

# rc news



**Not Separate from the Streets:  
The Art of Nancy Blum (RC '85)**

**Academics and Activism:  
An Interview with Harvey  
Slaughter (RC '72)**

**Be Bold: Heidi Philipsen-Meissner  
(RC '95)**

**Introducing the RC Podcast**

**Read This! Faculty and Staff  
Share Favorite Books**

# welcome

{from the director}



## Welcome to the newest edition of RC News!

The RC is constantly changing, and this year is no different. This academic year, we welcome Dr. Sascha Crasnow to our faculty. She will be teaching a range of courses in Islamic Art and Culture, broadening our curriculum to help meet the interests of new generations of students. Dr. Crasnow is hosting a wonderful film series in Fall 2018 that offers RC students and faculty a rich and varied look at the beautiful cultures of the Middle East and North Africa. Feel free to join us for the film series in the Benzinger Library through December 4th!

Even as we expand RC course offerings to cover the globe, we are also the same RC you came to love and appreciate while at the University of Michigan. Though Professor Carl Cohen retired in 2017 after 62 years at UM, many veteran faculty remain at the RC to help preserve our institutional memory.

Whether you are an RC alum, friend, or family member of an RC student, you will always be welcome in East Quad!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Wells".

**Jon Wells**

Director, Residential College



Photo by Robby Griswold

The Residential College (RC) is a four-year, interdisciplinary, living-learning community of 1,000 undergraduates established through the University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science and the Arts (LSA) in 1967. The distinctive educational mission of the RC is to enable students to develop their intellectual interests and creative talents in an environment in which they can find their own voice and relate learning with doing. The RC faculty and staff challenge students to take the initiative in shaping their own education, to participate actively in classes and in extra-curricular programs, to think critically about what they are learning and reflectively about what they are doing, and to engage with the University community as well as the outside world. Learn more at [www.lsa.umich.edu/rc](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/rc).



RC Faculty and Staff retreat, April 2018. See [myumi.ch/LBbP1](http://myumi.ch/LBbP1) for the complete listing of RC's current faculty and staff. Photo by Rudy Thomas

I joined the RC staff in March of this year as the Communications and Outreach coordinator, following on the heels of Cynthia Burton's tenure and the RC's 50th anniversary celebration.

I'm driven by a vision of the RC as a stand out higher education experience: off-beat but rigorous, fluid but powerful, a home for as former RC Director John Mersereau called it, an "intellectually aggressive" community of scholars that don't wait for the world to change itself. With some coordinated effort, the College will continue to grow, as we better leverage our alumni's awesome and diverse pathways, celebrate the scholarship of our students, spotlight and support the important contributions our faculty make to the liberal arts, and, above all, build community among the RC's constituents.

We continue what has been started by activist students like Darian Razdar (RC '18), Griffin St. Onge (RC '19), and Harvey Slaughter (RC '72); former directors like Tom Weisskopf, Charlie Bright and James Robertson; staff members like Craig Regester, Cynthia Burton; faculty like Olga López Cotín, Virginia Murphy, Irene Dorzback and Jennifer Myers; and many others. Let's continue our work, finding the balance of upholding tradition from our past



with innovating what the RC is and can be now and into the future. We'll need a willing bunch.

We hope we can count on your engagement and support. The RC is and always has been a collective, after all.

### **Robby Griswold (RC '07)**

RC Communications and Outreach Coordinator  
[robbyg@umich.edu](mailto:robbyg@umich.edu)



# Academics and Activism

An interview with Dr. Harvey Slaughter (RC '72)

Dr. Harvey Slaughter, (RC '72) recently visited the RC to record an episode for the RC Podcast. He discussed his distinguished undergraduate career that included activism for the advancement of Black students and building structures of academic support for his peers at the University of Michigan. Harvey embodies intellectual curiosity, concern for social welfare, and hunger for organizational change and these qualities were cultivated and fostered while he was a student in the RC—all the while being the only Black male student in his class. Since then, Harvey has gotten his Masters of Public Health and his PhD in Education (Training and Development), and he's an organizational consultant.

## **On Harvey's academic rollercoaster in the RC**

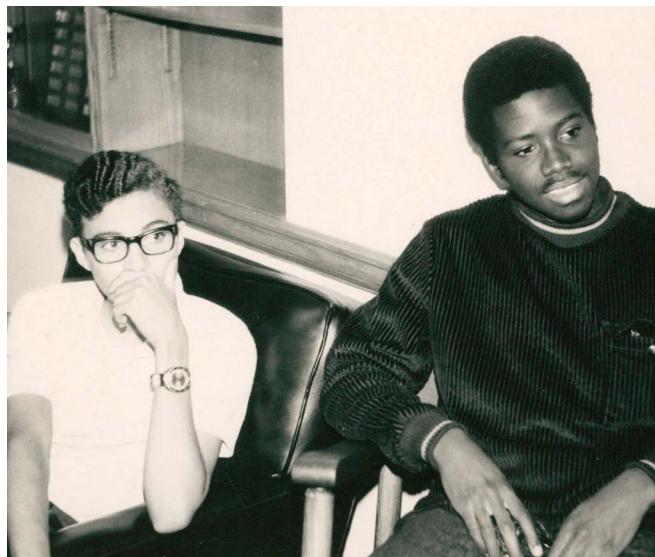
I almost flunked out my freshman year. And they allowed me to come back my sophomore year, but they said, "Listen. Harvey, we like you but you're not functioning at the level that you have to function to stay here. We have other people lined up for your slot. Now these are your areas of deficiencies, and there are a few resources at the university. And if you're willing to improve yourself, we're willing to work with you." And so I began the goal to improve my writing. I'd get up on Saturday morning and I'd go over to the writer's workshop, et cetera. And I stopped doing all-nighters, stopped trying to take notes in class. I started listening and then I tried to reconstruct it and whatnot. And more importantly, I started going to karate class like 6 out of 7 days of the week, because I

thought this may not work and I may be back in Detroit during the height of the drug problem and I'm gonna need to be able to defend myself. My grades improved. A lot. I began to really enjoy myself, and at the end of my sophomore year, I got another call from the dean. And again, "Harvey, the dean wants to see you." God... What'd I do, you know?

And I come in and I go, "Sir? You wanted to see me?" He says, "Yes Harvey, come in. I just wanted to tell you, your grades have come in and we are extremely pleased at your performance this year. This has been one of the best performances in terms of improvement that we've seen here in a long, long time. And I just wanted to ask you, would you be willing to sit on the Board of Academic Standing with me and advise the committee—'cause there are other students who will be going through what you've just gone through and we would love them to perform the way you have performed in coming out of that." And so I sat on the Board of Academic Standing for two years, and further learned from the dean what it means to teach and to run a college, and the key here is the care about students at the level their hearts and heads are at.

### **On the Black Action Movement and the RC**

See, this is one of the things that's been kind of a pet peeve for me because the University has held a number of events over the last 30 years. And they've glorified the role of the Black Action Movement in its campus in terms of what it did for University of Michigan, et cetera et cetera et cetera. But they never talked about the pivotal role that the Residential College played in that. And what was that pivotal role? Well, as a function of these activities that we were doing because of our relationship with the dean, because of our relationship with the assistance dean, because our relationship with Norm Snustad who was the director of this building, and because of our academic performance, and we had all that going for us, such that the RC became one of the few places on campus where the social-cultural environment was supportive of blacks coming together and people not being so freaked out if they saw more than two, three, and four people together. There was a very seminal professor here who was visiting professor who lived in RC, and his name was Archie Singham. Archie was from the University of West Indies, and he was like a political scientist who believed that violence was a legitimate tool for social change. That was his primary thing. But he taught political change. He taught change in society. I took a couple



*Photo courtesy of Harvey Slaughter*

---

**The RC became one of the few places on campus where the social-cultural environment was supportive of blacks coming together and people not being so freaked out if they saw more than two, three, and four people together.**

---

classes from Archie, and of course because he was here in RC, I could have a lot of contact with him. A lot of graduate students would come and be in the small groups after 5 in his room. He smoked a pipe all the time.

