

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE



DOUBLE EXECUTIVE MASTERS IN HEALTH POLICY

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO AND THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

2 CITIES

2 DEGREES

1 PROGRAM

YEAR 1

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER

2 weeks in London

APRIL–MAY

2 weeks in Chicago

SUMMER: Harris Policy Project

YEAR 2

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER

2 weeks in London

APRIL–MAY

2 weeks in Chicago

SPRING: MSc Dissertation

SUMMER: LSE Capstone Project



**Solutions to
global health challenges
require global thinking.**



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

APPLY NOW

lse.uchicago.edu/UCmag



VOLUME 111, NUMBER 4, SUMMER 2019

EDITOR *Laura Demanski, AM'94*
SENIOR EDITOR *Mary Ruth Yoe*
ASSOCIATE EDITOR *Susie Allen, AB'09*
MANAGING EDITOR *Rhonda L. Smith*
ART DIRECTOR *Guido Mendez*
ALUMNI NEWS EDITOR *Andrew Peart, AM'16, PHD'18*
COPY EDITOR *Sam Edsill*
GRAPHIC DESIGNER *Laura Lorenz*
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS *John Easton, AM'77;*
Carrie Golus, AB'91, AM'93; Brooke E. O'Neill,
AM'04

Editorial Office *The University of Chicago Magazine*, 5235 South Harper Court, Chicago, IL 60615
TELEPHONE 773.702.2163 FAX 773.702.8836
EMAIL uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu
The University of Chicago Alumni Association has its offices at 5235 South Harper Court, Chicago, IL 60615
TELEPHONE 773.702.2150 FAX 773.702.2166
ADDRESS CHANGES 800.955.0065 or alumniassociation@uchicago.edu
WEB mag.uchicago.edu

The University of Chicago Magazine (ISSN-0041-9508) is published quarterly (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer) by the University of Chicago in cooperation with the Alumni Association, 5235 South Harper Court, Chicago, IL 60615, and sent to all University of Chicago alumni. Published continuously since 1907. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago and additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER** Send address changes to *The University of Chicago Magazine*, Alumni Records, 5235 South Harper Court, Chicago, IL 60615. © 2019 University of Chicago

Advertising Contact uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu or visit mag.uchicago.edu/advertising. The *Magazine* is a member of the Ivy League Magazine Network, whose clients include other colleges and universities. These advertisements help the *Magazine* continue to deliver news of the University of Chicago and its alumni to readers. Please contact the editor with any questions.
IVY LEAGUE MAGAZINE NETWORK
Heather Wedlake, Director of Operations
TELEPHONE 617.319.0995 WEB ivymags.com
EMAIL heatherwedlake@ivymags.com

The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, status as an individual with a disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, or other protected classes under the law. For additional information, please see equalopportunity.uchicago.edu.



EDITOR'S NOTES



In this issue we observe the astonishing century that the Oriental Institute is about to celebrate. The OI was established in 1919 as the University's first research institute, but its seeds go back further, to 1894, when William Rainey Harper appointed James Henry Breasted to the University of Chicago faculty.

Harper, the wunderkind who was the first to lead this University, had crossed paths with Breasted at Yale. The newly minted president had been a professor of ancient Hebrew and the Old Testament there when Breasted attended as a divinity graduate student with a strong interest in Semitic languages and literature.

What Breasted set in motion in Chicago would have been hard to foresee when Harper brought to campus the brand-new doctor of Egyptology—the first American so degreed. Twenty-five years down the road, a decade after Harper's death, the University established the Oriental Institute with a gift from John D. Rockefeller Jr.

Moving from its first home in the Haskell Museum to its current location in 1931, the OI thrived. More than in most fields, the assumptions, methods, and real-world contexts of Middle East archaeology changed with the volatile political times and technological leaps of the 20th century and early 21st (see "Past and Future," page 50).

The OI's blossoming, which continues, made the *Magazine's* task on this occasion frankly daunting. The world of its research, archaeology, museum, dictionaries, public outreach, and conservation—I could go on—is as vast and rich as the cultures of the region that Breasted was the first to call the Fertile Crescent. In our centennial special section (page 39) we've only scratched the surface of the OI's past achievements, present work, and future ambitions.

Luckily, there are more opportunities to learn—and to participate firsthand. The OI will celebrate its milestone throughout the 2019–20 academic year. To find centennial lectures, films, exhibitions, and more, keep an eye on oi100.uchicago.edu.

Finally, we hope you'll add your own OI memories to the record (archaeological and/or written). Send them to uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu. We'll share readers' recollections with the OI and the University Archives, and print a few in the Fall/19 issue. ♦

Photo courtesy the Oriental Institute

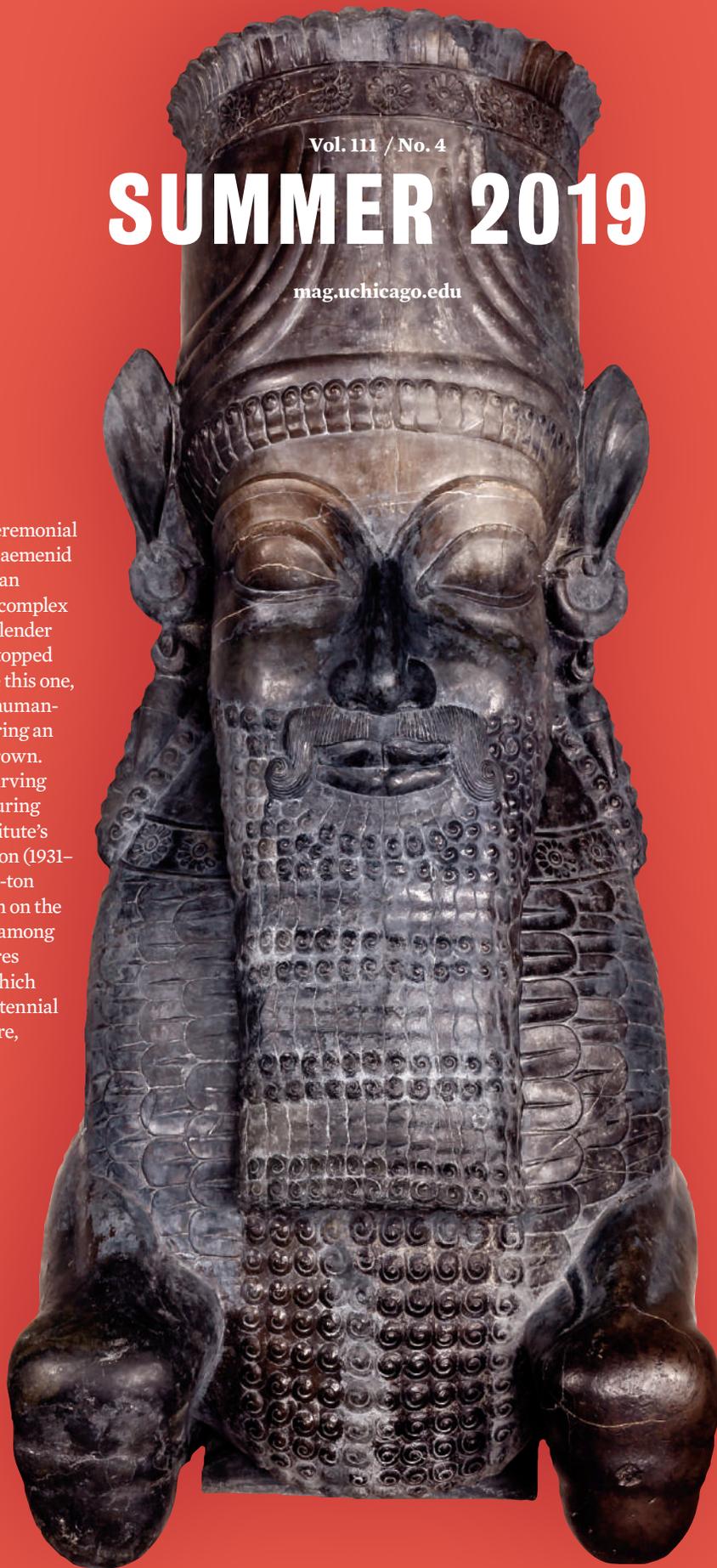
Vol. 111 / No. 4

SUMMER 2019

mag.uchicago.edu

Bullish

Persepolis, the ceremonial center of the Achaemenid Empire, boasted an immense palace complex featuring many slender columns—often topped with capitals like this one, which depicts a human-headed bull wearing an Assyrian-style crown. The limestone carving was excavated during the Oriental Institute's Persian Expedition (1931–39), as was the 10-ton bull statue shown on the cover. These are among the many treasures held by the OI, which celebrates its centennial this year. For more, see page 39.



Features

22 **Local interest** *By Jeanie Chung*
After 40 years in the Illinois House, a veteran lawmaker steps aside.

24 **Hermit philosophy** *By Lucas McGranahan*
A course on exile, retreat, and homes away from home.

26 **Listening to the world** *By Lydialyle Gibson*
Rosanna Warren's odes to woundedness.

32 **American style** *By Brooke E. O'Neill, AM'04*
Elizabeth Gordon, PhB'27, fought for "good" design in the Cold War era.

34 **Toward a safer world** *By Laura Demanski, AM'94*
At the first annual Hagel Lecture, Madeleine Albright and Chuck Hagel spoke from experience.

The OI at 100

UChicago's Oriental Institute celebrates a monumental first century.

40

A brief visual history

48

Profile of the director

50

A roundtable discussion

54

Museum outreach



9

UChicago Journal

Research and news in brief



55

Peer Review

What alumni are thinking and doing

LETTERS

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.

Special recollections

I was delighted by “No Key Required” (Spring/19). As a student in the Graduate Library School, I had the privilege of working with Bob Rosenthal, AM’55, for a couple of years when Regenstein was the new library. Along with general cataloging and editing, I served as exhibits coordinator. I had the chance to work with a number of experts at the University to organize and exhibit their specialties through books, manuscripts, and artifacts. I also put together a catalog for each exhibit. It was a really fun job. I am eternally grateful for the experience of working with Rosenthal.

Sadly, the University closed its library school many years ago. I never understood why. In the late 1960s, the Library School was well ahead of its time in recognizing the impact that computers were to have on the way libraries (and now the rest of us) operate. I have benefitted in later adventures from having been introduced to the basic mysteries of computer programming (running punch cards through the computer at midnight when time was available). My library degree put me through law school a few years later.

My position at Special Collections at the Regenstein is one of my most special life experiences.

Carolyn Whitmore Baldwin, AM’71
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Democracy dims

The article by Jason Kelly on Tom Ginsburg and Aziz Huq’s book *How to Save a Constitutional Democracy* (University of Chicago Press, 2018; “Saving Democracy,” Spring/19) leaves out at least two factors that are chipping away at democracy in the United States. I don’t know whether this is the fault of the book or the article.



The factors that are mentioned all line up to criticize Donald Trump. While I’m no fan of his, the article appears one-sided. One factor negatively impacting democracy in the United States has been the role of the courts in vastly expanding their power and curtailment of voters and even elected officials. This has led to a lot of frustration and in fact fueled populism.

Another factor is the “deep state”—or, more appropriately, a lack of neutrality on the part of the government bureaucracy. Ginsburg and Huq think “bureaucratic rule of law” and a nonpartisan civil service are a pillar of democracy. I agree yet believe that these have been weakened a great deal in the United States due to partisanship. This is not mentioned in the article probably because it doesn’t line up to get the bad guy.

In light of actions by the IRS and FBI and the publicly expressed political opinions of officials in those agencies, nonpartisanship has been eroded and yet is not mentioned in the article. It is hard to imagine that IRS employees, who through their union contribute close to 90 percent to one party, are nonpartisan.

I hope the book explores the role of courts and partisan governmental bureaucracy in weakening democracy. After all, the “populist” movement it-

self, at least in the United States, has been spurred by a perceived weakening of democracy. The reasons for this should also be examined.

Tom Schroder, AB’67, AM’69
AVE MARIA, FLORIDA

Comprehensive care

I read with interest “Primary Value” (Spring/19). When I graduated from the Pritzker School of Medicine in 1972 and established a solo family practice, it was glaringly obvious that I saved Medicare money on hospital patients. It happened every day. I was deeply involved with my patients’ hospital care and shared Ram Krishnamoorthi’s frustration with trying to get the attention of the narrowly focused specialists, but it was worth it because I often was able to correct their false understandings about the patients’ medical conditions. It was frustrating, though, because no one other than the patients valued the work I did. Not the specialists; not the hospitals, who complained that I kept the patients in the hospital too long; and certainly not the insurance companies.

Knowledge of their medicine dosages, tolerances, and allergies often averted adverse medical outcomes while in the hospital. And patients were often loath to take new medicines without approval of the family doctor. In my experience, unless you’re there when they leave the hospital, patients simply don’t get those new meds filled.

Finally, I’ll comment on the economics of practice. I had a panel of over 2,000 patients, not the 200 described in your article, and I had no social workers, although my staff was adept at mobilizing community resources. Seeing hospital patients is quite time intensive and often is not reimbursed by Medicare. I simply could not continue to devote time to hospital

patients and neglect those others, who were my bread and butter. I don't see how it could ever be so without radical restructuring of the payment system.

Hospitalists helped my bottom line, although I sincerely regret that I gave up my hospital patients to them.

Louis L. Constan, SB'68, MD'72
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

David Meltzer seized the opportunity to study the impact of continuity of care on outcomes for high-risk Medicare patients. His hypothesis is that continuity improves satisfaction and quality of care and decreases cost.

In 1951 the University of Chicago School of Medicine curriculum included a quarter of research in the freshman year. When I began clinical medicine as a third-year student in 1953, each of my patients was my patient day and night. I was to be called "doctor," even though I had not yet earned that degree, and I would be the first doctor my patients would see. Continuity was a theme.

During surgical residency, my rotations were six to 12 months long, compared to much shorter rotations in residencies elsewhere. When I became the chief resident and instructor in surgery, I was on call and available every day and every night of the year, except for the three-day weekend during which I excused myself to wed my South Side Chicago bride. So continuity was a fundamental feature of my education. In none of the three medical schools I served thereafter did I find continuity like that at the U of C.

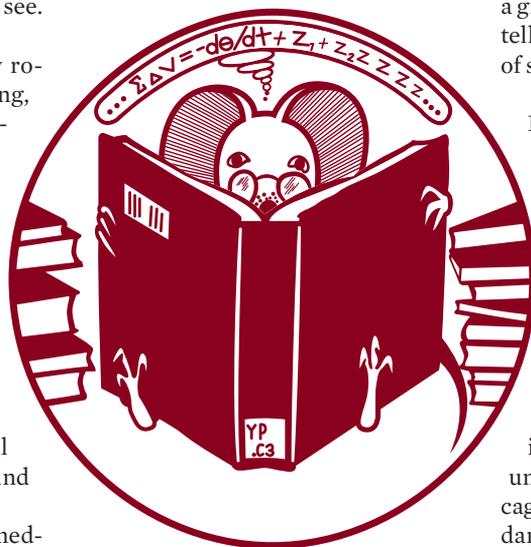
Now we have what I call shift medicine, with duration-of-work restrictions for residents, routine changing of the guard, and a continuous eye on the clock in virtually all settings. Physicians are distracted from patients by the need to type into computerized medical records. Teaching physicians are hampered in delegating responsibility for patient care to their residents by needing to prove that they are present. Medical education has suffered, and continuity is not a theme.

How about the future? I predict that Meltzer will conclusively prove the

value of continuity of care for patients and physicians. I think they will find cost-of-care savings as a byproduct of continuity. If so, the application of the Meltzer model to the medical world at large will be challenging, at least in part because primary care physicians are not focused specialists.

My 43 years as a focused specialist in thoracic surgery involved care for many patients who suffered because definitive care was delayed. Earlier consultation could have led to better outcomes. So, David Meltzer, I applaud your work and wish you well. I encourage you to give special emphasis to teaching primary care physicians that ego and cost considerations should not impair early consultation with a specialist. There should be pride, and no shame, in asking for timely help on behalf of patients.

John R. Benfield, MD'55
LOS ANGELES



Reg Rat
(*ratus regensteinus*)

Ratty T-shirts wanted

Having been a Reg Rat back in my school days, I quite loved the Reg Rat T-shirt on the cover of the latest issue (Spring/19). Any ideas on where I might purchase or procure such a shirt? I would wear one proudly.

Kenneth C. Baron, AB'87
NEW YORK CITY

Baron's was one of several such queries we received. The Alumni Association is seeking out the artist for permission to reproduce the T-shirt. To learn more, visit mag.uchicago.edu/reg-rat.—Ed.

One goal among many

How far should one go in seeking diversity? In "Toward a More Diverse and Inclusive UChicago" (On the Agenda, Spring/19), University vice provost Melissa Gilliam tells us that the quest for diversity requires that we "allow our individual assumptions and biases to be challenged, our points of view to evolve and change, and ourselves to be held accountable for the environment we create." We are admonished that this can be difficult.

The quoted words sound nice, but what exactly do they mean? What assumptions and biases must be challenged to achieve diversity? I hope they don't include the assumption that a great university should select the intellectually strongest, even at the cost of some diversity.

Albert Einstein, Enrico Fermi, Lise Meitner, Thurgood Marshall, Richard Wright, Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., Sandra Day O'Connor: there is a natural diversity in great talent, and it does not have to be forced. If one believes otherwise, it is proof that one does not really believe that merit and diversity are compatible. And, to the extent that they may not be fully compatible at a given point in time, great universities like the University of Chicago should opt for intellect. The fundamental purposes of universities are the advancement of knowledge and the development of educated citizens, and these are best achieved by selecting those of greatest intellect, especially among the faculty.

Perhaps there are some counter-arguments. In certain fields, such as black studies, diversity is seen as a necessary predicate to effective teaching, learning, and understanding. In those circumstances, diversity is not a goal in and of itself; it is a qualification for the education of students and for the advancement of knowledge. It is also

true that intellectual merit can be difficult to assess fairly, and that in the past racial and ethnic minorities have been judged unfairly. But going forward an honest and best judgment of intellectual merit should come first.

Outstanding research universities should put the advancement of knowledge above all else, and ordinarily this requires that intellectual merit be at the forefront of all criteria, especially for faculty and research personnel. I feel sure Gilliam does not mean to challenge this foundational assumption

An honest and best judgment of intellectual merit should come first.

tion of what a university should be. But I am troubled that the extent of this and many universities' focus on diversity could end up compromising the most basic reasons for their existence.

Robert S. Venning, AM'66
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

A university's purpose

I am not sure what is more disappointing or embarrassing: the letter that Michael Sanders, MBA'74, wrote or that the *Magazine* chose to publish it (Letters, Spring/19). I am not a big Milton Friedman, AM'33, fan, but I respect Sanders's right to express his opinion and believe that a strong academic institution thrives when there is a diversity of opinion. I took my daughter to see Grinnell College as part of our college tours. I always ask the tour guide, "What is one thing you would change about the school?" The Grinnell guide's answer: "I wish we had more conservative viewpoints on campus, not because I'm a conservative, but because I believe we need a diversity of opinion." I still send money even though the University saw fit to establish the Becker Friedman Insti-

tute, because I am grateful for the education I received. I hope Sanders can gain a better understanding of the true purpose of a university.

Victor S. Sloan, AB'80
FLEMINGTON, NEW JERSEY

Great adaptation

I was delighted and impressed with Susie Allen's (AB'09) account of the brilliant architectural transformation of the former Royal Hong Kong Police Force's Special Branch detention center on Mt. Davis into a new UChicago campus ("The View from the Tree House of Knowledge," Winter/19).

In fall 1965 I stayed in a friend's government flat overlooking the site for three weeks while preparing for postdoc research on urban and cultural change in Tsuen Wan, New Territories. I never could have imagined that this isolated, windswept repository for political "troublemakers" would one day be a beautifully situated UChicago intellectual and social center.

My doctoral thesis, *Ocean Shipping in the Evolution of Hong Kong*, was published as a Department of Geography research paper.

Baruch Boxer, AM'57, PhD'61
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

A picture worth 1,000 memories

On page 77 of the Fall/18 *Magazine* (Alumni News), there is a charming picture of a lovely young lady reading and listening to poetry. Perhaps you'd like to know that she is Nancy Cushwa, AB'53, AM'62. She was a dear friend of my wife, Petra Herd Rosenberg, EX'53, as was Ruth Curd, AB'52, later Dickinson.

David Rosenberg, PhB'48, SB'50,
MD'54
HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS

For more from Rosenberg, see Alumni News, page 60.—Ed.

Info, please

Researching family history, I came across a 2017 *Magazine* article regarding the Chicago Pile ("Core Stories," Fall/17). I had a great grand aunt, Rose Watt, who lived in Cook County, Illinois. According to a family story, Mrs.

Watt had a certificate for her contribution to the Manhattan Project.

Born in Wigan, Lancashire, England, in 1895, Mrs. Watt emigrated to Chicago in 1927 with her Scottish husband, Sydney Watt, and three children. When they were naturalized in 1942, they lived on Ashland Avenue.

I would like to know if the story is true. I have had no luck speaking to the US Department of Energy, and I doubt Rose would have served in the Armed Forces. Could she have participated in some way at the Chicago Pile? If any of your readers know, I would be grateful to hear from them.

John Murphy
CHESHIRE, ENGLAND

Responses to Murphy's query may be sent via the Magazine. Email uchicago-mag@uchicago.edu.—Ed.

Who's that bluesman?

I believe one of the acts at the 1997 Blues and Ribs (Alumni News, Spring/19) was tenor sax front man Jesse Scinto, AB'94. At the time, Jesse Scinto and the Dignitaries were in rotation at blues clubs around Chicago. I still have and listen to a demo tape from the group. Jesse went on to record an album with blues legend Big Jay McNeely in 2003, *The Clutch*.

Noel T. Southall, AB'97, SM'97
POTOMAC, MARYLAND

Great Lakes mistake

"No Key Required" (Spring/19) pulsed the Chicago drumbeat of studying primary sources, in particular regarding Dr. William Beaumont at Mackinac Island. I look forward to discovering more for a future book.

I suppose it appropriate for a geography major to point out Fort Mackinac is between Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, not Lake Superior.

Paul A. Markun, AB'78
MILL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

We regret the error and thank Markun for the correction.—Ed.



FOR MORE LETTERS VISIT US ONLINE
AT MAG.UCHICAGO.EDU/SUM19MAIL.

AN EXPANDING UNIVERSE OF DISCOVERY

BY ANGELA OLINTO

DEAN, PHYSICAL SCIENCES DIVISION, AND ALBERT A. MICHELSON
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY AND
ASTROPHYSICS, ENRICO FERMI INSTITUTE, AND THE COLLEGE

When I started as dean of the Physical Sciences Division (PSD) in July 2018, NASA was preparing to launch the Parker Solar Probe, a spacecraft designed to make critical observations of the sun. The probe is the first

NASA spacecraft to be named after a living person, my colleague and a professor emeritus at the University of Chicago, **Eugene Parker**. Parker developed the theory of the solar wind in 1958 and helped define the field of heliophysics.

The timing of this NASA mission seemed especially significant as I took the helm of a division with a rich history of shaping and defining fields. There are countless University of Chicago physical scientists and mathematicians who have paved the way for researchers across the globe, including Albert A. Michelson, whom my title honors. Michelson founded the Department of Physics at UChicago and helped measure the speed of light, becoming the first American scientist to win a Nobel Prize. Chemist Willard Libby developed the technique for dating organic compounds using carbon-14 here. Former faculty member Maria Goeppert Mayer proposed the nuclear shell model of the atomic nucleus and became the second woman to win a Nobel Prize in physics. And Leonard E. Dickson, PhD 1896, who earned the first doctorate in mathematics from UChicago, was one of the earliest American researchers in the field of abstract algebra.



As dean of the PSD, I have the unique opportunity to support the next generation of field-defining scientists who are following in these esteemed footsteps. PSD is expanding our computer science program and attracting new faculty members and students to lead advances in artificial intelligence, machine learning, internet security, and more. This past fall, the Department of Computer Science moved into the John Crerar Library, a newly renovated state-of-the-art academic building with space for experimental research and exploration. We are also spearheading a campus-wide data science initiative, which will bring together faculty and students from computer science, statistics, and the social sciences.

Interdisciplinary connections not only facilitate research in our fields, but they also help us address the most important problems facing our world. Our chemists partner with researchers in the Biological Sciences Division and clinicians at UChicago Medicine to develop new therapies to prevent and cure human diseases. Our geo-

physical scientists collaborate with statisticians, computer scientists, and policy researchers to address climate change. Our mathematicians and statisticians develop fundamental structures and concepts that inform new areas of science. Our physicists and astrophysicists work together to research new forms of matter and energy. And chemists, physicists, computer scientists, and researchers from the newly created Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering collaborate to design new materials and advance the science of quantum information.

This fruitful intellectual environment would not be possible without attention to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) throughout the PSD. This fall we hired a director of EDI to build on the foundation established by our departments, institutes, and centers. We will continue to grow our mentorship and pipeline programs for students from underrepresented backgrounds and to promote a climate where our diverse community feels supported and valued.

As we look to the future, we plan to expand our master's and continuing education programs so that more students have the opportunity to study the physical sciences at UChicago and to influence our world through business and industry.

I'm excited and proud to serve a preeminent division at UChicago that is driving innovation and discovery, fostering an inclusive and creative intellectual environment, and helping shape the next generation of physical scientists and mathematicians. ♦

Announcing the 2019 Harris Dean's Award Recipient
**U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE
RUTH BADER GINSBURG**



Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

Please join Dean Katherine Baicker of the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy for a very special afternoon of conversation with **U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG**, recipient of the 2019 Harris Dean's Award.



For more information and tickets, visit
har.rs/DeansAward

UCHICAGO JOURNAL

RESEARCH AND NEWS IN BRIEF

MOUNTAINS BEYOND MOUNTAINS

At the opening of Tara Donovan's *Fieldwork*, visitors took in the artist's mind-bending sculptures made from everyday materials such as straws, rubber bands, and, in this piece, index cards. The exhibit runs through September 22 at the Smart Museum of Art.

