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# HARVARDgazette



## They've seen it all

Harvard's *emeriti* professors helped to shape the 20th century, and are living witnesses to the University's own evolution. **Page 11**



# Online Highlights

**PARTIAL REVERSAL OF AGING ACHIEVED IN MICE**  
Harvard scientists at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute say they have for the first time partially reversed age-related degeneration in mice, resulting in new growth of the brain and testes, improved fertility, and the return of a lost cognitive function.  
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/67329>



◀ **SECOND-HALF DELUGE LIFTS CRIMSON**  
Harvard football gets by Yale, 28-21, with three unanswered touchdowns. A photo gallery and video capture the day, the traditions.  
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/66917>



◀ **NEW FACILITIES FOR WYSS INSTITUTE**  
Harvard's Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering officially opens new, expansive facilities in Boston and Cambridge to host its fast-growing enterprise.  
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/67607>



▶ **ATTENTION!**  
War is an unpredictable, nonlinear interplay of policy and strategy, Adm. Mike Mullen said in a Harvard talk, and “sense and adjust” is the way to proceed.  
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/66760>



▲ **PROTECTING JUSTICE**  
Chief Justice Margaret Marshall of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court warned of troubled courts and politicized judiciaries while delivering the Paul Tillich Lecture at the Memorial Church at Harvard.  
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/66585>

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Most fall mornings, a slightly sleepy collection of men and women rises early to hit the road. Page 19

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Efforts to conserve energy are bearing fruit thanks to a student-founded environmental coalition that works with staff and faculty. Page 22

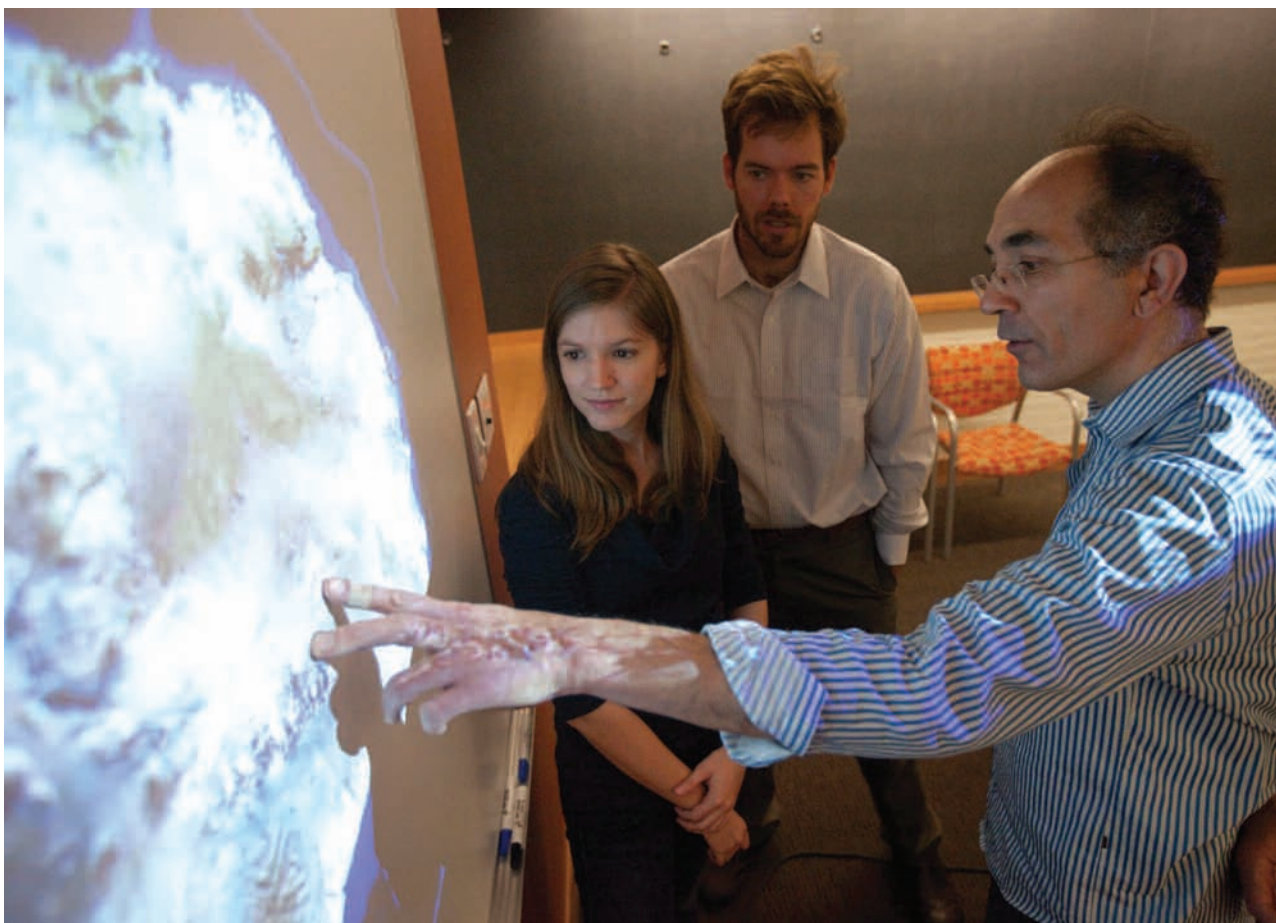
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# Ice sheet in peril? Nature to the rescue!

Gravity's surprisingly positive effects when the Earth's ice sheets melt can help to stabilize those, such as one in West Antarctica, that are below sea level.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer



Professor of Geophysics Jerry Mitrovica (near right) looks at a slide of the West Antarctic ice sheet with research assistant Natalya Gomez (far left) and Peter Huybers, assistant professor of earth and planetary sciences. The gravity-sea level interaction “is not going to halt the collapse of the ice sheet, but it’s going to slow the rate of collapse,” Gomez said.

lower sea level near the ice by as much as 300 feet.

Her most recent work, conducted with Mitrovica, Assistant Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences Peter Huybers, and Professor Peter Clark from Oregon State University, seeks to understand the feedback the falling sea levels near the ice sheet would have on the ice itself. Their conclusion is a hopeful one: that the dropping sea levels would actually work as a stabilizing force on the sheet.

Though the research can be explained in the context of the West Antarctic sheet, the work that Gomez detailed in a November article in the journal *Nature Geoscience* provides a more general model of the interaction between sea level and an ice sheet sitting on a depressed, bowl-shaped land area.

The model, Mitrovica and Gomez said, is intentionally simplified to highlight the effects of gravity. In reality, there are many interacting forces affecting the sheets’ behavior, including the supporting effect of nearby floating ice shelves, the girding effect of mountain ranges and land contours, and even the nature of the interface between the ice and the ground itself, smooth or rough.

Mitrovica said the work has already attracted the attention of several of the world’s top ice-sheet modelers, whose computer simulations are key components of findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The IPCC’s periodic pronouncements on global warming attract enormous attention from the public and from governments considering actions to counteract climate change.

Despite the potentially massive effect of gravity on sea levels near the ice sheets, none of the sophisticated computer simulations of ice-sheet behavior today include gravity as a factor to be considered, Mitrovica said. That appears likely to change, he said, as the modelers hustle to link Gomez’s simulations of sea level change to their own behavioral models.

The gravity-sea level interaction “is not going to halt the collapse of the ice sheet, but it’s going to slow the rate of collapse,” Gomez said.

Scientists have long been concerned that the melting of the massive West Antarctic Ice Sheet could become a self-reinforcing process, with the released water raising sea levels, leading to more melting, and so on.

Their concern stems from the fact that much of the land on which the ice rests is actually below sea level, forming a bowl sealed from the ocean by the immense weight of the ice above it. Should seawater infiltrate that bowl, scientists are worried it could float the ice at its edge, starting a runaway collapse that could raise the global sea level as much as 16 feet.

Now, however, Harvard researchers have a rare bit of what passes for good news on the global warming front: If the West Antarctic ice sheet melts, it will have the seemingly contradictory effect of lowering sea levels nearby, actually stabilizing the sheet.

The key ingredient in this surprising conclusion is the familiar force of gravity.

We typically think of gravity as a cosmic force, exerted by enormous celestial bodies like the Earth

and the sun that act on other large bodies across long distances, or on small bodies, like humans.

But physics teaches that a gravitational pull is exerted by every bit of matter on every other bit of matter. Other than the grounding effect of Earth’s gravity, though, that is negligible for most aspects of our day-to-day lives. But graduate student Natalya Gomez and her adviser, Professor of Geophysics Jerry Mitrovica, have been working hard in recent years to understand the gravitational effects of the enormous areas that make up the ice sheets.

Gomez’s research makes use of the fact that the sheets are so vast that they are exerting a significant gravitational pull on the ocean. When the ice sheets melt, the expected sea level rise from all that meltwater entering the oceans would be counterbalanced by the relaxation of the sea level near the ice sheet due to a decreased pull from the gravity of the remaining ice.

The effect would be not just noticeable, but massive. In that earlier work, Gomez showed that if all of the West Antarctic sheet melted, it could actually



## Life support for medical faculty

Shore Fellowships provide important breathing room for junior researchers pressed by the demands of work and home life.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer

For Roy Ahn, life is a joy — and sometimes a struggle.

The father of 1-year-old Charlie is blessed with a blossoming research career at the Division of Global Health and Human Rights in Massachusetts General Hospital's (MGH) Department of Emergency Medicine. Some people might even say that Ahn has it all.

Ahn's not complaining, but he's in the same boat as many young Harvard researchers, handling the duties of a young family even as the pressures to perform professionally are soaring.

"We're just constantly juggling our schedule and finances to make child care in Boston work," Ahn said. "It's expensive. And logistically, we each have to do our part to get him there and pick him up."

When he's not shuttling Charlie to and from day care or playing tag-team parent with his wife, Amy, a Brookline teacher, Ahn is working on several projects at MGH, including work that seeks to understand how global health activities of nonprofit hospitals fit into their conception of providing community benefits, something the hospitals are required to do to retain their nonprofit status.

Ingrid Katz, an instructor in medicine at Harvard Medical School (HMS) and Harvard-affiliated Brigham and Women's Hospital, feels Ahn's pain. Katz is juggling life as mother of 3-year-old Tomás, along with clinical duties, and a multipronged research effort based in South Africa that takes her away from home for several weeks four times a year.

To the rescue of Ahn and Katz, and to others such as instructor in pediatrics Lynda Vrooman and Instructor in Medicine Bindu Chamarthi, comes the Eleanor and Miles Shore 50th Anniversary Fellowship Program for Scholars in Medicine. The program is aimed at junior researchers in the squeeze years when

young families and blossoming research careers both demand attention. Young physicians and scientists during these years often have to teach, conduct research, treat patients, publish research articles, write grant applications, and care for their little children.

The program, established in 1996 to honor the 50th anniversary of the admission of women to HMS, provides fellows with between \$25,000 and \$50,000 for one or two years, with the aim that the money be used to buy protected time to pursue a key activity, whether finishing a grant proposal, completing important research, or concluding a manuscript. The money can be used, for example, to hire lab help that a fellow would otherwise not be able to afford. The program has 80 fellows this year.

Katz said that 75 to 80 percent of her research is based in South Africa, and if it weren't for her young family, she'd probably be based there herself. Still, Katz said that family life is important to her. Her son was born in 2007 to her and her partner, Alexi, a physician at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Adding to the challenge is the fact that their condominium burned down two years ago during Thanksgiving week. They lost everything.

"We were learning to rebuild our lives while [completing our] training and becoming young parents," said Katz, who also sees patients at the Brigham. "It taught us a great deal about how great and kind people are, and what to be grateful for."

Katz's research includes several projects being conducted in collaboration with the Perinatal HIV Research Unit at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto, South Africa. The Shore Fellowship is aimed at boosting her work on human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine research. Katz is studying uptake and adherence to the multistep process of administering the vaccine. HPV is a common sexually transmitted

virus that is a major cause of cervical cancer.

Ingrid Katz (far left), an instructor in medicine at Harvard Medical School (HMS) and Harvard-affiliated Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Roy Ahn, an instructor in surgery at HMS and Massachusetts General Hospital, are among the 80 recipients of this year's Shore Fellowships.

virus that is a major cause of cervical cancer.

"Few fellowships out there recognize the importance of this time in our careers," Katz said. "It is a tremendous gift."

For Chamarthi, the Shore Fellowship comes at a crucial point as she builds a research career after six years in practice. Chamarthi, an endocrinologist at Brigham and Women's as well as an HMS instructor in medicine, worked as a primary care physician at Harvard Vanguard. She resumed her research career with a fellowship in endocrinology, completed last year, and is now an associate physician in the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Hypertension at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Her research and clinical interest is in cardiovascular endocrinology, and she is working on research projects focusing on the hormonal and genetic mechanisms that increase the risk of high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease. Chamarthi said the Shore Fellowship is providing critical support for her at a time when she's still establishing herself as a researcher.

