

Service calls

Harvard students, alumni travel far to help others, as interest in volunteering builds. **Page 11**



Online Highlights

EARTHWATCH CALLS ALLSTON HOME
Earthwatch Institute, a leading international nonprofit environmental group, announces plans to move its headquarters and staff to a Harvard-owned building in Allston.
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/41374>



◀ FORGE AHEAD, BUILD YOUR BRAND!
Now that the recession is officially over in Massachusetts, according to economists if not the public, it's time to take stock. People should not wait for economic reforms, but instead should build their own brands and skills in order to prosper.
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/41586>

◀ HARVARD CENTER SHANGHAI OPENS ITS DOORS
Intellectual inquiry and practical action were both on rich display at “Harvard and China: A Research Symposium,” a series of lectures, panels, and break-out sessions held to mark the official opening of the Harvard Center Shanghai.
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/41152>



▲ GAZETTE GOES QR, AND HARVARD LAUNCHES ON ITUNES U
This “tag” is an example of a QR code, a two-dimensional bar code that provides more information more quickly than the traditional model. If you scan the QR code with your smartphone (free scanning applications can be downloaded), you will be directed to an online destination: in this case, the online Gazette’s story page that contains its iTunes announcement. (Harvard just launched its own content site on iTunes U, an area within iTunes that allows users to tap into the University’s public lectures and educational materials on video and audio.) Look for more QR code links in future Gazette issues.
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/41331>



◀ HOUSE MASTERS APPOINTED
Harvard College Dean Evelyn M. Hammonds announced the appointment of three House masters: Christie McDonald, Rakesh Khurana, and Douglas Melton.
▶▶<http://hvd.gs/41612>

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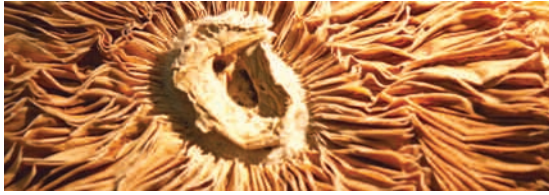
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COVER STORY

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Cover photos by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer;
cover photo (lower right) by Brigit Ganske

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CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

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STUDENT VOICE/SCOTT YIM

A freshman reflects on an eye-opening seminar session, designed to prompt Harvard undergrads to step back from the striving and ponder what life means to them, and what they value. Page 14

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Scott Ruescher's interest in Latin America spawned a lengthy career in volunteer work — not to mention, he's also a poet. Page 15

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Harvard's two new deputy police chiefs discuss their transitions, and what everyday life is like covering the University. Page 16

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Stephen Blyth, managing director of the Harvard Management Company, doubles as a faculty member in the Statistics Department, bringing real-world financial acumen to studying numbers. Page 17

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Understanding the deadly deathcap

Biology Professor Anne Pringle is taking the study of one of the world's most poisonous mushrooms out of the realm of adventure stories and into the world of ecology, in an attempt to better understand how it spreads.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer

It is thought to have been responsible for the deaths of emperors. In parts of California's forests, it is everywhere.

It is the deathcap mushroom, *Amanita phalloides*, so filled with toxins that a single cap can kill anyone who mistakenly eats it and does not get medical treatment. Because it looks like an edible mushroom, the deathcap is among those most involved in human poisoning, such as one that occurred in Newton, Mass., last fall. Through history, it has been a convenient tool for those interested in regime change, playing a key role in the Europe-spanning War of Austrian Succession in the 1700s, which started when Holy Roman Emperor Charles VI died after eating a plate of mushrooms, thought to be deathcaps.





Though much is known about the deathcap's toxicity — it kills by fostering liver failure — much less is understood about its general biology and its role in the environment. Anne Pringle, associate professor of organismic and evolutionary biology, is out to change that.

Pringle has spent years in California's forests, researching the deathcaps that in some parts of the state make up as much as 80 percent of the local biomass of mushrooms. Pringle proved first that the California population was not native, but rather an introduced population from Europe.

She's working now to understand the mushroom's dispersal across the landscape and its symbiotic partnership with trees. Its widespread presence begs the questions of whether it displaced native symbiotic fungi and whether it spreads more easily as a mutualist (an organism in a relationship beneficial to both partners) than it would as a pathogen, which characterizes most known invasive fungi. She recently concluded that it reproduces more readily through the spread of its spores, which are released from the fleshy gills under its cap, than asexually through fragmentation of its thready subterranean fungal body.

Like most mushroom-producing fungi, much of the deathcap's body actually lies under the Earth's surface, and its mushrooms are temporary, sent up from the underground filaments to release spores and then fade. Even with the mushroom gone, the fungus still operates underground, decomposing old plant matter and, in the case of the deathcap, partnering with tree roots, providing nitrogen in exchange for carbon compounds.

Pringle's work, conducted through a combination of old-fashioned fieldwork and cutting-edge genetic analysis, has shown that the deathcap spreads slowly. It moves through ei-

ther the slow creep of its underground body or the floating spread of its spores, which do not drift far from their release point.

Humans likely played a big role in the fungus' spread. Because it lives in association with tree roots, researchers believe it was introduced here from Europe at least twice — once in California and once on the East Coast — by hitching rides on trees transplanted from Europe to America.

On the East Coast, Pringle and researchers from her lab have identified dozens of populations: in Newton, near the New Jersey Pine Barrens, near Rochester, N.Y., and in New Hampshire's White Mountains. Pringle says the populations on the East Coast are isolated, not widespread as in California. Another wrinkle of the East Coast populations is that deathcaps are associated with pine trees, not the oaks that they partner with in California and Europe. Pringle and doctoral student Ben Wolfe said that may be because of a slightly different strain being introduced on the East Coast, or it may be because of ecological constraints put on the population on the East Coast by closely related native species, also from the genus *Amanita*.

Though the deathcap may be the star of Pringle's lab, her work includes other fungal species, as well as lichens, a symbiotic association of fungi and algae.

Wolfe, who expects to graduate in December, is working with the U.S. Department of Energy to decode the genome of *Amanita* species related to the deathcap. He hopes to understand the genetic roots of fungal symbiosis with trees. A bonus of decoding the fungi's genome, Wolfe said, would be that, in degrading plant material, the fungi produces an enzyme called cellulase, of potential interest in biofuel processing.

In talking about her work, Pringle emphasizes the importance of fungal conservation. Fungi have not received the attention that plants and animals have, so less is known about them. With the planet undergoing an extinction crisis, we may be losing fungal species before we even know they're here, Pringle said.

Anne Pringle, associate professor of organismic and evolutionary biology, and graduate student Ben Wolfe examine petri dish cultures of *Amanita thiersii* (below, and inset, left), which is related to the deathcap mushroom, *Amanita phalloides*, a poisonous, invasive fungus they're studying for clues to its spread.



More Science & Health Online
[news.harvard.edu/gazette/
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Bruce Yankner explores why only humans experience Alzheimer's disease.
<http://hvd.gs/41674>



The diagnosis and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder has come a long way since the 1970s. <http://hvd.gs/41471>



High school students from the Compass School in Vermont examine brains at the Harvard Brain Bank at McLean Hospital. Caitlin Greve (from left), Sara Lepkoff, and Meghan McGowan get a hands-on feel of the real thing.

tion, where they study the anatomy and mechanics of the human brain. As a final project, students write an academic article on a mind or brain topic for inclusion in their own scientific journal.

The class culminated in last week's outing to neuroscience, psychology, and education labs around the University. This is the second trip to Harvard for the high school class. The first group of Compass students visited in 2008 when the course was in its pilot phase. Though Amir and White coordinated the first excursion, they were able to use Adi's Harvard connections to broaden the scope of this year's visit.

The students listened intently on March 25 as Joshua Greene explained how the brain engages in moral reasoning. Greene, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology who directs Harvard's Moral Cognition Lab, discussed how he uses neuroimaging to explore how the brain reacts to the "trolley problem," an ethical dilemma that asks if it is morally acceptable to throw a switch that will guide an errant trolley onto a track, killing one trapped person, but saving five others trapped along the track's first section.

Ariel Temple, 17, said of Greene's research, "I just love challenging my mind with those hypotheticals: What would I do, what's moral, what's not. All that kind of stuff, I just find it really fun."

Later that day, the group visited HGSE's Project Zero, where the students offered themselves up as test subjects for master's candidates developing experiments around how people think about the concept of emergence, and video games aimed at helping students to learn about science.

For the youngest member of the expedition, handling human brains was challenging.

"The thought that holding somebody's brain in your hands is [holding] everything that made them who they were, their thoughts, their memories, their life's story ... that is a lot to take in," said Meghan McGowan.

Still, the 16-year-old was thrilled to meet Greene, the author of a paper on moral reasoning that she read prior to the trip.

"I read it like seven times, and thought 'this is so cool.' Come to find out yesterday, the guy who wrote it, we met."

Flesher and his brother are now exploring ways to bring the brain class to more students, in part through summer camp programs, and by developing a teaching model that can be used by other schools.

"Our ultimate hope," said Adi, "is to get more kids engaged in this kind of cool learning."

Photos by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer

A 'mind-blowing' day

Vermont high school students explore the human brain, with help from Harvard scholars.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

On a recent early morning field trip, Kyle Takei appeared surprisingly awake for a typical high school teenager.

Wide-eyed and bouncing in place, the 18-year-old, who had traveled from Vermont to the Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Mass., was eager to hold something special: a human brain.

After a brief introduction and comments from Tim Wheelock, the center's assistant director in neuropathology, Takei donned a Tyvek gown and latex gloves and picked up one of several cerebral specimens on the steel table before him.

Without even a hint of irony, the awestruck teen called it "mind-blowing."

"It's hard to believe that this 1,400-gram hunk of stuff is what controls everything. At one point, this was some guy's brain, and he had thoughts and dreams, but now he is being studied by me," said Takei in amazement as he turned the brain over repeatedly in his hands.

Takei was part of a high school class trip coordinated with the help of Adi Flesher, a master's student at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE).

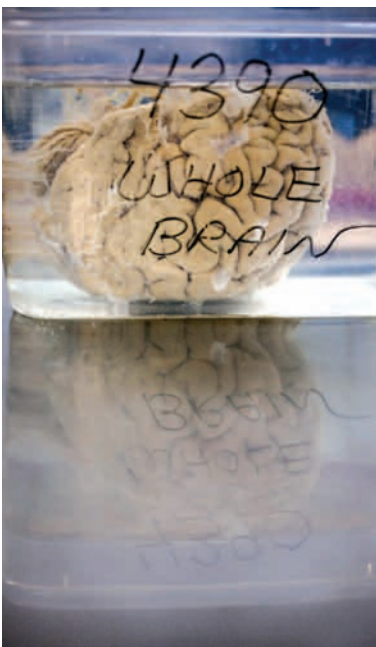
Flesher is pursuing his degree in the School's Mind, Brain, and Education program, an interdisciplinary, one-year sequence that connects the study of cognition, neuroscience, and educational practice.