Tara Donovan, *Untitled*, 2014/2019. Styrene index cards, metal, wood, paint, and glue, 12 feet 5-1/2 inches x 22 feet 4 inches x 22 feet 11-1/2 inches. Installation view, Tara Donovan: *Fieldwork*, on view at the Smart Museum of Art through September 22, 2019. Courtesy of the artist and Pace Gallery. Photo by Nancy Wong.

10

*A new history
of African
American poetry*

16

*A runner's
ultimate
challenge*

18

*Solving the
mystery of sloth
evolution*

21

*Don't fear
the semicolon*

Founding poets

Lauri Ramey, AM'75, PhD'96, traces African American poetry from the transatlantic slave trade to the present.

BY ANDREW PEART, AM'16, PHD'18

When **Lauri Ramey** was teaching English and creative writing at Hampton University in the late 1990s, she founded the school's African American Poetry Archive. Gathering the historically black university's rich holdings in poetry, she also acquired new materials from contemporary writers who were inspired by the idea of a central repository for their tradition and wanted their work to be preserved there.

Two decades later, Ramey, AM'75, PhD'96, continues to advocate for a revised American literary canon, one that acknowledges the central place of African American poets. In *A History of African American Poetry* (Cambridge University Press, 2019), a comprehensive account of a 400-year legacy, she makes the case for African American poetry's fundamental place in American culture by defining it as a tradition that predates the nation's founding.

What is it that makes African American poetry one continuous tradition? For Ramey, it's the body of slave songs like "I Know Moonrise" and "Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen," which she considers the origin point and touchstone for the African American literary expression that followed.

"Poets are constantly talking to other poets," past and present, says Ramey, who now runs the poetry centers she founded at both California State University, Los Angeles, and Hunan Normal University. When African American poets talk to the slave songs' "black and unknown bards," in New Negro Renaissance writer James Weldon Johnson's phrase, they speak as both conservators and innovators.



Born free in Ohio prior to emancipation, Joshua McCarter Simpson published verse he meant to be sung on the Underground Railroad. In her history of African American poetry, Lauri Ramey hopes to give free black poets like Simpson their due.

This, for Ramey, is the essence of African American poetry—the “tremendously resilient core that preserves its identity even in the face of a lot of political pressure to assimilate,” and allows it to embrace “an equally strong process of regeneration.”

Ramey sees that tradition of preservation and experimentation at work in the writings of lesser-known figures including free black abolitionist poet Joshua McCarter Simpson (1820?–76),

who wrote ironic parodies of minstrel songs, patriotic anthems, and other venerated traditions; Chicago modernist Fenton Johnson (1888–1958), who used call-and-response to experiment on Anglo-American lyric forms; and avant-garde writer and composer Russell Atkins (b. 1926), whose visual poem “Spyrytual” reassembles the traditional song “Didn’t It Rain.”

These poets are not experimenting for the sake of experiment or simply to op-

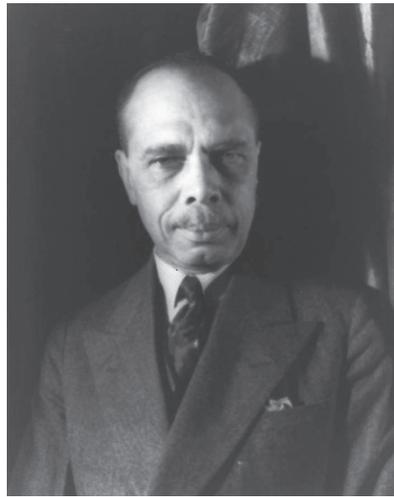
pose a dominant culture, in Ramey's view. The history of captivity and enslavement sets the stakes much higher. They are "seizing workable material components from utter destruction," and "adapt[ing] these remnants of psychic and material shrapnel of the past." Their aim is to find authentic expression for experiences that standard uses of language stifle.

Ramey places Simpson in the earliest period of African American poetry, lasting from the arrival of the first Africans in America until emancipation. Then followed an era roughly contemporaneous with its towering poet, Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872–1906). Johnson and Atkins belong to the period of creative ferment Ramey calls the Twentieth Century Renaissances, which spans the New Negro Renaissance, the Black Arts Movement, and the midcentury era in between. The contemporary period, from the late 1970s to the present, rounds out Ramey's account. But these are only signposts in what she wants readers to understand as an uninterrupted history.

Ramey knew a single book couldn't be exhaustive in its selection of poets. "So I tried to do little portraits," she says, with special attention to "people that are not necessarily looked at so closely." Of particular note for Ramey are Harlem's Helene Johnson and Chicago's Margaret Danner, two overlooked 20th-century poets she finds noteworthy for their originality and craft.

Exhaustive is beside the point. Ramey's book isn't so much a narrative history or a survey of poets as a critical genealogy: it offers a framework for a complete and comprehensive canon of African American poetry by examining how we ended up with the truncated one we have. "A lot of figures that would have been commonly accessible in the 1960s and 1970s"—through anthologies that rarely drew camps based on differences in style—"by the '80s and '90s had become unknown," Ramey says.

Progress and reclamation go hand in hand in this tradition.



James Weldon Johnson's influential anthologies of spirituals preserved material Ramey considers foundational to African American poetry.

Her approach to retracing where the process of canonization went wrong stems from what she learned as a young literary scholar at UChicago immersed in Plato, Aristotle, and other roots and branches in the history of criticism. "That was quite formative for me in trying to say, let's not look at individual poets in isolation. Let's not look at a decade in isolation. Let's try to conceive of a tradition and some functional theories of a tradition."

A History of African American Poetry concludes with contemporary poets who, in Ramey's view, carry on and recast this tradition's fundamental themes and techniques. While exploring heightened complexities of voice and identity, they still insist on liberation and

liberty, articulate a bond between the individual and the community, and emphasize performance and orality. And they do so with an often ironic sensibility born of being both insiders and outsiders in American culture. Across four centuries, from the earliest period to the last, Ramey observes, "progress and reclamation go hand in hand in this tradition." ♦

QUICK STUDY

HEALTH

Wishful wellness

Say goodbye to sun salutations in the break room. Workplace wellness programs—an \$8 billion industry—may not actually improve health. That's the key finding of an April 16 study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, coauthored by health policy researcher and Harris Public Policy dean **Katherine Baicker**. She and her collaborator analyzed health outcomes at a large US warehouse retail company, which offered a wellness program at some work sites but not others. After 18 months, employees at sites with the program—which provided guidance on topics such as nutrition and exercise, as well as small financial incentives for participation—were no healthier than those at sites without it, as measured by body mass index, blood pressure, and cholesterol. But work sites with the program *did* have higher rates of employees who reported engaging in regular exercise and managing their weight.—S. A. ♦

Perfect pitch

There's a new New Venture Challenge on the block. The **Edward L. Kaplan**, MBA'71, New Venture Challenge, established in 1996, has been around long enough to launch several household names, such as Grubhub and the payment processing company Braintree, and to generate offshoots, including the College New Venture Challenge for undergraduates and the Social New Venture Challenge for firms with a social mission. This year saw the debut of the Alumni New Venture Challenge, open to graduates of any UChicago school or division. On May 2 eight teams gathered at the Gleacher Center in downtown Chicago for a day of *Shark Tank*-style presentations: a 10-minute pitch followed by 13 minutes of grilling from the judges.—S. A.

THE JUDGES

Stephen Beitler, EX'78
Managing Director, Dunrath Capital

Larry Berlin, AB'89, MBA'94
CFO, Freedom Fries

Waverly Deutsch
Clinical Professor of Entrepreneurship, Chicago Booth

Susan Hapak, MBA'89
President, Current Technologies

Jason Heltzer, MBA'02
Partner, Origin Ventures

Amelia Maccoun Morris, MBA'86
Director, Investments Group, Brandes Investment Partners

Lonnie Moulder Jr., MBA'97
Founding General Partner, Tellus BioVentures

RoseMary Safranek, AB'80, MBA'88
Chief Investment Officer, Ninepeaks Capital Management

Michael Small, MBA'81
Cofounder and CEO, K4 Mobility

Samir Sood, MBA'01
Founder, All Things Business, and Chief Believer, Venture Highway

Mark Tebbe
Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship, Chicago Booth

Immanuel Thangaraj, AB'92, MBA'93
Managing Director, Essex Woodlands Health Ventures

Kevin Willer, MBA'10
Partner, Chicago Ventures

THE FINALISTS

Madeline Lauf, AB'12
Begin

Christopher Gay, MBA'08, and **Dawn Gay**
Care Advisors

Phaly Pichota, MBA'09, and **Michael Siwinski**, MBA'09
Cibus Health

Chase VanSteenburg, MBA'12, and **Max Wong**
Den Living

Monica Chang He, AB'06, and **Akinbiyi Lalude**
Duunokid

John Cole; **Tushar Pandey**, MBA'17; and **Joseph Peterson**
SimBioSys

Santanu Dasgupta, IMBA'04, and **Cristina Guijarro-Cazorla**, PhD'09
Taplingua

Jeff Nelson, SB'15, and **John Nelson**, MBA'12
Vroom Delivery



10:40 a.m.

The morning session begins, appropriately, with *Begin*, a subscription service offering organic ready-to-drink infant and toddler formula. Cofounder **Madeline Lauf**, AB'12, points out that many competitors' products contain corn syrup. "Corn syrup! It's 2019!" she says.

11:05 a.m.

Cibus Health also focuses on nutrition, matching customers with meals that fit their doctor-prescribed nutrition plans through a Grubhub-esque platform. "We are a marketplace solution ... at a cost-effective price point," declares **Phaly Pichota**, MBA'09.

11:30 a.m.

Next up: **Tushar Pandey**, MBA'17, of *SimBioSys*, which

has developed a way to model how a particular patient's cancer will respond to different treatment options. The team receives special scrutiny from judges who know the biomedical industry well; judge **Lonnie Moulder Jr.**, MBA'97, suggests the team allocate more funding for clinical trials.



1:05 p.m.

The child-focused language learning company *Duunokid* is based in China, where many families want their children to learn foreign languages such as English and French. *Duuno* offers short, frequent lessons with native speakers over video chat. The process is designed to mimic the way tots learn their native language through conversation with parents and caregivers.

In the Q&A period, **Michael Small**, MBA'81, asks the

founders what they'd do with a million-dollar investment. Is this a hint? Cofounders **Monica Chang He**, AB'06, and Akinbiyi Lalude say they'd expand to other markets.



1:30 p.m.

"Enrolling in Medicaid is a mess," says **Christopher Gay**, MBA'08. His company, Care Advisors, aims to automate the cumbersome process. With patient permission, hospitals provide lists of people who are Medicaid eligible or whose Medicaid coverage is at risk of lapsing. Care Advisors' software searches through databases and gathers the information needed to complete the Medicaid enrollment form.

The company has already partnered with several health care providers—and found fans and advocates in hospital social workers, whose workloads are instantly reduced by the service Care Advisors provides.

"Social workers are the secret weapon," Gay says.



1:55 p.m.

Another language-focused company, Taplingua, takes the stage. **Santanu Dasgupta**, IMBA'04, begins with a scenario: Imagine you're a business traveler arriving in your hotel room after a long flight. You realize you need an outlet adapter to charge your phone—but you can't communicate with the hotel employee at the front desk.

Enter Taplingua, which provides job-specific language instruction to hotel employees in an easy-to-use app. It's not just beneficial to travelers, Dasgupta says. It helps hotel employees, who are often underpaid or come from marginalized populations, learn a valuable job skill.

A judge asks about threats to the hotel industry—does Airbnb endanger their company? Dasgupta parries: if there were enough demand, the

company could create a course tailored to the language needs of Airbnb hosts.

2:30 p.m.

Chase VanSteenburg, MBA'12, of Den Living kicks things off after a quick coffee break. His cofounder, Max Wong—the "Jony Ive of microspaces," VanSteenburg jokes—has designed, essentially, a furnished bedroom in a box. All landlords or tenants have to do is assemble it, plug it in, and voilà, they've got another private, rentable space in their apartment.

The judges seem puzzled but intrigued. "I would love to put one of my kids in a pod," **Kevin Willer**, MBA'10, muses. **Immanuel Thangaraj**, AB'92, MBA'93, suggests VanSteenburg show examples from other countries where microspaces are popular.

2:55 p.m.

Brothers **Jeff Nelson**, SB'15, and **John Nelson**, MBA'12, created Vroom Delivery to solve a problem for their dad, who owns several convenience stores in El Paso, Texas, and wanted a delivery option for his customers. Their product is designed especially for small to midsize chains like his. During the Q&A, **Waverly Deutsch** questions some

of the company's financial projections. Moulder nods receptively as Jeff argues that competitors like Uber Eats won't expand to rural areas. "This is a product for under-served markets," he says.



3:20 p.m.

As the judges deliberate, the finalists and audience head upstairs to sip wine and speculate about who will win. They don't have to wait long: in less than 30 minutes, the judges have made their decision. Staff members arrive with four oversized checks to hand out.

It's a good day for language instruction companies: Duunokid walks away with \$30,000 and second place, while Taplingua takes third and \$15,000. Brotherly endeavor Vroom Delivery ties for third, ensuring the hasty arrival of slushies and chips to homes everywhere. The big winner? Health care coverage: Care Advisors takes first place and a check for \$65,000.

QUICK STUDY

BIOLOGY

Taking a bite out of disease

There are few good options for containing the spread of mosquito-borne diseases like Dengue fever and West Nile virus. Vaccines aren't always available, and insecticides can harm the environment. That's why scientists are looking to genetic engineering to control populations of disease-carrying mosquitos. In a *Nature Communications* study published March 5, researchers including computer scientist and microbiologist **A. Murat Eren** identified a small circular piece of DNA known as a plasmid within a bacterium called *Wolbachia*. Scientists had long hoped to find a plasmid—a useful tool for gene editing—in *Wolbachia*, which infects an estimated 60 percent of insects and can affect their ability to reproduce. Although it's still early days, the researchers say the discovery could lead to a powerful new way of controlling populations of disease-carrying mosquitos.—S. A. ♦



Raghuram Rajan, William Howell, and Bret Stephens, AB'95, debated the nuances of contemporary populism at the April 4 event.

SOCIETY

It's the economy, undisputed

A panel on capitalism and the threat of mob rule.

BY LUCAS MCGRANAHAN

Are democracy, populism, and capitalism compatible? This was the question put to a panel at the inaugural event in the series A Meeting of the Minds: Business and the Human, sponsored by the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the Stevanovich Institute on the Formation of Knowledge in April. By the evening's end, moderator **Bret Stephens**, AB'95, of the *New York Times* had brought out one clear point of agreement between panelists **William Howell** and **Raghuram Rajan**: the harsh effects

of modern globalized capitalism fuel populism, which in turn corrodes democracy. Preserving government by the people means addressing people's economic needs.

Howell, the Sydney Stein Professor in American Politics, kicked off the discussion by describing "populism" as a misnomer. Populists do not lodge critiques on behalf of people in general—not even the downtrodden in general—but on behalf of a specific cultural or racial group that they identify with the true national heritage. In the United States, he said, the populist demands justice for "true Americans."

When Rajan, the Katherine Dusak Miller Distinguished Service Professor of Finance, argued that Howell was describing right-wing populism specifically, Howell acknowledged the existence of a left-wing version that is less nativist and more concerned with poverty. However, he countered that all brands of populism are prone to becoming antidemocratic by attacking such institutions as a free press, an independent judiciary, and the legitimacy of an opposition party.

The panelists agreed that the causes of populism are economic. Recent decades have brought deep structural changes to society, such as massive global population movements, the large-scale automation of jobs, and increased income and wealth inequality. Even as the economy grows, wealth accumulates in geographical pockets, with gains accruing mostly to those with specific training and backgrounds. The failure of states to reckon with these challenges has given rise to populist politics—or anti-politics—as a form of weaponized grievance.

If Howell and Rajan agreed on the diagnosis, they had different prescriptions. Howell's proposal, which he developed prior to the 2016 election of Donald J. Trump, is a stronger US presidency. "Have you had any reason to rethink your thesis?" asked Stephens wryly, to an outburst of audience laughter. Howell stuck to his guns, arguing that strong presidential leadership—as opposed to the disparate, parochial interests of Congress and the courts—is required for coherent and responsive national policy.

Photography by John Zich

Rajan’s vision is more bottom-up: we need to strengthen communities, which are the “third pillar” of society in addition to markets and the state—an argument fleshed out in his recent book *The Third Pillar* (Penguin Random House, 2019). “What we need is a strict principle of subsidiarity, which means, push down decisions to the lowest level at which they can be handled,” Rajan said. As an example of what not to do, he cited French president Emmanuel Macron’s unpopular top-down decision to reduce the national speed limit, which drew protests from rural lower-income citizens who drive long distances for work.

Stephens pressed a cultural angle on the issue of populism, identifying a certain class of professional elites—including, he suggested, the event’s panelists and MBA-heavy audience—with a figure called “Davos Man.” Moderate populists resent Davos Man, Stephens suggested,

because his affinities lie with his fellow elites in financial capitals like Singapore and London, not with his own country, and because of his departure from traditional positions on faith and morality. As Stephens remarked pointedly, “Probably very few of the children of the people in this room are going to serve in the Army or the Navy.”

Howell immediately pivoted back to economics, suggesting that the failure of people like those in the room to fight hard enough for a progressive tax code is the more important issue. And Rajan responded by challenging the assumption that military service is the only legitimate service. “There are so many ways of serving your nation,” he said, citing growing interest in social entrepreneurship among business school students.

While capitalism was in some ways the villain of the evening, it was a lovable villain, one that you can’t stay mad

at for long. No one—apart from one audience member who cited Karl Marx—suggested that the system might be going away any time soon. According to Rajan, this is for the best. “Capitalism and democracy go together,” he said. “It’s very hard to imagine a socialist state which is democratic. I challenge you to name one—and don’t say Sweden.”

Rajan seemed to be saying that generous social spending doesn’t make a country socialist. That’s a matter of definition, and both socialism and capitalism went undefined by the panelists. They appeared to agree, however, that you don’t get a functional democracy without widespread economic security and that the classical core tenets of capitalism—free markets and private control of production—are not sufficient to guarantee that security. Until we figure this out, populists will be here to remind us that something isn’t right. ♦

SCREEN SHOT



Photography by Aubree Bernier-Clarke

HISTORY ON FILM

In 1958 a 19-year-old woman who came to be known as Agnes was referred to specialists at the University of California, Los Angeles, to be evaluated for gender confirmation surgery.

UCLA researcher Harold Garfinkel got interested in Agnes’s case and in 1967 published the first sociological account of a transitioning person. But what no one knew until 2017, when associate professor of sociology **Kristen Schilt** and filmmaker and postdoctoral scholar **Chase Joynt** searched through Garfinkel’s archives, was that he’d also interviewed eight other trans and gender nonconforming people.

They’ve brought these conversations to the screen in *Framing Agnes*, a short film that premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival on April 28. The 19-minute documentary weaves reenactments of Garfinkel’s conversations with reflections from the actors who portray the interviewees. “We wanted to ask how the history informs the present—and how the present, in some ways, continues to rewrite the past,” says Joynt.—S. A. ♦



On January 31, Greg Nance, AB'11, crossed the finish line of a marathon held near Novolazarevskaya Station in Antarctica. It was the first of seven marathons on seven continents in seven days he completed as part of the 2019 World Marathon Challenge.

ATHLETICS

Run, Greg, run!

A marathoner tests his limits.

BY LAUREN LARSON, AB'12

It's 7 a.m. in Shanghai and **Greg Nance**, AB'11, has run 12 miles. "I'm just getting back into training," he says. He's Skyping from his office, which appears to be a sort of concrete bunker. He wears a blue hoodie with the orange logo of Moneythink, the organization he cofounded while he was a student at the University of Chicago. He doesn't look tired.

"I get up early, before the day's distractions have begun," Nance says. He usually sets off for his morning run around 4 a.m., clocking anywhere between 15 and 25 miles.

"That three hours in the morning is the perfect time. If you can spend even 90 minutes without your phone glued to your hand, you're capable of much deeper concentration and thinking than you realize."

To the untrained eye, Nance might appear to be fully optimized. Moneythink, where Nance is chairman, provides financial aid and college admissions guidance to low-income high schoolers. In 2012 Nance founded Dyad, a digital mentorship platform for students applying to college and graduate school. And in February he completed the World Marathon Challenge, in which participants run seven marathons on seven continents in seven days.

The first marathon was in Antarctica, and it was a high point for Nance. "Landing in this Boeing 757 on an ice field in Antarctica was really a lot of boyhood dreams coming true. I grew up reading about [Ernest] Shackleton

and Robert Falcon Scott, Roald Amundsen"—fellow aficionados of extreme suffering—"so that was just amazing." Nance set out from the starting line running hard, and ultimately earned seventh place in the race. It was a moment of uncomplicated triumph.

But that finish stands in harsh relief to the days that followed. Hours later, on the flight from Antarctica to Cape Town, South Africa, when participants were getting some much-needed sleep, Nance woke in a cold sweat. A wave of nausea hit, heralding the arrival of a stomach flu. It was 100 degrees in Cape Town when he stepped off the plane. Barely able to keep down water, Nance began his second marathon of the week. His electrolytes were completely depleted from dehydration, and by mile 10 his legs started to cramp. "Within a few miles, it was like a heartbeat in my quadriceps in every step—*convulsing*. It was torturous." He adjusted his stride, trying to find a way to run that

Photo courtesy Greg Nance, AB'11

QUICK STUDY

ASTRONOMY

Rivers ran through it

Fast-flowing rivers wider than the Mississippi crisscrossed the surface of Mars much later than previously thought, according to a study by planetary scientist **Edwin Kite** published March 27 in *Science Advances*. The discovery adds to the scientific puzzle of Mars's climate: How could such a cold planet with a thinning atmosphere sustain liquid water? Kite and his colleagues studied images of more than 200 ancient Martian riverbeds, measuring their width, steepness, and gravel size, and used this information to estimate how much water flowed through the channels and for how long. The analysis revealed rivers were still raging across Mars as recently as one billion years ago. Younger rivers were shorter than older ones, but just as wide, suggesting that water continued to flow intensely even as the Red Planet's atmosphere began to disappear.—S. A. ♦

protected his mid-mortis quads. He ran the last 16 miles in a twisting waddle, like a lizard on its back legs.

Over the next five days, his social media dispatches became increasingly dire. “Famished and dehydrated with burning quads and blistered feet slowed me to a hobble but I lumbered to the finish!” he wrote from Santiago, Chile. He’d gotten through that race listening to Ron Chernow’s biography of Ulysses S. Grant on audiobook at 2.5x speed—just shy of auctioneer pace. (“Grant has to overcome a lot of physical anguish and mental pains as he’s trying to win the Civil War,” Nance says of his book choice.) A day later, though, Nance made it to the finish line in Miami. His sponsor for the race, Wentworth Management Services, was there to dump a bottle of champagne on him, and his parents were there with Pedialyte.

I realize that all the limits that I thought I had in my life are completely arbitrary.

The most awe-inspiring thing about Nance’s ordeal in the World Marathon Challenge—besides the absurdity of attempting it at all—is that he doesn’t see it as an ordeal, but as a privilege. “I realize that all the limits that I thought I had in my life are completely arbitrary,” he says. “They’re self-imposed.”

Now Nance must up the ante once more. In August he plans to run 206 miles around Mount St. Helens in the Bigfoot 200. After that he’s set his sights on running coast-to-coast across the United States, à la Forrest Gump. He’s currently training to run from one Shanghai airport to the other. “I’m trying to become the fastest guy to ever run across the city. That’s basically to keep myself in shape, because I need a goal to work towards or else I get lazy.” Sure. ♦



Photo courtesy Greg Nance, ABTT

Nance recuperates on the plane between races. He battled through stomach flu to complete the challenge with an average time of 5:06:04 per marathon.

EVOLUTION

All in the family

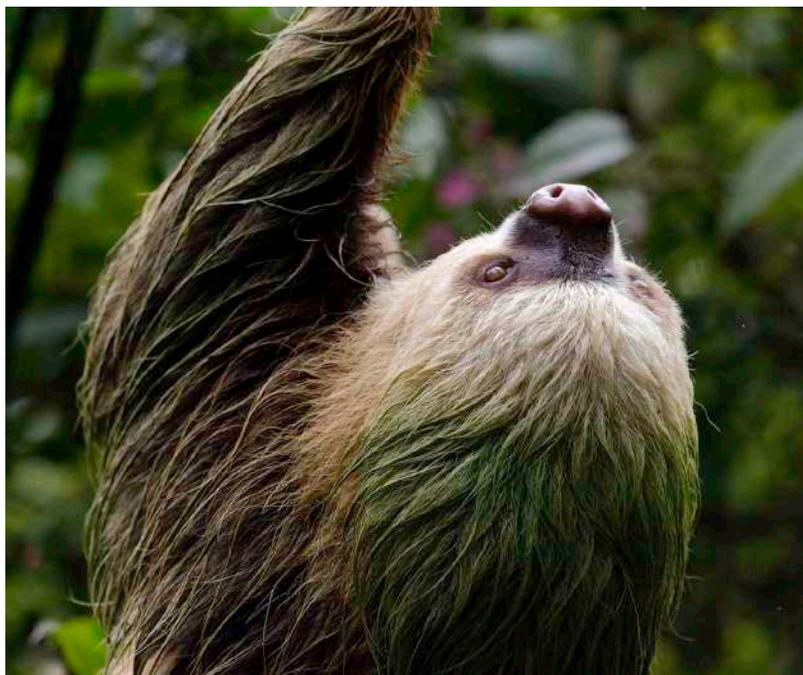
New fossil analyses upend the old story of sloth evolution.

BY LOUISE LERNER

Sloths once roamed the Americas. Some were cat-sized tree dwellers, while others may have weighed up to six tons. The surviving species we know and love today are the two-toed and three-toed sloths—and paleontologists have been arguing about how to classify them, and their ancestors, for decades.

A pair of studies published June 6 in *Nature Ecology & Evolution* and *Current Biology* have shaken up the sloth family tree, overturning a long-standing consensus on how the major groups of sloths are related. Not only does the new research shed light on sloth evolution, it also provides evidence that about 30 million years ago a short-lived land bridge connected South America and what would become the West Indies—something scientists had suspected but been unable to prove with existing fossil evidence.

