In Fall 2012, the BSC began collecting comprehensive demographic data so that we could track our performance in meeting our mission, which is to provide a quality, low-cost, cooperative housing community to university students, thereby providing an educational opportunity for students who might not otherwise be able to afford a university education.

Are we doing our very best to fulfill the vision of our founders and our 501(c)(3) nonprofit mission? This question is becoming ever more important as tuition and housing costs continue to climb. When there are seven times as many low-income and working class students at UC Berkeley as BSC bed spaces, it is not enough that we have zero vacancy and a long waitlist (1,400 in Fall 2016). It is important to know who we are serving.

In Fall 2012, we committed to collecting demographic data (beyond just numbers of students in UC Berkeley’s Educational Opportunity Program) every two years. In 2012 and 2014, this data was collected through a survey conducted by demographer Catherine Barry (Convent, Rochdale, Northside 2007-13).

Our Development Director,

UC Berkeley Provides BSC New Demographic Data
by Kim Benson | BSC Executive Director

LOS ANGELES
Sunday April 2, 2017, 12:00 - 2:00pm
The Loft at Liz’s, Fine Arts Gallery
453 S. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90036
$30, lunch and drinks

San Diego
Wednesday March 29, 2017, 6:00-8:00pm
Alesmith
9990 AleSmith Ct, San Diego, CA 92126
Free, no-host bar & food truck

RSVP required for both events!
bscroadtrip.eventbrite.com or contact
Madeleine Loh, mloh@bsc.coop or (510) 649-8984

“Who are we serving?” is an important question because of rising tuition and housing costs. There are seven times as many low-income and working class students at UC Berkeley as BSC bed spaces.
Madeleine Loh, has since formed partnerships with the UC Berkeley Office of Equity & Inclusion and Financial Aid and Scholarships Office, which provided aggregated demographic data for Fall 2016.

Data like this will help our Board of Directors and staff develop and tweak policies so that low-income students will continue to have priority access to our bed spaces.

**Parental Income of BSC Members**

Data like parental income of BSC members helps track our performance in ensuring access to low-income students. Our 2012 survey confirmed what we had seen anecdotally — that low-income students were not moving into our room and board houses. Changes in policy and procedure (for example, re-themed Cloyne into a substance-free house) are helping to reverse that trend.

**A key way we are meeting our mission is by stabilizing our rent. We have made significant cuts in operational expenses in recent years.**

- Savings in food cost - $50,000
- Savings in credit card transaction fees - $70,000
- Savings in financing fees - $50,000

However, cost reduction can only go so far. We need to expand our donor base as well. Currently, fewer than 4% of our alumni give back.
Isao was born in Washington State. His family owned farmland in an Indian reservation, where discriminatory alien land laws did not apply. His family later moved to Coyote, CA, a town of 150 residents which has since been absorbed into San Jose. His family and neighbors were Japanese strawberry farmers in what was known as “The Valley of Garden Delight” (now “Silicon Valley”).

To get to Berkeley, he flagged down a bus on the side of the highway. When he arrived in Berkeley and saw people waiting in groups on the street, he asked if they were waiting for a parade. That was his first urban experience.

To Isao, Berkeley was huge and cosmopolitan. Cloyne Court had more people than Coyote and his housemates were from everywhere. The first co-op he met during his workshift at Central Kitchen at Oxford Hall introduced himself by saying, “Hello, I am an Arab from Mosul, Iraq.”

Our cooperative structure was familiar to him as means of empowerment. When his family was forcibly “interned” at a Japanese internment camp, the only store was a cooperative. Later, a cooperative called the Strawberry Growers Association was important to the survival of his South Bay community of independent, immigrant farmers.

Co-ops remained important throughout his life. With the help of his UC Davis students, he helped to incubate the Davis Food Co-op and the Davis Farmers Market, both of which were originally run from his home.

After service as a US Army Correspondent in Korea, teaching Chemistry at San Jose High school and graduate studies at Stanford and Cornell, Isao has been with UC Davis since 1967. He is a professor emeritus of Asian American Studies and Community and Regional Development.

Isao has maintained a particular interest in empowering impoverished agricultural communities, including the Central Valley Partnership in California, the Rural Development Leadership Network working with minority rural leaders in the USA and the Asia Rural Institute training rural workers from the southern Hemisphere.
The slope in the front of the house is steep and uneven. It is also exposed to busy pedestrian traffic along Memorial Stadium. Resident efforts to domesticate and beautify are ultimately unsuccessful because of the lack of hardscape infrastructure. The hardscaping work would consist of leveling the ground, creating sensible pathways, and erecting privacy screens. We want to transform the grounds into a pleasant space for the Sherman Hall residents to relax, read, and socialize.

We have raised $4,164, enough to conduct a formal survey of the Sherman Hall grounds.

We hope to raise $25,000 by May 2017 so that the project can be completed this summer!

