

ELECTION 2024: READY OR NOT

PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

OCTOBER 2024





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CONTENTS

OCTOBER 2024 VOLUME 125 NUMBER 2

An editorially independent magazine by alumni for alumni since 1900



STEPPING UP
Members of the Class of 2028 gather for the Step Sing as part of Opening Exercises to mark the start of the academic year. See page 14.

FEATURES

30 Exit Interviews

Four alumni retiring from the House of Representatives assess the state of Congress and the country.

BY MARK F. BERNSTEIN '83

36 Higher Education on the Ballot

Why this year's election may be the 'most consequential' in a generation for colleges and universities.

BY PHILIP WALZER '81

42 The Supreme Court's Seismic Shift

Princetonians debate the impact of the court's recent rulings and what's next.

BY DAVID WEISENFELD

ON THE COVER

Which button represents your mood as Election Day approaches?

Photograph by Brooke Cole

DEPARTMENTS

2 The President's Page

5 Inbox

11 From the Editor

12 On the Campus

25 Research

47 Princetonians

52 Class Notes

68 Memorials

78 Crossword

79 Classifieds

80 Princeton Portrait

Opening Exercises 2024: 'Something Transcendent'

For Opening Exercises on September 1, we gathered on the front lawn of Nassau Hall to welcome Princeton's new transfer students and the Class of 2028. I invited students to carefully consider the meaning and value of liberal arts education as they pursue their Princeton journey, and to be inspired by the "transcendent" experience of Pre-read author Fei-Fei Li '99. — C.L.E.

Please let me begin by saying what a pleasure it is to welcome you to Princeton! I am delighted to greet you all as you begin your Princeton journeys.

The vibrant weeks at the beginning of each new academic year invigorate all of us, and they are especially memorable for newcomers to campus. I guarantee that there will be sights and conversations from this week, moments of surprise or wonder or newfound friendship, that you will recall vividly for many decades.

Fei-Fei Li, with whom we will talk later today, recounts in this year's Pre-read impressions of Princeton that have stayed with her since her graduation twenty-five years ago. She talks about "[p]ale cement paths [that] slic[e] green lawns into polygonal fragments" and "[w]alls of brown brick ... pockmarked by centuries of history."¹

She might well be referring to this lawn, here in front of Nassau Hall, where we gather now.

Professor Li also says that Princeton's libraries "captured [her] heart" because the collections made her feel that she was "in the presence of something transcendent."²

I love that idea of "something transcendent," because I think it expresses a profound insight about this place and the education that happens here. You probably know that Princeton is famous for its deep commitment to liberal arts education. And one aim of liberal arts education is to connect you with a sense of the transcendent.

I want to reflect for a while on that phrase, "the liberal arts." Apparently, many people no longer understand what it means. A public opinion pollster once told me that universities should stop talking about the "liberal arts." He said that people think that "liberal" means "left-wing" and "arts" are impractical, so combining the two terms is, in his words, and I quote, "a branding disaster." He said that he personally favored liberal arts education, but that colleges needed to rebrand it.³

Rebrand liberal arts education! It is possible, I suppose. What would we call it?

Perhaps we could call it "Future-Oriented Leadership Education." That sounds exciting, practical, and cutting edge, don't you think? One aim of liberal arts education

is to equip you not just with the knowledge or skills you need for your first job, but with ways of knowing that will enable you to tackle questions and challenges that nobody has yet imagined.

Professor Li's career provides an example. Her undergraduate studies exemplified the breadth that we expect from a liberal arts education at Princeton, where that concept encompasses the natural sciences, the social sciences, and engineering along with the humanities.

Dr. Li majored in physics at Princeton, and she also took electives in art history. She became a leader in the field of computer science by posing novel questions about how the human mind categorizes images—questions that drew inspiration from art, psychology, and neuroscience among other fields.

Now she is investigating ethical issues about human-centered artificial intelligence, issues that would have been hard for anyone to formulate when she graduated twenty-five years ago.

I am reluctant, though, to reduce liberal arts education to preparation for leadership or professional success, even of a lofty sort. We at Princeton want you to study art history and physics and many other subjects for reasons that go beyond their value to your careers.

Michael Gordin, Princeton's new dean of the college, is a passionate advocate for liberal arts education, as was his predecessor, Jill Dolan. Dean Dolan occasionally talked about "education for citizenship." Perhaps that is a better way to rebrand the liberal arts.

"Education for citizenship" has the advantage of connecting closely to the original meaning of liberal arts. "Liberal" referred to "freedom," as in the word "liberty," not to left-wing politics. And "arts" referred to "disciplines" or "studies," rather than to the creative arts as we understand them today—though, of course, the creative arts are a part of a liberal arts education.

"Liberal arts" thus meant an education worthy of a free person—so "education for citizenship" is a decent update or translation of the original idea.

The phrase "education for citizenship" illuminates another important part of what we want a liberal arts education to do. We want it to enable you to participate fully in all facets of public and private life. We believe, for example, that to be a fully flourishing citizen in

¹ Fei-Fei Li, *The Worlds I See: Curiosity, Exploration, and Discovery at the Dawn of AI* (Flatiron Books, 2023), p.67.

² Li, *The Worlds I See: Curiosity, Exploration, and Discovery at the Dawn of AI*, p. 70-71.

³ The pollster has published his views. Brandon Busteded, "Higher Education: Drop the Term 'Liberal Arts,'" Gallup.com, March 28, 2023, <https://www.gallup.com/education/231746/higher-education-drop-term-liberal-arts.aspx>.

⁴ "What Does Liberal Arts Mean? | Princeton Admission," n.d., <https://admission.princeton.edu/academics/what-does-liberal-arts-mean>.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW RASPANTI, OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

The University welcomed incoming transfer students and members of the Class of 2028 to campus during the annual Opening Exercises ceremony, a Princeton tradition dating back at least to 1802.

the age of artificial intelligence, engineers must comprehend human culture, and ethicists must understand technology.

For me, though (and I'm pretty sure that both Dean Gordin and Dean Dolan would agree), even the idea of "education for citizenship" is a bit too narrow, or too instrumental, to capture all of what we mean by liberal arts education.

That education is not just for success, or for citizenship, it is also valuable for its own sake. Liberal arts education includes a commitment to the idea that learning and research are among the activities that enable the human spirit to soar.

We want you to feel the thrill of discovery, to get carried away by ideas, and to get lost in thought. We hope that amidst the books, experiments, artworks, and equations you will sometimes feel, as Fei-Fei Li did, that you are in the presence of something transcendent.

We hope that these moments and experiences will give you joy and kindle a lifelong love of learning.

Maybe I can rebrand "liberal arts education" as "something transcendent." I expect, though, that the pollsters would tell me that "transcendence" sounds impractical. They are wrong, I think; transcendent education is truly practical in the best and most important way, because it helps us to be fully human.

Perhaps one of you will come up with a better rebranding. Until then, though, I will just keep talking about "liberal arts education," regardless of what pollsters say.

Fortunately, Princeton's brand seems to be doing just fine. We proudly declare on our admission website that we provide a liberal arts education, and we explain what that means.⁴ And, as you know, lots of people want to come here!

I am so glad that *you* wanted to come here.

I am so glad that you are here.

I look forward to getting to know you in the years ahead as you explore the wonder and the mysteries of this place, where I hope that in your classrooms, in the libraries, and throughout this campus, you will encounter something transcendent.

To Princeton's Great Class of 2028, to our incoming transfer students, to our new graduate students, and to everyone who joins or returns to this beautiful campus as we begin a new academic year, I say:

Welcome to Princeton, and best wishes for the year ahead! Welcome to Princeton!

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM



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August 17, 2024–January 5, 2025

ART *on* HULFISH



HELÈNE AYLON UNDERCURRENT

Sept. 14, 2024–February 2, 2025

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The exhibitions and programs at Art on Hulfish and Art@Bainbridge are made possible by Annette Merle-Smith; Princeton University; William S. Fisher, Class of 1979, and Sakurako Fisher; J. Bryan King, Class of 1993; John Diekman, Class of 1965, and Susan Diekman; Julie and Kevin Callaghan, Class of 1983; Annie Robinson Woods, Class of 1988; Barbara and Gerald Essig; Rachele Belfer Malkin, Class of 1986, and Anthony E. Malkin; and other generous benefactors.

ABOVE: Anne Zahalka, *The Bathers*, 1990. Collection of the Museum of Photographic Arts at the San Diego Museum of Art. Gift of Farrell Family. © Anne Zahalka BELOW: Helène Aylon, *I Will Wait for the Landing*, 2014. Collection of Helène Aylon Estate, Courtesy of Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects, New York. © Estate of Helène Aylon, Courtesy of Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects



INBOX

YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE LATEST ISSUES

HIDDEN HISTORY

“Aaron Burr 1772’s Forgotten Family” (June issue) is a fascinating piece. As someone with an academic/journalistic interest in Aaron Burr Jr., I’ve long wondered how a servant of Indian origin ended up in his household. In this intriguing piece of scholarship, Kushanava Choudhury ’00 gives a plausible if horrific sense of the twists and turns that could have brought Mary Eugenie Emmons from Kolkata to the New World.



PENELOPE ROWLANDS

Princeton, N.J.

CAT-SITTER TO HOMEOWNER

At work on my dissertation in the 1970s, I landed a house-sitting gig. An archaeologist was off to Greece, and Tamino, her Manx — with no tail — needed looking after.

From a cinderblock house near the Institute for Advanced Study, a woman emerged, extended her hand — not to shake mine, but to drop her keys in it — and commanded, “If the house burns down, save the cat.” Miss M. Alison Frantz (Princeton Portrait, July/August issue) was off.

Upon Alison’s return, there were frequent visits in that home of hers, which I had grown to love. Not unlike a lady’s raincoat lined with fur, the cinderblock was warmed within by brick and wood throughout.

When posted to Tokyo, I received a call from an agent wondering if I might be interested in returning to Princeton. It was an easy “no,” with my career in full sail. Nonetheless, she asked that I describe a house which would take my fancy. It was Alison’s, of course.

Then, in London, I got word that the house was for sale. Shortly bound for New York, I agreed to visit Princeton. So taken with the house’s atmospherics, I paid little mind to its imperfections. Then, at Christmas, my family checked it out, with my husband commenting that “I’m not quite ready to be buried down a little

country lane,” but he and our daughters soon came around.

Tamino is long gone, but in my study is Alison’s favorite photograph: a cat in a fig tree taken in Greece — a gift marking receipt of my doctorate.

PETER RUPERT LIGHTE ’81

Princeton, N.J.

Editor’s note: Read a longer version of this letter online at bit.ly/lighte.

TRUSTING THE BOARD

I read the recent guest essay about electing alumni trustees (On the Campus, July/August issue). A few years ago, I wrote a letter to the University asking for more information on how the Board of Trustees was structured and how trustees were chosen. I never got a response.

It is obvious that this is a topic that the University leadership does not want to discuss. But they want us to trust that they are governing the University properly. The word “trustee” is based on the word “trust.” If they want us to trust them, they will need to bring the process to the light of day and show some transparency. Right now, they act as if they have something to hide.

KEN JASKO ’78

Manalapan, N.J.

HOUSING DESIGNS

The Meadows Neighborhood encouragingly allows more graduate students to live in University apartments (On the Campus, July/August issue). But discouragingly, the desultory design of the domicile development is little more than repetitive alternating setback planes of nondescript flush-glazing. It is housing, yes, but it is disappointingly disaffecting as architecture.

Michael Graves, when a professor and the head of studio in the Department of Architecture, dutifully drilled the definitive dictum of the classic column orders, being base, then shaft, and then capital (bottom/middle/top). In the studio, Professor Graves constantly evangelized and expounded the importance and the grounding principle of the tripartite scheme beyond just the column orders but also for buildings themselves. The scheme fits a building into place, defining its placement in space and anchoring the viewer in relation. The scheme provides a crucial psychic importance.

The emissionless energy generated from Michael Graves spinning in his grave, from this (the Meadows Neighborhood), and other recent campus developments, just might allow the University to accelerate its forecast for reaching net zero.

ROCKY SEMMES ’79

Alexandria, Va.

IN PRAISE OF LEGO NASSAU

Regarding Matt Smith’s Lego Nassau Hall (On the Campus, July/August issue): I’ve often been tempted but I have yet to buy a Lego model. I’ll run to the store for this one. Congratulations — a magnificent job.

HAROLD SCOTT GURVEY ’73

Montclair, N.J.

REMEMBERING INGRID REED

Last October in Princeton, I was fortunate to visit again with Ingrid Reed (In Memoriam, September issue), one-time associate dean of what was then the Woodrow Wilson School. I owe her a great deal for a decision she made in 1987.

continues on page 9



YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



ALUMINARY

Deb Yu '98

Chair, Annual Giving

When Deb Yu '98 told her high school cross-country coach of her decision to attend Princeton, he gave her a congratulatory response that resonates louder with every passing year. “He said, ‘They will take care of you there,’ and that has rung true — during my four years at Princeton and beyond,” Yu said. “That was not something I had really thought about then. I wasn’t really thinking beyond my time as a student.”

This fall, as Yu begins her term as chair of the Annual Giving Committee, the gratitude for the care that she received and continues to enjoy as an alumna drives her commitment to provide for future Tigers. “Whether your parents paid for your entire Princeton education or you attended on full financial aid, every single student benefits from Annual Giving,” Yu said. “All of us benefitted from the alumni who came before us, so I feel strongly about the importance of giving back. I feel privileged to serve in this role and was truly honored to be asked, knowing the impact these unrestricted funds have in supporting emerging needs and initiatives.”

A plastic surgeon in New Jersey, Yu points to the superb liberal arts education she received at Princeton, including classes in economics and politics, as something special. “I took Professor Robert George’s civil liberties class — POL 316 — and it challenged what I believed,” she said, explaining that the course examined Supreme Court cases. “I think the most interesting thing about the class was, no

matter which side you were coming from, it provided an alternate, equally strong view.”

George’s class nearly convinced Yu to pursue law school instead of medical school, and it’s part of the reason she currently consults for attorneys on medical cases. “That’s a way for me to get a taste of law now,” she said.

Though she now appreciates the role Annual Giving played in her Princeton undergraduate experience, it wasn’t until Senior Checkout that it crossed her radar. “AG had such a creative station at Checkout where seniors could pledge to support our class’s Annual Giving campaign for the first four years following our graduation, just to get their muscle memory to start thinking about giving,” said Yu, who made a \$25 gift that first year and now has a perfect giving record. Yu hopes that students can be exposed to Annual Giving’s impact earlier in their time at Princeton to understand the opportunities that such funds provide to create transformative experiences.

When Yu moved to New York City in 2006, she volunteered to reach out to classmates to encourage participation during an AG phone-a-thon. “I’m extremely competitive, and I wanted to help put the Class of ’98 on top in terms of participation,” she said. “I could only fundraise for something that I am deeply passionate about, and it became really exciting to know that I could make a difference in this way.”

Following her 10th Reunion, she volunteered to serve as an AG class agent and later became a member of the Annual Giving Committee in 2016. After becoming vice chair in 2020, she was part of the team that convened AG volunteers from similar decades on Zoom to share best practices. “I found that those of us who are similarly aged had similar experiences and also similar challenges,” she said. “Those conversations provided a bigger-picture look at AG.”

For Yu, Annual Giving represents what her cross-country coach predicted about Princeton decades ago — a tradition of care and trust that bonds the entire alumni community. “I think of Princeton as a family, and I feel it’s important to support that family,” she said. “Giving to AG is a vote of confidence in the University and a promise to each other.” ■

“I THINK OF PRINCETON AS A FAMILY, AND I FEEL IT’S IMPORTANT TO SUPPORT THAT FAMILY.”



ORANGE & BLACK DAY

• OCTOBER 22, 2024 •

Get ready for your close-up!

In honor of Princeton's charter, the stage is set for a global birthday celebration on October 22. Put on your very best orange and black and post your photos and videos to social media and the official kudoboard.

Celebrate the University's 278th birthday on campus, at a regional gathering or wherever you may be when the curtains are raised on October 22.

LEARN MORE: alumni.princeton.edu/orange-black-day



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DEAR TIGERS,



Jennifer Caputo
Photo by Fotobuddy

I had the pleasure of meeting many of our newest Princetonians as the Class of 2028 and first-year graduate students took the first steps of their Princeton journey during Move-In Day on Aug. 23. Watching students explore their new campus surroundings, introduce themselves to strangers who will become lifetime friends and say goodbye to family members who've helped them to this moment was an exhilarating mix of excitement and emotion (as I prepared to drop my youngest child off at college later that week). For many, this campus will become both a second home and the setting for pivotal chapters of their lives.

That connection to campus and community was reinforced just a few weeks later when hundreds of alumni returned for the “Every Voice” conference to celebrate Princeton’s LGBTQ+ alumni. The three-day event was the first alumni affinity conference on campus since 2019, and the Princeton spirit of welcome was on full display. For some alumni, “Every Voice” was the first time they had returned to campus since their own graduations. For others, it was an opportunity to reconnect and empower Princeton’s vibrant LGBTQ+ community. I want to send my heartfelt gratitude to the conference steering committee and everyone who came back and made “Every Voice” a success.

More opportunities to connect are right around the corner. Later this month, you are invited to celebrate the University’s 278th birthday by donning your brightest Princeton colors on Orange & Black Day (Oct. 22). President Eisgruber will meet with alumni at Venture Forward gatherings in Seattle, Houston, Austin and Philadelphia beginning in December; and Alumni Day in February will be here before you know it. We also invite you to connect with us through TigerSide Chats, a new virtual conversation series designed to bring Princeton faculty, administrators and alumni together in meaningful dialogue. For more information on these and other events, visit the Princeton Alumni website and follow @princetonalumni on social media.

Jen

Jennifer Caputo
Deputy Vice President for Alumni Engagement

continued from page 5

As a mid-career government official with promise, I had been awarded a study year by the British government. Visiting in London, a professor had recommended approaching his university in upstate New York. I said I needed a fallback option; he suggested I could always try Princeton! So I did.

Ingrid shared her surprise with the dean that anyone would make Princeton their second choice. But they could see that the political dimension of zoning and land use planning was an interesting field. So, I and my young family arrived for a year's immersion in U.S. academic life.

Auditing a course in the architecture school, on Ingrid's recommendation, I learned a huge amount from the late Professor Chester Rapkin, who had been at the heart of planning in New York City. And Ingrid introduced me to Henry Richmond, of the 1000 Friends of Oregon, which led to a summer study reviewing the success of that organization.

One obligation of my funder was a report of my year. Suitably inspired, I wrote a book on American planning and land use, which the U.K. government published. I then went on to senior government roles, often drawing on the Princeton experience.

Ingrid's decision in 1987 transformed my career and led to a lifelong family friendship. We will miss her.

RICHARD WAKEFORD '88
Winchcombe, U.K.

HOLLIE'S HEAVE

Reading Chris Webber '53's amusing letter about falling butter pats in Commons (Inbox, July/August issue) reminded me that I may be the only living alumnus who actually witnessed Hollie Donan '51's bid for Commons immortality.

Hollie was one of Princeton's great football heroes. He led our 1950 team to an undefeated season, opening holes a mile wide for Jake McCandless '51 and Dick Kazmaier '52. He also destroyed enemy quarterbacks.

Hollie was a waiter in Commons. I was a busboy. While waiting for my post-meal duties, Hollie appeared out of the kitchen

MASSAU HERALD; COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA; COURTESY OF CAMERON HUME '68



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SCHEIN '37

MEMORIALS PAWCAST
Remembering Joe Schein '37

On the first episode of a new podcast celebrating the lives of alumni, PAW Memorials editor Nicholas DeVito sat down with **Abby Klionsky '14** to discuss **Joe Schein '37**, who was the oldest living alum in Princeton's history at the time of his death. A Princetonian 'till the end, Joe died on the Friday of Reunions Weekend 2024. Listen at paw.princeton.edu or wherever you get your podcasts.

TIGER OF THE WEEK
Jennifer Shyue '17

Shyue got hooked on literary translation at a workshop she took at Princeton taught by Natasha Wimmer.



She's since published in journals and books, and she says she's interested in "helping to broaden the conversation on Asian American literature

that's happening in the U.S., which is often very U.S.- and Canada-centric." Read more at paw.princeton.edu.



SHYUE '17

PAWCAST
Ambassador Cameron Hume '68

When Hume graduated from Princeton, he joined the Peace Corps and was sent to Libya — but his two-year stint was cut short by a coup d'etat. The experience launched him on a diplomacy career that has taken him to some of the world's most dangerous — and interesting — places. On the latest PAWcast, he spoke about two major issues in the news where he has built expertise: prisoner exchanges and humanitarian aid. He discussed his recent work trying to get aid into Gaza, he and explained why sometimes you need to go to a place to understand its people. Listen at paw.princeton.edu or wherever you get your podcasts.



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with a tray over his shoulder loaded with meat, mashed potatoes, peas, and gravy, headed for Lower Cloister. He slipped over a water slick and began to lose it as he reached the head of the stairs. With no one in sight down below, Hollie heaved his tray all the way to the far hallway wall. It was a prodigious display of strength, and good sense.

It was also perhaps the loudest bang ever heard at Princeton. The young men awaiting their dinner thought they were being bombed.

Disposing of the mess was not in my job description, but I quickly became part of the clean-up crew, all the time laughing my head off. The laughter spread over the University, earning Hollie yet another biggest-man-on-campus accolade.

I often used the story when recruiting young athletes who said Princeton was too stuffy for their tastes, to help put their misgivings to rest. I think they could see themselves duplicating Hollie's heave.

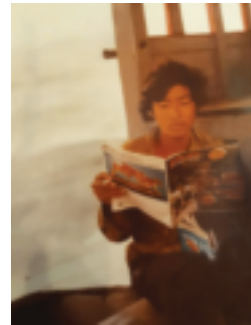
GIL BOGLEY '52
Lake Leelanau, Mich.

PAW FINDS YOU

In 1979, I was working in Vietnamese refugee camps on small Indonesian islands in the middle of the South China Sea along with another Princetonian, Frank Sharry '78. We had both been part of the Princeton-in-Asia program in Singapore and had stayed on to work with Vietnamese boat people, screening them for emigration to the U.S.

Getting to the islands was sometimes a tricky business, involving a mix of helicopters, rescue ships, fishing boats, and small boys paddling coracles. I don't remember why in this case I was on a Vietnamese fishing boat — one of those used by the boat people to escape from Vietnam — but we often used them early on to get from one camp to another. The mail had come up from our office in Singapore, and the young man pictured here found my PAW of interest.

I always use this photo to demonstrate the truth of the belief that the PAW always finds you — and a pleasure it is that it does. I am sure there are Princetonians in the Antarctic also getting their PAW, but this is as far as it went for me. Today, I get my



PAW in Serbia, which may be the Southeast Europe equivalent of the middle of the South China Sea, at least in terms of getting mail from the

U.S. My latest PAW arrived six weeks after mailing — partly because the U.S. Postal Service first sent it to *Senegal* instead of *Serbia*, according to the postmark.

ART SCHANKLER '77
Belgrade, Serbia

FOR THE RECORD

An article in the September issue on the Neill-Cochran House misstated when slavery was abolished nationwide. As a member of the Confederacy, Texas was the last state to receive notification of the Emancipation Proclamation, which was issued in 1863. The 13th Amendment was ratified nearly three years later.

YOUR PERSPECTIVE

Let us know what you think

✉ PAW@princeton.edu

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FAREWELL TO LANDON 'LANNY' JONES '66, A PRINCETON ORIGINAL

The phone rang on a Sunday morning in June, and Landon “Lanny” Jones ’66 was on the other end. “Peter, I have a few things I need to talk to you about.” ¶ He pitched a story for next year’s 100th anniversary of the

release of *The Great Gatsby*. He asked about a book a friend was working on. And he wanted to know about a PAW project we had discussed. It was not unlike other conversations we’d had in the previous two years, except this time Jones was calling from the hospital.

Jones died less than two months later, on Aug. 17, at the age of 81, thus ending an incredible life for a journalism giant, beloved Princeton figure, and devoted husband and father.

“He was so sick that day,” says Cassie Jones, who was at her father’s side. “But it was such a my-dad moment.”

In addition to Cassie, Jones is survived by two other children, Rebecca Urciuoli ’93 and Landon Jones ’97; six grandchildren; and Sarah, his wife of 54 years. “They were a real partnership, and he loved her very much,” Landon says.

John McPhee ’53, the prolific writer and Princeton professor, knew Jones and knew about his work ethic. “He had a lot of problems with his health, over years not months, and he was still suggesting stories. That’s a legacy in itself,” McPhee says.

Jones and McPhee first intersected at PAW. After graduating, Jones joined Time Inc., and three years later McPhee was a member of the editorial board that hired Jones as PAW’s editor. It was the fall of 1969, the first year of coeducation and the height of antiwar protests on campus.

“I remember Lanny telling me that he took the job because of

the news opportunities presented,” says Jim Merritt ’66, Jones’ roommate and a PAW editor from 1989 to ’99. “He was a rising star at *Time* magazine. Colleagues there told him he was crazy to leave. As one put it, ‘Maybe, if you’re lucky, when you’re ready to move on you can get another job at Time Inc.’”

Jones did get another job at Time Inc., returning in 1974 to help start *People* magazine, which he built into one of the most popular periodicals of the past half century. He also was managing editor of *Money* and the author of four books, including *Celebrity Nation: How America Evolved into a Culture of Fans and Followers*, released in 2023.

Throughout his career, Jones stayed connected to the Princeton community, living in town for more than 50 years, working with students, and offering his services to PAW editors.

