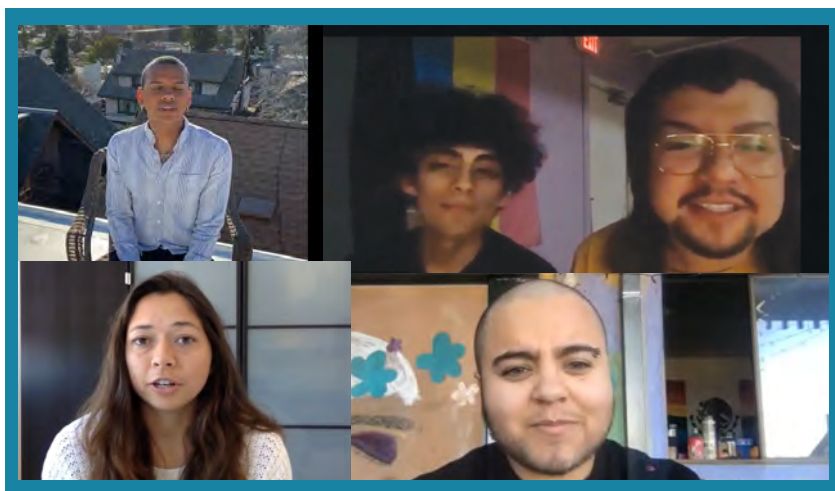




Cooperatively Yours

Alumni and Friends Key to COVID-19 Resilience



Berkeley Student Cooperative **special GIVE** April 27 - May 1, 2020

During the Special Give campaign, we featured video messages from our members and leaders, including President Emery Martinez (bottom right), Vice President of External Affairs Ella Smith (bottom left), Afro House President Serran Lewis (top left).

BY KIM BENSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I hope both you and your loved ones are staying safe, healthy, and connected during this crisis.

The pandemic has had disproportionate, excruciating effects on already vulnerable populations. Since most students in the Berkeley Student Cooperative come from low-income, first-generation college educated, and/or traditionally marginalized backgrounds, what we see here is what you'd expect — our students and their families are suffering. These students face the prospect of delaying college or college graduation, which could result in even more long-term financial consequences.

Open for Students Who Need Us

The Berkeley Student Cooperative has remained open for the many students who rely on us for shelter and food. We are their primary residence, and without us they would be struggling to meet their basic needs. Many more students rely on the BSC to provide a comfortable space, physically and emotionally, to carry on their studies, as their family environment may not be conducive for academic and personal development.

As instruction at UC Berkeley, Berkeley City College, and other nearby schools will continue to be online for the foreseeable future, our community will be the only space students can get the collegiate learning experiences they want and need.

Enhanced Health Protocols

The health and safety of our students and staff is our first priority. Our health protocols follow the latest advisories for “congregate housing facilities”:

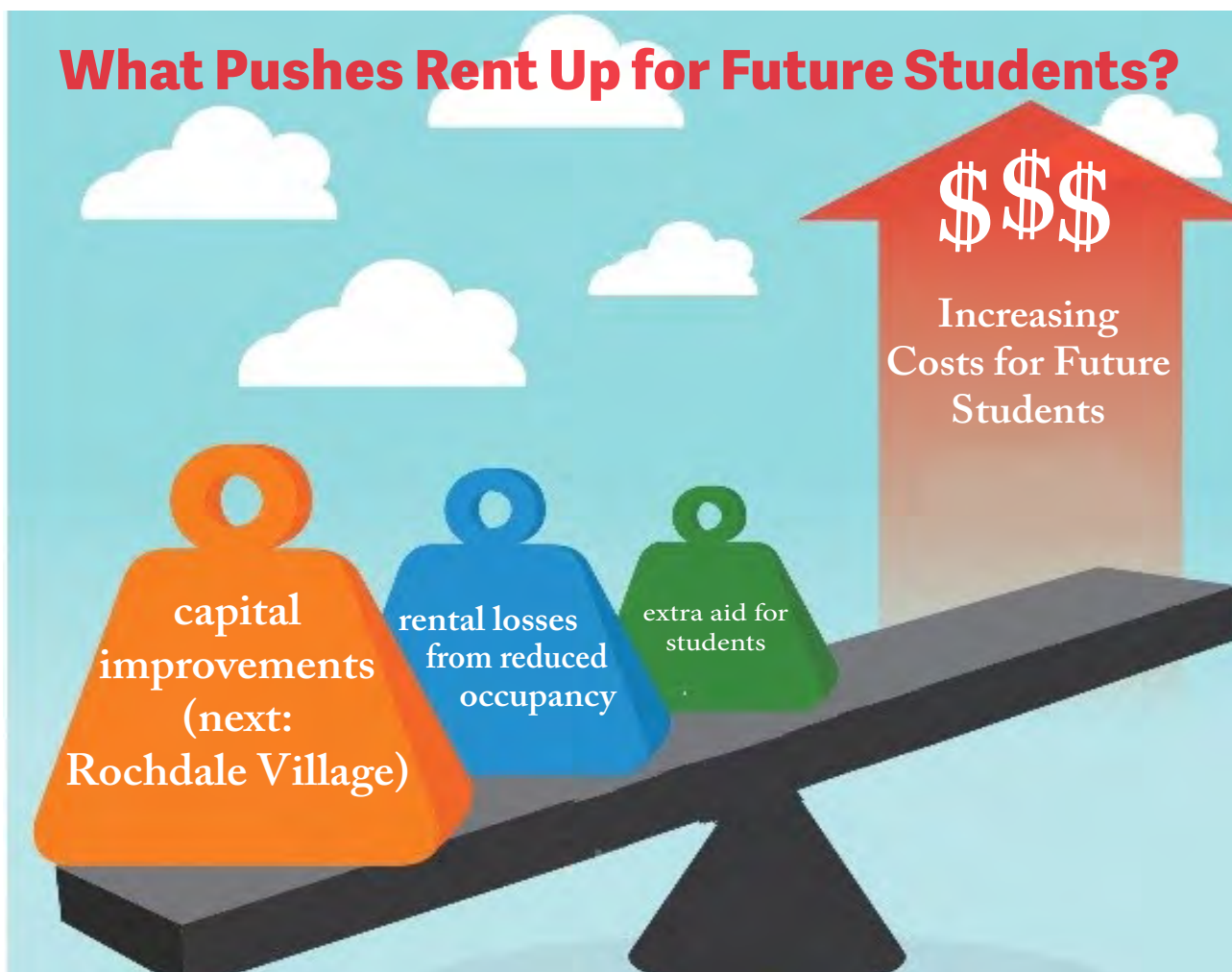
- We lowered the maximum occupancy of our units and reserved various apartments for self-isolation, resulting in about a 20% decrease overall.
- We instituted quarantine protocols when a student tests positive for COVID-19. In those situations, the students are relocated to a separate apartment to self-isolate while they recover. Our staff coordinates food, supplies, and medical attention. The affected house also enters tailored quarantine protocols and works closely with our Emergency Response Team and CAL/City health officials to minimize risk to