“The results are surprising on many levels,” says **Graham Slater**, an assistant professor of geophysical sciences at



New studies reveal that sloths have much different family trees than once thought.

the University of Chicago who coauthored the *Nature Ecology & Evolution* paper with Ross MacPhee of the American Museum of Natural History and Samantha Presslee at the University of York. “Not only do they rewrite sloth classification, they suggest much of what we thought we knew about how sloths evolved may be wrong.”

Until now, the family tree was based on how physically similar sloth fossils looked to one another. But Slater’s

study draws on a pioneering approach called paleoproteomics that uses proteins in fossils to discover evolutionary relationships—marking the first time an entire lineage has been mapped with the method.

As an alternative to DNA, which needs specific conditions to survive inside fossils (“getting ancient DNA is a bit of a lottery,” Slater says), scientists have been looking to proteins to understand species’ evolutionary trajectories.

POLICY

QUICK STUDY

The dirty laundry of import duties

When nations impose tariffs, who benefits and who suffers? After the United States applied import duties to foreign-made washing machines, consumers were left holding the (laundry) bag, according to an April 18 Becker Friedman Institute working paper from economists **Ali Hortaçsu** and **Felix Tintelnot**. The United States had previously tried tariffs targeting individual countries, but that proved ineffective—manufacturers would simply move their operations to other countries. Ultimately, the application of a global washing machine tariff in 2018 caused US washing machine prices to rise nearly 12 percent, the researchers found. (Interestingly, although dryers weren’t subject to the tariffs, they increased in price too.) While global tariffs did help US companies create new manufacturing jobs, the researchers estimate each new job cost consumers about \$820,000. They argue policy makers should be delicate when considering global tariffs, because prices can spin out of control—and there’s no washing that away.—S. A. ♦

Photography by suendgraeme (CC BY-NC 2.0)

PUBLIC
GOOD

Year the Law School's
Pro Bono Service Initiative
was created

2010

Hours per year students
must work to fulfill the
optional pro bono pledge

50

Students who have
completed the pledge

465

Host organizations and clients
benefiting from the Class of
2019's pro bono work

83

Total number of pro bono
hours logged since the
initiative's inception

59,068

Most pro bono hours
logged in a year by a Class
of 2019 student

483

Most pro bono hours ever
logged by a single student
in a year

1,159

Protein molecules are sturdier and hold much of the same information as DNA.

The scientists extracted collagen samples from multiple sloth fossils, analyzed them to reconstruct the sequences of amino acids, and compared the sequences to piece together relationships between the species.

According to the results, three-toed sloths (recognizable for the cute black lines around their eyes) are not, as previously thought, outliers that diverged early in sloth evolution. Instead, they are related to gigantic elephant-sized sloths that died off about 15,000 years ago. Meanwhile, two-toed sloths are the last survivors of another branch of ground sloths previously thought to be extinct.

"What came out was just remarkable. It blew our minds—it's so different from anything that's ever been suggested," Slater said.

The protein analysis also revealed that the multiple extinct sloth species living in the Caribbean were all descendants of a common ancestor that split from other sloths about 30 million years ago—a discovery that provides support for the South American–West

Indies land bridge theory. It seems possible that wanderlust brought a group of sloths across the bridge, and they became geographically isolated after it disappeared.

Though revolutionary, the results square with a DNA analysis published the same day by a group from the

French National Centre for Scientific Research and other institutions. That team was able to pull mitochondrial DNA from several critical fossils, and the two independent analyses align very closely. "Exceptional results demand

exceptional verification," explains MacPhee, so the two groups agreed to publish simultaneously.

Slater and his colleagues are excited about pushing the boundaries of the field of paleoproteomics. Evolutionary paleobiology is hungry for more and older data, and proteins could provide it.

"The very oldest DNA you can get is 800,000 years old, but in theory we should be able to get protein data from specimens that are millions of years old," Slater said. "A whole bunch of questions suddenly come into reach. It opens doors that we were only dreaming of." ♦

What came out was just remarkable. It blew our minds—it's so different from anything that's ever been suggested.



Photography by henryallen (CC BY-NC 2.0)

You wouldn't guess it, but this tree dweller is related to extinct elephant-sized sloths.

For the record

BIG FUTURE FOR SMALL-SCALE ENGINEERING

On May 28 the University announced a \$100 million commitment from the Pritzker Foundation, supporting a major expansion of the University's research, education, and technology development in molecular engineering. In recognition of the gift and the success of the Institute for Molecular Engineering since its 2011 founding, IME has been elevated to the Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering. Providing new approaches to fundamental societal challenges, Pritzker Molecular Engineering is UChicago's first new school in three decades, its first school of engineering, and the first such school in the country.

DATA MEETS SERVICE

Rising College fourth-year **Vivek Ramakrishnan** has received a Harry S. Truman Scholarship, which provides up to

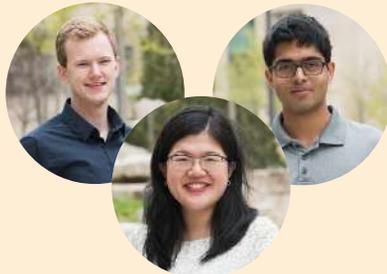
\$30,000 for students pursuing careers in public service. Ramakrishnan plans to explore how applied and predictive computational methods can be used to analyze the child welfare system. "I think there is a future where data can be used to genuinely connect people with services who need it the most, and who are currently disconnected from support," says Ramakrishnan, a public policy major.



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS

Seven faculty members were recognized by national scholarly societies this spring. Named to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences were **Francisco Bezanilla**, the Lillian Eichelberger Cannon Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; **Mercedes Pascual**, professor of ecology and evolution; **Margaret Beale Spencer**, the Marshall Field IV Professor of Urban Education; and **Kenneth Warren**, the Fairfax M. Cone Distinguished Service Professor in English. **Jonathan Lear**, John U. Nef Distinguished Service Professor in the Committee on Social Thought and Philosophy, and **Roger B. Myerson**, the David L. Pearson Distinguished Service Professor of Global Conflict Studies at Harris

Public Policy and the Griffin Department of Economics, were elected to the American Philosophical Society. **Matthew Tirrell**, the Pritzker Director and dean of the Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering, was named to the National Academy of Sciences.



STEM STANDOUTS

Rising College fourth-years **Keir Adams**, **Nikhil Pandit**, and **Maritha Wang** are among 496 students nationally to receive 2019 Barry Goldwater Scholarships, a top honor for undergraduates in the natural sciences, mathematics, and engineering. Adams is majoring in molecular engineering and chemistry, Pandit in mathematics, and Wang in physics and chemistry. All hope to pursue PhDs after graduation.

ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

Jay Schrankler has been appointed associate vice president and head of the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, effective August 1.

Schrankler will oversee the Polsky Center, working with deans, faculty, and other leaders to develop an innovation strategy that integrates entrepreneurship and scientific commercialization initiatives across the University. Schrankler was previously associate vice president of the Office for Technology Commercialization at the University of Minnesota. He also founded Aero1217, an aviation technology accelerator in Minneapolis.



ONE BOOK, ONE CAMPUS

Through the inaugural Common Book Initiative, sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Center for Identity

and Inclusion, members of the UChicago community read and discussed Thi Bui's graphic memoir *The Best We Could Do* (2017) as part of an effort to build connections among students, staff, and faculty. Beginning in November 2018, more than 1,500 copies of the book were distributed across campus. Academic units and departments held small group book discussions and hosted faculty panels exploring different topics in the book. The initiative culminated April 22 with a campus visit by Bui, who met with student groups, led a workshop, and gave a public lecture.



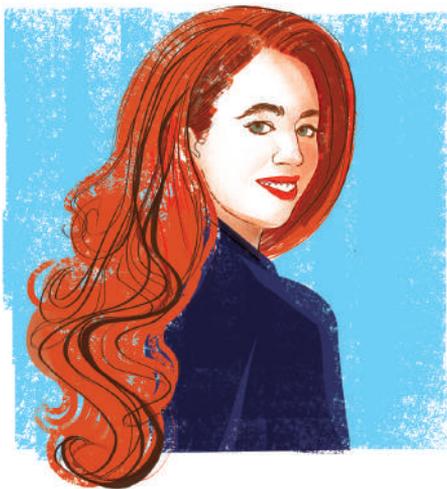
IT'S A START-UP WORLD

My Art Cache, a private online platform that helps art industry professionals sell their works, took the **Rattan L. Khosa** First-Place Prize at the **Edward L. Kaplan**, MBA'71, New Venture Challenge. This year's first-place prize included \$150,000 from Khosa, MBA'79, as well as \$215,000 from eight additional investors—the largest prize in the 23-year history of the program. Paire Health, which connects US specialists with patients in middle-income countries seeking a second opinion on medical conditions, won the Global New Venture Challenge, while Debate It Forward, a nonprofit that teaches debate skills to students in underserved schools, triumphed in the **John Edwardson**, MBA'72, Social New Venture Challenge. In the College New Venture Challenge, PODU, the first platform for podcasting in Arabic, took home first place. (To learn about the first Alumni New Venture Challenge, see page 12.)

NONTRIVIAL ACHIEVEMENT

In an episode that aired June 3, UChicago librarian **Emma Boettcher** ended James Holzhauer's 32-episode winning streak on the TV game show *Jeopardy!* after correctly answering a question about a line in Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. "It's nice to be a little part of *Jeopardy!* history," said Boettcher. "Regardless of who I was playing, I just wanted to play a good game." Boettcher was defeated in an episode that aired June 6 but will return for the Tournament of Champions this fall.

Clockwise from left: photography by Jockey Cheung; photography by Jean Lachat; photo courtesy Harry N. Abrams; UChicago News Office



INTERVIEW

Semiotics

An alumna examines the history—and occasional hatred—of punctuation’s most daunting mark.

BY SEAN CARR, AB’90

“The semicolon is a place where our anxieties and our aspirations about language, class, and education are concentrated, so that in this small mark big ideas are distilled down to a few winking drops of ink,” writes **Cecelia Watson**, AM’05, PhD’11. That’s a lot of baggage for a half-comma, half-colon, but in *Semicolon: The Past, Present, and Future of a Misunderstood Mark* (Ecco, 2019), Watson shows it’s more than up to the task.

Tracing the hybrid mark from its origins among 15th-century Italian humanists, her story describes early attempts to “scientize” language through grammar rules and raises questions about who made—and didn’t make—those rules. And with examples drawn from literature, legal history, and her own life as a “reformed grammar fetishist,” Watson seeks to persuade readers to learn to love the semicolon. Her comments have been edited and condensed.

Why a book on the semicolon?

What really surprised me when I was working on this as an academic topic was the emotional investment people had in the semicolon. Usually when

you’re giving an academic talk, everybody does the super professional, very objective, I’m-detached-from-this-topic type of performance. But when I would talk about the semicolon, people would tell me all of these personal stories, even about falling in love because of conversations about the semicolon—not the usual thing you hear when you’re an academic. That clued me in that maybe there was a way to reach out to a broader audience. When we pitched it to publishers, I think we ended up with seven houses in the auction.

Why do some people have such strong negative feelings about this punctuation mark?

Distaste for the semicolon comes from a lot of different angles. Some people have a sheer aesthetic distrust of it. They just like short sentences, for instance. They think that’s more direct or more pleasing in some way, or more clear. The semicolon, of course, can facilitate very long sentences. Other people think it’s elitist, and a reader is going to roll their eyes or feel alienated, and in some ways belittled, by the author’s advertisement of his or her own education level. Oth-

ers have bad childhood memories associated with trying to use the semicolon and failing and being embarrassed.

Is there a way we could be using semicolons that we aren’t currently?

One use that has fallen out of practice is using the semicolon as a colon or sometimes a comma. You see this a lot in the late 19th or early 20th century. Nobody liked the colon at the time, and everybody loved the semicolon, so they wanted to stick it wherever they could. I think less about particular styles of semicolon usage and more about how easy it is to be lazy and use catch-all punctuation marks. I’ll just put dashes and ellipses for everything. Those are all points at which we could say, Would a semicolon actually provide some interest here? Would it help create some new rhythms on the page? Would it make anything a little easier to read?

Your book ranges into broader questions about who gets to dictate the rules of language. How did that happen?

Initially I was focused on where rules come from. A lot of the people who influenced me when I was at UChicago taught me to see that even things we wouldn’t think of as having a history have a history, like a set of punctuation rules. My discipline, history and philosophy of science, had a huge role in the history of the semicolon. A lot of the history of grammar rules is a direct function of this mid- to late-1800s obsession with being scientific and objective. Grammar was not excepted from that.

One thing that I hope the book’s readers notice is that every single person in the section about the founding of grammar is an elite white male. That’s no accident. It’s also no accident that when grammar rules were invented, women, and to some extent people of color and poor people, were gaining unprecedented access to education. Grammar is, and has always been, an incredibly effective way to enforce the status quo. ♦

LOCAL INTEREST

After 40 years representing Hyde Park's district in the Illinois House, a veteran lawmaker steps aside.

BY JEANIE CHUNG

If a single day could be said to have spanned the spectrum of **Barbara Flynn Currie's** experience as an elected official, it might have been December 15, 2008. At 10 a.m., as a member of the Electoral College, she cast her ballot for Barack Obama, who once served alongside her in the Illinois legislature. Two hours later she announced an impeachment investigation into then-governor Rod Blagojevich by an Illinois House panel, which she would lead. (He was later removed from office and convicted on federal corruption charges.)

"It was the high and the low," she says.

During her 40 years in the Illinois House of Representatives, Currie, LAB'58, AB'68, AM'73, saw numerous highs, weathered some lows, and crossed paths with every significant

political figure in the state. She served with six governors before retiring this past January, and will continue to draw on her political expertise as a member of Illinois's Pollution Control Board, to which she was appointed in April by Governor J. B. Pritzker.

As House majority leader for more than 20 years, she helped pass bills establishing a state earned income tax credit, outlawing the death penalty, and legalizing gay marriage.

Quite a run for someone who fell into a political career almost by chance.

Currie grew up mostly in Hyde Park; her father, Frank Flynn, PhD'49, taught in the School of Social Service Administration. She enrolled at UChicago in 1958 but left in 1959 and married David P. Currie, AB'57, later the Edward H. Levi Distinguished Service Professor in the Law School until his death in 2007.

Between David's last year of law school at Harvard and clerkships, including one for Supreme Court justice Felix Frankfurter, the couple didn't return to Chicago until 1962, when David began teaching at the University. By then they had a two-year-old son, Stephen, who was soon joined by a daughter, Margaret.

"So I did finally finish college," Currie says, "but slowly, on the motherhood plan."

Although she followed her undergraduate degree at UChicago with a master's in political science, Currie wasn't interested in an academic career. She was politically active—the Flynn family had always talked about current events around the dinner table—but never considered running for anything.

Then one day in 1978, she ran into Chicago attorney and activist **Michael Shakman**, AB'62, AM'64, JD'66. Bob

Barbara Flynn Currie, LAB'58, AB'68, AM'73, at the Illinois State Capitol in 2013. Currie's career helped pave the way for other female politicians in the Prairie State.

Mann, who represented the 24th District in the Illinois House, had recently announced his retirement. Currie asked Shakman, whose campaign she had worked on when he ran for constitutional convention delegate, whether he planned to run for Mann's seat.

"No," he said. "Why don't you?"

"I grew up in the benighted 1950s," says Currie, "when there weren't very many women in public office, and those who were generally inherited the job." But her children were nearly grown, and after consulting with family and with friends in local politics, she says, "we decided to go for it."

She won, "though not real handily," and entered a new world.

At the time women made up just 13 percent of the Illinois General Assembly, but "there were enough of us to make people feel as if they had a responsibility to be doing good things for women." She remembers male legislators who would cite their support of a specific domestic violence bill while refusing to support the Equal Rights Amendment.

But she also found strong support networks. The bipartisan Conference of Women Legislators began the year she came to Springfield, giving new legislators like Currie a forum to try out their first bills, "so you could go through the ropes without people laughing at you, or get your arguments organized before you actually turned up in a real committee hearing."

She also noticed that male legislators seemed relieved to let her and other women take the lead on bills addressing sexual harassment, maternity leave, and other so-called women's issues, about which Currie was passionate. "People were really helpful with figuring out what legislation I might be interested in," she says, "but it was also fair to say that they were delighted to get rid of the 'girl bills' when they saw the girl."

Currie was known for her diligent preparation to present a bill—a habit she acquired at UChicago. "You did learn to establish arguments for and against your position. And to me that was extremely valuable."

She enjoyed the preparation but also found it necessary. Every legislator wields a different type of power, she believes. When she started, most women in the legislature did not enjoy the power of strong financial backing or party support. That's still the case for many. "What we have is knowledge," she says. "We know the bills, we know the issues, we know how to make a case."

When Currie became House majority leader in 1997, women made up just 26 percent of the Illinois General Assembly as a whole. The reaction of women in the capitol—across party lines—was unanimous, "whether they were secretaries, lobbyists, or whatever," Currie says. "They could not have been more pleased with the fact that one of us made it. Because if one of us makes it, we all do."

As majority leader, Currie was responsible for getting bills passed—not always exciting work. Most legislation concerns what Currie calls "bread-and-butter" issues that affect a specific interest group and simply involve working with that group to drum up support among legislators.

Horse-trading, in which legislators agree to support each other's bills, does happen for these bread-and-butter bills, but it is relatively rare on big issues like gay marriage or the death penalty. "They're issues you really believe in or you really don't," Currie says.

Passing significant legislation can, however, require time and grassroots activity to build the political will of legislators to support it. She remembers a failed bill she sponsored in the early 1990s to fund needle exchanges for intravenous drug users. One downstate Republican told her that the idea made perfect sense, but he couldn't vote for it because he could never explain it at home. "In a way, he was right," Currie says. "He probably couldn't explain it at home."

A few months into her retirement, Currie hopes to be remembered for her honesty, fair-mindedness, and ability to see other perspectives. **Christian Mitchell**, AB'08, a former representative of Illinois's 26th District who's now a deputy governor of Illinois, used to drive Currie back to Chicago from Springfield legislative sessions. He considers her "the smartest person I've ever met in my life"—and one with a sense of humor. "Even in the most difficult floor debate, while someone is hurling invective at her," Mitchell says, "she'd smile and disarm the person with her amazing wit."

In turn, Mitchell and the newest group of incoming legislators make Currie hopeful for the future of politics, even as she laments the current climate of polarization.

"I would never have been in politics all these years," she says, "if I had not been an optimist." ♦

MILESTONES

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>1978 Elected to the Illinois House's 24th District, becoming one of just 23 women in the 177-member General Assembly.</p> <p>1985 Helps pass the Educational Reform Act, a comprehensive funding package providing state-funded preschool, full-day</p> | <p>kindergarten, and more.</p> <p>1997 Becomes the first woman to serve as Illinois House majority leader.</p> <p>2000 Along with then-state senator Barack Obama, cosponsors a bill establishing the state earned income tax credit.</p> <p>2008 Chairs the Illinois</p> | <p>House committee to investigate then-governor Rod Blagojevich on corruption charges.</p> <p>2011 Cosponsors HB5687, outlawing the death penalty in Illinois.</p> <p>2013 Cosponsors HB5170, legalizing gay marriage in Illinois.</p> |
|--|--|--|



COURSE WORK

HERMIT PHILOSOPHY

Dieter Roelstraete's course explored exile, retreat, and homes away from home.

BY LUCAS MCGRAHAN

Those of you who think that we're actually going to build a hut, I'll have to disappoint," **Dieter Roelstraete** tells the 12 or so students who have arrived at the Cochrane-Woods Art Center on Monday, April 1, for the first day of *The Hut: A Curating Case Study*. When one student points out that a construction project was mentioned in the course description, Roelstraete wryly informs her that it will be "spiritual construction work," adding, "We're not going to build a hut, because I wouldn't know how to hold a hammer."

A tall bearded man with a hard-to-pin-down Continental accent (Belgium!), Roelstraete is the curator at the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society. He designed the course as a companion to an exhibition he is curating at the Collegium through September 6. Titled *Hutopia*, it features models of the real or imagined retreats ("huts") of three giants of 20th-century philosophy: Ludwig Wittgenstein, Martin Heidegger, and Theodor Adorno. *Hutopia* follows up Roelstraete's 2018 exhibition in Venice, *Machines à penser* ("machines for thinking"), and it asks



We're not going to build a hut, because I wouldn't know how to hold a hammer.

the same question: How do our living spaces shape our thinking?

It's an idiosyncratic course—what Roelstraete calls "an art-meets-philosophy course in the architectural context of a hut"—and the students are an eclectic group as well. About half are

graduate students. When Roelstraete asks for introductions, they list fields including art history and philosophy but also social work, neuroscience, and molecular engineering. If a classroom is a machine for thinking, this one has an interesting set of moving parts.

That Roelstraete likes to introduce topics by testing the students' knowledge (Who recognizes this building? Who has read Adorno?) might seem intimidating if he were not also, disarmingly, a big fan of birthdays. He opened the class by projecting an image of 19th-century French writer Joseph de Maistre—because it's his birthday. "Every morning I wake up—whose birthday is it today?" he told the students.

Who is this hutty professor?

Roelstraete explains that, before joining the Neubauer Collegium two years ago, he worked on the curatorial team of Documenta, an exhibition of international contemporary art held every five years in Kassel, Germany. Prior to that, he was a curator at institutions including the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago. Teaching is newer to Roelstraete than curating; he is up front with the class that it is only his second time teaching a formal

Illustration by Daniel Hertzberg



Visitors take in the *Hutopia* exhibition at the Neubauer Collegium (left) as Heidegger sprouts some fresh ideas in a sculpture by London-based Polish artist Goshka Macuga.

academic course, saying that it will be an “experimental enterprise.”

He begins by walking the class through the lives, works, and housing preferences of the course’s three philosophers. Going by birth order (obviously), he first discusses Wittgenstein, the neurotic Austrian polymath who, upon becoming obsessed with a logical paradox, abandoned his career as an aeronautical engineer, came under Bertrand Russell’s tutelage, and retreated to a cabin at the edge of a Norwegian fjord to attempt to solve all philosophical problems through logical clarification. One early result of this effort was the 1921 work *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, whose mysterious passage 6.44 is cited in a tattoo on Roelstraete’s

left shoulder. (He mentions his ink but doesn’t show it.) The passage reads, “Not how the world is, is the mystical, but that it is.”

Roelstraete turns to Heidegger by projecting a 1933 or 1934 image of the German philosopher, who sits unsmiling before a wall of books and averts his eyes from the camera. “So what do you think is the punctum here?” he asks the class, explaining Roland Barthes’s term for a striking detail that establishes a connection with the viewer. “The mustache?” a male student guesses. “Good, close,” Roelstraete responds. Heidegger’s dark, short mustache may call to mind the ascent of Adolf Hitler and the Nazis at that time in Germany, but it is the philosopher’s lapel pin—with a Nazi eagle insignia—that Roelstraete sees as crucial. Notoriously, Heidegger was the most prominent German intellectual to align himself with the Third Reich, something for which he never publicly apologized.

Heidegger had a small ski hut built in his native Black Forest region, where he worked on his 1927 magnum opus, *Being and Time*, and returned throughout his life. If Wittgenstein’s hut was for escaping home—especially the distractions of his wealthy upbringing and bourgeois academic career—Heidegger’s hut was for feeling at home. He even claimed in a 1934 essay that his philosophy belongs to the Black Forest inextricably, much as the work of its peasant farmers does. Such rheto-

ric raises deep questions for the course. How does love of hut and homeland, not to mention fatherland, shape one’s philosophy, or possibly taint it?

As for Adorno’s hut, it doesn’t exist. Or rather, it exists only as a sculpture, *Adorno’s Hut*, by late Scottish artist Ian Hamilton Finlay (the father of *Hutopia* artist Alec Finlay). Roelstraete takes this abstract doghouse-size structure to be a kind of visual joke, since the leftist cosmopolitan Adorno—who once dedicated an entire book to criticizing Heideggerian ideas about authenticity—was “the last philosopher in the world who would be caught dead in a hut.”

Roelstraete projects an image of the white two-story Los Angeles house where Adorno lived in the 1940s, not far from other Weimar-era German exiles such as Bertolt Brecht and Arnold Schoenberg. Adorno, like Wittgenstein, came from an assimilated partially Jewish family and had to flee Nazi rule. Thus, Adorno’s home in LA, if not a hut, was still a retreat.

Class wraps up with a trip to the Neubauer Collegium on the corner of 57th Street and Woodlawn Avenue. Here the students see Roelstraete’s exhibit *Kleine Welt*, which ponders how specific artworks—by Paul Klee especially—have become ubiquitous on academic book jackets. That exhibition will soon make way for *Hutopia*. Outside, Chicago artist **John Preus**, MFA’05, has already completed a half-size model of Wittgenstein’s cabin on the patio.

Roelstraete and his class walk the few blocks back to the Cochrane-Woods Art Center and wrap up for the day. The students exit the room that will be their hut for the quarter—a hut for reflecting on huts—and make their way to their next classes, their homes, and their homes away from home. ♦

SYLLABUS

The Hut: A Curating Case Study (ARTV 20012/30012) was open to undergraduates and graduate students and met once a week, whether in a classroom, a hut, or a cemetery.

Students read works by Wittgenstein, Heidegger, and Adorno; gave group presentations on the philosophers’ lives and works; and visited *Hutopia* for its opening on April 25 (the eve of Wittgenstein’s

125th birthday, Roelstraete pointed out in his welcoming remarks). They completed a final project of spiritual construction work in the form of a philosophical guide to the hut of their dreams.—L. M.



POETRY

LISTENING TO THE WORLD

Rosanna Warren's odes to woundedness.

BY LYDIALYLE GIBSON

The place **Rosanna Warren** calls her “writing shack” is a tiny box of a building deep in the Green Mountains of Vermont that sits on a hillside at the edge of a vast, tumbling woods. From the outside, it looks about as large as a moderately generous walk-in closet, but once you step inside, the whole place deepens. There’s a small bench and bookshelf near the door, and on the other side of a thin partition, a built-in desk surrounded by windows that open out onto the forest. It feels like the world’s most private screened-in porch. Trees unfold into the distance—beech, birch, white pine, elm—and if you sit still, you can hear, amid the breeze and the birds and the gathering quiet, the sound of water in the stream below. Warren stands here, listening.

