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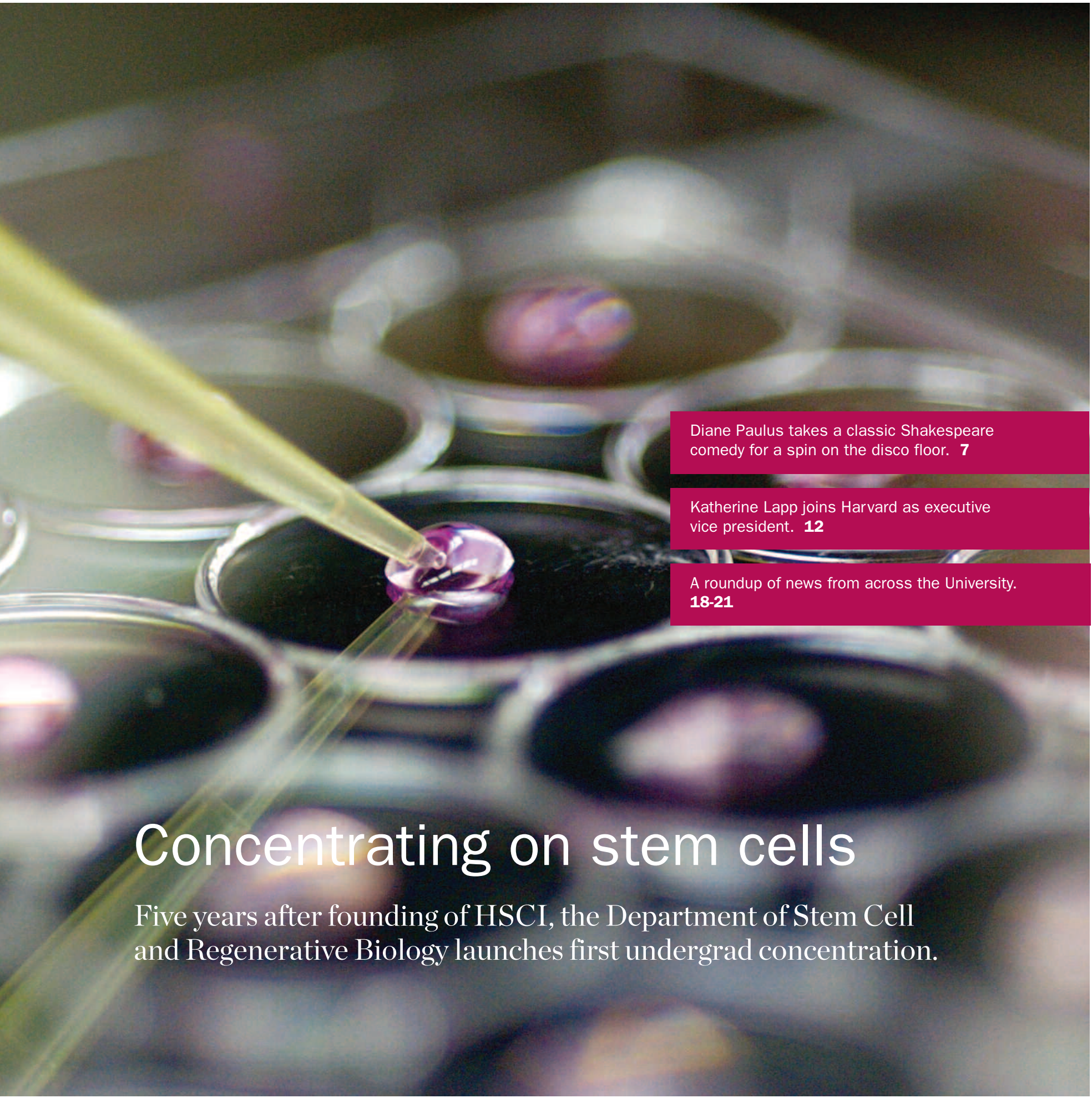

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Concentrating on stem cells

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Online Highlights

FELLOWS UNITE
The Berkman Center and the Center for Research in Computation and Society (CRCS) have joined their fellowship programs for the 2009-10 academic year. ⏩http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2009/09/berkman-fellowship-programs/

HARVARD COVERS OIL DURING WORKSHOP WITH SCHOOL TEACHERS
Elementary and high school teachers from around the Northeast attend a weeklong Harvard workshop on oil and related economic, political, and environmental issues. ⏩http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2009/09/oil-workshop/

UNIVERSITY FINE-TUNES H1N1 PLAN
University officials, building on lessons learned after a cluster of H1N1 cases was identified at the Dental School last spring, are fine-tuning plans to respond to any "swine flu" cases that appear on campus this fall. ⏩http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2009/08/response-plan-for-h1n1/

DASH PROVIDES OPEN ACCESS
Harvard took a DASH toward opening access to its scholarship. DASH — Digital Access to Scholarship — is an open-access repository of scholarly works administered by the University Library. ⏩http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2009/08/harvards-dash/

BUILDING A STELLAR TIME MACHINE
Harvard researchers are building a celestial time machine that lets astronomers look back at hundreds of thousands of objects in the Earth's skies over the past century. ⏩http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2009/07/time-machine/

SHELLY LOWE BRINGS HER LIFE EXPERIENCE TO HARVARD'S NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAM
As the new executive director of the Harvard University Native American Program, Shelly Lowe plans to help Native American students utilize the resources that are available to them through the University. ⏩http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2009/09/helping-others-thrive/

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

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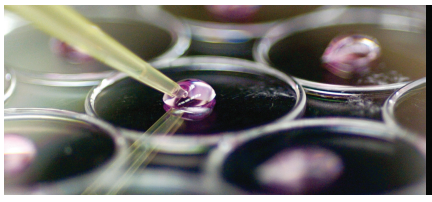

HARVARD gazette RE-INVENTED

What did you do over *your* summer break? As we promised last June, we in the Harvard Public Affairs and Communications office spent a good chunk of ours re-inventing the Harvard Gazette.

First, under the guidance of Digital Communications Director Perry Hewitt, we created a robust online Gazette that will serve as our primary vehicle for daily news and announcements about Harvard. Highlights from our online coverage are featured on the facing page, and references to more online material are sprinkled throughout the pages that follow.

We consider the online Gazette Harvard's official "paper of record," and with the addition of a searchable calendar we expect that it will increase the Gazette's utility as a resource that helps bind the campus community together.

The new print Gazette that you are holding will be published every two weeks during the academic year. The print edition will feature an in-depth cover story and new features focusing on scholarship, campus life, and the faculty and staff that make our University unique.

We expect this transition to continue through the coming semester, and as we try out new ideas we welcome your observations about what's working well and what could be working better. As we move ahead, we hope that you will be as excited about the evolution of the Gazette as we are. Please send us your comments and feedback at harvard_gazette@harvard.edu.

Christine Heenan Vice President of Harvard Public Affairs and Communications

Kevin Galvin Director of News and Media Relations

Terry Murphy Managing Editor

ONLINE & IN PRINT

Enhanced Coverage
- science & health
- arts & culture
- national & world affairs
- campus & community

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- around the schools
- on the job (and off)
- student column
- newsmakers & briefs
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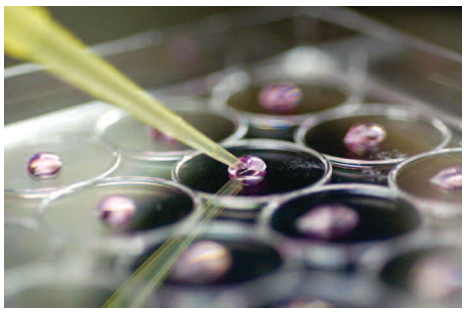
COVER STORY

Collaboration yields breakthroughs

New concentration is the latest example of the University's commitment to and pre-eminence in the promising field of stem cell research.



By Alvin Powell | Harvard News Office

Harvard College sophomore Alison Kraemer knows what it feels like to have a spinal injury.

For six years, Kraemer has been in pain every day, the result of herniated discs suffered in a fall during dance practice. In the years since, she's not only lived with the pain, she's endured doctors who were not always sympathetic and come to understand that even with today's advanced technology, much remains unknown in treating spinal injuries.

Kraemer would like to change all that. This summer, she is interning in the laboratory of Assistant Professor Paola Arlotta, a principal faculty member of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute (HSCI) and researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital, working on the differentiation of corticospinal motor neurons. This fall, Kraemer plans to join a small group of sophomores who will be the first to undertake a newly available concentration: human development and regenerative biology (HDRB).

"If I could do something to help [people suffering spinal injuries], I would," Kraemer said. "There's still not much known about how to treat the spinal cord. I'd like to work on that and unfold those mysteries."

The new concentration being offered by the Department of Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology is the latest example of the University's commitment to and pre-eminence in the promising new field of stem cell research.

Launched two years ago, the SCRB is the University's first interschool department, with faculty from both the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Harvard Medical School, it has close ties to the Harvard Stem Cell Institute (HSCI) and is chaired by HSCI's co-directors Douglas Melton, the Thomas Dudley Cabot Professor of the Natural Sciences, and David Scadden, Gerald and Darlene Jordan Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Harvard-affiliated Massachusetts General Hospital.

The institute, which marks its fifth anniversary this year, has seen years of rapid growth during which it provided a counterbalance to the Bush administration's restrictions on federal funding of stem cell research. HSCI was founded as one of several interfaculty initiatives with the goal of unifying stem cell-related research being conducted at Harvard's Schools and affiliated hospitals.

The institute, which describes itself as a "scientific collaborative aimed at fulfilling the promise of stem cells," set itself broad goals of not just fostering research into the science of stem cells, but also examining ethical concerns, regulatory issues and student education, and fostering junior researchers' work. Where research is concerned, the institute has placed a heavy emphasis not just on conducting laboratory work, but also on making advances that will lead to treatments for patients suffering any of a number of degenerative diseases.

"So many people had an interest in stem cell research and so few of us were talking," Scadden said of HSCI's founding. "We saw a tremendous need to create new relationships to take advantage of the community. Driven by the urgency of getting therapies to patients, we thought good things could happen when we combined the academic and clinical communities."

Researchers outside of Harvard said the institute provided key leadership driven by the clustering of high-profile researchers in Boston and the steady drumbeat of advances their work produced.

"The Harvard stem cell community benefits from the leadership of an extraordinary team of senior scientists, including Doug Melton, David Scadden, Leonard Zon, George Daley, and Stuart Orkin," said Sean Morrison, director of the University of Michigan Center for Stem Cell Biology and Henry Sewell Professor of Medicine. "Most of the best stem cell programs in the country have one senior scientist who is a leader in the field — Harvard has several. HSCI has also demonstrated the ability to recruit or retain many of the best junior people in the field. Thus Harvard will continue to lead in this area for years to come."

Alan Trounson, president of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), said American stem cell researchers were demoralized by the Bush ban, but the support provided by HSCI and the passing of California's Proposition 71, which established CIRM with $3 billion in public funding, kept the field energized.

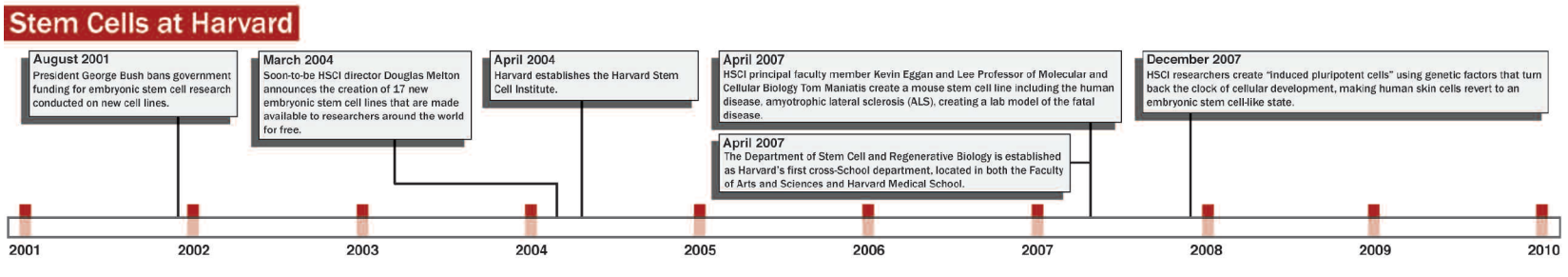
"There was a demoralized community, essentially ... without that I think the whole area would have succumbed to a very moderate level. It would have backed down," Trounson said.

