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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.
The 68th annual Latke-Hamantash Debate was held November 25 in Mandel Hall. Following student performances, six faculty members brought heat, wit—and even some high-tech equipment—to the debate. Photography by Robert Kozloff.
Eyes wide open
BY LAURA DEMANSKI, AM’94

The other day I ran into a gang of Robie House hecklers. Improbable, I know. Two young couples were circling Frank Lloyd Wright’s prairie-style stunner, backing up a little as if to better take in the whole. They were laughing and looked incredulous. “Nightmare,” said one of the men. I hurried past, a little scandalized and very surprised.

So I was grateful for the jolt. Sometimes it takes a truly contrary perspective to open your eyes again. I tucked myself into Plein Air, the cozy café attached to the Seminary Co-op whose windows face out on the back of Robie House, and really looked.

It wasn’t the view that you see from just across 58th Street, inside the Harper Center with its echoes of Wright. A plate glass window in Harper’s lobby frames Robie House’s famous front, architect Rafael Viñoly’s quiet homage to his inspiration. Instead, Plein Air’s windows give that spectacular view a humbler counterpart. Dramatically cantilevered the back of Robie House is not. Lovely, with lit windows dotting its flat red-brick plane? Yes.

Campus construction projects keep revealing fresh perspectives on familiar places: new sightlines east and west through the walkway that now bisects Edward H. Levi Hall, a wider vista on the Oriental Institute from Saieh Hall for Economics. All timely reminders to stop and look anew—at buildings, people, and assumptions—in 2015.

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LETTERS

Wartime romance

The World War I theme illustrations you featured from extinct French publications were properly serious, noble, and dark (“Battle Lines,” Nov–Dec/14). However, not all were such.

An illustration hangs on the walls of the smart Lowenthal Gallery, found on the upstairs hallway, office, and master bedroom of our Florida manse.

Clipped from an early 20th-century periodical, Fantasio, it features a very French corpsman (“On the Front”) expressing his undying love for a modest, pretty jeune femme. She reminds him of what he is really fighting for. Also, her hand smells really good.

Many sharp-eyed alums would recognize the signature of the artist, Louis Icart, who managed to find light in the dark days of war.

Larry Lowenthal, AB’64 (Class of ’63)
Cooper City, Florida

Louis Icart is also represented in the En Guerre exhibition and catalog. Due to rights restrictions we were not able to include his work in the story, nor the image Larry Lowenthal kindly sent us here.—Ed.

There at the beginning

I find it amazing that a full 10 years have transpired since the Magazine first covered news of the Center in Paris in the inaugural issue of the Core. Now information reaches a broader base of alumni with your “Paris à dix ans” article (Nov–Dec/14).

To see the center flourish and expand is great news indeed, but your article lamentably only gives a passing note to the one individual not recognized enough at the beginning of the Paris dream, chiefly Robert Morrissey, PhD’82, who alongside Herman Sinaiko, AB’47, PhD’61, first envisioned a Chicago Paris. We were three that first year in 1983, a full 20 years before the existence of our center there, and I was proud to be one of those chosen, but my participation would not have been possible without the mentorship of Robert.

Fresh after the Common Core and the second quarter and now declaring a French literature concentration (after initially thinking that I was destined to become a UChicago chemist), I took my first courses with Robert and I remember vividly studying Flaubert with him. Robert proved to be quite the energetic Flaubertian scholar, engaging and challenging me in the best UChicago spirit. He further initiated me into the deep mysteries of the synecdoche and litote (all the way from Corneille to Baudelaire and beyond), thus enriching my understanding of the now not so simple metaphor. He finally closely monitored my work in the language lab, working periodically with the monitor there. All seemed at that time to be following a fairly predictable trajectory until one day I was approached by Robert to determine if I would be interested in studying abroad in Paris. In hindsight that question really didn’t need asking, and of course I said yes.

I owe an amazing life and academic experience in the City of Lights to Robert, who saw in me the potential to thrive in Paris. Even when I had initial jitters Robert was always there to encourage me. And so I now come to the crux of this letter where I read in your article and to which I take offense: “And in a related development, Morrissey, who once stood ankle-deep in the mud, was awarded the French Legion of Honor in 2003.” I must defer to the writer of this article but take issue with the slight reference “in a related development,” as though the granting of the Legion of Honor was a minimal, nay, passing achievement. I have to state here that it is not just “a related development” but something quite tremendous. It is a high privilege to be granted the Legion of Honor and to be a non-Frenchman designated for such consideration is even more amazing, such is the rarity of those who are not French to receive such recognition.

Robert was a guiding and formidable force in an area UChicago had yet to explore, and now it is such a part of the College experience, it is hard to imagine a time when study abroad did not exist. We are now also in China and India, but it all began as a dream in 1983 with three College students and an arrangement with Sarah Lawrence College.

So I say to the UChicago community kudos to 10 years in Paris, and to Robert, my mentor, I end, quite simply, with these three words: à Robert, félicitations!

Phillip M. Semrau, AB’85, AM’85
Walnut Creek, California

Mistaken identity

Thank you for printing my letter in the Nov–Dec/14 issue. I am writing again...
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Another view on Gary
I was disturbed that your article on Gary, Indiana (“City Limits,” July–Aug/14), could raise a Republican/conservative rant with no basis in reality (Letters, Nov–Dec/14).

My fellow alumnae lauds Gary’s citizens as being well educated and family oriented but then states that poor schools and the decline of the family were factors in the town’s problems. The Gary educational system was one of the best in the world. A young man who went to school and did his homework could even follow his sister to the University of Chicago. Did I just write that?

He claims that it was a hub of economic activity, when the steel mills were the only major employers in the area. Their decline is the problem. Management, which he says “invested heavily in technology and expansion capital,” made some wrong decisions. Just like Spain sucked gold out of the new world to buy English linen, Gary’s gold from steel was sent elsewhere. I guess unions made sure management invested those profits elsewhere. In the 1960s, a union mill rat, as we referred to ourselves, could maintain a household, barely, on one salary. Try doing that with a present-day right-to-work state, nonunion minimum wage. No workers in Gary complained about high taxes then, and no one earns enough to pay taxes now, so where does that come from? Crime and corruption? I thought those are the present problems.

I hope that Stephen J. Breckley’s (MBA’68) hometown of Chandler, Arizona, never has to face the problems Gary has. And just to make sure everyone understands my own hypocrisy, I do not live in Gary, but I pray for those who do.

Roberto Guadiana, AB’77
(Gary West Side High, 1973)
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Border crossings
Informed only by your interview with Maria Woltjen (“Immigrant Children,” Sept–Oct/14), one would think that the influx across our southwestern border of “unaccompanied children” arose because of chaos in Central America. But that’s not new, so why the sudden surge?

In reality, the surge results from several years’ systematic refusal by the administration to enforce our immigration laws plus the flagrantly illegal DACA [Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals], the de facto amnesty for illegal-alien “DREAMers” it imposed by fiat in 2012. As the summer’s illegal arrivals told Border Patrol officers, they were encouraged by this record to assume they’d be granted “permisos” to stay here instead of being deported.

Woltjen implies that these illegal-alien children are by no means homefree, that deportation proceedings are in their futures. But such proceedings are years away, by which time it will be considered unspeakably cruel to deport them. And history suggests that few of them will show up for their scheduled hearings, anyway.

At one point, Woltjen cites the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, but these children aren’t being trafficked for nefarious purposes, they’re just traveling to join their parents already here (often illegally too), so the 2008 act doesn’t apply.

Woltjen also says her organization in the Law School “looks to international law, specifically the Convention on the Rights of the Child,” neglecting to mention that the United States has never ratified this treaty.

It’s surprising that Woltjen is off about so many material points within her realm of presumed expertise, unless she’s simply a fabulist. Either way, the lack of pushback against her in this interview illustrates how little Joe Q. Citizen (in this case, your interviewer) knows about contemporary immigration realities.

Paul Nachman, PhD’78
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

Just like Spain sucked gold out of the new world to buy English linen, Gary’s gold from steel was sent elsewhere.

LETTERS

because I must admit to an error that was gently pointed out to me by fellow alum Robert K. Burkhardt, AB’72. He quite rightly reminded me that the course on Islamic civilization was taught by Reuben Smith of the Social Sciences Division. He confirmed his information by consulting a copy of the time schedules booklet for that period. (Obviously, he is more of a pack rat than I and probably has a better memory,) I hope that you will print this correction. I wish I could satisfactorily explain my confusion, but I believe that I can only put it down to the conflation of memories over time. My apologies to both Professor Smiths—you were both outstanding teachers.

Jill P. Strachan, AB’71, AM’72
WASHINGTON, DC

BLAST FROM THE PAST

It’s always a good corrective to one’s own worldview to read the letters in the University of Chicago Magazine. No matter the subject, one’s sensibilities are likely to be abused by one’s fellow curmudgeons, and the sensitive souls taken aback to discover not all fellow graduates of said university hold the exact same opinion as oneself. If one allows, and is in the proper mood, it is both sobering and entertaining.

—Martha Hoffman, AB’87, Sept–Oct/11
In our work at the Young Center, children tell us, “They killed my family and tried to kill me,” “I was beaten and raped,” “I am afraid to go to the police.” This is consistent with recent reports. In March 2014, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees issued *Children on the Run*, a report finding that 58 percent of the children are fleeing violence and abuse. Other countries—Costa Rica, Belize, Panama—have also seen dramatic increases in the number of children and families seeking safety.

Contrary to the writer’s statement, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act applies to child trafficking victims “and other vulnerable unaccompanied alien children.” With respect to the length of deportation proceedings, in August 2014 the Department of Justice prioritized children’s cases for adjudication. Children are now required to appear in court within 21 days of release. When they don’t appear, they are ordered removed. Our government’s own data demonstrates that when children have attorneys, many are able to establish their eligibility for relief from removal.

The writer is correct that the United States is one of only two countries that have failed to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child (the other is Somalia). Yet the US Supreme Court, in its decision in *Roper v. Simmons*, recognized the significance of the convention given its near universal ratification.

**Racing to the top**

An article in the *Wall Street Journal* on November 22, 2014, regarding the MIT football team’s humble beginnings in 1978 reminded me of a similar experience while I was a Class of 1977 undergraduate at UChicago.

In 1975 the University of Chicago had no ski team. There was a group of undergrad men and women who informally became aware that we all had some ski racing experience. I posted flyers around campus for upcoming trips, and we had a few races and some good results. I distinctly remember some racers from other Midwestern colleges asking us where our textbooks were as we were getting into the starting gate prior to a race. Their comments were quickly silenced as we would usually defeat them.

I remember my mother calling me one day stating that the dean of the College had called her to tell her that her son was posting flyers around campus, looking for people with an interest in skiing, that were not approved by the University. As a credit to my mother, she said she was serious while on the phone with the dean, but when she hung up she started laughing. She said that only at the University of Chicago would something like starting an athletic club cause a dean to call a parent.

Since we had good results that first year, the following year the University actually funded us, a major ski company provided us with skis, and a UChicago MBA student who was formerly on the Japanese national ski team agreed to coach us. We trained on local hills about two hours from campus on Tuesday nights, and then we would drive to nearby ski races on Wednesday nights. On winter weekends we...
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO STUDENTS TAKE ON A SPECIAL CHALLENGE:
Decide How to Give Away $50,000

UCHICAGO’S PHILANTHROPY COURSE
University of Chicago students in an innovative class have recently encountered a new kind of challenge: making philanthropic decisions that affect real people with real money.

The philanthropy course engages students to understand the theory while experiencing the challenge of philanthropy. Over the course of a quarter, students in the class make decisions to award $50,000 to non-profit organizations. While studying the many issues associated with the giving process and its effects on institutions and society, the students work towards consensus about how to leverage their choices for the greatest impact.

In small groups, University of Chicago students examine community needs, create mission statements, and then evaluate nonprofits that serve their issue areas. The evaluation process consists of researching, examining financial records, comparing nonprofits with similar missions, conducting interviews, and making site visits that allow students to get to know the nonprofit leaders and the visions they hold.

Their support, students take on a very deep sense of “responsibility to do good” with the money they have to give. Lauren Riensche ('15) reflected, “Being given real money and a real decision about where it should go gave every student a personal, vested interest to learn more so we could determine that the money was going to the right place and in the right way. We made sure our donations worked in theory and in practice.”

THE PHILANTHROPY LAB
Funding for the students’ practical giving in these courses comes from The Philanthropy Lab. This program aims to broaden students’ knowledge of the nonprofit sector, challenge their assumptions about giving, and help them develop meaningful criteria for evaluating and comparing nonprofit organizations.

“Given that universities and students depend on private giving for a significant part of their funding, we think it would be beneficial for more courses on philanthropy to be offered to college students.”

Pat Dunne
Philanthropy Lab Board President
The Philanthropy Lab offers grants in support of full-credit courses on philanthropy at the University of Chicago and ten other universities that have been selected across the country. Each class receives at least $50,000 to distribute to nonprofit organizations through a process that is often designed and adopted each term by the students themselves.

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How a $5,000 donation can create the same impact as a $10,000 donation

Sustainability

The Philanthropy Lab is looking for additional donors to sustain this practical giving experience for UChicago students. Philanthropy Lab funding has provided money for students to allocate in this innovative course. However, additional funding is necessary to continue the experiential giving component beyond 2015-2016.

There are a variety of benefits to allowing UChicago students to allocate some of your philanthropic dollars as a part of a full-credit experiential philanthropy course. In addition to supporting great nonprofit organizations vetted by UChicago students, your gift to UChicago has the multiplicative effect of reaching students the challenges and rewards of giving away money for themselves.

UChicago students describe the course as “transformational.” Susanna Tuan (’16) said it was “one of the most educative, inspiring and meaningful academic experiences” she has had. She added, “This course made me examine my worldview and values. I looked internally into my conception of philanthropic giving, world problems, and the linear progression of events that leads to these problems. The insight and knowledge that I obtained from this course will never leave me, and since this course, I think about philanthropic giving even more diligently.”

If you are interested in connecting with this program at UChicago, please email info@ThePhilanthropyLab.org. Visit ThePhilanthropyLab.org to learn more.
LETTERS

would log about 1,000 miles round-trip in our cars for ski races in northern Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan.

In the 1977 season we were the Midwest Collegiate Ski Association champions, having successfully competed against Big Ten and other Midwestern schools. This would be equivalent to Division III today. To my knowledge since that time there has been no University of Chicago ski team that has achieved such prominence. At the time there were few, if any, University of Chicago sports teams that were top-tier in Division III.

Perhaps this should rank up there with Jay Berwanger’s (AB’36) accomplishment as the first Heisman Trophy winner.

*J. V. Prunskis, AB’77
Barrington, Illinois*

You can go back again

Forty-three years after my U of C graduation and now a retired prof far from the campus, I’ve just taken an edX massive online open course (MOOC) with Paul E. Peterson, AM’64, PhD’67. My dissertation supervisor is still going strong (though at Harvard). Every week I could relish seeing him again in brilliant action with the substance, originality, verve, range, and clarity that first drew me to his/our field of study. Should they ever have a similar chance, other Chicago grads also might profit by seizing a decades-later chance via MOOC to learn once more from their University of Chicago mentors.

*Richard G. Townsend, PhD’71
Toronto*

A call for papers

Many years ago my hands encircled some short publications of Robert K. Burns, PhD’42. The publications, about communication, included “The Listening Technique,” “The Questioning Technique,” and several others that slip my memory. My copies were on a computer that was stolen, and I have searched to replace them ever since.

The mists lifted slightly when your publication mentioned his name in Letters, May–June/12. Some of the respondents seem to have served at UChicago with Burns back in 1950 or thereabouts. If someone out there has copies of his papers, please email me at gwgayle@gmail.com.

*George W. Gayle
Rockford, Illinois*

Corrections

In Alumni News, Nov–Dec/14, we incorrectly identified Nicholas Rudall as the founding director of Court Theatre. Rudall was Court’s founding artistic director. We regret the error.

The University of Chicago Magazine welcomes letters about its contents or about the life of the University. Letters for publication must be signed and may be edited for space, clarity, and civility. To provide a range of views and voices, we encourage letter writers to limit themselves to 300 words or fewer. Write: Editor, The University of Chicago Magazine, 5235 South Harper Court, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60615. Or email: uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu.

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.
Data science meets public policy

BY DANIEL DIERMEIER, DEAN, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO HARRIS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY, AND EMMETT DEDMON PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

As government decision making becomes more data driven, issues of data use, data sharing, transparency, and accountability have become increasingly important from both a public policy and a technological perspective. This intersection of data science and public policy is an exciting development in the policy world. While the idea of data-driven public policy is certainly not new, datafication—the ability to transform nontraditional information sources such as text, images, and transactional records into data—has allowed quantitative analysis to penetrate the policy process more deeply than ever before. Concurrently, the growing capacity to acquire and analyze data in real time has fueled the demand by policymakers for increased access to data and evidence-based solutions.

Realizing the potential social benefits associated with the ability to collect, share, and analyze massive amounts of government data requires individuals trained in both public policy and computer science—an area where there is currently a tremendous scarcity of talent. The University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy has taken a leadership role in addressing this critical shortage. By leveraging our historical strength in quantitative policy analysis and strong crosscampus partnerships, Chicago Harris has become an epicenter of education and scholarship at the intersection of data science and public policy.

The new master’s degree in Computational Analysis and Public Policy (MSCAPP) is a first-of-its-kind program jointly run by Chicago Harris and the Department of Computer Science. Combining a traditional public policy curriculum with computer science training—including topics such as programming, databases, and machine learning—MSCAPP provides students with the hard and soft skills needed to fill the talent gap in public-sector data analytics.

On the research side, Chicago Harris has joined with the Computation Institute to significantly enhance the University’s reach in the emerging field of computation and public policy. We have established the Center for Data Science and Public Policy, led by associate professor Christopher Berry, AM’98, PhD’02, and senior fellow Rayid Ghani, chief data scientist for the Obama 2012 presidential campaign. The center supports scholarly research and facilitates outreach activities, with a particular emphasis on creating opportunities for faculty and students to apply their skills. Under Ghani’s leadership, the center hosted the second annual Data Science for Social Good summer fellowship, which brought computer science graduate students from across the country to Chicago to work on problems with social impact. The inaugural senior fellowship in urban science allowed us to attract Brett Goldstein, SM’05, former chief information officer for the City of Chicago. This fall Goldstein spearheaded the first-ever Urban Technology Forum, which brought together leaders in municipal data and innovation to discuss the increasingly critical role of data and computational methods in city governance. He also helped launch Plenario, an open-access platform that allows researchers to acquire and analyze an enormous trove of public data.

Chicago Harris was founded on the belief that rigorous, quantitative research and education is the best guide for public policy. Twenty-five years after the school as we know it opened its doors, Chicago Harris continues to build on its rich legacy with initiatives like this. We at Harris share a common belief that data, properly used and understood, can help policy leaders make better decisions in service to society.

As more data become available, government, nonprofit organizations, and even the private sector will need more talented professionals who understand the many ways data science and public policy skills can combine to improve results. Through the MSCAPP program and the Center for Data Science and Public Policy, we are opening a new chapter in developing the next generation of data-savvy policy leaders. *
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Two decades of planning by the Fermi Institute’s Tom Economou culminate in a comet landing.

Even as Tom Economou approached retirement age in 1994, he began planning an instrument for the European Space Agency’s Rosetta mission to a comet. He still remembers the reaction of Riccardo Levi-Setti, then director of the University of Chicago’s Enrico Fermi Institute, after the latter reviewed the mission timeline, which culminated with a comet rendezvous in 2014.

“Riccardo looked at me and said, ‘Let’s see, 1994, 2014. Where do you think Tom will be in 2014?’

“Well, of course I expect to be here,” replied Economou, who at age 77 is still a Fermi Institute senior scientist. Economou’s work came to fruition on November 12, when a robotic lander called Philae, having detached from the main Rosetta craft, touched down on the head of the snowman-shaped comet 67 P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko. Among Philae’s instruments is the alpha particle X-ray spectrometer (APXS) that Economou successfully proposed.

After a journey of 10 years and more than 3.7 billion miles, Rosetta and Philae are poised to deliver new insights into how our solar system evolved and whether comet impacts helped form Earth’s oceans and brought chemical precursors of life. The APXS detects alpha particles and X-rays. Of the Phi-
lae’s 10 instruments, it is the only one that can provide information about the elemental composition of the comet’s surface.

Other UChicago scientists following the rendezvous with interest are Thomas Stephan, a senior scientist in geophysical sciences, and Nicolas Dauphas, professor in geophysical sciences.