"I just really got interested in talking with kids about their minds," said Flesher, a former assistant director of a summer camp who became increasingly fascinated with how and what his young campers thought after hearing them discuss their own struggles with attention deficit and obsessive compulsive disorders.

"We take 16-year-olds and teach them about a car so that they can drive. There's driver's ed, but there's no brain ed," said Flesher. "If you think about it, the study of the brain is a much more basic and important part of human life that we don't really address in any formal way in the education system."

When his brother Amir, a teacher at the Compass School in Vermont, needed to help develop an interdisciplinary elective class, one that could rival the school's established filmmaking course in popularity, he looked to Adi for inspiration.

In exploring what to study, Amir and fellow teacher Beth White brainstormed with their students on possible topics. In the end, the brain was the top vote getter. With help and suggestions from the students and input from Adi, the teachers combined the science and psychology of the brain into a class they call "The Science of the Mind." The course is a series of workshops divided into a humanities component — where the teens study such diverse areas as Buddhist psychology, Plato's "Parable of the Cave," and the psychological dimensions to the science fiction film "The Matrix" — and a science sec-



Building a better brain

New book chronicles how the mind works and how we can influence that to help ourselves succeed.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer

HARVARD BOUND

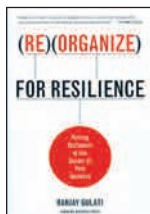


A TENTH OF A SECOND: A HISTORY

(University of Chicago Press, January 2010)

By Jimena Canales

When clocks recognized a tenth of a second, the world would never be the same, says Canales, an associate professor in the history of science who melds technology, philosophy, and science in this heady history.

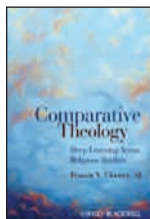


(RE)(ORGANIZE) FOR RESILIENCE: PUTTING CUSTOMERS AT THE CENTER OF YOUR BUSINESS

(Harvard Business Press, January 2010)

By Ranjay Gulati

The customer is always right, but we're always getting taken. Gulati, the Jaime and Josefina Chua Tiampo Professor of Business Administration, prods businesses to readjust their resilience and mend the bridge connecting consumers with companies.

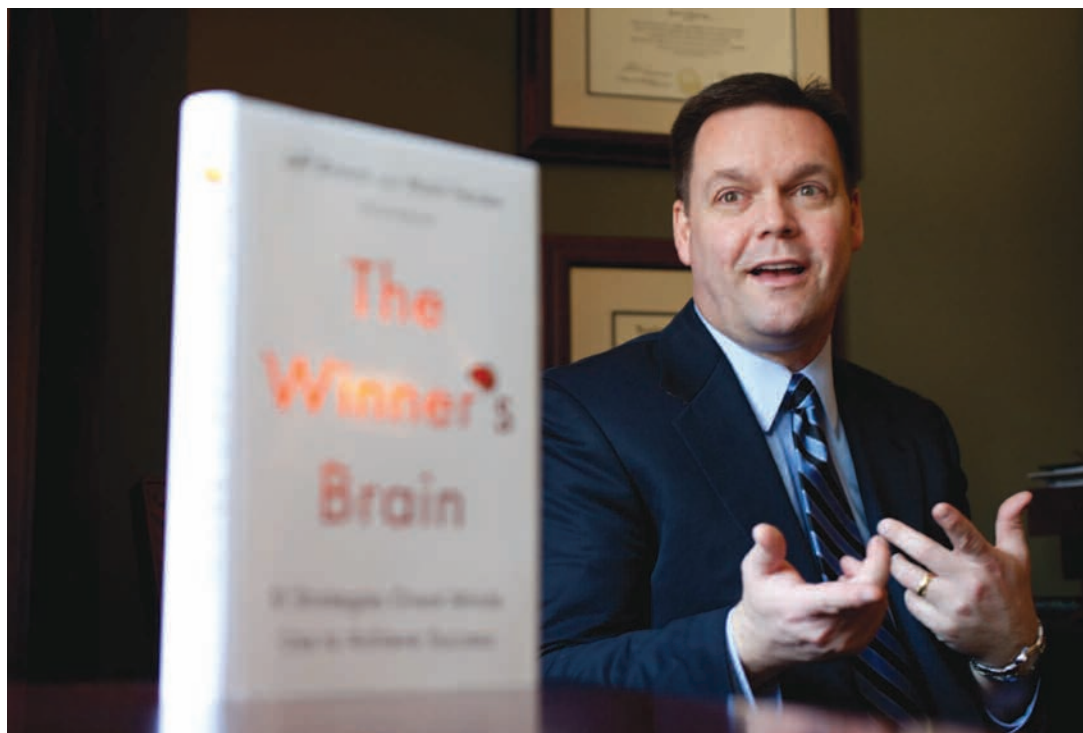


COMPARATIVE THEOLOGY: DEEP LEARNING ACROSS RELIGIOUS BORDERS

(Wiley-Blackwell, April 2010)

By Francis X. Clooney

Clooney, the Parkman Professor of Divinity and Professor of Comparative Theology, extracts wealth from his 30 years of work in comparative theology and proffers this field guide.



What does Whoopi Goldberg have to do with neuroscience?

A lot, says Jeff Brown, co-author with Mark Fenske of "The Winner's Brain." Goldberg, an Oscar-winning actress and now the frank and hilarious moderator of "The View," is a model of resilience, according to Brown, an instructor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. She has weathered some of life's hardest knocks, including growing up in a New York City housing project, three divorces, and her daughter's teenage pregnancy, but has always bounced right back.

"When it comes to the brain, winning equals success," said Brown. "And success can be obtained across many different aspects of life, from being able to evaluate what is important, recognizing valuable opportunities, to finding the motivation to achieve your goals. Each of us is geared with different preferences, desires, hopes, and drives. When it comes to deciding how we want to win — how to be successful — we're in the driver's seat."

"The Winner's Brain" combines cognitive neuroscience and fMRI scanning ("which gives us the best look we have so far at the brain in action") with cognitive behavioral psychology that, said Brown, has long provided specific tools with marked results for making lasting behavioral and emotional changes. (fMRI stands for functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging.) With this dual understanding, Brown and Fenske navigate and identify the functions of a healthy, winning brain: memory, adaptability, emotions, self-awareness, motivation, and more.

"A New York City window washer and London cab drivers are examples of people we

interfaced with to learn how they optimize the human brain," said Brown. "In each case illustrated, we've identified credible fMRI research to help illuminate the stories and give firm foundation to the suggestions we make for readers."

But along the way, the authors also interviewed some well-known winners such as actress Laura Linney, athlete Kerri Strug, and artist Andrew Wyeth.

"While we never actually made it to Kevin Bacon," joked Brown, "in most cases, we gravitated toward an individual because of their expertise and what the research was guiding. B.B. King talked with us about current research with jazz musicians, and Phyllis Diller was glad to talk and laugh with us about risk."

For those of us lagging in the brain department, there's hope yet. The book features more than a dozen brain exercises (called "brainstorms"), but the biggest success factor appears to be self-awareness.

"We believe self-awareness is key to reaching your goals," said Brown. "If you don't have an accurate sense of self-awareness, then it's much more likely that you'll be incompetent at the tasks you undertake."

Brown calls this "the double whammy of incompetence."

"The first whammy occurs because the person is not particularly good at something — and the second whammy comes as a result of them not knowing that they are not very good at it," he said. "Knowing our strengths and weaknesses is key for effectively using the skills we already possess and working to improve the skills we would like to possess."

By Steve Bradt | Harvard Staff Writer

Photographic memory

By a roundabout route, Robin Kelsey became an authority on photography, eventually becoming a professor in the field at Harvard.

FACULTY PROFILE

“Photography and Chance,” the title of art historian Robin Kelsey’s forthcoming book, also could describe his unusual career trajectory.

For example, there was a short stint in the mid-1990s as a lawyer.

“I really didn’t enjoy law practice,” Kelsey conceded. “I love argument, I love debate, I was an intensive debater in high school, did some debating in college, and actually ended up coaching the Yale debate team when I was in law school. But I also love writing about pictures, and find that pictures draw me in a way that just working with text doesn’t.”

Fast forward to 1999, when Kelsey was a Ph.D. student in Harvard’s Department of History of Art and Architecture. Attending a professional meeting, he couldn’t find a panel on landscape painting, the focus of his own dissertation, so he opted to speak at a session on landscape photography, presenting a talk on 19th century photographer Timothy O’Sullivan.

“After I gave the talk, several members of the audience came up, established scholars from the field, and said how happy they were that I was working on this for my dissertation,” Kelsey said. “And of course I wasn’t working on this for my dissertation. But I thought afterward about the fact that when I did give talks on my dissertation, nobody came up and said the same thing. So I took this as a hint from the universe that I had perhaps stumbled upon a more promising topic than what I had been working on.”

In short order, Kelsey shifted gears, producing a dissertation on O’Sullivan’s photographic survey of the

American West following the Civil War. A year later, weighing Harvard’s offer of a junior faculty position as a historian of photography against offers from elsewhere in American art more generally, he again felt that the stars were aligning to nudge him toward photography.

“So I leapt into this professional formation of myself as a photo historian, which was a steep learning curve since I had never done any graduate course work that was directed toward history of photography,” he said.

Kelsey’s reinvention reached its denouement last year when he received tenure, becoming the Shirley Carter Burden Professor of Photography. He doesn’t regret the long and winding road to where he is today.

“I feel very lucky to have been able to experience that formation,” he said. “I had the post-1960s view that finding one’s calling could be a very long process. I think it would be very hard now to do what I did. Young people these days feel much more urgency to get their lives sorted out.”

In retrospect, a few threads in Kelsey’s childhood might have foreshadowed his ultimate destination. Both his mother and stepfather were anthropologists, at Hamline University and the University of Minnesota, respectively. Cameras were indispensable in documenting their fieldwork on Indian reservations and in Mexican villages, often with some of their six children in tow.

“My grandfather was a very serious amateur photographer, with a darkroom,” Kelsey said. “I spent time

in there, and was fascinated by the equipment and the process.”

A product of public schools in Minneapolis, Kelsey thinks his middle-American upbringing also fed his interest in photography.

“I think there’s something about growing up in the Midwest that gave me a populist angle on culture,” he said. “And so, for me, while I love all areas of art history, I think there is a special fit for me with photography, with its special democratic qualities.”

Photography’s democratic tendencies, which Kelsey dates to the days of the daguerreotype, have only intensified with the advent of ever-more-accessible technologies.

“When photography was invented, it was heralded as this great new democratic way of producing pictures,” he said, “but actually there have been subsequent revolutions that have democratized it even more radically, the ‘Kodak Moment’ being one, and our own digital moment being another.”

