



# Princeton Alumni Weekly

April 4, 2012

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The year of  
Alan Turing \*38

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Women's hoops in  
NCAA tourney

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A Plan B for Ph.D.s

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## Professor Dan Kurtzer **THE OPTIMISTIC AMBASSADOR**

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
ART MUSEUM

V&A

**JOHN CONSTABLE**

Oil Sketches from the  
Victoria and Albert Museum  
on view through June 10

Exhibition organized by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London  
John Constable, British, 1776–1837: Salisbury Cathedral from the South West, ca. 1820, detail. Oil on canvas,  
later lined. The Victoria and Albert Museum (319-1888). ©Victoria and Albert Museum / V&A images.

Princeton and  
the Gothic Revival  
1870–1930

on view through June 24

Cram and Ferguson, architects, Boston, fl. 1915–1941: proposed interior of University Chapel,  
undated, detail. Watercolor on wove paper. Princeton University Campus Collections (PP363).



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# Princeton Alumni Weekly

An editorially independent magazine by alumni for alumni since 1900

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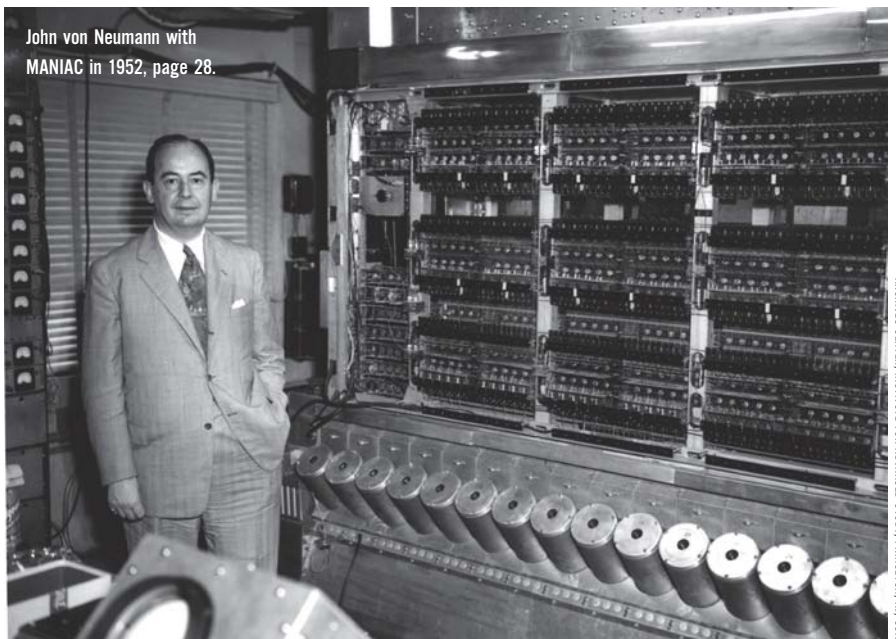
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ON THE COVER: Woodrow Wilson School professor and former ambassador Daniel Kurtzer. Photography by Peter Murphy.



John von Neumann with MANIAC in 1952, page 28.

ALAN RICHARDS PHOTOGRAPHER: FROM THE SHELBY WHITE AND LEON LEVY ARCHIVES CENTER, INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY, PRINCETON, NJ, USA

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Princeton professor Daniel Kurtzer has served as ambassador to both Israel and Egypt. He's an optimist — but a realist, too.

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Alan Turing \*38 lay down one day and imagined the computer. This spring, the world celebrates that accomplishment and all that followed.

By W. Barksdale Maynard '88

## What's new @ PAW ONLINE



### FIRST GENERATION

Read about Princeton's early history of computing, including Professor Alonzo Church '24 \*27.



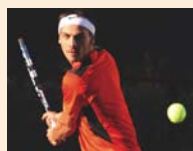
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See Jay Famiglietti '92 explain how satellites track underground aquifers.



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View videos from the Indian dance troupe's first decade.



### SPRING SPORTS

Kevin Whitaker '13 covers the latest headlines from Tiger teams.

Gregg Lange '70's Rally 'Round the Cannon



Finding parallels in Dean Mathey 1912 and Jay Sherrerd '52, two modest trustees who helped Princeton flourish.



Try our PDF version of this issue — and share your feedback — at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

PHOTOS, FROM TOP: PRINCETON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES; DANIEL A. ANDERSON / UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE; FRANK WODCZKOWSKI; BEVERLY SCHAEFER

## Classrooms Without Borders

If I were a student at Princeton, there is nothing I would rather do in the summer of my freshman or sophomore year than enroll in a Global Seminar. These once-in-a-lifetime opportunities lie at the heart of our commitment to give every undergraduate a chance to weave an international experience into his or her education. In a rapidly shrinking world, Princeton's goal is to "produce globally competent citizens" who have the substantive knowledge, cultural sensitivity, linguistic skills, and practical *savoir faire* to thrive in societies that differ from their own. And while there are many ways of developing these strengths, Global Seminars are designed to do so in an exceptionally holistic fashion.

Sponsored and subsidized by the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies (PIIRS), these six-week, credit-bearing summer courses enable members of our faculty and small groups of freshmen and sophomores to explore a topic of mutual interest *in situ*, be it Irish theater in Ireland, Indian art and architecture in India, or Zen Buddhism in Japan. Princeton's first Global Seminar in the summer of 2007 was conceived by former diplomat and PIIRS Advisory Council member Desaix Anderson '58, whose 35-year Foreign Service career culminated in the re-opening of the American embassy in Vietnam in 1995. Under his deft direction, 14 students traveled to Hanoi to study the "origins, implications, and consequences" of the Vietnam War and, more broadly, America's place in the world today.



One of the highlights of the 2010 Global Seminar, "Islam, Empire, and Modernity: Turkey from the Caliphs to the 21st Century," was a week in Cairo, where students visited the Muhammad Ali Mosque.

As with later seminars, Desaix's was designed to introduce participants to points of view unlikely to be heard as fully, if at all, at Princeton. Accordingly, half the daily lectures were given by resident scholars and other representatives of Vietnamese society, ranging from a former general to a prominent writer. This seminar also established a pattern for subsequent offerings by including a handful of local students in its activities, thus creating opportunities for cross-cultural exchanges, and by incorporating small-scale public service projects. In Vietnam, our students helped schoolchildren improve their English-language skills, widened a rural road, and scraped and painted a building serving those adversely affected by the use of Agent Orange in the Vietnam War. When to these activities are added daily

language instruction, field trips to other communities and sites of national significance, and the knowledge one accrues from simply living in a different country, we have an educational adventure that is at once immersive, intensive, and transformative. As one participant put it, "I think that this course profoundly affected both my personal and academic development, and I am so glad to have taken it."

These sentiments have been echoed by students and faculty alike as seminars have multiplied, spreading outward from Vietnam to encompass 16 countries on four continents — from Germany to Brazil; from Ghana to China. To date, more than 300 Princetonians have taken a Global Seminar, enriching their summers without impinging on their time on campus — a concern that, in the past, has deterred some members of our student body from studying abroad. And in a couple of months, 75 additional students will probe a host of fascinating questions in the places that gave rise to them.

Some will accompany Assistant Professor of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures Bruno Carvalho to Rio de Janeiro, where they will examine different representations of this celebrated city and competing visions for its future at the intersection of disparate cultural and modernizing forces. Another group, led by Michael Cadden and Timothy Vasen, who head the Lewis Center for the Arts and our Program in Theater, respectively, will travel to Athens to study, observe, and perform the plays of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes. Students are promised "a total immersion in the vibrant, chaotic, contradictory, very old and very new world of Greek theater," something that not even the most creative Princeton-based course could replicate.

Still another seminar, taught by Professor of East Asian Studies David Leheny, will examine the challenges confronting Japan in the wake of last year's devastating earthquake and tsunami, as well as the effect of this disaster on Japanese self-understanding in the context of the country's postwar narrative. And a continent away, Professor Şükrü Hanioglu, who chairs our Department of Near Eastern Studies, and Senior Lecturer in Turkish Erika Gilson will join forces to introduce our students to 16 centuries of Byzantine and Ottoman history in Istanbul, noting that, ultimately, the city "itself becomes the classroom."

Finally, Professor of History Jan Gross will hold a seminar in Kraków that explores the life of Poland's Jews before, during, and after the Holocaust. Students will live in the city's old Jewish quarter and, among other field trips, visit the Auschwitz concentration camp, which played its own terrible part in the destruction of Poland's Jewish population, formerly the second largest in the world.

It is not surprising that three times as many students apply to participate in a Global Seminar as can be accommodated, and we are therefore seeking to endow and expand this program. I look forward to the day when there is room for all in what Dean of the College Valerie Smith has rightly called "one of the highlights of the Princeton undergraduate experience."

*Sm Tighman*

# The Possibilities are Endless



Photo: Bentley Drezner

“The unique experience of living in the Graduate College as a first-year graduate student allowed me to make lifelong friends from distinct academic backgrounds. I have learned a tremendous amount from my conversations with these very interesting people.”

#### **DARREN PAIS GS**

MANGALORE, INDIA /  
KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT

A graduate student in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Darren's research lies at the intersection of two fields – evolutionary biology and multi-agent cooperative control. He helped organize a summer tutoring program as part of Princeton's Freshman Scholars Institute, serves as a department liaison on the Graduate Engineering Council, and is captain of his championship intramural volleyball team. A recipient of the Harold W. Dodds Honorary Fellowship, which recognizes outstanding performance and professional promise, Darren plans to pursue a career in research with a focus on complex system analysis and control.

**Your support of Annual Giving helps sustain the Princeton experience today and for future generations.**

This year's Annual Giving campaign ends on Saturday, June 30, 2012. To contribute by credit card, please call our 24-hour gift line at 800-258-5421 (outside the U.S., 609-258-3373), or use our secure website at [www.princeton.edu/ag](http://www.princeton.edu/ag). Checks made payable to Princeton University can be mailed to Annual Giving, Box 5357, Princeton, NJ 08543-5357.



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G I V I N G

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# Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni

## Help Graduate Students Excel 2:1 Match Extended Through June 30

Last year, APGA helped 43 Princeton graduate students present their work and interact with senior scholars at professional conferences.



A sampling of recipients:

**Thomas Carlson** (History) went to Duke University  
**Caroline Farrior** (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology) went to the Ecological Society of America Meeting in Austin, Texas  
**Mallory Monaco** (Classics) went to Oxford University  
**Carla Merino-Rajme** (Philosophy) went to Humboldt University in Berlin  
**Sandra Field** (Politics) went to Otago University in New Zealand

To help more students do the same, **APGA is raising \$100,000 for the APGA Teaching Awards and Travel Grant Fund for Graduate Students.** Two generous alumni leaders have agreed to extend their 2:1 match for all gifts to this fund through the end of June. Every dollar counts toward Princeton's Aspire Campaign. Help us cross the finish line!

*Visit the APGA website to learn more*

## APGA Reunions 2012!

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**Since July 1, 2011, the APGA has added 26 new life members and 79 Centennial members. See the Honor Roll online!**

The APGA connects and supports Princeton graduate alumni in scholarship, fellowship, and leadership, in the Nation's service and in the service of all Nations. Your APGA membership is about life long learning and networking. Go green and sign up online!



[www.princeton.edu/apga](http://www.princeton.edu/apga)



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*An editorially independent magazine  
by alumni for alumni since 1900*

APRIL 4, 2012 Volume 112, Number 10

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# Inbox

“After many years of hard work and dedication by the wrestling community, it is so much more satisfying to see the program back on its feet and finishing ‘the reversal.’”  
— *Chris Thatcher '93*

## Wrestling's reversal

I enjoyed reading the Feb. 8 Extra Point column by Merrell Noden '78, “Wrestlers go from flat on their backs to a comeback,” so much that I carried it around with me for two weeks. I was the wrestling team captain in 1993, when the program was proposed to be downsized and/or cut from the varsity level. Our team members, inspired by the amazing support of the wrestling alumni (spearheaded by H. Clay McEldowney '69), worked very hard coordinating a number of activities that spring, including designing and distributing “Save Princeton Wrestling” buttons, T-shirts, and posters for the Parade, and the unprecedented 24-hour wrestling marathon. This epic event had at least two people wrestling at all times, but also many other activities. I should have been finishing my thesis, but instead I was up most of the night taking part in a historic occasion!

I can't recall if the wrestlers have had a full-page article in PAW since 1989, so it was very rewarding to see one in the recent issue. The “dark years” of the mid-1990s, when Eric Pearson '87 was interim coach (putting his “real” career on hold and possibly having the most difficult two years ever, as

the future seemed doomed), were certainly tough for all P.U. wrestling fans. But now, after many years of hard work and dedication by the wrestling community, it is so much more satisfying to see the program back on its feet and finishing “the reversal,” as the article's author stated.

The “relentless scrappers” (wrestlers, coaches, students, parents, fans, and alumni) have been patiently, but optimistically, waiting more than 15 years for this “reversal”: Two points scored.  
**CHRIS THATCHER '93**  
*Blairstown, N.J.*

## Defending the protesters

Bravo to Alex Barnard '09 for his eloquent explanation of why we need and have an Occupy movement (Perspective, March 7). He is quite right that our society has been much harmed by laws that encourage irresponsible risk-taking in the banking sector (laws passed because of this sector's undue influence on government policy), and that institutions of higher learning should think seriously about what it means to endorse institutions that pursue profit at the expense of the public good — an endorsement that by impli-

## BUZZ BOX

# Debating legitimacy, care of Princeton's mosaics

Every story, letter, and memorial at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu) offers a chance to comment

The March 7 cover story on Princeton's excavation of ancient mosaics from Antioch and a related slide show at PAW Online drew comments from readers.

“As we read of art destruction and looting in some Middle Eastern countries today, we can be grateful to [Professor Charles] Morey and his colleagues for their good work in the '30s,” wrote **DAVID FARMER '65 '81**, “and for doing the digging and export legally!”

**EMIN GUN SIRER '93** said PAW failed to note that “Syria and Antioch were under French occupation at the time. The legitimacy of any such grant is highly questionable.” He added: “These mosaics belong under the Mediterranean sun, where they were created — not in New Jersey!”

Noting a “crumbling mosaic that had been damaged by weather and neglect” at Princeton, **ROBIN MARTIN '75** asked “how can priceless mosaics be left outside?” and wondered about the fate of exhibits from Guyot Hall's natural history museum. “The administration must catalog all museum-quality items given to Princeton over the years, and curate them properly,” Martin said.



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## Catching up @ PAW ONLINE



### Opinions and expertise from alumni blogs

What do alumni bloggers write about? Feminism, rock climbing, parenting, retirement, patent law, triathlon training, education reform, healthy cooking, ecology ... and the list goes on. PAW's Alumni Blog Directory links

to more than 180 sites, organized by the author's class year. Browse the selections at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu) — and let us know if you'd like to see your blog included.

### WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

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Letters should not exceed 275 words, and may be edited for length, accuracy, clarity, and civility. Due to space limitations, we are unable to publish all letters received in the print magazine. Letters, articles, photos, and comments submitted to PAW may be published in print, electronic, or other forms.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Dodds Auditorium was packed last November when professors Daniel Kurtzer and Amaney Jamal gave presentations on the prospects for peace between Israel and Palestine. The dictators in Egypt and Libya were gone, the uprising in Syria still growing. Attention turned to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit recently had been released from Hamas captivity, Fatah had failed in its United Nations bid for statehood, and Hamas and Fatah were holding talks on reconciliation. What next?

Kurtzer — the former U.S. ambassador to both Egypt and Israel — spoke first. He told his students that they were required to stay only for the first 15 seconds of his talk, as that's all the time it would take to sum up the situation. Then he played 15 seconds of a famous Monty Python "Silly Olympics" sketch: the 100-meter dash for people with no sense of direction. The runners line up. They jump up and down, stretch, and make all sorts of preparations. A gun starts the race and the runners take off — going forward, backward, in circles.

Kurtzer is one of two former U.S. ambassadors on the Woodrow Wilson School faculty, along with Barbara Bodine, former ambassador to Yemen. They bring their practitioners' skills to the ivory tower — both the inside knowledge gained over years in the Foreign Service, and a knack for expressing themselves with clarity and humor. One might think that an ambassador to the Middle East would have to be an optimist, and as Griff Witte '00 writes in his profile of Kurtzer on page 24, he is. But neither he nor Jamal expected to see much progress soon. And by March, it seemed clear they were right: The eyes that once focused on Israel and Palestine had moved on, to Iran.

— Marilyn H. Marks '86

cation includes an endorsement of these practices themselves.

SUSAN BERNOFSKY '98

*New York, N.Y.*

## Protecting linguistic diversity

I wish Olivia Waring '12 success in her study of Tibetan dialects as a Sachs scholar (*Campus Notebook*, Jan. 18). Ironically, the "homogenization" that she wrings her hands about is directly attributable to the study of linguistics that she loves so much. As Patrick Geary notes in *The Myth of Nations*, "The infinite gradations of broad linguistic groups in Europe were chopped up by scientific rules into separate languages," leading directly to standardized languages in 19th-century Europe.

Geary estimates that only about half of those living in France in 1900 spoke French. More recently, China's National Language Commission revealed in 2005 that only 53 percent of the populace could speak Mandarin. It is not English that overwhelms linguistic diversity in places like the Philippines and Indonesia, but rather the respective national languages that are inculcated in schools. In the Western hemisphere, the most thorough represser of local languages is Spanish, which ironically is one of the banners of linguistic diversity in the United States.

MARTIN SCHELL '74

*Klaten, Central Java*

## Proofreading at PAW

Re the letter from James D. Sheppard '50 (*Inbox*, Feb. 8) congratulating PAW for its lack of typos because it actually has a proofreader: Within minutes I was reading in *Class Notes* about the death of the last member of the Class of 1930 at the age of 103. I was interested to learn that he was born in 2008 — must have been quite a class!

HOWARD O. ALLEN '43

*Middleburg, Va.*

While PAW may have good proofreading, I would submit that the statement, "Women lagged behind men in their

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## Open AA Meeting

Alumni and their families are welcome at

## Reunions AA Haven

Murray-Dodge East Room  
Friday & Saturday  
June 1 & 2  
5 pm - 6 pm

Feel free to drop by the AA Haven for fellowship from 7 pm - 2 am  
Frist Campus Center,  
Class of 1952 Room.





assessment of their leadership skills” (Campus Notebook, Feb. 8), was an erroneous interpretation of data showing 58 percent of men vs. 45 percent of women thinking they are in the top of their class with regard to leadership. How about: “Women were more realistic than men in assessing their leadership skills?”

LIZA HALLORAN '87

Ottawa Hills, Ohio

## In Princeton's collections

I'd like to add some information to articles in the March 7 issue. First, I appreciated the mention in the President's Page of the Pathé Baby project for graphic arts that Lynn Shostack w'69 supported. Lynn's first project enabled the library to catalog and digitize its collection of Islamic manuscripts, the largest in North America. We now have online-catalog records for almost all of the manuscripts, and PAW readers can see the most important manuscripts here: <http://library.prince->

[ton.edu/projects/islamic/index.html](http://ton.edu/projects/islamic/index.html).

