A show of hands ... and smiles

Dancers representing Nepal respond to audience applause after performing at International Gala 2017. The spring event brought Clark students on stage at the Kneller Center to celebrate our global spirit through dance and music from many countries.
Dear alumni, family and friends,

Our May 2017 commencement speaker, Dr. Earl Lewis, president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, asked our graduates to stand and make the following pledge: “We, the graduating class of Clark University, will do the unimagined. We will nurture and promote our passion for social justice and change the world, responsibly.”

It is testimony to Clark’s mission that this optimistic call to action feels authentic to our community not only on commencement day, but also in quieter moments of reflection. At Clark, this pledge is neither gratuitous nor boastful — it is a statement of values. Our new Clark alumni embrace the responsibility and the opportunity to make a difference. Importantly, there is a strong sense that our students have built the skills and capabilities needed to translate passion into purpose, and connect knowledge to practice.

In the months leading up to commencement, I make a point of asking our graduating students two questions. First, I invite them to tell me about an experience they have had at Clark that shaped the life path they wish to pursue, and the self they seek to be in life, career and citizenship. Many students speak about the transformative influence of a particular professor, coach or mentor who challenged, inspired, and, above all, cared. Others note their involvement in research or in clubs and organizations, and the sense of community at Clark that allows students to test out different versions of themselves. These responses speak to a continuity of mission at Clark that, with your support, we seek to steward and enhance. They are opportunities worthy of our investment.

I also ask our graduating students about their aspirations for Clark — their hopes for ways in which the University might improve. A common theme is the significant opportunity we have to accomplish more together as a passionate community of alumni, family and friends of Clark. There is urgency in these responses, with a belief that we can expand and deepen our influence on issues of global importance.

We are committed to doing just that. This May, the University officially launched Campaign Clark, our comprehensive giving campaign to raise resources to support student scholarships, faculty teaching and research innovation, programs and facilities. You will find us hard at work creating ways for you to engage meaningfully with Clark, and for Clark to have impact in the world. I invite you all to be a part of this critically important effort to support the future of our great University. Now is our time.

Sincerely,

DAVID P. ANGEL, President
Here was a time when the only undergraduates crossing Clark’s campus were men — but that changed in 1942, when the University made the decision to admit women to its undergraduate college. An Oct. 28 celebration will mark the 75th anniversary of this historic occasion, and honor the generations of women who came to Clark and later went on to lives and careers of consequence. The day’s events will include a screening of “Challenging Convention: The Women Who Changed Clark’s World,” a documentary by Hannah Kogut ’17.

Kogut, who double-majored in screen studies and history, was recruited to the project by her adviser, Professor Hugh Manon. “It was a perfect marriage of what I like: film and history,” she says. She recorded interviews with several of the first Clark women as well as an alumnus who, to his delight, found himself sharing campus with female classmates. Those interviews, interspersed with archival footage and interviews with current Clark students, were edited into an 18-minute documentary.

“They were very sweet, and also extremely interested about my own Clark experiences,” Kogut says of Clark’s women pioneers. “And some of their stories were just Clark stories. Yes, they paved the way, and we wouldn’t be here without them. But really, they were no different than we are now. They had fun, went on trips, hung out with their friends, struggled — they were just Clarkies.”

Clark’s women kept marching forward, doing more and more on campus and leading clubs and activities when the men went off to fight in World War II. Kogut’s video captures a time of change on campus through the recollections of those who experienced it. Some of her footage turned out to be unexpectedly poignant as it includes interviews with Barbara Norris Andersen ’46 and Dr. Martin Deranian ’47, who both passed away last September.

Marie L’Heureux ’77, who is helping organize the 75th anniversary celebration, remembers when she was deciding which college to attend, and the choice came down to Holy Cross and Clark. Holy Cross had gone coed only a year earlier, in 1972, and a campus tour gave her the sense it was still very much a male-oriented place. “I had the feeling of being a minority,” she recalls. A tour of Clark that same day had a different, more welcoming feel to it. “I knew I was coming here.”

While details are still being finalized, the outline for the Oct. 28 event is falling into place. Three panel discussions will address the themes of Clark in the Community, Clark Women in Geography, and History of Activism at Clark. Alumni and faculty will participate.

Sharon Krefetz, professor emerita, who taught political science at Clark for 43 years, also will be interviewed about the history of women at the University.

Efforts are under way to create a gallery of historical posters and other artifacts that speak to the women’s experiences at Clark University. A luncheon, closing reception, and an event connected to athletics are also in the works.
JANETTE EKANEM ’09, M.P.A. ’10, believed she would make a good lawyer. Professor MARK MILLER made sure of it.

Janette captained the Mock Trial team, and attended the annual prelaw seminars Professor Miller organized that brought alumni lawyers back to campus to share their professional journeys with students.

Today, Janette is a practicing attorney at Kotin, Crabtree & Strong LLP in Boston and has served as a panelist at those same seminars, answering the questions she once asked.

Your gift to Clark supports the necessary work of professors like Mark Miller, whose instruction and guidance transform our students’ aspirations into reality.

“**We didn’t just learn the facts,**” says Janette. “**Professor Miller made us look at the ways that cases were connected to the social movements of the time.**”
To introduce this redesign of Clark magazine, I thought it would be appropriate to lead with a quote about the need for change. I hunted for something profound, maybe even Shakespearean (!), until I realized that the reasoning behind our new look is not so deep. Simply, it was time.

Some history here: When I came on board in 2010 the former Clark News had been retired, and we built a new magazine from the ground up. You, our readers, responded positively, and we’ve enjoyed providing you with a vital, informative and, perhaps, entertaining publication. My goal has always been that even someone unaffiliated with Clark would find our magazine compelling enough to dive into.

Altering a comfortable look can be dangerous — consider the exquisite amount of regret a bad haircut can produce. But in the world of magazines, seven years is a lifetime. Our style was beginning to feel tired and repetitive; we were feeling our age.

Our decision-making surrounding a redo was guided both by our commitment to telling the Clark story and the desire to refresh the vehicle by which we tell it. We’ve retained the popular aspects of the magazine, including Class Notes, Red Square and captivating stories about our alumni, faculty and students, while emboldening our appearance with more vibrant photography and art. We’ve also added features like the history-themed Clarkives, and Campus Heroes, profiling the often anonymous people who make the place hum. Finally, we increased the size of our text font, which improves the aesthetics and allows eyes of any prescription to appreciate the awesomeness of our writing. (Am I biased? Yes I am.)

Clark University is important to you, and we want the magazine you hold to reaffirm and strengthen your relationship to the institution. These pages represent a shared Clark adventure. Let’s enjoy it together.

Congratulations to the 1,173 undergraduate and graduate students who received degrees at Clark’s commencement on May 21. Among your number was my son, Jimmy, now an official Clark alumnus. I can remember describing – some would call it “pitching” – Clark University when he was a high school student and trying to figure out his next step. Like all this year’s graduates, he has many more steps to take in life, but he started strongly by choosing to enroll here. I’m proud of him, and honored to be a Clark parent.
FALL MAGAZINE WAS IMPRESSIVE

The fall 2016 edition of the Clark alumni magazine was outstanding. You should be proud of the artistic, informative articles about some of the alumni and faculty. My particular favorites were about Dr. Fred Kron ’75 and Debórah Dwork. Also, reading about Goldie Michelson, M.A. ’36, was a very special experience, since I knew her and cannot believe her accomplishments until the age of nearly 114. Quite an amazing woman.

As a Clark alumna, class of ’57, I wish I could be attending school there again. Lucky are the students who enjoy Clark’s special qualities today.

I read every page of the magazine with much interest and gained information on many subjects.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Suzanne Cohan ’57  |  Longboat Key, Florida

A TEACHER’S LEGACY RECALLED

I read your article about Dr. Wallace McIntyre, M.A. ’47, Ph.D. ’51, on the Clark University website. He was a geography professor at Illinois State Normal University while I was a student. Geography was my minor; however, I took geology, weather and climate, and a political geography course, all taught by Dr. McIntyre. Even though the highest grade I ever achieved was a B, I learned more from his courses than anyone else whom I can remember. His instruction was always lucid and informative, and his knowledge vast. When I began teaching world and American history, his impact was most helpful. A great teacher, and Clark should be very proud of such a noted alumnus.

Otto Fafoglia  |  Chatham, Illinois

THANKFUL FOR TRIBUTE TO FATHER

I want to thank you so much for the work you put into the article in the alumni magazine on my dad and his endowment to Clark. “One in a million” was an absolutely fantastic article that exceeded our expectations and was a wonderful tribute to my dad’s life. Though dad did not live long enough to see the article, he was overwhelmed by the positive response from the gift. It gave him a real sense of validation and wonder that he was able to accomplish so much in his life and to have it recognized by his alma mater. It also has sparked a real sense of pride and wonder in his family that he accomplished so much from such humble beginnings.

William McIntyre, M.D.  |  Cheyenne, Wyoming

(Editor’s note: Wallace McIntyre, M.A. ’47, Ph.D. ’51, last year endowed $1 million to the Graduate School of Geography. He passed away on Dec. 14, 2016, at the age of 98.)
Deciphering an undeniable truth

From a coded telegram in a long-forgotten archive, Clark historian Taner Akçam uncovered evidence to disarm those who would deny the Armenian Genocide.

“This is the smoking gun,” Akçam told The New York Times in an exclusive interview for an April 22 feature, headlined “Sherlock Holmes of Armenian Genocide’ Uncovers Lost Evidence.”

Akçam’s groundbreaking discovery authenticates documents confirming that the Ottoman government systematically organized deportations and mass killings associated with the Armenian Genocide that began in 1915.

Several news organizations followed with coverage of Akçam’s “smoking gun” revelations, including The Times of Israel. Dozens of mentions appeared in top online media, influential blogs, Facebook and Twitter. Major influencers took note, including writer Junot Diaz (184,000 Facebook followers); the History News Network (1.5 million page views per month); Stand With Us (1.1 million Facebook followers); Ari Shapiro of NPR (120,000 Twitter followers); and author Chris Bohjalian (11,700 Twitter followers).

Closing an interview with NPR’s nightly newscast “All Things Considered,” Akçam said, “I’m a historian. It is my job to educate new generations on violence in the past so that this should not happen again in the future.”

Akçam is the Robert Aram ’52 and Marianne Kaloosdian and Stephen and Marian Mugar Chair in Armenian Genocide Studies.

FROM THE TIMES ARTICLE:

Mr. Akçam said he had little hope that his new finding would immediately change things, given Turkey’s ossified policy of denial and especially at a time of political turmoil when its president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has turned more nationalist.

But Mr. Akçam’s life’s work has been to puncture, fact by fact, document by document, the denials of Turkey.

“My firm belief as a Turk is that democracy and human rights in Turkey can only be established by facing history and acknowledging historic wrongdoings,” he said.

CLARK FACULTY IN THE NEWS:

TIME

The Wall Street Journal
“Beware the Dismissal of Germany’s Nazi Past”; Thomas Kühne (history)

Bloomberg Law
“Is Gorsuch Right Conservative to Get Past Smarting Senate Dems?”; Mark Miller (political science)

VFW Magazine
“Keeping it Together: Preventing Divorce in the Military”; James Cordova (psychology)

The Hill
“Legal Insider Trading? This is What It is and How It Affects Investors”; David Tang (finance)

The Christian Science Monitor
“For the First Time in 100+ Years, Canada’s Oldest Park will be Roamed by Wild Bison”; William Lynn (research scientist)
I said if I was going to do film, Spike Lee is one person I want to work with.

- Daysha Williams '17
Taking a cue from post-impressionist Dutch painter Vincent van Gogh, Grant Henry ’17 headed to Paris last summer to envelop himself in the world of art and explore places like Montmartre, the red-light district that harbored artists of Europe’s fertile Belle Époque period. Nine months later, he emerged with a well-researched graphic novel, “The Adventures of Van Gogh in Paris,” which served as his honors thesis in studio art and was exhibited in Clark’s Schiltkamp Gallery.

Van Gogh spent 1886 to 1888 in Paris, befriending Paul Gauguin, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and other artists and soaking up the artwork of the Louvre and neighborhood galleries and studios. Henry depicts van Gogh’s discovery of impressionism and his learning alongside his fellow artists.

“I’m fascinated by the two years van Gogh spent in Paris, where he developed his iconic painting style,” Henry says. “He enters the city as a lover of tried-and-true realism, and leaves as a prominent member of the Paris avant-garde.”

So read a poster at the April 22 March for Science held in Washington, D.C., as well as in more than 600 cities where scientists from around the world refused to be ignored. The series of rallies was organized to protest Trump administration policies and views widely seen as hostile to science, including the denial of climate change and substantial cuts to research. Clark faculty were among those marching in Washington and Boston.

“I march to support science for discovery, for understanding, for the common good,” wrote Christopher Williams, associate professor of geography, in a blog post titled “Why I March for Science.” He concluded: “These anti-science, post-truth trends threaten human health and well-being and jeopardize a pillar of freedom and prosperity. It doesn’t need to be this way. It shouldn’t be this way.”

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I want to make it clear that though our gowns may look like capes, we have not been equipped to save the world, but to serve it.

– OPHELIA OKOH ’17, Senior speaker at commencement
Game faces

Clark student-athletes have accomplished great things inside the Kneller Athletic Center. Now they’re making an impact outside the building. This spring, larger-than-life photos of 10 athletes, all of them wearing their game faces, were installed on the Kneller façade above the front doors. They weren’t alone for long: The Dolan Field House received the glamour treatment recently. Below, swimmer Dylan Schrama ’19 checks out the photos, including his own (at left).

MICHAEL SAM spoke at Clark about his journey from a troubled childhood, to finding football stardom at the University of Miami, to becoming the first openly gay man drafted by an NFL team. Sam was selected in the seventh round by the St. Louis Rams in 2014 but did not make the squad. It was a rough road, he acknowledged. “I went through so much adversity in my life, and I triumphed every single time. God’s testing me to see how strong I really am.”
The 1986 romantic comedy “She’s Gotta Have It” marked the arrival of Spike Lee as a fresh, brash voice in films. More than 30 years later, Lee is returning to familiar territory, remaking his original hit into a 10-part Netflix series that will air this summer.

Could there be a Clark connection to all this? Isn’t there always?

