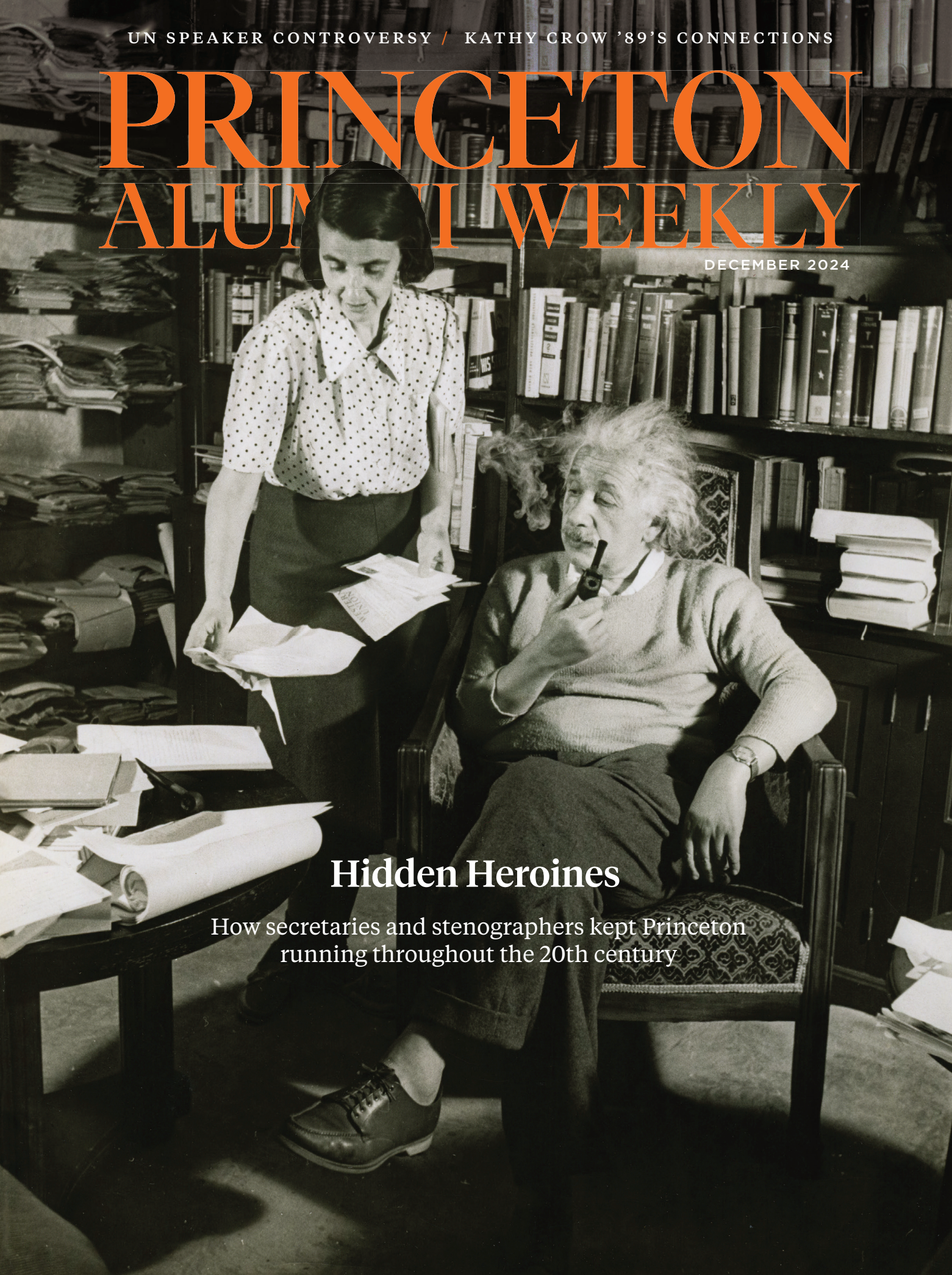


UN SPEAKER CONTROVERSY / KATHY CROW '89'S CONNECTIONS

PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

DECEMBER 2024



Hidden Heroines

How secretaries and stenographers kept Princeton running throughout the 20th century



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An editorially independent magazine by alumni for alumni since 1900

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Kim Scott '90 works at home in Los Altos Hills, California, with her dog, Bear. See page 36.



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BY E.B. BOYD '89

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Albert Einstein with secretary Helen Dukas in his personal study on Mercer Street on Oct. 1, 1940. *Photograph by Leo Baeck*

CAROLYN FONG



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DECEMBER 2024 PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

1

Venture Forward hits the home stretch

The Venture Forward campaign is entering its final year, and it is already transforming the University in spectacular fashion.

Venture Forward is a mission-driven campaign. We've not set any internal or external dollar goals. Instead, we have focused intensely on gifts and initiatives that advance key priorities as defined in Princeton's strategic framework.

Thanks to the generosity of our alumni and friends, Venture Forward has made those priorities real and visible throughout our campus: Two new residential colleges, with a third under construction, that extend the benefits of a Princeton education to more students than ever before. A dazzling art museum that will open next fall. A beautiful new fitness center buzzing with activity day and night. A new and welcoming health center. State-of-the-art buildings for engineering and the environmental sciences. And the list goes on.

Look deeper, and the impact of Venture Forward is everywhere. You can see it, for example, in the improvements to Princeton's world-leading undergraduate financial aid program. With support provided by Annual Giving and generous gifts to establish new scholarships, nearly 72% of students in the Class of 2028 are receiving financial aid. The *average* undergraduate scholarship exceeds the tuition price by roughly \$10,000.

Those numbers are best in class by a country mile. At our nearest peers, the percentage receiving aid is around 55% to 60% at best. Princeton's alumni and the Venture Forward campaign are setting new standards for access and affordability.

New graduate fellowships, along with Annual Giving dollars, helped Princeton make historic increases to graduate stipends starting in 2022.

Venture Forward's impact is apparent on the faculty and in academic programs, too. Gifts to more than 60 endowed professorships will honor top-flight scholars and attract new stars to Princeton. The High Meadows Environmental Institute, the Omenn-Darling Bioengineering Institute, the M.S. Chadha Center for Global India, the Efron Center for the Study of America, and myriad other new programs are enabling professors and students to push the frontiers of learning.

Service is essential to Princeton's mission, and it, too, is a major theme of the Venture Forward campaign. The new LENS initiative, which includes support from Annual Giving, enables Princeton to offer every undergraduate the opportunity to have a paid service internship during their time at the University. The Novogratz Bridge Year Program sends students overseas to do intensive service projects before coming to Princeton, preparing them for their Princeton education and instilling a lifelong commitment to help others.

Venture Forward is about alumni engagement as well as giving. It creates new pathways for alumni to celebrate their bonds to the University and one another.

The campaign has encompassed the formation of three new affinity groups: Native Alumni of Princeton, Princeton Veterans Alumni Association, and the Association of Jewish Princeton Alumni. Affinity conferences, like the recent and inspiring



The Class of 1986 Fitness and Wellness Center is one of many additions to our campus and community made possible by the generosity of alumni and friends.

PHOTO BY DENISE APPELWHITE
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

"Every Voice" gathering, have honored the experiences and contributions of multiple groups. Regional events during the Venture Forward campaign have engaged thousands of alumni.

If judged by its enhancements to Princeton's mission, or even on the simple basis of total dollars raised, Venture Forward is already the most successful fundraising campaign in the University's history.

Yet there is more to do.

For example, we are seeking gifts that will enable our scientists and engineers to delve into the mysteries of quantum information science and harness its potential to benefit the world.

We are raising funds to support humanists as they explore the connections between media and meaning today and in ages past, and we are launching creative projects to nurture design practices that span the arts and engineering.

We are reaching beyond campus boundaries with initiatives that extend Princeton's teaching capacity to educate New Jersey community college students and incarcerated individuals.

And, of course, Princeton will continue to build the core of its academic and co-curricular enterprise with gifts to support professorships, financial aid, graduate fellowships, and service.

As Venture Forward accelerates toward its finish line, the campaign needs you. Every alum can participate through gifts of any size to Annual Giving and through volunteer engagement.

As I walk around Old Nassau's beautiful campus and see what we have accomplished already, I am constantly reminded of how blessed Princeton is to have such faithful alumni and friends. Your engagement as volunteers, ambassadors, and donors enables the University to make audacious bets on talent and discovery.

To invoke a phrase that defines the spirit of Venture Forward, we are taking Princeton "from the present to the possible." Your participation makes that possible, and I am very grateful.



YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE LATEST ISSUES

WITHERSPOON'S TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

In assessing John Witherspoon's "life and legacy," the CPUC Committee on Naming notes that the plaques on his statue's plinth describe him as "preacher, patriot, and president" (On the Campus, November issue). It provides some detail on the significance of his theological writings, teachings, and sermons, and the manifestations of his patriotism as a signer of the Declaration of Independence, a member of the Continental Congress, and an educator of key political leaders. It also, very importantly, provides findings about his relationship to slavery, a relationship which is conspicuously absent from the plinth.

What it does not describe is the legacy behind the third plaque: Witherspoon's transformative impact on the College of New Jersey as its president from 1768 to 1794 — the second longest tenure of any Princeton president, and longer than the combined tenures of his five predecessors.

When Witherspoon arrived, the college's finances and its enrollments were precarious at best, and its survival was far from assured. Witherspoon traveled tirelessly throughout the colonies to bolster the college's finances and its enrollment; appointed faculty in math and science; expanded the library; purchased scientific equipment; changed the composition of the student body by reducing the number of future ministers in favor of future public servants; encouraged students to go beyond rote learning and engage in debate; introduced teaching by lecture; and taught a wide range of subjects.

Witherspoon's presidency gave the college eminence and instilled a commitment to learning and service that Princeton's next transformative president, James McCosh, would build on 100 years later in turning the college into a university.

The Naming Committee makes well-considered recommendations regarding the siting of the Witherspoon statue in front of East Pyne Hall. A good case can be made for removing the statue from its plinth, or even finding it another home. But it may be helpful to note that one small contributing factor in choosing the statue's current location across from McCosh Hall is that it placed these two transformative presidents in proximity to each other.

BOB DURKEE '69

Princeton, N.J.

Editor's note: The writer was the University's vice president and secretary when the Witherspoon statue was commissioned and installed.

STATUE'S FUTURE

The Board of Trustees' refusal to remove or alter the John Witherspoon statue (On the Campus, November issue) is praiseworthy. Recent scholarship supports this decision, providing a more favorable understanding of Witherspoon's relationship with slavery. Whatever its artistic merits, altering or relocating the statue honoring

Witherspoon would be a wrongful *damnatio memoriae*.

The trustees troublingly err, however, in delegating the statue's fate to the Campus Art Steering Committee. The Committee on Naming's report conflated judgments about Witherspoon's historical relation to slavery with those about artistic merit, suggesting inappropriate alterations to the statue's size and location. I fear that

the Campus Art Steering Committee will commit similar errors.

Most regrettably, both the Trustees and the Committee on Naming failed to address falsehoods in the Princeton & Slavery Project's "John Witherspoon" essay, which continues to misdirect public discourse. The essay's wrongful depictions were foundational to the statue removal petition. Professor Sean Wilentz and others disproved these errors, such as Witherspoon allegedly not opposing slavery in the New Jersey legislature.

Outrageously, the Princeton & Slavery Project hasn't updated its content to reflect any new findings. No action has been taken to correct these misrepresentations. Further, my detailed October 2023 complaint to the CPUC Judicial Committee inexplicably remains unaddressed.

Not changing this statue is essential to preserving Princeton's honor of Witherspoon. The handling of surrounding issues and failure to address ongoing misrepresentations of Witherspoon loom as fundamental problems. These actions and inactions undermine Princeton's commitment to historical accuracy, rule enforcement, and academic integrity.

BILL HEWITT '74

London, Ky.

Editor's note: A longer version of this letter appears online at bit.ly/jw-comments.

Put Witherspoon's statue in front of Witherspoon Hall. Then the inhabitants of the much beloved 'Spoon (I was once among them) will have something no other dorm can claim — and something to view besides the monstrosity across the lawn, Alexander Hall.

C. THOMAS CORWIN '62

Naples, Fla.

OUTDATED TAGLINE

I loved reading about Rachael Jeck '89's important work ("Registering Women To Vote," October issue). I was perplexed, however, by the caption under her photo in the print edition: "Lady Leadership."

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ADDRESS CHANGES

Alumni and Donor Records

100 Overlook Center, Suite 300

Princeton, NJ 08540

alumrecs@princeton.edu, 609-258-3114

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This phrasing contains echoes of historically sexist language used to diminish women's power (such as in outdated descriptions of female athletes as the "Lady Tigers" while the men were the "Tigers").

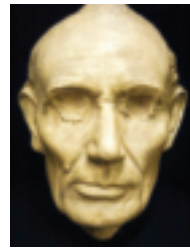
This word choice is painfully ironic given the article is about gender equity. I expect more from PAW in 2024.

ONA MILLER HANSON '97

Studio City, Calif.

MASK COLLECTION

I really appreciate the article about Laurence Hutton's collection of death and



LINCOLN LIFE MASK

life masks (Princeton Portrait, October issue). I'm not exactly sure how, but my student employment at Firestone Library in the mid-1970s

(probably for about \$5 an hour) led to my participation in the cataloging and archiving of these masks. I still remember the eerie and honored feeling of holding Abraham Lincoln's mask in my hands.

Thanks for confirming that this slightly macabre memory was not simply a dream.

STEVEN M. BROWN '77

Chesterfield, Mo.

In your biographical sketch of Laurence Hutton — honorary degree recipient, instructor in the Department of English, and donor of a collection of death masks — you omitted one other notable connection to Princeton. He is the namesake of the Department of History's top prize, which resulted from a donation in Hutton's memory in 1914 by his friend Samuel Elliott, a publisher and rare book collector in New York.

JAY GELLER '95

Cleveland, Ohio

I enjoyed Elyse Graham '07's Princeton Portrait of Laurence Hutton and his death mask collection in PAW's October issue. For years, a sampling of these masks was displayed in vitrines in the now long-gone Rockey Room on B Floor of Firestone Library. The Rockey Room housed the angling book collection of

Kenneth H. Rockey 1916 and included a sitting area with comfortable padded chairs, like a gentlemen club's lounge. I visited it frequently in the 1980s because of my interest in fishing, but the masks had their own lurid appeal. Somewhat less appealing was the perpetual eye-stinging pall — and stench — of cigarette smoke. The Rockey Room was the last remaining space in Firestone that allowed smoking. Arrayed under glass, the masks were a grim *memento mori* presumably lost on the smokers who gathered there.

JIM MERRITT '66

Pennington, N.J.

Editor's note: The author, PAW's editor from 1989 to '99, recommends Wes Tooke '98's 1998 story on the Hutton collection, "Immortality in Plaster," available online at bit.ly/masks-tooke.

DESCRIBING TED CRUZ '92

As a new reader of PAW, I very much enjoyed the coverage of election related news. However, I was surprised to see the difference in the description of Ted Cruz '92 and other alums ("Election Day," October issue).

I'm no fan of Cruz and agree that a mention of his controversies is appropriate. However, spending the entire blurb talking about them and failing to mention that he is running for Senate (every other candidate had their race named) nor anything about his connection with Princeton (as most of the other candidates have) seems a bit unfair to him. I hope PAW's coverage can be more balanced going forward.

COLBY MCARTHUR '24

Lake Quivira, Kan.

Even if I lived in Texas, I would be unlikely to vote for Ted Cruz '92. Yet it was blatantly obvious that Cruz was the only candidate whose profile took note of his policy positions.

A simple description of the race they're in, professional background, and Princeton major was sufficient for the other candidates. Why not Cruz?

RICHARD GOLDEN '91

Pottstown, Pa.

The description of Sen. Cruz is accurate. It's selective only in that it reflects two of the things that a great university must stand for, calling out lies in the public discourse and a rejection of racism. If, however, Sen. Cruz were noteworthy for his leadership and positive contribution "in the nation's service," such as fighting for universal education, health care, or a reduction in inequality, then I agree, that should have been included. Unfortunately, he is not.

ROBERT HILLS '67
Doylestown, Pa.

FOR THE RECORD

In the October issue, PAW's list of 2024 congressional candidates omitted George Whitesides '96, a Democrat in California's 27th District, and Dave McCormick '94 '96, a Republican in Pennsylvania's Senate race. Princeton's 1944 Navy V-12 convocation was misidentified in a photo caption that ran with the On the Campus story about Elizabeth Menzies. And in the From the Editor column, Landon Jones '66's age was misstated. He was 80 when he died Aug. 17.

YOUR PERSPECTIVE

Let us know what you think

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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.

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CHICAGO WHITE SOX: NASSAU HERALD; TIM LLEWELLYN



ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

CONTENT AVAILABLE ONLY AT PAW.PRINCETON.EDU

TIGER OF THE WEEK

Will Venable '05

Will Venable '05 was named the next manager of the Chicago White Sox, making him the first Princeton graduate to manage a Major League Baseball team. Venable served as



VENABLE '05

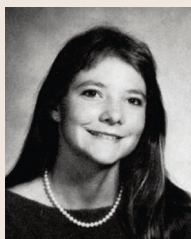
associate manager for the Texas Rangers for the past two years, including their 2023 championship season.

"There are so many attributes that go into being a successful leader, and Will embodies a lot of those," said **Chris Young '02**, president of the Rangers' baseball operations group. "He's empathetic, has just a great understanding of people and a winning spirit."

Read more at paw.princeton.edu.

MEMORIALS PAWCAST

Isabella De La Houssaye '86



DE LA HOUSSAYE '86

For this episode, **Melissa Marks '86** and **Susan Jackson '86** remember the life of **Isabella De La Houssaye '86**, who died in December 2023 at age 59. She was a lawyer, mother, art curator, and endurance athlete, and she was named a fellow of the Explorers Club. Listen at paw.princeton.edu or wherever you get your podcasts.

PAW BOOK CLUB

Did William Shakespeare really write the plays that bear his name? Or could someone else have been scribbling behind the scenes — perhaps the poet Emilia Bassano? Author **Jodi Picoult '87** explores the possibility and the history of misogyny in the theater world in her new novel, *By Any Other Name*,

SCAN the QR code to join the PAW Book Club or go to paw.princeton.edu/paw-book-club



PICOULT '87

which is our book club's current pick. Read the book and get your questions ready: We'll ask Jodi all about it in January.

And don't miss the most

recent book club podcast, featuring our conversation with **Katie Kitamura '99** about writing, teaching, and her much-lauded novel *Intimacies*. Find it at paw.princeton.edu or wherever you get your podcasts.



ON THE CAMPUS

NEWS, SPORTS, AND STUDENT LIFE



GOING THE DISTANCE

Princeton men's and women's cross country swept the team titles at the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships, held Nov. 2 on a new course in the Meadows Neighborhood. Read more on page 19.





INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Event Featuring UN's Francesca Albanese Draws Heated Debate

The human rights expert sparred with protesters about the Israel-Hamas war and the future

BY HOPE PERRY '24

P RINCETON STUDENTS AND community members engaged in heated arguments with Francesca Albanese, an Italian human rights expert focused on the Palestinian territories, during an event hosted by the School of Public and International Affairs on Oct. 29.

Albanese was appointed to her position, United Nations Special Rapporteur for the Occupied Palestinian Territories, in 2022. She has been criticized for attending a conference hosted by Hamas' Council on International Relations in 2022 and was condemned by the United States, France, and Germany for a 2014 comment that resurfaced in 2022 in which she characterized the U.S. as "subjugated by the Jewish lobby," playing into an antisemitic trope.

Albanese visited campus as part of the Dean's Leadership Series, which also stirred controversy this semester when it hosted the president of the Maldives,

who has banned Jewish Israeli citizens from entering the country.

Before the Oct. 29 moderated discussion started, Tigers for Israel hosted an anti-Albanese, pro-Israel protest on the steps of Robertson Hall. Albanese spoke in the Arthur Lewis Auditorium, which has a capacity of 189. Almost every seat was filled.

The moderator, SPIA visiting professor Razia Iqbal, began by asking Albanese about her recent report for the UN titled "Genocide as colonial erasure" on "the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories."

Before answering, Albanese gave a land acknowledgement to the Lenni-Lenape, a Native American tribe on whose ancestral land Princeton stands. "I recognize the profound injustices endured by Native Americans here and in other places around the world like Palestine," Albanese said, noting that these injustices are often overlooked

CONTENTIOUS VISIT

Francesca Albanese, whose work at the United Nations has sparked allegations of antisemitism, talks with students after her Oct. 29 appearance on campus.

and advocating for universities to be "committed to addressing and unraveling the colonial past."

At the same time Albanese was speaking, several community members holding Israeli flags and sitting in the back of the auditorium began speaking. "You're a liar! A liar!" one person yelled. "It's a bunch of garbage and you know it!" another added, before the community members got up and left.

After that interruption, Iqbal asked Albanese how she came to her conclusions in the report without being able to go to Gaza or the West Bank to conduct research.

"Let's say it's undeniable that certain acts have been committed," Albanese said, noting that satellite imagery shows farmlands, fishing boats, and most buildings in Gaza have been destroyed. "This is utterly, utterly illegal, and this is a war crime."

She added: "This is beyond a military object, this is a political objective and should have been questioned from the beginning."

Iqbal noted that war crimes and crimes against humanity can take place without a genocide. "To prove intent by an individual of genocide is hard enough, but to prove that a state has the intent to commit genocide is even harder," Iqbal said, pressing Albanese again on how she concluded that Israel has genocidal intent in its military operation in Gaza.

Albanese, whose responses often touched on many topics, argued that to Israel, "Palestinians have been felt [sic] like an encumbrance," and presented as an existential threat to Israel. "No one here is calling for the destruction of Israel," she added.

"Problem is this, that Israel was created as a Jewish state, and therefore it can only survive with this demographic majority," Albanese said. "The Palestinians, with their stubbornness, doesn't matter how you humiliate, how you deprive them,

how you must arrest them, you must incarcerate them, including their kids. You demolish their homes. They sleep under the rubble ... because for the Indigenous people, the land is not where they live. The land is who they are.”

Just before taking questions, Iqbal asked Albanese about the accusations of antisemitism that have been leveled against her.

“It’s not been said only about me, it’s been said about anyone criticizing Israel. Again, Israel has a track record as a serial violator of international law. It has nothing to do with the Jewish people,” Albanese said.

Maximillian Meyer ’27 of Tigers for Israel had the opportunity to ask a question but began by listing allegations of antisemitism against Albanese, including a social media post in February in which she responded to French President Emmanuel Macron’s assertion that Oct. 7, 2023, was the “largest antisemitic massacre of our century” by saying victims were killed not because they were Jewish, but as a response to Israeli oppression.

During the exchange, which became tense, Iqbal told Meyer to ask Albanese a question. “My question ultimately is, how dare you compare Jews to our oppressors?” he said.

In a winding and unclear answer, Albanese mentioned both Nazi Germany and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu before saying she would never mock the French president.

To conclude the event, Dean Amaney Jamal asked what Albanese sees as the path forward for peace and reconciliation in the region.

That path is for it “to be a shared land,” she said.

“I don’t think that there will be any way to move forward without Israelis coming to terms with the fact that they cannot lead by subjugating the Palestinians. And the Palestinians, there is no way that Palestinians leave that land, unless genocide, is the only way left for Israel to eradicate the Palestinian presence,” Albanese said, concluding that it is something that Israelis and Palestinians will have to decide. **■**

ENDOWMENT

Princeton’s Investments Up in 2024, but 3.9% Return Lags Behind Peers

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY REPORTED endowment gains for the first time since 2021, though the 3.9% return on investments for the last fiscal year was outpaced by every other school in the Ivy League. Five Ivy schools reported returns that more than doubled Princeton’s on a percentage basis.

The Princeton endowment, which ended fiscal year 2024 in June at \$34.1 billion, is still the third largest in the Ivy League behind Harvard (\$53.2 billion) and Yale (\$41.4 billion).

Following the historic 46.9% return on endowment investments in 2021, Princeton reported losses of 1.5% and 1.7% in 2022 and 2023, respectively. The average annual return on the endowment has been 9.2% for the last 10 years and 9.9% over the last 20 years.