This is a constant topic at Sherman! We always dream how great our yard could be. During football season our yard becomes a hot spot for hundreds of people to hang out and dump their trash. This is a project our house is passionate about.

—Samantha Bonelli, House President

Support the Hardscape Project

Some of our current students do not know that Sherman Hall served a large number of male student boarders back in the 1960s. Among them was Paul Furukawa.

When Paul approached me about an ambitious project to improve the hardscaping in front of Sherman Hall, Executive Director Kim Benson, Maintenance Supervisor Dan Holm and I jumped at the opportunity. This extra help with Sherman Hall is very timely, as the BSC is slowly improving the “curb appeal” of our properties as part of our overall external relations strategy.

Paul is busy raising over $25,000 to fund the project — his labor of love. It has been an honor to work with someone so gentle, enthusiastic, and large-hearted. (Indeed, Paul has had a long career in social work, which included the U.S. Army, the San Antonio Police Department, and Camp CAMP for children and adults with disabilities.)

The Berkeley Student Cooperative is deeply grateful to Paul for bringing the warmth of our alumni community around Sherman Hall. Thank you, Paul, for demonstrating to alumni (and future alumni) the stewardship that will sustain the BSC for years to come.

Paul Furukawa, Sherman Hall Boarder (1962-65)

Sherman Hall House Manager Mirella Garcia turned in cash donations to Central Office. Incredibly, Sherman Hall students raised $576 dollars!
To bid farewell to her stay in Cloyne Court over her final summer in Berkeley, Susan Babbitt hosted an Omelette Party with some Hoyt Hall residents. The theme for this party was inspired by the breakfast and brunch shifts.

In late 1969, Randy, a young woman from Oakland who was said to have ties to the Black Panthers, decorated the second floor of Hoyt with zodiac figures copied from a popular set of Peter Max-like postcards. Early in the next year she decided to alter the Virgo, with the results you see. There was a house meeting about the matter.

In defense of my housemates, no one objected to the Black Virgo because of her color. The objections were made to the rifle and to the book she was carrying, *The Quotations of Chairman Mao*. I was usually at the library trying to stay awake, but I seem to recall that the paintings had been done, and altered, on Randy’s initiative. I don’t know how long they remained on the walls.

The “Black Virgo”
In November 2016, Hoyt Hall hosted a small gathering of alumni to learn and chat about the history of Hoyt Hall. Margie (Miller) Guillory prepared a wonderfully researched presentation on the history and traditions of this women-only house.

We learned that in May 7, 1953, the Berkeley Student Cooperative bought Hoyt Hall from Mrs. Olivia Price, who lived across the street, for $50,000, including all furniture, fixtures and equipment. Assistant Dean of Women Alice G. Hoyt attended the dedication of Hoyt Hall.

Attentive alumni and students leaned in closer as Margie also told us about traditions that have endured through the years. Towards the end of the evening, the group conversation turned to the recent presidential election and the importance of political engagement. Thank you to all the Hoyt Hall managers, including Aiko Gonzalez (Social), Zsasha Flores (Kitchen), and Jess Haro (Board Director), for organizing your housemates and opening your doors to alumni. We are planning a larger Hoyt Reunion on Sunday November 12, 2017.

“Super event! We enjoyed it so much. It also made us feel better about the future, being with all of you smart and active young women. Again, thanks to all the current Hoyt women for making our Herstory Night possible.”

- Joanna Beck
(Hoyt Hall 1967-72)
Haven of empowered women! Leaders in the feminist movement!

Hoyt Hall basked in many exciting traditions including birthday celebrations for each member, Halloween parties, Special Dinners, etc. Photo (A) depicts the group of Hoyt residents from Fall 1957. Photo (B) depicts the 1970 Winter Holiday Party themed “Angels & Humans” which included The House Talent Show. Photo (C) shows one of the house’s execution of celebrating a member’s birthday. Finally, photo (D) depicts the members of 2012 during their celebration of Special Dinner. — Margie Guillory’s Presentation
On September 25, 2016, we celebrated the 50th birthday of the Ridge Project, or Casa Zimbabwe (“CZ”), as it is now known. The cost of building CZ was $1.5 million. The story of how we cobbled together $1.5 in the early 1960s tells you how respected the Co-op was for its vision.

In 1966, UC Berkeley had 27,000 students. About 3,200 students lived in university dormitories. The rest had to find housing in private residences, the Greek system, and the Co-op. The Co-op had 700 bed spaces, and our waitlist had 500 students.

Besides a housing shortage, students contended with housing discrimination. The Fair Housing Act, which outlawed discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in the sale or rental of dwellings, would not be enacted until 1968. If you meet a Cal graduate from the 1940s, 50s, or 60s who is a person of color, chances are they lived in the Berkeley Student Cooperative.

