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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Graduate Students,

The *U.S. News and World Report* ratings of graduate and professional programs were just published and once again Berkeley retains its top position! In overall rankings of doctoral programs, Berkeley came out ahead of all universities with all of its ranked academic program groupings placed comfortably in the top five. Those rated were Biological Sciences (2nd), Chemistry (1st), Computer Science (1st), Earth Sciences (4th), Mathematics (2nd), and Physics (4th). Our professional programs rated superbly as well, with all ranked in the top ten. A full list of Berkeley's top-ten *U.S. News*-ranked programs appeared in the April 13 *Berkeleyan* (http://www.berkeley.edu/news/berkeleyan/2006/04/13_rankings.shtml).

These ratings tell us what all our faculty know — excellence spans all the disciplines at Cal. While it's common for graduate students to know only their own department or program well, the graduate programs on the next floor or in the building next door are also bursting with intellectual energy that produces cutting-edge research and scholarship.

AND: To those of you who are graduating this month — my warmest congratulations. You will carry with you for life the distinction of a degree from a great university. Please keep Berkeley in your hearts.

Mary Ann Mason
Dean of the Graduate Division

HELPFUL TIPS FROM THE GRADUATE DEGREES OFFICE

(<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/degrees/>)

Whether you are just starting to write your dissertation or thesis, or are in the final stages and preparing to file for your degree this spring, we've got something you need. Check out the recently updated and renamed *Instructions for Preparing and Filing Your Thesis or Dissertation* (<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/degrees/pdf/disguide.pdf/>). This document will answer all of those picky little questions you may have about margins, page numbers, what paper you can use, and how many copies of the title page you need to make.

We haven't changed the requirements but have reorganized and clarified the information based on questions and comments we've received over the past year from students and staff. We hope the result is easier to understand. Two new checklists have been added, one for master's students and one for doctoral students, which you can print separately as a single page reference.

The two surveys that are required from doctoral students before they can file are available online (<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/degrees/>) under the "Policies and Procedures for Doctoral Students" section. Please take the time to complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) (<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/degrees/sed.shtml>) and the UC Berkeley Survey of Doctoral Students' Opinion (PDF) (http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/degrees/pdf/doctoral_survey.pdf) before you come to 302 Sproul Hall to file.

We encourage you to bring by a sample of your manuscript for a preliminary review before you do a final printing and copying and well before the final week of the semester. We are happy to review your title page, abstract and basic document format and alert you to any problems. Remember that **May 19, 2006**, is the final day to file to be eligible for a spring degree award.

CARS BILLING IS FULLY PAPERLESS

Sign up for e-Bill service now

The Campus Accounts Receivable System (CARS) monthly billing statement is now only available online via BearFacts (<http://bearfacts.berkeley.edu/>). Please sign up for the e-Bill service by following the instructions online (<http://billing.berkeley.edu/StudentServices/eBillInfo.htm>). There is no charge to access the CARS e-Bill online.

If you have a question about e-Bill, please phone (510) 642-3190 or email (<http://mybill.berkeley.edu/ebill/>). For more information about e-Bill, please visit the Billing and Payment Services website (<http://billingservices.vcbf.berkeley.edu>).

DEADLINES, EVENTS, AND WORKSHOPS

(<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/nav/calendar.shtml>)

Note: check other headings for category-specific dates, such as fellowship application deadlines.

MAY 4, MAY 11, and MAY 18 (Thursdays)

Workshop: "The Academic Job Search - Social Sciences and Humanities" (three parts)

5 to 6:30 p.m., Career Center Info Lab, 2111 Bancroft Way, second floor (**Note:** don't be late; center closes at 5 p.m.)

Andrew Green, assistant director and Ph.D. counselor, Career Center

A survivor of the academic job search, Green served on six search committees during his six years at Connecticut College. A similar series geared for searching in the sciences and engineering will be offered, with the first session starting June 1. More information is available online (<http://career.berkeley.edu/PhDs/PhDWorkshop.stm#SciEngr>).