Despite these advances, Kelsey himself has a conflicted relationship with the practice of photography. He admits to suffering from what might be called “photographer’s block.”

“I feel burdened by knowing all that has been done, the brilliant things that have been done,” he said. “I am committed to becoming more serious about practice, but it will mean negotiating that past.”

Photo by Kristyn Ulanday | Harvard Staff Photographer



“I leapt into this professional formation of myself as a photo historian, which was a steep learning curve since I had never done any graduate course work that was directed toward history of photography,” said Robin Kelsey.

More Arts & Culture Online
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Andrea Fraser discusses her quintet of videos at the Carpenter Center.



Art historian Claire Roberts examines how time and trends influenced Chinese photography.



What Haiti needs ... now

Former Haiti Prime Minister Michèle Pierre-Louis said shelter, jobs, and education are the top priorities in the earthquake-ravaged nation.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer

Shelter from the season's pounding rains, a jump-start for earthquake-stalled classrooms, and employment for those robbed of work by Haiti's Jan. 12 quake top the list of needs in the disaster-stricken nation, a former prime minister said during an interview while visiting the Harvard Kennedy School.

Michèle Pierre-Louis, who was the island nation's prime minister for a year until last September, said Haitians should salute the international outpouring of aid for her country. But she added that, despite the aid, many people remain homeless, and their frustration is rising. During a trip to one of the smaller displaced-persons camps in Port-au-Prince in early March, Pierre-Louis said several people told her that she was the first nonmedical person to visit.

Pierre-Louis, who runs the nonprofit Knowledge and Freedom Foundation, was at the Kennedy School on a weeklong visiting

fellowship. She said Haiti's most immediate problem is what to do with the million or so people made homeless by the quake, many of them huddled in makeshift settlements that have sprung up around the city. Making their plight worse, she said, is that the rainy season has begun, making the camps a muddy mess and the leaky shelters uncomfortable.

"It's a big problem. To me, that's urgent," Pierre-Louis said. "People are extremely frustrated. Nobody speaks to them except for the doctors."

Beyond the housing problem, Pierre-Louis said another important concern is education. Five thousand schools collapsed, she said, and the quake affected more than a million students. All of the nation's universities were damaged.

"How are we going to restore education? Is it time to rethink the educational system in Haiti?" Pierre-Louis asked.

Jobs are another critical issue, she said. Haitians are willing to work — and to spend what they earn to stimulate the economy — if only they can get jobs. She said international organizations in Haiti should conduct their operations with a mind to employing Haitians whenever possible.

"Frustration will grow if people are sitting in the mud doing nothing," Pierre-Louis said.

Overall, she said, the quake's toll of many thousands dead and wounded shows how inadequate everyday conditions are in Haiti. The many deaths, the large number of build-

ings that collapsed, and the inability of social structures to function properly all need to be addressed in a nation prone to natural disasters.

Several such issues are likely to be addressed at a donor conference scheduled for March 31 in New York, she said. The "International Donors' Conference Towards a New Future for Haiti" will be held at the United Nations and will feature representatives of Haiti's government and of several major donor nations. They will discuss Haiti's development needs and priorities for future aid.

In addition to the many dead and the large number of damaged buildings, Port-au-Prince lost 600,000 residents who left the city to live with family members in the countryside. Pierre-Louis said the capital city has lost nearly a third of its pre-quake population.

Despite the tragedy, Pierre-Louis said that Haiti in the end will have an opportunity to renew itself. As donor nations plan future aid, she said, they should consider infrastructure upgrades. The limitations of Port-au-Prince's small airport and lone port were clearly illustrated early in the catastrophe. The poor condition of the nation's roads also is well-known. At the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, in January, Pierre-Louis said she was surprised at the strong interest from entrepreneurs willing to do business in Haiti.

"I said, 'My God, we should not miss that opportunity.'"

A historic year for Harvard admissions

Harvard admits 2,110 out of more than 30,000 applicants to the Class of 2014, a 6.9 percent acceptance rate. More than 60 percent of the new students will receive need-based scholarships averaging \$40,000.

For the first time in Harvard's history, more than 30,000 students applied to the College, leading to an admission rate of 6.9 percent for the Class of 2014. Letters of admission and e-mail notifications were sent on April 1 to 2,110 of the 30,489 applicants.

More than 60 percent of the admitted students will receive need-based scholarships averaging \$40,000, benefiting from a record \$158 million in financial aid. Families with students on scholarship are expected to contribute an average of \$11,500 annually toward the cost of a Harvard education.

A number of factors contributed to such unprecedented results. "In these uncertain economic times, prospective students and their families have been particularly drawn to the excellence of Harvard's faculty and students, and its remarkable academic programs," said William R. Fitzsimmons, dean of admissions and financial aid. "Harvard's new School of Engineering and Applied Sciences has underscored Harvard's commitment to expanding opportunities in engineering and all the sciences. The University is also highly focused on fostering closer relationships between the College and Harvard's rich array of graduate and professional Schools, as well as its numerous research and regional centers."

Applications to Harvard have doubled since 1994, and about half the increase has come since the University implemented a series of financial aid initiatives over the past five years to ensure that a Harvard education remains accessible and affordable for the best students from all economic backgrounds. "Financial aid has never been more important to students aspiring to higher education," said Fitzsimmons. "The unwavering commitment of President Drew Faust, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Michael Smith, and Dean of the College Evelyn Hammonds to keeping Harvard's doors open to all talented students sends a powerful message that reaches far beyond our campus," he said. Seventy percent of undergraduates receive some form of financial aid.

In 2004, Harvard introduced the first in a series of financial aid initiatives that have greatly expanded its appeal to students from a wide range of backgrounds. For the first time, more than 25 percent of admitted students are eligible for this program that asks for no parental contribution from those with annual incomes under \$60,000, and reduces contributions from families with incomes of \$60,000 to \$80,000.



Many additional students are eligible for the expanded aid, announced in December 2007, for middle- and upper-middle income families. Families with incomes up to \$180,000 a year and typical assets are now asked to contribute from zero to 10 percent of their income; home equity is removed from financial aid calculations; and loans have been eliminated for all students.

By standard measures of academic talent, including test scores and academic performance, this year's applicant pool reflects an unprecedented level of excellence. For example, more than 3,000 applicants scored a perfect 800 on the SAT Critical Reading Test; 4,100 scored 800 on the SAT Math Test; and nearly 3,600 were ranked first in their high school classes.

More than half of the applicant pool and more than half (52.4 percent) of those admitted are men. Last year, both the pool and the admitted group were also comprised of more males, but the matriculating class had slightly more women, because a higher percentage of them accepted their offer of admission.

Minority representation remained strong in this year's admitted group, and similar to last year's numbers, although it is difficult to make precise comparisons to previous years because of changes in federal requirements concerning the collection and reporting of race and ethnicity information. A total of 18.2 percent of the admitted students indicated they were Asian-American (17.5 percent last year), 11.3 percent African-American (10.4 percent last year), 10.3 percent Latino (10.6 percent last year), 2.7 percent Native American (1.1 percent last year) and 0.4 percent Native Hawaiian (0.2 percent last year).

Geographic representation remained similar to last year's figures. Nearly 24 percent of the admitted students are from the mid-Atlantic states, 21 percent from the Western and Mountain states, 18 percent from the South, 16 percent from New England, 11 percent from the Midwest, and 10 percent from the U.S. territories and abroad.

Foreign citizens make up 9 percent of the admitted

students. In addition, a significant number of other entering students will bring an international perspective, including 135 U.S. dual citizens, 92 U.S. permanent residents, and many Americans who have lived abroad. Together, foreign citizens, U.S. duals, and U.S. permanent residents constitute nearly 20 percent of the class. There are 79 countries represented in the Class of 2014.

Students' academic interests shifted somewhat this year. Nearly one-quarter (24.9 percent) of the admitted students intend to concentrate in the humanities, compared with 22.7 percent last year. Engineering attracted 12.2 percent, (10.2 percent last year), while students expressing an interest in the social sciences constituted 21.3 percent, (24.6 percent last year). Other choices remained similar to those made last year, with 24.3 percent planning a biological sciences concentration, 8.3 percent physical sciences, 6.8 percent mathematics, 2 percent computer science, and 0.2 percent undecided.

The Class of 2014 will bring extraordinary extracurricular talents to Harvard across a wide range of endeavors. Major activities cited by students as extracurricular interests are music and other expressive and performing arts (46 percent), debate and political activities, including student government (34 percent), writing and journalism (21 percent), and social service (21 percent). In addition, 58 percent of the class expects to participate in recreational, intramural, or intercollegiate athletics.

Eliminating Early Action two years ago allowed more time in the fall for staff to communicate with students who might not have otherwise thought about applying to Harvard.

To give admitted students the opportunity to experience Harvard life and meet their future professors and classmates, a Visiting Program for admitted students is scheduled for April 24-26.

Admitted students have until May 1 to accept their offers of admission.

Online ►► For the full story,
<http://hvd.gs/41912>



COVER STORY

The ripple effect

Public service at Harvard increasingly reaches well beyond its gates, as student and alumni volunteers journey far to do good works.

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff Writer

Judith Dollenmayer '63 was in the first class at Radcliffe College to receive Harvard degrees. And she was the first woman president at the Harvard Club of Washington, D.C.

Now, the former congressional aide has added a different sort of first. Last month, she was in New Orleans on the first public service trip for Harvard alumni co-sponsored with the Phillips Brooks House Association (PBHA).

More such alumni events are already planned for next year, one of many indicators that service trips are a growing movement at Harvard, among present and former students alike. "All the trends we see here are increasing drastically," said Gene Corbin, executive director of PBHA, Harvard's largest undergraduate group and the source of year-round regional public service.

Alternative spring breaks at Harvard College grew from one trip in 2001 to nearly a dozen this year. Harvard's professional Schools are funding more initiatives that combine learning with doing good. Trips abroad increasingly combine scholarship and assistance.

(see Service next page)

Charles Bush '73 joined other Harvard alumni working with the Phillips Brooks House Association (PBHA) Alternative Spring Break program in New Orleans. It was the first public service trip for Harvard alumni co-sponsored with the PBHA. More alumni trips are planned for next year.

Service

(continued from previous page)

And Harvard's January intercession, new this year, immediately became a vehicle for prolonged service trips. Students went to Uganda to fight malnutrition, to El Salvador to promote literacy, and to the Dominican Republic for a water purification project. Even sports played a role. The Harvard women's squash team traveled to northern India to combine court instruction with academic tutoring.

Last month, the Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) teamed up with PBHA and PBHA-Alumni, which is one of the HAA's 35 "shared interest groups." The resulting working trip to New Orleans was for Harvard alumni who embrace the idea of travel combined with good deeds. The HAA also has designated April as its first Global Month of Service.

"Public service has been a critical activity for Harvard alumni for generations, and we wanted to recognize it this year," said Philip W. Lovejoy, the HAA's deputy executive director.