And so Archie taught a Samuel P. Huntington book called *Changing Order In Political Societies*, and in it, three things must happen for change. You have to have students, because they are the energy and the action on the street. You actually have to have the workers, because they provide the work. Students provide the energy, the workers do the work, and then you have to have the intelligentsia, the people who will proselytize and lay out the strategy and the ideas. If you look at the Black Action Movement, that's what we had. It's a little unique in that most people don't know that the president of the University was actually counseling our intelligentsia as to what to ask the university for. Most people didn't know that, but that's actually there if you do the research. He was supportive, he was a labor guy, and even though he was counseling the university and representing them, he was telling them what was reasonable, what they might be able to get, et cetera et cetera. Robben Fleming was outstanding. He was the finest president I've ever

seen. So, to a large extent, Black Action Movement was successful because Robben Fleming was president. It was also successful because it had a group of students, who were graduate students, who represented intelligentsia.

### On the Abeng Student Lounge

The Abeng office was an idea that came about as a function from Bob Black and Cynthia Bramlen, two Black students from the first class of the RC. I give them credit 'cause it was not my idea. I added and balanced and expanded and finessed their idea and made the presentation to the Representative Assembly about this being a good thing for us. And the Representative Assembly kind of went like this often when I made presentations in these areas (*Harvey chuckles*). They would say, "Well, we don't really quite understand exactly why you NEED this." I remember specifically because the argument against that lounge was, "Harvey, we're trying to get students of color to integrate into this society and culture. Why do you want to separate?" And my point was said, "Sir, separation is there. I didn't do it." Black students at the time had no place where they weren't under the microscope and generally that microscope was critical. It was a critical lens.



*Photo courtesy of Harvey Slaughter*

And the lounge became a place where students would go and our meetings would often be there before we had an office in the basement that they gave us for the Abeng office. Generally, the group meetings were around social issues and things we wanted to do, discussion of ideas about our role and contribution whether in the context of the culture of RC. Those things generally were started in the lounge. ■

*Listen to the full episode on the RC website at [myumi.ch/65eRm](http://myumi.ch/65eRm) or on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, or your preferred app.*

## INTRODUCING The RC Podcast

*When I started working at the RC in March 2018, I met with everyone who'd agree to talk to me. I had chats with other staff members, faculty members, current students and alumni – and people were saying things to me in those meetings that were too juicy to not do something with. I thought, "how could I share these testimonies with the rest of the RC community?" Et, voilà: the RC Podcast was born. I publish one episode per month right out of my office beside Greene Lounge, and draw from the embarrassing riches of personality that make up this College's past and present.*

*See the RC Podcast page at [myumi.ch/65eRm](http://myumi.ch/65eRm) for recent episodes featuring artist Nancy Blum, RC '85 and the 2018 RC Robertson Lecturer; Sascha Crasnow, new RC faculty in Islamic arts and visual culture; Anna Clark, RC '03 on her journalistic book on the Flint water crisis; and Jon Wells, RC director.*

*– Robby Griswold*

# BE BOLD

Heidi Philipsen-Meissner (RC '95) opens up about being a director, PGA producer, actor—and mentor.

This academic year, we launched a biweekly column in the RC website news feed to feature an alumna or alumnus who is making a big difference in their field and is passionate about their RC educational experience. To start our series, we featured Heidi Elizabeth Philipsen-Meissner (RC '95), a filmmaker and advocate for women filmmakers (among many other things). Below are excerpts from our web feature on Heidi—please visit our news feed for the full story.

**H**eidi is the definition of a voracious learner. But it's her varied and diverse professional and personal résumé that got our attention, and the density of her schedule that is especially laudable. She crafts her life intentionally with every single step. She gave birth to her son two weeks after graduating with her Masters Degree at Columbia. She has written for the English page of the German magazine, *Die Welt*, and her writing has also appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Huffington Post*, *Bitch Flicks*, and many other publications. She has performed in plays off-Broadway. Her films have been presented at the Marche du Film at Cannes, the Reel Women International Film Festival, the Electric City Film

---

**I've overcome my hurdles of PTSD to achieve my dreams in health and happy humility—all while spreading awareness.**

---

Festival, the Manhattan International Film Festival, the Park City Film Festival, Salty Horror Film Festival, and many more. She founded a chapter of Women in Film and Television for women professionals in the industry living and working in upstate New York. She did what so few women have done before her: produced, directed and starred in her own picture called *Darcy* under the auspices

**HEIDI'S ADVICE TO RC STUDENTS**

**Go for it. Be Bold. Take chances.  
Figure out where all the edges  
around the periphery around  
you are and push them as far  
outward as you possibly can.**

**YOU ARE SURROUNDED  
BY THE MOST SUPPORTIVE  
SCHOOL IN THE GALAXY.**



of her own production company, Personae Entertainment Pictures. The film addresses poverty, sexual abuse and female coming of age, and it creates a “faux normalcy in this environment which is anything but normal, and which even common sense tells us should be threatening”, says film critic Jim Dixon.

When I asked her what she is most proud of, she took a very personal turn. She mentioned mentoring over 20 women (and men) in her career thus far. She mentioned being there for her mom after her father died unexpectedly and how she needed to share it with others because “our caretakers are so important in this country and it is much easier said than done!” She then told me that she is a rape survivor. “I’ve overcome my hurdles of PTSD to achieve my dreams in health and happy humility—all while spreading awareness.” Whether or not it is related to this major life event, Heidi’s career is a veritable masterclass in the advancement of women artists in the film industry. She fights a lot of nay-saying that is particularly aimed at women. “[I’ve had] the courage to follow my dreams of directing and acting and producing as a mother in her 40s after nearly everyone said ‘YOU CAN’T because your time is up.’” She says her RC education helped push her in the right direction and embolden her to make her own professional path “as a pioneer.” ■

Heidi invites RC students to reach out to her for mentoring, informational interviews, reviewing your resume or portfolio, and advice about living in upstate NY or Germany.



See the RC website news feed at [myumi.ch/JNKn0](http://myumi.ch/JNKn0) for other recent spotlights on alumni including Walter Bilderback (RC '83), dramaturg and literary manager at Wilma Theater; and Eric Weltman (RC '89), professional organizer for Food & Water Watch.





# Not Separate from the Street

Nancy Blum (RC '85) on her exhibition of drawings and this year's Robertson Lecture

*When Nancy Blum came to the RC from Illinois, she wanted to pursue a career in service and decided to study psychology and women's studies. Well, as can happen, she fell for the creative arts while in East Quad and her work there, alongside her contributions to the U-M Human Sexuality Office, set her on a two-pronged course of professional development that eventually landed her a successful career—as an artist. In our October RC Podcast interview, Nancy reveals a bit about how her views on gender are subtly insinuated in the work that will be displayed Oct. 12 - Nov. 9th in the RC Art Gallery. She expresses what a liberal arts education gave her that an art school education could not have. And she gives us a taste for what she'll discuss in her October 19th Residential College Robertson Lecture, "Not Separate from the Street: Nancy Blum and Public Art Installation". Below are excerpts from the episode.*

## **On her work with the Human Sexuality Office**

So I did actually become aware of the Human Sexuality office through a couple of RC students. And I remember, we would hang out in Benzinger and then go over to the union and it was just really nice to have that sort of camaraderie. So I was in the Residential College in the very early 80s. It was a different time on campus for gay people. And it was... The RC was still an appropriate place to be out. But overall it wasn't that comfortable. And I became engaged with a program called Gay Wrap program that was run out of that office. A couple other RC students that I was friends with, we would do this and what we would do is we'd go into classrooms of medical students or psychology students or we'd go to fraternities and sororities and we'd do a basic program of introducing people or classes or institutions to bona fide gay people.