Daysha Williams ’17, who recently earned her theatre arts degree at Clark, landed a role in Lee’s series. As these things go, it was a mixture of talent and good fortune that got her there. Last summer, Williams was at the beach with a friend when she met a woman whose photographer husband works closely with Lee. The man snapped a few photos. When Lee later mentioned the role in conversation, the woman from the beach showed him the photos of Daysha.

She appeared at the open casting call in January, and Lee recognized her from the images he’d been shown. She received a callback about two weeks later. During production, Williams was on set for three hours, and performed a love scene in one 20-minute take. She later returned to appear in the background of other scenes.

As a student, Williams enjoyed teaching acting skills to students at Claremont Academy in the Main South neighborhood, and she plans to focus her own career on live theatre. Still, she says, it was a dream to be in a movie helmed by the iconic director.

“I said if I was going to do film, Spike Lee is one person I want to work with,” Williams says. “I already fulfilled a goal before I even graduated.”

Shelly Tenenbaum brings inmates lessons on genocide

Every Wednesday this semester, Clark sociology Professor Shelly Tenenbaum needed to remember to leave her cell phone, wallet, pen, hat and gloves behind before she went to work. She also could not wear a jacket with a hood. Her class could be postponed because of a lockdown, and a student’s absenteeism might be attributed to time spent in solitary confinement.

Tenenbaum, director of Clark’s Holocaust and genocide studies undergraduate program, spent part of her sabbatical year teaching a course on comparative genocide to students at the Massachusetts Correctional Institute-Norfolk, an all-male medium-security prison 50 minutes southeast of Worcester. She worked as a faculty member in Boston University’s Prison Education Program.

Along with teaching assistants Claude Kaitare ’05 and Amanda Napior, a Boston University Ph.D. candidate, Tenenbaum brought many of the lessons from her genocide classes at Clark into the Norfolk prison block.

“I love teaching at Clark,” Tenenbaum says, “but I was ready for a new teaching experience, new challenges. This sabbatical offered an opportunity to act on that interest.”

Tenenbaum relished the change of environment, and was impressed by the inmates’ engagement with the material. The experience may even help reshape the way she teaches future introductory genocide courses at Clark, she says. At the very least, it left her examining the language she uses when discussing genocides throughout history.

Tenenbaum walked into the classroom with the “excited anxiety” of teaching inmates topics like the Stanford Prison Experiment — an influential 1971 social experiment in which college students acting as jailers abused other students portraying prisoners. Would that discussion be problematic
for her Norfolk students in ways that it would not be for Clark students?

Ultimately, the anxiety only energized the classroom give-and-take. “In the prison classroom, there was comfort with disagreement, but without an edge,” she says. The students were respectful but asked probing questions about the nature of genocide and drew parallels to American history and contemporary life.

Kaitare brought firsthand experience to the subject matter. A survivor of the Rwandan Genocide, he arrived at Clark in 2001 as a premed major, wanting to avoid reminders of what he’d fled. By sophomore year, his attitude had changed. Needing to fulfill electives, he signed up for Tenenbaum’s comparative genocide course and eventually switched his major to history, forgoing his premed scholarship money to do so.

For the first time, Kaitare was able to process the horror he had witnessed from an entirely new perspective — with an awareness of genocides that had occurred in other countries. “I thought Rwanda was unique,” he says. He describes the comparative aspect of Tenenbaum’s course as “therapeutic” because he could connect his personal experience to other places and time periods.

At MCI-Norfolk, Kaitare says, the older students were aware of Rwanda’s history. As for the younger students, “I had to show them on a map where Rwanda is.”

“Connections happened,” he says. “When we talked in groups I could figure out how they were understanding it.”

Tenenbaum had broader ambitions than simply teaching a new demographic of students. Like any good sociologist, she was researching as well, examining how the course changed when she presented material to students from different backgrounds. Did it make her more thoughtful in her use of language, for instance? Did she respond to the source material differently? What kinds of questions did she receive from one section of students versus the other?

“If I always teach at one place I’ll never notice that,” she says.

Eventually, Tenenbaum would like Clark to look into starting a similar extension program, or perhaps bring more Clark students into her classes at MCI-Norfolk or possibly MCI-Framingham, a women’s prison.

For Kaitare, who works with the school outreach organization Facing History and Ourselves and studies in Salem State University’s graduate-level Holocaust and genocide certificate program, his goal is straightforward.

“Ignorance is the root cause of all big problems in our society,” he says. “I raise awareness in hopes of eradicating ignorance.”

—Jeremy Shulkin ’07, M.A.T. ’08
SIGMUND FREUD spoke here in 1909, but more than a century later he’s still delivering for Clark. On May 26, a group of psychoanalysts from Brazil, who had traveled to Boston for a conference, made a side trip to campus for photos with the Freud statue and a lecture by Robert Tobin, the Henry J. Leir Chair in Language, Literature and Culture, and a Freud expert. Tobin also gave them a tour of the preserved office of G. Stanley Hall, Clark’s first president, who brought Freud to this still-young University for his only lectures in the United States.

WORKING OVERTIME

Whether exhorting his players or terrorizing referees, Men’s Basketball COACH PAUL PHILLIPS has a reputation for being, shall we say, animated during a game. At a recent photo shoot for a Clark publication, Coach Phillips was asked to recreate some of his memorable sideline postures. Enjoy the show.
On April 25, 1944, 80 Lithuanian Jews crawled through a 100-foot tunnel they’d dug with their hands to escape Nazi soldiers, who had forced them to burn the bodies of more than 100,000 massacred Jews. Only 12 of the 80 escaped; the rest were shot.

The story of the daring escape attempt was consigned to oral history, until last summer when a team of archaeologists, historians and college students, using specialized technology and ground-penetrating radar, uncovered the full length of the tunnel and a previously undiscovered burial pit at Ponar (now called Paneriai). Their discoveries earned international headlines, and were chronicled this spring on the PBS science series “NOVA.”

One of the students conducting research at the site was RACHEL POLINSKY ’16, newly graduated from Clark as an art history and ancient civilizations major. She has described the experience in Lithuania as surreal and emotion-churning. “I’m Jewish, so no matter what, this feels personal.”

On March 30, excavation leader and historian Richard Freund delivered the David and Edith Chaifetz Lecture in Jewish Studies at Clark, in which he described in detail the Ponar saga and the scientific efforts that helped bring it to light. His visit also allowed him an opportunity to reunite with Polinsky, who is now a graduate student at Brandeis University.

If you are an alumni reader of a certain age, be assured that the food options available to the Clark student of today are dramatically different than when you were hitting the cafeteria. They are unique, eclectic, and locally and sustainably sourced — and that’s just beginning with the salad bar. Unchanged, however, is that college students eat a lot, and often. Here’s a look at Clark dining by the numbers.
lawn-term relationship

Clark researchers investigate what our pursuit of the perfect yard says about us

BY MEREDITH WOODWARD KING

PHOTO-ILLUSTRATION BY FREDRIK BRODEN
IN THE SPRING OF 1999, PAUL ROBBINS FEARED HE WOULD BECOME WHAT HE MOST DREADED: A “LAWN PERSON.”

He had just bought a house in Columbus, Ohio, complete with a spread of turfgrass. One day, his neighbor leaned over the backyard fence, pointed to the purple-flowered ivy threatening to overtake Robbins’ lawn and proclaimed, “You should clean up that Creeping Charlie.”

In the nights that followed, Robbins lay awake thinking about his patchy lawn and his neighbor’s comment. He felt swayed by the slew of lawn maintenance company flyers hitting his mailbox promising lush, green grass. Yet he was torn. As a professor of geography at The Ohio State University and an avowed environmentalist, how could he even consider using chemicals to protect his grass from the much-dreaded *Glechoma hederacea*?


Robbins’ work focused on a $70 billion lawn-care industry that relies on homeowners’ fears and anxieties about the state of their yards.

“My biggest finding was that people who use lawn chemicals are more likely than people who don’t use them to say those chemicals are bad for water quality and children and neighborhoods,” he says. “They know what they’re doing, and they feel crummy about it.”

Robbins became, as one colleague joked, “the godfather of lawns.” Every spring, national media ask him to weigh in on lawns and the conflicts they generate, like homeowners associations suing residents over lawn upkeep, or neighbors battling neighbors about unkempt yards.

The seeds of Robbins’ research were sown at Clark, where he became so fascinated by grasses as a doctoral student that he hung dried samples of every variety of native Massachusetts grass above his desk.

Now director of the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he understands geographers’ continuing fascination with lawns.

“They’re interested in ordinary landscapes and what’s hidden beneath them,” he says. “What’s the story that the landscape is telling? What’s hidden, what’s conscious, and what’s historical?”

Several Clark geographers see America’s widespread conversion of natural landscape to manicured lawns as an unhealthy mix of environmental risk and emotional entanglement. And the obsession is growing. An oft-cited analysis of NASA’s satellite and aerial imagery shows lawns cover over three times more surface area than corn, making lawns the United States’ largest irrigated “crop.”
“It’s the dominant human habitat in the United States, and if we don’t get a grip on that, we’re going to be in trouble,” says Dexter Locke, Ph.D. ’17, whose doctoral research with Clark professors Rinku Roy Chowdhury, Ph.D. ’03, and Colin Polsky (now at Florida Atlantic University) resulted in his dissertation on lawns. “If you think about the mowing and the irrigation and the fertilization and pesticide application, it’s continental-scale environmental impact.”

The stereotypical American lawn — that velvety carpet of turfgrass — grew out of the 1950s suburban housing boom. Even today, newly created residential yards and lawns are encroaching on forests, fields and even deserts. Despite the costs and challenges of establishing lawns in inhospitable places, most Americans still pine for neat, green, weed-free landscapes, according to researchers. “There is still a surprising commitment to the lawn,” Roy Chowdhury says. “I don’t think we’re anywhere close to getting away from it.”

From 1982 to 1997 in the U.S., the amount of land turned into urban areas — mostly suburbs and “exurbs,” those pockets of high-end housing that pop up amid forests and farmland — grew nearly 50 percent to comprise over 540,000 square miles, approximately equal to Texas, California and Colorado combined.

Much of Clark’s research on lawns has been funded by the National Science Foundation’s Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) and Macrosystems Biology programs, which have supported work in Baltimore, Boston, Miami, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Phoenix and Los Angeles.

“Lawns are part of the American ideology of a residential landscape,” says Deborah Martin, professor of geography at Clark, whose research focuses in part on “place identity.” She says researchers are trying to understand emerging urban ecological issues, especially at the “urban-suburban interface.”

Roy Chowdhury and Polsky’s four-year study investigated whether America’s urban landscape is becoming homogenized by people’s fascination with the weed-free, evergreen lawn. They and their colleagues interviewed homeowners and collected social and ecological information, which was integrated into detailed geographic information system datasets.

Among other findings, researchers discovered that water and fertilizer use across the six cities is surprisingly...
Can we reform the lawn?

Some homeowners take pleasure in their yards. For others, the grass is always greener elsewhere.

Undergraduate and graduate students working as part of Clark University’s Human-Environment Regional Observatory (HERO) Program interviewed homeowners in the suburbs north of Boston to uncover how people relate to their yards and lawns — and those of their neighbors.

Why does this matter? The northern suburbs are part of the Plum Island ecosystem, which faces ongoing water shortages and flooding due in part to the conversion of forest and marshland to yards and lawns. The HERO research works toward understanding the social, political and economic contexts surrounding homeowners’ use of water and fertilizer, which could have significant environmental impacts.

Students found that most homeowners tend to fall into three broad categories when it comes to their lawns.

THE DIVERSIFIER
This person eschews the grass carpet for a yard teeming with diversity, incorporating vegetable, herb and flower gardens, trees, shrubs and grass, and perhaps adding gravel or paving for texture. You’re likely to find a trellis, patio and shed in this yard, along with a compost bin and brush pile. The Diversifier enjoys and takes pride in the yard, because it’s a place to be creative, spend time and gain therapeutic benefits. “I’m trying to go for a woodland setting,” one homeowner explains. “A lawn is sterile. There’s nothing for wildlife on a lawn.”

THE LAWN MAINTAINER
Like the stereotypical homeowner in Paul Robbins’ 2007 book “Lawn People,” The Lawn Maintainer expresses anxiety and resentment over a perceived need to nurse a perfect grass carpet. “I feel constant pressure to keep up on the grass, and so it hangs over me,” a respondent says. However, some Maintainers embrace the rituals of carefully tending to their grass. Says one, “I notice a lot of people don’t like doing yard work, but I always get a kick out of it.”

THE REFORMER
Between The Lawn Maintainer and The Diversifier sits The Reformer, someone who wants to reduce lawn size and diversify the yard, but lacks the time, money or knowledge to do it. This homeowner is uncertain and overwhelmed, and has mixed emotions about using too much water and fertilizer or employing landscapers. “I’ve wondered about the technical assistance that a homeowner like me would need,” one Reformer says. “I don’t even know who to call to bring in.”

Clark Geography Professor Gil Pontius has been involved in a long-term study of the Plum Island ecosystem, encompassing the Parker and Ipswich river watersheds north of Boston. Professors Pontius and Polsky worked with undergraduate and graduate students in Clark’s Human-Environment Regional Observatory (HERO) Program from 2007 to 2012 to convert aerial images to fine-resolution maps for 26 towns in the 710-square-mile area.
“With these maps,” Pontius explains, “you can see the individual residential properties and distinguish front yard from backyard, and forest and trees from lawn and grass.”

The maps show that lawn cover ranges from about 2 percent of the land in Essex to nearly 12 percent in Peabody.

“These towns are regularly having to institute watering bans in the summertime, and one of the primary reasons the aquifers are running dry is because people use so much water to maintain their lawns,” Pontius says.

Lawns create a harder surface than forests, he explains. When rain hits a lawn, it doesn’t puddle and slowly sink into the earth, developing a rich habitat and a deep underground aquifer. Instead, it immediately rushes into storm drains and downstream.

“So what you tend to get are floods in the springtime, and they’ve had terrible floods in Ipswich,” Pontius says.

But do homeowners continue to adhere to the culture of lawns? And if they do, why?

Under Martin and Polsky’s direction, HERO students talked to homeowners in the Plum Island area about their attitudes toward their lawns and the measures they take to care for them (see sidebar).