"It helps during the transition period when we're trying to get our own funding," Chamarthi said.

For Vrooman, an instructor in pediatrics at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Children's Hospital Boston, the fellowship is helping her to track the lasting and sometimes severe effects of cancer treatment in children. In addition to her clinical work, Vrooman, who serves as the associate medical director of the Perini Clinic for Childhood Cancer Survivors, is conducting research into the effects on a child's bones of the treatment for the most common type of childhood leukemia, acute lymphoblastic leukemia. In some cases, Vrooman said, children can develop breaks in the bone or serious joint issues during or soon after treatment ends.

Researchers suspect that the bone problems stem from steroids used in treatment, as well as other factors. She is looking at past cases of patients who developed a serious bone complication, known as osteonecrosis, in order to better understand the long-term consequences of this condition. She is also developing a study of current and future patients to monitor their body's vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is a known factor in bone health.

Vrooman is the mother of a young child, 2-year-old Lillian, who required intensive parental attention early in life because she was born prematurely, weighing just a pound and a half.

"She's done very well. It was a very intense experience as a new parent," Vrooman said. "She's almost 3 now, running and walking and talking. She's on the small side, but she doesn't know it."

Online ►► To learn more and for a list of fellowship recipients: <http://bit.ly/gNhtPe>



## Feeling the pinch

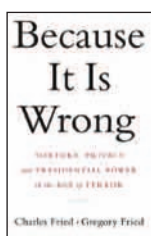
Harvard Law School's Noah Feldman tells the gripping story of FDR's most prominent — and turbulent — Supreme Court justices in “*Scorpions: The Battles and Triumphs of FDR's Great Supreme Court Justices.*”

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer

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### HARVARD BOUND

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**BECAUSE IT IS WRONG: TORTURE, PRIVACY AND PRESIDENTIAL POWER IN THE AGE OF TERROR**

(W.W. Norton, September 2010)  
By Gregory Fried and Charles Fried

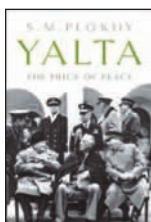
Beneficial Professor of Law Charles Fried and his son, Gregory, chair of Suffolk University's Philosophy Department, co-author this critique of government-sanctioned torture and surveillance.



**HEALTH CARE REFORM AND AMERICAN POLITICS: WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW**

(Oxford University Press, October 2010)  
By Lawrence R. Jacobs and Theda Skocpol

Theda Skocpol, the Victor S. Thomas Professor of Government and Sociology, and Lawrence R. Jacobs parse the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act signed by President Obama, and explain what comes next for this landmark legislation.



**YALTA: THE PRICE OF PEACE**

(Viking, February 2010)  
By S.M. Plokhy

Mykhailo S. Hrushevs'kyi Professor of Ukrainian History S.M. Plokhy uncovers the daily dynamics of the 1945 Yalta Conference and embroiders them with items behind subsequent recrimination about the conference results, such as FDR's ill health and the presence of probable Soviet spy Alger Hiss.



Inspired by fellow Harvard professor and author Louis Menand, Bemis Professor of International Law Noah Feldman penned a gripping history of four of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's most prominent, and turbulent, Supreme Court justices.

“I wanted to try my hand at writing an intellectual history of the Constitution through the stories of the people who shaped it in the middle of the 20th century,” said Feldman, who focused on justices Felix Frankfurter, Hugo Black, Robert Jackson, and William O. Douglas.

Their story, depicted in Feldman's “*Scorpions: The Battles and Triumphs of FDR's Great Supreme Court Justices,*” plays out like a political soap opera.

“Chosen by FDR as liberals who had attacked Wall Street and supported the New Deal, these justices all believed Congress should be allowed to pass reform legislation without interference from the Supreme Court — the big constitutional question of the 1930s,” explained Feldman. “But as they confronted civil liberties and civil rights during and after the war, they splintered: Frankfurter and Jackson favored restraint, while Black and Douglas embraced activism. At the same time, their personal relationships fell apart, and they began to hate each other.”

Although the “scorpions” (dubbed so after “nine scorpions in a bottle,” Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.'s reputed quote about the Supreme Court) splintered ideologically, and disagreed on how the Constitution should be interpreted, they came together to end the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II, to revoke President Truman's nationalization of

American steel mills, and to end school segregation with their pivotal ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

“I was amazed by the personal intensity with which the justices pursued their beliefs and views,” said Feldman. “They really believed that the future of the republic was at stake. This is reflected not only in the intensity of their judicial rhetoric — much harsher than today — but also in the way they continued to participate in the affairs of the executive branch and the greater world. Robert Jackson even took a leave of absence from the courts to become chief prosecutor at Nuremberg — almost unimaginable today.”

Nevertheless, today's court faces some similar challenges, noted Feldman. “These justices came on the bench at a time when the Supreme Court was inventing new constitutional rights to protect corporations. There is a recurrence of this tendency today, as in the *Citizens United* decision, which extended to for-profit corporations the same free-speech rights as those accorded private individuals in the election context. So there is a parallel there.”

But, Feldman discerns, personality-wise, that these justices were radically unlike today's crop.

“They were self-made, ambitious, political, and intellectually bold. They had made mistakes before going on the bench; none could have been confirmed under today's standards. Yet they achieved constitutional greatness as a result of these qualities that today would be disqualifying.”

Photo by Jon Chase | Harvard Staff Photographer

## FACULTY PROFILE

# Making sense of the truth

Professor Mark Richard explores the philosophy of language  
— and loves a good live music show.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

Mark Richard has the look of a distinguished hipster, with spiky salt-and-pepper hair, edgy, green-framed spectacles, and an earring. Peeking over the top of his black leather boots are socks covered with little white martini glasses.

On a bookcase in his office, nestled between portraits of renowned logicians and philosophers Gottlob Frege and Kurt Gödel, is a handwritten set list from the American post-punk band Mission of Burma.

Aside from being a scholar on the philosophy of language, the New York native and Harvard professor of philosophy is an avid music fan. “I care a lot about music,” said Richard, fresh off a trip to see a movie about the band Magnetic Fields with his teenage daughter the previous evening.

Fittingly, one of Richard’s favorite songs by the indie pop group captures his take on the complexity of his work.

With a brooding voice, the band’s lead vocalist tells of a short-term relationship in the tune “Papa Was A Rodeo,” later revealing that the encounter evolved into a 55-year-long “romance of the century.” “As the song goes along you get this welling of emotion,” said Richard, “and then in the end it shifts perspective. ... Brilliant.”

According to Richard, offering people a different point of view is the fundamental message of philosophy.

After a flirtation with physics at Hamilton College in New York, he switched to philosophy and went on to pursue a master’s and Ph.D. in the topic at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. There, he realized the world was beginning to “digest” the research that had been done by a certain American linguist 20 years earlier.

“That’s where all the action was,” he said, of the nexus of noted linguist Noam Chomsky’s work on syntax that others later had extended to the question of semantics, the scholar Saul Kripke’s work on the philosophy of language and metaphysics, and the university’s “exciting” linguistics department.

“Through dumb luck, I was at a good place intellectually at a great time.”

Richard joined Tufts University as an assistant pro-



fessor of philosophy in 1984, becoming associate professor in 1990, and professor in 1999. He was named the Lenore Stern Professor in the Humanities and Social Sciences at Tufts in 2007. He joined Harvard this fall.

His more recent work explores different models of meaning.

“Meaning is what we use to represent the world to ourselves, how we are looking out on the world. But it’s also what connects you to the world, so now when you think about meaning, you are thinking about issues like truth represented in terms of what makes sentences accurate or inaccurate, true or false.”

Assessing every sentence with a true or false determination may not be the right approach, he argued in his 2008 book “When Truth Gives Out.”

In it, Richard offers examples of speech like racial slurs and epithets, vague language, and “cases where paradox looms,” and argues that such instances aren’t

to be thought of in terms of truth and falsity. “If you think about these kinds of cases, it’s not clear that truth can play the central role that people think it’s required to play in explaining what meaning is.”

His work on truth and meaning underlies his thoughts on the broader discipline. Philosophy is vital not because it offers solutions, Richard contends, but because it offers alternate ways of looking at some of the world’s most pressing questions.

“To do philosophy is to appreciate that sometimes you have to step back and think about things in a different way.”

When not at Harvard, Richard spends time with his wife, Nancy Bauer, a professor of philosophy at Tufts, and their four children — his two teenagers, and hers, from prior marriages. He likes to cook and hike when he can, and he checks out the local music scene every chance he gets.

Philosophy is vital not because it offers solutions, but because it offers alternate ways of looking at some of the world’s most pressing questions, contends Mark Richard.

More Arts & Culture Online  
[news.harvard.edu/gazette/  
section/arts-n-culture/](https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/arts-n-culture/)



Two young scholars produce  
a new anthology of rap lyrics.  
<http://hvd.gs/67165>



Farrelly hilarious: Film-  
making brothers explain  
their comedic craft.  
<http://hvd.gs/67222>



# Italy and Africa, entwined

Students in Giuliana Minghelli's new course on cultural migrations between the two places get an up-close view of the colonial era.

By Alexandra Perloff-Giles '11 | Harvard Correspondent

Students of literature often construct their understanding of a topic primarily from books and readings. But that's not the case for students in Giuliana Minghelli's new course on cultural migrations between Africa and Italy, where they have witnessed a performance by one of the assigned authors and have the opportunity to develop their own creative responses.

Minghelli, associate professor of Romance languages and literatures, found her interest in the subject piqued by her study of Italy's early 20th century modernist writers. Many of them, she discovered, were either born in or had lived in Africa.

"People like Futurism founder Filippo Tommaso Marinetti chose Africa as the stage on which to perform the speed, modernity, action, and violence of his Futurist poetics," Minghelli noted. "That is quite intriguing. Why Africa?"

world, the continent is very close to Italy, perhaps uncomfortably so for many at the time. After the unification of Italy in 1861, Italians strove to present themselves as a thoroughly European culture, repressing what Minghelli calls "the Africa within Italy."

Yet Italy also needed Africa, for economic reasons and because it was felt practicing colonialism would establish a stronger sense of national identity. The Italians were late to the "scramble for Africa," waiting until 1936 — after the conquest of Eritrea, Somalia, and Ethiopia — to proclaim an official Italian Empire. The desire for conquest was buoyed by archaeological excavations in Africa that unearthed Roman ruins, which Italians used to link their colonizing activities to the glory of the Roman Empire.

"If you're interested in the question of Italian nation-building and identity formation, Africa is really cen-

build roads, hospitals, and schools in Africa. For years, the experience of colonialism was excluded from academic discourse. Perhaps for that reason, Minghelli says, some Italians still look back on the period with nostalgia, seeing it as "a beautiful adventure."

"The real story of Italian colonialism is not a story that is being told in Italy," Minghelli says. "It is a missed debate."

Starting in the 1990s, however, Africans from colonized territories began writing about their experience immigrating to Italy, and Italian intellectuals such as Giorgio Agamben and Roberto Esposito began theorizing about the colonial subject.

One author who addresses the legacy of colonialism and the experience of immigration is Gabriella Ghermandi, who visited Harvard to perform and lend a personal dimension to the issues discussed in Minghelli's course. Ghermandi, born in Ethiopia to an Italian father and an Ethiopian mother, wrote her debut novel, titled "Regina di fiori e di perle" ("Queen of Flowers and Pearls"), in 2007.

"I didn't want my first novel to be autobiographical," Ghermandi said. "Even if I had wanted to, it would have been impossible because what happened in those years is still a bleeding wound."

Her performance, however, told the story of her own family, drawing on the African tradition of oral storytelling and weaving in Ethiopian songs in an attempt to untie "the knot of memory" and to recuperate and celebrate the past.

Born 25 years after the end of Italian colonialism, Ghermandi still confronted terrible racism growing up in Ethiopia, leading her mother to try to make her "more white." When she arrived in Italy at age 14, however, she felt lost and out of place. It was only when she accepted that she was not Italian that she felt free to take pride in her Ethiopian heritage.

Meanwhile, the Italian language, which she calls her "father tongue," became a "spatial home" for Ghermandi, in which she was able to come to terms with her physical and emotional journey.

At the end of her performance, Ghermandi encouraged audience members to share their own stories, which students will do via a creative project based on the stories they read. "Cultural Migrations Between Africa and Italy" will end with their staging a theatrical performance.

"This is no academic exercise," Minghelli said, of coming to terms with the realities of Italian colonialism. "It's something that needs to be done, and by doing this we will be able to recognize and traverse our post-colonial present."



Giuliana Minghelli, associate professor of Romance languages and literatures, has author Gabriella Ghermandi (above) lend a personal dimension to a class discussion through a performance.

