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Planet Finder
N. Jeremy Kasdin ’85 explains why searching for exoplanets is “the coolest possible science.”

Dr. Boom
Watch Professor Hubert Alyea ’24 *28 perform colorful experiments in a 1985 demonstration.

Family History
Andie Tucher ’76 discusses the stories we tell about our ancestors, and why we tell them.

New Directions
Columnist Gregg Lange ’70 looks at campus planning from coeducation to today.

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On the cover: Photograph by Peter Murphy

Life Among the Stars
Professor N. Jeremy Kasdin ’85 has a novel approach to finding planets outside our solar system.
By Kenneth Chang ’87

Over the Hill in Silicon Valley?
High-tech startups have a culture seemingly made for the young. But those of a certain age need not feel left out.
By Mark F. Bernstein ’83

PAW.PRINCETON.EDU
The Scheide Library: A Defining Collection

In 1865, 18-year-old William T. Scheide—a railroad employee who would soon find his fortune in the oil business—wanted to explore *The Chemical History of a Candle*, a volume of lectures by British chemist and physicist Michael Faraday, one of the great science popularizers of his day.

Scheide’s purchase of an 1861 copy of Faraday’s lectures satisfied his intellectual curiosity and also marked the start of an astounding collection of rare books and manuscripts that today stands at the heart of Princeton’s Firestone Library. Thanks to the generosity of its founder’s grandson, the devoted Princetonian William H. (Bill) Scheide ’36, we can now proudly call the Scheide Library a permanent part of the University’s collections.

This donation is remarkable not only because its estimated $300 million value makes it the largest gift in Princeton’s history, but more fundamentally because it enables us to uphold our commitment to the humanities and liberal arts education. The Scheide Library has benefited students and scholars since it came to Firestone on loan from Bill in 1959, and will now continue to do so for future generations. Questions raised and discoveries made through studies of the 2,500 items housed in the Scheide Library will inform endeavors ranging from freshman writing seminars to senior theses to major works by senior scholars in the years to come.

The Scheide Library is a spectacular resource, with famed cornerstones including the first six printed editions of the Bible; Shakespeare’s earliest folios; the original printing of the Declaration of Independence; manuscripts of Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven; and the Blickling Homilies, the only substantial Old English manuscript in America. The collection was meticulously assembled and curated by Bill, his father John H. Scheide 1896, and his grandfather. The Scheides were passionate about obtaining works based on their scholarly value, and as a result their holdings are in some areas fully comparable to the great collections of national libraries in Europe that were formed over hundreds of years.

Bill himself was an extraordinary and modest gentleman, and a truly dedicated and wise scholar who was renowned across and beyond campus for his broad support of the arts, humanities, and social justice. A musician and musicologist, he made major contributions to our music department, supported the University Art Museum and humanities programming, and helped hundreds of students attend Princeton as Scheide Scholars. And his enthusiasm for adding scholarly jewels to the Scheide Library was inexhaustible. Just five months before he passed away in November at age 100, Bill made his final purchase for the library—a bound volume of tractates by St. Augustine published in 1467 by Ulrich Zell, the first printer of Cologne, Germany.

The spirit of discovery and the intellectual breadth that undergird the Scheide Library make it a defining collection for Firestone Library and for the University—reflecting our distinctive emphasis on providing undergraduates with a broad liberal arts education and a rigorous, independent research environment. We are in the midst of a multi-year renovation of Firestone to enhance its ability to serve as a laboratory for the humanities and social sciences for our students and scholars. As part of the renovation, the Scheide Library will move to another floor, but its design will remain modeled upon John Scheide’s personal library, as his son wished.

We are grateful not only to Bill Scheide, but to other generous alumni whose contributions to our library collections have provided abundant resources for our students and scholars. Among many others, Lloyd Cotsen ’50 has donated his international collection of illustrated children’s literature from the 15th century to the present; Leonard Milberg ’53 has given to Princeton collections of modern American poetry, Irish poetry and prose, and Jewish American literature; and Sid Lapidus ’59 has donated his collection of rare American Revolution-era books, pamphlets, and prints. By making their thoughtfully assembled literary and historical treasures available for intellectual exploration, our alumni enable Princeton to live up to our mission of providing students with transformative educational experiences and empowering our scholars to reveal fundamental truths about humankind.

Our library staff is working diligently to digitize many rare book and manuscript collections—including the Scheide Library—to expand access to these magnificent holdings. Bill Scheide firmly believed in giving those who were interested in studying his collection the opportunity to share in his sense of discovery and wonder. We are fortunate as a University, and as a society, to have Princeton alumni like Bill who have been such stalwart caretakers of our past and of our future.
Inbox

LIVES LIVED AND LOST

If you didn’t read those obits of 13 special Princetonians, go immediately and dig out your Feb. 4 PAW! You may recall only one or two names, but all of these tales so vividly told will astound and inspire most of you.

Brad Bradford ’44
Highland Park, Ill.

PAW describes This Kind of War by T.R. Fehrenbach ’45 as “a cautionary tale.” In fact, it’s much more than that — it’s one of the best Korean War histories, essential reading for understanding of that “forgotten war.”

Until seeing the mention of Mr. Fehrenbach in PAW, I had no idea he’d gone to Princeton or, for that matter, had written a major book on Texas history. All I knew was his important work on the Korean War, in which we’re told “he served.” It would have been interesting to know what he did during his Army service.

Donald Kirk ’59
Washington, D.C.

Thank you for the wonderful eulogy on Yeiichi “Kelly” Kuwayama ’40. I knew of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (“Go For Broke”), but it was nice to have some details of how one American of Japanese ancestry handled the unconscionable prejudice we showered on them in the early years of World War II.

Burr Loomis ’61
Chambersburg, Pa.

THE BRAIN — AND THE HEART

The articles published in the Jan. 7 edition regarding the Princeton Neuroscience Institute show a number of cutting-edge research programs that have been produced by this extraordinary institution. In no way can a comparison be made between these elegant studies and the work that was performed in the psychology department when I was an undergraduate. I often have felt the expenditures made by Princeton were extravagant. In this particular instance, I must admit that I was wrong. I was particularly pleased to see that the work appears to have integrated both graduate and undergraduate students in keeping with the undergraduate mission.

In the same edition appeared an article by Robin Herman ’73, “What We Didn’t Say,” which deals with the difficulties associated with parenting children with mental and possibly genetic challenges. The author showed great courage in bringing this difficult subject into the light of a Reunions weekend. Not only did she bring this subject out of the closet, but in addition turned it into a standing-room-only teaching seminar. This is again a large step from the Reunions cocktail parties I recall in the past, when mention was made only of those carefully bred, genetically superior offspring destined to be the next generation of Princetonians. No life is without its tragedies and setbacks, and often it is more interesting to hear how an individual deals with adversity than to hear a litany of success stories.

Perhaps Princeton is not only getting richer and more prestigious, but also is developing a heart and sense of community.

John Gregory ’60
Northport, Maine

ACHIEVING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

I find it bizarre that nowhere in Professor Marta Tienda’s discussion of college admissions (Life of the Mind, Feb. 4) does she mention the enormous discrimination against Asian American applicants practiced by Princeton and other elite schools, particularly given that her colleague in the sociology department, professor emeritus Thomas Espenshade ’72, has done key work in establishing the presence and massive scale of this discrimination (see his No Longer Separate, Not Yet Equal: Race and Class in Elite College Admission and Campus Life). Surely one component of a program to achieve the “equality of opportunity” to which Tienda refers would be ending the anti-Asian bias in...
PROTESTING RACIAL INJUSTICE
Re “Concerns About Race” (On the Campus, Jan. 7): These students (about 4 percent of the undergraduate student body) should spend their time taking advantage of the vast educational resources of Princeton University that have been made available to them and not let their behavior show that they are victims of the mass media and press. Seek the truth through learning, not by protesting and lying down on the grass. What have they accomplished? How do their GPAs reflect their lying down on the grass?

John B. Gargalli ’60
St. Michaels, Md.

Frankly, critics have missed the point of this protest and the broader social movement currently underway. We say all lives matter, but in reality, our society values some lives more than others. I am extremely proud of these students for living out the motto “in the nation’s service.”

Elizabeth M. Ramey ’13
Washington, D.C.

Re President Eisgruber ’83’s statement on racial injustice and campus diversity: It has taken Princeton a very long time to convince me that it no longer espouses a belief and value system that I can support. I see no meaningful purpose in continuing “to take up arms against this sea of my concerns.”

I find nothing in our founding documents regarding human equality (whatever that may be), but they do refer to the inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit — not achievement — of happiness. Equality of opportunity should not equate to equality of result, although many in the early days of the republic campaigned most vigorously for just that. Even today there are those who prefer a system that rewards all equally, regardless of effort or performance.

The deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner were the direct result of the admissions process. Vernon Shetley ’78
Cambridge, Mass.

DISCREDITING PRINCETON
I was appalled by reports in The New York Times of the alleged behavior of students at Tiger Inn last fall. I now am disappointed by the failure of President Eisgruber ’83 or the University to inform alumni directly about a situation that discredits the entire University. Rather, there was a report in the Jan. 7 issue of PAW, “Trouble at Tiger Inn,” that describes actions taken by the club and indicates in one sentence that the University had charged several students. This is not a club problem, but a University problem.

Despite what I’m sure are often strained relations, the clubs are part of the University. The alleged incidents should not be shielded because they did not occur on University property or at a University event. I realize that this is part of a very complex situation, but hope to hear soon that the University has taken action to penalize those responsible if the allegations are proved to be true and to institute not just procedures, but policies that will minimize the chance that such incidents reoccur at the University, including any club.

William C. Carson ’50
Santa Fe, N.M.

ARTIST’S QUERY
On June 8, 1968, the funeral train with the body of Robert F. Kennedy traveled from New York City to Washington, D.C. For a project about photography related to RFK, I would love to hear from Princeton alumni who stood along the tracks that day. As an artist, I do research on remembrance, forgetting, the role of seeing, and the multiple
functions of photography in modern society (see my earlier projects at www.reinjelleterpstra.nl). I can be reached at mail@reinjelleterpstra.nl.

Rein Jelle Terpstra
Amsterdam, Netherlands

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Feb. 4 From the Archives photo of the Princeton Tigerlilies received more than 20 comments, many offering reminiscences, on PAW’s Facebook page. Pictured, from left, are Sallie Monique Allen ’86, Carole Lewis Crane ’87, Emily J. Guthrie ’85, Mary Alice Ward ’85, Mary Carmel Deckelman ’85, Margaret “Maggie” Nunes ’85, Jocelyn Russell ’85, Louise Ambler ’85, Nancy Ross Stricker ’86, Elisabeth Allston McCrady ’88, Elizabeth Bridgewater ’87, and Margaret McGlynn ’86.

FOR THE RECORD
Russel H. Beatie Jr. ’59 was a graduate of Columbia Law School. His memorial in the Sept. 17, 2014, issue incorrectly reported his law school.

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Letters should not exceed 250 words and may be edited for length, accuracy, clarity, and civility. Due to space limitations, we are unable to publish all letters received in the print magazine. Letters, articles, photos, and comments submitted to PAW may be published in print, electronic, or other forms.

FROM THE EDITOR

Time on the Clock

I am generally a punctual person, which I attribute to the fact that I wear a watch. But according to Mark F. Bernstein ’83’s story about “ageism” in Silicon Valley (page 24), my utilitarian jewelry conveys something else: my age.

Writing about the youth culture so prevalent at many high-tech companies, Bernstein noted two wardrobe tips given to job applicants who have passed the advanced age of, say, 30: No watches. And definitely no pleated pants.

Many of Princeton’s tech giants are, I can say proudly, middle-aged. After 20-somethings Sergey Brin and Larry Page hired Eric Schmidt ’76, then 46, as chief executive at Google, the three were interviewed on PBS by Charlie Rose. Rose asked the co-founders why they hired Schmidt, a veteran of the software firm Novell.

“Earlier, when we were in our teens and so forth, you don’t want the parents around. But now we’re getting closer to 30, and our search engine really serves the world,” Brin said. “It’s a huge responsibility, and if you can bring in experience to help out, that’s pretty reasonable.”

There’s probably a little more to it. In their 2014 book, How Google Works, Schmidt and co-author Jonathan Rosenberg wrote that the young founders hired Schmidt for his “track record as a technologist ... and geek cred as an alum of Bell Labs.” Technical expertise and creativity counted, and those attributes are not limited to the young.

To be sure, Schmidt looked like the odd man out on that Charlie Rose appearance — Page and Brin in their T-shirts and Schmidt in his neat, button-down shirt. It’s impossible to see underneath the cuff, but I would like to think he was wearing a watch, and not relying on a phone in his pocket. On top of everything the Google founders had wanted in their new hire, I sensed that he always would be on time. — Marilyn H. Marks ’86

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Putting Around Fits Golfers to a Tee

By Martin D. Page '16

“It’s probably the most difficult sport I’ve ever played,” asserts Rich Thompson ’55.

Anyone who has shot 18 holes knows the likely topic is golf. Although most folks consider it a game, golf’s disciples call it many other names ranging from “challenge” to “ordeal” to “torture” to the unprintable, depending on how well they played their last round.

