the programs and values that have made Poly great in the past will continue to do so for years to come.

Alumna Amanda Nyce McIntyre ’52 claims the whole range of Poly programs made an impact on her development as a child, and she has expressed her gratitude through a bequest to Poly in her estate plan. “Five years at Poly was not enough for me, but alas, the school ended at ninth grade then,” Amanda says. “Those five years were filled with academics, sports, theater, and so much enrichment that was all a fine basis for additional education.” Many members of the Poly community convey a similar message of gratitude as their reason for giving—today and in the future. As Amanda pursues new interests, including a recent trip to study landscaping at Oxford in England, she recognizes echoes of the values instilled in her at Poly. “That is why I give back to the school—it helped form and augment my attitude and my progress in life. Still today I think of Poly’s foundation... I never stop learning,” she explains.

A variety of options are available to those looking for a way to give back to Poly in gratitude for what the school has given them. From making a stock transfer to naming Polytechnic School as the beneficiary of a retirement account, the range of planned giving vehicles offers valuable tax savings to individuals and their families.

For more information on planned giving opportunities, visit Poly’s website at www.polytechnic.org/plannedgiving or contact Director of Development Diane Binney at 626-396-6331 or dbinney@polytechnic.org.

“The school helped form and augment my attitude and my progress in life. Still today I think of Poly’s foundation ... I never stop learning.” Amanda Nyce McIntyre ’52

The Oak Tree Society
Long-term supporters celebrate each year

In 2013, Poly will again honor the commitment of hundreds of families and individuals who have given to the school for 20 years or more. Including alumni, parents of alumni, faculty, and staff, the more than 500 Oak Tree Society members represent a tradition of generous support that has helped define Poly’s history. The second annual gathering of this diverse group, to be held this January, is a festive occasion for bridging the school’s past and future growth.
Rebecca Eaton ’65: Distinguished Alumna of the Year

By Lillian Mecum ’13

Rebecca Eaton ’65 is unequivocally a free spirit. Her eyes meet mine with frank sincerity; her gaze projects intelligence, poise, and wisdom. It is no wonder why Rebecca, the executive producer of PBS’s Masterpiece series, was selected by the Polytechnic School Alumni Association as Poly’s 2012 Distinguished Alumna of the Year.

During her 27-year tenure at Masterpiece, Rebecca’s work has been recognized with honors including 31 Primetime Emmy Awards, 15 Peabody Awards, a Golden Globe, and two Academy Award nominations. Rebecca was also named as one of Time’s “100 Most Influential People in the World” in 2011. Under her leadership, Masterpiece has brought to the American public beloved shows such as Sherlock, Downton Abbey, and Upstairs Downstairs.

Rebecca embodies Poly’s philosophy of service to others, as she serves on the board of the New York branch of the British Academy of Film and Television, aids sustainable community garden initiatives in Rwanda, and supports Young Women’s Leadership Network in New York City.

This fall, Rebecca returned to her alma mater, where she toured the Upper School campus and visited with students in a Creative Writing elective and an AP English Literature class. She accepted the Distinguished Alumna Award later in the evening at an honorary dinner, which many of her Poly classmates attended.

Rebecca explains that theatre has always played a major role in her life. “My father taught Shakespeare at Caltech, and my mother was an actress,” she said. “We would spend summers in Maine and go into New York City to watch Broadway shows.”

Rebecca recalled poring over books, dramas, and movie magazines during her adolescence. She sang in the choir at Pasadena’s All Saints Episcopal Church every Sunday, after which she and her father would watch Sunday matinees at the local movie theatre.
Rebecca loved school and identified with the smart, hard-working girls in her class. As Rebecca transitioned into high school, she learned how to write and speak publicly. “The most valuable lesson I learned at Poly was how to read, literally and critically. It’s how I make a living now.”

