This is the last Director’s Report that I will have the privilege to write. After ten and a half years, I am stepping down as Director of the Rose Institute. I have served twice as long as I thought I would when I first signed on. I was told the term would be five years, and I initially thought that was too long a commitment.

I was wrong. Leading the Rose Institute for the past decade has been a pleasure, a joy, a source of great pride, and one of the highlights of my life. I thank Alan Heslop, founding Director of the Rose Institute, for urging me to succeed him. As a result of his successful blandishments, I have had the opportunity to work cooperatively and productively with a wonderful Board of Governors – chaired by Allan Lunsford and Darryl Wold; Florence Adams - long-time Associate Director and Kenneth Miller – my colleague in the Government Department and our new Associate Director; Rose Fellows (and alums all) David Huntoon, Douglas Johnson, and Steven Frates; Marionette Moore, long-time Administrative Assistant; and ten-years of gifted Rose Institute students (and what an amazingly talented group of research assistants they have been!).

We at the Rose Institute have collectively accomplished much during the past decade. I’d like to review some highlights: We have completed 24 city and quality of life surveys, 7 business surveys, 26 fiscal analyses, 13 redistricting and demographic studies, 40 projects in Indian country, 8 building fee studies, 2 economic impact studies, and 2 economic forecasts. And, we have held eight major conferences – on water, solid waste, housing, “Governing California in the 21st Century,” issues in the Coachella Valley, improving relations between Towns and Tribes, critical issues facing local government officials, and planning for the 2010 census. Virtually all of these projects had paying clients or external sponsors. I am very proud of how we at the Rose Institute have been able, year in and year out, to meet the Donald McKenna challenge of raising at least as much in grants, gifts, and contracts as we receive from the interest income of our endowment.

And, in addition to our ongoing work in these many areas, we have launched a number of new initiatives that will also help to define the Rose Institute in the future.

Starting in 2002, we joined with the Kosmont Companies to produce annually the Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey. The Survey contains a vast amount of data about fees, taxes, costs, and incentives that affect business in more than 400 cities nationwide (250 California cities, 150+ cities out of state. It is especially useful to businesses contemplating relocating to a new city and to local government leaders examining their business policies. This has become one of our signature projects; it gives the Rose Institute students, all of whom work on this survey, a keen insight into local government finance.

We also launched the California Political History Archive and Database, chronicling California’s election, redistricting and political history together with biographical information on state legislators and constitutional office holders since 1849. This archive and database was made possible by the generous contributions of the late Dr. Leroy Hardy of Long Beach State University and Richard Burnweit ’72 of Westmont College.

Thanks to the splendid scholarship of Associate Director Ken Miller, we...
launched the Miller-Rose Institute Database. This database provides information on all statewide initiatives adopted by voters in the United States from the first successful statewide initiative in 1904 to the present. It allows users to sort voter-approved initiatives by year, state, subject category, and more, and to export data in a variety of forms to meet their research needs.

During our last external review, we received high marks for our research skills and impact on public policy. We were faulted, however, for failing to make available to the broader public our research findings. To address this criticism, we secured a major grant from the Haynes Foundation that allowed us to digitize the many reports and studies we have conducted over the years and make them available through the Claremont Colleges Digital Library. Our research endeavors are now readily available to enrich policy discussions locally, at the state level, and nationally.

We have launched the Rose Institute Blog, http://rosereport.org. It allows us – Rose fellows and staff and our Institute students (whose postings are always reviewed by our fellows and staff) – to bring our expertise to bear and address political and public policy issues as they arise. The blog has allowed us to raise considerably the profile of the Rose Institute among journalists, policy analysts, political consultants, and the informed public. Our posts have been linked by such national outlets as the Washington Post.com and “Political Wire” at CQ Politics.com.

