#### 'JOY AND TOGETHERNESS': A BASKETBALL JOURNEY TO SAVOR

RABBI GIL STEINLAUF '91 FINDS BIG CHANGES AND CHALLENGES

# PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

# His Tenure

PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER EISGRUBER '83 ON A DECADE OF CHANGE AND UNREST AND WHAT'S TO COME

> MAY 2023 PAW.PRINCETON.EDU

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May 2023 Volume 123, Number 9

## PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

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## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

#### **ON THE CAMPUS**

Contstruction projects reshape central campus 
Reflections from a departing dean + Law enforcement seizes museum artifacts 
Student Dispatch: Connecting academic and residential lives of undergrads Class Close-up: Overturning wrongful convictions • Princeton's coins serve as valuable research tools 
SPORTS: Lacrosse coach Jenn Cook follows Hall of Famers 
RESEARCH: Professor Steve Mackey making music, tons of it • Rory Truex '07 on authoritarian rule + Faculty books

#### PRINCETONIANS

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business

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Christopher Eisgruber '83, shown in 2017 addressing high school students at the Summer Journalism Program, was named Princeton's president in April 2013.



#### Past and President 26

Christopher Eisgruber '83 answers your questions (and ours) on his 10 years in charge at Nassau Hall. *By Mark F. Bernstein '8*3

#### **Living in the Moment 34** How joy and togetherness defined an indelible March Madness run for the men's basketball team. *By Brett Tomlinson*

**One Jew's Journey 40** Rabbi Gil Steinlauf '91 returned to Princeton to lead the Center for Jewish Life. He found big changes — and big challenges. *By Wayne Coffey* 

#### PAW.PRINCETON.EDU

Denise Applewhite/Princeton University; Jeanna Shepard; Joseph Hu



Finding Home On the latest PAWcast, Bill Eville '87, editor of the Vineyard Gazette on Martha's Vineyard, discusses writing and publishing his new memoir, Washed Ashore.



**Construction Zone** Emmett Willford '24 describes what it's like for students living among Princeton's many building projects.

#### **Climate Conference**

Young people from around the world gathered at Princeton for a summit organized by the Princeton Conservation Society.

Rally 'Round the Cannon Gregg Lange '70 traces the history of alumnifaculty forums during Reunions.

### Princeton Pre-read 2023: 'How to Stand Up to a Dictator'



This year is the 10th anniversary of Princeton's Pre-read tradition, which introduces incoming first-year students to Princeton's intellectual life through the experience of reading and discussing a book together. The Class of 2027's book is How to Stand Up to a Dictator by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Maria Ressa '86. Here's an excerpt from my foreword to the Pre-read edition, which the incoming class will receive this summer. I encourage all alumni to read along with us!

ear Members of the GREAT Class of 2027, Warm greetings from Princeton! My colleagues and I look forward to welcoming you to campus later this year. Your talents, interests, and perspectives will add tremendously to this community, and I am confident that you in turn will develop and grow through the experiences, interactions, challenges, and opportunities that await you here.

You will find Princeton a place of innovation, activity, and evolving traditions, including some that are very old and some that are quite new. This book represents one of our younger traditions.

During each year of my presidency, I have chosen a "Princeton Pre-read." My goal when selecting the Pre-read is to find a book that introduces entering students to the University's academic life and provokes them to examine ethical issues that will be important during their time on campus and after graduation.

The Pre-read will be the subject of an assembly during Orientation week and discussions that I lead in the residential colleges during the fall semester. I like to think of the Preread as an academic counterpart to the Pre-rade, a joyous ceremony in which you and your classmates march together to celebrate your arrival at Princeton.

The author of this year's book is special. She is Maria Ressa '86, who in 2021 received the Nobel Peace Prize. I have met many impressive Princeton alumni, but none whom I admire more than Maria Ressa. Her courage is awesome, her values are inspiring, and her energy is boundless. She is also an almost unbelievably generous person who radiates compassion and good humor despite having faced extraordinary threats and hardships.

Maria's book, *How to Stand Up to a Dictator: The Fight* for Our Future, includes a chapter about her experiences at Princeton. One of many reasons that I chose the book as this year's Pre-read is that it describes how Maria's education prepared her, sometimes in surprising ways, for unexpected challenges over the course of her career.

Another thing that I like about *How to Stand Up to a Dictator* is that it encompasses at least four different narratives, each of them compelling in its own right.

One narrative is the story of a young woman's search for her identity and her calling at Princeton and beyond.

Another is a first-person account from the front lines of pivotal events that reshaped journalism, the Philippines, and the world.

Yet another is a set of recommendations that are embodied in her chapter subtitles and culled from the experiences of a lifetime.

And a fourth is an urgent invitation to join what Maria calls "the fight for our future": the quest to protect truth, democracy, and humane understanding from the corrosive effects of online media platforms and the algorithms that drive them.

Though Maria continues to fight the legal battles that she describes in this book, she currently plans to join us to discuss her book during Orientation week.

I hope that you enjoy *How to Stand Up to a Dictator*, and I hope, too, that you have a wonderful and refreshing summer.

# Inbox



#### FERRER AS FRONTMAN

My father, Richard Brooke Titus Roberts '32, was in the band mentioned at the beginning of the Princeton Portrait of José Ferrer '33 (March issue). I have a picture of the band. Ferrer is standing at the left. He was the lead singer. My father is holding his banjo, and Jimmy Stewart '32 is at the piano.

According to my "source," José Ferrer was not the best singer, but the girls all adored him. I have the banjo that my father played. It still has the blood stains from one late night session during which Dad lost his picks but kept on playing. **Tom Roberts '71** 

Bethesda, Md.

#### ADMISSIONS CRITERIA President Christopher Eisgruber '83,

## WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Email: paw@princeton.edu Mail: PAW, 194 Nassau Street, Suite 38, Princeton, NJ 08542 PAW Online: Comment on a story at paw.princeton.edu Phone: 609-258-4885 in "The Meaning of 'Merit' in College Admissions" (President's Page, March issue), points out that Princeton's "holistic approach ... values many kinds of merit." He lists as examples commitment, discipline, persistence, capacity for teamwork, fortitude, courage, honesty, and compassion.

He doesn't include legacy status, yet today's Princeton is still giving it weight.

I'm impressed and moved when l learn that a student is a third- or fourthgeneration Princetonian. Development officers and the Alumni Council have good reasons for valuing such traditions. But how well does any hereditary status sit alongside the individual merits the president named?

Jared Kieling '71 *Minneαpolis, Minn.* 

Letters should not exceed 250 words and may be edited for length, accuracy, clarity, and civility. Due to space limitations, we are unable to publish all letters received in the print magazine. Letters, articles, photos, and comments submitted to PAW may be published in print, electronic, or other forms. *The views expressed in Inbox do not represent the views of PAW or Princeton University.*  Editor's note: Read President Eisgruber's response to a related question about legacy admissions in his interview with PAW, which begins on page 26.

#### WRESTLING'S BIG WEEKEND

Being there, one of a record 113,743 fans over three days in the Bok Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, watching with uncertainty the long and difficult progress of Quincy Monday '23 and Pat Glory '23 as they wrestled through their respective brackets in the NCAA Championships (Sports, April issue), was transfixing. Quincy was confronted with the deepest pool of talent at 165 pounds, with three titlists in his weight class, and Pat, at 125 pounds, was in a class with arguably the best wrestler of the decade, a three-time national champion from Iowa.

Princeton hadn't had a champ in 72 years, and only once before had two Tigers reached the semifinals – Quincy and Pat the prior year. The odds of success were against both, yet they prevailed – Quincy coming back from a narrow loss to take third place, and Pat taking the title. It was a stunning moment for me when the ref raised Pat's hand and he broke into an expression of elation I'll never forget. Tears welled in my eyes. To see where Princeton wrestling has come, from a warped tome in the early '90s to the epitome of success, was overwhelming. H. Clay McEldowney '69

OAKLAND'S NEW PROBLEMS

Williamsburg, Va.

I was so excited to read an article about Oakland in PAW (Princetonians, March issue). I was born and raised in Oakland and left only in 2013 when I got pregnant after a residency at Children's Hospital of Oakland. Both of my brothers and I (lawyer, engineer, doctor) felt like Oakland was an unaffordable option for raising children. With median single family home prices over \$1 million and the Black

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#### Inbox

population dwindling from 47% to 20%, Oakland has a different set of problems than when we arrived in the 1980s.

I love Oakland and hope to see more of Malcolm Ryder '76 and Constance Hale '79's projects, but I also hope that activists like them see the city for what it's becoming, good and bad. For now, I'm raising my children in New Orleans, an imperfect city in a problematic state with its own beautiful buildings. **Hannah Duggan '04** 

New Orleans, La.

FREE SPEECH IN CLASSROOMS

Regarding the article on professors' free-speech statements (On the Campus, March issue): I have been teaching at Harvard Medical School for over 30 years. The notion that speech in the classroom has to be limited to protect a "safe learning environment" may be misguided. The values that must be espoused are "respect" and "commitment to learning." We learn from diverse views and experiences. By developing respectful relationships within a classroom, one builds trust, which usually allows for freer exchange of ideas without setting too many guardrails.

Richard M. Schwartzstein '75 Brookline, Mass.

Tori Tinsley '24's article about freespeech rules was one of the best and most encouraging articles in PAW that I have read in a long time.

Hamilton Osborne Jr. '65 Columbiα, S.C.

#### UNIONIZATION PUSH

As I have written in a recent op-ed in the *Prince*, Princeton Graduate Students United's campaign (On the Campus, April issue) is misleading the students about what a union can achieve. PGSU frequently demonizes Princeton, fabricating the conflict between the University and the graduate students. To fan the flame, PGSU has been approaching local publications to write favorable coverage and legitimize its claims.

I was really surprised by their push for a vote before the end of March while the students were still starting to have a serious discussion about the union. Even looking at their current organizer list, only one out of the six engineering departments has representation. Voting without proper discussion and debate on the merit of unionization is a dangerous move that can be fatal for the future of Princeton's graduate students. **Himawan Winarto '18 GS** *Plainsboro, N.J.* 

#### A.I. IN EDUCATION

"Wrap Your Brain Around This" (March issue) was a quite timely and educational piece by Mark Bernstein '83. And kudos to Edward Tian '23 on the most relevant senior thesis ever. Best wishes in making it a commercial success. I doubt an AI could have written that thesis and program! *That* requires a Princeton University education. **David W. Goetz \*72** *Williamsburg, Va.* 

#### SHARING A LOVE OF OPERA

The March issue included a memorial to William McGowen (Mac) Priestley \*72, who received his doctorate in mathematics, and was a friend of mine, living next door to me at the New Graduate College the year we both started at Princeton. His memorial missed the fact that I used to hear Mac often playing Puccini opera recordings, and I, as a chemical engineer, not knowing much about music, got hooked. Not kidding, it made me a different person. I subscribed to the opera in New York, moved there, met my wife, and engaged in opera-related activities for the next five decades. I say honestly and thankfully that Mac was one of the few people who really changed my life. Tim Butts \*72

Arden, N.C.

#### CRITICAL READING FOR KIDS

I was excited to see children's books recommended in PAW ("Three Books: Tiana Woolridge '15," published online Jan. 30, 2023). As a K-12 educator and parent, I wanted to share the suggestion to take a critical eye to some popular children's books like *The Giving Tree*. While it encourages the value of generosity, it could be interpreted to promote giving of oneself to the point of depletion. Imagine the different message if the book ended with the tree decaying and providing energy to the next generation of trees. Alternatively,

#### Inbox

the tree could have given the person branches to build a boat rather than its whole self.

Asking a child about whether the tree took good care of itself is the type of question that encourages critical thinking (reading against the text). There are many opportunities to question what we have read in stories that we have loved for generations as we work to build more peace, justice, and culturally sustaining practices! Cindy Assini '04, Ed.D.

Hillsborough Township, N.J.

#### **OE'S VISIT TO PRINCETON**

The death of Kenzaburo Oe, Nobel Laureate in Literature, made international headlines in March. In 1966, Kenzaburo came to Harvard for a few weeks, thanks to the kind support of the late Edwin Reischauer, ambassador to Japan, and during that time he visited Princeton to meet with Richard Falk, a lead spokesman against the Vietnam War. In Princeton, Oe gave a talk intriguingly titled, "Huck Finn, Moby Dick, and the Vietnam War."

Regarding the United States' escalating involvement in Vietnam, Oe suggested it was rooted in our culture. Huck Finn felt compelled "to light out for the territory." Ahab's obsession with the pursuit of the white whale, after that whale had taken one of his legs, was anchored in a way by the thought, "As for me, I am tormented by the everlasting itch for things remote."

Oe came to our home that evening, and we spoke of our quest to understand the whale and reduce – if not stop altogether - the killing of whales. In those years it was an unchecked slaughter, and we hoped at least to reduce the catch to one that was sustainable.

In August 1970, at the behest of the New York Zoological Society (now the Wildlife Conservation Society), my wife and I traveled to Japan to initiate a whale conservation effort, working with leading scientists as counseled by Reischauer. Among writers in Japan, Kenzaburo was the most outraged at the uncontrolled slaughter of whales, writing vigorously at length about the tragedy. Scott McVay '55

Skillman, N.J.

#### **Cannon Dial Elm Club Reunions 2023**

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### JUST SOLD



#### **REUNIONS 2023**

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# **YOUR** ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



# Robin Resch \*03

hen Robin Resch \*03 was a graduate student in the School of Architecture pursuing her master's degree, she was a single parent of two young children and did not have much time for Reunions. But urged by classmates and friends, she went with her youngsters to catch a glimpse of the famous P-rade and see what all the hubbub was about.

"I have a vivid memory of walking up from Lake Carnegie with my kids and seeing the oldest Princeton alum marching down the hill," she said. "He had a beautiful class jacket with a straw boater hat from the 1920s. And then after him, it was a progression of all these fantastic outfits that was unlike anything I had ever seen. It was like a historic fashion show, and I was just blown away by the creativity and energy of the whole experience."

Resch has a gift for seeing the world through an artistic eye. Her parents were creative professionals who encouraged her photography skills, and before her undergraduate years at the University of Michigan — where she majored in art history — she spent a year in Italy with the American Field Service, living with the family of Michelangelo Pistoletto, a renowned contemporary artist. Dinners with the Pistolettos were large, vibrant gatherings, attended by numerous artist friends who passionately discussed the Italian and international art scenes. "Those dinners were absolutely formative for me, in terms of the exposure to the contemporary art world," Resch said. "I definitely resolved to study art from that experience."

During college, Resch received a Guggenheim Internship to work at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice and studied for a year in Paris at the École du Louvre. After Michigan, Resch worked in the fashion industry in New York for Karl Lagerfeld and then moved to the Netherlands, where she helped establish and co-edit The Witte de With Cahiers, a contemporary art review based in Rotterdam. She returned to the U.S. to enroll at Princeton's architecture school, where it was the photography

classes that made the deepest impression. She studied with legendary professors Peter Bunnell, who had been the first photography curator at the Museum of Modern Art, and Emmet Gowin, then head of Princeton's Visual Arts Program. "Emmet is a deep, rich soul, who is all about the humanity of life in every moment, and being in his class was this huge embrace of: 'Why are we here? What's our meaning and what are we doing with it?'" Resch said. "It

was exactly what I needed."

After receiving her master's degree in architecture in 2003, Resch opened a photography and design studio in an old barn in downtown Princeton and set about building a portfolio of artistic portraits and emotive landscapes. She



Using the imagery she captured of class jackets for the Reunions program cover, Resch is creating a digital non-fungible token (NFT) version that will be available May 25 at www.robinresch.net.

photographed Michelle Obama '85 when the First Lady visited Princeton in 2012, and in 2018, Resch began a portrait project that took her cross-country, "Taking Pause." In this ongoing project, she asks participants to answer the question, "What is irreplaceable to you?" and turns each participant's response into a triptych that includes two distinct portraits and their own brief writing describing their choice.

"For me, I think my happiest moments are when I connect with people," Resch said. "An important thread of [the 'Taking Pause'] project is trust; people trust me with something that's intimate, possibly, or deeply personal."

Resch was named the 2020-21 Anne Reeves Artist in Residence at the Princeton Arts Council in collaboration with the Princeton University Humanities Council, for which she continued her work with "Taking Pause" locally during the pandemic. These portraits were exhibited as banners in Nassau Street's Dohm Alley in 2021.

When Resch was invited to contribute the cover for this year's Reunions program, she immediately thought back to that initial P-rade. "I have a strong memory of those jackets, and I wanted to focus on that incredibly rich and unique tradition. I wanted to convey the energy, creativity and diversity of the Princeton community that is expressed during Reunions, in part through the powerful imagery of the stripe," said Resch, who researched the Bob Rodgers '56 Reunion and Beer Jacket Collection that is preserved online by the Princetoniana Committee.

"Each class creates its own interpretation of the stripes but by putting the jackets together in this way, all these expressive stripes become like threads that weave together to create a vibrant, collective tapestry — another dynamic fabric that is analogous to the multi-dimensional and vibrant nature of the contemporary Princeton community."

Resch's artwork and commissioned portraits can be viewed at www.robinresch.net and www.robinreschstudio.com. To celebrate Robin and other graduate alumni on social media, use #PrincetonStar and #Reunions.

### **KEEPERS OF THE ORANGE FLAME**

The preservation of the University's reunions and beer jackets is just one of the many responsibilities of the Princetoniana Committee, which has amped up its efforts to highlight the University's history, lore and traditions. In 2017, the committee launched a virtual museum that features artifacts and stories that date back to the University's founding. The collection continues to grow. "What happens today is tomorrow's history, so ongoing events and items are especially important to add to the museum for posterity's sake," said Jean Hendry \*80, chair of the committee.

At Reunions 2023, the committee will sponsor a talk that celebrates 50 years of the Katzenjammers, the first mixed voice collegiate a cappella group in the lvy League, plus a conversation with Bob Durkee '69 about "What's 'New' in the New Princeton Companion." Princetoniana also spearheads the Postcards to Alumni initiative that features monthly snapshots of Princeton history, and there are ongoing projects that will gather and celebrate the histories of Asian American Alumni Association of Princeton (A4P) and Native Alumni of Princeton (NAP).

While the Princetoniana Museum is a virtual one, the reunion jacket and beer jacket collection has a new physical home as well, thanks to the committee's efforts. When Hendry became the Princetoniana chair in 2021, she worked with fellow committee member John Wriedt '85 to ensure that the jackets that the late Bob Rodgers '56 had collected were cared for properly. "Some of the older jackets were ready to disintegrate from mold and mildew, so I promised John that I would help secure us a storage unit with climate control," Hendry said. "Now, we have 87 jackets, dating from 1899 to 1997, carefully preserved in a storage facility near the Princeton Airport."



Hendry's term as chair of Princetoniana is scheduled to end in July, but like most of her predecessors, she plans to stay involved with the committee. "Members stay on this committee because they love the history," Hendry said. "We don't have a lot of turnover, which is important: We don't want to lose the institutional knowledge that members have. There's just so much that I've come across that is incredibly interesting. Now I'll have the time to go back and research a lot of that history."





