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See the full print issue of the University of Chicago Magazine, web-exclusive content, and links to our Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and Tumblr accounts at mag.uchicago.edu.
Sprinter Blake Leeper, a silver and bronze medalist at the 2012 Paralympic Games, speaks at the Ratner Athletics Center in October.
Looking back—and ahead

BY LAURA DEMANSKI, AM’94

Every so often we get questions from readers that send us into the Magazine’s archives. Heading to the storage closet, where past issues go back to 1907, I feel joy—and trepidation. On one hand, leafing through those pages is an addictive pleasure with rewarding surprises: an article by a faculty giant, an elegantly devastating letter to the editor, a youthful photo of a now famous alum. On the other hand, those maroon volumes will chomp up as much time as you give them. Whoever put a chair in there was not just as much time as you give them. Those pages are an addictive life of the mind & interactive graphic designer. Kathryn Vandervalk, ’16 contributing editors John Easton, AM’77; Carrie Golus, AB’91, AM’93; Brooke E. O’Neill, AM’94; Amy Braverman Puma staff bios mag.uchicago.edu/masthead

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LETTERS

Floor lore

When I dropped out of the College for a year in 1975, my good friend Ted Du Pont, AB’77, and I were sharing a book locker in the basement of Regenstein (“The Regulars,” Sept–Oct/14). I left him a note before my sudden departure, saying that I was moving on to “greener pastures.”

When we talked about this years later, Ted confessed that he thought I meant that I was moving to the fifth floor. Though the social pecking order of the floors may change slightly, it is nice to see that the social construct of Regenstein has actually, in fact, little changed.

The social construct of Regenstein has actually little changed.

Aiming high

I thoroughly enjoyed Wayne Scott’s essay. Not only was I, having just celebrated my Medicare birthday, charmed by his thoughts on remembering, but I was transported to a class on Islamic Civilization that I took with Jonathan Z. Smith, probably in 1968–69. It was definitely an unusual offering for the time period and there were just a few students enrolled. We used a draft textbook (photocopied pages in several binders). Smith was perhaps in his first year of teaching in the College.

If memory serves, I worked with him on several different occasions as a student in the New Collegiate Division, where I became aware of religious studies, the field in which I received my PhD from Syracuse University some years later. He was a thrilling professor, pushing for new perspectives that changed my thought processes and life.

I am thrilled to learn of Professor Smith’s distaste for the phone (which I don’t share in its entirety) and for the cell phone (which I happily do not use). Alas, I have succumbed to computers, hence my ability to send this email to the Magazine. Cheers, Professor Smith. Thanks for your guidance. You are a star in my book.

Jill Strachan, AB’71, AM’72
Washington, DC

“In Search of Words Lost” was brilliantly hilarious, but hints at an issue of serious interest. Scott was able to satisfy his obsessive curiosity by charming a librarian into copying and mailing old text from the Maroon, but not all alumni are charming and not all librarians are pliable. The Maroon’s poorer cousin to the north, the Hyde Park Herald, has for several years had its entire content online, scanned and word searchable with PDF download options. This is an amazing resource for tracking any number of people, buildings, and social issues of the neighborhood.

While I don’t have a burning desire to check the text of the Aims of Education address I attended in the 1970s, other odds and ends come to mind: in particular, whether I am hallucinating in recollecting that the entire balcony of Mandel Hall shook when Muddy Waters performed “Hoochie Coochie Man.” Of course there is a near infinite tude of great and interesting thinkers and doers, resident and visiting, whose activities at and around the University hide in the Maroon archives. If the architectural bills from Jeanne Gang have not eaten up the whole budget, and Dean Boyer is willing to relinquish his monopoly on obscure tidbits of ancient school lore, can a similar project be undertaken for the Maroon?

Andrew S. Mine, AB’81
Chicago

Integrated interests

I was pleased to read of Robert Redfield’s (LAB 1915, PhB’20, JD’21, PhD’28) collection of revolutionary corridos from Tepoztlán in the 1920s...
The Soothing Sound Of Guaranteed Income
Many investors currently own or are considering annuities. After all, they are sold as safe investments, offering dependable and predictable returns, no matter what the market does. And that sounds very appealing, especially after suffering through the worst bear market since the Great Depression. So what’s the problem with annuities?

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John Locke’s debate on a right to health care, I read. In the primary texts, from peasant societies to complex civilizations, was inspiring.

Philip K. Bock, AM'56
Albuquerque, New Mexico

An ambassador
Emily Teeter, PhD’90, the subject of Robert K. Ritner’s (PhD’87) letter to the editor (Sept–Oct/14), has justly earned a worldwide following of Egyptologists, both professional and amateur, who greatly admire her endearing ability to enrich superior scholarship with the common touch, and to do so with decency and grace. In her books, articles, and in person she makes Egyptology accessible to all.

Brian Alm, AM’71
Rock Island, Illinois

Primary texts
To me, one underlying principle of the great books program is the ability to learn to read original writings. In the debate on a right to health care, I read John Locke’s Two Treatises of Government. Locke was an accomplished physician as well as an authority on natural rights. In the third edition in the rare book room of the Boston Public Library, I found that his famous words “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” were written originally as “life, health, liberty and goods.” I called civil libertarian Thomas Szasz at the Upstate Medical Center at Syracuse and he quickly referenced the first edition, which read the same. Yet no one spoke during the debates on the Affordable Care Act of the right of the individual to decide their health care directions, as Locke pronounced. Supposedly Benjamin Rush, a physician and a signer of the Declaration of Independence, said after the writing of the Constitution that the absence of a right to health in the Constitution was a great mistake.

The best articles in the University of Chicago Magazine discuss an alum’s reading of original materials or dealing with original events and then developing new ideas that have received recognition by others. The approach highlights the effectiveness of the teaching methods of the University over these many years, both to myself and other alumni.

Leonard R. Friedman, AB’56
Middleton, Massachusetts

Gary Rx
“City Limits” (July–Aug/14) is thorough and insightful. But it’s not clear that the root causes of Gary’s troubles are being fully acknowledged and addressed.

I lived in Gary, Indiana, at 1130 West 7th Avenue in the 1960s. This address was the University Club, which also served as a boarding house for junior employees of the area steel mills. Ann Gregory, the house manager, was a cheerful and kindly woman who also was a part-time professional golfer. She had become the first black woman to compete in a United States Golf Association Women’s Amateur Championship in 1956.

Gary was a hub of economic activity. Steel and other industries invested heavily in technology and expansion capital. Gary’s people, black and white, were hard working, well educated, and family oriented.

Gary’s decline resulted from the same root causes that have destroyed cities such as Detroit (and that now seem to threaten Chicago): unions, high taxes, crime, corruption, decline of the intact family, and poor schools. These factors are a malignancy that feed off what’s good. They are unrelated to skin color.

It seems like a lot of thought and effort are helping Gary. But more could be needed. Businesses and families must be attracted.

Indiana has recently become a right-to-work state, which is a big plus. School choice would improve educational opportunity, which will bring new families and businesses. Church and community efforts to reinforce family values cost little and might have big rewards.

Chandler, Arizona, is similar to Gary (about 50 square miles and ethnically diverse). Businesses have been locating and growing there because of its business-friendly environment, excellent work force, family orientation, and educational and worship choices.

Gary deserves a strong renewal. I appreciate having lived and worked there. It’s hoped that Mayor Freeman-Wilson, Chicago Harris, and other parties have great success.

Stephen J. Breckley, MBA’68
Chandler, Arizona

Intertwined
In recent years, I have been delighted when the University of Chicago Magazine arrives. While I was not a huge fan of the frog on the front this time, it was wonderful to have that six degrees of separation feeling that has characterized a lifetime of post–Hyde Park decades. It was not surprising to find Lucy Pick highlighted (“Novel Pilgrim,” Sept–Oct/14), someone I met in recent years as my partner, Betty Bayer, was a fellow at the University of Chicago Martin Marty Center. I look forward to reading her novel.

Mary Eastman Sexton, AB’68, Summer/83

Blast from the Past

Editor: As to the Spring 1983 issue: the photographs from “Is There Life on Campus?” are very entertaining, and the text is witty. But it looks as if somebody either washed or painted the walls at Jimmy’s. How shocking!

—Mary Eastman Sexton, AB’68, Summer/83
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More surprising, in the years since I became president of Shimer College, are those moments when I see Shimer in the pages of the Magazine. While our historic relationship makes this less surprising for me, it is certainly wonderful each time it happens. This time, it was a small blurb about Peter Cooley, AM’64, who published his ninth book of poetry, *Night Bus to the Afterlife* (Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2014).

Peter was a Shimer student before he was a UChicago student. Today he supports young poets at Tulane University, where he teaches; in his role as writer and editor; and at Shimer through a poetry contest. His inspiration, he told me some time ago when I met him in New Orleans, was a visit to Chicago many years ago by T. S. Eliot. Today he inspires many others, including me. And his presence in the Magazine reminds me of the ways institutional collaborations have histories.

**Symbolic discovery**
Many years ago I bought a very curious and very large library wall chart printed in Paris in 1808. It is entitled “Carte générale pasigraphique.” I used this esoteric knowledge of a French invention intended to become a universal language (well before Esperanto) whenever I found myself seated at a dinner party with Parisians deliberately speaking nuanced argot beyond my comprehension. I would interject (in French, of course) whether they had heard of a French system of “pasigraphie.” It never failed me; they were clueless.

However, now Daniele Metilli and Giulia Accetta stumped me with their reference to Jean Coulon de Thévenot and his work *Méthode tachygraphique* (“Margin Call,” Original Source, July–Aug/14). After rummaging in my library, I unrolled my wall chart and looked more closely at this still curious stenography antique. The symbols matched those in the 19th century marginalia deciphered by the prize winners.

**Remembering Mirsky**
Friends and family are collecting remembrances of Marvin Mirsky, AM’47, (1923–2014), who taught humanities at the University of Chicago from 1962 through 1992, as well as in the University’s Basic Program of Liberal Education for adults. We would appreciate knowing your recollections. Please send them to info@marvinmirsky.com.

**Social UChicago**

Michael Fitzgerald @riparian • Oct 22
Today a friend called @UChicago “the most intellectually intense school in the country.” A reminder of why: http://ow.ly/Dc9s8

UChicago Humanities @UChicagoHum • Oct 16
“I like to read things that other people don’t read.” Sascha Ebeling & his work w/ Tamil language bit.ly/1E53pS2

SnksNSclesTurtleTales @SnakesNScales • Oct 15
Jurassic Park didn’t get it half right! http://fb.me/1I9JnuHrL

UChicago College @UChicagoCollege • Oct 15
Maroons who call the Regenstein Library a second home are sure to appreciate @susie_allen’s essay: http://mag.uchicago.edu/university-news/regulars

Amy Myers @AmyRebeccaMyers • Oct 10
@susie_allen is SPOT ON with her essay about Reg life. Weirdly makes me miss the stacks? http://mag.uchicago.edu/university-news/regulars

Bala Subramanian @profsubramanian • Oct 8

Critter Lady Chicago @critterladychgo • Oct 7
I’m far behind reading mags. In UofC mag from Mar/Apr’13: fascinating article abt @TheGoodDeath: http://mag.uchicago.edu/decomposure

Lyo Louis-Jacques @LyoLouisJacques • Oct 4
A @ChicagoBooth alum taps into Beijing’s microbrewery scene. http://mag.uchicago.edu/economics-business/brewhub

Social UChicago is a sampling of social media mentions of recent stories in the print and online editions of the Magazine and other University of Chicago publications. To join the Twitter conversation, follow us @UChicagoMag.
This is an important moment for the University of Chicago. We have now embarked upon the public phase of the most ambitious and comprehensive fundraising effort in our history—the University of Chicago Campaign: Inquiry and Impact. This $4.5 billion endeavor supports the intellectual and educational initiatives articulated by our faculty and academic leadership. The campaign advances priorities throughout the University, including in the College, divisions, schools, institutes, library, and medical center. These priorities are designed to ensure the University’s continued and enhanced eminence, building on our extraordinary history and seeing the values that shaped that history manifest in new and exciting ways.

I encourage you to learn more about the UChicago Campaign—by reading Ensuring an Eminent Future: The University of Chicago Campaign Annual, mailed with this magazine, or online at campaign.uchicago.edu, where you can watch the campaign video, explore campaign priorities, and find out about upcoming campaign events around the world.

The University of Chicago Campaign: Inquiry and Impact is a major undertaking with transformative potential, made possible by the dedication and generosity of you, our alumni and friends. The quiet phase of the campaign generated 182,000 gifts totaling more than $2 billion, and these investments have already had a transformative effect on education and research at the University, not only in Hyde Park, but around the world.

Philanthropic investments by alumni and friends have deepened existing strengths, such as the Core curriculum in the College, scholarly contributions within the disciplines, and the expansion of our faculty. These gifts also have made possible innovative efforts, such as the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, the Institute for Molecular Engineering, and the Bucksbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence. The University continues to expand its portfolio of research and related applications concerning urban challenges, its arts programs and facilities, and its new centers in Beijing, Delhi, and Hong Kong, among many other burgeoning initiatives.

Programmatic and financial support for students is a campaign priority across every segment of the University, ensuring that talented students from all backgrounds will be able to fully participate in educational opportunities. Graduate and professional student support helps the University continue to attract promising students and educate the next generation of leaders in the academy, the professions, and a wide range of significant human endeavors.

The College’s Odyssey Scholarship program, funded by a $100 million anonymous donation and matching gifts, has removed debt from the financial aid packages for College students from low- and moderate-income backgrounds. In addition, support through the UChicago Campaign will help drive a sweeping new initiative for undergraduate aid. Announced in October, No Barriers eliminates the need for student loans from need-based financial aid packages, removes application fees for all students applying for financial aid, simplifies the process for obtaining financial aid, and guarantees paid internships for students from low-income families during the summer after their first academic year.

The University’s distinctive culture of inquiry and analysis continues to draw to our Hyde Park campus, to affiliated laboratories, and to our global centers a diverse range of scholars, students, alumni, and leaders in policy and practice from around the world, all of whom add to the vitality of our community. The campaign supports this dynamic flow of visitors, enhancing the University’s role as an intellectual destination. This environment of rigorous, often interdisciplinary, collaboration is what drives the University’s consistent international leadership in education and research.

Thank you for your continued engagement with, advocacy of, and support for the University of Chicago.
YOU FEEL SO MORTAL
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With Contributions by Gregory J. Harris and Cleophus J. Lee
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Fevered research

Theories and particles collide in a documentary that captures the tension and intensity of discovery.

A recent documentary about the search for the Higgs boson, Particle Fever, depicts physicists at work. They do not all labor alike.

Experimentalists at CERN, the European consortium where researchers discovered the Higgs particle—an essential missing piece to the understanding of the universe that explains why other particles have mass—come across as contractors at a multibillion-dollar construction site. They operate the Large Hadron Collider, a particle accelerator whose scale, precision, and complexity befit its massive purpose: recreating the conditions just after the big bang to reveal the origins and nature of the universe.

Theorists, on the other hand, use chalk to scribble scientific hieroglyphics on blackboards.

Moderating a panel of researchers as part of the University’s Science on the Screen series, physical sciences dean Edward “Rocky” Kolb summarized the distinction for his Logan Center audience. “It seemed that the accelerator builders and experimentalists wear hardhats, steel-toed boots, get dirty, crawl around,” Kolb said. Meanwhile, he went on, panelist and Institute for Advanced Study theoretical physicist
Nima Arkani-Hamed, who is in the film, “sits in his office drinking coffee, drawing plenty of diagrams.”

A good sport, Arkani-Hamed played along with Kolb’s teasing vision of theorists with their feet up and heads in the stars. Then he explained the unseen forces rolling under the placid surface. “The daily life of a theorist, it looks like all fun and games,” Arkani-Hamed said, “but the daily life of a theorist is defined by failure.”

Day after brain-straining day turns into months, years, and decades of developing ideas only to risk their dismissal when the experimentalists produce the data.

At the Large Hadron Collider, the experimentalists encountered their own failures. In September 2008, the LHC went live with great fanfare. “Now comes the day of reckoning,” LHC project director Lyn Evans says in the film. “Five, four, three, two, one, now.” Nothing happened. “No beam.”

On the tense second attempt, to the physicists’ palpable relief and raucous delight, the collider generated a beam, then a second going the opposite way, which turned out to be just a tottering baby step. The two beams still needed to speed around the 17-mile ring and collide to produce the cosmic debris that could be measured and analyzed.

