

# THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE



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# THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE

NOV–DEC 2013  
VOLUME 106, NUMBER 2



Historian **Jeremy Bangs, X'67**, illuminates an earlier chapter of the Pilgrims' flight from religious persecution. See "Going Dutch," page 42. Illustration by Dan Craig.

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# Homecoming 2013



Fun was alive and well at a block party on 56th Street that led into this year's homecoming game. A 26-7 win over Macalester sent the crowd away happy.





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# Top drawer

BY MARY RUTH YOE

**F**elicia Antonelli Holton, AB'50, who died this October at the age of 91 (Deaths, page 78), was the editor of the *Magazine* not once but twice. Her first two-year perch atop the masthead began in the summer of 1955. Two summers later, the *University of Chicago Magazine* was named the nation's best alumni publication—an award now known as the Robert Sibley Magazine of the Year.

Felicia returned to the *Magazine* in 1980, hired to reinvigorate the publication, and reinvigorate it she did. She and her staff—including, in the early days, associate editor **James Graff**, AB'81, now executive editor at the *Week*, and secretary-bookkeeper **Margaret Mitchell**, then AM'82, now AM'82, PhD'89, and dean of the Divinity School (“Chapter and Verse,” page 34)—were soon producing award-winning issues filled with articles from a profile of investigative journalist **Seymour Hersh**, AB'58, to “Pursuing the Peptide Connection,” explaining groundbreaking work in diabetes research.

In July 1983 at a symposium at the University of California, Berkeley, where Sibley had once been editor, Felicia was the terror of the first question-and-answer session, asking the speaker one hard question after another. “No wonder,” the editor beside me explained, “she’s from the University of Chicago.”

Felicia was interested in big issues and big questions, but she was also fun. Nowhere was her sense of fun more apparent than in her annual fundraising letters on the *Magazine*'s behalf.

“You all like to write,” she told alumni in 1981. “We’d like to ask that



you write your name on a check...”

Not enough funds in your coffers to endow a faculty chair? In 1983 Felicia had a deal for you: make a “generic” gift of \$10, and “an issue, a page, a paragraph, a word, or a comma” would be yours. Readers sent their gifts—and requests for exclamation points, semicolons, and more.

**Edgar W. Mills Jr.**, PhB'47, DB'53, had a special request: “my very own folder in your correspondence file. ... Of course, it would also be OK to name the file drawer for me—or even the entire filing cabinet. The Edgar W. Mills, Jr., Top Drawer has a certain elegance, don’t you think?”

Felicia did. He got the top drawer. A photograph of the drawer and Felicia smiling beside it is tacked to my office bulletin board—my equivalent of a W.W.F.D. bracelet, a question I’ve lived by since following Felicia as editor in 1989. When the *Magazine* moves back to Hyde Park in December—to the new University building that is part of the revitalization of 53rd Street—you can be sure that the photograph will be going too. ♦

# LETTERS

## Time capsule

I was pleased to see your story on the Linn House wall writing (“The Writing Is on the (Linn House) Wall,” Web Exclusive, August 23, 2013). Fun fact: My parents, Rafi (PhD’89) and Eti Kopan, the resident heads at the time, also made

## I guess the wall made a mark on me as I made a mark on it.

own adventure. I was in Shorey House, though (RIP Pierce). My parents were thrilled they got to visit me at the school they loved, and our first family weekend we managed to talk our way into Linn House to see the wall. Smiles all around. They enjoyed the piece as well.

*Tal Kopan, AB’09*  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

## Music man

Thank you for the portrait of Easley Blackwood (“Set on Notes,” UChicago Journal, Sept–Oct/13). It reminded me of the course I took from him 40 years ago, Introduction to Music 102. Little remains in my mind of the course’s content except its endur-



**Composer Easley Blackwood.**

ing legacy: an acquaintance with the Beethoven piano sonatas through intensive study of one of them. After that course, my favorite study break was to queue up the Paul Badura-Skoda recording of the Waldstein Sonata in the recordings collection on the third floor of Regenstein (no iPods in those days) and listen to it at full volume.

All of the sonatas are still on my playlists today—they never fail to deliver, and I am grateful that I had the patient and skillful introduction to them that has provided so much enrichment over all these years.

*Orin Hargraves, AB’77*  
NIWOT, COLORADO

I was glad to see a story about Easley Blackwood in the pages of your latest edition. Easley was a mentor to me during my time at the U of C (and thereafter). The line about his unpublishably filthy palindrome rang specifically true. There was a reference in the article to a sonatina by Mr. Blackwood for piccolo, clarinet, and piano. No such work exists in his catalog, but he did write a sonatina (a short sonata) for piccolo clarinet and piano. What’s a piccolo clarinet? “Piccolo” is Italian for “small”; the instrument we commonly refer to as the piccolo is really the “piccolo flauto,” or small flute. There’s also a piccolo clarinet. It’s pitched in E-flat.

Easley is quoted in this article as saying that he doesn’t believe all his pieces are masterpieces. Well, this particular sonatina is—a small masterpiece for a small instrument.

*William White, AB’05*  
CINCINNATI

## Grain of salt

Frankly, I disbelieve the religious results reported in “Growing Numbers” (Sept–Oct/13). I think there is still a huge stigma to atheism, so people will say they believe in God, but they have no religious affiliation at all, not even Unitarian. I think people disaffiliate because they are in fact atheistic humanists, but they won’t admit it, so they say they are “spiritual.” It is disingenuous.

*Jason Gettinger*  
NEW YORK CITY

## Games and violence

I read your magazine with interest as the wife of an alumnus and as someone who was admitted to the Divinity School. Although I chose to earn my PhD at a different institution, I retain admiration for the U of C. I was therefore appalled by your utterly one-sided article profiling Alex Seropian, SB’91, developer of violent video games and claimant to the dubious title inventor of the first-person shooter (“Big Game Hunter,” UChicago Journal, Sept–Oct/13). Since when is his biased and casually stated testimonial that violent video games are unlikely to lead to violent behaviors enough evidence for the intelligent mind? In an era in which seemingly increasing gun violence occurs concomitantly with the rise of violent video games, and in a year when the Centers for Disease Control has deemed it necessary to ask the Institute of Medicine to conduct further research on the possible causative relationship between violent video games and violent behavior, I’m deeply disappointed that you didn’t insert even two or three sentences to give a nod to those professionals, parents, and concerned citizens who believe sociopathic video games likely contribute to sociopathic behavior. Can’t you set a higher standard of indicating that there are at least two sides to this complex and troubling issue?

*Chara Armon*  
WALLINGFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

### A question of values

I was pleased, as I always am, to receive the latest issue of the *Magazine*, but my pleasure turned to delight when I saw the full-page advertisement on the back cover for the Maserati Quattroporte. Years ago I stopped interviewing prospective students for the University because of growing doubt that I could, in the brief span of an interview, identify the qualities in the students that the University wanted. Having seen the ad for the Maserati, doubt has fled.

What the University wants is not some hard-to-pin-down interest in or commitment to learning, but a passion for wanting the most that money can buy. What better way to represent the University's values than for students and their families to know that their education aims at owning a car that is rarely seen in Chicago, tips the scales at \$150,000, and barely gets 13 mpg. To know that you might own a car that you can drive 191 mph in the University's neighborhood will surely be a boon for student recruitment. And if the Maserati seems out of reach, then the University will be happy if you have to settle for a Porsche Panamera, also advertised in the *Magazine*, which is a mere \$90,000 or so.

*Jonathan Knight, U-High '59, AB '63*  
WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND

### Crisis culprits to the east ...

I can hardly imagine the experience of being shamed by my neighborhood barista for donning a U of C T-shirt in public (Letters, Sept–Oct/13). Imagine not knowing what exactly might be going into that morning half-fat soy latte venti with free-range, rose-scented syrup.

Post Lehman, I too reflected on my time at the University of Chicago—the horror! Were we really responsible for what could be described as the biggest financial calamity in history? Paging Paul Krugman!

Addled over the eons by my “study time” at Jimmy’s and the Eagle, I decided to take a simplistic approach to analyzing this claim. I figured that if the U of C “freshwater” school of economics were culpable, we would find many of its alumni in positions of power at the heart of the crisis.

So I compiled a list of culprits. I split it up between those in private industry

and those in the public (mostly regulatory) domain. While not exhaustive, I did get 50+ quality names. I then researched (today known as “Googled” or “wikied”) their respective academic backgrounds.

Alas, Shaggy the barista would be dismayed. For the inconvenient truth was that U of C alumni accounted for a whopping three folks out of said field. And that is with my throwing a professor emeritus who gave me a C under the bus. Noteworthy, however, was the number of graduates from institutions located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Oh, and one more thing. Every fall there’s a big lovefest in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where all the folks on this list get together to tell each other how brilliant they are. In 2005, it was exceptionally obnoxious, as it was the last time Sir Alan Greenspan would attend as Fed chairman. While just about everyone presenting there seemed to be competing for “Most Obsequious ’05,” there was one paper that delivered a scathing review of misguided Fed policy, lax regulatory oversight, and the inevitably resultant irresponsible lending practices. The author then went on to forecast a crisis based on these trends. Said heretic was none other than Booth professor Raghuram Rajan. Ironic, isn’t it?

Now Shaggy might be right. I guess that means I’d have to retire my “Ho-Ho, the University of Chicago is funnier than you think” T-shirt. But if I had to guess, I’d say that when the committee to save the world (mostly comprising those who caused it) convened in crisis in the fall of ’08, the only group *not* there were the U of Cers.

*Frank Goebels, MBA '79*  
CORONADO, CALIFORNIA

### ... and to the southeast

I read with bemusement the letter from Jeff Deeney, AB '97, who described earning a barista’s disdain by wearing his UChicago sweatshirt and the embarrassment he now feels when people discover that he went to the University. In addition, he’d like UChicago to own up to its “role in ... advancing the economic policies that destroyed trillions of dollars in wealth during the financial crisis and created epic human misery.”

Jeff makes a pretty large conflation: Chicago school of economics = free markets = financial crisis = human misery. It’s a big leap from taking the view that free markets tend to work better than other alternatives (the Chicago school view) to giving unqualified support to the policies behind the financial crisis. The crisis had many causes, but the majority came from unfettered government intervention over decades in some of the biggest markets in the world: the US housing and related mortgage markets. If anything, the Chicago school taught that governments should stay out of the game of trying to direct capital.

But didn’t Wall Street create the financial crisis? Wall Street did create a range of structured mortgage products that were misunderstood by their buyers and even their creators. These certainly exacerbated the crisis. But were they the cause? No. These products needed building blocks to make them work, just as a well-designed bridge needs quality steel and concrete to keep it from falling apart. Where did these inferior structural supports come from? Departments of public policy within the federal government.

Acts like the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977, the Commu-

## BLAST FROM THE PAST

**Congratulations on setting up an electronic mail (e-mail) address. I’m certain that the vast majority of future alumni—that is, current students—already use e-mail; the rest of us won’t be too far behind. Alumni and other readers with World Wide Web capability might also like to know that the University maintains a World Wide Web (WWW) server at “<http://www.uchicago.edu>.” The day of having the *Magazine* totally on-line might not be that far off, after all.**

**—Barry D. Bayer, AB '64, December 1994**



# LETTERS

nity Development Act of 1992, and the Clinton administration's efforts in 1999 were all designed to allow/force FNMA and FHLMC (Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac) to accept lower and lower credits for their guaranteed mortgage pools (particularly Alt-A and subprime). These pools were the building blocks for tranching mortgage product, the building blocks that caused the vast majority of the problems. Without these pools of lower-quality (and essentially government-guaranteed) mortgages, there would have been no ABS<sup>2</sup> market, no super-senior paper that was really closer to junk, no run-up of home prices, and no inevitable crash.

The end goals were, of course, noble: affordable housing for everyone and a higher percentage of home ownership across our population. Yet

as the US government forced institutions to make loans to less credible buyers and as Fannie and Freddie followed the mandate from Congress to guarantee lower and lower quality loans, the conditions were set for a huge bubble and eventual disaster.

One only has to watch Barney Frank and his congressional subcommittee turn down the "advice" (regulators don't give advice, they give instructions!) from the Federal Housing Finance Agency (Fannie's and Freddie's regulator and eventual conservator) and vilify FHFA in congressional hearings (search for "Barney Frank 2005" on YouTube) to understand that Congress had no idea what it was doing. This was like a kid playing with a stick of dynamite. When Frank said he'd like to "roll the dice on subprime a little longer," he meant that he'd like to roll the taxpayers' dice.

Wall Street absolutely had a role in the size and length of the crisis, but it was the US government's various policies that drove home ownership rates

and home prices to an unsustainable level and sowed the seeds of destruction in 2008–09. None of this would have been possible without the all too visible hand of public policy and the guarantee by Freddie and Fannie (and thus, by proxy, the US government) of all those Alt-A and subprime mortgages. This in fact demonstrates what all those economics Nobelists were saying about unintended consequences and market distortions.

*Peter Hirsch, AB'82, MBA'85*  
PORT WASHINGTON, NEW YORK

*Carl Stocking, AB'82, MBA'83*

SINGAPORE

*Gregg Sodini, AB'82*

MANALAPAN, NEW JERSEY

## Whence Hutchins?

As a 1949 AB grad (no ceremony until June 1950), my years at the University were exciting and intellectually satisfying, and I am forever grateful as there I met Ruth J. Black, AB'50, now married 63 years.

I wrote to Dean Boyer of my sad-

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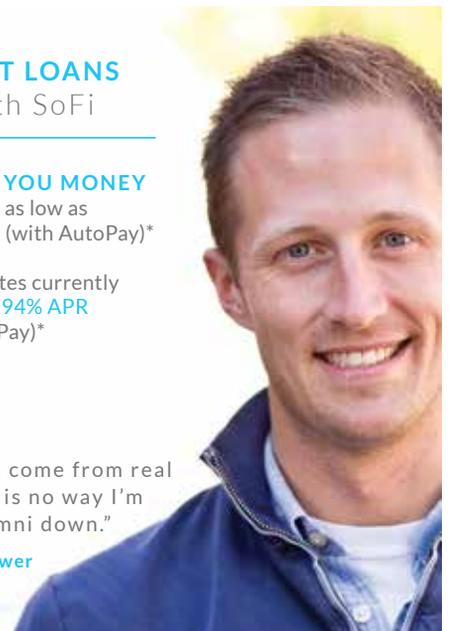
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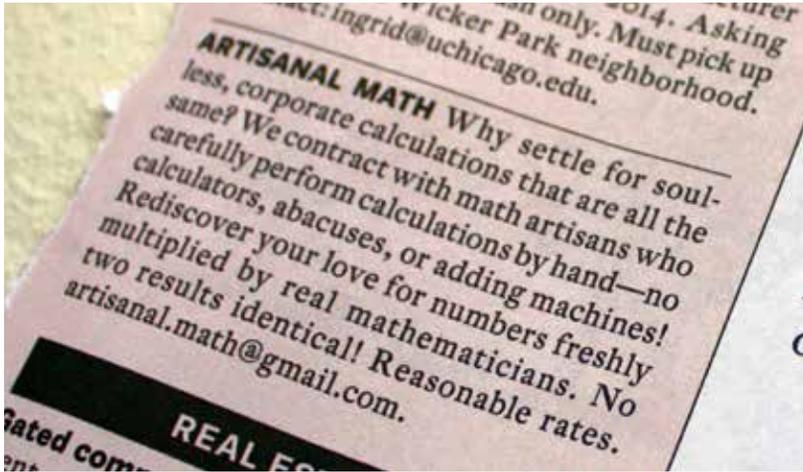
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**A classified ad offered lovingly crafted, snowflake-like calculations.**

ness in reading his 210-page book heralding three presidents for fundamental change in the College while ignoring the 22-year reign of President Robert Maynard Hutchins except in criticism (“A Hell of a Job Getting

*It Squared Around*”: Three Presidents in Times of Fundamental Change: Ernest D. Burton, Lawrence A. Kimpton, and Edward H. Levi. Occasional Papers on Higher Education Volume XXII. October 30, 2012. Available at

college.uchicago.edu/about-college/college-publications).

His book reminded me of a scene in Arthur Koestler’s *Darkness at Noon* where a leader of the Russian Revolution was purged by Stalin, leaving only the outline on the office wall where his honored photo had hung many years.

It seems an odd way to start an appeal for \$500 million.

*George J. Fulkerson, AB’50*  
NOVI, MICHIGAN

**Math by hand**

I saw your ad in the *University of Chicago Magazine* and would like to apply for a job (Chicago Classifieds, Sept–Oct/13). I like art! I like math! *And* I have over 40 years experience in not getting the same result twice!

*Sandi Hansen, MBA’91*  
GURNEE, ILLINOIS

I help run a small, impoverished tech company, and we are in need of additional spreadsheet artisans. We love nothing more than seeing a young

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## LETTERS

20-year-old spend all day fetching Twitter IDs or categorizing Yelp data. Their boredom and lack of self-worth really shine through to our final product, and there are of course always numerous typographical errors.

We mainly pay our “employees” in college credit and worthless stock options. I trust this will be acceptable.

*Anonymous for Obvious Reasons*

### Political discourse

Why is the person who later reduced the crisis in Syria, with 100,000 dead and two million refugees, to a political cheap shot (“Congress is now the dog that caught the car”) on the stage discussing political morality with Elie Wiesel (“A Question of Ethos,” UChicago Journal, July–Aug/13)?

*Samuel Fitting, MBA’76*  
REDDING, CONNECTICUT

## I listened closely to Alex Trebek reading the clue, and fortunately the correct response was the alma mater of a close friend.

### Uncommon Hutch

I would like to add to the comments of Lenore Frazier, AB’47 (Letters, Sept–Oct/13). When we went through the student orientation, Hutch made a speech that I never forgot.

He said, “Welcome to the University of Chicago. If you think that we are here to teach you to make more money you are in the wrong place. We only want you to learn how to think and if you learn that, we will have been successful.”

He was absolutely right. In my years

of management, there were so many Ivy Leaguers I managed who operated like automatons and couldn’t think outside the box. I had an 8 a.m. math class and I would meet up with Hutch on his way to the office and he would walk along and just talk to me, asking questions, making comments, etc.

Headly stuff for a young guy from Los Angeles.

*Leonard Dorin, AB’56, MBA’57*  
LAFAYETTE, CALIFORNIA

### Un bon marché

Referencing your punctuation for sale (Chicago Classifieds, July–Aug/13), I have three questions:

1. Are any French punctuation marks available?
2. Do you charge an additional fee for accent grave, accent aigu, or circumflexe?
3. Do you accept French francs (new or old)?

Merci in advance.

*Scott Sunquist, AM’80*  
NIMY, BELGIUM

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**Born a racer.**

### Trebek days

I was interested to read the article in the *Core* about Benjamin Recchie, AB'03, and his experience on *Jeopardy!* ("Non-Trivial Pursuit," Summer/13), as well as the stories from other U of C alumni contestants on the website ("So You Want to Compete on *Jeopardy!*," Web Exclusive, July 18, 2013). Until I read about Dan Pawson, JD'06, I had thought I was the winningest contestant among U of C alums (four-time winner in 1990–91, including New Year's Day; 1991 Tournament of Champions semifinalist—I think I even wrote a class note about it at the time); maybe I still am, among College alumni. I may still be right when I tell people I had more national TV exposure than any of my College peers until the discovery of David Axelrod, AB'76.

And, amazingly, people still occasionally stop me and ask if I was really on *Jeopardy!* One of the contestants you interviewed (Steve Mitchell, AM'92) said he was surprised at hav-

ing to read the answers off the board. In my fifth game, I was second with two clues left in Double Jeopardy. I got the penultimate question and was \$1,800 behind with "control of the board" for the last, a Daily Double. I bet \$2,000, and the dollar value disappeared to reveal—a blank monitor! I listened closely to Alex Trebek reading the clue, and fortunately the correct response was the alma mater of a close friend. So I did not have to interrupt and ask, "Please read it again, Alex, because your set is broken."

I can certainly understand the frustration Recchie described after he lost. Hey, I left as a loser twice. But he's right, what you remember is the "playing of the game." Winning money is nice; just plain winning is even nicer; but the competition itself was the peak experience.

*Jonathan Jacobs, SB'76*  
PIEDMONT, CALIFORNIA

### Department of Corrections

Jud Newborn, AM'77, PhD'94, rode

on the Munich U-Bahn, not the Berlin U-Bahn ("Rose Up," UChicago Journal, Sept–Oct/13).

Jay Berwanger's (AB'36) wife's name was Philomela, not Philomena ("That's Squirrely," Peer Review, Sept–Oct/13).

In response to "Selling the Friendly Skies" (July–Aug/13), Lynn Burnett wrote that her grandfather Leo Burnett "may have lacked flash, but he was never an accountant as stated in the article. He was always a writer—and a risk taker." We regret the errors.

*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, 401 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1000, Chicago, IL 60611. Or e-mail: [uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu](mailto:uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu).*



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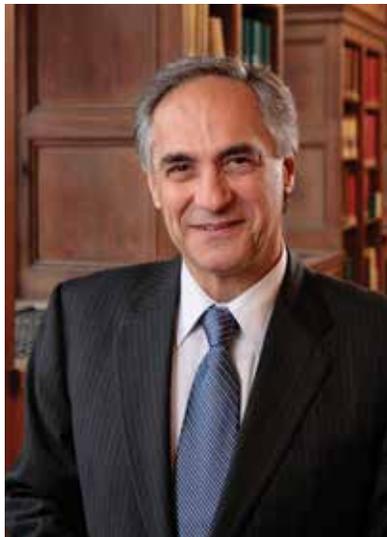
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# An intellectual destination

BY ROBERT J. ZIMMER, PRESIDENT

**W**ith another academic year under way, I want to welcome new alumni and parents to the worldwide UChicago community as well as express appreciation to all of the alumni, parents, and friends who stay engaged with the University. We are all drawn to the University of Chicago as an intellectual destination because of a distinctive culture and environment where accomplished and promising scholars, ambitious students, and dedicated staff choose to pursue their highest aspirations. Our two newest Nobel laureates cited that quality last month as we celebrated the awarding of the 2013 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences to **Eugene F. Fama**, MBA'63, PhD'64, the Robert R. McCormick distinguished service professor of finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, and **Lars Peter Hansen**, the David Rockefeller distinguished service professor in economics, statistics, and the College, and the research director of the Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics. We congratulate them on this recognition of the importance of their work, which has helped shape the modern study of economics and finance.

Our devotion to rigorous inquiry and an intense and open exchange of ideas, and our comfort with complexity and multiple perspectives, also make us an intellectual destination for those beyond the community on campus. Interesting thinkers, many alumni, and those with particular experiences and perspectives, whether they come as faculty, students, staff, visiting scholars, research fellows, or to speak on campus or participate in



one of our workshops, add to the energy and constant flow of ideas and argument that are characteristic of the University.

This concept of intellectual destination is reflected in many of our recent endeavors. The Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, which held its grand opening on October 3, has launched a program of research, discourse, and events that extends the boundaries of humanistic inquiry. Likewise, the Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics has conducted an array of workshops and conferences that draw scholars from around the world who are interested in the intersections of economics, law, business, and society. The Institute for Molecular Engineering has recruited its initial cadre of outstanding faculty members and will soon announce additional major hires, faculty attracted to Chicago by the possibilities of a new discipline-defining integrative approach to design from the molecular scale. The Institute of

Politics has brought speakers and experienced public officials to engage with our students.

We are an intellectual destination not only in Hyde Park but increasingly around the world. Our Center in Beijing has fostered novel projects and inquiry in areas across the University and has attracted thousands of scholars, students, and collaborators from China and beyond. Chicago Booth is extending its Asian presence with an executive MBA program in Hong Kong. We recently announced a broad-based Center in Delhi that will support a growing body of faculty and student work, as well as engaging with our alumni and building new collaborations in India. And the University's recently announced affiliation with the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, itself a major intellectual destination, will increase our ability to pursue promising areas of inquiry and new modes of education in the biological sciences.