We have provided our students with the opportunity to participate in the journalistic world in another important way. Thanks to several years of generous support from Buzz Woolley ’59 and the Girard Foundation which he heads, the Rose Institute has been able to provide funding for our students to work with investigative reporters at The Voice of San Diego, the largest and most successful on-line newspaper in the nation, and do the basic research

We inaugurated in 2008 the Rose Award for Excellence in Public Service, an award created to recognize exceptional individuals or organizations that demonstrate an enduring commitment to exemplary public service. Elizabeth Hill, the State Legislative Analyst, was honored in Sacramento in April of 2008, shortly before her retirement. Richard Oliphant, Coachella Valley civic leader, property developer, and philanthropist, was honored in April of 2010 in Palm Desert. We have set the stage for future awards by honoring both members of the public and private sector. We also set the bar for those worthy of receiving this award very high.

Finally, in conjunction with the Lowe Institute of Political Economy, we have established the Inland Empire Center for Economics and Public Policy, dedicated to analyzing economic and political trends shaping California’s fastest growing region. To date, the Center has published three issues of the Inland Empire Outlook and has presented, in partnership with the UCLA Anderson Forecast, its well-attended inaugural CMC-UCLA Inland Empire Forecast Conference, the first of three for the year.

I have enjoyed, and learned so much, serving as Rose Institute Director, but it is time to move on. Others at CMC should be given the opportunity to experience what I have, and I have a full calendar-year sabbatical about to begin, providing me the time to make serious progress on my next book of the jurisprudence of Justice Clarence Thomas. I am pleased and honored that my successor is Andrew Busch, Crown Professor of Government. Professor Busch brings an encyclopedic knowledge of American politics and a professional visibility, based on his many, many books and publications, that will add appreciably to the quality of the education we provide our students and that raise to much greater heights the profile of the Rose Institute.

~Ralph A. Rossum
Student Managers’ Notes

By Jacinth Sohi ’11 and Mike Whatley ’11

With the first semester halfway over, the rest of the year at the Rose Institute looks like it will continue to be very exciting and busy. After a highly competitive and selective application process (with over fifty freshman and sophomore applications submitted), the management team selected seven freshmen research assistants with a very wide variety of skills and backgrounds. We would like to welcome Alex Bentley, Luke Davis, Nathan Falk, Gavin Landgraf, Alexandra Sloves, Sam Stone, and Kathryn Yao to the Rose Institute. Already in the first weeks on the job, they have shown the strength of their class: data collection for this year’s Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey is well ahead of previous years. You can read more about the new Rosies and their backgrounds on pages 10 and 11 of this edition of the The Rose Review.

We also had strong demand for summer jobs at the Institute. As with fall hiring, the summer applicant pool was large and competitive. Ruth Oliver, Daniel Shane, Alex Johnson, Aditya Pai, Patricia Ingrassia, Ryan Boone, and Kate Johnson, all class of 2014, were selected as either Girard Scholars or Inland Empire Scholars. Girard Scholars again worked with the Voice of San Diego on projects focused on analyzing government expenditures and demographics. Inland Empire Scholars conducted several interviews for the Inland Empire Outlook and wrote articles for the third issue. Riley Lewis ’11 and Dave Meyer ’12 also spent time at the Rose this summer. Riley focused on the Wheeler’s Desert Letter and Inland Empire Outlook, while Dave helped train students on ArcGIS and made new mapping software available to the Institute.

The semester then started off quickly with the Inland Empire Center (a joint venture the Rose Institute formed last year with CMC’s Lowe Institute of Political Economy) hosting its first “CMC-UCLA Inland Empire Forecast Conference” at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario. In preparation for the event, the Inland Empire Center released its third issue of the Inland Empire Outlook, which provides news and analysis on the politics, economics, and demographics of the Inland Empire. The conference had over 350 attendees, and provided expert analysis on the future of the Inland Empire’s economy. A more in-depth review of the conference is featured later in this issue, and you can visit www.inlandempirecenter.org for more details on the Inland Empire Forecast Conference and the Inland Empire Center itself.

