



2010 Distinguished

Alumni Awards

BY JOYCE MCCALLISTER



They epitomize the best of Pacific, those achievers who follow their hearts into the world; who become pillars of society and business; who give back to the University of their time, talent and treasure; and who give because others have given to them. The 2010 class of Pacific Distinguished Alumni Award winners, recognized at the awards dinner on November 6, 2010, includes many caring graduates and friends of the University who have given their best.



PACIFIC
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

President's Award

**ALEX A. AND GERALDINE (MC CARL)
VERESCHAGIN '57**



Alex and Jeri Vereschagin were very active Pacific students. Alex, a business major, played in the Pacific Marching Band and was president of Omega Phi Alpha. Jeri majored in elementary education, was president of Alpha Theta Tau and served on the PanHellenic Council, and was on the staff of the Naranjado yearbook.

After graduation, they returned to Alex's family farm in Orland, Calif., to raise a family and build the family business in real estate and banking. One of their sons, Robert '85, is also a graduate of

the Eberhardt School of Business. The Vereschagins have given to Pacific in various ways: recruiting new students to Pacific from Northern California, serving on reunion committees, helping to restore the Feather River Inn, serving on the Pacific Alumni Association Board and helping out at Family Camp.

Alex was president of the Pacific Alumni Association, and during his term helped align the Association with the mission and vision of the University. He was the first PAA president to report directly to the Board of Regents.

Not only have the couple given their time to Pacific, they've also given their resources, including the lead naming gift to fund the Alex and Jeri Vereschagin Alumni House, scheduled to open in August.

Distinguished Alumni Award for Public Service

ALLENE C. ZANGER '77



Allene Zanger says her chance encounter on the Pacific campus changed the course of her life. While in high school, she attended a mock political convention at Pacific and was impressed with the idyllic campus and the dedication of faculty and staff. She decided to apply to Pacific instead of U.C. Berkeley.

"I've never once regretted that decision," she says. "Pacific may have been smaller than Cal, but it opened up the world for me."

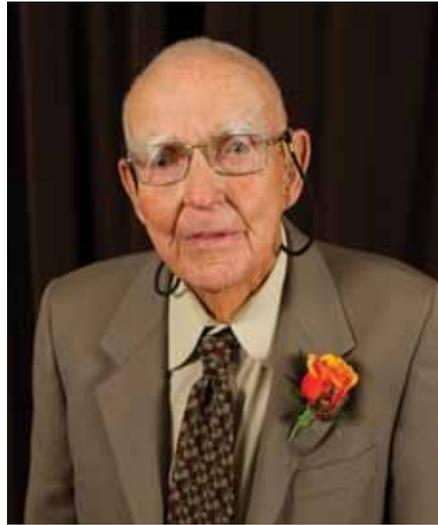
Zanger was active in speech and debate, held elective office, tutored special needs children in local schools, joined a sorority, participated in the model United Nations, and studied abroad in Vienna, Austria. Following graduation, she studied law at Hastings College and embarked on a successful career as an attorney. She was a deputy attorney general and later general counsel for Tejon Ranch Company. She left the corporate world to spend two years with the Peace Corps, where she worked with the Ministry of Education in Panama to design and implement an environmental education program.

Continuing her work with disadvantaged youth back in the States, Zanger cofounded the Central Valley Communities for Children AmeriCorps Program and later became the director of School-Community Partnerships in the Kern County Superintendent of Schools office. She also served in the Peace Corps national office. As regional director of operations in 25 countries in the Inter-Americas and the Pacific, she oversaw one of the Peace Corps' largest divisions, with a budget of more than \$58 million and oversight of 2,300 volunteers (about one-third of the total number in the field).

Today she is the executive director of the Bay Area's Stewardship Council, a nonprofit organization that oversees long-term strategies for more than 140,000 acres of watershed lands in California. She has returned to campus to speak to Pacific students about public service and plans to serve on the School of International Studies advisory board.

Distinguished Alumni Award for Volunteer Service

ALBERT M. IRWIN '42



Al Irwin was the first member of his family to attend college, coming to Pacific on a football scholarship. He remembers having his family's help and support through college, and says that after he graduated "it was time to start giving back. It's been a great privilege to give back to everyone who supported me."

Irwin also met his wife, Lois Bugbee '42, at Pacific. The couple married in 1942 and their daughter, Marcia '69, graduated from the Gladys L. Benerd School of Education.

Irwin began a 70-year career of volunteer service serendipitously when he happened upon a beach rescue at age 14. A recognized, influential leader in water safety, he has trained thousands of lifeguards, firefighters and police officers in water rescue, including being invited by Jacques Cousteau to train police officers at the renowned oceanographer's dive center in southern France.

In the Navy during World War II, he supervised swim programs for the Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Illinois. After the war, he coached high school and college football and swimming, and has continued teaching water safety and rescue as a volunteer. While in Hawaii in 2003, at age 86, he made an unassisted rescue of a swimmer in trouble. The Irwins also give back to Pacific through two endowed scholarships in Education and Athletics.

"Al Irwin is someone whose entire life has been about giving back," said Benerd School of Education Dean Lynn Beck. "What makes Al special is that he gives with such joy."

"It's been a great privilege to give back to everyone who supported me."

— ALBERT M. IRWIN '42



Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Service

SCOTT D. BORAS '77, '83



Scott Boras is one of the most powerful people in Major League Baseball, negotiating millions of dollars in contracts for the biggest names in the game. The Scott Boras Corporation consists of four companies that work to simplify the complex issues that confront baseball players and their families on and off the field.