I was just sort of dying to be out. It felt like a luxury to be able to do that and to have a safe space to do that in. I was also a resident fellow, an RF. We were called resident fellows just in RC and everybody else on campus was an RA. And I was one of two people who were gay, where there was a man and a woman on the housing board. So that was a nice presence within the university.

### On accepting her identity as an artist

I think choosing to be an artist in this culture is a difficult decision because ... I mean, lots of things are difficult. I feel very fortunate. But I think there aren't necessarily a lot of ways that especially early on you get any reinforcement or pay. You actually have to toughen. You do have to be willing to accept a lot of chronic rejection. But within that, there actually is a lot of acceptance. But really hopefully what you get is you get to know yourself and you get to do the thing that you hopefully love to do. Because the best reason to be an artist is because you feel some compulsive need to put yourself out there, to sing, to be on a stage, to dance. There's really no other reason to do it because you're not... There's not sense that you will reap reward. But if you happen to stay with it long enough, you do actually learn about your motivations. And in that is a path of insight because you're not really being dragged around by clients or the corporation you work for or even the academic institution. You know, you're really setting your own parameters and that's a very unusual thing to do in this world. So you set parameters maybe for how will you make some money. But otherwise, once you figure that out, then you're like on your own.

### On her choice of flowers as the subject of the drawings on display in the RC Art Gallery, Oct. 12 - November 9

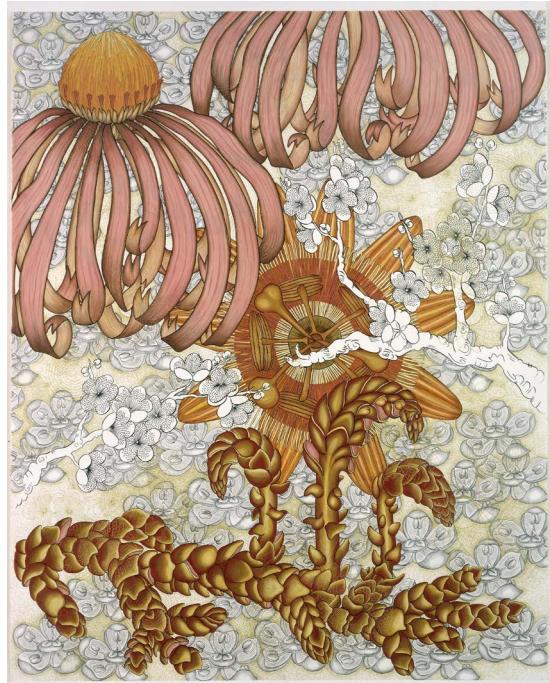
Robby: I see you're going to be having a gallery show here in the RC featuring beautiful drawings of flowers.

Why is flora a subject for this body of work?

Nancy: One of the reasons I went for flowers was I... There's a sort of utopic quality in my drawings and I wanted a language where it was genderless. You know, flowers are the reproductive organs of the plant.

Robby: So at a certain level, your flowers are about...

Nancy: My utopic view of a genderless society where plants are both male and female, where cross species hung out in the same location and had their relationship. And that's all there if you look for it in my drawings.



---

You're really setting your own parameters and that's a very unusual thing to do in this world.

---

Robby: And so are you getting at something even a little auto-biographical? Does this get at some sort of a bit of your sense of gender identity? Is your gender identity somewhere on the spectrum? Not fully feminine, not fully masculine? Using lesbian terms, butch. I'm just curious if that's kind of part of it. Is this a projection of you a bit?

Nancy: Absolutely. I mean, I think more than my gay identity, when I was a very small child, I did not identify as male or female. I mean, it's not that I didn't identify. I didn't understand them. And I didn't understand that paradigm and it wasn't that somebody thought I was a boy that I thought I was a boy. I just didn't think I was a girl. And so I had a lot more, not issues, but it took me a lot longer to really come

to terms with how society thinks about gender than it was how society thinks about sexuality. And it's actually more profound to me to think about gender. I love who I love. And I want everybody to love who they love. But I'd like there to be a little more freedom for people to inhabit male and female in whatever body they were born into. So I think that is subtext always a little bit with my choice of the flower. ■

Listen to the full episode at [myumi.ch/65eRm](http://myumi.ch/65eRm) or on your preferred podcast app.



LEO leaders and faculty in the RC, left to right, Ian Robinson (Social Theory and Practice), Kate Mendeloff (Drama), and Dominique Butler-Borruat (French). Photo by Rudy Thomas.

# #RESPECTTHELECS

## LEO, THE RC AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN RIGHT-TO-WORK MICHIGAN

BY IAN ROBINSON, RC LECTURER IN SOCIAL THEORY AND PRACTICE

LEO, the union of nontenure-track faculty on the three campuses of the University of Michigan, has always had deep roots in the Residential College. Many of LEO's early leaders came from the RC, which makes a lot of sense, given that lecs have done the lion's share of the teaching and the committee work that makes the RC run since the college's formation. RC Lecs Dominique Butler-Borruat and Kate Mendeloff, who have been dedicated LEO activists from the beginning, played a critical role in keeping RC faculty informed and engaged in every phase of LEO's fifth round of negotiations with the U-M Administration, from October 2017 to June 22, 2018.

As a result of the three rounds of bargaining after the first collective agreement of 2004, the minimum full-time salaries for Ann Arbor Lecturers increased a mere 11% (after accounting for inflation). Those minimums were \$34,500 in Ann Arbor and \$27,300 and \$28,300 in Flint and Dearborn, respectively. Median full-time salaries in the 2016-17 academic year were about \$58,000 in Ann Arbor and \$40,000 in Flint and Dearborn.

These salaries were, as Regent Mark Bernstein put it at one of the 2018 Regents' meetings, "exploitative."

LEO members decided that we were going to do whatever it took to ensure that Lecturers were paid a lot closer to what they deserve. We put together an ambitious platform that focused mainly on wage increases, rooted in the idea that no full-time U-M Lecturer should be earning so little that they could not support a family on their own if necessary.

We demanded minimums that would go to \$60,000 in Ann Arbor and to \$57,000 in Dearborn and Flint, dramatically reducing the huge pay differences among U-M campuses. We also pushed for major increases to base pay for every year that Lecs had taught at U-M to compensate for years of unjustly low pay. Beyond money, we demanded that Lecs receive the job title of "Teaching Professor" if the School in which they teach decided that this was in its interests. We demanded that the University develop a conscious policy to diversify the Lecturer pool and support Lecs seeking to make their courses more inclusive.