We are also pleased to report that the 2011 Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey has been significantly improved. As mentioned above, the data collection portion of the project is on target to finish much faster than in previous years thanks to a new Access database that Kosmont Manager Heather Siegel ’12 and Assistant Manager Dan Evans ’12 created. Both Heather and Dan worked at the Institute over the summer to learn advanced skills with Access and build the new data collection system. The 2010 Survey was released in late September and received substantial media attention from the Orange County Register, the San Diego Union Tribune, and an op-ed by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in the Huffington Post. Heather’s full update on the Survey can be found on the next page.

Several aspects of the Rose Institute will undergo changes in the coming weeks. As you may have noticed, this publication has a new name, The Rose Review, to differentiate it from our online site, www.rosereport.org. Throughout this semester, the Rose Report online will undergo a major renovation to make it more visually appealing and to help visitors access our research and analysis. In the coming weeks, the Rose Institute will launch a new website dedicated entirely to 2011 redistricting across the United States. This website will feature an interactive map of the United States that will detail the individual redistricting process in every state as well as providing news and information on 2011 redistricting in that state.

With so much accomplished in just the first few weeks and so many new projects lined up, we are excited for the rest of the semester!
The Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey had an exciting summer, and we are looking forward to an equally productive year of data collection and analysis. Assistant Manager Dan Evans and I stayed on campus this summer to finish the 2010 Survey, which is currently available for sale. The 2010 edition presents detailed information about fees, taxes, and business incentives from each of the 413 cities featured in the Survey, as well as comprehensive national, statewide, and local analyses. The Executive Summary examines several important issues on California’s economic climate, such as unemployment, economic recovery, public employee pensions, and the Los Angeles budget crisis.

The Survey management team is constantly looking for ways to improve the quality, accuracy, and reputation of the Survey. Over the summer, we redesigned the Kosmont page on the Rose Report, adding relevant pages such as a glossary, a methodology section, and a complete list of featured cities. The redesigned website is both more informative and easier to navigate, and will make it easier for prospective buyers to understand how they can use the Survey’s data in their business’s or city’s operations and how they can actually order the Survey. We are also in the process of designing a Survey logo, which will be used to help build product recognition.

Most importantly, Dan and I built a new, more user-friendly database in which to store data and calculate cost ratings. The database is already helping streamline the data collection process. Research assistants can now enter data straight into its clear, intuitive forms and easily find data for specific cities of interest. The database also automates several steps that were previously done manually, eliminating compatibility problems and saving valuable time. Significantly, the new database design makes it easier to export the Survey into other formats, thus opening up many possibilities for future expansion and innovations.

This semester, I am pleased to be working with an impressive team of students. The Rose Institute has hired seven outstanding freshmen, who are quickly learning a lot about how city governments actually work: Alex Bentley, Luke Davis, Nathan Falk, Gavin Landgraf, Alexandra Sloves, Sam Stone, and Kathryn Yao. Aditya Pai ’13 helped with the Survey last year as a research assistant, and is now rejoining the team as an Assistant Manager overseeing marketing and outreach. In the coming months he will be writing several interesting and informative blog posts for the Rose Report analyzing the Survey’s findings. Dan has had many interesting and innovative ideas regarding the Survey, and I am excited to see how he will put them into action.

Since its publication, the 2010 Survey has received considerable attention in the media. Earlier this month, Kiplinger published an interesting article, “Company Relocation Plans on the Rise” in which it cited the Survey’s findings. They also included informative slide shows discussing in detail the ten most and least expensive cities nationwide according to the Survey. In a series of articles, the Orange County Register detailed many of our findings, with emphasis on Orange County. Meanwhile, the San Diego Tribune published an extensive article, complete with maps, examining the costs of doing business in San Diego County. The article also looked at taxes and fees in San Diego in relation to those in the rest of the state. The Survey’s findings are relevant to individuals and businesses throughout California and the country, and these articles have done a great job highlighting how expensive it really can be to do business in many parts of the country.