The general manager of the Co-op, Hal Norton, and the Board of Directors decided to construct a new building to expand to meet the needs of low-income students. “Ridge Project,” would include a new co-ed housing facility, modern Central Kitchen and warehouse facility.

The community and UC Berkeley were hugely supportive. A letter from Chancellor Clark Kerr to Co-op President Tom Surh reads:

“I would like to express my admiration for the progress you and your associates have made in the current building campaign and to offer my continued support of the USCA.

While the University is making every effort possible to expand residential facilities for its students, it must necessarily rely upon the construction of housing by private agencies such as yours. The USCA has had a remarkable record over the past 30 years in providing truly cooperative living for some 20,000 students, many of whom couldn’t ever have come to the University were it not for the self-help program of your organization. The co-op students are known for their fine academic record, for the contribution to the community and for their open door policy in accepting members.”

$340,000 came from a commercial loan. The rest came from the Cowell Foundation and Co-op’s many friends and alumni.

Interestingly, 140 UC Berkeley
faculty members also donated. Ted Akulian, a recent graduate, led the faculty fundraising team composed of students. Co-op members cornered their professors and said: “I’m in your class because of the Co-op. If I can’t live in the Co-op, you will lose people like me as a student. The student body of UC Berkeley would be only those who are wealthy enough to afford to live here. So please help us.”

The birth of Ridge Project, or Casa Zimbabwe, was a result of hundreds of people — including the Chancellor, faculty, alumni, and other donors — who not only valued education, but also shared a common observation that not all people have equal access to education. They saw the Co-op as a solution to inequality and injustice.

Thank you to everybody who took part in our celebration of CZ! I would like to extend a special thanks to our volunteers who provided service with a smile on a hot day: Gretchen Taylor, Richard Lira, Jon and Sandy Lampman, John Ehrlich, Karen Tkach, Khai Nguyen, Roci, Maddy Giles, and BSC Board members Kevin Ramirez, Dashiel Stander and Lorenzo Galdon.

The CZ management team showed true leadership, organizing cleaning crews and rallying the house. Co-op member Tim Blair and his crew of workshifters provided event logistics.

In the year before the event, the reunion committee provided encouragement and advice: Rami Rubin, Bill Ball, Rodney Ferguson, Koushik Datta, Elissa Roy, and Selena Feliciano.

Kim Benson, BSC Executive Director, lived in Casa Zimbabwe as a student

Photos by Fox Nakai
Thank You 2016 Donors!

The Berkeley Student Cooperative thanks the following donors for their financial support in 2016. The BSC uses donations for significant renovations, IT upgrades, scholarships, and programs that support our mission.
Alumni Notes

Esther Lee Alpern
Lexington, Sherman Hall 1943-47

There are so many memories of the best time of my life: staying-up all night studying, coming in late after lock-up, picnics, and Oxford Hall.

My workshifts were central kitchen duties, mopping floors, dusting, house maintenance. I remember Marie (Miller) Lowell, Carl Johnson, Bob MacDonald, Arno Reifenberg, Bill Wilson, Florence Frisch, Anita Fefferman, Phyllis Clements.

I volunteer as a teacher, tutoring and story-reading to a kindergarten class at a nearby elementary school. I have been a docent for the last 28 wonderful years at the LA Zoo.

John Ashworth
Cloyne Court 1957-60

In my senior year, I was House Manager at Cloyne and also President. My first wife, Donna, lived in Stebbins and we met at a Board of Directors meeting. She is now deceased. We had four children, nine grandchildren and one great granddaughter. They are all alive and well. I lived in Campbell, CA for 33 years and served as mayor in 1985 and 1990. I am now retired and living in Santa Cruz with Kathy, my wife for the last 13 years. I would love to hear from any Cloyne men from my time period.

Patrice Audap
Barrington Hall 1970-72

I remember the anything-could-happen atmosphere, the freedom and the feeling that we were living during a time when so many things in society were changing. I thought the Campus was a beautiful place and still do. My shifts were running the dishwasher, food prep at Central Kitchen, and helping with Sunday morning breakfast. I remember studying in the study room which was dark but quiet, hanging out in people's rooms, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, wine dinners, suntanning on the roof, a guy named Phil bringing his little green sports car into the main room to work on it, and just having a lot of fun with lots of interesting people. I am still in touch with Beth Harris, Curtis Cornelius, and Ran Klarin. I am a teacher and love my work but am also looking forward to retirement. I married, had one child and divorced. I lived in Alaska for about fifteen years, and Japan for two years and am now back in the Bay Area. It would be fun to talk to people who lived in Barrington during the years 1970-1971 and 1971-1972.

