

THE PANDEMIC AND  
MENTAL HEALTH

WHY WE  
NEED CIVICS

TWO PARTIES,  
TWO VIEWS

# PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY



## THE HAPPY WARRIOR

Frank von Hippel is still  
working to save the world  
from nuclear disaster

APRIL 2021  
PAW.PRINCETON.EDU

# DEAR TIGERS,

Plans are underway to make this year's Reunions Online, **May 20 to 23**, a memorable and fun-filled Tiger celebration!

While we know that online Reunions is not the same as our in-person weekend extravaganza, exciting programming is in the works that we hope will make you roar.

Some all-alumni events include:

- ♥ The V-rade (or virtual P-rade)
- ♥ President Eisgruber's Live Address
- ♥ The Alumni Council Annual Meeting
- ♥ Evening Entertainment
- ♥ Alumni-Faculty Forums (perennial favorites!).

So dust off your finest orange and black and mark your calendars for May 20-23 for the **best party on the Internet celebrating the Best Place of All!** We can't wait to see you online!

With love,

PRINCETON



# PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

An editorially independent magazine by alumni for alumni since 1900



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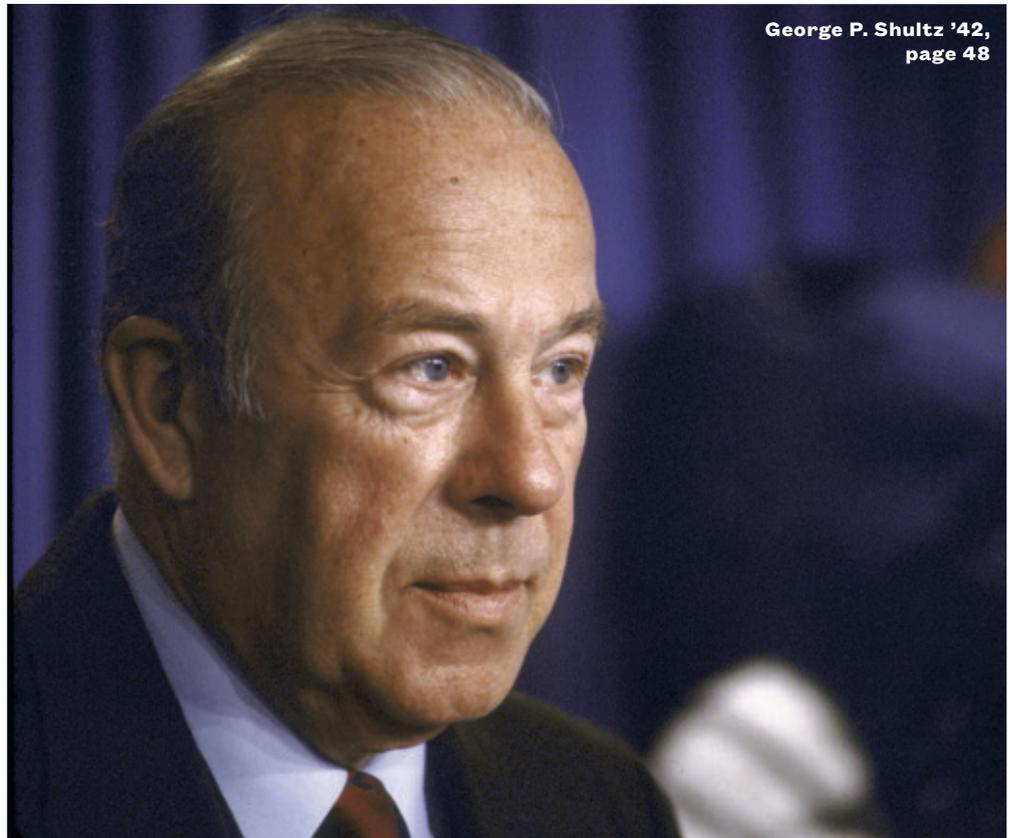
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**PAWCAST**  
Jeff Schwartz '87



**Future of Work**

On the latest PAWcast, Jeff Schwartz '87 discusses how the pandemic has accelerated changes relating to where and how we work.



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**In Loco Parentis**

As students sign a COVID social contract, Gregg Lange '70 ponders past approaches to student conduct.

Top: Dirck Halstead/The LIFE Images Collection via Getty Images/Getty Images; from left: Michael Weinstein; courtesy Amanda Satterthwaite '10

# Expansion is Coming

Our goal during the pandemic has been not only to navigate through it successfully but to emerge stronger than before. Two new residential colleges rising south of Poe Field exemplify that commitment to the future.

On a brisk weekend in early March, I walked by the site to see the progress on Perelman College and what we are temporarily calling “College 8.” Despite the pandemic, the buildings are taking shape rapidly and impressively. We expect that they will open less than two years from now, in fall 2022.



DENISE APPELWHITE

Two new residential colleges rise south of Poe Field

The two new colleges will add 1,000 undergraduate beds to our housing inventory. We will use 500 of those beds to expand the student body by 125 places per year.

The other 500 beds will allow us to close, replace, or renovate existing housing, beginning with the construction of Hobson College on the site of the current First College (formerly Wilson College). In the short term, the additional beds may also help us to manage the bulge in students who deferred their studies this year.

The expansion will permit Princeton to say “yes” to more of the spectacularly qualified applicants who seek admission to the University each year. As you know, getting into Princeton and its peers has become shockingly difficult. Last year, we had nearly 33,000 applicants, and the admit rate was under 6%.

I recently asked Karen Richardson, our dean of admission, how many of these applicants were roughly as good as those we admitted. “18,000,” she said. We make around 1800 offers to fill the 1300 spots in each entering class. You can do the math: we say “no” to about 90% of the students fully qualified for the rigorous academic curriculum at Princeton.

I love the students we bring to our campus. They are wonderful. But I also know that many students whom we turn down would thrive at Princeton, contribute positively to our campus, and, eventually, make a difference in the world.

The opportunity to attend and graduate from Princeton would be life-changing for many of these students. That is why I felt from the moment I took office that if we could

expand while preserving the essential character of the Princeton experience, we had a moral obligation to do so.

The case for expansion has become even more urgent in the intervening years. The applicant pool has continued to grow. And while the COVID-19 crisis has shown us what we can do online, it has also revealed how much we lose without the residential experience. Even during this pandemic, students want to be here, at Old Nassau, amid the transformative opportunities and personal connections that our campus offers.

The new colleges will also allow Princeton to continue its efforts to draw talent from every sector of society. I am proud that the percentage of first-generation and low-income Princetonians has risen substantially over the past decade.

By comparison to other private selective colleges and universities, Princeton has gone from being a laggard to a leader in the percentage of its students receiving federal Pell grants, which benefit mainly families in the lower 40% of the American income distribution. We have also reinstated a transfer program, enabling us to take community college transfers and more military veterans.

As we expand, we have the opportunity to attract and admit more students from low-income backgrounds and also from the broad range of middle-income families who benefit from Princeton’s generous financial aid programs.

I said earlier that we had a duty to grow our student body if we could do so while preserving the essentials of the Princeton experience. Small classes, independent research

opportunities, and personal mentorship are essential to Princeton’s educational program.

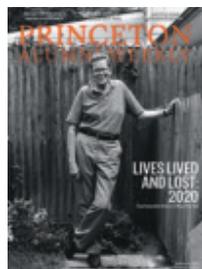
Because we have added faculty slots gradually over time, we already have much of the teaching capacity needed to extend that educational program to another 500 students. Provost Deborah Prentice and Dean Jill Dolan are working with academic departments to address other needs related to expansion.

We are also building new, larger facilities for University Health Services, and we have plans to expand and improve our recreational facilities, including at Dillon Gymnasium. One of my highest priorities is to raise the additional financial aid and scholarship resources required to support the expanded classes.

I returned from my recent walk down to Poe Field invigorated by a sense of multiple new beginnings: the advent of spring, the promising impact of vaccination on the pandemic, and the approaching completion of our new colleges. I eagerly anticipate welcoming the Class of 2025 this August to what I hope will be a much more normal year — and to greeting an expanded Class of 2026 the following August.

# Inbox

## LIVES REMEMBERED



Re: Lives Lived and Lost: Henry Martin '48 (February issue): As the article states, Henry Martin was indeed “kind, generous, and charming.” When I was starting out cartooning in the mid-'70s, Henry kept up a correspondence with me — sometimes three handwritten pages! — full of encouragement and tips. Beyond that, his tireless involvement with the Cartoonists' Guild and especially with the resurrection of the moribund *Princeton Tiger* magazine are prime examples of his energy and generosity. He will be missed.

**Bion Smalley '64**  
*Tucson, Ariz.*

Thank you for including Greg Farrell '57 among the tributes in your February issue.

In the spring of 1969 I had a life plan that began with attending Harvard Law School while enrolled in Naval ROTC. But a failed color-blindness test kept me out of ROTC, and I had a draft board that did not grant deferments for law school. In fact, its only deferments were for service in the Peace Corps or teaching in a public school that was facing a shortage of teachers.

Having worked with Greg and knowing his background, I sought his counsel. He told me about a New Jersey program he had helped create — an Urban Education Corps (a precursor to

programs like Teach for America) that placed college graduates in classrooms as full-time teachers while they pursued certification and a master's degree in teaching from Montclair State.

Greg got me into the program, and for the next three years I taught fifth and sixth grades in Trenton — one of the great experiences of my life. Even today I remain in touch with some of my students. In my third year of teaching, I ran into my thesis adviser, Stan Kelley, in the U-Store, which led to his suggesting me to incoming President Bill Bowen '58 for a position in his administration, the beginning of 47 years in Nassau Hall.

I don't think any of that would have happened — the teaching in Trenton or the invitation to serve Princeton — had I not known Greg and turned to him for last-minute advice. I know I am only one of many whose lives were shaped by this remarkable and deeply caring man.

**Bob Durkee '69**  
*Vice President and Secretary Emeritus, Princeton University*  
*Princeton, N.J.*

What an interesting juxtaposition of two people I knew personally in the February 2021 Lives issue: There was Bill Danforth '48, my previous colleague and later chancellor of my Washington University Medical School (and brother of Jack Danforth in my Class of '58). And there was Bill Tangney of the Class of '57.

Tangs was the social leader of our group in the Rockefeller Suite. Nobody who knew and loved Tangs was ever surprised by what came next. One

Saturday afternoon in the spring, after a suitable amount of adult beverages, Tangs supervised the moving of our ancient upright piano down three flights to the courtyard. With nothing but his muse to guide him he removed all the keys that were unnecessary to play his favorite song. In no time Tangs was playing the “Limehouse Blues,” the only song that our beloved piano could thus play. Several days later Tangs led the party around the bonfire that sent the piano on to its next life.

Both of these Tigers made my life better for knowing them. For the long haul we would all choose “Chan Dan.” But for the short haul, and for the unforgettable magic of life unfettered with reason, Bill Tangney was the guy.

**Don Sessions '58**  
*St. Louis, Mo.*

In the otherwise excellent “Lives Lived and Lost,” I was disappointed that none of our fellow veterans were mentioned.

Edward Cissel '43 landed on Utah Beach at Normandy on D-Day and rose to captain in the field artillery. An educator in civilian life, Ed served as headmaster of John Burroughs School in St. Louis for 19 years.

In 1967 in Vietnam, Capt. Henry C. Stackpole '57 nearly died twice in surgery from wounds he suffered. Later a lieutenant general, he commanded an international rescue mission in Bangladesh, which had suffered massive flooding.

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

## RESPECTFUL DISAGREEMENT

You can learn a lot of things online, but one thing I would have had trouble internalizing if it weren't for Princeton is that I'm not the best. There are people out there who pick up material faster than I do, people who analyze situations better than I do, people who communicate more clearly than I do.

## WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

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

# PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

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alumni for alumni since 1900

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## Inbox

I had thought everyone at Princeton learned that.

I don't remember the opinions that so disheartened Meaghan Byrne '10 (Inbox, February issue), and I'm not going to look them up — that isn't the point. I probably agreed with some parts and disagreed with others. When someone says something, and I disagree, I find it most productive to push until we agree, one of us accepting the other's side. Ms. Byrne decided who was right and dismissed the "older alumni" as racist. That ends the conversation; you will never listen to someone you consider old and racist, so they have no reason to try to convince you of anything. If you want all people to be respected, a good start is respecting all people.

For the record, some of my professors (indeed, some of my favorite professors) likely fit Ms. Byrne's definition of "fossils." I hope none of them read Ms. Byrne's comments, but if they did, and they read this, they should know I still hold them in very high esteem!

**Nathan Mytelka '19**

*Bellevue, Wash.*

## AHEAD OF THE CURVE

Related to story on Princeton's New Urbanists ("Built to Last," January issue), I'd like to draw attention to another Princetonian long in the forefront of urban design and architecture. My father, Robert F. Brown Jr. '58 \*60, practiced architecture and urban design until his retirement 10 years ago. He long advocated mixed-use zoning, denser neighborhoods, good connections to public transit, and the inclusion of parks throughout cities. He was partner of Bob Geddes, former dean of the School of Architecture, for many years at GBQC Architects before founding his own urban-design practice, Brown & Keener, in the 1990s. He worked on plans for Philadelphia; Hoboken and Cranbury, New Jersey; and Winston-Salem, North Carolina, among others. In more recent years, he has been active in Ashland, Virginia, both on the town planning commission and Ashland Main Streets, working hard to preserve its downtown.

**Julie Brown-Garthwaite '86**

*South Hamilton, Mass.*

## FEEDING THE WORLD

Former Princeton postdoc Talia Young merits credit and gratitude for Fishadelphia, her win-win creative nonprofit bridging COVID-compromised fishing businesses with underserved and lower-income communities in Philadelphia seeking affordable food options ("Catch of the Day," January issue). If, however, we learn any lesson from the current global woe betide from Wuhan (the consequence perhaps of bushmeat markets), it is that killing for any purpose is fundamentally bad policy.

The world can feed itself without any need whatsoever for the killing fields of euphemistic "fishing," or feedlots, including poultry pens. The proposition seems extremist, but is truthfully entirely moderate. I randomly began eating meatless well over two years ago, and my health as a function of this diet is likely the best it has ever been.

Provisions will have to be made, of course, for easing the many in those industries into other jobs (requiring multiple generations, perhaps). Avoiding any subsequent social disruption as a consequence will require planning. But the end result of such a policy will be a win-win, just like Ms. Young's current enterprise. This win-win applies to provider and consumer, as much as to the consumer and the formerly consumed. And anyone who tells you otherwise is full of baloney, perhaps literally as much as figuratively.

**Rocky Semmes '79**

*Alexandria, Va.*

## REUNIONS 2021

I am disappointed in the decision to cancel Reunions (Princetonians, March issue). The trajectory of the pandemic, the advent of vaccines, and the injuries of isolation all suggest that, for those who so choose, the benefits of our annual in-person confab far outweigh the risk. I see little downside to the University providing the venue for those so inclined.

It seems, frankly, a timid and legalist decision by committee, unsupported by science, unpopular with alumni, and unworthy of our University's bold legacy. Could not the University set reasonable ground rules, respect alumni to make their own decisions, and let

Reunions occur for those who see the small calculated risk as well worth the anticipated pleasure?

**Mellick T. Sykes '71**  
*San Antonio, Texas*

#### UNIVERSITY LAND

Regarding the University's land acknowledgment (On the Campus, February issue), when I lived in Princeton for several years around 2010, I was consistently struck by the University's high-handed approach to the local community, to the point that it provoked a property-tax lawsuit from low-income homeowners. The University's ostentatious self-flagellation over its presumed treatment of the community 265 years ago would be more convincing if its treatment of the community were better today. How about acknowledging that it owns land far out of proportion to the taxes it pays — and that it can afford to remedy this circumstance any time it wants to?

**Mitchell S. Muncy '90**  
*Fairfax, Va.*

#### CRUZ '92'S DIPLOMA

Purported revocation of Sen. Ted Cruz's diploma (Princetonians, February issue) would be unfair and unjust. Someone earned and paid for Cruz's education, and no university can be free to actually revoke a diploma based on later conduct even if reprehensible. Cruz did the work and earned his diploma. If someone wants to peacefully express one's displeasure with a public servant, that is within the First Amendment. Do students truly want their diplomas — or their admission to Princeton — to hinge on whether they have followed whatever intellectual party line that may be in fashion at the current moment?

Why should Princeton or any other university have a party line at all? From robust debate comes truth. Justice Brandeis believed this, and Proverbs 27:17 reminds us that "iron sharpens iron; so one person sharpens another." Without free and open debate there will be bloody repression and tragedy. Robespierre, Stalin, Hitler, Mao, Idi Amin, Pol Pot, and Fidel Castro all illustrate this, and there are many others. Why not invite Ted Cruz to a fair and open debate with a distinguished

Princeton opponent in the long tradition of Princeton discussion and debate?

**Thomas D. Logie '72**  
*North Port, Fla.*

#### A LOCOMOTIVE FOR PRINT

I wish only to express my appreciation to PAW for its faithful production of a regular, dependable print edition of the magazine. I have been so accustomed to its regular arrival that I would have continued to take it for granted — had it not been for the announcement of the end of the print edition of yet another of the publications I still receive.

It may be that in this digital age I might have to resign myself to relying on a screen and smartphone for the news and edification in the not-too-distant future. In the meantime, Locomotives to you for continuing to send me something which I can hold before me, whose pages I can turn back or forward, as I learn about campus issues and classmate news. Please don't rush to go all-digital!

**James Alley '69**  
*Port Ewen, N.Y.*

#### FOR THE RECORD

An On the Campus story in the March issue reported that a woman was elected president of an eating club for the first time in 2011. That was the year Ivy Club elected its first woman president; at least seven eating clubs had women presidents prior to 2011.

The introduction to "Black and White and the Blues," in the March issue, significantly understated the historical appeal of blues music among the Black record-buying public. Female blues queens who fronted jazzier horn-driven ensembles, such as Mamie Smith, Bessie Smith, and Gertrude "Ma" Rainey, were so popular, in fact, that their recordings inaugurated a blues craze, beginning in 1920.

#### IN MEMORY OF AMY ANSELL

The PAW staff notes with sadness the death of Amy Ansell, Feb. 28, 2021, at the age of 44. Amy, a senior account administrator at PAW's printer, Fry Communications in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, managed our printing and mailing for the last 10 years. We will miss her.

April 15



**Yang Shao-Horn**

W.M. Keck Professor of Energy,  
Dept. of Mechanical Engineering,  
Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering at  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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Photos by FOTOBUFFY

Joe Schein '37 leading the P-rade with his family at his side and with President Eisgruber at the Old Guard Lunch where he has received the 1923 Cane since 2016 for being the oldest alumnus to attend Reunions Luncheon.

## Joe Schein '37 Celebrates His 106th Birthday

**P**inceton's oldest, living undergraduate alumnus and five-time recipient of the Class of 1923 Cane, Joseph Schein '37, celebrated birthday 106 on February 23 — and is still going strong.

Schein, who shares the 1915 birthday year with Princeton economist and Nobel laureate Sir W. Arthur Lewis, has retired from psychiatry practice, but not from offering lively conversation.

The centenarian's latest project is learning the Russian alphabet: "All my life I've been frustrated (about learning Russian), never had the time to do it... and Mr. Putin hasn't called on me to help him," Schein said jokingly.

Continued learning and voracious reading on subjects like physics, even with some sight difficulties, keep him going, he said. When asked how he's managed through the pandemic year, he answered: "I keep on doing the same thing I've always been doing."

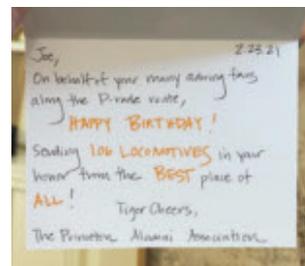
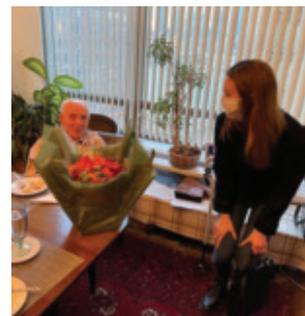
His birthday fete included a visit from Kate Bellin '02, who presented flowers from Princeton's Alumni Association (both have received COVID-19 vaccinations) and a balloon bouquet from Judith Scheide, widow of William Scheide '36. He was also celebrated on the @Princeton social media channels with many Princetonians adding to the birthday well-wishes.

"I can't quite believe it," Schein said in a Zoom interview. "I love that I hear all these wonderful things about me, which are not possibly entirely true... It's unexpected. And it's given me a great kick."

According to Princetoniana expert Gregg Lange '70, writing in the Princeton Alumni Weekly, Schein, son of Russian immigrants, captained the state-champion fencing team from Barringer High in Newark, New Jersey. He entered the University as one of 11 Jewish students, lettered in fencing, won honors with his thesis on Baudelaire in Modern Languages, and was active in the pre-med society. Schein also organized and led some of the earliest Jewish services on campus, which often included Albert Einstein.

After Princeton, he earned his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania and began a 70-year career in medicine, beginning in pathology. He later transitioned to psychiatry and trained with one of Sigmund Freud's most trusted colleagues.

Schein first marched with the Class of 1923 Cane in 2016, at a sprightly 101 years old. Two years later, he led the P-rade when the 25th Reunion Class of 1993 yielded its place to the Old Guard. In 2020, President Christopher L. Eisgruber '83 symbolically handed Schein the silver-topped cane over Zoom in the first virtual P-rade.



Kate Bellin '02 delivers birthday flowers to Joe Schein '37 from the Alumni Association.

# DEAR FELLOW ALUMNI

## Thank you!

**SERVING YOU OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS** has been a deeply humbling honor. Coming into this role, I thought I knew how amazing our alumni are, and I thought I understood the extent of the University's commitment to excellence. I was wrong.

As a community, we examined our oldest practices and traditions, embracing the most beautiful, reckoning with others, and creating many anew. You led the charge, demanding that we live up to our informal motto, in the nation's service and the service of humanity. All the while, the University stood by our side, from President Eisgruber's office to the Alumni Engagement team on campus.

And we did so much of this mired in the tragedy and shadow of a worldwide pandemic. In many ways, though, we moved forward not despite the pandemic but, rather, because of the pandemic. As resilient Princetonians have done for ages, you found ways to adapt and thrive. You served as leaders in your professions and role models on the front lines in your communities, and you found ways to engage one another creatively and more frequently than ever.

In the fall of 2019, the Alumni Council embraced the mantra that **Princeton is where you are**, for all Princetonians to experience, whether geographically, in life-stage, or otherwise. While I feel good about the progress we have made, I feel better about how well positioned we are to make even more headway. You are now in the most capable and compassionate hands of my successor, Mary Newburn '97!

Thank you for this life-changing experience. You truly are the greatest alumni body on this planet.

**Three cheers to you, and three cheers to the Best Old Place of All!**

**Richard J. Holland '96**

President, Alumni Association of Princeton University  
Chair, Alumni Council  
rholland@alumni.princeton.edu

**PRINCETON IS WHERE YOU ARE.**



Rich Holland '96



Brian Taylor '73

Alumni engaged in so many ways this year, both at home and in their communities. From top left, clockwise: TigersHelping on the frontlines and homefront; alumni made dumplings at a pre-pandemic regional gathering with the Princeton Association of New York City; Jackie Foster '09, chair of the Committee on Reunions, awarded prizes at the virtual Annual Meeting of the Alumni Council; Brian Taylor '73 helped welcome the Class of 2020; and Tigers brought their tigers to work for a fun social media campaign.

There are many ways to stay connected to Princeton.

To learn more, contact Alumni Engagement at 609.258.1900 or visit [alumni.princeton.edu](http://alumni.princeton.edu).



# 2021 ALUMNI TRUSTEE ELECTION

**IN OCTOBER OF 1900**, Princeton's Board of Trustees adopted a plan to ensure alumni representation on the University's board. At that time, the board was enlarged by the addition of five alumni trustees. The board has amended the plan for elected trustees several times over the course of the decades, designating regional, at-large, and graduate ballots, and creating the positions of young alumni trustee and recent graduate school alumni trustee.

Now, 13 of the 40 trustees, or nearly one-third of Princeton's board, are alumni who have been elected to their positions. Four of these are young alumni trustees, elected by the junior and senior classes and the two most recently graduated classes. The other nine have gone through a nomination and election process overseen by the volunteer committee known as the Committee to Nominate Alumni Trustees (CTNAT), a special committee of the Alumni Council.