One of the University's fundamental missions, in addition to education and research, is to ensure that our scholarship, when appropriate, can be brought to bear on the complex challenges facing society. One very particular example is in the field of clean water technology, where the Institute for Molecular Engineering is joining scientists and engineers at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel to develop new technologies for purifying water and enhancing the world's fresh water supply. Researchers from the University and Argonne National Laboratory also are working with a diverse set of partners to develop new energy storage technologies, supported by a five-year \$120 million grant from the US Department of Energy. The Pritzker School of Medicine continues to be a leader in under-

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER KILAR

standing how large-scale computation can directly lead to better outcomes in clinical care. The Urban Education Institute is having an impact not only on the lives of children in our charter school but through the dissemination of its findings on improving schooling more broadly.

Through our collective work and commitment to our distinctive intellectual and educational environment, we renew the University every day. However, creating and renewing this environment also requires continuous attention to infrastructure. Around the campus you can see visible signs of our investment in the facilities that support faculty and student work, including laboratories, libraries, classrooms, residence halls, and hospitals. We have made it a priority to raise funds for student and faculty support, including scholarships, internships, and professorships. We also continue to make significant investments in the Laboratory Schools (Earl Shapiro Hall, housing the school for the youngest students, opened earlier this autumn) and in the retail and cultural environment in and around Hyde Park, which enriches our community as well as helps us to recruit and retain outstanding faculty, staff, and students.

None of this would be possible without the vision and generosity of the University's trustees, alumni, and friends, whose philanthropy has made a key contribution to the University's momentum. More than 45,000 donors gave a total of \$459 million in new gifts and pledges in the past year, a 48 percent increase over the previous year. That is a remarkable statement of confidence in the University and a commitment to its ongoing eminence.

For more information about many of these initiatives, please see the links at [president.uchicago.edu/page/fall-2013-welcome-and-update](http://president.uchicago.edu/page/fall-2013-welcome-and-update).

Thank you for your continuing connection with the University. I am grateful for your accomplishments, which reflect on our entire community, and for the contributions each of you makes to the University's success. I wish all of you an exciting, productive, and gratifying year ahead. ♦

*This column was adapted from President Zimmer's September 30 welcome message to faculty, staff, and students.*

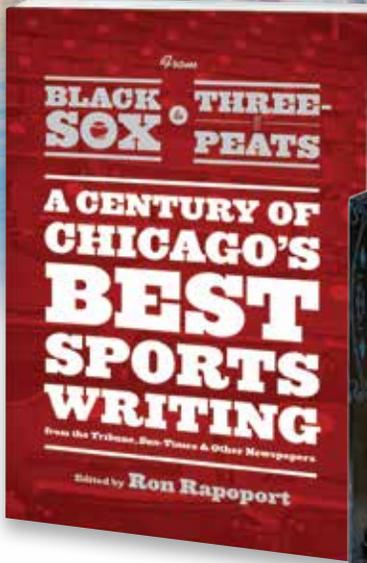


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# CHICAGO



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ECONOMICS

# Market impact

Fama, Hansen earn the Nobel Prize for revolutionizing how economists and investors take stock.

**Lars Peter Hansen** had to walk the dog before a 6:15 a.m. appointment with a personal trainer, so when the call came from Stockholm on the morning of October 14, he was awake. But he thought he might be dreaming. “First,” Hansen said later, “I wanted to make sure this was all real.”

**Eugene Fama**, MBA’63, PhD’64, was up preparing to teach a portfolio theory and asset pricing class when his phone rang. Fama’s economic eminence dates to the 1960s, so he could have been forgiven for anticipating the news, but after brushing his teeth he told the *Chicago Sun-Times*, “It’s a surprise.”

Hansen and Fama were informed that, along with Yale’s Robert Shiller, they had received the 2013 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel “for their empirical analysis of asset prices.” They then went about their routines, interrupted only for the celebratory formalities such as an accolade demands.

Arriving for a news conference a few hours later, Fama and Hansen were greeted with a standing ovation from a crowd that spilled from the Harper

Center’s Rothman Winter Garden into the surrounding staircases and hallways. “Today is a great day for Chicago economics,” proclaimed **John List**, the Homer J. Livingston professor of economics and chair of the department.

Fama, the Robert R. McCormick distinguished service professor of finance at Chicago Booth, established the theory of efficient markets. His research demonstrated that asset prices are impossible to predict in the short term because investors cannot assimilate all the relevant information that sets those prices.

“A blindfolded monkey throwing darts” would be as effective at predicting stock fluctuations as a financial expert, economist Burton Malkiel said by way of summing up Fama’s hypothesis. “It has been repeatedly validated,” the

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROBERT KOZLOFF

*New York Times* noted in its report on the 2013 Nobel laureates, “sometimes in experiments involving actual monkeys.”

Fama’s insights about asset pricing emerged when he was a Tufts undergraduate testing a professor’s stock-market prediction methods. None of them worked. After joining the faculty of the Graduate School of Business (now Chicago Booth) 50 years ago, Fama, 74, began an academic career so influential that he has been called “the father of modern finance.”

“Whatever I am owes at least two-thirds of it, maybe three-quarters, maybe 90 percent, to the University of Chicago,” he said at the press conference. After two years abroad, Fama added, he returned with 16 papers written. He recalled sharing them with his mentor and colleague Merton H. Miller, a 1990 Nobel laureate. Reviewing the papers, Miller said, “Junk, junk, junk, junk, junk. This one’s pretty good.” Had he been in Hyde Park during that time, Fama said, Miller would have weeded out the junk before Fama wrote it.

Hansen, 60, the David Rockefeller distinguished service professor in economics, statistics, and the College, also said he benefited from being held to an exacting academic standard, including by his students. “Most of my best students are more than happy to tell me where I’m wrong—flawed—and more than happy to expose the gaps in my understanding,” said Hansen, who also serves as research director of the Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics. “My graduate students over the years—current and former ones—have been some of my best colleagues.”

A University faculty member since 1981, Hansen developed the “generalized method of moments,” which helps incorporate uncertainty and information gaps into statistical models. His work is so difficult to encapsulate that, after the Nobel announcement, the *New Yorker* economic correspondent John Cassidy said, “Hansen’s mathematical contributions are above my pay grade,” and economics Nobel and *New York Times* columnist Paul Krugman flatly stated that he had “no expertise at all” in Hansen’s econometric methods.

But those methods have wide-ranging use. “Whether it is to explore how public policies affect unemployment rates, how networks form, or how en-

vironmental regulations influence productivity growth, Lars’s work plays a key role,” List said.

Fama and Hansen become the fifth and sixth Nobel laureates among the current economics faculty, joining **Roger Myerson** (2007); **James Heckman** (2000); **Robert E. Lucas Jr.**, AB’59, PhD’64 (1995); and **Gary Becker**, AM’53, PhD’55 (1992).

Fama sharing the prize with Yale’s Shiller—an economist with a contradictory view of market efficiency—reflected an ongoing debate within the discipline. “We have big important questions that remain largely open and we have giants bringing evidence to bear,” University of Michigan economist Justin Wolfers told the *New York Times*. “And the answer turns out to be more complicated than markets are efficient—or markets are inefficient.”

The work of marshaling and evaluating that evidence went on for the newly anointed laureates. On the day they were honored, Fama and Hansen were hopeful that their press conference would end in time to attend a talk by Chicago Booth finance professor **John Cochrane** on his latest research.—*Jason Kelly*

## MEDICINE

# Resistance is fruitful

A study of how cancer evades the immune system reveals promising therapeutic potential.

Spontaneous remissions—when a cancer goes away on its own, with no help from medical treatment—are rare. No one quite knows how rare, but estimates range from as high as one in 50,000 to less than one in 100,000 cases, usually for patients with melanoma or kidney cancer.

The lucky patients who have such a remission often attribute their good fortune to divine intervention; clean living; or, less often, to single-malt Scotch. Physicians who witness a case are more likely to credit the immune system. But it makes them wonder: if an immune response can, occasionally,

do this on its own, how can we nudge it to do so more often?

In the August 28, 2013, issue of *Science Translational Medicine*, a team led by **Thomas Gajewski**, AB’84, PhD’89, MD’91, professor of pathology and medicine at the University of Chicago, provides a closer look at how tumors manage to evade an immune response. Their findings could lead to new therapies—better cancer vaccines, for example—or ways to resensitize tumors and immune cells to each other.

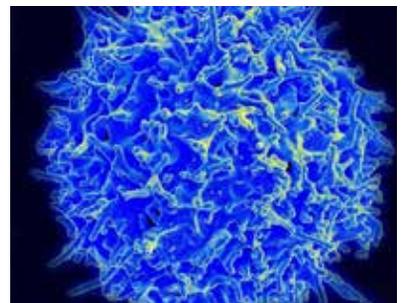
Gajewski and colleagues began by examining a series of human melanomas. When they looked at specific characteristics of the tumor microenvironment, they found two common ways that cancers could dampen or deflect an immune response.

“Some tumors effectively exclude the immune system,” he said. They hide from it or they prevent T cells from invading. Others allow some mingling, an initial dialogue with the immune system, then suppress it. These two categories may require “distinct immunotherapeutic interventions for optimal clinical effect.”

His team focused on tumors that were infiltrated by cytotoxic or CD8+ T cells, warrior cells designed to repel invaders. These patients were more likely to respond, at least initially, to cancer vaccines, yet only a minority of them derived any lasting benefit.

The patients had taken the crucial first step, mounting a targeted immune response against the tumor. So why weren’t the tumors eliminated, or at least held in check? Was the tumor switching off the immune response, or was the immune system learning to tolerate the tumor?

To probe those questions the researchers shifted their attention from



**A type of human T cell, a warrior cell is designed to repel invaders.**

human subjects to a series of carefully designed experiments with mice. They found that the immune system, rather than the cancer cells, was behind the peace-making process.

The once-aggressive T cells, having infiltrated the tumors, next proceeded to send out signals that calmed their own initial fury. Tumors that had been infiltrated by aggressive T cells were soon bathed in IDO, an enzyme that contributes to immunologic tolerance; PD-L1, a T-cell inhibitor; and T regulator cells, known as Tregs, that suppress the immune response.

Their finding suggests that PD-L1, IDO, and Tregs could become the next targets for therapy, Gajewski said. Perhaps they could be suppressed by additional immunotherapies, such as anti-PD-1, IDO inhibitors, and Treg-depletion strategies. "Individual tumors have multiple immune suppressive mechanisms," he said, "so a combined blockade of two or more might be necessary for optimal therapeutic effects."

"A few years ago, we had no idea that a major subset of patients had a spontaneous immune response against their tumor," Gajewski said. "We were also surprised to learn that these immune suppressive mechanisms appear to be intrinsic to the host immune system and not directly promoted by the tumor. Knowing this is refining our ability to develop novel therapies."

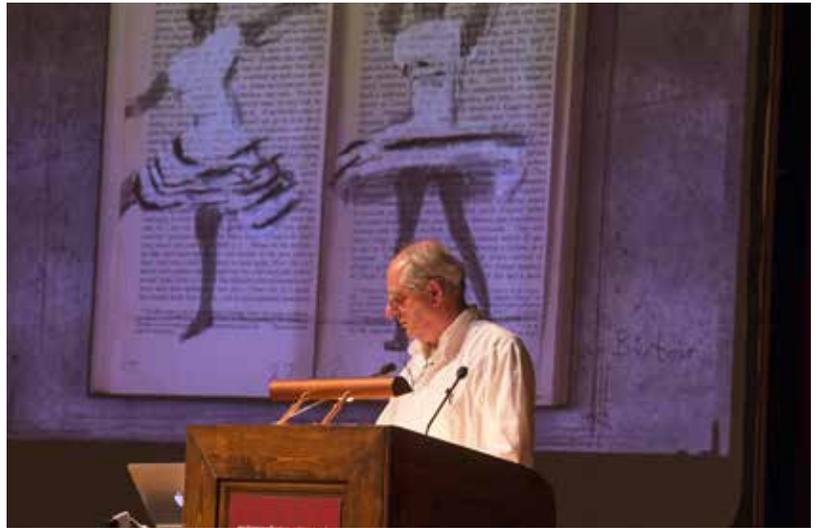
—John Easton, *AM* '77

## CULTURE

# Mix master

The Neubauer Collegium sets sail with two talks and a visit by artist William Kentridge.

The University's new think tank, the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, has an ambitious agenda: to help scholars pursue big questions "across boundaries of method, discipline, and genre, as well as institution and nation." Named for benefactors **Joseph Neubauer**, MBA '65, and **Jeanette Lerman-Neubauer**, the joint venture of the humanities and social sciences divisions celebrated its public launch in early



Accompanying sounds, Kentridge says, shape how we process images.

October with a lecture by South African artist William Kentridge. Versatile and political, Kentridge is known globally for his animated films based on drawings and collage. He also makes prints and sculpture and has designed works of opera and theater mixing music, live acting, animation, and puppetry.

The title of his talk, "Listening to the Image," signaled Kentridge's—and the collegium's—omnivorous approach. Kentridge told the capacity crowd in Mandel Hall that he's wrestling with a big question of his own: how can an artist create meaning, and move viewers, by combining image and sound?

To suggest answers he marshaled a laptop, a Steinway piano, and two able assistants from Chicago's Lyric Opera. Genial and portly at the podium, Kentridge first projected a drawing of a tree and listed the thoughts he'd had while making it. He next showed a video pairing the turning pages of a Larousse dictionary with audio from a 1932 political rally, to illustrate his experiments combining "found" sound and constructed images.

Our brains process images differently when the accompanying sound changes. As proof, Kentridge invited tenor John Irvin and pianist Craig Terry to sing and play while he projected a series of animated drawings that depicted a baldish white-shirted man—a stand-in for the artist—pursuing a baldish black woman who danced across the turning pages of a book.

Kentridge played the images three

times with different soundtracks. While Irvin crooned Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein's "The Song Is You," the bald man's pursuit of the lovely dancer felt poignant and hopeful. But when Terry raced through the frenetic piano rag "Dizzy Fingers," the same scenes seemed farcical and doomed. For the artist, this proves "the extraordinary promiscuity of images—how they will sleep with so many different types of sound."

To help uncover what he calls "the grammar of sound and image," Kentridge asked the audience to be "guinea pigs" for a project he's preparing for the 2014 Vienna Festival. As Irvin sang a melancholy tune from Franz Schubert's *Winterreise* song cycle, once again the baldish man chased the dancer. This time, however, Kentridge added a haunting political coda to the animation: spare red lines grew into a tree on a barren landscape; more red lines descended from branches and morphed into lynched bodies that dropped to the ground. The piece ended by zooming out from a vast ledger, perhaps a list of people jailed or disappeared under South Africa's apartheid regime.

Kentridge wants to connect Johannesburg with Vienna—that is, to link art and politics "in the colonies," as he calls them, to thinkers, consumers, and even oppressors in centers of power. The day after his lecture in Mandel Hall, he joined South African writer and curator Jane Taylor for a public panel on how studio collaborations—and the

unfettered mixing of artistic traditions and media—can create a more powerful impact than individual efforts. Such practices, he says, have “the virtues of bastardy,” a concept Kentridge explored with anthropologist **Rosalind Morris**, PhD’94, in *That Which Is Not Drawn* (Seagull Books, 2013).

As an example Kentridge played clips from *Ubu and the Truth Commission*, a 1997 play Taylor wrote and he directed with the Handspring Puppet Company. A mash-up of live theater, music, animation, puppetry, and witness testimony from the postapartheid Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the work originated by chance. In 1996 Kentridge had teamed up with a choreographer to produce a piece for the 100th anniversary of Alfred Jarry’s absurdist play *Ubu Roi*. Separately he was creating a puppet play using documentary evidence from the Truth Commission. There was not enough time to finish both, he recalls, “So the only way out was to smash the two together and hope for the best.”

This and other improvisations convinced Kentridge that often “the half-formed, very vague ideas that I had were

better than the certainties that were presented.” As a director he decided to “make a safe space for indecision, for uncertainty, for doubt” to grow.

Historian **David Nirenberg**, who moderated the discussion, hopes a similar sense of adventure will animate the research projects launched under his watch as the Neubauer Collegium’s Roman Family director. In its first year, the collegium will fund 18 cross-disciplinary teams working on topics from game design to early writing systems to the impacts of human industrial activity.

Drawing faculty from 17 humanities and social sciences departments, the teams also include scholars from divinity, law, business, and medicine. More visiting fellows will arrive in Chicago from around the world to further shake things up. Talking with Kentridge, Taylor reminded the crowd why that was a good idea. “The point of a collaboration is not to do what you know how to do,” she said. “It’s to do something that you never imagined doing before.”

—*Elizabeth Station*

ART

## That '70s show

A traveling exhibition explores California art’s experimental state of mind.

On a Smart Museum wall, Robert Kinmont is upside down. Eight black-and-white photographs show the artist performing a series of handstands. Starting on a rocky precipice, he moves down to a stream, a meadow, and eventually the forest floor. The images capture the spirit of California conceptualism from the late ’60s to the mid-’70s, said Karen Moss in an October gallery talk. An adjunct curator at the Orange County Museum of Art, Moss co-organized *State of Mind: New California Art Circa 1970*, a traveling exhibition stopping at the Smart through January 12. Kinmont’s piece, like much

## ORIGINAL SOURCE TRADING EIGHTS

Evidence of artist **Robert Crumb’s** lifelong obsession with American music—as a teenager, he compulsively collected jazz records from the 1920s through the ’40s—is in the cards. From No. 1 Bix Beiderbecke to No. 36 Benny Goodman, Crumb’s *Early Jazz Greats* trading cards highlight famous and forgotten musicians from the first half of the 20th century.

Sarah Wenzel, the UChicago Library’s bibliographer for literatures of Europe and the Americas, acquired the cards, a second printing set from 1992, at this year’s Chicago Comic and Entertainment Expo. Special Collections has a growing trove of Crumb’s art, including a full set of *Zap Comix*, the underground comic book series he founded in the late 1960s. The cards are vintage Crumb in that they humanize without



aestheticizing, says Wenzel. “He doesn’t go all the way to caricature.”

Crumb originally produced the set in 1982 for Yazoo Records as part of a series of trading card sets that also included blues and early country musicians. Each card’s front features Crumb’s warm-colored take on a musician: a smiling Duke Ellington at his piano, Louis Armstrong in a tux, pianist and composer Fats Waller

outside in his neighborhood, a hand on his hip.

On the cards’ backs are short biographies. The cards hint obliquely at drama—divorces and early deaths—and celebrate players’ stylistic legacies. Of guitarist Eddie Lang: his prolific output and innovation “single-handedly made the banjo obsolete as a jazz instrument.”—*Derek Tsang, ’15*

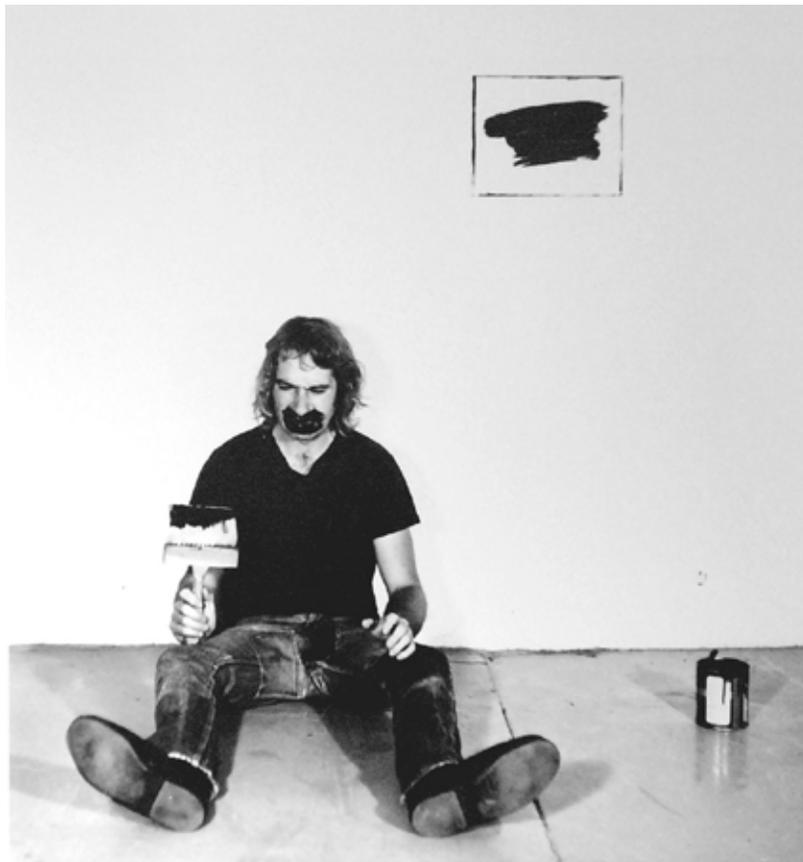
of the art on display, she said, is “on the edge—it’s a little bold, it’s a little edgy, it’s a little dangerous, but it’s ultimately quite funny.”

The exhibition includes installations, films, photographs, artists’ books, and posters, often documenting a performance or other ephemeral piece of art. California conceptualists eschewed traditional forms like painting and sculpture, said Moss, and often used multiple media within one piece. They sometimes riffed on art making and the role of established galleries and museums—for instance, a 1971 William Wegman photograph depicts the artist sitting on a studio floor, brush in hand and paint smeared across his face “in a mock abstract expressionist gesture.”

Looking for alternative venues, some conceptualists took to the streets. For *Chicken Dance*, Linda Mary Montano donned a baby-blue tulle prom dress and a hat with feathers and a beak, dancing and, in the artist’s words, “performing spontaneous acts of ecstasy” across San Francisco. One documentary photo-

graph captures her lying prone in front of the Reese Palley Gallery, “the important art gallery in San Francisco at the time,” said Moss. Montano’s antics, a protest against the gallery’s all-male lineup, illustrate two of the movement’s themes: feminism and using the body as material.

Living in a state that was an “incubator for social change and youth-oriented counterculture,” Montano and other California conceptualists were driven to include social, personal, and political content, said Moss. In the last room a screen flashed images of public disruptions by Joe Hawley, Mel Henderson, and Alfred Young, who worked as a team. In November 1969 the trio arranged for more than 100 people in San Francisco to take cabs to the intersection of Market, Castro, and Seventeenth Streets and shot the jam from a helicopter and the street. Moss’s audience couldn’t help but laugh at the aerial shots of bumper-to-bumper cars. Like Kinmont, the trio carried out a provocative idea with a dash of wit.—*Katherine Muhlenkamp*



William Wegman’s 1971 photograph sends up the art establishment.

WILLIAM WEGMAN, ARTIST, 1971, BLACK-AND-WHITE PHOTOGRAPH, 14 X 11 IN. COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND MARC SELWYN FINE ART

## WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER’S INDEX

### FY INFORMATION

Record number of donors who contributed to UChicago in FY 2013:

# 45,696

Total number of gifts:

# 61,337

Percentage of College alumni who made a gift in FY 2013:

# 40

Total, in millions, of new gifts and pledges in FY 2013:

# \$459

Amount, in millions, pledged by University trustees:

# \$113

Contributions, in millions, from independent foundations:

# \$54

Funds raised, in millions, toward student financial aid:

# \$35

## FOR THE RECORD



### CALTECH TAPS ROSENBAUM

Provost **Thomas F. Rosenbaum** has been named president of the California Institute of Technology, effective July 1, 2014. Rosenbaum, the John T. Wilson distinguished service professor in physics, the James Franck Institute, and the College, joined the faculty in 1983. He served as director of the Materials Research Laboratory and the Franck Institute, and as vice president for research and for Argonne National Laboratory before becoming provost in 2006.