John Tyler ’76, managing director of foundations and endowments at Fiduciary Trust International, explained via email that while it’s tough to say exactly why Princeton lagged behind its peers, “returns are directly correlated to the asset allocation of the university” and other institutions could have “had higher allocations to outperforming sectors.” In addition, Princeton might have had “significant exposure” to hedge funds, which “did not perform particularly well” last year.

Todd Ely, an associate professor in the School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver and an expert in financial management and policies, also cited the lack of available information as a challenge but pointed to “a long-term investment strategy that underperformed during a year of strong domestic stock market performance.

“While the long-term overexposure to certain asset classes, like venture capital and international markets, may continue to prove effective, short-term underperformance and volatility is to be expected at times,” Ely said.

Princeton announced divestment from fossil fuel stocks and dissociation from some fossil fuel companies in 2022. Though Tyler said fossil fuel stocks and investments “performed very, very well” in 2023, Ely said there is “little to suggest that policies that move away from fossil fuel investments negatively affected recent performance.”

Endowment Returns in the Ivy League

	FY-24 Return	Total Value
Columbia	11.5%	\$14.8B
Brown	11.3%	\$7.2B
Harvard	9.6%	\$53.2B
Cornell	8.7%	\$10.7B
Dartmouth	8.4%	\$8.3B
Penn	7.1%	\$22.3B
Yale	5.7%	\$41.4B
Princeton	3.9%	\$34.1B

SOURCES: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT CO., BROWN UNIVERSITY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL REPORT, CORNELL CHRONICLE, DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, PENN OFFICE OF INVESTMENTS, YALE NEWS, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS.

According to the University’s announcement, distributions from the endowment totaled \$1.7 billion last fiscal year, and “over the last 20 years, the endowment has contributed \$19.8 billion toward the University’s operations, equivalent to almost double the endowment’s value at the start of that time span.”

The endowment provides about two-thirds of the University’s net annual operating revenues and helps fund high priority strategic initiatives; it currently covers 70% of the undergraduate financial aid budget.

“Generations of generous philanthropy, coupled with excellent stewardship of our endowment, enable the University to make bold investments in human talent,” said Provost Jennifer Rexford ’91 in the University’s announcement. “The endowment allows us to offer unparalleled financial support to our students, launch major research initiatives, and build state-of-the-art facilities.”

This year’s return was certified by the Princeton University Investment Co. (Princo), the entity that manages the endowment, in October.

Princo president Vincent Tuohey, who succeeded Andrew Golden in June, declined an interview with PAW, and the University declined to answer follow-up questions. **■ By J.B.**



FACULTY LINE UP FOR THE OCT. 21 MEETING.

FACULTY DEBATE

Much-Anticipated Meeting Kicks Controversial Votes to April

BY HOPE PERRY '24

P RINCETON FACULTY present at a closed meeting Oct. 21 voted 166-156-7 to postpone votes on three controversial proposals related to faculty advocacy until the last scheduled faculty meeting of the academic year, on April 28, according to meeting minutes obtained by PAW.

Faculty meetings are typically held in Nassau Hall and are open to the campus press and other observers specified by the faculty's rules. Two weeks before the meeting, the Faculty Advisory Committee on Policy (FACP), composed of six tenure-track faculty members, unanimously voted to close the meeting to observers.

Faculty members had to show identification to enter the meeting, which was moved to Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall to accommodate a larger-than-usual showing at the meeting in anticipation of the controversial votes.

The motion to postpone was an addition to the agenda by the FACP a week before the meeting.

The first of the three other proposals on the agenda was proposed by the Council on Academic Freedom (CAF), a group of about 60 faculty members promoting "freedom of inquiry and

expression" and "intellectual tolerance," and was to be presented by politics professor Jonathan Mummolo.

That proposal would have amended the Rules and Procedures of the faculty so that "proposals presented at faculty meetings for a general vote of the faculty must pertain to matters of University governance."

It would also prohibit the faculty from voting to issue "collective political or ideological statements or on recommendations for other collective political or ideological actions unrelated" to University governance.

"I do not believe postponement was a wise decision," Mummolo wrote to PAW. "Virtually every peer of Princeton's has embraced some form of full institutional neutrality. What we were asking for at [the Oct. 21] meeting — that University faculty meetings focus exclusively on University business — was a very modest change by comparison."

University President Christopher Eisgruber '83 told *The Daily Princetonian* last month that Princeton would not consider adopting institutional neutrality.

The other two proposals were to be presented at the meeting by classics professor Dan-el Padilla Peralta '06 on

behalf of more than 20 other faculty members. One called for a committee of faculty to evaluate the University's response to pro-Palestinian protests last spring, and the other called on the University to establish an "initiative to support and advocate for Palestinian, Arab, and Arab-American students, faculty, and staff."

According to documents obtained by PAW, a few days prior to the meeting, the University's General Counsel Ramona Romero circulated a memo about legal concerns regarding those two motions.

After reading the memo, "we realized [the proposals] would need to be revised," Padilla Peralta told PAW. Support of postponement was, therefore, "in the interest of making [the proposals] more solid," he explained.

Other faculty members were skeptical about this explanation.

"They wanted the postponement to April to pass, which I interpreted as stopping neutrality until at least April," politics professor John Londregan '88 said.

"The only reason to take these issues up in faculty meetings is to give the impression that Princeton has adopted an 'official' position on a matter, or that 'The Faculty' as a body hold a certain view. Academic freedom demands that we each retain the right to speak for ourselves," wrote Mummolo.

Mummolo also emphasized that faculty have other outlets through which to voice their political views, and he cautioned that faculty meeting votes cannot accurately represent the opinion of the entire faculty.

Padilla Peralta argued that the postponement created more space for dialogue about why the CAF proposal "lacks vision" and "... about why affirming the right of faculty as a collective to speak on Palestine benefits all faculty, as well as the broader Princeton community."

In the meantime, there are six months for the faculty to deliberate among themselves and revise their proposals.

"It was better to have more time for our own vision, our own constructive vision," Padilla Peralta said. **P**

Antiquities Dealer Edoardo Almagià '73 Charged by Manhattan DA

Almagià faces charges of conspiracy, taking part in a scheme to defraud, and possessing stolen property owned by Italy

BY JULIE BONETTE

ART DEALER Edoardo Almagià '73 was charged in late October for his suspected role in looting Italian antiquities, according to an arrest warrant provided by the Manhattan District Attorney's Office.

Almagià faces charges of conspiracy, taking part in a scheme to defraud, and possessing stolen property owned by Italy.

Almagià, who is based in Italy, is accused of trafficking looted antiquities for decades, as detailed by PAW in a feature story that was published in September 2023. More than 200 items, valued at \$7 million, that are suspected to have been trafficked by Almagià have already been repatriated by the Manhattan DA's office, which has been working with the Italian government on the matter. The antiquities have been plucked from the collections of various prestigious museums, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Princeton University Art Museum (PUAM).

According to the warrant, Almagià sold 14 stolen antiquities to PUAM, donated six more items to the museum, and loaned six additional pieces over the years. According to the museum, nine pieces connected to Almagià (three accessioned objects and six loans) were among the 11 objects that the Manhattan DA's office seized from Princeton in March 2023.

RETURNED TO ITALY

"Amphora with Warrior" (dated 660-680 B.C.) was among the objects on loan from Edoardo Almagià '73 that were seized from the Princeton University Art Museum by the Manhattan DA's office in 2023.

In 2012, the University announced it had returned six Almagià-connected objects to Italy, some of which were composed of multiple fragments. (The museum now counts this as 16 transferred objects.)

PUAM confirmed that two additional items — a lip cup from 550 B.C. that the museum purchased from Almagià in 1991 and an amphora from 700 B.C. that was at one point sold by Almagià and then given by bequest to the museum in 1998 — were transferred in March 2024 as part of its work with the Manhattan DA's office. As of Nov. 1, PUAM's collection included 16 items with ties to Almagià.

"Many individuals involved in the Almagià trafficking network met at either Princeton University or [the] Princeton [University Art] Museum," according to the warrant.



Assistant District Attorney Matthew Bogdanos presented the 79-page arrest warrant to criminal court judge Rachel Pauley, according to *The New York Times*, which also reported that the DA's office will soon request that Interpol file an international arrest alert for Almagià and work with Italian officials to begin extradition proceedings.

"If Almagià is the first name on your provenance, it is stolen," Bogdanos, who heads the Antiquities Trafficking Unit, told PAW last year. "That is well known."

In 2023 interviews with PAW, Almagià denied accusations of wrongdoing, stating that some of the items came from a family collection and he "freely" bought others in open markets.

Almagià told PAW via email in early November that "this story is nothing but a witch hunt and one of the many episodes of scarlet lettering that comes from institutions that are corporatist, scarcely democratic, and have no love for objects and no understanding of the human mind."

A 1909 Italian law declares antiquities the cultural property of the state, including items that were excavated illegally or exported without documentation.

The warrant alleged that Almagià had the "complicit assistance" of former PUAM curator Michael Padgett, and that key relationships with other scholars, art museum directors, and collectors helped Almagià "to publish and facilitate the sale of his stolen objects."

The warrant also said, "Padgett's primary role in the conspiracy was to use his reputation and contacts to include Almagià into a world of high-profile clients and curators from major U.S. museums."

Padgett denied those allegations in a statement to *The New York Times*, citing a thorough review by the University that found no evidence of wrongdoing and an Italian judge's 2012 dismissal of Italy's investigation of accusations made in 2010. "I was not criminally complicit with Edoardo Almagià or anyone else," he said. Padgett retired from the University in 2021. ■



LECTURE SERIES
Martin Fayulu, left, a politician from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, with AWI director Chika Okeke-Agulu.

GLOBAL STUDIES

Africa World Initiative Shines Multidisciplinary Spotlight on Africa

BY JULIE BONETTE

IN THE TWO AND A HALF YEARS since Princeton announced the creation of the Africa World Initiative (AWI), the interdisciplinary center’s wide-ranging endeavors in the humanities, artificial intelligence, entrepreneurialism, and more have laid down an ambitious road map. Already, AWI has brought esteemed African speakers to campus and propelled efforts to include African languages in artificial intelligence data sets. It’s also working with nongovernmental organizations to influence African policy and connecting Princeton students, alumni, and faculty who have ties to Africa.

There’s nothing like it “anywhere among our peer institutions right now,” according to AWI director Chika Okeke-Agulu, a professor of art and archaeology and African American studies.

The idea for AWI came to Okeke-Agulu years ago, when he was director of Princeton’s Program in African Studies

and had a desire to expand offerings beyond what is typical of an academic department. He thought it was important to have “a broader set of resources, but also more substantial commitment from the University to rethink Africa’s presence in Princeton in terms of programming, curricular resources, and research initiatives

“Demographically speaking, Africa will be the most important continent in the next few decades,” Okeke-Agulu said, due to its fast-growing and relatively young population. *The New York Times* reported that one in four people worldwide will be African by 2050.

After conversations with Deborah Prentice, then the University provost, AWI was born as a collaboration between the African studies program and the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies. It was announced at Reunions 2022.

Through AWI, Okeke-Agulu said,

Princeton is engaging “the African continent in a much more meaningful and compelling way.”

A Growing Reach

Initiatives supported by Princeton’s Africa World Initiative

IN THE LECTURE HALL

AWI brings policymakers, novelists, and other African leaders to campus through two lecture series. The inaugural Africa Impact lecture was delivered this September by Martin Fayulu, a politician from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who spoke of the need for institutional reform. Citing courts that have been “hijacked” to legitimize corruption, Fayulu again and again came back to the importance of democracy. He used Wakanda, the fictional land from Marvel’s *Black Panther*, as an example of something to strive for: a nation rich in resources that can also defend itself. More policymakers and politicians will follow.

The Africa World lecture series, featuring African visionaries, debuted last fall with a talk by Nigerian novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, whose works have themes of postcolonial feminism. Abdulrazak Gurnah, a Tanzanian-born British novelist and academic who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2021 and whose work focuses on colonialism and refugees, spoke this October.

LANGUAGE AND TECHNOLOGY

Artificial intelligence relies heavily on language to perform tasks, but despite the fact that Africa is home to more than a quarter of the world’s languages, very few are represented in the AI ecosystem. AWI is in the process of onboarding 11 African languages through the creation of nonproprietary universal treebanks, which are fundamental codes written to harvest high-quality data. Okeke-Agulu said AWI is “already getting feelers from some African countries that are interested” in support for other languages as well.

FUSION AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH

With scientists and representatives from the Princeton Plasma Physics

PHILIP MCAULIFFE

Lab and other collaborators including the U.S. Department of Energy and the International Atomic Energy Agency, AWI helped form a working group — Fusion and the Global South — that brings people from Africa and Latin America in on conversations about nuclear fusion, a potentially game-changing energy source. Resources such as coal and cobalt come from the global south, yet “they’re not at the table” when it comes to research and crafting policies, according to Okeke-Agulu.

SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION

The first meeting of the Africa Innovation Council — with representatives from South Africa, Rwanda, Senegal, Nigeria, Egypt, Morocco, and Kenya — was held last March in Princeton to discuss “fundamental questions about why, after decades of global investment in Africa” in areas such as health care, food security, and education, “success has been far and few between,” said Okeke-Agulu. The council is a “network of individuals that have close proximity to international organizations,” such as the World Health Organization and the United Nations Development Program, who “understand the language of policy makers and government in Africa.”

IN THE ARCHIVES AND THE CLASSROOM

The African Archives Project archives and disseminates research and work related to Africa conducted by Princeton faculty and others. This includes storage of physical materials as well as plans for a digital archive that will be accessible across the globe. For one of the first projects, AWI is partnering with a pre-existing Nigerian-based team to produce the first multi-dialectal dictionary for Igbo, which is spoken in Nigeria; AWI will host the archive.

AWI also supports courses, such as a freshman seminar on teaching computers African languages that is new this fall, as well as student internships in Africa and a postdoctoral researcher currently in their second year at Princeton. ■

CLASS CLOSE-UP

Freshman Seminar Examines Recipes for Disaster



PRIOR TO THE SINKING of the *Titanic* in 1912, “people were really very safety conscious” at sea, according to Edward Tenner ’65, a lecturer in the sociology department, but safety measures were based heavily on recent shipwrecks, many of which were attributed to fog. Icebergs simply weren’t on people’s minds, and thus caught the crew and passengers unprepared.

That misleading thinking — known as recency bias — is one of the concepts taught in Tenner’s freshman seminar course *Understanding Disasters*, offered for the first time this fall. Using four case studies, the course examines how disasters happen, as well as the methods and value of history. In addition to the *Titanic*, the *Challenger* space shuttle explosion, the collapse of the World Trade Center towers, and the implosion of the *Titan* submersible are covered.

Tenner chose to focus on disasters because the events “have been studied so much by people from very different disciplines.”

Hannah Feinberg ’28, who is intending to major in neuroscience, realized through this course that even in STEM industries, “you are also dealing with power dynamics and pressure from higher ups,” and in some cases, such as the *Challenger* explosion, additional factors like public opinion and government oversight.

“Innovation and technology and more STEM-related advancements don’t happen without politics and sociology and the more humanities-based fields as well,” she said.

For each disaster, the students scrutinize common attitudes and thinking before the tragedy, contemporary coverage of the event, and lessons learned. During the first half of the semester, the class of 15 wrote weekly response papers to readings including first-hand accounts, historical documents like newspaper articles, and post-event analyses. They have now turned their attention to a final paper on the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nicole Muradov ’28, who intends to pursue the pre-med track, plans to examine how inequality can affect one’s experience during a disaster when it comes to health-care treatment and access.

“Especially as I go into a more technical field, this class is helpful and giving a reminder of what’s at stake,” she said.

Students also heard from guest speakers, such as historian Richard R. John, a professor at Columbia who has written about the *Titanic* and other disasters, and James Glanz ’91, a reporter at *The New York Times* who covers disasters and co-authored *City in the Sky: The Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center*. They also visited the National September 11 Memorial & Museum together.

For Feinberg, the course has given her a lot to think about in terms of innovation, technology, and human error, “but also how we as students, as we continue in our Princeton journeys, can positively contribute to group settings and making things work.” ■ **By J.B.**



UP TO THE CHALLENGE
Outdoor Action participants take a break from canoeing in New Jersey's Pine Barrens, left, and navigate an obstacle at Princeton Blairstown Center, below, in photos from the 1970s.

OUTDOOR ACTION

Into the Woods

Alumni celebrate 50 years of camping trips and leadership

BY BRETT TOMLINSON

SINCE 1974, OUTDOOR ACTION has relied on the utilitarian tools of camping trips — backpacks, tarp tents, headlamps, and generous bags of gorp — to build community among students and train future leaders. More than 130 former trip leaders gathered on campus in late September to celebrate the program's first 50 years and talk about its future.

Rick Curtis '79, who has directed OA since 1981, collected an array of memorabilia for the event, including a 10-page typewritten memo that outlined the program's launch.

"Students frequently identify a feeling of isolation on campus today," Steve Boehlke '70, then Princeton's assistant dean of student affairs, wrote in his proposal. "Individuals move from dormitory room to classroom to library with little social interaction along the way. ... The Outdoor Action program will stimulate new relationships among members of the University community in a context removed from the routine and



ritual of campus life."

Revisiting the document, Curtis was struck by its prescience. "This language still applies today, you know?" he said. "Now it's social media and cell phones

[that are] contributing to the isolation, but it's still applicable, 50 years later."

The same can be said for Boehlke's vision for OA's potential: "Frosh trip" blossomed into a Princeton phenomenon, drawing more than 25,000 participants since its inception, and its success helped to spark Community Action and Dialogue and Difference in Action. Small-group experiences are now a universal part of freshman orientation.

At the heart of OA's philosophy, Curtis said, is the idea of "challenge by choice." A typical frosh trip will include a range of challenges and opportunities, and each participant has the agency to decide what they're ready to try.

"If you provide the right tools and learning and support, people are like, 'Oh, I was able to do that. You know, I didn't think I could do that,'" Curtis said. "And that I think is a great metaphor, as a way to start Princeton."

Holly Zindulis '05, a former OA leader who is now a high school English teacher, said she values the lessons of her trips as a participant and leader — working toward a common goal, learning to communicate effectively, and making decisions together. Being out in nature, she added, "changes your sense of scale. It has a way of putting personal challenges into perspective."

A remarkable number of frosh trip participants — roughly one in 10 — pursues OA leader training. Peter Bregman '89, who has built his career around advising corporate and government leaders, traces his path back to the "collaborative leadership" he witnessed on his first leader training trip. "It was deeply uncompetitive," he said. "Every part of it was about 'How can I work together with you?'"

OA leader training aims to be inclusive, Curtis said, following the fundamental idea that "leadership is something that

COURTESY OF OUTDOOR ACTION

everybody can learn.” Simon Porter ’01 said that’s particularly valuable at Princeton, where freshmen might feel like they have to give up some of the activities that defined their high school experiences. A former soccer star might not be varsity material, or a soloist might fall short in a cappella auditions.

“OA is the exact opposite,” Porter said. “Anyone who wants to be part of OA can be part of OA.” He knows from experience. In a few short years, he went from never spending a night in the outdoors to leading trips and then training trip leaders.

Elena Olivi ’07, who came back to campus from Kenya for the OA anniversary celebration, said she made the trip to show her gratitude for the program and for Curtis, a “one-of-a-kind human being.”

Curtis first encountered OA as an undergrad and returned to lead it two years after graduation, so he said he either knows or knows of every trip leader in its history, a cohort that now includes about 3,700 alumni.

In Olivi’s view, the skills of leader training — problem solving, collaboration, adapting to change — carry over into life after graduation. “These sorts of things, you don’t learn them in a classroom — you learn them, in my experience, from being in the outdoors with a team,” she said. “So I think that sort of thing makes OA even more critical than it ever was before.”

After enduring the pandemic, which reshaped frosh trips for two years and disrupted the pipeline of trip leaders, OA is looking ahead, adding more to its “OA+” schedule of trips on weekends and breaks throughout the academic year. The anniversary event included a group discussion of OA’s next 50 years — a discussion that Curtis expects will continue.

Zindulis told PAW that the weekend reaffirmed the program’s wide-ranging impact.

“My hope is that University administrators and the University community realize what a tremendous gift to the school OA really is,” she said. “It has given so much to so many Princetonians. It is so much more than a backpacking trip or a camping trip.” ■

GEOSCIENCES

A New Home — and Pose — For Guyot’s Allosaurus

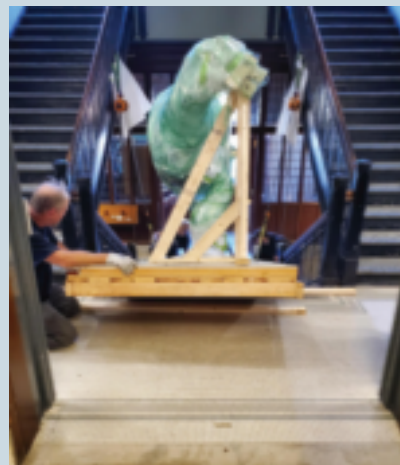
PRINCETON’S ALLOSAURUS, excavated by University paleontologists in Utah during the late 1930s and early ’40s, is on the move after spending more than six decades in the central hallway of Guyot Hall.

In October, the allosaurus, nicknamed “Al” by geosciences faculty and staff, was shipped to Canada for refurbishment in advance of its installation at the new Environmental Sciences building on Ivy Lane in the spring of 2025.

The head, tail, and hind legs were removed and packed, and the remaining portion was wrapped for protection before being moved down the stairway to a waiting truck. Research Casting International, a firm that specializes in fossil restoration and museum exhibits, is creating an external armature that will allow researchers to remove individual bones for study, according to Frances Hannan, communications manager for Princeton’s facilities department.

“During preparation meetings for the move, the experts noted that she’s mounted in an upright pose,” instead of the more horizontal alignment now believed to be the Late Jurassic-era dinosaur’s likely posture, Hannan told PAW in an email.

Since the allosaurus was already undergoing cleaning and repairs, Hannan said, “the team decided to



CALL ME AL

The allosaurus will rejoin the geosciences department when it moves to a new building on Ivy Lane next year.

add a re-pose so she reflects the most modern scientific understanding.”

Guyot Hall is also embarking on a transformation: It will be renovated and repurposed as Eric and Wendy Schmidt Hall, a new home for computer science scheduled to open in 2029. ■ *By B.T.*

IN SHORT

In early November, Judge John McCarthy III ’69 of the Princeton Municipal Court again **rejected proposed plea deals** for the 13 pro-Palestinian protesters who were arrested in April at Clio Hall. The defendants’ lawyer, Aymen Aboushi,

said he had discussed the matter with Princeton University counsel, who were “agreeable” to the deals, under which the defendants would have been charged with noise ordinance violations. Prosecutor Christopher Koutsouris said the University’s Department of Public Safety is ready to proceed to trial. The defendants will be back in court on Dec. 10, at which time the judge intends to set a trial date and rule on any pretrial motions. ■



STUDENT DISPATCH

Glee's Community of Singers Celebrates 150 Years

BY JOSHUA YANG '25



MEMBERS OF THE Princeton University Glee Club rehearse three times a week for a series of concerts throughout the year, including a performance at Reunions and the joint Yale-Princeton Glee Club concert. Every other year, the club also embarks on an international tour.

"I look back really fondly on our international tour [of the Balkans] from two years ago, which was my first time internationally touring with Glee," said Jenia Marquez '25, the Glee Club student president.

"While we were in Slovenia, we got to go to these caves, [and] we got to sing one of our pieces in a really big open space within the caves. That was perhaps one of my favorite choral experiences ever," she said. "Where else am I going to be singing in a cave in Slovenia?"

This fall, the Glee Club's marquee event was in the more familiar cavern

of Richardson Auditorium as the group celebrated its 150th anniversary. A Gala Weekend Nov. 15–17 was set to culminate with a concert expected to include the largest-ever gathering of alumni in the choir ensemble's history. In addition to performances by current Glee Club members and British a cappella ensemble The King's Singers, Glee Club director Gabriel Crouch planned to bring together alumni for a mass choir performance.

Crouch would have just a single afternoon to rehearse hundreds of alumni, he told PAW in the weeks leading up to the concert. "It's going to be pretty chaotic, but it's going to be very, very gratifying," he said.

