IN THE BEGINNING
How coeducation emerged
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continued
On Watch
Sarah D. Bunting ’94 has TV covered, online and on a popular podcast.

‘The Coed 100’
Read a 1973 PAW essay by one of the women in Princeton’s first four-year coeducational class.

A New Life
For Andrew Robinton ’04, his first few months as a parent brought joy, anguish, and long hours in the hospital.

Talented Tigers
Is gold medalist Ashleigh Johnson ’17 one of Princeton’s all-time superstars? Definitely, writes Gregg Lange ’70 — but she’s one of many greats.
Opening Exercises: The Course of Human Events

Our Opening Exercises in September followed a disturbing summer scarred by violence in the United States and overseas. I used this year’s Pre-read selection, Our Declaration by Danielle Allen ’93, to speak to our freshmen about what it means to be a college student in troubled times. Here is what I told the Class of 2020.—C.L.E.

September is an ebullient time on college campuses. We welcome new arrivals and returning friends with waving flags, reverberating drums, thrilling parades, and soaring expectations. It is, by its very nature, a season of fresh starts and high expectations. It is a season of optimism.

And we are indeed excited to welcome all of you to Princeton. We look forward to getting to know you, to teaching you, and to engaging with you. We have great hopes for you.

But this, clearly, is no ordinary September. This September follows a searing summer, a summer filled with loss and grief and violence around our planet and in this country. In the United States, this September comes in the midst of a coarse, bitter, and angry presidential election.

This September, our joy at the fresh start to an academic year is tempered by anxiety about a global society that is fractured, fearful, and in pain. How should you react to that dissonance? Is it wrong to take pleasure in the traditions that greet you today, to savor the beauty and tranquility of this campus, to feel excitement at the beginning of your own college education, when so much is broken around us?

Tonight Danielle Allen will talk to you about the Declaration of Independence, itself a document forged in times of strain and conflict. You have read her book, so you know that she is worried about, among other things, a comma, a comma that might have been changed to a period by a printer nearly 240 years ago.

How do you process a concern like that at a time like this? A 240-year-old comma! It is, to be sure, a comma connected to a serious argument about political theory and history, but it is still a comma. How can we spend time arguing about long-forgotten commas, when the world is fraught with tension? What does it mean to be a college student when the course of human events seems so frenzied and tumultuous?

The phrase that I just used, “the course of human events” is, you will no doubt recognize, drawn from the Declaration of Independence. It is a phrase that Professor Allen examines in depth. In so doing, she offers you wisdom relevant to the question that I just posed, about what it means to be a college student—or, for that matter, a decent and conscientious person of any kind—in moments that are difficult and unsettled.

Professor Allen observes that “course” is another word for “river,” and she encourages us to conceive the “course of human events” as like a river. Rivers have different patches. They change tempo and character. They can be slow and calm, places to drift on a lazy summer afternoon. They can have raging rapids that are perilous or exciting or both, depending upon the temperament and skill of the rafter who dares traverse them. They can merge into giant waterways filled with dangerous traffic and tricky currents, like the great Mississippi.

Right now the course of human events pulls hard upon us, sweeping us along on treacherous tides. It sometimes feels like we’re working hard just to come up for air and grab a breath.

Here are two insights that you might take from Professor Allen’s book as we navigate this turbulent stream. The first is that we’re all in it together, and not just as separate individuals bobbing along in more or less the same place. Rather, we are part of a collective effort. You might say that we are all sailing on, or clinging to, the same raft.

Those of you who begin your undergraduate or graduate careers today, or who enter the ranks of the staff and the faculty, have joined a community. Our destinies are linked to one another in myriad ways—not just for the years that you spend on this campus, but long beyond them. Being a Princetonian is now—was from the day that you accepted your offer of admission, really—a part of your identity.

Professor Allen reminds us that the people who wrote the Declaration of Independence shared an identity, too. They claimed to be one people. The Declaration begins, “When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people…”

What did they mean, claiming to be “one people”? They did not all agree with or like one another. In less than a century, they would fall to war against one another—talk about the course of human events! But being a people meant that they were in it together, they were in a deep sense stuck with one another, or, to put it in loftier terms, they shared a common destiny.

Those of us who gather in this chapel today will, for the next few years at least, move through the course of human events together. We can learn from one another, if we listen. We will do better if we look out for one another—if we remember, in other words, that even if things seem to be going fine for us personally, they may be going badly for someone else near to us—and, if so, we owe that person our help and support.

We can also make a greater difference beyond our campus, and do more to help communities less fortunate than our own, if we work together. That is what I mean when I say that we are a community, and that we navigate this river, this course of human events, collectively.

Here is a second insight you might take from Professor Allen's book. She says that "human events, like the infinity of droplets in a river, cohere. Human events are going somewhere; they have shape and direction; there is meaning to their sequence. We should be able to tell where we are collectively headed" (111).

Well, that is good news. It would sure be nice to know where we are headed these days. Professor Allen says that is possible, but she also warns us that it is not easy to figure out where we are going. She says that “Life’s currents, like a river’s, invariably have a direction, but understanding them is a challenge of surpassing difficulty” (129). Where do we get the wherewithal to discern the direction of the river when doing so is a question of “surpassing difficulty”? To discern the shape of a river, it helps to know something about where it comes from—which means knowing something about the course of human history. You need to understand something, too, about what pulls human beings, and human events, in one direction or another—about, in other words, values, psychology, and all the ideas, impulses, and forces that move our bodies and souls.

Giving you this knowledge and capacity, this sense of the human, this perspective and vision, is the most fundamental purpose of liberal arts education in general, and of your Princeton education in particular. Keep that purpose in mind even as you feel the tug of current events. You will—and, indeed, you should—feel an obligation to address our society’s most pressing issues, to help those who are less fortunate than yourself, and to assist in healing our aching world. Service is an essential part of this University’s mission, and of what it means to be a student here.

Yet, while you arrive on this campus at a tense moment in this country’s long history, you also arrive here at an early stage in your own life-long journey. During your time at Princeton you must give yourself the freedom to grow, to develop, to follow your intellectual passions, to revel in ideas and arguments, to contemplate history, to encounter different perspectives, to wonder at beauty, and to have some fun. Give yourself the freedom to take the long view. Give yourself permission to savor your time here, and to care about commas.

You owe that freedom to yourself, because you need to prepare for the journey to come. And lest that seem too selfish, then let me add that you also owe it to society, because we will need your perspective, learning, and wisdom in the years ahead, when your generation will be expected to lead society and steward its institutions—when, so to speak, you will be pilots of the rafts on which we travel. We need you to fortify your mind and your character now so that you can help us to confront what the world will throw at us in the future, for we are all, and we will all remain, in this together.

We are excited to have you with us on that journey. That is why, even in this troubled and uncertain September, we fly flags, bang drums, cheer your parade, and greet your arrival with buoyant spirits and joyous hearts. We look forward to seeing what the great Princeton Class of 2020 will do in the course of its time on this campus. With enthusiasm and happiness, we are delighted to say, “Welcome to Princeton!”

[Signature]
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Cover date: 
December 7

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Contact Colleen Finnegan ofinnega@princeton.edu
609-258-4886
Inbox

OH PERSON!
Re Princeton’s new “Guidelines for Using Gender Inclusive Language” (On the Campus, Sept. 14): The University community should be adapersondant that their adoption be personatory as they are written with great acupeople. The guidelines compersonad of attention; we cannot be personaced by tradition, and must personage our adpersonence thereto. Good personers require it, not just now, but perpersonently. I look forward to reading a senior tpersonon on this topic.

Oh person, oh person, oh person.

Stephen P. Ban ’84
Glenview, Ill.

CALENDAR REFORM, PRO AND CON
Re “Change the Calendar?” (On the Campus, June 1): I’ve now worked at five universities, including one on the quarter system.

As a student at Princeton as well as at Yale and Harvard, I felt that my Princeton experience at the Woodrow Wilson School (M.P.A. ’95) was by far the most stressful of the three where purely academic matters were concerned. Having finals after Christmas definitely affected my time on the holidays; not only that, but it left me a little adrift once I returned to campus.

That said, the truly important thing in any calendar system that the faculty may choose to implement is that it get students done with their spring finals by Memorial Day. This is important because any hangover into June does impact the opportunities students have to do many programs around the country.

Matthew A. Weed ’95
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Changing the calendar to move finals before the winter break to reduce stress is a bad idea. Stress is good! Ask any Marine drill instructor, coach of an athletic team, or senior manager of a successful corporation, and 100 percent will say stress is invaluable for winning. As CEO of General Electric, Jack Welch in a mere 19 years increased its capitalization from $15 billion to more than $500 billion, the highest in the world at that time. Welch’s personnel policy was automatically to fire 10 percent of his executives annually. Students protected by speech codes and safe places need to experience a good dollop of stress in college before entering a world where their boss’s job is not protected by tenure.

January exams also help an important minority of students, to wit, those with low SAT scores and high conscientiousness. They can use the Christmas and spring breaks to study 15 hours a day to catch up with or pass those with higher SATs and lower conscientiousness. See the books by Angela Duckworth and Howard Friedman, psychologists and psychology professors who conclude that conscientiousness is the best predictor of success.

Princeton should not produce graduates best fitted for France’s 35-hour workweek, one-month holiday, and legal protection from dismissal.

Cari H. Middleton ’60
Arlington, Va.

TIES WITH INDIA
As the former Princeton representative on the governing board of the Kanpur Indo-American Program, I was delighted to read President Eisgruber ’83’s piece, “Renewing Princeton’s Ties to India” (President’s Page, April 20). KIAP, as the program was known, was in existence from 1962 to 1972. The largest USAID-supported educational program up to that time, it consisted of a consortium of nine U.S. universities that supplied visiting faculty and staff members to
Fall 2016 Lectures

**OCT 8**
Colloquium: The Modernity of Sculpture  
9:00 AM–5:00 PM · 106 McCormick Hall  
Friedrich Teja Bach, Malcolm Baker, Brigid Doherty, Christina Ferando, Hal Foster, Michael Koortbojian, Carolina Mangone

**OCT 11**
**THE KURT WEITZMANN LECTURE**  
The Dawn of Christian Art in Panel Paintings and Icons  
5:00 PM · 101 McCormick Hall  
Thomas Mathews · Institute of Fine Arts, New York University

**OCT 20**
Africa and Europe: Rethinking Medieval and Early Modern Artistic Engagements and Cross-Currencies  
4:30 PM · 106 McCormick Hall  
Suzanne Blier · Harvard University

**NOV 10**
A History of Detail  
4:30 PM · 106 McCormick Hall  
Briony Fer · University College, London

**DEC 1**
Oil, Amber, Fire, Smoke: Greek Art beyond Materials  
4:30 PM · 106 McCormick Hall  
Richard Neer · University of Chicago

**DEC 7**
**ROBERT JANSON-LA PALME LECTURE**  
Once again, Albrecht Dürer’s *Melencolia I*  
5:00 PM · 101 McCormick Hall  
Peter Parshall · Former Curator, National Gallery of Art

**DEC 12**
Winning Hearts & Minds: Augustan Visual Strategies  
4:30 PM · 106 McCormick Hall  
Barbara Kellum · Smith College
assist the development of the just-founded Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur (IITK).

With the enthusiastic backing of President Robert Goheen ’40 ’48, at various times during the 10 years of the program’s existence, Princeton had members resident on the Kanpur campus working primarily in the fields of aeronautical, civil, and computer engineering. Other disciplines were supported by shorter-term visitors who did not take up permanent residence there.

By any measure, the program was a success. The institute not only has achieved a degree of independence from governmental interference unprecedented in Indian educational institutions, but has developed into the premier technological institution in the country. Though after 44 years, few in Princeton are aware of the role the University played in KIAP, the institute remembers, and would be a strong ally in the development of any renewed ties with India. I hope they will be included.

David C. Hazen ’48 ’49
Professor emeritus of aeronautical engineering
Easton, Md.

BUILDING A CULTURAL AUDIENCE
The article on graduate-student composer Caroline Shaw, the youngest person ever to win the Pulitzer Prize for music (cover story, June 1), represents a stupendous breakthrough in PAW’s editorial content.

The whole world of classical music has gradually been eroding, both from the competing sound-blasts of amplified trivia and from the distractions of the rapidly all-consuming media glut. My despair comes mainly from my enthusiasm for the music of past eras — Renaissance, baroque, classical, romantic — but I’m afraid the burgeoning cultural environment of listener ignorance will leave any potential audience in the dark for appreciating new musical references to the likes of Buxtehude, Chopin, Bach, or Verdi.

Now PAW’s revived cultural awareness has opened up the possibility of a different course. Some leading educational institution could form a coalition with a few business tycoons to create a breakthrough television series that would outline the history of the last 1,000 years of Western civilization. But the emphasis would be on music, rather than warfare, dynastic confrontations, royal intrigues, or religious/political bickering. Those would need to be sketched in, too, as well as advances in science, philosophy, and the arts, but the main thrust would be the relentless progression of great music.

In such an environment, our accomplished artists would find a more aware audience among which to operate. And who would be able to host the project through such a maze? Maybe an aspiring young musician already gifted with a historical perspective, who could submit the experience as her doctoral dissertation.

David Grundy ’58
Gainesville, Fla.

SODIUM, NOT POTASSIUM
I noticed what appears to be an error in “Why I Love Physics” (essay, March 2): “Where a biologist might study how potassium atoms enter the outer wall of a nerve cell and start an electrical pulse shuddering through the cell” should be “Where a biologist might study how sodium ions pass through the membrane of a nerve cell ....” Potassium ions then leave the cell to return it to its resting potential; they enter the cell primarily via the sodium-potassium pump.

Nathan Mytelka ’19
Princeton University

WE’D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU
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PAW Online: Comment on a story at paw.princeton.edu
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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.
International travel and learning about different cultures have always appealed to Kathy Thorpe. At her Gaithersburg, MD, high school, she became interested in international relations and diplomacy. She chose Princeton because of the Woodrow Wilson School’s studies in foreign affairs. (It also helped that Princeton’s green campus was more attractive than Yale’s concrete!)

There was always the special interest in China. Her Princeton boyfriend (and now husband) Evan Thorpe ’05 had grown up in Hong Kong. Kathy participated in Princeton in Beijing the summer after her freshman year. And one of her most vivid memories at Princeton was heading to Chinatown in New York City to shop for an Asian-themed party at Quadrangle, “twirling through the stores, with their gleaming fans and bright fabrics.”

So it was that in the summer of 2009, with Kathy fresh out of law school and five days after she and Evan were married, they were off to live in Hong Kong, Kathy to work for a global law firm and Evan to work for a financial technology company.

