THE AMBASSADOR

Two and a half years after testifying in the impeachment of Donald Trump, Marie Yovanovitch ’80 has a new book and a new life.
Class of 2010

Princeton provided a wonderful education and community without the burden of debt, allowing me to pursue a career in public service.

I give because

Princeton alumni give back to the University and serve humanity in many ways. Through Annual Giving, the path to a brighter future leads forward together.

Annual Giving

This year’s Annual Giving campaign ends on June 30, 2022. To contribute by credit card, please call 800-258-5421 (outside the U.S. and Canada, 609-258-3373), visit www.princeton.edu/ag or scan the QR code.
College Access
A summer spent tutoring Ugandan students inspired Ryan Benitez ’15 to knock down barriers between African students and universities.

Refugee Advocacy
On the latest PAWcast, Eric Schwartz ’85 discusses his work advocating for refugees from Ukraine and other places around the world.

Our Scars
Bill Eville ’87 penned an essay ahead of Reunions about the college friends who are there for us — no matter what.

Tree Tales
Gregg Lange ’70 recounts the story of the Stamp Act sycamores at Maclean House.

After the Storm
More than two years after she testified in Donald Trump’s first impeachment hearing, Marie Yovanovitch ’80 enjoys a quiet, satisfying life.

His Secret Life
Jeffrey Schevitz ’62 was a presence at alumni activities — and a Cold War spy for East Germany at the same time.

A Seat at the Table
Lawyer and journalist Laura Coates ’01 has a new book on injustices in the justice system.

Marie Yovanovitch ’80 talks with the press the morning after the U.S. presidential election in 2016.
Addressing Climate Change

Alumni often ask me what the University is doing to address the climate crisis. Here is what I tell them. —C.L.E.

Climate change poses a daunting and unprecedented challenge to humanity. The scale, complexity, and tangled nature of the environmental problems can only be addressed through an interdisciplinary approach that harnesses knowledge across the disciplinary spectrum. Princeton will have the most significant impact on the crisis through the scholarship we generate and the people we educate. Indeed, one of the most powerful things that we can do is create the conditions that allow the world’s most promising students and most accomplished faculty to do their best work.

That is the heart of our climate strategy.

It’s a strategy that is flourishing at the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment and the High Meadows Environmental Institute, where Princeton faculty collaborate not only to push the frontiers of environmental science and engineering, but also to develop the policy solutions and cultural insights essential to meaningful change.

It’s bearing fruit through projects like the groundbreaking Net-Zero America study that has become a go-to roadmap for policymakers across the country.

It was on display in March at the White House, when President Biden’s top climate official acknowledged the global scientific leadership of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, which is working to make clean fusion energy a reality.

And it has allowed students to immerse themselves in environmental studies and research projects—formative college experiences that have, for example, prepared Pyne Prize winner Claire Wayner ’22 to pursue what she calls her “life’s work” of addressing climate change.

While the University’s greatest impact will be through our teaching and research, we have also committed to bold targets in our campus operations, including a goal to achieve net-zero campus-based carbon emissions on or before the University’s 300th anniversary in 2046. This is the second component of our climate strategy.

Some of this work will be on full display to those of you returning for Reunions. We have expanded solar arrays to provide 19 percent of campus energy needs, and are using sustainable materials and techniques to construct our new art museum, residential colleges, graduate student housing, and research facilities.

Much of the environmental magic won’t be quite so visible—as we retrofit underground campus infrastructure to liberate us from nonrenewable energy sources like natural gas. Among these improvements is the drilling of more than 1,000 geo-exchange bores that will allow us to store free and clean summer heat to warm our buildings in winter.

Finally, a year ago this month, the Trustees of Princeton University authorized the creation of a process to divest and dissociate from certain fossil fuel companies. The Board also committed to reducing the aggregate harmful climate impact of the entirety of the University’s endowment holdings and setting a target date by which to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions in the University’s portfolio. This is the third aspect of the University’s climate strategy.

Princeton has a strong general presumption against divestment. Our truth-seeking mission requires us to provide an open and unbiased forum for key issues of the day. We make exceptions only in rare circumstances defined by sustained campus consensus around a central University value. When we do make these exceptions, we don’t just divest—we also dissociate by severing other ties.

The climate crisis has created one of those rare exceptions. I am grateful to the experts, advocates, and activists who helped us reach this point, and to all who have engaged in thoughtful and exacting deliberations over the course of this academic year to determine how to implement the Board’s dissociation decision. I can confidently make two predictions about the results of their work.

The first is that Princeton’s approach to fossil fuel divestment and dissociation will stand up over the years as principled, intellectually honest, and firmly grounded in the values of the University.

But divestment, no matter how carefully designed, will not take a single molecule of carbon out of the atmosphere. When Princeton sells shares in a company, somebody else is buying those shares. The Board’s divestment and dissociation decisions enable us to adhere to our shared values. When it comes to true impact on the climate crisis, however, we must look to our research, our teaching, and our campus’s direct effect on the environment.

This leads to my second prediction, which is that when Princeton’s impact on the global climate crisis is measured years from now, the transformative impact of our faculty’s research and the intellectual and leadership contributions that our students and alumni make to the world will far outweigh the effects of any dissociation choices we might make.

And so let me end with a special thank you to all of you who are contributing your time and energy to address the climate change emergency. In doing so, you embody Princeton’s mission of service to country and humanity.
I sustained a spinal cord injury in my senior year of high school, between college application due dates and college acceptance decisions. I was admitted to Princeton and to Yale. I had to notify both schools that I would have to defer for a year because I was still in the hospital.

Let me say, in a nonplussed way, I “ended up” at Princeton. For my first year, the University wanted me to live off campus and assigned me to an apartment at 32 Stanworth Drive, which was probably half a mile from campus. For my last two years I lived at 30 Patton Hall, on the ground floor, although there were two steps to “navigate” to get to the ground floor.

For my three years at Princeton, I was primarily assisted by Gene Smith, who was about 10 years older than me and was a student at Rider College. My classmates and other students assisted me in a manual wheelchair, climbing steps, etc. I owe a great debt to my classmates and to the school.

From my wheelchair, I graduated in three years. I am not particularly proud of it; I just had to get on with it.

Samuel D. Isaly ’67
New York, N.Y.

Editor’s note: At its 50th reunion in 2017, the Class of ’67 honored Isaly with a varsity letter. View a video of the presentation by former athletic director Gary Walters ’67 at bit.ly/paw-isaly.

I was both pleased with the achievements of students with disabilities and disappointed about those experiencing access issues. This implies that there are few, if any, administrators, faculty, or staff with solvable disabilities issues at Princeton.

Starting in 1985 with the incredible advocacy and assistance of Dr. Ruth Simmons, other administrators, faculty, staff, and students, my late daughter Mia, blind since the age of 3, was able to navigate the campus, the classroom, and the town. Yet she had devastating social isolation on weekends, alone in her dorm room during her first year on campus. In her junior year, with faculty encouragement, she was part of an all-disabilities theater group. One of the recurring themes was, “Let us succeed, but please don’t say, ‘You inspire us.’”

Even the most classic, cherished historic buildings can be modified for accommodation. This should be a requisite discussion about campus values. Surprisingly, 37 years later, while much has been achieved, there is still so much more to accomplish.

J. Kenneth Lipner p’90
Miami, Fla.

I read with interest the “Opening Doors” article in the March issue of PAW. The challenges of Naomi Hess ’22 and others using wheelchairs at Princeton reminded me of my high school friend Linda Laubenstein. Afflicted with polio during the 1950s, Linda was in an iron lung for a time, but was later able to attend high school with us. Because our school was on two floors and not at all accessible, football players had to carry Linda up the stairs to classes.

Linda wanted to become a doctor. When the time came to apply to college, she was told that would be impossible, because of her handicap. Undaunted, she applied and was accepted to Barnard/Columbia, and then NYU Medical School. After graduation, she practiced medicine in New York City as a hematologist.

During the early 1980s, she became one of the first doctors in the world to...
Inbox

recognize the emerging disease AIDS. Unlike many medical professionals fearful of this new disease, Linda treated her patients with compassion and fought for solutions. AIDS activist and playwright Larry Kramer featured a character based on her in his Broadway play *The Normal Heart*, later made into a movie.

We in the Barrington (Rhode Island) High School Class of 1965 were proud of our classmate Linda, soft-spoken but insistent, like Naomi Hess. I am sure her Class of ’22 colleagues will be equally proud of her achievements as they continue to emerge over the years. She will continue to make a difference.

*Anne Pringle* ‘68

**Portland, Maine**

*A GENUINE PEACEMAKER*

I was deeply saddened to read of the passing of Professor Allen Kassof in the January edition of PAW (On the Campus). As a Russian-studies specialist during my undergraduate years in the 1960s, I was hungry to get behind the Cold War headlines of the day and learn more about the Russian people and their society. In his groundbreaking course on Russian sociology, Professor Kassof’s insights into Russian society quickly became reality. By that time, I was closely involved as a Senate policy adviser in matters regarding U.S.-Russian nuclear-security cooperative efforts, and Dr. Kassof’s course opened many doors and facilitated important joint actions to keep the nuclear genie at bay.

As PAW indicated, Allen Kassof was dedicated to crossing great divides in global societies. He directed the student-scholar exchange program known as IREX during the height of the Cold War. He directed and participated in negotiations on ethnic conflict in Eastern Europe from the Baltics to the Balkans. As for Old Nassau, he crossed the “gender Rubicon” by leading the first platoon of female Critical Languages students onto the still all-male Princeton campus.
of that day. I owe much of my careers in Washington and college classrooms to Allen Kassof— he was truly an inspiration and a genuine peacemaker.

G. Wayne Glass ’68
Incline Village, Nev.

Editor’s note: The author is a professor emeritus at the University of Southern California’s School of International Relations.

WINTER MEMORIES
Regarding your query about memories of the first winter snow at Princeton (From the Archives, February issue), I lived in Princeton and mostly remember the poor little crocuses sticking their heads up through the inevitable March blanket of snow, but I don’t have a specific memory of my college days.

However, I remember the story in the Prince of a first winter snow involving my son, John H. Carter ’96 (now M.D., Ph.D.). In his time, there was a naked run through campus upon the first snow — only boots allowed. The Prince story quoted my son as saying, “We bum-rushed the Wa.” My father, Raymond H. Carter ’33, a rabid Princetonian, read the story in the Prince and pretended to be somewhat shocked, but I know for certain he was thinking, “Attaboy!”

Raymond H.A. “Beau” Carter II ’65 ’79
Rancho Cordova, Calif.

Editor’s note: Read winter memories from Mike McCurry ’76, Daniel Sattizahn ’99, and others at paw.princeton.edu.

NEW POSITION IN ATHLETICS
Princeton athletic director John Mack ’00 announced he is appointing an associate director of athletics for diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), who will collaborate with Princeton’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion and Campus Life. I fear for the unintended consequences of the direction that the Department of Athletics is taking:

1. Attaining gender equity, substituting equal outcomes (equity) over equal opportunity, was a principal reason for cutting wrestling nearly 30 years ago. Equity in athletics is impossible to achieve, given human differences, and employing equity in the athletic department will result in destructive and polarizing policies that favor some groups over others, such as men’s contact sports, where women are greatly underrepresented (and in sports such as football, nonexistent).

2. Princeton’s DEI efforts are playing into the hands of a greater effort for equal treatment of trans- and biological-female athletes. In the name of equity, female athletes are having to compete against athletes who were born biologically male (e.g., Penn’s Ivy League swimming champion), who are setting records, winning competitions, and taking success away from athletes who were born biologically female.

3. Competitive athletics is a bastion of meritocracy. Success of the individual is blind to race, national origin, economic background, etc. Requiring a team’s composition to be influenced by DEI compromises Princeton’s ability to seek the best-performing academically qualified athletes.

Mr. Mack’s decision to pursue DEI in athletics runs counter to fundamentals of athletics, and I hope that he will reconsider this misguided path.

H. Clay McEldowney ’69
Williamsburg, Va.

Editor’s note: A longer version of this letter appears at paw.princeton.edu.

FROM THE EDITOR
PAW’s Farewell to ’38

As you can see — and feel — this issue marks a return to PAW’s full print run, after a paper shortage forced us to shrink the magazine in March and April. Securing paper continues to be a challenge, but we hope to move forward as usual for the rest of the year.

That means we can return to a PAW tradition, with the photo of the Class of 1938 on page 43. Since the death of Francis H. McAdoo Jr. on Jan. 26, at 105, the class has no known living members, and its column no longer appears in Class Notes.

The history of the 643-strong Class of ’38, in the Nassau Herald, begins in September 1934 and rambles through four years of athletic events, parties, clapper thefts, performances, and academics. Classmates enjoyed the end of compulsory chapel; President Harold Dodds ’14 banned drinking at home football games to improve behavior (most students approved); and the class made its academic mark by becoming the “first freshman class in years to get by the first uniforms [examinations] without developing a student who flunked all five.”

At Commencement, speakers noted more consequential issues. The Great Depression was continuing, and Hitler annexed Austria in ’38’s senior year. Valedictorian Desiderio Parreño reminded classmates of the developing storm in Europe and continued: “Here in America it is also an hour of crisis … In the fight for freedom, for enlightenment, for justice, it is we, the young, and the young who have been privileged, who must decide the day.” In the class oration, Thomas Roberts McMillen stressed the duty to vote and to consider running for office. Asked in an undated class poll whether they believed there would be a world war, 196 members said no; 217 thought one would begin within five years.

Among the class personalities was Dan D. Coyle, whose classmates voted him best all-around man, most respected, most popular, most likely to succeed, busiest, and the person who did the most for the class. That made him seem destined for the job he would occupy later, as head of Princeton’s PR office. Well-known classmates included beer executive William Coors; class officer Robert S. Mueller Jr., whose son would lead the FBI; and brothers Hans and Wolfgang Panofsky, later known as stellar scientists, with Wolfgang, a physicist, receiving the National Medal of Science.

In his 50th reunion book, however, Wolfgang began his profile by noting a different award: “I am including a photo to document what happens when my class voted me as the runner-up in its ‘most likely bachelor’ competition.” The picture showed Panofsky with his wife, their five children, and a bunch of smiling grandkids.

Marilyn H. Marks ’86 h’88
Even the most serious architect has a lighter side, as evidenced with artwork created by Jerry Ford ’54 *59 for Reunions 2022. Ford included a whimsical tiger ready to enter FitzRandolph Gate and welcome Tigers — the human kind — back for a long-anticipated in-person celebration.

No surprise that Ford, a noted preservationist, would have Nassau Hall beckoning in the distance, either. When asked to create a design for this year’s Schedule of Events cover, Ford said he naturally started by thinking of campus buildings and settled on the University’s most iconic one. He put his sketching skills to work, first in black and white and then, from his collection of 100 felt-tip markers, brushed on highlights for a watercolor effect.

“What I am is a good craftsman,” said Ford, whose drafting and sketching skills led him to a career in architecture. “That lends itself very well to the idea of architecture where I can use my sketching skill to help me understand what I'm designing and help me explain to my clients what I'm doing.”

His long career has spanned projects from residential homes to the New Jersey Statehouse as well as keeping campus facilities updated through commissions at 87 Prospect, Peyton Hall and McCosh 50. With Peyton Hall, the home of the Department of Astrophysical Sciences designed by World Trade Center architect Minoru Yamasaki, Ford’s firm faced a challenge because “Yamasaki built it like a fortress.” Among the changes: an unused observation dome was adapted into a state-of-the-art meeting room.

That preservationist’s focus was the same sensibility in updating McCosh 50 in 1995, where Ford’s firm tackled lighting and newer electrical needs. Ford laughs at memories of his own days in the beloved lecture hall that included activities that would not be sanctioned today: “I remember as an undergraduate being in there smoking cigarettes.”

If he has a favorite Princeton architectural gem, it’s Blair Hall. First, because he admires the relationship between Blair and buildings with their quadrangles that flank it on upper campus. Second, for the happy Reunions memories of performing under the arch with the Nassoons.

The Nassoons were an essential part of Ford’s Princeton experience. He fondly recalls traveling to women’s colleges to perform in the days before coeducation, when payment covered travel expenses and little else. As a group manager, he helped organize trips to Bermuda and Puerto Rico. He remains in touch, participating in Nassoon alumni gatherings.

He also has stayed active with his eating club, Colonial. His mural-size cartoon sketch of “Dancing through the Ages” is taped to his garage wall; a cherry wood relief of the design graces a space in Colonial now.

Perhaps his most enduring sketch is the Class of 1954 tiger that has been part of his class’s identity since its fifth reunion. The feline turns its head to look back and remember happy days at Old Nassau. It’s a fitting companion to the one that will welcome P-rade marchers back to campus for the first in-person Reunions since 2019.
Dear Princetonians,

This semester we rededicated ourselves to the art and joy of gathering in person. The celebrations began in February, when we bestowed the University’s highest alumni and student honors at Alumni Day. In March and April, President Eisgruber joined in conversation with alumni in San Francisco and New York. For thousands more Princetonians, the chorus of celebrations will crescendo with Reunions this May 19-22.

As alumni we are summoned to return to campus by our love of this place and its people. Yet something else propels us, too: We come back to see what has and has not changed about Princeton — how we have and have not changed — a barometer of both the constancy and the continuum of growth in our lives. Each visit, we embrace friends old and new. Each visit, we rekindle our love of tradition and evolution and above all, our common ground.

After two years without our flagship on-campus gathering, Reunions 2022 is exceptional, and it could not be happening without the expertise and tireless dedication of hundreds of staff and alumni volunteers. To each of them and all of you, we say: thank you. Thank you for not only bringing Reunions back to (real) life, but for infusing the many months of planning, and all its wrinkles, with grace and goodwill.

With Tiger cheers,

Alexandra Day ’02
Deputy Vice President for Alumni Engagement
Dear Tigers,

We missed you! And we can’t wait to be together again for Reunions, May 19-22!

Here are a few things you should know before you come back to the Best Place of All!

**Register. It’s required.**
Before coming to campus, visit your class’s registration site, complete your attestation and make any payment, if necessary. You must have your TigerNet ID and password to register. Visit your class website or go to reunions.princeton.edu for additional information and links to your registration site.

**Download the Princeton Events app after May 16.**
Visit the IOS App Store or Google Play and download the Princeton Events app. If you’ve downloaded it in previous years, you will need to update it to Reunions 2022. On the app you will find the complete schedule of open events, major reunion class schedules, the new P-rade route, campus information, maps, shuttle and parking information, and so much more!

**Check in when you arrive on campus.**
When you arrive on campus, go to your check-in site and pick up your wristband. Go to the app or visit reunions.princeton.edu/check-in for the exact location and hours.

**Recycle and pack a water bottle. We are orange and black, but green, too.**
In an effort to make Reunions more sustainable, Reunions will have new microplastics-free, biodegradable and BPI-certified cups. And while you’re packing, toss in a refillable water bottle to cut down on the cups used with water dispensers located around campus.