Stephan is a member of the team analyzing data collected by Rosetta’s dust analyzer. While working at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster in Germany, Stephan helped build and prepare Rosetta’s COSIMA (Cometary Secondary Ion Mass Analyzer). In Germany and later at UChicago, he also analyzed dust samples returned from comet Wild 2 by the Stardust spacecraft.

Although not directly involved in the mission, Dauphas operates UChicago’s Origins Laboratory, which examines questions pertaining to the formation of these solar system objects. “It’s interesting to see what comets are made of because they could have played a role in seeding life on Earth by bringing in specific organic molecules that were in the primitive soup of the early oceans,” Dauphas says.

Rosetta was originally scheduled to launch in 2003 for a rendezvous with Comet 46 P/Wirtanen, but problems with the probe’s Ariane rocket caused a delay. By the time Rosetta successfully launched on March 2, 2004, Economou had almost forgotten about it. Since submitting his proposal for the APXS, he had become busy with four other robotic interplanetary space missions.

Economou built the APXS that performed the first chemical analysis of martian rocks aboard the Mars Pathfinder rover in 1997. The two Mars Exploration Rovers that landed on Mars in January 2004, Spirit and Opportunity, carried APXSs similar to Pathfinder’s chemical sensor. The Spirit rover operated for six years, while Opportunity has traveled 26 miles “and it’s still going strong,” Economou says.

The Cassini mission to Saturn carries the high rate detector that Economou helped develop along with the late John Simpson, the Arthur Holly Compton Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in Physics, and the late Anthony Tuzzolino, SM’55, PhD’57, a senior scientist in the Fermi Institute. The high rate detector measures the dust particles that orbit Saturn and its moons, including Enceladus.

Economou also participated in the Stardust mission, which flew within 150 miles of comet Wild 2 in January 2004 with the Simpson group’s dust flux monitor instrument. The instrument collected data on the microscopic dust particles streaming from the comet. After that mission, the spacecraft was redirected to another comet encounter during the Stardust-NExT mission in 2011.

Philae’s APXS is a descendant of the alpha backscattering experiment developed by the late Anthony Turkevich, the James Franck Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in Chemistry, for pre-Apollo lunar studies in the 1960s. Economou collaborated with Turkevich for 38 years. The APXS was designed to measure the number of atoms of light elements—such as carbon, oxygen, and nitrogen—on the comet’s surface. “That’s what a comet is,” Economou says. “It’s half ice and half dust.”

Some of the lander’s other instruments took measurements revealing that the comet’s water is chemically different from that on Earth, complicating a long-held idea that comets provided water to the oceans early in Earth’s history.

Dauphas is especially interested in the noble gas content of comets. These highly stable gases, which include helium, neon, and argon, could offer clues about the formation of Earth’s atmosphere.

“The composition of the atmosphere is puzzling. We cannot relate it easily to any of the building blocks of the Earth,” Dauphas says. “When we look at meteorites, there is nothing that really matches the composition of Earth’s atmosphere. Comets are one category of objects that we have never measured.”—Steve Koppes

In November the robotic lander Philae—shown here in an artist’s rendering—took down on the comet.
POLITICS

Under the influence

Lawrence Lessig inaugurates the Berlin Family Lectures with a study of institutional corruption.

Boss Tweed’s vision of democracy went like this: “I don’t care who does the electing,” said the 19th-century Tammany Hall patron saint of patronage, “as long as I get to do the nominating.”

Any electoral process that grants disproportionate power to individuals or groups in selecting candidates, Harvard law professor Lawrence Lessig said, is exclusionary by definition. Even if, as the Supreme Court said in the 2010 Citizens United ruling that eased restrictions on campaign donations, “the people have the ultimate influence over elected officials” at the ballot box.

The people do retain that ultimate influence, Lessig allowed. We can go to the polls on Election Day and cast a vote with the same weight as everyone else’s. But he argued that the candidates over whom voters exercise their influence emerge from a system biased toward the moneyed few. Only after the neo-Tweeds have done the nominating, in other words, can the people do the electing.

Delivering the inaugural Randy L. and Melvin R. Berlin Family Lectures over five weeks this past fall, Lessig called that phenomenon “Tweedism” and outlined its disenfranchising effects, from the whites-only primaries of the Old South to Chinese political impositions in contemporary Hong Kong. Private, unfettered campaign funding has the same pernicious effect on modern American democracy, he said, creating a de facto primary before a single vote is cast.

This feature of the system forces members of Congress to spend between 30 and 70 percent of their time raising money for reelection—and the fundraising race has become the most prescient predictor of electoral success. “In 94 percent of the cases, the candidate with the most money wins,” he noted. “This is the picture of democracy in America: the majority is now excluded from a critical first step.”

Lessig estimated the relevant funders of campaigns number to about .05 percent of the population, or 150,000 people, “which, as the internet tells me, is the same number of people as are named Lester in the United States.” Now that the Supreme Court’s 2014 McCutcheon decision has removed limits on aggregate donations to candidates, he expects that number to fall to about 35,000, “which turns out to be about the same
remains a feature of American democracy, Lessig says.

Those Lesters and Sheldons, then, become the voices that elected officials hear, and they govern accordingly. This is not, Lessig emphasized, blatantly illicit quid pro quo bribery. It’s institutional. He called it “dependence corruption,” a form baked into the system that is not illegal or even necessarily unethical, but antithetical, in his eyes, to true democratic self-government.

Similar corrupting influences extend far beyond politics. In five Berlin Family Lectures, called America: Compromised, Lessig focused on institutional corruption in politics, finance, media, and academia, concluding with his prescribed remedies. He defined institutional corruption as “influence, within an economy of influence, that weakens the effectiveness of an institution, especially by weakening public trust of that institution.”

In finance, for example, he cited a defanged regulatory system as the corrupting influence. After the 1933 passage of the Glass-Steagall Act separating banking and investment functions, for decades there were almost no US bank failures. Deregulation allowed those functions to coexist again, and bank failures steadily increased to pre-Glass-Steagall levels.

Without that restriction, Lessig said, banks were untethered in their pursuit of profit, to the financial system’s—and to society’s—detriment. The banks did what would be expected of them in the absence of a regulatory firewall. Even those initially reluctant to engage in mortgage-backed securities out of concern for the risk, for example, eventually entered the market as the balance sheets of competitors swelled.

Lessig quoted federal judge and Law School senior lecturer Richard Posner’s assessment to sum up his own: “Am I saying that deregulation made bankers and through them borrowers take risks that were excessive from an overall social standpoint? Yes.”

In the media industry, Lessig blamed the market itself and the professional evolution of journalism for the corruption he sees. The drafters of the Constitution, he said, expected the free press that they envisioned would keep the public informed of important issues and would be both heavily partisan and heavily subsidized.

Partisan publications distributed around the country at little or no cost would be primary sources of substantive thought on the issues of the day. They would inform citizens of the parties’ positions. Now an ethic of objective reporting, developed to establish the credibility of for-profit newspapers and magazines, has long since replaced the founding vision.

Professional objectivity and corporate ownership, Lessig argued, have created a media environment that values the so-called horse race news of campaign strategy and polling data over detailed reporting on issues. Even partisan outlets engage in it because the research and the revenue bear out the approach. Stanford’s Kyu Hahn and Shanto Iyengar found that voters consider “any aspect” of the political maneuvering more interesting than coverage of issues.

The commercial inducement of that interest dovetails with the professional commitment to be—or, at least, to appear to be—unbiased. “The point is,” Lessig said, “to seem nonpartisan is simplest when you engage in … the horse race reporting, the scandal reporting, the he-said-she-said reporting.”

An obligation to be objective is also embedded in academic research, but Lessig described how subtle influences can corrupt it as well. Studies have shown that the results of ostensibly unbiased researchers drift in favor of their funding sources. And even scholars aware of empirical data that shows people are incapable of avoiding such conflicts of interest still believe that they do avoid them—like teenagers, Lessig said, who feel certain that three beers do not impair their driving.

Research from behavioral psychology and ethics suggests that there are limits to the human capacity to pursue civic virtue over financial gain. Hard-wiring born of the brain’s evolutionary development defines the response to incentives.

Humility about human nature, Lessig added, should compel the development of systems that put corrupting temptations beyond reach. “It’s not a matter of willing ourselves to resist them,” he said, “we need to structure ourselves to avoid them.”

He offered several ways to do that in the final lecture—mechanisms for campaign funding, in particular—and criticized others. To conclude, he turned the finger he had pointed at corrupt institutions toward himself and his audience. “Whatever guilt I’ve shown you in them,” Lessig said, “is true of us too.”

Any sense of moral superiority his previous lectures had instilled, he sought to puncture. “The most outrageous part to this story is that these corruptions, primed by the most privileged, have been permitted by the passivity of the privileged as well,” he said. “Permitted.”

Human nature can be blamed for that too. Lessig cited the “bystander effect,” which says that the more people there are in proximity to someone in need, the less likely it is that anyone will help. Although that might explain the cynical acceptance of corruption among citizens who feel powerless to prevent it, he rejected the excuse.

“There are no bystanders here,” Lessig said. “There is only us, the victims and the perpetrators.”

—Jason Kelly
FOR THE RECORD

A SUCCESSFUL HUNT FOR MBL
Geneticist Huntington Willard has been named president and director of the Marine Biological Laboratory, effective January 1. Previously director of the Duke Institute for Genome Sciences and Policy, Willard also received a UChicago faculty appointment in human genetics. President Robert J. Zimmer, who also chairs the MBL Board of Trustees, said “Hunt Willard is an outstanding scholar and a proven scientific leader who has created programs that have earned international respect.” The Duke University institute he led for 11 years attracted faculty members from departments spanning life sciences, engineering, medicine, social sciences, and the humanities. Willard succeeds Joan Ruderman, who oversaw the MBL’s 2013 affiliation with the University of Chicago.

EXPANDING PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CARE
UChicago Medicine has begun the formal process of raising the age limit of its pediatric trauma care program at Comer Children’s Hospital to include 16- and 17-year-olds. Under Illinois Department of Health code, pediatric trauma centers are typically certified to treat patients up to age 15. UChicago Medicine leaders are working with state, county, and city officials to raise the age limit in its level 1 trauma center to correspond with an increase to 17 this past summer for nontrauma patients at Comer’s emergency department. University of Chicago Medical Center president Sharon O’Keefe said she expects the process, which includes the hiring of additional doctors and staff, to be complete within a year.

DEDICATED TO DIVERSITY
Timuel Black, AM’54, who worked alongside Martin Luther King Jr. during the civil rights movement, will receive the University of Chicago 2015 Alumni Diversity Leadership Award. He joins staff honoree Veronica Hauad, director of Equity and Access Programming and senior associate director of admissions, and the inaugural faculty recipient, Cathy Cohen, the political science department chair. A grandchild of former slaves, Black solidified his commitment to social justice during a tour of newly liberated German concentration camps as an Army soldier in World War II. Cohen, the David and Mary Winton Green Professor of Political Science, studies race and gender and serves as principal investigator for the Black Youth Project. Hauad, a first-generation college graduate, spearheads the No Barriers initiative, which helps ease financial and administrative burdens that prevent qualified students from attending college.

MIRANDA NAMED OPERATIONS VP, CFO
Rowan Miranda, AM’87, PhD’92, has been named the University’s vice president for operations and chief financial officer. In this role he helps lead the University’s integrated strategic financial planning and oversees its financial operations. Joining the administration in March 2014, Miranda became interim chief financial officer in August after the departure of Nim Chinniah. Previously the associate vice president for finance at the University of Michigan and an executive partner at Accenture, he has held several faculty appointments, including at Chicago Harris.

THAT WINNING FEELING
Varsity teams in football, women’s soccer, and men’s soccer enjoyed winning seasons last fall and earned additional accolades. Women’s soccer went 15–5–1 and reached the round of 16 in the NCAA Division III Championship; fourth-year Sara Kwan was named First Team All-Central Region and Third Team All-American by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. Men’s soccer had records of 11–5–2 overall and 5–0–2 in the University Athletic Association, earning them an automatic bid for the championship tournament. And the football team went 8–1 with its defense ranked nationally in Division III in first down defense (No. 3), turnover margin (No. 7), total defense (No. 8), and other categories.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE
Fourth-year Hope Bretscher believes that cheap, clean energy is a human right—a necessity, she says, “for people to obtain other human rights, like health care and education.” She will use a Marshall Scholarship to do graduate work in physics that has the potential to promote those rights. Next fall Bretscher, the 21st Marshall Scholar from UChicago since 1987, will pursue a master’s in science and technology in society at the University of Edinburgh. The following year she will move to the University of Cambridge for a second master’s with a professor whose research includes expanding the power of solar cells.

UNCARING DATA COMMONS
Research projects funded by the National Cancer Institute have collected genomic data on tumor types from more than 10,000 patients, but that information is scattered in different locations and formats. Announced in December, an NCI collaboration with the University of Chicago Medicine to create the nation’s most comprehensive computation facility attempts to solve that problem and streamline cancer research. The NCI Genomic Data Commons expands access for scientists around the country, making the information available to researchers regardless of their institution’s size or budget. With the GDC, says Conrad Gilliam, the Biological Sciences Division’s dean for basic science, “discovery processes that today would require many years, millions of dollars, and the coordination of multiple research teams could literally be performed in days, or even hours.”


## Labor and love

Doulas can make an important difference for young, low-income mothers and their babies.

When Tikvah Wadley encourages a young mom to read to her baby, she often gets a stunned response. “They are like, ‘Read?’” Wadley says. “And I say, ‘Yeah, she likes your voice, she likes to hear from you.’”

A gentle woman with a sparkle in her voice, Wadley has by the side of hundreds of adolescent mothers in her South Side community during pregnancy, childbirth, and beyond. She’s a doula—or support person for a new mom—whose roles include parenting coach, hand holder, comforter, and advocate. Doulas are perhaps more popularly associated with upper-middle-class women who can afford to pay for their help, but a project by Sydney Hans, the Samuel Deutsch Professor at UChicago’s School of Social Service Administration, showed that community doulas, including Wadley, could make a big difference in the lives of young, low-income African American moms and their babies.

Throughout her career, Hans has studied risk and resilience in families and the long-term effects of early life experiences. As an undergraduate at Cornell University, she majored in human development and family studies; her PhD from Harvard is in psychology and social relations. Hans’s scholarly focus formed in her early days at UChicago. She first joined the faculty in 1978, as a member of the psychiatry department (her move to the SSA came in 2005), and in psychiatry, she studied the cognitive development of babies whose mothers were using drugs during pregnancy.

Hans expected to see brain damage in the children, whom she and her team followed until they were teenagers, “and we didn’t,” she says. Instead, she identified only subtle cognitive deficits in attention. “The big thing we saw was that children who had caring, really supportive parents—and many addicted women fell into that category, or there were family members who fell into that category—those kids did OK. And some of them thrived.”

The children without such support struggled. “It became really apparent to me how important those relationships in the first year were in providing those kids with a strong emotional foundation for everything that was to come.”

Hans became interested in the work of doulas through Irving B. Harris, child advocate and philanthropist (and namesake of the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy). In the mid-1990s, Harris helped fund three doula programs, collectively called the Chicago Doula Project, which partnered with established teen parenting programs. He was looking for research data on whether the programs actually worked, and he came to Hans to help him find it. “I started visiting these programs and seeing what they were like on the ground,” she says.

She was impressed. “It wasn’t an adult coming to them and saying, ‘We’re going to teach you to be a good parent.’ ... It was an adult coming to them and saying, ‘Boy, you’re having a baby soon, and that’s a big deal.’” Especially for teen moms-to-be who are frightened and perhaps uncertain about their futures. “Here’s this warm, caring woman who basically says, ‘I want to be with you throughout this whole thing’”—through the pregnancy and the labor and afterward—“and I won’t leave you until everything’s OK.’ That really resonated with these teenagers, and it was something they really did want,” Hans says.

In 2001, with a federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau grant and the support of UChicago’s Department of Pediatrics, Hans launched a fourth site of the Chicago Doula Project at the University of Chicago to put some data behind her observations on doula intervention.

Her research affirmed the doula model. One study, published in *Pediatrics* in November 2013, looked at breast-feeding—an important public health goal,” Hans says. She found that 64 percent of mothers with community doula support through 12 weeks postpartum attempted to breast-feed their babies immediately after birth, compared to 50 percent of mothers in a control group. Mothers with doula support were also much more likely to continue breast-feeding longer than six weeks.

In another study, published in *Infant Mental Health Journal*, Hans found that moms with doulas did better at encouraging their infants’ learning at four months—by talking to the baby, using animated voices, and making expressive faces—than moms without doulas. They were also more likely to respond quickly when their babies were in distress.

Hans recorded video of mothers with their babies at four months, one year, and two years. The differences in parenting faded over time, which Hans says is an indication that good parenting behaviors need reinforce-
ment with home visits beyond the first few months after a baby is born. “And the doulas got them looking into their babies’ eyes and having conversations with them when they were teeny tiny—they need to be reminded of those things,” Hans says. “They’re living in communities that are under a lot of stress, where the kind of interactions with young children may not always be what we now know are most supportive of brain development and other good outcomes.”

The four doulas worked out of two South Side prenatal clinics. Three had breast-fed their own babies, “which made them very unusual in their communities,” says Hans. One had been a parent to a teen mom; the others had been teen moms themselves.

Wadley was working as a medical aide when she heard about the project. “I was like, ’Yeah, I want to do that. I know what it’s like to be in labor and delivery and not have anyone.’”

Wadley, whose children are grown now, had her first pregnancy at 17 and hid it until her third trimester. She learned to breast-feed unexpectedly, from a woman who, not unlike a doula, was caring but not a family member. She was a staffer at a federal aid office where Wadley had come asking for formula. Wadley and her newborn were nearly penniless, but because she’d only just started working, she couldn’t produce proof that her income was low enough to qualify for formula from the Women, Infants, and Children program. Instead, the WIC staffer taught her how to breast-feed in the back room. “She said, ‘You can still feed your baby,’” Wadley recalls. Crying, Wadley asked how. The WIC staffer explained, “You can feed your baby with your chest.”

Today Hans continues her research with studies on doula intervention for at-risk moms in four communities across Illinois. She hopes to follow the children until they’re a year old, or beyond. “These are programs,” she says, “where they have the opportunity to remain engaged for the long haul.”

—Laura Putre

CITATIONS

CANCER CELL DIVISION, DISRUPTED
A new cancer drug developed by UChicago researchers can eradicate human lung cancer cells in mice and shows few side effects. Genetics and cancer researcher Yusuke Nakamura led the study, published October 22 in Science Translational Medicine and coauthored by colleagues Jae-Hyun Park and Houda Alachkar and scientists from a Japanese biopharmaceutical company. The drug destroys cancer cells by disrupting the process of cell division. Says Nakamura: “Everything within the cell spills out; they suffer and die.” In five of six mice, tumors completely disappeared within a month. Coating the drug in liposomes—microscopic bubbles—eliminated its toxicity to the mice’s healthy white and red blood cells.

BUZZ FEEDS THE ECONOMY
Buzz—the news, gossip, discussion, and excitement surrounding a cultural activity—is not so nebulous a phenomenon as it may seem. According to UChicago sociologist Terry Nichols Clark, buzz is a tradable commodity and political resource and is subject to its own kind of inflation. In Can Tocqueville Karaoke? Global Contrasts of Citizen Participation, the Arts, and Development (Emerald Group Publishing, 2014), the 11th volume in a series on urban policy, Clark, coauthor and series editor, and 18 other scholars analyze civic engagement worldwide and its generative buzz. Among other topics, authors explore how culture and the arts can drive civic participation and economic innovation. The book’s roots trace to Alexis de Tocqueville, who, during his American travels, found that civic groups encouraged democracy. Clark’s research, based in part on a 30-year international survey he coordinates, examines contexts that encourage civic participation and how they vary around the world.

APNEA SURGERY CAN EASE ASTHMA
Adding strong data to studies suggesting a connection between obstructive sleep apnea and asthma, UChicago researchers found that surgery to treat sleep apnea in children can also ease their asthma. A common pediatric disease, asthma affects an estimated 7.1 million US children under 18 and is the third most frequent cause of hospitalization in those younger than 15. Sleep apnea is also common, affecting 2 to 3 percent of children. In a study of more than 40,000 children between ages 3 and 17, UChicago Medicine researchers Rakesh Bhattcharjee, David Gozal, and Babak Mokhlesi discovered that removing the tonsils and adenoids—a standard therapy for apnea—decreased asthma severity. The surgery reduced acute asthma exacerbations in children by 30 percent, and reduced acute status asthmaticus—a medical emergency—by 38 percent. Asthma-related hospitalizations fell by 36 percent. Coauthored by Beatrix Choi, AB ’09, of the UChicago Center for Health and Social Sciences, the study was published in the November PLOS Medicine.