The leadership of Boston area researchers was felt not just across the country, but internationally, Trounson said, as it was the core leadership of what he termed the "Boston Mafia" that established the International Society for Stem Cell Research, which held its seventh annual meeting this year in Spain.

"The vision of some of the people, like Len Zon and Doug Melton and the group there, was really quite astonishing," Trounson said. "You had a great group of scientists there, with [MIT Professor Rudolf] Jaenisch close by, that really powered up that society and powered up the opportunity through the science."

Inside HSCI, Melton said that the biggest scientific advances come with the confluence of the right leaders and the right questions being asked at the right time. HSCI, he said, has worked to create a collaborative culture that offers young researchers the opportunity to be part of something different from an individual lab setting.

"The people, ideas, and technology have to come together at the right time," Melton said. "We created a culture that says to young people that there is an alternative career path in science. Be part of some-



Sophomore Alison Kraemer will be one of the first to undertake a newly available concentration: human development and regenerative biology.

thing bigger. We set a high bar of curing disease."

At the time of the institute's founding, stem cell research was seen as promising because stem cells can develop into differentiated tissue cells, such as muscle, blood, and bone. By first understanding and then harnessing the cells' power, researchers believed they could one day use a person's own cells to grow replacement tissue to treat diseases such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Parkinson's disease, diabetes, heart disease, and cancer.

Research in the field has developed rapidly since HSCI's founding, with several advances being made by HSCI scientists, including creation of a laboratory model of ALS tissue; the creation of 20 disease-specific cell lines that will allow researchers to better study those diseases in the lab; the direct reprogramming of one type of pancreatic cell in laboratory mice into insulin-producing beta cells destroyed by the body in diabetes; and the replacement of two genetic factors used in creating induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells — a new type of stem cell first created in 2007 — by chemicals, a step on the way to replacing potentially dangerous genes with drugs.

Just this summer, HSCI principal faculty member Kenneth Chien, the Charles Addison and Elizabeth Ann Sanders Professor of Basic Science at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital, identified a cardiac master stem cell that gives rise to a family of cells that form essential parts of the human heart.

Though generating replacement tissues is one way to aid in curing disease, HSCI researchers' work creating laboratory models of diseased tissue can also lead to important advances in understanding disease biology and in exploring potential new drugs.

In addition to the conduct of research itself, the institute has supported both research and education. It has created core scientific facilities that affiliated researchers can use in their work and provided millions of dollars in seed grants to foster high-risk/high-reward research in its early phases. The institute's education programs have hosted summer interns each year since 2005. It has hosted eight forums aimed at educating the public and offering a place for discussion, and it has created an online stem cell textbook featuring the latest research in stem cell biology.

HSCI Co-Director Scadden said that in addition to the tangible achievements over the past five years, it is important to recognize that the institute has created a collaborative model of science that didn't previously exist at Harvard, where tradition kept researchers largely within their departmental bounds.

"We have actually created a culture of science that we didn't grow up with. It's one of our greatest accomplishments," Scadden said.

By the end of the fall semester, undergraduates will become part of the community that has grown up around stem cell research by declaring for the human development and regenerative biology concentration for the first time.

William Anderson, the department's undergraduate curriculum development manager, said it is unclear how many students the concentration will attract this fall, given it has received considerable interest among undergraduates he has met. Over the next few years, as students progress through the course of study, Anderson anticipates the concentration to have as many as 150 sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

The concentration, announced in March, joins eight others already offered in the life sciences: chemical and physical biology, chemistry, human evolutionary biology, molecular and cellular biology, neurobiology, organismic and evolutionary biology, a biological anthropology track in the Anthropology Department, and a social and cognitive neuroscience track in the Psychology Department.

Through 13 required courses, concentrators will learn how the body develops, ages, and repairs itself. Though stem cells are an important part of this process, Anderson said it's too limiting to think of HDRB as the "stem cell concentration." Although stem cells were first identified in the 1960s, developmental biology goes back to Aristotle, Anderson said.

The concentration, which includes two laboratory courses and an independent research project that typically should be done in a student's junior year, will prepare students for fields in which a knowledge of biology generally, and human biology specifically, would be useful.

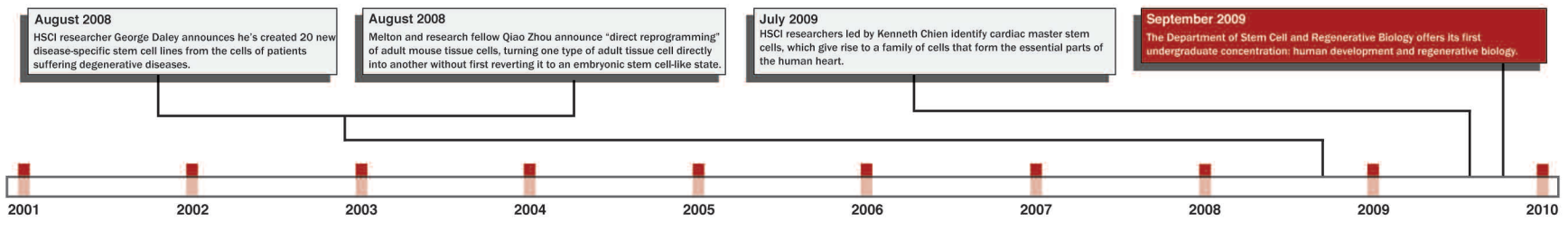
Anderson said students will benefit from the fact that the department's faculty come from both FAS and the Medical School. One advantage of having Medical School faculty as instructors, he said, is that they can lend a clinical perspective to subjects. He cited a course taught by George Daley, associate professor of biological chemistry and molecular pharmacology and of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and Harvard-affiliated Children's Hospital. The class, in human disease and its relevance to mammalian biology, allows Daley to talk about biology generally but also talk about its clinical applications, Anderson said.

"It gives an added perspective not traditionally encompassed by courses at the College in years past," Anderson said.

STEM CELL BASICS

Stem cells in the body are found in two forms. Adult stem cells are precursor cells for specific tissue types, such as muscle, skin, and blood. Embryonic stem cells, present in the developing embryo, are pluripotent, meaning they can become any cell in the body.

A third kind of stem cell, called an induced pluripotent stem cell (iPS), was first created in November 2007 by researchers in Japan and at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, by reprogramming adult tissue cells back to an embryonic stem cell-like state. These iPS cells are also pluripotent and can become any cell in the body, though the methods used to create them currently make them inappropriate for cell replacement therapies.



Photos: opposite and above by Justin Ide | Harvard News Office

Graphic by Gervis A. Menzies Jr. | Harvard News Office

Director Chia Shen's base of operations is the Scientists Discovery Room Lab, which is home to a display wall and two Microsoft "Surface" tables. The Surfaces are driven by ordinary personal computers equipped with heavy-duty graphics cards.

Humans and computers connect in Discovery Room

Chia Shen at the Scientists Discovery Room Lab is devising new ways for researchers to visually explore large data sets.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard News Office

Chia Shen is thinking about you ... and your computer.

Shen, director of the Scientists Discovery Room Lab at the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), is helping develop a new angle to Harvard's computer science research.

Together with Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Computer Science Hanspeter Pfister, Shen for the past year has been devising new ways for people — whether researchers or the general public — to interact with and explore the enormous data sets that are increasingly being created and made available on computers.

"Human-computer interaction and visual computing, scientific visualization, and information visualization have not been part of the focus at SEAS," Shen said. "I'm always focused on how people can collaborate, how they can interact [with their data]."

Shen came to Harvard from Mitsubishi Electric Research Labs in Cambridge, where she helped develop early tabletop user interfaces and applications since 1999. In the applications, several users can interact with data on tables that incorporate computers, sensors, and graphics into their design.

Shen was recruited when the Harvard Initiative in Innovative Computing (IIC) began to explore visual computing.

"Interaction is a big ingredient of visualization. You're not just looking at information, you're interacting with it," Shen said. "We've been working on some applications with respect to science, applications for education, for communicating science to the public. Hopefully, we're building up ideas that scientists can use in spaces like this to do discovery."

Shen's base of operations is the Scientists Discovery Room (SDR) Lab, located in Maxwell-Dworkin. The room is home to a display wall and two Microsoft "Surface" tables, the latest generation of the collaborative tabletop computing that Shen has worked on for years. The Surfaces are driven by ordinary personal computers equipped with heavy-duty graphics cards. Input from the users — in this case, the movements their hands make on the tabletop — are recorded with several cameras positioned under the tabletop. The users' hand movements are fed to the computer, whose software projects a responsive image onto the tabletop from below.

"The Discovery Room is more about interaction, about interfaces, and not about processing large amounts of data," Pfister said. "We want to really help the scientists use that technology."

Shen said the work, while experimental, is also meant to be practical. One of the lab's major projects is called INVOLV. It was started in June 2008 by Shen and Michael Horn, who recently joined the faculty at Northwestern University and who was then a fellow in Shen's lab. INVOLV allows users to visualize large sets of hierarchical data — data arranged in ascending or descending order, such as family trees — and interact with it. Shen showed a recent visitor to the lab two ways INVOLV is being applied, both to be employed in education. One combines the enormous amounts of information in the Encyclopedia of Life project, which is an online catalog of all the known life on Earth, with the Tree of Life, which presents evolutionary relationships of different creatures and organisms into a single, searchable, visual database.

A second related INVOLV effort is already ready for prime time. Called IMA, for Interactive Multi-touch Arthropod, the project has focused in on the world's arthropods and, using a Microsoft Surface, allows visitors to the Harvard Museum of Natural History another way to explore the museum's arthropods exhibit. By touching the tabletop and expanding polygons labeled with names of families and species, users can explore the world's arthropods, zeroing in to a specific species and finding images, video, and data on them.

Another major new project is the Connectome Touch, a collaboration with the IIC's Connectome, an ambitious effort led by Pfister, Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Jeff Lichtman, and Professor of Neurobiology at Harvard Medical School Clay Reid. The Connectome aims to completely map the nervous systems of specific organisms. The major hurdle for the Connectome is the enormous amount of data researchers need to analyze and process. Connectome researchers are imaging extremely thin slices of brain tissue at ultrahigh resolution. The resulting images make up enormous data files that have to be manipulated as researchers manually trace and track nerve cells from one slice to another.

The Connectome Touch, which also utilizes a Microsoft Surface, aims to allow researchers to search an image, mark it, and track it from slice to slice.

"One of the challenges when trying to annotate data is you have a large set of images that essentially look very similar," said Meekal Bajaj, a graduate student from the Georgia Institute of Technology working with Shen on the project. "You want to be able to do a lot of different operations simultaneously: navigate through the image set, go from one slice to the other, ... mark it, zoom in and out, and pan, all while maintaining an understanding of where you are in the slice stack so you know exactly what you're looking at. Doing this with traditional interfaces is really limiting."

Though the equipment used in the Discovery Room is relatively new and still expensive, Shen said she expects the prices to soon come down, enabling individual researchers whose work would benefit from the ability to explore data in nontraditional ways to purchase them.