# We can't wait to see you back on campus for Reunions 2023, May 25-28!

Here are a few things to keep in mind as you plan your trip back to the Best Old Place of All!



- **Registration is open and required prior to check-in!** Reminder: Satellite class alumni can only register **one guest**.
- Plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the Alumni Council at 11 a.m. Friday, May 26 in Richardson Auditorium. Celebrate your fellow alumni, learn more about the Alumni Association and escape the elements there's air conditioning!
- Sign up your kids for **Tiger Camp**, administered by YWCA Princeton, on May 26 and 27. Spaces are filling up quickly, so don't delay.
- Park at the new Stadium Parking Garage if staying on campus during Reunions. New electric buses will be transporting alumni and friends to locations around the perimeter of the campus.
- Be Green. Bring your reusable water bottle to campus or make sure you properly dispose of the Earth Cups that will be available at most major reunion headquarters sites.

Visit **reunions.princeton.edu** to learn more and read the latest updates!





NEWS, SPORTS, AND RESEARCH > CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION > DEAN TOM DUNNE > HISTORY IN COM

# On the Campu

SPRINGING TO LIFE: The magnolia trees along Scudder Plaza were in full bloom by early April after a relatively mild winter on campus.

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#### On the Campus / News

Dillon Gym is one of three major projects in ogress near the center of campus.

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION In the Middle of Things Hobson College, new health and fitness buildings to reshape the central campus

eunions visitors may notice more fencing than usual on campus this year, particularly near the middle of the P-rade route, where construction crews are working on Hobson College (on the site of First College, previously Wilson), an expansion and renovation of Dillon Gymnasium, and a new home for University Health Services (UHS).

The three projects, University Architect Ronald McCoy \*80 said, represent a range of new facilities "that really advance undergraduate student life, together with Yeh and New College West," the two residential colleges that opened last fall on the southern edge of Poe Field.

Hobson, named for donor Mellody Hobson '91, will be Princeton's eighth residential college and is expected to begin housing students in the fall of 2027. Designs for the college were created by the New York-based architecture firm PAU in collaboration with Hanbury and JSA/MIXdesign. The buildings will be contemporary in style, McCoy said, set around a series of gardens and courtyards, and will feature brick exteriors that resonate with the textures of stonework in neighboring colleges and dorms.

The arrangement of buildings takes advantage of Hobson's distinctive location at the center of campus. "Most of our colleges happen to sit at ends of pathways," McCoy said. "So, think of Forbes as the end of a pathway." Yeh and New College West make up the southern end of campus, and Rocky and Mathey sit at the northwest corner. "Hobson will be at a crossroads, which is really exciting."

Hobson will see pedestrian traffic from multiple directions north-south along Elm Drive and east-west via Goheen Walk and a new passage through the center of the site - and all ground-level spaces will feature large windows that look out toward the bustling pathways and campus landscapes.

One of the distinctive spaces in the college, a round, glass-enclosed room called "the drum," will face Elm Drive and be able to host a range of activities, from lectures and study sessions to movies and performances, according to McCov. The college will also have a new type of classroom – the "salon classroom" – akin to a living room with couches and chairs meant to accommodate a seminar of 12 to 20 students.

The University received regional planning board approval for the new college in February, and demolition at the site was nearly complete when McCoy spoke with PAW in March. For the next year, crews will be drilling geo-exchange wells for Princeton's new heating and cooling system before beginning construction on the new buildings.



**Designs for Hobson College** aim to highlight its place at a ampus crossroads.

Courtesy of DIGSAU/MJMA; courtesy of PAU

of the Hobson site, work is underway on the new home for UHS and the Class of 1986 Fitness and Wellness Center at Dillon Gym. Scheduled to open in 2025, the two buildings will accommodate the expanding student body and build capacity for additional growth, McCoy said.

UHS director Janet Finnie '84 said that when the current incarnation of McCosh Health Center opened in 1925, campus health care focused on inpatient wards. Since then, the building has been repartitioned and renovated to match a growing range of services, including counseling, occupational health, and outpatient care. The new center was designed with current and future needs in mind, increasing the number of exam rooms, expanding office space for counseling and psychological services, and eliminating shared rooms in the infirmary.

The spaces are designed to feel "warm, welcoming, therapeutic, [and] healing in nature," Finnie said, similar to the atmosphere of a residential college. Three main entrances lead to a three-story atrium that serves as the center's reception room, bordered on the south by an indoor winter garden, while outside there will be a garden with meandering paths. A multipurpose pavilion facing Goheen Walk will host health-care programming for the campus community.

The Class of 1986 Fitness and Wellness Center, which fills the space formerly known as Dillon Court, on the south end of the gym, will be highly visible as well, with a glass-enclosed pavilion that faces Elm Drive.

Both projects make use of existing spaces. At Dillon, one wing will be renovated to form a lobby and a home for strength and conditioning, divided by trusses that once separated the space into squash courts. For UHS, the University is repurposing Eno Hall, a building formerly used by faculty and researchers in environmental studies. Eno's occupants will eventually move to a new building in the Environmental Studies and School of Engineering and Applied Science complex on Ivy Lane.

## Reflections from a Departing Dean

fter nearly 25 years at Princeton, Tom Dunne, the deputy dean of undergraduate students, is leaving at the end of June to become Harvard's dean of students. PAW asked Dunne to reflect upon his time at the University.

### What is your favorite part of your role at Princeton?

Students will come in and say, "This is something I'm interested in," so you learn through the students.

#### It's been said you have a studentsfirst attitude, but you are part of the administration. How do you balance that?

I've always been so grateful of how welcoming and connected and engaged the alumni and students are here. It just feels like we're collectively Princetonians that are working toward this common purpose in service of this idea in this place. There's a bunch of staff that are as dedicated and believe in this place as much as any student or alum, and that carries a lot of conversations.

### What do you look forward to every year?

I love anytime the whole community comes together. I find the P-rade very moving — the march of the history of the place is something that resonates with me. The first time someone explained Step Sing to me, it sounded so corny. And I think like two songs in, I was just blown away that students conceptualized this and have been doing it for over 250 years. Those are moments where you look around and you think, "Gosh, there's a timeless element in this place that really means something."

### What is the craziest student request you've accommodated?

There are times when a student will talk about an idea and you think, "This has zero chance of actually



happening," but you can learn a lot from chasing those dreams, so we go along for the ride.

One Class Day, we secured Jerry Seinfeld as a speaker, and we ended up doing a trick on campus where we announced Carrot Top as speaker. We played on this analogy of, "He's famous for orange, we're famous for orange." (Laughs) It was ridiculous. There was just pandemonium — people tried to spark up petitions, and it was two hours of chaos. And then we sent out, "It's not Carrot Top, it's Jerry Seinfeld." It was a huge hit.

#### What's your advice for your successor?

Make time for how amazing this place is - get out and walk and go to things and talk to people.

#### Will you be back?

Yeah, for sure. My kids are diehard Princeton fans. After we told my youngest daughter [third-grader Maisy] we were moving, she asked, "We'll still go to the bonfire, right?" And I was like, "Well, it's a little awkward because that event is celebrating beating Harvard." (Laughs) "I don't know if we'll go." And she looked me dead in the eyes and she said, "Well, I'm going." ◆ Interview conducted and condensed by Julie Bonette

**READ MORE** in a longer version of this interview at **paw.princeton.edu** 

#### HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATION Manhattan D.A. Seizes Artifacts in Princeton Art Museum Collection Linked to Alumnus

he Manhattan District Attorney's Office seized 11 pieces of art from the Princeton University Art Museum (PUAM), alleging that the works were stolen, according to documents provided by the district attorney's press office. The March 22 warrants cite an investigation by the Department of Homeland Security.

Six of the items are antiquities dated from 680 to 580 B.C. on loan from Edoardo Almagià '73, according to the warrants. "I was quite sorry that the museum gave up objects which I had given as a loan, they have no rights to consign those objects," Almagià told *The Daily Princetonian*. "They were, frankly, idiots."

In 2011, Almagià was cited by Italian authorities when the University returned Greco-Roman antiquities to Italy amid



A bucchero kantharos with incised decorations, dated 600 B.C., was among the PUAM items on Ioan from Edoardo Almagià '73 that were seized.

concerns that the artworks had been illegally excavated. The University also returned or transferred ownership of eight works in 2007 following an agreement with the Italian culture ministry.

Stephen J. Kim, associate director for communication and information at the PUAM, said in a statement the museum "is cooperating fully with authorities in an ongoing investigation and will have further comment at the appropriate time. We are always grateful for new information that allows us to fulfill our stewardship responsibilities relative to our collections, in keeping with our commitment to ethical collecting."

*The New York Times* first mentioned the Princeton connection to the investigation in a March 30 story about an ancient bronze statue seized from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Six of the items on loan from Almagià are ceramic flasks and jars, along with one terracotta plaque. Four of the other pieces are fragments dated from 540 to 460 B.C. The 10 ancient works were valued at \$156,500, according to the warrants. The final item, a calligraphic Qur'anic wall tile from Pakistan dating to A.D. 1700-1900, was listed in a separate warrant and valued at \$45,000.

Almagià told PAW in 2010 that he'd stopped dealing in antiquities because Italy and the U.S. had "criminalized and destroyed the antiquities market."  $\diamondsuit$  By B.T.

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#### **On the Campus / News**



#### STUDENT DISPATCH Both Sides Now: Connecting the Academic and Residential Lives of Undergrads

By Emily Miller GS



This was a comment I, a 28-year-old, heard one rainy spring night as I sat



around a table with freshmen. For the past four years, I have been one of the Resident Graduate Students (RGS) at Forbes

College. Like the name suggests, a handful of grad students live in our own apartments, complete with kitchens and bathrooms, in the eight residential colleges. I typically describe my job as an RGS as being a "cool aunt." I am always ready with snacks ranging from Girl Scout cookies to homemade beignets. I lend out vacuum cleaners, baking supplies, and books. I provide a window into millennial culture and what it was like to watch High School Musical on cable. I serve as proof that yes, you can bomb a midterm or two or not get that dream summer internship, and still graduate and be happy where you end up.

I graduated from Cornell University

with a policy analysis and management degree. I worked for two years in the Washington, D.C. area on adolescent health, and now, as a Ph.D. student in the Program in Population Studies, I examine the transition to adulthood. I find adolescence and young adulthood to be an exciting time.

Most graduate students exclusively interact with undergraduates through precepting and maybe the occasional lab mentorship or an extracurricular club. Higher education is a puzzle, with everyone only understanding a couple of pieces. Being a preceptor and an RGS has allowed me to triangulate data. Often, I see two sides of Princeton — and the questions and opinions I had about student life are both illuminated and complicated by what I've observed in residential life.

For example, I struggled to pull excitement out of students at a precept that I thought was pretty late in the morning (10 a.m.) — until I learned how groups ranging from dance to sports frequently start at 11 p.m. and go to 3 or 4 a.m. I tried scheduling multiple office

#### News / On the Campus

hours and being around before and after class to answer questions, but that did not stop a parade of requests to meet at alternate times. Then over dinner in the Forbes dining hall, students showed me their Google Calendars with nearly every 15-minute chunk blocked in, including FaceTime with parents or friends.

While preparing midterms, I would wonder why it took until the last minute to find out about accommodations for exams or to learn about a personal issue a student was facing after multiple precept absences. As an RGS, I see how the hold-ups happen in real time as students struggle with bureaucracy, wait times, and paperwork.

Princeton is a place where possibilities are theoretically limitless, but constrained by time, health, and other obligations. The most common heart-to-heart I have with undergrads is about how to navigate the mixed messages about what you "need to do" in college.

As a graduate student, I am trained to value discovery, creativity, and dreaming big, yet these traits were far from universally present in my classes. In Forbes, that passion flickers back to life. Students sparkle when they talk about their interests ranging from physics to gentrification, or their hobbies like fashion or board games. The longer I've been an RGS, the more I have realized that for many students the love of learning becomes increasingly buried under unrelenting exhaustion and expectations. I wish I could have precept over Forbes brunch.

Even though I didn't graduate from my undergrad that long ago (2016), I feel like higher education in elite institutions has morphed dramatically. The world has, too — the Varsity Blues admissions scandal, COVID-19, increasing economic inequality in the United States and abroad, and the adolescent mental health crisis have all shaken our beliefs in what it means to attend an elite institution and successfully launch into young adulthood.

In response to such uncertainty, it appears we have responded with the idea that we need to do more and be more. Admission to elite institutions is a lifelong endeavor full of dedication in coursework and beyond, as well as luck. That messaging about rigor does not stop once students arrive — it accelerates. Princeton is a place where possibilities are theoretically limitless, but constrained by time, health, and other obligations. The most common heartto-heart I have with undergrads is about how to navigate the mixed messages about what you "need to do" in college.

Being an RGS has allowed me a unique chance to observe, inside and outside the classroom, and empathize about what it means to be a Princeton student, but more importantly a person, in today's world.  $\diamond$ 



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#### **On the Campus / News**



#### CLASS CLOSE-UP Students Work to Overturn Wrongful Convictions

ennedy Mattes '23 receives a phone call at least once a day from a prison in Texas. On the other end of the line is Ivery Dwayne Dorsey, who is serving a 20-year prison sentence for murder. Along with Benjamin Bograd '23 and Kerrie Liang '25, Mattes has spent the past semester researching Dorsey's case file, contacting him regularly, and investigating new evidence in the hope of proving his innocence and securing his freedom.

Mattes, Bograd, and Liang are three of 12 students enrolled in "Making an Exoneree," a new seminar offered through the School of Public and International Affairs that gives undergraduates hands-on experience in overturning wrongful convictions.

It's not a typical seminar class: Instead of readings, discussions, or papers, students work in groups of three to reexamine the case of an incarcerated individual. The first half of the semester was devoted to research and evidence-gathering; in the second half, the students have been mounting a social media campaign and producing a short documentary arguing why the incarcerated person they have been working with is innocent.

James Raymond Vreeland, a professor of politics and international affairs, was inspired to launch "Making an Exoneree" at Princeton after witnessing the success of Georgetown University's course of the same name, which started in 2018 and has contributed to five prison releases. Vreeland's seminar works closely with Georgetown's Prison and Justice Initiative, which vets cases for Princeton students to tackle. The two classes run at the same time on Friday mornings, and Georgetown Law students frequently assist Vreeland's students.

"My experience [teaching] has been exhilarating, and I have walked out of that class every Friday so inspired by the speakers we bring in and by our own Princeton students," Vreeland said. "I am so humbled by the amount of work that they're putting into their cases, their command of the cases, and their passion for justice."

During class time, students meet with a wide range of speakers, including prison reform philanthropists, lawyers, exonerated individuals, private investigators, and social media experts. Groups also have the opportunity to update each other about their progress and consult with experts about their specific cases. Most of the work, however, takes place outside of class with Vreeland as a facilitator.

Mattes' group meets at least three times a week, if not more frequently; Mattes, Bograd, and Liang also spent

#### News / On the Campus

four days in Houston in late March to interview Dorsey's family members for the documentary. "This is the hardest class I've taken at Princeton, but also the most rewarding," Mattes said.

Vreeland has emphasized the high stakes of the work the students are doing. "We're always cognizant that these are real people with real lives, and we're just trying to help," he said.

Indeed, students have forged meaningful bonds with the incarcerated people they work with. "[Ivery is] a great person," Mattes said. "He's an artist. He's a mentor to people inside. He's also a mentor to us."

"We're not lawyers. We weren't trained in this beforehand. We're entering into something that is deeply personal for both the person who's incarcerated and their families."

— Anna Salvatore '25

Anna Salvatore '25, who is working on the case of a Pennsylvania man convicted of robbery and seconddegree murder, has grown immensely from her experiences in the course. "Part of the arc of the class is gaining the confidence to feel that you can do something and actually play a role in the life of somebody who's been wrongfully convicted," she said. "We're not lawyers. We weren't trained in this beforehand. We're entering into something that is deeply personal for both the person who's incarcerated and their families."

Although Vreeland does not expect students to achieve exonerations after just one semester of work, he hopes that students will continue to be involved in their cases even after "Making an Exoneree" ends — and that the course will be offered for years to come. "I'm optimistic that sooner or later, we're going to start to see people released from prison because of the efforts that our students are doing," he said. "The first time we see a win like that for Princeton is going to be really special." � By Joshua Yang '25

# WILDERNESS TALES

Forty Stories of the North American Wild

Edited with an introduction and commentary by **DIANA FUSS** 

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#### NUMISMATICS

# The Currency of History Princeton's coins connect scholars to the

past and serve as valuable research tools

he gold coin is a forceful assertion of power despite being only threequarters of an inch in diameter and a sixth of an ounce in weight. Struck around A.D. 800 in Constantinople, the Byzantine empress Irene appears on both sides wearing a crown topped with a cross and holding a crucifer in one hand and an orb and cross in the other.

A few years earlier, a similar image of Irene appeared on a gold coin whose other face showed her son and co-regent Constantine VI. But in 797, Irene had her son seized, blinded, and imprisoned in order to become the empire's sole ruler, said Teresa Shawcross, an associate professor of history and Hellenic studies at Princeton.

The small hole on one edge of the later coin suggests another thread of Byzantine history. Constantine's father, Leo IV, who married Irene in 768 and died in 780, opposed the veneration of icons in Christian worship, but Irene strongly supported the practice and helped firmly embed it into Orthodox Christianity, Shawcross said. The hole may have been made by a believer who wore the coin on a necklace and kissed the image of Irene as an icon.

With the coin that dates to around 800, Irene "is making a very clear statement: I am the empress," said Grace Chung '23, a student of Shawcross who is using the coin in her thesis research. "It's a very strong image of power, authority, and Christian rule."

The *solidi* – gold coins introduced by the Roman emperor Constantine in the 4th century and used for the next 600 years – are two of more than 20,000 Byzantine coins in Princeton's numismatic collection, the world's largest trove of Byzantine coins.

These objects aren't just old money from a bygone empire; they reflect changes in political power, religious to digital technology, the coins are

being made available to researchers around the world. And for both scholars and students, the coins give physical form to the history of late antiquity. Princeton acquired almost

all of its Byzantine coins in three tranches, said Alan Stahl, the curator of the University's numismatics

The hole in this coin with an image of the Byzantine empress Irene suggests it may objects have been have been worn on a necklace.

collection, housed on the C Floor of Firestone Library. From 1932 to 1939, Princeton sponsored an excavation of a store at the ancient and medieval city of Antioch in present-day Turkey and still holds about 24,000 coins from that expedition, about 3,000 of which are from the Byzantine Empire.

In 2016, the library bought 5,280 Byzantine coins from Peter Donald, a retired British government employee whose collection had been "whispered about as legendary for the last 50 vears," Stahl said. One of Donald's friendly rivals in collecting was Chris B. Theodotou, who suffered a fatal heart attack in 1987 as he and Donald were walking from one London coin dealer to another. Last year, the Theodotou family sold Princeton the collection, which includes 11,256 coins primarily from the Byzantine Empire between A.D. 500 and A.D. 1453. More than 90% of Princeton's Byzantine coins are bronze.

