

# PRYTANEAN ALUMNAE, INC.

DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Spring 2024

### Come to Our Annual Prytanean Alumnae Brunch

Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Buffet Brunch and Coffee Service

#### The Prytanean Great Room at the Bancroft Hotel

2680 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

(Across the street from the main campus, near the intersection of Bancroft Way and College Avenue; **Parking Availability**: Hotel (limited, hourly), Bancroft Avenue Campus Lots, Underhill Campus Parking Structure, Street Parking)

Joining: Friends, both Old and New, Near Our Beautiful Campus

Featuring: Dr. Samantha Lewis, 2023 Faculty Award Winner and Hayes Martens, our Investment Counselor from Fisher Investments

Honoring: The Class of '74, 50 Year Membership Milestone

Announcing: Student Award Recipients, Upcoming Events and Initiatives

Congratulating: The Graduating Seniors

Including: Our Business Meeting and Board Member Election

**RSVP by Mail Postmarked by Friday, March 22, 2024.** Mail your RSVP with the form in this newsletter to: Prytanean Alumnae, Inc., P.O. Box 5075, Berkeley, CA 94705 and enclose a check payable to: Prytanean Alumnae, Inc. for \$35 per person (\$20 per person for Classes 2013-2023).

#### RSVP Online via Eventbrite by Friday, March 29, 2024.

Eventbrite: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-prytanean-annual-spring-meeting-tickets-846544325867?aff=oddtdtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-prytanean-annual-spring-meeting-tickets-846544325867?aff=oddtdtcreator</a> to respond and pay for the brunch online.

#### Please direct any questions to

prytanean.alumnae.events@gmail.com

#### Prytanean Faculty Award Reception (continued from above)

Chancellor Christ and Cynthia Golembeski, Faculty Award Chair, presented Dr. Lewis with flowers and the award for outstanding scholarship, teaching, mentoring, leadership, and service. Dr. Lewis graciously accepted the award, shared her success with colleagues, friends, and family, and credited her son Tevian for reminding her of the importance of her work. President Tina Cheung acknowledged Helen Marcus' generous wine donation, convened group photos, and opened the celebration to insightful conversation, food, drink, and fellowship.

-Cynthia Golembeski '97, Faculty Awards Chair

# Celebrating 2023 Prytanean Alumnae Faculty Enrichment Award recipient Dr. Samantha Lewis

On January 22, 2024, Chancellor Carol Christ hosted a reception for Dr. Samantha Lewis, recipient of the Prytanean Alumnae Faculty Enrichment Award and a \$35,000 grant. Prytanean Honor Society students, Prytanean Alumnae, colleagues, friends, and family gathered at University House to honor Dr. Lewis, Assistant Professor of Cell Biology, Development and Physiology. Previous Award winners Daniela Kaufer (2010), Diana Bautista (2012), Henrike Lange (2020), and Grace Gu (2021) were among over 55 guests in attendance.

Chancellor Christ remarked, "I want to take this moment to remind you that the Prytanean Honor Society's history—and your inspirational legacy—do not exist in isolation for a small segment of our community. You are part of a larger family of compassionate, forward-thinking, generous friends who are committed to Berkeley's excellence and future—for all."

(continues below left)



Chancellor Carol Christ, Dr. Samantha Lewis (2023 Faculty Awards Winner), and Cynthia Golembeski, Prytanean Alumnae Awards Chair

#### **Message from the President**

Dear Prytanean Alumnae,

Prytanean Alumnae held its inaugural retreat at the Lair of the Golden Bear—Camp Oski last August, and it was a resounding success. Five Prytanean alumnae, along with family and friends, came together for a memorable weekend, reconnecting, building community, and celebrating our shared Cal spirit and tradition. We were also grateful to hang our new banner in our camp circle, a generous gift from the California Alumni Association (CAA).

During our retreat, we enjoyed meals, campfires, and Cal songs, and we also ventured outside camp to rent a boat and soak up the sunshine at Pinecrest Lake. On-site, we engaged in various activities, including tie-dyeing shirts and lanyards at the art shack, stargazing, enjoying sunset strolls, and indulging in a picnic by the lake.