On the right are the three ballots for the 2021 Alumni Trustee Election. Polls will open on April 6 and will close on May 12 at 6 p.m. EDT. For more information visit: [alumni.princeton.edu/our-community/alumni-association/committee-nominate-alumni-trustees](https://alumni.princeton.edu/our-community/alumni-association/committee-nominate-alumni-trustees).

There are many ways to stay connected to Princeton. To learn more, visit [alumni.princeton.edu](https://alumni.princeton.edu).

## AT-LARGE BALLOT



**Kathleen F. Kiely '77**  
*Columbia, MO*



**Travis LeBlanc '99**  
*Arlington, VA*



**Gordon P. Ritter '86**  
*San Francisco, CA*

## GRADUATE BALLOT



**Ben B. Baldanza \*86**  
*Arlington, VA*



**Udit Batra \*96**  
*Wellesley Hills, MA*



**Kathryn Roth-Douquet \*91**  
*McLean, VA*

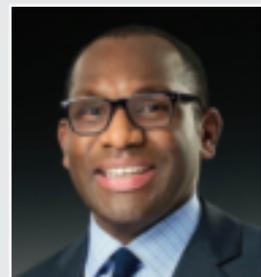
## REGION II BALLOT



**Marisa J. Demeo '88**  
*Washington, DC*



**Yadin B. Kaufmann '80**  
*Ra'anana, Israel*



**Wade A. Rakes II '02**  
*Atlanta, GA*

# On the Campus

*Spheric Theme*, a sculpture by the late Naum Gabo, has a prominent home outside the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment, just south of the E-Quad.  
*Photograph by Ricardo Barros*



Students gathered at Poe Field on a mild day in late January, just before the start of the semester.

# Together and Apart

## Concerns about mental health grow as students try to cope with the pandemic

**A**cross the country, the pandemic’s negative impact on college students has been gaining attention. A recent study published in the scientific journal *PLOS ONE* found that almost half of the 2,500 students surveyed “experienced high levels of emotional distress and worry.” In a typical academic year, about a quarter of Princeton students use the University’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS), but this year overall usage is up 6 percent after a notable spike in the summer, said CPS Director Calvin Chin.

“In national surveys they’ve found that there have been increases in the rates of depression and anxiety and that this is especially true for young adults,” Chin said. “And so I do worry that the trauma of COVID will have lasting impacts on students, and we’re just beginning to see

what those impacts are.”

Hannah Reynolds ’22 said her return to campus was isolating, especially during the quarantine period. In the beginning it was hard to see others, and nobody wanted to leave their rooms to meet outside because of the cold weather. Things have improved, and Reynolds said she is ultimately glad to be back on campus.

She has found creative ways to spend time with friends, such as going to the gym together or grabbing a socially distanced meal. But she worries for many of the freshmen she mentors as a peer academic adviser; they are having a harder time making friends and are struggling with loneliness, she said. Reynolds feels administrators are not addressing these particular concerns. “They’ll send emails that are, like ‘Hey, make sure to take breaks,’ but are kind of

very fluffy — and not really getting down to the point that mental health is really important and that people should take it seriously,” she said.

Students have differing opinions of how the University is handling the challenges of campus life during a pandemic. Critics point to the dining hall food, which they say is repetitive and limited for those with dietary restrictions, and the decision to shorten spring break to a few days. Jess Fasano, a University spokeswoman, said that Campus Dining had made changes to its offerings in response to student requests and continues to welcome suggestions. Dean of the College Jill Dolan, in a January letter, urged professors to avoid making assignments due immediately after the abbreviated spring break.

Another sore point is the strictness of the restrictions on campus, including social distancing and limits on the number of students who can gather. Through late February, 44 students had been placed on disciplinary probation and eight were barred from campus for violations of the social contract, according to a report from the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students. Fasano said that thanks to students and staff adhering to guidelines, Princeton has “so far been able to avoid the additional restrictions on activities that have been necessary on other campuses following spikes in COVID cases and reports of unsafe behavior.”

“I understand completely why students sometimes feel frustrated because it is kind of an impossible task,” Chin said. “How do you make sure you abide by the public-health guidance standards? These aren’t rules Princeton made up; these are rules that come from real recommendations from professionals about how to maintain safety and prevent the spread of COVID — and so there just are limits. You can’t throw a big dance party, right? And there’s nothing that’s really going to replace that.”

No one is expecting perfection, and many cut the University slack. “This is a difficult situation for everybody,” said Diana Chao ’21. “I know they’re [Princeton] trying their best.” Chao, like many other students at Princeton, is

Ricardo Barros



**“I do worry that the trauma of COVID will have lasting impacts on students, and we’re just beginning to see what those impacts are.”**

— Calvin Chin, director of Counseling and Psychological Services

working to offer support. As a sophomore in high school, she founded Letters to Strangers, a nonprofit seeking to destigmatize mental illness, after she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Within the last year, the organization partnered with the Undergraduate Student Government to create a mental-health guidebook to help students understand and navigate available campus resources. Chao also spoke on a panel about student mental health in an event tied to *The Manic Monologues*, a virtual theater experience highlighting mental health (see story at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)).

But despite Princeton’s mental-health resources, some students question whether returning to campus was the right decision. Gabriella Carter ’22 said her mental health has suffered since returning in January. Carter, who is Black, said most of her friends, who are also Black women, decided not to return for the spring semester, so her experience has been particularly isolating. She said she has sought counseling through CPS, but she was troubled to find few counselors who shared her background.

“I came back because I felt like I could do more work on campus, but honestly, I shouldn’t have come back,” she said. “Honestly, I regret it.” ♦ By C.S.

#### LOOKING AHEAD

## Plans for In-Person Commencement And a ‘More Vibrant’ Fall Semester

An in-person Commencement for the Class of 2021 is scheduled for May 16 at Princeton Stadium, the University announced Feb. 25. The ROTC commissioning ceremony for graduating seniors will also be held in person. Public-health guidelines will be observed, according to a University statement, and plans could change depending on state mandates in response to COVID-19.

Members of the Class of 2021 are excited, class president Emma Parish ’21 told PAW. The class government and the Commencement committee “will be working to make the stadium a beautiful backdrop for Commencement,” Parish said. “We’ll also be continuing to plan exciting virtual celebrations. This year is a chance for us to be really creative about ways to honor the accomplishments of our classmates.”

Graduating seniors who live on campus will be able to attend the ceremony, along with seniors in the surrounding area who have participated in the University’s asymptomatic testing program. The same applies to graduate students on or near campus. Princeton is planning to invite seniors and graduate students who are studying remotely to participate on campus as well, in accordance with travel guidelines. The University noted that students who have violated the social contract that laid out rules and regulations for those on and near campus and were asked to leave campus will not be included.

As of early March, the status of guests at the event was still in question and was the biggest concern for students, Parish said. A maximum of two guests per student will be allowed if guests are permitted.

The Commencement ceremony will also be livestreamed. The Graduate Hooding ceremony and other end-of-year events for seniors, such as Class Day and Baccalaureate, will be held virtually.

Looking beyond Commencement, the University is planning for summer programs and the fall semester as well. In a March 11 message to faculty and staff, Provost Deborah Prentice and Executive Vice President Treby Williams ’84 wrote that summer programs normally held on campus, such as the Freshman Scholars Institute, will remain virtual in 2021, but administrators are aiming for fully in-person teaching and research in the 2021-22 academic year, as long as public-health guidance and state regulations allow for it.

“With the rate of vaccinations increasing weekly, we are optimistic that we will be able to provide an even more vibrant campus experience in the fall,” Prentice and Williams wrote. ♦ By C.S.

#### HISTORIAN HONORED WITH DAN DAVID PRIZE



**KEITH WAILOO**, a history professor studying the intersection of race, science, and health, was one of seven recipients of the 2021 Dan David Prize. Wailoo, who also serves as the president of the American Association for the History of Medicine, was recognized for his work on the social, cultural, and racial implications of various medical innovations. The Dan David Prize honors scholars conducting interdisciplinary research that fosters scientific, technological, and humanistic advances in the past, present, or future. Wailoo will share the \$1 million “past” prize with two other laureates. Among the seven 2021 recipients was Dr. Anthony Fauci. ♦



STUDENT DISPATCH

## Magical Mystery Guest: Paul McCartney Visits Princeton Songwriting Course

By Anna Allport '23



Students on the class Zoom call could barely believe their eyes. Some gasped. Others cheered. A few started crying tears of joy.

“IS THIS REAL?” asked Glenna Jane Galarion '21 in the Zoom chat, as Sir Paul McCartney logged onto the Princeton Atelier course “How to Write a Song.” The students had the rare opportunity to have their work critiqued by the legendary Beatles musician and songwriter when McCartney, calling from New York, joined their virtual classroom in February.

“When we started listening to [my group’s] song, Paul McCartney started bobbing his head,” Galarion told PAW. “And I thought, ‘No way is Paul McCartney, the greatest songwriter in music history, grooving to our song right now!’”

“How to Write a Song,” taught by poet and Princeton creative writing professor Paul Muldoon, has been offered at Princeton in various forms since 2010.

Bridget Kearney, a songwriter and bassist for the band Lake Street Dive and a former guest artist in the course, is co-teaching with Muldoon this year.

“We have an inordinate amount of fun in our class,” Muldoon said. “Every last one of [the students] is talented in some way.”

Every week, the 33 students in class are given a theme by Muldoon and Kearney, such as “protest” or “desire,” and hear a musical lesson from Kearney on elements including harmony, meter, and orchestration. They work in groups of four or five, and each group’s homework is to write and produce a full song. Class time is spent reviewing and discussing each song.

During the third week the theme was “loss,” and a new Zoom participant mysteriously labeled “Test Student” popped onto the screen. Unbeknownst to the students, Muldoon had reached out to McCartney about visiting. The two have known each other for years; the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet is collaborating with McCartney on the

musician’s recently announced lyrical autobiography, due out in November.

When the students got over their initial awe, they settled in for a workshop full of incisive musical analysis and charmingly off-the-cuff stories.

McCartney listened as each group played its recording for him, and he gave specific advice to improve each song. He suggested that one group move an intriguing lyric to the top of its song, to grab listeners’ attention. He advised another that words should be sung as naturally as they are spoken — the flow of language shouldn’t be sacrificed for the sake of rhythm.

“He gave a lot of great advice on structure,” said William Hunt '23. Anna McGee '22 cited the “empowering feeling” of having McCartney critique her work, and Rohit Oomman '24 appreciated learning to “let go of the idea of perfect.”

Several of the students said McCartney has been influential in their songwriting. “Paul McCartney is a genius,” said Oomman. “His influence is so far-reaching that it’s not really a question of ‘How has he influenced me?’ It’s like, ‘How has he *not*?’”

Muldoon has hosted other notable artists in past semesters, including Paul Simon, Rosanne Cash, and Steve Martin, but the class is “not about having stars in the room,” he said. “It’s about giving the students the opportunity to have a response to their work by another artist in the field.”

“How to Write a Song” is traditionally offered in person, featuring an end-of-semester concert of live student performances. Transitioning to Zoom, though, has allowed students to learn more about professional recording and production (key for future personal Spotify releases), and as Muldoon and Kearney noted, Zoom also facilitated McCartney’s surprise visit.

McCartney seemed inspired by the class. He told the students, “I must say, I love to see the young talent. And the kind of hopefulness. And the joy. The positivity. You know, even if it’s a sad song, just the fact that you wrote it is positive. And so, as far as I’m concerned, any message I can give you guys is: Hold onto that.” ♦

Photo illustration: Edmon de Haro, Steve Parsons/AFP via Getty Images (detail of a 2018 photo of McCartney), iStock (guitar); photo: H. Trilling (Allport)



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Photo by Steven Freeman

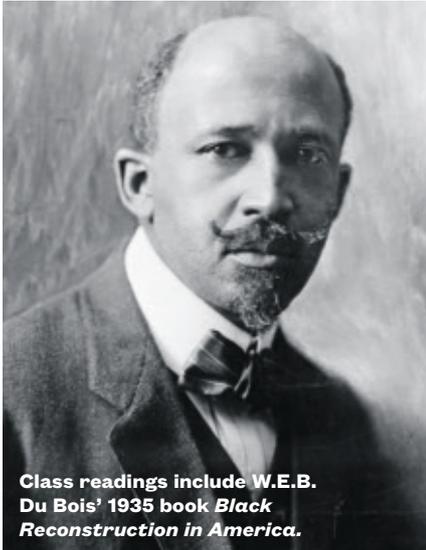
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CLASS CLOSE-UP

## Using Literature to Examine the Many Strands of Socialism



Class readings include W.E.B. Du Bois' 1935 book *Black Reconstruction in America*.

While the word “socialism” dates to the 19th century, the ideas behind it can be seen in ancient times, as in early Christianity. But to this day there’s still confusion about exactly what the term means. Benjamin Conisbee Baer set out to provide clarity when he created the class “What is Socialism? Literature and Politics.”

“One of the main goals is, in fact, for students to really understand that there is no one socialism,” said Baer, an associate professor of comparative literature whose research interests include Marxism and postcolonial literature and theory. “Socialism itself is a very multistranded tradition.”

Baer noticed a surge in interest in socialism in the past few years, particularly among young people. He linked the newfound interest to popular figures such as Bernie Sanders, who describes himself as a “democratic socialist.” During the Cold War era, the idea of socialism was largely aligned with communism and seen as a threat, Baer said. Today’s young people did not grow up with those associations, which may account for why they are more interested in and open to the concept, he added.

The seminar-style class of 15 students has been meeting weekly during the spring semester on Zoom. Baer lectures on the readings for the first portion of each class session before transitioning to a discussion in which students can share ideas and ask questions. In the final part of the class, students are grouped into breakout rooms for further discussion and activities. What makes this a comparative literature course is the use of “influential literary works” as the lens to examine socialism, Baer said. Class readings include Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*, *Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith, and *Black Reconstruction in America* by W.E.B. Du Bois.

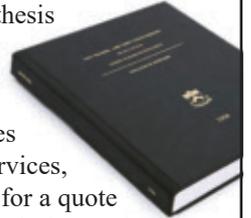
The class largely focuses on the intersection of history, politics, and the literature of socialism. “We talk about it as this search for an alternative” to capitalism, Baer said. He found the students to be very engaged as they piece together socialism’s relevance in their lives. For example, they have discussed ways to imagine a different future, as their generation has seen cycles of economic crisis, job uncertainty, and ballooning debt. Some want to explore whether socialism could improve race, class, and gender disparities, Baer said.

Charlotte Thiel ’22, a comparative literature major, took the class to learn about the role socialism has played throughout history. It has helped to broaden her understanding of the topic, which previously was “very tied to the ideology of just what it would look like if the masses owned the means of production,” she said. “I didn’t think a lot about the many strains of what that thinking has actually come out of. I didn’t understand how historically bound a lot of discussions of socialism are.” ♦ By C.S.

**While the word “socialism” dates to the 19th century, the ideas behind it can be seen in ancient times ... . But to this day there’s still confusion about exactly what the term means.**

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James A. Baker, III '52

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# Scholars Who Serve

## Princeton-based initiative sets students on career paths in the federal government

**A**lexandra (Alex) Kasdin '14 '18 majored in ecology and evolutionary biology at Princeton, and by the time she reached her junior year, she envisioned spending her career working in environmental policy. She'd taught conservation in Kenya and reported on climate science for a nonprofit, but finding a path into the policy world was still a challenge.

Looking for a "foot in the door," Kasdin applied to Princeton's Scholars in the Nation's Service Initiative (SINSI), then a six-year program spanning undergraduate and graduate school that aims to train career public servants through internships, fellowships, and the master's in public affairs program at the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA). She became the first SINSI student to spend her fellowship years in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which helped her to return to the agency after her MPA studies. Today, she serves as a project manager for Endangered Species Act implementation.

"I know I wouldn't be where I am right now if it wasn't for Princeton and the SINSI program," Kasdin said. "It will always be there as the foundation of my career."

Creating new paths from Princeton to U.S. government service was what then-dean Anne-Marie Slaughter '80 had in mind when SPIA launched SINSI 15

**"I know I wouldn't be where I am right now if it wasn't for Princeton and the SINSI program."**

— **Alexandra Kasdin '14 '18, project manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

years ago. "Government service has to be the core of public service," Slaughter said at the time. The program has evolved slightly — the summer internships for rising seniors and the four-year MPA/fellowship path are now separate offerings — but the goal remains unchanged.

Rick Barton and Kit Lunney, co-directors of the SINSI program, are working with a demographer (a former SINSI fellow) to study the career paths of the dozens of alumni who've completed the MPA track. The top destination is the federal government, Barton said, and even those who start their careers elsewhere are likely "to cycle through the federal government at one time." Others pursue roles in state and local government, nongovernmental organizations, or as consultants working with government agencies.

The pandemic has temporarily reshaped the SINSI experience, forcing interns and fellows to work remotely. Barton and Lunney said this can be a handicap because it disrupts mentorship

opportunities, but overall feedback from participants has been positive. They expect this year's internships to begin remotely and are hopeful that some could include in-person elements by the end of the summer.

SINSI named its newest class in January, selecting eight interns and four graduate scholars. Most of the interns are SPIA concentrators, but the four seniors entering the MPA fellowship track come from a broad range of majors: computer science, civil and environmental engineering, economics, and sociology.

Alumni of the SINSI graduate program said they learned a great deal in a relatively short time, spending an intense year in MPA studies before entering the federal government. Graduate students can arrange for up to four rotations in different agencies.

Nabil Shaikh '17, who worked in the Department of Justice and will complete his MPA in May, appreciated the balance of SPIA and fellowship years. "You get the two years in the graduate school, where you can work on a breadth of issues and there is a lot of academic freedom," he said. "But then you balance that with two years of work in the government, where you really learn the constraints of ... working with specific laws and working within the constraints of statutorily defined roles."

With a pay-it-forward-minded community of about 100 alumni and students, SINSI has an enduring influence on its graduates, according to Nathan Eckstein '16 '20, who is beginning a career in the foreign service this month. "I owe a lot to the SINSI fellows who came before me," Eckstein said. ♦ *By B.T.*

### TRANSFORMING A CLASSIC OPERA



Students, faculty, and staff from the music department's **FALL 2020 OPERA PERFORMANCE** course created a virtual production of Francesco Cavalli's *La Calisto*, which premiered online in three parts in March, and featured Siyang Liu '21, far left, and Mariana Corichi Gomez '21. Michael Pratt, director of the Program in Music Performance, said the experience provided new perspectives on the 370-year-old opera. "We have discovered, once again, that timeless art is called that for a reason," Pratt said. "*La Calisto* speaks strongly to our current circumstance in very specific ways, always enveloped in music of poetic beauty." Watch *La Calisto: A Virtual Opera* at [bit.ly/virtual-opera](http://bit.ly/virtual-opera). ♦

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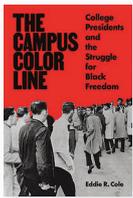
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## PEDDIE



Q&amp;A: EDDIE R. COLE

## Examining Higher-Ed Leadership During the Era of Desegregation



From the end of World War II through the late 1960s, America's higher-education leaders played critical roles in civil-rights issues that ranged from desegregation to housing discrimination. Eddie R. Cole, an associate professor of higher education and organizational change at UCLA, examines the era in *The Campus Color Line*, a new book from the Princeton University Press that features a chapter about Robert Goheen '40 \*48 in the early years of his Princeton presidency.

### What was distinctive about Princeton's experience with the enrollment of Black students, compared to peers like Harvard and Yale?

In the context of the mid-20th century, Princeton was lagging significantly behind many of its Ivy League peers, when you think of Harvard, Yale, Penn, or Columbia. Princeton did not have a significant number of Black students until World War II, when a particular Navy program assigned a few cadets to the University. As higher-education institutions become more competitive with one another, post-World War II,

and you have enrollment skyrocket, there is something to be said about the effort to create a climate that was more welcoming to Black students.

### Did President Goheen acknowledge that Princeton had a reputation to overcome?

Absolutely. Being an alumnus, he was very much aware of the campus culture at Princeton. You have a multigenerational lineage of students from the South and the University having a reputation as being Southern-friendly. That doesn't quite align with the effort to actively recruit more Black students.

### Within that context, in 1963 Whig-Clio invited Mississippi's segregationist governor, Ross Barnett, to speak on campus. How did Goheen handle the event?

Goheen believed that to become a University of the new age, you have to welcome a wide range of thought. With that said, when Ross Barnett is invited to speak at Princeton in October 1963 — only two weeks after the devastating bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, and only a year after Barnett had defied the Kennedy administration, which resulted

in a very violent desegregation at the University of Mississippi — this is no small feat. Barnett had made a political career out of being anti-Black. To have him come to campus at a time when Goheen is actively trying to recruit Black students — you see the conflict. Goheen publicly condemned the invitation, but he did not put pressure on the students to withdraw the invitation.

What Goheen did was actively work to create campus policies and practices that not only reinforced his statement condemning what Barnett said but also moved the University forward. A number of initiatives went immediately into play. He and other senior administrators started meeting with Black residents of Princeton, who had long felt ignored by Princeton University. They started implementing programs that would actually help Black residents in town as well as Black students coming to campus. So if you were a local real estate agent who had discriminatory housing practices, you were removed from Princeton University's housing lists. There was an active effort to recruit Black residents for certain positions on campus beyond the traditional menial roles that they'd had for centuries.

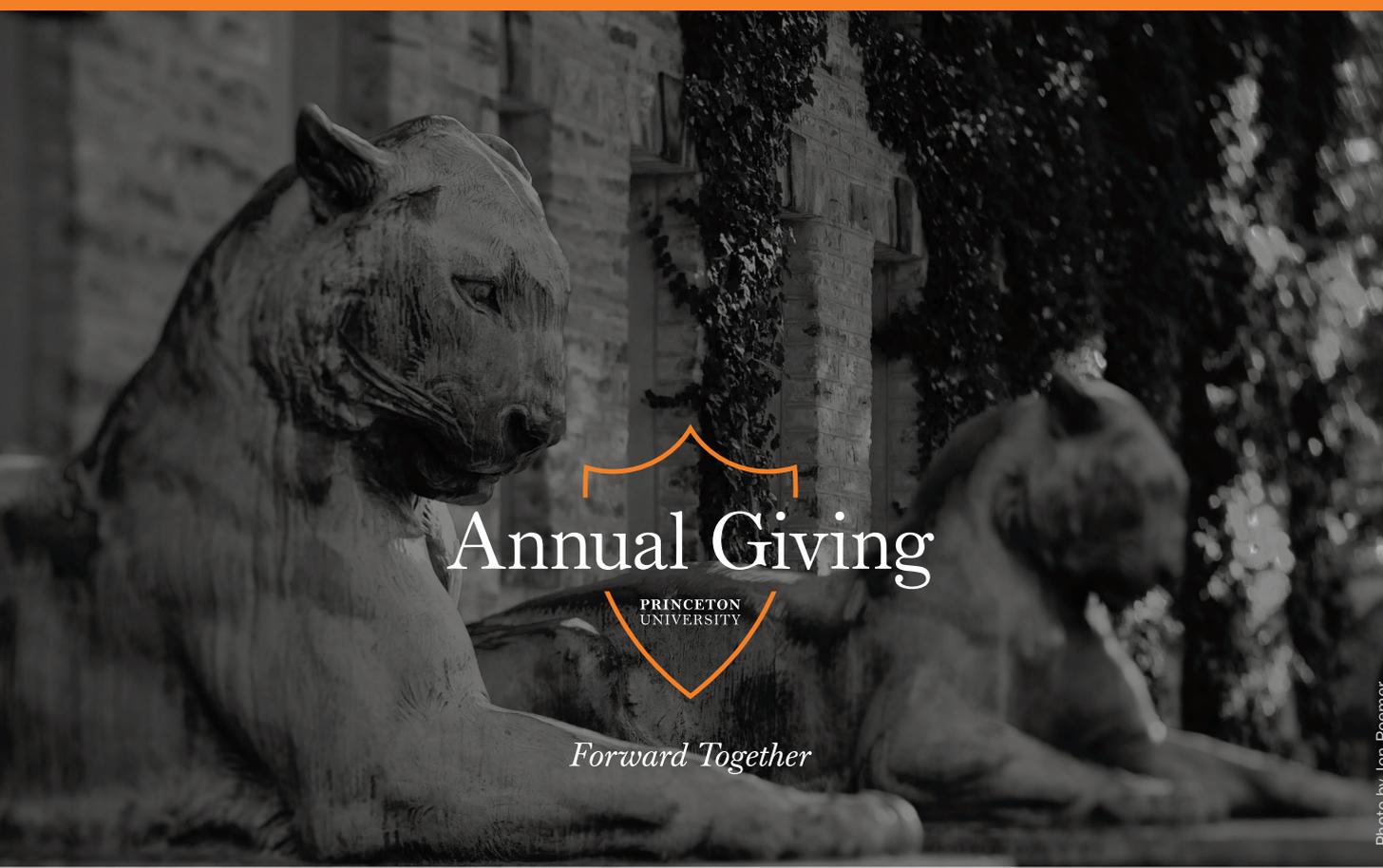
Goheen's biggest action, perhaps, was going before the Board of Trustees on Oct. 25, 1963, and telling them that he could not separate his personal beliefs on racial equality from his responsibilities as college president — his approach was aligned with his beliefs in supporting Black students and Black residents.