An active participant in school life, Rebecca was the president of the Girls Service League and a member of the basketball team. Her favorite subjects were English and French, partly because her teachers left lasting impressions on her as a freshman. Rebecca recalled that her French teacher was a “brilliant and demanding,” and her freshman English teacher, Jenny Rheinfrank (now Jenny Barthold), was inspirational. Ms. Barthold returned with Rebecca on her recent visit to the Poly campus. Rebecca reflected: “Jenny had just graduated from Vassar—[teaching at Poly] was her first job. She said she was terrified, but she was confident, and she loved talking about books and literature, so I just caught fire with that. Just discovering the pleasure of the life of the mind in something that I had been doing anyway for fun was eye-opening. To think that you could actually decipher books and talk about them and give structure to them was incredibly formative for me.”

After graduating from Poly, Rebecca also attended Vassar College, a choice that later lead to her attaining an internship with the BBC her senior year. The executive producer of Masterpiece at the time was ill and had to resign. Rebecca’s mentor encouraged her to apply for the job, and she was chosen. In those early years, “I had no idea what I was doing at first,” Rebecca said. “But it’s really the perfect job for a bookworm, Anglophile, drama fanatic like me. I love it.”

As an executive producer, Rebecca selects which projects are sponsored by Masterpiece each season. “I read a lot of scripts, and I read a lot of books. I have to be able to decide, out of all the drama in England, which shows will be most successful, which shows our audience will respond to best.” When asked how she knows when she’s found the perfect project for Masterpiece, Rebecca said, “I can just tell. It’s a gut feeling, and it’s very, very subjective. I see a lot of bad stuff. But I get almost a physical reaction when I see something that’s really, really good.”

Distinguished Alumna Rebecca Eaton ’65 and her former English teacher Jenny Barthold discuss with students in Cottet Donnell’s English class The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner, on which Jenny wrote her senior thesis at Vassar. Students in Grace Hamilton’s Creative proved to be an appreciative audience.

“The most valuable lesson I learned at Poly was how to read, literally and critically. It’s how I make a living now.”
Rebecca also negotiates deals with English broadcasters and screens tapes, although she rarely visits the sets—she flies to England only two or three times per year.

Rebecca said that the biggest risk she has taken during her time at PBS was overseeing Masterpiece’s 2008 rebranding. “It was a complete makeover,” Rebecca said. “We dropped the word ‘theatre’ from our original logo, we changed the hosts, and the show was divided into three sections. We were very public about this, before we even knew it would work. If I had known what I know now, that rebranding is a very risky thing for an icon to undertake, I probably wouldn’t have done it. But it turned out brilliantly.”

Looking forward, Rebecca says that she is most excited for viewers to see the third season of Downton Abbey, which will air beginning this January. Rebecca hopes to teach someday and work with young women in leadership positions.

Nominations for the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award due Friday, January 18, 2013

The Distinguished Alumni Award is given annually to a Poly alumna or alumnus whose life and work embodies Poly’s mission and philosophy of integrity, curiosity, compassion, service to others, and respect for the world beyond.

To nominate an alumna or alumnus, please visit www.polytechnic.org/alumni and click Distinguished Alumni.
old classmates for our 60th reunion—we have not changed in all these years! Still a very special group. ● Amanda Nyce McIntyre ‘52 spent three unique and educational weeks in Oxford as part of the Oxford/Berkeley program, living in Merton College and immersed in Capability Brown’s 18th century landscape architecture. Super field trips and an added asset—enjoying the London Olympics commercial free! Now off to hike the canyons of New Mexico. ● Glen Gustafson ‘57 Finally starting to learn about nutrition! Never felt this good! Ask me—I’ll tell you how (no products to sell!).

makes Poly so proud. Me too.” ● David K. Robinson ’65 Congratulations to my classmate Becky Eaton ’65 on being selected as Poly’s Distinguished Alumna. ● Cassandra Phillips ’68 co-authored Plastic Ocean with Captain Charles Moore. An updated version is now available in paperback. ● Alex “Sandy” Smith Maclay ’69 Still doing TV (and architecture—Bill) in Vermont, the world’s coolest place! Two kids gone, but happy.