Stahl said Princeton spent about \$500,000 to buy the two collections. The Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies provided half of the funding, and the Friends of Princeton University Library supported the acquisition. In addition to paying for the purchases, Stahl said, "The other aspect we've taken seriously is total cost of ownership. It costs money to buy 18,000 coins, but to get them usable, cataloged, and digitized is another pot of money. We're not just amassing and acquiring, we're setting up a scholarly apparatus whereby the collection will be shared over the

internet with everyone." The aim is to have not only all of the Byzantine coins viewable online. as the coins featuring Irene and Constantine VI are, but Princeton's entire numismatics collection of 115,000 coins, tokens, medals, and bank notes. To date, about 15,000 of those

digitized and are

searchable on the library's website.

Princeton hired Elena Baldi, an expert on Byzantine coins, to oversee its cataloging, some of which is done by undergraduates who also work on other parts of the numismatics collection at a student hourly wage of \$17.50.

Chung cataloged coins from the Roman Empire, the Carolingian Empire, and various Greek city-states. "You felt like you were doing research in a very unique way," she said. "You're connected to an older story that's happened since the coin was minted."

Scholars use coins in many ways, said Jack Tannous \*10, an associate professor of history and Hellenic studies at Princeton. "For economic historians, coins are hugely important because they help you get at the nature of the state and how the state wields power," he said. "To understand how the Byzantine economy functioned, and how the government presented itself and how emperors presented themselves ideologically, coins are essential."

Like many professors, Tannous brings his classes to the numismatics collection. "To hold an object that a person who lived in the Roman Empire used to pay their taxes or buy bread gives you this sense of connection with the past," he said. • By David Marcus '92

# Photos by O.J.Turner of Princeton



To Einstein's hyperbola, Young suh Kim (\*61) added a circle and squeezed it to explain what we see in the real world. Go to http:ysfine.com/eink/index.html for details.

#### **On the Campus / News**

#### **IN SHORT**

The Board of Trustees approved a \$2.92 billion budget for the 2023-24 academic year, including a 26.4% **INCREASE IN UNDERGRADUATE FINANCIAL AID, the University** announced March 31. The \$268 million allotment for undergraduate aid follows a September 2022 commitment to make a Princeton education free to most families with incomes up to \$100,000. Tuition and fees for undergrads will increase by 4% to \$79,090, and the University said the average scholarship for students receiving aid will be about \$74.680. The trustees also approved a 5% increase in graduate student stipends.

#### U.S. Rep. TERRI SEWELL '86,

a Democrat from Alabama and University trustee, was selected as the speaker for the 2023 Class Day ceremony later this month. Sewell has been a member of Congress since 2010 and will be the first alum to speak at Class Day since 2019, when actress Ellie Kemper '02 delivered the featured address.

The Princeton faculty approved a new PH.D. PROGRAM IN QUANTUM SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING at a meeting in early April. The proposal was submitted by faculty from the departments of physics, chemistry, and electrical and computer engineering.

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

#### HISASHI KOBAYASHI \*67, Princeton's engineering dean during an era of



expansion in the late 1980s and early 1990s, died March 9. He was 84. Kobayashi, who received his Ph.D. from the electrical engineering

department, spent 19 years leading research projects at IBM before returning to the School of Engineering and Applied Science as dean in 1986. He also taught electrical engineering courses for more than two decades. During Kobayashi's five years as dean, the school established new interdisciplinary centers and the permanent engineering faculty grew by nearly 30%, according to a biography published in 2008, the year he transferred to emeritus status.

### JOHN T. "JACK" OSANDER '57, the director of admission who selected



Princeton's first undergraduate women, died March 24 at age 87. A former Triangle Club president, he taught English and theater in high schools before

returning to the University as an admission officer in 1963, according to a family obituary. Osander led the admission office from 1966 to 1971, playing a key role in the early years of coeducation and overseeing efforts to recruit and enroll undergraduates from diverse racial and economic backgrounds.  $\diamondsuit$ 



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Image: Professor Chika Okeke-Agulu at the opening celebration for Samuel Fosso: Affirmative Acts at Art on Hulfish. Photo: Kristina Giasi

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### WOMEN'S LACROSSE Writing the Next Chapter Cook carries lessons from two Hall of Famers into her first year as head coach

enn Cook pounced at the Princeton women's lacrosse coaching opening in the same way she went after ground balls as a player at North Carolina 20 years ago.

"I wouldn't say I had the most skill, but I think effort, hard work, scrappiness, grittiness, coachability, studying the game, really, is what I was all about," Cook said. "And being a competitor."

Cook, UNC's all-time leader with 200 career ground balls, is in her first season as Princeton head coach after being hired last May to replace retired Hall of Famer Chris Sailer. The 38-yearold Cook was an assistant coach for 15 years — at Drexel her first year out of UNC before returning to her alma mater for four years under Jenny Levy, another Hall of Fame coach, and then moving on to Princeton for the last decade.

"I still pinch myself with the mentors I had in coaching that were just incredible," Cook said. "I feel really fortunate."

Now she's blending all that she has learned into her own coaching style for the young Tigers, who started the year 5-5 overall, 2-1 in the Ivy League. Princeton has won seven of the last eight Ivy titles. "It really is player-driven and playerled," Cook said of her approach to coaching. "I prefer to lead from the back and be demanding but understanding and collaborative. Our kids are just awesome."

Cook and Kerrin Maurer, the associate head coach, give the returning players continuity in leadership, though there are small changes. Cook is more vocal in practice. She gave her assistants Sailer's larger office and added an espresso machine, a nod to the staff's love of coffee. Traditions remain, like Cook and Maurer downing a Red Bull while listening to music at Class of 1952 Stadium before home games. An avid reader who often shares quotes from literature, Cook likens her hire to starting the next book in a series.

The youngest of three siblings, Cook is a product of blue-collar Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and a passionate fan of Philadelphia teams. She graduated from Marple Newtown High as the school's all-time leading scorer in soccer and captained the swim team, but she was recruited hardest for lacrosse.

Cook was a three-time All-American at UNC who played midfield for two years before moving back to defense because of her reluctance to shoot. She had a high school internship shadowing La Salle coach Julie Weiss, but Cook credits Levy at her alma mater for seeing her coaching potential as readily as her playing potential.

"She loved the game, she loved studying film," Levy said. "She's just one of those that had a huge passion for the game."

And according to Sailer, that passion went beyond the lacrosse field. "What really sealed the deal for me," she said, "was her understanding of and care for the overall student-athlete experience. Jenn leads with her values and has uncompromising integrity."

Sailer elevated her to associate head coach in 2017. Cook was married that year, and she and wife Danielle had a daughter, Cameron, two years ago during the COVID-19 pandemic. Cook models being a working mother on what she saw from Levy at UNC. She said she feels more patient and understanding since starting a family. Parenting and coaching blend in Cook's focus on learning and growth. "My favorite part of being a coach is seeing a kid from the moment you recruit them at 17 all the way through graduation and postgraduation," she said.

Her own career path has taken the long view: In 10 years at Princeton, she passed up opportunities elsewhere for the chance to take over as Sailer's successor.

> "I really enjoyed the culture at Princeton, I really enjoyed our players, I really enjoyed the people within our athletic department and our alumni and our parents,"Isaid Cook. "The people are really what make Princeton incredibly special. The mission of the athletic department of education through athletics really rings true." • By Justin Feil

#### MISSY WYANT SMIT, '96

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#### MUSIC

# Passion Projects Prosper

Post-pandemic, Professor Steve Mackey is back on stage and releasing new work

ike many people, Princeton music professor Steven Mackey saw his work projects pile up during the pandemic. Numerous commissions and performances were either mothballed or put aside altogether as venues around the world shut down. While on sabbatical this year, however, Mackey, the William Shubael Conant Professor of Music and a Grammy-winning composer and electric guitarist, is working feverishly to catch up. He was on the road almost constantly during the winter and spring, bringing several works to the stage at last.

"This is one of the busiest years I've ever had, populated with high profile projects," Mackey|says. "Fingers crossed!"

In late January, conductor Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) premiered Mackey's "Concerto for Curved Space," which was co-commissioned by the BSO and the 240-yearold Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. Mackey's "vibrant music," the BSO program notes stated, "embraces a wide range of influences, from Ludwig van Beethoven to

modern rock." The concerto, which Mackey wrote several years ago, was supposed to have made its world premiere in 2021, only to be postponed because of COVID.

Only a few weeks afterward, in late February, Mackey headed to Southern California to perform a new composition with the chamber orchestra Delirium Musicum. "Treeology," which Mackey wrote with Billy Childs and Gabriella Smith \*19, was commissioned by Thor Steingraber, the executive and artistic director offthe Younes and

Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts at California State University, Northridge, to highlight the destruction of

Steve Mackey is the William Shubael Conant Professor of Music at Princeton. California's redwoods, sequoias, and Joshua trees due to climate change. This, too, was a world premiere, although excerpts of "Treeology" were played last year at *The New York Times*' Climate Forward conference.

"These trees can't fight for their own survival," Steingraber told *The Times* in a preview last October. "I view these musical pieces as something of the voice of the trees."

In April, Mackey returned to join the Princeton University Glee Club and the New Jersey Symphony to perform "RIOT," written by Tracy K. Smith, former Princeton professor, poet laureate of the United States, and a Pulitzer Prize winner, to celebrate the symphony's 100th anniversary. Performances were scheduled for April 21-23 in Richardson Auditorium, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, and the State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick.

To top that all off, record label Canary Classics recently released "Beautiful Passing: Music for Violin and Orchestra by Steven Mackey," a CD of some of Mackey's biggest orchestral works,

performed by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and violinist Anthony Marwood. "Mackey's distinctive lexicon

... says things we all know in our musical minds but have never heard articulated in this way," the online review Blogcritics said.

"Everything has exceeded expectations," Mackey says. "Maybe it's the perk of having outlasted the critics who disapproved of the electric guitar in classical music, because I've never had such consistently great reviews." *By Mark F. Bernstein '83* 

#### FACULTY BOOKS

In *Queer Career* (Princeton University Press), professor of history **Margot** 



**Canaday** sets out to review and rewrite our understanding of queer people in the workplace. Historically workplaces have largely been "straight spaces" where

queer people passed, often adopting a "don't ask/don't tell" practice with their

sexuality. As a result, limited attention has been given to the experiences of queer people in the workforce. Canaday uses this book to unpack the history and role employment insecurity played in gay life in postwar America.

Assistant professor **Xin Wen** tells the story of diplomatic travelers on the Silk Road — the network of Eurasian trade routes spanning more than 6,000 kilometers used by travelers from the second century B.C. to the middle of the 15th century — in



*The King's Road* (Princeton University Press). Using documents from the Dunhuang "library cave" in western China, the book emphasizes the importance of the rich

social history that played out on this route in addition to its commercial purpose.



### BEHIND THE RESEARCH: RORY TRUEX '07 **Examining the Psychology** of Authoritarian Rule in China's Politics

In high school, a history teacher encouraged Rory Truex '07 to study China in college. That trajectory led him to study abroad through Princeton in Beijing, then through the Princeton in Asia program, where he helped create the Summer of Service program for students to teach English in rural China.

Now, as an assistant professor of politics and international affairs at Princeton, Truex's research focuses on Chinese politics and how authoritarian regimes stay in power with the strategies that are employed. Since the Chinese Communist Party is among the world's most secretive political organizations, that's become more difficult than ever.

"The Chinese government is problematic in many ways, but authoritarianism as a phenomenon is important to understand because there are so many complexities," says Rory Truex '07. Much of Truex's research focuses on the intersection of public opinion and political psychology, including what type of personalities will buy into a political power or reject it. "For some citizens, the Chinese Communist Party becomes part of their identity," Truex says. "They internalize the regime as part of themselves." � By Dawn Reiss

### **Truex's Research: A Sampling**



**ISOLATING TRAITS** Before the pandemic, **Truex conducted three** surveys — one online with 2,024 citizens, a national face-to-face survey of 3,573 citizens in urban China. and a sample survey of 1,986 university students. He found the "average discontented citizen" in China is fearful, disorganized, and a disagreeable introvert, traits associated with social isolation, Truex says, "likely due" to the "regime's repressive tactics" where voicing criticism drives others away. "There are good reasons to believe that Chinese citizens do have high levels of confidence in their government," says Truex. Many citizens will reluctantly accept, without protest, he says, if supporting the regime's success helps personally or professionally. Truex notes that China's dissident community has criticized him as an apologist due to this work, something he vehemently denies.



AUTHORITARIAN GRIDLOCK Many assume an authoritarian regime can "simply do whatever it wants," Truex says, but that's not the case. Even authoritarian regimes can have trouble passing laws and experience gridlock and legislative delays if citizens are angry about a particular policy and there is public outcry. Truex found 48% of China's laws aren't passed within the period specified in the legislative plans and 12% of laws take more than 10 years to pass. The bigger takeaway: "Authoritarian regimes might be more responsive than we give them credit for," Truex says.

That's what he found by examining China's Food Safety Law, which was enacted in 2009 after a scandal the previous year where babies became sick or died after drinking milk powder laced with melamine.



DON'T GET INVITED TO TEA In China, being "invited to tea" has become ominous rhetoric for a forced appointment with the police. Truex and American political scientist Sheena **Chestnut Greitens found** repressive experiences are a real phenomenon, more common for scholars who work in China. Before the pandemic, the researchers surveyed more than 500 Chinese scholars and found roughly 9% have been "invited to tea" by authorities within the past 10 years. Of those, 26% of scholars who conduct archival research reported being denied access and 5% of researchers had difficulty obtaining a visa. One of the most common tactics: having a visa application "delayed" where a visa isn't denied, it simply is never issued.  $\blacklozenge$ By D.R.

#### THROUGH THE YEARS

Princeton's 20th president, Christopher Eisgruber '83, with its 11th president, James McCosh, over his shoulder.

# PAST and PRESIDENT

Christopher Eisgruber '83 answers your questions (and ours) on his 10 years at Nassau Hall

BY MARK F. BERNSTEIN '83

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN EMERSON

AST MONTH MARKED A DECADE since the Board of Trustees selected Christopher Eisgruber '83 to be the 20th president of Princeton University.

They have been busy years for Eisgruber, who has overseen a capital campaign,

a construction boom, expansion of the undergraduate student body, the acceptance of transfer students, the creation of new academic programs, an increase in the size of the administration, and robust growth in the endowment, among much else. He has also seen the University through the COVID-19 pandemic and perhaps the greatest period of social and political unrest since the Vietnam era.

All that is far more than could be covered in an hour, but in March, Eisgruber sat down with PAW senior writer Mark F. Bernstein, a fellow member of the Class of '83, to discuss his tenure and some of the many issues facing the University today. Included in the interview were several questions submitted by PAW readers.

#### Last year, the trustees voted to extend your tenure as president for at least another five years. Did you consider stepping down, and what made you decide to stay?

I was enthusiastic about the possibilities for Princeton. I was continuing to enjoy the job and, given my enthusiasm and the confidence of the board, I wanted to be able to put that message out to the community. On the one hand, it was great to be out of the pandemic, but on the other hand, there are many exciting things I wanted to do going forward. I wanted to be able to take advantage of those opportunities and be able to communicate publicly about it.

# This is a question from Kenneth Norwood '55: If you had the opportunity to do it over again, would you accept the job?

Yes, I absolutely would! (Laughs) I appreciate the question, because there has always been an alternative that has been

extremely attractive to me, which is to be a member of the Princeton University faculty, which I consider one of the most extraordinary jobs in the world. When I was asked to become provost [in 2004], my first reaction was, I can't do this because I love teaching and scholarship and I'd have to give a lot of that up, which has been true. But at the time, what I also thought was, this is an exceptional opportunity to give back to an institution that I love, and to learn things

that I would never otherwise have learned.

Part of what fires me up about being president, and what made me want to stay on, is just the opportunity to meet with the extraordinary members of this community. One of the hardest things about the pandemic was the isolation. I love the opportunity to be a part of all the things that are going on on the Princeton campus and to continue to get to know Princetonians and learn their stories.

#### Columbia recently announced that it will no longer require SAT or ACT scores in undergraduate admissions. Princeton has committed to extending its own testoptional policy until 2025. Is the University considering making this policy permanent?

We will look at how things go over the next few years, and then make a judgment. As [Dean of Admission] Karen Richardson ['93] and I look at it, there are advantages and disadvantages to getting the information contained in test scores. The advantage is that you learn a bit more about the 18,000 or so students who are qualified to come to Princeton, which helps in making these incredibly difficult decisions. So, all other things being equal, it would be great to be able to have the information. But all other things are not equal. We know that if we require these tests, there are people who are potentially extraordinary Princeton students who may take themselves out of the running by thinking, well, I'm not going to get in there, or my test scores don't show me to my best advantage. By going test optional these last few years, we have seen increased diversity in our applicant pool in ways that are highly desirable.

#### Mitch Daniels '71, who recently stepped down as president of Purdue University, managed to keep that university's tuition unchanged for 12 years. Princeton's tuition seems to rise nearly every year. Why can't Princeton do what Purdue has done?

I have great respect for Mitch Daniels and what he did at Purdue, but we're obviously different institutions and approach





these things differently. At Princeton, our philosophy is that we're going to subsidize the education of every student. Even if you're a full-paying student, the University, through a combination of the endowment, annual giving, and other sources, is picking up roughly half the cost of your education every year. In other words, you're getting a discount, even if you're paying full freight.

We're also always going to try to make that education better every year, and along with that is our commitment to affordability and access, which is why our financial aid program is the best in the country. Students from families making \$100,000 a year or less are going to be able to go to TRANSFER STUDENTS ENROLLED Princeton for free – and I mean free FOR THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR tuition, room, and board. So, then we AS COMPARED TO 2013. say that, with all of that in place, we WHEN THERE WERE NONE. think it's fair to pass along some of

the costs – not all of the costs – of the inflation that we face in higher education and the improvements that we make to the education that we offer, to those who are coming from families where they're fully able to afford it.

#### Our next question comes from Nirav Patel '00: What is the future of legacy admissions for Princeton applicants?

What I would say is that Princeton has a very special bond with its alumni. That bond benefits the University tremendously, and it benefits all of our students tremendously. When I talk

to our incoming admitted students, I always say to them, if you're part of admitted students' day at Princeton University, you have lots of options and you're going to flourish wherever you go. I want you to think about the things that are distinctive about this place. One is the synergy between teaching and research. Every Princeton student does a thesis or a capstone project and every faculty member teaches, and that's really rare. Second, being a member of this community is not just a

four-year thing, it's a lifetime bond.

Karen Richardson talks about legacy preferences being a tiebreaker between students who are equally capable, and that is exactly the

> way that it functions within our admission system. At the same time, I think it's important that we continue to focus on diversifying the student body. We are among

the leaders in the country now in taking students from lowincome families. We're among the leaders in taking students who are first in their families to go to college. We are going to continue to fight to preserve the diversity of this university, come what may this summer from the United States Supreme Court. We have done things to add community college transfers and military veterans to our student body. So I get the case for diversity. But I also think that there's an important case for continuing in this modest way to recognize the important bonds that are constitutive to the Princeton

#### 'DISRUPTIVE BY DESIGN'

Eisgruber speaks at a dedication ceremony in 2019 for a new piece of art in Scudder Plaza that marks the complicated legacy of Woodrow Wilson 1879. family. And, as your readers will know, there are lots of fantastic children of Princeton parents whom we're not able to take, even with this program in place.