"The ultimate goal is to be able to evaluate the new visualization and human-computer interaction techniques that we invent and, ultimately, offer more ... principles as guidelines for future design of human-computer interaction systems," Shen said.

Photo by Jon Chase | Harvard News Office

A.R.T. channels an earthy Shakespeare

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard News Office

During a pre-show technical rehearsal, director Diane Paulus '88 (top) uses a mic to oversee the action. Actors Erin McShane (from left), Rebecca Whitehurst A.R.T. '10, and Lucille Duncan, an original cast member from the New York City run, get direction during a rehearsal.

Harvard's new American Repertory Theater director Diane Paulus '88 takes a classic Shakespeare comedy for a spin on the disco floor with 'The Donkey Show.'

In 1613, London's Globe Theatre — a venue open to royal and peasant alike — burned to the ground. No one was hurt. When one man's pants spouted flames, they were quickly doused with a mug of ale.

As a writer of comedies at least, Shakespeare would have liked that plot: After much confusion, nobody gets hurt, and a dose of ale does a lot of good.

The Bard would have liked "The Donkey Show," too, which kicks off a new season for the Harvard-affiliated American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.), said Diane Paulus '88.

She's the show's director, as well as the A.R.T's new director. Paulus is also the creator of the troupe's new satellite venue at 2 Arrow St.: Oberon, a nightclublike space where "The Donkey Show" unfolds like a play within a party.

The high, dark cubical space replicates the spirit of the old Globe, Paulus said, mixing patrician and plebian, and avoiding the old paradigm of watching theater from chairs bolted to the floor. (Before, during, and after "The Donkey Show," patrons are free to dance, drink at the bar, and mingle with the actors.)

Paulus and her producer husband Randy Weiner first put this disco-era retelling of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" together in 1999. It ran for six years in New York City and after that on stages all over the world. Like the Shakespeare play, "The Donkey Show" intermingles gods, fairies, peasants, and nobility. And of course — as in Shakespeare and in disco alike — love reigns and love deceives.

"I'm boldly taking a new approach," said Paulus of the season opener, which invites the audience into the action to the throb of '70s music lit by spangling light from a disco globe overhead. "It's not just a play on the stage."

The show at Oberon, 50 minutes long, is the first in a "festival" of three shows called "Shakespeare Exploded." (The next will filter "Macbeth" through Hitchcock-like mysteries; a third will retell "A Winter's Tale" through R&B music.)

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" is an extravaganza of language. Its characters alone have names that both roll off the tongue and amuse: Puck, Bottom, Snug, and Snout.

But the same names (and Shakespeare's plot) also hint at the sexual overtones that often underlay these 400-year-old plays — a bawdiness that "can sometimes get pushed aside" on stage, said Paulus. "Shakespeare would appreciate the kind of sexuality that a club environment naturally unleashes on a story."

Yes: "The Donkey Show" is a thing of sweat, glitter, and barely clad bodies — an adult party with a play

(see Paulus next page)

Paulus (from left) pores over the script with colleagues Julia Renaud '09 and Evan Morris '12.

Paulus

(continued from previous page)

running through it. The disco setting also gives fuller expression to one Shakespeare plot twist: Addled by the love potion, Titania awakens to fall in love with the first thing she sees — a donkey.

"The Donkey Show" is an exaggerated celebration of heterosexuality, but it is also an exploration of the sexual ambiguity that marks the historical Shakespeare. In Paulus' disco setting, most of the male characters are played by women in mustaches — perfect, she said, for the topsy-turvy, carnival world that her play invites the audience to join.

Online ▸▸ A.R.T.'s new season: www.americanrepertorytheater.org/

Here Paulus channels Shakespeare again, a man who was at heart more than a writer, she said. "He was a theater man. What did he care about? Audience."

Paulus is convinced that the A.R.T. audience will like "Shakespeare Exploded" and the two other festivals that follow it this season — for the rules they break and the boundaries they stretch. "They are quite an adventurous audience," she said. "They know A.R.T. stands for not very typical theater."

Paulus is also sure that "The Donkey Show" and plays like it will bring in nontraditional audiences. For one, she said, "the theater needs young people" so they can experience the relevance and power the arts can have in their lives.

"The Donkey Show" ends on a Shakespearean comedic note. Jealousy and cruelty and the darker side of love fade away. The world is new — choate, orderly, and just.

Dreamlike, the right lovers wake harmoniously next to each other. That splash of ale has done its work.

Johnson at 300: Celebrating a man of letters whose words still sing and sting

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard News Office

Samuel Johnson's "Dictionary of the English Language" was first published in 1755 as his attempt to both rein in and celebrate the galloping vigor of English. For 150 years, it was considered the preeminent compilation of its kind.

But Johnson — born 300 years ago this coming Sept. 18 — was more than its author. He was England's most famous man of letters, rising from humble origins as the son of a provincial bookseller to become an accomplished poet, literary critic, playwright, essayist, and (not least) conversationalist.

Johnson — in all his fullness, contradiction, erudition, and energy — was remembered, reviewed, and revered late last month (Aug. 27-29) in a Harvard literary celebration.

The three-day event, "Johnson at 300: A Houghton Library Symposium," drew more than a hundred Johnsonians from all over the world. A few were unaffiliated with the academy, including a Boston software designer, a Texas biology student, a retired New York City trial lawyer, and a Florida judge who not long ago was kicking down doors as a prosecutor on police raids.

The symposium was the largest scholarly celebration of Johnson this year in the United States, said organizer Thomas Horrocks, Houghton's associate librarian for collections. He called the author "this good and great man."

The gathering came with a bonus: "A Monument More Durable than Brass," a Houghton exhibit that samples the library's 15,000-item Donald and Mary Hyde Collection of Dr. Samuel Johnson. Look for Johnson's earliest surviving letter, his earliest diaries (kept in Latin), rare manuscript fragments from the original "Dictionary," and even the great man's silver teapot. The larger collection itself, at Harvard since 2004, "is the greatest gift an archivist could have," said Houghton assistant curator John H. Overholt.

During sessions at Emerson Hall and Lamont Library, presenters drew Johnson through multiple cultural and literary filters: revolution, fledgling America, gender, religion, the book trade, intellectual history, fine arts, and the "circle" (including his biographer and fellow depressive James Boswell).

Understandably, one symposium trope was Johnson and his influence on the art of biography, both as a writer and a subject. His six-volume "Lives of the Most Eminent English Poets," published just a few years before he died, enlivened the genre and recast it as a literary form. And his fame was assured by Boswell's "The Life of Samuel Johnson," itself a landmark of biography.

Understandably also, there were two sessions on Johnson's "Dictionary," which took him nine years to write — though 80 percent of the work went into a feverish last 18 months, according to speaker Anne McDermott. She teaches at the University of Birmingham (U.K.) and has for 20 years been working on a scholarly edition of the 42,000-entry tome.

Online ▸▸ View the exhibit: http://hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/houghton/exhibits/johnson/

McDermott delivered a paper on Johnson's compilation methods that argued, in part, that he wrote the dictionary twice, abandoning the first version after possibly getting as far as "U."

She also noted allusions of guilt in Johnson's essays written concurrently with the dictionary — guilt at not finishing sooner. The same passages also echo his self-confessed admission of the dictionary's imperfections. "The profit is less," one passage reads, "than hope had pictured it."

Also informing the symposium was Johnson's ceaseless and untrammeled commentary on the world around him, including what he considered the grasping barbarity of England's American cousins. He declared, famously, "I am willing to love all mankind, except an American," and once called on slaves and American Indians to rise up against the rebels.

Johnson also disliked imperial expansion, whether by England, France, or by a young America that was seemingly bound to exterminate its native peoples. He hated black slavery too, which was both another bite at upstart Americans and another sign of his moral prescience.

"The wisdom of his scruples about America," said Johnson scholar Thomas M. Curley of Bridgewater (Mass.) State College, "deserves special consideration."

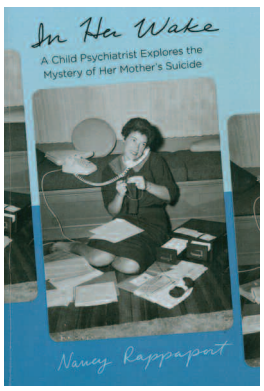
Bucknell University English Professor Greg Clingham reads through the information shared during the three-day Johnson symposium.

Photos: above by Justin Ide, left by Kris Snibbe | Harvard News Office

Child psychiatrist pens her past

In 'In Her Wake,' Nancy Rappaport reveals an extraordinary mother and a devastating suicide.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard News Office



Nancy Rappaport shares the same name as her mother, the same regal chin and hair. They could even be twins. Nancy, the mother, was a glamorous Boston socialite in 1963, a woman who thrived on the taxing juggle of family and career. On the book jacket of "In Her Wake," a bright-eyed Nancy knits amid stacks of paper, a phone held to her ear by a carefully propped shoulder.

This is the portrait of a wife and mother who could manage plans for a complete house renovation while campaigning for the Boston School Committee. Or as Nancy, the author, reveals in her new memoir: the woman who left a detailed grocery list next to her suicide note.

Rappaport was 4 when her mother overdosed on sleeping pills.

She's now a child psychiatrist, director of School Programs at Cambridge Health Alliance, and assistant professor at Harvard Medical School. It's a wonder Rappaport found time to pen a memoir on her family history.

"This was a story that needed to be told," recalls Rappaport, who regularly read aloud chapters to her Harvard freshman seminar. "I wanted to do one good book in my life."

Try great. The 15-year genesis of this extensive work that spans decades and includes a generous cast of characters was no easy feat. But, once the author (who can now add that to her list of professions) began writing, she realized "it was larger than me. It had a momentum to it. It's the most meticulous, painstaking, most important thing I've done."

Rappaport's mother was no stranger to writing. In one of the book's highlights, the author discovers her mother's novel, a roman á clef, in fact, which provides harrowing details into a life cut short.

Agonizing over the hardships of the writer's life, Rappaport's mother wondered if what she was doing mattered at all. Rappaport relates.

"The focus [of the memoir] has to be on healing, not who you can blame," she says.

Healing, after all, is Rappaport's business. Infused in her book is research on suicide, mental health, patient accounts from her treatment of children and adolescents, and insight into her quest to help them. Rappaport employs psychiatry to understand her mother, to understand herself.

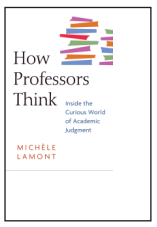
"I discovered my capacity to write by trying to describe my mother," she says. "And it's been such a gift. She gave me a gift from the grave."

Photo by Rose Lincoln | Harvard News Office

Books

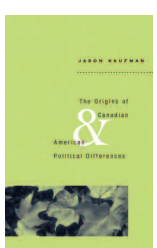
HUMAN DOCUMENTS: EIGHT PHOTOGRAPHERS
(Harvard University Press, October 2009)
Compiled by Robert Gardner

Media maestro Gardner presents this stunning array of photographs, or, "human documents," which explore geography, culture, and our shared humanity through a universal visual language.



HOW PROFESSORS THINK: INSIDE THE CURIOUS WORLD OF ACADEMIC JUDGMENT
(Harvard University Press, March 2009)
By Michèle Lamont

Lamont tells all in this behind-the-scenes work on the mysterious underpinnings of academia. Be in the room when the greatest thinkers meet behind closed doors and talk about how excellent excellence is.



THE ORIGINS OF CANADIAN AND AMERICAN POLITICAL DIFFERENCES
(Harvard University Press, February 2009)
By Jason Kaufman

Guns, government, same-sex marriage — the U.S. and Canada couldn't be more dissimilar. Kaufman explores the history and culture of the two lands and asks why Canada is so close, yet so far away.