“Few people cared about PAW as much as Lanny did,” says Marilyn Marks ’86, PAW editor from 2002 to ’22. “He took me under his wing immediately after I arrived. He made sure I knew he was always there if I had a question or needed some advice. He told me stories about PAW and Princeton history.”

Adds Sandy Martin ’66, another roommate: “Lanny was known to, and loved by, more people than anyone I have known in my lifetime, and this, I believe, was because he was a wonderfully curious and open person who listened carefully and engaged thoughtfully with every person he encountered.”

Jones suffered from hearing loss following a case of mumps as a child and contended with other health issues later in life, including needing a bone marrow transplant in 2019. “It was a rocky five years ... with long hospital stays and at times acute discomfort and pain,” says Merritt. “But you’d never know it. He took every day as a gift.”

A memorial service open to the community is scheduled for Nov. 15 at 1:30 p.m. at the Princeton University Chapel.



Peter Barzilai s'97

EDITOR

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ON THE CAMPUS

NEWS, SPORTS, AND STUDENT LIFE



TACK TO SCHOOL

A new exhibit at Mudd Manuscript Library celebrates photographer Elizabeth Menzies, whose work appeared in PAW from the 1930s to the 1970s. Her image of students sailing, circa 1958, is one of several that feature Lake Carnegie. Read more on page 18.





NEW YEAR

'28 Through the Gate

Makeup of freshman class mostly unchanged in first year after affirmative action was overturned

BY HOPE PERRY '24

IN AUGUST, members of the Class of 2028 got their feet wet as Tigers — especially some who participated in Outdoor Action (OA).

Sankalp Gautam '28, a New College West resident, said that he traveled with OA to Promised Land State Park in Pennsylvania. “Sleeping in the tarps was pretty intense,” he said.

Torrential rain across the Northeast caused several OA groups to return early, as their sleeping bags were drenched.

Abhijna Kavasseri '28, from North Dakota, said she went on OA and appreciated the “centering” that OA and other orientation activities provided.

This is the 50th year of Outdoor Action, and an anniversary celebration for alumni trip leaders was planned for late September, after this issue went to press.

Some first-year students also participated in Community Action (CA) and Diversity and Difference in Action.

Aliya Kraybill '28 stayed on campus for CA orientation. Her program was focused on health care, and she said it enabled her to get to know the local community around Princeton. Following the program, Kraybill said she “want[s] to engage in volunteering this year” while on campus.

Chris Oliver '28, a member of Mathey College, didn't participate in any of the traditional orientation programs. Instead, he was busy training as a

HIP HIP FOR YEH

Yeh College residents enter the campus near Nassau Hall as part of the Class of '28 Pre-rade Sept. 1.

member of the football team's defensive line. Oliver told PAW that it was “nice getting to meet a bunch of people” but that “no A/C is kind of hard.”

This is the first class admitted since the Supreme Court's overturning of affirmative action in college admissions — but at Princeton, the makeup of the Class of 2028 did not notably differ from the last class of incoming first years (see sidebar for details).

Incoming undergraduates represented 48 states and Washington, D.C., with international students from 56 countries. The Graduate School also announced that graduate students in all cohorts (not just this fall's incoming students) represent 91 countries.

This year included the largest number of transfer students as part of an ongoing expansion of the transfer program. President Christopher Eisgruber '83 consistently mentioned both “the Great Class of 2028” and “transfer students” (not all transfer students entering this year are in the Class of 2028) in his welcome messages to students across orientation week.

At Opening Exercises, Eisgruber briefly

BY THE NUMBERS

UNDERGRADUATE CLASS OF 2028

First-time, first-year

Applicants: **40,468**

Admitted: **1,868 (4.6%)**

Enrolled: **1,411**

Asian American: **24%** (26% in Class of 2027)

Black or African American: **9%** (9% in 2027)

Hispanic or Latino: **9%** (10% in 2027)

Multiracial: **7%** (7% in 2027)

American Indian or Alaska Native: **<1%** (<1% in 2027)

Native Hawaiian American or Other Pacific Islander: **0%** (<1% in 2027)

White: **31%** (32% in 2027)

Race/ethnicity unknown: **8%** (5% in 2027)

International students: **12%** (14% in 2027)

Children of alumni: **11%**

Qualified for financial aid: **72%**

Eligible for Pell Grants: **22%**

First-generation college students: **16%**

Bachelor of science in engineering students: **32%**

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Enrolled: **36**

From community colleges: **26**

Military (reservists or veterans): **23**

First-generation college students: **22**

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Applicants: **19,931**

Admitted: **1,465 (7.4%)**

Enrolled: **765**

Doctoral-degree students: **573**

Master's-degree students: **192**

Humanities and social sciences: **339**

Natural sciences and engineering: **426**

International students: **343**

Among U.S. students

From underrepresented racial or ethnic groups: **16%** (21% for cohort entering in 2023)

From first-generation or low-income backgrounds: **25%** (25% in 2023)

Sources: Office of Communications, 2023-24 Common Data Set, School of Engineering and Applied Science



alluded to the protests and free speech debates that have roiled universities across the country, though his main address focused on the value of a liberal arts education.

As the Class of 2028 took in the prayers, singing, and speeches in front of Nassau Hall, Cannon Green buzzed with upperclassmen who stopped by to pick up free T-shirts before the celebratory Pre-rade.

Christian Gonzalez '28 of New College West said that Opening Exercises were “really worldly” because of the number of different faiths represented during the service.

Orientation wrapped up with a talk with Fei-Fei Li '99, a computer science

OPENING EXERCISES

President Christopher Eisgruber '83, top, addresses the freshmen, and drummers set the pace for the recessional.

professor at Stanford and the author of the Pre-read for this year, *The Worlds I See: Curiosity, Exploration, and Discovery at the Dawn of AI*. The book focuses on the need to regulate and safeguard the rise of artificial intelligence (AI).

“There are places where no machine can go: when a human needs a human, whether it’s a loved one or a professional one or a team, or a combination,” Li said at the Pre-read assembly. “And I think that’s how we know that AI will never replace our humanity.” **P**



STUDENT DISPATCH

Student Push Yields Changes To Mental Health Care

BY ANIKA ASTHANA '25



Editor's note: If you or someone you know may have suicidal thoughts, you can call the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline or chat online at 988lifeline.org.

P RINCETON UNIVERSITY Health Services reduced the student copay for in-network mental health visits from \$20 to \$10 for those who participate in the Student Health Plan. In addition, the University will fully cover initial visits to therapists. The new measures, which took effect in August, are part of a larger effort to address Princeton's need for mental health care, which remains painfully prevalent in the view of many students, including those who advocated for the updates.

The Graduate Student Government (GSG) and the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) partnered to push for these changes. "It started out quite serendipitously," said Chris Catalano, the vice president of GSG. He pointed to a

meeting with Calvin Chin, the director of Counseling and Psychological Services, as a turning point for the initiative because both student groups brought up a desire to reduce copays.

"I think it speaks to the enormity of the issue that both GSG and USG happened to raise the same issue at the same meeting, without having previously spoken about this issue," said Meera Kochhar '25, chair of the USG's Mental Health Committee.

The University is unable to provide long-term therapy for students and instead facilitates introductions to professionals within the health plan's Exclusive Provider Network. This service allows students to meet with multiple mental health care providers and find the right fit for them without having to pay additional fees.

Princeton's expansion of accessibility to mental health care comes within the tragic heaviness of an increase in student and staff suicides. Since 2021, six undergraduates have died after struggling with mental health, and a University staff member died by suicide on campus in 2022.

"While Princeton has a lot of resources, there is a need for a cultural change in how students view mental health. A lot of students view mental health as a buzzword," Kochhar said.

The two student governments worked for over a year to advocate for changes

to the student health plan. Their work included collecting impact statements from the student body, modeling various policies (such as a \$5 copay versus a \$10 copay), and conducting focus groups. In particular, the GSG and USG compared the Princeton plan with those at peer institutions. Schools such as Brown and Yale offer sessions with no copays, while MIT and Caltech offer at least 25 free visits and cheaper copays.

A group of students presented the final version of the policy to Vice President W. Rochelle Calhoun and other administrators in May, and the University announced the change on July 12.

During orientation in August, Calhoun spoke to the Residential College Advisers (RCAs) and Community Living Advisers (CLAs) about the new policy. Calhoun stressed that the policy change was driven by students, and that their effort was worth applauding. RCAs and CLAs work as primary points of contact with the student body and can work as ambassadors to inform their 'zees (advisees) about the new policy and its accessibility.

Students have said that the cost reduction is helping them afford therapy at school. "This change will save me over \$1,000 per year as I see a therapist twice a week and psychiatrist once every four weeks for medically necessary treatment," said a Ph.D. student who requested anonymity given the sensitive nature of the topic. "I'm incredibly grateful to Chris and everyone in GSG who made this change possible, but I think there's still significant room for improvement in making mental health treatment truly affordable and accessible."

Catalano noted that the change will affect many students at Princeton. "More than 50% of students seek mental health services on campus," he said. "This will hopefully reduce the barrier to entry by cutting that in half and allow more students to receive care."

The benefits of therapy are long term, he added: "The skills you gain, things you work through, emotional processing, all that will benefit the students and the people on campus for the rest of their lives. I think the impact of that is incalculable." **P**

TECHNOLOGY

Engineering Faculty Have Arts Down to a Science

BY JULIE BONETTE

CALMING, RELAXING, AND meditative are not usually words synonymous with robots, but they are to Professor Naomi Leonard '85, chair of the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

For more than two years, Leonard has collaborated with faculty in the arts at Princeton on Rhythm Bots, an installation of robots programmed to move in ways that create a soothing environment. It's just one example of the interdisciplinary — and unexpected — collection of projects that make up CreativeX, where faculty work collaboratively at the intersection of art and engineering. CreativeX publicly launched this summer, years after the idea came about over informal lunch conversations.

At the June showcase in the robotics lab, the 20 involved faculty introduced themselves and their projects, some of which have already translated to industry, while others are in progress or in the planning stages. The same day, the website CreativeXProject.org went live.

"The artists and engineers of CreativeX embrace the excitement of the

unknown," Leonard, founding director of CreativeX, said at the event. "We thrive in the spaces between disciplines, encouraging our members to explore, question, and take risks. This unique platform for experimentation leads to innovative ways of thinking and doing."

Leonard's Rhythm Bots debuted in Philadelphia in 2022. The machines have circular bases and stand about 4 feet tall, with triangles and circles affixed near their tops. The robots are arranged separately and asymmetrically around whatever space they occupy, and chairs among the robots invite audience members to sit down and absorb the environment. The robots' movements, which are coordinated, emanate a gentle ticking sound, and over months and years Leonard and her collaborators have added other features, such as sensors that allow the robots to respond to nearby movement.

During Reunions this year, 12 of the robots were installed at the Wallace

RHYTHM BOTS

Naomi Leonard '85's soothing robots are among the Princeton projects that blend art and engineering.

Theater in the Lewis Center for the Arts at events open to the public. Colorful and ever-changing lighting and subtle background sounds simultaneously reminiscent of water flowing over rocks and tires on a gravel road added to the robots' movements, which are "intended to create a meditative public space" where the audience can have "a calming and relaxing experience," according to Leonard.

Leonard has collaborated on Rhythm Bots with Susan Marshall, director of Princeton's dance program; Dan Trueman '99, chair and professor of the Department of Music; and Jane Cox, director and professor of the Program in Theater and Music Theater.

NODES (Net tOpologies and Dance Explorations), another CreativeX project, uses large-scale nets as settings for artistic performances by aerial dancers and is the result of a collaboration between Sigrid Andriaenssens, professor of civil and environmental engineering; Rebecca Lazier, associate director and professor of dance; and sculptor Janet Echelman, a former visiting lecturer in the Princeton Atelier.

At the showcase, Andriaenssens said she asked NODES dancers about their interactions with the net, such as when the net was stiff and when it was soft, and "they were reporting the conditions ... exactly the opposite of how structures normally work. So, I was very interested in finding out how this phenomenon works" for applications like architecture resilient to seismic events.

CreativeX is funded by a grant through the School of Engineering and Applied Science Dean's Fund, with additional funding and support from the Department of Music and the Lewis Center for the Arts.

The faculty members of CreativeX "envision growing interactions with a range of scholars as we jointly explore our humanity and our science in the face of the complexities of our world," Leonard said.

"Our open-ended approach shows how embracing creativity's free-flowing nature and pushing beyond traditional boundaries unlocks new potential." **P**



JULIE BONETTE



ELIZABETH MENZIES

Photo Exhibit Captures an Era of Campus Life

BY HOPE PERRY '24

“CREDIT LINE, PLEASE” reads the stamp that Elizabeth Menzies put on the back of the photos she submitted to the Princeton Alumni Weekly.

She took many photographs for PAW, starting in the mid-1930s, and early in her career the magazine often failed to give her credit, though it’s unclear why. The daughter of Alan Menzies, a chemistry professor, she spent more than 40 years photographing the University she was never able to attend.

This year, Mudd Manuscript Library has put together an exhibit of Menzies’ work. Phoebe Nobles, a processing archivist at Mudd library who curated the exhibit with Emma Paradies and Rosalba

Varallo Recchia, said the inspiration for the exhibit came from a photo album about limited parking on campus that she and colleague April Armstrong*14 discovered.

The album “just has these very kind of saucy, sardonic captions that she typed out and taped into the album and some sort of pretty humdrum photos of parking lots and people walking from their cars to work,” Nobles said.

The exhibit, which will run through April, features photographs from a large cross section of Menzies’ portfolio. One case of photos focuses on Lake Carnegie, which Menzies often photographed, both as an example of Princeton life and as an isolated bastion of nature.

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

Photos in the Elizabeth Menzies exhibit include, clockwise from top left, workers at Alexander Hall, Commencement in 1941, and a fencing bout at Dillon Gym.

To preserve the photos, some pictures will be switched out every few months so the exhibit may vary week to week.

“We don’t have a lot in her own voice,” said Nobles. “We’re fairly certain she would have printed most of this material herself.”

Some of Menzies’ photos appear personal and intimate, others cold and isolated. While archivists don’t have any way to know how Menzies thought about most of her pictures, they do know that she’s finally getting the credit line she always deserved. **P**

ELIZABETH MENZIES / PRINCETON UNIVERSITY HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION, GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS SERIES / PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

CAMPUS ACTIVISM

Pro-Palestinian Protesters Return With Rally, March to Nassau Hall

BY HOPE PERRY '24

P RINCETON ISRAELI APARTHEID Divest (PIAD) returned this fall semester with an inaugural rally and a familiar message from last spring, calling for the University to divest and disassociate from Israel and Israeli companies, universities, and cultural institutions, and asking Princeton to drop charges against students who participated in an April sit-in.

Before the start of the school year and in anticipation of continued protests, the University created a new website, protests.princeton.edu, addressing guidelines and regulations for demonstrations on campus. The website was promoted to first-year students at an orientation event about free speech hosted by Vice President W. Rochelle Calhoun and University President Christopher Eisgruber '83.

"If you want to protest, and protest ... in ways even that may seem outlandish to people on the other side, there are ways to do that," Eisgruber said. "But there are also many rules that are there to make sure that the activity and functions of the University continue"

Notably, the website stipulated that protests on the lawn in front of Nassau Hall were not permitted, a departure from past practice. (Cannon Green and the Prospect House grounds were also listed as off limits.)

The Sept. 3 rally began in the courtyard outside McCosh Hall, as a throwback to where PIAD first established a sit-in, known as the "Gaza Solidarity Encampment," on April 25, and included stops at Clio Hall and the front steps of Nassau Hall.

But when the PIAD supporters marched to the front of Nassau Hall, quite a few demonstrators stood on the forbidden lawn. Despite the presence of about 10 Public Safety officers and personnel around the protest, PAW did not see any instances of demonstrators being approached by law enforcement. On Sept. 6, *The Daily Princetonian* reported that the University reversed its decision to ban protests in front of Nassau Hall.

"The walkways in front of Nassau Hall have long been an approved protest site," University spokesperson Jennifer Morrill told PAW in an email. "Historically, we have recognized — and we continue to recognize — that protests legitimately spill onto the lawn. We have changed our language to reflect that."



SEPT. 3 RALLY AND MARCH

During the McCosh rally, counterprotesters stood at the back of the group protest itself, separated from the PIAD group with movable barricades. Some held flags and others had posters with the face of Hersh Goldberg-Polin, an American Israeli who was taken hostage by Hamas on Oct. 7 and killed by the group a few days before the protest.


Emanuelle Sippy '25, president of the Alliance for Jewish Progressives (AJP), addressed the counterprotesters when she spoke, saying she had eaten at the house of Goldberg-Polin's cousin.

She encouraged the crowd to "grieve all that there is to grieve between the river and the sea," referring to the deaths of Israelis as a result of Hamas' Oct. 7 attack as well as the tens of thousands of Palestinians killed in Gaza since the beginning of the conflict.

When the protest moved from McCosh to the steps of Clio, the procession appeared to number about 150. Several PIAD members gave accounts of the sit-in at Clio Hall that took place April 29.

PIAD has maintained that the occupation of Clio that day was peaceful, but University employees and statements from administrators characterized the incident differently, especially once Princeton personnel exited the building and encountered the crowd outside.

Speakers at Nassau Hall called on the campus community to support students who are facing trespassing charges related to the sit-in at Clio and the pitching of tents during the original set-up of the "Gaza Solidarity Encampment."

"We will keep pushing every single way we can," said Aditi Rao, a graduate student and PIAD organizer. 



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BRETT TOMLINSON

STUDENT ARRESTS

Pro-Palestine Protesters Head to Court

BY JULIE BONETTE

THE CASES AGAINST the 15 pro-Palestinian protesters who were arrested on Princeton's campus in the spring are proceeding after Judge John McCarthy III '69 declined to dismiss the charges at a pretrial hearing on Sept. 10.

The defendants and their attorneys appeared virtually at the hearing, and Aymen Aboushi, who represents 13 of the defendants, unsuccessfully motioned to dismiss the charges of defiant trespassing without prejudice by arguing that conditions for the charges had not been met. The statute requires notice of trespass through communication, signs, or fencing, which Aboushi said was not given prior to the arrests, citing body camera footage as proof. Aboushi also read from the University's Statement on Freedom of Expression, which he said gives students broad license to express themselves.

Though the University is not a party to the trial, at the hearing, Aboushi mentioned conversations with administrators and an outside counsel. In the spring, the University announced that those arrested were unlikely to face penalties greater than probation in the campus disciplinary system. Princeton Israeli Apartheid Divest (PIAD) posted on X, formerly known as Twitter, that those arrested were given four years of disciplinary probation by the University. The University declined to comment.

Municipal prosecutor Christopher Koutsouris argued that University guidelines are not equivalent to the law.

"These are trial issues," McCarthy said in rejecting the motion. "There's just no basis for this in municipal court."

After his motion to dismiss was rejected, Aboushi successfully requested that the court set a "neutral date," by which time the defendants would decide whether

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Aboushi successfully requested that the court set a “neutral date,” by which time the defendants would decide whether to accept a plea or proceed to trial.


to accept a plea that Koutsouris said was offered months ago or proceed to trial. McCarthy agreed and Oct. 1 was chosen.

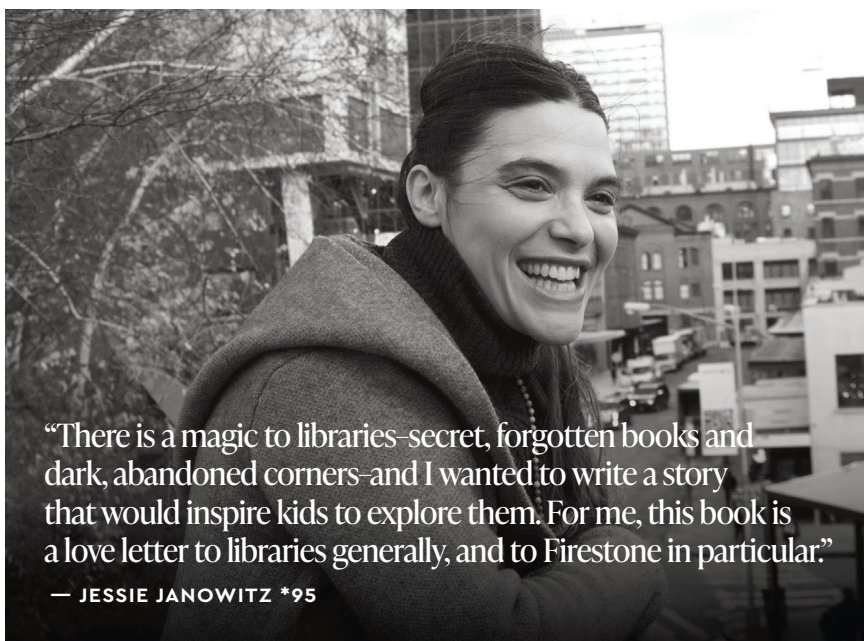
Aboushi is representing the people who were arrested on April 29 during the occupation of Clio Hall: five undergraduates, six graduate students, a postdoctoral researcher, and a local seminarian who took a class at the University last semester. The protesters later said their actions were peaceful, though PAW has spoken with staff members in Clio who called the situation frightening.

Attorney Omar Qadeer represents the two graduate students who were arrested on April 25 for attempting to set up tents outside McCosh Hall. He joined Aboushi in the motion.

PIAD encouraged supporters to attend the virtual hearing, and more than 125 people joined, with many displaying “Mercer County: Drop the Charges” as their profile photo or background. 

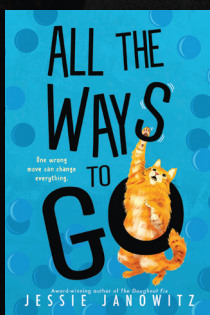
IN SHORT

Princeton’s **Board of Trustees** elected four new members whose terms began July 1: Ann Chen ’89, a former partner at Bain & Co. who advises family foundations and nonprofit organizations; Bob Peck ’88, managing director of the investment firm FPR Partners; Anthony Romero ’87, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union; and Anthony Yoseloff ’96, managing partner and chief investment officer at Davidson Kempner Capital Management. Peck and Yoseloff will serve eight years as charter trustees, while Chen and Romero will serve four years as term trustees. Three trustees selected by alumni, Sarah Marie Bruno *21, Aisha Chebbi ’24, and Edward Felsenthal ’88, also joined the board in July. Their appointments were announced in May. 



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— JESSIE JANOWITZ *95



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LUKE COLELLA '25

FOOTBALL

The Ivy's Wideout U.

A Princeton receiving tradition is catching on

BY BRETT TOMLINSON

P RINCETON RECEIVERS ARE building a reputation. In the NFL, Andrei Iosivas '23 has quickly risen to the Cincinnati Bengals' starting lineup, and four other alumni pass-catchers have played in the league since 2020: wide receiver Jesper Horsted '19 and tight ends Stephen Carlson '19, Seth DeValve '16, and John Lovett '19, who was primarily a quarterback in college. The Tigers' pedigree also includes a string of All-Ivy receivers who haven't played professionally.

"The history is unreal at wide receiver here, but especially the mentorship," said Luke Colella '25, Princeton's leader in receptions last season. "Guys like Jacob Birmelin ['22], Andrei Iosivas, Dylan Classi ['23], they're still some of my best friends to this day. When I first got here, they took me under their wing, really showed me the ropes, and showed me what it takes to be a great football player and a receiver in the Ivy League."

Colella had to wait his turn, spending one season on the sidelines and another on special teams before breaking through with 620 receiving yards and six touchdowns in 2023. Now, he and

classmate A.J. Barber (582 receiving yards last year) are poised to lead a new streak of Tigers as they open Ivy League play at Columbia Oct. 5.

Princeton's receivers are a big reason the Tigers have been .500 or better for 11 straight seasons, and even in Bob Surace '90's early years as head coach, when wins were harder to come by, wide receivers were among the team's strengths, with Trey Peacock '11, Andrew Kerr '11, and Roman Wilson '14 among the standouts.

This year, in addition to Colella and Barber, Surace will rely on seniors Tamatoa Falatea, Connor Hulstein, and Matthew Mahoney. "It's a very experienced group," he said. "There's a lot of competition, which has been great."

The keys to being a good receiver, Colella said, go beyond the basics of speed, quickness, and good hands. "We all want the ball, all the time," he said, and the best receivers stay locked in on every play, "even when your number might not be getting called as much as you want it to be."

Veteran wideouts and running backs, including top rusher John Volker '25, could be crucial as Princeton promotes a

new quarterback following the graduation of two-year starter Blake Stenstrom '24. Left-hander Blaine Hipa '26, the frontrunner for the role, threw just one varsity pass before this season, a 3-yard touchdown to Colella in the Yale game. He also ran for a touchdown against Yale.

In the summer, Surace said, the upperclassmen were hard at work, particularly on the offensive side of the ball, practicing together after their jobs and internships, without coaches to guide them. "We're not involved at all, so it puts leadership on them," he said. "It's really helped us with new quarterbacks. ... They have to organize it, they have to structure what plays they want to run — it's almost like the first day you throw your kid in the pool and they have to swim."

The sink-or-swim offense will have the backing of what was the Ivy League's top-ranked defense a year ago, in both yards and points allowed. Key starters return



DEAN OF COACHES

Bob Surace '90 is the longest-tenured head coach in Ivy League football.

in the defensive backfield and on the defensive line, and the Tigers will look to rebuild the linebacker corps after the departures of Liam Johnson '24 and Ozzie Nicholas '24, two All-Ivy players who are continuing their careers as graduate transfers at California and Duke, respectively.


At the center of the defense is nose tackle Jack DelGarbino '25, an All-Ivy honorable mention last fall after making 51 tackles in his first year as a starter. DelGarbino was recruited as a heavyweight wrestler and walked on to the football team in 2022, having last played in a high school state championship game in Ohio.

