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HARVARDgazette



In deep

With water shortages looming around the world, Harvard experts seek solutions.

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Online Highlights

SETTLING IN, STRETCHING OUT

Harvard College Dean Evelyn M. Hammonds helped to welcome the families of first-year undergraduates to campus Oct. 14 for the start of Freshman Parents Weekend, a two-day program of lectures, tours, and open houses. ▶<http://hvd.gs/93413>



◀ ZAKARIA TO SPEAK AT HARVARD'S 361st COMMENCEMENT

Harvard names Fareed Zakaria, an alumnus who is a thought leader on international affairs, as principal speaker for the 361st Commencement in May.

▶<http://hvd.gs/93085>

◀ 375TH PARTY UNDER THE UMBRELLAS

Robert D. Reischauer (from left), senior fellow of the Harvard Corporation, President Drew Faust, and Provost Alan Garber greet paraders at Harvard's rainy 375th anniversary gala on Oct. 14.

▶<http://hvd.gs/92985>



▶ YOU'RE NOT SO ANONYMOUS

Prescription data stripped of identifying information seems not so anonymous after all. Researcher Latanya Sweeney aims to make such personal data more secure and to provide recourse for people who are harmed by privacy breaches. ▶<http://hvd.gs/93641>



▲ HIDDEN SPACES: NEWELL BOATHOUSE

Hidden Spaces is part of a series about lesser-known spaces at Harvard. Possibly nowhere on Harvard's campus will you find a place as untouched and nostalgic as Newell Boat-house. ▶<http://hvd.gs/93741>

Police Log Online ▶www.hupd.harvard.edu/public_log.php

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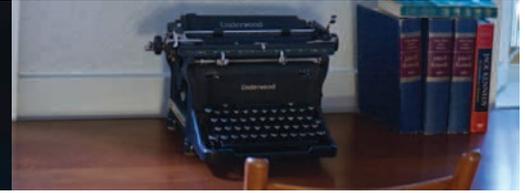
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A TOOL TO TOUCH THE SUN

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics researcher Justin Kasper has designed an instrument that will peek out from behind a heat shield to touch the sun's atmosphere on a NASA solar probe designed to get far closer to the sun than any before. Page 4



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Shortages of clean, fresh water are a rising worldwide concern, often leading to damaged public health and curtailed development. At Harvard, an array of programs is tackling aspects of this long-term global problem. Closer to home, campus administrators, staff, and students are working to make sure the University does its part by conserving more all the time. Page 5

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Harvard will rename its New College Theatre building Farkas Hall. Page 14

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A \$40 million gift by Rita E. and Gustave M. Hauser will launch an initiative for learning and teaching at Harvard and serve as a catalyst for transforming students' educational experiences University-wide. Page 16

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Advising programs enable students to get the most from their undergraduate academic experience, encouraging students to think in terms of their long-term personal and intellectual development. Page 17

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Scholar, friends develop guidebook to help younger students understand, succeed in science. Page 18

HELPING TO MANAGE POLLUTION

After leaving his native Somalia, Mohamed Omar has found community in unlikely places: in Lowell, Mass., and at Harvard. Page 19

A CHANCE AT AN IVY TITLE

After an inconsistent season and a late win streak, the women's soccer team has two games left. Its eye is on the prize, the league championship. Page 22



A tool to touch the sun

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics researcher Justin Kasper has designed an instrument that will peek out from behind a heat shield to touch the sun's atmosphere on a NASA solar probe designed to get far closer to the sun than any before.

A scientist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) is leading an effort to design an instrument that would be the first to come directly into contact with the sun's fiery atmosphere after the device is launched on a NASA probe in 2018.

Justin Kasper, a solar scientist at the CfA and a lecturer on astronomy, heads a team designing two instruments that will fly aboard NASA's Solar Probe Plus as part of a project to investigate the nature of the sun's atmosphere, or corona. The car-sized spacecraft will carry instruments for four projects three times closer to the sun than any previous spacecraft.

After launch, Solar Probe Plus will use a series of close encounters with Venus to put on the brakes and slow before it passes into the sun's atmosphere. The craft will pass within 4 million miles of the sun's surface to an area of the corona thought to have temperatures of up to several million degrees Celsius. At that distance, the sun will be 520 times brighter than on Earth, and 20 times larger in the sky.

Because of such high temperatures, the craft will be heavily shielded from heat, using a high-tech, carbon-composite heat shield. The front of the shield will bear the brunt of the sun's heat, rising to 2,000 degrees Celsius but leaving the shadows behind the shield significantly cooler, Kasper said.

The project, Solar Wind Electrons Alphas and Protons (SWEAP), is backed by a consortium of institutions, including the CfA, NASA, the University of California, Berkeley, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Alabama Huntsville, and Los Alamos National Laboratory. Though SWEAP has been selected for the mission, several rounds of planning, approvals and refinement remain before construction can begin in earnest,

Photo by Justin Ide | Harvard Staff Photographer

Kasper said. In addition to NASA approvals, the organizers will have to coordinate with the team from Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory that is in charge of the overall craft to make sure everything fits properly.

Kasper, who was recently named to Popular Science magazine's "Brilliant 10" list and in September received a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, said he also works with French researchers who have a "solar furnace" that focuses the sun's rays to very high temperatures and that can be used to heat-test instrument components.

Flying a mission to the sun has long been considered, Kasper said, but it has only been recently that technology has advanced enough for it to be possible. Kasper's first thought when he heard of the mission was that if it was going that close, despite the intense heat, it ought to get some direct measurements of the solar atmosphere.

"I just can't see us going into the atmosphere of a star for the first time and not have an instrument seeing the [solar] wind directly," Kasper said. "I said, 'Why don't we go with an instrument that can look right at the sun?'"

The result is the solar probe cup, a rugged instrument crisscrossed with metallic grids that can measure charged particles. Made of heat-resistant tungsten, the device is an often-used design called a Faraday cup, which has flown on many missions to measure charged particles in space, Kasper said. The second instrument is made up of twin solar probe analyzers, which will look ahead and behind the spacecraft, recording particles that strike it.

Together, the instruments aim to measure the properties of particles in the solar wind and the sun's atmosphere, hopefully answering the question of why

the sun's atmosphere — unlike the Earth's, which cools the further you get from the planet — is hundreds of times hotter than the sun's surface. The solar wind is the stream of charged particles that flow from the sun out into the solar system.

"Within 100 kilometers of the visible surface of the sun, temperatures jump by an order of magnitude. When you get up into the solar corona, temperatures are 1 million to 10 million degrees," Kasper said.

Existing theories focus on the sun's enormous magnetic field, Kasper said. Some scientists think that the magnetic field lines, which loop from the sun into space and back again, are shaken by the extreme turbulence of the sun's surface and that this shaking generates enormous amounts of energy that heats the atmosphere. Others think the loops actually detach explosively and send streams of energy into space, while still others focus on what happens when those loops reconnect with the sun's surface.

"We're pretty confident that the magnetic field plays a strong role," Kasper said.

The craft will take a roundabout, six-year route to get to the sun, looping past Venus seven times to slow down and dip ever deeper into the sun's atmosphere with each pass. Throughout these encounters, the instruments will measure particles, recording their type, their temperature, their direction, and their speed.

Kasper said scientists are expecting the unusual, primed by years of studying the solar wind. For example, scientists have detected that helium in the solar wind is eight times hotter than hydrogen, though they don't know why.

"We know from the solar wind itself that very unusual things happen," Kasper said.

Fewer drops to drink

With water scarcity a growing worldwide worry, Harvard programs, faculty, staff, and students are exploring ways to protect precious supplies, both globally and on campus.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer

As John Briscoe tells the story, it was President John F. Kennedy who got Harvard water experts involved in Pakistan's agricultural crisis in the 1960s.

When Pakistan's president complained about that arid nation's water problems, Kennedy, looking for a way to help that didn't involve military commitments, said, "I think we have some guys up in Cambridge who can help you."

COVER STORY

In response to Kennedy's call, the renowned Harvard Water Program applied scientific analysis, supplemented with an interdisciplinary understanding of economics, policy, and politics, to come up with a solution that worked for Pakistan: using groundwater to augment the river water already transported through canals.

Today, as world leaders cast worried eyes on forecasts of increasingly strained fresh water supplies, there again are experts in Cambridge who can help, and who are already tackling some key challenges. In fact, Harvard has an array of programs and laboratories pointed at aspects of this critical long-term problem that is likely to become more vexing, given that the world's population just surpassed 7 billion.

Briscoe's Harvard Water Security Initiative is one of the University initiatives that are attacking fresh water concerns and that are, in some ways, successors to the Harvard Water Program. Briscoe, who worked on water projects for governments and the World Bank for decades before joining Harvard in 2009, says the University's strength comes in its ability to draw expertise from across many fields.

Elsewhere, at the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), Chad Vecitis, assistant professor of environ-

mental engineering, is employing advanced methods to treat water through nanotechnology. Peter Rogers, Gordon McKay Professor of Environmental Engineering, recently addressed the future of water in his book, "Running Out of Water: The Looming Crisis and Solutions to Conserve Our Most Precious Resource."

At the Center for International Development, the Sustainability Science Program has made water use in China one of its research focal points. And the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy is examining the benefits of using a "rights" approach to help ensure access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation around the globe.

At the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH), James Shine, senior lecturer on aquatic chemistry, is examining aqueous ecosystems, where metal pollutants move and accumulate. Epidemiologists and those seeking to improve humanitarian relief understand that water is both a basic human need and a potential route of contamination by major diseases, such as cholera.

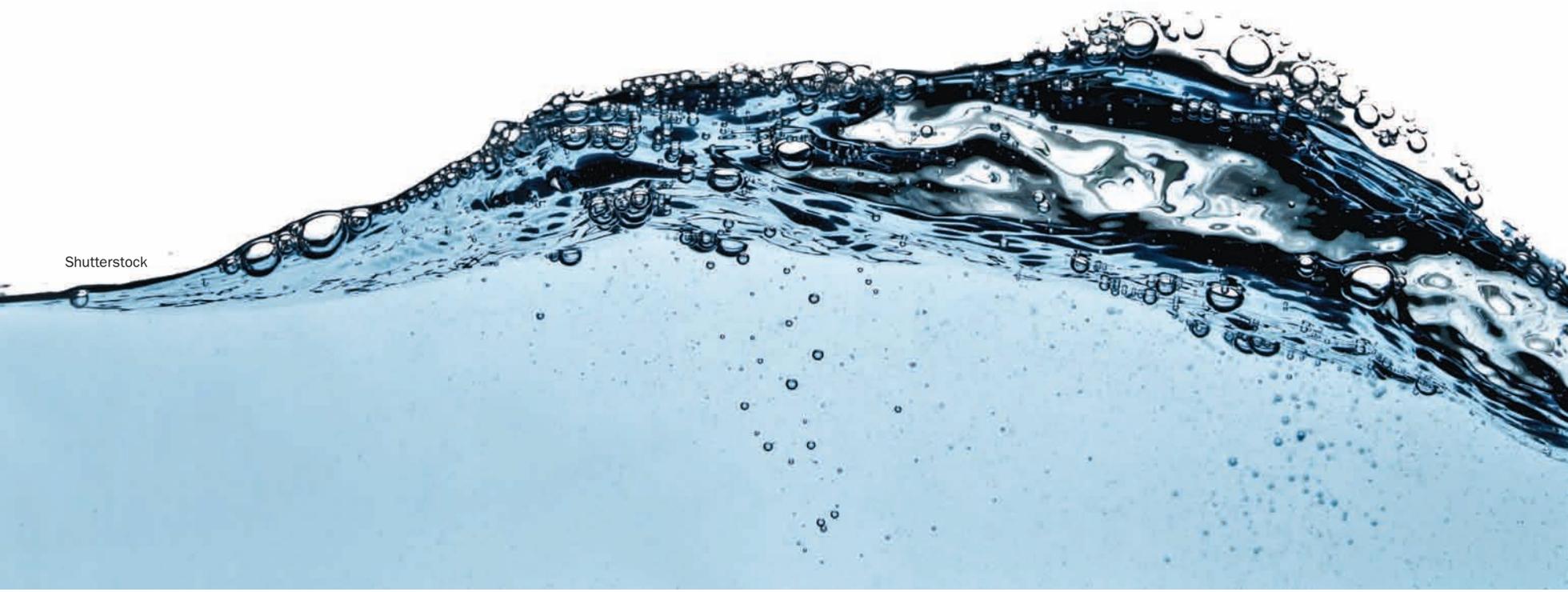
Beyond health and engineering, faculty members across the University in fields as diverse as law, business, government, and design are examining aspects of the planet's limited fresh water. Interfaculty collaboration is aided by the Harvard University Center for the Environment, which facilitates cross-faculty cooperation and environmental education through grants, fellowships, and events.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT AS WELL

Locally, Harvard's involvement with water issues includes stu-

(see Water next page)

Shutterstock





The five-story waterfall within the Science Center is used as part of the water chiller system that provides air conditioning to the University throughout most of the year.