On the one hand, she said, Africa represented a blank canvas onto which Italian writers could project their wildest fantasies. At the same time, the continent functioned as a land of exile and escape, initially from the fascist regime that controlled Italy in the decades leading up to World War II.

Later, in the 1960s, writers fled from the homogenization of capitalist consumer culture. For instance, author and film director Pier Paolo Pasolini traveled to Africa in search of an alternative, uncontaminated world.

Indeed, despite a desire on the part of many Italian authors to paint Africa as a primitive and exotic

tral," Minghelli said.

She sees her new course, Italian 136: "Cultural Migrations Between Africa and Italy," as an attempt to reconstruct a history that Italy itself has largely ignored. Despite the violence of the Italian intervention led by Mussolini — the 1935-36 war in Ethiopia was one of the bloodiest colonial wars ever — the Italians perpetuated an image of "Italiani brava gente" ("Italians are nice people") that continues today.

According to this mythical historical narrative, the Italians were motivated not by dreams of military takeover but by an innocent, even laudable desire to



China “is my home, my family, my past, but I can’t identify with a regime that opened fire on my peers in 1989,” said Rowena He, a lecturer in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations.



## Echoes of Tiananmen Square

In her freshman seminar, lecturer Rowena He sheds light on the Chinese government’s 1989 crackdown on dissent by melding the personal with the academic.

By Alexandra Perloff-Giles '11 | Harvard Correspondent

In China, discussing the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989 remains a political taboo.

But Rowena He, a lecturer in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, is determined to shed light on the controversial issue. In the freshman seminar that she is teaching this semester, “Rebels With a Cause: Tiananmen in History and Memory,” He melds the personal with the intellectual by bringing in guest speakers and sharing her own experiences.

In the spring of 1989, millions of Chinese students, intellectuals, and ordinary citizens demonstrated throughout the country in an effort to bring about political reform. “Students took to the streets out of hope and trust in the government that it would improve,” He said, explaining that her generation, instilled with values of sacrificing for the nation and the people, was very idealistic.

The protests ended, however, when the People’s Liberation Army fired on unarmed citizens and carried out widespread arrests, imprisoning or exiling protest leaders and many supporters. Thereafter, any mention of the clash, which has come to be known in Chinese as the “June 4th Incident,” was silenced in the press and banned from the classroom. Since then, the government has worked to create an official version of the event, placing the blame on the students. But human rights groups, the families of victims, and most participants strongly disagree with the official story.

“The struggle is ongoing,” He said. “It’s still a political taboo. We keep hearing stories of exiles being

turned back when they try to return home to attend a parent’s funeral, of scholars working on the topic being denied visas to China, and of families of the victims being prohibited from openly mourning their family members.”

Twenty-one years ago, when He wore a black armband as a gesture of mourning on the day after the violence, she recalls being told, “If you don’t take that off, no one will protect you.”

“We learned to lie to survive,” said He, who eventually eventually left her homeland and received a Ph.D. in education from the University of Toronto.

For Gorick Ng, a freshman in the seminar, He’s personal connection to the material makes the class unique.

“She’s not just teaching the class, she’s really sharing a part of herself,” he said.

Like many of the exiles she studies, He separates her Chinese identity from the current Communist rule.

China “is my home, my family, my past,” she said, “but I can’t identify with a regime that opened fire on my peers in 1989.”

Today, she speaks passionately about the importance of keeping the memory of 1989 alive.

“I never imagined that one day I would have the opportunity to teach students who are now about the same age I was at that time about that part of history,” He said. “It is like a dream come true. I treasure every minute of teaching the course.”

The Tiananmen violence has gained increased at-

tention recently with the awarding of the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize to Liu Xiaobo, who was imprisoned after the military crackdown for his role in trying to bring about a nonviolent, peaceful solution to the crisis. But scholars inside China are still banned from studying or even speaking about the topic. For many years, He tried to remain quiet about her research out of fear.

When she spoke to a publisher recently, she was told that he could help her print her work in China, “as long as you don’t talk about June 4th, and you don’t talk about Tibet.” She knew right away that her research was unpublishable.

He’s class is the first freshman seminar on the Tiananmen protests offered at Harvard. It was originally intended as a graduate seminar, but when the Freshman Seminar Program approved the course, she jumped at the opportunity to present it.

“Freshmen are curious and full of energy,” He said, noting that they’re also less likely to have preconceived ideas about the topic and might be freer to form their own opinions about the event. “I think they are really smart young people, and they haven’t been polluted. They have the intuition and common sense to know that killing isn’t right.”

In the classroom, He encourages debate, urging her students to try to enter the minds of China’s Communist officials as well as of student leaders and ordinary citizens.

“We listen with the possibility of being changed, and we speak with the possibility of being heard,” she said. “I am going on this journey with them like an accompanying traveler.”

Two guest speakers — one who was then a college freshman and an eyewitness to the military crackdown and one a sophomore who was imprisoned for his activities — came to the class to provide students their first-person accounts. One joined the students for dinner in Annenberg Hall after the seminar session.

“It’s really exciting to hear from people who actually started the movement,” Ng said. “It’s something that we could not have gotten from reading a book or watching a video. It really makes history come alive.”

The class also had the opportunity to explore the Tiananmen archives at the Harvard-Yenching Library, which include photographs, signs held by protesters, and clothes stained with blood. In class, the students have role-played as the “Tank Man” who faced down armored vehicles, as Tiananmen mothers, student demonstrators, ordinary citizens, and the military. At the end of the semester, the class will host a half-day conference to share what students have learned with the Harvard community.

He hopes that the course and the conference will contribute toward preserving the historical truth, especially among the younger generation.

“It is not possible to understand today’s China without understanding the spring of 1989,” she said.

A Harvard School of Public Health AIDS Initiative trial that gave HIV-positive mothers in Botswana antiretroviral drugs during the months after birth showed a dramatic reduction in the transmission of the virus from mothers to breast-fed babies.



The study bolsters the argument that HIV-positive mothers with infants should be a top priority for the scarce antiretroviral drugs. Lead author of the study is Roger Shapiro (left), an associate professor at the Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School.

dressed in developing countries, early guidelines recommended using bottles. The problem was that those studies were conducted in industrialized nations and didn't take into account poor sanitation and the high disease burden commonly found in less-developed countries. The result was that bottle-fed babies in poor countries had about the same risk of dying of a diarrheal or respiratory disease as of contracting HIV through breast-feeding, according to the study's lead author, Roger Shapiro, an associate professor at the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) and Harvard Medical School (HMS).

HAI Chairman Max Essex, the Lasker Professor of Health Sciences at HSPH and the study's senior author, said the results were particularly impressive in the sickest group, whose immune systems were under the fiercest attack by the virus and so are most likely to transmit it to their babies. That group saw only one baby get infected, before birth, and no infections during breast-feeding.

"That rate is way lower than any rate anyone's ever seen in the world, even without breast-feeding," Essex said. "I don't think it should be controversial anymore. I think it's clear you can breast-feed safely."

The study has already had real-world effects. It has prompted the government of Botswana to devise a program — still being finalized — to offer antiretroviral drugs to breast-feeding mothers, Shapiro said. In addition, the WHO has cited a combination of "significant programmatic experience and research evidence" in issuing new guidelines. Those recognize that breast-feeding while taking antiretroviral drugs can improve an infant's chance of both surviving and remaining HIV-negative.

In addition, Essex and Shapiro said, the study bolsters the argument that HIV-positive mothers with infants should be a top priority for the scarce antiretroviral drugs. From an economic standpoint alone, Essex said, the study shows that giving the drugs to the mothers can prevent HIV infection of an infant, saving the child from a lifetime of antiretroviral drug use.

"It definitely means they should be top priority," Essex said. "Anybody who can do math can immediately tell that the cost savings are far greater if you treat the mothers first and avoid treating infants later."

Photo by Justin Ide | Harvard Staff Photographer

## Keeping HIV out of the cradle

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer

For decades, HIV has stalked not just sexually active adults around the world, but also babies living in the world's poorest countries, hanging a virtual death sentence over nearly half of those born to HIV-positive mothers.

That fact has been slowly changing, as scientists engaged in the struggle against HIV and AIDS better understand the routes through which the virus crosses from mother to baby. Scientists have shown that giving the mother antiretroviral drugs will reduce a baby's chances of contracting HIV during the long months of gestation and the brief trauma of birth.

The Harvard School of Public Health AIDS Initiative (HAI) recently gave health workers a major tool to keep HIV from the world's most vulnerable, with a study that shows that multidrug therapy nearly eliminates mother-to-child transmission during breast-feeding.

The study, published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* in June, was conducted between 2006 and 2008 among 730 HIV-infected mothers in the African nation of Botswana, where HAI has a long-term partnership with the Ministry of Health. The study compared three drug combinations in an effort to understand which would best suppress the virus and its transmission during breast-feeding. The results showed that each of the treatments was effective and cut HIV transmission to less than 1 percent.

Multidrug therapy has revolutionized AIDS treatment since its advent in the mid-1990s. It dramatically reduced AIDS death rates across the industrialized world, transforming the disease in

those countries from a death sentence to a severe but manageable ailment.

But in poorer countries, the AIDS epidemic still rages. In 2008 alone, 2 million people died of AIDS and 2.7 million were newly infected. Though major efforts to improve access to antiretroviral drugs have had some success in recent years, the drugs are reaching just over a third of those who need them in low- and middle-income countries. The medicine gets to even fewer children, just 28 percent, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Without intervention, a breast-feeding infant with an HIV-infected mother has up to a 40 percent chance of contracting the virus, according to one author of the study. About 400,000 infants are infected annually, according to WHO statistics. The virus enters a baby through three major avenues: gestation, birth, and breast-feeding. Many babies infected with HIV die within a few years, and those who don't face a lifetime of taking drugs to control the disease.

Although research has shown that multidrug therapy can be effective in preventing transmission in both gestation and during birth, how to best safeguard the baby after birth has been controversial.

Public health workers in developing countries have long felt that, absent HIV, breast-feeding was far preferable to bottle feeding because of the risk of disease associated with unsanitary conditions and dirty water used in making baby formula. In addition, breast milk bolsters a baby's immune system during the first months of life.

Early studies, however, showed that bottle feeding was the safest way to keep babies of HIV-positive mothers virus-free, so when the issue was first ad-





## COVER STORY

# Scholars venerable

Retired Harvard faculty, some with astonishing personal stories, are windows onto a vanishing past, even as many continue to work in their fields.

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff Writer

Charles Vert Willie (above) in his Concord, Mass., home office

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer

One of them corrected Harvard student John F. Kennedy's literature papers. Another is the grandson of slaves and was a classmate of the teenaged Martin Luther King Jr. A third left Europe on the eve of World War II and rose to become a key aide to President Lyndon Johnson. A fourth helped to throw open the gates of all-male colleges to women.

Harvard has hundreds of older professors with intriguing personal stories like these. Officially, the men are each called *emeritus* and the women *emerita*, honorifics that originated with the Latin word for "skillful, but honorably retired." In many ways these professors, many of them still active in their fields, are the keepers of Harvard's living history. Their experiences illuminate most of the 20th century, their teaching guided generations of students, and their mentoring trained many current faculty members.

Many *emeriti* had early lives marked by family hardships, hideous wars, grand injustices, and Gump-like brushes with fame. Their diverse numbers include Norman Ramsey, a Nobel laureate in physics who as an Army officer helped to assemble the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima; Ruth Hubbard, a groundbreaking biologist who escaped the Nazis as a teenager; Sacvan Bercovitch, a literary scholar who began adulthood an Israeli farmhand; and Bernard Lown, a physician and inventor of the defibrillator, who founded an antiwar group that won the Nobel Peace Prize.

(see *Emeritus* next page)





Daniel Aaron (above), whose first scholarly paper appeared in 1935, continues to write. His latest book, published in 2007, was a memoir, “The Americanist.” He is now busy putting his journals in order. His first is from 1929.



Since leaving Harvard classrooms, Francis Bator (right) has continued to write on macroeconomics and has also turned his mind to some of the history he lived through. He wrote a chapter in “Presidential Judgment” (2001), “Lyndon Johnson and Foreign Policy.” Bator wrote a 2007 occasional paper for the American Academy of Arts and Sciences that drew on his White House years: “No Good Choices: LBJ and the Vietnam/Great Society Connection.” He appears at left with Johnson.



## Emeritus

(continued from previous page)

The examples below, detailing the lives of four of the University’s *emeriti*, provide a window to the past and a glimpse of the ongoing influence of Harvard’s older professors:

### Daniel Aaron

Victor S. Thomas Professor of English and American Literature *Emeritus*  
Retired: 1983

Daniel Aaron, who turned 98 in August, arrived at Harvard as a first-year graduate student in 1933. He remembers Widener Library in the days when historian Samuel Eliot Morison — Class of 1908, and the last Harvard professor to ride a horse to work — would stride in wearing full riding regalia, slapping a leather crop on his high boots.