### REDOUBLED COMMITMENT

Gifts from two University trustees have helped the Law School continue to expand its need- and merit-based scholarships, which have almost tripled over the past four years. **David M. Rubenstein**, JD '73, cofounder and co-CEO of the private-equity firm the Carlyle Group, has made a second \$10 million gift, extending a program that offers full-tuition scholarships. **Debra Cafaro**, JD '82, chair and CEO of Ventas Inc., has made a \$4 million gift to establish full-tuition, need-based scholarships.

### LEVI'S LEGACY SET IN STONE

The administration building has been named Edward H. Levi Hall, honoring the University's former Law School dean, provost, and president. In 1968 Levi, U-High '28, PhB '32, JD '35, became the first alumnus president. He served until 1975, when he joined the Ford Administration as attorney general. The October 14 ceremony also celebrated the new open-air walkway through Edward H. Levi Hall,

linking Ellis Avenue to the main quadrangles.

### COLBY GOES GREENE

On July 1, 2014, **David A. Greene** will begin his tenure as president of Colby College in Waterville, Maine. Joining the University in 2006 as vice president for strategic initiatives, Greene became executive vice president in 2011, working across departments and units on financial strategy and data research, real estate development, campus master planning, external relations, federal relations, international initiatives, and the Laboratory Schools.



### CROWNS SUPPORT SCHOOL WORK

Chicago philanthropists James and Paula Crown have made a \$10 million gift to support Urban Education Institute initiatives on student achievement, teaching, and school leadership. **James Crown**, a University trustee and past chair of the Board of Trustees, is president of Henry Crown and Company. The Crowns' gift will advance research into education practice and policy, help Chicago Public Schools teachers achieve exemplary performance, design and distribute school improvement tools, create a model for pre-K through 12th grade college preparatory urban schooling, and support arts and education collaborations for public school students.

### NEW CHAPTER FOR CO-OP'S CELLA

**Jack Cella** retired in October after 43 years as general manager of the Seminary Co-op Bookstore. Cella, X '73, oversaw the opening of two branch locations—57th Street Books and the Newberry Library Bookstore—and last year's move from the Co-op's original location at 5757 South

University Avenue to a larger space at McGiffert House, 5751 South Woodlawn Avenue. The firm Isaacson, Miller is conducting a national search, led by **Nancy Maull**, AM '69, SM '73, PhD '74, for Cella's successor.



### AN INTENSIVE INVESTMENT

A dozen family members of George A. Stephen, creator of the Weber Grill, have made a \$10 million gift to Comer Children's Hospital. In September the hospital unveiled the Margaret M. and George A. Stephen Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in recognition of the donation, which supports research into treatments for critically ill and premature newborns. The gift will also allow the hospital to recruit a neonatologist to become the Stephen Family professor of pediatrics.

### A JUMP START FOR START-UPS

In October the University announced the creation of the Chicago Innovation Exchange to help scholars and entrepreneurs bring start-up businesses and new technologies to market. Scheduled to open in late 2014 at 53rd Street and Harper Avenue, the exchange will be a hub for numerous University departments and affiliates, such as the Institute for Molecular Engineering, Chicago Booth, and the Marine Biological Laboratory. The space will accommodate five to ten new companies per year with support from a University fund of up to \$20 million for investment in proof-of-concept and early business development efforts.

### LEADERSHIP GIFT

University trustee **Daniel L. Doctoroff**, JD '84, and his wife, **Alisa Doctoroff**, MBA '83,

have made a \$5 million gift to the Law School to establish the Doctoroff Business Leadership Program. Combining law and business courses, the program will prepare law graduates to lead or advise companies. "Throughout my career in government, in business, as an investor and CEO, I've worked with hundreds of lawyers across dozens of fields," said Dan Doctoroff, the CEO of Bloomberg LP and a former deputy mayor of New York City. "Time after time, I've seen the value of lawyers who have fundamental business and financial skills."

### CHECK IN, CHECK IT OUT

On September 17 a new Hyatt Place opened near the corner of 53rd Street and Harper Avenue—Hyde Park's first new hotel in almost 50 years. The 131-room, six-story hotel is part of the Harper Court development, which includes a new University office building, shops, and restaurants. Each Hyatt Place room includes at least three "stylized prints" based on photographs of art and architectural details on the University of Chicago campus.



### LAB'S NEW LEADER

Robin Appleby, currently the executive principal of the Global Education Management Systems American Academies, has been named director of the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, effective July 1, 2014. Appleby, who has led schools on three continents, will succeed the retiring **David Magill**, who has overseen a threefold increase in financial aid and a doubling of the endowment in 11 years as director.



Stills from a video by marine biologist Roger Hanlon show an *Octopus vulgaris* changing its camouflage.

MARINE LIFE

# Brain waves

Neurobiologist Clifton Ragsdale's work advances the knowledge of understudied cephalopods.

Cephalopods are novel—even bizarre—creatures. A group that includes octopuses, squid, cuttlefish, and nautilus, they can change color and texture in an instant for camouflage or communication. Their eyes are vertebrate-like, with an iris and a lens. They can regenerate lost tentacles. Some measure only a few centimeters, while others, like the giant squid, can grow to almost 50 feet long. Instead of swimming like fish, they use jet propulsion to get around. And they have the most complex nervous systems and the largest brains among invertebrates.

The broad motivation for studying cephalopods, says UChicago neurobiologist **Clifton Ragsdale**, “is that these are the largest animals that we know of that are the most distant from us.” Ragsdale is particularly focused on the ways these creatures evolved, and how those ways are similar and dissimilar to invertebrate evolution. For

Ragsdale, one driving question is: how does nature make a big brain? Like humans, octopuses have large brains, but unlike humans and other vertebrates, their neurons are decentralized—not concentrated in the head but spread out among the tentacles and body.

As a systems neuroscientist, Ragsdale says, “I want to know how these brains are designed differently from the vertebrate plan. The idea being: there may be general constraints on how you can organize big sensorimotor cognitive brains”—including octopus brains—“but this will tell us how far they can diverge.” Understanding how they diverge can provide clues to the ways different neurological systems evolve, and to how and when species' evolution diverged.

Ragsdale's interest in cephalopods dates back to a College class he taught in the 1990s, which introduced the vertebrate central nervous system by comparing it with those of invertebrates in general and cephalopods in particular. The idea of studying cephalopods lay dormant until about six years ago, when he learned that there had been very little work done on them in terms of modern systems neuroscience or molecular cellular biology.

In fact, no cephalopod genome had been mapped, making the study of comparative evolution between species impossible. Even today, no complete genome has been mapped for any

single cephalopod—in part because relatively few researchers had coordinated their work. Nor had there been a focus on a particular species, a real problem when it comes to the painstaking work of gene sequencing.

To bolster collaboration, Ragsdale enlisted Roger Hanlon, a cephalopod researcher at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts. In 2012 Ragsdale helped organize a National Science Foundation-funded conference in which Hanlon was also involved. The event brought together 29 cephalopod researchers and yielded a white paper that targeted ten species for research.

Ragsdale and his lab, including PhD candidate **Carrie Albertin**, SM'12, have chosen to study *Octopus bimaculoides*, which is plentiful off the coasts of California and Mexico. Also called the two-spotted octopus, it is smallish, with a mantle about seven inches across and tentacles two feet long. The species is ideal for experimental purposes—they're hardy and they breed almost all year, which makes it easier to maintain a population in the tanks in Ragsdale's Abbott Hall laboratory.

Besides the octopus's large-for-an-invertebrate brain, each of its eight tentacles has a nerve cord with as many neurons as the brains of many small mammals. The octopus's eggs are comparatively large (about a centimeter) and the eggshell is transparent. Look-

ing at an octopus egg through a microscope, you can see the embryo's eyes, its three hearts, and chromatophores—the mechanisms that help the octopus make those dramatic color changes.

In one lab tank a young octopus is comfortably huddled in the hollow side of a yellow Lego block, its favorite resting place, Albertin says. The octopus seems to take notice when she approaches, and she coaxes it to jet itself out of the block toward a decorative rock on the bottom of the tank.

Albertin studies embryological development, identifying where genes are expressed in the octopus. That requires tissue sampling of embryos at different developmental stages, a painstaking process. Using fluorescent labels to mark certain proteins, she identified a gene known to be a critical part of human eye development that also expresses itself in octopus eye development.

Each such identification is a tiny piece in an enormous puzzle. Working to assemble a complete genome, Ragsdale's lab depends on UChicago's Genomics Facility for computational horsepower and on the University's Center for Research Informatics for memory storage hardware and support.

Another promising development: in July the Marine Biological Laboratory began a formal affiliation with UChicago. Hanlon is excited by the collaborative possibilities, particularly with Ragsdale. "We have been missing the hard-core card-carrying neurobiologists," says Hanlon, adding that he appreciates Ragsdale "switching gears into this unorthodox animal group."—*Michael Knezovich*

## ATHLETICS

# Trophy life

Jay Berwanger's legacy endures, thanks in part to an award nobody had heard of when he won it.

Jay Berwanger, AB'36, needed a place to store his Heisman Trophy and his Aunt Gussie needed something to prop open the swinging door between her kitchen and dining room, so the arrangement worked out well. For 15



Long after Chicago left big-time football, Berwanger's Heisman legacy endures.

or 20 years that's where the first Heisman statue stood, on Aunt Gussie's floor, as if its stiff arm was designed to be a doorstop.

"Eventually Jay retrieved it and now it's there at the Ratner Center on campus," says Brian E. Cooper, author of *First Heisman: The Life of Jay Berwanger* (Crestwood Publishing, 2014). A few feet from where Cooper spoke, a new statue of Berwanger stood on a pedestal overlooking a high school football stadium in Dubuque, Iowa.

A September 22 ceremony featured the unveiling of Berwanger's bronze likeness on a plaza at the entrance to the field where he played, now named for his high school coach, Wilbur Dalzell. Among the recollections floating around that afternoon, the "Heisman as doorstop" story captured Berwanger's peculiar identification with what has become college football's most prestigious prize.

As a senior halfback, he aspired to the *Chicago Tribune's* Silver Football, given to "the most useful player to his team in the Big Ten." He received the Silver Football and the Douglas Fairbanks Trophy, then the best-known honor for the nation's most outstanding player. With those prizes already in tow, the telegram informing Berwanger that he had won the inaugural Downtown Athletic Club Trophy (later renamed the Heisman) interested him more for the expense-paid trip to New York it offered.

But the trophy and Berwanger's reputation symbiotically increased in

esteem over the years. As Archie Griffin, to date the only player to win the Heisman twice (for Ohio State in 1974 and '75), told Cooper, "he was a classy individual and he lent a lot of credibility to the award."

To this day, the award bestows credibility on Berwanger. It is the prize most associated with college football—"the best known individual award in American sports," as *First Heisman* calls it—recognizable even to those who don't follow the sport.

Even though Chicago has long since abandoned the trappings of big-time football, the legacy of the inaugural Heisman winner adds luster—and attracts talent—to the team. "He still helps our football program," says associate athletic director Brian Baldea. "He's a great recruiter."

Widely recruited himself, Berwanger's reputation preceded him to Chicago, but his humility belied his ability. Classmate Ernest Dix, AB'36, had never played the sport, Cooper says, "but decided as a freshman at Chicago that it might be a good idea to try to play Big Ten football." Dix struggled just to master the equipment.

As he fussed with his shoulder pads, Berwanger came to his aid, essentially helping a novice teammate dress himself. A fast and long-lasting friendship developed. "For more than 70 years, they were friends," Cooper says. "When I interviewed Ernie he talked about how modest Jay was about his accomplishments."

## CITATIONS

### CURSES!

To reverse a jinx, many people knock on wood. Others spit or throw salt. In each of those superstitions, Chicago Booth researchers noticed a shared trait: movements that physically push away bad luck. In the November *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, UChicago behavioral scientist **Jane Risen**, Chicago Booth student **Christine Hosey**, and National University of Singapore researcher **Yan Zhang**, MBA'09, PhD'09, report that overt "avoidant actions" are important in a superstition's perceived effectiveness. After having study participants make fate-tempting statements, the researchers asked some to knock on the underside of a wood table up toward themselves and others to knock down on it, away from themselves. Those who knocked away from themselves felt more comforted. Avoidant action, the researchers said, helped make the image of a negative event less vivid.

### EARTHQUAKE BELOW

More than 20 years after California geologist Harry Green proposed a novel—and at the time, unprovable—

explanation for the origin of deep earthquakes, UChicago scientists are part of the team that helped prove his theory true. Using a high-tech X-ray facility at Argonne National Laboratory to simulate and analyze extreme high-pressure, high-temperature earthquake conditions at depths of more than 248.5 miles below the surface, they demonstrated that these very deep earthquakes are triggered when a mineral common in the upper mantle, olivine, undergoes a transformation that weakens the whole rock, causing it to fail. **Yanbin Wang**, a senior scientist at UChicago's Center for Advanced Radiation Sources; **Julien Gasc**, a postdoc at the center; and former postdoc Nadège Hilaireret worked with scientists from French institutions and Green, from the University of California, Riverside, to confirm Green's theory. The team's findings appear in the September 20 *Science*.

### INTERNAL SEASONS

Siberian hamsters, which in the wild survive on the frozen steppes of Europe and Asia, only breed during the longest days of late spring

and early summer. UChicago psychology professor **Brian Prendergast** and former postdoc Tyler Stevenson (now at the University of Aberdeen) are beginning to unravel the mechanism that keeps that breeding cycle constant. Exposure to shorter days, they found, sets off a biochemical process called DNA methylation, which alters the hamsters' gene expression and shuts down their reproductive function during the fall and winter. The study, published in the October 8 *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, is "only the tip of the iceberg," Prendergast said, in understanding the internal clocks that govern seasonal behavior in people and other animals.



**Internal clocks tell Siberian hamsters when to breed.**

### IN WHOM WE TRUST

In everything from dating to nuclear disarmament, decisions depend on trust, often built on past experience or on a person's reputation. To understand how the human brain processes trust in decision making, **Margaret Wardle**, a UChicago assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral neuroscience, scanned study participants using fMRI while they played a game in which they could choose to keep a sum of money or double it with a fictive partner who would either split it with the participant or keep it. Fair partners split the money most of the time; unfair partners usually kept it for themselves; and "indifferent" partners split it half the time. Wardle and her coauthors found that a part of the brain called the caudate responded strongly when participants were deciding how to deal with unfair or indifferent partners and less so with fair partners. Published in the June 20 *PLoS One*, these findings may help researchers understand conditions like social phobia and autism, characterized by difficulty with interpersonal relationships and trust.

—Lydia Lyle Gibson

Berwanger's major athletic accomplishments ended at Chicago. In another notable "first," he was the first pick in the first NFL draft, but the cost-benefit analysis of a professional football career didn't add up. Although top players could earn up to \$500 a game, they still had to supplement their income with other jobs in the off-season. As Berwanger noted, he could make that much money as an after-dinner speaker without the physical punishment.

There were rumors of a contract dispute with Chicago Bears owner George Halas, but Cooper says that Berwanger simply made him an offer he couldn't accept. "Jay basically signaled to Halas by making an extremely high salary 'demand' that he wasn't really that interested in pro football."

Competing in the 1936 Olympics

as a decathlete was a possibility and he considered leaving school after his senior football season to train. But the idea of the University's star athlete—and student body president—taking an academic leave didn't sit well with administrators. A vice president let Berwanger know that his scholarship would not be good if and when he returned. "We had a long discussion around Christmastime," he said, "and we decided I should graduate."

Never an Olympian, Berwanger played rugby and officiated college football games, moonlighting from his day job running a manufacturing business. He stayed in the Chicago area, raising his three children with his wife, Philomela, AB'38, AB'40, and returning to Hyde Park regularly for football games until his death in 2002 at age 88.

If most know him as the Heisman-winning halfback, it took a moment for his family to recognize the leather-helmeted ball carrier in the sculpture now on display in Dubuque. "We all looked at it and said, 'That isn't him,' because we remember him as an older person," his son Cuyler "Butch" Berwanger says. "But then you saw the pictures of him and, hey, that's him, as a younger man."

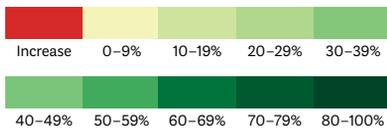
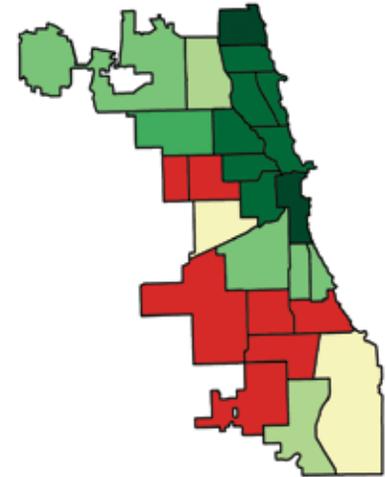
Sculptor Vala Ola's rendering captures Berwanger in full stride, socks bunched around the ankles of his high-top cleats, one arm outstretched and head cocked backward as if he's leaving defenders in his wake. In fact, the Berwanger statue bears a striking resemblance to Heisman itself, fitting given the association that was so rewarding for both the trophy and the man.

—Jason Kelly

# FIG. 1 CRIME STATS

## Decline in homicide rate

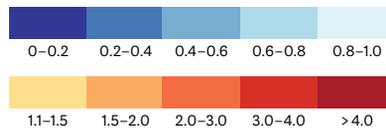
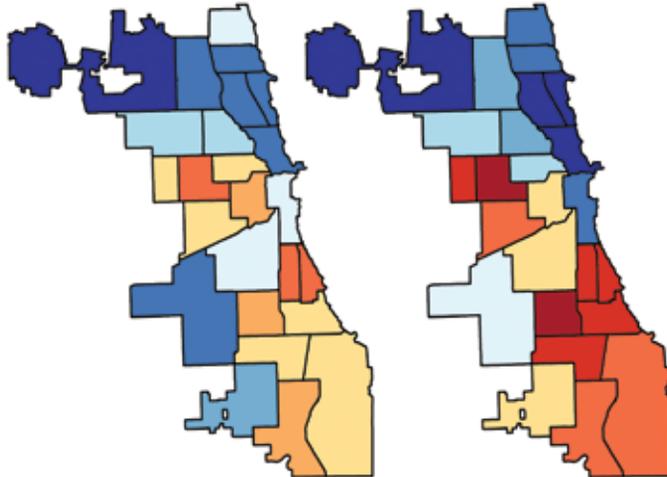
Early 1990s–late 2000s



## Ratio of homicide rate to city average

1990–93

2008–11



Chicago, says Harris School student Daniel Hertz, is neither the nation's murder capital nor "Chiraq," the nickname given to it in a recent HBO documentary. For his own interest, Hertz analyzed the Chicago Police Department's data on homicides and reported the results in an August 5 post on his blog, *City Notes*, that went viral. The city's overall murder rate, he found, dropped by nearly half between the early 1990s and the late 2000s, from 30 deaths per 100,000 citizens to 17. "For a couple of years, we had the highest number of murders" in the country, Hertz says. But even during the peak years of the early 1990s, Chicago was "nowhere close to having the highest murder rate."

The declines were substantial on the North Side, while the South and West Sides saw less change. The eight safest police districts—

downtown and seven districts north of it—have an average rate of 3.3 per 100,000. "In New York City, which is constantly (and mostly correctly) being held up as proof that urban safety miracles can happen in America, it's 6.3," Hertz writes. "The North Side is *unbelievably safe*, at least as far as murder goes." Despite being the most violent districts, Hyde Park itself parallels the North Side, with an average murder rate of 3.6 per 100,000 for 2008–11.

Looking at the data for individual police districts, though, Hertz found that the decline in murder rates has been anything but even. The gap between the haven of the North Side versus the West and South Sides—which give Chicago its reputation—has roughly tripled in the past two decades, says Hertz. "In the early '90s, the most dangerous third of

the city had about six times as many murders as the safest third," he writes. "By the late 2000s, the most dangerous part of the city had nearly *fifteen times more homicides* than the safest third."

Seven districts have even seen an increase in homicides, including Chicago Lawn and Morgan Park, which saw 1990–93 averages of 9 and 17 deaths per 100,000, respectively, creep up to 13 and 17 deaths per 100,000 over 2008–11.

Even though absolute murder rates have dropped across Chicago, the growing inequality of violence has its own set of consequences. "There are studies to prove that reputation has as much or bigger an effect on the economic development of a neighborhood than the actual crime rate," Hertz says. "And reputations are based on relative status."—Derek Tsang, '15

INTERVIEW

# Past is prologue

Chris McNickle trains a historian's eye on urban politics past and the future of global markets.



**Chris McNickle**, AM'85, PhD'89, is global head of institutional business for Fidelity Worldwide Investment, which he joined in 2011 after more than two decades at the consulting firm Greenwich Associates. He is also the author of two books on the history of politics in his hometown, New York City: *To Be Mayor of New York: Ethnic Politics in the City* (Columbia University Press, 1993) and *The Power of the Mayor: David Dinkins, 1990–1993* (Transaction, 2012). In an interview edited and adapted below, McNickle talked about being a historian and a businessman.

—Laura Demanski, AM'94

## How did you end up at the University of Chicago?

I developed an interest in history, New York City history in particular. I discovered a biography of Fiorello LaGuardia that had been written by Arthur Mann [the late Preston and Sterling Morton professor of history emeritus]. I thought it was a great biography and wanted to go study with him.

## What was your dissertation about?

It looks at the electoral history of NYC mayors in the late 19th and the 20th century as a series of ethnic successions where different ethnic groups play the most dominant role in the city's politics at different times. What's interesting about New York is that no one ethnic group has ever been able to dominate so entirely that it could win citywide office without creating coalitions. The dissertation was published as a book. I was very proud of it.

## What drew you to study history?

I never really contemplated an academic career. After college I went into international banking for about five years. Then one of the periodical Latin American debt crises occurred, and it was clear it was going to be some time before there was a lot of activity again. I had discovered traveling to Latin America that those countries that had been discovered by a European power about the same time as the United States had many superficial similarities, but worked very differently than the United States, and that intrigued me. Also, when I traveled to Philadelphia from New York to attend the University of Pennsylvania—leaving one large American city for a second one—I had expected things to be more or less the same, but they turned out to be more different than similar. Those two comparative experiences caused me to want to understand these differences.

## How does your history training help you in your work at Fidelity?

I think any graduate program that is demanding and helps people to solve problems in a structured manner offers a set of disciplines that ought to be helpful in making business decisions. In the case of a historian, we are trained to make connections across time and across different dimensions of human behavior. We are taught great respect for marshaling evidence to make a case. We're taught that people have an easier time understanding complex events when they are wrapped around a story, particularly

when they're supported and the logic is clear. All of those tools are very helpful in business decision making.

## Do you have advice for graduate students who want to go into business?

I would encourage them to recognize that they have a range of skills that, if they have been successful history students, any employer would want to have. It's less about the historical knowledge itself than things like intellectual curiosity, a desire to understand how things happen, a need to know the facts and document them rigorously—all of those are qualities that employers seek.

## How do you spend your spare time?

Reading history, writing history.

## Does the history you read inform your work?

Yes, in some ways it's simply a matter of intellectual interest, but in other ways it does help clarify the situation. So look at European history since WW II. The European project, as it's often referred to, is all about the politics of trying to create enough connections and coherence across Europe that violent conflict would no longer be deemed sensible. That's been a very keen part of why Germany and France have been such strong proponents of bringing the Euro Zone together. As a matter of pure economics one can imagine certain solutions that as a matter of political decision making simply are not acceptable to the major countries of Europe.