In October 2023, we had the pleasure of hosting our annual Prytanean Homecoming Lecture in person for the second time since the pandemic. Professor Jessica Lu, our esteemed 2018 Faculty Award Winner and Associate Professor and Department Chair of Astronomy, delivered a fascinating talk on black holes and their detection. We were delighted to see over 116 members of the Cal community, including faculty, alumni, students, and the public, in attendance.

In January 2024, Chancellor Carol Christ joined us to co-sponsor the 2023 Faculty Awards Reception, where we recognized the outstanding contributions of our newest faculty award recipient, Professor Samantha Lewis, Assistant Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology. Cynthia Golembeski '99 introduced Professor Lewis and we were thrilled to announce that the Prytanean Faculty Award has been increased from \$25,000 to \$35,000 annually.

As we move into the spring, we are excited to welcome new initiates into our fold at our upcoming Spring Honor Society Initiation Ceremony, which will take place on campus.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your unwavering support, contributions, and donations over the past year. A special shoutout to the California Alumni Association for their invaluable grants, which supported our Prytanean Retreat, Homecoming Lecture, and Faculty Award Reception. I want to express my gratitude to my fellow Board members for their dedication and commitment to Prytanean and the Cal community.

Lastly, please join us at our Spring Annual Meeting, which will be held in person at the Bancroft Hotel on Saturday, April 6, 2024, from 9am to 12pm. Your presence would mean a lot to us.

Thank you again for being part of the Prytanean community and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Regards,

Tina Cheung '07, President of Prytanean

#### A Call for Volunteers

Would you like to contribute to Prytanean and reconnect with the Cal community and fellow alumni? If so, join our Board of Directors or volunteer interest list! We have several openings and are seeking passionate Prytanean alumnae to join us, particularly those with event planning/management, administrative, and/or connections to the Cal community and campus. Our board is diverse and includes Prytanean alumnae and Honorary members across graduating years. To learn more, please email <a href="mailto:PRYTPAL@GMAIL.COM">PRYTPAL@GMAIL.COM</a> and address inquiries to Tina Cheung, President with the subject title [Interest in Volunteering/Interest in Joining Prytanean Board of Directors]. Thanks!

#### Prytanean Alumnae Board 2023–2024

**President** Tina Cheung '07

Programs, Events & Prizes Chair Melissa Freeman '17

Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer Angela Dai '15

> **Faculty Awards Chair** Cynthia Golembeski '97

Student Awards Chair Michelle Nie '16

> Webmaster Andrea Rice '13

Honor Society Liaison Christine "Cici" Ambrosio '95, Hon. '03

Cal Alumni Association Liaison Leigh Genser '86, '95

> Campus Liaison Carlin Rae Cylwik '08

Honor Society President Laura Montoya '24

Membership Chair Vacant

**Secretary** Sana Shaikh, '11 (*interim*)

**Immediate Past President**Maria Protti '79

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Newsletter Editor Samantha Yates Francois '91



Chancellor Carol Christ and Prytanean President Tina Cheung

#### **Campaign Closing:**

**Light the Way**, a historic campaign to raise \$6 billion, launched in February 2020. Two weeks later, COVID-19 shuttered our world. The Cal community has always rallied to turn crisis into opportunity—and this time was no different.

Light the Way closed, and it is with awe and gratitude that we tell you we brought in more than \$7 billion—the largest amount ever raised by a public university without a medical school. Thanks to you, we will hire more faculty and establish new graduate fellowships. We will create new scholarships to get undergraduates here, and new programs to boost their success once they arrive. We will illuminate research solutions to the most complex challenges facing our planet and humanity. And we will invest in places of possibility, first-rate facilities where our faculty and students live, work, and learn.

As we step into 2024, we are also entering a new era of illumination at Berkeley. Thank you for lighting the way.