Before those collisions could happen, a “completely catastrophic” helium leak shut down the LHC for more than a year. “It was the biggest accident that’s ever happened at a particle accelerator, by far,” said panelist Joseph Lykken, the chief research officer at Fermilab and a physicist on one of the LHC experiments. About 50 magnets weighing 10 tons each were “tossed around like a train wreck.”

In Particle Fever, Arkani-Hamed criticizes the celebration that accompanied the collider’s debut as excessive and premature. The real work had not yet begun.

After 15 years of theorizing, he had reason to be anxious about what the particle accelerator’s data would reveal. “Depending on what happens with the LHC, these are 15 years I could come to see as the best possible thing I could have been doing with this time, or it could just be the entire 15 years might as well have not happened, no impact,” he says in the film. “And then that’s just 15 years that are gone. It’s not the sort of thing where there’s consolation prizes.”

To face such disappointment requires a doggedness that shakes off mistakes and accidents as inevitable in the service of transcendent science. “Jumping from failure to failure with diminished enthusiasm,” says Stanford’s Savas Dimopoulos, SM ’77, PhD ’78, in the film, “is the big secret to success.”

Fast-forward, as Particle Fever essentially does, to the cusp of discovery in 2012. Accumulating data hinted at the Higgs’s existence and the looming questions focused on its mass. Where the particle fell on a spectrum of about 115 to 140 gigaelectron volts (GeV) would determine the validity of many theories of the universe. The reported mass of about 126 GeV neither confirmed nor ruled out most theories discussed in the film. The inconclusive result, Dimopoulos says, “is about as interesting as it could be.”

As UChicago physicist Marcela Carena put it at the Particle Fever panel, “Now that we arrived to the summit, we look and we see, ‘Oh my God, there are other summits a bit higher there and we need to arrive there.’”

The Higgs discovery represented the ultimate summit for one theorist. Peter Higgs, who posited the particle’s existence in the 1960s, attended the unveiling of the LHC data. Higgs, the 2013 Nobel laureate in physics, dabbed away tears at the discovery he did not expect to live to see, if his namesake boson existed at all. Then he stood and cheered with the crowd gathered at CERN, a theorist applauding—and applauded by—the experimentalists who discovered the particle he conceived.—Jason Kelly
And in a related development, Morrissey, who once stood ankle-deep in the mud, was awarded the French Legion of Honor in 2013.

The center has hosted many conferences, colloquia, debates, and public lectures in the past decade. A dozen graduate students are in residence; faculty from departments throughout the University visit regularly for research, conferences, and teaching.

The center’s focus has also broadened, looking outside France to all of Europe and beyond. When students in the College’s Cairo program had to evacuate during Egypt’s 2011 revolution, they finished the program in Paris. “Paris is an imperial city,” says Boyer, with deep roots in Africa and the Middle East; in the next 10 years, he hopes the center will become a natural base for UChicago academics researching these regions.

On a Friday afternoon in early September, the University celebrated the Paris Center’s first 10 years with a panel discussion about these global ambitions: “Paris-Chicago and Chicago-Paris: A Global Metropolis for Europe, Africa, and the Middle East.” The event—attended by faculty, students, and alumni, as well as representatives from partner institutions and scholars from around the world—was held at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, a two-block walk from the center.

Ian H. Solomon, vice president for global engagement, who had come directly from the inaugural ceremony of the Chicago Booth Executive MBA program in Hong Kong, moderated. Three UChicago faculty joined him: François Richard (anthropology), Ahmed El Shamsy (Near Eastern languages and civilizations), and Lisa Wedeen (political science), as well as Robert Gleave, an Arabic studies professor at the University of Exeter (UK) and 2013 Mellon Islamic Studies Initiative visiting scholar at UChicago.

Wedeen, who is writing a book on the recent political history of Syria, noted...
that for her, “being in Paris has become crucial,” not just because working in Syria is now impossible. Paris, home to a number of prominent Syrian exiles, “has become a center of artistic activity and political conversation,” she said.

“It’s very difficult to think about Africa without thinking of France,” said Richard, a historical anthropologist whose research on rural Senegal led him to study French imperialism. The history of the French nation in the 18th and 19th centuries was made not just in France, he said, but also in Senegal and Louisiana: “The idea of the nation-state as being bounded is something which to some extent has been rethought.”

After a cocktail reception, the guests had dinner in the library’s Hall des Globes (an appropriate venue, Solo-mon noted) while listening to Chicago Booth economist Austan Goolsbee deliver a skeptical assessment of the Eurozone: “You’ve got countries locked in at the wrong exchange rates,” he said. “Milton Friedman [AM’33], on his deathbed, said the euro will never survive, because it’s price-fixing. And price-fixing will never last.”

The next morning the celebrations continued with a choice of five lectures, each by a faculty member in a different discipline, followed by an excursion to a Paris institution important to that faculty member’s research. Three of the five lectures looked beyond French borders. Wedeen spoke on the Syrian uprisings and then led an excursion to the Grande Mosquée de Paris. Anthropologist Alan Kolata, after a lecture on the kings of Angkor, Cambodia, went to the Musée Guimet. Historian Paul Cheney, academic director of the center for 2014–15, talked about 18th-century elites in Saint-Domingue, a French colony in the Caribbean; his tour was of the Archives Nationales. Françoise Meltzer, after her lecture “Describing the Insane: Baudelaire and the Alienists,” took her group to the Hôpital Pitié-Salpêtrière. Philippe Desan, whose lecture was titled “Montaigne Meets the Cannibals,” led an excursion to the Musée du Quai Branly.

In the 16th century, Desan explained, cannibals from Brazil were brought to Europe and exhibited in freak shows. Among the spectators was Michel de Montaigne, who in his essay “Of Cannibals” imagines himself in their place. At the museum, Desan’s group viewed a cape of feathers (the cannibals’ currency) and a bludgeon they used on their victims—the same artifacts Montaigne saw.

In addition to the Center in Paris, the University now operates centers in Beijing, Delhi, and Hong Kong. Meanwhile, Boyer continues to harbor ambitions for Paris, which hosts UChicago’s most in-demand study abroad programs. “If we had another classroom or two,” he says, “we could easily mount even more programs.”

—Carrie Golus, AB’91, AM’93

NEXT GENERATION
POLYMERS ENLIGHTENED

Researchers from UChicago and Argonne National Laboratory have identified a new polymer that appears to be a key to generating solar energy more efficiently. Luping Yu, a chemistry professor and fellow in the Institute for Molecular Engineering, led a team that reported its breakthrough in the September Nature Photonics.

The researchers’ secret is PID2, a polymer they developed that improves efficiency in polymer solar cells by both transporting charges more easily and increasing the absorption of light. The team used the high-brilliance X-ray beam at Argonne’s Advanced Photon Source to study the structure of polymers in solar cells. When PID2 was added, the polymers formed fibers—pathways that allow electrons to travel quickly between electrodes on different sides of the cell. “It’s like you’re generating a street,” Yu explains, “and somebody that’s traveling along the street can find a way to go from this end to the other.”

After determining the optimal amount of PID2 to add to a standard mixture of a polymer and the carbon molecule fullerene, the researchers achieved an efficiency of 8.2 percent, the best ever for such solar cells. “Basically, in polymer solar cells we have a polymer as electron donor and fullerene as electron acceptor to allow charge separation,” says Luyao Lu, SM’11, a chemistry grad student and the lead author of the Nature Photonics paper.

The team is now looking for ways to reach the 10 percent efficiency benchmark necessary to make polymer solar cells commercially viable.—Kathryn Vandervalk, ’16
FOR THE RECORD

CREATIVE MINDS
UChicago historian Tara Zahra and criminal justice advocate Jonathan Rapping, AB’88, were among 21 recipients of 2014 MacArthur Fellowships. Zahra, a historian of Central and Eastern Europe, was recognized for “challenging the way we view the development of the concepts of nation, family, and ethnicity and painting a more integrative picture of 20th-century European history,” Rapping, an Atlanta lawyer and founder of the legal defense nonprofit Gideon’s Promise, told the Atlanta Journal Constitution that “public defenders are doing this generation’s civil rights work.”

OBAMA LIBRARY BID ADVANCES
A collaborative effort led by the University of Chicago to bring the Obama Presidential Library to the city’s South Side has been chosen as one of four finalists by the Barack Obama Foundation. The other finalists are the University of Illinois at Chicago, Columbia University, and the University of Hawaii. The foundation’s board expects to make a recommendation to the president and first lady in early 2015. UChicago’s proposal, made in partnership with the City of Chicago and local civic leaders, advocates locating the library in a neighborhood surrounding the University to add to the South Side’s economic and cultural development.

HEADS IN THE CLOUD
The University’s Computation Institute leads a group of institutions that received $10 million from the National Science Foundation to study ways to maximize the potential of cloud computing. Because private companies such as Amazon, Google, and Microsoft host much of today’s cloud computing, information that would be useful to help researchers measure and improve the technology is unavailable. The NSF-funded project, called Chameleon for its customizable capacity, will study hardware and software through an experimental data center to help advance the cloud’s capabilities.

LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP
Urban nonprofits and government institutions often have limited time and money to train prospective leaders. The Office of Civic Engagement, in partnership with the Civic Consulting Alliance and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, has established the Civic Leadership Academy at the University of Chicago to help alleviate that problem. Beginning in January, fellows nominated by their organizations will take courses led by faculty from Chicago Harris, the School of Social Service Administration, Chicago Booth, the Law School, and the Graham School. After the six-month program, fellows will complete a capstone project that applies knowledge from the courses to challenges they face within their organizations.

NEGOTIATIONS SUSPENDED
In September the University suspended negotiations for a second term with the Confucius Institute, a partnership begun in 2009 to foster research on China and collaborations with academic institutions there. Administrators chose not to extend the relationship, which concludes at the end of this academic year, while reiterating the University’s commitment to collaborations with Chinese scholars, students, and institutions. Funded by the Chinese government, the US campus institutes promote the teaching of the country’s language and culture, but the government’s role has raised concerns about its influence over content. More than 100 faculty members signed a petition this past spring calling for the University to end the relationship.

DIRECTION OF THOUGHT
Philosopher Jonathan Lear has been appointed the Roman Family Director of the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society. Lear, the John U. Nef Distinguished Service Professor in the Committee on Social Thought, Philosophy, and the College, succeeds social sciences dean David Nirenberg, the Collegium’s founding director since 2012. To date the Collegium’s research collaborations between scholars from across the University and around the world have included faculty from every department in the Divisions of the Humanities and the Social Sciences.

FORUM FOR COLLABORATION
A new facility to host academic conferences, meetings, ceremonies, and other campus gatherings will be named in recognition of a gift from University trustee David M. Rubenstein, JD’73. The Rubenstein Forum will be a hub for activities such as lectures and workshops featuring members of the University community, alumni, visiting scholars, and guests. The process of choosing an architecture begins this fall. Scheduled to open in 2016, the new building will be located along 60th Street between Woodlawn and Kimbark Avenues overlooking the Midway Plaisance.

LIBRARY SEARCH RESULTS
Brenda L. Johnson will begin a five-year term as library director and University librarian on January 1. The Ruth Lilly Dean of University Libraries at Indiana University Bloomington since 2010, Johnson succeeds Judith Nadler, who retired in June after nearly five decades at UChicago. Previously holding leadership positions at the University of Michigan and the University of California, Santa Barbara, Johnson serves on the board of directors of the Kuali Open Library Environment (OLE), which the University Libraries implemented this fall. Kuali OLE provides technical infrastructure to support the library’s new catalog, VuFind, offering electronic access to some journals and books and displaying current availability in search results.
Access granted

A new College initiative reduces debt, simplifies the application process, and supports careers.

The University of Chicago is launching a comprehensive initiative to support students in all phases of their education and beyond graduation, including expanded opportunities for career development and elimination of all student loan requirements in undergraduate need-based financial aid packages.

The University also will enhance its Odyssey Scholarship program, bolstering aid and programming for low-income students through increased financial support, career guidance, personal mentorship, and community support, and continue its commitment to the city of Chicago through UChicago Promise.

A central element of the new commitment is No Barriers, an innovative program that will broaden access to the College and simplify the application and financial aid process. No Barriers will include the replacement of student loans with grants in all need-based financial aid packages. It will also eliminate application fees for families seeking financial aid and offer more than 100 free nationwide information sessions on the college application and financial aid process, a simplified financial aid process based primarily on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and new scholarships for underserved and underrepresented groups.

The No Barriers program complements the University’s ongoing expansion of career advancement opportunities for all students, with targeted opportunities for students from low-income families. Such actions affirm the profound value of the educational experience in the College, said President Robert J. Zimmer.

“Students in the College benefit from the rare combination of a vibrant intellectual climate, a singularly empowering liberal arts education, and the practical guidance and experience to succeed in any career they choose,” Zimmer said. “We want to ensure that students of high ability can aspire to join this community without financial worry, and with comprehensive support for their success both in the College and beyond graduation.”

No Barriers is designed to demystify college access and aid, relieve debt, and empower families. Its initiatives will be phased in beginning with the Class of 2019, who will enter the College in the fall of 2015.

In addition to increasing need-based aid, No Barriers will increase National Merit Scholar awards from $2,000 to $4,000 per year for four years and offer new merit award opportunities for National Hispanic Recognition Scholars and National Achievement Scholars—programs designed for Hispanic and African American high school students. Scholarships also will be available for selected UChicago summer programs.

John W. Boyer, AM’69, PhD’75, dean of the College, said the new commitment would not be possible without the visionary efforts of thousands of alumni, parents, and friends who have supported financial aid, Career Advancement, and other College programs.

“Success at the College should not depend on where a student comes from or on family income, but on the
quality of her or his ideas, and on a disciplined and imaginative dedication to learning,” Boyer said. “No Barriers will enable students from all backgrounds to gain access to the Core and to the other educational traditions of the University of Chicago that have yielded so many creative and bold thinkers over the generations.”

The University of Chicago Campaign, which launched on October 29, will provide crucial support for all of the program components.

The Odyssey Scholarships were created in 2008 as a pioneering effort to reduce or eliminate loans for students from families with limited incomes, with support from an anonymous gift made by a College alumnus. The Odyssey program also will expand to include more support, ensuring that low-income students benefit fully from the College’s extensive opportunities. “The Odyssey Scholarship was truly a blessing,” says Safiya Johnson, an Odyssey Scholar who graduated in June 2014. “It gave me freedoms I knew I could not have if I had to work while in school. Thanks to the Odyssey Scholarships, I was able to not only graduate from the University of Chicago with a college degree but also with very little debt.”

Students from the city of Chicago will continue to benefit from UChicago Promise, a program created in 2012 that helps Chicago students pursue a path to college regardless of where they attend. The program provides application workshops for students and high school counselors and mentoring programs to help students apply to the colleges of their choice.

UChicago Promise also will continue the University’s extensive efforts to prepare Chicago Public Schools students for success in the colleges of their choice, including the Upward Bound program for South Side high school students and the Collegiate Scholars program, aimed at helping talented CPS students gain admission and succeed at highly selective colleges around the nation.—Mary Abowd

**CITATIONS**

**LANGUAGE LESSONS**

Babies from diverse neighborhoods—who hear other languages in the park, on the bus, in the grocery store—are more apt to be open-minded in their social learning. In a study in the November Cognition, UChicago psychology researchers tested 19-month-olds’ openness to learning from someone who did not speak their native language. In a series of experiments, the infants, all native English speakers, were asked to imitate adults to learn new tasks, such as pressing a button to turn on a light or open a toy box. The researchers, psychology graduate students Lauren Howard and Cristina Carrazza, AB’13, and professor Amanda Woodward, found that babies from multilingual neighborhoods were more likely to accept the visual cues from Spanish-speakers than babies whose neighborhoods are more homogenous.

**MICROBE, MY SELF**

After six weeks of following seven families in their homes—18 people, three dogs, and one cat—UChicago microbiologists have a better understanding of the interaction between humans and the millions and millions of microbes around them. Participants in the Home Microbiome Project, led by Argonne and UChicago microbiologist Jack Gilbert, swabbed their hands, feet, and noses daily to collect microbial samples, and also sampled doorknobs, light switches, floors, and countertops. DNA analyses of the microbes’ species revealed how powerfully people colonize their surroundings. When families moved, within a day the new house looked—microbially—just like the old one. Couples shared more microbes than roommates, and noses carried more individual samples than hands. Published August 20 in Science, the study was coauthored by UChicago graduate students Sean Gibbons and Simon Lax.