The students found that you can’t look at a yard or a lawn uniformly; it has “districts,” Martin explains. “A yard is a more complex biophysical entity than just the lawn. There is the part that someone very carefully tends because it’s a garden—a vegetable garden or a flower garden—but it’s managed and conceptualized differently from the grass.”

Clark researchers also have found that many homeowners tend their lawns and yards based on what they perceive their neighbors want.

“People feel like they’re bad citizens if they don’t have a lawn that looks like a golf course,” Pontius says. “But in actuality, there are people who are very proud to have their lawn look more like wilderness than a golf course, especially in the backyard.”

Locke explores this conundrum in his dissertation. He developed the “Landscape Mullet Hypothesis,” which, like the hairstyle of country singer Billy Ray Cyrus in the 1990s, sports “business in the front and party in the back.”

Does a homeowner treat the backyard differently, he wondered, if the neighbors can’t see it? Do front yards in most neighborhoods look similar, while backyards better express people’s individuality?

Locke’s original research across the country has uncovered that in Los Angeles and Salt Lake City there are on average 10 to 20 percent more intentionally planted species of vegetation thriving in backyards versus front yards. But the number of species found in just the lawns—not the entire yard—is essentially the same from front to backyard. These findings lend credence to his Landscape Mullet Hypothesis, he says.

They also connect, in some ways, to what Robbins found in his research.

“Deep down, a lot of people don’t really want a lawn,” Robbins says. “They want to mix it in with vegetable gardens; they want flowers and butterflies.”

In other words, rather than water, fertilize and mow the grass, they’d rather host a party.
sandwich

Food photos courtesy of Num Pang
WITH NUM PANG, BEN DAITZ '94 BUILDS A ‘QUIET’ RESTAURANT EMPIRE

By Melissa A. Lynch '95, M.S.P.C. '15 | Photography by Steven King
FOR SOMEONE OPENING A RESTAURANT IN 12 HOURS, BEN DAITZ IS REMARKABLY CALM.

INSIDE BOSTON’S PRUDENTIAL CENTER, Daitz presides over a soft opening event for food bloggers and other media, encouraging them to order off the menu to help the rookie staff prepare for the arrival of customers the next day. He chats with guests and works the crowd, while keeping an eye on the kitchen to make sure everything is as it should be.

Daitz has come to Boston to open his seventh Num Pang Kitchen, a “fast casual” eatery specializing in Southeast Asian-inspired sandwiches, bowls, soups, salads and sides. This is the first Num Pang located outside of New York City, in a prime spot beside Saks Fifth Avenue, which should ensure plenty of foot traffic. The restaurant’s vibrant colors, hip-hop soundtrack and succulent aromas are expected to transform the merely curious into devoted customers. That’s the plan, anyway.

“I’ve done this plenty of times,” the unruffled Daitz says, surveying the bustling scene. “Running around yelling at people doesn’t help anything.”

Daitz and then-business partner Ratha Chaupoly opened the first Num Pang Kitchen in 2009 with a menu featuring eight variations on the traditional Vietnamese bánh mì sandwich. The place was an instant hit. Lines snaked down the block, and sandwiches sold out daily.

“The first couple of months were a sustained natural high like I’ve never experienced before,” Daitz recalls. “Even though we were doing 16 to 18 hours a day, seven days a week, the energy that we got from people’s feedback got us through.”

Num Pang (the word is Cambodian for “sandwich”) isn’t Daitz’s first foray into opening a restaurant. He launched Vanderbilt, a gastropub in Brooklyn, and worked in the kitchens of fine-dining establishments including La Folie in San Francisco, and Danube and Tabla in Manhattan.

He also helped with the opening of friend and one-time Clark student Chaupoly’s Kampuchea restaurant in 2006. A chance meeting on a New York sidewalk had rekindled their friendship, which eventually led to their Num Pang partnership (Chaupoly is no longer connected with Num Pang).

The distinctive décor includes graffiti art on the walls, contributed by local artists and tailored to the area. At the Prudential Center, a wall is adorned with the Num Pang Rooster logo wearing a Larry Bird jersey.

The flavors are as bold as the art. Daitz told The Wall Street Journal in 2014 that his sandwich designs “hit all different textural and flavor points within a dish.” That might include braised beef, chicken or pork, plus chili mayonnaise, cucumber, cilantro and pickled carrots. Yelp reviewers seem particularly fond of the five-spice pork belly sandwich. (“This has to be the most delicious sandwich I’ve had in recent memory,” gushes one Yelper.)

The offerings are so popular that Daitz and Chaupoly created a cookbook: “NUM PANG: 100 Recipes to Revolutionize Your Dinner from New York’s Favorite Sandwich Shop.” Celebrity

For someone opening a restaurant in 12 hours, Ben Daitz is remarkably calm.
chef Mario Batali, who created a sandwich for Num Pang’s charitable “Guest Chefs Give Back” program, said, “Ratha and Ben are masters of delicious composition. They are virtuosos because they make perfectly balanced sandwiches: no alterations, no additions, no substitutions. But each individual element of a num pang is an artwork in and of itself.”

Daitz developed a taste for good food while traveling with his university professor parents during their sabbatical years abroad. “Every seven years, we were in Paris,” he recalls. When it came time to look at college for himself, he wanted a small, liberal arts experience where students were more than a number. Worcester also provided a midpoint between his family’s home in New York City and summer house in Maine.

After his first year at Clark, Daitz moved off campus. Over the next three years, he frequently could be spotted manning a grill on the porches of his apartments on Maywood and Downing streets. “What I remember is not letting the Worcester weather deter me from barbecuing all year round. Even during one of those crazy Worcester snowstorms, we’d be on the porch, grilling.”

Those times with his roommates — grilling, discussing events on campus, talking about classes and “supporting each other socially and academically” — have stuck with Daitz since his Clark days. “We grew up and became young men together,” he says. “I look back on those personal relationships in a really fond way. That was the good stuff.”

A political science major, Daitz thought he would be on a prelaw track and continue on to law school. “Once I learned it was four more years of school, plus clerking for another two, I was a bit deterred,” he says. “I spent my senior year having a little bit of a crisis, very worried that I didn’t know what to do with the rest of my life. Looking back, I could have been more relaxed about it. If I didn’t know what I wanted to do the second I graduated, the world wouldn’t have come crashing down around me.”

Daitz took stock of what made him happy and what excited him, and food kept popping to the top of the list. By the time he graduated, law school was off the table, but he had other tables in mind. “I had set up, through a friend of my uncle’s, a series of internships at some high-end restaurants in New York — to see if I was really as passionate about food as I thought.”

It turns out he was. After his internships, he enrolled at the Culinary Institute of America and embarked on his gastronomical journey.

The New York restaurant scene is notoriously difficult to navigate, and more new restaurants fail than succeed. Asked for an example of an obstacle that’s been thrown his way, Daitz laughs. “Just one?”

“From the most expensive real estate in the country, to the bureaucracy of filing permits and making sure things happen, to the tight labor market and extremely intense competition, anything can happen. Any one of those can tank a ship,” he says. Fortunately, he and Chaupoly had significant restaurant experience and were equipped to make better choices.

For example, they came up with the idea for Num Pang after seeing the success of bánh mi on the Kampuchea menu. The economy wasn’t great, and New York gastronomes were craving affordable, flavorful options.

Num Pang provides what the city’s foodies want. New York magazine calls Num Pang “New York’s Quietest Restaurant Empire.” Village Voice awarded it “Best Sandwich of 2013.” Zagat has ranked it among the best of the city every year since its opening, and Daitz — and his apartment — were even the subject of a New York Times Real Estate section profile in 2014.

The success of Num Pang’s Prudential Center location may be a barometer for further growth. Daitz would like to open up multiple shops in Boston and then perhaps branch out to other cities. For now, he’s plenty busy overseeing his quiet empire, and keeping calm.
FOR 45 YEARS, PROFESSOR RUDOLPH F. NUNNEMACHER TAUGHT BIOLOGY WITH RARE STYLE. OH, THE STORIES HIS STUDENTS TELL

BY ANNE GIBSON, PH.D. '95
Illustrations by Sarah Hanson
He said to me, ‘Come watch this,’” remembers Michael Rosenzweig ’85, who followed obediently to the door of the professor’s unlit biology classroom filled with students. “May I have your attention, please!” shouted Nunnemacher. “Arctic peoples longed for the sunshine after their cold, dark winters, and they had a chant they would do, just like our Clark University motto Fiat Lux, which means, of course, let there be light.”

“Then Nunni proceeded to raise the object into the air,” continues Rosenzweig, “and says to his class, ‘If you repeat after me, maybe we can get the electricity to come back on. Let there be light! Let there be light! Finally, the whole class was chanting ‘Let there be light!’ And whoosh, the power comes on. Nunni walked out the door, looked at me, and said, ‘Pretty good, huh?’”

From 1938 to 1983, through the course of his remarkable Clark career, Rudolph Nunnemacher always brought the light to his classroom. Small in stature, with a neatly trimmed beard that faded over time from red to white, his was a formidable presence that made him alternately feared and revered by his students. The Harvard-trained biologist from a well-to-do Milwaukee family dressed formally in coat and tie, his only concession to summer’s heat being the Bermuda shorts that replaced long pants. Says David Hawkins ’83, “When Nunni walked into the room, everyone noticed.”

A stickler for proper behavior and with a reputation for intellectual brilliance, he nevertheless displayed an impish, and occasionally outrageous, sense of humor. Nunnemacher was, for example, rumored to have demonstrated the power of peristalsis — the swallowing reflex — by drinking a glass of water while standing on his head. Perhaps this is why former students so comfortably and affectionately refer to him as “Nunni.”

“He was a great lecturer,” recalls Dr. Herbert Hoffner ’55. “He had a unique way of presenting the material so that you got a chuckle out of the whole thing. But he didn’t forget the important parts.”

Hawkins recounts how, toward the end of a lecture on hymenoptera — the order that includes ants, bees and wasps — Nunnemacher, then in his 70s, inexplicably disappeared behind the desk at the front of the classroom. He emerged wearing a yellow- and black-striped rugby shirt with two antennae stuck on his head to deliver a lecture — in verse, no less — about the sex life of bees.

“It was quite graphic, but with bee anatomy,” Hawkins says. “Everyone in the room was just cracking up. Then they applauded, and he bowed and left.”

Nunnemacher also was famous for owning a succession of boa constrictors — Humphrey, Ophelia, Franz and Monty — that he kept in a glass cage in the biology building.

Tom Dolan ’62, M.A.Ed. ’63, retains vivid memories of the boas at feeding time.

“That was a big show,” he says. “I think he fed them every three weeks or so. They were his pets. He would pick them up and the rest of us would run out of the room.”
Nunnemacher, a devoted member of The Wheelmen, an organization for cycling enthusiasts, enjoyed riding his high-wheeled penny farthing in local parades. On at least one occasion he sported a live boa draped around his neck as he pedaled.

❑❑❑❑❑

Professor Nunnemacher’s implementation of the Socratic method was a technique he might spring upon an unwary student anytime, anywhere. Hawkins describes the professor handing him a lump of unidentified material, then asking a series of questions to guide him toward the correct answer. “Eventually, I said that it’s something regurgitated by a whale,” he recalls. “Nunni said, ‘That’s right, Mr. Hawkins! It’s whale vomit!’

“Every time you talked to the man, you’d learn something,” says Hawkins. “But mostly what you’d learn is how to figure things out. And he walked you through the process in a way that was truly magical.”

Nunnemacher was famous for the one-on-one oral examinations he gave at the end of his Comparative Anatomy course, grillings that induced significant anxiety in his students. The misery was compounded by Nunnemacher’s expectation that his students would present themselves suitably attired, which for men meant suit and tie. They were also required to bring along the smelly, formalin-saturated, 2-foot-long dogfish shark they had been dissecting during the semester.

“I went into Nunni’s office wearing my suit and tie and put my shark down,” Hawkins remembers. “I sat down, and it was really intimidating. When he looked into your eyes, it was like he saw right down to your soul.”

In Hawkins’ exam, Nunnemacher told a story from “Alice in Wonderland” involving a walrus, a carpenter and oysters, which not only put his student at ease but expertly folded into the subject of shark anatomy.

“He well knew what his students had been doing on their sharks, and what they might have challenges with,” Hawkins says. “The challenge for me was being so nervous that I would freeze.”

Tom Leonard ’62 had a similar response to the dreaded oral exam.

“I couldn’t eat all day,” he recalls. “But Nunni would ease you into the hard questions, and when he saw you

“He was wonderful. [But] he wasn’t a guy who just walked up and put his arm around you. You didn’t small-talk Nunnemacher.”

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fumbling, he’d move on to another question. So he was very kind in that way, because he could flatten you.”

Nunnemacher so unnerved his students that before class field trips they would sometimes flip a coin to determine who would have to sit next to him on the bus. Inevitably, the experience was far more pleasant than anticipated. “When you got to know him, he was wonderful. Like an uncle,” Leonard says. “He wasn’t a guy who just walked up and put his arm around you. You didn’t small-talk Nunnemacher. But he was just so warm and so nice to me. He was probably that way with all students who broke the ice.”

Leonard describes returning home to Worcester from Indiana, where he was completing his Ph.D., and realizing he didn’t have enough money for the return trip. “Nunnemacher asked me, ‘How much do you want?’ I think he gave me $500. He said, ‘That’s for travel and food for the next month.’ I was broke all the time, and he took good care of me.”

Leonard returned to teach at Clark (1994-2007), and would follow in his professor’s footsteps as chair of the Biology Department. Rosenzweig is now senior instructor and biological sciences outreach coordinator in the Department of Biological Sciences at Virginia
Tech, and Hawkins teaches geology at Wellesley College. They incorporate aspects of Nunnemacher’s teaching style into their own approaches as educators.

“In every way a teacher could have an attribute, he was superb,” Leonard says. “When I became a professor, I had clearly in mind the things I learned from him.”

Rosenzweig learned from his mentor that “you had to both teach and entertain if you’re going to be successful.”

Susan Cormier, Ph.D. ’82, a senior scientist with the Environmental Protection Agency, recalls Nunnemacher’s insistence that students explain the reasoning behind their answers. “He was always teaching people how to figure something out from the basic science, the basic observations that were available to you,” she says. “I think as a result, there are a lot of doctors out there who are much better than they would have been otherwise.”