MAY 4 (Thursday)

Lecture and Book Signing: "The Power of Procrastination"

6 p.m., Sibley Auditorium, Bechtel Engineering Center

Jorge Cham, creator of the graduate student comic strip "Piled Higher and Deeper"

Cham's "PHD" is often called the "Dilbert" of academia, chronicling life, or the lack thereof, in grad school. The strip appears in the newspapers of a number of universities, including Stanford, MIT, Caltech, and Carnegie Mellon, and is published online. Sponsored by the Graduate Social Club and the Department of Computer Science.

MAY 5 and MAY 6 (Friday and Saturday)

A Tribute to Jean-Claude Carriere

The *New York Times* called Carriere “the screenwriter of choice for the world’s finest directors.” A consummate collaborator, has crafted works with Jean-Luc Godard, Luis Malle, among others, and most notably with Luis Bunuel. Four of his films with Bunuel will be shown.

Friday, 7 p.m. - *Diary of a Chambermaid*

Friday, 9 p.m. - *The Milky Way*

Saturday, 6:30 p.m. - *The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie*

Saturday, 8:30 p.m. - *The Phantom of Liberty*

Pacific Film Archive. More information is available online

(http://www.bampfa.berkeley.edu/pfa_programs/tributejeanclaude/)

MAY 6 (Saturday)

Bixby Symposium on Population and Conservation

1 to 5 p.m., 2050 Valley Life Sciences Building.

Keynote speaker: **Jane Goodall**, founder the Jane Goodall Institute

Presented by the Bixby Program in Population, Family Planning, and Maternal Health, UC Berkeley School of Public Health. Free public event, early arrival recommended. More information, including other featured speakers, is online (<http://bixby.berkeley.edu/symposium>).

MAY 7 (Sunday)

Works from the Eisner Awards Competition, with the artists in person

5:30 p.m., Pacific Film Archive

The Eisner Award is the highest honor for student creativity given on the UC Berkeley campus. Works by winners in the film and video category will be shown. More information is available online (http://www.bampfa.berkeley.edu/pfa_programs/film_video_at_cal_may_06/index.html).

Note: see below under “In the News” for a quick overview of this year’s graduate student winners in a variety of fields.

MAY 9 (Tuesday) — Instruction ends

MAY 9 (Tuesday)

Conference/symposium: “Diversity in Action - Strengthening Excellence in our Workforce”

Nancy “Rusty” Barcelo, vice president and vice provost for diversity, University of Washington

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Pauley Ballroom, Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union

All campus community members are invited to participate in the campus-wide forum to launch a new project on staff equity and diversity. Staff, faculty, and administrative leaders will speak, among them Chancellor Robert Birgeneau and Professor Alice Agogino, chair of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate. RSVP by email (gabrams@berkeley.edu) or phone (642-9605).

Application deadline for new co-chairpersons of the Graduate Social Club

Sociable, creative, committed, and organized? Gain experience running meetings and large-scale events for the graduate student community. For more information and full job description, email the current co-chairs, Nick Rosenstock and Sarah Boyd (gsc@gsc.berkeley.edu).

MAY 12–19 — Final Exams

MAY 19 (Friday)

Deadline for Dissertations and Theses

Spring Semester ends

MAY 22 (Monday) — Summer Session begins

MAY 29 (Monday) — Memorial Day Holiday

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES (UHS)
(<http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu/>)

Your Health Plan

As a UC Berkeley student, you have an outstanding health plan. It consists of two parts:

1. University Health Services, Tang Center

All registered Cal students may use the services at University Health Services (UHS). As a registered student, you can access medical, mental health and wellness services at the Tang Center regardless of what insurance you have.

2. The Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP)

The University requires all students to have major medical insurance. Most students enroll in the University-sponsored Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP), which covers hospitalization, off-campus medical and mental health care, and specialty services. SHIP also includes dental coverage.

You will be automatically enrolled in SHIP and charged a health insurance fee on your CARS bill. You can choose to waive enrollment in SHIP and have the fee removed by completing an on-line waiver application form (<http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu/students/insurance/waiver/welcome.shtml>). **The deadline for submitting a waiver application is August 15, 2006.** New graduate students only may submit waiver applications until August 31, 2006. **Graduate Student Instructors and Researchers may be eligible for remission of the health insurance fee.** Please check with your hiring department.