### Do you think the Barnett episode accelerated the pace of change?

Yes. There was a counterprotest that took place on campus just before Ross Barnett's speech. Civil-rights leaders such as Bayard Rustin, who is known for organizing the March on Washington, came to Princeton and spoke. What you saw in *The Daily Princetonian* and other student voices was this public reflection among white students when they saw their college-age peers who were passionate about civil rights come to Princeton to protest against Barnett. ♦

Interview conducted and condensed by B.T.

 **READ MORE** in an expanded interview at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)



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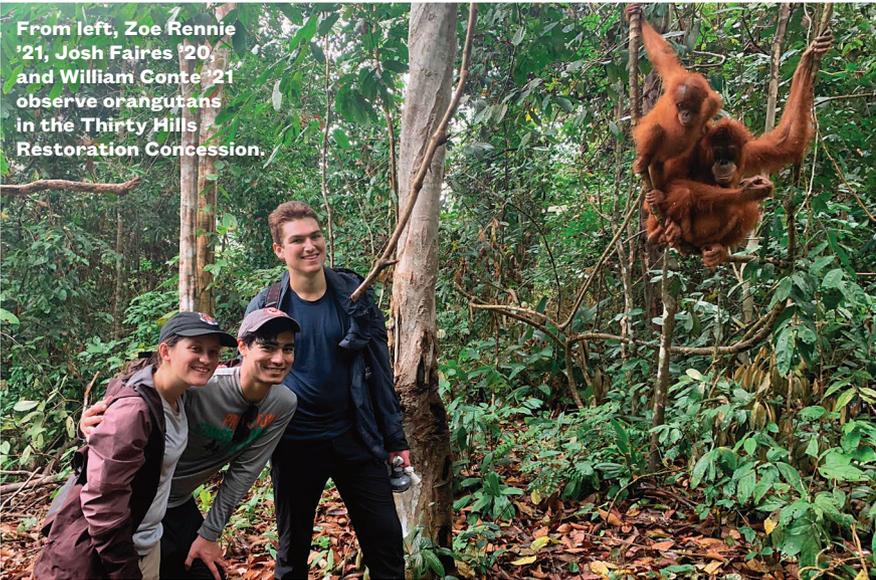
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1746 SOCIETY PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



From left, Zoe Rennie '21, Josh Faires '20, and William Conte '21 observe orangutans in the Thirty Hills Restoration Concession.

# Aiding a Fragile Habitat

## Student documentary highlights rainforest conservation in Indonesia

**F**or decades, the rainforests on the Indonesian island of Sumatra have been under siege from development by pulp and paper producers and palm-oil plantations. The Thirty Hills Restoration Concession, run by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), is working to reverse that trend with sustainable, traditional land uses, such as honey harvesting.

Six students from the Princeton Conservation Society traveled to Thirty Hills in the summer of 2019 to explore the region and meet with Indigenous people and conservation experts. With support from WWF and Princeton's High Meadows Environmental Institute, the students produced a documentary film about their visit, *Across Thirty Hills*, which premiered in an online screening and discussion in January. A virtual event for Princeton alumni will be held April 19 (for details, see [princetonrainforestproject.com](http://princetonrainforestproject.com)).

The Conservation Society's interest in Sumatra dates back to 2018, when students began looking for a way to help protect the habitats of tigers in Southeast Asia. "We realized pretty early on that in order to have a tangible impact, we'd need to partner with an organization

that was working on the ground," said Arjun Krishnan '21, associate editor of the film. A conversation with Carter Roberts '82, WWF's president and CEO, helped the students connect with the Thirty Hills team.

On their visit to Thirty Hills, the students observed orangutans, tracked elephants through the forest, and had a close encounter with swarming bees as they filmed a honey harvest. They also learned the complex challenges of balancing the livelihoods of local communities with the habitat needs of threatened species.

Turning hours of footage and interviews into a half-hour film was a challenge, particularly after the pandemic sent team members away from campus, but editor and ecology and evolutionary biology major Zoe Rennie '21 is proud of the final cut and the response it received from faculty at the January screening.

"Hearing the feedback from professors wasn't just in-the-moment gratifying," Rennie said. "It was also reassurance that we're on the right track and doing something that is contributing positively to the Princeton community."

◆ By B.T.

## New Faculty Group Backs Free Speech

Princeton faculty are among the organizers and leaders of the new **Academic Freedom Alliance (AFA)**, a national group of more than 200 professors that says it wants to uphold freedom of thought and speech and will provide legal support to members who need it.

Keith Whittington, the William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Politics and author of the 2018 book *Speak Freely: Why Universities Must Defend Free Speech*, will chair the AFA's academic committee.

"Instances of professors being disciplined or fired for protected speech are on the rise," Whittington said in a press release. "AFA will counteract the pressure on school administrators to crack down on controversial views and will provide faculty with strength in numbers to defend their academic freedom." He added that the group will not endorse members' specific views but "will simply defend their right to expression."

Twenty-five Princeton faculty are listed as AFA members, including Cornel West '80, a Princeton emeritus professor. Robert P. George, the McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, told *The Chronicle of Higher Education* that members span the ideological spectrum, and liberals and progressives are just as concerned about academic freedom as their conservative peers. "They are absolutely terrified, and they know they can never keep up with the wokeness," George told the *Chronicle*. "What's OK today is over the line tomorrow, and nobody gave you the memo." ◆



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## On the Campus

### Professor Sues Scholarly Group After Appointment Was Revoked

Princeton classics professor Joshua Katz has sued the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), saying in court documents that the group revoked his appointment to an international symposium because he expressed views that “offend the ideological sensibilities of some in academia.”

The suit stems from an essay Katz published in July on the Quillette website in which he responded to a letter by faculty colleagues addressing racism on campus. In the essay, Katz said he agreed with some of his colleagues’ proposals but disagreed with others. He was strongly criticized for calling the Black Justice League (BJL), a student group that led the 2015 sit-in at Nassau Hall, a “terrorist organization.” Katz (who is the faculty’s representative to the PAW board) later said he used the term metaphorically to illustrate the group’s “use of fear tactics to intimidate” students who disagreed with the B JL’s views.

The ACLS describes itself as the “preeminent representative of American scholarship in the humanities and related social sciences.” In February 2020, it appointed Katz to what’s usually a long-term position as delegate to the Union Académique Internationale symposium; the suit says the appointment was revoked in September, when the ACLS cited his comments about race and the attention they had drawn. Although the appointment was unpaid, the suit says that such positions affect professional advancement. In court documents, lawyers for the ACLS denied Katz’s allegations.

Controversy over Katz has continued: In February, *The Daily Princetonian* published allegations that Katz acted inappropriately toward three female students, including engaging in a sexual relationship with one. Katz later acknowledged that he had a “consensual relationship” with a student when he was a young professor, violating University rules. “It was wrong, and I am ashamed of my past conduct,” he wrote. He said that the relationship was brought to the University’s attention “long after” it ended and that he complied with the University’s requirements after an investigation, including a yearlong unpaid suspension and counseling. He also said he was counseled on “appropriate boundaries” of faculty-student friendships in connection with another student. ♦

## IN SHORT

**Myesha Jemison '18 and Mary DeVellis '21 are among the 2021 recipients of the GATES CAMBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP.** The scholarship, founded in 2000 by the Gates Foundation, supports postgraduate study at the University of Cambridge. Jemison, who majored in Spanish and Portuguese, plans to complete a Ph.D. in education. She is interested in studying bias in educational technology applications and wants to conduct research to combat educational inequity. DeVellis, who is majoring in anthropology, will pursue a master’s degree in health, medicine, and society. She plans to focus her studies on sexual-health education for people with disabilities.

Four seniors, Chisom Ilogu, Sarah Kamanzi, Leopoldo Solis, and Lydia Spencer, were awarded Princeton’s **LABOUISSSE PRIZE** for international civic-engagement

projects. The award is named for Henry Richardson Labouisse '26, who served as a diplomat and public servant. Each recipient receives \$30,000 to conduct a yearlong project that embodies the work of Labouisse. Ilogu will develop an exhibit about the major pan-African festival FESTAC '77. Kamanzi will interview African international students. Solis will teach English and computational skills in the Huasteca region of Mexico. And Spencer will work on initiatives to combat gender violence in Brazil.

The Department of Electrical Engineering will now be known as the **DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING**, a change approved by the faculty in February. Professor Sharad Malik, the department chair, said the new name “makes our core work more visible to the department’s constituents.” ♦

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Men's heavyweight power's train in early February outside the Shea Rowing Center.

SPRING SPORTS

# Finding Ways to Play

## With the spring conference season canceled, teams focus on training and more

**T**win sisters Isabel and Fiona Max '24, who run, respectively, middle and long distance for Princeton women's track, are among those feeling the sting of a spring without intercollegiate competition: The spring conference season was canceled by the Ivy League in mid-February, continuing the policy put in place for fall and winter sports.

"The loss of the competition season has been a big thing," Isabel said. "We're here to compete. Everyone at Princeton is competitive."

But the league's decision did not spell the end of athletics at Princeton for the school year. Thanks to the low rate

of COVID cases on campus, Princeton's teams have been cleared to practice, provided players and coaches follow a rigorous set of safety protocols. Track and field athletes, for example, have been able to resume their usual practice format.

"Just running next to people has been amazing," Isabel said. "It's just a matter

**"Right now I'm just playing because I love the game, and it's like I'm 8 years old again."**

— **Infelder Taylor Beckett '21**

of perspective," Fiona added. "The big realization at the end of the day is that running is running, and we're lucky that we can do it."

Michelle Eisenreich, their head coach, said the team is less affected by COVID restrictions than many other sports. "There's no guarding or defending, so we're naturally socially distant," she explained.

If case numbers continue to drop, teams will be cleared for additional activity as part of a phased plan. For now, participants must wear masks at all times and remain at least 6 feet apart. The use of locker rooms is not permitted, and practice groups must not exceed 10 student-athletes. But players and coaches are thrilled to be practicing again, even under strange circumstances.

The baseball team has also resumed fairly typical practices, with minimal COVID interference aside from the smaller practice groups. To keep things interesting without intercollegiate

Greg Hughes '96

action, coach Scott Bradley has launched the COVID Cup, a series of modified intrasquad scrimmages. With a limited number of players at practice, there have been some unusual defensive alignments, including players manning positions they haven't played since Little League.

The experience reminds infielder Taylor Beckett '21 of his childhood in suburban Boston. "Right now I'm just playing because I love the game, and it's like I'm 8 years old again," he said. "In a typical season, I love having to worry about who's our next opponent and which pitcher I'm facing. But there's also something liberating about the mentality I have right now of, 'I'm just playing because this is what I love to do.'"

Unlike track and baseball, the men's volleyball team has faced significant interruptions due to protocols. "It's not a great COVID sport," head coach Sam Shweisky said. Many common volleyball drills — let alone full scrimmages — are



From left, Charlie Rogers '24 hits the ball with head men's volleyball coach Sam Shweisky and assistant coach Patrick Shawaryn.

not permitted, given the impossibility of staying 6 feet apart. But Shweisky has relished the opportunity for individual skill development outside of the crucible of a Division I volleyball season. "We get

to really slow things down and look at video of individual guys," he explained. "There's no pressure. It's not like we have to play Penn State in two weeks."

The team has made the most of its added bandwidth off the court as well. As part of weekly team meetings on Zoom, a handful of the program's Black alumni have been guiding the team and coaching staff through *I'm Still Here*, a book by Austin Channing Brown that addresses racial injustice in America. "It's been great to really live the value that [athletics] isn't just about sports at Princeton," Shweisky explained. "Times like this you really see it."

And as the weather began warming up in March, the team was looking forward to one more unique opportunity on campus. "As the weather gets nicer in the next few weeks, we might play a little beach volleyball," Shweisky said. "I probably wouldn't do that if we were preparing for matches. But hey, it's a global pandemic. Let's have a little fun."

◆ By Blake Thomsen '17

Howard Wang '24

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Jeanne and Stuart Altmann in Kenya, circa 1982, conducting research for the Amboseli Baboon Research Project.

CURRICULUM VITAE: JEANNE ALTMANN

## Taking the ‘Twisty’ Path

### How one woman’s perseverance and insight changed the field of biology

In 1957, when Jeanne Altmann was graduating from high school and planning to study math in college, she asked for a slide rule as a graduation present. Her grandmother agreed, but only if one small enough to fit in a ladylike purse could be found. Such mixed messages were pervasive at the time. Altmann’s parents encouraged intellectual conversation and academic success, but “career” was not a word they ever used with their two daughters. At UCLA, in a meeting for roughly 100 incoming math majors, Altmann and the two other women were told by the faculty that assigning them advisers would be “a waste of time.”

Though she followed what she calls a “slow and somewhat twisty path” early on, fitting education into marriage and motherhood, and shifting from math to

the study of animal behavior, Altmann was never one to waste time. In her professional journey from that meeting at UCLA to her position as Eugene Higgins Professor Emerita of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, there were two constants: her determination to satisfy her intellectual yearnings, and, from the early 1960s on, close observation of the baboons of southern Kenya.

She first went to Kenya to help her husband, the late biologist Stuart Altmann. The Amboseli Baboon Research

**Altmann and the two other women math majors were told by the faculty that assigning them advisers would be “a waste of time.”**

Project, which the couple established in 1971 and which Jeanne has directed ever since, is one of the longest-running field sites in the world. Her rigorous methodology and the decades of discoveries about the evolutionary roots of social behavior that Amboseli has produced have made Altmann one of the leading primatologists of her generation.

It was Stuart who introduced her to animal behavior. They met the summer Jeanne was 18 and Stuart was 28. She had a job as a reference librarian at the National Institutes of Health; he came in with a research question. “I went to the zoo with a zoologist,” she wrote to her parents after their first date. They married the next year, and Altmann finished her college education in bursts while following Stuart, first to Boston, where she spent a year at MIT, and then to the University of Alberta, where she received her degree. Her first baby, Michael, was born before she got her bachelor’s degree.

The Altmanns moved to Kenya in 1963 so Stuart could conduct a yearlong study of baboons. In what was then called the Maasai Amboseli Game Reserve, they spent their days sitting on

a jury-rigged viewing platform attached to the roof of their Land Rover while 2-year-old Michael played in a makeshift backseat playpen. It proved to be a tumultuous year. Against the backdrop of Kenyan independence, they suffered one medical drama after another: Stuart had pleurisy and an emergency appendectomy; Michael was temporarily paralyzed by a virus.

Nevertheless, they returned to Kenya in 1969 — with their daughter, Rachel, added to the mix — and again in 1971. By then, Jeanne had done a stint teaching math in Atlanta and earned a master’s in teaching. But she thought that studying behavior would be more conducive to family life than academic math. “My success and pleasure was greatest when I lost all sense of time or place for innumerable uninterrupted hours or even days,” she once wrote of her years studying math, “something that at least for me was incompatible with being the primary child-care person at home.” Besides, she got “hooked” on Africa and the baboons.

Her first major contribution made use of her mathematical mind. In the young field of behavioral ecology, there was a fundamental problem with how researchers collected and reported observational data. “You couldn’t tell how most people did it,” Altmann says. The standard “ad lib” approach — noting the behavior one happens to see in a social group — made it difficult to draw valid conclusions. Altmann developed a simple method known as focal sampling, in which observers follow individual animals one at a time in a predetermined fashion, asking the same set of questions for each and recording everything an individual does in a set period of time — eating, grooming, sleeping, fighting, etc. Her 1974 paper on sampling, written before she had even begun her doctoral work, became a model for the field and has more than 16,000 citations.

Soon after that, Altmann embarked on the first research that was truly her own, a yearlong study of baboon motherhood and infancy that won her a dissertation prize in the Department of Human Development at the University of Chicago. Stuart had joined Chicago’s biology department and Jeanne landed



**“I felt that in mammals, including humans, females potentially had not only ... control over their own lives, to the extent anybody does, but also over the next generation.”**

— Jeanne Altmann, professor emerita, ecology and evolutionary biology

in human development in part to avoid joining the same department, and in part because she saw the boundaries between human and animal behavior as permeable.

Her work was unusual because she was studying baboons, not babies, and because she was studying females. “There was this attitude that males were where all the action of evolution was,” she says. “I felt that in mammals, including humans, females potentially had not only ... control over their own lives, to the extent anybody does, but also over the next generation. By the time I finished collecting my data, it was obvious to me that the payoffs came down the road.”

By the early ’80s, Altmann was training Kenyan field assistants and her first graduate students. Stuart’s academic interests had shifted, but Jeanne saw the value of being in it for the long haul (funders took repeated convincing), and Amboseli became her project. Over the years, she has been joined by a like-minded team of scientists and field observers, most of whom have been

with the project for decades. Her former student Susan Alberts, an evolutionary anthropologist at Duke, is now lead director of the project, and two of Alberts’ former students, Elizabeth Archie and Jenny Tung, are co-associate directors. “We run it as a family business,” says Archie, a biologist at the University of Notre Dame, who calls herself Altmann’s “academic granddaughter.”

Nearly 50 years on, the Amboseli Baboon Research Project has accumulated consistent data on almost 2,000 animals across seven generations. As technology allowed, Altmann and her colleagues introduced genetic and hormone analysis (they collect a lot of feces). In 1998, she moved from Chicago to Princeton, where she set up an endocrinology lab that allowed the team to expand and make better use of emerging techniques. Although the lab is now under Alberts’ direction at Duke, Altmann is still part of the baboon-project leadership team. With an assistant at Princeton, she maintains part of the project’s database, and she hopes to return to Kenya when pandemic restrictions ease.

Among the group’s many important papers, one of the most famous was a report in 2003 in *Science* showing that strong social bonds among female baboons led to reproductive success. Another paper the same year showed that baboon fathers helped care for their offspring. More recently, the team demonstrated the cumulative effects of early adversity on the baboons.

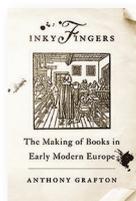
At a 2016 event honoring Altmann, Archie said: Her “incredible breadth of experience and willingness to embrace different ideas is one of the main reasons she was able to make such an important impact.” Sometimes, she says, the long road is the right one. ♦ *By Lydia Denworth ’88*

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FACULTY BOOK: ANTHONY GRAFTON

# The Delicate Art of Assembling Knowledge



To spend any time with Anthony Grafton, the Henry Putnam University Professor of History, even on Zoom, is to dance across eras and disciplines, between high culture and low. Grafton’s cultural references are as catholic as his reading tastes — conversation veers from Erasmus to *The Simpsons’* Mr. Burns.

One of Grafton’s academic specialties is the history of scholarship. It is the subject of his most recent book, *Inky Fingers: The Making of Books in Early Modern Europe* (Belknap Press), in which he looks at the way knowledge itself was acquired, assembled, digested, and transmitted. He blasts the false distinction between scholars who supposedly worked only with their brains and the tradespeople who assembled their books with their hands; the two relied on one another, and the division of labor was not always clear.

One particularly interesting figure, among many whom Grafton sketches, is Francis Daniel Pastorius, who emigrated to the American colonies from what is now Germany in 1683 and helped found the settlement of Germantown, now a neighborhood in Philadelphia. A polymath who produced one of the first compendiums of Pennsylvania legal practices, Pastorius also studied Native American culture. Over the door of his Germantown cottage Pastorius painted



**“This was a guy I kind of felt I knew,” Grafton says of Daniel Pastorius, a figure in his recent book.**

an inscription from Virgil’s *Aeneid* — a reference so incongruous, given the rustic setting, that even the notoriously dour William Penn burst out laughing when he saw it.

“This was a guy I kind of felt I knew,” Grafton observes of Pastorius. “I love to work on people I admire.”

Pastorius’ most remarkable work was his *Bee-Hive*, a massive commonplace book, which Grafton shows off in digital form over Zoom. Like many absorbed readers before and since, Pastorius marked up his books with marginal notes and references. No passive reader, he interacted with his texts, and the

commonplace book was a place to copy, store, and digest what he had learned.

Over dozens of years and thousands of pages, Pastorius jotted down excerpts of nearly everything he read, as well as his thoughts about it, illustrating the remarkable breadth of his knowledge in the process. Grafton describes him as a “graphomaniac” who even copied excerpts from his friends’ diaries (and then chided them for being boring).

It is somehow disappointing to learn that Grafton does not make marginal notes in his own books. Of course he takes extensive notes on his reading, but he keeps them, as a 21st-century scholar should, on his laptop, creating something of a digital commonplace book.

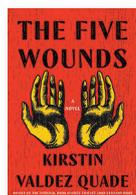
Today, we have much more knowledge at our fingertips than Pastorius could have dreamed of, but making sense of it may be harder. The digital camera now enables anyone to visit a remote archive, snap a few thousand images, and instantly assemble primary-source material.

“It’s incredible, and it’s made research much more demanding because we expect students to have an empirical base that would have been completely impossible for me when I was their age,” Grafton observes.

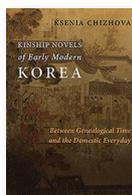
Assembling knowledge into a useable form, though, will always be a scholar’s chief labor. For all that technology gives, Grafton notes, it is easy to get lost amid the trees of digital documents and miss the narrative forest.

“I’ve seen this happen with friends and students, who get so passionate about their thousands of images and their files that they can’t extricate a story,” Grafton cautions. “In the end, if you’re a historian, the story is what it’s all for.” ♦ *By M.F.B.*

## FACULTY BOOKS



Creative writing professor **Kirstin Valdez Quade’s** novel *The Five Wounds* (Norton) follows a New Mexican family’s year of love and sacrifice. Thirty-three-year-old Amadeo Padilla has been given the part of Jesus in the Good Friday procession, and while he is preparing, his 15-year-old daughter shows up pregnant, disrupting his plans for personal redemption.



In *Kinship Novels of Early Modern Korea* (Columbia University Press), **Ksenia Chizhova**, assistant professor of East Asian studies and comparative literature, discusses a popular genre in Korea during the 17th through the 20th centuries: novels that unfold over generations of one family. Her exploration covers how these books fit within Korean society, history, and modernity. ♦

Sameer A. Khan



BEHIND THE RESEARCH: LINDY MCBRIDE

## Picking the Brains of Pesky Mosquitoes

As a child in Rochester, New York, Lindy McBride spent as much time as possible outdoors. “I was always really interested in being outside: camping, animals, plants,” she says. “My aunt’s a bird-watcher, so she got me into that, too.”

After graduating from Williams College with a degree in biology, she worked as a field researcher in Peru and a Fulbright Fellow in Tanzania. During that time, McBride became particularly interested in species evolution, diversity, and genetics, setting her sights on mosquitoes. “I wanted to study something that I could manipulate, that I could actually bring into the lab and mate between species.” McBride, who earned her Ph.D. in population biology from the University of California, Davis, is an assistant professor in the Princeton Neuroscience Institute and the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. She adds, “I became interested in [these] mosquitoes because they provide this really striking and recent example of adaptation.”

**At Princeton, McBride studies the behavioral evolution of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes from genetic, molecular, and neural perspectives.**

By Agatha Bordonaro '04

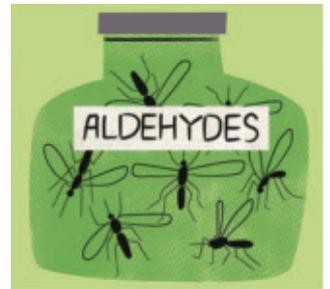
## McBride’s Work: A Sampling

**THE ONE THEY WANT**  
Of the more than 3,000 species of mosquitoes worldwide, only a few prefer biting humans to animals. McBride wanted to understand this “evolution of preference.” By researching *Aedes aegypti* in Africa, she and her team found that it likely came down to water access. In places where there was a long dry season — up to 10 months of drought — the mosquitoes heavily gravitated to humans. “Mosquito larvae are aquatic. They need water to survive,” McBride explains. Human settlements provided the bugs with water storage containers such as tanks, discarded tires, and plastic jugs. “Once you rely on humans for breeding, it may make sense to also bite them.”