The “Moment With” Jack Bogle '51 reminded me that University archivist Dan Linke was fortunate enough to acquire his papers some years ago for the Mudd Manuscript Library.

“From Princeton's Vault,” on the student artwork that went to the World's Columbian Exposition, reminded me how the magnificent drawings got to Mudd. In 1990, someone suggested that I ask Steve Slaby for his papers, since he had been a campus activist during his years as a professor of graphics and engineering. When I went to his office, I noticed the drawings on his wall and suggested that — in addition to his papers — these framed drawings belonged at the Archives. He agreed, and I carried them across Olden Street to Mudd and hung them there.

For information on the Bogle and Slaby papers, use the search field at <http://findingaids.princeton.edu/>.

Finally, W. Barksdale Maynard '88's article on the Antioch expeditions leaves out another important benefit of Princeton's leadership of the expedition

— the amazing collection of coins that is part of the library's numismatic collection: <http://www.princeton.edu/~rbsc/departments/numismatics/>.

**BEN PRIMER**

Associate University Librarian  
Rare Books and Special Collections  
Princeton University Library

## For the record

PAW's March 7 cover story about the Antioch excavations, “Dig of the century,” did not mention all the people who had major roles in the expeditions, particularly art and archaeology professor George W. Elderkin, who directed the initial expedition in 1932. Elderkin also edited a book about the excavations, *Antioch-on-the-Orontes*. He joined the Princeton faculty in 1910, retiring in 1948. Subsequent directors were Clarence Fisher and William Campbell.

Every story, letter, and memorial at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu) offers a chance to comment.

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# Princeton Rugby

For more information, go to: [www.princetonrugby.org/](http://www.princetonrugby.org/)

*Princeton Rugby Club to host top-caliber events on Rickerson Field at West Windsor.  
Make plans to cheer the Tigers on to victory against top regional and national competition.*

### April 14-15: Men's Ivy League Qualifier

Princeton, Dartmouth, Harvard and Brown will compete for the right to represent the Ivy League in USA Rugby's annual men's national intercollegiate championships.

- **Saturday**, Noon: Dartmouth vs. Harvard & Princeton vs. Brown
- **Saturday**, 2:00 p.m.: “Group Two” tournament Cornell and Penn first XVs against Dartmouth and Princeton's second XVs, respectively
- **Sunday**, Noon: The previous day's winners will play to decide who will go to USA Rugby's Sweet 16,\* as well as the Ivy League 3rd place game.
- **Sunday**, 10:00 a.m.: The “Group Two” championship and consolation games will be contested.
- **Saturday**: Social following the last matches at Cap & Gown Club, 61 Prospect, 4:30-6:30 p.m. sponsored by the Princeton Rugby Endowment & the Rugby Travel Angels. Friends of Princeton Rugby invited. Please RSVP to [tletchfo@princeton.edu](mailto:tletchfo@princeton.edu).

\*The Men's Round of 16 will be held at Dartmouth, April 28-29.

### April 21-22: Women's Sweet 16 Round and Men's Koranda Cup

Women's national intercollegiate tournament, Northeast Bracket and Men's Koranda Cup versus the Yale 1st XV.

- **Saturday**, play in the Women's D1 & D2 Sweet 16 round begins at 10 a.m. Princeton WRFC plays its first game at 2 p.m.
- **Sunday**, the winners will play to decide who will go to USA Rugby's national intercollegiate Final 4\* at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., with consolation games at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Saturday**, 1 p.m.: The Men's Koranda Cup match between Yale and Princeton 1st XVs.
- **Saturday**: Social following the last matches at Cap & Gown Club, 61 Prospect, 4:30-6:30 p.m. sponsored by the Princeton Rugby Endowment & the Rugby Travel Angels. Friends of Princeton Rugby invited. Please RSVP to [tletchfo@princeton.edu](mailto:tletchfo@princeton.edu).

\*Women's national championships at Stanford, May 11-13.

**SAVE THE DATES: June 1:** Dickey '68-Larrimer '69 Memorial Dedication; Captains' Wall Dedication; Dedication of the Rugby Porch; Reunions Rugby Reception & Awards Dinner • **June 2:** Alumnae/Alumni-Undergraduate Exhibition Matches at 10:30 a.m. @ Rickerson Field.



# News from the Alumni Association

The Alumni Association of Princeton University: over 80,000 served

## aluminaries

**Bill Landrigan '76**  
Chair, Committee to  
Nominate Alumni Trustees



Landrigan (on right) on road trip with classmate Mark Keating, Sept. 1974

To learn the many ways to stay connected to Princeton, contact the Office of the Alumni Association at 609-258-1900 or [www.alumni.princeton.edu](http://www.alumni.princeton.edu)

When Bill (aka Willy) Landrigan considered taking a three-year term on the volunteer Committee to Nominate Alumni Trustees (CTNAT), his first thought was that it sounded like a lot of work. Now chair of the committee and finishing his term, Landrigan smiles and says, "There was a lot to do! But I totally enjoyed it. The wealth of talent among the potential candidates suggested each year is awe-inspiring. And this year's ballot is no exception. All of us on the committee encourage alumni to review the ballot material with care and vote."

Chairing CTNAT is just the most recent of Landrigan's long list of volunteer activities. It began in Cincinnati, where he had moved shortly after graduation to take a position with Procter & Gamble. He was asked to go on the board of the regional association, the Ohio Valley Princeton Alumni (OVPA). He has now done two stints as its president, two terms on the Alumni Council's Executive Committee, has been the regional chair for the Princeton Prize in Race Relations, and currently serves as "Treasurer for Life" of OVPA.

And that's not all. When a classmate asked him to co-chair the Special Gifts Committee for '76's 15th Reunion, he said, "Yes," and has been a stalwart Annual Giving leader, serving as class agent or co-agent ever since (with one break when he was class president from his 26th through 30th). He helped '76 set records in most of those years, including raising over \$4.0 million during their 35th.

And Reunions? Landrigan has never missed a Reunion, whether he was traveling from Cincinnati, Ohio, or Istanbul, Turkey.

"There are so many things I owe to Princeton. My earliest friends from freshman year in Princeton Inn and later in Tiger Inn are still my best friends. Because of Princeton I got my job in Cincinnati, and that's where I met my wife. Even my life-long love of rugby started at Princeton."

Having just retired from Procter & Gamble, Landrigan looks forward to even more Princeton activities, as well as organizing more Ireland tours that include his Princeton friends and classmates.

# Alumni Trustee Election



Over a century ago, in October of 1900, Princeton's Board of Trustees adopted a Plan to ensure alumni representation on the University's board. At that time, the board added five alumni trustees, one of whom was elected. The Board has amended the Plan for elected trustees several times over the course of the past 110 years, designating Regional and At-Large ballots, adding two Graduate Alumni ballots, and creating the position of Young Alumni Trustee. Now 13 of the 40 trustees on Princeton's board are alumni who have been elected to their positions. Four of these are Young Alumni Trustees, elected by the junior and senior classes and the two most recent graduated classes. The other nine have gone through a nomination and election process overseen by the volunteer committee known as the Committee to Nominate Alumni Trustees (CTNAT), a Special Committee of the Alumni Council.

Below are the two ballots for the 2012 Alumni Trustee Election. Polls will be open until May 23. For more information go to: <http://alumni.princeton.edu/volunteer/committees/ctnat/trustee/>

## Alumni At-Large Ballot



**Jaime I. Ayala '84**  
Makati City, Philippines



**Beth Moss Heller '78**  
London, United Kingdom



**Bradford L. Smith '81**  
Bellevue, WA

## Region 1 Ballot



**Matthew Y. Blumberg '92**  
Scarsdale, NY



**Laurence C. Morse '80**  
Stamford, CT



**Margarita Rosa '74**  
New York, NY

# Dear Fellow Alumni,



Each Alumni Day at the luncheon in Jadwin Gym, the Chair of the Alumni Council speaks to the assembled multitude about the business of the Council. For space considerations, what appears below is somewhat abridged, but I hope that the message still comes through!

**Henry Von Kohorn '66**  
President, Alumni Association of Princeton University  
Chair, Alumni Council



Anyone who is paying attention knows that when it comes to alumni engagement, Princeton is the envy of its peers. Name your metric – turnout at Reunions, participation in Annual Giving, interviewing candidates for admission, attendance at special events like the Coming Back conferences for black alumni and the She Roars gathering for women alums – Princeton outshines everyone. Nonetheless, there are some alumni who are not engaged. To these we say, we are all Princetonians; we are all part of the family.

The Alumni Council's goal for this term – and beyond, we hope – is to help make all alumni feel included. If somehow an alum doesn't feel connected to Princeton, we want to reach out. A number of initiatives are already underway to further our goal of inclusiveness, with more to come. We have major conferences upcoming for LGBT, graduate, and black alumni. For the past few years, we have sponsored Global NetNights, in which regional associations throughout the world hold career and social networking events on the same day. We have put in place a new Alumni Association Web site, from which any Princeton alum can connect to a class, region, affiliated group, or the Association of Princeton Graduate

Alumni; learn how to participate in a service project; sign up to interview prospective students; or access a library of more than 200 videos and lectures for a taste of Princeton academics no matter where in the world they may live.

We embrace inclusiveness with the deep belief that all Princetonians add value. The more alumni we engage, the better our Reunions, the better our regional events, the better our conferences. We want all alumni to talk up Princeton when they meet a talented high school student; to lend a hand to a fellow Princetonian who is new to an area; to consider a fellow alum for a job.

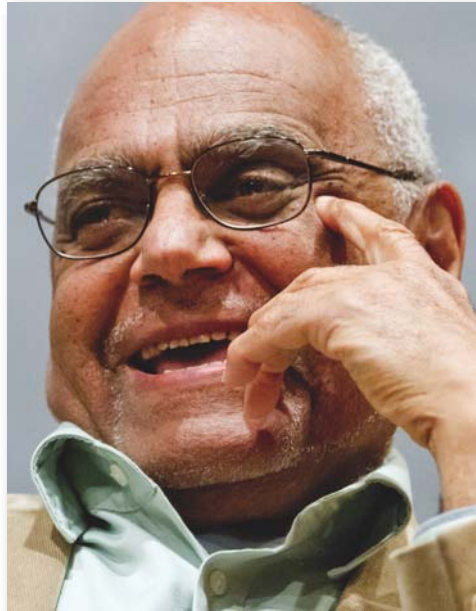
Through these activities and more, we hope to develop among all alumni a sense of belonging and mutual respect; to make everyone feel welcome and comfortable; to express in every way that each alumnus has a unique contribution to make; and that his or her participation in whatever form is essential to our overall success. We hope that our initiatives will result in broader alumni engagement – to the benefit of us all – and we ask all of you to help in this effort in any way you can.

*Alumni Day*  
*February 25, 2012*

## Civil-rights leader Bob Moses, on education

“We have been running an education system that is driving a caste system.”

Fifty years ago, Robert Parris Moses was field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), traveling through Mississippi to register black voters. In 1964, he organized the Freedom Summer project and helped form the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, which sought to seat black delegates at the Democratic National Convention. Almost 20 years later, Moses used a MacArthur Fellowship to create the Algebra Project, which focuses on improving minority education in math. He is a visiting lecturer on campus this year, co-teaching a course with Professor Terä Hunter called “Liberating Literacy.”



what might happen today or tomorrow.

*Martin Luther King Jr. has been elevated into the pantheon of American heroes. Is singling out one person a disservice to the movement?*

America has always elevated individuals around the major events facing the country. That's not a disservice — it's what America does, but it shouldn't be only what America does. It's usable if people decide to use it. You can use King to talk about the issues that he was trying to address and their current manifestation.

*You've done a lot involving education. What is behind the Algebra Project?*

In Mississippi in the 1960s, we worked to get sharecroppers to demand their right to vote and then act on that demand. The Algebra Project, at its core, is trying to do the same thing around education, using math. How do you get students to demand their rights?

*How do you do that?*

The Algebra Project targets the bottom quartile. As opposed to looking for the math talent, it tries to find the math floor. Now, we either forget about students at the bottom or try to remediate them to death. We're looking at what math to teach and how to teach it so those students might be willing to do it.

*Why has the racial disparity in educational performance been so hard to overcome?*

We have been running an education system that is driving a caste system. We agree to have failing schools with the caveat that we also have a plethora of programs to rescue different categories of students from them. Almost every program you can think of — charter schools, vouchers, affirmative action — all rescue different categories of students. We can't announce that as an education policy, but that's what we do.

*Is there any place in America that presents a model of the society you would like to see?*

If there are any, I haven't lived in them. Put it that way. ■

— Interview conducted and condensed by Mark F. Bernstein '83

*Tell me about your class.*

We have been trying to form a narrative about the country connecting work, education, the Constitution, and issues dealing with civil rights and justice during the era before, during, and right after the Civil War. For example, we have been reading an article in *The Yale Law Journal* by Judge Goodwin Liu, who argues that the citizenship clause of the 14th Amendment provides a constitutional right to an education. We have had lectures by professors who have done original research on freed people's conceptions of work and education during Reconstruction.

*Do your students know much about the civil-rights movement?*

Most of the young students don't know about SNCC. There's a made-up story about the civil-rights movement that parallels the made-up story about the country. It revolves around Martin Luther King Jr. and the idea that there were some big demonstrations — the March on Washington, Birmingham, the march from Selma to Montgomery — and that in response to those media events, the country shifted.

The problem for young people is that this narrative doesn't explain how they can enter into a struggle about the major issues the country currently faces. It overlooks the importance of people like Ella Baker, who brought together young people who had been organizing sit-ins in out-of-the-way places around the South. That led to the creation of SNCC, but that part of the story is rarely told. You have to understand what actually happened then in order to understand

## Ending the stigma of jobs outside academia for Ph.D.s

**Last fall**, Princeton history professor Anthony Grafton took graduate schools to task for failing to adjust to a grim reality of the job market — that many history Ph.D.s will not be able to land a job in academia.

In *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Grafton wrote that despite a decades-long slide in the number of faculty positions, “graduate programs have been achingly reluctant to see the world as it is. ... The goal of training remains the same: to produce more professors. ... We warn [students] to develop a ‘Plan B’ in case they do not find a teaching post. And the very words in which we couch this useful advice make clear how much we hope they will not have to follow it.”

The issue applies to many fields in the humanities — such as English, clas-

sics, and religion, Grafton told PAW in March — where a nonacademic job often is perceived as a second-place accomplishment for those who don’t achieve the brass ring, a tenure-track teaching position. In the sciences and social sciences, he said, working in industry is more common and not stigmatized. Grafton called on universities to change their training and career preparation to better equip students for life outside academia.

William Russel, dean of the graduate school, said Grafton’s article “made a strong and constructive statement



Kjell Wangensteen GS

about the situation.” The graduate school is concerned about this issue, Russel said, and is supporting departments that invite alumni to discuss their nonacademic careers. So far, the English, molecular biology, and politics departments have held such events.

Lending urgency to the issue is “a very challenging job market for new Ph.D.s in humanities for the last two decades,” said John Curtis, research director for the American Association of University Professors. In the last decade, many retiring faculty have not been replaced, or their positions have become non-

BERENY SCHEFFER

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TOP OF THE NEWS

LARRY LEVANT/COURTESY WOODROW WILSON SCHOOL

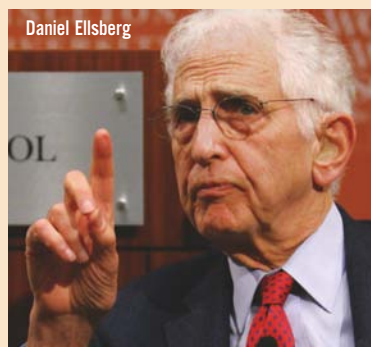
## Ellsberg defends release of secret files to WikiLeaks

**In a campus talk March 8**, Daniel Ellsberg — who in 1971 released the top-secret Pentagon Papers detailing U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War — defended the Army intelligence analyst charged with releasing secret military logs and State Department cables to WikiLeaks.

“I identify very much with [Pfc.] Bradley Manning,” Ellsberg told a capacity audience in Dodds Auditorium. “Despite the stress of his position, he did the right thing.”

Ellsberg offered his views in a conversation with journalist Bart Gellman ’82, a Woodrow Wilson School visiting lecturer. Gellman pointed out that WikiLeaks has been criticized for indiscriminately providing information that endangered covert operatives and fueled terrorist operations. But Ellsberg defended Julian Assange, founder of WikiLeaks, as merely playing the role of a publisher. Ellsberg said he does not agree with all of Assange’s methods, but said there is no evidence of harm to individuals as a result of the documents’ release.

Noting the Obama administration’s crackdown on government leaks, Ellsberg predicted that Congress would pass an Official Secrets Act if the Supreme Court overturns recent prosecutions. *By Abby Greene ’13*



Daniel Ellsberg

## Princeton won’t invest more in hospitality firm

The University will stop making additional investments in HEI Hospitality, a Connecticut-based hotel-investment firm. The decision follows three years of campus debate about whether the company has engaged in unfair labor practices, but Andrew Golden, president of the Princeton University Investment Co. (Princo), told *The Daily Princetonian* that the decision not to reinvest was based only on business reasons. “It would be absolutely wrong to infer that Princo had concluded that HEI was out of compliance with regulations or industry standards,” he said.

The University is not withdrawing its previous investments in HEI, spokesman Martin Mbugua said. Brown, Yale, and the University of Pennsylvania also have halted further investments in the company.

## “There’s a kind of willful naiveté” among many entering graduate students in believing they will get teaching jobs. *Kjell Wangenstein GS*

tenure-track jobs, said Maggie Debelius ’00, co-author with Susan Basalla May ’97 of *So What Are You Going to Do With That? Finding Careers Outside Academia*. Debelius worked at a dotcom after earning her Ph.D. in English and is now at Georgetown in a non-tenure-track position. “There just aren’t enough jobs to go around,” she said.

Teaching-job openings for new English Ph.D.s declined by 45 percent from 2009 to 2011, said Professor Deborah Nord, director of graduate studies for Princeton’s English department. “We try to alert [our students] to the realities of the job market,” she said. But “it would be inappropriate and destructive, I think, to coax them out of the profession once we have admitted them.” The issue is more dire for those without a degree from “an elite institution” such as Princeton, she said.

“There’s a kind of willful naiveté” among many entering graduate stu-

dents in believing they will get teaching jobs, said Kjell Wangenstein, who is a Ph.D. student in Princeton’s art and archaeology department and the outgoing communications director for the Graduate Student Government. “People say, ‘The economy is going to improve by the time I graduate.’”

Those students who do look for non-academic positions may be propelled by factors in addition to the job market: Academics have long hours, frequent relocations, and a lack of job security.

But many students feel nonacademic careers carry a stigma, said Debelius, who interviewed hundreds of Ph.D.s for her book: Students who acknowledged applying for both academic and nonacademic positions feared that “advisers would be less likely to write a glowing recommendation or make that extra phone call if they feel the student is not devoted to the profession.”