“So,” she says finally, “this is where I sit and take dictation from the brook.”

Today she has been taking dictation since about 8:30 in the morning. Now it’s close to 2 p.m., and time for lunch. This is the last weekend of August 2018,

and her annual “summer migration” to Vermont is winding down. In a week, she will be on her way back to Chicago.

Warren is the Hanna Holborn Gray Distinguished Service Professor in the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought, and a poet and translator whom critics invariably seem to wish more people knew about. In 2017 the *Los Angeles Review of Books* revisited Warren’s second poetry collection, the Lamont Poetry Prize-winning *Stained Glass* (W. W. Norton, 1993), and praised her “perspicacious vision that relentlessly seeks truth not despite but through the ‘stain’ of the full range of humanity.” In 2002 Stephen Yenser gushed that even Warren’s earliest work was “not only ‘promising’ but truly precocious, proof of a talent already ripe.” Writing in the *New York Review of Books* in 2011 about Warren’s *Ghost in a Red Hat* (W. W. Norton), released that same year, Dan Chiasson spoke of the “shimmering shapes she devises,” her “arresting” plain-spokenness and, in her more outward-looking poems, a “significant contribution to the national imaginary.” “Warren,” he argued, “is not as well known as she should be.”



True to form: Rosanna Warren approaches her poetry with a painter's eye for color and shape.



Her work is difficult to summarize. The style and subjects change from book to book, and from poem to poem. Most of the time she sticks to free verse, but not always. Some of her work is deeply personal: bracing elegies to her parents and to a close friend who died from breast cancer a few years ago. “Friendship is always travel,” Warren writes, en route to see her sick friend, “from the far country of my provisional health, / toward you in your new estate of illness, your suddenly acquired, / costly, irradiated expertise.”

Other work contemplates lost love, a failing marriage, aging, illness, the meaning of home, the comforts of music and poetry. In “Cotillion Photo,” a framed image from a bygone debutante ball (“These young women will last forever, posed like greyhounds”) sparks a memory from childhood and a meditation on time and transformation, destiny and self-determination, in life and in art. “What was to come / would come in its own good time / outside the frame.”

Other poems are overtly political. Warren has written mournful, angry, pungent lyrics about the depredations of Wall Street and the war in Iraq. After Hurricane Katrina, her younger daughter, now a social worker, went to New Orleans to volunteer with the recovery effort; Warren visited her there and helped rebuild homes that had been destroyed. Afterward she wrote about what she saw: “I lost count of slab after cement slab / where bungalows used to stand.” In “Earthworks,” a 15-page poem loosely set during the planning of New York’s Central Park, Warren imagines her way into the life and work of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, weaving details from his personal and professional experiences with meditations on civics and aesthetics, urban history, horticulture, the Civil War and slavery. It is a poem about designing a public park from the mud and muck of 19th-century Manhattan Island, but it is also a poem about trying to design a democracy from the “disunited, discordant parts” of American life.

At 66, Warren has a quiet intensity that persists even after her guarded cheerfulness relaxes into warmth. “I think in the last few years, I have wanted my poems to be permeable and even more wounded by experiences,” she says. That may sound like an exalted concept, but what she’s talking about is a kind of radical openness to the world around her, a way of approaching what others might call the human condition, or the fallen world, or the inherent strangeness and fracture of existence. It is also, for her, a way of setting aside the self to find something deeper. “I want my poems to be concerned, however obliquely, with the lives of people besides myself,” she says, “and with a sense of the larger relations that govern us, in justice and injustice.”

A lyric by the American poet Hart Crane helps illuminate what she means. “The Broken Tower,” written shortly before Crane’s death in 1932, is a kind of sacred text for Warren. It’s one of the many poems she knows by

Warren's father, the poet Robert Penn Warren, hauls leaves at the family's Connecticut home in 1978. Growing up, she says, her parents imparted "a sense of being responsible for the physical reality we were in."

heart, and it helps guide her thoughts and actions, and her writing. One middle stanza reads like this: "And so it was I entered the broken world / To trace the visionary company of love, its voice / An instant in the wind (I know not whither hurled) / But not for long to hold each desperate choice." To Warren, the poem speaks of "the sense of crucifixion at the heart of life," she says: "the wound that opens us to reality, to the suffering of others, to the hugeness of being we cannot control."

Allowing that uncontrollable hugeness to break the surface of a poem leaves a mark—"wounds" it—and disrupts the form, the normal symmetry and sense of orderly closure. Warren's work bears this out; in recent years, her poems seem increasingly cracked open and almost physically broken: irregular lines, unpunctuated sentences, interrupted syntaxes, synaptic leaps, voices that collide abruptly. In 2018 Warren explained to the literary journal *Five Points* that she was allowing more of the outside world into the territory of her poems: "If something or someone wants to knock on the door and enter a poem, why not let that happen?" The poet's job, she says, is to find the artistic "shapeliness" in all of this wounding experience, the music. From that comes meaning, comes beauty—and discovery. "That's why poetry matters. ... If it discovers nothing, it's worthless."

Like many poets, Warren is a scavenger and inheritor, and her life has been shaped by two powerful influences: the shared human legacy of classical literature—ancient Greek and Latin poetry infuse her work at an almost cellular level—and her own family history. She is the daughter of two celebrated writers: the poet and novelist Robert Penn War-

ren, and essayist and novelist Eleanor Clark. (In fact, the family is full of writers and artists: Warren's brother, Gabriel, is a sculptor; her nephew Noah a poet; her niece Sofia a cartoonist; and her daughter Chiara makes a living as a social worker but is also a poet and nonfiction writer.) From Warren's earliest memories, their home was full of words. Her father was always reciting poems, she says, and for her and her family, "telling stories was like breathing." She grew up with the idea that writing was "just what people did."

**I WANT MY
POEMS TO BE
CONCERNED,
HOWEVER
OBLIQUELY, WITH
THE LIVES OF
PEOPLE BESIDES
MYSELF.**

Much of that growing up happened here in rural Vermont, where her parents bought a small cabin in 1959, the year she turned six, and a few years later built a house on the same lot. During the school year, the family lived in Connecticut, where her father was a professor at Yale, but these woods were where they spent long summers and Christmas vacations, Easters and Thanksgivings, and weekends in between (especially winter weekends—Warren's mother was a fanatical skier, and Mount Stratton, the highest peak in the southern Green Mountains, stands just five miles away). There was a tiny pond out front, where she and her brother used to swim, swinging out over the water on tree branches. And a creek where she once caught

a trout using sewing twine, a safety pin, and a piece of bacon. Back in the woods stood the spring where Warren's father would trek to get water for everyone's baths during the years they spent in the cabin, which had no running water or electricity then. "In the winter, if there was six feet of snow," she says, "he would have to dig a trench to get to the spring and then break the ice off the top with an axe and bring the water back in buckets." One winter day, he carried in 27 buckets.

This is the place Warren still migrates to every summer. The writing shack where she works once belonged to her father. Like her, he wrote every day, from nine in the morning until two in the afternoon.

Warren's early life with her parents seems to have been remarkably charmed. They were larger-than-life literary figures who were also loving and attentive to their children. The upbringing they gave Warren and her brother sounds almost mythical—"like a peaceable kingdom of weirdly docile geniuses, with a child in charge," Chiasson writes—and yet also, in important and intentional ways, deeply grounded. Both parents had grown up poor: her mother in a "genteel but poverty-stricken family on a failed chicken farm," Warren told *Five Points*, and her father in a small Kentucky town on the Tennessee border. His father had gone bankrupt during the Depression.

Those experiences stayed with them, and even after they became famous, Warren says, her parents resisted glamour. In the afternoons, when they finished writing for the day, they usually turned to some kind of physical work, her mother in the garden, her father building a stone wall or something else around the house. "There was a sense of being responsible for the physical reality we were in," Warren says. Life was about making things: stone walls,

vegetable gardens, art, stories, poems.

This intimate literary inheritance connected to a more universal one. Warren first encountered Greek and Latin poetry—and French and Italian literature, another influence—as a child traveling with her parents. Trips to foreign places gave her an early and sustained exposure to worlds and lives far outside her own, an awareness of wider human experiences. Usually the family went to tiny corners of Europe that were remote enough to be relatively inexpensive but also, in part because of their remoteness, somewhat fantastical.

Every summer until she was five, the family rented space in a ruined fortress near an Italian fishing village, owned by an old woman who was such a miser, Warren says, that she ate moldy spaghetti. The family cooked on a charcoal stove and ate in what had been the stables for the soldiers' horses; they slept on cots in the barracks. Chickens and scorpions and a goat roamed the courtyard.

When Warren was 12, the family spent a year living in a village in southeastern France. For her, this was a turning point. She learned French and began memorizing poetry in school. She wrote poems in French too, imitating the rhythms and forms she saw in works by La Fontaine and Baudelaire (and later, Mallarmé, Apollinaire, Rimbaud—“these were my gods”). Perhaps even more crucially, she began studying Latin and translating ancient poems. The stanza shapes in Horace and Catullus were what thrilled her early on, and that excitement led her to other Roman poets, and to the ancient Greeks—Homer, Sappho, Alcaeus, Alcman.

Becoming a translator helped Warren internalize the classics—the beauty of their language and idiom and meter, but also their sensibilities and perceptions. And their imperishable



THESE ANCIENT POEMS, TO ME, HAVE A CONCRETE DRAMATIC POWER.

stories. Her published work contains straight translations (a verse rendering of Euripides's *The Suppliant Women*, for example) and plenty of looser interpretations (a string of prose poems titled “Odyssey”). But mostly the classics are just simply everywhere in her poetry: they animate her metaphors and sharpen her sense of irony, lend her work an understanding of tragic limits, of the complexity of moral and political meanings, of what it means to write “in the light of death” and to try to wring something permanent from what is temporary.

And so an elegy that compares Warren's dying mother to a “crack Austrian skier” staring, petrified, down a plunging slope turns out to be an extended Homeric simile; in another

elegy, her mother appears, 10 years after her death, as a vanishing orphic vision. A poem recalling long-ago airport goodbyes as a way of fathoming a sick friend's passage into death (“we didn't know / we were practicing”) is named after Charon, the underworld ferryman of Greek mythology. Even poems without overt allusion carry the classics in their bloodstream. Warren explained why to an interviewer from Columbia University a few years ago: “As much as I love poetry in Italian, French, English, these ancient poems, to me, have a concrete dramatic power that I don't see anywhere else,” she said. “So, I want to steal that power. ... It's like putting your finger in an electric socket.”

For a long time, Warren resisted becoming a writer. Her earliest ambition was instead to paint. Looking back now, she says, the incandescence of her parents' careers would have been too much pressure for her younger self. But also, she fell in love with the work of Henri Matisse. From the time when she was a child looking through art books and going to muse-

Photography by Lydialye Gibson

The world's most private screened-in porch: Warren's "writing shack" in Vermont was originally built for her father in 1964 by a neighbor who was a woodsman and carpenter. Like her father, Warren writes every day, from morning until midafternoon.

ums, paintings like *French Window at Collioure*, *Goldfish and Palette*, and *The Red Studio* astonished her: Matisse's sculptural sense of form, his "abstracting force," his sumptuous, dramatic colors and subtle shades of black and white.

And so Warren spent thousands of hours filling up hundreds of canvases, investigating shape and shade, the mystery of light and color and space, working to connect her inner world to the external one in front of her. At Yale she majored in painting and comparative literature and spent college summers in painting programs in Paris and New England. "I was almost trying not to write," she says. "I was trying to paint." And Warren never completely surrendered her first art. Its principles remain visible in her writing, and she still draws from time to time, "very privately, as a way of connecting with reality."

But in her early 20s, she came to the realization that she wasn't a painter. "It broke my heart," she says. Unwittingly, she'd been spending more of her time on poetry, a practice she had also never surrendered. And there were "internal pressures that I couldn't control," she says, ideas and experiences she couldn't express except in words. Three years after graduating from college, she enrolled in the creative writing graduate program at Johns Hopkins University and afterward spent 30 years teaching literature, creative writing, and translation at Boston University, before coming to UChicago in 2012.

In 2020, Warren will publish a long-term writing project that bridges—and in fact helped spark—her transition from painting to poetry. *Max Jacob: A Life in Art and Letters* (W. W. Norton) is a biography of the French painter and poet, whom she first discovered as a college student still intent on becoming a painter. While working in a Paris library to archive the painting papers

of the Matisse contemporary André Derain, she ran across a mention of Jacob's name and was intrigued.

Jewish and gay, Jacob underwent a mystical conversion to Catholicism and spent two seven-year periods liv-

I WAS ALMOST TRYING NOT TO WRITE. I WAS TRYING TO PAINT.

ing in a Benedictine monastery before being taken by the Nazis in 1944; he died from pneumonia in Drancy internment camp. Two early poems Warren wrote and dedicated to Jacob were the first she ever showed to anyone besides her parents, and their publication effectively marked the start of her professional writing career. Fascinated with Jacob's life and work, she has spent the past 30 years working on his biography. As both a painter and a poet, "he was divided in a way that I was feeling divided," she says.

This September she will also release a volume of selected poetry in French translation, *De notre vivant* (Æncrages & Co.), and a book of new poems, her fifth. Titled *So Forth* (W. W. Norton), it compiles nearly a decade's worth of writing. A sequence of poems called "Legende of Good Women" is at its core, the title borrowed from an unfinished work by Geoffrey Chaucer that narrates the lives of 10 famous women from antiquity and mythology. Warren focuses on an updated cast: Renaissance poet and translator Mary Sidney, fashion designer Coco Chanel, singer and songwriter Marianne Faithfull, harpsichordist Sylvia Marlowe. The poems wind themselves around concerns that run throughout

the book: womanhood, sexual identity, art and power, the damage we suffer and inflict. "There are many ways / to throw oneself away," Warren reminds readers in "A Way," about Faithfull. *So Forth*, Warren says, "is deeply about forms of woundedness and wounding, remorse, and perhaps healing."

Those themes play out sharply in another poem from the book, "For Chiara," a deceptively slight lyric that returns to the woods of Vermont. On an evening walk, Warren and her daughter—who, the poem tells us, wants "to hold each wounded soul"—come across a garter snake injured by a passing car. Helpless to heal its agony, which they also cannot help but witness, they nudge the animal into the grass beside the road. It is autumn, and like the snake, the season bursts with a final wild vigor as death closes in: "fevered" and flaring, the crab-apple tree a "crimson pointilliste nimbus," the crackling leaves underfoot "tinder, kindling" ready to catch fire.

But autumn, Warren writes, "croons an old song," and dust scuffs their feet as they walk. Alluding briefly to a story about the Gorgons, the snake-haired women of Greek mythology, the poem gestures toward an inherent, unavoidable connection between the power to heal and the power to kill. After Warren and her daughter edge the snake off the road, the poem asks, "Do we stop seeing / when we walk away?" That question hangs in the air as the final lines exhale: "The brook prattles on. / Home's far off. Dusk settles, slowly, among leaves. / That's not mercy, scattering from its hands." ♦

Lydialyle Gibson is an associate editor at Harvard Magazine.



TO READ TWO POEMS BY ROSANNA WARREN, VISIT MAG.UCHICAGO.EDU/WARREN.



LEGACY

AMERICAN STYLE

*As editor in chief of *House Beautiful* magazine, Elizabeth Gordon, PhB'27, fought for "good" design in the Cold War era.*

BY BROOKE E. O'NEILL, AM'04

Two ways of life stretch before us. One leads to the richness of variety, to comfort and beauty. The other, the one we want to fully expose to you, retreats to poverty and unlivability," declared *House Beautiful* editor in chief **Elizabeth Gordon**, PhB'27, in a controversial 1953 essay, "The Threat to the Next America."

The road to perdition? International Style architecture. For Gordon, an Indiana native who for more than two decades brought her vision of good design to America's middle-class homemakers, the work of architects such as Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Le Corbusier was nothing less than an affront to reason.

Embracing modular forms, mass-produced industrial materials, and flat glass surfaces, the style had emerged in Europe in the 1920s, and by 1932 was being lauded by curators at New York's Museum of Modern Art. Gordon took a dimmer view, accusing its architects of shunning comfort, convenience, and functionality, all necessities of home life—a stance that "sparked an instant and enduring controversy," according to Gordon's biographer Monica Penick, author of *Tastemaker: Elizabeth Gordon, "House Beautiful," and the Postwar American Home* (Yale University Press, 2017).

In *House Beautiful's* pages, Gordon pulled no punches. "The much-touted all-glass cube of International Style architecture," she wrote of Mies van der Rohe's famous Farnsworth House in Plano, Illinois, "is perhaps the most unlivable type of home for man since he descended from the tree and entered a cave. You burn up in the summer and freeze in the winter, because nothing must interfere with

the 'pure' form of their rectangles—no overhanging roofs to shade you from the sun; the bare minimum of gadgets and possessions so as not to spoil the 'clean' look. ... No children, no dogs, extremely meager kitchen facilities—nothing human that might disturb the architect's composition."

Gordon's blistering words won her critics and admirers alike, most notably Prairie School pioneer and fellow International Style detractor Frank Lloyd Wright, who wired this response: "Surprised and delighted. Did not know you had it in you. From now on at your service." That message marked the start of a lifelong collaboration. Calling her office "an extension of Taliesin," after Wright's design studio, Gordon would go on to produce two special issues celebrating his work and hire a Taliesin apprentice architect as *House Beautiful's* architectural editor.

While the essay brought Wright and Gordon closer, it prompted much criticism. Architect William Wurster, for example, penned a letter of opposition, cosigned by 30 fellow California designers and sent to several architectural magazines and schools. They rejected the suggestion that modern architects were attempting to "undermine American freedom" and "regret[ted] deeply the attack on European art and architecture ... [and] the implication that all 'good' art has its roots in America and all that is European is subversive, perverted or sick." Editor Peter Blake at *Architectural Forum* was particularly incensed and suspected Gordon had cast a die that would end her career. "Here lies *House Beautiful*," he wrote, "scared to death by a chromium chair."

The only child in a devout Methodist family, Gordon developed her critic's eye—and rebellious streak—early. In an

Maynard L. Parker, photographer. Courtesy of The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Elizabeth Gordon and Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin West in Scottsdale, Arizona. Gordon's attacks on International Style attracted criticism but earned her a lifelong friend in Wright.

unpublished autobiography, she would deride her cluttered, dusty two-story Carpenter Gothic childhood home in Logansport, Indiana, as "best seen from the outside." As a young woman, Gordon briefly escaped the small farming town, enrolling at Northwestern University for a single semester before her parents forced her to leave because she attended a school dance.

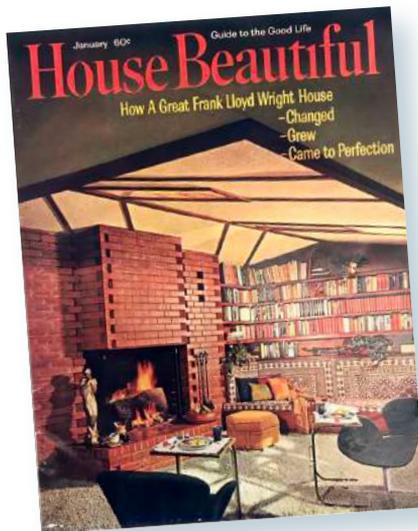
A year later she enrolled at the University of Chicago—with her mother accompanying her as a campus chaperone. Much to Gordon's relief, her mother soon began taking classes and was too engrossed to monitor her daughter's every move. Exulting in her newfound freedom, Gordon threw herself into her studies and joined the *Maroon* staff, setting the stage for her future career.

After graduating she spent a year teaching high school English in Janesville, Wisconsin, saving enough money to move to New York. In Manhattan she wrote freelance home columns for *New York World* and the *New York Herald Tribune* before joining Blaker Advertising Agency, first as a copywriter, then as an account executive. Applying her reporting skills to the growing field of consumer research, Gordon investigated women's purchasing habits. Her work caught the attention of one of her clients, *Good Housekeeping*, which hired her to cover building and decorating. Gordon quickly made a name for herself in the field. At age 35, when the editor-in-chief position at *House Beautiful* opened up, she stepped in.

Gordon transformed the magazine into a powerful vehicle for rallying like-minded designers and bringing their work to the average American consumer. Its broad audience included housewives and design professionals who shared an interest in improving domestic life through architecture, interiors, furnishings, and gardening. Under her leadership, the magazine's readership exploded from 226,304 in 1940 to nearly a million at her retirement in 1964. As one of only a few women leading a mass-circulated publication, Gordon elevated *House Beautiful* into a serious architectural and commercial influence.

"I used *House Beautiful* as a propaganda and teaching tool—to broaden people's 'thinking-and-wanting' apparatus," Gordon wrote later. That meant introducing everyday homemakers to concepts such as the California ranch house and climate control through green design.

Sporting bold hats and even bolder opinions, Gordon crisscrossed the globe to bring readers what she deemed the best



Here lies *House Beautiful*, scared to death by a chromium chair.

in design. "When she covered a topic, she did it in staggering depth," Louis Oliver Gropp, a former *House Beautiful* editor, told the *New York Times* when Gordon died in 2000. Two special issues introducing traditional minimalist Japanese design to American readers in 1960 reflected five years of research and seven trips to Japan. A later edition dedicated to Scandinavian styles earned her a Finnish knighthood. Her vision of the best in aesthetics and quality focused on craftsmanship and materials, regardless of style or country of origin—a distinction that explains how she could laud, say, the minimalism of Japan while skewering that of the International Style.

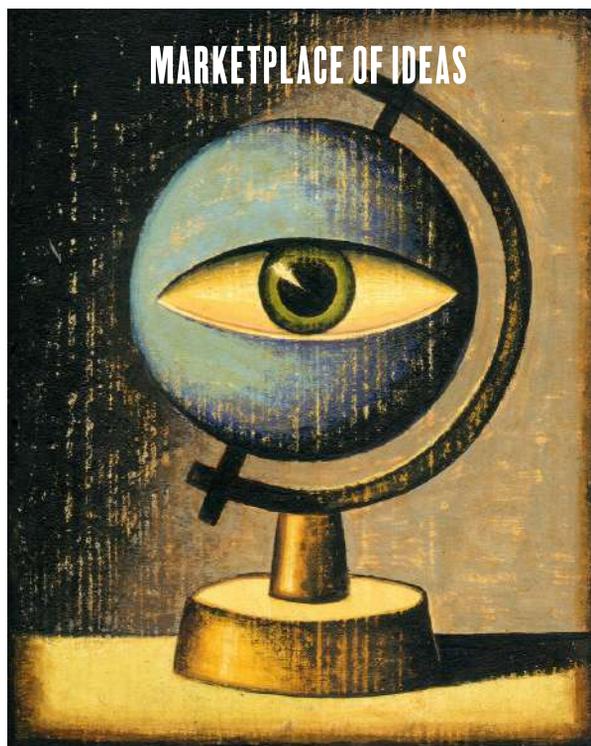
Writing at the height of the McCarthy era, Gordon borrowed freely from the rhetoric of the times, assailing the International Style's brand of minimalism as an insidious influence that threatened American life by spreading "something ... rotten" into our homes. For Gordon, the offending style was "clinical" rather than livable and humanistic, two key qualities she sought in "good" design. While she saw the polarizing essay as part of a larger mission to empower consumers with the knowledge needed to create their own beautiful living spaces, its political overtones clearly reinforced a nativism that had taken root in the country.

In *Tastemaker*, Penick argues that Gordon's "motivations—why she worked so vigorously to discredit a small group of modernists—were complex." They were, Penick believes, driven at least in part by her professional interests. Being "inextricably tied to the consumption-centric business of American design," the biographer writes, "the International Style's minimalism and its lack of storage for household goods was actually a 'threat' to her own industry and livelihood."

After leaving her post in 1964, Gordon continued to espouse her views through public lectures and consulting. Though her positions were not universally shared, their influence was indisputable; endorsement letters for Gordon's honorary membership in the American Institute of Architects noted her years of advocacy and "indefatigable pursuit of good domestic architecture."

Indeed, for Gordon, the pursuit was about more than home design. It was a battle for the aesthetic soul of America. ♦

Brooke E. O'Neill, AM'04, is a freelance writer in Chicago.



TOWARD A SAFER WORLD

At the first annual Hagel Lecture, Madeleine Albright and Chuck Hagel spoke from experience.

BY LAURA DEMANSKI, AM'94

The world's a mess," said Madeleine Albright. On this evening late in May, more than 900 people had filled Mandel Hall to hear the former secretary of state and Chuck Hagel talk foreign policy and world politics in the first annual Hagel Lecture, named for the former secretary of defense and Republican senator from Nebraska.

The lecture was hosted by the Chicago Project on Security and Threats (CPOST). Introducing the two political heavyweights (who are also good friends) was CPOST's founder and director, **Robert Pape**, PhD'88. In his remarks, the UChicago political science professor also provided a brief intro-

duction to CPOST, a nonpartisan center that "generates authoritative, advanced knowledge to improve security and prosperity in practical ways." Gathering and analyzing masses of data, CPOST's teams of faculty and students aim to answer questions critical to international politics, security, and trade.

The project's origins trace back to Pape's Suicide Attack Database, begun after 9/11 as a comprehensive record of attacks and attackers. Regularly updated, it remains an essential tool for scholars and government and is one of many ongoing projects based at CPOST today. Among them is Pape's current collaboration with psychology professor **Jean Decety** to study online terrorist propaganda and recruitment.

Another project, led by CPOST associate director **Paul Staniland**, AB'04, associate professor of political science in South Asia sometimes work against and sometimes in concert with the region's governments. To answer that question, Staniland's team is building a database cataloging all instances of and changes in state-insurgent relations in the region since 1945.

Benjamin Lessing, also a political science associate professor and CPOST associate director, studies organized armed violence by gangs and drug cartels in Latin America. The database Lessing's team is at work on will help them estimate how many people are effectively under criminal governance,

Illustration by Phil Bliss/TheisSpot

including by criminal gangs operating from inside prisons.

Data is one sine qua non of CPOST's work. The other essential, says Pape, is "building real bridges and connections." That means making CPOST's data accessible to other scholars and establishing connections to Washington. Reaching out to the broader public is a priority too, and is where the Hagel Lecture comes in.

