

CATHERINE COHEN '13,  
COMEDY QUEEN

COEDUCATION  
THEATER PROJECT

CLASS OF  
2024

# PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

## A CAMPUS WITHOUT STUDENTS

But studies continue,  
even far away

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# PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

An editorially independent magazine by alumni for alumni since 1900



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Natalia Orlovsky '22 reads lines for her performance as Helena Novakova '72 in a run-through rehearsal for the coeducation theater project, page 8

**A Queen of Comedy**

Comedian Catherine Cohen '13 is singing about the angst of her generation — and making other millennials laugh about it. *By Alexis Kleinman '12*

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An alumna writes about being raped while studying abroad — and what can be done to help ensure others are not. *By Kate McGunagle '14*

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**Bilingual Learning**

Anne-Louise Nieto '05, left, and business partner Hanna Chiou are encouraging early language learning through bilingual books and an audio “wand.” Read their story in our Tiger of the Week series.

**Chancellor's Critique**

Gregg Lange '70 looks back at former German Chancellor Heinrich Brüning's 1937 campus lectures on the crisis of democracy in Europe.

**PAW Recommends**

Visit PAW Online to read our latest tips for the stay-at-home life.

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Top: Frank Wojciechowski; at right: courtesy Habbi Habbi

## Hard Choices in a Pandemic

On Friday the 13th, I left my office in Nassau Hall and stepped into an unseasonably warm March afternoon. Groups of students laughed, talked, and posed for pictures. Casual observers might have imagined the students were enjoying carefree moments at the cusp of spring break.

In fact, though, they were saying bittersweet farewells. Many were seniors who had lost their final spring at Old Nassau. On the preceding Monday, we announced that all of Princeton's classes were moving online. Two days later, we told all undergraduate students that they must return home to complete their studies if they were able.

The COVID-19 pandemic was changing the world with dizzying speed. A week earlier, I attended an alumni reception in Dallas, a student production of *Macbeth*, and two basketball games. No cases had yet appeared on campus or in the town.

The University was, however, monitoring the outbreak. We knew that diseases can spread rapidly on college campuses, where people live and study in close proximity to one another. If an epidemic infected large segments of our student body, it would overwhelm our capacity to care for the sick. We would also be unable to prevent the virus from reaching older, more vulnerable populations, including many members of the staff and faculty at Princeton and people in the surrounding community.

On March 5th, we asked our infectious disease team whether we should limit the size of crowds and events. In hindsight, such a proposal seems absurdly tame, but at the time it went beyond what most other colleges and universities had done.

Bolstered by advice from public health experts, including knowledgeable trustees, the team urged us to go further. It recommended moving to online instruction and encouraging undergraduates to return home. My first reaction was astonishment. Princeton thrives on face-to-face teaching and engagement. After hearing the case made by my colleagues, however, I reluctantly concluded that we had to act.

Our team and the experts whom it consulted told us that "community spread" had started in the United States. They said we should assume that the virus was present on our campus or would soon be. They were right: within days, we learned that two staff members might have been exposed to the virus at an off-campus event.

The experts also emphasized that the time for action was upon us. Exponential growth rates meant cases would multiply with devastating speed and impact. The earlier we moved, the more effective our actions would be and the more lives would be saved.

With heavy hearts, we moved instruction online, cancelled Ivy League athletic contests, and required undergraduates to go home if they could. Ivy League universities were among the first to make these choices. I was in touch with the other presidents throughout the week. We all hoped that we were wrong: if the pandemic eventually proved less fearsome than we anticipated, we would have celebrated.

Life in Princeton still seemed "normal" when we announced our decisions. As I finish this column ten days later, nearly the entire state of New Jersey is shuttered.

Residents are advised not to leave their homes except for specified reasons, in-person instruction is unlawful, and dining at restaurants is prohibited. Even birthday parties are banned. "Normal" is no more.

Princeton's archivist, Daniel Linke, and his colleague, April Armstrong, inform me that epidemics have ended semesters in the past. According to their research, the most recent occasion involved a typhoid outbreak in 1880, when we were still the College of New Jersey. This pandemic



DENISE APPLEWHITE

may be the first to cause Princeton University to end a term early.

It is not the sort of history one wants to make. All of us cherish the scholarly discoveries, the artistic performances, the athletic competitions, the memorable conversations, and the lasting friendships that happen on this campus. Grand and beautiful our buildings may be, but Princeton's people—its students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends—are the essence of the University. I feel that always, but with keen poignancy now, when our campus is so profoundly quiet in a season that should brim with energy.

I take heart knowing that the Princeton community, wherever its members may be, remains strong in spirit, loyal to Old Nassau, and dedicated "to the nation's service, and the service of humanity." We are taking the steps, large and small, needed to combat this pandemic. I am especially grateful to the nurses, doctors, and others on our staff and among our alumni who are risking their own health to care for the sick.

When the time comes, our campus will roar back to life, once again a Tiger burning bright. We will find ways to celebrate the Great Class of 2020, and to renew the bonds that tie us to one another and to this University. Until then, I send my heartfelt wishes that you and your loved ones remain healthy and well in these challenging times.

March 22, 2020

# Inbox

## COVID-19 AND CHANGE

On Thursday evening, March 12, an old friend of my family from summers in Maine (“old,” though in fact, young — a Princeton freshman) asked my wife and me to store much of his college gear — books, racquets, golf clubs, clothes, artwork, and more books — until September because his first year of college was suddenly and shockingly over.

On the drive from campus to our house and back, my friend and I spoke about various things — rowing (his latest athletic love); his summer plans (doing an internship, helping out on the family farm in Virginia, spending time on the Maine coast); teen foolishness on Nautilus Island (no comment, but he was not involved); *The Decameron* (on which he’d just written a paper); his family (adventurous, intellectual, close-knit); and, of course, COVID-19 (the rogue elephant in the room).

On the last topic, my friend said that nearly all the news he’d heard in the preceding week was very bad. But he also said that he’d heard from his coach and a couple of his professors that the University seemed to be handling the medical, pedagogical, financial, and logistical challenges very well indeed. He’d also heard that President Eisgruber ’83 had risen to these unprecedented challenges. “Chris Eisgruber,” the freshman said, “agonized over the hard choices” that he and his leadership team had to make in a time of intense flux and fear, both locally and globally. Rising to the challenges, when so many things are going so quickly and

dangerously wrong, makes for some good news from a week mauled by a lot of bad news.

**Richard Trenner ’70**  
*Princeton, N.J.*

A poem inspired by the pandemic:  
FACING CHANGE  
An invisible virus, circling the globe,  
Has spawned a dense cloud of fear,  
Both for our safety, and for the health  
Of those we hold so dear.

The sidewalks and buildings, empty  
and lonely,  
Echo in an eerie way.  
Our familiar routines and social lives  
All feel like they’re slipping away.

Shall we mourn the loss of the life we  
have known,  
Weighed down by our dismay?  
Or can we embrace, with hopeful hearts,  
This adventure we face today?

**Becky Hiers ’85**  
*Pendleton, Ore.*

## VIEWS OF WEALTH

I had not been aware of Resource Generation until I read “Reckoning With Wealth” in the March 4 issue of PAW. However, as a former private-school educator, I have worked with countless trust-fund babies on both sides of the cultural divide. They don’t all feel uncomfortable with their inherited wealth, nor is there any unequivocal scale of moral authority by which the rest of us may make judgments about how they should feel about it. And while I do

not believe that wealthy individuals need necessarily feel guilty about anything, I certainly admire the principled behavior of young alums such as Kate Poole ’09. Surely the impulse to support charitable causes (regardless of ideology or politics) must be as above reproach as the freedom to pursue any other deeply held personal desire for fame or fortune.

**Steven Tobolsky ’76**  
*Asheville, N.C.*

I read “Reckoning With Wealth” in PAW. Miss Poole must never have pumped gas in a blizzard or mixed mortar when it was 98 degrees in the shade, and there was no shade. I’ve been working since I was age 12, and I have amassed a nine-figure net worth without being a racist. The statement “wealth and racism are inextricably linked” is absurd on its face. I employ 150 highly paid, highly skilled people of every possible background. PAW needs to be considerably more demanding in its journalism because this piece is nonsense.

If some spoiled brats want to whine about their wealth, that’s not newsworthy. There are Princeton alumni doing real work, in the real capitalistic world, making this nation better every day. They are the people who should be celebrated and publicized, not these pathetic crybabies.

**Gaetano P. “Guy” Cipriano ’78**  
*Franklin Lakes, N.J.*

To the young pioneers featured in this article, bravo for their vision, courage, and wisdom. I look forward to following their quietly methodical yet groundbreaking paths through the years. They inspire me with their humility and their ability to connect with organizations structured to give agency to those whom they serve.

Also, to the PAW editors, nicely done for highlighting alumni for their deeply thoughtful and selfless service.

**Jody Johannessen ’86**  
*Dubai, United Arab Emirates*

In an otherwise admirable article, “Reckoning With Wealth,” Kate Poole ’09 goes off the rails by attacking the GI Bill (the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944), which expired in 1956.

## WE’D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

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## Inbox

The bill provided low-cost loans to buy a house or start a business or farm, and payments to attend high school, college, or vocational school. By 1956, 7.8 million veterans had used the GI Bill's educational benefits.

Historians and economists judge the GI Bill a major political and economic success, particularly compared to the shabby treatment of veterans after World War I.

**Charles S. Rocky Jr. '57**  
*Boca Grande, Fla.*

### MARSHAWN LYNCH

This is my first letter to our venerable magazine as a cranky old alum.

I read with disappointment that students protested former Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch as this year's Class Day speaker (On the Campus, April 8). They were "confused" by the "set of criteria" used to select this outstanding athlete and dedicated philanthropist because he has been "reticent" to speak to national media. All the more reason to hear what this man of

few words might have to share.

I don't follow sports. I can't tell you why it's so hard to make 10 yards on four tries. But I did watch The Beast's epic 79-yard run in 2014 as he swatted 250-pound men like flies and took it all the way to a glorious finish in the end zone. My parents and I cheered, watching the TV set; Christmas came early on the football field.

I hope that despite the awful extenuating circumstances upsetting this year's graduation ceremonies our soon-to-be fellow alumni will still be inspired to go full Beast Mode as they cross the graduation finish line.

**Amy Holmes '94**  
*New York, N.Y.*

### REEVE'S LEGACY

Tapping Reeve 1763 deserved a much more thoughtful "Princeton Portrait" than the one included in the March 4 issue of PAW. The Litchfield Law School, which was founded by Reeve in 1784, operated for nearly 50 years and educated upward of 1,200 students. It is the subject of my

recent book, *The Litchfield Law School: Guiding the New Nation*.

Its alumni included not only Aaron Burr Jr. 1772 but at least 50 other Princeton graduates. Among these was Henry W. Green 1820, who served as chancellor of New Jersey. Princeton's first library was named for him.

Instead of dwelling on the love letters that Reeve sent to his fiancée (and later wife) Sally Burr, sister of Aaron Jr., the article should have noted the importance of Reeve and the law school in the development of American legal education. A recent history of the Harvard Law School acknowledged, "In retrospect, both Harvard and Yale have envied Litchfield's success and wished to claim it as their ancestor."

**Paul Hicks '58**  
*Rye, N.Y.*

### FROM THE ARCHIVES



As a child of two alumni, I have read PAW cover

to cover for as long as I can remember reading. I've always looked at the From the Archives section and wondered about times past. I opened the March 18, 2020, copy and saw the four people playing soccer (photo above). The young woman to the far right looked familiar, so utilizing connections of social media, I contacted Sirena Hsieh '00, who positively identified herself, her roommate Alessandra Lusardi '00 and her younger brother with the ball (in eighth grade at the time!), and the young man in the background, Terence Whalen '00, all looking sporty in Holder Courtyard. We then commiserated over reaching the "milestone" of being old enough to be in From the Archives.

**Stephen Lu '03**  
*Birmingham, Mich.*

### FOR THE RECORD

Trapeze flyer Ashley Doran Northup '99's name was misspelled in the caption for the opening photo of the March 18 "Princetonians" section.