The Glee Club, the largest and oldest choral group on campus, has long existed as a hub for student singers. Glee Club "is the place where student singing is nourished, where a sense of good practice is honed, [and] where the opportunity for personal growth as a singer through private voice study is created," Crouch said, adding that over the years, many new singing groups have emerged from groups of Glee Club members.


Glee Club was founded by Andrew Fleming West 1874 in his senior year at Princeton. (West later served as the

first dean of the Graduate School.) In its 150-year history, the group has seen myriad changes and traditions emerge: Princeton hosted its first joint concert with its Yale and Harvard counterparts in 1913; the group set off on its first overseas tours in the 1950s; and women joined the choir in 1969 as the University became coeducational for undergrads.

In the past decade, Glee Club membership has nearly doubled to boast around 90 students in any given year; much of this expansion has been made possible due to Crouch's push to accommodate a wide range of skill levels. "I want to make it possible for anybody to have that opportunity [to join Glee Club], whether they've had 10 years of high-level experience or whether they've had no experience whatsoever," Crouch said.

Such a commitment to inclusivity and belonging also extends to the student experience and repertoire. "I think people stay in the choir because they've made a friend and because they feel like a part of the community, and I think it's really important that that is maintained," Marquez said. "Traditional choir music isn't always necessarily the most diverse, and so [I wanted to make sure] that everyone can see themselves in Glee's repertoire or has the opportunity to feel like they can contribute to that."

Another recent Glee Club initiative seeks to further alumni engagement. The Glee Club Foundation, set up two years ago, connects current Glee Club members with approximately 2,000 alumni around the world. As part of the preparations for the Gala Weekend, the foundation coordinated a massive outreach effort to alumni.

Cat Sweeney '20, president of the Glee Club Foundation, hopes that the anniversary is merely the first in a series of opportunities for alumni to continue engaging with Glee Club after graduation. "I think it would be amazing to have alumni sing in cities across the country — perhaps [also] internationally, if we have alumni there — to give them a chance to get together and sing again," she said. 

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM



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ABOVE: Tracey Moffatt, *Something More #1*, 1989. Museum of Photographic Arts at the San Diego Museum of Art. Gift of Farrell Family. © Tracey Moffatt BELOW: Helène Aylon, *Terrestri: "Rescued" Earth (Sunrise Departure)*, 1982. Courtesy of Helène Aylon Estate and Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects, New York.



WATER POLO

Scoring Leader Roko Pozaric '25 Elevates Princeton's Goals

BY BRETT TOMLINSON

AS A CROATIAN HIGH SCHOOL student hoping to be recruited by American collegiate water polo teams during the COVID pandemic, Roko Pozaric '25 knew that few people would have a chance to see him play in person. So he cast a wide net with online introductions.

"Every coach in D-1 received my email, definitely," Pozaric said.

Princeton's Dustin Litvak was one of the coaches who replied, spurred by an endorsement from American water polo star Alex Bowen, who'd played a season with Pozaric's home club in Zagreb.

Litvak had some sense of Pozaric's size, speed, and academic credentials, and when the 6-foot-3 freshman arrived on campus, the coach was thrilled to learn he had a work ethic that matched his formidable skills. But it was a teammate, Keller Maloney '23, who first put a label on what Pozaric could be for Princeton water polo: a generational player.

Four years later, Pozaric stands alone as the program's career goals leader — by early November, he had 268 — and was on pace to reach the No. 2 spot in career

assists. The Tigers won three straight Northeast Water Polo Conference (NWPC) championships in his first three years and were aiming for a fourth when Princeton hosted the league tournament Nov. 22-24 (after this issue went to press).

Through it all — from the homesickness of his freshman year to the challenge of being routinely double-teamed by defenders — Pozaric has been all that his coach could have hoped for.

"It's really hard to put his value into stats," Litvak said. "You just have to be around him every day to see the impact he has. He makes everyone around him better."

Take, for example, the sprint to the center line that begins each quarter of a game — water polo's version of a faceoff. If you swim fast enough to win the ball more than half the time, you give your team an advantage. Pozaric, in more than 400 career sprints, has won 90% of them, earning his team nearly four extra possessions per game.

Speed, Pozaric said, was part of his repertoire from his earliest days in the sport. He'd been a competitive swimmer

CALIFORNIA KING

Roko Pozaric '25 scored his record-breaking 255th goal during an Oct. 15 win at Pepperdine. On the same road trip, he helped Princeton beat Cal for the first time in program history.

from the age of 5 or 6, but he became bored with the repetition and switched to water polo when he was 10.

By the time he reached high school, he was eager to follow the path Croatian players had taken to top teams like UCLA and USC, until Princeton piqued his interest with the promise of elite academics and water polo. Having fellow Croatian Antonio Knez '22 on the team, Pozaric said, helped him navigate freshman year, his first time taking classes entirely in English.

Pozaric has also been quick to credit teammates for his success in the pool. The senior class includes two other players who've climbed to the program's top-20 list of career goal scorers (Vladan Mitrovic '25 and George Caras '25), and sophomore goalie Kristóf Kovács joined Pozaric among this year's nominees for the Cutino Award, which recognizes the national player of the year.

East Coast water polo has historically trailed the California schools, which have been national champions and runners-up every year since the sport's first NCAA Tournament was held in 1969. But Princeton is expanding the potential of what an Eastern team can do. After NCAA quarterfinal losses to UCLA in 2021 and USC in 2022, the Tigers broke through in 2023, defeating UC-Irvine to reach the Final Four. Princeton played a competitive semifinal game against UCLA before falling 17-13 to the Bruins.

Earlier this season, Pozaric scored four times in an 11-9 win at Cal, the three-time defending national champion. As he looked ahead to the NWPC Tournament and a potential return to the NCAA Tournament, he envisioned a chance to shoot for history.

"The goal is, of course, to be the national champions," Pozaric said. "And I think ... that's never been more possible than this year." ■



WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY AT THE IVY LEAGUE HEPTAGONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS NOV. 2

FALL SPORTS

Cross Country Teams Lead Tigers' Parade of Champions

A S PRINCETON WOMEN'S cross country took the lead in the team standings more than halfway through the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships Nov. 2, coach Brad Hunt said he was calling out a simple message from the sidelines: "You

belong! You belong up there!"

The Tigers, who had finished second to Harvard for three straight years, took the mantra to heart, placing four runners in the top eight and winning their first Ivy title since 2015.

Mena Scatchard '25 led Princeton as

the second runner across the line, while Anna McNatt '27's strong kick put her in third, 41 spots higher than her 2023 Heps finish. Lexi Allen '25, who missed last year's meet due to illness, placed seventh, and newcomer Meg Madison '28 was three seconds behind her in eighth.

Princeton hosted the meet, the first major event on the new cross country course in the Meadows Neighborhood, south of Lake Carnegie. The men's team, led by Myles Hogan '26 (fifth) and Nicholas Bendtsen '25 (eighth), won the Heps title as well, overtaking Harvard in the final 1,000 meters of the 8,000-meter race.

Also on Nov. 2, Princeton field hockey completed a 7-0 Ivy League championship season, defeating Yale 1-0 at Bedford Field. Olympian Beth Yeager '26 scored the goal, her 15th of the season. Women's soccer edged Columbia, 1-0, in New York to earn the Ivy regular season title for the first time since 2018. **By B.T.**

SAMEER A. KHAN '21 / FOTOBUFFY

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- | | |
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RESEARCH

ADVANCING THE FRONTIERS OF KNOWLEDGE



SEAWEED SWELL

In July, a research team led by Princeton was awarded funding to develop technologies to transform Sargassum seaweed into several sustainable products such as fuels and fertilizers. Sargassum, a free-floating brown algae, produces a foul odor when it washes up on shore and is a threat to flora, fauna, and critical infrastructure, which it can clog. “We have the opportunity to turn something that’s been an economic and environmental disaster into a long-lasting, sustainable solution,” says José Avalos, associate professor of chemical and biological engineering. The team is one of five that will receive up to \$47.3 million over five years for its transformative projects from the Virtual Institute on Feedstocks of the Future (VIFF), a partnership between Schmidt Sciences and the Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR).

LORETTA ROBERSON



NEUROSCIENCE

Researching Responses to Stressful Situations

BY ALISON BOWEN

WHY DO SOME PEOPLE REACT by coping resiliently with adversity, while others might want to sit in a dark corner for days? This is one question neuroscience professor Ilana Witten '02 hopes to research as a 2024 Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Investigator.

The award aims to equip scientists to push their research further, providing each recipient about \$11 million in support throughout seven years, according to the institute. These researchers study across many scientific disciplines, including cancer biology, computational biology, physiology, and plant sciences. More than 30 current or former HHMI recipients have won the Nobel Prize.

Witten, a researcher in the Princeton Neuroscience Institute and principal investigator at the Witten Lab, focuses on understanding how our brains process stress. This grant means that she'll be able to further her lab's research in brain systems and circuits. She says, thanks to this opportunity, she can think on a much longer time scale to

follow her passions and creativity. "It's just a really exciting opportunity to be given that chance," she says.

Witten first became interested in investigating the brain and its behavior around decision making while taking a neuroscience class at Princeton. "I was very excited," she says. "I never looked back." She was captivated by the idea that we could study thoughts. After graduating from Princeton in 2002, she got her Ph.D. in neuroscience at Stanford. Witten became a professor at Princeton in 2012.

Witten is interested in our drive to seek rewards and how that shapes our behavior. For example, if someone achieves a goal or gets a reward, they want to figure out what to do to get that positive outcome in the future. If a

"Some are learning how to cope with the stress, and others are just learning avoidance behavior."

— ILANA WITTEN '02

DECISION MAKING

Neuroscience professor Ilana Witten '02, right, whose research focuses on understanding how our brains process stress, was named a 2024 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator.

person got a good grade on a test, that might make them think they should study in the exact same way, Witten says.

But practically speaking, everyone responds differently to the same experience, including stressful situations. To help better understand this, her lab is studying what animals learn when presented with stress.

For example, mice in certain situations show behavior like helplessness or symptoms similar to anxiety. They may be introduced to a stressful scenario, Witten says, via interaction with another mouse that is aggressive. Mice who are in a stressful environment might become socially avoidant, showing what, she says, someone might call depression in a person. Others might seem fine. The difference between mice who may no longer want to play with animals, or seek out a sugary drink, can show what they are learning from stress.

"Some are learning how to cope with the stress, and others are just learning avoidance behavior," she says.

She hopes this will eventually extrapolate to helping humans — if we can better understand how animals' brain circuitry responds to stress, it might help researchers better understand how to help individuals suffering from mental illnesses like anxiety and depression.

The funding that the HHMI grant provides will allow her to focus more fully on the research, she says, as opposed to frequently planning where the next funding will come from. Typically, labs are funded by smaller grants that are renewable in much shorter time periods; it can almost seem like researchers are constantly thinking about applying for and monitoring new funding sources.

Now, she says, "You can focus more on being creative and thinking about what you're most passionate about." ■

BEHIND THE RESEARCH: J. KĒHAULANI KAUANUI

Shining a Spotlight on Indigenous Experiences

BY AGATHA BORDONARO '04



GROWING UP IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, J. Kēhaulani Kauanui would spend each summer on the island of Kaua'i in Hawaii. But she wasn't luxuriating in hotels or vacation homes; Kauanui's father hails from Anahola, a specially designated territory for native Hawaiians that was — and still is — regulated by blood quantum policy.

"The state requires Hawaiians to prove that they have 50% Hawaiian blood to even be on a waiting list for a lease," Kauanui says of the land. "It is a quasi-reservation, and pretty impoverished, to boot. That fantasy of the Hawaiian Islands — I knew, as a young kid, this place was not the same."

Kauanui carried this awareness into adulthood, dedicating her life to Indigenous studies and activism. She earned her bachelor's degree in women's studies at the University of California, Berkeley, and her Ph.D. in history of consciousness at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her research focuses on a variety of Indigenous issues including sovereignty and self-determination, settler colonialism and decolonization, and gender and sexuality.

"My research really comes out of social movement politics and also cross-racial explorations around what we now would call solidarity."

Quick Facts

TITLE

Professor of Indigenous studies and anthropology

TIME AT PRINCETON

5 months

UPCOMING CLASS

Decolonizing Indigenous Genders and Sexualities

KAUANUI'S RESEARCH A SAMPLING



HAWAIIAN FEMINISM

By the time Kauanui was getting involved with the Hawaiian Renaissance movement in the 1990s, it had grown from a cultural revitalization effort focused on preserving language, hula, genealogy, traditional medicines, tattooing, and voyaging canoes to a nationalist, anti-colonial struggle. Kauanui noticed that Hawaiian women were often at the forefront of the movement, yet their role did not seem to inspire a wave of Hawaiian feminism during this period. Her current book

project, tentatively titled *A Question of Decolonization: Hawaiian Women and a Dilemma of Feminism*, explores this disconnect and investigates what feminism means in Hawaii.



ETHICAL ENGAGEMENT

As a professor at Wesleyan, Kauanui taught a service-oriented course called *Decolonizing Indigenous Middletown*. Quickly realizing there was very little research or resources available on the Wangunk, a people indigenous to

central Connecticut, Kauanui founded the Wangunk Studies Working Group in 2024. It brings together community historians, archaeologists, genealogists, and academic scholars — along with tribal elder Gary Red Oak O'Neil — to conduct and share research on the Wangunk people. Kauanui hopes the group will also "be leveraged to think about ethical relations for any university living on Wangunk lands," and hopes the Princeton community will similarly work to build on existing and ongoing efforts to engage with the Lenni-Lenape people. "What does it mean ... to actually engage in ethical ways?"

RIGHTING WRONGS

There is a movement sweeping across North America that aims to return land to Indigenous communities. Called *Landback*, this movement has inspired a variety of actions: "Some city councils are giving back part



of the lands that they sit on to the nearest tribe," Kauanui says. Other examples include people returning land to tribes in their wills, churches repatriating their land, and some tribes buying their land back, she says. In recent years, millions of acres have been returned to Indigenous communities nationwide. To deepen understanding of the movement and the issues around it, Kauanui aims to teach a course at Princeton in which students choose specific instances of reclamation — and investigate them. She says the course "hits on the global and local [implications], it hits on decolonization, and it hits on solidarity." ■

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

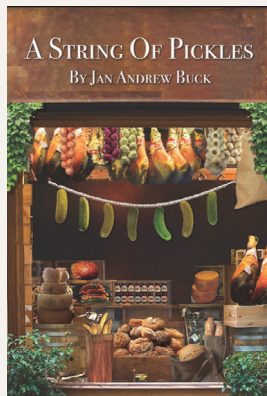
The Princeton Bookshelf

2024 Winter Guide to Princeton University Authors



THE VERY FIRST AMAZING ADVENTURE OF GRISWOLD & CHRISTOPHE
CHRISTIAN BJONE *80

Griswold & Christophe is an illustrated children's book of two enchanted toys, wind-up soldier and teddy bear, that go on adventures that show their friendship, kindness, and generosity. Part of a trend in kids publications that make playful references to other legends and fairy tales. It is 110 pages and for kids ages 8-10.



A STRING OF PICKLES
JAN ANDREW BUCK '67

Jan Andrew Buck, '67, has previously produced five books on the Bookshelf. His latest, *A String of Pickles*, is a series of the type of difficult predicaments we've all encountered. The author's creativity and wit should make for an enjoyable read. Expected on Amazon the first quarter of 2025!



MOURNING LIGHT
RICHARD GOODKIN *81

This novel of love and mourning is set in New Haven and Madison during the AIDS epidemic. The narrator, remorseful over his lover's death, receives a mysterious message from beyond that sends him on a quest to discover how little he understood his lover but now can finally mourn him.

A Deeply Personal Memoir on a Nation in the Midst of a Profound Transformation

EMBARK ON A CAPTIVATING JOURNEY through the eyes of a foreign student as he navigates the rapidly evolving cultural landscape of the United States in the 1960s.

From the bustling streets of Manhattan, New York, to the hallowed halls of Princeton, the free-spirited atmosphere of Berkeley, the expansive plains of Texas, and the rugged beauty of New Mexico, the author's academic pursuits take him on a cross-country adventure. As he diligently studies and works, he finds himself swept up in the powerful currents of the anti-war movement, the rise of black power, and the exhilarating spirit of Woodstock.



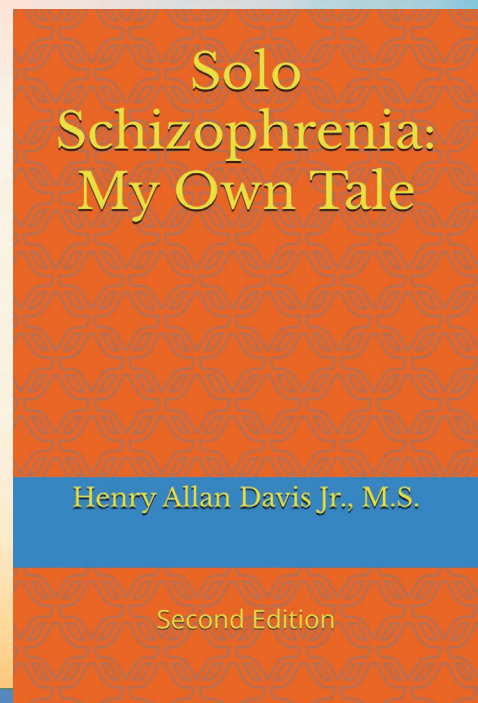
DR. AYBARS GÜRPINAR '67 was born in Turkey. He completed his university studies in the USA in the 1960s. Upon his return to Turkey, he taught at the Middle East Technical University where he was the Chairman of the department of Engineering Sciences. He joined the Nuclear Safety Department of the International Atomic Energy Agency in 1986 retiring in 2007. Since 2014 he has been a member of the International Nuclear Safety Advisory Group.



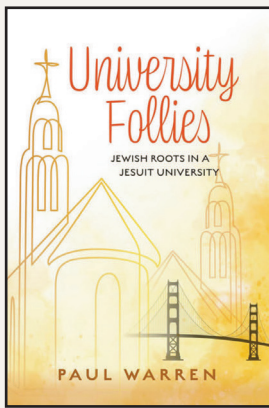
Solo Schizophrenia: My Own Tale

BY HENRY ALLAN DAVIS JR. '78

Henry Allan Davis Jr. started with the class of 1974 but graduated in 1978. A “first-person case study” without rancor, this is his memoir. He is a man with schizophrenia who has been “there and back” and is able to tell about what happened to him and try to make some sense of it. It contains a little of a lot of things: schizophrenia, paranoia, depression, anxiety, homophobia, substance use, journalism, art, spirituality, social history and race relations, among others.



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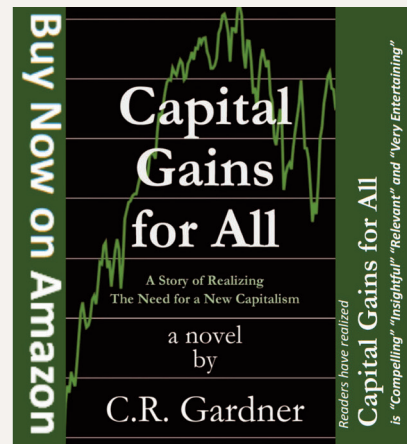
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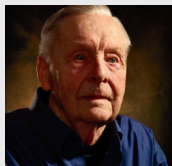
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RAY COLLINS
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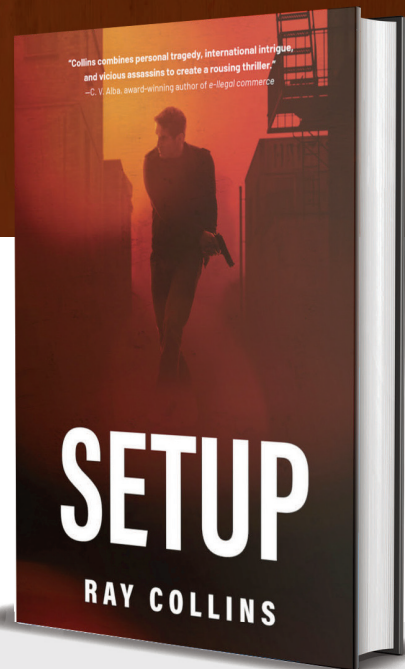
Detective Andrew “Book” Booker’s life is shattered after he’s framed for the murder of a Black teenager while pursuing a Most Wanted fugitive in Washington, D.C., leading to his forced resignation and the destruction of his career and family. With the support of Jeb Bronson, his former Special Forces Commander, Book finds work as a detective in rural Jefferson County, Virginia, where Bronson, now retired, leads a powerful military contracting firm. In this seemingly quiet town, Book discovers that the dangers lurking beneath the surface rival those he faced in the big city.



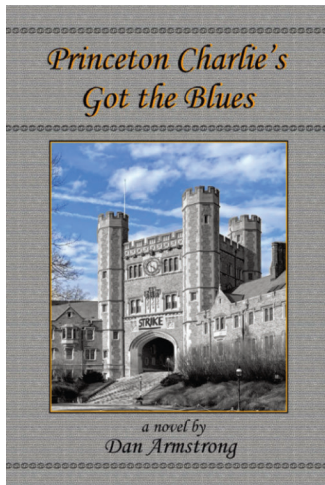
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ray Collins grew up in the Midwest. An Army combat veteran, he attended Yale and the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs, earning an MPA, a mid-career fellowship, and a PhD. He was a Japanese language and East Asia specialist with the Department of State and later worked in the poverty program, with a focus on Head Start.