After the revolution: Bringing science back to Liberian schools

Harvard chemistry professor and doctoral student share their passion for science.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard News Office

Chemistry students (above) at the University of Liberia perform a lab experiment. The fume hoods in the back of the room were destroyed during the war. A science lab at T.J.R. Faulkner College of Science and Technology of the University of Liberia (upper left) was stripped bare during the war, even down to the desk drawers, which were looted for scrap metal.

Adam Cohen and Ben Rapoport needed materials to conduct a science experiment, but supplies were hard to come by.

Cohen, assistant professor of chemistry and chemical biology and of physics in the Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and Rapoport, an M.D./Ph.D. student at Harvard Medical School and the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, were in the West African nation of Liberia, devastated by two civil wars that stripped its classrooms, leaving teachers and students with few resources beyond the desire to learn.

So Cohen and Rapoport went shopping for limes.

A short time later, after a trip to the open-air market, they had what they needed: limes, metal nails, and copper wire. Soon they were demonstrating how to make a simple battery to Liberian science teachers, daring them to feel the small electrical current on their tongues, and offering a hands-on illustration of scientific principles that across the war-devastated nation are taught mainly through lecture and memorization.

"That's what we want to do, teach relevant science and make it self-sustaining," Rapoport said.

Liberia presents fertile ground for Cohen and Rapoport's efforts. The nation, founded in 1847 by freed American slaves, was torn by two civil wars that began in 1989 and ended in 2003. The wars killed hundreds of thousands, generated tales of beheadings, torture, and other atrocities, and devastated the nation's infrastructure.

Though the fighting has been over for several years, its effects are still apparent.

During their two weeks in Liberia in June, the two scholars were struck by the bare classrooms and stripped labs — even metal drawers were taken for sale as scrap. The years of war had seen schools abandoned, leaving nearly a generation of adults with little education. During the war, soldiers took what they needed, removing metal from buildings not damaged or destroyed in the fighting, killing livestock, and burning rubber trees for charcoal.

"Education is the one thing you can't steal from people," Cohen said. "People are very open to new ideas there and there's a tremendous amount to do."

During the course of their trip, Cohen and Rapoport visited the University of Liberia, the Ministry of Education, several civic groups, and 10 schools, doing some classroom teaching but mainly focusing their efforts on providing science training for the teachers.

The two strove to make their presentations as hands-on and relevant as possible, demonstrating several simple experiments that could be done with local ingredients. For example, they showed faculty and students how to extract DNA from local produce using kitchen utensils as laboratory equipment and easily obtained chemicals, such as soap, salt, and rubbing alcohol, as reagents.

They also added a nutrition module after seeing the distended bellies of children across the countryside, a sign of protein deficiency. Protein-rich foods are available, though they're not typically given to children. Meat, for example, is considered a food for men, Rapoport said, but nuts, beans, and eggs are all available locally and would add protein to a child's diet.

Most schools had little by way of laboratory equipment. What was there was often locked away unused or broken in a way that might be easily fixable, if parts were available. At one school though, the pair came upon a padlocked and unused laboratory, complete with scales, beakers, and microscopes, some of it still bound in packing material. When the two asked to get inside, the headmaster had to send for a key to open the heavy metal doors.

The teachers didn't know how to use the equipment, which was coated in a layer of dust, so Rapoport and Cohen conducted an impromptu lesson on basic laboratory skills, weighing a cell phone and different liquids to spark a discussion of density. It wasn't long before a few students entered, then more, and the lesson eventually drew 30 students into the unused room.

"There was this beautiful lab, all laid out, but it had never been used," Rapoport said.

Wherever they went, the complaints from science teachers were the same: no equipment, teaching that was theoretical and by rote, and a lack of job prospects in scientific fields that keeps student interest low. The two stressed that science learning isn't only important if one wants to be a doctor or scientist. How to gather and analyze information is important in a host of fields.

"For me, part of science education was memorizing

Photos courtesy of Adam Cohen and Ben Rapoport

Ben Rapoport teaches a lesson on quantification to a senior business class at the Booker Washington Institute, a technical high school.

facts, but a big part of it was fostering inventiveness," Cohen said.

Though this year's trip was exploratory, Cohen and Rapoport are already thinking about what to do next. They've begun constructing an online journal, The Liberian Scientist, in an effort they hope will not only provide a showcase for what science is being conducted in the nation, but also help build the scientific community there.

Though computer equipment does exist, much of it is broken or heavily virus-infected, Cohen said. He's thinking of purchasing USB flash drives, loading them with antivirus software, open source software such as Open Office and Wikipedia, and perhaps electronic versions of key texts, such as medical books, and sending them over. He and Rapoport are also talking about returning next summer, spending more time in focused workshops aimed at teachers.

REPAYING A DEBT TO LIBERIA

Cohen and Rapoport trace their Liberia interest back to Hunter College High School in New York City. While there, they met Asumana Randolph, a science teacher originally from Liberia who worked as a technician in the science labs and adviser to the science club. The two learned a lot from Randolph, who stayed connected to his large family in Liberia and who often shipped home needed materials. Randolph founded the I-Help Liberia Project, got the school involved, and brought some high school students back to Liberia with him.

Randolph said it was gratifying to see two former students take up the cause to help Liberia, particularly since he had always preached that, as a scientist, one should not live in a world bounded by a laboratory, but reach out and help people as well.

In this case, Randolph said, Cohen and Rapoport are tackling a task critical to Liberia's future because science underlies all development.

"If you talk about transportation, you're talking about science. If you talk about public health, you're talking about science," Randolph said. "If you want to look at Liberia for the next 10 years to come, you have to look at the science curriculum and teach students how to think for themselves. Development in Liberia cannot happen without a strong science background."

The Kennedy School offers a new course on disaster recovery, largely focusing on New Orleans and work the School has done in the aftermath of Katrina.

Examining disasters from the inside, out

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard News Office

Doug Ahlers talks about his new course at Harvard in medical terms.

"Essentially," he says, "it's the anatomy of a disaster."

Ahlers is a fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the John F. Kennedy School of Government (HKS), and the disaster is Hurricane Katrina, one of the deadliest in United States history.

Packing 125 mph winds, the Category 3 hurricane ripped into the Gulf Coast in August 2005, carving a path of destruction from Florida to Texas. Hardest hit was New Orleans, where levees designed to deal with the surging storm waters failed, leaving large sections of the city submerged.

The images were riveting: people stranded on rooftops waving for rescuers; families lined up, waiting endlessly for buses to take them to drier ground; bodies floating in flooded streets. The government's response to the disaster was sharply criticized, and, four years later, questions are still being raised about what went wrong.

Together with his students, Ahlers is looking for answers.

By exploring all aspects of the event in his course titled "Disaster Recovery Management and Urban Development: Rebuilding New Orleans," Ahlers, HKS adjunct lecturer in public policy, plans to give his students a deeper understanding of the problems that were evident both before and following Katrina, and suggestions for how to better prepare for and recover more quickly from future disasters.

"We are basically going to dissect a cadaver; look at all the recovery plans and efforts, examine what the federal government did, what the state did, what the city did, what neighborhoods and nonprofits did. ... A lot of it is looking at our federal programs and policies in place and examining different approaches going forward."

The course builds on the existing relationship between the Kennedy School and New Orleans. Immediately following Katrina in the fall of 2005, HKS faculty, students, and staff headed to the area to aid in the recovery effort.

"It was such a huge crisis disaster but also a bungled policy disaster. Obviously the Kennedy School needed to be involved in some way; we couldn't just sit on the sidelines," says Ahlers, who was part of the early team — guided by HKS Dean David Ellwood — that traveled to the city to offer policy help and assistance in drafting initial recovery plans.

But the group soon realized they wanted to have a broader, lasting impact, so they decided to adopt a neighborhood. They selected Broadmoor, an area hard hit by the floods and with a diverse demographic. Their goal is to provide a multiyear commitment to the neighborhood to help it address all of its recovery needs, from creating its own recovery plan to the development of a new charter school.

Participants in Ahlers' course will put their classroom efforts directly into practice in New Orleans. In the spring, student teams will spend two weeks in Broadmoor implementing a variety of projects developed during the fall semester, including a blight elimination strategy and the development of a neighborhood statistics program, a type of reporting system to measure how well the neighborhood is addressing quality-of-life issues like broken lights and clogged drains, among other concerns.

"It's a rare opportunity for students to work in the heart of New Orleans in the midst of a disaster recovery and take advantage of this unique window that the Kennedy School has into this experience," says Ahlers. "You can take everything you learn in the Kennedy School and then apply it in the field.

"That's not something that you can phone in," he added. "It takes a real commitment in terms of time and energy and emotion."

Ahlers says HKS waited until now to create the course because they "needed distance and time from the event. ... It's hard to study an event that is still unfolding."

The course is part of the larger Acting in Time initiative at HKS, a program created in 2007 by Ellwood, who is also Scott Black Professor of Political Economy, to identify effective public policy strategies for looming large-scale public problems.

In January, Ellwood together with Christopher Stone, Daniel and Florence Guggenheim Professor of the Practice of Criminal Justice who is also faculty director of the University-wide Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations and faculty chair of the Program in Criminal Justice Policy and Management, will teach a similar course on how governments can act in time to avoid a variety of disasters.

Describing the fieldwork component of his new course, Ahlers uses another medical analogy.

"We worked with Broadmoor through the triage stage, when you are just trying to save the patient. Then we worked through the ICU stage. The neighborhood has also gone through the hospital bed/recovery stage. It's now in the rehab/physical therapy/teaching-them-how-to-walk-again stage."

Photo by Scott Saltzman © 2006

Katherine Lapp appointed executive vice president

By Kevin Galvin | Harvard News Office

In high-profile positions in New York and at the University of California, Harvard's new executive vice president established a reputation as a collaborative leader with a knack for creative problem-solving.

Katie Lapp is no stranger to managerial challenges.

When she was named chief executive of New York's Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, Lapp had to overcome a series of administrative and budgetary issues even as she was running a sprawling system that includes New York City Transit, the Long Island Railroad, and the area's bridges and tunnels at a time of heightened security concerns.

So Lapp did what she always does, associates said. She sought out people with the right expertise to help her solve the problem she was facing.

In this case, she found attorney Ira Millstein, a recognized authority on corporate governance, and recruited him to her cause. With Millstein's help, Lapp persuaded the MTA board to voluntarily submit to the stringent Sarbanes-Oxley regulations Congress had passed to tighten oversight of corporations.

"The beauty of what she was doing was that she didn't presume to know it all," Millstein recalled. "She knew when to reach out for help. She is a woman who has been working under diverse pressures for a long, long time, and she has always found the way to do the right thing."

Now Lapp is preparing for the diverse pressures of Harvard. Citing Lapp's "extraordinary management experience," President Drew Faust named her executive vice president last month, a role in which Lapp will oversee the financial, administrative, human resources, and capital planning functions of the University's central administration.

Photos: top by Justin Ide | Harvard News Office; above courtesy of University of California

Lapp, who has been the University of California (UC) system's executive vice president for business operations since 2007, says that her background in public service prepared her well for her transition to campus administration.

"I was the head of institutions that had very specific missions, and in this case the mission is education," she said. "You always have to keep that in the front of your mind: It's not about efficiency for efficiency's sake. The question is, How can the administration make sure the deans, the faculty, the researchers, and the students have what they need to succeed? They rely on an effective administrative system to make their jobs easier."

Lapp's approach to her responsibilities has served her well, whether she was persuading the New York Legislature to approve a $21 billion capital budget, guiding the University of California system through an $800 million cut in state funding, or helping former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani turn back a wave of crime.

She was a holdover from the Democratic administration of David Dinkins when Giuliani, a Republican, won New York's City Hall in 1997. But on the recommendation of his colleagues in law enforcement, Giuliani made Lapp his criminal justice coordinator at a time when the city was reeling from a skyrocketing murder rate.