Several alumni wanted us to ask about the expansion of the campus and the student body. At what point does the undergraduate student body become so big that the Princeton experience is no longer unique? And at what point does the campus become overbuilt?

I do think it's important that we have this relatively compact campus where, if you're an undergraduate going to class, the longest

walk is from Forbes College to the E-Quad. That was the longest walk when you and I were undergraduates, back in the dark ages, 40 years ago.

Every time we do a construction project, we occupy a space or have to take down an older building that was special in somebody's memory. I admit, I have those feelings of nostalgia myself as I look at some of those things changing, but there are two imperatives pressuring us forward. One is the opportunity to give new generations of students the experiences that led all of us to cherish our time on this campus. We're sitting here in Nassau Hall right now, and there was a time when John Witherspoon's office and James Madison's dorm room and all the teaching were literally here in Nassau Hall. Ever since then, we've expanded outward, and I guess that at any point in

that 250-plus-year history, you could ask someone, is there ultimately some size that's too big?

For right now, what's clear is that we have opportunities to continue to expand and make a difference, and we can do it while preserving the distinctive characteristics of this

university. One of our construction projects right now is for the Department of Computer Science. We're going to move the environmental sciences out of Guyot Hall, then we're going to renovate and expand Guyot for the computer science program. I hope the readers won't be too upset if I keep referring to our time together on campus, but there was no computer science department when we were here. In a similar way, we have added programs in neuroscience and African American studies and American studies and the Lewis Center for the Creative and Performing Arts. We need to continue to grow.

What I think is critical isn't so much the physical walkability

of the campus, but the intensity of the community that exists on it. I think that's what really matters to Princeton. I might also point out that, right now, most of the students are moving around on electric scooters.

#### Is there a mental health crisis on campus and in higher education generally? And how should Princeton respond?

I think there's a mental health crisis in our young people nationally and maybe way beyond nationally. If you look at rates of distress around mental health in the age groups that are

> in high school and college, you see higher rates than we have seen in the past. And I really stress that it's about the age groups because they're actually lower for kids who are in college. If you look at universities that are

able to provide the kind of structure and support that we provide, the mental health statistics get better.

A DAY TO REMEMBER

Writer Jodi Picoult '87, left, and

Eisgrüber at the Chapel, where Picoult

addressed seniors at Class Day in 2016.

But look, when I say better, I don't mean there's not a problem. And just as we were not immune from the COVID epidemic, we are not immune from this. So, we have been

working to make sure that we're providing the counseling and psychological support services that are necessary to students. We're taking an integrated approach to well-being. We're educating our students, our faculty, and our staff about how to recognize these issues and how to support people. We aren't always successful. This has been a very difficult year. I made some remarks at the Service of Remembrance in February recognizing the tragic deaths that we've had on the campus this year. Those are heartbreaking when they occur and it's a reason why no matter how hard we try, we're going to have to push ourselves to do better.

INCOMING CLASSES THAT HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED A "PRINCETON PRE-READ," A TRADITION STARTED BY EISGRUBER IN 2013. THE CLASS OF 2027 WAS RECENTLY ASSIGNED MARIA RESSA '86'S HOW TO STAND UP TO A DICTATOR.

Denise Applewhite/Princeton University



You talked about the time when you and I were Princeton undergraduates. A lot of older alums wonder if undergraduate life is that much more stressful than when we were here. What do you think is driving this mental health problem?

Well, that's one of the reasons why I started off by saying it's not a Princeton issue or even a college issue. It's an age group issue. There is something different about life as a young person now.

But let's be careful about what assumptions we make. When we were at Princeton, mental health concerns were much more stigmatized than they are now. I think that assuming we knew what our classmates were going through, assuming that things were somehow just fine, is a bad assumption to be making about what happened in the past.

There are a lot of theories about what's going on. Health problems that may never have been identified before are now being recognized and responded to in ways that I think are positive for our students. Many people, and I'm one of them, think that social media and online media generally are having a very negative impact on mental well-being, not just for our students but for our entire society. The pandemic and the isolation that came along with it hit young people particularly hard, and it also cut them off from places they could turn to for support. I think it is also tougher to be a young person in a society that is as polarized, and at times as angry, as ours currently is. There is the George Floyd murder and the renewed reckoning with racial justice that followed it. There's climate change. There are a lot of things going on in the world right now, and that makes it tough to be a young person. We need to understand these things as a society, and as a university.

**You have said that you came to Princeton thinking you were going to be a physicist but learned that physics wasn't really where your talents lay.** You've been talking to my professors. (Laughs)

An important part of the undergraduate experience is learning what you're not good at. Is there room for failure at Princeton? Can the University help teach students that getting a bad grade isn't necessarily a crisis, but may be a learning experience?

I certainly hit a wall with my physics classes freshman year. I got a C in my second semester, and I count that basically as a victory. But it was something that I survived and frankly, it later made me a better teacher. The experience of being in a classroom and working hard and not being able to get it was an important experience for me to have. Because it meant when I had students in my own classroom who weren't understanding something, part of what I was thinking was, OK, I've been there.

There's a tendency in every generation to point at the next generation and ask, 'Why aren't they like us?' I think that all of us, as we age, have to be very mindful of that. As I spend time out with students, what I'm impressed by is the ways in which they're different from us. There are times when I might wish that, OK, maybe they could be a little more like us, but there are also times I think, they're better than we were.

I do think one thing that has become a problem since I was

a student is that, when I got that C – I can't remember if it was the first C I had ever received or not - but nowadays there are so many students who, partly as a result of their parents' pressure, and even intervention, are producing curated, perfect transcripts as they come through high school. They might not have learned that, all right, I didn't get an A in this class, I could have done better, and that's OK. It's all going to be fine. I think that is something that we ought to try to build into our curriculum and our student experience.

We have to meet our students where they are, of course, but it's important that we be able to provide students with feedback that says, 'There were good things about this assignment, but you should want to be doing even better, and I need to give you feedback that allows you to see that.' The language in which we do that and the way in which we do that may have to be different than when we were at Princeton, but I think our students recognize how important it is to be able to fail and then pick yourself up again. They know that experience is important.

#### Howard Husock \*82 asks: There was a lot of controversy about the decision to fire Professor Joshua Katz last year. Looking back, would you have done anything differently?

It's hard for me to comment in any specific way about a personnel matter. I'm sure there are things that could have been done differently on most of the hard things that I have

had to manage during my tenure. What I will say is that, on the critical aspects of the actions the University took with respect to Professor Katz, including the decision that he had to be terminated because he obstructed an investigation into his sexual OF THE UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT exploitation of an undergraduate FROM 2013-22, FROM \$18.2 BILLION under his supervision, I think we made the right decisions and I think I need to leave it at that.

#### Joseph Miller '63 asks: What is Princeton doing to establish a balance of conservatives versus liberals among the faculty?

I appreciate the question. We believe in the importance of vigorous truth-seeking discussion on the campus, but I think that gets beyond labels such as liberal and conservative.

I'll just give you an example. When I was on the constitutional law faculty here, I thought it was very healthy that Robby George and I disagreed about both the constitutionality of abortion and its morality. What added to the vigor of those arguments is that we had a broad range of views, some of which wouldn't get labeled as conservative or liberal among constitutional scholars. One of the people who was participating in those disputes at the time, by the way, was Professor Keith Whittington. I really couldn't have told you, and it never occurred to me to think it material to ask, whether Keith regarded himself as a conservative or a liberal. He had a set of views that were different from mine, and different from Robby George's, and it made for much richer arguments. So, when Keith, Robby, and I are having these debates, it's not point-counterpoint, where the idea is to have somebody representing the Republican Party platform and

somebody representing the Democratic Party platform. It's to get at some of the issues that we think are the deepest issues in constitutional law and interpretation.

So, what we try to do, and we always push ourselves to do better, is to find ways to have vigorous argument about the questions that matter on our campus. I regard that as something different than just creating a balance between liberal and conservative views. We're a truth-seeking institution, not a kind of bipartisan debate club. Those are two different things. Now, I do worry at times that people's biases can get in the way of making the best appointments, and that's something we try to overcome. We try to make sure that we have strong arguments that need to be represented on the campus. I think that is partly a result of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions and what Robby has created there. The presence of strong conservative voices is good right now at Princeton, and probably even better than when we were students.

#### There is a move to unionize Princeton's graduate students. How might unionization change the relationship that Princeton has historically had with its grad students?

We've put out a set of Q and A's about this, and if people are really interested in the details, they can consult those. [Editor's

note: See bit.ly/GS-faqs.]

I think that the essence of the University's relationship with our graduate students is the relationship between the faculty member

and the student, and it benefits from the fluidity of student-teacher relationships and the possibilities for mentorship that arise out of that. A unionized structure creates a lot more

formality in that regard. What I think we've tried to convey is that students are making this choice, and they have a right to make it. But it is also important for our students and alumni – both undergraduate and graduate alumni – to understand that, one way or another, we're going to continue to do everything we can to make sure that our graduate students flourish on this campus.

Regardless of what happens with regard to unionization, from my standpoint, I think that relationship has been working well, especially over the last several years. At the beginning of my presidency, we had a task force on the future of the graduate school in which graduate students participated. One of the priorities that emerged out of that was getting more housing for graduate students. That housing is being built right now in the Meadows neighborhood. We anticipate that when it opens, we'll be able to meet 100% of graduate student demands for on-campus housing. Last year, we raised graduate stipends by 25%, and there's another increase coming this year, which had been in the works long before any of the unionization activity surfaced. So, I think that we have a good and strong relationship with our graduate students. Our most profound hope on this is that we find a way to continue that relationship, whatever happens. •

Interview conducted and condensed by MARK F. BERNSTEIN '83



INCREASE IN THE VALUE

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#### SURE SHOT

Ryan Langborg '23 drives to the basket for two of his 26 points against Creighton as orangeclad Princeton fans look on.

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# LIVING IN THE MOMENT

Joy and togetherness define an indelible March Madness run

BY BRETT TOMLINSON

## POPE DI MEN'S B

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May 2023 PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY 3

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### With just over five minutes remaining

in Princeton's first-round NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament game against Arizona, Caden Pierce '26 blocked a pass attempt by Wildcats center Oumar Ballo, dove on the loose ball, and called timeout to secure possession. It was the kind of athletic, heads-up play that made Pierce the Ivy League Rookie of the Year. But this time, it came with a price.

"That's our last timeout," head coach Mitch Henderson '98 told his team on the sideline.

There was no panic. In fact, Henderson says, there was some laughter — and confidence. "We didn't need that timeout," Ryan Langborg '23 recalls thinking.

"They were having the time of their life," Henderson says. "And I was like, 'I think we're gonna win this game."

The moment might feel different if Princeton hadn't gone on a 9-0 run to close out a 59-55 win and stun the second-seeded Wildcats in Sacramento, California. It may have faded if the Tigers hadn't continued their path with a dominant 78-63 victory over Missouri, in which

Blake Peters '25 came off the bench to make five second-half 3-pointers and propel the program to a spot in the Sweet 16 for the first time since 1967.

But Henderson, looking back on the experience in early April before leaving for a family vacation, insists that even if his team had lost, that timeout would have been one of his favorite moments in coaching because it showed what kind of team he had.

"The beauty of the run was that the joy they played with resonated with everyone," he says. "I think people weren't just happy that we went to the Sweet 16, they were happy with the way the team played. There was savvy and guts and toughness — and joy and togetherness."

#### HOW IT STARTED

The Tigers celebrate an Ivy Tournament title at Jadwin Gym. Below, Keeshawn Kellman '23 dunks against Arizona.



That joy brought alumni together, first at the Ivy Madness tournament, which Princeton hosted for the first time this year, and then a week later in orange-and-black group hugs in Sacramento. At the Sweet 16 in Louisville, Kentucky, the Tiger faithful filled a hotel ballroom to give the team a roaring sendoff a few hours before game time. The red lights around the middle tier of the arena, which is home to the University of Louisville, seemed to take on an orange glow as "Let's Go Tigers" chants rang out across the court before tipoff. "It was like nothing I had ever experienced before," Langborg says.

Pete Carril, the legendary Princeton coach who died in August at age 92, famously recited his father's aphorism, "The strong take from the weak, but the smart take from the strong." These Tigers were both strong outrebounding Arizona and Missouri – and smart, dishing out 38 assists while committing just 25 turnovers in three tournament games. Even on the night of their final defeat, an 86-75 third-round loss to Creighton, the Tigers produced brilliant performances, including Langborg's career-high 26 points and Tosan Evbuomwan '23's stellar line of 24 points, nine assists, and six rebounds.

On paper, this may not have been one of Princeton's greatest teams; others have won more games and earned higher rankings. But overcoming setbacks was part of what

> **BELLE OF THE BALL** Blake Peters '25 sinks a 3-pointer against Missouri. At top, the Princeton Band leads a campus sendoff before the trip to Louisville. Head coach Mitch Henderson '98,



made the Tigers endearing. As Henderson says, they were "a work in progress all season" and supremely capable when it mattered most, in the closing weeks of the Ivy League schedule, at the league tournament, and in two weekends of March Madness.

Evbuomwan, standing outside the locker room after the Creighton game, was asked what he would miss about playing basketball at Princeton.

"The guys," he said without hesitation. "I'm not sure I'm going to find another group like this. We just look out for one another all the time. I've never really had this — there's no ego at all amongst us. We don't care at all who's getting the attention, who's scoring points, who's doing this, who's doing that. We just really root for one another and want to see each other be successful."

Like all of Princeton's seniors, Evbuomwan will graduate with one year of college eligibility remaining because during the pandemic, the Ivy League did not compete in the 2020-21 season. He would have been a prized graduate transfer, but he has declared for the NBA draft instead. In early April, Langborg and center Keeshawn Kellman '23



JERSEY PRIDE Gov. Phil Murphy shakes hands with New Jersey native Zach Martini '24 at practice before the Sweet 16 trip. Below, Tosan Evbuomwan '23 battles with Creighton's Ryan Kalkbrenner.





#### HOW IT ENDED

Students cheer at a Whig Hall watch party during the Creighton game. At right, Langborg hugs Henderson as he leaves the court for the final time as a Tiger.

were exploring their transfer options after playing key roles in the tournament run.

When the Tigers waved goodbye to their fans before midnight on March 24, it was hard to imagine that eight days earlier, Princeton was just another tournament team, soaking in the bright lights, hoping perhaps for a four-second cameo in CBS's "One Shining Moment" montage. Kellman says warming up for the first-round game was a thrill knowing he was about to finally play in the NCAA Tournament. When he watched his teammates seal the win over Arizona from the free-throw line, he felt "pure joy."

"Every moment of that two weeks," Kellman says, "I'll never forget." �

BRETT TOMLINSON is managing editor of PAW.





## ONE JEW'S JOURNEY

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf '91 returned to Princeton last year to lead the Center for Jewish Life. He found big changes — and big challenges

#### BY WAYNE COFFEY

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN EMERSON



ANDELBAUM LOUNGE IS EXACTLY what any good gathering space should be, cozy and welcoming. Located on the first floor of Princeton's Center for Jewish Life (CJL), on Washington Road, it has a sofa, two love seats, three upholstered chairs, and one upright piano. Light pours through a big bay window, across from a fireplace and a painting of Albert Einstein and Israeli Prime Minister

David Ben-Gurion, a rendering of their 1951 meeting in Princeton. Ben-Gurion hoped to convince Einstein to become Israel's first president. Alas, he did not get his man, Einstein saying that he lacked "the natural aptitude and the experience to deal properly with people" in such a capacity.

At most any time of day, you will find the lounge (named for a prominent CJL benefactor, David Mandelbaum '57, and his wife, Karen) teeming with students. For many of Princeton's estimated 700 Jewish undergraduate and graduate students, it is a go-to meeting spot, adjacent to a University-run kosher kitchen that serves 42,000 meals a year. It's a place that gladdens the heart of Rabbi Gil Steinlauf '91, who returned to Princeton last summer to take over as executive director of CJL — a position that was accompanied by exhilarating upside as well as some daunting challenges.

Steinlauf sensed immediately how much the University had changed in his three decades away. He says he didn't experience overt antisemitism as an undergraduate, but he was acutely aware of being "the Jewish kid" to his friends, and of the embedded culture of Protestant privilege that F. Scott Fitzgerald 1917 depicted in *This Side of Paradise*.

"[T]he pleasantest country club in America," Fitzgerald called the University. Who would've imagined a couple of generations ago that Princeton, bastion of bluebloods, would join Yeshiva and Brandeis as one of the first three U.S. universities with a kosher kitchen?

"It's extraordinary that [the CJL is flourishing] at a place like Princeton, which has such an unfortunate history not just toward the Jews, but to all previously marginalized communities," Steinlauf says. "People of color have their own hell stories of what it was like being here, as well as anybody else who wasn't white Anglo-Saxon Protestant. The entire culture of the University has shifted, dramatically."

As CJL celebrates its 30th anniversary this year – and Hillel International, the largest Jewish campus organization in the world, observes its 75th anniversary on campus - Steinlauf is uplifted by the transformation he has seen at Princeton, but is also keenly aware of the rise of antisemitic incidents all over the globe and of the discord on his own campus, which has been roiled recently by sometimes vitriolic opposition from both pro-Palestinian and anti-Zionist groups who have been sharply critical of some of CJL's core beliefs and programming. Indeed, before Steinlauf got to his first Hanukkah on his return to campus, the Princeton Committee on Palestine (PCP) issued a letter to the student body calling for a boycott of Israel Tiger Trek, a trip co-sponsored by CJL that aims to connect students with Israel's flourishing entrepreneurial culture. The PCP letter said Tiger Trek effectively legitimizes Israeli "apartheid" and fosters ties to companies that do business with the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

"If you go on Israel Tiger Trek, you are complicit in the occupation of Palestine," the letter said.

Steinlauf responded with a strongly worded rebuttal,

assailing the PCP letter for invoking longstanding antisemitic tropes and being "part of the broader antisemitic trend that singles out Israel, the world's only Jewish nation, for condemnation. These tactics are not only divisive; they are also deeply painful for many

"OUR STUDENTS THINK ABOUT ALL THE ISSUES. IT'S NOT JUST REACTIVE. IT'S NOT JUST THE PROGRESSIVE IDEA DU JOUR. THERE ARE EXTREMELY PROGRESSIVE STUDENTS HERE, BUT THERE ALSO ARE EXTREMELY THOUGHTFUL STUDENTS."

- RABBI GIL STEINLAUF '91

in the Jewish community [and are] ... out of line with the values of Princeton University." Steinlauf went on to say that CJL emphatically supports Israel's legitimacy "while also seeking a peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that allows all residents of the region to live with dignity, security, opportunity, and freedom."