1970–1979

Carolyn Kressen Butler ’73 I’m teaching middle school science in Thousand Oaks and spending summers in the Santa Monica mountains with the National Park’s Teacher to Ranger to Teacher program—a challenging and rewarding combination!! ● Laurie Farber ’73 I am in my ninth year teaching foreign language and music at McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester, New York. Although I have given up tameshirwari (breaking), I still have my Varsity martial arts team. My family is doing well. My son, Aaron Bigeleisen, was featured on NPR’s “From the Top” (Show 254, if you want to listen). ● Phil Abrams (Frederick Philip Henriques) ’77 attended Poly from kindergarten through eighth grade. After graduating from the University of California, Berkeley in 1982, Phil moved to New York City for a theatre stint, and then relocated to Los Angeles in the early ’90s. He has found success as an actor on television with recurring guest roles on Parenthood, Switched at Birth, Good Luck Charlie, Grey’s Anatomy, and iCarly, and guest star roles on The Big Bang Theory, The Office, and The Mentalist, to name a recent few. Phil is married to Michelle Bitting, currently the poet laureate of...
night in the depths of these woods, the stillness is at once awful and sublime. Every leaf seems to speak. One gets close to Nature, and the love of beauty grows as it cannot in the distractions of camp...in that zone below the ice and snow and above the darkling woods, where the sunshine sleeps on alpine gardens and the young rivers flow rejoicing from the glacial caves...perfect quietude is there, and freedom from every curable care.”

1990–1999

Joanna Grisinger ’90’s book, The Unwieldy American State: Administrative Politics Since the New Deal, was published recently by Cambridge University Press. Joanna is currently a senior continuing lecturer in the Center for Legal Studies at Northwestern University. • Bill Watkins ’90, like many, was captivated by the Olympics this summer and is proud of our athletes. Bill says, “Way to go, Koko Archibong ’99,” who played on the Nigerian basketball team. • Kentaro Iwasaki ’91 was one of 97 mathematics and science teachers named by President Obama as this year's recipients of a prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Kentaro, who has taught mathematics for 16 years, 13 of which were at Mission High School in San Francisco, currently serves as a senior program officer at ConnectEd: The California Center for College and Career in Berkeley. • Ankarino Lara ’93 After a 10-year stint in San Francisco, my family has returned to Pasadena and moved into a permanent situation.

We welcomed our second son, Tsela Woo Lara, on Aug. 12, and brother Kalyx couldn’t be more proud. Find us lurking at a boys home water polo game sometime soon. Go Panthers!

2000–2011

Kait Dunton ’01 I’ve started my final year of a doctor of musical arts degree in jazz studies at USC. During the past three years in Los Angeles, I also have been working hard in the many different realms of a music career: performing, composing, recording, teaching, etc. This year, I released my second album of original compositions for jazz piano trio and quintet, Mountain Suite. It features me as a pianist and composer, and includes jazz notables Peter Erskine and Bob Mintzer.

Trevor Garlock ’01 is working for Franklin Templeton. • David Gross ’04 and Aurora Pribram-Jones, who met at Harvey Mudd College, were married in the redwoods of San Mateo County, Calif., in September, just days after he returned from the Chebfun and Continued
Class Notes continued