Jim Ausman
Chateau 1990-93

We were a wild and unruly bunch, our house managers included an Anarchist and a Communist. We were focused on activism, both on and off campus. We also threw raging parties and Green Day played our house. My favorite memory of Chateau was when the new Freshman class came in and I saw Anita Cardenas for the first time and fell head over heels in love. She felt the same way about me and we ended up dating for three years and sharing Room 5, the best double in the house. I ended up marrying another Chateauvian, Bao-Tran Truong, but Anita and I still communicate every day and remain best friends. There are so many great and memorable people that lived there, including the “Naked Guy” Andrew Martinez,
who was a sweet and sensitive soul, “Mr. Chateau” Tom Canepa and J. Kehaulani Kauanui, who is a great out and proud bisexual who inspired me during my struggle with my own sexuality.

Most of my workshifts involved CO: I was the Board Secretary, then a Board Rep, then VP of Finance and even President over the summer. I also did pot wash my last semester there after being deposed from The Board.

My first real experience with community was at Chateau and it endures as my closest circle of friends. I have a great job at Google and a happy marriage with two beautiful children and I really do owe all of it to the Co-Ops.

Al Cohen
Barrington 1956-60

During the spring semester of 1960, the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) returned to San Francisco to continue its harassment of people who dared to question the status quo. This time the HUAC subpoenaed one of the students living at Barrington, Doug Wachter, the son of a Bay Area socialist leader. Large numbers of Barrington residents joined hundreds of people loudly protesting the HUAC at the courthouse in San Francisco. The police responded by turning on the fire hoses and washing the protesters down the courthouse steps. That evening many hundreds of protesters— including most of the 65 who were arrested— held a meeting in the Barrington dining room to plan further demonstrations against the HUAC. The HUAC never again returned to the Bay Area.

John Dolan
Oxford Hall 1959-61

I have attached a photo of my girlfriend, Masako Takagi, and I on a Berkeley CORE picket line in front of Hink’s department store in 1961. I met Masako at a dance given at Oxford Hall in 1960, and we were married in 1962.

As a member of Berkeley CORE I went on the Freedom Ride in the summer of 1961. We had our 50-year reunion in 2011 and were on the Oprah show. There are not many of us left. I entered medical school at UCSF the Fall of 1964, and was studying 19 units of anatomy while Berkeley students, including my sister-in-law, were arrested for occupying Sproul Hall during the Free Speech Movement.

I want to mention three other Oxford alumni. Richard Arthur was a high school friend and we hooked up again at Oxford Hall. We are still close friends. Berkeley at that time had the most prestigious physics department in the world. Shang Ma was a very brilliant physics student and was in a special program for especially gifted students. Berkeley for his 40’s. Finally, Willie Kelly was the only black person in Oxford Hall when I was there. He was an asthmatic and we met years later when I treated him in the ER for his asthma. We became friends and socialized, but, unfortunately, he died of an asthma attack at the age of 49.

Geoff & Cathy Croker Dolbear

Cloyne Court, Stebbins 1958-61

Geoff came to Cloyne Court as a freshman in 1958. In May of 1959, Cloyne had a forty-hour basketball game against the guys at Bowles Hall. You signed up and played 30 or 60 minute shifts. On the 2 am shift Sunday morning I played with three guys from Santa Rosa who became lifelong friends. One, Buzz Shelly, was my best man, and I was his. I think our game was in the Guinness book of records.

Cathy, after spending her freshman year at UC Davis, joined Geoff at Cal, coming to Stebbins in the fall of 1959. They got married in the summer of 1961, moving to an apartment on Hopkins Street. In 1962, they moved to the peninsula, and Geoff earned his PhD at Stanford in January 1966. Geoff became an industrial research chemist, and they moved to Delaware and later to Maryland before settling in Southern California in 1975. They raised a daughter and a son, and now have three grandchildren. They followed the kids to Texas in 2008. Cathy’s passion is interior design and decorating, while Geoff is hooked on fly fishing.

Marian (Henry) Gold
Hoyt Hall 1975-76

Discovering Hoyt was like finding a long-lost big sister. Hoyt was quiet, something like an old-fashioned boarding house with cool, calm rooms to hide out in; there was even an old-school telephone switchboard that was baffling at first but that I learned to operate on my five-hour work shift. Our workshifts saved us money, helped us get to know each other, brush up on life skills like cooking for 60 people, and provided a level of structure, beyond academics, that I personally needed.

Hoytians came from many backgrounds with a wide range of interests. Quite a few were studying STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and math), including always-affable Julie, the maintenance manager who was studying to be an engineer. There were aspiring psychologists, economists, educators and at least one budding politico.

Hoyt was a great place to study. Hoytians generally avoided raised voices, a real contrast to the exuberant, often anti-establishment Barrington Hall. Hoytians were also self-reliant. Notwithstanding our independence, visitors often found ways to help out. One example of this was a guy who built a rocking chair for his girlfriend. We had some wine parties on the roof, but nobody dove off it or crashed through glass doors. Hoytians enjoyed parties at other co-ops but were happy to return to peace and quiet at our home-away-from-home.
After paying my way through two years at UC Berkeley, I was lucky to have almost no debt.