STING OPERATION FIGHTS DISEASE
A newly discovered protein complex in the immune system plays a big role in the body’s ability to detect a tumor and mount a response. Described in a pair of UChicago-based studies, both published November 20 in Immunity, this STING pathway—the acronym stands for Stimulator of Interferon Genes—opens new possibilities in the field of cancer immunotherapy. When the body detects a threat (whether from cancer or infection) marked by damaged or misplaced DNA, a series of chemical reactions activate the STING pathway, which alerts the immune system and helps it identify bad cells and begin to fight them. In one study, led by UChicago pathologist Thomas Gajewski, AB ’84, PhD ’89, MD ’91, researchers identified and illuminated the “stumbling blocks” that sometimes prevent the immune system from destroying cancers. Drugs called “checkpoint inhibitors” can remove the stumbling blocks and take the brakes off the immune response. The other study, led by cancer biologist Yan-Xin Fu and cellular oncologist Ralph Weichselbaum, found that high-dose radiation therapy not only kills tumors but also boosts the body’s natural immune response by damaging cancer cell DNA.—Minna Vandeveld, ’16
**Hologram reflection**

UChicago astrophysicist Craig Hogan tests the digital nature of space.

This past August, headlines started popping up announcing that the universe might be a hologram, conjuring thoughts of Princess Leia’s message to Obi-Wan Kenobi or Tupac Shakur’s posthumous 2012 Coachella performance or even CNN’s roundly ridiculed 2008 foray into holograms, “beaming” a correspondent from Chicago to New York City. Of course, those weren’t real holograms. CNN used a green screen; Coachella used a high-powered projector and an old magician’s trick called Pepper’s Ghost; Leia’s technology is from a galaxy far, far away.

A real hologram is a two-dimensional surface that contains three-dimensional information. When light reflects off the hologram, the angle from which you view the surface determines whether you will perceive the information as 2-D or 3-D. When Craig Hogan, UChicago astrophysicist and director of Fermilab’s Center for Particle Astrophysics, describes the universe as “holographic,” he is referring to the way space-time is theorized to contain information, with 2-D sheets coding what we perceive as 3-D reality. Hogan’s Holometer experiment at Fermilab, which sparked the media buzz, probes the holographic, information-storing nature of the universe.

The notion of reality as encoded information is difficult to grasp. The Holometer website explains it with an analogy: a painted wall. If you zoom in on a blue wall, you will see droplets of blue paint. Zoom in further, and you will see blue molecules that make up blue paint. But zoom in even further, and the individual electrons, neutrons, and protons have no intrinsic color. They don’t appear blue. By working together, they provide the information that ultimately reads as blue. This is an example of emergence—when a property becomes apparent only on a macro-scale. Likewise, when we look at the world around us, we see three dimensions. Zoom in far enough, and we may find that space-time is emergent, made of two-dimensional sheets encoding a three-dimensional environment.

Digital photographs also exemplify this concept of emergence. Tiny pixels carry the information that, when viewed at a distance, creates the picture you see. The universe’s “film” would be those 2-D sheets. The universe’s “pixels” would be the information coded on those 2-D sheets: the bits of a digital universe.

The Holometer experiment, whose ultimate goal is to better understand...
the relationship between matter, energy, and space-time, has to do with these pixels. When looked at very closely, holograms have “fuzziness” directly proportional to pixel size. The smaller the pixel, the clearer the 3-D image. But some fuzziness is always there. Hogan is looking for that fuzziness in space-time, which he calls “holographic noise.”

The universe’s suspected pixel level is the Planck scale, the smallest possible units of length, mass, time, charge, and temperature, based on universal constants like the speed of light and gravity. The smallest known particle is orders of magnitude larger than a Planck length (~1.6 x 10−35 m). It’s hard to comprehend and impossible to directly observe this scale: there are more Planck lengths across a grain of sand than grains of sand required to span the observable universe. “We’ve never seen any sign of direct Planck scale physics,” says Hogan. “So that’s what the experiment is trying to do,” to produce experimentally measurable data on the smallest scale.

The Holometer, which was devised more than four years ago and began producing data last summer, is run by a team of 21 scientists and students from UChicago, Fermilab, MIT, and the University of Michigan, led by UChicago astronomy and astrophysics professor Stephan Meyer and Fermilab physicist Aaron Chou. The experiment is “conceptually simple,” Hogan says. “Simplicity is necessary because we’re trying to isolate this fundamental effect.”

The team measures light using a Michelson interferometer, a device consisting of a laser, three mirrors, and a detector. A high-frequency laser is shot at a beam splitter (a half-silvered, one-way mirror), and the resulting twin beams travel down 40-meter-long perpendicular arms with mirrors at each end. (The distance the light must travel amplifies the predicted effect.) When the light reflects back and recombines at the splitter, the team measures the beam’s intensity. If it’s dimmer upon return, the twin beams’ wavelengths no longer line up perfectly; one beam’s round-trip took longer than the other. The beam splitter moved.

The experiment actually uses two adjacent interferometers. The team measures a combined signal that over time gradually reduces other sources of noise, yet can indicate whether both beam splitters are “wandering” in exactly the same, random way, moved by the “jittering” of space itself. This correlated—or coherent—jitter is holographic noise. By measuring jittering space-time, which should bounce around randomly about one Planck length every Planck time, the experiment provides access to Planck scale physics.

So why does this motion—this jitter—amount to the space-time fuzziness Hogan seeks? It’s a behavior displayed by other systems experimentally known to consist of information bits. Matter and energy are quantum—or digital—systems. They are composed of discrete packets of information, building blocks that can be quantified. Particles are the bits of matter, photons of light. The smallest packets of energy are called quanta, defined by the father of quantum mechanics—Max Planck, whose research led to the Planck scale.

A key element of a quantum system is its ability to behave as both waves and particles, which gives rise to the uncertainty principle that states you can’t know exactly where a particle is and how it’s moving at the same time. This uncertainty creates a jitter, and matter and energy both exhibit this property.

A century ago, Einstein showed that “space-time is dynamical,” says Hogan. Unlike Newton’s conception of “stuff moving around in this empty container,” space-time “carries energy and information just like matter does. It’s an active player.” But Einstein’s space-time, which still governs our concept of it today, is smooth and continuous—an analog system. Hogan’s experiment could change that. “We think that space-time is a quantum system together with matter and energy,” says Hogan. And a measurable jitter would support that claim.

If the team does detect a space-time jitter, the next step is to “measure it better” using more light detectors or longer arms, but “first we have to prove it’s real. People will not believe this,” says Hogan. Viewing space-time as a quantum, digital system would change how we understand the universe on a fundamental level—how matter, space, and energy interact; how the universe stores information; and how that information translates to what we deem reality.

What Hogan and the Holometer experiment are not trying to do is prove that reality is a projection or Matrix-style simulation, as some recent articles seem to imply. This experiment is about illumination, not illusion—how two-dimensional sheets of information create our multidimensional universe. We may all be holograms, but the wall is still blue and we are still real.

—Maureen Searcy
The harmonic convergence of mathematics and music.

Anthony Cheung’s formal mathematical training essentially ended with high school calculus. But as a musician and composer, he’s still exploring mathematical phenomena, especially their influence on harmony and timbre.

During the late 20th century, composers used mathematical concepts to fuse the two musical qualities, says Cheung, assistant professor of music. “Through technology and thinking about acoustics,” he adds, “we can change sounds on the computer in innumerable ways.”

Cheung’s work shows the power of mathematics to open new possibilities in music. Modern experiments with computer music are just the most recent example. According to musicians-scholars like Eugenia Cheng, a concert pianist and visiting senior lecturer in mathematics, the history and practice of music would have unfolded much differently without an appreciation of what unites music and math.

During the Baroque period, a mathematical breakthrough inspired Johann Sebastian Bach to write The Well-Tempered Clavier (1722), his book of preludes and fugues in all 24 major and minor keys. Bach was able to write in every key so successfully because mathematicians found better ways to calculate the 12th root of two. This is related to the musical problem of dividing the octave into 12 equal intervals, which involves splitting sound waves into ratios rather than equal lengths. “That’s why music before the Baroque time didn’t really modulate,” Cheng says. “It always stayed in the same key. Because of the way that they tuned keyboards, if they moved a key it would have sounded terrible.”

Cheng, whose home institution is the University of Sheffield, spent 2004 to 2006 as an L.E. Dickson Instructor at UChicago and returned as a visiting lecturer from September 2013 through December 2014. As an educator, Cheng can relate just about anything to mathematics, including food. She developed a series of YouTube lectures on the mathematics of food, covering topics such as “the perfect puff pastry,” “the perfect Mobius bagel,” and “the perfect way to share a cake.” The series evolved into a book, How to Bake Pi, which will be published by Profile Books in March.

Cheng specializes in category theory, which she characterizes as “the mathematics of mathematics”—techniques that entail extracting problems from science or life and asking if they contain common elements that can be studied apart from their real-life contexts. “Category theory was only really needed when mathematics reached a certain state of complexity, and that was in about the ’40s and ’50s,” Cheng says. That’s when the field was pioneered by UChicago’s Saunders MacLane and Columbia University’s Samuel Eilenberg.

On the other side of the equation,
composer and musician Cheung, who received a 2012 Rome Prize in musical composition from the American Academy in Rome, explains how an understanding of mathematics can lead to a deeper musical appreciation. In graduate school Cheung studied with composer Tristan Murail, now a professor emeritus of music at Columbia, who developed ideas about how harmony and timbre—the texture of a tone, distinct from pitch or volume, which suggests its vocal or instrumental source—could come together. Cheung cites composer Jonathan Harvey’s Mortuos Plango, Vivos Voco (1980) as a classic early example of combining harmony and timbre electronically. In this work, Harvey used spectral analysis and resynthesis on a computer to morph the sounds of the tenor bell at Winchester Cathedral, one of the largest in England, into the sound of a singing boy, his son.

“Like all music that concerns itself with harmony,” Cheung says, spectral music is related to mathematics. Composers of spectral music mathematically analyze sound spectra and observe how they behave and how they’re related, which provides the basis for transforming their harmony and timbre.

Murail, for example, is fascinated by bell sounds. “Tristan has had very precise tools to measure these sonorities,” Cheung says. “He might use a recording—for example, of Mongolian overtone chanting—and then actually plug it into the computer to see what’s there. From there he might re-orchestrate a passage for instrumental ensemble.”

Cheung also morphs one sound into another in his own work. “I do this mostly intuitively, I have to say, and without the aid of software when I’m writing purely for acoustic instruments,” he says. “But I’m also familiar with some of the technology that allows you to look at sounds on the computer. It’s certainly changed the way I think about sound, even when I’m not using any program.”

He conducts experiments in crossing timbres, as do other composers. When, for example, can the sounds of a piano and a violin completely fuse? “They’re such different instruments. One is sustained and vibrated. The other is attacked and decayed,” Cheung notes. “And yet we can somehow put them together in this grey area where they might be able to sound ambiguous with one another.

“With technological and mathematical tools, we are able to have control of both precision and ambiguity. Knowing about acoustics and timbre can lead us to the resynthesis of sounds we already know, and to tuning with a fine-tooth comb. But then combining these sounds or altering them in ambiguous ways can lead to exciting discoveries, making us listen in unfamiliar ways.”—Steve Koppes

NEXT GENERATION
NUCLEAR TIDE

The oceans are full of uranium. Altogether, they contain an estimated four billion metric tons of the silvery white metal—nearly 1,000 times more than all known terrestrial ores, and enough to fuel the nuclear power industry for centuries. And that’s important, given the growing need for energy sources to replace greenhouse-gas-emitting fossil fuels.

The uranium in the oceans could allow more use of nuclear power. The difficulty has always been finding a feasible way of extracting it from seawater. Carter Abney (right), a PhD student in chemistry, may have found one. Last fall he won a first place prize in the US Department of Energy’s 2014 Innovations in Fuel Cycle Research Awards competition for his contributions to a new method to harness uranium from seawater, using crystalline materials called metal-organic frameworks, or MOFs. These are compounds of metal ions and organic molecules; they function like proteins, with binding sites to attract uranium. MOFs have been designed for drug delivery within the body, gas separation and storage, and as catalysts for chemical reactions. Abney’s work, with UChicago chemist Wenbin Lin, was the first to use MOFs to extract uranium from seawater. In his study, they absorbed slightly more than 20 percent of their mass in uranium.

The same method can also help make nuclear power cleaner, by expediting its decay to safe levels. Materials made from MOF precursors can separate out highly radioactive elements called minor actinides. “You essentially consolidate the radioactivity into a condensed and stable form, which is more amenable to long-term storage and disposal than liquid waste,” Abney says.—Minna Jaffery, ’15
A sense of mortality

Underappreciated—but, it turns out, important—the olfactory system issues an SOS.

Think your sense of smell isn’t as sharp as it used to be? Go see your doctor—now. Turns out, olfaction’s repertoire is even more sweeping than previously realized. Not only does smell heighten mother-baby bonding, fuel nutrition, safeguard against toxins, enhance pleasure, and trigger memories long forgotten. It also predicts death among older adults.

“You have more than three times higher odds of death in the next five years if you have no sense of smell compared to those with a normal sense of smell,” says UChicago surgeon Jayant Pinto, a specialist in sinus and nasal diseases. His data analysis on adults aged 57 to 85, published this past fall in *PLOS ONE*, sheds new light on one of the less appreciated of the five main senses.

“It’s not in the public consciousness,” says Pinto, who studies risk factors for diseases of the nose among the aging. “People think, ‘I’m getting older. I’m going to get a hearing test’ or ‘I’m going to get a vision test,’” he says. “They don’t think, ‘My smell is declining.’”

They should. Many Alzheimer’s patients experience a weakening sense of smell as their first symptom. It frequently occurs in early-stage Parkinson’s disease as well. Such facts seemed to suggest that olfaction has important implications for brain health, but its relationship to mortality wasn’t clear. Pinto wondered: could diminished sense of smell predict death?

“We wanted to answer this question definitively,” he says. To do so, he needed to track people over time. Enter the National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project, the first-ever nationally representative study of social relationships and health among older Americans. Led by NORC at the University of Chicago, the longitudinal initiative sent research teams into more than 3,000 homes to gather data on topics as diverse as cognitive function, sexuality, financial resources, quality of relationships, and physical health.

Their collection included information on sense of smell. Subjects were asked to sniff a scented felt-tipped pen and identify five common odors—rose, leather, orange, fish, and peppermint—from among four choices. Nearly 78 percent of individuals had normal smell function, correctly identifying four or five of the scents, and another 20 percent were able to identify three of the five. But 3.5 percent could name only one scent or none. They were labeled “anosmic.”

The first wave of surveys was conducted in 2005 and 2006. When researchers followed up five years later, in 2010 and 2011, 430 of the study’s original subjects had died. The most likely to be deceased were those people who had demonstrated the most impaired sense of smell, the 3.5 percent group.

“We were surprised,” says Pinto, who initially thought that an age effect could be at work. After all, it made sense that the oldest people would have died and, because smell often declines with age, that could be a confounding variable. He and his team reanalyzed the data, controlling for a host of factors including age, gender, socioeconomic status, physical health, and cognitive function.

The relationship between declining smell and approaching death remained unchanged. In fact, not only was impaired smell a risk factor for death in the next five years, it was a stronger predictor of mortality than heart failure, lung disease, and cancer.

The question was why. “We don’t think that you lose your sense of smell and that kills you directly,” Pinto clarifies. Instead, olfactory dysfunction seems to act as a biomarker, tipping us off that something is amiss. It’s the “canary in the coal mine of human health.”

He’s currently researching how that signaling works, homing in on two key hypotheses. The first is that smell loss is a harbinger of physiological shutdown. Unlike the other senses, the olfactory system relies on a continuous regeneration of stem cells. A weakening sense of smell could indicate a more global decline in the body’s ability to generate new cells and repair itself.

Secondly, it might be a marker of environmental exposure. Housed in the roof of the nasal cavity, the olfactory nerve is the only cranial nerve directly exposed to the outside environment. “Over time, as that nerve gets beaten down by exposures,” Pinto says, “diminished olfactory function ‘could be a sign your body is also getting beaten down.’ Attackers could include pollutants, toxins, and even microbes that slowly wear away at the nerve—and the rest of the body.

As Pinto and his team investigate the why behind their findings, he urges doctors to take smell loss seriously. “This paper is a warning call,” he says. “If your patient has a deteriorating sense of smell, it’s a sign they need more attention. Find out what’s going on—and see if you can intervene to prevent any untoward health effects.”

—Brooke O’Neill, AM’04

The nose knows when time is short.
INTERVIEW

A fresh page

New Seminary Co-op director Jeff Deutsch talks about his life in books and the future of the beloved store.

Jeff Deutsch has been director of the Seminary Co-op a little over six months. He succeeded Jack Cella, EX’73, who retired in October 2013 after leading the bookstore for 43 years. Originally from Brooklyn, New York, Deutsch was previously director of the Stanford Bookstore Group. The Magazine’s interview with him is edited and adapted below.

—Laura Demanski, AM’94

Reading roots
Growing up, I was part of a Jewish community that basically lived to study. My grandfather was a great scholar and student who worked in a clothing store. He would work 10 hours a day, come home, have dinner with his family, and go out and study with the same group of men for 40 years. To witness this model of reverence for learning and a lifelong education made a big difference for me.

Formative shopping
My sister [Erica Deutsch, AB’95] did her undergrad degree here in philosophy and I lived with her for winter quarter about 20 years ago. I got to know a little bit about the University and a little bit about Hyde Park, but what I really got to know well was the Co-op. I fell in love with the old space, and it was an oasis for me. I loved my experience at the bookstore, and it was a great place to get lost—and stay warm.

Decisions, decisions
When I was weighing whether to come to what I think is the best bookstore in the world, I thought, I’m in one of the top five stores already, what’s the point? And the difference was in what the Seminary Co-op doesn’t have: a computer department, sweatshirts, school supplies.

If I could focus on books exclusively—because that’s what I got into this for—then, I thought, there’s a purity to this that I’m really interested in.

Getting acquainted
I started July 1. The store is closed on the Fourth of July and my wife wasn’t in town. So I went in, put on some music, and went A to Z through fiction, alphabetizing, organizing, touching every book, seeing what authors might be missing that we should have. That quiet time meant a lot to me. It was amazing.

Community values
The first month I just listened. I met with a lot of people and really focused on getting input. I’m continuing to do that. It’s critical that any great bookstore reflects its community. That is something that Jack Cella and the booksellers here have done an exceptional job with—not just reflecting the community but almost creating the community.

Discount culture
There is a culture that’s been created where many people do not feel great about paying full price for a book. One challenge is that we are much more revered than we are shopped. There are a lot of people who think we’re great and then go buy their books elsewhere, or just don’t buy books. When some people hear that business is difficult, they’re shocked because we have such reverence. You can spend $18 on a 600-page novel that will give you two months’ worth of entertainment immediately and then a lifetime of reflection and pleasure. You and I were just in a café where we could have gotten two croissants and two coffees, spent $20, and wouldn’t have asked for a 30 percent discount, free shipping, and this, that, and the other thing.

Part of the journey
When people come through Hyde Park they spend time at the bookstore, just like I did, fall in love with it. They take the character of Hyde Park and the character of the bookstore with them wherever they end up. I think that the Seminary Co-op and 57th Street Books connect them, very much like the Alumni Association. The act of buying a book from us is more meaningful than just buying a book—it’s a way to reconnect with Hyde Park and that time in their life, and what that represents about the pursuit of wisdom and knowledge.

On the nightstand
Right now I’m reading The Pound Era. I’ve loved every Hugh Kenner book I’ve read, but I’d never read his magnum opus. As a bookseller you’re kind of all over the place. I’m reading Theodor Adorno’s Minima Moralia on the side, and I’m spending a lot of time with Paul Valéry’s poetry—the verse poetry not the prose poetry.

Sunny outlook
The future is bright. Bookselling is alive and well, and the mission and character of these stores will persist. Whatever noise is happening in the world, there are these quiet places to reflect and to stand back, and we need them.
COURSE WORK

STUDY ABROAD

Of Montaigne

BY CARRIE GOLUS, AB'91, AM'93

On a gray October morning in Paris, the students in Philippe Desan's European Civilization course are trying to make sense of the Essays of Michel de Montaigne.

Montaigne was the first to use the word *essai* (to try) to describe a piece of writing. But Montaigne's essays—full of digressions, contradictions, and deeply personal confessions—could not be more different from formulaic five-paragraph persuasive essays, the bane of composition students everywhere. "Stream of consciousness," is one student's description of Montaigne. "It's like reading somebody's diary," says a second. A third student is blunter: "He's all over the place."