### FROM THE EDITOR

## PAW and a Pandemic


Alumni often joke that wherever they are, Princeton will find them: When it comes to reaching out to graduates, the University reigns supreme. We at PAW hope to continue that tradition now.

Part of PAW's mission is to maintain and strengthen the bonds among alumni and between alumni and Princeton. And for 120 years that's what PAW has strived to do, in collaboration with the class secretaries and memorialists who share news of your classmates and friends. I'm reminded of the late Ralph Ritchie '34, who faithfully chronicled the doings of his class for seven decades until his eyesight failed and he stepped down from the class-secretary post in 2009, at 97. Ralph took off for only five years — when he was serving in the Army during World War II. Even then, he organized class correspondents so '34 would remain close in the most difficult of times.

We'll take inspiration from Ralph now. Logistical and economic challenges mean our issues for the rest of the year will be smaller, but we'll do everything possible to ensure that you continue to receive this magazine. Some of the articles in this issue, such as the two feature stories, were prepared for publication before the virus changed our world so suddenly, while our news coverage explains how Princeton students and faculty continue to engage and how alumni are contributing to our understanding of COVID-19. Over the next few months, you can expect to read more about how alumni are helping to address this global crisis. Our digital offerings on social media and at paw.princeton.edu include other information to keep you updated. Please share your news with your class secretary and with paw@princeton.edu.

I'm grateful to my PAW colleagues for working through the additional demands of producing the magazine remotely — and to you, for continuing to read it when other thoughts are top of mind. Our entire staff sends wishes for health, resilience, and better times. — Marilyn H. Marks \*86 h'88

# On the Campus



The corridor was nearly empty in the EQuad's J wing when this image was captured in late February. Empty halls are now the norm as the majority of Princeton's labs have closed to comply with New Jersey's stay-at-home order, which aims to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Photograph by Ricardo Barros



The molecular biology teaching lab was among many that donated personal protective equipment to medical professionals.

# Research Shutdown

## Most labs close and thesis work ends as Princeton follows stay-at-home rules

**E**arly in March, as the threat of COVID-19 was becoming clearer, Professor Yibin Kang and his research team — like scholars across campus — began to plan for how they’d

shut down their lab if that day came. On March 23, it did.

“When we started discussing [shutting down] two or three weeks ago, it still looked like a remote possibility,” said

Kang, a professor of molecular biology. “Then it just came like a tsunami.”

Dean for Research Pablo G. Debenedetti announced in a March 21 email to Princeton’s research community that activities would be suspended by 5 p.m. two days later, to comply with a new stay-at-home order by New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy.

“In calling for this step, I want to acknowledge the sacrifice that you are making to suspend research activities, whether it is delaying experiments or terminating those in progress,” Debenedetti wrote in the email. “We have not made this decision lightly or without recognition of what it means for researchers at Princeton, including our talented graduate students, postdocs, and other research staff.”

Kang, whose research focuses on mechanisms of breast cancer metastasis and aims to discover therapeutic treatments, said his group acted quickly. In an orderly shutdown, group members powered down equipment, shut down water baths and heaters, and ensured liquid nitrogen was properly stored in the freezers. Kang’s lab group also works with mice, so researchers had to terminate ongoing tumor experiments, reduce

## Learning Curve: Faculty and Students Adjust as Classes Move Online

Introduction to Contemporary Dance is a class that’s meant to be taught in person.

“It’s a very live class,” said Alexandra Beller, a dance lecturer. “Everything in my syllabus is built for in-class work towards a final public showing of work we make together in the room.”

But when Beller’s class resumed March 23 after the end of spring break, the dance studio sat empty, like every other lecture hall and seminar room on campus, as the University began online classes for the remainder of the academic year.

Beller said the idea of remote learning for her 20-person class was “daunting.” She had to scrap a lot of her original syllabus and make accommodations, like containing all movement during class to a 4-foot-by-4-foot area. Instead of

dancing together for the final project, the students will film themselves, and Beller will edit the videos together.

Across all disciplines, faculty members have been adapting their courses for online instruction. Associate Dean of the College Katherine Stanton, director of the McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, was among the University officials who had been preparing for those challenges. When Princeton announced its decision to move to remote learning, Stanton’s team provided guidance on topics ranging from recording lectures and using video conferencing to adapting a course syllabus and compassionately responding to students’ needs.

“I’ve been amazed at the goodwill and the generosity of faculty and

students in this transition, in this work,” Stanton said. “People have been incredibly patient.”

Chemistry professor Andrew Bocarsly admitted that he “thought it was going to go horribly” in the first week — like many professors across campus, he was nervous about how he would be able to interact with students while using technology he wasn’t used to. The lectures for his General Chemistry II course were prerecorded to accommodate 150 students in different time zones; problem sets are now submitted through an app; and laboratory experiments are mostly on hiatus (students will analyze data sets for some of the critical labs). Bocarsly said the missing labs are “less than ideal” but won’t hurt students’ learning in the long run.

History professor Jeremy Adelman has been teaching a widely popular lecture in conjunction with the online



the colony size, and create detailed documentation of how to care for the mice of various experiments. Two people from his 30-person lab group were given permission to routinely check on the lab and maintain the mice for everyone.

Researchers in Kang's group plan to use their time away from the lab to review data, write papers, and read literature for updates in the field. The group, like others, donated all of its protective gear to the state for use by medical professionals.

It takes time to breed the mice to increase numbers and get them on the proper diet, so recovering from the setback will take several months. "We can't do stop and go," Kang said. Whenever the lab reopens, researchers will essentially be starting over.

About 10 percent of the University's research capacity is still active on campus, DeBenedetti estimated. Essential research was allowed to continue, including labs that would lose crucial data or the entire experiment, Ph.D. theses that would be lost if interrupted, and those working on COVID-19-related experiments, he said. COVID-19 research proposals were due April 5, and special funding will be

**"When we started discussing [shutting down] two or three weeks ago, it still looked like a remote possibility. Then it just came like a tsunami."**

**Yibin Kang, professor of molecular biology**

available for selected projects. Some research may continue remotely.

Psychology graduate student Judith Mildner is continuing to work remotely. She's a member of the Princeton Social Neuroscience Lab, led by Diana Tamir, which focuses on thoughts, cognitive processes, and behaviors. Mildner has shifted her focus to COVID-19, to research the impact of extended isolation on individuals. Since she cannot use the lab, she created an online survey (<https://distancing-2020.web.app/>) to collect data.

"We want to get a better understanding of what people's day-to-day social interactions look like, how these interactions affect people's well-being, and the extent to which people's social needs are met," Mildner said.

Undergraduates also felt the effects of the research shutdown. Chemistry major

Sarah Schneider '20 had been working in Frick Lab on her thesis, which focuses on creating two-dimensional materials and studying their magnetic properties for use in next-generation electronics. Schneider said ending her research was disappointing because she was close to making some major breakthroughs.

Her adviser, Leslie Schoop '15, said Schneider's study is in good shape, and in her thesis, she can speculate on the part of her research she was unable to complete.

The research of Beimnet Shitaye '20, a mechanical and aerospace engineering major, came to an end when the machine shop closed. Her team was creating a robot that could dig underground and create an irrigation system for plants. Since it was not complete, team members took photos to show what had been accomplished.

It's all been very stressful, Shitaye said, because she had viewed her thesis work as the one thing she could hold onto. "I thought, even if all of my friends were going to be leaving campus, even if my roommates would be gone, at least I could stay here and continue to work on this one part of being a senior that I could still accomplish," she said. ♦  
By C.S.

education platform Coursera since its founding in 2012. He said he's been able to apply some of that experience, but he also had to adjust this semester since he's now teaching a three-hour seminar instead of shorter Coursera lectures. He quickly found that the time makes a difference in keeping students' attention remotely, so he has taken to encouraging more conversation between students and allowing additional time for breaks.

"We're a tough group," Adelman said about his class. "They all learned they have to go to a quiet place, get some decent headphones, proper lighting, and

**"Obviously there are a few roadblocks, but on the whole I'm impressed by the professors' and students' adaptability to this situation."**

— Priyanka Aiyer '23

Wi-Fi, and we're set to go."

Professors described their students as "shell-shocked" and "highly stressed," but also relieved to be able to be together again in this capacity and understanding of the circumstances. Students who spoke with PAW had similar feelings after the first week.

"The transition to video classes has actually been quite smooth," said Priyanka Aiyer '23. "Obviously there are a few roadblocks, but on the whole I'm impressed by the professors' and students' adaptability to this situation. I feel like we're all doing the best we can, and I'm adjusting pretty well for that reason."

Jennifer Hsia '21, who left campus to return home to Taiwan before border restrictions went into effect, said the 12-hour time difference between home and school means classes take place in the middle of the night. She can keep up with her online lectures, but her drawing class has "taken a hit," she said, even with

the separate one-on-one class session offered by the professor. "She said we could show our drawing to the webcam, but there are so many details that are lost in the process," Hsia said.

One week into "virtual instruction," faculty members were continuing to learn and make changes for the rest of the semester. Universities around the world are going through the same experience, so there is global camaraderie, commiseration, and an abundance of resources. And professors said that the lessons of this experience will affect the way they teach in-person classes in the future.

"There will probably be some good that comes out of this in terms of new ideas and new concepts for teaching," Bocarsly said. "There are certainly things to be learned, but right now I'm just trying to cope with the day-to-day." ♦  
By Anna Mazarakis '16 with reporting from Maya Eashwaran '21

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An editorially independent magazine by alumni for alumni since 1900

April 22, 2020 Volume 120, Number 11

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*Princeton Alumni Weekly* (I.S.S.N. 0149-9270) is an editorially independent, nonprofit magazine supported by class subscriptions, paid advertising, and a University subsidy. Its purpose is to report with impartiality news of the alumni, the administration, the faculty, and the student body of Princeton University. The views expressed in the *Princeton Alumni Weekly* do not necessarily represent official positions of the University. The magazine is published twice monthly in October, March, and April; monthly in September, November, December, January, February, May, June, and July; plus a supplemental Reunions Guide in May/June.

*Princeton Alumni Weekly*, 194 Nassau Street, Suite 38, Princeton, NJ 08542. Tel 609-258-4885; fax 609-258-2247; email paw@princeton.edu; website paw.princeton.edu.

Printed by Fry Communications Inc., Mechanicsburg, Pa. Annual subscription: \$22 (\$26 outside the U.S.), single issue: \$2. Copyright © 2020 the Trustees of Princeton University. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. Periodicals postage paid at Princeton, N.J., and at additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send Form 3579 (address changes) to PAW Address Changes, 194 Nassau Street, Suite 38, Princeton, NJ 08542.

## On the Campus



During the first week of March, students and alumnae involved in the coeducation theater project gathered for an early run-through of the show.

# Her Stories, On Stage

## As coeducation marks a milestone, student and alumni artists look back

While the facts of what led to undergraduate coeducation at Princeton are well documented, theater professor Jane Cox had a different focus in mind when she came up with a way to honor the 50-year anniversary. She wanted to showcase the stories of a variety of women from those early classes through an evening of performances created by a group of students and alumnae.

“The reason I wanted to do the piece is to help our students to have a sense of themselves,” Cox said. This was an opportunity to connect multiple generations of Princeton women and to see the vast differences and surprising similarities of their experiences, she added.

After Cox ironed out the details with Suzanne Agins '97, a lecturer in theater and director of the project, the two put out a call to students and alumnae who work in the arts. They ultimately chose seven teams and asked each to pick an alumna from a list to be the subject of a 10-minute performance piece. A bonus performance organized by choreographer Jill Sigman '89 '98 would showcase a broad group of alumnae representing each decade since coeducation began.

Choosing which women to feature

proved difficult because all of the candidates had interesting stories. The groups were drawn to women who shared their interests and had experiences they felt could be represented on stage.

Paige Allen '21, an English major pursuing certificates in theater, creative writing, and journalism, and her artist mentor, Ronee Penoi '07, chose Carla Gail Wilson '71 as their subject. Wilson, who is Jewish and black, was one of 12 black women in the first group of undergraduate women.

“I was interested in looking at how those identities shape how one exists in a space like Princeton, which especially then [and] still now, but historically has been so rigid, so white, so male, so straight, so normative,” said Allen. “I am personally interested in highlighting stories that haven’t been given [their] due.”