—Carlin Rae Cylwik '08, Campus Liaison

#### Financial Remarks

At year-end 2023, Prytanean Alumnae had total investment funds of \$1,787,802, a 19% increase from year-end 2022. Our largest investment portfolio, which is exclusively earmarked for the Prytanean Faculty Enrichment Award, grew to \$1,155,338. This portfolio is managed by Fisher Investments, with whom we have worked closely on long-term planning. Following in-depth discussions and cash flow analyses, we increased the amount of the Faculty Enrichment Award from \$25,000 to \$35,000 in 2023.

Prytanean's remaining investment funds of \$632,464 are managed as endowments by either UC Berkeley Foundation or UC Regents. These funds are dedicated to the Faculty Enrichment Award as well as various student scholarships: the Mary Wiley Stecker and Prytanean Women Awards in the College of Letters and Science, Engineering, Math and Science, and Architecture and Technology, and the Rowena Hamilton Memorial Scholarship. We are pleased to confirm that our investment funds are sufficient to continue awarding our annual \$35,000 Faculty Enrichment Award and student scholarships for the foreseeable future.

We had operating funds of approximately \$50,000 at the end of 2023. Membership dues and donations generally make up our operating revenue and support our operating expenses, including the costs of our annual newsletter, the Faculty Award Reception, the Annual Brunch, the Prytanean Retreat, database maintenance, plus the collegiates' Prytanean Honor Society operating budget, Campus Projects, and graduation stoles.

—Angela Dai'15, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

## Homecoming Lecture: Professor Jessica Lu "Black Holes and How to Find Them"



#### In Memoriam

ANNA HANLIN BAHME HON PHYLLIS KIMBALL BISHOP '36 KAREN BLANK '64 ROBERTA SWANBERG BLISS '69 PATRICIA KRIEGER BOEGE '54 LOELLEN ROCCA BONSER '46 LOIS RIVERS BRETON '50 JO ANN CHEESMAN '50 ANDREA DAVIDSON CHRISTIANSEN '67 CHRISTINA PFUND DEWEY '47 MAY NORDQUIST DIAZ HON. NANCY LEVY FRANK '51 NANCY PEPPIN HARRISON '56 MARILYN AHLPORT HART '54 CAROLYN OLSSON KERR '54 HELENA STEILBERG LAWTON '37 NANCY DAVIS MC CULLOUGH '52 PATRICIA O'KEEFE MC ELDOWNEY '41 VALERIE CARPENTER MESSER '56 ALICE KAJITANI NAKAHATA '57 JOAN CARR OLSSON '53 SHARLENE WILLHIDE PETERSEN '56 MARGARET "PEGGY" LAVIOLETTE POWELL '55 **GAYLE RIVERS '54** ROBIN HASELTINE ROBINSON '52 VIRGINIA STROUT ROGERS '36 CAROL COCHRAN SCHAFFNER '52 BEVERLY MENEND SEBANC '52 BARBARA BELL SERGEANT-WERUM '44 MARIE WALES STOTT '31 JEANNE HAMILTON WATSON '51 MARGARET SHOWER WATSON '44 ELIZABETH "BETTY" ANN HATFIELD WERTHER '49 DOROTHY BLOSSER WHITEHEAD '43 MILDRED KIEFER WURF '47

ALICE MARIAN "MIDGE" OLIVER ZISCHKE

#### Ways to Support Prytanean

**Through UC Berkeley Foundation:** Tax ID# 94-6090626

- Checks payable to UC Berkeley Foundation and mailed to:
  - University Development and Alumni Relations, UC Berkeley, 1995 University Ave., Suite 401, Berkeley, CA 94704-1058
- Credit and debit card gifts online at <a href="https://give.berkeley.edu/home">https://give.berkeley.edu/home</a>
- Contributions earmarked for Prytanean Faculty Enrichment Program (for Faculty Award), Prytanean Fund (for Honor Society programs), Rowena Hamilton Memorial Scholarship (for athletic scholarship for female student-athletes), or Mary Wiley Stecker and Prytanean Awards (for women in the College of Letters and Science, Engineering, Math and Science, or Architecture and Technology).

Please be aware we are unable to acknowledge and track the contributions from UC Berkeley Foundation.