In the spectrum of sports, golf lies at the contemplative end, a singular niche that represents a special attraction for retirees and others over 55. Rather than reacting to a quick pass in basketball or a fast pitch in baseball, golfers like Thompson, who lives near Princeton, take pride in ruminating on how to use a long stick to strike a small white ball sitting stationary on the ground, with the aim of sending the ball in a precise direction for a specific distance.

“Golf is not a reaction sport,” he says. “The ball is there. It’s inert. And you have to hit it where you want to. You have to think your way around the course.”

From the majestic green courses of Ireland to the small public courses tucked away in American towns small and large, golf offers an abundance of opportunities to enjoy the fresh air and company of others. As frustrating as the game may be, the links provide ways to both relax and compete during the second half of life.

For many, golf is a passion that they’ve loved since they stepped onto the course with their fathers when they were barely old enough to swing a club. Retirement age allows more time for these lifetime players to do what they love, and also creates the opportunity for non-golfers to take on a new challenge that requires patience and skill without the strenuous physical demands of other sports.

Lynne Sutcliffe ’65 started playing golf just a few years before he retired. He now lives in Bernardsville, N.J., one town over from the U.S. Golf Association Museum in Far Hills.

“I was not an avid golfer until really late in life. I took the game up at age 50, and I now play a couple times a week during the golf season. And I play at tournaments and at clubs and charity events,” says Sutcliffe, who played in the Princeton Football Association Golf Challenge last year.

“For my generation that was typical. In my age group a lot of people grew up playing tennis because they can do that and still have time with the family,” he says.

“As time passed, you had more time for the golf game.”

For Sutcliffe, golf was never a family affair, but he found the social aspects of the game to be some of the most important. Playing a round in a foursome of friends can be one of the greatest joys to be found in the free hours of retirement.

“You have people that you might not work with, that you might not see otherwise, and on the golf course they become friends,” he adds.

For him, golf provides a low-stress environment to be with people away from the headaches of everyday life.

“From both a physical perspective and an emotional and mental perspective, I can’t think of a better sport. The advantage of golf for an

“One of the pleasures of the sport is regardless of your own age you can play it with people anywhere from 12 to 90.”

— Larry Leighton ’56
older person—and by older I mean over the age of 40—is it’s easy on your body,” notes Lisa Olson ’80, who has been playing since her father took up golf when she was a young child.

For many others, complaining about a shanked drive or celebrating a birdie can be a great way to build friendships and bond with family members. Cosmo Iacavazzi ’65 picked up golf in his 40s as active sports grew to be more physically taxing. He says the game provides a way for him to spend quality time with friends and family while still staying active.

“We’ve got a lot of friends—men and women—who play golf,” Iacavazzi says. “Golf’s a great way to get together with them for nine holes, and maybe afterwards sit down and have a drink.”

Iacavazzi says a round of golf also is an opportunity to spend quality time with his wife. “She’s my regular golf partner, quite frankly,” he says. “We get a lot of family time in. It’s a great game for that.”

In a sport hundreds of years old, tradition is important, and golf itself can become a tradition within families. Coming from a family of avid golfers, Doug Dawson ’68’s interest in golf stretches back to when he was 8 or 9 years old and began caddying for his parents in Northern California, where he grew up and now lives. He started the golf team at his high school in Menlo Park, Calif., and played during his freshman year at Princeton.

Burton Smith ’77, who along with Rick Hyde ’75 broke the color barrier for golf in the Ivy League, says his family encouraged him to start playing golf.

“My father was one of the first African-Americans to play football at Michigan State,” says Smith, who lives in Lansing, Mich. “He steered us toward golf and toward tennis and toward sports that we could play the rest of our life. Some of our most memorable moments in the family were playing with him.”

Alumni love to return the favor and play with younger members of their families. Players of all ages enjoy the satisfaction of knocking a drive down the fairway or the beautiful view across a pond on the course.

“I play now, time to time, with my grandson. And that’s very pleasurable,” says Larry Leighton ’56, who started playing golf when he joined the Stanwich Club in Greenwich, Conn., roughly 25 years ago. “One of the pleasures of the sport is regardless of your own age you can play it with people anywhere from 12 to 90.”

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But for others, the social aspects of the sport take a back seat to the personal challenge. Many call golf paradoxically frustrating and addictive; even after tossing a driver down the fairway after a particularly tough shot, golfers find themselves back on the course the next weekend. The need for exercise, both mental and physical, encourages this commitment.

Hyde, a teammate of Smith’s on Princeton’s golf team who now lives in Maryland, notes that golf has a special allure for some types of people. “I think what makes it addictive, particularly for bright people, is you essentially compete against yourself on a course,” says Hyde. “You could go out one day and do wonderfully, strike the ball well. You go out the next day, your challenge is to repeat that. Somehow you don’t.”

Thompson and Hyde say golf is an excellent way to stay active, relax, and relieve stress. Without the pressure of fast-paced competition and with plenty of time to enjoy the outdoors, older alumni revel in the light physical exercise golf offers. And for many, playing is easy because many retirement communities offer driving ranges and golf courses on-site.

“At my age I need exercise, and it’s good physical exercise,” says Thompson, who played three sports at Princeton. “I think if you walk 18 holes of golf, you’re talking about walking six miles or seven miles.” “It gives you the opportunity to get out of the house,” says Hyde, “and escape from the normal humdrum, the politics, the challenges of life, and go and immerse yourself and have a lot of fun getting exercise.”

For many, golf does more than just get them out of the house. During his first three years of retirement, Dawson toured Northern California and played 220 courses. The odyssey resulted in his 2010 book *Northern California’s Best 100 Public Golf Courses*.

“I used to take off on Monday at about 4:30 in the morning, and I’d play my first round,” says Dawson, who went on weeklong golf tours to prepare for his book. “I was playing 9 or 10 times during the week, then I’d go home and I’d play Saturday with my buddies.”

Dawson went beyond just touring the golf courses within driving distance of his Northern California home. He has been to Scotland, Ireland, Asia, and Canada to play. Thompson shares Dawson’s enthusiasm as a golf traveler. “I’ve gone to Ireland twice; I’ve gone to Scotland,” he says. “A group of eight of us went over in Ireland playing different courses over there, and that was a special time. And you play the best courses in the world. Ireland has some of the best, and Scotland has some of the best.”

With more time and less stress, retirees and others nearing the second half of life across the country and the world love the opportunity to relax on the golf course—alone, with family, or with friends new and old. While the sport can be playfully frustrating, the links are a warm and inviting place for those wishing to spend a relaxed afternoon.

“I’m a big fan, so I would encourage anyone who is excited to go take lessons and to start to play the game,” says Hyde. “It brings out the best in people.”

---

Burton Smith ’77, Rick Hyde ’75 and Professor Eddie Glaude at Springdale Country Club.

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Ice hockey returned to Lake Carnegie, thanks to winter’s frigid temperatures. Photograph by Ricardo Barros
Changing the Culture

At a forum on women and the eating clubs, signs of progress and calls for more action

A n Alumni Day forum on women and the eating clubs gave more than 250 alumni and students a chance to consider how issues of safety, respect, and leadership on the Street are related to gender.

Women have been elected president at four of the 11 eating clubs — Ivy, Tiger Inn, Colonial, and Terrace — for the coming year, the most since 2002. And overall club membership shows improved gender balance, club officials say.

But both students and alumni at the forum said the clubs need to do more to promote a safe, welcoming environment for all members. “There is a long way to go for the culture to change,” said Joanna Anyanwu ’15, a member of Cap and Gown.

Club leaders stressed the importance of allowing members to speak up about misbehavior by others without the fear of repercussions or ostracism. “This absolutely needs to be addressed,” said Sydney Kirby ’15, former vice president of Cannon Club. “We don’t have a system for it.”

Drinking makes women more vulnerable and “an easier target,” said Terrace Club president Lucia Perasso ’16. She urged the University and the clubs to spell out “where people can go for help if something happens to them at a club.”

Joe Margolies ’15, president of the Interclub Council and former president of Quadrangle Club, said the clubs have adopted new policies on sexual misconduct and interpersonal violence, and officers are receiving training “to be sure the culture really changes, to keep women’s leadership at the fore, and to keep each other mutually accountable.”

The Interclub Council, comprising the 11 eating club presidents, released a statement before this year’s bicker and sign-ins that promised “a climate of safety and respect” within each club and “the right of every participant to an experience free from all forms of harm and discrimination.”

While the clubs are heading in the right direction, Margolies told PAW, “not all environments in the clubs and on campus are equally safe for men and women,” citing instances of sexual misconduct and “less obvious interactions that occur on a daily basis that reinforce gender norms.” He said the ICC hopes to begin regular surveys to help determine “exactly what atmosphere exists for women in the clubs” and what steps may need to be taken.

The forum took place during an academic year in which the University revised its sexual-misconduct policies and in which several students at Tiger Inn were charged with violating those policies in connection with emails sent by club officers.

Hap Cooper ’82, president of the Tiger Inn grad board, told the forum that the club had instituted “a total overhaul” of bicker and initiations. A majority of new members and three of the club’s six officers are women, he said, and members now have a “hotline” to the grad board.

Sam Shweisky, head coach of the men’s volleyball team, said that coed clubs are a recruiting selling point and suggested that the clubs and the varsity coaches work together to improve the culture of the Street.

Thomas F. Fleming Jr. ’69, chairman of the Graduate Inter-Club Council, said the forum was an example of the “heightened dialogue” on the issue of maintaining a safe club environment. “Progress is clear, but we are still early in the process,” he said, adding that another event is being planned “which will explore the issues of minorities in the clubs.”

By W.R.O.
**Push for Change, Malcolm X’s Daughter Urges**

Ilyasah Shabazz, daughter of the civil-rights activist and Nation of Islam leader Malcolm X, urged Princeton students to carry on her father’s legacy of change Feb. 10 at the Carl Fields Center. Her talk was the first in a series of University events commemorating the 50th anniversary of Malcolm X’s assassination, including a panel moderated by Professor Eddie S. Glaude Jr. ’97.

Shabazz talked about growing up in the aftermath of her father’s death and shared lessons from his activism. “My father sought solutions,” she said. “He continually counseled smart action to improve the situation, cautioning against false moves, running in place, thinking one is making progress when the problem still exists 50 years later.”

Hannah Rosenthal ’15 said she was pleased about the campus attention to Malcolm X. “Our conversation during Black History Month and especially about the civil-rights movement is often so focused on Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks, and neglects a lot of the contributions made by other leaders and activists,” she said.

Malcolm X spoke to a gathering of scholars of the Near Eastern program at Princeton in September 1961. Another of his daughters, Qubilah-Bahiya Shabazz ’83, attended Princeton but did not graduate. ◆ By Tammy Tseng ’18

**Scheide Library**

**A Historic Gift**

The Scheide Library, a collection of more than 2,500 rare books and manuscripts that has been housed in Firestone Library since 1959, became part of the University’s permanent collection last month. Donated by William H. Scheide ’36, who died in November at the age of 100, the gift is expected to be appraised at nearly $300 million — the largest donation in Princeton’s history.

The Scheide Library holds the first six printed editions of the Bible, starting with the 1455 Gutenberg Bible; other treasures include the original printing of the Declaration of Independence, Shakespeare’s four folios, and scores signed by Beethoven, Bach, and Mozart. The collection was started by Scheide’s grandfather, William T. Scheide, and continued by his father, John H. Scheide 1896. Scheide himself added about 500 items to the library, which is open to students and scholars.

The library originally was located in the family home in Titusville, Pa.; when it was moved to Firestone, Scheide paid to have the room re-created. The collection will be moved in 2017 to C floor to “an even more accurate replica” with the expansion of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University Librarian Karin Trainer said. ◆

**Strumming Professors**

**Dueling Philosophies, Music Duets**

Even the sharpest of political differences is no match for great guitar playing, as two Princeton professors have proved. Michael Smith, the liberal chair of Princeton’s philosophy department, and Robert George, the conservative director of Princeton’s Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, teamed up on a cold night last month to present an evening devoted to music, in a collaboration that spans decades.

The two professors capped a discussion of the 2013 film *Inside Llewyn Davis*, about a folk singer in 1961, by performing pieces ranging from Dylan hits to Australian folk music to the blues.

Smith said he and George don’t pull any punches when they co-teach a graduate seminar, Philosophy of Law. In music, however, any differences seem to vanish. Their collaboration began in the 1980s, when the two then-junior professors and neighbors played guitar while watching their young sons play outdoors. “I would sit and watch mine, and Michael would walk around playing,” George recalled, acting out the scene to the laughter of the audience. ◆ By Jean Wang ’16

---

From top: Natasha D’Schommer; Mary Hui ’17; Sameer A. Khan; Ilyasah Shabazz with a book she wrote about her father, Malcolm X, as a child
Yessica Martinez ’15 spent last summer doing research for her thesis — not in a library, but in migrant shelters, detention facilities, and courtrooms along the U.S.-Mexico border — on how U.S. government policies affected the lives of undocumented immigrants.