Sitting in his well-ordered corner office of the second floor of CJL, Steinlauf seemed unfazed both by the tempest and the letter that was published in *The Daily Princetonian* excoriating his rebuttal, the 12 signees accusing him of spreading "an exclusionary, right-wing message that made it clear that Jews who are not sufficiently Zionist are not welcome within the CJL community." He said he was impressed with the students' passion and thoughtfulness and reached out to all of them, meeting several for coffee, lunch, or a campus walk, and came away encouraged, differences notwithstanding.

"Our students think about all the issues. It's not just reactive," Steinlauf says. "It's not just the progressive idea du jour. There are extremely progressive students here, but there also are extremely thoughtful students."

HIL STEINLAUF ARRIVED AT PRINCETON in the fall of 1987 from Jericho High School in New York, with no notion of becoming a rabbi. He signed up for Hebrew 101 and began attending Shabbat dinners on Friday nights in Stevenson Hall, a repurposed social club that housed Princeton's kosher kitchen before CJL was built. His plan was to study Near Eastern history, but the more active he became in the University Jewish community, the more friends began telling him he would make a great rabbi. When he heard the same thing from Rabbi Edward Feld, then the head of Princeton's Hillel chapter, that clinched it. Phil Steinlauf enrolled in rabbinical school, where he studied for six years and changed his name to Gil — the male equivalent of his great-grandmother's name.

It means joy in Hebrew.

A youthful looking 53-year-old, Steinlauf has a salt-andpepper beard and trim physique. He begins his days with meditation, and often with a four-mile run through campus or past Lake Carnegie, and can frequently be found talking with students, whether over a lunch at CJL, or at Small World Coffee on Nassau Street. His days are extremely different from those in his previous position, as rabbi of Congregation Kol Shalom in Rockville, Maryland. (Before that, Steinlauf led Adas Israel, a prominent conservative synagogue in Washington, D.C., where his congregants included Supreme Court justices Elena

Kagan '81 and the late Ruth Bader Ginsburg.) *Bashert* is a Yiddish word that means "it was meant to be." It was *bashert* that called him to return to Princeton.

"I trace my own Jewish awakening to what Hillel at Princeton did for me, and now all these years later I get to work [here],"

he says. "There's something wonderful about that. It's a spiritually fulfilling act for me to come back to this place and be able to play a role, together with the staff, to inspire our students to integrate a meaningful sense of Judaism and Jewish community heritage in their own identity."

A number of Steinlauf's friends and colleagues were surprised he would want to become a college rabbi, even at a prestigious institution where he had a strong connection. It was, by any measure, a brave career move, though not nearly as brave as the email he sent in the fall of 2014, telling the entire Adas Israel congregation that he was gay. He wrote about how much he loved his wife, Batya, who is also a rabbi and the mother of their three children, but he could no longer live a lie.

"Any scholar whose inside does not match his outside is no scholar," Steinlauf wrote, quoting the Talmud. "Ultimately the dissonance between my inside and my outside became undeniable, then unwise, and finally intolerable."

Synagogue leaders whole heartedly supported — and even celebrated — Steinlauf's courage.

S BOTH A YOUNG UNDERGRADUATE and a middle-aged rabbi, Steinlauf has always appreciated the pluralism that is at the core of Hillel International. Every Friday night, there are three separate Shabbat services at CJL for Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform students, and then they all get together in the dining room next to Mandelbaum Lounge. The CJL has a group of Jewish Latin students and Jewish Asian students. The organization has 80 student leaders and, according to the CJL, has engaged with 91% of Princeton students who identify as Jewish, an extraordinarily high percentage, according to Susannah Sagan, campus support director of Hillel International. Whether it's Thursday Night Torah (yes, they call it TNT) or Koleinu, an a cappella group that performed at the White House during the 2022 holiday season, or an array of programs that take students abroad, CJL is deeply woven into the fabric of campus life.

"Princeton is a great place to be Jewish," says Marni Blitz, senior program adviser at CJL.

Not all Jewish students at Princeton are so sanguine about CJL, however. Emanuelle Sippy '25 is the president of

the Alliance of Jewish Progressives (AJP), which she describes as "an anti-capitalist, anti-racist collective of non- and anti-Zionist Jewish students who stand in solidarity with Palestinians." While acknowledging that CJL plays an important role in Jewish life on campus, Sippy says, "The CJL can be a very alienating and unwelcoming place for progressive, non- and anti-Zionist Jewish students. I often attend Conservative Shabbat services at CJL, but even in a space that is supposed to be 'apolitical'

there is a presumption that everyone is Zionist," adding that "it isn't uncommon for people to acknowledge or mourn the killings of Israelis without any recognition of the loss of Palestinian lives."

When the English department invited

Mohammed El-Kurd, a prominent Palestinian poet and writer, to deliver a lecture in February, it brought the fissures between progressive, pro-Palestinian Jews and the CJL into stark relief. El-Kurd has referred to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) as the "Apartheid Defense League" and likened the Israeli occupation of Palestine to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In a statement to *The Daily Princetonian* before the talk, Steinlauf wrote that "there are many speakers who advocate for the Palestinian cause without using the incendiary and hateful language about Jewish people that Mr. El-Kurd uses." During a Q&A session following the lecture, Chabad Rabbi Eitan Webb shouted, "I would like to thank you very much for giving a master class on how to be an antisemite."

The comment was followed by a brief chant of "Free Palestine!" Sippy later told *The Daily Princetonian* that AJP was "disappointed by the disruptive conduct of some members of the Jewish community, who do not speak for all Jews on this campus." HROUGH MOST OF ITS FIRST TWO centuries, Princeton experienced no debates about Judaism, for good reason: There were no Jews on campus. While the preamble to the 1748 charter called for no religious discrimination, four of the seven founding trustees were Presbyterian ministers. For well over 200 years, every president of Princeton was a Protestant clergyman, or the son of one, according to Abigail Klionsky '14, whose senior thesis explored the history of Jewish student life on campus. James McCosh, Princeton's president from 1869 to 1888, once wrote, "Withdraw Christianity from our colleges, and we have taken away one of the vital forces which have given life and body to our higher education." Princeton continued to have mandatory Sunday morning chapel attendance until 1964; Harvard made its chapel attendance voluntary in 1886.

Mordecai Myers 1812 was among the the first Jewish

students to matriculate at Princeton. It wasn't until 1915, when the Jewish population on campus reached 50, that the first Shabbat service took place. The number of Jewish students eventually reached 200, but for decades did not budge from there, raising suspicions of a quota, official or otherwise – a notion that Radcliffe Heermance, the University's longtime director of admission, vehemently denied.

"We've never had a quota system, we don't

have a quota system, we will never have a quota system," he told *The Daily Princetonian* in 1948.

(University president John Grier Hibben 1882 did not bolster Heermance's position in an exchange he had with Robert

Hutchins, president of the University of Chicago in the early 1930s — a conversation brought to light by Steven L. Buenning '71, whose thesis was a biography of Hibben. Hutchins asked Hibben how many Jewish students there were at Princeton. "About 200," Hibben said. Then Hutchins asked how many Jewish students there were the year before. "About 200," Hibben said. And the year before that? "About 200." Hutchins commented that this seemed odd and Hibben said he really couldn't account for it, until Mrs. Hibben interjected, "Jack Hibben, I don't see how you can sit there and lie to this young man. You know very well that you and Dean Eisenhart get together every year and fix the quota.")

Nowhere were Princeton's inhospitable ways towards Jewish students more apparent than in the eating clubs, the sociocultural epicenter of student life for more than a century. In an annual Princeton rite of spring, students apply for admission to one of the clubs through a process known as bicker. Each club had its own image and cachet to uphold, and if you were



GUEST OF HONOR From left, Donald Russ, Donald Rosenthal '48, and H. Lee Stern '47 of the Student Hebrew Association speak with Albert Einstein in 1947. genetically blessed or supremely athletic or were otherwise deemed worthy of membership in one of the elite eating clubs, you had effectively won the orange-and-black lottery. If you were *not* deemed worthy and considered "unclubbable," then you were essentially a social pariah. Clubs insisted there was no systemic antisemitism, but that contention was exposed in the infamous "Dirty Bicker" of 1958, when 23 students were deemed unclubbable — and 15 of them were Jewish. *The New York Times* and other major news media outlets covered the story, and the ensuing firestorm did not cast the University in the best light. From that low, Jewish student life gradually improved, particularly with the 1964 repeal of the chapel requirement and the school opening its door to women five years later. Hillel programming became more robust, and the stigma of being a Jewish student at Princeton began to diminish. In 1984, a

Princeton Hillel panel drafted a proposal to build a Center for Jewish Life. The idea was endorsed by President William G. Bowen \*58 and was approved by the University in 1988. Construction was originally set to be funded with a \$750,000 gift from securities trader Ivan Boesky, before Boesky was found guilty of insider trading and fined \$100 million. Other funding was secured and the building, with input from a student committee that included Phil Steinlauf, was

designed by architect Robert A.M. Stern. It opened its doors at 70 Washington Road site of the old Prospect Club — in 1993.



GATHERING AT THE TABLE The Center for Jewish Life is a popular meeting spot, with a kosher kitchen that serves 42,000 meals a year.

HE TALMUD CONTAINS THOUSANDS of pages of rabbinic text that amount to debate over theological issues — *machloket leshem shamayim* in Hebrew. The literal translation is "disagreeing for the sake of heaven."

"The thing about these arguments is that they are done respectfully, civilly. They are done with love," Steinlauf says. "Different rabbis have different perspectives. This rabbi might make sense in this generation, but this disagreeing rabbi might make sense to another generation. That's the nature of the Jewish tradition. Our entire identity is heterogeneous in terms of embracing partial truths on all sides. We actually have the potential, as a Jewish community at a world-class Ivy League university, to lift up this very Jewish gift to Princeton and the wider world — this Jewish approach to embracing difference, celebrating difference, leaning into it courageously.

"That's the goal — lean into it. Work with the energy of that. This is a fact of life. This is the world we live in ... . The Torah says we are supposed to be a light to the nations. This is one of the ways in which we can be." Keeping the light burning in the current sociopolitical climate is not always easy. According to data gathered by the ADL, there were 2,717 antisemitic incidents in the U.S. in 2021, a 34% increase from 2020, and the most ever recorded since the ADL began tracking such incidents in 1979. Holocaust deniers and conspiracy theorists have won elections and used their platform to spew misinformation and rail about an evil, omnipotent global cabal of Jews, all of it inflamed by social media, which Steinlauf calls "the perfect match for the powder keg of hate." When CJL formed a search committee to replace Rabbi Julie Roth h'21, an immensely popular leader over her 17 years, one of the key characteristics it was seeking in a rabbi was one who could be a comforter and unifier in these polarizing times. Julie Levey '24, current CJL student president, says there was a "collective sigh of relief" among committee members after they came upon

> Steinlauf's application. Here was a Princeton alum, affable and erudite, a natural teacher with an inclusive approach and a broad appeal. Virtually every week at Shabbat service, Steinlauf will share a *simcha* moment — Hebrew for "festive occasion."

"His *simcha* moment is the present. It's getting to spend Shabbat with all of us," Levey says. "He has impressed me and everyone else with his extensive passion for

Jewish leadership and his

commitment to allow all of us to be our best selves." While "everyone" may not include members of the Princeton Committee on Palestine or the AJP, Steinlauf is philosophically open to discussion and

debate and continuing to argue for the sake of heaven. Nothing good happens when emotions run so hot that dialogue is shut down altogether.

Rabbi Justin David, dean of the rabbinical school at Hebrew College in Newton, Massachusetts, is one of Steinlauf's closest friends. "A lot of people seek deeper understanding," David says. "But Gil seeks to translate that deeper understanding into ways of being — study, prayer, community engagement, helping people — through which people change their lives."

To Steinlauf, the best response to hate is to seek the good in people, to not give in to despair. If he finds himself needing a psychological boost, Steinlauf will walk downstairs from his office at 70 Washington Road, 100 yards from the eating clubs on Prospect Avenue that for decades shunned Jews. He will venture into Mandelbaum Lounge and take in the energy and entropy, the spectacle of a room full of Jewish students sharing space and a sense of belonging. It will make him feel very good. ◆

WAYNE COFFEY is a freelance journalist and author of more than 30 books. He lives in Sleepy Hollow, New York.

# PRINCETON UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM

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LEFT: Alison Saar, Jitterbug, 2019. Museum purchase, Kathleen Compton Sherrerd Fund for Acquisitions in American Art. © Alison Saar. Courtesy of L.A. Louver, Venice, CA. Photo: Jeffrey Evans RIGHT: Steven Molina Contreras, Abigail's Portrait, United States, from the series Adelante, 2019. © Steven Molina Contreras. Courtesy the artist and Aperture

'05

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CULTURAL CELEBRATION: As pa Alumni Day in February, Princetor and others gathered to celebrate 50th anniversary of the founding Third World Center (n elds Center). Proposed sit-in to get the admin m board before the ce<mark>nter</mark> opened 71 as space for students of color Pictured here from left are Ben Victoria Yu h'20, and Franne M he event. For many Princetoni the center has been a place w could be themselves and feel comfortable. Mah adds it was "one of the few places where I felt it was home."



## ALUM LAUNCHES SKIN CARE PRODUCTS FOR MEN

Inspired by cancer diagnosis, Jackfir aims to eliminate harmful chemicals

Nine months into an MBA program at Bocconi University in Milan, Italy, Charlie Razook '09 was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Just two days away from starting an internship at Gucci's international headquarters, he instead spent the next few years in treatment.

"As soon as I was feeling less horribly sick every day, I started thinking, 'How did I get this?'" Razook says. There's no history of blood cancer, or any cancer, in his family. He started investigating potential environmental factors. Though the cause of leukemia is unknown, exposure to some chemicals such as benzene, which is found in many beauty products, are believed to put people at higher risk.

"I changed how I ate and swapped out different products I use daily," he adds, eliminating anything that had parabens, sulfates, or formaldehyde and formaldehyde-releasing agents. His only options were products marketed to women. That is, until Razook created Jackfir, a line of men's personal products.

"I would love to one day have our own stores expand their retail footprint but also hopefully offer anything a man might need to clean up his lifestyle, whether that's organic cotton clothing or supplements." — Charlie Razook '09

"I'm a gay guy from New York City, so I'll use women's products, I don't care about that," he says. But that's not the case for all men, says Razook, who saw this as an unmet need.

Launched in August 2022, Jackfir makes a men's shave cream, cleanser, and moisturizer that are certified by NSF International as 70% organic and also verified by the Environmental Working Group as being made without harmful chemicals. They're also GMO free, cruelty free, gluten free, vegan, and their tubes are made of 50% recycled plastic.

Men might not have been open to thinking about skin care 10 or 20 years ago, but "gender norms and society norms are changing, and toxic masculinity isn't the same anymore," says Razook, who earned a degree in politics and certificate in Italian at Princeton. Almost every man will need to shave at some point in his life, he says, which is why Jackfir is starting with those three items.



Right now, Jackfir products are sold in its Manhattan location, which looks like a cabin (the name Jackfir is a mash up of "jack pine" and "fir tree"); at Fellow Barber, which has locations in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco; online at its website; and at a few boutiques in New York. The products are also carried by Onda Beauty, a beauty store with spa services co-founded by actress Naomi Watts. Razook says the company is focusing on expanding distribution and affiliate marketing, and planning to launch two or three more products this year.

And while Jackfir products can be used by anyone of any gender, Razook says he's focusing on men because he sees it as a way of getting them to specifically think about their lifestyles.

"I would love to one day have our own stores expand their retail footprint but also hopefully offer anything a man might need to clean up his lifestyle, whether that's organic cotton clothing or supplements," says Razook. "There's so many ways to make swaps from your daily life."

He's also, happy to say, cancer free. • By Jen A. Miller



Bring your items (only as big as you can carry) to Reunions and drop them off at the For alumni hoping to find a home for Princeton memorabilia and apparel that could be treasured by other alumni and guests.

**"Take it or Leave it" tent** on the East Pyne South Lawn anytime **after 9 a.m. Thursday, May 25.** And then go on your own search for more great finds! Items not claimed by a new owner by 9 p.m. Saturday, May 27, will disappear!

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View of the siege of the town of Blaye, Cotton MS Augustus I ii 80, 1593, British Library

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Courtessy Charlie Razook

60



# THE LAST DAYS OF W.E.B. DU BOIS

The Wounded World *uncovers Du Bois' complex* feelings about Black military participation

Chad Williams \*04 has dedicated his career to telling the stories of those who haven't been prioritized in history books. As a professor of African and African American studies at Brandeis University, Williams set his focus on military history, dating as far back as World War I — the topic of his first book *Torchbearers of Democracy* (2010). Now in his new book, *The Wounded World* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), he's giving readers a glimpse into the mind of W.E.B. Du Bois.

A social scientist, Du Bois grew up in an integrated area, and he wanted other Black Americans to experience his freedoms, plus more. He was aware of the struggles of Black people, but he would witness the cruelty firsthand upon moving to the South. Lynchings were a daily reality, and his environment was a catalyst for his fervent fight for equality. To be truly recognized as full citizens was his goal, and Williams explains that Du Bois believed the best avenue for doing so was through military service.

"He was really at the forefront of every major issue related to the struggle for Black freedom and citizenship," Williams explains, calling him an "emblematic" Black activist. "Many were trying to model themselves after him."

The book reveals Du Bois' inner conflict, in his own words: "One ever feels his two-ness, an American,



a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder."

What happened during the war instead was disheartening. Black soldiers came home unable to take advantage of opportunities for veterans, and some were targeted for violent attacks.

The aftermath of the war deeply affected Du Bois and his mission. He started writing about his findings, but ultimately never finished. Williams says that Du Bois struggled personally

> and intellectually because of the anguish he felt as a result of the war, and that was probably what kept him from finishing. His words might have gone unread if it weren't for Williams' research.

Williams, who earned his bachelor's degree in history and African American studies from UCLA, came to Princeton

Mike Lovett

to pursue a master's and Ph.D. in history. (On one of his first days, he met his wife, Madeleine Lopez \*00, in Firestone Library.) While researching for his thesis, he visited the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where the majority of Du Bois' papers were archived. "When I visited the library to access these materials, I was given six microfilm reels, which turned out to be an unfinished and unpublished manuscript by Du Bois on the Black experience in World War I," Williams says.

......

"How do Black soldiers volunteer to fight and die for this country, while still not being treated as an equal citizen and oftentimes, not even as an equal human being? That's a question that we're still trying to find an answer to in 2023."

Chad Williams \*04

His desire to write about Du Bois was intense, but at the advice of his adviser, Nell Irvin Painter, Williams prioritized finishing his dissertation, which focused on American soldiers and World War I. He says that his graduate work gave him the confidence to tackle such a "big and complicated" subject like Du Bois.

The 800 pages took Du Bois over 20 years to compile. Williams was certain that the world needed the insight contained in those pages. He wanted readers to interact with DuBois' thoughts on the aftermath of the war for African Americans.