The “body presence” that high-level freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestlers rely on, DelGarbino said, has translated well to the defensive line. “In order to hit those throws [in Greco-Roman], you need to know how a guy’s coming into you or a guy’s coming away from you, what he’s trying to do,” he said. “So that helps with O-linemen, trying to figure out what they’re trying to get you to do and how to beat that.”

Surace’s squad was picked fourth in the Ivy’s preseason media poll, but the margin between fourth and first appears as narrow as it was last year, when each of Princeton’s league games was decided by eight points or fewer. The 4-3 Tigers finished a game behind Dartmouth, Harvard, and Yale, all at 5-2, the first two-loss Ivy champions since 1982.

Ivy football has seen a changing of the guard in recent years, with the retirements of Harvard’s Tim Murphy and Columbia’s Al Bagnoli and the death of Dartmouth’s Buddy Teevens, all within the last 14 months.

Surace, in his 14th season, is now the longest-tenured head coach in the league, and two of his former assistants are leading other Ivy programs (James Perry at Brown and Andrew Aurich '06 at Harvard). He’s also led four teams to Ivy championships — tied with Dick Colman for the most by a Princeton coach.

“I love coming to work,” Surace said during the league’s preseason media day, “and I love the people I’m surrounded by. They energize me in so many ways.” 



From left: Victoria Bjorklund '73, Douglas Grover '73, Trevor Forde '74 and Hank Bjorklund '72

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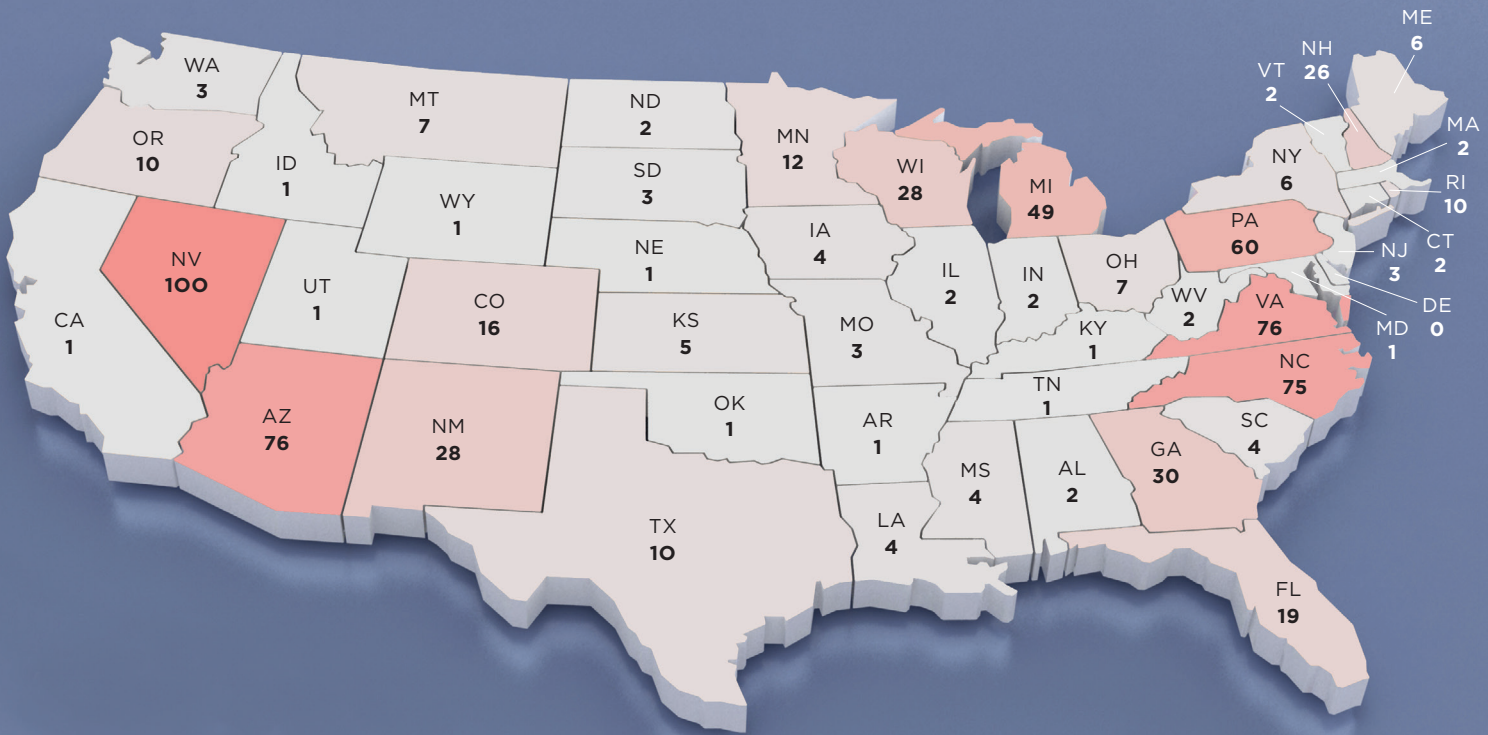


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RESEARCH

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POLITICAL POWER

The Electoral Innovation Lab, co-founded by Sam Wang, launched the web app Vote Maximizer in August to help individuals calculate their voting power in elections. The data shows Nevada has the highest voting power for the upcoming presidential election. Read more about the app on page 26.

VOTER POWER SCALE



PAW STAFF



VOTE MAXIMIZER

Power to the People

Professor Sam Wang's election data gives voters a leg up

BY JULIE BONETTE

SAM WANG, A PROFESSOR OF neuroscience, acknowledges defects in the U.S. electoral process, but rather than growing discouraged, he feels optimistic.

"I'm the person who shows up at a dilapidated house and just says, 'Oh, this place has so much potential,'" he says with a laugh. "And so, I'm like that about democracy."

Though his research at Princeton focuses on how the brain learns and interprets, two decades ago, Wang took a special interest in elections, and in particular, the power voters have to decide winning candidates and ballot initiatives through not only votes, but also donations and volunteering. In 2020, he co-founded the Electoral Innovation Lab (Electoral-Lab.org), a nonpartisan research body unaffiliated with the University that aims to provide the public with easy-to-understand and applicable electoral science tools.

This August, the lab launched Vote Maximizer (votemaximizer.org), a web app that combines ballot information with campaigning efforts to identify key elections and ballot questions. The goal is to calculate voter power, which Wang says is quantifiable, to move the probability of outcomes across races, including presidential, Congressional,

and state races. Since a few votes can move the balance of power nationally, a voter who doesn't live in a location with a tight race could choose to donate to or volunteer in other key races. The closer the race and the smaller the population, the more power a voter has.

For instance, as of early September, Wang says the key Senate races this year will be in Montana, Florida, and possibly Nebraska, but he sees competitive races for the House all over the country. For the presidential election, Nevada showed the highest possible voting power at 100, followed by Arizona and Virginia with 76 each, and North Carolina with 75.

Wang explains that his scientific background inspired him to realize that

"I see where voters can put their efforts to get out the vote and make a difference. ... So, I would say it's optimism tempered by the fact that repairing democracy is actually a lot of work."

— SAM WANG

the application of statistical analysis and modeling can help people understand where their resources are best deployed.

Voter power is something Wang's been passionate about since becoming one of the first poll aggregators in 2004 after noticing that news coverage tended to report the results of one poll at a time, which was "like looking at a graph one data point at a time, and no scientist would ever do that," says Wang, who has since seen improvement in data-driven coverage. At the same time, voter margins for presidential elections became much smaller, starting with the infamous Bush-Gore recount in 2000, in which 537 highly-contested votes in Florida ultimately tipped the election in President George W. Bush's favor.

Though the public's focus is currently on the presidential race, Wang is looking ahead and taking note of the "ways in which democracy is a little rickety [and] could use a little improvement."

He predicts that "conditions are ripe for some kind of major change" to our national electoral system as it currently "makes it very hard for the whole range of opinion to be reflected in the people who we elect."

He points to the fact that the nation's two biggest parties are growing further and further apart politically and that a Gallup poll released in January showed that U.S. adults who identify as independents (43% of respondents) far outnumber registered Republicans and Democrats (both of which came in at 27% of respondents).

Wang concedes change may not necessarily be for the better, but he remains optimistic thanks to the data he aggregates, which helps him focus on "what needs attention. I see where voters can put their efforts to get out the vote and make a difference. ... So, I would say it's optimism tempered by the fact that repairing democracy is actually a lot of work."

He estimates the next decade will be crucial in determining the direction of our nation's political future and emphasizes that "voters have a say in that. And ... resources like Vote Maximizer can help people identify where they have the most leverage." ■

Politics Professor on the Risks of ‘Backsliding Democracy’ in 2024

BY HOPE PERRY '24

AS THE UNITED STATES HURLS toward yet another contentious presidential election, one familiar line of attack against former President Donald Trump is the claim that he is a



BEISSINGER

threat to democracy. PAW spoke with Mark Beissinger, a professor of politics at Princeton who researches democracy, revolutions, state-building, and nationalism, especially in former Soviet states. In this conversation, he explains the concept of “democratic backsliding” — when democratic norms are undermined, public participation is limited, and regime change begins to shift a state toward autocracy.

Can you share any insights on the state of the upcoming U.S. presidential election?

Trump made it clear when he was president that he did not want to allow the political system or the population to exercise its electoral choice. If he had his way, he would have pressured Congress to reverse the outcome of the election. Luckily, that didn't happen.

However, since then, he's engaged in falsehoods about what actually took place. He continues to propagate the lie that the electoral process was rigged and that the outcome was not as it turned out to be. That's very dangerous for democracy. The idea that the electoral process itself is not working as it should is exactly the kind of thing that would destabilize a country, a democracy, and we've seen that elsewhere, as well.

Trump has set things up again to replay that election, to some extent, although this time, I think he has no intention of handing power back.

What would democratic backsliding look like in the U.S.?

I think it would involve the hollowing out of institutions, so that they are not playing the roles that they were intended to play and no longer exercise any constraint over executive power. It would look like a hollowing out of individual freedoms, the right to express dissent, the ability of the press to hold the executive accountable. So, censorship often creeps in. It can creep in in subtle ways, sometimes through complex arrangements of ownership over the press, where those who are close to the executive are able to control what does and doesn't get published. Eventually, that can evolve into a much more overt system of censorship, as it did in Russia.

What is the role of universities in times of democratic backsliding?

So, universities have been unusual oases of freedom of speech and toleration. I found [crackdowns on campus protests in spring 2024] to be quite troublesome in that regard. What would happen if a would-be dictator were elected? If they wanted to go after universities, they would do just that.

That is, they would find the polarizing issue, generate pressure on universities to self-police, to try to crack down and to undermine the authority of universities, and the authority of those who have knowledge — because [universities are] an independent source of influence and power in society.

How is democratic backsliding possible in a country built on a separation of powers and a constitution?

One of the advantages of the American system in this regard is federalism, because it limits the ability of the federal government, at least in theory, to control

what's going on in the states and affirms the independence of state government — but only under certain circumstances. The fact is that independence can be overruled through the court system. So, control over the court system is a critical lever that determines how the law is going to be interpreted. If you look at the types of systems that have been particularly susceptible to backsliding, they concentrate power in the hands of an executive.

It's much harder for democratic backsliding to take place when the political system is fragmented into multiple parties. But in a two-party system, or in a system where a single party can dominate the electoral system, then it's much more likely.

How can Americans recognize when things start to go too far?

Democratic backsliding is a process, not a moment. To transform into real dictatorship, it requires many different steps along the way. It's sometimes hard to identify when things have actually tipped precisely because of that. There are many little things that we take for granted in a democracy that, all of a sudden, you could turn around and say, “Oh, well, this and that, and that other thing, no longer seem to operate.” It's very important to stop the process before it gets too far along.

Is it possible to stop democratic backsliding?

Democratic backsliding is potentially reversible. It's not a one-way street. There have been cases — for instance, in Poland — where we've seen democratic backsliding taking place, and then populations are able to reverse it at the ballot box, or they engage in protests and have pushed would-be dictators out of office. So that can happen. But that's why maintaining control over the media and maintaining control over the electorate is very important for these kinds of leaders. **P**

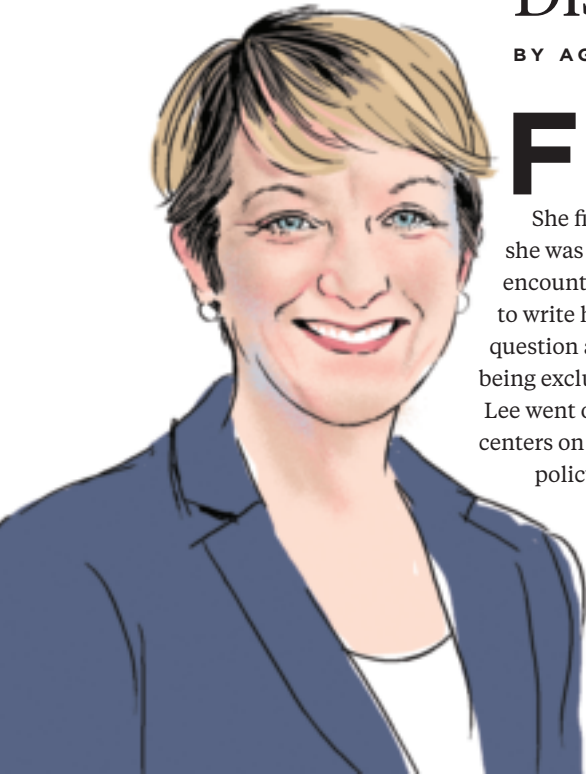
This interview has been edited and condensed.



BEHIND THE RESEARCH: FRANCES E. LEE

Dissecting American Politics

BY AGATHA BORDONARO '04



FRANCES E. LEE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A TEACHER. As a high school student in southern Mississippi, she deeply admired her English and history teachers — she just wasn't sure what subject she'd want to teach.

She first became interested in politics in college during a year abroad in Wales. There she was exposed to “a much wider range of political views than I had ever previously encountered,” she says. Once back at the University of Southern Mississippi, she decided to write her thesis on how the English literature canon is constructed. “It’s a political question about how we teach English: What is great literature, what choices we make, who’s being excluded and included.”

Lee went on to earn her Ph.D. in political science from Vanderbilt University. Her research centers on American politics, with a special focus on congressional politics, national policymaking, party politics, and representation. “I am not a political activist,” she notes. “My interests are in analysis more than in social change.”

Lee, now a professor at Princeton in politics and the School of Public and International Affairs, has won numerous awards for her publications, including from the American Political Science Association. From 2002 to 2003 she worked on Capitol Hill as an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow.

Quick Facts

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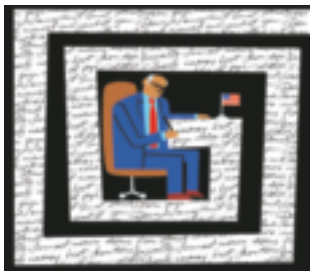
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RECENT CLASS

Congressional Politics

LEE'S RESEARCH

A SAMPLING



FALSE RUMORS OF GRIDLOCK

More so than ever in the post-WWII era, congressional Democrats and Republicans outwardly clash and vote along party lines. Lee wanted to find out what effect this dramatic increase in partisanship has had on policymaking in her 2020 book *The Limits of Party: Congress and Lawmaking in a Polarized Era*. “The surprise is: There’s not much difference. Legislating is bipartisan to the same degree as it has

previously been,” she says. What is different is that there are fewer individual laws passing, but these laws are much longer in terms of text. “In fact, Congress has set new records for the amount of legislation enacted” in the past several years, Lee says. “There’s a lot of rhetoric about nothing happening. But it’s just not correct.”



FIGHTING OVER CRUMBS

One common explanation for the increasingly heated, confrontational rhetoric in politics today is ideological

polarization. But Lee argues there’s also “a partisan rivalry for power that’s driving our politics.” Prior to 1980, she says, Democrats were seen by both parties as the “natural majority” due to the party’s longstanding hold on Congress and larger share of citizen affiliation. This resulted in a more cooperative relationship because the question of who’s in power was already settled. In her 2016 book *Insecure Majorities: Congress and the Perpetual Campaign*, Lee shows how this dynamic has changed, with both parties now vying equally for power and spending more money, staging more roll-call votes, and crafting more partisan messaging to win. “Party control is hanging in the balance. There’s a lot more at stake. And it doesn’t seem to be coming to an end anytime soon.”

POPULISM VS. AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

With the rise of populism at home and abroad, Lee



became interested in how the movement might affect American democracy. “Questions about the rule of law, about corruption of election procedures, attacks on checks and balances, [and] executive aggrandizement” are all classic populist themes, she notes. In two articles on the topic from 2019 and 2023, she argues that the U.S. political system is actually “quite resilient to the threats that populism poses” due to robust checks and balances, the two-term presidential limit, and decentralization of election control. “There’s no one place where power is that you can win control of it all.” **P**

ILLUSTRATIONS: AGATHA NOWICKA (TOP); MIKEL CASAL (BOTTOM)



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- Mr. Gerald A. Rizzieri '85
- Mr. Todd A. Rizzieri '85
- Mr. Thomas S. Roberts '86
- Mr. John P. Rodco '87
- Mr. Pauly Rodney '00
- Mrs. Caroline Buck Rogers '77
- Mr. John W. Rogers, Jr. '80
- Mrs. Jean Weinberg Rose '84
- Dr. M. David Rudd '83
- The Hon. Donald H. Rumsfeld '54 (D)
- Raymond V. Ryan, C.F.A. '89
- Ms. Christine Ann Sailer h74 h95
- Ms. Mollie Marcoux Samaan '91
- Ms. Louise S. Sams '79
- Mr. Jerry J. Santillo '88 and
- Mrs. Leslie McKenzie Santillo '88
- Mr. Cosmo P. Santullo '78
- Ms. Kelly L. Sather '91
- Mr. W. Allen Scheuch, II '76
- Mr. Roger P. Schmitt '79
- Mr. Robert M. Schmon, Jr. '74
- Mr. Scott P. Schundter '04
- Mr. John H. Scully '66
- Mr. Michael F. Sentf '80
- Ms. Juno A. Mayer-Sentf 80
- Dr. Harold T. Shapiro '64
- Mr. & Mrs. Roderick W. Shepard '80
- Mr. Thomas L. Shepherd '86
- Mr. John J.F. Sherrard '52 (D)
- Victoria J. Siesta, Esq. '01
- Mr. Richard Simkus '83
- Mr. Murray S. Simpson, Jr. '59 (D)
- Mrs. Marjory Gengler Smith '73
- Mr. & Mrs. David & Stok-tin (D) Sodbinow
- Mr. J. Sedwick Solters, III '77
- Mr. Theodore T. Sotir '80
- Mr. Frank S. Sowinski '78
- Ms. Kellie J. Staples
- Mr. Keith Stock '74
- Mr. Douglas B. Struckman '88
- Mr. Lawrence J. Stupski '67 (D)
- Mr. Austin P. Sullivan, Jr. '63
- Mr. Bob Swarco '90
- Mr. John J. Swigart, Jr. '69
- Mr. Richard J. Tavooso '87
- Mr. Paul H. Teti '01
- Mr. John Thompson, III '88
- Mr. Steven H. Tishman '79
- Ms. Kiersten Todd '94
- Mr. Joseph F. Toot, Jr. '57
- Mr. Robert Dominic Toresco '08
- Mr. Hank T. Towns h80
- Mr. Thomas Nicholas Trkla '81
- Shawn E. Trokhan, M.D. '96
- Tiffany A. Troso-Sandoval, M.D. '91
- Ms. Natalie C.W. Tung '18
- David J. Twardy, M.D. '74
- Mr. H. Kirk Unruh, Jr. '70
- Mr. Terdema L. Ussery, II '81
- Mr. Brendan R. Van Ackeren
- Ms. Jennifer Wythes Vettel '86
- Mr. Louis N. Vinios '79
- Ms. Aditi Viswanathan '89
- Mr. Henry Von Kohorn '66
- Mr. Frank J. Vuono '78
- Mr. Gary D. Walters '67
- Mr. Nicholas C. Walters '05
- Mr. William H. Walton, III '74
- Ms. Theodora D. Walton '78
- Ms. Francesca S. Walton '21
- Lisa Washington '89
- Mr. Michael J. Weiss '95
- Mr. John H. Wert '57
- Mr. W. Drew Weyerhaeuser '05
- Ms. Lauren V. Whalley '11
- Mr. Stephen T. Whelan '68
- Mrs. Adeline Pef White '03
- Mr. Jason M. White '03
- Prof. Katherine E. White '88
- Mr. Mark Wilf '84
- Mr. John S. Wilson '55
- Mr. August L. Wolf '83
- Mr. Robert I. Wolk '91
- John P. Woll, M.D. '83
- Ms. Tiana S. Woolridge '15
- Mr. John O. Wynne '67 (D)
- Charles J. Yeo, M.D. '75
- Mr. Anthony A. Yoseloff '96
- Mr. Christopher R. Young '02
- Mrs. Elizabeth Young '02
- Richard W. Ziegler, M.D. '75
- Mr. Jonathan D. Zorio '98



EXIT INTERVIEWS

Four alumni retiring from the House
assess the state of Congress
and the country

BY MARK F. BERNSTEIN '83

WOULD YOU WANT THE JOB?

The 118th Congress, which adjourns this month, is on track to be the least productive in decades measured by the number of bills enacted into law. With a wafer-thin Republican majority, the House of Representatives has, however, produced more than its share of bickering, taking 15 ballots to elect Rep. Kevin McCarthy as speaker in January 2023, then deposing him in October and arguing for three more weeks before finally electing Rep. Mike Johnson as his successor.

In the meantime, it spent a great deal of time on one impeachment investigation against President Joe Biden that never made it out of committee and another against Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas that passed on a party line vote and was quickly dismissed by the Senate. As of August, according to Gallup, just 19% of the country approved of the job Congress is doing.

The current dysfunction on Capitol Hill is largely asymmetrical, plaguing the Republicans more than the Democrats — more on that later — but over the past several decades, neither side is blameless. Under both parties' control, Congress has not passed a budget on time since 1996, relying on continuing resolutions and huge omnibus funding bills to keep the government running. Another stop-gap bill will be required this fall, unless Congress can't agree and the government shuts down. Again.

NO KEN DO

Ken Buck '81 has returned home to Colorado after retiring from Congress in March following nine years in office.



All this is a departure from what is sometimes referred to as regular order. That term has different meanings, but Princeton politics professor Frances Lee suggests that regular order is just another way of describing the traditional legislative process: A bill is crafted in committee, gets debated by the full House and Senate in a manner that allows individual members to offer amendments, and then, if passed, is sent to the president. And, she might have added, a full budget is passed on time. It is the form of civics many of us learned as children from the “I’m Just a Bill” song. Recently, though, the legislative process has often looked like Schoolhouse Rock as reimagined by eccentric filmmaker Wes Anderson.

Fifty-three House members are leaving Congress this year. While that number is not historically large, commentators say it is remarkable more for who is retiring. “What’s very pronounced for 2024 is we’re seeing a raft of retirements on the part of more institutionalist members,” Cook Political Report’s David Wasserman told Axios in November.

Congressional observers aren’t surprised. “One thing that you hear from members of Congress is that it’s just not a very fun place to work,” says Gabriel Debenedetti ’12, the national correspondent for *New York Magazine*. “A lot of people from both parties have basically thrown up their hands and said, ‘Well, there’s not really much collaboration that goes on. There’s definitely not a lot of problem solving across the aisle.’”

Among those stepping down are four alumni members — conveniently, two Democrats (John Sarbanes ’84 of Maryland and Derek Kilmer ’96 of Washington) and two Republicans (Ken Buck ’81 of Colorado and Mike Gallagher ’05 of Wisconsin). Their reasons for retiring are different, and so is their timing. While Sarbanes and Kilmer will leave in January, Buck and Gallagher have already resigned. All, though, would have been safe bets for reelection.

As they leave Washington, PAW spoke with the four, who collectively possess 46 years of institutional memory, in what might be called a series of exit interviews. They offered their insights into the state of their parties, the state of Congress, and the state of the country — and how each might be improved.

BUCK: ‘I STILL STRUGGLE’

Ken Buck lives in a subdivision in Windsor, Colorado, with an American flag on a flagpole out front. His house is crammed with knickknacks from his years of public service that he had to move back home when he stepped down in March. It’s a nice place, but nothing fancy.

Serving in the House is less glamorous than it might appear. More than half the residents of his former district earn less than \$50,000 a year, so no one wants to hear this, Buck acknowledges, but getting by on the congressional salary of \$174,000 was a strain, especially compared to what he could have earned in the private sector. He had a mortgage in Washington and another in Colorado, two cars to pay for, two sets of clothes, furniture, and appliances to buy. “It’s just a ridiculous lifestyle.”

Buck is a fierce deficit hawk and a hard-core small government conservative. He opposed emergency pandemic relief funding because it would have added to the national debt, and to this day has not gotten a COVID vaccine on the grounds

that he is “an American [and has] the freedom to decide.” He was one of the original members of the Freedom Caucus, the ultra-right-wing House faction that voted to oust McCarthy as speaker. Buck joined that effort, claiming that McCarthy had reneged on promises to curb spending. “I mean, I’m not inconsistent,” he says.

He was elected as a Tea Party Republican in 2014 following a career as a Justice Department lawyer and county attorney and an unsuccessful run for the U.S. Senate. Blunt but approachable, Buck was chosen to be president of the GOP freshman class, where he formed an unlikely friendship with California Rep. Ted Lieu, the Democratic freshman class president.