**"When I [struggled in my] intensive French grammar exams,... it was a lecturer who opened up her office hours, to ensure that every individual student in the entire class could come and meet with her on a regular basis for as long as they needed. When I took chamber music classes so I could continue playing piano and violin through college, it was a lecturer who accommodated the schedules of over 50 people, coming in for rehearsals sometimes at 9PM, even with a husband and 3 children at home. And when I had an undiagnosed autoimmune disorder for the first few years of college, it was a lecturer who emailed me regularly to check on how I was doing, who helped me with my assignments, and who made sure that I didn't fail... Without lecturers, our university stops. And student allies are willing to stop this university until our lecturers get paid."**

### RC STUDENT ORGANIZER HOAI AN PHAM REMARKS TO ADMINISTRATION IN FEBRUARY 2018

Before bargaining even began, LEO commissioned Howard Bunsis, an EMU Business School accounting professor specializing in the analysis of university budgets, to assess how much our demands would cost and what U-M could afford to pay. Bunsis found that, even leaving aside the massive medical complex, the U-M had been running huge surpluses year after year since 2008 -- over \$530 million in 2017!. He also showed that Lecs contributed a lot to those surpluses, bringing in \$377 million in tuition revenues in 2016-17, after subtracting the cost of our salaries and benefits.

Knowing that the university could easily meet our demands, and that we deserved dramatic improvements based on our contributions to the university's core mission and finances, inspired anger, hope and determination. We built on these emotions with an top-notch organizing campaign. The result: record levels of member participation. This made for strong, effective committees as well as impressive turnouts at LEO bargaining sessions and rallies.

We reached out to our students and educated them about the two-tiered faculty system that has emerged since the 1970s. Most were shocked, both by the two-class system of faculty that has emerged over the last 40 years, and by how poorly many of the teachers who meant the most to them were paid. Many told us that they had assumed that most of the tuition they were paying was going to faculty salaries, including ours. Many

became impassioned allies, and some of the strongest student leaders, notably Hoai An Pham and Griffin St. Onge, came from the RC.

We also sought and received support from many tenure-track faculty colleagues. Again, this was particularly strong in the RC: Director Jon Wells, Associate Directors Naomi André and Jennifer Myers (herself a Lecturer), Prisoner Creative Arts Project Director Ashley Lucas, and Pulitzer Prize-winning History Professor Heather Thompson were particularly notable for their compelling demonstrations of solidarity.

We also reached out to other unions – above all, GEO, the union of grad student teachers, and the building trades, who committed to respect our picket lines if we had to strike. Elected officials at the County and State levels, the President of the UAW, the Presidents of the NAACP and of its Detroit Chapter wrote open letters to the President, Provost and Regents to express their support for our demands. They also supported our demand that the University of Michigan, consistent with its oft-stated commitment to the values of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, increase the resources allocated to its Flint and Dearborn campuses, which have a much higher share of working class and students of color.

Last but not least, we reached out to the U-M's eight elected Regents, educating them on the situation of Lecs on each campus, and urging them to use their power to end poverty wages and the "silos" model of budgeting

that says no money raised on the Ann Arbor campus can be used to help meet even the most pressing needs on the other two U-M campuses.

What moved the Administration, in the end, was the power we generated by organizing and mobilizing our members and our allies, including most of the Regents. There were only two times when their bargaining team made substantial moves toward our demands: the evening before a threatened two-day strike, set to begin on April 9; and the morning of June 21st, when five Regents (i.e., a majority) told the President that they would not vote for his proposed 2019 budget at the Regents' meeting later that day unless money sufficient to meet our minimum demands was allocated to that purpose. Their bargaining team told us that at the start of negotiations in October 2017 the Administration gave them just \$2.5 million to offer us (just under 3% of our total compensation cost to the university at that time), by the end of negotiations, the gains we made were worth about \$16 million.

Under the agreement ratified in mid-July by 700 of the 712 LEO members who voted, the minimum salary for entry-level faculty with Lecturer I appointments will increase to \$51,000 in Ann Arbor, and to \$41,000 in Flint and Dearborn, by the Fall of 2020. Longer serving Lecs got annual base pay raises ranging from \$3,000 to \$12,500, depending on years of service.

Much remains to be done – above all, the budget silos among the three campuses must be dismantled. But the June 2018 agreement was transformative, requiring the U-M Administration to respect our contributions to the finances and mission of our university.

This campaign -- and the RC in particular -- showed that when we work with our students, bridge the divide the current system creates between nontenure-track and tenure-track faculty, reach out to unions and civil rights organizations in the wider community, and fully utilize the democratic potential of an elected governing board, we can make fundamental changes to the corporate model of higher education that has gained such ground over the last 40 years. Our students, faculty and the communities in which our campuses are located will all benefit from this shift.

Can LEO maintain the kind of membership participation and associated power that we displayed this time going forward? Since the end of April, we have fallen

under the so-called Right to Work (RTW) regime that Republicans rammed through the legislature in the lame duck session of 2012. RTW extends the benefits of collective agreements to everyone in the bargaining unit, whether or not they are union members, and forbids unions from agreeing with employers to charge non-members a fee in return for these union services. The anti-union proponents of RTW hope that this will encourage "free riding," undermining union membership and resources. In practice, though, unions with a high level of solidarity do not see much free riding, and high levels of solidarity are achieved by successfully encouraging member participation and nurturing the sense that together we can achieve important things that would be impossible if we acted as isolated individuals. Our campaign has generated just these kinds of outcomes. It is early days yet, as LEO just entered RTW

with the expiration of our contract at the end of April, but we should be able to assess the impact of operating under that regime by the end of the Fall 2018 term. I predict that we will suffer little if any membership decline; indeed, I believe that we are quite capable of increasing membership levels under RTW if we build on the momentum achieved in this contract campaign. ■



Photo courtesy of LEO

# Read This!

It's that time of year for crisp college-ruled paper, pens, and folders to put your syllabi. Here are a handful of book recommendations from RC faculty and staff - some come from RC courses, others do not. Each title is accompanied by a personal endorsement. Hopefully you'll find a new-to-you title that you can pick up at your local library or your favorite local bookstore. Happy reading!

## Hank Greenspan, Social Theory and Practice Lecturer

*Survival in Auschwitz* by Primo Levi. This is the most revered among all Holocaust survivor memoirs. It is less a "war story" than a sustained reflection on human nature in extremity.

## Miaisha Peoples Miller, Academic Services Coordinator

*The Four Agreements* by Don Miguel Ruiz is a life changing book that teaches you how to respond to life and the people in it while looking inwardly to make changes that will positively affect you as well as those around you.

## Karein Goertz, Arts and Ideas and German Lecturer

*Bailey, The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating*— a wonderful book to read when everything seems too fast, cluttered and loud; a celebration of observing the natural world.

## Geoff Packard, Drama Lecturer

*Jack Be Nimble: The Accidental Education of an Unintentional Director*, a memoir by accomplished Director (and U-M grad) Jack O'Brien. I found this book to be a great introduction to U-M with some fascinating creative insight from a theatrical icon.

## Catherine Brown, Arts and Ideas Associate Professor and Head

Ingold, Tim. 2013. *Making : anthropology, archaeology, art and architecture*. London/New York: Routledge. This was recommended to me by a painter friend, and oh my did it reorient my thinking about both thinking and making. He rejects the model of making that puts the idea first and relegates matter to the service of the idea. This model is all around us, and informs pernicious binaries like theory/practice, academy/life, thinking/making. He argues that ideas are emergent from matter, from the activity of matter and from the process of

making itself. Inspiring as a life-guide for surviving the academy as much as a scholarly book.

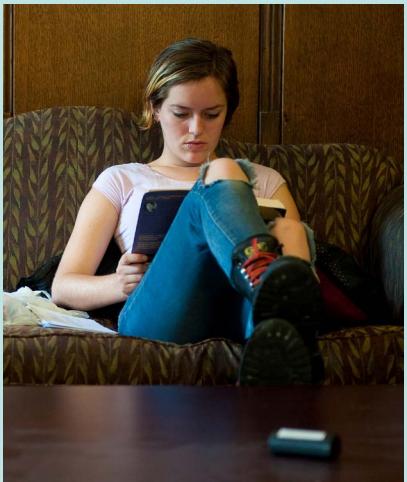
## Virginia Murphy, Social Theory and Practice Lecturer, East Quad Garden Director

*Refuge* by Terry Tempest Williams tells a history of the western landscape that exists in a kind of simultaneity with the stories of the women in her family and the birds of the Great Salt Lake. It is equal parts western narrative, feminist manifesto, natural history, and personal odyssey. The book calls for environmental justice for all species.

