

# THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE



WINTER 2016, VOLUME 108, NUMBER 2

# HARVARD

ADVANCED LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE



## Seeking a few great leaders...

motivated to tackle big challenges facing  
communities around the world

with a successful track record of 20 – 25 years  
of accomplishments in a primary career

ready to engage with Harvard  
to prepare for the next phase of life's work

The Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative offers a calendar year of rigorous education and reflection for top leaders from business, government, law, medicine, and other sectors who are in transition from their primary careers to their next years of service. Led by award-winning faculty members from across all of Harvard, the program aims to deploy a new leadership force to tackle challenging social and environmental problems.

*Visit the website to be inspired by the possibilities:*

[www.advancedleadership.harvard.edu](http://www.advancedleadership.harvard.edu)  
or email the fellowship director: [john\\_kendzior@harvard.edu](mailto:john_kendzior@harvard.edu)

*Inquire now for 2017*

# THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE

WINTER 2016  
VOLUME 108, NUMBER 2



**Katherine Dunham's anthropological field work in the Caribbean deeply influenced her choreography. See "Grace Notes," page 42. Photo by Hulton Archive/Getty Images.**

## Features

- 26 NEW WORLD STAGE**  
The Pearson family's concern about violent conflicts inspires a landmark \$100 million gift, creating a global institute for data-driven research to inform public policy. *By Rob Squire, AM'83*
- 32 START WITH WHAT YOU GOT**  
At the Arts Incubator, creative minds build on the cultural wealth of Chicago's South Side. *By Ingrid Gonçalves, AB'08*
- 36 MORTAL THOUGHTS**  
UChicago doctors are looking beyond biomedicine to help them better communicate with patients about the end of life. *By Ruth E. Kott, AM'07*
- 42 GRACE NOTES**  
Katherine Dunham, AB'36, forged a unique career as a dancer and anthropologist. *By Carrie Golus, AB'91, AM'93*

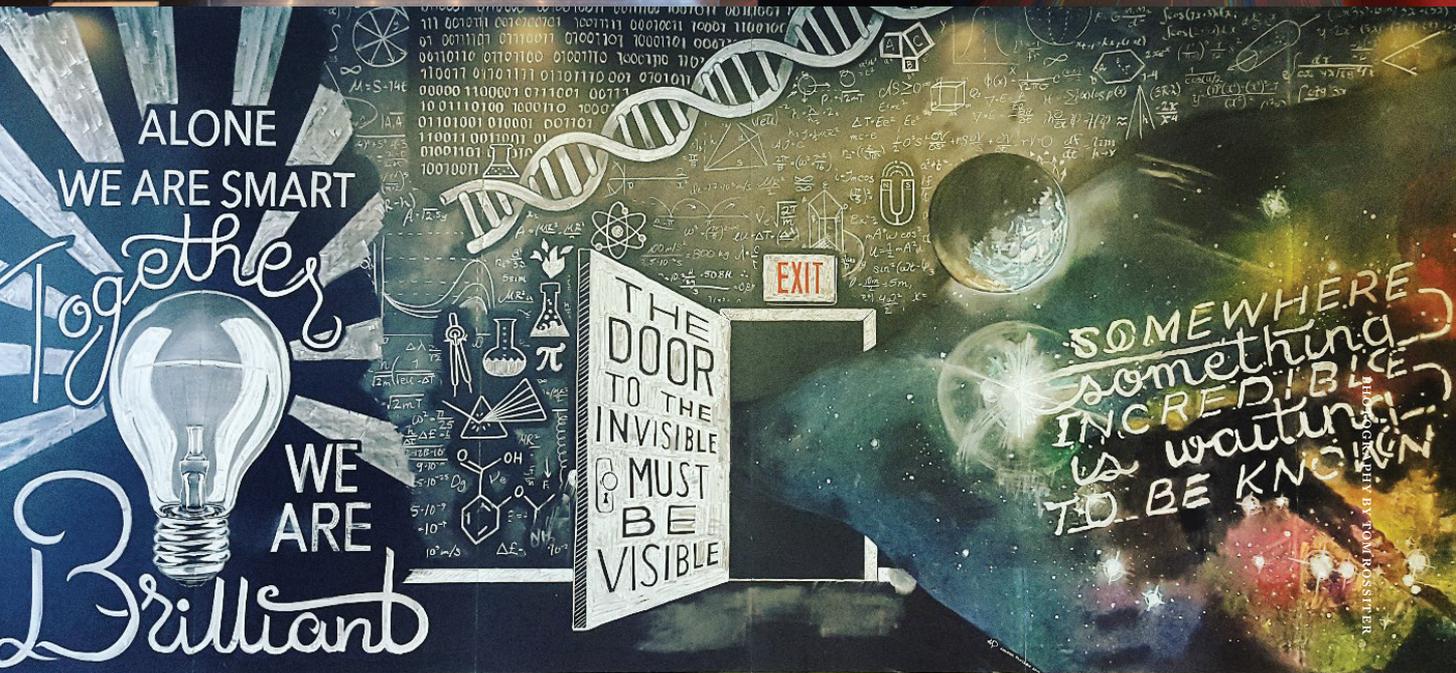
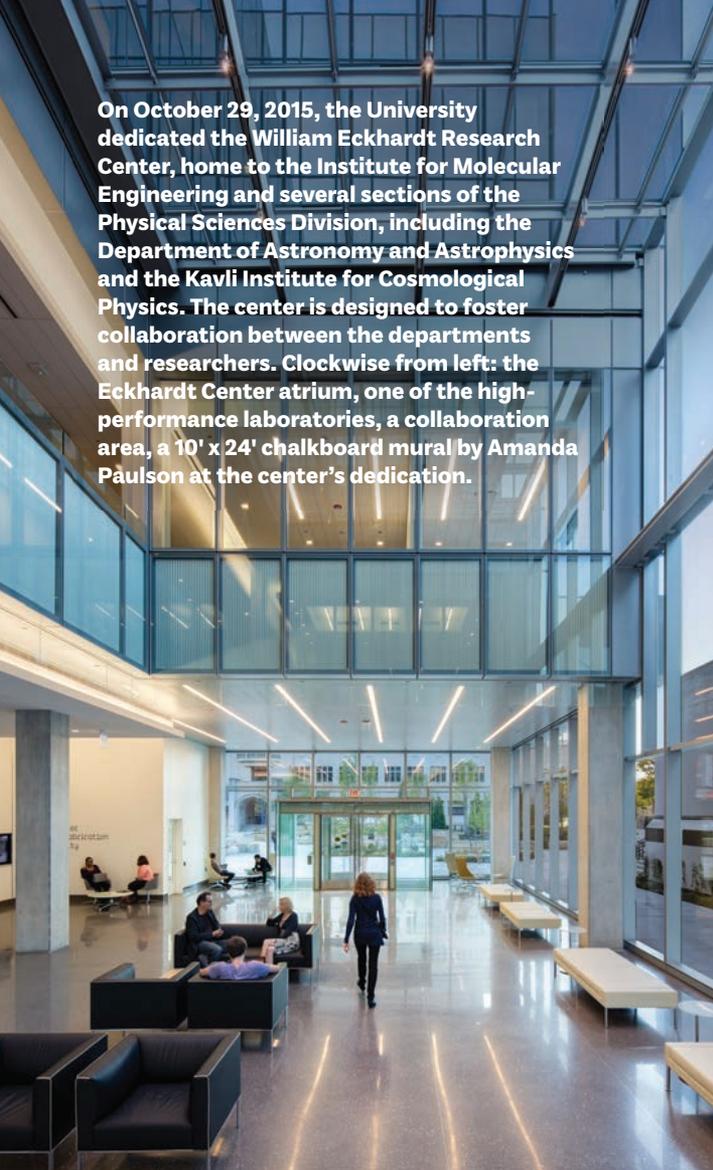
## Departments

- 5 EDITOR'S NOTES**  
UChicago at the movies. *By Laura Demanski, AM'94*
- 6 LETTERS**  
Readers consider faculty members' predictions for 2040, continue a discussion of population control, comment on the *Magazine's* new publication schedule, and more.
- 9 ON THE AGENDA**  
Looking back on a century of results, School of Social Service Administration dean **Neil B. Guterman** shares SSA's plans to make a global impact on social work.
- 11 UCHICAGO JOURNAL**  
Investigative journalist **Ian Urbina**, AM'97, chases a story across the high seas; UChicago computer scientists use big data to increase government transparency; the Smart Museum of Art showcases the first art movement to originate in Chicago; rising sommelier **Jane Lopes**, AB'07, finds balance while preparing for the wine world's hardest exam; in Iraq, NELC graduate student **Matthew Barber** advocates for little-known victims of the Islamic State; and more.
- 22 MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS**  
Scholars discuss the causes of growing economic inequality in the United States and what to do about it.
- 49 PEER REVIEW**  
English professor **Will Pritchard**, AM'92, PhD'98, reflects on the "tender coincidences" that occur when father and son teach the same book. Plus: Alumni News, Deaths, and Classifieds.
- 80 LITE OF THE MIND**  
To twist shrewd is a (UChicago) test with words. *By Joy Olivia Miller*



See the full print issue of the *University of Chicago Magazine*, web-exclusive content, and links to our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr accounts at [mag.uchicago.edu](http://mag.uchicago.edu).

On October 29, 2015, the University dedicated the William Eckhardt Research Center, home to the Institute for Molecular Engineering and several sections of the Physical Sciences Division, including the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics and the Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics. The center is designed to foster collaboration between the departments and researchers. Clockwise from left: the Eckhardt Center atrium, one of the high-performance laboratories, a collaboration area, a 10' x 24' chalkboard mural by Amanda Paulson at the center's dedication.





## Projected lives

Volume 108, Number 2, Winter 2016

EDITOR Laura Demanski, AM'94  
ART DIRECTOR Guido Mendez  
ALUMNI NEWS EDITOR Helen Gregg, AB'09  
SENIOR COPY EDITOR Rhonda L. Smith  
STUDENT INTERN Hannah Gitlin, '16  
GRAPHIC DESIGNER Laura Lorenz  
LITE OF THE MIND & INTERACTIVE  
CONTENT EDITOR Joy Olivia Miller  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS John Easton,  
AM'77; Carrie Golus, AB'91, AM'93;  
Rachel Julkowski; Brooke E. O'Neill,  
AM'04; Amy Braverman Puma;  
Mary Ruth Yoe

**Editorial Office** *The University of Chicago Magazine*, 5235 South Harper Court, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60615. TELEPHONE 773.702.2163; FAX 773.702.8836; EMAIL [uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu](mailto:uchicago-magazine@uchicago.edu). The *Magazine* is sent to all University of Chicago alumni. The University of Chicago Alumni Association has its offices at 5235 South Harper Court, 7th Floor, Chicago, IL 60615. TELEPHONE 773.702.2150; FAX 773.702.2166. ADDRESS CHANGES 800.955.0065 or [alumni-support@uchicago.edu](mailto:alumni-support@uchicago.edu). WEB [mag.uchicago.edu](http://mag.uchicago.edu)

**The University of Chicago Magazine** (ISSN-0041-9508) is published quarterly (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer) by the University of Chicago in cooperation with the Alumni Association, 5235 South Harper Court, 7th Floor, Chicago, IL 60615. Published continuously since 1907. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER Send address changes to *The University of Chicago Magazine*, Alumni Records, 5235 South Harper Court, Chicago, IL 60615. © 2016 University of Chicago.