SHIP Changes for Fall

- The cost for 2006–07 will be \$729 each semester, or \$1,458 for 12 months of coverage.
- Allergy testing and immunotherapy coverage is being increased from \$500 to \$1,000 per plan year.
- Prescriptions filled at the Tang Center Pharmacy will have a co-payment of \$15 for generic medications and \$25 for brand medications. The co-payment for three cycles of hormonal contraceptives will be \$25.

A complete list of SHIP benefits is available online (<http://uhs.berkeley.edu/students/insurance/index.shtml>).

Do you need health insurance for your spouse, children or other dependents? The Student Health Insurance Office can assist you in selecting a plan that best meets your family's needs.

For more information about UHS and SHIP, visit the UHS website (<http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu>). If you'd like to speak with someone about SHIP or insurance for dependents, call the Student Health Insurance Office at (510) 642-5700.

PHI BETA KAPPA

Ph.D. Candidates Win Phi Beta Kappa Fellowships

Berkeley's Alpha Chapter and the Northern California Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa have awarded a total of eight fellowships to candidates who are finishing their dissertations.

The Berkeley chapter winners are **Justin McClelen Notestein**, chemical engineering; **Joseph Howard Righ**, English; **Elana Ripps Shever**, anthropology; and **Joel Solomon Yurdin**, philosophy.

Recipients of the Northern California chapter fellowship are **Arthur Bahn**, English; **Talissa Jane Ford**, English; **Eleanor Bayne Johnson**, English and medieval studies; and **Darius Parke Ornston**, political science.

UCTV

(<http://www.uctv.tv/>)

Highlights of programs available in Berkeley during May

UCTV programs may be seen using cable, satellite, or computer (all day, every day, all year long on the latter). Offerings and detailed schedule are available online (<http://www.uctv.tv/>).

In “**The 25th Annual Review of the Presidency**,” a panel of experts reviews the president’s performance and predicts what may lie ahead. President Bush emerged from his 2004 victory a strengthened political figure, but as he moves toward the upcoming mid-term elections that will leave him, at least technically, a “lame duck,” he has struggled with a series of challenges. How well?

“**Can Newspapers Survive and Serve the Public Interest?**” is a conversation between **Orville Schell** and **Alan Rusbridger**. Schell is dean of UC Berkeley’s Graduate School of Journalism and Rusbridger is editor of *The Guardian* of London, a leading national newspaper in England with a long history (since 1821) of editorial and political independence. The colloquy is a presentation of the Goldman Forum on Press and Foreign Affairs Salon Series at the Graduate School of Journalism, UC Berkeley’s Center for British Studies, and the World Affairs Council

“**CNS News**” focuses, in this installment, on religion and beliefs. The program is produced by students of the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism.

“**Lunch Poems**” features **Mary Karr** — whose work has been called, “hardboiled, hardedged, and hardbitten” — reading a selection of her poetry before a live UC Berkeley audience. Another quote: “Her allure is a gripping combination of savvy intelligence and an utter refusal of sentimentality.”

How does science become policy? Experts examine the transition, particularly in the European Union, as scientific evidence confirms the validity of global warming and governments at local, national, and international levels address the problem. The program is called “**Translating Climate Change Science into Public Policy**” and took place on campus as the 2006 Peder Sather Symposium, part of an ongoing collaboration between the governments of Norway and Sweden and the University of California, Berkeley. (Peder Sather was born in Norway in 1810. He emigrated to the U.S., becoming a prominent banker in California and an active force in the welfare of its fledgling university. Sather Gate, Sather Bridge, and Sather Tower, more commonly called the Campanile, were provided by his widow, Jane K. Sather, in his memory.)

In “**Industry, Philanthropy, and Universities — The Roles and Influences of the Private Sector in Higher Education**,” MIT President Emeritus **Charles Vest** explores how philanthropic individuals and foundations, and corporate research sponsors, support both public and private higher education in America.