The relationship with the former defense secretary, and others like it, are indispensable to what Pape and CPOST want to achieve. As Albright told the *Magazine*, a pipeline from the academy to the policy world is "exactly what needs to be happening in terms of putting the intellectual rigor into getting data, and then making it available to government decision makers. ... This is a remarkable exercise and very, very useful." On the other side, Hagel added, "it gives our academic friends some balance and perspective on how policy is made."

At Mandel Hall, Albright kicked off the evening with brief remarks before Pape moderated a conversation between her and Hagel. Pape then invited students in the audience to ask questions about global problems and policies. How to better the messy, dangerous, and endangered world of Albright's opening comment? The two drew on their own experiences at the highest levels of government to advocate for bipartisanship, diplomacy, and the deep engagement of young people like the evening's questioners. View the entire program at mag.uchicago.edu/hagellecture.

That wasn't the only chance for UChicago students to ask questions that day. A few hours earlier, across University Avenue, two dozen or so graduate students and undergraduates who work with CPOST gathered in the bright, intimate setting of the Quadrangle Club's second-floor solarium. Exuberant yet businesslike in

suits and dresses, they chatted about final exams and papers as they waited for Albright and Hagel to arrive. Following a group photograph, the duo settled in to take questions.



MADELEINE ALBRIGHT



CHUCK HAGEL

The following extracts from this session have been edited and condensed.

What is your advice for those of us in the younger generation who want to be future policy makers, who may be slightly naive currently but at the same time want to make a better future?

Madeleine Albright If you are going to enter public service, you have to know your value system and try to figure out how you are going to make your views known. I have students [at Georgetown University, where Albright is a professor of diplomacy] now who are coming to me and saying, "Do you think we should go into this government? We disagree with what they're

doing." And I say, yes, you should, because there need to be people there who are interested in foreign policy, national security policy, and all the elements of it.

I hate to say this to you, but I say to my students that when they first go in, they are not going to be making policy, they're going to be stamping visas. There's value in being in the system and learning how it works, and then, as you rise up in it, having the opportunity to state your views clearly and show why you believe in them.

I don't think people should forget what they believe in. National security policy has to be based on values and ideas. What any system needs is to have people with different ideas who are figuring it out— not always saluting and saying, I'm going to do everything that I'm told to do.

Chuck Hagel You always have to remember that our country, our Constitution, our institutions, are much, much bigger than any one individual. We're all just fleeting stewards of the same.

There will be another president, and then another president. Your loyalty is to the country. We all take an oath of office when we enter government. It's to the Constitution. It's to our country, it's to people, America. We don't take an oath of office stating loyalty to a president, to a political party, or to a philosophy.

If you believe you can make a contribution to our country to make it better, that's where it starts. That's the fundamental anchor, and then you go from there. I'm often asked, as Madeleine is, by a lot of young people, should I go into politics, should I run for office? And I say, that's your decision. I can't tell you if you should do it or not do it. But I would give you this advice, and I think it applies to all things: you've got to ask yourself some pretty fundamental questions that only you can answer. The most fundamental is, why do you

want to do it? If the answer is not to make a better world, then I tell them, don't do it. That should be the answer down deep in you.

Is there anything in your tenure that, if you had a chance, you would do differently?

Albright I second-guess myself about everything. I am often asked if we did the right thing in Kosovo, for instance, or did we do the right thing in expanding NATO. I think it is worth thinking about, and what would have happened if you didn't do it. Would it have made

a difference? In those particular cases I think I came out on the right thing.

The one that I find the hardest to deal with happened when I was ambassador at the United Nations, over Rwanda. We did not go in with a peacekeeping operation in Rwanda. I can explain why we didn't. I won't take the time to do it, but it made a lot of sense at the time. But given what happened, I think it would have made a big difference to go in.

Usually you're not the only person making the decision, especially a big one. It comes as a result of a principals meeting or an interagency meeting of

some kind. Then the question is more like, should I resign over that? You do go over things, there's no question. If you don't, then you shouldn't have the job. It's worth analyzing why you did it, especially if it doesn't have a happy ending or it's a difficult issue. Asking yourself about do-overs is an essential part of a decision-making process.

Hage! I agree with everything Secretary Albright said. You can second-guess yourself into paralysis, and you can talk yourself into anything. Now, you should always be second-guessing yourself—not to paralysis, but you've got to come at it from all the different perspectives: Is this the right thing? Why isn't it? Go back and review it. That's part of a process that I've tried to maintain in every job I've had. Take inventory. If you're doing that honestly with yourself, then you'll come to the right decision on almost everything. There are situations where I could have done something better, I should have said it differently, I should have said it better, maybe made a better decision. But you build on those experiences and learn from them, and hopefully you get better.

How does cooperation between the State Department and the Department of Defense play out, and how can diplomatic solutions still play into an evolving security situation when you do need stronger military forces on the ground, as in Syria?

Albright In a course I teach called The National Security Toolbox, I say foreign policy is just trying to get somebody to do what you want. That's all it is. So what are the tools? We are the most powerful country in the world, but there are not a lot of tools in the toolbox.

Albright wore a pin depicting the Chicago skyline for the occasion.



We are the most powerful country in the world, but there are not a lot of tools in the toolbox.



In almost every case the military should be used only if there's a diplomatic agenda.

Hagel has worked with CPOST for the past few years. "I was appreciative they'd let a poor Nebraska boy" help, he joked.

There's diplomacy, bilateral and multi-lateral; economic tools of aid and trade and sanctions; the threat of the use of force; the use of force; intelligence; and law enforcement. That's it.

The reason I started teaching the course is that I remember what it was like in the Carter administration when the Soviets invaded Afghanistan. We had an interagency meeting and it was insane. We knew we couldn't get the Soviets out, but we were trying to figure out how to punish them. So it was like show-and-tell, saying, well, we can cut off their fishing rights or we'll have a grain embargo or we'll have a call-up of the draft. Ultimately somebody said, we're not sending our athletes to the Olympics. I thought, this is the most disorganized way of trying to figure out how to do this.

The toolbox is what's discussed in these meetings. Diplomacy is the bread-and-butter of things, but it's viewed as weak. Sometimes force is used at the end, because it's strong. And an awful lot of times you use economic tools. But the discussion is often ultimately about the relationship between State and Defense.

I'll never forget this: I was outside the Situation Room standing with General [John] Shalikashvili, who was chairman of the Joint Chiefs at the time, and [Robert] Rubin, secretary of the trea-

surey, walked by and he said, "Aha: force and diplomacy." Shali said, "And which is which?" Because I was more inclined to use force, and he was inclined to use diplomacy. I do often think that the State Department is more prepared to use force than the Defense Department.

Hagel In almost every case the military should be used only if there's a diplomatic agenda. Now, if America is attacked, that's different. But when you use your military, you want to use it with as much precision as you can. It should follow the ultimate objective, and that's got to be led by the State Department, in conjunction with the White House and the president. Ultimately, where does the president want to go with this? What does the president want to accomplish?

The relationship between a secretary of state and secretary of defense is important to make it all work. When I was secretary of defense, [Secretary of State John] Kerry and I would meet once a week. That was very helpful. We could clear our own thinking with each other, and then we would meet when everybody was in town once a week with the national security adviser. The interests of all three don't always come together, but Kerry and I had a relationship where he never surprised me, I never surprised him, and that was really important.

What are the current challenges of dealing with the Middle East, especially in situations where national security interests dictate what the United States does?

Albright I think we don't fully understand all of the complications of the Middle East. In addition to artificial countries having been created, most Americans don't know much about Islam, much less the difference between Shia and Sunni. And they don't focus on the centuries-old struggle between Arabs and Persians and that complicated aspect of it.

The issue is always whether American foreign policy is idealistic or realistic. That's a false dichotomy. I never could figure out if I was an idealistic realist or a realistic idealist. You need both. And as hard as it is to say, especially to young people, our policy is inconsistent because we look at various countries and realize we need them for X.

My problem at the moment would be Saudi Arabia. They have, from everything that one can tell, committed murder on the orders of the highest echelon. On the other hand, I think it's very important to have relations with Saudi Arabia. I personally would not sell them arms at this moment, especially with what's going on in Yemen



The essence of diplomacy is finding smart, realistic—but yet as idealistic as we can—ways to solve problems.

At the Quadrangle Club, undergraduate and graduate students had an hour to question the former secretaries.

and the Houthi, but I think it's crazy to break off relations.

So one makes certain allowances for having a pragmatic relationship. When I was in office, I always believed in the pragmatic, but I never gave up on human rights. No matter where I was, talking about whatever, especially in China, I would say, you know, you've got to do something about your human rights policy. We need to do both.

Hagel Every nation always responds in its own self-interest, and its foreign policy is conducted on that basis. At the same time, as Madeleine mentioned, there's always a struggle between the idealism and realism in the principle of foreign policy. The principle, I've always thought, is a foreign policy that includes our self-interests, that has a strong defense of human rights, liberty, values, and that melds that with the reality of an imperfect world and the imperfections of what the Middle East represents: unfortunately, authoritarian governments.

As for Madeleine's mentioning of Saudi Arabia, that's exactly where I am too. We couldn't walk away from that relationship, because there's too much at risk. But there are things we can do. The Congress did pass a law not allowing funding for the Yemen war, but the president vetoed that.

The essence of diplomacy is finding smart, realistic—but yet as idealistic as

we can—ways to solve problems. If you give away the idealism of your foreign policy, and if that's seen by other countries as walking away from it, then this world is in for a real tough time.

We are seeing more and more of a drive toward authoritarianism in the world. Xi [Jinping] probably is a master, with as much power as any Chinese leader since Mao [Zedong]. Obviously [Vladimir] Putin, [Recep Tayyip] Erdoğan in Turkey. You're looking at Western democracies in Europe, like Hungary and Poland, that are moving in those directions.

We have been the one country that more than any other has stood for values and tried to implement idealism and "let's do this right." Now, we're more powerful. We've got more authority. Maybe you could say, well, that's our responsibility. But it's easy to forfeit that too.

I'll give you one example. I was secretary of defense when the president of Egypt was overthrown in a military coup by [Abdel Fattah el-] Sisi. I'd been in Egypt a month before that, and we met with the president and Sisi, who was defense minister at the time. I remember the National Security Council meeting with the president [after the coup]. A lot of the conversation was, let's pull the plug on Egypt and Sisi. I was, I think, the only voice that said, we're going to have to do something

to respond to this, but let's think this through. When you say, "pull the plug," what do you mean? They wanted to cut off everything—everything. I remember turning to President Obama and saying, "Mr. President, if we do that, we have just lost any influence and any instrument of influence we might have left in Egypt. Plus the Suez Canal."

As you start thinking about the consequences of that action, it's a difficult situation always, and there are never any good options that the secretary of state has to work through. Probably the same as the secretary of defense. But I think the secretary of state has more bad options that come to him or her than anybody in the cabinet, because they wouldn't come to her if it was good news. Figure it out, Madame Secretary.

Albright It's still a pretty good job.

Hagel No, there are some privileges to that. So, anyway, that's the way I've always seen it, and I've seen it up close. ♦

CPOST researchers will appear on a September 26 live broadcast of *Freakonomics Radio Live!* at Chicago's Harris Theater with Stephen J. Dubner and UChicago economics professor Steven D. Levitt.



TO READ MORE OF THE CONVERSATION, VISIT MAG.UCHICAGO.EDU/ALBRIGHT.

THE OI AT 100

UCHICAGO'S ORIENTAL INSTITUTE CELEBRATES A MONUMENTAL FIRST CENTURY.

GALLERY GUARDIAN

The Colossal Bull Head, seen on the front cover during installation in the OI Museum, now graces the Robert and Deborah Aliber Persian Gallery.



40

From the ground up: A brief visual history

48

Found in translation: Profile of the director

50

Past and future: A roundtable discussion

54

Chalk like an Egyptian: Museum outreach

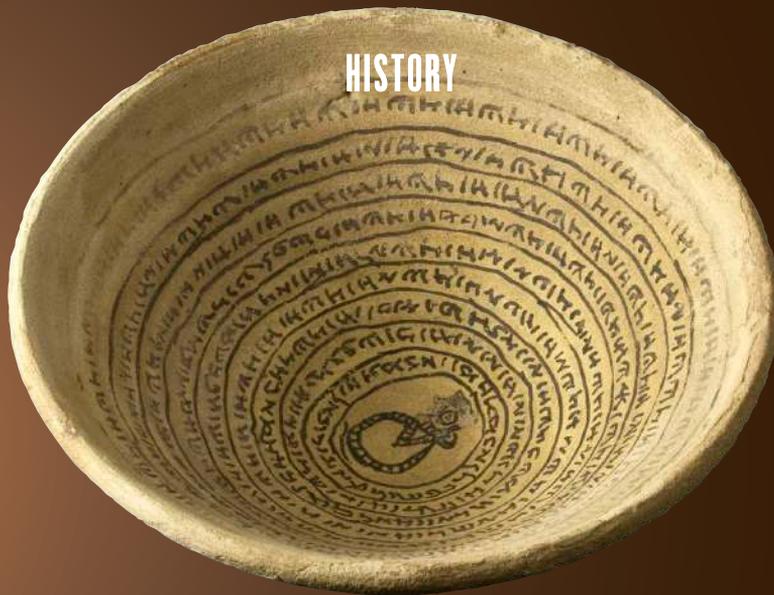


This page: The OI's excavation at Tell Edfu, Egypt (see page 44).
Opposite: A baked clay incantation bowl inscribed with a pseudoscript, AD 500–800, excavated at Nippur, Iraq.



All photos courtesy the Oriental Institute unless otherwise indicated.

HISTORY



FROM THE GROUND UP

BY SUSIE ALLEN, AB'09, AND LAURA DEMANSKI, AM'94

In July 1919, this publication reported the establishment of the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago. “The ultimate aim of all its work,” the editors wrote, “will be to furnish a basis for a history of the origins and development of civilization.” The OI’s scholars would discover and examine millennia-old evidence that could illuminate collective human life in the past—and, by that means, our present lives.

With a century of exploration, excavation, scholarship, and education now behind it, the OI has achieved a deep history of its own, and a singular one.

Both a robust academic research center, creating knowledge about the earliest societies in the ancient Middle East, and a museum for the public, it holds treasures. Uniquely, most of them were excavated by the OI’s own archaeologists in its early years for study by experts and the education and marvel of all of us.

Those artifacts tell scholars much about the Egyptians, Babylonians, Persians, and other past peoples but also inspire and inform larger questions: How do humans build and structure their societies? How do people’s physical environments shape their ideas about mortality, nature, identity? And how are those ideas embodied in their material culture?

The OI’s home within a major research university has enabled still other kinds of contributions. Willard Libby’s development of radiocarbon dating in the 1940s relied on testing artifacts of known age from the OI’s collection. Its ancient language dictionaries—Assyrian, Hittite, Demotic—are massive, decades-long efforts requiring the concerted work of generations of scholars.

The people, excavations, and objects that shaped the OI over its first century are too numerous to present here exhaustively. In the following pages we highlight a few that just begin to capture its illustrious first hundred years.



Giants

Among the many archaeologists and scholars who made the OI what it is today are these pioneers.

JAMES HENRY BREASTED

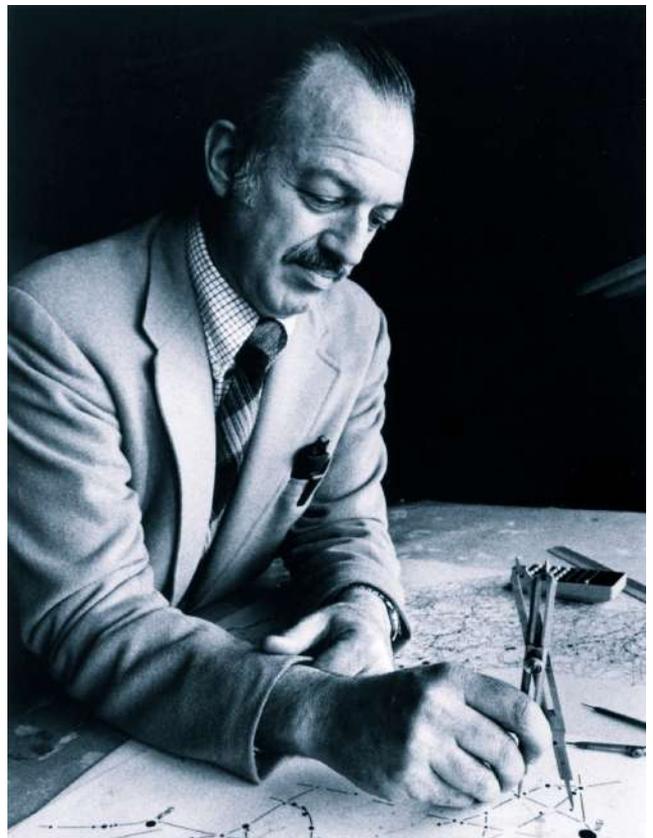
The first American to earn a PhD in Egyptology, James Henry Breasted (left, with his family) was a titan of the field. Alongside scholarly works, he wrote popular histories of Egypt and the ancient world, which sparked enduring public interest in Egyptology. Despite these successes, his greatest ambition, to form a research institute devoted to the ancient Middle East, remained unfulfilled until John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s 1919 gift created the Oriental Institute. Breasted wasted no time, traveling that year to Europe, Egypt, Iraq, Palestine, and Syria to explore and document ancient sites and acquire artifacts still held by the OI today, securing the institute's—and his own—legacy.

ROBERT AND LINDA BRAIDWOOD

The marriage of Robert Braidwood, PhD'43, and Linda Schreiber, AM'46 (top right), in 1937 marked the beginning of a personal and intellectual partnership that would shape the field of prehistoric archaeology. Together, the Braidwoods documented the human shift from hunting and gathering to settled life. In 1947 they founded the OI's Prehistoric Project, recruiting botanists, zoologists, and geologists and introducing interdisciplinary, scientific methods that were previously unknown to archaeology. The Braidwoods discovered in southeastern Turkey the world's oldest piece of cloth and some of the earliest known buildings. Collaborators until the end of their lives, Robert and Linda Braidwood died within hours of each other in 2003.

ROBERT MCCORMICK ADAMS

In 1950 Robert McCormick Adams, PhB'47, AM'52, PhD'56 (right), joined the Braidwoods on an expedition to Iraq. ("I think he wanted to take along someone who could fix his cars," Adams joked later.) The trip transformed Adams from an aspiring journalist into an archaeologist. Among the first to use aerial photography and satellite images in his work, Adams focused on the relationship between geography and civilization, arguing that how societies adapt to environmental change defines their trajectories. After serving as OI director and University provost, Adams went on to lead the Smithsonian Institution.





Places

Excavation sites past and present reveal settlement patterns, artifacts, and more.

NIPPUR The Mesopotamian religious center Nippur lies in modern-day Iraq, 100 miles south of Baghdad. The seat of the supreme god Enlil and considered the bond between heaven and earth, Nippur was settled around 5000 BC and endured almost 6,000 years, remaining relatively protected from the region's wars because of its religious and cultural significance. The OI first excavated the city's trove of artifacts and clay tablets in 1948, focusing on the historically important religious quarter. In 1972, under the direction of **McGuire Gibson**, AM'64, PhD'68, professor of Mesopotamian archaeology, these efforts expanded to a residential part of the city before all work on the site ceased at the time of the first Gulf War. This year the OI returned to Nippur, restored its expedition compound, and prepared to fully resume excavating the city's rich remains.

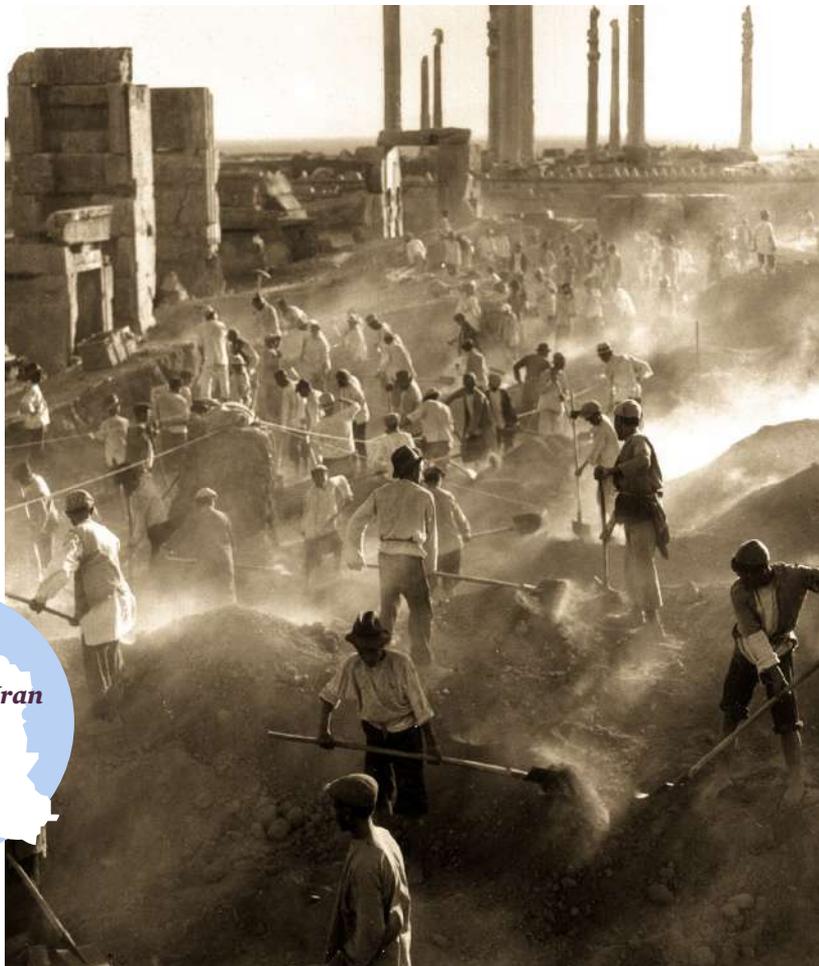


TELL EDFU Ruins beneath ruins characterize the Egyptian archaeological site Tell Edfu, where the OI has worked since 2007 under the direction of Egyptologist **Nadine Moeller**. The site comprises the well-preserved Temple of Horus and a nearby settlement whose growth from a provincial town to a regional capital is recorded in archaeological layers going back to the third millennium BC. Last year Moeller's team discovered a large villa of the early New Kingdom (1500–1450 BC), among whose features was a rare domestic shrine to the residents' ancestors. The site illuminates broad patterns of ancient urban development.

LUXOR The OI's Epigraphic Survey has been at work in Luxor, Egypt, for 95 consecutive seasons. The project's epigraphers are joined by artists, photographers, librarians, conservators, stonemasons, and others in their work to record, in situ, the inscriptions and carvings that cover the vast reaches of Luxor's temple and tomb walls. In that work they adhere to the collaborative, painstaking "Chicago House Method" refined over the decades since Breasted launched the survey. The method's name refers to the University's headquarters at Luxor, home to research and support staff, currently directed by research associate professor **W. Raymond Johnson, PhD'92**.



PERSEPOLIS The tens of thousands of ancient tablets discovered in Persepolis in 1933 by OI archaeologists contained an overwhelming cache of records of the inner workings of the Achaemenid or Persian Empire of Darius I and his successors—but much of it is encrypted in the extinct Elamite language, known by few living scholars. To decipher the tablets, the OI brought them to Chicago on loan, where they have been studied by generations of scholars given the rare opportunity to learn about the empire from Persian sources. Most recently, **Matthew Stolper**, professor emeritus of Assyriology, and a team worked intensively to transliterate the tablets for further research prior to their upcoming return to Iran.

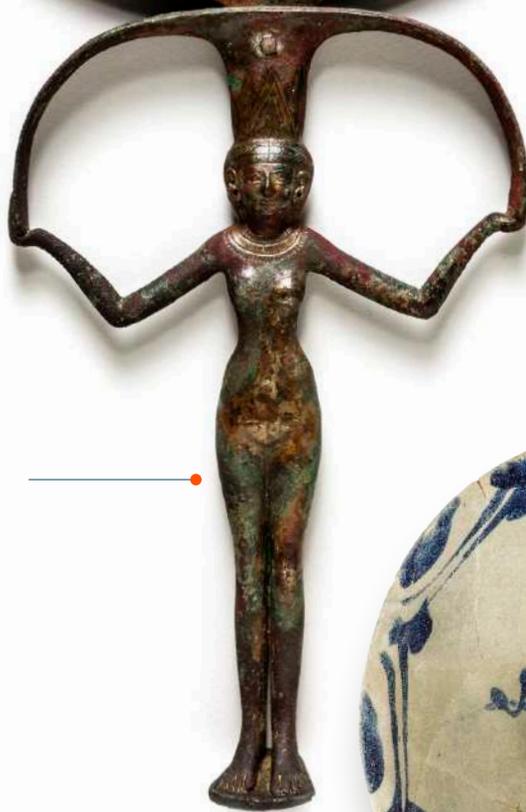


Artifacts

In the collection are objects that awe while telling us about the cultures that made them.

This copper alloy hand mirror, excavated from a tomb at Qustul in Egypt, dates from 1390–1352 BC. The figure of a young woman that forms the handle, about six inches high, is elaborately detailed, with earrings, a decorative collar, and even fingernails on her hands. Her curled hair suggests the goddess Hathor, associated with dance, love, music, and fertility. The disk she holds aloft was reflective when polished.

Excavated at Istakhr, just north of Persepolis, the six-inch inscribed clay bowl dates from AD 800–900. It boasts an early Islamic glazing technique thought to have been developed in imitation of Chinese ceramics. Opaque white glazes like this were new to the Middle East at the time it was made. The cobalt blue inscription, in Arabic, is illegible.





During the Early Dynastic period (2900-2300 BC) in modern-day Iraq, this limestone plaque was part of a door-locking device. It's decorated with a relief depicting a lavish banquet. The piece missing from the lower right is held by the National Museum of Iraq and shows two men wrestling.

Painted limestone with stone inlays for the eyes, these statues of a woman and man, researchers think, may portray ancestors of the statues' owners. On their heads is bitumen, a tar-like adhesive, that once attached hair or headdresses. The substance also holds the eye inlays in place. Excavated in modern-day Syria, they date back 9,000 to 11,000 years ago to the early Neolithic period.