The topic resonated powerfully with Martinez: Before she became co-winner of the Pyne Honor Prize, awarded at Alumni Day Feb. 21 (see story, page 36), she arrived in the U.S. as an undocumented immigrant herself.

“Who I am, where I’ve grown up, my family, and my sense of community, too, are very influential in the way I think about my academic work,” Martinez said. She currently has Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status, which provided the freedom to travel for her thesis project. She spoke to PAW a few days after a judge temporarily blocked President Barack Obama’s executive actions on immigration.

Conducting research in Texas, Arizona, and California, Martinez said, she was struck by the migrants’ stories of vulnerability and uncertainty — the underpinnings of her creative poetry thesis, which focuses on what it means “to live in a world that is marked by destruction, and by pain and suffering.” Her co-adviser, creative writing professor Tracy K. Smith, called her work “morally charged and lyrically devastating.”

Martinez’s family moved from Medellín, Colombia, to Queens, N.Y., when she was 10, seeking educational opportunities and an escape from violence. She spoke no English. After a rough start in school in Queens, she first visited Princeton as part of the Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America program, which brings talented low-income students to the University for summer courses and offers college guidance.

Once on campus, Martinez became active in groups ranging from the Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund to the University’s Priorities Committee. She is co-director of the Princeton DREAM Team, a student group that supports undocumented immigrants and immigration reform, and mentors students at a Trenton high school.

She said she was inspired by Class of ’06 salutatorian Dan-el Padilla Peralta — an undocumented student who is now a fellow at Columbia University — and hopes her story will prompt younger immigrants to realize that they can succeed as well.

“Princeton taught me what it means to build a community and engage with people that are different from you,” Martinez said. “I hope that sharing my story doesn’t stop people from raising difficult questions, because immigration is a difficult issue.”

READ MORE: Poems from Yessica Martinez’s senior thesis at paw.princeton.edu
While most Princeton seniors were preparing their theses, Cameron Porter ’15 chose to delay the second semester of his final year to prepare in a different sense: He spent February training with the Montreal Impact, the Major League Soccer (MLS) team that drafted him in January.

“I put a lot of pride in my academics, so putting my academic career on hold wasn’t something I took lightly,” said Porter, a computer science major who, in addition to being named the 2014 Ivy League Offensive Player of the Year, earned first-team honors on the Scholar All-America Team.

In his final season at Princeton, Porter tied for the NCAA scoring title with 15 goals. The Tigers finished as Ivy co-champions, sharing the title with Dartmouth.

Five Princeton players have been drafted by MLS teams in the last five years, including Antoine Hoppenot ’14, who has played the last three seasons with the Philadelphia Union.

Princeton head coach Jim Barlow ’91 sees similarities between Porter and Hoppenot. “Both of them were very dangerous attacking players and scored a lot of goals, and both seemed at their best when running on defenders one-on-one,” said Barlow. Porter’s strength and speed, Barlow added, could aid his transition to the pro game.

Porter was selected by the Impact as the 45th overall pick in the MLS SuperDraft Jan. 20, when Princeton students were finishing fall-term exams. He flew to Montreal to begin training with the squad before traveling to Mexico City Feb. 8 to prepare for the Impact’s Champions League quarterfinal matches against C.F. Pachuca.

Although he has had to adapt to the lower oxygen level of Mexico City and the French spoken in the Impact’s locker room, Porter has found the team dynamic familiar. “It’s just a good group of guys, and you enjoy spending time with each other,” he said.

Porter plans to enroll at Princeton again in the fall to complete his senior year while continuing his on-field pursuits. “This isn’t an opportunity that’s going to come around again,” he said. “I’m definitely going to stick with it as long as I continue to enjoy it, and I can’t imagine that changing anytime soon.”

— Cameron Porter ’15

“I put a lot of pride in my academics, so putting my academic career on hold wasn’t something I took lightly.”

— Cameron Porter ’15
SPORTS SHORTS

WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING came back from 92 points down with six events to go to win the Ivy League Championship meet Feb. 21. Princeton’s 400-yard freestyle relay team of Claire McIlmail ’18, Nikki Larson ’16, Elizabeth McDonald ’16, and Maddy Veith ’18 clinched the victory, winning the final event with a meet-record time of 3:18.25.

WOMEN’S LACROSSE upset No. 9 Loyola, 10–8, in its season opener Feb. 21. Erin Slifer ’15 scored a career-high five goals.

MEN’S LACROSSE won its first two games, including a 14–12 victory over Hofstra in the snow Feb. 21.

Filmmaker Nick Guthe ’91’s documentary The Billion Dollar Game, about the 1989 Princeton-Georgetown MEN’S BASKETBALL game, was scheduled to debut on Grantland.com in early March.

EXTRA POINT

Have You Heard About the Tigers? Women’s Basketball Earns National Notice

Brett Tomlinson

The day before February’s Academy Awards ceremony, SportsCenter turned its college basketball highlights into a faux-Oscars show, including a category for Best Basketball in the Ivy League that pitted the first-place Harvard men against the undefeated Princeton women. The winner? The Tigers, of course. All they do is win.

The ESPN segment was the latest laurel for head coach Courtney Banghart’s team, which, during its record-setting run, has received a halftime visit from first lady Michelle Obama ’85 (her niece, Leslie Robinson ’18, is a reserve forward); a hat-tip from John Calipari, coach of the unbeaten Kentucky men’s team; a postgame talk by Bill Bradley ’65; and feature stories in The New York Times, USA Today, and The Wall Street Journal, to name a few.

Perhaps more importantly, the Tigers have earned the respect of national pollsters, reaching No. 14 in the Associated Press poll on Feb. 23. That should translate into a favorable seeding for a team aiming for its first NCAA Tournament win. (At press time, Princeton had a two-game lead in the Ivy title race with five games remaining.)

In the past, the best Ivy teams have had a clear leading scorer, such as Princeton’s dynamic forward Niveen Rasheed ’13 or Harvard star Allison Feaster, who led the Crimson’s upset of Stanford in the 1998 NCAA Tournament. This year’s Tigers have at least four players who can fill that role: Guards Blake Dietrick ’15 and Michelle Miller ’16 and forwards Alex Wheatley ’16 and Annie Tarakchian ’16 each average more than 10 points per game.

“On offense, the scoring can come from anywhere, and then defensively, they really lock things down,” said Mel Greenberg, a former Philadelphia Inquirer columnist and Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame inductee. “It’s just a great, balanced team.”

Defense, in Banghart’s assessment, was Princeton’s fatal flaw last year, when the team fell one game shy of a fifth consecutive Ivy title. But that weakness has become a strength: Through 25 games, the Tigers ranked third in the nation in field-goal-percentage defense, holding opponents to 33.6 percent shooting.

The change has come partly from training and partly from confidence, according to Dietrick. “We work on defense every day at practice, but I think it’s mostly just holding each other accountable to a higher standard and expecting 100 percent effort and focus all the time,” she said.

Effort and focus, talent and depth — whatever the reasons, it’s been one unforgettable season. And the biggest games are still to come. ♦ Hillary Dodyk ’15 contributed to this column.
Among the Poor
A study of inner-city Baltimore analyzes how the government treats poor people

Patricia Fernandez-Kelly spent a decade conducting field research with impoverished families in inner-city Baltimore in the 1990s. In The Hero’s Fight: African Americans in West Baltimore and the Shadow of the State, she weaves together vivid biographical accounts of residents with an analysis of how they interact with government agencies. Fernandez-Kelly, a lecturer in sociology, argues that public agencies treat the more affluent like consumers while regarding the urban poor with contempt and pity. The result, she says, is a system that helps perpetuate poverty in postindustrial cities. PAW spoke with Fernandez-Kelly about her research.

In the book, you focus on West Baltimore, an inner-city neighborhood with high levels of poverty. We tend to use impoverished people as illustrations of social problems, and their humanity gets lost. I write about a man named Big Floyd, who had a great desire to support his family but couldn’t get a factory job. The mother of his children was using crack cocaine. When he did find a low-paying job, the children often were left alone. So despite his efforts, they were put into foster care. At one point, trying to get a job as a security guard, he went to get clearance to complete the process and ended up being incarcerated because he had failed to show up in court to explain why he wasn’t making child-support payments.

I want to shift the conversation away from “What can we do for the poor,” as if poverty was the result of bad luck and ineptitude. The truth is that we’ve never really invested in these populations, and the government programs that are supposed to help the poor really disempower and marginalize them further.

How does the American government enable poverty?
Poverty in the United States is the result of a very specific relationship between the American government and the inner-city poor. There is a difference between what I call mainstream government institutions — like the Internal Revenue Service or the Department of Motor Vehicles or the Social Security Administration — that basically interact with people as if they were consumers or citizens, and what I call liminal institutions, like child-protective agencies and welfare departments.

Liminal institutions do not follow the same rules as mainstream institutions. Instead, they focus on containment and punishment and surveillance. When a child is born in a neighborhood like West Baltimore, the people who are immediately in contact with that child are not just family members, they’re social workers and teachers and therapists.

But aren’t those people there to help? They are and they do. In many cases, social workers, teachers, and therapists go out of their way to assist families, sometimes at their own expense. Their efforts remain as invisible and devalued as the lives of the people they try to serve, but nevertheless, they are often unsuccessful. The poor are seen as guilty victims, needy but responsible for their own afflictions. From the outset, in most of these interactions, indigent children are treated as if they were bound for trouble.
**Life of the Mind**

**How are these kinds of interactions detrimental?**
I tell the story of a young man who stole some cookies when he was 9 and got locked up for two weeks because social workers and police officers thought he was dangerous. You don’t understand how brutal and intrusive these interactions can be.

We’re all in favor of protection of children. But the way these agencies operate limits the authority of poor parents. I wrote about a grandmother who was trying to discipline her grandchildren because their mother couldn’t raise them. She may have been inept, but she wasn’t abusive, and yet she ended up on a list of alleged child abusers because one of the kids called 911. Children think that they can gain power over their parents by calling the authorities.

Most people caught in the net of child-protective agencies are not culpable of egregious crimes, but they are still treated as potential abusers because of the great suspicion directed at the poor. It’s a complete subversion of authority and a tremendous intrusion into private matters. It’s embedded in the behavior and design of the institutions that deal with impoverished people. There are other ways to protect children — for example, community-based centers designed to support families by cooperating with them, not beginning with an adversarial presumption between parents and children.

**How could the government transform its interactions with the urban poor?**

I believe in the American Dream. It’s a truly elegant concept, allowing people to prosper through accumulation of property and education, giving them incentives for upward mobility. But for the urban poor, we have this punitive system that is rooted in the belief that people can improve themselves if they only try hard enough. That doesn’t work. We need structural reform — big investments in education, reform of welfare that neither demonizes the poor nor infantilizes them — that allows the most impoverished members of society to rise. ◆ Interview conducted and condensed by Amelia Thomson-DeVeaux ’11

**Q&A: DEREK LIDOW ’73**

**Leadership Savvy Trumps Inventive Ideas, Says Tech Entrepreneur**

During 35 years as an entrepreneur, Derek Lidow ’73 found that successful businesses often are less dependent on a grand strategy than on the people involved. In *Startup Leadership: How Savvy Entrepreneurs Turn Their Ideas Into Successful Enterprises*, Lidow describes how to develop skills such as the ability to motivate others. At Princeton, he teaches classes on entrepreneurial leadership.

**What have you learned about how ideas become — or don’t become — thriving businesses?**

I’ve seen great ideas that never saw the light of day. I’ve seen the smartest people fail and other people, shockingly, succeed beyond the wildest imagination. So for the last 30 odd years, I’ve tried to figure out what creates success.

**What prompted you to start your company, iSupply, which you sold in 2010 for more than $100 million?**

When I started working in the electronics industry, there was critical information missing, and the industry was making very expensive decisions — for example, choosing whether or not to build more factories or produce more parts — based on gut feeling. I thought we needed to add another factor, so I created a company to figure out how that information could be made available.

“**For the last 30 odd years, I’ve tried to figure out what creates success.**”
— Professor Derek Lidow ’73

Less than 25 percent of startups survive more than four years. How can you beat those odds?

Entrepreneurial success is far more dependent on the leadership skills of the founder or CEO than any idea, no matter how good you think the idea is. The skills required to turn an idea into a value-producing and self-sustaining enterprise — relationship building, motivating others — can be learned, and do not require any special traits you must be born with. I tell them that if they’re going to have impact, they’re going to need other people. Your ability to impact the world is proportional to how excited you get people. ◆ Interview conducted and condensed by Katharine Gammon ’03

**NEW RELEASES**

**Unequal social and economic status is at least as much a function of skin color as of identification by race and ethnicity in Latin America, according to sociology professor Edward Telles. Pigmentocracies: Ethnicity, Race, and Color in Latin America, which is based on an original anthropological study, examines contemporary attitudes toward ethnicity and race in Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru.**

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**Life of the Mind**

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Capturing the Allure of Flying in the Great War

When professor emeritus Samuel Hynes was growing up in Depression-era Minneapolis, he and his friends were fascinated by flying, especially combat flights, but even the humble planes puffing out advertisements for soft drinks transfixed them. “We thought, ‘How wonderful would it be to be up there?’” he recalls.