“What I have always appreciated about him is that, even though we’re largely ideological opposites, Ken has been willing to find policy areas where we can find common ground,” Lieu said in a statement when Buck retired. “That’s what legislating is all about.”

Despite compiling a zero rating from most liberal groups, Buck was hard to pigeonhole, co-sponsoring legislation, for example, that invalidated nondisclosure agreements in cases of sexual harassment. The issue that dominated his attention was the influence of big tech companies. He even wrote a book about it (*Crushed: Big Tech’s War on Free Speech*), one of three he wrote while in Congress. In 2021, Buck partnered with Democratic Rep. David Cicilline of Rhode Island to steer a series of six bills through the antitrust subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee that would have constrained or in some cases broken up internet giants such as Amazon and Meta.

When the bills failed to get a floor vote despite bipartisan backing, Buck blasted the leadership of both parties for bowing to corporate pressure. The following January, when the GOP regained the majority, Buck was passed over for chair of the antitrust subcommittee.

Buck’s break with the MAGA wing of his party began after the 2020 election, although his path has not been entirely straight. In December 2020, he signed an amicus brief asking the Supreme Court to hear a suit by the state of Texas challenging the election results. But on Jan. 6, Buck and Gallagher were among only eight House Republicans who refused to join a GOP-led effort to block certification of the electoral votes, claiming that Congress lacked the constitutional authority to do so. (Texas Sen. Ted Cruz ’92 led the anti-certification effort in the Senate.)

“I signed that amicus brief, and I think it’s absolutely appropriate to go to the courts,” Buck later explained to *The Hill*. “The court said no, and I voted to certify the election.”

Over the past few years, Buck’s opposition to election deniers in the GOP has hardened. “I think that when I decided to leave the Republican Party was when we started lying to the American public,” he says today. “The 2020 election wasn’t stolen. The [people arrested on Jan. 6] aren’t political prisoners. They’re criminals.”

He later denounced GOP efforts to impeach Biden, going so far as to call out his colleagues in a *Washington Post* op-ed. Several months later, Buck opposed the effort to oust Mayorkas, blasting the secretary’s performance but insisting that he had committed no impeachable offenses. The Freedom Caucus

swiftly voted to expel him. Meanwhile, government spending, Buck's key issue, kept going up. On March 22, he resigned.

"This place has just devolved into this bickering and nonsense," he said on CNN shortly after stepping down.

Back home in Colorado, Buck has opened a consulting practice advising small tech companies. He'd also like to promote greater voter participation "so we get better candidates," even looking into innovations such as open primaries or ranked-choice voting.

Still, partisanship dies hard. For Buck, supporting Kamala Harris, as Liz Cheney and other Republicans have done, remains unthinkable. Come November, then, will he vote for Trump — or a write-in candidate — or just leave the ballot line blank?

"One of the above," Buck says, smiling ruefully. "I still struggle."



SARBANES: TIME FOR ANOTHER CHAPTER

John Sarbanes' path to Congress seems almost preordained. His father, Paul Sarbanes '54, served in the House for six years and the Senate for 30 years. After working as a health-care lawyer and as an assistant to the Maryland school superintendent, the younger Sarbanes was elected in his father's old congressional district in 2006.

Asked to explain the decline of regular order, Sarbanes observes that both parties have centralized decision making in the leadership and taken it away from the rank and file. He attributes this to the nationalization of politics and the narrow majorities both parties have held recently, which makes it important to have a unified message and strategy. But it has made it harder for members to freelance, innovate, or work across the aisle.

"You need more party discipline if you're at war every day," Sarbanes says. "So, there's a kind of grudging acceptance of the fact that you need to get marching orders and just execute on them."

If so, the Democrats seem to have done this more successfully than the GOP. Nancy Pelosi had just as narrow a majority as McCarthy and Johnson from 2021 to '23, yet she never lost an important vote or faced a threat to her speakership.

Asked why, Sarbanes replies, "I'm biased, obviously, but I think our leadership's more effective." The key to Pelosi's success, and that of Hakeem Jeffries, her successor as

Democratic leader, is this: "You've got to know how to count. You've got to know exactly where everybody in your caucus is for a given vote. And you don't bring a vote to the floor if you don't think you have what it takes to carry that vote."

Sarbanes has centered his work on electoral and voting issues. When Democrats regained the majority in 2019, he introduced the For the People Act, a collection of reforms including automatic voter registration, expanded early voting, and restrictions on large corporate donations. He has also supported the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act sponsored by Rep. Terri Sewell '86. Both bills have passed the House only to die in the Senate.

To road test his own campaign finance proposals and to put his donor's money where his mouth is, Sarbanes unilaterally ran his own races in 2020 and 2022 under the reforms he was advocating. He placed hundreds of thousands in high-dollar donations in escrow and refused to touch them until he had raised at least \$1,000 in small-dollar contributions from 100 different precincts in his district.

What comes next for Sarbanes remains uncertain. "When I got to Congress, I had in my mind that I would do something else at some point," he explains. "If you're thinking you've got another chapter coming, you start looking at the clock on the wall, and you start thinking, well, I better get started on it before it's too late."



GALLAGHER: SERVE AND GET OUT

Until very recently, Mike Gallagher looked like a model Republican House candidate. He joined the Marine Corps the day after graduation and served seven years on active duty as an intelligence officer, including tours in Iraq as an aide to Gen. David Petraeus '87. He speaks Arabic and earned a Ph.D. in government from Georgetown before working briefly as a congressional staffer and adviser to former Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker. Gallagher was elected to the House in 2016.

One of his biggest complaints about Washington is that too many people don't want to legislate. "We've turned Congress into a green room for Fox News and MSNBC, instead of being the key institution of government," he told *The Washington Post* in August.

Gallagher did want to legislate and found considerable success working across the aisle. In 2017, he and Democratic Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi '95 of Illinois formed the bipartisan Middle

Class Jobs Caucus and helped pass a bill promoting technical education. In 2023, the two teamed up again to co-chair the House Select Committee on Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party. This past March, they championed legislation that would force the Chinese owner of TikTok to sell the app or have it banned in the United States. Their bill passed the House by a vote of 352-65.

“We had differences of opinion but were able to engage in a productive way,” Krishnamoorthi says. “Mike is one of those on the other side who, in my humble opinion, tried to rise above the daily partisan politics of the House and do what’s right.”

Gallagher’s decision not to challenge certification of the electoral votes in 2021 brought him a primary challenge in 2022, which he defeated easily. But he learned firsthand how nasty contemporary politics can be. One night last December, a SWAT team from the local sheriff’s department showed up at his home after receiving a prank call saying that Gallagher had been shot and his wife and children taken hostage. It’s a form of harassment known as “swatting” and it helped drive him out of politics.

On Feb. 10, a day after voting against the Mayorkas impeachment, Gallagher announced that he would not seek another term. When attacks against him intensified, Gallagher accelerated his departure date and resigned his seat early, on April 20, leaving the GOP at the time with only a single-seat majority.

“I signed up for the death threats and the late-night swatting, but [my family] did not,” he told a Wisconsin NBC affiliate.

In August, Gallagher joined the software company Palantir Technologies as head of its defense division. He has said that he will not vote for Trump. With the misery of his final months behind him, Gallagher now imagines that, had he remained in office, he would have continued working his way up the ladder.

“And then all of a sudden, I’d have woken up and become the very person I promised myself I wouldn’t become, which is a lifer in Congress,” he says. “I just don’t think that’s the model the framers had in mind. Serve, get the hell out, and go back to private life.”



KILMER: ROAD WARRIOR AND REFORMER

Few have thought more about how to fix Congress than Derek Kilmer, whose district encompasses Tacoma and Washington’s Olympic peninsula.

ELECTION DAY

Princetonians who are running for federal office in November

HERB CONAWAY '85 DEMOCRAT

Running for Congress in New Jersey’s 3rd Congressional District, which is currently represented by Congressman Andy Kim.



Conaway majored in politics at Princeton and wrote his thesis about Black political strategy. After Princeton, he went to medical school, practicing internal medicine even after being elected to the New Jersey State Legislature.

TED CRUZ '92 REPUBLICAN

Running for reelection in Texas. The border state Republican has



been consistently criticized for his refusal to certify the 2020 election results and for social media posts that have been called racist.

VINCE FONG '03 REPUBLICAN

Running for reelection in California’s 20th Congressional District, which includes Bakersfield.



He was first elected in a special election to replace former Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy. He’s an alumnus of the master’s program in the School of Public and International Affairs.

GLENN IVEY '83 DEMOCRAT

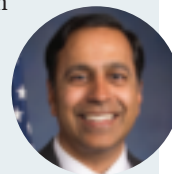
Running for reelection in Maryland’s 4th

Congressional District, which includes Prince George’s County, a suburb of Washington, D.C.



RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHI '95 DEMOCRAT

Running for reelection in Illinois’ 8th Congressional District, which includes the Chicago suburbs of Rosemont and Elgin.



He majored in mechanical and aerospace engineering while at Princeton.

JOE SALERNO '84 DEMOCRAT

Running as a Democrat for Congress against Republican incumbent Jeff Van Drew in New Jersey’s 2nd Congressional



District, which includes Atlantic City. Salerno majored in mechanical and aerospace engineering while at Princeton.

TERRI SEWELL '86 DEMOCRAT

Running for reelection in Alabama’s 7th Congressional District, which includes Birmingham, Montgomery, Selma, and Tuscaloosa.



Sewell was the Class Day speaker for the Class of 2023.

House members are encouraged to live among their constituents, but those, like Kilmer, who live on the other side of the country spend much of their time on airplanes. In most years, he says, representatives spend more time traveling than they do legislating. He details his own grueling schedule.

“On Monday, I leave my house at five in the morning,” Kilmer says. “If I’m lucky, I arrive in D.C. around 4:30 p.m. Eastern time. We have a full day Tuesday and Wednesday. Then on Thursday, we’re done by noon, and I fly home and roll into my house at about 10 p.m. Pacific time.”

Besides turning members into road warriors, that truncated schedule reduces the amount of time committees can meet and the amount of time each member, who serves on several committees, can spend drafting amendments or digging into testimony.

“If you want decisions to be made from the bottom up, with actual legislating happening in committees, rather than having members pingpong from one hearing to another, you have to have more committee time, which means there have to be more full workdays,” Kilmer reasons.

Though his hopes to rethink the congressional work schedule have not been successful, Kilmer has initiated a raft of other reforms on the bipartisan Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress,

which he co-chaired for four years with Republican Rep. William Timmons of South Carolina. In its 280-page final report issued in December 2022, the select committee made more than 200 recommendations for ways to improve Congress, at least 97 of which have been enacted — “far greater success than other congressional reform panels in recent decades,” *The Almanac of American Politics* noted.

Some of those reforms were more technological, such as getting rid of the antiquated paging devices members were issued and integrating the scheduling system so different committees’ hearings don’t overlap with each other. Others, though, tried to get members out of their partisan silos so they might get to know each other and, if possible, work together. Especially after Jan. 6, committee members modeled the collegiality they hoped to promote by having regular dinners together and holding hearings seated around a circular table rather than on a dais. (According to *Washington Post* columnist Amanda Ripley, they also sought advice from a professional mediator and a psychotherapist.) Acting on the recommendations from Kilmer’s committee, Congress has begun to institute bipartisan retreats at the beginning of each session and create meeting spaces in the Capitol where members of both parties can socialize together.

For the past two years, Kilmer has shared some of these lessons in a junior policy seminar he has taught at the School of Public and International Affairs called Fixing the People’s House: Policy Reforms to Restore the U.S. House.

“This year, I’ll complete 20 years of public service,” he says. “I taught a junior Policy Task Force at SPIA this last year, and

I was conscious that I had run for the state legislature in 2004 when most of my class was either not yet born or babies. I’ve always looked at life in chapters, and this felt like the right time to conclude this chapter.”

‘GENUINE HOPE’

To a man, the four departing members are proud of their public service.

Even though government spending is higher and the national debt bigger than when he arrived in Washington, Buck says his years there were worth it. “You know, I played football for a team that lost a few games,” he reasons, referencing his service as Princeton’s All-Ivy punter in 1979. “I just know that I was supposed to be there and do my very best to tell the truth, and that’s all I can do.”

Adds Gallagher, “Even at the height of whatever insanity was going on, it was an absolute honor and privilege to do it.”

“Stuff does get done in Congress,” Debenedetti observes.

“It’s just not the politically spicy stuff that people like me write about, but it is in many cases very important.” He also points to the highly productive 117th Congress just two years ago. “But there are a number of members now who see no incentive to getting back to regular order. They see the role of Congress as implementing party

messaging or giving their personal brands a boost.”

Asked about the state of democracy, Sarbanes replies bluntly, “I think it’s in a fragile state.” That, he says, is why he has worked so hard on bills to make it easier to vote.

“You can’t divorce the efforts you’re undertaking inside the institution from all of what’s happening out in your district and in the country,” he continues. “We have to figure out a way to get people to believe again, that their voice matters, and that they’re well represented when they send you here.”

As Americans go to the polls, perhaps it is worth considering whether the real problem isn’t Congress, *it’s us*. Thomas Jefferson is reported to have said, “The government you elect is the government you deserve.” Those who vote for chaos or gridlock or grandstanding, get it.

“I don’t think large-scale reform could address the large-scale problems that we face in American national politics,” Frances Lee says. “Those are political in nature more than institutional in nature. The fact that the American people are so undecided about what they want in terms of the direction of national government, I think that is the source of the stalemate in politics.”

“I’m a genetically hopeful person,” Kilmer concludes. “Not a blind belief, like Kevin Bacon yelling in *Animal House* that all is well, but genuine hope.”

He paraphrases a quote from Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, who said optimism and hope aren’t the same thing. Optimism, Kilmer says, “is the belief that things will get better. Hope is the belief that if we work hard enough together, we can make things better.” ■

MARK F. BERNSTEIN ’83 is PAW’s senior writer.

“We have to figure out a way to get people to believe again, that their voice matters, and that they’re well represented when they send you here.”

— JOHN SARBANES ’84,
RETIRING CONGRESSMAN

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 613

To provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

TITLE IX



DEF

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3396

To establish the Office of the Special Inspector General for Unlawful Discrimination in Higher Education within the Department of Education.

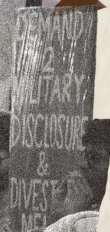
THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 5, 2023

(for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HAWLEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions



LOAN FORGIVENESS





HIGHER EDUCATION ON THE BALLOT

Why this year's election may be
the 'most consequential' in a generation
for colleges and universities

BY PHILIP WALZER '81

MUN CHOI *92 SAW WHAT WAS GOING ON AROUND HIS UNIVERSITY. Across the country, the walls were closing in on diversity, equity, and inclusion programs at state schools. In Missouri, members of the general assembly had filed 13 bills to curtail DEI initiatives in the previous two years and had debated adding a ban in the state budget. A Republican candidate for governor even vowed to fire state employees who promote DEI.

Choi, chancellor of the University of Missouri, saw an opening when the vice chancellor who led the Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity accepted a job at another school. In August, he announced he would disband the office.

"I think each university has its own set of challenges and opportunities," Choi, who is also president of the University of Missouri system, tells PAW. "Our decision made sense for us. We were able to play a big role in preventing those bills from passing because we acted proactively." The office's employees, he says, were reassigned to other departments and are "continuing to do the work of student success and faculty success."

The political pressure is likely to escalate for Choi and his colleagues.

Though issues such as inflation and immigration have taken top billing in the presidential campaign, the results in November could leave an even sharper imprint on colleges and universities.

“I think the 2024 election will probably be the most consequential for American higher education in 60 years,” says W. Taylor Reveley IV ’96, president of Longwood University, a public institution in Virginia, and a historian of the U.S. presidency. Reveley was among nine college presidents and experts, most of them Princeton alumni, interviewed by PAW about what’s at stake for higher education in November.

The potential impact could touch areas from Pell Grants and loan-forgiveness policies to DEI initiatives and LGBTQ+ protections. The underlying ideologies pivot on competing notions of justice, responsibility, equality, and compassion.

If Vice President Kamala Harris is elected president, “my guess is that she would follow through on Biden’s policies,” says S. Georgia Nugent ’73, who recently retired after leading three private institutions — Kenyon College and the College of Wooster, both in Ohio, and Illinois Wesleyan University.

“If [former President] Donald Trump has a second term,” Nugent says, “there will be many more attempts to control colleges and universities, as we’re seeing in Florida.”

ATTACKS FROM ‘ACROSS THE BOARD’

Federal involvement in the workings of colleges has grown in the past two decades, says Doug Lederman ’84, editor and co-founder of *Inside Higher Ed*, a national higher education news publication. He attributes the trend to declining public and political confidence in universities, along with the increasing use of federal mandates. One example: President Joe Biden’s multiple executive orders to cancel student debt.

The Republican attacks tend to be more scathing. But the heightened scrutiny is coming from both sides of the aisle, Reveley and Lederman say.

“There’s different worrying in different ways that’s coming from across the board,” Reveley says. “It’s a wariness that means the years ahead will be years with a lot of change, not just minor ordinary updates.”

Republicans, Lederman says, are targeting what they see as institutions’ liberal tilt, lackluster reaction to antisemitism, and failure to adequately prepare students for jobs. “The Democrats are worried about access and affordability. They think higher education is out of reach for a lot of Americans

and is still disproportionately available to people of wealthier backgrounds,” he says.

Both parties are zeroing in on elite universities. “I am finding the highly selective, wealthy institutions to be on the defensive in a way that’s not like anything I’ve seen in 35 or 40 years of covering this stuff,” Lederman says.

Two presidents of Ivy League universities — Liz Magill at Penn and Claudine Gay at Harvard — resigned last winter after facing fierce questioning in U.S. House hearings on their handling of pro-Palestinian protests and their response to Jewish students’ concerns. And a third — Columbia’s Minouche Shafik — stepped down in August after months of turmoil on campus connected to the war in Israel and Gaza.

Princeton avoided congressional scrutiny but remains

vulnerable because of its status as an elite institution. Several bills, nearly all proposed by Republicans, including Ohio Sen. JD Vance, the vice-presidential candidate, would increase the tax on university endowments. Princeton’s was valued at \$34.1 billion at the start of the fiscal year in July 2023. Income from the endowment accounts for more than half of the University’s annual operating budget.

“At a time when global competitors like China are trying to overtake our lead by increasing their investments

in research and higher education, taxing the charitable gifts that help make U.S. colleges more affordable and support breakthrough scientific and technological innovation does not make sense,” says Tobin Smith, senior vice president for government relations and public policy at the Association of American Universities. Princeton President Christopher Eisgruber ’83 is the association’s vice chair.

It’s not just the presidential election that matters.

All 435 House seats and 34 of 100 Senate positions are in contention. If one party takes control of the White House and both branches of Congress, that eases the way for the president to push through education goals, such as Trump’s plan to tax school endowments to finance the American Academy, which would offer free online education, with “no wokeness allowed.”

Likewise, a Republican sweep could propel such bills as the University Accountability Act, introduced in July by 13 House Republicans. It would fine universities at least \$100,000 if they were found to have violated students’ civil rights, with an eye toward tamping down antisemitism. If Democrats were in full control, they’d be more likely to push their plans for free community college.

Even more influential to public institutions are the down-ballot state races in which voters select governors and members of legislatures, who in turn appoint trustees of state university boards, says Peter McDonough, vice president and general counsel of the American Council on Education, a major

“I am finding the highly selective, wealthy institutions to be on the defensive in a way that’s not like anything I’ve seen in 35 or 40 years of covering this stuff.”



— DOUG LEDERMAN ’84
EDITOR AND CO-FOUNDER
OF *INSIDE HIGHER ED*

lobbying group for higher education. McDonough previously served as general counsel and staff lawyer at Princeton.

In Florida, Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Republican-led legislature have put an “anti-woke” stamp on the state’s public universities, eliminating DEI offices, banning instruction that instills “discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress,” and requiring schools to find new accrediting organizations.

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper is a Democrat, but the Republican-led general assembly appoints members to the University of North Carolina board of trustees. In May, against Cooper’s wishes, the board repealed the system’s DEI policy, which required schools to hire diversity officers, and replaced it with a mandate to uphold “institutional neutrality.”

Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson, a Republican running to succeed Cooper, has vowed to ensure that “students paying for an education aren’t being force-fed extreme and divisive ideas like DEI or critical race theory, instead of preparing for the workforce.”

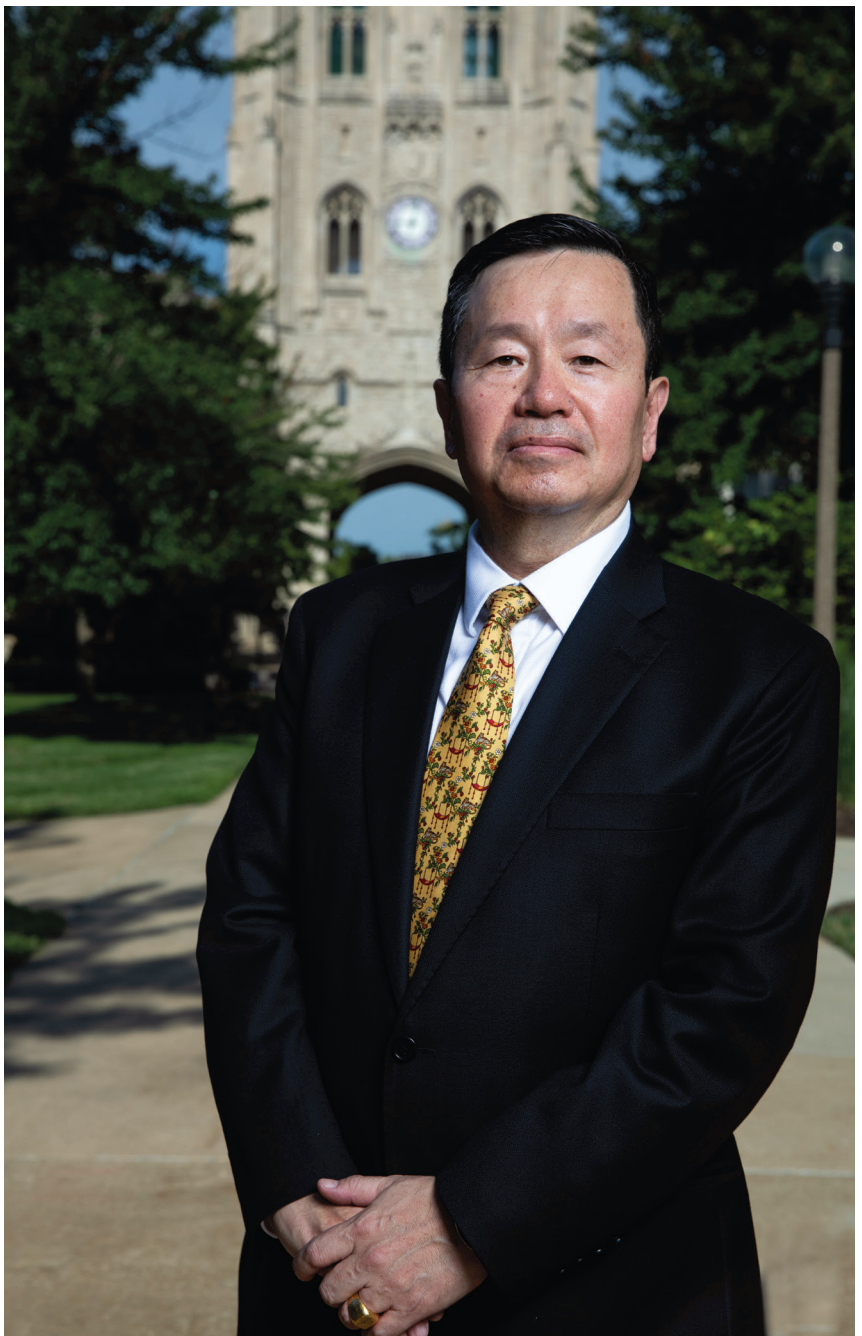
LOAN FORGIVENESS AND PELL GRANTS

“The federal government actually doesn’t have a huge role in higher education,” says Ann Marcus, director of the Steinhardt Institute for Higher Education Policy at New York University.

The U.S. Department of Education primarily focuses on K-12 schools, but it plays a crucial role for college students in administering financial aid. The College Board estimates that undergraduate and graduate students annually receive more than \$240 billion in grants, loans, work-study stipends, and other forms of assistance.

President Biden’s chief strategy to relieve financial burden has been to cancel debt. The Supreme Court and other federal judges have blocked some of his programs, declaring them presidential overreach. But Biden has succeeded in erasing roughly \$170 billion of student debt and has proposed further extensions. The Democratic platform vows to provide up to \$10,000 in debt relief for borrowers.

The Republican platform does not address loan forgiveness but says: “To reduce the cost of higher education, Republicans



will support the creation of additional, drastically more affordable alternatives to a traditional four-year college degree.” Project 2025, the blueprint to overhaul the federal government written to support Trump’s agenda, would eliminate all loan forgiveness programs, including one erasing the debt of people in public-service jobs such as teachers.

More than 49% of families reported borrowing for college in 2023-24, up from 41% in the previous year, according to a recent study from Sallie Mae, one of the nation’s largest private lenders, and Ipsos, a market research firm. The consequences can stretch

‘WE ACTED PROACTIVELY’

Mun Choi ’92 eliminated the DEI office at the University of Missouri, he says, to head off political pressure.

for decades. The Urban Institute, a Washington think tank, estimated that 6% of older adults are still paying off loans, with some having their Social Security benefits garnished.