**Show your Tiger love.**
Throughout Reunions weekend, post your photos and videos on social media by tagging @PrincetonAlumni and using #PrincetonReunions. We can’t wait to see you soon, and we appreciate your grace and goodwill as we gear back up to welcome you back to Old Nassau!

With love,

Princeton

Photo: Sameer Khan
After a year-and-a-half pandemic hiatus, the Princeton University Orchestra returned to a full concert schedule in 2021–22, performing in October, December, February, and April. The ensemble, under the direction of Michael Pratt, will complete its season with a selection of classical and popular music at the annual Reunions concert May 21 at Princeton Stadium.

Photograph by Ricardo Barros
early a mile of chain-link fencing surrounds the construction site for Princeton’s new Environmental Studies and School of Engineering and Applied Science complex (ES & SEAS). You can catch glimpses of the excavation between the eating clubs on Prospect Avenue or find a clearer view from the rerouted sidewalk along Ivy Lane. Occasionally, the project may even shake the ground beneath your feet — the geosciences department’s broadband seismometers in Guyot Hall routinely record construction activity from campus sites.

“Every two weeks or so, I make a point of taking a break for half an hour and walking around the perimeter to see what has happened,” said Professor Athanassios Panagiotopoulos, chair of chemical and biological engineering, one of the departments that will be housed in the complex. “They’re making impressive progress.”

Scheduled for completion in the spring of 2025, the ES & SEAS complex will eclipse the E-Quad as the largest set of facilities Princeton has ever built at once, according to University Architect Ron McCoy ’80. The project will provide cutting-edge labs for research ranging from carbon mitigation to drug development. In addition to engineering, the neighborhood will include Princeton’s High Meadows Environmental Institute (HMEI), the departments of ecology and evolutionary biology and geosciences, and spaces meant to foster interdisciplinary relationships, all linked below ground. McCoy said this “shirtsleeve connection” — the opportunity to visit or just bump into colleagues without putting on a jacket and going outside — was a key element of the project’s design.

HMEI is inherently interdisciplinary, since all faculty are cross-appointed with academic departments, and director Gabriel Vecchi, a professor of geosciences, views the complex as a clear illustration of the University’s commitment to environmental research. “Prospective faculty, graduate students, and early-career researchers see these plans and are very excited by them,” Vecchi said. “This does become a draw for our goal to bring the best in the world to Princeton.”

ES & SEAS is one of a half-dozen significant construction sites on campus. Two residential colleges, New College East and West, are nearing completion south of Poe Field. The new Princeton University Art Museum is being built on the site of its former home. East of Jadwin Gym, a reconfigured Roberts Stadium is taking shape next to the Stadium Drive Garage, set to open this summer. A facility on the other side of Fitzrandolph Road will manage the University’s geo-exchange energy system (see PAW, April 2022). And across
Lake Carnegie, housing for graduate students and postdoctoral researchers is being built as part of the Lake Campus project.

President Eisgruber ’83, in his annual letter to the University community, called this “one of the most intense periods of growth and building in Princeton’s history,” and McCoy has the stats to back it up: In terms of square footage added, he said, the current generation of projects will top the University’s great expansion in the 1960s (though that growth was proportionally larger, since the campus was smaller at the time).

At Princeton, “there’s never been anything like what we’re doing right now,” McCoy said, citing the number of strategic initiatives addressed by the construction — the growth of the undergraduate student population, investments in research, the addition of athletic and fitness facilities, and “the leap across the lake.” More projects are in the pipeline, including the conversion of Guyot Hall into Schmidt Hall, which will bring computer science to a more central location; an expansion of recreational space at Dillon Gym; new facilities for University Health Services; and the construction of Hobson College, which will take the place of First College (formerly Wilson).

NEW ADDITIONS

A Closer Look

RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES (2022)

New College East and New College West, situated around a shared courtyard, will open in the fall semester, and McCoy looks forward to seeing students using the new social, community, and dining spaces. “It’s really a small village that is made up of those two colleges,” he said. McCoy is also looking ahead to the construction of Hobson College, targeted to open in 2026, which will be situated around a new campus passageway (tentatively called the east-west connector) that links the Graduate College and other student residences with the new facilities along Ivy Lane.

LAKE CAMPUS (2023–24)

In the University’s new system of maps and kiosks, the Lake Campus will be part of what is called the Meadows neighborhood, a name chosen to reflect a landscape that features vistas distinctly different from those seen on the historical campus. The graduate housing will be built to Passive House energy-conservation standards, McCoy said, which means that “less heat is escaping during the winter and less heat is penetrating into the buildings during the summer.” The project also will include a racquet center for the tennis and squash teams, a varsity softball field, and the Haaga House, a field house for men’s and women’s rugby.

Art at Princeton (Sans Museum)

The new Princeton University Art Museum, now taking shape in the same location as its predecessor, between Dod Hall and Prospect House, is scheduled to be completed in 2024. But until then, where can one find art at Princeton?

A good place to start is Art@Bainbridge. The Colonial-era building at 158 Nassau St. includes four small exhibition rooms that will be home to the “Body Matters / Martha Friedman” sculpture exhibition from May 20 to July 10. Friedman is a lecturer in Princeton’s visual arts program.

Just a six-minute walk away, one can find the University’s other, newer downtown gallery: Art on Hulfish, at 11 Hulfish St. It’s a much larger space, complete with cozy chairs, pillow seats on windowsills, and a designated “Art Making” section that welcomes children and adults. From May 7 through Aug. 7, a contemporary group show called “Screen Time: Photography and Video Art in the Internet Age” will be on display.

The galleries, which will remain open until at least the fall of 2024, are “meant to be calling cards for the museum,” said James Steward, director of the museum. “I think of them almost as ambassadors for the University — important ways of connecting to wider circles of visitors and communities.”

The museum also offers walking tours of the University’s outdoor art collection, and reuners can take advantage of other programs, including a meet-the-artist event and a panel discussion on rethinking museums for the 21st century. Details can be found at bit.ly/PUAMevents.

Martha Friedman’s “Bust 4, from Mummy Wheat” is among the works featured at Art@Bainbridge.
Controversial Art
Library and donor clash over plan to display work by artists with Confederate ties

Last summer, plans were coming together for a September 2022 art exhibit at the Princeton University Library, tied to the impending publication of a scholarly book on Jews in Gilded Age America. A longtime University donor was funding the show, an art historian had been hired to curate it, and a Firestone Library exhibit space had been chosen.

But by December, the project had fallen apart amid disagreements over how to handle the work of two Jewish American artists with ties to the Confederacy, one of them a lifelong apologist for the South.

When news of the dispute surfaced online nearly two months later, Princeton faced criticism for reportedly refusing to exhibit artists with unsavory political opinions. The University was accused of surrendering to “cancel culture” and sidestepping its responsibility to acknowledge historical complexity.

But in an April interview — his first about the issue — President Eisgruber ’83 framed the dispute as a matter of defending the library’s academic freedom in the face of pressure from donor Leonard L. Milberg ’53 to structure the exhibit according to his preferences. Over the past four decades, Milberg has given the University thousands of prints, manuscripts, and rare books; has endowed two Princeton professorships; and has paid for more than a dozen literary and historical exhibitions and associated publications.

Eisgruber insisted that the library never sought to exclude from the planned exhibit the work of the two artists with Confederate ties — painter Theodore Moïse, a one-time officer in the Confederate Army; and sculptor Moses Jacob Ezekiel, a Confederate veteran who became a leading proponent of the pro-Southern “Lost Cause” school of Civil War interpretation.

“The question was how to broaden and contextualize this art,” Eisgruber said. “This isn’t about whether Princeton will display controversial art. It’s about how that art gets displayed and who has the editorial control.”

Milberg, who met with the president in December and says he pulled his funding for the exhibit after library administrators insisted on the exclusion, called Eisgruber’s account “categorically false.”

Exhibit curator Samantha Baskind, a professor of art history at Cleveland State University who is writing a biography of Ezekiel, said she had always planned that the exhibit’s text labels would highlight the artists’ complex, contradictory political and religious commitments. Baskind said that in a conversation she had with University Librarian Anne Jarvis, Jarvis declined an opportunity to review the curator’s proposed presentation of Ezekiel’s work.

“The library told me that the Confederate artists could not be in,” Baskind said. “They never asked for the contextualization — and it was offered.”

Instead, Baskind said, library officials proposed reorienting the exhibit around a slightly later historical period and provided a list of artists who could be included. According to Baskind’s contemporaneous notes, officials said the new chronology offered a way to “get us away from some of the artists who have a Confederate background, which is not something we want to foreground.”

Before Baskind could respond, however, Milberg withdrew his funding. A University spokesman said Jarvis has no recollection of Baskind at any stage offering to discuss the proposed presentation of Ezekiel. Both Jarvis and Michele Minter, the vice provost for institutional equity and diversity, who was also involved in conversations about the exhibit, referred requests for comment to University spokesman Michael Hotchkiss, who arranged the Eisgruber interview.

According to Milberg and Baskind, library administrators said they feared that an exhibit featuring Confederate-linked artists might draw both protests from anti-racist students and unwanted approbation from white supremacists. But Eisgruber denied that such considerations came into play. “It wasn’t about the reactions,” he said. “It’s about making a presentation of the material that speaks to the intellectual issues that are involved.”

The controversy left some shaking their heads. “Princeton is a place committed to helping students understand the complexity of the past,” said history professor Martha A. Sandweiss, who directed extensive research into the University’s historical entanglement with slavery but had no involvement with the planned Milberg exhibit. “Libraries should not be in the business of limiting access to the materials that reveal the past in all its messiness.”

By Deborah Yaffe
IN SHORT

In March, the University announced plans for an alumni-backed initiative to STUDY THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS AND PITFALLS OF BLOCKCHAIN, the technology behind cryptocurrencies. Based in the School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS), the initiative will span engineering, social sciences, public policy, economics, and the humanities.

The initiative received initial funding from four donors: Peter L. Briger Jr. ’86, principal and co-CEO of Fortress Investment Group; Joseph M. Lubin ’87, co-founder of the blockchain and cryptocurrency platform Ethereum and CEO and founder of ConsenSys, a blockchain company; Daniel W. Morehead ’87, founder and CEO of Pantera Capital; and Michael E. Novogratz ’87, CEO of Galaxy Investment Partners. The total amount of the gift was $20 million, according to the University. Princeton spokesman Michael Hotchkiss said that the University and the donors are “discussing what form the gifts will take,” adding that Princeton is open to considering gifts in cryptocurrency.

Emily Sánchez ’22 has been awarded a yearlong FELLOWSHIP FROM REACHOUT 56-81-06, an alumni-funded venture of the classes of 1956, 1981, and 2006 that supports public-service projects after graduation. Sánchez, a history concentrator who grew up in Clifton and Paterson, New Jersey, will develop a podcast series on the history of Latino communities across her home state.

Regular-decision applicants to THE CLASS OF 2026 received their admission decisions electronically March 31. The University, following its recently announced policy of not disclosing data during the admission cycle, did not say how many students applied or were accepted this year. The class is expected to have about 125 additional students as Princeton begins an expansion that will eventually add 500 undergraduates to the student body.

The Fight for Free Speech at Princeton and Beyond

Rebekah Adams ’21
PhD student
Carnegie Mellon University

Solveig Gold ’17
Senior Research Assistant,
James Madison Program
Princeton University

Myles McKnight ’23 Princeton Undergraduate

Stuart Taylor, Jr ’70
Co-Founder and President,
Princetonians for Free Speech

moderator:
Robert P. George
Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence
Princeton University

Friday
May 20, 2022
1:30 p.m.

BETTS AUDITORIUM
Architecture Building N101
jmp.princeton.edu
A Black Theater Institution Steps Into the Limelight at Princeton

During the racial reckoning that followed George Floyd’s murder at the hands of police in 2020, Jane Cox, director of Princeton University’s theater program, had an idea. “I was spending a lot of time in rooms with mostly white people wringing our hands [and asking], ‘What can we do? How can we be better? How can we learn?’ ” she said. Her thoughts turned to successful institutions led by artists of color, many of which have been around for several decades: “Maybe we could learn some lessons from those institutions.”

For example, the Tony Award-winning Crossroads Theatre Company. Despite its location just 20 minutes away in New Brunswick, the University had no prior relationship with the Black institution. Cox, who is white, approached Crossroads and eventually connected with Sydné Mahone, director of play development at Crossroads from 1985 to 1997 and creator of the Genesis Festival of New Plays. With the assistance of three grants from Princeton and the support of CLASSIX, an organization dedicated to Black theater, Cox and Mahone’s new class, “Storytellers — Building Community Through Art,” was born.

From left, former Crossroads employees Lenora Inez Brown, Sydné Mahone, Shelby Jiggetts-Tivony, and Faedra Chatard Carpenter spoke at a recent class.

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PRINCETON UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM

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Image: Visitors to Hugh Hayden / Creation Myths at Art@Bainbridge
In addition to researching the Black Arts Movement and Black theater, the eight enrolled students are scheduled to see plays by Black theater-makers and have written and performed their own creative works. Another important piece of the class is a series of six panel discussions during which the students are meeting with and hearing from some of the leaders who founded Crossroads in 1978 and worked there during the organization’s early years.

Panelist Faedra Chatard Carpenter teared up as she reflected on her time at Crossroads. “I felt held and lifted at the same time,” she told the class.

In addition to researching the Black Arts Movement and Black theater, students are scheduled to see plays by Black theater-makers and have written and performed their own creative works.

Chemistry major David Ramirez ‘22 was inspired by the Crossroads founders’ success. “They had to run their own show, run their own business, take out grants, work really late nights, work with this unideal space. And through that all they flourished in some amazing, impossible way,” he said. “You get the sense that no matter what was thrown at them, it almost didn’t matter. Whether or not they could do it was never even a question.”

Rather than setting predetermined goals for the new partnership between Princeton and Crossroads, the instructors are encouraging their students to suggest potential next steps. So far, a shared interest in new play development has emerged.

“The challenge is really how does a predominantly white institution like Princeton thoughtfully build a relationship with a predominantly Black institution?” Cox said. “That’s really the heart of it, and I think something that our students need to really be thinking about and wrestling with for this country to take the next step forward.” ♦ By J.B.

paw.princeton.edu
University Shares Dissociation Update, Fossil-Fuel Holdings

For the first time, Princeton released dollar figures that detail the University’s current investments in fossil fuels: a total exposure of about $1.7 billion, or 4.5 percent of Princeton’s endowment. About $13 million, or 0.03 percent, is held directly in fossil-fuel investments, while the rest is held indirectly (for example, through external managers).

The report was presented at the March meeting of the Council of the Princeton University Community (CPUC) by Hilary Parker ’01, Princeton’s vice president and secretary, and civil and environmental engineering professor Anu Ramaswami as part of an update on the University’s efforts to dissociate from certain fossil-fuel companies.

In May 2021, Princeton’s Board of Trustees announced its intention to dissociate from companies engaged in climate disinformation and those that participate in the thermal-coal and tar-sands segments of the industry. While the University’s endowment does not currently include any companies that derive more than 15 percent of revenue from tar sands, about $19 million comes from companies that derive more than 15 percent of revenue from thermal coal.

“Our goal remains to propose for board approval a set of actionable criteria for dissociation and a process for implementing them, now and into the future, by the end of this academic year.”
— Hilary Parker ’01, Princeton’s vice president and secretary

Over the past five years, the University has received $26.2 million in new funding from oil and gas companies in support of research, and Princeton holds interests totaling about $6 million in oil, gas, and mineral rights, received as gifts.

The University also released an analysis of 15 peer institutions’ plans to adjust their investment portfolios in response to climate change. The peer analysis and slides from the CPUC meeting are available at fossilfueldissociationprocess.princeton.edu.

Divest Princeton, a group of students and alumni that submitted a fossil-fuel divestment proposal to the CPUC in February 2020, has argued that the dissociation process is taking too long. The information shared at the recent meeting “has exposed Princeton’s deep and disturbing ties with the fossil-fuel industry, bringing urgency to our calls for divestment,” said Nate Howard ’25, co-coordinator of Divest Princeton. By J.B.
REUNIONS 2022

Beer Tasting, Museum’s Reunions tent, 4:30 p.m.
Meet the Artist, Art@Bainbridge, 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 19
Enjoy conversation with Museum staff while sampling local beers, then visit Art@Bainbridge for a tour of the exhibition Body Matters / Martha Friedman with the artist Martha Friedman, an instructor in Princeton’s program in the Visual Arts, and the exhibition’s curator, Mitra Abbaspour.

Art World Alumni Luncheon
Friday, May 20, 12 p.m.
The Art Museum Student Advisory Board invites alumni working in the arts to this networking lunch. Mix, mingle, and network with students and alumni who are passionate about art.

Panel Discussion
Rethinking the 21st-Century Museum
Friday, May 20, 2 p.m.
Distinguished alumni discuss the changing role of museums and how museum design can meet the needs of twenty-first-century audiences. Moderated by Museum Director James Steward, who will share updates on the construction of the Museum’s David Adjaye–designed building. Panelists include Alice Cooney Frelinghuysen ’76, curator, American decorative arts, Metropolitan Museum of Art; Amy Weisser ’86, deputy director, strategic planning and projects, Storm King Art Center; Erik H. Neil ’86, director, Chrysler Museum of Art; and Mairead Horton ’17, independent scholar.

Exhibitions
Screen Time: Photography and Video Art in the Internet Age
Art on Hulfish, May 7–August 7
Body Matters / Martha Friedman
Art@Bainbridge, May 20–July 10

Princeton University Art Museum
Details at artmuseum.princeton.edu

Senior guard Abby Meyers blocks a shot by a Kentucky guard during Princeton’s first game of March Madness in Bloomington, Indiana. The Tigers beat Kentucky 69-62, becoming only the third Ivy League team to advance to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. In the second game they fell to Indiana by one heartbreaking point, 56-55. “We all grow up dreaming about playing on this stage in Division I basketball,” said Meyers, who led all scorers with a career-high 29 points against Kentucky. “To finally be here after a year and half, two years, some of us [for] the first time, it’s a special moment.”

READ MORE of PAW’s March Madness coverage at paw.princeton.edu.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
A Mad, Mad March

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International Correspondents Review the News and How It Is Covered

REUNIONS PANEL
Saturday, May 21, 10:30 a.m.
Friend Center Auditorium 101

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Naoum Fares Marayati ’19

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This year’s Annual Giving campaign ends on June 30, 2022. To contribute by credit card, please call 800-258-5421 (outside the U.S. and Canada, 609-258-3373), visit www.princeton.edu/ag or scan the QR code.
In 2017, a group of Princeton researchers gathered in a conference room to work on war simulations for an exhibition about the peril of nuclear weapons. They called the project Plan A. At the time, then-President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un were inching up rhetoric around nuclear weapons, and people were feeling uneasy. Instead of looking east, the researchers created a scenario that focused on Europe. Later, they produced a four-minute YouTube video describing their simulation.

Now that work has taken on a life of its own amid growing worry about nuclear weapons in the war in Ukraine. As of April, the video had been viewed more than 3.2 million times.