“**Conversations with History**,” hosted by **Harry Kreisler**, covers its usual wide waterfront this month. “**National Security in an Age of Sacred Terror**” features **Daniel Benjamin**, a former counterterrorism official in the Clinton administration, discussing the forces shaping terrorism when the boundaries between religion and politics are blurred. “**Europe and the World**” is a talk with **The Right Honorable Lord Patten of Barnes CH** (the latter standing for Companion of Honor, if you’re not up on British orders), former governor of Hong Kong, now chancellor of the universities of Newcastle and Oxford. Lord Patten talks about the European Union’s common foreign and defense policy, relations between Europe and the United States, and the challenges posed by the burgeoning economies of China and India. He also reflects on diplomacy and the power of ideas in politics. **Princeton N. Lyman**, former U.S. ambassador to South Africa and Nigeria, talks about the strategic importance of Africa to the United States in the post-9/11 world and the role of China in African affairs, in “**A Strategic U.S. Approach to South Africa**.” Low-key and non-doctrinaire sociologist **Neil Smelser**, emeritus of the Berkeley faculty, psychoanalyst, and former president of the American Sociological Association, tells of his “**Intellectual Odyssey**.”

UCTV can be seen in households nationwide via community cable channels, such as Berkeley’s community channel 33 and government channel 28 at scheduled times; via Direct Broadcast Satellite on the Dish Network, Channel 9412, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and on the Internet, via 24-hour live stream and subsequent video-on-demand (<http://www.uctv.tv/>).

New ways to see and select programs:

- Over 1,000 hours of UCTV’s 30- to 90-minute television programs will be available to Internet users as part of Google Video (<http://video.google.com/>), an online video database, boosting the educational component of that resource. When uploading is complete, the total is expected to rise to more than 2,000 hours, so finding and free viewing of UCTV shows will be considerably easier for Internet users anywhere in the world. UC Berkeley is one of the biggest contributors to UCTV, a 10-campus effort of the UC system.

- Like it local, fresh or “classic?” UCTV’s Berkeley office has updated its web page (<http://www.uctv.tv/berkeley/>) that lists all *currently airing* programming from this campus in chronological order, newest programs on top. At the same URL you can choose from all programs archived for viewing on-demand.

CALIFORNIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (CAA)

(<http://www.alumni.berkeley.edu/>)

Nominate outstanding Berkeley alumni for CAA honors

Every year, the California Alumni Association singles out Berkeley alumni — with either undergraduate or graduate degrees or both — for the honor their lives and achievements have brought to this university and particularly the Berkeley campus.

Recent CAA award recipients include **Karl Pister** ’45, M.S. ’48, former dean of the College of Engineering and chancellor emeritus of UC Santa Cruz, California Assemblymember **Nicole Parra** ’92, **Steven Chu** Ph.D. ’76, Nobel Laureate in physics and director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, World Trade Center Memorial architect **Peter Walker** ’55, **Julie Gerberding** M.P.H. ’90, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, and **James Schamus** ’82, M.A. ’87, Ph.D. ’03, producer of *Brokeback Mountain* and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*.

Who should be honored next? That could depend on you. Do you know about any great alumni achievers? They could be in any field, anywhere on the planet. Tell Lynne Witsler by email (lynne@alumni.berkeley.edu) or phone (642-7281). Forms and more information are available online (http://alumni.berkeley.edu/Alumni/Alumni_Awards/CAA_Annual_Awards.asp). Nominations are due **May 31, 2006**.

IN THE NEWS

Grad students in varied fields scoop up half of the Eisner Awards for creativity

Each year since the 1960s, students in the creative arts at Berkeley have been singled out for recognition — and some welcome remuneration — through the Eisner Awards, named for an artist and sculptor who graduated in 1933. The 2006 awards, announced in April, ranged between \$2,000 and \$6,000 per recipient, and roughly half went to graduate students.

Following are the names and programs of the graduate student recipients. Information on their projects — and plans for the prize money — is online (http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/04/20_eisner_p1.shtml).

Award in architecture: **Jess Field**, architecture. *Awards in art:* **Jonn Herschend**, art practice; **Joe McKay**, art practice; **Alicia McCarthy**; **Will Rogan**, art practice. *Awards in city and regional planning:* **Jacob Licht**; city planning; **Jordan Zlotoff**, landscape architecture. *Awards in literature:* **Hillary Gravendyk Burrill**, English; **Mark Massoud**, jurisprudence and social policy. *Awards in music:* **Jean Ahn**, music composition. *Awards in photo imaging:* **Jelani Mahiri**, sociocultural anthropology; **Andrew Moisey**, film studies.

DEADLINE FOR JUNE

News and other items for the June 2006 issue of *eGrad* are due Monday, **May 17**. Please send your information to gradpub@calmail.berkeley.edu. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, and accuracy.