**SWEET ATTRACTION**  
McBride wondered what exactly was taking place in mosquitoes’ brains to make them seek out human odor. By engineering the bugs’ neurons to show their electrical reactions to scents, her team found that the brains of people-preferring mosquitoes are much more sensitive to compounds known as long-chain aldehydes, which are highly concentrated in human skin oils. With this knowledge “we may be able to come up with safe and effective ways

to reduce how attractive we are,” McBride says. This could result in better topical repellents, as well as improved synthetic bait to attract and trap the bugs, thereby reducing populations in areas where they are major vectors of diseases including dengue fever, yellow fever, and the chikungunya virus.



**FROM BIRDS TO HUMANS**  
*Culex pipiens*, the species of mosquito that carries West Nile virus, lives above ground in temperate regions, such as New Jersey, and feasts on birds. But recently, the species has evolved a new branch of underground mosquitoes that dwell in city basements, subways, and water systems. These metropolitan mosquitoes seek out not birds, but humans and other mammals. “It’s a fascinating dichotomy,” says McBride, whose lab is working to understand more on the population’s divergence. “What is it about their sense of smell that makes them attracted to birds on the one hand and mammals on the other?”



## Is a lack of civic education partly to blame for our national distress?

By Mark F. Bernstein '83

# WHY WE NEED CIVICS

**S**upreme Court justices Sonia Sotomayor '76 and Neil Gorsuch see many things differently. One cause, however, brings them together. The cause is civic education, which includes the study of our system of government and incorporates a wider set of values relating to the rights and duties of citizenship. Through several joint appearances in recent years, the justices have demonstrated a good civic value — working toward a common goal with people who have different viewpoints — to bring this issue to the public's attention. When they appeared together on the TV show *CBS Sunday Morning* in 2018, Sotomayor expressed concern about how a loss of civic knowledge has affected our society, although she could not have anticipated the damage yet to come.

"It has been closely documented," Sotomayor observed, "that the partisan discord in our country followed very closely on the heels of schools stopping to teach civic education."

Did it ever. Which brings us to a counterexample. Calls for improved civic education from Supreme Court justices and public-interest groups draw polite interest, but when a mob storms the U.S. Capitol vowing to hang the vice president, national alarm bells ring at an entirely different decibel level. Many hope that the Jan. 6 insurrection, terrible as it was, will prove to be the turning point that finally drives the country to take action. The stakes, it would seem, can hardly get higher.

Certainly, civics is one of the rare issues on which progressives and conservatives can agree. Last summer, Republican pollster Frank Luntz surveyed more than 1,000 Americans, asking what could help bridge the country's political divide. Civic education was the No. 1 answer. Steps have already been taken to address it. The Educating for Democracy Act, introduced in each of the last two Congresses

with co-sponsors from both parties, would authorize \$1 billion for increased civics and history education. But lack of funding, while important, is only part of the problem.

**I**t may come as a surprise to learn that, despite the travails of the last several years — or perhaps because of them — the state of civic knowledge seems to be improving, at least a little bit. In the Annenberg Public Policy Center's 2020 survey of constitutional knowledge, just over half of respondents could name all three branches of government. That might not seem like many, but it is the highest level since the annual survey began seven years ago. Seventy-three percent correctly identified freedom of speech as one of the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment, up from just 48 percent in 2017. The number of people who could name all five rights protected by the First Amendment (speech, religion, assembly, press, and petitioning the government — but you already knew that, right?) also was significantly higher than four years ago. Looking at a different measure of civic health, voter turnout was also higher in the last election than it has been in more than a century.

One would hope that Princeton students arrive on campus with a solid grounding in civics. Most do know the basics, says Professor Frances Lee, who teaches a course in congressional politics. But they haven't learned the underlying history of our form of government, including the philosophical foundations on which it rests, she says. Many don't appreciate that governments exist to set rules for channeling disagreement. Politics, in other words, is *supposed* to be contentious. "I think they envision the process as a series of [procedural] steps instead of as an arena of conflict," Lee observes.

That tracks what Robert P. George, the McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, sees in the popular course he teaches on constitutional interpretation. "I really have to begin from scratch," he says. Nearly everyone comes in knowing the three branches of government, but less obvious concepts, such as the idea that the national government is one of delegated and enumerated powers, are new to them.

"Students come in believing that the United States is a [pure] democracy," George explains, "and they are shocked —

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the Progress and general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article 1

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not, when elected, be seven Years of Age, and fourteen Years a Citizen of the United States, and seven Years a Citizen of that State in which he shall be elected; and who, when elected, shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be elected.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be admitted into or separated from the Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including all bound Persons for the Space of Year next to the said Enumeration, three fifths of all other Persons who are held as Servants within the United States.

But no Representative shall hold any Office or Place of Profit or Trust under the United States.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature of the State in which they may be, for six Years; and each Senator shall have the Qualifications requisite for Representatives.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not, when elected, be thirty Years of Age, and seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and three Years a Citizen of that State in which he shall be elected; and who, when elected, shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be elected.

Section 4. The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and the Electors in each State, shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

Section 5. The Senate shall have the sole and exclusive Power of Impeachment.

Section 6. The Senate shall have the sole and exclusive Power of trying all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. The President shall be tried, if Impeached, by the Senate.

Section 7. No Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Section 8. The Senate shall have the sole and exclusive Power of confirming and rejecting all Appointments of the President, and all Appointments of Judges of the Supreme and inferior Courts, and all Appointments of Officers of the United States.

Section 9. The President shall have the Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions that shall expire at the End of their next Session, unless they be sooner confirmed.

Section 10. No Member of Congress shall receive any Salary or other Emolument, while he is acting as such, and no other Person shall receive any Salary or other Emolument, while he is acting as a Member of Congress.

Section 11. The President may grant Reprieves and Pardons for all Offences, except Treason, Bribery, and other Crimes against the United States.

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Preparing for the Naturalization Test  
A Pocket Study Guide

AMERICAN CIVICS & GOVERNMENT  
AMERICAN HISTORY  
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

I VOTE

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# What should Americans know about their system

just shocked! — when they read Hamilton and Madison in *The Federalist Papers* warning that we must be a republic instead. But it's not the kids' fault. No one ever told them."

One thing nearly everyone in the field agrees on is why civic education began to wane, and the culprit, indirectly, is Russia. The launch of Sputnik in 1957 also launched a panic that the United States was falling behind other countries in science, technology, engineering, and math. Public resources have shifted toward those STEM fields ever since, usually at the expense of social studies and civics. Today, the federal government spends about \$50 per student per year on STEM education and only 5 cents per student on civics. (Most education spending, however, comes from state and local governments.)

STEM subjects have also gained popularity because they are less controversial and are seen as more likely to lead to a well-paying job. That dismays Danielle Allen '93, a political philosopher and director of the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard, who has spent much of her career thinking about how to promote civic education. "National security and competitiveness are important," Allen reasons, "but you want to succeed in that competition as the kind of society that you are. For the United States, it means succeeding as a constitutional democracy. So if you're really serious about security and competitiveness, you've got to secure civic strength, too."

**S**o, what should Americans know about their system of government and when should they know it?

"I'm stunned by the number of people whose knowledge of American government begins and ends with *Schoolhouse Rock*," says Chris Lu '88, who served as a senior White House official during the Obama administration. "I feel like we need to give the entire country a civics lesson, from the average citizen all the way up to our leadership."

One basic gauge of civic knowledge is the naturalization test administered to all applicants for citizenship. A U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service officer asks 10 questions at random from a list of 100, and the subject must get at least six right to pass. There are multiple-choice questions about the functions of government (e.g., If the president and vice president can no longer serve, who becomes president?), history (What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?), and public culture (Name two national U.S. holidays).

Ninety percent of immigrants pass the test, but only 36 percent of native-born Americans succeed, according to a 2018 survey by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation (now known as the Institute for Citizens & Scholars). Illustrating how civic education has declined over the last half-century, 74 percent of American-born senior citizens passed the test — but only 19 percent of people under age 45.

Because the federal role in setting education policy is limited (there's another important civics concept), what is

taught varies widely from state to state. Only nine states and the District of Columbia require a full year of civics in high school, according to a survey by the Center for American Progress. Another 31 states require a half-year, and 10 require nothing at all. Seventeen of the states that do require civics basically teach the citizenship test, which is better than nothing but still misses critical material.

"If you reduce civic education to the memorization and regurgitation of random facts, you're never going to achieve the ultimate goal of civic education, which is to prepare people for their role as citizens in our constitutional democracy," says Emma Humphries, the chief education officer for iCivics, a nonprofit organization that promotes civic education by designing lesson plans for teachers and online games for students with titles such as "How to Win the White House" and "Do I Have a Right?" The group, originally named Our Courts, was founded in 2009 by former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to combat public ignorance about the judicial system, but was expanded to include civic institutions in general. Sotomayor serves on the group's governing board.

In late 2018, a number of organizations, including the Hewlett Foundation and the Koch Foundation, hired Rajiv Vinnakota '93 to survey the state of civic education across the country. His report, titled "From Civic Education to a Civic Learning Ecosystem: A Landscape Analysis and Case for Collaboration," was issued in December 2019. Vinnakota, who now heads the Institute for Citizens & Scholars, found broad, bipartisan agreement on the need to develop citizens who understand the basics of American government and history, are active in their communities, and love their country even while recognizing its imperfections.

However, there was less agreement about whether — and how — to teach the skills and values necessary to be a productive citizen. "Knowledge about our political institutions," the report stated, "is of little practical value to people who lack the social and emotional skills to interact productively with their neighbors. ... Many people fail to associate acquiring and practicing skills like active listening, negotiating, critical thinking, and compromising with civic education."

Last year, iCivics partnered with groups at Harvard's Safra Center, Arizona State University, and Tufts University on the Educating for American Democracy initiative. With a \$650,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the U.S. Department of Education, the project recently unveiled a roadmap for how to teach civics and train civics teachers. Acknowledging the emotional polarization surrounding the recent election, it began by saying that the United States "stands at a crossroads of peril and possibility."

Rather than propose a national curriculum for all elementary and secondary school students, however, the roadmap is organized around seven themes that any civics courses should include, such as educating students on the elements of the American system of government, how they were established, how they have changed, their benefits and drawbacks, and what it means to participate in a constitutional democracy.

One of those themes, for example, is titled "We the People"

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# of government and when should they know it?

and addresses ways of weaving the perspectives of Americans from different backgrounds into a single nation, the concepts and discussions growing in complexity as students get older. In kindergarten through second grade, for example, civics courses might study the origin stories that different groups tell about themselves and whether a society composed of many different groups needs shared rules. In grades 3–5, students might begin to examine the different levels of government each of us belongs to and how the definition of “citizen” has changed over our history.

By junior high school, questions under this theme broaden to include the definition of pluralism, the ways in which the principle of majority rule interacts with rules to protect minority rights, how slavery and the forced removal of Native people shaped the American identity, and what it means to say that ours is a government of, by, and for the people. Finally, in high school, students might examine how the American experience of pluralism compares with pluralism in other countries and how their personal values relate to those that define the phrase “We the People” in the Constitution’s preamble. Along the way, students would read and discuss texts such as the Declaration of Independence or the *Dred Scott* decision within these broader discussions.

It is important to note that Allen believes students should be having these discussions throughout their academic careers and not crammed into a single course. Furthermore, woven into all of these lessons are other values that she considers essential for any good citizen, such as critical thinking, the ability to articulate an argument and respond appropriately to counterarguments, and how to be an intelligent consumer of information. In an age when many people get their news from social media, the last point is especially important. As Allen explains, “We’re just swimming in so much information that it’s incredibly hard, even for very well-educated people, to tell the difference between high-quality information and low-quality.”

Civics, Vinnakota adds, is more than just a set of facts, dates, and rules. It is also “a set of habits and norms, and engaging together towards a common good.” Those are things to be learned in school, but civic education neither begins nor ends there. It also, he emphasizes, “needs to come from home, your community, online, at work, and at church.”

**B**oth left and right may agree that we need better civic education, but in these highly polarized times, consensus breaks down over what that education should look like. As Luntz noted in his polling, Democrats prioritize teaching American government, with an emphasis on learning the rules and how to change them. Republicans prioritize teaching American history, celebrating how our nation came to be and preserving it.

Both Allen and Vinnakota reject the false dichotomy that civics should stress either patriotism or activism at the other’s expense. The ability to change the system depends on understanding what the system is and how it came to be

that way. As Allen puts it, all citizens, whatever their politics, should seek to develop self-knowledge, knowledge of their community’s aspirations and values, knowledge of how power is organized, and an understanding of how to pull the levers of change when they choose to do so.

Ultimately, civic education is about more than knowing what a veto is or how the filibuster works. Another civics-development initiative that Allen directs, called the Democratic Knowledge Project, articulates four dimensions of civic education: civic knowledge (such as how a bill becomes a law); civic skills (how to find and evaluate evidence and form coherent arguments from it); civic dispositions (such as a commitment to the truth, the rule of law, and a sense of public responsibility); and civic capacities (finding and developing opportunities to engage in public life).

A good citizen, Allen observes, would vote, certainly, but also would know which part of government to complain to about, say, a zoning dispute. She would be able to frame a letter to her senator, know what gerrymandering is, and how to distinguish between paid and unpaid editorial content. And she would also be able, it is hoped, to recognize that unsourced YouTube videos making outrageous claims of election fraud should be viewed skeptically, if at all.

It seems unlikely that a better understanding of the vice president’s responsibilities in counting electoral votes would have stayed the mob that stormed the Capitol. (Members of Congress and other officials who *do* understand the 12th Amendment but misled the public have no such excuse.) But it’s more probable that the mob acted because those other civic virtues had atrophied.

Of all the statistics that highlight the decline of civic education, the most alarming one probably is this: A 2018 survey by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and Georgetown University’s Baker Center for Leadership & Governance found that fewer than 30 percent of Americans under age 40 believe it is essential to live in a democracy. And one in four young people don’t think it is important to choose our leaders through free elections.

In an October 2020 essay for *The Atlantic*, Allen, who is Black, explained why she loves the U.S. Constitution, even though her ancestors were denied its benefits for generations. She sees the Constitution as “the world’s greatest teaching document” for how a diverse people can create a government that protects basic rights without becoming oppressive. She also loves it because, despite its flaws, we the people can change it.

“Because of its mutability,” Allen writes, “none but the living can own the Constitution. Those who wrote the version ratified centuries ago do not own the version we live by today. We do. It’s ours, an adaptable instrument used to define self-government among free and equal citizens — and to secure our ongoing moral education about that most important human endeavor. We are all responsible for our Constitution, and that fact is empowering.” ♦

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

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# What's Next?

PAW asked two writers with different views to consider the future of our major political parties

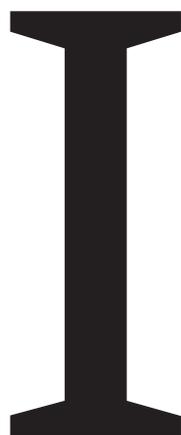
## The Democrats

### How President Biden can overcome Democratic division

BY JULIAN E. ZELIZER



*Julian E. Zelizer is the Malcolm Stevenson Forbes, Class of 1941 Professor of History and Public Affairs at Princeton University and a frequent contributor to CNN. His most recent book is *Burning Down the House: Newt Gingrich, The Fall of a Speaker, and the Rise of the New Republican Party* (Penguin).*



In the classic 1972 film *The Candidate*, Robert Redford played the Senate candidate Bill McKay. The film revolves around an unknown Democrat, the son of the former governor, who agrees to challenge the popular Republican Sen. Crocker Jarmon. The movie ends with the victorious McKay asking: “What do we do now?”

Now that they have control of the White House and Congress, Democrats are asking the same question. The fury about how President Donald Trump used his power has dominated the conversations among Democrats over the past four years. With Trump as president, it was relatively easy for most members of the party to stay united: They could focus on what they opposed, elevating the defeat of the incumbent above everything else. Even after his defeat in November, the departing president’s dangerous effort to overturn the election kept national attention on Trump at a time the president-elect ordinarily would have been the center of the national conversation.

But now the Democrats control the levers of power and will face the immense challenge of governing during what is hopefully the final phase of this devastating pandemic. One of the biggest challenges Democrats face is how to deal with internal divisions.

The party’s progressive wing, which has become much more robust in recent years, will inevitably find itself clashing with the growing ranks of moderates who have entered office since

2018. Each faction will perceive the 2020 election as a mandate for pursuing its way of doing business. Though fewer in numbers, progressive Democrats will point to the widespread popularity of their agenda in areas like climate change and health care. Moderate Democrats will insist that the large number of legislators who came from swing districts reflects the heart of the party. Some moderate senators have already shown they’ll use their leverage to extract concessions from party leaders. Each faction will also realize that the window of opportunity for legislating will be limited.

As Biden attempts to keep the factions united, he needs to contend with the fact that Republicans will remain a fierce and formidable force. The support former President Trump received from top Republican politicians during his drive to overturn the election revealed how far many leaders in the GOP are willing to go in pursuit of partisan power. While the Republicans suffered a huge political blow in November, losing control of the White House and Senate, in the upper chamber the Democratic majority is slim. For an obstructionist such as Sen. Mitch McConnell, this means that there is still plenty of room to block and stall Biden’s legislation. A slimmer House majority for Democrats, moreover, means that Speaker Nancy Pelosi has less wiggle room to finesse proposals that trigger internal divisions, such as Medicare for All. Meanwhile, Biden can’t ignore the fact that more than 70 million Americans cast their votes for Trump.

So, how can the Democrats survive themselves and seize the potential that exists to push public policy in new directions? In other words, what do they do now?

The good news for Democrats is that the most transformative coalitions in modern American history have overcome internal division even when faced with fierce opposition. President Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal coalition in the 1930s, which ran up against business interests that wanted to use their power to roll back his expansion of the regulatory state, consisted of disparate factions who had little in common: conservative Southern Democrats who hated unions and racial justice, farmers seeking federal support to stabilize their collapsing markets, labor leaders who wanted the right to organize, Northern machine politicians who cared most

*continues on page 39*



# The Republicans

*Where the GOP goes now*

BY RYAN T. ANDERSON '04



*Ryan T. Anderson '04 is the president of the Ethics and Public Policy Center, which describes itself as Washington's "premier institute dedicated to applying the Judeo-Christian moral tradition to critical issues of public policy."*

**T**here is an American elite, and if you're reading this magazine, you are very likely part of it. In terms of educational attainment, social status, income, and net worth, most Princeton alumni are at the most privileged end of the spectrum. Elites seem to have benefited massively from the policies accepted or championed for decades

by both major parties' establishments. On paper, we have flourished under globalism and "you-do-you" social liberalism. International trade and relaxed borders haven't put us out of jobs; our salaries haven't been stagnating for 50 years; and with the luxuries of wealth and practical cunning, our peers have embraced the "liberties" of the sexual revolution without bearing many of its most visible costs: Most of us still get and stay married and rear children in stable homes.

That's on paper. At a deeper level, our material privileges haven't made us — or our kids — all that happy. The constant demand to strive and produce — to win in a meritocracy — undermines joy. No wonder mental-health care is now the main function of our university's health services. Still, we aren't dying the deaths of despair highlighted by Princeton professors Anne Case '88 and Angus Deaton: suicides, drug overdoses, and liver disease. Many of our compatriots are. We seem to have mastered the art of overlooking these forgotten Americans.

The future belongs to whichever party does for them what the establishments of both parties have done for us: prioritize their needs and interests. That means building an economy that works for everyone. It means rebuilding the cultural and moral order that gives more people the central blessing of a stable, two-parent family. It means prioritizing policies that serve the non-elite.

Many Beltway pundits spent January and February analyzing the internecine battle within the GOP as between

QAnon forces (embodied in Marjorie Taylor Green) and establishment forces (embodied in Liz Cheney). This isn't where the real debate is. After all, everyone smart on the right knows that just as William F. Buckley had to run the Birchers out of the conservative movement two generations ago, so too today the Republican Party will have no future if it provides safe haven to the alt-right, QAnon, racism, anti-Semitism, or xenophobia.

The real intra-GOP struggle to watch is the one between what we might call the Mitt Romney of 2012 and the Mitt Romney of 2021: It is about whether Republicans will advance a policy agenda that promotes the flourishing and core values of the "forgotten Americans" (which would also, incidentally, prevent them from being coopted by conspiracy theorists and bigots). Pundits will analyze day-to-day political weather; PAW readers should consider the underlying climate changes.

Why did those "forgotten Americans" turn to Donald Trump to begin with? They thought he cared more than the establishment did. What with language from Romney in 2012 on "makers and takers" and the "47 percent," and from Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama of a "basket of deplorables" and people who "get bitter" and "cling to guns and religion," many of our neighbors thought their lives, families, values, and jobs didn't matter to elites.

Fast forward to today, and Romney introduces the most generous federal child-assistance program to ever come from a Republican. No longer does he refer to himself as a "severe conservative." Meanwhile, the Marco Rubio who focused on freedom when he ran for president in 2016 gave an address in late 2019 titled "Common Good Capitalism and the Dignity of Work," backed by policy initiatives such as expanding the child tax credit and paid family leave. These aren't Chamber of Commerce priorities.

If the Republican Party of the past two generations was marked by the fusionism that came out of Buckley's

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We the People  
1787

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*A smart GOP would reject identity politics, critical race theory, and gender ideology. A commitment to human dignity and equality would demand not only protection of the unborn, but also rejection of racial identity politics (both left-wing and right-wing) and assaults on religious liberty.*

*National Review*, the question now is what a 21st-century fusion looks like. The old fusionism combined the religious right with anti-communists and libertarian economists, with an eye to protecting the American way of life from its enemies at home (including, in this view, Big Government) and abroad (the USSR).

But the American family and American worker weren't saved. And the GOP fell into the rut of assuming particular policy applications were its lodestar principles. Today, a new fusionism is forming that evaluates social, economic, and foreign policies by asking how effectively they defend core American values like life, marriage, work, and religion.

After all, the way of life that the Founders sought to protect was a blend of the Declaration of Independence and the Bible. Where people are made in the image and likeness of God, subjects of inalienable dignity. Where people are created male and female, to unite in marriage and raise children together in a family. Where people assemble in a variety of houses of worship to give thanks to the Creator so central to the Declaration. And where they spend their labors in service of others — and in keeping with their obligations to God — to support their families.

Now this way of life isn't just for Americans — it's based on human nature. Most people want to form families, worship God, and find dignified work. A political movement dedicated to this vision would be broadly attractive.

On social issues, Americans don't want to be judged by their race, sex, class, or religion. A smart GOP would reject identity politics, critical race theory, and gender ideology. A commitment to human dignity and equality would demand not only protection of the unborn, but also rejection of racial identity politics (both left-wing and right-wing) and assaults on religious liberty. As the left has set its face against faith traditions that uphold historically normative understandings of marriage and family, Republicans must step up to defend these basic values.

On economic issues, Americans don't want to maximize GDP, property rights, or economic freedoms at all costs. They want to find decent jobs, support their families, meet their needs, especially on health care, and not worry that they're one pink slip away from eviction. Rights and liberties matter. But as fellow alum George Will '68 once wrote, "the most important four words in politics are: 'up to a point.'" The GOP is the party of economic freedom, up to the point where it ceases to serve human flourishing. All liberties have limits. So do markets, for all the blessings they've brought.

This doesn't mean that conservatives should embrace the left's class-warfare rhetoric or aggressive taxation, redistribution, and regulatory expansion. The goal is to craft

policies that serve the flourishing of human beings and their communities. Not government-run institutions replacing the authority of families, religious communities, business, and other institutions of civil society, but policies that, to quote the theologian Richard John Neuhaus and sociologist Peter Berger, "empower people" and the free institutions that mediate between individuals and the state. It's already happening, as Romney, Rubio, and Mike Lee, for example, have all introduced the pro-family federal policies mentioned.

When it comes to jobs, we need policies reflecting the fact that a job is more than a paycheck. It provides meaning and community, purpose and direction. And along with religion and other elements of civil society, it contributes to what Harvard's Robert Putnam calls social capital. Government transfer payments, including a universal basic income, won't do much to stop the decimation of the economies of small towns or the breakdown in marriage and family.