On first arriving in Hong Kong, they began going to the Happy Hours at the Princeton Club of Hong Kong (PCHK). They were soon invited to join an officers’ meeting, and in a matter of months were the co-chairs of the Young Alumni Committee, hosting those Happy Hours. “It was such a fun way to meet alums, some of whom were just dropping by for a chat, others who were coming to their first PCHK event,” Kathy fondly remembers.

In 2011, Kathy became secretary of the club and then in 2014, the vice president. Since February of 2016, she has been the president.

“We have met so many wonderful people through the club, whether they were newly graduated or had been in the area for decades. It is truly cross generational. People I would never have met when a student at Princeton have become close friends,” Kathy shares.

She goes on: “For expatriates, it can be daunting to find a group you can connect with when you arrive somewhere new. I think the Princeton Club of Hong Kong serves as a great anchor point for alums.”
Dear Princetonians:

Princeton alumni have many ways to gather together this year, both on campus and around the world. Regional associations have kicked off their 2016-17 activities. Classes will have Mini Reunions around the world, from the rivers of Germany to the islands of Hawaii. Graduate alumni will meet with the Dean. We hope that many of you will come out to see friends, cheer on the Tigers, meet with President Eisgruber and learn about Princeton today. Below is just a sampling of alumni activities. Be sure to check our website often for updates at: alumni.princeton.edu.

October 22       Homecoming: Princeton-Harvard Football Game and Tiger Tailgate
December 5      Alumni Gathering with President Eisgruber in Seattle
February 15     Alumni Gathering with President Eisgruber in Hong Kong
February 16     Alumni Gathering with President Eisgruber in Beijing
March 30 – April 1 Conference celebrating Latino Princeton alumni

All best from the Princeton campus!

Margaret Moore Miller ’80
Deputy Vice President for Alumni Affairs

Graduate Alumni

Meet the Dean events in 2016-2017
Dean of the Graduate School Sanjeev Kulkarni will continue his visits to various regions to connect with graduate alumni, provide an update on what is happening on campus and listen to thoughts from alumni on how to best sustain and enhance graduate education at Princeton. Share your insights at an upcoming event in one of the following locations:

Denver (October 25)       Atlanta (October 26)       Carolina Triangle (October 27)
Houston (January 23)      Austin (January 24)        Dallas (January 25)

For more information, visit: alumni.princeton.edu/graduate/dean

TigerNet Alumni Directory
Interested in connecting with other Princeton alumni? Don’t want to miss out on invitations to Meet the Dean events and other regional association or University sponsored activities? Update your contact information in the redesigned TigerNet Alumni Directory now at alumni.princeton.edu/tigernet.

APGA Reunions 2017
Mark your calendars now for APGA Reunions, June 1-4, 2017! Highlighting the Natural Sciences, APGA Reunions 2017 will once again offer live music, fabulous food, time to connect with friends old and new, and the one and only P-rade! For more information and updates in the coming months, visit alumni.princeton.edu/apga/reunions.
“I’ve traveled a lot and this was one of the best trips in my life!”

Carol Obertubbesing ’73, participant on Havana Exploration

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Rising from the late-summer shadows is Bowen Hall, home of the Princeton Institute for the Science and Technology of Materials (PRISM). Adjacent to the EQuad, the building was named for former president William G. Bowen ’58.

Photograph by Ricardo Barros
No Ordinary September
Eisgruber urges freshmen to meet the challenge of turbulent times

While President Eisgruber ’83 noted that members of the Class of 2020 are entering a “season of fresh starts and high expectations,” he used his address during Opening Exercises to remind them of the problems and realities of life in the world at large.

“This is no ordinary September. This September follows a searing summer filled with loss, grief, and violence around our planet and in this country,” Eisgruber said, citing attacks in Orlando, Baton Rouge, and Istanbul as well as “a coarse, bitter, and angry” presidential campaign. “Our joy for this academic year is tempered by a fearful global society: Is it wrong to take pleasure in these [University] traditions — to savor the tranquility of this campus when so much is broken around us?”

The diversity of the student body demands thoughtfulness in everyday conversation, he said, cautioning that “events or headlines that might seem remote or abstract” could be “visibly proximate or physically painful to others at this University.”

At the same time, he noted that “we are part of a collective effort,” telling the freshmen that as they join the Princeton community, “our destinies are linked to one another in myriad ways.” By learning and working together, he said, “We can also make a greater difference beyond our campus, and do more to help communities less fortunate than our own.”

After Opening Exercises, the class — 1,306 members strong — marched through FitzRandolph Gate onto the front campus to be greeted by upperclassmen, alumni, and University employees in the Pre-rade.

Nye Underwood ’20 said that student protests last year over Woodrow Wilson 1879’s legacy had encouraged him to learn more about social-justice movements, and that he was surprised by Eisgruber’s candid discussion of the issues facing our world. “It was cool to see that the president of the University was thinking about the things that I think about,” Underwood said.

Andy Charbonneau ’20 said that amid the excitement of meeting new people, he appreciated the reality check offered.

ALL TOGETHER NOW
Incoming Freshmen Take Action

This year, for the first time, all freshmen took part in a five-day Outdoor Action or Community Action orientation program (fall athletes had their own version of the program). In early September, 521 Community Action students traveled to the Poconos, Philadelphia, and throughout New Jersey to participate in a variety of service programs. Another 702 students participated in Outdoor Action in seven states. PAW spoke with Community Action students while they were volunteering.

By Allie Wenner
Photos by Beverly Schaefer

How has your time in Trenton been so far? What struck me is the stark contrast between some of the neighborhoods — the wealthier neighborhood is very close to the neighborhood where drugs and prostitution are rampant. What’s your takeaway from this experience? I admire the people who reach out for help from [homeless shelters] and succeed. I heard about one girl who was packaging drugs for her parents and later graduated with a Ph.D. To have the mental fortitude to do that — I just have so much respect for people like that.

HOMELESSNESS TRENTON: STRENGTHENING YOUNG LIVES
Alex Jiang ’20, Little Falls, N.J.
by Eisgruber. “He reminded us that we are here to learn and that we are here to go out and make the world a better place,” Charbonneau said. “I was like, definitely, this is why I’m here.”

At the freshman assembly later in the day, Danielle Allen ’93, the author of Our Declaration — the freshman Pre-read book — discussed the questions her work raises about the relationship between liberty and equality in the Declaration of Independence. (See a Q&A with Allen on page 16.)

Allen emphasized that the opportunity for intellectual conversation at the University should not be taken for granted. “There are all kinds of environments where this is not happening, where there is no exchange,” she said.

Charbonneau, who plans on majoring in mathematics or physics, said he welcomes these discussions. “The people that I have talked to are all so different in terms of where they come from and what they want to do,” he said. “We want to talk to each other, and we want to find out what we all have to say.”

◆ By Kevin Cheng ’17

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**CLASH OF THE COLLEGES**

**A Freshman Face-Off in the Gym**

Dillon Gym rumbled with roars, stomps, and cheers the night before the start of classes as the new freshmen battled it out in the Clash of the Colleges, a high-energy competition pitting the residential colleges against each other. Dressed in their college colors (above, the Forbes contingent), students competed in relay races, dance-offs, and sing-offs; Wilson College took home the trophy. A party followed the event, with freshmen lighting up Dillon courtyard with glow sticks. ◆ Text and photo by Mary Hui ’17

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What will you remember most? The circus is the kind of environment where people can come out of their shells. I tried on five jackets at once, with an umbrella and a pirate hat. It’s been fun to just be silly and let go. Has this changed how you think about service? Sometimes we’re expected to be in a teaching role, but understanding that service can take many different forms — and actually learning from someone else — can be just as powerful.

Do you feel differently about food now? I had never seen a farm that didn’t use pesticides. It’s cool to be somewhere where they’re talking about integrated pest management and pesticides. And I learned you can eat this corn without cooking it — it’s really good! Will you do more to eat sustainably? Definitely. It’s made me appreciate farms — the food here tastes a lot better than supermarket food or imported food.

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ARTS TRENTON: EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH CIRCUS ARTS
Reed Hutchinson ’20, San Francisco, Calif.

SUSTAINABILITY PRINCETON: ECO-FARMING
Kristie Falconer ’20, Morristown, N.J.
Q&A: DANIELLE ALLEN ’93

A Declaration for Today

Founding document ‘sets a high standard for what politicians should be able to do’

This year’s Pre-read for the incoming freshmen was Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality by political theorist Danielle Allen ’93. PAW spoke with Allen following her talk at the freshman assembly Sept. 11.

You asked the freshmen to think about why the declaration describes the “pursuit” of happiness, as opposed to the achievement or acquisition of it. Why do you think the authors chose that word? Life is a struggle, and in order to do as well as possible in that struggle, you have to develop the capacity to diagnose your circumstances, prescribe a course of action, understand the justifications for it, and share those justifications with others. To do those things is to pursue happiness — there’s no guarantee of an achievement and there’s contingency in life — you don’t know what sort of opposition you’ll encounter.

What do you think about historical legacies? How should we view someone like Thomas Jefferson, an author of the declaration who owned slaves? We should criticize him for his failure to work his principles all the way through the fabric of his life ... at the same time as we celebrate him for his achievements. But I think we get hung up on Jefferson; I regret that we don’t spend more time thinking about people like John Adams and the kind of moral example that he set. He’s just as important to the declaration, and he never owned slaves.

How does the declaration relate to the current presidential campaign? The declaration can help every voting citizen set a standard against which to judge the candidates. It sets a high standard for what politicians should be able to do — they should have clarity of thought, they should show commitment to the well-being of the people, and they should be prepared to test their reasons and their principles against the arguments of others. ◆ Interview conducted and condensed by A.W.
Virtual ‘Welcome Mat’ Explains What First-Gen Students Will Need to Know

By Tammy Tseng ’18

As first-generation freshmen, Briana Christophers ’17 and Nicole Gonzalez ’16 found their greatest challenge to be not knowing what they didn’t know. That experience sparked their efforts to create Project Welcome Mat, an online guide to all the things they wished they had known as the first in their families to attend college.

“The whole philosophy of the guide is having answers to the questions we didn’t know were questions yet,” Christophers said, noting that first-gen students — who make up 15 percent of this year’s freshman class — often don’t have the same preconceptions of university life that students from college-educated families do.

Project Welcome Mat covers everything from essentials to bring to college (“Rain boots ≠ snow boots. We have all tried. We have all fallen”), to academics (“Don’t think that because you are pre-med you will only be taking science classes all four years, confined to the deep depths of Firestone Library seven days a week”), to Princeton traditions (“Reunions is a big deal: so big, in fact, that it’s a proper noun”).

The guide also includes stories from first-gen students, who recount their own experiences: “You will get to know amazing people at Princeton, the majority of which will welcome your background with curiosity rather than judgment. No one will ask how much money your family makes. And neither will you find reason to ask them the same.”

Since Project Welcome Mat’s debut this summer, the team has partnered with the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students to reach more students and has received enthusiastic feedback.

David Cordoba ’20 said the guide instills more confidence in students who have not been exposed to college life. “Project Welcome Mat really is that welcome mat every incoming freshman steps on to get that feel of what college life is like before opening the door into the Orange Bubble,” he said.

The guide can be a useful resource for all freshmen, said Sarah Tian ’18, one of the project’s editors. “Even if you have siblings or parents who have gone to college, what they went through might be different than how you experience it here at Princeton.”

First-gen student Carmen Huynh ’18 said she hopes that the guide will be expanded to discuss not just entering the Orange Bubble, but also leaving it.

“Transitioning into Princeton is only one part of the equation,” Huynh said. “Managing to reconcile the differences that emerge between you and your parents, some of your peers, and your community can be a difficult but also a major part of the first-gen experience.”

TRUSTEES APPROVE NAMING POLICY

Princeton’s Board of Trustees has approved standards for the NAMING OF CAMPUS BUILDINGS, SPACES, AND PROGRAMS — requiring, for example, that honorific namings “advance University values and policies” and that donor-requested names not belong to a person or organization that “has a record of malfeasance of a character” that would make the name inappropriate.

In approving the policy, in June, the trustees were carrying out a recommendation by a committee that reported on the legacy of Woodrow Wilson 1879. “As the University expands the portfolio of honorific namings on campus, it should take into account the University’s aspiration to be diverse and inclusive,” the policy states. Honorific namings are not supported by a naming gift.

Under the policy, the trustees will be responsible for naming. They may seek advice — which would be confidential — about proposed names from a new committee of the Council of the Princeton University Community (CPUC). In some cases, the CPUC may be asked to recommend names and generally should solicit public input.

The policy includes “a presumption against” names honoring countries or political bodies because they “may undergo dramatic change and commit dramatic injustice,” and a corporation or country must be “sufficiently stable to that it is reasonable for the University to take whatever risks may be involved in establishing a long-term relationship.”

To read the policy, go to http://www.princeton.edu/vpsec/cpuc/doc/naming_policy.pdf.
New Funding for Ph.D.s
Pilot program targets sixth-year students; support increases for engineering, sciences

Beginning next fall, Princeton will provide about $2 million in funding as part of a pilot program for sixth-year doctoral students in the humanities and social sciences to encourage shorter degree-completion times and to alleviate pressure on students to secure funding through teaching or outside grants. An additional $4 million has been allocated in this year’s budget for Ph.D. students in the natural sciences and engineering to help lessen the pressure on departments to obtain sponsored-research funding.

In the spring, 40 to 45 fifth-year humanities and social-sciences students who are on track to defend their dissertations within the following semester will be selected for a fall-term fellowship for their sixth year, which will pay the current annualized graduate-student stipend rate of about $2,000. If the students defend their dissertations before the end of the fall term, they will have the opportunity to convert to postgraduate-research-associate status for the remainder of the year and will be paid at an annualized rate of $47,500.

“Less time in a Ph.D. program is generally a good thing. This is about providing sixth-year funding while incentivizing completion.”
— Cole Crittenden ’05, deputy dean of the Graduate School

“Less time in a Ph.D. program is generally a good thing,” said Cole Crittenden ’05, deputy dean of the Graduate School. “This is about providing sixth-year funding while incentivizing completion.” The initiative will offer sixth-year students an alternative to teaching or seeking outside funding, a process that is stressful and causes longer degree-completion times, he said.

Funding for sixth-year students is an issue at Princeton and across the country. Like many of its peer institutions, Princeton guarantees funding for five years for all Ph.D. candidates in the humanities and social sciences. But in recent years, time-to-degree completion in these disciplines has risen to an average of more than six years at the University and seven years nationwide.

Last year, Yale announced it would provide funding for humanities and social-science Ph.D. students who are on track to finish their work within a year, but those students are required to teach while they complete their dissertations. Princeton’s program will not have a teaching requirement, allowing students to focus on their work and earn their degrees sooner, Crittenden said.