The theme of today's class is self-fashioning, meaning the process of constructing your own identity and public persona. Of the 19 students in the room, at least half could be mistaken for students from the Université Paris Diderot, across the street from the Paris Center. The women wear minidresses or slim jeans with flats; one man keeps his scarf on throughout class. And while Desan, a native Parisian, has brought along a small china cup of espresso (the center has an espresso machine, *bien sûr*), several of his students have their own diminutive paper cups too.

On the whiteboard Desan, Howard L. Willett Professor in Romance Languages and Literature, has drawn a timeline of the different versions of the *Essays*, known as "layers": the A layer (an edition of 1,000 copies published in Bordeaux in 1580), the B layer (6,000 copies, published in Paris in 1588), and the C layer, essays published by Montaigne's adopted daughter in 1595, three years after his death. Each layer included more essays than the previous one, and more additions to previous essays. Of the 108 essays Montaigne wrote during his life—"As Montaigne tells you," says Desan, "he will only stop when there will be no ink in the world, or no blood in his flesh"—the students were assigned four for today's class, "To the Reader," "Of Books," "Of Giving the Lie," and his final work, "Of Experience."

Manuscripts from the 16th century are very rare, Desan explains, because once a manuscript had been printed, it was destroyed. But in the 16th century, in a convent near Bordeaux, a copy of the 1588 edition—the B layer—was discovered, which included Montaigne's handwritten annotations. "It's called the Bordeaux copy, and it's a national treasure in France."

To preserve the faint markings, the book is stored in complete darkness, and "every 30 or 40 years" a scholar is allowed access. "I was lucky to be allowed to see it," Desan says, almost offhandedly, "and I did for the French government a color edition." A special camera, which worked in near darkness, was used to create the reproduction. "And that's what we have here." He holds up an enormous book bound in blue cloth.

"Small anecdote about that," he says, in a Montaigne-like digression. Between the pages of the precious book he discovered some hair, "probably from a beard," Desan says. "I have those in Chicago in a tube and have been looking for somebody in the science department to give me a DNA analysis. It would be neat to maybe clone Montaigne in 20 years or 50 years." The students laugh incredulously. "Maybe it was from a librarian in the 18th or 19th century. I don't know," Desan says, smiling. "But I like to believe that it might be Montaigne."

The students struggle to pass around the unwieldy book, which weighs more than 13 pounds. Its inner leaf credits "Philippe Desan, Professeur a l'Université de Chicago, Vice-Président de la Société Internationale des Amis des Montaigne." Desan is one of the world's foremost experts on Montaigne, but Montaigne himself "is not an expert of anything," he says. "He's a typical French intellectual." Jean-Paul Sartre defined an expert as someone who speaks about what he knows, while an intellectual speaks about what he doesn't know: "And this is Montaigne."

"This is why he is different from Machiavelli," says a woman in a fashionably kitschy sweater. (The group read *The Prince* the week before.) "Machiavelli is an expert in what he talks about."

"Exactly," says Desan.

The discussion turns to the "three privileged others" in Montaigne, that help him define himself. "He calls it 'three commerces,'" says Desan. "Three types of association," often it is translated, but the right word is commerce." These correspond to the

Manuscripts from the 16th century are very rare, Desan explains, because once a manuscript had been printed, it was destroyed.
various stages of his life: As a young man, friends were the most important commerce. Later, this became women (always plural). “But then Montaigne tells you, with age, you know, it’s a complicated commerce,” Desan says, smiling again. “So what comes last, the last commerce, that pleases you most?”

“Death?” guesses the man in the scarf. “Death is not a commerce, no.”

“Books,” another man suggests. “Exactly. Books! ‘Of Books.’ Books is the last commerce, the last part of your life.” In telling the reader why books have taken the place of women, “Montaigne is very crude about this. He tells you precisely how many times he did it in one night. He’s boasting a little bit,” says Desan. “Now he’s 40, 45 years old, he says, I prefer books.”

The students laugh.

Through the interaction with the three commerces, “your self is always evolving,” says Desan. “He doesn’t believe in the frozen self. ... As Montaigne tells you, what I say today is different from what I say tomorrow. But that does not mean that what I say tomorrow is better than what I say today.

“I always confuse the two painters,” says Desan, snapping his fingers in irritation. “The one who paints the Cathedral of Rouen.”

“Matisse?” a student volunteers. “No, not Matisse—”

“Monet,” comes a better guess. “Monet. I always confuse Monet and Manet.” In the famous series of paintings, Claude Monet captures the cathedral in different light conditions throughout the day. His theory was that there is no one cathedral, just a viewer’s ever-changing impression. In his essays, “that’s what Montaigne is doing. He’s one of the first Impressionists, if you prefer.

“That’s just not the way we’re taught to write at the Little Red Schoolhouse,” says Desan, referring to the nickname for the popular undergraduate course Academic and Professional Writing. “I always have a fight with them,” he says, because “they make you write like lawyers. I write in a French way.” In this style of writing (which owes a bit to the French art of seduction), “you don’t reveal your ammunition right away,” says Desan. “Certainly not in your introduction.”

—C.G.
A law professor offers an inside look at his experience on a presidential panel reviewing how the government protects national security and preserves civil liberties.

By Geoffrey R. Stone, JD’71
Photography by Drew Reynolds
In August 2013, I was sitting in my office working on a book, minding my own business, when I got a phone call from the White House. I was told that, in the wake of Edward Snowden’s revelations, President Obama was appointing a review group to study national security and information privacy issues and asked if I would be willing to serve.

My first thought was, “Oh, shit.” This would be a time-consuming process that would distract me from my writing and, like so many previous committees, the group would end up producing a report that would inevitably disappear into somebody’s desk, never to be heard from again.

When the president asks, though, you can’t say no, especially when you were the one who, as dean, first appointed him to the Law School faculty. So I kept my first thought to myself and said, “Sure, happy to do it,” confident that I had an ace in the hole that would prevent me from serving.

I knew I would need top-secret clearance, and I figured there was more than enough in my background to preclude that. But, somewhat to my dismay, I expeditiously received a top-secret security clearance and was hustled off to Washington for a meeting in the White House situation room with President Obama, national security advisor Susan Rice, and several other people, including my former student, assistant attorney general Lisa Monaco, JD’97.

In that first meeting President Obama told the five of us serving on the review panel that he wanted us to serve as an independent group to advise him about how to restore public trust and strike an appropriate balance between protecting national security and preserving civil liberties. We were a diverse group in terms of our professional backgrounds and ways of thinking about these issues.

There was Michael Morell, who spent his career with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), including two stints as acting director, and Richard Clarke, a veteran of the State and Defense Departments. Also serving were Georgia Tech professor Peter Swire, who worked in the Clinton and Obama administrations on privacy and information technology, and my former Law School colleague Cass Sunstein, who had worked in Obama’s Office of Management and Budget.

Then there was me, who has served for decades on the American Civil Liberties Union’s National Advisory Council. It was quite clear there was nothing we were going to agree upon. As Rice put it, we were “five highly egotistical, high-testosterone guys” who were being “thrown in a room together, with nobody in charge, and expected to solve a set of intractable problems.”

Yet what happened was exactly that. As we spent five months together, working four or five days a week in a secure facility in Washington, we came to trust, respect, and learn from each other so much that, to our amazement, we produced 46 unanimous recommendations. Not unanimous in the sense of, “I’ll give you this one if you give me that one,” but in the sense that we all agreed on every recommendation that the review group made to the president in our 300-page report.

None of us would have imagined that was possible when we began.

Despite diverse professional backgrounds, Stone says, review group members achieved an unlikely unanimity.

I discovered on the first day that I didn’t know anything. Unlike the other four members, who had extensive experience in government, I had none except as a law clerk to a Supreme Court justice 40 years earlier. My inexperience immediately became apparent in the use of acronyms. Nary a sentence was uttered where somebody didn’t say “DARPA” or “NIST,” and I had no idea what they were talking about.

With some sense of mortification, I raised my hand and said, “Excuse me, what does that mean?” I decided I wasn’t going to be able to live with raising my hand all the time, so I was busily scribbling down acronyms all the time. By the end of the first week, I had a list of 279 I’d never heard before.

I Googled them and wrote down the full names. The first weekend, when I got back from Washington, I started trying to memorize them. After about six, I realized it wasn’t
going to happen. That captures the experience of being thrown into a world that was strange for each of us in different ways, but probably more for me than anyone else.

We were quickly overwhelmed with requests for meetings. We met with all of the intelligence agencies on multiple occasions. We also met with Rice and cabinet secretaries and other representatives from the Justice, State, Defense, and Commerce Departments. We testified several times before Senate and House intelligence and judiciary committees.

We also had many meetings with individual members of Congress who had particular agendas they wanted to pursue with us. We met with a wide range of privacy and civil liberties groups. We met with European Union representatives. It was an extensive listening and learning process about a broad range of statutory provisions and practices—almost all of which were secret.

Because much of what we were dealing with was classified, members of the review panel could not review documents or have discussions about that information outside a secure facility. That meant I couldn’t work on the report from my home or office in Chicago. On weekends I had to go to a secure facility at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) office on Roosevelt Road.

It was like being in a cave for five months. Everything was consumed with the fascinating, exhausting work of producing our final 300-page report.

The report contains 46 recommendations, but that understates the number of issues addressed. Many have subparts, so there are about 200 recommendations in all.

To offer a sense of the group’s thought processes and President Obama’s response to our recommendations, I will focus on three main areas: the collection of telephone metadata, the use of national security letters to obtain private information, and the role of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

**SECTION 215 TELEPHONY METADATA PROGRAM**

Before 1978, when the government engaged in foreign intelligence surveillance, whether in the United States or abroad, it was subject only to the discretion of the president as commander in chief. There was no legislative restriction and there was no judicial involvement in anything the president did in the name of foreign intelligence surveillance. If the president wanted to wiretap a phone call between people in the United States on the belief that it was relevant to foreign intelligence, the president could do that without probable cause, without a warrant, without any oversight whatsoever outside the executive branch.

In the 1970s, grave abuses by the FBI, the CIA, the National Security Agency (NSA), and Army Intelligence under the auspices of J. Edgar Hoover, Lyndon Johnson, and Richard Nixon came to light. They had engaged in what was understood to be inappropriate, and in some instances illegal, surveillance of American citizens for a variety of reasons, mostly political, and often highly invasive of privacy beyond the scope of any agency’s authority.

Congress decided to do something to rein this in, instituting the Church Committee, named after Senator Frank Church, to establish oversight of the executive branch. The Church Committee Report, one of the truly great documents in the history of Congress, made a series of complex recommendations, which ultimately resulted in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. That legislation did many things, but most importantly, it brought various elements of foreign intelligence surveillance under the rule of law through the creation of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

Ordinary federal courts do not have security clearances and a great deal of foreign intelligence information is classified. Therefore, you could not have an ordinary federal judge deciding whether the executive branch could undertake a foreign intelligence wiretap. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court enabled judges to play their traditional role in overseeing what the executive branch did in the classified realm. The court was authorized to deal with foreign intelligence surveillance that took place inside the United States. What the president did outside the United States was regarded as beyond the scope of even Congress’s business at that time.

From the late 1970s until 9/11, that process worked reasonably well, and, for the most part, people considered it effective. There was obviously a wake-up call on 9/11, and public support grew for granting intelligence agencies greater capacity to prevent such attacks.
Congress made a number of modifications to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act in the wake of 9/11 to strengthen the agencies’ ability to ferret out information about terrorist activity. One of the provisions was Section 215 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which authorized the agencies to go to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court and get an order based on reasonable and articulable suspicion that a suspect was engaged in international terrorist activity. If the agencies demonstrated that, the court could issue an order that authorized them to go to banks, credit card companies, telephone companies, internet companies, etc., and serve the equivalent of a subpoena demanding records about the individual in question.

In 2006, as technology changed, the NSA came to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court and proposed a new program to gather telephone metadata from huge numbers of phone calls that took place in the United States—and to hold that data for five years. That metadata consists of phone numbers—every phone number covered by the order, every number called by every phone number covered by the order, and every number that calls every phone number covered by the order. It doesn’t include names, it doesn’t include geographical locations, and it doesn’t include content, but it involves huge amounts of numbers.

The NSA wanted this information because it now had the technological capability to manage a database of that magnitude. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, the Senate and House intelligence committees, and the Department of Justice approved the program. It enabled the NSA, when it had reasonable and articulable suspicion that a particular telephone number—almost invariably a number outside the United States—was associated with a person suspected of terrorist activity, to query the database. That is, an NSA analyst could type in the phone number of the suspected terrorist and the database would spit out information about the numbers with which the suspect’s number was in contact.

The idea was to connect the dots. Although the program collected massive amounts of data, it was carefully designed not to reveal that data to the NSA indiscriminately. When the analysts queried a suspected number, the information they received reflected only the numbers associated with other suspected terrorists that the queried number had been in contact with. The goal, in other words, was to determine whether a suspected terrorist outside the United States was communicating with a suspected terrorist inside the United States.

In 2012, the most recent year for which full data was then available, the NSA queried the database for 288 numbers. Those 288 numbers yielded 12 tips. That is, in 12 instances based on those 288 queries, agents discovered that the suspected terrorists outside the United States were communicating with numbers associated with terrorist suspects in the United States. In those 12 instances, the NSA turned the information over to the FBI for further investigation.

None of the 12 tips in 2012 produced information that was useful in preventing a planned terrorist attack. In fact, in the seven years in which the program existed, there had not been an instance in which the metadata program had led directly to the prevention of a terrorist attack. Many other programs employed by the NSA have had very productive results, but not this one.

Defenders of the program argued, I think persuasively, that the fact that the program had yet to turn up information that prevented a terrorist attack did not represent a failure. An effort to prevent attacks on the scale of 9/11—such as nuclear, chemical, biological attacks—might yield meaningful information only once in a decade. Failing to prevent such an attack, though, would be catastrophic. Thus, the program was analogous to a fire alarm in one’s home. It might save your life only once a decade, but that doesn’t mean you toss it out.

In evaluating the program, we determined that it was not as draconian as the public has been led to believe. It is much more carefully targeted and managed, and its potential value is real. Nonetheless, we concluded that the program was not limited adequately to protect the legitimate privacy interests of Americans.

With that in mind, we made three fundamental recommendations with regard to the program:
1. The government should not hold the database. One of the grave dangers, historical experience teaches, is the risk of some misguided public official—whether J. Edgar Hoover or a Richard Nixon—using this extraordinary data to do harm, to learn information about free speech, about political associations, about political enemies. Although the metadata consists only of phone numbers, if you look at the pattern of a person’s calls over an extended period of time, you can learn a lot that can be put to nefarious use. Therefore, we recommended that the information should remain in the hands of the telephone service providers, who already have it for billing purposes. But the government itself should not hold the data.

2. The NSA should not be able to query the database without a court order. Human nature being what it is, the people engaged in the enterprise of finding bad guys are likely to err on the side of suspicion where a neutral or detached observer might not. That’s why we ordinarily require search warrants issued by neutral and detached judges in criminal investigations. We therefore recommended that the NSA should not be allowed to query the database on the basis of its own analysts’ judgment. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court should have to determine independently and in each instance whether the standard of reasonable and articulable suspicion is met. This requirement would also reduce substantially the risk of unlawful access to the database.

3. The data should not be held for more than two years. We concluded that five years is unnecessary. The data gets stale, its value depreciates, and the risks of misuse increase as the information accumulates.

President Obama has endorsed these recommendations, and they are reflected in the USA Freedom Act, which is currently pending before Congress. The USA Freedom Act was successfully filibustered by Republicans in the Senate last November. Although it received 58 votes, it failed to achieve the 60 votes needed to win cloture. The bill will likely be back before Congress again this spring.

NATIONAL SECURITY LETTERS

Another recommendation involved an investigatory tool called national security letters (NSLs). In another post-9/11 action, the government authorized the FBI to issue NSLs when, in the course of a national security investigation, it wants to obtain information such as bank records, credit card records, telephone records, and travel records about a person it suspects of being involved in terrorist activity. Using these letters, the FBI itself issues such orders to the companies directing them to turn over the relevant information.

NSLs have been controversial ever since they came into existence, in part because they are highly secretive. The whole process is classified and there have been abuses in the use of NSLs, which have been reported to Congress. Although the abuses have been addressed in various ways, they have been a source of some concern. Our view was that, in the absence of a situation where time is so much of the essence that going before a judge would pose a danger to the nation, a court order should be required for the use of NSLs.

When we discussed this issue with FBI director James Comey, JD’85, another of my former students, he was ada-
mentally opposed to this recommendation. His view was that the inefficiency of such a requirement would interfere with the prompt use of NSLs. Moreover, he argued that there was no reason why the government should be forced to jump through more hoops in a terrorist investigation than, say, a prosecutor would have to jump through in a drug investigation. In a drug investigation, a prosecutor can issue a subpoena, which functions in much the same way as an NSL, without judicial approval.

Our view was that there is a big difference between the use of subpoenas and the use of NSLs. Subpoenas are largely transparent. They’re not classified. They’re not secret. They’re often at issue in criminal prosecutions when the government wants to introduce evidence, and their legality can therefore be openly challenged.

The NSLs, on the other hand, are classified. A phone company or a bank that receives an NSL can’t say anything about it, under threat of criminal prosecution.

We considered that lack of transparency a serious problem that invites the kind of abuse that we were charged with preventing. The absence of a judicial check, we felt, creates an inevitable temptation to err on the side of finding suspicion where it doesn’t exist.

On this score, President Obama did not accept our recommendation to require a court order for the issuance of NSLs. Apparently, at the Law School we taught Comey how to make a persuasive legal argument too well.

**FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE COURT**

A third issue involved the operations of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. The FISC was designed primarily to issue search warrants and to limit the ability of presidents to authorize foreign intelligence wiretaps in the United States without judicial oversight. With the enactment of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, the government would have to establish probable cause before a judge on the FISC would issue a warrant, even for the purpose of foreign intelligence surveillance.

What became evident over time, though, was that on rare occasions the FISC would have to decide not only whether the government could show probable cause for a particular investigation but whether and how certain novel methods of surveillance were governed by the law. Sometimes these involved complex questions of statutory or constitutional interpretation. This was illustrated by the FISC’s decision to permit the Section 215 metadata program.

The review group’s judgment was that when such issues arise, the FISC judges should hear arguments not only from the government, but also from advocates for the other side, just as would any other court.

We therefore recommended the creation of a privacy and civil liberties advocate to represent the other side when these sorts of complex legal and constitutional issues arise.

The FISC judges objected to this recommendation. They argued that they were responsible jurists who could sort through the legal issues on their own.

President Obama compromised on this. He adopted the recommendation that there should be a privacy and civil liberties advocate, but he concluded that this advocate should be authorized to participate in the proceedings of the FISC only if the judges of that court invited such participation.

This recommendation, too, is incorporated into the pending USA Freedom Act.

In the end, this was a truly extraordinary experience. Not only did it provide me and my colleagues on the review group with remarkable insights into the inner workings of our national security state, but it also resulted —somewhat to my surprise—in a series of important and far-reaching recommendations that will likely help shape the structure and operation of many of these programs in the future.

**Geoffrey R. Stone, JD’71, is the Edward H. Levi Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago Law School. This essay is adapted from a February 2014 lecture at the Law School. To hear more about Stone’s service on the presidential review panel and his conclusions on the state of the nation in the age of the NSA, register to attend his Harper Lecture, “The View from Inside the NSA,” on April 1 in New York City. Details are available at alumniandfriends.uchicago.edu/harper.**
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BY LAURA DEMANSKI, AM’94
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Carried out on the molecular scale, novel engineering techniques make their impact on the human scale, combating disease, transforming energy storage, and providing clean water where people need it most.

In the world’s cities, evidence-based solutions developed by Crime Lab and Urban Education Institute researchers help improve the lives of millions.

The campaign goals are equally ambitious. The University of Chicago Campaign: Inquiry and Impact seeks to raise $4.5 billion to pursue outcomes of this magnitude across the University. From the Division of the Humanities to the University of Chicago Medicine to the Marine Biological Laboratory to campus life, a successful campaign will power a greater UChicago and the potential of students, faculty, alumni, parents, families, and friends to make a difference.

Hand in hand with the fundraising goal goes another just as bold, and symbolically tied to the 125th anniversary in 2015: to engage 125,000 alumni with the institution and each other. By enriching the life of the worldwide UChicago community through volunteering, attending an event, or making a gift, alumni count toward the goal. Last year, 81,000 alumni engaged with the University in one of these ways.