Loan forgiveness is “incredibly important,” says Anne Holton ’80, a professor of higher education policy and a former interim president at George Mason University, a public institution in Virginia. “The bubble of debt we’ve gotten ourselves into is absolutely gumming up people’s ability to buy a house, get married, and raise a family. Even small amounts of debt are interfering with their credit rating and ability to participate in the economy.”

Others — and not just Republicans — are less convinced.

Nugent, the former president of three institutions, says the debt crisis has been exaggerated. She notes that more than 40% of graduates have no debt and that the levels of car and college debt are similar. The average car debt for Americans is roughly \$24,000. By comparison, the College Board estimates that the average debt for bachelor’s degree recipients is \$29,400.

“That’s not nothing for sure,”

Nugent says, “but it’s nothing to get hysterical about.”

Lederman, from *Inside Higher Ed*, describes loan forgiveness as “a Band-Aid that fixes things in the rearview mirror but doesn’t actually do anything to make higher education more affordable. It doesn’t change the underlying economics for anybody going forward.”

To avoid debt, “we need to further educate prospective students and their parents about the options available for a high-quality, affordable education,” says

Choi, the University of Missouri chancellor. “I believe strongly in personal accountability.”

At Princeton, the problem is far less profound. The University most recently announced expansions to its financial aid program in 2022, covering tuition, room, and board for students from families that earn up to \$100,000 annually. As part of its 2023-24 budget, Princeton estimated that the cost of attendance for the average scholarship recipient would be about \$13,000.

But at many other schools, students rely on other forms of aid, most notably Pell Grants. Eisgruber and other presidents have called for significant increases to the federal program, which was created in 1972 to help low-income families.

During Biden’s term, the maximum annual Pell Grant has risen about \$1,000 to \$7,395. The Democratic platform advocates doubling that amount and eliminating tuition at public colleges for families with incomes below \$125,000.

Neither Trump nor any of the Republican position papers mention Pell Grants. But Reveley, the presidential historian, warned not to assume that Trump or a Republican Congress would ignore the program.

“Silence can be overread,” says Reveley, whose father, W. Taylor Reveley III ’65, is a former president of the College of William and Mary in Virginia. “There’s pretty genuine bipartisan support” for Pell increases.

WHAT’S NEXT FOR DEI?

The candidates’ words showcase their sharply contrasting opinions on diversity.

Harris: “Our unity is our strength, and our diversity is our power. We reject the myth of ‘us’ versus ‘them.’ We’re in this together.”

Trump: “We will eliminate all diversity, equity, and inclusion programs across the entire federal government.”

Project 2025 calls for stripping DEI requirements and references to sexual orientation and gender identity from “every federal rule, agency regulation, contract, grant, regulation, and piece of legislation that exists.”

If Republicans gain control in Washington, Lederman says, “there will be unbelievably strong anti-DEI rhetoric and there will probably be attempts to nip and tuck here and there, but I think that’s as far as it can go.”

Other higher-ed analysts also discount the possibility of widescale anti-DEI federal mandates, but they say the pressure could prompt universities to follow Missouri’s lead and curtail DEI initiatives to keep the politicians away.

The Chronicle of Higher Education has tracked DEI pullbacks at 196 campuses in 29 states as of early

September. They range from the widespread closing of DEI offices and abandonment of diversity hiring statements to the cancellation of new diversity-themed classes at two Virginia universities — George Mason and Virginia Commonwealth — because of board concerns.

At Princeton, Eisgruber has repeatedly stressed his commitment to diversity.

“A noxious and surprisingly commonplace myth has taken hold in recent years, alleging that elite universities have pursued diversity at the expense of scholarly excellence,” he wrote in *The Atlantic* this year. “Much the reverse is true: Efforts to grow and embrace diversity at America’s great research universities have made them better than ever.”

DEI “isn’t just about race,” says Holton, who also served as Virginia’s secretary of education. “It’s about low-income students, first-generation students, or students from any cohort not traditionally well-represented in higher education. Having a posse of students who come from similar backgrounds to support each other contributes to their chances of success.”

“There are so many topics one cannot properly address without talking about race. That’s true in anything connected to American history and civics.”



— ANNE HOLTON ’80
PROFESSOR OF HIGHER
EDUCATION POLICY AT
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

She warns against mandates to remove curricula: “There are so many topics one cannot properly address without talking about race. That’s true in anything connected to American history and civics.”

Nugent says, “Obviously, trying to achieve some kind of equity and parity across individuals and groups has a positive impetus, but the devil is in the details. There have been tremendous advances in the composition of the student body, but it’s very hard to modulate people’s behavior in regulatory ways.”

Two sociologists — Frank Dobbin from Harvard and Alexandra Kalev from Tel Aviv University — concluded, “Hundreds of studies dating back to the 1930s suggest that antibias training does not reduce bias, alter behavior, or change the workplace.”

Khalil Gibran Muhammad, Ford Foundation Professor of History, Race, and Public Policy at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, says, however, that research points to a positive track record for DEI in higher education.

“Improving accountability, equity, and overall campus climate strengthens a university’s mission of academic success,” he said last year. “Those schools that don’t or can’t because of political interference are simply going to lose out on recruiting the best and brightest young faculty.”

Betsy Levy Paluck, the Eugene Higgins Professor of Psychology and Public Affairs at Princeton, says more intensive study is required. In a 2021 article in the *Annual Review of Psychology*, she wrote: “We conclude that much research effort is theoretically and empirically ill-suited to provide actionable, evidence-based recommendations for reducing prejudice.”

TITLE IX TWISTS AND TURNS

The 1972 law banning gender discrimination in education empowered victims of sexual assault and harassment and strengthened women’s athletics on campuses. But in the past decade, the higher education community has been frustrated by the changes in Title IX regulations between Republican and Democratic presidents.

President Barack Obama added protections for LGBTQ students, which were supported by colleges and universities. They were rescinded by Trump and recently restored by Biden, but federal judges have blocked the latest version in 26 states, leaving universities in limbo. (The Biden version does not address the status of transgender athletes competing in collegiate sports.) If Trump wins, he’ll likely strip those provisions.

Those wouldn’t be the only changes. There’s also been back-and-forth on the logistics for investigating and adjudicating sexual assault cases on campus, with shifting balance between the victims and the accused. Trump added requirements for live hearings with cross-examination and narrowed the scope to on-site incidents. Biden whisked those away, also lowering the standard to determine guilt.

Ted Mitchell, president of the American Council on Education, which represents more than 1,600 schools and associations, has been a proponent for removing the mandates for hearings

and cross-examination, which he said often “turned those proceedings into adversarial, court-like tribunals, raising concerns about potential retraumatization for survivors and creating an undeniable chilling effect on their willingness to come forward.”

But Samantha Harris ’99, a lawyer in Philadelphia who specializes in campus free-speech and Title IX issues, says it’s a turn for the worse. “I don’t think the right to a fair process is something that is anti-victim,” she says. “Whether my client is an accused student or a claimant, having a more robust process benefits the truth.”

Even supporters of the latest revisions grumble about what the American Council on Education’s McDonough calls “the whiplash effect.”

The constant changes “require much more time for planning and detract from facilitating the fundamental purpose of Title IX, which is to make sure people’s pathway through education is free of discrimination,” says Reveley, Longwood’s president. “The regularity of the process arguably might exceed the importance of any particular provision in it.”

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Universities fear Trump’s anti-immigration rhetoric could depress international enrollment. As president, he executed a series of travel bans targeting countries with large Muslim populations.

In a surprising softening of tone, Trump said in a podcast in June that foreign graduates of U.S. colleges should receive green cards, allowing them to stay in the country. However, campaign spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt subsequently clarified that Trump would exclude “communists, radical Islamists, Hamas supporters, and America-haters.” Project 2025 vows “to eliminate or significantly reduce the number of visas issued to foreign students from enemy nations.”

The Democratic platform, in contrast, promises “to restore trust and certainty for international students and the higher education sector.”

Foreign enrollment in the United States held steady during the beginning of the Trump administration but declined 15% in 2020-21, coinciding with the onset of the COVID pandemic, according to federal data. Enrollment has since risen, but the total — 1,060,000 — is still below the previous peak of nearly 1.1 million. At Princeton, after a big decline from 2020 to ’21, international enrollment jumped back to its previous level of about 2,050. Roughly two-thirds are graduate students.

McDonough hopes the numbers keep going up. “We’ve had so much innovation, so much experimentation that has been triggered by or helped by foreign-born individuals who have come here to be educated,” he says. “We need to continue to be a place that is seen as a destination, and that strikes me as a big deal.” ■

PHILIP WALZER ’81 covered higher education for 20 years for *The Virginian-Pilot*. He retired this year as the alumni magazine editor at *Old Dominion University* in Norfolk, Virginia.



THE SUPREME COURT'S SEISMIC SHIFT

Princetonians debate the impact
of the court's recent rulings
and what's next

BY DAVID WEISENFELD

FOR BETTER OR WORSE, THE CURRENT SUPREME COURT knows how to drop the curtain on its term with a flourish. Its groundbreaking July 1 decision in *Trump v. United States* to grant former presidents sweeping immunity for official acts has understandably drawn nationwide attention.

But it was far from the only landmark ruling last term. In fact, it wasn't even the only dramatic opinion of that day. And these decisions come on the heels of the 2022 *Dobbs* ruling plus others that have veered away from longstanding precedents.

PAW interviewed five Princeton alumni who have close ties to the court to get differing perspectives on these rulings and other changes the justices have implemented.

ON PRESIDENTIAL IMMUNITY

The court's decision, by a 6-3 vote, held that former President Donald Trump is entitled to at least presumptive immunity from prosecution for official acts but noted there is no immunity for unofficial acts.

"Virtually every president is criticized for insufficiently enforcing some aspect of federal law," wrote Chief Justice John Roberts. "Without immunity ... prosecutions of ex-presidents could quickly become routine."

But in a blistering dissent, Justice Sonia Sotomayor '76 said the ruling will have "disastrous consequences for the presidency and for our democracy." She wrote that it made a mockery of the principle "that no man is above the law."

Roy Englert Jr. '78 has argued 21 cases before the court and chairs the Supreme Court and appellate litigation practice at Kramer Levin. Englert downplays the implications of the ruling.

"The hue and cry that the court did something radical is overstated. There is less there than meets the eye," says Englert. "The court split the baby and left a path open for prosecution for unofficial acts."

Elizabeth Earle Beske '89 calls the decision "very messy." Beske clerked for Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and teaches at American University's Washington College of Law, where her scholarship focuses on the separation of powers.

Beske notes that it is "perfectly defensible" to say the president in performing presidential duties ought to be immune from prosecution. However, she expresses concern about the court's pronouncement that whenever the president and vice president discuss their responsibilities, they engage in official conduct.

"The president goes out and kills a mailman, but then has a conversation with the vice president about it. You can't use that evidence?" wonders Beske.



Supreme Court appellate advocate Michael Kimberly '03 suggests there will still be lines even a president cannot cross. Kimberly co-directs the Yale Law School Supreme Court Advocacy Clinic and co-chairs the Supreme Court and appellate litigation practice group at McDermott Will & Emery.

"Ordering the political assassination of an opponent, I don't think that's an official act," he says.

Kimberly acknowledges that the ruling does not clearly answer all questions, but he does not see the outcome as surprising. "I'm certain it was on the justices' minds that green-lighting prosecutions without concern for traditional immunity would lead to political victors looking to prosecute political losers."

Mark Sherman '83 has seen his share of big cases from the press gallery as he has been covering the Supreme Court for The Associated Press since 2006.

"When you listen to Chief Justice Roberts, he seems more interested in decisions that protect the court's reputation rather than detract from it," Sherman says. "I don't think this [ruling] will help the public's perception of the court."

Sherman explains the one aspect of the opinion that surprised him was that the chief justice did not look to "cross the divide." The mystery to Sherman was why the court did not reach a result that looked like what Justice Amy Coney Barrett wrote in concurrence.

Barrett sided with her conservative brethren but struck a middle ground in writing that the Constitution does not insulate presidents from criminal liability for official acts. Barrett noted that a president facing prosecution may challenge the constitutionality of a criminal statute as applied to official acts alleged. But if that challenge fails, she concluded that the president must stand trial.

SHIFTING POWER TO THE COURTS

To some of the Princetonians, the presidential immunity ruling was not the most radical of the day, let alone the last term. Englert and Kimberly cited the *Corner Post v. Board of Governors* opinion, also by a 6-3 vote along partisan lines, as a remarkable shift of power from the executive branch to the judicial branch.

The justices ruled that the six-year statute of limitations to file lawsuits against the U.S. does not begin running until the plaintiff suffers an actual injury attributable to an agency regulation. That means an individual or company could file suit 10, 20, or 30 years after the government enacts a regulation.

"This could really open some floodgates," says Englert. "This is a court that really wants to curb the power of the post-New Deal administrative state."

Kimberly agrees. "There is a very strong skepticism and suspicion of the administrative state," he says. "It's remarkable how fast the changes are coming." Kimberly also cites the court's ruling in *Securities and Exchange Commission v. Jarkesy*

as opening up longstanding government regulations to new lawsuits and calls rulemaking by the Environmental Protection Agency, SEC, and other government agencies "in jeopardy."

The single common theme is that the Supreme Court is enhancing its own power, according to Beske. "The court feels unconstrained in certain key areas," says Beske. "They believe if it's wrong, we can upend it."

She adds that her former boss, Justice O'Connor, would not have been at all pleased with the changes. "If there's a flat tire, you fix the flat tire. You don't take out the transmission," says Beske in summing up O'Connor's philosophy.

However, longtime Supreme Court advocate John Elwood '89, a former law clerk for Justice Anthony Kennedy who heads the appellate and Supreme Court practice at Arnold & Porter, suggests that the Roberts Court is hardly a historical anomaly. "Statistically, they're not overruling cases any faster than the Rehnquist or Burger courts," says Elwood.

Nonetheless, he acknowledges that the justices' decisions to strip power from administrative agencies and overturn *Roe v. Wade* qualifies as "pretty significant change" in a two-year span.

SPEAKING OF DOBBS ...

Englert says he's "one of the least cynical people" when it comes to the future of the Supreme Court, but the 2022 *Dobbs* decision makes him feel less confident.

"An outcome like that invites further partisan challenges on all sorts of issues from litigants," he says.

Regardless of what one thought of *Roe v. Wade*, Englert points out that the Supreme Court had previously rejected or turned aside challenge after challenge to the result.

"What that means is the change in personnel [on the court] is changing outcomes and that's not good for the stability of the legal system or our country," says Englert.

In his concurrence in the *Dobbs* judgment, Roberts wrote, "The court's decision to overrule *Roe* and *Casey* is a serious jolt to the legal system — regardless of how you view those cases. A narrower decision rejecting the misguided viability line would be markedly less unsettling, and nothing more is needed to decide this case."

Speaking generally at a Northwestern University law school event in 2022, Justice Elena Kagan '81 said, "If there's a new member of a court and all of a sudden everything is up for grabs, all of a sudden very fundamental principles of law are being

overthrown ... then people have a right to say: 'What's going on there? That doesn't seem very law-like.'"

As for what's next, multiple Princetonians pointed to same-sex marriage — which a markedly different court legalized with its 2015 *Obergefell* ruling — as very much at risk.

"If *Dobbs* doesn't protect the right to an abortion, why should it protect gay marriage?" says Kimberly. "It's hard not to

Supreme Court Experts



ENGLERT JR. '78



BESKE '89



KIMBERLY '03



SHERMAN '83



ELWOOD '89

acknowledge that possibility. We know that public interest groups pushing an anti-gay-rights agenda are bringing these cases.”

Beske adds, “If I were in a gay marriage, I would feel very stressed.”

PUBLIC PERCEPTION EBBS

As Sherman reported last year, public confidence in the Supreme Court dropped to its lowest point in at least 50 years in the aftermath of *Dobbs* and state abortion bans. He notes that the chief justice is aware of how the court is perceived. “Roberts publicly wrote that the court was going too far,” says Sherman.

Roberts also surprised many when he provided the decisive fifth vote to uphold the Affordable Care Act in 2012. Elwood says, “From that opinion one might infer he cares about the court’s standing, but I can only infer that and there could have been other factors driving it.”

The chief justice famously bristled at President Trump’s statement that a ruling against his administration was made by “an Obama judge.”

In response to a question from Sherman in 2018, Roberts said, “We do not have Obama judges or Trump judges, Bush judges or Clinton judges. What we have is an extraordinary group of dedicated judges doing their level best to do equal right to those appearing before them.”

While acknowledging that Roberts is concerned about the Supreme Court as an institution, Englert maintains that not a lot of votes change because of the justices’ perceptions about their place in history. “They’re too old, wise, and secure in their jobs to worry about short-term changes in public opinion,” he says.

“I used to have greater confidence that the justices were concerned about their perception,” says Kimberly, who has argued eight cases before the court. “What we’ve seen the last two terms suggests they’re not very concerned.”

The tempest over Justices Samuel Alito ’72 and Clarence Thomas refusing to recuse themselves from cases involving Trump because of their wives’ hyper-partisan activities may contribute further to the public’s perception. But Elwood says, “Most of the time, things with recusals are overstated. No one complained about Judge [Stephen] Reinhardt sitting on a California gay marriage case in the Ninth Circuit even though his wife was in the ACLU.”

Englert voiced a similar sentiment but adds, “There was some troubling stuff out there such as Ginni Thomas’ 2020 efforts to overturn the election.”

As for whether recent Supreme Court rulings will play a big role in the upcoming presidential election, the Princetonians were universally doubtful.

“I’m always skeptical about the court as an election issue,” says Sherman. “Obviously abortion is a big issue, but the future of the court hung in the balance in 2016. Everyone knew the winner of the election would swing the court.”

For people angered about developments involving reproductive rights, Beske says, the solution will be political. “What the Supreme Court is doing is causing existential angst, but I don’t know if it will resonate in the election,” she says.

SUPREME COURT REFORM PROPOSAL

Where the developments are certainly resonating is at the White

House. On July 29, President Joe Biden proposed major changes to the Supreme Court including 18-year term limits for justices, a Constitutional amendment to overturn the recent presidential immunity decision, and an enforceable ethics code.

Under the term-limit proposal, the president would appoint a new justice every two years to spend 18 years in active service on the Supreme Court. No other major democracy provides life tenure for its high court judges.

“The term limits proposal is a great one, and it would go a long way to mitigating the raw and rank politics in the current nomination process,” says Kimberly. “One reason so many on the left view the current court as illegitimate is the denial of President Obama’s appointment of Merrick Garland by the Republican-controlled Senate.”

Englert views 18-year term limits as “probably unconstitutional,” and says he has long believed they are a bad idea. “Many — though of course not all — justices do bring benefits of long experience and added wisdom to the job after more than 18 years,” he says.

However, Englert adds that the recent manipulation of appointments has caused him to change his thinking. Voicing a similar sentiment as Kimberly, Englert says, “Appointments every two years might help public confidence that the court’s composition more closely reflects how the American people have voted over time” and prevent a scenario where a one-term president (Trump) could appoint three justices while a two-term president (Obama) could appoint only two.

Beske acknowledges that the constitutionality of term limits is not a clear-cut question, and says that the ultimate decision-maker on the issue would be the Supreme Court itself. “Of course, as a practical matter the proposal is more symbolic than anything else,” she says.

Regarding the proposed amendment to overturn the presidential immunity ruling, Beske noted that the Constitution is difficult to amend by design (with only one successful amendment in the past 53 years), and that’s especially true with today’s partisan divide. “I don’t believe this will stand a chance in this particular climate,” says Beske.


The ethics code Biden proposed would require justices to disclose gifts, refrain from political activity, and recuse themselves from cases in which they or their spouses have financial or other conflicts of interest. “Supreme Court justices should not be exempt from the enforceable code of conduct that applies to every other federal judge,” he wrote.

According to Beske, the Supreme Court needs an ethics code. “It’s incumbent to give [the ethics code] teeth, and Biden is smart to bring it up.” She suggests the best way to enforce the code is through a rotating set of federal judges. “My sense is Chief Justice Roberts doesn’t feel comfortable taking any of his colleagues out to the woodshed,” says Beske.

But Kimberly says he is skeptical of a Supreme Court ethics code. “I don’t see how it could be enforced meaningfully except through the impeachment process,” he says. “And normalizing impeachments is hardly something we should want to encourage.” ■

DAVID WEISENFELD writes about the Supreme Court for *Legal Dive* and the ABA Supreme Court Preview. His work also has appeared in the ABA Journal and USA TODAY.

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PRINCETONIANS

ALUMNI STORIES AND PERSPECTIVES



UNDER THE SEA

*For as long as Mark Davidson '08 remembers, he has been fascinated with the ocean. "One of my earliest memories is just wading through the rock pools at the coastline and seeing what I could find," he says. Davidson has decided to share that curiosity with the world with the creation of *Immersed: Ocean Wonders* — an unusual dome-shaped cinema resembling a small planetarium. Located on Catalina Island, California, visitors can watch a half-hour, 360-degree film pulled from Davidson's own scuba diving footage. He hopes the project will instill wonder in viewers and indirectly promote climate action.*

AGATHA LENARTOWICZ '08



NEEL SUKHATME *15

Helping the Formerly Incarcerated Regain Their Voting Rights

BY LOUIS JACOBSON '92

NEEL SUKHATME *15 HAS A LOT of interests. His undergraduate degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was in computer engineering with a minor in mathematics. He worked as a patent agent before going on to earn a law degree from Harvard. At Princeton, he earned a Ph.D. in economics. Now at Georgetown, Sukhatme serves as an associate dean for research and academic policy and teaches courses in areas such as property law, patent law, and corporate finance. He's even got a side gig developing Spindrop, a music technology he created with former roommate Mike Yang '04 that harnesses artificial intelligence to serve as a DJ.

Arguably, though, Sukhatme's biggest impact has come in an entirely different area: helping formerly incarcerated individuals regain the right to vote.

In 2018, Florida voters approved a ballot measure to ease the restoration of voting rights for most individuals with felony convictions after they have completed the terms of their sentence. It won an impressive 65% of votes cast. By some estimates, 1.7 million Floridians, or roughly 10% of the state's voting-age population, are eligible for voting rights restoration.



SUKHATME *15

But after passage, the incoming governor, Ron DeSantis, and the Republican-controlled legislature enacted legislation to retroactively weaken the citizen-approved measure. They required that those impacted pay off all fees, fines, and restitution before being allowed to vote again. This proved to be more than a technicality: Florida had no unified system for determining whether someone had paid these expenses. So, these individuals who wanted to vote again faced a dilemma: They had to inquire with any number of offices in different counties around the state to confirm that their expenses had all been paid — or else they risked breaking the law anew by casting a ballot.

In July 2020, Sukhatme — who

graduated Harvard Law School in the same class as DeSantis — read an article about the quandary in Florida. “It struck me as fundamentally and morally wrong,” Sukhatme says. “I said, ‘I think I can do better.’” So along with a law student, Alexander Billy, he co-founded a group called Free Our Vote in 2020 to help formerly incarcerated individuals regain their voting rights.

Leveraging Sukhatme's technical expertise, the group built web scrapers to pull data from 26 Florida counties that account for about 85% of the state's population. After collecting half a million records within about a month, the group identified about 20,000 Floridians who owed nothing but weren't necessarily aware of that fact. Partnering with the Washington, D.C.-based Campaign Legal Center, Free Our Vote sent letters to inform those voters that they could cast ballots without worrying about breaking the law.

A follow-up analysis by the group found that among recipients of those letters, voting rates increased by 16%.

Then, in about 2,000 cases, Free Our Vote went a step further, paying off small amounts still owed by individuals with past felony convictions, thereby enabling them to vote. The average amount of these court debts fell between \$50 and \$75. For the people whose fines were paid off, voting rates rose by 26%.

Sukhatme secured funding through a combination of volunteer work, donations from the public, and some support from Georgetown University. With additional financial backing, Sukhatme says, the group would pay off the remaining debts for even more people. He hopes to expand fundraising appeals in the future.

Sukhatme volunteers his time to Free Our Vote; the group recently hired its first full-time executive director. It is now working to expand its efforts to other states, including Virginia and Kansas. “We view this as a human rights issue,” Sukhatme says. “Once you've done your time, you should be able to vote.” ■

NOMINATE OTHER INSPIRING ALUMNI

This story is part of PAW's series highlighting the stories of alumni doing inspiring work. To nominate others, please email your ideas to paw@princeton.edu.

RACHAEL JECK '89

Registering Women to Vote

BY E. B. BOYD '89

IN 2016, RACHAEL JECK '89 promised her two daughters that Donald Trump couldn't win the White House. His victory, then, came as a shock. But it quickly turned into a call to action for Jeck, out of a concern for what his presidency might mean for women.

After flying to Washington, D.C., for the post-inauguration Women's March, Jeck, a Los Angeles lawyer, joined the board of Fund Her, a PAC focused on getting more women candidates into state legislatures. "For a democracy to be representative, it has to look like our communities," she says. Women "are the majority of the population, but we're not the majority in government."

Four years later, after sorting through the results of the 2020 election, Fund Her noticed that some of its candidates lost by just a handful of votes. "We were shocked by the numbers," Jeck says. "Many elections were decided by less than a 5% margin."

By then, with both daughters headed to college, Jeck had left her career in law to pursue this second act. "How could I see the world falling apart and not play some role in trying to make things a little bit better?" she says. With the 2020 results in mind, Jeck spun off a new organization in 2021 to increase the number of women making it to the ballot box in the first place.

Register Her is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to registering women and convincing them to vote. This election season, it's operating in six states — Arizona, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas — with plans to expand as the organization grows.