Cumulative annual gifts to UC Berkeley Foundation totaling \$1000 or more are eligible for benefits in The Charter Hill Society (<a href="http://charterhill.berkeley.edu">http://charterhill.berkeley.edu</a>). For questions about gifts via electronic funds transfer, matching gifts, securities, gifts-in-kind, real estate, or planned gifts, contact Donor and Gift Services at <a href="gifthelp@berkeley.edu">gifthelp@berkeley.edu</a> or 510-643-9789.

#### Through Prytanean Alumnae, Inc. directly: Tax ID# 94-1514147

- Checks payable to Prytanean Alumnae, Inc. and mailed to P.O. Box 5075, Berkeley, CA 94705 or online through our PayPal account (prytpal@gmail.com).
- Dues \$35 for 2024 calendar year, \$20 for Classes of 2013–2023 only Dues are fully tax deductible
- Contributions earmarked for General Fund, and/or Faculty Enrichment Award

#### Prytaneans & Friends: Thank you for your support of Alumnae Projects

GENERAL FUND	GENERAL FUND	FACULTY AWARD	MEMORIAL/TRIBUTE
Andrews, Nanette	Lazzareschi, Carla	Andrews, Nanette	Anderson, Elaine
Atkinson, Kathryn	Lilly, Luella	Birgeneau, Mary Catherine	Champion, Susan
Baum, Erica	Lindley, Lois	Byrant, Marybeth	Deleray, Penelope
Bernstein, Betty	Lufkin, Lisbeth	Casazza, Rosa	Hawthorne, Patricia
Birgeneau, Mary Catherine	Marcus, Helen	Cox, Norma JoAnn	Kieling, Jan
Bishop, Phyllis	Marshall, Margaret	Deleray, Penelope	Langley, Louetta
Coulter, Jane	Mc Clain, Laurene	Ditzler, Nancy	Read, Katherine
Ditzler, Nancy	Mc Clellan, Nancy	Duncan, Ann	Schooler, Teresa De Luca
Duffala, Gail	McCutcheon, Janet	Duncan, Margaret	Upshaw, Carol
Duncan, Ann	McIntyre, Lynn	Finnie, Joan	
Dunn, Louella	Morrish, Marilyn	Francois, Samantha	
Finnie, Joan	Myers, Janet Willner	Giers, Caroline	
Francois, Samantha	Nakada, Lynn	Herney, Susan	
Franklin, Marion	Neri, Kathryn	Howekamp, Marily	
Gee, Jennifer	Rende, Nan	Kersten, Elisabeth	
Gerdes, Carol	Richard, Joann	Lazzareschi, Carla	
Hagiwara, Tanako	Riley, Jean	Liebau, Charleen	
Hansen, Constance	Robinson, Christina	Lobay, Elizabeth Ehm	
Hawthorne, Patricia	Stahl, Ann	McDonnell, Lorraine	
Heggie, Beatrice	Storaker, Marina	Skinner, Marsha	<b>基</b>
Herney, Susan	Swanson, Lynne	Steel, Mary	
Holtermann, Karen	Tanner, Marianne	Thorson, Elizabeth	
Howekamp, Marily	Thompson, Marilyn	Wendt, Mary Elizabeth	
Kersten, Elisabeth	Wendt, Mary Elizabeth		
Lazzareschi, Carla	Youmans, Kathleen		

#### Alum in the Spotlight

Linda Jo Fitz '66—Last Fall the Bay Area historical preservation community filled two levels of the San Francisco City Club at a Grand Gala to honor Linda Jo Fitz. Linda has been on the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Architectural Heritage for close to twenty years. That Heritage group works to preserve historic buildings and art in San Francisco, and recognized Linda's "lifetime contribution" toward that pursuit. Linda also has been a leader in the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR) and in the American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.). A philanthropist and certified planner, she co-started a successful wealth management firm, now called "Aspiriant." San Francisco Business Times named her as one of "The Most Influential Businesswomen" and Wealth Manager Magazine named her has "One of the Top 50 Women in Business." For years Linda gave sound investment guidance to Prytanean Alumnae, Inc. on a pro-bono basis, and generously answered financial questions at our annual Spring brunch.

