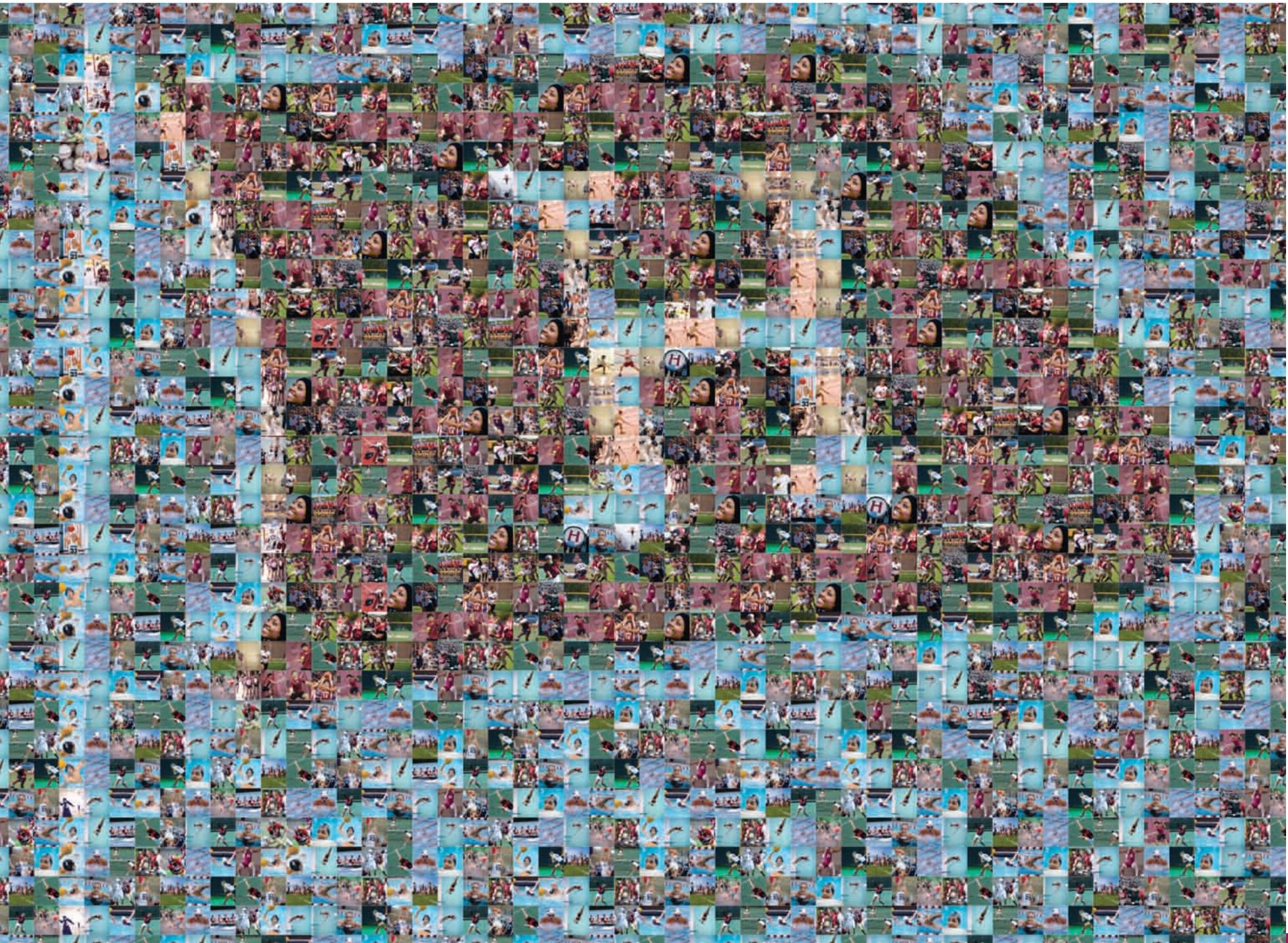


04-17 FEBRUARY 2010
VOL. CV NO. 9
NEWS.HARVARD.EDU/GAZETTE

HARVARDgazette



Athletics for all

At Harvard, sports are a window on character.

Online Highlights

VOTES COUNT

Alumni can vote for a new group of Harvard Overseers and Elected Directors for the Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) board.

▶ news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=35332



◀ JUDGING THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE RULING

In the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's 5-4 ruling striking down corporate limits on campaign financing, several Harvard faculty members weigh in on what the ruling means and where it's likely to lead.

▶ news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=35464



◀ ANOTHER TASTE OF HASTY PUDDING STILL TO COME

Hasty Pudding's Woman of the Year Anne Hathaway (left) was toasted last week in a parade through Harvard Square before being lovingly roasted inside New College Theatre. Man of the Year Justin Timberlake arrives Feb. 5 with online coverage to come.

▶ news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=36060

QUANTUM (NOT DIGITAL) COMPUTING

Study uses quantum computing to make calculations, in a breakthrough that could change myriad fields, including cryptography and materials science.

▶ news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=34569

WANTED: OUT-OF-THE-BOX THINKING

The Harvard Catalyst, an online hub for cross-disciplinary activity in clinical and translational science, is sponsoring an innovation contest, inviting the entire Harvard community to come up with "out-of-the-box questions and proposals" that could help to combat juvenile (type 1) diabetes. The sponsors hope that such broad outreach may help to stimulate innovations and therapies. This challenge, with support from a federal grant, solicits ideas but does not require expertise in the field. At least two prizes of \$2,500 will be awarded, and prizes can range up to \$10,000.

▶ www.innocentive.com/HarvardCatalyst



◀ LOOKING AT COOKING

"There's this huge fantastic mystery: Where did humans come from? I think we came out of the kitchen," says Harvard biology professor Richard Wrangham (pictured left).

▶ news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=36042

Police Log Online ▶ www.hupd.harvard.edu/public_log.php

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HARVARD *gazette*



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COVER STORY

Above is the original image, which was the basis for the photo mosaic on the cover. The mosaic was created by using 106 different sports images ranging from diving and women's soccer to football and tennis. They were placed in 3,000 positions to re-create the flag, flying high over Harvard Stadium. On page 16, a look at everything from Harvard's record 41 Division 1 sports to its 3,000 club-level participants.

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Harvard's student artists, in collaboration with the OfA, will perform on Feb. 12 in Sanders Theatre.

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With a sweeping program in place to reduce energy use, FAS is making major inroads in savings, both in power and money.

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YES, HARVARD SWEATS

Known as a bastion of academe, Harvard has more Division 1 sports programs than any other college — and thousands of students in club, intramural programs.

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Despite battling three injuries in three years, senior Pat Magnarelli of the Harvard men's basketball team is here to stay.

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Undergraduate applications surpass 30,000 mark, a first for Harvard.

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IT technician Jeff Mayes tries and masters new fields, from computers to photography.

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The hunt for healthy answers

JoAnn Manson leads a nationwide study to assess whether vitamin D and omega-3 fatty acids can boost immunity and protect against ailments from heart disease to cancer.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer



JoAnn Manson: "It's exciting to get started with this trial. We're really hoping it will provide important answers."

Researchers at Harvard Medical School and Harvard-affiliated Brigham and Women's Hospital are leading a five-year nationwide trial to find out whether the dietary supplements vitamin D and fish oil can boost the immune system and fight cancer, heart disease, and a host of other ills.

The "Vitamin D and Omega-3 Trial," or VITAL, aims to sort out inconclusive and conflicting evidence from earlier research on the effects of the two compounds on human health.

Previous studies have turned up tantalizing clues that the two nutrients can have considerable protective effects. But JoAnn Manson, the VITAL study's principal investigator, said those trials — and others showing no protective effect — either involved specialized populations, such as those suffering heart disease, or used low

dosages, which may have prevented finding a conclusive answer.

The VITAL study is a large-scale, randomized trial involving 20,000 people across the country with no previous history of cancer, heart disease, or stroke, and is designed to test whether vitamin D and the omega-3 fatty acids in fish oil can help to prevent cancer and heart disease. Though cancer and heart disease are the study's primary therapeutic targets, Manson said the study will also provide information on other ailments, such as diabetes, cognitive decline, depression, and respiratory diseases.

Scientists already know quite a bit about how these nutrients work in the body. Both have powerful anti-inflammatory effects. Vitamin D appears to benefit blood pressure and glucose tolerance, while working to prevent blood ves-

sel growth that allows tumors to enlarge and spread. Omega-3 fatty acids have anti-clotting effects and have been shown to protect against irregular heart rhythms.

Manson, the Elizabeth Fay Brigham Professor of Women's Health at Harvard Medical School and chief of Brigham and Women's Hospital's Division of Preventive Medicine, said the trial will enroll men age 60 or older and women age 65 and up. The older study population was selected because people of those ages are more commonly afflicted with the ailments the study seeks to test.

Researchers began seeking participants in January and will eventually send mailings to more than 1.2 million Americans, including health professionals and members of AARP. Potential participants will undergo a three-month screening before en-

rolling in the full trial. Participants will be divided into four groups and receive blister packs of daily supplements, along with questionnaires to complete and mail back to researchers. Though some participants may opt to visit nearby clinical centers for more-detailed assessments and to provide blood samples, most can participate entirely by mail.

The groups will receive supplements containing vitamin D, omega-3s, both, or placebos, allowing researchers to examine the effects of vitamin D and omega-3s independently as well as together.

The study's vitamin D supplements will contain 2,000 international units (IUs) per day, five times the 400 IUs that the U.S. government currently recommends. Manson said most Ameri-

More Science & Health Online
[news.harvard.edu/gazette/
section/science-n-health/](http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/science-n-health/)



Barefoot running gets high marks for reducing stress on feet.



U.S. birth rates are taking a dip, leaving researchers scratching their heads.

cans get only about 300 IUs of vitamin D per day through their diet, and even with supplements few get more than 500 or 600 IUs. The human body can manufacture vitamin D when exposed to sunlight — more than 2,000 IUs for someone working lightly clothed in the sun all day — but the increase in people wearing sunblock to ward off skin cancer and the decreased prevalence of children playing outdoors have reduced the amount of vitamin D that many people get from sunlight.

Several other factors are working to further reduce the amount of vitamin D that people get. The increase in children drinking sugar-sweetened beverages instead of milk cuts vitamin D intake. Also, because vitamin D is fat soluble, the obesity epidemic is increasing the amount that is stored in fats in our bodies instead of being freely available.

The supplements will contain about one

[Online ►► To learn more about VITAL: www.vitalstudy.org](http://www.vitalstudy.org)

gram of omega-3s, Manson said, or about twice the amount people would get if they followed the government's recommendation of two fish meals a week, and about five to 10 times what the typical American usually eats. It's also about equal to the level in a typical diet in Japan, where heart disease rates are lower.

Manson said it would be unwise for the public to start taking megadoses of the two compounds before the study's results come out, citing the examples of earlier large-scale trials of vitamins E and C and beta-carotene that showed little benefit of those vitamins in large doses and even suggested some risks. Should the trial turn up protective benefits to vitamin D and omega-3 fatty acids, it would open the door to greater therapeutic use of the compounds, which are easily accessible, unlike a new exotic drug that would require extensive testing.

Manson also plans to explore the role of vitamin D in reducing racial health disparities. The study will seek to enroll enough African Americans to make up a quarter of the study population in an effort to see whether low levels of vitamin D in African Americans are linked to higher incidence of diabetes, heart disease, and other chronic diseases and whether treatment with vitamin D can reduce these risks.

"It's exciting to get started with this trial," Manson said. "We're really hoping it will provide important answers."



When success spells defeat

Invasive plants are beneficiaries of climate change in Thoreau's woods.

By Steve Bradt | Harvard Staff Writer

Invasive plants could become even more prevalent and destructive as climate change continues, according to a new analysis of data stretching back more than 150 years.

Writing in the journal PLoS ONE, the Harvard University scientists who conducted the study say that nonnative plants, and especially invasive species, appear to thrive during times of climate change because they're better able to adjust the timing of annual activities such as flowering and fruiting.

"These results demonstrate for the first time that climate change likely plays a direct role in promoting nonnative species' success," says author Charles C. Davis, assistant professor in Harvard's Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology. "Secondly, they highlight the importance of flowering time as a trait that may facilitate the success of nonnative species. This kind of information could be very useful for predicting the success of future invaders."

Davis and his colleagues analyzed a data set that began with Henry David Thoreau's cataloging of plants around Walden Pond in the 1850s, when the famed naturalist kept meticulous notes documenting natural history, plant species occurrences, and flowering times. Since then, the mean annual temperature around Concord, Mass., has increased by 2.4 degrees Celsius, or 4.3 degrees Fahrenheit, causing some plants to shift their flowering time by as much as three weeks in response to ever-earlier spring thaws.

"We set out to use this data set to examine which plants have been the beneficiaries of climate change," Davis says. "Our research suggests quite decisively that nonnative and invasive species have been the climate change winners. Climate change will lead to an as-yet-unknown shuffling of species, and it appears that invasive species will become more dominant."

Davis and colleagues compared a plethora of plant traits — everything from height at maturity to flower diameter to seed weight — against species' response to more than a century and a half of climate change. Alone among all these traits, plants that have fared well share a common phenology, a suite of traits related to the timing of seasonal events such as flowering, leaf growth, germination, and migration.