## Are you writing something now?

I'm working on a history of Mayor Bloomberg's term in office. I've just begun that.

## Is it more challenging to write with less hindsight?

There isn't as much historical distance, yet at the same time the information and research that I need are dramatically more accessible through websites now. There may be a moment where I do realize that I don't have as much historical perspective as one will have over time. But I think that there's a real benefit to writing the history of important events shortly after they happen, when memories are fresh.



campus

# QUADRANGLES TO

*New construction is about the exchange of ideas—within and beyond the campus. The University architect explains the theory behind the practice.*

BY STEVEN M. WIESENTHAL



# CROSSROADS

**A**lmost anywhere one looks on campus today, the University of Chicago's aspirations are tangible in limestone, concrete, glass, steel, and landscaping. Many members of the University community are familiar with recent campus additions such as the Joe and Rika Mansueto Library, the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, and the Center for Care and Discovery. You may also have heard about the renewal of the physical sciences facilities, the development of a new home for economics east of the main quads, and plans for a residence hall and dining commons on the north edge of campus, replacing Pierce Tower. All of these projects, and others on the horizon, are part of a broad vision for a physical campus transformed for the University's second century but still true to its founding principles.

Imported from Oxford and Cambridge, the Collegiate Gothic style of the University's quadrangles lent the fledgling institution instant credibility when the campus was built in the 1890s—the epitome of a scholarly academic retreat. Founding president William Rainey Harper decided to hold no opening festivities, lest anybody think that the University hadn't already existed for “a thousand years.” In addition to importing this academic architecture from some of the most venerable higher learning institutions in the Western world, the founders were well aware of the event being prepared just east of campus: the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. The University, a gray city of limestone, was to be in stark contrast to, and secluded from, the commercial, neoclassical “white city” of the Columbian Exposition, designed to attract millions of fairgoers.

**BEING PART OF A  
CULTURE OF RIGOROUS  
AND TIRELESS INQUIRY,  
WE ARE ALWAYS  
ASKING QUESTIONS—  
EVEN AS THE SHOVELS  
ARE DIGGING.**

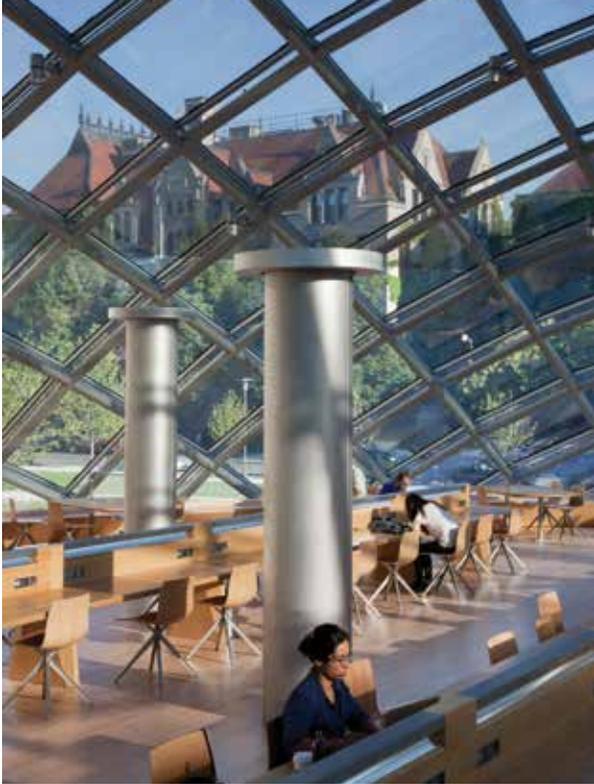
The intentions of that initial design are clear, and the results—measured by the University's success in research, education, and overall eminence—have been undeniable. But the original quadrangles also create a challenge for the University today in the very separation they impose. Now more than ever, the University is committed to engagement and collaboration with the city and the world. To thrive, these partnerships demand an open and accessible University of Chicago. Campus planning today aims to preserve the quadrangles and the scholarly environment they have long nurtured, while ensuring that the campus is an inclusive, inviting crossroads, well connected to its urban neighborhoods and beyond.

**Y**ou're probably familiar with the UChicago T-shirt that says on the front, “That's all well and good in practice ...” and on the back, “... but how does it work in theory?” That sentiment affects a lot of our architectural planning. Being part of a culture of rigorous and tireless inquiry, we are always asking questions—even as the shovels are digging.

So it was inevitable that our vision for a 21st-century campus began with questions. In a discussion with the Board of Trustees that began in 2007, University leaders posed questions of strategy as we embarked on this ambitious building program. First, there was the question of capacity: is there enough land to meet our needs? Many of our peers, including Harvard, Columbia, and Yale, have needed to move away from contiguous expansion. At the University of Chicago we have seven to ten million square feet of capacity on contiguous land that we already own, where we can build over time. If we use our land wisely and build at proper densities, this is a great advantage for the University.

Other questions were about impact: How do we maximize opportunities for the distant future while answering today's needs? How do we enhance our inherited legacy of a beautiful urban campus? How can we leverage our investment to improve the surrounding communities? We are answering these questions through a series of design principles, overarching planning themes, and iterative conversations at all levels within the University.

The University's rate of physical growth has accelerated since its founding. For its first 50 years, the University grew at an average of 750,000 square feet per decade. For the next 50 years, that rate doubled, reflecting in particular large national investments in research facilities. For the first two decades of this century, we are building at the rate of 3 million square feet per decade. Put another way, we are in the midst of building 40 percent as much space as was built in the previous 110 years. At this scale, it's hugely important that we get it right.



**Gothic through glass: a view from Mansueto's windows.**

Many universities have extensive design guidelines to prescribe architectural styles, building volumes, and even the right color of brick. Not so at the University of Chicago; to help ensure we get it right while not freezing the campus in the style of any single period, we have worked with the Board of Trustees to establish four simple, overarching design principles that define our architectural aspirations. My office uses these principles in seeking architects and in educating project steering committees whose members may be primarily focused on the buildings' programmatic goals. We fundamentally believe that every single project the University builds should meet the individual programmatic objectives as well as contribute in some meaningful way to enhancing the greater whole. That's one of the great joys for me of working at the University of Chicago—it's not a series of one-off renovations, buildings, or landscape projects. In order to ensure that we don't squander our capacity in the midst of our current pace of growth, we use these four design principles to keep the big picture front and center.

The first principle is at the core of the University of Chicago's identity: what we build must promote the exchange of ideas. This applies to the indoor and outdoor spaces and places we create, and even to the architectural facades of our buildings. All should facilitate the exchange of ideas, inspire students, faculty, and visitors, and bring people with different viewpoints together to have that lively debate. Whether it's the single "wow" moment of stepping into Mansueto's transparent reading room, or the unfolding journey through the curious paths and uniquely crafted stairways of the Logan Center, everything we build is about the discovery and exchange of ideas.

Fostering stewardship is the second principle. We define this as appreciating and preserving the legacy of significant

buildings and open spaces that we have inherited and working to provide for their continuity into the future. But stewardship is also about the legacy we will leave. What we design today should be flexible, adaptable, and useful for generations to come. Often when a capital project is initiated, the realization lies years ahead, when many aspects and intentions will have changed. Take the Logan Center, which was conceived more than a decade ago. Years after those initial discussions, how will that building serve the University community in a future that looks different, in ways we can foresee and ways we can't? We consider these questions as we design.

The third principle, enhancing environmental sustainability, is about the health of the environment within our facilities, but also compels us to think about the broader environment—the impact on the earth of the resources we use within our buildings, of the transportation and greenhouse gas emissions to get them here, and of demolition when needed to prepare construction sites. For example, we have initiated a process to substantially reduce demolition landfill by "deconstructing" and salvaging material at the end of a building's life. When the Research Institutes came down last year to make way for the William Eckhardt Research Center, most of that material was diverted from landfills for reuse elsewhere. And, with the support of the Board of Trustees, we now require LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification at a minimum for all major projects. The renovation of the Searle Chemistry Labs was one of the earliest LEED Gold laboratories in Illinois; the Logan Center also recently received the Gold designation.

The final principle is to strengthen the identity and character of the campus. This principle has proven to be most open to debate, as it can mean many things. Are we Collegiate Gothic forever? Or are we a campus layered in a history representing the work of some of the world's greatest architects, building in styles and using technologies and techniques appropriate to their eras? How referential (and deferential) should we be when building next to the quads? Where do we insist on limestone? Do we express the University of Chicago as a community for creating and disseminating knowledge through a tradition of architectural innovation? And how does it all work, in theory and in practice? From Henry Ives Cobb at the beginning, to Bertram Goodhue, Eero Saarinen, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Edward Durrell Stone, and Walter Netsch, to Rafael Viñoly, Helmut Jahn, Tod Williams and Billie Tsien, and other notable architects today (not to mention Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House), we believe we have a responsibility to select the most talented architects and provide them with guidance and a framework of principles within which they can continue to advance the University's impressive architectural legacy.

How we apply these principles is illustrated by five current campus projects.



**A rendering of the Laboratory Schools' Earl Shapiro Hall as seen from Stony Island Avenue; two of the building's four playgrounds are on rooftops; glass walls like the library's, teachers say, delight the school's young students.**

## Earl Shapiro Hall

The Laboratory Schools' new Earl Shapiro Hall opened for prekindergarten through second-grade students in September. As the first phase of a comprehensive master plan for upgrading the schools' existing facilities and expanding overall capacity from about 1,750 to just over 2,000 total students, Earl Shapiro Hall is on Stony Island Avenue, a few blocks from the main Lab campus. Its location across from Jackson Park and the Museum of Science and Industry catalyzed our thinking about a dramatic new presence that could inspire the exchange of ideas among UChicago's youngest students (and their parents). Lab not only provides a great education but also strengthens the University's sense

of community and its place in the city. We took some freedoms with the architectural forms to celebrate the continual quest for knowledge, expressed in the cantilevered library wing soaring over the entry on Stony Island. The exterior sun-shading fins are arrayed in the Fibonacci sequence to instill a sense of mathematical patterns at the earliest age. And on the Laboratory Schools' main campus, we are about to begin construction of a new arts wing that will continue the dialogue with its Collegiate Gothic predecessors via forms and materials that reinterpret Gothic verticality and spirit while incorporating environmentally sustainable strategies such as increased access to daylight.

ILLUSTRATION © BARBARA KARANANT. PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS KIRZEDER

# William Eckhardt Research Center

Scheduled to open in fall 2015, the Eckhardt Center will join the University's first formal venture into engineering, the Institute of Molecular Engineering, with departments in the University's physical sciences division. The investigations that will take place here, scaling all the way from quarks to the cosmos, are translated into the architecture of the facades.

As scientists within study the very nature of light and matter, the serrated, faceted glass and structure of the exterior will reflect, refract, and channel light deep within the building. To promote the exchange of ideas, food and coffee (what better inducement?) will be available in a glassy ground-floor café visible and accessible from Ellis Avenue.

**Much like the Mansueto Library across the street, the Eckhardt Center, shown in a rendering, will let the light in.**





The adapted seminary, scheduled to open in 2014, will mix modern touches with original elements of the building.

## Adaptive reuse of the former Chicago Theological Seminary

How we think about existing buildings is as crucial to campus as how we build new ones, and fundamental to the principle of fostering stewardship. The adaptive reuse of the former seminary to house the economics department and the Becker-Friedman Institute for Research in Economics will be a catalyst to transform the entire block adjacent to the main quadrangles. By removing the walls that separated the raised courtyards from 58th Street, diverting

the alley that bifurcated the building, and covering a large classroom with a landscaped terrace that will overlook a new pedestrian walkway, we will make the richness of the existing architecture newly visible. Viewed in conjunction with the new portal into the main quadrangle at 58th and Ellis (page 31), this project helps the exchange of ideas break free from its historical bounds within the quads to connect with the world outside.

RENDERING COURTESY ANN BEHA ARCHITECTS; INSERT PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT KOZLOFF

## 58th Street pedestrian pathway

This fall we carved a new portal into the Administration Building, now Edward H. Levi Hall, at 58th Street and Ellis Avenue that transforms a primary arrival point on campus. What had been a forlorn and uninspiring intersection is now a gracious and welcoming entrance. The faceted glass sides (think crystalline forms exposed inside the geode) frame a new visual and physical pathway that reinforces the

primacy of the main quadrangles and again extends their impact outward. This project was all about enhancing the connectivity and character of the campus through a strategic intervention at perhaps the most frequently traversed intersection on campus. Landscape work, to be completed in spring 2014, continues westward to strengthen the linkages to the University of Chicago Medicine.

**Along with its new look, the Administration Building took a new name this autumn (For the Record, page 18).**



## New residence hall and dining commons

In deciding not merely to replace Pierce Tower, but rather to significantly expand its housing capacity from 262 to 800 students, the University is taking a bold step toward reurbanizing 55th Street. All four design principles informed the creation of what will become a 21st-century quadrangle formed not by orthogonal grids but rather by the flow of people and the orientation of the sun and prevailing winds to maximize comfort and minimize energy consumption.

At the intersection between the Hyde Park campus and the surrounding community, a new urban plaza will welcome pedestrians into a diagonal path framed by an active ground floor. To strengthen the identity and character of the campus, the architecture, enabled by modern construction technology, expresses the essence of the Gothic: material depth, shadows and light, sinewy structural forms, and tracery.



Renderings of Studio Gang's residence hall design show sight lines across a new plaza; studying and socializing in the hall's three-story lounges; and a diagonal thoroughfare connecting the campus with the city and vice versa.

RENDERINGS COURTESY STUDIO GANG ARCHITECTS



**Midway Crossings broadens and lights the way from south to north along Ellis, Woodlawn, and Dorchester Avenues.**

**C**ampus architecture, much like a great city, succeeds when we consider the human experience at multiple scales. While the University's four design principles inform the development of individual projects, we are also guided by three overarching planning themes that speak to our continual effort to create a whole much greater than the sum of its parts.

**Strengthening the core**, that is, the main quads. Strengthening the core can be about more than the famed UChicago curriculum (or pilates). The quads—our physical core—are the heart and soul of campus. The personally most satisfying moment of our four-year-long effort to turn the quads from streets and sidewalks (albeit with lovely lawns and trees) into a truly pedestrian-oriented landscape happened when the construction fences came down and I could hear not idling engines, but footsteps, conversation, and birdsong. We will continue to look for ways to elevate our iconic quads into the greatest academic destination between the coasts—a true community for the exchange of ideas.

**Engaging more in the civic realm.** The University campus is framed within one of the generally acclaimed greatest city park systems in the country, much of it designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. And our adjacent neighborhoods, largely residential, speak to the special, historically layered place of our urban community. An ongoing campus planning challenge is to be both inward and outward focused. Grounded in the wonderful scholarly enclave of the quads, we have begun to extend outward through an interconnected network of open spaces and improved streetscapes to integrate more with the city. The move of the Seminary Co-op Bookstore to Woodlawn Avenue, joining the Robie House and academic centers there and along University Avenue, has reinforced the transitional areas between campus and neighborhood as places of vital engagement.

**Linking north and south of the Midway.** The distance between the north and south sides of the Midway is in the eye of the beholder. Measured on a map, it is the same distance as from Cobb Gate to the central circle of the quads. But

walking across the Midway on a blustery winter day can feel like forever. That daunting perceptual distance is being addressed through design and planning. When you're crossing from south to north, you see the towers of Rockefeller Chapel, Harper Library, and the Medical Center. Conversely, looking from north to south, you don't see a destination—or you didn't until the tower of the Logan Center was built. Now Logan provides something to draw your eye, a visible destination from the north to the south. And with the Midway Crossings complete, there's a much wider space for pedestrians, separated by planters from the street and illuminated by the light masts (or "lightsabers" per the students). These changes create a sense that the Midway is a place one wants to be.

A lot has been going on south of the Midway in the past five to six years: the renovation of the Saarinen-designed Law School quadrangle, construction of the South Campus Residence Hall, Helmut Jahn's ice cube-shaped chiller plant, and the new Chicago Theological Seminary next to the Press Building. And more is planned: a proposed new home for Chicago Harris, now in the fundraising stage, will make a dramatic adaptive reuse of the New Graduate Residence Hall. All of these projects work toward creating the critical mass of activity that is needed to make the south side of the Midway feel fully integrated into the campus.

Informed by our design principles and planning themes, our iterative and evolving touchstone remains all around us: the physical manifestation of the University of Chicago's ambition over time. As a place conceived for the vibrant exchange of ideas, the campus will never be finished. Complete, yes—but just as new ideas continually spring forth from students and scholars, the campus will continue to renew itself through its architecture. ♦

**Steven M. Wiesenthal, FAIA, is senior associate vice president for facilities and University architect. He previously worked at the University of California, San Francisco, and the University of Pennsylvania.**

# CHAPTER AND VERSE

*To approach religion with intellectual rigor, says Divinity School dean Margaret Mitchell, is to play with fire. She stokes the embers.*

BY KERRY TEMPLE

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JASON SMITH

**R**oom 208 in Swift Hall is a corner classroom on the main quadrangle, and on this Wednesday evening about 20 students are loosely convened. They are here to talk about the Gospel of Mark. Some have laptops; some have notebooks. Each has a copy of *Novum Testamentum Graece*, an original Greek version of the New Testament, and at this point in the quarter every book is roughed up, marked up, looking lived in.

The tall windows are open, welcoming gentle breezes. The sun outside is low and the air is soft. Leafy oak limbs sway and nod. The students await their professor. When she arrives, they will probe, analyze, dissect and discuss, wrangle, read, and talk. For the next three hours or so, they will talk about a couple of chapters in Mark—the passion narrative.

**T**his is a story about talking. And the topic is religion, a subject often avoided in polite company, so easily does it incite displeasure, even animosity, among friends and neighbors—to say nothing of those for whom religion is a fiery and irremediable divide.

It's about conversations that poke the embers of deep-rooted passions, that probe the personal reserves of faith and belief. About the knotty dialogue between 21st-century scholars and ancient texts, between the truths of antiquity and today's expressions of fundamentalist fervor. It's about the scholarly argumentation that takes place in the Divinity School, where the word "rigorous" is more mantra than adjective.

It's also about the woman who, since she became dean of the Divinity School in 2010, encourages such talk, kindles it, leads and orchestrates it. While **Margaret M. Mitchell**, AM'82, PhD'89, acknowledges that conducting such talk



is volatile, she not only champions the school's tradition of animated intellectual discourse but says the times call for it.

Religious zeal inflames a spectrum of political movements and policy making, from marriage laws to human reproduction, health care to land use to decisions on war, peace, and the use of violence to further religious aims. From the placement of nativity scenes on public property to the location of a mosque in New York City to the wearing of a burka in a public school. From the revival of evangelical Christianity in America to the rise of fundamentalist Islam in the Middle East.

**T**he proceedings in Room 208 function as might be expected. Students take turns reading the Greek aloud, then translating, then interpreting. It is the interpreting, with Mitchell presiding, that takes the text—and the class discussion—to rich and surprising levels.

The vocabulary and syntax of ancient Greek are more open to ambiguity than English, creating a wider range of meanings. So students venture their interpretations but are pressed to defend their positions. Mark is Mitchell's critical wheelhouse; she's a world-renowned scholar on early Christianity. She wields the scalpel—but with a grace that turns the blade to baton, that reveals the Bible as literature.

Mark 14 and 15, she points out, present “an episodic narrative in which time slows down,” moving the reader “in slow motion toward the inexorable action” of Jesus's final days.

“The text is a Frankenstein,” says **Cameron Ferguson**, a doctoral student from Minneapolis. What he means is that there are multiple editions of the Gospels and that scholars have sifted through these earliest codices to create what seems to be the best reconstruction possible. But he might as easily have said this diligently assembled “Frankenstein” is a monster of intellectual intricacy. “Mark is a master at using vocabulary, sentences, and ideas, and having them reappear,” Ferguson explains later. “You need to read the text over and over again. He wants it to *ping* with you.”

Ferguson is expected to give a presentation later in class on the correlations—the “pings”—between Mark and the writings of Paul, and he is anxious about it. “This is Dean Mitchell's baby,” he explains later. “She knows her stuff, and, if you don't, she'll hold you accountable.”

**S**wift Hall, home to the University of Chicago Divinity School, is a stone fortress on the main quadrangle, bedrock solid and old-school classic. The University's first president, William Rainey Harper, a Hebrew and biblical scholar, believed any major research university should have the study of religion as a central enterprise. And to this day Swift remains the locus for scholars whose explorations into religion's influence,

history, rituals, texts, and traditions have informed deliberations spanning the globe.

Mitchell, the Shailer Mathews professor of New Testament and early Christian literature, became the school's 12th dean in July 2010. She has described the school as “a tough-minded, sprawling, lively, engaging, and ongoing conversation about what religion is and why understanding it is so vitally important.”

A self-described “career research scholar and educator,” Mitchell has also called “the cultivation of new knowledge through research” the school's dominant ethos, saying that “what makes the Divinity School unique is the wide range of traditions, methodologies, dispositions, and commitments that all come together here in a spirit of reasoned, critical debate.” It is important, she insists, to take the intellectual discussions to others, but to do so—to engage religion fully, honestly, and rigorously—is to play with fire.

**O**ne problem, the dean explains in her Swift Hall office, is that polls show people are ignorant about religion, even their own. As the subject infuses current events, people can become numb to it—or, if not, they feel skittish about discussing it honestly. “Everybody's bored by it, they're frightened of it, paralyzed by it, and they think religion is just intractable. And one reason they think it's intractable is because it's *those people who think that.*”

Another reason religion is difficult to discuss, she says, is that *those people's* religious beliefs are seen as “utterly private, ... an opinion, and you can't talk people in or out of it.

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It is a preference. You can express it, but you really can't argue about it."

This sense that faith is both personal and subjective reinforces "a very simplistic reason versus belief kind of assumption," she continues, "that religion is about belief, faith, a leap of faith, as in a kind of 'there's no evidence for it but you just decide to jump off that diving board,' whereas everything else in our experience—science, technology, everything else—is somehow reasoned."

But the word "faith," the scholar notes, has its roots in the Greek *pistis*, which can mean a conviction born of proof—a more rational, intellectual understanding of the idea than the contemporary notion that faith is a childlike belief in the unseen or an unquestioning fidelity to custom and creed.

Religion has been on a kind of deathwatch since God was pronounced dead in the early 1880s, most famously by philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche. A century's worth of scientific discoveries and technological advancements have dissolved large parcels of the spiritual landscape and relegated supernatural terrain to the precincts of superstition. While God's obituary may yet remain unwritten, the religious realm often resides as an incongruous partner to our more secular, scientific, and sophisticated modern world. Not irrelevant, but anachronistic. Not exactly in the same category as legend, myth, and folklore, but perhaps an outmoded human invention whose value and power in explaining the universe and regulating society make it an endangered species of human culture.

Even so, religion thrives and is pervasive globally in human affairs—as a force for good and bad—and it's essential to discuss and understand how it operates in the world. "Some people may see religion today as vestigial or quaint," says **R. Scott Appleby**, AM'79, PhD'85, director of the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. "But it continues to play an important role in society, not least as a lightning rod for conflict."

Rather than nurturing ecumenism, the world's religious renewal appears to have fostered sectarian divides. Religious convictions run deep, both in individuals and among people united in faith. Challenging another's belief system—whether through disdain, ignorance, or good intentions—goes to the heart of that person's self-identity, their sense of morality and propriety, and ultimately their relationship with God. And even attempts to understand (how child abuse could go unpunished in the Catholic Church or terrorism emerge from Muslim faith) expose raw edges and sensitivities when "others" voice their opinions. The hazards of ignition are strung tight.