This six-inch-tall portable Egyptian healing stela was used to treat ailments, possibly including animal bites, which were common in the ancient Middle East. Dating from the Ptolemaic period (fourth century BC), it depicts the sky god Horus stepping on crocodiles, signifying his domination over the beasts and hopefully auguring the patient's recovery. Water was poured over the stela, then consumed by the patient.



FOUND IN TRANSLATION

With an eye to reaching a broader public, Sumerologist Christopher Woods leads the Oriental Institute into its second century.

BY SHARLA A. PAUL

Through the very nature of his work, Oriental Institute director **Christopher Woods** uses the word *isolate* a lot. In philological terms—after all, Woods is a philologist—a linguistic isolate is a language that is unrelated to any other known language.

Sumerian, the language that Woods studies, is an isolate. It was spoken by the Sumerians, a people in ancient Mesopotamia who created one of the earliest civilizations. They farmed the rich land along the Tigris and Euphrates valleys in present-day southern Iraq, established the world's first cities, built temples and palaces on a monumental scale, and created a canon of literature that includes stories about Gilgamesh, the legendary Sumerian king of the city of Uruk.

We know so much about the Sumerians because they also wrote. Around 3300 BC, roughly the same time that the Egyptians developed hieroglyphs, the Sumerians invented cuneiform, possibly the world's first writing system. "Making language visible" is what Woods calls this remarkable moment. "What you're writing right now"—he gestures at my jotted notes—"has its origins in what was invented in Sumer nearly 5,500 years ago."

It's early May, and Woods is fresh off visiting the OI's archaeological dig in Nippur, Iraq, where work has recommenced this year for the first time since the outbreak of the first Gulf War. Woods has applied to the Iraqi Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Antiquities for the archaeological concession to open new sites, heralding what he hopes will be a "new golden age for the OI" in the region.

Dressed in suit and tie, his desert attire retired for now, he sits in a maroon upholstered armchair in the ornate, wood-paneled director's office. Asked about his vision for the OI at this centennial mark, Woods's answer is immediate: to increase its visibility and profile—not necessarily academically, which needs no burnishing, but nationally and locally.

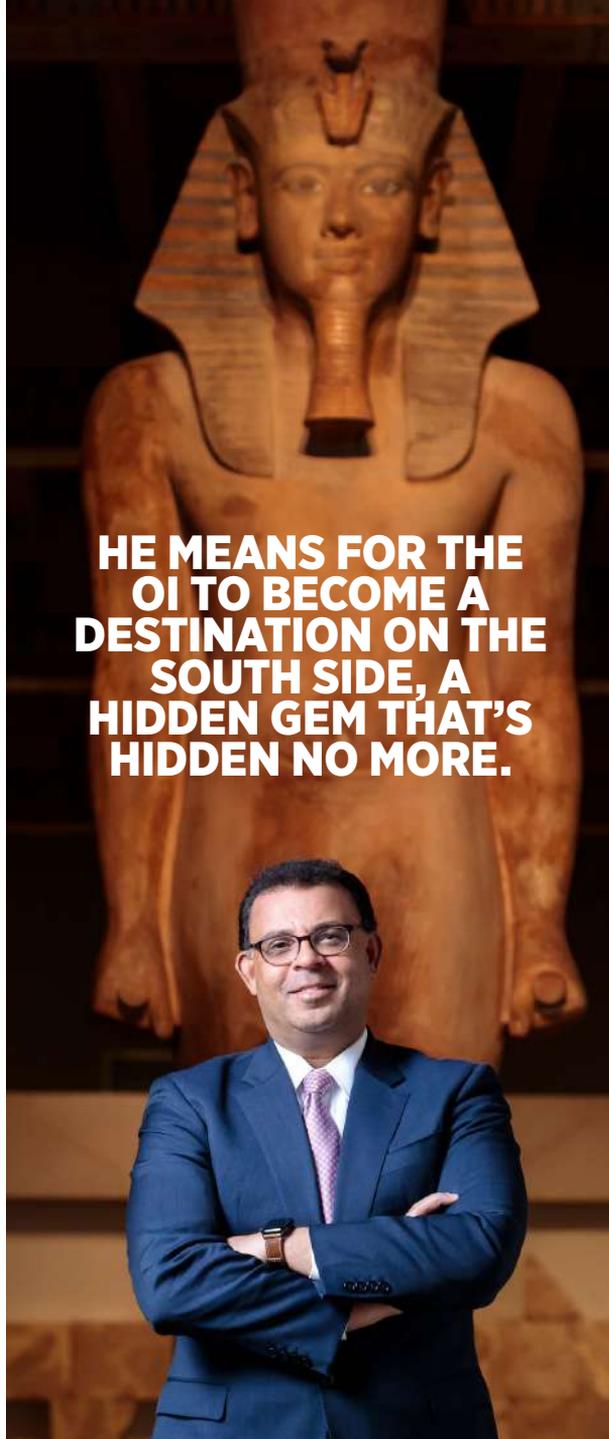
By local, he means for the OI to become a destination on the South Side, a hidden gem that's hidden no more. To that end, the OI is adopting its initials as its brand and moving away from its outdated moniker, which Woods admits can be jarring to contemporary ears, though it's actually a geographic term—oriental, as opposed to occidental—that was used to describe the Middle East when the OI was founded.

Woods also means to increase the OI's visibility on campus. Building on a surge of new hires to the OI faculty in recent years, he anticipates a corresponding surge in interdisciplinary projects, with faculty drawing in colleagues from departments such as classics and art history.

Increasing visibility is an apt task for an isolate specialist. Woods, the John A. Wilson Professor of Sumerology, majored in physics at Yale and in his early 20s found his way into Sumerology by way of a lunchtime Akkadian class he took at Columbia University while working at a patent law office. He earned his PhD at Harvard and applied for a UChicago faculty position while still a graduate student. Since then, he's spent his career at what he considers the field's premier institution worldwide, the last two years leading it.

His work deciphers what he calls the "conceptual framework of Mesopotamian culture," the mechanics of how the Mesopotamian mind conceived its world, as recorded on hundreds of thousands of extant clay tablets bearing the Sumerian language. These tablets have been dug up by archaeologists for more than a century, and the vast majority remain unpublished and untranslated. The ancient Sumerians shaped them from the alluvial clay of river beds and made styli from reeds to record economic transactions, literature, law codes, religious hymns, and historical narratives in wedge-shaped markings. During the third millennium BC, Semitic populations that dominated northern Babylonia mingled with Sumerians in the south, and by the early centuries of the second millennium BC, after a long period of bilingualism, Sumerian died as a vernacular lan-

**HE MEANS FOR THE
OI TO BECOME A
DESTINATION ON THE
SOUTH SIDE, A
HIDDEN GEM THAT'S
HIDDEN NO MORE.**



Christopher Woods, director of the Oriental Institute.

guage and Akkadian became the language of the land.

All evidence of the Sumerian language was swallowed up by the earth in the multicentury process of municipal upkeep: constructing new mud-brick buildings atop eroded and fallen ones, layer upon layer, until conquerors came along, towns were abandoned, and finally giant earth-covered mounds, or tells, dotted the river valleys. Recovering the lost isolate of Sumerian has been the work of three gen-

erations of philologists and epigraphers around the world, including OI faculty Miguel Civil, who died this past January at age 92, and Thorkild Jacobsen, PhD'29, a Sumerologist who also served as OI director.

Such work is often done from museum collections, including the 350,000-plus-artifact research collection housed in the OI (more than 5,000 of them are on display). Woods is completing a monograph on early cuneiform writing and has another planned on Gilgamesh in the Sumerian literary tradition. His 2008 book, *The Grammar of Perspective: The Sumerian Conjugation Prefixes as a System of Voice* (Brill), analyzes an important but little-understood feature of Sumerian verbs: their conjugation prefixes. For well over a century, Sumerologists have proposed various, often incompatible, hypotheses to explain individual prefixes, but their basic functions and meanings remained ill-defined or unknown. Woods proposed that they constitute a complex system of grammatical voice that provided Sumerian speakers with a linguistic means of altering the perspective from which events may be viewed and ways to approximate in language the infinitely graded spectrum of human thought and experience.

Lining one of the built-in bookcases in his office is a massive set of blue hardbound books. *The Chicago Assyrian Dictionary* “took 90 years of scholarship to produce and resurrected the Babylonian and Assyrian languages that were the lingua franca of the ancient Middle East. There’s something very UChicago about that,” Woods says. Similarly, the epigraphic survey in Luxor, Egypt, has been in the field for 95 years, recording the hieroglyphic inscriptions and art of Luxor’s ancient monuments. As esoteric as the OI’s projects might seem, the work, says Woods, stays relevant because it’s actually the work of more deeply understanding ourselves. “Indirectly we are the cultural descendants of the people in the areas the OI studies. Mathematics, literature, political and religious institutions, how empires rise and fall—all of these things have their beginnings or a very early data point in this part of the world,” he says.

To anyone who ventures through its doors and stands face to face with its colossal Assyrian winged lamassu, Woods believes the OI provides a distant mirror revealing how people lived, how they loved, what they believed in.

“The parallels connect us to the past, but the differences are enlightening as well,” says Woods. “They tell you something about what it means to be human, about the scope of the human experience.”

He invites all of Chicago—all of the world, even—to come see for themselves. ♦

Sharla A. Paul is a writer in Chicago.

ROUNDTABLE

PAST AND FUTURE

*A lot changes over 100 years—
instruments, laws, politics, and the
very questions archaeologists ask.*

BY LAURA DEMANSKI, AM'94

From satellite imagery to international politics, the world in which the Oriental Institute's archaeologist-scholars and museum professionals do their work is very different from that in which the OI was founded. The Magazine spoke to three Near Eastern languages and civilizations faculty members and the OI Museum's chief curator about how archaeological excavation and inquiry have evolved since 1919. This conversation has been edited and condensed.

Of all that's changed in 100 years, what would you emphasize?

James Osborne A huge new discipline began in the mid-20th century: landscape archaeology. That didn't exist at the time of the OI's founding. It involves understanding ancient societies at a regional scale as opposed to what a single site looks like when you excavate it. What's the larger sum of patterns? What's the hierarchy between its urban center, smaller second-tier cities, and third-tier rural villages? And so on.



JAMES OSBORNE

Assistant Professor of Anatolian
Archaeology

This is the kind of thing one only understands at a regional scale, and since the midcentury, new technological advances—airial photography and declassified spy satellite imagery—have tremendously benefited archaeologists of all stripes. In terms of regional settlement patterns, we can identify the presence of thousands and thousands of tiny sites that are completely invisible otherwise. What you see in the satellite image is like a shadow—the soil color's a little bit different than the soil surrounding it. It's promoted a whole series of research questions that we

All illustrations by John Jay Cabury.
photo courtesy the Oriental Institute

didn't know we could ask, and allowed monitoring of cultural heritage sites in combat zones. We can track what sites are being destroyed and what sites we need to prioritize for preservation.

David Schloen I would start with what's the same. What is still being done since the 1920s is the recovery of primary evidence for the construction of historical, chronological, and cultural sequences correlating vast amounts of material evidence in space and time and linking it to the growing understanding of the political, economic, and social history of the region. That follows fundamentally similar methods to what had been worked out in the 19th century. The methods, techniques, and interpretive strategies for disentangling the complex layering and disturbances of ancient sites are better understood by far than they were. But still—the old results are usable and understandable within our frame of reference.

Nadine Moeller If you look back to 1919, or even 50 years ago, the main focus in Egyptian archaeology was a top-down approach. You would start with kingship and anything that's glamorous: pyramids, tombs, temples. A lot of that had to do with nicely visual objects. When James Henry Breasted put together our museum collection, he went to Egypt and bought a bunch of really wonderful things, but without context—it was all about the objects. That has very much changed. The work that I do today is on settlements. We're trying to understand more about how an ancient city develops: How do settlement quarters evolve, what are the long-term processes? It's a bottom-up approach. We're looking at all the people, not only at the kings and elite. Most of the time, what we see more easily is the elites, so there's always going to be a bias, at least in my field. We still have not grown out of the top-down approach entirely.



DAVID SCHLOEN

Professor of Near Eastern
Archaeology

Jean Evans From the perspective of the museum, there's both continuity and change. For continuity, we have a vast collection of some 350,000 artifacts. It's mostly an archaeological collection, and the bulk of that came into the museum in the early days of the OI. Part of what we do is to continue to make that material available for people to study and work on. I think it's a reflection of the way the early digs were conducted that people can still come here to do research and ask questions of that material. And I would say it's a challenge for us to make the displays in the museum both represent the solid foundations that the archaeology rests on and also communicate to the public the ways that the research questions have changed.

How have these questions changed?

Osborne I can give one example. In the 1930s the OI excavated several sites in Turkey's Amuq Valley, which is right on the border of northwest Syria. They collected several thousand ceramic sherds, which are now in the OI basement, primarily for purposes of typology building and chronology.

A couple of years ago I took some of these sherds that stylistically resembled sherds excavated on Cyprus. We used a technique called portable X-ray fluorescence, which zaps the sherds with a laser and provides you with the chemical signature of the clay used to make that pot. I then confirmed that

chemical signature by grinding a sherd into dust and sending it to a lab for neutron activation analysis. Sure enough, it corresponds with the signature of clay sources found in Cyprus. We confirmed that indeed those pots were imported from that island. This would not have even crossed the minds of the archaeologists who excavated the sherds.

Schloen There has been a paradigmatic shift among archaeologists in the OI and more broadly. As Near Eastern archaeologists became more familiar with social theories that had long been known in other circles but took a while to percolate into our discipline, we began to imagine the social groups to which we link the primary data of these artifacts in a different way.

The old tendency was, to put it simply, that pots equaled peoples. In other words, a certain style of material culture, whether a production technique or style of decoration, would be correlated with some bounded ethnic group—some social group imagined as having a monolithic character and interacting with other monolithic social groups. But in recent decades, scholars are much more nuanced in their understanding of the relationship between patterns and styles in material culture and the social interactions to be inferred from those. For example, the question of social identity is a very complicated one. People today and in the ancient past have multiple, contingent, and fluid

**WE CAN TRACK
WHAT SITES
ARE BEING
DESTROYED AND
WHAT SITES
WE NEED TO
PRIORITIZE FOR
PRESERVATION.**

identities, to use a triad of description that is quite common now. You can go back 100 years and see philosophers and social theorists talking that way, but there was a tendency in archaeology to think in more reductive terms.

Why was archaeology longer in getting there?

Schloen It had to do with the mode of training and the academic backgrounds of the people involved. Few scholars who became experts in material evidence and its excavation and classification had any systematic education in fields like social philosophy or economics. So there were critiques and interactions and people in other disciplines saying what about this, what about that? As we keep exploring and reading in a university like this—that's why we're in a university—we adapt our own modes of interpretation in order to make more persuasive arguments.

Osborne I don't think anyone's mentioned what may be the most obvious change between 1919 and now. At that time we could take objects from Middle Eastern countries and use our own excavations to create the museum galleries that are now visible downstairs. This is no longer possible in any of the countries where we work today. We're still funding and sponsoring a half dozen



NADINE MOELLER

Associate Professor of Egyptian Archaeology

major excavations in those countries, which are strictly for scientific purposes and not museum acquisition purposes.

Schloen This speaks to the challenges of continuing to do at a very high professional standard all the work we did before, but not being able to ship all the artifacts back here to work on with students. In most of the countries in which we work, we have to replicate labs and storage facilities on-site. We have limited time to study and publish the materials that we've excavated. Each of us who works on long-term field projects accumulates enormous quantities of material that simply can't be removed from the countries anymore, so we have the extra logistic and financial challenges.

Moeller: In Egypt I can't even take out a small sample for scientific analysis. Everything has to be done in Egypt.

When did this shift take place?

Schloen It started after the Second World War. The old system was called *partage*, a division of the finds between the host country and the foreign team. That lasted for many decades in the Middle East but pretty much dried up by the 1960s.

We all sympathize with the desire on the part of these sovereign nations to assert some control over this material, which was in the past subject to a kind of quasi-imperial appropriation or expropriation. To be fair to the older

generations of American and European excavators, there was a very well worked out and quite explicitly negotiated division that was trying to serve the interests of both sides.

Evans In terms of the museum collection, we find ourselves taking in archaeological materials that were exported legally for study and are not necessarily meant to go back to the country of origin. Say a faculty member here or at another university is retiring, and they're done with the archaeological material they've worked on. Because of the restrictions, that material has become valuable for research in a way that couldn't have been anticipated. We bring the materials into our own collection, because we see ourselves as a center for research and we want those materials to be available for other people to come study and ask questions about.

Schloen In Turkey I've helped with developing museum exhibits involving material we've excavated. They're looking for expert help, which we're happy to provide. Sometimes we find funding inside the host country for site conservation and public presentation, even restoration of ancient structures for purposes of tourism development. For the sake of public education as well as for being sympathetic to the needs of the host country, we try to help as much as we can.

How have the tools and methods you use in the field changed?

Schloen The physical reality of digging up the dirt and mapping what you find in space and time hasn't changed. But the techniques have changed quite a bit. We no longer map architectural features on a certain site by hand, for example. In my case, about 10 years ago we changed to using drones. These lightweight, small quadcopters that you can buy at Best Buy for maybe \$500 had developed enough to where we could use them to create

THE PHYSICAL REALITY OF DIGGING UP THE DIRT AND MAPPING WHAT YOU FIND IN SPACE AND TIME HASN'T CHANGED.

hundreds of overlapping digital photographs of each excavation trench on a daily basis. The drone technology was coming on the market at the same time as powerful software for automatically merging photos into a single orthorectified mosaic. Now we can create through entirely digital means, with relatively unskilled staff, a highly detailed photo mosaic that can be traced directly into mapping software to create highly accurate plans without the labor, time, and inaccuracies that were part of manual mapping.

Moeller You could never do this by hand. Also, the size of the area you can cover—you're getting better accuracy and so much faster, and you're recording the archaeological remains in the most precise way. We can also do 3-D models. We can show people who have never been there what the site is about.

Another thing is databases. Nobody's using notebooks anymore. iPads can be carried around; they have long battery life and deal fairly well with heat and dust.

Osborne The technology better facilitates the things we already do, but it also makes possible better research questions. I think of that in terms of scale. We can now ask questions at a molecular level. And we can ask new questions at a gigantic, country-wide, or Middle East-wide scale. For example, a computer scientist recently teamed up with a landscape archaeologist to create an algorithm for the satellite signature of a site and generated a predictive model for 10,000 sites in Syria where we expect archaeological sites could be.

Schloen Archaeologists are also using instrumentation and analysis produced by other scientific disciplines for their own purposes. Ancient DNA analysis will be quite revolutionary—a complex topic that touches upon long-cherished archaeological theories about the movements of populations and peoples in the distant past.

Sometimes archaeologists have gotten annoyed or touchy that the human genetics folks are coming in and replacing those narratives. The ideal is to have a close collaboration and honest, thoughtful interaction between archaeologists and population biologists or geneticists who do ancient DNA.

UChicago is poised to become a leader in this area and has established an ancient genetics lab, where three faculty are working with archaeologists. There are important questions to do with migrations of ancient populations and reconstructing ancient genomes from human remains, without falling back into the old monolithic models. We understand how compli-



JEAN EVANS

Chief Curator and Deputy Director,
OI Museum

cated each population was. One culture isn't simply replaced by another.

Evans For the museum, there are a number of different areas that are promising for research. For one, the study of pigments in ancient monuments. We've always known neo-Assyrian reliefs were colored, but the technology for analyzing those pigments is much better. On the Mesopotamian side there's interesting work on sourcing gold. What's important is that you have to grow the data sets to understand the significance of the

results you're getting. Even with the CT scans we've done with the human remains we have, it's always worth going back again, because the results get better with improved technology.

Looking to the field's future, what concerns you and what are you optimistic about?

Schloen For field research, in which we try to engage students as much as possible, the challenge is that political or security conditions can derail a wonderful pedagogical opportunity. We have to look for new ways and places to do field research, and be flexible about moving when we have to. It's a constant challenge. You don't want to take students to places where, after putting in all sorts of time and effort and money to get the team there, you have to abruptly pull out or the season gets canceled or you face anxiety about security.

Moeller The role of the humanities in society in general is a challenge we all need to focus on, and there should be more collaboration with the sciences. Archaeology is between the humanities and sciences, and we need to negotiate that interface.

Osborne The trend on the part of Middle Eastern countries to be less encouraging of Western archaeologists working in their territories is only going to increase. The era of us being able to descend like a UFO and do our work and take off again is completely gone.

The challenge is to realize that reality and use it as an opportunity to foster true collaborations with archaeologists, scientists, and intellectuals who've been working in those countries and graciously hosted us for a century. Now we need to be working together truly. If we can foster that dialogue in a productive and responsible way, then it becomes less of a challenge and more of an opportunity, for us and the next generation. ♦

CHALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN

Armed with crayons and string, the OI's next generation continues a tradition of fearless inquiry.

BY SUSIE ALLEN, AB'09

In the Oriental Institute basement, the next generation of Egyptologists is hard at work. They started the day with a tour of the museum's Egypt collection; now they are recreating one of the items they saw, an inscribed slab, or stela, of the nobles Mn and Riya, on several pieces of butcher paper taped to the floor.

The first order of business, explains OI youth and family programs coordinator **Calgary Haines-Trautman**, AB'17, the wrangler of today's group of nine junior archaeologists and their parents, is to create a grid on the paper, using essentially the same method the Egyptians would have used: covering a

long piece of string in chalk, then snapping it across the paper to create a line.

Eloise, 7, treats this task with the seriousness it warrants. She carefully dips a piece of string in an etched vessel filled with pulverized blue chalk, then looks up at facilitator **Catie Witt**, AM'18. "Is this a *real* Egyptian jar?" she asks. (Though meant to look authentic, it's not; archaeologists will be relieved to know no ancient artifacts at the OI are being repurposed as chalk buckets for elementary schoolers.)

The children have more questions as they transition from grid creation to drawing: What color should this flower be? (Blue.) What food items do they see in the stela? (A pot of mint

tea, a small red onion, ham.) Were there chickens in ancient Egypt? (Unclear. Dad pulls out his phone to investigate.)

The program, titled "One. Big. Egyptian. Mural." is part of the museum's effort to engage the public through kid-friendly offerings, including school tours and learn-while-playing activities. This one is heaven for Eloise, who is in a hot and heavy Egypt phase. Her mom, Melissa, has no idea where the fascination came from but is happy to encourage it.

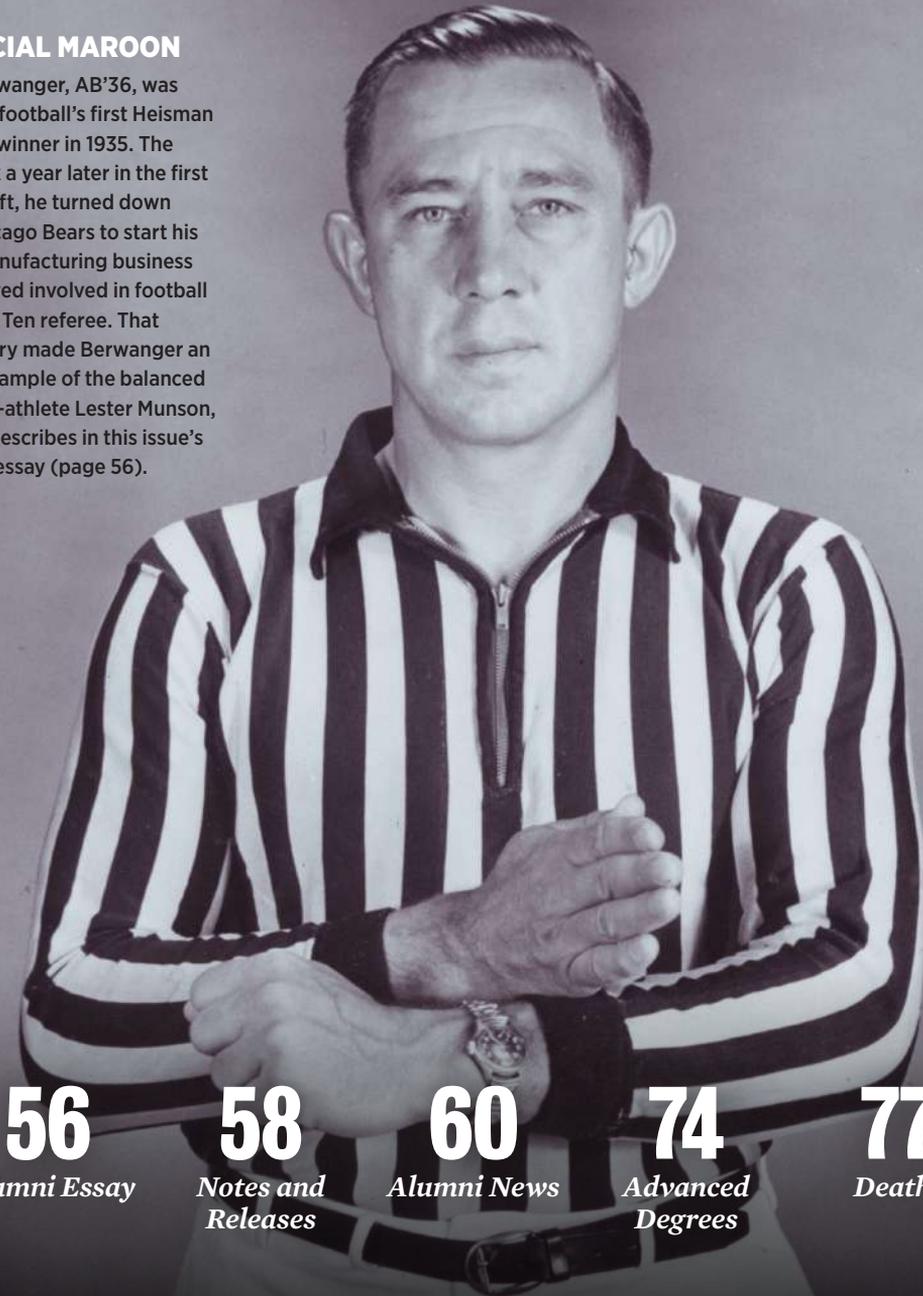
After the event, Witt, a PhD student in Near Eastern languages and civilizations, says she gets why some of the kids are so excited to be here. After all, she's still in her Egypt phase too. ♦

PEER REVIEW

WHAT ALUMNI ARE THINKING AND DOING

OFFICIAL MAROON

Jay Berwanger, AB'36, was college football's first Heisman Trophy winner in 1935. The top pick a year later in the first NFL draft, he turned down the Chicago Bears to start his own manufacturing business but stayed involved in football as a Big Ten referee. That trajectory made Berwanger an early example of the balanced student-athlete Lester Munson, JD'67, describes in this issue's alumni essay (page 56).