Morison’s grand and aggressive entrances were astonishing, Aaron said, but at the same time they perfectly embodied a Harvard that still clung to 19th century values, despite the social tumult of the Great Depression. “That (old) Harvard was still there. You could feel

it and see it,” said Aaron, who went on to earn the University’s first degree in the history of American civilization. “Coming from the outside, it was like coming to a foreign country.”

That shadow country included Harvard’s undergraduates, generally the products of tony Eastern schools. Their exclusive, self-created world was mostly closed to someone like Aaron, whose public education came in Los Angeles, Chicago, and Ann Arbor, Mich. He said, “I could never think of myself as a Harvard man.”

But by the end of the 1930s, an influx of bright undergraduates from small-town America brought their native vitality with them to Harvard Yard. The change soon overtook the more “elaborate education” of their private school peers, said Aaron, and helped to transform Harvard into “a national university.”

He remembers his favorite students fondly, and has recorded their stories (and often their obituaries) in hardbound journals kept since 1929. Aaron, who still walks to his Barker Center office every day, is cur-

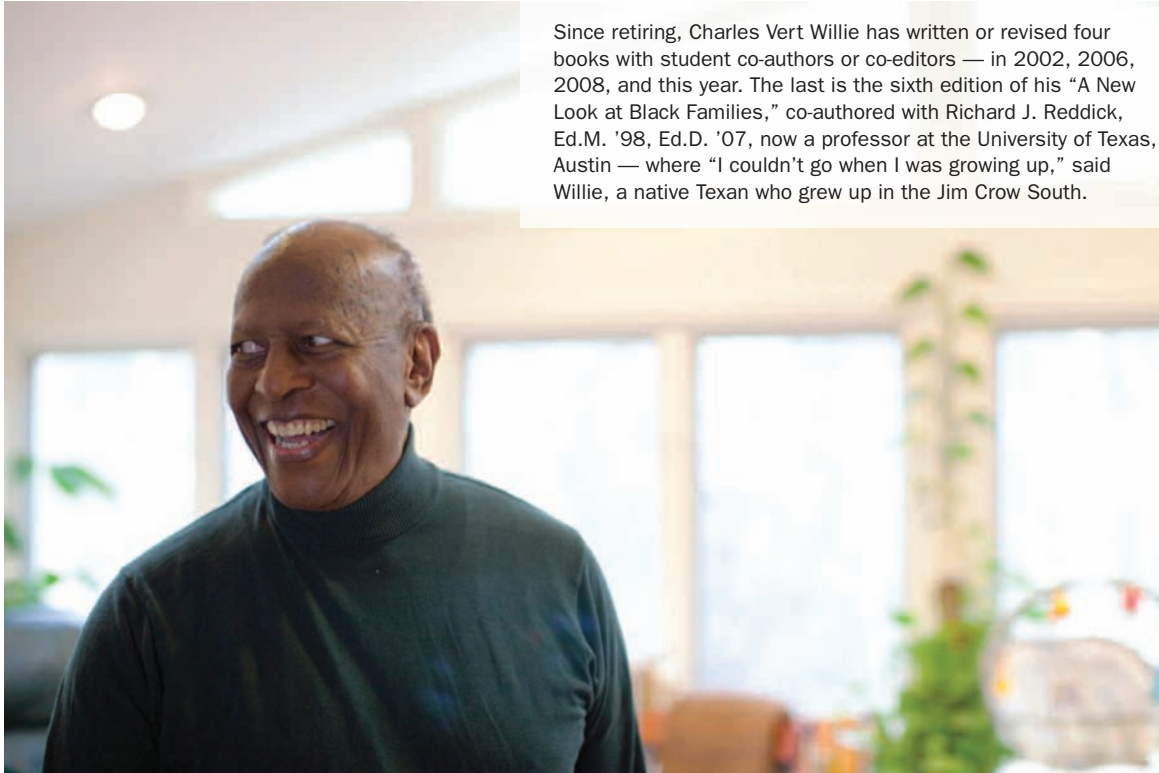
rently working on a digest of what he calls his “commonplace books,” which are crammed with paper, pictures, clippings, and autobiographical notations.

He read a scrapbook insert aloud, an obituary of Emile de Antonio ’40, who died in 1989. The Scranton, Pa., undergraduate went on to make prize-winning documentary films on Cold War America, including “Rush to Judgment” (1967), about the assassination of his own classmate, President Kennedy. “That,” said Aaron, “was the kind of person you might find in your class.”

Aaron published his first scholarly paper in 1935, on “Melville and the Missionaries,” and then spent fruitful decades on studies of the American Renaissance, the Civil War, American progressive writers, and the literary actors in what he once called America’s “cheerful and welcoming democratic collective.” He continues to work in his field.

Along the way, Aaron’s circle of contemporaries included the glitterati of literature: Perry Miller, F.O.





Since retiring, Charles Vert Willie has written or revised four books with student co-authors or co-editors — in 2002, 2006, 2008, and this year. The last is the sixth edition of his “A New Look at Black Families,” co-authored with Richard J. Reddick, Ed.M. '98, Ed.D. '07, now a professor at the University of Texas, Austin — where “I couldn’t go when I was growing up,” said Willie, a native Texan who grew up in the Jim Crow South.

Matthiessen, Henry Nash Smith, John Dos Passos, and Robert Frost. Edmund Wilson, a close friend and mentor of 30 years, “was my model as a writer, as a journalist, and as a critic,” he said. Aaron also corrected papers by future President Kennedy, and remembers writer Norman Mailer as a teenager in Dunster House. Of this “Who’s Who” collection of friends and acquaintances, Aaron said simply: “You met people.”

He also taught at Smith College for decades, before returning to Harvard in 1971, amid the uproar of collegiate anti-war protest and national cultural upheaval. “I played the bemused onlooker,” he wrote in his 2007 memoir, “The Americanist.”

Today’s Harvard is far removed from the institution Aaron first saw nearly 80 years ago. The changes never seemed sudden, he said, but “you don’t keep adjusting easily. You don’t go along with it. You lag behind.” For Aaron, electronic communications is one area of lagging. He doesn’t write email, or own a computer, or have a television. He types on a pivoting-font IBM Selectric, a model introduced in 1961.

Despite his decades at Harvard, Aaron sometimes still feels like an interloper from the American West, not what he calls “an authentic local.” But his feelings for Harvard are nonetheless strong, unchangeable, and deep. “I feel very defensive and very loyal to Harvard,” said Aaron, who lives near Cambridge Common. “And, of course, there is no other place; I’ve lived here for so long now.”

#### Francis Bator

Lucius N. Littauer Professor of Political Economy  
*Emeritus*  
Retired: 1996

In 1929, 4-year-old Francis Bator, the son of a prominent Budapest lawyer, took his first ski run. (He wouldn’t quit the slopes until 70 years later.) In 1939, Bator and his family departed for what he thought would be an August vacation in the United States, but

World War II barred their way home.

By 1944, he had graduated from the Groton School, had put in an accelerated freshman year at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and had become an 18-year-old private in the U.S. Army. (He eventually mustered out as a first lieutenant.)

Twenty years later, Bator was in the Oval Office as the new senior economist on the National Security Council staff, and served as the deputy national security adviser to President Johnson.

“The notion that Johnson was no good at foreign policy is nonsense,” Bator said. “He had a very big and tough mind, and ran his own show. There were no peers. But he thought that if he backed away in Vietnam — or told the country the truth that he was Americanizing the war — the social legislation to bring the country into the 20th century would be stillborn in the Congress.”

By then, the 38-year-old Bator had earned a Ph.D. in economics from MIT, had taught there, and had helped to set up its Center for International Studies. He had worked briefly for the RAND Corp. and for the State Department, and had authored an influential book, “The Question of Government Spending.” It was one of seven books, said The New York Times in 1961, that most influenced Kennedy’s “approach to the presidency.” Bator recently argued in the Financial Times that the book’s thesis still applies. “Government spending, taxes, deficits, and debt are not good or bad as such,” he said. “They are policy tools, good or bad according to what outcomes in the real economy we want them to achieve.”

In the White House, according to Business Week, Bator became Johnson’s “key adviser” on world economic matters and European affairs. In 1967, Bator left the White House to join the inaugural faculty at Harvard’s new John F. Kennedy School of Government. “I was intrigued by the idea of working with a



In 1944, Willie entered Morehouse College along with Martin Luther King Jr., who became a longtime friend.

handful of extraordinary colleagues to create a new curriculum that reached across traditional disciplines like economics and law,” he said. One result was a new two-year master’s program in public policy, which he chaired.

Bator also leapt with two feet into University life. He joined a Harvard governance committee; co-wrote “Harvard and Money,” the pamphlet that urged the University onto a different investment path that swelled the endowment; and joined a committee on Harvard-community relations, which were roiled by Vietnam protests.

Coming to Harvard also allowed Bator to re-enter domestic macroeconomics, which he taught in the classroom with flair. A student once wrote, “Bator could teach economics to a stove!” It’s what he has continued to write about, having just begun a small book on what he thinks his grandchildren need to know. And it’s what he taught until, at age 70, he came to feel about teaching as he did about skiing: It was time to stop.

“I loved the teaching,” said Bator, who lives in Wellesley, “and missed it for a long time.”

#### Charles Vert Willie

Eliot Professor *Emeritus*, Harvard Graduate School of Education  
Retired: 1999

His grandfathers were slaves. He grew up in the Jim Crow South in Texas and Georgia. Prior to the Civil Rights era, in 1944, he entered Morehouse College along with Martin Luther King Jr., who became his good friend.

Charles Vert Willie, who turned 83 this year, lives in Concord, Mass., with his wife, Mary Sue. Their house is amid woodlands once surveyed by Henry David Thoreau, and not far from the North Bridge, where the first battle of the American Revolution was fought.

Willie has fought more recent battles for racial equality and justice. As an applied sociologist, he helped the cause in his own way, collecting and interpreting racial, ethnic, gender, and socioeconomic data. He wrote about race and justice through the lens of sociology, examining urban communities, family life, public health, grassroots social movements, and desegregation in education.

His expertise on America’s racial inequalities sometimes meant stepping outside the traditional bounds

(see *Emeritus* next page)

## Emeritus

(continued from previous page)

of the academy — into the courts and communities, as he did to promote integrated education. In 1974, Willie was one of four court-appointed masters who helped develop a plan to desegregate Boston's public schools, a role he repeated in many other cities. "I still see myself as a sociologist," he said, "but I steer close to current issues."

Steering close included drawing his students out of the classroom and onto the streets, where they conducted interviews. "I've made a point," said Willie, "of getting my students acquainted with what is actually going on."

His active teaching career spanned 1950 to 1999, first at Syracuse University, where in 1967 he became the first black professor to chair the sociology department, and where he was vice president of student affairs during the anti-war turmoil. He came to Harvard in 1974 as the first African-American tenured professor at the Graduate School of Education (HGSE).

Willie took away two main lessons from his long view of America's racial past: Be a person for others — a mentor — and always promote love and justice as the foundation of community life.

His first mentors were his parents, who raised a family of five during the Great Depression in racially divided Dallas. Willie entered Morehouse at age 16 (King was 15), and found mentors whose messages went beyond good scholarship. They urged him to seek out social injustice and correct it. In his own career, he often invited students home to dinner — and even to help on many of his 32 books.

Willie also served as "a person for others" in 1974. As one of the top lay officers of the Episcopal Church, he delivered the sermon that year at an irregular service in Philadelphia as part of the first U.S. ordination of female priests. *Ms. magazine* later named Willie one of its "male heroes."

The point is to honor and seek diversity, said Willie, who often talked about the Biblical lesson of Noah and his expansive, two-by-two ark. "You need diversity," he said, "if you want life to continue."

### Patricia Albjerg Graham

Charles Warren Research Professor of the History of American Education *Emerita*  
Retired: 2001

As a teenager, Patricia Graham didn't have much patience with the public schools in her native West Lafayette, Ind., which she found dull. Education is what happened at home, she thought. Her parents, both Ph.D.s, talked about books, knew culture, and read the Sunday New York Times. Impatient, Graham — a future HGSE dean — dropped out of high school at age 16. "I had enough credits," she said. "I figured they owed me a diploma."

But education doesn't happen at home for everyone, especially for American children in the bottom third of the education demographic. Armed in 1955 with a bachelor's degree in English and history from her hometown university, Purdue, Graham found out soon enough about that bottom third.



With her husband in the Navy, she took a teaching job at Deep Creek High School in rural Virginia. The annual salary was \$2,250, but the education she got was priceless. At Deep Creek the boys struggled with their studies. Three of the girls in her ninth-grade classroom became pregnant. And Deep Creek, a segregated white high school, had a 75 percent dropout rate.