As conductor of the religious conversation at UChicago, Mitchell steers the Divinity School not so much toward harmony as a common understanding of the enterprise. She does not want the school perceived as "the place where these

softheaded, mushy religious people hang out and make each other feel good." Or as "the place where they indoctrinate you to be religious." Or "where they indoctrinate you to be against religion, the place where faith goes to die."

The Divinity School directly engages the larger society through the Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion. Operating on the principle that "the best and most innovative scholarship in religion emerges from sustained dialogue with the world outside the academy," the center encourages an unflinching public conversation.

"People study religion for a lot of different reasons," Mitchell explains. "But you can't get by here with either sloppy devotionism or with knee-jerk ideological opinion masking as argument. Everybody's got to argue their case."

**A**lireza Doostdar, who joined the faculty last year as an assistant professor of Islamic studies and the anthropology of religion, finds in the Divinity School "colleagues genuinely interested in learning about my work and engaging with my arguments, both for the sake of understanding the Islamic contexts I study but also for comparative purposes across other Muslim societies as well as non-Muslim ones."

Doostdar wrote his dissertation on modern, middle-class Iranians' fascination with the occult, the paranormal, and the supernatural, and he is now researching mystics, witches, New Age spirituality, and jinn—spirits, according to Muslim legend, capable of taking on human or animal form to exert supernatural influence over humans. Rather than "various intellectual enclaves formed around religious traditions or even disciplinary approaches," he explains, faculty and students "are encouraged to know more than one tradition, and to cultivate a comparative understanding—on Jewish, Christian, and Islamic mysticism, for example."

The Swift Hall conversation—whether in a classroom, office, or hallway; or at the weekly Wednesday lunchtime forum; or in the basement coffee shop, Grounds of Being—"unites rigor and respect for persons," Mitchell says, "but neither is sacrificed for the other."

**I**n Room 208 those layered, timeworn chapters in Mark provide a wealth of scholarly goods to be opened and shared, plundered and consumed. As students read and speak, Mitchell inquires and nudges and prods. When they ask questions, she sends them after answers, down the lines of text and through the channels of their own brains. Her classroom approach still incorporates the advice she was given as a 21-year-old about to teach prep school students not much younger than she: "Never leave your students with a world that's finished."



The essence of education, Mitchell says, is a class engaged in “a conversation that’s better than any one of us.”

The class requires a healthy grasp of ancient Greek and a thorough understanding of Jewish and Gentile cultures, the Greek and Roman worlds this budding new religion was infiltrating—because each group would read and respond differently to the text. The teachings would convey different meanings of emperors, messiahs, and a new world order. About the paradoxical kingship of Jesus, not a kingship of coronation but of suffering. About the kingdom of God. And the irony of the son of David riding into the royal city of Jerusalem on a beast of burden and identifying this mysterious rogue with the title Son of Man. “So what do you do with a crucified miracle worker?” posits the dean. And the students leap on it.

On the meaning of anointment. And Jesus as Christ, the anointed one. Is it significant, a student asks, that Jesus is called “the anointed one” before he’s anointed? To which the dean answers: “What do you think?” Leading to a dive into the author’s literary sandwiching techniques—the *ping* device—in which elements appear and repeat and reappear. Not just in Mark but in older Jewish texts calling for the Messiah, the anointed one, who came, accepting death, in fulfillment of the Scriptures.

“That’s the beauty of a class,” she says. “That’s what I love about teaching. It’s that you can just feel that moment when the tide is rising, when everybody is on their game and everybody contributes to a conversation that’s better than any one of us. That’s what education is about. It’s not just about the sage pontificating and the students writing it down. It’s about *inquiry is fantastic*.”

**A**nother misconception plagues the societal discussion, Mitchell says: “Religion is not just private,” but the “world’s religious traditions are in many ways themselves media systems ... communicating and doing things in the present world. ... And it’s a crucial matter that we seek to understand what these things—that at least some people think belong under the tent of religion—what are they about and what are they doing.”

Which explains why the scholar says the times call for the conversations emanating from Swift Hall, even when the interplay of ideas and faith, both personal and public, can be inflammatory. “But that’s also why this divinity school has a

contribution to make beyond the walls of the Divinity School and the University,” she says. It’s “why we need fireworkers,” people with “specialized skills” who help create “a clearing space where the world’s religions can be discussed apart from dogmatism, apart from bigotry, apart from condescension, apart from apologetics. But, instead, in reasoned argument.

“The need for the work we do couldn’t be greater than it is—and the hunger for it, frankly.” But, she cautions, “I don’t want to go too far with the utilitarian argument. ... I also think a scholar shouldn’t have to justify a project just because it might help the State Department. It ought to be enough to try to figure out this Sufi mystic group.”

**T**he intellectual sparring in Room 208 goes on and Ferguson eventually presents his case, doing fine (despite his trepidation) to demonstrate how the writer we know as “Mark” may have been influenced by the letters of Paul. The grad student later admits that he sometimes wonders if he has “the chops” to earn a doctorate here, says he is working terribly hard, that life in the Divinity School is grueling, that he constantly feels the pressure—and that he loves it. “It’s a stressful utopia, as paradoxical as that sounds.”

It was only a few weeks ago that Ferguson, playing intramural soccer on Stag Field, fractured his fibula. Staff at the University hospital insisted they apply a cast, but that was at 5:45 and class with the dean was at 6:00. So he argued vigorously with the nurses, got some Vicodin, and

**I’M NOT IN QUEST OF GOD. I’M IN QUEST OF A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF ANCIENT CHRISTIANITY.**

hobbled to Swift Hall, up the steps and into 208. The cast could wait. He couldn't miss class. Mitchell gave him a ride back to the hospital when class was over.

Education, says the dean, for students and faculty, "is about structuring a conversation where people can make their contribution" and creating "a climate where they can trust that they can ask questions and not fear that every question is some revelation of their own ignorance."

Mitchell, says **Chris Hanley**, MDiv'13, a pastoral care associate at Lutheran General Hospital, "is eloquent, intellectually rigorous, and curious. And she's very, very respectful to her students—maybe 'respectful' is not strong enough."

**T**he shadowy, tiled hallway that leads to the dean's office is lined with large black-and-white portraits of the 11 deans who preceded Margaret Mitchell. All are men, including her predecessor and husband, **Richard A. Rosengarten**, AM'88, PhD'94, a scholar of religion and literature. Mitchell added her own honoree, hanging a black-and-white photograph of Anne E. Carr, AM'69, PhD'71—striding through the front doors of Swift Hall—on the wall of her office. Carr was a Roman Catholic nun who did groundbreaking research in liberation theology and feminist theology, and who, in 1977, became the first permanent female faculty member in the Divinity School.

Mitchell and her husband are Catholic. They have raised two daughters, and her familial geographic roots extend to New York City; Long Island; and Old Greenwich, Connecticut. The Divinity School's tradition is that the dean comes out of the faculty, then returns to the faculty when the term is up. Mitchell, who joined the faculty in 1998, is even more acculturated than that, having earned a master's from Chicago in 1982 and her doctorate in 1989. "She made her mark right away as a student," says one of her former advisers, the eminent **Martin E. Marty**, PhD'56, Fairfax M. Cone distinguished service professor emeritus of the history of modern Christianity. "She was a natural leader" who now, he says, "has universal respect as a scholar." She's an expert on New Testament and primary Christian texts, the poetics and politics of ancient Christianity, and the evolving relationship between earliest Christianity, Hellenistic Judaism, and the Greco-Roman world.

"In my own study," she says, "I'm not in quest of God. I'm in quest of a better understanding of ancient Christianity," focusing on "the origins and early rise of the Christian movement ... to see how a rather extraordinary, revolutionary religious movement began its self-articulation and actually got people to adhere to extraordinary claims about a crucified son of God." Even Paul, one of the movement's first, most devout messengers, she says, knew this message was "unthinkable" and "utterly foolish," yet would claim it as a "divine plan."

She adds, "One of my big overarching interests is how the early Christians created what for them was a meaningful culture out of various strands of influence." Her quest, then, requires an understanding of those cultures—because, she says, religions are also "about money and family life and rituals and they are about texts and world views, all these things, which is why studying religion is so fascinating." And it calls for a thorough probing and study of the earliest documents, how they were understood then and are understood today, by readers of different cultures.

"From a historical point of view," she says, Christianity's rise was "an utterly unlikely event, but it is the case that Christianity became the religion of the Roman Empire around the year 380," and became "the cultural transmitter of many of the values and texts of the classical world in both the West and into the East. Now Christianity and its purveyors often claimed that it was distinct from the world that it arose in," but "you could also argue that it's deeply rooted in Hellenistic Judaism and it's deeply rooted in the wider Mediterranean world out of which it emerged."

She knows those worlds, talks about them ardently, and her analysis is incisive, intense. "She's very passionate about what she does," says **Kathryn Ray**, an MDiv student from Wisconsin who's also pursuing a master's in the School of Social Service Administration. "There's almost a reverence for her subject matter."

Ferguson says Mitchell is "unbelievably kind" and "really cares for students as if they're her own children." But, he adds, "When it comes to scholarship, she will come after you." He remembers watching her respond to another scholar's paper on Paul as a Stoic at an academic conference. She "dismantled him," he recalls. "She methodically took him apart. It was masterful."

"The University of Chicago," says Ray, who spent much of this past summer doing human rights work in Nicaragua, "has a reputation—more so in the past—of being cutthroat and competitive." But she has found its divinity school to be a community of committed scholars and a reflection of the dean—neither "the stereotypical detached scholar" nor "someone who is just complimentary and encouraging," but a person in whom can be found a melding of strengths. "Dean Mitchell encourages us to think creatively, differently about disparate ideas and to turn new ideas out of old ideas. She challenges us to grow and change and find the truth where we didn't expect it. A lot of students are intimidated by her," Ray says, "but she invites students to her house, and she is the most gracious host. She's a warm and welcoming person."

And just as erudite, complex, and engaging as the Swift Hall conversations she orchestrates. ♦

**Kerry Temple is the editor of Notre Dame Magazine.**

*glimpses*

# ON THE DARK SIDE

BY MAUREEN SEARCY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DREW REYNOLDS

**J**osh Frieman, PhD'89, will spend the next five years photographing the night sky with a really big camera. In August the 570-megapixel Dark Energy Camera, built at Fermilab and mounted on the Victor M. Blanco Telescope at the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile, began taking about 400 images of the southern sky every night. Each image captures the light of approximately 100,000 distant galaxies. The project, the Dark Energy Survey, is the largest-yet extragalactic survey and will record information on more than 300 million galaxies. Led by Frieman, UChicago professor of astronomy and astrophysics and Fermilab staff scientist, the survey enlists more than 200 scientists from 25 organizations.

The main goal of the survey is to understand why the expansion of the universe is speeding up: whether a mysterious dark energy pervades the universe or if something is amiss with the law of gravity on cosmic scales. To that end, it is measuring the history of cosmic expansion, or how fast the universe is expanding today compared to its rate billions of years ago. The survey is also measuring the history of large-scale structures: organizations of cosmic elements like clusters of galaxies, superclusters, and filaments. Galaxies tend to clump together, but the strength of that tendency changes over time. "There's this competition between gravity"—particularly the gravity of dark matter—"which is making galaxies attract to each other, and dark energy, which is pushing them apart," Frieman says. Studying this competition and the historical rates of expansion should explain more about the properties of dark energy.

Trained as a theoretical cosmologist, Frieman has worked increasingly with survey data. He previously led the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS-II) Supernova Survey, a three-year project that discovered and measured more than 500 type Ia supernovae—exploding stars that grow as bright as an entire galaxy for a short time and can be used to measure

cosmic distances. Frieman is struck, he says, by the knowledge that can be gained by simply looking at the sky. "What's remarkable to me is that just by taking pictures, we can learn so much about how the universe has evolved." In an interview with the *Magazine*, adapted and edited below, he talked about the cosmos scientifically and philosophically.

**Origins** It really wasn't until I was in college at Stanford that I caught fire with cosmology. An eminent cosmologist from Oxford, Dennis Sciama, came and gave a colloquium on the history of the universe. That was eye-opening to me, the notion that cosmology, in a way, was like archaeology on the grand scale, and that we could use the observed universe, galaxies and how they're distributed in space, similarly to how pottery shards are used by an archaeologist, to figure out what the universe looked like billions of years ago.

**In the dark** We don't know what dark matter is, but we know that it obeys the ordinary laws of gravity—or we think it does. So there are experiments going on to try to detect particles of dark matter, since that's one of the leading ideas of what dark matter could be. It could just be clouds of elementary particles zipping around. Dark energy—we call them both dark because they don't emit or interact with light—is something much stranger, and it would make up

**WE DON'T KNOW WHAT DARK MATTER IS, BUT WE KNOW THAT IT OBEYS THE ORDINARY LAWS OF GRAVITY—OR WE THINK IT DOES.**

about 70 percent of the universe. Unlike dark matter, it doesn't hold stuff together. Dark energy pushes stuff apart.

**Filled with emptiness** One idea for what dark energy could be is the energy of empty space. If you imagine taking this coffee cup, well, it's kind of dirty, but it's filled with molecules of air, right? And imagine I sealed it, attached it to a pump to a vacuum and pumped out all of the particles that were there. It would be totally empty space. In classical physics, if there are no particles in there, there's no energy. But according to the laws of quantum mechanics, even if there are no particles in there, empty space itself can still have energy.

**Before the beginning** Currently the laws of physics can take us back very close to the big bang—a tiny fraction of a second, we think, after the big bang. There is strong evidence that the early universe was very hot and very dense, and that's really what we should call the big bang. Now whether we trace that back to a single point in time, and whether it traces back somehow beyond that point in time, that becomes much more speculative because the laws of physics break down before we get there. And then there comes this question of what do we even mean by time when we get to this point? Because our classical notions of space and time themselves break down. There are certainly physicists who have worked on theories of “what happens before the big bang,” ideas that before the big bang, maybe there was a previous universe that contracted and then



**Josh Frieman, PhD'89, captures light from, and shines light on, the mysterious dark universe.**

bounced and led to the current expansion. That's certainly possible. It may be possible to theorize about that in a consistent way given the laws of physics, but at this point it's very speculative.

**Where we are** Copernicus showed that we are not at the center of the universe. Now with Hubble and others, we know that not only is the sun not at the center of the universe, the sun is just one of tens of billions of stars in this rather ordinary galaxy that's one of billions of galaxies that are flying

apart from each other due to the expansion of the universe. So in fact there is no center of the universe. And now with dark matter and dark energy, we're not even made of the stuff that most of the universe is made of. It's like we're this little spray on the big ocean of the universe.

**Star stuff** On the other hand, I think what counters that is the sense that there's a real unity to the cosmos. I find some strange comfort in the fact that we're all made of stuff that was produced in the supernovae. Most of the elements in our bodies and that we construct the world out of were forged in nuclear reactions in stars when they exploded, and then were spread throughout space. So we actually have this very strange, very direct physical connection to this universe that we're studying. And the fact that we've been able to evolve and develop technologies to understand that universe doesn't give us power over the universe, but I think for me, there's comfort in that understanding of how we got here. ♦

profile

# GOING DUTCH

*In one of the oldest chapters of American history—the Pilgrims' flight from persecution—historian Jeremy Bangs, X'67, finds new ground to cover.*

BY LYDIALYLE GIBSON

**T**he Dutch town of Leiden, 25 miles south of Amsterdam, is home to a strange little museum. Occupying the intersection of Beschuitsteeg and Nieuwstraat, where the cobblestones dead-end into the Gothic enormity of the Hooglandse Kerk—one of several monumental churches that share the skyline with the town's windmills—the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum doesn't seem much like a museum at all, not in the usual sense. There are no display cases, no guidebooks, no labels explaining the artifacts. Instead, there's a small square room in a 14th-century building, dimly lit by candles and casually inhabited by furniture and paintings and other appurtenances hundreds of years old: goblets, candlesticks, leather-bound books. A brass bed

warmer hangs on the wall beside a medieval built-in bed; a baby's crib sits on rockers beside the painted-tile fireplace. Everything is nonchalantly, unceremoniously just ... there. The only nod toward ordinary museum convention is an easel at the back holding a dozen or so placards densely printed with historical information, which some visitors gamely try to read before moving on to the maps and engravings.

Occasionally people come in thinking this must be a shop. Others see the leaded windows and dark interior and walk in hoping to order a beer. But most of the visitors who come to the museum, about 2,000 a year, are tourists. They don't necessarily know what they're in for. You can see them trying to get their bearings as soon as they cross the threshold. What they inevitably discover is that the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum is, most essentially, its proprietor: **Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs.**

PHOTO COURTESY JEREMY BANGS



Bangs, X'67, is perhaps the foremost living scholar of the Pilgrims. "One of the best I've ever come across," says New England genealogist Charles Robert Anderson. He's also one of the few serious scholars left who studies the Pilgrims. Yes, Bangs says, *those* Pilgrims, the ones with the first Thanksgiving, the ones we think we know so well already, whom history has alternately celebrated and castigated, without ever really getting it right. Before they boarded the *Mayflower* in 1620—the first of several ships carrying Pilgrims to Massachusetts—the English Calvinists spent more than a decade as refugees in Leiden, a university town known now for its beautiful canals and sprawling street market, but in the 17th century for religious tolerance and a robust textile industry. Leiden was an important haven for the Pilgrims; it sheltered them and shaped them. The concept of civil marriage, which the Pilgrims brought with them to America, planting an early seed of the separation of church and state, is taken from Dutch law. Explicating the concept, Plymouth Colony governor William Bradford quoted in his journal a passage from a book on Dutch history. In the museum, Bangs has a copy of the very same edition: *A General History of the Netherlands*, printed in 1608. In his journal, Bradford referred to page 1029; Bangs opens his own book to page 1029 and reads: "It was decreed by a public proclamation, that all such as were not of the Reformed religion, (after lawful and open publication) coming before the magistrates in the townhouses, were orderly given in marriage one unto another." He looks up. "So, that paragraph is a source for the beginning of civil marriage in English law."

Even that first Thanksgiving has Dutch roots, Bangs says. It drew not only on biblical harvest festivals but also on the thanksgivings the Pilgrims attended every October 3 in Leiden, commemorating the end of the Spanish siege of 1574, in which half the town's population died. "An obvious parallel," he wrote in one essay, to the Pilgrims' brutal first winter in Plymouth after their voyage across the Atlantic.

Bangs made the reverse journey. Born in Oregon and raised mostly in and around Chicago, he has spent the majority of his adult life in Leiden, amassing vast and formidable expertise that includes but isn't limited to the Pilgrims. He's written and edited half a dozen books on the Pilgrims, one of which, *Strangers and Pilgrims, Travellers and Sojourners* (General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 2009), chronicles their Leiden experience.

But he's also written about Reformation-era theology, architecture, and art history. His dissertation, written at Leiden University, is on 16th-century Dutch tapestry weaving and church furnishings. In high school, Bangs was a good enough bassoonist to be accepted to Juilliard without applying (he didn't go), and he first arrived in Leiden as a 22-year-old working artist, three courses shy of a college de-

## HE RADIATES THE COILED PATIENCE OF SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE ANSWER TO MOST ANY QUESTION YOU MIGHT ASK AND IS JUST WAITING FOR YOU TO ASK IT.

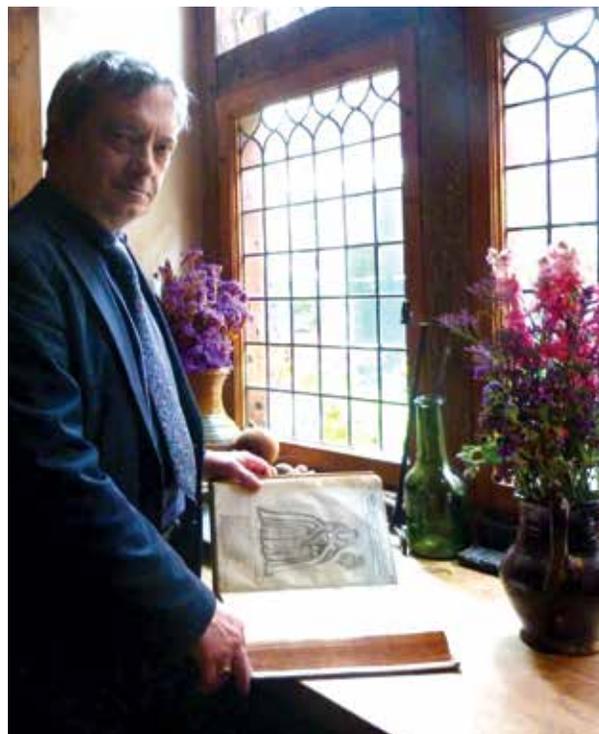
gree from the University. "What makes Jeremy so special," says Anderson, "is that he has such a broad—I mean, he's an art historian, he's an architectural historian, he knows the theology, and he knows the languages and the history behind all of it." A onetime biochemist who took a break from the lab in 1976 and never went back, Anderson got interested in genealogy after a great aunt died, leaving behind a family Bible with some unknown names and birthplaces. Now he directs the Great Migration Study Project, an effort to catalogue every single emigrant who settled in New England between 1620 and 1640. It's close work and, after 25 years, only half finished. "We've batted stuff back and forth over decades now," he says.

Now 67, Bangs seems to remember everything he's ever read. He walks with a slight limp and carries a cane, a result of the multiple sclerosis he was diagnosed with almost 20 years ago. But it doesn't keep him from hopping up onto a chair or a bench to show off a high-hung painting or to grab an artifact he thinks a visitor might like to see. When his jokes aren't corny—"some of the oldest things in the collection are my jokes," he says—they are wry and acerbic, and punctuated with an almost inaudible chuckle. The longer you talk to him, though, the more his reserve unwinds into a kind of guarded warmth. And at all times, he radiates the coiled patience of someone who knows the answer to most any question you might ask and is just waiting for you to ask it. "He knows everything," says Sandra Perot, a PhD student from Massachusetts who interned with Bangs at the museum this past summer. "With Jeremy, part of it is wanting to know what you want to know about the story."

**B**angs's father was Carl Bangs, PhD '58, a church historian and theology professor, and an expert on the 16th-century Dutch theologian Jacobus Arminius. Carl Bangs's 1985 biography, *Arminius: A Study in the Dutch Reformation* (Abingdon Press), is a definitive text. "I grew up expected to contribute at a rational level to dinner conversations, or else not talk," Bangs said. He did some of both. One night, he recalls, UChicago philosopher Charles Hartshorne was over for dinner. "I was very small, probably second grade." A recent trip to the Field Museum of Natural History had deeply impressed him, and after dinner he asked Hartshorne if he'd like to see his bug collection. Then, to the embarrassment of his parents, Bangs brought out the dozens of cockroaches he'd been collecting from the basement, carefully squashed and glued to three-by-five cards, which he labeled, "bug 1," "bug 2," "bug 3," and so on. A philosopher interested in the metaphysics of "becoming" rather than "being," Hartshorne asked whether it might be better to study the roaches where they lived instead of as static corpses. "So," Bangs says, "that's what it was like growing up."

At Chicago, Bangs studied art—painting and drawing, building on the landscapes and portraits he'd done since childhood, plus lithography and sculpture—and double majored in art history. He took a year or so off, and by 1968 he still needed three core classes: math, biology, and physics. "I came back that summer and saw a bunch of my friends get beaten up by the cops in the riots, and I said, no, I'm not going to stay," Bangs recalls. "I'll just go off and be an artist." After a sojourn in London, where he got exhibits but a museum job fell through, Bangs came to Leiden, where his father was a visiting professor. He was running out of money and losing direction. "And my father's friend said, 'Look, kid, go back to school.'" So he did, in Leiden. Although he'd never spoken a word of Dutch, Bangs knew how to read it—17th-century Dutch, anyway. He'd learned it in high school when his father drafted him as a research assistant translating theological texts. He picked up modern Dutch once he got to the Netherlands. "Although apparently," he says with an offhanded wave, "my vocabulary still includes antiquated words."