others and determine when it is safe to lift the quarantine.

- We work closely with both the Berkeley Health Department and University Health Services to develop health and safety protocols. For example, we have stepped-up sanitation shifts in our homes and have implemented mask requirements.

It's a Crisis for Students. Let's Rally

We are suffering a budget deficit of over \$2 million, due to increased costs of meeting health and safety protocols and reduced occupancy. We must reckon with rent increases and serious budget cuts. I ask all our alumni and friends to donate what you can to keep the BSC viable for future students who need affordable housing.



Thank You Donors

We are grateful to our alumni and friends who have come through this year with \$25 gifts, \$100 gifts, and monthly sustaining gifts! The broad-based support of our community is so important to our students! We would also like to recognize the following:

\$15,000+

Steve Greenberg, Richard Lira, Anonymous (in honor of Lewis McKee Family), Barbara Wood

\$10,000+

Al Davenport, Kent Rasmussen, Mark and Anita Shapiro, Vlad Tsyrklevich, BSC Alumni Association

\$5,000+

Victor Bloomfield, Barbara Hughes, Carl Larson, Niels Laughlin, Mark Heising and Liz Simons, Anonymous (in honor of Rose & Charles Zerlang), Tom Sutak, Deniz Tuncer, Gretchen Taylor, Jeffrey Wright

Special Thanks to the Special Give Volunteer Team

Volunteer Managers supported the volunteers with individualized attention and encouragement: Allen Davenport, Jon Lampman, Richard Lira, Kathleen McCully, Kevin Ramirez, Steve Wood

Volunteer Corps members shared their passion and personal stories and engaged our larger alumni community: Kelly Archer, Rich Arthur, Al Bierce, Marian Gold, Elliot Goldstein, Jay Devore, Bob Evans, Geoff Hom, Elan Lavie, Michelle Nacouzi, Wick Smith, Ruth Spear, Julie Tapp, Arthur Ungar, Kreig Zimmerman

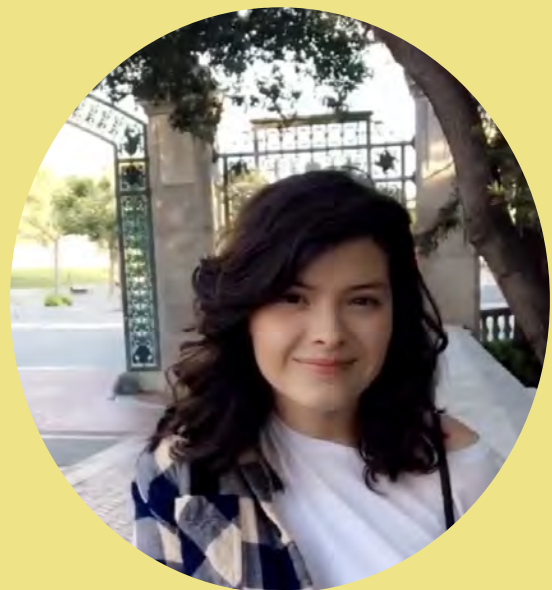
NOT ALL BEARS

The BSC offers affordable housing and community for all students with dreams

MARIAFERNANDA PIÑÓN

STEBBINS HALL

I'm from a small town called Linden, where my parents are agricultural laborers. After graduating from high school, I enrolled in Modesto Junior College, but I dropped out after a year because my mom was diagnosed with cancer and I had to take another job to help support my family. In 2017, after my mom had her last chemotherapy treatment, I decided to become more independent and pursue my academic dreams. I thought going to Berkeley City College would be a good place to start because I always wanted to live in Berkeley and eventually go to Cal. I didn't have housing in Berkeley the first semester, so I commuted by bus each day, which took over six hours round trip. Dropping out was not an option. Then I found out about the BSC and moved into Stebbins Hall my Spring semester.