Water

(continued from previous page)

dents, many of whom will take public leadership roles in the years to come. Harvard classrooms present an array of related topics, from the Graduate School of Design's (GSD) classes on water, aquatic ecology, and land-water linkages, to Harvard Kennedy School's (HKS) class on water and development, to Harvard Law School's (HLS) course on environmental law.

Students often study water issues both inside and outside the classroom. Laila Kasuri, an undergraduate engineering concentrator, participated in a project in Pakistan led by Briscoe last summer. Kasuri was part of a multidisciplinary team that included students from SEAS, HKS, and HLS who examined Pakistani water policy and how it relates to usage there.

"It was really eye-opening," Kasuri said. "As an undergraduate, we have a tendency to say, 'Oh, I read about this, so I know about it.' ... It teaches you to take everything with a grain of salt."

Harvard has been bound to water since its earliest days, when the Charles River provided transportation to colonial leaders who formed the College just 16 years after the Pilgrim ship Mayflower landed at Plymouth. Over the years, the river played a key role in Harvard's growth, serving as a highway to the campus.

The iconic Charles took center stage last weekend when crews from dozens of countries gathered for the Head of the Charles Regatta, the world's largest

two-day rowing event, and one in which Harvard rowers had an extremely successful showing, winning the Championship Eights event and placing first among collegiate crews in both women's eights and men's lightweight eights. They won those titles on a river that has become dramatically cleaner in recent decades.

Harvard rowers have long turned to the water for recreation, competition, and even inspiration, said crew coach Harry Parker, who has coached University crews to victory for more than 40 years. Parker, who spends several hours a day on the river, six days a week, 40 weeks a year, said his love affair with the river is shared with many students. Between intercollegiate teams, House squads, and recreational rowers, at least 500 members of the Harvard community row the Charles each year, he said.

"I think it's fair to say that Harvard's image is connected to the river. People outside of Boston who think of Harvard think of it being on the river," Parker said. "It's not such a bad place to be. It's a lot better to be on the river looking at the traffic on Storrow Drive than the other way around."

Above the banks of the Charles, life-sustaining water flows through Harvard's thousands of pipes and spigots, most grandly through three 50-foot-high waterfalls atop the Science Center, part of the University's cooling infrastructure. There is also campus concern over its increasing scarcity. As with energy and construction, water conservation is part of the burgeon-

ing effort to make Harvard green.

"Water conservation is integral to preserving the environment," said Vice President for Campus Services Lisa Hogarty.

Many Harvard buildings have installed low-flow toilets, aerators, and showerheads. Harvard University Housing, for example, has put in low-flow aerators and showerheads in its nearly 3,000 residential units, and Harvard Dining Services installed new dishwashers that save 1.5 million gallons per year. The Office for Sustainability partners with student and employee green teams across the University to plan and implement water-saving initiatives and outreach campaigns.

Landscape Services uses only organic treatments, which cut water use by up to 35 percent in recent years. Transportation Services reuses rainwater at 175 North Harvard St. to wash 250 University vehicles a week, saving 25,000 gallons annually.

"These and other steps have significantly reduced water consumption, and we're continually looking for new opportunities to save even more," Hogarty said. "Harvard has pledged to take an aggressive approach toward improving environmental sustainability, and Campus Services shares this commitment."

New construction also must try to ensure water conservation. Harvard's Green Building Standards require that new buildings and renovations reduce interior water use at least 35 percent below the maxi-

mum allowed by the building code. According to the Green Building Services group, Harvard's 61 LEED-certified projects are expected to reduce water use 36 percent below the maximum allowed by the building code, equivalent to 5.6 million gallons per year.

RESEARCH ON QUANTITY AND QUALITY

A 2009 report sponsored by a group of major corporations, including Coca-Cola and Nestlé, projected that global water demand will grow as much as 40 percent in the next 20 years. The projections come as experts warn of aquifers being drained faster than they can be replenished, as biologists recognize that dam building and river diversion harm natural ecosystems, and as climate change projections predict changing rainfall patterns and melting glaciers that feed major rivers.

Briscoe, the Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Environmental Engineering at SEAS and professor of the practice of environmental health at HSPH, focuses on "the questions that keep the strategic leaders in countries up at night." In the wake of last year's devastating Pakistan floods, his analysis was both blunt and counter to the prevailing environmental current: Build more dams.

The Harvard Water Security Initiative has formed partnerships with some key nations — Brazil, Pakistan, Australia, as well as the United States — bringing interdisciplinary focus to major water concerns in each country. An example of this collaboration is a nine-month project with law Professors Jody Freeman and Richard Lazarus that examines the management of large rivers. At the heart of this project is an innovative approach to learning. Five teams of six students each from HLS, SEAS, HSPH, HKS, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and the College will conduct research with "thinking practitioners" along the Colorado, Indus, Mississippi, Murray-Darling, and São Francisco rivers, visiting their basins in January.

The world's water future is not just about quantity but also quality. At SEAS, Vecitis is exploring the use of nanotechnology to purify supplies. Vecitis' research is investigating polymer membranes, carbon nanotubes, and ultrasonic blasts to clean water. The carbon work uses nanotubes to create a microscopic mesh that acts as a filter, with pores small enough to trap not only pathogens but also contaminants. An advantage of using such nanotubes is that they conduct electricity so that electrochemistry can destroy contaminants and inactivate pathogens.

"Unless you live in a First World country, it's likely you only have partial drinking water treatment and no wastewater treatment," Vecitis said. "Your local rivers are your wastewater treatment."

At the Faculty of Arts and Sciences' Economics Department and at HKS, Michael Kremer, Gates Profes-



Miguel Espejo uses rainwater to wash Harvard shuttles at 175 North Harvard St.

sor of Developing Societies, approaches the same problem from a different angle. Kremer works on boosting access to water treatment to reduce global deaths from diarrhea. Kremer has evaluated Kenyan programs of the nonprofit group Innovations for Poverty Action, which distributes purification solutions for free directly at the sources where local residents get their water. Such treatment solutions cost less than 50 cents per person per year, so wide-scale usage would be an extremely cost-effective public health measure, Kremer said.

"Approximately 2 million people die of diarrhea each year, and water contaminated with fecal organisms is a major cause. ... Less than 10 percent of people purchase water treatment when it is marketed to households, but when free access is provided through a dispenser at the water source, the majority of people treat their water," Kremer said.

WATER AS A HUMAN RIGHT

At the Carr Center, the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation Program is examining how taking a human rights approach can improve access to clean water and sanitation for the estimated 1 billion people without access to proper drinking water and the 2.6 bil-

lion without access to decent sanitation.

This week, the center convened a special roundtable meeting with Catarina de Albuquerque, the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Human Right to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation. The goal is to develop a collaborative research agenda with scholars from various academic disciplines, as well as practitioners, to understand better how to translate a human right to water and sanitation into practice — and ultimately to provide nations with guidance for their development priorities.

Carr Center Fellow Sharmila Murthy said that treating access to water and sanitation as a human right is important because of the way such rights are handled in the international legal system. Conferring such status would provide moral recognition that water is an essential human need whenever nations ponder development.

"The idea of a human right to water is not meant to handcuff governments. It's aspirational, intended to guide policy," Murthy said. "A human right to water and sanitation doesn't mean it has to be free, but it should be affordable, accessible, and safe."

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Harvard Medical School launches major initiative in development of lifesaving drugs.
<http://hvd.gs/93201>



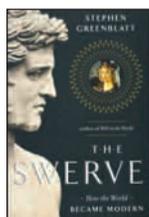
Researchers are making progress in creating a biofuels process that will allow the use of tough-to-digest cellulose produced by hardy grasses. <http://hvd.gs/93142>

The line that defines

A new book by Rachel St. John unearths the colorful history of the 2,000-mile U.S. border with Mexico.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer

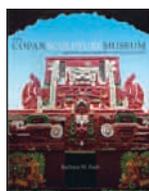
HARVARD BOUND



THE SWERVE: HOW THE WORLD BECAME MODERN

W.W. Norton, September 2011
By Stephen Greenblatt

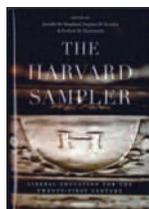
In this wave-making book, Cogan University Professor Stephen Greenblatt takes into account “On the Nature of Things,” an eerily modern poem by the ancient Roman writer Lucretius, which helped shape the great thinkers of the Renaissance, even if fewer than three copies of the poem were known to exist at the time.



THE COPAN SCULPTURE MUSEUM: ANCIENT MAYA ARTISTRY IN STUCCO AND STONE

Peabody Museum Press, September 2011
By Barbara W. Fash

With illustrations and archaeological context, Barbara Fash, director of the Corpus of Maya Hieroglyphic Inscriptions Program at the Peabody Museum, discusses the global significance of a Honduran museum dedicated to the ancient Maya stone carvings in Copan.



THE HARVARD SAMPLER: LIBERAL EDUCATION FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Harvard University Press, October 2011
Edited by Jennifer M. Shephard, Stephen M. Kosslyn, and Evelyn M. Hammonds

Edited by three Harvard faculty members, including Dean of Harvard College Evelyn M. Hammonds, and featuring essays by University faculty including Jonathan Losos, Steven Pinker, Werner Sollors, and others, this collection of essays offers insight into contemporary education and issues in academia.

For nearly 2,000 miles, it runs alongside California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. It begins in the east in Brownsville, Texas, and marches west along the Rio Grande, halting at the Pacific, in the town of Tijuana, notorious for its drug violence and reputation as a party spot for frat boys.

Whatever the cause, the mythic U.S.-Mexico border draws millions of people to it each year. It's the most frequently crossed international border in the world, and is one of the most intriguing unseen lines in history.

Just ask Rachel St. John. In her new book, “Line in the Sand: A History of the Western U.S.-Mexico Border,” the Harvard associate professor of history traces the border's origins to its modern-day consequences.

The eastern U.S.-Mexico border was easy to establish: the Rio Grande forms a natural divide. But after the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American War in 1848, diplomats gathered with maps to configure the western border. According to St. John's research, they drew arbitrary lines, following no existing geographical feature, but connecting a few

that point on, with the exception of a small stretch of the boundary line that runs along the Colorado River, the western border was made up of a series of imaginary lines.” Finalized in 1854, “the boundary line as it exists today was in place,” she said.

But what St. John finds remarkable is the shift in the border's meaning over time.

“When the border was first drawn, the government thought, ‘No one's ever going to come out here. This is the middle of the desert — who cares what happens,’” she said. “But there's a massive change in economics that begins in the U.S. and spreads into Mexico in the late 19th-century.”

Cattle ranching and mining became big industries, and a railroad was built on the U.S. side. “It's really the change in the economy that causes the government to care about maintaining the border.”

According to St. John, most people assume today that the border is there to regulate the movement of people, “but the sense from both the U.S. and Mexican governments that they needed to regulate the movement



known spots like El Paso, the Gila and Colorado rivers, and San Diego Bay.

Armed with maps and equipment, a U.S.-Mexico boundary commission next set out into the barren and inhospitable desert with the task of formally surveying and demarcating that part of the border.

“There's this idea that you can draw a boundary line on paper,” mused St. John, “but that's much harder to put into effect when you get on the ground.”

Some of the men's maps proved incorrect, which spurred on-the-spot compromises — just another added stress in addition to contending with everything from heat and rough terrain to getting lost, Apache attacks, and sometimes death.

“The one part of the boundary line that corresponded to a natural geographic feature, the Gila River, was made obsolete by the renegotiation of the border in the Gadsden Treaty of 1853,” wrote St. John. “From

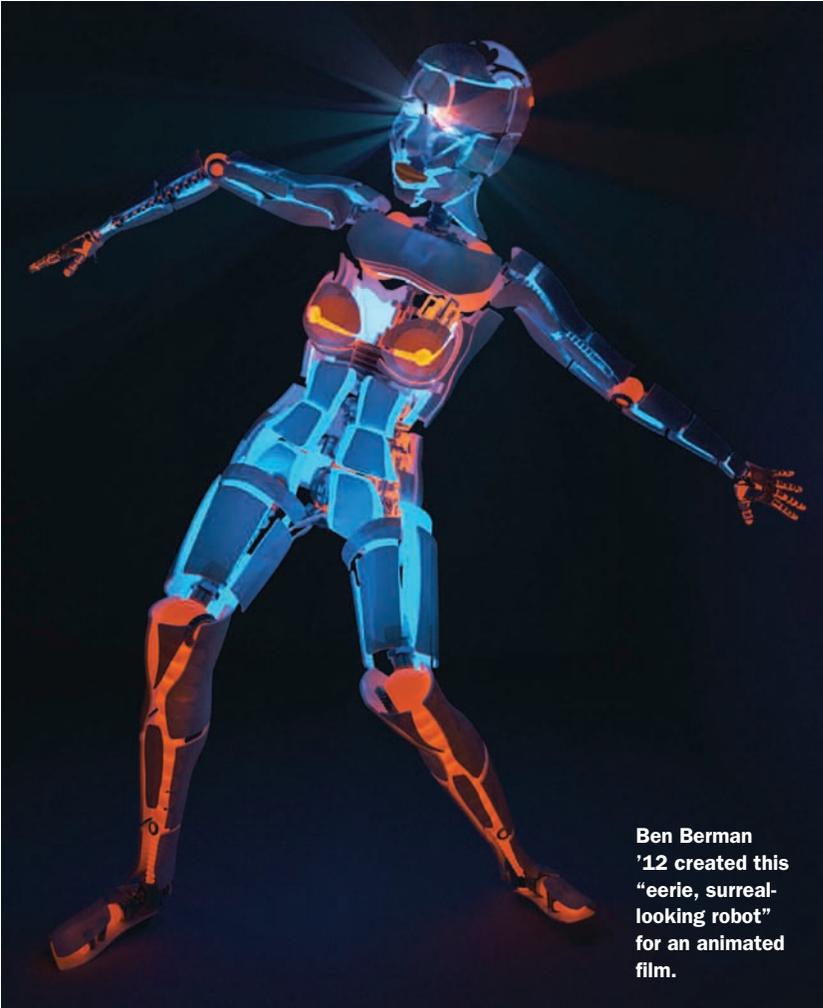
of people is a 20th-century phenomenon.”