At Leiden University, finishing up his college degree turned into graduate school, which turned into graduate research and trips to the municipal archives. Leiden's archives contain a nearly complete record of the town's existence going all the way back to the Middle Ages: receipts, certificates, licenses, contracts, births, deaths, marriages. It was an almost bottomless pool of knowledge. Bangs had sensed its depth, but he didn't yet know how to swim it. "I needed to be able to read the documents," he says. Few people can, or ever have. It's not simply a matter of knowing old Dutch; the records are written in script indecipherable to those not trained to recognize the shapes of letters in antique hand-



**It was not in America but in the Netherlands that Bangs became an expert on the Pilgrims.**

writing, the obscure abbreviations, the archaic grammar. An archivist named Bouke Leverland took notice of Bangs and began tutoring him in paleography, helping him transcribe old records into readable documents.

A whole world opened then. A priest in the Old Catholic Church, which split from Rome in the 18th century, Leverland was a scholar of the Middle Ages and a brilliant man, Bangs says. "But he was such a perfectionist. He could have gotten his doctorate, but he could never decide when he was finished." After he died, some of Leverland's former students compiled a book from his notes and published it. "It would easily at any time in the previous years have been accepted as a dissertation."

Getting his own PhD in 1976, Bangs started work as a historian in the Leiden archives in 1980. Immediately, and involuntarily, he became its Pilgrim specialist. "They said, 'You're an American, what do you know about the Pilgrims?' And I said, 'Nothing. Life's been OK without it.' And they said, 'Too bad; you now do that as well.'" This is a story Bangs tells often, adding that his bosses warned him not to bother with additional research on the Pilgrims: "It's all been done."

Except it hadn't. After 15 minutes in the archives, Bangs says, he turned up a document no one had known was there: a rent dispute in which a Leiden landlord was complaining that a Pilgrim hadn't paid his rent on time. A small thing, but a sign, he thought, of more. Bangs started reading everything in the archives up through 1630, and some records through 1700. Increasingly, he became convinced that the prevailing narrative about the Pilgrims—that they were rigid and intolerant, and in the long run insignificant, that

they wanted religious freedom for themselves only—was untrue. “For one thing, they were considerably more tolerant,” he says. “They were attempting to get their own religious beliefs right, but because of the way they read the Genesis story of the Fall, if everything after it is imperfect, so is theology, every theology, including your own assessment of somebody else’s.” Bangs swam deeper. On the subject of Pilgrim courtship, he found an insight in 17th-century Dutch poet Jacob Cats, who wrote poetry in English that reflected Dutch Reform attitudes, “which the Pilgrims shared,” he says. “We know this from advice that their minister gave.” Cats’s poems warned young people against being too bashful, Bangs says. “‘You’re not going to get any response if you don’t say anything,’ for example. And in another one, there’s a comment that even if the girl’s apron has been shifted already, she might be a very nice person. These are not things you’d expect.”

**I**n 1986, Bangs took a job in Massachusetts as chief curator at Plimoth Plantation, a re-creation of the Pilgrims’ Plymouth Colony, then at the archives in nearby Scituate and then at Pilgrim Hall Museum in Plymouth. “You know, when I first started, I wasn’t expecting the Pilgrims to be particularly interesting,” he says. “It turned out to be rather a different story.” He began transcribing 17th-century records the Pilgrims had left behind in American archives, a massive project that remains unfinished—a box of photocopied records from Plymouth Colony sits under a table in the museum in Leiden. Looking into the Pilgrims’ dealings with the local Indian tribes, he found that there, too, many historians had gotten things wrong. Deeds for the land the natives sold to the Pilgrims showed an attempt at fairness, says Bangs, who in 2002 published *Indian Deeds: Land Transactions in Plymouth Colony, 1620–1691* (New England Historic Genealogical Society). “They believed that since the Indians had signed agreements to be subjects of the king, they deserved equal treatment in English law.” A study of horses’ earmarks, which owners used to identify their animals, revealed that Pilgrims in Eastham regularly sold the horses they bred to the natives. “Which points to a relatively peaceful ability to live together,” Bangs says. In fact, he adds, looking at Eastham’s records “it’s possible to say that the majority of people living in the town throughout the entire 17th century are the Indians. Nobody’s ever noticed that.”

After a decade, Bangs was ready to get back to the Netherlands. He wanted to open his own museum. So in 1996, he and his wife, artist Tommie Flynn, whom he met in Massachusetts, moved to Leiden. It was late fall and the roses were still blooming. They set up house temporarily in a floating cinderblock of a houseboat. During his ear-

lier years in Leiden, he’d become part of the culture there, Flynn says. “I don’t think he ever quite acclimated when he came back to the US.” On Thanksgiving Day 1997, the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum opened in the ground floor of the oldest known house in town, built around 1370.

**O**n a gluey hot afternoon in early September, Pat and Art, an American couple originally from New Jersey, stopped by the museum, gingerly pushing open the door and stepping into the cool, shadowy in-doors. Like a lot of the museum’s visitors, they have Pilgrim ancestry and an ardent interest in New England’s first colonists. Pat came with a handwritten piece of paper tracing her family back to Pilgrim leader William Brewster. Bangs offered them the easel of densely printed placards; he gave his customary spiel about the museum and the house, how it was originally built as a residence for priests at the Hooglandse Kerk next door, and how, after the Reformation, it was rented to ordinary families. No Pilgrims ever lived in the house, although Brewster came there in 1609, just weeks after the Pilgrims’ arrival in Leiden, to make arrangements for burying one of his children—probably an infant, Bangs notes, because the archives have no record of a name or an age. Bangs took Pat and Art’s admission fee—four euros each—and told a joke about the 402-year-old church poor box he uses as a cash register: “It’s designed rather like Calvinist theology,” he said, turning it upside down as the coins inside it jangled. “No matter how much you put in it, not much comes out.” Pat and Art looked around the room; they tried to get their bearings. There were long moments when nobody said anything.

Then they started asking questions. And then Bangs was telling stories, opening drawers of Pilgrim-made tobacco

## **ON THANKSGIVING DAY 1997, THE LEIDEN AMERICAN PILGRIM MUSEUM OPENED IN THE OLDEST KNOWN HOUSE IN TOWN, BUILT AROUND 1370.**



**Some visitors think the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum is a shop; others walk in hoping to order a beer.**



**A museum engraving shows an inn, a center for social and business life, for Pilgrims as well as other townspeople.**

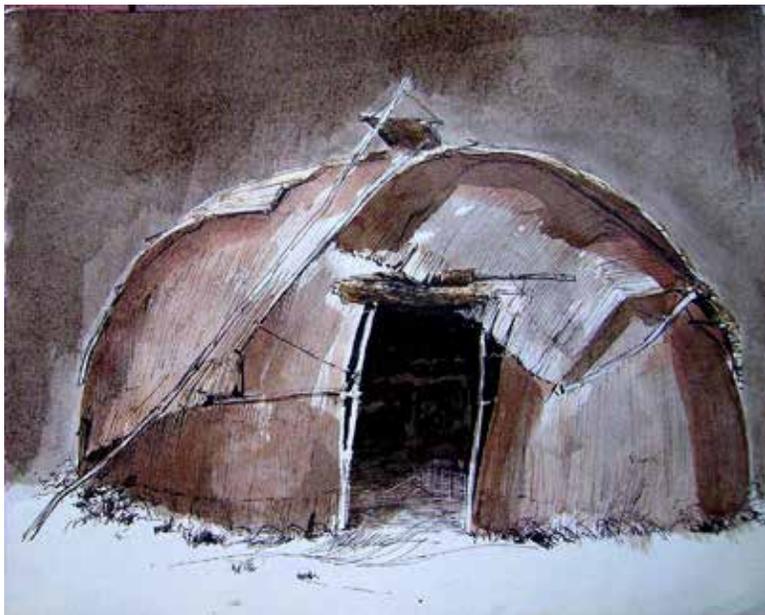
pipes and cloth seals evoking their work as weavers, wool combers, carders, and cloth fullers in Leiden's textile guild. Bangs showed off his collection of centuries-old spoons—wooden, pewter, brass, and one drilled with holes for straining sugar—and children's pottery and toys. He pulled out an elegantly carved folding table and a beat-up wooden candleholder, both exceedingly rare. In the museum's second room, which Bangs calls "the medieval room," because it retains its original 14th-century floor and fireplace and is decorated with furnishings from the Middle Ages, Art sat in a chair from 1200 and played with a set of jacks made from cow knuckles. Bangs gave a lengthy explication of a 500-year-old linen banner depicting symbolic moments in the Crucifixion: the agony at Gethsemane, Pilate washing his hands, soldiers playing rock-paper-scissors for Christ's robe.

Back in the Pilgrim room, Art spotted a large wooden and metal contraption that looked like a jack. "The great screw," Bangs said grandly. "William Bradford, writing about the journey across on the *Mayflower*, mentions a storm in which the main beam of the *Mayflower* broke. And luckily one of the passengers had a 'great iron screw.' And with that they were able to jack up the main beam and support the mast and continue." For decades historians were baffled—what was this great screw? A 1920 book suggested that perhaps it was part of a printing press the Pilgrims brought with them. Many of them had worked in printing houses in Leiden, and Brewster ran a clandestine operation publishing books forbidden in England. But there's no evidence, Bangs says, that the Pilgrims brought a press with

them to the New World. The mystery remained.

Then last year he happened across a reference to a great screw in a 17th-century guide to house carpentry. It described a tool standing about three feet high that worked much like a car jack. By coincidence, his friend had been looking for the very same tool, though he didn't know its name, to lift the museum building's roof and replace a structural beam. "So we got one," Bangs says. The great screw saved his friend the trouble of hiring a crane and blocking off the street. And now, Bangs says, "it's a pretty nice little addition to the museum's collection." As Art and Pat watched, Bangs leaned down and turned a crank. The great screw opened, clanking loudly.

"I encouraged him always to bring out the treasures," says Perot. A graduate student in early American history at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Perot and her daughter Zoe, a sophomore at Princeton, interned with Bangs this past summer. He tutored Zoe in paleography, while Sandra studied 17th-century furniture. "He has so many little gems all over the museum, and he can tell stories and stories about them. You can pick up glass beads that were manufactured in 17th-century Amsterdam, the type that were used for trade with the native population in the colonies." That tactile experience is one of the best things about the museum, she says. "It helps people understand. What does it feel like when you put these things in your hand? How much do they weigh? When you actually hold a string of the beads, you can understand why the natives would like something like this. They're pretty, they're iridescent, they're weighty." And everything in the museum is real: the cooper's mug, the tobacco pipes, the



**A sketch by Bangs of a reconstructed Native American “wetū”—a house made from bark and cattail mats—at Plimoth Plantation.**

They reunited over lunch, and Bangs gave Meerman the door frame.

While he was looking for a place to put his museum, Meerman and Koppenaal had been looking for a way to open part of their house to the public. The arrangement seemed right. “It feels that the building is respected,” Koppenaal says. A less monumental structure than some of Leiden’s other landmarks, the house is no less worthy of saving, no less rich with history. “Jeremy is the storyteller,” she says. And the house “tells the story of itself as well.”

books. “It just gives you a better sense of humanity.”

Many, if not most, of the museum’s artifacts come from one man: antique dealer Ron Meerman, Bangs’s friend, landlord, and coconspirator. It was he who procured the great screw and used it to fix the roof. With his wife, Thea Koppenaal, Meerman owns the building; the couple live upstairs from the museum and run an antique shop around the corner. Tall and slight, with a graying blond beard and a kinetic expressiveness, Meerman has a knack for finding impossible-to-find things. It’s almost a refrain for Bangs, showing off an artifact, to say something like, “Only three examples of this were known. Now there are four.” Sometimes unexpected oddities like the great screw fall into Meerman’s hands. This past winter, as Bangs was giving a tour of the museum, Meerman came in holding a narrow, smoothly polished stick, which had just been dug up a couple of towns over, along with several other objects from the 1600s. “Look at this crazy little walking stick!” he exclaimed to Bangs in Dutch, as the two began to pore over it together. The walking stick now rests in a corner of the museum.

Meerman and Bangs first met more than 20 years ago, when Bangs was in Leiden on a purchasing trip for Plimoth Plantation and Meerman was just setting up his business. Bangs returned to Massachusetts with armloads of antiques. The two met again after Bangs moved back in 1996. Walking his dogs one day, Bangs came across a 16th-century door and door frame tossed out on the street. “These kinds of things happen in Leiden,” Meerman says with a rueful laugh. “Modernizing.” Bangs couldn’t carry the whole thing, so he picked up the frame and walked home with two dogs on leashes and a 400-year-old door frame around his neck. When he came back for the door, it was gone. A few weeks later he spotted it, leaning against a wall in Meerman’s shop. They hadn’t spoken in years, and, focused on the merchandise, Bangs hadn’t even realized the shop was Meerman’s.

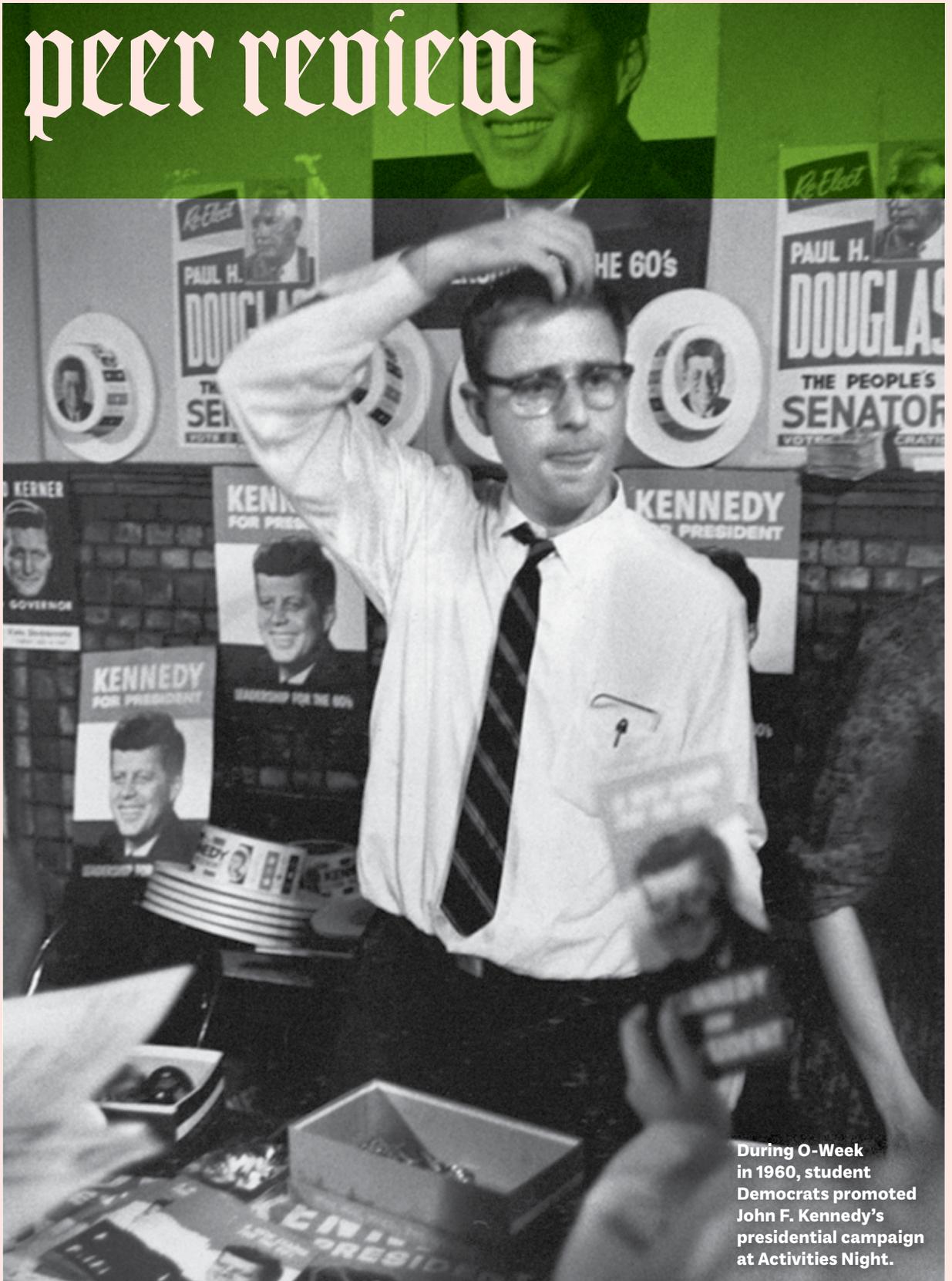
In truth, all of Leiden is Bangs’s museum. Walking the cobblestones with him, it’s impossible not to see how fluently and thoroughly he is a part of this place: the interlocking canals, the ancient Roman roads, the majestic city hall, where Pilgrims went to register their marriages. The cheap market across the street, where those who could afford meat would buy liver, tripe, and kidneys. The Pieterskerk, where the Pilgrims worshipped and where their pastor, John Robinson, preached. When the *Mayflower* departed in 1620, only the first of several ships carrying Pilgrims to the New World, Robinson stayed behind with the rest of his congregation, waiting for a later trip. He died five years later, still in Leiden.

Many of the town’s Pilgrim sites are gone now, torn down to make room for the modernizing Meerman mentions. One of the last Pilgrim houses, William Bradford’s, vanished in the mid-1980s. Over the years, Bangs has been a nuisance to developers and city officials seeking to tear down much of the old part of town, including his own home, a narrow shank of a house built in the 16th century, which he and Flynn share with three pet rats and Joris Draak (“George Dragon”), a blind and deaf dog, who waits under the table for Bangs to feed him bits of cracker.

When he isn’t fighting off bulldozers or showing tourists around the museum, Bangs continues transcribing the Plymouth Colony archives. After a year’s labor, he’s about halfway through, and now he’s looking for the funding to finish. During the 19th century, there was an effort to do this same transcribing, but it was interrupted by the Civil War. “They never got back to it,” he says. In the records, he’s hoping to find what happened to Plymouth Colony, how it all ended. “What causes it to disperse to the point where, in 1692, people were satisfied to lose the unity of the colony altogether?” That answer, he says, isn’t known. He’s swimming again. ♦

ILLUSTRATION BY JEREMY BANGS

# peer review



During O-Week in 1960, student Democrats promoted John F. Kennedy's presidential campaign at Activities Night.

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# Man, the lonely animal

BY JOSHUA MITCHELL, PHD'89

In a letter composed just three years before his death, Alexis de Tocqueville wrote: “This profound saying could be applied especially to me: it is not good for man to be alone.” When I tell students that the whole of Tocqueville’s magisterial work *Democracy in America* was written under the aegis of this sentiment, under the shadow of what could be called a philosophy of loneliness, they listen.

Tocqueville’s concern, I tell them, was the emergence of a new type, *homo solus*, the lonely man, and with how this new type would understand himself and his place in the world. This makes my students around the globe approach *Democracy in America* with a sense of urgency. For five of the past seven years, I have been in the Middle East—three in Qatar, helping Georgetown establish its School of Foreign Service there, and two in Iraq, helping to build the nascent American University of Iraq, Sulaimani. In the course of those overseas duties, not an hour went by when Tocqueville’s thinking about the movement from the aristocratic age to the democratic age did not occupy my imagination.

So in the Middle East as in Washington, DC, I assign *Democracy in America*. On both campuses, my students soon discover that it is a book that reads their own hearts, for few things are more haunting to them than the specter of loneliness. They seek to understand Tocqueville, so that they may understand themselves; for in Tocqueville’s

writing, they find an account of the etiology of the disease from which they suffer: man, the lonely animal. And because teachers of the history of political thought are called not only to diagnose disease but also to indicate wherein health may lie, I encourage them to attend to Tocqueville’s cautious hope that such loneliness need not be the final word about their future.

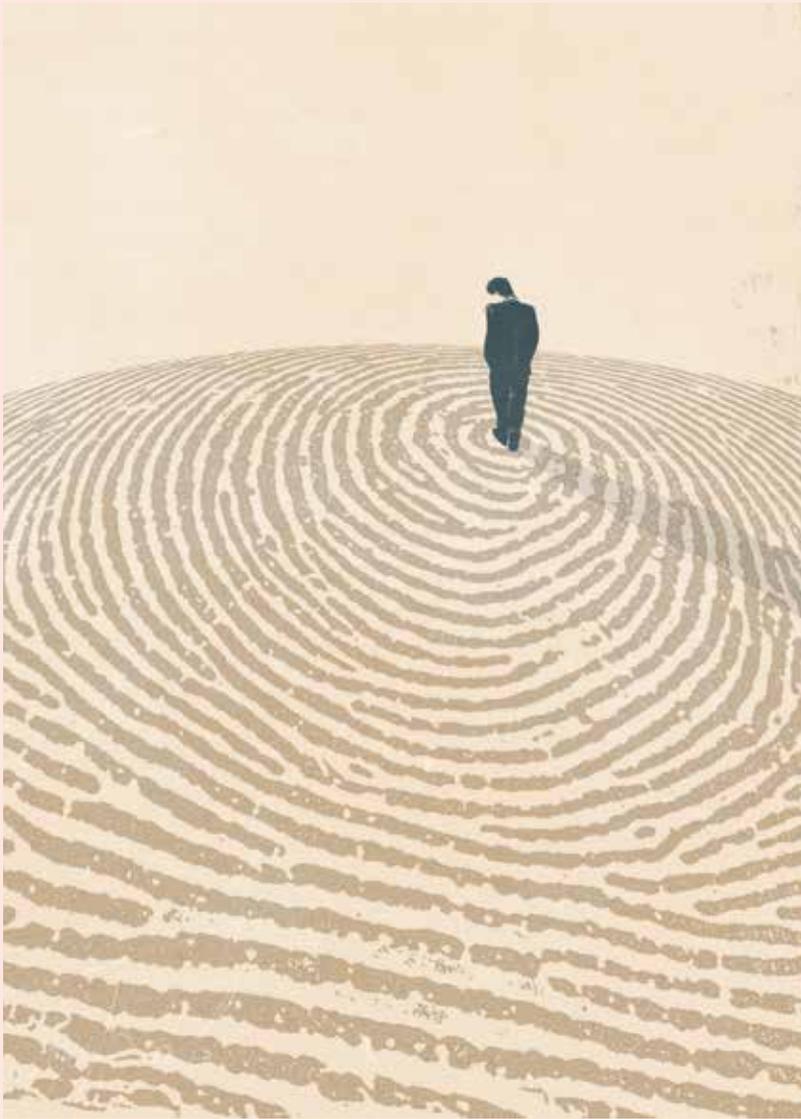
While loneliness has been chronicled in all ages, Tocqueville thought that it would be an especially acute problem in the democratic age, because the antidote that the aristocratic age before it had offered would no longer be available. That antidote was the “links,” as he called them, which tied each to everyone else. In his words: “Aristocracy has made of all citizens a long chain that went up from the peasant to the king; democracy breaks the chain and sets each link apart. ... [Democracy] constantly leads [each man] back towards himself alone and threatens finally to confine him wholly to the solitude of his own heart.”

The character of these links is not easily understood in the democratic age, which explains why they cannot be easily reconstructed. In the democratic age, man is largely gathered together by having interests in common. In the aristocratic age, man is largely bound together through loyalty and obligation. Democratic interest involves conscious, ongoing calculation and negotiation between individuals who gather together and then disband; loyalty and obligation entail range-bound and durable relations between roles.