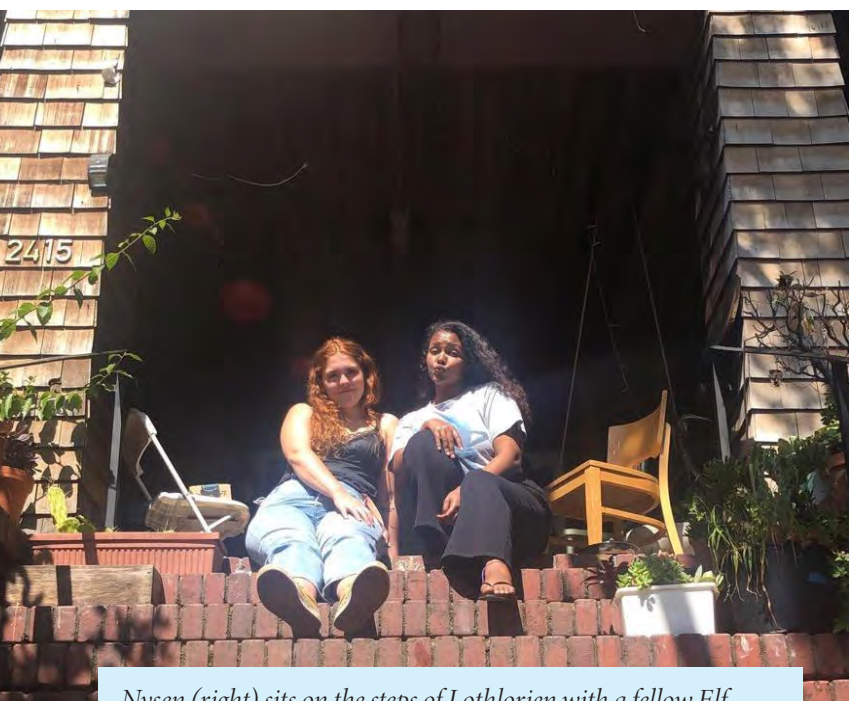


Living in Stebbins means a lot to me. It's the first time I lived away from home. I've met so many people who have similar backgrounds, so we built a strong support network.

CONT.PG 4

Before I moved into Stebbins, I questioned whether I was making the right choice, but here, surrounded by other students, including many who had gone through the transfer process, I feel encouraged and inspired. Without the BSC, I honestly don't think I would have been as motivated and doing as well in school. I have really grown as a person here.

In the middle of the pandemic, in April, I found out I got into UC Berkeley. When I received the welcome letter from UC Berkeley, the first thing I did was run upstairs and call my mom and cry with her on the phone. Then I ran back downstairs and told all my friends and celebrated. Everybody was really proud of me. I plan on studying sociology and political economy.



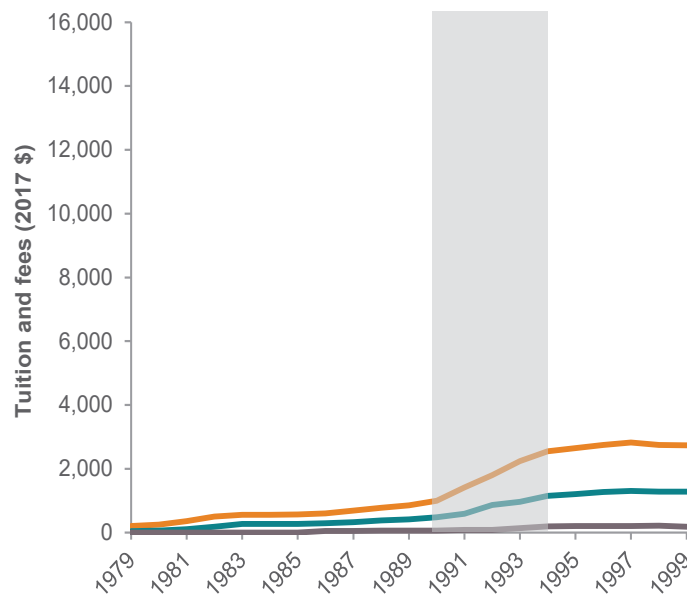
Nysen (right) sits on the steps of Lothlorien with a fellow Elf

NYSEN MARIDE
LOTHLORIEN • 2020

I moved to Berkeley from my hometown of Las Vegas, Nevada after taking a gap year working at my local veterinary hospital to save some money. My gap year gave me time to assess what kind of future I wanted to pursue and identify the types of environments I would thrive in. I knew I wanted a career in the animal care field. In time I advanced to the position of veterinary assistant. This

Excerpted and adapted from *California's Tuition Increases on Affordability, Access, and Quality*

Tuition and fees have risen dramatically at UC and CSU over the



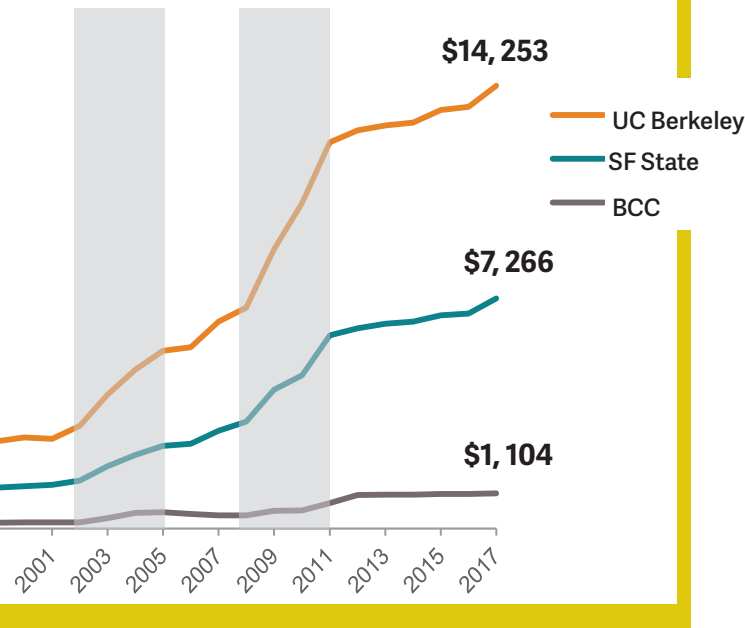
prompted me to pursue vet school — specifically, the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