DESTINATION JANUARY

For next year, said PBHA's Corbin, there's already strong interest in shifting some of the alternative spring break trips to January, a move that would allow for longer service and better justify the expense of traveling to faraway places.

Last month, 85 undergraduates took alternative spring break trips to 10 domestic sites and a Habitat for Humanity location in El Salvador.

The public service trend is fueled in part by the spotlight shown on the issue by Harvard President Drew Faust, said Corbin. "Faust is using the bully pulpit of the Harvard presidency to say: Public service is valued at Harvard. It's an important use of your time while in school, and public interest careers represent a valuable use of your Harvard education."

Adding momentum to the efforts, Harvard held its first Public Service Week last fall. Events and activities highlighted the University's service history, celebrated its present, and encouraged a future of doing more.

Harvard's Schools are expanding their service roles as well. In February, Harvard Law School created a new Public Service Venture Fund that awards grants to students pursuing careers in public service.

Starting April 5, there will be a Public



In January, Jill Carlson, a Harvard Graduate School of Education student and one of the founders of Learning Through Libraries, helped teachers in El Castano organize their library.

Service Week at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS), five days of panels and programs on health care, public sector careers, race, poverty, human rights, urban schools, employment, and other issues. HKS students have historically brought their scholarship and energy to local municipalities. They also maintain a Student Public Service Collaborative to integrate service into the School's culture.

Then there is the growing alumni effort. Last May, the HAA co-sponsored Harvard's first Global Day of Service with the Harvard Graduate School of Education. About 300 alumni and students volunteered for projects in 13 cities.

Last month's alumni work trip to New Orleans was a warm-up for the HAA's Global Month of Service (April 1-30), one of four "Harvard Serves" initiatives. (Visit <http://alumni.harvard.edu/serve> for details.) This month, there will be more than 75 volunteer opportunities in 20 cities on four continents. Volunteers will help to clean up riverbanks, tutor schoolchildren, work at rescue missions, and build houses.

Starting this week (April 2), the HAA will launch its "Public Service on the Map" Web site so that alumni, students, faculty, and staff can register their projects. (Visit <http://onthemap.harvard.edu>.) Said Lovejoy, "We're billing it as an instant connection to Harvard's public service community throughout the world." The site will include listings of volunteer opportunities, internships, and jobs.

Teresita Alvarez-Bjelland '76, M.B.A. '79, president of the HAA this year and a resident of Oslo, Norway, has made Harvard's global public service the theme of her tenure. As to the breadth of the projects around the world, she said, "I am thrilled and proud."

Among Harvard graduates, the potential for doing good is enormous. There are nearly 365,000 Harvard alumni worldwide, and 181 Harvard clubs (105 in the United States and 76 in other countries).

THE PLIGHT OF GENTILLY

During the alumni work trip in New Orleans last month, 22 alumni and friends gathered in a sun-parched lot in Gentilly. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina had turned a vibrant neighborhood into a fetid lake 5 feet deep. Today, every third house is still abandoned, adults scramble for work, and children wander restlessly after school.

The Harvard volunteers spent six days sprucing up two narrow frame houses owned by the Pentecost Baptist Church, which lost half its congregation after Katrina. The volunteers scraped, painted, washed, fixed, and gardened. They ate box lunches and slept in college dorms. On their last day, though New Orleans is fa-



Atop a stepladder, Carole Malcomson, Ed.D. '07 (above), helps reach a high window in a house owned by the Pentecost Baptist Church in the Gentilly neighborhood of New Orleans. She was one of 22 alumni taking part in a first-ever public service trip for graduates. Below, Ivoryonce Laird (left) and Kevielle Thomas, 9, go over a lesson with tutor Schuyler Milender '13. "I have been given so much," said Milender. "These people are so underserved."



Photos by (above) Briget Ganske; Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer

mous for fun, they elected to stay on the job.

Corbin was there, in a T-shirt and shorts, brushing on paint and nailing boards. After six days, the two houses looked “markedly different” even from a block away. “It makes an enormous contribution to a neighborhood struggling to rebound following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina,” he said.

Dollenmayer, the alumna who is now a freelance writer and editor, climbed a stepladder to reach a painted-over stained glass window. “I was happy to come and help, and I’m having a great time,” she said in a YouTube video posted by an alumni trip blogger, “though this task is maddening.”

The work site on Harrison Avenue, in a part of Gentilly called Pilotland, contains two low houses, a sweep of grass, a parking lot, and a one-story church, where the high-water flood mark once reached the height of a man.

The Rev. Lionel Davis Sr., the 54-year-old pastor of Pentecost, watched the Harvard volunteers work. Dressed in a black suit and a New Orleans Saints ball cap, he contemplated the devastation. Once teeming and vital, he said, the neighborhood now is “one of those communities where you have to bring them from nowhere to get them somewhere.”

Nick Harris, compact and affable, stood near the New Orleans work site. He’s assistant vice president for community and economic development at Dillard University, and helped to coordinate the HAA volunteers. “The benefit of having Harvard come in speaks volumes — to what’s *not* been done in this area since 2005,” he said. Having Harvard here, added Davis, “allows the community to have a bigger voice.”

Bringing his share of hope was Clifton Dawson ’07, an alumni volunteer. Fresh out of three seasons as an NFL running back, the highest-yardage Ivy League ball carrier has his sights set on Harvard Business School in the fall. Meanwhile, he was managing a painting crew.

“I thought it would be a good way to give back,” he said of the alumni trip, “and to reconnect with Harvard.”

THE SAME BENEFITS

Young and old, graduates and students, the volunteers talk about the same benefits: the satisfaction of moral effort, the value of immersion in other cultures, the thrill of camaraderie, and the sense that learning does not come from books alone — that not all competence can be measured by a grade.

The undergraduates noticed those benefits and contrasts. In New York City, New Orleans, rural Alabama, and elsewhere last month, Harvard’s future doctors, lawyers, politicians, financiers, teachers, and diplomats got a glimpse at the challenge and exactitude of laying tile, hanging sheetrock, installing siding, and working with wood. Other volunteers tutored at-risk students, helped with legal tasks, or joined ambulance crews.

In New Orleans, Octabio Garcia ’12, a Winthrop House math concentrator, was tutoring fourth-graders at the Andrew H. Wilson Elementary School, the kindergarten to sixth-grade bedrock of the Broadmoor neighborhood. Some students, just days from critical state tests, still couldn’t write a four-paragraph essay.

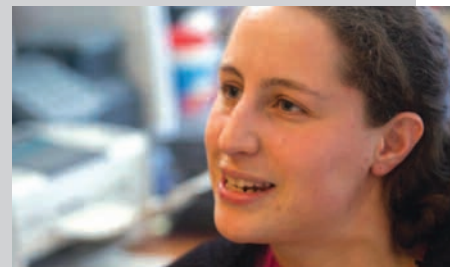
Tutoring writing in the same school was freshman Schuyler Milender ’13, who blogged nightly about her experiences. Appreciating the immensity of resources at Harvard, she said, made it imperative for her to give something back.

“I have been given so much, and these people are so underserved,” said Milender of students who can’t write paragraphs and who have lost pivotal schooling because of Katrina, and all against a backdrop of abandoned houses. “I feel like I’m learning a lot. It’s putting things in perspective for me,” she said. “I wanted to lend



**CLIFTON DAWSON '07,
GENTILLY, NEW ORLEANS**

I thought it would be a great chance to get back to do something for this community and to regain that affiliation with Harvard. To be a part of Harvard even after I’ve left has been very important to me.



**JYOTI JASRASARIA '12
BROADMOOR, NEW ORLEANS**

I know I’m not on a beach. But it’s exciting to be somewhere different.



**GEORGE THAMPY '10
HAYNEVILLE, ALA.**

People stop by every day to encourage us. I feel very blessed on this trip.



**MERCEDES FRANKLIN, D.D.M. '74
BOARD OF HAA, PUBLIC SERVICE
TASK FORCE, NEW ORLEANS**

This is my first time doing something out of my profession that is much needed. We think it will have great impact on this community. We’re hoping that we have an ongoing relationship, so we can come back.

my support, even for a week. “

Such short-term help has its critics, who suggest it doesn’t make a difference. But student volunteers do important work, said Hal Roark, executive director of the Broadmoor Development Corporation. He said they establish frameworks for future action, provide continuity, and assure an ongoing sequence of eager volunteers. Roark draws help from students at Harvard, Yale University, and Bard College, many of whom return as summer or even yearlong fellows.

A few feet from Roark’s office, in a rambling frame house, eight Harvard undergraduates hunched over computer screens to prepare for the next day’s work. Four were navigating the legal system that can delay rebuilding blighted houses. The others worked on a project to help seniors weatherize their houses, part of a Salvation Army program called EnviRenew.

“I’m not a big beach person,” said Sarah Legrand ’10, part of the second group, explaining why she was there. “Time-limited but immersive experiences” during school breaks are important. “I’m glad to take advantage of it.”

COMMUNITY GRATITUDE

Gratitude for these service trips takes many forms. In Hayneville, Ala., Martin McCall Sr., pastor of the 78-member Hayneville Church of Christ, watched Harvard undergraduates put the finishing touches on the congregation’s new church. (The first burned in a 2008 fire.)

The volunteers, who spent six days tiling, painting, and staining, are “angels from heaven,” said the 57-year-old mason, who grew up in the segregated Jim Crow South. “They’ve got good manners, they catch on, they’re eager to learn. They’ve been putting forth a great effort here.”

And the benefits are mutual, said Marcel Moran ’11, a pre-med student and one of four co-leaders on the Hayneville trip. He peeled off his work gloves and surveyed the busy work site. He said that he has made his best friends on these trips, that he has learned to break out of solitary learning to work cooperatively, and that there are special rewards in doing physical work that demands its own kind of precision.

Said Moran, “It’s using your brain in a whole new way.”

Reflecting on a young life

A freshman reflects on an eye-opening seminar session, designed to prompt Harvard undergrads to step back from the striving and ponder what life means to them, and what they value.

By Scott Yim '13



STUDENT VOICE

There have been a few times this academic year when I've had to choose between finishing a problem set or spending time with my friends. It's obvious that there is a certain "go, go, go" way of life at a world-class institution such as Harvard College. Because this is a university where top students flock to study because of their potential and accomplishments, it is easy to fill up a schedule with academics, extracurricular meetings, practices, and rehearsals, while at the same time not even realizing what we're doing it all for.

As students, we share many interests. But as Harvard freshmen, more specifically, there are several high expectations that we set for ourselves. Everything we do, and have already done up until this point, seems only for the future, so that we can live "good lives." But what exactly does that mean? Are our actions reflective of our values? Do we have certain responsibilities or obligations as Harvard students? When is it time to put that problem set down? These are a few of the big questions that my "Reflecting on Your Life" group discussed.