**Ivy League Magazine Network**  
WEB [ivymags.com](http://ivymags.com)  
Heather Wedlake, Director of Operations  
EMAIL [heatherwedlake@ivymags.com](mailto:heatherwedlake@ivymags.com)  
TELEPHONE 617.319.0995

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**CHICAGO**  
CAMPAIGN  
INQUIRY & IMPACT

[campaign.uchicago.edu](http://campaign.uchicago.edu)



**T**he Oscars are around the corner and this year some of the Best Picture nominees have a UChicago twist. There's **Richard Thaler's** playful cameo in *The Big Short*, which finds the Charles R. Walgreen Distinguished Service Professor of Behavioral Science and Economics at Chicago Booth sitting at a blackjack table with Selena Gomez. Playing himself, Thaler helps explain to lay viewers how a synthetic CDO (collateralized debt obligation) works. The bit is smart and illuminating for those, like me, who have never taken an economics course. It made me wonder—not for the first time since arriving on this campus—how I might have liked being an economist.

The other notable big-screen Maroon this season is Mark Watney, the marooned botanist-astronaut played by Matt Damon in *The Martian* (above). Near the middle of the Golden Globe-winning film, Watney drops a reference to "the University of Chicago, my alma mater." It feels just right in a story that valorizes creative thinking above all; in the face of seemingly fatal obstacles, brain power saves the day. At one particularly thorny juncture, Watney says, "I'm going to have to science the [redacted] out of this."

I saw *The Martian* over the holidays and walked out thinking, I've made a mistake. I should have been an astrophysicist—like one of the Jet Propulsion Lab scientists who contributes to the rescue plan, characters in the mold of **Ed Stone**, SM'59, PhD'64, who directed JPL from 1991 to 2001 and received last year's Alumni Medal. With a minimum of glamour, the movie's eggheads make science seductive. But how accurate was the science?

The University of Chicago to the rescue. In January Doc Films and the Science on the Screen film series hosted a special screening of *The Martian*. When the lights went up, UChicago geophysical and planetary scientists kibitzed for the audience about what the movie got right, and what's science fiction. The movie earned mostly good marks, despite neglecting to script in the surface radiation that astronauts would be exposed to on Mars and other consequences of the planet's thin atmosphere. (Read more at [mag.uchicago.edu/martian](http://mag.uchicago.edu/martian).) Most amazing to me? How much the panelists could tell us about a place that's so far away. Wait—is it a planetary geologist I should have been?

None of us can do everything in life, but covering UChicago—and, I hope, reading about it—lets one vicariously experience a lot: *vita excolatur*. ♦

# LETTERS

## Malthus, Franklin, Trollope

Peter O. Clauss, AB'55, concluded his letter on population control (Letters, Fall/15) by saying he would be interested in other thoughts on the matter. Something historians and economics professors may know but that I did not until recently: the Reverend Thomas Malthus based the dire predictions in his "An Essay on the Principle of Population" on data from the colonies, of questionable reliability, provided by our own Benjamin Franklin, who had in fact preceded him in publishing a population theory. [In his 1751 essay "Observations Concerning the Increase of Mankind, Peopling of Countries, Etc."—Ed.]

## Franklin had in fact preceded him in publishing a population theory.

On the general subject of population control, I wonder how many have read Anthony Trollope's 1882 novel *The Fixed Period*, a dystopian tale of a small island colony that addresses Malthusian concerns by decreeing that all inhabitants be humanely euthanized at age 67. As expected, it all turns out badly when the mother country objects. The book, not surprisingly, was the only one of Trollope's 47 novels that did not recover the publisher's costs.

Thomas W. Evans, AM'53, MBA'70  
MUNDELEIN, ILLINOIS

## History of the future

In "Past and Present" (UChicago Journal, Fall/15), John W. Boyer, AM'69, PhD'75, dean of the College, correctly highlights the importance of turning to original historical materials to answer questions about the future of the College.

In "Future Tense" (Fall/15) Boyer defends the Common Core general education program as promoting "interdisciplinary thought, rigorous meritocracy, and intellectual analysis." However, as other campus experts speculate about their professions in the year 2040, the discussions about medicine and law don't carry over the themes that make the University unique as educational tools to these professions.

Eugene B. Chang, MD'76, talks enthusiastically of the microbiome as a wave of the future. However, medicine is frequently swayed by the latest ideas, as shown in its adoption in the 1940s of streptomycin, which would lead to other antibiotics, and later in the 1950s of vaccines that would conquer disease. The antibiotics led to resistant bacteria and illnesses, making the hospital a dangerous place. However the trust funds allocated to help victims of

the side effects of vaccines have been sparingly given, and malaria and HIV still await vaccines. One wonders if the pharmaceutical companies will genetically engineer the microbiome bacteria in order to patent and sell the drugs of the future and lead us to greater problems in a generation. Medicine does not utilize its historic past to limit its search for solutions and to appropriate research money. Inability to see the future through the lens of history leads us to potentially dangerous situations, a constantly repeated theme in medicine. Geoffrey R. Stone, JD'71, writing on law looks for American democracy, not the republic, to be saved

by overturning *Citizens United*, in his mind one in a long line of wrongly decided cases.

The legal curriculum, while stressing the Bill of Rights, does not teach the body of the Constitution nor its historic documents. The optic to examine *Citizens United* begins perhaps with Magna Carta and its major interpreter, Sir Edward Coke. This is highlighted in the article on David M. Rubenstein's (JD'73) philanthropic purchase of a historic Magna Carta for the National Archives in Washington, DC, in 2007 ("Chartered Philanthropy," Fall/15). But the law of Magna Carta itself traces back to 1100 when the Charter of Liberties of Henry I was promulgated and 1134–35 when the Charter of London was given by Henry I. Henry I stressed that the act of his father, William the Conqueror, in continuing the Anglo-Saxon and Germanic tribal laws of Edward the Confessor, his predecessor, had allowed William I and later Henry I to rule England successfully. Law, like medicine, has narrow answers for the future without a study of history and original documents. They need practitioners with a core general education background to avoid future solutions that may have led to problems in the history of their professions.

The responses of Mark R. Nemeec on higher education and Shadi Bartsch-Zimmer on knowledge represent the successful use of the past in reaching out to present and future advances in their fields.

Leonard R. Friedman, AB'56  
MIDDLETON, MASSACHUSETTS

## An invitation

This year the PhD Program in Human Development turns 75. We invite the program's alumni and friends to join us

## BLAST FROM THE PAST



I shall never forget my first glimpse of the pinnacles and towers of Cobb and Harper rising majestically above the dwarfed apartment dwellings along Fifty-eighth when I came to the U. of C. in the autumn of '22—a boy unused to beauty but in whom beauty came to reside as year by year the mellow stateliness of Gothic ivy covered limestone walls, buttresses, and towers wore itself into my soul.

—Girard T. Bryant, PhD'26  
December 1946

to celebrate our 75th anniversary this May on the UChicago Campus.

Save the date for an evening event to kick off the celebration on Friday, May 13, and academic and social programming all day on Saturday, May 14. This will include tours of campus (including our new Rosenwald Hall location), meetings with current students and faculty, and opportunities to catch up with old friends. This is a highly significant birthday for our internationally renowned interdisciplinary PhD program in human development. The program was originally founded in 1930 as the Committee on Child Development but did not offer a PhD degree. In 1940 it became a PhD program and was then renamed (and is known to many of you) as the Committee on Human Development. Since 2006 we have been the Department of Comparative Human Development. It's a great time to party!

We are aware that our alumni lists may not be complete and that email addresses go out of date. So if you have not already received an official invitation and might be interested in attending the celebration, please contact Spencer Bonadeo at [sbonadeo@uchicago.edu](mailto:sbonadeo@uchicago.edu), and he will send you all the details.

We hope to see you there!

*Rick Shweder*  
Chair, 75th Celebration Organizing  
Committee; Harold H. Swift Distinguished  
Service Professor, Department  
of Comparative Human Development  
CHICAGO

### Function over form

Out of sight, out of mind. That's my take on the prospective effect of the *Magazine's* new quarterly frequency. I think alums' days on campus will be even more of a distant memory, to be recalled only when seasons change. Will there as a result be a lesser feeling of solidarity with the University and a drop in alumni financial support? Every marketer knows the value of frequency.

I remember when, years ago, the *Magazine* was humbler in format: no slick paper, no four-color printing, and no perfect binding. But it got the job done. If costs need to be cut, I'd prefer receiving a less glitzy publication more often.

*John L. Gann Jr., AB'64*  
MADISON, WISCONSIN

### Last words on population

Continuing correspondence on population appears to have touched a nerve among readers of the *Magazine*. Little wonder, given the intelligence and awareness of this readership, and the fact that at some imminent point in time, the earth will no longer support human existence—the direct result of overpopulation. To some, such a statement may sound like paranoid hyperbole, but to those who have paid close attention, this conclusion is effectively inescapable.

This alarm was first sounded nearly 50 years ago from the dais of academia with the 1968 publication of *The Population Bomb* by professor Paul R. Ehrlich of Stanford University and Anne Ehrlich.

Accordingly, perhaps the *Magazine* could elicit the best minds of the University's faculty who may have developed theses in their fields about the effects of human overpopulation on the sustainability of earth's environment and the survival of humankind, and devote an article or even an issue to this subject.

Specifically, it would be informative if not enlightening to ascertain what the current effects of continuing human overpopulation are on the global demand for ocean and river fish; virgin timber; meat, oil, and gas; mineral ores; farmland; and so on.

It would be equally interesting to calculate the global effects of these demands on air quality, water quality and quantity, solid wastes, toxic and nuclear wastes, etc., and how these create conditions such as global warming and climate change.

But there are (arguably) two sides to every story. There are institutional forces today that promote the growth of human population. Their views should also be represented in such a debate. Among these are various faiths, churches, and denominations whose soteriologies demand numerous children of faithful parents. Also among these forces are the global manufacturing and retail enterprises, who need customers to support continued corporate growth and increased earnings.

As a race of humans, we are locked in a struggle between the forces who fear for the destruction of life on earth as we know it, and those who claim

such fears are disingenuous or unfounded. Is there a more compelling subject to explore, anywhere, than this?

*William W. Quinn, AM'78, PhD'81*  
PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA

I am dismayed by the lack of knowledge of basic facts in the two letters from H. Stuart Cunningham, AB'64, MBA'68, and Peter O. Clauss, AB'55 (Fall/15), in response to Jane R. Shoup, PhD'65, and Stefan P. Shoup, AM'64 (July–Aug/15).

I have lived and worked in Silicon Valley since 1968 and every day encounter the reality behind commercialization of technologies, so I do not share the hyperoptimistic view of the future that Cunningham projects, e.g., technology solves our problems and there are no negative effects from high population densities.

With respect to Cunningham's letter, the current and future planetary population is based on some 600 ammonia synthesis plants using the Haber process. Without fertilizer providing nitrates for plant growth and protein synthesis, at least five billion people would not be here today, and these are vital "choke points" for future population increases. As we know, phosphorus is vital for all life on earth and drives the Krebs cycle, which provides our energy.

In our world the overuse of both nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers globally is resulting in the destruction of soils, oceans, and natural habitats. As a good reference I suggest Justus von Liebig's "law of the minimum": populations expand to the limits of the least available resource.

Population density is also responsible for various common ills that will over time bankrupt medical systems. We evolved in the natural world; people who live in forests and away from human noise and pollutants—as I do—live much healthier and longer lives than city dwellers.

Anyone who thinks that the United States has not enough people should look at the number who only survive on food stamps and food banks. In our hyper booming San Mateo County economy, 20 to 25 percent rely on these. We need to invest in health, education, and welfare so the some 60 percent of our current population that



## 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

### 1. What it is

Short List is a biweekly e-newsletter, a one-stop shop of must-reads for alumni, parents, families, and friends.