I enrolled at Berkeley City College two years ago with a goal of transferring to UC Davis after completing my lower division course requirements.

As a Bay Area transplant paying out-of-state tuition, I am looking forward to establishing residency in California, a place I now call home. Besides cost effectiveness, I chose the community college path to utilize the Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) program which is an agreement between California community colleges and six UC campuses in which students who meet certain transfer requirements are guaranteed admission.

As summer progresses, the pandemic and its chaos persist. I have found a strong sense of unity with my cooperative household, friends and family. Practicing self care, taking action to support my community and learning to plan for my future have been educational journeys. As I prepare my transfer application to be submitted this Fall, I wonder what my life will be like next year. I am optimistic for the future and I know that if I trust myself and my choices I'll always be on the right path.

the past three decades



The BSC serves all full-time students working towards a degree, and about 5% of our members attend schools other than UC Berkeley. Especially as colleges and universities become more expensive, we are proud to be able to support the educational dreams of students from Berkeley City College, San Francisco State University, Mills College, Diablo Valley College and more.

Aktar, far right, with his uncle and mother

AKTAR ZAMAN

PERSON OF COLOR THEME HOUSE (CASTRO)

I was born and raised in Sylhet, Bangladesh in a family of 6. My father was the only source of income for the big family and I had seen him struggle to provide for all of us. Unfortunately, he passed away in 2005.

Luckily, we immigrated to the US in 2014 with the help of my uncle. As soon as I got here I learned about all things that were available at my fingertips, most importantly, the internet, which is a luxury in Bangladesh, and a free highschool education, which I could only dream of getting back home. I was determined to take advantage of everything that was available to me.

Without knowing any English I found adjusting to the western culture to be very difficult but I was not going to give up. After graduating high school in 2016 I started taking math and computer sciences at classes at Berkeley City College but I was very fortunate enough to live right by UC Berkeley, where I audited interesting lectures and spent time connecting with professors and peers, which has helped me create a broad network that I am still in touch with.

Although I was accepted as a transfer student in UC Berkeley, I enrolled at San Francisco State because the tuition is lower. My goal was to be part of the tech industry that I have heard so much about from people all around the globe. Currently, I am interning at CBS Interactive as a software engineer and I dream to have my own company one day. Most importantly I want to inspire those who are coming after me and show them that with hard work and persistence It is possible to achieve your dreams.



BSC Graduation Delivers with Help from Alumni Pen Pals



SHUGE LUO

CASA ZIMBABWE

BSC Social Manager Coordinator

The BSC cancelled our annual graduation celebration with the COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders, so Malia Powers, who works in the Development & Alumni Relations Committee, and I re-invented this rite-of-passage with graduation care packages! We curated a special collection of gifts for each of our graduates which included Berkeley-made artisan chocolate, moleskine notebooks, and a BSC graduation certificate.

However, the best part of our care package were the encouraging letters from over 70 alumni. It was challenging to put together 180 packages during the busiest and unprecedented weeks of this semester, however we received ample support and advice from Madeleine Loh, the Development Director.

We want our graduates to feel great about what they accomplished, and to welcome them to their new role as alumni with life-long connections with the BSC.

Dear BSC graduate,

Wow, you made it! Congratulations on arriving at this milestone in your life, your heart should be filled with immense pride for how far you've come. It takes hard work and effort to get to where you are now. So give yourself a grateful sigh of validation because **YOU DESERVE IT!** School may be over, but life's lessons are yet to be learnt. Keep an open ♥ and mind, and know without a doubt that you are capable of great things.
This is just the beginning!

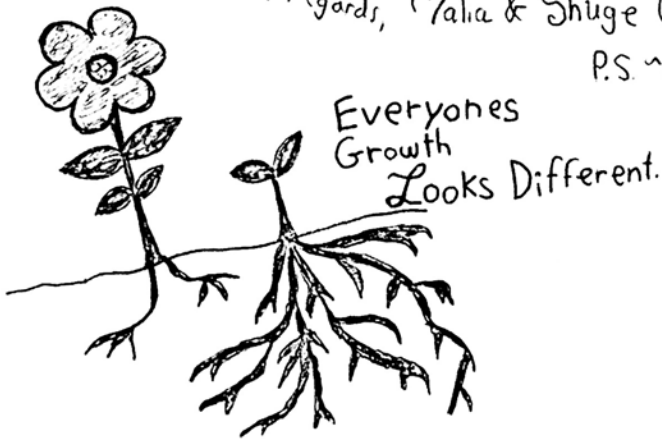
Although this chapter isn't ending the way we expected, these unprecedented times will without a doubt serve you well to be prepared for anything life has to offer. After all, if it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you. We don't grow when things are easy. We grow when we face challenges. Like a seed sprouting in the darkness of the dirt, sometimes we gotta confidently push through the uncertainty before we flourish. These times of change have the ability to truly transform and strengthen you in ways that will become apparent as time goes on.