In engineering and the natural sciences, funding pressures start when students enter their second year. Students in these disciplines are guaranteed a fellowship during their first year and are funded primarily through sponsored-research dollars from their second year on, Crittenden said.

Beginning this academic year, $4 million will be allocated among departments to alleviate pressure on faculty members to secure outside funding for their Ph.D. students, which has been stagnating in recent years, he said. ◆ By A.W.
WOMEN'S SOCCER

Shooting for History

Asom '19, part of a strong returning cast, sees a special season ahead

Mimi Asom '19 knows all about the Princeton women's soccer team's historic run to the NCAA College Cup Final Four in 2004.

"I hear 'Back in '04 ... !'" Asom said. "I'm just waiting until it's 'Back in '16 ... '! This is the year to repeat greatness."

Asom is one of 10 starters back from a Tigers team that went 14–4–1 and won the Ivy League championship in 2015.

"Now we go from the hunter to the hunted," said second-year head coach Sean Driscoll. "There are going to be people loving the idea of knocking us off, and rightfully so. I think we need to embrace that challenge and accept it."

Asom tallied 12 goals and five assists in her debut season and was the unanimous Ivy League Rookie of the Year selection. The goals tied Linda DeBoer '86's Princeton freshman record.

"I intend and hope I can be better than last year," Asom said. "I worked hard this summer to get myself fitter so I could play more minutes and be more impactful for a longer amount of time."

Seven teammates logged more playing time than Asom last year, but she proved efficient and had a higher shooting percentage than the Tigers' other top scorers. Asom was Princeton's second-leading scorer, behind Tyler Lussi '17, and she scored her final two goals in a 4–2 win over Boston College in the NCAA first round.

Lussi has continued her prolific pace this year, scoring five goals in the first four games (all Princeton wins) and passing Esmeralda Negron '05 to become the 'Tigers' all-time leading scorer, with 48 goals.

Asom also picked up where she left off, with a goal in Princeton's 1–0 win over Fordham Aug. 26 and the game-winner in a 1–0 win over Villanova two nights later.

"Ty's doing amazing things, and I don't want to be average next to her," Asom said. "Ty really pushed me to work harder and do better."

A year ago, Princeton was thrilled just to add Asom to its roster. As a junior at Hockaday School in Dallas, Asom verbally committed to Stanford. But on Signing Day, the elusive forward who routinely escapes defenders couldn't stay away from the Tigers.

"I could see my four years here," she explained. "I could see it in my head, and I could see myself loving every minute of it and being happy."

Driscoll, who succeeded coach Julie Shackford midway through Asom's senior year of high school, was overjoyed by the late pickup. Playing for the Dallas Sting in the Elite Clubs National League, a network of club teams for top high school players, Asom had led the league in scoring thanks to a rare combination of physical, back-to-the-goal play and a sprinter's speed (she was part of a state-champion 4-by-100-meter relay team).

Asom's play as a freshman was recognized with an invitation to the under-20 national team's training camp last spring. She even considered withdrawing for a year to play in the U-20 World Cup this November.

"Hopefully I'll be back in with the national team at some point in my soccer career," she said.

For now, Asom is focused on bolstering the Tigers. With better decision making developed last year, more fitness, and a commitment to defend better, she is primed for a big season.

"If there was ever a year to do something special," Asom said, "I would say this is it."   By Justin Feil
ATHLETICS

Taking the Reins of Some of the Most Successful Tiger Teams: Four New Head Coaches Join Princeton’s Staff

Michelle Eisenreich, head coach of women’s track and field, led the women’s and men’s programs at Brown before leaving in 2012 to become the associate head coach at Stanford. She is excited to return to the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships, which she said are “unlike any other conference championships.” Eisenreich’s first impressions of the athletes in her program have been positive, from their attitude toward training to their willingness to help the coaching staff when recruits visit campus. “They just want to be exceptional,” she said.

Brad Hunt was named head coach of women’s cross country and will also be an assistant on Eisenreich’s track and field staff. A former assistant at Wake Forest and Virginia, Hunt said he pursued coaching for the chance to “influence and support young, eager, motivated minds.” He inherits a team that won the Ivy Hepts and finished third at the NCAA Mid-Atlantic Regional meet last year, but three of six Princeton runners who scored points in those races have graduated. The good news: His roster includes last year’s individual Hepts champion, Lizzie Bird ’17.

Matt Madalon, a former assistant who served as the interim men’s lacrosse coach after Chris Bates’ dismissal last spring, was named head coach in June. His first fall will include an exhibition game against former Princeton coach Bill Tierney’s Denver team and a training trip to Portugal, where the Tigers will play the English national team. Madalon sees an uptempo attack as a key element of his team’s future success. In a program that has won six national championships and 26 Ivy titles, “there are expectations,” he said, “and we fully embrace that.”

Carla Tagliente, the new field hockey coach, was a three-time All-American and three-time Academic All-American at Maryland before joining the U.S. national team and eventually pursuing a career in coaching. She came to Princeton from the University of Massachusetts, and a little more than a month later, the Tigers started fall practices. “I’ve never gone through this quick of a transition,” she said. “I don’t know if there’s really a playbook that you can go by. ... But their approach to things has been great. They’re open to new ideas and changes.”

SPORTS SHORTS

PAW’s Sept. 14 Olympics summary omitted a fourth Princeton medalist from the Rio Games: MEREDITH MICHAELS-BEERBAUM ’92 earned bronze for Germany in the equestrian team-jumping event. Michaels-Beerbaum and her three teammates were flawless in a jump-off Aug. 17, breaking a third-place tie with Canada to win the medal.

Two TRACK AND FIELD competitors competed at the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro in August. Volunteer assistant Priscilla Frederick competed in the high jump for Antigua and Barbuda, and Robby Andrews, a former volunteer assistant and a member of the U.S. team, reached the semifinals of the men’s 1,500-meter run.

Six BASEBALL alumni have played in the major leagues this season. Veteran pitchers Chris Young ’02 (Kansas City) and Ross Ohlendorf ’05 (Cincinnati) have spent the full season in the majors, primarily in relief roles. Rookie pitcher Matt Bowman ’14 earned a spot in the St. Louis bullpen. David Hale ’11 pitched for Colorado early in the year before being traded to Baltimore and sent to the minor leagues, while outfielder Will Venable ’05 played for the Los Angeles Dodgers in June and July. Pitcher Danny Barnes ’12 made his big-league debut for Toronto in August.

Three FOOTBALL alumni earned opening-day roster spots in the NFL. Tight end Seth DeValve ’16 was set to make his debut for the Cleveland Browns. Linebacker Mike Catapano ’13 entered his second season with the New York Jets, and defensive end Caraun Reid ’14 was signed as a free agent by the San Diego Chargers.

Eight athletes from the Tiger ROWING teams earned medals at the World Under-23 and Junior Championships in the Netherlands in August. Three Tigers — Matthew Benstead ’17, David Bewicke-Coley ’20, and Tim Livingstone ’18 — helped Great Britain win silver in the under-23 men’s eight.
Life of the Mind

Talking Politics

A neuroscientist and a political historian team up on an election-themed podcast

B ack in January, when Donald Trump’s run for president still seemed to many pundits like a curious sideshow, a Princeton neuroscientist posted on his blog that Trump likely would win the Republican nomination.

Professor Sam Wang typically spends his days in the lab using advanced optical and statistical methods to probe brain tissue, but in this post for election.princeton.edu, he analyzed aggregate poll data to draw a startling conclusion: “The only candidate with all No. 1 and No. 2 rankings is Donald Trump. Therefore, if 2016 were to follow the pattern of past elections, he would be the most likely nominee. After Trump comes Cruz, followed by Rubio as a long shot. Nobody else fits the pattern.”

The prediction was remarkable not just because “statistical politics” is a hobby for Wang or because his projection was denigrated two days later in a New York Times op-ed. It’s that, to Wang’s best knowledge, he was the only one getting it right at the time.

“I approach my blog by looking at the data without knowing anything about political science,” Wang says. “I take confusing data points and, if I synthesize enough of them, a coherent picture emerges. I view poll aggregation as a way of looking at the whole picture at once, something that experimental scientists have to do all the time, especially neuroscientists.”

He adds, “You can’t imagine how proud I am of myself about being right about Donald Trump.”

Yes, that was sarcasm. He’s funny, too. It was that wry wit combined with statistical prowess that caught the attention of Julian Zelizer, a political historian at Princeton and a regular contributor to CNN.com. The two professors were on a panel convened by the Woodrow Wilson School earlier this year, and the chemistry was immediate.

“What I liked most was that each of us has a very different perspective on how to analyze contemporary politics,” Zelizer says. “I tend to look at history — big institutional trends — and he is a data guy; he looks at the aggregates of polls.”

That initial conversation was the genesis of a weekly election-themed podcast, “Politics and Polls,” distributed by the Woodrow Wilson School as a WooCast and available on iTunes and SoundCloud.

The production is bare bones: a 30-minute, unedited conversation recorded via Google Hangouts. It’s designed to emulate the informality of a chat on Prospect Avenue. “We treat this as an experiment and are letting it unfold,” Zelizer says. The podcast is at least partly responsible for the 30-fold increase in traffic on the blog since the 2012 election, with 100,000 visitors in July — and the numbers are expected to increase as the race continues.

Zelizer says the podcast provides a unique perspective on one of the most interesting and unpredictable election seasons in U.S. history. “The premise is that we take the qualitative guy and the quantitative guy and we bring them together,” he says. “There’s nothing else like that out there.”

Wang’s prediction for November? “Hillary Clinton will win the presidency. Her lead is unlikely to be reversed, and historically, opinion moves very little 60 days before the election,” he says, speaking in September. He adds that Democrats will likely take the Senate. “Democrats will win more votes nationwide in House races, but because of partisan gerrymandering, it is up in the air whether they will gain control.” ◆ By Dan Grech ’99
Modern Prophets, Social-Justice Crusaders

The characters in Albert J. Raboteau’s latest book might appear, at first glance, to come from different worlds: a Catholic monk, a Quaker pacifist, a voting-rights activist, a Baptist minister. But in *American Prophets: Seven Religious Radicals and Their Struggle for Social and Political Justice* (Princeton University Press), Raboteau, a professor emeritus of religion, shows how closely they are aligned. In fact, many of his subjects interacted with and learned from one another.

These are 20th-century prophets, which he defines by drawing on the words of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel as one who “hears God’s voice and feels His heart” like a “fire in the bones,” an imperative to speak out against injustice.

Raboteau’s seven prophets include Heschel; the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.; Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk; A.J. Muste, a Quaker pacifist; Dorothy Day, founder of the Catholic Worker movement; Baptist minister Howard Thurman; and civil-rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer, all of whom lived and worked in the early- to mid-20th century.

Religious devotion was integral to all of their work, according to Raboteau, and fighting injustice was a crucial expression of their religious commitment. “They were moved by compassion for others to ... struggle for social and political justice and were very successful in moving others to their causes,” Raboteau says in an interview.

Merton, a well-known public intellectual, wrote for a broad audience about King’s work in the civil-rights movement and taught a class in his monastery using King’s writings. Merton also helped Heschel with an important Catholic Church document on anti-Semitism, and Muste—a prominent labor activist and ardent pacifist—visited Merton at his monastery. Heschel, a close friend of King, walked arm-in-arm with him during the 1965 March on Selma.

Day, a proponent of pacifism and civil disobedience, created a network of “hospitality houses” for people living on the margins of society, and many of Merton’s writings about the civil-rights movement were published in her progressive newspaper.

“These people had religious experiences that opened their eyes and their hearts to experience the importance of the likeness of God in others, the importance of building community, and the importance of changing society,” Raboteau says.

Thurman ran a pioneering biracial ministry in California. He recalled walking by the sea as a child and sensing that all of reality was part of one “breathing lung.” This concept helped inspire Thurman’s lifelong struggle for radical nonviolence, which shaped a generation of civil-rights activists—including King.

Hamer, a voting-rights activist who grew up under Jim Crow in one of the poorest counties of Mississippi, emphasized the futility of hatred even amid great struggle. “Help us communicate with white people,” she told a group of college students who had come to Mississippi during the Freedom Summer of 1964. “How can we say we love God and hate our brothers and sisters?”

Raboteau hopes the book will shift the thinking of readers who believe that religion is becoming a divisive force in the world. In the conclusion, he discusses the 2015 shooting of nine black parishioners during a Bible-study course in Charleston, S.C. The victims’ families surprised the world with their forgiveness—but it’s a reaction that many of the figures in his book would have supported, he believes. “Religion can be a powerful motivator for making life better,” Raboteau says. “We need to understand and embrace the ways that religion can allow us to keep fighting for justice, even when it seems very difficult.”

By Amelia Thomson-DeVeaux ’11

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Albert J. Raboteau hopes his book will shine new light on religion, which he believes has become a polarizing force in America: “We need to understand and embrace the ways that religion can allow us to keep fighting for justice.”

Daniel Sullivan
NEW RELEASES

Professor of geosciences Tullis C. Onstott ’81 explores the universe’s most elusive realms in Deep Life: The Hunt for the Hidden Biology of Earth, Mars, and Beyond (Princeton University Press). By taking the reader to extreme environments, Onstott gives an inside tour of geomicrobiology and how it’s being used to find life elsewhere in our solar system. Part thriller, part scientific adventure, Deep Life sheds light on the biotic fringe.

Princeton political science professor Christopher H. Achen and Vanderbilt political scientist and Princeton professor emeritus Larry M. Bartels contend in Democracy for Realists: Why Elections Do Not Produce Responsive Government (Princeton University Press) that voters choose candidates not on policy or past behavior, but instead on how closely the candidate jibes with their own longstanding beliefs and biases. They also show how election outcomes can be influenced by natural occurrences, such as the amount of rainfall or number of shark attacks during an election year.

Fugitive Democracy and Other Essays (Princeton University Press) collects the writings of professor of politics Sheldon S. Wolin, who died in October 2015. The book, which Wolin collaborated on before his death, unites essays from his 40-year academic career as a leading political theorist. Spanning essays from the Vietnam War era to later, more radical, writings about the undemocratic implications of America’s social inequalities, Wolin’s work engages classical political theorists from Alexis de Tocqueville to Karl Marx.

EBOLA ABRIDGED

New Technology May Restrain Outbreaks of Infectious Diseases

In January, the World Health Organization announced the official end of the outbreak of Ebola that killed more than 11,300 people in West Africa — the deadliest Ebola epidemic since it was discovered in 1976.

From what scientists know about the highly infectious virus, which typically kills half of the people it infects, it will be back. Electrical engineering professor Stephen Chou, the Joseph C. Elgin Professor of Engineering, is among the scientists working to ensure that the next outbreak is met with better tools.