By contrast, many plants with a less flexible flowering schedule — and thus prone to flowering at suboptimal times — have declined in population, in many cases to the point of local extinction.

The current work builds on a 2008 paper by Davis and colleagues that showed that some of the plant families hit hardest by climate change at Walden Pond include beloved species like lilies, orchids, violets, roses, and dogwoods. The scientists also reported that some 27 percent of all species Thoreau recorded from 1851 to 1858 are now locally extinct, and another 36 percent are so sparse that extinction may be imminent.

"Invasive species can be intensely destructive to biodiversity, ecosystem function, agriculture, and human health," Davis says. "In the United States alone the estimated annual cost of invasive species exceeds \$120 billion. Our results could help in developing predictive models to assess the threat of future invasive species, which may become greatly exacerbated in the face of continued climate change."

Davis' co-authors on the PLoS ONE paper are Charles G. Willis of Harvard and Duke University, Brad R. Ruhfel and Jonathan B. Losos of Harvard, Richard B. Primack of Boston University, and Abraham J. Miller-Rushing of the USA National Phenology Network and the Wildlife Society. Their work was supported by Harvard University.

Purple loosestrife (above) is one of the worst invasive plant species in the northeastern United States, and has exhibited a remarkably favorable response to climate change. It now flowers three weeks earlier since the time of Thoreau. Mayweed chamomile (below) is not yet classified as an invasive plant, but dominates the landscape in various parts of the northeastern United States.

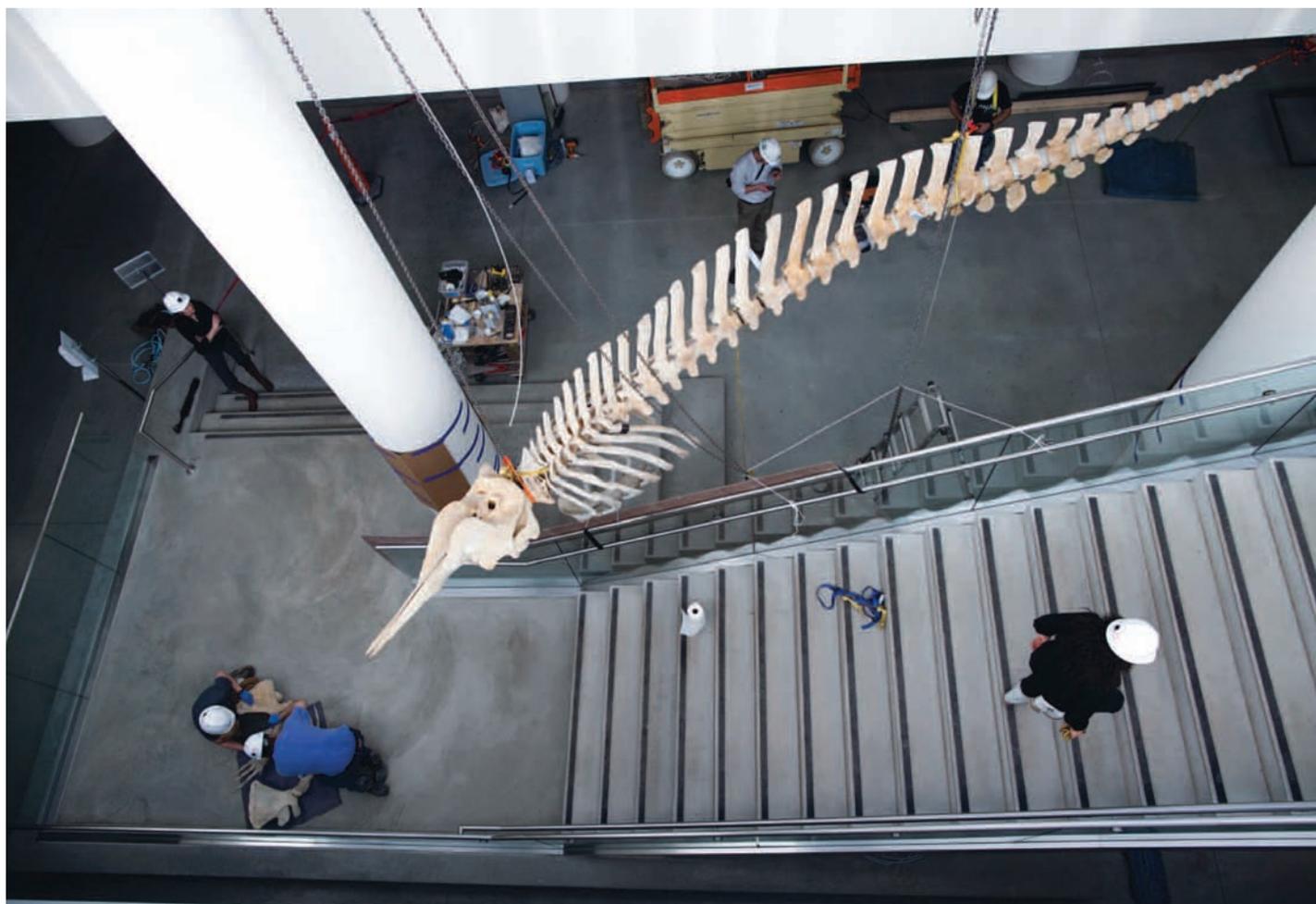


Photos: top by Abraham Miller-Rushing, right by Chuck Davis

New life for old whale exhibit

Skeletons of whales diving and breaching are enlivening the lobby of Harvard's new Northwest Laboratory building, bringing the killer whale and bottlenose whale specimens new prominence more than 70 years after they were last exhibited.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer



Two whale skeletons last displayed in the 1930s at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology (MCZ) were given new prominence in January, after they were taken from the MCZ's dusty attic, cleaned, and moved to the pristine lobby of the new Northwest Laboratory building next door.

Though they ended up less than 100 yards away, the specimens, a 21-foot killer whale and a 24-foot northern bottlenose whale, made a long trip to get there. They were first shipped to the Maine offices of Whales and Nails, a specialty preparation firm that cleaned, repaired, and then installed the specimens.

MCZ Director James Hanken, Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology, was enthused about the installation, saying it serves several purposes: opening part of the MCZ attic, restoring the two specimens, displaying

them publicly, and enlivening the Northwest Building's lobby. Over the next few months, signs and lighting will be installed to complete the display.

Hanken, who had a hand in planning the Northwest Lab because there is MCZ collections space in its lower levels, said he was an early proponent of the whale installation.

"We've been anxious to get our materials out of the attic for several years," Hanken said. "It's not too often you come across a space where you can display a whale."

The skeletons were removed from the MCZ in July and sent north, where they were slowly cleaned and prepped for display. The installation, coordinated by Linda Ford, MCZ director of collections operations, was delayed by a snowstorm but ultimately went

ahead in late January. The specimens were hung in the lobby stairwell, the bottlenose whale arranged in a twisting dive down to the lower level, while the killer whale is posed in a jumping breach position, its toothy skull visible through the building's windows.

Though the diving and breaching positions are unusual ways to display such specimens, Hanken said they were chosen because they show the animals in more natural postures than their original straight positions.

The killer whale — the largest member of the dolphin family — is the older of the specimens and was collected near the Faroe Islands in the North Atlantic in 1881. The bottlenose whale, a small, deep-diving whale related to the sperm whale and once prized for its oil, was collected in the 1930s, also near the Faroes.

Online ►► [Photo gallery: news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=36465](http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=36465)

Time-lapse: mcz.harvard.edu/news/orca_nwlab.html

Photos by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer



The future is now

Harvard senior reflects on his filmmaking, including a sci-fi fantasy and a Siberian documentary.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer



Actress Ariel Harding (top) plays a sexy robot opposite engineers Peter Motson (glasses) and Renzo Ampuero, A.R.T. Institute '09, in "The Last Known Good State." Director Alexander Berman '10 (above) directs Harding in his sci-fi thesis film, shot at the Carpenter Center.

In "The Last Known Good State," engineers mingle with a female robot; they blow up stars; they fall in love.

The film, the brainchild of writer and director Alexander Berman '10, is now in post-production, being edited in Berman's scattered, near-apocalyptic basement office where working all night seems ordinary, an affect of the setting. Berman prefers it this way. He'll edit — "binge" — until sunrise, before "purging for days." Metaphors are, after all, the lifeblood of a filmmaker.

The film is Berman's thesis for the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies (VES). It is not his first film, but is the final one he'll create at Harvard. And he wants to go out with a bang.

"I wanted to do something you've never seen before," he said, "and something that I may never get a chance to do again when I graduate." In one of the film's sequences, his star-struck engineer carresses his lovely blonde mate of artificial intelligence. She's more Brigitte Bardot than R2-D2, and wearing pasties.

"It's sci-fi, so scantily clad is normal," said Berman.

Shooting over 10 days in the Carpenter Center, Berman secured two grants from VES and the Harvard College Research Program that afforded him a budget for an elaborate production. Though only 15-20 minutes long, the film is enriched by a litany of special effects and a set that could modestly be described as mind-blowing.

For instance, imagine tents — used as futuristic office cubicles — that are projected with astral visualizations to create a sensory 3D experience.

"In a 20-minute film, if you want people to experience something intellectually and emotionally," he said, "you have to strike them with an image, because otherwise it feels like minimalism."

For Berman's involved and visually arresting projections, he contacted the Alliances Center for Astrophysical Thermonuclear Flashes at the University of Chicago, which maps 3-D images of supernovae. He solicited the help of production designer Amy Davis, A.L.B. '10, and Tomasz Mloduchowski, a special effects engineer, from Blatartaria Design and Effects Ltd., whom Berman put in charge of special effects. Berman's brother, Benjamin '12, an animator also in VES, and director of photography Andrew Wesman '10 are lending their skills to add more layers of artistry to this uniquely cool senior film.

Berman, who has long been interested in technology, said, "The idea for this film went through a lot of iterations." But he dubbed it, above all else, a love story. "Looking at all these boy-meets-girl, twenty-something films, the farthest thing from those is a sci-fi."

But doing the farthest thing is what Berman does best. He intended to go to law school but during his first semester at Harvard knew he wanted to

(see *Film* next page)

Film

(continued from previous page)

pursue film. “I’m interested in politics and social issues but wanted to explore those issues instead through art.”

After his change of heart, Berman embarked to, of all places, Siberia. His parents are Russian, and although Berman was born in the United States he knew he wanted to make a documentary there. The film was supposed to be about Siberian ecology and volcanoes. As Berman traveled from Alaska to Siberia, he found himself ironically “hopping on a plane chartered by Wall Street execs going trout fishing there.”

When Berman finally arrived, the Russians he met wanted bribes for information, and Berman quickly realized he would go broke trying to make the movie he’d set out to film. So he chartered a cab to a remote part of Siberia, accompanied by his crew of brother and mother, who served as his translator. “I knew one name in this ethnic group of reindeer herders,” he recalled. “The guy’s name was Nikolai.”

Against the odds, they found him. “He showed me around this village of aboriginal Siberians, closely related to Canadian Inuits,” Berman said. “After the collapse of the Soviet Union, these people went through a gut-wrenching time. Cultural subsidies created everything for them, and when that went away there was no economy.”

Berman wanted a hopeful note, though, and centered his new film on the village’s makeshift shipping industry. “They take decommissioned Soviet tanks, all-terrain tanks, and run them up and down the Kamchatka peninsula to feed the villages that are most remote.”

The result was “Songs from the Tundra,” which Berman screened internationally and which won the Grand Jury Prize at the Provincetown International Film Festival.

He hopes to show “The Last Known Good State” in similar fashion, starting with the VES’s annual screening each April. But now, while he edits, he’s planning for his departure from Harvard and “trying to get some money together to go back to Siberia. I have a really great story to tell there, and that’s my most developed project.”

He’s also writing a feature-length script based on “The Last Known Good State,” a project special to Berman for another reason. At the end of the film, artificial intelligence takes the engineer back to his college dormitory to before, Berman said, “he got on this very corporate career path.”

“It was a script that became personal because I’m leaving Harvard and people from Harvard go on to do very high-profile, very well-paid, very successful jobs. But it’s so hard to live up to the variety and the intensity that you have here, and I wanted the character to experience that as well.”

Berman is entertaining thoughts of where he might go next. He could stay in Boston, or possibly head for Los Angeles, even New York. Anywhere, just as long as he has film.

“All my films are about frontiers,” he said. “In ‘The Last Known Good State,’ it’s a romantic frontier — how does one love a machine? — and a scientific frontier, which is blowing up these stars. Film’s ability to interrogate that frontier and bring that to people, I think it’s the most exciting thing.”

Artistic fun or vocation

With professional-level standards already in place and the spirit of self-sufficiency a prized commodity, the question remains: Should there be University-funded performance degrees?

By Matt Aucoin '12 | English

In the open ocean of the professional music world, being a Harvard student is an eyebrow-raiser when applying for summer programs or graduate schools, and mystifying as this is to those familiar with Harvard’s celebrated musical alums — (Ma, Bernstein, Carter) — admissions committees’ skepticism is not groundless. How on earth, conservatory-trained musicians wonder (aloud, to many of us), could anyone simultaneously keep up with a Harvard workload and steadily improve as a musician?