### Selected 2010 Cost Ratings of Los Angeles County Cities

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Currently on the Rose Report Online:

House Republican Victory Would Shift Power to Southern California

Under Democratic leadership of the House of Representatives, California members (especially from Northern California) hold significant power in the House. The most powerful House member, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, is from San Francisco. George Miller, Chairman of the powerful Education and Labor Committee, is from Northern California. Energy and Commerce Chairman Henry Waxman is from the Los Angeles area. Ethics Committee Chairwoman Zoe Lofgren is from San Jose. Los Angeles Representative Howard Berman is Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The California delegation today is arguably the most powerful of any state.

And if Republicans take the House in 2010, California members will continue to hold considerable power, although the source of the Committee Chairs will shift from the Northern California to Southern California. While the Speaker and the Majority Leader will likely be from Ohio and Virginia respectively, California Republicans are expected to control some of the most powerful committees and positions in leadership. A brief look at these members:

David Dreier (CA-26)-Rules Committee. The Rules Committee in the House is arguably the most powerful Committee because it controls how the House will consider every single bill. The Party in control of the House uses the Rules Committee to limit debate and block amendments that might be politically difficult for vulnerable majority-party members. Ranking Member Dreier (CMC ’75) has served as Chairman of the Rules Committee before and already knows how to run the Committee.

Darrell Issa (CA-49)-Oversight and Government Reform Committee. In the past, Oversight Chairmen have aggressively investigated the Administration when one party controls the House but not the White House (for example, Henry Waxman under Bush and Dan Burton under Clinton). Ranking Member Issa has already brought significant attention to his concerns about the Obama Administration and as Chair he will gain both the ability to schedule hearings and the subpoena power to compel Administration figures and other witnesses to testify.

Buck McKeon (CA-25)-Armed Forces Committee. The Obama Administration significantly reduced the number of American troops in Iraq and has pledged to withdraw most remaining troops in 2011, but the war in Afghanistan will continue past November. As Chairman of the Armed Forces Committee, McKeon would be able to attempt to shape how the Administration handles the war (mainly through Appropriations).

Kevin McCarthy (CA-22)-Republican Leadership. Kevin McCarthy is currently the Chief Deputy Whip for House Republicans and a leader of the National Republican Congressional Committee’s (NRCC) “Young Guns” program recruiting Republicans to run for the House. He has quickly become an influential voice in Republican leadership and his efforts to help and fund raise for Republican candidates likely has gained him loyalty from new members. McCarthy is widely expected to have a powerful position in the House Republican Leadership in 2010 and beyond.

If Republicans retake the House in November, California’s delegation will remain powerful because of the members who will become Chairs (or move up in leadership). A Republican take over would likely keep California’s position as the most powerful delegation in the country, since the rest of Republican leadership will be scattered across several states. California’s power in the House will, however, shift its base, as all of the powerful members will come from Southern California instead of Northern California.
Inland Empire Center Holds Inaugural Conference

By Emily McNab ‘11

The new CMC Inland Empire Center joined with the UCLA Anderson School of Management to present the inaugural CMC-UCLA Inland Empire Forecast Conference on October 6, 2010 at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario. The conference marked an exciting stage in the launch of the Inland Empire Center, a partnership between the Rose Institute and CMC’s Lowe Institute of Political Economy, and the beginning of the Inland Empire Center’s joint venture with the UCLA Anderson Forecast.

The half-day conference attracted over 350 attendees, including many government officials and business leaders from throughout the Inland Empire. Following the well-established UCLA Anderson Forecast Conference format, the conference combined broad economic forecasts with specialized discussion panels, and focused on the distressed economic situation in the United States, California, and the Inland Empire, and the prospects for recovery.

The economic forecasts were presented by Jerry Nickelsburg, an economist from the UCLA Anderson Forecast, and Marc Weidenmier, a William F. Podlich Associate Professor of Economics and Director of the Lowe Institute.