Solid statistics about the careers in which humanities Ph.D.s end up are hard to find because many doctoral programs do not collect comprehensive data. At Princeton, Ph.D. students are surveyed just before graduation, but that snapshot can be deceiving. The 2011 survey found just 6 percent of humanities Ph.D.s took nonacademic

positions, 16 percent had postdoctoral fellowships, and 58 percent held teaching positions, most in higher education. Nineteen percent did not have jobs. But postdocs usually last one or two years, and teaching positions also may be short-term.

“It has become harder for students to win a tenure-track job directly upon taking the Ph.D.,” said Princeton classics professor Robert Kaster. “It has become more common for people even at top programs like ours to serve a kind of extended apprenticeship, spending two to three years in one or another temporary position.”

Grafton wants universities to better prepare students for nonacademic jobs by broadening the curriculum, adding workshops exploring the working world, offering digital technology, and encouraging internships. This spring, his department will offer a weeklong “boot camp” focusing on history as practiced at museums, historical societies, and libraries. While many of Grafton’s former students teach, he said, others work at foundations and educational testing companies.

The Office of Career Services offers panels for graduate students on

*continues on page 14*

## Bridge-year program expands, changes sites

The 3-year-old bridge-year program, which allows incoming freshmen to defer their enrollment for a year and spend nine months participating in service abroad, will expand from 20 to 28 students this fall.

In another change, students will be placed in China and Senegal, replacing Serbia and Ghana. The program will continue to operate in Varanasi, India, and Urubamba, Peru.

Students traveling to China will spend the year in the city of Kunming working with health, education, and environmental organizations and studying Mandarin. In Senegal, students will volunteer with environmental conservation, health care, and refugee-support groups, and will study the Wolof language. Sixty students have participated since the bridge-year program began in 2009.



## Naacho celebrates a decade of dance

Naacho, a student group that performs Indian dance, marked its 10th anniversary March 1–3 in the Frist Campus Center theater with “Yaadein,” a production that mixed styles including Bollywood, folk, and classical dance.

**Ph.D.s** continued from page 13

nonacademic careers, such as in higher-education administration, and workshops on translating an academic's lengthy CV into a shorter résumé.

Marketing yourself for nonacademic jobs is "kind of a professional reinvention," said Christopher Moses-Jenkins '10, who is dean of students at Brooklyn's Berkeley Carroll School. Interviews mean talking to "an audience that doesn't really care about conference papers in the same way," he said.

But for current graduate students, the biggest struggle may be feeling comfortable revealing their interest in a nonacademic career, Wangenstein said.

"There's a perception that advisers will lose interest in your project," he said. "What's really needed is a more open acknowledgment of the importance of nonacademic career paths, which are just as legitimate as the tenure track." **By J.A.**

**For students, health tips from Dr. Oz**

Saying he knows "what Princeton life is like" as a Princeton parent and uncle, Dr. Mehmet Oz — surgeon, talk-show host, and author — told students March 8 his prescriptions for mental and physical health.

Speaking to a full house in McCosh 50, Oz touched on issues of addiction ("you need to prove to people that they're worth it"), anger ("hostility breeds isolation"), and sleep ("if you take more than 18 sleeping pills a year, it will affect your mortality"). He also acknowledged how he coped with stress as a Harvard undergraduate: "alcohol."

"The best example of mental illness in this country," Oz said, is our "weight issue," which he connected to chronic stress. Obesity is the "main health-care cost we can change," he said, adding that "people don't change based on what they know. People change their minds based on how they feel."

The talk was the most well-attended of a week of activities devoted to improving students' mental well-being (see also *On The Campus*, page 18). Other events included mental-health screenings, a lecture on the importance of sleep, free fitness classes, and stress-relieving "cookie events" offered by 22 departments. **By F.H. and Giri Nathan '13**



DEENA WEIDE

**FYI: FINDINGS**

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**Does getting beget giving?** Not necessarily, at least for those who receive financial aid. That was a finding of a paper that examined the correlation between alumni giving and receiving three types of financial aid: campus jobs, scholarships, and loans. Having a campus job bore no significant relation to postgraduation giving. Scholarship recipients gave with the same frequency as non-aid recipients, but less money. And student-loan recipients gave less frequently and gave less. The study, by Princeton economics professor Harvey Rosen and Texas A&M professor Jonathan Meer '02, used data from an unnamed research university and controlled for aid recipients' financial ability to donate. The results were published in a working paper for the Griswold Center for Economic Policy Studies in October 2011. **By Nora Taranto '13**

STEVEN VEACH

**IN BRIEF**

The University's **GENDER-NEUTRAL HOUSING** program, implemented in 2010, is expanding to allow 278 students to participate next year. The program, which was instituted in seven of the four-person suites in Spelman Halls, will add rooms in Scully, 1901-Laughlin, and Foulke halls for juniors and seniors. The expansion will allow students to choose from a variety of room types, including doubles and triples.

**DAVID BOTSTEIN**, professor of genomics and director of Princeton's genomics institute, is one of six researchers to share the 2012 Dan David Prize, which

recognizes innovative and interdisciplinary research. Botstein shares the \$1 million prize in the "future" category with Eric Lander '78 (see page 35) and J. Craig Venter for their contributions to genome research; Botstein was cited as "the intellectual leader of genomics since its inception." The prize is endowed by the Dan David Foundation and based at Tel Aviv University.

Former students of Civil War historian and professor emeritus **JAMES M. MCPHERSON** have paid tribute to him by writing a collection of essays titled *The Struggle for Equality: Essays on Sectional Conflict, the Civil War, and the Long Reconstruction* (University of



# University to invite all grad alums to campus conference in fall '13

**Princeton is moving ahead** with several initiatives to strengthen ties with graduate alumni, highlighted by plans to invite all grad alums to the centennial celebration of the Graduate College in the fall of 2013.



Rose Li '92

The conference would be modeled after the She Roars conference, a weekend event that drew about 1,400 alumnae back to campus last spring, according to Margaret Miller '80, assistant vice president for alumni affairs. Miller said many details are yet to be determined, including the dates, but said the University is hoping for a large turnout. Other initiatives include:

- The geosciences department will hold a graduate-alumni conference April 30 to May 4 that includes a full day of faculty panels on campus and a three-day field trip to south-central

Pennsylvania. The graduate school hopes three departmental reunions will be held in 2012–13, building toward a goal of six each year.

- The University is adding a third staff position to its graduate alumni-relations team. Two staff members, including the lead position, will be based at the Alumni Association, and the third will be at the graduate school.

- Among the goals for the increased staffing, Miller said, are expanding the contacts between grad alums and their departments, scheduling more regional events and activities, expanding contacts with international graduate alumni, and offering more events targeted to graduate alumni at Reunions and Alumni Day.

- The Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni also is in transition, moving toward an advisory role that offers “strategic advice to the graduate school and the Alumni Association,” according to Rose Li '92, APGA president. “We are very grateful for what the University has been doing,” Li said, “but we do keep pushing because there is more to do.”

The APGA is seeking to raise \$100,000 by June 30 for the APGA Fund for Graduate Students, which supports travel for presentations at professional meetings and for field research. Funds will be matched on a two-for-one basis by Ann Harrison '91 and her husband, Vicente Madrigal '89; as of mid-March, Li said, the group was about halfway toward meeting its goal. **P** By W.R.O.

COURTESY ROSE LI '92

Virginia Press). The editors are Orville Vernon Burton '76, a history professor and director of the CyberInstitute at Clemson University; Jerald Podair '97, a professor of history and American studies at Lawrence University; and Jennifer L. Weber '03, an associate professor of history at the University of Kansas.

The University's vice president for information technology and chief information officer for 11 years, **BETTY LEYDON**, will retire June 30. Provost Christopher Eisgruber '83, who described Leydon as “a nationally recognized leader in her field,” will lead a committee to find her successor.

**TIMOTHY DONNELLY**, a visiting professor of creative writing who is teaching advanced poetry in the Lewis Center for the Arts this semester, has been awarded the \$100,000 Kingsley and Kate Tufts Poetry Award for his second collection of poetry, *The Cloud Corporation*.

**JILL DOLAN**, professor in English and theater and director of the Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies, has received the George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism for her blog, *The Feminist Spectator*. The \$10,000 prize, awarded annually by Cornell's English department, recognizes an outstanding work of drama criticism. **P**

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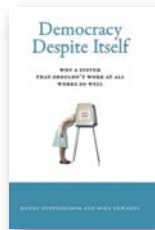
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**FACULTY BOOKSHELF: DANNY OPPENHEIMER**

# Democracy shouldn't work — but it does



While many people are discouraged with the state of politics, Danny Oppenheimer, an associate professor of psychology and public affairs at Princeton, offers an ultimately optimistic view of democracy in *Democracy Despite Itself: Why a System That Shouldn't Work at All Works So Well* (MIT Press).

Oppenheimer, whose research examines human decision-making, co-authored the book with Mike Edwards, founder of the political blog Leftfielder.org. They consider a paradox: Democracy shouldn't work because most voters make decisions that are both irrational and ignorant; but in spite of this, the system not only works well, it is the best system of government available.

By “irrational” and “ignorant,” Oppenheimer does not mean “crazy” and “stupid.” Rather, he means making a decision without considering all of

the factors, which he says is impossible to do when voting, given the numerous issues to consider. “There’s just too much to know, so there’s no way people could be anything but ignorant,” he says.

Oppenheimer finds that factors that have little to do with a candidate’s qualifications — such as what a candidate looks like, how tall a candidate is, or how a candidate’s language makes people feel (ranging from whether, for example, a candidate says “death tax” versus “inheritance tax” or uses active versus passive voice) — influence voting because those factors evoke an emotional response. He cites studies and experiments about decision-making that measure the degree to which various factors influence voter behavior from

the local to the national level.

Oppenheimer and Edwards explore other weaknesses in the voting

process, including the redrawing of electoral districts to favor the incumbent party, an electoral system that can be arcane and confusing, and the fact that it is impossible for leaders to satisfy the varied interests of everyone who voted for them. Still, Oppenheimer argues that democracy works in spite of these flaws and provides greater liberty, peace, and prosperity than any other system.

Unlike governmental systems that suppress dissent, the authors argue,

JON ROEMER/COURTESY WOODROW WILSON SCHOOL

**MORE FACULTY BOOKS**



In *The Sounding of the Whale: Science and Cetaceans in the Twentieth Century* (University of Chicago Press), which *The New York*

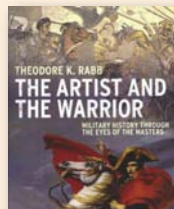
*Times* called a “sweeping, important study of cetacean science and policy,” history professor **D. GRAHAM BURNETT '93** explores the history of our scientific understanding of, and relationship to, these ocean behemoths. ... In his latest novel, *Jack Holmes & His Friend*



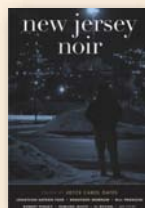
(Bloomsbury), creative writing professor **EDMUND WHITE** tells the story of a two-decade friendship between Jack Holmes, who is unsure of his sexual preferences, and Will Wright, a

Southern blueblood from Princeton. *The Observer* called the novel an “urbane study of the geometry of gay-

straight friendship.” ... **THEODORE K. RABB '61**, a professor emeritus of history, explores how artists have depicted war and warriors from antiquity to the 20th century in a color, illustrated study titled *The Artist and the Warrior: Military History*

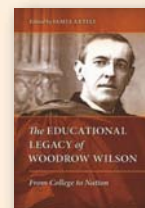


*Through the Eyes of the Masters* (Yale University Press). ... Professor **JOYCE CAROL OATES** edited *New Jersey Noir* (Akashic Books), a crime anthology that includes stories and poetry set in New Jersey. Among the contributors are poets **PAUL MULDOON** and **C.K. WILLIAMS**



and novelists **SHEILA KOHLER**, **EDMUND WHITE**, and **JONATHAN SAFRAN FOER '99**. **RICHARD TRENNER '70** created the book’s cover photograph. ... Woodrow


Wilson School professor **STANLEY KATZ** writes about what Woodrow Wilson 1879 would make of Princeton today in a chapter of *The Educational Legacy of Woodrow Wilson: From College to Nation* (University of Virginia Press). The collection of essays explores Wilson’s academic career and its connection to his political life and “examines the central role that Wilson played in the evolution of American higher education,” writes James Axtell, the editor. Alumni contributors are **W. BRUCE LESLIE '66** and **JOHN MILTON COOPER JR. '61**. ... **SHELDON GARON**, a professor of history and East Asian studies, looks at how thrift has been encouraged in East Asia and Europe and lessons for the United States in *Beyond Our Means: Why America Spends While the World*



democracies allow citizens the opportunity to “let off steam” through elections. The fact that democracies provide elections gives people confidence in the system and encourages “flawed people and their flawed leaders to continually work toward building a better society,” they write.

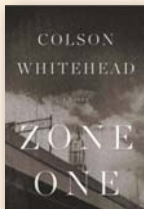
They argue that the greater the number of people who are involved in decision-making — voters and lawmakers at all levels — the more likely it is that some of the irrational, uninformed decisions will cancel each other out. The book compares democracy to the board game Clue, where each player has only a small piece of the solution, but by gaining insight from the other players is able to reach the correct conclusion.

The book also offers suggestions for making our flawed system better, including encouraging voters to be as informed as possible, improving the voting process, and — most importantly — getting more people to the polls.

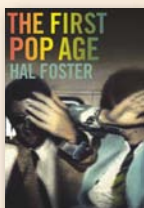
“A lot of people right now are down on democracy and pessimistic about the country,” says Oppenheimer. “And there will be bad times. But democracies have the ability to get out of those bad times.”  By Mark Syp '05

*Saves* (Princeton University Press)...

In *Zone One* (Doubleday) by COLSON WHITEHEAD, a visiting lecturer in creative writing, a plague has devastated the world. The story takes place primarily in Manhattan, where people are trying to rebuild civilization.

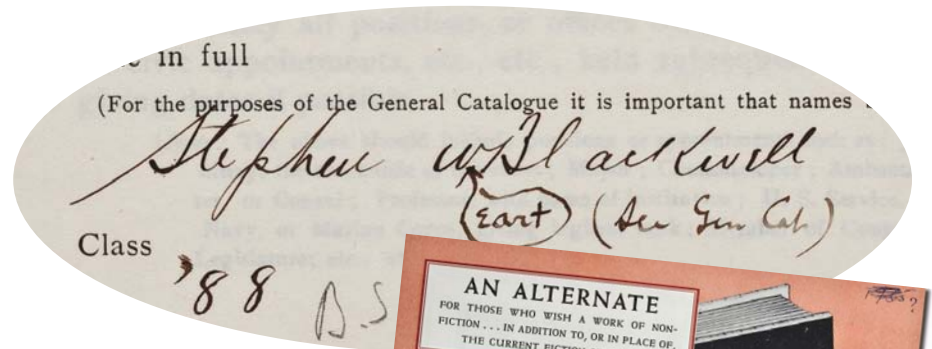


“Whitehead transforms the zombie novel into an allegory of contemporary Manhattan (and, by extension, America),” wrote *Kirkus Reviews*. ... HAL FOSTER '77, a professor of art and archaeology, offers a new interpretation of Pop art by examining the work of Richard Hamilton, Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, Gerhard Richter, and Ed Ruscha in *The First Pop Age* (Princeton University Press).



## From Princeton's vault

### Our man on the Titanic



**What:** A century ago, a famously “unsinkable” liner took 1,500 passengers to a watery grave, including one Tiger, Stephen Blackwell 1888. His signature, above, survives on a Princeton form that sought personal information from alumni. Much modern interest in the disaster dates from “A Night to Remember,” the best-selling 1955 book by Walter Lord '39.

A snuff wholesaler in Trenton, wealthy Blackwell had been morose ever since his young bride succumbed to typhoid. Seeking a change of scenery, he sailed to Europe with Washington Roebling, among Trenton's leading citizens, who wanted to test-drive Fiats in France.

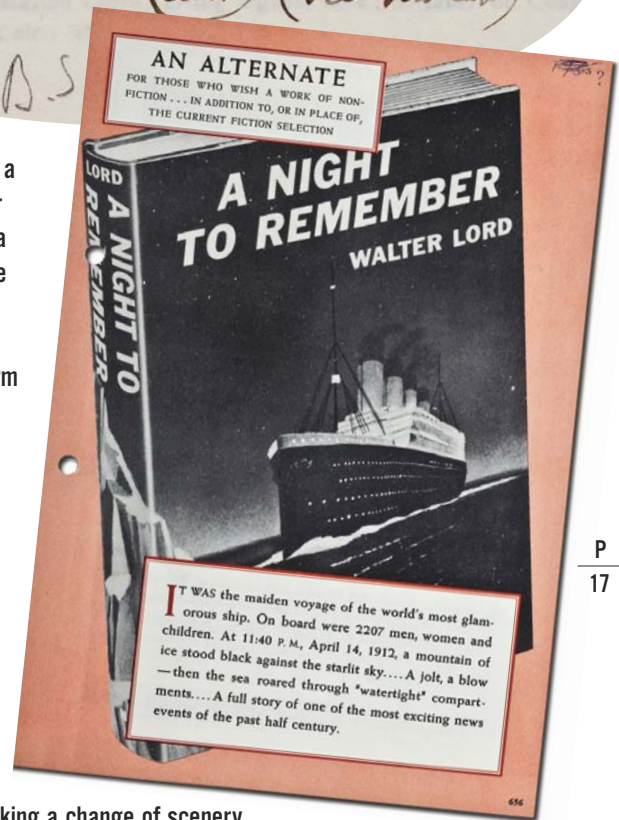
After two delightful months, the friends sailed for home together. Blackwell bought first-class ticket No. 113784 for Cabin T, Boat Deck, R.M.S. Titanic.

As the doomed ship began to list, Roebling smiled and waved to the women and children he gallantly had assisted into lifeboats. Blackwell was last seen talking with Capt. E. J. Smith in the Smoking Room. University president John Grier Hibben 1882 later would say he was thankful Blackwell died — he surely had surrendered his place to another, and any true Princeton gentleman would have done the same.

After his drowning, Blackwell's letters kept arriving from Europe, saying he finally felt happy.

**Where:** Alumni Records, Princeton University Archives

By W. Barksdale Maynard '88



ON THE CAMPUS



## A grad-student ‘hypernerd’ who loves the spoken word

By Greg Rosalsky GS

**Buried under** a mountain of reading and coursework, it’s hard for a graduate student to find time for any artistic passion outside the classroom, let alone maintain a prominent arts career.

But for performance poet Joshua Bennett, a first-year Ph.D. student in English, the solution is simple. “In bed,” Bennett explained. “Almost every poem I’ve written in bed.”