The answer lies in the bizarre blend of Harvard as an institution and of the personalities and attitudes of Harvard students. Harvard does not offer a performance degree to its student performers, yet there are on campus a few student-run arts groups that resemble professional companies far more closely than do their counterparts at conservatories, and that arguably give students a fuller, more rigorous artistic foundation.

Let’s take the Dunster House Opera, founded in 1992. It is, well, an opera company — that’s the fact that took the longest to sink in for me when I first heard about it. Maybe, I thought, they perform hit arias with piano accompaniment for fun. Or maybe they just sit around and talk about Pavarotti.

Er, no. The Dunster group annually performs a fully staged production of a major work of the operatic repertoire whose cast, conductor, director, staff, and orchestra are culled entirely from Harvard’s undergraduate population. Last year, it performed Stravinsky’s “The Rake’s Progress,” an enormously challenging score that demands a cast with utter rhythmic and harmonic assurance, an orchestra and chorus with extraordinary stamina and stylistic unity, and a conductor with the confidence to weave it all together.

This sort of organization is unique to the School precisely because of what it lacks — a voice program, opera performance specialists — and what it has — students who are happy to overburden themselves with commitments if they love something enough. In the case of this company, that means singers doubling as set builders, conductors as publicity agents. All hands are on deck when needed: The cast and

staff even have to build the set before each performance and dismantle it afterward, nightly transforming Dunster House’s dining hall into an opera house and back.

The members of such organizations are not working for a grade or to please anyone but themselves, yet they hold themselves to professional standards. The question of whether this spirit of self-sufficiency and camaraderie would survive if Harvard increases opportunities for University-funded study of performance is a sensitive one to many students

STUDENT VOICE



Matt Aucoin practicing in Wigglesworth House.

(musicians and actors), some of whom maintain that it is precisely these groups’ independence from any structure resembling that of a conservatory that makes them special.

This is a fair point but a bad argument against adding performance programs. If Harvard were to grant degrees in the study of music and theater performance, it would attract even more professional-level performers, who would become involved in these organizations. Students would be able simultaneously to get better preparation in class and participate in student-run groups that function like professional companies. In other words, the welcome fruits of Harvard’s past informality would survive even as Harvard grows. Harvard’s miraculous student arts companies would grow right along with it.

If you’re an undergraduate or graduate student and have an essay to share about life at Harvard, please e-mail your ideas to Jim Concannon, the Gazette’s news editor, at Jim_Concannon@harvard.edu.

Photo by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer

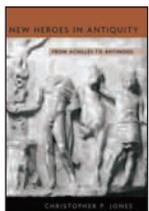
Business lady

HBS professor Nancy Koehn discusses “The Story of American Business,” her book on interesting and significant historical examples from the industry.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer



HARVARD BOUND

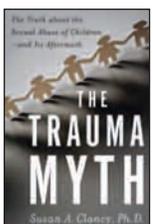


NEW HEROES IN ANTIQUITY: FROM ACHILLES TO ANTINOOS

(Harvard University Press,
January 2010)

By Christopher P. Jones

Those marvelous ancient Greeks. Thousands of years later, Christopher P. Jones uncorks even more of their allure, probing how mortals became demigods, and why these ancient heroes and heroines were idolized after death.



THE TRAUMA MYTH: THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN — AND ITS AFTERMATH

(Basic Books, January 2010)

By Susan A. Clancy

Susan Clancy controversially bucks the norm with new research on child sexual abuse, which suggests that well-meaning professionals' assumptions about abuse are wrong, and can actually do more harm than good.



ONE STRATEGY: ORGANIZATION, PLANNING, AND DECISION MAKING

(Wiley, John & Sons Inc.,
November 2009)

By Marco Iansiti and Steven
Sinofsky

The Harvard Business School's Marco Iansiti teams up with Microsoft exec Steven Sinofsky to disclose collaborative knowhow on strategizing and mobilizing large-scale operational projects, using 2009's unleashing of Windows 7 as a prime example.

When The New York Times came calling, Nancy Koehn, James E. Robison Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School, stepped up to the plate.

It was 2003. Harvard Business Press presented Koehn with a book prospectus from the Times. The idea? To compile interesting articles across the history of the paper, an assignment Koehn metamorphosed into “The Story of American Business,” which features more than 100 articles spanning 150 years.

“The NYT had worked on a few books that were syntheses on specific topics, but had never attempted anything of this depth and breadth,” said Koehn, who couldn't bypass a chance “to follow the arc of time, that is, some of history's most interesting individuals and events, through the eyes of men and women watching them in real time.”

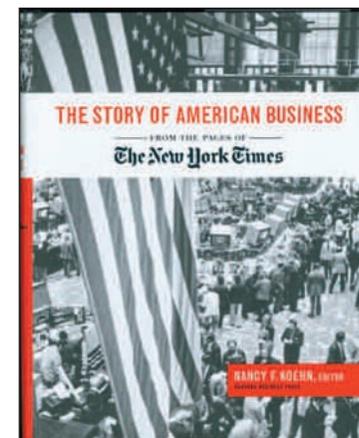
Koehn, a historian and scholar of entrepreneurial leadership, calls the book “an incredibly exciting intellectual opportunity.”

It was an opportunity that included a lot of work. Koehn first had to decide which “thematic avenues the book would travel,” and spent three years simply reading Times backlogs.

“Then,” she said, “the real work began, the task of selecting the articles. About 100, from almost 15 times that many, that would make it in.”

Koehn's themes are expansive but methodical. “From Wall Street to big business, from the transportation revolution to the information revolution — all of these subjects and more form the chapters of the book,” she said. “But these building blocks are laid upon the three-part foundation of business in America: the corporation, the changing nature of work, and defining moments in technology.”

A book of such historical intensity is ever-pertinent in today's economic climate. “We forget, in our age of the ‘next new thing,’ that we are not the first generation to stand at a crossroads, despairing and uncertain of what's to come,” Koehn said. “It was heartening to see how we as a people have navigated through such similar points as the end of the Civil War or the Depression. If today's leaders are going to make sense of the current financial crisis and its significance, they need the breadth and depth of information that the Times affords — and they need to learn from their predecessors.”





Interpreter of cultures

Harvard professor Ali Asani uses art to spread understanding of Islam and its underpinnings.

FACULTY PROFILE

Using art forms, such as poetry, music, and calligraphy, Ali Asani is combating ignorance about Islam and Muslim cultures.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer



Asani's use of the arts as a teaching tool is just part of his broader effort to eradicate what he calls "religious illiteracy." For more than 30 years, he has dedicated himself to helping others better understand the rich subtext and diverse influences that make religion — in particular, Islam — a complex cultural touchstone.

In his office, dotted with delicate weavings and tapestries, and stacked with books on religion and languages, Asani proudly shows off the product of a recent academic endeavor, a handful of music videos created by his students. In the short clips, the men and women are singing their own compositions, inspired by a verse from the Koran.

"The arts help to humanize cultures where political discourses based on nationalist ideologies tend to dehumanize. They are wonderful pedagogic bridges that help to connect peoples who perceive those different from themselves as 'the other,'" said Asani, Harvard professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic religion and cultures.

Asani's use of the arts as a teaching tool is just part of his broader effort to eradicate what he calls "religious illiteracy." For more than 30 years, he has dedicated himself to helping others better understand the rich subtext and diverse influences that make religion — in particular, Islam — a complex cultural touchstone.

"For me, religion is a cultural phenomenon that is complexly embedded in historical, political, economic, literary, and artistic con-

texts. As these contexts change, people's interpretation of religion changes, so it's never really something that is fixed."

Those who refuse to see understandings of religion as contextually constructed engage in a dangerous form of religious illiteracy, said the scholar, one that "strips people in a very broad way of their humanity. Looking at people through the exclusive lens of their religious identity and ignoring their historical, cultural, and political contexts is dehumanizing and leads to stereotyping and sometimes to even genocide and ethnic cleansing."

His quest is partly personal. Asani, who came to the United States as a young man directly from his native Nairobi to attend college, was stunned when his American peers challenged his African heritage.

"Because of the way I looked, people were questioning that I really could be African," recalled the scholar, who has ancestral ties to South Asia. "I thought it was very strange, since my family has roots in Africa dating back 200 years."

"It was my first encounter with what people in the United States know about the rest of the world. Most of my peers had no idea of Africa's racial, cultural, and religious diversity. I hoped it was something that I would get a chance to remedy someday. And then I found out there were larger problems in the academy about how Islam is taught and understood."

Asani came to Harvard as an undergraduate in 1973 and has been here ever since. A concentrator in comparative religion, he later pursued his doctorate work on Near Eastern languages, developing his dissertation on the *gins*, the religious texts of the Ismaili branch of Islam. Capitalizing on his multilingual fluency in Urdu, Hindi, Persian, Gujarati, Sindhi, and Swahili, he began teaching at Harvard's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Today a tenured professor, his research focuses on Shia and Sufi devotional traditions of Islam, as well as popular or folk forms of Muslim devotional life.

In keeping with his mission of promoting religious literacy, Asani held workshops for educators following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, to help them better understand Islam. He also recently developed a detailed historic and cultural curriculum for the study of Muslim societies for the Islamic Studies Initiative, an international professional development program for high school teachers in Kenya, Pakistan, and Texas.

Most recently, Asani, who is also associate director of Harvard's Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program, has been working on incorporating the arts into his "Culture and Belief" course, which is offered as part of Harvard's new Program in General Education.

"I am interested in exploring the use of the arts not only as lenses to study religious traditions but also as a means of engaging students in deeper forms of learning through art making," he said.

"By studying and appreciating a piece of art or a piece of literature from a different culture and then attempting to re-create that artistic or literary form within their own cultural framework, students participate in learning processes that are intimate and bear the imprint of their own personalities. In this manner, education can truly become personally transformative."

Break, but no vacation

Harvard students volunteer for service projects overseas — targeting malnutrition and aiding literacy and athletics — during winter break.



In El Salvador, HGSE student Debra Gittler (above center), one of the founders of Learning Through Libraries, looks through the books for the new library in an El Castaño school. In Uganda, Sarah Nam (left) teaches how to make high-energy milk for nutritional therapy for the malnourished.



vard.edu/gazette/?p=35406), and a journey to India by the women's squash team to play demonstration matches and engage in several days of squash instruction and academic tutoring for poor children in the northern India city of Chandigarh (<http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=33871>).

Learning signs of malnutrition

Liao, Nam, and fellow undergraduate Katherine Lim traveled to Uganda on New Year's Day guided by Keri Cohn, a clinical fellow in pediatrics at Harvard-affiliated Children's Hospital Boston. The four traveled to Nyakibale Hospital in Uganda's Rukungiri District as part of the Initiative to End Child Malnutrition, a collaboration between Nyakibale Hospital; the Harvard College Global Hunger Initiative (a student group founded by Nam and others); and Massachusetts General Hospital's Division of Global Health and Human Rights, whose Initiative for Emergency Care in Rural Uganda already operates at Nyakibale Hospital.

For several months before the trip, students worked with Cohn to translate World Health Organization malnutrition protocols into workshops for local nurses, doctors, and other health care providers and hospital administrators. During their three weeks at Nyakibale, the students presented dozens of sessions of the nine-part course to nurses there. Cohn conducted similar workshops for physicians and hospital administrators. The course was designed to improve recognition of malnutrition, as well as to suggest ways to combat it.

Promoting literacy for all

A group of HGSE students from the international education policy program spent a week in El Salvador in a varied project that started with literacy and moved on to the arts.

The seven students were from the student group Learning Through Libraries, founded this year by Jill Carlson and Eleanor O'Donnell. Carlson and O'Donnell came up with the idea for the project and approached fellow stu-

(see *Outreach* page 14)

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer

The year-old boy had been abandoned at a rural hospital in Uganda's poorest district. His mother, who showed up days later after a change of heart, was just 17 herself and told the Harvard students visiting there that she had been forced to abandon him by his father.

Two Harvard undergraduates said their conversation with that young mother one evening in January made an indelible impression on them during a winter break trip to Uganda to work on a project to fight malnutrition. The conversation helped them to understand the challenges and struggles of those living far from Harvard's academic halls.

"I saw a child who's helpless. He hasn't made any decisions in life yet, and he's put in this situation," Harvard junior Gordon Liao said. "That's what motivates me to do this project. There are children who have no choices."

Liao and senior Sarah Nam were just two of many Harvard undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members who took full advantage of the first winter break since the University moved to a new, unified

calendar this academic year. For undergraduates, the change meant that exams occurred in December prior to the break between Christmas and New Year's Day for the first time. The calendar shift freed up several weeks in January that had previously been occupied with the fall reading period and final exams.

The change was recommended by the 2004 Report of the Harvard University Committee on Calendar Reform, which suggested that all of Harvard's Schools adopt the same academic calendar to facilitate cross-School collaboration. Specifically, the committee recommended beginning the school year in early September, concluding fall exams in December before the break, moving Commencement from early June to late May, and coordinating Thanksgiving and spring break across the Schools.

Among the activities undertaken by students and faculty members over winter break were the service trip to Uganda, a journey to El Salvador to promote literacy by students at Harvard's Graduate School of Education (HGSE), a water purification project in the Dominican Republic that became an exercise in earthquake relief for neighboring Haiti ([Photos: \(top\) by Gordon Liao, \(above right\) by Briget Ganske](http://news.har-</p>
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Helping Haiti to stand again

Harvard authorities probe what needs to happen now, in six months, in a decade.