We put together this care package for you in hopes it would bring a smile and remind you of how supported & appreciated you are. Although you may no longer live in the co-ops, the BSC community extends beyond the boundaries of its property. As a BSC alum, we'd like to thank you for being a part of our community, and now, enriching the legacy of our evolving organization.

Chasing a dream requires determination, passion, and hard work. Lean into your BSC community and best wishes to your future!

Warmest regards, Malia & Shuge (current BSC members) ☺

P.S. ~don't forget to enjoy the journey!



Queer Your Heart Out

LGBTQ Alumni and Students Celebrate Before Shelter-In Place



Queer Your Heart Out, an evening celebrating the artistic expressions of generations of LGBTQ students, turned out to be our last alumni party before the Bay Area-wide shelter-in-place order.

MADELEINE LOH

DAVIS HOUSE, 1993-96; ROCHDALE VILLAGE, 2002-04
BSC Development Director

The progression of the students in Johnson Rivera House reflects a desire to evolve and meet the needs of traditionally marginalized students — such a desire is the core of our organizational identity. We

are grateful to the many alumni who came to Queer Your Heart Out and not only celebrated our history with us, but also listened with open hearts to the experiences and challenges faced by today's students.



The March 2020 event was hosted by the students living in Oscar Wilde House, but the students residing there prefer the name Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera House (or “Johnson Rivera House”), to claim a space for queer, transgender, people of color (QTPOC). “We can tell you of all the wonderful things that our house

has done like donating the proceeds of our events to support other QTPOC individuals and organizations, hosting other events in our house for free, helping QTPOCs become housing secure, providing workshops, [and] having events and activities that are empowering for QTPOCs.”

Special thanks to Luis Calixto, Johnson Rivera House Social Manager, for producing the event; Alberto Marti (CZ) for inspiring and supporting the house; and Kent Rasmussen (Oxford Hall, Chateau) for donating the wine!



Alumni Notes

CLOYNE COURT

Cloyne Court friends from the 1950's still reunite every year.



SAL KADRI

CLOYNE COURT • 1956-59

Like most Co-ops in my time, I started off washing pots and pans in the Central Kitchen (located at Oxford). Next semester I signed up as assistant to our workshift manager, Ted Eisenstadt. As an industrial engineering major, I was good at putting tables and charts together for workshift assignments. Eventually I was elected as the workshift manager, then later as the house manager, so my room and board expenses were pretty much covered.

In those days there was no tuition only incidental fees and a student card that cost about \$58/semester. That got you in the Cowell hospital for healthcare and all the sports and other Cal events. Most of us worked full time during the summers and lived in the Co-op, which allowed us to graduate without any loans.

Besides being serious about our academics, Cloyne was really successful in intramural sports. Having a basketball and volleyball court helped. We even had a golf team that roped me into my first golf game.

In the Co-op I learned a lot and made friendships that have lasted a lifetime. My Cloyne friends and I still get together for the past 45 years on Super Bowl day with friends including Dan Eisenstein, Phil Thompson, Bill James, Narsai David, Dick Bierce, Jerry Sakai, Nick Jaffe, and Joe Orsini, just to name a few (Dick Goodbody, Ted Eisenstad, George Leonoff, Emil Portale are missed, they have passed on).

I am flabbergasted that college is so expensive today. There is no longer public investment in higher education at the level I enjoyed. Students have to struggle and graduate with significant debt. I hope all my Co-op cohorts who have done well will join me in supporting the Berkeley Student Cooperative.

The Berkeley Student Cooperative is immensely grateful to Sal Kadri and his friends at his senior cooperative housing community, the Berkeley TownHouses, for organizing a giving circle to support us this year!



ELMER GROSSMAN

RIDGE HOUSE • 1947-50

I am moved to support the Co-op because I am reminded of how much it meant to me. The Co-op imparts valuable lessons to students, like how to work in a responsible fashion as a group, and to understand the group's needs in a larger social context.

I became a boarder at Ridge House at a very young age — 17 — after experiences in fraternities that did not suit my values and personality. At Ridge House, I found an incredible community of people from diverse backgrounds. The Co-op dinner table was perhaps the most exciting center of student activity around the campus — so much so that Irving Stone even wrote about it.

I am also grateful for the many friends who were instrumental in helping me along my academic career. For example, I don't think I would have gotten into UCSF medical school were it not for the friendly competition I had with another Ridge House resident who studied chemistry at Stanford.

I really matured at Ridge House. I was even elected to the house council, and I was proud of my role. It was very satisfying to be able to arrange better experiences for my fellow housemate. I'll never forget that one day when our house enjoyed a lamb chop bonanza, a special treat as we rarely got meat! I gained confidence in my ability to learn new things and take on unexpected challenges, which served me for the rest of my life.



new treasured moments with my Co-op friends.

I am astounded by just how much the BSC was and is led and directed by the students. As a manager and board director, I faced an amalgam of leadership challenges. I would like to see students in the BSC extend their visions for democracy and community beyond the cooperative system and establish those values in our local communities.

I started supporting the BSC while I was still a member. I started a \$1 a month recurring donation to demonstrate my gratitude and remind me to continue and grow my support for the BSC as I develop my career.

I care a lot about stronger communities and social learning for children, which is so important for their moral and creative development. Today, I teach middle school and really focus on their social and emotional growth!