Hynes enlisted in the Marine Corps in August 1942, two weeks after his 18th birthday, and spent almost three years as a pilot, flying 78 combat missions. After his discharge, he became an English professor and taught at Swarthmore, Northwestern, and then at Princeton for 14 years, specializing in the literature of war. His latest book, *The Unsubstantial Air: American Fliers in the First World War*, is the story of the pilots of the Great War, told through their letters and diaries.

Hynes was curious about the generation of pilots that preceded him, young men for whom military aviation was a blank slate, since flying itself was in its infancy. World War I pilots — many of whom were elites who had joined flying clubs at Princeton and other Ivy League universities — had a romantic view of combat. “The rest of the war was muddy and bloody and anonymous, but in the sky, it was one guy fighting another, and that was romantic — Rickenbacker vs. the Red Baron,” Hynes says. “Just getting in a plane was dangerous, but that was part of the appeal. You were in danger, but they didn’t think in those terms. The whole wide sky was opening up.”

Hynes quotes heavily from pilots’ memoirs and contemporary writing to depict how the experience of war changed their lives. He writes, “They see great European cities — Paris and London — and the foreigners who live there; they discover café life; they eat foreign food and meet foreign girls. None of it is what they imagined it would be.”

Hynes captured memories of his own flying days in *Flights of Passage*, published in 1988. He has returned to writing about war because it’s “a constant in the human experience,” he says. Now 90, Hynes has given up piloting reluctantly. “If someone came to me right now and said, ‘Come flying with me,’ I’d probably go,” he says. “It would be very foolish at my age, but I’d probably go.” ◆ By Louis Jacobson ’92

FACULTY BOOK: SAMUEL HYNES

IN SHORT

Neuroscience has long struggled to understand how THE NERVOUS SYSTEM controls a body’s movements. Now, a new imaging technique has enabled researchers to study the brains of worms while they wiggle. Andrew Leifer, a fellow at the Lewis-Sigler Institute for Integrative Genomics, and his Princeton colleagues have recorded whole-brain activity in freely moving nematode worms using a motorized microscope and image-recognition software. The findings, posted online by the Cornell University Library in January, offer the first insight into brain activity and its relation to whole-body movement.

ANTIBIOTIC-RESISTANT INFECTIONS sicken more than 2 million Americans annually and create an estimated $20 billion in health-care costs, it was noted in a September report by a research group of the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, co-chaired by Woodrow Wilson School professor Christopher Chyba. In January, President Barack Obama proposed doubling federal funding for combating antibiotic resistance to more than $1.2 billion in 2016. By F.H.
A generation ago, the number of planets known in the universe was just nine: the nine of our solar system (then including Pluto). Scientists were almost certain there were more, but that was just a logical supposition made after they realized that stars were suns like our sun, not dots of light painted on a celestial sphere. No one could confirm they actually existed.

Technology has been solving that problem, but another big question remains: Could any of those planets sustain life? N. Jeremy Kasdin ’85, a professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering and vice dean of Princeton’s school of engineering, thinks that it could be possible to answer that question, too, within a decade or so.
N. Jeremy Kasdin ’85 displays a prototype of starshade petals, built by interns from Princeton and MIT.
The universe is teeming with planets,” Kasdin said in Vancouver in March 2014 as he began his talk at the annual TED conference, perhaps the world’s hippest gathering on topics of technology, entertainment, and design (hence the acronym). Astronomers believe that every star in the galaxy has a planet, he explained — and up to one-fifth could have an Earth-like planet that might be able to sustain life.

Then he laid out a grandiose game plan: “to build a space telescope that will be able to image an Earth about another star and figure out whether it can harbor life.” In his six-and-a-half-minute talk, since viewed more than a million times on the Web, Kasdin described a simple idea suggested more than half a century ago by Lyman Spitzer ’38, the late Princeton astrophysicist who came up with the notion of putting telescopes in space.

Just as the moon blots out the sun during a solar eclipse, Kasdin said, a large screen placed far in front of a space telescope could block the light coming from a distant star, enabling the telescope to spot much dimmer planets in orbit around that star.

“That’s not science fiction,” said Kasdin, who has been developing the technology to build just such a screen — he calls it a starshade — in collaboration with NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

“I think this is the coolest possible science,” he concluded in his TED talk. “That’s why I got into doing this — because I think that will change the world.”

The study of planets beyond our solar system — what astronomers call extrasolar planets or exoplanets — has become one of the hottest research areas in astronomy, including at Princeton. The configuration of planets around other stars often looks very different from our solar system, which is “beginning to look odd,” says Adam Burrows, a theoretical astrophysicist at Princeton.

Some giant exoplanets, much larger than Jupiter, are broiled to thousands of degrees as they orbit their parent stars at a fraction of the distance at which Mercury circles the sun. Others are “super-Earths” — rocky planets that are several times more massive than the one we live on.

The discoveries have spurred questions, mostly unanswered. How many stars have planets? What determines whether a star has planets? What does a typical planetary system look like? How common is a place like Earth? Is there life on any of the planets, and could we tell?

Since the middle of the 19th century, astronomers have been searching for hints of unseen planets subtly changing the behavior of their parent stars. Claims of discovery came and went, discredited.

In 1992, the first two exoplanets at last were discovered and confirmed. But these orbited a pulsar — the charred remains of an exploded star. The fact that new planets could form in the aftermath of a cataclysmic explosion was a surprise, but nonetheless, the planets were largely curiosities because the chances of life arising there were considered minuscule.

At the time, Burrows was developing models to explain brown dwarfs, which are thought of as failed stars, not quite large enough to ignite. In 1995, Swiss astronomers Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz contacted him about observations they had made of a star named 51 Pegasi, 51 light-years away.

Mayor and Queloz saw clockwork fluctuations in the frequency of light from the star, which could be explained by the gravitational pull of a planet circling it. But it seemed to be an exceptionally strange planet. It was big, at least half the mass of Jupiter, yet almost hugging its parent star, orbiting at a distance that was less than one-seventh the distance at which Mercury orbits the sun. If a planet were causing the fluctuations, it was a planet that zipped around its star in just four days, versus the 365 days it takes for Earth — or the 4,332 days required for Jupiter — to complete a trip around the sun. Mayor and Queloz wanted to know if it was plausible for a planet that big to exist so close to the star.

Burrows calculated. It seemed strange, but there was no reason in physics that would make it impossible. “That emboldened the team to reveal their result,” he says. On Nov. 23, 1995, the scientific journal Nature published the discovery: the first planet found around a sunlike star outside of the solar system.

Many astronomers took a long time to believe that the weird planet really was a planet at all. Some critics suggested that perhaps 51 Pegasi was a variable star — a star whose brightness changes — and the variations in frequency arose from something going on in the star itself. “That still took a few people a few months or half a year to get their heads around it,” Burrows says. When they did, he says, “this

Adam Burrows’ calculations helped to confirm the existence of the first planet found orbiting around a sunlike star, 51 Pegasi, outside our solar system. Soon, he says, “this subject started to explode.”
subject started to explode.” The search for other exoplanets was on. More than 1,800 have been identified so far.

Over the first decade of the exoplanet era, the technique of radial velocity — looking for wiggles in the frequency of starlight — was the primary method of discovery. That told astronomers the distance of the planet from the star and a minimum mass, but not much else.

Others came up with different ideas. Princeton astrophysics professor Bohdan Paczynski — who initially was searching not for exoplanets but for dark matter, the unknown material that is believed to make up 85 percent of the universe — developed a technique called microlensing. When a massive object passes between Earth and a distant star, the object in the middle acts like a magnifying glass, its gravity bending and brightening the light of the distant star. It turns out that if the intervening object is a star with a planet, the planet also can be detected because its gravity bends the light but in a slightly different direction. Think of it as a small imperfection in a lens, a distortion.

The unavoidable shortcoming of this technique is that no one ever will see a microlensed planet twice, which means that follow-up observations are out of the question. Still, microlensing has revealed at least 34 exoplanets, including one of the smallest, 20,000 light-years away and about 5.5 times the mass of Earth. Researchers showed Paczynski that data before he died of cancer in April 2007.

Another, more straightforward, method is to stare at a large number of stars and look for repeated dips in brightness. The dips could be a planet passing in front, partially blocking the starlight. That is how NASA’s $600 million Kepler space telescope turned up nearly 1,000 planets after continuously observing 150,000 stars for four years. It’s also what Princeton astrophysics professor Gaspar Bakos is doing on a much smaller, cheaper scale from the ground, with a network of telescopes known as HATNet.

Bakos originally was not interested in planets, but in variable stars that pulsed in brightness or color. Sometimes the internal machinations of the star drove the changes. Sometimes a variable star turned out to be two stars orbiting each other. Such variable stars were discovered centuries ago, and thousands already had been catalogued. But Bakos figured that inexpensive telescopes could discover far more, leading to new insights.

In 1999, while still a college undergraduate in Hungary, Bakos teamed up with engineers he met through an astronomy club to build a prototype of the HAT telescope, short for Hungarian-made Automated Telescope. It consisted of a secondhand Nikon telephoto lens paired with a large image sensor. That prototype was tested at an observatory in Budapest and later at the Steward Observatory in Arizona.

The one prototype burgeoned into HATNet, six fully robotic telescopes installed at the Whipple Observatory in Arizona and Mauna Kea in Hawaii. The telescopes determine, without guidance from humans, what and when to observe, based on the weather and pre-programmed priorities.

Bakos realized that with the telescopes’ ability to spot minuscule changes in brightness, he could pivot his research to search for exoplanets. So far, HATNet has found 55 of them, including oddities like a planet that is larger than Jupiter but has just half Jupiter’s mass — a puffy planet with the unbelievably low density of cork. Another is a superheavy Jupiter — the same size yet nine times as massive.

More recently, Bakos set up HATSouth, a network of somewhat larger telescopes in the Southern Hemisphere: in South Africa, Australia, and South America. The three locations, barring clouds or malfunction, keep continuous watch on the southern night sky.

Bakos travels to repair and upgrade his telescopes. The rest of the time, he monitors events on the computer screen.
in his Princeton office, zipping through time-lapse movies of observations of the night before. Cameras also record the unusual, like a mule scratching its back against the dome of one of the telescopes.

“It’s a highly productive network, and it was done on a shoestring budget,” he says.

The technology of exoplanet discovery has progressed so far so quickly that it soon could be readily within the reach of amateurs and digital cameras. It would require a fancy single-lens reflex camera with a powerful telephoto lens, but still equipment anyone could buy — not just a big observatory or a multi-million-dollar NASA mission. Within a few years, Bakos says, the sensors in such cameras will be sensitive enough to discern the dimming of passing planets.

The next goal, as Kasdin explains, is to move beyond the indirect detection of planets to photographing the exoplanets themselves. Astronomers want a picture of Earth 2.0.

Once they have a picture, new avenues of research become possible. Scientists could start identifying molecules floating in the atmospheres of these Earth twins, maybe even finding the chemical fingerprints of faraway life.

Already, ground-based telescopes have taken some snapshots of exoplanets, but only big ones at a considerable distance from their stars. Kasdin’s group is constructing an instrument to be installed on the Subaru telescope in Hawaii that will study the chemical makeup of large exoplanets.

For years, NASA’s astrophysics roadmap included an ambitious, pricey mission called Terrestrial Planet Finder — an immense space telescope that could photograph smaller Earth-like planets. NASA considered two potential designs, but the idea was postponed repeatedly and scrapped in 2011.

The challenges are immense. A small planet light-years away is extremely dim. More challenging, the dim dot of light from that planet is washed out in the glare of a blindingly bright star right next to it.

Enter Kasdin’s starshade.

Because light acts like waves, the optimal shape for blocking out the light is not a circle. Some of the light bends, like water flowing around a rock. That’s part of the reason it does not become dark as night during a solar eclipse — about a thousandth of the sun’s light still makes it to the ground. To spot Earth-size planets, Kasdin says, the starshade would have to block all but one 10-billionth of the star’s light.

Kasdin and his collaborators have demonstrated that a shade shaped like the petals of a sunflower can work. The light bends less as it passes the petal shapes, and the light that does pass around the shade in effect cancels itself out, producing a darker shadow.

A prototype of a single full-size petal — 6 meters (19.7 feet) tall — was built at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California; a complete model with a full complement of 30 petals would be the size of half a football field. To fit inside a rocket, the starshade would have to be folded up like an umbrella, another technological challenge.

Two summers ago, four undergraduate interns from Princeton and MIT, working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, built four smaller petals that verified that the petals repeatedly and precisely, within a fraction of a millimeter, could unfurl to the desired shape. Kasdin says he has obtained space in the basement of Frick Chemistry Lab to build an even smaller prototype of a starshade with all its petals. Scaled down to account for the 31,000 miles of space between the telescope and the starshade, the prototype will be only 2 inches wide — allowing Kasdin to determine how dark the shadow will be.
The next likely opportunity for a space-based mission to photograph exoplanets is a Hubble-class telescope that originally was built to be a spy satellite but then was donated by the National Reconnaissance Office to NASA to be used for science. The telescope has the unwieldy name of Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope-Astrophysics Focused Telescope Assets and a long acronym: WFIRST-AFTA. “I think WFIRST will be the next big step on this,” says Princeton’s astrophysics department chair, Professor David Spergel ’82, who also is the co-chairman of WFIRST’s science-definition team. He hopes that NASA will give the green light to launch the mission sometime in the first half of the next decade.