Lapp helped Giuliani merge two police departments into the NYPD and coordinate resources among the

region's district attorneys as they stepped up prosecutions, Giuliani recalled. Working closely with the police commissioner, William Bratton, Giuliani was credited with dramatically reducing the murder rate and restoring a sense of safety to the streets of New York.

"She was one of the key players in what I and Bill Bratton were able to accomplish," Giuliani said. "She's a star."

A graduate of Fairfield University and Hofstra University School of Law, Lapp is a newcomer to Harvard, but she said she has long admired the University as a place that nurtured great thinkers and groundbreaking research. "At the University of California, when we look to see how we are doing, Harvard is the place we compare ourselves to," she said.

Harvard announced an unprecedented drop in its endowment as the global financial crisis unfolded last year, and administrators were compelled to cut costs and look for opportunities to coordinate functions across a famously decentralized campus. Pressures on budgets across the University are expected to persist into the new fiscal year.

At UC, Lapp spearheaded projects to help make the central administration operate more efficiently, and she worked with the system's 10 separate campuses to identify shared opportunities. One example: She led an initiative to create a centralized data center, allowing campuses to reduce operating costs, increase computer security, and open valuable physical space on their campuses.

"There are all these redundant administrative systems taking up crucial space," she said. "Those systems can be migrated to a central data center, which creates efficiencies and frees up critical space on the campus for other important uses."

Mark Yudof, president of the UC system, said that Lapp's collaborative style helped him work through bureaucratic knots in a tough financial climate. "She has in-depth knowledge of how budgets work, and how operations work. We had human resources report to her, the budget people reported to her," he said. "I really felt like losing Katie was like losing one of my arms."

GSD students build happy ending

Harvard Graduate School of Design students unite to help Boston's Chinatown neighborhood bring back a local library that was demolished 50 years ago to make way for Boston's Central Artery.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard News Office

In 1956, a giant green monster swallowed a little library in Boston's Chinatown neighborhood. Today, a group of Harvard students is helping to bring that library back to life.

Since the spring, the team of graduate students at Harvard's Graduate School of Design (GSD) has been working on the Chinatown Storefront Library Project, a temporary library installation for one of the area's vacant, commercial, street-level properties. The project will transform the empty storefront into a local library for three months, briefly re-creating what was razed to make way for the city's elevated highway and its massive, green girders.

The Chinatown library space is an example of an unseen or underused corner of the urban environment — just the kind of space Marrikka Trotter, M.Des.S. '09, likes to "reinforce and extend ... taking advantage of what is already there."

She initially worked with the Boston architecture firm Miller Dyer Spears on a feasibility study for a new Chinatown library. But just when the study wrapped up, said Trotter, "the global economic picture had started to darken," and the idea was shelved.

Undaunted, she decided to look for other ways to move the library concept forward. Working with the nonprofit group Boston Street Lab, which produces temporary urban installations in downtown Boston, she and the group developed the plan for a temporary installation in Chinatown. In 2007, Trotter brought the idea with her to the GSD. Early this year she enlisted the help of her peers.

As part of the Department of Micro-Urbanism, an art and design initiative founded by Trotter while at the GSD, about a dozen graduate student volunteers designed the installation this past spring. In intense brainstorming sessions after class and on Saturdays, the group assembled in a large room, drafted ideas on paper, and then discussed the pros and cons of each design. They ultimately settled on three designs, which they presented at a Chinatown community meeting in April.

To the students' surprise, the community liked all three.

"We tried to pull the strengths out of each of the three schemes together," said GSD student Matthew Swaidan of the final design: multiple floor-to-ceiling pods that resemble giant milk bottles and include stackable chairs, desk spaces for computers, bookshelves, and various work surfaces.

Swaidan, M.Arch '12, and Julian Bushman-Copp, M.Arch '12, were awarded 10-week paid summer internships through the GSD's Community Service Fellowship Program, which allowed them to continue their work on the project.

A gift from GSD alumnus Tony Kwan M.Arch '75, M.AUD '76 enabled Trevor Patt, M.Arch '09, to lend his computer design skills to the project. In addition, Leland Cott, GSD adjunct professor of urban design, supported the project, helping secure donations of materials from various local companies.

The GSD's Student Forum and Social Change and Activism student group also provided funding for materials and other costs.

Amid the scream of mechanical saws and a fine filter of dust, Swaidan and Bushman-Copp labored in the School's basement woodshop on a steamy August afternoon. With help from Patt, they created the outlines for the library pods on a computer, which controlled a giant router that then cut the twisting shapes from medium-density fiberboard. Next, they smoothed down the joints and edges of the large "puzzle" pieces with smaller, handheld woodworking tools, then fit the structure together and secured it with industrial-strength glue.

"This kind of a design/build project is very important at this School because a lot of the studio classes are geared toward the theoretical," said Bushman-Copp during a brief break from the work. "It's important to balance it with projects that become realized and have a very real and immediate effect on the community."

The installation will be on display in the foyer of GSD's Gund Hall from Sept. 14 until Oct. 1, when it will move to the Chinatown location for three months. Organizers hope to move the installation to another temporary home once its initial three-month stay is up, and they hope that their work will help demonstrate the need for a permanent library in the community.

"This is about working together with a community that has a specific need, and collaboratively looking for creative solutions," said Trotter. "That is a deep learning and education experience for everybody involved: the students, the administrators, the faculty, the community members themselves. Everybody benefits, everybody learns."

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard News Office

Chairs, tables, performances coming to the Yard

To enhance the Harvard community's campus experience, the University will install tables and chairs within Harvard Yard and the Radcliffe Quad and host open-air performances.

By Joshua Poupore | Harvard News Office

For the first time in more than a century, members of the Harvard community will be able to come together in Harvard Yard to meet, talk, relax, or study with the benefit of chairs and tables.

As part of the effort to enhance the ways in which members of the Harvard community experience the campus, the University will install tables and chairs within Harvard Yard and the Radcliffe Quad and will host open-air performances in select areas across the campus. This project grew out of the work of the Steering Committee on Common Spaces, appointed last year and charged by President Drew Faust with developing ideas and recommendations to ensure that the physical environment better supports the intellectual and social vitality of the University.

Beginning Thursday (Sept. 3) and extending through the end of October, tables and chairs will be located near the Science Center, Memorial Hall, the Old Yard, Lehman Hall, and Boylston Hall. Outdoor seating is also a new feature at the pub at Cambridge Queen's Head at Loker Commons. Many of these newly installed seating areas will feature food options ranging from freshly made sandwiches, organic salads, and seasonal fruits to traditional pub fare to a Mediterranean menu.

"The Steering Committee on Common Spaces has been working the past year to identify ways in which imagination and goodwill, with modest financial investments, can be used to draw people together in spontaneous and informal ways," said Faust. "I hope that developing gathering places that are visible and attractive can help to enhance the campus and create a sense of place that is distinctly Harvard's, yet open to the surrounding communities. Installing tables and chairs throughout Harvard Yard is a small step in this direction, and it will be interesting to see how the experiment works this fall."

Since its formation in the spring of 2008, the Committee on Common Spaces has been working with the University Planning Office (UPO) to gather input from the Harvard community about the ways the spaces of the Cambridge campus could be improved. An extensive outreach effort, which included focus groups, interviews, and surveys, determined that the creation of informal gathering spaces that are central and accessible to all is desired throughout the Harvard community.

"The route from the Science Center through the Yard is a major circulation corridor on campus attracting undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff," said Lizabeth Cohen, Howard Mumford Jones Professor of American Studies, chair of the History Department, a historian of the American urban and built environment, and co-chair of the Steering Committee on Common Spaces. "Our experiments this fall are aimed at creating outdoor spaces along this corridor that draw people together for socializing, eating and drinking, and enjoying Harvard's talented singers, actors, and other arts performers. Over time we will recommend additional strategies for making Harvard's campus a more interactive and sociable place."

The committee, in conjunction with its consultant team, led by Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects and Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Landscape Architects, will continue to explore a range of potential physical enhancements. Implementation of this new program is a first glimpse of the shape and form of possible future improvements.

"As a venerable educational landscape in North America, Harvard Yard must be preserved in all of its splendid and beautiful solemnity. But it also needs to welcome daily use, especially by freshmen who don't just visit the Yard from time to time but actually have the honor of calling it their home for an entire year," said Michael Van Valkenburgh, principal of Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates. "We think that this simple programmatic addition will dramatically increase accessibility without compromising any of the dignity of the space."

These new gathering areas sprinkled throughout the campus will also feature brief lunchtime performances several times a week from student and affiliate groups. The series will kick off with a dance performance by cast members from the American Repertory Theater's (A.R.T.) production of the critically acclaimed Off-Broadway disco musical "The Donkey Show." This feature of the Common Spaces initiative responds to recommendations from the Arts Task Force Report to encourage more arts programming across Harvard.

A listing of scheduled performances by Harvard students, faculty, staff, and the A.R.T. will be available through the Harvard Arts Web site (www.arts.harvard.edu) and the Office for the Arts (www.ofa.fas.harvard.edu), which has taken on a key role in promoting this performance opportunity.

"Harvard's Cambridge campus is a cherished historical space that offers tremendous potential to our community," said Mohsen Mostafavi, dean of the Graduate School of Design, Alexander and Victoria Wiley Professor of Design, and co-chair of the Common Spaces Steering Committee. "Our vision of a spine of common spaces that support the Cambridge campus requires careful long-term planning. Testing out early ideas now will help the University spend its resources wisely and strategically in the years to come."

"Students from across Harvard desire to connect more fully with the broader University," said Aaron Chadbourne '06, president of the Harvard Graduate Council. "Creating more spaces designed to promote interaction between students, faculty, and staff across the Schools will go a long way toward strengthening our University-wide community."

The chairs and tables will be in place from Sept. 3 through Oct. 30 with performances occurring during lunchtime hours from noon to 2 p.m. For more information on scheduled performances, go to www.arts.harvard.edu.

The Harvard community is invited to send questions, comments, and feedback on the fall arts and chairs program to commonspaces@harvard.edu.

Photo by Kris Snibbe | Harvard News Office

Harvard Professor Andrew Berry co-teaches a Gen Ed class titled "Understanding Darwinism" in Harvard Hall. Incoming freshmen will be the first class to study exclusively under the new requirements.

Class of ’13 launches into Gen Ed

The new undergrad curriculum will connect students’ academic experiences with life beyond the classroom.

By Amy Lavoie | FAS Communications

As the newly arrived Class of 2013 settles into the brick dormitories of Harvard Yard, they are already distinguished as the first matriculating class to study exclusively under the new requirements of Harvard College’s Program in General Education. Often referred to as Gen Ed, the new undergraduate curriculum formally launches this fall, aiming to connect students’ academic experiences with life beyond the classroom and helping them understand the world and their role in it.

“The new General Education curriculum reaffirms Harvard’s long-standing tradition of complementing specialized teaching with courses designed for the generalist,” said President Drew Faust. “ We should all be very grateful for the efforts of so many people over so many years in bringing us to this exciting point.”

Gen Ed provides learning opportunities spanning the University’s departments and Schools. Some 230 courses have been approved in Gen Ed’s eight categories: Aesthetic and Interpretative Understanding, Culture and Belief, Empirical and Mathematical Reasoning, Ethical Reasoning, Science of Living Systems, Science of the Physical Universe, Societies of the World, and the United States in the World. Students must complete one class in each of the eight categories, one of which must engage substantially with the study of the past.

“Harvard has always upheld the vitality, significance, and relevance of a liberal arts education, while simultaneously considering a student’s academic journey in a broader intellectual context,” says Michael D. Smith, John H. Finley Jr. Professor of Engineering and Applied Sciences and dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS). “The new Gen Ed curriculum continues that tradition, while giving consideration to the challenges and opportunities students will engage in the 21st century.”