“The scenario that we discuss in the video now feels quite plausible, and I’m getting a lot of questions and comments about the assumptions we made,” says Alexander Glaser, a co-director of Princeton’s Science and Global Security group. Glaser adds that the simulation is not meant to be a forecast or the most likely outcome of war. Instead, it is designed to explain how countries can go from conventional war all the way to the worst-case scenario.

“There’s a connection from where we are now to the unthinkable: an all-out nuclear war. It’s important to stop such a war at the beginning, before the first nuclear weapon is used. We have to be paying attention right now.”

— Alexander Glaser, co-director of Princeton's Science and Global Security group

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Princeton has $1.7 billion invested in fossil fuels

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#Reunions2022
New Archaeological Discoveries on Samothrace

Friday, May 20th at 11am • 219 Aaron Burr Hall • Reception to follow

Samuel Holzman, Assistant Professor of Art and Archaeology and the Stanley J. Seeger ’52 Center for Hellenic Studies

The sanctuary of the Great Gods on the Greek island of Samothrace was home to one of the ancient world’s most renowned mystery cults. The American archaeological excavation on Samothrace is investigating the sanctuary’s largest building, a 100-meter-long portico dubbed the Stoa.

Register for the virtual option: https://bit.ly/ArtArchReunions22

scenario: a global thermonuclear war.

While those who grew up during the Cold War years likely remember the fear and anxiety around the possibility of a nuclear war, “nuclear weapons now appear a thing of the past,” Glaser says. “I hope this video encourages a debate on how we can go from A to Z.”

The scenario starts with a dispute between NATO and Russia, with Russia launching a nuclear warning shot from a base near the city of Kaliningrad. NATO responds with a single tactical nuclear air strike. Russia then sends 500 nuclear warheads and short-range missiles to target NATO bases, and NATO responds with 180 warheads, killing 2.6 million people.

From there, the war escalates further, eventually engulfing most of the northern hemisphere within hours of the first shot. Both sides start attacking each other’s cities, with the idea of inhibiting recovery after the world war ends. The researchers estimated that there would be more than 90 million people dead and injured within the first few hours of the conflict.

The researchers used real force postures, fatality estimates, and targets, using data from NUKEMAP, a project by a Stevens Institute of Technology professor that calculates the effects of a nuclear bomb detonation. The researchers say their fatality estimates only include immediate deaths from nuclear explosions; nuclear fallout and other long-term effects would increase the numbers. Glaser says he remembered punching the coordinates for Princeton into a spreadsheet detailing one of the attacks; any city with a national laboratory could be a target for nuclear strikes. “It was a very uncomfortable exercise,” he says.

Glaser’s takeaway from the experience is simple: It doesn’t matter who fires first. The initial strike is the most dangerous one. A low-yield nuclear weapon is not insignificant.

“’There’s a connection from where we are now to the unthinkable: an all-out nuclear war,’ he says. “It’s important to stop such a war at the beginning, before the first nuclear weapon is used. We have to be paying attention right now.”

By Katharine Gammon ’03

paw.princeton.edu
One cold day in late 1937, Christian Gauss, the University’s dean of the college, asked Caroline Newton — a psychiatrist, Princeton resident, and donor — whether it was true that she knew the writer Thomas Mann. At the time, Mann was living in Switzerland, having fled there after the Nazi government in his native Germany threatened reprisals if he continued his loud denouncements of Nazism.

“Why does it matter?” she asked.

“It matters damnably,” he snapped.

“The Nazis will murder him — stage an automobile accident or send over some poisoned food.”

This was the start of conversations that led to Mann’s joining Princeton as an “honorary professor,” for two and a half years, from September 1938 to March 1941. These years are the subject of Stanley Corngold’s two new books, *The Mind in Exile: Thomas Mann in Princeton* (Princeton University Press) and *Weimar in Princeton: Thomas Mann and the Kahler Circle* (Bloomsbury). There, Corngold, an emeritus professor of German and comparative literature at the University, explores the influence that Princeton’s campus and community had on Mann’s work — and the influence that Mann had on Princeton.

Before his arrival at Princeton, Mann was perhaps the most famous living writer in the world. The author of *The Magic Mountain*, among other works of fiction, he had received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1929. As his German cultural inheritance was the core of his artistic identity, he was a meaningful figure in the fight against Nazism and proof that a patriotic German could be an enemy of Hitler. With a refuge so close to Axis Europe, he was certainly in danger of assassination. Hitler’s spies hunted the Reich’s opponents using poison, bombs, knives, and sniper bullets.

As it happened, Caroline Newton was Mann’s friend, and along with Agnes Meyer, the wife of the chairman of *The Washington Post*, conspired with Princeton’s administration to find Mann a role. His years in Princeton would be annus mirabilis, a time of remarkable thought and productivity that would help to define his whole career.

In Princeton, Mann moved into a community that historians now call “the Kahler Circle.” Its members included the literary scholar Erich Kahler and his wife, Alice; the philosopher Hermann Broch; the archaeologist Hetty Goldman, the first woman to take a faculty position at the Institute for Advanced Study; the art historian Erwin Panofsky; the mathematician Kurt Gödel; and Albert Einstein and his wife, Elsa. They had dinner together, went for walks around campus, argued about politics, and read aloud to each other in the evenings. (Mann read aloud from his works in progress, like the novel *Lotte in Weimar*.)

Many of the circle’s members were refugees, like Mann. Kahler, a German Jew, had been Mann’s friend in Germany; when Mann heard, in 1938, that Kahler might leave Germany for the United States, he wrote to Kahler with praises of Princeton, insisting that Kahler join him there: “The happiest news I gathered was your growing resolution to come over here. Do so! What’s the sense of staying now? And how fine it would be to live as neighbors… . The people are well meaning through and through, filled with what seems to me an unshakable affability. You would breathe easier among them, would be touched and happy. The landscape is park-like, well suited to walks, with amazingly beautiful trees which now, in Indian summer, glow in the most magnificent colors.”

Mann’s time with the Kahler Circle transformed his political outlook, Corngold says in the book. His position as an honorary professor required him to lead precepts and write public lectures to deliver at the University. He initially intended to spend most of his unscheduled time working on novels. But he found himself consumed by the era’s moral and political emergencies, and by the obligation to speak to those emergencies in the present-tense language of fact. He discussed politics with his Princeton friends, wrote up his ideas in impassioned addresses, and traveled across the United States.
delivering them to huge crowds. In the process, Corngold says, Mann changed “from arch European conservative to liberal conservative to ardent presenter of democratic socialist ideals.”

When he gave talks in the United States, Mann emphasized his claim to the German spirit. (“As things stand today,” he said in a 1945 speech at the Library of Congress, “my type of Germanism is most suitably at home in the hospitable Panopolis, the racial and national universe called America.”) Over time, he shifted towards a firm liberal humanism while stressing, always, that a more understanding, more united world might yet emerge from the war; his friends in Princeton, Kahler especially, influenced the development of his political thought. During the war, the U.S. Air Force printed Mann’s speeches as leaflets and dropped them over German towns.

On campus, Mann was a celebrity, Corngold writes. When he checked out books in the library, students would crowd around to see what titles he was reading. The reason, it turned out, was because when you checked out a book, you had to sign a little card inside that book, so students would track down the same titles later and take out the cards, which now bore Mann’s autograph. Mann’s wife, Katia, supposedly said, “Tommy, you are cheapening the value of your signature!” After that, the story goes, the Manns found a third party to check out books for him.

Princeton has a tradition of fostering creative coteries, and Mann gained a great deal from his time with the Kahler Circle, Corngold says in an interview. “He was deeply stimulated by his conversations with friends and visitors,” Corngold says. “Mann and Kahler met frequently, and every evening turned into political conversation, cultural conversation, or a reading of Mann’s latest work.”

Eventually, Mann left the East Coast for Los Angeles. But his time at Princeton left a permanent mark on his work, making him more political, more professorial, more defiantly German, and thoughtfully, gratefully American. ♦ By Elyse Graham ’07

read more in an expanded version of this story at paw.princeton.edu
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The CALM AFTER the STORM

Former Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch ’80 reflects on her moment of decision

BY MARK F. BERNSTEIN ’83
ONE MORNING IN EARLY MARCH, Marie “Masha” Yovanovitch ’80 walked down the street to her neighborhood coffee shop in Alexandria, Virginia, blessedly anonymous, blessedly alone.

More than two years ago, Yovanovitch — who’d recently been forced from her job as U.S. ambassador to Ukraine — had her photo on the front page of every newspaper in the country. In two congressional appearances, the first before House investigating committees and the second in the impeachment inquiry that followed, Yovanovitch had braved cameras and television lights, her stark account of President Donald Trump’s actions becoming the lead story on every newscast. Trump called her “bad news,” publicly bashing her while she was testifying, and she endured the surreal experience of seeing herself portrayed on Saturday Night Live. Her 90-year-old mother, who had lived with her at the U.S. embassy in Kyiv, died during the impeachment inquiry, which Yovanovitch attributes in part to worry about the attacks against her daughter. Google her name even today, and you will find T-shirts for sale with her image and captions such as “Strong Woman” and “Marie Yovanovitch Persisted.”

Ukraine, of course, is back in the news, but Yovanovitch, to her relief, is not — except on her own terms. She is now a fellow at Georgetown’s Institute for the Study of Diplomacy and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, which are perhaps as far off the front pages as it is possible to get in public service. In recent weeks, she has given press interviews and appeared on television shows, including The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, to promote her new book, Lessons From The Edge: A Memoir, and to comment on Ukraine.

Here are the media maelstrom — that frenzy in which an unsuspecting person is picked up, like Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz, and spun around in a tornado, every detail of their past scrutinized, every quote amplified or distorted, and their character reduced to simple verdict of Good or Bad. After a few tumultuous days or weeks, the maelstrom spits them out and moves on. Yovanovitch is one of the unlucky few who knows what that experience is like.

“It’s frightening,” she says quietly, “because there’s not much you can control except yourself, to the extent that you can even do that.”

The details of Yovanovitch’s firing as ambassador in May 2019 and the impeachment investigation that followed have already become, as The Washington Post’s review of her book put it, like “reliving a bad dream.”

She had returned to Kyiv as the ambassador in 2016 (after previously serving there as deputy chief of mission) to advance the U.S. policy goals of promoting democracy and urging the Ukrainian government to root out corruption. Indeed, one feature common to many of the countries where Yovanovitch was posted was the lack of legal safeguards to prevent leaders from putting their own interests ahead of their country’s. Eventually, she writes, she came to see those threats emerge in her own country, as well.

Yovanovitch’s parents fled the Soviets and the Nazis. She was born in Canada, moved to Connecticut as a child, and received American citizenship when she was 18. At Princeton, she majored in history but describes her undergraduate years as a time of finding herself; she lived off campus and even missed her thesis deadline, graduating late. She later earned a master’s degree from the National War College. After exploring a few other career paths, including working as a waitress and a secretary, she joined the Foreign Service in 1986.
Although her fluency in Russian would eventually come in handy, Yovanovitch’s first postings were to Somalia and Great Britain; like most foreign service officers, she rotated assignments every few years. Yovanovitch writes about the petty harassment women faced in the male-dominated Foreign Service, noting that even as late as her retirement in 2020, the women’s restrooms in the State Department still had urinals. Initially stuck doing clerical work rather than policy analysis, Yovanovitch benefited from an ongoing class-action lawsuit that led the State Department to give 14 female Foreign Service officers the opportunity to select their next assignment. Yovanovitch applied and was one of those chosen. In 1993, she was posted to Moscow to work on political matters. Yovanovitch’s first ambassadorial assignments a decade later, to Kyrgyzstan (2004 to 2008) and Armenia (2008 to 2012), were not glamorous, but the two former Soviet republics were politically sensitive posts where Yovanovitch earned a reputation for competence and clear judgment. As planned, she had returned to Washington to be the principal deputy assistant secretary for the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs when she was nominated and confirmed to be U.S. ambassador to Ukraine in the waning months of the Obama administration.

Having served under presidents of both parties, Yovanovitch assumed she could continue to serve the country in the Trump administration, but she quickly made enemies, both in Kyiv and, to her shock, in Washington. Incensed at Yovanovitch’s commitment to rooting out Ukrainian corruption and her refusal to go along with the Trump administration’s search for dirt on Hunter Biden, a tag team of Rudy Giuliani, a Ukrainian prosecutor, and their associates conducted a smear campaign against her for more than a year. In April 2019, Yovanovitch was recalled to Washington and told that the president “had lost confidence in her.” A State Department official suggested that she try to regain Trump’s favor by publicly affirming her loyalty to him, but Yovanovitch refused, believing that it was inappropriate for a nonpartisan civil servant to do such a thing and that her only loyalty was to the Constitution and the national interest. Trump formally relieved her as ambassador on May 20. Her story might have died there except that the following August, a whistleblower in the White House flagged a conversation Trump had with the new Ukrainian president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Trump began by disparaging Yovanovitch and ended by appearing to hold up the release of missiles necessary for Ukrainian defense unless Zelenskyy announced an investigation of the Bidens. The suggestion that the president was subverting government policy to his own political interests led to a congressional investigation and Trump’s impeachment.

The White House and the State Department did not want Yovanovitch or anyone else to testify. Gordon Sondland, the U.S. ambassador to the European Union, followed directions and defied a congressional subpoena, though he would testify later. What would Yovanovitch do?
Yovanovitch says she hated being caught in a partisan political fight. She also worried about the personal consequences of defying the administration. Would she be stripped of her pension? Could she face prosecution? Trump had ominously warned Zelenskyy that she was “going to go through some things.” What might those things be?

Struggling with her decision, striving to care for her ailing mother, and worried about her professional reputation and her future, Yovanovitch began seeing a psychiatrist, asking if she might be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. (No, the psychiatrist said; her traumatic stress was still ongoing.) “I had thrived in a series of pressure-filled environments ...,” she writes in her memoir. “But here I was, huddled on a couch, barely holding it together as a result of my own government’s actions.”

She was supported by her brother and niece (who explained what a “badass” was after a fan called Yovanovitch that on social media), as well as old friends, including two of her Princeton roommates, who call themselves the “yoga girls.” Yovanovitch knew that she had a duty to testify. But she also retained her own lawyers.

“The more I thought about it,” she explains now, “the more I realized that my greater responsibility — I think all of our greater responsibilities — is to the Constitution. And so, by the end, there was nothing else that I could do. If the committee wanted to call me, then I had to go and share what I knew.” As Yovanovitch prepared to face the investigators, she wrote in block letters at the top of her notes, “THE TRUTH IS ON MY SIDE.”

Yovanovitch’s first appearance, before three House investigating committees, was held Oct. 11, 2019, in a secure room in the Capitol, although a transcript was soon released. When the House began formal impeachment proceedings against Trump, she reprised her testimony Nov. 15 in a nationally televised hearing. While laying out the facts and defending her record, Yovanovitch also went out of her way to defend her fellow Foreign Service officers, whom she called “the best our country has to offer.”

“This is not the time to undercut our diplomats,” she stated. “It is the responsibility of the department’s leaders to stand up for the institution and the individuals who make that institution the most effective diplomatic force in the world.”

Anne-Marie Slaughter ’80, former dean of the School of Public and International Affairs who served as director of policy planning in the State Department, calls Yovanovitch’s decision to testify a pivotal moment in exposing the administration’s misconduct, likening it to Elliot Richardson’s refusal to fire special prosecutor Archibald Cox during Watergate. “If she had rolled over, I don’t know how long it would have taken for the various machinations of Trump and Giuliani and others in Ukraine to come out,” Slaughter says.

Almost as important, Slaughter continues, Yovanovitch’s defense of her fellow civil servants provided a much-needed boost to State Department morale. “The Foreign Service is apolitical,” she says. “They’re just like the military — they serve the country. Masha certainly reflected the best of the Foreign Service.”

Through hours of cross-examination across two congressional hearings, Yovanovitch’s cool demeanor and defense of a professional and unbiased Foreign Service won her widespread praise. A laudatory profile in Vanity Fair was headlined, “A hero is born.”

A HERO, HOWEVER, was not what Yovanovitch ever wanted to be. A few months later, she retired from the Foreign Service, though even now, she still reflexively calls the State Department “we.” In February 2020, Georgetown University’s Institute for the Study of Diplomacy honored her with its award for Excellence in the Conduct of Diplomacy, conferring a small but appreciated professional commendation after Trump’s attacks on her record. She has since joined the Carnegie Endowment for...
International Peace, written her memoir, and tried to get her life back to normal.

Following her dismissal as ambassador, Yovanovitch moved back to Alexandria, to a house she had purchased in the 1990s. “I bought it partly because I always wanted to know where ‘home’ was,” she explains. When she returned to the United States, “it was nice to know that I had a place that was mine, and a neighborhood that I knew, and neighbors who were supportive friends.”

That sort of grounding is difficult for career Foreign Service officers to find, and the State Department’s difficulty in attracting and retaining people has become a problem. During her own career, Yovanovitch moved 13 times and served in seven different countries, five of which were considered “hardship posts.” Like many daughters, she took on responsibility for caring for her aging mother and says she was torn about taking the job as ambassador to Ukraine until she was sure her mother could go with her.

Compared to previous generations, fewer young people are willing to pursue a career path like that, one that also makes it difficult for Foreign Service spouses to hold jobs and for their children to stay in school.

“I just don’t see the number of spectacular young people across the country signing up for a 30-year career in the ways that many Princetonians [once] did,” Slaughter worries. Or as Yovanovitch puts it, “We can’t have the model of the 1950s, where it’s a male Foreign Service officer with a spouse who is endlessly supportive.” Indeed, a 2021 study by Georgetown and Harvard researchers described a “retention crisis” at the State Department and found that nearly a third of current officers were considering leaving the Foreign Service. The primary driver of attrition, the report said, was lifestyle choices.

Looking back at her own experience, Yovanovitch reflects that her time in the maelstrom has not changed her as much as it has changed some of those around her. “People tend to see me differently,” she observes, “and it is not always the way I see myself.” What she means is, they tend to boil her career down to those few tumultuous weeks in the headlines — to reduce her, in other words, to the figure on those T-shirts. They don’t see the unglamorous but essential work she did during three decades of public service.

What, then, did Yovanovitch learn from her time on the edge? One thing is the truth of the adage that freedom isn’t free. “You need to work for it,” she says. “We need to protect institutions and put honest people into important jobs.” She continues to extol the importance of diplomacy, expertise, honesty, and objective policy analysis.

With a new life and career before her, Yovanovitch says she wants to work with young people, instilling in them the same ethos of public service that was drummed into her at Princeton. “While it’s easy now to be cynical about the United States and not want to be part of government, that can’t be the answer,” she says, growing animated. “If you’re not happy with something, you need to get in there and fix it. Democracy needs to be tended and defended if we want to preserve it. And that takes all of us.”

There is one other thing Yovanovitch has learned — and this about herself. Most of us wonder what we would do if we found ourselves caught in the maelstrom. Would we do the right thing? Would we tell the truth? Or would we keep our head down and avoid trouble?

As she wrestled with her decision to testify, Yovanovitch writes, she kept thinking back to an old hymn she had sung in prep school:

Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide,
In the strife of Truth or Falsehood, for the good or evil side.