St. John grew up in Southern California, and as a teenager sometimes trekked to Tijuana herself. “I remember one day thinking, ‘It's really interesting how the border is one way on this side, and on the other side it's totally different,’” she recalled.

The border now is political, policed, and unpredictable. “All the attention on the border, in some ways, is not a very effective way of dealing with larger problems of managing immigration and other smuggling,” said St. John.

“But one thing studying the border has taught me is that it hasn't always meant the same thing, and so it's very possible that in the future it won't mean the same thing,” she noted. “At no time that I've seen does anyone want a totally closed or open border. It's all about creating a border that's a force field — it lets in the things you want and lets out the things you don't.”

Photo by Justin Ide | Harvard Staff Photographer



Ben Berman '12 created this "eerie, surreal-looking robot" for an animated film.

A magic wand for artists' dreams

With an annual program administered by the Office for the Arts, Harvard undergraduates explore extraordinary opportunities for growth in their fields.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

Ben Berman '12 pushed the limits of computer animation. Megan O'Keefe '11 worked with an Italian drama company for the mentally disabled. Julian Gewirtz '13 delved into the depths of the AIDS epidemic with poetry.

The talented trio honed and expanded their creative sides over the summer with support from an ongoing Harvard program that encourages artistic exploration.

Each year, the Artist Development Fellowship (ADF) program of Harvard's Office for the Arts (OFA), which is run by OFA with assistance from Harvard's Office of Career Services, helps to nurture creativity among Harvard undergraduates. Awarded annually by the Council of the Arts, a standing committee of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the grants support projects in dance, literature, music, theater, studio art, film, mixed media, and multidisciplinary arts practices.

"The program is for students who have identified an extraordinary opportunity for artistic growth — whether it is apprenticing to a great theater director, investigating a new compositional form in music, or fusing different modes of art making in search of something uniquely expressive and new," said OFA Director Jack Megan. The program offers grants that range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. During the 2010-11 year, the program distributed \$41,000 to 13 recipients.

At Harvard, O'Keefe, an English literature concentrator, merged her

passions, working with the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club and with Recreational Experience and Creativity with Harvard, a mentoring program that connects Harvard students with community children who have special needs.

With support from the OFA program, she spent the past summer in Rome with avant-garde director and performance artist Dario D'Ambrosi and his Pathological Theater, a nascent drama school for people with mental illness.

As she ponders her future of either working in theater production or in arts advocacy, O'Keefe said she will look to the example set by D'Ambrosi. "What was amazing about this summer," she said, "was getting to see how Dario was able to really take his time, find what his passion — his true interest — was, and to create a career that allowed him to embrace all sides of that."

A history concentrator with a focus on 20th-century China, Gewirtz, publisher of *The Harvard Advocate*, is also a gifted poet. Long fascinated with the scourge of AIDS as a "cultural and historical phenomenon," and worried his own generation lacks a clear understanding of the epidemic and its repercussions, Gewirtz used the ADF to visit areas devastated by the disease.

He traveled to San Francisco's Castro district, which was hard hit by AIDS in the 1980s and early '90s. There he met with contemporary poet D.A. Powell, who is living with the disease, and others whose lives were forever changed by the illness.

Back at Harvard, Gewirtz is working on a series of poems informed by his experience. Using the framework of ancient Greek myths for some works, he captures emotions like fear, abandonment, and desire. The tale of Psyche involves a character who waits in the dark for her lover, the god Eros/Cupid, to come to her. But Gewirtz has worked it into a vehicle that represents the desolation of a patient stricken with disease and confined to bed, awaiting an uncertain future.

"I thought this would be the perfect way to give voice and find a persona for these poems ... they would be finding a new cultural way to speak about the disease."

The grant, Gewirtz said, provided him "the stamina of engaging with one large poetic project for a substantial amount of time," and allowed him to explore a topic that is "part of understanding where we all are today."

While many grant recipients take apprentice positions, others, like Berman, exercise a more introspective approach, using the fellowships in large part for self-directed study.

His introduction to the creative Harvard

program came by way of a sibling and one of the most remote places on the planet. Just out of high school, he accompanied his brother Alex '10, an ADF recipient, to Siberia in 2008. While there, they filmed an aboriginal group that used Soviet all-terrain vehicles to herd reindeer.

"I cannot say I am doing something quite as radical," said Berman of his computer graphics project. But high-tech animators might disagree. With an innovative approach, the Visual and Environmental Studies concentrator used the summer months to work on a short film about an artificial intelligence that holds people's online identities hostage.

Instead of sinking \$60,000 into a "motion capture suit," he improvised, creating his "eerie, surreal-looking robot" for an animated film. "In Warranty" uses what he calls an optical method of motion capture with a \$150 camera and some "magic" software.

"This was a technical experiment that the fund really enabled ... where I tried the bleeding-edge means of motion capture, and of modeling and rendering," said Berman, who praised the program for allowing students to experiment.

The program's organizers hope students will make good use of their experiences well beyond their Harvard years. Many do.

James Fuller '10, a dancer with Ballet Austin, used his fellowship to participate in a six-week intensive modern dance festival between his junior and senior years. The fellowship experience, he said, helped him land his current job. He still uses the training when performing contemporary works.

Calla Videt '09, a young theater luminary who wrote, directed, and acted during her Harvard years, took advantage of an ADF grant to travel to London to study with the theater company Complicite. The exposure to the small troupe, which operates like a "close-knit family," altered her outlook.

"Seeing work created by this group of people in a company-oriented, family setting, inspired my approach," said Videt, who now runs her own small company, SIGHT-LINE, in New York City, modeled after Complicite.

The OFA-supported experience, she said, offered her critical "seeds of inspiration."

"My hope is that years from now, some students will be practicing artists of one sort or another who will look back and say that Harvard and the Office for the Arts invested in them at a critical point in their development," said the OFA's Megan, "and that there was a real before-and-after effect of that investment."

Image courtesy of Ben Berman



Rye Barcott (back to camera, right) along a corridor in Kibera's busy D.C. village. In a more festive setting, Barcott (below left) at the lead of the 10-year anniversary celebration parade in Kibera.

Lessons from a Kenyan slum

A SPRAWLING URBAN POCKET OF POVERTY offers a timeless lesson: Talent is universal, but opportunity is not.

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff Writer

NAIROBI, Kenya — From nearly anywhere in this teeming capital city of Kenya, you can see its greatest embarrassment: Kibera, a 1.5-square-mile slum of steel-roof shanties and narrow, undulant alleys of mud, dust, litter, and open sewage. It's Africa's largest informal urban settlement, home to upwards of a million people. Most residents live there on less than \$2 a day.

But Kibera's 13 informal villages are also places of vitality, color, and enterprise. A Harvard Business School case study, revised last year and being taught in a November class, captures the slum's incongruent poverty and vigor.

"Kibera," wrote co-authors Kathleen L. McGinn and Cailin B. Hammer, "was, at its essence, a vital, overcrowded community where families and friendships thrived alongside hunger and disease." (McGinn is Cahners-Rabb Professor of Business Administration. Hammer is a freelance writer.)

People find ways to scramble through Kibera's fragile economy. Roadsides are vibrant workshops, cooking areas, and retail space. Tailors perch outside at pedal-powered sewing machines, women cook cakes of wheat and maize over open fires, bead workers assemble art, and young men crouch over arc welders, making metal work in a blaze of sparks.

More than enterprise is incongruent about Kibera.

Photos by Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff

At one edge of it stand the French embassy and the house of a former Kenyan president. From inside the slum, you can see distant busy roadways glittering with traffic along Kibera's bowl-like edges. Across a road is Nairobi National Park, a small game reserve where tourists and schoolchildren can glimpse iconic wild Africa.

Kibera represents another iconic Africa — a concentration of urban poverty that most Nairobi residents would rather forget, deny, or at least never visit. "I've never been there," said one cab driver with a shake of his head.

It was to this isolated, ignored Kibera that Rye Barcott, M.B.A./M.P.A. '09, first traveled in the summer of 2000. He was a 20-year-old student with a smattering of Swahili, in search of both adventure and information for a thesis project at the University of North Carolina.

By the next summer, Barcott had moved his sights from adventure to empathy. He had acquired a bedrock insight: that among the poor talent is universal, but opportunity is not.

With two Kibera friends — an unemployed nurse and a former street orphan — Barcott founded Carolina for Kibera (CFK), a nonprofit that in July celebrated its 10th anniversary of intertribal soccer, female empowerment, trash collection, reproductive health education, and community medicine. (Its



free clinic, started with a \$26 investment, now serves 40,000 Kibera residents a year.)

Barcott was a U.S. Marine officer from 2001 to 2006, an experience he views as a variation on his non-profit work. He described this clash and confluence of two worlds in a memoir, "It Happened on the Way to War: A Marine's Path to Peace" (Bloomsbury, 2011). One BBC reviewer called the book "an ax for the frozen sea of the heart."

"Harvard gave me an opportunity few people have, and that few veterans have," said Barcott this summer in Nairobi, "an extraordinary environment where you have an opportunity for structured reflection on a particularly intense set of life experiences." With Harvard historian Ernest R. May as a mentor, he set down the military half of his story while it was still "vivid, fresh, and immediate." (May died the month Barcott graduated.)

CFK was the rest of the story, including its humble

Forces beyond nations

Most people would say they live in a globalized world, but a sociology professor favors the model of a denationalized world in which regional organizations predominate.

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff Writer

In February, Jason Beckfield was named a full professor of sociology at Harvard, where he had labored in the junior faculty trenches for five years.

“It was a relief you cannot imagine,” said Beckfield, a modest, rangy 35-year-old and the father of two, “an instantaneous lowering of blood pressure.”

FACULTY PROFILE

Beckfield got his introduction to sociology at Northeast Missouri State University (now Truman State University), where his favorite professor barked out brilliant lectures and often showed up in class still dressed for duck hunting. Said Beckfield of Harvard, “This is not the place I expected to land.”

Yet his academic path was remarkable and lucky, said Beckfield, beginning with the public schools in his native Joplin, Mo. “At every grade,” he remembered, “I was fortunate to have very good teachers.” Most of all, there was the steadying influence of his parents — the late Albert Beckfield, an accountant, and his wife Cathy, a bank loan assistant.

Despite solid academics in Joplin, Beckfield was a freshman in college before he had heard of sociology. He took a memorable survey course taught by Jack Mitchell, the duck hunter. “He was extremely intimidating,” he said of the man who was to inspire a life’s work. “He was big man — gruff, severe, and a compelling lecturer.”

Beckfield sampled English, biology, astronomy, anthropology, and journalism. But the siren call of sociology won. Mitchell left his young student with a senior-year gift: intensive seminars in classic and contemporary social theory that gave him an exceptional grounding for the Ph.D. program at Indiana University. “I still have those notes,” said Beckfield.



He spent one of his seven doctoral years helping his adviser, Professor Art Alderson, complete an intensive social network analysis of selected cities around the world. “It was a very important moment in graduate school,” said Beckfield. “It completely changed the way I thought about globalization.”

Social network analysis is the complex, data-driven study of how nodes (individuals) and ties (relationships) relate to one another. Conceptually, this key analytical tool dates to the 1930s, but it only took off in the ’90s, when computing power could finally cope with massive data sets. Beckfield is a fan of the technique’s fluid intersections with physics, neuroscience, statistics, and other disciplines.

The complex equations and fulsome quantitative data of social network analysis underlie his chief research: regionalization initiatives like the European Union (EU). Entities like the EU are increasingly common — new economic, political, and social hybrids of national and global ties. In a book he will finish writing this year, Beckfield wonders: Does the EU, for one, create patterns of inequality?