At Pacific, he was “Scotty B,” outfielder and captain of the baseball team. Boras was scouted by the minor leagues and played for the St. Louis Cardinals in 1974, while still pursuing his pharmacy degree. He credits his upbringing on an Elk Grove, Calif., farm for his indomitable work ethic. Boras also played for the Chicago Cubs and the Cardinals until 1978, when knee injuries pushed him out of the game.

Boras returned to Pacific to earn a law degree at Pacific McGeorge School of Law and launched his law career in Chicago with a pharmaceutical defense firm. He maintained contacts with baseball friends and relationships in the Majors, getting calls from players asking for his advice when they became free agents. Negotiating with owners was an art for which he was particularly suited.

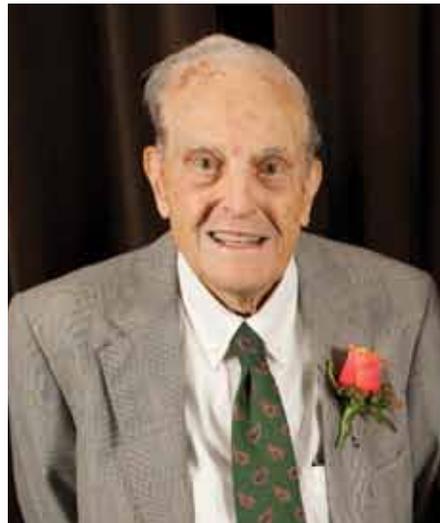
In 1985, Boras negotiated his first multimillion-dollar contract for Bill Caudill, who became the seventh-highest-paid player in the Major Leagues for that season. In 1987, he negotiated one of the game’s biggest contracts for New York Mets first baseman Keith Hernandez. Boras is recognized as a trailblazer for Major League Baseball’s salary dialogue, winning more arbitration hearings and negotiating up to \$300 million in contracts for players.

Boras says Pacific gave him “a stepping stone and an opportunity. It really turned out to be home.”

He has continued to give back to Pacific, contributing to the baseball program and serving on the baseball advisory board. In 1994, Boras was inducted into Pacific’s Athletic Hall of Fame. He was named Pacific McGeorge Alumnus of the Year in 2002.

Honorary Alumni Award

E. LESLIE MEDFORD, JR.



Les Medford, who celebrated his 90th birthday in May, is just the third person ever to receive this award. A long-time Pacifican, he began his 26-year career at Pacific in 1962 as assistant dean of Admission, and served his last 14 years as dean of Admission. He is recognized as a national leader among

admissions professionals for his focus on students, ability to build relationships and meticulous recordkeeping.

Medford was awarded the Order of Pacific at his retirement in 1988. He is a founder and past president of Pacific’s Emeriti Society, serves as an advisor to the School of International Studies and has been active with Pacific’s Library Associates. He still comes to campus every day to eat lunch in the River Room.

“My life has been tied to Pacific through so many years,” he said. He is grateful for the support of his wife Marie and his children, some who are also Pacific graduates.

*“This is a compliment
of the highest order.”*

— E. LESLIE MEDFORD, JR.

Outstanding Family Award

THE DUGONI FAMILY



Little did a young Arthur A. Dugoni realize when he graduated in 1948 that his alma mater, then the College of Physicians and Surgeons, would one day bear his name. Part of Pacific since 1962, the School was named the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in 2004, honoring the outstanding leadership of its dean of 28 years. Today the school is known for its excellence, its humanistic approach to education and patient care, and its commitment to student success.

Over the last 62 years and three generations, the Dugonis have raised a family of Tigers who have contributed significantly to the University. Eldest son Steven Dugoni '81 received his degree in orthodontics and is an adjunct professor at the Dental School. Steve's daughter, Emily '13, began her first year of law school this fall at Pacific McGeorge School of Law.

Art Dugoni Jr. '87 graduated from College of the Pacific with a degree in art, which he credits for his success as art director at ASC Profiles in Sacramento. Eberhardt School of Business graduate Jim Dugoni '86 is associate director of Athletics and has been on Pacific's staff for 15 years. His wife, Lisa (Rand) Dugoni '05, earned her master's degree from Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She is a speech-language pathologist and visiting clinical instructor at Pacific.

Mike Dugoni's wife, Marianne (Cauwet) Dugoni '77, also earned her degree in speech-language pathology. Their son, Brian Dugoni '05, '08, '10, played water polo at Pacific and served as ASuop president before continuing his studies in orthodontia at the

Dugoni family alumni and students: Front Row (l. to r.): Emily Dugoni '13 LAW, Karen (Kersey) Dugoni '91 PHS, Arthur A. Dugoni '48 DEN, Lisa (Rand) Dugoni '05 PHS, Marianne (Cauwet) Dugoni '77 PHS, Bert Rouleau '82 DEN Back Row (l. to r.): Steve Dugoni '81 DEN, Aaron Rouleau '11 DEN, Matt Hoffman '03 ENG, Brian Dugoni '05 COP, '08, '10 DEN, Jim Dugoni '86 BUS, Arthur A. Dugoni Jr. '87 COP

Dental School. Mike and Marianne's daughter, Christine, married Pacific Tiger Matt Hoffman '03, who owns Data Decisions in Manteca, Calif.

Arthur and wife Kaye's eldest daughter, Mary, wed Mountain View orthodontist Bert Rouleau '82. Their son, Aaron '11, is a second-year dental student. Karen (Kersey) Dugoni '91 married Art Dugoni's nephew, Tom.

At the awards dinner, Arthur shared how his extended family, with roots in Northern Italy, built into him the importance of family. Their Pacific legacy is a natural extension of that value, he said. "The pure essence of family is at this University," Arthur said. "Make every day your masterpiece; make your priorities family and friends."

"The pure essence of family is at this University." — ARTHUR A. DUGONI '48