It is difficult for my students on Georgetown’s main campus to imagine the ties of loyalty and obligation. I routinely ask them, for example, whether what they do at home in the way of “chores” is undertaken because the family into which they have been born requires it. The formulation itself seems odd to them. More than any generation that has come before, they expect and receive money for the chores they do and are seldom moved to action without it. When they are young, they are called upon to attend various family gatherings and do so; but from adolescence onward, it is increasingly difficult to concentrate their attention on such matters. Already they are on their way to breaking their attachment with their parents.

My students in Qatar, on the other hand, tell a different story. They are ever cognizant of the family name they bear and of both the loyalty that must be displayed and the obligations that must be borne. These do not diminish with age. Many of them spend evenings and weekends involved in family celebrations. This attentiveness to

**To think of oneself as an individual rather than to understand oneself as a role is really a rather remarkable historical achievement, which they largely take for granted.**



family obligations often has deleterious consequences for their studies, though in vain does the teacher implore them to place their own self-interest at the forefront. Many do not understand themselves first and foremost as individuals but rather as bearers of a family name. More accurately, while they are increasingly coming to think of themselves as individuals, they nevertheless continue to think of themselves as occupying a specific and largely unalterable role in their families and, by extension, in their societies. They occupy roles, yet they think of themselves increasingly as individuals. Therein lies their difficulty.

My students in Washington face a different difficulty. To think of oneself

as an individual rather than to understand oneself as a role is really a rather remarkable historical achievement, which they largely take for granted. The Latin term *persona* supposes a distinction between the actor and the mask he puts on. In the aristocratic age, the mask—the role—largely mediates relations. The individual behind the mask may strain to find the right way to wear it, but it cannot ever be wholly removed. In the democratic age, when everything is on the move, the mask seems ill fitting and has the appearance of an awkward artifice. If donned at all, it is seldom worn for long. It is often intentionally removed and sometimes stripped off by others. In bemused moments, it is treated ironically; when it

appears grotesque to its wearer, a caricature of the beauty and purity of the individual behind the mask, the tender and never-ending search for “authenticity” commences. The individual, alone and without durable linkages to others of the sort that roles can provide, searches for “meaning” in a world that seems inhospitable to his “needs.”

The exceptional condition from which my American students suffer is de-linkage of the sort that no other nation in history has known. That de-linkage gives rise to many of the peculiarities in American society that my students from the Middle East observe from afar even if they don’t fully understand. “It is not good for man to be alone.” From that luminous beginning follows the whole of Tocqueville’s healing art in *Democracy in America*. Loneliness, he assures us, need not be the final word. Bleak as the condition of the American polity can at times appear to be, it can always be renewed through the face-to-face relations that are sorely needed if democratic freedom is to endure. ♦

**Adapted from *Tocqueville in Arabia: Dilemmas in a Democratic Age* (University of Chicago Press, 2013) by Joshua Mitchell, © University of Chicago. Joshua Mitchell is professor of political theory in the Department of Politics at Georgetown University. His books include *The Fragility of Freedom: Tocqueville on Religion, Democracy, and the American Future* (University of Chicago Press, 1995).**

## NOTES

### OBSERVER IN CHIEF

The US State Department selected **Tiffany Taylor**, AB'12, as the US Youth Observer to the 68th United Nations General Assembly. She attended UN General Assembly events in New York, met with other nations' youth representatives, and shared her experiences via social media. A master's student at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, Taylor has been a youth journalist for Geneva's International Labour Organization and a Fulbright Fellow in business management in New Delhi.

### RAPPING IN THE LIMELIGHT

**Jonathan Rapping**, AB'88, and his nonprofit, Gideon's Promise, are the subject of the documentary *Gideon's Army* (Trilogy Films, 2013), which won the editing prize at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. Rapping directs the honors program in criminal justice at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School and is a lecturer at Harvard Law School. Named after *Gideon v. Wainwright*, which established an indigent criminal defendant's right to a court-appointed attorney, Gideon's Promise provides mentorship and training to public defenders as well as programming for lawyers and aspiring lawyers.

### ABOUT SCHMID

This October **Julie Schmid**, AB'90, became the new executive director of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). Schmid previously served as the chief of staff for the Wisconsin affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers, worked in the AAUP's department of organizing and services, and taught at Portland State University. Expressing enthusiasm for her position and asserting that US higher education is "in crisis," she said, "This is where the fight is."

### HIGHER MAGNITUDE

**David DeRosier**, SB'61, PhD'65, has received the Microscopy Society of



### WELL VERSED

**Laura Raidonis Bates**, PhD'98, has been featured on MSNBC, NPR, and in the *Chicago Tribune* for her work creating Shakespeare programs in prisons. An English professor at Indiana State University, Bates first started reading the Bard to prisoners 25 years ago at Chicago's Cook County Jail and has since opened and facilitated similar programs in Indiana, including at the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute. She wrote about her experiences in *Shakespeare Saved My Life* (Sourcebooks, 2013). The prisoners have been able "to make sense of some passages that professional Shakespeare scholars have struggled with for 400 years," she told NPR.

America's highest honor, the Distinguished Scientist Award, recognizing achievement over a career. DeRosier, an emeritus professor of biology at Brandeis University, was recognized for his collaborations to develop 3-D reconstruction of cellular structures from electron micrographs. According to an August *BrandeisNOW* article, DeRosier's contributions have helped enable scientists to see cellular structures, such as proteins, all the way down to the atoms.

### BOOK ART

**Robert B. Silvers**, AB'47, was awarded the Presidential Medal for the Humanities in a July ceremony at the White House "for offering critical perspectives on writing" and elevating "the book review to a literary art form." Also this summer, Silvers was elected as an honorary fellow of the

British Academy. Silvers cofounded the *New York Review of Books* in 1963, served as its coeditor until 2006, and is now its sole editor.

### COLIN HIM GENIUS

**Colin Camerer**, MBA'79, PhD'81, is a 2013 MacArthur Fellow. The Robert Kirby professor of behavioral economics at the California Institute of Technology, Camerer will receive a five-year grant of \$625,000 from the MacArthur Foundation. He helped pioneer behavioral game theory and is a leader in the nascent field of neuroeconomics, combining behavioral modeling with neuroimaging technology—studies that the foundation said "provide strong evidence of the inconsistencies between classical economic principles of rationality and observed choices and behavior of real people."

## RELEASES

*The Magazine lists a selection of general-interest books, films, and albums by alumni. For additional alumni releases, use the link to the Magazine's Goodreads bookshelf at [mag.uchicago.edu](http://mag.uchicago.edu).*

### WHAT HAPPENED TO GOLDMAN SACHS: AN INSIDER'S STORY OF ORGANIZATIONAL DRIFT AND ITS UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

By Steven G. Mandis, AB'92;  
Harvard Business Review Press, 2013  
A Goldman Sachs employee from 1992 to 2004 and then a client after cofounding his own global alternative asset management firm, **Steven G. Mandis** combines personal experience, interviews, and analysis of SEC and congressional filings to inform his account of the company's changing culture. Assessing the values that made Goldman Sachs successful, Mandis analyzes "why and how the firm changed from an ethical standard to a legal one as it grew to be a leading global corporation."

### LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF FOOD RIGHTS: THE ESCALATING BATTLE OVER WHO DECIDES WHAT WE EAT

By David E. Gumpert, AB'68;  
Chelsea Green Publishing, 2013  
Food policy journalist **David E. Gumpert** argues that government regulators are "increasingly cracking down—physically and legally—on farmers, suburban moms, and clubs exchanging food on a private basis." Consumers concerned about negative effects from mass-produced, processed foods have asserted a right to buy directly from farmers and neighbors. Activists among them have established what *Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Food Rights* celebrates as "a creative and spirited opposition" to government overreach.

### FLOATING CITY: A ROGUE SOCIOLOGIST LOST AND FOUND IN NEW YORK'S UNDERGROUND ECONOMY

By Sudhir Venkatesh, AM'92, PhD'97;  
Penguin Press, 2013  
A Columbia University sociologist and author of *Gang Leader for a Day* (Penguin Books, 2008), **Sudhir Venkatesh**

spent a decade studying New York City's wealthy and destitute to "crack the code of the city's underground economy." Drawing on interviews with socialites and prostitutes, immigrants and academics, high-end drug bosses and street-level dealers, Venkatesh's "memoir of sociological investigation" argues that the people occupying these disparate worlds, rather than being separated by a great divide, unite through networks of illicit transactions.

### UNDILUTED HOCUS-POCUS: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MARTIN GARDNER

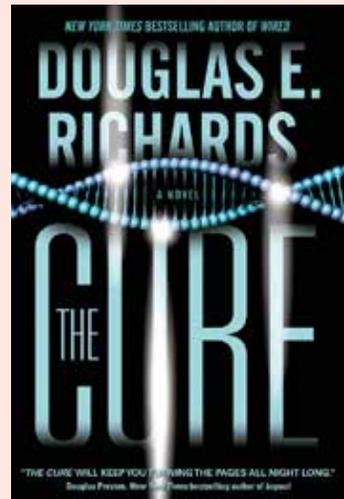
By Martin Gardner, AB'36;  
Princeton University Press, 2013  
Polymath—emphasis on the poly and the math—Martin Gardner, who died in 2010, recounts his rich and varied life in this conversational memoir. From his Oklahoma childhood to a UChicago education to his naval service to stints as a reporter, editor, and short story writer, Gardner shares intimate anecdotes and sharp opinions. *Scientific American's* Mathematical Games columnist for 25 years, Gardner published more than 70 books on topics such as magic, philosophy, religion, and pseudoscience. *Undiluted Hocus-Pocus*, according to *Publishers Weekly*, "demonstrates his passion to explain and understand the world around him."

### THE RISE AND FALL OF HUMAN RIGHTS: CYNICISM AND POLITICS IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE

By Lori Allen, AB'93, AM'98, PhD'05;  
Stanford University Press, 2013  
The cynicism Palestinians feel about human rights efforts on their behalf is a critique of domestic politics and Western intervention, argues **Lori Allen**, not an expression of apathy. In an ethnographic study of NGOs and activists in the region since 1979, Allen, a lecturer at the University of Cambridge, explores how the failure of the ultimate goals—ending Israeli occupation, establishing an accountable Palestinian government—has shaped perceptions of human rights activity.

### THE CURE: A NOVEL

By Douglas E. Richards, MBA'89;  
Forge Books, 2013  
New research identifying differences in the brains of psychopaths inspired



the new thriller by **Douglas E. Richards**. A genetic engineering expert and the best-selling author of *Wired* and *Amped*, Richards tells the story of graduate student Erin Palmer, who studies psychopaths because of a traumatic experience as a child. Her work attracts notice from a neuroscientist named Hugh Raborn who claims to have identified the genes responsible for psychopathic behavior, presenting the potential for a treatment to reverse the condition. Palmer begins to doubt Raborn's motives and finds herself caught in a global conspiracy that raises moral and ethical dilemmas associated with psychopathy.

### THE SECRET LANGUAGE OF COLOR: SCIENCE, NATURE, HISTORY, CULTURE, BEAUTY, AND JOY OF RED, ORANGE, YELLOW, GREEN, BLUE, AND VIOLET

By Joann Eckstut and Arielle Eckstut, AB'92;  
Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers, 2013  
Joann Eckstut, a color consultant, and **Arielle Eckstut**, a member of the children's committee of the Color Association of the United States, considered themselves color experts. They were proven wrong in researching their new book. They learned, for example, that grass is not green (the human brain perceives color differently than other animals). Exploring color through the lens of numerous academic disciplines, the authors were surprised by its myriad influences on human life. In the process, they discovered that anyone claiming to be a color expert is wrong.

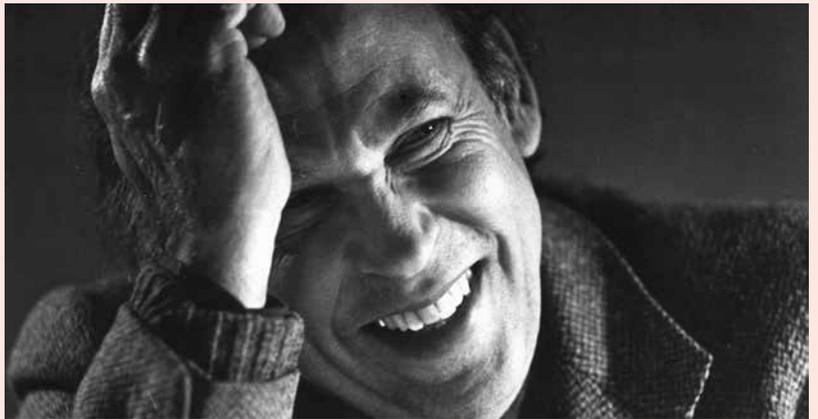
# ALUMNI NEWS

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## SECOND CITY'S FIRST MAN

Even after the seats were full and the lights started going down, people kept arriving. They lined the walls and crowded in at the back and climbed up into the balconies looking for more room, all of them coming to say goodbye to Second City cofounder and Chicago improv patriarch Bernard Sahlins, AB'43, who died this past June at 90. Among the audience were big names like actors William Petersen, Joan Allen, John Mahoney, Amy Morton, and Sahlins's brother-in-law, British actor Geoffrey Palmer. During the September memorial service, held at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater, speakers told story after story about Sahlins's smarts and spontaneity and madcap adventures, lapsing now and then into the present tense. By the time things wound to a close with the comical "Goodnight Song" performed by a cluster of Second City alums—including Bill Murray, who darted onto the stage just as the music swelled—the lofty Shakespeare Theater felt a little like the comedy club Sahlins founded in 1959: a couple hundred people crowded shoulder to shoulder in darkness, laughing long and loud, even as their emotions sometimes caught in their throats.

The list of eulogists included many close friends from Sahlins's professional life—not only at Second City but also Steppenwolf Theatre, the Chicago International Theatre Festival, the Shakespeare Theater, UChicago's Court Theatre—bearing out Sahlins's frequent admonition to young people: do what you love, he told them, and make no distinction between work and play. Speakers remembered him as a mentor and a big brother and a remarkably messy eater. ("Bernie was famous for his table manners," recalled his brother **Marshall Sahlins**, an anthropologist and UChicago professor emeritus, "including the ability to eat a hot dog and get mustard on his back.") He was a kid who never grew up, and a provocateur who never grew old. "What I have been feeling since Bernie died is an unimaginable silence," said **Nicholas Rudall**, a Court Theatre cofounder and UChicago classics professor emeritus. Sahlins was Rudall's friend for 40 years, since Court's early days, and beginning in the 1990s the two collaborated on staged readings of verse plays, sponsored by the Poetry Foundation. "He knew how to take you under his wing, to teach you—and to be impossible," Rudall said. "Because, as everyone said, there was this wonderful, generous, critical mind, but an enormous, wonderful obstinacy as well." Second City CEO Andrew Alexander put it more plainly: "Well, Bernie Sahlins drove me nuts," in part because Sahlins was almost always



**At a memorial service for Bernard Sahlins, friends and family recalled the Second City cofounder's passion for his work, which in recent years included directing staged readings of verse plays for the Poetry Foundation.**

right. He knew the theater business, he knew Chicago, and he knew what was funny. "There are more than a few actors," Alexander said, "whose lives are made better the first time they make Bernie laugh."

Sahlins's nephew, British television director Charles Palmer, recalled jokes that had delighted him and his younger sister, and antics involving balled-up newspapers, bawdy songs, and baby chicks. "There was something childlike about him that we related to," Palmer said. "Like us, he got bored and was told off for his table manners, and like a child he was always looking to have fun." *Chicago Tribune* theater critic Chris Jones called Sahlins a great Chicagoan. "His work has always ennobled this city," he said. "His has been comedy at its highest reaches, comedy of the mind, unafraid of classical references or a bit of Heidegger in the punch line, but it's OK if there were beer stains on the table." Second City alums Tim Kazurinsky and David

Pasquesi thanked Sahlins for demanding that they never dumb down their performances for the audience. "Bernie didn't suffer fools gladly; in fact, he didn't suffer them at all," Kazurinsky quipped. "But thank God he wasn't above hiring them."

Offering bits of family history ("you probably didn't know that Bernard George Sahlins was named for George Bernard Shaw") and memories of his older brother, Marshall Sahlins expressed a loss both personal and universal. "Brothers are parts of one another," he said. "Now I'm incomplete. But then everyone in the human brotherhood who knew and loved Bernie, and the millions beyond whom he made laugh and think, have lost something of themselves. When someone he admired died, Bernie was fond of quoting a line from *Hamlet* that all of us could now say of him: 'He was a man. Take him for all in all. I shall not look upon his like again.'"

—*LydiaLyle Gibson*



# THE PHOENIX SOCIETY

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Anonymous	Peter Davis	James Honkisz, JD'74
Anonymous, AM'71	Andrea Dudek	Edward Kent, AM'60
Anonymous, MBA'74	Dorsey Ellis, JD'63	Karen Krishack
Anonymous, AB'80, MBA'84	Lea Embree and Alan Embree, AM'74	Lewis Lipsitt, AB'50
Anonymous, AB'12	Carl Frankel, AB'54, JD'57	Elaine Locke, AB'61
William Ballard, SM'47, PHD'57	Ira and Shrikant Garde	Dr. Vivien Lee Loh, MD'57, and Pichon Loh, AM'51, PHD'55
Betty Bardige and Arthur Bardige, AB'63, MAT'66	Adele Gidwitz, AB'39	David Lopez, AB'65
John Bartlett, SM'08	Keith Kiley Goldstein and Rodney L. Goldstein	Everett Lunsford, MBA'82
Stuart Boynton, AB'49	Sally Fox Goren, BSS'53, AM'54, and Ralph Goren, JD'52	Edmund Lusas, MBA'72
Robert Brogan, AM'87	Ira Graham, MBA'74	Thomas Mansager, JD'63
Kenneth Brown, SB'65, SM'68, MBA'68	Elaine Hansen, AM'54	Robert March, LAB'49, AB'52, SM'55, PHD'60
Therese Castiglioni and James Klick	Richard Hayden, SM'48, PHD'48	Arthur Massolo, JD'67
Debra Chrapkiewicz and Dr. Timothy Chrapkiewicz, CER'04, CER'05	Lawrence Herbolsheimer	Jean Barker Matthaei
Robert Darnall, MBA'73	Michael Herman, MBA'64	Gerald C. Mattran, AM'66, PHD'92
	Jeffrey Hillman	Dorothy B. Mayer, AM'66

## *With Gratitude For Your Support*

Phoenix Society members lead the way in supporting the University's students, faculty, resources, and facilities through estate commitments and life-income arrangements. Such gifts provide important ways to strengthen and sustain the University's future. The names below represent members welcomed into the society from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. All names are listed per member request.

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

## *Thank you.*

Francis C. McGovern, AB'86

Linda G. McGrain and  
John P. McGrain

Micaela Mendelsohn, LAB'51,  
AB'54, AM'63

Debra Moskovits, PHD'85, and  
Jack Fuller

Emily Nicklin, AB'75, JD'77

Janice Nolan and  
Dr. Leif Sorensen

Del Nord, AB'42, and  
Edward Brovanski, PHD'89

Brien O'Brien

Mrs. Russell J. Parsons

Dr. Robert W. Parsons, PHB'49

Anne Petersen, AB'66, SM'72,  
PHD'73, and Douglas Petersen,  
AB'67, THM'69

Michael Peters, AB'90

Mark Plotkin, LAB'64

Karin Pranglely and  
Joshua Pranglely, MBA'08

Mary-Ellin Hill Proehle,  
LAB'39, SB'43

Judith Rill, AM'78

J. Timothy Ritchie, JD'63

Robert Rothman, MBA'77

Ann Rothschild, LAB'32, AM'58

Fannie Rushing, PHD'92

Ellen Sandor and  
Richard Sandor

Karla Scherer, AM'99

The Honorable Nancy Sherman,  
PHB'45, JD'48

Robin Simon, MBA'89

Rebecca Gray Smith, MLA'12,  
and David L. Smith, AM'97\*

Ellen Spalding, AM'63

Dr. Nathan Szajnberg, AB'74,  
MD'74

Frances Teders and  
Michael Teders, MBA'73

Marilyn Tenzer and  
Lee Tenzer, MBA'77

Thomas Unterman, JD'69

Richard Weinroth, JD'83

Eben Werber, AM'85

Carl Westberg Jr., LAB'44,  
PHB'50, MBA'55

Kenneth Wheeler, MBA'66

Nicole Williams, MBA'70

Carolyn Norlene Wolfe and  
David Taylor, AM'72

Louise Kinzie Wornom, AM'62

Allen Young, PHD'68

Sean Yu, AM'02

\*Deceased

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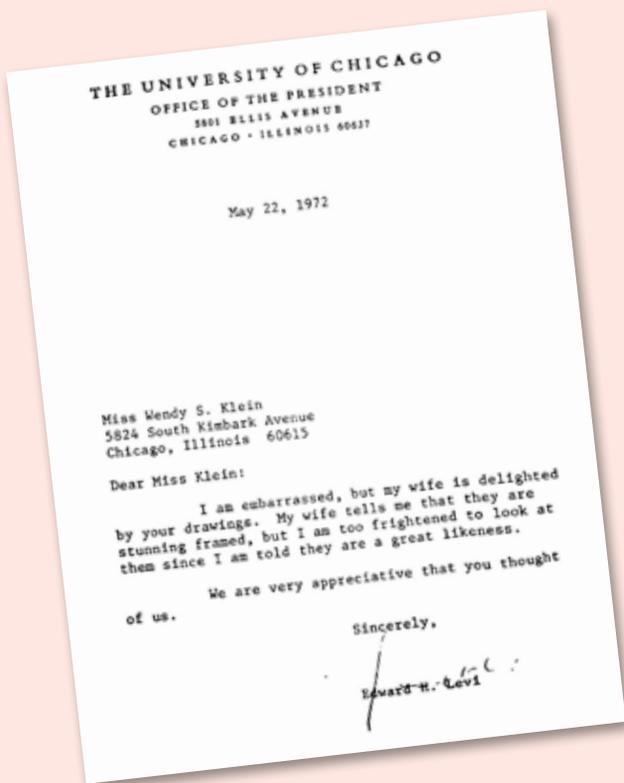
—Coleman Seskind, AB'55, SB'56, SM'59, MD'59



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## SITTING PRESIDENT



After Wendy Klein gathered the nerve to show President Edward H. Levi the portraits she had sketched of him, they were framed for the future attorney general, who thanked her in the letter reproduced here.

In an October 14 ceremony, the Administration Building, newly bisected by an open-air pathway leading from Ellis Avenue to the quads, was rededicated in honor of the University's first provost and eighth president (see For the Record, page 18). It was the latest tribute in a recent span during which Edward Levi, U-High '28, PhB '32, JD '35, and his legacy—as legal scholar, University leader, and US attorney general—have been much remembered. Last September, six University provosts gathered on campus to mark the 50th anniversary of Levi's appointment to the office he defined. The University of Chicago Press published a collection of Levi's speeches as attorney general, *Restoring Justice*, this May, and in September reissued his classic text *An Introduction to Legal Reasoning*.

Wendy Klein, AB '75, offers a personal portrait, revealing the human dimensions of a towering figure. As an undergraduate during Levi's tenure as president, she stole some moments from her studies to sketch, from photos, the man who would

inspire her career as a lawyer. Here, she tells the rest of the story.

—Laura Demanski, AM '94

In 1971, Edward Levi was the president of the University. I was a first-year student in the College. Academic studies were all-consuming, and I had very little free time. During that free time, I relaxed by sketching. Over the course of several months in 1971, I drew three portraits of Edward Levi.