Now that the storm has passed, Marie Yovanovitch can walk home, recognized by no one, but knowing that she has met that moment and has her answer.

Mark F. Bernstein ’83 is PAW’s senior writer.
Jeffrey Schevitz ’62, photographed in 1982 on his hotel balcony in Vienna. He was sent by the Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Center to participate in a conference on solar energy.
Jeffrey Schevitz ’62 was a presence at alumni activities — and a Cold War spy for East Germany

By Adam Tanner ’88

A few days after Christmas in 1976, Jeffrey Schevitz ’62 crossed into East Berlin, met a local contact, and proceeded to a Stasi safehouse, ready to move to Communist East Germany.

One of the stranger episodes of Cold War espionage followed, a tale of shocking betrayal, or — depending on your ideological point of view — of committed embrace of Communist ideals and its infamous secret police. Schevitz, son of a Delaware cobbler, would spy for 13 years for the Stasi — short for Staatssicherheitsdienst, the Ministry for State Security — for which he was later convicted in a German court.

As the “shield and the sword” of the Communist Party, the Stasi maintained a vast network of domestic and international agents and informants to monitor and curtail any possible subversive activities. From factories to universities, churches to bedrooms, no corner of East German life remained free of Stasi surveillance and intimidation, creating a climate of pervasive angst. The Stasi sought to stifle independent thought and action that might threaten the East German state and stood ready to imprison potential troublemakers.

Schevitz, who told his story to PAW last summer, began to learn German at Princeton and first visited the East German capital as an undergrad days before the Communist part of Germany built the Berlin Wall in August 1961. In a series of articles for The Daily Princetonian that fall, he described his impressions, recalling how an East German union official allowed him to survey workers for his senior thesis comparing East and West German and U.S. labor unions.

“A fortuitous occurrence on the third day of my stay began a concatenation of events that turned out to be some of the most rewarding of my life,” Schevitz wrote. “I asked this official if I might be permitted to visit a factory and distribute a questionnaire which I was constructing. To my astonishment he asked me no probing questions. He responded with a laconic ‘Why not?’”

Fifteen years later, as Schevitz tells PAW, he was back in Germany as an assistant professor at the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Freie Universität in West Berlin. But by 1976, he had soured on both U.S. academia and capitalism. He began to watch East German television, and as he viewed reports on the central role of workers and the achievements of collective farms, he remembered how East Germany had opened its doors to his undergraduate research.

He decided to take a closer look during weekend trips to the other side of the wall.

Before long, Schevitz and his girlfriend, Beatrice Altman, a former SUNY Buffalo student, decided they should experience socialism by living in the German Democratic Republic (GDR). They sought advice from a handful of Westerners residing in East Berlin.

“He asked me lots and lots and lots and lots about the GDR,” says Victor Grossman, 94, a Harvard grad who defected to East Germany in 1954. “It wasn’t always so easy to adjust for an American couple from the States. You had to get used to a different life here, obviously.”

Expats introduced Schevitz to “Lutz Schindler,” a government translator who offered to help facilitate a move to East Germany. In reality, Schevitz learned during his own trial, Schindler was Peter Zaunseil, a part-time Stasi collaborator. He took Schevitz to a safehouse near Alexanderplatz to meet Horst Anders, soon to become head of the Stasi’s foreign-espionage department focused on penetrating the West German government, and his deputy, Wildo Arndt.

The Stasi often needed to blackmail, bribe, coerce, or seduce to recruit agents. But no one had to strong-arm Schevitz, who believed in Communism and says he thought the spying could help prevent nuclear war. “You can help us much more if you stay in the West,” the officials proposed. Intrigued and excited to join the struggle on the Cold War’s front line, Schevitz signed a statement of commitment to the Stasi organization.

Altman, who would become his second wife a few months later, also joined up. Only a handful of other Americans are known to have worked for the Stasi’s foreign-intelligence service, experts say. By contrast, about 1,500 West Germans worked for the unit near the end of the 1980s, according to Georg Herbstritt, an expert on the Stasi materials in the German Federal Archives.

How does a largely apolitical Princeton grad become a spy for East Germany? Schevitz’s Princeton classmates could never have imagined his embrace of Communism. “Jeff was never strident about anything at that time,” says John Dunn ’62, Schevitz’s roommate for two years and best man at his first wedding, at the end of senior year. “Politics was not what we talked about. We talked about women because it was an all-male school.”

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“His interests included the usual undergraduate stuff — parties, girls, etc.,” agrees Bill de Decker, ’62 ’67, another of six friends who roomed together in the then-new Gauss Hall.

Several months after graduation, Schevitz began working on a Ph.D. in sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. The school exposed him to radical ideas. De Decker visited him there twice and noticed his roommate’s transformation. During the first visit, over Thanksgiving in 1962, his old pal seemed unchanged. But when de Decker returned the following summer as a young aerospace engineer working at a defense contractor, friends at Schevitz’s apartment greeted him with hostility.

“I was called all sorts of names and told that I was in the business of killing people,” he recalls. “When I tried to explain I was actually working on the Apollo moon program, it got worse, since they started accusing me of taking the food out of poor people’s mouths. ... When I asked Jeff what he thought about all of that, he did not disagree and in fact said he agreed with it.”


His next stop, in 1969, was Washington University in St. Louis, where he taught in a sociology department becoming known as a hotbed of radicals, and agitated alongside students. “My major activities since graduation have involved learning about and struggling against American corporate capitalism, which appears to me the root cause of the war in Indochina, racism, and the great economic and political inequality in the U.S.,” Schevitz wrote in his Princeton 10th-reunion yearbook, in 1972.

Schevitz’s appointment at Washington University was not renewed. He landed at SUNY Buffalo. When the department there denied him tenure in 1976, he moved to Berlin.

O n Dec. 28, 1989, more than six weeks after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Schevitz traveled to East Berlin for a last meeting with his two Stasi superiors. Even if he had never produced intelligence blockbusters, he had served loyally for a long time and been decorated with medals for merit and length of service.

With the collapse of East Germany approaching, his superiors told Schevitz they would destroy files related to his work. He had made 161 drops and commissioned 25 reports, making him a top producer among foreign-intelligence agents in terms of sheer quantity, according to a later official study. In early 1990, Schevitz received a final instruction: Destroy your cipher and records. He threw the film canisters above a ceiling tile in a train bathroom. Inside the lavatory the spies also collected cash for expenses. Afterward, they would leave a tiny mark outside to signal the drop.

During these years Schevitz also participated in the Princeton Alumni Association of Germany. He organized the alumni group’s first summer event, a sail down the Neckar River, recalls David T. Fisher ’69, a co-founder of the group. He interviewed high school applicants. Schevitz and his wife also raised a son, who was born in 1978.

T he stasi told their new West Berlin-based recruit to transform himself from a Berkeley firebrand back into a clean-cut Princetonian. Schevitz trimmed his long hair, bought new clothes, stopped attending public protests, and quit meeting expats in East Berlin.

Schevitz, code-named “Roberl,” aided by his wife Altman-Schevitz, known as “Lares,” started spying in early 1977. As he learned the ropes, he says, he passed on minor items such as his institute’s telephone directory and lists of schedules and events. He took notes on acquaintances, including their personal problems — details the Stasi could use to compromise and blackmail people. He soon felt more valued, with a greater sense of purpose than he’d felt in academia, he says.

From time to time, Schevitz met Lutz in the West, as well as his Stasi superiors in East Berlin. Every week he and Altman-Schevitz tuned into a Grundig shortwave radio to write down a string of numbers. They subtracted their personal code, then used a cipher to decode the message. To contact Stasi headquarters, Schevitz could telephone one of several numbers dedicated only to him. A call to one line followed by a quick hang-up announced he was ready to drop off documents. Another number signaled that Schevitz and his wife were being followed.

Only once did the couple believe that a Western agent was closing in on them, Schevitz says. The incident occurred in West Berlin after they returned from East Berlin with the latest codes and a false-bottom bag full of cash. They ducked into a Chinese restaurant. Altman-Schevitz went into the bathroom and inserted the rolled-up wad of paper codes as she might a tampon.

Schevitz’s reporting in West Berlin proved of limited use, his superiors later said, so the spy agency paid for his move to the West German capital, Bonn, in 1978, where he was tasked with finding out what was going on behind closed doors in the West German chancellery and identifying new Stasi agents.

With a new job at the German Council on Foreign Relations, he transmitted a telephone list of its employees and his assessments of different people, including a friendly, single-mother librarian, for whom he suggested that the Stasi deploy a “Romeo agent” to seduce and recruit. It is not clear if the Stasi acted on his idea.

His trial revealed that the Stasi rated Schevitz’s usefulness in Bonn as “below average.” He moved again to become a researcher at the Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Center in 1980. There Schevitz devised a better way to penetrate the West German government. Under the guise of moonlighting for an American energy-consulting firm, Schevitz paid two well-connected experts he befriended for reports on energy, technology, and environmental policies.

To relay these photographed reports, Schevitz or Altman-Schevitz would board an overnight train traveling between Basel and Berlin. One or the other would hide the film canisters above a ceiling tile in a train bathroom. Inside the lavatory the spies also collected cash for expenses. Afterward, they would leave a tiny mark outside to signal the drop.

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He saw the U.S. as a hotbed of radicals, and agitated alongside students. “My interests included the usual undergraduate stuff — parties, girls, etc.,” agrees Bill de Decker, ’62 ’67, another of six friends who roomed together in the then-new Gauss Hall.
After the trial, the Princeton Alumni Association of Germany declared Schevitz *persona non grata*. “It was a very emotional thing, because everybody liked Jeffrey,” says Fisher.

Today Schevitz, 81, and Altman-Schevitz live in Trauchgau, a quaint Bavarian village where flowers spill over the balconies of traditional homes. Steps from the town church and clock tower, the couple rent a centuries-old two-story home. Their windows overlook neat piles of logs in neighboring yards and the Allgäu Alps beyond.

For many years, Schevitz did not discuss his Stasi past and maintained the fiction that he had worked for the CIA so that he and his wife could keep their post-espionage jobs, he as a family therapist and representative for a medical-device company. After both retired, they agreed to talk publicly, ahead of the January publication of Altman-Schevitz’s memoir, in German, of her life as a spy. Over two days in conversation with PAW, the two confirmed the details of their espionage documented in German court records.

Schevitz expresses pride in his espionage work. He does not express regrets. “I felt that I was helping prevent a war and that I was giving East Germany breathing space. I never thought I was responsible for the Easterners using that breathing space,” he says. If East Germans messed it up, he suggests, “I don’t feel responsible; what could I have done?”

He rarely reflects on his impact on the lives of others, like those who suffered under Stasi surveillance. Instead, he focuses on his ideological commitment to socialist ideals. “The intelligence services don’t work in categories of fair and unfair,” he says. “Obviously, as a spy, you’re a little bit devious, or you wouldn’t be successful.” The pursuit of these higher ideals justified any damage he may have caused, he says.

Nor does he regret betraying friends. “This has always been a difficult question to deal with, deceiving somebody I really felt I liked very much,” he says. How does he reconcile that? “A larger political goal of working to prevent an atomic war may sound highfalutin, but that was the task — provide information that could help reduce the confrontation, or the chance of confrontation, between the two societies.”

He knowingly exploited his Princeton background as a cover. “Well, it’s true. But I used it to pursue the ideals that I felt were worth pursuing. And they were ethically defendable ideas, definable ideas,” he says. Schevitz bristles at the very word “Stasi,” stressing that he worked for the Hauptverwaltung A (HVA) foreign-intelligence wing of the ministry, not the domestic wing known for repression. He insists that his spying did not make him a Stasi agent.

“There is no derogatory word for the HVA. ‘Stasi’ is a term used in the ongoing propaganda war,” he says. “My task was not to steal and/or copy secret documents. My task and my ability was to analyze the overlapping and conflicting developing positions within the chancellor’s office and the other major ministries.”

At his Bavarian home, Schevitz keeps his Princeton reunion books, as well as albums of University music and other souvenirs. “I never rejected Princeton,” he says. “I think it’s a wonderful institution.”

Last summer, Schevitz was planning to attend his 60th reunion this year, and his former roommate John Dunn was looking forward to catching up. He had visited Schevitz in Germany during his Stasi years, learning of his friend’s past only in 2021. “I was so surprised,” says Dunn. “That’s really strange.”

Adds former roommate de Decker: “Jeff is probably one of the most puzzling people I’ve ever known.”

The upcoming Princeton gathering wasn’t the only reunion Schevitz planned to attend: Gatherings of former East German spies are usually held every two years — and when the next one takes place, he expects to be there.

Adam Tanner ’88 is the author of Our Bodies, Our Data and What Stays in Vegas.
Laura Coates ’01 has traveled a winding path from her early work as a lawyer and prosecutor to her current career as a prominent legal analyst and fill-in prime-time anchor on CNN. But in hindsight, she says, there should have been a clue in her Princeton application interview 25 years ago, when she was asked what she liked to do for fun. Her answer: Write speeches summing up what she would have said at moments in history, “if I were in charge of the world.”

“For me, the connective tissue throughout my entire life has been storytelling, and being able to share the stories that I think need to be told,” Coates said when PAW caught up with her by telephone at her home outside Washington, D.C., in February. “I look at the overall arc and perhaps I should have seen this all along in the foreshadowing. But even now I smile at the chutzpah of that 16-year-old saying, ‘Here’s what I would have said differently.’”

These days, Coates gets the chance to have her say most weeknights to a national television audience, and on her daily Laura Coates Show on SiriusXM Satellite Radio’s POTUS channel, whether she’s discussing the legal travails of former President Donald Trump, the latest case of police misconduct, the political ramifications of voter-suppression laws, or the constitutional threat of the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. It’s a privilege she doesn’t take lightly.

“In some respects, I still practice law in the work that I do by presenting information,” she says. “But in the law, we tend to persuade. In journalism, we present the facts and hope that the horse is led to water, but we don’t make it drink.”

Rebecca Kutler, a CNN senior vice president and its head of contributors, who hired Coates in 2016, notes that “a lot of people are fantastic doctors or lawyers or law-enforcement officers, but that doesn’t mean they can necessarily make the switch and take on a whole new career.” Coates’ “superpower,” Kutler says, “is the ability to take very complex legal issues and make me understand them, make the audience understand them.”

Coates has also used her explanatory skills to write two books: a 2016 bestseller, You Have The Right: A Constitutional Guide to Policing the Police (Karen Hunter Digital), and the recently published Just Pursuit: A Black Prosecutor’s Fight for Fairness (Simon & Schuster). The latest is a collection of tales from the trenches of her time as an assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Columbia, prosecuting a wide range of violent offenses. Neither a legal textbook nor a conventional memoir, the book is a gritty and moving reflection of the reality that “the pursuit of justice can create injustice,” as Coates said at a virtual book talk for the Association of Black Princeton Alumni (ABPA) in January.

In novelistic detail, Just Pursuit recounts Coates’ ambivalence as a comparatively rare Black prosecutor in a justice system that overwhelmingly charged Black defendants and often produced morally muddied outcomes. “There were moments of triumph and humanity,” Coates said in the ABPA talk, but also trauma and heartbreak that kept her awake at night — like Coates’ refusal to ask for leniency for a 20-year-old car thief, despite the sympathetic pleas of his victim, an older Black woman, that he be spared jail time. Coates knew she had to preserve her credibility with the judge so that she would be able to ask for leniency where it might be merited in future cases, without such a forgiving victim.

After years navigating such messy compromises, Coates had to decide whether it was better to serve the justice system from within or from the outside, where she could “use activism in the form of education and information,” as she put it in the ABPA talk. “And for me, I resolved that the latter was more important.” So she struck out on a media career, explaining, “I have really benefited from a sense of restlessness, of not answering the question of what you want to be when you grow up with one answer.”

Coates grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota. Her father, who spent most of his childhood in foster care, graduated from Amherst and became a dentist; her mother, the daughter of domestic workers, went to Smith and is now a banker for Wells Fargo. Her two older sisters also went to Smith and Amherst, but Princeton was always Coates’ first choice, and as a standout student at the private St. Paul Academy, she had options. She was attracted by the public affairs curriculum of what was then the Woodrow Wilson School. “To me, that school was illustrative of a sort of intersectionality that I
always wanted — how they intersected, politics, history, and sociology,” she says. She wrote her senior thesis on voting-rights restoration for former felons, though the school nixed her idea for an accompanying documentary film that would have required her to interview prisoners.

Coates didn’t pursue journalism in college, but two of her most influential Princeton teachers came from journalistic backgrounds: Nat Hentoff, the veteran jazz critic and civil libertarian who was a visiting Ferris professor, and Phil Schaap, the eclectic New York jazz disc jockey who taught American studies and music. “I would talk with him for hours about his radio career,” Coates recalls.

At Princeton, Coates was president of the campus chapter of the National Council of Negro Women and co-president of the Organization for Black Unity. She was also a member of Cap and Gown. She says she “really enjoyed” her Princeton experience, though she adds, “Of course, there were moments where the level of enlightenment varied, depending on the situation you were in.” She notes that while some Black students were ambivalent about the eating clubs, “There was also this idea of what would be the point of going to Princeton — it would be difficult to compartmentalize what aspects of elitism you partook in.” She says she and her classmates were determined “in trying to be disruptive and have a seat at the table, and to be able to partake of all aspects of Princeton and experience what that meant.”

After graduation from the University of Minnesota Law School, Coates worked in private practice in intellectual property and media law in Minneapolis and New York. But by 2008, she felt a call to public service and joined the civil-rights division of the Justice Department, working in voting-rights enforcement. In 2011, she transferred to the D.C. U.S. Attorney’s Office, where because of the unusual nature of the city’s government, her duties were akin to those of an assistant district attorney in New York or Los Angeles. From the beginning she was struck by the reality that fairness is so often lacking in the criminal process that justice remains more aspirational than actual. She kept detailed journals “mostly as a form of therapy” on the theory that “if I can write it down, perhaps it can get out of my subconscious and I can get it into a place where it doesn’t haunt me.”

Eventually, the grind of the job wore her down and she decided to pursue a writing career, taking her laptop to a neighborhood Panera Bread café. She knew no one in media or journalism but reached out through TigerNet to fellow Princetonians. She published her first op-ed piece in the Cleveland Plain Dealer in 2015. Guest shots on radio and on MSNBC and CNN followed, eventually leading to her Sirius show and her regular CNN gig as an analyst and substitute anchor for Don Lemon Tonight and other programs.

She often broadcasts from a fully outfitted studio at the home in Northern Virginia that she shares with her husband, Dale Gordon, an IT engineer, and their son, Adrian, 9, and daughter, Sydney, 7. She built the studio before the COVID-19 pandemic when she realized she wasn’t at home enough with her kids. When Coates was writing her latest book and found herself weeping, she recalls, her daughter, knowing how the prosecutor’s job had affected her, would say, “I think Mommy’s remembering again.”

“WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE? AT WHAT POINTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY DID US CONCEDE DEFEAT ACTUALLY LEAD TO PROGRESS? WE CANNOT BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO THROWING OUR HANDS UP AND SAYING, ‘IT’S HARD.’”