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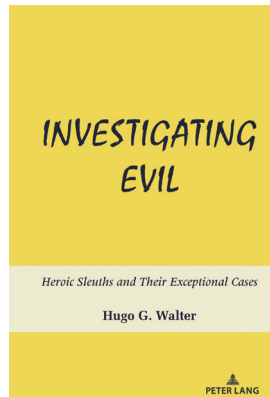


Princeton Charlie's Got the Blues
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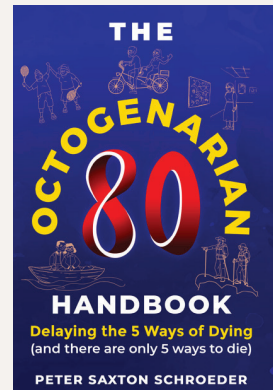
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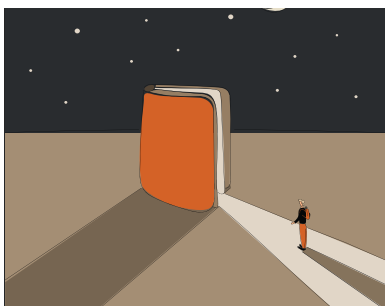


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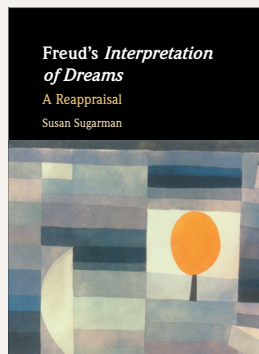
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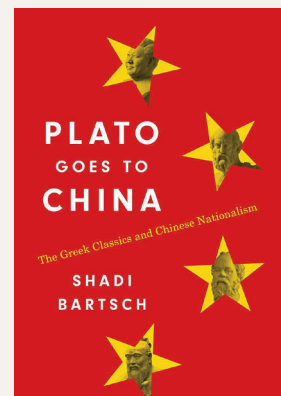
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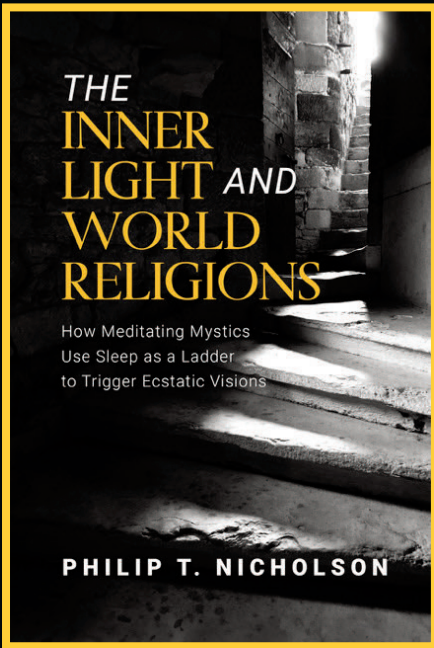
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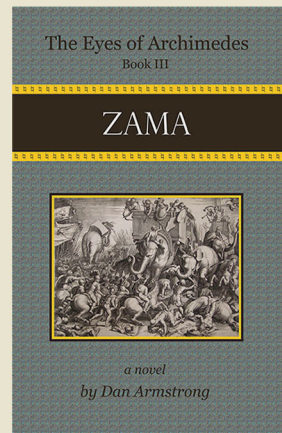
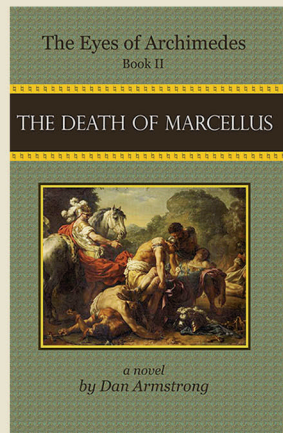
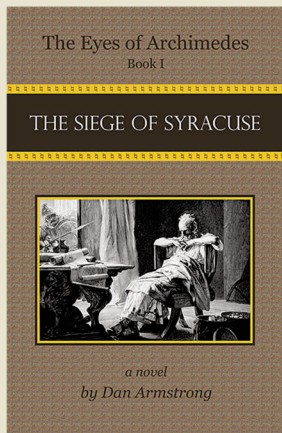
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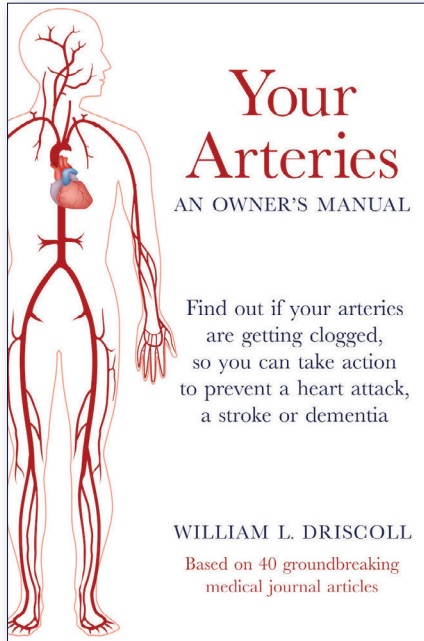
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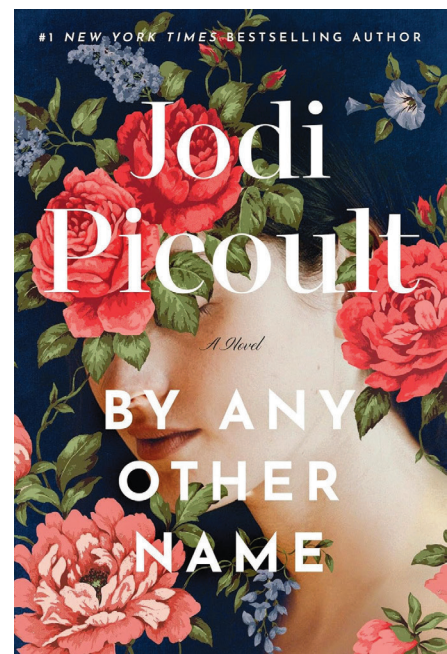
Next up, we're reading **Jodi Picoult '87's** *By Any Other Name*, about a young playwright and her ancestor in 1581.

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STRONG SILENT TYPES

Inside the hidden history
of secretaries and stenographers
at Princeton

BY ELYSE GRAHAM '07

ILLUSTRATIONS BY KATHRYN RATHKE

In the early 1950s, Miss Caroline Underwood, a secretary with a pleasant, puckish face who dressed in neat wool blazers and skirts, had a very important job at the Institute for Advanced Study. Every day, she would sit at a desk outside professor Albert Einstein's office and intercept the members of the public who came in to speak with him.

These visitors never had an appointment, but they were often on missions of great importance. They had theories about how to build a perpetual motion machine, or how to achieve world peace, that they believed Einstein would be able to see



CAROLINE UNDERWOOD

into being. In a 1952 article, *Tiger* magazine, which called the visitors "World Savers," said, "The formula is something like this: World Saver plus World Saver's Theory plus Einstein equals Utopia."

When a World Saver came in, which happened up to six times per day, Underwood would smile at them and say, "You'll have to wait. He's thinking." Then she would

sit, politely, as immovable as a castle gate, while the World Saver sat or paced and waited for the Great Thinker to finish thinking. He never did. Eventually, the World Saver would tire and leave, another one would enter, and the whole ballet would begin again.

The great age of secretaries, stenographers, and typists at Princeton was the first half of the 20th century, before computers took over clerical work and men learned to do their own typing. The adventures of these knights of ink and paper, who handled the paperwork, found the books, transcribed the correspondence, wrote the drafts of the great papers, and typed the final copies, show us the very human realities of intellectual work. No history of higher education would be complete without them. PAW combed through books, papers, newspaper articles, and correspondence to recover their hidden history.

THE BIBLIOGRAPHER ROGER STODDARD once remarked, "Whatever they may do, authors do not write books." What he meant was that authors write texts. Books are made by a menagerie of other agents: editors, copy editors, proofreaders, layout designers, typesetters, cover artists, publishers, printers, and, of course, agents.

So it is for scholars. In the days before word processing, scholars didn't write articles or talks or book manuscripts. Those were typed and even handwritten for them by others, women (mostly) who took dictation or painstakingly turned pages of tangled scribbles into pages of neat type. (Not all of them were secretaries; if you read an academic book that was written before a certain time, you're very likely to find in the acknowledgments a line of thanks to the author's wife for typing the manuscript, and sometimes for doing the research, too.)

Which meant, of course, that the scholarly output of the University (and the Institute for Advanced Study, which shared its space and resources) relied on them. Einstein, Inc., so to speak — his scientific and public selves — relied on staffers in and out of Fine Hall. He had assistants to help him with the mathematical aspects of his theories, the last one being Bruria Kaufman, who held a Ph.D. in physics from



BRURIA KAUFMAN

Columbia. (On her first day as his assistant, Kaufman looked at some formulas that had vexed Einstein for weeks and quickly realized that he had forgotten a factor of two. She hurried to a previous assistant, who assured her that, yes, Einstein could make simple mistakes. "So I got used to the fact that I could correct him," she later said.)

Einstein's personal secretary, Helen Dukas, typed up replies to the daily deluge of mail he received at home, which included — for the World Savers were not to be deterred — unsolicited manuscripts explaining their great utopian and scientific ideas. (Sample titles: *Sex in Celestial Objects* and *The Sun Is Not*

Hot.) And to produce his scientific papers, he made free use of Fine Hall's secretaries, whose duties included typing handwritten papers so they could be submitted to journals.

The mathematician Herman Goldstine, who worked in Fine Hall, later observed to a University historian that, regardless of how fast or slow inspiration lit bonfires



HELEN DUKAS

in scholars' brains, the advance of science actually proceeded on the schedules of three secretaries: Agnes Fleming, Helen Johnson, and Gwen Blake.

“So there would be Veblen and von Neumann and Einstein and Alexander and Weyl,” Goldstine said, “all these people would be in a queue waiting with these monumental papers to get them typed.”

AGNES FLEMING WAS THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF the mathematics department; Helen Johnson was the secretary of the University’s physics department; and Gwen Blake was the secretary of the School of Mathematics at the Institute. Alongside their regular duties, they were used by scholars as a typing pool to produce finished papers that could be submitted to journals. For this they were paid some 60 cents per hour in addition to their paychecks as secretaries. (In its early years, before it moved to its own campus, the Institute resided in Fine Hall and shared resources with the University.)

Florence Armstrong was another secretary in the mathematics department who did typing; in mathematics, a typist had to master all kinds of arcane symbols. A number of students thanked her for typing their dissertations — as here, in the thesis of Charles Fefferman *69, later a Princeton professor and winner of the Fields Medal: “Thanks, finally, to my typist Miss Florence Armstrong, by whose prodigious cryptographic feats, my manuscript was transformed into something readable.” During World War II, Armstrong worked with the Frick Chemical Laboratory on a secret aspect of the Manhattan Project, for which she got a lapel pin after the war. (They were exploring the possibility of heavy water as fissionable material. The Manhattan Project ultimately went with plutonium and uranium.) She retired in 1971 after working in the department for 27 years.

How much typing did a Fine Hall secretary do? In 1937, the mathematics department had an annual budget of \$1,000 to spend on typing and printing. This covered not only the typing of individual scholars’ papers — and this in one of the most productive departments in the country — but also types of scholarly production that didn’t exist at other departments. For example, Blake and her colleagues typed, mimeographed, and distributed what was called, informally, the Princeton Mathematical Notes: lecture notes from courses taught in Fine Hall. Between 1933 and 1938, they put together some 30 volumes of the series, with some 20 courses to a volume. As word about the Notes spread, scholars at other universities requested copies, until finally Blake, as the Princeton mathematician Albert Tucker recalled, “was spending about half of her time taking care of the correspondence that had to do with the Notes.” (In 1938, Princeton University Press took over publishing the Notes, relieving her aching hands.)

The typing was paid as if it was optional, but the secretaries weren’t allowed to treat it that way. In 1936, Blake wrote to Abraham Flexner, the head of the Institute, that every

“When everybody else was going nuts, she would be quite calm and say, ‘Well, maybe we just ought to talk more about this.’”

— HOWARD TAYLOR
former professor of sociology on Hattie Black, a secretary who worked at Princeton for more than 50 years

summer she felt overwhelmed with papers to type while the other secretaries were on vacation. Flexner replied that the Institute was a guest in Fine Hall, so to avoid creating the impression of bad manners, Blake should make sure the typing for all of Fine Hall’s departments got done, no matter what difficulties arose. And she should do it without making extra claims on that \$1,000 fund.

Flexner closed the letter by advising her to work something out with the other secretaries and adding, “I assume that there is no financial obligation involved whatever the arrangement reached.”

The department took great care in selecting secretaries, just as it did in selecting professors. Solomon Lefschetz, a math professor who had administrative oversight of the department’s research, seems to have had a hand in selecting many of them.

Fleming, for instance. The daughter of Irish immigrants, she started working at the University at 18, following the path of many girls from the local high school who took part-time jobs as stenographers. Lefschetz liked her work and got her a permanent job in his department. She served as a secretary there for more than 40 years, retiring in 1972 at the age of 60. (“She had an excellent memory,” Tucker later said. “Her memory was sort of the file for the department.”)

In a very real sense, the work of a Fine Hall secretary was never done. Their task, after all, was to regularize the very irregular workflows of mathematicians, to transform a maelstrom of chaos and caffeine into a

factory that produced finished papers. The mathematician Alonzo Church, for instance, used to do his work in Fine Hall overnight, sustaining himself by drinking a remarkable concoction mixed together from all the milk and cream and tea left over from the daily Fine Hall tea. The next morning, Fleming would discover Church’s handwritten papers on her desk, jotted over with colored pencil to show where special symbols and the like should go. Even after a researcher’s death, the work of his amanuenses continued. After Einstein died in 1955, Bruria Kaufman helped his friend, the mathematician Kurt Gödel, to clean out his office and presented the final paper he ever wrote, on which she was co-author. Helen Dukas took care of his personal papers until her death in 1982.



AGNES FLEMING

Secretaries in other departments had labors no less Herculean. In 1948, PAW remarked on the perpetual tumult in the offices of the English department: “Mrs. Jane Birch, her aide-de-camp, Mrs. Gloria Donaldson, and the department’s able battery of secretaries, are busy as Wordsworth’s bee with the multiple tasks of typing and mimeographing letters, reports, instructions, notifications and lecture outlines; keeping departmental and course records, relaying local and long-distance calls to the proper auditors, distributing mail, checking class lists and grades, and serving as receptionists to questioning students, book salesmen, publishers’ representatives, visiting professors, or (during the war) even to occasional FBI operatives.”

One definition of a secretary, in short, is someone who has seen it all. But at a university, even if you’ve seen it all, people still find ways to surprise you. In 1957, *The Daily Princetonian* reported that Birch, who by then had served the English department for 20 years, was recently caught off guard when a senior brought in a thesis bound with parchment, pricked his finger, and signed it with his blood. (After graduating, he became a novelist, she said.)

LIKE THE PROFESSORS, students at the University often hired typists to produce submittable copies of their papers. (And readable copies of their own notes.) The *Prince* published ads daily from freelance typists who lived in town. (The ads showed just how astutely the typists understood their student clientele: “Don’t be bothered by lack of time in preparing your essays and papers. Life’s too short and football games too much fun to spend your time typing.”) For students who preferred to dictate their immortal ideas rather than waste time writing them by hand, the Nassau Stenographic Shop, located above a much-loved lunchroom called “the Balt,” was ready to serve. Township newspapers, meanwhile, published ads from the University seeking typists, stenographers, and secretaries to help with critical scientific work.

MOST OF THE TYPISTS AND STENOGRAPHERS AT Princeton were women. In fact, the typewriter was a woman’s instrument from the start: When it was invented in the 1870s, its novelty meant it offered women a field of work that wasn’t already male-dominated, and they wound up defining the field instead. Early on, businesses often rented out typewriters with

women who were able to use them, also called “typewriters” (later, typists), attached. Employers embraced the technology because women were paid less than men, making typewriters and their typewriters a money-saving combination. (As always, ideology followed economics: The claim went out that women made better typists because their “natural dexterity” gave them an advantage.)

PAPER TRAIL
Sophie Dozoretz appeals to students' nonacademic interests in advertising her typing services in the Nov. 2, 1937, issue of The Daily Princetonian.

The typing and stenography pools, in which the University tried to keep a ratio of one typist for every five researchers, sought to give faculty an alternative to waiting in line for the help of department secretaries. This meant that every now and then a bemused civilian would find herself taking dictation for Einstein — which is what happened to Lietta Shearer, an 18-year-old who worked as a stenographer in the University’s science division.

One day in 1941, Shearer received a summons to the Institute for Advanced Study, where, that same evening, Einstein was to give a talk for the American Physical Society, titled, “On Solutions of Finite Mass of the Gravitational

Equations.” She told the Associated Press that he was a very clear speaker: “The feature that struck me the most was that, while he had no notes, every statement was a complete thought.” (Like many scholars, he had a pet phrase — in his

case, “infinitesimally small.”)

In 1942, the Associated Press published an article about the encounter — a light color piece about a teenager meeting the great Albert Einstein. The way they chose to cover it, however, was both conventional and loutish. Shearer wasn’t there to pose for a pinup poster, but the piece still begins with a wolfish description of her looks: “Consider the pretty blonde

stenographer ... the slender, blue-eyed girl recalled ... ”

Here, an old and unfortunate trope about stenographers and secretaries: Not just that they were unnecessarily sexualized,



LIETTA SHEARER

which has been true since women started entering clerical work around the time of the Civil War, but the subtle maneuvering that gave them the blame for it. Just a moment's thought would show how silly it would be to sexualize Einstein himself in this way: to lead a piece on the physicist with a description of his wanton hair, his devastating wool sweater, and, at the terminus of his pretty legs, a lack of socks (Einstein thought they were a waste of time) that showed off his well-turned ankles.

We may hope that the faculty refrained from such affronts, but the students didn't always. In 1932, the staff of the *Princeton* added suggestive language to a typist's ad that they forgot to remove before publishing it. The ad in the paper said, "SOPHIE DOZORETZ ... Now for Myself at — ROOM 315, 20 NASSAU. Hours — 9 to 5 and later by appointment. P.S. — If you are too lazy to sit down and write it, come up and dictate it to me. I'm pretty too!"

A few days later, the paper published a correction: "The Princetonian wishes to apologize for an error made in the advertisement of Sophie Dozoretz, typist. The phrase, 'I am pretty too,' was erroneously inserted."

UNIVERSITIES, LIKE TREES, are entities of both stability and change. Year by year, the students come into leaf and scatter; the faculty pick up and move to other schools, like maple seeds spinning on the wind; the rings of the trunk slowly widen as the campus adds new buildings. Meanwhile, the arteries and veins, pervasive and persistent, circulate the moisture and nutrients that keep the tree alive. Secretaries often stayed at Princeton longer than the faculty, longer than administrators, longer than anyone else.

In 2002, Hattie Black, a secretary in the Program in African American Studies, was celebrated for passing the half-century mark at the University.

Black started at Princeton in 1951, when she was 17 years old. She, too, came from a local high school, where she heard that the department of geology needed a typist and successfully applied to join the department's typing pool. In time, she became a department secretary. In 1972, she moved to the Program in African American Studies, where she did everything from handling finances



HATTIE BLACK

to advising students to counseling professors on course syllabi. Howard Taylor, a professor of sociology, described her as the program's steady core: "When everybody else was going nuts, she would be quite calm and say, 'Well, maybe we just ought to talk more about this.'"

An account of Black's years on campus would be a history in miniature of the American century. She saw Einstein on his walks

across campus, shook hands with Martin Luther King Jr., and watched in 1969 as moon rocks arrived in Guyot Hall to be studied. The first women students arrived on campus; students protested the Vietnam War, carrying banners that declared, "EVEN PRINCETON"; computers shrank, multiplied, and crept across phone lines. By 2002, students were hooked on AOL and Napster.

"I can't believe I've been working here 50 years," she said then. "The time has just passed so quickly."

STARTING IN THE 1970S, the new technology of word processing slowly made typing pools obsolete. More and more, scholars did their own typing, since the ease, on a computer, of making changes on the fly made it worthwhile to learn how to type. By the end of the century, department secretaries focused entirely on administrative duties, which included working the arcane reaches of the University's computer systems. Their job title, too, had changed to *administrative assistant*.

And yet, though their name and responsibilities have changed, administrative staff remain the most essential members of their departments. To this correspondent, they are the terrifying old gods of a university, the ones who can make exceptions to rules, bring the most arrogant professors to heel, remember the origins of the department's strangest policies, and use administrative privileges to do things in the computer system that no one else can. Anyone who has the pleasure of knowing them, or the displeasure of displeasing them, understands the power of their presence.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CAROLINE UNDERWOOD'S JOB as a barrier between Einstein and the public may be explained, in part, by an incident in 1952 when a man walked into an office at Columbia University and shot the secretary of the American Physical Society, killing her. He had been writing to the society to explain his theory about how electrons could be used to make humans "live forever," but nobody answered his letters, so he entered Columbia's campus that day with a plan to kill as many physicists as he could, thus bringing attention to his cause. ("It was my book," he later told police. "They wouldn't look at my book. They wouldn't even look at it.")

The secretary, Eileen Fahey, wound up being his only victim. It wasn't her job to be in the way of that bullet. But administrative staff oversee every meaningful gateway of the university, which means that when conflicts arise, whether among faculty or students or between the university and the public, they are, so to speak, on the front lines.

Today, we are the heirs to a world they made, though we often overlook their omnipresence. It's curious how many histories of higher education, of the great discoveries and famous papers, have been written by those who looked at the historical records, the pages of typed lecture notes and book manuscripts and dishy correspondence — and forgot, precisely, who wrote them. ■

ELYSE GRAHAM '07 is a professor at Stony Brook University and author of the recently released *Book and Dagger: How Scholars and Librarians Became the Unlikely Spies of World War II*.



Kim Scott '90 and four other
Princetonians are leading a
revolution in how managers
approach hiring, developing,
and relating to employees

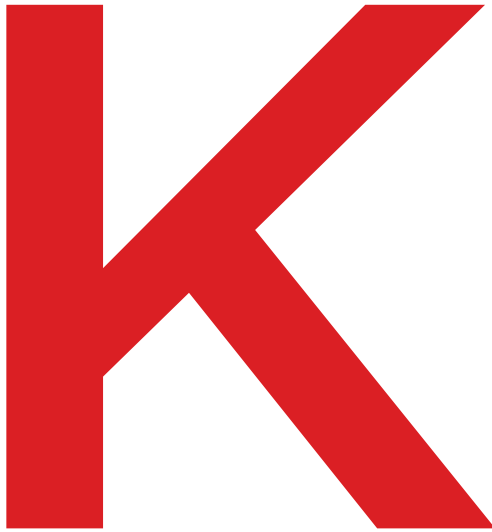
CHANGING WHAT WORK

BY **E.B. BOYD '89**

PHOTOGRAPH BY **CAROLYN FONG**



LOOKS LIKE



Kim Scott '90 had an employee who was terrible at his job, but she was afraid to speak to him about his performance for fear of hurting his feelings. Plus, if he got upset, she worried the rest of her team would think she was a jerk.

So she danced around the man's shortcomings, hoping her indirect comments would inspire improvements. But they didn't, and eventually she fired him.

"It was a terrible moment in my career," Scott said at a TEDx talk last year. "He looked me right in the eye, and he said, 'Why didn't you tell me? ... I thought you all cared about me.'"

In that moment, Scott (who was known at Princeton by her maiden name of Malone) realized she'd failed horribly as a boss. That insight eventually spurred her to write the 2017 bestseller, *Radical Candor*, which has changed how the business world thinks about management.

The book — subtitle: *Be a Kick-Ass Boss Without Losing Your Humanity* — is a guide to boss-employee communication for the modern era. It has sold more than a million copies worldwide and has been translated into 20 languages. Many companies buy the book for new employees. Scott's been asked to speak to countless groups, from leaders at West Point to an organization for hairdressers. Just this year, she was profiled in *SAFETY4SEA*, a publication focused on sustainable shipping, and she spoke at a Copenhagen conference for Scandinavian businesses.

Scott's insights are in such demand that when the book came out in 2017, she launched a consulting and education business, also called Radical Candor, which has worked with over 200

organizations around the globe and has trained more than 200,000 executives and employees.

"The experience of having a bad boss is nearly universal," Scott tells PAW. "There's increasingly a realization that we need to articulate what managers do and how to do it better."

The idea at the core of *Radical Candor* is straightforward: Employees need clear feedback so they can improve at their jobs. As such, bosses shouldn't shy away from being direct, as Scott originally had. But, also, as anyone who's coached a sports team (or watched *Ted Lasso*) knows, feedback is most effective when a person feels like the manager delivering it genuinely cares about them.

For many, being direct hasn't been the problem. "There's this notion in today's world that either you're a complete asshole and really successful, or you're really nice but not really successful," Scott says. "That's a false dichotomy."

Meanwhile, business schools haven't traditionally provided much instruction on "soft" skills, focusing instead on finance, accounting, and marketing. "I took exactly zero classes in managing people," Scott says.

Today, more companies are interested in training executives how to lead humanely. The balance of power between bosses and employees has shifted. In earlier eras, managers held workers' careers in their hands. They could yell and abuse to their hearts' content. Today, thanks to sites such as LinkedIn and Indeed, employees can more easily find new opportunities, and there's less stigma about job-hopping.

"Competition to hire people is so intense," Scott says. "There's an increasing understanding that people join companies but leave bad bosses."

When the pandemic hit, Scott thought she'd have to shut her business down because it almost exclusively involved in-person programming. But demand remained high, and when Radical Candor moved online, the company was able to expand its reach.

During the lockdown and its aftermath, Scott began addressing some of the phenomena now roiling the workplace, such as quiet quitting and the debate over work from home vs. return to office. But, she says, the principal driver of interest in her work has remained constant: "The core issue — how can we work together better — is what people are struggling with."

Growing up in Memphis, Tennessee, management was the furthest thing from Scott's mind. Novels were her first love. "They answer the question of how to live," she says. "Why some people live joyfully and productively, and why other people are so miserable." (She's written three such books, including *Virtual Love*, which got a nod from *Wired*.)

In high school in the 1980s, Scott's attention turned to the Cold War. She'd once heard an Air Force general say the United States needed enough nuclear weapons to "blow up the world four times," she recalls. "I thought, 'This seems irrational.'"

At Princeton, Scott worked on a project for Frank von Hippel, the storied physicist and professor of public and international affairs. The goal: Estimate the number of deaths that would

result from a tactical nuclear war. “We got out our compasses to measure the blast radiuses around Russia and the United States,” she says, “It turns out everybody would die.”

Majoring in Slavic languages married Scott’s two interests. “I had this theory that [the Cold War] was one giant human misunderstanding between the Russians and Americans,” she says. She thought, “If I read the great American novels and the great Russian novels, I could figure it out.”