The Gen Ed curriculum was approved in May 2007 by the FAS following the comprehensive Harvard College Curricular Review. The first Gen Ed courses were offered in the fall of 2008.

The requirements are such that most students will take one Gen Ed class during each term. First-year students might also find Gen Ed courses helpful in exploring academic options.

Beginning this year, the 30-year-old Core Curriculum has merged with Gen Ed, with combined offices on the fourth floor of Holyoke Center. Upperclass students can continue to choose between graduating under the requirements of the Core or Gen Ed. All courses approved for Gen Ed also fulfill Core requirements.

“The Class of 2013 will be the first of many Harvard classes to benefit from the numerous ways the Gen Ed curriculum helps students to contextualize and appreciate the complexities of the world,” says Evelynn Hammonds, Barbara Gutmann Rosenkrantz Professor of the History of Science and of African and African American Studies and dean of Harvard College. “Gen Ed provides a common framework for students to connect their experiences in the classroom to their lives beyond Harvard. In this way, the curriculum anticipates the impact that Harvard students will have on the world, even as it teaches them the skills they will need in the future.”

File photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard News Office

STUDENT VOICE

Senior saves you the search for quiet spaces on campus

By Caitlin Rotman ’10 | Earth Science and Media

September brings all those familiar thrills. Organizations get in gear. Classes start. Schedules fill (and overfill). Harvard’s rapid pace of life sets in, and with it the contagion of a high-energy lifestyle. Telephone conversations get scheduled for the walking time between classes. Crosswalks become paths for tourists while students look for more efficient routes. Stuff to do, places to see, people to meet, no time to lose. Go, go, go!

Within all this exhilaration, it took me my first three years to find any inner calm. But learning to slow down — pausing to get perspective — saved me from late-semester burnouts. Finding a few convenient but secret, quiet places helped a lot. Here are some of my favorites:

The Science Center roof — Quiet contemplation is easier with some of the best views of Harvard Yard. Even if you don’t care one hoot for astronomy (though you should), go to a STAHR (Student Astronomers at Harvard-Radcliffe) telescope class — it’s only a couple of hours. A class sticker for your ID will get you access to the Science Center roof. You never have to look through the telescope again. Just watch the mad ants dashing around below you in Harvard Yard.

The Pusey “gutter” — No time to hike to the top of the Science Center? The ivy-draped brick “gutter” around the underground Pusey Library is right in the Yard. A set of steps between Loeb House and Pusey gets you to a hidden, alleylike walkway.

The Widener walls — Widener Library is rimmed with a wide ledge, perfect for sitting on. Landscaping shields a lot of the ledge from the Yard.

Gardens around Lamont — Between Lamont Library and Mass Ave. is a hidden garden. Go through the gate between Lamont and Wigglesworth Hall. And though not hidden, the landscaping between Loeb House and Quincy Street makes for a pleasant refuge. Few people venture through this garden since it isn’t on the way to much.

The VES film library — Most people don’t realize that Sever Hall has more than three floors. Take the back stairs up from the third floor and you will find a hidden oasis – part of the Visual and Environmental Studies Department. Sever’s modern-looking fourth and fifth floors include the film library: plenty of fun titles, and not just artsy stuff.

The Winter Garden — Maybe the ultimate place for respite is the winter garden in the Knafel Building on Cambridge Street. Walk through a computer lab in the basement and you’re in a Zen garden. Recline on one of the wall sofas, watch the clouds drift past in a big skylight, and listen to a waterfall bubble from within planted greenery.

It’s hard to find time and space to slow down in a stimulating environment like Harvard. But a few sacred places make it easier. Go to one of them, take a deep breath, and refresh. You’ll be better for it.

Photo by Kris Snibbe | Harvard News Office

FACULTY PROFILE

Japanese dance leads to love of the language

Melissa McCormick reflects on her journey from modern dance to her current position as a newly tenured professor of Japanese art and culture in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

By Krysten A. Keches '10 | FAS Communications

"My teachers and choreographers would use literature and elements outside of dance to enrich their art. They made dance less narrow than people might think it is."

When she was a teenager, Japanese art historian Melissa McCormick's life revolved around the rigorous study of a different kind of art: modern dance.

McCormick attended Interlochen Arts Academy, a boarding school in northern Michigan, and completed her senior year of high school at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, where she stayed for a semester of college. There, she majored in modern dance, primarily practicing the Martha Graham technique. In addition to intense physical training, she took classes on dance theory and composition, musicology, and improvisation.

"I didn't realize it at the time," explains the newly tenured professor of Japanese art and culture in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, "but I really think all of those things were building blocks for what I do now. How do you break down a dance into different parts? How do you describe it? That's one of the most difficult things about art history: the articulation and analysis of complex visual representations."

Thanks to her dance education, McCormick had many opportunities to interact with visual art and music. She often visited museums in London while studying abroad, and even met composer John Cage when he attended one of her performances. She was particularly inspired by the interdisciplinary approach of her instructors.

"My teachers and choreographers would use literature and elements outside of dance to enrich their art," she says. "They made dance less narrow than people might think it is."

However, it was this exposure to her teachers' wider interests that eventually led to her decision to stop dancing.

"Leaving dance was an extraordinarily difficult decision," she admits. "Like many aspiring dancers, I realized that there were many other equally worthy and viable pursuits ... and that while dance is an incredibly rewarding profession — personally and emotionally — in other ways it's such a difficult lifestyle, and usually, except in extraordinary cases, such a short career."

She first became curious about Japanese cultural history through her exposure to Japanese dance, and pursued this curiosity by enrolling on a whim in a Japanese language course.

"I fell in love with the language. I felt an affinity for it: the cadences, the richness of expression, the fact that it was so codified and situational," she says.

After transferring to the University of Michigan, she knew immediately that she wanted to combine her previous interests in art and aesthetics with her newfound fascination with Japan. She went on to earn a Ph.D. in Japanese art and archaeology from Princeton University in 2000, and came to Harvard in 2005 as an associate professor after five years as the Atsumi Assistant Professor of Japanese Art History at Columbia University.

McCormick's current research revolves around an exploration of a highly refined form of monochromatic illustration, developed among communities of women in 15th and 16th century Japan.

"The scrolls that employ this mode happen to represent a treasure trove of interesting plot lines that subvert standard narratives to emphasize female characters and to focus on issues specifically of concern to women," she says. She also continues to work on "The Tale of Genji," written by a woman around the year 1000 and widely considered the world's first psychological novel.

Even in these specific areas of study, McCormick finds parallels between Japanese art and modern dance.

"Many of the principles behind early modern dance in America and elsewhere are inflected in some way by an encounter with East Asian aesthetic ideas," she says. "In ink painting, there are no extraneous elements ... things are paired down and simple, yet powerful, and can resonate on many different levels with the viewer. These are things that you also find in modern dance compositions."

As a visual trace of the body, calligraphy too strikes a chord with the former dancer. Looking at just a single brushstroke, she explains, "You get a sense of the corporeality of the calligrapher — their breath and movement — in the way you can when you're looking at a dancer who's wholly immersed in their performance."

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard News Office

ATHLETICS

A leader inside and outside the lines

Women's soccer co-captain Lizzy Nichols leaves her impact on and off the field.

By Gervis A. Menzies Jr. | Harvard News Office

There's a reason why the Harvard women's soccer team elected Lizzy Nichols '10 co-captain.

It has nothing to do with her three All-Ivy League selections, or her two All-Northeast Region Soccer Buzz honors the past two seasons, or the two invitations to train with the Under-20 and Under-23 Women's National teams.

It was that few seconds of play 10 months ago, when Nichols showed nearly 800 fans at Ohiri Field the kind of leadership she brings.

Nov. 8 was the season finale, and the Crimson, one win away from an Ivy championship, took on the Columbia Lions — who were also just one win shy of the title.

The teams were deadlocked at one goal apiece when Harvard drew a foul in the penalty box with just nine seconds left in double overtime. Without hesitation, the Princeton N.J. native ran straight to the ball, put it on the spot, and got ready to take the kick.

"I knew that if someone took the initiative and had confidence in the decision, the entire team would have confidence," said Nichols. "I didn't do it because I wanted to kick the winning goal. I did it because I wanted the team to have confidence in that final shot."

Nichols scored on the penalty kick, giving the Crimson an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament and the program's first Ivy League championship since 1999.

This season, despite the return of all six of Harvard's 2008 All-Ivy selections, it will be Nichols' job to keep her teammates focused on the 2009 Ivy championship.

"Coming off of a really successful season last year is ironically our biggest challenge this year as a team," said Nichols, who worries about getting complacent as returning Ivy champions. "We're trying to get this team driven to win again."

Off the field, Nichols carries a tough dual concentration in history and literature and history of art and architecture. She holds down a 3.78 grade point average, but still finds time to make an impact beyond soccer as a volunteer with a group committed to building self-sustainable schools for girls in the developing world.

Lizzy Nichols: "I knew that if someone took the initiative and had confidence in the decision, the entire team would have confidence. I didn't do it because I wanted to kick the winning goal. I did it because I wanted the team to have confidence in that final shot."

Photo by Evan Whitney | Harvard News Office

Nichols wanted to be more than "part of a machine that works without me," she said of the group Circle of Women. "I wanted to really make a difference in an organization."

Circle of Women, which was founded by a group of Harvard students in 2006, raised $120,000 to build a school in Afghanistan and will eventually look to build another. The organization promotes women's education in the developing world, where in many places girls don't have the opportunity to go to school.

Nichols helps with fundraising and is the organization's Web officer. If these girls get "the opportunity to go to school and the opportunity to learn," she said, "they can not only enhance their own lives, but also enhance their own communities."

To get that to happen, said Nichols, the 20 or so group members get together once a week.

"I don't know how she finds time in the day," said third-year head coach Ray Leone of the busy, multitalented Nichols. "She really is a special person with the whole package."

Online ⏩ See complete coverage, event schedule at: www.gocrimson.com

Around the Schools

Harvard Kennedy School

The International Criminal Court (ICC), a permanent tribunal based in the Netherlands recognized by 108 nations, prosecutes crimes against humanity, including genocide.

But some critics say that despite the ICC's intended influence and power, its international networks are not well coordinated. Enter the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Harvard University, an interdisciplinary research center associated with the John F. Kennedy School of Government. On Sept. 9-11, the center will convene a Consultative Conference on International Criminal Justice at United Nations headquarters in Manhattan. Funded by the MacArthur Foundation, the conference will feature three days of panels and presentations on the ICC, bringing together diplomats, scholars, humanitarian aid experts, jurists, and law enforcement officials.

Among the speakers linked to Harvard are Christopher Stone, Professor of the Practice of Criminal Justice and faculty director of the Hauser Center; lawyer and philanthropist Rita E. Hauser '58; and Justice Richard J. Goldstone, one-time chief prosecutor of the United Nations criminal tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, and last year a visiting professor at Harvard Law School.

For more on the conference, go to www.internationalcriminaljustice.net/. For more on the Hauser Center's justice and human rights activity, go to http://hausercenter.org/jhr/.

— Corydon Ireland

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

As the old saying goes, records are meant to be broken. In April, the record for farthest-known object in the universe fell — busted by a gigantic explosion brighter than an entire galaxy of stars.

Astronomers at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, along with colleagues elsewhere in the United States and the United Kingdom, discovered the record breaker — a spectacular stellar blast known as a gamma-ray burst. The star that exploded so dramatically was located about 13 billion light-years from Earth, making it the most distant known object. (One light-year is 6 trillion miles, the distance a photon of light travels in a year's time.)

The entire visible universe extends 13.7 billion light-years from Earth.

Therefore, the burst, known as GRB 090423 for the date it was detected, is located almost as far from Earth as we could possibly see.