**TIGHT SLEEP**

An estimated 30 percent of elderly Americans report having insomnia, but their problem may be less how long they sleep than how well. Analyzing data from more than 700 participants in a national survey who answered questions and wore wristwatch-like sensors that monitored their sleep patterns and movements, UChicago researchers found surprising results. The wristwatch actigraph data showed the average sleep period lasted 7.9 hours and that the average time spent asleep within a single period was 7.25 hours. Respondents who said they wake up often during the night had more total sleep time. Dissatisfaction with sleep, the researchers concluded, may be tied to other health concerns. Coauthored by sociologist Linda Waite, psychologist Martha Mc Clintock, and public health sciences researchers Diane S. Lauderdale, AM’78, AM’81, and Ronald A. Thisted, the study was published online September 8 in Journals of Gerontology: Medical Sciences.

**BUTTERFLIES AND RAINBOWS**

Single genes appear to be responsible for the monarch butterfly’s capacity for migration and its colorful pigmentation. Ecology and evolution researcher Marcus Kronforst led a study published in October in Nature that illuminates the little-understood genetic sources of the monarch’s behavior and coloration. Migration is considered a complex action, but by sequencing and comparing the genomes of 101 butterflies—from migratory and nonmigratory monarchs and related species—Kronforst’s team identified one gene that influenced the muscle efficiency necessary to fly long distances. Another gene has a similar effect on coloration. A genetic mutation in a small percentage of the butterflies prevents pigment from reaching the wings, leaving them white instead of orange.—Kathryn Vandervalk, ’16, and Jason Kelly
Grace note

New to Rockefeller Chapel’s staff, Matthew Dean, AB’00, has long inhabited its world of song.

On a windy afternoon in late August, Matthew Dean, AB’00, stood outside Rockefeller Chapel’s west chancel doorway, looking up at a small stone pulpit built into the outer wall. Inside the chapel, the organ was being tuned for the summer convocation, and long, low notes wailed through the sanctuary. Out here, though, the air fell quiet. The outdoor pulpit—tucked into a corner, easily missed—is a minor fascination for Dean, who has spent much of the past 20 years in and around Rockefeller, as a student and a singer and now as a staff member.

The pulpit is a bit of an artifact. “The chapel had all sorts of additional spaces and buildings planned in the architectural drawings,” Dean says, including a cloistered area for outdoor ceremonies and services. “And then they ran into the Great Depression.” The pulpit was the only part that got built. It looks out now on a parking lot and a grassy expanse leading to the Oriental Institute. It would be nice, Dean says, to find a way to make regular use of it. Landscape this corner and hold meditations or small services. Something.

It doesn’t take much of a nudge to get a guided tour of Rockefeller’s nooks and crannies from Dean, who became director of chapel operations in April, a job that for him seems more like coming home than going to work. He does everything from overseeing building projects, like repairs at Bond Chapel and the spiritual life center’s relocation to Ida Noyes, to helping organize the chapel’s busy roster of programs and events. Occasionally he takes visitors up the tower’s 271 winding steps to see the carillon keyboard, jangling keys as he leads them through doorway after tiny doorway, across the wooden catwalk above the sanctuary’s false ceiling, through the clock room where a mechanism (currently disconnected) can sound the quarter and hour chimes, and then past the largest of the carillon bells, weighing more than 18 tons.

He tells them that the chapel is a place of application as much as theory: organ scholars learning to play, aspiring carillonneurs training on a practice keyboard in the basement, artwork and sculptures constantly being maintained, prayer services, yoga, meditation. Students who honed their voices at Rockefeller sometimes go on to professional singing careers. “So, there’s a figural ivory tower in the rest of campus, and this is the actual tower, but it’s a very applied place.”

Dean’s first attachment to Rockefeller was singing: as a kid from the suburbs whose high school choir occasionally performed on campus and, later, a College student drawn to what he calls a “musical lifeway,” which he found at Rockefeller. A sixth-grade field trip to the Oriental Institute convinced Dean he wanted to be an archaeologist, and that interest stuck through an anthropology major and a couple years of graduate work in art history, but the chapel was where his calling was really rooted.

A tenor, he sang in multiple chapel choirs in the College, as both a soloist and a member of the chorus. He met his wife, Katherine Steffes Dean, AB’01, in Rockefeller’s choir stands. And while still an undergraduate he helped found a Russian folk choir on campus, Golosa, with whom he has toured Siberia (and for which he learned to speak passable Russian and write in Cyrillic). “I love singing and singing people, and UChicago is alive with it,” he says.

Rockefeller dean Elizabeth Davenport explains what he means: singing in a choral group, she says, can shape a whole life. “There is something about using your own body, your voice, which is inside you, to produce this incredible purity of sound, with however many other people, 20 other people, 30 other people. And together you do something that none of you can do apart.” She taps the desk with her hand as if it were a tuning fork and hums a high note. “When you sing an A, there’s something inside your larynx that vibrates 440 times a second,” she says. “To know that, and to do that with 30 other people who also know how to do this, and to create music that could be a thousand years old—I mean,
we sing Hildegard of Bingen—it exposes students to an extraordinary joy.”

Since 2005 Dean has held the title artist in residence at Rockefeller. He sings there every Sunday—he’s one of the skeleton crew when the choir thins in the summer—and at ceremonies like the August convocation for which the organ was being tuned. Before putting on his robe and heading up to the sanctuary for the procession, he and several others sat around a table in the chapel basement, rehearsing for a CD recording of James Kallembach’s St. John Passion. UChicago director of choral activities, Kallembach has conducted the Bach oratorio a few times; he composed the new version for Rockefeller’s 2014 Palm Sunday service.

Dean also performs with a half dozen other choral groups throughout the city, including early music groups Bella Voce and Schola Antiqua, and the Rookery, a professional men’s choir he cofounded in 2011. On November 16 he’ll be in Rockefeller, singing as part of the Sounds of Faith concert, an annual interfaith event started in 2009 by anesthesiologist Shakeela Hassan, a UChicago associate professor emerita. As program director of Hassan’s foundation, Harran Productions, Dean helps put together the concert.

When he has a few minutes free, Dean sometimes heads to Rockefeller’s choral library, another hidden corner. It’s upstairs, behind the balcony, a narrow slant-roofed room with a rolling wooden ladder and shelves packed floor to ceiling with binders containing the chapel’s musical history. The archives go back to the building’s construction in 1928. “These are all the choral and instrumental scores for major works that have been done here over time,” Dean says: for Messiahs and Bach oratorios ordered from European publishing houses in the 1920s, octavos used by the Rockefeller Chapel Choir, the Motet Choir, and the University Chorus. “We have copies of all the programming that’s happened here going back forever,” he says, opening up a convocation program from 1948. “And then weekly Sunday services, who was at the pulpit, what pieces were performed that day, translations, organ recitals.”

“I’ve lost a lot of time in here,” Dean says. And yet, as in much of Rockefeller, time not only vanishes in this room but also abides.—LydiaLyle Gibson

Charis Eng was practicing translational medicine before it was a term.

**Permute**

Charis Eng, AB’82, PhD’86, MD’88, discovers key genetic markers linking cancer and autism.

Some people have trophies; geneticist Charis Eng, AB’82, PhD’86, MD’88, has empty wine bottles arranged on a high shelf in her office at Cleveland Clinic’s Lerner Research Institute. The budget-minded Seaview Brut and Roeder Estate hark back to the late 1990s, when Eng and her colleagues at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute toasted her discoveries around PTEN, a gene linked to a tumor-causing disease called Cowden syndrome: “We were poor then,” says Eng, the chair and founding director of the Cleveland Clinic’s Genomic Medicine Institute, with a twinkle behind her silver-rimmed glasses.

Rouge Homme 1985, an elusive claret, was poured in honor of findings on RET, another tumor-related gene. Eventually, confesses Eng, “we published so many papers that I stopped this. I said, ‘If we drank a bottle every time we published a paper, we’d be drunk all the time.’”

Postdoc work at the University of Cambridge, where Eng was the lone woman in a sea of men, spawned her interest in the grape. In England the drinking culture was huge, she says. “The old boys wouldn’t even collaborate with me if I didn’t know my wine.” So she began reading Wine Spectator and going to free wine tastings at local shops on Saturdays. “So, I’d read and taste. After one year, they said, ‘Boy, you’re so good we want to invite you to the wine committee.’ That’s the committee that picks wines for the college. It’s a huge deal. Unfortunately, they tasted on Mondays at 10 a.m. But I’m like, ‘I’m in the middle of my work!’”

An effervescent presence in the church-like halls of Lerner Research Institute, Eng has made a name for herself with her discoveries of several key genetic links to Cowden syndrome, a disease characterized by the spread of benign tumors.

Cowden patients with the PTEN mutation have much higher incidences of colon, thyroid, and breast cancers. In the 1990s Eng discovered the first PTEN gene mutation associated with Cowden. Later she and her research team found that patients with the PTEN mutation and an epigenetic alteration called KILLIN have even higher cancer risks.

Eng’s findings have led to early screening for Cowden patients who carry the PTEN or KILLIN mutations. For instance, thyroid cancer tends to show up in PTEN patients at...
a much younger age than in the general population. “With our recent 2012 study, the youngest age of thyroid cancer is six years old,” says Eng. “So the moment you find a PTEN mutation, we start screening the thyroid.”

Back in the bargain-wine days of her career, Eng had a tough time landing research funding. “As [UChicago oncologist] Funmi Olopade herself said, I was a translational investigator before the word ‘translation’ came into being,” she says. Translational medicine is an interdisciplinary approach to research where findings in the lab don’t exist in a vacuum but are closely linked with clinical observation and improving patient care. The National Institutes of Health “kept saying ‘Where’s your mouse model?’ I don’t care. I’m looking at the patients. ... They couldn’t get their heads around that.” Her first funder was the American Cancer Society (she’s an ACS professor now) and then others came around.

Sitting at a round table in her office, amid a smattering of gifts from colleagues over the years—glass animal figurines and pillows embroidered with goofy sayings—Eng says she learned the importance of connecting with patients from growing up around her “number one uncle,” the personal physician of the founding prime minister of Singapore. He made rounds every day, even off days. She did the same as an internal medicine physician and oncologist. “My patients loved it,” she says. “There’s none of ‘Oh, the regular doctor’s not here.’ Horrible things happen on weekends.”

When she was a teen, Eng’s family moved to the United States so her father, Soo Peck Eng, PhD ’72, could work on his doctorate. She enrolled in the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, where she caught the genetics bug from biology teacher Murray Hozinsky. Her father had to return to Singapore after two and a half years, but she managed to stay in the United States by dropping out of Lab early and starting in the College at age 16.

Professor Michael Blackstone, “a man so smart he frightens chairmen of medicine,” taught her the complexities of tumor-causing syndromes. “I said ‘Oh boy, these lumps and bumps, they seem to affect every layer of the germ cells,’” she recalls. “And so it must be a very important gene not only for cancer development” but for normal development as well. “And in retrospect, the PTEN gene is vital for human development.” That’s why when it mutates it not only gives rise to cancers but is associated with autism, a neurodevelopmental disorder.

In 1999 Eng was recruited to lead the human genetics division of Ohio State University’s internal medicine department. A few years later, she began noticing that a significant number of patients in her Cowden cohort there had children with autism. So she “called up all my friends who are developmental pediatricians”—this is the sort of collaboration that fuels her research—and asked for tissue samples on their autistic patients. She found that 10 percent of patients with autism and large head circumference had the PTEN mutation.

Eng’s finding, along with research by others into a disease called tuberous sclerosis, in August 2014 resulted in partial funding from the National Institutes of Health for a clinical trial of a tumor-suppressing drug in autistic children who have the PTEN mutation.

Eng arrived at the Cleveland Clinic in 2005, on the condition that she could start a genetics institute where physicians and scientists interact across disciplines. “Most places have a small cancer genetics initiative in the cancer center,” she says. “Then they have pediatrics balkanized away, then they have prenatal balkanized away. And nobody talks.” She wanted a broad platform of genetics for everyone: science, clinical work, education.

“The original searching was just for a basic science department. I said, ‘Let me show you my vision. Can I do this?’ And they said yes.”—Laura Putre

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**Astronomy**

**Following the stars**

For Jesuit priest Paul Mueller, SM ’96, PhD ’06, the same source reveals scripture and nature.

In his senior year at Boston University, Paul Mueller, SM ’96, PhD ’06, was “flipping coins” to decide between two paths. One led to the Jesuits and taking holy orders; the other led to a doctorate in physics.

The Jesuits won out, but Mueller’s work covers both sides of the coin. He currently serves as the religious superior and a member of the research staff at the Vatican Observatory.

As a priest in training, he earned three master’s degrees over 11 years (in philosophy, theology, and divinity) before being ordained. Throughout Mueller’s religious training, his superiors encouraged him to go back into science. “When someone’s capable of doctoral studies,” he says, “they tend to give the push and support to do it.”

He acted on their encouragement, but his interests had shifted. “By that time, Jesuit training had ruined my mind with philosophy and theology to the point where I didn’t want to do straight physics anymore,” Mueller says. So he enrolled in UChicago’s Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science program.

He earned a fourth master’s degree (this one in physics, a requirement for the UChicago program) before completing his doctorate in the philosophy of science in 2006. After a stint teaching philosophy at Loyola University, Mueller was appointed in 2010 to his post at the Vatican Observatory. He did not seek out the assignment, but his Jesuit superior who had the final say consulted him before making the decision.

In 1891 Pope Leo XIII founded the modern incarnation of the Vatican Observatory, which served to mitigate the Catholic Church’s image as antiscience and antimodernity after the papacy of Pius IX. First in Rome, the observatory later moved to Castel Gandolfo, the papal summer retreat outside the city. In 1993 the observatory built a
more modern telescope at an Arizona facility it had founded in 1981, while still maintaining the Castel Gandolfo site. At both locations, the observatory staff, all Jesuit priests or brothers with PhDs, carries out research in planetary astronomy and cosmology, in addition to running a biennial summer school for international students.

“Supporting a search for truth,” Mueller says, is a defining principle for the church, whether it’s at the observatory or at Catholic universities that date back centuries. “It’s actually in the founding document of the observatory that it’s important for the Catholic Church to be showing its goodwill and active participation in the world of science out of respect for the fact that it is a search for the truth.”

Mueller describes the remodeled Castel Gandolfo monastery, where all the observatory’s full-time research staff members live, as “simple, functional, and homey.” As the observatory’s religious superior, Mueller oversees the staff’s home and spiritual life, a role he likens to being a house mother. “I supervise the cook, make sure they get vacations, and make sure they’re praying,” he says. “And if they get in a fight I’m the referee.”

While Mueller doesn’t find the science and religion that intersect at the observatory incompatible, others don’t quite know what to make of it. Any conflict, as far as Mueller is concerned, is between fundamentalists on both sides—and that’s “bad religion and bad science.” Instead, he argues, religion and science are complementary: “We’re made to search for the truth, and science is part of that.”

The search for truth can lead to curious notions about the nature of spirituality and the universe. Observatory staff have fielded numerous questions over the years, including whether the observatory is “where the pope goes to talk to the aliens.” The director, Guy Consolmagno, was asked on a radio show, “Would you baptize an extraterrestrial?” Consolmagno and Mueller drew on such questions for their book, fittingly titled Would You Baptize an Extraterrestrial? ... and Other Questions from the Astronomers’ In-box at the Vatican Observatory (Image, 2014). (The short answer: “Only if he asks.”)

They’re not dumb questions, Mueller says. “They’re questions where the premise is not right. We try to back off the question and premises and shift to a better and deeper question.” They cover topics from Galileo to the star of Bethlehem to contradictions between the Genesis story and the big bang theory. Publishers Weekly calls the result “absolutely enlightening.”

Mueller finds enlightening thought prevalent in the long history of religious dialogue with science. His research, an outgrowth of his doctoral dissertation, focuses on the dawn of the modern scientific method in the 17th century. Scholars at that time, many of whom were clergy, used empirical methods that had been pioneered in the study of old manuscripts and applied them to the natural world.

This early science “looks very modern, in the sense of being very empirical and mathematical, but also looks very strange to us in terms of how they select and combine empirical observations,” Mueller says. “The typical explanation is to say, ‘Oh, they had some kind of religious ideology blinding them.’ I don’t think that’s right; I think there was a whole different logic going on.”

Part of the logic underlying the Vatican Observatory’s work dates back much further, to a theory of St. Augustine’s that Pope John Paul II called “the unity of truth.” Mueller describes it as “faith that, at the end of time, when finally we will be able to understand the world fully and to interpret the Bible correctly, we will find that there is no disagreement between science and faith.” Any perceived conflict, he adds, reflects our incomplete understanding of each.