56

Alumni Essay

58

*Notes and
Releases*

60

Alumni News

74

*Advanced
Degrees*

77

Deaths

BRAINS BESIDE BRAWN

At the 50th anniversary of football's return to UChicago, a sportswriter reflects on the right way to run a college athletics program.

BY LESTER MUNSON, JD'67

Early in September 1985, our son's first year at the College, my wife, **Judy Munson**, AB'66 (Class of 1963), and I found ourselves traveling downstate to Galesburg, Illinois, on a cold and rainy Saturday. We arrived just in time to watch him and his football teammates finish their warm-ups for a game against Knox College. (The University of Chicago resumed intercollegiate football in 1969 and has grown into a program with 93 young men in uniform last season.)

The field at Knox nestles within grassy slopes. The rain was running down to the field and leaving puddles of water and mud on the playing surface, perfect conditions for the Maroons' star running back, **Bruce Montella**, AB'86, MD'90. While the Knox defenders were sliding and falling in the mud, Bruce pounded through them for big yardage.

I grew up in a family with season tickets to the Chicago Bears. I saw Gale Sayers at Wrigley Field and Walter Payton at Soldier Field. Neither Sayers nor Payton ever achieved what Montella achieved that day. There is no official record of the number of times he carried the ball, but my recollection is that he ran at least 25 times and maybe more. It is official that he ran for a total of 305 yards. That's an incredible 12 or more yards per carry. It was a historic

performance that put Montella in a group of University football greats that includes Jay Berwanger, AB'36, a running back who won the first-ever Heisman Trophy in 1935.

A week after Montella's performance at Knox, we joined other football parents for the lunch hosted by the director of athletics, at the time Mary Jean Mulvaney, before each home game. A crowd was gathered around Montella's parents. "Isn't that nice," I thought. "They're congratulating the Montellas on the awards and recognition Bruce received after the Knox game." These honors included, for instance, *Sports Illustrated* College Player of the Week.

I walked over to offer my own congratulations. To my surprise, the other parents were not talking about the Knox game. They were congratulating the Montellas on Bruce's early admission to the University's Pritzker School of Medicine.

The breathtaking performance on the field and the admission to medi-

It was a historic performance that put Montella in a group of University football greats that includes Jay Berwanger, AB'36.

cal school demonstrate what a college athletics program ought to be. The University's program is part of what is known as Division III in the nomenclature of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the governing body of college sports. Within Division III, there are 443 schools offering intercollegiate competition in 25 sports. The students who compete engage in a pursuit of excellence in academics, teamwork, discipline, perseverance, and leadership.

At the other end of the spectrum is Division I, in which large universities stage massive spectacles for public entertainment. Within Division I, 130 schools play big-time football and 353 schools compete in men's basketball. These two Division I intercollegiate sports have become a major American industry that produces billions of dollars in revenue each year. There is nothing like it in any other culture.

It is increasingly difficult to see any connection between these Division I extravaganzas and the objectives of higher education. The driving force in Division I is money—money in the form of television contracts, corporate sponsorships, ticket revenue, sky-boxes, shoe contracts, sideline apparel contracts, naming rights, and other deals and gimmicks designed to increase revenue.

The income from these two sports has produced salaries for coaches and administrators that can be incom-



Jay Berwanger, AB'36, presents the game ball to Bruce Montella, AB'86, MD'90, at the 1985 homecoming game.

come one of the nation's most successful Division III athletic programs.

The NCAA maintains standings for the 449 schools competing in Division III. The University's success in its 20 sports has put it in the top 20 for the past six years, and it is now ranked ninth among all schools for 2018–19.

For the past 16 years, I have served as the master of ceremonies at the annual induction ceremony for the University of Chicago Athletics Hall of Fame. Each year we award this honor to several highly successful former student-athletes. The achievements of these elite athletes in competition are remarkable, but what they have done after graduation is equally impressive.

Our son, **Lester Munson III**, AB'89, for example, played left tackle for four years on the offensive line. With his political science degree, he went to Washington and worked on Capitol Hill for 25 years, concluding his career as staff director to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He is now a principal in BGR, the lobbying firm founded by Haley Barbour, the former governor of Mississippi and longtime chair of the Republican National Committee.

What is it about competing in Division III sports that puts the student-athletes of the University on a pathway to success? For four years, they practice, they train, and they compete at a demanding level while succeeding in one of the most challenging academic programs anywhere. They show up, they work, they help others on their teams, and they learn leadership. Along the way, they wake up one morning and discover that they have become educated men and women, ready for citizenship in full.

In short, they demonstrate what a college athletics program can and should be. ♦

Journalist Lester Munson, JD'67, has served as a senior editor at ESPN.com and *Sports Illustrated*. He lives in Chicago.

prehensible. Top coaches are paid as much as \$10 million per year. A contract with a manufacturer to wear its apparel in televised games can produce additional hundreds of thousands of dollars each season. There are now at least 20 *assistant* football coaches who are paid more than \$1 million per year, two or three times the salary of their schools' presidents.

In addition to the Brobdingnagian coaches' salaries, the schools are investing huge sums in workout facilities, dormitories, and other amenities for the athletes. The phrase "arms race" is frequently used to describe the rush to build these palaces. Attempting to justify such expenditures, some suggest that the income from Division I sports supports the school's academic efforts. But economists who have studied the budgets of these universities have concluded that only 20 of the schools produce athletics income that could be used elsewhere in the university. The others struggle to break even on athletics; many of them suffer losses and must be subsidized by student fees and other budgetary maneuvers.

The outsized revenues prompt many to ask why some of the money cannot be paid to the athletes who produce the income. It's a good question. The NCAA insists that its athletes must remain "amateurs" to preserve the wholesome image of college sports and to continue to draw the vast TV audiences that these games enjoy.

Players and former players have tried to use American antitrust laws to obtain a share of the money. They have a strong argument. The NCAA is clearly a monopoly (as the only game in town, it's actually a monopsony), and its rules against payment are an obvious restraint of trade. But the players have been rebuffed in two major court decisions.

The US Supreme Court had a chance to address the issue a few years ago. Although the matter involves hundreds of colleges and universities, thousands of athletes, and millions of fans, the court inexplicably declined to accept the issue for consideration.

The student-athletes of our university and all Division III schools do not receive athletic scholarships, although they may be the beneficiaries of grants based on academic merit or need. Their training, practice, and performance are a proportional part of their lives on campus. If there is a conflict between a class and a team practice, the Division III athlete goes to class. That is often not the case for football and basketball players at Division I powerhouse schools.

UChicago athletes go to class, and they graduate. Bruce Montella's big day at Knox College was an indication of what was to come as the University began to attract student-athletes in multiple sports. Under the leadership of director of athletics and recreation **Erin McDermott**, the University has be-

NOTES

A SELECTION OF ALUMNI WHOSE NAMES ARE IN THE NEWS

PIS FOR PRIZE

At the Mystery Writers of America's 73rd Annual Edgar Awards in April, **Sara Paretsky**, AM'69, MBA'77, PhD'77, received the inaugural G. P. Putnam's Sons Sue Grafton Memorial Award. The award recognizes Paretsky's *Shell Game* (William Morrow, 2018) as the year's best novel in a mystery series featuring a female protagonist. Named for the late crime novelist whose best-selling "alphabet series" featured the female detective Kinsey Millhone, the prize honors fiction showing "the hallmarks of Sue's writing and Kinsey's character." Paretsky wrote, "We worked on such similar themes and subjects that Sue liked to say she and I must have been conjoined twins in an earlier life." *Shell Game* is the latest novel in Paretsky's V. I. Warshawski detective series and has the protagonist investigating a stolen-antiquities scheme.

STANLEY LEADS MICHIGAN STATE

In August **Samuel L. Stanley Jr.**, AB'76, became president of Michigan State University. A physician and researcher specializing in infectious diseases, Stanley comes to the school from Stony Brook University, where he had been president since 2009. At Michigan State, his appointment ends a succession of acting and interim presidents in the wake of former MSU physician Larry Nassar's sexual abuse scandal and subsequent criminal convictions. Stanley aims to restore confidence in the institution's stature as a leading research university. His message to incoming students, he told *NPR* in May, is that "Michigan State University is working to develop a culture of safety that's going to be as inclusive and diverse as possible."

A VOICE FOR JUSTICE

Esther E. Franco-Payne, AM'99, executive director of Cabrini Green Legal Aid, received the Jane Addams Social Justice Ally Award in May from the University of Illinois at Chicago's Jane Addams College of Social Work. Franco-Payne's organization is dedicated to serving individuals and families affected by the criminal justice system. Overseeing legal and social



AN OPERA UNFORGOTTEN

Conductor and Bard College president Leon Botstein, AB'67, led the **American Symphony Orchestra** and a nine-member cast in the US premiere of *Julietta*, a 1938 surrealist opera by Czech composer Bohuslav Martinů, at Carnegie Hall in March. **Martinů's dream-like opera centers on a Parisian bookseller named Michel and the coastal town where he searches for a girl whose voice has lingered in his memory for years.** Botstein has been musical director of New York City's American Symphony Orchestra since 1992, earning praise from the *New York Times* as a "tireless champion of overlooked works." Awarded the 2012 UChicago Alumni Medal, he is credited with revitalizing both the ASO and Bard, where he became president in 1975.

support services to help clients pursue full and meaningful lives after an arrest or conviction, Franco-Payne also advocates for policy reform. "My aim is to elevate the voices of those who are not always heard in an effort to ensure that decisions made about their lives and communities are inclusive, equitable, and fair," she told the Illinois Equal Justice Foundation.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPER

In April **Ghian Foreman**, MBA'01, was named chief executive of Chicago's Emerald South Economic Development Collaborative, a nonprofit focused on coordinating development projects in the South Side neighborhoods of Woodlawn, Washington Park, and South Shore. A native of Hyde Park and Kenwood, Foreman previously directed the Greater Southwest Development Corporation, facilitating investment in southwest Chicago communities. As Emerald South's first chief executive, Foreman wants to ensure that economic growth from the planned Obama Presidential Center in Jackson Park benefits local residents.

TWO IN THEIR TWENTIES

Crain's Chicago Business named **Rachel E. Zemke**, JD'16, and Chicago Booth student **Yang Zheng** to this year's "20 in Their 20s," a list of Chicago-area "change-makers" in their professions. Zemke, an attorney at LAF (formerly the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago), represents domestic violence survivors in consumer law cases. In 151 cases since 2016, *Crain's* noted on May 10, Zemke has focused on financial problems survivors experience in overcoming abuse, "protecting \$300,000 for clients facing foreclosure and eliminating nearly \$411,000 in consumer debt."

Zheng has cofounded two biotechnology start-ups, the cancer treatment developer MicroQuin and Oxalo Therapeutics, a 2018 New Venture Challenge winner he launched with UChicago Medicine's **Hatim Hassan** to develop a kidney stone prevention drug. The former real estate investor says he found his "niche" in science ventures at the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation's Collaboratorium.

—Andrew Peart, AM'16, PhD'18

RELEASES

ALUMNI BOOKS, FILMS, AND RECORDINGS

THEY PLAYED THE GAME: MEMORIES FROM 47 MAJOR LEAGUERS

By **Norman L. Macht, PhD'47**; University of Nebraska Press, 2019

Red Schoendienst was “smart, did things that don’t ever show up in the box scores,” as power-hitting Milwaukee Braves first baseman Joe Adcock remembers his 1950s teammate. The same goes for many of the players who figure as storytellers or subjects in this collection of oral histories from baseball historian **Norman L. Macht**. Gathering more than three decades’ worth of interviews, Macht’s collection covers the game from 1912 to 1981 and captures stories the records don’t tell, with Hall of Famers like Ted Williams sharing memories alongside Adcock, Harvey Haddix, and other lesser-known stars.

ART FOR PEOPLE’S SAKE: ARTISTS AND COMMUNITY IN BLACK CHICAGO, 1965–1975

By **Rebecca Zorach, AM'94, PhD'99**; Duke University Press, 2019

Extensively illustrated with artworks, archival photographs, and other documents, this book chronicles the achievements of visual artists associated with the Black Arts Movement in Chicago. Northwestern University art historian **Rebecca Zorach** highlights painter Jeff Donaldson, printmaker Barbara Jones-Hogu, and filmmaker DeWitt Beall, along with such groups as the Organization of Black American Culture (OBAC), the African Commune of Bad Relevant Artists (AFRICOBRA), and Art & Soul, examining their vision of a black community united across class divisions by art.

THE RATIONING: A NOVEL

By **Charles Wheelan, PhD'98**; Norton, 2019

The US government was prepared for an epidemic. Then a biomedical contractor’s cost-saving schemes decimated the national stockpile of Dormigen, a cure-all drug. To avoid rationing the available supply, can the government rely on cooperation among a variety of actors—congressional lawmakers, diplomats,

the National Institutes of Health—for an effective course of action? Set in the near future, this political satire by Dartmouth College public policy senior lecturer **Charles Wheelan** gives control of the narrative to a fictional NIH scientist with a dual PhD in microbiology and public health from the University of Chicago.

1919

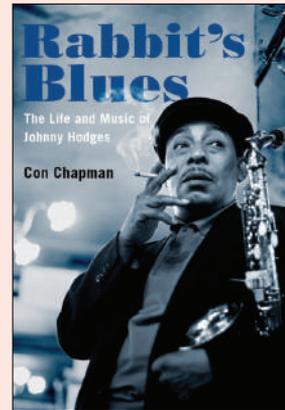
By **Eve L. Ewing, AB'08**; Haymarket Books, 2019

This second full-length poetry collection by **Eve L. Ewing**, assistant professor in the School of Social Service Administration, examines the 1919 Chicago race riot, which began with the killing of a black teenager named Eugene Williams. Inspired by a 1922 state government-commissioned report, Ewing’s poems embrace the idea that understanding the riot means comprehending everyday life for the era’s black Chicagoans. Built to be “what-if machines” and “time-traveling devices,” according to Ewing, the poems shift scale and perspective by shifting among forms—dramatic monologues, biblical adaptations, even a jump-rope rhyme—as they probe the human reality of events before, during, and after the riot. For more about Ewing, see the UChicagoan, page 80.

ENSEMBLE-MADE CHICAGO: A GUIDE TO DEVISED THEATER

By **Chloe Johnston, AB'99**, and **Coya Paz Brownrigg**; Northwestern University Press, 2018

An ensemble-made, or devised, theatrical production can be ephemeral: it starts with a group’s improvised performance, not with a playwright’s script. So when it’s over, is there anything left for readers? Yes, Lake Forest College associate professor of theater **Chloe Johnston** and her coauthor show. Pairing short histories of 15 Chicago-based theater companies with examples of their improvisation exercises, this book documents the origins of Second City, Free Street Theater, and other ensembles (many with UChicago ties) and creates a record of how they perform.



RABBIT’S BLUES: THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF JOHNNY HODGES

By **Con Chapman, AB'73**; Oxford University Press, 2019

“He was the Calvin Coolidge of the jazz world of his day, never saying three words when two would do,” writes novelist, playwright, and humorist **Con Chapman** of saxophonist Johnny Hodges (1907–70). Because of the musician’s reticence, mystery has shrouded much of his life and legacy. Filling gaps and dispelling myths, Chapman’s account is the first full-length biography of the Massachusetts-born sax soloist and Duke Ellington collaborator. Chapman explores the reputation Hodges held as the greatest jazz altoist until Charlie Parker upended swing with bebop.

SPEAKING OF SUMMER: A NOVEL

By **Kalisha Buckhanon, AB'99, AM'07**; Counterpoint Press, 2019

Her twin sister, Summer, disappeared from their Harlem apartment, but Autumn Spencer can’t count on authorities to pursue her missing person claim. Searching on her own, Autumn contacts detectives in their Illinois hometown, trawls for news about killings of Harlem women, and spirals into vexed family memories. Centered on the sister who vanishes and the sister left alone to grapple with the mystery, **Kalisha Buckhanon**’s fourth novel is a literary thriller about women whose suffering is ignored by society.

—*Andrew Peart, AM'16, PhD'18*

For additional alumni releases, use the link to the *Magazine*’s Goodreads bookshelf at mag.uchicago.edu/alumni-books.

ALUMNI NEWS

FROM THE CLASSES, SCHOOLS, AND DIVISIONS

To protect the privacy of our alumni, we have removed the class notes from this section. If you are an alumnus of the University and would like class notes from our archives, please email uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BECOME A DOCTOR

- Intensive, full-time preparation for medical school in one year
- Early acceptance programs at select medical schools—more than any other postbac program
- Supportive, individual academic and premedical advising

VISIT US AT WWW.BRYNMAWR.EDU/POSTBAC

POSTBAC@BRYNMAWR.EDU
610-526-7350



POSTBACCALAUREATE
PREMEDICAL PROGRAM
BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

**ATHENA PHEROMONES™
INCREASE AFFECTION**



Created by
Winnifred Cutler, Ph.D. in biology U. of Penn, post-doc Stanford, behavioral endocrinology. Co-discovered human pheromones in 1986 (*Time* 12/1/86; and *Newsweek* 1/12/87) Author of 8 books on wellness.

PROVEN EFFECTIVE IN 3 DOUBLE-BLIND STUDIES



Unscented Fragrance Additives

Vial of 1/6oz. added to 2-4 oz. of your fragrance, worn daily lasts 4-6 months, or use straight.

Athena 10X™ For Men \$99.50
10:13™ For Women \$98.50
Cosmetics **Free U.S. Shipping**

♥ **Joseph (MI)** “Fabulous product. You did the research! I am married and am with my wife only. Well **within 5 days it was amazing. The affection level went up 20 fold.**”

♥ **Sara, Ph.D. (CO)** “I find it has major positive effects in my contacts with people. **It's like the Red Sea parts!** I don't think it's all my charm! This product is shocking!”

Not in stores 610-827-2200
Athenainstitute.com
Athena Inst. Braefield Rd Chester Spgs, PA 19425 UCM

What's new? We are always eager to receive your news, care of the Alumni News Editor, *The University of Chicago Magazine*, 5235 South Harper Court, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60615, or by email: uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu. No engagements, please. Items may be edited for space. As news is published in the order in which it arrives, it may not appear immediately. We list news from all former undergraduates (including those with UChicago graduate degrees) by the year of their undergraduate affiliation. All former students who received only graduate degrees are listed in the advanced degrees section.

UChicago Photographic Archive, apf2-04057, University of Chicago Library



The hard-earned money tree: In this 1955 photo, students check out bulletins on the “want-ad tree” (by then just a tall tree stump) in front of the former Woodworth’s Bookstore on 57th Street, near what is now 57th Street Books.

UChicago Photographic Archive, apf1-07539, University of Chicago Library



In the flow: Neurosurgeon and self-taught sculptor Emil Seletz, SB’26, poses for a *UChicago Magazine* shoot in his Los Angeles-area studio in 1956. Chief of neurosurgery at what is now Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and later professor of neurological surgery at the University of Southern California School of Medicine, Seletz turned to sculpture, particularly portrait busts of historical figures, to restore himself after stressful surgeries. “I lose myself in it. And the body relaxes, the nerves come back into place and I am myself again,” he told the *Magazine*. A bust he made of Albert Einstein, like the one at left, is held by the Smithsonian Institution’s National Portrait Gallery.

Photography by Lloyd Eldon Saunders, UChicago Photographic Archive, apf4-03830, University of Chicago Library



Calling all Maroons: In 1969, the year this rally took place, the University relaunched football as a varsity sport, giving Maroons a milestone to celebrate on campus this September. For alumni who played a sport in the 1960s or '70s, special festivities are planned for the September 7 home game against Washington University in St. Louis. Come back to Hyde Park for a lunchtime presentation by Jeff Rasley, AB'75; an afternoon address by head football coach Chris Wilkerson; and tributes honoring late athletic director and head football coach Wally Hass. Join parents and fans for pregame tailgating, and stick around for a postgame gathering at Jimmy's Woodlawn Tap. For details, contact assistant athletic director for development Katie Britton at brittonkm@uchicago.edu.

2019
HOMECOMING
uchicago

**WE'VE GOT
CHICAGO.
ALL WE
NEED IS U.**

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 12**

Eighth Annual Block Party
11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Football Game vs. Knox
2 p.m.

**Registration opens
August 20**

Sponsored by
Alumni Association
Athletics and Recreation
Campus and Student Life
College Programming Office



UChicago Photographic Archive, apf1-03466, University of Chicago Library



Took 'em to school: Basketball players Laura Silvieus, AB'78, MBA'83 (left), and Vadis "Vicky" Cothran Mandrell, AB'78 (right), celebrate a victory with head coach Patricia Kirby at the Brown University Invitational in 1976. Silvieus became the team's MVP the following year; in 2003 she was inducted into the University's Athletics Hall of Fame for her achievements in basketball, softball, and volleyball. Mandrell, who died in 2009, also played three varsity sports at UChicago and was one of the all-time leading scorers in basketball.

Photography by Adam Nadel, AB'90, Copyright 2019, The Chicago Maroon. All rights reserved, reprinted with permission.



Analog mode: Lynn Reed-Povlsen, AB'88, chair of Doc Films and a math major in the College, works the projection booth. The country's oldest student-run film society hosted the first Doc Films Festival in May, featuring six films and postfilm Q&As with the directors.



PHOENIX SOCIETY
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



The Phoenix Society honors individuals who make estate commitments or life-income arrangements to support the University of Chicago. Such gifts provide important ways to strengthen and sustain the University's future.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

Office of
Gift Planning

You can become a lifetime member by funding a life-income gift or simply notifying us that you've planned a gift to the University in one of the following ways:

- Included the University in your will or trust
- Named the University as a beneficiary of a retirement plan, life insurance policy, or financial account

As a Phoenix Society member, you will enjoy several exclusive benefits. Here are just a few:

- Complimentary admission to Harper Lectures
- Invitations to exclusive University events, including the annual Phoenix Society luncheon
- Personalized assistance from gift planning professionals

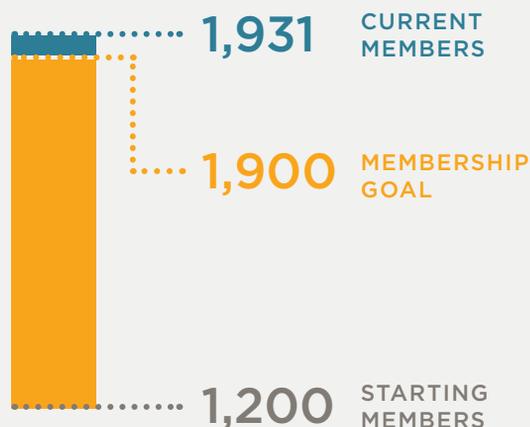
Become a member today.

Visit phoenixsociety.uchicago.edu/join

Email phoenixsociety@uchicago.edu

Call 866.241.9802

Membership goal met!



HONOR ROLL

Phoenix Society members lead the way in supporting the University's students, faculty, programs, and facilities. The names below represent new members welcomed into the society from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019.

All names are listed per member request and also located in the online Leaders in Philanthropy Honor Rolls at give.uchicago.edu/leadersinphilanthropy.

