As we all know, in academia, Fall is the Spring of the Year. So Happy New ACADEMIC Year to all! I hope everyone had a relaxing and satisfying summer and recharged your personal batteries so that you have the energy to carry you through the busy months ahead. Fall semester promises to be crowded with eager students, a lively campus and a crazy world.

The University Women’s Association has a lot going on as well, with a variety of events on tap for fall that we hope will entertain and enlighten you. Our fall calendar begins on Saturday, September 29 with an Irish roots walking tour, “THE IRISH INFLUENCE IN SAN FRANCISCO.” The tour begins at 3 p.m. at the Mechanics Monument on Market Street and offers live Irish music as part of the tour. (Please see attached flyer for full details.)

And that’s just the beginning. See our calendar of fall events on Page 5, save the dates, and watch for detailed announcements for all these events in the future. Also, it’s not too early to begin making plans for next summer. Picture yourself in Barcelona, Lisbon, and the Canary Islands. Sound good? Check out the attached UWA cruise flyer, and consider signing up for the 2019 UWA cruise, 12 days from Barcelona to Lisbon, departing May 18. Don’t miss this opportunity to experience these wonderful ports—both the ports on the itinerary and the ports we will be sipping in Portugal!

The Gloria Spencer UWA Scholarship Endowment Fund is at $226,000, and growing -- thanks to contributions from members like you, and to money generated by our (nearly) annual scholarship cruises. We award scholarships each year from the interest only, thus ensuring that principle will be available for scholarships for years to come. This year, we increased the amount of our scholarship from $1,200 to $1,500 for each of four students. Awards are based on scholastic achievement and financial need. One student each year is designated as the Robert and Noreen Stollberg Scholarship recipient, thanks to a generous donation from Noreen in memory of her husband, Robert. Dr. Stollberg was a Professor of Physics and Astronomy until his retirement in 1980. Decisions are made by the UWA Scholarship Committee, Chaired by Professor Emeritus Annie Antler. Committee members this year include Donna Ryan, Thomas Spencer, Bettie Barnes, and Connie Tallerico. Board member Lorna Hill will join the Scholarship Committee for the coming year.
With great pleasure, we announce the winners of the Gloria Spencer UWA Scholarship for 2018-2019: Helen Butler, Jennifer Kim, Candy Pareja, and Liyao Zhu. Winners all.

HELEN BUTLER, GRADUATE
BIOLOGY: ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION, & CONSERVATION

Helen Butler entered SFSU as a graduate student with a GPA of 3.65 from Virginia Tech University. She was recruited in a national search as a graduate student to participate in an NSF research grant by a Professor in the Department of Biology. That Professor describes her as an “amazing student” … “with the ability to become a leader in academia….” The Professor goes on to say “I also believe she will become a model for women in the sciences.” Helen describes her own career goal as simple: “I strive for my life’s work to make a difference at the community, national or global level.” Her primary focus is on climate change and species conservation, two key issues for our global community. She plans to apply for positions within the field of conservation biology in order to continue to improve her skills, while applying for PhD programs. She has done research in both the Sierra Nevada’s and the Pyrenees of France and Spain, comparing how disease status and environmental health effect the skin microbiome of amphibians in these two regions. She works on research projects and in the Biology Lab, primarily with amphibians. Although her parents supported her undergraduate education, Helen needs to obtain external funding for her graduate studies. As an out-of-state student, her school expenses and the cost-of-living in San Francisco are overwhelming. And her thesis research involves extensive field and lab studies, both of which require additional costly supplies and equipment. The Gloria Spencer Scholarship will help her pay for some of these expenses and advance her thesis and her academic and scientific career.