I did not know at the time that Mr. Levi had a practice of inviting first-year students to breakfast. During the spring of 1972, I received an invitation to one of those breakfasts. I took the three portraits I had drawn to the breakfast and hoped I would have the chutzpah to show them to Mr. Levi.

Only one other student and I attended the breakfast that sunny spring morning. The other invited students did not attend, probably because of a student strike protesting the war in Southeast Asia. At the breakfast, there was a long table with

a number of intimidating professors and only two very silent students. I recall that Professor **Marvin Zonis** was present.

During the breakfast, I did not have the courage to display the drawings. After the breakfast was over and as Mr. Levi was walking away, I approached him and displayed the drawings to him. He seemed embarrassed and said something about papering the bathroom walls with the drawings, which I interpreted as self-deprecating humor.

Mr. Levi's assistant, Jonathan Kleinbard, assured me that Mr. Levi actually liked the drawings and asked me if he could get them framed for the Levis. I agreed to give up the drawings, but I requested photocopies, which Mr. Kleinbard provided. One of the drawings is reproduced here. Several weeks after the breakfast, an envelope from the Office of the President arrived in my Woodward Court dormitory mailbox. Edward Levi's witty thank-you letter speaks for itself and is reproduced here for all to read.

# DEATHS

## FACULTY AND STAFF

**Ronald Coase**, the Clifton R. Musser professor emeritus of economics, died September 2 in Chicago. He was 102. A pioneer in the field of law and economics, Coase published groundbreaking articles, including “The Nature of the Firm” (1937) and “The Problem of Social Cost” (1960), which laid out what is now known as the Coase theorem. In 1991 he received the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. A statistician with the British war cabinet during WW II, Coase taught at the London School of Economics, the University of Buffalo, and the University of Virginia before joining the Law School in 1964. He served as editor of the *Journal of Law and Economics* until 1982 and published his final book, *How China Became Capitalist* (Palgrave Macmillan), at age 101. In February 2013, thanks to a generous gift from Richard and Ellen Sandor, UChicago’s Institute for Law and Economics was renamed the Coase-Sandor Institute for Law and Economics.

**Jean Bethke Elshtain**, the Laura Spelman Rockefeller professor of social and political ethics, died August 11 in Nashville, TN. She was 72. Joining the Divinity School in 1995, Elshtain also taught in the political science department and in the Committee on International Relations. With work on topics ranging from bioethics to feminism, Elshtain lectured around the world and published influential books, including *Women and War* (Basic Books, 1987) and *Just War Against Terror* (Basic Books, 2003). She was a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Guggenheim Fellow. In 2002 she received the American Political Science Association’s Goodnow Award. Survivors include her husband, **Errol L. Elshtain**, AB’64; three daughters; a son, **Eric P. Elshtain**, PhD’10; and four grandchildren.

**Peter Huttenlocher**, professor emeritus of pediatrics and neurology, died August 15 in Chicago. He was 82. Huttenlocher was the first researcher to describe how children’s brains develop neuron connections quickly before gradually “pruning” as they mature; he later developed the timetables for this process in three regions of the brain associated with the acquisition of specific cognitive skills, which led to changes in early childhood education. After teaching at Harvard and Yale, in 1974 he joined UChicago, where he taught and practiced for almost three decades. With funding from a grateful patient’s family, Huttenlocher founded the first US clinic for children with tuberous sclerosis. Retiring as professor emeritus in 2003, he received honors including the UChicago Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association’s Gold Key Award. He is sur-

vived by his wife, **Janelle Huttenlocher**, the William S. Gray professor emeritus of psychology; a daughter, **Anna Huttenlocher**, U-High’79; sons **Daniel Huttenlocher**, U-High’76, and **Carl Huttenlocher**, U-High’90; and four grandchildren.

**Eizaburo Okuizumi**, Japanese studies librarian for the East Asian Collection, died July 21 in Chicago. He was 72. After posts at Keio University in Tokyo and the University of Maryland, Okuizumi joined UChicago in 1984. Over his 29 years at the Regenstein Library, he enhanced its Japanese collection, considered one of the best in the United States. A visiting scholar for many years at Meisei and Hosei Universities in Japan, he also was a historian of US-Japan wartime and postwar relations. He wrote and edited more than 200 publications, including a 148-volume set of historical materials on the experiences and achievements of early Japanese immigrants to America. In 2004 Okuizumi was honored by the Japanese government for his work to promote US-Japan relations. Survivors include his wife, Keiko; daughters **Yuri Okuizumi-Wu**, U-High’86, AB’90, and **Kaoru Okuizumi**, U-High’86, AB’90; two brothers; and five grandchildren.

## 1930s

**Simon H. Bauer**, SB’31, PhD’35, died July 14 in Davis, CA. He was 101. Bauer joined Cornell’s chemistry faculty in 1939. He retired as professor emeritus in 1977 but continued to publish and work with students until 2005. The author or coauthor of some 400 publications, Bauer pioneered the use of shock tubes to study reaction kinetics at high temperatures. Among his awards was the US Senior Scientist Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Survivors include his children, grandson, and great-granddaughter.

**Jacob L. Mosak**, AB’35, PhD’41, of Cedarhurst, NY, died June 24. He was 99. During WW II, Mosak served as regional head of the Office of Price Administration and as director of economic stabilization in the Office of War Mobilization and Reconstruction. In 1947 he joined the United Nations, rising to assistant secretary-general as the UN’s highest-ranking economist. Mosak also was an adjunct professor at Columbia University. He is survived by two sons, seven grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren.

**Myrtle (Levinson) Nieder**, AB’36, of Danville, CA, died June 8. Nieder taught preschool and elementary school in Chicago before moving with her family to Walnut Creek, CA. Survivors include two daughters, two sons, 12 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

**Frederic R. Wickert**, PhD’38, of Lake Barrington, IL, died July 15. He was 101. A pio-

neer in industrial psychology, Wickert was one of 25 psychologists the Army brought to Washington to evaluate draftees during WW II (he later joined the Air Force as an officer). After the war, Wickert became a professor at Michigan State University, retiring as professor emeritus in 1993. The recipient of nine Fulbright grants, Wickert also helped to launch the Peace Corps. His wife, Dorothy Dodge Wickert, SB’38, died in 1992. He is survived by two daughters and two grandchildren.

## 1940s

**Grace “Bunnie” (Harnsberger) Mateo**, SM’45, died September 28, 2012, in Pineville, NC. She was 93. A nurse practitioner, Mateo taught at the University of Minnesota and worked with her husband in their private practice in St. Paul, MN. In retirement, she tutored adult literacy students. Survivors include her husband, **Guillermo Mateo**, SB’45, MD’48; a daughter; two sons, including **John Stephen Mateo**, AB’81; and three grandchildren.

**Joyce Grace (Jedlicka) Bloomfield**, PhB’46, died July 26 in Rolling Hills Estates, CA. She was 88. Bloomfield was a social worker for the Cook County courthouse until she and her husband, Joseph Robert “Bob” Bloomfield, MD’52, moved to Vancouver, Canada, in 1952. Bloomfield and her husband, who died on May 24, were married for 62 years. Survivors include two daughters, a son, and two grandsons.

**Harley Flanders**, SB’46, SM’47, PhD’49, a mathematician, died July 26 in Ann Arbor, MI. He was 87. Flanders taught at institutions including the University of California, Berkeley; Purdue University; Tel Aviv University; and the University of Michigan. Author of a book on differential forms, Flanders was associate editor of *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* and editor in chief of the *American Mathematical Monthly*. He also received the NCRIPAL/EDUCOM Distinguished Software Award for his MicroCalc educational software program. Survivors include two sons, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

**Irma (Geller) Gusfield**, PhB’46, died January 5 in Danville, CA. She was 86. A social worker at Children’s Hospital in San Diego (now Rady Children’s Hospital), Gusfield spent 17 years working in the oncology/hematology unit. She also helped organize one of the first Ronald McDonald Houses in the country, serving on its board for many years. Gusfield retired in 1991. She is survived by her husband, **Joseph R. Gusfield**, PhB’46, AM’49, PhD’54; a daughter; a son; and three grandchildren.

**Jerome W. Sandweiss**, PhB’46, AM’48, JD’50, died July 16 in St. Louis. He was 88. A WW II Army veteran who served in the Counter Intelligence Corps, Sandweiss practiced law for five decades in St. Louis. In one case he successfully represented a local Jewish temple before the Missouri Su-

preme Court, helping to set a standard that grants religious institutions the freedom to establish themselves without government interference. Serving 36 years on the board of Sigma-Aldrich Corporation, Sandweiss also taught Sunday school at a local temple and political philosophy courses in Washington University in St. Louis's continuing education program. Survivors include his wife, Joy; two daughters; one son; and six grandchildren.

**Barbara (Gross) Mertz**, PhB'47, AM'50, PhD'52, a best-selling mystery writer and an Egyptologist, died August 8 in Frederick, MD. She was 85. Mertz wrote more than 35 mysteries under the pen name Elizabeth Peters and 29 suspense novels under the pen name Barbara Michaels; many of those books, including the 19 in the Amelia Peabody series, take place in Egypt. She also wrote two nonfiction books about ancient Egypt under her own name. The winner of a Grand Master Award from the Mystery Writers of America, Mertz also received a Professional Achievement Award from the UChicago Alumni Association. She is survived by a daughter, a son, and six grandchildren.

**Catherine (Leinen) Meyer**, PhB'47, died June 13 in Chicago. She was 90. Meyer taught elementary school in the Chicago Public Schools and hearing-impaired children at York Community High School in Elmhurst, IL, and at Hinsdale South High School. She also gave piano lessons for more than 60 years. Her husband, Robert L. Meyer, AB'42, died in 2011. She is survived by two daughters, including **Catherine Meyer Luchins**, MD'85, and grandson **Matthew Luchins**, U-High'10.

**Walter S. Fitch**, U-High'43, AB'48, PhD'55, of Oracle, AZ, died June 2. He was 87. A WW II Navy veteran, Fitch taught astronomy at the University of Arizona, where he mechanized the 36-inch reflecting telescope in the institution's observatory. An expert on pulsating stars, Fitch retired from the university in 1986. In retirement, he kept a detailed record of precipitation and temperature and corresponding bird and animal sightings along the Coronado National Forest border. He is survived by his wife, **Nancy B. Fitch**, AB'47; three daughters; a son; and two grandchildren.

**Roy Melvin Johnson**, AB'49, SM'51, of Sun Lakes, AZ, died July 21. He was 86. A WW II Army veteran, Johnson joined the faculty of Arizona State Teacher's College (now Arizona State University) in 1952. A microbiologist, he helped establish Arizona State's botany department. He taught at ASU as a full professor for more than 20 years, retiring as professor emeritus. Survivors include four daughters, a sister, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

## 1950s

**Alfred W. Bull**, PhB'48, SB'50, died May 31 in Geneva, IL. He was 82. An Army

Medical Corps veteran, Bull was an anesthesiologist at what is now Adventist Hinsdale Hospital for 24 years, also serving as the anesthesiology department's chair and treasurer. Survivors include his wife, **Nanine Therese (Thurber) Bull**, AB'52; two daughters; two sons; a sister; five grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

**Jane (McCahan) Mather**, X'50, died August 15 in Chicago. She was 85. A staff member at the Chicago Children's Choir, Mather led a fundraising campaign to finance the choir's first international tour. In the 1980s and '90s, she was an editor with the *American Journal of Sociology*. She is survived by two daughters, including **Christine Mather**, U-High'81, and a son.

**Joseph Robert "Bob" Bloomfield**, MD'52, died May 24 in Torrance, CA. He was 89. A British national living in Shanghai, Bloomfield was imprisoned in an internment camp run by the Japanese during WW II. After attending college and medical school in the United States, he practiced family medicine in Torrance for almost four decades. As chief of staff of Riviera Hospital, Bloomfield also served on the board of directors when the hospital merged with Torrance Memorial Hospital (now Torrance Memorial Medical Center) and was chief of the family practice department. He was a founder of the South Bay Squash Racquets Club. His wife, Joyce Grace (Jedlicka) Bloomfield, PhB'46, died on July 26. Survivors include two daughters, a son, and two grandsons.

**Ernest L. Hartmann**, AB'52, died August 7 in Truro, MA. He was 79. An expert on dreams, Hartmann was a psychiatry professor at Tufts University School of Medicine and directed the Sleep Disorders Center at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. The author of nine books, including *The Biology of Dreaming* (Charles C. Thomas, 1967) and *The Nature and Functions of Dreaming* (Oxford University Press, 2011), Hartmann also was the first editor of the journal *Dreaming* and a past president of the Association for the Study of Dreams. Survivors include a daughter, a son, a brother, and a grandson.

**Ronald M. Brown**, U-High'50, AB'54, of Phoenix, AZ, died July 30. He was 78. A lawyer for more than 35 years, Brown was a senior counsellor of the Illinois State Bar Association. Survivors include his wife, Marlene; three sons; a sister; and six grandchildren.

**J. Gerald Phillips**, AM'54, died August 19 in Leominster, MA. He was 85. A WW II Navy veteran, Phillips composed sacred music and was an organist for several New England parishes. In addition to composing the first English setting of the Mass, Phillips cofounded Trivium School and was its choir director and a music teacher until retiring in 2008. He also taught music at a local university and college and was an assistant editor for a sacred music publishing company. Survivors include two daughters, a son, a sister, and five grandchildren.

**Winifred C. (Olson) Van Oel**, MAT'54, of

Des Moines, IA, died July 24. She was 95. Starting her career with the Cadet Nurse Corps in Iowa, Van Oel later directed the pediatric nursing department at the University of Iowa Hospitals and taught nursing at Grand View College (now Grand View University). Survivors include two sons, a brother, and a sister.

**William Grant Black**, DB'55, the seventh bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, died July 7 in Springfield, IL. He was 93. A WW II Army veteran, Black was a rector for more than a decade at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Athens, OH. He also chaired the Athens Human Relations Commission and was appointed to the 13-state Appalachian Regional Commission. Moving to Cincinnati in 1973, Black became a rector at the Church of Our Savior, leading an effort to establish ecumenical dialogue among Christians, Jews, and Muslims in the Cincinnati area. Elected a bishop in 1979, Black served an 88-parish diocese until 1992. His honors included being named Man of the Year by the Southeastern Ohio Regional Commission and the UChicago Divinity School's 1972 Alumnus of the Year. Survivors include his wife, Frances; a daughter; two sons; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Nelson A. Moffat**, MD'55, died July 29 in Dousman, WI. He was 82. An Army veteran, Moffat practiced urology and held leadership positions at the Marshfield Clinic for almost 30 years, retiring in 1992. For seven years, he served on the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board. A registered piano technician, Moffat also rebuilt, repaired, and tuned pianos. His wife, Joan (Burkhart) Moffat, AM'53, died in 2010. He is survived by a daughter, two sons, a sister, and four grandchildren.

**James S. Kahn**, PhD'56, died July 27 in Galena, IL. He was 81. After a stint as a geology professor at the University of Rhode Island, Kahn joined Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where he rose to chief executive officer. In 1987 he became president and CEO of Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry, where he opened the permanent *Take Flight* exhibit and introduced the world's first scientific exhibit on AIDS and HIV. Leaving the museum in 1997, Kahn then did consulting work. Survivors include his wife, Barbara; a daughter; sons **Douglas S. Kahn**, SM'81, MBA'88, and **Randall S. Kahn**, MBA'91; and four grandchildren.

**John Edwin Norbeck**, SM'56, PhD'56, a nuclear physicist, died July 13 in Iowa City, IA. He was 83. Joining the University of Iowa's physics and astronomy department in 1960, Norbeck taught there for more than four decades. A pioneer in using computers to record data from nuclear physics experiments in the early 1960s, Norbeck received the inaugural Computer Applications in Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Award from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. In 2000 he joined

Iowa's high energy physics group, part of the Compact Muon Solenoid collaboration at CERN. He continued this experimental work after his 2002 retirement from Iowa as professor emeritus. He is survived by his wife, Janet; two daughters; a son; two stepdaughters; two stepsons; a sister; a grandson; five step-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

**Warren R. Maurer**, AM'57, died June 5 in Urbana, IL. He was 84. Maurer—a scholar of German literature, folklore, and the origins of proper names—taught at the University of California, Berkeley; Indiana University; and the University of Kansas. Survivors include a daughter, a son, a brother, a sister, and two grandchildren.

**Felicia Antonelli Holton**, AB'50, died October 7 in Canaan, CT. She was 91. After serving in the Women's Army Corps during WW II, Holton attended the University on the GI Bill. A reporter for publications including the *Wall Street Journal*, she twice served as editor of the *University of Chicago Magazine*, from 1955 to 1957 and from 1980 to 1989. In 1957, under her leadership, the *Magazine* received the Robert Sibley Award for alumni magazine of the year (see Editor's Notes, page 3). The Archaeological Institute of America named its nonfiction book award for Holton in recognition of her work with archaeologist **Stuart Struever**, PhD'68, on *Koster: Americans in Search of Their Prehistoric Past* (Anchor Press/Doubleday, 1979). Her husband, James T. Holton, JD'50, died in 2000. Holton is survived by a daughter, a sister, and two grandchildren.

**Dominic Ciardi**, MBA'58, of Piscataway, NJ, died August 21. He was 81. A Marine Corps veteran, Ciardi joined M&T Chemicals, rising to director of human resources and administration before his 1995 retirement. He was a member of the Piscataway school board for 26 years, and the Piscataway High School athletic field is named in his honor. He is survived by his wife, Pat; two daughters; three sons; two sisters; and nine grandchildren.

## 1960s

**Daniel Bilo**, AB'62, died August 13 in Chicago. He was 72. A printer for the *Chicago Tribune* for 15 years, Bilo later worked in the City of Chicago's Department of Water Management. Survivors include a brother and a sister.

**George Borge**, MD'63, a psychiatrist, died August 7 in Burr Ridge, IL. He was 74. After serving as a staff psychiatrist at the National Institute of Mental Health and doing psychiatric research, in 1976 Borge joined Edward A. Hines Jr. VA Hospital outside of Chicago as chief of psychiatry services. He developed a biological psychiatry laboratory at the hospital where doctors could take brain scans of veterans to help with their treatment. He also was the psychiatry department chair at what is now Vanguard MacNeal Hospital. Retiring from Hines

in 1999, Borge then maintained a private practice. He is survived by his wife, Renee; two daughters; a son, **Marc Andrew Borge**, MD'89; a sister; and five grandchildren.

**H. Y. Lau**, SM'64, PhD'67, died in November 2012 in Guangzhou, China. He was 75. A chemist, Lau and his wife, **Noland Kong**, SM'65, PhD'67, worked in national laboratories in the United States, Germany, and Italy before returning to China in 1972. They worked for the Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences, for more than 20 years and then joined Sun Yat-sen University, from which they later retired. Survivors include his wife, a daughter, a son, and two grandchildren.

**Richard Alan Edwards**, AM'62, PhD'68, of Woburn, MA, died July 4. He was 78. A New Testament scholar, Edwards taught at Bethany College in Lindsborg, KS; Thiel College in Greenville, PA; Virginia Tech; and Marquette University. His books include *Matthew's Story of Jesus* (Fortress Press, 1985). He is survived by three children, two grandsons, one great-grandson, and two sisters.

**H. Gene Blocker**, AB'60, of Cleveland Heights, OH, died April 12. He was 75. A philosophy professor, Blocker joined the faculty of Ohio University in Athens in 1972, serving as department chair in the 1980s. His many articles and books include *The Metaphysics of Absurdity* (University Press of America, 1979) and *Fundamentals of Philosophy* (Pearson), now in its eighth edition. He retired from Ohio as professor emeritus in 1998. The founder of the Athens Dixieland Jazz Band, Blocker played the cornet. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer Jeffers; two daughters; a son; a brother; a sister; and a grandchild. (*This notice corrects information in the July–Aug/13 issue.*—Ed.)

## 1970s

**Gerald N. Evascu**, MBA'70, died of complications of autoimmune hepatitis and liver cancer July 26 in Asheville, NC. He was 69. After working as a money manager with a Los Angeles bank and with A. G. Becker & Co. in Chicago, Evascu became an independent consultant to money management firms. In 2011 he completed one of his life goals: to see every play written by Shakespeare. Survivors include his wife, Kathleen; two daughters; a brother; and five grandchildren.

**Armand L. Andry**, AB'71, of Oak Park, IL, died of complications from multiple myeloma June 6. He was 63. Andry operated his own law firm for more than 30 years. He also was the first African American appointed to the Oak Park Fire and Police Commission. He is survived by his wife, Sally; three sons; a brother, **Duane A. Andry**, AB'73 (Class of 1974); two sisters, including **Mamie V. Andry**, AB'72; and four grandchildren.

**Michael Charles Flachmann**, PhD'73, an

English professor, died August 8 in Cedar City, UT. He was 70. A Shakespeare scholar, in 1972 Flachmann joined the newly opened California State University, Bakersfield, where he remained for the rest of his career. The author of more than 20 books, he received several awards for his teaching, including being named US Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation. Flachmann also founded and directed CSUB's University Honors Program, helped coach the women's tennis team, and taught judo. In addition to his teaching, Flachmann was a dramatist for more than 100 Shakespeare productions across the country, including at the Tony-winning Utah Shakespeare Festival. Survivors include his wife, Kim; a daughter; a son; and two grandsons.

**Woodie T. White**, AM'72, PhD'77, died of kidney failure August 12 in Chicago. He was 66. White was assistant dean of the University of Wisconsin's College of Letters and Science and volunteered with the Madison (WI) Festival of the Lakes before returning to Chicago in 1990 to become executive director of the Dance Center of Columbia College. He established an alumni program there and raised the center's profile, then became vice president of development for the college. In 2003 White took a job with the United Negro College Fund, serving as the Midwest region's vice president of field operations. He retired in 2007. He is survived by his son, his mother, and a brother.

## 1980s

**Ron May**, X'81, of Chicago, died of complications from diabetes June 23. He was 57. A Chicago technology columnist and watchdog, May published an e-mail newsletter and online journal called the *May Report*. Survivors include his mother, two brothers, and a sister.

**Donald J. Mulvihill Jr.**, MBA'82, died of leukemia July 19 in Maywood, IL. He was 56. In 1980 Mulvihill joined Goldman Sachs, where he was a specialist in pension and retirement planning. In the 1990s he launched the firm's asset management business in Japan. Returning to the United States in 1997, Mulvihill became a managing director in the firm's Chicago and New York offices, introducing funds such as the US Equity Dividend and Premium Fund and serving as co-CIO of Goldman's Quantitative Investment Strategies group. Survivors include his wife, Jill; daughters **Ruth A. Mulvihill**, '14, and **Ellen A. Mulvihill**, '15; a son; a brother; and three sisters.

**Vince Casanova**, MBA'84, died of stomach cancer July 24 in Chicago. He was 60. In 1979 Casanova joined the *Chicago Tribune* as auditing manager. Over 33 years he rose to president and COO of the Chicago Tribune Media Group. In addition to developing Tribune Direct into a national direct marketing company, Casanova oversaw the launch of the *Tribune's* digital subscription model. He retired in March. Survivors include his wife, Nancy; two sons; and a brother.

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# Let it glow

**Avi Schwab's** (SB'03) snowy photo of the windows of Snell-Hitchcock makes us feel warm just looking at it. To share that inner glow and soften the long winter nights lurking around the corner (at least for those of us in the northern hemisphere), the *Magazine* offers patterns for paper-bag luminarias that pay homage to UChicago architecture. All you need are some bags, an X-Acto knife, a magic marker, and the URL below. In addition to this one, you'll find window designs from Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House and the Logan Center for the Arts. Go ahead—light up the night.

—*Laura Demanski, AM'94*



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOY OLIVIA MILLER; INSET PHOTOGRAPHY BY AVI SCHWAB, SB'03

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