Beyond workshop at the University of Oxford. Along with contributing to that open source project, David continues his work at eSolar, developing optical performance models for solar power plant technology, while Aurora seeks her Ph.D. at UC Irvine, studying theoretical quantum chemistry as a Department of Energy Computational Science graduate fellow. ● Renee Lam ’01 married David Wu on Oct. 14 in Pasadena. They have known each other for more than six years, ever since they were on the same salsa dance performance team together. After their wedding celebration, they went on a short two-day trip to Napa, where the sole purpose was to gorge themselves on one meal at French Laundry. They are now saving their appetites for their “real” honeymoon in France next spring. ● Keegan de Lancie ’03 I joined the Department of State as a foreign service officer in May of 2012 and am now serving a two-year tour as a vice-consul in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Prior to joining, I lived in Jordan on a Fulbright Scholarship and worked for the International Organization for Migration in Iraq for two years. I joined the department of state as a foreign service officer in May of 2012 and am now serving a two-year tour as a vice-consul in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Prior to joining, I lived in Jordan on a Fulbright Scholarship and worked for the International Organization for Migration in Iraq for two years. I was just married in August to Elizabeth Berman, whom I met in Egypt in 2006. ● Andrew Essensten ’03, who was visiting Rome one weekend in November, ran into former Poly Middle School teacher Celinda Pearson, who is living in Florence, Italy, as part of Pasadena City Colleges’ Study Abroad Program. The two are pictured here at the Piazza La Navona. Andrew currently is working in Tel Aviv, Israel, as a reporter. ● Steve Huffman ’04 was married on Sept. 29 in Nashville, Tenn. He and his wife, Alyse, live in Virginia Beach, Va., where Steve flies F/A-18 Super Hornets for the Navy, and Alyse is a registered nurse at the children’s hospital in Norfolk. Classmate Jessica Liu ’04 was a bridesmaid.

● Devon Feldmeth ’07 spent the summer in Lira, Uganda, working with a local agency providing assistance and support to former child soldiers and war orphans. Devon taught classes, visited families in the surrounding region, and helped provide water filters in villages.

● Giovanni Dandekar ’08 graduated from USC in biomedical engineering magna cum laude and is continuing his studies at the Keck School of Medicine. ● Gracelyn Bateman ’08 I am at Columbia University for a yearlong program to get my master’s degree in sociology. I am very excited to start a challenging year, but I definitely miss the smiling faces and the great communities I enjoyed both at Poly and at Santa Clara University. ● Stevie Stringfellow ’08 Stevie graduated from the United State Military Academy at West Point and is now a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army as a field artillery officer.

● Alexandra Paul ’10 spent her summer at the Duke Marine Lab studying physics and spent eight weeks in the Costa Rican jungle researching gastric cancer. ● Edward Ryan ’11 At Holy Cross, I am the coxswain of our top boat. We are the only liberal arts school in D-1 rowing and compete with the best teams across the nation in the Eastern Sprints league (EARC). The weekend of May 31, I coxed our squad’s top boat at the national championships (the Varsity 4). We sprinted past Harvard to finish a little over a second ahead of them; won our final, placing seventh overall in the tournament; and posted the fourth fastest time of the day. I often wear a Poly baseball cap to races for good luck.
Charles Kent Bradway '45  
July 5, 2012, Prescott, Arizona  
Charles Kent Bradway was born July 29, 1930, in Pasadena. He attended Poly for first through ninth grade and graduated from Claremont Men's College in 1952 with a bachelor's degree in business. He was a member of the ROTC and enlisted in the Army as a second lieutenant after graduation. He served in Korea until the war ended in 1954. He then was promoted to first lieutenant and received an honorable discharge from the military. He continued his education, working on his master's degree at the University of Oklahoma until he moved to Phoenix in 1955. Kent worked in banking and mortgage loans until his retirement. He was an active member of the Prescott Noon Lion's Club for 15 years. This past June, he received the honor of a lifetime membership and Lion of the Year Award. He was an active member and usher at the Prescott United Methodist Church. His hobbies included golf, bowing, community service, and spending time with his family. Kent is preceded in death by his son, David. He is survived by his sisters, Shirley Bradway Billings '46 and Beverly Bradway Beardsee '46; his brother, Neal '48; his children, John Kent Bradway and Ann Bradway Gemoll; and grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