Wilson had a difficult time at Princeton. “We say this is breaking the glass ceiling,” Allen said, “but what does that actually feel like for the person who has to break that glass?” She hoped to capture those feelings in her performance.

After spending time researching,



**“The reason I wanted to do the piece is to help our students to have a sense of themselves.”**

— Jane Cox, director, Program in Theater

the groups met and interviewed their subjects during winter recess. Patricia Chen '20, Rosamond van Wingerden '20, and Gwynn MacDonald '87 traveled to Florida to interview Helena Novakova '72. She had left the former Czechoslovakia for a better life and lived with Professor James Billington '50 and his family during part of her time at the University.

After Princeton, Novakova went into education and taught all over the world. “Walking into her home was like being in a visual installation of this person’s life,” MacDonald said of the collection of items representing the countries Novakova lived in throughout the years. The group spent a weekend with Novakova, collecting about 15 hours of audio material.

Once the spring semester started, most of the students working on the project enrolled in a class held on Friday afternoons. This is when the real work began, said Agins. During that time students focused on workshopping drafts, rewriting scenes, and meeting

with other artists for inspiration — all part of the creative process.

Each week, the documentary-style theater projects continued to take shape. Some groups decided to create scenes or perform poetry and spoken words, while others were creating movement-based performances. There were also several students who were working on a parallel project, to create an archive of all the material they had collected.

The first week of March, the groups gathered for their first run-through of the show. Even though many details were not finalized, it was an opportunity to see the variety of experiences and approaches of these performances in one sitting. Although the stories were very different, common themes emerged, including stories of sexual assault and harassment, feelings of isolation, and definitions of success. This helped them settle on a name for the evening: “All Her Power” — a lyric from the original version of “Old Nassau.”

Performances were originally scheduled to begin April 3, but have been moved to the fall semester following University guidelines for students to leave campus to minimize the risk of the 2019 novel coronavirus. Classes will continue virtually. Cox said groups likely will spend the remainder of the semester finalizing their pieces. ♦ By C.S.

**DIVERSE GROUP OF UNDERGRADS ADMITTED**

The **1,823** students offered admission for the **CLASS OF 2024** make up a racially and ethnically diverse group of high schoolers: Of the accepted students from the United States, **61 percent** self-identified as people of color, which Princeton defines as Asian, black, Hispanic, biracial or multiracial, and other non-white students.

“These students are artists, scientists, athletes, musicians, caregivers, debaters, and much more,” said Dean of Admission Karen Richardson '93. “Most importantly, through their applications, they showed a real desire to engage with others in the types of critical yet respectful discussions that make Princeton a dynamic place.”

About **5.6 percent** of this year’s **32,836** applicants were admitted, down from **5.8 percent** last year and slightly higher than the record low of **5.5 percent** in **2018**. Of those admitted, **20 percent** come from low-income backgrounds, which includes but is not limited to students eligible for federal Pell grants.

The admitted students are **51 percent** women and **49 percent** men; **17 percent** are first-generation college students; **10 percent** are children of Princeton alumni; **63 percent** come from public schools; and **43 percent** were admitted through the early-action program. International students from **64** countries make up **12 percent** of admitted students.

The class size is expected to be **1,308**, which includes a small number of transfer students who will be admitted in mid-May. First-year students have until **May 1** to accept the offer of admission. ♦



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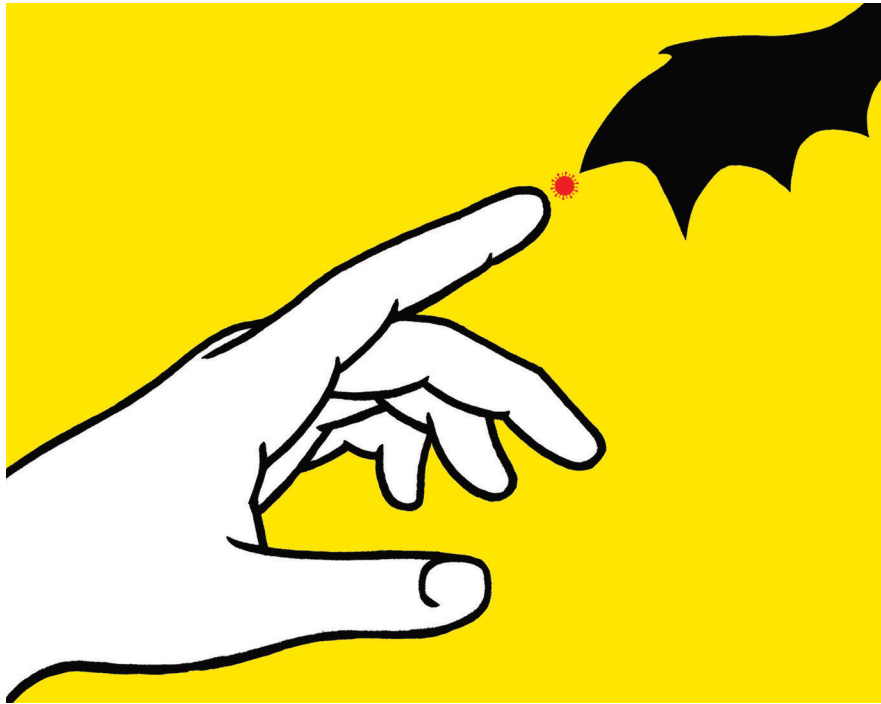


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# Life of the Mind



PUBLIC HEALTH

## ‘An Ongoing Crisis’

COVID-19 started in an animal host; new policy could help prevent the next outbreak

**L**aura Kahn ’02, a physician and research scholar at Princeton’s Woodrow Wilson School, studies the politics of infectious disease, including how leaders can make better decisions during outbreaks and how global-health policy can better prevent and mitigate zoonotic diseases, which are transmitted from animals to humans. These diseases include SARS, Ebola, and now COVID-19. PAW interviewed Kahn in mid-March about how governments should respond to such pandemics and how the world can stop them from happening again.

**What are the most important things for decision-makers to know about the SARS-CoV-2 virus,**

### which causes COVID-19?

First, its origin: The virus is a betacoronavirus, a similar genus to SARS [Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome] and MERS [Middle East Respiratory Syndrome], and one that’s very common in animals. There are several theories as to the host of this disease, but what’s more important is the root cause of why zoonotic diseases emerge. In all cases — SARS, MERS, and now SARS-CoV-2, also Ebola, and variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease — they emerge directly or indirectly because of humanity’s demand for animal protein, specifically in the form of meat.

Second, its case-fatality rate: MERS and SARS had higher fatality rates — about 34

percent and 10 percent — than COVID-19, which currently ranges between .25 percent and 3 percent. It could be even lower, since that number doesn’t include the many asymptomatic cases.

Finally, its spread: Because people, especially healthy children and young adults, generally have milder symptoms, they might be more likely to spread the disease to those who are more vulnerable.

### How do viruses like SARS-CoV-2 jump from animals to humans?

Our most intimate way of interacting with our environment is eating it — through animal protein, dairy, eggs, or even eating plants, you’re always going to risk consuming microbes that might make you sick. We have known for a long time that there are many viruses lurking in the environment, particularly in wild animals. In the case of SARS and COVID-19, these viruses originate in horseshoe bats, and are then spread to humans via other animals. Capturing animals, destroying their habitats, selling them in large, live animal markets, and eating them is a time bomb for more diseases like these to emerge into human populations.

To move from one host species into another, the virus’s surface proteins must be able to recognize and bind to the receptors on the host’s cells. Once the virus enters the cell, it can hijack the cell’s machinery to make new viruses. The SARS-CoV-2 virus uses a human receptor called angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2). It is the same receptor that antihypertensive drugs called ACE inhibitors use. So people taking ACE inhibitors have been advised to talk to their doctors about whether or not they should continue taking them. MERS uses a different receptor.

**What could have been done to prevent a zoonotic pandemic like this from starting in the first place?**

My book *One Health and the Politics of*

*Antimicrobial Resistance*, and the One Health concept that I develop there and elsewhere, shows how human and animal and environmental health are linked. This link may seem obvious, and it has been recognized by indigenous peoples around the world, but in practice, our institutions are strongly speciesist. This is to say, they only care about humans without thinking about other animals. When we do that, we miss a huge part of our world.

In this country, for example, there's no CDC for animals: The USDA cares about food animals, the CDC studies rabies, and the Department of the Interior does some surveillance of fish and wildlife. We need coordinated surveillance of wildlife, domesticated animals, and people to monitor the emergence and spread of diseases. Ideally, we should have a department of animal and environmental health that monitors the health of all animals (companion, livestock, and wildlife) because their microbes impact our microbes. And we need more funding for research on animal health and disease.

In questions of human medicine, vets are generally ignored, even though they have important expertise in many of the problems we face today, from climate change to zoonotic diseases. We need to recognize that animal health is important for our own health and well-being. If we just focus on humans and make assumptions, then we're not going to make any effective policy.

**You've studied how political leaders handle pandemics. How are U.S. leaders handling this one?**

Writing my book *Who's in Charge*, about leadership during public-health crises, I found that whether a political leader like the president or an expert appointee like Dr. Fauci was the face of the government's response to the crisis, it was important for both leaders to act in concert, and for the political leaders to listen to the experts.

At the beginning of this crisis, the U.S. federal government made every mistake you can make. By playing down the severity of the pandemic in early press conferences, President Trump created large swaths of the population who



**Zoonotic diseases “emerge directly or indirectly because of humanity’s demand for animal protein, specifically in the form of meat.”**

— Laura Kahn \*02, research scholar, Woodrow Wilson School

thought it was not as serious as it was. In fact, the CDC's tests were faulty to begin with and slow to roll out, so we have to assume that there are actually many more cases in this country than we know about. And by acting like closing borders would prevent the crisis and calling the virus a “Chinese virus” or “foreign disease,” our leaders created scapegoats, which stigmatizes the disease and makes testing and treatment — and public-health responses like social distancing — even harder.

This president also gutted the CDC; he removed the best experts and the infrastructure that we need to have ready. People forget that these bureaucrats are extremely important in our safety and well-being.

**Will social distancing as practiced currently be enough to slow the outbreak?**

It's hard to predict the future. I'm optimistic about finding an effective drug to treat the infection. However, because the U.S. has been so slow to initiate widespread testing, we will have many more cases than if we had implemented stringent airport screenings, testing, and quarantine. This was a monumental failure of the Trump administration. In the short term, it's going to get worse before it gets better. Largely, state and

local governments have had to step up to the plate and develop their own policies without federal guidance or assistance.

The Constitution places the responsibility of public health on the shoulders of state leaders, and that means the governors are legally in charge during public-health crises. Local governments implement the responses. When the Constitution was written, it was 75 years before the germ theory of disease, and modern medicine didn't exist. The founders had no notion of microbes. Now we know that microbes don't recognize political borders, which is why the national response is so important. But in some ways, we may be better off having public-health leadership as a state and local responsibility with this current crisis.

**What can individuals do to keep the pandemic from spreading in their communities?**

The people who are most at risk are those who are older or with chronic illnesses, and we want these people to be protected as much as possible, which is why everybody should be sheltered in place. We don't want to wait until the hospitals are completely overrun — we want to break the chain of transmission as soon as possible. It's critical to curtail everything: Cancel trips, don't go out, just basically hunker down and break the chain of transmission.

**What can we learn from this pandemic about what we owe one another?**

For the remainder of this crisis, we need to pull together as a community, to remove all stigma of who you are or who you voted for, your race, your religion. This is a national crisis, and a global crisis, so we need to protect one another.

Finally, we need to learn from this pandemic to address the other ongoing crisis, which is climate change. Society is not going to end because of this virus, but climate change has the potential to do that, and we need to be addressing this as such. We need to turn the same sense of urgency we have now in dealing with this pandemic to the ultimate goal of leaving a habitable planet for our kids and for future generations. ♦ *Interview conducted and condensed by Bennett McIntosh '16.*

Courtesy Laura Kahn \*02





PAWCAST WITH ASHOKA MODY

### A Sick Economy

As the COVID-19 pandemic began to seize the globe in late March, PAW recorded a podcast update to a 2019 conversation with Ashoka Mody, a visiting professor in international economic policy. In his book, *EuroTragedy*, Mody detailed the fragility of the European single currency. Now, amid global economic distress, he weighs in on what the coming months will entail.