“The political and economic fates of a large number of people are increasingly bound up in regions,” he said. “We should be paying a lot more attention than we are.”

It’s all so new. Beckfield called regional unions like the EU “supranational entities” that are “completely fascinating society-building experiments.”

Among those EU-like experiments are the Common Market of the Southern Cone, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the Economic Community of West African States. The one anomaly is the North American Free Trade Agreement, said Beckfield, since it is based on “economic integration without political integration.”

While regional models of interchange knit together fresh alliances, the old order of nation-to-nation interchange is unraveling. “The factors that influence people’s lives are less coupled to the nation-state than they were before,” said Beckfield, describing a global sea change that Columbia University sociologist Saskia Sassen calls “denationalization.” (She and Beckfield were colleagues at the University of Chicago, where he first taught.)

In the face of these changes, it’s important to conceptualize “what regionalized forms of social organization look like,” said Beckfield, and to understand what it means for “a nation-state to be integrated into something that exists above it.”

The idea of globalization helps us understand grand patterns, said Beckfield. But it is more accurate to think of the world as a place of multiplying supranational regions: densely woven networks of social, economic, and political ties that exceed national boundaries.

The world is not the globalized “flat world” popularized by writer Thomas Friedman, said Beckfield. “The metaphor I like better — it’s not my own — is that the world is ‘spiky,’ increasingly fragmented and increasingly unequal.”



A painted wall asks Kibera residents to respect the environment.

beginnings, its ascendant history, and its present challenges. The nonprofit is also the core subject of the Kibera case study being taught Nov. 9 by Amy J.C. Cuddy, an assistant professor at HBS. Barcott will be in class that day.

“The Business School experience was a really powerful way of learning essentially a new language,” he said, “new practices and new tools to apply to complex problems.”

While at Harvard, Barcott held a Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship through the Center for Public Leadership. That gave him an inner sanctum, he said, “a community of diverse, interesting people who are trying to take on problems that matter.”

Part of taking on problems that matter is finding a bigger audience for the big messages. His book tour involved 110 presentations in 40 cities. Next is “our larger call to action,” said Barcott, an Internet CFK challenge started this fall as “the power of 26.”

To him, 26 is a magic number. It was \$26 that Barcott donated as a 20-year-old to Tabitha Atieno Festo, the unemployed Kibera nurse who a year later had turned a business selling vegetables into a 24-hour health clinic. Even today, \$26 — the price of four beers in America — can go a long way in a Kibera.

Then there is the power of the program’s 26 thought-provoking challenges, such as “No. 6: After dark, do everything by candlelight,” and “No. 9: Try to live on \$2 a day.” Others are not so severe, but still evoke Kibera’s sense of community. One example: “Tonight, make dinner for a neighbor.”

In Nairobi in July, Barcott dove into the hubbub of CFK’s 10th anniversary party, a day of parades, music, and dancing at a Kibera soccer field. For the occasion, he wore a black T-shirt with CFK’s motto in gold letters: “Be a light.”



Freshmen Tom Keefe (left) and George Doran in the Mass Hall (far right) dorm room.

The newest live in the oldest

Fourteen freshmen live atop Massachusetts Hall, Harvard's longest-standing building and headquarters to the University's administrators.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

When Tom Keefe received his Harvard dorm assignment this summer he was perplexed.

“What’s Massachusetts Hall?” the freshman from Sherborn, Mass., wondered. While he had heard about Lionel, Holworthy, Mower, and Weld halls, he had heard nothing about this one.

But Keefe quickly realized “this one was a lot different.”

The oldest building at Harvard and the second oldest academic building in the country (William & Mary’s Sir Christopher Wren Building in Virginia holds that title), Massachusetts Hall was built in 1720 to meet the growing need for residential space at Harvard College.

The top floor of Mass Hall, as it is commonly known, is still used as a dorm for a small group of students. The remainder of the building serves as office space for Harvard’s top administrators.

Fourteen freshmen, a mix of young men and young women from across the globe, spend their first year at Harvard living three floors above the University president’s office.

In keeping with its close-knit, community feel, on a recent Thursday evening four generations of Mass Hall students gathered in the slightly larger space offered by the neighboring Straus Hall and its common room for an informal reunion.

Over pizza and cookies, the students compared notes about their time in the historic building. They laughed about their attempts to find a way into the attic, the

spirits that supposedly haunt the hall, and their mythic status on campus.

Former Mass Hall resident senior Athena Lao recalled two incredulous students who materialized on the building’s top floor one evening during a study break. The pair had snuck in and climbed the four flights of stairs on a vital fact-finding mission.

“They said, ‘Hi, we were just wondering if you were real,’” recounted Lao.

For Lao, the dorm offered lasting connections. She still resides with two students she met while living there, and for the past three years she has been a peer advising fellow (PAF), a type of mentor for new Harvard College students. She said she requested a PAF appointment there so she could “keep helping out future Mass Hall residents.

“There’s just a lot of community spirit that builds there, and that’s just a powerful and wonderful thing to have when you are starting out.”

One of the highlights for the residents of the small entryway is the annual dinner they get to enjoy with Harvard President Drew Faust on the hall’s first floor. This year the menu featured tacos and tortillas, brownies and lemon squares, and casual conversation including topics like the students’ classes, their impressions of Harvard, and whether or not they felt homesick.

Though he was a little intimidated at first to be dining with the head of the University, freshman George Doran said Faust’s casual demeanor helped everyone loosen up and enjoy the evening.

“It was kind of fun to really ... see the nonbusiness side of the president.”

On a steamy move-in day in late August, Keefe was given a list of residents who had previously lived in his room. His sheet ticked back to 1939.

“It’s cool,” Keefe said of his new abode. “There are only 14 kids, there’s amazing history, and we are on the top floor.” He and new roommate Doran already had bonded over common interests, including a Nintendo 64 video game and the need for a tall floor fan,

which they purchased right after they moved in

The co-ed mini-dorm is a mix of doubles and singles. Its wooden floors have long been covered with carpet, its many fireplaces boarded up. The rooms are furnished with standard-issue bunk beds, and unremarkable desks and chairs. But the rooms have ample space, are sunny and bright, and have peaked ceilings that add a historic charm.

Instead of missing the exposure that a large dorm can offer, Mass Hall students say they are in contact with a diverse range of residents, from athletes to artists, to would-be engineers, scientists, and doctors. The area’s small size, with one simple, long corridor, they agree, gives the space an intimate feel.

“You get to know each other so well that you become a family,” said senior Cristina Alcorta, a former Mass Hall freshman and current peer advising fellow for students in the dorm, who still has many close friends from her own Mass Hall days.

Susan Cheng, the Mass Hall proctor, likes the small dorm. “I feel like as a proctor in Mass Hall I can really get to know my students very well. I see them every day, so it’s easier to keep in touch with the day-to-day developments of their lives,” said Cheng, a student in the Harvard Graduate School of Education’s Ed.L.D. program who is entering her second year at the dorm.

As proctor, Cheng organizes regular social gatherings and study breaks for the students and helps connect them with mentors from across the University.

“Community building and making Mass Hall like home is very important to me.”

Mass Hall has been transformed several times over the centuries. The building was somewhat less ornate following its use as a garrison for soldiers in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, when much of the interior woodwork and brass hardware went missing.

In the 1800s half of the dorm rooms were converted to recitation rooms. Later, the dorms were removed



Mass Hall freshmen dined with Harvard President Drew Faust (from right), Dean of Harvard College Evelyn M. Hammonds, and Dean of Freshmen Thomas A. Dingman (not pictured), an annual ritual for the residents.

Room fit for a president

A Winthrop House suite that once housed the young John F. Kennedy gets a facelift, and re-creates the room as he would have known it.

By Katie Koch | Harvard Staff Writer

Visitors to Harvard could find worse places to shack up than Winthrop House Suite F-14. The two modest rooms, on the first floor of Gore Hall overlooking a courtyard and the Charles River, can be a hidden oasis for newcomers to the Square.

The suite also happens to be the former home of John F. Kennedy, who lived there as a Harvard College senior. Thanks to a recent redesign of the space in honor of the 50th anniversary of his inauguration as president, guests can now enjoy the suite as he might have.

The project was intended to capture “the flavor of the way it was when he lived here,” said Dale Holman, owner of Dale E. Holman Interior Designs Inc. and a regular attendee at the John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum, who oversaw the redesign at the request of Institute of Politics (IOP) Executive Director Catherine McLaughlin.

As it turns out, the appeal of sitting down before an Underwood portable typewriter — the style JFK used — and imagining him writing the thesis that would become his first book, “Why England Slept,” just might trump the view.

Holman and Julie Schroeder, a longtime IOP staff assistant, bought the rights to a Boston Globe photograph of Kennedy ’40 in his dorm room and analyzed its details to recreate the furnishings and layout of the two-person suite. (Kennedy shared it with his close friend, football captain Torbert “Torby” Macdonald ’40.)

“My goal was to produce an environment that I felt JFK could have actually existed in, and still make it comfortable” for visitors, Holman said. “It’s a fine line, because a dorm room is a dorm room. But the people who stay here desire something that’s a little more luxurious.” They also want to be a part of history — a nostalgic longing Holman and the IOP hoped to harness in the suite’s redesign.

They turned to the Internet to track down historical period pieces, like a rare Folies Bergère print that JFK had owned, a rotary telephone, and the Underwood, which Schroeder found on eBay for \$50.

Photos of a young JFK line the walls, along with a framed portrait of his mother, Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, that he kept on his dresser. Some original touches, however, were updated: Instead of a small piano, the suite’s common area now boasts a flat-screen TV.

Furniture and materials for the project were provided at minimal

cost by Stickley, Audi Furniture & Co., A. Rudin Furniture, Polo Ralph Lauren (linens), Pollack Associates (fabric), Oriental Rug Importers Inc., Glenn Elwell and Mark Lansing (interior painting), and Evan Mihaich Flooring.

The institute has managed the suite since May 29, 1970, when the space was dedicated for the use of IOP guests in a ceremony on the late president’s birthday. At the time, it was hardly the romantic portal to history that one might expect.

“It was kind of dowdy,” said Schroeder, who spearheaded the project. “There wasn’t anything that gave you a sense of JFK being here.”

Still, a parade of impressive patrons was drawn to the president’s quarters over the years. Old guestbooks bear the signatures of everyone from Frank Capra to Sen. Eugene McCarthy to Texas Gov. John Connally, who was riding with Kennedy at the time of his assassination.

Actor Alec Baldwin recently spent a night there, though, as Schroeder notes, he forgot to sign the guest book. Even famous skeptic Christopher Hitchens, who documented his stay for the British “Spectator” in 1985, was eventually won over by the then-bare JFK Suite.

“I wanted to be invited back,” Hitchens admitted. If only he could see it now.

Suite F-14 in Winthrop House is where John F. Kennedy once called home. Dale Holman has undertaken the project of returning the suite to “the flavor of the way it was when he lived here.”



entirely, to make way for lecture halls, offices, and reading rooms. In the 1900s, Mass Hall housed an informal observatory, and the precursor to the modern laboratory (the “Apparatus Chamber” that included equipment acquired by Benjamin Franklin). Following a fire in 1924, the building was converted back to a dorm. In 1939 the lower floors were converted to office space.

Early Georgian in style with a simple construction, symmetry, and modest accents, the building has a special lore on campus. Its famous undergraduate residents include Founding Father John Adams, and curious students have been known to try to sneak into the basement looking for the spot where the second U.S. president allegedly scrawled his name on the wall. They haven’t found it yet.

Then there’s the “ghost.” On windy nights, the attic floorboards creak and groan. Some listeners attribute it to the weather; others may wonder if the spirit of some alumnus is floating around the eaves and chimneys. They haven’t found it yet, either.

But much of the lore surrounds the students themselves. There’s a running joke on campus that spotting a student from Mass Hall is as rare as seeing a unicorn trot in front of John Harvard’s statue, a common refrain from some of the tour guides passing beneath their windows. To combat the rumor, one student made T-shirts for the residents, with the Mass Hall mascot, a golden-horned unicorn, emblazoned on the front.

As he settled in after carting his belongings up four flights of narrow stairs to his new room, Keefe was sanguine about living just above the heart of Harvard’s power. “It’s very nice,” he said, offering Faust an open invitation: “She is always welcome to come up and listen to music with me.”



Historic theater to be renamed

Harvard will rename its New College Theatre building Farkas Hall

Harvard University announced Oct. 25 that it will rename its historic New College Theatre building Farkas Hall in recognition of the generosity of alumnus Andrew L. Farkas '82.

Constructed in 1888, the stately Georgian Revival building is best known as the home of the Hasty Pudding Club and the Hasty Pudding Theatricals, the nation's oldest social club and college theater group, as well as student a cappella singing groups the Harvard Krokodiloes and Radcliffe Pitches.