During a quiet phase preceding the October 29 public launch, the campaign reached nearly half its fundraising goal, and by mid-December it had already passed the $2.3 billion mark. Trustee support has been especially foundational; at the time of the launch, every University trustee had participated, with their contributions totaling $827 million.

One measure of the UChicago Campaign’s ambition? Its $4.5 billion goal is more than twice that of the last campaign. That undertaking, the Chicago Initiative, aimed for $2 billion, but the University community’s generosity had helped outdistance this goal by some $380 million at its conclusion in 2008. That above-and-beyond show of support from alumni, parents, families, friends, and trustees helped fuel the University’s momentum and achievements since then—a trajectory that the University of Chicago Campaign seeks to extend to even greater heights.

The scale of the undertaking, for University President Robert J. Zimmer, compares to the feats achieved by William Rainey Harper and John D. Rockefeller, who looked out on empty fields on Chicago’s South Side and saw the great university that could spring up there. It took years of dedicated work infusing others with their passion. Building the new institution was an expansive collective effort, and the result of many individual efforts that went, in Zimmer’s words, “beyond reasonable expectations.” Speaking to a group of the University’s most generous alumni and friends at an October launch event, Zimmer invoked those founding efforts as a guiding example.

“Each of us has benefited through the work, the determination, the fearlessness, the generosity, and the belief in the future that built and sustained the University,” Zimmer said. “Now it is our turn. Our responsibility is to do what the founders of this University did, and what the generations that followed them did. We must succeed far beyond reasonable expectations.”

Four gifts from trustees announced this fall demonstrate that very generosity and belief in the future. The gifts will sustain core values of the University—research, education, collaboration, accessibility—and illustrate the campaign’s potential to deepen inquiry across the University and magnify its impact.

Two major gifts to the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy include the largest in its history. Both will support a broader agenda for the school and help it move to a new home. On November 5, a few weeks before Chicago Harris celebrated its 25th anniversary, the University announced the record-setting $20 million gift from Campaign Council members Dennis J. Keller, MBA’68, cofounder and retired chairman and CEO of DeVry Education Group, and Constance T. Keller. The Kellers committed an additional $5 million to Chicago Booth.
Also investing in Chicago Harris's future, King Harris, chairman of Harris Holdings Inc. and board chair of AptarGroup Inc., and Caryn Harris will give $12.5 million and extend their family's long-standing support. King Harris's uncle, Irving B. Harris, along with his wife, Joan Harris, provided the core endowment for the school, which was then called the Graduate School of Public Policy Studies and was renamed in his honor in 1990.

Under new dean Daniel Diermeier (see On the Agenda, page 11) and with the support of the gifts from the Kellers and Harrises, Chicago Harris will move a few doors east on 60th Street. The New Graduate Residence Hall, designed by Edward Durrell Stone and opened in 1963 as the Center for Continuing Education, will undergo a major renovation and adaptive reuse project. The project will preserve key features of Stone's original design while recasting the interior space for teaching, research, and events, and will incorporate sustainable building technologies.

“We are in an ideal position to extend our reach,” said Diermeier. “At this critical moment in the school's development, these gifts will allow us to build a facility that will accommodate the ambitious work that our faculty and students are known for.” The new space, to be named the Keller Center, will also position Chicago Harris to continue an upward trend. Over the past decade, the school has increased and diversified its enrollment and attracted more international students. The Keller Center, significantly larger than Chicago Harris's current home at 1155 East 60th Street, will create room to continue growing, both for the student body and for the faculty.

With them will grow a curriculum that has already expanded to include programs in critical areas of today’s policy landscape. Recent innovations include an interdisciplinary master’s degree program in computational analysis and public policy that is the first of its kind. The school has also forged an academic partnership with Argonne National Laboratory for its master’s program in environmental science and policy, and launched new research centers for policy entrepreneurship and municipal finance.

Part of the Harrises’ gift is a $2.5 million commitment that goes to the 2x20 Fund, a new initiative designed to increase enrollment, boost faculty research, and implement more leadership development programs in those key areas, preparing Chicago Harris students to serve governments, nonprofits, and businesses worldwide. Keller expects his and his wife’s gifts to Chicago Harris and Chicago Booth will encourage new partnerships between students and faculty at the two professional schools. Diermeier sees greater international opportunities for future Harris students resulting from the Kellers’ and Harrises’ generosity too.
The building, slated for completion in 2018 on South Campus, will overlook the Midway Plaisance along 60th Street between Woodlawn and Kimbark Avenues. A site for academic conferences, workshops, lectures, meetings, ceremonies, and other gatherings, it will incorporate spaces for people to come together formally and informally and dynamic, advanced technology. The Rubenstein Forum will enable the University to host on campus many of the conferences and other events now being held in downtown Chicago. It will be a destination for members of the campus community as well as visiting scholars, distinguished guests, alumni, and others.

A process for selecting the building’s architect will be announced later this year. In designing the Rubenstein Forum, the University is aiming to set a new standard of environment for what Zimmer called “the regular and rigorous exchange of ideas that is a hallmark of the University of Chicago.” Provost Eric D. Isaacs added that “proposing, exchanging, and testing ideas is at the heart of our work as scholars. … The Rubenstein Forum will reaffirm that value in the most practical way, satisfying a growing need and supporting the ambitions of our faculty.”

For Joseph Neubauer, MBA’65, increasing access to a UChicago education is personal. “I was not yet a citizen when the University of Chicago business school offered me a scholarship,” he said. “It changed my life.” A $13 million gift from the Neubauer Family Foundation, announced in December, will do the same for future generations.

The Neubauer Family Foundation’s gift goes further, benefiting students and families beyond UChicago through the Admissions Academy program. Through the program, University admissions staff help families around the country navigate the college application and financial aid application processes, regardless of where their students plan to apply. With support from the gift, Admissions Academy programs will now be offered bilingually to Spanish-speaking families.

In addition to their giving, Joe Neubauer and Jeanette Lerman-Neubauer are leaders of the campaign, he as its chair and both as members of the Campaign Council. The two new programs established by their gift build on years of work to increase access to a College education: the Odyssey Scholarships program, UChicago Promise, and, most recently, No Barriers, which, starting with the Class of 2019, will replace loans with grants in all need-based aid packages and make it easier for families to apply for admission and financial aid. “We are fortunate to have supporters and friends who understand how a Chicago education will impact the lives of these students, on campus, at home, and in the world,” said dean of the College John W. Boyer, AM’69, PhD’75. “We know others will be inspired to create more No Barriers opportunities.”

The gifts from the Kellers, the Harrises, Rubenstein, and the Neubauer Family Foundation are four of 217,068 gifts made by 102,105 donors who share their vision of an even greater University of Chicago. Together, they are helping UChicago realize—again—the ambition that has driven inquiry and impact since Harper and Rockefeller saw the boundless possibility in those empty fields 125 years ago. ♦
What difference can one idea, one person, one university make?

Discover UChicago

JOIN fellow alumni and friends as the University of Chicago comes to a city near you for receptions with President Robert J. Zimmer. MEET faculty who drive discovery in education and research around the globe. EXPLORE interactive exhibitions that showcase insights and innovations that make UChicago one of the world’s great centers for inquiry and impact. DROP IN and Discover UChicago.

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At the University in the 1960s, Bernie Sanders, AB’64, set out on a path that led to the Senate, and an unlikely place at the center.

By Rick Perlstein, AB’92
Illustration by Dongyun Lee
At the University in the 1960s, Bernie Sanders, AB’64, set out on a path that led to the Senate, and an unlikely place at the center.

by rick perlstein, ab ‘92

illustration by dongyun lee
This event is off-the-record,” read the video screen in front of which Senator Bernie Sanders, AB’64, held forth at the Institute of Politics offices on Woodlawn Avenue one Saturday this past June. Institute director David Axelrod, AB’76, had invited the senator, who was in town to accept a Public Service Award from UChicago’s Alumni Association and Alumni Board of Governors, to be part of a discussion series where political and media figures—CNN president Jeff Zucker, Republican National Committee chairman Reince Preibus, Vice President Joe Biden—speak frankly to students outside of the media limelight.

So it is that I can only relate that Sanders may or may not, for the benefit of 30 or so UChicago students and about a third that number of graduates in town for Alumni Weekend, have said that America today faces more serious problems than at any time since the Great Depression, or perhaps ever; that the top 1 percent of Americans control 38 percent of the country’s wealth; and that there’s no reason Americans, if they only apply their political will to it and put aside the identity-politics distractions that keep voters in the 99 percent from recognizing their common economic interests, couldn’t provide weeks and months of paid vacation and family leave, distribute free day care to all children and health care to all citizens, and end poverty to boot, while maintaining a growing, dynamic economy.

I can report this because these are the kinds of things Sanders—Vermont’s junior senator, the only self-declared socialist in either house of Congress, the ranking member on the Senate Budget Committee, and a figure recently in the media limelight both for his chairmanship of the Senate’s Veterans Affairs Committee and his avowals that he is prepared to challenge Hillary Clinton for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination—has been saying, with gruff confidence, in just about every speech he’s made since he won his first term as mayor of Burlington, Vermont, in 1981. I also can report, because both Axelrod’s shop and the senator’s office have kindly given me leave to do so, that Bernie Sanders told his audience how his entire remarkable political adventure began at the University of Chicago in January 1962.

Sanders was born in Flatbush, Brooklyn, in 1941. His father had been the only member of his family to escape the Holocaust. In high school Sanders ran for student body president on a platform to provide scholarships to war orphans in Korea. Transferring to the University of Chicago from Brooklyn College after his mother died, he arrived at a campus busy waking up from the political somnolence of the 1950s. “Even in the ’50s, the U of C was known as a hotbed of radicalism,” remembers Sally Cook, AB’66 (Class of 1965), who entered the College in 1961. “Some of my friends’ parents were shocked that my parents would let me go.”

Sanders’s classmate Mike Parker, AB’64, arrived on campus as a freshman in 1958 with plans to become a physicist. He found himself drawn to the nuclear disarmament movement and helped found the campus chapter of the Student Peace Union, one of 40 or 50 around the country. “It’s important to remember that in that period we were just coming out of McCarthyism,” he says. In 1960 the national SPU held a Students Speak for Peace day. Parker joined a handful of students passing out leaflets at the gate of Northwestern. They were promptly arrested. “There was a huge change between ’60 and ’64 … And the U of C was one of the places where it changed earlier.”

Peruse back files of the Maroon from the summer preceding Sanders’s arrival in Hyde Park, and it’s all there. July 14, 1961: “Freedom Riders Charge Police Brutality.” August 11: The University of Chicago Fair Play for Cuba Committee held a panel discussion in Social Sciences 122. The Orientation Issue, September 29: “Conservatives Defeated at NSA Congress.”

The next week there were articles on whether the Selective Service might begin drafting students; on young people, including a kid from the University of Michigan named Tom Hayden, arrested for civil rights activity in McComb, Mississippi; on a House Committee on Un-American Ac-

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remarkable political adventure began at the University of Vermont, in 1981. I also can report, because both Axelrod's made since he won his first term as mayor of Burlington, and a figure recently in the media limelight both for his chairmanship of the Senate Budget Committee, and a socialist in either house of Congress, the ranking member of a discussion series where political and social interests, couldn't provide weeks and months of paid vacation and family leave, distribute free day care to all children and health care to all citizens, and end poverty problems than at any time since the Great Depression, or the 99 percent from recognizing their common son Americans, if they only apply their political will to it...often in evidence. Another Sanders trademark, not so much. Mark Leibovich wrote in the New York Times Magazine in 2007, after Sanders beat his Republican opponent for senator by 33 points, “Journalistic convention in Vermont mandates that every Sanders story remark on his unruly hair as early on as possible. It also stipulates that every piece of his clothing be described as ‘rumpled.’” He’s not as rumpled now. He’s a potential presidential candidate who was at the white-hot center of one of the most intense political issues of the summer: the scandal of the Department of Veterans Affairs falsifying records involving long waiting periods for care. The week I visited, Sanders had just passed a bipartisan bill he wrote with Republican senator John McCain to fix the broken federal agency. It allows veterans to opt out of VA care and receive private care if they’ve had long delays or live more than 40 miles from a VA facility; makes it easier to remove incompetent VA officials; and authorizes the construction of 26 new VA facilities in 17 states and Puerto Rico. The bill proved a rare nostalgic glimpse of the Washington of yesteryear, when Democrats and Republicans actually worked together to solve real problems.

It also shows how Sanders has transformed himself. He’s introduced a Restore Our Privacy Act to curtail the surveillance provisions of the Patriot Act and a Comprehensive Dental Reform Act to address woeful access to dental care; helped write the first new surface transportation bill since 2005; and, as founder of the Senate’s Defending Social Security Caucus, introduced legislation to keep its trust fund solvent for another 75 years. Yes, he’s still Capitol Hill’s socialist gadfly. But he’s also become a player.

Befitting that role, his suit is veritably crisp. (Last time I visited him, in his House office in 1998, he was wearing a ratty blue sweater.) And at his talk at the Institute of Politics, he connected so skillfully with his audience—first asking every questioner’s name, then addressing them by those names with eye contact—that, waiting to see him in his office, I complimented his staff on the strides their boss has made in dialing down his famous irascibility. They beam with an almost filial pride.

Do you think Bernie has a Brooklyn accent?”

Yes, he does, I agree with my interlocutor, Robin Kaufman, AB’65, a Hyde Park neighborhood activist who has kept in touch with Sanders since they met at the College.

“This is like 2 percent of the accent he had then. It was so thick you could cut it. And it was really kind of weird in the context of Chicago. Even though the University of Chicago had a lot of New Yorkers. But Bernie’s Brooklyn accent was something else.”

In Sanders’s office in the Dirksen Senate Office Building one day this past summer, the Brooklyn accent is very much in evidence. Another Sanders trademark, not so much. Mark Leibovich wrote in the New York Times Magazine in 2007, after Sanders beat his Republican opponent for senator by 33 points, “Journalistic convention in Vermont mandates that every Sanders story remark on his unruly hair as early on as possible. It also stipulates that every piece of his clothing be described as ‘rumpled.’”

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Although, I discover once we begin the interview, he hasn’t changed in one respect: he’s still frustratingly irascible in the presence of journalistic profilers. He hates talking about himself. He thinks it’s a distraction from what journalism should be about: serious issues, not, as he puts it, gossip. Most of his sentences in response to my questions on his College career devolve into incomprehensible mumbles.

He looks at his watch. He gazes imploringly at his press secretary. (“We’ve got a vote at what time, 5:30?”)

On the subject of his college career, one of his mumbles follows the words “kids of doctors and lawyers.” His father sold paint. He felt out of place. Politics helped. Remembers Parker, “The people who were politically active were sort of drawn together, because we were such a small number.” And by Sanders’s first winter quarter, political activity on campus intensified considerably. The student chapter of the NAACP had decided to disband and reform themselves as a student chapter of the more militant Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

Urban renewal across the country was gaining attention: the September 1961 issue of Harper’s ran a excerpt from urban activist Jane Jacobs’s forthcoming book, soon to become a classic, The Death and Life of Great American Cities (Random House, 1961). The last page took direct aim at the University-driven “Hyde Park A” neighborhood rehabilitation plan as typical of “orthodox city planning” designed to limit street activity; the University had bulldozed 55th Street’s deteriorating commercial corridor, with no fewer than 23 taverns and liquor outlets, into the strip of brown brick fortresses that we know now. Jacobs acknowledged the crime and decay that troubled 55th Street but took issue with the solution, arguing that lively businesses with sidewalk access do not constitute “blight,” as urban-planning fashion then believed, but provided just the sort of “eyes on the street” that prevent crime. (Planners, including those in Hyde Park, have come around to her view, as the University’s recent 53rd Street renewal project, with abundant sidewalk storefronts, attests.)

The September 29, 1961, Orientation Issue of the Maroon gave the director of the University-affiliated South East Chicago Commission, Julian Levi, PhB’29, JD’31,
half a page to respond. He did so with evident defensive-ness, arguing that under conditions of deterioration, crime was best prevented not by eyes on the street but “the re-
straints and disciplines of a social community at work.”

Part of the University’s ongoing urban renewal efforts involved identifying buildings believed to be in danger of, in
the argot of the day, “tipping”: whites leaving a neighborhood when too many blacks moved in. In some cases, unscrupulous
real estate interests would move in blacks deliberately, pro-
voke the exodus of whites nervous about losing their prop-
erty values. Then the owners would subdivide the units and
make a windfall profit. So the University bought them first.
“By the early 1960s, the university had purchased buildings
with hundreds of units throughout Hyde Park, amounting to
10 percent of the private rental market,” according to historian
LeDale Winling. The students called that “Negro removal.”
The administration professed a version of desegregation as an
official value—“stable integration,” aimed at simultaneously
preserving the quality and safety of the neighborhood. Stu-
dent activists were dubious. The administration said stable
integration; they saw segregation.

Then, in the spring of 1961, David Wolf, AB’65, JD’68,
tried to rent an apartment with three buddies, one of them
black. “We were turned down everywhere,” he remem-
bered. Wolf’s father was an accomplished labor organizer
and publicist with some contacts in the civil rights com-
unity. He advised a tried-and-true technique: send black and
white applicants to University-owned buildings separately
to try to rent apartments, and see what happens next. What
happened was a blunt Maroon headline on January 17: “UC
admits housing segregation.”

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The administration protested that it was only tempo-
rary—that, the Maroon wrote, “in cases in which buildings
which are bought and kept only for the purpose of arresting
deterioration that the racial policy of the owner immedi-
ately before UC is not reversed.” Beadle insisted, “In this
practical and far from ideal world you have to move slowly
enough so that you don’t lose. If the University had imme-
diately integrated all the houses in Hyde Park that it bought
ten years ago … the University wouldn’t be here today.”
Faculty members, many of them prominent on the left, sup-
ported Beadle. The anthropologist Sol Tax, PhD’35, said
the University “may well be choosing the lesser of imme-
mediate evils.” Political philosopher Donald Meiklejohn said,
“There may well have been individual cases where I would
criticize particular steps which have been taken, but Mr.
Beadle’s claim of progress in the past twenty years seems
to me completely persuasive.”

Student CORE, unsatisfied, girded for confrontation—
even as their beloved faculty adviser, Gerhard Meyer, a
refugee from Nazi Germany, urged caution: “He told them
they must not lose sight of the complexity of the issue,” the
Maroon reported. “He advised CORE’s members to ‘do
what you have to, but do it in a spirit which does not deny
… the good will of people.’”

Compromise was not yet to be. Backed by student gov-
ernment, CORE voted in a spirited mass meeting in the
lounge of the New Dorm (later Woodward Court) to try a
different tactic. The next day, at a noon rally at the rear
steps of the Administration Building, Bernard Sanders,
chairman of the social action committee of CORE, said,
“We feel it is an intolerable situation, when Negro and
white students of the University cannot live together in
university owned apartments.” Then some 35 people, most
of them white students, strode into the building, took the
elevator to the fifth floor, and reclined on the floor along
the walls of the reception room adjoining Beadle’s office:
a sit-in.

An elevator door opened around three o’clock; Presi-
dent Beadle egressed and, the Maroon reported, “greeted
the students with a friendly ‘Hi’ as he entered his office.”
The hours advanced. Students talked quietly among them-
selves, others played bridge, still others read from required
class readings: On Liberty, by John Stuart Mill; a book called
Equality; a collection of Frederick Law Olmsted’s aboli-
tionist reportage, The Slave States, before the Civil War—
CORE was not just reading the Core but deploying what
they learned there. “The University should practice what
it teaches,” one told Kaufman, the Maroon’s reporter.

Kaufman had endured the frustration of not being able
to stay overnight on the sit-in’s first evening; the parietal
rules of the day dictated that as a first-year female student,
she had to have a phone number to “sign out to” in order to get permission to stay out past 11 p.m., and the only phone available to the students had been disconnected when the building closed at 5 p.m. Which became relevant upon Kaufman’s return the next morning when “I got a note from campus security saying there was an emergency and I should please call home. My brother had been having surgery, and I thought something had happened to him when I got this emergency phone call. As it turned out, this sit-in of 33 students had made national news. ... Somebody in Boston had seen this and called my mom.”

Different times—very different from, say, seven years later, when a cadre of armed black militants exited the administration building at Cornell, or when the main demand at the 1969 University of Chicago sit-in was equal student participation in the hiring and retention of all faculty. Note the 1962 sit-in picture in which students listen politely as the chairman of the social action committee lectures them animatedly, book in hand. A few of the men wear suits and ties. Though it should be noted that the speaker, Bernie Sanders, is wearing a ratty sweater.