“If God is the author of both books, scripture and nature, and God doesn’t disagree with God, once we understand them both well, they ain’t going to disagree.” —Benjamin Recchie, AB’03
Paleontologists have long wondered: where are the dinosaurs that swam? Not just those that waded in and fished prey out of the shallows, but ones that actually lived in the water? One common view held that they simply didn’t exist: the fossils in museums and textbooks all belong to terrestrial dinosaurs. But in September, a Science paper put forward evidence of the first swimming dinosaur ever identified. Coauthored by a team of researchers that included two UChicago paleontologists, postdoc Nizar Ibrahim and professor Paul Sereno, the paper details findings of Spinosaurus aegyptiacus, a semiaquatic Cretaceous-era carnivore from North Africa. It is also the largest predatory dinosaur ever found—at least 50 feet long, Spinosaurus outmeasures even Tyrannosaurus rex fossils. Among its aquatic adaptations were curved, bladelike claws for hooking slippery prey; dense bones that aided underwater swimming; and a small pelvis and short hind legs with muscular thighs, good for paddling. Those limb adaptations resemble early whales.

For Spinosaurus, this is a second coming. A century ago, German paleontologist Ernst Freiherr Stromer von Reichenbach found the first evidence of the dinosaur, but his fossils were destroyed in World War II. His notes, sketches, and photos survived, and the researchers used them to link Stromer’s original discovery to a new partial skeleton unearthed in the Moroccan Sahara.

—Minna Jaffery, ’15
Inquiring minds

Neuroscientist John Maunsell leads a new institute's research into the mysteries of the brain.

From how the brain processes pain to why it becomes diseased to the origins of consciousness, questions remain about virtually all of its structures and functions. To begin to answer these questions, the University of Chicago has launched the Grossman Institute for Neuroscience, Quantitative Biology, and Human Behavior.

John Maunsell, editor in chief of the Journal of Neuroscience and a former Harvard University professor, came to UChicago in July as the institute’s founding director. In an interview with UChicago Medicine’s Science Life blog, edited and adapted below, Maunsell discusses the new frontiers of neuroscience.—Kevin Jiang

Human behavior and the brain

In a very real sense all neuroscience is about human behavior. That includes not only experiments that directly measure the limits of human performance but also studies of the thousands of individual circuits and structures that make up the brain. This includes the nuts and bolts—the specialized molecules that make up brain cells and the genetics that support the brain’s development and its amazing capacity to learn throughout our lives.

Human behavior can be viewed as the ultimate challenge for neuroscience. We won’t understand the brain until we can explain how it allows us to reach, grasp, walk, and run gracefully. Standing up and walking seem simple and uninvolved, but it took you a year and a half of practicing every day before you could do them even moderately well. And after decades of effort, we still haven’t made robots that perform half as well as any toddler.

Human behavior also includes cognition. How do we make decisions or do mental calculations? Cognition might arise from computations similar to those used by the brain to control muscle actions, or it might require quite distinct mechanisms. Emotions, reward, fear, pain—all of these are critical to our social interactions and survival, but the mechanisms that generate those experiences are poorly understood.

More brain power

We’ve suddenly got so many powerful tools that we were only dreaming of 10 to 20 years ago. We’ve got new molecular and cellular methods that make it possible to identify and distinguish different classes of brain cells. We have multielectrode devices where you can record from hundreds or thousands of cells electrically. New optical methods sound almost like science fiction. By genetically engineering neurons to make fluorescent molecules, we can monitor the electrical activity of hundreds of brain cells at once by detecting the light they emit. Even more powerfully, we can focus light on them to change their electrical activity and look at how the animal’s behavior changes. And we can analyze the new data with computational approaches that were unimaginable just a short time ago.

Potential neuro knowledge

We are eventually going to understand the control of behavior. We’re going to understand emotion, and we’re going to understand mental disease, including devastating conditions such as schizophrenia, Alzheimer’s, depression, and other impairments that we have no mechanistic understanding of at the moment. Virtually everyone has someone in their extended family who is affected by mental disorders. These are terrible diseases that touch what a person is, but they’re not beyond our understanding.

Understanding the brain will have other far-reaching consequences. For example, on the computational side, there isn’t a facial recognition system today that does half as well as any human. It seems that recognizing a face should be a straightforward problem, but the human brain integrates sensory information in ways that we don’t yet fathom. Once we do, and then translate this understanding for computers and diagnostic systems and logical systems, it’s going to be transformational.

Even fields like law will be affected. A lot of what goes on in courts involves attempting to understand the mental state of someone who’s committed a crime. In civil cases, there’s a huge amount of focus on pain and suffering. These assessments seem subjective and squishy, but we’re talking about biological mechanisms that can be measured and understood in objective ways if we really know what we are dealing with.

The ultimate question

Learning how our perceptions, feelings, and ideas can emerge from the combined activity of billions of individual brain cells will profoundly advance our understanding of who we are. There’s an answer to the question of consciousness and it’s going to come from neuroscience, eventually.
ALL OVER THE MAP

High school students fan out to help the University’s Urban Health Initiative chart the resources in Chicago neighborhoods where there are too few.

BY LYDIALYLE GIBSON
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANNE RYAN
The project has mapped more than 35 neighborhoods on the South and West Sides, collecting information on more than 16,000 businesses across about 106 square miles.
scription in the patient’s own neighborhood, or where to go for the healthy diet and exercise also necessary to keep a diabetic out of trouble. “I talk about the Physicians’ Desk Reference, which is a book this thick of all the drugs in the world,” Lindau says, holding her hands a foot apart. “And it’s updated every year. Why don’t we have the physicians’ community reference? Why don’t we have the equivalent quality of information for all those resources that people need to be healthy and live their lives?”

She stops. “I don’t mean that to be a rhetorical question,” she says. “And whatever the answer is, it shouldn’t be so.”

Six years ago, when MAPSCorps was still an intention in search of a concrete idea—“use science to improve health on the South Side” was part of Lindau’s broad directive from the Urban Health Initiative—Lindau and the project’s other cofounders began holding meetings with neighborhood leaders and residents. They wanted some guidance; they wanted to make sure they didn’t spend time and money on something less than effective.

Those encounters provided some crystallizing moments. At one meeting in Hyde Park, a woman challenged Lindau on the concept of wellness. “Your definition of health, Dr. Lindau, is not my definition of health.” That’s how Lindau remembers the quote. She was the only white person in the room that night. “And what I heard the woman saying was: you’re white and I’m black; you don’t look like me. And you’re coming from that ivory tower over there. And you’re a medical doctor. And for all those reasons, your assumptions about what it means to be healthy cannot possibly align with my assumptions as a community member, as a black woman, as an expert of the neighborhood.”

The woman was angry, and she was standing with her finger raised. Listening, Lindau realized the woman was right: “We should not make assumptions about what we think is health.” So Lindau began searching for a broader definition than what medical science offered. She landed on the one used by the World Health Organization: health not just as the absence of disease or infirmity but as social and mental well-being too. “Where we live, learn, work, play, how we age,” Lindau says. “All of these things are what make us healthy.”

And jobs—especially for young people. In all those early meetings, there was an urgent sense that without jobs there could be no health in a community. And when Lindau and other MAPSCorps cofounders asked for suggestions about how to shape the project, they kept hearing one thing, repeatedly, from different people on different days in different neighborhoods: find a way to involve the kids. That’s how to change the trajectory of neighborhood health. “That was their number one stipulation,” Lindau says. “And I remember the day when this was said for the first time. I remember it being a stop-in-your-shoes sort of moment.”

The high schoolers who make up the vast majority of the MAPSCorps workforce out in the field are as central to the project’s purpose as the data they gather. They’re South
Siders too, who spend eight weeks mapping some of their own streets, taking a close and sustained look, sometimes for the first time, at the neighborhoods where they grew up (it’s an experience that some choose to repeat, coming back for more than one summer). Some days the students are given additional assignments, to take pictures of objects that are harmful or beneficial to the community—potholes, a box of cigarettes, a planter full of flowers—or to approach residents with set questions about the health of the neighborhood. “We ask them, like, ‘Do you feel like your neighborhood is safe?’ Or, what is their definition of success for a neighborhood?” Dampeer says. Some people talk; some people don’t. “There are some people who are willing to talk and just give their whole life story.”

“At the end of the session, the high schoolers begin to think about neighborhood in a way they didn’t before,” says UChicago pediatrician Daniel Johnson, LAB’73, another MAPSCorps cofounder. “They begin to talk almost like a community development person. Because they begin to talk about what’s in their neighborhood.”

Heading down 79th Street in the Chatham neighborhood and turning south on Cottage Grove, Galmore, Dampeer—both from Wrightwood-Ashburn, a couple of neighborhoods to the west—and Short, who now works for the Survey Lab, pass beauty supply stores and storefront churches, nail salons, chop suey joints, wireless stores, and corner stores selling food, liquor, and clothing. A McDonald’s, Larry’s Barber College, First Come First Serve General Merchandise (“great savings!”). A tailor, a florist, a clothing boutique, a barber-shop on the corner where everyone inside is singing with the radio. They see empty storefronts, a vacant lot. The group spends several minutes in front of a tax service, trying to determine whether it’s bolted shut just for the season or for good. They ask a man standing in another doorway if the air-conditioner repair shop next door is ever open. He shrugs. “They keep strange hours,” he reports. Dampeer notices that they don’t see many health clinics or grocery stores or bookstores. “A lot of churches,” says Galmore.

People notice the students. They’re hard to miss in their matching turquoise T-shirts with “MAPSCorps” printed across the front (in designing them, the project team was careful to choose colors that wouldn’t get students mistaken for gang members or immigration officers). Some people say hello—a woman rushing two children across the street, a man sweeping up trash with a broom and a snow shovel. An old man in a pressed yellow suit and a white fedora tips his hat. Others just stare. When the group stops into a coffee shop at 79th and Calumet for brownies and iced coffee, the owner comes out from behind the counter and buttonholes Galmore. What is MAPSCorps? She wants to know. He explains the project, tells her what the acronym stands for: Meaningful Active Productive Science in service to communities. She asks what grade he’s in, whether he’s going to college. He and Dampeer are both high school graduates who are starting college this fall, he at Roosevelt University and she at Denison University. The coffee shop owner smiles. “Good,” she says.

This past summer, MAPSCorps employed 90 teenagers (hired through a nonprofit called After School Matters) to fan out across the South Side. This year they also broached the West Side; eventually, Lindau hopes to cover the whole city. The students work in teams of usually three to five, each led by a University student or young alum acting as field coordinator. They learn about data, why it’s important, the science of gathering it properly. On Fridays the students get a day off from mapping. Instead, if they choose—and most do—they can congregate at Ida Noyes for workshops on issues like nutrition, finances, sexual health, and sexual violence. They do yoga, they dance. Besides all of that, and besides the job, the paycheck, and practice in what it takes to stay employed—that, as Johnson says, “you come dressed a certain way, you come prepared to work, you come on time, you have a certain set schedule, you can’t leave early”—the interaction between College students and high schoolers, he adds, is good for both. The younger students get a taste of what college might be like, from people who are more grown up but still young enough to talk to them as peers. UChicago students, meanwhile, learn about the South Side,
to finish her education, she might not have. Curie worried, Lindau says, about “people who came from poor countries, young people especially, with brilliant minds that would go wasted because they were undiscovered. That there were scientists everywhere, regardless of class or upbringing, and that the scientific mind could go undiscovered and that the risk of this would be even higher in low-income communities, struggling communities. That really spoke to me. I share that concern.”

Lindau knows that to many, perhaps most, of the high schoolers she calls scientists, the title may not mean much. Asked at the orientation session to raise their hands and explain why they’d joined MAPSCorps, students said they needed money for gas, or to buy shoes, or to save for tuition. But one student said she was interested in public health, and another wanted to be a doctor, another an engineer. “And so for me,” Lindau says, “MAPSCorps is in part about making sure—how do we make sure that the scientific minds among the 860,000 people who make up the South Side of Chicago do not go unnoticed? And how do we give kids, at a point when their brains are still forming, the privilege of curiosity?”

A
fter Dampeer, Galmore, and Short finish the day’s mapping assignment, they take the bus back to 79th and Racine Avenue, to the neighborhood organization they’ve been working out of for the past few days. MAPSCorps collaborates with local groups throughout the South Side, and the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation is one of many temporary home bases for mapping teams.

Soon other MAPSCorps teams show up, returning from their own assignments in the area. It’s almost 2 p.m. They crowd around a conference room table for the day’s last work: a discussion led by field coordinator Beth Knopf, a College third-year, about neighborhood assets and how they “promote the success of the community.” Knopf passes out Post-it notes and asks the dozen or so students to write down the important assets they’ve come across while mapping. They offer churches, parks, hospitals, youth centers, block clubs, summer programs. By far the most common answer, though, is schools.

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from people who live there and go to school there. They get a glimpse of what life is like there.

Short seconds that observation. As a College student, she says, she ventured outside Hyde Park more than some of her classmates; she had a car, and she tutored students in Englewood. But walking the neighborhoods offers a deeper, slower lesson, a view into the reality of South Side residents’ lives. Yes, the neighborhoods can be tough—on her first day out someone tried to snatch her MAPSCorps smartphone out of her hand—but not always, and not only. It’s a complicated place. “We’re all people living on this earth,” Short says.

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fter Dampeer, Galmore, and Short finish the day’s mapping assignment, they take the bus back to 79th and Racine Avenue, to the neighborhood organization they’ve been working out of for the past few days. MAPSCorps collaborates with local groups throughout the South Side, and the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation is one of many temporary home bases for mapping teams.

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The famous physicist and chemist who helped pioneer the study of radioactivity grew up poor in politically oppressed Poland, and if she had been less obsessively driven...
When Matthew Thomas’s first book, *We Are Not Ourselves* (Simon and Schuster), appeared in August, reviewers lavished the sprawling family novel with praise. The *New York Times* called it a “gorgeous epic, full of love and life and caring” and said it was one of the year’s best novels.

The reception was a surprise to Thomas, AB’97. For a decade, he had slaved over the 620-page book in his spare time while working as an English teacher at a boys’ high school in Manhattan. For most of that time, he showed the draft to no one. “I was working in the shadows,” he says, “I had no ratification of my labors at all.”

The novel follows Eileen Tumulty from her working-class upbringing in Queens to her marriage to eccentric neuroscientist Edward Leary, who is diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease at 51.

Thomas first began to write seriously in high school with attempts at poetry he calls “earnest” and “fitful.” As a UChicago undergraduate, he studied English, German, and Slavic literature with influential teachers like William Veeder; Richard Strier; Curt Columbus; Ian and Janel Muller; Robert von Hallberg; Robert Pippin; David Powelstock; Malynne Sternstein, AB’87, AM’90, PhD’96; Richard Stern; Edward Wasiolek; and Karl Weintraub, AB’49, AM’52, PhD’57. Each of these scholars, he says, helped to shape his thinking about literature.

In an interview, edited and adapted below, Thomas reflected on his writing career and undergraduate days.

**What has life been like since the book came out?**

First of all, it was incredible to finish the book in the first place. I had worked on it for 10 years. I wasn’t showing it to anybody, because for the longest time I could see all its flaws myself so readily that it was pointless to show it to someone else.

I just held it and held it and held it as long as I could to myself, with the fear the whole time that maybe it would come to naught, other than the pleasure I’d taken in writing it. Finishing it and feeling good about it was a huge psychic relief. For a while I was giddy at the thought of being done, let alone publishing it.

I went to Chicago on my book tour the other day, and seeing it on the shelf at 57th Street Books was pretty awesome.

**When did you first start thinking of yourself as a writer?**

I started writing “poems” (and I want you to put quotes around that word) in high school. They were the sort of thing you write in high school. I was reading poetry at the time as well, so I was certainly interested in writing good stuff, even if I wasn’t capable yet.

I started writing a lot in high school, and I continued when I went to Chicago. I wrote poetry and short stories, and I was one of the editors of the *Chicago Literary Review*, along with the poet Jennifer Kronovet [AB’98], in my second two years.

**What else did you do in college?**

I wrote art and theater reviews for the *Maroon* and did plays at University Theater. We would get together to rehearse, and we would talk afterward at the coffee shops—something like a salon society, but really a bunch of friends who were in plays together. It was my major activity there, along with the *Chicago Literary Review*. 

**MAYBE TEACHING HELPED ME OVER THE YEARS, BECAUSE MY STUDENTS WERE A PRETTY GOOD CROWD OF CRITICS.**
Do you see a connection between the great works of Russian literature you read here and We Are Not Ourselves?