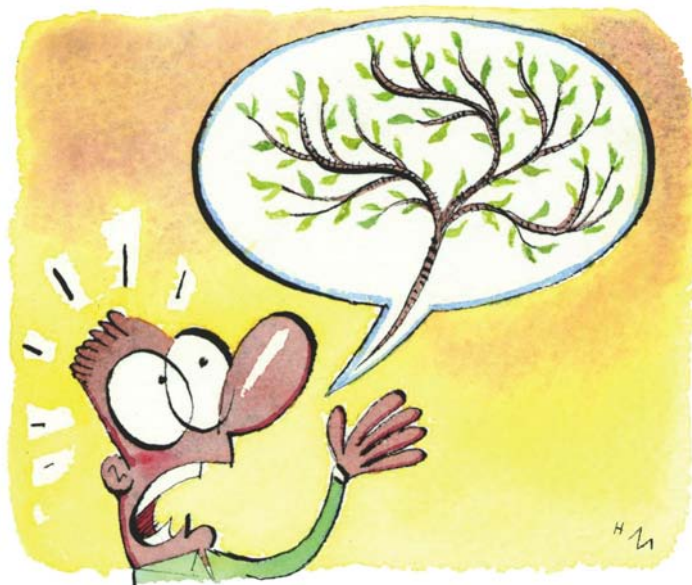
**WATCH:** Joshua Bennett’s performance at the White House @ [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

Bennett achieved national fame through competitive “slam poetry” events while he was an undergraduate at the University of Pennsylvania. While he no longer competes, Bennett remains an active spoken-word poet, performing at venues around the country. He also does hip-hop and writes

brief poems on his Twitter page, noting that the 140-character limit is “great for parsimony.”

In 2009, Bennett was among the artists invited to perform at the first White House Poetry Jam. In the audience were President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama ’85, and about 200 guests.

“Spoken word is written for the stage, as opposed to being written for the page,” Bennett said. He approaches his poems as a storyteller would, describing himself as “an Afro-futurist hypernerd with a penchant for telling stories that end with someone falling in love.”



In both his poems and his studies, Bennett said, he is interested in “destabilizing certain ideas around race, religion, disability, gender, [and] sexuality.”

But most of Bennett’s poems “tie back to family somehow,” he said, and he draws inspiration from his siblings who have disabilities. An older brother has schizophrenia, his younger brother has autism, and his older sister is deaf; the poem he performed at the White House, “Tamara’s Opus,” is about his struggle to communicate with her. “I



## A lesson for high-achieving Tigers: It’s OK if you don’t always feel ‘fine’

By Vivienne Chen ’14

**The common response** of goal-oriented and hyperambitious Princeton students, throughout all their responsibilities and occasional setbacks, is to struggle through and say to everyone: “I’m fine.”

But in an intimate setting on the Friday evening before midterms, a half-dozen students acknowledged their feelings of failure and anxiety, and described how the culture of “I’m fine” can stigmatize those who seek help for stress and other mental issues.

The gathering was the capstone of Mental Health Awareness Week, a series of events sponsored by the Sustained Dialogue student group and the Undergraduate Student Government.

“One of the issues at Princeton is that the question ‘Where do I belong here?’ is often framed as ‘Where do I want to end up?’” said USG president Bruce

**“That mental pressure is something everyone feels, but no one talks about.”**

Easop ’13. The success-driven mindset leaves little room for students to enjoy their college experience, he said.

Easop joined with senior Addie Darling and juniors Shirley Gao, Maia Ten

Brink, Shehzad Ukani, and Jamie Joseph to share their struggles with issues such as depression, failure, and sexual orientation — and overall, how to reconcile happiness and health with ambitions and achievements.

“I hear people say, ‘I’m going to work hard, not sleep, and be miserable, but it’s only for these four years, and then I’ll be happy,’” said Gao. “But I also see a lot of people graduate from Princeton and get into super-structured career advancement paths — and they do the same thing over again.”

Brink told of a preceptor who began a precept “by slamming his hands on the table and saying, ‘You guys have to be happy now. You’re never going to be happy in the future if you don’t start [being] happy now.’ No one else has ever said that to me here.”

But happiness at Princeton, students agreed, often is tied to accomplishments. “If we’re not getting graded or achiev-

was raised in a family in which difference was thought of in a really interesting way,” he said.

Bennett, who spent a year as a Marshall scholar before coming to Princeton, plans to become a professor.

While grateful for the intellectual training that Princeton has given him, Bennett sometimes finds campus life to be solitary. “I have not found an arts community here that is interested in spoken word, hip-hop, or aerosol art” — also known as graffiti — he said. “Part of my hope is to help remake the space in certain ways.”

He will perform for the first time on the Princeton campus at an April 6 open-mic event he has organized at the Carl A. Fields Center For Equality and Cultural Understanding, where he is a graduate fellow. He hopes it will draw both Princeton students and New York artists.

Bennett can sound poetic even on a subject as somber as the stresses of graduate-student life: “Even when it feels like my heart is breaking, or that my mind is breaking under the pressure, I think it’s breaking open into something — and something beautiful will grow from it.”

ing something,” said Darling, “it’s hard to convince ourselves that it’s something worth doing.”

“And how do we make sense of failure?” asked Eleanor Meegoda ’12, the leader of Lotus Café, a student group that discusses mental health and happiness. Meegoda raised the issue of how seeking help for mental-health issues can undercut the quest to appear successful, thus representing a “failure” to cope with stress.

“You don’t want to admit you have had any missteps, because everyone else around you seems to have made none of the same mistakes,” said Joseph. “That mental pressure is something everyone feels, but no one talks about.”

Ukani agreed, saying if there were one message he’d like to get across to the student body, it would be that “there is absolutely nothing wrong with not feeling so composed and perfect. It is OK to *not* feel fine.”

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Ivy League Player of the Year Niveen Rasheed '13 scored 20 points, but that was not enough to beat Kansas State in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

## Tigers suffer third-time loss in opener of NCAA tournament

P  
20

**It was a history-making season** for the women's basketball team. Princeton dominated the Ivy League with a 14–0 conference record — the first Ivy team to go undefeated in league play twice in three years — and earned a ninth seed in the NCAA Tournament, the highest for any Ivy League team in history. The Tigers outscored their league opponents by an average of 31 points per game, another conference record. And the team was ranked No. 24 in the Associated Press poll, becoming the first women's Ivy League basketball team to place in the top 25.

But on March 17, the Tigers failed to reach their ultimate goal: winning a game in the postseason. With a 67–64 loss to eighth-seed Kansas State, Princeton was eliminated in the first round of the tournament for the third straight year.

The Tigers' performance against Kansas State far exceeded their two previous NCAA appearances, when Princeton trailed by double digits at halftime. This year's game was close until the final buzzer.

"This is a game we could have and should have won, but we didn't," head coach Courtney Banghart said after the loss.

Princeton looked nervous in the opening minutes, committing three turnovers and missing four shots before scoring its first points. But the Tigers quickly found their footing and took a five-point lead, their largest advantage ever in a tournament game. Ivy League Player of the Year Niveen Rasheed '13 capped the run with a three-pointer and a jump shot and finished with a team-high 20 points.

The Tigers trailed by four points at halftime, but center Devona Allgood '12 helped them turn the tide again. After Rasheed missed a free throw that could have tied the game early in the period, Allgood ripped the ball away from a Kansas State forward and made a layup while getting fouled, sinking the bonus shot to give Princeton a two-point lead.

Allgood made seven of 10 shots for 15 points and added a game-high 12 rebounds, while All-Ivy guard Lauren

Edwards '12 also scored 15 points. But it was not quite enough for the Tigers, whose late comeback attempts fell short in the final minute.

The loss was Princeton's first defeat since mid-December, ending a 17-game winning streak. The Tigers finished the season at 24–5.

"This was definitely the best we've played out here in the tournament," Allgood said. "We don't have anything to hang our heads about. We did what we wanted, except win."

Three of the players who led the team to its dominant position — Allgood, Edwards, and point guard Laura Johnson '12 — will graduate in June. For the remaining Tigers, their dreams of winning an NCAA Tournament game, three seasons in the making, will have to wait another year. **By Kevin Whitaker '13**

### TIGER ACES

Kevin Whitaker '13 spotlights top athletes and teams every Monday morning @ [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

Zak Hermans '13



## EXTRA POINT

# Another day at the ice fights for Princeton NHL players

By Merrell Noden '78



Merrell Noden '78 is a former staff writer at Sports Illustrated and a frequent PAW contributor.

**I really ought to like** professional hockey. It is a lightning-fast sport, requiring tremendous skill and stamina. But the fights that seem to break out in virtually every NHL game make me squirm with embarrassment. *The New York Times*' three-part series on the life and death of hockey fighter Derek Boogaard revealed that hockey's combatants may be prone to developing chronic traumatic encephalopathy (C.T.E.), a condition thought to be brought on by repeated blows to the head. That discovery is fueling a growing debate about the health dangers of hockey's rampant fighting.

Two of the league's most prominent fighters are Princeton graduates — Kevin Westgarth '07 of the Los Angeles Kings and George Parros '03 of the Anaheim Ducks. Last year Parros led the NHL in major penalties, while Westgarth was tied for 10th.

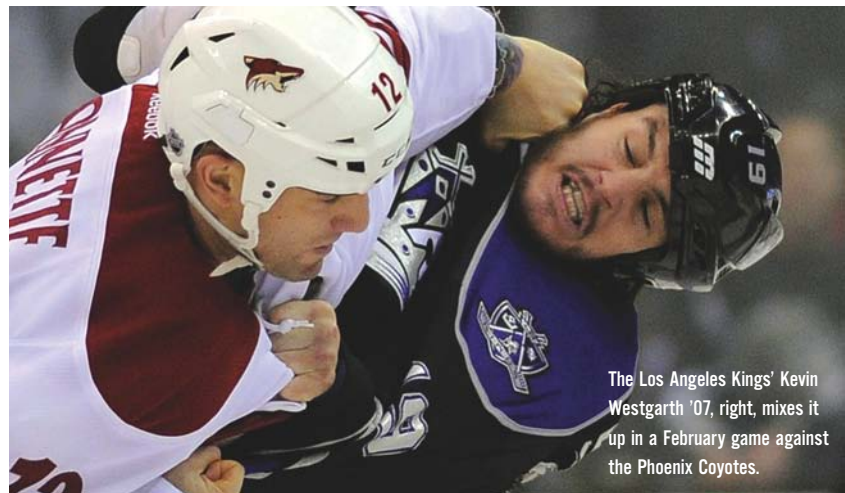
Westgarth, who is in his second full season in the league, sounded somber last September when asked what lessons he might take from Boogaard's death. "I've been extremely lucky," he admitted to the *Los Angeles Times*. "Inevitably it is our choice, and we all kind of know the deal."

Parros is far from the typical hockey tough. While the rugged, 6-foot-5 player is famed around the league for his lumberjack's mustache, he also is known for cutting his long hair in public every year to raise money for childhood leukemia. I wondered: Why would a bright 32-year-old risk chronic pain and possible dementia to smack some guys around in a hockey rink?

When I met Parros before a game against the New Jersey Devils, he was incredibly matter-of-fact about



George Parros '03, left, who plays right wing for the NHL's Anaheim Ducks, brawls with a Florida Panthers player in February.



The Los Angeles Kings' Kevin Westgarth '07, right, mixes it up in a February game against the Phoenix Coyotes.

what he does.

"I saw an opportunity and I took it," he told me. "I realized if I was going to make it to the NHL sooner rather than later, I knew that given my size, I'd probably have to start [fighting]."

Parros didn't fight in college hockey, where it carries stiff penalties. In the pros, he told me, fights fire up a flat team — much like a baseball manager who gets himself thrown out of a game — and discourage dirty play. Using logic that seemed tortured, Parros claimed that fighting actually cuts down on violence in NHL games. Players are less likely to throw a punch or an elbow, this thinking goes, because if they do, enforcers — big guys who know how to fight — will respond. "If you eliminate fighting, you're going to have more people making dangerous hits because

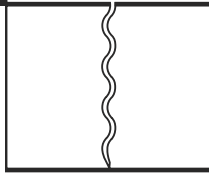
there's no consequence for them. They won't have to face a player like me."

Parros said he's had just one concussion in his seven-year NHL career, but he does admit to chronic soreness in his hands, back, and shoulders. As for the dangers to his brain, he allowed that it is a risk, but one worth taking. "This C.T.E. they talk about, it's not just from fighting. It's from being in a high-intensity sport with all the collisions. It's a risk you run, but we get to do what we love for a living."

That part I can understand. Parros clearly is a thoughtful guy, and I liked him a lot. That's why I sure hope he's right about the gamble he and Westgarth seem to be taking. 📍

*Extra Point explores the people and issues in Princeton sports.*

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## SPORTS SHORTS



**MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING** won a fourth-straight Ivy League championship (above, the team celebrates with a dip in DeNunzio Pool) at home March 1-3. Jon Christensen '12 won all three individual events in which he competed, setting an Ivy League record in the 100-yard breaststroke. Stevie Vines '13 was named the meet's top diver.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL** won its last four games of the regular season, including a 62-52 victory over Penn March 6 that denied the Quakers a share of the Ivy League title. The Tigers finished 10-4 in conference play and defeated Evansville 95-86 in the College Basketball Invitational before losing 82-61 to Pittsburgh in the quarterfinals March 13.

Jaci Gassaway '13 scored 15 goals in her first four games for **WOMEN'S LACROSSE**, which started the season with two blowout wins and two tight losses. **MEN'S LACROSSE** also split its first four games, with close defeats to second-ranked Johns Hopkins March 2 and eighth-ranked North Carolina March 10.

To cap a strong indoor season for **MEN'S TRACK & FIELD**, Peter Callahan '13 and Donn Cabral '12 earned All-America honors at the NCAA Championships March 9-10. Cabral finished eighth against tough competition in the 5,000-meter race, while Callahan came in sixth in the mile.

For the first time in 25 years, **WRESTLING** hosted the regional EIWA Championships at Jadwin Gym. Garrett Frey '13 reached the 125-pound championship and finished second at the March 3-4 event, qualifying for the NCAAs for a third straight year. Teammates Daniel Kolodzik '12 and Adam Krop '14 also earned bids to the nationals.

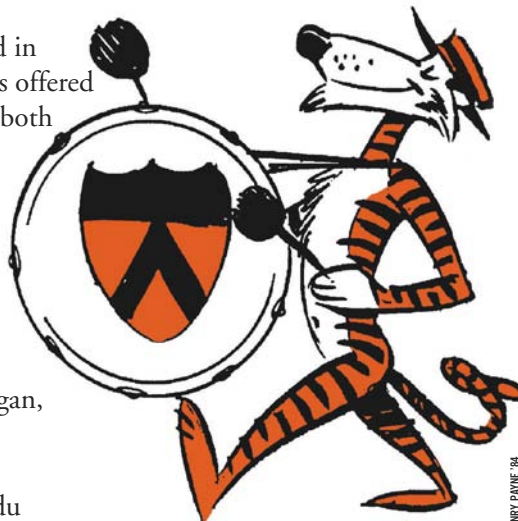
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HENRY PRINCE '84



## The race to college: Are great students left behind?

By Tamara Sorell '81

Tamara Sorell '81 is a scientist living in Groton, Mass.

**On the day after Thanksgiving**, while most future Princeton applicants were sleeping, my 16-year-old daughter was preparing to report at 4 a.m. to her sales job and the madness of Black Friday — without a parent to drive her. She didn't mind; she likes the independence and rewards that earning her own money brings, the ability to buy a smartphone and fancy sneakers that she wouldn't get otherwise.

She's a successful young woman, with high grades, diverse musical and artistic talents, and leadership positions. She limits her advanced courses to the academic subjects that truly interest her, which gives her time to spend on the art classes she loves. She takes time to build a meaningful social life. She was recommended for participation in a prestigious art program, but because of the distance and her parents' work commitments, she could not attend.

And Black Friday was not the only day she went to work. For the past seven months, she has worked 20 to 25 hours a week at minimum wage at a local shoe store.

Still, when it came time for her to start applying to college, I advised: Don't waste your time applying to top schools.

My growing concerns about college admission were crystallized by two recent articles in *The New York Times*. The first, a finely articulated piece by Stony Brook University professor Neil Gabler ("One Percent Education"), lamented the harnessing of our finest universities by the economic elite. The second article, headlined "Bracing for \$40,000 at New York City Private Schools," described the ballooning tuition along with the growing number of applications and consulting firms charging more than \$20,000 for admission advice.

What do these stories have to do with each other? Well, everything. As one mother quoted in the article about private schools remarked, parents evaluate schools based on their success at getting students into prestigious colleges. These days, I fear that admission requirements at top colleges have reached the point where students who don't have elaborately financed résumés and top-tier academic preparation cannot compete. And while I support my daughter's choices, I'm concerned about the loss of choice for many youngsters from lower- or middle-income families for whom responsibilities such as paid work, caring for younger siblings or older relatives, and helping at home effectively eliminate the time available to pursue elite activities that now seem to be required.

I have been on the Princeton Alumni Schools Committee



for at least 10 years, and have interviewed applicants in several states. I always ask if the student ever held a job for pay; never has the answer been yes. While my sample may not be typical, it is clear that paid work is not high on the list of elite-college contenders. This is indeed a sad reflection on the qualities that top colleges seek. Working at a real job — the kind where the bosses don't care what you think, you must deal with rude and harassing managers and customers, and you get fired if you show up late or need time off — is a valuable life experience. Keeping such a job requires higher-level executive functioning, social skills, and persistence. The experience differs from finding a boutique opportunity through family contacts, or paying to work as a "counselor in training" at a summer camp.

Today's successful Princeton applicant often is the product of single-minded pursuit of a strong résumé and substantial parental sacrifice that is well beyond the type of attention to their children's education that parents historically have provided. This investment of time and money has become a filter that excludes the vast majority of our talented youth: Most American families cannot afford \$5,000 for "leadership" training, overseas eco-volunteer trips, student ambassadorships, or summer academic camps.

The statistics of attendance by students from "middle-income" families also are misleading. When one parent's income can support a family comfortably, the second parent — typically, the mother — can leave the workforce to dedicate herself to her children's needs, shuttling them to lessons, tutors, and sporting activities. Such parents become the

*continues on page 56*



Professor Daniel Kurtzer, former ambassador to Egypt and Israel.

# Is an Israel-Palestine peace deal still possible? Dan Kurtzer says yes

BY GRIFF WITTE '00

**In late June of 1967**, a recent high school graduate named Daniel Kurtzer traveled to Israel for the first time. The trip was a gift from his parents, and it marked the end of a quiet, middle-class childhood in Elizabeth, N.J., where Kurtzer had been a standout student at the local Jewish day school.

Israel had just emerged from six days of war that had reshaped the Middle East. Israeli forces had thoroughly routed the militaries of three neighboring Arab states — Jordan, Egypt, and Syria — and took control of vast new territory. Kurtzer had had to delay his trip because of the fighting, but once in Israel he found a country euphoric with victory. Jerusalem — a city that had been divided by razor wire and scarred by snipers for 19 years — suddenly was reunited.