Williams is confident that quite a bit can be gleaned from *The Wounded* World. On top of giving insight into the less public years of Du Bois' life and career, it confronts important questions about serving a country when you aren't treated as an equal citizen. "How do Black soldiers volunteer to fight and die for this country, while still not being treated as an equal citizen and oftentimes, not even as an equal human being?" he asks." That's a question that we're still trying to find an answer to in 2023." • By Tonya Russell

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## PAIRING ART AND BUSINESS

Paul Provost \*94 leads a nonprofit that loans artwork to hundreds of museums

As a graduate student in art history at Princeton, says Paul Provost \*94, "my game plan was to be a curator for a while, and then go back and get an MBA," with an eye toward moving into museum leadership. Instead, Provost's business education came on the job at Christie's, and in 2019 he became the first CEO at Art Bridges Foundation in Bentonville, Arkansas, which "inhabits a space in between a museum and a foundation," Provost says.

Provost studied American art at Princeton and wrote his dissertation on Winslow Homer. "I loved teaching," he says. "But I also realized that while I can write, I don't love to write. I knew that I wasn't cut out to be a real academic because being a real academic means publishing and researching and writing and writing and writing."

Instead, he started his career

in 1993 as the curator of paintings, drawings, and sculpture at the New-York Historical Society. In 1995, he



Jaune Quick-To-See Smith's *I See Red: Talking to the Ancestors* sold at auction for \$642,600 in November.

moved to Christie's, one of the world's preeminent art auction houses, and quickly discovered he had a talent for business.

Hired as a specialist in American art, Provost moved to the business side in 2001 and became deputy chairman in 2011. Along the way, Christie's sent him to finance boot camp at Columbia Business School and to the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School to take courses in negotiation.

The art market, Provost says, "is a fascinating thing, but it wasn't something we discussed in our seminars at Princeton. In recent years, the study of how the art market works has become an area of academic study." And, he adds, "When I've gone back to give seminars to graduate students, I tell them, 'Learn how to read a balance sheet, because even if you're a curator, you're going to need to learn some business along the way.""

As his run at Christie's was winding down, Provost realized that he wanted to return to the nonprofit sector. He was tapped to build Art Bridges, a foundation launched by philanthropist Alice Walton, daughter of Walmart founder Sam Walton, to expand access to American art. The fourth person hired by the institution, Provost has helped grow it to about 30 people.

Art Bridges acquires works of art that it loans to about 220 museums and provides funding for education around that art. "Our galleries are the galleries of our partner museums around the country," says Provost. "I joke internally that Art Bridges is in the art distribution and education business."

Throughout his career, Provost has maintained his passion for art. "One work of art that I am tremendously excited about which we acquired recently is a work by a contemporary Native American artist named Jaune Quick-to-See Smith," he says. "It's just a fantastic picture by a major contemporary living artist who is an Indigenous woman. It's an amazing thing for us to be able to send a work of that caliber and quality to communities that don't have works of art like that." � By David Marcus '92

# **CLASS NOTES**

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 1948



James E. Ward '48 Jim, who met the challenge of being one of Princeton's first Black students with grace and courage, died May 27, 2022, at the age of 99.

Jim grew up in McAlester, Okla., and was attending Langston University when he enlisted in the Navy. He served in the South Pacific in 1944. In July 1945, he came to Princeton, along with three other Black V-12 students, including Arthur (Pete) Wilson '48.

Smart, resilient, and resourceful, Jim majored in economics and was a member of Prospect Cooperative Club, Whig-Clio, and the Liberal Union. He connected with the local Princeton community, and one Sunday in church met Mary Emma Allison. Jim and Mary married in the fall of 1947, when Jim also received his degree, the third Black man to graduate from the University.

Jim attended Temple business school, worked for the American Friends Service Committee, and was a Navy recruiter. He returned to active duty from 1952 to 1955 and by the early 1960s had settled in Princeton. Jim earned a law degree from Seton Hall in 1971 while working at Research-Cottrell and became the company's assistant legal counsel. He later moved to Austin, Texas, where he worked for the state's Railroad Commission and then for many years as legal counsel and investigator at the Texas Human Rights Commission.

Mary died in 1999 and Jim moved back to McAlester. He served as a court mediator, hospice volunteer, and treasurer at his church well into his 90s. In 2021, he went to live with relatives in Haymarket, Va.

Jim is survived by his son, Ronald; three grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; brother William; and nephew Jeffrey Allison '83. Mary and son James Jr. predeceased him. The class extends heartfelt condolences to Jim's family and friends on the passing of our very special classmate.

crew at Princeton and a pioneer in the business

#### THE CLASS OF 1950

James G. Stier '50 Jim, a member of a championship 150-pound



art of investor relations during a 41-year career at W.R. Grace, died Jan. 3, 2023, in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where he had been living with his son Kenneth. He was 94.

Jim was born in Brooklyn and grew up in Great Neck. He attended boarding school in Rhode Island. At Princeton, he graduated with honors from the School of Public and International Affairs. He was an oarsman on lightweight crews all four years at Princeton. In 1948 and 1949 he rowed on the varsity 150-pound crew teams that competed triumphantly at the Henley Royal Regattas in England. He belonged to Dial Lodge and roomed with Jim Billington, Lon Horsey, and Jeremy Main.

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After serving in the Air Force during the Korean War, Jim signed up to start in the mailroom at Grace. As he rose in the company, he developed and ran its investor relations department. He was an executive vice president when he retired in 1991.

His wife, Virginia, died in 2016. Jim is survived by his five children, Kenneth, Gregory, Gretchen, Heidi, and Gerard; and his brother Kenneth '54.

#### THE CLASS OF 1951



**Donald Edward Carey '51** The son of Salvation Army parents, Don graduated from Blair Academy. At Princeton, he majored in biology, managed the student tailor shop,

joined Terrace Club, and roomed with Donald Sutherland. After earning a medical degree at John Hopkins, Don spent two years with the Centers for Disease Control, did a residency in pediatrics at Columbia, and got an MPH from Harvard.

He worked for the Rockefeller Foundation as a virologist for 10 years in New York City, India, and Nigeria; then began a second career as a pediatrician in a Laconia, N.H., clinic for 18 years. A third career began at age 60, spending five years as a physician to Peace Corps volunteers in Benin, Togo, Ghana, and Nigeria.

Don and his wife, Barbara, pursued an eclectic life. They bicycled across the United States; in many countries (including Ethiopia, Eritrea, Zimbabwe, and Mali); and from their home in Gilford, N.H., to four Princeton Reunions. The couple ran the New York City Marathon together at age 70; walked across England and around Manhattan Island; backpacked in Kenya and Nepal including Annapurna; and cross-country skied in Lapland.

A jazz and movie aficionado and a vegetarian, Don died Dec. 19, 2022, leaving Barbara and five children.

#### William Alsover Coale '51

Bill graduated from Allentown (Pa.) High School. At Princeton, he was in NROTC and majored in mechanical engineering. He was a member of Campus Club and roomed with Louis Emanuel, Earle Helton, and G.D. Williams.

Following graduation Bill spent 26 years in the Navy, serving on submarines, destroyers, cruisers, and amphibious ships as well as onshore staff assignments. His work included the development and initial deployment of the Polaris missile submarine program. In an article about Bill's work as navigator on the first nuclear missile submarine, *Life* magazine noted that his ship was covertly sent to sea during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Retiring as a Commander, he returned to Allentown and embarked on a second career in the insurance business before moving to the Cape Cod town of Cotuit with his wife, Doris, where he died Oct. 26, 2022. Bill is survived by Doris, two children, and four grandchildren.



Arthur Allan Patchett '51 Art graduated from Middletown (N.Y.) High School. At Princeton, he majored in chemistry, graduating *summa cum laude* and was a member of Phi Beta

Kappa. He was a member of Court Club, roomed with Buzz Pohlmann, and was a coxswain on our crew for three years.

Following Princeton he attended Cambridge for two years on a Fulbright, earned a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Harvard, and spent two years working on the design of medicinally important compounds at the National Institutes of Health.

He joined Merck in 1957 to begin a 44-year career that brought him many awards and honors as a widely renowned research chemist. He was directly involved in the discovery of the hypertension drugs Vasotec and Prinivil and the cholesterol-lowering drug Mevacor. He was author or co-author of 160 publications and 175 U.S. patents. His pioneering work in the discovery of statin helped save millions of lives around the world. He also took a leadership role in the American Chemical Society's Medicinal Chemistry Division.

Predeceased by his wife, Lois, Art died Dec. 2, 2022, in New Providence, N.J. He is survived by two sons.

## MEMORIALS / PRINCETONIANS



Daniel Peyton Sullivan '51

Dan was born in Shanghai, the son of missionary parents, and graduated from Episcopal High School in Virginia.

At Princeton, he was a SPIA major, sang in the Glee Club, and was a member of Terrace Club. His roommates were Charles Farrell, William Fuellhart, and Claibourne Griffin.

Following graduation Dan served as a naval officer for three years and then earned a master's degree from Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies. Joining the foreign service in 1956, he served for more than 28 years in American embassies in countries such as the Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria.

Retiring to Washington in 1984 with his wife, Margaret, also a child of a missionary family, he participated in several singing groups and worked for the State Department in the years prior to his death Oct. 30, 2022.

#### **THE CLASS OF 1952**



**Barry C. Loper '52** Barry came from Port Jefferson (N.Y.) High School, where he was class president. At Princeton, he studied at SPIA, joined Cloister, ran track, sang in the Glee Club,

and was a member of the Republican Club. He roomed with George Gowen, Darby Houston, Sam Gwynne, and Dave Butler.

After graduation, Barry enlisted in the Army, and after OCS served in Korea as a second lieutenant from 1953 to 1956. He earned an MBA from Wharton and commenced a career at IBM. He married his first boss there, Jean Rowe.

An active alum, he was a longtime member of the class executive committee, working on special projects and accompanied at the class gatherings by Jean, ever smartly dressed and a favorite in the group.

Barry was predeceased by Jean. He died Dec. 22, 2022. Barry is survived by his children, Bradley, Courtney, and Adrienne. The class sends condolences, along with happy memories of their father and mother. We appreciate his service to 1952 and to our country.



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#### Thomas I. Unterberg '52

Tom graduated from Deerfield and at Princeton majored in economics and ate at Key and Seal. He worked on the *Tiger* and roomed with Terry

Liebman and John Ames.

After Army service he earned an MBA from Wharton in 1958 and began a successful career in investment banking as head of C.E. Unterberg, Towbin; L.F. Rothschild, Unterberg, Towbin; and Unterberg Harris. In more than 65 years on Wall Street, he took such companies as Intel, Compaq, Applied Materials, Cray Research, and more than 200 others public. Tom's numerous charities included Princeton, Grand Street Settlement, Monmouth University, Monmouth Medical Center, the Monmouth Health Care Foundation, Channel 13, and the Boys' Club of New York.

Tom died Jan. 10, 2023. He is survived by his wife, Ann, and daughters Ellen and Emily. The class sends its good wishes and thanks for Tom's generosity to Princeton and his service to our country.

#### **THE CLASS OF 1955**



William A. Percy III '55 \*64 Bill, who led a remarkably adventurous life in academia and elsewhere, died in his sleep Oct. 30, 2022.

He was born Dec. 10, 1933, in Memphis and was valedictorian at the Middlesex School in Concord, Mass. At Princeton, he joined Court Club, struggled with the homophobia of the McCarthy era, and left after his sophomore year. He worked in an Alaska gold mine, hitchhiked to Seattle, enlisted in the Army, and served at the Army language school in Monterey, Calif. Then he worked as a French interpreter for the CIA on Saipan.

After active duty, Bill earned a bachelor's degree in history at the University of Tennessee in 1957. He joined the doctoral program at Cornell, spent a year of research at the University of Naples, and went back to Princeton and earned a Ph.D.

Bill said he had attended nine universities and taught at nine, winding up at the University of Massachusetts Boston, deeming it the best school he ever taught at.

In 1973, Bill came out, publishing articles on homosexuality in the *Gay Community News*. He also continued his traditional scholarship as co-author of *The Age of Recovery: The Fifteenth Century*. Bill was co-associate editor of the *Encyclopedia of Homosexuality*. He also combined his expertise in ancient and medieval history and interest in gay subjects with many scholarly articles, short notes, and book reviews in print and online journals. He also invested in real estate in Boston's South End and became financially independent.

After his retirement in 2011, he held visiting professional positions at Washington University in St. Louis, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Northeastern University, Norfolk Correctional Facility in Walpole, Mass., and Norfolk State Prison.

Bill is survived by his longtime partner, Barry Ahern; and sister Anne Percy Knott.

#### Alan D. Persky '55

Alan, a psychiatrist trained in psychoanalysis who was passionate about helping people, died Dec. 17, 2022, at his home near Boston. He attended Lincoln High School in Jersey



City, N.J., where he was editor of the school newspaper, president of the assembly committee, and active in the National Honor Society, dramatics, and student government. At

Princeton, he majored in biology and joined Court Club. He managed the crew team, earning freshman numerals. He also participated in IAA basketball, softball, and football. Alan was music director of WPRU and active in Orange Key, Whig-Clio, the Pre-Medical Society, and the Hudson County Club. After graduating Phi Beta Kappa, he went on to Harvard Medical School, completing his internship at UCLA and residency at Massachusetts Mental Health Center in Boston.

Alan was involved in private practice, mentoring young physicians, and consulting for corporations in organizational behavior. His varied interests and hobbies included tennis, fishing, reading, and the arts. He was as likely to be found at a card table as the opera, symphony, museum, or theater. His favorite times were spent walking the beaches of Cape Cod or the trails of New Hampshire and being with his sons and grandchildren.

Alan was predeceased by his wife, Elinor; and son Laurence. He is survived by sons Michael and Jonathan, and four grandchildren.



**Clinton Stuart Raynor Jr. '55** Stuart, a guiding force in affordable housing in northern Virginia, died Nov. 7, 2022, in Charlottesville, Va. He was born Sept. 30, 1933, in New

Rochelle, N.Y.

He came to us from The Hill School. At Princeton, he joined Tower Club, majored in economics, and graduated with high honors. His IAA activities included touch football, pingpong, volleyball, softball, and tennis. Stuart's senior-year roommates were John Doeg and Bob Elwell.

After two years as an officer in the Army, Stuart and his first wife, Anne, made their way to Charlottesville. He was an organizational force at the inception of Monticello Bank, Alcova Realty, and the Boars Head Sports Club. After Anne and Stuart went their separate ways, Stuart married Mary-Louise "Mayo" Welton, who died Dec. 13, 2022, shortly after Stuart's death.

Stuart exercised his passion for service to the community in a progressive capitalist manner, becoming president of the Montgomery County housing office. He was an avid tennis and squash player, who loved reading good books, tending to his azalea bushes, investing in the market, and enjoying a good glass of red wine with a piece of dark chocolate. He was also a practicing historian. Stuart and Mayo loved to travel, visiting

#### PRINCETONIANS / MEMORIALS

Europe and Africa many times.

He was devoted to Princeton, being involved with alumni groups, his classmates, visiting the campus, and assisting applicants for admission.

Stuart is survived by children Clinton III and Kimi Raynor Wren, and four grandchildren.



#### Douglas M. Yeager '55

Doug, an inveterate traveler and generous supporter of childhood development, died Dec. 24, 2022, at his home in Fort Collins, Colo.

He was born Nov. 10, 1933, in Wauseon, Ohio. He graduated as valedictorian from Loudonville (Ohio) High School. At Princeton, he joined Tower Club and majored in politics. He was on the staff of The Daily Princetonian and active in the Marching Band and Tigertones.

After marriage to Nancy and a stint in the Army, Doug joined NCR Corp. for 27 years. He attended night school, earning three graduate degrees and completed an executive development program at Harvard Business School.

In 1989, he took early retirement from NCR, moved to Colorado, and became vice president of the National Technological University, a graduate engineering school that delivers its courses from 52 universities via satellite. Upon his second retirement in 2002, he established the Yeager Family Foundation, focused on early childhood development. Doug authored six children's books, donated 135,000 copies throughout the country, and made a major gift to Princeton's Baby Lab. He was pleased to have set foot on all seven continents - more than 66 countries and territories – while living in 11 states and traveling to the other 39.

In 2000, Doug was predeceased by Nancy, his wife of 44 years and mother of their three children. He is survived by son David, daughters Deborah and Linda, three grandchildren, and his companion, Marilyn Roberts.

#### **THE CLASS OF 1957**



Jay H. Lehr '57 Jay died Jan. 10, 2023, of cardiac arrest. He was 86. He came to Princeton from the Hotchkiss School.

At Princeton, he majored in geology and joined Dial Lodge. His senior-year roommates were Squier Ball, Hugh Barnett, Dave Loeffler, Don Mayer, John Nevin, Miles Seifert, and John Storm.

After Navy service he earned a doctorate in hydrology at the University of Arizona, and then taught there and at Ohio State. Later Jay was employed at the National Ground Water Association, Environmental Education Enterprises, the Heartland Institute, and the International Climate Science Coalition.

Jay had a photographic memory that allowed him to address a variety of unrelated subjects.

He wrote Fit, Firm and 50 and with Janet, his wife, published a five-volume encyclopedia on water and at least 25 other books on science.

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At Reunions, Jay was a P-rade favorite. He led the class, walking on his hands for 20 years, and then completing the route on his unicycle for 20 years. He loved to skydive, completing 1,481 jumps. Jay also competed in 10 Ironman World Championships, which involve a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride, and a marathon of 26.2 miles, a total of 140.6 miles.

Jay and Janet had 31 wonderful years together. He is also survived by four children/ stepchildren and eight grandchildren. Truly, Jay was one of a kind.

#### Ernest E.H. McCall '57



After an unusually adventurous life, Ernie was slowed by Lewy body dementia 10 years ago, and died Dec. 17, 2022. He was born in Eugene,

Ore., but after his father died, his mother remarried and moved the family near Portland. Prepping at The Hill School, Ernie came to Princeton as our classmate, but dropped out after two years. As a freshman, however, he was one of the lightweight crew members whose shell sank in the Potomac River, receiving international publicity and perhaps presaging his later life. Ernie then became a Navy pilot, serving on aircraft carriers in the Atlantic and Mediterranean, including the survival of a landing on the USS Wasp requiring two approaches before crash-landing on the deck.

Following naval service, he purchased a BMW motorcycle in Germany and then toured Europe and about six Mideastern countries. Upon returning to the United States, he married Barclay Ball, had three children, pursued a business career, and then endured more tragedy when his wife died at an early age. He remarried but was soon divorced, so he reared his children as a single dad for many years. He and his children enjoyed time together skiing, sailing, kayaking, and motorcycling. He became president of an industrial chemicals company but retired early, re-entered Princeton, and graduated as a member of the Class of 1987!

Continuing motorcycle and flying adventures with his children, he nevertheless saw to their graduations from college (young Ernie was in the Class of '91) and even graduate school. During this time, he married Diane Forsgren.

Ernie is survived by Diane, his three children, two stepchildren, and six grandchildren.