The primary mission of the telescope would be to study the mysterious dark energy that appears to be accelerating the expansion of the universe. But a second objective would be to find planets through microlensing events, and a third would be to photograph planets around nearby stars — not with a starshade (though Kasdin hopes a starshade still could be incorporated), but with a technique known as a coronagraph. Kasdin is involved with that effort, too. Unlike a starshade that would fly thousands of miles away, a coronagraph is part of the telescope’s optics, somewhat like a black spot drawn on your glasses to block out some of the light. Kasdin heads one of two teams coming up with proposals for the coronagraph design. Like a starshade, the optimal shape is not a circle, but a more intricate design. It is not quite as effective as a starshade, Kasdin says. Still, the coronagraph should allow WFIRST to get photographs of planets similar to Saturn and Uranus. WFIRST also should be able to study small gas planets known as mini-Neptunes.

Then, with photographs, astronomers can start looking at specific colors of light that are absorbed by the planets’ atmospheres, which might explain what is in the planets’ air. Even observing an Earth-size planet is possible, though Kasdin is not optimistic about that. “If you got really lucky, and everything performed right and there happened to be an Earth around a nearby star that’s bright, it could see it,” he says. “More likely not.”

Meanwhile, NASA has financed the drawing up of preliminary plans for two missions devoted to the search for exoplanets — one of them, using a starshade. But scientists think that the project — or any starshade-equipped telescope capable of photographing Earth twins — is likely to wait for the round of grand projects expected to be deployed in the late 2020s or early 2030s.

Even with the hundreds of exoplanets already discovered, astronomers have only a partial picture. They know there are many planets they cannot yet see, and understand that they sometimes draw unwarranted conclusions from sparse and noisy data. “Planets are more complicated than stars,” Burrows says.

For example, if aliens a few tens of light-years away were looking at our solar system with our technology, they would not detect eight planets but probably just two — Jupiter and Saturn. The inner rocky planets likely would be too small; Uranus and Neptune would be too far out and moving too slowly to show up in the data.

But eventually, better tools will be developed, and scientists will collect enough data for stronger conclusions. “In the next decade or two,” Burrows says, “we’re going to start making it a real science.”

Kenneth Chang ’87 is a science reporter for The New York Times.

WATCH: N. Jeremy Kasdin ’85 explains the flower-shaped starshade in a TED Talk at paw.princeton.edu
Minqi Jiang ’12 had an idea.
On any given day, Jiang has lots of ideas, but this one must have unnerved his parents. Fresh out of college, he had landed a dream job at Google, working as an assistant product manager. Then in January 2014, just 17 months into his new career, he quit to launch his own company.

Jiang saw that doctors prescribe medications but have no way to make sure their patients take them faithfully, resulting in wasted money and poorer health. He and a friend saw a market for an app that would remind patients to take their pills and notify their doctors that they had done so. They pitched the idea to a neighbor, an administrator for the University of California at San Francisco Medical Center, who in turn connected the young entrepreneurs with someone at the Stanford University hospital. Before Jiang knew it, his app had two clinical trials. He and his partner quit their jobs, got some seed money, and holed up in a loft apartment in the Noe Valley section of San Francisco to devote all their waking hours to getting it off the ground.

Confidence is not a problem for the slight, soft-spoken young man whose thoughts often bubble up faster than he can put them into words. He describes himself on LinkedIn as a “Thinker,” and on AngelList, the online site that matches entrepreneurs with venture capitalists, gives this motto: “What I do is simple. I continuously ask how the world can be designed better.”

Youthful hubris, unfortunately, proved no match for bureaucracy. UCSF wanted to own the intellectual property to Jiang’s software, set what Jiang thought were onerous licensing terms, and dragged out negotiations. When Stanford also got cold feet, the business stalled. Jiang’s partner returned to Google, while Jiang decided to move on to another idea.

Total time from the day he conceived his app to the day he walked away from it: five months.

Launching a business requires many things: inspiration, dedication, connections, luck, and more than a touch of foolishness. Youth rushes in where experience often fears to tread and, like Minqi Jiang, picks itself up when it falls and moves on. In their search for the Next Big Thing, the tech firms of Silicon Valley go to great lengths to project an air of youthful energy, and that is often because they are young.

Consider some statistics. In 2013, PayScale, which tracks corporate compensation, found that of 32 prominent tech companies it surveyed, only six had a median age of 35 or older; at eight companies the median age was under 30. Only shoe stores and restaurants have such a young workforce. And turnover in tech is fast: The typical Amazon or Google employee remains with the company for only about a year.

What does that mean for the environment for older workers? Age discrimination, a topic that had been simmering in blog posts and a few lawsuits (all, so far, settled out of court),
Eight or nine years ago, it was rare to see middle-aged men come in looking for a chin tuck or chemical peel. "Now, no one bats an eye."

— PLASTIC SURGEON JAY GRANZOW ’93

emerged into the public consciousness last summer with a cover story by Noam Scheiber in The New Republic called "The Brutal Ageism of Tech." Scheiber reported that engineers and entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley as young as their mid-40s are having trouble getting hired, keeping jobs, and obtaining startup funding because they are perceived as being too slow and hidebound to succeed. Many of these men — and the fact that they are mostly men is an issue for another story — go to great lengths to combat this perceived bias, some even seeking plastic surgery.

Tech firms deny that they are biased, of course, but Silicon Valley’s icons have not helped their case. In 2007, Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg told a tech conference: “Young people are just smarter.” Venture capitalist Vinod Khosla, whose job it is to identify breakout companies, has argued, “People under 35 are the people who make change happen. People over 45 basically die in terms of new ideas.” Folks with a few crow’s-feet around their eyes can only read those words and shiver.

Ageism in Silicon Valley is an elusive subject, though, hard to identify and even harder to prove. The world of high-tech is diverse, encompassing everything from a couple of recent grads launching a startup in their unfurnished apartment to a 76-year-old company such as Hewlett-Packard with thousands of employees. It need not even be in Silicon Valley.

But Jay Granzow ’93 — among others — thinks something is going on to make older high-tech workers fret for their jobs. A board-certified plastic surgeon and associate professor at UCLA medical school, Granzow says he has seen an increasing number of men, as young as in their late 30s, appear at his Manhattan Beach office near the growing Los Angeles tech neighborhood that has been dubbed “Silicon Beach.” Eight or nine years ago, Granzow says, it was rare to see middle-aged men come in looking for a chin tuck or chemical peel. “Now, no one bats an eye.” And Granzow’s patients are not just aging actors: “The tech guys want to seem younger, fresher.”

Age connotes many different things, observes Michael North ’13, a postdoctoral research scientist at Columbia University’s Laboratory of Intergroup Relations and the Social Mind: experience as well as attention-sapping family responsibilities; wisdom as well as habits, good and bad. Certain forms of thinking do dull as we age. Psychologists distinguish between “fluid intelligence,” the mental nimbleness that characterizes youth; and “crystallized intelligence,” the perspective and institutional memory that typically command lower salaries and have fewer family commitments, so they can go out for drinks in the evening and then return to work. Traditional corporate status symbols — the large, quiet office; entry in a higher managerial layer — may be absent, replaced by messy, noisy cubicles and a flatter staffing structure.

“Programming is hard; writing code is hard,” says Taymor. “Most people in their 40s don’t write it. But it is hard to get a job in a small company if you don’t write it because they don’t need a lot of managers. They need coders.”

One hears this worldview in its distilled form from Mahboud Zabetian ’88, an engineer, entrepreneur, and “angel investor” who backs startups in their early stages of development. In his experience, older people don’t work as hard as younger ones. Many, he complains, “are now very much into the 9-to-5 mentality. On Friday around noon, it doesn’t matter where they are; these people check out and I can’t reach them until Monday. The younger folks, they’re working at 2 in the morning on a Sunday, and I can ask them a question.”

When he is trying to staff a new company, Zabetian says, “we want the energetic people who will take an idea and just live it, eat it, sleep it, dream it. That’s harder to do as you get older.” But he also knows what it is like to sit on the other side of the table: Zabetian says he has experienced age bias when applying for consulting positions, though it frequently is masked in terms of corporate “fit.”

“I hate when I go to [a company] and they tell me, ‘You might not be right for us,’” he says. “And I go, ‘No, come on. I can be what you want, and you shouldn’t think that way.’ Then I think to myself, ’I do the same thing when I interview people my age.’”

Ed Zschau ’86, a recruiter at a company that places executives in tech companies across Silicon Valley, believes that older workers may be looking for different things than their younger counterparts. “Right out of college, people want coolness, they look at the sexiness of the company. Later in their careers, they are more concerned about the culture of the company and people they will work with. Compensation matters a lot, but people who have been out a while think about it more analytically. It’s not just that they become more risk-averse, but what they want changes.”

Even established companies go to great lengths to project an air of hipness and youth, sometimes skirting the line of what might land them in legal trouble by, say, professing a preference for employees “who like to work and play hard.” Placement consultants advise older job applicants to avoid...
calling attention to their age by not wearing pleated pants or a wristwatch to job interviews.

When it is time for a startup to hire new people, most founders in any industry look first to friends or friends of their friends; in the case of tech startups, this can perpetuate what might be called a “young-boy network.” As Taymor puts it, “Two guys working out of an apartment ain’t going to hire a 50-year-old guy to join their team. But there’s no barrier to a 50-year-old guy starting his own business.”

Statistics suggest that this happens more often than the public believes. While surveys find that employees at the hot tech companies tend to be younger, focusing on them can give a misleading perception of entrepreneurship generally. In 2009, the Kauffman Foundation, which studies small-business formation, surveyed 549 companies in a number of high-growth industries, including tech, aerospace, defense, electronics, and health care, and found that Americans between the ages of 55 and 64 were doing better than they might appear in the stereotype of the startup culture. They had an entrepreneurship rate almost a third higher than among people aged 20 to 34. Company founders were 40 years old on average. Nearly 70 percent were married, and nearly 60 percent had at least one child.

Dan Levin ’86, the chief operating officer at the cloud-computing company Box, says the ageism “problem” may really be one of perspective. Once a company takes off, the next round of staffing often involves bringing in people with experience — “grown-ups,” as they are sometimes called — who know how to manage a maturing business, obtain funding, and get things done. There may be no better example than Google Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt ’76, recruited by the company’s then-20-something founders when he was 46.

Psychological research, explains Michael North, suggests that older entrepreneurs “would be better at certain key skills — especially some of those that pertain to business success, like dealing with other people and having a larger professional network.” He cites Steve Jobs, who developed the iPhone when he was in his early 50s and had the insight to depart from conventional wisdom and the clout to overcome obstacles in a way that a younger entrepreneur might not. “For entrepreneurship in particular,” North writes, “diversity and depth of experience actually appear to be the best predictors of innovation, not age.”

The stereotype of the risk-taking young entrepreneur may be overstated. In January, The Wall Street Journal reported that a smaller percentage of under-30-year-olds now own their own businesses — including tech businesses — than at any time in the last quarter-century. The paper quoted business experts who reported that many young people are held back by, of all things, a fear of failure.

Taymor points out that, while entertainment and social-media products get the attention, the biggest and fastest-growing tech sectors are education and health care — “eds and meds,” in industry parlance — and here, older entrepreneurs may have an edge because these are fields where connections and experience are more important.

Jotham Stein ’84, a lawyer who practices employment law in Palo Alto and Illinois, believes that entrepreneurs who have founded successful companies sometimes can get startup funding because they are older. Investors will continue to back people with a track record of making money, much in the way that Hollywood studios will keep producing sequels to a high-grossing movie. “It takes a few bad companies before they stop giving you funding,” Stein says. “But that’s a lifetime.”

Venture capitalist Paul Graham told The New York Times in 2013 that when approached by entrepreneurs older than 32, many investors “start to be a little skeptical.” Why? Susan Fiske, Princeton’s Eugene Higgins Professor of Psychology, who has written extensively about ageism, replies, “Only the most die-hard economist insists that discrimination doesn’t exist because it is inefficient.”

Still, funding a company developing new products for a fickle public is a very risky activity. Most new businesses fail in any field, but in the tech industry at least, those that pay off can pay off big. With examples of hyper-successes such as Facebook and Google in mind — both founded by 20-somethings — many investors prefer to swing for the fences.

Eight months after he gave up on his medications app, Minqi Jiang already is deep into his next ventures. He moved across the bay to Berkeley, where the rents are cheaper, and works out of an apartment he shares with Peter Zakin ’12. They first developed a small file-sharing app — “to help us get our groove down as a team” — and now are working on an app that would enable users to make travel arrangements on their phones.