The young American volunteered to help clean the accumulated debris from a grand stone amphitheater atop Mount Scopus, in Jerusalem, that had been stuck in a desolate no-man's-land for the better part of two decades. For days, he picked up trash and scrubbed the steps, working in the shadow of buildings that had been decimated by war. When the great New York Philharmonic conductor Leonard Bernstein led a concert at the amphitheater in early July in celebration of Jerusalem's reunification, Kurtzer sneaked in by pretending to deliver flowers. He was among the hundreds who listened in rapt silence to the strains of Isaac Stern's violin, and who looked out upon the Judean hills at a land of almost limitless possibility.

But Kurtzer soon grew troubled. That summer, he visited the West Bank and the Gaza Strip — both of which had been captured by Israeli forces — and saw devastation in the eyes of the people who lived there. "If you only looked at the Israelis, it was celebration," Kurtzer recalls. "You looked at the Palestinians, and you saw people who were defeated. This thing wasn't going to work."

To Kurtzer, there was only one sensible answer: partition. But nearly half a century later, that sensible answer remains maddeningly elusive, lost in a tangle of competing peace plans and violent realities. Kurtzer became hooked during that 1967 visit on the idea of a resolution to the Middle

East's conflicts, and he remains hooked today. "It looks so solvable," he says. "And then you get into it, and it's hard."

Kurtzer, balding, bespectacled, and compact at 62, knows this better than almost anyone. He's been U.S. ambassador to Israel and to Egypt, and spent decades at the State Department as an integral player in U.S. efforts to forge a resolution.

But each of those efforts has failed, and now the consensus in Washington is that the peace process is dead. After a burst of activity in the first year of the Obama administration, U.S. initiatives to convince the Israelis and the Palestinians to come to terms on a deal have ground to almost nothing. The time, policymakers and academics agree, simply is not right: The United States can't want peace more than the Israelis and the Palestinians themselves. Attention is focused on Iran, not on Palestine. And besides, in an election year, a peace deal is a political nonstarter. Or so says the Washington consensus.

Kurtzer hates the Washington consensus, and he uses every opportunity from his perch as the S. Daniel Abraham Visiting Professor in Middle Eastern Policy Studies at the Woodrow Wilson School to fight against it. He pens op-ed columns proposing ways to get the talks moving again. He gives lectures in Dodds Auditorium proclaiming that all is not lost. In trips to the Middle East with his students, he instills in them a sense of the possible. Along the way, he butts heads with old friends and colleagues from the trenches of Mideast diplomacy who have lost faith in what is known universally as "the process."

Kurtzer is, by the accounts of those who know him, an eminently reasonable man. When he arrived as U.S. ambassador in Egypt — the first Jew in that job — and then in Israel, he was viewed with deep suspicion. But as time went on, he was sitting for long talks with everyone from Muslim Brotherhood leaders to former Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon. Kurtzer listens. He calmly analyzes. He speaks in sober, measured tones, and comes up with imaginative yet practical solutions to seemingly intractable problems.

"He's extremely fair-minded and creative in his sense of how to pursue a genuine strategy," says U.S. Deputy Secretary of State William Burns. "There's no one for whom I have greater personal and professional respect."

And yet Kurtzer has chosen to spend his career working in a part of the world where reason is often in short supply, and where old grudges usually triumph over necessary compromises. Perhaps Daniel Kurtzer's most unreasonable belief is that the conflict in the Middle East — the solution to which has been apparent, in its basic outlines, for decades — can still be solved.

**It's an unseasonably warm Feb. 6 in Princeton**, and Kurtzer is feeling upbeat. The New York Giants — his favorite team — won the Super Bowl the night before, overcoming the odds to defeat the New England Patriots in the game's final minute. Possibility is in the air. And Dodds Auditorium is packed. The listeners have come to hear Kurtzer and Robert Wexler, a former Florida congressman who now heads a think tank, answer a simple question: Is Middle East peace possible?

Kurtzer believes the answer is yes, but he starts with the reasons why many insist otherwise: The Israelis and the Palestinians are moving in opposite directions, hardening their bargaining positions. The region has been destabilized by the Arab uprisings, unleashing an undercurrent of anti-Israeli sentiment. The United States has pulled its troops from Iraq, diminishing American leverage. President Obama has signaled that his focus is on expanding economic opportunities in Asia, rather than solving the ancient conflicts of the Middle East. And above all, Kurtzer notes, any discussion of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict involves “dealing with constituencies that have black and white views on these issues, not gray.”

So there are obstacles. But Kurtzer closes with a counterintuitive jab at the Washington consensus. He and Wexler intend to prove, he says, “that it’s not too hard, that peace is possible, and that we can want peace at least as much as the parties themselves.”

And then, on a screen above Wexler as he runs through a slick PowerPoint presentation full of history, maps, and data, peace happens.

On a map of Israeli and Palestinian lands, lines that have hardened over decades into steep walls and menacing barbed wire shift effortlessly east or west. Hundreds of thousands of Israelis living in West Bank settlements suddenly are inside Israel proper as areas outside the 1967 boundaries are absorbed. The Palestinians get parts of present-day Israel in return. The Israeli military occupation of the West Bank ends, but Israel wins enough guarantees from the Palestinian leadership that security isn’t compromised. The United States and other international powers make sure that both sides keep their promises. The process requires major concessions and tough choices. Yet, in the end, Israel and Palestine are both nations with permanent borders, existing side by side. In the Land of PowerPoint, it all looks possible.

Kurtzer knows it isn’t that easy. On the ground in the Middle East, those clean lines become blurry, and even the most logical of proposals becomes a mess of competing historical claims and deeply ingrained enmity. But his point is clear: What unfolded on the screen was based on real plans that have been offered by one or both of the parties. The differences between the two sides are bridgeable. And, crucially, the United States has a role to play in forming the bridge.

“Nobody has quite found that mix of resolve, determination, and smarts to put together a peace process that can work,” Kurtzer says. “I happen to think there is a strategy that might work.”

Perhaps some are convinced he’s right. But when the presentation is over and the crowd spills out into the evening chill of Scudder Plaza, an elderly man who had been in the audience mutters: “We’ve got no business in the Middle East. Let them sort it out.”

**Kurtzer hears that argument**, in a more sophisticated form, from some of his closest friends. Aaron David Miller, for one, describes Kurtzer as his “teacher and mentor in the art and science of diplomacy.” The two men worked side by side

for years as American negotiators, leading countless rounds of haggling and cajoling in the name of peace. But Miller has lost faith. Kurtzer, Miller says, “is convinced that any conflict created by men and women can be resolved by men and women.” Miller is not. He famously penned a 2010 piece in *Foreign Policy* magazine declaring that the outsized American role in trying to reach a Mideast accord not only was hopeless, it was counterproductive. “We were part of the problem. We thought we could fix things and we couldn’t,” Miller says. “I’m tired of seeing America fail.”

The Miller view has won out for now in Washington, despite Kurtzer’s best efforts. During Obama’s 2008 campaign for president, Kurtzer was among the future president’s advisers. Kurtzer helped write a speech that Obama delivered at the annual American Israel Public Affairs Committee conference that year in which the junior senator from Illinois advocated a robust role for the United States in helping the Israelis and the Palestinians cut a deal.

But once in office, Obama’s efforts floundered. He tried to force Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to agree to an indefinite freeze on construction in West Bank settlements. Netanyahu refused. Obama blinked. Ever since, the process has been stuck in neutral. Kurtzer lauds Obama for saying the right things, but criticizes his administration for resorting to tactics when a broader strategy was needed. At a time when the United States should have taken a tough line with both sides, it withdrew instead, he says.

“I was raised in a diplomatic environment in which you don’t necessarily take no for an answer,” Kurtzer says. “You may not turn it into a yes, but it’s what’s called tough diplomacy. I don’t walk away if I don’t take the hill on the first try. The hill’s important. You stick with it.”

Diplomacy is part of Kurtzer’s DNA; he talked with friends about doing it for a living as early as high school. Kurtzer’s parents (his father owned a delivery service) had embraced Orthodox Judaism when he was in middle school, and he had switched from public school to a Jewish day school. When it came time to pick a college, his friends chose Yeshiva University in New York City. He went with them. From there it was on to Columbia, where he received a Ph.D. in political science, with an emphasis on Middle Eastern studies. By then, his travels in the region had left him with little doubt about his career choice, and he joined the Foreign Service in 1976, just days after defending his dissertation.

The State Department in the 1970s was still very much an old boys network, with few women or minorities in top posts. Almost from the beginning, Kurtzer, who never tried to hide his religion, was told there would be limits to how high he could rise. A senior official once told him he wouldn’t be able to work in the Middle Eastern affairs bureau: “He said, ‘We work five days a week and then we come in on Saturdays and think and chat and put our feet up.’” That wasn’t an option for Kurtzer, who as an Orthodox Jew observes the Sabbath. But by the 1980s, the department was changing, and Kurtzer soon had that senior official’s job.

Kurtzer’s religion became a factor once again in 1997,

when he was appointed to the ultra-sensitive job of managing one of Washington's most critical alliances as U.S. ambassador to Egypt. Although Israel and Egypt had signed a peace agreement nearly two decades earlier, anti-Semitism remained a real concern. Soon after his arrival in Cairo, an article appeared in the Egyptian press insinuating that Kurtzer and his wife — who keep kosher — were boiling Christian children in their kitchen, a rehashing of the old blood libel.

"It was a horrible article. That night we went to a reception and people crowded around apologizing," Kurtzer recalls. "I knew then that we had broken the back of the issue."

Even an envoy from the Muslim Brotherhood ultimately agreed to meet Kurtzer, two years after his arrival. "What he basically said was, 'We waited, we checked you out, and you're OK. You're not perfect. Maybe we wanted someone named O'Reilly. But you're OK.'" With the Brotherhood ascendant in today's post-Mubarak Egypt, Kurtzer acknowledges that being a Jewish ambassador would be "a much bigger obstacle to overcome" now than it was then.

The suspicion was nearly as intense, if not more so, when Kurtzer hopped across the Sinai and became U.S. ambassador to Israel in 2001. In the Jewish homeland, he says, a Jewish ambassador for the United States was regarded as all-too-likely to cave to Palestinian interests: "They assume you're bending over backward to not be pro-Israel."

**Anyone who Googles the name Daniel Kurtzer** will find a litany of suggestions — some subtle, others not — that he is biased toward one side or the other. Kurtzer insists his only bias is toward U.S. foreign-policy interests. Back in the late 1980s, Kurtzer was a key figure in formulating U.S. policy that opened a dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization. As ambassador to Israel, he pushed the Israeli government to dismantle settlements and delivered stern messages about the killing of Palestinian civilians and restrictions on movement. Yet as he told *The New York Times* as he was leaving his post, he came to admire the Israelis for their resilience during a long period of terrorist attacks, and noted his disappointment that the Palestinians had not followed through with realistic policies, good government, and clear opposition to violence.

Amaney Jamal, an associate professor of politics at Princeton who focuses her scholarship on the Arab world, calls Kurtzer "as straight a shooter as I've seen on the conflict." That surprised her when she first met him, she says, because of his long career inside the U.S. diplomatic corps — a tribe that does not always reward those who call it as they see it.

Jamal and Kurtzer make an unlikely pair — she a Palestinian-American academic, and he a Jewish-American former policymaker. But since 2005, when Kurtzer arrived at Princeton after retiring from the State Department, they have become a regular duo on campus, visiting each other's classes and speaking together on panels.

Jamal says that much of the fun of her friendship with Kurtzer is that they don't agree on everything. When Egyptian authorities periodically wheel former president

Hosni Mubarak into court on a hospital gurney, Kurtzer acknowledges feeling "terrible" for the man he came to like so well during his ambassadorship. Jamal pronounces herself "less sympathetic" to the departed despot.

Kurtzer, who is the father of three sons and who lives with his wife in Princeton, makes it a habit to expose his students to competing perspectives. During visits to the Middle East, his classes have met with everyone from top Israeli officials to Hamas leader Khaled Mashal. "I want them to think," he says. "Rose-colored glasses don't work anymore."

Will Wagner '10 wrote his senior thesis on the Egyptian media's influence on politics, a subject about which his adviser, the former ambassador, knows more than a little. "But he always made sure I was the one driving the process," says Wagner, who is now working at the State Department as a fellow in Princeton's Scholars in the Nation's Service Initiative. "He was never one to push his own views."

Julia Morse '10 says that in class, Kurtzer focuses on the history of policymaking in the Middle East — a subject on which he has written one book and is at work on another — rather than his prescriptions for the future. Still, Morse said she finds persuasive his argument for a robust American role in peacemaking. "He understands how Washington works. He understands how Tel Aviv works. He understands how Ramallah works. And from that, he says, 'I can see how we can work out an agreement,'" says Morse, who received her master's degree at Princeton and is now back for her Ph.D.

Top officials in the Obama administration, too, believe that Kurtzer's optimism may be warranted in the long term. This spring, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has hardly been on the radar screen, with tensions over Iran's nuclear program and uncertainty over how to handle the Syrian uprising dominating the attention of U.S. policymakers. But, while acknowledging the difficulty of the present moment, Burns, the deputy secretary of state, says Kurtzer is playing an important role by "reminding people what's possible."

Kurtzer's unflagging belief in the potential for an Israeli-Palestinian deal — and in the promise that such a deal could help bridge the region's other major fault lines — explains why he is expected to be a strong contender for Mideast peace envoy should Obama win a second term, when presumably the president would have more room to maneuver in the Middle East without the political pressures of re-election.

If he were to take on the role of Mideast envoy, it would not be his first foray into long-shot causes. After leaving the State Department, he became the founding commissioner of the Israel Baseball League. Never heard of it? It didn't last long. The teams played just one season on makeshift diamonds — one had a pole smack in the middle of right field — before the league ran out of money. Still, efforts are under way to revive the idea.

Kurtzer is an optimist, but he's also a reasonable man. Pressed on which will come first, a professional Israeli baseball league or a Middle East peace deal, he doesn't miss a beat: "Baseball, unfortunately." 📌

*Griff Witte '00 is deputy foreign editor of The Washington Post.*

**Just before the Second World War, a Big Idea was detonated: the idea of the computer. The world has never been the same.**

Princetonians played a key role. Here graduate student Alan Turing '38 finalized his landmark paper, "On Computable Numbers," the light-bulb moment in which humankind first discovered the concept of stored-program computers. And here one of his professors, John von Neumann, would build just such a device after the war, MANIAC at the Institute for Advanced Study, forerunner of virtually every computer on the planet today.

Of course other people were involved, and other institutions — Penn had its pioneering wartime ENIAC machine — but Turing and von Neumann arguably were the two towering figures in launching computers into the world. As George Dyson claims in his new book on early computing at the Institute, *Turing's Cathedral*, "the entire digital universe" can be traced to MANIAC, "the physical realization" of Turing's dreams.

June 2012 marks the centennial of Turing's birth in London, and universities around the world — including Princeton and Cambridge, where Turing did the research that led to his landmark paper — are celebrating with conferences, talks, and even races. Mathematicians are calling 2012 "Alan Turing Year." Since the year also is the 60th anniversary of the public unveiling of MANIAC, this seems a particularly good time to recall the part Princeton played in the birth of all things digital.

**Turing was a 22-year-old math prodigy** teaching at Cambridge when, in spring 1935, he decided to further his studies by coming to Princeton. He just had met the University's von Neumann, a Hungarian-émigré mathematician then visiting England. By the time he encountered Turing, von Neumann was the world-famous author of 52 papers, though only 31 years old.

Turing's specialty was the rarified world of mathematical logic, and he wanted to study near top expert Alonzo Church '24 \*27, another Princeton professor. The legendary Kurt Gödel was here, too, although nervous breakdowns made him frequently absent. All these geniuses had offices in Fine Hall (today's Jones Hall), where the Institute for Advanced Study temporarily shared quarters with the University's renowned math department.

Turing arrived in Princeton in October 1936, moving into 183 Graduate College and living alongside several of his fellow countrymen — enough for a "British Empire" versus "Revolting Colonies" softball game. A star runner, Turing enjoyed playing squash and field hockey and canoeing on Stony Brook. Still, Turing made few close friends. He was shy and awkward, with halting speech that has been imitated by actor Derek Jacobi in the biopic movie *Breaking the Code*. Being homosexual, Turing felt like an outsider.

Soon the postman delivered proofs of Turing's article for a London scientific journal. The young author made corrections, then mailed it back: "On Computable Numbers," surely

# DAYBREAK OF THE DIGITAL AGE

The world  
celebrates  
the man who  
imagined the  
computer

BY W. BARKSDALE MAYNARD '88



Alan Turing \*38

one of the epic papers in history.

Princeton likes to take some credit — in 2008, a PAW-convened panel of professors named him Princeton's second-most influential alum, after only James Madison 1771 — but Turing actually wrote the paper at Cambridge. It dealt with mathematical problems similar to those on which Church was working independently. In fact, Church published a paper that took a different approach several months before Turing's came out — but Turing's paper contained a great novelty. As he lay in a meadow, he had a brainstorm. He proposed solving math problems with a hypothetical machine that runs an interminable strip of paper tape back and forth — writing and erasing the numbers zero and one on the paper and thereby undertaking calculations in binary form. The machine was to be controlled by coded instructions punched on the tape.

Previous machines throughout history were capable of performing only one assigned task; they were designed with some fixed and definite job in mind. By contrast, an operator could endlessly vary the functioning of a hypothetical "Turing machine" by punching in new coded instructions, instead of building an entirely new device. Here was a "universal computing machine" that would do anything it was programmed to do; curiously, the machine proper remained untouched. Thus Turing's genius lay in formulating the distinction we would describe as hardware (the machine) versus software (the tape with binary digits).

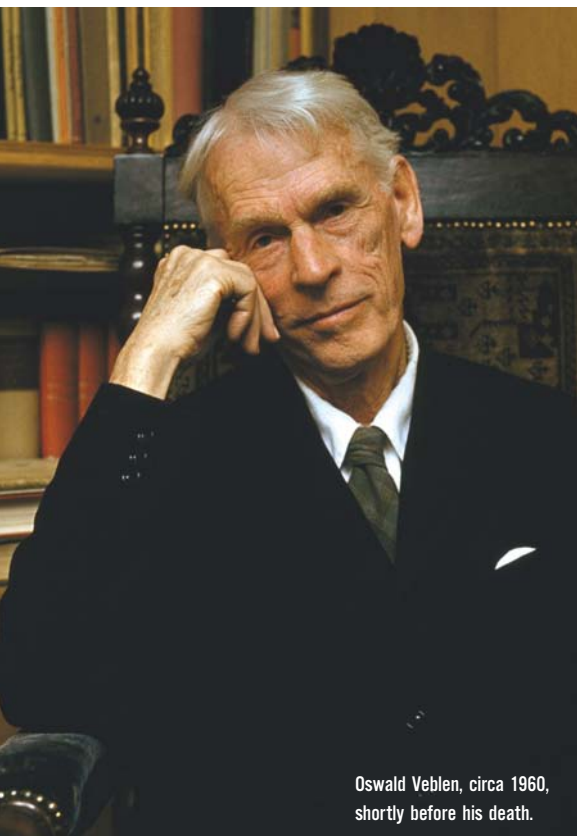
He never actually built such a machine — for Turing, it remained an intellectual construct — nor explained exactly how the tape would have worked. Nonetheless, his idea was

profoundly important. Here begins, in theoretical principles at least, the digital universe as distinct from the old analog one. "The entire Internet," Dyson writes, "can be viewed as a finite if ever-expanding tape shared by a growing population of Turing machines." The idea led, a decade later, to the construction of an actual stored-program computer — but not until the paper tape of theory was replaced by lightning-fast electrical impulses.