Nunnemacher’s office at Clark was legendary — a sort of “cabinet of curiosities,” full of biological specimens. Daughter Gretl Nunnemacher ’70 characterizes her father’s space as “an extension of the home I grew up in.” She recalls among the collection a narwhal tusk, an old ophthalmoscope (a device for showing the workings of the muscles of the eye), and a stuffed pheasant that had been shot by Clark’s first president G. Stanley Hall on a tour through Europe.

A retired electron microscopist and the only one of Nunnemacher’s four children to pursue a scientific career, Gretl says her father had “the soul of an artist.” Indeed, Nunnemacher was an enthusiastic watercolorist who introduced a number of his students to the pleasures and challenges of painting. One of them was Dr. Carl Rosengart ’55, who traveled by van with his classmates on several Saturday mornings to various locations around Princeton, Mass., where they practiced basic watercolor techniques by painting fields and barns. Later, during class time, they would put their newly acquired skills to use by painting images of the tissues they viewed under the microscope.

“I still paint,” says Rosengart, whose work hangs in Tilton Hall. “Clark was undoubtedly the best four years of my life. It was just an extraordinary experience, and Nunnemacher was part of it.”

The professor’s strong presence was felt in other areas as well.

In 1957, Nunnemacher began his long affiliation with the Bermuda Biological Station (now the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Studies), first doing research there on the eyes and nervous systems of crustaceans. Beginning in the 1960s, he led week-long research trips for Clark students to Bermuda, sometimes referring to his students as nudibranchs — a reference to a brilliantly colored mollusk for which he harbored a special fondness. Clark biology students continue to travel to Bermuda to this day, the research trips partly funded through the Nunnemacher Award, which he endowed. The Nunnemacher Nature Reserve in Bermuda was dedicated in his honor in 1996.

In waters closer to home, he developed and was the coach of the first Clark women’s crew team, celebrating its 75th anniversary this fall. The “Nunni” was added to the crew’s three-scull fleet in 1963, and a shell named in his honor has been part of the program ever since.

“The current rendition bearing his full name is an 11-year-old Vesperoli that has been the chariot for most every Clark female oarsman over that time,” says Coach Michael McDonald. “And it has seen a lot of miles.”

“Professor Nunnemacher died from cancer in 1988. Before he passed, Michael Rosenzweig paid him a visit.

“I think he knew he was sick, but he didn’t tell me, of course,” Rosenzweig says. “He was older, frailer than I had expected. It was a very emotional meeting — it seemed a big deal to him that I cared to come back and give him my reflections on being an undergrad at Clark.

“He was one of the reasons I came to Clark, one of the reasons I enjoyed being at Clark, and one of the reasons I remember Clark so well.”

Heteropsyllus Nunni, a minute crustacean inhabiting estuaries along the East Coast of North America, was named in honor of Rudolph Nunnemacher. It is a humble namesake for a humble man, yet doesn’t quite capture the force of nature that he was. Of course, Nunni’s true legacy rests in the University’s labs and classrooms, where he lit countless intellectual fires before sending all those Clark nudibranchs out into the world.
Power

THANKS TO MICHELLE COVE’S NONPROFIT, GIRLS TAKE ON THE SEXIST MEDIA. AND THE MEDIA HAS MET ITS MATCH

BY JULIA QUINN-SZCESUIL ’90
HE INSULTS ARE LIKE DARTS THAT LAND PRECISELY WHERE A GIRL MIGHT FEEL MOST VULNERABLE. They may be launched by a classmate, a teammate, or even a “friend.” More insidiously, the messages are reinforced on television, in music and magazines, and through social media. The cumulative effect can be devastating. Michelle Silver Cove ’91 is fighting back. Two years ago, she founded MEDIAGIRLS, a nonprofit that teaches middle school-age girls to examine, critique and change sexist and other negative messaging that diminishes girls and young women.

MEDIAGIRLS instills in girls the confidence to create their own positive platform. Their empowerment matters, Cove says, because many adults wrongly assume girls understand the depth of the media’s influence on their self-perceptions. “They are inundated with 10 hours of media a day. If no one stops to talk about how manipulative media can be, how would they know the messages aren’t true?”

Her education program builds awareness that helps girls assess why the media pushes impossible beauty standards and recognize how ads influence attitudes. Participants use social media to write and post content about women who inspire them. They evaluate music videos and ads, and speak up on behalf of girls everywhere.

Cove is no neophyte to the world of media. She came to Clark from Tulane University as a junior (the fall after her brother Eric ’89 graduated) and jumped right into media and communication studies. Her award-winning journalism has appeared in national publications, and she’s written books on parenting and families, including “I Love Mondays” and “Seeking Happily Ever After” and co-authored “I’m Not Mad, I Just Hate You!: A New Understanding of Mother-Daughter Conflict.”

As a filmmaker, Cove directed and produced the documentaries “Seeking Happily Ever After,” which explores how single women are redefining personal happiness, and “One and Only,” about the joys and struggles of one-child families.

“I’ve always loved media,” Cove says. “It’s the greatest storyteller in the world and has the potential to inspire and motivate.”

But it also can do damage, particularly online. “Social media is where they live, and it’s intense,” Cove says of the younger generations. Some parents restrict their children’s social media use; others block it outright. “What few parents and educators are talking about is how to use social media for good.”
When Michelle Cove’s daughter, Risa, was 9, she took an unusually long time emerging from the locker room for a favorite swim lesson. Cove found her inside, eyes filled with tears, refusing to come out. After gentle questioning, her daughter explained why: “When I stand up tall, my thighs touch each other.”

“I am a feminist media maker, and I can’t protect my daughter from this?” Cove recalls thinking. “How many girls will get hit with this and why isn’t anyone doing anything about it?”

Shortly afterward, Cove overhead two more young girls critiquing their thighs, the depth of their vulnerability revealing itself to her. From that conversation, the idea for MEDIAGIRLS was born.

In summer 2014, Cove piloted MEDIAGIRLS with a small group of eight girls in Brookline, Mass. Since then, 240 students have participated in the program at Boston-area schools, including 75 girls this spring.

The program, for girls in grades six to eight, lasts eight to 10 weeks and is taught by college-age female interns, whom Cove trains in intensive two-day sessions. They follow a structured lesson plan in which participants are taught to critique media images, decide what they want to see, and learn how they can change the narrative.

She says middle school girls are paddling against a tide of negativity. In a typical MEDIAGIRLS exercise, a group of girls is asked to list eight positive qualities about themselves. Three or four items usually come easily, but after just a few minutes the girls are stuck. Some can’t think of anything else worth listing. Others who list a full eight are reluctant to admit it, for fear of being accused of bragging.

“Middle school is exactly when girls start losing their voice and stop speaking up,” Cove says.

Giving them the ability to effectively engage with media becomes a powerful tool to counteract that reluctance. “It’s not only about understanding and deconstructing the media, but also being part of the solution,” she says.

MEDIAGIRLS strips away the messages about what girls “should be” so they can celebrate their authentic selves, says Laura Johnson, associate dean for student affairs at Boston University’s School of Education and a member of MEDIAGIRLS’ board of directors. Most young girls post a carefully “curated” self on social media, she says, to the point where the true self suffers.
While Cove has created a program, MEDIAMINDS, for both boys and girls to explore media’s influence, MEDIAGIRLS is strictly for girls. This allows them to express their true selves in deeply personal, and absolutely critical, discussions that would never occur in a mixed-gender group.

MEDIAGIRLS classes begin with a simple question: Whom does the media consider a “perfect” girl? “Many will say they are all perfect girls, all beautiful, because they know it’s what adults want to hear. Then our teachers will say, ‘True, but what does media tell us?’” Cove says.

That opens a deeper, candid conversation. Girls are being asked to compare themselves to unattainable ideals, many of them constructed through digital artifice, like Photoshop and other image-altering software. “There’s a multibillion-dollar industry to make girls feel bad,” she says. “It’s a wake-up call when girls learn they’ve been sold a story to get their money.”

MEDIAGIRLS exposes the flaws in this narrative. One of the favorite tools is critiquing magazine ads with the hashtag #xomg. Girls can draw an “x” on negative messages or circle ads they think are on target. They then post the marked-up ads on social media or even send them to the advertisers. If the girls are hesitant to post, Cove does it for them from the MEDIAGIRLS site.

“If you want girls to be part of the solution, you have to tap into the anger” generated by the immense pressure on them to be something they are not, or ever will be, she says. “There’s power in knowing you don’t have to buy into this story, and you can use your voice at 11, 12, or 13 to make a difference right now.”

Social media is a mixed blessing. It connects people like never before in history, yet also keeps them at a distance from one another — an unsettling dissonance.

The girls’ online presence is a matter of deep discussion in Cove’s classes. She relays the results of a CNN poll of eighth-grade girls that finds they typically use social media for defensive reasons: to monitor if they are being excluded from something, or to search out cruel things others have said about them. “There’s high pressure to be part of that world, and not for the joy it brings,” she says.

MEDIAGIRLS conversations touch on wide-ranging topics, including what the girls see as their value to the outside world and to themselves. Participants also get to choose a woman who inspires them — not for her looks, but for who she is and what she has accomplished. They ponder what the world might be like if these qualities were the media’s focus.

Cove would love to take MEDIAGIRLS nationwide, and those around her have little doubt she will expand her impact. “Not only does she have the passion, but she goes out in the world and does something with it,” says Johnson.

The self-described “shiny” moments — when girls use their voices to effect real change — keep Cove going. “We are planting seeds and changing girls in real time,” she says. “It’s why I’m doing this.”

IMAGE UNHAPPINESS

The average girl spends 8-10 hours a day consuming media.
(The Representation Project)

Teen girls send an average of 40 texts per day.
(Pew Research, 2015)

53% of 13-year-old girls are unhappy with their bodies, which increases to 78% by age 17.
(National Institute on Media and the Family)

60% of girls stop doing things they love because they feel bad about their looks.
(Dove Self-Esteem Project)

Girls exposed to sexualized images from a young age are more prone to depression, eating disorders, and low self-esteem.
(American Psychological Association)

Compiled by MEDIAGIRLS.com
Campaign Clark
THE WORLD NEEDS WHAT CLARK UNIVERSITY CAN GIVE IT.
(Clockwise from bottom right) Trustees Sumner B. Tilton Jr., LL.D. '13, Lawrence Landry, B.S.B.A. '71, M.B.A. '75 and Robert Stevenish, P '86; Mohamed Elmaola '18; Trustee Linda Savitsky '70, Jay Ash '83 and Trustee Jodi Reiskind '83; Ron Shaich '76, L.H.D. '14; Marie L’Heureux ’77 and John Byrnes ’76; Trustee Cynthia Michael-Wolpert ’90; President David Angel.
Ronald Shaich ’76, L.H.D. ’14, the founder, chairman and CEO of Panera Bread, and his family have made a $5 million gift to help Clark University launch the public phase of its $125 million comprehensive campaign.

The announcement was made at a May 5 event held in the Kneller Athletic Center. In his remarks, Shaich recalled that he was attracted to Clark by the spirit of political activism pervading the campus and by the university’s commitment to effect change. His education, he said, “was less about what happened in the classroom every day, and more about directed readings, internships, and mentoring from faculty who helped me to learn and to grow and to explore who I was, what I really enjoyed doing, and what mattered to me in my life.”

The gift, he noted, is an opportunity to help other Clark students flourish in an economy and society that has undergone a profound transformation since he left campus 40 years ago.

“It’s absolutely clear there is a crying need for young people who have creativity, who have empathy, who have an understanding of others, who have resilience in the face of difficulty and the courage to do what is right,” Shaich said. Clark, he added, has all the ingredients for success, but needs sufficient resources “to truly activate its extraordinary potential.”

“I ask you to join with me and my family to invest in Clark,” he concluded. “Yes, out of gratitude. Yes, out of appreciation. But more importantly, out of the realization of what liberal education can be and what we can accomplish together. Now is our time.”

Trustee Sumner B. Tilton Jr., LL.D. ’13, co-chair of Campaign Clark with William Mosakowski ’76, L.H.D. ’12, and Robert Stevenish, P ’86, told the audience at the May 5 dinner that Clark’s “reputation reaches out from this campus to all parts of the globe.”

Clark President David Angel said the campaign marks a renewed commitment from donors to support Clark University’s work to make an enduring difference through research, undergraduate and graduate education, and community leadership. To date, the campaign has raised just over $101 million, more than 80 percent of the goal.

Campaign Clark will support student scholarships, faculty research, scholarship and creative work, academic programs, endowed professorships, facilities and the Clark Fund. “Our intent is to integrate advanced research with undergraduate and graduate studies in ways that address the most pressing concerns in our society,” he said.

“This is a place that isn't like other universities,” President Angel continued. “Clark is willing to stand for something in our community, in our country, and in our world.

“We do not accept the status quo. We know that we can do better. That is our mission, and our focus.”

President Angel described the Shaich family’s $5 million contribution as a “truly transformative gift to Clark University,” and announced that the University’s newest building will be dedicated as the Shaich Family Alumni and Student Engagement Center.

The evening’s program concluded with remarks by Mohamed Elmaola ’18. He recounted a turbulent home life and lack of funds that would have prevented him from attaining a college degree without being plunged into significant debt. A LEEP scholarship has allowed him to attend Clark University.

Elmaola has devoted a considerable part of his college experience to public service, including giving motivational speeches at a local elementary school and operating soccer clinics for Worcester children. Clark’s generosity, he said, made that possible.

“The school said, ‘You’re worth our trust and our resources,’” he observed. Jeffrey Gillooly, vice president for university advancement, noted the significant progress already made toward the $125 million goal for Campaign Clark.

“We are so pleased that Ron and Nancy Shaich, and so many more exemplars, have stepped forward to lead in the quiet phase of this campaign,” he said. “We still have work to do, but with the help of so many generous alumni, parents and friends we are well on our way to reaching our goal and ensuring that Clark University remains a leader in higher education now and well into the future.”

Campaign Clark will conclude on May 31, 2020. For stories and updates on the campaign's progress, visit clarku.edu/campaign-clark.
Helping students make career connections

PAUL SALTZMAN ’82 is a citizen of the world, both geographically and professionally. As vice chair and head of Global Transaction Banking Americas for Deutsche Bank, he often travels overseas, responsible for the disposition of billions of dollars and a network of thousands of employees.

Despite the international nature of his work, his is a distinctly American story. The Brooklyn native and son of a taxi driver was the first in his family to attend college. A combination of scholarships and financial aid brought him to Clark University, where his ambition and work ethic drove him to seize every opportunity presented to him, and create a few of his own.