### 2. People, places, and things

It gets you in the know about timely UChicago news and newsmakers.

### 3. Ear to the ground

Whether you're on the job hunt or just curious, Short List culls together intriguing career opportunities and advice for your perusal.

### 4. Near or far

It gives highlights of upcoming UChicago events, on campus and around the globe.

### 5. Lite of the mind

Trivia, campus history, photos, videos, and more—Short List provides your UChicago moment of zen.

# ARE YOU ON OUR SHORT LIST?

Visit [alumni.uchicago.edu/signup](http://alumni.uchicago.edu/signup)  
to sign up or read past issues.



has no economic *raison d'être* can add value to the economy. Most routine jobs will be taken over by computerization, robots, and big data, including most white-collar jobs.

There is a range of obvious fixes to the global overpopulation problem, none I can think of commensurate with our relatively free, relatively open, still kind of democratic society.

But without major government investments, more and more of the US population will be poor. I cite the shift from 1970 to 2010 of 15 percent of the gross national product from the middle class to the top 1 percent, with another 15 percent in process by 2050. So in 80 years the middle class will go from controlling 70 percent of the GNP under Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy to 40 percent—divided among a much larger population if Cunningham's and Clauss's thinking holds sway.

I work with many Chinese people, here and in China, and I assure you the one-child policy worked too well. The supply of low cost labor is now less than the demand. Here is a good summary for folks who like words rather than high-density data: <http://bit.ly/ShrinkingChina>. So China may become old before Chinese people become rich.

The US society is rich already; our demographic problem is too few own too much due to lower taxes on the rich and resultant lack of money for infrastructure, health, education, and welfare.

*Bo Varga, AB'64, AM'67*  
LA HONDA, CALIFORNIA

### Corrections

The credit for a photograph on page 69 of Peer Review, Fall/15, failed to credit the photographer. He is Adam Spiegel, AB'83. We regret the error.

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

# From local to global

BY NEIL B. GUTERMAN, DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION AND MOSE AND SYLVIA FIRESTONE PROFESSOR

**M**ore than 100 years ago, the School of Social Service Administration (SSA) opened its doors as the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy and commenced its historic role in defining the field of social welfare. At a time when women had not yet earned the right to vote, the school's "founding mothers"—Edith Abbott, PhD 1905; her sister, Grace Abbott, PhM 1909; and Sophonisba Breckinridge, PhM 1897, PhD 1901, JD 1904—began shaping a new and bold vision for the social work profession. Edith Abbott led the merger of the school into the University of Chicago and became its dean—the first female dean of any graduate school in US history. Sister Grace developed child labor law policies and advocated for immigrants. Breckinridge was the first woman to receive a PhD in political science at the University and the first woman to graduate from the Law School. She served as professor in the University's Department of Household Administration and taught at SSA.

These three original thinkers professionalized the social work field, undergirding social work practices with scientific evidence and theory and leveraging social science research to solve the most complex societal problems—a then revolutionary approach. They embodied the University's core mission of civic engagement, striving to enact social reform and make a positive impact in the rapidly growing city of Chicago. This pioneering spirit inspires us to re-scale their vision of the social work profession to the global stage.

Globalization in the economy and



Neil B. Guterman began his second term as SSA dean on July 1, 2015.

technological advances have made our world smaller, faster paced, and more connected. Social problems and their solutions, as well, have global drivers and consequences. Consider such basic concerns in the social work profession as poverty and inequality, immigration, the spread of HIV, or human exploitation and violence. These are not only "backyard" concerns and problems. They all have global influences and repercussions.

In response, SSA is adding new faculty with explicit expertise in global social welfare; expanding collaborations in India and mainland China in conjunction with the University's centers in Delhi and Beijing; developing strategies to improve child welfare in former Soviet bloc countries, sub-Saharan Africa, and the Middle East; and offering a new educational concentration in international social welfare.

Our work in China spotlights some of our most ambitious global efforts. China, now undergoing historic economic and social transformations, has outlined an ambitious plan for completion by 2020: educating 1.45 million new social workers to tackle its social problems; establishing a new infrastructure for social work education serving all of China; and developing

social welfare services on a massive scale to support its continued growth and urbanization.

To meet these daunting goals, China is seeking out models across the world. SSA, which has fast become a go-to destination for Chinese social work students, is a major resource to our Chinese colleagues, having forged important relationships with key institutions and partners, including Peking University (PKU), home to mainland China's oldest and most prestigious social work program. We have hosted PKU faculty and visited PKU to share insights on curriculum and field-based education. As a member of the China Collaborative, a capacity-building effort by the Council on Social Work Education in the United States, the China Association of Social Work Education in China, and the International Association of Schools of Social Work, we have led immersion programs designed to assist social work faculty from across China as they work to establish their social work educational infrastructure.

Further galvanizing our efforts is a newly launched program. With lead support from **Anna Pao Sohmen, EX'70**, a Hong Kong-based anchor donor and former SSA student, SSA will direct an endowed joint graduate social work exchange program in partnership with PKU and Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The program is expected to feature cross-national and cross-university exchanges among faculty and students and discussions and programs with scholars focusing on pressing social welfare issues.

These exchanges will foster the development of an enduring, rigorously trained workforce—professionalizing the field and developing the capacity to grow a vibrant social welfare system in China. This is an exciting prospect: to share the lessons honed by SSA's founders, which gave birth to the social work profession in the United States, to help support the profession's nascent growth in China. This work will help transform the lives of the most vulnerable in China, develop new knowledge and leaders in international social welfare, deepen our own understandings, and train others who can uplift the lives of citizens in their own country and in many others. ♦

“SOMEWHERE,  
SOMETHING  
INCREDIBLE  
IS WAITING  
TO BE KNOWN.”

—CARL SAGAN, AB'54, SB'55, SM'56, PHD'60

GO FIND IT.



## DISCOVER THE WORLD OF LIFELONG LEARNING WITH UCHICAGO.

### ITALY'S MAGNIFICENT LAKE DISTRICT\*

06.28-07.06.2016  
FROM \$3,195

Discover the unique character of Italy's turquoise lakes while you explore the charming towns, majestic Renaissance villas, and lush gardens that adorn their shores.

TRIP SCHOLAR:  
Niall Atkinson

### DISCOVER SOUTHEAST ALASKA

07.08-15.2016  
FROM \$2,995

The awesome forces of nature are on full display in Alaska—mountains eroded by massive glaciers, icebergs punctuating aquamarine seas, and the life cycles of plants and animals within an exuberant arctic summer.

TRIP SCHOLAR:  
Jill Mateo

### INSIDER'S JAPAN\*

10.22-11.3.2016  
FROM \$5,886

Explore a land of delicate art and bustling commerce, rich traditions and dizzying modernity on a tour featuring the highlights of Tokyo and Kyoto as well as the historic cities of Takayama and Kanazawa.

TRIP SCHOLAR:  
James Ketelaar,  
AM'82, PhD'87

## SPACE IS LIMITED— BOOK TODAY!

Prices, dates, and destinations are subject to change. All trips and dates are accurate at the time of printing.

\* Indicates exclusive UChicago departures.

### TO SEE ALL TRIPS AND FOR MORE INFORMATION

 [alumniandfriends.uchicago.edu/lifelong-learning/travel](http://alumniandfriends.uchicago.edu/lifelong-learning/travel)

[alumnitravel@uchicago.edu](mailto:alumnitravel@uchicago.edu)

 773.702.2157

 THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO



Urbina tracked pirates, poachers, and human traffickers across international waters for his series the Outlaw Ocean.

JOURNALISM

# Deep dive

Studying anthropology prepared Ian Urbina, AM'97, for a headline career in investigative journalism.

**Ian Urbina's** best-laid plans were adrift. Just a few days earlier, the 43-year-old *New York Times* reporter had struck a deal with a boat captain in a West African port to take him and a fixer to a high-seas rendezvous with a ship called the *Sam Simon*. Manned

by the eco-vigilante group the Sea Shepherds, it and another ship, the *Bob Barker*, were in pursuit of an even bigger fish than usual—the *Thunder*, one of the world's most notorious poaching ships, which the group had tailed for months across two seas and three oceans. Urbina, AM'97, wanted to be there when the Sea Shepherds caught up. But the water was too deep for the 40-foot boat he'd chartered to drop anchor. It was running low on fuel. The backup generator was busted. And now they'd lost power, miles from shore. Urbina had juice for one last call on his satellite phone, and the captain was asking him to make it.

"It was sort of like a lifeline on a game show—who will I call?" Urbina remembers. With a few lucky breaks, he did make it aboard the *Sam Simon* and the *Bob Barker*, and the chase of the *Thunder* became the fourth installment of Urbina's *Times* series the Outlaw Ocean, a two-year investigation into the unregulated, unpoliced, dystopian economy of international waters. Much of that reporting was done in the field: in port towns, aboard floating arsenals, and on rat-infested fishing vessels using forced labor. The series has made waves. Secretary of state John Kerry, who announced new plans in October to crack down on companies that fish

THE NEW YORK TIMES, HANNAH REYES IN THE SIBUYAN SEA

# Data match

Incubated in a Data Science for Social Good Fellowship, the Legislative Influence Detector aims to increase government transparency.

A Wisconsin bill banning all nonemergency abortions at 20 weeks, signed into law last July, received national media attention. UChicago data scientist **Joe Walsh** estimates about a thousand articles were written about the bill. Few of them, however, mentioned that the Wisconsin legislation was nearly word-for-word identical to the Texas abortion bill that state senator Wendy Davis famously filibustered in 2013—and to 72 other bills introduced in 41 state legislatures in the past few years.

States pass a lot of bills. According to a *Washington Post* analysis, in 2014 the average state government passed 462 new laws (by comparison, the 113th Congress passed 296 laws in two years). However, state lawmakers “often don’t have the staff and the expertise and the time to write legislation,” says Walsh, so they introduce bills passed in other states or written by advocacy groups. There are also far fewer reporters covering politics in Springfield, Illinois, or Lansing, Michigan, than there are in Washington, DC, and therefore less journalistic oversight of the hundreds of bills passed in state capitols. “That means there are a lot of groups that are able to exercise disproportionate influence in getting legislation that they like passed,” says Walsh. “We wanted to know if we could use data science to identify those groups.”

This past summer, Walsh, project manager **Lauren Haynes**, and a team of three data science fellows developed a text analysis tool to help track copied legislation across state capitols and uncover lobbyists’ influence. They were one of 12 teams supported by a 2015 Eric and Wendy Schmidt Data Science for Social Good Summer Fellowship. DSSG pairs teams of paid fellows, usually students or recent graduates with an interest in social issues, with mentors like Walsh and a public or private sector partner to find data-driven solutions for a specified problem.

illegally and engage in human trafficking, has cited Urbina’s reporting as an influence.

Since he left UChicago’s anthropology department to join the *Times* in 2002, Urbina has specialized in the kinds of investigative dives that capture public attention. He was part of the team of *Times* reporters that won a Pulitzer Prize in 2009 for a series of stories that uncovered then-governor Eliot Spitzer’s prostitution scandal, for which the rising Democratic star ultimately resigned. Hollywood has noticed too: a mammoth 2011–12 investigative series on the fracking boom provided part of the inspiration for the 2012 Matt Damon flick *Promised Land*, and a profile of an American guerilla in South Sudan for *Vanity Fair* presaged Gerard Butler’s 2011 movie *Machine Gun Preacher*. Urbina has also exposed the US government’s use of international garment factories with horrific, illegal working conditions, and a broken incentive system that left doctors treating diabetes rather than preventing it.