Even before the devastating earthquake on Jan. 12, Haiti was in deep trouble. It was the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Most people lived on less than \$2 a day, and only a third had formal jobs. In 2008, four successive hurricanes had ruined 60 percent of the country's harvest and its already shaky health infrastructure. Barely half of the children were immunized, malnutrition stunted the growth of 20 percent of them before age 5, and the average family of seven slept in one room — a trigger for infectious disease.

Then came even greater trouble: a 7.0-magnitude earthquake that in minutes killed many thousands of Haitians and injured many thousands more. The quake left three million Haitians needing emergency aid. Hundreds of thousands still sleep outdoors, fearing aftershocks or lacking shelter, and many more are fleeing to the countryside, which may soon be overwhelmed. Food, water, sanitation, housing, and security remain concerns.

About 600 small-scale tent cities will soon shelter the homeless from seasonal rains due in April, replacing what Harvard physician Joia Mukherjee, chief medical officer at the Harvard-affiliated Partners In Health, called the "sheet cities" thrown up in haste atop rubble.

In the face of such apocalyptic disaster, what should be done to help, now, in six months, and in a decade? The Harvard Gazette asked Harvard experts for their insights.

A few lessons have already emerged. For one, send cash, not goods. Get the money directly into Haitians' hands. Expand health care capacity, including postoperative care, mental health, and physical rehabilitation. Most important, let Haitians oversee the long-term rebuilding of their nation.

— Corydon Ireland

To learn about campus fundraising efforts, check out the Community Affairs column, page 14



Paul Farmer

U.S. Special Envoy for Haiti; co-founder, Partners In Health; Maude and Lillian Presley Professor of Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School

Creating safe schools and safe hospitals, even makeshift ones, is a known need in rebuilding a society, and storm-resistant housing must also be a carefully considered priority, since there is little time before the rainy season. Students need to be back in school. The planting season cannot be missed and requires fertilizer, seeds, and tools.

Haiti will continue to need the contractors, and the NGOs and mission groups, but, more importantly, we will need to create new ground rules — including a focus on creating local jobs for Haitians, and on building the infrastructure that is crucial to creating sustainable economic growth and ultimately reducing Haiti's dependence on aid.

Debt relief is important, but only the beginning. Any group looking to do this work must share the goals of the Haitian people: social and economic rights, reflected, for example, in job creation, local business development, watershed protection (and alternatives to charcoal for cooking), access to quality health care, and gender equity.

Excerpted from Paul Farmer's Jan. 28, 2010, testimony on Haiti to the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. To read the whole testimony, go to <http://stand-withhaiti.org/haiti/news-entry/pih-co-founder-paul-farmer-testifies-at-senate-foreign-relations-committee/>.



Jean-Philippe

Anthropologist, fellow at Harvard, who just returned

The international community has left the Haitian state no longer the state it was when it started 50 years ago, and the population recognizes the authorities to provide a response and to coordinate international efforts.

The international community's 2004 and 2008 relief efforts have shown the international community's presence (at \$600 million of dollars spent since 1994) has not again been swallowed by a disaster. Understanding, corruption, and the arrangements between the international organizations, and foreign aid, the Tower of Babel that failed to coordinate the same projects with the same goals will only guarantee failure.

The first step? Create a structure composed of the few million Haitians invested with the focus on infrastructure.

And listen to Haitian input, which they rarely do. They have identified the problem, ignoring them is anti-international.

The crisis in Haiti: Whether on campus or in the field, Harvard reaches out to Haiti. To find out how you can help, receive assistance, or learn of updates on events and coverage, go to news.harvard.edu/gazette/haiti/



HARVARD RESPONDS

A catastrophic earthquake in Haiti Jan. 12 has prompted a rapid-fire response of broad-based medical and humanitarian assistance from Harvard and its affiliates. news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=34738



RELIEF FUND

Assistance mobilizes to aid earthquake-shaken Haiti, including groups of experts and medical personnel affiliated with Harvard. news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=35406





Philippe Belleau

Director of the Center for the Study of the Americas at the Humanities Center at Harvard University, and former director of the Center for Haitian and Caribbean Studies at Harvard University

Community needs to recognize that danger exists. Its destruction was and now has come to fulfillment. It recognizes the impossibility of the response to the country's disarray and the national efforts.

Community also needs to look at the efforts in Haiti, the United Nations (1 billion a year), and the billions in aid (1 billion a year). Without a look back, aid will be a gigantic black hole of mismanagement, and incompetence. Past the Haitian state, multilateral organizations and foreign governments created a mess. Recycling the same ideas and the same methodology.

A centralized command structure is needed. Most dedicated countries and of the highest authority. Then, education, and land planning.

Intellectuals, which foreigners lack and a social conscience. Ignorance and imperialistic.



Arrietta Chakos

Director, Acting in Time Advance Disaster Recovery Project, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School

The humanitarian response has to be swift, decisive, and coordinated. The incoming responders must be self-sufficient, collaborative, and focused on immediate need because the Haitian authorities are not yet able to manage the situation. Typically, landscape-scale disasters exponentially magnify pre-event systemic vulnerabilities; this is evident in the situation at hand.

The immediate order of business is complex. Restoring critical lifelines — water, communications, fuel, power — must be a first priority. Medical services and emergency housing must follow close on.

Haitian authorities need to reconstitute the continuity of government for the nation. Strengthening the social connections among people is crucial to rebuilding hope and purpose for those devastated by the earthquake. The disaster literature shows that typically 10 years is the period for a region to recover from catastrophe. Haiti will likely follow this trajectory. Social and political reconstitution will emerge with support from responding nations in the form of governance guidelines, social-institution building, and development of safe building practices. Such measures have successfully been implemented in the wake of disasters in the last 20 years.



Hashim Sarkis

Aga Khan Professor and director of the Aga Khan Program, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Haiti's rainy season begins in April. In the face of imminent rains and hurricanes, providing shelter and adequate infrastructure for the displaced population of Port-au-Prince is critical.

The physical interventions needed could clear an alternative path to socioeconomic recovery. About 600 makeshift tent cities going up in the countryside will house a million refugees. These new housing centers will likely remain there for a long time, but they will also bring resourceful workers to the countryside who can improve its agriculture. These tent cities could become the nuclei for the rejuvenation of the rural economy and of the whole country.

Without diminishing the importance of a long-term plan for Port-au-Prince, efforts should focus on building roads to the tent cities and providing safe, collective roofs over the refugees' heads. They will need generators, latrines, common kitchens, medical services, and schools.

Around the centers, basic housing units should then be provided to replace the tents. Residents could expand their houses as they invest the returns from their work in agriculture, construction, and administration. A new economy with a polycentric distribution could emerge, and help Haiti transcend the rural-urban imbalance that devastated the country well before the earthquake.

Online ►► For more expert opinions: news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=36402



MEDICAL WORKERS GAIN MOMENTUM

Harvard-affiliated doctors report on carnage, rescue operations in quake-ravaged Haiti, as medical teams gain traction. news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=35250



RELIEF FOR HAITIAN CITY

Putting aside their winter-break activities, an ad-hoc Harvard relief team in the Dominican Republic helps to ship boatloads of relief supplies to the coastal Haitian city of Jacmel. news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=35406



AN ORPHANAGE REGROUPS

The family of a Harvard undergraduate in Haiti struggles to provide food, shelter, and safety to their orphanage complex there. news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=35522



Susana, a student from El Castaño, El Salvador, learns how to use a camera during the photography workshop.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Student concert to aid Haiti

Harvard's student artists, in collaboration with the OfA, pull together to produce a two-hour benefit on Feb. 12 in Sanders Theatre.

By Lauren Marshall | Harvard Staff Writer

As medical relief efforts following Haiti's devastating earthquake begin to shift toward stabilizing the battered island nation, including feeding, supporting, and housing the survivors, the need for monetary support remains vast. Haiti has many surgical teams, tents, and trucks in place now. But those ongoing efforts require strong fiscal support, as will the upcoming rehabilitation and rebuilding.

To that end, on Feb. 12, Harvard student artists, in collaboration with the Office for the Arts, will host a benefit concert to raise much-needed funds for Haitian relief.

Harvard student artists, including noted pianist Charlie Albright '11, jazz pianist Malcolm Campbell '10, and dancer Merritt Moore '10 of the Zurich Ballet Co. will perform, along with student singing and dance troupes, including the Kumba Singers, the Harvard Glee Club, the Harvard Caribbean Club Dance Troupe, and the Modern Dance Company. The two-hour concert will take place at Sanders Theatre, 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets are available through the Harvard Box Office (617.496.2222). The University and the Office for the Arts are underwriting production costs so that all proceeds from ticket sales can go directly to Partners In Health, a nonprofit group that has been working in Haiti for decades.

Harvard students, deciding to tap into their own talent to help, developed the concept and organized the benefit concert.

"The responsiveness, dedication, and skills of the students and faculty are the backbone of the Harvard community," said B.A. Sillah '12, one of the concert's student organizers. "And when we asked the community for help, they gave us a resounding yes."

The evening will feature approximately 12 performances, a video highlighting the relief efforts of Partners In Health in Haiti, and readings of poetry and prose by Harvard students. To widen the audience beyond Sanders Theatre's four walls, the University will broadcast a live feed of the concert. More details about the event will be available through a link at <http://www.harvard.edu/haiti> when they become available.

While the concert's proceeds will help Haiti, another effort is under way on campus to support Harvard employees who have been directly affected by the disaster. Harvard University, in partnership with the Harvard University Credit Union, announced a new emergency relief fund last week. Harvard affiliates can donate online at <https://www.huecu.org/relief.html>. Eligible employees can apply for grants.

In addition, a two-hour charity event at the Queen's Head pub, sponsored by Harvard Public Affairs and Communications, recently raised \$650 for Haitian relief. That's enough money for Partners In Health to treat 30 malnourished children for a month.

This week, the Harvard Graduate School of Education announced a goal of raising an additional \$5,000 by Feb. 5, also to support Partners In Health.

There are many ways to help. Harvard faculty and staff still can donate to Haiti relief programs of their choice through the Community Gifts Through Harvard program at http://www.community.harvard.edu/community-partnerships/community-gifts/how_to_give.php.

For more information on the range of relief activities and resources benefiting Haiti, go to <http://www.harvard.edu/haiti>.

Outreach

(continued from page 11)

dent Debra Gittler, who had worked extensively in El Salvador to improve teacher training. Gittler embraced the project.

Aided by Gittler's contacts, the group raised money to purchase 1,500 books and then networked with several organizations, including TACA Airlines — which agreed to ship the books — the Salvadoran nonprofit organization FEPADE, the Escuela de Comunicación Monica Herrera, the national art museum Marte, the Amigos School in Cambridge, and three schools in the town of Caluco.

The group wanted to do more than just ship books, so it arranged workshops on how to use and run a library and brought in local storytellers to work with children and grandparents to uncover local history and paint murals about it.

"We see it as facilitating the process of transferring from the grandparents to the students," Gittler said.

HGSE student Briget Ganske also worked with students from the Escuela de Comunicación Monica Herrera in El Salvador to teach children at the three Caluco schools how to operate digital cameras. They then sent the children home to document their lives. The students' photos will be on simultaneous display at HGSE and in El Salvador in February.

Gittler said the HGSE students hope to make Learning Through Libraries a permanent organization before they graduate in May, so that future HGSE students can participate in similar experiences.

Athletics, academics, and service

The Harvard Women's Squash Team spent 11 days in India. The training and service trip was led by the team's coaches, including head coach Satinder Bajwa, who grew up in India and who runs a nonprofit organization dedicated to sports and academics for underprivileged children. Bajwa said he had the idea for the trip for some time, but it wasn't possible until the calendar change freed up time.

"The idea has always been there, but the school calendar never allowed us to make it happen," Bajwa said. "This is the first year, with the January window."

Bajwa said the trip was planned to include rewarding personal activities as well as training that can help the team during the remainder of their season, which ends in March. During their stay, the group trained and played several local teams, including club teams and the Indian National Team, according to freshman Vidya Rajan.

"We lost," Rajan said of the match with the Indian National Team. "They were very good. It was great preparation for some of our upcoming matches."

Rajan, whose family is from Chennai, India, grew up in the United States but has visited Chennai. She said she enjoyed seeing other parts of the country during the team's four-city tour. The team spent three days at the end of the trip in Chandigarh, coaching underprivileged children in squash and providing academic tutoring.

"It was just so rewarding. I'd never really seen those kinds of living conditions up close and personal," Rajan said. "It was eye-opening, to say the least."

FAS continues greening its scene

With a sweeping program in place to reduce energy use, FAS is making major inroads in savings, both in power and money.

By Steve Bradt | Harvard Staff Writer

Editor's note: This is the first in an occasional series of stories on the measures individual Schools at Harvard are using to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

A year after Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences formally launched its Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Program, aligned with the University-wide reduction goals, sustainability is becoming second nature across FAS.

For example, there's the new energy@fas.harvard.edu e-mail account, where members of the Harvard community can report sprinklers running in the rain, athletic facilities ablaze with lights at 2 a.m., and lecture halls where climate control could be improved.