But before she left, Graham learned how to teach reading, speech, and drama, and guided her 12th-grade theater group to a second-place state title for the best high school play.

She became director of Barnard College's Education Program (1965-1974), where she learned about the underserved New York City schools.

Her grounding on the bottom third helped to inspire her "to try to bring the best quality of education to people who have been excluded from it."

The excluded, of course, were more than just poor whites and underprivileged minorities. They were women too.

In 1969, Graham, who had earned a Ph.D. in the history of education from Columbia University, took a year off to help Princeton University adapt to its new co-ed student body, the same step other Ivy League schools were taking. Her breakthrough observations, "Women in Academe," appeared in *Science magazine* in 1970. As she said recently, universities opening their doors "needed tenured women faculty who had a streak of feminism — concern for their gender."

In 1974 she joined the HGSE faculty. She became vice president of Radcliffe College, and then dean of what became the Radcliffe Institute. By 1977, Graham was one of four Radcliffe affiliates working with four Harvard men on an agreement to blend the colleges under one academic umbrella.

After spending two years working at the National In-

Retirement is not the end of work, even for professors. "The difference is ... you can choose the things you want to spend your time on," said Harvard *emerita* Patricia Albjerg Graham. Her 2005 book, "Schooling America: How the Public Schools Meet the Nation's Changing Needs," appeared in paperback in 2007.

stitute of Education, where she supervised a \$100 million research budget, Graham returned to Harvard. By 1982, she was the HGSE dean — the first woman at Harvard to be named dean of a whole faculty.

"I think it was those kids," said Graham of her success, meaning the kids in Deep Creek and New York. "And women — like my mother — who had been excluded from jobs commensurate with their training."

The obligation of higher education, said Graham, is to identify the talented and to invite in those who have been excluded.

Her post-retirement work follows the same theme. Graham is on the boards of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Central European University in Budapest, an institution formed after the fall of the Soviet Union. Its mission is to revive subjects that were neglected behind the Iron Curtain, including law, history, and business. She is also on the board at Apache Corp., an oil and gas exploration and development company that has what she called "a major interest in educational philanthropy." (One recent project was to open 200 one-room schools for girls in Egypt.)

Education's big challenge is to work on that bottom third, said Graham — the forgotten, the excluded, and the neglected students with valuable skills. But to get there, she said, "we've got a lot of homework to do."

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer



# Generally, a happy anniversary

As Harvard's Gen Ed curriculum expands, it's drawing ever-widening interest from students and faculty after its first year.

By Paul Massari | Harvard Staff Writer



Professor Peter Der Manuelian said it is both challenging and rewarding to design a rigorous curriculum that is not too esoteric for the generalist.

One year after the Class of 2013 became the first required to complete Harvard College's Program in General Education, officials have one thing to say: so far, so good.

"Students seem excited by the new courses," said Stephanie Kenen, associate dean of undergraduate education and administrative director of the program. "The flexibility of the program seems to be something they like."

The General Education Program, known as Gen Ed, replaced the University's 30-year-old Core Curriculum last fall. In the new program, students are required to take at least one course in each of eight areas of study: aesthetic and interpretive understanding; culture and belief; empirical and mathematical reasoning; ethical reasoning; science of living systems; science of the physical universe; societies of the world; and United States in the world. In addition, at least one of these courses must also engage substantially with the study of the past.

Kenen said it is far too early to assess the program's success, but preliminary returns have been encouraging. For instance, even though upper-class students may still graduate under the requirements of the Core Curriculum, fully half of juniors and nearly 10 percent of seniors have switched to the new re-

quirements. Moreover, when asked, "What was your most positive academic experience?" on last year's freshman survey, many students identified Gen Ed classes.

Kenen said she and her colleagues have been surprised at the excitement over some courses. While "Science and Cooking" has received much press attention, other classes have seen enrollment spikes as well, such as "Pyramid Schemes," a new course that explores the archaeological history of ancient Egypt.

"The course has given me a chance to go beyond what I would normally experience in a classroom," said William Weingarten '11. "I've enjoyed getting the chance to travel out to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and to visit the Visualization Center here at Harvard to get a deeper intuition for what Egypt was really like thousands of years ago."

Professor Peter Der Manuelian, who teaches "Pyramid Schemes," said it is both challenging and rewarding to design a rigorous curriculum that is not too esoteric for the generalist.

"There is nothing like sharing the passion for one's field with 170 interested undergraduates," he said. "I enjoy watching students get excited about new

pyramid construction theories, ancient religious schisms, explanations for the rise of complex society, and the mysteries of ancient Egyptian hieroglyphic grammar. Long ago I learned that to focus only on the narrow confines of one's discipline can lead to diminished interest levels across the board."

Weingarten said he has enjoyed all the Gen Ed courses he has taken so far. "Most Gen Ed professors put a lot of effort into ensuring that their courses are both fun and educational," he said. "Gen Ed has given me more time to take courses that I enjoy outside of my normal concentration track, applied math."

College officials say they are working to keep the Gen Ed curriculum fresh, pointing to the dramatic expansion of course offerings over the last year. When the program launched, 230 classes had been approved for Gen Ed; by this fall, that number had expanded to 356.

"We want a curriculum that evolves with our students, so we have to refresh and renew the curriculum on an ongoing basis," said Kenen. "Some courses are constructed in such a way as to retain their suitability for the program without much change over time. Others may not have as long a shelf life."

Looking to the future, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences created Graduate Seminars in General Education (GSGEs) as one way to meet the demand for new and engaging Gen Ed courses.

"Dean Allan Brandt [of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences] came up with the idea," Kenen explained. "Faculty take graduate students through the study of a topic at an advanced level and, at the same time, take these students through the process of designing an undergraduate course in that area. Graduate students get to work on course themes, design, and pedagogy, which is a really wonderful opportunity for them. If all goes well, the teaching fellows [TFs] for the new course will be the same people who helped design it. So, not only do we get a great new course, but we also get a group of well-trained and very engaged TFs."

Kenen directs anyone curious about the program to the recently developed course trailers website. There they will find short videos for classes such as "Tangible Things," "Primitive Navigation," and "Fat Chance."

"Each trailer is a snapshot of a course," Kenen said. "Faculty members give a little introduction to the course, its aims, and how it meets the goals of Gen Ed. It's a great way for parents, students, and others to find out about classes in the Gen Ed curriculum."

Photo by Rose Lincoln | Harvard Staff Photographer

# 100 Reasons To Give starts here, now

The Harvard Community Gifts campaign kicks off with a new theme and its first Giving Fair.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer

One hundred dollars may seem like a lot of money in these economic times, but broken down into increments — say, \$5 per paycheck — and that's like buying a coffee and a scone. Add it up over the course of a year and it shows how little by little the generosity of the Harvard community can have a big impact.

Thanks to Harvard's annual Community Gifts campaign, donating to service agencies and charities has never been easier. This year, all faculty and staff received pledge cards featuring 50 favorite organizations from previous campaigns. (This list is provided as a convenience only; donations can be made to any nonprofit organization.) Staff and faculty may also participate via payroll deduction, with the addi-



Earlier this year, Grandma Moses (pictured) was rescued from a submerged cat carrier in the Charles River. She was cared for at the MSPCA-Angell before being adopted.

tional option of donating a specified amount over the course of a year. Pledges can also be made using an easy online form found at [http://community.harvard.edu/community\\_gifts](http://community.harvard.edu/community_gifts), which includes 100 organizations.

"This year's theme, '100 Reasons To Give,' reflects the many ways your contributions can make a difference, and we invite you to find the reasons that inspire you," said Christine Heenan, vice president for public affairs and communications.

"The Harvard Community Gifts campaign welcomes donations at any level — when we give as a community, even a dollar or two or five from each paycheck can have a dramatic effect," said Harvard President Drew Faust.

Not sure where to donate? Community Gifts is holding the first-ever Giving Fair on Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Radcliffe Gymnasium. There you can learn more about the important work and volunteer opportunities at charities serving people in need. You can also pick up or drop off pledge cards at the fair or use a convenient kiosk for making an online donation. For more information, visit [http://community.harvard.edu/community\\_gifts](http://community.harvard.edu/community_gifts).

Photo courtesy of the MSPCA-Angell

Check out these worthy organizations below, and see what a \$100 contribution can provide for them.

## BREAKTHROUGH CAMBRIDGE

Founded in 1992 as Summerbridge Cambridge, Breakthrough Cambridge is the only year-round, tuition-free academic program in Cambridge that serves at-risk and underresourced middle and high school students. Breakthrough Cambridge is a six-year program composed of an academically intensive two-year middle school program and a high school support program that work with students until college matriculation. Unique to the program is the "students teaching students" model that inspires the next generation of educators by offering talented high school and college students the opportunity to teach. Following six years in the program, more than 90 percent of students enroll in four-year colleges. After working at Breakthrough, 72 percent of student teachers go on to pursue careers in education. Learn more at [www.breakthroughcambridge.org](http://www.breakthroughcambridge.org).

\$100 could buy Breakthrough Cambridge all this:

- One day of a college student's summer stipend as a Breakthrough Cambridge teacher
- The SAT test prep book needed for each student in the College Access Program
- Books such as "Othello" and "A Raisin in the Sun" for one student, who will read these in a summer literature class

## MSPCA-ANGELL

The MSPCA-Angell is a national and international leader in animal protection and veterinary medicine and provides direct hands-on care for thousands of animals each year. Founded in 1868, it is the second-oldest humane society in the United States. Services include animal protection and adoption, advocacy, humane education, law enforcement, and world-class veterinary care. The MSPCA-Angell is a private, nonprofit organization located in Jamaica Plain, Mass. It does not receive any government funding nor is it funded or operated by any national humane organization. The MSPCA-Angell relies solely on the support and contributions of individuals who care about animals. Learn more at [www.mspca.org](http://www.mspca.org).

\$100 could buy MSPCA-Angell one of these:

- Nearly 1,000 pounds of hay at Nevins Farm in Methuen, Mass., for homeless horses
- Nearly 1,000 pounds of cat litter for the thousands of homeless felines annually
- Various vaccinations, food, minor surgeries, and assisting with day-to-day care of animals

## HOT JOBS

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF CREATIVE SERVICES/ ART DIRECTOR, REQ. 22560BR, GR. 058

Harvard Public Affairs and Communications, FT

### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, REQ. 22474BR, GR. 054

University Administration - Allston Development Group, FT

### ORACLE APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER, REQ.22323BR, GR. 057

Office of the University CIO (UCIO), FT

### SENIOR FINANCIAL MANAGER, REQ.22451BR, GR.058

University Administration - Office of the President and Provost, FT

### SPECIAL LISTING:

#### Part-Time Lecturers on History and Literature.

Information and applications at: [fas.harvard.edu/~histlit/HL-program.html](http://fas.harvard.edu/~histlit/HL-program.html). Deadline Jan. 14, 2011. Harvard is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Applications from women and minority candidates are strongly encouraged.

Online ► See complete opportunity listings at [www.employment.harvard.edu](http://www.employment.harvard.edu) or contact Employment Services at 617.495.2772.

### HOW TO APPLY

To apply for an advertised position or for more information on these and other listings, please connect to our new system, ASPIRE, at [www.employment.harvard.edu/](http://www.employment.harvard.edu/). Through ASPIRE, you may complete a candidate profile and continue your career search with Harvard University. Harvard is strongly committed to its policy of equal opportunity and affirmative action.

### 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/careers/findingajob/](http://employment.harvard.edu/careers/findingajob/).

## STAFF NEWS

### HOME BUYING AND SELLING SEMINARS

Harvard Real Estate Services offers seminars and webinars to help demystify the home buying and selling process. Visit [facultyrealstate.harvard.edu/HomeBuyingAndSellingServices/homebuyingselling.aspx#REAP](http://facultyrealstate.harvard.edu/HomeBuyingAndSellingServices/homebuyingselling.aspx#REAP) for details.

*Upcoming sessions: Thursday, Dec. 2, noon-12:30 p.m., 124 Mt. Auburn St., room 3311, Cambridge; Wednesday, Dec. 15, noon-1:30, HSPH, Kresge Building, room 213; Thursday, Dec. 16, noon-1:30 p.m., webinar (pre-registration required).*





Andrew Clark (at podium and below) conducts a Radcliffe Choral Society rehearsal at Lowell Lecture Hall.

#### UPCOMING HOLIDAY CONCERTS

##### Haydn's "Maria Theresa Mass"

The Harvard-Radcliffe Chorus performs "Theresienmesse" with the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston at Sanders Theatre.

Kevin Leong, conductor

Dec. 4, 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 (general)/\$10 (students & senior citizens), and tickets are available through the Harvard Box Office.

##### Christmas on the Common

The Radcliffe Choral Society and the Harvard Glee Club perform at First Church Congregational in Cambridge, 11 Garden St.