It’s crucial to detect Ebola that appears in very small quantities soon after infection, before it triggers inflammation throughout the body and overwhelms multiple systems. “By the time Ebola is highly concentrated in the blood, the person is close to dying,” says Chou.

Laboratory testing can detect small amounts of virus in blood, but requires expensive biosafety equipment and trained staff, and just getting samples to those labs can take days in places like West Africa. So Chou’s challenge is to develop a test that’s not only sensitive, but also cheap and easy to use in the field.

Chou, working with the Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, is devising a test using technology he developed at Princeton called the M-Plate. The M-Plate, made of a thin layer of gold embedded with glass pillars, amplifies the “signal” of tiny amounts of a virus in bodily fluids, so Ebola and other viruses can be detected even at very low levels. The device, which is smaller than a camera’s data card, can be used in the field, which could greatly expedite diagnosis and help contain an outbreak.

Chou and his colleagues, including associate research scholar Liangcheng Zhou, are working to speed up the testing time to within five minutes. The team also is working on technology that allows a smartphone to interpret the test.

Chou says he hopes the device will be tested in the field within a year. And the M-Plates, he says, could be deployed against a range of other diseases — maybe even the next deadly virus to show up in the world.

By Katherine Hobson ‘94

The Ebola virus, pictured here, wreaked havoc on isolated, nonmodernized areas in Africa. Survival rates drop from 90 to 25 percent in areas not medically equipped to effectively test for the virus.
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A FUGITIVE SLAVE IN PRINCETON

Once a slave, James Collins Johnson became an entrepreneur — and ‘the students’ friend’

BY LOLITA BUCKNER INNIS ’83

On July 28, 1843, disaster struck James Collins Johnson, a black servant at the College of New Jersey, now Princeton University: He was arrested on suspicion of being a fugitive slave.

Johnson had worked as a janitor at Nassau Hall, then a dormitory as well as a classroom building, without incident since 1839, when he fled slavery in Maryland. His arrest took place after a student recognized Johnson and alerted his owners, who came to Princeton and had him detained for trial as a runaway slave. Tried under the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793, Johnson was found to be a fugitive and slated for return to slavery.

But the story of Johnson — born 200 years ago this month — had a happier ending: He was redeemed from slavery by a local white woman, Theodosia Ann Mary Prevost, who had strong ties to the College. Johnson would spend the next several years repaying the funds advanced for his purchase, becoming beloved by students during his six-decade career on campus. After his death in 1902, Johnson was buried in Princeton Cemetery, only a few feet away from some of the country’s most prominent citizens. Alumni and students took up a collection for his burial and erected a gravestone; the epitaph pays tribute to Johnson as “the students’ friend.”

I learned the broad contours of Johnson’s story during my freshman year, in 1979. As a little-traveled Southern Californian who chose Princeton sight unseen, I was eager to learn anything I could about the history of Princeton — both the town and the University. I became aware, for example, that there was a long-present black community in the town and that many of these residents were descendants of people who had lived in Princeton and worked at the College since the 18th and 19th centuries. I also learned that some enslaved people had lived on the campus with their faculty or staff owners. Until she reached her early 20s, for example, Betsey Stockton, known as the first unmarried woman to travel abroad as a missionary and the leader of Princeton’s earliest efforts to educate black children, lived on campus as a slave of Ashbel Green 1783, the president of Princeton from 1812 to 1822. I learned that during most of the history of the College, several free (or ostensibly free) workers, both black and white, served students on campus. Johnson’s story, however, stood out.

In its time, the story of James Collins Johnson was known as the “Princeton Fugitive Slave Case,” and it captured local and national attention. In most accounts, Johnson’s trial is presented as the high point in the life of an amusing, relatively minor figure about whom little else was known. A few years ago I began researching and writing a book to fill in the contours of Johnson’s story.

Johnson was born enslaved Oct. 2, 1816, in Maryland, and named James Collins (he took the name Johnson when he arrived in Princeton). Nothing is known definitively about his parents, though a possible clue comes from the 1900 decennial census, which reports that Johnson’s parents were born in Africa. (Johnson was approaching his mid-80s at the time of the census, and it’s not clear whether he provided this information himself.) At his birth, Johnson was one of many slaves in the household of Philip Wallis, who was descended from one of the wealthiest families in Maryland, with roots in the state’s early Colonial history. According to some accounts, Wallis’ oldest son, Severn Teackle Wallis, received James Collins — who was a few weeks younger — as a “gift” when both were children. The younger Wallis went on to become a noted lawyer (he helped to prosecute his own fugitive slave case against Johnson), ambassador to Spain, state legislator, and provost of the University of Maryland. The two men apparently were constant companions in their youth. As they grew up, Johnson served Wallis as a man of all work; he performed many tasks that his master required.

According to accounts he shared, Johnson escaped Maryland in August 1839 when his master gave him $5 and sent him on an errand. Instead of completing the errand, Johnson fled, and over the course of the next few days he walked from Easton, Md., to Wilmington, Del., where he boarded a steamboat for Philadelphia. From Philadelphia, Johnson took a train to Trenton and then another to Princeton — getting off there because, Johnson would claim, his money ran out and he could travel no farther.

While it is possible that Johnson’s flight from Maryland and his arrival in Princeton were the products of whim and happenstance, it seems improbable that so important and potentially perilous an undertaking could have been executed without significant planning and knowledge of an escape route. Johnson was one of thousands of enslaved people in Maryland who, over several decades before the Civil War, fled to freedom in the North. Some fugitives obtained help from groups that dedicated themselves to aiding slave escapes, with some adopting the well-known name “Underground Railroad” in reference to the literal railroads that were beginning to cross the country.
James Collins Johnson, left, and an unidentified young man at work on campus, circa 1890.
Enslaved Marylanders who used the Underground Railroad often escaped via a course that led through Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. The town of Princeton was a known “station” along this route. In an 1895 Maryland newspaper article chronicling what was said to be Johnson’s first visit to the state since his 1839 escape, Johnson seemed to indicate that he had help in escaping, but refused to divulge details.

Sometime after arriving in Princeton and obtaining work at the College in 1839, Johnson apparently was able to bring his wife, Phillis, and his son, Thomas, to Princeton. Phillis was a free woman who lived about a dozen miles away from the plantation where Johnson had lived. Because she was free, she likely faced far fewer travel restrictions than Johnson had. Her son, whose status likely would have been the same as his mother’s, also would have been able to travel relatively freely. (Records suggest that Thomas was born in 1843 in Maryland, but errors were common and that information may not be reliable.)

Johnson’s first few years in Princeton were difficult. As a janitor at the College, Johnson worked under harsh conditions. Among his duties were cleaning students’ rooms, bringing fresh water, stoking fires, and emptying latrine buckets. The latter duty was particularly distasteful. During these early pre-plumbing days, the campus featured wooden outhouses that were often dirty, smelly, and prone to student vandalism. Students apparently sometimes failed to use the outhouses at all, prompting College officials to insert into an early set of rules a proviso (in Latin, likely to protect delicate sensibilities) against urinating on College walls or other improper disposal of waste. From this unpleasant work Johnson is said to have obtained the nickname “Jim Stink” or “James Odoriferous” not long after his arrival. Despite hardship, his first few years were relatively without incident until the summer of 1843.

Many accounts identify John Henry Thomas, Class of 1844, as the person who exposed Johnson as a fugitive slave. However, there is also evidence suggesting that Joseph Augustus Wickes 1845 was the culprit. Both students were from Maryland. Though Thomas hailed from southern Maryland and Wickes from the Eastern Shore, the two men apparently were acquainted, since for at least some of their years as students in Princeton they took meals together at the same house in town. There also is evidence that Thomas had a professional and personal relationship with the Wallis family — the family that owned Johnson. (It is not clear, however, whether that relationship was formed before or after Johnson’s apprehension.) Wickes was distantly related to the Wallis family and frequented areas where the Wallises resided. Given Johnson’s constant presence at the side of Severn Teackle Wallis, Wickes might have recognized Johnson from Maryland.

During an interview near the end of his life, however, Johnson named neither John Henry Thomas nor Joseph Augustus Wickes — instead, he said a man named Simon Weeks had betrayed him. Alumni records don’t show a student by that name at the College, though Samuel Greeley Weeks 1858, from Connecticut, went on to study at the Princeton Theological Seminary and was still on campus at the time Johnson was exposed. But because of Weeks’ Northern background and the fact that he mixed little with fellow students, it’s unlikely that he was the culprit. Understanding Johnson’s reference to “Simon Weeks” thus remains one of the mysteries of the story.

In any case, the betrayal set off a chain of events that in many ways altered views of slavery and race at the College and in the town of Princeton. Philip and Severn Teackle Wallis dispatched a Maryland policeman to present their claim to New Jersey authorities and, assuming success on the claim, to bring Johnson back to Maryland. There are varying accounts of Johnson’s arrest. Some stories suggest that Johnson conceded easily to his arrest. Others indicate that Johnson, confronted by Severn Teackle Wallis on Nassau Street, denied knowing him and fled. According to these accounts, Johnson was seized almost immediately by Southern students, among them Thomas Devereaux Hogg 1844, from Raleigh, N.C. While resisting arrest, Johnson is said to have bitten Hogg’s finger to the bone.

Johnson’s trial took place in the midst of contrasting and sometimes conflicting aspects of federal and state law. It was under the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793 that James Johnson was tried in 1843. The act authorized the arrest or seizure of fugitives and empowered “any magistrate of a county, city or town” to rule on the matter. The act also established a fine of $500 against anyone who aided a fugitive. In response, some states, including New Jersey, began enacting what were called personal-liberty laws — legislation that guaranteed judicial process to escapees. Pro-slavery activists launched an attack on personal-liberty laws in a case that ultimately went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, Prigg v. Pennsylvania. In March 1842, the court held in Prigg that most state-enacted protections for alleged fugitive slaves, such as the jury trials called for under New Jersey law, were violations of the 1793 act.

Johnson’s trial in August 1843 should have been conducted under the standard enunciated in Prigg, but his lawyers persuaded the judge to allow a jury trial. The fact that the chief juror, Josiah S. Worth, was a Quaker known for his rectitude and fairness was seen as an advantage for Johnson. Nonetheless, Johnson was convicted and slated for return to slavery in Maryland. He avoided return only when — according to most accounts — Theodosia Prevost paid approximately $500 to purchase his freedom. The sum is the equivalent of more than $10,000 today.

Prevost is perhaps the least-known actor in Johnson’s story. (This paucity of information is not unusual for women in the early and middle 18th century.) She was a member of a well-known family that included her father, attorney and civil servant John Bartow Prevost; her step-grandfather Aaron

Many people in both the town of Princeton and at the College viewed slavery as wrong. However, local opposition to slavery in Princeton tended to be muted.
Johnson, pictured in the 1894 Bric-a-Brac.

Burr Jr. 1772, the third vice president of the United States; her grandfather Samuel Stanhope Smith 1769, Princeton’s seventh president; and her great-grandfather John Witherspoon, Princeton’s sixth president. She had firsthand experience with slavery: in 1804, when she was 3, Prevost’s family moved from New York to Louisiana, where her father became one of the first judges in the newly gained U.S. territory. Shortly after his arrival, her father became the owner of a Louisiana plantation and the enslaved people who worked it. After her mother’s death in 1807, and the departure of her father and brothers for a government post in South America just over a decade later, Prevost came to Princeton to live and became known as a philanthropist.

Many people in both the town of Princeton and at the College viewed slavery as wrong. However, local opposition to slavery in Princeton tended to be muted and leaned more toward gradual emancipation and African colonization than toward unconditional, immediate freedom for enslaved blacks. Prevost was a socially respected person in a place where “radical” abolitionism was frowned upon. But whether or not she was an abolitionist, she made freedom a reality for Johnson. In the years immediately after his trial, Johnson paid his debt to Prevost.

The 1850s brought many changes for Johnson. Phillis died in July 1852; Johnson married Catherine McCrea five months later, and the two had a daughter named Emily. In 1851, Johnson purchased land in Princeton, suggesting that his work as a janitor and as a salesman of used clothing and furniture to students had made him somewhat prosperous. When a fire gutted Nassau Hall in 1855, taking Johnson’s janitorial job, he petitioned College officials for permission to engage full time in the more lucrative work for which he would be known for the rest of his years: selling fruits, candies, and other snacks from a wheelbarrow to students on campus.

From the 1850s until 1880, Johnson lived a relatively settled life. Though his son, Thomas, seems to have disappeared from records, his daughter, Emily, married twice, the second time to a man from a highly regarded Princeton family. Johnson had been victimized by taunts and mistreatment by some students in his early years at the College, but by the 1870s he was a noted and even admired figure on the campus. His constant presence, jovial manner, and regular attendance at Princeton sporting events — along with his colorful, unusual outfits (he was, for example, often dressed in golf britches) — prompted students to see him as a mascot and emblem of good luck. His financial standing and College role made him a key member of the black community in Princeton at a time when many African American residents struggled for daily existence in low-wage jobs.

Some sources indicate that Johnson had four wives over his life. After the death of his wife Catherine in June 1880, however, records are silent about his marital status until 1895, when, at 78, he married Anetta Webb Warden, a member of a prominent black Maryland family and accomplished pianist who was more than 20 years younger than Johnson. Johnson’s marriage may have signaled his faith in his continued success. However, in the last few years of his life, the Johnsons apparently experienced the economic hardships that had long faced other African Americans in Princeton.

Though Johnson was still fondly regarded at the college, his livelihood was reduced when others were allowed to sell snacks to students, a privilege that for decades had belonged to him alone. In an interview conducted in his later years, Johnson complained about a white Civil War veteran who had been given a campus vending permit, invading Johnson’s fiefdom. When told that his anger was misplaced, and that the white veteran had fought for Johnson’s freedom, Johnson is said to have stated: “I never got no free papers. Princeton College bought me; Princeton College owns me; and Princeton College has got to give me my living.” Johnson’s assertion that he was owned by the College may not have been literally true. But he likely saw in his redemption from slavery a mutual obligation not only between himself and the individuals who made his purchase possible, but also between himself and the College.

Despite hardship near the end of his life, the story of James Collins Johnson resonated at the College and in the town for years to come. Over the course of six decades and beyond, Johnson’s move from fugitive slave, to disdained manual laborer, to a vital part of Princeton’s town-and-gown life captured the imagination of whites and blacks alike. For some of the white students who encountered him, Johnson left a lasting impression as a font of humor and wisdom, an impression so deep that half a dozen alumni have written about Johnson in works of fiction and non-fiction. For many African Americans in Princeton, Johnson’s persistence and entrepreneurship served as a model for the development of businesses and social activities that provided them some measure of dignity and economic success for years to come.