Church praised his student's paper and popularized the label "Turing machine." But Turing kept a certain distance from his professors, with Church recalling years later that he "had the reputation of being a loner and rather odd," even by rarified Fine Hall standards. When Turing presented "On Computable Numbers" in a lecture to the Math Club in December 1936, attendance was sparse, much to his disappointment. "One should have a reputation [already] if one hopes to be listened to," Turing wrote to his mother glumly.

Little could this lonely and dejected Englishman have imagined that one day he would be considered among the most important graduates in the University's history — so important has "On Computable Numbers" proven to us all.

Von Neumann later would make history by adapting Turing's ideas to the construction of a physical computer, but the two men formed no particular friendship, despite the proximity of their offices. In personality they were virtually opposites. Von Neumann warmly embraced his adopted country, styling himself as "Johnny"; the reticent Turing never fit in and was shocked by coarse American manners, as when a laundry-van driver once draped his arm around him



Oswald Veblen, circa 1960, shortly before his death.

## BEFORE TURING, THERE WAS VEBLEN

### Computing's early days at Princeton

By Jon R. Edwards '75

*This is adapted from a longer essay on the history of computing at Princeton, available at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu).*

#### Princeton's computing story begins

not with Alan Turing \*38, Alonzo Church '24 \*27, John von Neumann, or Albert Einstein, but with Oswald Veblen, who came to the campus at

the request of University president Woodrow Wilson 1879 to teach mathematics.

His brother Thorstein, who wrote *The Theory of the Leisure Class* (1899), is better known, but Oswald arguably had a more lasting impact. During World War II, Einstein urged President Franklin D. Roosevelt to build an atomic bomb. Years earlier, Princeton's Veblen had pressed Roosevelt to help him bring mathematics and physics faculty out of Europe before the war, undoubtedly delaying the development of Hitler's bomb. On campus, he is fondly remembered for helping to move the University toward a focus not just on teaching, but on primary research.

But Veblen's most important contribution to computing stemmed from his work on ballistics. In the wake of World War I and the increased mobility of military equipment, much more accurate and timely methods for firing were needed. Veblen undertook the



and started to chat. Von Neumann bought a new Cadillac every year, parking it splendidly in front of Palmer Lab; Turing had difficulty learning to drive a used Ford and nearly backed it into Lake Carnegie. The outgoing von Neumann always wore a business suit, initially to look older than his tender years; the morose Turing looked shambolic in a threadbare sports coat.

Despite their differences, von Neumann recognized Turing's brilliance and tried to entice him to stay as his assistant for \$1,500 a year after his second year of study was complete. But Turing's eyes were on war clouds. "I hope Hitler will not have invaded England before I come back," he wrote to a friend.

Already looking ahead to military code-breaking, Turing sought some practical experience with machines. A physicist friend loaned him his key to the graduate-student machine shop in Palmer Lab and taught him to use lathe, drill, and press. Here Turing built a small electric multiplier, its relays mounted on a breadboard — a foretaste of the complex machines he soon would use back home to crack Nazi codes.

In May 1938 he defended his Ph.D. dissertation, "Systems of Logic Based on Ordinals" — a paper unrelated to computers but still, according to one historian, "a profound work of first-rank importance" in advancing mathematical logic. Then he sailed home to England, which soon declared war on belligerent Germany.

Turing worked at top-secret Bletchley Park, where a team built 10 huge electronic digital computers, called Colossus. Turing did not design these, but he recognized them as signposts pointing to the digital future — though they had no

stored program. Each Colossus inhaled paper tape at a stunning 30 miles an hour, processing 63 million characters in total before the collapse of the Third Reich.

Turing ought to have become a national hero for his ingenious code-breaking at Bletchley Park — historians say it helped to shorten the war by as much as two years — but the existence of Colossus remained a secret for decades.

**War changed the future** for von Neumann, too. Famed for his contributions to pure math, he now was transformed, paradoxically, into the most practical of applied scientists. Consulting for the U.S. Army Ordnance Department even before fighting began, he studied the complex behavior of blast waves produced by the detonation of high explosives. Eventually he was helping to build an atomic bomb.

Since no atom bomb ever had been attempted, scientists needed to model how one might work. This required innumerable calculations. At Los Alamos, roomfuls of clerks tapped on desk calculators and shuffled millions of IBM punch cards. After two weeks there, in spring 1944, von Neumann was dismayed by the slow progress. What was needed was computation at electronic speeds.

Such swiftness was promised by ENIAC (Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer), a project to build an all-digital, all-electronic device to calculate shell trajectories for Army Ordnance at Penn. Von Neumann watched its progress with fascination but dreamed of something even more advanced: a true stored-program computer, a Turing machine.

To get ENIAC to change tasks, its handlers had to reset it manually by flipping switches and unplugging thousands of

creation of trajectory tables that would take into consideration variables such as altitude, wind, temperature, shell materials, azimuths, and the like to achieve specific firing distances. Each table of 3,000 entries required many multiplications, by hand, taking an average of 12 hours of error-prone work. Traveling back and forth between Princeton and the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland, Veblen often thought about how to speed up the work and make the calculation process more efficient.

In 1930, Veblen invited perhaps the world's greatest mathematician, 27-year-old John von Neumann, to Princeton as a lecturer in quantum statistics. Von Neumann became a full professor just a year later. He had received his doctorate in mathematics at age 22 from the University of Budapest and already had published five papers. Three set out a mathematical framework for quantum theory, a

fourth was a pioneering effort in game theory, and the fifth explored the link between formal logic systems and the limits of mathematics.

"One of von Neumann's most remarkable capabilities was his power of instant recall," wrote Herman H. Goldstine in his 1972 book, *The Computer from Pascal to von Neumann* (Princeton University Press). "As far as I could tell, he was able on once reading a book or article to quote it back verbatim; moreover, he could do it years later without hesitation. ... On one occasion, I tested his ability by asking him to tell me how *A Tale of Two Cities* started, whereupon, without any pause, he immediately began to recite the first chapter. We asked him to stop after 10 to 15 minutes."

*Jon Edwards '75, a former administrator in Princeton's Office of Information Technology, is co-coordinator of Princeton's Turing Centennial Celebration.*

## HONORING ALAN TURING \*38

Princeton's celebration of Alan Turing \*38 kicks off this month with an exhibition in the Firestone Library lobby featuring Turing's Princeton dissertation and graduate file.

On April 23, Andrew Hodges, mathematics fellow at Wadham College, Oxford University, and author of *Alan Turing: The Enigma*, will deliver the Louis Clark Vanuxem Lecture at 8 p.m. in McCosh 50.

A three-day conference on Turing's contributions takes place May 10–12, with computer scientists and mathematicians from around the world coming together to give general-interest talks and technical sessions. For information, visit <http://www.princeton.edu/turing/>.

tangled cables. It could take days to rearrange its hardware for a problem that then took just minutes to compute. Inspired by Turing — whose “On Computable Numbers” he constantly recommended to colleagues — von Neumann began to conceptualize the design of a computer controlled by coded instructions stored internally.

To usher in the brave new world of Turing machines, von Neumann audaciously proposed that the Institute for Advanced Study build one itself, on its new campus beyond the Graduate College. He envisioned an “all-purpose, automatic, electronic computing machine” with stored programs:

“I propose to store everything that has to be remembered by the machine, in these memory organs,” he wrote, including “the coded, logical instructions which define the problem and control the functioning of the machine.” This describes the modern computer exactly.

Von Neumann’s suggestion of building some kind of mechanical apparatus on the Institute grounds was greeted with dismay by many of the aloof

intellectuals there, horrified by the thought of greasy mechanics with soldering guns. Nearby homeowners complained about potential noise and nuisance. But the Electronic Computer Project went ahead anyway, starting in November 1945 with ample funding from the military, plus additional contributions from the University and other sources. Young engineers were lured with a promise of free enrollment as Princeton Ph.D. students.

Called MANIAC, for Mathematical Analyzer, Numerical Integrator, and Computer, it was meant to improve in every way upon ENIAC. The Penn machine had 17,500 vacuum tubes, each prone to fizzling; the Institute’s, only 2,600. ENIAC was 100 feet long and weighed 30 tons; MANIAC was a single 6-foot-high, 8-foot-long unit weighing 1,000 pounds. Most crucially, MANIAC stored programs, something ENIAC’s creators had pondered but not attempted.

Assembly of the computer — from wartime surplus parts — began in the basement of Fuld Hall at the Institute; in early 1947, the project moved to a low, red-brick building nearby, paid for by the Atomic Energy Commission (the building now houses a day-care center). Not for six years would MANIAC be fully operational. The design choices von Neumann and his team made in the first few months reverberate to this day.

For example, they chose to use Turing’s binary system (0s and 1s) instead of a decimal system, and collaborator John

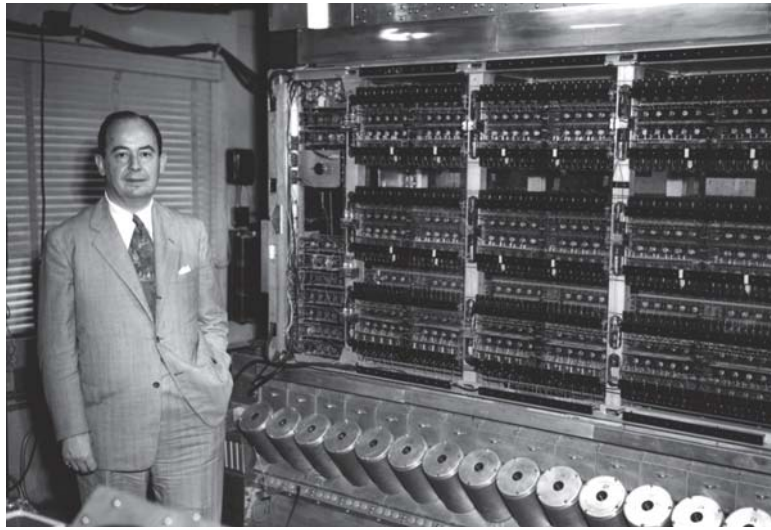
Tukey \*39, a Princeton professor, coined the term “bit.” So vast was their influence, the internal arrangement of today’s computers is termed the von Neumann architecture.

Von Neumann wanted MANIAC to jump-start a computer revolution, transforming science by solving old, impossible problems at electronic speeds. To maximize its impact upon the world, he eschewed any patent claims and published detailed reports about its progress. “Few technical documents,” Dyson writes, “have had as great an impact, in the long run.”

Seventeen stored-program computers across the planet soon were built following its specifications, including the

identically named MANIAC at Los Alamos and the first commercially available IBM machine.

Controlled mysteriously from inside instead of outside, MANIAC seemed to many observers uncannily like an electronic brain. The great breakthrough was the set of 40 cylinders that surrounded its base like a litter of piglets. In an ingenious technical achievement, these cathode-ray tubes (similar to those com-



John von Neumann with MANIAC in 1952. The shiny cylinders contained random-access memory, visible as flickering phosphor through the holes.

ing into use for television) provided the world’s first substantial random-access memory.

One could lean over and literally watch the 1,024 bits of memory flickering on a phosphorescent screen on top of each tube, which Dyson calls the genesis of the whole digital universe. Such tubes had been perfected at Manchester University, England, where Turing was a consultant.

“The fundamental conception is owing to Turing,” von Neumann said of MANIAC. A decade earlier, the young Brit had proposed a tape crawling by with numbers on it; now MANIAC flashed at incredible speed the electronic equivalent of zeros and ones in glowing phosphor.

By our standards, MANIAC may seem a modest achievement: As Dyson notes, the computer’s entire storage (five kilobytes) equals less memory than is required by a single icon on your laptop today. No one yet had invented a modern programming language; just to do the equivalent of hitting the backspace key, science writer Ed Regis says, meant precisely coding in something like 1110101.

And the computer broke down frequently — all 40 memory tubes had to be working perfectly at once. “The sensitivity of the memory, that was a big problem,” recalls UCLA professor emeritus Gerald Estrin, who was hired by von Neumann in 1950 to design the input-output device, a paper-tape reader. “If there was a storm with lightning, you would feel it in loss of bits. We spent many nights on the

floor trying to tune it up.”

One of the last survivors of the team, Estrin, now 90, still can recall the roar of the big air-conditioners that labored to keep MANIAC’s vacuum tubes cool, the clammy chill of the room that helped ensure, incidentally, that weary computer operators never dozed.

Von Neumann “was obviously very smart,” Estrin remembers. “The questions he asked. . . . He was always calculating the results in his head and predicting your answers before you said them.” Once Estrin impressed even the master, however. “I got a call late at night. Von Neumann and others were there with the computer, and something wasn’t working. As I walked over from my home, I remembered I had flipped a switch and not put it back. So when I got there, I just went over and flipped the switch. They were flabbergasted. I looked like a genius!”

To put MANIAC to work, von Neumann sought projects that demanded electronic speed — problems that otherwise might have taken years to

compute. For example, meteorology: to predict the weather across half the United States 24 hours in advance required 40,750,000 calculations, obviously impractical for a clerk at a desk calculator. On a public tour in 1952, a *Daily Princetonian* reporter marveled at how MANIAC could produce in 10 minutes a forecast that would have taken a person 192 days and nights of continuous labor. Von Neumann, it seemed, had outwitted the weather gods for the first time in human history.

MANIAC was a true “universal machine” in the Turing sense: It could do many tasks without any reconfiguration of its physical parts. Only the stored program need change. So it modeled the roiling gases in the interior of stars for University astronomers (see “The Stargazers,” PAW, Sept. 22, 2010), and for historians, calculated the position of planets in the sky back to 600 B.C.

But these clever investigations were far less urgent than its military tasks, which were kept so secret that Estrin and many others didn’t learn of them for decades. With the Soviet Union racing to build a hydrogen weapon, von Neumann was determined to use MANIAC to meet the threat. He advocated the development of a huge bomb that could be dropped on the Russians pre-emptively, if necessary.

In a single calculation that ran for 60 days and nights in 1951 (cloaked as “pure math”), MANIAC proved the feasibility of a hydrogen device. Months later, the first thermo-

nuclear bomb, “Ivy Mike,” was detonated in the Pacific, producing a fireball three miles across — 30 times bigger than Hiroshima’s.

Meanwhile, in England, von Neumann’s former student was busy designing stored-memory computers of his own, but that country could not compete with rapid U.S. developments. Von Neumann invited Turing to visit the Institute in January 1947, as MANIAC was being assembled. “The Princeton group seem to me to be much the most clear-headed and farsighted of these American organizations,” Turing wrote, “and I shall try to keep in touch with them.”



With MANIAC on dedication day in 1952 were Gerald Estrin (third from left), atomic physicist Robert Oppenheimer (fifth from left), and von Neumann (far right).

But Turing was fated to accomplish little more, owing to his arrest by British police for homosexual activities (“gross indecency”), which derailed his career. In lieu of prison, he was given shots of female hormones to reduce his libido. In 1954, at age 41, he died of cyanide poisoning, believed to be suicide. A half-eaten apple sat by his bedside. For gay activists, Turing is a martyr to homophobia, and they and oth-

ers successfully pushed for an official apology by Prime Minister Gordon Brown in 2009.

Three years after Turing’s death, von Neumann died of bone cancer at 53. Princeton briefly took over the operation of MANIAC before donating it as an artifact to the Smithsonian about 1960. By then, there were 6,000 computers in the United States, nearly all using the von Neumann architecture, and the digital revolution was galloping ahead.

Neither of these two great pioneers lived to see the full explosion of the Turing Machine — for example, how transistors and chips shrunk computers so fast that, by 1969, the Apollo Guidance Computer could fit in a cramped spaceship, making possible a landing on the moon.

Today, personal computers alone number more than a billion worldwide — a far cry from the long-ago prediction, which Estrin remembers well, that 15 machines would suffice for the whole planet. Von Neumann Hall on the eastern edge of the Princeton campus honors the remarkable contributions of that vigorous, enthusiastic, and far-seeing man. And this year, as part of Turing Year celebrations, the former Princeton graduate student’s face will appear on a British postage stamp. 📄

*W. Barksdale Maynard '88 is the author of Princeton: America's Campus, an illustrated history of the University and its architecture, due in May from Penn State Press.*



Jay Famiglietti '92 says underground aquifers are being drained faster than ever before.

JAY FAMILIETTI '92

## Sounding the alarm

Jay Famiglietti '92 sees a future governed by thirst. The world's underground aquifers, which supply drinking and agricultural water for most people on Earth, are being drained faster than ever before, he says.

The director of the Center for Hydrologic Modeling at the University of California, Irvine, Famiglietti has taken his message on the road. This year, armed with a lectureship sponsored by the Geological Society of America, Famiglietti is barnstorming the world's universities with a goal of

50 lectures in 50 weeks.

The importance of the message spurs him on. Large swaths of the world — ranging from teeming semi-arid regions of India to the irrigated lettuce fields of California's Central Valley — rely on water pumped from aquifers: layers of porous rock, deep underground, that hold water. They are pumped as a boundless resource, with little in the way of monitoring or regulation. Famiglietti says many nations must change that way of thinking — or face a future crisis.



WATCH: Video from the documentary "Last Call at the Oasis" @ [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

"The water won't be coming back by any natural means. Those regions, because of climate change, are drying out. They won't be getting as much groundwater refill. And the populations are growing," he says. "It's not a pretty picture."

The technology that has allowed him to paint this picture comes from a NASA mission called GRACE (Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment). Launched in 2002, GRACE is a pair of satellites that chase each other around the globe in polar orbit, circling the Earth every 90 minutes. When the leading satellite approaches a denser region of the Earth, the extra mass leads to a tiny rise in the tug of gravity. The leading satellite speeds up — momentarily stretching the distance between it and the trailing satellite — until the trailing satellite too "feels" the extra mass and catches up. By precisely measuring the distance between the satellites, researchers build up a gravity map of the Earth that points to regions of greater or less density. "It's like a giant scale in the sky," says Famiglietti, who earned his doctorate at Princeton in civil engineering and operations research.

GRACE initially was designed to monitor the changing masses of ice sheets and oceans. But Famiglietti real-

DANIEL A. ANDERSON / UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

P  
34



**STARTING OUT:**  
**SAM GULLAND '10**  
Army officer, in charge of a platoon that will deploy to Afghanistan in late spring. ROTC at Princeton, commissioned as a second lieutenant in the infantry.

Princeton major: Woodrow Wilson School.

**What he does:** In late January, after about a year in officer training at Fort Benning, Ga., Gulland started leading a platoon of 33 soldiers. His platoon spent a month this winter in "intensive pre-deployment training" at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. As

platoon leader, he is responsible for "everything the platoon does or fails to do" and works with the senior enlisted men "to make sure that we're prepared."