Scott’s thinking was always ambitious, says her roommate Caroline Reitz ’90. The two met the first day of freshman year. That evening, instead of heading out to parties, “We spent the whole night talking about infinity,” Reitz says. “Not in a pretentious way ... She just wanted to sit in a dorm room and talk about big ideas.”

By graduation, the Berlin Wall had fallen, and the Cold War was over. Scott headed to Moscow to do think-tank research on possible “swords-to-plowshares” conversions of Soviet military factories to civilian purposes. Then she got a job at a Moscow-based investment fund. After that, she was hired to launch a diamond-cutting factory, where she was tasked with recruiting Russian cutters.

Scott thought her American dollars would make for easy wooing. But her prospective hires were looking for more than cash. Russia was unstable in the ’90s, and the cutters mostly wanted to know whether Scott would ensure their families’ safety if things went off the rails. “They wanted a boss who gave a damn,” Scott says.

“All of a sudden, management became more interesting,” she says. Previously business had just seemed about money. Now she realized it was ultimately about human relationships. “I thought, ‘That is something I care about and I could be good at.’”

After four years overseas, Scott headed to Harvard for an MBA and then dove into the frothy late ’90s world of tech startups. Her work experiences in Russia hadn’t always



KIM SCOTT '90

“Competition to hire people is so intense. There’s an increasing understanding that people join companies but leave bad bosses.”

— KIM SCOTT '90

been stellar, and her next jobs gave her more examples of substandard management.

At a telecom startup, the company’s founders needed to make cuts, but they were too scared to face their own employees and so they hired what Scott calls a “professional asshole” to do the dirty work. Afterward, Scott watched as the founders struggled to understand why the remaining employees no longer trusted them.

Next, at an online mortgage brokerage, Scott discovered the company’s founder was paying Scott’s male colleague about a third more than her simply because he had a wife and child, while Scott was still single.

Tired of working for jerks, Scott launched her own startup, Juice Software, which created spreadsheet collaboration tools. In part, she wanted to see if she could create the kind of ideal working environment that had so far eluded her. But then she ended up swinging too far to the other side — prioritizing being nice over being clear.

Scott talks about an “aha moment” that crystalized where she’d gone wrong. She had a dog she adored so much she “couldn’t bear saying a cross word to her.” One day during a walk, the dog kept trying to run into the street and almost got run over.

A man next to her on the sidewalk said, “I can tell you really

love that dog, but you're going to kill [it] if you don't teach it to sit." He then turned to the dog, pointed firmly at the sidewalk, and said, "Sit!" The dog promptly complied. ("I didn't even know she knew how to do that," Scott confesses.) The man turned to Scott. "It's not mean," he said. "It's clear."

Juice Software eventually folded, but Scott was soon recruited to Google to run the AdSense advertising program. There she discovered the culture she'd been seeking. Colleagues seemed to enjoy and respect each other. They trusted each other enough to hash out ideas with the vigor and directness required to produce the kind of innovation for which Google is famous.

Scott took another stab at fostering her dream culture. Within her own team, she encouraged candor and caring around things that weren't going right. She created a "Whoops-a-Daisy" award that bestowed a plush daisy on whoever shared the biggest mess-up in any given week. In meetings with direct reports, she encouraged her employees to tell *her* what she should do to make it easier for them to work with *her*.

And when it came to debating ideas, Scott "enthusiastically and relentlessly farmed for dissent," says Russ Laraway, who worked for Scott at Google and later wrote his own book, *When They Win, You Win: Being a Great Manager Is Simpler Than You Think*. "She really meant it when she said, 'It doesn't need to be my idea. We just have to get the best one.'"

Recently, when Laraway hired a former Google colleague into his current company, the woman told him everyone in her group had wanted to work with Scott's team. "We were getting the straight scoop," the woman said. "You treated us with respect. And we were heard by you guys."

"That's the culture Kim set," Laraway says.

After Google, Scott moved to Apple to create a new curriculum for the company's internal management program. It was an opportunity to share what she'd learned with a much bigger audience.

Later, the then-CEO of Twitter, a former Google colleague, asked Scott to design a class for his managers. Word got around, and soon other tech CEOs began asking for help as well. In 2015, a prominent venture capital firm asked Scott to speak at its annual conference. While white-boarding the presentation, Scott came up with the concepts for *Radical Candor*.

Brett Berson, a partner at that firm, First Round Capital, says Scott's concepts have caught on in part because of her ability to make complicated ideas feel simple and accessible. "She created a framework and language to take something that's very squishy, and she made it very tangible and easy to comprehend," Berson says. Plus, Scott's willingness to share her own stumbles and embarrassments makes her eminently relatable. "She's a very good storyteller."

Radical Candor remained on the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* bestseller lists for years, and Scott is among the experts and celebrities who've been invited to create courses on MasterClass, the online education platform. Her ideas caught on so widely in tech that HBO's *Silicon Valley*

once lampooned them, and third-party retailers have even pirated her core sayings and plastered them onto posters and cellphone cases.

In 2021, Scott published a follow-up book, which she re-released this year under a revised title, *Radical Respect: How to Work Together Better*. It functions, she says, as a precursor to the first book by unpacking the behaviors and mindsets that undermine trust.

"It tries to tease apart bias, prejudice, and bullying," Scott says, which destroy the possibility of effective collaboration and communication. "It's a hard topic," she says. Organizations often get defensive about even admitting these dynamics exist. Scott hopes *Radical Respect's* roadmap will show leaders how to create healthier workplaces.

Reitz says Scott's willingness to take on such a difficult topic is typical of her. "It's like the infinity thing," Reitz says. "She's interested in the harder parts of the conversation."

"She could have just ridden the *Radical Candor* thing out," Reitz continues. "But she tried to use some of the capital [she'd built] to fight a harder fight."



CHRIS HYAMS '89

'THINKING ABOUT WHAT 'TALENT' ACTUALLY MEANS'

Indeed is the largest job-search website in the world.

Chris Hyams '89, who became its CEO five years ago, sees the platform as a giant opportunity to influence how hiring gets done — especially in removing systemic biases.

Initially that meant encouraging employers to reconsider the ubiquitous requirement for college degrees and adding features to the platform to make it easier for applicants who'd been incarcerated to find work.

COURTESY OF INDEED

“We’re a marketplace. We help people get jobs. But an efficient marketplace has to understand what the inefficiencies are, and a huge amount of those are these very long-held biases.”

— CHRIS HYAMS '89, INDEED CEO

“I’m on the front lines, every single minute of every single day, thinking about what ‘talent’ actually means and what makes people capable of being successful,” Hyams says.

Indeed itself dropped the college requirement in all roles, except those where it was functionally necessary, like on the legal team. “We immediately saw more people applying, and we immediately had more success in hiring people,” Hyams says. The company also partners with outside organizations to help job hunters expunge incarceration records, and it awards a “Fair Chance” designation to companies open to hiring people who’ve been through the justice system.

Over the past year, however, the company’s focus has turned to the dramatic impact AI is having both on the nature of work and on how algorithms will impact hiring in the future. In a report released last year, Indeed found that about one-fifth of jobs could be replaced as a result of AI.

“It was very clear to me when we published that that nearly every single job will change considerably in the coming years,” Hyams says. “A year later, I now believe that nearly every single job will change *in the next year*.”

Meanwhile, Indeed is diving deeply into how bias in algorithms could affect hiring itself. “AI is powered by data, data comes from humans, and humans are flawed,” Hyams wrote in *Fortune* last year.

The company created a “Responsible AI” team with a mission to ensure its systems and tools can anticipate and eradicate biases. “To build truly responsible AI systems, we need to fundamentally change the way we build them,” Hyams wrote, observing how programming teams at tech companies often lack diversity.

One of the first things Hyams noticed when he arrived at Princeton in the fall of 1985 was the extraordinary wealth and privilege on campus. He could see how being an alumnus would later grant him instant credibility. “The Princeton name, because it’s on my résumé and my LinkedIn, creates an opportunity for us that very few other people get,” he says.

After college, Hyams returned to his hometown of Los Angeles to work in the chemical dependency unit of an adolescent psychiatric hospital. Later, he followed his then-

girlfriend, now wife, to Vermont, where he taught special education in a rural high school.

“I spent a lot of time working with individuals who had been, and people whose families had been, incarcerated — some for very long periods of time. [They] had extraordinary talent and skills, but because of [their records], they had the exact opposite of what we get with a Princeton degree,” he says.

Hyams fell into tech by chance. In the 1990s, his wife went to work at Rice University, which allowed spouses to take classes for free. “I found out that I really loved [programming],” he says. “It’s how my brain works.”

The tech world often talks about rooting out inefficiencies. Hyams has a more expansive view of what that means. “We’re a marketplace,” he says of Indeed. “We help people get jobs. But an efficient marketplace has to understand what the inefficiencies are, and a huge amount of those are these very long-held biases.” ■

JULIA BOORSTIN '00

‘ALL COMPANIES WILL GAIN’ AS THEY LEARN FROM WOMEN LEADERS

Julia Boorstin '00 went from Princeton straight into business reporting — first at *Fortune*, then at CNBC. It didn’t take long for her to notice that the executive ranks at many companies were overwhelmingly male. Or that the business world’s ideas of what a good leader looked like tended to be limited to a narrow set of behaviors strongly associated with men.

“*Fortune* magazine chronicled, and continues to chronicle, the most important people in business, and I saw very clearly that they were almost all men,” she says.



JULIA BOORSTIN '00

In the mid-2010s, however, things began to shift. More women rose to the C-suite and a critical mass of others started founding companies. At the same time, Boorstin had her first child and discovered that instead of slowing down, being a working mother made her better at her job. Fewer things distracted her, and she was more effective at addressing priorities.

In 2020, Boorstin decided to write a book about the powerhouse women she was encountering. One of her most compelling discoveries is that some of the qualities most associated with women — and least associated with business — like vulnerability, empathy, and gratitude — are among the qualities driving these leaders' impressive results.

"I'm so struck by how different their approaches were," Boorstin says, "and how they were able to harness all of these skills that have never been associated with power or success."

When Women Lead: What They Achieve, Why They Succeed, and How We Can Learn From Them came out in 2022 (with a paperback update earlier this year). Boorstin has been hopping on podcasts and TV shows and crisscrossing the country ever since to speak to companies and organizations about what she learned.

"Companies are very anxious to retain their female talent," Boorstin explains. In research on women in the workplace, McKinsey & Co. and LeanIn.org identified a phenomenon they call "the great breakup," in which an unprecedented number of senior women are walking out the door, ditching microaggressions and the lack of supportive policies, in search of more amenable working environments.

"If you lose women at the senior levels, it's going to have massive negative ripple effects throughout your company," Boorstin says. "You'll lose women who are impacting the culture around things like parental leave and pay equity," she explains, which in turn undermines the organization's ability to recruit younger women — and men.

As a teen, Boorstin's mother told her she'd enter a world where women could do anything. At Princeton, where she majored in history and studied writing with John McPhee '53, Boorstin didn't feel women were treated differently. But the minute she stepped into the halls of *Fortune*, the inequity was obvious: The higher the ranks, the fewer the women.

"If you lose women at the senior levels, it's going to have massive negative ripple effects throughout your company."

— JULIA BOORSTIN '00

When Women Lead isn't just for women, Boorstin says. "I want men to understand the financial opportunity in investing in women and promoting women," she says. There's still a long way to go, of course. Only 10% of Fortune 500 CEOs are female, and female startup founders only receive about 3% of venture funding.

But the book ends on an optimistic note. Dollar for dollar, women-led companies frequently produce better results than male-led organizations. Research has shown that women are more likely to possess qualities associated with great leadership, including an emphasis on collaboration and relationship-building and a preference for data-driven decision-making. This year, Boorstin launched CNBC's first-ever "Changemakers" list, featuring 50 women leaders driving change in their industries and challenging established practices.

"My hope for this book was to help change the narrative of what it means to be an effective leader," Boorstin wrote in her epilogue. "The more women's leadership models — communal, empathetic, and purpose-driven — become part of the established canon, the more all companies will gain." ■

LORI MIHALICH-LEVIN '01

MAKING SUPPORT FOR NEW PARENTS EXPECTED OF EMPLOYERS

After the birth of her second child in 2013, attorney Lori Mihalich-Levin '01 went looking for resources on how to manage the transition back to work. All she found were articles on how women should downplay their new status ("Hide your baby pictures!") or how to handle minor emergencies ("Prevent leaks!").

"I found nothing helpful," Mihalich-Levin says.

So she built a course to educate new mothers on everything — negotiating for flexibility at work, planning logistics, and embracing the inevitable surge of new emotions. "I created this whole program out of sheer desperation," says Mihalich-Levin, who also operates her own health-care-related legal practice.

Mindful Return started as a blog and has grown in the decade since into a vibrant business. It now offers online courses for fathers as well as mothers and provides a series of trainings that companies can give to their employees on everything from work-life integration to maintaining career ambitions. There's also instruction for managers on how to support employees who take parental leave, courses in Spanish and Portuguese, and chapters in the United Kingdom, South Africa, and India.

Mihalich-Levin says the working world has dramatically shifted its thinking around these issues. "There was a time when I was talking to employers when I had to explain what 'parental leave support' meant," she says. "Now, there are a lot of family-related offerings, whether it's parental-leave coaching or milk-shipping services ... It's almost become expected



LORI MIHALICH-LEVIN '01

that employers offer something to support their new parents.”

Many companies now understand that this approach makes them attractive employers. “The average number of U.S. women who return to work after maternity leave is 64%,” Mihalich-Levin explains. Among Mindful Return clients, 85% return to their jobs and 93% stay in the workplace

altogether, says Mihalich-Levin.

Mihalich-Levin’s interest in empowering women dates to her Princeton years when she wrote her thesis on immigrant women in France and domestic abuse. While working at a trade association, she founded a working parent affinity group, and then she created another when she moved to a law firm.

Today, in addition to Mindful Return, Mihalich-Levin runs a network of 350 such affinity groups at companies from a range of industries, including banks, nonprofits, sports associations, and law firms. The pandemic accelerated the growth of these groups after video conferencing lifted the curtain on home life and conversations about the need to support parents burst into the spotlight. “We saw that this was a problem, and we needed to begin talking among ourselves,” Mihalich-Levin says. ■

BO BURLINGHAM '68

‘LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE FROM BUSINESS’

In 2003, Bo Burlingham '68 wrote an article about the famous Ann Arbor, Michigan, deli Zingerman's for *Inc.* magazine. “The Coolest Small Company in America” detailed how its founders had resisted the usual capitalist pull to grow ever larger, and instead they created a path to financial sustainability by staying small and true to their origins.

A publisher soon contacted Burlingham to ask if there were other such companies — ones that fought the impulse to grow bigger. The result was *Small Giants: Companies That Choose to Be Great Instead of Big*.

The book profiles companies like Clif Bar and Danny Meyer's Union Square Hospitality Group (home of many favorite New York City restaurants, including Union Square Café

and Gramercy Tavern) — powerhouses that defied the usual imperative to shoot for unicorn status.

“What ties them all together is that they're people who are looking for something more from business than just a means to create wealth,” Burlingham says. These companies have special relationships with their customers, their employees, and their communities that would be sacrificed if they prioritized growth.

The idea has had lasting power. In 2009, Burlingham and a co-founder created the Small Giants Community, which now teaches executives nationwide how to think and act like “small giants.” An annual summit attracts about 600 leaders, and a leadership academy trains executives.

Those who knew Burlingham at Princeton might be surprised to learn he found a career helping businesses. In college, he



BO BURLINGHAM '68

protested the Vietnam War, and after school, when he first became a freelance journalist, he penned ultra-liberal *Mother Jones*' first cover story.

But marriage

and the arrival of a family forced Burlingham to “get a real job,” as he puts it. He landed a writing gig at Fidelity Investments, which opened his mind to business. “I began to understand why it was worthwhile,” he says. “It was actually performing a service for a lot of people who needed help. They weren't exploiting those people.”

Burlingham next joined *Inc.* and fell in love with entrepreneurs. “They're some of the most idealistic people you can find,” he says. Burlingham eventually became the magazine's executive editor before leaving to write business books. The Small Giants Community emerged after a health-care entrepreneur convinced Burlingham there needed to be a place where people building these organizations could meet and learn from each other.

Not all the businesses profiled in *Small Giants* survived. A 10th anniversary edition of the book includes a new chapter on how and why these companies sometimes fail. As with any organization, Burlingham wrote, taking your eye off your company's finances, losing trust within your organization, and other such missteps can lead to a crash.

Meanwhile, the community continues to thrive. “It's turned out to be more popular than I ever imagined.” ■

E.B. BOYD '89 writes about business for *Fast Company* and is working on a book about women entrepreneurs.



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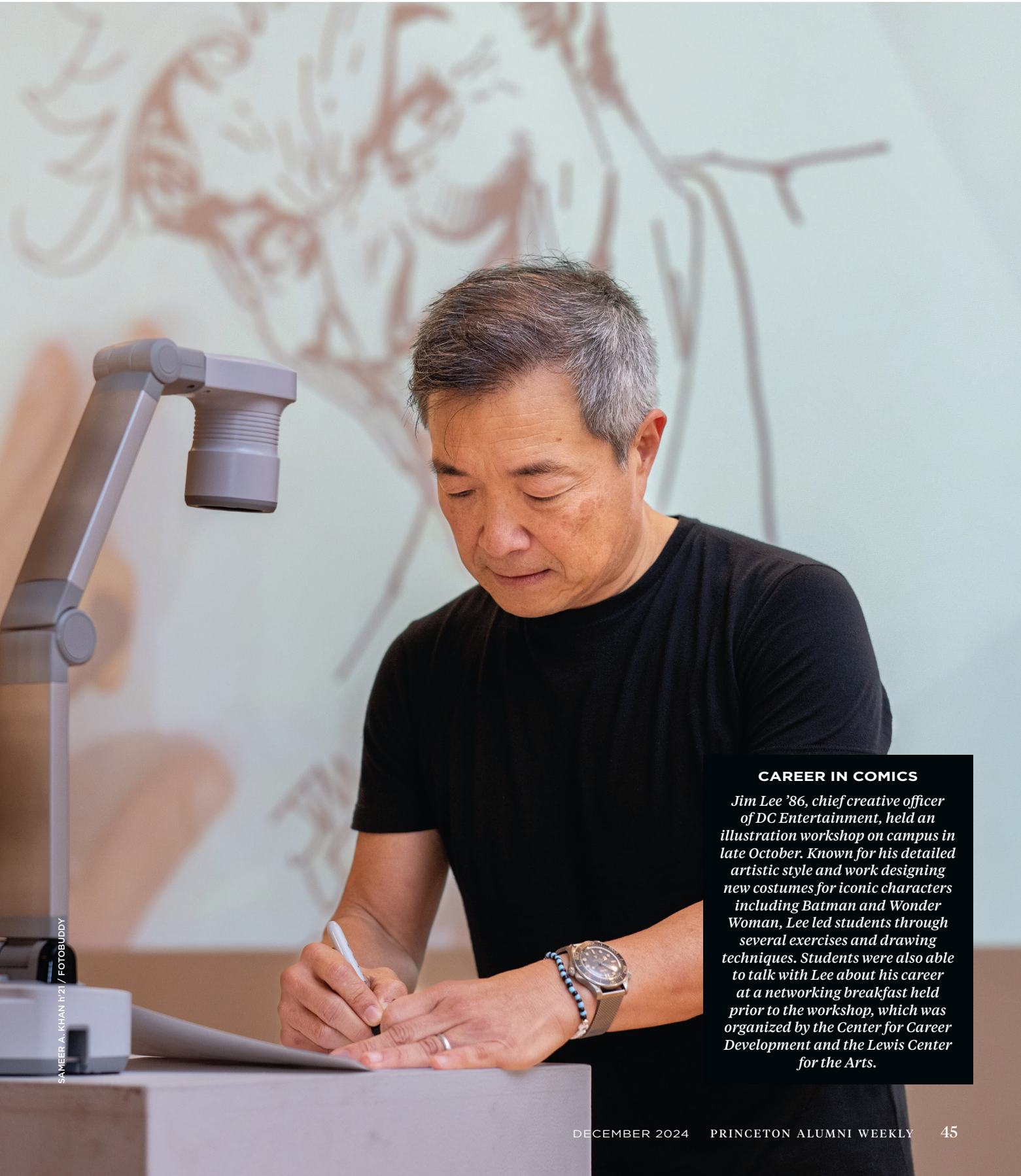
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SAMEER A. KHAN 11/21 / FOTOBUDDY

CAREER IN COMICS

Jim Lee '86, chief creative officer of DC Entertainment, held an illustration workshop on campus in late October. Known for his detailed artistic style and work designing new costumes for iconic characters including Batman and Wonder Woman, Lee led students through several exercises and drawing techniques. Students were also able to talk with Lee about his career at a networking breakfast held prior to the workshop, which was organized by the Center for Career Development and the Lewis Center for the Arts.



KATHY CROW '89

A Philanthropist and Lightning Rod

How a former lacrosse standout's friendship with Clarence and Ginni Thomas generated scrutiny

BY CHRISTIAN RED

ONE OF THE CIVIC CAUSES Kathy Crow '89 has donated her time, support, and money to over the past 30 years is St. Philip's School and Community Center in south Dallas.

The school's headmaster and executive director, Terry Flowers, enjoys sharing examples of Crow's involvement, but two events she and her husband, Harlan Crow, facilitated stand out: when Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas visited the St. Philip's campus in 2009, and when Thomas hosted a group of the school's students in his Washington, D.C., chambers a year later.

"I think it stands to reason that Kathy and Harlan would have relationships with people in high places, and friendships with folks of all different walks," says Flowers.

The connection between the Crows — Harlan and Kathy — and the

Thomases — Clarence and Ginni — is a complicated one. In the past 18 months, there has been a deluge of news media coverage surrounding Clarence Thomas' friendship with the Crows, and whether the justice breached ethics codes when he accepted gifts from Texas billionaire Harlan Crow, including travel on Crow's private jet and superyacht and stays at the Crow family's Adirondacks estate. ProPublica also reported in May 2023 that Crow paid for the private school tuition of Clarence Thomas' grandnephew.

The headlines have put the Crows, particularly Harlan — who has said publicly that he's politically conservative, although anti-Trump — at the center of a heated debate over the Supreme Court code of conduct and whether the court has become a political tool.

Of the many diverse relationships the Crows have cultivated — from presidents

SAY CHEESE

Kathy Crow '89, right, at her Princeton graduation. She earned a degree in politics. Opposite page: Crow with her husband, Harlan, left, and three children Jack, Sarah, and Rob.

(including the Bushes) and politicians to teachers, nonprofit officials, and *Fortune* 500 executives — one such connection is with Princeton professor emeritus Cornel West *80.

West, the political activist and theologian who ran for president this November, was a guest speaker at St. Philip's several years ago with Robert P. George, Princeton professor of politics and director of the James Madison Program. West and George went to Dallas at the request of the Crows, who are both on the James Madison Program's board of advisers. West, 71, tells PAW that while he and the Crows may be on opposite ends of the political spectrum, he fully supports the couple's philanthropic and civic engagement.

"I've always had a wonderful time with my dear sister Kathy. She's full of life," West says in a phone interview. "She's a very honest human being, she's a very embracing person. She and Harlan make a wonderful couple and duo and team. What strikes me about sister Kathy [are] two things: one, her warm embrace, and two, her love of reading. Her Princeton education is something that she builds on, there's no doubt about it."

PAW reached out to a swath of Crow connections — from Princeton and through professional circles — to paint a picture of her life arc. Some declined to be interviewed.

Both Harlan, 75, and Kathy Crow, 57, rarely grant media interviews, and Kathy would not specifically address the couple's friendship with the Thomases in an email responding to PAW's questions. She instead outlined her social life and philanthropic work.

"My intention is to always do this work with purposefulness, resolve, and an intention to genuinely help those less fortunate or in challenging circumstances," she writes. "Harlan and I value and appreciate the many friends we have made along the way."

Rubbing elbows with boldface

names and living in one of Dallas' most expensive homes is a long way from suburban New Jersey, where Kathy Crow spent her childhood. *D Magazine* last year estimated that the Crows' mansion is worth nearly \$50 million; the couple's private library is an ornate, two-story wing that holds more than 14,000 books and scores of historical items.