**Double whammy** We have two crises going on. We have a domestic crisis because people are not able to go to work, people are not able to gather. But because it also gets linked to international trade, that domestic crisis gets amplified into the global economy.

**Cheap debt** The slowing world trade is affecting everybody. We came into this crisis with a large mountain of debt. That debt had accumulated over the last 10 years because interest rates were very low. This is a classic pattern: When interest rates are low, debt levels go up. And they had gone up to historical heights. So, we came into this crisis with a historically high debt burden that affected virtually every country and virtually every kind of borrower. Now, just think of it: You borrowed a gob of money and suddenly you know that over the next year, your income is going to be 10 or 15 percent less than what you thought it was going to be.

There will be people who will begin to default on their debts in the next six to nine months. And when those defaults occur, then the financial system of the world will begin to show strain and anxiety in the [credit] markets. ♦

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# A QUEEN OF COMEDY

Catherine Cohen '13 thinks it's tough to be the voice of her generation

“**B**ring a bottle of water. It's going to be hot in there,” warns Catherine Cohen '13 as she walks through midtown Manhattan on a Wednesday afternoon in July. She's on her way to meet up with fellow comedians to work on a show she's developing. But she's already thinking about the weekly show she'll be hosting in a few hours at Club Cumming, a bar-cabaret hybrid on New York's Lower East Side.

And she's right: When the show opens at 8 p.m., it's hot. Hundreds of hip 20-somethings are packed shoulder-to-shoulder to see Cohen's show, called Cabernet Cabaret. “That's her! Over there!” some shout, pointing, as Cohen

squeezes through the crowd to the stage in the back.

The show is always popular, but this week there's an extra buzz in the air. Two days before, Cohen made her late-night debut on *Late Night with Seth Meyers*. She performed her song “Look at Me” in a silver romper, giant hoop earrings, bright pink lipstick, and her signature cat-eye eyeliner.

She opens her show at Club Cumming as she usually does, coyly approaching the microphone and singing an elongated “Hellooooo,” before turning to the audience to say, in mock surprise, “Oh my God, I have an amazing voice!” Then she begins “Look at Me,” and the crowd goes wild. It's her most recognizable tune: A video of her singing it went viral on Twitter in 2018.

“Boys never wanted to kiss me/  
So now I do comedy.  
Boys never wanted to kiss me/  
So I need all of you to look at me ...”

She sways from side to side as she sings. Her fans sing right back at her, inches from her face.

Cohen has been steadily building her following as a comedian and cabaret performer, and is best known for writing and performing original songs with her collaborator, composer Henry Koperski, on the piano. Then, in 2019, she had a breakout year. Shows at Club Cumming and Joe's Pub, a music venue that's part of the nonprofit Public Theater, sold out. There was the *Seth Meyers* appearance in July and, in August, 28 shows in 26 days at the famous Edinburgh Fringe Festival, where Cohen was named Best Newcomer. She spends her days at auditions for voice-overs and television and film roles and at meetings with casting directors and producers.

This month she's making her film debut with a small role in the comedy *The Lovebirds*.

In the short, breezy songs she sings in her shows, Cohen's sexuality — and her anxieties — are front and center: As Lara Zarum wrote in *The Village Voice* in 2018, the “dominant tone is a kind of self-contempt laced through with humblebrags: I'm such a mess; isn't it adorable?” — all sung with a beautiful, versatile voice that takes on different personalities. Cohen croons about being a young single woman in New York: about the thrill of attending cocktail parties, about what it would be like to murder a handsy date, about shopping for comfortable jeans when you're slightly overweight. “It's hard being the voice of my gen!” she says, before launching into a song about envying women who look better than she does even though they've had children.

Cohen is “the millennial paradox made flesh, and set to music,” wrote Brian Logan in *The Guardian* after her Edinburgh run. “Her act is a dance of death between self-love and neurosis sequined and staged ...”

Cohen didn't grow up dreaming of a life in comedy, but she did know she was born to perform. Being funny seemed more like a way of life than a career path, she says. Her parents are funny, she says, and humor was always encouraged at home.

“I remember doing accents and imitating commercials back when I was really young, like 4, 5,” she says. She first realized she had singing talent in third grade, in Houston, when she had a solo in a school musical. By the time she was a middle-schooler, she was pulling off practical jokes and creating imaginary characters. At home, she and her friends would



Catherine Cohen '13 was a hit on *Late Night with Seth Meyers* in July.

tape themselves performing in character. At school, she says, she was a “literal terror.” “We were always laughing, always screaming so loud,” she says. “We’d get in so much trouble for laughing in class.” She and her friends spent their weekends making prank phone calls — to the Blockbuster video shop, local restaurants, the houses of friends. “We had this one character called Pauline, who worked at Best Buy and said, ‘Your computer is ready to be picked up.’ They weren’t even jokes. Just weird voices,” Cohen says.

She attended Christian schools and sleepaway camp in the summer; she spent most of her free time at Bible study and youth group. That time in her life informed a lot of the comedy she does today, including her latest song, “Hit by a Bus,” in which she reckons with feeling guilty about her sex life. “I was taught that I should save myself for marriage in this church group I was a part of,” she says. The song is mostly improvised, but it’s about thinking she could get hit by a bus, so she might as well do what she wants.

Cohen followed her father, venture capitalist Jim Cohen ’86, to Princeton, where she majored in English and earned a certificate in theater. She sang in the co-ed a cappella group Shere Khan, starred in the Triangle show, and appeared in plays and musicals with the Princeton University Players and Theatre Intime. In 2013, she played a lead role in a concert version of the musical *Kiss Me, Kate* for her theater certificate and wrote about “the poetry of nostalgia” for her thesis in English.

She says she fell deeply in love with poetry during her time at Princeton. She still reads and writes poetry and sometimes performs it, though it’s not what she studied on campus:

POEM I WROTE AFTER MY THERAPIST GOT MAD AT ME FOR THINKING EVERYONE IS MAD AT ME

I just found out dog isn’t short for something it’s  
actually just called a dog which is fine with me  
I’m in the kitchen alone  
which is romantic in a way  
anything can be romantic if you sigh a lot  
one time I told this guy I loved him and  
he said “I don’t know what love is” anyways  
he just got engaged

She was a hit as a Class Day speaker the day before her Princeton Commencement, giving an address that likely made parents and the University administrators on the dais blush. Her fellow students made her feel inadequate, she joked: Though she felt good in social situations, “when the conversation turned to politics or philosophy, I’d freeze up in fear of sounding stupid. I now know that Senegal is a country, and that you can say ‘Kant’ out loud.” Like most Class Day speakers over the years, she thanked her classmates and professors: “Thank you to all of you going into finance. While you were interviewing at Goldman Sachs, I was auditioning for an Amish musical at a dinner theater in rural Ohio. Thank you to my thesis adviser. My poetry analysis quickly became a 90-page book about my feelings, and you had to read it.” You can see her give her address at [bit.ly/cohen-classday](http://bit.ly/cohen-classday).

Listening, her father, Jim Cohen, found her performance hilarious, and “way more exciting” than his own Class Day celebration, when seniors threw clay pipes on Cannon Green. “Things changed!” he says.

After graduation, Cohen moved to New York City and started

performing sketch comedy at the Upright Citizens Brigade, one of the country’s best-known improvisational theaters. She supported herself by working as a voice-over artist on commercials while performing comedy cabaret at night.

**Today, Cohen’s sexuality is a regular topic in her cabaret show, and it’s the main subject of her podcast, “Seek Treatment,”** which she has hosted with her best friend, comedian Pat Regan, since July 2018. The two hosts are joined by a different comedian guest every week; the three discuss their sex and dating lives. “My life and my work, they’re the same thing,” Cohen says. When she’s involved with someone, she’ll refer to him in abstract terms — but once the relationship is over, everything’s fair game. “Because of the nature of the podcast, our friendship has become content,” says Regan.

In her shows, Cohen strikes a balance between relatable and aspirational, earning a fanbase mostly comprising millennial women. “Part of me thinks when someone who doesn’t look like a supermodel succeeds, it’s more exciting because people see themselves in that person,” Cohen says. In July, she told an interviewer for *NowThis* that while she doesn’t talk about politics in her show, her act is political. Women’s stories need to be told, she said. And not just the stories of skinny women: “I just think we should have a movie where the romantic lead is a woman who weighs more than 150 pounds — and it’s not discussed — and that’s just how it is,” she says.

The frankness with which Cohen discusses her body and sexuality can feel shocking. “It’s so ridiculous, isn’t it?” says Jill Dolan, Princeton’s dean of the College and a leading feminist cultural critic. “That in 2020 we still have to be worrying about things like that somehow being radical.” Dolan, who has seen videos of Cohen’s work online, says she admires Cohen for “taking those risks and pushing the envelope.”

Cohen says she took inspiration from Lena Dunham and her HBO show, *Girls*, whose frequent nudity and explicit sex scenes were both criticized and lauded throughout the show’s six seasons. “I remember being in my dorm room in Princeton, and watching the pilot of *Girls*, and just being like, ‘I can’t believe she’s putting it all out there like this,’” Cohen says. “I felt so seen, so inspired, and so moved by that. That was a very formative moment, seeing her showing herself and her sexuality unapologetically.”

Seeing Dunham’s work gave her permission to speak about her own body, she says. “I was forced to kind of repress that persona,” she says. “I felt so much shame about it for so long that now I’m almost making up for lost time.” One of her goals, Cohen says, is to encourage younger women to understand and explore their sexuality without shame. “I never had a big sister,” she explains. “I remember being in the locker room at school and eavesdropping, trying to figure out what other girls do ...” She’d like to be that older-sister figure for other women, broaching sensitive and uncomfortable topics in a fun, relatable way.

The shock inherent in Cohen’s material may be softened by the simple fact of her singing it rather than speaking it, Dolan says. Audiences aren’t used to hearing women speak about their bodies and sexuality, but singing can make those messages more palatable, she suggests. “Training authorizes people with good voices to use them in certain ways,” Dolan



Cohen performs at Joe's Pub in New York City in 2019.

says. “She uses her voice to empower herself to do things that she couldn’t do if she didn’t have the voice, and that is really important.”

**It’s a motley crew on this July night in New York,** with a lineup featuring an amateur magician and a teenage stand-up comedian who had to be escorted into the 21-and-over venue by her mother. Cohen introduces each of the other performers, singing a song or two between their sets.

There’s little reaction from the audience as the pianist starts to play her second song of the night, about wanting to be invited as a plus-one to all events. “OK, the crowd goes wild,” Cohen says, sarcastically. The crowd actually does go wild for that. “You don’t have to be like that,” she says, playing coy. “I’m not trying to change you. I accept you!” By the time she starts to sing, the audience is laughing.

The show at Club Cumming runs late into the night. After a few of the evening’s acts, Cohen has to work for the crowd’s attention, but overall, the evening is a success. “I’m zen and happy and proud,” she says when it’s over.

A few weeks after that show, Cohen traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland, where she and pianist Koperski performed for thousands of people. Cohen found Edinburgh vibrant and exciting, with people who embraced what she had to offer: It was, she says, “so magical.” But the pace was relentless.

Performing nearly every night was the hardest thing she had ever done: “Just the stamina it requires, vocally, and trying to keep myself healthy in that environment where it’s freezing, raining, surrounded by drunk people, and everyone’s sharing a microphone,” she says. She learned a lot about her craft and her show: what wasn’t working and should be trimmed, how to riff more easily with the crowd.

In November, Cohen suffered a vocal hemorrhage. Her doctor prescribed two weeks of complete vocal rest: no singing, no talking, no whispering. She was forced to cancel shows in Chicago and London. She was silent. “It was hell,” she says.