## Ashley Lucas, Director, Prison Creative Arts Project and Associate Professor

*Writing My Wrongs: Life, Death, and Redemption in an American Prison* by Shaka Senghor, who spent nineteen years in the Michigan Department of Corrections, including seven





years in solitary confinement. He became a writer during these difficult years, and after his release, he ultimately founded and co-taught the Atonement Project class for two years in the Residential College and Theatre & Drama Departments at U-M. This unforgettable memoir outlines a paradigm for restorative justice.

#### **Michael Gould, Music Professor and Director, Center for World Performance Studies**

Alan Jacobs, *How To Think: A Survival Guide for a World At Odds*. I found this book quite helpful in trying to navigate the world we are currently living in....

#### **Naomi André, Arts and Ideas Associate Professor, RC Associate Director for Faculty**

*Sassafrass, Cypress, & Indigo*, by Ntozake Shange. This is one of my favorite books of all time. Sassafrass, Cypress & Indigo are three sisters growing up in South Carolina with their mother Hilda Effania. The three sisters are all artists (and the mom too, is a weaver) and their stories take place in the 1960s-1970s as they grow up. The writing is lyrical and beautiful and you feel like you're in the warm embrace of their home as they thrive and struggle in a complicated world.

#### **Jeff Evans, Social Theory and Practice Lecturer and Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus**

*The Creative Habit*. Twyla Tharp has been a force in modern dance since the 1960's. The Creative Habit is part creative autobiography, part advice to aspiring creatives. The writing is informative and entertaining, and, from a psychologist's point of view, the advice is excellent.

#### **Marion Van Dam, Program Coordinator Semester in Detroit**

*Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds* by adrienne maree brown. adrienne maree brown is a Detroit-based activist who is strongly influenced by Grace Lee Boggs, as well as science fiction writer Octavia Butler, among other people. In addition to being the foundational text for our Grassroots Organizing for Environmental Justice course, Emergent Strategy is an incredibly valuable and accessible addition to organizing theory.

#### **Olga López Cotín, Director of the RC Spanish Language Program**

*Susan Sontag, Regarding the Pain of Others* (2003). An essay on the power and shortcomings of war photography to convey the meaning of pain and its ability (or not) of promoting empathy on viewers. I found this book very thought-provoking since it does not give a straight answer that can make her readers reach a comfortable ethical position. Witnessing, portraying and viewing suffering in our culture of visual excess opens

a constant question on how we deal and cope with it, and what we do with that kind of information to diminish it.

#### **Logan Corey, RC Admissions and Recruitment Coordinator**

*The Secret Lives of Color* by Kassia St. Clair. On my recent tattoo excursion, a dear friend sat by my side for hours and ready aloud selections from this book. If you love color and history, I recommend giving it a chance.

#### **Raymond Wetzel, Studio Arts Lecturer, Head of RC Art Gallery**

*Seeing is Forgetting the Name of the Thing One Sees* by Robert Irwings. Why? Because just by reading the title you are already more informed than you were minutes ago. It a good and important work that has held up over the years.

#### **Leslie Stanton, Creative Writing and Literature Lecturer**

Patricia Hampl, *The Art of the Wasted Day*. Another serpentine rumination that begs to be reread almost the minute you finish it. Nominally about leisure, it's also about travel, solitude, writing, love, and loss—with dips along the way into the lives and work of Michel de Montaigne (whom Hampl calls “the first modern daydreamer”), Gregor Mendel, and a pair of reclusive Irish women who fled to Wales in the late-18th century to pursue the joys of solitude. ■

Visit [myumi.ch/Lrdy9](http://myumi.ch/Lrdy9) for more great recommendations from faculty and staff.

Read the second annual RC Alumni Journal at [myumi.ch/J2gVP](http://myumi.ch/J2gVP), featuring submissions of RC Creative Writing alums' work.

# Alumni Updates

Here's a smattering of recent dispatches from RC alums through the years... Compiled by Natalie Brown, RC Class of 2019. [Note to current RC students: each of these alumni have expressed an interest in helping current RC students. If you're interested in someone you read about here and would like to reach out to them, please see Robby Griswold at [robbyg@umich.edu](mailto:robbyg@umich.edu), EQ Greene 1812, for their contact info.] Visit [myumi.ch/Lrdy9](http://myumi.ch/Lrdy9) for more updates



## David Green (RC '71)

### New York City, NY

David's accomplishments include hiking the 2500-mile Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada, creating award-winning experiential education programs, writing "damn fine" executive speeches, and raising two sons. David now works in corporate storytelling. About his time after graduating from the RC, David says: "I spent my 20s wandering in the wilderness, sometimes literally—alternative school teacher, program evaluator, marathon backpacker, trailguide author, Elderhostel instructor, landbird biologist, book-store clerk, sea turtle conservation worker, freelance journalist."



## Anne Redlich (RC '81)

### Chicago, Illinois

Anne Redlich currently resides in Chicago, Illinois, where she works as a psychotherapist and psychoanalyst, while still finding time to pursue her artistic interests. Redlich is proud of her work as an expert witness. She volunteers with the National Immigrant Justice Center to help win difficult cases and grant asylum to individuals who have survived trauma by providing psychological evaluations. The individual concentration Redlich completed in Health & Healing (a combination of medical anthropology and psychology) while a student of the RC has served her well, and she says of her psychoanalytic work, "I began preparing to do this deep work while at the RC."

## Niles Fleischer (RC '76)

### Israel

Niles Fleischer has lived happily in Israel since 1984 where he is a husband, father, grandfather, founder and manager of high tech companies, and most recently, a marathon runner. Graduating from the RC in 1976 with a degree in Science Writing, Fleischer went on to pursue a Masters degree and PhD in Electrochemistry from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. His business endeavors have centered around supercapacitor and battery technology, and his present startup, ALGOLiON, is "developing smart diagnostic software to extend battery life and prevent lithium ion batteries from exploding." In his free time, Fleischer enjoys gardening and collecting antiquarian books. To explain the benefits of marathon running, he says "[it] clears your head and [is] great for your health."



## Matt Wray (RC '87)

### Philadelphia, PA

Arts & Ideas major in the RC, Matt Wray "eventually found [his] way to academia and became a sociologist." He holds an MA and PhD from UC Berkeley, is the author of several books, has won multiple major postdoc awards, has received tenure at 2 different institutions - but he says he is "most proud" of his two kids, ages 12 & 15.

**Maya Bernstein (RC '87)****Washington, DC**

While in the RC, Maya created her own course of study in "Technology and Society." Following, she received her JD from American University and has worked mostly for the federal government. Maya's career has included work at the Office of Management and Budget, at the IRS, and is now a privacy policy expert at the Department of Health and Human Services. Maya notes that aside from her professional accomplishments, she considers herself an "avid swing dancer and theatre-goer."