From 2005 to 2007, the University conducted a major renovation and expansion of the facility while preserving the façade and portions of the old structure. Today, the building offers students premier rehearsal and performance space, including a state-of-the-art, approximately 270-seat theater that is open to the public.



Andrew L. Farkas

Farkas, who served as Hasty Pudding Club president for two years as an undergraduate, is committed to the advancement of the arts and enhancing the student experience at Harvard. He also welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the building's important historical narrative.

"My Harvard experience was amongst the most formative and significant in my life," Farkas said. "My times at the Hasty Pudding were amongst the most joyful and memorable. That generations of Harvard students will learn, grow, and flourish in Farkas Hall, in the building that has been the ancestral home of the Pudding and all of the organizations it has spawned, is a great privilege for the Farkas family. To know that the space will be preserved for use by those organizations, and that it will also serve to incubate the creative skills of Harvard's emerging talent, is extremely gratifying."

"Over 375 years, Harvard College has forged some of our nation's foremost creative artists, who have thrived in our rich research environment," said Michael D. Smith, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and John H. Finley Jr. Professor of Engineering and Applied Sciences. "Farkas Hall will serve as a testament to this aspect of Harvard's proud heritage, and we are deeply grateful to Andrew for his vision and his extraordinary generosity. The impact of his support will touch generations of Harvard students."

Farkas is the founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of Island Capital Group LLC and C-III Capital Partners LLC. He previously served as chief executive officer and chairman of Insignia Financial Group Inc., a global real estate services company that he also founded. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard College.

He and his wife, Sandi Goff Farkas, have been deeply involved in the theater. Sandi Farkas, a playwright, founded the nonprofit Playwrights of New York (PONY), which provides annual fellowships to emerging writers. She also serves on the board of New York's Lark Play Development Center.

"The naming of this building is the culmination of a journey for the Farkas family, pioneered by my father, Robin L. Farkas '54, M.B.A. '61, and that has included my brother, Bradford L. Farkas '84, M.B.A. '90, our cousin Georgette A. Farkas '86, my nephew Russell I. Krupen '07, my daughters, Arielle S. Farkas '13 and Nicole M. Farkas, Barnard College '15, and my son, George O. F. Farkas, age 5. It is in honor of my father that Farkas Hall is named. It is in gratitude to Harvard that it is endowed," Andrew Farkas said.

Photos: (above) © Steve Friedman; (right) courtesy of Dan Bricklin

The podcast revolution

Two fellows at Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet & Society revolutionized how people create and consume digital information.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

As Harvard celebrates its 375th anniversary, the Gazette is examining key moments and developments over the University's broad and compelling history.

Podcast.

There's something for everyone, from foodies and fencers to fashionistas and fantasy football fans. With a click of the mouse, users can connect to a world of possibility.

And they can deepen that world just as easily.

The podcasters of today owe a debt of gratitude to a group of Harvard scholars who revolutionized how people create and consume digital information. These scholars streamlined a method of both uploading audio files to the Internet and downloading them to a computer or mobile device.

The origin of the podcast can be traced to two people, in large part: Dave Winer, a software developer and blog evangelist who landed at Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet & Society in 2003 determined to put the University on the blogging map, and Christopher Lydon, a journalist and radio show host eager to investigate the power of the Internet.

Winer, who graduated with a degree in math from Tulane University, caught the computer bug during a basic programming class. "It was fascinating ... for me it felt like math in motion," he said.

Winer earned a master's in computer science and became a Silicon Valley staple, heading his own software companies. One of the world's first bloggers, he also created software that allowed people to create blogs of their own. Then he set his sights on Harvard.

"I wanted more thoughtfulness to be in this space," said Winer of the blossoming blogosphere. "I was going to get Harvard blogging."

"Dave was in a hurry. He had big ideas. I sensed that I didn't want to miss them. There he was, ready to rock, he said, and



what he wanted to work on would be transformative," recounts John Palfrey, Henry N. Ess III Professor of Law and faculty co-director of the Berkman Center.

"He had a simple idea: Let's put up a blogs server ... and invite anyone in the community to start blogging."

Winer became a Berkman fellow and created the blog platform Weblogs at Harvard Law School, open to anyone with a



Harvard.edu email address. He organized weekly discussion groups around blog tutorials and hot blog topics. He convened the conference Bloggercon at Harvard Law School. And with Harvard's help, he took blogs to the next level.

Prior to Harvard, Winer had worked with Adam Curry, the MTV disc jockey who envisioned streaming video online via an RSS feed.

RSS, "Really Simple Syndication," is a clever way to aggregate data on the Web. With it, content creators can make their material available to other sites, and users can access the latest content from such sites in one location.

"It automates your Web surfing," said Winer, who helped create the original RSS format. Picking up on Curry's idea, Winer tweaked the RSS design, adding audio attachments to the Web feed for-

Bloggercon 2003 (opposite page), a conference organized by Dave Winer at Harvard Law School, united budding and established bloggers. “The inventive genius of what this group was doing at the Berkman Center was in turning their work into a series and into a channel,” said John Palfrey (right), Henry N. Ess III Professor of Law and faculty co-director of the Berkman Center.



Lydon. He tested it out with a couple of Grateful Dead songs and, suddenly, the framework for podcasting was in place. But Winer realized there was more to do.

“It wasn’t just enough to tell people this thing was there and show them how it worked on a technical level ... they had to see you doing it, and they had to be able to imagine themselves doing it.”

Enter Christopher Lydon.

In 2003, Lydon, former host of WBUR’s “The Connection,” was also a Berkman fellow and quickly connected with Winer.

He emailed Winer early on and told him, “Yesterday I couldn’t spell blog; tomorrow I want to be one.”

“My idea for Chris,” recalled Winer, “was that he was going to be the voice of podcasting.”

Winer did the heavy technical lifting and Lydon provided his polished interview skills, smooth voice, and seasoned reporter gravitas — as well as a desire to explore the democratization of the new medium.

“Anybody can be a podcaster,” said Lydon. “You can record your songs, your deepest thoughts, your silliest thoughts, your sonnets that you’ve been writing for years — you can spread it to the world.”

Lydon and Winer joined forces with Cambridge engineer and Berkman friend Bob Doyle, who connected Lydon with the necessary recording equipment and trained him on how to use it. In July 2003, Lydon interviewed Winer in what would become the very first podcast. Lydon continued to self-produce interviews with bloggers, political figures, and authors such as Julia Child and Norman Mailer. With help from

Winer’s special RSS-with-enclosures feed that attached the audio files, they released the interviews to Lydon’s blog, and podcasting was born.

“It was a terrifically interesting moment for me,” said Lydon. “Dave Winer and I ... are the Neil Armstrong of podcasting, and now everybody goes to that moon.”

“Podcasting has bloomed every bit as much as I thought it would,” said Winer, who went on to develop his own podcasts using simpler audio software and equipment.

“The process started in 2000 but it didn’t reach critical mass until 2004 ... and it was because of all the resources that were at Harvard and the people that were there. We had all the essential elements to success.”

Harvard’s effort stood out, said Palfrey.

“People were certainly recording and putting audio files on the Web ... the inventive genius of what this group was doing at the Berkman Center was in turning their work into a series, and into a channel. ... The development of podcasting, of video, all of what YouTube has become, those to me are all outgrowths of that innovation.”

The Harvard work represented a perfect storm of curiosity combined with cutting-edge technology. Blogging, RSS feeds, and podcasts emerged alongside cheap audio recording equipment, mp3 files, and the ubiquitous iPod, an inexpensive and easy way to receive audio files, and its corresponding iTunes, a way to “systemize the receipt of it,” said Palfrey.

“It was a confluence of things coming together and the best form of experimentation, of just trying it, of seeing what happens. And podcasting is one of those things that just stuck.”

Upcoming events

<http://375.harvard.edu>



OCT. 27, 5-7 P.M.

DUDLEY HOUSE 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Celebrate Harvard University’s innovative commitment to graduate student life as Dudley House celebrates its 20th anniversary as the graduate student center at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

OCT. 27, 6-7 P.M.

“THE EMERGENT FOREST OF NEW ENGLAND,” LECTURE BY PETER DEL TREDICI GEOLOGICAL LECTURE HALL, 24 OXFORD ST.

Peter Del Tredici, botanist and senior research scientist at the Arnold Arboretum, will present an overview of the recent history of the forests of southern New England including natural disasters, shifting land-use patterns (urbanization and suburban sprawl), introduced pests and pathogens, invasive species, acid rain, and climate change.

OCT. 29, 7-10 P.M.

DIVERSITAS: A CELEBRATION OF CULTURE @ HARVARD TERCENTENARY THEATRE

In celebration of the 30th anniversaries of the Harvard Foundation and the Undergraduate Council, a unique and interactive multicultural fair will feature numerous Harvard cultural organizations sharing music, food, artwork, and performances. Open to the Harvard community.

NOV. 3, RECEPTION 5-6 P.M., PANEL DISCUSSION 6-7 P.M.

“EXPLORE HARVARD: THE YARD AND BEYOND” CGIS SOUTH, FRIENDS OF JAPAN GALLERY

In celebration of Harvard’s 375th anniversary, “Explore Harvard: The Yard and Beyond” presents contemporary images never before published as well as archival prints. The book is available from Harvard University Press, with limited copies available for cash purchase at the gallery reception. Harvard photographers will share the stories behind the photos: both the unforgettable moments in Harvard history and the everyday snapshots of life at the University.

NOV. 15, 4 P.M.

“NIXON IN CHINA” PANEL DISCUSSION AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER, 64 BRATTLE ST.

Panelists include Drew Faust, Harvard president, and panel moderator; Diane Paulus ’88, A.R.T. director; John Adams ’71, A.M. ’72, “Nixon in China” composer; Peter Sellars ’81, “Nixon in China” director; Alice Goodman ’80, “Nixon in China” librettist.

Ticket information to be announced. To learn more, visit <http://hvd.gs/90286>.



Scan the QR code to see coverage of the 375th celebration on Oct. 14, including a photo journal. Or visit <http://hvd.gs/92985>.

Read about more key moments in Harvard’s history



During the American Revolution, Harvard temporarily turned its campus over to the new colonial army, and moved inland to Concord. <http://hvd.gs/92729>.

Education and innovation

A \$40 million gift by Rita E. and Gustave M. Hauser will launch an initiative for learning and teaching at Harvard and serve as a catalyst for transforming students' educational experiences University-wide.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

Harvard University announced Oct. 18 that Rita E. and Gustave M. Hauser have given the University \$40 million to support excellence and innovation in learning and teaching at Harvard.

The gift will launch an initiative for learning and teaching and serve as a catalyst for transforming students' educational experiences University-wide. The fund will enable the University to marshal its considerable intellectual resources to engage a new generation of students with pioneering teaching practices, building on the long history of educational reform at Harvard. The new gift combines the Hausers' passions for technology, a global outlook, and teaching and learning with a desire to make an impact on both a University-wide and global scale.

"Dramatic developments in technology and research aimed at understanding how people learn are radically changing the practice of teaching, offering instructors new and exciting ways to engage with students," said Harvard President Drew Faust. "This remarkable gift from the Hausers will allow us to support the efforts of our enormously creative faculty and provide a framework for making excellent teaching and engagement between faculty and students the touchstone of the educational experience at Harvard."

"Our gift is intended to support Harvard's leadership at a very significant moment in higher education," said Gustave Hauser, LL.B. '53. "There is a whole generation of new students who require new teaching and learning methods. This project focuses Harvard's enormous resources on making higher education more effective."

"This is in line with the philosophy of our giving," said Rita Hauser, Harvard Law School '58. "We are giving a sizable gift, which is just the beginning ... This is really a startup if you like, and we hope it will be a catalytic gift."

"We hope that this gift will be one that will touch all places in the University and help to bring the University together. We also hope that other people are going to see the potential of this gift, and in ways that none of us can contemplate. Innovative teaching and learning is the future, not just for Harvard, but for universities in general."

The new initiative will advance a range of projects, beginning with a University-wide conference in February that will bring together top thinkers, from both within and outside Harvard, in a range of fields related to pedagogical practices and the science of learning. Harvard will also use this funding to enhance classroom spaces for use by Schools across the University through de-

Photo by Rose Lincon | Harvard Staff Photographer

signs that will allow for experimental teaching methods and the flexible use of a variety of technologies.

In addition, the initiative will include a grant program to support innovative teaching projects across Harvard's Schools. The grants — available to University faculty, deans, administrators, and students — will, over time, support both innovative ideas from individuals and structured projects that are central to the curricular planning and pedagogy of Harvard's Schools. For more information on grant guidelines, please visit harvard.edu/sites/default/files/content/HILT-guidelines_111018.pdf.

"This gift is a huge affirmation of Harvard's ongoing commitment to excellent teaching," said Harvard Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Michael D. Smith. "Since the '70s, we have had one of the world's most highly regarded centers focused on teaching undergraduates. As we look to the future, the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning will expand its efforts to bring insights from the science of learning into the classroom. Visionary investments in activities like these will establish Harvard as the institution for pedagogical innovation."