Would he hire older engineers? “If they can dedicate themselves to the schedule of a startup, we’d welcome them with open arms,” he answers. “But in the early stages, the schedule can be very intense. We’re trying to make something that doesn’t exist, exist. Older people might not take to that. They’d want that separation between their work and family life. It’s hard to see someone leaving Google for this.”

Reminded that he himself did just that, Jiang pauses for a moment and tries to put his decision in perspective. “I figured it was a good time in my life,” he explains, “because in five years I’ll probably have a family or something.”

Mark F. Bernstein ’83 is PAW’s senior writer.

"Two guys working out of an apartment ain’t going to hire a 50-year-old guy to join their team. But there’s no barrier to a 50-year-old guy starting his own business."

— ENTREPRENEUR LAWRENCE TAYMOR '70
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Q&A

REP. TERRI SEWELL ’86
ON THE LEGACY OF SELMA

The release of the film Selma, which tells the story of the 1965 civil-rights march from Selma, Ala., to Montgomery led by Martin Luther King Jr., has brought the spotlight to Rep. Terri Sewell ’86’s hometown. Sewell was the first African American valedictorian at Selma High School and, after a two-decade career as a lawyer, was elected to Congress in 2010, becoming the first African American woman to represent Alabama. As the Democrat starts her third term in office, she talked to PAW about her hometown and the challenges it now faces.

**How has Selma changed since you grew up there?**
Politically, the city has progressed to the point where we are on our second black mayor. But economically, the city has suffered because we lost Craig Air Force Base [in 1977] and, with it, lots of jobs.

The high school I graduated from was fully integrated by the time I got there in the ’80s. I was told by black and white teachers that I was smart and that I could be anything I wanted to be. Flash forward 30 years, and Selma High is now 98 percent black. We’ve seen a re-segregation. I don’t know if my old high school could produce me anymore.

**What did you think of the film Selma?**
I’ve seen it five times! House members John Lewis, Kevin McCarthy, Martha Roby, and I offered a bipartisan screening for members of Congress. It was well attended by both Democrats and Republicans. I thought it was a long time due for Selma to get its proper recognition as the center of America’s voting-rights movement. The director’s emphasis on the role of women such as Coretta Scott King was particularly well done.

**Your family opened its land to the marchers?**
My great-great-grandfather was a sharecropper and worked hard enough

continues on page 34

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**“I think it’s important that we never forget what took place in Selma.”**
— Terri Sewell ’86

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**Blogger:**
MARC RAYMAN ’78

**Revealing the mysteries of the solar system**

Rayman is the mission director at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Lab. His blog tracks the progress of the Dawn mission, which is exploring two of the last uncharted worlds in the inner solar system.

“I view this as an adventure of humankind, with a spacecraft carrying... the dreams, aspirations, and most noble spirit of exploration. ... Isn’t flying spacecraft through the forbidding depths of the interplanetary void amazing?”

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FOLLOWING: DAWNBLOG.JPL.NASA.GOV
continued from page 33
to buy land along Route 80. My
grandfather, a Baptist preacher who
still owned that land, was very, very
proud of the fact that he was able to
offer refuge for the marchers during the
final march.

Elected to Congress
in 2010, Rep. Terri
Sewell ’86 became
the first African
American woman to
represent Alabama.

President Barack Obama was
scheduled to visit Selma March 7
for a commemoration of the
50th anniversary of the Bloody
Sunday march.
Yes. He came to Selma in 2007, when
he was running for president, and
visited my home church. I happened
to be there that day because I am an
usher in the church. He talked about
our generation’s obligation to build
on the work of King and others. He
asked us what we would do to pass on
the legacy and to further the progress.
I decided that if my predecessor gave
up his seat in Congress, I would go
after it.

You recently co-sponsored
legislation to honor those who
participated in the march.
I think it’s important that we never forget
what took place in Selma. As a lifetime
member of Brown AME Chapel — the
church where the marchers set out
from to walk across the bridge on that
Bloody Sunday — I am acutely aware
of protecting the legacy of those brave
men and women who fought for the
right to vote.

The movie has started a national
dialogue about modern-day barriers
to voting, and has caused people to
recommit themselves to the ideals those
marchers were marching for, which were
equality, justice, and the right to vote.
I think that more of this generation
needs to understand the struggle.

Interview conducted and condensed by
Merrell Noden ’78

Social justice and gender equality
were central themes of many Alumni
Day speeches and forums, as alumni
and students called for empowering
women, addressing racial injustice,
and using homeownership to break
the cycle of poverty. To celebrate the
100th anniversary of Alumni Day, the
event was held over two days, Feb. 20
and 21, and though a storm brought
several inches of snow, more than 1,000
Princetonians made it back to campus.

In her speech Saturday morning,
Queen Noor of Jordan (formerly Lisa
Halaby ’73), winner of the Woodrow
Wilson Award, said that women
should play a more prominent role
as policymakers in the Middle East:
“Women are not just a special category
of problems to be addressed or ignored.
They are the key to the solution. ...
Opposed to violence, whether by
tradition, temperament, or training, they
have long relied on creative strategies
to stop war and nurture peace.” The
Woodrow Wilson Award is Princeton’s
highest award for an undergraduate alum.

Though many people believe the
oppression of women in parts of the
Muslim world is a result of Islam, Noor
explained that some practices seen as
coercive by Western nations stem from
ingrained social traditions and are not
mandated in the Quran. Seventh-century
Islam granted women political, legal, and
social rights that were unheard of at the
time, she said.

Noor also reflected on her time at
Princeton, where she was a member
of the first undergraduate class that
included women for all four years. She
developed “the diplomacy and survival
skills required in a class of 92 women
on a campus of 3,200,” which prepared
her for challenges she faced as queen,
she said. Activism on and off campus,
including her experience in civil-rights marches, exposed her to a variety of people and ideas, some of which inspired her to work in the Middle East, she said.

“Every aspect of Princeton life can provide pathways to the truth,” she said. “Those pathways lead out through FitzRandolph Gate, thrown open to the world by the Class of 1970 and never again closed.”

Noor’s talk followed an address by Martin Eakes ’80, CEO of Self-Help and the Center for Responsible Lending, who described his work offering fair loans to poor borrowers. He received the James Madison Medal, Princeton’s highest honor for a graduate alum.

Eakes launched Self-Help in 1980 with $77 earned from a bake sale. Today, the nonprofit community-development lender and credit union has $2 billion in assets and 43 branches in several states. It has made loans of $7 billion to people, businesses, and nonprofits deemed too risky by banks.

“I made a bet on African American single mothers,” said Eakes, who was raised in a rural North Carolina community whose population was nearly all black. “If they had a chance to own a home, they would pay back any loan that was given to them on fair terms. I had faith that poor people were better borrowers than rich people, and over 30 years, they have proven me right.”

He added, “Homeownership is the single best tool for breaking the cycle of poverty. Not because it’s an asset, but because it changes the psychology of a family. It stabilizes the family, it changes what they think is possible, and it changes the neighborhoods they live in.”

Among other activities, a Friday forum on women and the eating clubs drew more than 250 alumni and students (see page 10). A panel discussion about recent activism on campus was prompted by student protests about the decisions not to issue indictments in the deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner, unarmed black men who were killed by police. Hundreds of Princeton students participated in the demonstrations.

Students on the panel discussed how some professors have made racially insensitive comments in class. The students said they would like University employees to undergo mandatory training on interacting with people of different cultures.

Naimah Hakim ’16, one of several students on the panel, said, “I did not fully understand the many ways that racism can manifest both covertly and overtly until I came to Princeton.” At the start of her college career, she said, “I identified as a student first, but over my few years here, I identify as a black student.”

Several former student activists in the audience, including Sally Frank ’80, whose lawsuit forced the all-male eating clubs to accept women as members, offered support. Frank told the panel she had donated her notes from her time protesting apartheid in South Africa to Mudd Library and encouraged students to use them to find names of alumni who may be interested in helping them.

“I hope there are ways that those of us who can’t just hop over here — I live in Iowa — can provide support to you in other ways than our physical presence,” Frank said.

Alumni Day — always more sedate than Reunions — had many celebratory moments as well. It opened Friday afternoon with special anniversary offerings: a reception and an event at which a dozen professors and students gave rapid-fire lectures and performances — including slam poetry and Taiko drumming — related to language. There were the Alumni Day staples: the moving Service of Remembrance, the luncheon at Jadwin Gymnasium and recognition of award winners, a talk by Dean of Admission Janet Rapelye on college admission, and a chemistry demonstration based on the experiments of Professor Hubert Alyea ’24 ’28, aka “Dr. Boom” (see page 64).

“Alumni Day has historically been a time for Princetonians to come back to campus when it is in session, participating in lively conversations on a variety of topics,” said Associate Vice President of Alumni Affairs Margaret Miller ’80. “We thought that alumni would be interested in these topics, which are being discussed by students today, and they were.” ◆ By A.W.
PRINCETONIANS

ALUMNI DAY

PRINCETON’S TOP PRIZES

Recipients of Pyne Honor Prize, Jacobus Fellowship, and alumni volunteers honored

The two winners of the **PYNE HONOR PRIZE**, the University’s top undergraduate award, were honored at Alumni Day.

**Yessica Martinez ’15**, a comparative literature major. A first-generation college student originally from Colombia, she is a 2013 recipient of a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship and a 2015 winner of the $30,000 Labouisse ’26 Prize, which funds an international civic-engagement project. For her senior thesis, Martinez is writing a book of poetry that reflects on her experience as an undocumented immigrant.

**Jake Robertson ’15**, a Slavic languages and literatures major. His academic honors include Phi Beta Kappa, the Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence in 2012 and 2013, and the Nicholas Bachko Jr. Scholarship Prize in Slavic Languages and Literatures. He is a member of the improv troupe Quipfire!, the Triangle Club, Theatre Intime, and the Princeton Shakespeare Company, and co-host of the student late-night talk show **All-Nighter**.

There were four winners of the University’s highest honor for graduate students, the **JACOBUS FELLOWSHIP**, which supports the final year of study.

**Yu Deng**, mathematics. Professor of Mathematics Alexandru Ionescu said, “Yu Deng is not only a brilliant student, he is already an accomplished researcher, whose work has already had significant international impact.”

**Evan Hepler-Smith**, history of science. He hopes to pursue a career in academia focusing on teaching the history of science and technology in the modern world, the history of chemical sciences and industry, and the history of information technology. “He moves from nuanced technical concerns to grand philosophical questions, grounding those in the nitty-gritty of factional politics, in the three languages of 19th-century chemistry (German, French, and English),” said history professor Michael Gordin.

**Catherine Reilly**, comparative literature. Her dissertation, which makes use of rare primary sources, explains the multiplicity of German classification systems for mental illness that developed under the aegis of urban university clinics during the second half of the 19th century.

**Kimberly Shepard**, chemical and biological engineering. She studies the physics of glasses and hopes to pursue a career in academia “to inspire a lifelong enthusiasm for science in my students, which will serve them well regardless of their intended major and profession,” she said.

VOLUNTEER CLASS AWARDS

The Class of 1989 won the Class of 1926 Trophy for raising $9,013,889 in celebration of its 25th reunion.

The Harold H. Helm ’20 Award for sustained service to Annual Giving went to **R. Kelly Doherty ’81** of Bernardsville, N.J.
George Harrington Butts ’08 began acting professionally when he was 6 years old, though his first stage appearance came about by accident. While his older brother was singing in the Metropolitan Opera’s Children’s Chorus, young George sat quietly in the cafeteria during rehearsals, doing his homework. One day his mother received a call from the director of Madama Butterfly, asking to audition “the little blond boy from the cafeteria.” Butts went on to appear in the Met’s productions of Samson et Dalila, Faust, Othello, and La Bohème.

During college, he appeared in a Triangle Club show and in several off-off-Broadway performances of plays by Shakespeare. But it was majoring in comparative literature at Princeton, with a focus on Spanish and Latin, that may have played the biggest role in Butts’ acting career, by helping him land several Spanish-speaking parts. Butts is not a native speaker, but he began studying the language in seventh grade, watched the Spanish miniseries called telenovelas after school to improve his skills, and took several Spanish courses at Princeton.

Butts made his television debut in 2013 as a Spanish-speaking Russian mafioso on the show El Capo 3. His latest project is La Gata (The Stray Cat), a Mexican telenovela, which was broadcast last year on Univision, an American Spanish-language network. He played Henry, a college student who befriends a young Mexican man in New York City.

Speaking Spanish like a native has given Butts “something unique,” he says. Eventually he would like to land more English-language parts. Pursuing an acting career is tough but, he says, “happiness is booking the next job and being a working actor.”  

By Kerry Saretsky ’05
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/issues/2015/03/18/sections/class-notes/
MEMORIALS

PAW posts a list of recent alumni deaths at paw.princeton.edu. Go to “Web Exclusives” on PAW’s home page and click on the link “Recent Alumni Deaths.” The list is updated with each new issue.

THE CLASS OF 1938

Jack K. Busby ’38
He prepared at Hotchkiss School. At Princeton he majored in history and roomed at 19 University Place with Powers freshman year. Sophomore and junior years he lived at 172 Little with Powers and Glenn, and lived there again senior year with Powers, Glenn, and Starr. He graduated magna cum laude and attended Yale Law School.