Still, she managed to perform, using text-to-speech technology on her smartphone. She planned a grueling schedule for 2020, with shows across the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom. The coronavirus cut that short, and in March she moved Cabernet Cabaret from Club Cumming to Instagram — you can tune in live at 8 p.m. Wednesdays at @catccohen. (She asks those who like the show to donate to a food bank.) And there are other projects in the works: Cohen wrote a book of humorous poems that will be published in the spring of 2021, she’s developing her first scripted show, and a one-hour stand-up special will premiere next winter.

What’s next? Cohen replies with one word: “More.” ♦

*Alexis Kleinman ’12 is a writer and editor based in New York City.*



# *Far From Home, an Assault*

**I**n my sophomore year at Princeton, I decided — like many Tigers — to participate in a study-abroad program. As an English major with an insatiable passion for Shakespeare, my decision to apply as a year-long visiting student to Worcester College, Oxford, felt instinctive. I spent the summer of 2012 prior to my scholarly sojourn dreaming of Shakespeare productions at the Swan, European travels, and hours of essay-writing in the Radcliffe Camera.

All of these visions came true. I fell easily into Oxonian life, relishing the emphasis on independent study and developing a network of friendships that remains, today, one of my most cherished. I became a Bodleian regular, participated in various theater productions, and gorged myself on clotted cream and scones. Life away from Princeton felt rewarding and vivid, and I sensed that this extraordinary year at Oxford would prepare me for my final year at Princeton in a way no other institution could.

It certainly did, but not simply from an academic perspective.

Oxford's trimester schedule offers students a luxurious six weeks of holiday between terms, so in March 2013, I purchased a Eurail Pass, filled a small backpack, and set off on a monthlong, solo wander about Europe. I meandered in a somewhat predictable fashion through Austria, Germany, the Czech Republic, and, finally Italy, my journal bulging with train-ride

musings, and my cheap little Kodak camera filled with images of churches, bridges, and spires.

The steep exchange rate in Britain at the time meant that these travels were on a veritable shoestring: Between hostel stays, I relied on CouchSurfing, a platform that connects travelers with local hosts for free accommodation. At the time, this growing fixture of the still-burgeoning sharing economy felt too good to be true; I met several individuals who had devoted the better part of the last decade to hosting travelers and eagerly sharing their cities, all without receiving a cent. Given this track record, I assumed the host I met in Padua, Italy, an Italian police officer with several years' accumulation of five-star reviews, came from the same mold of altruistic people. Yet this individual, after a day of friendly sightseeing near Venice, offered me a cup of chamomile tea spiked with a high dose of surgical anesthetic and raped me, likely repeatedly, in the 36 hazy hours that followed.

I managed to escape eventually, although still under influence of the drug; I traveled to Prague and then London, where friends urged me to report the assault to Scotland Yard. Unknown to me, the witness statement I filed in England would signal the starting point of a grueling seven-year journey in pursuit of international justice: I'd learn in 2015 that my rapist had similarly assaulted at least 14 other women travelers, and these survivors and I have spent the last four years urging legal

Traci Dabenko



# Why I'm sharing my story about rape and study abroad

By Kate McGunagle '14

action in the slow-paced, patriarchal court of Padua.

Upon my return from Oxford to Princeton, I remained virtually silent about what had happened. In fact, I have not shared my story with the Princeton community in any full capacity in the seven years since I was assaulted, despite the profound extent to which this crime has impacted my academic performance, emotional well-being, and professional aspirations.

There are several reasons why I remained mute. First, as a visiting student, I received relatively little guidance prior to and during my time at Oxford from either Worcester or Princeton; I coordinated my plane travel, student visa, medical insurance, and tuition payments largely independently. I felt, for this reason, quite alone in the United Kingdom, unattached in multiple respects. In the wake of the crime, I was only dimly aware of the resources available to me, and credit much of the action I took to the support of my friends, who themselves contacted local police and coordinated a rape exam. I placed one call to Princeton University Health Services, yet do not recall receiving any advice beyond consolation that I was likely doing everything I could.

My geographic distance from my alma mater, inability to confide in the majority of my Oxonian peers about my assault, and blurred recollections of rape cohered into one belief: Perhaps I had not *really* been raped after all. This confused conviction — a dangerous one many survivors nevertheless

hold — lingered throughout my final year at Princeton, keeping me away from resources I had no idea were mine to use. I did not know, for example, that study-abroad incidents like mine are covered under Title IX policy. I also presumed that such a story did not fit the Princeton I'd come to know — one that emphasized forward intellectual motion and a kind of buoyancy of learning and did not have time for sordid stories like this one.

I find that there is a place at Princeton, however, for this story: I'm sharing it now because I feel it adds significant dimension to conversations already taking place about sexual misconduct and violence at Princeton and abroad. I join my voice to those others urging more effective, robust, and survivor-oriented resources and reporting processes for on-campus Tigers who have experienced sexual violence in any capacity. Yet I argue further — I ask for such changes to apply to *any* Princeton student who experiences sexual violence, on *and* off-campus. This includes international students at Princeton.

I want to ensure that adequate infrastructure — emotional, academic, fiscal, and legal — is in place for survivors like myself. And, more importantly, I want to do everything I can to minimize and eliminate future cases like mine. The University briefly addressed sexual misconduct abroad in its most recent Joint Committee report. Yet I was dismayed at its footnote declaration that “in the rare instances that sexual misconduct

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## *Mentions of sexual violence and what to do in a dangerous situation abroad were not components of my orientation prior to arriving in Oxford.*

abroad has been reported, it has most often involved ‘street harassment’ by strangers.” Suggesting that the only sexual danger students face abroad is in the form of street catcalls not only perpetuates a dangerous myth, it also reiterates a rape culture that minimizes survivor experiences and presumes that most perpetrators are unknown to assault victims (in truth, eight of 10 rapes are committed by someone known to the victim). I stand with the students who claim that the Joint Committee report’s discussion of sexual misconduct abroad is inadequate and disregards the personal testimonies of impacted Princetonians.

It is not my intention to direct blame at anyone or any department, especially as what I wish to address appears to be a universal issue. I am adamant about using my case as a means of positively evolving what I feel is one of the most admirable higher-education institutions in the nation. In my own research and conversations, I find many people are reluctant even to discuss the *risk* of violence, sexual or otherwise, that students face when traveling abroad. International orientation programs at universities *may* discuss resources available to students who are victims of crimes abroad, but this is by no means ubiquitous. Mentions of sexual violence and what to do in a dangerous situation abroad were not components of my orientation prior to arriving in Oxford; the most helpful item I received was a document with “translations” between American and British English. This is why I hope to inspire a new conversation on campus and within the alumni community: one that is frank about the intersection of rape culture and international travel and strives to provide adequate resources to student travelers before and during their programs.

I am also speaking up out of solidarity with my fellow Princeton survivors on the heels of a powerful #MeToo movement that, as we are learning, does not spare anyone,

including those advantaged with an Ivy League education. I think there is an assumption out there that “privilege” — a loaded term, but one worth mentioning here — is a security blanket against heinous crime, but this assumption wildly misses the mark of reality.

I’m lucky to say that, in the years since my visit to Oxford, I’ve achieved what many call justice. As of June 2019, my fellow plaintiffs and I helped convict a serial rapist to 13 years in prison, a scant but groundbreaking sentence in the history of the Italian legal system. Scripps’ Washington bureau has documented this experience in “Verified,” a podcast (<https://bit.ly/verified-pod>) that was released on Feb. 24 through Stitcher, and I have documented my perspectives of that significant year in a memoir. I have also, in collaboration with another survivor from my case, launched Women International, an initiative that will advocate for safe, empowered travel among young people and ultimately provide financial resources to survivors of violence abroad who elect to seek justice. I am hoping that Women International’s first steps can begin at Princeton.

I came to Princeton from a small, underserved community in Montana, a wide-eyed kid hungry for everything; Princeton empowered me with the knowledge of infinite possibility and every scholar’s capacity to change the world for the better. It was not in the lines of Shakespeare that I would find such a capacity on my own, yet I do not grieve this fact; I am only all the more emboldened to open the door for survivor empowerment, global accountability, and voices that very much need to be heard. ♦



*Kate McGunagle '14 is a writer and artist based in Bozeman, Montana.*

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## Sexual Assault Abroad: A University Response

**PAW asked Michele Minter, vice provost for institutional equity and diversity, for an update on how Princeton is addressing this issue:**

I am deeply saddened to learn of Ms. McGunagle’s experience while studying abroad. The University seeks to support any member of the campus community who has experienced sexual misconduct. Here is some information regarding Princeton’s approach to reducing travel-related risks and increasing support related to sexual misconduct.

For all members of the campus community, the Policy on Sex Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct remains in effect during University-sponsored programs or activities such

as travel, as does access to campus resources and reporting options. This includes 24-hour on-call access to the Sexual Harassment/Assault Advising, Resources and Education (SHARE) office, which is a survivor-centered, trauma-informed confidential resource that provides crisis response, support, advocacy, education, and referral services. In 2019, a new Global Safety and Security unit was created within the Office of the Associate Provost for International Affairs and Operations, which will provide additional support for travelers. This will include increased educational resources and support for travelers prior to departure as well as crisis-response services during their time away from campus.

The University provides training to students who will be studying abroad and to faculty/staff accompanying such trips, including providing information about sexual misconduct and how to seek assistance. We are in the process of expanding this training and developing additional best practices for travel, including field work, conferences, and independent research.

Princeton’s efforts to reduce risk and increase support related to sexual misconduct are an ongoing project, and there is still more to be done. Individuals who would like to learn about this important work may reach out to my office. We share Ms. McGunagle’s commitment to trying to make sure that no campus community member has such an experience in the future. ♦



# PRINCETONIANS



Members of the Class of 1970 line up between Nassau and Stanhope halls before the 2018 P-rade.

## REUNIONS CANCELED

# NO GOIN' BACK

*Alumni weigh in on the decision to cancel Reunions and discuss a possible make-up celebration*

Days after alumni got the news in March that Reunions would not take place as scheduled because of the COVID-19 outbreak, major-reunion chairs and other class leaders were anxious to propose a suitable make-up event.

“Our hope ... is that our 25th reunion will be postponed until May 2021,” Reunions co-chairs Bryce Dakin '95 and Rick Corcoran '95 wrote in a letter to their class. “Speaking personally, we are getting increasingly excited to be a part of what would be the biggest P-rade and Reunions ever,” they added, alluding to a much-discussed suggestion of a combined celebration with next year’s major Reunions classes.

Considerations for an alternative

gathering were ongoing, Deputy Vice President for Alumni Engagement Alexandra Day '02 said in an email in March. She noted that Princeton is “currently exploring options for how we will celebrate our community in 2021 and beyond,” adding that the University hoped to share updates “in coming months.”

Perhaps no class has had worse luck with Princeton rites of passage than the Class of 1970, which was due to celebrate its 50th reunion this year. In its final semester, classes were canceled because students went on strike after the Kent State shootings and President Richard Nixon’s invasion of Cambodia. According to reunion-book editor Jack Wilmer '70, about 90

percent of the class “ditched cap and gown and wore armbands with a peace symbol” at Commencement. There was no Senior Prom or Senior Step Sing, Wilmer recalled, and most classmates sat out their first P-rade in protest of the Vietnam War. “So 2020 is a coda,” he said.

Two days after learning his 50th was canceled — at least for now — Reunions chair Bruce Millman '70 wrote to his classmates: “I’m sure you were all disappointed, to say the least. Discouraged. Frustrated.” But he followed up: “One of my partners (Class of '73) sympathized this week that we were the class of cicadas and viruses,” he said referring to the cacophonous bugs that made their presence well-known throughout 1970’s Commencement. “Well, we turned the cicadas into a Reunions theme that has resonated and created P-rade excitement for at least 30 years! We will not be daunted by a virus.” The Brood X cicadas, which resurface every 17 years, are due to hum again in 2021.

Despite their disappointment, class leaders — and presumably most alumni — had no question that canceling the celebration this year was the right call, especially with social-distancing guidelines in effect in New Jersey indefinitely. The major-reunion classes of 2010, 1995, and 1970 overwhelmingly met news of this year’s cancellation with resigned acceptance, according to those Reunions chairs and class leaders.

“For most of us in our class and myself, we thought this was the inevitable and correct decision,” said George Bustin '70, the class co-president.