"New technologies have transformed the way students interact with the world, with information, and knowledge," said Dean of Harvard College Evelyn M. Hammonds. "With the new gift, Harvard can explore how best to meet students where they are and update the kind of teaching we have done so well in the past with new kinds of tools."

Harvard's commitment to educational reform is longstanding. Harvard President Charles Eliot (term of office: 1869-1909) introduced the elective system. His successor, A. Lawrence Lowell (1909-1933), gave Harvard general examinations, fields of concentration, and tutorials. President James Bryant Conant (1933-1953) adopted the SAT to identify talented students from a broad range of high schools.

Revolutionary in a similar way was the case method, introduced by Harvard Law School (HLS) in the 1870s. It quickly became the dominant teaching model in U.S. law. In 1920, Harvard Business School adopted the case method teaching technique. And in the sciences, Harvard Medical School restructured traditional medical education in 1985, when it adopted the New Pathway in General Medical Education. The revised system of learning acknowledged a greater need for analytical tools, adaptable skills, and flexible attitudes for lifelong learning.

Most recently, in 2009, Harvard College revamped its General Education curriculum. Undergraduate core courses, newly defined, let students readily connect



what they learn in the classroom to the wider world.

The new Hauser-backed initiative builds on the strengths of proven methods and the momentum of curricular exploration at Harvard to incorporate and study groundbreaking techniques that aim to transform students' learning experiences.

"We as an institution remain very much unfinished. ... We are constantly trying to get better and recognizing that we must be better. At the core of that is experimentation and innovation," said Youngme Moon, Donald K. David Professor of Business Administration, senior associate dean, and chair of Harvard Business School's M.B.A. program.

"This gift is so vital because it allows faculty the opportunity to innovate and experiment — to step back and think of new ways to engage our students, and it provides the impetus for all University faculties to share best practices and work together," said Jules Dienstag, dean for medical education at Harvard Medical School. "The Hauser gift gives us new resources to devote to innovation in teaching and learning."

The new initiative will operate in collaboration with the broad array of University efforts devoted to enhancing education, such as learning centers and academic instructional support units across Harvard's campuses.

The gift is one of many given to Harvard by the Hausers over the years. Examples include a gift for the construction of Harvard Law School's Hauser Hall in 1994; the founding of the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Harvard University in 1997, a University-wide center for the study of nonprofit organizations and civil society; the endowment of the Chair in Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at HLS in 1998; and their support of an interfaculty initiative on human rights studies the same year.

In looking to the future, Faust said she hopes the new gift will allow Harvard's commitment to teaching and learning to be understood both within the Harvard community and beyond "as a fundamental part of who we are, at the very core of Harvard's identity."

The gift embodies the Hausers' "real citizenship, loyalty, and generosity to Harvard, and their deep commitment to innovative teaching," added Faust. "It's been an exciting set of interactions leading to this moment, and we thank them for this marvelous gift."

View video announcement: <http://bit.ly/nT1H3Q>

Guides on the undergraduate quest

Advising programs enable students to get the most from their undergraduate academic experience, encouraging students to think in terms of their long-term personal and intellectual development.

By Paul Massari | Harvard Staff Writer

Caleb Thompson '14 came to Harvard with an open mind. He left his home in the United Kingdom for a liberal arts education that would give him the freedom to explore the humanities: history, philosophy, literature, and more. When he arrived in Cambridge, however, he was overwhelmed by the thousands of classes offered to Harvard undergraduates. So he looked to his new freshman adviser for help sorting through the options.

"My adviser understood me," Thompson said. "Within the first two or three times that we met, she understood what I might like to take and steered me to a poetry class given by Professor Helen Vendler, the most exceptional lecturer I've ever heard. Now I'm thinking of concentrating in English or in the classics."

Harvard's advising programs enable students like Thompson to get more from their undergraduate academic experience. Adela Penagos, now in her second year as associate dean of the Advising Programs Office (APO), said that encouraging students to think in terms of their long-term personal and intellectual development is at the heart of the College's approach to advising.

"We don't want students to think of their College goals in terms of 'credentialing,'" she said. "We want them to develop their minds in ways that allow them to understand different aspects of knowledge. We also want students to understand how to use that knowledge to make a difference in society, and to make a contribution that they might not have been able to make before they got this education."

The College's advising structure provides support for students' intellectual journeys throughout their Harvard careers. Freshman advisers and peer advising fellows help students with the transition to College life and get them thinking about what they want to learn. Sophomore advisers in the Houses help students to bring their studies into focus. Concentration and thesis advisers provide guidance to upperclass students as they plan and execute courses of study. Penagos said this structure enables each undergraduate to build a board of advisers that he or she can draw on regularly.

"We're trying to make advising more of a continuum," she said. "We want students to develop mentoring relationships with their advisers and with the faculty. There should always be more than one person for students to turn to when they have questions or need guidance."

APO staff members say the relationships that fresh-

men form with their advisers are particularly important because they lay the foundation for a student's intellectual trajectory at the College. Peer Advising Fellows — sophomores, juniors, or seniors trained by the APO and matched with freshmen — also play a critical role by providing a student perspective on academics and extracurriculars.

"First-year advisers have a pivotal role in assisting freshmen as they make the transition from high school to college," said Suzy Conway, assistant dean of first-year advising. "Through ongoing conversations, they encourage freshmen to explore a variety of opportunities and help them to consider academic interests and extracurricular activities that will shape their educational experience. Peer Advising Fellows can provide additional viewpoints and perspectives that may challenge freshmen in ways that will facilitate their academic and student development and impact both career and life decisions."

Freshman advising peaks each April with Advising Fortnight, two weeks of information sessions, panels, and open houses designed to help students learn about Harvard's undergraduate concentrations. Every freshman must have at least one advising conversation during the fortnight, and can fulfill the requirement by attending an event or visiting a concentration during office hours.

At the start of their second year at Harvard, students move into the Houses and work with sophomore advisers — as well as sophomore advising coordinators, House tutors, resident deans, and House masters — to become more fully immersed in the intellectual life of the College. Glenn R. Brody Magid, assistant dean of upper class and concentration advising, said sophomore advisers build on the mission of freshman advising by encouraging and assisting Harvard undergraduates in becoming lifelong, self-directed learners.

"Sophomore advisers assist students in asserting ownership over their own academic, career, and life plans — for instance, by developing networks with faculty and fellow students, and by seeking out re-

search, study abroad, and other opportunities for academic enrichment," Brody Magid said. "To do this, they continue advising students one-on-one even after students declare their concentrations. They also work with advising coordinators in the Houses to run academic programs of specific interest to sophomores."

Midway through sophomore year, undergraduates choose a concentration and get a third layer of support. A concentration adviser helps to select courses and to develop a plan of study in line with each stu-

Harvard's advising programs enable students to get more from their undergraduate academic experience. Freshman advising peaks each April (below) with Advising Fortnight, two weeks of information sessions, panels, and open houses designed to help students learn about Harvard's undergraduate concentrations.



dent's interests. During junior year, many students also work closely with faculty thesis advisers. Penagos said positive experiences with their first- and second-year advisers lead to strong relationships with faculty in their concentrations.

"Students will encounter some of the most extraordinary minds in the world during their time at Harvard," she said. "The advising relationships that they develop with first-year and sophomore advisers should help them to form the same kind of relationships with their concentration advisers and with the faculty."

Kirk Fergus '12, a social studies concentrator, said the relationship he had formed with his concentration adviser made it possible for him to reach out for help when he found himself drowning in schoolwork last year.

(see *Advising* next page)



“We want students to develop mentoring relationships with their advisers and with the faculty. There should always be more than one person for students to turn to when they have questions or need guidance,” said Adela Penagos, associate dean of the Advising Programs Office.

Advising

(continued from previous page)

“I was taking two junior tutorials that I loved, a history course that was relevant for my senior thesis, and an advanced statistics course,” Fergus said. “After a few weeks, I knew that I was in for more than I had expected. I was never the type to lighten the load, and my embarrassment about asking for help kept me from reaching out. I met with my adviser and was able to communicate my concerns. She helped me through the process of deciding to take statistics pass/fail. I’m so grateful I had an opportunity to talk to a person I felt comfortable with. If I hadn’t made that call, I might have faced academic troubles down the road that could have been easily avoided.”

While freshman and sophomore advising is coordinated by the APO, each concentration handles its own advisers and coordinates programming that includes training, assessment, and communications. Penagos said she and her staff plan to work more closely with each concentration this year to coordinate programming and disseminate best practices.

“We’re going around to visit each concentration to understand their approach, discuss concerns, and see how we can work together to sharpen advising skills,” she said. “We’re right at the beginning of this process, and we’ll have more to say in the spring.”

Thompson said he still goes to his freshman adviser for guidance, but now also looks to his sophomore adviser as he thinks about which concentration to choose. He hasn’t decided what he’ll study, but says that, even when he does make that decision, he will continue to explore the humanities broadly, as his advisers have encouraged him to do.

“A liberal arts education turns you into a more interesting human being,” he said. “I came from the British school system, which emphasizes narrowing in on your chosen subject at an early stage. The idea that educated people should be literate and able to discuss and think about any subject is very important. It’s one of the main reasons I decided to come to Harvard.”

Sharing the fun of research

Scholar, friends develop guidebook to help younger students understand, succeed in science.

By Scott Duke Kominers '09, A.M. '10, Ph.D. '11

—STUDENT VOICE—

Today, academic research is my job. I defended my Harvard Ph.D. dissertation in the spring, and now hold a research scholarship at the University of Chicago. For years before I began doctoral studies, however, academic research was my primary extracurricular activity — something I just did for fun.

I first discovered my appetite for research through high school summer programs, like the Research Science Institute at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and a series of high school science fairs. Following my high school explorations, I conducted research while an undergraduate at Harvard, both during the academic term and through summer research fellowship programs, including the Harvard College Program for Research in Science and Engineering.

My research work has been blessed with a wealth of advisers, collaborators, and resources. It has guided my academic life, and has even strengthened my already close-knit family ties. My brother, Paul M. Kominers MIT '12, and I have developed similar research interests and have collaborated on several projects.

Given all the value — not just professional, but personal — of my research experiences, I have sought to give back to the science community by helping the next generation of students gain access to research. To that end, I have regularly volunteered as a mentor to younger students, particularly those at summer research programs, and have in addition come home to judge at ScienceMONTGOMERY, my county’s middle and high school science fair in Maryland, which is affiliated with the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

This year, I was able to take my contribution to a new level. Jointly with four of my Harvard peers — Shiv Gaglani '10, Maria Elena De Obaldia '08, Dayan Li '11, and Carol Y. Suh '11 — I have recently completed co-authorship of a handbook to high school science research, “Success with Science: The Winners’ Guide to High School Research” (Research Corporation for Science Advancement, 2011, www.successwithscience.org).

Like me, my four co-authors began their careers in science research as early as high school, and all achieved success in science fairs at that level. Also like me, they have felt driven to make research accessible to others through teaching, volunteer work, and involvement in campus research organizations like the Harvard College Undergraduate Research Association (which Gaglani founded).

Through our research and volunteer work, my co-authors and I have come to understand a corpus of



knowledge about student research that is general and teachable. By collaborating on “Success with Science,” we have been able to share this knowledge with a broad audience. Moreover, in this project we have made our experiences (augmented by those of more than 50 of our science fair contemporaries) tangible, communicating our passion for research to other students. And we have been lucky enough to also bring a faculty perspective: Harvard Professors Dudley R. Herschbach A.M. '56, Ph.D. '58, and Lisa Randall '83, Ph.D. '87, respectively, wrote the book’s foreword and afterword, reminding readers that early experience can lead to a lifetime of research.

At ScienceMONTGOMERY this year, in addition to judging, I distributed copies of the new handbook (just as some of my co-authors did at their own hometown science fairs). Talking to students and parents about the book, I was able to see its effects firsthand. Some of the students took the book home the night they set up their projects, and stayed up reading it. Even more significantly, several students told me that they admired my classmates’ and my model of sharing our knowledge with the next students in the pipeline — and that they themselves aspired to give back to the student research community as soon as they could.

If you’re an undergraduate or graduate student and have an essay to share about life at Harvard, please email your ideas to Jim Concannon, the Gazette’s news editor, at Jim_Concannon@harvard.edu.

STAFF PROFILE

Helping to manage pollution

After leaving his native Somalia at the height of a civil war, Mohamed Omar has found community in unlikely places: in Lowell, Mass., and at Harvard, where he now excels as an environmental engineer.

By Katie Koch | Harvard Staff Writer

Mohamed Omar remembers the first time he emigrated, at 16, from his native Mogadishu, Somalia, to Lahore, Pakistan. The bustling city of 10 million, where Omar's parents had sent him to attend school during Somalia's protracted civil war, was the most polluted place he had ever seen.