-Maria Protti '79, Immediate Past President

#### **Remarkable Prytaneans**

Ruth Sherman Tolman (1893 – 1957) is a real-life character in last year's blockbuster film, Oppenheimer. As a very close friend of Robert Oppenheimer, she was inexorably connected to the story of the covert formulation of the atom bomb. But Ruth Tolman was much more than an intimate of the man who developed the destructive and lethal bomb. She devoted herself to establishing the discipline of clinical psychology, and pioneered treatment methods for WWII veterans with PTSD. She trained psychologists and created occupational tests including mental stability test for agents of the Office of Strategic Services (now called "the CIA"). Her articles on "mental hygiene" appear in influential journals. A recipient of a PhD from Cal in 1937, Ruth Tolman was a Professor at UCLA, a President of the Western Psychological Association, a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, and a Member of the Council of the Society of the Psychological Study of Social Issues. For most of her adult life, she lived on the campus of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

-Maria Protti '79, Immediate Past President

#### Kennedy Goss-Rowena Hamilton Memorial Award

The Rowena Hamilton Award, established by Prytanean Alumnae in 1995, assists women undergraduate student athletes who are active in Cal Athletics. The purpose of the award is to recognize athletic ability, community service, and academic performance. This year's Rowena Hamilton Award recipient was Kennedy Goss, a senior who is an attacker on the Women's Lacrosse Team. Kennedy holds the Cal record for most number of draw controls (202). In her spare time, she volunteers her time as a graphic designer for Project 31, a non-profit organization that mentors, leads and inspires young women to live lives worth following by creating leadership opportunities, building self-confidence, and serving others.

-Michelle Nie'16, Student Awards Chair

#### Mary Wiley Stecker and Prytanean Women Scholarships

One awardee was awarded the Mary Wiley Stecker and Prytanean Women in Math and Science Award, and one awardee was awarded the Mary Wiley Stecker and Prytanean Women in the College of Letters and Science Award. Due to student privacy, CAA can no longer disclose the names of the awardees.

-Michelle Nie'16, Student Awards Chair



Linda Jo Fitz '66

(Photo Courtesy of the San Francisco
Architectural Heritage)



Kennedy Goss 2023 Rowena Hamilton Memorial Award Recipient

#### **Honor Society Activities**

It has been a breezy start to 2024, and I hope everyone is doing well in good health, mind, and spirit. We've had several actives graduate last year. Congratulations, Prytaneans! Our last president, Catey Vera, graduated at the top of her class and is now at Yale Law School. That was such an amazing achievement! We wish the best to all who are embarking on the next chapters in their lives. Remember, Prytanean is for life, so we are all here for anyone who may be far away and could use a shoulder to lean on.

For 2024, we have a lot of awesome plans, and I am eager to continue building our amazing family of actives! We've finally migrated and updated our website! It was a fun project, and now we plan to increase our online presence using social media. It is also exciting to announce that we've successfully added 14 new members this semester! We are still accepting applications until February 13; the more, the merrier, so please spread the word and help grow our network! It can be tough being out here alone without any friends or family. If you see any women out there that we can help by bringing them into our community, please invite them to join one of our meetings or events. Let's spread the love and fellowship of Prytanean to as many women as we can.

This semester, we will be partnering with Community Grows and Excelsior Food Distribution in San Francisco. Giving back to the community is one of the most amazing feelings, and it's one way we can all help make an impact in our community. At Community Grows, we will be helping tend a community garden! It will be a great experience for those who want to learn how to grow their own food. Make sure to wear comfortable clothes that you won't mind getting dirty, bring a reusable water bottle, and don't forget sunscreen. We will be joining two events with Excelsior Food Distribution. Excelsior Food Distribution is part of Family Connections Centers, whose mission is to support the development of strong, healthy families and thriving communities. We will help assemble bags of fruit, vegetables, and pantry items for families in San Francisco to take home. We hope to see many actives out in the community.

