Nancy HO (MA ’60, Chem)
For unlocking the biofuel potential of everything from grass to wood, Nancy Ho was awarded a 2015 National Medal of Technology and Innovation by President Barack Obama. Ho, a Purdue University research professor emerita, spent years determining how to modify yeast—the same yeast used to make wine and bread—so it could more effectively convert plants into transportation fuels. After 13 years, in 1993 Ho proved that, by cloning modified yeast genes, xylose sugars could be fermented along with glucose sugars.

Saul A. Rappaport (BA ’63, Physics), professor emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, delivered a CST Dean’s Distinguished Lecture on “Planetary and Stellar Science from the Kepler Mission” in 2015.

Samuel Strauss (BA ’67, Sci) retired from the NASA Johnson Space Center. He was a flight surgeon who supported astronaut spacewalk training and operational zero-gravity research and training flights. In addition, he was appointed associate professor of medicine at Texas A&M College of Medicine and is teaching a senior elective in aerospace medicine.

Gerald Levitt (BA ’71, Sci; POD ’77) recently published two books, The True Origins of Chess: Ancient Greece—Yes, India—No and Shooting Star, Inverted Hearts and Other Short Stories. His book The Turk, Chess Automaton was named one of the 10 best chess history books of all time.

Mike Gagliano (BS ’04, Math; MS ’10, EES) is a senior geologist with the New Jersey Geological Survey, with primary responsibility for marine seismic surveys to identify offshore sand resources for beach restoration.

Eric Recktenwald (BS ’09, PhD ’14, Bio) earned a tenure-track teaching position at Alvernia University in Reading, Pa., where he will continue his research on the frog’s visual system.

Franklin Erkes (BS ’12, Chem) earned a doctor of physical therapy degree from New York University in 2015.

Stephen Lengyel (PSM ’14, Biotech) is a contract scientist for Janssen, providing bioinformatics support for the molecular biology division.

IN MEMORIAM

Samuel J. Paul (BA ’42, Phys; DEN ’51)
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Isadore Sverlick (BA ’43, Chem)
Mayer S. Reich (BA ’48, Sci)
Dorris S. Iszard (BA ’49, Bio)
Ella Mae H. Levan (BA ’49, Math)
Robert C. Pfeilsticker (BA ’49, MA ’51, Math)
Richard Sasin (MA ’49, PhD ’54, Chem)
Stanley Snyder (BA ’49, Sci; MED ’53)
Leonard J. Zubrisky (BA ’53, PhD ’58, Bio)
Perry C. Fennell Jr. (BA ’54, Bio; DEN ’59)
Mary L. Klaas (BA ’55, Math)
James R. Miller (BA ’61, Chem)
B. Sidney Zeiff (BA ’61, MA ’63, Math)

Joan F. Homer (BA ’63, Sci)
Steven L. Lefrak (BA ’64, Bio)
Armin Wolle (BA ’66, Chem)
Carl L. Jolley (BA ’67, Bio)
Shirley D. Evans (BA ’68, Phys)
Lucille J. Heckman (BA ’68, Chem)
Richard K. Porter (BA ’68, Sci; CLA ’71)
Harrison T. Pannella (BA ’72, Chem)
Ernest Perry (BA ’72, Sci; MA ’87, CIS)
Steven Clevenger (BA ’73, Math)
John J. Friel (MA ’73, Geo)
Ayoub Barsoum Ayoub (MA ’77, PhD ’80, Math)
Jefferson M. Sims (BA ’77, Bio)
Lacie D. Reichardt (BS ’11, Bio)

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