JENNIFER (JENN) KIM, GRADUATE
BIOLOGY: PHYSIOLOGY

ROBERT & NOREEN STOLMBERG RECIPIENT

Jennifer’s career goal is to become a professor of Biology “so that I may engage and mentor students through the lens of research.” She did not realize her own potential as a scientist until she began to apply herself in a hands-on way to solve research questions – and she wants to mentor other students to do the same, “to inspire them to build their self-confidence and development as young scientists.” She is particularly interested in making science more accessible and tangible for everyone, by increasing diversity and representation in the sciences. As an advocate for women in science, she helps organize and facilitate events with Nexgenegirls and Young Women in Bio, two local organizations that empower middle school and HS girls from underrepresented communities to explore careers in science. She works as a graduate teaching assistant but finds it increasingly difficult to sustain herself on her current income given the high cost of living in this area – and the prospect of five more years of school. She receives high praise from her professor in the Biology Department, who first met Jenn in 2016 when she presented her undergraduate research at the West Coast Biological Sciences UG Research Conference. The professor was so impressed by Jenn that she invited her to apply to the SFSU graduate Biology program on the spot. The professor speaks very highly of Jenn’s extraordinary and unique graduate research projects, which resulted in three publications in professional journals. Jenn has maintained a 4.0 GPA this past semester, in rigorous graduate level courses in bioinformatics, pedagogy and molecular biology/gene expression topics – while working as a graduate teaching assistant. Her professor truly believes that “Jenn will be successful in getting into, and completing a PhD, once done [with] her MS degree.”
CANDY PAREJA, GRADUATE COUNSELING – MS

Candy’s family immigrated to the US when she was 12. Her family of six shared a two-bedroom house with her grandmother and her uncle’s family of four, in Richmond. She says she was one of about 150 students who graduated high school out of a class of 500 who entered as freshmen. She was one of two dozen high school graduates who went on to attend a 4-year college. She says she owes much of her success to “...teachers who believed in me and took their time to guide me in the right direction.” And it is because of those teachers that she aspires to be a school counselor today. After completing her bachelor’s degree from SFSU, she was hired for a full-time position at UC Berkeley. But she realized what she really wanted to do was become a school counselor, and last summer she made the difficult decision to give up her full time job and go back to school to pursue her dream. She is now working part-time as an instructor and completing 840 hours of unpaid clinical internships at public schools. And she has two children to support. She says she couldn’t change how much money her parents made or where she lived, but her teachers made her realize that she did have the ability to make a better future for herself. Candy wants to work “with diverse students from low socioeconomic and challenging backgrounds, who, if offered the right opportunities and support, can make their future brighter and break the cycle of poverty.” She wants to give them the tools they need to help them achieve their goals, and she believes that the graduate program in school counseling will help her achieve her own goals. One of her volunteer opportunities was as a Client Intake and Translator at Project Homeless Connect. She says this experience forever changed how she viewed homeless people, and she enjoyed being able to say “yes” to people who heard “no” on the streets every day. Her Professor echoes Candy’s commitment to her continued growth as a professional. “Your support of Candy’s graduate studies will undoubtedly contribute to increased educational opportunity, not only for Candy, but for the many students she will work with throughout her career.”

LIYAO ZHU, SENIOR CHINESE – LINGUISTICS, BA

Liyao is an immigrant from China and a prospective graduate student at SFSU. When she graduated from high school, her grandmother told her that “girls don’t need higher education.” But she came to America in the year 2000, when she was in her 30’s, and she enrolled in ESL courses at City College of SF. She earned her A.A. degree, and transferred to SFSU. She continued her studies through an unexpected divorce and custody battle for her daughter, but she had to stop her studies in 2009 due to financial difficulties, which are still an issue for her. She is now able to continue her studies at SFSU, majoring in Chinese, and hopes to enroll in the master’s program following her graduation. Her goal is to teach Chinese Language Art professionally, to bridge the two cultures: Chinese and English. She has volunteered in several community service programs, many of which are focused on improving reading and language skills for immigrants and children.

Her professor in Chinese Linguistics has had Liyao in three undergraduate classes and one graduate translation seminar. She has high praise for Liyao and says she earned an A in the undergraduate classes and an A- in the graduate seminar, where she was competing with graduate students. “...Liyao demonstrated that her intellectual capacity was on a par with students we had admitted into graduate level study and played an active part in discussions....” She concludes by saying “I can think of no better candidate for your [scholarship] award, and give her my strongest recommendations.”

THANK YOU!
THANKS THIS YEAR, AS ALWAYS, TO ANNIE ANTLER AND HER DEDICATED SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE FOR THEIR TIME AND EFFORT.
(PHOTO: ANNIE ANTLER at the SPRING SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON.)
AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO DESERVING SFSU STUDENTS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WE DO AS AN ORGANIZATION, AND FUNDRAISING IS ALWAYS A PRIORITY.