During World War II, Jack served on destroyers in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. He resumed his pre-war employment with Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett in New York until 1951, when he was appointed general counsel of Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. He became president of P&P in 1957, subsequently also taking on the role as CEO and chairman until he retired in 1979.

Jack served for several years as a member and chairman of the Pennsylvania State Planning Board and on a number of community and corporate boards in the Lehigh Valley, including Cedar Crest College, Sacred Heart Hospital, and United Way of Lehigh County. He was a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. In 1979 he was Electric Light & Power’s “Utility Man of the Year” and was awarded the gold medal by the Pennsylvania Society.

He is survived by two children, Leonard and Louise; three grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

THE CLASS OF 1943

Forman S. Acton ’43 ’44
Forman died Feb. 18, 2014, in Woodstown, N.J., following a brief illness.

Forman prepped at Phillips Exeter, where he was active in drama. At Princeton, he majored in chemical engineering and won the Allan Colburn Award both freshman and sophomore years for the highest grade-point average of chemical engineers. He was a member of Theatre Intime and of Gateway Club, where he served as vice president and president.

Forman joined the Army in 1944 and was assigned to Oak Ridge, Tenn., where he was involved in the production of uranium-235. Upon his discharge, he returned to Princeton and earned a master’s degree in chemical engineering in 1944. He later attended Carnegie Tech, where he received a Ph.D. in applied math in 1949.

His career as a professor of computer science at Princeton began in 1952 and ended with his retirement in 1990, during which time he became a pioneer in the development of computers and taught in the Analytical Research Group. While teaching at Princeton, he authored three textbooks.

Forman was a seasoned world traveler and at one time spent 31 days on the crew of a sailing ketch going from Hawaii to San Francisco.

His survivors include several cousins and many good friends.

M. Beckett Howorth ’43
Beck died Oct. 13, 2012, in Oxford, Miss. He left our class and transferred to the University of Mississippi. He earned a medical degree from Vanderbilt University in 1946.

Beck served in the Navy until 1949 and then moved to Marks, Miss., where he was a general practitioner until 1953. He then began a surgical residency at the Veterans Hospital in Memphis and taught at the University of Tennessee Medical School.

In 1965, he moved to Oxford, Miss., to become head surgeon at Baptist Memorial Hospital. Beck retired in 1987 and served as medical director of the hospital and as member of the board of the Oxford School District.

His wife, Mary, predeceased him. Beck is survived by four sons, 12 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. The class extends sympathy to them all.

Philip Shivell ’43
Phil died Nov. 17, 2012, at his home in Kingsport, Tenn. Phil joined our class from Dobyns-Bennett High School in Kingsport, where he was on the football team and a member of the band.

At Princeton, he majored in biology, was on the freshman polo team, and was a member of Charter Club.

After graduating with honors, Phil attended UPenn’s school of veterinary medicine and the University of Tennessee. He served in the 28th Infantry Division in the European theater and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Medical Administrative Corps.

Phil was chairman of the board of Slipnot Belting Co., and served on many other boards in Kingsport, including the Chamber of Commerce, Community Chest, First Tennessee Bank, Holston Valley Community Hospital, and the Salvation Army.

He was active in the First Presbyterian Church, where he served as a deacon and elder and taught Sunday school for 40 years. Phil loved his farms and animals, especially horses, and had a champion Guernsey dairy herd, from which he raised a national-champion milking cow. He imported the first Simmental bull into Tennessee.

Phil’s wife, Anna, predeceased him. His survivors include four children, six grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1945

Colley W. Bell Jr. ’45
Colley Bell died Dec. 12, 2011.
He prepared for Princeton at Kent School and joined Cloister Inn. Colley left Princeton to serve with the 1st Allied Airborne Army Command in Europe, where he provided administrative assistance to headquarters.
After returning to Princeton, Colley received a degree from the SPA in 1947 and joined the National Production Authority in Washington, D.C. Following that brief service, he joined the Margaret Hall School in Versailles, Ky., an Episcopal college-preparatory school for women. He later became a rector and headmaster there.

In 1952, Colley married Charline Stickles, who had just graduated from Smith. They moved to Lebanon Springs, N.Y., where Colley became pastor of the Church of Our Savior. By the time of our 50th reunion in 1995, Colley noted that he had been in the Anglican orders for 40 years. Colley is survived by Charline, children Colley III and Catherine, and two grandchildren. The class expresses its sympathy to the family.

Alexander Pearson ’45

Alex Pearson, who died Jan. 9, 2012, was a unique classmate. He entered Princeton from Bay Shore, N.Y., where he lived all of his life. At Princeton, Alex joined Terrace, and not surprisingly, given Bay Shore’s location on Long Island, was an avid sailor. His Princeton studies were interrupted for service as a meteorologist with an Army Field Artillery unit. Returning to Princeton, he graduated cum laude with a degree in economics in 1947.

In 1953 he married Anna Marie Telegados. Alex entered the family office furniture business in Brooklyn, where he spent his entire business career. He is survived by Anna; their children, Russell, Diana, and Andrew; and five grandchildren. The class expresses its sympathy to the family.

THE CLASS OF 1947

Francis Catlin ’47


He entered Princeton with the Class of ’47, but due to wartime acceleration, he was awarded an AA degree from Princeton and entered Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1944. He received a medical degree in 1948.

Fran did his residency of otolaryngology — head and neck surgery — at Johns Hopkins in 1947 and then entered Columbia’s College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he graduated in 1950. After receiving his master’s degree in public health from Johns Hopkins, Don became the first senior resident in aviation medicine at Ohio State University Medical Center in 1956. When Don was offered a position at Boeing as head of the medical division of its aerospace program, he and his family moved to Washington State. Don was instrumental in developing commercial-airline safety features, including the overhead oxygen mask used when the cabin pressure drops. He was also Boeing’s lead physician in its collaboration with the manned space program.

After retiring, he and his wife, Barbara, moved to Ellensburg, Wash., where he continued raised-bed gardening. While there, he caught a 54-pound trophy salmon on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.


THE CLASS OF 1948

Galway M. Kinnell ’48

Galway died Oct. 28, 2014, at his home in Sheffield, Vt. He was a renowned and prolific Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and essayist, translator, and teacher.

Born in Pawtucket, R.I., in 1927, he attended Wilbraham Academy and entered Princeton in the summer of 1944. After Navy service, Galway returned to college to room and work in the dining halls with W.S. (“Bill”) Merwin (who was also to become a preeminent poet and Pulitzer Prize winner) and other ’48 waiters, including Ted Taubeneck and Dick Unsworth.

After graduating with highest honors, Galway earned a master’s degree at the University of Rochester. He then held faculty positions at the University of Chicago and elsewhere before receiving a lifetime appointment at New York University. Many consider one of his greatest poems to be “When the Towers Fell,” a memorial to those lost in 9/11. He was a passionate activist in environmental and civil-rights causes.

He is survived by Barbara; son Fergus; daughter Maud Kozodoy ’88; and two grandchildren.
baseball, was on the polo team, sang in the Glee Club, and belonged to Ivy.

He joined the Navy after graduation. Upon completion of Officer Candidate School, Bob was assigned to a destroyer for three years that included eight months in Korea. Following active duty he continued in the Navy Reserve, retiring after 26 years as group commander of Kentucky’s 14 reserve units.

He returned to Lexington in 1954 to enter the family grain business. Following his father’s death the next year, Bob took charge of the business, expanding it into farming, raising beef cattle, and breeding thoroughbreds. To better manage the business, he entered the University of Kentucky Law School as a part-time student, graduating and passing the bar in 1968. Bob was honored in 1983 as “Man of the Year in Service to Kentucky Agriculture.” He was a licensed pilot and steeplechase enthusiast.

Throughout his life, Bob held leadership roles in numerous civic organizations, nonprofits, and churches. He was active in the Princeton Association of Western Kentucky.

Our condolences go to Katherine, his wife of 52 years; daughters Jean and Juliet; son Robert; and three grandchildren.

Robert F. Staats-Westover ’50 ’52

Bob died Oct. 3, 2014, in Princeton at age 90. He was raised in Bordentown, N.J. After graduating from Trenton High School, he served in the Marines for three years and was honorably discharged as a staff sergeant in 1946.

Bob ran track and graduated with honors in mechanical engineering. He continued at Princeton, earning a master’s degree in plastics engineering in 1951, and later, in 1962, another master’s degree in engineering mechanics from NYU.

He was a member of the technical staff of the polymer department of Bell Telephone Labs from 1954 to 1983. From 1985 until 1991, he was manager of the New Jersey Polymer Extension Center at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Academically, he was distinguished-service associate professor at Stevens in its mechanical and chemical engineering departments from 1967 to 2003. Bob authored numerous patents and publications in the polymer field. He held offices and won awards in several engineering societies, and was elected a fellow of the Society of Plastics Engineers.

He moved to Princeton in 1961, where he was a scoutmaster, marksmanship instructor, and dedicated church member.

His first wife, Ann, predeceased him. His second wife, Hazel; his children, Doug, Diane, and Bryce; his stepdaughter, Dawn; 12 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren survive him. To them all, the class extends its deepest sympathy.

James Jared Taylor ’50

Jerry died Aug. 20, 2014, at his home in Cincinnati after an extended illness. His dog, Toby, one of his beloved Norwich terriers, was at his bedside.

After graduating from Wyoming High School in Ohio in 1945, he was inducted into the Army and served as a supply sergeant at Fort Lee, Va., until honorable discharge in 1946. At Princeton, he was managing editor of the *Bric-a-Brac*, belonged to Tower Club, and graduated with honors in economics.

He began in sales with a small manufacturing company in Cincinnati, then formed his own manufacturing agency in 1965. In 1983, he made an abrupt career change: He picked up his paintbrushes and started James Taylor Decorative Arts, where he created painted art objects and accepted commissions from galleries and decorators.

Jerry spent more than 60 summers in Nantucket, where he restored a historic home he purchased in 1966, furnishing it with classic pieces and artwork. He especially enjoyed entertaining, exhibiting his cooking skills in Cincinnati with Tex-Mex chili and in Nantucket with varied preparations of freshly caught blueshfish.

We extend sympathy to Anne, his wife of 37 years; his sons, James III and Maxwell; daughter Jessica; and six grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1951

Philip H. Robb ’51

Phil was born June 6, 1929, in Philadelphia, the son of Eleanor Wilmont and P. Fisher Robb. He came to Princeton from Cranbrook School and majored in sociology. Phil belonged to the Student Christian Association, St. Paul’s Society, and Terrace Club. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and roomed with Ben Van Tuyl and Bob Chadowick.

Phil served in the Army from 1951 to 1953. He then spent three years at Virginia Theological Seminary, earning a master’s degree in divinity, and two years at Howard University School of Social Work, from which he received a master’s degree in social work.

From 1958 to 1976, he was primarily involved in social work, including a chaplaincy at the Bedford (N.Y.) Correction Facility for Women, a vicarage at an Episcopal church in Baltimore, and as a welfare caseworker in Bel Air, Md.

He moved to California, and for 13 years worked as a psychiatric social worker. In 1976, he earned a law degree from the University of La Verne in California, then spent 20 years as a prosecutor on the San Bernardino district attorney’s staff.

Phil died Dec. 4, 2013, in Grand Terrace, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Carol Leonard Robb; son Tim and daughter Rebecca from a previous marriage; and four grandchildren.

Edward G. Simonsen Jr. ’51

Ed was born July 11, 1926, to Agnes LaLande and Edward G. Simonsen and raised in Upper Darby, Pa., where he went to high school. He was in the Army when World War II ended, and then came to Princeton.

Ed left at the end of sophomore year to go to law school at Temple. Soon after, the Korean War started and the Army called him up for duty in Korea. He was badly wounded there and eventually separated on permanent physical disability in July 1951, having received a Purple Heart. He changed affiliation from the Class of ’52 to ’51 in October 1951, but never completed his degree.

His business career took him to East Asia, New Zealand, and Australia, where he worked for American corporations entering into those local economies, including Consolidated Foods Corp., Best Foods, Knorr Foods, Chesebrough-Ponds, the Allen Group, and Multi-National Development Services Inc.

From 1981 to 1985 he was trade counselor at the U.S. embassy in Australia. His marriage to Lorraine Doneley ended in divorce. Ed died Nov. 5, 2013, and is survived by his daughter, Breta; two grandchildren; niece Kristin; and two nephews. His sister, Doris Hoppmann, predeceased him.

Michael L. Strang ’51

Mike was born June 17, 1929, in New Hope, Pa., to Ellen Lathrop and Stephen B. Strang ’23. In 1932, the family moved to a ranch near Golden, Colo., where Mike was home-schooled by his father.

He entered Princeton with ’51, roomed with Peter Denby, and left in 1949 to join the Army. The bulk of his service was at Fort Benning as an Officer Candidate School trainer. Mike returned to Princeton in the fall of 1954, where he rowed heavyweight crew, played polo, and lived at Colonial. He majored in history and graduated in 1956, retaining his affiliation with ’51.