Since it takes light time to cover any distance, a telescope has been compared to a time machine. When we study a galaxy a million light-years away, we see it as it was a million years ago (because that's how long it took for the galaxy's light to reach Earth). As a result, you also could say that GRB 090423 was the youngest object ever seen. The burst exploded onto the scene when the universe was a mere 630 million years old (only one-twentieth its current age).

— Christine Pulliam

School of Engineering & Applied Sciences

Entrepreneurship, which at Harvard's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS) is defined as much by the process of idea generation as by outcome, remains an increasingly important part of the School's curriculum and overall educational experience.

The Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard (TECH), based at SEAS, launched its new Innovation Space Sept. 1. The space expands SEAS's resources for experiential innovation education and provides Harvard's undergraduate student innovators with the first dedicated environment for learning and working in teams on entrepreneurial projects.

The Innovation Space occupies 2,100 square feet on the top floor of the Harvard Student Agencies (HSA) building at 67 Mt. Auburn Street, a prime location near the undergraduate river Houses. It is open to students all hours day and night and is programmed through a partnership between TECH, HSA, and their affiliated student groups.

In addition to serving as workspace for student teams, the Innovation Space invited undergraduates to events such as practical workshops with start-up CEOs, funders, and legal experts; team-building and idea-generation sessions; and two international student entrepreneur exchanges with Great Britain and Singapore. TECH and HSA also implemented a new partnership with the Office of Career Resources to make space at 1033 Massachusetts Ave. available to 20 more student entrepreneurs over the summer.

— Michael Rutter

Online ▸▸ news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/campus-n-community

Harvard Extension School

On February 23, 1910, the Harvard Board of Overseers approved a Department of University Extension. That pioneering step made it possible for Boston-area schoolteachers, clerks, and foremen to work toward a Harvard degree at night, studying with the same professors who during the day guided America's academic elite. In the first year of classes (1910-11), 863 students registered — a number that a century later averages 14,000 students a year, from 122 countries.

Centennial celebrations begin this fall for what is now called the Harvard University Extension School, which since 1910 has drawn about 500,000 men and women to its graduate and collegiate courses. A private convocation will be held Sept. 25, and a public panel on the future of technology is slated for Nov. 18.

The Extension School's long-ago origins reside in the two iconic images on its crest: a sheaf of wheat and an oil lamp. The first is a reminder that precursor courses at Harvard's Lowell Institute could cost no more than the value of two bushels of wheat. The second recalls the rigor of night study.

For more on the centennial, go to www.extension.harvard.edu/centennial/.

— Corydon Ireland

Harvard Divinity School

Why did the cow cross the Yard? To graze in the green grass, of course. On Sept. 10, at 4:30 p.m., don't be surprised by the sight of a Jersey bovine happily chewing its cud in Tercentenary Theatre.

Though it has the makings of a college prank, the cow in the Yard will actually be part of a ceremony to honor Harvey Cox and his 44-year career at Harvard. Cox retired as the Harvard Divinity School's (HDS) Hollis Professor of Divinity in June. He is currently the Hollis Research Professor of Divinity.

London merchant Thomas Hollis endowed the Hollis Chair — Harvard's oldest professorship — in 1721. A well-known legend attests that the Hollis Professor is entitled to graze his cow in the Yard. Cox will do just that, claiming his right with the help of a Jersey cow borrowed from The Farm School in Athol, Mass., who was christened "Faith" for the special occasion.

The event will include an invocation by the Rev. Professor Peter J. Gomes, the Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, and a procession from the Yard to the HDS campus for a ceremony with HDS Dean William A. Graham, followed by a reception with refreshments and music. The grazing of the Hollis Cow will also mark the release of Cox's latest book, "The Future of Faith."

— Colleen Walsh

Obituaries

Former HBS Professor Barnes dies at 81

Retired Harvard Business School (HBS) Professor Louis B. "By" Barnes, an expert on organizational behavior, family-owned businesses, and teaching by the case method, died on Aug. 22 at the Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor from complications from kidney failure. He was 81 years old.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 5, at 3:30 p.m., at the Barnes home at 3 Flye Point Rd. in Brooklin, Maine.

For Barnes' full obituary, visit www.hbs.edu/news/releases/louisbarnes.html.

Professor of orthodontics Lebret dies at 92

Laure Lebret, former associate professor of orthodontics at Harvard School of Dental Medicine, died on Aug. 23 at the age of 92.

She is survived by her daughter and two grandchildren.

A memorial service to honor Lebret will be held later in the fall to mark what would have been the 59th anniversary of her arrival in the United States.

Connors Jr., attorney at Harvard for 24 years

Frank J. Connors Jr., an in-house attorney at Harvard for the past 24 years and a resident of Winchester, Mass., died on Aug. 14. Connors, who received a B.A., *summa cum laude*, from the University of California, Los Angeles; a J.D., *cum laude*, from Harvard Law School; and an M.A. in public law and government from Columbia University, is remembered for his passion for law. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Connors.

Harvard police officer Burke dies at age 68

Alfred Lee Burke, Harvard University police officer for more than 30 years, died on Aug. 10 at the age of 68.

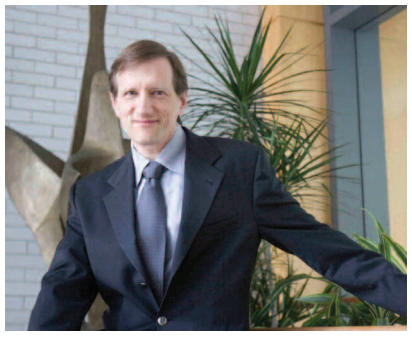
Burke, affectionately referred to as "Bootsie," will be remembered by family and friends for passionately serving the Harvard community.

A memorial service for Burke took place on Aug. 15.

Newsmakers

First-year Harvard Medical School students receive their clinical white coats as part of the White Coat Ceremony held at Brigham and Women's Hospital Aug. 18.

Harvard names Marc W. Kirschner (below) and Gary King (bottom) University Professors.



TWO UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS NAMED
Two faculty members have been named University Professors, Harvard's highest professorial distinction.

The new appointees are **Marc W. Kirschner**, the Carl W. Walter Professor of Systems Biology and chair of the Department of Systems Biology at Harvard Medical School (HMS), and **Gary King**, the David Florence Professor of Government in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS).

The first University Professorships were created in 1935 by the President and Fellows of Harvard College, who intended these chairs to be for "individuals of distinction ... working on the frontiers of knowledge, and in such a way as to cross the conventional boundaries of the specialties." The new appointments bring the number of University Professors to 22.

"Marc Kirschner and Gary King are distinguished leaders in their fields, known for their intellectual rigor, their breadth of influence, and their eagerness to venture across disciplinary borders," said Harvard President Drew Faust. "I am pleased to welcome them to the ranks of our University Professors."

For the full story, visit http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/gazette-story/2009/ 07/university-professors.

HUPD RELEASES SECURITY REPORT; POLICE REPORTS CAN BE REVIEWED ONLINE DAILY
The Harvard University Police Department (HUPD) is committed to assisting all members of the Harvard community in providing for their own safety and security. Harvard's annual security report, prepared in compliance with The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (the Clery Act), is titled "Playing it Safe." It will be available on the HUPD's Web site at www.hupd.harvard.edu/prevention_handbook.php.

"Playing it Safe" includes information about the HUPD, how to report a crime, HUPD's crime prevention programs, substance abuse, sensitive crimes, emergency notifications, and other important information about security and HUPD services on campus. It also contains three years of statistics on reported campus or campus-related crimes. A hard copy of "Playing it Safe" may be obtained by contacting the Harvard University Police Department at 1033 Massachusetts Ave., sixth floor, Cambridge, MA 02138, or by calling (617) 495-9225.

The Campus & Community page for the Harvard Gazette Online (http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/g/campus-n-community/) will now provide readers with a direct link to HUPD's "Police Log" at www.hupd.harvard.edu/public_log.php, which is updated daily.

DAVIS CENTER ANNOUNCES 2009-10 VISITORS AND AWARD RECIPIENTS
The Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies recently announced a total of 20 incoming fellows, visiting scholars, and award recipients for the 2009-10 academic year.

Dedicated to fostering comprehensive understanding and multidisciplinary study of Russia and the countries of Eurasia, the Davis Center sponsors seminars and conferences, targeted research, fellowships, student programs, and outreach programs.

For a list of the center's new members fellows, visiting scholars, and award winners, visit http://daviscenter.fas.harvard.edu/news_events/new_faces.html.

FINE ARTS LIBRARY REOPENS
The Fine Arts Library (FAL) is now open in its temporary space in the Littauer building in the North Yard. This new location will house the library's books, journals, photographs, and graphic artwork, and will be responsible for library administration, reference and research services, and collection development.

Earlier this summer the Fine Arts Library Digital Images & Slides Collection relocated to the lower level of the Sackler Museum at 485 Broadway. This facility provides access to extensive image collections as well as technical and research support for teaching with arts-related digital images.

HOUGHTON ADDS 2,000TH FINDING AID TO OASIS CATALOG
Houghton Library, Harvard's main rare book and manuscript depository, has vast holdings collected over centuries. Yet until these available resources are cataloged, they are considered "hidden collections" — difficult to find.

In recent years, Houghton has made efforts to expedite its cataloging process by making accurate, yet less-detailed records that allow catalogers to create more finding aids in less time. Heavily used collections still may be revisited, adding detail to the finding aids as needed.

In August, Houghton Library succeeded in adding its 2,000th finding aid to the Online Archival Search Information System (OASIS) catalog at Harvard, a milestone indicative of the library's effort to improve the accessibility of the library's collections. To explore the Harvard archives through OASIS, visit http://oasis.lib.harvard.edu/.

PARMIGIANI AND DOMINICI NAMED PROFESSORS OF BIOSTATISTICS AT HSPH
Giovanni Parmigiani, a noted leader in applying bioinformatics tools to cancer studies and medical decision making, has been appointed professor of biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) and chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. He has helped devise a number of bioinformatics software tools and programs, including BRCAPRO, which is used in genetic counseling of families at high risk of breast and ovarian cancer. He also helped

Photos: top and center by Kris Snibbe, above by Justin Ide | Harvard News Office

develop BayesMendel, a suite of tools that covers a broad range of familial risk prediction tasks in breast, ovarian, colorectal, and pancreatic cancers.

Francesca Dominici, a biostatistician whose work has influenced air pollution regulation, has also joined the faculty at HSPH as professor of biostatistics. She focuses on developing new mathematical and statistical methods for identifying subtle but important health risks within complex databases. Dominici's work develops models to better understand the health effects of air pollution.

IOP'S RESIDENT, VISITING FELLOWS FOR FALL
The Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics (IOP) recently announced its six resident fellows and three visiting fellows for the fall semester. Resident fellows will interact with students, participate in the intellectual life of the Harvard community, and pursue individual studies or projects. Visiting fellows will join the IOP for a shorter period of time, maximizing their time by meeting with students, faculty, and staff members at the Harvard research center. For a list of the IOP's fall fellows, go to www.iop.harvard.edu.

THE EDMOND J. SAFRA FOUNDATION CENTER FOR ETHICS' FELLOWS AND SENIOR SCHOLARS
The Edmond J. Safra Foundation Center for Ethics has announced its new fellows and senior scholars for 2009-10. The faculty fellows were chosen from a pool of applicants from colleges, universities, and professional institutions throughout the United States and several other countries.

"These talented scholars will join the center at a transformative moment in its history, and will become part of a growing community of teachers and scholars around the world who are dedicated to furthering research and teaching in ethics," said Arthur Applbaum, professor of ethics and public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS).

The fellows will work closely with the incoming center director, renowned legal scholar Lawrence Lessig. They will be in residence at the center for the academic year and will be joined by senior scholar in ethics Tommie Shelby, professor of African and African American studies and of philosophy at Harvard.