Urbina was drawn to the oceans long before he sold his editor on the *Outlaw Ocean*; in a roundabout way, it started on the South Side. After college at Georgetown, he arrived on campus to pursue a joint PhD in anthropology and history. But he soon burned out. “Winter, Chicago, Hyde Park—and I wanted a break,” he says. A friend tipped him off to a venture, funded by the Biosphere Foundation, that was recruiting researchers for a project studying the health of the world’s coral reefs. Urbina spent most of his time on the docks, not the deck, but what the anthropologist in him saw was arresting.

He’d always romanticized the sea—“if someone offered me a ticket to the moon or to the furthest spot in the ocean,” Urbina says, pointing to a world map on the wall of his Washington, DC, home office, “I’d take the latter in a second, and that was always the case.” Then his experience in Singapore for the Biosphere Foundation sparked a fascination “with seafarers, ... a transient diaspora tribe around the world,” he says. “I was way too far in, but I thought, ‘Wow, this would be a great anthropology topic.’”

Instead, Urbina jumped ship. He’d been writing freelance magazine sto-

ries since returning from Havana, where he researched his dissertation on literacy and the press in colonial Cuba. With the project still unfinished, he “ran away from one form of field work into another.” His first full-time job in journalism was with the *Times*.

Urbina’s reporting on maritime lawlessness blends exhaustive analysis of public records, like ship registries and tax filings, and on-the-scene interviews with the sailors, slaves, and contractors who spend their lives at sea. His biggest safety concern was not fellow seafarers but the setting—roaches and rats, hostile dogs, and rolling swells during pitch-black nights. On the South China Sea he spent a sleepless 30-plus hours aboard a fishing boat filled with indentured servants who worked 18- to 20-hour days, seven days a week, to pay off the human traffickers or ship captains who hold their elusive debt. In the Gulf of Oman, he explored a floating armory, manned by British and American private security teams that offered protection—at a price—to merchant vessels. And in perhaps the most harrowing piece in the series, he probed a seven-minute video, found on a cellphone in the back of a taxi in Fiji, that depicted the murder of four men somewhere on the Indian Ocean.

Urbina hasn’t settled on his next big project yet. He still has more *Outlaw Ocean* stories he wants to unpack, some from a reporting trip he took this past fall to the remote archipelago of Palau. One project he won’t be taking on any time soon: what’s left of his dissertation. But Urbina considers his time studying anthropology well spent.

“Field work kind of taught me to have the almost opposite instinct that maybe a tourist does or other types of visitors do,” he says. “Don’t rush to see things exactly as locals do. Focus on looking for things that are distinct and curious and pause over them; ask questions about them; explore them; and also view everyone as others, and kind of think about difference.”

On the high seas, the enormity itself was a story, as much as any squall. “You go to places that you feel are super well traveled, metaphorically speaking, and there’s always things that are new.”—*Tim Murphy, AB ’09*

(1) legislative findings, the legislature finds that the best current evidence confirms: (a) pain receptors (unborn

MATCH

child's entire body nociceptors) are present no later than 16 weeks after fertilization and nerves link these receptors to the brain's thalamus and subcortical plate by no later than 20 weeks. (b) by 8 weeks after fertilization, the unborn child reacts to stimuli that would be recognized as painful if applied to an adult human, for example, by recoiling. (c) in the unborn child, application of such painful stimuli is associated with significant increases in stress hormones known as the stress response. (d) subjection to such painful stimuli is associated with long-term harmful neurodevelopmental effects, such as altered pain sensitivity and, possibly, emotional, behavioral, and learning disabilities later in life. (e) for the purposes of surgery on unborn children, fetal anesthesia is routinely administered and is associated with a decrease in stress hormones compared to their level when painful stimuli is applied without the anesthesia. (f) the position, asserted by some medical experts, that the unborn child is incapable of experiencing pain until a point later in pregnancy than 20 weeks after fertilization predominantly rests on the assumption that the ability to experience pain depends on the cerebral cortex and requires nerve connections between the thalamus and the cortex. however, recent medical research and analysis, especially since 2007, provides strong evidence for the conclusion that a functioning cortex is not necessary to experience pain. (g) substantial evidence indicates that children born missing the bulk of the cerebral cortex, those with hydranencephaly, nevertheless experience pain. (h) in adults, stimulation or ablation of the cerebral cortex does not alter pain perception while stimulation or ablation of the thalamus does. (i) substantial evidence indicates that structures used for pain processing in early development differ from those of adults, using different neural elements available at specific times during development, such as the subcortical plate, to fulfill the role of pain processing. (j) consequently, there is substantial medical evidence that an unborn child

ceptors) are present throughout the unborn

MATCH

child's entire body -- by no later than sixteen weeks after fertilization and nerves link these receptors to the brain's thalamus and subcortical plate by no later than twenty weeks. (9) by eight weeks after fertilization, the unborn child reacts to stimuli that would be recognized as painful if applied to an adult human, for example, by recoiling. (10) in the unborn child, application of such painful stimuli is associated with significant increases in stress hormones known as the stress response. (11) subjection to such painful stimuli is associated with long-term harmful neurodevelopmental effects, such as altered pain sensitivity and, possibly, emotional, behavioral, and learning disabilities later in life. (12) for the purposes of surgery on unborn children, fetal anesthesia is routinely administered and is associated with a decrease in stress hormones compared to their level when painful stimuli is applied without such anesthesia. (13) the position, asserted by some medical experts, that the unborn child is incapable of experiencing pain until a point later in pregnancy than twenty weeks after fertilization predominantly rests on the assumption that the ability to experience pain depends on the cerebral cortex and requires nerve connections between the thalamus and the cortex. however, recent medical research and analysis, especially since 2007, provides strong evidence for the conclusion that a functioning cortex is not necessary to experience pain. (14) substantial evidence indicates that children born missing the bulk of the cerebral cortex, those with hydranencephaly, nevertheless experience pain. (15) in adults, stimulation or ablation of the cerebral cortex does not alter pain perception, while stimulation or ablation of the thalamus does. (16) substantial evidence indicates that structures used for pain processing in early development differ from those of adults, using different neural elements available at specific times during development, such as the subcortical plate, to fulfill the role of pain processing. (17) the position, asserted by some medical experts, that the unborn child

**Wisconsin Senate Bill 179, signed into law in July 2015, and Louisiana Senate Bill 593 (2012), its top match from the Legislative Influence Detector.**

The fellowship is run by the University's Center for Data Science and Public Policy, a collaboration between Chicago Harris and the Computation Institute. In 2015 teams developed programs and algorithms to help the City of Cincinnati predict which buildings would fail inspections, to anticipate instances of childhood obesity and cardiac arrest at NorthShore University Health System, and to identify students at Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland at risk of falling behind.

Walsh and his team worked with the Sunlight Foundation, a nonprofit focused on government transparency that had amassed a trove of more than 500,000 state bills and pitched the project to DSSG. The fellows supplemented the Sunlight Foundation data with 2,400 pieces of model legislation collected from five major lobbying groups, including the conservative American Legislative Exchange Council and the liberal State Innovation Exchange. A lot of the model legislation was publicly available on the groups' websites, says Walsh—"It's kind of surprising how much stuff is out there."

Their text analysis tool, the Legislative Influence Detector (LID), uses a local alignment algorithm, akin to algorithms used to identify like strands of DNA, to find similar pieces of legislation. The algorithm is accurate but slow—running all the bills the fellows had collected through the algorithm would have taken thousands of years,

says Walsh. So the team added a preliminary step: LID first uses a "bag of words" tool similar to plagiarism detection software to check for the same words, in any order, and find the most probable 100 matches to a specific bill. Then LID uses the local alignment algorithm to find the legislation with the same words in mostly the same order.

Running the Wisconsin abortion bill through LID turned up matches from across the country that were almost identical, differing mainly in small stylistic choices, such as writing out a number instead of using numerals, and the occasional misspelling. (The team then turned to Google and found matching model legislation on the website of Doctors on Fetal Pain, an antiabortion advocacy group.)

Walsh is quick to say that copied legislation isn't inherently suspect—it makes sense to introduce laws that have had positive outcomes in other states, or to standardize legal procedures like child adoption across the country. LID simply flags instances of reused or appropriated legislation to help researchers, journalists, or concerned citizens figure out where state laws are coming from, with the goal of making it more difficult for lobbying groups to introduce legislation unnoticed.

Using state bills from the past five years, the DSSG team has found about 35,000 matches to model legislation from the five lobbying groups studied. Matches for state bills introduced

**WILLIAM RAINY HARPER'S INDEX**  
**FRESH AIR**

Years since the passage of the Clean Air Act:

**46**

Millions of life-years saved in the United States in the areas studied because of cleaner air, according to the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago:

**336**

Increase, in years, of the average Chicagoan's life expectancy since the passage of the Clean Air Act:

**2.1**

Average percent decrease in home value when an industrial plant opens within a half mile:

**11**

Percent increase in risk of low birth weight within one mile of an industrial plant:

**3**

Degrees Fahrenheit by which fossil fuel combustion has already warmed the planet:

**1.7**

through May are available for download on the DSSG website. Walsh and fellow Matthew Burgess are still working on LID and hope to turn it into a public-facing, real-time resource. Ideally journalists would wake up to a list of all the state bills passed the previous day with a list of matching legislation from either other statehouses or lobbyists, says Walsh, and be able to do searches themselves. By making it harder for outside influencers to avoid detection, he says, it can really contribute to government transparency.

This year more projects have been extended beyond the summer, keeping fellows on at the Center for Data Science and Public Policy to either finish them or take them through to implementation. For DSSG and center director **Rayid Ghani**, this is an important development. The projects need to be launched in the real world “to have the impact we want to have,” he says. And it helps achieve his ultimate goal—training a new generation of data scientists to use their skills to tackle social issues.

As the chief scientist on president Barack Obama’s 2012 reelection campaign, Ghani saw the power of coupling big data technology with a dedicated organization. If it’s possible to use big data technology to more precisely direct the efforts of thousands of campaign volunteers, he says, then it should be possible to use the same technology to help nonprofits and government agencies work more efficiently and effectively.

Encouraged by student interest and funded by Google chairman Eric Schmidt, who also worked on Obama’s 2012 campaign, and Schmidt’s wife, Wendy, Ghani launched DSSG in early 2013 and began accepting fellow applications that March. By April 1, more than 600 people had applied for 36 positions. Over the past three years, DSSG has added more fellows and sponsored projects from improving police encounters with civilians to helping the US Environmental Protection Agency select hazardous waste sites for inspection.

“One of the things [fellows] often talk about is, ‘This is what I wanted to do, I just didn’t know what it was and how I could do it,’” says Ghani. Now, DSSG provides “the training and the motivation and the network” so the fellows’ work in social good can continue beyond summer.—*Helen Gregg, AB’09*

## ORIGINAL SOURCE AT FIRST SITE



**When Oriental Institute archaeologists Ernst Herzfeld and Erich Schmidt directed excavations at Persepolis, one of the great dynastic centers of the Achaemenid Persian Empire (550–330 BC), photography offered a way to document their findings while capturing the grandeur of the ancient site. Between 1931 and 1939, the team amassed a total of 3,700 photographs, the negatives of which are now housed in OI museum archives.**

**Field Negative P-1174, taken in 1939, depicts the Gate of All Lands, the formal entrance to the terrace at Persepolis. The image, on display in the OI’s current exhibit *Persepolis: Images of an Empire*, is valuable both for the record it provides of the historic site and for its sheer beauty.**

**It tells us something about the archaeologists too. “The boundaries between art and science**

**and documentation are easily blurred,” says OI curator Kiersten Neumann, also the exhibition’s curator. Neumann is researching the role of photography in early excavations of ancient sites and says that archaeologists of this era were more interested than many of their modern-day counterparts in capturing their personal responses to the art and architecture they encountered.**

**“They were explorers,” says Neumann. “They were imaginative and thought of possibilities rather than just hard cold facts.” As a result, the photographs taken during the expedition have an aesthetic force. The images evoke a sense of wonder that, she says, may have contributed to Western perceptions of the East as exotic and mysterious.**

***Persepolis: Images of an Empire* is open through September 11, 2016. —Hannah Gitlin, ’16**

# Monsters of the Midcentury

The first art movement to originate in Chicago focused on the dark side of postwar life.