Of course, we can't forget about upcoming social events! We hosted our first "Girl's Night Out" event on February 9, where new and existing members got to meet and talk for the first time. Many members have asked for more social events, so we plan to have more coming this semester. School can be stressful, and hopefully, we can unwind and enjoy each other's company more often this year. We are also participating in the GenEQ event this year to promote connections and equity for women and LGBTQ+ individuals. Last but not least, we will be holding our ceremonial initiation dinner to welcome new actives, as well as join alumni at Helen Marcus' for our "Annual Tea Party." We hope to see many of you there!

There is a lot packed into the next few months. Many of us are graduating this year. It is not easy, but know that you are not alone. We hope to see many actives at meetings and events so that we can continue to support each other. Love you all and great blessings!

—Laura Montoya '24, Honor Society President

#### Cal Alumni Association

Recently, CAA partnered with 360Alumni to provide the CAA Alumni Chapters program, which is a Facebook-like online community for Cal alumni— except this one features data privacy! Here, alumni can connect with one another, and stay connected to the university, through leadership and volunteer opportunities, local events, and social and professional networking. You can access it at berkeley.360alumni.com, where you will register for a free account. Then you can browse over 75 alumni groups, formed around interests, affiliations and locations, and connect with the Chapters that interest you – like Prytanean! It's a great way to get involved with other Cal alumni, and you don't have to be a CAA member to participate.

> Leigh Genser '86, '95, Cal Alumni Association Liaison



Prytanean alumnae with Honor Society with Chancellor Carol Christ, Dr. Samantha Lewis (2023 Faculty Awards Winner) and family



# Prytanean Alumnae Janet Wilner Myers '64 (flew in from Florida!), Tina Cheung '07, our 2023 Homecoming Lecturer Professor Jessica Lu, Helen Marcus '68, and Cici Ambrosia, '95

#### Prytaneans & Friends: Thank you for your support of Alumnae Projects

You may also complete the contact form below via

https://forms.gle/HmTcDmH9nCTSShaj7 and pay your yearly dues and any contributions that you would like to make via our PayPal,

PRYTPAL@GMAIL.COM.

Prytanean	Alumnae, Inc	C.	Spring 2024	
Name: (please print)	Dinal /Mai Jan	Last	Class Year_	Hon. Year
Address				
City	State	Zip		
Phone (cell)		e (home or work)		
Email				
☐ I would like to receive future	newsletters by email o	only, to save postage	and printing costs.	
Occupation	Retired			
☐ The information above is new	Yes,	I could help the Boar	d with Prytanean act	tivities
Enclosed is my check, payable to Pry	tanean Alumnae, Inc	c., for:		
☐ Yearly dues @ \$35 due June 30	, 2024 Yearl	y dues (Classes 2013-	-2023 only @ \$20) \$	S
☐ Attend Annual Meeting and Brunch @ \$35 or \$20 (classes 2013–2023)				S
☐ Sponsor Honor Society students to attend Annual Meeting @ \$20			\$	S
Contributions				
\$ General Fund \$	Faculty Enrichm	nent Award Fund	☐ I wish to dona	ate anonymously
\$ Memorial/Honorary Gif	t in the name of			
Please send notification of Gift to:		(	Contributions total	\$
Name				
Address				
Thank you for your prompt reply!			al Enclosed \$	

Please insert this form in an envelope addressed to

#### Don't forget to visit our website!

at www.prytanean.org.

An easy way to stay up to date with all things Prytanean Alumnae.

The website gives you instant access to: a digital archive of newsletters award application & winners and much more!

If you'd like to read about specific topics on the website, send an email to prytpal@gmail.com.

Visit www.prytanean.org or https://alumnichapters.berkeley.edu/prytanean



#### Prytanean Alumnae, Inc.

P.O. Box 5075 Berkeley, CA 94705

Email: prytanean.alumnae.cal@gmail.com

web: Prytanean.org

Facebook: Prytanean Alumnae, Inc., University of California, Berkeley

#### Prytanean Women's Honor Society

102 Sproul Hall University of California Berkeley, CA 94720

Facebook: UC Berkeley Prytanean Women's Honor Society

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Dated Materials, Please Rush

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