Class of 2010 Reunions co-chair Meaghan Byrne '10 said in an email: “We’re obviously super disappointed not to be able to celebrate this year, but the health of the alumni community,

**“In a Season of Unrest/  
Amid the Crossfires of  
the Left and Right/  
We Found Here/  
In Gothic Halls and in  
the Goodness of Friends/  
The Keep of Reason/  
And the Steadying Bond  
of Community.”**

— Robert R. Cullinane '70; inscribed  
at the Class of 1970 Plaza on  
Washington Road

our friends, family, and the wider public comes first.”

Reunions, which draws some 25,000 alumni and guests to campus, had been scheduled for May 28–31. It has been called off in 1917, 1918, 1943, 1944, and 1945 since its inception in 1859 — each time, until now, because of a world war. The so-called Victory Reunion in 1946 saw a then-record attendance of 7,300 alumni. That momentous gathering, with its robust participation, is today seen as the first of the modern Reunions.

While some classes may face financial losses, some class leaders — including Bustin and Dakin — were optimistic that vendors would be understanding and cooperative, and they did not expect to incur large costs.

Bustin, who has been on conference calls with reunion chairs, class officers, the Alumni Council, and the Alumni Engagement office, agreed that the ideal do-over would be next May. “I predict that we will, as an alumni body, have Reunions. When and exactly how we have them remains to be seen,” he said. “But I’m confident we will find a way to celebrate together when it is safe to do so.”

His classmate Millman noted that it’s not the party that makes Reunions meaningful, but the connections to each other and to Princeton. “The attachment doesn’t disappear just because we’re not all congregating in the same place at the same time, wearing funny jackets, listening to oldies, and drinking beer,” he wrote. “Please let’s not be disheartened. Let’s stay healthy, be grateful for our time together at Old Nassau, and look to the future — with one accord rejoicing still.” ♦ By C.C.

Q&A: R. GORDON DOUGLAS '55

# WHAT THE ROAD TO A VACCINE LOOKS LIKE



As confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) surged worldwide in March, PAW spoke with infectious-disease specialist R. Gordon Douglas '55, former president of Merck’s Vaccine Division, about prospects for development and manufacture of a vaccine for the new virus, about epidemiology, and about bigger questions for the future.

**How has the medical/research part of the outbreak been handled?**

In defining the virus, in getting a good start on anti-viral treatment and vaccine development, we’ve done a heck of a job. But because we haven’t done a sufficient number of diagnostic tests, we don’t know how many people are infected and how many people should be quarantined.

**Do medicines help?**

Anti-virals are easier than vaccines to develop, and they take less time. The fastest way to effective medicines is to learn through testing that a drug being used for another condition is safe and effective. Another way is to test a drug that was effective against SARS — for example, a drug made by Gilead is being tested right now against COVID-19; even if proved effective, such drugs wouldn’t be in sufficient supply for use this spring. The best we can hope is that they might be useful in a subsequent outbreak.

**What makes vaccine development more or less challenging?**

The quickest path to a successful vaccine is to use a technology already approved for another infection, or a technique that worked for SARS. I’m optimistic because there was development on a SARS vaccine that looked promising, but it didn’t reach the licensing phase because the SARS virus disappeared. One problem with some vaccines in testing is that they are trying technology that is entirely new. That’s an enormous hurdle.

**If we can make a vaccine, when would it be ready?**

If you do really, really well, the total time from now to getting a vaccine is about two years — and that is *really* fast. There are a number of vaccine efforts underway, with some going into clinical trials shortly — some by commercial companies, some at NIH, some at small biotech companies.

**What factors keep vaccine development from accelerating?**

If the infection goes away, for example, the flu recedes in summer, you can’t test a vaccine. That likely won’t happen with this virus; it’s seeded so widely. Generally, vaccine development requires sequential stages of clinical testing, and simultaneously, development of reliable, consistent methods of manufacturing the product. After each stage and sub-stage, we analyze the data and reach a go/no-go decision point. All of this takes time and in later stages becomes very expensive. The average cost of developing a vaccine is about \$1 billion; usually the private sector is not going to invest unless they think it’s going to be successful. ♦ Interview conducted and condensed by Karla Cook



READ a longer version of R. Gordon Douglas’ Q&A at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

# CLASS NOTES

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

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# MEMORIALS

**PAW posts a list of recent alumni deaths at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu). Go to Reader Services on PAW's home page and click on the link "Recent Alumni Deaths." The list is updated with each new issue.**

## THE CLASS OF 1944



### L. Talbot Adamson '44

Tal died June 17, 2019, at home in Gladwyne, Pa.

Tal came to us from St. Paul's School in New Hampshire, where he was active in football, hockey, squash, baseball, and track, as well as the Library Association. At Princeton he majored in chemical engineering. He was active in hockey and track, receiving award letters. Tal was a member of Charter Club and the Varsity Club. He roomed all four years with his twin brother, William.

During World War II he served in the Navy in the South Pacific. When he returned to the United States he joined the Bakelite Co., followed by service at the Taylor Fibre Corp. in Valley Forge, Pa. He worked with Howard Head to design the Head skis and was also involved with the development of the Common Market in Europe.

Tal is survived by his wife, Maisie; his daughter, Sabina Wood; son Talbot and his wife, Jacqueline; stepsons Richard Storey III and his wife, Lily, and Peter Storey and his wife, Merin; grandsons Harrison and Alexander Wood, and David, Timothy, and Alexander Storey; granddaughter Lydia Storey; and two great-granddaughters. He was preceded in death by his brother, William.



### Albert A. Bingham '44

Al died June 6, 2019, in Fayetteville, N.Y.

He came to us from The Hill School, where he was active in football and track. He was also on the *Hill School News*. At Princeton he majored in economics, played 150-pound football, ran cross country, and was on the executive committee of the 1944 Memorial Fund. As president of Elm Club, he was also on the Interclub Committee.

Al served in the Navy in the South Pacific with the carrier task forces. He joined MONY and worked in various capacities in various cities for his entire career. He served on many community boards and took up sailing in each

place. He also golfed and skied, but sailing was his most-prized activity.

Al was predeceased by his wife of 68 years, Ginny. He is survived by daughter Cheryl and son Gary.



### F. Hayden Bradley '44

Brad died July 14, 2019, in Highland Park, Ill. He was 97.

He entered Princeton from Mount Herman School, where he was active in hockey, football, and tennis, and was also a member of the National Honor Society and the National Athletic Scholarship Society.

At Princeton Brad majored in history, was on the hockey team and on the executive committee of the rugby team, was vice president of the University Press Club, and belonged to Dial Lodge.

During World War II he was a 3-29 navigator in the Air Force.

He was a United Press correspondent and managing editor of newspapers in Kalispel, Mont., and Carbondale, Ill., before becoming city editor for 31 years in Springfield, Ill., where he took the newsroom into the digital age.

Brad was predeceased by his wife of 69 years, Carol. He is survived by his daughter, Anne Fyk, and her husband, Walter; and grandson Michael.



### Karl H. Cerny '44

Karl died Nov. 11, 2019, in Arlington, Va. He was 97.

He prepared for Princeton at Richmond Hill School, where he was active in intramural sports, the orchestra, and student government. At Princeton he majored in politics, was a member of the orchestra, and was vice president of Court Club. He earned a master's degree and a Ph.D. from Yale, as well as a certificate in European studies from the Sorbonne in Paris. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Sigma Alpha.

Karl's career at Georgetown University went from 1950 to 2019 as he rose from instructor

to professor emeritus. His major teaching areas were German politics and federalism. He served on many committees as well as being department chair. He was a scholar with the CIA, a consultant with the Department of State, and a Fulbright lecturer, among other honors.

Karl was a prolific publisher, writing mainly about Germany's various institutions, the Common Market, and the countries of Scandinavia.

He was predeceased by his wife, Constance Lark. Karl is survived by his sons, Karl '73, John, and Tim; his daughter, Mary; and several grandchildren.



### George McC. Gibbs '44

George died Nov. 11, 2019, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was born Sept. 25, 1922, in Sewickley, Pa.

He prepared for Princeton at Sewickley Academy and Andover, where he was active in soccer and track. At Princeton George majored in economics and was on the soccer team and the news board of *The Daily Princetonian*; he was president of the Intramural Athletic Association and a member of the Undergraduate Council and Cloister Inn.

He entered the field artillery in 1943 and came back to Princeton in 1946 to graduate. He then entered banking and securities.

For the last 20 years, he served the Class of '44 as class section chair, special-gifts solicitor, and class treasurer from 2009 to 2019. He loved golf and tennis and played both most of his life.

George was predeceased by his wife, Sally. He is survived by his children, George McC. Gibbs Jr., Gary Q. Gibbs, and Patricia Gibbs Jackson; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

## THE CLASS OF 1945

### William R. Haley '45

Will grew up in Worcester and Middlesex counties in Massachusetts and attended Exeter Academy. At Princeton he was in the St. Paul's Society, on the Class Day Committee, and a member of Tiger Inn. He graduated *magna cum laude* in the humanities. He earned an LL.B. from Harvard, a Docteur en Droit from the University of Paris, and a Diplome de L'Academie de Droit International from The Hague.

In World War II he was a private Army quartermaster corps purser, U.S. Merchant Marine. He married Marguerite Jamieson. In 1970 he lost his only brother, James F. Haley '50, when James drowned off Long Island attempting to rescue Will, who was caught in a heavy undertow.

Will was legislative counsel to Sen. John S. Cooper of Kentucky and a member of the National Transportation Safety Board.

He served on the legal staffs of the Federal Trade Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission, and was chairman of the U.S. delegation to the international conference in Montreal on revising procedures for investigation of international aviation accidents. He was minority counsel to the House Administration Committee and counsel to the Republican members of the Senate Public Works Committee. He was also an attorney in the foreign department of Mobil Oil Corp.

In 1981 Will shifted to portfolio management at Johnston, Lemon and Co. He lectured at St. John's University. He established the James F. Haley Memorial Lectures given biennially by the art and archeology department at Princeton University, and an annual lecture series on literary subjects at Phillips Exeter, in memory of his brother. He endowed a lecture series at the Worcester Art Museum in memory of his parents.

Will died June 28, 2017. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite; daughter Amelia; son Hutch; and two grandchildren.

#### Richard B. Ragland '45

Dick was born in New York City, grew up in Paris, Mo., and graduated from Beverly Hills High School in Beverly Hills, Calif. At Princeton he was a member of the Triangle Club, Whig-Clio, and Dial Lodge and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

He enlisted in World War II and had the highest security clearance at the time, BIGOT (British Invasion of German Occupied Territory). He was on the staff of Gen. Omar Bradley as an aerial-photograph interpreter for Operation Overlord, and went ashore at Normandy with him. He remained on the general's staff through four more campaigns: Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes, and Central Europe, earning the EAMET Campaign Medal with five Bronze Service Stars and the rank of staff sergeant.

After the war he returned to Princeton, graduating *cum laude*, and attended Harvard Law School. He worked at O'Melveny & Myers in Los Angeles, handling high-profile clients such as Doris Duke. He returned to Missouri after the Sylmar/San Fernando earthquake to live with his mother in Chesterfield. He joined the Webster Groves Christian Church, where he met Dick Marshall, who made him a partner in his new law firm, Marshall, Littman, and Ragland, in Clayton. He was on the Salvation Army Advisory Board and was a member of the St. Louis Club.

He died Feb. 13, 2019. He was predeceased by his brother, Dr. John Elliott Ragland '44. He is survived by his nephew, Richard B. Ragland II; his niece, Jennie Ragland; his cousins, Howard Short and Phyllis Short Jeter; and his godson, Samuel Mudd III.

#### Mark A. Whitman '45

Bud grew up in Philadelphia and attended Penn Charter School. At Princeton he played freshman soccer and track. He received the Keene Fitzpatrick Medal and was a member of Tower Club.

During World War II he was a medical student in the Army Specialized Training Program. He graduated *cum laude* in biology and earned a medical degree from Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia. He took a one-year rotating internship, followed by a two-year residency in pediatrics at Hahnemann. While awaiting a call into the service he had a fellowship under the American Academy of Pediatrics at the Montgomery and Phoenixville hospitals in Pennsylvania.