"The level of engagement is really remarkable," said Jay M. Phillips, director of energy, sustainability, and infrastructure for FAS, one of eight officials who share these e-mail reports with building managers to see that problems are solved.

In a notable success story, Harvard College's sprawling residential buildings in the past year have seen a 15 percent drop in greenhouse gas emissions, a 30 percent drop in water use, and a 9 percent savings on utility costs.

Heather Henriksen, director of Harvard's Office for Sustainability (OFS), credits FAS successes such as the undergraduate Resource Efficiency Program, where students act as green representatives within their dorms or Houses, and Green Teams, which harness the power of faculty, staff, and students to improve efficiency in office settings.

"Both are feathers in the cap of the FAS Green Program," Henriksen said. "FAS has demonstrated that occupant-engagement programs lead to real resource reductions and, ultimately, economic savings."

The concerted conservation efforts in the Houses and dormitories have contributed to the \$5,594,908 that FAS saved in the past year through reductions in energy usage and associated utilities costs. FAS has also saved money through an array of energy conservation projects implemented since 2006: reducing building ventilation and heating and cooling loads, adjusting building temperatures and system schedules based on building occupancy, and installing solar panels and a

bevy of other retrofits.

Many FAS employees have embraced a more low-tech approach: "freecycles," where surplus office supplies are free for the taking. Dozens of staffers have showed up, snapping up much of what is offered for reuse. Inspired by freecycling's popularity, OFS, Harvard's Procurement Management office, and FAS have developed a University-wide Craigslist-like site for swapping office supplies, now available online at green.harvard.edu/reuselist.

Freecycling hasn't just been a hit at Harvard. Columbia University has begun replicating the practices on its own campus.

before employed in FAS buildings — an enthalpy wheel and a heat-shift chiller — will recapture heat ordinarily exhausted from the buildings, for reuse elsewhere.

Other innovations include a system to reclaim "gray" water for reuse in toilets, widespread use of LEDs for task lighting and illumination of laboratory benches, lights that self-dim when ample natural light is present, and a system that will use occupancy sensors to reduce air exchange in vacant areas.

"Better integrating building controls should help us achieve much greater efficiency," Phillips said. "This project has been envisioned from the start as a 'lab of the future.'"



Volunteers from the Office for Sustainability collect unwanted mail in collection areas around the campus. Eco-citizens Sage Kochavi (clockwise from left), Montana Higo, Dara Olmsted, and Claire Reardon participate in a "junk mail party" to unsubscribe people from companies' mailing lists.

"We've transitioned from being a sustainability follower among our Ivy peers some years ago to being a real leader now," Phillips said, noting that Yale University is now seeking to replicate FAS's successful greening of laboratories.

This year, FAS plunged into its biggest sustainability project yet, an ambitious, top-to-bottom makeover of the 102,000-square-foot Sherman Fairchild Biochemistry Building and its smaller neighbor, the Bauer Center. Two technologies never

Among the more futuristic touches, building occupants will find interactive screens showing energy use by lab or floor, so they can see, in real time, the energy-saving effects of their actions.

Next: A look at the Harvard Business School.

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer

COVER STORY

Yes, Harvard sweats

Known as a bastion of academe, Harvard has more Division 1 sports programs than any other college — and thousands of students in club, intramural programs.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

When Caitlin Cahow won an Olympic bronze medal in 2006 as a member of the U.S. women's hockey team, she kept the celebration short. After all, she had to race back to her undergraduate anthropology studies at Harvard.

When people think Harvard, they usually think academic achievement. So at first glance, it might seem that Cahow '08, who's also on the U.S. team that will face China in Vancouver on Valentine's Day, is an athletic anomaly. But that wouldn't factor in alternate captains Angela Ruggiero '04, who's on her fourth Olympic squad, and Julie Chu '07, who's on her third. Nor would that account for the Canadian team's Jennifer Botterill '03 and Sarah Vaillancourt '09.

In fact, more than 130 Harvard athletes have competed in the Olympics since they resumed in 1896 (including the first medal winner). Ten Crimson athletes and coaches competed in the 2008 Beijing summer games, six in the 2006 Turin winter games, and 13 in the 2004 Athens summer games. There will be five in Vancouver. There has never been an Olympics without at least one Harvard player or graduate involved.

"Harvard really became my home," Cahow said, describing why she returned to campus during a short January training break rather than rest up. "This is my central hub. It's a 'pay it forward' kind of a deal. You feel attached to these people for the rest of your life."

Harvard offers 41 Division 1 sports, more than

any other college in the nation. More than 1,000 undergraduates compete in the University's robust intercollegiate program.

Harvard's vast club sports program has more than 3,000 participants in 40 sports, with 1,100 young men and women competing in 31 House intramural and 16 freshman league sports and special events. In addition, 8,500 members of the Harvard community spend hundreds of thousands of hours each year at the University's athletic facilities and in recreational classes.

Harvard teams have won 138 national or NCAA championships, including at least one in 23 of the past 24 years. Since the Ivy League's inception in 1954, Harvard teams have won 337 league championships. Forty-six Harvard athletes have won the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, given to young men and women who combine attributes of scholarship, leadership, and athletics.

The motto of Harvard's vast sports programs, reflected in the wide participation they draw, is "athletics for all."

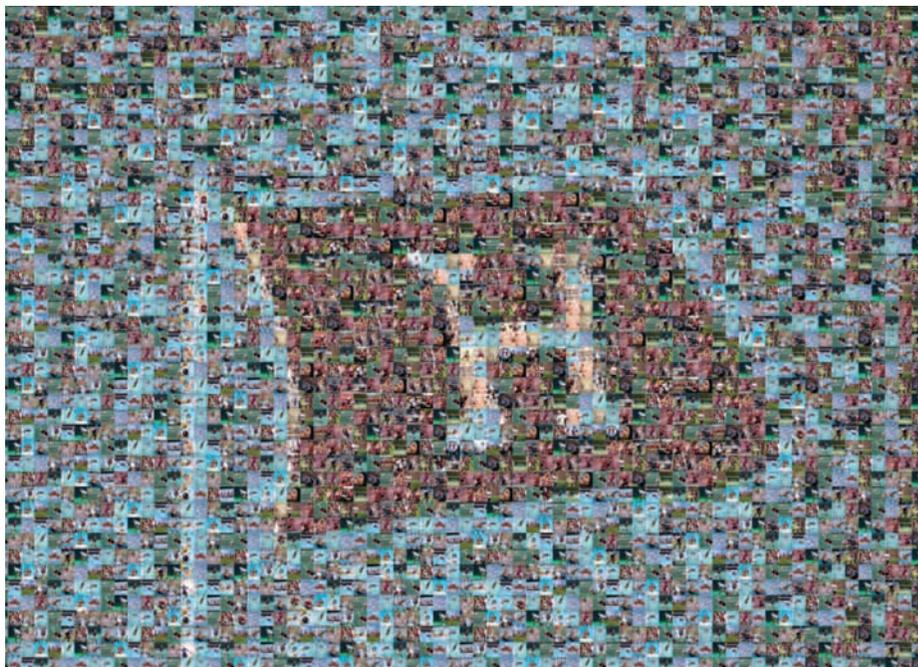
For Harvard's Bob Scalise, Nichols Family Director of Athletics, that motto is paramount. "Athletics for all means exactly that," he said, "whether someone is an intercollegiate athlete and wants to compete at the highest level of their sport, a club athlete, or part of the intramural or recreational programs. It's for everyone. We have a very broad-based mandate."

While academics are undoubtedly the priority for students arriving at Harvard, the strong sports programs prove a bonus for many. The ability to compete at a high level while balancing course work has even meant a professional career for a few talented graduates.

Four former Harvard football players are now making their mark in the NFL. Matt Birk '98 plays center for the Baltimore Ravens, Desmond Bryant '09 is a defensive end for the Oakland Raiders, and Chris Pizzotti '09 is the back-up quarterback for the Green Bay Packers. Last season's starting quarterback for the Buffalo Bills was Harvard's Ryan Fitzpatrick '05. Other one-time Harvard stars have found success in the National Hockey League, including Don Sweeney '88 and Ted Donato '91, the Crimson men's hockey coach. Forward Dominic Moore '03 plays for the Florida Panthers, and current freshman Louis Leblanc opted to play for the Crimson instead of the Montreal Canadiens. Tennis player James Blake '91 has found success on the pro circuit.

Still, while Harvard's strong program allows athletes to compete against some who are the best in their fields, preparing Harvard students for professional sports careers isn't the primary goal of any Harvard coach. Across the board, they agree that their purpose is preparing undergraduates for life and the world beyond Harvard's ivy-dappled walls.

"Sports reveal character, and that's sometimes



Photos by Jon Chase, Justin Ide, Rose Lincoln, Stephanie Mitchell, Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographers

something you are unable to see in the classroom,” said Katey Stone, Harvard’s women’s hockey coach. “A life balance is the most important thing.”

After 16 years as Harvard’s head football coach, Tim Murphy has seen his share of titles and Harvard standouts. For Murphy, though, what sets a Harvard athlete apart is the University’s avoidance of scholarships.

“At Harvard you have no financial incentive to play. From that sense, athletics at Harvard are as pure here as at any school in the country. ... Here, you play for the love of the game and your teammates.”

Emphasizing that goal, in his office overlooking Harvard Stadium, Scalise has hung a giant whiteboard. Written at the top in bold black letters are the words “Education Through Athletics,” the core component of Harvard’s athletic mission.

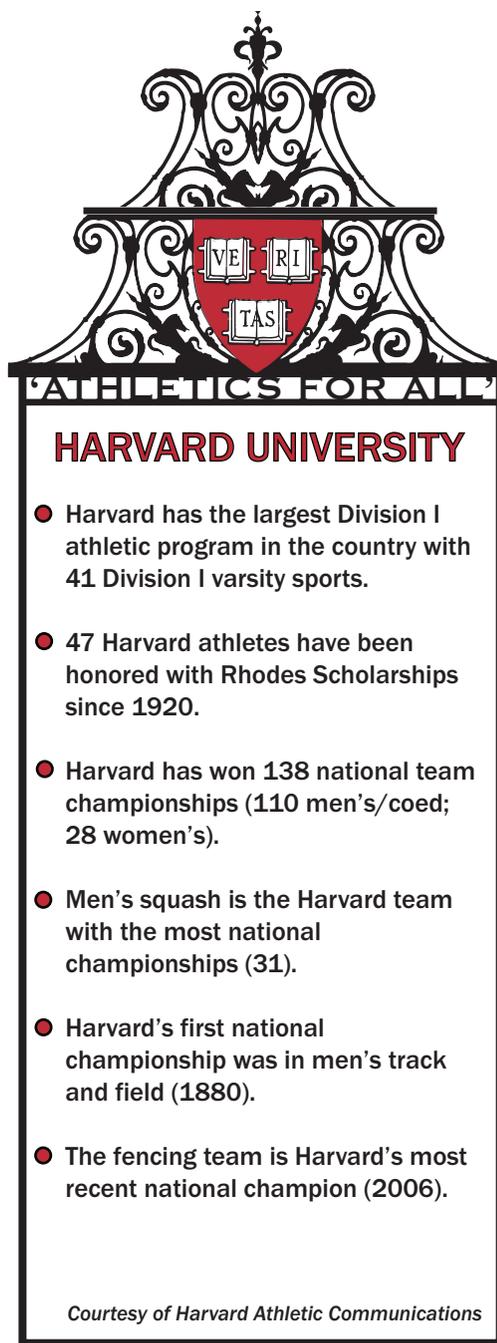
“We feel you can learn the lessons of athletics whether you are an aspiring Olympian, a team member, an intramural or club participant, or a recreational athlete. Those lessons include the importance of teamwork, leadership, resiliency, risk taking, the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. These are all very valuable lessons for everyone to learn, that’s our philosophy.”

Star basketball player “Jeremy Lin is wonderful, and his story tells people that we can compete at the highest level, but that’s the tip of the iceberg of many, many thousands of stories of people whose lives we touch,” Scalise added. “They have their own success stories. They aren’t in Sports Illustrated. They are the kids who get involved and win an intramural championship and bond as a House together. That’s fabulous.”

As in academics, hard work is a key for athletes to thrive. For two hours each night on the third floor of the Malkin Athletic Center, young men and women wage fierce combat against each other. The noise level is jarring, a symphony of electronic beeps that signal hits, the sharp crack of steel on steel, and the slap of fast-moving feet against a narrow, metal strip.

But as soon as members of Harvard’s fencing program are done sparring, they put down their swords and head as a group to dinner at a nearby dining hall. Like all of Harvard’s athletic programs, camaraderie is a hallmark of the team. For the fencers, the bonds run deep. They travel and compete together, and they practice in tandem, coaching each other and offering advice and encouragement.

“The team is awesome,” said Noam Mills ’12, a top-ranked fencer who just returned from Qatar, where she was competing with the Israeli national team. “Aside from being good fencers and good athletes,



they are also really amazing people,” Mills said, adding that being part of the team made her transition from Israel to Cambridge much easier.

“You just help each other get pumped up. ... It’s the people who make it,” said freshman Felicia Sun, who is looking forward to fencing’s NCAA championships, which will be hosted by Harvard in March. “They are not just other fencers, they are my teammates, and they are my friends, and that’s what keeps me coming back.”