My one regret about my experience in the co-op is that I didn’t keep in touch with friends from Hoyt. I am retired now, and I would very much enjoy catching up with Hoytians I knew in 1975-76. If anyone else feels the same way, I would love to hear from you! mariang1920@gmail.com

Randy Hall
Kingman 1977-79

We had inherited Kingman Hall from Ken Keyes’ “Living Love Center,” which had moved to Oregon. One room in the basement – the one demanding the most points – was labeled the “guru’s room.” Some of my favorite memories include crawling hundreds of feet through a dark culvert in the back yard to reach the ideal spot for picking blackberries. The time two fraternity brothers peeked through my window, wanting to investigate the secret room that they just knew existed under the front porch. The Sikh-inspired community across the street, where members dressed completely in white, and the devotees of Reverend Moon who played dodgeball outside their nearby house on Sunday mornings. The delicious meals and the unusual meals, including one entirely made from flowers and another with whole beef tongue (which I happen to love). The sadness we all felt after the murders of Harvey Milk and George Moscone.

Most of all, I remember Kingman as a time when we, as young adults, built character through the responsibility we were given. We learned to adapt. Over the December break, the north side had been inundated by an explosion of the mouse population. Mice appeared on almost every floor. Janice – a recent transfer student – moved into Kingman on January 19, 1978, after wanting out from her assignment at Rochdale Village. We met the day she moved in, on the stairs between the 1st and 2nd floor.

We have celebrated that anniversary every year since. This summer we celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary.

Gordon Herscher
Oxford Hall 1973-76

Jim, who was the cook at Central Kitchen, told me to move the orange crate for some reason. When I came in from moving the truck he asked if I liked driving it and I said yes and the rest was history. My work shift was driving the orange crate around the co-op system delivering dinner. I always had a truck helper along. On Sundays I also did a trash run. I was also elected work shift manager senior year. We really had some characters such as Luis Garcia, Kedar Stanbury, Ruben Martinez, Carl Spalding, Bea Wiedmer, Mark Dodge, Marc Sarconi, Steve Figoni, Bunny Chase, Donna Angel, Terence Wong, John Box, Wendy Bedacht, Larry Erickson, Frances Loden, Vince Mc Govern, Julie Bycroft, Marshall Foletta, Tom Foster, Casey Donovan, Russ Button and the late Greg Alark. The list could go on and on. We also had some great parties. Russ was always one of the organizers along with Marla Koss.

These days I enjoy traveling: Thailand, Hong Kong, Italy, Greece, Germany, Malta, Vietnam, Cambodia, New Zealand and Israel. I would love to hear from anybody from Oxford Hall, 1973-76.

Barbara Merat Hughes
Sherman Hall 1956-59

I have wonderful memories of my time at Sherman—water fights with the boarders, winning the ‘Ugly Man Contest’ on campus, playing practical jokes on other residents, sunbathing jokes on the roof until caught by Mrs. DeWolf, and many more.

My work shifts improved with seniority. As a Freshman my first shift was vegetable preparation at the Central Kitchen at Oxford Hall on Friday afternoons (the worst), next Baker’s assistant at CK—not bad, cutting and packing the sweet rolls for the next days breakfast, Dishwasher (either scraping, washing, or drying), Kitchen Supervisor for Dinner, Linen Manager (very easy), J-Com (Judicial Committee) Chairman—overseeing all evening signing in and out as well as overnights (unheard of today), and Scholarship Chairman for the Co-op system.

I have remained in contact with some of my roommates and friends—Judy Lanen Grange, Joan Hilgendorf, Mehn, Sandie Leidecker Deighton. Li Chu has organized several lunches at her home for those of us who shared our years of residents at Sherman. It has been great fun to come together after more than 50 years apart.

I am retired and occupy my time taking classes, attending lectures, some volunteer work, exercising, traveling, and getting together with old friends and new. I retired in ’09 and my "To-Do List of Projects” has barely been touched I’m ashamed to say.

Always glad to hear of or from residents and boarders at Sherman when I lived there.

Richard (Dick) Kaufmann
Cloyne 1966-68

One day I walked in the front door and several members of the new Black Panther Party were explaining their beliefs to about twenty of us downstairs. One evening Bob Reyes was sharing what he learned of the new found virtues of pre-stressed concrete in large construction works.

Another evening we were quietly considering whether to join a boycott of classes in support of the anti war (Vietnam) protests the next day.

Rarely a week passed when we were not talking for several days about one or other latest news bites in the house. Good food for young minds.