**Challenges:** Gulland has been on active duty since January 2011 and never has been deployed overseas, yet he outranks everyone in his platoon. "Those guys know a lot more about basic soldier skills than I do." The toughest thing, he says, is "walk[ing] the line between taking charge ... but also showing respect for the experience that these guys have."

**His motive:** "I wanted to give something back," says Gulland.

### NEWSMAKERS

A research hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, **PAUL HSIEH '77** was



named the 2011 Federal Employee of the Year for his role in containing the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil rig spill. Hsieh "provided critical scientific information that proved to be a turning point in ending the worst oil spill in our nation's history," read the cita-

COURTESY PAUL HSIEH '77

SAM GULLAND '10

Tiger  
profile

## Moshe Pritsker \*05

Co-founder of video science journal

ized it also could be used for groundwater. Water is heavy; just like oceans and ice sheets, layers of subterranean saturated rock are massive. His published work has revealed hot spots — or rather, dry spots — in places like northwestern India, where groundwater is being depleted by 4 centimeters per year. GRACE, he says, offers a comprehensive view that never could be assembled with spotty borehole monitoring efforts.

Famiglietti now is using GRACE to monitor the seasonal ups and downs of ocean levels as rivers and runoff from the land discharge into them. What he's finding is consistent with global climate change: a more variable cycle dominated by extremes of flood and drought. Not only will those extremes be hard to manage in their own right, but severe, frequent droughts also will make populations more dependent on exploiting the groundwater aquifers that already are being threatened.

Famiglietti is taking his outreach efforts as seriously as his science. He regularly meets with members of Congress to discuss the nation's water problems. He appears in *Last Call at the Oasis*, a documentary designed to sound the alarm on the world's water issues. Famiglietti presses for re-examination of current settlement patterns and agricultural practices that use too much water. "I think the handwriting is on the wall," he says. "Our water future will be defined by the haves and have nots." 📷 *By Eric Hand '97*

tion. ... Barclays executive **HUGH "SKIP" MCGEE '81** had an inside-the-ropes view of Phil Mickelson's PGA Tour victory Feb. 12, teaming with the golf star in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. ... **ERIC LANDER '78** is among the winners of a Dan David Prize, cited for his genome research. Named after the late philanthropist Dan David, the award recognizes "achievements having an outstanding scientific, technological, cultural, or social impact on our world" in three categories — past, present, and future. Lander is the director of the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT.



Moshe Pritsker \*05's Web-based journal publishes videos of experiments.

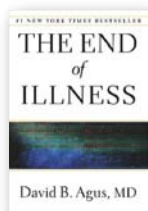
**CROSSING THE OCEAN FOR SCIENCE** When Moshe Pritsker \*05 was a graduate student in molecular biology, one of his professors read a paper in a prestigious journal about an innovative technique for growing stem cells. Eager to use the technique in his Princeton lab, the professor asked Pritsker to reproduce the experiment. Pritsker followed the paper to a T but was unable to replicate the results, a common experience in science. In this case, the professor had connections and grant money that enabled him to send Pritsker to Edinburgh, Scotland, to observe the experiment firsthand. After the trip, Pritsker was able to replicate the results, but the experience prompted him to question the status quo of text-only papers. He thought, "I'm crossing the ocean to come back with this technique. Why don't we have a new type of journal?"

**FILMING EXPERIMENTS** Pritsker imagined a Web-based journal that would publish videos of experiments in addition to papers. While in Boston doing his postdoctoral fellowship, he learned how to operate a small camera and began persuading scientists of the viability of his vision — not easy, given the long history of print-only journals. Scientists are "quite conservative when it comes to science," Pritsker says. He managed to coax enough people to put up a few videos in 2006.

**LOOKING TO EXPAND** Today Pritsker's *JoVE*, the *Journal of Visualized Experiments*, has a network of videographers in 14 countries, 50 employees at its headquarters in Cambridge, Mass., and \$5 million in revenue from subscription sales to institutions and author charges. User satisfaction is high. "We constantly hear this feedback from scientists and students that *JoVE* is so helpful," Pritsker reports. He no longer practices science; his hands are full as CEO. For now, *JoVE* focuses on biological sciences — recent papers detail novel ways to study gene expression in developing chick retinas and to image mouse lymph-node tissues — but Pritsker foresees expansion "to different areas of science — psychology, chemistry, engineering. Any work that requires an experiment would benefit from *JoVE*." 📷 *By Maya Rock '02*

**Résumé:** CEO, editor-in-chief, and co-founder of *JoVE*, the *Journal of Visualized Experiments*. Postdoctoral research at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital. Doctorate in molecular biology from Princeton.

NEW RELEASES BY ALUMNI

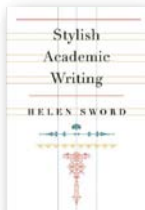


*The End of Illness* (Free Press), which author **DAVID B. AGUS '87** calls “part manifesto” and “part life plan,” aims to give readers a new approach to their

health that emphasizes prevention. Agus also explores medical technologies and offers practical suggestions. An oncologist, he is a professor of medicine and engineering at the University of Southern California. ...

**HELEN SWORD '84 '91** encourages academics to produce journal

articles without wordy, jargon-laden prose — writing that is pleasurable to read — in



*Stylish Academic Writing* (Harvard University Press). Sword is an associate professor in the Centre for Academic

Development at the University of Auckland. ... **PAUL OPPENHEIMER '61** aims to “evoke the life and discoveries of one

of the world’s most mesmerizing modern theoreticians” in his biography of

Niccolò di Bernardo Machiavelli, *Machiavelli: A Life Beyond Ideology* (Continuum). A major figure of the Italian Renaissance,

Machiavelli was an author, statesman, political theorist, diplomat, historian, philosopher, playwright, and poet.

Oppenheimer is a professor of comparative literature at the City College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. ... **J.J. KEYSER '61** and his son, John M. Keyser — their band is DJ Spazzy Stiff and The Fresh Baronet — collaborated on the jazz CD *Master Cruiser* (Jive Corner Records). The 12 tracks combine jazz, bossa nova, and electronica. J.J. Keyser is a retired surgeon and played with the group The Minstrels at his 50th Princeton reunion last May. John M. Keyser is a jazz guitarist.



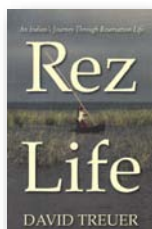
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READING ROOM: DAVID TREUER '92

# The Native American journey



**When David Treuer '92 decided** to write about life on reservations, he did not want his account to follow the same arc as most stories about Native Americans. In other words, he was not interested in writing a tragedy. Instead, he hoped to convey the “delicious and wonderful complexity” at the heart of the Native American story.

“Reservations aren’t places of deficit. This is how they’re usually seen — places where there is a lack of peace, a lack of health, a lack of money, a lack of opportunity,” says Treuer, an Ojibwe Indian and the author of three novels. “But I actually got to see them

as places of surplus.”

**WHAT HE'S JUST READ:** Hampton Sides' *Blood and Thunder*

**What he liked about it:** “His profound love for the Southwest is almost overwhelming. When he starts talking about the mountains and deserts of New Mexico and Arizona, he just breaks free into this glorious prose.”

Reservations do have higher rates of poverty than the rest of the country, Treuer says, but they also are home to tight-knit communities with a deep sense of history and tradition.

That reservations are places of more, not less, is the central insight of *Rez Life* (Atlantic Monthly Press), Treuer’s first nonfiction book. It took him years to articulate this idea, but Treuer says he felt it for most of his life.

Treuer grew up on the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota. He still lives there part

time when he is not teaching literature and creative writing at the University of Southern California. Two events spurred him to write this book. The first was the 2005 school shooting on the Red Lake Reservation in Minnesota that left seven people dead. Both of his parents had worked at the school, and Treuer felt the need to give a fuller account of the story, one that went beyond tragedy.

Yet Treuer did not know how to tell that story until 2007, when his grandfather committed suicide. Treuer was asked to write the eulogy, and he felt a desperate need to see the event in a different way. After much reflection, he was able to say at the funeral that “all appearances to the contrary, [my grandfather] really got to live the life he wanted to live, in the place he wanted to live it, surrounded by the people he loved most,” he recalls. “In that, he was far luckier than most of us are.” In short, his grandfather’s life was a story of more, not less.

Treuer brought the same perspective to the writing of *Rez Life*. The book relies on a variety of individuals, some friends and family members, to examine various facets of Indian life. For example, writing about his mother, a tribal court judge, allowed Treuer to talk about the complicated story of Native American justice. Other chapters deal with treaty rights, the notion of sovereignty, and the surprising success of Indian casinos. He also writes about his brother, Anton Treuer '91, with whom he is working to preserve the Ojibwe language; and the author’s friend, Sean Fahrlander, a colorful storyteller and expert fisherman. The book weaves in Treuer’s own story with a larger historical account of the Native American journey.

“The force of history is writ in people’s lives in very large letters on the reservation,” says Treuer. “You can see [it] very clearly when you know where to look.” **By Maurice Timothy Reidy '97**

JEAN-LUC BERTINI

**READ MORE:** An alumni book is featured weekly @ [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

# Class notes

## From the Archives

Computer monitor screens were smaller, keyboards were larger, and eyeglasses were huge in March 1985, when this photo was taken in Jadwin Hall. According to archivists, these computer-science students are pictured in the physics department. Their matching T-shirts feature the logo of the Massive Memory Machine Project (MMM), which began at Princeton around 1983 and studied how very large amounts of memory would change the way problems were solved. Can any PAW readers remember the occasion for the photo or the students pictured?



**Online Class Notes are password-protected.**  
To access Class Notes, alumni must use  
their TigerNet ID and password.

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<http://paw.princeton.edu/issues/2012/04/04/sections/class-notes/>

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<http://paw.princeton.edu/issues/2012/04/04/sections/class-notes/>

**Perspective** *continued from page 23*

“band parents,” school-play producers, and assistant coaches; serve on committees; and engage in activities designed to further their children’s interests. The economic investment of these families may not be transparent, but is real nonetheless. On paper, such a family might well have the same “middle income” as one in which both parents work in average-wage jobs, whose children fend for themselves or babysit siblings after school. The families’ incomes may be similar; their situations are not.

Princeton’s generous financial aid is to be applauded, but here again the statistics can be misleading. According to University statistics, 58 percent of students in the Class of 2014 receive financial aid — but that aid can extend to families earning as much as \$200,000 per year. Still, nearly half the class does not qualify for — or has not applied for — aid.

I doubt that people like my sister (Class of 1984) and I would have a chance to attend a top college today. We worked weekends and summers throughout high


school, had no access to Advanced Placement classes, and our extracurricular activities were limited to the offerings at our undistinguished local high school. Something along the way has shifted dramatically, and the result is winnowing of opportunity that starts long before students are old enough to apply to college.

I do not profess to any knowledge of the mysterious inner workings of the admission office, and only can imagine how difficult it must be to sift through the mountain of talent vying for such few spots. I cannot suggest how the selection process could be shifted to consider criteria beyond the constellation of expensive achievements. I only know that this résumé arms race should be reversed.

Princeton has been a part of my identity for nearly 35 years. In addition to interviewing applicants, I have missed very few of my 30 reunions, participated on a campus career panel, and worked on a major reunion. But what is the meaning of “Princeton in the nation’s service?” It is not just about the works of the Princeton community; it also must be about who

can *become* the community.

Princeton has a record of leadership in promoting opportunity. Endowment funds are dedicated to financial aid. Tenure requirements have been modified to support young parents. Early-action protocols have been adjusted to include those who need to consider finances later in the process. These are hallmarks of an institution that values fairness and social evolution. It is time for Princeton to take the lead to ensure that the best education, with all that it confers, can be attained across our socioeconomic spectrum.

I am not worried about my daughter. She will go on to receive a fine education at a public university and make a success of her life by virtue of her own qualities. I do worry, however, about the future of the society that she and all of our children are growing up into. The next generation’s leaders should include young people whose first lessons in success came from achieving balance in their lives — and yes, perhaps from selling shoes.  Tamara Sorell '81



COURTESY TAMARA SORELL '81



# Memorials

## THE CLASS OF 1935

**JOHN S. SIMPSON '35** John, known to us as “Johnny,” died Nov. 10, 2011, at Indiana Regional Medical Center in Indiana, Pa., where he was born, raised, and lived nearly all of his life. A graduate of Kiskiminetas Springs School, he majored in history at Princeton and was a member of Charter Club. His senior-year roommate was Ray Hess.

At the University of Pennsylvania Law School he edited the *Law Review*. He graduated in 1938, and returned to Indiana to practice with Fisher & Ruddock. He ultimately retired in 2006 from his own firm, Simpson, Kablack & Bell. A member of the Indiana County and Pennsylvania Bar associations, he was regarded as the dean of Indiana County lawyers.

A member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Indiana Elks 391, and the Indiana Country Club, Johnny served on the Indiana Hospital board for many years and was involved with a number of other area nonprofits. His interests included reading, bridge, and golf.

Johnny was predeceased by Elizabeth, his wife of 64 years, and two brothers. He is survived by two sons, William and John, and their families; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

## THE CLASS OF 1937

**JACOB C. NEVIUS '37** Jake died Jan. 11, 2012, in Trenton, N.J., where he had been a lifelong resident.

He graduated *cum laude* from the Peddie School in Hightstown, N.J., before coming to Princeton. During World War II, he served in the Army in New Guinea and the Philippines, attaining the rank of captain. After his military service, Jake joined the family business, Nevius-Voorhees, a New Jersey department-store chain, and eventually became the CEO.

He was a member of the Trenton YMCA, the Trenton Rescue Mission, the Multiple Sclerosis Association, the Symposium Club, and the Christian Business Men's Club. He also belonged to the Newtown (Pa.) Presbyterian Church.

Jake's wife, the former Margaret Wilson, predeceased him. He is survived by a son, the Rev. James Nevius; a daughter, Anne Bittner; six grandchildren; and one great-grandson. During his time as a buyer and trader and president of the department-store chain, Jake took time to enjoy canoeing, tennis, travel, and, of course, making money, according to our 10-year book.

The class extends its sympathy and fond remembrances of a loyal reunion attendee

and a faithful classmate to Jake's family and friends.

## THE CLASS OF 1939

**FRANK M. STEWART '39** Preceded at Princeton by his father, George B. Stewart Jr. 1906, his grandfather, George B. Stewart Sr. 1876, his brother, George B. Stewart III '36, and other relatives, Frank was born in Beirut, Lebanon, where his father was secretary-treasurer of the American University of Beirut.

Profoundly intellectually curious, he earned a Ph.D. in mathematics from Harvard, having worked in operational analysis for the Eighth Air Force during the war. In 1947 he began teaching at Brown, where he remained for his entire career, with visiting professorships in London and at Tougaloo College in Mississippi. In later years he published important work in population biology, mutation rates, and genetics.

Frank was a passionate advocate of social justice, especially regarding Palestine and capital punishment. He enjoyed origami, Byzantine icon painting, travel, and many other activities, including building his own computers. In 2005 he attended the 100th anniversary of the American Community School in Beirut.

Caroline, his wife of 45 years, died in 1991. Of her, Frank quoted Proverbs in our 40th-reunion book saying, “A good wife is to be valued above rubies.”

Frank died Nov. 2, 2011. He is survived by his son, William, to whom the class extends its sympathy.

## THE CLASS OF 1944

**CLARENCE WILLARD ROBINSON '44** Will died Sept. 24, 2009, in his longtime home of Denver, Colo.

Coming from Andover, where he was active in track, dramatics, and the glee club, he majored in politics at Princeton and was a member of the Westminster Society and Elm Club. He roomed with Ray Kelly, Bill Jamison, and Al Bingham. After three years in the Army with service in Europe as a captain, he moved to Billings, Mont., with a small company that purchased oil and gas leases. Several years later he moved to Denver after a career as an independent oil operator.

Active in the Presbyterian Church, Will traveled widely. In each of the class year-books, he wrote about the depth of the friendships he acquired while at Princeton. He returned to seven major reunions, the last being his 50th.

Will is survived by a niece, five nephews,

and 26 godchildren. He was buried in Shreveport, La., the town in which he grew up.

## THE CLASS OF 1945

**GARTH K. GRAHAM '45** Garth Graham died March 24, 2011.

Garth entered Princeton from York Community High School in Illinois and joined Key and Seal. In 1944 he received his bachelor's degree in chemistry Phi Beta Kappa, and then received a medical degree from Harvard in 1947 after having been in V-12 in the Navy Medical Corps. He served during the Korean War in both Korea and Japan, and eventually spent 20 years on the medical staff of UCLA Medical Center and St. John's Hospital.

Garth married Jean Williams, and they later divorced. He then married Erika Wunsch in 1972. They moved to Philadelphia, where he was employed by Smith, Kline & French. Garth retired as vice president of product safety and continued to work as a consultant in the pharmaceutical industry.

Garth, who survived several serious illnesses, was deeply devoted to his Episcopal Church parish, where he served on the vestry.

In addition to Erika, he is survived by his son, Garth; daughters Katherine and Pamela; and six grandchildren. Sadly, his youngest daughter, Cynthia, died Dec. 9, 2011. The class expresses its sympathy to the family.

## THE CLASS OF 1950

**JAMES C. MCCLAVE '50** Jim died Nov. 30, 2011, at his home in Stuart, Fla.

He graduated from Cliffside Park (N.J.) High School and was a Navy officer during World War II. He transferred to Princeton from Dartmouth in 1947, adding to a McClave legacy. His father and uncle were in the Class of 1903, and his brothers were in the classes of 1936 and 1937. He belonged to Tiger Inn and graduated with a degree in civil engineering.

Upon graduation he joined McClave & McClave, a civil-engineering firm founded by his father and uncle. Jim continued the firm's prominence as the civil engineer for many Bergen County (N.J.) municipalities. He was chairman of the board of Hudson United Bank of Union City, N.J., from 1976 to 1990. After retiring in 1988, he moved to Florida.

Jim and his wife, Helen, were avid horticulturists and were recognized for their prized daylily gardens in Bergen County. Jim was the longest active member (63 years) of Hackensack Golf Club, where he was a three-

time club golf champion. His Tiger Inn roommate, Ron Wittreich, remembers a lifetime of friendship playing golf in member-guest tournaments, reunions, and Tiger football games.

Our sympathy goes to Helen, son John, and two grandchildren. Sadly, his son Jamie died of cancer in 1998.

**HARRISON MCMICHAEL '50** "Mac" died Nov. 20, 2011.

Born in Philadelphia, Mac came to Princeton from Lawrenceville. At Princeton, he was a member of Terrace and graduated with honors in biology. Though he graduated in 1951, he elected to remain a member of '50.

Mac completed his medical studies at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1956, midway through fitting in a year of graduate-level biology at Cal Tech. Following internship and residency in pathology, he served two years at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington as an Air Force captain. He then returned to the medical school, joining the faculty in 1961. He became an associate dean in 1969, beginning a 30-year tenure.

After his retirement, Mac enjoyed boating with his family and traveling worldwide with his wife, Blanche, whom he married in 1969.