CARYN TRAN

NORTHSIDE, ROCHDALE • 2015-19

My TA told me about the BSC, and I thought it would be such a great experience to live communally and connect with other students, and affordable to boot. I lived at Cloyne starting my sophomore year. At first I was apprehensive of the culture at a substance-free, academic house, but it was honestly one of the best experiences of my college years.

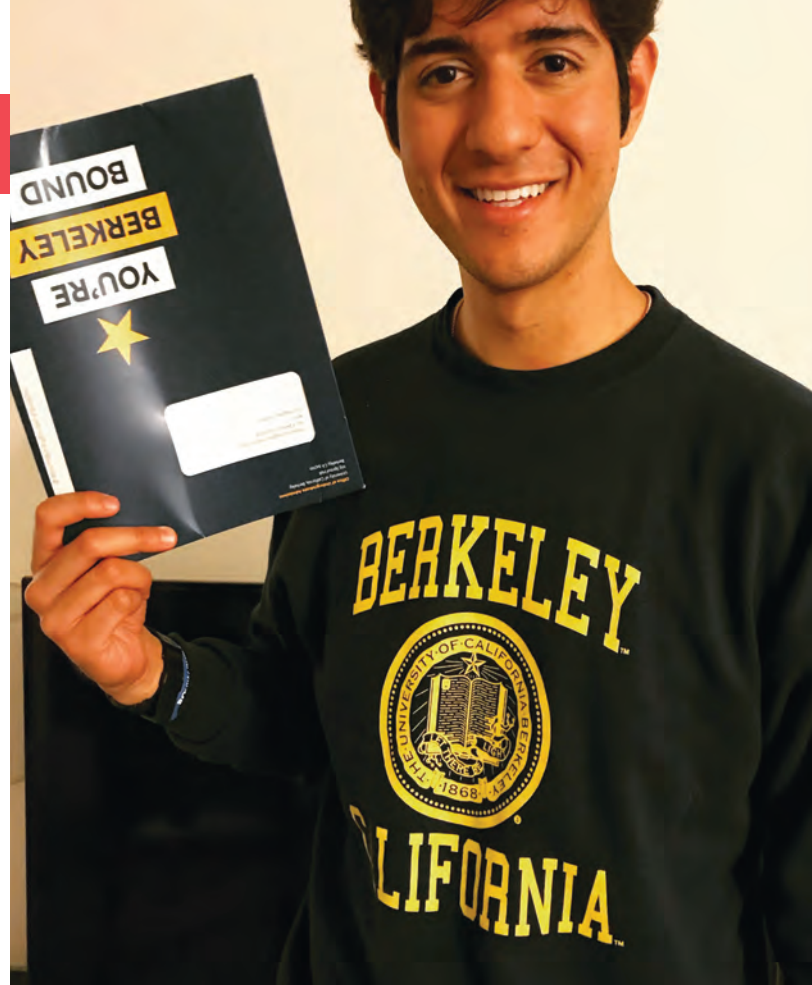
One year, I decided to make hundreds of dumplings for Lunar New Year at Cloyne. I spent 2-3 days filling and wrapping the dumplings, but I made a huge mistake of not freezing them. Unfortunately, when it came time to cook them, they all stuck together in a sticky mess. I felt so bad for all the wasted work and food. But my dear and creative friend Storm stuck the dumpling dough mix into the waffle maker and invented pork dumpling waffles. Apparently they tasted great.

Eventually, I moved into the apartments as a senior and graduate student looking for more privacy, but even then, I found a great community of friends. I've continued to meet up with old BSC friends here and abroad, creating



ORLANDO GONZALEZ GUDINO-GUIZAR
CLOYNE COURT, ROCHDALE • 2018-19

I have always tried to live in a way that is meaningful. As a young teenager that meant immigrating to the United States, leaving my parents and grandparents back in Mexico, to seek opportunities otherwise unavailable. Other times it meant making mistakes: I remember one evening while attending Santa Monica Community College I almost fell to the ground from exhaustion — I hadn't eaten since the night before, and we were about to launch a joint program between the Associated Students (A.S) and several businesses that now provide weekly meals to low-income students (385+ students per semester). I was also revamping the A.S's Fiscal Policy. What I wasn't doing was studying, taking a toll on my GPA. I was ambitious but I lacked balance.



At UC Berkeley, however, it was different: the Co-op's environment and students became the balancing factor in my life. I still worked hard, but now my home was embedded with students who worked just as hard and were off-the-charts-brilliant, who lived and succeeded through challenges I only experienced vicariously. I almost didn't come to Berkeley: UCSB offered me a full-ride scholarship but Berkeley fell short by \$10,000. As if by magic, the BSC reduced my expenses by that same amount, and I am so incredibly thankful that I chose Berkeley.



Legacy Spotlight

Roy Baker

We are thrilled to announce alum Roy Baker and his wife Janice Parakilas will be leaving a bequest to the Berkeley Student Cooperative.

My six years in the Berkeley Student Cooperative ended up being as valuable a learning experience as my classroom, lab and patient care experiences. I arrived at Berkeley with no experience living with other students and quickly adapted to having roommates, sharing meals and many other Co-op social interactions. I still recall my first workshift hosing out and steam cleaning food waste bins in the central kitchen. I learned to volunteer for better workshifts such as being a bag lunch manager at Oxford Hall. I enjoyed being a breakfast cook and telephone switchboard operator at Stebbins and I was eventually elected House Manager. After an optometric internship year in India I moved into a Rochdale studio to complete my third degree at Berkeley.