David Wilson Patton '48  
June 18, 2012, El Paso, Texas  
David, a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, was born on Aug. 11, 1933, in England to Anne W. Patton, sister of General George S. Patton of WWII. After attending Poly from second through seventh grade, David graduated from Harvard-Westlake High School in 1951. He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1955 with a bachelor's of science in engineering and a commission as an infantry second lieutenant. He also studied at the Airborne School and Army Staff College, and he earned an MBA from California State University, Bakersfield in 1983. He was a member of the United States Rifle Team. He served in Korea, Vietnam, Germany, Panama, and Guatemala, and he commanded in the California State Military Reserve and the Texas State Guard. While in the military, he earned numerous awards and citations, including the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, National Defense Medal, Purple Heart Medal, and National Guard Faithful Service Medal. His interests included sailing, genealogy, model aviation, the El Paso Railroad Society, Mexican folkloric dancing, and volunteering with Victim Services of El Paso Police Department. He was preceded in death by his brother, Peter W. Patton '46, and his children, Michael, John, and Nicole. David is survived by wife of 37 years, Elvira Zaval-Patton; his children, Patti Bader, Charles, Tinta Martin, David II, Anne W. Patton LaRoque; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Marcia Lisle '57  
November 3, 2012, Irvine, California  
Marcia was born in Pasadena on May 16, 1942, and attended Poly from kindergarten to second grade. She graduated from USC with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and enjoyed 28 years of teaching. A lover of the arts, she spent many hours enjoying opera and theatre. Marcia is survived by her family, including her mother, Sally Dix Lisle; brothers, Larry '62 and Phil Lisle; and sister, Janet Kates.

Warren I. Taylor, Jr. '74  
June 30, 2012, Santa Monica, California  
Warren was born in Detroit, Mich., on May 10, 1956. Warren entered Poly in the ninth grade and was a successful athlete. He was a member of the Varsity basketball team and played shortstop on the baseball team.

Larkin Brogan '05  
October 19, 2012, Berkeley, California  
Larkin was born on June 9, 1987, in Pasadena. She attended Mayfield Junior School, Poly, and Princeton University, where she received her bachelor's degree in architecture in 2009. At the time of her death, Larkin was pursuing a master's degree in architecture in the College of Environmental Design at UC Berkeley. Larkin had a keen intellect and was an outstanding athlete. She excelled in volleyball and softball and played on Princeton's intercollegiate softball team. She enjoyed surfing, wakeboarding, running, and bicycling. She had a witty, dry sense of humor, and when she smiled, she meant it. Her skills in design were recognized at Princeton and Berkeley. She will be greatly missed by her parents, Kevin and Nena Brogan; her brothers, Chase and J.T.; her sister, Abbey '09; her sister-in-law, Pooja; as well as her beloved cat, Pepito, and all those who truly knew her.
Student-Athlete Leadership Council gains momentum

By Leslie Carmell, Director of Communications

Established in 2011 and composed of student-athletes and coach mentors, the Student-Athlete Leadership Council (SALC) works to provide a positive influence through leadership on teams at all sports levels, to serve as representatives in the Poly community, and to serve the Pasadena community at-large. SALC comprises a dozen student-athletes in grades 11 and 12 organized into three committees—Service, Spirit, and Education—with mentor-coaches who serve as advisors for the three groups.

Poly alumnus and longtime boys Varsity basketball coach Brad Hall ’73 is impressed by the group’s motivation and discussed how Athletic Director Steve Beerman “set up a framework, a suggested path the SALC could follow the first year. This year, the students are the ones setting the vision for the group, and the mentors have stepped back.” Hall explained that his role as a mentor is to listen, to offer suggestions, and to be a source of information, but that the students themselves are now defining the group’s goals and role in the Poly community.

Coach and mentor Charlene Beerman has also enjoyed the evolution: “It has been fun to watch the four of the founding members—seniors Rachel Hoang, Caleb Lee, Katie Wardlaw and Courtney Foster—[return this year and] now run the show. The students have had to learn how to get others involved, organize events, run the meetings, and work together.”