Andrew Clark and Kevin Leong, conductors

Dec. 10, 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 (general)/\$10 (students & senior citizens), and tickets are available through the Harvard Box Office.

The Harvard Box Office can be reached at 617.496.2222 or [ofa.fas.harvard.edu/boxoffice/](http://ofa.fas.harvard.edu/boxoffice/).

#### STAFF PROFILE

## Choral director serves youth, honors tradition

One of Andrew Clark's priorities: Bringing the Holden Choirs' performances to the world.

By Paul Massari | Harvard Staff Writer



Ask the members of Harvard's Holden Choirs — the Harvard Glee Club, The Radcliffe Choral Society, and the Harvard Radcliffe Collegium Musicum — to describe their new director, Andrew Clark, and their answers usually include the same word: energy.

"Andy brings an energy and freshness," said Jason Varnell '12, a glee club member. "We just had a retreat when we rehearsed for three days straight. We were tired on the second day, but Andy was directing us. He was dancing around, talking to us, anything to get a chuckle out of the choir. He gives so much, and we use that energy for singing."

Clark's enthusiasm may come in part from his youth.

Photos by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer

Barely 34, he was named director of choral activities last May. The move came after Clark spent seven years at Tufts University, where he presided over a quadrupling of choir membership, led students on international tours, and engaged in creative collaborations with other universities and ensembles. Clark has also served as chorus master and assistant conductor of Opera Boston, associate conductor of the Boston Pops Esplanade Chorus, and assistant conductor of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh (the chorus of the Pittsburgh Symphony), to name just a few of his posts.

Clark hopes to bring fresh energy and vision to choral music at Harvard. One of his top priorities is to leverage digital technology to bring the Holden Choirs to the world.

"We have a treasure trove of recordings on vinyl, tape, even eight-track that I would like to digitize," he said. "It can be a challenge to fill Sanders five to six times a year for a performance, but there are over 30 million amateur choir members in the U.S. Many of them have iPods and laptops. Our groups are too talented not to figure out how to disseminate our performances around the world."

Clark also hopes to bring new programming to Harvard's choirs, often by looking to the past.

"I'm interested in the rediscovery of neglected American pieces," he explained. "I recently found a piece by the 20th century composer Ross Lee Finney at Harvard's Loeb Music Library, one of the few places in the world that has a copy. Finney took 14 hymns from the Ainsworth Psalter [that was] brought to America by the pilgrims in the 17th century and wrote arrangements for them so they sound fresh and familiar at the same time. The glee club will perform them in our March 5, 2011, show, and we hope to be

the first to record this composition in studio."

The choirs' most-challenging program will come at the end of the year. "On the Transmigration of Souls" is John Adams' Pulitzer Prize-winning composition for chorus and orchestra, written as a tribute to the victims of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Modern and emotionally intense, Adams' piece includes prerecorded sounds and spoken word, as well as a children's choir, which sings fragments from missing-persons signs posted at ground zero in the days after the attack. Clark said he chose "On the Transmigration of Souls" because it shows students how art can respond to violence and human tragedy.

"I struggled with the decision to program the piece because it's so difficult," he said. "It brings back a terrible experience. But art serves not only as a balm, but also as a way to confront the world we live in."

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, a complex composition that Clark describes as "the antidote" to Adams' piece and "an incomparable expression of the joy and connectivity of human experience," will follow "On the Transmigration of Souls."

A bit of a production spectacular, the spring show will include close to 300 student singers, the Harvard Radcliffe Orchestra, and the Boston Children's Choir.

Clark hopes that students and audiences are excited by the new programming. At the same time, he hopes to honor the choirs' 150-year history of excellence. "Every tradition — including the annual retreats — has proven itself to be extremely effective," he said.

Above all, Clark wants to honor the legacy of his predecessor, Jameson Marvin, who was choral director at Harvard for more than 30 years, and under whom Clark served as an assistant conductor from 2001 to 2003.

"The spirit, the sense of purpose, and the expectations of students for excellence speaks volumes about Jim Marvin and his legacy," Clark said. "Jim viewed his career as an investment. It's my job to make sure that investment continues to flourish."



## Four are named Rhodes Scholars

Three Harvard College seniors and a first-year Harvard Medical School student are among the 32 named nationwide.

Three Harvard College seniors and a first-year Harvard Medical School student are among the 32 American men and women named as Rhodes Scholars on Nov. 20. Each will begin study next fall at the University of Oxford in England.

Harvard's newest Rhodes Scholars are Zachary Frankel '11 of Brooklyn, N.Y., Daniel Lage '11 of Miami, Baltazar Zavala '11 of El Paso, Texas, and medical student Aakash Shah of Cliffside Park, N.J. They were chosen from among 837 students nominated by 309 colleges and universities nationwide.

"I'm very proud of these outstanding young people," said Harvard College Dean Evelyn M. Hammonds, who is also the Barbara Gutmann Rosenkrantz Professor of the History of Science and of African and African American Studies. "The characteristics that Harvard seeks in its students — which include academic excellence, leadership, and a commitment to service — are those that the Rhodes Trust values highly as well. I'm delighted to hear that they will have an opportunity to further their education at Oxford."

This year's recipients bring Harvard's total number of Rhodes Scholars to 332 of the 3,228 Americans who have received the scholarships since 1902.

Online ► Read full story: [hvd.gs/67058](http://hvd.gs/67058)

## Two seniors awarded Marshall Scholarships

Harvard seniors Kenzie Bok and Jonathan Warsh had to keep a pretty big secret over the Thanksgiving holiday. Both recently learned they were awarded prestigious Marshall Scholarships, which will allow them to study in the United Kingdom at the universities of their choice.

Bok and Warsh are two of 31 Marshall Scholars whose names were announced Nov. 29. The highly competitive program is open to American graduating seniors and recent graduates and typically covers two years of tuition, research, and living expenses at a British university.

Online ► Read full story: [hvd.gs/67237](http://hvd.gs/67237)

## In search of Captain Nemo

In this column, a senior talks about how he learned to chart his own course while at Harvard.

By Saketh Bhamidipati '11 | Computer Science

STUDENT VOICE

I have always loved stories.

Sometimes, I find stories that my life absorbs. The ancient Sanskrit epic "Mahabharata," detailing the deeds of valorous heroes and austere sages, is one such tale. Ayn Rand's "Atlas Shrugged," with its portrayal of the disciplined steel magnate Hank Rearden, is another.

One story in particular stands out: Jules Verne's "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea." Ever since I first read it as a child, I have wanted to be Captain Nemo — a solitary inventor, a man of powerful principles and emotions who roams the oceans in a submarine of his own design. It is motivation from inspiring stories like these that has created my Harvard experience, and that same motivation informs my aims for the future.

I applied to Harvard because it was the one institution that harbored the most people who had influenced my thought — an intellectually diverse list that included Joseph Schumpeter, W.E.B. Du Bois, Tim O'Reilly, E.O. Wilson, Stephen Jay Gould, Robert Oppenheimer, William James, and Bill Gates, among others. The moment I read the acceptance email, I felt a wave of excitement that my story, in a small but meaningful way, touched each of theirs.

In the first few weeks of my freshman year, I drowned in Harvard's quiet traditions — the established career paths, the rigorous competition for graduate schools and fellowships, the resume-padding extracurriculars. Disenchanted, I made the naive decision to not get a job, go to graduate school, travel on a fellowship, or do anything similarly structured straight out of college, so that I can dedicate my time here entirely to exploration.

That dramatic declaration is not meant to be a normative statement about how Harvard needs to change. I love Harvard as it is. It is beautiful how many great opportunities the University has continued to provide for its students over the centuries. But despite how wonderful those opportunities are, some discontented part of me chose to reject them, on the simple basis that I did not want a Harvard experience that was scripted for me. I wanted to write my own story.

Since then, I have inundated my brain and schedule with learning — doing

well in some classes, barely passing others, pursuing disconnected interests like Sanskrit, political philosophy, or probability theory, browsing the libraries regularly to satisfy my curiosity, concentrating in computer science, regularly visiting the MicroCenter down the road to keep up with technology, and, most importantly, talking to as many people here as possible, in awe of their brilliance, drive, and kindness. I have made mistakes, but I regret nothing, because of how neat it all is on the pages of history.

Now, nearing graduation, the question of what to do after college looms. In keeping with my naive decision freshman year, I have chosen to start a company. Quite literally, that is all I have done — I am the owner of a corporation that has yet to have a product, let alone a sound plan for making money. Friends and family have criticized me for this, saying that it makes more sense to build a product first and see if it catches on, or at least to get a job and work on this part time, rather than discard other opportunities for one that may not even exist. They are probably right, but predictability never made for an exciting story. (Besides, I can make it all work during winter break.)

I feel like Captain Nemo, building a corporation as my submarine, wanting to explore the world in it. I have been saving money from various jobs for the past three years as fuel for this purpose. I do not know if I will succeed or fail. But whatever happens, I intend to live an interesting story, for the satisfaction of none other than myself.

*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](mailto:Jim_Concannon@harvard.edu).*



Photo by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer



# They ride by dawn

Most fall mornings, a slightly sleepy collection of men and women rises early to hit the road.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

Most fall mornings, a slightly sleepy collection of men and women rises early to hit the road.

They are an eclectic group of Harvard students, staff, faculty, and community members. They range in age from their late teens to 50-something. They can be freshmen or CEOs, but they move fast, and under their own power. They ride by bike.

Eun Young Choi is their Pooh-Bah. Choi, a Harvard Ph.D. candidate in neuroscience, was inspired by a leisurely summer cycle around Martha's Vineyard. When she heard about the Harvard University Cycling Association (HUCA) in 2007, she decided to investigate.

Now she is its administrative and spiritual leader and has gone from novice rider to top competitor.

"I started out with no athletic background, and now cycling has become a huge part of my life and has changed my attitude and perspective on academia and life challenges in every way," said Choi, who carries the title of Pooh-Bah in a nod to the exalted office from the comic opera "The Mikado."

The organization, which dates way back to 1890, fosters a love for cycling and shares it with anyone willing to listen and learn. The student-run group relies on fundraising and donations from private sponsors for support, and on a dedicated cadre of volunteer coaches.

The "open to all" aspect of the team was "been important right from the start," said John Allis, a champion of U.S. cycling in the 1970s and a three-time Olympian who recently retired after almost 30 years as a HUCA coach.

"You don't necessarily have to race.... A lot of the skills you will learn while riding with the team are very applicable for riding in traffic, bike handling, physical fitness, and being a better bike rider," said Allis.

Still, Allis said that developing riders who can go on to compete is the club's main goal.

"We are, of course, ultimately racing oriented, so a certain amount of competitive spirit is a help on the rides. You are

## ATHLETICS



"I started out with no athletic background, and now cycling has become a huge part of my life," says HUCA member Eun Young Choi (left).

not out there to look at the birds and the bees."

In 1985, Ed Sassler, then a Northeastern University student, heard that Allis was working with Harvard riders. With no cycling team at Northeastern, Sassler joined HUCA. He never left. He rode as a student and then as a coach, describing his early advisory role as that of a sheepdog chasing down overzealous riders who got too far ahead, or helping corral those dropping behind the pack.

Today, Sassler, who works full time in a bike shop, continues to coach, running training rides in the fall, working on the group's fitness level in the gym in winter, and preparing HUCA members for the racing season.

"The problem with cycling is everybody thinks it's as easy as riding a bike. In reality, it's not that simple," he said.

Sassler called the experience frustrating at times, since some students have to drop out because of school demands. But there are many who stay and excel in competitions.

"I had a rider who started out as the slowest thing on two wheels, and she ended up taking the silver medal at nationals," said Sassler.

Harvard students in degree-granting programs race in colle-

giate competitions in the spring, and other riders compete in races from May through October. In addition, the club organizes an annual 75-mile fun ride that winds from Harvard University to Harvard, Mass.

Ian Boothby, a tall, lanky freshman from Nashville, joined HUCA after reading about it online. He credits the club with improving his endurance and his comfort level with biking in a pack, and he is looking forward to trying his hand at racing in the spring.

Although he has had a couple of spills, and he called the 5:45 a.m. wake-up call a challenge, "By 7 a.m., you are not regretting it."

"It's just an open community, open to anyone who wants to participate and learn about cycling and bike racing. We welcome people of all skill levels," said Choi.

Mark Bowen, who works at a local medical device company and has helped coach HUCA for the past decade, was stunned when he first saw HUCA members helping each other up a hill. With some other clubs, he said, that "never occurs to them." But HUCA is different.

"You put your hand on their back and help them up the hill so they are able to stay with us and learn and develop," said Bowen, adding, "It reflects the whole attitude of this group."

To recruit students for the racing season, the group holds six weeks of basic skills training in the fall. While geared toward potential racers, the rides are open to anyone and cover proper positioning, safety tips, bike maintenance, and racing skills, such as sprinting, cornering, and contact between bikes.