Six years ago, independent curators John Corbett and Jim Dempsey started planning a show comparing the Monster Roster, the first major art movement to originate in Chicago, to a contemporaneous group in Europe. To their surprise, they found that the Monster Roster had never been the subject of a significant exhibition before. Small shows had been mounted over the years, but they didn't delve into the relationships between the

artists or their shared intellectual concerns. "It was a major gap in the exhibition history of Chicago's art lineage," Corbett says.

He and Dempsey put together a proposal for a "depth survey" of the group, and the show quickly found a welcoming home at the Smart Museum of Art. *Monster Roster: Existentialist Art in Postwar Chicago*, at the Smart through June 12, features approximately 60 works by 16 artists. The exhibition is curated by Corbett, Dempsey, and Smart Museum curators **Jessica Moss** and **Richard A. Born, AM'75**.

The artists represented never formed a group or referred to themselves as the Monster Roster. The term first appeared in print in a 1959 art review by artist and critic **Franz Schulze, PhB'45**. It hit the mark. The distorted and expressive figurative works, created between 1948 and the early 1960s, seem to inhabit a common world, dark in palette and tone.

For this circle, the collective anxiety of the postwar atmosphere became source material. With a focus on the hu-

man figure, the works often reimaged classical mythology or ancient tropes through a dark, psychoanalytic lens. Many of the male artists in Monster Roster were veterans of World War II. "Existentialist" in the exhibition title, says Corbett, "suggests that there is a non-art element that was important to where they were coming from." On the whole, Monster artists were deeply intellectual and drawn to psychoanalysis. Some got their introduction to psychoanalysis and existentialism on campus.

"The University of Chicago was a hotbed for a lot of the intellectual concerns of these artists," says Corbett. "These are artists that were reading Sartre, Camus, Beckett ... and were interested in the fate of humanity and debating it both through images and through words." Ten works in the exhibition—including two monumental canvases, *Reclining Youth* (1959) and *Colossal Figure* (ca. 1961)—are by Leon Golub, AB'42, known for his raw life-size paintings critiquing the horrors of war. Golub was taking art classes at UChicago as a humanities grad student when he enlisted in the army. He returned in 1946 and, under the GI Bill, attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. In the 1988 Kartemquin Films documentary *Golub*, the painter spoke about the impact of war and violence on his work. "Monsters exist," he said, "because we create them."

Don Baum, PhB'46, is also represented in the exhibition. As director of the Hyde Park Art Center from 1956 to 1972, Baum championed Chicago artists. He spoke in a 1986 oral history about the impact of psychoanalysis on his fellow artists, like Golub and June Leaf. "There was a lot of conversation about it," he remembered. "I feel like a certain kind of methodology that I have about my own work—my dependence on intuition, the sort of experimentation which led to discovering my images in my own work—came directly out of that kind of psychoanalytic experience."

Other UChicagoans helped give the Monsters' work more exposure. The art dealer Allan Frumkin, PhB'45, mounted many of the artists' first gallery shows. The brother of Reva Logan, EX'43—for whom the Logan Center for the Arts is named along with her husband, David Logan, AB'39, JD'41—Frumkin represented



**Man with a Dog (c. 1950) by Monster Roster artist George M. Cohen, EX'48.**

Golub in his Chicago and New York City galleries. Art historian **Peter Selz**, AM'49, PhD'54, also helped to introduce Chicago artists to the New York City art scene.

All of this makes the Smart Museum an apt setting for the exhibition. "It is a great way to shine a light on the underappreciated, lesser-known but really fascinating artists who created the first original art movement in Chicago," says Moss.

When choosing which works to include, the exhibition's curators were surprised to find how many artists were part of the core movement or related to it. "We thought it would be

much smaller," says Corbett. Since the Monster Roster wasn't a self-identifying group, the lines are hard to draw distinctly. Robert Barnes rejected the label of Monster Roster, but Corbett included an early Barnes painting, *For Tristan Tzara* (1965), because its enigmatic subject and figurative style share the Monster ethos. Also included "by affinity, not as a stylistic exponent," is H. C. Westermann, a contemporary of the artists in the group. Westermann witnessed fiery kamikaze attacks as a Marine during World War II, and pieces like his sculpture in the show, *Ghost (Death Ship)* (1964–65), are preoccupied with death.

In searching for images, Dempsey contacted the Hyde Park Art Center and was handed research gold—a roll of undeveloped film shot during a small Monster Roster exhibition in 1964. The photographs reveal a charming, low-budget effort with wall labels made of embossing tape.

Corbett and Dempsey pondered the timing of the show. Why now, they asked themselves. They kept returning to the themes that gripped the Monster Roster artists. "These are the kinds of questions that we are asking ourselves today," says Corbett. "The plight of being on this planet is wholly relevant once again."—*Ruth Lopez*

## CITATIONS

### A MORAL DEVELOPMENT

Major world religions teach compassion and selflessness, but children of religious parents may not display these qualities as often as their peers. University researchers measured the altruism of 1,170 children from six countries by the number of stickers each was willing to share with another, unseen child. The children then watched video clips of one character pushing another, either intentionally or accidentally, and were asked how much punishment was warranted, as an indication of their moral sensitivity. Results, published November 5 in *Current Biology*, showed that children from Christian and Muslim households (the two religions analyzed in the study) shared fewer stickers and were more likely to favor harsher punishments. The findings suggest "the secularization of moral discourse does not reduce human kindness," said lead researcher **Jean Decety**, the Irving B. Harris Distinguished Service Professor in the Department of Psychology and the College and director of UChicago's Child Neurosuite.

### POVERTY LEVELS

Much of the official information about poverty in America comes from US Census Bureau data. However, this data underrepresents the total

income of poor households, according to an October American Enterprise Institute working paper by Chicago Harris McCormick Foundation Professor **Bruce Meyer** and **Nikolas Mittag**, PhD'13. The researchers compared census responses against government records of distributed benefits, showing that the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey for New York underrepresented both the number of people receiving housing assistance, food stamps, and cash assistance, and the value added to each household by these programs. The authors conclude that public assistance programs in New York have two to three times the poverty-reducing effect that census data indicates, and that a smaller number of Americans are falling through the safety net.

### MS BREAKTHROUGH

Genes are widely believed to determine who is susceptible to multiple sclerosis, but a new study suggests that MS may be triggered when myelin-producing brain cells die, sparking an autoimmune reaction against myelin. Using genetically engineered mice, researchers from UChicago and Northwestern University destroyed the brain cells that create myelin, the insulation around nerve fibers. Results, published in *Nature Neuroscience* on December

14, showed the mice had MS-like symptoms that affected their ability to walk until their nervous systems regenerated the myelin, but about six months later the symptoms returned. Researchers used the same mouse model to test possible treatments, including a nanoparticle that creates tolerance to the myelin antigen. Protecting the myelin-producing cells in susceptible individuals "might help delay or prevent MS," says study senior coauthor **Brian Popko**, the Jack Miller Professor of Neurological Disorders.

### READY FOR FATHERHOOD

Young men with positive attitudes toward babies and parenthood have lower physiological reactions to sexually explicit material than their peers with less interest, say researchers from UChicago and Wayne State University. They recruited 100 heterosexual young men,

mostly students, to answer questions about their lifestyles and their interest in babies and then watch an erotic video. Saliva samples taken before and after the video measured spikes in testosterone as an indicator of arousal. Men with more positive feelings about children reported being more interested in family and long-term relationships and experienced smaller testosterone increases (though not lower baseline levels of testosterone). The men who said they were less family oriented had larger increases in testosterone. "These men 'live on the fast lane,'" says lead researcher **Dario Maestripieri**, UChicago professor of comparative human development. "They are attracted to and aroused by novel sexual partners." The findings were published December 1 in *Psychological Science*. —*Helen Gregg, AB'09*



The videos shown to children in Jean Decety's altruism study showed intentional (left) and accidental harm.

PHOTOS COURTESY JEAN DECETY



**Sommelier Jane Lopes, AB'07, is using her UChicago-honed study skills to tackle the wine world's most difficult exam.**

CULTURE

## Creative ferment

Enjoying wine taught Jane Lopes, AB'07, to slow down, but as a sommelier, she's rising fast.

When **Jane Lopes**, a *Wine and Spirits* 2014 Best New Sommelier, talks about wine, she talks about balance. "On the palate, balance is key," she says, listing elements that must complement each other: sweetness, acidity, tannins, alcohol.

In her own glass, she prefers dry Riesling—for the balance. "What's considered a dry wine in white Burgundy is below two grams of residual sugar; what's considered dry in Riesling is below 10 grams of residual sugar," she says. "You get these wines that are really dynamic just because they have a little more sugar balanced against the acidity."

Lopes, AB'07, talks about wine a lot. At the three-Michelin-star Elev-

en Madison Park in Manhattan—the finest restaurant in America, if you believe the *World's 50 Best Restaurants* list—she guides her guests through a 176-page wine list to find just the right match for their dinner and their tastes. On Esquire TV's 2015 reality program *Uncorked*, she decanted and blind tasted her way through a series of competitions with five other wine professionals in preparation for the notoriously difficult master sommelier exam.

Her ascent to the top of the wine world began at UChicago, although she didn't know it at the time. Transferring from the University of Southern California her second year, she immersed herself, maybe too deeply, in her studies. "I was killing myself," she says. "I had a full schedule, I also had an internship in downtown Chicago, and I was running seven miles a day."

But while studying in Rome her third year, Lopes "learned to slow down and enjoy some of the moments"—and the local cuisine. She began to drink wine, almost by default. "In Rome wine is part of dinner," she says. "It was just a food."

Back in Hyde Park as a fourth-year, Lopes took up writing restaurant re-

views for the *Maroon* while finishing her BA thesis on *Titus Andronicus*. Thinking she would take a year off and apply to PhD programs, she leveraged an alumni connection to get a retail job at the Chicago wine shop Lush, where she used the time between helping customers and tidying up to study wine.

Lopes worked her way up to managing Lush's Roscoe Village location and started picking up shifts at the Violet Hour, a James Beard Award-winning cocktail bar in Wicker Park. It was exhilarating. "We made people happy," she says. She started developing cocktails for the menu, learning to make tiny adjustments to bring a drink's disparate flavors into harmony.

After a few years, Lopes was tapped to head the beverage program at a new Nashville, Tennessee, restaurant, the Catbird Seat, where her creative wine pairings drew press attention—including cocktail-esque mixtures like Tokaji (a sweet Hungarian wine) in a bourbon-rinsed glass. Her creativity was born of constraint: Lopes would taste a new dish, think of a wine to match, then discover the wine couldn't be had in Nashville, too small a market for some distributors. "I realized that if I wanted to pursue wine

and wanted to pursue certifications, that would be much easier if I was in a larger market,” she says.

So she moved to New York. A friend introduced her to a tasting group of local sommeliers, and the connections she made helped her land at Eleven Madison Park. The restaurant demanded the same technical precision and emotional investment that had inspired her at the Violet Hour. “People come into Eleven Madison Park to celebrate weddings and anniversaries and birthdays and all these kinds of major moments in life,” she says. “You have to understand the gravity of that, and that it’s important to give yourself to every table and help them have the best experience possible.”