His first work-study job was as manager for the men’s basketball team, which he parlayed into a sports information director/business manager role for Clark Athletics. His initiative earned him the Fred Hebert Trophy, which traditionally goes to a senior athlete.

The government and economics major ran Spree Day, participated in Model U.N., was active in student government and served as student representative to the Board of Trustees (prompting a handwritten letter of appreciation from renowned trustee Alice Higgins). One of his proudest achievements was acting as liaison between the student-run University Budget Oversight Committee and the school administration, which clashed over tuition increases. He eventually found himself in a private negotiating session with President Mortimer Appley, hammering out a mutually acceptable settlement that prevented a threatened student protest.

“All of these extracurricular activities made me a more confident, experienced individual and were foundational to my success,” Saltzman says. “No question about it, Clark was transformational for me.”

To help ensure that Clark continues to be a life-changing force for its students as they move from college to career, Saltzman has joined the University’s new initiative, ClarkCONNECT. This series of networked communities brings together students, alumni, parents and friends to foster students’ career exploration, preparation and launch through mentorship, the sharing of industry expertise, and workplace opportunities. Saltzman is alumni co-chair, with Jennifer Ball ’89, of the Business and Markets networked community. Other communities have been formed in the areas of Biology and Biosciences, Law and Regulatory Affairs, Psychology, Health, and Creative Arts.

“The value of networked communities is connecting students to real-life, practical, professional opportunities and experiences. It’s really as simple as that,” Saltzman says. “This initiative formalizes the connectivity to real-world professionals, who can articulate the value proposition of Clark, share their experiences and provide a channel to the outside world.”

His own career trajectory makes him uniquely qualified to offer insight into that world. After earning a law degree at Boston University, Saltzman held major positions at Greenwich Capital Markets and Kidder Peabody and Co. He was recruited to serve as chief operating officer of Espeed Inc., a publicly traded electronic marketplace, where he increased revenues, net income and market share. While at Espeed, Saltzman was called upon to help rebuild Cantor Fitzgerald, the financial services firm whose New York office at the World Trade Center was destroyed on 9/11. He later joined Ellington Management Group, where he oversaw the company’s legal, compliance, litigation and documentation functions.

Prior to joining Deutsche Bank in May 2015, Saltzman was president of The Clearing House, the major banking industry organization recognized for its data-driven approach to legislative and regulatory advocacy. For nearly 10 years, he served as executive vice president and general counsel for the Bond Market Association, where he developed and steered the regulatory and legal agenda for the fixed-income industry.

Throughout his professional journey, Saltzman has maintained a rare level of engagement with Clark University, joining the Board of Trustees two years ago and matching students with internships and job opportunities in his companies.

Now he looks forward to hosting events under the ClarkCONNECT umbrella, and being a conduit for students to write their own success stories.

To learn more or to join ClarkCONNECT, visit clarku.edu/networked-communities.
Every day, I hear from people with big, ambitious ideas, and I think: That’ll either fail, or change everything.

- Jason Feifer ’02, editor of Entrepreneur magazine
Let’s provide momentum for Campaign Clark

All of us who have labored on a major project, whether work-related or personal, know that one of the most precarious stages occurs when you can sense the finish line isn’t far off. With the prospect of completion comes the temptation to take your foot off the accelerator and coast a bit. This is when an extra push is most valuable.

Our University has embarked on an ambitious “project” of its own, and we need to move it forward, then provide the push to bring it across that finish line.

On May 5, Clark launched the public phase of a comprehensive campaign to raise $125 million to advance the institution’s mission through student scholarships, faculty research and creative work, academic programs, endowed professorship and facilities. It’s an impressive goal, but the good news is that ongoing fundraising efforts already have gotten us about 80 percent of the way there — we’ve surpassed the $101 million mark, an achievement worth celebrating.

Our alumni community has played an essential role in this accomplishment, and will continue to do so as we approach our target. That said, it is important to note that our individual reasons for giving to Clark are as numerous and as varied as our experiences while we were students there — it is an intensely personal decision. As I reflect on my own appreciation for Clark, I come back to three lines spoken by current students in the University’s campaign video that I believe capture the essence of our collective commitment to this wonderful institution:

> Because Clark taught us to think boldly.
> Because Clark always accepts the challenge.
> Because the Clark mission never stops.

All of the above describe the underpinnings of a Clark education — bold, challenging, mission-driven. They also capture the philosophy that is at the foundation of this campaign. When I consider the continuity of Clark’s mission, I think back to this year’s Reunion Dinner and the generations of remarkable alumni gathered in Tilton Hall. What a pleasure it was to confer the Distinguished Alumni Award on Catherine M. Dunham ’67, M.A. ’70, Ed.D. ’81, the Young Alumni Award on Garrett Abrahamson ’07, M.B.A. ’08, and to hear from Courtney Thomas ’17, who offered us a glimpse of what promises to be an amazing future.

I want to thank you, my fellow alums for all you’ve done and continue to do. I know we are ready to meet the challenge Clark has set before us. Your gift of any size generates the momentum we need to get this done.

It’s time to press the accelerator.

INGRID BUSSON-HALL’96
President, Clark University Alumni Association

This spring, alumni gathered at the Clark in the City event in New York (top), and learned about the ClarkCONNECT initiative in Boston.

September 15-17
FAMILY WEEKEND
Join Clark families, alumni and friends for distinctive programming and events on campus to celebrate the start of the academic year.

October 28
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF CO-ED CLARK
This fall, we mark the 75th anniversary of Clark admitting women to the undergraduate program. We’ll kick off the celebration with a day of events featuring faculty and alumni discussions, luncheon reception, student performances and more.

November 11
ALUMNI HOCKEY GAME AND DINNER
Alumni, family and friends are welcome at the annual family skate and alumni hockey game at Buffone Arena in Worcester followed by dinner on campus.

Visit alumni.clarku.edu for updates on events and alumni news.
As a Clark sophomore, Katrina Twing '07 took a marine biology class with Professor Deb Robertson. "The first topic was marine bacteria," she says. "My first thought was, 'Who cares? I want the coral.' I soon learned that bacteria are everywhere, and do so many things. Then I learned about the Lost City Hydrothermal Field, which had completely distinct chemistry and geology from other deep-sea hydrothermal vents. It was amazing, and I decided I wanted to study it someday." She’s studying it now. Twing will participate in an expedition to the Lost City Hydrothermal Field in the mid-Atlantic in 2018, her second trip there. The work will include employing a new sampling device she helped design to prevent contamination of samples. She also is part of a NASA-funded team looking at how microbes in the deep subsurface can live off energy from rocks.

As a microbial ecologist, Twing’s work involves applying general principles of ecology to microbial systems, which is challenging because they act differently than higher organisms. “We’re trying to understand the relationships between microbes and microbes, and microbes and their environments,” she says, “and figure out what they’re doing to survive and how they’re changing their environments.”

Twing studies microbes in extreme settings, such as beneath the seafloor and in hydrothermal vents (which are also known as deep-sea volcanoes). Studies have shown that the vents provided an ideal environment for microbial life to emerge on early Earth. That’s where NASA’s interest comes in: The agency has detected similar chemistry and geology on Mars, Twing says. “The system I study has even bigger implications for climate change, because it could potentially lock away carbon dioxide through a process called serpentinization,” Twing says. She explains that when a rock found in the ocean’s crust comes into contact with water at certain temperatures and pressures, it turns into another rock while releasing hydrogen, methane and other gasses. The hydrogen combines with carbon dioxide and other carbon molecules to create organics, calcium and methane. “There is really good life material coming from rocks,” she says. “This is how life on Earth could have started, from rocks and water.”

- Melissa Lynch '95, M.S.P.C. '15
I learned about the Lost City Hydrothermal Field. It was amazing, and I decided I wanted to study it someday.

- KATRINA TWING ’07

earned his master’s degree from the University of Southern California. Since 1981, he has led “Fantastic Landscapes Tours,” small group excursions to National Parks in the U.S., Iceland and the U.K. He also presents many public lectures and leads field trips on local ecology. His website is EarthView.rocks.

1964
MARIO R. DINUNZIO. Ph.D. ’64, is the author of "Who Stole Conservatism?" published recently by Praeger. A professor emeritus of history at Providence College, he is also the author of "Franklin Roosevelt and the Third American Revolution" (2011).

1966
RICHARD LITTLE recently retired after 45 years of teaching geoscience at Greenfield Community College in Greenfield, Mass. One of the few geology majors at Clark in the mid-1960s, Richard became enthused and inspired by geomorphology, thanks to the connections of geology and geography he learned with professors Bryers and Snead. After graduating from Clark, he

1970
LEE KASSAN was recently made a Life Fellow of the American Group Psychotherapy Association.

1971
TOM KOCH is pleased to report a new, expanded edition of his 2005 book, “Cartographies of Disease,” is now available. The first edition told the history of diseases, chronic and infectious, from maps made of disease

1972
JIM LUTTON is vice president and general manager of WWTM-TV in Kalamazoo, Mich. He recently was honored with the prestigious Silver Circle Award, presented by the Michigan chapter of the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences to people who are dedicated to improving the broadcast community in Michigan. He previously was a news producer at WBBM in Chicago, and went on to run three television stations. In the early 1990s he also was in charge of nationally syndicated talk shows like The Joan Rivers Show, Geraldo, Now It Can Be Told, and Gossip, Gossip, Gossip.

1981
ANDREW R. SKLARZ, D.D., M.S.W., rabbi of the Greenwich Reform Synagogue in Greenwich, Conn., was recently honored by the Connecticut Chapter of the Israel Cancer Research Fund. A 15-year survivor of leukemia, he was recognized for his outstanding work to raise awareness about the importance of cancer research and funding. Rabbi Sklarz and his wife Susan live in Greenwich and are the parents of Daniella and Alexander.

1982
1991

JOHN KIELTY is the chief data sciences officer at Decibel Therapeutics in Cambridge, Mass. He had been general manager of platform operations at Third Rock Ventures, where he was responsible for the development and implementation of technology roadmaps for companies across the portfolio. Prior to this, he was vice president of information technology and informatics at Infinity Pharmaceuticals and held various roles at Millennium Pharmaceuticals. He worked in the Howard Hughes lab of Michael Green at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center before joining Millennium, and focused on basic research in transcription and gene splicing. John received his M.S. in bioinformatics from Brandeis University.

1997

PETER GRAY ’97 married Rui “Vicky” Sun on April 7, 2017, at their home in Stamford, Conn. Peter is a partner at Pyramid Real Estate Group in Stamford; Vicky is a manager at Charter Communications.

2001

CHERILYN (FARMER) BLUMENTHAL is a board-certified behavior analyst in Round Rock, Texas. She earned a master’s degree in nonprofit management from Worcester State University and a second master’s in applied behavior analysis from Regis College — the first student to ever earn that degree there. Cherilynn lives in Austin, Texas, with her husband Josh and their son Ethan.

2003

LANY MINICHIELLO and her wife, Mandy, welcomed Hazel Orley into their family on Dec. 20, 2016.

2005

DANIEL AMSTUTZ ’05, M.P.A. ’06, passed the exam for the American Institute of Certified Planners in November 2016. He currently works as the bicycle and pedestrian coordinator and transportation planner for the City of Greensboro and Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization in Greensboro, N.C., where he has been since March 2013. He was instrumental in developing the update for Greensboro’s Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trails and Greenways Master Plan, which won the Marvin Collins Outstanding Planning Award from the North Carolina chapter of the American Planning Association in 2016. He is a member of the American Planning Association and the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals, of which he is the N.C. chapter co-chair. He lives in Greensboro with his wife, Elizabeth Judson-Rea.
**THE RETURN OF ‘ANNIE’**

In 2007, the film “Burning Annie,” a dark comedy about a college student who believes all of life’s answers are found in Woody Allen’s “Annie Hall,” received a limited theatrical and DVD release. Now, after more than a decade, including years of postproduction difficulties, the film is getting the rerelease it deserves. ■

“Burning Annie,” the brainchild of writer ZACK ORDYNANS ’98 and producer RANDY MACK ’98 (pictured left to right), is the story of Max, a New England college student who insists “Annie Hall” offers the secrets to life and love — including the pointlessness of it all. When he meets Julie, a young woman who may be his modern-day Annie, he’s left trying to navigate unfamiliar romantic waters. ■ “My suitemate at Clark and I were kind of obsessed with ‘Annie Hall’ and watched the movie regularly,” Ordynans says. “Neither of us were really having a whole lot of romantic success at that time in our lives. Basically, we came up with this thought that the movie was just kind of chasing us in some way.” ■ Although not shot on campus, Clark plays a significant role in “Burning Annie.” ■ “We incorporated all kinds of things about Clark into the film,” Mack says. “We were very specific about the style of the campus because Clark’s buildings and architecture are very schizophrenic.” The team ended up filming at Marshall University in West Virginia. Mack says the physical similarity between the universities was “spooky.”

Ordynans sprinkled his own experiences and friendships throughout the script. “The main character lives in a suite with his four other friends, and they’re all based on people I knew at Clark,” he says. “Of course, like any other film, things are changed around and characters get exaggerated.”

■ On May 12, “Burning Annie” earned a premiere showing at the Independent Film-maker Project’s Made In NY Media Center, and has been released internationally on major HD streaming platforms. Sundance’s Creative Distribution Initiative has teamed up with Armak Productions, founded by Mack, for a 10th anniversary rerelease. ■ “A very special confluence of events led to this opportunity,” Mack says. “We finally won the rights back from our initial distributor just as ‘Annie Hall’ is having a 40th anniversary this year. It is a great moment to put it out there again. Everything came together — a perfect storm of factors.” ■ Mack and Ordynans have worked on separate film projects in recent years. In 2013, Ordynans made his feature directorial debut with “Palace Living,” which premiered at the Manhattan Film Festival. Mack’s film, “Laundry Day,” won the Best Feature Jury Prize at the 2016 CineFlix Film Festival and will debut on the U.S. film festival circuit this year.