Register Her partners with community organizations and pays for fellows on their staffs, mostly local young women, to do on-the-ground outreach. "They know their



LADY LEADERSHIP

Rachael Jeck '89 attending a White House reception celebrating the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act.

communities best," Jeck says. It also trains people at social service agencies to educate their clients on how to get registered. "Research shows that people are more likely to vote when they're asked by somebody they trust," she explains.

Funded by individual donations and grants from organizations including the Ben & Jerry's Foundation, Jeck plans to eventually expand Register Her to all 50 states. "When we see more women voting, we're going to see greater numbers of women in state legislatures," she says.

Jeck's first awakening about gender equity happened at age 13, when her mother took her to a pro-choice event in her hometown of Tucson, Arizona.

"I've been a single-issue voter my whole life. For women to be full citizens and have full equal rights, they have to be able to decide for themselves whether and when to become parents."

— RACHAEL JECK '89

"I couldn't believe women were dying because they couldn't get health care," she says.

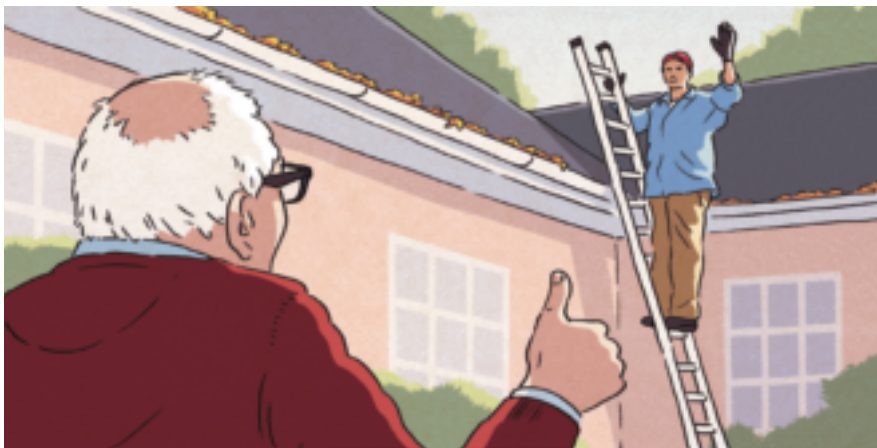
Princeton's "in the nation's service" informal motto resonated. "It further cemented my belief that if you are in a position to do something to help others, that is an obligation I have." Senior year found Jeck traveling to Washington, D.C., for a pro-choice march. At Boston University School of Law, she researched policies to make RU-486, the first "morning after" pill, available over the counter.

"I've been a single-issue voter my whole life," Jeck says. "For women to be full citizens and have full equal rights, they have to be able to decide for themselves whether and when to become parents."

After volunteering for Hillary Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign, Jeck joined the Planned Parenthood Advocacy Project to elect candidates who support reproductive rights. At Fund Her, Jeck discovered that the high-propensity voters usually targeted by get-out-the-vote efforts were oversaturated. "They would say, 'I've been contacted 10 times today. Leave me alone.'"

Meanwhile, low-propensity voters were mostly ignored. "There are millions of women in this country who no one's ever asked if they want to vote," Jeck says. "There's this whole other world out here that needs to be addressed if we're ever going to achieve gender parity."

As a nonpartisan organization, Register Her doesn't advocate for specific positions or candidates. Still, this year in particular, in the wake of the Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision and the continuing discussion about further restrictions, Jeck believes reproductive rights will be at the forefront of many voters' minds. "Our overarching goal for 2024 is not who sits in the president's office," she says, "as much as it is that women understand what's at stake ... and that they turn out and vote in their best interest." ■

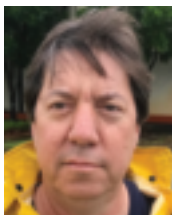


ESSAY

Remember (If You Can): To Age Out Is Not to Accept Defeat

BY JOEL ACHENBACH '82

THE OTHER DAY I was on the roof cleaning out the gutters, a precarious and nasty job that makes a person reflect upon the inevitability of decay and degeneration.



ACHENBACH '82

You are scooping by hand a lot of highly degraded organic matter — leaves, blossoms, insect carcasses, and mysterious layers of schmutz. When I

clean the gutter on the back side of the house I am positioned at the edge of a sloping, metallic, and rather slippery roof, and there's a chance I'll go falling into space.

Simply climbing out the window onto the roof is a poignant challenge. Maturity is a stiffening process, and the ligaments that once gave you spidery flexibility become like rubber bands that someone mistakenly put in the freezer. You might even get wedged in the window, halfway in, halfway out. You might have to shout at passing dog walkers and ask them to call the fire department.

So as I cleaned the gutter, I asked myself: At what point do I “age out” of this effing chore?

The simple fact is that we age out of things, or should age out of them, if we

are being realistic about who we are, what we've become, and what lies ahead.

This is not failure. This is just moving on.

It's a lifelong phenomenon. A toddler ages out of diapers, a 5-year-old ages out of pajamas with feet, a 10-year-old ages out of lollipops at the bank, and a 13-year-old ages out of ordering off the kids' menu. Growing up, moving on. At some point in adult life, you age out of couch-surfing when traveling. You just get a hotel room. You have arrived in life (at the Fairfield Country Courtyard Suites By Sheraton.)

And then you age out of sharing certain cultural and political opinions with the younger generation. Trust me, no one cares what you think about Taylor Swift or tattoos.

But it's really in the fourth quarter of life that aging out becomes pronounced and potentially awkward. When youth slips away we may find ourselves clawing at it, desperate to get it back. There is incentive for denial because there's a dark cloud on the horizon that gives us the willies. It signals the ultimate aging out. The D-word.

The hard decisions come when you need to stop doing things that you still want to do. You can still climb the ladder, but you shouldn't. And people drop hints. Your doctor says things, your

partner says things, and your boss stops making eye contact in the hallway (or did you imagine that?).

You find yourself trying to persuade yourself that you are not obsolete. “Still got it!” you tell the mirror, which replies, “Yeah, *sure* you do.”

This is all part of what we could call the hard audit. The hard audit looks clear-eyed at your strengths and weaknesses, your good and bad habits, your virtues and vices. It interrogates nagging worries and suspicions to see if maybe there's something deeper going on.

This summer I learned a new word: anosognosia. It's when a person has a disorder or disease but doesn't recognize it.

The concept could be applied to non-pathological realms. When does your professional performance no longer meet your own high standards? We all struggle to discern how much gas we have left in the tank because there's no reliable biological gauge for that. Something just tells you one day that you're running on fumes.

The whole country went through this aging-out phenomenon this summer. It was painful to witness. Joe Biden felt like he still had what it took to lead our country for another term. He believed in himself. But too many others had a different opinion, believing he'd aged out of the most important part of a politician's job during an election year: winning the election.

Biden came to Princeton my freshman year. I don't think I'd ever seen a senator up close before, and I was impressed. He was charismatic, confident, and transparent in his desire to be president someday. Of course, that day finally came many attempts and more than four decades later.

I hope he's not bitter about what happened with this year's election. At some point you have to age out of regret, or at least park it where it can't do any harm — like in the satellite lot.

It's best not to rage against the dying of the light. But if it makes you feel better, you can send the dying of the light a terse and slightly pissy email. **E**

JOEL ACHENBACH '82 covers science, health, and politics at The Washington Post, where he has been a staff writer since 1990.

VENTURE FORWARD



SAVE THE DATES

OCTOBER 22, 2024
Orange & Black Day

FEBRUARY 22, 2025
Alumni Day and
Service of Remembrance

NOVEMBER 2, 2024
Tiger Tailgate and
Homecoming (vs. Cornell)

MAY 22-25, 2025
Reunions

FORWARD THE CONVERSATION:
#VentureForward #ForwardTogether

THE PRINCETON CAMPAIGN

Venture Forward is a mission-driven engagement and fundraising campaign focused on Princeton's strengths in the liberal arts, pushing the boundaries of knowledge across disciplines, and collaborating to champion inclusion, science, public policy, the humanities and technology.

CLASS NOTES

Online Class Notes are password protected. To access, alumni must use their TigerNet ID and password. [Click here to log in: http://paw.princeton.edu/class-notes](http://paw.princeton.edu/class-notes)

MEMORIALS



LISTEN TO OUR NEW MEMORIALS PAWCAST

Visit paw.princeton.edu/podcasts to hear a podcast discussion where we reminisce about an alum who recently died. This month's episode is about Ernie Pascarella '65.

THE CLASS OF 1943

MARK ROBINSON '43

Mark died March 30, 2024, in Orlando, Fla., three weeks before his 103rd birthday.



Mark was born in New Orleans, the son of a wholesale lumberman. He prepped at Metairie Park Country Day School. At Princeton, he majored in electrical engineering and was the winner of the Class of 1861 Mathematics Prize.

In the fall of '42, Mark left Princeton to join the Navy Reserve. In the *Nassau Herald* it says, "He plans to return to Princeton to complete his college work when the war is over." Mark marched to his own drummer after the war. In our 25th-reunion yearbook, he admitted to a career that "had an interesting zig-zag." Rather than return to Princeton, he took a detour through Caracas, selling Southern pine lumber to the Venezuelans for four years. When he returned to the United States, Columbia University called and Mark finally completed his coursework for a Ph.D. in applied math, setting him up for a long career with Martin Marietta, becoming one of the early experts on the use of digital computers and working as a programmer and missile systems engineer.

In 1964, Mark married Shirley Ann Krug. They raised two children, Mark H. '92 and Elizabeth Ann Giesecking. With Shirley, Mark explored the national parks and traveled to every continent but Antarctica. The two were faithful servants of their church and active participants in the Central Florida Orchid Society. Early in the 1990s, Mark signed up to help with Meals on Wheels, a role he held until he was in his 90s. He also worked at a charity thrift store until he was 100.

Shirley died in June 2023. Mark is survived by his two children, their spouses, and four grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1949

ORVILLE DEAN CALL '49

Dean died at home April 20, 2024, two months after celebrating his 100th birthday.

In high school, Dean belonged to ROTC and the glee and radio clubs. After graduation, he worked as a telegrapher for the Union Pacific Railroad and enlisted in the Navy in July 1943.



After completing advanced training in radio, he served as an electronics technician at the Naval Submarine Base in New London, Conn. Dean met his wife, Phyllis, at a USO dance, where she volunteered as a hostess and taught him to jitterbug. They were married Oct. 22, 1945, in Groton, Conn.

After Princeton, Dean earned a master's degree in psychology from Columbia. He was part of the V-12 Officer Training Program. After the war, Dean worked for the Utah State Employment Service and the U.S. Department of Labor as a manpower development specialist, focusing on vocational guidance counseling.

Dean combined a love of classical music with a fun-loving nature and quirky sense of humor. Dean and Phyllis were very active — they loved bicycling, kayaking, and square dancing. Dean and Phyllis took many trips together, often with friends, including trips to Canada, England, Hawaii, the Caribbean, and the Holy Land.

Dean's children describe him as kind and gentle, always helping and treating others with respect. He lived his life with faith in Jesus Christ, love of family and service to his Church and community through many volunteer activities.

Dean was predeceased by his sister Shirley Gardner in 2023. He is survived by his wife of 78 years, Phyllis; four children; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1951

NOBLE O. CARPENTER '51

Noble came to Princeton after graduating from University School in Shaker Heights,



Ohio. He majored in economics, graduating *cum laude*. Noble was treasurer of the Cleveland Club and a member of Cannon Club and the Outing Club.

After graduation, Noble's commercial banking career began with completion of the Central National Bank of Cleveland's training program. He went on to become president and CEO of the First National Bank of Canton, the Central Trust Co. of Northeastern Ohio, as well as vice president and a director of the Central Bancorporation

in Cincinnati. He enjoyed summers spent on Walloon Lake in Michigan.

Noble died April 27, 2024, in Ohio. He was predeceased by his first wife, Ann Lindemann Carpenter. He is survived by his second wife, Sherry; sons John, Noble Jr., and Robert; stepchildren Ellen, Kris, and Ted; nine grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

ROBERT D. LEIPOLD '51

Bob was born in Philadelphia and graduated from Charlotte Hall (Md.) Military Academy.



At Princeton, he majored in economics and played 150-pound football. Bob was a member of the Outing Club, the Washington Club, the Jazz Club, and Whig-Clio. He roomed with Don Sawhill.

After graduation, he worked as a field engineer in association with Walsh, Perini, Groves, and Slattery in Morrisville, Pa. He then joined the Marines, where he served as a lieutenant colonel.

Bob died Jan. 11, 2024, in Warrenton, Va.

GEORGE A. VAUGHN '51

Arky was born in East Orange, N.J., graduated from the Lawrenceville School, and came to Princeton after serving in the Navy. At Princeton, he was a member of Tiger Inn and sang with the Tigertones. He transferred to Ohio State University and earned a degree in engineering.

He worked for Alcoa in New York City; married his wife, Martha; then moved to Princeton to work at a smaller company, Mideast Aluminum. Arky then founded the Maark Corp. (Martha and Arky) and worked with Dick Hargrave '51 to design and manufacture aluminum tennis rackets, including the first mass-produced oversized Prince racket. He became the chairman of Head Racquet Sports Worldwide and was president of Cryomed Co. He served on community boards including the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, the Princeton Day School, and the American Boychoir School.

Arky loved singing. He founded the Witherspooners and performed in regional a cappella competitions with his wife and friends in the group Private Parts.

He died April 14, 2024, in Princeton surrounded by his family. He was predeceased by his wife. Arky is survived by his daughters, Barbara Vaughn Holmes '82, Susan Vaughn, and Phoebe Outerbridge; and his six grandchildren.

RICHARD E. ZABRISKIE '51

Dick was born in Englewood, N.J., and graduated from Dwight Morrow High School. At Princeton, he majored in history, managed the Chapel Choir and the Press Box Refreshment Agency, and was a member of Prospect Club. He roomed with David

Demarest '53.

After graduation, Dick attended the McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, receiving a master's in divinity and later earned a second M.A. in counseling from the University of North Dakota. During his pastorate, he served congregations in Chicago, Ill., Milwaukee and Franklin, Wis., Grand Forks, N.D., and Sun City, Ariz. He participated in the 1965 civil rights march in Montgomery, Ala.; was a member of the Presbyterian Study Seminary to the Middle East; and officiated at countless weddings, including those of five of his grandchildren.

Dick died peacefully April 17, 2024, predeceased by just 13 days by his wife of 68 years, Karen. He is survived by three sons, Mark, Steven, and Scott; and daughter Kristine; as well as nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1954

H. ROBERT CRAGO '54

Bob died March 22, 2024.

While preparing at Albany Academy, he was active in track and soccer.



At Princeton, he majored in biology, joined Campus Club, played in the marching and concert bands, and participated in IAA volleyball, pool, and billiards. He also pursued interests in camping and water sports.

Bob married Barbara Francis Smith in 1956 while at Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons, earning a medical degree in 1958. After his internship, he served three residencies in general surgery and three years in the Air Force as a base surgeon. Departing from the pattern of most of his colleagues in their residencies who stayed to work at major medical centers, he chose to work as a small-town surgeon, eventually establishing a group practice with two other surgeons in Sharon, Pa. He held leadership positions at Sharon Regional Medical Center, including chief of surgery, prior to retiring in 2002.

Barbara and Bob spent their retirement enjoying their family, playing bridge and golf, traveling, and volunteering. Barbara passed away in 2009. In 2017, Bob married Linda Stilley. They moved to Statesboro, Ga., in 2018 and enjoyed seven years together away from the long Pennsylvania winters.

Bob is survived by his wife Linda and his daughter Patricia, sons Robert and Matthew, and seven grandchildren.

DONALD J. KELLER '54

Don died April 26, 2024.

At New Trier Township (Ill.) High School, he was active in track, crew, and student government.

Majoring in English and the American Civilization Program at Princeton, Don wrote his senior thesis on "Theodore Dreiser's



American Portrayal." He joined Cap and Gown and participated in varsity track. His Princeton record in the 60-meter hurdles endured from 1954 to 1982.

Don married Virginia Wilson during his two years in the Army. They raised four children — Ann, Jane, Ed, and Amy. Despite the tragic loss of Jane at age 10, their marriage survived with much happiness until Virginia's death in 1999.

Don earned an MBA in marketing at Northwestern Business School in 1957. He began his career in advertising at the Leo Burnett Co. in 1957. Five years later, he joined General Foods Corp. In 1986, he retired as executive vice president and member of the board of directors and became president of West Point-Pepperell.

In 2004, Don married Martha Myers, who won the hearts of the Keller clan.

In our 50th-reunion yearbook, Don wrote that "the greatest legacy Princeton left me was an open mind ... I always suspected there is more to know ... and I am very grateful for that."

Don is survived by Martha, Ann Keller, Ed Keller, Amy Keller Fox, David Myers, Jane Myers Winch, Amy Myers Peters, 17 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

ALFRED P. SMITH III '54

Al died June 24, 2023, at home in Morristown, N.J.



He attended Madison High School, where he was active in football, tennis, and student government. At Princeton, Al was a member of Tower Club and advertising manager of WPRU. He graduated magna cum laude and was awarded the Wolf Balleison Memorial Prize in Economics for his thesis on "Reorganization of the Missouri-Pacific Railroad."

After several months with General Electric, Al was commissioned into the Army at Fort Sill. He served with the 599th Armored Field Artillery Battalion in Erlangen, Germany, from 1954-57, where he met and married Amanda Schmitt.

After his discharge, Al returned to GE, later joining Merck in 1960. Attending New York University night school, Al earned an MBA in economics in 1963. During his 30 years at Merck, Al held various positions, initially as director of finance-Europe and of Merck, Sharp & Dohme International, then as controller, treasurer, and VP of finance for Merck & Co.

After retiring in 1990, Al and Amanda split time between Morristown, N.J., and Naples, Fla., and enjoyed ski trips and travels throughout Europe, Asia, and South America. Al served for a number of years as

Annual Giving section chair for Northern New Jersey. He spent his later years in New Jersey, gardening and playing golf at Morris County Golf Club.

Al is survived by his daughter Lisa; his son Michael '87; and grandchildren Nicholas and Lucas.

THE CLASS OF 1955

STEPHEN M. BOYD '55

Steve, a notably friendly classmate with a distinguished record of interests and accomplishments, died April 7, 2024, at home in Washington, D.C. He was an international lawyer and arbitrator, marathon runner, competitive rower, early backer of what became Princeton AlumniCorps, and lifelong supporter of the St. Louis Cardinals.



Steve was born May 1, 1934, in St. Louis, where his civic-leader grandfather, Luther Ely Smith, led creation of the St. Louis Gateway Arch. Steve attended Deerfield, where he participated in hockey, soccer, tennis, and publications. At Princeton, he joined Cottage Club and majored in history. He was active in the Triangle Club, played varsity soccer, and participated in IAA hockey, squash, horseshoes, and softball. His senior-year roommates were Bill Brown, Marsh Bryan, George Caldwell, Gordon Gray, Jim Griffin, Joe Quarles, Bob Russell, Andy Schoettle, and Bob Stinson.

After graduation from Harvard Law School, he served as a judge advocate in the Air Force, worked for the State Department, and practiced with private firms in St. Louis, Paris, and Washington, D.C. He was also an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association.

Steve married Susan Forney in May 1964. He loved the outdoors, travel, music, hiking, skiing, tennis, and golf. In his 40s he took up distance running and rowing and competed in three Marine Corps Marathons and three Head of the Charles Regattas. He also helped found the Character Education Partnership. A friend noted Steve's "integrity, fairness, character, and generosity."

Steve is survived by his wife of 59 years, Susan; children Christopher '87, Elizabeth '89, and Charles '91; and five grandchildren.

PETER E. JASPER '55

Pete, a former Air Force test pilot, aeronautic engineer, and specialist in celestial



mechanics, died April 12, 2024. He was born Sept. 23, 1933, on Staten Island. He attended the Pingry School, where he participated in basketball, baseball, soccer, publications, and dramatics.

At Princeton, Pete joined Tower Club and

majored in mechanical engineering. He was affiliated with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and participated in IAA basketball, football, and softball. Senior year he roomed with Bob Barnes.

After graduation and service in the Air Force, he received a master's degree in systems engineering and operations research from the University of Pennsylvania and another master's degree in engineering from Drexel.

Soon after graduation from Princeton, Pete married Joan, whom he had met in high school when he was 14. He loved spending time with his four children and 11 grandchildren on Long Beach Island and especially enjoyed long nature walks along the beach. He had a passion for gardening and had a green thumb, especially with supersonic tomatoes and sugar snap peas.

Pete was an avid lover of sports, particularly skilled in basketball and tennis. He had a strong interest in astronomy and built a six-inch telescope that he loved to gaze at the stars with his grandchildren. A friend described him as "a sweet, gentle soul who smiled often and had a great sense of humor." He was deeply spiritual and introduced his family to meditation back in the 1970s, before the practice became mainstream.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Joan; children Peter Jr., Cynthia, James, and John; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

CHARLES F. MAPES JR. '55

Charlie, a mainstay of the class, lifelong resident of New Jersey, and a devoted golfer



who focused on fitness, died April 30, 2024. Charlie and wife Dodie, who died nine weeks before he did, were a mainstay of Princeton life. They were co-chairs of

the class Reunion Committee, provided guidance for class trips and mini-reunions, and were regulars at football and basketball games. Charlie was treasurer of the Class of '55 Foundation as well as board member of Princeton Alumni Corps, and co-chair with Dodie of the building and grounds committee.

Charlie, son of Charles F. Mapes '29, was born in Brooklyn Nov. 26, 1932. He attended Exeter and participated in basketball, baseball, and soccer. At Princeton, he majored in economics and joined Cannon Club. He participated in IAA touch football, basketball, and baseball. His senior-year roommates were Dan Houck, Tim Rogers, and Bill Chaffee.

After graduation, Charlie worked in Princeton for 17 years with an advertising research firm co-founded by the ad pioneer George Gallup, then co-founded his own firm. In 1996, he retired and did volunteer work, helping seniors fill out tax returns, working with Meals on Wheels, and

tutoring Trenton children in math. He and Dodie loved to travel, both with Class of '55-organized trips and on their own.

A prime interest was golf, at which he won tournaments at his Bedens Brook Club. Classmate Rich Thompson paired with Charlie and won a club tournament in 2014 "mostly due to his play. He was an incredible competitor."

Charlie and Dodie lived in Hopewell, Princeton, Pennington, at a summer place in Stone Harbor, and lastly moved to his boyhood family home in Princeton. Charlie is survived by his son, Charles F. III; daughters Linda and Elizabeth; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

ROBERT M. PRIOLEAU '55

Bob died May 7, 2024, in his hometown of Charleston, S.C.



After graduation from Princeton, Harvard Business School, and four years in the Navy, Bob spent 35 years as a chemical engineer with Exxon. He retired and became active in civic, religious, and community affairs. He was chairman, president, board member, or active participant with groups focused on the homeless, the blind, church vestries, Huguenot history, a nature center, historic preservation, two yacht clubs, a racquet club, and a library society, among several others. He loved to sketch and paint, was an avid sailor, skier, tennis player, bird hunter, follower of the symphony, and lover of dogs (especially dachshunds) and anything flavored with coffee or chocolate.

Bob was born Jan. 23, 1934, in The Hague, Netherlands, where his father was employed by an affiliate of what became Exxon. At the onset of World War II, the family returned to their traditional home in Charleston. Bob attended high school at Woodberry Forest, where he excelled in soccer and was editor-in-chief of *The Talon*, the school's literary publication.

At Princeton, he joined Cottage Club and majored in chemical engineering. He won freshman and JV letters in crew and was a Chapel deacon and co-head cheerleader. Senior year he roomed with Frank Mountcastle, Michael Menge '56, and Major Reynolds. During junior year, Bob met his future wife, Pat, at a social event and learned she was leading tours at the UN headquarters in New York City. A few days later he showed up for her tour and in 1956 they were married.

Bob is survived by Patricia; children Charles, Robert, and Caroline; and three grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1956

JOSEPH A. GROTTO '56

Joe died April 30, 2024, in Naples, Fla., surrounded by his children Joseph, and



Suzanne, and John.

Born in the Bronx to immigrant parents, Joe came to Princeton from Roosevelt High in Yonkers from which he was recruited by football coach Charlie Caldwell 1925 — who became a lifelong hero. He played end on our Ivy championship team, joined Cap and Gown, and majored in economics. After two years in the Army, Joe joined the New York City real-estate firm Brown Harris Stevens, rising to president.

In 1986, he formed his own company, which grew to include all of his children. He received numerous professional honors, including "Broker of the Year" and "Realty Man of the Year." Our class named him "Distinguished Classmate" in 1976. He served on several boards, including Princeton Club of New York and Savings Bank of America.

Joe's passing on LinkedIn produced almost 200 comments of respect for him professionally and affection for him personally — the label "gentleman" appears frequently. He was a person of great humility and loyalty who cherished many friends. As his son John wrote, "Your greatest accomplishment was the love and support you offered everyone who entered your life."

TEDD T. THOMAS '56

Tedd died March 10, 2024, at home in Upper Gwynedd, Pa., soon after celebrating his



40th wedding anniversary with his wife Rebecca.

Tedd came to Princeton from Cooper High School in Shenandoah, Pa., joined Terrace Club, majored in English, wrote for the *Nassau Literary Magazine* and the *Princeton Engineer* participated in rowing crew and rugby — a busy man of wide interests. In our 50th-reunion yearbook he cited his admiration for Professor R.P. Blackmur, who "seemed to make the most incomprehensible, illogical, and tragic aspects of the human condition — if not acceptable — at least heroic." His varied pursuits and personal sensitivity informed his career in the cosmetics industry as a charismatic leader while holding important executive positions at Prince Matchabelli, Charles of the Ritz, Giorgio of Beverly Hills, and managing director of Revlon in the UK.