Senator Sanders doesn’t even mumble when I remind him of the compromise that ended the sit-in: the formation of a committee of faculty, students, and representatives of civic and community groups to discuss and investigate the matter. He just issues a weary sigh. It says: one more of those milquetoast compromises that befall the Sisyphus who makes it his or her lot to fight to change the system.

He’s still at it, though, more than 50 years later. Parker, an activist fighting to close down a polluting Chevron refinery in Richmond, California, finds it downright heroic. “Knowing someone like him was part of the inspiration for what we’re doing here: yes, it’s possible. Somebody is doing it. You don’t have to succumb to the two-party system. By building an independent movement, you can be fairly true to your values, and you can have an impact.”

But the first rock Sanders had to roll up the hill was graduating. “I was not exactly a stellar student,” the senator admits in his office. He started out majoring in English. “But it turns out I wasn’t all that great [mumble].” He switched to political science, pursuing his education in solitude in the basement of Harper Library—“a very good, a very fine library. I remember being down in the stacks. I don’t know what they call them now. Buried down there.” (Reading what? “Marx, a lot of Freud, [mumble].” Most politicians would mumble the part about Marx.)

People remember his style at political meetings: Kaufman calls his speaking “dynamic.” Parker says it was “very smart and very policy oriented. ... He would say, What can government do to solve this problem? Or, What policy could be the kind of thing we should be asking for.”

But: “I don’t remember a whole lot about him personally. We weren’t in the same social circles.”

Sanders doesn’t seem to have been in anyone’s social circle; some activists hardly remember him at all. One remembered the sit-in occurring around the time of the Folk Festival. Did you, I ask Senator Sanders, ever attend the Folk Festival? He answers, “I don’t believe I did,” seeming to say, “Why would you ask such a silly thing?”

At that, this reporter had to know: how much of a hermit could he have been, really? So, in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, I steeled my courage:

“Any dating?”

The septuagenarian junior senator from Vermont, notorious for bellowing at reporters who dare introduce unseriousness into these sacred confines, almost giggles. “I think it’s fair to say there was.”

I mention the old saw that the University of Chicago is where fun goes to die.

This time he does giggle. “There was quite a bit, yes! Among others was my wife—my first wife.”

It wasn’t long before he was called to meet with a dean. “He thought I needed to focus more on my academics.” He took a year off, working around the city. His jobs included one with the United Automobile Union. He also worked on the 1963 reelection of Leon Despres, PhB’27, JD’29, who supported the students’ housing protest, to his seat on the

YOU DON’T HAVE TO SUCCUMB TO THE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM. BY BUILDING AN INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT, YOU CAN BE FAIRLY TRUE TO YOUR VALUES, AND YOU CAN HAVE AN IMPACT.
City Council. Mayor Richard J. Daley had marked Despres for political execution for his independence and quixotic fight against the regular Democratic machine. “I was very impressed by Richard J. Daley’s Chicago machine,” Sanders says, singling out how Daley’s patronage machine maintained “a city worker for every 200 voters.” Call it a political education, Chicago-style.

Though the idealistic Sanders might never admit it, when he was elected mayor of Burlington in 1981 by 10 votes after a decade spent unsuccessfully running for various state offices in Vermont, something in the Daley lesson must have taken. There are certain things about how a machine like Daley’s amasses power that are useful to learn for any municipal politician. Namely, that you have to deliver the goods. “What’s inherently wrong with the word ‘politician,’” Daley once asked, “if the fellow has devoted his life to holding public office and trying to do something for his people?” It’s the dirty, gritty business of giving voters something for their votes—making the system work for people.

For Chicago in the 1950s and ’60s that meant, among more infamous accomplishments, building big: McCormick Place, the Dan Ryan Expressway, the University of Illinois at Chicago. For Burlington in the 1980s it was bike paths, preservation of the Lake Champlain waterfront (control of which Sanders won from railroad interests in an aggressive lawsuit), and an affordable housing trust fund. He did all this while keeping property taxes low—and was reelected three times. True, a certain nerdish flair never left him. In the National Journal last June, Simon van Zuylen-Wood wrote that before one press conference, an aide asked what to tell reporters inquiring what the subject was to be. “Sanders grew flustered and shouted, ‘The human condition!’” A University of Chicago kind of guy? A little bit.

The socialist proved a good politician. Elected to Congress in 1990, he cofounded the House Progressive Caucus. Though he was the House’s only member unaffiliated with the Democrats or Republicans, after the Democrats lost control of the body in the 1994 election he proved enormously useful as a leading spokesman against what they saw as the ravages of Newt Gingrich’s Republican revolutionaries. Then came that 2006 victory by 33 points that landed him in the office where I sit with him, pulling teeth—until, that is, I ask him about something he may or may not have mentioned in his talk at the Institute of Politics: that he valued attending college at a place that truly welcomed free spirits, and where the idea of finding a vocation far from well-trodden paths did not seem far-fetched. And suddenly, he turns expansive.

“Absolutely. It was a very, very, very vibrant place. It was not just, ‘Earn a degree.’” He recollects the steady stream of figures that was always flowing through campus: Charles Percy, AB’41, the CEO and Republican wunderkind who later became a US senator; Malcolm X; Michael Harrington, AM’49, then the standard bearer for the brand of democratic socialism Sanders upholds now; Dick Gregory; Studs Terkel, PhB’32, JD’34. “It was a place where there was a great deal of discussion. It was a place with a great deal of politics.”


Can you, I ask, tell me more about them? And then the veil suddenly descends. He responds, only, “These were guys who exposed me to ideas.” He directs another imploring glance at his press secretary, who politely ends the interview. The time for gossip has passed. There is a rock that needs rolling up a hill. ♦

Rick Perlstein, AB’92, is the author, most recently, of The Invisible Bridge: The Fall of Nixon and the Rise of Reagan (Simon and Schuster, 2014).
Though her earliest love was theater, Chicago Booth clinical professor of entrepreneurship Waverly Deutsch pursued business knowledge from the beginning of her academic career thanks to a high school teacher who told her she would never be a professional actor. After earning a theater history PhD at Tufts University, she got a crash course in entrepreneurship as a research associate at Forrester Research when the company was on the cusp of “rocket ship growth.” Deutsch later moved to Chicago, where she consulted and worked with a variety of ventures. At one, hoping to bolster their advisory board, Deutsch’s male colleagues encouraged her to get in touch with Ellen Rudnick, MBA’73, Booth clinical professor of entrepreneurship and executive director of the entrepreneurship center, now the Michael P. Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. (“They said, ‘You’re female. You guys have so much in common.’”) Rudnick joined the board, Deutsch confessed to Rudnick a desire to teach, and soon Deutsch was guest lecturing at Booth.

Thirteen years ago, after Booth built out its entrepreneurship curriculum, Deutsch came on full time. She now teaches the popular class Building the New Venture, using her award-winning YourCo simulation game, which allows students to develop and run a mock business through all phases of operation. Deutsch also advises students in Booth’s annual New Venture Challenge business plan competition. From 2006 to 2009, in conjunction with the University’s Collegiate Scholars Program, she designed and taught an intensive two-week summer seminar on entrepreneurship for promising high schoolers from Chicago public schools. The Magazine’s interview with Deutsch is edited and adapted below.

**How does a theater history PhD end up teaching at a business school?**

My passion as a kid was theater. I knew I wanted to pursue a theater degree but thought I would also pursue a business degree just in case I would go into theater management. I had a smart guidance counselor my first year who said, “Don’t do an undergraduate business degree. It’s a watered-down MBA. Do something relevant to business but go deep.” So I took a computer science class and fell madly in love with it. I ended up doing two degrees at the University of Pittsburgh: computer science and theater. If I had listened to myself a bit better, I probably would have pursued computer science.

I knew what I really wanted to do was teach. I won the Mellon Fellowship in the humanities. I couldn’t convince anyone that computer science was a humanity, and I had this money to go do a PhD. So I ended up at Tufts. And what I learned was that being an academic in the humanities was not going to make me happy. I loved teaching, but the kind of research that I was doing was irrelevant to the world. I did my dissertation on a 19th-century theater manager named Laura Keene, who happened to have the misfortune that her troupe was playing *Our American Cousin* in Ford’s Theatre the night Lincoln was shot. She, in fact, identified John Wilkes Booth.

**Did your background in computer science help you create YourCo?**

What informed this much more was the fact that as a kid, I was in love with Dungeons and Dragons. There is an element of the YourCo process where anything that their business accomplishes, the team can be called down on the carpet in front of the class to tell us how they did it. What was the step-by-step process you used to raise that seed funding? What was the process you used to land that first customer? While the students are telling us how their company did this, my TA will put pluses and minuses into probability calculators. Did they do it in a way that would make it more or less likely...
Ellen Rudnick

Influenced by Dungeons and Dragons, Deutsch counts a 10-sided die among her teaching equipment.

Do you still play Dungeons and Dragons?
People don’t do Dungeons and Dragons the way they used to. The way it was played in high school, you had to have a really brilliant kid as the dungeon master. That person literally created their world. My dungeon master was a very odd guy. He was a college administrator who still played with high school kids, which was a little awkward, but he was a brilliant dungeon master. Now it’s all done by publishing companies and moved online. It’s World of Warcraft now.

You’re an angel investor. Are there any projects you’re involved in now that you’re particularly excited about?
I just invested in a local company called the Stylisted, which was started by one of my former teaching assistants and her business partner. It brings independent stylists into a woman’s home before a big event. It’s funny that I invested in this; I don’t wear makeup. But they convinced me through their business metrics, their passion, their persistence, their hard work.

In many of your talks, you’re blunt about an entrepreneur’s low chances of success. Why that message?
Entrepreneurship is very hard work. Failure is an essential, necessary part of the process, because if you’re being truly innovative, there’s risk involved. So I like to use scare tactics to make people think about why they want to be an entrepreneur. Then I teach them about principles and practices of experienced entrepreneurs that are different from what you read about in the press. Mark Zuckerberg taking his company public is the exception. Most companies that go public are on their third, fourth, fifth CEO, not the founder who had the original idea and grew the company.

One of the most gratifying things that happens during my class is when a student, in his or her final reflection paper, will say, “The best thing I learned in your class is that I don’t want to be an entrepreneur.” I say, “Good, because if everybody was an entrepreneur, who would the entrepreneurs hire?”

How did you get involved with the New Venture Challenge?
Pretty much as soon as I started teaching at Booth, I was asked to participate as a coach. The first year I sat through it, the students were allowed to talk for 20 minutes and there was no structure to their presentations. Because I have a lot of public speaking experience, I created a presentation on giving a good business plan presentation. That became a lecture at the midpoint. So they have to struggle through their first round of presentations.

What’s the biggest lesson students typically need to learn?
They think that because they’re so excited about their idea, that everyone will be excited. They don’t understand the challenges of behavior change or that there are problems in the world that we don’t pay to solve. So it’s getting them to learn how to tell a compelling story about an actual value proposition and convince the investor they have a clue how to build it, because you don’t just pitch a vision, you’ve got to pitch a step-by-step process to get to that vision.

What’s it like teaching this particular generation of students?
Teaching is about improving the way people think. For an entrepreneur, 90 percent of what you need to know is in somebody else’s head. And you learn faster by talking to somebody than by Googling all day long. Because you can ask questions, you can interact.

Given that they’re the millennial generation, they don’t want to talk to people. They want to send out email surveys; they want to text someone. “He doesn’t respond to my emails.” Well, pick up the phone, you know? That way of learning is something that kids have lost. If I can teach a generation of entrepreneurs to jump-start their learning by involving more people from their network in the process, by finding people who have done it before and learning from them by adopting best practices, I’ve made a huge impact.
HEAL THYSELF

The president of the American College of Cardiology advocates a plant-based diet as part of shifting heart disease treatment from “event” to “prevent” focused.

BY JASON KELLY
ILLUSTRATION BY BRIAN LOVE
HEALTHYSELF

The president of the American College of Cardiology advocates a plant-based diet as part of shifting heart disease treatment from "event" to "prevent" focused.

by ja son kelly

illustration by bri an love
cardiologist Kim Williams, AB’75, MD’79, admits he’s an extreme case. When research indicts certain dietary choices as health risks, he cuts out any offending foods without a pang.

Last year, for example, a large trial linked sugar consumption to cardiovascular mortality. “My tea was an excuse to have sugar,” Williams says, but he eliminated it immediately, gladly accepting more bitterness in exchange for peace of mind. It doesn’t taste as good, but “on a comfort level, I very much more enjoy it.” Green tea improves memory, he notes, and now he sips it without the risk associated with increasing his blood sugar.

Williams also goes easy on ketchup that contains high fructose corn syrup, which he once enjoyed as a source of prostate-protecting lycopene. “I’ll use a dollop of ketchup here and there,” he says, “but not much.”

Those are minor modifications compared to the shift Williams made more than a decade ago after a blood test revealed a high level of LDL, the so-called bad cholesterol. Not long before that, he had seen dramatic improvement in a patient with cardiovascular disease who had adopted a plant-based diet. Impressed, and a little surprised, by the progress the woman made—she also adhered to an exercise and meditation regimen—he decided to try the diet for himself.

Williams, a professor and clinician at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, had no trace of heart disease, just the one risk factor. He already avoided fried foods and favored skinless chicken over red meat. Many people in his position would have perceived little room to improve how they ate, or wouldn’t have felt the motivation to try.

Outlier that he is, when he received the news of his cholesterol level, Williams gave up eating all animal products “that day.” In less than two months, his bad cholesterol level plummeted from a risky 170 to 90, comfortably within the range considered optimal.

Medical advances have improved treatment, says Williams (right), but prevention should be a bigger priority.
We really can move the needle by just finding out where they are along that risk-averse versus enjoyment spectrum.

Since then Williams has eaten no animal products—no meat, no fish, no eggs, no dairy. Unlike those who find enjoyment or comfort even in foods they know are unhealthy, Williams takes solace in the belief that, with each bite, he’s doing no harm. “I don’t mind dying,” he says, “I just don’t want it to be my fault.”

When advising patients on diet, Williams does not expect them to share his mind-set. He’s sensitive to the truth embedded in the exaggeration that some people would rather die than give up foods they love. Instead of hectoring, he probes for a particular hook that could alter risky behavior. Maybe it’s the promise of fewer pills to manage high blood pressure or diabetes. Maybe it’s a reduced risk of cancer. “We really can move the needle by just finding out where they are along that risk-averse versus enjoyment spectrum,” he says. “I think that’s one of the most important things we are lacking. Not every prescription or every diet is going to work for every person.”

Genetics also contributes to the effect of dietary changes on risk factors such as cholesterol level. Nevertheless, Williams remains a vocal advocate of plant-based eating to prevent and even reverse cardiovascular disease.

His diet is often called vegan, although he avoids the term because of its moral implications. For many, the choice is an ethical issue. Williams’s motivation is purely medical. But that does not make his position uncontroversial.

Few physicians go as far as Williams does in promoting a diet free of animal products, but he’s no fringe figure. In 2015 he’s serving as president of the American College of Cardiology.

From that perch, he thinks big and his voice carries. Williams acknowledges that in his single year as president he will not be able to lead the organization to a milestone he covets: dislodging heart disease from its perch as the No. 1 killer of Americans.

Demoting heart disease from the position it has held since the 1918 flu pandemic is within reach, he insists, perhaps within three years. “It’s going to happen.”

Medicine has made dramatic inroads in reducing cardiac-related deaths. Statins have been revolutionary cholesterol-lowering drugs. Bypass surgery, balloon angioplasty, and nuclear heart scans have made life-saving progress during Williams’s career.

He jokes that nuclear scans have been especially important. “Jokes” because he’s a founding member and past president of the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, and he leavens his professional pride with a wry awareness of his personal bias.

There’s another reason Williams avoids heaping too much praise on such medical advances. While they have all contributed to real improvement—a 50 percent decline in cardiovascular mortality over the past three decades—the progress is partial. “We have become really good,” Williams says, “at treating complications.” That is, saving the lives of heart attack and stroke victims and identifying cardiovascular disease earlier.

Preventing the underlying problems that cause these life-threatening health crises has proven a much more stubborn challenge. Cardiovascular disease remains the preeminent health menace, maintaining its top ranking despite everything medical science has marshaled against it. Like nuclear scans. “Diagnostic testing has improved our ability to identify patients with disease and approach them earlier,” Williams says. “But in order to flunk a nuclear test you already have to have disease, though, so we’re not getting ahead of the game by doing this."

A conference presenter once illustrated the point with a memorable slide. In a cartoon, two doctors mopped up a flooded floor around an overflowing bathtub, Williams recalls, but the water was still running. “That’s essentially what we’re doing.”

Diet and lifestyle issues, along with insufficient care in underserved communities, keep the spigot open. To turn the water off, Williams wants to shift cardiology from “event-driven” to “prevent-driven” treatment.

When it comes to how people eat, though, an ounce of prevention can feel like a heavy burden.

Williams detailed his individual improvement after adopting a plant-based diet in a guest blog post this past July for MedPage Today, a news and continuing education website for physicians and other health care workers. He described the patient’s progress that inspired his personal experiment with plant-based eat-
ing, the research that undergirds his advocacy over the past decade, and his wish for widespread improvements in diet and exercise habits to revolutionize heart health.

Reactions were extreme. “Vilification and canonization,” Williams says. Matthew Sorrentino, MD’84, a UChicago professor of medicine and a preventive cardiologist, has a more measured perspective. “The important thing is to recognize that there are multiple dietary approaches,” he says. “Kim’s been talking about a vegan or a vegetarian diet. For the right person, there’s nothing wrong with that type of diet.”

The American Heart Association’s recommended diet, Sorrentino notes, includes high levels of fruits and vegetables, and whole foods over processed. But it does not eliminate animal protein and suggests that fat make up 25 to 35 percent of nutrients. “It’s not a low-fat diet,” he says, “but it’s a low saturated-fat diet.” And the Mediterranean diet has also been shown to be effective in reducing heart disease. Most doctors, including Williams, call for more research to establish the benefits of plant-based eating.

In response to the tide of comments on Williams’s blog, MedPage Today sought the perspective of Dean Ornish, clinical professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, and founder of the Preventive Medicine Research Institute. Ornish is perhaps the best-known doctor touting the preventive and healing power of a plant-based diet.

Praising Williams’s “courage and leadership” in raising the issue, Ornish emphasized the impact of what he calls lifestyle medicine. “We tend to think of advances in medicine as a new drug, laser, or surgical device, something high-tech and expensive,” Ornish wrote. “Yet, the simple choices we make in what we eat and how we live have a powerful influence on our health and well-being.”

Ornish’s program fuses exercise, stress management, and social support with a plant-based diet. Sorrentino also notes that diet, although essential to heart health, is just one facet of disease prevention. A person’s weight, smoking or drinking habits, and exercise levels also play an important role. “As a matter of fact,” Sorrentino says, “most studies will suggest that a cardiovascular exercise program will give you greater risk reduction than any change in diet.”

The dietary changes Williams advocates can be daunting and confusing for patients. He mentions no brand names in public, but “in the privacy of the clinic room, I’ll show them the things that I’m buying and where they can get it,” Williams says. “If you tell people to change their diet and they don’t know how, it’s not going to help very much.”

In underserved communities, in particular, many people don’t know how to help themselves. They lack access to preventive care—and the counsel that comes with it—and affordable, healthy foods. For Williams, who grew up in such a community on Chicago’s South Side, rectifying those circumstances would be another crucial nudge toward making cardiovascular disease No. 2.

To do that, though, requires bringing medical care directly to the people who need it most. “For example, going into churches and instituting heart programs,” Williams says, “where we measure lipids, blood pressure, and hemoglobin A1C to check for diabetes. We need to be able to do more of that and find people early.”

Too many first encounters with patients are in the clinic after untreated—often even undiagnosed—diabetes or high blood pressure leads to a cardiac event. “If the first manifestation of high blood pressure is presenting with a stroke,” he says, “then we’ve failed.”

Even with access to medical care and healthy food, Williams finds that, for many people, dietary choices are deeply rooted, almost religious. Others feel, like he did before his cholesterol wake-up call, that they make reasonably healthy choices and have little incentive to change. Some shrug and say they eat like their parents did, Williams says, “without connecting the dots that their parents actually died of heart disease more than 50 percent of the time.”

He sees increased awareness that a typical American diet can lead to a surgical suite and an intensifying interest in avoiding that fate. But few people have his aversion to foodborne health risks or commitment to immediate diet modification. Tradition and temptation remain huge obstacles.

“Our culture defines good food or healthy food in a certain way that has led very much to the epidemic of heart disease. We have to redefine marketing in a more healthy way,” Williams says. “We have to find other mechanisms in life to provide comfort rather than calories. Until we make those changes, we’re going to have one epidemic after another—obesity, diabetes,…”

Instead of feverishly mopping up the overflow, though, Williams approaches his American College of Cardiology presidency and his interactions with patients as opportunities to tap into people’s latent interest in prevention before it’s too late.