Lolita Buckner Inniss ’83, a professor at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law at Cleveland State University, maintains a Facebook page about James Collins Johnson. Her book about Johnson — which was awarded a grant by New Jersey as part of its 350th birthday celebration in 2014 — will be published by Rutgers University Press.
When Women Came to Princeton

A new book explores the dawn of coeducation at elite universities

In the late 1960s, several prestigious universities in the United States — including Princeton — decided to admit women for the first time. The reasons it happened at this particular moment are surprising and largely unexplored. In her new book, “Keep the Damned Women Out”: The Struggle for Coeducation, professor emerita of history and former Dean of the College Nancy Weiss Malkiel illuminates the forces that prompted a small group of powerful men to implement this pivotal change. She spoke to PAW about her findings.

In the book, you focus on a handful of universities that were male-only in the 1960s, even though other elite institutions had been coed for years. What was different about the universities you write about?

There’s a long tradition of single-sex education among Eastern elite universities and colleges, going all the way back to Harvard’s founding in the 17th century. Places like Princeton, Yale, Dartmouth, Harvard — they were all founded on the presumption that they would educate men. They had been educating men for one or two centuries when, at the end of the 19th century, we see the founding of private colleges for women, like Vassar, Smith, Wellesley, and Barnard.

No one was thinking at that time about opening up institutions like Princeton to women, because they believed their long tradition of single-sex education really worked. These places provided an excellent education for young men; they developed leaders; they fostered camaraderie among students that led to lifelong friendships and important business associations. And there was a belief that the magic of all that — if you will — depended on the fact that these institutions were male.

Coeducation at these universities took place during the profound social shifts of the 1960s. How did those shifts affect the decision to admit women?

As we all know, the 1960s were an extraordinarily complicated and turbulent period. By the end of the decade, American society in general — and American educational institutions in particular — bore only a limited resemblance to what they had been 10 years before. At the beginning of the 1960s, you couldn’t have a person of the opposite sex in a dormitory except at very specific times of the week and times of day; there were regulations about everything from cars to when you could actually leave campus.

All of this was shaken up during the 1960s. Conservative private, elite universities began to think about socioeconomic diversity, to consider the idea that maybe you would look for students in public schools, Catholic and Jewish students, African American students. Coeducation fits into all of this because if you’re beginning to open up admissions, why not think about gender?

But one has to stop for a moment because the real motivation for places like Yale and Princeton as they embarked on serious consideration of coeducation wasn’t really all these [social] movements. It was the changing face of admissions.

What do you mean?

Around this time, the “best boys” in private and public high schools were beginning to show that they didn’t want to attend places that only had men, these “monastic institutions,” as President Robert Goheen ’40 ’48 called Princeton. So they needed to figure out a way to regain their hold on these “best boys.”

Two institutions in particular — Princeton and Yale — realized that they were in trouble at about the same time, and watched each other and reacted to what the other one was doing. At first, they tried to deal with this by having women nearby, in a coordinated institution. In the middle of the 1960s, Yale tried to persuade Vassar College to move from Poughkeepsie to New Haven. Vassar seriously considered this offer, and this led President Goheen to approach Sarah Lawrence College about relocating near Princeton’s campus. When Vassar and Sarah Lawrence both eventually said “no, thank you,” the conversation slowly turned to coeducation.

How did Princeton influence other schools’ decisions to embark on coeducation?

Princeton really stood out in its careful and thoughtful approach. While it was courting Sarah Lawrence, Princeton’s leaders decided that they needed to study the question of coeducation. In the spring of 1967, the Board of Trustees agreed to President Goheen’s proposal that they invite Gardner Patterson, a professor of economics, to undertake a serious analytic study of whether the education of women made sense for Princeton.

When this report was finished in September 1968, it was sent to the president of Yale. He had been considering establishing
June Fletcher ’73 remembers her arrival on campus in 1969: “Although some alums greeted us warmly, I was told some who were still unhappy about the decision were wearing these buttons in protest of our arrival. Someone — I don’t remember who — gave me one, and I instantly put it on as a cheeky ‘so-there’ statement. I proudly wore it the rest of the day.”
a coordinate college for women, but he decided that Yale needed to get out ahead of Princeton, and got approval to begin coeducation starting in the fall of 1969. There was no process or planning — they just turned on a dime. Princeton had to respond. So this is how, in April of 1969, Princeton’s Board of Trustees voted to enroll women the following fall.

Were the leaders of Princeton thinking about whether coeducation would be good for women?
They were thinking a little bit about whether Princeton would be good for women — but they were thinking a lot more about whether women would be good for Princeton. Women were imagined to be a vehicle for restoring the “best boys” to places like Princeton and Yale. They were instruments, if you will.

One of the most fascinating parts of the Patterson report is a tiny little section titled “Can Princeton Do Justice to Women Students?” In it, Patterson wrote, “It would be a disgrace to Princeton were the University to admit women only because it believed that this would serve the interests, however broadly defined, of its male students.”

That’s a wonderful sentiment, but frankly, very little about the process of making the decision for coeducation spoke to this issue. Clearly there was a concept that there were women of talent who could do the work here and thrive here. But to consider what we needed to do for women students — none of these institutions were doing that. And I think that is partly why it was so tough for the first women students — because these places had no experience in educating women and they didn’t know how to do it.

How difficult was it for the early women students?
Well, of course there were the large majority of alumni who thought the magic of Princeton, the special experience of attending school here, would be irreparably damaged by admitting women. They thought women wouldn’t be serious about their studies, that they would come to places like this to look for husbands, that they were taking up places that could be filled by able men.

But it wasn’t just the alumni who made things challenging for those first women students. You had male professors who would ask them for the women’s point of view, putting the sole woman in precept on the spot, even in classes in math and statistics. A faculty member at Dartmouth put slides up on a screen, including nude women among sea creatures. A woman student at Yale asked the chair of the history department if he would consider giving a course on the history of women, and he said, “That would be like teaching the history of dogs.”

The first cohorts of women were essentially under a microscope; the first Princeton women say that they felt they were in a foreign country.

You write, “Fundamentally changing Princeton would take much more than adding some female faculty and students.” Can you elaborate?
Getting women students respected for the quality of their intellects and the effectiveness of their imagination and analytic ability — that didn’t happen automatically. It took a while for some faculty to come to the view that women were

In June 1967, President Goheen asked Professor Gardner Patterson to study the advisability of coeducation at Princeton. His report argued for the admission of women — but as Malkiel writes in this excerpt from her book, the discussion didn’t focus on women’s interests.

“Can Princeton Do Justice to Women Students?”
What is striking is how little of the discussion of the Patterson report focused on the education of women. It was not that women were absent from the conversation — far from it, because the issue at hand was what would happen if women undergraduates were permitted to enroll at Princeton. Still, most of the conversation was about Princeton as an institution and about Princeton men. Put differently, there were three main actors in this drama: Princeton University, Princeton men, and, potentially, Princeton women. To the extent that women figured in the conversation, it was mainly in terms of how their presence would be good, or less good, for Princeton University and Princeton men. As was the case in so many all-male institutions considering coeducation, women and their needs were largely left out of the equation.

Early on, Patterson had written to a woman who opposed coeducation at Princeton, “Our approach has not been ‘Do women need Princeton?’ but rather, ‘Does the Princeton of the future need women?’ Will Princeton be a better place if there are women in the undergraduate body?”

The committee’s primary concern, he said, was “whether the presence of women would heighten the value of the educational experience of the students.”

The Patterson report took a similar tack. Patterson made plain that women were fully able “to participate in the intellectual life of the University”; that they enrolled in college with excellent academic records (indeed, stronger records than those of men, on average); that they brought to college “superior cultural achievements and interests”;

and that, at Harvard-Radcliffe and Stanford, the schools most comparable to Princeton, their “average academic records” often surpassed those of men. And women typically graduated at slightly higher rates than men.

Going beyond the qualifications of women students, Patterson raised a tantalizing question: “Can Princeton Do Justice to Women Students?” That section of the report — two-thirds of a page in length — began with a
promising paragraph:

“It would be a disgrace to Princeton if it were to admit women only because it believed this would serve the interests, however broadly defined, of its male students. Unless the University, its trustees, its faculty and its students are ready to give continuous and serious concern and effort to what it can offer women for their intellectual growth and development; unless we are willing to accept as desirable that women will demand a quality of education in no way inferior to that offered men; unless we are prepared to acknowledge that the restricted roles of women in the past are outmoded, and the intellectual talents of women are ‘an important personal and public resource to be developed and used with care and courage’; unless we can embrace all of these things, Princeton should abandon all thought of admitting women. In our opinion, this point cannot be stressed too much.”

But then the text meandered in puzzling ways. After asserting that Princeton could meet the charge, the report said, among other things, that there would be no need for massive curricular changes. Additional facilities would be needed for the creative arts, but those would benefit men as well as women. Women, who were less likely than men to be on a clear pre-professional track, might “profit from greater freedom in the choice of majors and distribution requirements.” It might be a good idea to permit “a certain amount of upperclass work taken at other institutions” to count toward requirements for a Princeton degree. It might be desirable to introduce some new introductory courses “with somewhat different content and approaches from those we have now,” whose pre-professional emphases were either “greater or lesser” than would be “appropriate for many women students.” It might “be necessary, in certain disciplines, for the faculty to make a special effort to encourage women students to generalize and to speculate.” And — perhaps the most arresting observation of all — “Princeton would have to avoid graduating a group of ‘little men.’” All told, “Can Princeton Do Justice to Women Students?” was the least focused, most poorly reasoned part of the Patterson report.

Princeton was working out its destiny at a moment when American society was in the early stages of a major debate about the role of women, and thus at a watershed moment for the higher education of women in the United States. Some parties to the discussion could see what was at stake. At the Princeton Club gathering [about the report] in Denver, for example, “the best question,” Dean of the College Edward D. Sullivan later recorded, “was from a wife, a Smith graduate, who in a very thoughtful and articulate fashion wanted to know if Princeton was really prepared to undertake the education of women, if we had learned well enough how to take on a whole new set of emotional and other problems, and were we prepared to accept the really changed image of Princeton when a number of women alumnae joined the ranks.” She wondered, too, whether [development director] Jerry Horton’s view “that women would damage Princeton was widespread and might in itself be damaging to the women who were admitted.” She favored coeducation but wanted to be sure that Princeton

continues on page 34
fully capable of excelling as students. And none of the places that were newly coeducated moved quickly to hire and then tenure women faculty.

Those realities caused a lot of bumps along the way. Are we fully past them? No, we’re not. There are departments here that have very few women faculty and students. As we know from the report on undergraduate women’s leadership published in 2011 [See PAW, April 6, 2011], we don’t have a gender-neutral pattern of leadership in undergraduate activities.

So coeducation is very much normal now, but the full integration of women and men into a student body that warmly embraces and supports equally both genders — it’s not a finished project.

You were one of the first female faculty members at Princeton. What was your experience, as both an observer of and a participant in coeducation?

There were three women in the professorial ranks when I arrived in 1969. That meant there were endless opportunities to participate in committees and activities and give talks — they wanted one of us. In some ways, it gave me a broader acquaintance with the place than I might have had otherwise.

My students seemed amused by me. I had a junior advisee who brought me an apple during office hours. Did I encounter situations where not everyone was enthusiastic about my presence as a woman faculty member? Yes. But on the whole I had a very good time. That was not true of my counterparts in every department, of course.

What was the effect of coeducation on women’s colleges?

This story starts with Vassar. They weren’t in a geographical location near men’s colleges, so coeducation came to them as a means of institutional self-preservation. Wellesley and Smith were able to be more reflective. But they had to think seriously about coeducation because of what the men’s schools were doing. Would it be possible for a school like Smith, for example, to retain its hold on excellent students and faculty if all these men’s schools were going coed? In the end, Smith remained single-sex largely because of the women’s movement. Gloria Steinem, who was an alumna of Smith, gave a commencement speech in 1971 where she said, essentially, that feminism means being a strong women’s college.

The result was that because really excellent women students now wanted to go to Princeton and Yale, places like Smith and Wellesley had to adjust to a rather different set of credentials — in terms of SAT scores and grades and class rank — for their incoming students. But they’re still producing women who go on to become leaders, which is what they used to do.

Do you think there’s still a need for single-sex schools?

I served on the Smith Board of Trustees for a decade, so I’ve often talked to prospective students about the advantages of a women’s college and can make that pitch easily. At a women’s college, you’re the principal business of the institution. You have every opportunity to study any subject without any concerns — you’re the ones who will be the presidents and the editors-in-chief.

But then I’d always say, but I actually think that my women students at Princeton have all these opportunities too. What I sometimes acknowledge is that if women high school students were thinking about what would really be good for them as a long-term investment, they might well choose a women’s college. But if they’re thinking about where they’ll have the best time as a student, they’ll choose a coed school.

What surprised you most in researching this book?

I had no idea that President Goheen had tried to persuade Sarah Lawrence to move to Princeton. That stunned me. The male presidents of the major single-sex institutions that were contemplating coeducation did their damnedest to figure out a way to do it without actually going coed. ✪ Interview conducted and condensed by Amelia Thomson-DeVeaux ’11

**TALK BACK** How have women changed Princeton — and what work remains? Share your views at paw.princeton.edu.
DEVILS' WORK: From left: Architects John Ringel ’71, Jim Adamson ’70, and Steve Badanes ’71 are co-founders of Jersey Devil, a design/build collaborative that aims to wed a structure to its environment. They are seen here during a teaching stint at Yestermorrow — a hands-on building and design school in Vermont.
NEW RELEASES

Washington Post senior editor Marc Fisher ’80 and investigative political reporter Michael Kranish are co-authors of Trump Revealed: An American Journey of Ambition, Ego, Money, and Power (Scribner). Drawing upon voluminous research by Post reporters, the book scrutinizes Donald Trump’s business dealings, his litigiousness, and his over-the-top personality.

The 1979 right-to-shelter policy that compels New York City to provide shelter to its homeless population revolutionized the city’s approach to dealing with the indigent. In his new book, Homelessness in New York City: Policymaking from Koch to de Blasio (NYU Press), Thomas Main ’94 tracks the development and management of the shelter system in New York City through five mayors.

New Yorker writer Lauren Collins ’02 ponders — often hilariously — what it means to love in a second language. When in French (Penguin Press) details Collins’ relocation to Geneva, her daylong French classes, and her exploration of language, love, and culture. ◆

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READING ROOM: JEAN EDWARD SMITH ’54

A PRESIDENT’S LEGACY TAKES SHAPE

Jean Edward Smith ’54 — biographer of Ulysses S. Grant, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Dwight Eisenhower — has written his latest book about a president who offers a relatively fresh canvas: George W. Bush.