Dr. Nickelsburg highlighted historic patterns of recoveries and concluded that it is unlikely that either the nation or California will experience a “double-dip” recession because housing demand, exports, and GDP as a whole are beginning to recover (California exports are even back to prerecession level). However, he explained that the economy is experiencing both systemic and policy uncertainty (due partially to the uncertainty of who will control government after November) which has prevented a faster recovery. Additionally, unemployment has remained higher than in recent recessions.

Dr. Weidenmier then turned the spotlight on the Inland Empire, especially its deep unemployment problem, and its outlook for recovery. He observed that the Inland Empire economy has begun to rebound in some sectors such as retail and sales of durable goods, but that the housing and construction sectors, the largest components of the Inland Empire economy, remain depressed. Dr. Weidenmier predicted that the Inland Empire’s unemployment rate, which currently stands at 15.1 percent, will remain in double digits until around 2014.

The Conference then featured two panels. The first panel, moderated by Larry Kosmont, the CEO of Kosmont Companies, discussed the Inland Empire’s troubled real estate sector. The panel included Randall Lewis, Executive Vice President of Lewis Group of Companies; Robert J. Lowe, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Lowe Enterprises; and Bert Selva, President and CEO of Shea
Homes; and Fred Cordova, Senior Vice President of Colliers International.

The second panel, moderated by Greg Devereaux, the Chief Administrative Officer of San Bernardino County, focused on public finance. The panel included Jason Sisney of the State of California’s Legislative Analyst Office; Paul Sundeen, Assistant City Manager and CFO of the City of Riverside; and Larry Walker, Auditor-Controller/Recorder/Treasurer/Tax Collector of the County of San Bernardino.

Ontario-based Citizens Business Bank hosted the conference. Other sponsors included Oremor Automotive Group, the County of San Bernardino, the City of Ontario, the City of Riverside, Colliers International, the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. Lewis Operating Companies, Oremor, and San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) supported the Conference as members of the Inland Empire Center.

A large Rose Institute team led by Dave Huntoon, Marionette Moore, and Conference Manager Helen Pollock contributed to the successful event.

Christopher Myers, CEO of Citizens Business Bank, expressed excitement that the event would become an annual one. “We’re just excited about Claremont McKenna’s involvement with UCLA Anderson, combining what we think are the strongest entities in the area to put all of our resources together to produce a good forecast,” Myers stated.

The UCLA Anderson Forecast has long published authoritative economic forecasts for the United States and California, as well as local regional economies. The new partnership with CMC brings the UCLA forecast to the Inland Empire. UCLA economist Jerry Nickelsburg noted that CMC’s Inland Empire Center contributes local expertise to the partnership.

“We’re learning quite a bit from each other,” Nickelsburg said. “The Inland Empire Center brings deep local knowledge, which allows us to drill down into the local economy from our analysis of the national economy. So we both bring unique characteristics to this.”

More information on the conference and the Inland Empire Center is available at http://www.inlandempirecenter.org/.

Michael Wilner, ’11, contributed to this report.
Fall 2010 *Inland Empire Outlook* Released

By Liz Johnson ’11

The Fall 2010 issue of the *Inland Empire Outlook* is now available. The theme of the most recent edition is “Rebuilding After the Recession.” There are four major articles: The Great Recession’s Toll on Inland Empire Jobs, which analyzes the extent to which jobs have been lost; How Exports Can Help Revive the Inland Empire Economy, which shows how exports and foreign investment will be beneficial to the economy in the future; New Medical School Will Improve Health Care and Economy, a look at UC-Riverside’s new medical school; and Is I.E. District Poised to Elect Tea Party Candidate?, an analysis of State Assembly District 59 and the prospects for Tim Donnelly. This issue also featured interviews with Bob Buster, Riverside County Supervisor, and Marion Ashley, Chairman of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

Full articles and a PDF download of the issue are available online at www.inlandempireoutlook.org.