Daniel Kronovet
Casa Zimbabwe, Andres Castro Arms, Lothlorien, Kingman 2009-2012

My top memories were Castro sunsets, defending Castro against the Cloyne raid, and Lothlorien’s Room 3. My workshifts were mostly at board as President, Vice President, and ET. I had a few cooking shifts in the houses, though – CZ, Castro, Loth. Characters? Alfred Twu is always an asset. I liked Josh Weil and his friends at CZ. Basically everyone in Castro is
wonderful. I liked Kingman’s farmers.

I’m now a graduate student in math and computer science. I think about information and representation and look for patterns all day.

Jon Lampman
Barrington, Cloyne 1967-69

My favorite memories include an introduction to coop values, eating breakfast and dinner in a collegial setting, learning how to navigate the house politics (failed at Barrington, successful at Cloyne). At Barrington, I was assigned to clean floors with a mop and pail. I also worked as a baker's helper in the Central kitchen and enjoyed tasting sweet rolls after the shift. At Cloyne I received double credit for cleaning pots and pans, made sandwiches and enjoyed two quarters as the house social chairman.

One of my roommates at Barrington came from a very poor background, majored in architecture and saved money on textbooks by purchasing them two weeks before the final so he could receive a full refund. Dave made excellent grades and gave me sage advice about women.

I enjoy interacting with students and young alumni in my duties as a Director for the Coop Alumni Board. I also enjoy planning events and volunteering for the Special Give campaign.

Rich Laursen
Barrington Hall 1956-60

I spent my summers as a caretaker at Barrington Hall. As part of the caretaking deal, I did various odd jobs at Barrington and other houses. One of those jobs included converting the unfinished area behind the kitchen at Barrington into sort of a recreation room, which became a convenient place to show what were known around the campus—before the advent of the Internet—as "travelogues.”

There were a number of “characters” at Barrington: the fellow who got stopped one night by the campus police while trying to scale the Campanile using pitons driven between the stone blocks. The grizzled and profane 7-year Korean War Navy veteran (R) who loved opera and was majoring in Latin, who, as Workshift Manager, chose as his own two roommates—to see what would happen—an Israeli and an Arab; and also, after a father delivered his freshman son to Barrington and left saying, “You’ll be sure that he has a white man as a roommate, won’t you?” made certain that the kid had one of the very few black students as a roommate (they got along fine).

I formed lasting friendships with Don McCallum, a former roommate, who became a Professor of Art History at UCLA, and died a couple of years ago, and Al Cohen, who became a Professor of Chinese at the University of Massachusetts.

I ended up as a Professor of Chemistry at Boston University—from 1966 until 2009, when I retired—but where I am still working. I now develop new methods for analyzing dyes in textiles—particularly archeological textiles. There is virtually no financial support available for this sort of work, but fortunately it doesn’t cost much and is a lot of fun because it combines chemistry with fields such as botany, art, archaeology and history, and has provided an excuse to travel to various interesting places, like many parts of China, Iran, Uzbekistan, etc.

It is said that one's life is greatly influenced by one's environment at the age of 20; maybe it is true.

Mark Sarconi
Oxford Hall 1975-77

I was in a quad with Mike Reinsch, Terrance Wong, and Roy Marubayoshi. My first jobs were cleaning toilets and washing dishes; never at the same time. By the time that Oxford closed, I had been the switchboard manager and the president. I was house president when Oxford was sold due to seismic stability concerns. We took the attached group photo in front of the building on June 11, 1977, just before it closed. I was one of three people hired to move Oxford Hall belongings to the Chateau, along with Glenn Büssy and Dave Holman.

Some of my favorite memories: our vending machines; and our showers were co-ed even back then. Parties at Oxford were great, and I met many friends. I remember having a reception before a special dinner on the median strip that divides Oxford Street. The cops showed up and ordered everyone to go back inside the building. That did not go over well with everyone and chants of "Attica" went out. Eventually, our house manager, Tony Wexler, was able to diffuse the situation and get everyone to move back inside.

I met my best friend and wife, Claire Johnson, when she moved into Oxford in the fall of 1975. We didn't become a couple, however, until the fall of 1977 while I was living at Rochdale and she was living at Chateau (Oxford's replacement).
For workshifts I looked for the five-hour ones to get them out of the way first. My first one was in the Central Kitchen at 8am standing over a sink washing spinach. It was cold work, so after a few weeks I switched to the evening telephone shift at the men’s dorm on Oxford. Several volunteered to drive me home but went beyond with their own intentions in mind.

Fortunately, they all responded to reason.

I was a journalism major which included English, History & Economics as requirements. We were required to help the war effort. My roommate and I signed up for Nurse’s Aide, a two-unit course for training, then 4 hours work on Saturdays at the University hospital in San Francisco. Then I took the Red Train (Key System) to Oakland to read to my regular blind student.

Two friends at Sherman Hall caused a frightening episode one Saturday when their Navy boyfriends came to call. Waiting downstairs in a full lobby, they looked up to see our newest member, Japanese, start down the stairs. They shouted epithets and moved in her direction. We managed to restrain them until their dates could usher them out. This incident made us all deeply aware of the hate instilled in servicemen.