Meanwhile she pursued certifications at top speed. She came in second at the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs’s 2014 International Best Young Sommelier Competition in Copenhagen, becoming the first American woman to place so highly, and earned her advanced sommelier certification: the final prerequisite to taking the master exam.

Administered by the Court of Master Sommeliers (and chronicled in the 2012 documentary *Somm*), the master sommelier exam is unforgiving, with pass rates in the single digits. Since the test was introduced in 1969, about 230 people have received diplomas. At the 2013 exam in Dallas, only one of 70 applicants succeeded; Shayn Bjornholm, examination director for the court’s American chapter, remarked, “We are happy with the level of difficulty we have established.”

The test has three sections. Theory covers the history, agriculture, chemistry, and legal concerns of grape growth and wine production and similar information about spirits, liqueurs, beer, cider, and cigars. Service stages a mock dinner where the sommelier must discuss, recommend, and properly serve drinks to a table of master sommeliers. Finally, in tasting, she is given six glasses of wine to describe and identify. The theory section is held separately and must be passed before service and tasting are attempted. A student may retake sections as often

as she likes (each is offered annually) but must pass all three within a three-year period to receive the diploma.

Lopes applies a study method she developed at UChicago: triage. Instead of trying to learn every fact about every region, she picks out key features—this region is known primarily for this vineyard; this region has greater fluctuation between vintages—and creates her own study materials. (The first episode of *Uncorked* shows her personal library of color-coded binders: “I kind of like to create my own textbook,” she tells the camera.) She stood for the theory portion in spring of 2015 but didn’t pass. The result was disappointing, though not unusual for a first-time candidate.

What she needs, Lopes decided, is more balance. She took the rest of 2015 off from studying, then began a measured campaign this January to prepare for the 2017 exam, more slowly this time. “Which has been always an appeal of mine with wine,” she says. “No matter how fast you’re moving, it’s something that really encourages you to slow down.”—*Daniel Story*

## THE ALEPH

Lopes named one of the cocktails she created at Chicago’s Violet Hour after “The Aleph,” a short story by Jorge Luis Borges. “The Aleph, in the story, is the point at which all things in the universe converge,” she says. “It seemed appropriate for a drink that contained spirits from Mexico, liqueurs from Italy, and salt from middle America.”

### INGREDIENTS

1.5 oz. El Tesoro Blanco  
.5 oz. Del Maguery Chichicapa Mezcal  
.75 oz. Punt e Mes  
.25 oz. Luxardo Maraschino  
Dash of Angostura Bitters  
Dash of Regan’s Orange Bitters  
Pinch of salt

*Pour all ingredients over ice and stir until chilled and diluted to taste. Strain into a chilled coupe and garnish with a flamed orange disc.*



PHOTO-COLLAGES BY LAURA LORENZ

## FOR THE RECORD

### TRAUMA CARE ON CAMPUS

The University of Chicago Medicine has decided to open a level 1 adult trauma center on its Hyde Park campus. Last fall, it had been announced that the University would partner with Sinai Health System to build the trauma center at Sinai's Holy Cross Hospital in the Chicago Lawn neighborhood. Building the trauma center instead in the same complex as UChicago Medicine's level 1 pediatric trauma center and Burn and Complex Wound Center will allow integrated care and "ma[kes] the most sense for South Side patients," said UChicago Medical Center president **Sharon O'Keefe**.



### SINGULAR ACHIEVEMENT

Starting in 2017 the University will consolidate its quarterly convocation ceremonies into one event, held in June. The change, which comes amid declining participation in the fall and winter ceremonies, is designed to bring the entire University community together in celebration and increase graduates' sense of identification with their class. "For the College, this change will be especially meaningful, as it will help develop and enhance a lasting sense of solidarity, affinity, and cohesion within class cohorts," said College dean **John W. Boyer**, AM'69, PhD'75. "The spring ceremony will continue to be an event to remember."

### A NEW DEGREE

The Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies now offers a master of science degree in biomedical informatics. A part-time program designed for

adults working in biomedical fields, the MScBMI degree program includes classroom instruction and discussion and an industry-based capstone project. Applications are being accepted for spring and autumn 2016.



### HEALTH SCHOLAR

**Samuel Boland**, a fourth-year in the College who spent nine months supporting the Ebola response in Africa, has won a Marshall Scholarship. From January to September 2015 Boland worked with a nongovernmental agency in Sierra Leone to help identify potential Ebola cases and refer those possibly infected to treatment centers. He will use the scholarship to study global public health with a focus on Africa at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Boland is the University's 22nd Marshall Scholar since 1986.



### DATA-DRIVEN LEADERSHIP

Data science scholar **Michael Franklin** has been appointed chair of the Department of Computer Science and senior adviser to the provost on computation and data science. Franklin will lead a major expansion in faculty and course offerings while building upon current data science research

and increasing collaborations with other areas of the University and with outside partners. His appointment "reflects our commitment to sustain an ambitious, University-wide approach to computation and data science," said provost **Eric D. Isaacs**.

### CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The University of Chicago Campaign: Inquiry and Impact, 15 months into its public phase, has surpassed 65 percent of its fundraising goal. The campaign, which has now raised \$2.9 billion of its targeted \$4.5 billion by 2019, will support faculty and researchers across divisions, provide diverse educational opportunities for students, and increase the University's global reach. "The continued commitment of our alumni, parents, families, and friends helps ensure that the University's distinctive education and scholarship will flourish, and its impact will continue to grow," said University president **Robert J. Zimmer**.



### EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE

On October 28 trustee **Dennis J. Keller**, MBA'68, and his wife, **Connie Keller**, received the University of Chicago Medal for their philanthropy and service to the University. The Kellers' support has touched many areas of UChicago, from the Ralph and Dorothy Keller Distinguished Service Professorship at Chicago Booth, to Keller House in the Renee Granville-Grossman Residential Commons, to the forthcoming Keller Center at Chicago Harris. The couple has also made gifts to Odyssey Scholarships, the Urban

Education Institute, Court Theatre, and the University of Chicago Medicine.

### NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Chicago has signed a new Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Chicago detailing the ways the University will work with city government and the local community to increase economic opportunity on the South Side. With an investment of about \$750 million over the next three years, the University will launch new projects as well as continue programs like the Civic Leadership Academy, the Urban Education Institute, and UChicago Promise.

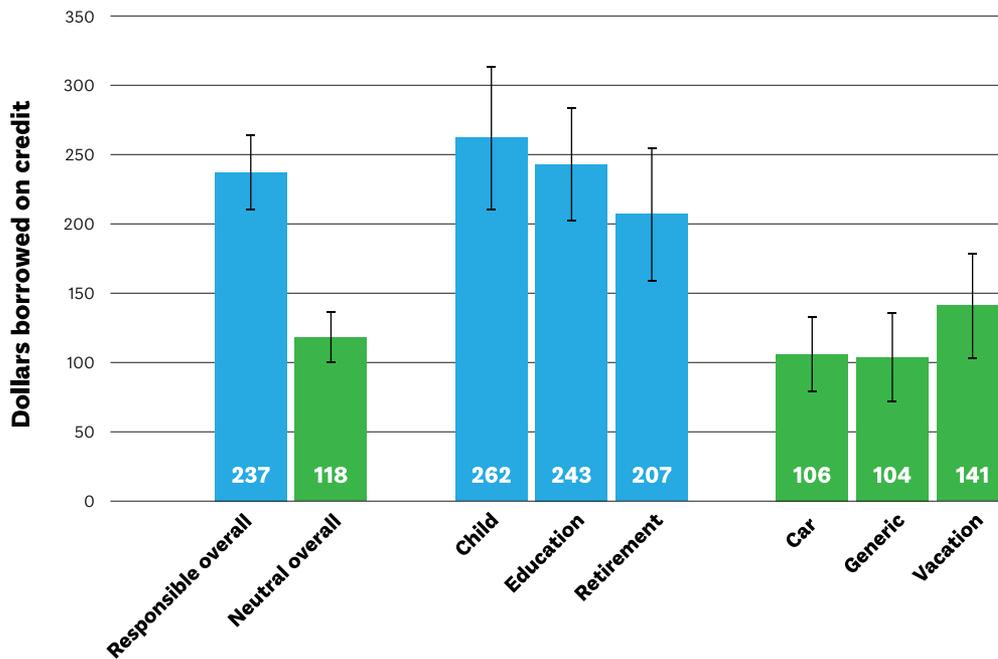
### GLOBAL CHALLENGE

In October the University and the government of Delhi launched the Urban Labs Innovation Challenge: Delhi. The competition aims to crowdsourcing local solutions to improve air and water quality in India. Winners will receive up to 20 million rupees and a chance to pilot their solutions in Delhi for possible adoption citywide. "This partnership combines city leadership with rigorous research and local insights to employ a unique approach to identifying, refining, testing, and scaling up new policy solutions proven to work," said **Michael Greenstone**, LAB'87, the Milton Friedman Professor in Economics and director of the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago and the Urban Labs' Energy and Environment Lab.

### RECOGNIZING TRAILBLAZERS

On January 11 the University's Diversity Leadership Council presented the annual Diversity Leadership Awards, recognizing a faculty member, graduate, and staff member who foster diversity and promote social justice on campus and off. This year's winners are **Nancy N. Schwartz**, professor in pediatrics and biochemistry and molecular biology; alumna historian and teacher **Charles Branham**, PhD'81; and International House director **Denise M. Jorgens**, AM'83, PhD'95.

**FIG. 1**  
**BEARING INTEREST**



Imagine you need \$1,000 to pay for an emergency expense. Do you tap your savings account or put the money on a credit card?

In terms of wealth building, it usually makes sense to draw from liquid assets before taking on debt. But many participants in a recent study coauthored by Chicago Booth assistant professor Abigail Sussman expressed willingness to put at least some of the money on high-interest plastic rather than withdraw the full amount from low-yield savings, especially if they were told the money in the account had been earmarked for something important.

The graph shows the mean dollar amount the study’s participants said they would put on a credit card to help pay for the \$1,000 expense, separated by the type of savings account they otherwise would have been drawing from. The average amount borrowed was

higher among participants who were told their savings accounts were for “responsible” purposes—child-related expenses, education, or retirement—than among those who were told the savings were undesignated or were for a vacation or a new car. The study’s findings were published in the *Journal of Marketing Research*.

Sussman, who studies mental accounting techniques and personal finance strategies, says preserving savings makes people feel financially competent. So much so that when emergency expenses arise they’re often willing to incur the additional cost of credit card interest rather than see their savings account balance drop. Taking money from savings, especially when the money had been allotted for something else, makes people feel irresponsible, and that “causes them to engage in this costly borrowing behavior,” she says.

Personal finance management can be complicated, so many people tend to focus on one goal at a time, says Sussman. Often that’s to save as much as possible. “You open up the paper and see headlines about Americans failing to save,” she says, which can be a problem. Saving is important, but overemphasizing high account balances shortchanges other financial priorities, like building wealth, and neglects people “who don’t necessarily have the luxury of saving.”

Sussman advocates a big-picture approach to wealth management, treating assets and debt equally while taking into account personal circumstances and individual priorities. She recommends holistically identifying personal financial goals and then working to define subgoals to help reach them—including but not limited to saving.—*Helen Gregg, AB’09*

# In the fray

Grad student Matthew Barber takes a hiatus from his studies to help a people under threat from the Islamic State.