Mike and Kathleen ("Kit") Sherry were married in 1966 and moved to the western slope of the Rockies. In 1969, they bought a ranch near Carbondale, Colo., where they raised Hereford cattle and thoroughbred horses. In 1967, they co-founded the Roaring Fork Hounds Pony Club.

Mike served in the Colorado House of Representatives from 1970 to 1974 and in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1984, for one term.

He died Jan. 12, 2014, and is survived by Kit; their daughters, Laurie and Bridge; son...
Scott ’84; and four grandchildren. Another son, Lathrop, predeceased Mike, as did his brother, Bart Strang ’57.

THE CLASS OF 1952
John C. Giordano ’52
Jack was a noted lawyer. He came to Princeton from the Lawrenceville School and joined Cannon. Jack majored in politics, played freshman football, and rowed crew. His roommates were Doug Lilly, Bill McVaine, and Culver Eisenbeis. He graduated from Rutgers Law School in 1955, where he was editor of the law review. His first job was as law clerk to William J. Brennan, then a New Jersey Supreme Court justice and later an associate justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. John then formed a law partnership with his father, Giordano, Halleran & Ciesla, in Middletown, N.J., which became a sizable operation.

Active in New Jersey politics, he advised governors Robert Meyner and James Florio. Specializing in land-use law, Jack developed real estate in New Jersey and in Florida. He was also general counsel for two New Jersey commercial banks and two sports teams, the Boston Celtics and the Hartford Whalers. Jack died at his home in Southampton, N.Y., Sept. 11, 2014, leaving his sons, John C. III, Mark, and Paul; his stepson, V. Andrew Cerviolo; and his wife, Andrea. The class offers its sympathy at the loss of our accomplished classmate.

Alberto J. Gonzalez ’52
A native of Costa Rica, Alberto came to Princeton after attending New York Military Academy. He was a member of Campus Club and majored in civil engineering. Alberto also belonged to the Thursday Night Warm-up Club and the Catholic and Washington clubs. He played freshman lacrosse and club football and roomed with Put Brosdkey and Mike Ely. In the Book of Our History he summed up his career modestly, as follows: “1956-95 Florida Ice & Farm Co., CEO. Currently, I manage the family business — coffee plantations, a dairy farm, land development. I sit on various boards.”

Alberto died Nov. 17, 2014, in San Jose, Costa Rica, leaving his wife, Diana; and daughters Leslie, Rosanna, and Milena. To them, we send our sympathy and good wishes.

John A. LaGrua Jr. ’52
John took a detour through Columbia after graduating from Bayside (N.Y.) High School and entered Princeton during sophomore year. He joined Tiger Inn and worked on the class memorial insurance fund — prefiguring his career in finance. He was in the Catholic Club and worked as a research assistant at the Forrestal Research Center.

John died Oct. 4, 2014, in New York, his longtime and much-relished home. In his entry for the Book of Our History, John reported working on Wall Street and becoming president of a foreign-affiliated investment bank, which involved much travel on European assignments. After retiring from the bank, he took up consulting, over the course of which he taught a class on capital markets in St. Petersburg that he recalled with pleasure.

THE CLASS OF 1955
Edmund V. Cervone ’55

After completing his doctorate at Temple in 1974, he brought his concept of a program providing academic support for bright students with diagnosed learning differences while attending mainstream college preparatory classes to the Pennington School. The Center for Learning opened in 1975 and served as a model for independent schools around the country.

He retired in 1998 but returned to Pennington in 2002 to serve as acting head of the center. Ed touched many young people’s lives, helping them reach their potential and doing so with a unique combination of firmness, compassion, and a sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife, Marian; their children Elisabeth, William, Edmund ’94, and Jennifer; five grandchildren; and his sisters, Doris, Dolores, and Caroline. Our class will remember Ed for his hortatory legendarian and will miss him greatly.

THE CLASS OF 1957
Dean W. Determan ’57
Dean died peacefully in his sleep Nov. 16, 2014. He was 79. While at Princeton, he majored in political science, played varsity basketball, ran track, and joined Elm Club.

Dean graduated from Berkeley Law School in 1965. He served in the Army and was assigned to NATO in Turkey; where he was a Russian-language translator. During his time there, he also became proficient in Turkish.

Dean was privileged to work with former President Lyndon Johnson, helping to implement desegregation in the nation’s hospital system. He was vice president of the Better Business Bureau, was instrumental in introducing the “lemon law,” and served as a federal administrative law judge for 18 years.

He is survived by his wife, Wanning; sons Dan and David; stepdaughters Melanie, Karen, and Catherine; and grandchildren Cole, Raina, Taeghan, Lauren, Kristin, Emma, Julia, and Cassie. Dean will be missed.

John D. Kyle ’57

Jack was born June 6, 1935, in Belleville, N.J. He grew up in Maplewood, N.J., and attended the Rumsey Hall School and the Lawrenceville School. At Princeton, he majored in English, joined Charter Club, and roomed senior year in the Rockefeller Suite.

He spent his entire 35-year career at Chemical Bank (now JP Morgan Chase), where he held a variety of roles in corporate banking and real estate and retired as executive vice president. Jack moved from New York to Ponte Vedra Beach, where he and his wife, Luci, enjoyed their retirement years with good
friends, loving family, golf, reading, and travel.

Jack is survived by Luci; daughters Amy ‘80, Susy, and Bobby; and grandchildren Sarah ‘14, Will ‘17, Emily, Melissa, Katie, and Ellie.

THE CLASS OF 1960

Howard Arthur Bellows Jr. ’60

Art died March 20, 2014, in Greenwich, Conn., following an extended illness. Born in New York City, Art prepared for Princeton at Western Reserve Academy in Hudson, Ohio. At Princeton, he majored in politics and was a member of Cottage, Whig-Clio, Orange Key, and the freshman Glee Club. He also played football and was on the swim team.

Commissioned through the Navy ROTC program, he served in the Pacific aboard the attack-aircraft carrier USS Midway for two years before leaving the Navy to attend Harvard Business School.

Upon completing an MBA, he worked as director of marketing for the Olga Co., and then founded Triangle Corp., a hand-tool manufacturer. Art joined Audits and Surveys Worldwide as president, COO, and director. In 1999, he founded Braeburn Associates.

Art served on the boards of Western Reserve Academy, Cottage Club, and numerous other community organizations in Greenwich, his home for 39 years. He was an avid sportsman, enjoying skiing, tennis, squash, and swimming.

Art is survived by Jody, his wife of 44 years; their children Maffitt, Alex, Hillary, and Jennifer; and two grandchildren. The class extends its sincere sympathy.

J. Blair Butterworth ’60

Blair died March 29, 2013, in Seattle, Wash., after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Born in London, the son of foreign service officer William Walter Butterworth ’15 and Virginia Parker, Blair prepared for Princeton at Lawrenceville, where he was active on the debating team and history club. At Princeton, Blair majored in politics. He was president of Whig-Clio and a member of Campus Club.

After graduating, Blair worked for the newly created Peace Corps in Washington and then as a volunteer in Ghana, where he taught and served as assistant headmaster in a secondary school in the rainforest that later named its computer center after him. He then worked in the Department of Commerce and was assigned to help establish an office of the Economic Development Administration in Seattle, where he eventually put down lasting roots.

Settling there in 1971, Blair founded FDR Services Inc., which ran political campaigns for numerous Democratic candidates in the Northwest. As the state’s first full-time campaign consultant, he was instrumental in electing several governors, mayors, and members of Congress. Classmates will not be surprised that Blair became known for his large frame, quotable quips, and sunny good cheer.

His wife, Celia Schorr, and his sons, Christopher and Parker, survive Blair. The class extends its sympathy to them.

Edward O. Robinson ’60


The son of Harlan B. Robinson ’30, Ned was born in California and graduated from Pasadena High School, where he played baseball and worked on various student publications. At Princeton, he was on the freshman crew.

He withdrew from Princeton and returned to California, where he majored in finance at the University of Southern California and graduated in 1960. He continued there to study law, and after receiving a J.D. degree in 1963, joined the firm of Boyle, Atwill & Stearns, later becoming a partner.

Ned was very active in the Tournament of Roses and Kiwanis, where he served as president. He also belonged to the Pasadena Quarterbacks Club and the Ammandale Golf Club.

His first wife, Sally, predeceased him. His wife, Lorna; daughter Stacy; son Scott; stepdaughters Tracy and Kimberly; stepson Eric; seven grandchildren, and five great-grandsons survive Ned. The class extends sympathy to all the family.

THE CLASS OF 1986

Linda DeBoer ’86

Linda died Nov. 26, 2014, as a result of complications from diabetes. She was 50.

A star soccer player from Lynnwood, Wash., Linda earned a degree in economics and worked on Wall Street after graduation. She later found her true calling as a doctor of Oriental medicine and spiritual teacher. Linda guided countless students in their quest for meaning and truth. Her passion, sense of humor, love of life, and honesty touched people far and wide.

An All-American soccer player and great all-around athlete, Linda scored 41 career goals at Princeton, a record that stood for nearly two decades. Her precision passing and left-footed cannonblast shot were a joy to behold. Linda also holds a top-10 javelin mark from 1986.

Always humble, Linda valued her friends’ successes as much of her own. She could light up a room with her big laugh and quick wit. Always true to herself, she spoke without fear.

Linda is survived by her partner, Robert Brown; her parents; a sister; her brothers; and a nephew. She will be deeply missed by senior-year roommates Gwen (“Gigi”) Chambers, Simone Mordas, and Beth Portale; classmates from Meadowdale High School in Washington; godson Gregory Chambers; and countless friends and extended family. The class extends deepest sympathy to them all.

GRADUATE ALUMNI

Charles H. Habernigg ’55


That year, he married and moved to Oregon to practice law.

He was an assistant U.S. attorney in Portland until 1967. Then he served for two years as the attorney general of American Samoa in Pago Pago. After returning to Portland, he was a partner with several law firms.

An accomplished pianist and singer, he was an entertaining joke teller, and enjoyed the company of people from all walks of life.

Habernigg is survived by Jill, his wife of 52 years; and two daughters, including Ann ’83.

James N. Rash ’77

James Rash, the retired vice president for business affairs at the University of Pittsburgh-Titusville, died May 31, 2014. He was 67.

Rash graduated from the University of Michigan in 1969 and earned a Ph.D. in classics from Princeton in 1977.


Rash is survived by his wife, Diana Browning ’80, a classics professor at Pittsburgh-Titusville; and a daughter.

Barbara J. Brooks ’91

Barbara Brooks, a faculty member in the history department at the City College of New York, died April 12, 2013, after a long battle with breast cancer. She was 60.

She received bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Yale University in 1976 and 1977, respectively. From Princeton, she earned a master’s degree (1980) and a Ph.D. (1991), both in history.

Brooks was a scholar of Japan and enjoyed learning and writing about that country. She taught at both CCNY and the affiliated City University of New York Graduate Center.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. David P. Jaffee; a daughter, Isadora Brooks Jaffee; and her parents, William and Margaret Brooks.

This issue has undergraduate memorials for Forman S. Acton ’43 ’44 and Robert Staats-Westover ’50 ’52.

Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.
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Wine
The frenetic, pyrotechnic demonstrations of chemistry professor Hubert Alyea ’24 *28 enthralled generations of Tigers. Likewise impressed was Walt Disney, who was inspired to make a movie based on the irrepressible Alyea, The Absent-Minded Professor, which hit theaters in March 1961.

Disney saw Alyea on stage at Expo 58, the World’s Fair in Brussels, where the professor spent six months giving his thunderous “Atomic Energy: Weapon for Peace” demonstration in a replica of his Frick Hall lecture room.

His enormously complex equipment weighed half a ton, but Alyea had every vial and beaker memorized: He gave this show 2,840 times between 1945 and 1972 to audiences worldwide, all the while wreathed in clouds of smoke. Somewhat alarmed, Russian dignitaries in Brussels called him “Dr. Boom.”

Disney watched Alyea for two hours, mesmerized, and the idea for the movie was born. Later he summoned him to Hollywood to give a demonstration to the assembled actors. The movie wouldn’t exactly be educational, Disney cautioned, but Alyea didn’t mind, later calling Disney “one of the greatest educators we ever had.”

Fred Alyea ’57 joined his father for the adventure in Tinseltown and never has forgotten the gleaming limousine, the parking spot next to Walt’s, the young Princeton grads at the studio — hoping to get a job — who smiled when they recognized their former teacher.

The demonstration went well: Star Fred MacMurray said he’d never understood chemistry until that day, and he took careful note of Alyea’s every move. “You could see a lot of my father’s attributes in MacMurry’s acting,” Fred Alyea recalls — down to specific motions and gestures.

With its cheeky tale of MacMurray (“Professor Brainard”) inventing a troublesome new material called Flubber at Medfield College, The Absent-Minded Professor proved a big hit. And Alyea, who lived to age 93, always loved to tell the tale of how the professor once went to Hollywood. ♦

**Hubert Goes to Hollywood**

W. Barksdale Maynard ’88

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