When I received the e-mail to sign up for the sessions, I was doubtful that a program like this would be successful, because of everyone's busy schedules. After all, there aren't even enough hours in the day to get a full night's sleep, let alone squeeze in a voluntary activity that doesn't count for anything academically. However, the section, intended especially for freshmen, only met for an hour and a half for three weeks, without any prerequisites or homework, so I decided to keep an open mind and go through with it.

Dean of Freshmen Thomas Dingman and Jonathan Smart '12, who had participated in the program last year, made sure our discussion was running smoothly. After the first few minutes of our initial meeting, my classmates and I had found some common ground outside of academics. When asked why we signed up, we gave a va-

riety of responses, from getting away from the traditional classroom setting to meeting new people. I think Shalini Pammal '13 summed it up best, saying she simply wanted to listen to the perspectives of her classmates because "one of Harvard's greatest resources is its students."

While I anticipated awkward silences and blank stares, I was pleasantly surprised when I arrived at Dean Dingman's home with the same 15 classmates each Thursday to sit in a circle and talk about life. My favorite part of this discussion group was that the people represented a cross-section of the Class of 2013; there was no criterion for selection other than what fit our schedules best when we signed up.

Essentially, any connections we might have shared were by coincidence, which I enjoyed because our groups of friends here are largely dictated by where we live, those who play the same sport, or maybe those we see in our classes. For me, this means I met most of my friends across the hall in Greenough, on the volleyball team, and in first-semester classes, but none of them were in my "Reflecting on Your Life" section.

It was reassuring to know that I wasn't the only one who was thinking about all the doors that attending Harvard had opened for me, about life back home in Methuen, Mass., or about what I wanted out of my college experience. Ultimately, I was thinking about my entire life.

I would recommend the program to anyone because it helped me to realize that I should seize all that Harvard has to offer, while I can. It solidified opinions of which I was uncertain, and I don't think I could have articulated or even embraced them without the help of my classmates. But it also raised a new set of questions: Will we actually put the problem set down and go out to gain life experience every time we have the opportunity? Will we sacrifice that "A," regardless of the fact that it doesn't really matter 20 years from now? While these questions are up for debate, it's nice to know that there are people who can agree that reflecting on our time here at Harvard, even if it's only been a semester and a half, has been both meaningful and worthwhile.

An undergraduate or graduate student with an essay to share about life at Harvard? E-mail Jim_Concannon@harvard.edu.

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Helping outside the classroom

HASI organizes spring series of Family Events tutorial sessions.

By Lauren Marshall | Harvard Staff Writer

Spring is in the air. Along with that seasonal shift, the Harvard Achievement Support Initiative (HASI) is launching a fresh series of *SmartTALK* Family Events in the Boston Public Schools. The events help kindergartners to fifth-graders, their families, school staff, and partners learn more about games and strategies that support academic success during out-of-school time.

The motto on the nearby copies of the trivia-style children's game "Brain Quest" reflected the program's goal. "It's OK to be smart!" captured the essence of the community outreach effort, which recently drew nearly 20 staff members from Harvard Public Affairs and Communications to a warehouse near HASI's Allston headquarters to turn the stacks of math and language arts games into 1,800 *SmartTALK* learning kits.

The kits, containing grade-appropriate games and bilingual English-Spanish "how-to" guides, are an essential element of the Family Events. With the next round of 18 sessions kicking off early this month, the staffers were working that day against the clock. The games included "Rattatat Kat," along with "Blink" and "Fraction Power," two math-based card games. Some staffers opened the boxes, and others worked on assembling the kits.

The *SmartTALK* Family Events are part of Harvard's effort to support out-of-school learning in nine Boston-area Step UP schools. Step UP is a collaboration among local universities and Boston schools that promotes student achievement. Harvard is a founding member of Step UP and has been offering after-school program support, learning materials, and professional development at the schools for the past three years.

"The missing link of our work was connecting back to families," said Paige Lewin, HASI associate director. According to Lewin, the new *SmartTALK* Family Events programming also aligns with the work of Karen Mapp, the Harvard Graduate School of Education lecturer who advocates engaging parents in their children's academic work to support achievement.

"Asking families to come to a bake sale is not as effective as getting families involved in the learning of their children," said Lewin. "At the Family Events, we'll give families tools they can use to support 'quality' or 'smart' talk at home."

By the end of the afternoon, volunteers had converted the pile of boxes that had lined the warehouse into 729 Family Events kits, and had organized the remaining materials for quick assembly.

"That put a dent in it," said Lewin. "Only 1,000 more kits to go."

Social change, at ground level

Scott Ruescher's interest in Latin America spawned a lengthy career in volunteer work — not to mention, he's also a poet.

By Sarah Sweeney |
Harvard Staff Writer



Called to volunteerism by his “restless interest in social change,” Scott Ruescher is modest when discussing how each Thursday he heads to the Amigos School in Cambridge to relate stories to his reading buddies there. He’d rather play his kazoo.

Inside Ruescher’s office at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE), where he is a coordinator for the Arts in Education Program, joyous treasures lie. A fluorescent kazoo is one of the knickknacks decorating Ruescher’s desk, alongside artwork by graduates of the program and a glass apple paperweight, a gift from HGSE for his 20 years of service.

He’s hesitant to discuss that, too. He’d much prefer to do some sketching, as he does from time to time, applying the lessons he’s picked up from classes at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education. Or he could show you his chapbook, “Sidewalk Tectonics,” published by Puddinghouse Press, that he calls “a meandering travelogue of poems,” which begins at Abraham Lincoln’s birthplace in Kentucky and moves to Memphis, where Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated.

If it was his interest in social issues that spurred the chapbook, it’s also what inspired him to travel to El Salvador with Learning Through Libraries, a program helmed by HGSE students promoting literacy and libraries in the poor rural municipality of Caluco. “I painted murals with schoolchildren,” said Ruescher of his week there, “played with the kids, and mingled with their mothers and teachers.”

He helped to organize and catalogue a horde of donated books, too, and spent one afternoon cleaning a classroom soon to be transformed into a library. “I was standing on desks, with a wet rag in one hand and a pail of water in the other, washing off the dust of the nearby volcano and chatting with the teachers,” he re-

called with poetic luster. “I even enjoyed getting stung by a wasp — and getting to use the word *avispa* in Spanish — after accidentally swiping a nest above the doorway with my rag.”

Ruescher grew interested in Latin America when he lived in Jamaica Plain, which has a large Hispanic population, in the 1970s. He has traveled a bit in Mexico, and he spent the week preceding the El Salvador project on his own in Guatemala, where he found that his Spanish is “somewhere between proficient and not quite fluent,” he joked. He’s spent the past two years (of nine volunteering at the Amigos School) reading in Spanish to second-graders. Last year, he was awarded the Mack Davis Award by the Cambridge School Volunteers for his dedicated duty.

Ruescher, an Ohio native, said he started off volunteering at a mental hospital and for a sociological researcher when he was in college. He has volunteered for Oxfam America and other organizations as well. “I started teaching English in a prison program for UMass in the ’80s,” he remembered. For the past eight years, Ruescher has taught at MCI-Norfolk, a medium security prison, for the Prison Education Program at Boston University’s Metropolitan College.

Ruescher maintains a community garden plot in Cambridgeport, where he lives, and has written numerous guest commentaries on local environmental issues for the Cambridge Chronicle. He is working on more poems about his time in Central America and plans to return on a Learning Through Libraries trip. In the meantime, Ruescher hopes his chapbook is flying off shelves at the Grolier Book Shop, a nearby poetry retailer.

If book sales are fueled by good karma, Ruescher’s got nothing to worry about.

ON THE JOB (AND OFF)



Scott Ruescher reads to second-grader Jonah Ramirez at the Amigos School, where he volunteers.

Behind the blue

Harvard's two new deputy police chiefs discuss their transitions, and what everyday life is like covering the University.

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff Writer

Veteran police officials James Claiborne and Michael Giacoppo signed on last fall as deputy chiefs in the Harvard University Police Department. Together, they have 65 years of experience in patrol and supervision.

Claiborne, 57, is a veteran of the Boston Police Department. He is now in charge of policing at Harvard's Cambridge campus. Giacoppo, 59, served with the Cambridge Police Department. He now oversees the University's police operations in Boston. It's a reversal of their geographical orientations. "We're both learning each other's backyard," said Giacoppo.

What does their presence mean for the University's force of 87 officers and the kind of policing they do? Here is an abbreviated version of a recent question-and-answer session with the veteran officers.

Q. You both served with big-city departments. Is doing police work at Harvard culture shock?

Giacoppo: It's a lot quieter than where we're from. I was used to dealing with crisis every day. Coming to Harvard [there] is a different set of issues. You're not in the maelstrom as often, if at all.

Claiborne: While it's quieter, the day-to-day tasks have a different complexity. In the city, you're pretty autonomous. Here you're in a web of complex relationships between the various parts of the University.

Giacoppo: You've got to be very proud to be here. You're at the world's greatest university, and you're the police force for the world's greatest university. That's a big ticket.

Q. Community policing has long been part of the Harvard landscape. Any changes ahead?

Claiborne: We'll broaden and strengthen the community policing program. What I foresee is that every building on this campus will basically be owned by one of the officers. There will be a relationship between those facilities, those residential Houses, and a particular Harvard officer. We're trying to push a sense of ownership and accountability.

Giacoppo: Community policing is a strategy, it's a way of doing business, it's your mindset. The key here is partnerships and outreach and knowing your community and them knowing you. Every day is an opportunity to build those partnerships.

Claiborne: To paraphrase one of our politicians, all politics is local. All policing is local also. Regardless

of how large you are, the real work of the police department is starting with where the [officers] meet the citizens.

Q. Any observations about the HUPD force?

Claiborne: One of the things that impressed me most is the quality of the personnel. Without the constraints of civil service, we are able to hire people

a client of the Harvard University Police Department.

Giacoppo: The officers here, without question, are expert report writers. That's one of the issues you see with PDs [police departments]. The quality of the reports goes from very, very good to very, very bad. Here, I've been very impressed with the way they structure their reports and their oversight.

Claiborne: Community policing has been in vogue for a while. A lot of departments talk about problem-solving training. These officers put it into practice, probably better than any group of officers I've been associated with.

Q. Any final thoughts?

Giacoppo: I haven't had one single moment or day that I've regretted coming here, or that I've been



The Harvard University Police Department's two new deputy chiefs, James Claiborne (left) and Michael Giacoppo, offer their thoughts on policing at Harvard.

who are as close to ideal as possible, who fit the needs of the Harvard campus and the Harvard Police Department. Some of the officers in other places we've worked wouldn't fit here. The officers we hire fit.

Giacoppo: I was surprised at the amount of medical assistance that the patrol force offers. They handle medical service calls all the time.

Claiborne: I was impressed by the amount of care the officers render. We are really a full-service social service agency. [The department's] philosophy is that if you live here, work here, or study here you're

frustrated or bored or anything. The lure of Harvard is special for me.