My wife and I eventually settled in Humboldt County, where we enjoy the natural beauty, and are active in forest and water conservation projects. One of our friends nearby lived in Stebbins Hall 6-8 years before I did. I remain in touch with my Stebbins roommate, Andrew Fan, who lives in Canada.



Roy Baker (standing nearest the sidewalk.) & Tom Raasch, OD, PhD (in white coat)



Dana Angluin, Clint Kellner, Madeline Radkey, Paul Bishop, Jan Frazier, Mark Rosen, Jane, Cliggett, Blair Swezey, Rich Wade, Sandy Stedinger, Jane Moorhead, Lydia Mechanic, Joan Bettlechers, Mike Gudjohnson, Mike Hintz, Naomi Scheck

Putting the BSC in Your Will

Even a gift in your will of 1% of your estate will make a difference!

With so much uncertainty at the moment, our work to provide housing for students who need us is of vital importance. And while you may be unsure of a way to support the Berkeley Student Cooperative given this crisis, creating a planned gift is a powerful way to make a lasting impact and legacy with us that won't cost you anything today.

We hope you will join the many people who have included the BSC in their will, trust, or beneficiary designations. Writing a will is one of the most important steps to take, though understandably scary or uncomfortable given the current crisis. But now more than ever, it's important to protect the people and values that matter most to you and have a plan in place.

Our legal name is Berkeley Student Cooperative, Inc., a California not-for-profit corporation, with its principal place of business in Berkeley, California. We are a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and confirmation of our tax-exempt status from the US Department of Treasury is available upon request. Our Federal tax ID/EIN is 94-0948140.

If you have questions, contact our Development Director, Madeleine Loh, at (510) 649-8984 or mloh@bsc.coop. If the BSC is already in your will, we hope you will inform us so we can plan for our future and show our gratitude!

The BSC is a worthy organization that allowed me to live inexpensively in a collaborative environment. I was able to graduate with no debt. I know our state and educational systems are not supporting students in the same way. When I've had the opportunity, I recommend the BSC to young people going to college in Berkeley.

I follow news about the BSC without judgment about how it's evolved, because I know it's a good place for students to contribute to how it's run. I was inspired to leave a bequest to the Berkeley Student Cooperative by an article in a previous issue of *Cooperatively Yours* about my fellow Stebbanite, Michael O'Toole, who, as I recall, was the Workshift Manager. Our bequest is intended to support capital improvements at the Berkeley Student Cooperative.

Alumna Araceli Beltran Empowers Next Generation



Social distancing in the Rochdale office

Araceli Beltran is a BSC alumna and the Manager for Rochdale Village and Fenwick Weavers Village apartments, serving 354 students in 133 units. In addition to her property management duties, Araceli develops and supports educational and social programming, advises the student governance bodies at Rochdale and Fenwick, and works closely with BSC management to ensure compliance with BSC policies and long-range strategic goals.

Araceli grew up in the small rural town of Thermal, CA, a community of migrant farmworkers that were frequently displaced by the nature of farm work. Since there was no internet, libraries or other learning resources outside of school, Araceli fondly recalls learning English through the Simpsons and other shows available on network TV.

Getting into college was her goal since the beginning of her highschool career, but she knew her parents would not be able to afford higher education. She applied herself in her studies to ensure that she would earn as many scholarships as possible. She did not have much

help with college prep or the college application process. She ended up applying to only four universities because the fee waiver that allows low-income students to apply to up to four UCs for free. She was accepted by all four schools.

Araceli had a full-ride scholarship that enabled her to live in the expensive UC Berkeley dorms, but it didn't last beyond the first year. By Spring semester of her freshman year, with no housing options for the summer or the following academic year, Araceli began her search for affordable housing options.

Peaceful scenes in Davis Park, the common area shared by Rochdale and Fenwick.



Araceli discovered the BSC during one of her many bus rides. “My home town didn’t have public transportation so I struggled with BART at first, and rode the bus for hours to get around the Bay Area. On one of my bus rides I met another Cal student who told me about the BSC apartments. It was a blessing.” Araceli stayed in Fenwick apartments until she graduated in 2015.

Araceli was very involved during her time as a student living at Fenwick. She took on multiple positions, from Board representative to council member and eventually House President. Cooperative living was so new to her and she found it amazing how everyone -- staff and students -- came together to make the housing system work and feel like a community.

Influenced by her background, Araceli had a passion for agriculture and sustainability and majored in Conservation and Resource Studies. Communities like the ones she came from tended to be invisible and she wanted to change that. After graduating, she returned to Riverside County to work

in educational and supportive services for children. She came back to work for the BSC because she wanted to learn more about cooperative living and eventually take her knowledge back to her home community.

To Araceli, cooperatives are empowering. She envisions a world for her community where they would be empowered to make decisions to improve living and work conditions. She finds it amazing that the BSC members are always making their decisions in consideration of future generations of co-ops.

According to Araceli, a common misconception about the BSC is that there exists divisions with different levels of power within the BSC. Rather, the organization is an ecosystem with all parts necessary to make the whole. She says, “From the student-run board, to council meetings, to the many managerial opportunities, every co-oper has the agency to make their voices heard and potentially make changes that leave behind a legacy and make the system better for future generations.”





Rochdale and Fenwick: Long-Term Leases Hinge on Seismic Retrofits

Rochdale Village and Fenwick Weavers Village are UC-owned properties that the Berkeley Student Cooperative has leased since 1970 and 1979, respectively. The BSC developed these two apartment complexes, housing a total of 354 students, with the aid of a Housing and Urban Development program which no longer exists.