- Emma Ogg ’17

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**We came up with this thought that ‘Annie Hall’ was kind of chasing us in some way.**

- ZACK ORDYNANS
JULIE URBANIK, Ph.D. '06, and CONNIE JOHNSTON, Ph.D. '13, are pleased to announce the 2017 publication of their edited volume, a human-animal studies encyclopedia titled "Humans and Animals: A Geography of Coexistence," published by ABC-CLIO Press. This is a first-of-its kind reference guide on human-animal relations for new scholars and the general public. The book introduces the concept of animal geography and presents, in accessible and engaging language, 150 alphabetical entries illustrating key relationships, concepts, practices and species.

2007

TERRI DELETETSKY '07, M.A.T. '08, and MARK DUHAIME '09 were married on June 5, 2016, in Boston, with a second ceremony on Great Diamond Island, Maine, on Aug. 7. Clarkies in attendance included Ellyn Lambeck '07, Sarah Shamplina '08, Mason Sand '00, M.S.P.C. '01, Sasha Abby Vanderzee '00, Deborah Bernhard '11, Summer Williams '01, M.A.Ed. '02, Mark Abby Vanderzee '07, Danny Bale '08, M.A.T. '09, Molly Burman '12, Jennifer Phiaiah '09, Spencer Caddigan '08, Kathryn Dawsey '10, M.A.T. '11, Sara Greenberg '09, M.A.T. '10, Maggie Anderson '08, Bridget Kane '07, Gerard Barsoum '04, M.B.A. '05, Naomi Barak '07, M.A.T. '08, Dan Derks '09, M.A.T. '10, Annie Cohn '09, and Jacob Weiss.

STEPHEN ALBANO '07 and David Plourde were married in a "Hallowedding" (and encouraged their guests to come in costume) on Oct. 29, 2016, in Worcester. Clarkies and friends in attendance included: front; Stephen and David; second row, from left: Tom Dresner, Zoe Cohen '07, Lee Tetreault '07, M.S.P.C. '08, Sarah Hunsucker '08, Katelyn (Head) Taylor '08, Jennifer Del Cegno '07, M.A.T. '08, Sarah Cohen '07, Dawn (Horsfall) Colozzo '06, Diane (Sonnelitter) Day '07, Alyssa (Sunkin) Strube '07, Michelle (Miller) Dougherty '07, Emily Brenner '07, Mall (Eichler) Taylor '07, third row: Brad Jones, Scott Berghegger '07, Laura McCarthy '08, Katherine Ramsey '08, Emma Mills '08, Jason Taylor, Christopher Colozzo '06, Jesse Dix '07, M.A.T. '08, Justin Taylor, Gavin Strube. Missing from photo are Laura Albano '05, M.A.T. '06, and Tina Zlody.

2008

DAN ROSENAK married Jennifer Lamprecht in Villanova, Pa., on Nov. 26, 2016. They recently relocated from Hololulu, Hawaii, and currently reside in Philadelphia. Dan resigned from his nine-year career with Stanley Black & Decker to pursue a staff position coaching lacrosse at Haverford College, while beginning graduate study for his master's in higher education at Temple University. Jennifer is an executive with the commercial real estate firm Jones Lang Lasalle.
KATHERINE FlyNN WIlSON ’08 and James Wilson ’09 had an exciting 2016. In July, James was awarded a one-year fellowship in spinal cord injury at the Cleveland Clinic, the last step on his journey to becoming a practicing spinal cord injury physiatrist. The couple also welcomed their first child, Hannah Flynn-Wilson, on Sept. 3. The family is doing well and resides in Philadelphia.

LORI WiNEMAN ’08 married Chris Urban in Los Angeles in April 2016. Bridesmaids included Sarah Natallia Simatupang ’09 and Bridget Mathis ’08; also attending were Anna Kupik ’06 and Kristin Stier ’06.

ASHLEY EMERSON ’08, M.A. ’12, and CHRIS RIEGELUTH, M.A. ’13, Ph.D. ’16, were married on Aug. 13, 2016, at the Race Brook Lodge in Sheffield, Mass. — with plenty of Clark friends in attendance!

2010

KANA NAKAJIMA ’10 and JEFF DELUCA ’10 were married on Sept. 18, 2016. Clarkies in attendance included, from left: Kelly Richardson ’10, Anna Moran ’10, M.S.P.C. ’11, Curtis Reid ’10, Arlen Bitsky ’10, Nathan Cahn ’10, David Schuberth ’09, Tyler Campbell ’09, Christine Shrum ’09, Erin McFadden ’10, Priscilla Odoom ’10, M.P.A. ’11, Shawn Roche ’10, Chatura Jayakody ’10, Drew Silverman ’10, M.P.A. ’11, and Tara Lewis ’10, M.B.A. ’11.

2011

LISA LESKO and BENJAMIN GOLDBERG, both class of 2011, were married on Oct. 22, 2016, in Portland, Ore. Clarkies attending the wedding included, from left to right: Matt McNally ’12, Patrick O’Neil ’11, Rachel Maimon ’10, Martin Leggett ’11, Kate Applebaum ’11, Lisa and Benjamin, Bobby Naughton ’11, Corinne Cahill ’12, Connor Joyce ’11, and Jennifer Berg ’11.

2012


JULIA BERGERON-SMiTH ’12 and BRAM BERGERON-SMiTH ’13 were married on Oct. 8, 2016, at the King’s Hill Inn and Barn in South Paris, Maine.
Jackalyne Pfannenstiel ’69

JACKALYNE PFANNENSTIEL ’69, a former Clark University trustee and energy expert who inspired other women who worked in the sector, died April 26. In 2010, she was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and the Environment by President Barack Obama, the first woman to hold such a position.

After earning a master’s degree in economics from the University of Hartford in Connecticut, she worked as an economist at the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control; she subsequently was recruited by the California Public Utilities Commission. In 1980, Pfannenstiel joined Pacific Gas and Electric, where she worked for 20 years.

In 2004, she was appointed to the Energy Commission by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to push for more energy-efficient practices, and she was named its first woman chair in 2006. She came out of retirement to serve in the Navy post, where she maintained her focus on saving energy by helping plan the Great Green Fleet, a squadron of 10 ships and 70 aircraft that partly runs on biofuel.

Pfannenstiel also co-founded the San Francisco startup Advanced Microgrid Solutions, which installs batteries in buildings and uses software to help utilities improve efficiency.

In the Fall 2010 CLARK magazine, Pfannenstiel shared her thoughts on her college years. “It’s the best four years ever, because you are surrounded by interesting people, wonderfully stimulating things to think of and work on, and it’s all about you. I have dozens of wonderful memories, and some of my best friends today are Clark friends.”

She is survived by her husband, Daniel D. Richard, sons Matthew and Steven Deutsch, and a grandson, Wesley Deutsch.


**William Johansen**


A native of Worcester, Johansen joined the Clark faculty in 1968 after conducting postdoctoral research at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa. His interests were in marine and aquatic life, particularly coralline algae (seaweeds that are hard because of calcium carbonate). During his postdoctoral work, he was part of an expedition researching how the powerful 1964 Alaskan earthquake affected intertidal life. Some coasts in Prince William Sound had been upthrust more than 30 feet by the quake.

Later, he was part of a team that researched marine life at Bodega Head, a site north of San Francisco where plans called for the construction of a nuclear power plant to be cooled by seawater. His work involved scuba diving in kelp forests near Carmel, Calif., to determine the growth patterns of certain species.

During his years at Clark, he continued research on coralline algae, often working with scientists in countries such as Japan, Ireland, England and Australia. He authored or co-authored more than 50 articles on marine-related topics and two books on coralline algae, one of which he wrote in a remote cabin in the Rocky Mountains of Montana. While teaching biology courses at Clark, he led students on annual weekend trips to Bermuda to study marine life — a program that continues to this day.

Johansen was an instructor in Clark’s study abroad program in Luxembourg three times, and also taught two summer courses on aquatic life in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. He was a founding member of the Northeast Algal Society and its president for five years.

After retiring from Clark in 1999, Johansen taught an annual course in Worcester’s WISE program for seniors, based at Assumption College, for 10 years. He loved to prepare and teach courses as varied as The Viking Era, Great Rivers of North America, the Great Italian Immigration, Biodiversity of the Oceans, the Ice Ages, Extinctions of Life, and Human Evolution.

Johansen is survived by his wife, Frances, as well as his son, Eric ’85, daughter-in-law, Lois, and grandsons, Clayton and Bennett. A son, Brian, predeceased him in 1976.

**Frederick A. Simon**

Former professor of screen studies Frederick A. Simon died on Feb. 8, 2017. An acclaimed documentary filmmaker/producer, Simon taught at the University for many years, retiring in 2013.

His best-known film as a director was “Frank: A Vietnam Veteran,” about a Navy sniper who became a Boston social worker and spoke candidly on camera about his deep troubles adjusting to life after returning from Vietnam. Colleagues said the portrayal helped pave the way for an open dialogue on post-traumatic stress disorder in the U.S. military.

The black-and-white film was shot in the low-level lighting Simon favored because “it made it feel very intimate,” his business partner and former wife, Susan Walsh, told the *Boston Globe*. “That’s what he was always going for in his films — a conversation late at night between two friends.”

In 1982, Simon and Walsh cofounded the Center for Independent Documentary, which has helped filmmakers and producers create, market and distribute documentaries for public and cable television, theaters and classroom settings.

His documentaries explored topics including death and grieving, life in Boston’s Combat Zone, and the feminist movement, all told through up-close interviews with subjects.

Diane Nerwen ’87, who studied with Simon at Clark and later worked for him as a production assistant, told the *Globe* he was “an important mentor and friend” and “incredibly generous, encouraging and supportive.”

Simon chose his film topics out of curiosity, she said, and he encouraged his students to do the same. “He taught me how filmmaking is really about conversations and relationships,” Nerwen said. “He was quite an inspiration to me, and invited me to come back to Clark to present my own video work to students.”

Simon is survived by his former wife and two children, Mira ’11 and Ben.
in memoriam

Dennis G. Wadsworth ’86

Dennis G. Wadsworth ’86, former professor of information technology, associate director of graduate programs and director of the Master of Science in Information Technology program for the College of Professional and Continuing Education (now the School of Professional Studies), died on Jan. 3, 2017, just months after retiring from Clark.

Wadsworth earned a bachelor’s degree in computer science through COPACE and went on to receive an M.B.A. from the University of Notre Dame. For more than 30 years, he was an adjunct professor at Clark. He also spent time teaching in Clark’s programs in Israel, China and Poland.

In the 1990s, Wadsworth created a scholarship for COPACE students, and he played an integral role in creating the first website for the program.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, and a son, Tech Sgt. Geoffrey W. Wadsworth of the U.S. Air Force.

Duane S. Knos

Duane S. Knos, 92, of Rupert, Idaho, professor emeritus of geography at Clark University, passed away on June 30, 2017. Following service as a P47 Thunderbolt pilot during World War II, Knos earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Upper Iowa University, and a master’s in history and a doctorate in geography from the University of Iowa. He taught geography at the University of Kansas for 14 years. In 1970, he came to Clark, where he taught for 16 years. He is survived by his wife, Lucille, daughters Nanette (John) Eilers and Barbara Feroce, seven grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

PASSINGS

HARRY N. AIZENSTAT, M.A. ’37

H. D. MCINNIS ’38
Chapman, Australia, 2/2/2016

CARROLL D. COLBY ’39
Lacey, Wash., 9/23/2016

KATHLEEN HARRIS PEARSON ’46
Fairport, N.Y., 5/28/2017

PAULINE T. PERRY ’47

RALPH E. COOK ’48
Lake of the Woods, Va., 11/25/2015

MARGARET M. HALPIN ’48

WENTWORTH C. MAYNARD ’48
Jefferson, Mass., 11/14/2016

VERA PASTER ’48
Hastings on Hudson, N.Y., 12/16/2015

MARY TASHJIAN ’48, M.A. ’50

ROBERT W. RIBEAU ’49
Grafton, Mass., 3/31/2017

GERALDINE E. KATZ ’49
New Rochelle, N.Y., 11/21/2015

PAULINE A. MCHUGH ’49

HOWARD L. CLARK ’50
Laguna Wood, Calif., 4/22/2016

LEO FORZLEY ’50
Worcester, Mass., April 21, 2015

GEORGE D. DIRADO ’50, M.A. ’51
Santa Barbara, Calif., 1/30/2017

THE REV. GERALD P. LOWETH ’50
Richmond Hill, Ontario, 10/15/2016

ROBERT W. MARTEL ’50
Tustin, Calif., 12/25/2015

CONSTANTINE D. MOLLO ’50
Bend, Ore., 12/2/2016

ANDREW S. MORELAND, M.A. ’51
Denison, Texas, 9/11/2016

ROY S. NELSON ’50
Worcester, Mass., 2/9/2017

ARTHUR W. NICHOLS ’50
West Boylston, Mass., 11/14/2016

MICHAEL M. MAKOWIECKI ’51
Westborough, Mass., 11/23/2015

ANDREW S. MORELAND, M.A. ’51
Denison, Texas, 9/11/2016

EDWARD H. MOORADKANIAN ’51

AUBREY GREENWALD ’51
Northborough, Mass., 11/24/2015

EDWARD I. BARBER ’52
Ohio, N.Y., 1/29/2017

KENNETH G. CARLON ’52
Cockeysville, Md., 6/18/2015

ROGER M. COREY ’52
Grafton, Mass., 8/9/2016

ROBERT A. HOWATT ’52
Natick, Mass., 6/17/2015

MARY THOMPSON ’52
Boulder, Colo., 7/2015

PHYLIS E. CASEY ’53
Palmetto Bay, Fla., 8/6/2016

DAVID M. BURTON ’54
Durham, N.H., 2/2/2016

HAYDEE PINERO BUCK ’54
Vieques, Puerto Rico, 2/4/2016

LEE H. GOODSTONE ’54
Southbridge, Mass., 2/5/2017
ROBERT A. MARKHAM ’54  
Lunenburg, Mass., 2/18/2017