Head coach Peter Brand, who has run the program for 11 years and led his players to the NCAA championship in 2006, said coaching the team has been his “dream job.” But for Brand, no title can replace the bonds that the players form and the life experience they gain.

“I believe these relationships and bonds are possible

because sport represents a universal language. In the fencing room, what we try to do is use this sport to bring people together, no matter what their origin, background, religious beliefs, or economic status. I also believe that when people participate in sport they can experience real exhilaration even as they learn the ideals of teamwork, a skill that will hopefully serve to the betterment of the Harvard community and society as a whole.”

Prior to heading for Vancouver, Cahow chatted with Stone, her former coach, at the Bright Hockey Center and prepared to take the ice to practice with her one-time team. While at Harvard, Cahow was part of a powerhouse squad that won two ECAC titles and made it each year to the NCAA tournament, twice reaching the final. She said she was “floored” when she first met Stone, and heard her message.

“I just was struck by how welcoming and honest she was. She said, ‘We recruit people more than we recruit players. We look for character, and we build character, and those are the most important things about this program. You are going to play great hockey, and you are going to make the best friends that you have ever had in your entire life, but our hope is that you come in a great person and you leave an even better person.’”

“I couldn’t believe it. It wasn’t about the power play, it wasn’t about the record or statistics, it was about ‘we want you to become the best possible person that you can be through being a part of this program,’ and I was sold.”

Men’s soccer is another strong Harvard program, and last fall the team advanced to the third round of the NCAA tournament before losing to Maryland. While star forward Andre Akpan garnered broad public attention, another talented player quietly came into his own. Both Akpan and central defender Kwaku Nyamekye ’10 were picked in the recent Major League Soccer draft. Akpan ’09 just reported to training camp with the Colorado Rapids. Nyamekye, who will graduate in the spring, will join the Columbus Crew in June.

During his winter break, Nyamekye, a tall player with a knack for moving forward and attacking with the ball, trained with Rangers Football Club, a team in the Scottish Premier League. A native of Switzerland, where he began playing soccer as a boy, Nyamekye admits that he chose Harvard for the academics and that a career in business is likely in his future.

But for now he is content to follow his dream of playing professional soccer for as long as he can. Aside from the Harvard soccer program giving him the op-

(see Athletics next page)



Graphic by Gervis A. Menzies Jr. | Harvard Staff

Athletics

(continued from previous page)

portunity to compete at the top of the collegiate game and win two Ivy League titles, Nyamekye said he will always remember the camaraderie he had.

"It really shows that, more than being just smart students, Harvard kids are really multifaceted," said Nyamekye, "and it brings a lot of students with a lot of interest together. ... It adds an interesting dynamic to the college experience and to college life."

Competition comes in many forms at Harvard. Students in the intramural program appreciate that they can compete and put in as much time as their schedules allow.

"It's a total break from whatever you are doing," said Fabian Poliak '11 of Leverett House, who plays on its B-squad volleyball team. "To me it's a huge break from studying, great exercise, and a lot of fun."

Harvard's diverse club program also affords students the chance to compete in sports and movement, from badminton to ballroom dance.

For senior Khoa Tran, who took up martial arts as a boy to stay out of trouble and learn how to say no to peer pressure, the taekwon do club team has proven invaluable.

"It's a way of life, not just a sport," said Tran, who became an instructor with the team and now is passing along his passion to the next collegiate generation.

Harvard long ago decided to keep its sports in context as a supportive part of College life. Still, teams that combine passion, talent, drive, and dedication can win championships too.

Although Harvard's sports programs focus on the student athletes, they also have been involved in many sports firsts, including:

- Harvard and Yale faced off in the first intercollegiate sports event in 1852, a crew race on Lake Winnepesaukee.
- Fred Thayer '78 created the first catcher's mask in 1877.
- Harvard introduced the football scoreboard in 1893.
- Harvard played the first college hockey game, against Brown, in 1898.
- Because Harvard Stadium's shape prevented easy widening of the field, football officials eventually legalized the forward pass.
- Harvard played the first intercollegiate soccer game, against Haverford, in 1905.
- Radcliffe competed against Sargent College in the first women's intercollegiate swim meet in 1923.
- A Harvard hockey coach and player decided in 1932 to shift hockey lines rather than substitute individual players.

"The fact that people can come to Harvard and, whatever their talents, whatever their interests might be, they can pursue them to whatever level they want is a very important message," said William R. Fitzsimmons '67, Harvard's dean of admissions and financial aid, who attributes his commitment to staying in shape to his early Harvard experience as a hockey goalie.

When he travels on recruiting visits, Fitzsimmons said he conveys that message to prospective Harvard students who regularly ask him about the College's intercollegiate, club, intramural, and recreational community.

"I tell them," he said, "that it is a very important piece of Harvard life."

Gervis A. Menzies Jr. contributed to this report.

No giving up

Despite battling three injuries in three years, senior Pat Magnarelli is here to stay.

By Gervis A. Menzies Jr. |
Harvard Staff Writer

For senior Pat Magnarelli, there's no sense thinking about what could have been.

Two years ago, the Harvard men's basketball team's talented big man took the court in Harvard's Ivy League opener against Dartmouth, dominant and on top of the world.

Seventeen games into his sophomore year, coming off one of the best games of his collegiate career (a 22-point, 12-rebound effort in an impressive win over Colgate), Magnarelli was averaging 10.8 points and 6.3 rebounds a game, numbers good enough for second and first on the team, respectively.

The Duxbury, Mass., native thought the 2007-08 season would be his redemption season, after stress-fractured vertebrae had confined him to a back brace as a freshman. In that first season, he only played nine games.

After the Colgate game, he told *The Harvard Crimson*, "I hope I'm not peaking right now, because I don't want to stop playing like this. I'm getting more comfortable."

Extolling his sophomore forward, head coach Tommy Amaker (in his first year at the time) said, "He's been really solid for us. ... I think he's been consistent, we can rely on him, and he's been dependable. I'm really proud of his play, his effort, and his leadership on the court."

But that's when fate intervened. Magnarelli was allowed to stay anything but comfortable. In the opening minutes of the next game, against Dartmouth, Magnarelli dislocated his knee. He spent the rest of the season in street clothes.

So a back injury was followed by the first of two severe knee injuries, eventually causing the 6'9" forward to miss more than half of his college career. A future that had once been bright with promise was now being spent in rehab.

After a grueling rehab in the offseason, Magnarelli was ready for his second comeback. But two days before the Crimson's first game of his junior year, he reinjured his knee, and two surgeries sidelined him for the entire 2008-09 season.

"It's tough to say the first injury helped me in the second injury, but I already had experience not being able to be on the court from freshman year, so sophomore year when I sat [out the rest of the season], I was already used to that a little bit. But there's nothing that could really prepare you for that kind of injury."

Although no one would have blamed him for



Pat Magnarelli '10 takes the ball to the basket in Harvard's Ivy League opener against Dartmouth.

putting away his jersey permanently, he wasn't ready to do that yet.

Suiting up on Nov. 13, 2009 — his first game in nearly two years — the senior Magnarelli put together a solid effort, leading the Crimson in rebounding in his return.

These days, with the Crimson off to their best start in a quarter century, a lot of well-deserved attention has been given to fellow senior Jeremy Lin, who's a lock for first-team All-Ivy League and is in a neck and neck race for Ivy Player of the Year. But with any team, Harvard not an exception, the Crimson's success is as much predicated on the contributions of its role players as it is on those of the starters.

The leadership that Magnarelli has to offer to teammates, in addition to the screens and hustle plays that won't show up in the box scores, means just as much to the team as his stat line does.

"You have hidden leaders and hidden players within your team that are worth their weight in gold," said Amaker. "Pat is that for us in a lot of different ways. I refer to him as a stabilizer for us when he's out on the floor."

"It means the world to have him with us [on the court]," said sophomore Oliver McNally. "But just to see him every day working hard and see he's having some success — it's really motivational for the team."

Photo by Jon Chase | Harvard Staff Photographer

THE CYNTHIA WIGHT ROSSANO ENDOWED PRIZE FUND

A new endowed prize fund, established by Daniel Pierce '56, has been named in honor of Cynthia Wight Rossano for her services to Harvard University and to commemorate Harvard's history. The Cynthia Wight Rossano Prize in Harvard History awards the best essay by a Harvard College undergraduate. Drawing upon primary sources, the essays must consider any aspect of Harvard history, contribute scholarly knowledge, and must be no longer than 10 pages. A multimedia presentation by a single Harvard student may be submitted in place of an essay.

Essays or presentations must be submitted no later than May 1 to the Office of the University Marshal, Wadsworth House. Judging the prize will be University Marshal Jackie O'Neill; the Rev. Professor Peter J. Gomes, the Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church; and a professor in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences to be chosen by committee members. Judges reserve the right not to award the prize in any year when submissions do not meet their standards. The prize amount will be set annually by the committee of judges.

For more information, visit www.marshall.harvard.edu.

SHORENSTEIN CENTER ANNOUNCES GOLDSMITH WINNERS AND FINALISTS

The Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) has announced two winners of the Goldsmith Books Prize and six finalists for the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting.

The winner of the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting will be announced at an awards ceremony on March 23 at HKS.

The list of winners and finalists, visit hks.harvard.edu/news-events/news/press-releases/pr-shorenstein-goldsmith-jan10.

HARVARD'S INSTITUTE OF POLITICS ANNOUNCES SPRING RESIDENT FELLOWS

Six individuals have been selected for resident fellowships at the Harvard Kennedy School's Institute of Politics (IOP). The announcement was made Jan. 11.

The fellows selected include **Mary Catherine (M.C.) Andrews**, special assistant to President George W. Bush and director of the White House Office of Global Communications (2003-05); **Manny Diaz**, mayor, Miami (2001-09), and former president, U.S. Conference of Mayors; **Ernest Istook**, U.S. representative (R-Okla., 1993-2007) and distinguished fellow, The Heritage Foundation; **Greg Nickels**, mayor, Seattle (2002-09), and author, U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement; **Michèle Pierre-Louis**, prime minister of Haiti (2008-09); and **John Sweeney**, president *emeritus*, AFL-CIO, and president, AFL-CIO (1995-2009).

For more information, visit iop.harvard.edu.

HARVARD REVIEW EDITOR CHRISTINA THOMPSON TO RESEARCH BOOK ON PACIFIC SETTLEMENT
Harvard Review Editor **Christina Thompson** has been awarded a Creative Writing Fellowship in Prose by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Thompson was one of 42 nonfiction and prose writers chosen from an applicant pool of about 1,000. The award carries a \$25,000 stipend.

To read the full story, visit news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=34309.

(see Newsmakers next page)

Online ► news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/campus-n-community/news-by-school

Around the Schools



Faculty of Arts & Sciences

Swimming after eating may be a dubious decision, but a film series about food in a pool? That's another story.

On Monday (Feb. 8) at 6 p.m., Food at 24fps presents a screening of "Tampopo" at the Adams House Pool Theater. This little-known Japanese film from 1985 is widely loved by foodies and focuses on a single mother's obsessive pursuit of the perfect ramen noodles. Tom Levenson, professor of writing and humanistic studies at MIT, will offer a brief informal introduction to the film.

The screening is part of a new semi-regular series about movies that feature food, organized by Harvard students, filmmakers, and food and film lovers from the Cambridge area.

The Adams House Pool Theater is an unusual venue for a film series — it was originally a swimming pool, built at the turn of the 20th century when that area of campus housed Harvard's most affluent students. After an eclectic history throughout the 20th century, the space was converted to a theater in the mid-1990s. Seats fill what was the shallow end of the pool, and a state-of-the-art projector and screen make film screenings possible.

The screening is free and open to the public, but space is limited. To learn more and to check out the schedule of upcoming films, go to www.food24fps.com.

— Amy Lavoie

If you have an item for Around the Schools, please e-mail your write-up (150-200 words) to georgia_bellas@harvard.edu.



Harvard Kennedy School

Last year, pirates off the coast of Somalia attacked 217 ships, hijacked 47, and snatched \$60 million in ransom.

Worldwide, the zone of risk from piracy is a vast 2.5 million square miles. Ships have been waylaid as far as 1,000 miles from Somalia.

But ahoy: More than two dozen recommendations for slowing marine piracy appear in a policy brief released Jan. 26, based on a meeting held in December under the auspices of the World Peace Foundation as the Cambridge Coalition to Combat Piracy. Hosting the event was the Harvard Kennedy School, where the foundation's president, Robert Rotberg, author of the brief, directs the Program on Intrastate Conflict and Conflict Resolution.

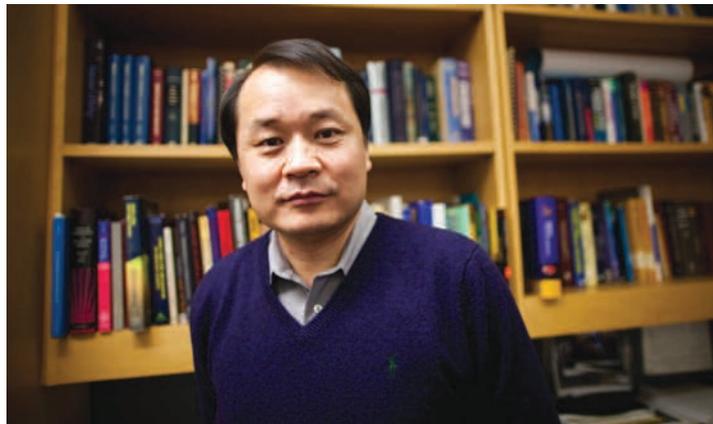
Act in four broad ways, the 38 recommendations say: Discourage piracy on land, follow piracy's illicit cash flow, make ships harder to capture, and strengthen legal responses.