Anonymous (9)
Richard Abram, SB'66, SM'70, and Paul Chandler
Gene H. Albrecht, PhD'76
Kathleen Atlass, AB'70, AM'73
Philip Bayer, AM'77, PhD'84
Deborah Berger, AB'72, and Richard Berger, AB'69, MD'73
Bonnie J. Blackburn, AM'63, PhD'70, and Leofranc A. Holford-Strevens
Renato V. Bosita Jr., MD'96, and Dr. Judith W. Hsu
M. Phyllis Bourque
Elaine Lockshin Boxer, AM'62, and Baruch Boxer, AM'57, PhD'61
Mark Brickell, AB'74, and Anita Jarmin Brickell, AB'75, MBA'76
Katherine Bukolt, AM'03
Gerald Burns, MBA'61, and Mary Ann Burns
Richard K. Caputo, PhD'82
Jennifer H. Caskey, AB'72
Cindy Castaneda, MPP'95
Raymond William Ciacci, AM'84, PhD'90, and Katherine Jane Ciacci
Barton J. Cohen, MBA'73, and Phyllis G. Cohen
Thomas A. Cole, JD'75, and Constance W. Cole
Carolyn Curtis, PhD'74
Marcia Dam and Kenneth Dam, JD'57
Susan Upton Douglass, AB'77, and K. Scott Douglass, MBA'77
Dennis C. Duling, AM'67, PhD'70, and Gretchen A. Duling
Brian A. Dursum
Erika Erich
S. Kent Fannon, MBA'76, and Diane Chace Fannon
Katherine Sophia Fichter, AB'95
Frances Field and Thomas L. Sipusic, AB'68, SM'71
Laura Horstman Fisher, MBA'81, and J. Mark Fisher
Constance Fitzgerald, MBA'81, and Jay Stevelman
Margaret Foorman and James Foorman
Jeffrey Foreman, AB'82, and Kelly Foreman
Norma Fowler, AB'73
Maurice J. Frank, SB'65, and Patricia Grady Frank
Jeffrey Fulton, MBA'77
Denise Chan Gans and Daniel A. Gans
Anne L. Gehring, MLA'13
Norma Gernon, AB'61
Phyllis Joy Gestrin, SB'60, SM'60
David Goldman, MD'62, and Elizabeth Goldman
Constantine Gonatas, SM'85, PhD'90
Isabelle Czarkowski Goossen, MBA'78
David Greenapple, MBA'92, and Donna Greenapple
Susan Elizabeth Grosser, AB'69
Robin Langfan Hammer, AB'77, and Jay Hammer, AB'76
Susan Harper, PhD'88, and Dennis Lynch
Leah Havener, AB'74, and Edward Finn, AB'74
Marcia Hermansen, PhD'82
Eric Heyer, SB'68, and Diana Steele
Doris A. Hightower, JD'84
Lisa E.M. Himonas, AM'87, and Deno Himonas, JD'89
John J. Huggins, AB'80
Barbara Schubeler Jillson
Rebecca Johnston, MBA'95, and Jeffrey Maling, MBA'95
Dorthea Juul, AB'72, PhD'89
Tatsuji Kambayashi and Mami Kambayashi
Bonnie Kaplan, AB'68
Samuel Kaufman
David W. Keer, AM'84, and David J. Martin
Kenneth Alan Kelly, MBA'98
Peter Kolker, JD'66
Elizabeth Kontio and Peter Kontio, JD'73
Alice Kraus and Douglas Kraus, JD'73
Lorrie Kurfman and Daniel Kurfman, AM'82
Richard Lansing and Carleen Kreider
Elise Lennard, AM'73, and Jeffrey Lennard, JD'75
Mary Lindberg
Marylou Lionells Schimel, PhD'67
Harold Thompson Little, MBA'72, and Cassandra A. Little
Adam Mark Lutynski, JD'71, and Joyce Bowden
Robert E. MacRae, AB'53, SM'56, PhD'61, and Sara J. Hollander, AB'54, AM'57
Vincent Marchi, AB'02
Starla Joyce Medaris, AM'76
Philip George Meguire, AB'76, MBA'82, PhD'95
Chauncey J. Mellor, AB'65, AM'67, PhD'72, and Doris Gove
Janis Mendelsohn
Melvin Miles, AM'75
Judith K. Morhar, AB'65
Thomas Mossberg, AB'73, and Colleen McKillip
John Mulhearn, AM'69
Daniel Murray
Harold Nelson, AM'69
Kiersten Neumann
Karen Northup, MBA'95
Kathleen O'Connor and Michael O'Connor Jr.
John O'Keefe, MBA'62, and Patricia O'Keefe
Marjorie Pearson, AB'70, AM'72
Nancy V. Peltzman, AB'75, AM'76, AM'01, and Sam Peltzman, PhD'65
Elizabeth Plocharczyk, AB'02, and Geoffrey Callander, AB'97, AM'99
Helen Lois Poorman, MBA'87
Douglas Wilmot Roblin, AM'78
Salvatore G. Rotella, AM'56, PhD'71, and Pilar Vives Rotella, AM'62, PhD'71
John W. and Jeanne M. Rowe
Ellen Rudnick, MBA'73, and Paul Earle, MBA'66
John Ryder, MBA'67
Charles Schilke, AB'81
Jeffrey Schvimer, AB'79, MBA'86, and Esther Buchbinder
Susan Schwartzwald
Sharon Seidler and Marc Seidler, AB'70, JD'73
Richard Shaker, SB'62, SM'63, PhD'68
Robert Shelton
Steven Shoelson, PhD'84, MD'85
Michael David Sorkin, AB'69
Naomi Stern, AM'70
Johan Stohl, PhD'72, and Donna Stohl
Claude Summers, AM'67, PhD'70, and Dr. Ted Larry Pebworth
Barbara Svoboda and Thomas Svoboda
Roger Thompson, MBA'72
David F. Tillotson, AB'64
Allen Unsworth, AM'63
Steven Untracht, PhD'80, MD'81
James S. Vandermade Jr., MBA'74
Doris Wells, AB'53
Al Wilunowski, MBA'76
Evelyn Jeanbeck Yee, MBA'04, and Nimesh M. Patel, MBA'03

Photography by Andrew Chang, AB'96, Copyright: *The Chicago Maroon*. All rights reserved, reprinted with permission.



Finder's fee: In 1996 Joshua Reisner, AB'99, received a \$500 reward from then University president Hugo Sonnenschein for helping recover the portrait of Sonnenschein's predecessor, Hanna Holborn Gray. The portrait by realist painter Philip Pearlstein had been stolen from Hutchinson Commons. After 60-some days, a never-identified thief left the painting next to a dumpster in a Hyde Park alley, where Reisner chanced upon it. The theft was a prank accompanied by a series of "manifestos" in the *Chicago Maroon* declaring an aesthetic intent: displeasure with the portrait's "garish colors" and "neo-post Raphaelite" style.

Photography by Matthew Gilson, Copyright: *The Chicago Maroon*. All rights reserved, reprinted with permission.



Top minds: In a 1994 graduate seminar, Department of Physics professors Melvyn Shochet (standing) and Henry Frisch (seated, center) explain the intricacies of the heavy and fleeting subatomic particle known as the top quark, observed for the first time the following year at Fermilab.

DEATHS

FACULTY AND STAFF

Clemens C. J. Roothaan, PhD'50, Louis Block Professor Emeritus of Physics and Chemistry, died June 17 in Chicago. He was 100. A physics student in the Netherlands at the outset of World War II, Roothaan was imprisoned by the Nazis because of his brother's work with the Dutch resistance, surviving two concentration camps and a death march. After the war, he received a Guggenheim Fellowship to study quantum physics at UChicago. Having developed what became a foundational model for computing electron orbitals in atoms and molecules (work now known as the Roothaan equations), he taught at UChicago from 1952 until 1988, leading the Computation Center in its early years and devising digital computing methods for quantum physics and other scientific fields. In retirement he helped Hewlett-Packard develop the Intel Itanium processor and served as the company's liaison with the Large Hadron Collider. His wife, Judith C. Roothaan, EX'49, died in 2016. He is survived by two daughters, including **Karen Roothaan**, AB'74; three sons, **John Roothaan**, LAB'72, **Peter Roothaan**, LAB'75, and **Charles Roothaan**, LAB'78; and five grandchildren.

Kenneth J. Northcott, professor emeritus of Germanic studies, died June 4 in Chicago. He was 96. Northcott served in the British Army's Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers during World War II and then worked for the British Intelligence Corps, interrogating suspected war criminals in Germany. A translator, stage actor, and expert in medieval German literature, he began teaching at UChicago in 1958, thrice chairing the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures. He translated fiction and drama by 20th-century Austrian writer Thomas Bernhard, as well as scholarly works on Goethe, Western European urban design, and East German intellectuals. His dramatic performances included roles in a Hull House Theater production of Harold Pinter's *The Dumb Waiter* and numerous Court Theatre productions. He is survived by his wife, **Patricia John**, AB'81, MBA'89; four children, including **Victoria Northcott**, LAB'68, and **Michael Northcott**, LAB'77; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Jay M. Goldberg, SB'56, PhD'60, professor emeritus in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiological Sciences, of Chicago, died June 17. He was 83. A member of the UChicago faculty since 1963 and a pioneer in the field of vestibular neurophysiology, Goldberg codirected an influential 1969 study of the neurons in an animal's hind-brain that enable sound localization. With the late UChicago surgeon César Fernández, he later mapped the pathways in the vestibular system that underlie spatial orientation and movement. A scientific adviser for NASA, Goldberg worked at the agency's

Vestibular Research Facility from 1984 to 1992, writing a strategic plan for biological and medical research related to space exploration. Among other publications, he coauthored the textbook *The Vestibular System: A Sixth Sense* (2012). His wife, Florence Bonnick, an administrator in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiological Sciences, died in 2018. Survivors include two daughters and two sons, **David Goldberg**, LAB'78, and **Aaron T. Goldberg**, LAB'87.

Olaf Schneewind, Louis Block Professor of Microbiology, died of cancer May 26 in Burr Ridge, IL. He was 57. Schneewind joined the UChicago faculty in 2001 and three years later became chair of the new microbiology department, a position he held at his death. An expert on human infectious diseases and the pathogenic bacteria that cause them, he helped discover bacterial sortase enzymes and their role in the development of diseases. Schneewind had since been at work on a vaccine for *Staphylococcus aureus*. Formerly principal investigator of the Great Lakes Regional Center of Excellence for Biodefense, he led the development of UChicago's Howard T. Ricketts Laboratory. A fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and member of the National Academy of Sciences, he is survived by his wife, **Dominique Missiakas**, professor of microbiology; and three daughters, including **Daphne Schneewind**, LAB'16, and **Chloe Schneewind**, LAB'18.

1940s

Eugene R. Mindell, SB'43, MD'45, died February 15 in Amherst, NY. He was 96. A former Veterans Administration physician who focused on bone cancer surgery during his UChicago residency, Mindell was recruited by the University at Buffalo's medical school to found its Department of Orthopaedics, which he chaired from 1964 to 1988. He pioneered limb-sparing surgical procedures for bone cancer patients and received many honors, including a Distinguished Service Award from the UChicago Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association. His wife, June (Abrams) Mindell, EX'45, died in 2010. Survivors include two sons, a sister, three grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

Carolyn Grace Brinkerhoff, AB'45, died November 2 in Frankfort, IL. She was 95. An English major at UChicago, Brinkerhoff dedicated much of her life to raising her family. She is survived by two daughters, a son, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Frederic C. Cimerblatt, EX'45, died December 10 in Pinehurst, NC. He was 93. A US Navy veteran, Cimerblatt spent his career as an investment banker at the firm Paine Webber, which later merged with UBS. He is survived by his wife, Rita.

Zoe Wise Mikva, PhB'47, AM'51, died January 19 in Chicago. She was 90. An educator and

activist, Mikva taught elementary school in Washington, DC, and Evanston, IL, before serving as a special assistant at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. She later led fundraising for the Advocacy Institute and directed education projects for the Chicago-based law and policy center Business and Professional People for the Public Interest. In 1997, with her husband, former DC Circuit chief judge and then Law School faculty member Abner J. Mikva, JD'51, she launched the youth civic leadership initiative the Mikva Challenge. Her husband died in 2016. She is survived by three daughters and seven grandchildren.

Ruth Johnstone Wales, AB'47, died December 2 in Belmont, MA. She was 90. An editor with a master's in education, Wales worked at the *Christian Science Monitor* before teaching elementary school at Hanscom Air Force Base in Middlesex County. Rejoining the *Monitor*, she became editor of the front page and later of the international edition. She is survived by three daughters, a son, and six grandchildren.

Mason C. Cox, PhB'48, SB'48, of Largo, FL, died February 1. He was 91. With a PhD in nuclear physics, Cox did research in fiber-optic and laser technology for several manufacturers, including American Optical Corporation; contributed to US government safety standards for color television, microwave ovens, and medical X-ray systems; and helped develop the sensor system for a NASA booster rocket. His expertise in radiology also led to work as a health physicist in Florida. He is survived by his wife, Isabella; three daughters; a son; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Harris L. Wofford Jr., AB'48, died January 21 in Washington, DC. He was 92. A former legal counsel for the US Civil Rights Commission who joined President John F. Kennedy's staff as a civil rights assistant, Wofford helped found the Peace Corps and served as its representative in Africa. After advising Martin Luther King Jr. during the Selma March, he became president of the State University of New York College at Old Westbury and then of Bryn Mawr College, later serving as Pennsylvania's secretary of labor and industry. As a US senator from that state from 1991 to 1994, he crafted the National and Community Service Trust Act, which founded AmeriCorps and other initiatives under a federal agency he led until 2001. He is survived by his husband, Matthew Charlton; a daughter; two sons; a sister; a brother; and six grandchildren.

James E. Furlich, PhB'49, AM'52, died April 1 in Charlottesville, VA. He was 91. Furlich served in the US Army between earning his UChicago degrees in European history. A gifted linguist, he worked in the US Department of State and did tours throughout Southeast Asia. After retiring in 1987, he took up federal government contract work for a decade. He is survived by his wife, Betty; a daughter; two sons; and seven grandchildren.

Kurt Lang, AB'49, AM'52, PhD'53, died May 1 in Cambridge, MA. He was 95. Lang fled Nazi Germany at age 12, served in the US Army during World War II, and then worked on the US military's denazification efforts in Germany. At UChicago he married fellow sociology graduate student Gladys Engel Lang, PhD'54, with whom he pioneered the exit poll in the 1950s. The couple's MacArthur Day study, published in their book *Politics and Television* (1968), is regarded as a classic about the medium and its influence on perceptions of public events. In 1984 Lang's teaching career took him to the University of Washington, where he directed the school of communication and retired in 1993. His wife died in 2016. He is survived by a daughter, **Glenna Lang**, AB'72; a son; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

1950s

Ruth L. (Stevenson) Leder, AB'50, died February 1 in Leeds, MA. She was 95. Trained as a nurse in Detroit before earning her bachelor's at UChicago, Leder went on to work at the former Saint Joseph Hospital in Flint, MI, until her retirement. Her husband, Cyril M. Leder, AB'50, AM'53, died in 2009. She is survived by a grandson.

Oscar K. Reiss, SB'50, PhD'54, died March 21 in Denver. He was 97. A Jewish refugee who fled Nazi Germany and served in the US Army during World War II, Reiss worked in the dairy industry before training as a biochemist at UChicago under the GI Bill and pursuing medical research. At the University of Colorado Medical School's Webb-Waring Lung Institute (now the Webb-Waring Center), he headed the biochemistry division and led early research on emphysema and smoking. In retirement he helped develop the PSA test for prostate cancer. He is survived by his wife, Diane; three daughters; and two grandchildren.

Richard G. Thompson, SM'54, MD'54, died February 4 in Colorado Springs, CO. He was 91. After serving as a US Army surgeon in Okinawa and helping develop new cardiovascular surgery techniques in Chicago and Pittsburgh, Thompson established a practice in Colorado Springs. He performed surgeries at area hospitals for 25 years, then earned a JD and worked for several insurance companies in Boise, ID, and Albuquerque, NM. Survivors include his wife, Lee Ann Hammond; a daughter; and two sons.

Victor I. Carlson, AB'55, AM'59, of Chicago, died November 25. He was 84. An art historian and curator, Carlson specialized in prints and drawings by 18th- and 19th-century French artists, working first at the Baltimore Museum of Art and then at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. His major exhibitions included *Matisse as a Draughtsman* (1971); *Regency to Empire: French Printmaking, 1715-1814* (1984); and *Visions of Antiquity: Neoclassical Figure Drawings* (1993). He is survived by a sister and a brother.

Caroline (Swenson) Paton, AB'56, of Sharon, CT, died March 18. She was 86. A folklorist

and folk singer, Paton cofounded Folk-Legacy Records in 1961, collaborating with her late husband, Sandy, and a business partner to release more than 100 albums by folk musicians including Frank Proffitt and Hobart Smith before the Smithsonian Institution acquired the label last year. Her contributions to folk music also involved arranging performances and appearing at major US folk festivals, developing music education programs, and making albums as a recording artist with her husband. She is survived by two sons, two brothers, a sister, five grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

Hague D. Foster, AB'57, PhD'66, of San Leandro, CA, died May 22. He was 83. Foster taught philosophy at California State University, Fresno, from 1966 until retiring in 1998. Trained in the philosophy of science, he later did research in social and political philosophy. He is survived by his wife, **Lorraine "Lorri" (Katz) Foster**, AB'57; three daughters; a son; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Demetrios G. Tsoulos, SB'58, MD'62, died March 16 in Savannah, GA. He was 81. Tsoulos retired as a colonel after 30 years as a surgeon in the US Army Special Forces, including two tours of duty in Vietnam and participation in the Desert Shield and Desert Storm phases of the Gulf War. In retirement he worked as an emergency room doctor in Georgia and Alabama. Survivors include his wife, Lawanna; a daughter; two sons; a brother; and two grandchildren.

Eve Leoff, AB'59, died in August 2018 in San Diego. She was 80. Leoff earned her doctorate at Columbia University, graduating during the 1968 student uprising. Her book *A Study of John Keats's "Isabella"* (1972) was based on her dissertation. She taught English at Hunter College, developing its creative writing program and helping create its women's studies curriculum before retiring in 2005. She is survived by her husband, Greg Wassil, and a sister.

1960s

Mary A. Endres, AM'61, of Colorado Springs, CO, died January 30. She was 84. Endres led a career as a writer, editor, and educator. With a master's in English, she taught at Zion-Benton Township High School in Zion, IL. She is survived by her lifelong friend Janice Burton and a brother.

Jack A. Lees, SM'63, PhD'67, died April 23 in Chapel Hill, NC. He was 77. An expert in topology, Lees taught mathematics at universities in Denmark, the United Kingdom, and the United States, becoming the namesake for Lees's immersion theorem on topological manifolds. In 1979 he began working in the petroleum industry, developing software and analytical tools for underground energy exploration. He later cofounded a company to design 3-D data visualization and geologic modeling technology. He is survived by his wife, Emily Jo, and two daughters.

Theresa Miller, AB'63, died February 26 in Sandy Spring, MD. The daughter of Byron S. Miller, AB'35, JD'37, and Jeanette Rifas

Miller, AB'36, JD'37, she was a biology major at UChicago, later earning her JD from the John Marshall School of Law. She is survived by a daughter, a son, two sisters, and four grandchildren.

William B. Shew, AB'63, AM'66, died February 3 in Washington, DC. He was 76. An economic consultant who wrote about market regulation, telecommunications, and media, Shew taught at the University of London before serving as a vice president at National Economic Research Associates. After directing economic studies at the accounting firm Arthur Andersen in Washington, DC, Shew ran a consultancy affiliated with the Hudson Institute. He is survived by his wife, Leslie Wheelock, and a daughter.

Frances L. Moser, SB'65, SM'67, PhD'77, of Burbank, CA, died March 29. She was 75. A medical physicist, Moser worked in radiology and radiation therapy and taught science and mathematics. She is survived by a sister and a brother.

1970s

Susan Z. Diamond, AB'70, died of esophageal cancer on April 25 in Bensenville, IL. She was 69. As president of her own consulting firm, Diamond taught seminars on finance for the nonfinancial managers of organizations. Her clients included Deere & Company and Archer Daniels Midland. Devoted to community service, she led the Bensenville Community Library's board of trustees. She also held investiture in two Sherlockian literary societies, the Baker Street Irregulars and the Adventurers of Sherlock Holmes. She is survived by her husband, **Allan Trace Devitt**, EX'60.

1980s

David S. Kuhl, MBA'88, died of lung cancer February 12 in New York City. He was 58. Kuhl worked at what is now PricewaterhouseCoopers in Los Angeles before earning his MBA and beginning a career in the petroleum industry, eventually serving as finance leader at Esso Benelux in the Netherlands. His work in finance later brought him into senior roles at such organizations as the technology company Diebold Nixdorf. He is survived by his wife, **Diane Nelson Kuhl**, MBA'88; two daughters; and his mother.

1990s

Dragica "Drew" Balac, AB'92, of Chicago, died April 1. She was 49. A trial lawyer for 20 years, Balac was a founder of the medical malpractice defense firm the Balac Group. She is survived by a brother and her mother. **Rosalyn "Roz" M. Kriener**, CER'99, CER'01, of Chicago, died December 31, 2017. She was 68. A director of programming at the National Association of Realtors, where she worked for more than 25 years, Kriener helped create and manage programs for the association's annual conferences, midyear legislative meetings, and trade expos. She is survived by three sisters, six brothers, and her mother.

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES

Delahoyde Projects is a full-service production company but one that's immediately scalable to fit any size project and budget. Have a quick idea that needs to be pulled off in a week? Have a massive commercial you need a cast of dozens for, and an equally big crew? From epic spots to corporate industrials and testimonials, short-form comedy films to complex motion graphics, we've done it all, on time every time and always on budget. See thehojde.com.

Chicago improv workshops: Build confidence, improve communication, and foster teamwork using the tools of improv comedy. We'll design a custom workshop to suit your group's needs and goals. Past clients include UChicago's Center for Latin American Studies and Divinity School. Led by veteran improvisers Scott and Mark Piebenga. scottpiebenga@gmail.com.

RENTALS

Hillcrest Guest House, St. John, US Virgin Islands. www.HillcrestStJohn.com. 340.998.8388.

WANTED

Donate to the University Archives: The Special Collections Research Center is looking to archive your memories and mementos from your years at the University of Chicago. Posters, broadsides, buttons, and ephemera from events, programs, protests, and demonstrations. Lecture notes from your favorite class. Photographs—print and digital—of campus activities. T-shirts and costumes from houses, parties, or fundraisers. Contact the archivists at universityarchives@lib.uchicago.edu.

What's on the bookshelf at Goodreads? Find great books written by fellow alumni and submit your own. Browse the collection and send us your book information at mag.uchicago.edu/alumni-books.

Help a student become WISR. A short conversation with a knowledgeable alum can change a UChicago student's life forever. The Alumni Association matches you with students and facilitates conversations, and you provide valuable advice. Join the network: uchicago.wisr.io.

Have photos from your UChicago days? The *Magazine* may be able to share them in Alumni News. Send high-resolution scans and your memories of what the pictures are about. Email: uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu.

Your world —under a microscope.

μChicago—a science newsletter taking a focused look at UChicago's field-shaping research.

Subscribe at alumni.uchicago.edu/sci.

μChicago

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

The Seminary Co-op Bookstores

The Seminary Co-op Bookstore
Over 70k scholarly titles
773.752.4381

57th Street Books
Kids', genre, general & beyond
773.684.1300

Open Stacks Podcast
Tune in anywhere podcasts are found

SEMINARY CO-OP BOOKSTORES

Since 1961 / Chicago, IL
Read with us wherever you are
semcoop.com

Hyde Park Cats

CATS TO ADOPT, FOSTER, SUPPORT, AND LOVE
... right here in the neighborhood.

Join our mission for a humane Chicago, where every cat is a wanted cat.

hydeparkcats.org
A registered 501(c)(3) organization.

Chicago Classifieds Reach 155,000 Readers

AD RATES \$3 per word, 10-word minimum.

DISCOUNTS 5% for advertising in 3–5 issues and 15% for 6 or more issues.

DEADLINES October 1 for the Fall/19 issue. To learn more, visit mag.uchicago.edu/advertising.

ADVERTISING CATEGORIES (Check one.)

For Sale Professional Services Events
 Real Estate Personals Travel
 Rental Wanted Other

Name _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER

Visa Mastercard Discover

Account # _____ Exp. Date _____

Check (Payable to *University of Chicago Magazine*.)

Submit form, typed classified advertisement, and payment via email to uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu, or by fax to 773.702.8836, or by mail to The University of Chicago Magazine, 5235 South Harper Court, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60615.

THE UCHICAGOAN

Eve L. Ewing

AB'08

Questions for the author, College alumna, and SSA assistant professor.

What surprising job have you had in the past?

When I was younger, I worked at the legendary ice cream parlor Margie's Candies, up on Armitage and Western near where I grew up. I also worked at a call center for a while. I was really good at politely reading a script to people over the phone.

What's your least useful talent?

I do a really good imitation of Lumpy Space Princess from *Adventure Time* as well as a pretty good Princess Peach.

What advice would you give to a brand-new Maroon?

Chicago has 77 neighborhoods. Pick one, look up a restaurant or bookstore to check out, and go there without using a ride-share.

What book—or other work or idea—do you relish teaching?

I absolutely love teaching about Frederick Douglass. Any class I teach about education begins with the excerpt from his autobiography where he talks about learning to read and write while enslaved. I think it's an important way to begin a conversation about what education represents for people.

What book changed your life?

Blacks, the collection of Gwendolyn Brooks's poems.



TO READ THE FULL Q&A, VISIT
MAG.UCHICAGO.EDU/UCHICAGOAN.



Illustration by Lucie Rice



“We began the trip as relative strangers with a UChicago commonality and ended the trip with many new friendships.”

— Ann and Mark Casella, Parents Class of 2021, Southern Africa Odyssey 2019

Why Travel with UChicago?

Intellectually stimulating and uniquely UChicago lectures from **expert faculty**

The chance to form new friendships and rekindle old connections with **fellow alumni and friends**

Unique local knowledge and logistical peace of mind from **skilled tour directors**

Winter

JAN. 28–FEB. 7 
Tahiti and French Polynesia Under Sail
 (featuring Jill Mateo)

JAN. 31–FEB. 13  
Discover Egypt and the Nile Valley
 (featuring Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer, AM'06, PhD'16)

FEB. 4–15 
Astounding Antarctica (featuring Stephen Pruettt-Jones)

FEB. 19–27 
Passage through the Panamá Canal and Costa Rica

MAR. 13–21
Captivating Colombia

Spring

APR. 17–27
Vietnam: A Tapestry of Beauty, History, and Traditions

APR. 17–30 
Crossroads of Culture: Canary Islands, Morocco, and Iberia

MAY 12–22 
Exploring Iceland

MAY 14–22
Flavors of Chianti

MAY 15–28 
The Canadian Maritimes
 (featuring Stephen Pruettt-Jones)

Summer

JUNE 6–11 
Apulia—Undiscovered Italy

JULY 30–AUG. 7 
Majestic Slovenia

JULY 31–AUG. 7 
Discover Southeast Alaska
 (featuring Victor Friedman, LAB'66, AM'71, PhD'75)

SEPT. 3–11 
Village Life: Dordogne

SEPT. 6–16  
Nordic Magnificence

Fall

SEPT. 30–OCT. 13  
Classic China and the Yangtze

OCT. 11–20 
Swiss Alps and the Italian Lakes

OCT. 13–27 
Legendary Turkey

OCT. 15–25 
Adriatic Awakening

OCT. 22–NOV. 2 
Egypt: Treasures of Antiquity

DEC. 6–17 
Chile: Total Solar Eclipse

For More Information
alumni.uchicago.edu/travel
alumnitravel@uchicago.edu
 773.702.2150

 indicates exclusive UChicago departures.  indicates a cruise.

Trip dates and destinations are subject to change. Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information, but please note that some of our 2020 offerings are not yet available online at the time of printing.

JOHN C. HEATON

Faculty Codirector of Private Wealth
Management, Joseph L. Gidwitz
Professor of Finance



GAIN THE FRAMEWORKS TO PROTECT AND GROW YOUR WEALTH

There are many roads to growing and protecting business and financial capital while reinforcing personal values that support a flourishing family. In the Chicago Booth Private Wealth Management program for high-net-worth individuals and families, you can explore the options and then decide which ones are right for you and your family.

PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Exclusively for High-Net-Worth
Individuals and Families

**Gleacher Center, Chicago
October 14–18, 2019**

For more information, visit
ChicagoBooth.edu/PWM
or call 312.464.8732 to
submit an application.

CHICAGO BOOTH 

Executive Education

CHICAGO LONDON HONG KONG