"If you walked outside in the morning, you could see huge clouds of smoke, almost a haze around the city," said Omar, 39, now an environmental management engineer at Harvard's Office of Environmental Health, Safety, and Emergency Management (EHSEM). "There were mountains of waste along the roads."

At the time, Omar had no idea he'd end up managing pollution for a living — or that in 2000 he would emigrate to New England, a move that brought its own environmental challenges.

"Seeing snow for the first time in 2001 was kind of a shock," Omar recalled.

Yet despite a nomadic early life, Omar took to New England and to the cause of sustainability, a profession that allows him to give back to the place that welcomed him as a young man. That drive to improve his community has helped Omar excel at Harvard, where he recently finished an administrative fellowship.

"The principle I always felt was guiding me was 'God, family, and purpose,'" said Omar, a practicing Muslim. "They've helped me through the ordeal of moving multiple times across continents."

At Harvard, Omar helps to ensure that the University is following environmental rules and regulations in its 700-plus buildings. He also manages compliance for the Blackstone Power Plant.

Inspired by the challenges he encountered in his day job, Omar decided to continue his education part time with his department's support. Last June, he completed a doctorate in cleaner production and pollution prevention at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, School of Health and Environment.

"My background was civil engineering, and I had seen my share of bad designs leading to environmental degradation," he said. "I felt we always ended up downstream in the process, trying to retrofit designs to make them [pollute] less. There's a movement to try to go upstream, to design products and processes cleanly."

Meanwhile, he juggled his duties as an appointed commissioner for the Green Building Commission in Lowell, Mass., where he now lives, and his responsibilities as a 2010-11 resident administrative fellow.



The yearlong program, sponsored by the Office of the Assistant to the President (OAP), gives outstanding minority employees at Harvard a chance to meet with the University's senior management and learn about higher-education leadership.

The past decade has been transformative for Omar, who arrived in Portland, Maine, in 2000 knowing virtually no one. Armed with an engineering degree but no experience, he worked odd jobs and volunteered with engineering firms for a year before picking up paid work in his profession.

"I was fortunate that I came here and was educated," he said.

Still, he said, "trying to assimilate personally and professionally was difficult," and it only became more so after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. While Omar never felt singled out for his religion or ethnicity (outside of airport security lines, he noted), he found the atmosphere at Harvard refreshing when he started working at EHSEM in 2004.

"Harvard has been around for more than 300 years. It's no stranger to foreigners," he said. When he pauses for his midday prayers in his cubicle, he added, his co-workers don't bat an eye.

Now that Omar has finished his OAP fellowship and his graduate studies, his life has quieted down a bit. He can spend more time with his two "energetic" daughters, ages 4 and 1, and with his wife, a Somali who originally immigrated to Minneapolis.

"It's a tight-knit community," he said of his fellow

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JOB SEARCH INFO SESSIONS

Harvard University offers information sessions that are designed to enhance a job-seeker's search success. These sessions may cover topics ranging from preparing effective resumes and cover letters to targeting the right opportunities to successful interviewing techniques. Sessions are held monthly from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Harvard Events and Information Center in Holyoke Center, 1350 Massachusetts Ave., in Cambridge. More specific information is available online at employment.harvard.edu/ca

stateside Somalis. "No matter where we are, we tend to stay close together."

Although he hasn't visited Somalia since 1994, Omar remains active in his native country's political and civic life. He is an editor-at-large of Sheeko, a London-based quarterly magazine geared toward the international African community.

He also founded Bar ama Baro, a scholarship program that connects donors to Somali college students in need, "so they don't end up in the street being radicalized," he said.

After the wandering of his early years, Omar said, he feels a deep-seated need and appreciation for community.

"I was born and raised in the city, but my father and mother were born in the countryside where communal survival was essential," he said. "I've always felt that having a good network is very important."

Now, for Omar, that network is in Lowell and at Harvard.

"I call this place home," he said.

Photo by Meghan Dhaliwal | Harvard Staff Photographer

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Newsmakers



Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid William R. Fitzsimmons (right) presents the the Hiram Hunn Award in the Lyman Room of Agassiz House to Barbara Fischbein Berenson (left). Berenson was one of this year's recipients at the annual awards ceremony.

ALUMNI HONORED WITH HIRAM HUNN AWARD

Each year the Harvard Admissions Office honors some of its most loyal and longtime volunteers in schools committee work all over the globe. The **Hiram Hunn Award** recognizes alumni and alumnae who have been especially effective in their interviewing and club work and for their unusual longevity. The contributions these women and men make to the admissions process are invaluable.

The award is named in honor of Hiram S. Hunn, Class of 1921, who was active in schools committee work for 55 years — 30 in Iowa and 25 in Vermont.

The 2011 winners are **Paul G. O'Leary '56** of Ridgewood, N.J.; **Zaid al-Rifa'i '57** of Amman, Jordan; **John Paul Kennedy '63** of Salt Lake City; **Stephen G. Hoffman '64** of Belmont, Mass.; **Claire Stuart Roth '74** of Las Vegas; **Jody Siegler '79** of Los Angeles; and **Barbara Fischbein Berenson '80, J.D. '84; M.P.A. '84**, of Waban, Mass.

ART MUSEUMS GIFTED 'OUTSIDER ART'

The Harvard Art Museums received a gift of 38 drawings, paintings, and sculpture from **Didi and David Barrett's collection** of American self-taught, folk, and outsider art. The gift comprises works by 24 American "outsider" artists, mostly from the 1930s through the 1990s. Among the notable figures represented in the collection are Bill Traylor, Joseph Yoakum, and Nellie Mae Rowe, whose work first came to public attention in the important Corcoran Gallery of Art exhibition "Black Folk Art in America, 1930-1980." In addition, the Barretts' gift includes three rare "ledger book drawings" made by members of the Plains Indian tribes in the late 19th century.

"We are grateful to Didi and David Barrett for their generous gift," said

Photo by Rose Lincoln | Harvard Staff Photographer

Thomas W. Lentz, Elizabeth and John Moors Cabot Director of the Harvard Art Museums. "These 'outsider' works take our holdings of American contemporary art in an exciting new direction, providing a unique opportunity for study and appreciation by students, scholars, and visitors."

For more information, visit <http://www.harvardartmuseums.org/>.

BERNARD BAILYN RECEIVES SAMUEL ELIOT MORISON AWARD

Adams University Professor *Emeritus* **Bernard Bailyn** received the **Samuel Eliot Morison Award**, the USS Constitution Museum's highest recognition for scholarship. Bailyn received the award on Sept. 22 at a ceremony in Boston.

Named in honor of maritime historian Adm. Samuel Eliot Morison, who cut the ribbon to open the museum in April 1976, this award is given to an individual of public service that enhances the image of the USS Constitution and reflects the best of Morison: artful scholarship, patriotic pride, and eclectic interest in the sea and things maritime, as well as a desire to preserve the best of our past for future generations.

To learn more about the museum, visit <http://www.usconstitutionmuseum.org>.

FRENCH CONSUL HONORS ADAMS HOUSE AFFILIATE NORMAN SHAPIRO '51

The French Consul of Boston, **M. Christophe Guilhou**, promoted **Norman R. Shapiro '51**, a leading contemporary translator of French and professor in the Romance Languages and Literatures Department of Wesleyan University, to the rank of Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters of the French Republic on Oct. 18. The honor marks the achievement of a lifetime dedicated to translation and the spread of French culture.

The ceremony took place in the Lower

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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)



Norman R. Shapiro

Common Room of Adams House, a fitting location as Shapiro lived there as an undergraduate (he later completed a Ph.D. at Harvard too). "I spend a lot of time here in Adams House. This has been an affiliation that has spanned most of my life, 'book-ending' it, much to my pleasure," said Shapiro.

Today, he is very much a regular of Adams House, where he produces farces by Feydeau and other French writers, advises undergraduates in writing, and translates at his customary table during dinner.

— Chase Carpenter



Annette Gordon-Reed signs the American Academy of Arts and Sciences' book during the Oct. 1 ceremony.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES INDUCTS 20 FROM HARVARD

Twenty Harvard professors are among 179 of the nation's most influential artists, scientists, scholars, authors, and institutional leaders who were inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences at an Oct. 1 ceremony in Cambridge.

Founded in 1780, the academy is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious learned societies, and an independent research center that draws from its members' expertise to conduct studies in science and technology policy, global security, the humanities and culture, social policy, and education.

"Induction recognizes extraordinary individual achievement and marks a commitment on the part of new members to provide fundamental, nonpartisan knowledge for addressing today's complex challenges," said the academy's President Leslie C. Berlowitz.

The 231st class includes winners of Nobel, Pulitzer, and Turing prizes; the MacArthur and Guggenheim fellowships; Kennedy Center honors; and Grammy, Golden Globe, and Academy awards. Foreign honorary members from Argentina, India, Israel, Japan, and the United Kingdom were also inducted.

The fellows from Harvard follow:

James Ireland Cash Jr., James E. Robison Professor of Business Administration Emeritus, Harvard Business School

Photos: (top) courtesy of Chase Carpenter; (below) courtesy of American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Timothy J. Colton, Morris and Anna Feldberg Professor of Government and Russian Studies

David Paul Corey, professor of neurobiology, Harvard Medical School

George Q. Daley, professor of biological chemistry and molecular pharmacology; professor of pediatrics, Harvard Medical School

Philip A. Fisher, Felice Crowl Reid Professor of English

Julio Frenk, dean of the Harvard School of Public Health; T & G Angelopoulos Professor of Public Health and International Development

Annette Gordon-Reed, professor of law; Carol Pforzheimer Professor at the Radcliffe Institute; professor of history in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Daniel Arie Haber, Kurt J. Isselbacher/Peter B. Schwartz Professor of Oncology, Harvard Medical School

Robert F. Higgins, senior lecturer of business administration, Harvard Business School

Jay Harold Jasanoff, Diebold Professor of Indo-European Linguistics and Philology

Farish Alston Jenkins Jr., professor of biology and curator of vertebrate paleontology; Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology; professor of anatomy

Alex S. Jones, director of the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy; Laurence M. Lombard Lecturer in the Press and Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School

Frances Myra Kamm, Littauer Professor of Philosophy and Public Policy, professor of philosophy, Harvard Kennedy School

Thomas Forrest Kelly, Morton B. Knafel Professor of Music

Robert E. Kingston, professor of genetics, Harvard Medical School

David Laibson, Robert I. Goldman Professor of Economics

Louis Menand, Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of English

W. Jason Morgan, visiting scholar, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences

Michael R. Van Valkenburgh, Charles Eliot Professor in Practice of Landscape Architecture, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Daniel Martin Wegner, John Lindsley Professor of Psychology in Memory of William James

— Compiled by Sarah Sweeney

MEMORIAL MINUTE

Harold Bolitho Faculty of Arts and Sciences

At a Meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences on October 4, 2011, the



Minute honoring the life and service of the late Harold Bolitho, Professor of Japanese History *Emeritus*, was placed upon the records. Professor Bolitho was known as an au-

thority on the history of daimy domains during the Tokugawa period of Japanese history and served as Director of the Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies from 1988 to 1991 and Chair of the Harvard University Committee on Australian Studies from 1992 until his retirement.

To read the full Memorial Minute, visit <http://hvd.gs/93795>.

OBITUARY

Norman Paul, pioneer in family therapy, 85

Norman Paul, an innovator in the use of family therapy to treat mental illness, died on Oct. 14. Paul's wide-ranging career focused on transgenerational family systems and the role of grief as a central influence in problems ranging from individual and marital problems to schizophrenia and epilepsy.



In 1952 he joined the Massachusetts Mental Health Center, and subsequent affiliations included the Massachusetts General Hospital and the Boston State Hospital. He was a founding member of the American Family Therapy Association and the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry. He was a lecturer and professor of psychiatry at the Harvard Medical School and professor of neurology at the Boston University School of Medicine. A funeral has already been held.

ATHLETICS

A chance at an Ivy title

After an inconsistent season and a late win streak, the women's soccer team has two games left. Its eye is on the prize, the league championship.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer

On a perfectly crisp fall afternoon, Harvard women's soccer coach Ray Leone orders the players to perform drills across the bright Astroturf. They've already scrimmaged. And once they get the drills right, Leone will order a quick 10-minute game to round out practice.

He's pushing them hard, but he has to. There have been quite a few ups and downs this season, according to Leone. "Emotional games, crazy games," he mused. "We've had a lot of crazy games."

championship if they beat Dartmouth College and Columbia University in the last two games on Oct. 29 and Nov. 5.

"There have been games we played really well but lost, and there've been games we didn't play as well but won," said midfielder/forward and co-captain Melanie Baskind '12. "There have been a lot of comeback games, a lot of overtime games. If I could pick one word to describe our season, it would be 'exciting.'"