The BSC is in the process of securing long-term lease renewals for both properties. “Our students at Rochdale and Fenwick are over 80% EOP (low-income), and over 80% first-generation college students. UC Berkeley administrators, including Chancellor Carol Christ, have expressed how important it is to them that the BSC continues to provide affordable housing to students. We are all invested in a long-term solution to make UC Berkeley affordable for the low-income and traditionally marginalized students who need it most,” says Kim Benson.

Rochdale and Fenwick are subject to the 2017 University of California Seismic Safety Policy (managed by the UC Office of the President) requiring all buildings, including leased property, to meet life safety standards by 2030. Consequently, a new long-term lease would be contingent on the completion of key milestones demonstrating the BSC’s readiness to embark on seismic work, such as structural engineering plans, construction bids, fundraising and financing.

After conducting initial seismic evaluations, the BSC has learned that five of the six buildings at Rochdale must be retrofitted.. The anticipated cost of seismic retrofits is \$15-20 million, and must be completed by 2022. “We are facing the most expensive and largest capital project the BSC has seen in recent decades,” says Kim Benson. “But the result will be worth it — a long-term lease and safer housing for students.”

Donate to Capital Improvements to help us seismically retrofit our buildings!

QUICK FACTS ABOUT ROCHDALE & FENWICK

- Current leases expire May 2021
- 354 students. 80% low-income; 80%+ first-generation college students
- Projected Cost of Seismic Retrofit: \$15-20 million
- What is the minimum seismic safety requirement under the University of California Seismic Safety Policy? At a minimum, buildings should have a “fair” seismic performance rating, meaning the buildings should be able to withstand a major earthquake with damage and/or falling hazard which would result in low hazard to life. In other words, students residing in the building should be able to survive a major earthquake.

Where do your donations go?

All donations ultimately keep rents low for students. How do we use your donations specifically?

- 1. Capital Improvements.** Donations to Capital Improvements help us preserve and improve our most important assets — buildings and infrastructure. When you donate to capital improvements, you help relieve the biggest upward pressure on rents as we tackle years of deferred maintenance, software upgrades, and capital projects like seismic retrofits.
- 2. Scholarships.** Donations to Scholarships go directly to our lowest-income students who get a rent reduction of 1/6 to 1/3 off their rent.
- 3. Where It Is Needed Most.** Donations to Where It Is Needed Most are unrestricted donations. You are investing in the BSC and our mission to make an impact on the affordability of higher education and the cooperative movement. The Board determines the use of these funds. In the past, unrestricted donations have funded seismic retrofits and helped us grow our operating reserves.
- 4. COVID-19 Resilience Fund.** Donations will support emergency relief for students and cover operating losses of over \$2 million as we remain in operation with lowered capacity.

Donate to the BSC!

bsc.coop/donate

1 Choose your gift:

- \$100 \$1000
 \$ \$ /month
 I am making a gift in my will
 I am donating appreciated securities

2 Choose your area of support:

- Capital improvements
 Scholarships
 Where it is needed most
 COVID-19 Resilience Fund

3 Payment & Contact Information:

- My check, payable to Berkeley Student Cooperative, is enclosed.
 Please charge my credit card.

CARD NO.

EXP. DATE



CVV/CSC
CODE

SIGNATURE

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

YOUR BSC
HISTORY

Many Ways to Give

The Berkeley Student Cooperative is a student-run 501(c)(3) affordable housing provider that removes barriers to higher education for low-income and traditionally marginalized students and empowers them with community-building skills that they can take into the future.

Legal Name: Berkeley Student Cooperative, Inc., a California not-for-profit corporation, with its principal place of business in Berkeley, California.

Tax status: 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Confirmation of our tax-exempt status is provided in the form of a letter from the US Department of Treasury, available upon request.

Tax ID: 94-0948140

Contact: Madeleine Loh, Development Director, (510) 649-8984 or mloh@bsc.coop

Donor Advised Funds: The BSC can receive gifts from donor advised funds like Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program, and Schwab Charitable Fund.

Qualified IRA Distribution: If you're 70.5 or older, you can make a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA. You'll pay no income tax on that amount and satisfy your required minimum distribution.

Securities Transfer: Avoid capital gains tax by donating appreciated securities.

Employer Matches: Double your impact — ask your HR department about gift matching! The BSC has received matching employer donations from Google, Apple, Facebook, Applied Materials, Lawrence Livermore National Labs, and others.

The BSC wants to reach all alumni! bsc.coop/alumni/update

Moved? Changed your name? Different email address? Let us know so we can keep you informed about local events and BSC news that matter to you.

Use the online form, or contact Madeleine Loh at (510) 649-8984 or mloh@bsc.coop

Deadline for submissions for
Spring 2021 issue: **January 1, 2020**



Berkeley Student Cooperative
2424 Ridge Road
Berkeley, CA 94709

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #810
Oakland, CA

Berkeley Student Cooperative, est. 1933

The mission of the Berkeley Student Cooperative is to provide a quality, low-cost, cooperative housing community to university students, thereby providing an educational opportunity for students who might not otherwise be able to afford a university education.



We are immensely grateful for the outpouring of support from our alumni and friends. We raised over \$250,000 in our annual Special Give campaign, a record for us, which will make a dent in our deficit. We are particularly grateful for the work and dedication of our Special Give Volunteer Team!