Republicans must also creatively apply timeless principles to Big Tech, woke capitalism, and cancel culture. A GOP of the future will learn from the GOP of the past that Big Government can threaten human freedom and flourishing, but it will also understand that Big Business can too — especially when oligarchic global corporations attack basic American values. We need a culture, not just a legal system, that fosters the free exchange of ideas.

We also need a foreign policy no longer focused exclusively on free trade and democracy-building, but concerned with the rise of China, the creation of a class of "global citizens" with no particular loyalty to their homelands, and the impact of immigration and trade on American workers.

The question for the GOP, then, is whether this new fusionism achieves policy prominence in the party. Watch to see whether the GOP speaks not just about fair procedures and rights and liberties (essential as these are), but also about the way of life they would promote. Doing so would force it to put its money where its mouth is, championing policies to make this way of life possible. Because it belongs to no single race, or class, or religious tradition, this way of life — and related political agenda — would enable the GOP to be multiethnic and interfaith. Any viable Republican Party must seek out working-class voters from all ethnic and religious backgrounds and represent their interests.

As the privileged keep doubling down on neoliberal economics and identity and gender politics, the Democrats will undoubtedly become even more the party of the elites. So the Republicans must become a working-class party, championing the values and policies that make for the real happiness we're all after. Some Princeton elites might want to join the cause. ♦

about funding for their cities, and African Americans seeking assistance from dire economic circumstances.

When pushing for the Great Society in 1964 and 1965, President Lyndon Johnson had to navigate a similar balance, with a massive civil rights movement testing the strength of the coalition, when confronted with civil rights legislation. When Republican Ronald Reagan came to town in 1980, he found ways to hold together a conservative coalition that ranged from evangelical Christians who wanted government officials to limit reproductive rights to business and Wall Street types whose main concerns were lower taxes and deregulation.

These presidents were successful because they kept public attention focused on issues that served as a glue to hold together their disparate forces as they moved policy through Congress. FDR emphasized the theme of economic security. LBJ spoke about opportunity for all Americans to join a booming middle class. Reagan turned to tax cuts and anti-communism as threads that he wove through all the elements of his support.

Democrats need to use this moment to articulate and champion the values that define their party. They must distinguish themselves from the GOP — and not just from Trump. At this moment, the most distinguishing element of the party is the commitment to governance. As a result of the radicalization of the Republican Party that we have seen over the past few decades, the GOP can no longer claim to prioritize the needs of governance or our democratic institutions. With President Biden, a figure with deep experience in Washington who has a strong belief in the virtues of our constitutional system, Democrats have an unusual opportunity to demonstrate that they are the adults in the room.

Democrats also must show voters that they are the party of middle-class America. Though Trump presented himself as a populist politician who cared about struggling American families, his policies cut against that claim. With regressive tax cuts that benefited wealthier Americans and deregulations tailor-made for business, the most that Trump offered working Americans was a toxic dose of nativist and backlash politics. In contrast, Democrats must show that they will offer policy. They can tap into a long tradition that started with FDR to demonstrate that they will fight for government programs that help working- and middle-class Americans become more secure.

President Biden, who lacks the charisma of his predecessors, has issues that he can use in similar fashion to achieve

*The most that Trump offered working Americans was a toxic dose of nativist and backlash politics. In contrast, Democrats must show that they will offer policy.*

these objectives.

Fighting the pandemic is the most obvious theme. Days before his inauguration, Biden announced a \$1.9 trillion stimulus bill and later expressed his support for using the reconciliation process, which prevented senators from filibustering the legislation. Just as Johnson understood that he needed to complete work on the Civil Rights Act before he could free up space for other issues, Biden understands that his ability to accelerate the production of vaccines and improve their distribution would give Democrats enormous political capital by the fall. The final legislation provides money for — among other things — vaccine development and distribution, small-business relief, direct payments to American families, greater subsidies for the Affordable Care Act, and aid to state and local governments.

The issue of climate change presents another opportunity. The pandemic has offered Americans tangible evidence as to what happens when we ignore massive crises until it's too late. Climate change poses an even bigger threat to the nation and the world. Climate change is also a policy challenge that impacts different Democratic constituencies. The destruction of the environment threatens educated, suburban, upper-middle-class families who care very much about the quality of life for their children. It impacts disadvantaged communities, including African Americans and Latinos, who bear the brunt of our refusal to control carbon emissions. It impacts our ability to grow the economy in sustainable ways, trapping us into older economic models while other parts of the world thrive by moving in new directions.

Finally, there's racial justice. Biden is an unlikely president to lead the nation in tackling institutional racism. His career includes many turns away from bold civil rights policies, as he was often concerned about white working-class constituencies who did not support programs such as school integration and criminal-justice reform. But the 2020s are different from the 1970s and 1990s. Biden assumes the presidency at a moment when the Black Lives Matter movement has transformed our public debate. Responding to the horrendous images captured on social media and the overwhelming data about how our criminal-justice system disproportionately hurts African American men, this is the moment when we need to feel the fierce urgency of now, as Martin Luther King called it, to address these forms of stratification and injustice. Under Merrick Garland, the Department of Justice must become a juggernaut for policies that create accountability in police departments and eliminate discriminatory sentencing.

There are, of course, other issues that Biden can use to unite the Democratic Party, but these three policies offer a powerful mechanism to keep his colleagues on the same page.

Democrats have something else that can bind them, too. The radicalization of the Republican Party that has been building since the 1980s, culminating in the Trump presidency, will remind Democrats what the stakes are in failure. The need to move forward on unifying issues and avoid taking steps that will open the door to Republican victories in 2022 and 2024 will loom large. While for some Democrats this might mean caution, others will see it as reason to be bold and to give voters a reason to keep them in power. ♦

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# A Scientist in the Public Square

At 83,  
**Frank N. von Hippel**  
is still working  
to save the world

BY KEVIN COOL

## Moscow, 1987.

In the Kremlin's parquet-floored Alexander Hall, a 49-year-old Princeton professor is addressing 1,500 foreign invitees and members of the Soviet elite, including General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. The meeting is also being beamed live to a national television audience in the USSR.

"I would like to start with an old point — but one which scientific study makes ever clearer," says Frank N. von Hippel. "The Soviet Union and the United States each possesses 10 to 100 times the destructive power that would be required to destroy either as a modern society."

For the next 20 minutes, von Hippel lays out the framework for a massive reduction of nuclear weapons and why it made sense for both countries. "A surprise attack by either side would only succeed in reducing the total destructive power of the other by perhaps one half — an insignificant result given the levels of destructiveness that both would possess even after 90 percent reductions."

Although he was representing the consensus of a contingent of international scientists, von Hippel could just as easily have been channeling the thoughts and fears of billions of people around the world who saw the growing stockpiles of doomsday weapons as madness.

Thirty-four years later, von Hippel calls that speech, which helped persuade Gorbachev to push for far-reaching nuclear-arms agreements, one of the most consequential moments of his career.

It has plenty of competition.

Von Hippel, now professor emeritus of public and international affairs, has spent more than 50 years trying to contain, secure, or banish the highly enriched uranium (HEU) and plutonium necessary to make nuclear weapons. At age 83 he remains actively engaged in educating government officials — and the public — about the dangers inherent in nuclear

materials. He remains a critical voice in efforts to eliminate the chemical "reprocessing" in which plutonium is separated from the irradiated uranium used in nuclear power plants. He recently co-authored *Plutonium: How Nuclear Power's Dream Fuel Became a Nightmare*, which spells out how plutonium could become more accessible "to countries and terrorist groups for the potential manufacture of nuclear weapons and for potential use in 'dirty bombs.'" And by early February he had sent four memos to members of the Biden administration on topics related to nuclear materials and strategy. "I know people who know people," he says.

"Frank has brought to public-policy discussions both a deep understanding of nuclear physics and a courage and imagination to question many mainstream policy views," says Harold Feiveson, who along with von Hippel co-directed Princeton's Program on Science and Global Security for 30 years. "He was among the most impactful scientists working with Soviet counterparts in unraveling the Cold War."

## Spend a couple of hours with von Hippel

and you come away entertained by his jaunty anecdotes — and grateful that there are people like him dedicated to keeping the world from blowing up.

Von Hippel comes from a line of distinguished physicists. His grandfather was James Franck, who won the Nobel Prize in physics in 1925; his father, Arthur, was a professor at MIT credited with founding the field of materials science and engineering. (Enshrined in family lore is the story of how Franck, who was Jewish and emigrated from Germany in 1935 to escape Nazi persecution, deposited his gold Nobel medal with Danish Nobel laureate Niels Bohr. When the Nazis invaded Denmark in 1940, another colleague dissolved the medal to keep it from being confiscated; it was later remade in Sweden and returned to Franck in 1950.)

Frank N. von Hippel at  
home in March



When it came time for von Hippel to choose a career, physics seemed like a natural path. He got his undergraduate degree at MIT and in 1959 won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University, where he earned his Ph.D. in theoretical physics.

Although he liked physics as a discipline, von Hippel was already beginning to question whether that was where he could make the biggest difference, he recalls. After postdoctoral studies at the Fermi Institute at the University of Chicago and at Cornell, von Hippel was hired as an assistant professor of physics at Stanford. It was there that he decided to abandon research in elementary particle physics to focus on informing policymakers about issues related to nuclear technology. “It seemed to me that maybe one in a thousand physicists were making important contributions in elementary particle physics, and I wasn’t going to be that one person,” von Hippel says.

At Stanford, von Hippel was inspired by the idealism of student activists who opposed federal funding for military research on college campuses. He began giving talks on the need for arms control. After one of them, a woman from the crowd approached him and asked why scientists continued to collaborate with the Defense Department on weapons technology. They chatted briefly: She was Joan Baez, a countercultural icon and antiwar activist whose songs became part of the soundtrack of the ’60s.

## Von Hippel is full of stories like this.

Here’s another: In 1970, von Hippel collaborated with one of his graduate students, Joel Primack ’66, on a study about the efficacy of science advising in informing government policies. Their final report, “Scientists and the Politics of Technology,” concluded that scientific advisers were occasionally used as pawns to legitimize political decisions. Six months later, an

Associated Press reporter wrote an article about the study that, in today’s parlance, went viral. It wound up on the front page of the *National Enquirer* — yes, that *National Enquirer* — under the banner headline: GOVERNMENT SUPPRESSED SCIENTISTS’ WARNINGS OF DANGERS.

The brief sensation caused by the report inspired von Hippel and Primack to collaborate on a book, *Advice and Dissent*, which advocated for greater transparency in the science advice given to elected officials.

Von Hippel knew he wanted to spend his life advising policymakers, but he wasn’t sure what that sort of career looked like. “The hardest thing was making the transition out of academic physics and finding a way into the policy world,” he says. “At that time, there was no beaten path. To the extent that it was done it was done as a sideline, and the government would listen to someone who had been involved with the Manhattan Project, for example.” But von Hippel wasn’t a famous scientist, so he worried that nobody would pay attention to him.

His big break came in 1974, when von Hippel joined an illustrious group of scientists — including Nobelist Hans Bethe — to produce a report by the American Physical Society about the safety of large light-water nuclear power reactors that were typical of those used in the United States at the time. In his typically self-effacing manner, von Hippel says he “lucked out” because his involvement in the study “made me look like an expert.” A few months later, he accepted a one-year appointment as a member of the research staff at Princeton’s Center for Environmental Studies.

Von Hippel joined the faculty in 1984 and began teaching an undergraduate survey course in science, technology, and public policy. Donald Lu ’88 ’91 was one of his students. He describes von Hippel as an “amazing” teacher. “That experience inspired



Von Hippel, second from left, participates in a 1986 conference of international scientists opposed to the arms race, in Hamburg, Germany.

Klaus Rose/Ullstein bild via Getty Images



**In 1987, von Hippel, left, met with Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov, who earlier played a leading role in the development of the USSR's hydrogen bomb. The meeting, von Hippel learned later, was bugged.**

me to pursue a career working in the former Soviet Union,” Lu says, and led to a 30-year career in government service. He is currently the U.S. ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic.

Von Hippel's entrée into U.S.-Soviet arms negotiations stemmed from his chairmanship of the Federation of American Scientists (FAS), a think tank devoted to global security. He was invited to Moscow for preliminary discussions by Eugene Velikhov, an eminent Russian scientist who had the ear of a rising Politburo member named Mikhail Gorbachev. “The Soviets saw me as being much more important than I actually was,” von Hippel says.

At the time, tensions were high. After Ronald Reagan's election as president in 1980, the United States embarked on an arms buildup aimed at countering what the administration viewed as Soviet superiority in nuclear strike capability.

Coupled with that was a belief among hawkish American officials that the Soviets believed they could fight and win a nuclear war. “There were people in the Defense Department saying scary things,” von Hippel recalls. “They said we have to convince the Soviets that we are willing to fight a nuclear war.”

The rhetoric and weapons buildup gave rise to the nuclear-freeze movement in the United States, which, according to von Hippel, became a powerful instrument in shaping public opinion and ultimately influencing policymakers on both sides.

Meanwhile, the Soviets believed the Americans wanted to destroy them, fears that intensified in 1983 when Reagan introduced plans to pursue the Strategic Defense Initiative. Dubbed “Star Wars,” it was designed to provide a dome of protection against incoming Soviet missiles. Although scientists dismissed the plan as unworkable and likely to fail, it solidified the view among Soviet hardliners that the United States was on a path to develop a first-strike capability. In what von Hippel calls “the closest we have come to nuclear war since the Cuban missile crisis,” NATO war games in November 1983 were so realistic they convinced some Soviet military leaders that an attack was imminent. “The Soviets started loading bombs on planes,” von Hippel says. The crisis was averted when the exercises, code named Able Archer, ended a few days later.

That scare coincided with the broadcast of the American television movie *The Day After*, which depicted the aftermath of a nuclear exchange between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Von Hippel was in Moscow for meetings at the time and was interviewed on Russian television about the film. Although the goals of the Russian scientists he was collaborating with were virtuous, von Hippel was wary about appearing to support the Soviet government. “We didn't want to be used as Soviet propaganda,” he says. His basic message was that there could be no effective defense against nuclear weapons and that “this would be a good time to stop the arms race.”

By the time Gorbachev was named general secretary in 1985, von Hippel had become a trusted adviser in the arms negotiations, even though he had no official role. Gorbachev, with Velikhov's encouragement, had implemented a unilateral ban on nuclear-weapons testing, hoping to convince the Americans that he was committed to curbing the arms race. “Velikhov used me to help Gorbachev legitimize his position” with Soviet hardliners, von Hippel says. “One of the important things that we did was to help Gorbachev keep going.”

At Velikhov's request, von Hippel made a presentation to Gorbachev about how seismic detectors could irrefutably demonstrate that the Soviets were not secretly conducting underground nuclear tests, and thus help persuade the Americans to join the test ban.

In October 1986 Reagan and Gorbachev met for a two-day summit in Reykjavik, Iceland, to explore an arms agreement. The talks failed to produce a pact but set the stage for future negotiations. And four months later, von Hippel made his historic speech at the meeting of international scientists in Moscow, with Gorbachev in attendance. “That meeting was in part an effort to regain momentum after the Reykjavik failure,” von Hippel says. “My mission — although I didn't fully understand it at the time — was to legitimize what Gorbachev and Reagan were saying about the need to end the nuclear-arms race by expressing the supportive views of the international scientists and to help bring along the Soviet public and the Politburo.”

## **His time in Moscow also led to what**

von Hippel calls one of the most memorable evenings of his life. Andrei Sakharov was a Russian physicist who had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1975 for opposing Soviet human-rights abuses and had been exiled to the closed city of Gorky in 1979 for speaking out against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Gorbachev had invited him to return to Moscow in late 1986, which caused an international celebration. Sakharov was scheduled to speak at the scientists' meeting. He invited von Hippel and FAS President Jeremy Stone and their wives to his apartment on the eve of the meeting to discuss what he might say. “He was frail and had become unpretentious and dressed at home informally in what looked like a baseball jacket,” von Hippel recalls. “But he was intellectually unbending, ready to defend his positions against anyone.” Von Hippel later learned that the KGB, which had bugged Sakharov's apartment, shared a transcript of their conversation with Soviet officials.

The gradual thaw developing between the Soviets and Americans enabled a growing sense of trust as arms



**Von Hippel, believed to be third from left, was among visitors from the United States at the Mayak plutonium plant, in the Southern Urals, in 1989. This reactor had been shut down two years earlier. The Natural Resources Defense Council sponsored the U.S. visit.**

negotiations continued. In December 1987 Gorbachev and Reagan signed the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) to eliminate all their short- and intermediate-range land-based missiles and launchers. (President Donald Trump withdrew the United States from the treaty in 2018, citing Russian noncompliance.)

That pact was followed in 1991 by the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), which eventually eliminated roughly 80 percent of all strategic nuclear weapons.

“The breakthroughs were important, not in that they ended the danger from nuclear weapons — they didn’t,” von Hippel says. But they erased the belief on both sides that their opponents thought a nuclear war was winnable. “The Reagan-Gorbachev mantra, ‘A nuclear war cannot be won and must not be fought,’ was therefore perhaps the most important result.”

## **For von Hippel, the end of the Cold War**

posed a dilemma. “I was wondering, ‘What am I going to do now?’” The answer, as it turned out, was to pivot away from eliminating missiles to trying to end what he saw as the developing threat: the production of plutonium and highly enriched uranium, the materials upon which nuclear weapons rely. This continues to be his emphasis.

Von Hippel spent 16 months as assistant director for national security in the Office of Science and Technology Policy during the Clinton presidency, primarily focused on securing nuclear materials in the former Soviet Union. That position involved touring Russian facilities where HEU and plutonium were being used for civilian purposes. What von Hippel saw shocked him: for example, a lightly guarded, insecure nuclear laboratory where HEU was stored almost casually — “in a locker similar to a U.S. high school student’s locker.”

There is a lot of HEU and plutonium out there, von Hippel says — excess left over from mothballed weapons programs, and reprocessed plutonium produced by breeder reactors at nuclear power plants. Disposing of it or securing it safely is critical to avoid theft and misuse. Plutonium that has been separated is relatively easy to access and handle. “You could carry it around in a paper bag,” von Hippel says. It could

therefore be easily stolen and repurposed for weapons manufacturing by bad actors. Colleague Hal Feiveson says von Hippel, “perhaps more than any other scientist, ... has shined a light” on these dangers and worked for the worldwide abandonment of nuclear reprocessing.

Nuclear weapons in the hands of rogue nations or terrorists are an ever-present threat, von Hippel notes, but what really keeps him up at night is the possibility of a nuclear launch caused by a misunderstanding or a malevolent hacker. “The danger isn’t that if we let our guard down one centimeter our enemies will attack us,” von Hippel says. “The danger is accidents.”

That vulnerability is more pronounced because of a defense posture that uses a “launch on warning” protocol, which puts a hair trigger on the nuclear button in a case where one side or the other might mistakenly believe it is under attack. Concern about that was the subject of one of von Hippel’s memos to the Biden team. (As of mid-February, he had not heard back.)

He also pushes back against U.S. approaches that he believes make nonproliferation diplomacy harder. One example is the Navy’s continued use of HEU to power its nuclear submarines. “That makes it harder to convince other would-be nuclear nations — Iran, principally — to stop their own enrichment programs,” von Hippel says. France uses low-enriched uranium that is not usable for nuclear weapons, he adds, “and we could, too.”

Von Hippel has written scores of papers over the years highlighting vulnerabilities and proposing solutions, and in 2006 he co-founded the International Panel on Fissile Materials, which aims to curb the production and use of HEU and plutonium. Whether he and his colleagues are winning is hard to say. On the positive side, von Hippel is surprised at the “relatively small number of countries” with nuclear weapons. “They’ve concluded that they’re safer without them,” he says.

And only a handful of countries are still reprocessing plutonium, though it could take another 20 years to get worldwide compliance. “I may have to live to be 100 years old,” von Hippel jokes.

But more than 1,300 metric tons of HEU remain in the world, about 90 percent of which is possessed by Russia and the United States — enough to make 50,000 nuclear weapons. The United Kingdom still has 115 metric tons of plutonium, but recently agreed to stop producing more. Progress has been frustratingly slow and “surprisingly hard,” von Hippel says.

What about North Korea? “I think we have to live with them for a while, until we can convince them that having nuclear weapons is not in their best interests. That might take another 20 years, too,” von Hippel says. He pauses, and grins. “Another reason for me to live to be 100.” ♦

*Freelance writer Kevin Cool is the former editor of Stanford magazine.*

# PRINCETONIANS



**EVERYMAN LIBRARIAN:** In April 2020, Terry Seymour '66 finished building a library in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, for his collection of 12,000 books primarily drawn from the Everyman's Library, a series of classic and affordable books. The library is open to scholars and others by appointment. Seymour has authored two related books: *A Guide to Collecting Everyman's Library* and *A Printing History of Everyman's Library 1906-1982*. "This collection that I have is very important to me," says Seymour. "And I'd like to give it more permanency than just my lifetime." ♦

**READ MORE** about Seymour at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

Ricardo Barron



Jeremy Chan '10 at Villa Louise, a private kitchen in Aachen, Germany, in February 2020. Global Michelin-star chefs are regularly invited to the kitchen to cook a dinner.

JEREMY CHAN '10

## CUISINE, À LA HEART

*In just four years, a fledgling London chef has secured a Michelin star and a stellar reputation*

On a Tuesday afternoon last July, executive chef Jeremy Chan '10 was chopping honeymoon melons from Mantua, Italy, in the small kitchen of Ikoyi, his London restaurant. The melons were to be soaked in a sweetened peppercorn tea infused with chamomile. After marinating for 24 hours, the fragrant, spicy slices of chilled melon would be garnished with a frozen oil infusion of elderflower, which was picked in Kent and Cheshire, England, during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Ikoyi was co-founded in 2017 by Chan and his childhood friend Iré Hassan-Odukale, and had recently reopened after restrictions were lifted. Although the restaurant is named after the Lagos neighborhood where Hassan-Odukale grew up, Ikoyi does not re-create traditional West African cuisine, which would, in Chan's view, be culturally appropriate. Instead, Chan says, Ikoyi

is a British restaurant that challenges the notion of Britishness.

Ikoyi finds its spices, such as peppercorns, on multiple continents, while drawing on homegrown produce — harvested at its peak — that showcases



Ikoyi's caramelized veal sweetbreads, preserved beetroot, and late autumn greens.

the capabilities of Britain's cutting-edge farming: Habanada chillies, yuzu, kognut squash. Chan has cultivated relationships with his suppliers and deeply understands his ingredients as a result. His knowledge of cattle is almost zoological: "You can't put a Charolais cow, which is massive, on a very rough terrain," he explains. In October 2018, Ikoyi was awarded a Michelin star.

Chan was born in the north of England to a Chinese father and a Canadian mother and was raised between Hong Kong and the United Kingdom. He grew up associating the burning sensations that spicy food elicits with deliciousness. Spices are central to Chan's approach at Ikoyi, connecting people with something beyond their own borders. They may inflict pain on inexperienced palates, but those who push through the initial discomfort experience the most pleasurable meal.

Chan's interest in cooking started when he was 15; soon he had taken over responsibility for family dinners. Following graduation from Princeton, where he majored in comparative literature, he spent two years in Madrid and London working in finance, but it did not suit his personality. Cooking allowed him to channel his frustrations into something creative. He pored over cookbooks and experimented in the kitchen. One evening, he picked up his BlackBerry and quit his job over email.

Chan never attended culinary school, but he wrote to chefs he hoped to shadow and secured an apprenticeship at Claude Bosi's London restaurant, Hibiscus. Entering a professional kitchen, he realized that he couldn't move his hands as fast as everyone else, that others possessed knowledge he had yet to acquire. A degree from Princeton may not have prepared him for the practicalities of being a chef, but Chan's academic training informs his food philosophy. He believes that his cuisine is a kind of gastronomical comparative literature, "taking archetypal ideas and paradigms, and mixing them and matching them like languages and styles of poetry."

Chan's kitchen is meticulously organized. The shelves are labeled, recipes typed and filed. As he spoke to

PAW, he retrieved a binder from a high shelf, and carefully leafed through its laminated pages, pointing out recipes for crab butter, kebab mince, pastries. (A fried chicken recipe is two pages long.) He was offering a new offal hot sauce containing lacto-fermented scotch bonnets that evening. He doesn't try new recipes after writing them, which he acknowledges is unconventional. Instead, he relies on his intuition, an understanding of flavors, and the natural balance of fats, liquids, dairy, and protein. Behind him, everyone worked quietly, swiftly chopping and washing. At this rate, they would be done with their preparations for the evening by 2 p.m., well in advance of the arrival of their guests.