After taking a break from cycling for years, Harvard Law Professor Mark Ramseyer joined up and was out with the club regularly last year, from February through August. Calling himself "too old for racing," Ramseyer, Mitsubishi Professor of Japanese Legal Studies, said he just enjoys the chance to get out and ride with others.

"It's fun. You ride with a group, and you are thinking about other things besides how bad your legs hurt."

Recently the group gathered before sunrise in front of Peet's Coffee & Tea, the regular meeting spot in Harvard Square. Despite the unsettled weather, members remained undaunted, both by the prospect of rain and a couple of serious hills in their immediate future.

Online ► Multimedia: <http://hvd.gs/67260>



# Newsmakers



Thorbjørn Jagland (left), chairman of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee, met with Harvard President Drew Faust (far right) in Massachusetts Hall. Jagland was visiting Harvard as a guest of S. Allen Counter, director of the Harvard Foundation.

## HARVARD FOUNDATION HONORS JAGLAND WITH HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The Harvard Foundation of Harvard University presented its annual Humanitarian Award to **Thorbjørn Jagland**, chairman of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee and secretary-general of the Council of Europe.

The award, which bears the signature of Harvard's president, was given in recognition of Jagland's "notable contributions to humanitarianism and the cause of peace." While at Harvard, Jagland delivered the Peter J. Gomes Humanitarian Lecture and the Jodidi Lecture on World Peace at Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

"Harvard University was proud to honor Thorbjørn Jagland for his commitment to human rights and individual freedoms," said S. Allen Counter, director of the Harvard Foundation. "Our students and faculty were impressed with his humanitarian philosophy and his heartfelt remarks."

The award was presented at Harvard's historic Winthrop House, the college residence of President John F. Kennedy and Sen. Robert Kennedy. Previous recipients of the award include U.N. Secretaries-General Kofi Annan, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, and Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, in addition to Noble Peace Prize winners Eli Wiesel, Jose Ramos-Horta, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

## HSPH PROFESSOR AWARDED FOR DIABETES RESEARCH

Columbia University Medical Center presented the 2010 Naomi Berrie Award for Outstanding Achievement in Diabetes Research to **Gökhan S. Hotamisligil**, the James Stevens Simmons Professor of Genetics and Metabolism and the chair of the Department of Genetics and Complex Diseases at the Harvard School of Public Health. Hotamisligil was honored on Nov. 20 for his important advances in understanding the molecular basis for links between obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.

"Gökhan Hotamisligil's group studies have demonstrated that inflammation plays an important role in obesity, insulin resistance, and type 2 diabetes," said Rudolph Leibel, co-director of the Naomi Berrie Diabetes Center, and chairman of the selection committee. "This work has led to novel ideas for the treatment of these disorders and their consequences."

Established by the Russell Berrie Foundation in 2000, the award was designed to promote and reward outstanding achievement in the field, while simultaneously helping to promote important scientific collaborations across institutions and furthering the careers of especially promising young diabetes investigators. Each year, the recipient — a senior scientist outside Columbia who has made major contributions to diabetes research — is given \$100,000 to support a two-year research fellowship for a student or research fellow in his or her laboratory.

## CERAMICS PROGRAM HOSTS HOLIDAY SHOW AND SALE

The Ceramics Program of Harvard's Office for the Arts will present its annual holiday show and sale Dec. 9-12 at 219 Western Ave. in Allston.

For more than 40 years, the program has provided a creative environment for Harvard students, staff, and faculty as well as designers, artists, and scholars from Greater Boston to international arenas. This holiday season, more than 60 artists will present an extraordinary selection of ceramic work from functional to sculptural masterpieces. This popular exhibition attracts several thousand visitors each year.

For hours and other information, visit <http://www.ofa.fas.harvard.edu/ceramics/show.php>.

## THREE SCHOLARS RECOGNIZED FOR MUSIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Three scholars from Harvard's Music Department received prizes at the Society for Ethnomusicology conference in Los Angeles in early November.

G. Gordon Watts Professor of Music and Professor of African and African American Studies **Kay Kaufman Shelemay** was awarded the 2010 Jaap Kunst Prize for the most significant article published in the field of ethnomusicology for her piece "The Power of Silent Voices: Women in the Syrian Jewish Musical Tradition."

Graduate student **Katherine Lee**, a teaching fellow in music at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, won both the 2010 Charles Seeger Prize for Best Student Paper of the year and the 2010 Martin Hatch Award of the Society for Asian Music for "P'ungmul, Politics, and Protest: Drumming During South Korea's Democratization Movement."

**Kiri Miller**, Ph.D. '05, this year's Bunting Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, was awarded for her recent Journal of the Society for American Music article "Schizophonic Performance: Guitar Hero, Rock Band, and Virtual Virtuosity." She nabbed the Richard Waterman Junior Scholar Prize for the most significant article in ethnomusicology written by a member of the Society for Ethnomusicology and an honorable mention for the Jaap Kunst Prize.

## HARVARD OVERSEER TO PERFORM AT NOBEL CEREMONY

Harvard Board of Overseers member and virtuoso violinist **Lynn Chang** '75 was selected by the Norwegian Nobel Peace Prize Committee to perform at the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize ceremonies in Oslo, Norway, on Dec. 10.

"This is an important and exciting moment in our history," said Chang, who is professor of violin at Boston Conservatory. "Music is a universal language that has no political agenda. Yet music can change hearts and open minds."

## PBHA LAUNCHES HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE

Phillips Brooks House Association (PBHA) has launched Harvard's annual holiday gift drive — an effort to collect more than 1,000 gifts for children in Boston and Cambridge. The drive, which will run through Dec. 15, will provide books, games, toys, art sup-



plies, and sports equipment to children, many of whose parents are impoverished, incarcerated, or homeless. Last year, PBHA donated approximately 1,500 gifts to 18 agencies in Allston-Brighton, Boston, Cambridge, Dorchester, and Roxbury. Faculty, staff, and students are invited to donate gifts for children of all ages. Gifts must be new and unwrapped.

In addition to gifts, PBHA will accept gently used or new clothing items on behalf of the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter. Donations can be left in marked receptacles on the first floor of PBHA.

For more information, email [lvalente@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:lvalente@fas.harvard.edu).

#### 48 SENIORS ELECTED TO PHI BETA KAPPA

Forty-eight seniors were recently elected to the Harvard College chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (PBK), Alpha Iota of Massachusetts.

The Alpha Iota of Massachusetts chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was first established under a charter in 1779. Shifting from a social and debating club in its early years to an undergraduate honor society in the 19th century, PBK is known as the oldest academic honor society in the country.

Under the national Phi Beta Kappa mission to foster and recognize excellence in the liberal arts and sciences, election to Alpha Iota of Massachusetts signifies that an undergraduate has demonstrated excellence, reach, originality, and rigor in his or her course of study. The honor society recognizes those whose course work exemplifies not only high achievement but also breadth of interest, depth of understanding, and intellectual honesty. Twenty-four juniors are elected each spring, 48 seniors each fall, and a further number sufficient to bring the total membership to no more than 10 percent of the graduating class in the final election shortly before Commencement.

This group will be inducted at a formal ceremony on campus on Dec. 6.

Adams House: **David Fernandez-**

**Barkan, Benjamin Lerner, Alexander Sherbany**

Cabot House: **Johnny Hu, Dayan Li, Charles Liu, Timothy Maher, Andrea Spector**

Currier House: **Richard Kwant, Jessica Yuan**

Dunster House: **Samuel Barr, Tess Hellgren, Cameron Kirk-Giannini, Jacob McNulty, John Stokes**

Eliot House: **Eric Dong, Joseph Jampel, Kevin Liu, Alexandra Lu, Ezekiel Nadler, Nicolas Roth, Emily Shire**

Kirkland House: **Jennifer Kurdyla, Basima Tewfik, Emily Wilkinson, Baltazar Zavala**

Leverett House: **Sarah Hallett, Elizabeth Pezza, Daphne Xiao, Di-  
anne Xiao, Taylor Yi**

Lowell House: **Keru Cai, Courtney Fiske, Akeel Rangwala, Jonathan Warsh**

Mather House: **Peter Bernard, Jessica Newman, Tannis Thorlakson, William Weingarten**

Pforzheimer House: **David Gootenberg, Catherine Ntube**

Quincy House: **Zachary Frankel, Alexander McNaughton, Shervin Tabrizi**

Winthrop House: **Grace Baumgartner, Daniel Lage, Kwee Boon Seah, Nihar Shah**

#### BOOK AWARD NAMED IN MIDDLE EAST SCHOLAR'S HONOR

At its annual meeting Nov. 18-21, the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) announced a new book award named for Professor **Roger Owen** of Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES). The Roger Owen Book Award will recognize work on the economics, economic history, or political economy of the Middle East and North Africa in the modern period, and will be awarded biennially to a single recipient.

In the announcement of the award, MESA stated, "The purpose of the award is to honor the work of

Roger Owen, A.J. Meyer Professor of Middle East History at Harvard University, and to encourage new scholarship incorporating economics and economic factors."

To read the full story, visit <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/node/2268>.

#### HARVARD PROF WINS PRIZE FOR CRIMINOLOGY STUDY

The 2011 Stockholm Prize in Criminology has been jointly awarded to John Laub of the National Institute of Justice and Harvard's Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences **Robert Sampson** for their research showing why and how criminals stop offending.

The authors of the longest life-course study of criminal behavior ever conducted, Laub and Sampson discovered that even very active criminals can stop committing crimes for good after key turning points in their lives. In their sample of 500 male offenders born in the 1920s, these turning points included marriage, military service, employment, and other ways of cutting off their social ties to their offending peer group.

These findings, reported in their books "Crime in the Making: Pathways and Turning Points Through Life" and "Shared Beginnings, Divergent Lives: Delinquent Boys to Age 70," as well as in numerous articles, have had broad influence in criminology worldwide. They have also influenced the policy debate about criminal justice and sentencing policy, especially concerning the potential for rehabilitation. Their work has influenced other scholars to search for means by which offenders can be assisted to break their links to other offenders, such as by moving to new communities.

Laub and Sampson will receive the prize on June 14 in a ceremony at Stockholm City Hall. The award is presented in conjunction with the Stockholm Criminology Symposium.

— Compiled by Sarah Sweeney

## OBITUARIES

### Charles Christenson, 80

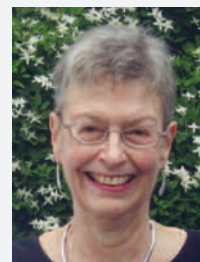


Charles J. "Chuck" Christenson, a specialist in managerial accounting and control, died of natural causes at his Cambridge, Mass., home at the age of 80. At the time of his death, he was the Royal Little Professor of Business Administration Emeritus at Harvard Business School (HBS).

A member of the active HBS faculty for almost 40 years, Christenson had a distinguished career as an innovator, teacher, and scholar.

To read the full obituary, visit [www.hbs.edu/news/releases/charleschristenson.html](http://www.hbs.edu/news/releases/charleschristenson.html).

### Jocelyn Spragg, 70



Jocelyn Spragg, who joined the Harvard Medical School (HMS) faculty in 1972, was the faculty director of diversity programs and special academic resources in the division of medical sciences at HMS, as well as a research scientist, educator, mentor, and tireless promoter of

educational opportunities for underrepresented students, died Nov. 2 at her home in Jamaica Plain, Mass. She was 70.

To read the full obituary, visit <http://hvd.gs/66569>.

### Brian Marsden, 73



Brian Marsden passed away on Nov. 18 after a prolonged illness at the age of 73. He was a supervisory astronomer at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. To read the full obituary, visit [www.cfa.harvard.edu/news/2010/pr201025.html](http://www.cfa.harvard.edu/news/2010/pr201025.html).

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

### Service set for John Huchra

A memorial service for John Peter Huchra, the Robert O. & Holly Thomis Doyle Professor of Cosmology, will be held at 3 p.m. Dec. 3 in room 104 of Hilles Center, 59 Shepard St. in Cambridge. Huchra died on Oct. 8.

A reception will follow at 4:30 p.m. in Phillips Auditorium at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, 60 Garden St. For those unable to attend, a webcast of the memorial is being arranged.

To read the full obit, visit <http://hvd.gs/62863>. For more information, call 617.495.1490.

## A green Kennedy School

Efforts to conserve energy are bearing fruit thanks to a student-founded environmental coalition that works with staff and faculty.

By Krysten Keches | Harvard Correspondent

*This is one of a series of occasional stories on the measures that Schools at Harvard are taking to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.*

When Annika Brink, M.P.P. '11, arrived at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) last fall, she saw the need for a coalition of students committed to hands-on environmental action. Brink is now a co-leader of Kennedy School Climate Action (KSCA), a group that she helped to found that works with faculty and staff to institute and promote green initiatives on campus.