— LAURA COATES ’01

Coates’ CNN colleague Dana Bash describes her as the sort of demon multitasker who can cover the news and lead her daughter’s Girl Scout troop, squeezing a sales pitch for cookies into a busy workday. “Talking in the green room and in the makeup chair, I quickly got to know not only how smart she is but how down-to-earth she is,” Bash says. “She’s just a girl’s girl and a professional’s professional. She’s equal parts.” In an on-air debate, Bash notes, Coates can “take somebody down and you don’t even know what hit you. She does it with a velvet, rose-colored scalpel as opposed to a bludgeon. You don’t even understand that your point got completely destroyed. She’s not doing it to destroy them; she’s doing it to correct the record.”

At the same time, says the veteran CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer, the unblinking television camera captures a kindness that cannot be faked. “She’s extremely nice, and I think that comes through,” he says. “We get really positive feedback from viewers whenever she’s on my show and when she’s hosting,” CNN’s Kutler predicts that Coates has a bright future in TV. “Laura is somebody — and this is a cliché, so I apologize — but someone who can do almost anything she puts her mind to,” she says. “It’s very, very difficult to do what she’s doing and make it look as easy as she does.”

Coates says she would leap at a full-time anchor position if one were offered. “Of course,” she says. “I would be a fool not to honor the power of that platform.” As she noted in her ABPA talk, she believes it’s important for Black people to have a seat at every table, not just as defense lawyers but as prosecutors and members of political institutions from school boards and water districts to Congress and the White House. And she remains resolute in her belief in the country’s capacity for change. Asked on the ABPA call if she thinks the criminal-justice system can ever be reformed, her answer was crisp: “What choice do we have? At what points in American history did we conceding defeat actually lead to progress? We cannot become accustomed to throwing our hands up and saying, ‘It’s hard.’”

Longtime journalist Todd S. Purdum ’82 is the author, most recently, of Something Wonderful: Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Broadway Revolution.

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DOCUMENTING HISTORY: Since the 1980s, independent scholar Jeff Perry ’68 has researched the life of freethinker Hubert Harrison. During the pandemic, he published the 1,000-page second volume of a biography, *Hubert Harrison: The Struggle for Equality, 1918-1927*. Perry is pictured at Bethel Church in Harlem, where Harrison founded the Liberty League of Negro-Americans. He hopes his work will help recenter Harrison’s role in Black history, which is often disregarded because his beliefs challenge our existing historiography, Perry explains. Although Perry is ill with prostate cancer, he continues to research Harrison so that he “gets the attention he merits, and that people will draw from him and learn from him.”

READ MORE about Perry’s research at paw.princeton.edu
Just a few weeks shy of a roaring return to campus for the first in-person Reunions in three years, Princeton alumni are eagerly anticipating the opportunity to be together again May 19-22. “We’re grateful, we’re excited, and it’s going to be awesome to be back on campus,” says Grace Baylis ’20, one of the Reunions co-chairs for the Class of 2020. “I’m looking forward to it.”

The Class of 2020 missed out on in-person Commencement and Reunions festivities because of the pandemic. With the 2020 Commencement scheduled for May 18, about 90 percent of classmates are expected to return to finally have both experiences, Baylis says. The University has guaranteed housing for members of the class and in early April announced it would cover the cost of wristbands for the classes of 2020 and 2021.

While many classes expressed frustration about planning challenges due to uncertainty related to COVID, most are confident that this celebration will be memorable. Class of 1962 Reunions co-chair Robert Burkhardt says his class hopes to set a 60th reunion attendance record. As of early April, more than 100 classmates had registered. The class organized rooms four years in advance at the Princeton Theological Seminary’s Erdman Center and sent out LXII baseball hats and kazoos for use in classmate selfies intended for a slideshow. “We’ve been working not on an assumption, but on a hope that Reunions would occur and as a result, we’ve gotten a lot of good stuff done,” Burkhardt says.

The Class of 1987 will celebrate its 35th reunion disco theme by trying to break the Guinness Book world record for the most people dancing the hustle — all reunion-goers are welcome. On Thursday night, the Class of 1977 will have an art show for classmates to showcase their work.

Some classes are coordinating to make Reunions greener. The Class of 1972 has organized the use of sustainable cups, which will be collected and recycled after Reunions. Buses from major cities including Boston and Philadelphia have been organized by the Class of 2017 to offer a convenient and more environmentally friendly way to get to campus.

While excitement is high, uncertainties remain. The University estimates a crowd ranging from 22,000 to more than 30,000 people. Some alumni suspect numbers will be closer to the latter and are concerned about the possibility of spreading COVID. Andrew Darlington ’02 struggled with deciding whether to return. He plans to be on campus but still has reservations. “I just hope that it is fun and that people can comfortably socialize and catch up without feeling like we’re all going to get sick,” he says.

Because of the expected turnout, housing has been a challenge for many classes. The University has arranged for beds at Rider University, Rider’s Westminster Choir College campus in Princeton, and the Princeton Theological Seminary to increase housing, says Alexandra Day ’02, deputy vice president for alumni engagement. Undergraduate student leaders of performing arts groups were alerted in mid-March that on-campus housing may not be available to all of their members.

Some alumni also expressed concerns with this year’s earlier Reunions dates, which conflict with high school graduations, proms, and other end-of-the-school-year events. Others were dissatisfied with the University’s visitor policy, which as of April requires all attendees to attest that they are up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations to obtain a wristband. The policy will likely be updated around mid-May to allow those who do not want to provide their vaccination status to attend as long as they wear masks while indoors, according to the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

Despite the challenges, many alumni are happy to return. “Of course, there is uncertainty and complexity, but we are generally not too concerned about it. We are just excited to have the chance to be together again.” — Rick Corcoran, Class of 1995 Reunions co-chair

“Of course, there is uncertainty and complexity, but we are generally not too concerned about it. We are just excited to have the chance to be together again.”
— Rick Corcoran, Class of 1995 Reunions co-chair
As hard as it is to get a spacecraft to Mars, Chad Edwards ‘79 and his team at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) in Pasadena, California, have perhaps an even harder job: to think about future missions and imagine what technologies will be needed to make them successful.

To pick just one such mission, sometime in the next decade NASA hopes to retrieve soil samples from Mars and return them to Earth for analysis. The first small steps in this exceedingly complicated mission have already been taken. Last September, the Perseverance rover drilled into the Martian surface near Jezero Crater, extracted a sample of ground rock, and deposited it into a hermetically sealed titanium tube. Over the next several months, it will collect dozens more samples and eventually drop them on the surface. In 2033, if all goes according to plan, those samples will be retrieved by another rover, which will return them to a landing vehicle where they will be launched into Martian orbit (the first time anything has ever been launched off another planet), picked up by yet another unmanned spacecraft, and brought back to Earth.

For the last four years, as manager of the Advanced Studies Office for the Mars Exploration Program, Edwards has been responsible for imagining such future missions and what needs to be done now to get them underway. For example, although NASA and JPL are committed to the Mars Sample Return Mission, as it is known, many of its components are still being designed.

The Mars Sample Return Mission is just one of the many projects on the JPL drawing board. Others include sending a 30-kilogram helicopter (about 66 pounds) to Mars, which would build on the success of the tiny 1.8-kilogram helicopter (about 4 pounds), named Ingenuity, that made its first experimental flights last year; a “rough lander” that could deliver science payloads to Mars much more cheaply; and a lander that could drill 100 meters into the Martian surface searching for signs of life.

Before taking on his current assignment in 2017, Edwards headed the team that worked on communications with the orbiters circling Mars and the rovers crawling around on its surface. The rovers themselves are not powerful enough to transmit signals all the way back to Earth. Instead, scientists at JPL beam signals to the orbiters, which relay them to the rovers. The rovers then send data and photos back to Earth the same way.

Edwards has been at JPL since 1984, but he describes getting there as “a little bit of a left turn” in his expected career path. After studying physics at Princeton, Edwards earned a Ph.D. in particle physics at Caltech. Preferring not to follow a typical academic path, he went to a JPL job fair and has worked there ever since. Because the JPL is run on a contract between NASA and Caltech, Edwards is a Caltech faculty member rather than a NASA employee. He says he prefers it that way. Thanks to its unique structure, he says, the JPL “has this combination of university collegiate environment and research-lab environment. I very much like that.”

Mars, though, is only Edwards’ day job — he is also an accomplished jazz pianist. As an undergraduate, Edwards played keyboard in a band called Spiral and also played with guitarist Stanley Jordan ‘81. He now performs with several groups in and around Los Angeles. One of them, a “retro-jazz quintet” named Zen Dadio, played on the soundtrack of the Academy Award-winning 1999 film American Beauty. Edwards’ 2002 solo CD, Resolution, was praised by Los Angeles Times music critic Paul Anderson as “one of my favorite releases this year.”

The mathematical structure of music appeals to many scientists, and Edwards notes that he is not the only musician working at JPL. Fortunately, he has time to pursue both interests. In terms of the hours he puts into it, Edwards says, space exploration is his primary focus. “But there would be a big hole in my life if I were not playing music, too,” he says. “It keeps my life balanced.”

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CHAD EDWARDS ’79

BRINGING SPACE EXPLORATION TO LIFE

Physicist leads NASA projects on Mars

As hard as it is to get a spacecraft to Mars, Chad Edwards ’79 and his team at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) in Pasadena, California, have perhaps an even harder job: to think about future missions and imagine what technologies will be needed to make them successful.

To pick just one such mission, sometime in the next decade NASA hopes to retrieve soil samples from Mars and return them to Earth for analysis. The first small steps in this exceedingly complicated mission have already been taken. Last September, the Perseverance rover drilled into the Martian surface near Jezero Crater, extracted a sample of ground rock, and deposited it into a hermetically sealed titanium tube. Over the next several months, it will collect dozens more samples and eventually drop them on the surface. In 2033, if all goes according to plan, those samples will be retrieved by another rover, which will return them to a landing vehicle where they will be launched into Martian orbit (the first time anything has ever been launched off another planet), picked up by yet another unmanned spacecraft, and brought back to Earth.

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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
**MEMORIALS**

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

**THE CLASS OF 1943**

**Richard B. Robbins ’43**

Bart died June 17, 2021, in Shelton, Wash., near his beloved Hood Canal. Born in 1920, Bart spent most of his life in the outdoors, fishing, boating, and hunting, and building his company, the Hama Hama Logging Co., of Lilliwaup, Wash., which specializes in tree farming and oyster growing. Raised in Seattle, Bart attended the Thacher School and Lawrenceville, where he played baseball and soccer, and rowed crew before coming to Princeton. At Princeton he played soccer, rowed crew, and wrestled. Bart won the Cane Spree for the freshman class, winning his bout handily. He graduated with a degree in chemical engineering.

After three years in the Navy during World War II, shortly after the war in the Pacific ended, he married the love of his life, Penelope Fuller. They soon had four children, David, Mattie, Helena, and Elizabeth. In 1955 they moved to Hamma Hamma, embarking on a 60-year venture turning the family property (first purchased by Bart’s grandfather in 1899) into a sustainable business. Bart’s family remembers him leading by example and teaching all his kids and grandkids how to work on behalf of family and community, how to respect one’s natural surroundings, how to be kind to animals, and how to live a productive life.

Penny died in 2014, just after their 68th wedding anniversary. Bart is survived by his four children and their families and his large, close-knit extended family.

**THE CLASS OF 1945**

**James S. Calvert ’45**

Jim died April 20, 2021. He grew up in San Antonio and graduated from the Texas Military Institute as valedictorian. At Princeton he ran track, was choir manager, and was a member of Cloister Inn.

After Pearl Harbor he joined the Army Air Corps, receiving pilot training from the British Royal Air Force. He flew C-47 transports in the air supply routes of the China-Burma-India Theater to bring supplies to the Chinese troops fighting the Japanese. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

He married Mary Anita Dittmar. One of only three pilots to wear the wings of the United States, Great Britain, and China, he was invited to the Oval Office by President George W. Bush.

He spent his career at department stores in Greensboro, N.C.; Houston, Texas; and with Joske’s Department Stores in San Antonio, retiring as vice president.

Jim was involved with the San Antonio Symphony, the Texas Cavaliers, marching in the inaugural parades of Dwight Eisenhower and George W. Bush, the Conopus Club, the Order of the Alamo, the San Antonio German Club, and the military Order of the Daedalians.

Jim was predeceased by his wife and his grandson Robert Higginbotham. He is survived by his six children, Carolyn Phipps ’76 ’88 s ’84, James Jr. ’78, Elizabeth Hickman ’80, Joseph, Richard, and Lucile Higginbotham; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**Allen F. Hodges ’45**


After graduating with honors with a degree in mechanical engineering, Allen joined Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, where he worked until 1987 as a senior project engineer. In addition to his career, Allen devoted time to community service, including as the first president of the Florida chapter of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), as a member of the board of directors for the Florida Alliance on Mental Illness (FAMI), and in many church activities. He enjoyed skiing, photography, traveling, and time with his family, especially in North Carolina’s Blue Ridge Mountains.

Allen is survived by his wife of 71 years, Betsey; five children including Karen Hodges Hass ’74; 11 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Joyce Hodges.

**Lawrence Boggs Lewis ’45**

Larry died Aug. 14, 2021, just six hours after his wife, Nancy. Each had a peaceful passing after 72 years of marriage.

Larry grew up in Short Hills, N.J. He attended Kent School. At Princeton he enrolled in ROTC. He was a first lieutenant in the 10th Armored Division in World War II. He received a Purple Heart and an Army Commendation Ribbon. After recovering from his injuries, he graduated magna cum laude in history.

He met the sparkling Joanna “Nancy” Buechner at a USO dance. Larry’s career was in employee relations and management in the oil, steel, and banking industries. In retirement, he became an adjunct faculty member of management at the New School.

Larry’s hobbies included coaching junior hockey, leading Boy Scout camps, waterskiing, and fishing. He was an avid vegetable gardener, a race official for USAC Indy cars, and a marathon runner. He marched for civil rights in Detroit in the early ’60s, volunteered in prison ministry, and taught reading to children and adults.

Larry was predeceased by children Sandy and Charley. Larry’s wit and wisdom live on in children George, John, Tom, and Kate Reimanis. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

**Ellison Ward Smith ’45**

Ellison died Feb. 7, 2021, at Cumberland Pointe Health Campus in West Lafayette, Ind. He was born Nov. 15, 1922, in New York City and attended Loomis Academy, Princeton, and the University of Virginia. He was a veteran of the Navy during World War II, serving as a gun air instructor from 1943 until being honorably discharged in 1946.

He married Marian Hart July 30, 1949, in New London, Conn. She died several weeks after his death.

Ellison had a diverse early career that included positions with several major newspapers, IBM, Honeywell, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before he spent 20 years at Purdue University. At Purdue he served in several administrative roles with the school of engineering, where he won multiple awards for his public service and recruiting short films.

He was a member of the Virginia Press
MEMORIALS / PRINCETONIANS

Glenn E. Tisdale ’45
Glenn died Feb. 27, 2021. He grew up in Wilmington, Del., and attended the Tower Hill School, where he played football, baseball, and worked in publications.

At Princeton he was in the orchestra, band, and the Gateway Club. When World War II started he joined the Navy V-12 program and was transferred to Yale. He completed an expedited bachelor’s in engineering and was shipped to the Mariana Islands with the Civil Engineer Corps (Seabees). He was construction officer (lieutenant junior grade) in the 107th NCB Seabees in the Marianas, Tinian, and Guam. In Guam he helped run the power station.

After the war Glenn earned a master’s degree and a Ph.D. at Yale, and married Patricia Peake. For three decades he developed electronic systems for military aerospace. He was a pioneer of information technology at Westinghouse Electronic Systems (now Northrop Grummman) and developed some of the earliest image-processing algorithms.

He loved biology. He saw reflections, in biological systems, of the algorithms that he had been developing for artificial intelligence. He was an accomplished pianist and painter.

Glenn is survived by Patricia and children Glenn Jr. and Lisa.

THE CLASS OF 1949
Ralph C. Dear ’49
Ralph, a native of Jersey City, N.J., died Oct. 2, 2021. He came to Princeton from Lincoln High School in the summer of 1945. He roomed with Dan Lutzeier for three years and lived at Elm Club his senior year. He played 140-pound football, sang in the Glee Club and the Chapel Choir, and was news editor of The Daily Princetonian. He majored in economics and social institutions and planned to enter the family newspaper-publishing business.

In 1945 Ralph was working for the Daily Journal in Wheaton, Ill., and was married to Sally Dallis. This union eventually produced three children, Salli, Cannon (Ralph Jr.), and Jeffrey.

By the time of our 25th reunion Ralph was the owner of Dear Publications in Seabrook, N.H., with “newspapers mixing local business with community service.” He retired in 1985 and moved to Evansville, Ind., with his wife, Pheabe and their two children, Martin and Gwen. As born-again Christians they were active in Sports World Ministries and the Campus Crusade for Christ.

Ralph’s daughter Salli predeceased him. He is survived by Pheabe, four children, six grandchildren, and two great-granddaughters. We extend our sympathy and respect to all.

THE CLASS OF 1951
David Paul Adams ’51
A native of northern New Jersey, Dave joined us from Andover to major in English, play midfielder on our national co-champion lacrosse team, and sing in the Glee Club. He roomed with Sandy Towbridge and Mike Winton. Widely admired for his affable manner, he took an active role in student affairs, serving as president of Cap and Gown and chair of the Inter-Club Council at a time when bicker and 100 percent-membership issues challenged club relations with Nassau Hall.

Dave joined the CIA upon graduation. He was stationed in Tehran undercover and was a member of the team headed by Kermit Roosevelt Jr. that engineered the overthrow of the Iranian government in 1953. After eight years with the CIA, Dave worked for Proctor & Gamble and several export/import companies before establishing his own import company and a consulting business specializing in international marketing and foreign-exchange issues.

Dave and his wife, Cynthia, retired to Sanibel/ Fort Myers in the late 1980s, spending their summers at the venerable Cotterell Bay Club in the northern Adirondacks.

Dave died Jan. 8, 2022, in Cape Coral, Fla. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Cynthia; and three children, including Peter Adams ’81.

Originally from Chattanooga, Brad graduated from the Baylor School, was an SPIA major, joined Tower Club, and was active in Whig-Clio and the Glee Club. He roomed with Bob Bottimore, Stan Hoffberger, and Steve Speidel.

After Army service, Brad joined the Trust Company of Georgia, thus beginning a career that took him to the pinnacle of business and civic leadership. After serving as chief financial officer of the bank, Brad joined Rock-Tenn Co., a regional paperboard manufacturer in 1976. With annual sales increasing from $3.6 million to $13 billion when he retired as CEO in 2000, the company had become one of the nation’s largest packaging companies.

However, Brad will be best remembered for his tireless work in leadership roles for countless community organizations including Community Chest, the Atlanta Symphony, Woodruff Arts Center, the Chamber of Commerce, the Atlanta airport, Emory University, and St. Luke’s Episcopal Church.