On land, for instance, create alternative employment for the 1,500 young men who are pirates. As for money: How about an international pact to cease paying ransoms?

Making ships harder to capture could include arming them, greasing hulls to discourage boarding, or just ensuring sheer speed. Ships going faster than 15 knots are hard to attack.

— Corydon Ireland

Newsmakers



Harvard chemistry professor Sunney Xie was one of six recipients of the 2009 E.O. Lawrence Award.

SUNNEY XIE TO RECEIVE E.O. LAWRENCE AWARD

Harvard chemistry professor **Sunney Xie** was one of six recipients of the 2009 E.O. Lawrence Award for his outstanding contributions in research and development supporting the Department of Energy and its missions. Specifically, Xie will be honored for his innovations in nonlinear Raman microscopy and highly sensitive vibrational imaging, his scientific leadership in establishing the field of single-molecule biophysical chemistry, and his seminal work in enzyme dynamics and live cell gene expression. Xie is in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology.

U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, who announced the six winners on Dec. 16, said, "The contributions made by these researchers to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States are wide-ranging and meaningful. I congratulate the winners and look forward to their discoveries still to come."

The award recipients will receive a gold medal, a citation, and \$50,000. They will be honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., early this year.

The Lawrence Award was established in 1959 to honor the memory of Ernest Orlando Lawrence who invented the cyclotron (a particle accelerator), and after whom two major Energy Department laboratories in Berkeley and Livermore, Calif., are named.

For a full list of winners, visit energy.gov/news2009/8401.htm.

HRES ESTABLISHES 2010-11 RENTS FOR HARVARD UNIVERSITY HOUSING

In accordance with the University's fair market rent policy, Harvard Real Estate Services (HRES) charges market rents for Harvard University Housing. On average, across the 3,000-unit portfolio, the proposed 2010-11 market rents will remain flat relative to last year. Most current Harvard University Housing tenants who choose to extend their lease for another year will receive either no rent increase or will be charged the new market rent for their apartment, whichever rent is lower.

To view the proposed new market rents, which will take effect July 1, for a term of one year, go to news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=36439.

THE TENNIS ACADEMY REGISTRATION

The Tennis Academy at Harvard (TAH), which offers summer instruction for children and adults, will start its third season on June 14 at the Soldiers Field Athletic Complex.

Junior camps include 10 one-week camps from June 14 through Aug. 20. Though campers can sign up for multiple weeks, each Monday through Friday session is a complete unit.

This season, TAH is offering something for every age with the following programs: Tennis Tykes (ages 4 to 6), Super Tykes (ages 6 to 7), Juniors (ages 7 to 12),

Junior Elite Training Program (ages 11 to 12), and Elite Training Program (ages 13 to 17)

TAH will also offer adult classes on weekday evenings and weekends for both recreational and elite players, from June 14 to Aug. 20. Discounts are available for Harvard employees until Feb. 15.

For more information, visit thetennisacademy.com.

HARVARD FOREST CONSERVATION FINANCE INITIATIVE SEEKS TO PROTECT WATER

The Massachusetts Environmental Trust (MET), one of the largest funding sources in Massachusetts for water quality projects, recently conferred a \$25,000 grant to Harvard's center for research and education in forestry and ecology, the Harvard Forest.

Funding Harvard Forest's initiative is only one step in the MET's acknowledgement of the critical linkage between land protection and water resource security.

The Harvard Forest's finance study for forest conservation is led by James Levitt, director of the Program on Conservation Innovation at the Harvard Forest and research fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School's Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation. Levitt is working on this project in conjunction with David Foster, director of the Harvard Forest and faculty member in the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology.

HARVARD STAFF ARTISTS COMMUNITY TO HOST FIRST MEETING ON FEB. 24

The Harvard Staff Artists Community (HSAC) invites all staff artists to its first meeting on Feb. 24 from noon to 1 p.m. at Area 1 in the Gutman Library conference center.

A newly formed community, the HSAC is a collective of Harvard staff, both active and retired, who are artists working in numerous disciplines, genres, and forms. Visual artists, writers, singers, musicians, dancers, and many others are also invited to come together to celebrate the arts and explore the artistic process. Although their technical training and professional experience vary widely, members share a value for art and art-making that is central to their identities.

A year ago, Harvard's Task Force on the Arts affirmed a comprehensive commitment to the arts at the University. In light of this commitment, the HSAC is concerned with discovering the interests, needs, and opportunities that Harvard artist-employees share, and the group is considering such projects as building artist networks, establishing forums for sharing work, and advocating for one another's artistic goals, as well as workshopping, arts education, and mentoring.

An online survey has been developed to learn more about Harvard's community of artists. To take the survey, visit <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22A4SAGQH8P>. For more information, e-mail HarvardStaffArts@gmail.com.

MICHAEL JENSON OF HBS RECEIVES AFA AWARD

Michael C. Jensen, the Jesse Isidor Straus Professor of Business Administration *Emeritus* at Harvard Business School (HBS), has received the 2009 Morgan Stanley-American Finance Association (AFA) Award for Excellence in Financial Economics.

Jeremy Stein, the Moise Y. Safra Professor of Economics, who chaired the AFA selection committee, said Jensen's "research on agency theory, organizational design, and incentives has helped to define the modern paradigm for how both academics and practitioners think about many of the most fundamental issues in corporate finance, corporate governance, and law and economics, to name just a few of the fields that have been shaped by his thinking."

Jensen co-founded the *Journal of Financial Economics* in 1973, and served as managing editor from 1987 to 1997, when he became founding editor. In 1994 he

co-founded Social Science Electronic Publishing Inc., which is devoted to the electronic publication of scientific working papers in the social sciences. He is currently chairman.

To read the full story, visit <http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=36437>

HARVARD OPENS TEMPORARY ICE RINK IN FORMER CAR DEALERSHIP

The Harvard Allston Skating Rink is open now through March 28 at 168 Western Ave. in Allston. Hours are Fridays from 3 to 8 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be special hours during Boston's school vacation week (Feb. 15-19), from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To read the full story, visit <http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=35219>.

OFFICE HOURS FOR DEAN HAMMONDS

Harvard College Dean Evelyn M. Hammonds welcomes students to share their thoughts and concerns about undergraduate life during her office hours.

Office hours take place in her University Hall office on the following dates:

Friday, Feb. 12, 1-2:30 p.m.

Friday, March 5, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Friday, April 9, 1-2:30 p.m.

Friday, May 7, 1-2:30 p.m.

Sign-up begins at 11 a.m. in the University Hall reception area on the day the office hours take place. Students must have a valid Harvard ID and are welcome on a first-come, first-served basis.

SPRING M-RCBG FELLOWS AND SCHOLARS

A former Brazilian electricity regulator and a management professor from the Indian Institute of Technology are among the incoming visitors being welcomed this spring at the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government (M-RCBG) at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS).

"Fellows and scholars are a vital resource at the center as they provide both valuable experience and a fresh lens through which to view the business-government relationship," said Roger Porter, the center's director and the IBM Professor of Business and Government. "We welcome these visitors and look forward to their interaction with our faculty, continuing fellows, researchers, students, and others."

Incoming senior fellows and visiting scholars

Thomas J. Healey, a Partner at Healey Development LLC and former adjunct lecturer at HKS, will rejoin the center as a senior fellow to continue work on new directions in financial services regulation.

Thillai Annamalai Rajan, a Fulbright Nehru Senior Research Fellow in global business studies, as a senior fellow, will work in the area of infrastructure financing, with specific reference to the role of private equity in infrastructure creation with Jose A. Gomez-Ibanez the Derek Bok Professor of Urban Planning and Public Policy.

Joisa Saraiva, as a visiting scholar, will focus on the role of demand-side management mechanisms in the electricity industry and also on procurement auctions.

The visiting scholars and fellows programs are designed to provide fresh perspectives as the center helps examine and develop policies at the intersection of business and government.

For the full release, visit hks.harvard.edu/news-events/news/press-releases/pr-mrcbg-fellows-spring-jan10.

SCOTT DUKE KOMINERS RECEIVES 2010**AMS-MAA-SIAM MORGAN PRIZE**

Scott Duke Kominers '09, a student in the Harvard Business Economics Ph.D. program, was awarded the 2010 Frank and Brennie Morgan Prize for Outstanding Research in Mathematics by an Undergraduate Student on Jan. 14 at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Francisco.

The Morgan Prize, presented annually by the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, honored Kominers for "his outstanding and prolific record of undergraduate research spanning a broad range of topics, including number theory, computational geometry, and mathematical economics."

Kominers finished his undergraduate degree at Harvard University in 2009, and already has several published papers. His research in extremal lattices sheds new light on some problems that have been extensively investigated in recent years, and his work, together with collaborators, on "hinged dissections" resolves a problem that dates back to 1864.

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WORLD RELIGIONS**NAMES FRANCIS X. CLOONEY NEXT DIRECTOR**

Francis X. Clooney, a Roman Catholic priest and a member of the Society of Jesus, has been appointed the next director of the Center for the Study of World Religions (CSWR) at the Harvard Divinity School (HDS), beginning July 1. He will succeed Donald K. Swearer, who is retiring at the end of June after six years at HDS as the CSWR director and distinguished visiting professor of Buddhist studies. Clooney joined the HDS faculty in 2005, as the Parkman Professor of Divinity and Professor of Comparative Theology, after teaching at Boston College since 1984. He served as acting director of the CSWR during the 2008 spring term and began a long and active relationship with the center before coming to HDS, participating in many CSWR programs and events.

To read the full story, visit hds.harvard.edu/news/pr/ClooneyCSWR.html.

SHORENSTEIN CENTER ANNOUNCES FELLOW AND VISITING FACULTY FOR SPRING 2010

The Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy, located at the Harvard Kennedy School, recently announced four spring fellows for 2010.

The fellows who will work on research projects include **Deborah Amos**, Shorenstein Center Goldsmith Fellow; **Steven Guanpeng Dong**, director of the Global Journalism Institute at Tsinghua University and professor of political communications at the China National School of Administration; **Gene Gibbons**, a former executive editor of Stateline.org and former Reuters chief White House correspondent; and **Peter Maass**, Shorenstein Center Reidy Fellow and contributing writer for The New York Times Magazine.

In addition, **Zephyr Teachout**, associate professor of law at Fordham University, will be a visiting assistant professor of public policy.

For the full release, visit hks.harvard.edu/news-events/news/press-releases/pr-shor-fellows-spring10.

JACK STROMINGER RECEIVES AAI MENTORING AWARD

Jack Strominger, the Higgins Professor of Biochemistry in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, was recently honored with the AAI Excellence in Mentoring Award "in recognition of exemplary career contributions to a future generation of scientists," by the American Association of Immunologists.

Strominger, who came to Harvard in 1967, served as director of basic science at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute from 1974 to 1977, and served as chief of the Division of Tumor Virology until 1998.

CORPORATION SEARCH COMMITTEE INVITES NOMINATIONS AND ADVICE

Corporation search committee invites nominations and advice

Members of the Harvard community are invited to offer

nominations and advice regarding the search for a new member of the Harvard Corporation, the University's executive governing board. The search arises in light of the December announcement by **James R. Houghton** that he plans to step down from the Corporation at the end of the academic year, following 15 years of service. The search will be led by a joint committee of the governing boards including the following members:

Drew Faust, president of Harvard University and Lincoln Professor of History

Leila Fawaz '73 (overseer), Ph.D. '79, Issam M. Fares Professor of Lebanese and Eastern Mediterranean Studies, director of the Fares Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies, and professor of history and of diplomacy at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University

Paul Finnegan '75 (overseer), M.B.A. '82, co-CEO, Madison Dearborn Partners and former president of the Harvard Alumni Association

Patricia King (Corporation member), J.D. '69, Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Law, Medicine, Ethics, and Public Policy at the Georgetown University Law Center

Richard Meserve (overseer), J.D. '75, president of the Carnegie Institution for Science and former chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Robert Reischauer '63 (Corporation member), president of the Urban Institute and former director of the Congressional Budget Office;

James Rothenberg '68 (Corporation member and ex-officio overseer), M.B.A. '70, chairman, principal executive officer, and director of Capital Research and Management Company, and treasurer of Harvard University.

By charter, new members of the Corporation are elected by the President and Fellows with the counsel and consent of the Board of Overseers.

In addition to Faust, King, Reischauer, and Rothenberg, the current Corporation members include: James R. Houghton '58, M.B.A. '62, chairman Emeritus of Corning Incorporated, who as noted above will step down in June; **Nannerl O. Keohane**, LL.D. (hon.) '93, the Laurance S. Rockefeller Distinguished Visiting Professor of Public Affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and former president of Duke University and Wellesley College; and **Robert E. Rubin** '60, co-chairman of the council and foreign relations and former secretary of the treasury.