"For a small-town, public school girl, attending Princeton was a dream come true," Crow tells PAW, referring to her Moorestown, New Jersey, upbringing. "The opportunity was born out of lacrosse and field hockey athletic recruiting, but my deep enthusiasm for Princeton quickly coalesced around the diligent scholarship, stunning curriculum, and remarkable friendships to be found on campus. The friends I made at Princeton are still deeply important to me, and although miles separate us from coast to coast now, we remain close and in touch often."

Crow, who majored in politics, was a standout lacrosse player, according to Chris Sailer, the former Princeton coach who retired in 2022 after 36 years. Sailer says Crow was part of a group of players early in Sailer's Princeton tenure who helped transform the middling program into a Final Four participant within three seasons.

"My first year [coaching at Princeton] was definitely a building year," Sailer says of the 1987 season. "[Kathy] was a big player for us. Her senior year, we went to the Final Four [where Princeton lost to Sailer's alma mater, Harvard]. Kathy was a strong player, very feisty and aggressive. A tough, hard-nosed competitor, but a fun-to-coach kind of kid."

Sailer says that although she hasn't kept in regular communication with Crow, the two would see each other when Crow came back to campus for Reunions or other events. Sailer also says Crow has donated generously to the Princeton women's lacrosse program.

Crow moved to Dallas not long after graduating from Princeton — "for a two-year job," she says via email — but she ended up staying much longer. "I fell in love with a man and a new forever home," she says.



Kathy and Harlan have three children, sons Jack (29) and Rob (26), and daughter Sarah (22), who's a Morehead-Cain scholar at the University of North Carolina's Kenan-Flagler Business School and set to graduate next spring. Kathy Crow is a UNC Kenan-Flagler board member, and the dean of the school, Mary Margaret (Myers) Frank, says that Crow has been "an invaluable thought partner" with regard to helping grow the school's profile in the corporate world, and enriching the students' overall experience.

Kathy serves on 13 boards — including at Southern Methodist University, where she earned an MBA in 1994 — and holds the title of officer for Crow Holdings, the massive Dallas real estate company run by Harlan.

"The principles I am enthusiastic about center around educational excellence and civic discourse, and the

volunteer and civic work I involve myself with follow suit," Crow says. "As a family, we are deeply committed to championing the institutions and organizations that promote and strengthen the community of Dallas and the State of Texas."

St. Philip's has been one of those institutions where Crow's involvement is deeply rooted — Harlan's father, Trammell, was one of the school's benefactors, and the school library is named in his honor. Flowers, the headmaster, says the Crow family's impact on the school has been "significant."

"For them to be supportive, but more importantly, ambassadors for the great work that we are engaged in, brings about credibility, brings additional support, places an area of Dallas on the radar screen for others who have negative perceptions about the potential and promise of the neighborhood," he says.

One time Kathy Crow invited a group of St. Philip's students on a Crow family trip to Alaska. "The kids watched bears snatch salmon out of a river," says Flowers. But Kathy Crow's biggest mission with the school has been her decades-long work to revitalize the neighborhood, which has been plagued for decades by drugs, violence, prostitution, and blight.

"Kathy was boldly going where very few people would go, decades ago," says Flowers, who has been a leader at the school since 1983.

Some of Crow's more recent initiatives in south Dallas, according to Flowers, include bringing other professionals to the community so that "they'll be more educated and be in a position to advocate for change." Crow has partnered with organizations such as United to Learn, whose goals include improving the educational environment for Dallas elementary schools, and she has worked with local law enforcement and legal experts on converting "challenge properties" into prosperous ones.

On the other side of Dallas, in the affluent Highland Park neighborhood where the Crows live, their library serves as a rarefied space hosting political, charitable, and philanthropic functions. West describes the library as "an intellectual salon."

He says that during one visit to the Crow library, the couple brought together "all these different people talking about Socrates or Martin Luther King Jr., or [Thomas] Aquinas, [Søren] Kierkegaard. It was really a beautiful thing."

West's friendship with the Crows has brought its share of controversy, too.

After Harlan Crow donated to West's presidential campaign last year, there was immediate backlash, prompting West to defend Crow on X, formerly Twitter.

"Despite my deep political differences with brother Harlan Crow (who is an anti-Trump Republican), I've known him in a nonpolitical setting for some years and I pray for his precious family," part of West's Oct. 19, 2023, post reads.

West tells PAW that he was staggered by the response to Harlan Crow's

donation and the demands that he return the money.

"They said, '[Harlan's] trying to manipulate you.' No. I know brother Harlan and sister Kathy, my God," says West. "And people said, 'Well, you don't say that in politics, you don't use that kind of language.' I don't give a damn about what other people talk about politics. I'm a free man and I have my own views."

While West says that he and the Crows "clash intellectually all the time," West adds that those political tussles end with a peaceful truce. West chuckles when remembering how Kathy Crow once blasted him via email.

"We live in such a toxic culture, so everybody distrusts everybody. Everybody is suspicious of everybody. Everybody figures that they're manipulating and transacting."

— CORNEL WEST *80

"She wrote a lovely little email one time when I was involved in some kind of demonstration, where I [came] down so hard on the oligarchs and the plutocrats," says West. "She was like, 'What are you thinking about?! Wait a minute brother West!' I told her, 'I said the same thing in Dallas, the same thing in New York, the same thing in Washington, D.C. It has nothing to do with undermining a friendship. We're talking about structures and institutions.' She was very kind the next time I saw her.

"But it took a little while" to repair the disagreement, says West.

As for the Crows' friendship with Clarence and Ginni Thomas, West says he doesn't believe there is an ulterior motive to the Crows' gifts, despite scrutiny from politicians such as Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) and Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), who have called for an investigation into possible ethics violations.

"It's important that people just know who's connected to who, and what they're

doing," says West. "But I can say that I don't think brother Harlan or sister Kathy are the kind of persons who extend friendships in order to manipulate them. They just don't strike me as that kind of people."

Still, the Crows' gifts to the Thomases have unsettled many people. In addition, Harlan Crow owns several controversial historical relics, such as: statues of Russian dictator Joseph Stalin and Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu, among others; Third Reich memorabilia, including a signed copy of Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf*; and paintings by the Nazi leader.

More recently, Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) opined that both Supreme Court Justices Thomas and Samuel Alito '72 were overstepping their bounds of power.

"The American people almost uniformly agree that the right-wing justices on the Supreme Court are completely and totally out of control," said Jeffries during a June news conference.

Mark Paoletta, a powerful Washington attorney who has represented Ginni Thomas, and who is a longtime friend of Clarence Thomas, wrote a lengthy response to the ProPublica report in which he said that the Thomases didn't need to report the Crow payments for Clarence Thomas' grandnephew because he wasn't a "dependent child." Paoletta included a copy of a 2012 letter from the Judicial Conference that states that its committee on financial disclosure did not find any evidence of wrongdoing by Thomas.

The political back-and-forth involving her high-profile marriage to Harlan Crow is a spotlight Kathy Crow has largely avoided, instead letting her professional pursuits do the talking. West says it's no surprise that despite those efforts, criticism and vitriol are frequently directed at the Crows.

"We live in such a toxic culture, so everybody distrusts everybody. Everybody is suspicious of everybody. Everybody figures that they're manipulating and transacting," says West. "The sad thing is, there's just not that much space left in the culture for people to even understand any kind of quality relation to Kathy, Harlan, and myself." ■



DEVASTATING DISASTER

Marquee, an art and design marketplace on Foundry Street in the heart of Asheville, N.C.'s River Arts District. All of the buildings surrounding Marquee that housed other art and design retailers were severely damaged by Hurricane Helene, which passed through Asheville Oct. 3-5.

PICKING UP

Managing the Aftermath of Storms Helene and Milton

Alumni in North Carolina and Florida faced flooding, high winds – and now wonder about the future

BY KATHARINE GAMMON '03

E LLEN GREENBERGER '82 knew a storm was coming. She lived on Reynolds Mountain in North Asheville, North Carolina. But when the pelting rains of Hurricane Helene arrived at her home, it was something new. She spent six days on one floor of her home, surrounded by flashlights and candles. There was no power, water, or services. “It was very, very dark,” she says.

When Greenberger finally emerged, she saw the brute force of the storm up close: Trees were downed everywhere, some of them large and old, with giant balls of roots that stood dozens of feet in the air. The trees blocked the road as she tried to make her way down the mountain. Some roads were completely impassable, she says. “It was very frightening, because of the rainfall and then the hurricane strength winds that came through.”

Days later, Greenberger’s condo in Florida would also be seriously damaged, by Hurricane Milton.

Greenberger is one of the many alumni who have been impacted by the recent storms and are now in the process of



GREENBERGER '82

rebuilding their lives. Experts believe the damages from Helene and Milton will cost more than \$50 billion each in recovery efforts. In North Carolina, an estimated

126,000 homes were damaged by the Category 4 storm when it made landfall in late September.

Associated Press reporter Jeff Amy '95, who was sent to cover Helene’s aftermath in North Carolina, could tell this storm was different. Amy is no stranger to storms: He covered Katrina in 2005 and has lived on the Gulf Coast most of his life.

Still, as he toured the areas of western North Carolina, it was a new experience. “I had never really covered flooding in this mountain context before,” he says, “and the damage was different: Down by the rivers in North Carolina, it was like nothing I had ever seen before.” Amy saw crumbled roads, washed-out bridges, and tons of trees down. The effects of massive amounts of rainfall were evident, he says:

“Water can peel up asphalt like a banana and toss it aside like a peel.”

He focused his reporting on the efforts to return water services to people in the area. As of early November, residents were still under a boil-water order weeks after the storm. Recovery is often measured in years, he says — and that becomes really stressful, “to the point where I worry about people’s ability to endure that stress and the mental health consequences.”

As Greenberger was reuniting with her husband and finding a safe place to stay while water and services were restored, another hurricane brewed in Florida: Milton. Her family owns a condo on Longboat Key, outside Sarasota, Florida, and the storm hit the island, blowing the roof off the building and causing major water damage. The lobby of the building had 4 feet of water in it. In November, she had plans to return to the island to assess the damage. “I don’t think you can feel secure anywhere on that island,” she says, as she wonders: “Will there come a time where the entire island won’t exist anymore?”

A hundred miles south, Scott Crater '91 prepared his home on Sanibel Island for the storm. His experience with Hurricane Ian in 2022, which brought 11 feet of flooding, had left some lessons. In a three-story home in an area prone to flooding, he had made his first floor a workout space and storage, while he lived mostly on the second floor. When Milton was coming, he pulled all his belongings

COURTESY OF ELLEN GREENBERGER '82

— bicycles, tools, storm supplies, and Christmas decorations — up to the second floor.

When the mandatory evacuation order came through, Crater reached out to classmate Jonathon Kahn '91, who arranged for Crater to ride out the storm at his parents' condo.

He returned to see the toll of the muddy water on his home and the island overall. Fortunately, only the first story of his home was impacted by the 2 ½ feet of flooding,

HIGH WINDS
The aftermath of Hurricane Milton in Blind Beach, Florida.

but his community has suffered. “The school is closed due to flooding,” he says. “A lot of people have one-story houses and have a lot of damage again, and a lot are elderly and sort of at a crossroads of what to do: Whether it’s 2 feet of water or 7, it starts to not matter because it’s muddy, dirty water that ruins everything.”

Some of his neighbors have started to give away their homes for the value of the land, “because no one is looking for a one-story house on a barrier island in Florida anymore.” Crater is not considering moving, but he says he has become an expert at dealing with flooding. “We are still drying out the affected floor, making provisions to store everything we can off the island, in a storage unit, planting all native landscaping that is salt tolerant — so it will survive future surges and prevent erosion.”

Crater says he believes elevating buildings is a possible solution, but he worries people may not want to live there anymore. “While buildings on barrier islands may still be standing in 50 years, the infrastructure of these island communities may not be able to withstand rising sea levels and repeated violent floods,” he says. “Roads, potable water lines, sewer lines, sewage treatment plants, power substations, and power lines eventually will become irreversibly damaged by repeated flooding, and the cost to continually repair them may be too high.”

The precise impact of climate change and warmer ocean temperatures are



“Roads, potable water lines, sewer lines, sewage treatment plants, power substations, and power lines eventually will become irreversibly damaged by repeated flooding and the cost to continually repair them may be too high.”

— SCOTT CRATER '91
Sanibel Island resident

having on powerful storms is being examined, but Gabriel Vecchi, a geoscientist at Princeton who has studied the frequency of hurricanes in

the Atlantic Ocean since the late 19th century, says: “There is relatively strong evidence that hurricanes should get stronger, with larger winds, and rainier as the world continues to warm.”

For Greenberger, she says due to high demand she is facing some challenges in locating help to clean up from storm damages. She needs help replacing some roof shingles, removing felled trees, replacing broken lights, and servicing the generator.

Still, she’s grateful for the kindness of strangers — folks who helped her communicate with her family and helped check in on each other with food and water. “We live in a very divisive society right now, but these two storms have brought everybody together, and it was wonderful to see. Everybody was working together.”

SCOTT CRATER '91



SOLOMON

JON SOLOMON

Prepping for Another Year of Christmas Cult Classics at WPRB

BY LOUIS JACOBSON '92

BACK IN 1988, Jon Solomon was a 15-year-old living in the Princeton area and dreaming of becoming a radio DJ. In those days before YouTube and home recording studios, he cold-called the manager of Princeton University's student-run station, WPRB, to see if he could work some shifts. The manager told him he could have any shifts that no Princeton student wanted. So that fall, Solomon began broadcasting on the 4 a.m. to 7 a.m. slot. His parents would pick him up when it was over, after sunrise.

Solomon's big break came at Christmas. The student hosts generally left for the holiday, creating a big hole in the schedule. With the station's blessing, Solomon

hosted a marathon of Christmas music.

Almost four decades later, he is still at it.

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 2023, Solomon — whose day job is as WPRB's operations manager — hosted his signature 25-hour marathon for the 35th time in 36 years. And in 2024, he plans to do it again, from home and without any naps.

Solomon has been passionate for many years about Princeton basketball, writing about the team at PrincetonBasketball.com from 2004 to 2013 and has co-hosted the Ivy League Hoops Hour podcast. But Solomon, an honorary member of the Class of 1976, has become best known for

his efforts curating Christmas music.

He says he's aware of a few other DJs across the country who broadcast Christmas music marathons, but few are as lengthy; Solomon's marathon has topped out at 30 hours in a stretch. The one year Solomon didn't do the marathon — in 1995, when he was driving to see his alma mater, Northwestern, play in the Rose Bowl — ended up solidifying his commitment. "Not doing it reminded me how important the marathon was to me," Solomon says.

Don't expect to hear familiar Christmas standards on Solomon's show; it's a cornucopia of musical obscurities, plus items that aren't music at all. Typically, Solomon's Christmas show is about 30% indie rock, 20% soul and funk, 15% oddities, 15% spoken word, and 20% what Solomon characterizes as "miscellaneous."

"The best radio to me is when you never know what's coming next, but the songs make sense adjacent to each other," Solomon says. "I like to drop songs on people's heads that they're not expecting."

In one typical segment that aired from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve 2023, Solomon played cuts as varied as "(I hate) CHRISTMAS RECORDS!," from an EP by the British post-punk band Comet Gain; a song from Ruth Harley's "Santa's Funk & Soul Christmas Party, Vol. 4"; a meditation by comedian Joe Pera on choosing a Christmas tree; a mash-up between AC/DC's "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" and Brenda Lee's "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"; and the song "Merry Christmas From Jail" by a band called the Williams.

Asked for a more "mainstream" example from his 2023 playlist, Solomon offered the late Irish singer Sinéad O'Connor's "Silent Night" — but even that was her comparatively obscure "long version."

Surprisingly, Solomon says he is broadcasting more fresh material during the marathon now than he ever has before. Of the 25 hours in his 2023 show, about 15 hours — nearly two-thirds — were new to the show, he says.

"Airing stuff I haven't played before keeps the show interesting for me and the people who pay attention year after year," Solomon says. "Some people have

told me they've been listening since year one or two, which is kind of bonkers."

At first, Solomon needed to rely on WPRB's library and his own limited collection of Christmas songs to make the marathon work. But then the show took on a life of its own.

Bands both famous and obscure produce new Christmas music every year, usually accessible on sites like YouTube and Bandcamp. But even more than that, Solomon has created an ecosystem in which new music flows his way from a nationwide brigade of Christmas music aficionados.

"The community of people who collect Christmas music are unlike any other gatekeeper community — they're so willing to share," Solomon says. "There are more than a few songs about the marathon now too, which is wild."

In 2023, Solomon says, the number of listener submissions was the most he'd ever received — so many that he couldn't come close to airing them all during the marathon. He gives every song he receives a rating of one to five stars and only considers the five-star ratings for the marathon. But even his five-star file has far too many items for a 25-hour show.

One musician in Vancouver, Joel RL Phelps, has contributed at least one new song to Solomon's show for the past 12 years. In recent years, Solomon has been devoting a whole segment to him. "It's a meaningful portion of the marathon for me emotionally, because this is music that has not been released and that you can't just hear anywhere," Solomon says.

Another musician, Neal Markowski of Chicago, took it upon himself to record Christmas versions of all the songs on *Hex Enduction Hour*, a 1982 album by the British post-punk band The Fall that is one of Solomon's favorites.

"It's a pretty out-there idea, but it made total sense if you know the show," Solomon says. "I'm just lucky to have that guy in my corner."

Sometimes, a new song for the show isn't new at all, but rather rediscovered. As the 2023 show was airing, a listener sent Solomon "Happy Birthday Jesus," a 1971 track by an artist named Samuel Sweetsinger Bell. Solomon hadn't heard

it before, but it "checked all the boxes. I hadn't played it before, Bell was from Philly, which is in the WPRB listening area, and it's amazing." "Happy Birthday Jesus" now has an inside track to make it into Solomon's 2024 show.

Solomon also relies on his own collection, which has grown astronomically since his teenage years. In addition to a computer filled with digital music files, "I end up schlepping like 10 to 14 boxes of CDs and LPs up from the basement" to prep the show, Solomon says.

"The community of people who collect Christmas music are unlike any other gatekeeper community — they're so willing to share."

— JON SOLOMON

For the last 11 years, Solomon has added a Hanukkah show to his repertoire, though he says it's more challenging because there's "a lot less material." For the Hanukkah show, Solomon has gone as long as six hours, but says three hours works best.

To prepare for the Christmas show, Solomon gathers songs all year, but the process accelerates during the two weeks before Christmas. It's a stressful period, he says, requiring him to whittle down a massive amount of music and make sure all the pieces fit together coherently.

One of the most positive changes, Solomon says, has been the shift toward broadcasting from home, which began with the coronavirus pandemic. Doing the marathon for the first time from home in 2020 was "emotional," he says: His wife and daughter could be involved, and he could better experience the passing of time, which had been difficult in WPRB's windowless studios in Holder Hall and Bloomberg Hall. "It's hard to imagine going back now," he says.

The 2023 marathon became especially meaningful for Solomon when his daughter Maggie — now the same age as Solomon was when he did his first marathon — took a significant role,

playing a segment of reindeer songs she dubbed "Maggie's Reindeer Rumble."

Solomon expects Maggie to continue to have a role in the 2024 marathon, joining other features that have become yearly standards. Solomon always starts and ends the marathon with tracks from the 1965 album *Merry Christmas from the Sonics, the Wailers & the Galaxies*, a Pacific Northwest garage-band compendium that he loves.

A live chat during the show (and, in earlier years, the request line and emails from listeners) has helped Solomon gauge what's resonating with his audience. Positive feedback convinced Solomon to play two 40-minute back-to-back segments annually. One he started airing in 2004 is *Snaildartha: The Story of Jerry the Christmas Snail*, a spoken-word-jazz reinterpretation of Hermann Hesse's 1922 novel *Siddhartha*, focused on, yes, a snail. The other is an extended version of "The Little Drummer Boy" by a Norwegian musician named Lindstrøm.

During the year, listeners will send Solomon snail ornaments for his Christmas tree or ask him to autograph a snail for them and send it back. The tradition "wasn't planned — it just kind of happened," Solomon says. But now, he says, "it wouldn't be Christmas for a lot of listeners, and I want to honor that."

Solomon also makes a point of scheduling special segments at particular times, such as 12:34 a.m. on Christmas day, which he sees as numerically resonant. Last year, Solomon played a block of Christmas songs either performed by the Ramones or inspired by them. He's also assembled segments inspired by the British bands Joy Division and New Order. "I did that for the first time last year and the immediate response was, 'You have to do this again,'" Solomon says.

This year, Solomon will be including a live performance of holiday songs by the musician Advance Base.

The interplay with his fans helps keep him going, he says.

"There are people who say, 'I used to listen to this show when I was 8 with my dad, and now it's my show,'" Solomon says. "It's become a part of people's lives beyond mine." ■

ALUMNI AWARDS


Elena Kagan '81 and David Card *83 to Receive Top Honors

THE UNIVERSITY'S HIGHEST alumni awards will be presented to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan '81 and economist David Card *83 on Alumni Day, Feb. 22.

Kagan, who has served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court for 14 years, will receive the Woodrow Wilson Award, presented annually to an undergraduate alum whose career embodies Wilson's words "Princeton in the Nation's Service." Prior to joining the Supreme Court, Kagan was the first female dean of Harvard Law School, served as associate White House counsel and deputy assistant for domestic policy during the Clinton administration, and was a professor of law at the University of Chicago and Harvard.

"Elena Kagan is a blazing legal intellect who has dedicated herself to the rule of law at every stage of her formidable career," President Christopher Eisgruber '83 said in a press release. He added, "She has played a distinctive leadership role in American jurisprudence."

Card, who taught at the University from 1983 to '96 and was jointly awarded the 2021 Nobel Prize in economics with Joshua Angrist *89 and Guido Imbens, will receive the James Madison Medal. The honor is awarded each year to a graduate alum who has had a distinguished career, advanced the cause of graduate education, or achieved an outstanding record of public service. Card's research used natural experiments to study a variety of topics from wage determination to inequality to understand how the economy operates — ultimately challenging conventional wisdom. He was awarded the Nobel for providing "new insights about the labor market," according to the Nobel Committee announcement.

"Along with changing the way economists think about the labor market, especially regarding the minimum wage, his work contributed to changing the way empirical research is done," Eisgruber said in the release.  By C.S.



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MEMORIALS



LISTEN TO OUR NEW MEMORIALS PAWCAST

Visit paw.princeton.edu/podcasts to hear a podcast discussion where we reminisce about an alum who recently died. This month's episode is about Karl Hummel '67.

THE CLASS OF 1948

ARTHUR R. MANSFIELD '48

Skip died July 19, 2024, in Punta Gorda, Fla. He was 98.



Born in Baltimore, Skip was raised in Linthicum Heights, Md., and Washington, D.C. At Princeton, he was a member of Cap and Gown, played JV and varsity lacrosse, and was vice president of the Catholic Club. He served in the Navy in 1944-46, then returned to Princeton and earned a degree in history in June 1948. As his obituary noted, he remained a proud Princeton Tiger the rest of his life.

Skip worked for Integrated Control Systems in public relations. He deeply loved sailing, and it dovetailed with his professional life. In the 1950s, he built wooden boats in Maine while doing marine surveying. He went on to become a yacht broker, building one of the top brokerage houses in the world while developing an international reputation as one of the "Gentlemen Brokers." He served as president of the Yacht Architects and Brokers Association, and was involved in many marine activities, including "countless races and cruises in countless boats," according to an obituary on the boating Substack "Loose Cannon." He played tennis until age 96 and participated in his last bocce tournament at 98.

Jane Elizabeth, his wife of 54 years, predeceased him. He is survived by his daughters, Heather, Bridget, and Deidra; and eight grandchildren. The Class of '48 sends its condolences on the passing of our classmate who lived so fully, vigorously, and happily.

THOMAS V.H. VAIL '48

Tom died Nov. 27, 2023, at age 97.

A third-generation Clevelander, Tom dedicated his life to his hometown both as publisher of *The Plain Dealer* and as a prominent community builder. Under his 26-year stewardship, *The Plain Dealer* became Ohio's largest daily newspaper and an influential editorial voice. His efforts to revitalize the city included founding the New Cleveland Campaign in 1978 to

promote the city and co-founding Cleveland Tomorrow in 1981 to foster economic growth.