Tedd loved reading, especially Faulkner, Joyce, P.D. James, and *The New York Times*; deep-sea fishing, stamp collecting, and playing bridge. Friends and family cite him as a "constant source of strength and wisdom."

Tedd is survived by his wife, Becky; and children Allison (Diaa Savad), Suzanne, Trevor, Spencer, Reed, and Dana; and grandchildren Diaa and Nick.

THE CLASS OF 1957

E. FREEMAN BUNN '57

Freeman died May 10, 2024, at his home in Vero Beach, Fla. He attended Madison



Academy and the Pingry School. While at Pingry, Freeman and his twin brother, Franklin, played doubles together on the tennis team.

At Princeton, he majored in religion and was a member of Charter Club, where he developed a love for the game of bridge. His senior-year roommates were Dick Baker, Tom Deuel, and Paul Geary.

After graduating from Princeton in 1957, Freeman served in the Army. He then joined Dancer Fitzgerald Sample, where he would spend most of his career as an advertising executive. His largest client was General Mills, which called for him to travel frequently to Minneapolis, a city where he made many friends.

In 1959, he married Anne Allison Overman. They settled in Short Hills, N.J., where they raised their four children. Freeman retired from the advertising industry in 1987, and they later moved to Vero Beach. They were members of Christ Church in Short Hills and the Community Church of Vero Beach.

Freeman was also a member of the Minneapolis Club; the Short Hills Club, where he served as president for two terms; the Union League Club; the Princeton Club of New York; and the John's Island Club. He became a Diamond Life Master at bridge.

Freeman was predeceased by his sister, Carolyn "Cabby" Wood. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Anne; children Howard, Andrew, Christopher, and Pennell B. McCool '87; 13 grandchildren; and his brother.

SHERMAN N. MULLIN '57

Proclaiming himself as "a self-taught electronics engineer," Sherm died in Oxnard, Calif., April 13, 2024. He came to Princeton from Hamden (Conn.) High School but left after one semester and spent three years in the Army, attaining the rank of sergeant. He became involved in computer technology, moving to various cities with Lockheed Electronics Co. (later Lockheed Martin).

He attended classes in physics at LaSalle, mathematics at Rutgers and the University of Michigan, and returned briefly to Princeton, but never received a college degree.

Nevertheless, he managed many projects with Lockheed, including aircraft designs and missile systems. Settling in California, he eventually headed the Lockheed Advanced Development Co. During this period he married and divorced, but began a 59-year marriage to Judia Kay Barnes, and they had two sons, Christopher and Ashley.

After retiring Sherm led "an idyllic life" at a waterfront home in Oxnard, walking on the beach and viewing glorious sunsets with

Judia, but also finding time to consult with the Air Force. In his many contributions to our reunion books, he often decried the lack of scientific knowledge among fellow Americans, the lack of enough competent engineers graduating from U.S. colleges, and the failure of government agencies to prevent the 9/11 attacks.

He is survived by Judia, their two children and families, and his brother Keith.

RALPH B. SCHOENMAN '57

One of our classmates devoted to controversial causes, Ralph died Sept. 30, 2023, in California.

He came to Princeton from John Burroughs High School in Burbank, Calif. He left Princeton after sophomore year but returned as a member of the Class of 1958. He roomed with a fellow high school classmate, Keith Groneman. Other classmates who took classes with him remember him as the class socialist or Trotskyite, unusual in the conservative 1950s.

Ralph moved to Great Britain, where he became known for many years as an associate of the noted British philosopher Bertrand Russell. Ralph became general secretary of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, producing seminars in which leading intellectuals, such as Jean-Paul Sartre, participated. They opposed nuclearism in all of its forms, the Vietnam War, the American-backed Shah of Iran, and Zionism in Palestine. The Bertrand Russell War Crimes Tribunal, modeled after the Nuremberg trials of Nazis and the Japanese War Crimes trials, was one of their projects, focusing on alleged war crimes by the United States in the Vietnam War. Ralph became a harsh critic of many U.S. government officials, of capitalist executives, and of Princeton University. Shortly before Bertrand Russell's death, he disassociated from Ralph.

Moving back to Princeton for a while, Ralph became friendly with Professor Richard Falk, who shared many of his political views. Ralph was also known for visiting prisoners in the Trenton jail. In 2002, he became close to Mya Shone, a documentary filmmaker in California, producing the *Taking Aim* radio show, and then to the production of a webcast. He also befriended and gave information to Joan Mellen, a Temple University professor and author of 24 books, some of which explore the CIA's role in various events, including the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Ralph is survived by Mya and numerous other social activists, whom he inspired.

THE CLASS OF 1961

VINCENT J. MENNA '61

V.J. died April 9, 2024, at his home of many years in Doylestown, Pa., after a long struggle with heart issues.

Born in Philadelphia, he came to us from Glassboro (N.J.) High School. At Princeton,



he played rugby and JV football, majored in biology, and took his meals at Cannon. He roomed with Mike Iseman and Jon Hagstrom. A loyal classmate, he was a Reunions

stalwart, attending most years and serving as headquarters chairman at several major reunions, a largely unappreciated job.

The son of a doctor, V.J. earned a medical degree at Hahnemann Medical School. After pediatric residency he spent two years in the Army, emerging as a major. After brief stints at New Jersey and Massachusetts hospitals, he settled down in Doylestown in private practice with Central Bucks Pediatric Associates from 1976 to 2007 and on staff at Doylestown Hospital. In retirement he enjoyed golf, tennis, skiing, bird-watching, and hiking. He was a quiet man well described by the saying that still waters run deep.

V.J. is survived by Lorraine, his wife of 60 years whom he met in high school; three daughters; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

HARLAN SPITZ '61

Harlan died Feb. 29, 2024, in Greenport, N.Y.

Born in Brooklyn, he came to us from



Jamaica High School. At Princeton, he was in the Special Program in the Humanities in Philosophy, was on the sailing team freshman and sophomore

years, vice chairman of Hillel, and treasurer of the Yacht Club. He took his meals at Wilson Lodge.

After Princeton he earned a medical degree with honors at Yale. Following pediatric internship and residency, he then served as a pediatrician in the Air Force. Then, after a combined residency in adult psychiatry and a fellowship in child psychiatry, he practiced child and adult psychiatry at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the Bronx Children's Psychiatric Center for decades. For four years he spent six months of the year serving as a psychiatric consultant in Rotorua, New Zealand, dealing largely with the Maori population.

A man of many and varied avocational interests, he is survived by his daughter, Rivi Handler-Spitz, his brother Arnold, and other relatives and friends.

RANDOLPH W. TAYLOR '61

Randy died Nov. 13, 2022, in New York City.

He prepared for Princeton at Kew Forest School in Forest Hills, N.Y., where he was a member of the yearbook team and the student government. At Princeton, he majored in the Woodrow Wilson School, writing his thesis on "The Heroism of the French Resistance during World War II." He took his meals at Key and Seal, was



executive editor of *The Daily Princetonian*, and roomed with Frank Childers.

Following Princeton, Randy earned a law degree at Yale and entered practice with Lovejoy, Wasson, Lundgren and Ashton, then Goldfields Consolidated, and finally Murray, Hollander and Bass until his retirement. He lived in New York City his entire adult life. We know little else, as, regrettably, he was never in touch with the class or the University, so far as we know.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Emilia.

THE CLASS OF 1962

HENRY M. KENNEDY JR. '62

Hank died March 23, 2024, surrounded by family.



He came from the Kent School. At Princeton, he majored in chemical engineering, dined at Cannon, briefly played rugby, and worked on the Triangle Club stage crew. He left Princeton in the middle of his junior year and later earned a degree in finance from New York University. He served in the Air Force National Guard and the Reserve.

Hank and his wife, Susan, were married for 51 years, raising two sons in Ridgewood, N.J. Hank worked as a financial adviser at Goodbody & Co. and later at Merrill Lynch. After 50 years, he and his wife retired to Buck Hill Falls, Pa., and later returned to Ridgewood. They were active members of Trinity Episcopal Church, Mount Pocono, Pa.

Hank was predeceased by his wife and son Stephen. He is survived by his son James and wife Melissa, and daughter-in-law Amanda Kennedy. The class extends its sympathy to all the family.

DAVID L. VHAY '62 *65

David came to us from the Cate School in Carpinteria, Calif.



At Princeton, he majored in architecture, dined at Cap and Gown, and was on the ski team. After graduation he remained at Princeton to pursue an MFA, but left after

being drafted by the Army. He served two years, including one in Vietnam. He returned west and spent 10 years designing residential, commercial, and public buildings, first in Ketchum, Idaho, and then Reno, Nev., managing the architectural firm founded by his father, David '30 *34.

Leaving the firm in his late 40s, he and Muffy, his wife and partner, moved to Deer Run, their 200-acre ranch in the Washoe Valley, south of Reno. With David as principal designer and hands-on worker, they built a home and other

buildings, operated a bed and breakfast, and maintained 60 acres of alfalfa and hay. David also bought and rehabilitated old houses. According to Muffy, "He was happy as long as he had a pencil or a hammer in his hand."

David died of a stroke April 21, 2024. To Muffy, and their four children, September, Erica, James, and Toby, the class offers its condolences.

THE CLASS OF 1963

ALAN I. BARON '63

Alan, an esteemed Washington attorney with a passion for public service, died Feb. 24,



2024, of brain cancer at his home in Washington, D.C.

A first-generation American and the first in his family to go to college, Alan came to Princeton from Talmudical Academy in Baltimore. He was an English major, took his meals at Campus Club, was president of the International Relations Club, and was a member of the Keycept Program Steering Committee and the Whig-Clio Society.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1966, Alan clerked for the chief judge of the U.S. District Court for Maryland and then served as assistant U.S. attorney for Maryland.

On entering private practice, Alan focused on defending white collar crime prosecutions, litigating complex civil cases, and serving as special counsel in public proceedings. He successfully defended L. Patrick Gray III, former director of the FBI, who was indicted for allegedly authorizing unlawful FBI break-ins.

From 1987 to 1989, Alan served as special impeachment counsel for the House Judiciary Committee in proceedings that resulted in the impeachment, conviction, and ultimate removal of federal judges Alcee Hastings and Walter Nixon. In 2008, he was again retained by the House and oversaw the impeachment and conviction of U.S. District Judge G. Thomas Porteous. A year later, again for the House, he oversaw the impeachment of District Judge Samuel B. Kent, who then resigned from office.

In a 1997 interview with *The Washington Post*, Alan described himself as "a good, aggressive" questioner. "I don't do capillaries," he said, "I go for the jugular."

Alan had a passion for travel with his wife of 25 years, Wendy Owen, and they enjoyed spending time at their lake house in Nova Scotia. She survives him.

THE CLASS OF 1964

DAVID A. BELASCO '64

David died March 27, 2024, of complications of treatment for lymphoma.

He graduated at the top of his class from Asbury Park (N.J.) High School and majored in mathematics at Princeton. He later graduated from New York University Law School with an L.L.M. in taxation. In 1968, he married Barbara Friedman. They lived first



in Elizabeth, N.J., then settled for the decades to come in nearby South Orange not long after their son Mark was born.

David worked as an estate planning specialist and department manager at Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co. and later at Epstein, Epstein, Brown, Bosek & Turndorf, a New Jersey law firm. He served on the American Bar Association gift and estate tax committee. The balance of David's career was in private practice, doing estate planning as a sole practitioner along with pro bono work for family and friends and organizations he supported.

In the early 1970s, David recognized fellow math major Bob Gilman '64 on the platform at NJ Transit's Broad Street station. Their two families became neighbors in South Orange. David, in his calm way, helped Bob with the then-contentious issue of easements for cable TV.

David is survived by Barbara, Mark, daughter-in-law Grace, and brother Ken.

THE CLASS OF 1966

MALCOLM DAVIS JOHNSON '66

Dave died March 30, 2024, at Rutland (Vt.) Regional Medical Center after a short illness.



He grew up in Bronxville, N.Y., and attended Bronxville High School, where he played football, basketball, baseball, and tennis, ran track, and was sports editor of the school

paper. He followed his father — a member of the Class of '34 — to Princeton, where he majored in basic engineering. He belonged to Cannon Club, played freshman football, ran track, served on the Engineering Council, and was president of the Basic Engineering Society.

Following graduation, Dave served as a lieutenant in the Navy, seeing action in Vietnam as an engineer on a destroyer and earning several medals and commendations. After his Vietnam tour, he served on a destroyer squadron in the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean.

Discharged in 1970, he enrolled at Duke Law School, where he was on the law review staff. He spent his legal career with law firms in New York City. Dave was an avid runner, tennis player, Mets fan, and horseman. He belonged to First Congregational Church of Fair Haven in Vermont.

Dave is survived by his daughters, Jennifer Sober and Bonnie Pope; eight grandchildren; sisters Martha Bays and Judith Smith; and brother Frank, to all of whom the class extends its condolences.

ROBERT J. KLAHN JR. '66

Peerless crossword constructor, 11 letters. It's Robert Klahn.



One of the country's premier crossword puzzle constructors, Bob died Sept. 27, 2023, at Wilmington (Del.) Hospital.

A native of Buffalo, N.Y., Bob came to Princeton from Andover, where he won several academic prizes and ran cross-country. At Princeton, he majored in mathematics, belonged to Terrace Club, participated in IAA sports, and played trumpet in the marching and concert bands.

After graduation, Bob joined DuPont as a computer scientist and earned a master's degree in statistics from Villanova. More recently, he worked for Computer Sciences Corp.

Bob's love of crossword puzzles began early. He started creating puzzles at age 8 and never stopped. In 1991, he launched a secondary career in crossword construction. A number of his puzzles appeared in *The New York Times*, most of them devilishly difficult. He wrote several books, including *Absolutely Nasty Crosswords Level 1* and *The Wrath of Klahn Crosswords: Puzzles from the World's Toughest Clue Writer*.

In 2012, Orca, a national organization dedicated to crossword construction, presented Bob with its first-ever Lifetime Achievement Orca, for sustained excellence in crossword construction.

Bob's wife, Sharon, predeceased him. The class extends its condolences to his surviving family.

THE CLASS OF 1967

FRANK PHILIP HANDY '67

Phil died March 7, 2024, in Orlando, Fla.

He graduated from Northfield Mount Herman Preparatory School in Massachusetts, where he was an honor roll student, member of the Cum Laude Society, yearbook associate editor, and played varsity football, basketball, and lacrosse.

Phil followed his father, Francis 1926, and cousin Alex Weech '55 to Princeton. He majored in economics, joined Cap and Gown, was an Undergraduate Council member, a Keyceptor, and a head cheerleader, and played lacrosse, squash, and rugby. He roomed with John Faggi and Doug James.

Phil graduated in 1970 from Harvard Business School and joined Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette. From 1968 to 1974 he served in the Army Reserve. In 1974, he became CEO of CommBanks in Winter Park, Fla. He invested in real estate and was director of the REIT Great American Management and Investments. From 1996 to 1999 Phil served as managing director of Equity Group Corp. His last 10 work years involved successful restructuring of Strategic Industries.

Phil was state chairman of the Jeb Bush

for governor campaigns, co-chair of the John McCain 2008 Florida presidential campaign, chairman of the Florida State Board of Education, and vice chairman of the National Board of Education Science. He was a board member of the Hoover Institution at Stanford and an adviser on education policy and government at Harvard's Kennedy School.

Phil was married to his first wife, Gail, for more than 30 years, and they produced children Kate, Breck, and Abigail. His second wife, Barbara Heller, brought him seven children from her previous marriage, and they were together for 16 years until his death.

KARL F. HUMMEL '67

Karl died July 23, 2023 in Bristol, Vt., after a long struggle with primary progressive



aphasia. He graduated from Brick Township (N.J.) High School, where he was a member of the band and Key Club. He won the School Math Award, Bausch and Lomb Award, band award, and was most valuable track team member. He was co-captain of the cross-country team.

At Princeton, Karl majored in chemistry, ate at Dial Lodge where he was vice president, and ran varsity cross-country for two years.

After graduation he began working for DuPont in New Jersey, but left after four years. He started a motorcycle shop in Hightstown, N.J., and began racing motocross, married Robin Hummel, had one child, and the business transformed into an automobile machine service. In 1979, he moved to Vermont to work for Digital Equipment Corp.

Karl began implementing the 1980s management techniques of Japanese business that influenced American manufacturing at Digital. When the plant closed in 1993, he opened a small consulting company. He was hired by the Central Vermont Public Service Corp. to install and implement his quality management techniques. Karl said his most satisfying career experience was when the Vermont utility was recognized by *Forbes* Magazine as the fourth-most trustworthy small corporation in America.

Karl's final years again found him seeking new challenges and reform of education. He took a large pay cut to work for the Reading Plus Corp. to train educators across the nation to assist children from poor backgrounds.

Karl is survived by a daughter from his first marriage, Kari (Suiter) Hancock; and by his second wife, Abby, and their daughters, Suzanne and Sylvia.

THE CLASS OF 1968

R. SCOTT BLAZE '68

Scott died April 13, 2024, at his home in San Francisco after a 16-month battle with leukemia.



He came to us from West Orange (N.J.) High School, where he was active in swimming and football. At Princeton, he was introduced to rugby and developed

lifelong friendships with teammates Peter Lyon, Tom Newman, and Phil Mengel, who were part of his wedding party in 1978. Scott majored in philosophy and was a member of Cottage Club. Senior year he lived at 631 Cuyler Hall. His graduation followed that of relative Scott Scammell III '41.

Following graduation, Scott earned a law degree from Georgetown Law Center and an LL.M. from University College, London. Returning to the United States, he joined the Department of Justice as an attorney in admiralty law. He retired from the DOJ as senior admiralty counsel.

In retirement, Scott loved swimming every day in San Francisco Bay, sailing his 36-footer in ocean waters, and walking his beloved Weimarers.

The class extends its deepest sympathies to his wife, Jane; extended family; and friends.

HENRY DEAN KEDENBURG '68

Dean passed away at home in Carlsbad, Calif., April 10, 2023.

He came to us from Berner High School in Massapequa, N.Y., where he was "active on Wednesdays" according to his own description in the *Nassau Herald*. Dean bickered with us in January 1966 and signed on with Cannon Club but left the University in February to join the Navy, where he served as a quartermaster. Upon mustering out, he reentered Princeton with the Class of 1971, but always called 1968 his home. Dean brought with him his new wife and daughter and lived off campus while majoring in politics. Again, by his own description, he was "active in the King's Inn darts team."

Following graduation, Dean matriculated at Rutgers, where he received a Ph.D. in anthropology. His life followed a somewhat eclectic course from there. In his own words, his career included "itinerant laborer in medical research, university teaching, computer technology, real estate development and construction, and a few other things I've forgotten." He was a frequent attendee at our major reunions and loved to party with all his classmates and clubmates.

The class extends its deepest sympathies to his wide group of friends and adopted family in California.

JOHN K. LLOYD '68

The class has lost another stalwart. John died Feb. 13, 2024, at Riverview Medical Center in Red Bank, N.J., having succumbed to the effects of Alzheimer's disease,



surrounded by family members.

John came to Princeton from the Peddie School in Hightstown, N.J., where he was senior class president, YMCA president, and member of the House Committee. At Princeton, "Brow" majored in religion and ate at Tiger Inn, living there his senior year with Steve Pierce, Spike Herrick, and Will Dickey. He waited tables at Commons and played varsity lacrosse for three years.

John was in NROTC and after graduating, was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He served in Quantico, Va., and Okinawa. After mustering out of the Corps, he received an MBA in health administration from Temple University. Starting as an administrative resident at Episcopal Hospital in Philadelphia, John rose quickly through the ranks.

In 1982, he was named president of Jersey Shore Medical Center. Over the next decades, he merged JSMC with several other hospitals, ultimately creating Meridian Health, which later merged with Hackensack Medical Center to create Hackensack Meridian Health, from which he retired as CEO shortly after our 50th reunion. Along the way, John earned many professional honors during his illustrious career. In his final years, he enjoyed playing platform tennis, skiing, golf, surfing, fishing from his boat *Great Escape*, and traveling throughout the world.

The class extends its deepest sympathies to John's widow, Maureen; his children, Larson, Trevor, and Dylan; grandchildren Logan, Harley, and Emma Grace; as well as extended family, friends and colleagues.

THE CLASS OF 1969

WILLIAM B. LEVY II '69

Noted neuroscientist Chip died March 29, 2024, in Earlysville, Va., of an aggressive metastatic cancer.

Chip came to Princeton from University City, Mo., majored in psychology, and was a varsity swimmer. His fellow swimmers describe his work ethic as "second to none," and this carried over to his academic life. He was a University Scholar and eventually gave up swimming to concentrate on his senior thesis.

In 1973, Chip earned a Ph.D. at the UC Irvine School of Biological Sciences, then was a research fellow in the Department of Psychology at Harvard. He dedicated the following 46 years of his life to research and teaching at the University of Virginia as a professor of neurosurgery. At his death, he was professor of neurological surgery at the University of Virginia Medical School.

Chip's work left an indelible mark on the field of neuroscience. Colleagues describe

him as intellectually honest, kind, and generous without any agenda beyond learning as much as he could about the brain. He worked up until the last day of his life.

Chip's wife, Nancy, died in 2010. He is survived by his brother, Thomas Charles Levy '71, who noted that Chip's legacy is the large number of students he mentored in his years at UVA, and the many professors and researchers around the world whose careers he helped launch.

ALLAN B. WARREN III '69

Allan died on the evening of Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024, the 51st anniversary of his ordination as an Episcopal priest. He was admitted to hospice in Reading, Mass., just three days earlier.



Allan was born in Charlottesville, Va., where his father was a doctor, and he graduated from Spartanburg (S.C.) High School. At Princeton, Allan majored in religion and took part in the Procter Foundation, which serves Episcopalian students. He ate at Colonial and is remembered as being fun and entertaining. Later in his life, his congregants would cite his expansive and ebullient personality, as well as his resonant voice and passionate delivery.

He attended the General Theological Seminary in New York and was ordained a deacon in 1972 and priest in 1973. Allan was appointed curate of the Church of the Transfiguration in New York in 1974, and over the next 25 years he served in pastoral roles in Paris, France; Waban and Boston, Mass.; and New York.

In 1999, Allan was named rector of the Church of the Advent in Boston, where he served until his retirement in 2017. During his tenure as rector, Church of the Advent was known as an exemplar of Anglo-Catholic worship and music. Allan was a mentor to many young priests and was an inspiration to his parishioners and his many friends who will long remember his faithful witness.

Allan loved movies, cooking, and long bike rides. In 1981, he married Polly Brodie, and their happy years together included summers at their old farmhouse in Southwest Harbor, Maine. Polly predeceased him in 2007.

THE CLASS OF 1971

TIMOTHY M. EMPKIE '71

We lost our respected classmate Tim to esophageal cancer Dec. 31, 2023, in Providence, R.I.

Tim came to Princeton from New Canaan, Conn., majored in biology, was a proud member of Tower Club, and enjoyed JV and Dillon pickup basketball. He lived with Ellis, O'Hern, Milhaupt, and Logsdon off-campus



senior year.

Tim graduated from UConn Medical School in 1976 and embarked on a career of teaching and community service. After family medicine residency, he practiced in rural North Dakota, earned an MPH at Harvard, and joined the faculty of Brown Medical School in 1984. His 40-year career at Brown was marked by a commitment to teaching about and service to underserved populations. Tim led Project HOPE, the global humanitarian relief organization, in Central and Eastern Europe from 1993 to 2002.

Back at Brown, he taught medical students about health care in the Caribbean and Eastern Europe and promoted telehealth. He resumed his love affair with basketball by mentoring Brown's varsity team starting in 2017 and was recognized with a named outdoor bench and ceremonies at a Princeton-Brown basketball game in 2024. Tim was active in the class, in the Princeton Alumni Association of Rhode Island, and in community-enhancement causes.

His modesty, steadfastness, warmth, and wisdom were appreciated as a force for good by all who knew him. To his many friends and colleagues, the class extends its deepest sympathies.

MARK H. TALLMAN '71

Mark died Jan. 23, 2024, of complications of pancreatic cancer in Lincoln, Neb. We bid



farewell to our class's only lifelong resident of Nebraska.

Mark came to Princeton from Southeast High School in Lincoln with classmate David Moessner. He majored in economics, lived with Jim Hart and Bill Stewart in Patton, belonged to Cloister Inn, and enjoyed IAA sports, especially basketball. Classmates remember him for his good cheer and easygoing manner.

After graduation, Mark joined the Nebraska Air National Guard, trained in the family construction products business, and later worked as a stockbroker. None of the three was an occupational match. He eventually found professional success by purchasing his own computer-supply company in Lincoln and rebounding from a challenging personal/business situation in the early 1980s. His company, Data Source Media, prospered, making the *Inc.* magazine 500 list of fastest-growing, privately owned companies three times. Mark's life was a model of stability, owning the same business and living in the same house for his last 40 years.

Mark's hobbies included collecting presidential, dignitary, and celebrity autographs and collecting elephant figurines and sculptures from around the world.

He reveled in supporting the University of Nebraska athletics and attending the Olympics.

To his brother Tom and other family and friends, the class extends its sincere condolences.

THE CLASS OF 1973

ROBERT F. BOSSARD '73

Bob died Oct. 1, 2023.



He was born in Baltimore, Md., and grew up in Fort Wayne, Ind. He went to North Side High School, where he was active in football, track, and politics. At Princeton, Bob majored in biochemical sciences. His thesis, "A Critical Analysis of the Oncogene and Protovirus Theories in Relation to Oncogenesis," was written under the guidance of Professor Frederick Meins. Bob dined at Tiger Inn. Extracurriculars were lacrosse, heavyweight crew, the Gateman Agency, and the 21 Club. His roommates were Robert Cotter, Bob Thornton, Resai Bengur, Jim Dow, Chip Meserole, Dan Hudacek, and Tim McQuay.