In reporting his death, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution called him a “visionary” and wrote that “it is unusual to find someone with that depth of influence ... to stay away from the limelight and give credit to others.”

Brad was predeceased by his wife, Sally McClellan Currey. He is survived by their four children, Bradley III (Julie Farrar), Anne C. Bucey (David R. Bucey), L. Louise Currey Wilson (Clifford C. Wilson Jr.), and Russell ’83 (Amy Durrell); and 10 grandchildren.
THE CLASS OF 1952

Robert E. Finken '52
Bob graduated from Roosevelt High School in Yonkers, N.Y. At Princeton he majored in geological engineering and joined Cloister Inn, the Westminster Fellowship, Theatre Intime, Whig-Clio, the Westchester Club, and the Yacht Club. He roomed with Bob Johnston.

Bob had a successful career in petroleum engineering, chiefly in management roles with Phillips Petroleum Co. He had ranking offices for Phillips in Venezuela, Egypt, Nigeria, Indonesia, and China.

He returned to Lakeway, Texas, with his wife, Elmira, where he served pro bono as director of the utility district and commissioner of the planning and zoning commission. They had three sons, John, Robert Jr., and Paul. Their three sons, John, Robert Jr., and Paul, and three great-grandchildren.

Richard M. Flynn '52
Dick was a grad of Canterbury and came to Princeton to major in English and join Cap. He roomed with Frank Maguire.

After Army service Dick earned a degree from New York Law School in 1957 and practiced with Pryor, Cashman, Sherman & Flynn, focusing on the development of cable television. He was chairman of the New York State Power Authority from 1985 to 1994 and a director of the American Public Power Association from 1990 to 1994, among many achievements in the administration of power for the public good.

His private interests included serving as a trustee of the New York Law School and of the Eugene O'Neill Theatre.

Bruce E. Macomber '52
Bruce came from New Trier High School to focus on geology and eat at Cloister. He ran cross-country and track; belonged to the St. Paul's Society, Chapel Choir, and the Chicago Club; and roomed with Thoburn Maxwell.

For two years in the Navy, Bruce earned a master’s degree in geology at Northwestern, then a Ph.D. in that subject at Rutgers (1962). From 1962-73 he was a geologist for Shell Oil Co. Then he changed course, becoming a teacher at the Howard School in Santa Barbara and then on the staff of the Dunn School in Los Olivos, Calif.

The Book of Our History Bruce reported his marriage to Jeanne Southerd and having four children, Laurel, Donald, Robin, and Daniel. He further recounted the story of Mike Hogan’s piano and its fate at the hands of Joline residents, who tired of it.

Bruce died April 26, 2021, in Lompoc, Calif. To his wife and children, the class offers its good wishes and thanks to Bruce for his naval service.

THE CLASS OF 1953

Peter George Bibbes '53
Pete was born in Princeton and graduated from Princeton High School. He majored in civil engineering and was a member of Dial Lodge.

After graduation Pete spent two years at the Naval Air Rocket Test Station in Dover, N.J., and another year as a public-works officer in French Morocco before resuming his academic career to earn a master’s degree in structural engineering from Columbia and, some years later, a second master’s degree from the University of San Francisco in business administration.

Pete then began a successful career as a structural engineer, working with various firms on both coasts to design industrial structures and bridges. He spent many years as vice president of the Parsons Brinkerhoff engineering firm of San Francisco and also served as president of the San Francisco chapter of the Project Management Institute.

He was a key engineer and project manager for such high-profile projects as the H-3 tunnel in Hawaii, the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, and the Los Angeles Metro.

Pete was deeply involved in the life of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Belmont, Calif., where he served on the Parish Council for more than 40 years and was involved in the design and development of the church buildings.

Pete died Feb. 9, 2022, at his home in San Mateo, Calif. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Frances; four of their five children; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Phillips Howes Payson '53
Phil was born in New York City and attended the Millbrook School before coming to Princeton. He joined Key and Seal, becoming president of the club, and majored in politics, writing his thesis on “A Program for the Political and Economic Stability of South America: A Case Study of the International Hotels Corporation.”

After graduation Phil returned to New York City and began his business career by advising client hotels and promoting tourism for the governments of Bermuda and the territory of Hawaii. In 1972 he moved to Washington, Conn., where he later owned a timber and Christmas-tree farm and became involved in various charitable organizations in the Northwest corner of Connecticut dealing with such issues as affordable housing and computer literacy for seniors.

Phil died Dec. 29, 2021, in Washington, Conn. He is survived by his wife, Sarah Taylor Payson; three children; and five grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1954

Martin Blume '54
Marty died Oct. 6, 2021. He came to us from Abraham Lincoln High School in Brooklyn, N.Y., where he was active in basketball and student government.

A physics major, he was a research assistant on the Princeton cyclotron, titled his senior thesis “Cosmic Rays as a Source of Extra-Galactic Radio Emissions,” and won the Shuichi Kusaka Memorial Prize in Physics — preludes to a distinguished career as a theoretical solid-state physicist. He was a member of Dial Lodge, played 150-pound football and basketball, and pursued interests in classical music, bridge, and mathematics.

In 1959 Marty earned a Ph.D. in theoretical physics at Harvard, a time in which he married Sheila Bierman. Their two children were born during the ensuing three years of post-doctoral research in Japan and England.

He joined the Brookhaven National Laboratory’s physics department in 1961, became chair in 1975, and taught physics at Stony Brook University from 1972 to 1980. He served as deputy director of the laboratory.
from 1984 to 1996. He is credited with fundamental contributions to the theory of phase transitions, understanding the properties of solids, elucidating our understanding of neutron and X-ray scattering cross-sections — and much more. He was known around the lab for a wonderful sense of humor, social grace, and a steadfast commitment to safety.

Marty is survived by his wife, Sheila; son Frederick ’81, and daughter Janet ’82.

**James M. Fox III ’54**

Jim died Oct. 6, 2021. He prepared at Jenkintown High School and excelled in football and track and field. At Princeton he majored in biology and was active in the Pre-Medical Society. He joined Cannon Club, played football, and sang in the Glee Club Octet and as soloist with the Varsity Glee Club.

Jim earned a medical degree at Des Moines Still College of Osteopathy and Surgery in 1959. He married Lynn M. Davis in August 1957, and they had three children.

He practiced first in Portland, Maine, and then in Columbus, Ohio. In 1968 they moved to Seattle, where he started practice as an orthopedic surgeon. After divorcing, Jim married Jacqueline C. Long and moved to California. He then enjoyed a 25-year career as an emergency room physician, including time as chief of staff of the ER in Landstuhl, Germany, as a lieutenant colonel in the Army, and later as head of the Medical Clinic in Yosemite National Park.

In his retirement he and Jacqueline owned an antiques store in Gig Harbor, Wash. They eventually retired in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Jim is survived by his wife of 46 years, Jacqueline; his children, James IV, Lynn F. Krueger, and Nathaniel; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; as well as three stepchildren and three step-grandchildren.

**Montague H. Hackett Jr. ’54**

Monte died Jan. 1, 2022. He prepared for Princeton at St. Paul’s School, where he participated in baseball, hockey, and publications.

Monte concentrated on classics in the Special Program in the Humanities, writing his senior thesis on Virgil’s *Aeneid*. He joined Ivy Club and participated in the Campus Fund Drive and the Board of Senior Advisers. He played freshman hockey and IAA hockey and baseball.

He earned the degree of Doctor of Juridical Science (the highest law degree) at Harvard.

Monte practiced law for about eight years as associate and partner in the law firm of Kirlin, Campbell & Keating and then served as president, director, chair, or other executive of several corporations, principally in the energy field, and as a venture capitalist.

He is survived by his wife, Mayme; daughter Melinda; son Monte III; grandchildren Herron, Hazel, and Minnie; and his brother, Randall.

**Donald H. Hofreuter ’54**

Don, a consummate champion for dignified health care in the Upper Ohio Valley, died Nov. 21, 2021.

Don prepared at Linsky Military Institute, where he was battalion commander, cadet major, and valedictorian of his senior class.

At Princeton he majored in chemistry, joined Cannon Club, and served on the Orange Key visiting teams committee and the Campus Fund Drive. He was manager of track for his first three years. In his senior year he was head waiter in the University Dining Halls.

In 1958 while earning a medical degree at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, Don married his first wife, Virginia Dulany. After residencies and service in the Navy he returned to Wheeling, W.Va., to begin his medical practice. He was one of several physicians who introduced the “Health Right” concept to the area.

Don and Virginia raised two children, Nancy and Elizabeth ’89.

Don joined Wheeling Hospital in 1982 as director of medical affairs and retired in 2006 after serving 13 years as the hospital’s CEO.

He married Jean Beck Friday in 1989. Don enjoyed tennis with Jean, golf, handball, racquetball, and jogging.

He is survived by daughters Nancy, Elizabeth, Carolyn, and Janet; and five grandchildren. He was preceded in death by Jean (she died Nov. 11, 2021), Virginia, his parents, his sister Ruth DeBlasis, and his grandson, Nicolas Hofreuter Landini.

**Mark R. Joseph ’54**

Mark died Dec. 26, 2021. He attended Bayside High School, where he participated in publications, student government, and band.

At Princeton he concentrated in Middle Eastern studies at the Woodrow Wilson School. He joined Dial Lodge, managed crew, and was active in the marching and concert bands and the Pre-Law Society. In 1957 he married Ruth Edelman.

Mark served in the Navy for six years. He served in the Navy Reserve for 22 years, retiring as a captain.

He began his post-Navy career in the energy industry, first in the business of mining and selling coal and eventually founding Maran Coal, an international energy company, conducting business around the world until his retirement in 2012.

A member of the Friars Club, Mark also served as vice president of Rodeph Shalom and as trustee on the temple’s board of directors for many years.

In addition to his devotion to his family, he also deeply loved his Mets, a long and winding joke, and a good cigar.

Mark is survived by his wife of 42 years, Angel; his children, Rebecca, Jennifer, Margaret, Sasha, Max, and Sophie; and grandchildren, Katy, Phoebe, Jacob, Cora, and Ava.

**Claude Archibald Smith ’54**

Claude, known as Dick among family and friends, died Oct. 27, 2021.

He prepared for Princeton at Boston English High School, participated in basketball and debating, and graduated with honors.

At Princeton he majored in religion, writing his senior thesis on “Jonathan Edwards and Puritanism.” He joined Cannon Club, the Westminster Fellowship, the Chapel Choir, and participated in varsity swimming. He graduated with highest honors and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Dick attended Yale Divinity School and graduated from the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge in 1957. He earned a Ph.D. in religious sociology at Harvard University in 1963 with a dissertation on Edwards’ psychology of religion. He then became the rector at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Hopkinton, N.H.

In 1966 Dick left the ministry and held positions with the Container Corporation of America, the financial-planning committee for the City of Chicago, the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, and the Lilly Foundation. He taught religion in society for the University of Chicago in Evanston, Ill., for several summers and became the rector at St. Chrysostom’s, Wollaston, Mass. He was an active member of St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Hanover for 28 years.

He married Elizabeth Beecher Scoville in 1957. He is survived by Elizabeth, their children Elizabeth, Sarah, Jennifer, and David; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

THE CLASS OF 1955

**William S. Ames ’55**

Bill died Jan. 16, 2022, at home in Northfield, Mass., with his family after two years of declining health. During those last years he continued to live his very full life to the fullest. Said his wife, Nancy: “We squeezed every ounce of life that he had. He was driving a tractor on our farm up to three months before he died.”
Bill was born May 5, 1933, in Evanston, Ill. His father, John Ames, was a member of the Class of 1928. Bill attended Deerfield Academy. At Princeton he joined Cottage Club, majored in history, lettered with the national champion lacrosse team, and participated in IAA football, pool, baseball, and bowling.

After graduation Bill graduated first in his class in Air Force flight school and was assigned to a F-100 Super Sabre, but was never called upon to fulfill its mission to deliver nuclear weapons.

His life thereafter featured venture capital, investment banking, farming, and land conservation. Bill also fly-fished, skied, golfed, loved singing choral music, and sky-dived at age 78. He bought a 50-foot boat and sailed it with Nancy to Bermuda, Portugal, and Spain, then up and down the East Coast, and lived on it for a while in Boston Harbor.

Bill is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Nancy; daughters Jennifer, Mary, and Nathalie; sons Jeffrey and Peter; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

C. Humbert Tinsman Jr. '55 Humbert died Dec. 26, 2021, at Kansas City Hospice House after a lifetime of Kansas business and banking activity with his father and his brother, James Tinsman ‘56. His wife, Carol, said that although he had been a victim of Parkinson’s disease for 15 years, he had been active and continued to travel until the last two years. Humbert was born April 13, 1933, in Kansas City, Mo., the son of C. Humbert Tinsman ‘28, and he attended Pembrooke Country Day School in Kansas City. At Princeton he majored in basic engineering and joined Elm Club. Senior year he roomed with Kevin Tait.

He and his brother managed University State Bank in Lawrence, Kan., later named Bank of Kansas. They also formed Horizon National Bank, renamed NBKC Bank. He was devoted to opera and was an avid manuscript collector. Humbert was also active in a museum of art, library, country club, hospital, and several other civic and fraternal groups. He and his wife loved to travel by plane, train, car, and ship, notably to Europe and especially Italy, which prompted him to study Lefty’s happy and irrepressible humor and love. “In his honor, you may contribute to: Soccer Without Borders at https://soccerwithoutborders.kindful.com/playing-for-change/robert-lefty-clark. I know Bob would be proud to be part of their efforts.”

Austin McKenney Francis Jr. ’56 Mac, a man of boundless energy and multiple enthusiasms (for fly-fishing, squash, billiards, and Japanese whiskey and cutlery), died Dec. 15, 2021, of COVID-19. Mac and Ross, his wife of 56 years, lived in New York City and Roscoe, N.Y. Mac came to Princeton from Petersburg (Va.) High School. He was a varsity swimmer and member of Quadrangle Club and the Marching Band. As a student in the Special Program in the Humanities he wrote his senior thesis on nature, religion, and poetry for Professor of English E.D.H. Johnson ’34. Following graduation and Navy OCS, he served three years aboard the USS Hancock.


He was a member of the Brooklyn Fly Fishers and the University Club and a former member of the Princeton Club of New York and the Anglers’ Club of New York. The class extends our deepest sympathies to Ross.

Robert Porter Morgan ’56 ’69 Bob died Nov. 18, 2021, of aphasia and Parkinson’s disease at the Beaumont in Bryn Mawr, Pa. A native of Nashville, Tenn., he came to Princeton from the Episcopal School in Alexandria, Va., where he earned honors in academics, sports, and leadership, plus the nickname “Squints.”

At Princeton Bob joined Ivy Club and the Nassoons, becoming musical director. His roommates were Arch Gillies, Svend “Bo” Hansen, and Peter Sellon.

With a bachelor’s degree in music, Bob went on as a Woodrow Wilson fellow to earn a master’s degree at the University of California, Berkeley. Returning to Princeton for an MFA, he became among the first to earn a Ph.D. in his field of interest, music theory and composition.

Bob enjoyed a distinguished career as a professor and author in that field and following two years of study in Germany, began at the University of Houston. There he met his wife of 56 years, Carole Montgomery, a graduate student and later, an accomplished performing flutist. He became tenured at Temple University, followed by the University of Chicago and finally Yale, whose music department recruited Bob as a full professor.

The New York Times included him in an article on the “Pharaohs” of academia. A Southern gentleman and Renaissance man with many interests, Bob was beloved by many whose lives he enriched. He is survived by his wife, Carole; and his large, devoted Porter family.

THE CLASS OF 1956

Robert M. Clark ’56

The consummate athlete, Bob “Lefty” Clark died Sept. 5, 2021, of esophageal cancer. His years at Princeton were among the most joyful high points of his life — friends made, Cannon Club, and always the sheer physical pleasure of competitive athletics, whether on the squash or tennis court or, most especially, on the soccer field. He brought his love of sports to Princeton from his Ridgewood (N.J.) High School.

His wife, Fanny, thanks all who contributed to his amazing and fulfilling love of life: “Our marriage of 65 years and our two fabulous kids, Bill and Susana, thrived in the context of Lefty’s happy and irrepressible humor and love. “In his honor, you may contribute to: Soccer Without Borders at https://soccerwithoutborders.kindful.com/playing-for-change/robert-lefty-clark. I know Bob would be proud to be part of their efforts.”

THE CLASS OF 1958

Wolfgang J. Helbich ’58

Wolf died Nov. 13, 2021, in Bochum, Germany. He was 86. Wolf was a Fulbright exchange student from Germany and attended Princeton for only two years but graduated magna cum laude. Having a bachelor’s degree became significant in his later life.

He majored in history, concentrating on American history and related courses. By 1962 Wolf had earned a doctorate with a Ph.D. dissertation about German reparations. As one of the few German academics concentrating on the history of the United States, he received a tenured position teaching American civilization at the University of Heidelberg. In 1974, he became a professor at Ruhr University in Bochum.

In 1991, convinced that the American graduated system (B.A., M.A., and Ph.D.) was better than the German model, he and two colleagues conceived a plan for a five-year trial run of a B.A. program in the humanities. Given a state grant, the first students were enrolled in 1992, and now most German universities have adopted his plan.

Wolf is survived by his wife, Ursula Lehmkuhl; four children; and five grandchildren. The class extends its deepest sympathy to them all.

William Spencer Hicks Jr. ’58

Bill died Dec. 16, 2021, in Pittsboro, N.C. He was 85.
He came to Princeton from Woodmere High in Hewlett, N.Y., where he participated in student government, publications, and track. At Princeton Bill “majored” in Triangle Club and Theatre Inline.

He spent the first 20 years after graduation in show business — as an actor for five years, and then moving backstage and rising to become development director for Shakespeare in the Park. In the 1980s he became a major fundraiser for candidates in New York state and city politics.

In 1968 Bill met his lifelong partner and later husband, William “Bill” Sadler, a Wall Streeter, while on a trip to Puerto Rico. They were together 53 years and known by many simply as “The Bills.”

After buying a home in Garrison in 1995, the Bills helped start an endowment to support gymnastics at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point that today totals millions. Bill was also an active board member and president of the Putnam History Museum in Cold Spring. In 2016 the Bills moved to a retirement community in Pittsboro.

Bill is survived by his husband, his brother, and two nieces. The class extends its deepest sympathy to them all.

James E. Kaiser ’58
Jim died Dec. 29, 2021, in Lynnfield, Mass. He was 85.

He came to Princeton from Kentucky Military Institute, where he was active in basketball and water skiing.

At Princeton Jim was stroke on the varsity 150-pound crew that won the Henley Thames Cup in 1956. He majored in architecture and was in ROTC. He roomed with Jim Haugh and was a member of Quadrangle Club. He was a House staffer under President Lyndon Johnson for the next two years. Then he began a 29-year career in the computer software industry.

After graduating, Jim was in the wholesale liquor and wine business as president of Brown-Kaiser Co. of Louisville, Ky. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserves and in 2003 moved with his wife, Joan, to a seaside condominium in Massachusetts.