There’s a Russian tradition of novels that try to tell the story, not just of the individuals in the book, but also of the society from which they emerge and the period of time that birthed them. I think I learned that tradition in part by reading those books—in translation, of course. I have always had the big works of Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky on the mind as something to try to shoot for in the distance.

How have you changed as a writer?

I’ve grown up as a person, which helps the writing, certainly. The preoccupations of a young writer, I think, are very different from those of somebody even 10 years later. When I was at the beginning, I was interested in formal experimentation and swayed by the high modernist stuff I enjoyed reading— The Sound and the Fury, Virginia Woolf’s The Waves, Djuna Barnes’s Nightwood.

Maybe teaching helped me over the years, because my students were a pretty good crowd of critics. They’re skeptical about everything and easily moved to frustration and impatience with books. I watched them appreciate Chekhov and Hemingway and even some of Joyce and the Russian tradition—they connect to storytelling and to character-driven stuff. That was something I understood more as I got older.

Over time, I just got better at the craft. My dialogue was less ham-fisted. The descriptive writing was more pointed, necessary, scenic, and particular. I stopped writing for the sound of my own voice and started writing for the story that wanted to be told. I got out of its way.

What are you working on now?

At the very moment, nothing because I’m on tour. But another novel. Another character-driven novel about a family—a totally different kind of family. This one I hope won’t take me 10 years.

What was it like to be back on campus?

I went with a friend down to campus the other day. School hadn’t started yet, so there was a possible feeling in my mind that I was in the place that I had been in. There weren’t that many students around, so I was populating it in my mind with the characters I remembered. It was nice to do that, to come at that moment, because I could still see it as the place I was walking around in as a student. What I found amazing is that gestalt sense you get of a place that’s really just a spiritual sense of what the place is like that told me that this was the same place. There might be all these new buildings, but the soul of the place has been preserved. I was so gratified to feel that, and thrilled, because I love the place so much.

Thomas learned how to get out of the story’s way.

UT was an interesting culture at the time, because there were a lot of dedicated and often quite talented people who were acting, directing, and designing everything from stage to lighting to sound, but there wasn’t an official program or a major or anything like that.

Some of the people I acted with were heading toward professional careers. Others—Susanna Gellert [AB’99], Chloe Johnston [AB’99], and Joshua Epstein [AB’97] come immediately to mind—went on to become professional directors and designers. It was a pretty fecund time for a theater nerd.

Which faculty members influenced you as a student?

William Veeder taught me how to read critically and sensitively. He taught me how to think as a reader, which was fundamental to thinking as a writer. He has an extraordinarily gifted sensitivity to the nuances of writing. I shudder to imagine what would have been without his influence—it was that profound.

Richard Strier, who is a luminary, and had such a wonderful sense of humor, and brought these difficult texts down to a level of immediate comprehension for us with extraordinary ease. These world-class scholars are teaching undergrads with just as much dedication as they would, if not more than they would, an average grad course. You’re getting the greatest outpouring of these tremendous minds at the age of 18 or 19. It’s an incredible privilege.
French illustrators of World War I depicted the arena, the enemy, and the home front with bravura.

**Illustration**

**BATTLE LINES**

By Laura Demanski, AM’94

In Louis Lefèvre's *Rondes glorieuses*, “Sur le pont” juxtaposes the French children's song “Sur le pont d’Avignon” with a scene of soldiers crossing a plank over a battlefield trench.
Of the artists and writers who documented the Great War a century ago, illustrators may be the most forgotten. In France, the pictures they made of life during wartime numbered in the thousands—part of the total mobilization of energies that the conflict called for, and the French delivered.

Inspired and often ingenious, the pictures were also ephemeral. With labor and paper in short supply, cheap production was sometimes the norm and many of the works are especially fragile. The artists’ names have largely faded from recognition over the decades, even in France. But more than 100 of the images can be seen this fall in the Regenstein Library’s Special Collections Research Center. *En Guerre: French Illustrators and World War I*, an exhibition curated by Teri J. Edelstein and Neil Harris, brings magazines, children’s and other illustrated books, calendars, and portfolios out of the library’s holdings and other public and private collections, showing off their color, immediacy, and visual force.

One of the most lethal conflicts in human history, World War I was “a total calamity and absurdity and a horror story,” says Harris, the Preston and Sterling Morton Professor Emeritus of History and Art History. Many of the pictures focus their attention away from the horrors, seizing instead on national pride, soldiers on leave, and life on the home front. Another strand vilifies and parodies the enemy. Rarer is work like the stark line drawings of Charles Martin, which, Edelstein says, “evokes the desolation, evokes the carnage, evokes the despair of the soldiers in the war.”

Several objects in the show are on loan from the curators, who have long collected French books and graphic arts as well as children’s books from Europe and the United States. Edelstein was surprised, in preparing the show, by how little of our contemporary understanding of World War I as a senseless disaster comes through in the artwork, even when many of the illustrators experienced combat, some suffering injuries or imprisonment. “No one was really exempt” from service, Harris notes, “no matter how talented or important.”

Some of the artists worked in stencils using bright hand coloring or in colored woodcuts, in each case with strong, simple lines. In the catalog Harris writes that the relative crudeness of such images “was meant to carry emotional weight, to call attention to itself, and to tap into a fount of memory and nostalgia.” Avant-garde art, particularly that from central Europe, was “treated as a pollution and infection” during wartime, he says. With the French revulsion toward these styles came a valorization of traditional and folk styles. Allusions to French history abound as well—to the French Revolution, Charlemagne, Joan of Arc, and the military triumphs of Louis XIV.

Every country involved in the war, of course, had its own chroniclers in words and images. For Edelstein and Harris, French illustration stands out. “The mobilization of the passion to support France and support the war effort was a great moment of creativity,” Edelstein says. And the French “had a running start” because of their investment in illustrated magazines and fashion illustration before the war, Harris adds. The exhibition, he says, is meant to suggest they “mobilized their cultural power to keep the population at large in support of what was becoming at some point a horrendous and totally crazy operation.”

Swiss-born artist Charlotte Schaller wrote and illustrated two children’s books during the war. *Histoire d’un brave petit soldat* told of a toy soldier who returns from war a hero.
The satirical weekly *La baïonnette*, available to the troops and other readers from 1915 to 1920, was a showcase for French illustrators. The magazine “conveyed its take on the war visually, with no photographs and very little text,” writes Edelstein in the catalog. Each issue had a theme. “La danse macabre” (left) is devoted to the work of Paul Iribe, who later worked in Hollywood with Cecil B. DeMille. “Élégances berlinoises” by Fabien Fabiano mocks German fashion sense.
In 1915 Robert Bonfils published a set of six postcards, *Le bouquet des alliés*. Each ally is depicted as a flower: above, England as a thistle, Belgium as a tulip, and France as a rose. Threatened by a bug, spider, frog, snake, or caterpillar wearing the German pickelhaube, each bloom is defended by an insect soldier whose nationality is recognizable by his uniform or other details. Writes Edelstein in the catalog, “Bonfils has solved the problem of uniting these disparate countries in the most imaginative way, combining them in a bouquet of blooms, their diversity only enhancing the harmony of the whole.”
Another Bonfils portfolio, *La manière française*, documents the war. “La réception des zeppelins” (right) shows onlookers as the Germans mounted a zeppelin attack on Paris March 20–21, 1915, with firefighters on the street below and Sacré-Coeur in the distance. Guy Arnoux’s series *Le bon Français* depicts five French citizens doing their part for the war effort. In “Cultive la terre” (above), the farmer “cultivates wheat, his scythe a weapon against the enemy,” writes Edelstein.
Charles Martin made the 16 drawings for *Sous les pots de fleurs* (Under the flowerpots, 1917) while serving in the trenches. The work’s title spoonerizes *sous les flots de peur* (beneath the waves of fear). “Le bled en fleur” (top left) depicts a wheat field with a body amid the poppies that now symbolize blood and the war itself. In “Le cafard” (top center), a lone soldier hides his head in despair; the French word *cafard* carries a double reference, meaning both cockroach and a state of depression. Fashion illustrator George Barbier’s series *La guirlande des mois* (1917–21) offered romantic images of elegantly dressed women with soldiers returned from combat (bottom left and center) as well as battle images. In *Images de la vie des prisonniers de guerre* (1920) writer Mario Meunier and illustrator É. Lucien Boucher recorded their personal experiences serving in German prisoner-of-war camps. Each image was accompanied by a prose poem. The final plate, “A ceux qui sont restés” (above), paid poignant tribute to those who died in the camp.
The woodcuts in the 1915 *Calendrier de la guerre* by Hermann-Paul commemorated Allied commanders, here the French general Marshal Joseph Joffre (left), victor at the first battle of the Marne, and Grand Duke Nicolas Nikolaievitch of Russia, commander in chief of the Russian armies on the eastern front.
Economics historian Claudia Goldin, AM’69, PhD’72, takes a detective’s joy in gathering clues, analyzing data, and reconstructing the stories behind social issues.

By Michael Fitzgerald, AB’86
Photography by Bryce Vickmark
Economic historian Claudia Goldin, AM'69, PhD'72, takes a detective's joy in gathering clues, analyzing data, and reconstructing the stories behind social issues.

BY MICHAEL FITZGERALD, AB '86

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRYCE VICKMARK
Claudia Goldin thinks of herself as Sherlock Holmes. With titles like Understanding the Gender Gap and The Regulated Economy, her case file lacks the criminal flavor of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's oeuvre, but Goldin, AM'69, PhD'72, brings a sleuth's methods to complex puzzles of economic history. How did urban slavery work? What effect did the Great Depression have on the labor force? What caused government corruption in the United States to recede over the 20th century? How do technology and education affect income inequality? And her most famous case, why do women make less money than men?

Since 1990 Goldin has pursued these questions at Harvard University, where she’s the Henry Lee Professor of Economics and was the first woman granted tenure by her department. Why does she identify with Holmes? “You can see his mind at work. He goes out into the really dirty part of the town and lives there and hangs out and gets to know the ‘street Arabs.’ He collects all this and then sits down and comes up with a theory to help him solve the problem. That’s what I do.”

A labor economist and economic historian, Goldin excavates clues from the past, working the archives instead of the streets, to illuminate social issues of today and yesterday. From the beginning of her career, the hunt for data has engrossed her. Lawrence Katz—Goldin’s partner, Harvard colleague, and frequent research collaborator—tells how as a graduate student Goldin traveled to several archives in the South to gather data. When she got back, her dissertation director, University of Chicago professor Robert Fogel, asked for the receipts from her expenses. She told him she had none. “He said, ‘Well, how did you get from Raleigh to Durham?’ She’d hitchhiked or found rides. She almost always seemed to run into someone at an archive who let her stay at their place.”

At Goldin’s insistence, she and Katz traveled to the Midwest to research their book The Race between Education and Technology (Harvard University Press, 2008), which examines how public education took shape in this country, spreading from urban to rural areas in the early 1900s. They visited some of the high schools that were pioneers in early 20th-century education. “We got to see the expansion of education in places like Iowa and Nebraska,” Katz says.

Goldin loves to get out in the field and see how people work, like an economic ethnographer, or a detective finding clues. In a recent address to the American Economic Association (AEA), of which she was president in 2013, Goldin paused after presenting her data to say, “Holmes at this point sends out Watson for a lot of tobacco, fills the room with smoke, thinks, and comes up with a theory.”

Her investigations span many subjects, with a common thread of how people have engaged in the economy over time. In a field where more prestige is accorded to quantitative approaches and economic theory, Goldin is one of the few economic historians considered among the elite (others are Avner Greif at Stanford, Joel Mokyr at Northwestern, and Barry Eichengreen at the University of California, Berkeley). Her book Understanding the Gender Gap: An Economic History of American Women (Oxford University Press,
A child growing up in a science-loving household in a lower-middle-class Bronx neighborhood, Goldin thought she would be a different kind of detective. Heavily influenced by Paul de Kruif’s *The Microbe Hunters* (Harcourt, Brace, and Company, 1926), she dreamed of becoming a bacteriologist.

Her ambitions were reinforced at the Bronx High School of Science, from which she graduated in 1963. She thought she knew everything. “Here I’m from the Bronx,” she remembers, and “I could maneuver around very difficult terrain. I could find a bathroom at the Waldorf Astoria and have no one stop me. I knew how to get around. I was street-smart.” That fall the family drove to Ithaca in the Plymouth that was her father’s first car. While they waited to unload Goldin’s things, a young woman climbed on top of her family’s Mercedes a couple of cars ahead. “She was waving her arms and she said, ‘This is so Machiavellian.’ And I thought to myself, I do not know anything.”

She determined to drink in as much of the liberal arts as she could at Cornell: humanities, political science, history, and an industrial organization course with the economist Alfred Kahn. A charming showman in the classroom who would later become known as the father of airline deregulation, Kahn captured her imagination. Economics became her course of inquiry.

In 1967, still interested in industrial organization, which she had written her thesis on, Goldin went to the University of Chicago for graduate school. She was pulled there by the presence of faculty like George Stigler, PhD’38; Ronald Coase; Lester Telser, AM’53, PhD’56; and Sam Peltzman, PhD’65, now professor emeritus at Chicago Booth. In 1970 Gary Becker, AM’53, PhD’55, returned for his second stint at the University. Becker, she says, “truly blew my mind open. I had never thought of economics the way he did it.” She became his research assistant; he a lasting influence on her. “He used the finest, sharpest scalpel to cut away everything that doesn’t matter,” she says.

The historian in Goldin did wonder about what got discarded: “The urge is to put back all the stuff that he claimed didn’t matter, and to say, but it does matter.” The economist in her stood in admiration: “But at the same time you have this sparkling gem you can hold and work with—a model that starts speaking back to you and gives you a greater understanding because of its brilliance and simplicity.”

Around the same time, Goldin took a class with Fogel, the economic historian who would become her other major influence and who, like Becker, would go on to become a Nobel laureate. “Gary and Bob Fogel shared this incredible knack for taking the complex and making it simple,” she says. “Bob moved more in the direction of the empirics; Gary in the direction of the theory.”

Drawn to history since Cornell, she worked with Fogel on her dissertation, a quantitative analysis of slavery in antebellum Southern cities. In history and economic history, slavery was the subject of intense scholarly attention at the time. Through her history-student roommate, Barbara Sosnowski, AM’71, Goldin had discovered Richard Wade’s book *Slavery in the Cities* (Oxford University Press, 1964), which argued that slavery and urban settings—where slaves lived apart from masters and sometimes hired out their own labor—were incompatible. Looking at data about markets and competition in those cities, Goldin concluded the opposite. Slavery was a more flexible economic system than was generally credited, she wrote, and would not soon have withered away without emancipation.

After receiving her PhD, Goldin taught at the University of Wisconsin, Princeton, and the University of Pennsylvania. As she continued to study the economics of the American South, the issues around women, families, and work that have defined her career began to command her attention. She “was
sniffing around for something of deeper personal interest,” Goldin wrote in an autobiographical essay, “The Economist as Detective.” As her focus shifted to the family, Goldin felt herself getting warmer. Around 1980 she realized her work was “slighting the family member who would undergo the most profound change over the long run—the wife and mother.”

Often unrepresented in historical data, married women and their labor had a hidden story that Goldin grew passionate to uncover. These investigations led to Understanding the Gender Gap—eventually. First Goldin had a chance to get her hands dirty digging up clues. In the National Archives, where the stacks were not yet off limits to visitors, she found forgotten surveys conducted through much of the 20th century by the US Department of Labor’s Women’s Bureau. They gave her data on women’s work histories before 1940, on the “marriage bars” that held wedded women out of much of the workforce in the 1920s and 1930s, and on wages. The find enabled her to write a comprehensive economic history of American women that remains a landmark.

The gender gap, a term coined by Eleanor Smeal of the National Organization of Women in 1981 to discuss different voting patterns among men and women, now more commonly refers to the different pay that men and women receive for doing similar jobs. While narrowed, the gap persists almost 35 years on, even as women have become better educated than men. Today, 78 cents is widely cited as what women earn for every dollar earned by men.

Understanding the Gender Gap, published in 1990, drew on extensive data, including the neglected records in the National Archives, to reveal a complex, sometimes surprising story about gender, work, and pay over the 19th and 20th centuries. Goldin considered factors as diverse as the shift from manufacturing to clerical and sales work for women; the unpaid, often undocumented work that married women performed in the home before they began joining the paid labor force in large numbers; and the history of legislation meant to protect female workers from exploitation. The persistence of social norms and the decline of fertility rates came into her analysis too.