MILDRED MCCUE ’55  
Worcester, Mass., 2/25/2017

KENNETH MAGIDAY ’56  
Stamford, Conn., 1/11/2016

ANGELO J. TRAINA ’56  
Salem, S.C., 10/20/2015

CHARLES HERSCH, Ph.D. ’57  
Dedham, Mass., 2/26/2017

JUDITH A. PALMER ’57  

ROBERT J. RAPPA ’58  
Franklin, Mass., 1/30/2017

ROBERT J. FOLEY ’59  
Olmstedville, N.Y., 9/11/2015

D. GERARDINE GUERTIN,  
M.A.Ed. ’59, Ed.D. ’75  

OGRETTA A. MCNEIL,  

EDWARD F. DURKIN ’60  

ALAN T. HATCH ’60  
Columbia, S.C., 4/7/2015

LYNDA B. JOHNSON ’60  

PETER C. BLOMSTROM ’61  
Cheshire, Conn., 5/11/2016

ELEANOR F. Glickman  
’61, M.P.A. ’79  
Longboat Key, Fla., 12/1/2016

DANIEL B. GLODAS ’61  
Holden, Mass., 3/30/2017

RICHARD E. OLIVER ’61  
Worcester, Mass., 4/30/2015

SANDOR B. BRENT, M.A. ’62, Ph.D. ’63  
Santa Fe, N.M., 12/5/2016

ANGELA G. MANNA ’62  

PEARL E. MULLINGS ’62  
Longwood, Fla., 2/7/2017

DOUGLAS A. SMITH ’62  
Corte Madera, Calif., 5/31/2015

FAY (BLAKESLEE) ROSSLEY ’62  
Shrewsbury, Mass., 5/28/2017

ALFREDA M. BROUSSEAU ’63  
Southbridge, Mass., 10/13/2016

REBECCA WHOLEY CAMPELL ’63  
Shelburne Falls, Mass., 3/18/2016

JAMES L. CONRAD, M.A. ’63  
Dudley, Mass., 8/20/2016

LOIS S. WALLENFELS ’63  
Portland, Ore., 4/13/2015

FRANK CURCIO, Ph.D. ’65  
Watertown, Mass., 6/24/2016

IDA B. SIMENAS ’66  
Falmouth, Mass., 6/11/2015

BRECK J. TRAUTWEIN ’66  
Kittery Point, Maine, 8/7/2016

DOVI J. AFESI ’67  
Easthampton, Mass., 12/2/2016

GERALD P. CUTLER ’67  
Greenville, S.C., 3/29/2017

CAROLYN CURTIS, M.A.Ed. ’67  
Phoenix, Ariz., 2/13/2017

KENT R. ENGLANDER ’67  
Clearwater, Fla., 9/8/2015

CHARLES MOVALI ’67  
West Gloucester, Mass., 3/19/2016

TODD SCHAIBLE ’68  

FREDERICK R. STROBEL, M.A. ’67, Ph.D. ’69  
Quincy, Mass., 12/22/2016

DAVID F. SWENSON ’69  

CHARLOTTE CALFAIAN ’70  

HARRIET RODES CARTER ’70  
Mystic, Conn., 11/2/2016

MARY M. DOYLE ’71  

GLEN M. FABER ’71  

JOHN J. HANLON ’73, M.P.A. ’75, P ’75  
Worcester, Mass., 1/30/2016

EDWARD T. KOSAKOSKI, M.B.A. ’73  
Webster, Mass., 7/22/2016

BETTIE V. SANDQUIST ’73, P ’91  

FRANCIS SHEEHAH, M.A. ’73  
Bradenton, Fla., 12/23/2016

FRANCIS J. QUINN ’73  
East Dennis, Mass., 10/20/2016

BONNIE CIBLEY ’74  
Mobile, Texas, 11/11/2016

SALLY LEMAIRE, M.A. ’74  

JACQUELINE D. SMITH ’74  
Hyde Park, Mass., 1/21/2016

WILLIAM GREENE ’75  
Allentown, Pa., 8/17/2016

PAUL J. MINARIK ’76, M.A.C.J. ’81  
Webster, Mass., 2/1/2017

ALLAN H. OJERHOLM ’76  

NANCY M. WILSON, M.A. ’76  

EILEEN BERRY, M.A. ’77  
Boca Raton, Fla., 3/19/2016

MAURA JOHNSTON ’77  
Folsom, Pa., 12/2/2015

HELEN R. KOURI ’78  
Shrewsbury, Mass., 1/15/2016

LINDA J. CRUMLIN, M.P.A. ’79  
Worcester, Mass., 3/16/2015

JORY A. GAIER, ’79  
Boca Raton, Fla., 1/18/2016

DORIS M. THOMPSON ’80  
Worcester, Mass., 3/17/2017

BARBARA W. CLARK ’83  
Kennebunk, Maine, 2/16/2017

PETER G. GINOUES ’83  
Harvard, Mass., 6/22/2015

MICHAEL A. KING, M.B.A. ’84  
Paxton, Mass., 11/13/2016

NORMAN P. LAPERLE ’84  
Sun City West, Ariz., 7/17/2016

DAVID RUBIN ’84  
Bloomington, Ill., 11/14/2016

DENNIS G. WADSWORTH ’84  
Holland, Mass., 1/3/2017

JOHN F. GRADY ’85  
Osterville, Mass., 2/21/2017

ANDREW CORBIN HANSEN ’85  
Boynton Beach, Fla., 4/3/2017

KATHLEEN A. MULLANEY, M.B.A. ’86  
Suffield, Conn., 2/19/2017

VIOLET J. NALBANDIAN ’88  

MARION PRITCHARD, L.H.D. ’97  
Washington, D.C., 2/11/2016

PHILIP A. KLAUSMEYER, Ph.D. ’09  

GERARD F. BOUCHER ’11  
Worcester, Mass., 3/26/2017

NICHOLAS B. ROVNAK ’16  
Portland, Maine, 2/2/2017

SUMMER 2017  53
The most valuable lesson Jason Feifer ’02, editor-in-chief at Entrepreneur magazine, learned while a Clark University student? Question everything. The advice has served him well as he’s navigated a writing and editing career through media outlets like the Worcester Telegram & Gazette, Boston Magazine, Men’s Health, Fast Company and Maxim. He’s also freelanced for New York magazine, The New York Times, The Washington Post, GQ, ESPN the Magazine and Salon, and hosts the podcast called “Pessimists Archive.” Feifer returned to Clark in March as The keynote speaker for the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Program’s 10th anniversary celebration. We asked him about his Clark experience, the changing definition of entrepreneurship and where he thinks the next big idea lies.
How did Clark help prepare you for your current position?
At Clark, I came to understand what I like to do best — and where I can best do it. The most significant experience I had at Clark was with WheatBread Magazine, a student-run magazine that doesn’t exist anymore. It was a small, scrappy, occasionally obnoxious operation, run by a small group of students with no formal training and an enthusiasm for experimentation. I took it over in my senior year, and I was so scared to be a columnist. Neither came true.

Was there a particular experience at Clark that helped you grow?
Besides WheatBread, I also interned at the Worcester Telegram & Gazette during my senior year, and that experience helped shape the early part of my career. It was the first time I worked with professional editors; it was the first time I saw professional reporters on the job. They made me go live on cable news, and I was so scared that I vowed to get comfortable in front of a camera — which I now have. I never loved sitting in a classroom, to be honest. I hated it in grade school, and wasn’t fond of it at Clark either. But Clark provided many opportunities for me to actually do the things I wanted to do, and not just sit there hearing about them. That’s what mattered.

Do you consider yourself an entrepreneur?
For decades, the word “entrepreneur” just meant small-business person. Under that definition, no, I wasn’t one. But the definition has changed. Today, an entrepreneur is an identity and a badge of honor; it’s adopted by anyone who hustles and takes risks and makes things happen for themselves. By that definition, yes, I certainly am. I wouldn’t be where I am without having taken big chances, and I’m constantly hustling. I run the magazine, but also created and host a podcast. I’m writing a novel with my wife, co-developing a new website, and more. Writers should absolutely see themselves this way — because you can’t just do one thing. You have to be constantly exploring, trying, building and growing.

What quality sets the truly successful entrepreneur apart from the pack?
Adaptability. I always think it’s fascinating to hear from successful serial entrepreneurs, because their businesses often seem to have nothing to do with each other. But in fact, there is a common thread: They were the right businesses for the time they were created in. Today’s entrepreneurs must deal with constant change — in technology, the economy, the marketplace, and consumer tastes. The ones that succeed are the ones willing to constantly evolve with the world.

In your New York Times wedding announcement, you were quoted as saying being a writer is both your job and your passion. How early did it become your passion, and what advice can you give to others about making it your job?
Writing is hard, and making a living at it is harder. You have to really love it; that’s what I meant in that quote. I don’t think of it as a passion, to be honest. It’s just what I do. It’s what’s always felt natural — from drawing comic books in elementary school to printing music zines in high school. And I always had goals. When I got my first reporter job, I decided I wanted to work at The New York Times. At my second reporter job, I decided I wanted to be a columnist. Neither came true, but after a few rounds of this, I developed a way of thinking that helped me succeed, and perhaps it can help others as well. Here it goes: Don’t think about your destination; think about your skillset.

You’ve written articles about topics as varied as sex, selfies, germs on flip flops, ham radio and Hanson. Which one did you enjoy researching and writing the most?
I discovered that I get bored covering the same subject too long. However, I never get bored of writing a certain style of story, which is this: I love stories about things that at first seem weird or funny or unserious, but that, if you’re willing to spend the time taking them seriously, turn out to be revelatory in some way. I always look for those stories, no matter the subject.

Do you think entrepreneurship will look the same in 20 years as it does now?
There’s an explosion of entrepreneurship today — both in terms of the number of businesses people start, and the number of people who identify as entrepreneurs. That, I think, is the result of our economy. Large companies are shedding employees, and we’re moving away from a world of predictable careers. People want to control their own futures. In a generation from now, of course, our economy could look very different once again, and people will react accordingly. Tools and technology will certainly change. Government policy will change. But some things don’t change: Entrepreneurs are daring visionaries who alter our world — they were before, and they will continue to be. The only question is, what will they be responding to next?

If you had to make an educated guess, from where do you think the next Big Idea is coming?
In the 1800s, New York City was in a full-blown horse manure crisis. Horses were the main mode of transportation, and were producing hundreds of tons of poop every day. It stunk. It caused health problems. It was awful. The greatest innovators of the day couldn’t solve the problem. Know what did? Cars — a technology that wasn’t designed to eliminate horse manure, but did exactly that. We can never know where the next great innovation will come from, or, for that matter, how it will ultimately improve our world. I’d be foolish to guess. But that’s what makes covering business so exciting. Every day, I hear from people with big, ambitious ideas, and I think: That’ll either fail, or change everything. The best I can do is encourage everyone to keep trying.
Arnold Loeb's long career as owner of an import-export business took him to Asia many times. In Japan, China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, he visited factories, met with executives, and learned about other cultures from ordinary people living in the cities and in vast rural areas. In some of the more remote sites, he was the first American the local residents had ever seen.

New places and unfamiliar ways did not unsettle the Bronx native — indeed, he was eager for the experiences. He attributes much of his worldliness to his Clark education, which supplied him the foundation to move through life with confidence.

"Even in places where I didn't know the language, I came to understand things that others didn't expect me to understand," he says.

"The ability to be open to other cultures is part of what Clark gave me."

Since graduating in 1965, Arnie has contributed to his alma mater, but when he sold his business four years ago he began considering ways to maximize the value of his gifts by taking advantage of planned-giving strategies.

Arnie is a fan of using the IRA Charitable Rollover to make his gifts to Clark because it maximizes his savings on federal and state income taxes. He still values the university that taught him to feel at home even when he was a world away. "I appreciate what Clark does for its students, faculty and alumni," Arnie says. "This is a good way to give back."

The IRA Charitable Rollover allows you to transfer your gift directly from your traditional IRA account to Clark. If you're 70 1/2 or older, your gift will count toward your annual Required Minimum Distribution and your withdrawal won't be taxed as income.

To learn more, visit clarku.edu/irarollover or contact Mary Richardson, director of planned giving, at 508-793-7593 or marichardson@clarku.edu.
batman

Kyle Bonicki’s All-American swing
For the first time in program history, Clark University baseball has an All-American.

Infielder Kyle Bonicki '17 of Waterbury, Conn., was named Third-Team All-America by the American Baseball Coaches Association and Honorable Mention All-America by D3Baseball.

That’s not all. D3Baseball also named Bonicki New England Player of the Year while the ABCA tagged him as First-Team All-New England.

The honors for Bonicki are further testament to a career that saw him ascend to one of the best college players in the country.

“It’s a tremendous honor for Kyle and our program,” said Clark University head coach J.P. Pyne. “I’m very proud of him and I can’t imagine a better young man to represent Clark University baseball.”

It was a whirlwind 12-month stretch for the recently graduated management major, beginning last season when he set school records for batting average, runs scored, stolen bases, on-base percentage, hits and total bases. He scooped up first-team all-conference honors, second-team all-region accolades and was named the 2016 Clark University Male Student-Athlete of the Year.

He then starred in the Futures Collegiate Baseball League, setting a league record for hits in a season (75) while being named an All-Star and finishing second in batting average (.403) and third in on-base percentage (.472).

In 2017, the sure-handed shortstop was just as productive. He helped the Cougars to their first postseason appearance since 2010 as they set a school record with 26 wins.

Bonicki holds a host of Clark baseball records. His single-season marks include batting average (.466), hits (68), on-base percentage (.549), runs scored (50) and stolen bases (21). He set Clark career records in batting average (.402), hits (165), on-base percentage (.482), doubles (34) and assists (340).

Bonicki finished the year ranked in the top 10 in the NEWMAC in several categories, including batting average (.391), runs scored (50), hits (61), doubles (20), triples (7), stolen bases (12), on-base percentage (.462) and slugging percentage (.686).

He had at least one hit in 33 of the 39 games this season, recorded 20 multihit games and had four separate hitting streaks of seven games or more.

– Kevin Anderson
A year to remember

From NCAA Tournament appearances, to heart-stopping postseason performances and record-breaking seasons, 2016-17 was the year Clark Athletics has been waiting for. Let’s go to the highlights:

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
In a sport dominated by MIT – with 10 straight league titles — the Cougars have had a difficult time finding their fit. Now in his fourth season, head coach Bill Gray has methodically built a team by stockpiling talent and nurturing leaders.

That formula was the perfect elixir for Kristen Glennie ’18, who became just the fourth Clark runner ever to earn all-league honors at this year’s conference championship race. With Glennie leading the way, the Cougars finished seventh — their best finish since 1997. The program will continue on an upward trajectory, thanks to student-athletes like Nicolina Braccio ’20, who owns the second fastest time in school history.