#### **THE CLASS OF 1959** Stephen A. Feig '59

Steve, professor emeritus of pediatrics at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine, died Nov. 30, 2022. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Judy Bergman Feig; children Laura '86,



Dan '87, and Andrew; and five grandsons, Zach '18, Ricky '22, Teddy '25, Joe Radel '24, and Sam. Of those offspring, all but Andrew (Yale '90) and his son Sam are Princeton alums,

as are the spouses of Laura (Jon Radel '85) and Dan (Trina '87 – along with her three alumnae sisters, children of our '59 classmate Dick Morrison).

Born in New York City, Steve prepared for Princeton at Manhattan's Ethical Culture Fieldston School. A member of Terrace Club, he was on the staff of WPRB. His biology department thesis was an experimental lab on hematology with Hirsh Barmatz. After earning a medical degree from Columbia, Steve did his pediatric residency at Mount Sinai, his military service as the Navy pediatrician at the Port Hueneme Seabee hospital near Los Angeles, and a fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology at Boston Children's Hospital. He joined the UCLA medical faculty in 1972 and began his life's work in teaching and research in cell metabolism and bone-marrow transplantation for children with blood diseases and cancer, retiring after 40 years in 2016.

A habit of joking with his patients by calling them "turkeys" led to his nickname as "Dr. Turkey" and an extensive collection of turkey memorabilia.



George A. Johnson '59 George, the nation's first Peace Corps volunteer, died Nov. 20, 2022.

He came to Princeton "a

poor but honest jock" from Titusville (Pa.) High School, where he had played football, basketball, and track, and was valedictorian and president of the student council. At Princeton, he was president of Cannon Club, won a varsity letter in football, and "made a dispiriting slog" toward a civil engineering degree. Upon graduating he went to work for Bethlehem Steel, where he described himself as "a complete failure." Facing compulsory military service George found an escape in the newly formed Peace Corps, where he served from 1961 to 1963.

An application to Yale Law School met with success, and George found his calling. Immediately out of Yale Law, he took a job with the Philadelphia Public Defender's office. He embarked on a lifetime of defending activists, protesters, Black and White Panthers, draft resisters, and the like. An attempt at teaching law was unsuccessful; he found his footing in a solo law practice in Boulder, Colo., in 1981 and received the Boulder County Bar Association annual Award of Merit in 2005. Thrice unsuccessfully married, George wed Peggy Wrenn in 1985. They have one son, Colin.

Foreseeing debilitating illness, George

terminated his life Nov. 20, 2022. In a note to "Dear Friends and Companions," he said he was neither depressed nor sad but couldn't do anything that he enjoyed and saw no reason to prolong things. Our condolences to his family.

#### William D. McCabe Jr. '59

Bill, a retired Navy officer and structural engineer, died Dec. 18, 2022. Born in Los Angeles, he

grew up in San Antonio, Texas.

He graduated from Texas Military Institute, where he was a member of the football, baseball, and rifle teams and was captain and co-commander of the ROTC unit. At Princeton, he majored in geological engineering, was a member of Cannon Club, and commanded the Navy ROTC drill team. Among his roommates were Kit Bond, Cliff Mahoney, Harry Seay, and Bob Ziegler.

Following graduation Bill spent eight years as a Navy line officer, serving aboard the carrier USS Midway; at the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Range in Puerto Rico; again at sea as a destroyer engineering officer; and then on a destroyer squadron commander's staff. In Hawaii, he met and married his first wife, Judy. They separated in 1981; Bill remarried to Ursula Strobel in 1983.

Bill had resigned his Navy commission in 1967 and enrolled in the civil engineering master's program at the University of Texas. Earning a degree in 1970, he went on to work as a supervisory structural engineer for the U.S. Forest Service, concurrently renewing his Navy ties by accepting a commission with the Navy Reserve Civil Engineering Corps. He retired to Portland, Ore., in 2001.

Bill is survived by his second wife, Ursula; his daughters Molly '96 and Kathleen; and five grandchildren.

#### THE CLASS OF 1960



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The U.S. space program began just as we were graduating, and John was drawn to it from its very beginning. He was

John M. Klineberg '60

raised in Scarsdale, N.Y., and graduated from its high school, after two years in France. With us, he majored in aeronautical engineering and joined the Flying Club and Tiger Inn, where he roomed his senior year and managed Tiger's IAA efforts.

Upon graduation John migrated to California for employment with Douglas Aircraft and pursuit of Southern California beach life. Called back to serious study, he enrolled at Cal Tech. Expecting to spend a year there, he was drawn further into it, earning a master's degree in 1962 and Ph.D. in 1968 and teaching as a research engineer. Joining NASA in 1970, he advanced briskly through its

major research facilities, rising to director in several and culminating in his appointment as director of the Goddard Space Flight Center in 1990. He supervised the preparations for the Hubble Telescope repair as well as other major initiatives until retirement in 1995.

John returned to the private sector, serving as president of several major space-related corporations until 2006. He also spoke for the National Academy of Sciences before several congressional committees until 2010.

John died Dec. 31, 2022. His wife, Ann-Marie, predeceased him in 2004. John is survived by three sons, eight grandchildren, and their families.

#### **THE CLASS OF 1961**



Mike died Nov. 9, 2021, of Parkinson's at Regency Grande Nursing Center in Dover, N.J. Born in Tanta, Egypt, to missionary parents, he lived

in England until 1949 before coming to the United States. He came to us from Mercersburg Academy. At Princeton, he majored in aeronautical engineering; was a member of the French Club, Chemistry Club, Literary Society, and Chapel staff; and took his meals at Dial Lodge. His roommates were Jim Klein, Barry Bosak '62, and John Rode.

Following a master's degree from Stevens Institute of Technology, Mike worked his entire career with Verizon, eventually retiring in a management role. Avocationally, Mike's great passion was classic cars, especially his 1967 Pontiac Firebird, which he lovingly restored from the ground up. It now resides with daughter Michelle, to be passed down to the grandchildren someday.

Mike is survived by his wife of 45 years Carol; daughter Michelle Pepper and her husband Mark; and grandchildren Nicole and Blake.

#### Michael D. Iseman '61



The class lost a great leader when Mike died of melanoma Nov. 20, 2022.

Born in St. Paul, Minn., and raised in Fremont, Neb., he

came to us from Fremont Senior High School, where he was all-state in four sports and was Nebraska high school athlete of the year. At Princeton, he majored in history, ate at Tiger Inn, and was a varsity letterman in football and track. He roomed with Jon Hagstrom and V. J. Menna.

From Princeton he went to Columbia's College of Physicians & Surgeons, followed by service in the Navy, then settling in Denver to raise his family and practice medicine at National Jewish Hospital while serving on the faculty of the University of Colorado medical school. He became an internationally known expert on tuberculosis, traveling to 37 countries and writing

#### ..... **MEMORIALS / PRINCETONIANS**

the definitive textbook on the subject.

Mike served terms as an alumni trustee of the University and as class president and was a constant presence at Reunions and other events. He continued to be active in sports, playing rugby at Columbia and later winning a world master's championship in crew.

Mike met Joan, his wife of 59 years and anchor in life, in high school. He is survived by her and by sons Tom '91 and Matt '93.

#### THE CLASS OF 1962



Bruce M. Kaplan '62 Bruce died Nov. 23, 2022, at his home in West Palm Beach, Fla. He came to us from Phillips

Andover Academy, where he was active in squash, crew, and on the yearbook staff. At Princeton, he lettered

in squash, was a member of Whig-Clio and the Democratic Club, majored in politics, and ate at Key and Seal. Following graduation, he earned a law degree in 1965 from the University of Pennsylvania.

Bruce spent 12 years in local and state government positions in New York with a short stint in private practice. In 1977, he was appointed a judge on the New York State Family Court, from which he retired in 1997. He married Janet Yaseen in 2000.

After retiring he served on the board of The Retreat, an organization serving victims of domestic abuse, and as a trustee and later president of the Hampton Library in Bridgehampton, N.Y. In addition to those activities he enjoyed classical music, ballet, swimming, reading, and cycling.

Bruce is survived by his wife, Janet; his "step-family" of children, spouses, and grandchildren; his brother Peter Kaplan; nephew Teddy Kaplan; niece Jennifer Hall; and grandniece Clementine Hall. The class extends condolences to all.

#### Charles B. Mathias '62



Charlie died Dec. 17, 2022, in Berwyn, Pa., after a long illness. He came to Princeton from Tamaqua (Pa.) High School.

At Princeton, he majored in English, served as art editor of The Tiger, and ate at Quadrangle Club. During senior year he roomed with several close friends in the Taj suites in Blair Hall. For the initial five years after graduation, he served as the Class of 1962's first secretary/Class Notes editor.

Charlie spent a career of 45 years in pharmaceutical advertising, the final 25 years with what eventually became Vicom/FCB and is now FCB Health. He served as executive vice president for eastern operations of Vicom/ FCB, operating the offices in New York and Philadelphia. He was proud of leading the campaigns for the earliest oral contraceptive

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and the first implantable contraceptive.

In our 50th-reunion yearbook, Charlie wrote that he'd had few regrets and a lot of fun. He is survived by his wife, Marla; his four children, Brette, Jim, Greg, and Danna; and six grandchildren. He was predeceased by Nellie Anne, his former wife and the mother of three of his children; and by his grandson Hayden. The class extends condolences to all.



#### Roy Allen Zink '62

Allen died Oct. 31, 2022, of lymphoma, in Woodside, Calif. He graduated from Calvin Coolidge High School in Washington, D.C., where he

was active in student government and athletics. At Princeton, Allen majored in aeronautical engineering, was a varsity end in football, and midshipman commanding officer in NROTC.

Allen and Kathie Wasson married in 1965 and had son Braxton in 1975. They later divorced.

From 1965 to 1967, Allen flew 150 supersonic photo reconnaissance missions over Vietnam; decorated a remarkable 27 times.

Post-Navy, Allen went to Harvard Law School, became a dean at UC San Diego and held various jobs elsewhere, including practicing law. He continued flying, piloting clients over 4,000 hours.

He later became passionate about sailing, covering more than 70,000 miles, including a solo circumnavigation from 2002 to 2004. On a stop in Tahiti, Allen and longtime companion Terry Freeman married.

In the early 1990s, Allen and Terry rode their Harleys 10,000 miles through 17 European countries. Friends saw Allen as adventurous, kind, and thoughtful: "He helped and inspired everyone he touched to become a better person."

Allen is survived by Terry, son Braxton, granddaughter Jolie, grandson Hunter, brother Charles '59, and many nephews and nieces. The class extends condolences to Allen's family and friends.

#### THE CLASS OF 1963



#### **George P. Fallon '63** George, a longtime professor of economics at Long Beach State, died Dec. 7, 2022, at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Burbank

after a protracted battle with Parkinson's disease.

George, known as "Falk," came to Princeton from Phillips Andover Academy. He entered with the Class of '61, took a two-year leave of absence during his sophomore year and returned as a member of our class. A member of the history department, he wrote his thesis on "19th-Century American Historiography." He belonged to Elm Club and was manager of the golf team in his sophomore and junior years. His senior-year roommates were Jim Whitson and Paul Arkema '62.

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George moved to Los Angeles in 1964. In 1967, while working at a Rexall drug store in Beverly Hills, he met Azucena Salonga, single mother to Joel Ramos Salonga. George and Nena married in 1972, bought a home in Burbank, and lived there ever since.

In 1968, George started his own computer consulting firm, Falk Control Systems, managing information system designs and implementations, network installation, and market research through 2003. His original top clients were the Western League of Savings Institutions and the Federal Reserve Bank. For a short time, as a "side hustle," he and best friend Jim Whitson repossessed cars.

George continued his higher education at UCLA, and in 1977 earned a Ph.D. in the fields of microeconomic and macroeconomic theory, economic forecasting, and industrial organization. He was a professor of economics, statistics, and business information organization at Long Beach State, from 1978 to 2015, when he retired.

In addition to Nena and Joel, George is survived by grandchildren Justin and Stephanie Fallon and brothers Howard and William.

#### THE CLASS OF 1965



**Frederick J. Thielbar '65** No one who ever met Rick forgot him. He was a genial, energetic, funny, larger than life character who got the most out of everything and lived a long,

happy, and productive life with his wife, Wendy, three daughters, and nine grandchildren.

Born March 21, 1943, he attended Summit (N.J.) High School before arriving to join us. He majored in basic engineering, belonged to Dial Lodge, and rowed on the lightweight varsity crew.

His life work involved a long and absorbing career on major construction projects, with postings in many parts of the globe, on behalf of Chicago Bridge & Iron and later, the consulting firm of Metcalf & Eddy. He was adept at understanding the office and field crew on projects and was an effective bridge between these two aspects.

In 2002, Rick returned from a seven-year posting in Singapore, eventually settling in Exeter, N.H., where he seized the opportunity to design and build his retirement home. He was never happier than with a tool in his hand and more on his belt. In between building their house and working on the Exeter Zoning Board, he and Wendy traveled the globe visiting family and old friends. If there was a long and winding road somewhere, he was ready to explore it.

Rick died Nov. 14, 2022. He is survived by Wendy; daughters Betsy, Kate, and Sara '93; and nine grandchildren. The class sends condolences to the family for their loss of this fine, energetic remarkable man.

#### THE CLASS OF 1967



Robert W. Boyd III '67 Bob died Dec. 12, 2022, in Wexford, Pa.

He graduated from Greenwich (Conn.) High School, where he was a

member of the student council and the varsity swimming and track teams. His father, Robert Jr., was Class of '32, and his uncle, John Boyd, Class of '33. Bob majored in Romance languages, was a member of Colonial Club, and roomed at 231 1939 Hall with Mac Maloney, Peter Thon, John Alexander, D.R. Moore, and Mike Turley. Junior year he spent six months at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia, in Princeton's SPEC Program.

Bob got a master's degree from the University of Florida's Latin American Studies Program and began a business career. He worked successively for the Wilbur-Ellis Co.; National Can Co. as division director of sales and marketing; the Jim Dandy Co.; and division director of marketing for Campbell Soup Co. He started his own business, RWB Associates, as a manufacturer's representative, then became director of marketing at CBS Records International. He served as vice president of marketing for Action Industries in Cheswick, Pa., then general manager of its furniture division.

At age 44, Bob reassessed his career goals and quit corporate business to found a small company, Hi-Lite Industries, manufacturing crystal table and floor lamps that became successful selling products to J.C. Penney, Lowe's home centers, Walmart, and the Air Force & Army Exchange Service. He sold the business in 2008 and retired. He wrote two books reflecting a renewed spiritual and religious sensibility. He also wrote articles for the magazine *Ezine* over the years.

Bob is survived by his wife of 54 years, Heather; children Amy, Brook, and Adam; and six grandchildren.



#### John C. Porter '67

John died Nov. 5, 2022, in San Diego of complications resulting from a fall.

He came to Princeton from Woodrow Wilson High School

in Washington, D.C., where he participated in basketball, golf, and crew and was a Key Club member. At Princeton, he majored in mechanical and aerospace engineering, rowed heavyweight crew, and was a member of Navy ROTC and Cap and Gown. He roomed with Phil Burstein, Bob Cocker, Bill Dakin, Jim Edmondson, Ed Morrison, and Ed Pritchett in 231-233 Henry Hall.

After graduation and commissioning as an

## MEMORIALS / PRINCETONIANS

ensign in the Navy, John started aviation training in Pensacola, Fla. His first assignment was NAS Miramar training to fly the F-4 Phantom II. In San Diego, he met Kathleen Kersten and between combat deployments to Vietnam, John and Kathy were married in August 1971. Two of our classmates on the USS *Kitty Hawk* during Vietnam deployments considered John the best Princeton pilot of the three.

John's other assignments included the Naval War College and commanding officer of VC-1, an aggressor squadron based at Barbers Point, Hawaii. He accumulated more than 5,500 flight hours, most in models of the F-4 Phantom II, including 302 combat missions. He was awarded 22 air medals, retiring with the rank of commander in 1987.

From 1987 to 1993 John was a general contractor on both coasts. He rejoined aviation for a 20-year career, joining the initial cadre at General Atomics Aeronautical Systems developing pioneering unmanned aircraft systems. He retired again in 2014 to play golf with old Navy buddies in San Diego.

The Class of 1967 extends its sympathy to John's wife, Kathy; and daughters Kirsten and Erin.

#### THE CLASS OF 1968



**James J. Britt '68** Jim died Dec. 8, 2022, in Princeton of complications due to cancer.

He came to us from Trenton (N.J.) Central High School,

where he was student council president and president of his senior class. At Princeton, he was sophomore and junior class president, vice president of the senior class, president of Cottage Club, and chairman of the Inter-Club Council. He majored in history and lived at Cottage his senior year with Joe Heiser, Bill Grad, Rich Segal, and Bill Reed, after spending two years living in Lockhart Lair.

Following graduation, Jim earned a law degree from Rutgers Law School, Newark. He then joined Jamieson, Moore, Peskin and Spicer, where he practiced real-estate law and represented the University for many years in land-planning matters while heading the Princeton Bar Association for two years. He later joined McCarthy and Schatzman, where he continued to represent several major residential developers.

The class extends its sympathies to Jim's son, John '06; daughter Caroline O'Banion; grandchildren Louise and Cameron; and his extended family and friends.

#### Roger A. Shaw '68

Roger died Oct. 17, 2021, in Oregon. He came to Princeton from Grants Pass

(Ore.) High School. He was active in fencing and the creative arts program and majored in



religion and literature. He ate independently and lived in Pyne Hall his senior year.

Following graduation, Roger taught at several private schools

in New Jersey. He then entered the East Asian studies master's program at the University of Oregon. The bulk of his career was spent in the business world, where he was a corporate officer for direct marketing at Autologic, Harry and David, and Jackson & Perkins Co. He eventually founded his own company, Abacus Direct Corp.

Roger leaves no immediate family. The class extends deepest sympathies to his extended family and friends.

#### **THE CLASS OF 1970**

#### John B. Fox '70



John, our lifelong delegate from New Orleans, died with his family at his side Sept. 21, 2022. Born in the city, he detoured through Exeter long enough to

pick up lacrosse, then joined us at Princeton. A member of Campus, John continued with lacrosse, complemented with weightlifting and boxing, while choosing to contrast it with the verbal sparring of the English department. He wrote his thesis, "Why I Left the Womb," for Professor Paul Gray.

Returning to NOLA, he earned a law degree at Tulane, cut his legal teeth at the New Orleans Legal Assistance Corp. and Heisler & Wysocki, then went into practice on his own, where he represented individuals injured in accidents or the workplace in their struggles with the legal system. His guitar and fishing rod complemented time with his family, to whom he was devoted.

John is survived by his son, Brendan; his grandchildren, Jude and Adrienne; nephew Barry; and niece Elizabeth. We will remember and live by his outstanding work for those disadvantaged, and his love for his family and their ancestral home.

#### THE CLASS OF 1971 Homer J. Henderson '71

Homer died Aug. 19, 2022, in Portland, Ore., surrounded by his family at home only a few months after being diagnosed with leukemia. He was in home hospice care his last week.