Progress on wages over the past two centuries, Goldin showed, has not been linear. The ratio of female to male earnings rose during the Industrial Revolution and again with the growth of clerical work in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. But it remained essentially flat from the 1950s to early 1980s, even as women entered the labor force in greater numbers and became more educated. The story she constructed defied easy summary, but, Goldin argued, it showed that economic progress has been a force for gender equality. Many factors—economic, historical, and societal—have contributed to its halting pace and to “the tenacity of gender differences in the workplace.”

One of those factors is wage discrimination, “a difference in earnings between two groups that cannot be accounted for by differences in the average productive attributes of the groups, such as job experience, education, and tenure with a firm.” Goldin traced the emergence of such discrimination against women to white-collar companies between 1890 and 1940, when it grew even as the number of women in the workforce increased and the wage gap narrowed.

“If the considerable difference in the earnings of males and females in manufacturing was largely due to rewards to strength, then the replacement of brain for brawn work should have evened starting salaries,” Goldin wrote, and it did, before diverging with time on the job since firms barred women from most jobs with long promotional ladders—and men from jobs with short ones. In manufacturing, such segregation occurred through differences in men’s and women’s physical strength. And because manufacturing jobs paid by the piece, they afforded less opportunity for wage discrimination than salaried jobs. In clerical occupations, women were penalized by being limited to jobs with lower salaries and no chance of promotion.

The impact of such policies, Goldin wrote, “was to have consciously sex-segregated occupations.” That had much to do with the stability of the gender gap from the 1950s to the early 1980s, before women’s increased political power started to have an effect.

At the end of Understanding the Gender Gap, Goldin voices optimism about the future. Today she thinks she sees how the gap can finally be closed—how the final chapter of the story can be written, as she put it in her talk to the AEA and a 2014 paper, “A Grand Gender Convergence: Its Last Chapter.”
The gender gap will close, Goldin says, when employers structure their businesses to allow for flexible hours, substitutability of workers, and linear pay. Some industries and occupations will be slower than others. For a handful of jobs this won’t be possible—she cites “CEOs, trial lawyers, merger-and-acquisition bankers, surgeons, and the US secretary of state.” But she believes many more industries can embrace them than already do. “Women have demanded this type of temporal flexibility,” she says, but “more and more men are demanding it. … Not family, but work-life balance.”

Goldin and Katz share an office at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), just beyond Harvard Square, where she directs the Development of the American Economy program. The space has a few cubicles for research assistants and an interior office for visiting NBER fellows that houses a bunch of stuffed animals. You enter through a childproof gate that keeps the couple’s golden retriever, Pika, from wandering.

A first meeting with Goldin might include a lesson on how the retriever breeds came to be. She dotes on Pika, whom she has trained for obedience competitions. Occasionally she’ll take him out in the hallway and put him through his paces, all hand motions and gestures, no words. Katz jokes that he is Pika’s untrainer.

Goldin’s curiosity is omnivorous. She’s an expert birdwatcher, an excellent gardener, and a skilled plumber; she also does her own taxes (as an economist she should be familiar with the current tax code, she says, plus “it’s really easy to do”). She doesn’t watch television, but she and Katz read to each other every night. Not long ago they reread the complete stories of Sherlock Holmes; a favorite is “A Scandal in Bohemia,” where Holmes is outwitted by a woman. Last summer, they returned to Jane Austen’s 1815 novel Emma. (Goldin doesn’t see many movies, but she’s quick to bring up that Clueless is based on the novel—“a fun movie.”)

In Goldin’s 2006 seminar Women, Work, and the Family: Present and Past, students read the O. Henry short story “Springtime à la Carte” (1906), centered on a young woman who is a freelance typist, lacking the skills to become a stenographer and “enter that bright galaxy of office talent,” and The Group, Mary McCarthy’s 1964 novel about eight young Vassar graduates’ lives after college, which later inspired Sex and the City. She also assigned readings from Betty Friedan’s The Feminine Mystique (1963). Such texts sit on her syllabi alongside more traditional economics texts like Becker’s A Treatise on the Family (1981), Francine Blau and Marianne Ferber, AM ‘46, PhD ’56, on discrimination, and her own paper with Katz documenting the power of the pill.

Goldin developed a love for literature, especially W. B.
Yeats, at Cornell. It has persisted, and has influenced her economics work. Novelists “are not social scientists,” Katz notes, “but they’re acute observers of the world, and the interesting job for an economic historian is to figure out which of the observations have broader validity.” The voracious reader is known among economists as a gifted storyteller herself. “One of the things she’s very good at is how to construct a compelling narrative with your model and your data,” says Elisa Olivieri, AM’11, who worked with Goldin as an undergraduate at Harvard and a research assistant at NBER. “Her papers, they’re thoughtful and rigorous, but also very readable.”

The pleasant kitchen at the NBER can be its own modest nexus of economic thought. Olivieri remembers being in the kitchen late one night, working on her senior thesis, when Goldin walked in. It turned out that the same task had kept both of them at the office late: Goldin was reviewing a draft of Olivieri’s paper.

Now in her sixth year of graduate studies in economics at Chicago, Olivieri is still in close touch with Goldin. At a memorial service for Fogel last year, she heard Goldin extol his dedication to his two families, at home and at school. “She might well have been talking about herself,” Olivieri says. “She has a lot of intellectual sons and daughters, but a lot of daughters in particular. She’s a pioneering example and follows through with being a truly mentoring person.” She keeps a photo of Goldin in her office and is on notice to send her dissertation draft to Goldin as soon as it’s finished.

In December 2013, two months after Fogel’s memorial, the NBER held a conference in Goldin’s honor called Human Capital in History: The American Record (the papers were published this November by the University of Chicago Press). “This was the first NBER conference I’d ever been at where there were lots of babies in the room,” says Boston University economist Robert Margo, who organized the event with two of Goldin’s former students, Leah Platt Boustan and Carola Frydman. Boustan remembers Goldin saying, “as long as the baby is not asking questions that are better than mine, they are totally welcome.” Boustan now has an infant of her own whom she recently took to an economics seminar. “I had to psych myself up for that,” she says. “If I hadn’t had someone like Claudia to tell me through example that it was OK, I would’ve felt like, ‘who am I to bring a baby here?’”

Boustan’s reluctance may be exacerbated by the shortage of women in economics. A recent project of Goldin’s examined why the number of female economics majors has declined even as women now constitute the majority of college students. The difference in men’s and women’s math ability on entering college is negligible, if not in women’s favor, but nationwide there are three male econ majors for every female. Goldin says the data show that women are less likely to major in a subject when they don’t earn top grades in it. Economics tends to lose prospective women majors who get lower than As in gateway courses like Introduction to Economics, while men who get Bs and even Cs are less likely to be deterred.

Writing in Bloomberg View in October 2013, Goldin asked whether Janet Yellen’s appointment as Federal Reserve chair would draw more women into the field. It might, she said, but they will need more encouragement than a role model even of Yellen’s caliber. Another approach, she proposed, is to convince them of the subject’s usefulness beyond careers in finance and business—and of its appeal beyond mere usefulness. “Many young women,” she wrote, “don’t seem to understand that economics is also for those who have broad intellectual interests.”

Shedding empirical light on a wide range of social mysteries drives Goldin. She’s still chasing clues and piecing together stories. She’s now at work, with Katz and former graduate student Marcella Alsan, an assistant professor of medicine at Stanford, on infant mortality and the role of sewer systems in boosting the likelihood that infants would survive. One of the first sharp changes in those rates in the United States, she says, was in Massachusetts in the 1890s, reducing infant deaths from about one in seven to one in 10 to 20. Against other theories that the drop had to do with changes in the milk supply, she and her collaborators suspect the creation of a watershed and metropolitan water district. “Babies get bathed and touch water even if they’re breast-fed,” she says. “The pathogenic environment is passed on.” At first the three “went down the cow path” too, but now they’re looking for evidence in how towns’ mortality rates varied with their distances from the watershed and whether or not they belonged to the water district.

Lower mortality rates in turn changed the workforce, improved health and longevity, and had a cascade of other effects on society. Between what she finds in the archives and the illumination afforded by the quantitative tools of economic analysis, Goldin thinks, she’ll soon have the answer.◆
peer review

Browsers searched the Harper Library card catalog in 1963. Incoming library director Brenda L. Johnson will have many new high-tech tools at her disposal (see For the Record, page 17).
Of superhuman bondage

BY NOAH BERLATSKY, AM’94

Driving my son and a carpool full of boys to school, the conversation naturally turned to superheroes—or more precisely, superpowers. Which ones would you pick for yourself? Flying, superstrength, and invisibility got mentions, followed by a long, involved conversation about whether shape-shifting meant that you could fly, be superstrong, and be invisible, or whether that was illogical or (more importantly) unfair.

Whether illogical or unfair, though, I think my carpool was onto something. The battle between good and evil in superhero stories, and even really their plots, often seems beside the point. The fun bit, the part you go to the theater to see, is all those awesome powers powering away. Doing good is OK, but the real fun is in doing good by blasting bad guys (or whoever) with your repulsor rays (which shape-shifters may or may not be able to duplicate). It is, as my carpool cheerfully suggests, a stereotypically boy-centric vision of narrative, in which what happens is less important than who’s stronger and how.

That insight is hardly original. Psychologist William Marston was saying the same in 1944, only a few years after the original Superman started to power up. According to Marston, “It seemed to me, from a psychological angle ... that the comics’ worst offense was their blood-curdling masculinity. A male hero, at best, lacks the qualities of maternal love and tenderness which are as essential to a normal child as the breath of life. Suppose your child’s ideal becomes a superman who uses his extraordinary powers to help the weak. The most important ingredient in the human happiness recipe still is missing—love.”

It’s a bit of a stretch to imagine my carpool debating the relative merits of love versus shape-shifting as a superpower. Nonetheless, Marston’s added ingredient turned out to make for extraordinarily popular superhero comics. His character, Wonder Woman, arguably the first female superhero, sold staggeringly well during World War II, when comics could move hundreds of thousands of copies a month. They aren’t necessarily dated either; my son read them and thought they were great.

To some degree, those original Wonder Woman comics don’t seem to stray far from the standard boy model of superheroism: we’ve got lots of powers and we’re going to blast you with them. Wonder Woman is super-strong and superfast (she outruns a car in one of her first appearances), plus she has nifty weapons like a lasso of command that makes you do whatever she says. She does fight bad guys, and bad girls too.

But blasting someone with heat vision is one thing; wrapping them in a rope that compels obedience is something else. The original Wonder Woman comics don’t involve long violent battles in which bodies go flying and property damage escalates, as in the final city-destroying über-punch-fest in Man of Steel. Instead, Wonder Woman ties people up and commands them. And then, quite often, the villain manages to get her rope, and tie her up, and command her. And then she gets it back, and commands them. The comics are more about this playful vertiginous round than they are about violent struggle and permanent defeat. In Wonder Woman No. 2 there’s a two-page sequence in which an “Oriental dancer” named Naha binds Wonder Woman with her own rope and leads her around town. Supposedly this is to throw off the police, but really the comic seems to see the spectacle as a pleasure in itself.

In an interview, Marston explicitly said that Wonder Woman’s lasso was “a symbol of female charm, allure, oomph, attraction.” There are scenes of bondage—of people being tied up with that symbol of female allure—on virtually every page. Wonder Woman comics consciously replace violence with flirtation.

It may seem like the erotic approach to superheroes hasn’t had much long-term traction. Superhero comics and superhero movies tend to be devoted to explosions, not to bondage games. Wonder Woman’s recent comics, written by Brian Azzarello and drawn by Cliff Chiang, are awash in blood and guts. The upcoming Batman V Superman film, in which Wonder Woman is

Those original Wonder Woman comics don’t seem to stray far from the standard boy model of superheroism: we’ve got lots of powers and we’re going to blast you with them.
supposed to have a cameo, is directed by Zack Snyder—say no more.

Still, despite the popularity of violent superheroes, one of the most successful multimedia phenomena of the past decade is a superhero story in which love is the greatest superpower: the tween vampire romance series Twilight. And not coincidentally, like Wonder Woman, its protagonist is a woman.

Admittedly, Twilight’s Bella isn’t usually seen as a superhero. But there’s no doubt that in Stephenie Meyer’s final book she gains superpowers, becoming a vampire with superstrength, superspeed, and superinvulnerability. Moreover, the series strongly suggests from the very first book that Bella is a potential vampire in waiting. She can smell blood when she’s still a human, and her telepathic vampire boyfriend Edward can’t read her mind. Most superhero stories are about powers, so the hero gets those powers at the beginning of the narrative. Twilight, though, takes its time—three whole books—before handing over the superstition.

Meyer is in no rush to make Bella super because in Twilight the powers are secondary to the romance. The series is all about the sexy ancient/young vampire Edward and about the sexy, virile werewolf Jacob. The ups and downs of those relationships are the focus; superpowers are there to add tension and excitement to the romance, not to the violence. In the very last scene in Twilight, vampire Bella reveals to Edward that she now has the ability to let him read her mind. The ultimate, most awesome superpower is not shape-shifting, as my son would have it, but the ability to join minds with your husband for all eternity.

When I told a college class earlier this year that Bella might be a superhero, they were as skeptical as my carpool would be if I suggested that mind melding with your spouse might make a desirable superpower. Bella, the college students argued, was whiny, ineffectual, mopey, and boring. She didn’t have exciting adventures, and she certainly didn’t stake evil vampires the way that other superhero Buffy did.

The students were right. Bella isn’t heroic the way Buffy is. If superheroism and superpowers are defined in terms of the destructive power of Iron Man’s repulsors, or how much Hulk can smash, then Bella—and the early Wonder Woman—aren’t very impressive as superheroes. But as fun as it is to blow things up and stake evil through the heart, it’s worth considering other kinds of heroism too. As my son shape-shifts on up through adolescence and beyond, I hope he’s strong and brave and able to fight for what he believes. But I hope, for my sake and his, that one of his powers is the ability to love.

Noah Berlatsky, AM’94, is the author of Wonder Woman: Bondage and Feminism in the Marston/Peter Comics, 1941–1948, due out in early 2015 from Rutgers University Press. He edits the comics and culture website the Hooded Utilitarian and is a contributing writer at the Atlantic.
CULTURAL LEADER

Julie Burros, AB’86, has been named chief of arts and culture for the City of Boston, Mayor Marty Walsh announced in September. Burros, who oversaw a revised Chicago Cultural Plan as director of cultural planning since 2000 for the City of Chicago’s Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, will be Boston’s first cabinet-level arts official in more than two decades. When she’s sworn in this December, Burros will oversee nine employees of the Boston Arts Commission and Boston Cultural Council and an annual budget of $1.3 million.

PALEO PRESIDENT

Members of the Paleontological Society voted University of Cincinnati professor Arnold Miller, PhD’86, as president-elect. Miller will serve consecutive two-year terms as president-elect, president, and past president. A former editor of the journal Paleobiology, Miller teaches paleontology, geology, and environmental studies and also serves as adjunct curator of invertebrate paleontology at the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History.

EXERCISED ABOUT DIET

Kim Williams, AB’75, MD’79, chief of cardiology at Rush University Medical Center, assumes the presidency of the American College of Cardiology in January after serving as president-elect in 2014. Williams advocates a plant-based diet free of animal products, which he adopted in 2003 in a successful effort to reduce his cholesterol level. He wrote an essay on the subject in July in Med Page Today that prompted debate among readers and was covered in the New York Times’s blog on health, Well. “Anything someone does to move away from the Standard American Diet,” he told the Chicago Tribune, “will make a huge difference in terms of diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and heart disease.”

AN ADVOCATE FOR AIDS CARE

John Peller, MPP’00, became president and CEO of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago in September. Working with the organization since 2005, Peller led its state lobbying efforts as vice president of policy, and most recently served as interim president and CEO. An advocate for affordable access to HIV medications, Peller’s efforts have included the HIVHealthReform.org project, which educates patients about the Affordable Care Act.

HOME FOR THE HUMANITIES

Chicago Humanities Festival artistic director Matti Bunzl, PhD’98, will leave the position after the annual event concludes November 9 to become director of Vienna’s Wien Museum. A Vienna native, Bunzl became the festival’s artistic director in 2010 and has served on the faculty at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he has been a professor of anthropology, history, and German, since 1998. The Wien Museum, which has multiple locations in Vienna, includes collections and exhibitions about the city’s history, art, fashion, and culture.

MCLANE VERSES THE COMPETITION

Poet Maureen N. McLane’s (PhD’97) third collection, This Blue (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux), was shortlisted for the National Book Foundation’s 2014 National Book Award for poetry. Also a critic and author of the memoir My Poets (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux), which was a finalist for the 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award in Autobiography, McLane is a professor of English at New York University.