Bud was in the Army Medical Corps until 1954, obtaining the rank of captain. He attended the Medical Field Service School, was assigned to Camp Stoneman, and went to Sasebo and Kumamoto, both in Kyushu, Japan.

After the war he taught pediatrics at Hahnemann and went into private practice. He was on staff at Chestnut Hill and Germantown hospitals, and chief of service at the latter. He was a member of the Philadelphia Pediatric Society, serving as a board of directors member and treasurer. He was a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, the Pennsylvania State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association.

Bud published numerous articles on pediatrics in medical journals. He died Dec. 28, 2018, and is survived by his son, Christopher.

#### THE CLASS OF 1949



#### Peter R. Brock '49

Pete died Feb. 19, 2019, in Lebanon, N.H. He had lived across the river, in Woodstock, Vt., since 2012, following his retirement from DuPont and a few years in Britain as founder and head of Fairville Medical Optics, a firm devoted to neurological research on Alzheimer's disease.

Pete came to campus from Princeton High School and majored in chemical engineering. He rowed, was a vice president of the Student Council, and belonged to the Science Club, the Greek Club, the 21 Club, and Tiger Inn. After graduation he joined DuPont, his employer for the next 32 years, where he was a research chemist, research and development specialist (in explosives, among other things), and division manager, here and abroad.

Pete married Jennifer Mertens, Mike Huber's cousin, in 1953, and they had Peter, Trudi, Ellen, and Steven in short order. In our 25th-reunion yearbook, they were reportedly living in Brussels (still with DuPont) and announced a fifth child, Valerie.

In addition to being a proud husband,

father, and grandfather of 19, Pete was an avid sailor, farmer, inventor, world traveler, and philanthropist. We admire his special talents, appreciate his life, and offer condolences to his extended family.

#### THE CLASS OF 1953

#### Merlin Emery Ellinger Jr. '53

Born in Hagerstown, Md., El came to Princeton from Culver Military Academy. He majored in history and was a member of Campus Club.

After graduation, he served three years in Tokyo, Japan, with the Army Security Agency and then entered Columbia University's School of Business, where he earned an MBA. El spent the next four years working in investment banking and then moved South to work in the investment banking and securities industry in Atlanta.

After 1971, El moved into commercial and residential real-estate development and property management in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. He was also active in Republican Party affairs and served as a delegate to the 1988 Republican National Convention in New Orleans. El and his wife were longtime members of numerous clubs and organizations in Atlanta, including the Atlanta History Center, Atlanta Botanical Garden, the High Museum of Art, the Georgia Conservancy, the Georgia Trust, and the Nature Conservancy, as well as longtime members of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta.

El died Sept. 22, 2019, at his home in Atlanta. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Patricia; five children; and six grandchildren.

#### THE CLASS OF 1954



#### David W. Bradley Jr. '54

Dave died peacefully Jan. 15, 2020, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

He came to us from Greensboro (N.C.) High School, and joined Cloister Inn. An avid bridge player, he was on the championship team at the National Collegiate Duplicate Bridge Tournament. He majored in economics, graduating *summa cum laude*.

Dave served 22 years in the Navy, during which he served as an NROTC instructor at Auburn University, a P5 Marlin pilot off the waters of Japan, and CIC officer on the aircraft carrier USS *America* during the Vietnam War.

After retiring with the rank of commander, Dave worked for RCA and General Electric in New Jersey, helping to develop the Aegis combat system. He earned a master's degree in computer science and an MBA from Rutgers. He later earned a law degree from Rutgers, passing the bar exam at age 52.

He taught bridge, loved golf, won many tournaments, and was a member of Mensa. A

humble, quiet, and unassuming man, he was an interesting and engaging conversationalist.

Dave is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Antoinette; his four children, David W. "Ward" III, Tracey, Robert, and Heather; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.



#### Earl B. Byrne '54

Buck died Nov. 15, 2019, at the Glen of Willow Valley Communities in Lancaster, Pa.

He prepared for Princeton at Shaker Heights (Ohio) High School and majored in chemical engineering. He played varsity football and track and was a member of Cannon Club. He earned a medical degree at Columbia and served in the U. S. Public Health Service from 1961 thru 1963.

He earned a master's in public health at Yale in 1965. He taught at Yale Medical School and moved to the Philadelphia area in 1969, serving at Jefferson University, Bryn Mawr, Paoli, and Lankenau hospitals.

Earl was a marathon runner, golfer, and dog lover. Sandy and Earl moved to Colorado in 1994 to pursue new jobs and good skiing. He served as the head of the department of occupational health at Memorial Hospital, retiring in 2002. He then ran for Teller County coroner, serving two successive terms and commenting, "You can retire from a job, but you can't retire the mind." Following that he started writing a book titled *High Country Coroner*, which was never completed.

He is survived by Sandra; by his former wife, Janice; their daughter Jennifer; two grandchildren; stepdaughter Sheila; and two step-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Kevin B. Byrne.

#### THE CLASS OF 1955



#### William D. Ruckelshaus '55

Bill, who transitioned from Princeton campus goof-off to one of the nation's most principled, powerful, and effective public citizens,

died at age 87. His life was celebrated and his death was widely noted in national media and elsewhere. He died Nov. 27, 2019, at his home in Medina, Wash.

In 1970 Bill shaped the Environmental Protection Agency as its first administrator. In 1983 he returned to revive the agency after a previous secretary had torpedoed it. In 2008 *Time* magazine called Ruckelshaus one of the best cabinet secretaries in U.S. history.

Bill was also celebrated for something he did not do. As acting attorney general in 1973, he refused to fire Archibald Cox, who was closing in on President Richard Nixon's impeachable activity. That led to the "Saturday Night Massacre" and Nixon's eventual resignation.

In his first two years at Princeton Bill joined

Cottage Club and roomed with Tom Pettus, but academics were such a stumble that his father, head of the local draft board, had his son drafted. After two years in the Army, Bill returned to graduate *cum laude* in 1957, went to Harvard Law School, and embarked on a distinguished career in government and private business and serve as a Princeton trustee.

Bill is survived by his wife, Jill; four daughters, Robin, Jennifer, Catherine '83, and Mary; son William '87 and his wife, Jeannie; sister Marion Bitzer; and 12 grandchildren.

#### THE CLASS OF 1958

#### David R. Comfort '58

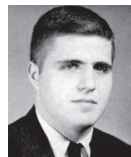
David died Jan. 12, 2020, in Grand Rapids, Mich., after a three-year battle against cancer. He was 83.

He came to Princeton from Atherton High School in Louisville, Ky., where he participated in football, tennis, and student government.

He roomed with Lawrence Jelsma, Bill Jansing, and Bill Rudd, but left Princeton after our junior year. David served in the Army and then graduated from Springfield College in 1961. After he and Diane married that year, he served as director of the YMCA in Detroit for 23 years and then as executive director of the YMCA in Grand Rapids until 1984. Then he became a tax professional with H&R Block for 20 years.

Although David did not attend our 50th reunion, he did write a piece in the reunion yearbook.

David is survived by Diane; his son, Andrew; his daughter, Rebekah; and six grandchildren. The class extends its deepest sympathy to them all.



#### Robert H. Hamor '58

Bob died unexpectedly Jan. 9, 2020, while vacationing with his family in Breckenridge, Colo. He was 83.

He came to Princeton from Harding High School in Marion, Ohio, where he played football, basketball, track, and golf, and was an All-Ohio athlete. In addition, he participated in the choir, Hi-Y, and dramatics.

At Princeton he played football, was in the Yacht Club, and was a member of Tiger Inn and the Pre-Medical Society. He majored in biology and wrote his thesis on genetics. He roomed with Bill Patton, Ted Parsons, and Jim Mottley.

After graduation he earned his medical degree from Northwestern University and interned in Chicago. In 1963 he married Charlotte and then served in the Army for two years as a general physician in Germany. He attained the rank of captain and was awarded the National Defense Service Medal.

He returned to Ohio, completed his residency in radiology, and moved to Hudson, Ohio, where he was a partner in Akron

Radiology for 38 years. In 2001 Bob was recognized as a Fellow of the American College of Radiology.

Bob is survived by Charlotte; his three sons, Doug, Briggs and Victor; seven grandchildren; and his sister. The class extends its deepest sympathy to them all.

#### THE CLASS OF 1959



#### Sydney H. Morgan '59

Dixie died Oct. 1, 2018, in Wingate, N.C. We learned of his passing when his dues card was returned in December

2019 bearing an unsigned note written in pencil: "Died on Oct. 1, 2018, of cancer." The card had been addressed to Dixie at his address in Wingate.

Dixie came to Princeton by way of Andover, where he was president of Blue Key (modeled after Princeton's Orange Key), vice president of the student-government organization, and captain of the varsity track team. At Princeton he majored in philosophy, ate at Ivy, served on the Orange Key steering committee and as University dining-hall coordinator, and, in recognition of his leadership abilities, as battalion commander of Army ROTC.

His various yearbook entries track Dixie's movements after graduation, although they tell little of substance. Our 10th-reunion yearbook showed him in Upper Montclair, N.J.; in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., in 1981, where his yearbook occupation codes indicated banking and research; in Oceanside, Calif., in 1994 as chairman and CEO of the Howard Companies; still in Oceanside in 2004; and in Wingate, N.C. by 2009.

As there was no obituary, we have no information as to family or survivors.

#### Alan J. Pogarsky '59

Alan died Aug. 2, 2019, in Jackson, N.J., of complications associated with neuroendocrine cancer. He came to Princeton from Freehold (N.J.) High School, where he was president of the student council. At Princeton, Alan majored in politics, participated in Orange Key, broadcast news and sports for WPRB, and joined Terrace Club. He was a four-year veteran of Commons.

Alan earned a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1962. He returned to New Jersey, entering private practice in Toms River and serving as an assistant Ocean County prosecutor and deputy attorney general. A certified civil trial attorney, he held memberships in numerous trial associations. He was president of the Ocean County Bar Association, a trustee of the New Jersey State Bar Association and Foundation, and was elected State Bar president in 1990. He was a delegate to the American Bar Association's House of Delegates and a Fellow of the

American Bar Foundation. In 1996 he was appointed a judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey, sitting in Trenton and Toms River until his retirement in 2008. Never forgetting his Princeton roots, he chaired the Alumni Schools Committee of Ocean County for 32 years.

Alan is survived by his wife, Ruth; his sons, Greg and Steve '88; and two grandchildren. We have sent condolences.

**THE CLASS OF 1970**



**Daniel F. Berkowitz '70**

Dan Berkowitz, one of our artistic stalwarts, died of a heart attack Dec. 10, 2019.

He came to us from St.

Peter's in Jersey City. While at Princeton, Dan belonged to Colonial Club and majored in history. His great loves were Theatre Intime, where he was executive producer; and the Princeton Debate Panel, where he won the Junior Oratorical Medal. He went on to graduate work at the University of California, Berkeley.

Dan made a rich career in the entertainment business and was the author of numerous plays and reviews, winning various industry prizes. His one-man show, *Crime and Punishment: The Musical*, debuted in New York in 2009, and he was co-author of the musical review *My Name Is Still Alice*, which opened in 1992 and has since been produced in more than 40 states. For years, he returned to Princeton to direct Summer Intime.

Dan served for 10 years as co-chair of the Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights and was also co-chair of that city's Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board. He was a member of the Council of the Dramatists' Guild of America. He was also an active member of Princeton's BTGALA, hosting several meetings for West Coast members at his residence in West Hollywood.

Dan was a man of many talents who will be sorely missed by those he served and inspired. The vast array of his friends will miss the man who, reporting on a screenplay-research trip to deepest Alaska in our 40th-reunion yearbook, noted "I'm still having an adventure every day."

**GRADUATE ALUMNI**

**Donald O. Schissler \*51**

Donald Schissler, a research chemist who rose to management assignments at Shell Oil Co., died peacefully Aug. 24, 2019, at age 96.

Schissler graduated from Penn State in 1942 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry at age 19, and went to work on synthetic-rubber research for the Armed Forces before joining the Navy on his 21st birthday. He served as a naval radar observer officer until 1947, and shortly thereafter went to Princeton and earned a Ph.D. in chemistry in 1951.