A typical workday begins at 6 a.m. and lasts 18 hours. In the mornings, from home, Chan talks to butchers, scallop divers, and his sous-chefs, coordinating deliveries and placing orders. Then he cycles 5 miles to Ikoyi, where preparations for lunch and dinner service begin — butchering, baking, wine-tasting. Chan loves the “brutality of the job,” and says that the physical and mental intensity involved is more fulfilling than anything he has ever done.

During the spring lockdown last year, Chan applied for a government tax-relief grant and reduced capacity from 32 to 25. When the restaurant reopened in July, Ikoyi was fully booked. Diners were served an à la carte menu inspired by Americana comfort cuisine, blending “slightly perverse American-style junk-food elements” with hyper-luxurious, seasonal produce. Since the imposition of another national lockdown in December, he has been writing a book of recipes and essays, and conducting research in anticipation of a new menu for Ikoyi's reopening in May. A recent invention is a candy of Alphonso mangoes flavored with ehuru (a Nigerian spice) and designed to look like a frosted egg yolk.

Chan's experience during the pandemic has made him appreciate having a small business, and strengthened his desire to elevate the quality of Ikoyi's food. “We're four years on, but I'm really just beginning,” he says. ♦ *By Mohammad Adnan '19*

## Tigers In the Nation's Service

The following alumni have been appointed to President Joe Biden's administration. Several other alumni had roles in the Biden transition. PAW will update this list online — please email the names and positions of other appointees to [paw@princeton.edu](mailto:paw@princeton.edu).

**Hady Amr '94**, deputy assistant secretary for Israel and Palestinian affairs, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

**Frances Arnold '79**, co-chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

**Chiquita Brooks-LaSure '96**, Department of Health and Human Services, administrator of Medicaid and Medicare

**Joelle Gamble '19**, special assistant to the president for economic policy

**Eric Lander '78**, Office of Science and Technology Policy director and presidential science adviser

**Ali Nouri '06**, principal deputy assistant secretary for congressional and intergovernmental affairs at the Department of Energy

**Natalie Quillian '07**, deputy coordinator of the COVID-19 response

**Angela Ramirez '97**, special assistant to the president and House legislative affairs liaison

**Christopher Schroeder '68**, acting assistant attorney general for the Office of Legal Counsel

**Ely Ratner '98**, special assistant to the secretary of defense

**Rush Doshi '11**, China director on the National Security Council

**Bruce Reed '82**, White House deputy chief of staff

**Joshua Geltzer '05**, special assistant to the president and special adviser to the homeland security adviser on countering domestic violent extremists

**Molly Montgomery '04**, deputy assistant secretary for the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

**Larry Handerhan '12**, chief of staff for the Administration for Children and Families

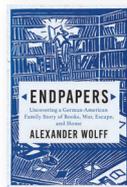
**Zach Vertin '13**, senior adviser, U.S. Mission to the United Nations

**Maureen Tracey-Mooney '15**, special assistant to the president for education ♦

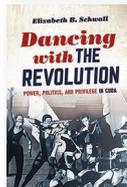
### NEW RELEASES



In *One Day Stronger* (Rivertowns Books) **Thomas M. Nelson '04** tells the story of how he partnered with union workers to leverage an obscure legal strategy to stop the sale of a historic Appleton, Wisconsin, paper mill. In the process, they found a profitable new business plan and saved hundreds of jobs.

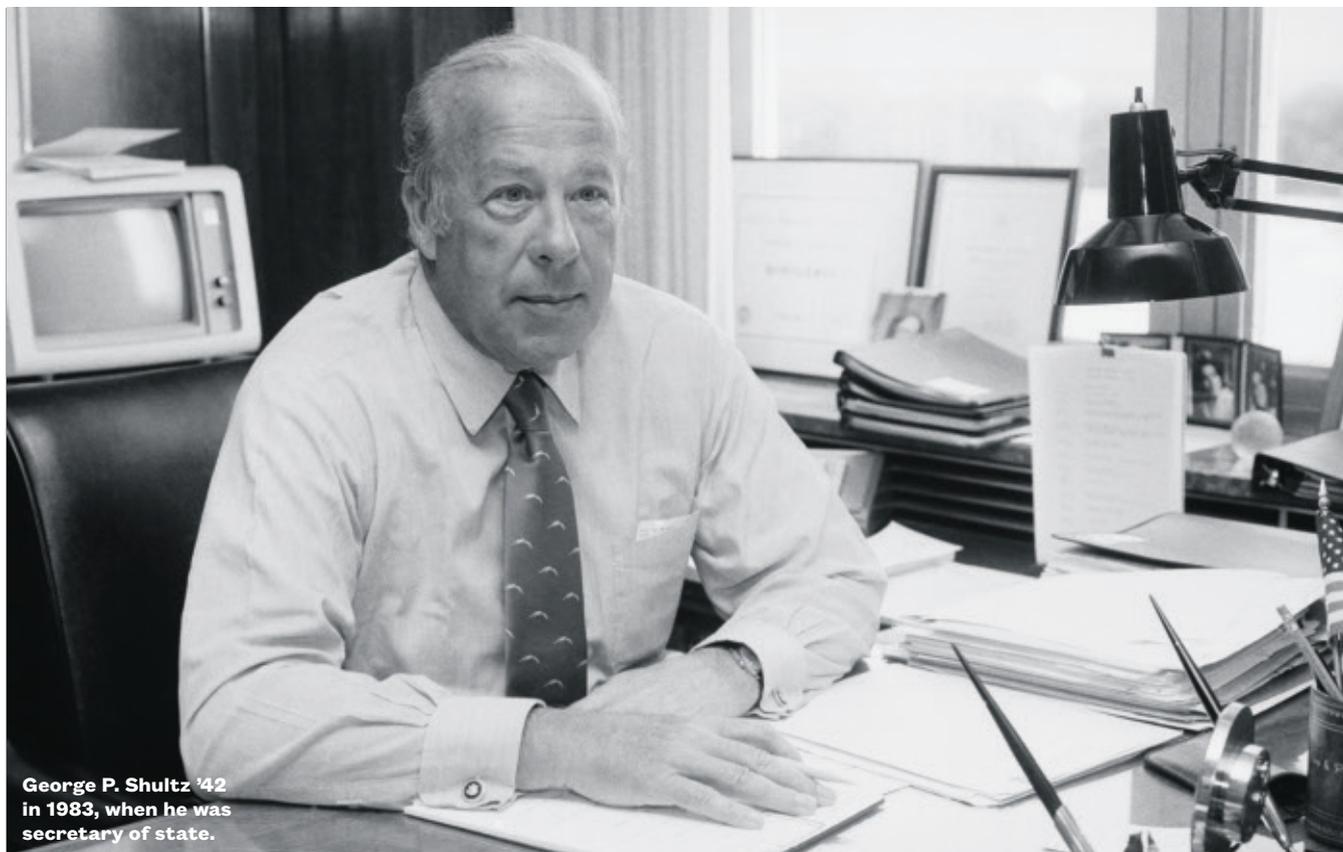


Drawing on extensive research in Berlin, **Alexander Wolff '79's** *Endpapers: A Family Story of Books, War, Escape, and Home* (Atlantic Monthly Press) presents a sweeping depiction of his family's history by focusing on his grandfather, Kurt Wolff, publisher of Pantheon Books. Wolff uncovers family secrets and new insights into his family's experience in World War II.



*Dancing with the Revolution: Power, Politics, and Privilege in Cuba* (University of North Carolina Press), by **Elizabeth Schwall '09**, examines how, during the Cuban revolution, Cuban dancers used their bodies and nonverbal choreography to engage in political debate and exert their own ideas of social justice. ♦

TO SHARE a forthcoming book with PAW go to [bit.ly/PtonAuthors](http://bit.ly/PtonAuthors)

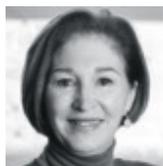


George P. Shultz '42 in 1983, when he was secretary of state.

REMEMBRANCE: GEORGE P. SHULTZ '42 (DEC. 13, 1920 – FEB. 6, 2021)

## A PERSONAL TRIBUTE TO A PUBLIC MAN

By Anne-Marie Slaughter '80



Professor emerita Anne-Marie Slaughter '80 is CEO of New America, a think tank, and former dean of Princeton's School of Public and

International Affairs. From 2009 to 2011, she was director of policy planning for the United States Department of State, the first woman to hold that position.

George Shultz '42 was the consummate public servant. When he died, *The New York Times* devoted two full pages to an account of his career. As every article has mentioned, he held four Cabinet offices over a 20-year span from 1969 to 1989: director of the Office of Management and Budget, secretary of labor, secretary of the treasury, and secretary of state. The only other

person in history to hold four Cabinet positions was Elliot Richardson, who earned his place in history during the Watergate scandal by resigning rather than firing special prosecutor Archibald Cox at Nixon's direction. Distinguished company indeed.

Shultz's devotion to Princeton was legendary. I remember vividly his returning for one of his later reunions in a very proper blue blazer that he would open with delight to flash a bright orange lining. Rumors also abounded about a certain tiger tattoo he supposedly acquired to demonstrate his enduring love for his alma mater. Once when I was at his house in California, I saw a stuffed tiger that a friend had sent him with a tiny picture of Shultz affixed to its posterior.

In this brief tribute, however, I wish to remember a different George Shultz — if

not exactly the private man, then at least the man who took the time to reach out to the new dean of the School of Public and International Affairs. He himself had been dean of the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business for five years in the 1960s.

On one of my early trips to California as dean, George invited me to lunch in Palo Alto. We ate outside on a glorious day. George had assembled a remarkable group of scholar-administrators. I recall how firmly but deftly George directed the conversation, raising questions about how to encourage interdisciplinary work, how to marry academic scholarship with policy expertise, and how to navigate the competing pressures of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and university leadership.

Throughout it all, his wife, Charlotte, was the perfect hostess. She served for many years as chief of protocol for the state of California and then for the city and county of San Francisco. For dessert she brought out a cake with the cover of my first book, which had just come out, miraculously rendered in icing. I've never forgotten the touch.

From top: Bettmann/Getty Images; courtesy New America

In retrospect, I should not have been surprised at the care and attention both Shultzes paid to relationships. In 2004, I co-taught a Princeton freshman seminar called “So You Want to Be Secretary of State?” (It may not surprise you that it was oversubscribed!)

George — Secretary Shultz for those purposes — came to speak to the class, an extraordinary experience for all of us.

What I remember most from his remarks and responses to questions was his metaphor of “gardening” for the conduct of foreign affairs. His point was that national interactions, like personal ones, are relationships that need to be carefully tended. Watering and weeding are particularly important, he noted: ensuring that you pay enough attention to keep them flourishing and to observe and remove any problems that might arise early on.

I have heard other leaders and entrepreneurs describe leading as gardening, in the sense of growing talent, but the Shultz view was far

**George also took on big challenges ... . He used his century on this Earth to make as much of a difference as possible.**

broader. I can just imagine him sitting in the grandeur of his office and reception room on the seventh floor of the State Department, surveying the world and tending U.S. alliances, friendships, and even rivalries with care.

Perhaps the most important exchange I had with George was when he gave me advice I didn’t follow. In November 2008, just after Barack Obama was elected president, I wanted to serve in his administration. I had wanted to go into government since I was an undergraduate, but my party’s fortunes and my own had never aligned. I called George for advice. When I mentioned that I was interested in the Office of Policy Planning (an internal State Department think tank founded by George Kennan ’25),

George demurred. Take a line job, he said, one with direct responsibility for results. Academics always want advisory positions, he elaborated, but you should get into the fray.

I did end up as director of policy planning, but I now give George’s advice to many of my mentees who are seeking positions in government. He was no slouch as a professor, holding positions at MIT, the University of Chicago, and Stanford, but he was an academic who loved action, a relatively rare breed.

George also took on big challenges: managing U.S.-Soviet relations, promoting democracy, reducing the threat of nuclear war, and toward the end of his life, combatting climate change. He used his century on this Earth to make as much of a difference as possible.

George Shultz’s life embodied Princeton’s motto: In the nation’s service and the service of humanity. Still, behind his grand public persona, he was a lovely, slightly gruff, no-nonsense, witty, devoted, and caring man. ♦

WOULD YOU...



TAKE IT

OR

LEAVE IT?

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## **The Academic Museum and the Journey toward Equity**

**May 6, 5:30 p.m. (EDT)**

Dr. Johnnetta Cole, former president of Spelman College and Bennett College, and former director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art. Hosted by Museum Director James Steward.

### **Also coming up soon:**

- April 8 How to Move a Museum: The Fine Art of Deinstallation
- April 15 Artist Talk: Photographer Renee Cox
- April 29 Guides for the Soul: Art from China's Warring States Period

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
**ART MUSEUM**

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[artmuseum.princeton.edu](https://artmuseum.princeton.edu)

Dr. Johnnetta Cole's lecture is made possible in part by the Mary Pitcairn Keating Lecture Endowment Fund. The Museum's Late Thursday programming is made possible in part by Heather and Paul G. Haaga Jr., Class of 1970. Live closed-captioning for this program is made possible by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Photo: Boston Photography

THE JOURNEY HERE

# LIFE AT THE CUTTING EDGE



## Penny Finnie '82, Art & Archaeology

Penny Mayer Finnie '82's plan to become a doctor was derailed when she began taking classes at 185 Nassau Street and fell in love with painting. After receiving her art degree, then an MFA and a brief stint in teaching, Finnie moved to the Bay Area in 1990, where she decided to try a new medium: computers. In the process of learning Photoshop, Finnie found herself at the cutting edge of software development and coding. In 1995, she developed the first version of the Ask Jeeves search engine as well as the butler character in the logo. She became Ask Jeeves' chief creative officer in 1998.

↳ **By 2002**, Finnie says, "it felt like I had been in front of a computer forever." She left tech to start "something tangible and in the community": what would become five Bay Area cafés called Bittersweet, which roasted their own coffee and created their own chocolate. The stores had an educational bent, using tastings to teach about the complexities of chocolate.

↳ **After selling the cafés in 2016**, Finnie did a painting residency in France and considered herself semi-retired. But in 2018, her husband, investment banker Charlie Finnie '81, entered Massachusetts' recreational cannabis market, and the pair moved to Providence, Rhode Island. Shortly thereafter Finnie became the senior vice president of marketing for a cannabis company, drawing on experience to help open the company's 10,000-square-foot dispensary/café. To demonstrate to customers marijuana's unique terpenes, or smells, she used a small device now called FEND, which released scented mist.

↳ **Finnie would become the vice president** of new business for FEND's parent company, Sensory Cloud, a year later. Invented by a Harvard medical engineering professor, the device, when filled with a calcium-enriched saline solution, is sold as a drug-free nasal-hygiene tool. Finnie has been helping to market and test the device's efficacy at suppressing inhalation and exhalation of airborne contaminants in various situations, such as factories and schools.



↳ **Lessons learned:** "Sexism is a real thing, but I've found that being on the ground floor of helping to start a business helps alleviate it." ♦ *By C.C.*

*The Journey Here is a feature appearing occasionally. To nominate someone with an interesting career path, please email [paw@princeton.edu](mailto:paw@princeton.edu).*

## Alumni Thoughts ... and Prayers

One year ago in late February, more than 1,000 alumni congregated on campus safely to celebrate Alumni Day. This year, the annual celebration was canceled, save for the Service of Remembrance.

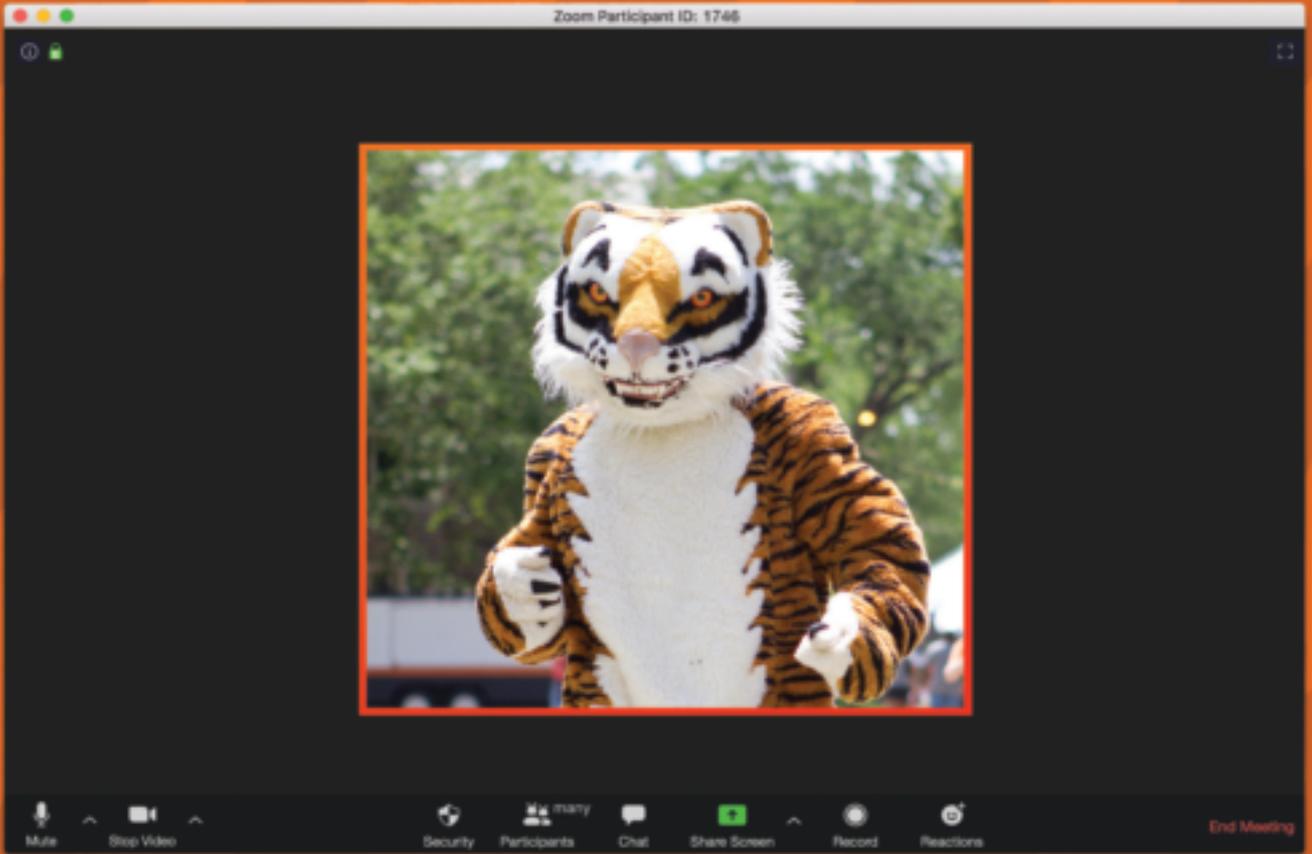
As a way to recognize alumni contributions to the world, a slate of programming in the ongoing Forward Fest lineup aired live Feb. 20, featuring two online alumni panels on resilience and exploration. Hundreds tuned in live and thousands more watched on-demand on the University's YouTube channel, according to Erika Knudson, director of advancement communications.

The Service of Remembrance, a memorial service for alumni, faculty, and staff whose deaths were recorded in 2020, took place virtually for the first time, and the pre-recorded event was shared more than 1,500 times. More than 221 remembrances were added to the virtual memorial board ([bit.ly/ptonmemorial](https://bit.ly/ptonmemorial)) by mid-March, with more coming in each week, according to Knudson.

The yearly gathering typically includes top alumni awards: the Woodrow Wilson Award to an undergraduate alum, and the James Madison Medal to a graduate alum; both recipients give addresses. This year, award recipients were not named. ♦ *By C.C.*

# **REUNIONS ONLINE**

## **MAY 20-23**



Put on your best orange and black, haul out your class jacket and gather with fellow Tigers for ***REUNIONS ONLINE, MAY 20-23, 2021.***

We can't wait until we can all be together in person! Until then, we'll all be Goin' Back via the best party on the Internet to celebrate the Best Place of All.

Stay tuned for details at  
**[reunions.princeton.edu](https://reunions.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 1941



### Winthrop A. Short '41

Win died Feb. 6, 2020, at Carol Woods Retirement Community in Chapel Hill, N.C. He was 100. He was born in Newark, N.J., and attended Trenton

Central High School. At Princeton he majored in politics. He graduated from Yale Law School and earned an LLM in taxation at New York University.

Win and his wife, Janet Gerdes, met in law school, raised four sons in Cohasset, Mass., and enjoyed jazz, landscaping, and supporting nonprofit organizations.

Win practiced law in New York City and had a successful business career as president of Knapp Brothers Shoe Co. and Knapp King-Size Corp.

Win was one of Princeton's great alumni leaders. During 1941's 25th reunion Win started, with the agent for the 40th reunion, a tradition of friendly competition in major reunion campaigns. He received many Development awards over 50 years. Win had a gracious and low-key manner and served as a University trustee from 1972 to 1982. He generously supported the Princeton-Blairtown Center.

After Janet's death, Win married Marguerite Turner, with whom he enjoyed the arts in Birmingham, Ala. Win enjoyed sharing his summer home on Mount Desert Island, Maine, with family and friends.

Win was predeceased by spouses Janet Gerdes and Marguerite Turner, son John G. Short, and brother William H. Short '46 \*52. He is survived by three sons, including Winthrop A. Short Jr. '68; six grandchildren, including Amanda Linhart '97; and seven great-grandchildren.



### Lynn B. Tipson '41

Tip died Jan. 18, 2016, in Basking Ridge, N.J., at the age of 96.

He prepared at The Hill School. At Princeton he

majored in economics, played 150-pound football, ran varsity track, belonged to Quadrangle, and graduated with honors.

As a pilot with the 485th Bomb Group during World War II, he was shot down over Austria, hospitalized for four months, then imprisoned in three German POW camps with forced marches between camps. He was liberated in 1945 and spent eight months in the hospital stateside before he was discharged as a captain and awarded the Purple Heart and Air Medal.

Tip joined the T.W. & C.B. Sheridan Co., rising to vice president and general manager, and then moved to Harris Seybold in the same position. He moved to Langston Co. as president. He earned an MBA from New York University.

Tip served the class in every leadership role, including as beloved president. At his death Lynn held the longest continuous record of giving to Princeton (74 consecutive years).

He was active in the Westfield Presbyterian Church and summered in Martha's Vineyard.

Tip is survived by his wife, Yvonne Gaston Tipson; sons Baird '65, Frederick '69, and David; daughter Suzy Hall; 11 grandchildren, including David Tipson '96, Philip Hall '05, and Frederick Hall '09; and nine great-grandchildren.

## THE CLASS OF 1944



### Woodford Matlock '44

Woody died Aug. 20, 2020, in Spokane, Wash., of Parkinson's disease at age 98.

He was born Dec. 5, 1921, in Denver, Colo. Woody prepared

for Princeton at East Denver High School, where he was active in baseball and was a member of the Athletic Club and the Prom committees.

At Princeton he majored in English and was active in freshman baseball and boxing. Woody was in the Army in Europe during World War II and returned to Princeton to graduate in 1947. He lived in New York, Alaska, and Washington with his wife, Carol, who predeceased him.

Woody is survived by sons Woodford Jr. and Walter.

## THE CLASS OF 1945

### John B. Ashmun '45

John died Jan. 7, 2019, after a fall at home.

He graduated from Kent School. At

Princeton he joined Ivy Club, St. Paul's Society, and the Right Wing Club. He played freshman football and rowed varsity crew. He received the Lyman Biddle Medal and served as an undergraduate deacon. His freshman roommate Bob Blair and friends Max Mayo and Toby Hilliard each eventually godfathered John's children. The '45 associations from one freshman semester before Pearl Harbor remained a lifelong bond. He enlisted and was commissioned as an ensign, fighter pilot, Naval Air Arm. John returned to campus grateful for the GI Bill and majored in economics.

After a brief banking stint on Wall Street, he ventured to the oil fields of West Texas, roughnecking on a rig. He then became an oil-lease broker, eventually forming Ayco Energy with his son-in-law Rusty Yates, and served as president until his death.

John married Ann Bruce "Brucie" Whitaker. He was a founding member of the Episcopal Day School and the YMCA in Midland, Texas, serving boards of trustees at Princeton and St. Stephen's Episcopal School in Austin. As class agent in Annual Giving letter campaigns 70 years later, he was pleased to share his commitment to Princeton with enthusiasm and pride.