In the summer of 2014, **Matthew Barber**, a PhD student in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC), found a way to stand up for one of the world's most vulnerable minority groups. While doing research on the Yazidi people, a Kurdish-speaking ethno-religious minority in northern Iraq and Turkey, Barber was not far from the Yazidi homeland of Sinjar when the region was captured and ethnically cleansed by jihadists belonging to the Islamic State group, also known as ISIS or ISIL, on August 3. As one of the few Westerners with deep knowledge of the Yazidi people, their religion, and their culture, Barber became the Yazidis' conduit to the Western media and has helped increase awareness of the jihadists' kidnapping and enslavement of Yazidi women and girls. He is taking a year off from his studies to work as executive director for Yazda, an advocacy organization for the Yazidi people based in Dohuk, Kurdistan.

Barber talked to the *Magazine* via Skype about his current work on behalf of the Yazidi people and the social responsibility that comes with an academic career. The interview has been edited and adapted.—*Jeanie Chung*

## How did you first become interested in the Yazidis?

As an undergraduate at Portland State University I took a class called Ethnic and Religious Minorities in the Islamic World. I was fascinated to discover that a religion with primarily indigenous, non-Abrahamic roots has survived in the Middle East. In 2010, after graduating college, I was studying Arabic and teaching English in Syria. I backpacked into northern Iraq and met Yazidis for the first time, visited some of their holy places, and began to speak to some of their leaders about social issues facing their community. From that visit came some of my later research, which involved looking at how Iraqi legal systems affect women's issues and issues for minorities, particularly those concerning the Yazidis.

## Yazda's efforts include political advocacy, direct aid, and cultural documentation and preservation.

### Which of these are the most meaningful to you?

We have a genocide documentation project that will write the historical record about what has happened to the Yazidis—their attempted extermination and the sexual enslavement campaign that IS jihadists levied against the Yazidi women. This is very important for me as a scholar.

Probably the most important project for me personally is our effort to support and promote the recovery of Yazidi women and girls who are survivors of sexual enslavement and have escaped or have been rescued and returned to their families in the Kurdistan region.

I am also working with the religious leadership of the Yazidi community to start some projects that will help preserve Yazidi religion and culture. The Yazidi religion is vulnerable because it is an oral tradition rather than one based on written scriptural texts. These campaigns of genocide disrupt the traditional mechanisms by which that oral knowledge was transmitted to younger generations, and during the Saddam years Yazidi religious freedoms were often suppressed.

## Your knowledge of the Yazidis puts you in a position to help. Other scholars might not get so involved.

The most important kind of training I've ever received—that's empowered me to do what I'm doing now—was two years of counseling training with a local grassroots organization in Oregon in my early 20s. It helped me understand trauma, grief, addiction, sexual abuse, and the different kinds of emotional issues that people contend with, and what it means to develop the internal capacity to sit with people in their suffering and help them heal. That strengthened my character as an individual, and prepared me for the leadership role that I'm taking on now.

## Do you intend to stay in academia?

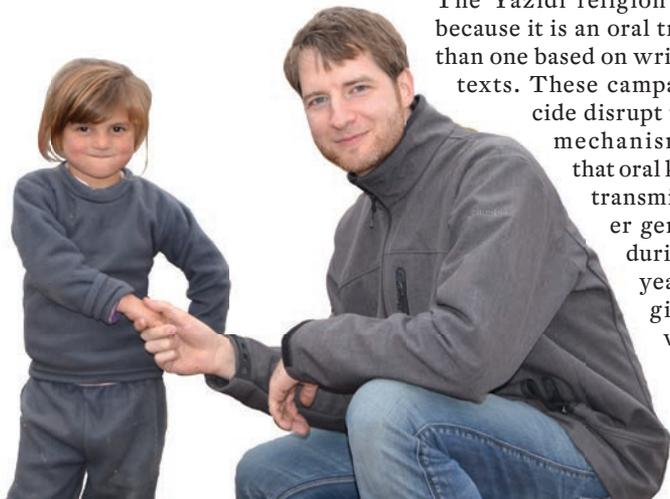
I do. I love teaching and I love writing. And I love the role of a public intellectual who gives back to society. I believe academics have an obligation to do this, considering the rich privilege we have in acquiring our education and pursuing knowledge.

## What can people do to help?

They can support grassroots organizations like Yazda that are working on the ground here, serving vulnerable people, displaced people, survivors of enslavement. They can also help raise awareness of the Yazidi community, which was largely unknown even in academia prior to this crisis.

We want to engage universities to sponsor displaced Yazidi college students to study in the United States. And professionals with specialized skills could be of use if they would like to come and join Yazda for temporary periods of time. There's a need for education specialists, specifically people in mental health professions who have clinical experience providing therapy for survivors of rape, gender-based violence, and trauma generally.

Additionally, the Yazidis need strong political advocates who will take on the harmful local policies that put their future at risk; this includes ensuring that Sinjar is rebuilt so that Yazidis can return to their homeland. After a year and a half in camps for the displaced, Yazidis are fleeing to Europe in increasingly high numbers. It's vital to create hope that a future for this minority still exists in Iraq.





# Three views on inequality

**T**here are few issues that are more gripping than the question of inequality in society,” said **James J. Heckman**, the Henry Schultz Distinguished Service Professor of Economics and Law. The hotly debated topic and notable speakers drew a full-house crowd to Max Palevsky Cinema for “Understanding Inequality and What to Do about It,” a panel discussion that Heckman moderated on November 6, 2015.

The event was organized by the Becker Friedman Institute for Economic Research and the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy Studies. The panel

featured French scholar **Thomas Piketty**, professor of economics at the Paris School of Economics, whose *Capital in the Twenty-First Century* (Harvard University Press, 2013) was a New York Times number one best seller; **Steven N. Durlauf**, the William F. Vilas Research Professor and **Kenneth J. Arrow** Professor of Economics at the University of Wisconsin–Madison; and **Kevin M. Murphy**, PhD’86, the George J. Stigler Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the Department of Economics.

Each panelist offered his views on the rapid growth of inequality in the United States and which aspects of that growth “are really problematic, which ones may not

be so problematic, and what public policies should be,” Heckman said in his introductory remarks. Their opening presentations are edited and adapted here. Heckman then led a discussion between the three of the causes of this growth and potential policy responses. Video of the full event is available at [bfi.uchicago.edu/inequality](http://bfi.uchicago.edu/inequality).

That evening **Piketty** gave a lecture at Chicago Harris, “Reflections about Inequality and Capital in the 21st Century,” followed by a conversation with **Kerwin Charles**, deputy dean of Chicago Harris and **Edwin and Betty L. Bergman Distinguished Service Professor**. Video of the lecture and discussion may be viewed at [youtube.com/watch?v=VvIFgj60WtU](http://youtube.com/watch?v=VvIFgj60WtU).

**Thomas Piketty:** In the United States, the share of income going to the top 10 percent of earners was relatively stable at 30 or 35 percent of total income between 1950 and 1980. In recent decades, we are back to 45 or 50 percent. Why is this so? Very often we talk about globalization, and about China entering the world labor market and putting pressure on the low-skill and medium-skill groups in developed countries. I think this is certainly part of the explanation, but globalization happened not only in the United States but also in Sweden, in Japan, in Germany, in Europe—everywhere—and you don't have the same rising inequality everywhere.

You need a bit more if you want to explain what we see. Different policies and different institutions have played a role, from education to labor market institutions to progressive taxation to corporate governance.

Unequal access to education is clearly part, possibly a very big part, of the explanation for why inequality has increased so much more in the United States than in the rest of the rich world. There's a gap between the quality of education available for the bottom groups and the top groups, which is arguably higher than in Europe or Japan. This is possibly the main explanation. But there are evolutions, both at the bottom and the top of the distribution, that are difficult to explain just with education.

At the bottom, the decline of unions and [lagging changes to] the minimum wage have probably played an important role. At the top of the distribution, the rise in very top managerial compensation that you see in the United States is difficult to explain simply in terms of education or productivity—or at least I couldn't find evidence for it in the data. It's not just unequal access to education, it's also the pay-setting process, and to some extent the corporate [governance] system has become more favorable to top managers. Possibly also the incentives for very top managers to put the right people in the right compensation committee have been increased by the huge decline in tax progressivity at the top that has occurred in this country—much more than in the rest of the developed world.

Inequality is a complicated story. The story involves contradictory



## There are few issues that are more gripping than the question of inequality in society.

*James J. Heckman*



## Unequal access to education is clearly part of the explanation for why inequality has increased so much.

*Thomas Piketty*



## The key mechanism in understanding persistent inequality is segregation.

*Steven N. Durlauf*



## Since about 1980 in the United States, the supply of skilled human capital hasn't grown as fast as demand.

*Kevin M. Murphy, PhD '86*

mechanisms. There are powerful forces that can lead to a reduction of inequality, but there are also forces that can lead to rising inequality for reasons that are difficult to justify.

Let me conclude with new data that wasn't included in the book that I found very striking. If your parents are in the bottom 10 percent of the distribution you have a 20 percent probability to be in college at age 20 right now in this country. If your parents are in the top 10 percent you have a 90 percent probability. And of course [children of top earners] don't go to the same university as the people at the bottom.

So I think the gap between the official discourse in terms of meritocracy, equal opportunity, and what's really going on is just incredibly large. And I think the imagination of the elites to justify inequality and to have discourse about equal opportunity has no limit.

**Steven Durlauf:** Rather than focus on very broad theories of inequality, income distribution, and dynamics, I want to focus specifically on the disadvantaged within the United States. My view is that inequality, frankly, is too big a phenomenon for any small, low dimensional theory to speak much about. When we talk about the 1 percent, that's a very different thing than talking about the state of inner cities in the United States.

I want to start off by telling you about three pictures that you may have seen, which are very popular not only in academia but in public policy discussions now. And then I want to link them together with some observations on certain phenomena I think are important in understanding the disadvantaged in the 21st century.

The first figure [developed by James Heckman] some people call the Heckman curve. It's the observation that if one looks at the rates of return on public investment in children and adolescents there's a significant decline in rates of return between investments at the age of 3 and at the age of 17.

The curve itself is a nice observation and a useful summary. But what I think is important are the mechanisms that underlie it, and there are two things I want to emphasize. First, the work in early childhood development has been instrumental in creating a synthesis be-

## MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS

tween psychology and economics that is extremely fruitful: the recognition and development of a vision that social and emotional skills are part and parcel of what creates economic success as well as a flourishing life.

I also want to emphasize that this work moves beyond income. In thinking about the consequences of rich early childhood investment, or stable families and the like, it's not just a matter of asking questions about wages, or even employment. It's asking about interactions with the criminal justice system, with the stability of families, and personal relationships as an adult. I think that 21st-century inequality demands that we move beyond the conventional measures of income to thinking about notions of capabilities, or what it means to have a flourishing life.

The second figure, which is quite popular, is due to Raj Chetty, Emmanuel Saez, Nathan Hendren, and Patrick Kline. It is a picture of the United States that shows very differing degrees of intergeneration mobility if one looks at relatively small geographic units. Here I'm giving pride of place to the idea that residential neighborhoods and schools are social units that influence individuals.

Ideas in sociology—be they to do with how identities are socially determined; how individuals are influenced by peers, role models, and the like; how aspirations are formed—all of these are being brought to bear in trying to understand how exposure to poverty and disadvantage has long-term consequences. This sociological economics recognizes that human beings are very much influenced by this sequence of interactions they have at a social level.

The third figure is something called the *Great Gatsby* curve. It shows that those economies that have relatively low levels of cross-sectional inequality also have high [intergenerational] social mobility. This was identified by Miles Corak originally. There's a very important suggestion here that at a point in time when more inequality exists, somehow it translates into reduced mobility. That in some sense

is the strongest attack one might make on the conventional notion of meritocracy, at least in the American case.