There are three ways for you to contribute to the Gloria Spencer UWA Scholarship Fund. Two are easy, and the third is both easy and a whole lot of fun.

The #1 way to contribute: JOIN THE UWA
Join the UWA and send in two checks, $40 for membership dues and $ [you fill in the amount] for scholarships. A membership form is attached to this newsletter – if you have not already sent in a renewal for the current year, please do so. You are our ONLY source of funding. And if you have already joined, please pass along the form to a friend and encourage her/him to join.

The #2 way to contribute: SEND MONEY
Simply write a check, payable to “UWA” and drop it in the mail to: Connie Tallerico, 280 Dundee Drive, South San Francisco, CA 94080. Please indicate on the check that this is a scholarship contribution.

The #3 way to contribute: GO ON A CRUISE
Sign up for the next UWA Scholarship Cruise! The 2019 cruise is from Barcelona to Lisbon, a 12-day voyage from May 18 – May 30 on Oceania Cruises “Nautica.” This is the 23rd UWA cruise: You get a group discount on the cruise fee, and Oceania gives us one fare back for our scholarship fund if we have 16 participants. As of this moment, we have 10 people signed up. Now that summer 2018 has come and gone, it’s time for you to start thinking about what you want to do next year. The cruise begins in Barcelona, ends with an overnight in Lisbon, and it includes several historic and scenic ports in Spain, Gibraltar, the Canary Islands, and Tangier. If you have never been on a cruise, or have never cruised with Oceania, you will be impressed with the small size of the ship (just 684 guests), the elegant ambience, and the excellent cuisine. A cruise flyer with full details is attached, and you can call our travel agent, Tom Fell, Jr., if you need further clarification – or to sign up! Here are a few photos from the 2017 cruise, from Rome to Venice. Looks like fun, doesn’t it? Picture yourself in the cruise photos for 2019!

Sheila McClear and Sam Zapf
Birthday Girl Lily Gee with Betty and Cecilia Lam
Elaine Kohn with healthy snack.

“One day you will wake up and there won’t be any more time to do the things you’ve always wanted to do. Do it now.”
Paulo Coelho
It seemed to me that the UWA Executive Board Members were very busy this summer, so I asked them how they spent their summer vacations. Here are some of their responses (and your introduction to the members of the board.)

**Lily Gee, UWA President.** Lily toured Cambodia and Viet Nam recently, and this wasn’t her only trip of the summer—it seems rare to find her at home these days. Also, she was one of several board members who participated in our most recent UWA cruise from Rome to Venice (2017).

**Lin Ivory, Program Director & Newsletter Editor.** Bob and I spent five weeks in France, beginning and ending in Paris. We visited and explored all sites artistic, from the workshops of Leonardo di Vinci and Paul Cezanne, to 30,000 year-old cave paintings--five weeks featuring a different artist nearly every day and tours of every imaginable historic site and museum. Every few days we interspersed the art sites with visits to fabulous chateaus and gardens, medieval towns and castles, and one picturesque beach. And of course, every evening we over-indulged on fabulous French foods and wines. We left home with an extensive itinerary, but some of our most memorable days were things we just found along the way. One of these un-scheduled stops was a visit to the Chateau des Milandes, a castle near Sarlat in the Dordogne, the home of Josephine Baker. Truthfully, I had never heard of her. But as we walked through her fabulous chateau, I became fascinated by this woman, a Black American-born French entertainer, activist, and decorated war hero. She was born to a poor family in Missouri in 1906, sailed to France at the age of 19 and gained...
THE BOARD ABROAD, CONTINUED