John was predeceased by Brucie. He is survived by his daughters, Mary Gilbertson and Ellen Yates; his sons, John Jr. and Stuart; and 11 grandchildren.

## Robert O. Preyer '45

Bob grew up in Greensboro, N.C. He attended Choate. At Princeton he played freshman football, rugby, and lacrosse. He worked on *The Daily Princetonian* and was a member of the Westminster Society, the 21 Club, and Cottage Club.

During the war Bob was assistant fleet entertainment officer in the Navy in Honolulu and Guam. He graduated *cum laude* in English, then earned a master's degree and a Ph.D. from Columbia. He married Renee Haenel of London, England, and they had three daughters. He later married Kathryn "Kitty" Conway, a professor at Wellesley College.

He taught English at Smith College, Amherst, and Princeton. For two years in Freiburg, Germany, he was a Fulbright professor and for one year he taught at Heidelberg. He became a professor of English and American literature at Brandeis University, where he was chairman of the faculty senate, director of the University Studies Program, and on the Academic Planning Committee. He was on several boards, including the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation.

Bob was known for injecting quotes of poets and writers into every conversation. He created the Wellington Prize at Brandeis, awarded by lottery to non-tenured young faculty. Following Kitty's death in 2005, Bob

married his longtime friend Mary “Mandy” Nash.

Bob died Nov. 15, 2019. He is survived by Mandy; his daughters, Jill, Sally, and Liz; four granddaughters; and seven great-grandchildren.

**James A. Wright '45**

Jim grew up in St. Louis, Mo., and attended Webster High School. He spent two years at Princeton, where he was a member of Campus Club. Then the Army sent him to the Army Specialist Training Program, which continued his engineering education at the University of Florida and Ohio State.

He was assigned to the 63rd Infantry Division, 253rd Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Headquarters Company, which he served as battalion radio repairman, mainly in France. He was awarded a Bronze Star. Later he served the 3113 Signal Corps Service Battalion and the transatlantic submarine cable station at Cherbourg, where he was chief cable technician. Discharged in 1946, he married Eleanor Straub.

Jim went to work at Ajax Electrothermic in Trenton, N.J. Then he found a job back in St. Louis with the White-Rodgers Division of Emerson Electric, where he managed the appliance-controls engineer division and designed controls for washing machines, dishwashers, thermostats, and clothes dryers. Later he moved to Detroit and worked with United Technologies' automotive division. He received 23 electronic parts patents.

Jim supported scout troops at Webster Presbyterian and Cherry Hill Presbyterian, running Eagle Scout preparation and God and Country programs. He served as a deacon, trustee, elder, and Sunday school teacher. Jim died Aug. 22, 2020. He was predeceased by his wife, Elly. He is survived by daughters Carol Whitton and Betsy Harlan, and grandsons Cory and Troy.

**THE CLASS OF 1946**

**Joseph N. McDonald Jr. '46 \*48**

Joe died May 17, 2020.

Joe was part of the USNR 1946 contingent sent from Princeton to Cornell in 1945, where he majored in electrical engineering; he later earned a master's degree in plastics engineering at Princeton.

After Joe's service in the Navy as a lieutenant, he spent seven years with Dow Chemical as an engineer in the plastics technical-service department. He then became one of the founders of Sweetheart Plastics, then Maryland Cup. He served as the vice president of operations for 28 years, with a stint in England to run the company's English subsidiary. As a pioneer in the plastics industry, he never stopped working to improve the industry and was a board member and president of the Society of Plastics Engineers.

Joe was an avid golfer, tennis player, and pool player. He and his wife were founding members of Nashawtuc Country Club. Joe kept himself busy outside of work as a religious education teacher and Little League coach. He recounted his philosophy of life as maintaining a great family, raising the kids properly, and improving upon everything that he participated in, whether that be a committee, a friendship, or a community.

He was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Mary. Joe is survived by children Laura Vilain McDonald, Linda Ziemba, Tim, and Greg; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**THE CLASS OF 1949**



**William F. Jenks '49**

Bill died Sept. 24, 2020. He served in the Navy from July 1944 until June 1946 and then joined us in the Class of 1949.

He majored in mechanical engineering; joined the Catholic Club, Student Federalists, ASME, and ASCE; and took his meals at Tower Club.

After graduation Bill pursued an MBA at Northeastern University, and in 1954 he joined Pratt & Whitney in West Hartford, Conn. After several assignments around the United States, he ended up in the Cincinnati office. Five years later he moved to West Hartford, Conn., still with Pratt & Whitney.

At the time of our 25th reunion Bill had founded and was president of Machinery Systems, a machine-tool distributor in nearby Hamden. He merged the business with a related firm and retired to Haines City, Fla., in 1991.

Bill married Doris Fralli May 7, 1955, his 29th birthday. She survives him, along with their children, Susan and Robert, and one grandchild. We offer our sincere condolences to them all.



**John M. O'Mara '49**

Jack, known to his undergraduate friends as “Omar,” died Nov. 26, 2020, in Greenwich, Conn., surrounded by his family.

A native of Cincinnati, he attended The Hill School, and after a year in the Army he joined us in the Class of 1949. A member of Charter and a history major, Jack earned a law degree from the University of Virginia, joined a law firm in Cincinnati, and then moved to New York to become a partner at W.E. Hutton & Co. He joined Merrill Lynch as chairman and CEO of Global Natural Resources and ended his career with Citibank Venture Capital. He served on the board of Fannie Mae from 1970 until 1991, and also served as a director of Midland Co., Baldwin & Lyons, Global Natural Resources, and OnTrac.

Jack was married to Margot for 58 years.

She survives him along with daughters Margot Bush, Meica de Beistegui '87, and Deirdre '93; and three grandchildren.

Gregarious by nature and with a host of friends, Jack was a member of many sailing, skiing, and social clubs. He traveled into his 90s and only gave up skiing at the age of 82. We appreciate his life story, and express our sympathy to the entire family.

**THE CLASS OF 1952**



**Roger S. Berling '52**

Oh, we have lost one of our champions. Roger died Dec. 18, 2020, after building two stellar careers. Majoring in English

at Princeton and working in Triangle and Theatre Intime, he went on to Germany in Army counterintelligence. Back home he found work in finance, becoming a partner in Carter, Berling, Potoma & Weill.

From this he was halted by tragedy when a plane crashed at JFK, killing his wife, Helen, and three of their four children — daughter Helen (12), and two sons, Peter (9) and Clark (6). Son William was at home with his nurse.

Encouraged by friends in theater, he took up producing — in total more than 100 plays and musicals, of which a startling 25 won Antoinette Perry Awards.

To Princeton he was generous, paying for a major expansion of McCarter, the Berling Theatre. Often at Reunions, cordial and communicative, he was for a term our class president. The Class of 1952 sends its deepest condolences to his wife, Brook; and to his son, William '95.



**Carl von Eisen Bickert '52**

Carl graduated from the Lawrenceville School before joining us at Princeton, majoring in psychology and eating at Charter. He was a member of the Republican Club, the Chicago Club, and the Pre-Med Society. He roomed with Fred Atwood.

Carl went on to Army service as a sergeant, then earned a master's degree in clinical psychology and did further graduate work in that field at the University of Colorado.

He was ever a lively companion, and friends are not surprised that he had a stellar career in direct marketing. After a few years at the University of Denver as a research associate, Carl proceeded to found several marketing companies, Bickert, Browne and Associates (1970), National Demographics and Lifestyles (1975), and Looking Glass (1992).

He was very active in arts organizations as a board member of the Aspen Music Festival, the Colorado Celebration of the Arts, the Western States Arts Foundation, and others.

Carl died Nov. 20, 2020. He is survived

by his wife, Susie; and daughters Kate and Courtney. The class sends them its sympathy, along with appreciation of Carl's Army service and his spirited hosting of a class mini-reunion.



**Oliver P. McComas '52**

Mac's father, Oliver O., was a member of the Class of 1916. Mac graduated from Deerfield and at Princeton majored in biology, played soccer, and ate at Charter. His roommates were Bob Johnston, Charlie Shriver, and Quincey Lumsden. After his Navy service he took up pharmaceutical marketing with Smith Kline & French from 1955 to 1975, then at SRI International. In 1989 he became senior consultant in health-care products.

In retirement he served as president of Kara, a service giving grief support to children and adults. Mac was on the board of Fibli, a National Trust property, and a volunteer gardener there.

He died Aug. 24, 2020. He is survived by his wife, Peggy; and sons Parker and Alex. To them the class sends condolences and respect for their father's Navy service for our country.



**Biddle Wilkinson**

**Worthington Jr. '52**

Biddle joined us from Ramsey High School in Birmingham, Ala. At Princeton he joined Tiger Inn, majored in chemical engineering, played golf, and was on the Orange Key Schools Committee. He roomed with Warren Bruce.

Biddle served in Army counterintelligence in Germany and on the Army ski team. He returned to earn an MBA at USC, then went into finance as a member of the American Stock Exchange and was on the Board of Governors from 1990 to 1995. He founded a software firm, BlueNote Analytics (options valuation).

In retirement Biddle was president of the Dune Alpin community in East Hampton, N.Y., and when in New York he joined occasional lunches of 1952 at the Princeton Club.

Biddle died Sept. 20, 2020. He is survived by his wife, Gail; and son James. The class offers its sympathies to them.

**THE CLASS OF 1953**



**William Murrie Clevenger**

'53 Bill died Jan. 21, 2021, in Owings, Md.

Born in Plainfield, N.J., Bill attended Hotchkiss before coming to Princeton, where he joined Charter Club and majored in English. He won an honorable mention for the Stinnecke Prize in Classics.

Bill joined the Navy after graduation and was stationed in Newport, R.I.; Washington;

Kwajalein, Marshall Islands; and Hawaii. He then entered the Foreign Service and was posted to Aleppo, Syria, as well as Tehran and Meshed in Iran.

Leaving the Foreign Service, Bill went to St. Antony's College, Oxford, to continue Middle Eastern studies, and then worked for the World Bank before becoming an analyst for the General Accounting Office (now the Government Accountability Office) and settling in Owings, where he and his wife restored an 18th-century house, Patuxent Manor, in which they lived for 51 years. Bill maintained a lifelong interest in antiquity and literature, as well as politics and world affairs. He loved classical music and hot jazz, merlot, and good conversation. He was an accomplished chess and bridge player, and played squash at the Maryland Club, Baltimore, into his 80s.

Bill is survived by his wife of 53 years, Whitall; three children; and five grandchildren.



**Philip Wayne Hummer '53**

Phil, of Chicago and East Hampton, N.Y., died at his home in Chicago Dec. 18, 2020, after a short illness.

Phil was born in LaSalle, Ill., and graduated from the Lawrenceville School before coming to Princeton. He majored in economics and was a member of Tiger Inn. He spent two years as a first lieutenant in the Army, serving in Korea, before returning to Princeton to graduate.

Phil then joined the brokerage firm of Wayne Hummer & Co. in Chicago, where he worked with his father and brother for more than 60 years. Phil served on the board of the Field Foundation, was a trustee and board chair of the Chicago History Museum, and served on the board of the Chicago Crime Commission from 1965 until his death.

He was also active in the local chapter of the Securities Industry Association and served on the board of the Latin School of Chicago.

Phil is survived by his wife, Lynn; their three daughters; and five grandchildren.



**Thomas Clark Tufts**

**Jr. '53** Clark was born in Louisville, Ky., but his father was a career soldier and constantly reassigned so

Clark gained his high school education in 11 different locations.

His junior year of high school was spent in Japan. Turning down an appointment to West Point, he came to Princeton and was a member of Terrace Club and majored in architecture.

Drafted into the Army in August 1953, he rose to the rank of sergeant major before leaving the service and beginning his architectural career in Alexandria, Va. In 1958 he moved to Cleveland, Ohio, was hired by Conrad & Simpson Architects, and was made a partner seven years

later. When the founding partners retired, Clark, along with fellow architect and partner John Wenzel, created Tufts & Wenzel Architects, specializing in hospitals and medical facilities and working primarily in Ohio and Kentucky.

Clark's high school exposure to Japan led to a lifelong interest in that country and its culture. He made numerous trips to the country, became fluent in the language, and in 2008 earned a master's degree in East Asian Studies from the University of Leeds.

Clark was an active member of his Christian Science congregation and the Cleveland Rotary Club and held leadership roles in both organizations.

Clark died Dec. 2, 2020, in Cleveland. He was predeceased by his wife, Barbara, and is survived by his son, Thomas Clark Tufts III.



**John Morris Wallace '53**

Jack was born in Des Moines, Iowa, but came to Princeton from East Denver High School in Denver, Colo. He majored in English and wrote his thesis on George Meredith. Jack was a member of Quadrangle Club.

After graduation Jack served in the Air Force. He had planned to go to law school but changed his mind while in the service and went to medical school instead, earning a doctorate of pathology from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. He spent most of his medical career as pathologist at Stanly Regional Medical Center in Albemarle, N.C.

Jack died Nov. 24, 2020, at Hospice of the Golden Isles in Brunswick, Ga. He is survived by his wife, Helen Burns Wallace; sons Jack and Bill; daughter Weesie; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**THE CLASS OF 1954**



**Frank Edward Wade**

**Greene '54** Wade died May 19, 2020.

He prepared for Princeton at South Kent, majored in economics, and was a member of Charter Club.

After serving in the Korean War from 1953 to 1955, Wade earned a master's degree from the Columbia University School of Journalism, and in the first half of his career, wrote or edited for *Newsweek*, *American Heritage*, *Look*, the *Saturday Review*, and *The New York Times Magazine*.

For the second half of his career Wade was a Rockefeller family philanthropic adviser focused on energy, the environment, international security, voter participation, and the media. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, he served on boards of the *Columbia Journalism Review*, the League of Conservation Voters, the Trust for Mutual

Understanding, and Sustainable Nantucket. He received the 2010 Environmental Policy Leadership Award from Global Green USA and the Eleanor Roosevelt Peace Award from Peace Action.

Wade and his wife, Susanne, whom he married in 1965 and who died in 2019, were active and beloved members of the Nantucket community where he grew up. When asked how he wanted to be remembered, he said: "As a nice fellow with occasional flaws, not to be noted here."

He is survived by son Nathanael, daughter Jennie '94, their spouses, four grandchildren, and his sister.

**THE CLASS OF 1955**



**Frank Donald Brigham Jr. '55**

Don died Jan. 10, 2021, his 62nd wedding anniversary, due to complications of COVID-19. He was born March 18, 1933, in New Haven and lived his entire life in Connecticut.

He attended the Loomis School in Windsor, Conn. At Princeton he joined Ivy Club, majored in history, was captain of the rugby club, and was a Chapel deacon.

One of his most influential experiences was his semester abroad with the English-Speaking Union. It led to repeated travel to England and several long friendships. His senior-year roommates were Joe Bacheller, Walt Barry, and Jim Hurlock.

After graduation he enlisted in the Navy. He then joined Gulf Oil, and in 1959 married Kathleen "Kay" Johnson, whom he had known in high school. They settled in New Canaan to raise their four children, Michael, Chris, Jean, and Kathleen. Don joined Quantum Chemical and became treasurer and vice president, before retiring in 1988.

Don and Kay lived for a while in Washington, Conn., where they had space for farm animals, family, and grandchildren who came to call him Pedro. Don immersed himself in a Princeton mentoring program, worked with at-risk students, and enjoyed local politics. Princeton was a lasting influence on his life.

Don is survived by Kay, their four children, and 12 grandchildren.



**Damon R. Carron '55**

Damon died April 13, 2020. He was born Dec. 21, 1932. Before Princeton he graduated from Bogota High School in Bogota, N.J., where he was active in student government, Hi-Y, dramatics, and the glee club.

At Princeton Damon majored in philosophy and graduated with honors. He was a member of Prospect Club and also the Outing Club. Photography was among his special interests. He was a collector and dealer of antique books

and an amateur inventor. Survivors include sister Beryl and brothers Peter and Neal.



**Austin H. George '55**

Austin, a retired executive at T. Rowe Price, died Jan. 11, 2021, of congestive heart failure in Baltimore. He had been hospitalized in November with

COVID-19 in a health center, surrounded by his family, at the time of his death.

Austin was born April 24, 1933, in Philadelphia and graduated in 1951 as co-valedictorian of Robert Ludlowe High School in Fairfield, Conn. At Princeton he joined Charter Club, majored in engineering, and managed the track team in his junior year. He was also on the staffs of *The Daily Princetonian* and the *Princeton Engineer*. His roommates during his last two years were Larry Puck and Bill Weisenfels.

After graduation he joined DuPont as an engineer and in 1958 married Darlene Hughes. He then joined T. Rowe Price as its 17th employee, moving up in the profession to where in 1988 he was president of the Security Traders Association as well as president of the Baltimore Wine and Food Society. In 1992 he retired and with Darlene embarked on a traveling, shopping, and collecting splurge that lasted for 20 years.

Austin is survived by Darlene, daughters Julie and Laura, four grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.



**Willis N. Mills Jr. '55 \*58**

Willis, a noted architect and successful amateur golfer, died Dec. 11, 2020, in Ponte Vedra, Fla.

He was born Sept. 25, 1933, in New York City and graduated from Kent School. At Princeton he joined Colonial Club and majored in architecture, following it up with an MFA in architecture from Princeton's School of Architecture. Graduate school both led to his career and connected him with his wife, Betsy. A recent Vassar graduate, she was working in the Princeton art museum and helped Willis with his MFA thesis.

Willis played all four years on Princeton's freshman and varsity golf teams and was captain in his freshman and senior years. During that time the varsity team won two Eastern Intercollegiate Championships. After Princeton, Willis won championships at four clubs to which he belonged and also played in the U.S. national seniors championships.

Two of his noted restoration projects were a home Van Hornesville, N.Y., that was featured in several architecture publications and is on the National Register of Historic Places; and a church in Wilton, Conn., that held separate spaces for two congregations — Presbyterian

and Episcopal. In 1979 Willis was the first winner of the annual 1955 Class Award for his innovation in architecture.

Willis is survived by Betsy; children Nathaniel, Jonathan '81, Eliza, and David '87, and 10 grandchildren.



**Ray F. Purdy Jr. '55**

Ray, an exceedingly lively person devoted to the theater, music, and poetry, died Sept. 15, 2020, at his home in Kirkcudbright (Kuh-KOO-Bree), Scotland. He was born Oct. 6, 1932, in Pretoria, South Africa, son of Ray Purdy Sr., who was in the Class of 1920. Before Princeton he graduated from Hollywood High School in California, where he was head cheerleader.

At Princeton he joined Quadrangle Club and majored in history. Although at that time he had no connection with Scotland, he took up the bagpipes and loved to play them frequently around campus, which was said to have irritated President Dodds, who lived on campus at Prospect. Ray also took up rowing all four years, earning two varsity P's on the lightweight crew that was undefeated in his freshman and sophomore years and set a course record at Henley.

He traveled internationally, moved to Los Angeles, and in 1978 moved to Vermont, where he established a business designing and building kitchens. He immersed himself in music and theater, directing and building sets for more than 60 local theater productions.

In 2000 Ray and his wife, Lesley, moved to Scotland to be near her family. His son Donald described him as "a gentleman, and a gentleman. He made everyone around him better than before."

Ray is survived by Lesley, daughter Anne Morell '92, son Donald, and three grandchildren.



**Alexander A. Weech Jr. '55**

Alex was born Sept. 21, 1933, in New York City, and grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio. He died Jan. 11, 2021, at home in Bradenton, Fla., following

a general decline and a decision to stop eating and drinking.

Alex graduated from Cincinnati Country Day, where he was active in tennis, basketball, and glee club. At Princeton he majored in philosophy, joined Quadrangle, and was active in interclub sports and freshman tennis. He roomed with Kenly Webster, John Roos, and Mike Babcock.

After graduation he went to Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons and subsequently trained in psychiatry and psychoanalysis, which he practiced in Cincinnati. He gradually retired from practice

there and then moved to Florida. For many years he was an active tennis player, winning tournaments at Point O' Woods on Fire Island. He was a reader, especially of murder mysteries, which he loved to solve.

In our 50th-reunion yearbook he said he had been married four times and divorced three times. Had he lived four days longer, he would have celebrated his 20th wedding anniversary with his wife, Barbara Miller.

He is survived by Barbara; his children, Jeffrey, Vincent, and Abigail; and stepsons David and Dennis. Barbara described him as "a quiet man, who adored his family and friends."

#### THE CLASS OF 1956



##### Louis C. Lagomarsino Jr. '56

Lou passed away Aug. 5, 2020. He graduated from Hackensack (N.J.) High School and immediately joined the Marine Corps. His unit was called to Korea, where he served until he was wounded in action. After months of rehab, he was accepted at Princeton, was a member of Dial Lodge, and proudly graduated with a degree in civil engineering. He later earned a master's degree in civil engineering from Arizona State University.

Lou loved many things in life. Included were opera (especially Italian), civic and professional groups, and football. He held offices in many organizations, including the Princeton Alumni Association. He loved his profession and designed streets, highways, and developments throughout Arizona.

Lou is survived by his wife of 63 years, Linda; daughter Beth; son Louis and his wife, Melissa; and six grandchildren and their families. He was predeceased by his parents and his sister Marie.

Lou was actively engaged in mentoring his grandchildren, and nothing gave him greater delight than to celebrate their successes and achievements at monthly family gatherings. He also shared his love of opera, taking each of his children and grandchildren to experience the Arizona Opera numerous times over the years. Surely, the angels in heaven greeted him with *La Boheme's* "Quando m'en vo."

#### THE CLASS OF 1957



##### John A. Spanogle '57

Although Andy realized in his junior year at Princeton that he'd prefer some career other than engineering, he graduated as one, and then attended the University of Chicago Law School. He liked law so much he decided he'd like to help others like it. So in 1964 he helped found a law school in Maine. He taught law for 54 years, mostly at George Washington University Law. Andy

specialized in international commercial law, writing 10 books on the subject, one of them long in print as a law school textbook.

He matriculated at Princeton in 1952. Illness held him back a year. Andy joined Cloister Inn and was a member of the Debate Team and the Engineering Council. He was a lay leader in the Episcopal church most places where he lived and sang bass in their choirs.

He nursed his first wife, Pamela, through six years of dementia. Eight years after she died, he married Karen Bennett, a retired professor of biology, and for six years a widow. They had been married for six years when Andy died Dec. 18, 2020, his 86th birthday, of congestive heart failure, at home with his grandchild present. Besides Karen, he is survived by two daughters, his grandchild, and three stepchildren and their families. Andy was kind and gentle, invariably upbeat, and liked by many including generations of students and fellow faculty.



##### Rodolfo E. Wachsman '57

Rudy was big — big in body and big in spirit, and big in his pleasure in being alive. "He enjoyed every single little bit of it," his companion of 22 years, Laurie Dalton, said, meaning his life.

Rudy died Jan. 9, 2021, of COVID-19 at his home in Mexico City. Before entering Deerfield Academy, Rudy spent 18 months in an intensive English-language program. His languages were Spanish and Hungarian. His family left Nazi-allied Hungary in 1942, eventually settling in Mexico. Rudy was 9 when his father, a textile industrialist, died.

At Princeton Rudy won varsity letters in three sports — soccer, squash, and tennis — apparently the only classmate to have done so. He joined Cottage Club before leaving Princeton after sophomore year due to poor grades, due in turn, perhaps, to his athletic schedule. He finished at the University of Virginia, where he then earned an MBA.

After the Chase Bank management-training program, he sold newsprint for many years for a Canadian paper company. In 1975 he married, in Mexico, and joined Televisa, a national TV producer, as vice president for programming. In 1999 Rudy divorced, retired, and began to travel the world with Laurie for much of every year. The two attended every major Princeton class reunion.

Laurie and one of her daughters will scatter his ashes in his favorite places: Manhattan, Torres del Paine in Chile, and Lord Howe Island off Australia.

#### THE CLASS OF 1959

##### Robert W. Duff '59

Bob died Oct. 31, 2020, in Lancaster, Pa., the result of Lewy body dementia.

Born May 10, 1936, in Richmond, Va., Bob prepared for college at the Loomis



School. While at Princeton he found a special place with the Tigertones and the Boomerangs, a quartet spinoff from the Tigertones.

He majored in sociology, was president of Tower Club his senior year, and served on the Interclub Committee. His senior year roommates were Bob Bushnell, Woolsey Conover, Bob Lewis, and Pete Schneider. As an alum, he served as class agent for three years. In 1973, by his second marriage to Sandy Scheidel, he acquired four loving children who were with him at the end.