Jim is survived by Joan, sons James and Charles, two granddaughters, and two great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by brother Bob ’55. The class extends its deepest sympathy to them all.

Joseph Pepe Papa ’58
Joe died Sept. 1, 2021, in San Jose, Calif. He was 86.

He came to Princeton from Plainfield (N.J.) High School, where he participated in student government, swimming, and the Hi-Y.

At Princeton Joe was an electrical engineer and research assistant to Professor Hans Winterkorn. He was a member of Dial Lodge. Then known as “Pep,” he was full time in the ROTC.

After graduation he had a regular commission, so he could choose his assignment. He chose Europe and was sent to Bavaria, Germany, with his new wife, Nancy. He was in a front-line unit in the Cold War during the ensuing three years, but they were able to travel in Europe.

When he was discharged, they settled in California. Joe earned a master’s degree at the University of California, Berkeley, and they built a house in Los Gatos. He worked for five years for Lockheed Missiles & Space Co. on missile-guidance systems and then moved on to a new consulting firm, spending the rest of his career in the computer software industry.

Joe is survived by Nancy, their daughter Elan, and son Nicholas. The class extends its deepest sympathy to them all.

Charles Richard Pogue ’58
Dick died Oct. 23, 2021, in Susan, Va. He was 85.

He came to Princeton from Burris High School in Muncie, Ind., where he was active in student government, dramatics, and the newspaper.

At Princeton he was a Navy ROTC regular, president of Dial Lodge, and majored in the Woodrow Wilson School. He lived in the club with the other officers.

After serving three years in the Navy, Dick became a member of the diplomatic corps for eight years in Spain and Chile and was a White House staffer under President Lyndon Johnson for the next two years. Then he began a 29-year career in the mutual fund/money market fund industry as an officer at the Investment Company Institute in Washington, D.C.

Dick spent countless hours with nonprofit organizations in Washington and, after retiring, in Susan. In our 50th-reunion yearbook, he wrote a long and interesting set of verses about his views of life.

Dick is survived by his wife, Adelle; sons John and Chris; his daughter, Stephanie Baur; and seven grandchildren. The class extends its deepest sympathy to them all.

THE CLASS OF 1960
Charles E. Aubrey ’60
St. Martin’s Episcopal School, near his home in New Orleans, sent us Charlie with credentials in student government and debating. At Princeton he undertook the Special Program in Humanities with emphasis on medieval intellectual studies. He dined at Ivy, managed in Commons, and became a keen rugby player, capping it off by graduating magna cum laude.

Charlie devoted his early postgrad years to work in the shipping business to fund his love of fly fishing in the Pacific Northwest and Rockies in company with classmate and lifelong friend Don Morrow.

Moving to Dallas in 1964 and getting down to business, Charlie discovered his entrepreneurial instincts. Within a few years’ time he purchased a small, diversified products manufacturer, renamed it APC Industries, moved it to Austin, and developed numerous specialized electrical products. In 1982 he sold the enterprise to 3M Company.

He then devoted himself to major Austin civic causes and to raising a young family with Christine, whom he married in 1970. Their two daughters gave them three grandchildren. Always keen travelers, in later years Charlie and Christine rented cottages in rural England and France every year and toured local sights widely on country roads, fender benders notwithstanding.

Charlie died Dec. 29, 2021, with complications of dementia. The class’s sympathy goes to Christine and all the family.

Michael F.R. Newbold ’60
Mike came to Princeton from Phillips Exeter, where he was a swimmer, active in club sports, and a lacrosse referee.

At Princeton he continued with freshman swimming, joined Quadrangle, and majored in basic engineering. He was also active with the Campus Fund Drive in his upper-class years.

After graduation Mike opted for three years as a noncommissioned officer in the Army and was discharged as a sergeant before undertaking law studies at Michigan.

Armed with a law degree, Mike returned to New York as an associate with White & Case. He moved on to a position in international law with Singer Corp., where he spent the balance of his career. It was rich with travel and legal challenges, taking him to Turkey, Brazil, Nigeria, and India over time.

Retiring in 2009, Mike and his wife, Lilla, moved to Ithaca, N.Y., where he became a dedicated participant in Foodnet, delivering meals to the homebound with a premeditated joke for every recipient and treats for every pet dog and cat — and even one for an excitable but friendly pet skunk.

Mike was long afflicted with interstitial lung disease. He died June 10, 2021. He is survived by Lilla; children Sam ’02 and Sarah; and two grandchildren. The class sends our sympathy in their loss.

THE CLASS OF 1961
Michael Jay Grossman ’61
Mike died June 7, 2021, in Tarzana, Calif., where he had lived for many years.

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He came to us from Tuckahoe High School in Bronxville, N.Y., and lived in Brown Hall during freshman year, after which he elected to leave Princeton. He finished his education at Brandeis College (now University) and, so far as we know, spent the rest of his life in California. Mike was never in touch with the class, so we know very little about his life and career.

He is survived by his wife, Paula J. Schoen.

Kenneth Charles Scasserra ’61
Kenny died Dec. 3, 2021, in his sleep of complications from post-polio syndrome at his adopted home of Pompano Beach, Fla.

Born in Princeton, he went to Princeton Country Day School and then Canterbury School. At Princeton he majored in psychology, acted at Charter, and managed the varsity hockey team. He roomed with Dave Black, Bill Rush, Dick Eckfeldt, Jay McCabe, Bill O’Connor, and Olin West.

His affiliation with Princeton hockey lasted more than 50 years, during which he helped found the Friends of Princeton Hockey and the Princeton Hockey Association. In 2010 the “Friends Room” at Baker Rink was dedicated in his name. The personification of “still waters run deep,” Kenny was a quiet but dedicated member of the Alumni Association Award for Service to Princeton and the class resulted in his receiving several patents. He also worked for the joint-venture DuPont/Toray Co. and spent several years living and working in Japan.

John L. Cooper ’63
John died peacefully Jan. 21, 2019, in his home at Lincoln University near Oxford, Pa. He came to Princeton from Liberty High School in Bethlehem, Pa., and left before finishing his degree. John graduated from Case Western Reserve in 1964 and received a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Yale University in 1970.

After graduation John was hired as a chemist for the DuPont Co. in Wilmington, Del., and worked there until his retirement in 2001. He worked on many novel materials while at DuPont, including Kevlar and Tyvek, and holds several patents. He also worked for the jointventure DuPont/Toray Co. and spent several years living and working in Japan.

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John is survived by his wife of 29 years, Hiroko Takahashi Cooper; daughters Sarah Foley and Charity Pitcher-Cooper; son David; their mother, Susan Pitcher; and three grandchildren. The class sends condolences to the family.

William Neil Copeland ’63
Bill died Dec 12, 2021, of brain cancer in Olympia, Wash., with his family by his side.

Bill came to Princeton from Piedmont (Calif.) High School, where he lettered in football and baseball. At Princeton he majored in political science and wrote his thesis on “Internal Politics of the AMA: The Medicare Problem.” He was a member of Quadrangle Club and roomed junior and senior years in the club suite, the Taj Mahal. His senior-year roommates were Roxel Stewart, Steve Cox, Rhode, herald, Pullman, Crawford, Savage, and Osborne. He participated in lightweight football and club sports, worked in Commons, and managed the Student Sweater Agency junior and senior years.

After graduation, Bill earned a master’s degree in botany from the University of Oregon and a master’s degree in physical therapy from the University of Pennsylvania. He worked with the Nature Conservancy in research and land conservation in Oregon, then retired after more than 30 years as a physical therapist. He worked on global-warming initiatives and loved opera and classical music, possessing an excellent tenor voice himself.

Bill is survived by his wife of nearly 39 years, Joan; his son, Tobin Copeland-Turner; daughter Tashaia Copeland; two stepsons; and grandchildren Randy, Keven, and Logan Dunn. The class joins in sending condolences to the family.

THE CLASS OF 1964
Howard Lee Feldman ’64
Howard died Feb. 10, 2020, of a heart attack in Middletown, N.Y.

He came to Princeton from Plainfield (N.J.) High School, where he was valedictorian. At Princeton he majored in biology, was a member of Terrace, debated in Whig-Clio, and ranked near the top of the class. A highlight was his summer of 1962 in Paris, under Princeton’s summer work-abroad program.

In 1968 Howard earned a medical degree from Cornell Medical College, alongside classmates Bob Bedford and Jerry Graff. Initially training for surgery, he switched to ophthalmology, finishing his residency at Tufts. He established a private practice in Boston, with academic appointments at Tufts and Harvard. In 1999 he relocated to New York City, acquiring academic affiliations with Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital and Mount Sinai. He also included more laser and cosmetic surgery in his practice.

In addition to his wife, actress Sharlene Hartman, Howard had many loves: dancing, the theater, hearing people’s life stories, public speaking, seeking out antiques from thrift shops and country auctions, plus an ongoing quest to find the best blueberries, grapes, and flan.

The class extends its condolences to Sharlene; his children Lauren and Jeffrey from his first marriage; and his vast set of family and friends.

Hugh McPheeters ’64
Hugh died Jan. 16, 2022, in St. Louis, where he lived his entire life, with Muffy, his wife of 58 years, and their son, Jamie, at his side.

At Princeton, where he majored in history and wrote his thesis on Herbert Hoover, Hugh was a member or Tower Club and a resident of the famous Witherspoon Heights. Among his roommates were fellow St. Louisans Tom Singer, Harry Weber, and Denny Wedemeyer. Hugh will be missed by all who knew him. He was a unique and unforgettable character.

Following graduation from Princeton and law school at Washington University, Hugh practiced law in St. Louis with the firm of Bryan, Cave, McPheeters & Roberts. After retiring, he enjoyed the beautiful countryside on his farm in Cuba, Mo., and dedicated himself to many eclectic projects, such as restoring the historic Goldenrod Showboat and bringing it back to life on the St. Louis riverfront.

Hugh was passionately interested in history and its relationship to his faith. He had an abiding love for music of all kinds, particularly early forms of jazz.

Hugh and Muffy had a marriage touched with tragedy, sadly enduring the deaths of three children: Hughie, Filley, and Thornton. Jamie, their sole surviving child, lives close to his mother in St. Louis.
**Lester M. Salamon ’64**
Lester died Aug. 20, 2021, of pancreatic cancer. He was a professor and director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies (CCSS). Lester came to Princeton from Taylor Allderdice High School in Pittsburgh. At Princeton he was a member of Campus and majored in the Woodrow Wilson School, writing his thesis on Soviet agricultural policy from 1956 to 1963. He was co-recipient of the Class of 1942 Award in public affairs.

Lester earned a Ph.D. in government from Harvard in 1972; then taking a position with the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C., and later being appointed deputy associate director of OMB by President Jimmy Carter. Trained as an economist, he became a world-renowned researcher of nonprofit organizations, identifying them as a massive and influential, but understudied, “third sector.” He devoted 40 years to defining, measuring, and nurturing their roles, including authoring more than 20 books.

In addition to creating CCSS, he also served as senior research professor at the School of Advanced International Studies in Bologna, Italy, and as the founding scientific director of the International Laboratory for Non-Profit Studies at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow. Lester also enjoyed playing tennis and sailing on Chesapeake Bay with friends and family, including his six grandchildren. The class offers its condolences to his wife, Lynda Brown Salamon, whom he married in 1965; their two sons, Noah and Matthew; and their families.

**Charles F. Schomann III ’64**
Chuck died Dec. 3, 2021, in Parkton, Md.

Born in Tennessee, he soon after moved with his family to Maryland. Chuck attended Towson High School, where he was captain of the golf team and president of the Honor Society. After receiving a Navy scholarship, Chuck studied chemical engineering at Princeton and wrote a thesis titled “Liquid-Liquid Nucleation.” He roomed in Patton and then 1879 Hall with Charlie Eisen, Dennis Horn, and Dave Watt. He joined Clüster Inn and was a member of the Navy ROTC. Chuck was a loyal and dear friend to his roommates and to other members of his class. He was both a gentleman and a gentle man.

After graduation Chuck was in the Navy for six years, part of which he served in Adak, Alaska. Following his Navy service, he earned an MBA at Loyola College and settled in a suburb of Baltimore, where he became a group insurance agent trusted by his many clients and friends, and where he continued to work on his golf game.

**Josiah O. Wolcott III ’66**
Joe died Dec. 18, 2021, after a long illness. A native of Dover, Del., and son of Josiah Oliver Wolcott Jr. ’34, Joe came to Princeton from the Westminster School in Simsbury, Conn., where he edited the literary magazine, played football, and was president of the Marlboro Men.

At Princeton Joe majored in English and wrote a novel in lieu of a research thesis. He belonged to Colonial Club. He roomed with Steve Craig and Steve Harwood. From 1966 to 1969 Joe served as a lieutenant in the Navy, making 216 carrier landings during the Vietnam War. He then earned an MBA in finance from Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business.

Joe and his late wife, Linda, moved to Colorado about 10 years ago. Joe took full advantage of the outdoors, skiing, biking, and hiking until the very end of his life. Linda died in 2018.

His final illness prevented Ted and Barbara Kiernan from proceeding with the wedding they had planned for late November 2021. Ted’s sensitivity and generosity of spirit were constantly in evidence. It was his idea to send Tiger pins to classmates who served in the Vietnam War. More recently, he initiated the practice of sending wind chimes to classmates when they lost a spouse.

The class extends its heartfelt condolences to Barbara; Ted’s sons Matt and Ryan; grandchildren Hayden, Jake, Hunter, and Riley; and brothers Tom ’72 and Steve.

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**The Class of 1966**

The Class of 1966


A native of Columbus, Ohio, Ted attended Columbus Academy, where he competed on the swimming and football teams. At Princeton he majored in politics and joined Charter Club. He roomed with Steve Craig and Steve Harwood.

From 1966 to 1969 Ted served as a lieutenant in the Navy, making 216 carrier landings during the Vietnam War. He then earned an MBA in finance from Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business.

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**The Class of 1971**

Cornelius Lavern Griffith ’71 ’76

We lost a valued classmate when Neil died June 14, 2021, in Evansville, Ind., after a short illness. He was “Lavern” to his family, “Griff” at Andover, and “Neil” at Princeton and NASA.

He grew up in Evansville (except when his father’s death necessitated a temporary move to Kentucky). An outstanding science student at Evansville Central High School and newspaper delivery man, he earned a scholarship to Phillips Academy with assistance from a local, newspaper-connected Andover alumnus. At Andover he participated in the Asia Club, basketball, and track, and was remembered as quiet, bright, and witty.

With a lifelong dream of working in the national space program, Neil majored in mechanical and aerospace engineering. He graduated with honors (the only Black engineer in ’71) and belonged to Stevenson. Neil had close ties to the local Black community, encouraging local minority students to study rocketry and science during his undergraduate and grad years at Princeton.

He then launched his career at NASA, where he was a proud member of the space shuttle design team, working in Houston and Florida. After his NASA career, Neil retired to Evansville, in part to help care for Mrs. Hall, his beloved science teacher.

The class extends its condolences to his sisters, Kathy and Beth Ann; many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and his friends.

**John H. Huffstutler ’71**

After several years of declining health, John died Sept. 24, 2021, in Charlotte, N.C.

He grew up in Newark, Ohio, and became a state diving champion under the tutelage of his father. He entered Princeton from Newark High School and excelled as a co-captain and standout diver on our swimming and diving team. John qualified for the NCAA’s every year, placing as high as second, achieving All-America status, and almost making the Olympic team. He was a cheerleader, Student Stationery Agency head, and Cap and Gown member. John majored in politics and roomed with Faber, Goff, and Jeff Stewart in Joline senior year. Classmates remember his intense competitive spirit beneath a calm exterior.

After graduation he went to work for Bank of America in northern California and earned a law degree at Lincoln University. He met and married his lifelong partner, Susan,
in 1979. Daughter Kelly was born in 1986. John spent his entire professional career in the legal department at Bank of America, where he became a nationally recognized bank regulatory lawyer. He worked in Hong Kong and San Francisco before relocating to Charlotte in 1999. His interest in diving continued throughout his life.

To Susan, Kelly, and the rest of his family and friends, the class extends its deepest condolences.

THE CLASS OF 1973

David A. Dill '73


He grew up in Bedford, Mass., excelling in all things academic at Bedford High School. He was very proud of having held the French horn first chair in the Greater Bostom Youth Symphony Orchestra. Although his entire family chose to attend Brown, David ventured south to Princeton, graduating summa cum laude in economics.

An invertebrate competitor, David was a member of Princeton’s champion Ivy League duplicate bridge team, an aggressive backgammon player at Colonial Club, and an enthusiastic Frisbee, table tennis, and table hockey player with the likes of Chris Wilson, Steve Nightingale, and Mark Wilcox. He roomed in Campbell and Little halls with high school classmate Rad Moeller and Gary Smedile. David was fond of treating passers-by with open-window French horn solos.

After graduation David returned to Boston to earn an MBA at MIT. He joined IBM, where he rapidly rose to the top enjoying a decades long career. Later, he orchestrated several startups and IPOs. David was active to the end, publishing, in April 2021, *For an Easier Life, Do It the Hard Way*.

Married for 45 years to his beloved wife, Cheryl Eastman Dill, David leaves behind their daughter, Stephanie Dill and Andrea Terril; his two granddaughters; and his seven siblings. The Class of ’73 offers profound condolences to David’s friends and family.

Robin C. Herman ’73

Our dear classmate and trailblazing reporter Robin died Feb. 1, 2022, succumbing to ovarian cancer.

Enrolling at Princeton in 1969 at the dawn of coeducation, Robin set the stage for her career. Robin was a devoted member (and social chair) of Tower and a co-creator of the Class of ’73 “Co-Education Begins” P-rade banner.

Robin’s long-term goal — to earn a byline in *The New York Times* — was met within weeks of graduation. Her feature on animal surgery made Page 1 (the patient was a racehorse, named Sham, Secretariat’s understudy). As a hockey reporter for the *Times* in 1975, Robin made history as one of the first two female journalists ever to enter a professional sports locker room. “Girl in the Locker Room” became a jeopardy! answer and the name of her blog.

After leaving The Times, Robin and her husband, Paul Horvitz, moved to Paris in 1987. She wrote about health for *The Washington Post* and started a family. Daughter Eva and son Zach survive her.

In 1999 they returned to the United States and Robin created the position of assistant dean for communications at the Harvard School of Public Health, where she also taught health communications.

Retiring in 2012, she became a visual artist. Robin and Paul traveled widely in pursuit of that muse. They celebrated 40 years of marriage in August 2021 and her 70th birthday in November 2021. The Class of 1973 offers its condolences to Robin’s family and friends.

Peter H. Vandeveanter ’73

Peter, a longtime journalist, newsmroom innovator, and global citizen, died after a lengthy illness Dec. 25, 2021, in Washington, D.C.

Peter graduated from Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Va., and roomed at Princeton with EHS classmate Bill Lane. He majored in art and architecture and wrote his senior thesis on American classic cars. During freshman year Peter joined the fencing team, where he immediately excelled and later earned an invitation to the Pan American Games. Peter loved journalism. He joined *The Daily Princetonian* sophomore year and became editorial editor. After graduation he was a newspaper reporter in Virginia and Georgia, and later in Washington, D.C., where he served as managing editor for several news services.