Caleb Lee was eager to get involved as a founding member: “SALC gave me an opportunity to combine my athletic experiences with a leadership opportunity to make an immediate impact in Poly athletics. I felt that there was a noticeable gap between athletics and the rest of the members of the Poly community, and the rest of the group and I wished to be the ones who filled that void.”

Rick Caragher, head coach for boys and girls cross country and assistant coach for boys Varsity basketball, has served as a faculty advisor to SALC’s education committee. He explained that while the first year was more about laying a foundation, the group is now focused on getting programs up and running. “This year, as we have a blueprint (of what we want and don’t want to do), the students have taken more initiative. They are taking a more active role in the organization of the SALC agendas and reaching out to the school and the Pasadena community.”

Senior Katie Wardlaw cites the role of athletics in her life as the impetus to be a part of SALC: “Sports played an important part in how I was able to integrate into the community as a freshman new to Poly. I wanted to be a member of SALC so that I could involve the community in athletics and give back for all that it’s given me.” She explains, however, that SALC’s reach extends beyond the boundaries of the Poly campus and offers members an opportunity to share the school’s athletic philosophy with a broader audience. “I am proud that SALC has involved many people, not only in the Poly community but also in the greater Pasadena community. We have been able to work with students from McKinley … Our involvement with the Prep League Athletic Council is significant because sportsmanship has always been important to us as a community … Our goal is to continue to educate players, fans, and coaches on the importance of sportsmanship, dignity, and respect.”
Some of the activities that SALC has implemented since the committee was founded:

- Hosting teacher appreciation days, where Lower School faculty members were recognized during half-time at athletic games, which was so successful that they plan on doing the same this year with Middle School teachers;
- Organizing an Olympic Day with fourth-graders at McKinley School in Pasadena;
- Establishing a “student section” at games and encouraging the Poly community to wear “Fear the Paw” T-shirts;
- Utilizing a Twitter feed to report scores from athletic games (
  twitter.com/PolyAthletics);
- Creating a “Frequently Asked Issues” page on the Poly website by polling current Poly students and alumni about their experiences as student-athletes.

Committee members are currently working on a video demonstrating proper fan behavior, and they are helping the Athletic Department identify an appropriate athletic logo by holding a contest in the Upper School.

Building relationships through her work on the committee is something that senior Rachel Hoang values: “We hope to continue… our partnership with McKinley and create more opportunities for students from both schools to interact through athletics. We also are working to bridge the divide between the Lower, Middle, and Upper Schools.” SALC’s introduction of the “Fear the Paw” shirts last year was well received: “Every time I see someone … wearing a ‘Fear the Paw’ shirt, I know that we are making our community tighter,” said Hoang.

Jessica Berger, director of annual giving and head coach of Poly’s swimming and diving teams, is proud of the growth she has seen in the student-athletes. “This group is emerging as leaders who lead by example with an infectious, positive approach to being supportive team members both on and off the playing fields, courts, or pool,” she said. “In turn, we see more leaders emerging at all levels on every team—creating an environment that builds confidence and skills for Poly student-athletes to thrive.”

SALC members are becoming increasingly clear about their goals, as well as the understanding that success is not simply measured by the number in the W column: “It’s less about the importance of winning or losing in athletic competition, and more about just the feeling of being involved, cheering for your friends, and coming together as a school,” Hoang reflected.

To view video of the awards ceremony, click here.
Inside this issue:

BUILDING BOOSTS BONDS
With the completion of the new Poly Building on the South Campus, the Science and Math Departments enjoy updated and expanded facilities, and the Upper School Library gets a new home. Page 4

CURiosity ABOUT MARS
Poly parent and chief scientist of the Mars Science Laboratory, Dr. John Grotzinger discusses the Curiosity rover project with the Poly community. Page 8

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA
Rebecca Eaton ’65, executive producer of PBS’s Masterpiece series, returns to Poly to visit with students and fellow alumni and to be honored as this year’s Distinguished Alumni Award winner. Page 21