— Jason Kelly
The Magazine lists a selection of general interest books, films, and albums by alumni. For additional alumni releases, use the link to the Magazine’s Goodreads bookshelf at mag.uchicago.edu/alumni-books.

Befriending the Commedia dell’Arte: The Comic Scenarios
By Natalie Crohn Schmitt, AB’58, AM’61; University of Toronto Press, 2014
Chicago’s Second City is over 50 years old, but the birth of improvisation comedy dates back to at least the 16th century. The *commedia dell’arte* was one of the most important theatrical movements in early modern Europe, inspiring artists including Molière, Picasso, and Stravinsky. Yet, much like contemporary improv, the genre is widely viewed as superficial. Natalie Crohn Schmitt debunks this perception, using the work of Flaminio Scala to illustrate the *commedia dell’arte*’s rich craftsmanship and social commentary.

Collective Genius: The Art and Practice of Leading Innovation
By Linda A. Hill, AM’79, PhD’82; Greg Brandeau; Emily Truelove; and Kent Lineback; Harvard Business Review Press, 2014
How do some organizations innovate over and over again, while most can’t even start? The authors spent the past nine years exploring this question, talking with exceptional leaders of innovation across the globe, in industries ranging from filmmaking to e-commerce. *Collective Genius* distills their findings. The book provides a practical tool for leaders seeking to build and sustain a culture of innovation throughout their organizations. Spoiler alert: It ain’t easy. But it is worth the effort.

Illusions of a Future: Psychoanalysis and the Biopolitics of Desire
By Kate Schechter, AM’88, AM’96, AM’02, PhD’10; Duke University Press, 2014
A growing number of people turn to medication to treat mental health issues, rather than focusing only on therapy. That’s one big reason, Kate Schechter argues, why the field of psychoanalysis is in a state of crisis. Taking an in-depth look at practices in Chicago, Schechter examines the evolution of the analyst-patient relationship and the future of psychoanalysis in a world increasingly dominated by standardized approaches to mental health.

Love Letters to the Dead
By Ava Dellaira, AB’06; Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2014
In her emotional debut novel, Ava Dellaira explores the cathartic power of writing. Protagonist Laurel, gutted by the recent passing of her older sister, May, found comfort in writing to Kurt Cobain as part of a freshman writing assignment—so she kept going and wrote to Janis Joplin, Amelia Earhart, River Phoenix, and many other departed figures. The letters helped Laurel unpack her feelings for May and develop a deeper understanding of her late sister, shortcomings and all.

Photographic Theory: An Historical Anthology
Edited by Andrew E. Hershberger, AM’96; Wiley Blackwell, 2014
Winner of a 2015 Insight Award from the Society for Photographic Education, *Photographic Theory* presents a collection of readings about the history, nature, and evolution of debates in photography. Editor Andrew E. Hershberger offers an authoritative and up-to-date compendium, including a thorough look at recent trends in digital photography. His is the only collection to include ancient, Renaissance; and 19th-, 20th-, and 21st-century writings on photographic theory.

Republican Theology: The Civil Religion of American Evangelicals
By Benjamin T. Lynerd, AM’00, PhD’09; Oxford University Press, 2014
Benjamin Lynerd’s first book, penned during a postdoctoral fellowship with the Benjamin Franklin Project at the Illinois Institute of Technology, examines the political role of white evangelicals from a historical and theological perspective. *Republican Theology* centers on the paradox of this group’s outspoken support for limited government—except on issues relating to personal morality. Lynerd concludes with an analysis of why this paradoxical worldview is so “irresistible” to white evangelicals.

What I Found Out About Her: Stories of Dreaming Americans
By Peter LaSalle, AM’72; University of Notre Dame Press, 2014
In this collection of 11 stories, Peter LaSalle explores the everyday lives of protagonists including a college student studying in Paris, a Hollywood screenwriter, and a disillusioned FBI agent. Despite their diverse backgrounds and situations, each character senses his or her life taking on the surreal texture of a haunting dream. For LaSalle, this “old reality/unreality conundrum ... pretty much defines what can be the true experience of our time on this planet.”

—Ingrid Gonçalves, AB’08
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—Elaine Black, AB’71
FROM THE EDITOR

Hello.

Many thanks to everyone who sent in news for the June newsletter. We have received some great stories, and we will try to include them in future issues. If you have something to share, please send it to us. (See the bottom of this page for details.)

You may also email us directly at alumni@uchicago.edu. We love to hear from you.

Karl Runfolt

P.S. If you’ve not already done so, please consider joining our Facebook page, UChicago Alumni. We post a lot of good information about events and other things going on with the University.

Karl Runfolt
**With Gratitude For Your Support**

Phoenix Society members lead the way in supporting the University’s students, faculty, resources, and facilities through estate commitments and life-income arrangements. Such gifts provide important ways to strengthen and sustain the University’s future. The names below represent members welcomed into the society from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014. All names are listed per member request.

We invite you to join the Phoenix Society by providing for the University in your financial and estate plans. Please visit phoenixsociety.uchicago.edu or call 866.241.9802 for more information.

**Thank you.**

Anonymous
Anonymous, PhB'46
Anonymous, AM’54
Anonymous, AB’56, SB’58
Anonymous, JD’57, and Anonymous, AM’56, PhD’58
Anonymous, AB’62
Anonymous, AB’63, AM’65, JD’67
Anonymous, SB’65, SM’66, PhD’69
Anonymous, MBA’70
Anonymous, MBA’74
Anonymous, MBA’77
Anonymous, LAB’77
Sally Akan, AB’62
Ruth Ames and Dr. Gerard Ames, AB’66
Ralph Apton, AB’50, MBA’54
Vincent Bates, MBA’62
Judith Bausch
Michele Marie White, AB’82
Beth Binford
Margaret Bray
Matthew Brislawn, JD’59
A. Keith Brown, SB’69*
Nancy Brown, AB’62, AM’63, and Robert Brown, SM’60, PhD’64
L. Michael Cantor, MBA’89
John Cash, AM’74, PhD’83
Lewis Collens, JD’66
Lawrence Corneck, JD’71
Darrell Cronan, MBA’00
Melinda Daniels
Katharine Darrow, AB’65, and Peter Darrow, JD’67
Michael Daus, AB’13
Hugh De Santis, AM’73, PhD’78
Anthony DeChellis, MBA’01
Marianne Deson
John Doerge Jr., MBA’88
Constance Dunn, MBA’81
Stephen Duvall, ThM’69, DMN’71
Frank Eaman II, AB’67
Sally Connelly Euson and David Euson, MBA’83
Barbara Feldacker, SM’65, and Bruce Feldacker, JD’65
Honor Ferretti and Eugene Ferretti, MBA’77
Stanley F. Friedman
Edward Futch, AB’74
Nina Garfield and Dr. Sanford Garfield, PhD’74
Carole Goodwin, AM’71, PhD’74
Susanne Gottfried and Gary Gottfried, MFA’75
Donald Green, AM’55
John Grimes, AB’52, JD’55, MBA’61
Ruth Heyn, MD’47
Gail Hodges and Jim Hodges Jr., MBA’62
Christopher Holabird, SM’52
Dee Ann Holisky, AB’69, AM’74, PhD’80
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Thank you.

Michael Karr, MBA’74
Martha Klemm and James Klemm, SB’61
Michael Klowden, AB’67
Mary Kostopoulos, AB’98
Evelyn Kritchevsky
Zbigniew Anthony Kruszewski, PhD’67
Phyllis Lovrien, MBA’84
Ivan Manson, PhB’48, SM’54
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Robert Moyers, AB’70
Donna Murasky, JD’72
Rita Norton, AB’42
Mary Olson, AM’66
Rubina Oremus
John Paulus, PhD’72
Richard Prairie, AB’56, SB’57, PhD’61
Catherine Mary Rafferty, AB’88, AM’88
Dr. Mark Ragozzino
Dorothy Rappeport
Crennan Ray
Anne Reboredo, AB’04
Leslie Recht, AB’70
Maxine Reneker, AM’70
Alan Rose
Joan Lundberg Rowland, PhB’46
Jennifer Scanlon, AB’81, and James Scanlon
Gilbert Schechtman, AB’51, AM’54
Susan Sclafani, AM’67
Hugh Scogin, AM’75
Craig Selders, MBA’90
Kim Sharan, MBA’95
Mary Rose Shaughnessy, PhD’73
Robert Sherwin, JD’78
Linnea Sodergren, AM’72
P. Eric Souers, AB’64, JD’70
Janis Starkey, AB’68
Doris Sternberg, LAB’43
Helen Sunukjian, PhD’35
Yvonne Sutor, AB’72
Kaimay Yuen Terry, AM’64, and Dr. Joseph Terry
Paul Voegeli, JD’71
Norma Vogelweid, AM’75
Joseph Vuillemin, PhD’65
Sarita Warshawsky
Joan Weinberg and Michael Weinberg Jr., LAB’43, AB’47
Dennis R. Williams, MBA’65
Irma Wirawan, MPP’03
Rose W. M. Lee Yuen and Francis Tin Fan Yuen, AB’75

*Deceased
DEATHS

FACULTY AND STAFF

Rory W. Childers, professor of medicine, died August 27 in Southampton, NY. He was 83. An expert on use of the electrocardiogram (ECG) and interpretation of its results, Childers pioneered the use of ECGs in ambulances so that patients could receive treatment more quickly and was at the forefront of computerizing the diagnosis of disorders detected by the test. In 2011 he was elected president of the International Society for Computerized Electrocardiography. Childers won the Teacher of the Year Award from the Pritzker School of Medicine’s Cardiology Section so often that in 2005 it was renamed the Rory Childers Teaching Award. He is survived by his wife, Michele, and two sons, including Daniel A. Childers, LAB’84.

Shutsung Liao, PhD’61, died July 20 in Chicago. He was 83. Professor emeritus in UChicago’s Ben May Department for Cancer Research, Liao was a pioneering biochemist whose discoveries included how male hormones influence the development of prostate cancer. The first director of the Tang Center for Chinese Herbal Medicine Research, he founded the North American Taiwanese Professors’ Association. Liao published more than 250 papers, was awarded 29 patents, and won many professional honors, including being named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is survived by his wife, Shuching; four daughters, Jane Liao, LAB’80; Tzuen Liao, LAB’81; Tsung-ling Liao, LAB’83; and May Liao, LAB’85; and two granddaughters.

Brenton Wright, AB’70, master electrician at Court Theatre, died August 7 in Bishop, CA, of injuries sustained in a climbing accident. He was 27. Wright began working as an electrician and sound designer in high school; as an undergraduate, he was a technician at Mandel Hall and worked as a sound engineer and lighting director for events around Chicago.

1940s

Margaret Janssen King, AB’40, of Kingshill, Virgin Islands, died August 13. She was 96. In the late 1960s, King and her family moved to the Virgin Islands, where she was the first woman named an assistant manager in the Bank of America’s international division. She was active in the Business and Professional Women’s Club and taught business classes at the College of the Virgin Islands (now the University of the Virgin Islands). Survivors include three daughters, a sister, two granddaughters, a grandson, and three great-grandchildren.

John W. Cashman, AB’44, MD’46, died October 18, 2013, in Tacoma, WA. He was 90. During Cashman’s 46-year career, he served as deputy medical director of the Peace Corps and as assistant surgeon general of the United States, achieving the rank of lieutenant general in the US Public Health Service. Among his achievements were helping to create federal regulations for nursing home and mining safety, and helping to establish the Medicare program. He is survived by two sons, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Donald Edwin Funk, SB’44, died December 24, 2013, in Willow Grove, PA. He was 91. A WW II Army Air Corps veteran, Funk practiced law for more than six decades, retiring in 2012. An avid traveler, he visited more than 30 countries. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy; a daughter; a son; and a grandson.

Richard Rider, AA’44, of Mill Valley, CA, died June 24. He was 90. Rider was a long-time general surgeon at Franklin Hospital (later known as Ralph K. Davies Hospital) in San Francisco and served as medical director of the Crossroads Home Care and Hospice facility. Rider specialized in caring for the elderly and homebound and was one of the physicians who treated the first patients diagnosed in the AIDS epidemic. He is survived by five children, a brother, and ten grandchildren.

Betty J. (Soderstrom) McHie, SB’45, died August 31 in Easton, MD. She was 91. A homemaker, McHie was a lifelong volunteer who gave a great deal of time to her church’s school program, altar guild, women’s circle, and community outreach; she also enjoyed reading, gardening, and crossword puzzles. She is survived by two daughters; two sons; a sister, Shirley Greene, PhB’46; four granddaughters; three grandsons; and three great-granddaughters.

Catherine (Kyros) Retson, AB’45, died July 22 in Appleton, WI. She was 91. Her first job was as an editor at Consolidated Publishing Company in Chicago. After moving to Wisconsin with her husband, she enjoyed travel in the United States, Europe, and North Africa and was a dedicated volunteer at her church. Survivors include three daughters; two sons; a brother, George Kyros, MBA’70; two sisters, including Carol Kyros-Walker, EX’56; and five grandchildren.

James A. Servies, PhB’45, AM’30, of Pensacola, FL, died May 30. He was 88. A veteran of the US Air Force and the US Army Counterintelligence Corps, Servies began a career in academic librarianship with a position as a stack boy at the University of Chicago Library in the early 1940s; he went on to positions at other institutions’ libraries and retired as director of libraries at the University of West Florida. He is survived by his wife, Lana; a daughter; two sons; a brother, David Lawrence Servies, AB’50, JD’57; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Charlotte (Berrnh) Vikstrom, PhB’45, of Chicago, died August 8. She was 91. A respected mezzo-soprano, Vikstrom performed solos at UChicago’s Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, where her husband served as director of music, and at venues around Chicago. She worked in various capacities at the University of Chicago and in real estate office in Hyde Park, which she operated for 30 years. She is survived by two daughters, including Ann Vikstrom, LAB’78; son Carl Vikstrom, AB’69; and four grandchildren. Her husband, Richard E. Vikstrom, AA’36, AM’55, died in 1986. Her son Richard Andrew Vikstrom, LAB’80, died in 2013.

Lillian Cohen Kovar, AM’42, PhD’48, died July 17 in Macungie, PA. She was 95. Kovar was a professor emerita of sociology at Bronx Community College of the City University of New York and had also taught at Bard College and the University of Michigan. She was the author of books that included Faces of the Adolescent Girl (1968) and Here to Complete Dr. King’s Dream: The Triumphs and Failures of a Community College (1996). She is survived by two daughters, a son, a sister, and a grandson.

Alice Bro Racher, AM’48, of Flossmoor, IL, died July 20. She was 90. Racher practiced medicine in Chicago for nearly three decades, working at the University of Illinois Hospitals, the Cook County Public Health Department, Project Head Start, and children’s clinics in East Chicago Heights. A longtime Park Forest Public Library trustee, she taught adult education poetry classes at Governors State University. She is survived by a daughter, Anne Racher Boguslavsky, AB’81; two sons; a brother, Andrew H. Bro, DB’57; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Ralph Turner, PhD’48, of Pacific Palisades, CA, died April 5. He was 94. A US Navy veteran, Turner was a distinguished sociologist who spent 42 years on the faculty of the University of California, Los Angeles. He edited numerous professional journals and published eight books, including Collective Behavior (with Lewis Kilian, PhD’49, 1957). He also served as president of the American Sociological Association and was a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Survivors include a daughter, a son, and three grandchildren.

Marvin B. Sullivan, SB’49, SM’53, PhD’67, of St. Pete Beach, FL, died August 26, 2013. He was 89. A WW II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veteran, Sullivan joined the Army Air Corps (now the Air Force) in 1942. Receiving the Air Medal in WW II and the Distinguished Flying Cross in Vietnam, Sullivan helped engineer the first nuclear hardening of the US Air Force B1 aircraft. After retiring from the Air Force, he researched hurricane tracking and measurement. Survivors include his wife, Carol; a daughter; three sons; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

1950s

George Kimball Plochmann, PhD’50, died August 24 in Carbondale, IL. He was
Robert H. Collier, MBA’53, died May 25, 2013, in Barrington, IL. He was 92. Collier worked at International Harvester World Headquarters in Chicago, retiring as director of purchasing and traffic. Survivors include his wife, Rosemary, and a sister.

Raymond C. Gosda, AM’53, died June 19 in Clifton Park, NY. He was 96. A WWII veteran who trained dogs for reconnaissance, Gosda began his career as an educational administrator on the island of Truk in what is now the Federated States of Micronesia. Beginning in 1960, he served as a community development adviser for the Agency for International Development and was posted to Iran, Malawi, and Thailand. He is survived by a son and a granddaughter.