Claiborne: This is a service organization. We're here to make life better for the people who live here or study here and work here. And we are accessible to them. We're willing to help, to encourage people to communicate with the HUPD. There are no silly problems. There are no problems that are too small.



Stephen Blyth (left), the managing director of Harvard Management Company, introduces students to modern financial markets in his statistics class, "Applied Quantitative Finance on Wall Street."

"When I'm not teaching, I'm over here buying and selling the things I'm talking about in class."

Statistics Department Chair Xiao-Li Meng, the Whipple Jones Professor of Statistics, said Blyth's experience is a plus for students because it shows the importance of statistical analysis on everyday finance.

"Stephen's extensive experience on Wall Street, combined with his 'Main Street' training as a Ph.D. statistician, puts him in an ideal position to showcase to students the impact of rigorous quantitative reasoning — or lack of — on financial markets," Meng said.

Blyth grew up in North London and attended Cambridge University, receiving his bachelor's degree in mathematics in 1988. He came to Harvard's Statistics Department in 1988 and graduated in 1992. After a yearlong postdoctoral fellowship at Imperial College London, Blyth was a statistics lecturer there for a year.

Around that time, Blyth said, he was pondering his future and figuring out a way to get back to the United States. He ran into two roommates from graduate school, theoretical physicists who had scrambled for work when Congress canceled the superconducting supercollider, the gigantic atom smasher that had been planned for Texas. They both wound up in finance and told Blyth that the field contained interesting problems.

Blyth began to explore opportunities in finance, taking a job as a junior trader for HSBC Bank. Without a finance back-

Before joining HMC, he noted that then-HMC President Mohamed El-Erian was teaching at Harvard Business School, so he contacted Meng to explore the possibility of teaching in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences' Statistics Department.

"I really enjoyed being on Wall Street — the mathematical complexity, the real-time nature, the dynamism — but there was always something missing, in terms of the intellectual mission," Blyth said.

Harvard Management President Jane Mendillo said Blyth's second role at Harvard helps bring Harvard Yard and the student experience closer to HMC's offices and allows the corporation to play an expanded role in the Harvard community.

"Stephen Blyth is a very talented investor, a devoted Harvard alum, and an adept manager and mentor in his role here at HMC," Mendillo said. "I'm delighted that he has the opportunity to share his enthusiasm for statistics and his world-class skill in finance with Harvard students, whose education, after all, is the reason for what we do. This collaboration not only brings the student experience closer to HMC's trading floor, it also highlights another dimension to HMC's role in the broader Harvard community."

There are about 85 students in the class, Blyth said, covering a broad spectrum of ages and academic experience, from freshmen to statistics graduate students. Some students have little financial experience, while others have interned on Wall Street, he said.

"I've really enjoyed it. It's a very good introduction to the practical applications of math on Wall Street," said Sumit Malik, a freshman considering a concentration in applied math or economics. "It's very helpful to get that inside perspective, but it's also valuable to see how what we're learning is used."

Taylor Yi, a junior statistics concentrator, said the course matches his interest in finance well. He particularly likes that, for part of the class, Blyth puts on a trade (though not with real money) using platforms at HMC and Deutsche Bank so students can see how it is done in the real world.

"That's cool," Yi said. "You don't often get a real-world trading experience."

Blyth said getting back to the Yard has reminded him of his days as a student, when he was a resident tutor at Winthrop House and started the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences soccer team.

"Teaching reminded me of all the great things Harvard has to offer, particularly the students," Blyth said.

Taking finance up the Red line

Stephen Blyth, managing director of the Harvard Management Company, doubles as a faculty member in the Statistics Department, bringing real-world financial acumen to studying numbers.

By Alvin Powell | Harvard Staff Writer

the early '90s. But the time wasn't right. HMC was in the midst of a leadership change, and then was aggressively managing the impact of the international financial crisis.

This year, the time is finally right. Blyth is teaching statistics 123, "Applied Quantitative Finance on Wall Street." The class introduces statistics and applied-math students to modern financial markets and to the statistical tools involved with them. Blyth draws lessons from his own experiences — some from the same day — and from broader financial topics, such as the factors that led to the recent global financial meltdown.

"A lot of the course is distilled out of problems that I encountered over the last 15 to 20 years working on Wall Street," Blyth said recently in his HMC office in the Federal Reserve Bank building.

ground, he struggled at first and was considering returning to academia when things suddenly "clicked" for him. After that, Blyth found himself not only intrigued by the complexity of the problems he faced, analyzing derivatives for investment opportunities, but he was enthralled by the dynamism of the trading floor, where money was made and lost every day.

He moved to New York with HSBC and then took a position with Morgan Stanley, eventually becoming a managing director. From there he moved to Deutsche Bank, where he worked until coming to HMC.

Newsmakers



Harriet (left) and Paul Weissman '52 talk to Brenda Bernier, the Paul M. and Harriet L. Weissman Senior Photograph Conservator, about the analytical equipment used to identify the material makeup of objects during the 10th anniversary celebration of the Weissman Preservation Center. To read the full story, visit <http://hvd.gs/41369>.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE WINS TAYLOR FAMILY AWARD FOR FAIRNESS IN NEWSPAPERS

The Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University has named the Chicago Tribune this year's winner of the Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers for its evenhanded and thorough investigation of improper influence peddling in the admissions process at the University of Illinois in "Clout Goes to College."

The Taylor Award and a \$10,000 prize, established to encourage fairness in news coverage by America's daily newspapers, will be presented at a ceremony on April 8 at the Nieman Foundation in Cambridge, Mass.

In "Clout Goes to College," the Chicago Tribune revealed that lawmakers and university trustees used their sway to help subpar applicants gain admission to the University of Illinois, at times over the objections of admissions officers. The paper exposed secret admissions clout lists and a corrupt admissions process and in doing so, paved the way for reforms including a new admissions system, a new university president and chancellor, and six new members of the university's board of trustees.

To read the full story, visit <http://hvd.gs/41346>.

DAVID FANNING TO RECEIVE THE GOLDSMITH CAREER AWARD

David Fanning, executive producer of "Frontline," was recognized with this year's Goldsmith Career Award for his

distinguished broadcast journalism career by the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy on March 23 at the Harvard Kennedy School. He will receive the award at 6 p.m. in the John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum.

Fanning began his filmmaking career as a young journalist in South Africa. He came to the United States in 1973 and began producing and directing documentaries for KOCE, a public television station in California. In 1977, he came to WGBH Boston to start the international documentary series "World."

To read the full story, visit <http://hvd.gs/41315>.

MERTON RECEIVES KOLMOGOROV MEDAL FROM UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Robert C. Merton, John and Natty McArthur University Professor at Harvard Business School and the 1997 co-winner of the Nobel Memorial Prize in the Economic Sciences, recently received the Kolmogorov Medal from the University of London in recognition of his distinguished work in fields of research influenced by the renowned Russian mathematician Andrei N. Kolmogorov (1903-1987). Merton also delivered a lecture titled "Observations on the Science of Finance in the Practice of Finance: Past, Present, and Future."

Merton's research focuses on developing finance theory in the areas of capital markets and finance institutions. According to University of London Professor Alex Gammernan, "Andrei Kolmogorov is widely regarded as a founder of stochastic processes. One of the most spectacular applications of that theory is to the theory of pricing financial derivatives, which originated in the work of Robert Merton in collaboration with fellow Nobel laureate Myron Scholes and the late Fischer Black."

To read the full story, visit <http://hvd.gs/41382>.

A.R.T. ANNOUNCES TWO NEW EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Two prominent theater producers, one from London's famed Royal Court Theatre and one from Broadway and Broadway Across America, have been named to new leadership posts at Harvard's American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) by Artistic Director Diane

Paulus. **Diane Borger** has been named A.R.T. producer and **Tiffani Gavin** has been named the director of finance and administration at the A.R.T.

Borger and Gavin are joining the A.R.T. at a key juncture as the theater rides on the success of Paulus' inaugural season as artistic director and gears up for "Johnny Baseball," the world premiere of the new musical about the Red Sox, among other plans for next season.

"After an extensive national search, and the review of literally hundreds of highly qualified candidates, I am honored to be moving forward with an executive team of this caliber and experience. I have every confidence that Diane and Tiffani are the right people to lead the theater in this transformational moment," said Paulus. "As we work towards expanding the boundaries of theater, and revolutionizing the theater experience, I am so thrilled to have Diane and Tiffani as part of the leadership of the A.R.T."

To read the full story, visit <http://hvd.gs/41502>.

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS TWO WITH AWARDS

Robert J. Madix, a senior research fellow in chemical engineering at Harvard's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), and **Sang-Hee Shim**, a postdoctoral fellow in chemistry and chemical biology in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences along with her mentor Martin T. Zanni, an associate professor of chemistry at University of Wisconsin, Madison, were honored by the American Chemical Society (ACS) in San Francisco on March 23 for their chemistry research.

Madix was presented with the 2010 Garbor A. Somorjai Award for Creative Work for his role in establishing the molecular foundation for elementary surface reactions on single crystal catalytic metals and for his contributions to the understanding of partial oxidation reactions on silver surfaces, the dynamics and kinetics of adsorption and surface reactions, and the atomic-scale imaging of reactive processes on surfaces.

Shim and Zanni received the Nobel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education in Chemistry for revolu-

tionizing the technology of two-dimensional infrared spectroscopy. With the new technology, they have performed a groundbreaking study of amyloid fibers.

HBS FACULTY MEMBERS WIN MCKINSEY AWARDS

Three Harvard Business School professors, **Gary P. Pisano**, the Harry E. Figgie Jr. Professor of Business Administration; **Willy C. Shih**, professor of management practice; and **Clayton M. Christensen**, the Robert and Jane Cizik Professor of Business Administration, were recently honored with 2009 McKinsey Awards, presented by the Harvard Business Review and the management consulting firm McKinsey & Company.

Pisano and Shih took first-place honors for their July-August 2009 article "Restoring American Competitiveness." Second place went to Christensen and his co-authors, Jeffrey H. Dyer of Brigham Young University and Hal B. Gregersen of INSEAD (European Institute of Business Administration), for "The Innovator's DNA," which appeared in the December 2009 issue.

Established in 1959, the annual awards recognize the best articles published each year in the magazine.

To read the full story, visit hbs.edu/news/releases/032410mckinseyawards.html.

AUGUSTUS A. WHITE III RECEIVES 2010 TIPTON AWARD FOR ORTHOPEDIC LEADERSHIP

Augustus A. White III, the Ellen and Melvin Gordon Distinguished Professor of Medical Education and professor of orthopedic surgery at Harvard Medical School, was recently honored with the fifth annual William W. Tipton Jr. M.D. Leadership Award for his work as an educator, mentor, and champion of diversity initiatives. The award, which includes a \$5,000 honorarium, was presented to White at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

"I am surprised, humbled, and inspired to be receiving this award," said White. "I feel particularly honored to be recognized among so many individuals I admire."