Bush (Simon & Schuster), published this summer to positive reviews, is at times acidic — take, for example, the book’s first sentence: “Rarely in the history of the United States has the nation been so ill-served as during the presidency of George W. Bush.” Smith calls the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq “disastrous wars of aggression,” asserting that the Iraq war will “likely go down in history as the worst foreign-policy decision ever made by an American president.”

Smith argues that, contrary to popular belief, responsibility for the post-9/11 wars lies not with Vice President Dick Cheney and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld ’54, but rather with “direct decisions of the president.” At first, Bush depended heavily on Cheney, “but after 9/11, that changed,” Smith says in an interview. “Bush became commander in chief, and the vice president was not in the chain of command.” Partly, Bush had become more comfortable with the job, but also “Bush honestly believed he was God’s agent here on Earth to fight evil. ... If you believe that, you don’t need vice presidential support.”

Smith grew up in Washington, D.C., the son of a barber and a legal secretary. At Princeton, he majored in politics, and he credits his senior thesis with teaching him to write with discipline. (Smith, 83, continues to write — in longhand — seven days a week, beginning at 5:30 a.m.)

Smith served several stints in the Army overseas and witnessed the construction of the Berlin Wall. The wall became the subject of his first book, The Defense of Berlin, which was published in 1963 before he began graduate school; the volume was retroactively accepted as his dissertation at Columbia.

Some critics have lamented that in assembling Bush, Smith relied too heavily on contemporary journalism and memoirs of the principal figures. Smith was unable to secure an interview with Bush, and among the major players, he interviewed only Cheney and Rumsfeld, Smith’s classmate.

Smith’s impression of Bush is that “he gets along with people fine. His deficiency is that he has a short attention span, and mentally he was not prepared for the foreign-relations aspect of the job.” Smith praises Bush’s willpower to overcome alcoholism and credits him with going out of his way to help smooth the transition to his successor, Barack Obama.

Smith also is impressed with Bush’s domestic-policy accomplishments — his No Child Left Behind education law; his Medicare prescription-drug expansion; and his actions, in concert with Obama, to reverse the economic tailspin through programs like the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

When Smith began his research, he says, Bush was considered by many to have been among the worst presidents ever. Now, a few years later during a 2016 presidential campaign that has relentlessly shattered norms of decorum, Smith says Bush is getting some benefit of the doubt. And at the very least, he says, “I think Bush has been an exemplary ex-president.” ◆ By Louis Jacobson ’92
There’s a sanity-preserving adage that’s useful for navigating the internet: Don’t feed the trolls. Astrophysicist Katie Mack ’09 usually follows this advice. But when a troll, aka a cyberbully, insulted her education, she couldn’t resist a retort. What came next was magic.

In August, Mack, who holds an early-career fellowship from the Australian Research Council and is based at Melbourne University, tuned in to a climate-change-themed episode of Q&A, a popular news program Down Under. She watched, dismayed, as an Australian senator from a far-right party claimed that NASA manipulated climate data.

“I was despairing on Twitter about how frustrating it is to deal with this kind of denialism,” Mack says, adding that her frankness online often attracts hecklers. One person’s insults, though, were too ridiculous to ignore. “Maybe you should learn some actual SCIENCE,” the troll tweeted.

Mack’s offhand reply: “I dunno, man, I already went and got a Ph.D. in astrophysics. Seems like more than that would be overkill at this point.”

Mack wasn’t claiming expertise in climate science — she studies black holes and the early universe — she says she simply was declaring allegiance to the overwhelming evidence supporting it.

That resonated with people on Twitter, who rallied to her defense. The takedown caught the attention of Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling, who tweeted to her 8 million followers, “The existence of Twitter is forever validated by [this] exchange.”

Why did Mack’s tweet go viral? Her robust following on Twitter — more than 40,000 people before this saga and more than 70,000 today — was likely a factor. As a scientist supported by public funding, she views outreach — sharing science with the public and explaining why it matters — to be as important as research. Mack participates in programs such as “Telescopes in Schools” for elementary and high-school students and pens articles for magazines like Time. For her, science communication is a constant conversation. It’s like research itself — not a eureka moment but a lifetime of curiosity. “Twitter is part of a directed and long-term strategy to connect with people about science,” she says. “I’m doing this every day.” ◆ By Carmen Drahl ’07
MEMORIALS

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

THE CLASS OF 1944

Erwin Bruce Hallett Jr. ’44 Bruce died March 8, 2016, in Bennington, Vt. Entering Princeton from Exeter, he roomed with Wally Johnson in 1940, then with Karl Harr, and junior year with Rocky Semmes. He was a member of Cottage Club.

He was an All-American on Princeton’s 150-pound football team. He majored in biology but left after junior year to attend the University of Rochester School of Medicine, where he received his medical degree. He then did graduate work at Johns Hopkins Hospital and Strong Memorial Hospital. Bruce married Constance Carpenter in 1943. He spent 27 months in the Navy as a lieutenant junior grade, principally in the Mediterranean Sea.

Bruce was part of the team that performed New Jersey’s first open-heart surgery. He spent his career in Morristown, N.J., becoming chief of surgery and then vice chairman of the surgery department at Morristown Medical Center. Bruce loved skiing, hiking, canoeing, and golf. After retirement, he and Constance went on a canoe trip down the Nahanni River in the Canadian Northwest Territories. He attended 1944’s 50th reunion.

He was predeceased by Constance, his wife of 63 years, in 2006, and is survived by their daughters Christine, Patricia, and Gay; sons Erwin Bruce ’71, Thomas, and Laurence; 20 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Elliott M. Ogden Jr. ’44 Elliott died April 9, 2016, in Manhattan.

A graduate of Milwaukee University School, at Princeton he played freshman hockey and 150-pound football and was a member of Cottage Club. Elliott was a lifelong Princeton football fan and rarely missed a home game. He first roomed with Lou Bell and then lived with Aubs Huston, Harry Bickel, and Bob Brown. In World War II, he served in the 406th Fighter-Bomber Group in England and Normandy.

After positions in advertising and retail, he started Elliott M. Ogden Co., an advertising company, in the 1930s. In the 1960s, he became editor and publisher of Manhattan East, a neighborhood weekly. In the 1980s, he founded Ogden Properties Group, a real-estate investment company. Elliott loved the beach and ocean, was an avid swimmer, and enjoyed playing tennis. A member of the Princeton Club of New York, he was one of the longest tenured members of the Racquet and Tennis Club.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Mary Ogden; sons Elliott, Thomas ’78, Gordon, Henry, and Jacob; and seven grandchildren. His son, George, and grandson Elliott predeceased him. His father was in the Class of 1909; his grandfather graduated in 1872; and his daughter-in-law, Cynthia Ogden, is in the Class of ’80.

THE CLASS OF 1945

John Jackson Burchenal ’45 Jack died Aug. 30, 2015, the day after he celebrated his 92nd birthday. Jack entered Princeton from Lawrenceville and joined Cap and Gown. He followed in the footsteps of his father, Charles 1917.

His Princeton career was interrupted for service as an aerial observer with Marine artillery. Jack returned to Princeton to earn a degree in economics in 1946. He received a law degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1949, but never practiced law. Instead he briefly worked for United Press, and in 1955 he joined DuPont, where he spent the rest of his career.

As the company’s first community-relations manager, he joined many organizations. He was a board member of the Delaware Historical Society, the Delaware Art Museum, the United Way of Delaware, Goodwill Industries, and the Greater Wilmington Development Council. In addition to his extensive Wilmington activities, he also was chairman of the board of Cambridge Tile Manufacturing Co. in Cincinnati for almost two decades.

Jack is survived by his wife of 64 years, Susan Starr; children Peggy ’74, Sarah, Ellen, John Jr., Mary ’83, and Moey ’85; and 10 grandchildren. The class expresses its sympathy to the family.

Francis Innes Gowen Coleman ’45 Fig died Dec. 8, 2014. He entered Princeton from Episcopal Academy and St. Paul’s School and became president of Ivy Club. At Princeton, he played varsity football and hockey, but his education was interrupted for service as an officer in Italy with the 267th paratroopers, where he saw combat and was awarded the Silver Star. Returning to campus, he followed in the footsteps of his father, George Coleman 1913, and earned a Princeton degree in 1947. He entered a long and successful career at the CIA.

In 1957, Fig married Julia Montgomery Seymour, a widow who had worked for the Office of Strategic Services and the CIA. Fig adopted her two young sons, and he and Julia had two sons and a daughter of their own. The Colemans served in Rome, where Fig became chief-of-station. He later served as chief-of-station in Madrid, and retired from the CIA in 1975.

Julia died in 2007, and Fig’s health declined thereafter. He is survived by his stepsons, Peter and Christopher Seymour ’76, his daughter, Anne Coleman; his sons, Craig ’86 and Bruce Coleman; and 10 grandchildren. The class expresses its sympathy to the family.

Phillips M. Huston ’45 Phil died May 6, 2015. Phil entered Princeton from Shortridge High School in Indianapolis, and joined Campus Club. He followed in the footsteps of his brother, Charles ’38. He accelerated and earned an English degree in 1945, one of the few members of the class to graduate in the normal year. Then he served in the Army field artillery, married Ruthann Gephart in 1947, and taught English at Indiana University.

Phil described himself as a self-employed publishing consultant. He and Ruthann had three children; Tom, Anne, and Jane ’77. Jane brought him back to the campus, and Phil became very active in class affairs as our chief Naples, Fla., correspondent for many years.

Phil is survived by Ruthann, his children, and six grandchildren. Phil noted that the cornerstones in his life were family, friends, and faith, and he was very satisfied as to how they all turned out. He served in the vestry of several Episcopal parishes. Phil leaves behind a life well lived for the benefit of family and friends. His classmates will miss him and express sympathy to the family.
John B. Jessup ’45
John died May 20, 2015. He entered Princeton from St. Paul’s School and played freshman football, hockey, track, and varsity hockey. He was also on the 150-pound football team and was an assistant coach of that team. John joined Ivy Club, following in the footsteps of his father, Everett 1911, and ahead of his brother, Richard ’49.

His Princeton career was interrupted for service as a fighter pilot with the Army Air Corps. John returned to Princeton in 1947, and it was a big year for him—he received his bachelor’s of science in engineering, and married Elizabeth “Lee” Anderson of Princeton.

After one year with Grumman Aircraft on Long Island, Lee and John left for California and the construction industry. John worked with several firms before ultimately forming Jessup Construction Co. After settling in Atherton, Calif., he became well known in the area for his designs and beautiful custom homes on the Peninsula. He was married to Lee until her passing in 1981, then married Carolyn (Fox) Havre in 1985. His second happy marriage lasted until Carolyn died in 2013. In his retirement years, John worked in his vineyard, constructed a garden railroad, and enjoyed an upbeat life.

John is survived by his daughter, Deborah Lee Jessup; his sons, John “Toby,” and David; and two grandchildren. The class extends its sympathy to the family.

Alexander V.D. Luft ’45

He entered Princeton from Mt. Lebanon (Pa.) High School, ahead of his brother, Richard ’53, and became president of Dial Lodge. He played freshman soccer and freshman and varsity football.

His Princeton career was interrupted for service with the Manhattan Project as an engineer. He returned to earn a degree in chemical engineering in 1948 and joined the DuPont Co. In 1950 he married Barbara Meeker, and they traveled for DuPont from Woodbury, N.J., to West Virginia; Montreal; North Bay, Ontario; Duluth, Minn.; and Wilmington, Del. Al’s avocations were his 14-foot sloop, golfing, and heading the stewardship committee of the Episcopal Church of the Advent in Kennett Square, Pa. He was president of the Kennett Consolidated school board.

Al was predeceased by Barbara. He is survived by his sons Eric, Geoffrey, Andrew, and Christopher; and 14 grandchildren. The class extends its sympathy to the family.

THE CLASS OF 1952
William Park Callahan ’52
Park died March 20, 2016. He graduated from the Hackley School, and at Princeton he majored in architecture and joined Key and Seal. Park roomed with Alex McGhie, Walt O’Leary, and Dick Zahn.

He served in the Army counterintelligence program, was stationed in Nuremberg, and afterward earned a degree in architecture at Georgia Tech. He practiced in New York and Atlanta until 1976, and then moved with his wife, Aline, to Savannah, Ga., where they lived in the historic district and Park worked in historic preservation. He was on the building committee for renovations of Christ Church Episcopal, where he sang in the choir for many years.

Park was a member of the Oglethorpe Club, Historic Savannah Foundation, and the Princeton Club of Savannah. The class extends its sympathy to Aline and her two daughters, Sherry Anne and Karen Lee. We salute Park for his Army service to our nation.

THE CLASS OF 1955
Douglas Gilmore ’55
Douglas died March 3, 2016. He graduated from the Woodberry Forest School, which was founded by his great-grandfather. At Princeton he majored in economics and joined Cottage, Orange Key, and the Woodberry Forest Club. Walter served on the business board of The Daily Princetonian and Canterbury Fellowship. He roomed with George Buxton, Mac Evans, and Joe Fiveash.

He served in the Marines and, in 1956, graduated from Harvard Business School, where he met his wife, Beece. Walter’s career in finance benefited a number of institutions with which he became affiliated, including Woodberry Forest (the board chairman for years), Collegiate School (where Beece taught), the Montpellier Foundation, Medical College of Virginia Foundation, St. John’s Church, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Randolph-Macon College (where he earned a law degree in 2004), and the Commonwealth of Virginia, where his work as state treasurer and long-term adviser to governors vastly assisted pension funds and public works at a number of sites.

Walter is survived by Beece; daughters Anne and Frances; classmates; and others to whom he meant a great deal.

Bruce W. Johnson ’52
Bruce died March 18, 2016, in Hyannis Port, Mass.

He graduated from Columbus Academy, joined Tiger Inn, worked on the advertising staff of the Nassau Sovereign, and sang in the Glee Club. He roomed with Lovett Baker and Bob Johnston.

These interests persisted through his life and work at advertising agencies and in his involvement with amateur singing groups and at his Episcopal church.

His service in the Navy was marked by a large role in the building of a supply depot for the Pacific fleet in the Philippines. He credited that experience for his decision to enter Harvard Business School, class of ’58.

Bruce is survived by his wife of 39 years, Denise Thorne Johnson; their son, Nicholas; three children from his first marriage, Sarah Marcum, Bruce Johnson, and Meg Maloney; and six grandchildren.

Paul V. Richardson ’52
Paul died May 2, 2014. He came to Princeton from St. Andrew’s School, joined Terrace and majored in psychology. He joined the Bridge Club and worked as a gateman at sports events. His roommates were Fred Alling, Dick Byars, Kent Carr, and Ed Chorley.