Bob spent his entire career with Bethlehem Steel Corp., with postings in New York City; Bethlehem, Pa.; Chesterton, Ind.; and Baltimore, Md. Retiring as sales and marketing manager in 1999, he and Sandy moved to Wilmington, N.C., where golf became his passion. They had recently moved to Lancaster, Pa., to be closer to their children, Bob completing a life cycle.

Bob was predeceased by his brother, Jim. He is survived by Sandy; his sister, Julie; daughters Kathy, Liz, and Susan; son Bill; and many grandchildren. Bob lived a full, loving, and generous life and will be sorely missed by his family and friends to whom the class sends its heartfelt sympathies.



##### Michael W. Ellis '59

Michael died Sept. 15, 2020, after enduring several years of Parkinson's disease.

Born in Cambridge, Mass., he came to Princeton via the Kent School. Michael majored in English at Princeton, receiving sophomore and junior English prize honorable mentions, joining the St. Paul's Society, and graduating *summa cum laude*. But Michael's singular activity, foreseeing changes to come in the social organization of undergraduate life, was his involvement, together with roommate Dale Goldsmith and several others, in refusing to participate in 1957's bicker and forcing the University to provide an alternate dining facility, Wilson Lodge. This led to creation of Wilson College, forming the genesis of the college system now in place at Princeton.

Following graduation Michael entered General Theological Seminary in New York City, earning a bachelor's degree in theology in 1962 and leading to ordination as an Episcopal priest. The following six years saw Michael's marriage to Anice Rutters and the birth of two children while serving as a parish clergyman in New York, Missouri, and Detroit. The summer of 1968 brought, in Michael's words, a "retooling," changing his profession to become a social worker and leading to a master's in social work from Wayne State University. He spent the rest of his life in service to others,

happily bridging his two professions.

Michael is survived by Anice, and children David and Martha and their families. We have sent condolences.



**Benjamin R. Jones III '59**

Ben passed away Dec. 3, 2020, at his home in Dallas, Pa.

Born and raised in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Ben attended Wyoming (Pa.) Seminary, where he was a debater, on the staffs of the school paper and yearbook, and senior class treasurer. At Princeton he played freshman and varsity lacrosse, was a football manager his freshman year, and served on the Undergraduate Council, the Schools and Scholarships Committee, and the Orange Key Executive Council. He majored in history and took his meals at Quadrangle. In his senior year he roomed with Boyd and McCain.

Following Princeton Ben served in the Pennsylvania National Guard and Air Force Reserve. His late father having been a chief justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, law seemed a natural path for Ben, and in 1966 he graduated from Temple School of Law. He joined the firm of Silverblatt & Townsend, where he remained as a partner for many years, serving as solicitor for Kingston (Pa.) Township, the Dallas School District, and the Dallas Area Municipal Authority. He taught law at Wilkes University and was a chairman of the United Way of Wyoming Valley.

Ben was survived by his wife of 56 years, Jane; sons Benjamin IV, Dylan, and Tudor; three grandchildren; and his stepbrother, Edward Griffith. He was predeceased by his brother Morgan. We have sent condolences.



**William L. Weston '59**

Bill died Oct. 17, 2020, at home in San Diego. As he said in his 45th-reunion yearbook biography, "I can't imagine anyone being luckier in his or her choice of career."

Bill loved aerospace. He majored in aeronautical engineering at Princeton, spent his summers working at Republic Aviation on Long Island, and earned a master's degree in mechanical engineering at Case Institute of Technology. Upon graduation from Case he took a position with General Dynamics/Convair, where he stayed for 32 years, rising to manager of automatic test equipment and involved in design and programming of electronic test equipment for space and military vehicles. He then volunteered for the remainder of his days at the San Diego Air & Space Museum working on aircraft restoration.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Bill spent his youth in nearby Flushing, graduating from Flushing High School, where he was editor-in-chief of

the school newspaper. Arriving at Princeton he rowed with the 150s his freshman year, wrote as feature editor for the *Princeton Engineer*, joined the American Institute of Aeronautical Engineers, waited tables in Commons, worked as an undergraduate assistant at Forrestal Research Center, and kept the hi-fi equipment humming at Terrace Club.

Bill was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Marcia. He is survived by his son, Jim; his daughter, Elisa Bernstein; and four grandchildren.

**THE CLASS OF 1960**



**Peter M. Crispo '60**

We lost one of our most interesting classmates when Pete "The Dealer" died Dec. 20, 2020, of a stroke. He earned his nickname as a famously successful poker player, often in company with Toma Kucik. Some claimed they earned their way through school on their winnings.

Coming from Mineola (N.Y.) High School, Pete brought his athletic skills to Princeton. He played freshman football and varsity baseball and basketball. He dined at Tiger Inn, majored in psychology, and enlisted in NROTC with the goal of a Marine Corps commission.

Upon graduation Pete married Benita and they had three sons. He proudly served several years as a Marine officer and then entered civilian life with Mutual of New York, first in New York City and then in Syracuse, N.Y., for the balance of his career. Pete suffered increasingly from MS from midlife on, but maintained a positive spirit throughout.

After retirement Pete moved to Melbourne, Fla., in 1997. He married Karen in 2002 and indulged his keen interest in sports and cards, though he confided that he had a tough time beating the old ladies in penny-ante poker at the Senior Center. We offer our sympathies to all his family.

**THE CLASS OF 1961**



**Howard R. Harrison '61**

Howie died Nov. 16, 2020, of natural causes in Morris Plains, N.J.

Born and raised in New Haven, he came to Princeton from Hopkins Grammar School. At Princeton he studied psychology, dined at Charter Club, and played IAA hockey and basketball. He was a member of the Pre-Law Society, Whig-Clio, the Hillel Foundation, and the Campus Fund Drive.

Howie attended Columbia Law School and began his career as a trial attorney with the Food and Drug Administration, after which he was vice president of E.R. Squibb & Sons in Lawrenceville for many years and later of Searle Pharmaceuticals in Chicago.

After a few years in retirement in Florida,

Howie relocated to New Jersey in 2002 to be near his sons and their families, with whom he enjoyed barbecues and frequent visits with his grandchildren, and to engage in his ardent support of Tiger athletics.

Howie's second wife, Peggy, predeceased him. He is survived by his sons, Eric '90 and Evan, and their families, which include four grandchildren; and his former wife, Barbara.



**Stephen W. Roberts '61**

Steve died Nov. 7, 2020, having struggled with a variety of health issues over the years.

Born in Des Moines, where he lived all of his life, he came to Princeton from Roosevelt High School. At Princeton he majored in history, ate at Campus, played in the band, was a DJ at WPRB, and was a member of the Westminster Foundation, Whig-Clio, Young Republicans, and the Pre-Law Society. Senior year he roomed with Jack Bright, Jerry O'Neill, and John Douw.

Following Michigan Law School, he clerked for a judge on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals before embarking on a 51-year career with the Davis Brown law firm, retiring in 2016. As an attorney he described himself as "jack of all trades, master of none."

Steve was heavily involved in the Republican Party as state chairman for four years and Republican national committeeman for 20 years, which only scratches the surface of his lifelong involvement in politics, charitable and civic organizations, his church, and more. He was a loyal Tiger and classmate, having been involved in Annual Giving in many ways over the years. A full obituary is available on the class website.

Steve is survived by his wife of 55 years, Dawn; sons JB and Justin; daughter Staci; and their families, which include three grandchildren.



**George S. Robinson Jr. '61**

Robbie died Oct. 19, 2020, in Plano, Texas.

Born on a U.S. Naval Base in the Philippines in 1939 and evacuated just before the Japanese invasion, Robbie came to us from Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, D.C. At Princeton he majored in civil engineering, graduated *summa cum laude*, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, lettered in track, took his meals at Tower, and was midshipman commander in the NROTC.

With Marshall and Fulbright scholarships he earned a master's degree and a doctorate in civil engineering at the University of London. He then embarked on a distinguished career as a naval officer in the Seabees, which included a White House fellowship. He retired from the Navy as a captain in 1981.

He joined Electronic Data Systems in Plano, rising to become director of EDS's worldwide real estate operations. After retiring again in 1999 he founded GSR Consulting, advising corporations on improving their boards. Robbie was involved in numerous civic, charitable, and professional organizations, and this memorial does not do justice to his life, career, and accomplishments. His full obituary is available on our class website.

There are no survivors of whom we are aware. His wife, Lynore, died in 2018, and a daughter, Anthea, died at age 14.

#### THE CLASS OF 1962



##### Allen L. Ginsberg '62

The class was saddened to learn of the death of Allen Oct. 23, 2019, after battling Parkinson's disease for some time.

At Princeton Allen majored in biology and was a member of the Woodrow Wilson Society and the university bridge team. He and classmate Carl Jukkola placed third in the National Intercollegiate Bridge Tournament.

After leaving Princeton, Allen pursued medicine at Johns Hopkins University; upon finishing his training, he obtained a fellowship for further study at the Medical College of Virginia. He subsequently served as a major at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, advancing treatment of viral hepatitis. Subsequently he was professor of medicine at George Washington University for 38 years, specializing in gastroenterology and research in IBD (inflammatory bowel disease).

He had a passion for sailing and enjoyed outings on his boat with family on Chesapeake Bay.

Allen is survived by his wife of 56 years, Margery; son Robert '90; daughter-in-law Rebecca; and grandsons Noah, Ben, and Theodore. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Irene Steinberg; her husband, Bruce; and grandsons Zachary, William, and Matthew. The class extends its condolences to the family.

#### THE CLASS OF 1964

##### Raymond A. Young III '64

Ray died Sept. 23, 2020. He was educated primarily in England, graduating from the Wellington College Public School.

Ray entered Princeton as a sophomore, majored in electrical engineering, joined Tower and Army ROTC, and played rugby. Born into an aviation-oriented family, he earned his pilot's license with the Flying Club.

After graduation Ray was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army's 1st Cavalry Division and deployed to Vietnam in 1965, earning the Bronze Star for service in the battle of An Ninh. Wounded, he was evacuated to the Valley Forge VA hospital, recovering to serve as a Green Beret in the Army Reserves.

He joined Pan Am, earned an MBA from Harvard, and served as a federal government executive before leading a regional commuter airline and then business development for a global logistics company. Changed by Sept. 11, Ray earned a Ph.D. from UNLV and started a new career in air-traffic management research and development, supporting the FAA and NASA. In recent years, Ray consulted with Raytheon on safely integrating unmanned aircraft into US airspace.

Ray's first wife, Julia Bourne Young, died in 2000. He is survived by his second wife, Julijra, his daughters, Holly Street and Heather Florance; sons Alex and Benjamin; nine grandchildren; and brothers Ralph and Brian, to whom the class extends its condolences.

#### THE CLASS OF 1967



##### Richard Paul Goodkin '67

Dick died Oct. 20, 2020, in Framingham, Mass.

Growing up in Boston, Dick graduated from Boston Latin, where he was active on the school newspaper, the Professional Club, and the rowing club, and won a Princeton alumni prize.

At Princeton Dick majored in psychology, belonged to Dial Lodge, and roomed with Mike Stieber and Christopher Harbach '68 in 104 Blair. The University awarded him a major scholarship when his father became seriously ill, affecting family finances. Dick married his hometown girlfriend, Lorraine Garbett Goodkin, in 1966 and spent many weekends driving home to tend to family during our final two years. He still graduated with election to Phi Beta Kappa amid the family stress.

After graduation Dick went to Harvard Law School, graduating in 1970. He worked for Boston legal firms early in his career, but once gaining partnership decided to seek more stimulating and intellectually challenging legal activity. For more than 20 years he was consultant to many startup firms in New England, handling all sides of business operations and more complex issues of management, personnel, and corporate law. He also served on the boards of the Massachusetts arts council and a children's charity operating after-school programs.

For recreation Dick was a longtime motorbike enthusiast, and he and Lorraine were devoted theater and concert attendees sometimes multiple times a week. After full-time retirement they began spending winter months in Newport Beach, Calif.

Dick is survived by Lorraine and his daughter, Renay, born the year of our class graduation, 1967.

#### THE CLASS OF 1975

##### Cathy Gail McAdoo Wilhelm '75

Cathy died Dec. 23, 2020, of Parkinson's disease and diabetes, exacerbated by COVID-19. She



had been in long-term care for nearly four years.

Valedictorian of her high school class in Nevada, Mo., Cathy spent a year at the University of Missouri before

transferring to Princeton in 1971 as a sophomore. She later took a year off and returned as a member of '75, majoring in English.

She met John Wilhelm '75 in September 1972. They were married by Dean of the Chapel Ernest Gordon May 22, 1974.

After graduation Cathy worked at a wide range of jobs as she and John lived in New Jersey, Michigan, Missouri, and Kansas. She was a newspaper reporter, an executive secretary at the Kellogg Foundation, an executive at the nonprofit New Jersey Community Loan Fund, and the first director of the Americorps program in St. Joseph, Mo.

A lifelong, active Democrat, Cathy became a top volunteer and eventual headquarters manager for the Sedgwick County (Kan.) Democratic Party.

Cathy is survived by John and their son, J.R. The class shares this sad loss.

#### THE CLASS OF 1976



##### Wilson Hayman '76

Wilson died Nov. 28, 2020, at his home in Raleigh, N.C., from long-term health issues.

He was a member of Charter Club, a cellist in the University Orchestra, and a history major. He earned a law degree from UNC.

After a clerkship with the chief justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, he worked for the state attorney general's office. In 1990 he joined Poyner Spruill in Raleigh, becoming a partner and a nationally recognized health-care attorney.

Wilson was the longest-serving chancellor of the North Carolina United Methodist Church Conference, including three years as national president of the Council of Chancellors. His memorial service was broadcast from Hayes Barton United Methodist Church, where he had performed on the cello two weeks before in a virtual worship service.

Wilson chaired his local Alumni Schools Committee, served as treasurer of the Carolina Triangle Princeton Club, and was vice chair of the North Carolina Museum of History Foundation, which he helped to establish and incorporate.

The class extends its deepest sympathy to his wife, Jennie Jarrell Hayman; and their son, Wilson Whitford Hayman.

#### William E. Wilson '76

Bill died Dec. 6, 2020, after a two-year struggle with cancer. He was a management consultant and corporate executive.

Bill graduated from Princeton with a basic



engineering degree and from New York University with an MBA. After graduation he served as treasurer of the Class of '76 for 20 years, between our fifth and 25th reunions.

His professional career began in New York City with Bankers Trust and TIAA-CREF before he spent a decade with (then) Coopers and Lybrand as a management consultant. He and two partners started a new consulting firm in New York City that merged with a West Coast firm.

Bill specialized in corporate process reengineering, working with some of the largest corporations around the world. He ended his professional consulting career with corporate executive positions at GMAC in NY/NJ and San Francisco.

An avid tennis player, Bill competed in USTA league tennis as well as local tournaments in both men's and mixed doubles. He also had a passion for undertaking projects around the house, including rebuilding an entire backyard porch, patio, and hot-tub venue.

He is survived by his wife, Kim Camp; sons Tyler and Christo and his wife, Sandi; two granddaughters; brothers Court and Bart; and sister Julie.

**GRADUATE ALUMNI**

**J. Peter McGeer \*49**

Born in Vancouver, British Columbia, May 14, 1922, Peter died Oct. 15, 2020, at age 98. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of British Columbia, and earned a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Princeton in 1949.

Championing the development of the light metal and advanced material industries in Canada, Peter worked for Alcan for 40 years in increasingly senior roles, culminating as director of the Kingston Research and Development Centre. He served on numerous boards and government advisory committees in the fields of metallurgy and industrial materials. A founder of the Canadian Advanced Industrial Materials Forum, he chaired the Canadian University-Industry Council of Advanced Ceramics.

After retiring from Alcan, Peter spent 20 years in management and advisory positions at the Ontario Centre for Materials Research and its successor, Materials and Manufacturing Ontario. Among his many awards was an honorary degree from Queen's University in 1996.

Passionate about theater, Peter was both an actor and director in two community theater groups. A lifelong athlete, he enjoyed sailing, skiing, and golf.

Peter was predeceased by his wife, Kay. He is survived by his children, Mary, Allison, Jim, and Tom; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**Isak V. Gerson \*54**

Isak died April 19, 2020, in Chicago after a brief illness. He was 90.

Born in Athens, Greece, he survived the Holocaust by escaping from Nazi-controlled Greece to Turkey. After the war he immigrated to the United States. Isak graduated from Union College in 1952, and then studied electrical engineering at Princeton.

Isak relocated to Chicago to become the director of research and development for Sciaky, designing electron-beam welding systems, some used for the Apollo program.

In 1964 he met his wife, Nancy, at a Chicago Symphony Orchestra concert. They married and had a daughter, Amy Gerson Kynaston, who died in a riding accident in 2011. Isak and Nancy were together and devoted to each other until Nancy's death in 2018.

Isak served as a governing member of the Chicago Symphony's Orchestral Association, founding member of the Art Institute of Chicago's Classical Arts Society, and on the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute's Visiting Committee.

Isak is survived by stepdaughter Susan Haskins-Doloff; son-in-law Steven Doloff; sister Vicky Pilo; brother-in-law Albert Pilo; and many nieces and nephews in the United States and Israel, all of whom miss his kindness, wisdom, and humor.

**Richard Kolbe \*62**

Dick died Dec. 1, 2020. He was born June 17, 1932, in Adamsdale, Pa.

In 1954 Dick graduated from Dartmouth with a major in public administration. After Dartmouth he commenced his four-year service with the Navy, serving as a navigator on USS *Plymouth Rock* during the Cold War. On leaving the Navy he joined American Casualties Insurance as an adviser, but his passion for learning returned and he attended Princeton University, earning a Ph.D. in politics in 1962.

Dick was a visiting professor at Princeton, Temple University, Lafayette, Dartmouth, and the University of Delhi in India, before receiving tenure at Cedar Crest College. He also traveled to various universities in Europe for the Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges, seeking positions for American professors. He published many texts used for teaching that are still considered respected reference books today, including the textbook *American Political Parties*.

Dick was an unassuming, intellectual, emotionally intelligent, kind man.

Preceded in death by his first wife, Joanne, and stepson Tadgh, Dick is survived by his wife, Yvonne; daughters Patti and Lynn; stepchildren Kerry, Declan, and Aidan; four grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

**Victor A. Liguori \*68**

Victor died Dec. 7, 2020.

He grew up outside of Philadelphia and spent his summers in Avalon, N.J., working on a charter fishing boat.

After graduating from Haverford College, he earned a Ph.D. in sociology at Princeton in 1968, focusing on stability and change in fisheries. Victor had an interest in ethnicity that came about partially because of his European immigrant parents and growing up in a multilingual family.

Victor taught sociology and anthropology at the College of William & Mary for almost 40 years. His love for teaching and his passion for the subjects he taught nurtured and inspired his students. For 30 years he worked with the watermen and women of Guinea and developed a profound respect for the community's sociocultural diversity, language and speech, and work ethic. The Guineamen became his heroes and friends.

Victor was passionate about music, woodworking, and fishing. If he had written his own obituary, it would have been in rhyme. He loved to collect and recount stories and to make people laugh.

Victor is survived by his wife, Victoria; daughter Lisa; son Robert; and grandson Sam.

**Alfred J. Bersbach II \*74**

Al died Dec. 12, 2020, in Portland, Maine, after contracting COVID-19 at the memory-care facility where he resided. He was 75.

Born July 12, 1945, in Santa Monica, Calif., he graduated from the California Institute of Technology with a bachelor's degree in 1967 and earned a Ph.D. in physics from Princeton in 1974. Al was employed by the University of Maine at Farmington, first teaching physics and then joining UMF's information technology department, where he served until his retirement in 2010 as the manager of network and server systems. An accomplished musician, Al was principal cellist with the UMF Orchestra.

Al had a special affection for the UMF foreign exchange program with Komi State Pedagogical Institute in Syktyvkar, Russia, teaching there several times and hosting exchange professors. Al lived with conviction in pursuit of social justice, beginning with conscientious objection against the Vietnam War. In the 1980s he was a driving force in founding and sustaining the Western Maine Peace Action Workshop.

Predeceased by his wife, Lee, Al is survived by his son, Patrick Liddy; stepson Jesse Sharkey and his two sons; and Al's three brothers, Robert, Peter, and Richard.

*Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA. Undergraduate memorials appear for Willis N. Mills Jr. '55 \*58 and Joseph N. McDonald '46 \*48.*

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**Martha's Vineyard:** Bright, cheerful home with 4 bedrooms and panoramic views of Vineyard Sound and Elizabeth Islands in tranquil Aquinnah. Available August 1-7 and August 28-September 4. 508-954-2807. [piamachi@yahoo.com](mailto:piamachi@yahoo.com), s'62.

### United States West

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**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 [jmkolodzik@gmail.com](mailto:jmkolodzik@gmail.com), p'12 p'21.

**Kaanapali, Maui:** Luxury 2BR, 2BA oceanfront suite, large lanai, at Hyatt Residence Club September 11-18, \$4900. (Adjacent hotel rate = \$7559.) Beau Carter '65, 415-652-7454, or [lucyaallen1@gmail.com](mailto:lucyaallen1@gmail.com)

**Monterey Bay, CA:** 3BR 2BA Pacific Grove. Ocean view, walk to downtown and Bay, golf Pebble Beach, Carmel. <https://bit.ly/SeaDreamPG-PAW>, '84.

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## Her Pictures Showed Princeton to the World

By Elyse Graham '07

Elizabeth Menzies, artist and photographer, served as the eyes of Princeton for almost half a century. The daughter of Professor Alan Menzies, who taught chemistry at the University, Menzies took a childhood interest in photographic chemistry, using photosensitive emulsions and chemical baths to lift visions out of the dark. She became an indispensable chronicler of Princeton life. “In the past two decades,” the *Town Topics* weekly newspaper remarked in 1956, “nearly one out of every five issues of the *Princeton Alumni Weekly* has displayed a Menzies photograph on its cover.”

In 1939, Menzies, then 24, made her name with a photograph of Albert Einstein she took for *Scientific American*. Just getting the famous physicist to sit for a portrait was an achievement

in itself, as he had come to resent his notoriety. One of the secretaries at the Institute for Advanced Study had the job of stopping unannounced visitors who came to tell Professor Einstein their idea for a perpetual motion machine, or world peace, or what have you, and telling them that the professor was away from his office and would surely return soon — then keeping them waiting in a chair by her desk until the clock ran out at the end of the day, while Einstein peacefully worked in his office just a few feet away. In contrast to the way most photographers captured him in his home — from above, with Einstein flinching away from the camera — Menzies knelt at the seated man’s eye level and looked at him straightforwardly, as photography

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**Princeton history professor Julian Boyd said she had “the intellect of a scholar, the heart of a concerned citizen, and the hand of an artist.”**

connoisseurs have noted. Perhaps she told a joke; he stifled a smile. The result was a portrait that seems like a work of disclosure rather than exposure: a famous face looking steadily at the viewer, brows arched, as though the sitter is weighing whether to divulge a secret.

For the next 40-odd years, Menzies took photographs for PAW, and in 1954 she was hired to work on the Art Museum’s Index of Christian Art. Her pictures of humans often captured subjects at the eye level of their own experience: football players, in Princeton’s old black jerseys, breaking into laughter as they huddle; students walking across campus in World War II uniforms, still lolling like boys; students listening to a lecture in McCosh Hall, twisting their limbs and torsos forward or backwards or sideways across the wooden seats in every possible attitude of repose. Princeton history professor Julian Boyd said she had “the intellect of a scholar, the heart of a concerned citizen, and the hand of an artist.”

In 1967, Menzies published *Princeton Architecture: A Pictorial History of Town and Campus*, which she co-authored with Constance Greiff and Mary Gibbons. The book argues that the town of Princeton comprises a detailed architectural record of American history: “Almost every era has produced a scattering of notable buildings in Princeton. ... One can read the unfolding of history not only in the pages of a book but in the palpable form of wood and brick.” Menzies believed in preserving memories of the past — especially intimate, forgettable ones. In a letter to a local newspaper, she recalled the snowy winters of her Princeton girlhood: “The University sent an orange-painted, prow-shaped plow pulled by a horse to clear the way for pedestrians.”

Menzies published three other books and traveled across Europe to take photographs for the Index of Christian Art. Her photographs also appeared in *Fortune*, *Life*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, and *Time*, among other publications. She retired from the University in 1980, leaving behind thousands of images that have helped Princetonians all over the world to share memories. ♦

SEE some of PAW’s covers with Menzies’ photos at [paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)



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