As vice president for new ventures at *The Charlotte Observer*, Peter launched more than a dozen niche specialty magazines. A visionary and early adopter of interactive data and internet technologies, he ultimately focused on individualized news tailored to each reader.

In retirement Peter and his wife, Jan Jones Vandeveanter, wrote *Home Exchange: Getting to Know People Around the World*. This book provides practical tips based on their extensive international travel and vision of the global village.

THE CLASS OF 1975

Hendrik Michel Ecker ’75

Rick died July 30, 2021, of cancer at age 69.

Reared in Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, he entered Princeton with the Class of 1974 after attending Milton Academy, where he played football and baseball. He majored in religion and then went on to medical school at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He returned to Philadelphia, for his medical residency at the University of Pennsylvania, where he met his wife, Kathleen.

After their 1986 marriage, Rick and Kathleen traveled across Asia for two years, doing humanitarian work in Thailand and Burma. When they returned home, they started their own private practice, Lower Cape Cardiology, in Chatham and Orleans, Mass. They had three children: Paul, Mariel, and John Henry.

Rick continued his career as an emergency physician for 32 years at Cape Cod Hospital and was noted for his compassionate care. He shared his love of athletics and world travel with his children, and he participated in several humanitarian medical missions to Honduras and the Dominican Republic with his son John Henry.

While traveling in Switzerland, his obituary said Rick “was a kind and gentle soul, and his memory will live on with all the people whose lives he touched.” In addition to his children, Rick’s survivors include his brother, Christian; and sister-in-law, Ann.

THE CLASS OF 1976

Bruce S. Morra ’76

Bruce died Jan. 1, 2022, in his sleep at home in Park City, Utah. Seventeen years ago he survived aorta surgery, and he was midway through a series of repair surgeries.

Bruce came to Princeton from Ramapo High School in Spring Valley, N.Y. At Princeton he majored in chemical engineering and was elected to Tau Beta Pi. He roomed with Pat Swan, Tom Hewson, Luke Roth, Bill Wilson, and Matt Flournoy. Bruce joined Dial Lodge, where he was known for his dance moves and was a valued member of interclub sports teams, particularly blow pong and bowling. Senior year, he met his future wife, Cathy Tiedemann ’77.

In 2019 Peter was diagnosed with progressive supranuclear palsy, a rare brain disease. Throughout his affliction, he courageously maintained his unique voice, his joy in his family, his empathy for others, and his faith. The Class of 1973 sends its condolences to Jan, son Willis, daughter Ruth, the rest of family, and his many friends.
After graduation he earned a Ph.D. in polymer science and engineering and an MBA from UMass, Amherst. Bruce and Cathy married in 1980 and moved to Germany, where Bruce pursued postdoctoral studies at University of Freiburg. Upon return to the States, they raised their three children in Basking Ridge, N.J., where Bruce coached many of their sports teams. He had a successful career in the chemical and medical-device industries, working first for large companies and then as an executive for startups. They retired to Park City, where he enjoyed skiing, mountain biking, hiking up Bald Mountain, and playing golf, often with his friend Bruce Petersen ’79.

The class sends deepest sympathy to his wife, Cathy; children Jonathan, Sarah Qualters, and David; five grandchildren; and extended family.

Verne O. Sedlacek ’76
Verne died Dec. 21, 2021, of a heart attack while vacationing in the Caribbean.

A native of Montana, he graduated from Havre High School. At Princeton he majored in economics, played football and rugby, and roomed with Mark Softy, Bob Mast, Chris Dietemann ’75, and many others in Blair Tower. Hospitalized with a football injury, Verne met his future wife, Maura Mitchell, who was working as a nurse in the same hospital. Married in the Princeton Chapel in October 1981, Verne called it the happiest day of his life.

Verne began his career with Arthur Andersen & Co. while studying accounting at New York University’s Graduate School of Business. In 1983 he was hired by Harvard Management Co. and moved with Maura to Boston, where their two sons, Ryan and Connor, were born. He rose to become the chief financial officer and executive vice president. In 1998 Verne was hired by John W. Henry & Co., and in 2003 he became president and chief executive officer of Commonfund. He retired in 2013 but remained active on several boards of directors for financial, investment, and educational organizations.

Verne was a devoted husband and father as well as a loving and generous man. He enjoyed annual family beach vacations, date nights with Maura, and watching movies and Boston sports with his sons. Verne loved reading: He was rarely seen without a book in hand.

The class extends condolences to his wife, Maura; sons Ryan and Connor; and brother Stuart.

THE CLASS OF 1981
Jonathan C. Smith ’81
Brilliant, compassionate Jonathan died June 19, 2021, of complications following a stroke. He was 61.

Born in Montgomery, Ala., Jonathan was raised in Harvey, Ill. After telling his mother that he had applied to multiple schools, he got into the only university he applied to: Princeton. A philosophy major, he proudly participated in the 1978 Nassau Hall 24-hour sit-in calling for divestment from companies operating in apartheid South Africa.

Jonathan earned a writing MFA and Ph.D. in English and American literature from Washington University in St. Louis. He then joined the faculty at Saint Louis University, where he served for 19 years as an assistant professor and eventually the vice president for diversity and community engagement.

He was also a published poet and talented musician who served his churches as minister of music for 31 years.

Jonathan was predeceased by his father, J.C. Smith. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Rochelle; their daughters, Lauren (Brooke), Rachel (Shannon), and Mariah; his grandson, August Jonathan; four siblings, including Jacques ’93; his mother, Willie Mae, and many relatives and colleagues. They will miss his open heart, encyclopedic knowledge, and crushing hugs forever.

THE CLASS OF 1990
Gregory C. Marshall ’90
Gregory died Oct. 13, 2023, in Washington, D.C., after a hard-fought battle against metastatic prostate cancer. He was 54.

He came to us from St. Albans School. At Princeton he majored in architecture.

Gregory applied his intellect and skill to the fields of computer-aided design and information technology, most recently as the assistant tunnel manager for the D.C. Department of Transportation. Gregory also was creatively talented, expressing himself through drawing, painting, and building. He was a comic book and sci-fi film enthusiast and an avid action-figure collector. He could fix just about anything, approaching each project with patience and meticulousness.

Gregory is survived by his children, Caleb and Esther Dyson-Marshall; his partner, Mary Johnson, and her son, Amar Johnson; his mother, Rita Hall Marshall; his father and stepmother, Everett and Beverly Marshall; his brother, Everett “Chip” Marshall III, and family; and his sister, Keren Dolan, and family.

THE CLASS OF 1992
Carol Warren Welsh ’92
Carol died Dec. 29, 2021, of adult ependymoma, a rare brain and spine tumor.

She grew up in McLean, Va., and attended the Madeira School, where she met lifelong friend Eleanor Harrison Bregman ’92. At Princeton she majored in anthropology with a concentration in Latin American studies and was a member of Tower Club.

She roomed with Jen Roos ’92 for three years. She was a member of the golf team and a varsity swimmer. A highlight of her time at Princeton was successfully fighting to upgrade the women’s golf team from club to varsity status.

Carol was a Project ’95 intern in Chicago before working in the telecom industry. She earned an MBA from the College of William and Mary in 2000 two weeks after being diagnosed with ependymoma. Carol was well known in the brain tumor community for her website (adultependymomabraintumor.com) and for raising nearly $200,000 for the Brain Tumor Society through the annual Race for Hope.

Carol will be remembered by her family and friends for her grace, courage, humor, and loyalty. Those wishing to honor her are asked to consider donating to or joining her 2022 team at Friends of Carol Welsh — Super Survivor at http://www.braintumorcommunity.org/goto/ SuperSister).

THE CLASS OF 1995
Waheed Hussain ’95

He grew up in a suburb of Montreal, Quebec, and attended John Abbott College. At Princeton Waheed lived in Butler College and majored in philosophy. His friends remember him for his sharp intellect, his wit, and his loyalty to family and friends. He was open to thoughtful debate on any topic from fashion to philosophy, and he could shoot a mean game of pool. His thesis adviser recalled him as “very enthusiastic and argumentative, but in a thoroughly charming way.”

He later earned a Ph.D. at Harvard, before teaching at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He also served as a visiting fellow at the University Center for Human Values at Princeton before returning to Canada to teach at the University of Toronto. His research focused on political philosophy as well as business ethics, with particular attention to the ways in which market society interacts with liberal democracy.

Waheed is survived by his wife, Tina Ghosh ’95; their children, Afshan and Zinedine; and many other family members.

GRADUATE ALUMNI
Louis A. Simpson ’60
Lou died Jan. 8, 2022, in Chicago, after a prolonged illness.

Born in Chicago Dec. 23, 1936, Lou attended
Northwestern before transferring to Ohio Wesleyan, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in economics and accounting in 1958. Lou earned a master’s degree in economics from Princeton in 1960 and taught at the University for the next two years.


Known as an extraordinary investor, Lou was the only person other than Buffett to control investments made by Berkshire Hathaway. After retiring from Geico in 2010, he formed a money-management firm, SQ Advisors.

Dedicated and generous to Princeton, Lou served on the Graduate School’s Leadership Council, volunteered for Annual Giving, and funded Princeton’s International Building and the Center for the Study of Macroeconomics. He also donated to Northwestern and was a trustee there.

Lou is survived by his second wife, Kimberly Querrey; sons Irving, Kenneth, and Edward ‘90; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Jonathan M. Brown ‘64


Jonathan was recruited by New York University to be director (1973-78) of the Institute of Fine Arts, NYU’s graduate center for the study of art history and fine-arts conservation. He remained at the institute as the Carroll and Milton Petrie Professor of Fine Arts until retiring in 2017.

He was a pioneering art historian who brought the study of Spanish and Viceregal Mexican art to wide public and academic attention, and many of his advanced students have had prestigious careers as academics, museum curators and directors.

Jonathan’s books and exhibition catalogues on the greatest figures of Spain’s “Golden Age,” such as El Greco, Diego Velázquez, Francisco de Zurbarán, Jusepe de Ribera, and Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, earned him praise at home and abroad. His survey Painting in Spain 1500-1700 remains the standard volume on the subject.

Jonathan is survived by his wife, Sandra; children Claire ’94 ’94, Michael ’98, and Daniel; and four grandchildren.

Albert C. Dierckes Jr. ‘65
Albert died Nov. 11, 2021, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was born June 15, 1938, in Covington, Ky. Albert earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from MIT in 1960. As a National Science Foundation fellow, he obtained a Ph.D. in the same field at Princeton.

Albert’s original intent was to become a professor and teach, but other matters swayed his decision. Instead, he spent his professional life at Procter & Gamble, retiring as a director in research and development after 37 years of service. Most of his career was in paper products and baby care, working on such brands as Charmin, Bounty, and Pampers. Early in his career he was in the soap and detergent division and had an assignment in Kansas City.

In his youth Albert learned to play the bassoon, which led to a lifelong love of classical music. Travel was a major activity for Albert. He visited 83 countries and visited all continents but one, and visited all U.S. states but one.

Predeceased by his first wife, Anne, Albert is survived by his wife, Nancy; five children, Albert C. III, Kathryn, Stephen, Anne, and Mark; 11 grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Robert S. Strichartz ‘66

He was born Oct. 14, 1943, in New York. After graduating from Dartmouth, Bob earned a Ph.D. in mathematics from Princeton in 1966 under the supervision of Elias Stein.

Bob’s first academic position was at MIT. He then joined Cornell’s Department of Mathematics, where he taught for more than 50 years. His work was on harmonic analysis, partial differential equations, and analysis on fractals. Strichartz estimates are named after him. Bob was elected to the American Mathematical Society for “contributions to analysis and partial differential equations, for exposition, and for service to the mathematical community.” He developed a program to bring math enrichment to elementary students, and his conference on fractals continues to be a tradition at Cornell.

Bob played piano and composed music. He was a piano accompanist for his wife Naomi’s ballet classes and composed two full-length ballets. He composed complex original pieces for the Cornell math department music concerts. Bob also wrote poetry and a book of fiction for young readers.

Bob is survived by his wife, Naomi; children Jeremy and Miranda; grandchildren Ivy and Voery; step-grandchild Verity; and sisters Deborah and Abby.

William D. Irvine ‘72

Bill had a lengthy career at York University from 1971 until his retirement in 2011. He taught at the graduate and undergraduate levels with a focus on modern French history. He also taught Italian history and directed a modern world history course.

Bill’s research focused on French conservatism and the French Right. A historian of politics in the Third Republic, his publications include French Conservatism in Crisis: The Republican Federation of France in the 1910s; The Boulanger Affair Reconsidered: Royalism, Boulangism, and the Origins of the Radical Right in France, and Between Justice and Politics: The Ligue des Droits de l’Homme, 1898-1945. His articles and book chapters covered such topics as women’s suffrage, the Croix de Feu, and domestic politics and France’s “strange defeat” in 1940.

He co-founded a French history seminar series co-hosted by the University of Toronto and York University. A fitness enthusiast, world traveler, and accomplished chef, Bill is survived by his wife, Marion; sons Carl and Benjamin; and two grandchildren.

Traci Schlesinger ‘06

She was born April 14, 1976, in Dumont, N.J., where few of her friends or family had attended college. She earned an associate’s degree in women’s studies from Bergen Community College in 1997; a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Fordham in 1999, graduating summa cum laude; and a Ph.D. in sociology from Princeton in 2006.

Traci joined DePaul’s Department of Sociology in 2004, earned tenure in 2012, and served as director of graduate studies. She received an Excellence in Teaching Award in 2011. Traci spent a year as a visiting scholar at the Consortium for Women and Research at the University of California at Davis.

Her research focused on an analysis and critique of the criminal-justice system, in particular its production and maintenance of racial stratification in the post-civil rights United States. Traci was a scholar and an activist in equal measure and devoted her life to social-justice work. Considered a transformative teacher for students at both the undergraduate and graduate level, she worked as a volunteer with the Chicago Books to Women in Prison cooperative and the Transformative Justice Law Project.

Traci is survived by her wife, Kathleen Fredericksen.

Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.

Undergraduate memorials appear for Robert Morgan ’56 ’69 and Cornelius Griffith ’71 ’76.
Classifieds

**For Rent**

**Europe**

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

Provence: Delightful stone farmhouse facing Roman theater, 5 bedrooms, pool, market town. Frenchfarmhouse.com

Ile St-Louis: Elegant, spacious, top floor, skylighted apartment, gorgeous views overlooking the Seine, 2 berooms sleep 4, 2 baths, elevator, well-appointed, full kitchen, WiFi, 678-322-8444. triff@mindspring.com

Paris, Marais: 2 BR 2B spacious, quiet apartment facing inner courtyard. Walk to Louvre, Notre Dame, Picasso Museum. Vibrant neighborhood on pedestrian street, full kitchen, w/d, AC. gdaly1@gmail.com, k’38.

Ireland/Connemara, Co. Galway: luxurious thatched large cottage, 3 queen beds, amazing sea views, spacious, beautifully decorated, all modern conveniences. afarrellbrownem@comgmail.com 215 728 4039

Ireland/Tipperary: on the shores of Lough Derg. 150 year old Walled Garden Cottage, 2 queen beds, 2 bathrooms, charming interior, all modern conveniences, stunning garden. Located on private estate. afarrellbrownem@comgmail.com 215 728 4039


Mexico

San Miguel De Allende:
Colonial 3 bedroom home in historic downtown with classic courtyard, indoor/outdoor fireplaces, rooftop terrace with breathtaking views. malvinaproductions@gmail.com 202-257-8390. K’62

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Stone Harbor, NJ: Beachfront, 4BR, upscale. 570-430-3659, Stonesharborbeachhouses.com, radam150@aol.com

United States, Southeast

Sarasota/Bradenton, Florida: Condo at Lakewood National, 2bed/2bath, membership amenities, golf, tennis, swimming, beaches, sunshine. Contact information: vrbo.com/2390356, cmb3087@gmail.com ’15

United States, West

California Beach Vacation: Fully furnished 2-3B, 2-BTH townhome in picturesque Dana Point (Midway LA and San Diego). Enjoy beautiful sunsets/ocean views; prvt ocean bluff park; fully equipped kitchen; and all amenities. For details visit: www.danapointvacationhouse.com or email: danapointvacationhouse@gmail.com

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. 937-815-4137 or jmkolodzik@gmail.com, p’12 p’21

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A Champion of Geology and Princeton’s Colors
By Robert McCracken Peck ’74

Immortalized by the Libbey Glacier in Alaska and in a trench called the Libbey Deep off the New England coast, William Libbey Jr. was a widely respected geographer, oceanographer, and 1912 Olympic silver medalist in riflery. But he is also remembered by Princetonians as the first person credited with summitting Mount Princeton in Colorado (in 1877), and for popularizing Princeton’s color scheme of orange and black.

As a freshman, Libbey began to wear an orange and black necktie to honor William III of England, Prince of Orange-Nassau, after whom both Nassau Street and Nassau Hall had been named. He was not the first student to use the colors: In 1867, George Ward 1869 gave his baseball teammates orange and black badges. It turned out that both students got the colors wrong: The true colors of the House of Nassau were orange and blue.

No matter. In his sophomore year, with financial support from his father, Libbey arranged for the manufacture of 1,000 yards of orange and black ribbon for use as the freshman crew’s hatbands at an intercollegiate rowing regatta in Saratoga, New York. After the Princeton crew won, he sold out his remaining supply of ribbons in short order by promoting them as “Princeton colors.” In 1896, when trustees changed the college name to Princeton University, they also adopted orange and black as the school’s official colors — despite the objection of Professor Allan Marquand 1874, who felt that orange and blue would have been preferable.

Two years after graduating from Princeton — then named the College of New Jersey — Libbey received his Ph.D. in geology from his alma mater, becoming the first in the United States to earn a doctorate in that field. After further study in Berlin and Paris, he was invited back to Princeton to assist his mentor, Arnold Guyot, in teaching physical geography, meteorology, and terrestrial magnetism and to become the first director of the school’s Elizabeth M. Marsh Museum of Geology and Archaeology, which had been paid for by his father — a college trustee — and named after his mother.

In 1884, Libbey was named to the first American professorship solely devoted to geography, a position he held for 40 years. Libbey complemented his Princeton teaching with research in the field. In 1893 he traveled to Hawaii on an expedition sponsored by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, spending 10 days studying the crater of Mount Kilauea, which was erupting; his spectroscopic analysis was the first to detect the presence of hydrogen in the gas of any volcanic eruption. The next summer, he joined Robert E. Peary’s expedition to Greenland, helping geologist Thomas C. Chamberlin with his research on glaciers. In 1902 he went to the Middle East to conduct an extensive study of Jordan’s Rift Valley.

Through it all, he never neglected his home. In the town of Princeton, Libbey took a leading role in planning and supervising the water supply, the sewage plant, and the town’s first telephone system. While relatively few Princetonians will visit Libbey Glacier or see Libbey Deep, many will enjoy visiting the Princeton battlefield, perhaps in orange and black. For that experience, they will have William Libbey to thank.
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