**Nicole (Nikki) Boxer (RC '90)****Kalamazoo, MI**

After graduating from the RC in 1990, Nikki Boxer attended medical school at Wayne State University and has since been "practicing medicine in a variety of settings." Boxer is a pioneer in the field of telemedicine—helping to establish a successful startup called American Well that provides virtual primary care. Boxer includes what she considers an "important caveat" to her many professional accomplishments, saying "Resumes and LinkedIn accounts are, per design, false by omission. Left out are the messy truths of life and careers, including feelings of self doubt, envy, competition, unfair advantages, hostile work environments, ineffective work habits, false starts, regrets, losses and circumstances. Acknowledging and navigating through these realities is crucial to being genuine and kind to yourself and others."

Yes, indeed!

**Sarah Hakala (RC '01)****Ann Arbor, MI**

After graduating with a degree in Spanish, Sarah received her Bachelor's in Nursing from PENN and then MS in Nurse Midwifery from U-M. She now works as a Nurse Midwife in Southfield, MI and Ann Arbor. Sarah won an Outstanding Preceptor Award in 2017 from the American College of Nurse Midwives in 2017. She is proud to have started Postpartum Mothers support group and to work in a field that allows her to "support women to learn to trust in and love their bodies."

**Mike St. John (RC '97)****Milan, MI**

English & Psychology double major, Mike went on to earn an M.S. in education from Western Illinois University and J.D. in law from the University of Michigan Law School. He is now an Administrative Law Judge for the State of Michigan. "I preside over administrative hearings for the State of Michigan hearing cases in the areas of general adjudication, teacher tenure, misconduct and certification appeals, property transfer, school, child and adult nutrition programs, nursing home involuntary transfers, Section 8 housing, MIOSHA citations, wage and hour, professional licensing, health care licensing, and nursing home complaints."

Alums,  
let us know  
what you're  
up to!

Visit [myumi.ch/6wr5Z](http://myumi.ch/6wr5Z)

**Beth (Bovair) Schill (RC'05)****Arlington, VA**

Beth currently works as Career Advisor at Georgetown University, helping students navigate career choices in fields pertaining to public service. Beth has had a diverse career since graduating from the RC with a degrees in Cultural Anthropology & Social Theory that's included working as a consultant and earning her Masters in Philosophy and Development Studies from the University of Cambridge. "I've spent much of my career bringing different (dare I say 'out of the box') perspectives to my clients, co-workers, and organizations—an attribute I received at the RC."

**Laura Elenbaas (RC '08)****Rochester, NY**

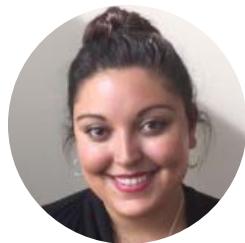
Since graduating from the RC with double majors in French and Psychology, Laura Elenbaas has assisted with public health research at Seattle Children's Research Institute and recently completed her doctorate in human development and quantitative methodology at the University of Maryland. Laura now teaches at the University of Rochester, where she conducts research in children's perceptions of social and economic inequality, norms and status in intergroup contexts, and the origins of children's reasoning about complex moral issues.

**Hannah Rodriguez (RC '13)****Honor, Michigan (Benzie County)**

After graduating from the RC with a major in Social Theory and Practice, Hannah completed her Master of Social Work degree from Michigan State University. She currently works to coordinate a scholarship program that involves over 80 students in Manistee County in northern Michigan. "We support their social, financial, personal, and academic success to get them to and through a tuition-free Associate's Degree at West Shore Community College." Hannah also worked as Prevention Coordinator with the Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center, where she helped develop and lead a community-driven movement to raise awareness about child sexual abuse in a six county region.

**Alex Abdun-Nabi (RC '15)****Grand Rapids, MI**

Since graduating from the RC in 2015, where he studied Social Theory and Practice, Alex has been involved in Emergency Management work at U-M, for the state of Michigan, and in Puerto Rico. Alex says "I deployed to Puerto Rico 1 month after Hurricane Maria made landfall. I served as the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Advance Team Leader. In that role, I coordinated the flow of mutual aid from other states and territories to Puerto Rico, ultimately bringing in over 200 law enforcement officers, 2000 National Guardsmen and women, 70 medical personnel, and many pieces of equipment. During that deployment, I developed a tracking, reporting, and management tool that is being used as a best practice and national model for the rebuilding of our EMAC Operating System."





Here We Are, painting by Warren Hecht

## Updates from Recent RC Retirees

Here are a handful of recent postcards from our retired friends from the RC faculty and staff.

### **Warren Hecht**

"Retirement has made me lose all my hair, but I get to relax a lot. How long did it take me to adjust to retirement? As soon as my foot crossed the threshold of East Quad. Best, Warren"

### **Frank Thompson**

"Now retired from UM (RC (STP) and Econ) but still teaching some (most recently Fulbrighting at the University of Athens (treading in some of the two-and-a-half millennia old steps of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle) and again in the Harvard Summer School) and delighting in summers

(Feb-Mar) in South Africa, I enjoy having more time for family and friends and for reading and writing. Ann and I remain well caught-up on the RC via our daughter Heather and her spouse (our son-in-law) Jon Wells. Gruß aus Detroit, Frank Thompson"

### **Tom Weisskopf**

"There's no better place to bike and to hike than Provence, so I've been delighted to be able to return there from time to time with my wife Sue."

### **Larry Cressman**

"Actually, my retirement time is pretty full. As an artist, the work continues. I have a show scheduled for Nov/Dec at a gallery in Detroit called K.Oss Art Gallery across from

Eastern Market, kossgallery.com. I'll be showing new work, both framed and installation. I continue to work with raspberry cane, daylily stalks and dogbane—common plants that grow around my home. I have always looked at the work as three-dimensional drawing - with the "sticks and twigs" (linear elements) coated with a mix of graphite powder and matte medium. The work is similar to my installations in the halls of East Quad—outside the Keene Theater and the reception area of the RC. I have also been a host on Alumni tours with the U-M Alumni Association — last summer to Eastern Europe and in September this year I'll be hosting a trip to Portugal and Spain. So, retirement is busy. How did I ever teach?"

**"Twenty years at the RC provided me with amazing experiences that enabled me to develop wonderful friends, create amazing memories and meet thousands of interesting people along the way." - Lana Kanitz**

#### **Melanie Karner**

"Just a friendly Hello to everyone at the RC. Miss each and everyone of you! Since retirement I have been busy at home, enjoying the Grandkids and everyday life. I can't believe I worked and accomplished everything I did! My husband and I have been going to Florida at Bradenton Beach every March and April, really enjoying our time

there. We spend a lot of time with family and friends during the Summer in Grand Marais, Michigan. My favorite place to relax and enjoy is the Northern Peninsula! Good Luck to the Residential College, I truly was lucky to have worked at the RC with so many great people. Hope this finds everyone doing Great! Best Wishes, Melanie, RC Academic Services"

#### **Helen Fox**

"I've become an amateur archaeologist and docent at the Randell Research Center on Pine Island, Florida. In the photo below is an ancient lightning whelk that had spiritual significance to the Calusa Indians who lived here for 2000 years."

#### **Carl Cohen**

"We're booked for a slow trip down the Danube, Nuremberg to Budapest. Please join us!"

#### **Lana Kanitz**

"Grillin and chillin while enjoying more time with family and friends plus MI adventures around the state and trips to Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C. Meanwhile balancing these adventures with babysitting, more gardening, art classes and fishing. Chris will retire by the end of the year and we are looking forward to travels from coast to coast, the national parks and Alaska. Twenty years at the RC provided me with amazing experiences that enabled me to develop wonderful friends, create amazing memories and meet thousands of interesting people along the way." ■

Clockwise from left: Photo by Helen Fox, Warren Hecht, Tom Weisskopf, Lana Kantiz and her husband Chris.

