



## Nishanta Rajakaruna '94

Botanist Nishanta Rajakaruna '94 is now at California Polytechnic State University after ten years at COA. Writes Darron Collins, "Anyone who knows Nishi knows his great heart and mind—he's a tremendous scholar, teacher, and human being. Nishi will always be part of COA, no matter what university, bog, woods, or field he finds himself in." Adds Ian Medeiros '16, "Nishi sets high expectations of his students, knowing that reaching them would give us the confidence to pursue even greater challenges. After four years of working with him, I'm more excited than ever before to follow my dreams of a career in botany, knowing that I have in Nishi a teacher, mentor, and friend who will continue to support me and my work in the years to come." And Philip Kunhardt '11 writes, "In my senior year, through multiple classes and several delicious botanical dinners, Nishi helped me sharpen my focus and find my career path—I now have a master's in forest science from Yale and have conducted research in Brazil's Atlantic Forest."

## FAREWELLS

*COA is a more than a college. Some see it as a family; certainly it is a community. We embrace those who come to work for us when they arrive, and also when they move on to new adventures and challenges.*