We extend our sympathy to Blanche; his four children, Paul, Ellen, David, and Suzanne; five grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

**EDWARD N. MELDAHL '50** "Ted" Meldahl died peacefully Nov. 11, 2011, in North Carolina.

After graduating from Choate, he studied in the Navy V-12 program at Notre Dame and at the Navy Oriental Language School in Oklahoma, where he was commissioned as an ensign in 1946. Entering Princeton in 1948, he graduated with honors in religion in 1950. He continued his study of Japanese at Columbia and at Tokyo University on a Fulbright Scholarship.

Ted used his language skills by working for Pfizer and Abbott Labs in Japan from 1956 to 1968. He then returned stateside to work in family planning. He joined the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in 1973, initially covering Malaysia and Singapore from Kuala Lumpur, and then five African countries from Nairobi. After retiring, he settled in South Carolina with his second wife, Joyce, whom he met in 1971 while singing in a choir in Bangkok. Joyce predeceased him.

He had a lifelong love for baseball that he shared with his children and grandchildren, and as a youngster he once pitched to Ted Williams. He delighted in singing, dancing, and telling jokes. He was "a consummate wordsmith in English," authoring funny arti-

cles and poetry.

We extend our sympathy to his brother, Robert; children Malcolm, Virginia, and Keith; and three grandsons.

## THE CLASS OF 1951

**KENNETH E. FROST '51** Ken was born Nov. 26, 1928, in New York City, the son of M. Kenneth and Maude (Jenkins) Frost.

He prepared at Lawrenceville. At Princeton, he served on the *Nassau Sovereign*, was a member of the Liberal Union and Key and Seal, roomed with Graham White, and majored in economics, graduating *magna cum laude*.

He was called to active duty in Korea and was severely wounded in October 1952, after which he spent three years recovering in Walter Reed Army Hospital. Ken was awarded two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star, and a Silver Star for heroism.

After his return to civilian life, he worked in the family business, Long Island Storage & Warehouse, but soon turned to a literary life, and in particular, to poetry. For some time he taught creative writing and English literature at Columbia University and The New School.

On Nov. 22, 1986, he married Carolyn Gelland, also a poet. Both are published authors, he for *Night Flight* and she for *Four-Alarm House*. They moved to Maine to read and write. Ken died there Feb. 10, 2011; interment was in the Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery with military honors. Carolyn survives him.

**ROBERT W. HOEDEMAKER '51** Bob was born July 1, 1930, in Paterson, N.J., the son of Peter and Mildred Koch Hoedemaker.

He attended Passaic Valley High in Little Falls, N.J., where he and our classmate Bill Brown were first in school together. At Princeton he was in the NROTC and earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, played football, was on the swimming team, played in the band, and belonged to Cannon. He roomed with Chandler Dawson, Daniel Hansen, J.E.T. Rutter, and William Seavey.

Following graduation, Bob served as engineering officer on the destroyer USS *O'Hare* and was separated in 1954, after which he earned a master's degree in electrical engineering at MIT. He and Joan Hampel were married June 25, 1955. Thereafter, he followed a career as an engineer in the aerospace industry.

Bob enjoyed sports. In April 1986 he suffered a serious brain injury while playing handball and was totally paralyzed and unable to speak. He was cared for at his Princeton home by his wife and children with in-home nursing assistance.

A longtime resident of Princeton, Bob died

Dec. 3, 2010. He is survived by Joan; son Bob Jr.; daughter Sandra; two granddaughters; and his brother, Edgar.

**FREDERICK S. NELSON '51** Sandy was born March 26, 1926, the son of W. Ripley and Margaret (Seymour) Nelson.

A graduate of Choate, he served in the Merchant Marine for three years before coming to Princeton, where he was a history major and business manager of *The Daily Princetonian* and belonged to Colonial. On Sept. 13, 1952, he and Cornelia Gibson were married.

Sandy had a remarkable career in the nascent world of business automation. Initially, he worked for Hamilton Foundry and Machine Co. in Hamilton, Ohio, where he first worked with raw materials, work in progress, finished goods, and related inventory controls. In 1955 he joined American Cyanamid, where he eventually headed the team that developed and installed the first inventory data-processing system of its kind in the country. In 1964 he moved to Clairol as data-processing manager, and eight years later to the top electronic data-processing job at its parent company, Bristol-Myers.

A resident of New Canaan, Conn., for over 54 years, Sandy was active in United Way, the New Canaan library, the Field Club, and St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Sandy died Feb. 27, 2011, and is survived by Cornelia; their sons, George ("Toby") '76 and James ("Jim") '80; two grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

**PETER G. ROUNDS '51** Pete was born May 26, 1927, the son of Harold E. Rounds, and graduated from Kimball Union Academy in 1945.

He was in the Army from 1945 to 1947, serving in the First Infantry Division and Medical Corps. At Princeton he was an architecture major, business manager of the *Nassau Lit*, assistant swimming manager, and a member of Whig Clio, the mountaineering and outing clubs, the Triangle stage crew, and Court Club. He roomed with Anson Taylor and Giff Malone.

It has been many years since the class has heard from or about Pete. Our records indicate that for a time he was in practice with another architect, Claud Bokelman, in Walpole, Maine, and that he retired from practice in San Francisco, where he died July 7, 2010, as reported in the Social Security Death Index.

## THE CLASS OF 1954

**JAMES MACWILLIAM JR. '54** James MacWilliam died Jan. 14, 2012, in Houston from complications following open-heart surgery.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., he prepared for college at Wilkes-Barre Academy and Wyoming Seminary. A second-generation

Princeton graduate, he was a politics major, a member of Cap and Gown Club, and manager of varsity wrestling. After graduation, he became a flight instructor in the Naval Air Corps and was stationed in Florida.

Jim built a career in Houston by founding the commercial-insurance firm of Essary, Hart & MacWilliam. He continued at Insurance Concepts, which later became Bancorp South.

For five decades, Jim was chairman of Princeton's Houston-based schools committee, during which he helped almost 1,000 students with their college applications. He coached baseball at Sharpstown High School in Houston and was chairman of the non-profit Cancer Counseling Inc. He personally overcame three forms of cancer in his lifetime. He maintained an optimistic attitude and had an infectious smile.

The class extends its condolences to his wife, Karen; his children, Catherine, James, Payson, Walker, and Christopher; stepsons Craig and Keith; his sister, Anne; and his 10 grandchildren.

#### THE CLASS OF 1958

**GILBERT B. KIRWIN '58** Gilbert "Gib" Kirwin came to Princeton from Far Rockaway High School in Queens, N.Y., where he had been president of his class and an All-New York City football player.

At Princeton he majored in economics, was in the Navy ROTC, and played both freshman and junior varsity football. During his first two years he roomed with Paul Nystrom, Larry Sault, Ken Lenert, Cliff MacDonald, and Bill Tornrose, and as a junior and senior with Dial Lodge clubmates Lenert, Jim Clarke, Willie Cox, Mike Curan, and Carroll James.

Gib served as a Marine Corps officer in Okinawa, retiring from the Reserve as a major. He then went to Hastings College of Law in San Francisco. He maintained an active law practice in San Francisco, primarily as a plaintiff's trial attorney, and later in La Jolla, Calif., where he had a second home, until his death from cancer Dec. 2, 2011.

Gib was a member of the San Francisco Yacht Club, which he loved. He was active in the Northern California Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. He remained interested in Princeton, kept in touch with a number of classmates, and attended many of our reunions. He was involved with Bay Area Princeton activities — particularly in helping the athletics department with recruiting — and followed Princeton sports closely.

He is survived by his wife, Joanne; his daughter, Rachel; and brothers Stanley and Paul and their families. The class extends its condolences to them all.

#### THE CLASS OF 1961

**HORACE BLAIR KLEIN '61** We lost Blair Dec. 18, 2011, in St. Croix Falls, Wis., after a 2 1/2-year battle with pancreatic cancer.

Born in St. Paul, Minn., Blair came to Princeton from St. Paul Academy. At Princeton he was a Nassoon, a politics major, and a member of Colonial Club.

After Princeton, Blair earned a law degree from the University of Minnesota and embarked on a law career in corporate and private practices. Throughout his life, he was passionate about local government as a mechanism for working "in our nation's service." In Minnesota he served the state as assistant attorney general and became the state's first senate counsel. After moving to Wyoming, he served in local government as an administrative law judge and as a justice of the peace.

In retirement, Blair returned to the family farm in St. Croix Falls, where he served on many local councils and as town clerk. In addition, Blair participated enthusiastically in the work of many nonprofit organizations.

Blair is survived by his five children, Daphne, Hoddy '85, Philipp, Rick, and Kate; 13 grandchildren; his brother, Allan '68; and his sister, Minty Piper. With them we mourn his passing.

#### THE CLASS OF 1962

**WILLIAM W. BACKES JR. '62** William Backes died Dec. 20, 2011, at home in Yardley, Pa., after a long illness.

Son of William W. Backes '26, Bill came to Princeton from the Lawrenceville School, majored in English, and dined at Key and Seal. He managed the freshman baseball team, was in Whig-Clio, and was president of the Pre-Law Society. His roommate, John Sands, remembered, "When I met Bill 53-plus years ago . . . he was the brother I never had."

He attended law school at Temple University. An attorney, he was the senior partner of the law firm of Backes & Backes in Pennington, N.J.

Bill's wife of 47 years, Joy, said, "I have never known anyone more courageous. I started loving Bill when I was 17 and have been blessed to share so much of my life with him." His son, Matt, stated, "All of my father's achievements are artifacts of a life lived attentively and with care. This is what we mean, or should mean, when we speak of integrity."

The class extends its sympathy to Joy; sons Matthew and Pierson; his sister, Nancy Walsh; and all family members.

#### THE CLASS OF 1966

**PHILIP J. BERG '66** Philip Berg died Sept. 20, 2011, at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in

New Brunswick, N.J.

Philip was born in Kenya and graduated from Vineland (N.J.) High School. He was a longtime resident of Princeton, where he ran his own computer-programming company.

The class extends its condolences to his wife, Paula Vannella Berg; his mother; and the extended family.

#### THE CLASS OF 1969

**MARTIN J. GOLUB '69** Martin Golub died Jan. 29, 2011, from acute myeloid leukemia and myelodysplastic syndrome.

A native of New Bedford, Mass., Marty graduated from New Bedford High School and enjoyed his senior year as an American Field Service student in Belgium. On the trip home, he met Melinda, to whom he was married in 1968.

After graduating from Princeton with a degree in French literature, Marty and Melinda moved to Ithaca, N.Y., for his doctoral program at Cornell, but his studies were interrupted by service in the Coast Guard Reserve. Subsequently, Melinda and Marty both graduated from Boston College Law School, and he joined Seyfarth Shaw in Washington, D.C., and later established its Brussels office.

The family, including children Elisabeth, Joseph, David, and Catherine, especially enjoyed their time in Brussels and the opportunity it presented for the children to grow up multilingual. A distinguished and accomplished professional, Marty considered his family to be the joy and focus of his life.

The Golubs lost their son David in 2008. Marty is survived, in addition to his widow and children, by his sisters Beth, Mara, and Valerie. We extend our sympathy to them.

#### THE CLASS OF 1970

**MATTHEW J. MEYERS '70** Matt Meyers died June 25, 2011, in Las Cruces, N.M., surrounded by friends from his community of artists, writers, environmentalists, yoga enthusiasts, and spiritual seekers. Matt loved the peacefulness he found in the mountains of New Mexico, where he taught yoga, meditation, and smoking-cessation techniques.

Matt hailed from Brooklyn, graduating from James Madison High School, and brought to Princeton all the intensity and spirit that Brooklyn begat. Matt excelled in Professor Alpheus T. Mason's famously challenging course on "Constitutional Interpretation," and later, as editor of the 1968 *Bric-a-Brac*, dedicated the yearbook to Professor Mason. Ever loyal, Matt made a point of visiting Professor Mason whenever he returned to Princeton. But Matt will be most vividly remembered by us as an avid and conspicuous leader of the campus anti-war movement.

After graduation, he earned a master's degree in public health from Columbia University, and traveled extensively, including several extended stays in Israel. His focus gradually turned from politics to individual and community well-being, and to poetry. We are privileged to have known such an indomitable soul, restless intellect, and wellspring of creativity.

**BRUCE A. WALLIN '70** Bruce lost his struggle with cancer Dec. 29, 2011.

Bruce prepared for Princeton at Highland Park High School in St. Paul, Minn. A politics major, he ate at Tower Club and graduated *cum laude*. A stalwart on the Ivy Championship rugby team of 1969, Bruce was universally liked by teammates, who recall how his fluent French helped arrange lifesaving medical treatment for a teammate while at a tournament in Martinique.

The academic life called him to Berkeley for his Ph.D. Bruce then taught at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Cal Fullerton, and, since 1990, Northeastern.

A Fulbright scholar, he published books on revenue-sharing and taxation. Teaching government and finance, he twice won the Northeastern University Excellence in Teaching Award. Remembrances posted by his former students and colleagues reveal a transformative teacher. His enthusiasm and personal energy caused his courses to be oversubscribed and remembered for their intellectual challenge and excitement.

Bruce co-founded the West Roxbury (Mass.) Courthouse Neighborhood Association and coached youth soccer. He also was a source of political commentary for local media.

The class extends sympathy on the loss of this teacher, thinker, writer, mentor, coach, engaged citizen, and family man to Bruce's wife, Vickie, and daughters Anne and Eva.

**ALBERT H. WEEKS '70** "Kip" Weeks died of cancer Dec. 31, 2011, in Keene, N.H.

Raised in Cedarhurst, N.Y., he prepared for Princeton at the Brooks School in North Andover, Mass. At Princeton, Kip was an English major and a member of Ivy Club. He was preceded at Princeton by his father, Louis S. Weeks Jr. '40.

Following graduation, Kip embarked on a life fueled by his natural curiosity about people and their stories. Kip served the Inuit community in Alaska, learning to travel by dogsled; later he was an investigative reporter for the *Keene Sentinel*. Kip then attended Catholic University Law School in Washington, D.C., where he met and married his wife, Christine.

They returned to Keene, a town he had adored since childhood summers in nearby

**PAW posts a list of recent alumni deaths at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu). Find it under "Web Exclusives" on PAW's home page. The list is updated with each new issue.**

Alstead. Kip quickly became one of the town's leading citizens, raising a family, practicing law, and being named one of New Hampshire's 10 probate judges. As a jurist, Kip was known for his careful listening, probing questions, and thoroughly expressed opinions, assisting many fractured families to find just resolutions.

Classmates will miss sharing with Kip his many joys in life: his family, Keene, New England's woods, the Bosox, and Princeton. The class extends deepest sympathy to his wife; his son, Sam; and his daughter, Meg.

### THE CLASS OF 1980

**STEVEN D. MILLER '80** We are sad to report that Steven Miller died suddenly March 7, 2010, at Washington University Medical Center in St. Louis of complications relating to open-heart surgery. His wife, Lisa Huxley, was at his side.

After graduating from Princeton with a bachelor's degree in politics, "Mill Mill," as he was known by his friends, received a law degree from Washington University. At the time of his death, he was in private practice in St. Louis.

John Novaria, who remembered Steve from undergraduate days, said he "was extremely funny and probably made me laugh more than any other classmate. I'm really saddened." Jonathan Plitman wrote: "He had a sharp eye for pretense but was at the same time full of good humor and kindness."

Steve is survived by Lisa, whom he married in 1991; his father, Abraham Miller; his stepmother, Stelle Miller; and his brother, Michael Miller. He was predeceased by his mother, Phyllis Hyde, and his sister, Ellen Miller.

Steve will be missed for his wit and charm.

### Graduate alumni

**EDWARD N. BEISER '67** Edward Beiser, professor emeritus of political science at Brown University, died Sept. 4, 2009, of Parkinson's disease at an assisted-living facility. He was 67.

Beiser graduated from the City College of New York in 1962 and received a master's degree in politics from Princeton in 1964 and a Ph.D. in 1967.

He began teaching at Williams College in 1965 and joined Brown's political science department in 1968. Very popular with stu-

dents, he was voted "best teacher" for many years. He retired in 2003.

In 1977, Beiser earned a law degree from Harvard. Later, the dean of the Brown Medical School asked him to develop the program in liberal medical education. Beiser then became associate dean of biomedical ethics wherein he helped to develop a third-year clerkship program in applied clinical ethics.

He was considered an expert witness in medical ethics by the Rhode Island Supreme Court. Tom Bledsoe M.D., associate professor of medicine and a colleague at Brown, said Beiser "had a remarkable capacity to get the group to stop and think about what, culturally, had become a matter of routine."

Beiser is survived by three sons and 10 grandchildren.

**FRANK J. GRATZER '71** Frank Gratzler, a retired electrical engineer who had been with Bell Laboratories and its successors for 30 years, died at his home Oct. 24, 2010, of Hodgkin's lymphoma. He was 65.

He graduated from Manhattan College in 1966, and in 1971 was awarded a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Princeton. He then joined Bell Labs.

Later, as executive director of Bell Communications Research (Bellcore), he was responsible for broadband data services. Gratzler was awarded the Bellcore CEO Award for his contributions to the telecommunications system of Greece.

In retirement, Gratzler enjoyed tutoring students in math and physics at Raritan Valley Community College. Dedicated to staying in shape, he swam in a pool three times a week for more than 30 years.

Gratzler is survived by Ann, his wife of 41 years; two daughters, Allison Gratzler '03 and Carolyn Gratzler Cope '98 s'98; two granddaughters; and his father, Frank Sr.

**JANET G. SPECK '82** Janet Speck, a career U.S. Foreign Service officer, died of breast cancer Oct. 29, 2011, at the age of 58.

Speck received a bachelor's degree in history from Chicago in 1976 and a law degree from Cornell in 1980. She then earned a master's degree in public affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School in 1982.

Joining the State Department in 1983, she served in Czechoslovakia, Germany, Guyana, Russia, and Vietnam, as well as in Washington, D.C. She held the title of economic officer and earned numerous department awards for her work.

Speck is survived by a daughter, her mother, and two sisters.

*Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.*



# Final scene



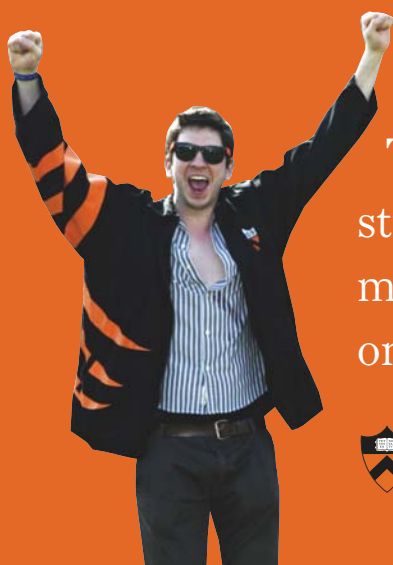
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**Berlind Theatre** Part of  
McCarter Theatre, the Berlind Theatre  
awaits an audience for its production  
of "The Convert" in February.

*Photograph by Ricardo Barros*



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