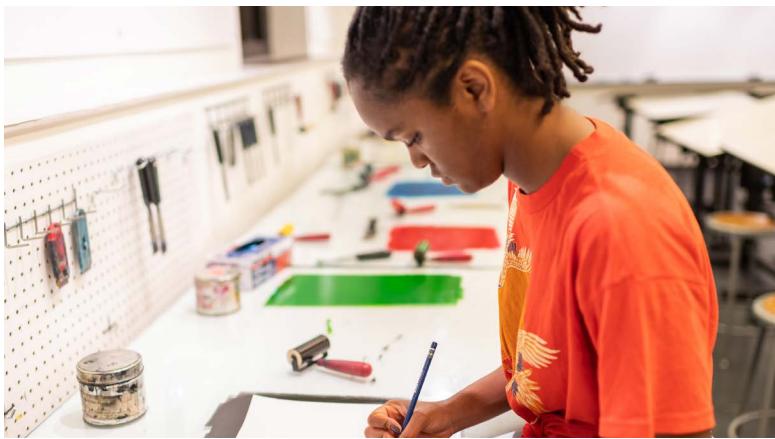


# THANK YOU

The RC is a community, first and foremost, and we each have a role to play. Many of us interact with the College in many ways. Some folks play student then alumna or alumnus. Some play faculty or staff member. And some play donor. The honor roll below reflects donors who made a financial gift to the RC between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. We chose to mix up who gets listed first in couples to express our value of egalitarianism. We apologize if we erroneously omitted someone. Your support makes all the diverse and engaged learning possible in the College. Thank you for supporting the RC!

Marian Abernathy and Daniel Kaplan	Sarah and Hart Billings Joan Binkow	Alan Crockett and Gail Grigsby	First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor	Alice Henkin Lolita Hernandez
Carl Abrego and Chelle Abrego Kilmury	BKD CPAs & Advisors	Nan and Hugh Crossland	Mary and Charles Fitchett	Ramon Herrera
Hannah Agnew	BKD Foundation	Dara Crowfoot and Greg Olson	Peter Fitzgerald and Regina Schuster	Laura Hessler John Higginson
Susan Alcock	Thomas Bloom	Diane Dale and Jack Robertson	Sean FitzGerald	Martin Hirschman and Marcia Abramson
Susan Alexander	Richard and Eleanor Bochner	James Dankovich	Gordon Follmer	Carole and Howard Holmes
Jeff Allen	Vicki and Gregory Bockart	Robert D'Aoust and Dolores Slowinski	Ruth Forrest	Howard Holmes
Megan Allende	John Bourquard	Philip and Heidi Daunt	Michele Freiberger	Howard S. Holmes Trust
Donald Alles and Cheryl Frueh	Bowers and Associates, Inc.	Robert Daunt	Merrie Fuller	Janice and Timothy Howard
Alphabet Inc.	John Boyer and Mary Raab	Jack David	Bradley Funkhouser	Karen Hughes
Fifteen Anonymous Donors	Matthew Bozzo	The David Family Foundation Inc	Luis Gago	Huron Development
Maureen and Mark Anthony	Katherine Brady-Medley and Matthew Medley	Chanelle Davis	Eleanor Gamalski	Associates LLC
Kathleen Anzicek and Mark Leventer	Enoch and Elizabeth Brater	Sarah de Ferranti	Barry and Mary Garelick	Jesse and Victoria Jannetta
Molly Aronson	Ann Brennan and Karl Krushelnick	Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	GDI Integrated Systems	Julie Jurriens and Christopher Carver
Asgard Press	Howard Brick and Debra Schwartz	Alexander and Jennie DeBeausset	GE Foundation	Albert B. Kahn Foundation
James Augustyn	J. Noah Brown and Andra Armstrong	Nancy and C. Stephan Demeter	Bekah Geiger	Rachel Kahn
Shirley Axon	June and Donald Brown	Judith and Stephen Dobson	General Electric Company	Robert Kamins and Yasmin Anwar
Barbara Baird	Peter and Jill Brown	Richard Doctoroff and Elissa Matross	Brewster and Anne Gere	Kapnick & Company, Inc.
Bank of America	Louisa Buatti	Irene Dorzback	Albert and Sharon Gladwick	Insurance
Bank of America Foundation	Cheryl and James Buhr	DTE Energy	Jack Gold	Rebecca Katzman and Adam Barth
Bank of Ann Arbor	James D. Buhr Trust	DTE Energy Foundation	Barbara Goodwin	Alexandra Kaufman
Rachel and Thomas Barnell	Nancy and Walter Byers	Employee Matching Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan	Google, Inc.	John and Marceil Kazickas
Norine Barnes	Andrew Campbell and Dana Wood	Cheryl and Paul Dube	John and Kathie Gourlay	The Kazickas Family Foundation, Inc.
Reuben and Joan Baron	Enid Camps	Joanne Duick	Gina Granger	Karen Keith
Lisa Bashert	Chelsea State Bank	Gregory and Amanda Dykhouse	Lisa Grant and William Weitzer	Edith Kieffer
Jack and Janet Baum	Kim Chenoweth	Connie Easterday	Grass Lake Medical Center	Richard King
Mark Beauchamp and Bonnie Renfro-Beauchamp	Chevron Corporation	John and Bradley Edgell	Bruce Graves	Kinross/Hiawatha Correctional Facility
Matthew Beuckelaere and Emily Linn	Joseph Cialdella	Mikael Elsila	Ruth Graves	Arthur Kirk and Kate Kirk-Greenberg
Pamela Payne Beck	Geoffrey and Amy Cislo	Valeriya Epshteyn	Ruth Graves Living Trust	Lillian Kivistö
Eve Becker	Carol Clark	Cynthia Erickson	Markie Gray	Wynn and Julie Koehler
John and Susan Beckett	Michael and Christine Clarke	Erick Erickson and Bernadette Malinoski	John Green	Phillip Kraft
Katherine Beehn	Carl Cohen	Allison Cook and David Hirsh	Eleanor Greene	Deborah Krant
Larry and Willa Behnkendorf	Carl Cohen Trust	C. David Cook	Genevieve and Michael Griffin	Joyce Krause
Mary Bejian	Karen and Robert Collins	C. David Cook Fund of the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund	Nicholas Griffin	Rebecca Kraut
Christian Bell	Susan Contratto and Thomas Weisskopf	Michael and Pamela Cooper	Dorothy and David Gubow	John Kruger
Lawrence Bell	Catherine and Charles Benson	Angelica and Kent Cprek	Oliver and Amelia Habicht	Linda Kruger
Steven and Shaune-Marie Berg	Paul Bick	Cramer, Minock & Sweeney, P.L.C.	Gordon and Linda Hall	Kyle Johnson and Carol Clark
Mary Berghuis	Nicole Bigelow and Andrew Cluley	Janice and William Feigenbaum	Phillip Harper	Donna Labadie
Maya Bernstein			Julie Harris and James Wescott	Jeffrey Larkin and Melissa Burns
Paul Bick			Marilyn and Preston Harris	Jonathan Laschever
Nicole Bigelow and Andrew Cluley			Rachelle Harris	Andrew Lehrer
			Paula and William Hathaway	
			Gail Haynes	
			Shirah and Stuart Hecht	
			Jane Heirich	