For our reunion yearbooks he sent only his addresses, a series of them on the Main Line in Philadelphia.
He came from Southwest (Mo.) High School to Princeton, where he majored in history. He wrote his thesis on modern European history. A member of Elm Club, Douglas served four years on the staff of The Daily Princetonian and was assistant managing editor on the senior board. He roomed at 132 Guyler with Jerrold Blauw.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1959, Douglas worked in New York City for Chamberlain & Willi. In 1972, he was employed at United Missouri Bank in the trust department.

In retirement, he earned a master’s degree in library science from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1988. A former chairman of the Cockefair Chair Advisory Committee at UMKC, he was also a devoted volunteer for the Johnson County Library until his health no longer permitted. Douglas, a member of the Kansas City Country Club, was known for his intellectual curiosity and great love of literature and film.

Douglas was predeceased by his sister, Dana Gilmore Holliday. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Mercer Preston Gilmore; his daughter, Anne Rasin ’89; and his son, John Gilmore.

**James B. Hurlock ’55**

Jim was an outstanding member of a class with multiple outstanding members. He was born Aug. 7, 1933, in Chicago, and died April 17, 2016. An English major, he received the Pyne Prize and was a Rhodes scholar.

Jim had a distinguished 41-year career at the law firm White & Case, where he served as managing partner for 20 years, overseeing the firm’s global expansion. In 2010, the New York state bar association honored him with the Root/Stimson award for exemplary commitment to public service.

Jim spent 12 years living and raising his young family in Paris, Brussels, and London. He was a longtime resident of Siasconset, Mass. He loved fishing, hunting, and sailing with his family, and completed a trans-Atlantic race and seven Bermuda races.

A scholar, gentleman, inspiring leader, and a loyal friend, Jim is survived by his wife of 55 years, Margaret Lyn (Holding); sons James Bickford III, Burton Charls ’85, and Matthew Hunter ’88; and eight grandchildren.

**Douglas Lyons ’55**


Doug came to Princeton from Brown & Nichols School. He graduated cum laude from the Woodrow Wilson School, was the circulation manager of The Daily Princetonian, joined Campus Club, and roomed at 53 Campbell with Hans Kuehl. He spent two years in the Army and then married Diane Brackett, with whom he shared 35 years.

A bond trader and later vice president of municipal bond sales at Smith Barney, Doug was more than a financial guru. In 1971 he built a vacation home in East Burke, Vt., where he enjoyed an eclectic array of hobbies and passions, including escorting his wife and daughter to Saturday Mass, preparing evening repasts for guests and family that met the gourmet standards of Fanny Farmer and Julia Child and were enhanced by the full-flavor provender from his various gardens to rival Provence, “snapping his brutish forearms” as he drove golf balls lofty distances at the Orleans Country Club, hiking the serpentine paths carved into the woods near his perch overlooking the mountains, and poring in his “Patron Room” through the dense tomes from his extensive military history.

Doug is survived by Diane; son Crawford; daughters Jennifer, Joan, and Noël; sisters Deborah and Jean; and five grandchildren.

**Thomas O.P. Speidel ’55**

Born May 20, 1933, in Alliance, Ohio, to Dorothy Born and Virgil Speidel, Thomas died March 31, 2016.

Coming from Alliance High School, he chose mechanical engineering as his Princeton major. He was a member of Elm Club, played 150-pound football, and roomed at 221 Brown Hall during his senior year. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Princeton, a master’s degree from MIT, and an MBA from Boston College. Thomas lived in Bedford, Mass., and worked as a mechanical engineer.

His avocations were railroad models, history, and collecting mementos. With his wife, Sheila, he had three children, raised them, and had an antique business.

Thomas said, “I believe Sir Isaac Newton’s third law of motion as expounded in his axioms or laws of motion, ‘To every action there is always an equal and contrary reaction’ ... is true. If only the politicians and other would-be do-gooders would realize they can never do just one thing, the entropy of this planet might never increase at a slower rate.”

Thomas is survived by Sheila; daughter Maria; sons Thomas and John; sister Carol; two nephews; and four grandchildren.

**The Class of 1958**

**Jon W. Farinholt ’58**

Jon died Jan. 15, 2016, in Rogers, Ark.

He arrived at Princeton from Towson High School, after spending a number of years at Gilman School, both in the Baltimore area. At Princeton he majored in psychology and was in Ivy Club. Eddie Dunn and Frank Hegner were his senior-year roommates. After graduation, he spent four years at the University of Maryland Medical School with classmates Jay Haws and Shaw Wilgis. He did his residency in obstetrics-gynecology at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

After a three-year tour with the Army in Germany, he joined Kaiser Permanente in Colorado. Later, he opened his own private practice in Denver, where he practiced for 30 years before retiring.

Jon built a mountain cabin, where his family gathered for weekend getaways. He also enjoyed gardening, cross-country skiing, woodworking, and fishing on the Blue River. Jon is survived by Janet, his wife of 53 years; son Jon and his wife, Debbie; son Robert and his wife, Stefanie; granddaughters Simone and Emme; and his twin sister, Ann Stein. To all, the class extends its sincere condolences.

**James K. Page Jr. ’58**

Jake died Feb. 10, 2016, at his home in Lyons, Colo. A graduate of the Gunnery (Conn.) School, he majored in English and at Campus Club, where he served as its president his senior year. His senior-year roommates were Dave Leeming, Jim Millinger, Pete Chamberlain, Buzz Peeler, Ron Lombardi, and Bruce Bradley.
After receiving his master’s degree in book publishing from NYU, he joined Doubleday and for 20 years edited science books and magazines with the Natural History Press, Natural History Magazine, and Smithsonian Magazine. He strove, through a monthly column, to make the Smithsonian Magazine more appealing to the general public. His articles dealt with earthquakes, dinosaurs, 2005, and, in the 1980s, the history and culture of the American Indian.

Jake and his wife, Susanne, traveled more than 20 times to the Hopi reservation in northeastern Arizona. The Hopi asked her to document the tribe, permitting photographs for the first time since 1910. In order to spend more time on this project, Jake retired from the Smithsonian Magazine. Drawing on his experience with the Hopi, he began a new career as a mystery writer. He wrote five novels featuring the blind sculptor Mo Bowdre and his half-Hopi girlfriend, Connie Barnes.

To his wife, six daughters, and his numerous grandchildren, the class offers its sympathy.

Robert P. Petter ’58
Bob died April 6, 2016, at home in Paducah, Ky. Bob entered Princeton from Woodberry Forest School in Orange, Va. At Princeton, he majored in politics, writing his thesis on “Gandhi and International Politics,” and graduated cum laude. He was a member of Colonial Club, Whig-Clio, and the freshman Glee Club. He wrote for the Brice-a-Brac and was a member of the Woodberry Forest Club and Skeet Club. His senior-year roommates were John Boatwright, Ralph DeGroff, and Dave Lurthberg.

After serving in the Army for six months, he joined the family business, Henry A. Petter Supply Co., a wholesale industrial-distribution business founded in 1890. (He was also called back into the Army for 11 months in 1961.) In 1965, Bob married a Dutch woman, Beatrix Maarsen, in Amsterdam. Bob worked diligently and became the CEO of Petter Supply. He also enjoyed serving on the board of directors of Citizens Bank and Trust Co. A number of years ago he turned over the reins of the family business to his son, Robert, while he served as chairman. This allowed him to spend the winter months in Naples, Fla.

Bob’s daughter, Frederika, predeceased him. The class extends its deepest sympathy to his wife, Beatrix; son Robert and his wife, Karen; and two granddaughters, Olivia and Meredith.

THE CLASS OF 1960

Paul E. Danielson Jr. ’60
Paul died March 1, 2016, a few weeks after a cancer diagnosis. He spent his adult life in service, first as an Episcopal parish priest and chaplain, and later as a conservation advocate and author in his beloved California Big Sur and Ventana Wilderness.

After Princeton, where he majored in religion and belonged to Quadrangle Club, Paul earned divinity degrees at Union Theological Seminary and Episcopal Theological School. His first pastoral assignment was in Endicott, N.Y., where he married the boss’s daughter, Margaret Entwisle, in 1966. Paul thereafter spent his career in his native California, between his parish career, first as rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Salinas, and later as chaplain, teacher, coach, and pastor of All Saints Episcopal Day School, Carmel, Calif.

Upon his retirement in 2001, Paul undertook his ultimate career as conservation activist and author, serving the central California Ventana Wilderness Alliance and Big Sur Land Trust and writing two books, Lost Camps of the Ventana and Invisible Camps of the Ventana.

Paul is survived by Margaret, three sons, two daughters-in-law, and three grandchildren, to whom the class sends its sympathy.

THE CLASS OF 1961

George P. Barker ’61

At Princeton he majored in the Woodrow Wilson School, played varsity lacrosse, and was a member of Ivy Club. His senior-year roommates were Eddie Brown, Rick Butt, Scott Driscoll, Tom Garrett, Tal Mack, Bill Miller, Toby Rankin, and Paul Sanger. George was a loyal Princeton supporter and an avid Tiger lacrosse fan.

After military duty in Fort Hood, Texas, George married Anne Vandegrift, and attended Columbia Law School. In 1972, his family moved to the “new city” of Columbia, Md., where George worked on the legal team of the Rouse Co. George believed deeply in Columbia’s vision of building a better city that welcomed citizens of all races and beliefs. After working at the Rouse Co., George was general counsel of the Enterprise Development Co. and later at Howard County General Hospital. He most recently served as senior general counsel of Martek Biosciences. Until the diagnosis of his illness, George worked as a legal adviser to Columbia’s urban-planning efforts and served on numerous community boards.

George is survived by his wife of 53 years, Anne; daughters Kate Barker Swindell and Maggie Barker Taylor ’98; son Van Barker; and six grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1963

Edward V. Twiggar ’63
Ed, a general surgeon for nearly five decades in the community where he grew up, died March 16, 2016, of cancer at home in Shamokin, Pa.

At Princeton, Twig majored in chemistry, sang in the Glee Club, and wrestled for two years. He chaired the Orange Key publicity committee, joined Cloister, and roomed with Ed Barrow, DeRochi, Einstein, Jaramillo, and Larry Kelley. He earned a medical degree from Penn, was an Air Force major at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and then went home to begin his career.

Ed thrived on involvement in the everyday life of a smaller community. He was devoted to Boy Scouting — a Scout leader throughout his life and a fixture at Scout camp, even last summer as he battled illness. He led the community effort to save the local hospital when the state withdrew taxpayer support. Ed was a church elder, founded a model-train club, and was a Chamber of Commerce and civil-service official. He served as sports-medicine physician for the local school district, and actively took part in the Elks, Masonic Lodge, Kiwanis, and American Legion. He also was president of Shamokin Area Industrial Corp.

The class shares its sorrow with his wife, Liz; sons Edward “Ned,” Andrew, and Jonathan; grandchildren Lorela, Greyson, Sophie, Molly, Katie, and Luke; and sisters Sarah “Sally” Werntz and Judy Reinhardt.

THE CLASS OF 1964

Charles Baum ’64

He came to Princeton from Montgomery, Ala. A member of Cottage Club, he majored in history and international studies at the Woodrow Wilson School, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude.

We remember his wit and wisdom, love of life, generosity, intelligence, and enthusiasm for learning. They were all in force during his Princeton years. Though his academic accomplishments were stellar, his interactions with classmates and friends are what we remember and value most. Charles had a ready smile, a quick repartee, and a caring attitude.

He attended Harvard Business School and graduated with distinction. He later graduated from the University of Maryland Law School, rounding out his distinguished academic career. Charles excelled in investing, first with Loeb Rhoades in New York, followed by more than 40 years in business and community service in Baltimore.

He played tennis, golf, and basketball, and he was a fan of the Orioles and his beloved Crimson Tide. Not surprisingly, his love of family transcended all else. At his memorial service, his brother and sister, children and stepchildren, and his amazing wife, Patti, spoke lovingly of Charles. Their theme, “Live Like Charles, Love Like Charles, Laugh Like Charles,” says it all. We have lost a wonderful friend. We send our deepest sympathy to Patti, and to all of his family.
THE CLASS OF 1967

John H. Laporte Jr. ’67

Jack died Aug. 12, 2013. He came to Princeton from the Pingry School. Through his dad, he developed a keen interest in investing and the stock market.

At Princeton, Jack played soccer, majored in politics, and took his meals at Tiger Inn, where almost certain defeat awaited others at the pingpong table or any other game. Jack was a fierce competitor. He roomed with Ash, Cluster, Eichelberger, Millar, and Wynne.

After Princeton and Harvard Business School, Jack went on to a storied career at T. Rowe Price. At his memorial service, he was called “one of the great investors of the 20th century.”

His uncanny sense of people, his integrity, his intelligence, and his family were hallmarks of his life. He is survived by the love of his life, his wife, Andie; sons Christopher ’99 and Timothy ’05; their wives, Jen ’99 and Olga; his sister, Jill; and three grandchildren.

With grace, Jack used worldly success to help others. He supported Princeton generously, including as president of the class, helping to bring 1967 Hall to life.

Jack was a founder of the SEED School of Maryland, an urban boarding school giving inner-city children a quality education.

To Andie and the entire family, the class extends both sympathy and deep gratitude for Jack’s life of service.

THE CLASS OF 1969

Steven F. Fenwick ’69


A native of Hyde Park, N.Y., Steve was the son of Pat and Walter Fenwick. A scholar-athlete at Roosevelt (N.Y.) High School, he co-edited a satirical magazine.

Majoring in English at Princeton, Steve was a member of Colonial Club and a WPRB DJ. He was a master prankster and, as part of a Brown Hall contingent, participated in extraordinary adventures. He toured the New York World’s Fair a year after it had closed, breaking into with Peter Bergquist and Roger Fingerlin, and they had the entire fair grounds to themselves. Another weekend, he and Tyler Johnson hitchhiked to Trigonia, Tenn., to climb the world’s tallest American elm tree. Other roommates and suitemates included George Hritz, John Barnard, Chris Thormod, Bill Earle, and Ray Baxter.

Steve attended graduate school at the University of Cincinnati and worked for several years as a producer with CNN in Washington, D.C. He was valued by many and has been missed by many as well.

At the time of his death, he was survived by a younger sister, Valerie.

Kris R. Nielsen ’67

Kris died Feb. 16, 2013, at his ranch in Cle Elum, Wash. He passed away peacefully, with his wife, Pat, by his side. He fought a long battle with myxofibrosarcoma, a rare soft-tissue cancer.

Kris came to Princeton from Loomis Chaffee School, and was an aerospace and mechanical engineering major. He was senior manager of the Chancellor Green student center and rowed on the freshman lightweight crew.

Kris earned a law degree at George Washington University in 1970. Then, 35 years later, he earned a Ph.D. in civil engineering at Kochi University of Technology in Japan.