“Our job is to try and capture more of the population,” he says, “so that it makes it easier to get people to take care of themselves.”

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IF THE FIRST MANIFESTATION OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IS PRESENTING WITH A STROKE, WE’VE FAILED.
Mike Nichols, EX'53 (left), performs in a University Theater production of *The Country Wife*. “Everything was wide open, everybody was strange at the University of Chicago!” he told the *New York Times* in 1984. “It was paradise.” For more, see Deaths, page 85.
Oh God, it must be awful. How do you do it?” For years that has been the too-frequent response, offered with empathy, when people learn about my day job—writing and editing stories about baseball and venturing into dugouts and locker rooms to interview big leaguers.

If you knew me in college, you know it’s my dream job. Back then, the time I spent ditching class and not giving Antonio Gramsci my full attention was spent reading Bill James’s *Baseball Abstracts* and trekking with my fellow self-liberated miscreants to buy $1 seats at Comiskey Park. This set me down the path toward eventually getting into the game by helping cofound *Baseball Prospectus* back in 1996, in the go-go days of the internet. To this day, *BP* is a combination of think tank, annual book, and analytical website that’s given rise to dozens of careers in baseball front offices and the media.

But the thing is, if you knew me then you might not recognize me now. I started coming out as a transsexual woman in 2002–03, finally acting on something I’d sorted out for myself once my fifth-grade health textbook explained gender dimorphism and made it abundantly clear that I had been somehow dropped into the wrong bin.

Hence the worried comments and questions. This oft-voiced concern about my life in sports usually comes from friends who are gay, lesbian, or trans. They expect that the sports world must be one of the worst places possible for a person to publicly come to terms with being gender variant in any way, shape, or form. However thoughtful these worries, my time in the game has proven them to be spectacularly misplaced.

Not to say there weren’t reasons to be afraid when I came out. At that point, nobody had tried to pursue a career as a sportswriter while also being trans. Unlike sexuality, this wasn’t something that could remain my own business: I had done a lot of TV work, particularly Cubs and White Sox postgame shows on CLTV, and a national book tour every spring for the new *Baseball Prospectus* annual. Folks were going to notice.

Given society’s reliably awful numbers for trans unemployment and underemployment, and sports’ generally poor reputation on LGBT issues, pessimism was the order of the day. When I told my parents about the shape of things to come, Mom’s first comment was understandable: “Well, you’ll have to give up sports.” It was tough to hear this from a lifelong friend and mentor, the tough, funny lady who had taught me how to ride a horse and how to make marinara from scratch. But the kid who had grown up idolizing the similarly brassy Gayle Gardner, who blazed trails in sports journalism in the ’80s, told her that I still had to try.

Like any trans person coming out, I understood that I was handing everyone in my life a fait accompli, one that might cost me every relationship I valued. I told my family, friends, and my colleagues at *Baseball Prospectus* the same thing: I didn’t know how it would turn out, and I didn’t have all of the answers. This would be my first and only time down this road as well. But if they could give me time to work it out, I would do the same with them.

In my family, the instant acceptance of my grandmother, our alpha-female matriarch, helped set the tone. She brought Mom around soon after our first re-meeting by telling her, “You know, she looks a lot like you.” But perhaps nothing can better help friends than the things you have in common despite this newly discovered difference—in this case, America’s perfect social lubricant, sports. I wasn’t getting a personality transplant, after all. The person my friends and family had always known—a Kahrl capable of boring you on any number of subjects, but especially baseball—was the person they would still recognize.

Not only recognize, but accept. And through an acceptance forged in our common ground, they made much more than that possible. My job responsibilities expanded over time as I moved into a full-time role, writing my own column, mentoring interns and writers, and managing content. I remained in the mix for TV and radio
gigs and stayed on the book tour. Audiences in the hundreds, mostly male, some with their kids, kept turning up to listen to an out trans woman talk about something they were interested in hearing about: baseball. When one media opportunity was brought to us with a request for “anyone but Christina Kahrl,” our managing partner turned it down flat. I didn’t ask my coworkers for that brand of everyday courage, and they didn’t have to provide it. But they did.

Thanks to that kind of support, I’ve achieved more in baseball since coming out as trans than I had beforehand. In 2008, I became one of the first four internet-based writers voted into the Baseball Writers Association of America. As America’s oldest agglomeration of sports scribes, the BBWAA has a well-earned reputation for being mostly white, male, and over 50. They took me, their first trans colleague, in on my first try, adding me to the pool of voters for MLB’s annual awards and eventually the Hall of Fame. Getting a BBWAA badge also grants you full access to big-league ballparks. What if I should run into trouble in the locker room? I asked. One crusty New York writer was unequivocal: bring it to them immediately, because nobody screws with the BBWAA, and they had my back.

Which, as it turns out, I haven’t needed. People in baseball have treated me exactly the way I wanted: as just another reporter, and thus a necessary evil. Nobody freaks out when I walk into a locker room. Players, managers, and general managers take my questions and agree to interviews. Any initial distrust quickly fades into comfortable conversation; my being trans doesn’t matter to me or to them because we’re on common ground, just talking about baseball.

When ESPN.com approached me about a job in 2011 we were 90 minutes into the initial interview before I asked: “You know I’m trans, right?” It was sufficiently old news that the answer came: “Yeah, we know all about it—so what?” In the history of right answers, there may not be a better one. In the years since, my ESPN coworkers have never screwed up something as small as a pronoun. I covered my first World Series on site for ESPN in 2013. Ozzie Guillen greeted me before game six in Fenway Park asking if I was enjoying myself. There’s only ever going to be one answer: of course.

To revisit the original question, how do I do it? Not simply because I wanted to, and not just because I earned the opportunity. I get to do it because hundreds of people in sports and sports media got it right when they had their first chance at having a trans coworker and colleague. How did they do it?

Through basic decency. But perhaps there’s a better question, considering workplace discrimination makes trans folks four times as likely to be living in poverty as the national average: if pro sports is getting it right, what’s your industry’s excuse?

People in baseball have treated me exactly the way I wanted: as just another reporter, and thus a necessary evil.

Christina Kahrl, shown in the Wrigley Field press box, found acceptance as a trans person working in sports media.

Christina Kahrl, AB’90, is an MLB editor and writer for ESPN.com based in Chicago, where she lives in Rogers Park with her wife, Charley. She is active on the boards of GLAAD and Chicago House and is a member of the LGBT Sports Coalition.
The 43-year kidney

BY DYLAN WALSH, AB’05

Emerson, Lake, and Palmer released its second studio album, Tarkus, in 1971. It landed in America on August 14 and every day after that my uncle, who was then 17 years old and a drummer, descended to the basement of my grandparents’ house, set the record on the turntable, set the stylus to the record, set his headphones on his ears, and played along. Hours later he would emerge from the dark stairwell. This was his late-summer routine. He likely took evening trips to nearby Playland for rides on the Dragon Coaster—his clicking ascent cut short by the sound of wind, the rising of his stomach. On October 23, summer well over, he was driven to Boston for a kidney transplant.

He didn’t mark the 10-year anniversary of the transplant, but the 1982 release of Blade Runner provided a belated, indirect celebration. My uncle had many favorite movies. Blade Runner was his favorite-favorite. Who knows how many times he sat down before Harrison Ford’s apathetic stare, the hymnlike synthesizer of Vangelis? He boasted tirelessly about the movie’s uncompromising vision, as though he, not Ridley Scott, had been its director. I never understood.

The thing was, kidney transplants in 1971 were small-scale moon shots. The medicines were experimental. People wondered about somebody else’s organ in your gut. Life expectancy—of the kidney, of the recipient—was unknown.

For his 20-year transplant anniversary, in 1991, he did organize a celebration. He flew with his wife and closest friends to Kona, Hawaii, where he hired a helicopter on July 11 to lift them above the gray skirt of clouds spread low over the ocean. A good day for a ride: that morning, the earth aligned with the moon, which aligned with the sun, and the fire-rimmed darkness of a full solar eclipse descended, the orange ring like a portal opened on a second world.

He and I celebrated his 30-year anniversary together, watching the shadow of Mount Hood from 12,000 feet as it raced eastward into nothing. He had flown out West to Oregon after months of physical training, and the drifting moon replaced headlamps as we set out at midnight. We walked in single file behind our guide toward the peak, which loomed in silhouette, almost touchable, against the strange multitude of stars. The air became thin.

We couldn’t make summit because of avalanche risk, our guide told us, so we sat in chill on the cusp of the final push. We carved snow thrones for ourselves below the open night. Slowly, the bruise of dawn lit fire and the day broke behind us. The mountain’s long shadow retreated in silence over the treetops below. Then back down we hiked.

Thirty years on one borrowed kidney was a surprise, and so was 40, in 2011, when he and his brother booked a Zero G flight that launched outside of San Francisco. They boarded the seatless, padded 727. The plane took off, nosed high, then dipped sharply.

The thing was, kidney transplants in 1971 were small-scale moon shots. The medicines were experimental. People wondered about somebody else’s organ in your gut.
in a series of parabolic arcs. For a total of about seven minutes, passengers were weightless. “Why go to space?” my uncle would always ask after the trip. He showed pictures of the two of them, two brothers, sailing weightless through the fuselage.

Eventually, of course, the journey ended. He died on January 17, 2014, just shy of his 60th birthday and the 43rd anniversary of his transplant.

I stood in his apartment the next night. Friends streamed through to shake hands and pat backs in murmuring white noise, to offer my aunt, his wife of 23 years, condolences. We told stories, but we also read them in the library of objects spread across the townhouse. My uncle was not rich, but he was a collector: posters and pictures, crystal figurines, mementos at every step to mark the places he had been and the strange and astonishing wealth of life that he had witnessed, from Antarctica to the Galápagos to—almost—the North Pole. That was perhaps his only regret, not traveling to the North Pole in the company of Neil Armstrong like Sir Edmund Hillary did in 1985.

That night, watching the crowd arrive and depart, I thought about Blade Runner. In the movie, the androids, called replicants, return to Earth from their heavenly posts in search of their creator, a reclusive scientist who gave them only four years to live. They want more life. Four years is not enough.

They’re denied the gift. Harrison Ford hunts them down, one by one. In the closing scene he watches as his final bounty, the nimble and oddly charismatic leader played by Rutger Hauer, slumps in the rain, tired and sick, recounting his short, refulgent life. “I’ve seen things you people wouldn’t believe,” Hauer proclaims. “Attack ships on fire off the shoulder of Orion!” Ford sits silently. Hauer continues to list his astral visions. “All those moments will be lost in time, like tears in rain,” he says, looking at Ford. And then: “Time to die.” He casts his eyes down. He dies. ♦

Dylan Walsh, AB’05, is a freelance journalist living in Connecticut. He covers science, the environment, and criminal justice.
PRESIDENTIAL SELECTION
When Laurie L. Patton, AM’86, PhD’91, takes office as president of Middlebury College in Vermont on July 1, 2015, she will be the first female president in the college’s 214-year history. Patton, currently the dean of Duke University’s Trinity College of Arts and Sciences as well as the Robert F. Durden Professor of Religion and a professor of cultural anthropology, is also the Divinity School’s 2015 Alumna of the Year.

WHERE FUN COMES TO LIVE
Cincinnati mayor John Cranley has appointed Frank Wood, JD’67, as the city’s commissioner of fun. Wood has been making the city smile for decades. As popular radio station WEBN’s first deejay, he built a large following by filling the airwaves with commercials for fake products and coverage of fictitious April Fool’s Day parades. Wood was also the architect behind the city’s annual Riverfest fireworks display, which now attracts half a million people each year.

WORKING FOR THE WORKFORCE
US secretary of commerce Penny Pritzker has appointed Marie Trzupak Lynch, MPP’96, as one of three cochairs of the 2014–16 National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The council will advise the commerce secretary on supporting entrepreneurs, fostering innovation, and creating a globally competitive American workforce. Lynch is the founding president and chief executive officer of Skills for Chicagoland’s Future, a public-private partnership that works directly with businesses to meet their staffing needs with qualified underemployed or unemployed job seekers.

SMART MONEY
Theodore “Ted” Gonder, AB’12, is one of four recipients of a 2014 Bluhm/Helfand Social Innovation Fellowship @ Chicago Ideas Week, a program designed to support socially conscious entrepreneurs under 35. Gonder will receive $10,000 to put toward Moneythink, the nonprofit he founded with four College classmates that aims to improve financial literacy among young people by training college students to mentor high schoolers in money management.

PLAY TIME
Two alumni-authored shows debuted this fall in Chicago. Playwright Ellen K. Graham, AB’95, a finalist for both the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center’s 2014 National Playwrights Conference and the Shakespeare’s Sister Fellowship, wrote The Familiars, which opened at the Edge Theater in December. Plath/Hughes, a musical by Robert Eric Shoemaker, AB’14, opened in October at Gorilla Tango Bucktown after winning the 2014 Olga and Paul Menn Foundation Prize for Best Play.

REAL CURRENCY
Brazilian president Dilma Rousseff has chosen Joaquim Levy, PhD’93, as the country’s next finance minister. Levy, a Chicago Booth graduate and member of the school’s Global Advisory Board, Americas Cabinet, since 2010, has previously held government posts in Brazil, including secretary of finance in the state of Rio de Janeiro. He was also a visiting economist at the European Central Bank and has held several positions with the International Monetary Fund.

—Helen Gregg, AB’09
REUNION
By Hannah Pittard, AB’01; Grand Central Publishing, 2014
Kate Pulaski, the dysfunctional protagonist in Hannah Pittard’s second novel, learned of her estranged father’s suicide while waiting on an airport tarmac before a flight to her Chicago home. Kate, already struggling with a failed screenwriting career and crumbling marriage, is soon on another flight to Atlanta to join an assortment of siblings, step-siblings, and her father’s ex-wives in laying him to rest. As she faces her family’s past and confronts her own realities, Kate questions how well she really knew her father, and how well she knows herself.

SOCIAL THEORY AS A VOCATION: GENRES OF THEORY WORK IN SOCIOLOGY
By Donald N. Levine, AB’50, AM’54, PhD’57; Transaction Publishers, 2014
Does anyone still make a living as a social theorist? It’s hard to believe anyone could in post–financial crisis America, with lagging institutional support for the humanities and social sciences. Social Theory as a Vocation gives the field a facelift, tackling questions from throughout the universe of social theory, and concluding with an examination of what Donald Levine, the Peter B. Ritzma Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Chicago, views as the contemporary crisis of liberal education.

A CHOSEN EXILE: A HISTORY OF RACIAL PASSING IN AMERICAN LIFE
By Allyson Hobbs, AM’02, PhD’09; Harvard University Press, 2014
Black Americans who passed as white between the 16th and mid-20th centuries gained benefits, from escape from slavery to better social mobility and work opportunities. But for Stanford historian Allyson Hobbs, the story of racial passing is “a coherent and enduring narrative of loss,”—a loss of roots, of community, and of self. Through stories of men and women who chose this lonely exile, Hobbs offers a new take on perennial questions of race and identity.

VICTORIANS AND THE CASE FOR CHARITY: ESSAYS ON RESPONSES TO ENGLISH POVERTY BY THE STATE, THE CHURCH, AND THE LITERATE
Edited by Marilyn D. Button, AM’92, and Jessica A. Sheetz-Ngyuen; McFarland, 2013
In 19th-century England, the plight of the poor was pervasive and difficult to ignore. Centered around the passage of the 1834 New Poor Laws, the essays in Victorians and the Case for Charity explore how educators, theologians, economists, writers, nuns, business leaders, and politicians responded to poverty in Britain. Each essay examines a different attempt to help the poor and reveals the engagement of different strata of Victorian society with one of the defining social issues of their day.

WHY WE LOST: A GENERAL’S INSIDE ACCOUNT OF THE IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN WARS
By Daniel Bolger, AM’86, PhD’86; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014
“I am a United States Army general, and I lost the Global War on Terrorism.” In Daniel Bolger’s frank, detailed exploration of what went wrong during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the three-star general places the blame on military leaders like himself. The ability and bravery of American soldiers was greatly misused, he argues, by sending forces designed for short, decisive conflicts into draining counterinsurgency efforts against a poorly defined enemy, and then not changing course as the wars flagged and casualties mounted. “This was our war to lose,” he says of himself and his fellow generals, “and we did.”

SACRED SPEECH: A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR KEEPING SPIRIT IN YOUR SPEECH
By Donna Schaper, AM’71; Skylight Paths Publishing, 2014
Only one thing separates sacred speech from ordinary speech: Spirit. That’s Donna Schaper’s word for God—not any particular deity, but “the God beyond Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, or Star Trek.” Although her book is described as a how-to guide for using the “holy gift” of speech, Sacred Speech focuses more on the intentions behind words than the words themselves. The result is a framework for communicating with love, praise, and forgiveness instead of fear, judgment, or blame.

—Ingrid Gonçalves, AB’08
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DEATHS

FACULTY AND STAFF

Willard G. Manning Jr. died November 25 in Brookfield, IL. He was 68. Manning taught at the University from 1997 until his retirement in 2011, both at Chicago Harris and in the Biological Sciences Division. His research in health economics focused on how costs and insurance coverage affect demand for health care. He was well known for his work on the RAND Health Insurance Experiment, an eight-year study of alternative insurance plans. He is survived by his wife, Erika; two daughters; and two grandchildren.

Martin Riesebrodt died December 6 of cancer in Berlin, Germany. He was 66. Professor emeritus of the sociology of religion in the Divinity School and Department of Sociology, Riesebrodt joined the University’s faculty in 1990. His work emphasized the value of looking across different religions and spiritual traditions to find larger insights about the relationship between religion and society. He was internationally recognized for his expertise on German sociologist Max Weber. In retirement, he taught at the Graduate Institute in Geneva, Switzerland. He is survived by his wife, Brigitte, and a son.

Michael R. Sosin, AB’72, died November 25 after an extended illness. He was 64. Named the Emily Klein Gidwitz Professor at the School of Social Service Administration in 1997, Sosin was part of the SSA faculty for a total of 26 years. His research focused on the issues of homelessness, substance abuse services, and poverty in cities. He was especially interested in the role of social institutions and underprivileged clients. Sosin was the editor of the well-respected Social Service Review from 1998 to 2014, the oldest scholarly journal in the field. He is survived by his sister.

Donald Steiner, SM’56, MD’56, died November 11 in Chicago. He was 84. The A. N. Pritzker Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in Medicine and in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Steiner had been a member of the University faculty since 1960. He is widely known for discovering that the body creates insulin not from two protein chains but from one, which he called proinsulin. This discovery led to a deeper understanding of how the body produces and processes insulin and other hormones, as well as advances in diabetes research and treatments. Steiner won many national and international awards for his work and was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society. In 2014 he was awarded the University of Chicago Alumni Association’s Alumni Medal. He is survived by a niece and nephew.

1930s

Margaret (Ridgely) Dalby, PhD’35, died in Hobart, IN, on September 8. She was 100. Dalby taught elementary school English until her marriage in 1940; later she was an avid volunteer for organizations that included the Gary (IN) Junior Assembly, the Beta Rho chapter of Tri-Kappa, Gary St. Mary’s Mercy Hospital Junior League, and St. Mary’s Medical Center Auxiliary in Hobart. She is survived by two daughters, five sons, six granddaughters, five grandsons, and seven great-grandchildren.

Cynthia M. Grabo, LAB’32, AB’36, AM’41, died August 17 in Springfield, VA. She was 98. Recruited in 1942 by US Army Intelligence, Grabo worked as an intelligence analyst in Latin America and the Soviet Union; later she served on the US Watch Committee and its successor the Strategic Warning Staff. For her contributions, she was awarded the Defense Intelligence Agency’s Exceptional Civilian Service Medal. She is survived by two nieces, including Cynthia (Moyer) Turner, EX’70; two nephews, including Michael R. Moyer, AB’87; two great-nieces; and two great-nephews.

1940s

Colin Gordon Thomas Jr., SB’40, MD’43, died September 2 in Chapel Hill, NC. He was 96. A US Army veteran, Thomas spent more than 60 years on the faculty of the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, serving as chair of its department of surgery and chief of its division of general surgery. A renowned surgeon, researcher, and teacher, he developed innovative methods for intestinal and endocrine surgeries and authored 165 scholarly articles. Thomas received the Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Award in 1982. He is survived by two daughters, two sons, three granddaughters, a grandson, and two great-grandchildren.