BASEBALL
For the second year in a row under head coach J.P. Pyne, the Cougar Nine set a school record for wins in a season, and reached the playoffs for the first time since 1997. The program will continue on an upward trajectory, thanks to student-athletes like Nicolina Braccio ’20, who owns the second fastest time in school history.

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL
It seemed only fitting that after celebrating the 40th season of women’s volleyball, Coach Mickey Cahoon’s charges would make some history of their own. Clark received an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament — the first in program history. They were the first Clark team to advance to the NCAAAs since men’s basketball in 2010.

All-American Marina Ramos ’18 and setter Rachel Webb ’19 led Clark to a heart-stopping 3-2 first-round win over Montclair State and the program’s first-ever NCAA Tournament victory. Clark lost to Stevens Institute of Technology in the semifinals.

MEN’S SOCCER
The Cougars got the bounces and a whole lot more as they opened the season with nine straight wins and advanced to the semifinal round in the league tournament.

Zack Blais ’17 earned first-team all-league honors and second-team all-region accolades as the Cougars went 14-5 — the most wins since 2005. Head coach Matt O’Toole was named league coach of the year after orchestrating a season in which Clark won six games by one goal and allowed just three goals in the month of September.

This squad returns all-conference goalkeeper Connor Maguire ’18, defensive stalwarts Julian Feshbach-Meriney ’19 and Ethan Ziemb ’19, and strikers Sean Munroe ’20, Evan Jurkowski ’20 and Jonathan Guilherme ’20.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Upsets happen all the time in sports, and longtime head coach Pat Glispin has delivered her fair share of them in her 33 seasons on the Clark sidelines. One of the most memorable occurred in February when the seventh-seeded Cougars faced second-seeded Springfield in the quarterfinal round of the NEWMAC Tournament.

The Scarlet and White led for long portions of the contest thanks to inspired play from Ogechi Ezemma ’19. As Sam O’Gara ’18 dribbled out the clock, the players on the bench rushed the floor to celebrate the upset and their berth in the conference semifinals.

A loss in the semis to crosstown rival WPI stung, but it couldn’t take away the fact that the team had recorded the program’s first winning season since 2013 and the most wins since 2012.
BETWEEN THE COVERS

Clark University professors recently have produced books on a wide variety of subjects that take readers back through a dark passage in history, and move them forward into contemporary discussions about immigration and the Middle East. Among the offerings are a newly edited version of an American literary classic; a look at the politics behind Latino identity; an examination of militant groups in the Middle East; an exploration of successful social innovations; and an account of the concept of comradeship among German soldiers through two world wars and the Holocaust.

The kids wanted to know why the soldiers had joined Hitler’s army, the Wehrmacht, and why they had participated in Hitler’s terrible war instead of just deserting or staying at home.

The Rise and Fall of Comradeship: Hitler’s Soldiers, Male Bonding and Mass Violence in the Twentieth Century
THOMAS KÜHNE, HISTORY
An account of how the concept of comradeship shaped the actions, emotions and ideas of ordinary German soldiers.

James Fenimore Cooper’s “The Spy: A Tale of The Neutral Ground”
CO-EDITED BY JAMES ELLIOTT, ENGLISH
The editors have produced the first scholarly edition of America’s first major novel, which helped launch the spy-as-hero genre.

The New Americans? Immigration, Protest, and the Politics of Latino Identity
HEATHER SILBER MOHAMED, POLITICAL SCIENCE
An examination of how watershed political events affect Latinos’ perceptions of their place in U.S. society.

The Politics of Militant Group Survival in the Middle East
ORA SZEKELY, POLITICAL SCIENCE
An exploration of the origins and consequences of the policy choices adopted by militant groups.

The Rise of the Hybrid Domain: Collaborative Governance for Social Innovation
YUKO AOYAMA, GEOGRAPHY; WITH BALAJI PARTHASARATHY
The book explores how corporations, states and organizations develop common agendas, despite different objectives.

For a list of recent faculty works, visit clarku.edu/faculty.
JOHN AYLWARD, associate professor of music, has earned two major awards in the past year. He was awarded a 2017 commission by the Harvard-based Fromm Music Foundation. Aylward composed his submission, an opera titled “Switch,” while on sabbatical. He also received a 2017 Guggenheim Fellowship, one of 173 current fellows, representing scholars, artists and scientists, selected from more than 3,000 applicants.

ROBERTSON APPOINTED

DEB ROBERTSON was appointed the Litsky Professor of Biology. In her 17 years at Clark, Robertson has published widely, primarily on the ecophysiology of marine algae, and obtained several grants from the National Science Foundation to support this research. Her teaching — from Introductory Biology to upper-level seminar courses — has been recognized twice with the Outstanding Teacher Award. The chair was previously held by Todd Livdahl, who retired after 37 years as a faculty member at Clark.

MARTIN LEADS GSG

DEBORAH MARTIN, professor of geography, assumed the position of director of the Graduate School of Geography on June 1. She replaced Anthony Bebbington, who served seven years in that role.

Martin is an urban geographer with interests in place identity, local politics, legal geography, qualitative methodologies, and social movements, particularly neighborhood activism. She has conducted research on place, meaning and representation in community organizing and local politics in St. Paul, Minn., and Athens, Ga. Martin has done extensive research examining the socio-ecological impacts of the Asian longhorned beetle infestation and tree replanting program in central Massachusetts, and researches the legal, social and community dynamics of housing Community Land Trusts in the Twin Cities, Minn.

Martin received her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in geography from the University of Minnesota and her B.A. in geography and international studies from Macalester College. Before coming to Clark in the fall of 2004, she taught at the University of Georgia for five years.

AOYAMA NAMED RESEARCH DEAN

YUKO AOYAMA, professor of geography, was named Clark University’s associate provost and dean of research, effective June 1.

Aoyama arrived at Clark in 2000, teaching classes on economic geography, industrial geography, internet geography, and globalization. Her research interest lies in developing geographic understandings of global capitalism from institutional and comparative perspectives. Previously, Aoyama was awarded an Academic Writing Residency at the Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Center and an Abe Fellowship from the Social Science Research Council.

Aoyama conducts international research on social and economic dimensions of global change. Her most recent book is “The Rise of the Hybrid Domain: Collaborative Governance for Social Innovation,” co-written with Balaji Parthasarathy, which explores a new model of social innovation through which corporations, states and civil society organizations develop common social agendas despite differences in their primary objectives.

Aoyama received a B.A. from International Christian University, Tokyo, an M.A from University of California at Los Angeles and a Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley.

NEARLY 3 CENTURIES OF SERVICE

This year, Clark University bid farewell to nine retiring tenured faculty who represent an astounding 291 years of collective service to the institution. They are: FRED GREENAWAY, Chemistry (started in 1980); TODD LIVDAHL, Biology (1980); GARY CHAISON, Graduate School of Management (1981); HALINA BROWN, International Development, Community, and Environment (1985); SUNHEE GERTZ, English (1985); DAVID THURLOW, Chemistry (1985); JUDITH WAGNER DECEW, Philosophy (1987); DIANNE ROCHELEAU, Geography (1989); and BRUCE LONDON, Sociology (1990).
Renowned film critic and historian Andrew Sarris once wrote of Otis Ferguson ’33, “I think a claim can be made for Ferguson as the writer of the best and most subtly influential film criticism ever turned out in America.” High praise for the Jazz Age writer with a rebellious streak that first showed itself when he reviewed James Joyce’s “Ulysses” for a Clark student publication at a time when the book was still banned in the United States. The ever-cheeky Ferguson, when asked about his future plans in the 1933 yearbook “Pasticcio,” responded: “None.”

Ferguson staked his claim to literary greatness with the New Republic, where he churned out film reviews that entertained and enlightened many, and left others aghast. In his notorious pan of “The Wizard of Oz,” he noted, “[As] for the light touch of fantasy, it weighs like a pound of fruitcake soaking wet.”

Such a frank assessment was nothing new for Ferguson, who resisted conformity and refused compliance. His New Republic editor Malcolm Cowley described his “straight uncompromising mouth that might have been telling the world to go to hell,” and recalled that Ferguson would enter into bitter arguments with colleagues, then retreat somewhere to cool down over a cup of coffee. Socially aware and politically passionate, the working-class kid from Worcester championed the nobility of the little guy in films like “The Grapes of Wrath” and disdained authority to the degree that, even as assistant editor of the New Republic, he was rarely invited to editorial meetings. His love of jazz resulted in finely honed critical pieces that helped shape the public’s perceptions of this distinctly American art form.

Ferguson’s life and career were tragically brief. He initially opposed the United States’ entry into World War II, but answered the call of duty following the Pearl Harbor attack. He was killed in 1943 when aboard a ship that was bombed in the Bay of Salerno. The explosive hit the messroom, where he’d gone alone to have a cup of coffee.

- Jim Keogh

The man who panned ‘Oz’
The photographer’s task appears straightforward: snap some photos of **Kim Fisher '08** on Commencement Day.

Easier said than snapped.

Fisher, who coordinates graduation each year, is an elusive blur — a human hologram seemingly empowered to materialize in more than one location simultaneously. A radio gripped in her hand like an extra appendage, she orchestrates an event with thousands of guests, three separate ceremonies and infinite opportunity for something to go terribly wrong. So asking her to stop what she’s doing and say “cheese” is out of the question.

The 18-year Clark employee is assistant to the dean of the college and commencement manager, the latter job stretching out over the course of the year before consuming most of her spring. This year, somewhere between 5,000 and 6,000 family members and friends streamed onto the Clark University campus to watch 1,173 undergraduate and graduate students receive their diplomas.

“It’s challenging, exhausting and really satisfying when we pull it off,” she says. “And I think we made the graduates happy.”

The Clark Commencement has changed in recent years to streamline the proceedings and accommodate the growing number of visitors. The undergraduate and graduate students march onto the green together for a combined ceremony and keynote address (this year’s commencement speaker was Earl Lewis, president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation). Graduate students and their guests then proceed to the Kneller Athletic Center while the undergrads remain on the green; the presenting of degrees takes place simultaneously in the two locales. This spring’s commencement concluded in a trim 2:10, a pleasant improvement over the four-hour-plus epics of years past.

Planning next year’s commencement begins with a postmortem of May’s event. “We celebrate the success of our hard work, but we also see the blips that others don’t notice and start figuring out what we need to adjust the next time,” Fisher says. Negotiating with vendors for such things as tents, regalia and sound production starts in earnest in late summer. By the fall, Fisher will chair meetings of the planning committee — about 30 people representing departments across campus. Her “A team,” a group of eight, meets more regularly and wrestles with the nitty-gritty details, including the best ways to move huge crowds to their destinations. “You can think of it as an extremely complicated theatrical performance,” she says.

By January, preparations are at full throttle. Fisher notes that one of the great pleasures of her job is the ability to work with people from various departments, from physical plant to campus police, media services to the registrar. This year, 120 Clark staff members and 43 students executed the myriad duties on Commencement Day (10 people communicated with Fisher directly via portable radios). But her most trusted ally, as always, was Denise Robertson, the graduate school coordinator who organizes the graduate ceremony. “We couldn’t do this without each other,” Fisher says. “Denise is a superstar.” Appropriately, on the harried Friday before commencement they sported matching Dr. Seuss T-shirts, one reading “Thing 1” and the other “Thing 2.”

In the final days before commencement, the intensity level ramps up, especially for the A-teamers. Exactly which students will be receiving their diplomas can sometimes change right before the ceremony, so the delicate choreography of who sits where and whose name is called when may need to be altered.

“How everything has to be perfect,” Fisher says. It was, at least to the objective observer. Sure, more chairs were needed on the lawn and the new wristband system to enter the Kneller posed a few challenges, but things sailed along. Miraculously, the photographer even managed to squeeze off a few shots of Fisher — the real Kim Fisher, we assume, not the hologram version.

-Jim Keogh
A promise fulfilled

Twenty years ago, Clark University and the Worcester Public Schools entered into a landmark partnership to operate University Park Campus School, with the promise of lifting students in Main South toward dreams and ambitions that were once beyond reach. Damian Ramsey overcame a turbulent childhood to become valedictorian of the school’s first-ever graduating class and today is dean of math and science at Achievement First Bridgeport Academy in Connecticut.

Because we were a pioneering school, many high-profile guests visited our building. Anytime someone walked into a classroom and asked, “Who’s going to college?” 100 percent of the kids raised their hands. And we raised them with conviction — because of Clark. All of our gym classes were in Clark facilities; we did our research papers in the Clark library. When we earned Student of the Month or perfect attendance, we got to eat in the Clark cafeteria, have all the ice cream we wanted and rub elbows with the college students. As juniors, we were allowed to take classes at Clark for credit.

It was an awesome opportunity because we grew comfortable being in that atmosphere at a very young age. Having access to a university like Clark opened our eyes, opened doors and gave us the confidence that we would do well in the world of academia.

I was pushed to be excellent not only academically but in character as well. I was a good student. I worked hard; I wanted to win. But my English teacher, Dr. Jim McDermott, would hand back my paper covered with his red marks and scribbles and say, “Redo it.” I would be so mad. I’d go home, fix it, resubmit, and then I’d get it back with other red marks, but fewer of them. Over time, the man taught me how to write; he taught me how to find my voice. Those lessons have been an integral part of my life ever since.
You’re busy. In the swirl of career, family, and the endless daily details that consume us, Clark University can’t always make your priority list. We understand. Thankfully, when you visit our new alumni web page, alumni.clarku.edu, you’ll see how easy it is to stay informed and connected — on your terms.

**DISCOVER**
Be a part of Clark wherever you are. The site provides links to social media (find your class’ group on Facebook!), and offers easy ways to update your information or share a class note. Alumni event listings — including those for Reunion 2018 — are updated regularly.

**ENGAGE**
Learn about networking and mentoring opportunities offered through our new initiative, ClarkCONNECT, and stay up-to-date with Clark news. You’ll find links to our hubs, ClarkNow and ResearchMatters, the alumni magazine, and e-newsletter.

**GIVE**
As always, your gift of any size is welcome and supplies fuel for the Clark mission. Read how your fellow alumni have helped support student scholarships, faculty research, academic programming and facilities, and learn how you can make your gift. The Clark community is ready to welcome you. Join us.
In 1942, Clark University admitted its first women undergraduates. They've been making waves ever since. Join us October 28 to celebrate 75 years of co-ed Clark.

Watch for details at alumni.clarku.edu