Established by friends, colleagues, and organizations through AAOS and the Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF), the Tipton Award honors the qualities exemplified by the late Dr. Tipton, including leadership, commitment to mentorship, diversity, bridge-building, and collaboration.

To read the full story, visit <http://hvd.gs/>

Photo by Rose Lincoln | Harvard Staff Photographer

41830.

BELFER CENTER ANNOUNCES 2010-11 NUCLEAR SECURITY FELLOWS

The Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) recently announced three 2010-11 Nuclear Security Fellows: **Karthika Sasikumar**, **Yun Zhou**, and **Mahsa Rouhi**. Supported by a generous gift from the Stanton Foundation, the fellows will spend a year in residence at the Belfer Center where they will conduct research under the auspices of the center's International Security Program and Project on Managing the Atom. The fellowships will begin in September.

To read the full release, visit belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20025/harvard_kennedy_schools_belfer_center_announces_20102011_nuclear_security_fellows.html.

HDS PROFESSOR NAMED LUCE FELLOW

The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada and the Henry Luce Foundation have named **Francis X. Clooney**, the Parkman Professor of Divinity and Professor of Comparative Theology at Harvard Divinity School, one of six Henry Luce III Fellows in Theology for 2010-11.

The Luce Fellows program was established in 1993 to identify leading scholars in theological studies and provide them with the necessary financial support and recognition to facilitate their work. Clooney was selected as a Henry Luce III fellow for his excellence and creativity in theological commentarial writing. The fellowship program is one of the premier fellowship programs for theological scholarship.

GAZETTE STAFFER RECOGNIZED BY THE DOROTHY SARGENT ROSENBERG FOUNDATION

Sarah Sweeney of the Harvard Gazette has been awarded a \$5,000 prize from the Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Foundation. The foundation annually honors poets under the age of 40 whose work celebrates the human spirit.

Sweeney, who edits the Gazette's books page, "Harvard Bound," is a native of Greensboro, N.C. She received her M.F.A. in creative writing from Emerson College in Boston. Several of her poems are forthcoming in *Tar River Poetry*, *Waccamaw*, *Quarterly West*, *The Pinch*, *The Collagist*, and *Minnetonka Review*.

— Compiled by Gervis A. Menzies Jr.

HOT JOBS

LEAD RECRUITMENT SERVICES CONSULTANT (INTERNAL MOBILITY), REQ. 20546BR, GR. 058

University Administration, FT (3/16/2010)

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, REQ. 20513BR, GR. 058

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, FT (3/16/2010)

COLLECTIONS CONSERVATOR FOR HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY, REQ. 20487BR, GR. 058

Harvard College Library, FT (3/26/2010)

SPECIAL LISTINGS

LECTURER ON LITERATURE (PART-TIME)

Department of Literature and Comparative Literature, undergraduate Literature Concentration, for the academic year 2010-2011. For a full job description and application process, go to www.literature.fas.harvard.edu.

Online ► See complete opportunity listings at www.employment.harvard.edu or contact Employment Services at 617.495.2772.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for an advertised position or for more information on these and other listings, please connect to our new system, ASPIRE, at www.employment.harvard.edu/. Through ASPIRE, you may complete a candidate profile and continue your career search with Harvard University. Harvard is strongly committed to its policy of equal opportunity and affirmative action.

JOB SEARCH INFO SESSIONS

Harvard University offers information sessions that are designed to enhance a job-seeker's search success. These sessions may cover topics ranging from preparing effective resumes and cover letters to targeting the right opportunities to successful interviewing techniques. Sessions are held monthly from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Harvard Events and Information Center in Holyoke Center, 1350 Massachusetts Ave., in Cambridge. More specific information is available online at employment.harvard.edu/careers/findingajob/.

Ladies on the lawn Antonia Pugliese '12 (below, from left) with friends Katherine Packard and Lauren Stern from Sarah Lawrence College play croquet near Loeb House in turn of the century period costumes. Pugliese and her mother, Barbara, are Medford, Mass., residents who do area re-enactments, and who can resist a sun-filled day of knocking balls?



The greening of the Law School

Harvard Law School moves aggressively to cut its greenhouse gas emissions and save resources.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

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

Every unit, division, and School at Harvard is in a race to meet a pledge: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 30 percent by 2016, with 2006 as the baseline year.

Harvard Law School (HLS) is gaining ground on its goal. Buildings on its campus now use about 22 percent less energy than four years ago. The result is a 15 percent drop in greenhouse gas emissions between fiscal year 2006 and fiscal year 2009.

HLS officials say the first and biggest step to save energy is encouraging people to act differently.

"The first phase was more about people than about building projects," said John Arciprete, HLS director of facilities management. "The goal was to get people talking about changing their habits, and encourage them to take action."

The School's Green Living Program, a partnership with Harvard's Office for Sustainability (OFS), now in its fifth year, employs five students who educate their peers about energy and water conservation, recycling, and waste reduction. A blog promotes awareness events such as Earth Hour, the annual worldwide campaign that encourages people to turn off their lights for 60 minutes.

Last fall, the program ran an electricity competition. Over four weeks, the initiative helped each HLS dorm to reduce its energy consumption by 1 to 5 percent, simply by encouraging residents to shut off lights and electronic equipment.

Regular audits done by the program show a sharp decrease since 2005 in the percentage of waste that could have been recycled.

Like many other Schools around the University, HLS has a green team, a group of students and staff who meet monthly to improve campus sustainability. The team distributed maps with the locations of tap and filtered water stations on campus. It also coordinates "freecycles," where offices and individuals can swap materials they no longer need for ones that they do. And it recently developed a composting outreach project at Harkness Commons.

"There are so many gains to be made from working



At the Law School's Griswold Hall, occupants can control the heating and cooling systems, regulating them when the offices are not in use.

with individuals to change how we use resources," said Cara Ferrentino, HLS sustainability coordinator. "We are really trying to encourage everyone to take ownership of sustainability and think about their surroundings and what they can do to make a difference."

Building upgrades and initiatives also have meant significant savings at HLS.

In May 2009, the School adopted a temperature policy to promote energy conservation. During winter, occupied spaces are heated to no more than 70 degrees. During summer, cooling is capped at 74 degrees. Many of the thermostats at HLS are still user-controlled, so outreach plays an important role.

All of the School's 24 buildings have been fitted with water-saving dual-flush toilets. In the Gropius dormitories (Ames, Dane, Holmes, and Shaw), new front-load washing machines save 650,000 gallons of water a year, worth about \$11,500.

At HLS, building projects are saving energy too. Last year, a suite of offices at Griswold Hall was renovated to achieve a Platinum rank, the highest given by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), a green building rating system.

Lights at Griswold now automatically dim with the presence of sunlight. Occupancy sensors adjust room temperatures when the offices are not in use. And efficient sink fixtures will save an estimated 39,000 gallons of water annually.

HLS also recently received LEED Silver certification for renovating commercial interiors at 125 Mt. Auburn St. The School is also working with a sustainability consultant for its new Northwest Corner building complex, and officials expect the project will receive a LEED Gold rating. Additionally, almost 95 percent of

the construction's scrap materials will be recycled.

Other Law School buildings have "variable frequency drives" that cool and heat rooms at different rates, depending on occupancy and temperature. At Langdell, Lewis, and Pound halls, the units are expected to save \$32,000 a year.

The School's attempts to save energy even have reached beyond campus.

Its Green Early Interviewing Program (Green EIP) encourages law firms to act sustainably. Students at the School's Environmental Law Society developed the initiative last year. Helping out were the HLS Office of Career Services and OFS.

Representatives of hundreds of law offices visit the campus each fall, aiming to recruit a talented crop of new graduates. But the visits can harm the environment in two significant ways: greenhouse gases from all the travel, and large amounts of paper waste from recruiters' printed materials.

Participating firms agree to limit their printed materials to one double-sided sheet; to replace bottled water with pitchers of tap water; and to use reusable cups at hospitality functions and receptions. Above all, the firms must consent to purchase carbon offsets — credits in companies that invest in carbon-reducing projects.

"It's encouraging to see the progress to date at HLS," said OFS Director Heather Henriksen. "They've taken a holistic approach: energy conservation measures, operational changes, and educational outreach to the community." She praised its "triumvirate of strategies."

Next: A look at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Follow the series online
[news.harvard.edu/gazette/
section/campus-n-community/](http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/campus-n-community/)



Faculty of Arts and Sciences continues greening its scene ... even at the junk mail level. <http://hvd.gs/36659>



Bottom line gets touch of green at Harvard Business School. <http://hvd.gs/39221>

MEMORIAL MINUTES

Andrew Mattei Gleason

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

At a Meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences on March 2, 2010, the minute honoring the life and service of the late Andrew Mattei Gleason, Hollis Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy *Emeritus*, was placed upon the records. Gleason's best known work is his resolution of Hilbert's Fifth Problem.



To read the full Memorial Minute, visit hvd.gs/41822.

OBITUARIES

HBS'S J. STERLING LIVINGSTON DIES AT 93

J. Sterling Livingston, a retired professor at Harvard Business School (HBS), died on Feb. 14. He was 93.

Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, and raised in and around Glendale, Calif., Livingston received his bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California in 1938. In 1948, he moved to Massachusetts to receive a doctorate in business administration at HBS, where he later joined the HBS faculty. Livingston stayed at Harvard until 1971.

Livingston is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ruth; two sons, Matthew of Fairfax, Va., and Sterling Christopher of Richmond, Va.; two daughters, daughter Lucille Held of Boldton, Mass. and Florence Odell of Woodland Hills, Calif.; six granddaughters; five grandsons; and nine great-grandchildren.

Livingston will be buried in Columbia Gardens Cemetery in Arlington, Va., on April 3 at 11 a.m. Memorial services will follow.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR LEON KIRCHNER

A memorial gathering in remembrance of Leon Kirchner, the Walter Bigelow Rosen Professor of Music *Emeritus*, will be held on Apr. 8 (7:30-9:30 p.m.) at John Knowles Paine Concert Hall.

The service will be sponsored by the Harvard Department of Music. Family members, former students, colleagues, and friends, are welcome to attend.

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

Around the Schools



Faculty of Arts & Sciences

What big questions will occupy the world's social scientists in the coming decades?

On Saturday (April 10), a dozen "big thinkers" will share their thoughts on the hardest problems in social science. The daylong event, taking place in Room B103 of the Northwest Science Building, kicks off an effort by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences' Division of Social Science to identify — and ultimately tackle — the world's thorniest unsolved problems in the social sciences.

Panelists include philosopher Nick Bostrom of Oxford University; epistemologist Nassim Taleb of New York University; and sociologist Nicholas Christakis, historian Niall Ferguson, economist Roland Fryer, and political scientist Gary King from Harvard.