After Sherman Hall I got a job at the Oakland Tribune, and then met my husband when I went to Los Angeles to attend the wedding of my Sherman Hall roommate, Renee Schneider. I accompanied her to interview the rabbi and attended her shower, and met the groom’s friend who was to accompany me after the wedding. As a “goy,” I was not invited to attend the orthodox wedding ritual. My date, Mark Norberg, picked me up and took me to the restaurant for the wedding party. We spent a very pleasant evening getting acquainted.

Mark and I have had a happy marriage despite parental opposition and many twists and turns. Our four children have all turned out well. The eldest, whom you all know as “Dress,” lived in Barrington Hall. His youngest brother Sheldon used to visit Barrington as a child. I was unaware of what went on there, and let him go.

I later returned to college for a teacher’s credential and spent 20 years substitute teaching every subject in middle and high schools in five different cities, ending in Roseville, my home town. I retired 25 years ago. We now live in San Leandro, but am still active in several organizations, particularly those which promote feminism.
I first met Li when I was helping to organize the Sherman Hall reunion in 2010. She quickly became a strong presence in my work for the Berkeley Student Cooperative — including editing pages and lists of spreadsheets, reviewing drafts of correspondence, and gathering her alumni friends together, and, most importantly, listening. I considered her a mentor and thought partner.

Li had a simple, direct style, but she was grand in her philanthropy and passion for the things that mattered most. I sincerely hope she knew how much I admired and valued her.

Of Chinese and Japanese heritage, Li was born in Shanghai, China, but at age 6 followed her siblings to Woodstock School, an international missionary school in Northern India. In 1954, her parents moved to Tangier, Morocco where Li attended an American school and later a French high school-lycée, passing the rigorous French baccalauréat exam. As her siblings had done before her, she attended UC Berkeley and moved into the BSC. At Sherman Hall, Li was a highly respected House Manager.

Li earned a degree in biochemistry in 1964 and a master’s in nutrition three years later. She had an accomplished career at pharmaceutical companies Burroughs Wellcome and Alza Corporation. Outside of work, Li was an active volunteer and philanthropist.

Li’s generosity was pivotal in making the retrofit at Sherman Hall possible. She passed away four months after her brother, TZ, after struggling with stomach cancer.

TZ arrived in the U.S. in 1953 to study chemistry at UC Berkeley. He lived in Ridge House from 1953 to 1958, saving on expenses and gaining self-confidence through increasing leadership responsibilities until he assumed the position of BSC President. As an alumnus, TZ was forthcoming with his warm encouragement of the BSC’s endeavors.

In his post-college career, TZ made great contributions to the biotech analytical instruments industry, and attributed his success in part to his Co-op experience. He is featured in the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History’s new permanent exhibit “Many Voices One Nation” as an immigrant who made significant contributions to our country.

We will forever remember TZ fondly and with gratitude for his many years of support for the BSC and our students, and for leaving the BSC a legacy gift that will help us serve generations of students to come.
David Cline (1992-2016)
David perished in the Ghostship warehouse fire in Oakland. The following was written by his best friend and Stebbins Hall roommate, Conner Wilson.

David conjured something uniquely beautiful and strange out of all of us who were his friends. For me, he conjured out a surreal and ecstatic joy. It was complete catharsis from the pain I usually sit with; I still get this release when I remember our laughs together. We often tried to outdo one another, but he'd always go further. What started as a dare-on-film for him to eat grass while wearing pink sunglasses ended up with us still filming three hours later, spitting colored milk on each other in a Stebbins bath tub. There are so many other absurd incidents. We had discovered a way to pull the wildest thoughts out of the back of the other’s mind, abandoning social precepts, anxieties, and sadness. We had a subconsciously disturbed telepathy when it came to artistic ideas. If he were still here, I’d suggest we go to a psychologist together for good caution.

David loved in such an unabashed way, it was contagious. I’ve never loved someone so unreservedly, and without fear. His love took on his signature goofiness. If I looked closely though, I could see how much love there was, brimming past whatever dumbass expression he had playing on his face. It was an engulfing feeling.

I was jetlagged and trying to fall asleep on David’s couch in Berkeley. He wouldn’t let me; he kept me up laughing for hours. When I told him I needed to sleep, he forced upon me Honey Bunches of Oats instead. This was the night before David passed away, and this memory has become a poetic representation of our friendship. I do know he’s so deeply engrained into who I am, that I no longer fear losing him. David still is my best friend.