Tom, whose father, Herman Vail 1917, and brother H. Lansing Vail '46 both attended Princeton, was a member of Charter Club and Triangle. He graduated in February 1949 with a degree in politics.

Several months later, Tom became a police reporter for the *Cleveland News* and, as he wrote in our 50th-reunion yearbook, "was then and forever after fascinated by the newspaper business." After getting experience in both the editorial and business sides, he became publisher of *The Plain Dealer* in 1963 at age 36.

In Tom's obituary on cleveland.com, his longtime assistant and successor as publisher, Alex Machaskee, noted that Tom energized the newspaper by bringing in young talent and "began the transformation of *The Plain Dealer* from an 'old gray lady' to a livelier, more relevant, politically balanced newspaper." In 1967, *The Plain Dealer's* front-page endorsement of Carl Stokes helped him become the first Black mayor of a major U.S. city.

Tom and his wife, Iris, were prominent civic figures. "Our main civic interests have been trying to help the city of Cleveland, including supporting constructive politicians and creative civic-minded business leaders, re-landscaping the Cleveland Public Square, and promoting good architecture and other (we hope) worthy causes," he wrote.

Tom's dedication to the newspaper business was so strong that he declined appointments to be secretary of the Navy (by President Lyndon B. Johnson) and to be ambassador to Germany (under President Richard Nixon) to stay at *The Plain Dealer*. He later wrote a book about his associations and interviews with nine U.S. presidents.

Iris died two days after Tom did. Two children — Siri Vail Burki and Thomas Jr. — survive him. A third child, Lawrence, died in 1990. The Class of 1948 sends its condolences on the passing of our distinguished classmate.

THE CLASS OF 1949

RUSSELL E. RANDALL JR. '49

Russell died April 27, 2024, in Mechanicsville, Va. He was 95.

The son of a brigadier general, Russell



entered Princeton at age 16. He majored in biology, belonged to Cottage Club, played football, and was captain of the wrestling team. In our senior poll he was voted the "most uncollegiate" '49er; despite this dubious honor, he earned a medical degree from Columbia in just four years, along with the Anatomy Prize and membership in Alpha Omega Alpha.

After two years in the Air Force Medical Service, Russell joined the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond and spent 10 years in its renal division, directing, teaching, training, and researching nephrology. He is perhaps best known for the discovery of MIDD, a Randall-type kidney disease named, appropriately enough, for Russell himself. No longer was he just an "uncollegiate" Princeton alumnus!

In 1974, Russell left the academic world of fellowships and teaching to return to private practice. He continued to employ his diagnostic and analytic skills in medicine, architecture, and art.

Russell is survived by five children, Deborah, William, Kurt, Chad, and John. He was predeceased by his first wife, Marilyn, and his son, Mark.

THE CLASS OF 1952

WILLIAM CABOT GOUGH '52 '55

Bill died June 29, 2024, at the age of 93. A resident of Los Altos, Calif., he was born in Jersey City, N.J.



At Princeton, Bill majored in electrical engineering and received his M.S. in engineering in 1955. He served three years as a Navy officer.

Bill began his career in the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's controlled-fusion research program, where, in 1968, he co-invented the fusion torch concept as a sustainable energy alternative. This work is documented at FusionTorch.com. Later, he managed the fusion power program at the Electric Power Research Institute and served as the U.S. Department of Energy site manager for high-energy physics and synchrotron radiation at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center.

In 1980, Bill co-founded the Foundation for Mind-Being Research, a nonprofit organization dedicated to consciousness research. His contributions reflected his lifelong passion for exploring the connection between science, technology, and the human spirit.

Bill is survived by his wife, Marion; his daughter, Barbara; his son, Bill; and five grandchildren.

HERBERT LOWELL MILLIGAN '52

Herb came to us from Binghamton (N.Y.) Central High School. At Princeton, he



majored in mechanical engineering, ate at Terrace, and played in the marching and concert bands. He roomed with Fred Kaufman.

After military service, Herb earned an MSE at the University of Washington in 1959.

His career was in biomedical engineering at Cardiac Association Laboratory in Providence Hospital, Seattle; and as a manager for Lord Corp. in Erie, Pa.; then as a director at Hancock Laboratories in Anaheim, Calif. Thence to Tustin, Calif., as a manager at Boehringer Mannheim; serving as consultant to American Hospital Supply Corp.; and a manager at Shiley Laboratories in Irvine, Calif.

Herb died April 16, 2024. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine, and their children Andrea, Cecilia, and Kaith. The class sends condolences with a salute to Herb for his service to our country.

THE CLASS OF 1953

R. BRUCE BRUMBAUGH '53

Bruce was born in Altoona, Pa., and came to Princeton from Phillips Andover Academy.



He joined Key and Seal and majored in politics, writing his thesis on "History of the Grundy Movement," a civil rights movement centered in Grundy County, Pa. He

was captain of the University pingpong team and was undefeated in the National Intercollegiate Ping-Pong Tournament his freshman year.

Bruce enlisted in the Army after graduation and was stationed in Okinawa, where he won the 8th Army/Far East table tennis singles and doubles championships. He continued to be interested in the sport and won the Altoona senior men's table tennis championship in 1978 and 1979, the last years it was held.

After his Army tour, he graduated from Dickinson School of Law and was admitted to the practice of law by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the Blair County Courts in 1960. As an attorney, he chose to be a sole practitioner, maintaining his office in downtown Altoona. Elected to the bench in 1979, he served a 10-year term as a judge of the Blair County Court of Common Pleas throughout the 1980s. Returning to private practice in 1990, he concentrated in areas of family law and estates until retiring in November of 2008.

Bruce died June 24, 2024. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Patricia; five children; seven grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

CARL F. STEINFELD '53

Carl died July 4, 2024, in Sarasota, Fla.

He was born in Boston, Mass., and came



to Princeton after graduating from Stevens High School in Claremont, N.H. He joined Key and Seal and majored in basic engineering. After graduating, Carl spent four

and a half years in the Navy flying twin-engine Grumman Trackers while serving on the USS *Leyte* based at Quonset Point, R.I. He continued in the Naval Reserve and was recalled to active duty during the Berlin crisis and Cuban missile crisis. He retired eventually as a lieutenant colonel after an active-duty career of 20 years.

After his first years in the service, Carl went to work as a salesman for Claremont Flock, the family textile-manufacturing business, and subsequently became president of the company until his retirement. But flying was a lifelong passion; he was instrumental in supporting and maintaining Claremont Municipal Airport and never missed an opportunity to get up in the air.

Carl was predeceased by his first wife, Patricia. He is survived by his second wife, Miriam; his son, David; daughter Beth; and granddaughters Deanna and Kimberly.

THE CLASS OF 1954

JAMES C. GARTIN '54

Jim died May 3, 2024.

He prepared at Albany Academy and was active in football, track, and publications.



At Princeton, Jim majored in mechanical engineering. He joined Campus Club and rowed freshman, JV, and varsity heavyweight crew.

He served in the Army for two years. Before joining General Electric and occasionally thereafter, he worked as a guide in Alaska while pursuing his lifetime hobbies of hunting and wildlife photography. His activity in Alaska was detailed in a chapter of Jim Woolworth's book *The Kodiak Bear: Alaskan Adventure*.

At General Electric, Jim worked for five years as an engineer at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory and then for 30 years as manager of gas turbine controls in Lynn, Mass., and in Schenectady, N.Y. He enjoyed traveling extensively while installing and upgrading turbine control systems worldwide. While working at General Electric, Jim earned a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Union College in 1967.

A fourth-generation artist, in 1975 Jim was among the first students to study the lost wax bronze casting process at Seward Johnson's atelier in New Jersey. Over the next 50 years, Jim went on to create and sell dozens of spectacular bronze wildlife sculptures inspired by his time in Alaska and the Adirondacks (www.jimgartin.com).

Jim is survived by his nephew, James W. Gilbert.

ALWIN C. MICHAELSEN '54

Alwin died March 24, 2024, at home surrounded by family.



He attended the Buckley School before preparing at St. Mark's School in Southborough, Mass., where he was active in baseball, dramatics, and glee club. At

Princeton, Alwin majored in economics, joined Charter Club, and participated in Orange Key, IAA football and softball, and ROTC.

After service as an officer in the Army, he worked in advertising at J. Walter Thompson and on Wall Street with Mitchell-Hutchins & Co.

In 1961, Alwin co-founded Frequency Electronics (FEI), a leader in the design, development, and manufacture of high-precision timing and frequency control products for military and civilian use in space, air, sea, and ground applications. He remained an adviser to FEI until 2021.

Alwin was an accomplished golfer at the Apawamis Club in Rye, N.Y., and later at Phoenix Country Club, and he loved spending summers deep-sea fishing with family in the Florida Keys. An avid learner and adviser, Alwin enjoyed researching new venture opportunities and thrived in sharing his unconventional wisdom on everything from public policy to medicine to the golf swing.

Alwin is survived by his wife, Gail; five children; and 11 grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1955

ROBERT SLOANE CUSTER '55

Bob, whose talents ranged from hiking the Annapurna Circuit in Nepal at 17,000 feet to



making great chocolate chip cookies and salmon quiche, died April 16, 2024, at home in Corvallis, Ore., with his wife and family.

He was born Dec. 27, 1933, in Garden City, N.Y. He attended Garden City High School, where he was active in student government, school band, lacrosse, and the National Honor Society.

At Princeton, he joined Tower Club and majored in chemical engineering. He won major numerals in freshman football and lacrosse and played JV football and varsity lacrosse, including with Princeton's 1953 national championship lacrosse team. Bob also participated in IAA pingpong and pool. His senior-year roommate was Don Emmons. After graduation he was drafted into the National Guard, received an MBA from Harvard, and in 1957 married Gerry Raymond of Chappaqua, N.Y. Bob's career

was largely focused on chemical and mining companies.

Bob was a fierce bridge and poker player and loved to play tennis. From when his two sons were able to join the Boy Scouts, he was their hiking and canoeing leader. He backpacked in the Rockies and with his sons bicycled and hiked in Europe. With his wife he enjoyed good food, exploring Oregon's many wineries, watching football, and attending local symphony orchestras and theater. For business and pleasure Bob traveled to every continent except Antarctica.

Bob is survived by his wife of 67 years, Gerry; sons David and Jonathan '84; and two grandchildren.

WILLIAM B. HETZEL JR. '55

Bill, who was fond of travel, Boston's Red Sox, Patriots, and Celtics, and who adored a succession of his seven dogs, died July 6, 2024.

He was born Sept. 18, 1933, in Pittsburgh. Bill came to us from Deerfield Academy, where he was editor of the school paper and active in debate and soccer. At Princeton, he majored in the School of Public and International Affairs, joined Charter Club, played freshman soccer, and was associate managing editor of *The Daily Princetonian*. Bill's senior year roommates were Graham Fernald and Ach Achenbach. He earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School, spent five years in National Guard service, and then joined the Boston Law firm of Warner & Stackpole, where he spent his entire professional career.

In 1957, Bill married Juliet Hammond, and they shared 48 years together until her death in 2005. They lived in Concord, Mass., until retiring in 1996 to a home they built on Montsweag Bay in Woolwich, Maine. He also built decades of Concord friendships through his avid biking, squash, tennis, and bridge games. He volunteered for 20 summers at Bath's Maine Maritime Museum, often aboard the historic schooner *Sherman Zwicker*. Bill prided himself on his meticulous travel planning, especially camper trips to the West and to Jekyll Island, Ga.

Bill is survived by sons John and Bill; daughter Anne Metzger; and 10 grandchildren. He is also survived by Carol Anderson, his partner at Thornton Oaks retirement community for the past 10 years; and her daughter Deb and son Christopher.

VERNON STANTON JR. '55

Vern died June 14, 2024, in Jupiter, Fla. He was one of those classmates whose life embraced a remarkable roster of interests, from pursuing new entries to his Life List



of birds to fixing the exhaust pipe on his VW bus with a piece of discarded gutter.

Vern was born July 17, 1933, in Philadelphia. He graduated as valedictorian from Lower

Merion High School, where he rowed crew and worked on the yearbook.

At Princeton, Vern majored in history and joined Quadrangle Club. He participated in freshman crew and IAA softball and football. He was also chairman of the *Bric-a-Brac* and active on the Freshman Advisory Council and Campus Fund Drive. His senior-year roommates were Brinley Owen, Gary Nash, Bob Watson, Robert R. Brown, and George McClure '56.

Vern served in the Navy for two years between Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He spent his entire career at Drinker, Biddle & Reath, serving as managing partner before retiring.

Vern's interests were all over the place. He was a devoted outdoorsman with a focus on whitewater canoeing and backpacking, founder with his wife of a day hike that continued for 30 years, devotee of bike riding, avid reader who pursued new topics and authors, and founder of the Good News Paper, a semi-regular publication that featured offbeat news items, favorite obituaries, photos of animals, and other tidbits that appealed to his quirky sense of humor. Plus, he was well versed in car repair, woodworking, electrical wiring, and plumbing. He could fix something with what was at hand.

Vern was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Betsy; and son Jeffrey. He is survived by three children, Kathryn '80, Janet, and Roger; and nine grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1956

DONALD M. DITMARS JR. '56

Don died June 12, 2024, at his home in Grosse Pointe, Mich.



Following his father, Donald Sr. '30-'31, Don came to Princeton from Hopewell Township Central High in Pennington, N.J. He was active in representing Elm

Club in football and basketball and majored in chemistry. While attending Cornell University Medical School, he met his wife, Anne Marr, to whom he remained married until her death in 2010.

Following service in the Army in Fort Knox, Ky., from 1965 to 1967, Don became a plastic surgeon at Henry Ford Hospital in Grosse Pointe, where he was division chief for 35 years and continued to teach there and at Wayne State University in Detroit after he retired. His mastery of technique and innovation has left a long legacy.

Don was an active member of Grosse Pointe Memorial Presbyterian Church, serving as a deacon and trustee. He was equally active outdoors, hiking, hunting, and fly-fishing for steelhead with his family.

Don is survived by his children, Donald III and his wife Laurie, Kristin and her husband Rick Overbey, and Kathryn '87 and her husband; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

RICHARD W. JOHNSON '56

Dick died June 2, 2024, in Fitchburg, Wis.

He came to Princeton from a high school



in Big Lake, Minn., where he excelled as a scholar, athlete, and leader. He joined Cloister Club and majored in psychology while playing interclub football and

basketball.

Dick married Adelle Claire Dowidat in Minneapolis in 1959 while earning a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Minnesota. He taught at several schools including the University of Wisconsin, Madison, from which he retired in 1997 as professor emeritus of counseling psychology and as director of training at the counseling service. Dick used his clinical experience to co-write a bestselling textbook on psychological assessment that went through multiple editions. Through all his time, he continued to play full-court basketball with a UW group three days a week.

Dick and his wife and children greatly enjoyed traveling, especially in the lands of their forebears in Norway, Sweden, Scotland, and England. He is survived by Adelle; their children, Cynthia Clare Ivy, Whitney Richard (Stephanie), Kara Marie (Christian Schmidt), and Amy Adelle (Pedro Sanctos); and eight grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1957

JOHN W. BONGE '57

Another outstanding professor in our class, John died June 24, 2024, at his home in



Kirkland Village, Bethlehem, Pa. He came to Princeton from New Trier High School in Winnetka, Ill., where he was president of the student council. At Princeton, he

majored in basic engineering and was president of the Basic Engineering Society, chairman of the Engineering Council, a member of the Undergraduate Council, and chairman of the Student Center Committee. He also served as a Keyceptor and on the 1957 Memorial Fund Drive. A member of Quadrangle Club, he roomed with 10 classmates in the "executive suite" in Blair Hall.

After graduation John married Janice Silcox, a graduate of Westminster Choir

College, and then returned to Illinois to earn a master's degree in business administration and a Ph.D. in organization theory from Northwestern University. John worked at the RTE Corp. in Wisconsin, then became an assistant professor at Michigan State University. He became chairman of the department of management, finance, and marketing at Lehigh University and director of the Small Business Center in Bethlehem, helping local small businesses, both startups and older ones, with their management problems. In retirement John was a director of New Bethany Ministries and an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Jan; and sons Steve and Greg and their families.

EDWARD J. COUGHLIN III '57

Returning to his childhood home of Williamstown, Mass., in recent years, Terry died there Dec. 25, 2023.



He graduated from Trinity-Pawling School in Pawling, N.Y., where he was the top scholar during his junior and senior years.

Recipient of an English-Speaking Union scholarship, Terry studied for a year at the Dean Close School in England. At Princeton, he majored in chemistry and was a member of the freshman track team. He was also a member of the Outing Club, the Bridge Club, and Court Club, where he participated in intramural sports. Senior year he roomed with Dave Cameron, Bill Dantzler, Terry McCabe, and Cliff Roltsch.

After graduation Terry served in the Army for six months of active duty and 5 1/2 years in the National Guard. He married Judith Danaher of Williamstown, a Vassar graduate, in 1958. Terry earned a master of science degree at Williams College in 1962 while working in the research and development division of Sprague Electric Co. in North Adams. He then transferred to Sun Oil Co. in Pennsylvania, first working in research and then as a public-policy consultant — a position outside of his chemistry field — which he attributed to his liberal arts education at college.

Judith and Terry owned many dogs, showing and training them as part of the Philadelphia Dog Training Club. He also obtained a Life Master designation as a bridge expert. After Judith's death in 2016, Terry eventually moved back to Williamstown. He is survived by his sister, Cecile C. Best; his brother, David; and their families.

DAVID J. LEWITTES '57

One of the premier accountants in our class, Dave died June 16, 2024, of complications of Parkinson's disease.

He came to Princeton from the Oakwood Friends School in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. At



Princeton, he was on the freshman track team, majored in biology, and joined Tiger Inn, where he was active in intramural sports and the bicker committee. He was

also secretary-treasurer of Orange Key and a member of the Hillel Foundation and the Jamesburg Committee.

Following graduation Dave obtained his MBA in accounting at Columbia University. After increasingly important positions at one of the Big Eight accounting firms of Lybrand Ross Bros. & Montgomery (now Coopers & Lybrand), he became a senior systems analyst at Philip Morris. He married Judith Axenow, a Vassar graduate, and they had two children, Michael '87 and Deborah '89. He then formed his own accounting firm, eventually with partners, offices, and residences in New York and Poughkeepsie, where Judy became executive director of development for Vassar.

Dave was active in Princeton affairs, serving as president of the Mid-Hudson Princeton Club for 10 years, as an Alumni Schools Committee interviewer, and as treasurer of the Alumni Council. He also contributed substantial funds to the Center for Jewish Life and the University Chapel.

Dave is survived by Judy, their two children, and their families.

DAVID E. SOSIN '57

A psychiatrist who became an expert on ADHD, Dave died Jan. 4, 2024, in Scottsdale, Ariz.



He came to Princeton from Highland Park (N.J.) High School. Winner of a Westinghouse science scholarship, he majored

in biology, graduating *summa cum laude*. He opined, however, that he liked his art, English, and French courses the best. Dave was a photographer for *The Daily Princetonian*, where he was able to photograph notable individuals such as Albert Einstein and Eleanor Roosevelt. He took his meals at Court Club.

Following graduation, Dave attended NYU Medical School, interned at Baltimore City Hospital, did his residencies at Bellevue and St. Vincent's hospitals in New York, and served two years as an Air Force psychiatrist with the rank of captain. He then did research at the Yale School of Medicine and in California, but returned to set up private practice in his hometown of Highland Park. There he married Myra E. Shiffman, an English teacher at his high school, and they had two children, Sara and Alex. Returning to California, Dave practiced psychiatry there for more than 50 years. He and Myra published two books on ADHD. Upon retirement, they moved to Scottsdale.

Dave is survived by Myra, their two children, and their families.

RICHARD N. STILLWELL '57

A noted chemist and computer expert, as well as another one of the "townies" in our class, Dick died Dec. 23, 2023.



The son of Richard Stillwell 1921, Dick came to Princeton from the Taft School in Watertown, Conn.

He majored in chemistry and joined Court Club, where he was active in intramural sports.

After graduation Dick earned a Ph.D. in chemistry at Harvard and then worked as an associate professor at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He married Sara Gardiner, a biochemist there. Taking advantage of the computer age, Dick moved to Massachusetts and became owner of Science Computer Applications. He then was co-owner and head of research at Technology Exchange Corp., while Sara worked at MIT.

Dick built his own schooner and he and Sara spent many hours sailing, both in the waters around Texas and along the coast of New England. They also enjoyed vacations in the family cottage in Maine.

Dick is survived by Sara, his wife of more than 55 years.

WILLIAM G. WIEGAND JR. '57

Having lived in the South (Mississippi and Louisiana) for most of his life, Bill died in Durham, N.C., Nov. 20, 2023.



He came to Princeton from Phillips Andover Academy, majored in economics, joined Charter Club, and participated in intramural sports. He also

worked on the Campus Fund Drive and old clothes collection.

Shortly after graduation Bill married Judith P. Allen, a Centenary College graduate, and they had four children, Julia, Amy, Nancy, and William III. As an ROTC graduate, Bill spent two years in military service, including time in Kansas at a Nike Hercules base, and he attained the rank of first lieutenant. Following brief stints with large corporations, he started his own business, W.G. Wiegand Jr. Co., first in commercial real estate sales and then in commercial appraisals, where he won accolades for his appraisals of complicated properties.

He survived a tornado in Mississippi and several hurricanes in Louisiana, but had to rebuild his office after Hurricane Katrina.

Bill's marriage ended in divorce, and his son predeceased him. He is survived by his companion, Jane Stennett; three daughters; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1958**SPENCER E. SHERMAN '58**

Spence died July 27, 2024, in New York City. He was 88.



He came to Princeton from Dwight Morrow High School in Englewood, N.J., where he was active in basketball, tennis, and student government. At

Princeton, Spence was a member of Orange Key, Terrace Club, and a cartoonist for the *Tiger*.

After graduation, Spence earned a medical degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1961, he married Susan Ann Rosenbluth. From 1963 to 1965, Spence served as captain in the Army Medical Corps. He practiced medicine in New York for more than 53 years as an ophthalmologist and eye surgeon. In 1970, he was named chief of the eye department of the Hospital for Joint Diseases in New York and a consulting ophthalmologist for the United Nations. He was a founder of the Museum of the Eye in San Francisco, of which the holdings include the Spencer E. Sherman, MD, Antique Ophthalmology Book Collection.

Spence served as a guest lecturer at many leading medical institutions around the world and published textbooks and scientific articles in numerous journals. For his service to ophthalmology, he received the Honor Award and the Service Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Spence is survived by his wife, two daughters, and five grandchildren. The class extends its deepest sympathy to them all.

THE CLASS OF 1960**JOSEPH W. HUNGATE '60**

Son of a music professor, Joe was born, raised, and attended high school in Oberlin,



Ohio. At school he played basketball and golf. With us he majored in English, served in Navy ROTC, and broadened his sports interests with IAA football, pool, billiards, and pingpong, the latter three centered in the Tiger Inn game room.

The Navy gave Joe two years on destroyers in the Pacific and another commissioning a new guided-missile destroyer. He continued to serve in the Navy Reserves until his retirement as a captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps.

Joe earned a law degree at Boalt Hall, University of California, Berkeley, in 1966 and returned to Ohio, where he was employed with the Squire Sanders law firm in Cleveland until 1972. He then transitioned to corporate counsel positions with several major corporations until his retirement in 1996.

On retirement, Joe and Starr (married in 1995) moved to Grants Pass, Ore., where he returned to his earlier academic pursuit, teaching English at Brighton Academy.

Joe died June 7, 2024. He is survived by his two children from his first marriage, and two grandchildren. The class extends its sympathy to them all.

THE CLASS OF 1961**GERRIT VANASMUS CROUSE '61**

Gerritt, known to some of us as Gary, died on Aug. 22, 2023. We do not know where



he died or the cause of his death, only that he lived in Nyack, N.Y. He has no known survivors.