Each of the twelve panelists will present for 15 minutes, and the symposium will conclude with a session for audience feedback. In the months following the symposium, people around the world can view streaming video, vote on the proposed problems, and submit additional problems for consideration. The desired outcome: a prioritized list intended to help shape future research and policy, as well as funding support, in the social sciences.

The April 10 event is free and open to the public, but seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, see <http://socialscience.fas.harvard.edu/hardproblems>.

— Steve Bradt



School of Engineering & Applied Sciences

A collaboration by the Foundation Alícia (Alimentació i Ciència), headed by chef Ferran Adrià of El Bulli fame, and the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS) has led to the creation of an undergraduate course on science and cooking.

Debuting next fall, "Science and Cooking: From Haute Cuisine to the Science of Soft Matter" will be part of the new program in General Education at Harvard College. The course will bring together eminent Harvard researchers and world-class chefs, including Wylie Dufresne of wd-50 and Dan Barber of Blue Hill, as well as food scholar and writer Harold McGee, one of the leading authorities on kitchen science.

Adrià is considered a pioneer of exploiting scientific principles to push the limits of modern cuisine, manipulating the physical and chemical processes of cooking by using substances such as hydrocolloids, or "gums," that enable a delicate fruit purée to be transformed into a dense gel, and deconstruction techniques such as spherification, creating a resistant skin of liquid (as in a pea soup held in a pod of nothing more than itself).

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

ATHLETICS

This spring, Baskind has mirrored her soccer production in lacrosse. After leading the women's soccer team in assists and finishing second in both points and goals scored, she has done the same for the women's lacrosse team.

The tale of the two-sport athlete

This season, soccer's Melanie Baskind '12 makes her return to lacrosse — and it couldn't have come at a better time.

By Gervis A. Menzies Jr. | Harvard Staff Writer

When you love something, sometimes you just can't let it go. For Melanie Baskind '12, that something was lacrosse.

Baskind was voted Rookie of the Year in soccer by the Ivy League in 2008, and was a critical force behind the Crimson's two consecutive Ancient Eight titles and two NCAA tournament appearances. But the truth is that soccer was just one of her loves.

Named the 2008 Boston Globe Athlete of the Year, the Framingham, Mass., native starred in three sports in high school (soccer, lacrosse, and hockey), but when she arrived at Harvard, she chose to focus on soccer to start.

"It definitely was a soccer thing for me," said Baskind. "A lot of schools would contact me, not really knowing I played the other sport. But I always knew that soccer was going to be my focus, and I didn't want to commit to playing lacrosse before I got

here and figured out what my situation was going to be on the soccer team and academically."

Helping the Harvard women's soccer team to a 13-3-5 record, Baskind finished seventh in the Ivy League in scoring and tied for fifth in goals and assists. In addition to being honored as the league's top newcomer, she was named second-team All-Ivy League and tabbed on Soccer Buzz's Freshman All-America third team.

After her first soccer season, the versatile Baskind had a decision to make. She could either put aside her shin guards and pick up her lacrosse stick, or the neurobiology concentrator could take the season off, revisiting the decision as a sophomore.

"It was all about soccer last season, and in the pre-season [last year] I wasn't really thinking about lacrosse," she said. "I was going back and forth about whether it was something that I wanted to do, and ended up deciding it wasn't a good time for me to do it last year, for a bunch of different reasons."

Upon completing her second championship soccer season this year, Baskind again considered returning to lacrosse and decided that, with a year under her belt, it was time.

"My situation with school changed a little bit. I was more comfortable with my position on the soccer team," she said.

After talking to head coaches, assistants, and captains of both teams to make sure everyone knew where she was coming from, the encouragement she received was enough to ease her concerns about

coming back to lacrosse.

"I was grateful that both sides have been very supportive with whatever decision I decided to do, last year and this year, and it definitely made it easier."

In retrospect, her joining the team turned out to be a bigger deal than first expected. In the second game of the season on March 6, Harvard saw junior midfielder Jessica Halpern — the team's leading scorer from a year ago — go down with a season-ending injury. It was a devastating blow for the team, but it also meant that Baskind would have to come in and contribute right away. That is something she has had no problem doing. She is second on the team in goals and points, and tied for first in assists.

"I think, in some ways, Jess is irreplaceable on the field. I think what Melanie added right away was the big-game experience that she carried over from soccer," said Lisa Miller, who is in her third year coaching Harvard. "I would have loved to have them both on the field at the same time, but it was definitely a gift to have Mel with that experience, versus a freshman who isn't gamed-in."

As Harvard enters the heart of its schedule, jockeying for positioning in the Ivy League standings, Baskind has quickly found herself a core team member in two sports she loves.

That love is something that makes feasible the challenge of balancing two athletic seasons, everyday friendships, and a demanding academic workload. "It's a ton of sacrifices," she said. For instance, Baskind had to stay in Massachusetts over spring break while the soccer team traveled across Italy.

"I've really enjoyed the experience, and I'm willing to make sacrifices for that. I think my friends have been great about understanding a lot of social stuff I've had to miss out on, which I knew was going to happen, coming into it. I think the soccer team has been great about understanding that I'm not going to be able to go to as many team functions as I could have been."

Despite the sacrifices, her coach notes that she always has a smile.

"I think one of the things Mel brings to practice is a sense of humor, and she has fun, even in the middle of a game. Very rarely can a player make me laugh when my team is not doing well," said Miller. "I think the players who play two sports generally like to play, like to compete. They like the camaraderie of being part of the team, and Mel definitely brings that."

And so as Baskind shares her fun-loving attitude with her new team, it is clear that her year's absence didn't diminish her passion for the sport.

"She just likes to play, and I think that's contagious, and it rubs off on other people, and it definitely rubs off on the coaching staff," said Miller.

Online ►► See complete coverage, athletic schedules at: www.gocrimson.com

Calendar

HIGHLIGHTS FOR APRIL 2010

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

su	m	tu	w	th	f	s
april				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	29	30	

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.



Ailey II's Tyrone Walker. See April 2-3.
(Photo by Eduardo Patino, NYC)

APRIL 1-4

Lost and Clowned.

Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Radcliffe Yard, 8 p.m. on April 1, 2, and 3, and 2:30 p.m. matinees on April 3 and 4. When Bozescu the clown accidentally arrived at the Karnival bol Rossz, he was only trying to escape his troubled past. But he is soon pitted in a battle against evil that has been raging for hundreds of years. Tickets are \$10 general; \$7 students; \$5 Harvard freshmen (1 ticket per ID). 617.496.2222, ofa.fas.harvard.edu.

APRIL 2-3

Dancers' Viewpointe 10.

New College Theatre, 10-12 Holyoke St., 8 p.m. The OFA Dance Program cel-

brates the 10th anniversary season of its "Viewpointe" concert series. Featuring a medley of Alvin Ailey choreography with special guests from Ailey II. Also: works by Trey McIntyre, Jodi Leigh Allen, and Elizabeth Weil Bergmann. Tickets are \$12 general, \$8 students and senior citizens, and are available at the Harvard Box Office. 617.496.2222, ofa.fas.harvard.edu/dance.

APRIL 5

Prather Lecture: E.O. Wilson on "Biodiversity and the Future of Biology."

Sanders Theatre, 6 p.m. Sponsored by the Departments of Molecular & Cellular Biology and Organismic & Evolutionary Biology. 617.496.2222,

ofa.fas.harvard.edu/cal/details.php?ID=40839.

APRIL 6-30

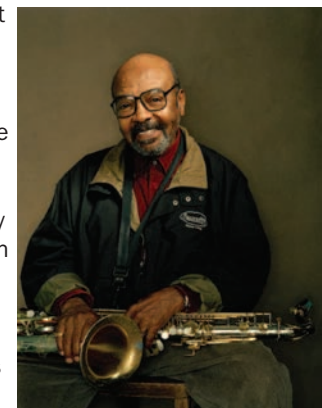
Opening Exhibit. Fugitive Sparrows: An Emily Dickinson Installation by Zachary Sifuentes.

Room 330, Woodberry Poetry Room, Lamont Library, 5 p.m. A month-long installation of artwork based on Emily Dickinson's poetry, poetics, and creative process, using projectors, historic telescopes (and microscopic poems in the landscape of Harvard Yard), headphones, and an 1844 edition of Webster's Dictionary. Free and open to the public. hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/houghton/collections/poetry-room.html.

APRIL 10

Moody's Moods: The Music of James Moody. A Tribute Concert.

Sanders Theatre, 8-10 p.m. Harvard Jazz Bands and saxophonist Bill Pierce will honor saxophonist James Moody, the 2010 Office for the Arts Jazz Master in Residence, in a tribute concert. Although he will not be present, Moody's extraordinary musicianship will be in evidence as the Harvard Jazz Bands perform several Moody classics, including his 1949 signature song "Moody's Mood for Love." Tickets are \$15 adults; \$8 students/senior citizens. ofa.fas.harvard.edu.



James Moody
Photo © Nick Ruechel 2008

◀ THROUGH MAY 12

Erratics: A Genealogy of Rock Landscape.

Gund Hall Lobby, Graduate School of Design. "Erratics" proposes a speculative genealogy of rock-based landscape architecture, featuring the work of Claude Cormier Architectes Paysagistes. The design work on display is augmented by slides, photographs, and drawings that highlight relationships among cultural production, the earth sciences, and landscape architecture over the past 150 years. This material draws from the Harvard holdings of the Special Collections Department of the Frances Loeb Library, the Cabot Science Library, and the Ernst Mayr Library. Free. gsd.harvard.edu/events/exhibitions/upcoming.htm.

LEFT: "Vignette - bedrock on beach," CCAP, January 2008

Courtesy of Claude Cormier
Architectes Paysagistes





Harvard Rituals: Sisters in arms

Our grandmothers had gone about with books poised on their heads; we felt very modern to have substituted fencing.

— Mosette Stafford Vaughn, Radcliffe College, Class of 1891

These days, qualifying for the NCAA Championships is something of a ritual for members of the Harvard Women's Fencing Team. It's a far cry from the sport's origins on campus, which date to 1888, but not far removed from when the team officially came into being in 1974. Back then, team captain Sara Kimball '76 helped lead a competitive team that was tempered by hard work, perseverance, and team spirit.

Much the same could be said of epeeist Noam Mills '12, captain of the women's team and member of the Israeli Olympic team that com-

peted in Beijing in 2008. For Mills, intercollegiate fencing has helped change her perspective on the sport, and she credits her teammates with making the transition from Israel to Harvard an easy one. "It's very different — in a good way — when I have teammates to share the joy of winning and the agony of losing," Mills said.

Fencing is a Harvard strength, and the University just hosted the 2010 NCAA Championships. Harvard finished fifth nationally, with three female and two male All-Americans.

— Evan Whitney

Photos by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer

Online ► View photo gallery: <http://hvd.gs/41791>