During the past year, members of KSCA have hosted a number of events, including a bike day to encourage green commuting (complete with tire pumps and free mechanic services from Eastern Mountain Sports) and a zero waste “Quorum Call,” the weekly social event at HKS, featuring an all-local menu and compostable plates, cups, and flatware.

Last February, KSCA collaborated with Rob Gogan, supervisor of Facilities Maintenance Operations Recycling and Solid Waste Removal, on a student-run waste audit, the first of its kind at HKS.

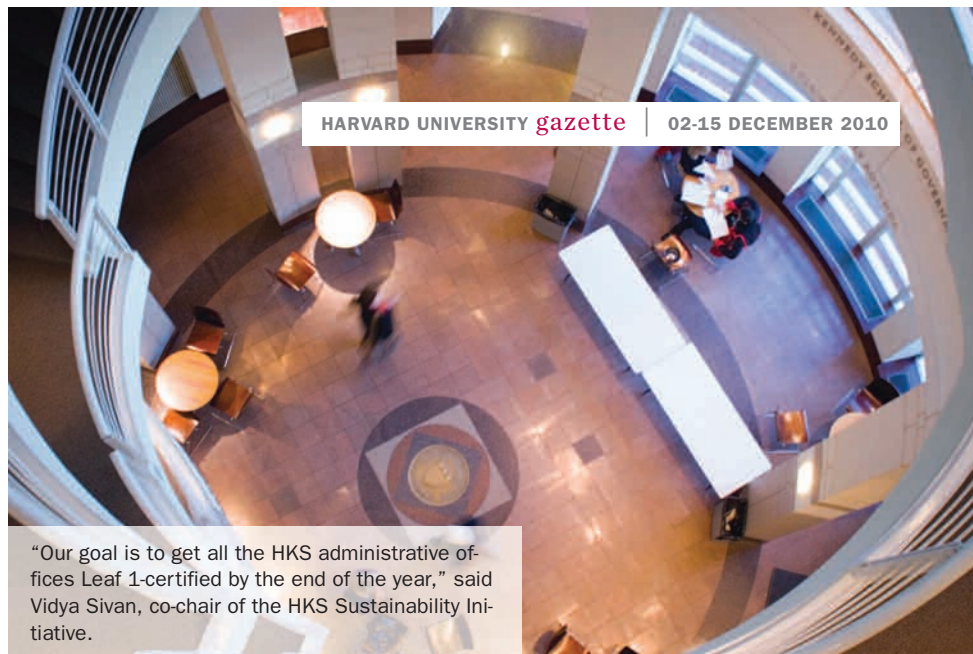
“We dressed up like we were handling biohazardous material, with masks, gloves, caps, and surgical gowns, and we sorted through garbage,” said Brink. “We pulled out things that could have been recycled, reused, or composted, and from that we came up with a breakdown of how well HKS was doing with recycling.”

Overall, they found that 40 percent of the 130 pounds of trash they sorted could have been reused or recycled. An additional 25 percent of the trash — including paper towels, fruit peels, tea bags, and even a bouquet of roses — could have been composted. They attribute some of the confusion about recyclables to the recent switch from multiple-stream to single-stream recycling. In response, KSCA is working



Members of Harvard Kennedy School staff Sidney Besse (from left), Neal Doyle, and Vidya Sivan show examples of items offered at one of the School's freecycle events. “Instead of throwing away the things you don't need ... you can give them away. It's a good way to prevent waste,” said Sivan.

Photos: (above) by Jon Chase, (upper right) by Justin Ide | Harvard Staff Photographers



“Our goal is to get all the HKS administrative offices Leaf 1-certified by the end of the year,” said Vidya Sivan, co-chair of the HKS Sustainability Initiative.

with HKS Facilities Management and the staff-led Sustainability Initiative (HKSSI, formerly known as the HKS Green Team) to improve the recycling system and develop additional recycling education.

“We are working on instituting a program of clearer signage,” explained Jeffrey Martin, director of the Office of Facilities Management at HKS. “We purchased new recycling canisters this summer, and we plan to have display tables during peak times in the café that explain what is and isn't recyclable.”

KSCA plans to track the School's progress by conducting another waste audit this year. All HKS buildings have gone through ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers) level 2 energy audits. This summer, Facilities Management implemented a number of recommended conservation measures, including insulating the roof of the Belfer building and installing film on all windows of the south-facing side of the Littauer building, to reduce heat impact. In 2008, the University set a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 30 percent by 2016 (from 2006 levels, including growth). To date, Martin estimates that HKS has achieved 16 percent of its 30 percent reduction goal.

Cooperation between student and staff groups is an essential part of greening efforts at HKS. Last December, the student government created a green representative. Graham VanderZanden, M.P.P. '11, an active member of KSCA, was appointed the first representative.

“The job of the green representative is to advocate for environmental issues on campus and to be knowledgeable about different initiatives,” he said. “It's important to connect organizations like KSCA to HKSSI, and to connect those groups with important administrative departments, like Facilities.”

KSCA, HKSSI, and HKS Facilities Management worked together to institute composting in kitchen and catering operations, and also helped five administrative offices achieve Leaf 1 certification through the Office for Sustainability's Green Office Program. Using a series of four checklists, offices can progressively institute green measures that cut energy use and reduce waste, such as encouraging use of reusable mugs, purchasing materials made with recycled content, and implementing energy-saving power management settings for computers and other electronics.

“Our goal is to get all the HKS administrative offices Leaf 1-certified by the end of the year,” said Vidya Sivan, communications coordinator and co-chair of HKSSI. “We will also continue to host ‘freecycles.’ Instead of throwing away the things you don't need, like unwanted office supplies, you can give them away. It's a good way to prevent waste.”

Students and staff also collaborated on the installation of more than 200 smart power strips in HKS offices at 124 Mt. Auburn St. (University Place) last spring. This year they plan to finish the project and hope to begin installing energy-saving strips on the main campus.

Though most major School events are zero waste (including the holiday party and student and staff picnics), members of KSCA hope to write a zero waste plan for all of HKS.

“Our general philosophy is that it should be really easy to be green, and it should also be fun,” said Brink. “Encouraging people to be green should never be a case of nagging. It should be a changing of norms. Let's ask, ‘Can we make the Kennedy School zero waste? And how soon could we make that happen?’”





Photo by Andrew Hammer

Meghan McGeary in “The Blue Flower,” at the A.R.T. through Jan. 8.

## DEC. 2

### 9th Boston Latino International Film Festival: Opening Film.

David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, 1730 Cambridge St., 7:15 p.m. Four days of films, receptions, and special events, at the DRCLAS and other locations. More than 40 films from more than 15 countries will be featured and 10 directors will be attending. All Spanish-language films will be subtitled in English. 617.599.4120, jbar-riga@bliff.org, www.bliff.org.

## DEC. 4

### Special Nature Storytime: Reading of “Skywoman,” an Iroquois Story.

Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., 2-3 p.m. With Harvard undergraduate Annabel Beichman. Learn about the animals represented in the story through hands-on activities and gallery connections. Recommended for

elementary school age children. Free with museum admission; free to current Harvard ID holders & one guest. 617.495.3045, hmnh.harvard.edu/family\_programs/index.php.

## DEC. 6

### Creative Ceilings: How We Use Errors, Failure and Physical Limitations as Catalysts for Culinary Innovation.

Science Center D, 7-9 p.m. David Chang, chef at momofuku. Sponsored by Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Free. First-come, first-seated. candujar@seas.harvard.edu, seas.harvard.edu/cooking.

## DEC. 9-12

### Ceramics Program Holiday Show and Sale.

219 Western Ave., Allston. Work by more than 60 potters and sculptors on view. Opening reception Dec. 9, 3-8 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Presented by Ceramics Program, Office for the Arts. ceramics@fas.harvard.edu, ofa.fas.harvard.edu/ceramics/show.php.

## DEC. 14

### Organ Dedication Concert.

Appleton Chapel, the Memorial Church, 8 p.m. Professor Thomas Murray of Yale University will give the dedication recital of the newly installed and restored Skinner organ, Op. 793, in Appleton Chapel. Tickets will be available at the door. 617.495.5508, memorialchurch.harvard.edu/index.php.

## DEC. 15

### Ambient Reel Time: Recordings of the Black Mountain School.

Room 330, Lamont Library, Harvard Yard, 3 p.m. Featuring formative members and outliers of the Black Mountain School, including Robert Creeley, Robert Duncan, Denise Levertov, and Charles Olson. Free and open to the public. hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/houghton/collections/poetry\_room.html.

## DEC. 16

### Asylum: Inside the Closed World of State Mental Hospitals.

Minot Room, Countway Library, Harvard Medical School, 10 Shattuck Street, Boston, 4-5:30 p.m. Chris Payne. Part of the Colloquium on the History of Psychiatry and Medicine series. Free. david\_satin@hms.harvard.edu.

## THROUGH JAN. 8

### The Blue Flower.

Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., 7:30 p.m., with additional matinees. Ride the twisted rails of history from Belle Epoque Paris to the WWI battlefields in this musical play about four lovers and friends finding their way through a world in pieces. Tickets begin at \$25; student rush \$15; senior citizens \$10 off; group rates available. 617.547.8300, americanrepertorytheater.org/events/show/blue-flower.

## THROUGH MAY 14

### Brush and Ink Reconsidered: Contemporary Chinese Landscapes.

Arts of Asia galleries, floor 2, Sackler Museum. This installation offers highlights from the Harvard Art Museums’ growing collection of recent Chinese ink paintings, which invite us to examine the meaning of “contemporary” in non-Western contexts. harvardartmuseums.org/exhibitions/#temporary, harvardartmuseums.org/visit/.

# Calendar

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECEMBER 2010

su	m	tu	w	th	f	s
december			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	27	28	29	30	31	

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

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.



ABOVE: Luo Jianwu, “Dragon Cypress,” Chinese, 2005–9, framed wall scroll, ink and color on paper  
Photo by Katya Kallsen © President and Fellows of Harvard College





## A look inside: Kirkland House

### A Farrelly funny evening

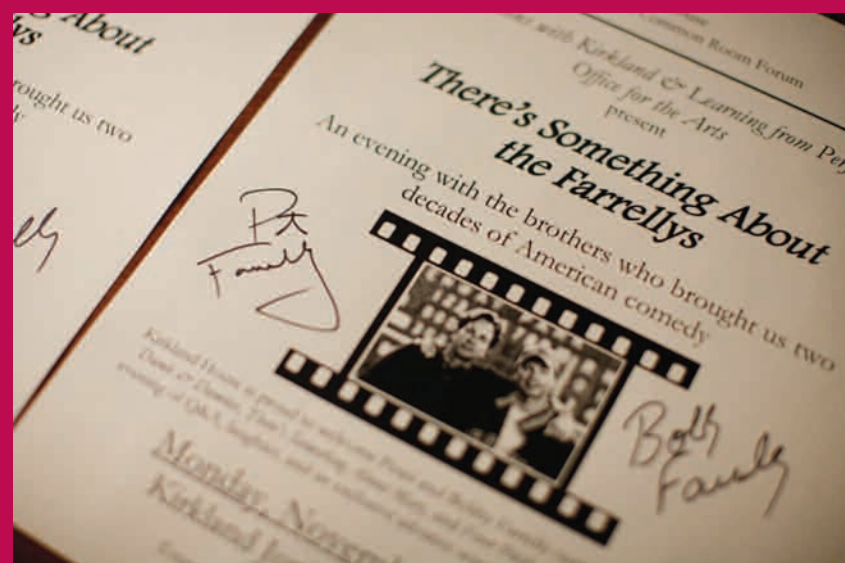
Within the dark-paneled Junior Common Room of Kirkland House, comedic duo Peter and Bobby Farrelly, the masterminds behind the teenage hilarity in the films “Dumb and Dumber” and “There’s Something About Mary,” entertained a crowd recently as part of the popular series “Conversations with Kirkland.”

The series, started by Kirkland resident scholar Peter Emerson in 2002 and co-sponsored by the Office for the Arts, featured the New Englanders from Cumberland, R.I., who were introduced as the “renaissance men of

comedy” by program coordinator Iris Lee ’12.

The brothers, a year and a half apart in age, rapidly fell into a natural, humorous banter, a trait they have shared since childhood. They recounted a short history of their failures locally and a move to Hollywood, and they chalked up much of their success in Tinseltown to their sibling bond.

Peter explained that having a brother with you to “fend off the studio” gives them a huge advantage. Having “a brother who is your partner,” he said, “who you also know has your best interests — he’s never going to hurt you — it’s a great thing.”



Photos and text by Justin Ide | Harvard Staff Photographer

Online ►► View photo gallery: [hvd.gs/67617](http://hvd.gs/67617)