In a Sept. 9 game against the University of Massa-

Still, the Crimson have relished quite a few victories. In recent games, the team scored in overtime on Oct. 1 for a 2-1 win over Yale and toppled Fairfield 2-1 on Oct. 4. The Crimson staved off Siena 2-0 on Oct. 11 with goals by Hana Taiji '12 and Elizabeth Weisman '14, and bested Brown, 2-1, on Oct. 15 with goals by Baskind and Mai Le '15.

Co-captain Lindsey Kowal '12 credits the team's comebacks to its fighting spirit. "We always find the drive to win," she said. "We haven't yet hit our stride



Princeton's Lauren Lazo (#25) head butts the ball as Harvard's Peyton Johnson '14 (#14) gets edged out. The Crimson beat Princeton, 2-1.

During a Sept. 16 game against Hofstra University, the Crimson were down 5-2, but rallied to score two goals to tie the contest with a minute to go, only to end up losing, 5-4. "You don't see that very much in soccer," said Leone.

Now on an upswing with a streak of seven wins and a tie, including victories over Brown University, Siena College, and most recently, Princeton University on Oct. 22, the Crimson are closing in on the season's end, and have a chance to clinch the Ivy League

chusetts, with less than two minutes to play, Baskind broke a 1-1 tie and ensured a last-minute victory for the Crimson. The team battled into double overtime against Cornell on Oct. 8, but couldn't muster a goal and ended tied 2-2. In another double-overtime game against the University of Rhode Island, with seven minutes left, the ball sailed above Crimson goalie Bethany Kanten '15 to give URI the win, 3-2.

"It's been an inconsistent season," said Baskind.

as a team, but we're all on the same page in terms of what we want to achieve."

Now with a 10-4-1 record, and those two games ahead, Harvard "has a small room for error," said Kowal.

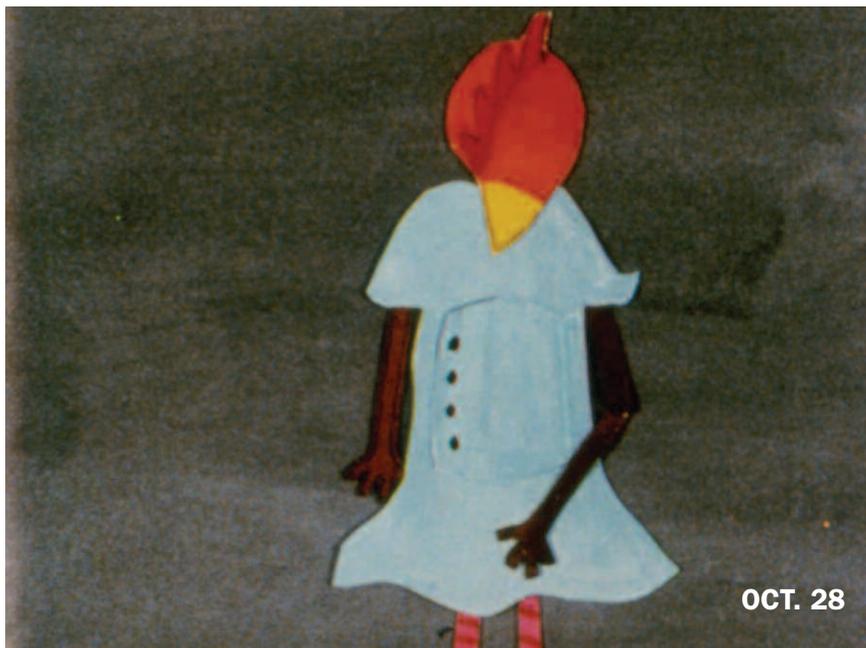
"This is definitely a resilient team, but we have to keep improving. Everybody's still got a shot in the hunt for the Ivy title. Nothing's decided yet," said Leone. "These are defining moments of our team. The success, and the heartache."

Online ► See complete coverage, athletic schedules at: www.gocrimson.com

Photo by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer

Calendar

HARVARD.EDU/EVENTS



OCT. 28

Helen Hill, "Scratch and Crow," U.S. 1995, 16mm, color, 5 min.

Oct. 27-29. Pluralism, Coexistence and Conflict: Majority and Minority Communities in Muslim Societies. Thompson Room, Mahindra Humanities Center, 12 Quincy St. m_derya_honca@harvard.edu, cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/node/2548.

Oct. 28. Barry's Corner "Treat and Greet" Event & Stone Hearth Pizza Party. 175 North Harvard Street, Allston, 4-7 p.m. "Treat and Greet" station & children's activities, 4-6 p.m. Dress in costume. Music and dance party, 6-7 p.m. Pizza from Stone Hearth Pizza Company. Music by the Boston Minstrel Com-

pany. Free. Rain or shine. 617.495.4955, community@harvard.edu, edportal.harvard.edu/news.

Oct. 28. A Celebration of Animator Helen Hill. Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., 7-8:40 p.m. Becky Hill, mother of Helen Hill. Cost: \$9; \$7 non-Harvard students, senior citizens, Harvard faculty, and staff; free for Harvard students. 617.496.3211, bgravely@fas.harvard.edu, hcl.harvard.edu/hfa/films/2011octdec/hill.html.

Nov. 3. "Explore Harvard: The Yard and Beyond." CGIS

See complete Calendar online ►► news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/calendar

South, Friends of Japan Gallery, 1730 Cambridge St. Gallery reception: 5-6 p.m., panel discussion: 6-7 p.m. Harvard photographers Jon Chase, Justin Ide, Rose Lincoln, Stephanie Mitchell, Kris Snibbe. Free. 617.495.3525, alison_brissette@harvard.edu.

Nov. 3. Panel Discussion & Opening Celebration: "Measure for Measure." Lecture hall, Carpenter Center, 24 Quincy St., 6 p.m. Lisa Randall, Lia Halloran, and Peter Mays. Followed by the performance "Let Them Eat Cupcakes" by Elizabeth Tobias. Free. 617.495.3251, ves.fas.harvard.edu/measure.html.

Nov. 5. Capturing Large Cats and Dogs with Pencil & Paper (Ages 9-13). Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., 2-3:30 p.m. \$30 nonmembers/\$27 members. Class sizes are limited; advance registration required. 617.495.2341, reservations@hmn.harvard.edu, hmn.harvard.edu.

Nov. 8. Crimson Toastmasters' 5th Anniversary Potluck Luncheon! Room 603B, 6th floor, 124 Mount Auburn St., 1-2 p.m. Julie Wilson, one of the original founding members of the Crimson Toastmasters' Club. Open to Harvard faculty and staff; please RSVP to kimberly_salley@harvard.edu by Nov. 4. crimson.toastmastersclubs.org.

Nov. 9-10. REAI Real Estate Conference. Charles Hotel. Cost: \$75 students; \$195 young alum; \$495 general; free for faculty & staff. Register at events.harvard.edu/profile/form/index.cfm?PKformID=0x68173d788. 617.496.1570, henshall@gsd.harvard.edu, reai.harvard.edu/reai-fall-conference.



NOV. 5

HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2011

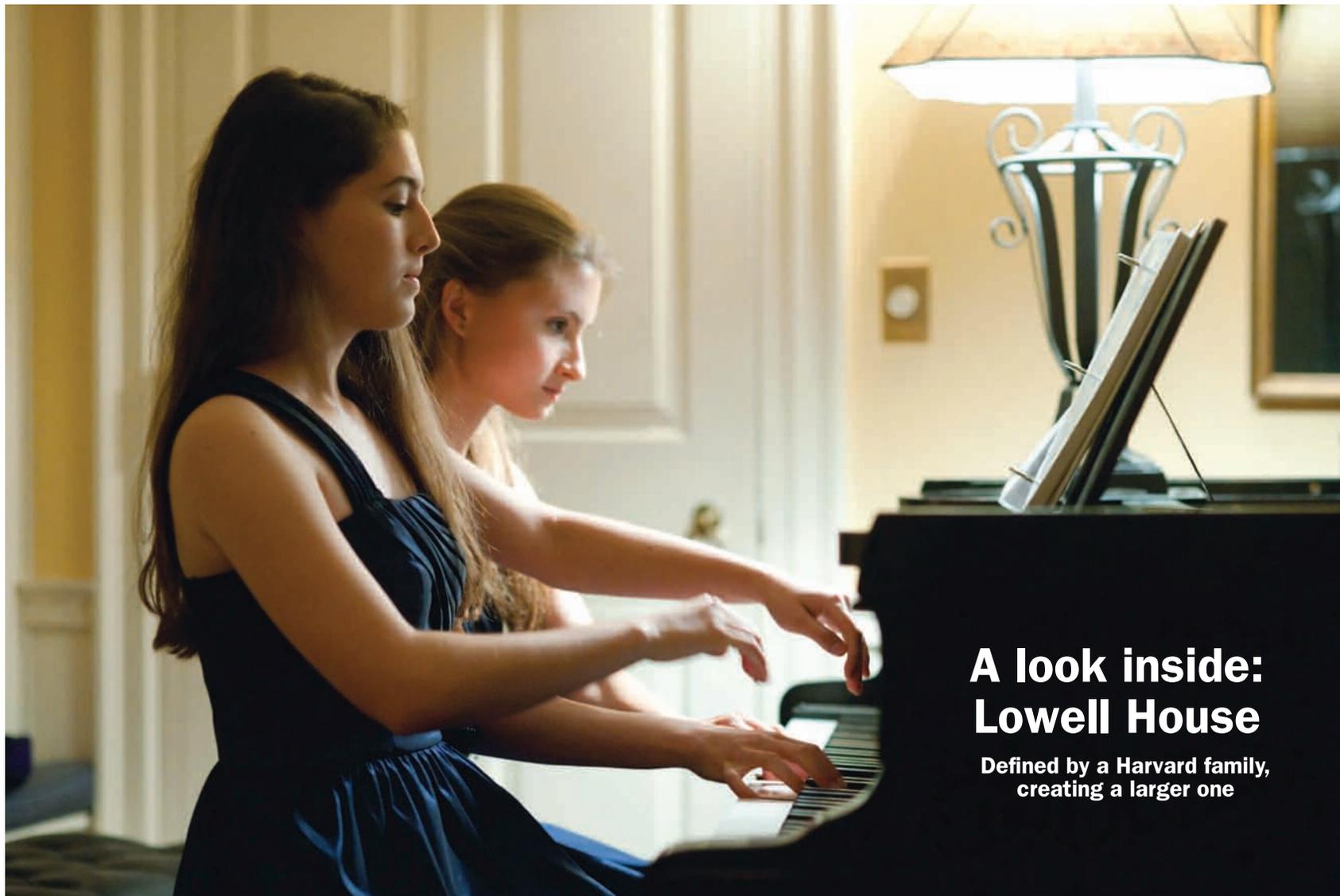
su	m	tu	w	th	f	s
				27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

The deadline for Calendar submissions is Wednesday by 5 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Calendar events are listed in full online. All events need to be submitted via the online form at news.harvard.edu/gazette/calendar-submission. Email calendar@harvard.edu with questions.



NOV. 3

Felicity Nove, "Measurements of Space in a Fractal Structured Vacuum," installation view



A look inside: Lowell House

Defined by a Harvard family,
creating a larger one

Constructed in 1930, Lowell House was named for the Lowell family, closely identified with Harvard since John Lowell graduated in 1721. Harvard President Abbott Lawrence Lowell (1909-33) instituted the House system, tutorials, subject concentrations, and reading periods. His bust and that of poet James Russell Lowell are in the House's main courtyard. In the dining hall are portraits of President Lowell and his wife; his sister Amy Lowell, the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet; and his brother Percival Lowell, the astronomer who spearheaded the search for the planet Pluto.

The House community contains 400 undergraduates, approximately 25 resident tutors and scholars drawn from Harvard's graduate and professional Schools, and more than 75 affiliated faculty members and visiting scholars. House Masters Diana Eck, the Fredric Wertham Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society

and a member of the Faculty of Divinity, and Dorothy Austin, Sedgwick Associate Minister in the Memorial Church and University chaplain, are only the fifth masters officeholders in nearly 70 years, a testament to the House's durability and richness. Lowell's legacy includes the annual Lowell House Opera, the black-tie dinners known as High Tables, the famous 5 o'clock Thursday Teas in the Masters' Residence, and the 1 p.m. Sunday ringing of the Russian Bells in Lowell's tower.

At a recent High Table dinner, members of the old guard such as Diana Stewart, whose husband, Zeph, was the House's third master, and Maurice Pechet, who began as a senior tutor back in 1948, mingled with current residents scarcely a quarter their age. Impromptu piano playing from singer Livingston Taylor, a former artist-in-residence, punctuated the conversa-



tion, which then stopped altogether as twins Danielle and Arielle Rabinowitz '14 performed a riveting piano duet that had the audience spellbound in rapt silence. Gradually, talk resumed, guests went to the dining room to exchange ideas over an elegant dinner, and another memorable evening was being etched in the annals of the rich Lowell House tradition.

Photos and text by Jon Chase | Harvard Staff Photographer

Online ▶ View photo gallery: hvd.gs/94160