In addition, six Harvard graduate students have been named Edmond J. Safra Graduate Fellows in Ethics. These fellowships are awarded to outstanding Harvard-enrolled students who are writing dissertations on philosophical topics relevant to political and professional practice. The fellows devote their time to an approved course of study in practical ethics and participate in a weekly ethics seminar. Frances Kamm, the Littauer Professor of Philosophy and Public Policy at HKS and professor of philosophy in the Department of Philosophy, will join the graduate fellows seminar as senior scholar in ethics.

For the full list of fellows and scholars, visit www.ethics.harvard.edu/people/fellows-and-scholars/.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC'S MARVIN SET TO RETIRE AFTER THE SCHOOL YEAR
The Office for the Arts at Harvard (OfA) and the Harvard University Department of Music have announced that **Jameson Marvin** will retire as director of choral activities at Harvard. Marvin has a joint appointment in the OfA and Music Department, serving the latter as a senior lecturer on music. The 2009-10 academic school year will be his final year of service, with a leave scheduled for 2010-11.

"Jim Marvin has been a standard bearer for excellence in choral singing for over three decades at Harvard," said OfA Director Jack Megan. "His knowledge of vocal literature and stylistic considerations through the centuries is vast. His enormous passion, impeccable technique, musical sensitivity, and attention to every detail have benefited many student singers and concert patrons over the years. He inherited a rich choral tradition from his illustrious predecessors and deepened it in a way that would make all of them proud."

Marvin was appointed director of choral activities and senior lecturer on music in 1978. He is responsible for the choral program at Harvard and conducts the Harvard Glee Club, the Radcliffe Choral Society, and the Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum, and he teaches courses in choral conducting, masterpieces of choral literature, and Renaissance performance practices.

Hot Jobs

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, REUNION GIVING REQ. 37045, GR. 059
Harvard College Fund FT (7/10/2009)

WRITER (CASE WRITER) REQ. 37533, GR. 055
Harvard School of Public Health/FXB Center FT (8/28/2009)

DEAN FOR ADMINISTRATION, HARVARD COLLEGE REQ. 37517, GR. 063
Faculty of Arts and Sciences/Harvard College FT (8/26/2009)

INVENTORY SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT LEAD AND ARCHITECT: CONNECTING RESEARCH RESOURCES ACROSS AMERICA REQ. 37549, GR. 058
Harvard Medical School/CTSC FT (8/28/2009)

RESEARCH ASSISTANT I REQ. 37539, GR. 052
Harvard Medical School, FT (8/28/2009)

Online ▸▸ See complete opportunity listings at www.employment.harvard.edu or contact Employment Services at 617.495.2772.

HOW TO APPLY
To apply for an advertised position and/or for more information on these and other listings, please visit our Web site at www.employment.harvard.edu to upload your resume and cover letter. 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, targeting the right opportunities, and successful interviewing techniques. Sessions are typically held monthly from 5:30 p.m. 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 http://employment.harvard.edu/careers/findingajob/.

Robert Satcher, M.D. '94 (right), returns to Harvard Medical School to talk with students and faculty about his space flight scheduled for November. HMS Professor of Psychiatry Alvin Poussaint (left) listens as Satcher answers questions during the August address.

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard News Office

ON THE JOB (AND OFF)

Greening the meaning of the bottom line

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard News Office

Christine Benoit, a Harvard expert on buying just enough and from the right places, brings her ethic of green living to the Harvard procurement process.

Truckloads of paper, toner, ink, and office furniture. Last year, Harvard spent almost $35 million on the high-volume, low-cost supplies that are the little-celebrated grist of office life.

But even the humblest purchases come with an environmental impact, said Christine S. Benoit, a contract manager at Harvard's Strategic Procurement Office. Paper requires trees, toner involves expensive chemistry, and even pens get shipped from A to B at the cost of fuel and exhaust.

To reduce that environmental impact, Benoit believes in ordering just enough supplies, and from the right places. That includes ordering from manufacturers who support conservation, use renewable energy, and favor the University's preferred vendors.

She and other procurement experts in her office are also looking for ways to put Harvard's sustainability concerns into purchasing contracts, bidding proposals, and policy.

Keeping the bottom line green can keep it in the black. "People are interested in saving money," said the five-year Harvard veteran. "Saving money and the environment go hand in hand."

Benoit wasn't always a student of market-share spreadsheets and industry trends in the office supplies trade. At Rutgers University, she majored in physics, and in 2004 signed on as a faculty assistant at Harvard's Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences on Oxford Street.

Benoit learned a lot about geophysics, geochemistry, and the effects of climate dynamics. "They loved to teach," she said of the department's professors, "no matter who you are."

While on Oxford Street, Benoit also practiced acts of small-scale sustainability as a member of one of the University's first "green office" teams. These conservation-minded workers try to minimize the energy and materials their workplaces consume.

In 2006, Benoit became office manager at the Green Campus Initiative (now Harvard's greatly expanded Office for Sustainability). She helped administer a $12 million Green Campus Loan Fund which to date has bankrolled 153 projects and generated $4 million in conservation savings.

In 2008, Benoit joined the strategic procurement office, where eight staffers investigate the environmental impact of buying science supplies, paper, furniture, cleaning products, and building systems. They also look into the impact of delivery services, travel, and printing.

That way, said Benoit, "people don't have to wish and hope and wonder" where their everyday supplies come from.

Any advice on sustainable purchasing people can take home? With a laugh, she has a fast answer: "Don't buy anything." But if you have to buy something, said Benoit, consider an item's life cycle – that is, not only what it costs to buy, but what that item costs to install, operate, maintain, and dispose of. Even better, she said, see if you can buy the item used.

Benoit spends a lot of her spare time hitting the books, and is halfway to a master's degree in information management at the Harvard Extension School.

The course work helps with her latest Harvard job, said Benoit – a work setting where in sustainability terms "I can really dig my heels in and get some work done."

Photos by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard News Office

Calendar HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2009

su	m	tu	w	th	f	s
september		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			

The deadline for Calendar submissions is Wednesday by 5 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Calendar events are listed in full online. E-mail calendar@harvard.edu with questions and/or submissions.

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The Graduate School of Design presents the Kenzo Tange Lecture Sept. 9.

SEPT. 4

Concert by Harvard Glee Club.
Lehman Hall/Dudley House, noon. Choral music presented by members of America's oldest college chorus. Free and open to the public. www.harvardgleeclub.org/.

SEPT. 8

Microbial Sciences Initiative Undergraduate Fellow Poster Symposium.
Conference room, Harvard University Center for the Environment, third floor, 24 Oxford St., 5 p.m. Young scientists present their individual research projects in the labs of MSI faculty. Refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public. 617.495.8643, klachmay@fas.harvard.edu, www.msi.harvard.edu/ov_dir.html.

SEPT. 9

Kenzo Tange Lecture.
Valerio Olgiati. Graduate School of Design, 48 Quincy St., 6:30 p.m. Free and open to the public.

SEPT. 11

The Old Dark House
Harvard Film Archive, Carpenter Center, 24 Quincy St., 7 p.m. Directed by James Whale. Followed by "Remember Last Night?" Part of the series, "James Whale: Of Monsters, Melodrama and the Production Code." 617.495.4700, http://hcl.harvard.edu/hfa/.

SEPT. 14

Empire in Our Time (Looking at it with my Penlight).
Vijay Prashad, Trinity College. History Library, first floor, Robinson Hall, Warren Center, 4 p.m.

SEPT. 15

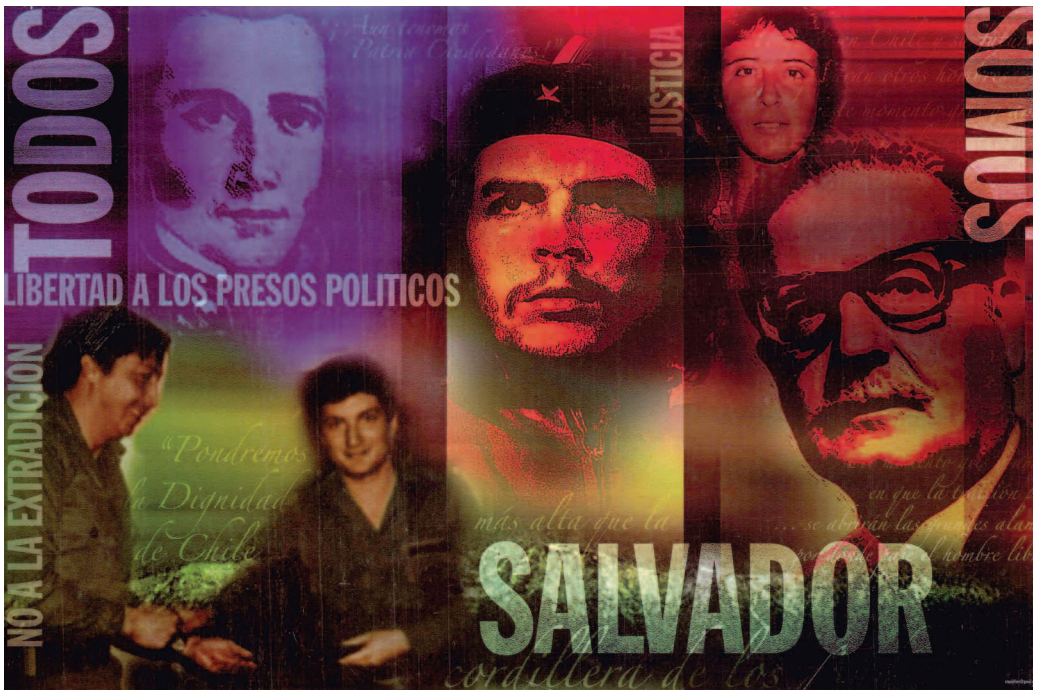
Freecycle.
Science Center lawn, 1 Oxford St., 11 a.m. Got extra office supplies, books, magazines, or mugs that you and/or your office don't use? Don't trash them — freecycle them! All items are free, whether or not you have something to donate. Bring a bag. Bring items to donate the day of event, or e-mail to arrange a possible pick-up. Event happens rain or shine. Sponsored by FAS Green Program and Harvard Recycling. To read on the history of freecycling at Harvard, visit http://green.harvard.edu/node/245. dara_olmstead@harvard.edu, http://green.harvard.edu/fas.

SEPT. 22

A Poetry Reading by Simon Armitage.
Edison-Newman Room, Houghton Library, 6 p.m. Free and open to the public.

THROUGH MAY 30, 2010

2008 Undergraduate Book Collecting Prize.
Established in 1977, the Visiting Committee Prize for Undergraduate Book Collecting recognizes and encourages book collecting by undergraduates at Harvard. Students competing for the annual prize submit an annotated bibliography and an essay on their collecting efforts, the influence of mentors, the experience of searching for, organizing, and caring for items, and the future direction of the collection. Second and third floor display cases, Lamont Library. 617.495.2455, http://hcl.harvard.edu/info/exhibitions/.



Detail from a poster produced by human rights group *Liga Argentina por los Derechos del Hombre* (Argentine League for the Rights of Man). Visiting Committee Prize for Undergraduate Book Collecting winner John Sheffield worked the group while assembling his collection.

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

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Cambridge, MA 02138

Harvard Rituals: Move-in Day

"This is the happiest day of almost everyone's life who's here. Every experience that the freshmen are having is special. Usually we live in the past or the future ... to have the ability to live in this present moment is rare. It's like a dream. We're just so, so happy! She is so excited! She loves to learn and if you love to learn this is a spectacular place to be!"

— Annette Jacob, who shared her thoughts while helping daughter Jillian Jordan '13 move into Holworthy Hall in Harvard Yard.

Photographs and text by Kris Snibbe | Harvard News Office