Donald Wollett, AB’41, died September 23 on Whidbey Island, WA. He was 95. Wollett served in the US Navy during WW II and went on to practice and teach labor and constitutional law, serve as a salary arbitrator for Major League Baseball, and arbitrate more than 3,000 labor grievances. He was the author of Getting on Base: Unionism in Baseball (2008) and coauthor of Getting on Base: Unionism in Baseball (2013). Survivors include a son, two granddaughters, and one grandson.

Eugene Pomerance, SB’42, MBA’47, died September 10 in Lombard, IL. He was 92. A WW II veteran, Pomerance had a long career in marketing research, retiring as worldwide director of marketing services for Foote, Cone & Belding. He then studied landscape design and worked in that field in DuPage County and Chicago; he also served on the boards of local and national organizations devoted to parks and conservation. He is survived by two daughters, a son, a sister, five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. His wife, Virginia “Ginny” (Lus) Pomerance, EX’45, died in 2011.

Abdul Kayeum, AM’45, AM’48, died September 9, 2014, in Derwood, MD. He was 93. A native of Afghanistan, Kayeum was a leader and advocate for many modernization efforts in the country. He was the head of a large agricultural and hydroelectric public works project there modeled on America’s Tennessee Valley Authority, and when he rose to cabinet-level positions in the Afghan government, he pushed for greater access to education and more rights for women. He is survived by his wife, Joan Kayeum, AM’37; four daughters; one son; and five grandchildren.

Marjory (Mather) Greene, LAB’44, PhB’46, died September 23 in Batavia, IL. She was 87. When she lived in Aurora, IL, and Santa Fe, NM, Greene was an active volunteer in community organizations that included the YWCA, American Association of University Women, Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and Minerva Coterie Literary Society. She was also a gardener and arts patron. She is survived by her husband, William Alexander Greene, MBA’57; two daughters; a son; three granddaughters; and six grandsons.

Howard Holtzer, SB’47, PhD’52, of Philadelphia, died November 5. He was 92. A developmental biologist, Holtzer was best known for his research on inductive signals between tissues and communication between cells during development. He joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania’s anatomy department in 1953 and remained active in the department until a few years before his death. He is survived by his wife, Sybil Holtzer, PhD’55.

Glen Lindahl, AB’47, of Dubuque, IA, died October 29. He was 95. Lindahl served in the US Army Air Forces during WW II and in the US Navy during the Korean War. He worked for several financial companies as a claims adjuster. He was passionate about music and played in a number of bands throughout his life. He is survived by three daughters, one son, a sister, a brother, two granddaughters, two grandsons, and seven great-grandchildren.

Werner Zimm, PB’47, SB’47, SM’49, PhD’51, died September 12 in Tucson, AZ. He was 93. A WW II veteran, he worked for 34 years as a chemist at DuPont in Philadelphia. After retiring in 1984, Zimm was an adjunct professor at the University and worked on research in biosystems engineering at the University of Arizona and a museum fellow at the Arizona State Museum. Survivors include two daughters, one son, six grandchildren, three step-daughters, four step-grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Irving Rimer, AM’37, died October 14 in Chapel Hill, NC. He was 93. A public information executive with the American Cancer Society for more than 30 years, Rimer was an advocate of reduced smoking rates in the United States and a champion of using public service announcements on TV to change health behaviors. In retire-
ment, Rimer helped start the annual Celebration of Life reunion for burn survivors at the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center at UNC Health Care. He is survived by three daughters, a granddaughter, and a grandson.

Gordon C. Tullock, JD’47, died November 3 in Des Moines, IA. He was 92. Tullock is best known for his work in economics—he coauthored The Calculus of Consent (1962), considered a founding text of public choice theory. He also developed the theory now known as rent seeking and formulated the Tullock Paradox. He taught at numerous universities throughout his career, most recently at George Mason University. He is survived by a sister.

Clarence Roger Anderson, SB’48, MBA’50, of State College, PA, died April 5. He was 90. A veteran of both the Army Reserve Corps and the US Air Force, he received two Air Force Commendation Medals and the Department of Defense Meritorious Service Medal. After retiring from the military, Anderson worked at Business Management Associates in Oakton, VA, as a senior consultant and a member of its board of directors. Survivors include a daughter, a son, a granddaughter, and three grandchildren.

1950s

Edward Alan Wolpert, AB’50, AM’54, PhD’59, MD’60, died November 2 in Scottsdale, AZ. He was 84. A psychiatrist and the former director of clinical services at the Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center, Wolpert had also been associate professor at the Pritzker School of Medicine. He is considered a pioneer in the use of lithium to treat manic depression and was a past president of the Illinois Psychiatric Society in Chicago. Survivors include three sons and four grandchildren.

Sheldon Patinkin, LAB’50, AB’53, AM’56, died September 21 in Chicago. He was 79. A writer, director, and teacher who influenced generations of actors and comedians, Patinkin cofounded the Playwrights Theatre Club in Hyde Park in the early 1950s and went on to direct many shows at Second City and Steppenwolf Theatre Company, whose theater school he helped establish. He chaired the theater department at Columbia College Chicago for nearly 30 years. Survivors include a sister, Ida Goldenberg, AB’46, and a brother, Michael “Mike” Nichols, EX’53, died November 19 in New York City. He was 83. An acclaimed director, producer, and actor, Nichols is one of a dozen or so people to have won an Oscar, Tony, Emmy, and Grammy. He is best known for directing films including The Graduate, Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, and Primary Colors, as well as Broadway classics such as Barefoot in the Park and Death of a Salesman. He directed his first play at the University of Chicago and performed with the Compass Players in Hyde Park, the forerunner to the Second City. He is survived by his wife, news anchor Diane Sawyer; two daughters; a son; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Elin (Ballantyne) Christianson, AB’58, AM’61, died June 25 in Hobart, IN. She was 77. She began her career as the editor of the Hobart Herald and later became head librarian at the J. Walter Thompson Company, an adjunct lecturer at UChicago’s Graduate Library School, and an assistant professor at the library school of Indiana University. Christianson was the president of the Hobart Historical Society for 33 years. She is survived by her husband, Stanley B. Christianson, MBA’60; a daughter; a son, David Christianson, SB’93; and two sisters.

Suzanne (Vetorizs) Klinkhammer, AB’57, of San Diego, CA, died March 20, 2013. She was 80. With her husband—biologist Erich Klinkhammer, AB’58, PhD’62—she founded Wolf Park, a research and educational facility in Battle Ground, IN. After earning a law degree from Indiana University, Klinkhammer practiced tax and estate law for 23 years in Indiana and taught a course at Purdue University on legal and financial information for women. She is survived by a daughter and three sisters, including Erika Vetorizs Nadas, AB’75. Her husband died in 2011.

William Scott, AB’52, of Lawrence, KS, died August 12. He was 82. Scott was a professor of English at the University of Kansas for more than 55 years, specializing in the works of Shakespeare. He was also well known for his involvement with the American Association of University Professors and for his work on faculty rights. He is survived by a daughter, a son, a granddaughter, and a grandson.

Jack M. Siegel, AM’48, JD’51, of Williamsville, NY, died February 23. He was 88. A US Navy veteran, Siegel was an expert in municipal law who served for more than 50 years as attorney for numerous Illinois suburban municipalities and appeared twice before the US Supreme Court on behalf of towns he represented. He worked most recently as counsel at the Chicago office of Holland & Knight. Survivors include his wife, Jeanne; a daughter, Julie (Siegel) Halpern, AB’78; a son; and three grandchildren.

Joseph Maheras, SB’59, of Billings, MT, died January 10, 2014. He was 76. A Vietnam-era veteran who served as a brigade surgeon, Maheras went on to a long career as a board-certified internist in the Billings area. He enjoyed outdoor activities and volunteered for the Boy Scouts of America for many years; he was also an accomplished musician and singer. He is survived by his wife, Mary; a daughter; two sons; three sisters; a brother; and three grandchildren.

1960s

Emil H. Vajda, AM’52, PhD’60, of Marquette, MI, died September 23. He was 88. A WWII veteran, Vajda spent 35 years teaching sociology at Northern Michigan University, where he served as the sociology department chair. He was a professor emeritus. He volunteered frequently on local government committees and for nonprofit organizations including the Boy Scouts and the League of Women Voters. Survivors include three sons, a sister, a granddaughter, and three grandchildren.

George H. Landis, MBA’60, of Naples, FL, died October 28. He was 87. Landis began his career in management in 1950 with Carson, Pirie, Scott, and Company. In 1992 he retired from Mid-America Federal Savings Bank near Chicago where he had worked as a bank officer and manager of the loan servicing operations. He is survived by a daughter, a son, and five grandchildren.

Alan Boughner, AB’61, of Indian Head Park, IL, died June 27. He was 75. He spent most of his career in data processing and technology, including many years with Budget Rent-a-Car. Boughner studied philosophy with vigor in retirement. He is survived by two daughters; a brother, Martin Boughner, AB’68; and a granddaughter.

Judith Lilly, AM’61, died October 23. She was 79. An English and social studies teacher, Lilly also managed her own income tax business. She enjoyed entertaining, music, traveling, reading, and volunteering in numerous community organizations. She is survived by her husband, Frederick Lilly, MBA’67; a daughter; a son; and two grandchildren.

Paul R. Libby, PhD’62, died July 31 in Tonawanda, NY. He was 79. A biochemist, he spent most of his career as a cancer researcher at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY. He enjoyed gardening and was an American Contract Bridge Association Life Master. Lilly was also an arts patron. She is survived by her husband, Barbara Libby, AB’60; three sons, including Kenneth A. Libby, AB’82; and three grandchildren.

Roland J. Bailey, MBA’63, died April 22 in Chicago. He was 98. Bailey retired in 1982 as the manager of hospital budget operations for the University of Chicago Hospitals. Cofounder of the Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company in 1960, he served as its music director for 25 years. He was also a volunteer board member for organizations including Chicago Commons and Hyde Park Historical Society. Survivors include his wife, Helen; a daughter, Katherine Linehan, LAB’61, AB’65; two sons, Stephen Bailey, AB’60, PhD’66, and Thomas Bailey, LAB’60; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two stepsons.

Robert B. Fisher, MBA’64, of Northbrook, IL, died September 19. He was 83. A US Air Force communications officer, Fisher held a degree in metallurgical engineering from the University of Illinois in addition to his UChicago degree. He is survived by two sons and a sister.

Ernesto Fontaine, AM’58, PhD’64, of...
Santiago, Chile, died January 21. He was 79. Fontaine was one of the “Chicago Boys,” a group of economists, mostly from Chicago, under Milton Friedman, AM’39, and Arnold Harberger, AM’47, PhD’50. A professor emeritus of economics at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, Fontaine also served as a consultant to the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Organization of American States. He is survived by two daughters and a son.

Frederick Williams Laing Jr., MBA’64, of Hillsdale, NY, died September 15. He was 78. A graduate of the US Naval Academy, Laing retired as a major in the Air Force in 1979, and began raising fish and growing produce at his White Oak Farm in Hillsdale. An accomplished musician, he played multiple instruments and served as music director of the River Bank Banjo Band for more than 25 years. Survivors include his wife, Sandy; a daughter; two sons; a sister; and eight grandchildren.

Mary Ethel Steger, AM ’65, of Lansing, IL, died June 5. She was 86. Steger was a longtime guidance counselor and teacher in the south suburbs of Chicago. She is survived by a brother.

Nicholas Vick, MD’65, died October 2 in Evanston, IL. He was 74. Vick was well-known for his research on brain tumors and treatment options. He was the former chair of the neurology department at NorthShore Evanston Hospital, where he founded a regional clinical neuro-oncology program in the 1970s. He also taught medical students at UChicago and at Northwestern University. At Northwestern, he spent 31 years on the faculty and received the school’s outstanding teacher award nine times. He is survived by his wife, Lois; three sons, including Stephen Vick, AM’90; a sister; four grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Joseph M. Scoblic, MBA’66, of New York City, died June 16. He was 74. Scoblic was a US Army veteran who spent four decades working for the bank now known as Citigroup, retiring as a managing director in 2004. Scoblic was a skilled carpenter and a world traveler who loved visiting America’s national parks. Survivors include his wife, Barbara; two sons; and a grandson.

Herbert H. Kemp Jr., MBA’68, died August 10 in Fort Myers, FL. He was 81. During the Korean War, Kemp enlisted in the US Navy, served as a navigator, and was stationed in Japan. After selling computer systems for IBM and working as an information technology consultant at Touche Ross, he spent 30 years as chief information officer at the DoALL Company, a manufacturer of industrial saw blades. He is survived by his wife, Sandy; two sons; two granddaughters; and two grandsons.

1970s

Daniel James Donahue, MBA’71, died October 21 in Pacific Palisades, CA. He was 75. A US Army veteran, he headed the Army’s guerilla warfare training school in Korea in the early 1960s. Donahue worked at Merrill Lynch for 37 years before founding Fieldpoint Private Bank and Trust in Greenwich, CT, of which he was chairman emeritus. He volunteered for a number of nonprofit and community organizations. He is survived by his wife, Judy; a daughter; two sons; and seven grandchildren.

Marsden W. Longden, MBA’71, died October 4 in Evanston, IL. He was 71. A certified financial planner, Longden was passionate about folk dancing, which he performed and taught with his wife, Sanna, in Evanston and around the world for decades. He was also an accomplished tenor who performed with local theatrical and opera groups, including the North Shore Choral Society. Survivors include his wife, a stepdaughter, and a stepson.

Douglas Ray Mandell, AB’72, died April 4 of colon cancer in Poissy, France. He was 63. Mandell was an archivist at the Smithsonian Institution before moving to France in the late 1970s, where he worked as a computer engineer at Aérospatiale (now part of Airbus Group). For most of his career, Mandell was the quality control manager for the software that launched Ariane 4 rockets carrying communications, Earth observation, and scientific research satellites. In his final assignments he helped develop software for the Ariane 5 rocket and the Automated Transfer Vehicle that supplies the International Space Station. Away from work, Mandell wrote poetry and translated French poetry. His poem “Potter’s Song” won first prize in this magazine’s 2003 alumni poetry contest. He is survived by his wife, Rosemie Delay-Mandell; a son; and a sister.

Elizabeth Norment, EX’74, died of cancer October 13 in New York City. She was 61. A stage and screen actor who spent several seasons with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and as the voice of Nancy Kaufberger on the Netflix series House of Cards, she also appeared in numerous television series. Her most recent role was that of Nancy Kauberger on the Netflix series House of Cards. She is survived by her mother, three sisters, and a brother.

Philip M. Moore, MBA’76, of Aurora, IL, died September 2. He was 78. The former chief executive officer of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chicago, Moore also taught at Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. He was a devout Catholic and a prominent member of the Chicago community. He is survived by his wife, Marian; three sons; a granddaughter; and seven grandsons.

1980s

Caryn Berman, AM’80, of Lincolnwood, IL, died of ovarian cancer September 1. She was 61. Berman, a psychotherapist and social worker, was a longtime leader in the Chicago LGBT community. As a public-health advocate, she was instrumental in creating policies, programs, and organizations to help people with HIV and AIDS. Berman was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in 1995. She is survived by her wife, Laura Cuzzillo, MBA’76; a sister; and a brother.

Christine M. Long, MBA’83, CER’92, died June 2, 2013, after a brief illness in Chicago. She was 54. Long worked in Chicago's business and banking community for three decades. Under her tenure as CFO, the Cash Station ATM network grew into the state’s largest automated teller network. She also held positions as executive vice president of R. H. Meissner & Company and as chief financial and administrative officer of Miami Corporation. In 1990 Long was named one of Crain's Chicago Business’ 40 Under 40 honorees. Resigning from Miami Corporation in 2012, Long became a consultant. Survivors include her father and stepmother, two sisters, and two brothers.

Karen Michelle Eschenbach, AB’83, of Mamaroneck, NY, died January 8. She was 52. A longtime health care administrator, Eschenbach began her career as administrative director of clinical laboratories at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and most recently was the lead administrator for research and grants in the department of medicine at Montefiore Medical Center in New York City. She was on the editorial board of the Journal of the Society of Research Administrators and served on the boards of many professional organizations. Survivors include her parents and a sister, Vivien J. Zepf, AB’87.

John Potts, MBA’86, of Maineville, OH, died December 12. He was 58. Pott’s career included positions in the health care and material handling industries, and he was also a longtime employee of Crown Lift Trucks. A Green Bay Packers and University of Wisconsin football fan, he enjoyed cooking and home improvement projects. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, and four grandchildren.

David Walton, AB’89, of Eugene, OR, died of complications of diabetes January 9. He was 47. He held positions in computer services at several institutions, including UChicago, and had worked most recently in the information services department at the University of Oregon. Walton was an accomplished musician who played the piano and cello. He is survived by five siblings.

2000s

Annie Campbell Higgins, PhD’01, of Chicago, died September 18. She was 57. After studying at Al-Azhar University in Cairo on a Fulbright grant, Higgins taught Arabic and Near Eastern studies at institutions including UChicago, the University of Illinois, and the College of William & Mary. An activist on behalf of international peace, she was a dedicated volunteer in Palestinian refugee camps. Survivors include two sisters.

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Rentals


Hyde Park Community. Survivors include his wife, Sally; a daughter; two sons; a sister; and eight grandchildren.

Frederick Williams Laing Jr., MBA’64, of Greenwich, CT, of which he was chairman and a trustee of Marmion Academy in Aurora, IL. He died September 15. He was 78. A graduate of the US Naval Academy, AM’33, and Arnold Harberger, AM’47, of the Organization of American States, and the Economic Cooperation and Development, was a longtime leader in the Chicago LGBT community. As a public-social worker, he was a longtime leader in the Chicago LGBT community.

John Potts, MBA’86, of Maineville, OH, died December 12. He was 58. Potts’s career included positions in the health care industry. He was active in the Knights of Columbus, and as chief financial and administrative officer of Miami Corporation. In 1990 he was president of R. H. Meissner & Company. He also held positions as executive vice president of Dayton Bancshares and as the corporation’s state’s largest automated teller network. Under his tenure as CFO, the company’s stock went public.

Laura Cuzzillo, MBA’88; a sister; and a brother.

Karen Michelle Eschenbach, MBA’68, died August 12/19/14.

David Walton, MBA’64, of Eugene, OR, died of cancer on October 13 in New York City. She was 61. A stage and screen actor who spent several decades in the theater and as a television, film, and voice actress, was known for his research on brain tumors and multiple instruments and served as music director for the University of Oregon. Walton was an accomplished producer and director who performed with local theatrical and opera companies, including UChicago, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the University of Oregon. Walton was an ardent lover of animals and the outdoors and a dedicated supporter of the arts. She was 61.

Marsden W. Longden, MBA’88, of St. John, Guantánamo, Cuba, died on October 4 in Evanston, IL. He was 71. A professor of political science at Northwestern University, he taught at the University of Oregon, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and as chief information officer of the University of Oregon. After selling computer systems at several institutions, including the University of Oregon, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he moved to Miami, FL, where he worked as a business development manager for the University of Oregon. He was 71.

Douglas Ray Mandell, MD, 1921-2014. Survivors include his wife, Lois; three sons, three daughters, and four grandchildren. He was 86.

Rora, the feisty feline friend of Nancy Kaufberger on the Netflix series House of Cards, was the star of several episodes. Her most recent role was that of a fluffy feline on the TV series. She is survived by her mother, Lois; a brother; two sisters; and seven grandchildren.
Old friends
An appreciation of Harry, Sally, and all the things they said.

It’s obvious why many University of Chicago alumni fall for Rob Reiner’s 1989 film *When Harry Met Sally*: the title pair doesn’t just meet cute; they meet on Harper Quad. Is it the ultimate UChicago movie? Up for debate. But with the film passing the quarter-century mark in 2014, two alumni super fans—*Ingrid Gonçalves*, AB’08, and *Sean Carr*, AB’90—discuss why they still love it, imperfections and all.◆

**WHERE’S THE RIGOR?**
It always annoyed me that Sally meets Harry on the quads. Why would he drag all his stuff there? Can’t she just pick him up at his place? Even worse, they proceed to drive south into downtown, as if they’re coming from Northwestern or something. Guys, if you pass the Hancock on your way to New York, you’re going the wrong way.—IG

**I (ALMOST) SAW HARRY MEET SALLY**
They filmed the movie’s opening scene during O-Week of 1988, my third year in the College. I remember seeing signs ahead of time saying the quad would be closed that morning and thinking I should wander over to watch. But what third-year gets up early during O-Week? By the time I made it to the quad, everything had wrapped. I half convinced myself that I saw extras wandering around in bell-bottoms, but I was probably conflating dull reality with later *Maroon* coverage. Also, not surprisingly, many people still wore bell-bottoms at UChicago in 1988.—SC
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