instant success for her erotic dancing, performing practically nude on stage. She was one of the most celebrated performers to headline the Folies Bergère in Paris, and she was part of the artistic and intellectual scene in Paris in the 1920’s. She was friends with Hemingway and was painted by Picasso. She denounced her American citizenship and became a French national after encountering racial discrimination and segregation on an unsuccessful tour of America. She adopted 12 children of different heritages, her “Rainbow Tribe” – an inspiration for Angelia Jolie -- to show that people of all ethnicities and religious differences could get along. When the Germans invaded France in 1939, she aided the French Resistance by using her charms and influence to gather information from high-ranking officials and bureaucrats and reported back what she heard to French military intelligence. At the end of the war, she was awarded the Croix de guerre by the French Military, and was named a Chevalier of the Legion d’honneur by General Charles de Gaulle in person. She returned to the U.S. and performed in a national tour in 1951, receiving rave reviews, but she refused to perform for segregated audiences. She is noted for her contributions to the Civil Rights Movement and was named “Woman of the Year” by the NAACP. Baker was the first woman of color to become a world-wide entertainer and star in a major motion picture. Her chateau includes many of her outlandish stage outfits (including an infamous banana skirt), family photographs, and her military uniforms and medals. Most of the rooms are open to the public, including the nurseries where she raised her 12 children, and lavish bathrooms which were designed in the Art Deco style to match her favorite Dior perfume bottles. Probably more than you wanted to know about Josephine Baker, but really a fascinating woman who lived a rich, full life. And one of the most interesting unscheduled stops on our visit to France.

“Not all those who wander are lost.” J.R.R. Tolkien

Donna Ryan, Secretary to the Board & Retirement Representative.
Donna claimed not to have done anything exciting this summer, but she added that “The Ryan's will be going to Calistoga the end of August to the sprint car races, which we have been going to for many years. There is a group of us that stay for several days over Labor Day and the Ryan's stay for eight days.” That sounded pretty darned exciting to me.

Arlene Van Ness, Treasurer. Arline and Jim took a fantastic two week trip to China with National Geographic Expeditions. “Highlights included seeing the Forbidden City (Emperor’s Palace) and Tiananmen Square in Beijing, the terra cotta warriors near Xi’an, Reed Flute Cave in Guilin, Dazu Grottoes religious rock carvings near Chongqing, the Three Gorges Dam near Yichang, and the Yu Garden in Shanghai; climbing a section of the Great Wall; cruising the Li River, and the Yangtze River through the Three Gorges; and riding in a rickshaw (bike taxi), a sampan (small, flat, rowed boat), and a 187 mph ‘bullet’ train. We also spent most of a day at the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda in Dujiangyan, observing and feeding giant pandas and making panda cakes.”

And the Van Ness’s are off again this fall, on a National Park Tour. It’s hard to pin them down, too.
Ilona Vandergriff, Faculty Representative.

“I’ve been to Germany TWICE this summer, first at the end of May, then back for our daughter’s graduation from UC Santa Cruz, then back to Berlin for a few more weeks. Also made it to Dubrovnik for the first time this summer…it was just wonderful. Spent most of our time on the hotel terrace overlooking the Adriatic and old town…ah…life is good ;-)"

I’m continuing my research on language learners in social media spaces and was getting ready for my talk in Arizona this fall. You can find more information on this website: https://l2dl.arizona.edu/l2dl-2018-speakers/

★★★★★★★★

The following Executive Board Members were probably having too much fun to report on their summer vacations. Or perhaps they are still traveling? But they are included here so that you have a full listing of the members of your University Women’s Association Executive Board.

Annie Antler, Vice President and Scholarship Chair. [See photo of Annie on Page 3.]

Lorna Hill, Member at Large

Connie Tallerico, Membership Coordinator & Scholarship Opportunity Administrator

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

We lost two people in the last few weeks who were inspirational, each in her or his own way: Aretha Franklin and John McCain. Both will live on in our hearts and memories long after they are gone from this earth. We know Aretha Franklin as the Queen of Soul, for her music that was a magical blending of gospel and Rock & Roll. But she was more than “just” an entertainer. She was immersed and involved in the struggle for civil rights and women’s rights. Her songs "Respect" and "Natural Woman" became anthems of these movements for social change.

“We all require and want respect, man or woman, black or white. It's our basic human right.”

Aretha Franklin

And John McCain epitomized bravery, decency, and patriotism in everything he did, both as a prisoner of war and as a “maverick” in the Senate, fighting for what he believed in, even while battling terminal cancer. Whether or not you agreed with his political views, you have to admire his courage and strength of character.

“Do not despair of our present difficulties but believe always in the promise and greatness of America, because nothing is inevitable here. Americans never quit. We never surrender. We never hide from history. We make history.”

John McCain’s farewell address.