He came to us from Pomfret School. At Princeton, he majored in English, took his meals at Wilson Lodge, and was a member of the Outing Club. From earlier reunion yearbooks we learn that he studied clinical psychology at the City University of New York and, at the time of our 25th reunion, was working as a licensed clinical psychologist at the Rockland Childrens Psychiatric Center in Orangeburg, N.Y.

So far as we know, Gerrit was never in touch with the University or the class.

ARTHUR W. HEDGREN JR. '61 *66

Art died May 31, 2024, of complications from COVID.



Born in Chicago, he lived most of his life in Pittsburgh and came to us from Mount Lebanon High School. At Princeton, he majored in civil engineering and was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. An outstanding javelin thrower, he won freshman numerals and three varsity letters in track. He was a member of Dial Lodge and roomed with Markley Huey, Spencer Reynolds, Gene Fike, Blair Edwards, John Morris, and Bill Millsaps.

Before returning to Princeton to earn MSE and Ph.D. degrees in civil engineering, Art spent a year in Stockholm, Sweden, studying at the Royal Institute of Technology on a Fulbright scholarship. He then joined Richardson, Gordon and Associates of Pittsburgh, an engineering consulting firm, and its successor firm, HDR Inc., until retiring as senior vice president in 2001. His prize-winning work in bridge design and long-span steel bridges, including the Hoover Dam bypass bridge, won him numerous accolades and awards over the years.

He is survived by his wife of seven years, Eileen; children Linda Smith '90 and Gregg; stepchildren Scott and Brandi; and eight grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Kay; and son Carl.

THE CLASS OF 1962**DAVID P. GRIFF '62**

David died of cancer May 11, 2024, in New York City after 44 days at Memorial Sloan Kettering.



He came to Princeton from Fallsburg (N.Y.) Central High School. He was in the band and drama club, co-editor of the school paper, and

valedictorian. At Princeton, David was in the marching and concert bands and ate at Dial. He roomed with Bill Levinson and Mike Huberman. He spent his junior year in France. His thesis was on Algeria's evolution post-1830. Accepted at Harvard Law School, he got married in August 1962, doing two years of graduate work before getting his law degree.

After working in international law for five years at a New York City firm, David moved his family to Paris. Initially he worked at a French firm, but soon started a private practice. Major clients included pharmaceutical firms and the film industry. After a divorce, he continued to practice law and lived on a barge moored on the Seine for 16 years. The comedian Dan Rowan introduced him to French "river life."

David met Roni Beth Tower in the mid-1990s, and they married. The class extends its sympathies to Roni Beth; David's sons; Roni Beth's children; and their seven grandchildren.

WALTER JOHN WHITEHOUSE '62

Jack died May 29, 2024, in Sinking Spring, Pa.



He graduated from Phillips Andover Academy, where he was captain of the basketball team. At Princeton, he majored in economics, played basketball, was captain of the

baseball team, and dined at Cannon. Following graduation, Jack played one season of minor league baseball for the Detroit Tigers, worked for a brokerage firm, and IBM, and founded Advanced Cybernetics, a software consulting service company. He had married Suzanne Karterman during senior year and had two daughters, Michelle and Amy. They later divorced.

Selling Advanced Cybernetics, he founded Dimensions, an international needlecraft company. He later owned the LBH Group, a women's tennis and golf apparel company, and later created a new brand, JudyP Apparel, a high-end women's apparel company that he sold upon retiring in 2023.

In 1991, Jack married Colleen Arentz, and they had two sons, Sean and Brett. Over the years he participated in several sports and became a pilot. He coached baseball and basketball and loved watching his children play sports.

Jack is survived by his wife Colleen; sons Sean and Brett; daughters Michele and Amy; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. The class extends its sympathy to all.

THE CLASS OF 1963

ROBERT M. OLMSTED '63

Bob died June 20, 2024, of pancreatic cancer in New York City, where he lived and



worked most of his life. His success as an investment adviser was matched only by the richness of his personal life — his contributions to the educational and cultural institutions he loved and his passion for his hobbies.

Bob came to us from Pomfret School, where he lettered in soccer, wrestling, and crew. At Princeton, he majored in engineering, took his meals at Cloister Inn, and rowed on the heavyweight crew. Bob earned an MBA from Columbia Business School in 1965, signed on with the Army Reserve, and did basic training at Fort Dix, N.J. Most of his career as a financial analyst was as an independent with Auchincloss & Lawrence in New York City.

Bob served as treasurer of Pomfret and the Spence School in New York City. He also served on the boards of the Windham Foundation in Grafton, Vt., and MacDowell, an artists' residency program in Peterborough, N.H.

"Hobby-wise, I have probably spent too much time with great pleasure," Bob wrote in our 50th-reunion yearbook. He was an avid photographer and spent many hours on beloved Adirondack and Central Park pathways as well as in the darkroom. He also was fascinated by the mechanical intricacies of clocks and collected pocket watches and clocks all his life. Monday evenings were busy as he wound every timepiece in the apartment. Daylight saving time was a special challenge.

Bob is survived by his wife, Stephanie; daughters Kate '93 and Lexie '94; and five grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1964

ROBERT H. CARLILE '64

Bob died March 16, 2024, in Boyne City, Mich. He came to Princeton from Columbus



(Ohio) Academy, where he was class president, co-captain of football, and yearbook editor. He followed his father, William '36, and uncle John '38 to Princeton. Bob was predeceased by brother William '73.

At Princeton, Bob majored in religion, writing his thesis on Martin Luther's doctrine of statehood. He rowed with the 150-pound crew and served as chairman of

the Campus Fund Drive, a Chapel deacon, and secretary-treasurer of Cap & Gown. He continued serving the Class of '64 as class agent from 1964 to 1967.

Bob earned an MBA at the University of Virginia and then served as an officer in the Air Force. Thereafter, he returned to Ohio to begin his banking career. For more than 17 years he held various executive positions with Huntington Bancshares in Ohio and Kentucky. After two years as executive vice president of Trustcorp Bank Ohio, he became president of First National Bank of Elgin, Ill.

During retirement in Michigan, Bob's favorite hobby was flying his own plane. He was an Alumni Schools Committee interviewer in Michigan. The class extends its condolences to his sons, Foster and Hunter.

EDWARD C. OELSNER III '64

Ned passed away Oct. 22, 2022, in New York City.



He grew up in Oyster Bay, Long Island, and came to Princeton from Hotchkiss. At Princeton, Ned majored in politics, played freshman and JV hockey and lacrosse,

ate at Cap and Gown, and was a member of the Chapel deacons. Ned's father was in the Class of '37.

Following Princeton, he attended Columbia Business School, graduating in 1966, and pursued a career in finance in New York. He worked initially at First Boston and then joined Dean Witter. When that firm merged with Morgan Stanley, Ned became a managing director in Morgan Stanley's investment banking division.

Shortly after graduating from Columbia Business School, Ned married Ellen Fogarty, and they had two children, Lizzy and Ed. Ned was an avid golfer, cyclist, reader, and birder. He loved the outdoors, particularly around their second home at Meadowbrook Farm in southwestern Vermont. He was a serious student of Italian and enjoyed many joyful trips to Rome.

Ned will be remembered by his family and friends for his integrity, discipline, generosity, kindness, and "goofy" sense of humor.

The class extends its condolences to his wife of 55 years, Ellen; their children; and three grandchildren.

RICHARD G. POTTS '64 *67

Dick passed away Dec. 3, 2023, after a short and hard-fought battle against lymphoma. He grew up in Essex Fells, N.J., attended Grover Cleveland High School, and was a proud member of the DeMolay bagpipe band.

At Princeton, Dick majored in civil engineering, graduated Phi Beta Kappa, was



VP of the student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, ate at Court Club, and roomed with Andy Shrake all four years. Princeton granted him an

M.S. in civil engineering in 1967.

Dick began his career at a startup computer company but soon moved on to the Arthur D. Little consulting firm, where he worked for 15 years as a programming expert in R&D, for sensitive high tech government projects. He then joined MIT/Lincoln Labs, where he supported government national security programs.

Following retirement in 2004, Dick and his wife of 42 years, Lynne, settled in Pepperell, Mass. He was active in community affairs, and served as director of Pepperell Community Media, where he and his team developed a local-access cable organization used as a model by other towns.

Dick was known for his kind, gentle ways, curious intellect and strong moral compass. Our class extends its condolences to Lynne and their family.

BLAKENEY STAFFORD '64

Blake died May 12, 2024.

At Princeton, Blake, who was born in



Somerville, N.J., majored in history and played baseball. He was the first Tiger to hit a fair ball out of Clarke Field, a 360-foot blast that led teammate Bill Bradley '65 to exclaim, "That was a major league homer!"

Blake met many lifelong friends at Princeton, including roommates Peter DeVito, John Smathers, and Lew Sussman. The facility for languages he developed at college, including Spanish and German, also remained strong through his life. He later graduated from Stanford and NYU law schools.

While at Princeton, Blake met Virginia Elmer. They married shortly after his graduation and moved to Chile, where he drafted legislation for the government. They had two children, Page and Amanda. Years later Blake and Julianne Lundberg were wed in Venice, Italy, and enjoyed 32 years of marriage. They lived in Palo Alto, Calif., with children Grace and Nelson. Blake spoke proudly of his four children and five grandchildren.

Blake was a founding partner of the Silicon Valley law firm Fenwick & West. He was proud that the firm helped take many tech companies public.

He also had an interest in geology and managed a partnership that developed a gold prospect in Macedonia. Doing business there presented challenges, which engendered a motherlode of stories and friendships, rather than gold.

THE CLASS OF 1970**ANDREW W. MARKS '70**

One of our fine scholar-athletes whose skills were noted by his undergrad nickname of "Pelé," Andy died surrounded by his family in his longtime Columbus, Ga., home April 11, 2024.



He came to us as a star athlete from Andover. A *magna cum laude* history scholar, his thesis was written on the 1959 steel strike. His skill in varsity soccer was accompanied by being athletic chair at Cap and Gown, as well as being a proselytizer for Iron City from his beloved Pittsburgh home.

In 1981, Andy and his family made the momentous move from Pittsburgh to Columbus, where he worked for 12 years for Hardaway Construction, then 15 years for Total Systems before retiring as group executive in 2008. To no one's surprise, he became a pillar of the community, serving in multiple roles at his church, the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, and a rainbow of other groups. His principal devotion was to St. Luke School, where he served on the trustees and in financial positions for decades.

First and foremost a devoted family man, Andy is survived by his wife and soulmate of 53 years, Barbara; children Buffy Swinehart, Ashley Beard, and Andy Marks Jr.; and five grandsons. His warmth, humor and unflagging care for others continue to serve them well, and to inspire us.

THE CLASS OF 1973**ROBERT FRANKLIN BOSSARD '73**

Bob died Oct. 19, 2023.

He came to Princeton from North Side High School in Fort Wayne, Ind., and was active in football, track, and politics. At Princeton, Bob majored in biochemical sciences and was a proud member of



Tiger Inn. He was involved in a variety of campus activities, including lacrosse, crew, the Gateman Agency, and the 21 Club. His roommates for two years were Robert Cotter, Bob Thornton, Resai Bengur, Jim Dow, Chip Meserole, Dan Hudacek, and Tim McQuay. Bob lived in Blair Tower with Steve Codraro his senior year.

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

Bob stayed in touch with his roommates and several fellow Tiger Inn mates

including Rob DeVore and Paul Berlacher. He attended his 50th class reunion in May 2023 and enjoyed spending time with many classmates, all of whom observed that Bob looked healthy and happy.

The class sends its condolences to Bob's family, including his sister Janet, brother David, and niece Katie.

THE CLASS OF 1982**ROBERT S. GERMAIN '82**

The Class of 1982 mourns the loss of Bob, who died Jan. 17, 2024, after a two-year struggle with cancer.



He came to Princeton from the Bronx High School of Science in New York and majored in physics, graduating with high honors and joining Phi Beta Kappa. He was an active member of Cloister Inn and Ultimate Frisbee enthusiast. Bob earned his Ph.D. in 1988, advised by future Nobel Laureate Robert Richardson in the famed low-temperature physics group at Cornell University. After graduate school he became a postdoctoral researcher at the IBM Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, N.Y., where he remained for 26 years as a member of the research staff. There he found his calling in scientific management, leading teams in areas including biomolecular modeling and scalable data-centric computing.

In 2015, Bob left IBM to become an engineering manager at Google, where his team was responsible for Google's Colossus file system, which, as he was fond of pointing out, efficiently stored your documents and cat videos. He published 30 scientific reports and was an inventor on a dozen patents. Bob was devoted to his family, active in his synagogue, and loved science fiction, music, and technology. We will miss his wry sense of humor.

Our class offers its condolences to his wife, Janet; daughter Abigail; and sister Ellen.

THE CLASS OF 1991**JON LUTHULI LARSON '91**

The class recently received news that Thuli died Jan. 4, 2022, in Angwin, Calif.



Beloved husband, father, doctor, vintner, entrepreneur, and intellectual, he was born in Los Angeles and moved to the Napa Valley community of Angwin as a child. He joined our class from Saint Helena High School. At Princeton, Thuli played rugby and lived in Forbes, where he was particularly close to classmates Patrick Brosnan, Scott Clawson, and Kevin Moore. He majored in molecular biology and was a member of Campus Club.

After Princeton, Thuli earned a medical degree at the University of Wisconsin and

completed his residency at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he met his wife, Angela Henszel. Thuli went into general practice in Iowa, and advanced into thoracic surgery at Case Western Reserve and the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Angela and Thuli pursued medical careers until they returned to the land on Howell Mountain, where he was raised, to become fulltime vintners. Planting their first grapes in 2002, Angwin Estate Vineyards' first vintage was in 2011. Their wine reflects enormous respect for the complex relationship between vine, soil, and nearby forest.

Thuli was cherished for his hearty laugh, bright smile, and deep insight. The class has sent our deepest condolences to Angela and their sons, Arek and Piotr.

THE CLASS OF 1995**UTHARA SRINIVASAN '95**

Thara died April 18, 2024, in Berkeley, Calif., of natural causes.



Born in Jamshedpur, India, Thara grew up in the southern suburbs of Chicago and graduated from Homewood-Flossmoor Community High School.

At Princeton, she played the flute in the University orchestra, was a member of Mathey College and Quadrangle Club, and double-majored in chemical engineering and creative writing. While working on her Ph.D. in chemical engineering at Berkeley, she met her husband, John Heck.

She made a career in ecology and environmental policy, and some believe that Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical on the environment (known as *Laudato si'*) was influenced by Thara's paper on the distribution of environmental damages among rich and poor countries.

Recently, Thara spearheaded efforts to make Princeton Reunions greener, by working to replace the more than 350,000 disposable plastic cups used over the course of the weekend with a reusable cup service. In addition to her professional work, she was a published poet, a yoga instructor, and had almost finished her first children's book.

Thara is survived by John and their children, Leena and Rohan.

GRADUATE ALUMNI**JORMA KALLIOKOSKI *51**

At the age of 100, Joe died June 3, 2024, in Hancock, Mich.

Born in Harma, Finland, Nov. 23, 1923, Joe was 8 when his family moved to Canada. He graduated from Western University in London, Ontario, and received his Ph.D. in geology from Princeton in 1951.

Joe started his time as a geologist with the Geological Survey of Canada, and later

worked for Newmont Exploration. He was hired by Princeton's Department of Geology in 1956. In 1968, he moved to Michigan Tech as a professor and head of the Department of Geology and Geological Engineering, where he remained until his retirement in 1988. During his tenure, Joe contributed to the department's growth in terms of research papers and research funding. Over his long geology career, he had many travel adventures ranging from the wilds of Canada to remote areas of South America and to various locations in Europe.

Predeceased by his wife Saara and son Donald; Joe is survived by his daughters Sue and Karen, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

PARRY MCWHINNIE NORLING *65

At the age of 85, Parry died May 17, 2024, in Hockessin, Del.

He was born in 1939 in Des Moines, Iowa, and soon moved to St. Louis. He graduated from Harvard College in 1961 and earned a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from Princeton in 1965.

In 1965, Parry accepted a position at E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co. During his 35 years with DuPont, Parry held roles ranging from plant manager, laboratory director, corporate health and safety director, to planning director. In these positions, he developed an interest in developing business processes for managing the transition of technological innovations from research and development projects to commercially successful products.

After retiring from DuPont in 1999, he continued pursuing his interest in technology management as a science and technology fellow at the RAND Corporation and as an adjunct professor at Georgetown. This led to a passion for teaching, and in 2005 he became an instructor at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in Wilmington, where he taught courses in innovation and creativity.

Predeceased by his wife, Nancy, Parry is survived by his children, Christine and Jonathan, and six grandchildren.

PAUL A. PETZRICK *66

Paul died July 2, 2024, in Crownsville, Md.

He was born Aug. 13, 1929, in Menomonie, Wis. After attending the Naval Academy and commissioning as a naval line officer in 1954, Paul received a B.S. in civil engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He earned a master of science degree in engineering from Princeton in 1966.

Paul's naval career included deployments in Vietnam, and construction and public works positions in research and development in the Civil Engineer Corps.

He was named a charter member of the Senior Executive Service of the U.S.

Department of Energy when it was created in 1977. In 1991, Paul joined the Maryland Department of Natural Resources' Power plant research program. He studied innovations in energy production and side effects such as carbon dioxide, coal ash, noise, cooling water, wastewater, and boiler slag. Paul never retired, and at 94 was the state's oldest full-time employee.

In 2023, he received an honorary doctor of science degree from Frostburg (Md.) State University.

Predeceased by his wife, Mimi, Paul is survived by his children, Paul Jr., Ernest, Christina, and Amy; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

JON T. PITTS *74

Jon died May 30, 2024, in College Station, Texas, at the age of 76.

He was born Jan. 10, 1948, in San Marcos, Texas. While in high school, as an intern at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Jon devised a mathematical formulation for accurately guiding the insertion of radioactive needles to kill cancerous tissue in the human body. He published his findings, and his research was repeatedly honored.

Jon graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in mathematics in 1970. He earned his Ph.D. from Princeton in 1974 with the thesis "Every Compact Three-Dimensional Manifold Contains Two-Dimensional Minimal Submanifolds." The Almgren-Pitts min-max theory is named after him and his adviser, Frederick Almgren Jr *55.

Jon's career began with faculty positions at the University of Rochester. In 1981, he was appointed professor of mathematics at Texas A&M University in College Station, where he remained until retiring in 2018. Jon also served as special assistant to the provost and accreditation liaison officer at Texas A&M. Funding from the National Science Foundation assisted him in founding the Texas Geometry and Topology Conference.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter Jane; and three grandsons.

JOHN B. ENNS *82

John B. died in Jacksonville, Fla., June 1, 2024.

He was born May 31, 1948, in Arnold, British Columbia. He had a rare genetic condition, which was identified later as ataxia-telangiectasia syndrome, which weakened his immune system and gave him difficulties with movement and coordination.

After high school, John B. attended Winkler Bible Institute, and then earned a B.Sc. from the University of British Columbia, an M.Sc. from Case Western

Reserve University, and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Princeton in 1982. His career as a chemical engineer included positions at Michigan Molecular Institute (1975-1977), AT&T Bell Labs (1981-1989), and Vistakon Johnson & Johnson (1989-2013).

John B.'s scientific efforts have benefited all those who wear corrective contact lenses. His accomplishments are recorded in dozens of peer-reviewed publications and more than 30 U.S. patents. Notable career awards include the Johnson and Johnson President's Award for Outstanding Achievement in R&D, the North American Thermal Analysis Society Outstanding Service Award, and being named a Fellow of the Society of Plastics Engineers.

John B. is survived by his wife, Mary Lou; four sisters; and a brother.

JEFFREY M. DAVIS *03

Jeff died of cancer at age 46 in Ludlow, Mass., Aug. 30, 2023.

He graduated from MIT in 1999 with a degree in chemical engineering. In 2003, he earned a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Princeton. His area of expertise was fluid mechanics and mathematics.

Jeff spent 20 years on the faculty of UMass Amherst. He conducted research in the general area of physical applied mathematics, with applications primarily in fluid mechanics and transport phenomena. The focus of his research was the development and solution of mathematical models to provide a fundamental understanding of the underlying physics. A significant area of his interest was microscale-fluid dynamics involving heterogeneous surfaces for which interfacial effects are important.

Of particular interest for Jeff was the dynamics of thin liquid films on heterogeneous surfaces, interfacial flows, hydrodynamic stability, and microscale flows involving the dynamic interaction of microparticles with nano-textured surfaces.

Jeff's honors include the Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award, the National Science Foundation CAREER Award, the UMass Amherst Distinguished Teaching Award, and the UMass Amherst Chancellor's Leadership Fellow Award.

Jeff's survivors include his parents, Christine and Benjamin Davis; his brothers Tim and Jon; and several nieces and nephews.

Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.

*An undergraduate memorial appears for Richard G. Potts '64 *67, William Cabot Gough '52 *55, and Arthur W. Hedgren Jr. '61 *66.*

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HERBERT ADAMS GIBBONS *1914 (1880-1934)

A World Traveler, He Was Among the First International Reporters

BY HARRISON BLACKMAN '17

ANY WRITER WILL TELL YOU that writing is one of the most challenging of professional vocations. But Herbert Adams Gibbons *1914, a prolific international correspondent active in the years before and after World War I, thought otherwise. “No career offers greater possibilities for service and richer reward than that of the writer,” Gibbons argued in a 1923 article in *The Daily Princetonian*. “It is the one profession in which a man can support himself while learning his trade. It is not overcrowded, and recognition is likely to come early.”

Success came early for Gibbons, a gallivanting geopolitical pundit whose work anticipated the wide-ranging interests of modern reporters such as Ben Taub '14 of *The New Yorker* and Thomas Friedman of *The New York Times*. According to his 1934 obituary in the *Times*, “The name of Herbert Adams Gibbons is associated with the remapping of the world — not as a geographer but as a reporter to his own

continent of changed conditions in the four other continents and of our place among them.”

Gibbons was born in 1880 in Annapolis, Maryland, and attended the University of Pennsylvania before pursuing a master’s in history at Princeton and a divinity degree at Princeton Theological Seminary; he received a Ph.D. from the University in 1914. Said to be an imposing figure at 6-foot-2 and 240 pounds, he and his wife, Helen Davenport Gibbons, pursued missionary work in Tarsus, a city on the south coast of Anatolia (present-day Turkey).

In 1909, they witnessed a massacre of Armenians in the nearby city of Adana, a riot-turned-pogrom in which more than 20,000 people died, before the Armenian genocide during World War I. At the time of the incident, Herbert and Helen sheltered some 3,000 Armenians within the walls of their mission. Their experiences were widely publicized and later chronicled in two memoirs, one written by Herbert, another by Helen,

bringing attention to the persecution of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire.

After being a part of the news, Gibbons started writing it, becoming a nationally syndicated correspondent reporting from such locales as Egypt, Turkey, and the Balkans. And yet, Gibbons could not remain on the sidelines. During World War I, he enlisted in the American Expeditionary Forces and received the Legion of Honor medal from France before joining the Princeton history department.

Over the course of his career, Gibbons wrote 28 books on nearly every aspect of international relations. His writings encompassed a controversial, and often conflicting, range of opinions. Though he was a staunch supporter of Woodrow Wilson 1879’s Fourteen Points, including each nationality’s right to self-determination, Gibbons also defended colonialism. He opposed the independence of the Philippines from the U.S. and failed to condemn the Japanese occupation of Manchuria.

Despite the inconsistency of his positions, Gibbons’ credibility rested on having firsthand experience. In 1931, he claimed to have been the first person to cross Africa by rail, thanks in part to being the first passenger on a railroad that connected colonial Angola to what is now the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Still, Gibbons was hardly an objective writer. His 1920 biography of Greek politician Eleftherios Venizelos compared his subject to Lincoln, Garibaldi, Moses, and the “messiah.” “This, however, is a venial fault which few enthusiastic biographers escape and which does not detract from the general fairness and restraint which pervade the book,” American diplomat Joseph C. Green 1908 wrote in a 1921 PAW review.

Gibbons recognized that he was writing the first draft of history and celebrated being close to the action. “The reporter (for this is what the writer on contemporary events really is) enjoys advantages, denied to the historians of to-morrow [sic],” Gibbons wrote. “He has come into close personal contact with makers of history at the moment the history was made.” ■



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