Homer was born Nov. 28, 1949, in Rapid City, S.D. He moved to various points all over the West with his parents and sister, finally settling in Tacoma, Wash. Homer came to Princeton from Clover Park High School in Tacoma, where he lettered in multiple sports. At Princeton, he majored in English and graduated with high honors. He was a proud member of Terrace Club. His roommates remember him for his effervescent personality and incredible sense of humor. Homer earned a master's degree from the University of Washington in library science. He worked 27 years in antiquarian and used-book sales at Shorey's Bookstore in Seattle. He then worked at Parenting Press publishing for 15 years.

Homer was an active member of Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church. He was instrumental in starting the congregation's popular readers' theater. Besides his family, Homer loved the English language, reading and writing it, and telling stories. His many years at Shorey's resulted in a home library of several thousands of volumes, with not one of which would he ever consider parting. A memorial was held there in September.

Homer is survived by his wife, Ellen; son Ross; daughter Merrell; and sister Alison. The class extends its condolences to his family and friends.

#### **Christopher P. Nicholas**



**'71** Chris died Nov. 12, 2022, in Brooklyn, N.Y., of a rapidly progressive neurogenerative disease after previous battles with cancer.

Chris came to Princeton from Babylon High School on Long Island, N.Y., with a passion for sports. He immersed himself in the Princeton sports scene as the head manager of the Tiger football and baseball teams. Regarding him as a teammate, the baseball team fondly nicknamed him the Great Doctor. He was proud to be part of Tower's successful IAA basketball and softball teams. Chris majored in philosophy, graduated with honors, and became a born-again Christian junior year. Classmates remember him for his good nature, boundless enthusiasm, and sustained sports discussions.

He married Mary Yee and graduated from Harvard Law School in 1974. Chris and Mary then moved to Brooklyn as their permanent home and workplace. Chris worked at Willkie Farr & Gallagher, then Prudential, and finally in the general counsel office for Metropolitan Insurance Co. for 21 years, retiring in 2004. He was active in his local congregations, the Princeton Christian Fellowship, and the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism. He also enjoyed conducting tours, studying musical scores, and mentoring young stars of the Metropolitan Opera.

The class extends its condolences to Mary; their three sons, Matthew, Michael, and Gregory; and other friends and family.

#### THE CLASS OF 1972



**Dennet W. Latham '72** Dennet died Nov. 12, 2022, at his home in Lake Oswego, Ore. surrounded by his family after a long battle with cancer. He waz 72. An Oregon architect,

Dennet was a LEED accredited professional and worked on projects across the United

#### ..... PRINCETONIANS / MEMORIALS

States and internationally.

He came to Princeton from Prairie Village and Mission Hills, Kansas. He majored in biology and ran both cross-country and track. He was a member of Cloister Inn. He studied architecture at the University of Kansas and then earned a master's of architecture degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

In college, Dennet met the love of his life, Claire Kamm. They married in the Princeton Chapel in 1974, eventually settling in Oregon for careers and family.

Dennet is survived by his wife of 48 years, Claire; daughters Michelle Arline and Nicole Isabelle Bogrand and her husband Andrew; grandson Luke Alexander Bogrand; brother James and his wife Sue; sister Janice Ward and her husband Larry; brothers-in-law Michael Mixson and his wife Patti; John Kamm and his wife Irene; and Arthur Kamm and his wife Mary; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews. The family requests that memorial donations be sent to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in Dennet's name at www.lls.org. The class sends its condolences to the family.

#### THE CLASS OF 1979



John J. Flournov III '79 John, gregarious, courtly, golf-obsessed, and Princetonloving, died Sept. 12, 2021, on Cook Inlet outside his home in Anchorage, Alaska, in an accident having gone to watch the sun rise.

A member of Tower Club, the Orange Key Society, the Orchestra, and Glee Club while also participating in ROTC, John graduated from the School of Public and International Affairs.

An Army military intelligence officer, John served in South Korea and Germany. After earning an MBA from Columbia, he worked for various financial institutions. He married classmate Lisa Barlow in 1995. He participated in the Alumni Schools Committee for years and loved returning to Princeton for Reunions.

John's prodigious memory awed and amazed his family and the vast collection of friends he amassed throughout his life. Wherever John traveled, he connected deeply with people, maintaining lifelong friendships. His South Korean Army "brother" and a fellow captain from Fort Devens remain close to the family.

John was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Anchorage, singing in the choir. His faith nurtured him throughout his life and comforts those left behind.

The class extends its deepest sympathies to Lisa and their daughters, Rebecca Barlow and Caroline Flournoy.

#### **THE CLASS OF 1983**

Carolyn G. Brown '83 Our beloved classmate Carolyn died May 14, 2022, in Crestone, Colo., after a two-year



cancer journey.

Carolyn was born in Wynnewood, Pa. At Princeton she majored in politics and graduated magna cum laude. She played water polo and was an

enthusiastic participant in the Elm Club Athletic Conference, playing sports ranging from Frisbee to broom ball. Carolyn earned a master's degee in English and creative writing from San Francisco State.

She was an associate publisher of Bay Nature magazine, ran an energy conservation program, and founded a communications agency serving environmental organizations, land trusts, and sustainability-minded businesses. She also organized annual poetry festivals, singing and choreographers' groups, and led myriad yoga students for more than 15 years.

Carolyn inspired us with her creativity, curiosity, playfulness, and fierce defense of nature. She was a great friend who taught us to treasure our connection to each other, the Earth, and our core spirit. Ever the teacher, she shared with us her courage, fears, and final release through forthright and poetic emails and Zoom calls.

At the time of her death, Carolyn was survived by her mother, Carol Brown, who died in December 2022. Carolyn is survived by her brother, Larry Brown '81; sister-in-law Sue '82; seven nieces and nephews; and her partner, Steven Williford. She was preceded in death by her father, Lawrence Brown '51. The class extends its condolences to her family and friends.

#### THE CLASS OF 1985



Jane Zarouni Simmons '85 Jane died Aug. 25, 2021. She is remembered as a remarkable intellect and a deeply engaged member of the community. Jane came to Princeton from

Middletown, N.J., where she was a field hockey star, inducted into the Middletown High School South Eagles Hall of Fame in 2009.

Jane managed finances for The Daily Princetonian and The Princeton Engineer, socialized at Quad, was a tutor, and volunteered at the Medical Center. She majored in computer science, graduating summa cum laude, and was elected to Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society.

After earning a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from MIT, where she was later made a fellow of IEEE, Jane focused on the architectural aspects of Optical Regional Access Networks (ORAN) at Bell Labs/AT&T Labs Research. She went on to play key roles as executive engineer and chief network architect at the Corvis Corp., where she developed all-optical networks that today are the industry standard.

In 2003, Jane founded Monarch Network Architects, providing optical network architectural services and tools for carriers, vendors, and public entities. She wrote Optical Network Design and Planning and served as the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Optical Communications and Networking, reprising her commitment to volunteerism.

"Throughout her career, her dedication to her work, her friends, and for making the world a better place had no limits," colleagues wrote. "She advanced and nurtured the field as a visionary researcher, pragmatic practitioner, and inspiring teacher. She left a legacy that will not be forgotten."

#### THE CLASS OF 1986



John S. Schachter '86 John died Nov. 20, 2022, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was a big-tobacco foe, standup comedian, and Mets fan. John came to us from

North Valley Regional High in New Jersey. At Princeton, he majored in politics and joined Elm Club and Triangle, where he portraved William F. Buckley and shared the stage with Brooke Shields '87 in a comedic dance. During his junior year, he ran for Princeton town council. He often wore a satin Mets jacket and at graduation, he brought his mitt "in case there's a foul ball."

John's career encompassed journalism and politics, working in the trenches on campaigns and publications. In 2014, he joined the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, where his colleagues remember him as not only hilarious but a generous co-worker, caring mentor, and gifted strategist.

John's wit shone brightly performing at clubs and many class events or while writing for shows like Saturday Night Live. He was a ghost writer through his firm, Funny, You Should Say That, which promised "political humor writing - speeches, jokes, quips, oneliners, roast material, and the like." His work brightened the dull world of politics by bringing humor to the speeches of politicians like former Sen. Al Franken.

To John's wife, Lori Klein; son Sam; and his mother, Ann, the class extends its deepest condolences. John liked to end with the line "Hey, you've been a great audience; that's my time." As Lori said, "There will be far less mirth and joy in the world without John Schachter."

#### **THE CLASS OF 2002**

Stephanie Pope Poindexter '02 Stephanie died Nov. 25, 2022, surrounded by family. She leaves a legacy of laughter, service, friendship, and family.

Stephanie was born April 13, 1980, in Richmond, Va. She graduated as high school valedictorian and majored in ecology and



evolutionary biology at Princeton. She danced with the Black Arts Company and was a member of student government.

Stephanie earned a medical degree at the University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Medicine, and completed her residency at Georgetown University. She practiced as a bilingual physician at the Arlington Pediatric Center as well as Mary's Center, where she was known for her friendly bedside manner.

Stephanie's sense of humor, bright smile, intellect, and loyalty are some of her most remembered qualities. She was always the life of the party, passing along her love of dancing, costumes, decorations, and birthday celebrations to her children.

Stephanie is survived by her husband, John Poindexter; their two children, John and Elle; her parents, Stuart and Robena Pope; and her four siblings, Michelle, Kelsey, Kristie, and Stuart. The Class of 2002 extends sympathy to all who knew and loved her.

#### **GRADUATE ALUMNI**

#### Joseph F. Hoffman \*52

Joe died May 19, 2022, in North Haven, Conn.

He was born March 7, 1925, in Oklahoma City, Okla., and graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1948 after earning bachelor's and master's degrees. At Princeton, Joe attained a Ph.D. in physiology in 1952. He taught in Princeton's biology department until 1957, then moved to the National Institutes of Health for eight years. In 1965, Joe joined the department of cellular and molecular physiology at the Yale University School of Medicine, where he remained until retiring in 2004.

Joe's scientific interests were the physiology and structure of red blood cells and the transport of sodium and potassium across the red blood cell membrane. He won Yale's Science and Engineering Association Award for the Advancement of Basic and Applied Science. Scientific symposia were held in his honor in 2004 and 2015.

He was the editor of the journal *Annual Review of Physiology*, and continued his work on the physiology of red blood cells after his retirement. At ages 83, 91, and 94, Joe published papers for which he was the sole author.

Predeceased by his wife, Elena Citkowitz. Joe is survived by a nephew and several nieces.

#### Hazem Z. Nuseibeh \*54

K

A Jordanian politician and diplomat, Hazem died April 10, 2022, one month before his 100th birthday.

He was born May 6, 1922, in Jerusalem, where his family has been entrusted with the keys to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre since the era of Omar bin al-Khattab. One of the family members is responsible for opening the doors of the church in the morning and closing them in the evening.

Hazem earned MPA and Ph.D. degrees from the Woodrow Wilson School in 1952 and 1954, respectively. He was appointed to several government roles in Jordan, and Wasfi al-Tal made him minister of foreign affairs in his first government in 1962. He participated in drafting the white paper issued by Wasfi al-Tal's first government, detailing Jordan's position on the Palestinian issue and the relationship with the West Bank. He also held the position of minister of the Royal Court and was an adviser to King Hussein.

From 1969 to 1972, Hazem served as Jordan's ambassador to Egypt. He then served as ambassador to Turkey, Italy, Switzerland, and Austria.

In the mid-1970s, Hazem headed the Jordanian permanent mission to the United Nations, a position he held until 1982.

#### R. Ross Holloway \*60

Ross died June 30, 2022, of natural causes in Hightstown, N.J.

Born Aug. 15, 1934, in Newton, Mass., Ross graduated from Amherst in 1956. After earning a master's degree in archaeology at the University of Pennsylvania in 1957, he completed a Ph.D. in history of art at Princeton in 1960.

A Rome Prize enabled Ross to study for two years at the American Academy in Rome. After a one-year appointment at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 1964, Ross joined Brown's classics department. He was appointed Elisha Benjamin Andrews Professor, retiring in 2006.

An archaeologist of the Mediterranean, especially ancient Italy, Ross conducted longterm fieldwork and wrote *The Archaeology of Ancient Sicily* and *The Archaeology of Early Rome and Latium.* He co-founded Brown's Center for Classical Archaeology and Art to promote the study of archaeology independent of the departments of classics and history of art. He was an accomplished numismatist who researched and published on ancient coins.

Ross was awarded honorary degrees from Amherst and the University of Louvain, and the Archaeological Institute of America's Gold Medal.

Predeceased by his wife Nancy, Ross is survived by daughters Anne Holloway Studholme '84 and Susannah Holloway '86, and five grandchildren.

#### John W. Shy \*61

At the age of 91, John died April 8, 2022, in Saline, Mich.

John was born March 23, 1931, in Dayton, Ohio. After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy in 1952, he served in the airborne infantry in Japan. John earned a master's degree from the University of Vermont in 1957 and a Ph.D. in history from Princeton in 1961.

He taught at Princeton until 1968, when he moved to the history department at the University of Michigan, retiring in 1996.

John's scholarship focused on early American history, the history of war, European history from the second half of the 18th century to the first half of the 19th century, as well as contemporary history. His book, *Toward Lexington: The Role of the British Army in the Coming of the American Revolution*, received the American Historical Association's John H. Dunning Prize.

Visiting professorships included the U.S. Army War College, the École Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, and as the Harmsworth Professor of American History at Oxford. He served on the Department of the Army's Historical Advisory Committee.

Predeceased by his first wife and their son Timothy, John is survived by his wife, Arlene, daughters Elizabeth and Jennifer; and four grandchildren.

#### Hugh H. Witemeyer \*66

Hugh died in Albuquerque, N.M., May 1, 2022, just short of his 83rd birthday.

Born June 10, 1939, Hugh earned degrees in English from the University of Michigan, Oxford University as a Marshall scholar, and a doctorate from Princeton in 1966. He began his teaching career at the University of California, Berkeley, before joining the English faculty at the University of New Mexico in 1973.

His scholarly interests included George Eliot, Ezra Pound, William Carlos Williams, William Butler Yeats, and Charles Tomlinson. His book *The Poetry of Ezra Pound: Forms and Renewal* revealed literary critical intelligence at work on one of the most difficult and controversial American poets of the 20th century *His George Eliot and the Visual Arts* demonstrated Hugh's critical abilities across artistic genres.

After retiring in 2004, Hugh energetically supported local amateur theater. He played in local productions and co-founded the Albuquerque Theatre Guild. Hugh proved to be an entertaining dramatist. When two of his colleagues retired, he created a parody of a James Bond film about the "kidnapping" of the apostrophe from the world of letters, accompanied by an audio pastiche of Bond music.

Hugh is survived by his wife, Barbara; daughter Hazen; and brother Wayne.

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An undergraduate memorial appears for William A. Percy III '55 \*64.

## Classifieds

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## A Powerful Companionship Bound Through Diaries

By Elyse Graham '07

The decisive event of James Gibson 1787's young life happened on March 14, 1785, when Gibson, then a sophomore at Princeton College, met a young man named John Mifflin at the theater. Mifflin was wading through the crowd, looking for a seat; Gibson offered him one. "His gentle manners [and] modest politeness," Mifflin later wrote, "made me feel an immediate attachment to him — when the lecture was over we returned home together — [and] at parting made an appointment to meet at the next lecture."

This was the start of an intense and yearslong companionship between the two young men. The relationship was striking in part because they conducted it through diaries. Because Gibson spent his days in Princeton and Mifflin in Philadelphia, they kept each other close by writing diaries meant for each other's eyes. Sometimes they mailed each other pages; the rest they saved to share during visits.

Mifflin, who was in his 20s, was stylish and worldly, a rare Quaker dandy.

Gibson was shy and shabby-genteel, charged with using college to renew his family's fortunes after his father's death. He wrote often of his loneliness: "After dinner ... walked about — tumbled over different books — dull dismal weather still continues ... such days lag heavily without a friend."

The diaries don't specify, in modern terms, what they meant to each other. Gibson calls Mifflin *Leander*, a reference to a lover from Greek mythology. Mifflin, in turn, calls Gibson *Lorenzo*, which the historian Caleb Crain suggests may refer to a 1742 poem titled "Night Thoughts."

#### They made a path, as a poet once said, that would admit no limits on the human capacity to love.

They kept the diaries going even when they were together. During one of Mifflin's visits to Princeton, Gibson wrote of him, "after recitation [I] went to Leander — he gave me a hair ribbon and I promised to sleep with him tonight." And they found other ways to be together when apart; Mifflin mentions a souvenir that Gibson gave him, "a to[ken] of friendship," which, Mifflin writes, he treats as a tangible proof of their bond, "putting it to my lips."

At the time, bed-sharing was normal for male friends. Their acquaintance was

boge A photo illustration of John Mifflin's journal from 1789. Journal. November Sunday 12#. As the pages of any ja I shall find dumes of six m es the second wohn night I ladged at Mours to stay at heme - dent motes to Castalio

no secret; Mifflin often called on Gibson's mother to chat about her son, and when Mifflin visited Princeton, Gibson would have had to ask the University for approval to let Mifflin sleep over. So, if you like, you can think of them as just good friends. When Mifflin visited Gibson's room at Princeton, they tacked Gibson's gown over the window to keep other students from seeing in. While taking a jaunt with Gibson across New Jersey, Mifflin mentioned, in his diary, that he got a bruise: "In the evening as I was wrestling with Lorenzo I fell on the side of my head [and] hurt myself a little."

In 1786, Mifflin, who was in a low emotional spell, decided to test his friend's loyalty. The next time he visited Princeton, he waited until Gibson was in class, then wrote what we might call a break-up letter. "Wrote a long letter to Lorenzo, with a plan which my heart did not dictate - a trial of his affection -[and] almost wept at the conclusion of it." He left it where Gibson would find it and hid to see what would happen. "[T]here was something mild [and] uncertain when he looked at the letter, he seemed to open it hesitatingly [and] his eyes flew precipitately over every page [and] then to the cover before he began to read — he had perused but a few lines when his countenance fell ....."

Gibson fled, and Mifflin ran after him. They met at the gate in front of Nassau Hall. Mifflin explained that the whole thing was "only a trial what dependance I might have on his friendship [and] affection — the dear fellow seemed hurt at the experiment, but gave me the fullest assurances of his attachment — [and] I felt mine doubly renewed to him by the consciousness he testified of his own sincerity."

In the end, they had to join the stream of history, as we all do; the space of possibility that their youth afforded them ended, and the diaries stopped. Gibson became a lawyer, passing the bar in 1791. Both men married; one had children. But for a time, they wrote each other into their lives. They made a path, as a poet once said, that would admit no limits on the human capacity to love.

Today, their diaries reside in the archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The diaries are bound together. ♦

## This is Deborah and Andy.

### Travelers | Musicians | Kayakers

He has written more than ten books (so far) on finance and travel and gives lectures on author Henry James—as Henry James. She has cycled from Boston to Vancouver. When they are not playing their daily harpsichord and recorder duets, you will find them on the tennis courts. Andy and Deborah believe in following their passions in life—and retirement. That is why they are making beautiful music together at Princeton Windrows.



## This is Princeton Windrows.

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