Kris was both an engineer and a lawyer. He was a principal owner of many businesses in his career, most of them based on his extensive knowledge of construction. Kris was passionate about civil engineering and active in the American Society of Civil Engineers. In recognition of his achievements, in 2010, ASCE awarded Kris with its highest award — the OPAL lifetime-achievement award.

Kris’ prior marriages ended in divorce. He met Patricia Galloway through his work, and in 1987, their 26-year marriage began. The two worked together on projects and successfully managed their businesses together.

Kris and Pat established the Patricia Galloway and Kris Nielsen Foundation to assist scientists and engineers in developing creative and innovative ideas.

Kris is survived by Pat and four daughters from previous relationships.

The class sends condolences to his beloved wife of 28 years, Pamela; sons Nick and Carl; Pami’s children, Caroline and Andrew; and four grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1970

John G. Stanley Jr. ’70

John died Dec. 22, 2015, after a short illness. He was a loyal, lifelong resident of Buffalo who lived much of his life in the house where he grew up.

Resplendent in his signature bowtie, he presided over his family business, the Stanley Steel Co., founded by his father and namesake in 1956. His personal devotion to the firm and its staff extended to his hospital bed, where he continued to sign payroll checks. “If your name were on the side of the building, you’d understand,” John said.

He came to us from Nichols School in Buffalo. At Princeton he worked on the engineering advisory council and was a member of Naval ROTC. He majored in basic engineering and wrote his thesis on nuclear reactors under Dean Menand, after a summer cruise aboard the submarine Alexander Hamilton prior to our senior year.

Always generous, he chaired the Nichols Alumni Association, served on the Buffalo Salvation Army board of directors, and was regional chair for the Princeton Schools Committee, as well as regional alumni association vice president.

John is survived by his wife, Mary Louise; son John Gill III; sister Chelsea Kehele; and brothers Christopher and Peter. The class extends our condolences and admiration for a true community leader.

George M. Stratton Jr. ’70

George died Sept. 4, 2015. A true Southern gentleman, he came to us from University School in Memphis, Tenn., and at his death was president of hardware distributor Acorn International.

Along with many of us in the ’60s, the distractions of Princeton overwhelmed George at first, and he withdrew after two years, spending a stint with the Marine Corps prior to returning and finishing his degree in 1973 when, as he noted, the University was already very different.

He was eagerly looking forward to our 45th reunion, but then faced the wrenching choice between seeing us and fighting one final battle in his 10-year struggle with prostate cancer. On behalf of his family, he chose the latter. As he then said, “It is my hope that this drug trial will give me a shot at being at Reunions to come. If that is not the hand I am dealt, please know and let our classmates know how deeply our friendships have enriched my life.”

George is survived by his wife, Irma ’82; his daughter, Katie; his brother, Gene; and sister
Leslie. The class mourns his passing with his family, and fondly recalls his warm gifts to us.

THE CLASS OF 1979

C. Dallett Hemphill ’79

Dallett died July 3, 2015, of breast cancer. Dallett grew up in Chestnut Hill, Pa., and came to Princeton from St. Andrew’s School in Delaware. She was a member of Colonial Club and spent her junior year abroad in Paris. Dallett earned her master’s and doctorate degrees from Brandeis University.

A highly regarded and beloved professor of American history at Ursinus College for nearly 30 years, Dallett was widely recognized not only for her scholarship but for her dedication to her students; she was a sympathetic adviser and mentor, an innovative teacher, and a fierce advocate for history and the humanities. Her specialty was social history from Colonial times to the 19th century. Dallett was the author of two books on early American history and served as a consultant to the TV documentary series “Philadelphia: The Great Experiment.” She was also a senior research associate at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania and edited its professional journal.

A devoted mother of two, Dallett was known for her collegiality, warmth, and humor. She loved gardening, classical music, and opera. She is survived by her husband, John Hill; sons Alex and Evan; her mother; and seven siblings. The class extends its sincere sympathies to Dallett’s family.

GRADUATE ALUMNI

Carroll O. Alley Jr. *62

Carroll Alley Jr. died Feb. 24, 2016, at the age of 88. He was professor emeritus of physics at the University of Maryland, College Park.

He graduated from the University of Richmond in 1948 and earned a master’s degree in physics in 1952 from Princeton. Alley was an instructor in physics from 1951 to 1952. While continuing his doctoral studies, Alley was an instructor and lecturer at Princeton in electrical engineering and a research assistant in physics. He completed his Princeton Ph.D. in physics in 1962.

From 1960 to 1963, Alley was an assistant professor of physics and optics at the University of Rochester. In 1963, he became an associate professor at the University of Maryland, becoming a full professor of physics in 1972. He was the principal investigator for the Lunar Ranging Retroreflector that was placed on the moon in 1969 by NASA’s Apollo 11 crew.

In 1971, he received NASA’s Exceptional Scientific Achievement Award. In 1976, the Maryland Academy of Sciences named Alley one of two outstanding 20th-century scientists. He received an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Richmond in 1978.

Alley was predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth. He is survived by two daughters; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Conrelus T. Moynihan *66

Conrelus Moynihan, retired professor emeritus of chemistry at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (R.P.I.), died Dec. 22, 2015, after a brief illness. He was 76. In 1960, he earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Santa Clara University. Then he earned a master’s degree in 1962 and a Ph.D. from Princeton in 1966, both also in chemistry. He had begun his academic career in 1964 in the chemistry department at California State University in Los Angeles. In 1969, he joined the materials science and chemistry department at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. In 1981, he became a professor at R.P.I. in the materials science and engineering department.

During his career, Moynihan specialized in amorphous materials, and published approximately 180 scientific papers in this field. In particular, he analyzed a complicated structural relaxation phenomenon of glasses. The most popular equation to describe the relaxation bears his name as “The Narayanaswamy-Moynihan-Tool relaxation formalism.” Known for his thorough and rigorous teaching of thermodynamics, he continued his teaching as an R.P.I. professor emeritus. He was a fellow of the American Ceramic Society. Moynihan is survived by two children, four grandchildren, and his partner of 30 years, Maria Resnick.

Diana Schultz Beardsley *76

Diana Beardsley, associate professor of pediatric hematology/oncology at Yale Medical School, died March 20, 2010, at age 62, after a brief illness.

Beardsley graduated from Valparaiso University in 1969. She then earned a master’s degree in 1971 and a Ph.D. in 1976, both in chemistry from Princeton. Also in 1976, she earned a medical degree from Duke Medical School (while completing her doctoral dissertation for Princeton). After interning and a three-year fellowship in pediatric hematology and oncology, she was an instructor at Harvard from 1981 to 1986, holding clinical positions at Children’s Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. After starting at Yale in 1986, Beardsley built a nationally recognized program in coagulopathies and platelet disorders. She was one of the first scientists to apply modern techniques of immunology and molecular biology toward furthering the understanding of immune-related platelet destruction syndromes.

She was a physician whose commitment to her patients was featured in The Gift of Experience: Conversations about Hemophilia, a 2008 book by Laura Gray and Christine Chamberlain. Among innumerable other professional activities, she was an associate editor of the Journal of Hematology.

At the time of her death, Beardsley was survived by her son, Christopher Beardsley, who referred to her as “an extraordinary mother and physician.” She was married to G. Peter Beardsley ’71.

Akihiro Sawa ’87

Akihiro Sawa, a longtime official in the Japanese government, died Jan. 16, 2016, of pancreatic cancer at 58.

Sawa graduated in 1981 with a bachelor’s degree in economics from Hitotsubashi University. After finishing first among 4,500 applicants in a national civil service exam, he joined the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry in 1981.

He held high administrative posts in numerous and varied departments within the ministry as well as being on loan for a time with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1985 to 1987, he attended the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton and earned an MPA.

Sawa then returned to the Japanese ministry and remained until 2004, when he became a professor at the Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology at the University of Tokyo. In 2008, he became an executive with Misawa Co. in Osaka, Japan.

A colleague wrote, “He was known for his outspoken and insightful opinions on energy and the environment issues in Japan. He loved Princeton.” In December, after his illness was diagnosed, Sawa visited Princeton and the Wilson School with his wife, who survives him.

M. Shahab Ahmed ’99

Shahab Ahmed, an Islamic Legal Studies Program research fellow at Harvard, died Sept. 17, 2015. He was 48.

Raised in Malaysia by Pakistani parents, he went to boarding school in Britain and earned his undergraduate degree from the American University in Cairo in 1991. In 1999, he earned a Ph.D. in Near Eastern studies from Princeton.

In 2000, Ahmed went to Harvard as a junior fellow of the Harvard Society of Fellows, and in 2005 was appointed to the faculty of Arts and Sciences. From 2014 to 2015, he was a research fellow at Harvard.

In October 2013, his book, What is Islam?: The Importance of Being Islamic, was published by the Princeton University Press. A review in Publishers Weekly stated, “It dives deeply into heady discussions of philosophy, religious studies, aesthetics, poetry, epistemology, and fiqh — Islamic jurisprudence.” At his death, Ahmed was working on two other book manuscripts.

Ahmed is survived by his wife, Nora Lessersohn, a doctoral candidate in history and Middle Eastern studies at Harvard; his sister, Shaha Ahmed; and his parents, Razia and Mohammed Muntazzuddin Ahmed.

Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.
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Europe

Rome: Bright, elegant apartment. Marvelous beamed ceilings. Antiques. Walk to Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain. 609-683-3815, gami@comcast.net

Paris, Left Bank: Elegant apartment off Seine in 6th. Short walk to Louvre, Notre Dame. 609-924-7510, gami@comcast.net

Paris, Marais: Elegant, 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, vibrant Pompidou museum/sidewalk café quarter on 13c pedestrian street, full kitchen, w/d, AC, cable. desaix@verizon.net. 212-473-9472.

Florence Country house on 54 mountain acres. Fantastic views. $100/day. www.ganzitalianhouse.com E-mail: gganz@comcast.net

France, Paris-Marais: Exquisite, sunny, quiet one-bedroom apartment behind Place des Vosges. King-size bed, living/dining room, six chairs, full kitchen, washer, dryer, weekly maid service. WiFi, $1350 weekly. max@gwu.edu

Ille St-Louis: Elegant, spacious, top floor, skylighted apartment, gorgeous views over looking the Seine, 2 bedrooms sleep 4, 2 baths, elevator, well-appointed, full kitchen. WiFi. 678-232-8444. triff@mindspring.com

Italy/Todi: Luxurious 8BR, 7BA villa, amazing views, infinity pool, olives, lavender, grapes, vegetable garden, daily cleaner. WiFi. Photos/prices/availability: VRBO.com, #398660. Discount —Princetonians. 914-320-2865. MarilynGasparini@aol.com, p’11.

Paris, Tuileries Gardens: Beautifully-appointed, spacious, 1BR queen, 6th floor, elevator, concierge. karin.demarest@gmail.com, w’49.

Paris 16th: Sabbatical? Live le charme discret de la bourgeoisie. Spacious one-bedroom apartment, 6th floor, elevator, metro Mirabeau. Perfect for long stays. trips@frenchtraveler.com


Aix-en-Provence: Cours Mirabeau, heart of town. Beautifully appointed, 2 bedroom apartment, peaceful, steps to shops & restaurants, garage, wifi. Perfect for exploring Provence. $1450/week. greatfrenchrentals@comcast.net


England, Cotswolds: 3BR stone cottage, quiet country village near Broadway and Stratford-upon-Avon. Information: www.pottersfarmcottage.com, availability: pottersfarmcottage@msn.com

Beautiful Alpine Chalet, quiet village near Megève, winter or summer, 4BR, sauna, fantastic skiing, hiking, cycling, golf, swimming. www.chalet-col-des-aravis.com, 847.


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Eygalières, Provence: 17th C farmhouse and guesthouse (sleeps 12/6) rentable independently on outstanding estate, amid gardens and olive groves, views of the Alpilles, large swimming pool, tennis court, close to historic sights, markets, cafés. lidia. bradley@gmail.com, s’84.

London: Chelsea Flat. 2 beds, 3 baths, charming, quiet and convenient. Fireplace, antiques, parking, terrace. Anytime January – March 2017, $2800/week. Rjaygould@aol.com or 202-510-0821, k’71.

United States Northeast


Wellfleet: 4 bedroom beachfront cottage with spectacular views overlooking Cape Cod National Seashore. 609-921-0809 or warrenst@aol.com

Lake Champlain, VT: Lakeside 3BR, 2BA, beautifully appointed, views! Vermontproperty.com, #1591. douglasGrover@ml.com, ’73.

United States Southwest

Houston Super Bowl: 4BR, 3.5BA, heated pool, tennis, squash, athletics; e-z access to all SB events; open bar; $4000/night, 4 night minimum. 832-228-1699, ’85.

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Beautiful Palm Springs 4 bed midcentury: www.vrbo.com/772785, norawilliams@gmail.com ’82.

Park City/Deer Valley, Utah: 3 BR ski-out condominium in Upper Deer Valley. Newly remodeled, hot tub, beautiful views, available all seasons. Reasonable rates. 937-825-4137 or pikolodzik@aol.com, p’12.

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October 5, 2016 PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY 63

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The primal tension between old and new roiled Princeton’s library in the fall of 1885. In the eyes of the college’s first full-time librarian, Frederick Vinton, the future of library access lay in catalogues and the “scientific method and system” they embodied; for students, no bibliographic record could replace the act of browsing.

Vinton, whose arrival coincided with the opening of Chancellor Green Library in 1873, created Princeton’s first card catalogue — one that enabled patrons to search for books not simply by author, but by subject. In 1884, when he completed a printed edition of his mammoth subject index, he prefaced its 900 pages by noting: “A student, sitting in his room, with this catalogue before him, may be able to determine what books to borrow, almost as if he were in the alcove where they stand.”

Students begged to differ, especially when Vinton closed these alcoves to them. “No innovation,” the editors of The Princetonian declared, “has ever occasioned more prolonged and heartfelt opposition from the undergraduates of Princeton College than that caused by the erection of the library fence.” In another editorial, they wrote: “He who loves books can no more be satisfied with taking books one by one through the bars from an attendant than could a miser glut his passion for gold in feeling coins singly.”

On Oct. 21, 1885, Vinton and the editors penned dueling columns, the former condemning the “perpetual disorganization of the shelves, produced by so many careless hands taking books down and leaving them in wrong places.” The latter riposted: “The neatness which the Librarian says the present system will produce, is the neatness of disuse. No library so constantly used as ours was can possess it.”

Two years later, Vinton relented sufficiently to issue cards allowing students “within the rail” between 2 and 3 p.m., a small concession but one that acknowledged a place for randomness and serendipity in even the most highly catalogued collection.

John S. Weeren is founding director of Princeton Writes and a former assistant University archivist.
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