Board of Governors’ Ray Remy ’59 Receives Award

By Ryder Todd Smith ’96

Ray Remy ’59 was recognized by the League of California Cities with their highest honor: the Past Presidents’ Lifetime Achievement Award. Ray’s decades of outstanding service to the League, LA Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, and the Southern California Association of Governments vaulted him to this high honor. Alumni present to witness his acceptance were David Huntoon ’65, Ryder Todd Smith ’96, Eric Figueroa ’92, Adam Rush ’03, and Scott Ochoa ’93.

*Ryder Todd Smith ’96 is a past CMC Alumni Association president. Eric Figueroa ’92 is Regional Manager for the League of California Cities. Adam Rush ’03 is Mayor of Eastville, and Scott Ochoa ’93 is City Manager of Monrovia and a Rose Institute client.*
This summer, several students were chosen to participate with research projects at the Rose Institute. These projects included the Voice of San Diego, Inland Empire Outlook, Inland Empire Center, and the Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey.

As research scholars working under the Girard Fellowship, Aditya Pai, Alex Johnson, Daniel Shane, Kate Johnson, Ryan Boone, and Ruthie Oliver analyzed different aspects of both San Diego County and City consisting of government expenditures at the local level within the past decade. They took the data collected and presented a comprehensive analysis comparing both the city and the county in order to determine where the highest and lowest percentages of money were allocated during that time period.

Ryan and Alex specifically focused on the budget itself by analyzing distinct changes in the budgeting priorities of San Diego County and City during the years of 1999 and 2009. Essentially, they examined numerous balance sheets and Annual Financial Reports, charting spending areas such as police protection, sanitation, and other general government expenditures. They also noted all changes in the makeup of the city and county governments such as the Board of Supervisors, Mayor, and other publicly elected officials.

The rest of the students working on Girard included Ruthie, Kate, Daniel, and Aditya, who investigated demographic changes at the city and county level. They explored how those changes in the census data since 1970 and voter registration affected politics in the region.

Riley Lewis and Patricia Ingrassia worked as Inland Empire Scholars. They researched and wrote articles for the Inland Empire Outlook regarding the likely political outcome for the region and the state’s county budget restructuring plan. They both conducted an interview with Riverside County Supervisor and incoming CSAC president John Tavaglione.

Heather Siegel and Dan Evans finished the 2010 Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey, which includes analysis of California’s current economic situation, state pension problems, unemployment, recent tax increases, and the Los Angeles budget crisis. They also redesigned the Kosmont section of the Rose Report website to make it more informative and more relevant to prospective Survey users.

Their major endeavor consisted of building a new database in which to store all of the city data and calculate cost ratings. This database is far more user-friendly, and will allow users to conduct more meaningful analysis by giving them the flexibility to manipulate data in new ways. It will also help streamline the data collection process and make the Survey more efficient in future years.
Meet the New Hires

The Rose Institute is pleased to welcome the following new students:

**Kathryn Yao '14**

*Kathryn Yao* was born in Dallas, Texas and graduated from the Portsmouth Abbey School in Rhode Island where she served as editor-in-chief of her school newspaper for two years and as class president her junior year. In addition, she captained the tennis team and participated in the Model United Nations conferences at Brown University and Harvard University. Kathryn spent her last two summers in China interning with traditional Chinese doctors learning the philosophy and application of ancient Chinese medicine. She also interned at Yunnan Magazine and Yunnan TV in Kunming, China. Kathryn plans to dual major in literature and economics at CMC.

**Nathan Falk '14**

*Nathan Falk* moved to Claremont McKenna College from Lafayette, California in the San Francisco Bay Area. He graduated from Acalanes High School where he was an award-winning attorney on the Mock Trial Team, varsity pole vaulter and captain of the track and field team, and a trumpet player in the Acalanes High School Jazz Band. Nathan was also involved in the school’s environmental club and spent two summers building trails in different national parks. He has not yet decided on a major, but is interested in government, economics, and international relations.