Confidential advice and nominations may be directed by e-mail to corporationsearch@harvard.edu or by letter to the Corporation Search Committee, Loeb House, 17 Quincy St., Cambridge, MA, 02138.

POUSSAINT TO RECEIVE THE CAMILLE O. COSBY AWARD

Alvin F. Poussaint, professor of psychiatry and faculty associate dean for student affairs at Harvard Medical School (HMS), will be honored with the Camille O. Cosby World of Children Award on March 13 at the 2010 World of Children Award Celebration.

Hosted by the Judge Baker Children's Center (JBCC), the celebration is an event to benefit JBCC, a Boston-based non profit organization working to improve the lives of children and their families struggling with emotional and behavioral challenges.

Also the director of the Media Center at the Judge Baker Children's Center, Poussaint was chosen as the 2010 honoree "for his lifelong commitment to children and to making their world a better place." Along with his work as a psychiatrist, Poussaint is a longtime advocate of civil rights and a well-known author. His most recent book, "Come on People" (2007), was co-authored with Bill Cosby and named a New York Times best-seller. Poussaint was also a script consultant for The Cosby Show and A Different World.

For more information, visit jbcc.harvard.edu.

CATHERINE LORD NAMED 2010 ARTS MEDAL WINNER

Kicking off the Arts First festivities, visual artist, writer, and curator **Catherine Lord** '70 will receive the 2010 Harvard Arts Medal. President Drew Faust will present

HOT JOBS***SPECIAL LISTINGS*****PART-TIME LECTURERS ON SOCIAL STUDIES**

For more information, visit <http://www.social-studies.fas.harvard.edu>. Deadline February 26, 2010.

COLLEGE FELLOW

Multiple positions available for teaching postdoctoral fellows. School/Department: FAS (multiple departments) Web address (for complete job listing): <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~fcaff/cfp/index.html>.

Online ►► NEW Harvard job search site is coming Feb. 8. Contact Employment Services at employment@harvard.edu or 617.495.2772.

NEW HARVARD JOB SEARCH SITE IS COMING

The Harvard University jobs site will be unavailable to applicants for administrative and staff positions as of Jan. 29, 2010.

Effective Monday, Feb. 8, 2010, Harvard will replace our recruitment management system and implement a new system called ASPIRE for all administrative and staff positions. Beginning Feb. 8, 2010, you may connect to the ASPIRE system through www.employment.harvard.edu/careers/ to complete a candidate profile and continue your career search with Harvard University.

The www.jobs.harvard.edu site will remain in place only for academic/faculty positions within the University. If you are seeking an academic/faculty position, please continue to use this page to search and apply for positions.

the medal as part of an event hosted by the Learning From Performers Program at 5 p.m. April 29 in the New College Theatre.

Lord is the 17th distinguished Harvard or Radcliffe alum or faculty member to receive this accolade for excellence in the arts and contributions to education and the public good through arts. Past medalists have included poet John Ashbery '49, composer John Adams '69, M.A. '72, cellist Yo-Yo Ma '76, filmmaker Mira Nair '79, and saxophonist Joshua Redman '91.

As a visual artist, writer, and curator, Lord addresses issues of feminism, cultural politics, and colonialism. Her artwork has been exhibited at the New York Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, La Mama in New York City, the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center, the DNJ Gallery in Los Angeles, and the Post Gallery in Los Angeles, among other venues. Her books include "Art and Queer Culture, 1885-2005" (forthcoming), "The Summer of Her Baldness: A Cancer Improvisation" (2004), and "Pervert" (1995). She has organized presentations at venues including the University of California, Irvine Art Gallery, the Center on Contemporary Art in Seattle, and the Laemmle Theater in Los Angeles. Lord received her M.F.A. from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1983. She is currently a professor of studio art and an affiliated faculty member in the Department of Women's Studies and Department of Visual Culture at the University of California, Irvine.



For more information on the medalist or Arts First 2010 (April 29-May 2), visit ofa.fas.harvard.edu/arts.

All-time high

Undergraduate applications surpass 30,000 mark — a first for Harvard.

For the first time in Harvard's history, more than 30,000 students have applied for undergraduate admission. Applications have doubled since 1994, and about half of the increase has come since the University implemented a series of financial aid initiatives over the past five years to ensure that a Harvard College education remains accessible and affordable to talented students from all economic backgrounds.

Two other factors also may have played a role in reaching this number. Three years ago, Harvard eliminated its early admissions program, leveling the playing field for financial aid applicants and providing more time each fall to recruit students. At the same time, Harvard established the new School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, which, under the leadership of Dean Cherry Murray, is increasing

Full story ► news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=34800

the visibility of Harvard's excellence in this area. Applications from students interested in engineering have risen considerably more than applications as a whole.

Harvard College's financial aid program requires no contribution from families with annual incomes below \$60,000, and about 10 percent of income from families with typical assets who make up to \$180,000. The program eliminates loan requirements for all financial aid recipients. Currently, 70 percent of students receive some form of financial aid.

Precise figures on the number of applicants are not yet available, since applications are still being processed. The final total will likely be about 5 percent ahead of last year's 29,114, or about 30,500.

Beyond the increase in numbers noted earlier, there are relatively few differences in the composition of this year's applicant pool compared with last year's. The gender breakdown remains about 50/50, and minority numbers are much the same.

Admissions officers are now amid selection meetings, the careful, individualized process that began on Jan. 30 and concludes March 20. Notifications will be sent out April 1.

ON THE JOB (AND OFF)

Not afraid to switch focus

IT technician Jeff Mayes tries and masters new fields, from computers to photography.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer

Ask him, and he'll tell you.

"I'm a jack of all trades."

An information technology support associate for University Information Systems, Jeff Mayes transcends what people typically think of as "the computer guy."

Mayes is a campus nomad, a technical virtuoso whose busy schedule repairing, tending, and upgrading Harvard's vast computer system belies an artist's world, a place where few computer technicians dare to tread.

Mayes stumbled onto computers like he stumbled into photography. Back in the early '90s, Mayes was a freelancer, rigging lighting and technical production for the American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) Institute.

"I was what they called a 'casual laborer,'" recalled Mayes. He learned the ins and outs of computers through tracking paperwork for the A.R.T. "People started asking me questions about computers," he said, adding that offers for work soon followed. "I'm a self-taught man."

Similarly, taking pictures was always just a hobby for Mayes. He proudly has no degree in anything, just assorted passions and an ethic to try it all.

"I started out taking pictures of objects, landscapes," he said. "I hated taking pictures of people." Mayes was uncomfortable approaching people for snapshots, but that quickly passed. A friend employed by the Journal of Emergency Medical Services (JEMS) contacted Mayes, and suggested that he send some photos along. Mayes sent his friend one, "a picture of a tech medic on a bike." That led to a bigger assignment, photographing Boston's new ambulances in front of local landmarks.

He traveled via ambulance all around the city, taking pictures at Faneuil Hall and in front of the State House. That day, recalled Mayes, was the opening of the Zakim Bridge — not then a Boston landmark, but a sight to see.

"I drove there, right past the State Police, turned the ambulance around, hopped out, and started snapping," he said.

The shot of the imposing Zakim made it onto the cover of JEMS, which reaches a worldwide audience.

"If I talk to an EMT now in another country, they re-



Most recently, Mayes photographed Attorney General Martha Coakley's U.S. Senate campaign. Mayes still brightens when he talks about the exposure his work has received, citing the day when Coakley removed her "official" portrait from her Facebook page and replaced it with one he shot of her.

member that image," he said. "It's become sort of iconic."

Mayes began exclusively photographing EMT runs, documenting their work. "My wife would say, 'What did you do today?' and I'd reply, 'Oh, I was at a heroin overdose,'" he said.

But a photographer friend told Mayes he needed to expand his horizons, so he did.

In sleepy Ayer, where Mayes lives, he took an interest in local politics. "This was my way of being involved in the community," he said. "I give my time, they get my talent."

He quickly became chairman of the committee for communications. His first order of business was revamping the town's Web site. He spent three months behind the scenes, drafting blueprints for a more interactive site.

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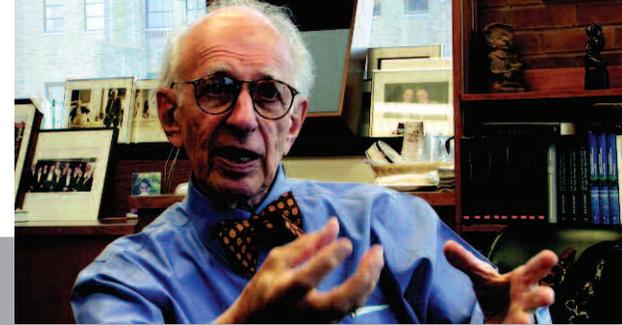
Mayes' photographs have appeared all over, but can regularly be found in the Lowell Sun and the Public Spirit in Ayer. A hobby no more, photography has become Mayes' second job, an incognito passion he carries as he travels the campus, tooling and typing on Harvard's computers.

Photos by Jon Chase | Harvard Staff Photographer

Calendar

HIGHLIGHTS FOR FEBRUARY 2010

See complete Calendar online ► news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/calendar



Eric Kandel speaks on memory. See Feb. 8.

su	m	tu	w	th	f	s
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	february					

The deadline for Calendar submissions is Wednesday by 5 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Calendar events are listed in full online. All events should be submitted via the online form at news.harvard.edu/gazette/calendar-submission. E-mail calendar@harvard.edu with questions.

FEB. 8

The Molecular Biology of Memory Storage and the Biological Basis of Individuality.

Science Center, Lecture Hall D, 1 Oxford St., 3:30-5:30 p.m. Eric Kandel, winner of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, 2000. Sponsored by the Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University; co-sponsored by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Harvard Medical School. Free and open to the public. developingchild@harvard.edu, http://developingchild.harvard.edu/topics/learning_opportunities/distinguished_scholars_lecture_series/.

FEB. 10

Poets for Haiti.

Longfellow Hall, Appian Way, 7 p.m.

Sponsored by the Woodberry Poetry Room and Harvard's Technical and Clerical Workers Union. The Boston poetry community comes together for a collaborative reading to benefit Partners In Health and the people of Haiti. The requested donation is \$10, with all proceeds going to Partners In Health. Poets include Jericho Brown, Jorie Graham, Fred Marchant, Robert Pinsky, Kim Stafford, Daniel Tobin, Afaa Michael Weaver, and Rosanna Warren.

FEB. 11

Dean's Noontime Concert.

Faculty Room, University Hall, 12:15-1 p.m. Chiara String Quartet: Beethoven's String Quartet in A

Minor, Op. 132. Free. musicdpt@fas.harvard.edu, music.fas.harvard.edu/calendar.html.

FEB. 12-28

Gallery Exploration of the 12 Animals of the Chinese Zodiac.

Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St. Experience the museum by discovering the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac, each linked to a specimen in the galleries. Learn about the cultural significance and natural history of these animals and try your hand at drawing the animal assigned to the year of your birth. Free with museum admission. Question of the Month for Year of the Tiger:



Photo by Charles Mayer

Year of the Tiger: See Feb. 12-28.

What are the names of all the tiger specimens on display in the museum and which tiger lives in the coldest climate? Enter your answers, along with your name, e-mail, and address at the reception desk for your chance

to win a household membership to the museum. The winning name will be drawn on Feb. 28 at 2 p.m. 617.495.3045, hmn.harvard.edu.

FEB. 17

Lines Walking: Drawings by Lennie Peterson.

Three Columns Gallery, Mather House, 10 Cowperwaite St., 5:30-7 p.m. Opening reception with the artist and music by Tim Butterworth. Prominently featured will be Peterson's large composer portraits, part of an ongoing series that combine his lifelong devotion to art, music, and arts education. Free. 781.738.1783, lenniepeterson@comcast.net, lenniepeterson.com.

▼ BELOW: "Beethoven"

◀ THROUGH APRIL 18

Domesticated: Modern Dioramas of our New Natural History.

Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St. New York photographer Amy Stein explores the tenuous relationship between humans and animals through staged scenes inspired by true events in rural Pennsylvania. 617.495.3045, www.hmn.harvard.edu.

LEFT: "Watering Hole"





Harvard Rituals: The Crimson's Grand Elections

During Grand Elections, the annual ritual for incoming members of the Harvard Crimson's editorial board, merry participants sang, danced, and paraded around Harvard Yard. The Crimson Executive Board paid impromptu visits to the dorm rooms of the newly elected, who were barraged with requests ranging from the practical to the ridiculous: "What's the Crimson's phone number? How are you going to

call in a story if you don't know — yell it out!" To this challenge, most students responded with their new mantra, "5-7-6-6-5-6-5!"

Outside Holyoke Center, the initiates then were asked to tell their high school GPA's to passersby and to give impromptu performances of pop songs. The rites embody a physical and mental flexibility that encourages

laughter and teamwork — two virtues that go a long way in any field.

"When I was walking to class past the Holyoke Center this morning, I never imagined I would be dancing like a fool in front of it tonight," said Alice Underwood '11. "I mean, what other newspaper asks you to dance and sing as part of the process of becoming a writer?"

Photos and text by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer

Online ► View photo gallery: news.harvard.edu/gazette/?p=35792