Garden Goddess Dedicated in Honor of Lulu Falls
by Nancy Blattel, Shelley Watson, and Alfred Twu

On July 24, 2016, family and friends gathered with elves of all ages in the Lothlorien garden to dedicate a statue in memory of Founding Elf Lulu Falls. Sculptor and former elf Maria Michaelson, a working artist and teacher in the San Juan Islands of Washington created a piece that reflects Lulu’s spirit and love of life. The near life-size sculpture is made of painted ceramic; the surface is punctured with pinholes in a pattern of stars, lit by a solar and battery LED system. At night, the statue lights the garden with stars.

Current elves prepared a generous brunch and arranged offerings of flowers, fruit, and drink around the veiled statue. As the statue was uncovered, everyone was moved by the artistry and expression of this work of art.

The alumni shared stories of the founding of Lothlorien, which was purchased from the One World Family Commune. Lulu argued forcefully for vegetarian housing as none existed on campus at that time. Lulu’s mother Nancy shared that Lulu had been a vegetarian since childhood because of her love of animals, and remained dedicated to animal welfare causes throughout her life. The former General Manager of the BSC George Proper and others remembered Lulu’s reading from the Lord of the Rings at a board meeting, which resulted in Lothlorien’s name.

Alumni and students shared their stories and life perspectives between the generations and toured the houses. Lulu would have been so very pleased. It was fitting that the day was also the anniversary of Lulu’s bone marrow transplant, which she called her “second birthday.” Many of Lulu’s friends donated in her honor to make the sculpture possible, and they continue to generously donate to the co-op scholarship in her name. If you wish to donate, please go to: bsc.coop/donate.
Alumni Make Finals Easier

We are grateful to these BSC Alumni Association directors for showering our students with love, snacks, and blue books during finals week last semester!

Kelly Yun — Rochdale
Margie (Miller) Guillory — Hoyt Hall
Tori Partridge — Ridge House
Adrienne Ricker — Oscar Wilde House
Jon Lampman — Cloyne Court

These alumni used their own funds or raised support from friends, shopped, and distributed the treats. We hope that the entire BSCAA Board of Directors will be inspired by your example and support your continuing efforts.

A good reason to give.

SPECIAL GIVE
April 24-28, 2017

University of California tuition on the rise

UC regents approved the first tuition increase Thursday since 2011, raising tuition and the student services fee by nearly 3%, to $12,630. Students pay another mandatory fee that varies by campus, and currently averages $1,257. That will bring the average cost of attendance next year to $13,887, not counting room, board and books.

PRICES FOR CALIFORNIA UNDERGRADUATES

For 2017-18, the tuition increase is waived for students from families earning up to $156,000.

Special Give is the Berkeley Student Cooperative’s annual fundraising campaign during the last week of April. This year, the BSC and our volunteers aim to raise $100,000.
Donate to the BSC!
The BSC is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible.

☐ Choose your gift:

☐ $100.00
☐ $1,000.00
☐ $________
☐ $________ /Month
☐ Please tell me about Planned Giving!

☐ Choose your area of support

☐ Seismic Retrofit Fund
☐ Scholarship Fund
☐ Where It Is Needed Most

Join the Alumni Association
The BSCAA is a separate 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible. Questions about BSCAA programming and how the BSCAA is using your dues? Contact the President of the BSCAA, John Ehrlich (Barrington, 1974-77) at jehrlich2315@gmail.com

Lifetime Membership, BSC Alumni Association

☐ $500 Lifetime Membership
☐ $250 Recent Grad Lifetime Membership

Annual Membership, BSC Alumni Association

☐ $50 Annual Membership
☐ $20 Recent Grad Annual Membership

Mail in your contribution

☐ My check, payable to the BSC, is enclosed.
☐ Please charge my credit card $ _______________

Card No. __________________ Exp. Date _________
CVV/CSC No. _______________

Signature______________________ Date _________

Name_________________________
Address_______________________
Email_________________________
Phone_________________________

Co-op(s) you lived in and years: __________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

Address Update
bsc.coop/alumni/update

Moved? Changed your name? Different email address? Let us know so we can keep you informed about local events and BSC news that matters to you. Use the online form, or contact Madeleine Loh at (510) 649-8984 or mloh@bsc.coop

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR FALL 2017 ISSUE

MAY 1, 2017

We welcome your submissions! Submissions may be edited for length and clarity, and publication may be postponed.
mloh @bsc.coop
The mission of the Berkeley Student Cooperative is to provide a quality, low-cost, cooperative housing community to university students, thereby providing an educational opportunity for students who might not otherwise be able to afford a university education.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

• Plans for Hoyt Hall Reunion
• Sherman Hall Hardscape
• CZ/RP 50th Anniversary Block Party
• New Demographic Data
• Alumni in the News
• Alumni Events in SoCal

CZ managers Laurel Riley, Sahar Priano, Josh Erdtsieck, Steven Moctezuma, Casey Harch, Erika James, and Matt MacDonald led by example and made our CZ/RP Reunion a success. Photo by Fox Nakai.