**Alex Bentley '14**

*Alex Bentley* comes from Novato, CA. During his time at San Marin High School, he led the mock trial club and played varsity football in addition to interning with both the Marin County Public Defender and District Attorney’s offices. Alex is attending Claremont McKenna College on a full-ride scholarship through the Army ROTC and plans to major in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.
LuKE DAvis

Luke H. Davis ’14 hails from Ithaca, New York. Graduating from Lansing High School, Luke co-captained the cross-country team and pole vaulted for the track and field team for two and three years, respectively. Arriving in high school with an interest in economics, he worked with a graduate student at Cornell during the summer of 2009. Luke plans on majoring in the Financial Economics sequence with a possible dual major in Film Studies. At the Rose Institute, he hopes to work on fiscal and demographic analyses.

SAm STone

Sam Stone ’14 was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. He graduated from Monte Vista High School in Danville, where he was a captain on the debate team. Sam was interested in politics at a young age, and grew up listening to local talk radio. Sam is currently a member of the Claremont McKenna mock trial team, and plans to major in government or Philosophy, Politics, and Economics. After his time at CMC, Sam hopes to attend law school.

ALEXANDRA SLOVES

Alexandra Sloves ’14 is from Orinda, CA. She graduated from Miramonte High School where she served as President of Junior Statesmen, Communications Director for Public Speaking and Debate, and community service coordinator. In addition, she participated in Junior Statesmen on the state level as Director of Debate and Director of Research and attended Junior Statesmen summer school at Stanford University, majoring in Constitutional Law. Alexandra spent her summer working as a research intern at both the Hoover Institute at Stanford and UC Berkeley’s Center for the Comparative Study of Right Wing Movements. At CMC, Alexandra plans to major in economics with a finance focus.

GAvin LANDGRAF

Gavin Landgraf ’14 is from Saratoga, California where he was home schooled from the very beginning. Throughout high school, he competed in speech and debate, ranking number one in the nation for team policy debate during his senior year. His other activities included swimming and Boy Scouts, through which he earned the rank of Eagle Scout. At CMC, Gavin is pursuing a Government or a Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PPE) and French dual major. In addition to working at the Rose Institute, he plays water polo and is on the mock trial team. This past summer, he worked on a cattle ranch in Colorado.
Back from Abroad

By Riley Lewis ’11

Last February, I hopped on a plane, flew 15 hours, and landed at a place that looked just like where the one where I’d left – except that everyone drove on the other side of the road, the accents perplexed me, and the weather was way hotter than the California I had left behind. My semester at the University of Melbourne was one of the most exhilarating and educational times of my life.

The University of Melbourne is a large research university offering many classes that I had never had the chance to take at CMC. Attending lectures with 400 other students made me appreciate the joys of attending a liberal arts college where I’d known all of my professors and most of my classmates. I enrolled in an urban history class and an urban planning class, which included a field trip to see the Australian suburbs. That trip, coupled with trips to friends’ homes, helped me to understand how Australia is tackling the issues of urban growth and sprawl, as well as transportation and congestion problems, all primarily related to the issue of water conservation on the world’s driest and least vegetated continent.

Melbourne was founded in 1837 and came of age during the Australian gold rushes two decades later. It subsequently became the British Empire’s second largest and the world’s richest city for a few years, leading to the construction of some beautiful and ornate Victorian buildings and monuments. Melbourne is a fascinating and unique hybrid of European culture and refinement mixed with American urban sprawl and entrepreneurialism.

I traveled both on my own and with friends and got a very comprehensive overview of a continent that was very homogenous culturally, but extremely diverse biologically and geographically. I went with my mother to the Outback to witness extreme isolation and heat as well as the world’s largest monolith, Uluru, and I traveled on my own to Canberra, the master-planned national capital and one of the world’s most boring cities. I spent a weekend with friends at the Whitsunday Islands, which contain part of the Great Barrier Reef and the world’s whitest beaches, and climbed Mt. Kosciuszko, which at a mere 7,310 feet is the world’s lowest continental high point. Last, but not least, I spent a week in Sydney, where I got to climb the Harbour Bridge.

I’d go back to Australia in an instant.