He then joined the Shell Development Co.

in California as a research chemist, beginning a career of more than 35 years at Shell Oil Co. After assignments as a research chemist, he joined company management with several postings in various divisions of Shell. He was sent to Houston in 1965, remaining in the area until retiring in 1986.

Schissler was predeceased by his first wife, Lietta, the mother of his children. He is survived by Adrienne, his wife of 44 years; three children; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Richard G. Quynn \*57**

Richard Quynn, a chemist who specialized in fiber research, died peacefully Sept. 21, 2019, at age 91.

Born in 1928, he enrolled at an early age at the College of William and Mary in his native state of Virginia, and graduated as valedictorian of his class. After, he received a master's degree from the University of Virginia.

Quynn went on to Princeton, where he earned a master's degree in 1952 and a Ph.D. in 1957, both in chemistry. He began his career as a fiber-research specialist at the Celanese Corp. in Summit, N.J.

He concluded his career at the Natick Army Research Labs in Natick, Mass. He held many patents and is credited with designing and creating night-vision goggles for U.S. soldiers. He served in the Army from 1955 to 1957.

Quynn is survived by his wife of 65 years, Louise; two daughters; and four grandchildren.

**Jameson W. Doig \*61**

Jameson Doig, professor emeritus of politics at Princeton, died Oct. 19, 2019, at the age of 86.

Doig earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Dartmouth in 1954 before joining the Navy for three years. He received an MPA degree from Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School in 1958, and a master's degree in 1959 and Ph.D. in 1961, both in politics. He was hired as an assistant professor of politics and at the Wilson School, and was promoted to full professor in 1970. He became emeritus in 2004.

He served as chair of the politics department and held other posts, including associate dean of the Wilson School. Doig was the parliamentarian of the University faculty for 15 years and a member of committees that created new programs.

He wrote books in the transportation field, and his expertise included federalism, constitutional law, and U.S. and Canadian politics. He served on many governmental advisory committees and was a policy consultant at state, regional, and national levels. His students remember him for his dedicated mentorship. Faculty colleagues knew him "as an extremely dedicated teacher" and as "a genial and gracious man."

Doig is survived by his wife, Joan; three children; one granddaughter; and one great-granddaughter.

**Janusz A. Brzozowski \*62**

Janusz Brzozowski, distinguished professor emeritus of electrical engineering at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, died of cancer Oct. 24, 2019, at age 84.

Born in 1935 in Warsaw, Poland, he was the son of a captain in the Polish Army who was killed in the 1939 invasion when Stalin and Hitler divided up Poland. In 1940, Brzozowski and his family were deported to Russia, and in 1942 they escaped to Persia. They were refugees in Teheran and later in Lebanon until 1949, when they immigrated to Canada.

In 1953 he graduated from St. Michael's College School in Toronto, and he earned a bachelor's degree in 1957 and a master's degree in 1959, both in electrical engineering, from the University of Toronto. In 1962 he earned a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Princeton. That year, he joined the electrical engineering department at the University of Ottawa.

In 1967 he became a professor in the department of computer science at the University of Waterloo, where he was twice chair of the department. He retired in 1996. An early pioneer in theoretical computer science, he wrote almost 200 papers and co-authored two books. During his career he held many visiting appointments.

Brzozowski is survived by his wife of 60 years, Grazyna; two children; three grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

**James T. Dickovick \*04**

James Dickovick, who taught politics at Washington and Lee University for 14 years, died July 1, 2019, after a courageous battle with ALS. He was 45.

Born in 1973, he earned dual degrees from the University of Pennsylvania in 1995: a B.A. in international relations and a B.S. in economics from the Wharton School of Business. He then joined the Peace Corps for service in West Africa. This changed the course of his life.

Dickovick came to Princeton and the Woodrow Wilson School, where he earned an MPA in development studies in 2000, a master's degree in public affairs in 2002, and a Ph.D. in public affairs in 2004.

He then taught for 14 years at Washington and Lee, where he was Grigsby Term Professor of Politics. Teaching was his "calling," and this took him to countries worldwide. He enjoyed exploring the foods, music, languages, and literatures of other cultures.

Dickovick is survived by his wife, Alessandra Del Conte Dickovick \*00; their two daughters, and his mother, Deborah.

*Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.*

# Classifieds

## For Rent

### Europe

**Paris, Left Bank:** Elegant apartment off Seine in 6th. Short walk to Louvre, Notre Dame. 609-924-7520. gam1@comcast.net

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

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

**Italy/Todi:** Luxurious 8BR, 7.5BA villa, amazing views, infinity pool, olives, lavender, grapes, vegetable garden, housekeeper included, cook available, A/C, Wi-Fi. Discount for Princetonians. Photos/prices/availability: www.luxuryvillatodi.com, p'11.

**Stunning Paris apartments:** original period details, high-end amenities. Best locations: Bac/St. Germain, Luxembourg Gardens, Marais! 1-3BR, 1-2.5BA. 917-746-8056, www.56paris.com/for-rent

**Unique 1880s heritage Irish farmhouse** on fourteen acres in Ox Mountains, County Sligo; Wild Atlantic Way; Fáilte Ireland Welcome Standard; a Hidden Ireland Property. Adventure, Culture, Food! info@oldirishfarmhouse.com, '77.

**Paris near Louvre, Opéra, Ritz Hôtel.** Family owned. Sleeps two, terms depend on season, 6 night minimum. apower7@icloud.com, 831-521-7155, w'49.

**Umbria/Todi.** Elegant restored 14thC convent. Walk to town. 4 ensuite BRs, A/C, gardens, olive orchards, pool, WIFI. 847-234-9171. jcrawford@TRIADCAPLLC.COM, '68.

**Paris:** Fabulous, elegant 1BR in the bustling heart of Paris — prestigious 4th. Windows throughout, views, light, elevator, fully equipped, sleeps 2, one month minimum. ecall411@yahoo.com

**Spectacular Tuscan Villa:** the vacation of a life time — views, vineyards, olive groves, pool, privacy, luxury! 805-682-2386, www.CortonaAir.com

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

### Africa

**Spectacular Indian Oceanside villa** is your Princeton vacation home in South Africa. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. www.phoenixcountryhouse.co.za, '82.

### United States Northeast

**Stone Harbor, NJ:** Beachfront, 4BR, upscale. 570-430-3639, Stoneharborbeachhouses.com, radams150@aol.com

**Southampton, New York:** Stunning secluded 4-acre estate on Shinnecock Bay. Beachhouse charm, 7BR, 4BA and 2BR, 1BA guest cottage. Gated drive, fully renovated kitchen/bathrooms, heated pool, private bay beach. Available year-round, weddings/events. info@baybeachestate.com '01.

**Wine and Dine in Connecticut!** Litchfield County historic home; vineyards, foodie & antiques haven, outdoor paradise. Weekend, weekly, monthly rentals. 347-432-3817. owens\_shea@yahoo.com, '94.

**Martha's Vineyard:** Bright, cheerful home with 4 bedrooms and panoramic views of Vineyard Sound and Elizabeth Islands in tranquil Aquinnah. Available July 18–August 15. 508-954-2807. piamachi@yahoo.com, '62.

**Chatham, Cape Cod:** Charming 3BR, 1.5BA, private yard/outside shower, walk town/ beach. 917-912-2361, Batcheller40@hotmail.com, k'60.

### United States West

**Big Sky Montana:** Charming 4 BR log home on 20 acres beautifully furnished, spectacular views, Big Sky sunsets, skiing, hiking, fishing and golfing within 5 minutes. Close to Yellowstone National Park and Bozeman. Enjoyment all 4 seasons. 610-225-3286. janegriffith655@gmail.com, s'67.

**Park City/Deer Valley, Utah:** 3 BR ski-out condominium in Upper Deer Valley. Newly remodeled, hot tub, beautiful views, available all seasons. Reasonable rates. 937-825-4137 or pjkolodzik@aol.com, p'12 p'20.

**Big Sky, Montana:** 4BR, 4BA luxurious ski-in ski-out home and separate 1BR, 1BA apartment. Spectacular view of Lone Peak. Hiking: Beehive Basin in Gallatin National Forest. Book at Staymontana.com, property code: Big Sky — Little Plume Lodge or Little Plume Flat, '76 p'21.

## Tours/Expeditions

**Expert-led cultural tours:** archaeology/ food/walking in Britain, Croatia, Greece, Ireland, Italy and Turkey. Gulet cruises and charters. www.petersommer.com

**Newfoundland and Labrador:** The world's largest gathering of humpback whales! The largest Atlantic puffin colony in North America! 15,000-year-old icebergs! 565 million-year-old Ediacaran fossils! Four UNESCO World Heritage Sites! Dramatic vistas, local culture and cuisine, abundant wildlife, coastal communities. We can go on and on! Don't believe us? Come discover for yourself! Join Wildland Tours for one or two gentle, 7-day, small group, escorted adventures led by local, knowledgeable tour guides. Enjoy exhilarating days and comfortable nights. Since 1984, our guests have been creating incredible lifetime experiences through the appreciation of our wildlands and oceans. We're waiting for you! www.wildlands.com 1-888-615-8279.

## Educational Services

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## Positions Available

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## Her Love of Beauty Resonates Still

By Anna Mazarakis '16

The Princeton University Chapel was built over the course of a few years in the mid-1920s, then second in size among university chapels only to the chapel at King's College at Cambridge University. The Chapel's scale was one of several noteworthy elements, including this: On Oct. 25, 1928, just a few months after the entire building had been dedicated, the chancel — the area in the Chapel where the choir sits — was named to honor a woman.

Elizabeth Milbank Anderson was permanently commemorated in the naming of the Milbank Memorial Choir chancel seven years after her death. The chancel's dedication in her name stands out at the University, where most of the older buildings and memorials are named for the men who funded them. Described as “the crowning component of the Chapel,” the Milbank Memorial Choir was complete with beautiful stained-glass windows, oak wood pews with intricate carvings, and a stately organ.

“All through her life, Mrs. Anderson was known for her love of beautiful things,” said her cousin Albert Goodsell Milbank 1896 during the dedication, “and in this beautiful shrine her soul will find peace and contentment.”

Anderson was the daughter of a successful businessman, and, at 34, she inherited part of his estimated \$32 million fortune when he died. In 1905, Anderson created one of the first foundations in the United States to be funded by a woman. She specified that the money from her foundation should “improve the physical, mental, and moral condition of humanity, and generally to advance charitable and benevolent objects.” By the time she died 16 years later, her foundation had given away about \$9.3 million, about \$123 million in today's dollars.

Two of her most notable gifts were in New York City. Anderson was a trustee and vice chair of the board of Barnard College, and she gave the college three blocks of land. Her money also provided a building for use as a public bathhouse,

where about 3,000 poor New Yorkers could bathe each day.

Thanks to her close relationship with her cousin Albert, who became the trustee of the Milbank Memorial Fund, his alma mater also benefited from Anderson's fortune. The greatest beneficiary is perhaps the University's Chapel Choir, which sings in the Milbank Memorial Choir during the Chapel service every Sunday morning.

“[Alumni] come back and they say, ‘I never realized what a gift it was to be able to sing in that space every week, and to be able to sing with those people every week,’” says the Chapel Choir's director, Penna Rose. “Almost to a

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**“All through her life, Mrs. Anderson was known for her love of beautiful things,” said her cousin.**

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person, people say that.”

She noted that most alumni probably don't know of Anderson's legacy, though many are aware that the Chapel Choir presents a concert series in the Milbank family's name. In 1961, the Milbank Memorial Fund endowed the Chapel Choir's spring concert — this year's program was to feature Mozart's “Mass in C Minor,” accompanied by an orchestra, but the coronavirus outbreak forced its cancellation. The concert is always free to all and attracts up to 600 people.

In that concert series and the music that is made in the Milbank Memorial Choir every week, Anderson's legacy at the University is loud and clear.

“She was not given the opportunity to go to Princeton because she was a woman,” Rose said, “but instead of being mad about that, she instead gave lots of money so that it could be used to increase the beauty in the world.” ♦



Daniel Hertzberg

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