After Princeton, Bob attended the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, where he graduated *cum laude* with an M.D. in 1977. His professional life was spent as a physician anesthesiologist in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Upon retirement, Bob devoted himself to his many interests, including traveling, cycling, fitness, snow skiing, photography, and scuba diving.

Bob stayed in touch with fellow Tiger Inn mates Steve Codraro, Rob DeVore, and Paul Berlacher and his lacrosse teammate Rob Reynolds. He attended the 50th reunion of our class, where he spent time with Tim McQuay, who reported that Bob "was a good guy with a wry sense of humor."

The class sends its condolences to Bob's brother, David.

JERRY Y. CARNEGIE JR. '73

Jerry died April 29, 2024. He was born in Nyack, N.Y., and attended Albertus Magnus



High School in Bardonia, N.Y.

At Princeton, Jerry was a member of Tiger Inn and roomed with (among others) Bill Hession, Jane King, Gil Mott, and Marilyn Carroll. He majored in mathematics and wrote his thesis on "The Methods of Conjugate Gradients for Solving Linear Systems." His favorite non-academic activity was playing bridge.

Jerry became an enrolled actuary and a fellow of the Society of Actuaries. Most of his professional life was spent at Hewitt Associates, where he was a partner and the principal pension consultant to corporations such as Xerox and Citigroup. In 2004, Jerry retired and turned his attention to playing

golf, coaching Little League baseball, and rooting for his Amazin' Mets.

Jerry met his much-loved wife, Lynn, on a bus commuting into Manhattan. He is survived by Lynn and their four children, Jerry III '04, Charles, Britt, and Karin. The class extends its sympathy to Jerry's family.

THE CLASS OF 1976

DONALD W. FOSTER '76

Don died May 5, 2024, at home in Wilmington, Del., with his wife and daughter at his bedside, following eight years of illness with Alzheimer's disease and leukemia.



Born and raised in Wilmington, Don attended Wilmington Friends School, where he lettered in baseball and basketball and was captain of the football team. At Princeton, he played freshman basketball and four years of golf. Don earned the prestigious white letter sweater for captaining the undefeated 1976 Ivy League championship golf team. He carded a hole-in-one at the NCAA Golf Championship in 1976. Don majored in basic engineering, was a member of Cottage Club, and made friends easily.

After graduation, he returned to Delaware and began a career in the insurance industry. He was a lifelong golfer and won numerous club championships. A loyal Princetonian, he regularly attended Reunions through 2017.

College roommate Neil Hauck remembered, "I vividly recall him setting a baseball hat on his bed and chipping golf balls into it with amazing accuracy." Kevin Hepler added, "Not only did he demonstrate athletic prowess, but Don was the loudest Tiger fan I've ever heard."

The class officers send deepest sympathy to Don's wife, Shelley; and daughter Lindsay.

ALAN M. HOCHBERG '76

Alan died April 7, 2024, at his home in East Wallingford, Vt.



Born in New York and raised in Delaware, Alan came to Princeton after graduating from Brandywine High School in Wilmington. He majored in electrical engineering, ate at Stevenson Hall, was a member of Terrace Club, and served as chief engineer at WPRB. He spent much of his time at the E-Quad and Princeton Computer Center with Beatriz Infante, Lloyd Lawrence, Joseph Skudlarek, Jim Lyon '75, and Tom Lyon '78. After graduating with highest honors in electrical engineering, Alan continued his studies at Northeastern University with a pivot to biomedical engineering.

He was a loyal Princeton alumnus, serving as an ASC interviewer for decades

in Pennsylvania, Switzerland, India, New York City, and Vermont. He was a regular participant on Zoom with '76 Together Apart.

Alan's career focused on patient safety, working for 13 years in Switzerland with Hoffman-La Roche, serving in the drug safety committee office. After retirement a few years ago, he and his family returned to the United States and settled in Vermont. In his 25th-reunion yearbook essay, Alan proudly wrote that he had received a second-degree black belt from the World Tang Soo Do Association. He also ran marathons and enjoyed photography.

The class officers send sincere condolences to Alan's wife, Sandra; sons Max and Evan; daughter Janine Faben; two grandchildren; and sister Marian.

SHARON ROGOLSKY '76

Sharon died April 19, 2024, in Boston of multiple serious health conditions.

Born and raised in Waterford, Conn., Sharon attended Connecticut College before entering Princeton, where she majored in mathematics.

After graduation, she returned to Connecticut and studied at the Yale School of Management, earning a master's degree in public and private management in 1984. She received an M.A. and M.Phil. in organizational behavior from the Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences in 1989. She moved to Greensboro, N.C., where she worked as a research analyst at the Center for Creative Leadership. In 2008, she moved to Boston, where she worked as a graduate student tutor at Cambridge College.

In her 20th-reunion yearbook essay, Sharon reflected, "It's been a long, strange time. It was only yesterday."

She was known for her intellectual curiosity and wit. Her appreciation for art never flagged even while enduring debilitating illnesses. Sharon cared deeply about Judaism, and civic duty. She took pride in volunteering for years as a poll worker in Somerville, Mass.

The class officers send sincere condolences to her sister Barbara Rogolsky and brother-in-law Evan Thayer. Sharon's burial was held May 1 at Beth El Community Cemetery in Groton, Conn.

THE CLASS OF 1978

RONALD E. ARONS '78

A few people leave their lasting mark on the class, and we lost one when Ron died of an apparent heart attack Jan. 7, 2024. He was irrepressible, pitching a million zany ideas and making the best ones work. He was a fearless and inspiring part of Reunions talent shows, bringing others into the mix with his over-the-top energy.



Undaunted by COVID, Ron created a prize-winning P-rade video for our 2020 virtual reunion. He contributed to several class webinars, including a practical and tender one about prostate cancer. He figured his own experience and research might help other men.

Ron joined us from Rockville Centre, Long Island, and majored in civil engineering, later adding an MBA from the University of Chicago. He forged lasting ties at Charter and within the Jewish community. There were career jobs in tech marketing and financial advising, but Ron found his passion when he tenaciously dug into a shadowy family story about his great-grandfather's shenanigans. That led to deep study of genealogy, with a specialization in criminal stories and the challenging techniques of Jewish genealogy, which led to two books, international teaching, and speaking tours.

Ron was buried in his tap shoes and accompanied to his rest by three orange and black juggling balls.

DANA E. DREIBELBIS '78

A stroke took Dana Dec. 1, 2023, ending a life of service, adventure, and creativity.



Dana joined us from Oxford, Pa., a much shorter distance than the 600 miles he had already hiked on the Appalachian Trail. He played soccer until sidelined by injuries and majored in geology. Dana was part of the section that reopened Cloister, happily for all as he met Leslie Conrad '77 and began a life partnership that grew to include their four children and four grandchildren.

The summer after junior year, Dana went to India with Princeton-in-Asia, teaching English and working in women's health through the same hospital where President Bob Goheen '40 *48 had been born a generation before. Bringing his family back to the hospital and surrounding villages 30 years later was a deeply moving experience of what had been so formative for him.

Dana's career in publishing took him many places, both physically and intellectually, and included being named Publisher of the Year in 2006. Carrying his passions into retirement, he started a Scout troop in Trenton and spearheaded a Juneteenth celebration in Princeton, volunteered with the Petey Greene Program, and honed his skills in woodworking and drawing.

We join Leslie and Dana's family in grieving this rich life, over too soon.

JACQUELINE A. JACKSON '78

We lost a superstar Oct. 29, 2023, when cancer took Jackie. She was a trailblazer in every sense, leading our women's basketball team to four Ivy titles. Jackie was the first Black woman to captain any Princeton varsity team and set scoring and rebounding records unmatched until recently. She earned those records when women's sports were new to Princeton, players and coaches often carpooled to games, and occasionally players ironed their own numbers onto their jerseys.

Jackie was drawn to Princeton by her brother Jim '74's experience and encouragement. She earned a degree in history with a concentration in African American studies. Later, she earned an MBA at Loyola while working at AT&T. Leaving there, she spent 26 years in missionary service, then returned to Florida and built a new community at Apple. She kept serving, particularly those dealing with homelessness and recovery.

While working all over the developing world as a Christian missionary, Jackie's approach was to come quietly into a community, meet with pastors and other leaders, then ask what they needed and how her group might help. She brought creativity, humor, organization, and a passion for building relationships into each engagement.

We join all who loved and admired Jackie in grieving a life well-lived and over too soon.

THE CLASS OF 1984

PAUL M. GLAT '84

Paul grew up in White Plains, N.Y., and was valedictorian at Woodlands High



School in Hartsdale, N.Y. He graduated from Princeton *summa cum laude* with a degree in biochemical sciences. Paul was a member of Cottage Club, the Student Ticket Agency, and rugby club, and was an emergency room nursing home volunteer, foreshadowing his career in medicine.

He attended medical school at New York University, where was class president, and remained there for his general/plastic surgery residency. He concluded his training with a craniofacial fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. In 1998, Paul joined the faculty of St. Christopher's Hospital for Children as chief of plastic surgery and director of the burn unit. He remained there for his entire career. Paul also had an adult cosmetic plastic-surgery practice in Bala Cynwyd, Pa., where he was nominated as a "top doc" in *Philadelphia Magazine* for the past 20 years.

Paul was a gifted writer and researcher and a pillar of the burn- and wound-care community. His writings and research appeared in several textbooks and more than 90 plastic surgery publications, and he spoke internationally over the course of his career. He was a profound and thoughtful mentor and was known for his empathy, wit, humility, and kindness.

Paul died May 22, 2024. He is survived by Fran; his children Andrew and Jenna Feeney; and one grandchild, Jack Feeney. The class extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family.

GRADUATE ALUMNI

FRANCIS S. MANNING *59

At the age of 90, Frank died May 9, 2024, in Tulsa, Okla.

He was born Sept. 16, 1933, in Barbados. He earned a B.Eng. in chemical engineering at McGill and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering at Princeton in 1959.

Frank taught engineering at the University of Tulsa for 59 years before retiring in 2018 at age 85. Prior to joining the Tulsa faculty in 1968, he taught at the Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon).

Frank taught nearly every undergraduate chemical engineering course offered at Tulsa, six graduate ChemE courses, five engineering core courses, and three petroleum refining and production courses. He was the A. Paul Buthod Professor of Chemical Engineering from 2013 until his retirement and authored 70 publications and three textbooks.

He taught numerous industrial short courses on oil field processing of petroleum in the United States and in England, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, Singapore, Trinidad, and Venezuela.

Frank was named Mr. Homecoming at Tulsa in 2016 and was inducted into TU's College of Engineering and Natural Sciences Hall of Fame in 2022.

Predeceased by his wife Ardis, Frank is survived by his children, Frank and Helen, and three grandchildren.

ROBERT S. HARRIS *60

Robert died Oct. 3, 2023, in Los Angeles.

He was born in El Paso, Texas, in 1935. He earned a B.A. in architecture from Rice University in 1957 and an MFA in architecture from Princeton in 1960.

Robert began his academic career at the University of Texas while working as a partner for the firm Taniguchi, Shelman & Harris Architects. He joined the University of Oregon in 1967 as a professor of architecture and was promoted to dean of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts in 1971. He was instrumental in founding the University of Oregon's Historic Preservation

Program.

Robert served as dean of the University of Southern California School of Architecture from 1981 to 1992. After a decade as dean, he took responsibility for building USC's graduate architecture program and developing a graduate degree program in landscape architecture. He received the USC Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015.

Robert focused on design research, urban design, and the impact of urban development on people as well as on the existing fabric of the city.

Predeceased by his wife Elizabeth Vanderzyl, Robert is survived by his daughters from his first marriage, Diane *91, Elaine, and Janet.

WILLIAM P. PURCELL *60

Bill died March 23, 2024, in Memphis, Tenn., at age 88, after a brief illness.

He was born Dec. 11, 1935, in Tulsa, Okla. He earned an undergraduate degree in chemistry from Indiana University in 1957 and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Princeton in 1960.

While at Princeton, Bill worked at Buckman Laboratories, researching cellulose derivatives and synthetic microbicides. In 1963, he joined the chemistry faculty at the University of Tennessee, Memphis.

Bill's area of expertise was molecular modeling, and he was a pioneer in quantitative structure-activity relationships. He published *Strategy of Drug Design: A Molecular Guide to Biological Activity* in 1973.

From 1975 to 1977, Bill taught at the Université de Lausanne, École de Pharmacie in Switzerland, where he found a love of skiing and became an expert on the slopes.

In 1997, Bill formed his company, Molecular Design International, which had multiple commercial spin-outs. The firm continues in operation, having received IND approval and over 10 Phase I and Phase II SBIR/STTR NIH Grants. He invented the molecules MDI 101 and MDI 403, used as anti-aging compounds in the cosmetic industry.

Bill is survived by his children, Lisa, Jennifer, and Barclay; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

EDWARD JAMES WOODS *62

Jim died March 18, 2024, in Berlin, Germany, at age 87.

Born in 1936 in Timmins, Ontario, Jim received his BSc degree in engineering physics from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, in 1957. He earned his Ph.D. in physics at Princeton in 1962. His dissertation was "Representations of the Commutation Relations Describing a Non-Relativistic Infinite Free Bose Gas."

After a postdoc in physics at the University of Alberta, Jim became an assistant professor of physics at the University of Maryland. He joined the mathematics faculty at Queen's in 1968, retiring in 1991.

At Princeton, Jim met Huzihiro Araki *60, with whom he developed the "Araki-Woods" factors used in classifying Von Neumann algebras (Araki and Woods, "A Classification of Factors," 1968). This influenced the research of French mathematician Alain Connes (1982 Fields medalist), who became a visitor at Queen's in 1975.

At Queen's, Jim started the Canadian Annual Symposium on Operator Algebras. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1987.

After retiring, Jim moved to Berlin to join his second wife, Dr. Evelyn Weimar-Woods. She survives him, as do two of three children from his first marriage, Michael and Julie; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

JAN A. NORTON *66

Jan died of cancer in Red Bank, N.J., April 9, 2024.

He was born in Warsaw, Poland, shortly before World War II. His family eventually immigrated to Canada.

Jan served in the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1957 with an engineering degree. After graduating, he worked at Avro Aircraft on the Arrow supersonic fighter. He began graduate studies in electrical engineering at Princeton and won a national Bell Telephone Laboratories Fellowship for his third year in the engineering school. That summer Jan worked at Bell Labs on the first satellite communications experiment, Project Echo.

While working on his dissertation, Jan got an offer from Bell Labs to join its control systems group. He worked on Telstar, a satellite capable of live TV transmission between the USA and Europe. This project took Jan to Brittany, France, where he worked on the 380-ton ground station antenna under a 210 feet in diameter radome.

During four decades with Bell Labs and AT&T (later Lucent Technologies), Jan worked on and managed projects in control systems, computer systems, and business competitiveness.

Jan is survived by his wife of 62 years, Maggie; three daughters; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

PETER A. CREAN *70

Peter died of natural causes in Rochester, N.Y., Dec. 23, 2023.

Born in Toronto Oct. 26, 1942, Peter graduated from the University of Toronto

in 1964 and earned a Ph.D. in physics from Princeton in 1970.

He joined Xerox in 1970 as a scientist at the company's research center in Webster, N.Y. Over the next four decades, he developed or co-developed many of the technologies that became the building blocks of digital printing and imaging as it exists today.

He was one of three members of an engineering team that produced the first laser printer. At the beginning of the list of 40 patents he created for Xerox was the company's first high-quality, high-speed CCD document scanner. With Xerox researchers, Peter found a way to run imaging and compression algorithms for variable printing on high-performance video chips — an application that yielded higher print speeds and better imaging quality at lower cost.

He was awarded the Robert F. Reed Technology Medal by the Technical Association of the Graphic Arts.

Peter was a longstanding volunteer for Graduate Annual Giving.

Dorothy, his wife of 55 years, died hours after Peter. He is survived by daughter Tara '94, son Jeff '01, and two grandchildren.

SHEN C.Y. FU *76

Shen died in Taipei, Taiwan, April 16, 2024, at the age of 86.

He was born in Shanghai Nov. 4, 1937, during the second Sino-Japanese War. While a teenager, his family moved to Taiwan, where he later received prizes in painting, calligraphy, and seal carving. A gifted artist, Shen's aptitude for authenticating calligraphy and painting set him on an academic path, as well as on a path to the United States.

He earned a bachelor's degree from the Taiwan Normal University in 1959, and a master of arts from the Chinese Cultural College in 1965. A John D. Rockefeller III fellow from 1968 to 1971, Shen earned a Ph.D. from Princeton in 1976. He joined the faculty at Yale as an associate professor, and later became a senior curator of Chinese art at the Smithsonian Institution's Freer and Sackler galleries in Washington, D.C.

Following two decades of work and study in the United States, Shen returned to Taipei, where he took on key roles at the University of Taiwan and the National Palace Museum as both a scholar and artist. He was a member of the Association for Asian Studies.

Shen is survived by his wife, Margaret.

Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.

*An undergraduate memorial appears for Davie Vhay '62 *65.*



BY STELLA (DAILY) ZAWISTOWSKI '00

In the Nation's Service

ACROSS

- 1. Group of P-grade spectators, say
- 6. Brilliant bird of the rainforest
- 11. "No __, ands, or buts!"
- 14. Finnish telecom giant
- 15. Draper's stock
- 16. Paralympic event for Brad Snyder GS
- 17. Class of '65 alum who represented New Jersey in the U.S. Senate
- 19. "Toy Story" kid
- 20. Wearing something
- 21. Not much at all
- 22. " __ Line Is It Anyway?"
- 24. Bed that folds
- 26. Passes out
- 27. Class of '96 alum who serves as governor of Colorado
- 31. Brown in oil
- 33. Distribute proportionately
- 34. Newton fruit
- 37. Birds sacred to Athena
- 38. Duck or dodge
- 39. Somewhere between purple and medium
- 40. Spelling competition
- 41. Princeton __ in Race Relations
- 42. Adorable doggo, say
- 43. Class of '54 alum who represented Maryland in the U.S. Senate
- 46. Ivy Inn serving
- 47. Parts of a six-pack?
- 48. End-of-semester test
- 51. Bank abbreviation
- 54. Pocket rockets, for example
- 58. Some gametes
- 59. Class of '86 alum who represents Alabama in the U.S. House of Representatives
- 62. "Stand" band
- 63. Language spoken in parts of Alaska
- 64. Wood for making models

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	
14						15							16		
17						18							19		
20						21				22	23				
			24	25					26						
		27				28	29	30							
31	32						33					34	35	36	
37						38					39				
40						41					42				
		43	44							45					
			46						47						
48	49	50					51	52	53			54	55	56	57
58						59	60					61			
62						63						64			
65						66						67			

- 65. Cover the gray, perhaps
 - 66. Destructive 1855 event at Nassau Hall
 - 67. Club regulation
- DOWN**
- 1. Network where Julia Boorstin '00 is a correspondent
 - 2. Muddy the waters
 - 3. Tex. neighbor
 - 4. Athletes from Villanova or Northwestern
 - 5. Bit of toothpaste
 - 6. Exam taken by many EEB majors
 - 7. Alan of "Marriage Story"
 - 8. Absolutely unemotional
 - 9. Had some Olives deli, say
 - 10. "Now's the time to act!"
 - 11. "Let's go!"
 - 12. Former U.S. Senator Bill who's a Class of '74 alum
 - 13. Opposing views in a Whig-Clio debate, for example

- 18. Credit card datum
- 23. He/him/ __ pronouns
- 25. Smelted material
- 26. Polar floater
- 27. Kentucky Derby cocktail
- 28. __ International Center (resource for Princetonians from outside the U.S.)
- 29. Spot with statuary, often
- 30. Wiser, hopefully
- 31. Weep with abandon
- 32. Religious veneration
- 34. Twist of __
- 35. Flower favored by van Gogh
- 36. "Omigosh!"
- 38. Mystery writer __ Stanley Gardner
- 39. Doesn't rise to a challenge
- 41. Old soda can opener
- 42. Zin alternative
- 44. Grp. that helps motorists
- 45. Equipment used at Clarke Field
- 48. Modeling agency, or maker of car models

- 49. U.S Representative Glenn who's a Class of '83 alum
- 50. Identify
- 51. MAT103 calculation
- 52. U.S. Senator Ted who's a Class of '92 alum
- 53. Make reference to
- 55. Unit studied in MOL348
- 56. A "Frozen" sister
- 57. Fried chicken side
- 60. Right-angle shape
- 61. Flow back

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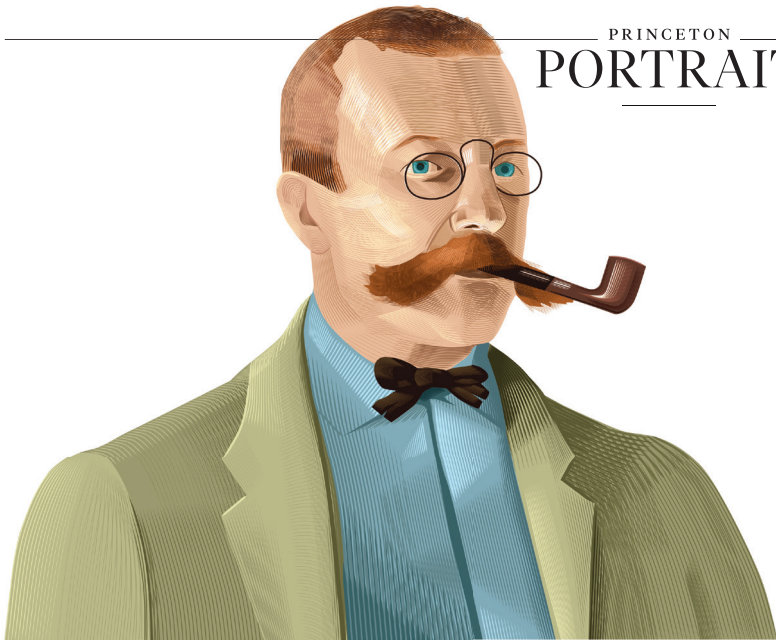
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LAURENCE HUTTON H*1897 (1843-1904)

He Thanked Princeton by Donating His Collection of Death Masks

BY ELYSE GRAHAM '07

BEFORE LAURENCE HUTTON H*1897 started collecting heads, he established himself as a prominent man of literature. The son of a wealthy merchant, he grew up in New York City, where he skipped college in favor of touring literary Europe and then joining the scribbling game himself. He worked as a theater critic for the *New York Evening Mail*, then a literary editor for *Harper's Magazine*.

In 1897, Princeton awarded Hutton an honorary degree of master of arts. He had already been thus honored by an institution in New Haven, but he understood which honor was greater. He moved to Princeton, where he lived with his family at the Princeton Inn and made frequent use of the University's library. Whenever in New York City, he socialized at the Princeton Club. From 1901 onward, he worked as an instructor in Princeton's Department of English.

Soon after he became a Princeton man, Hutton presented to the University a collection of 74 death masks. "I thought I'd like to do something for the University," he said. "So far as I have been able to discover, mine is the most nearly complete and the largest collection of its kind in the world."

The collection was ostensibly scientific: For centuries, men of learning, believing the workings of the brain must shape the head, had sought to learn the secrets of greatness by taking plaster casts of the heads of great thinkers — by any means necessary. (This pseudoscience, known as phrenology, contributed to racist theories, especially about Black people.) Thus it was for the masks in his collection. They represent the astonishing lengths men went to in the quest to capture those valuable faces: digging up bodies; stealing impressions from the coroner's table; haunting the curiosity shop, the dissecting room, and the charnel house.

For example, a mask of Shakespeare in the collection was said to be an impression taken from a death mask that a friend secretly made of the playwright

"I am sure that mine is the actual death-mask of Aaron Burr [1772] because I have the personal guarantee of the man who made the mold in 1836."

— LAURENCE HUTTON H*1897

before his burial. A mask of William Makepeace Thackeray, likewise, was made by a friend of the author after his death. Thackeray's family asked that it be destroyed, but the friend refused.

The body of France's Henry IV was exhumed from his grave during the French Revolution; Parisians lined up to see the old monarch's face, and one of them supposedly made his mask. Robespierre, by contrast, had his head preserved for posterity before he even went to the guillotine; by prior arrangement, the revolutionary government sent it to Madame Tussaud so that she could add his likeness to her waxworks.

As a literary man, Hutton recognized the face of the author Laurence Sterne when he saw his mask in a curiosity shop, though no such mask was supposed to exist. He bought the mask and investigated its origin. According to the story he pieced together, after Sterne's burial in a London churchyard, "resurrection men" dug up his body, not knowing it belonged to someone famous, and sold it to a medical school. A doctor who knew Sterne recognized with horror the face of his friend. He reclaimed the body and buried it properly — and, along the way, made a death mask.

Hutton took great pleasure in describing the gory origins of his collection. "I am sure that mine is the actual death-mask of Aaron Burr [1772]," he wrote, "because I have the personal guarantee of the man who made the mold in 1836. I am positive of the identity of another cast, because I saw it made myself. And concerning still another, I have no question, because I know the man who stole it!"

Today, we no longer think of this messy business as scientific, although we continue to search for meaning in artifacts like Percy Shelley's heart and Ezra Pound's teeth, as well as the very physical historical remains that are books, diaries, letters, drawings. What are the humanities but resurrecting the dead?

There is no death mask of Hutton in his own collection. But he's buried, very conveniently, in Princeton Cemetery, if an alum wants to obtain one for the library in the old-fashioned way. **P**



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