Willis E. Elliott II, PhD’54, died July 5 in Kearney, NE. He was 96. A distinguished theologian, Elliott was an ordained United Church of Christ and American Baptist minister who taught religion at Ottawa University in Kansas, the University of Hawaii, and the University of the South, where he was also published in theological journals. The author of five books, he also wrote for the On Faith project of Newsweek and the Washington Post. Survivors include his wife, Lorée; a son; a granddaughter; and a grandson.

George W. Hilton, AM’50, PhD’56, died August 4 in Columbia, MD. He was 89. A longtime professor of economics and transportation regulation at the University of California, Los Angeles, Hilton was a well-known railroad historian who authored 15 books, including The Man and Pa: A History of the Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Railroad (1965). A lifelong Chicago White Sox fan, he also edited The Annotated Baseball Stories of Ring W. Lardner, 1914–1919 (1995). He is survived by four stepdaughters and two stepsons. His second wife, Constance (Slater) Hilton, PhB’45, died in 2005.

Leonard Fein, AB’54, AM’58, died August 14 in New York City. He was 80. With Elie Wiesel he founded the magazine Moment, serving as its editor from 1975 to 1987. Fein was a columnist for the Jewish Daily Forward and a contributor to the New York Times, the New Republic, and other publications. His books include Where Are We? The Inner Life of America’s Jews (1988). He was the founder of the charity Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger. He is survived by two daughters, a brother, and five grandchildren.

Robert E. Nagle, JD’54, of McLean, VA, died August 16. He was 84. During a career in government service, Nagle was devoted to protecting the rights and safety of US workers; he helped to draft legislation that included the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. He also served as executive director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for many years and was an arbitrator and mediator for employee benefits and labor disputes. He is survived by a daughter, two sons, two brothers, two granddaughters, and one grandson.

Leonard Hersher, PhD’55, died July 11 in Syracuse, NY. He was 89. A WWII veteran, Hersher served in the US Army as a communications officer in France and was awarded a Purple Heart. He spent 37 years on the faculty of the pediatrics department at the State University of New York’s Upstate Medical University. Survivors include his wife, Hilda; a daughter; two sons; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Stanley Reiter, AM’50, PhD’55, died August 9 in Evanston, IL. He was 89. An expert in the field of mechanism design, Reiter was professor emeritus of managerial economics and decision sciences, economics, and mathematics at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management, where he founded the Center for Mathematical Studies in Economics and Management Science. Reiter’s four books include Designing Economic Mechanisms (2006). He is survived by his wife, Nina; a daughter; and a grandson.

John E. Sundeen, AB’59, died October 31, 2013, in Milwaukee. He was 77. Starting his career as a securities statistician for the University of Chicago, Sundeen then worked for the National Association of Securities Dealers as an examiner and supervisor, as compliance director for several broker-dealers, and as senior vice president of Robert W. Baird in Milwaukee. He helped develop the Value Line Composites Index, making the Kansas City Board of Trade the first market for trading stock index futures. In 1991, Sundeen became an arbitrator for the National Association of Securities Dealers (now the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority). He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; two sons; and three grandchildren.

Richard Wolfert, AM’59, a librarian, died November 25, 2013, in Fargo, ND. He was 84. After working at libraries in Chicago and Wisconsin, he became director of the North Dakota State Library. In retirement, Wolfert was a massage therapist in Bismarck, ND, and Fargo. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Wirtzfeld; two daughters; and five grandchildren.

Peter G. Tribby, AB’39, MBA’60, of Chicago, died July 27. He was 77. Tribby worked as a corporate accountant and controller for several companies, including Arthur Andersen, Argus, TRW Automotive, and Bradner Central Company. He is survived by two brothers and a sister. His wife, Ilse I. Tribby, SM’63, PhD’69, died in 2011.

1960s

Constantine “Con” C. Patsavas, AM’60, of Glen Ellyn, IL, died June 28, 2013. He was 85. A Navy veteran, Patsavas taught at Northern Illinois University and Glenbard West High School before joining the College of DuPage, where he was a professor of political science and economics for 30 years. Patsavas also spent three decades with the DuPage County Sheriff’s Merit Commission, retiring in 2012. Survivors include his wife, Bertha; a daughter; and a sister.

Charles Payne, EX’60, died August 1 in Chicago. He was 89. A WWII veteran, Payne was a leader in early automation systems for libraries and was UChicago’s first systems librarian. He helped to lead the creation and implementation of the University’s Library Data Management System, one of the first such systems in the country, and retired in 1995 as the library’s assistant director for systems. Payne was the great-uncle of President Barack Obama. He is survived by his wife, Melanie S. Payne, AM’63; his son, Richard C. Payne, LAB’87; and a brother.

Kenneth Keefe Chalmers Jr., MBA’62, died July 19, 2013, in Evanston, IL. He was 83. A Navy veteran, Chalmers worked at the Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company (now Bank of America), rising to executive vice president and head of the special industries department. He retired in 1994. In addition to serving as treasurer for Illinois governor James Thompson’s Cost Control Task Force, Chalmers was the president of the Winnetka (IL) Police Pension Fund and a commissioner of the Winnetka Park District. He is survived by his wife, Georganne; a daughter; a son; and five grandchildren.

Robert D. Snider, AM’63, died July 5 in Ashland, OR. He was 77. Snider studied political science at the graduate level at the University of Washington and the University of Toronto, and taught college courses in political science, grant administration, and legal research at institutions in Seattle, Alaska, and Chicago. Survivors include his wife, Hideko T. Snider, AM’60; three stepdaughters; a stepson; a brother; and a sister.

Brent Gabler, MBA’67, of Bradenton, FL, died June 27, 2012. He was 74. An engineer, Gabler was corporate vice president of manufacturing and engineering and corporate vice president of international procurement at Tropicana Products. After retiring, he cofounded a consulting company, Creative Citrus Services. Survivors
include his wife, Lorraine; five daughters; a son; a sister; and ten grandchildren.

**George P. Turner**, MBA'67, of St. Charles, IL, died May 15, 2014. He was 70. A US Army veteran, Turner was a painter who worked in multiple media and styles; two of his paintings are held in the collection of the Art Institute of Chicago, and many of his works appeared in exhibitions and galleries in the United States, Germany, and the Virgin Islands. He is survived by his wife, Judy; a daughter; and a son.

**Rick L. Prieto**, MBA'69, of Evanston, IL, died October 28, 2013. He was 70. After working as an engineer and marketing manager in Chicago, Prieto became a general manager of manufacturing in Shanghai, China. He later taught at DeVry University's Keller Graduate School of Management. Survivors include his wife, Carol; a daughter; a son; a sister; and four grandchildren.

**Ellamae Branstetter**, PhD'69, of Scottsdale, AZ, died April 29, 2013. She was 90. One of the first three faculty members at the Arizona State University College of Nursing, Branstetter was the inaugural director of its graduate program. Among her honors are the 1974 Outstanding Educator in America award and the 1985 university-wide Faculty Achievement Award at Arizona State. Survivors include her lifelong friend Mary Green.

**1970s**

**Agnes Burton Augustine**, AM'70, died May 4, 2013, in Olympia Fields, IL. She was 92. An elementary school teacher for more than 40 years, Augustine participated in sled dog competitions, training and racing Siberian huskies with her husband, Thomas. They grew organic fruits and vegetables in suburban Chicago, IL, farm, and supported environmental causes. Augustine also volunteered for a local homeless shelter. She is survived by her husband, a son, a stepdaughter, a stepson, four sisters, a granddaughter, and three step-grandchildren.

**John Donald Gedart**, MBA'70, died July 11 in Hayward, WI. He was 84. A veteran of the US Air Force, Gedart was an accountant and executive at companies in Illinois and Ohio. He later owned an accounting business and continued to work as a seasonal tax accountant after retiring to Florida in 1992. Gedart belonged to several professional and service organizations. He is survived by his wife, Audrey; five sons; two granddaughters; and four grandsons.

**Sally Hunter-Wiley**, MBA'72, of Evanston, IL, died August 13 of esophageal cancer. She was 66. The first female media director at the Leo Burnett advertising agency, Hunter-Wiley spent her career at the agency. She retired in the late 1990s and opened a farm in Wisconsin where she bred and boarded dressage horses. She is survived by two daughters, her mother, three brothers, and a sister.

**Tom Kessinger**, AM'68, PhD'72, died July 4 in Annapolis, MD. He was 73. Kessinger taught South Asian history at the University of Virginia and the University of Pennsylvania before joining the Ford Foundation in 1976. In 1988, he became president of Haverford College, leaving after eight years to become the general manager of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture and, later, the Aga Khan Foundation, both in Geneva. He is survived by his wife, Varyam; two sons; a sister; and five grandchildren.

**Norman Lehrer**, AB'72, of Wheaton, IL, died July 8. He was 68. A US Army veteran who served as a criminal investigation detective in Germany, Lehrer later practiced law in Illinois for 36 years. He specialized in representing consumers who had been defrauded by auto manufacturers and dealers. He was also a firearms expert and taught gun-safety courses. Survivors include his wife, Nancy; a daughter; a stepdaughter; and a sister.

Eric M. Stiffler, AM'72, PhD'77, died August 24 in Macomb, IL. He was 67. Stiffler joined Western Illinois University as a professor of philosophy and religious studies in 1977. He also served as the university’s acting provost and academic vice president, director of the honors program, assistant provost and academic vice president for curriculum, and associate provost and academic vice president. He is survived by his wife, Janice Owens; a daughter; three sons; his parents; two brothers; two granddaughters; and a grandson.

Ishik (Kubali) Camoglu, AB'78, AM'79, of New York City, died of breast cancer May 10. She was 58. Camoglu worked in finance and exporting for many years, holding positions with large banks, founding a portfolio management and venture capital firm, and owning an agricultural export business. She was also a contributing writer to the *Turkish Times* on the topics of Turkish relations with the United States and the European Union. She is survived by a daughter and a son.

**Virginia (Schlesinger) Garbers**, AM'79, of South Nyack, NY, died July 7. She was 78. During her career in marketing and communications, Garbers helped to launch the firm Wood Logan Associates and later worked with nonprofit organizations that included the Boys and Girls Clubs and Friends of the Whitney Museum in Boston. She was a member of the board of trustees of the Edward Hopper House in Nyack. She is survived by two daughters, including **Alexandra Pruner**, LAB'80; a son, **Gordon Gray**, LAB'74; three stepdaughters, including **Deborah Azrael**, LAB'80, and **Ruth Azrael**, LAB'83; a sister; and 11 grandchildren.

**1980s**

Joseph P. Aguanno, MBA'80, died July 27 in Chicago after a brief illness. He was 61. Aguanno spent his entire career at the Gen Re insurance company, from which he retired in 2008. He enjoyed traveling and was an active volunteer in his church. He is survived by six cousins.

Charles Blachut, MBA'83, of Elk Grove Village, IL, died August 30. He was 81. A US Army veteran who worked for People's Gas Light & Coke Co. for 50 years, Blachut was a dedicated volunteer who was particularly active in his children’s activities: he was a scoutmaster, a member of the Lone Tree Area Girl Scout Council, and a volunteer for the Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation. He is survived by a daughter, a son, a brother, and a granddaughter.

Nicholas Newlin Perry Jr., AB'84, MBA'86, of New York City, died June 17 of metastatic melanoma. He was 52. During his time at the University, he served as student ombudsman and was a well-known jazz deejay on WHPK. He was an options trader for more than 25 years, beginning at the Chicago Board Options Exchange and later working for several Wall Street banks. Survivors include his wife, Funda Turgut; three daughters; a son; a brother; and a sister.

**Kathleen Regan**, PhD'95, died July 23 in Portland, OR, of an enlarged heart. She was 55. A professor at the University of Portland for 10 years, Regan was a prolific author of scholarly articles and wrote, directed, and produced four films. Among her professional awards was the Carnegie Foundation and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education’s National Professor of the Year Award for Outstanding Master’s Universities and Colleges in 2004. She served on the organization’s board, helped plan its annual conferences, and edited resources including a guide for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients. She is survived by her husband, **David McCarthy**, JD'87; two sons, including **Jacob McCarthy**, 18; her parents; and two sisters.

**Timothy Kuhfuss**, MBA'97, died July 11 in Laramie, WY, of complications from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). He was 53. Kuhfuss began his career at the National Institutes of Health and later became chief information officer of information technology at Argonne National Laboratory. At the time of his death, he was director of research support for information technology at the University of Wyoming. Survivors include his wife, Colette; a daughter; a son; his parents; and two sisters.

Investment counselor Kevin C. Smith, CPA, MBA’92, 22 years of professional experience. 503.228.7374 or ksmith@crescat.net.

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Art to text with

In recent years, the best on-campus use of a dollar has been on Shake Day. Just a few decades ago, that same dollar could adorn a dorm room with a Klee or Matisse.

Through the Art to Live With program, students could rent a piece of fine art for $1 per academic quarter. The available paintings, drawings, and other works were displayed at the beginning of each quarter in Ida Noyes Hall. Students entered drawings and sometimes queued overnight to secure their favorite pieces, and then chosen works were hung in dorms or apartments.

The art was on loan from University trustee Joseph Randall Shapiro, EX’34, famed art collector and founder of the Museum of Contemporary Art. Shapiro’s original assemblage stood at 50 pieces but soon ballooned to hundreds.

The $1 fee charged to students went toward insurance (other costs were underwritten by the University). However, the works rarely needed repairs beyond the occasional glass replacement or frame refinishing, according to a 1967 Associated Press report about the program. University of Chicago students looked at the works “as something to be revered,” Shapiro told the AP, and treated them accordingly.

The Art to Live With collection is currently managed by the Smart Museum of Art, and while no pieces have been loaned to students for years, some works from the collection are now installed in public places around campus.

For alumni either nostalgic for the Art to Live With program or sad they missed out, the Magazine partnered with the Smart Museum, currently celebrating its 40th anniversary, to curate a selection of fine art to grace your smartphone.

Download a wallpaper image to your mobile device and continue the spirit of a truly uncommon University program with every text.

—Helen Gregg, AB’09

Peruse the collection of smartphone-ready art—including selections by Frank Lloyd Wright, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (shown), and Raphael—and download your favorite at mag.uchicago.edu/arttotextwith.
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For alumni either nostalgic for the Art to Live With program or sad they missed out, the Magazine partnered with the Smart Museum, currently celebrating its 40th anniversary, to curate a selection of fine art to grace your smartphone. Download a wallpaper image to your mobile device and continue the spirit of a truly uncommon University program with every text.

—Helen Gregg, AB’09

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2015 Travel Preview

Where will you explore next? Fulfill your quest for knowledge and discovery with the UChicago Alumni Travel Program. The Alumni Travel Program connects you to the UChicago community of alumni, parents, and friends and provides access to the University's most distinguished experts as you travel the globe and learn.

### THE PRIDE OF SOUTH AFRICA
**FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 4, 2015**
FROM $7,995 — SOLD OUT

### JOURNEY THROUGH VIETNAM
**MARCH 19–APRIL 3, 2015**
FROM $3,947

### CUBAN DISCOVERY
**MAY 14–22, 2015**
FROM $5,399 — SOLD OUT

### SPLENDORS OF GEORGIA AND ARMENIA
**MAY 15–30, 2015**
FROM $5,620

*Joint program between the Oriental Institute and UChicago Alumni and Friends*

### PROVINCIAL FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE
**JUNE 1–15, 2015**
FROM $6,346

### CRUISE THE FACE OF EUROPE: FROM AMSTERDAM TO BUDAPEST
**JUNE 27–JULY 12, 2015**
FROM $5,190

### CRUISING RUSSIA'S WHITE SEA AND NORWAY'S NORTH CAPE
**JULY 17–27, 2015**
FROM $4,995

### PASSAGE OF LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION
**JULY 18–26, 2015**
FROM $3,545

### ST. PETERSBURG: CULTURE, ART, AND HISTORY
**AUGUST 6–14, 2015**
FROM $4,695

### SICILY
**SEPTEMBER 4–13, 2015**
FROM $3,090

### DISCOVERING EASTERN EUROPE
**SEPTEMBER 10–26, 2015**
FROM $5,197

### FLAVORS OF TUSCANY
**SEPTEMBER 18–26, 2015**
FROM $4,295

### AUTHENTIC HAWAII
**NOVEMBER 8–13, 2015**
FROM $2,990

### EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA
**JANUARY 26–FEBRUARY 8, 2016**
FROM $8,795

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