Robert and Mary Lemanek	John Meyerhoff & Lenel	Gail Offen and Randle	Susan Rosegrant and David	Elizabeth Swaynie
Gary and Lorraine Lerner	Srochi-Meyerhoff Fund of	Samuels	Lampe	Rosenblum Swiryn Gift Fund
Barbara Levine	the Baltimore Community	O'Hare-Silver Family Fund	Daniel and Leah Rosenbaum	of the Fidelity Charitable
Herbert Levine and Ellen	Foundation	Victor Omelzenko	Linda Rosenblum and	Gift Fund
Frankel	Lenel and John Meyerhoff	Wendy and William	Steven Swiryn	Ashley Tan
Annmarie Levins and Linda	Allison and Adam Meyers	Page-Echols	Jane Rosenthal	Kathryn Tierney
Severin	Jeffrey and Shirley	Palatine Hill Wealth	John and Martha Rozett	TNT Trailer Sales LLC
Elizabeth and Fielding Lewis	Michaelson	Management	Rochelle and Barry Rubin	Scott Tompkins
Joseph Lewis	Microsoft Corporation	Michael Parsons	Andrew Rubinson and Laura	Katherine Towler
Christian Lindensmith	Abigail Miller	Amit and Beth Patil	Thorpe	Trinity Health
Diane and Thomas Linn	Mackenzie Miller	Thurman Paynter	Patricia Ryan	Michael Twomey
Thomas and Diane Linn	Satoshi Minoshima and	Rebecca Pearlman	Kathryn and Ralph Safford	UAW Region 1-A Cap
Family Fund of the Vanguard	Yoshimi Anzai	Susan Perry and Stanley	Maria Sampen	Shannon Udovic-Constant
Charitable Fund	Tracy Mishkin and Jose	Goodyear	Jay and Susan Sandweiss	and James Constant
Martin Lipton	Ruelas	Susan Pierucci	Elizabeth and Brian Schill	UHY Advisors MI, Inc.
Minghao Liu and Michel	Ellen Moffit	Carrie and Regina Pinney	Karen Schiller and Ned	Kim and Robert Vane
Ward	Geneva Moore	Ovide and Cynthia	Kripke	W. Research Company LLC



Cynthia and Mark Livesay	Pomerleau	Gary Semer	Jamie West	Thomas Whittum
Peter Lobel and Diane	Sherri Moore-Ratcliffe and	Brandy Shattuck and	Walter Wilczynski and	Walter Wilczynski and
Heimlich	Blake Ratcliffe	Geoffrey Zmyslowski	Deborah Greene	Deborah Greene
Wayne Lord	Rebecca Morand	Morgan Princing	Trevor Wild	Trevor Wild
William Lovett	Gina Morantz-Sanchez and	The Provis' Gift Fund of the	Melina Williams and	Melina Williams and
Jennifer Lucky	Geoff Eley	Jewish Communal Fund	Matthew Anton	Matthew Anton
Daniel Madaj	Paul Morsink and Naomi	Thomas and Shirley Randall	Karen Wilson	Karen Wilson
James Maguire	Silver	Pamela Randazzo	Vince Wilson and Jody	Vince Wilson and Jody
Jacquelyn and Hans Maier	Andrea Moser	Anne Redlich	George	George
Lynn and Herbert Malinoff	Mary Murphy and Joseph	Bonnie Renfro-Beauchamp	Wiltec Technologies	Wiltec Technologies
The Milton & Tamar Maltz	Graziano	Diane and John Revitte	Robin Wolfson	Robin Wolfson
Family Foundation	Robert Murray	Nadine Reynolds	Sarah Wolfson	Sarah Wolfson
Elaine and Mark Mardirosian	Beth and Ronn Nadis	David Richardson	Mandi and Jackson Woods	Mandi and Jackson Woods
Diana Markel and Bryan	Joseph Nadis	Alexa and William Riley	Gracie Wooten	Gracie Wooten
Fishback	David and Sylvia Nelson	RingSide Creative Integ.	Youth Arts Alliance	Youth Arts Alliance
Eliza and Christopher	David Robert and Sylvia Jean	Media Studio	Zingerman's Bakehouse, Inc.	Zingerman's Bakehouse, Inc.
Marroni	Nelson Foundation for Arts	Victoria Roberts and Michael	Zingerman's Community of	Zingerman's Community of
Timothy and Emily Marshall	and Letters	Gehrls	Businesses	Businesses
Martin Family Foundation	Jon Nelson	Alma Robinson	Zingerman's Training, Inc.	Zingerman's Training, Inc.
Michael and Kristie Martin	Rachel Nelson and Chris	Andrew Rogers	Michael Zipper	Michael Zipper
Sally and William Martin	Rockwell	John Rogers	Jonathan and Cecile Zorach	Jonathan and Cecile Zorach
Vanessa Mayesky and Bruce	Marian Newman	Margaret and Lawrence Root	Jens and Frances Zorn	Jens and Frances Zorn
Worden	The Nola Foundation	Thomas Root and Antoinette	Helen Zylman-Seaman and	Helen Zylman-Seaman and
Carolyn McCreary	David Nordstrom	Morell	David Seaman	David Seaman
Jean McGuire	Michael North	Linda Wieser and James		
William McLeod and	Norton Investment Advisory,	Rosbe		
Caroline Herbert	Inc.	Laura Rosbrow Investment		
Jesse Meller	Tom Nowatzke	Trust		
Elizabeth Menninga	Alexandra Nowlin	Laura Rosbrow-Telem		



## Dear Friend of the RC,



I am writing to let you know about a new project that I am engaged in, which I hope might interest you as well. When I began my service as the Residential College Director in the mid-90s, one of my highest priorities was to encourage RC alums to play an active role in the life of the College. Some 25 years had gone by since the graduation of the first RC class, and I knew that there were many RC grads—some of them my own past students—who had much in the way of wisdom and experience to offer the contemporary RC. Now in retirement, reflecting on how I might best reward the College for all it has meant to me personally, I can think of no better way than to launch a program to support annual RC alum-student interactions on a permanent basis.

I have therefore contributed one half of the \$25,000 needed to establish an endowed U-M fund for RC student-alumni engagement. This program will enable the College to invite several interested RC alums to the College every year to make presentations of their ideas and/or work, and to interact informally with RC students.

I am reaching out to the RC community to raise the second half of the endowed fund. If 250 people make a gift of \$50 or more, we will reach our goal.

Please join me by making a gift today at our CrowdRise Campaign at

[myumi.ch/aKKVb](https://myumi.ch/aKKVb)

With all best wishes,

Tom

Professor Emeritus, RC Social Theory and Practice and Department of Economics  
Former Director, Residential College

University of Michigan  
1816 East Quad  
701 E. University  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1245

Phone: (734) 763-0032  
Fax: (734) 763-7712  
[www.lsa.umich.edu/rc](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/rc)

**University of Michigan  
Board of Regents**

Michael J. Behm  
Grand Blanc

Mark J. Bernstein  
Ann Arbor

Shauna Ryder Diggs  
Grosse Pointe

Denise Ilitch  
Bingham Farms

Andrea Fischer Newman  
Ann Arbor

Andrew C. Richner  
Grosse Pointe Park

Ron Weiser  
Ann Arbor

Katherine E. White  
Ann Arbor

Mark S. Schlissel, ex officio

Director: Jonathan D. Wells, PhD

Associate Director for Faculty Affairs:  
Naomi André PhD

Associate Director for Curriculum:  
Jennifer Myers, PhD

Department Manager: Carl Abrego

Editor: Robby Griswold

Design by Invisible Engines

The RC News is distributed to more than 6000 alumni, friends and current students of the RC. Please submit any changes, corrections, letters, and/or suggestions to the editor, Robby Griswold at [robbyg@umich.edu](mailto:robbyg@umich.edu).

Printed on recycled paper.

Nondiscrimination Policy Statement  
The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status. The university also is committed to compliance with all applicable laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action.

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Ann Arbor, MI  
Permit #144

Where's the envelope? We're saving trees. [www.lsa.umich.edu/rc](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/rc)