The way that I think about these questions together is, roughly speaking, a memberships theory of inequality. What I mean is that individuals throughout their life courses are members of different social groups. The most important one is obviously the family. Whatever inequality is across parents, that is going to be translated into inequality across offspring.

Other sets of memberships are clearly salient as well. One example would be residential neighborhoods. Another would be schools. Another would be higher education. Yet another example would be firms. It's a very different world that is driven by Microsoft versus the Ford Motor Company in terms of interactions of [workers of] different skill types.

So if we want to understand inequality, one of the many perspectives is to recognize that individuals are influenced throughout their life course by the groups that they are members of and they interact with. The key mechanism in understanding persistent inequality is segregation: assortative mating of highly educated parents, economic segregation, racial segregation of school districts, increasing segregation by income level or by high school achievement across colleges. All of these become mechanisms that translate initial inequalities into persistent inequalities both within the life course and across generations.

What sorts of policies are necessary to break disadvantage? I put particular emphasis on policies that achieve various forms of partial integration. I'm not a madman who wants to interfere with the marriage process. On the other hand, policies that speak to the potential for altering who interacts with who, be they affirmative action, the location of public housing, voucher systems, the drawing of school district zoning, all of them are in my judgment where the currency of egalitarian justice—G. A. Cohen's term—still lies today.

**Kevin Murphy:** I'm going to deviate a little bit from what's happened so far. But it's important to focus back on some very basic economics. I'm going to focus mostly on labor, because at least within the United States I think the most important changes we've seen over time are in the relative returns to low-skilled and high-skilled labor. Changes over time in the difference in wages between workers who have graduated from college and those who stop at high school are striking. Today that difference is somewhere between double and triple, depending on how you measure it, what it was in 1980. That's an enormous increase in the income gap.

The goal of economic analysis is to understand where that change came from. I applaud Thomas [Piketty] for talking about long-term changes in his book. The same things that have been driving the economy for decades are going on today. If you think about it, the links between inequality and another very important phenomenon, which I'll call economic growth, are key to understanding both. So I'm going to step back a second and say, what accounts for growth? Where does economic growth come from?

Economists have worked on this for a long time, and we can think about economic growth as coming from three primary places. One, we get better technology over time. We learn how to do things that we couldn't do before. In response to those new technologies, we invested in physical capital to utilize and implement those new technologies. We also invested heavily in human capital, increasing the education and other skills of our workforce.

If you follow the course of the 20th century and into the 21st century, the rates of increase in technology, physical capital, and human capital are really astounding.

So we get more growth and more technology, and we need the human capital to both produce technology and implement it. Think about a modern automobile plant where we now have robots replacing workers manu-



**At the panel, Steven N. Durlauf (center) said inequality is “translated” from parents to their children.**

ally putting parts together to build the car. We needed the technology to develop the robots. We needed to invest in the physical capital to improve the plant. And we needed the human capital to design, build, and maintain those robots, and far fewer low-skilled workers.

While technology, investments in physical capital, and investments in human capital work in concert to increase output over time, they work in opposite directions on inequality. Better technology and more physical capital tend to create opportunities for new skilled worker activities while replacing the activities traditionally performed by less skilled workers. Increased investment in human capital increases the supply of skilled workers and reduces the supply of low skilled workers.

So what happens to inequality in many dimensions, particularly across education, is a tug-of-war with growing technology and physical capital on the one hand (on the demand side of the model) and growth in human capital (on the supply side). When demand grows faster than supply, prices (wages, the return to human capital) rise. When supply grows faster than demand, the return to human capital falls.

The theory does an amazing job of explaining significant components of what we've seen over decades. Since

about 1980 in the United States, the supply of skilled human capital hasn't grown as fast as demand. Not surprisingly, from the point of view of economics, inequality has risen, and risen dramatically.

If you don't produce enough skilled workers over time, the wages of skilled workers go up relative to wages of unskilled workers. Well, the forces of economics don't stop operating. Those skilled workers have an incentive to then supply more skill to the marketplace. They invest more in themselves; they work harder. Those supply responses exacerbate measured inequality. You get the opposite dynamic going on at the bottom of the distribution: wages fall, they're working less. They invest less in their own human capital. That creates a widening of inequality.

As Steve Durlauf emphasized, we don't want to focus entirely on income. Human capital is, again, a big part of the story. And the big difference between human capital and physical capital is that you take it home with you at night. It affects many things: your skill at raising your children, your skill at taking care of your own health, your skill at running your financial life, how good you are in dealing with friends, family, and the like. So the human capital shortfall is really quite critical for many outcomes, not just income.

Why do we have such a human capital shortfall? I would agree, we have a lot of people who don't have very good opportunities to develop human capital. If you fall behind early in life, it's not impossible to catch up, but it's extremely difficult. So it's critical that we enable more people to get the human capital they need. It's not just education, it's the “soft” skills too. While people might call them soft, they're hard in that they're not so easy to get, and they really matter for success.

You might say, not everybody is going to be able to get more human capital. The saving grace of the economics is, they don't have to. If some segment of the population does increase their human capital, they would reap the high rates of return that we see in the marketplace today. But the remaining low-skilled workers would also benefit, because there would be less competing supply of low-skilled workers. That would benefit them in terms of higher compensation and incentivize them to be more attached to the labor force, to work more.

So the answer, I think, has to focus on human capital. If the growth in inequality is telling us anything, it is telling us that there's a shortage of skilled labor, and we should do what we can to increase it and create more opportunity for people at the bottom. ♦



vision

# NEW WORLD STAGE

*The Pearson family's concern about violent conflicts inspires a landmark \$100 million gift, creating a global institute for data-driven research to inform public policy.*

BY ROB SQUIRE, AM'83



**THE PEARSON INSTITUTE**  
FOR THE STUDY AND RESOLUTION OF GLOBAL CONFLICTS

**Previous pages: The \$100 million gift establishing The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts and The Pearson Global Forum was announced before a standing-room crowd at Mandel Hall. Opposite: Syrian opposition members fight against Assad regime forces outside Damascus, Syria, in January 2016.**

It could have been almost any early Sunday afternoon, gathered around the Pearson family's dinner table in Iowa discussing the important (and sometimes unimportant) issues of the day. Normally the four brothers—Tom, Tim, Philip, and David—were expected to bring to the table not just healthy appetites but topics of personal interest. And their parents, a prominent Methodist pastor and a college professor of religion and theater, would encourage the boys to share, develop, and expand their ideas. But, on this day, the conversation was especially charged and stimulating. Desmond Tutu was the family's dinner guest, and the discussion was focused on theology.

Early experiences like this with influential political leaders, missionaries, scholars, and writers left a lasting impression on the Pearson brothers. The values their parents lived, and the desire they cultivated in their four sons to delve deeply into things, fueled an enduring interest in the world. And their parents' strong humanitarian spirit engendered deep concern about the consequences of clashes that threatened civil rights and individual freedoms. The brothers still keep framed copies in their offices and homes of a threatening note the Ku Klux Klan left on the doorstep of their childhood home under the cover of darkness on a cloudless summer night in Iowa. It said, "The Klan is watching you."

Social responsibility and the desire to make a difference are the driving forces behind **The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts** and **The Pearson Global Forum** at the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy. The landmark initiative, created in late 2015 through a transformative \$100 million gift by The Thomas L. Pearson and The Pearson Family Members Foundation, places the University of Chicago and Chicago Harris at the forefront of global conflict resolution. The gift is equal in size to the second-largest gift in the University's history.

The Pearson Institute and The Pearson Global Forum will be the first of their kind devoted solely to the study, discussion, and resolution of global conflicts. They will fill a critical gap in identifying new strategies rooted in innovative, evidence-

driven research approaches. The Pearson Institute and The Pearson Global Forum will act as catalysts to promote research practices and share insights that will inform public policy.

"This is an extraordinarily important undertaking," says Richard Haass, the president of the Council on Foreign Relations and an expert on US foreign policy, who has been recognized for his efforts to promote international peace and conflict resolution. "It has multiple dimensions that include research, convening power, and education. From my experience, a lot of what we call history results from the intersection of people and ideas, and The Pearson Institute and The Pearson Global Forum embrace both."

#### LIFELONG EXEMPLARS

**G**rowing up in the Pearson household was an education by example for the four sons. The boys' father, the Rev. Dr. Richard L. Pearson, was a prominent Methodist minister deeply devoted to equal rights and social justice. In the summer of 1965, his convictions led him to Selma, Alabama, where he marched with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and participated in voter registration drives across the deep South. At the invitation of President Carter in 1979, their father attended a White House briefing on disarmament talks with the Soviet Union. "I remember him as a compassionate leader who believed in the goodness of mankind and in the love of his God," Tim Pearson says. "To parishioners, he was an approachable man who was widely loved and respected for embracing the highest hopes and values."

"In his sermons, our father often invoked the well-known biblical passage, 'To whom much is given, much is required,'" Tom Pearson recalls. "That's become very much a filament in the fabric of our lives—the drive to make the most of our talents and gifts—and to do good works."

Their mother, Ramalee E. Pearson, grew up as a Methodist minister's daughter to become a committed homemaker and professor of religion and drama at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, and later at Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville, Iowa. She juggled her hectic schedule to make time for food drives, soup kitchens, and other volunteer activities with members of her church. Ramalee also immersed herself in community theater, one summer playing the lead role in *Mame*—a slightly risqué role for a minister's wife in the 1970s. Tom recalls, "She taught us by example the value of hard work, the responsibility to help others, and an especially enduring lesson: that a good life is an engaged life."

"The Pearson family is very aware of the impact every one of us can make if we choose to do so in our community," says Kathryn Hall, the former US ambassador to Austria. "They were raised in a family committed to humanity, where service is part of who they are."

## THE GIFT IS EQUAL IN SIZE TO THE SECOND-LARGEST GIFT IN THE UNIVERSITY'S HISTORY.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOEL WINTERMAN/TITLE (PREVIOUS PAGES); AMMAR EL BUSHY/ANADOLU AGENCY/GETTY IMAGES



## INSPIRED TO LEAD

**T**he brothers took inspiration and direction from an unexpected source when a global corporate sponsorship agreement Tim negotiated in 2003 led to Oslo, Norway—and into the inner circle of Nobel Peace Prize laureates.

At the time, Tim served as the first-ever chief marketing officer of the global audit, tax, and consulting firm KPMG. As a vice chairman, he also served on the US management committee and the international executive team, gaining new perspectives on the impact global conflicts can have on societies, economies, businesses, and citizens.

During the same period, Tom was senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary of Alliance Resource Partners LP and Alliance Holdings GP, LP—two publicly traded master limited partnerships. Previously, he co-led the leveraged buyouts that culminated in the two public stock offerings for the Tulsa, Oklahoma-based energy firm, which is the third-largest coal mining company in the eastern United States.

In the decade during which KPMG acted as founding global partner of the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo, the brothers had occasions to converse with Peace Prize recipients, including Muhammad Yunus, Mohamed ElBaradei, and Nelson Mandela. They were especially drawn to Kenyan environmental and political activist Wangari Muta Maathai. Her Green Belt Movement championed environmental sustainability and economic advancement for women.

“Tom and I were deeply influenced by the personal stories of the Nobel Peace Prize laureates—their own process of self-discovery and the journey they took to realize their life calling,” Tim says. “We learned that individuals can indeed make a difference in the world. We ultimately came to believe that individual efforts to create a world more at peace could be even more impactful through a fact-driven, metric-based, analytical approach.”

The brothers also learned some valuable lessons in philanthropy. “We surveyed the current landscape and looked for a model that would provide an intellectual and positive return on our philanthropic investment,” Tom says. “The strategic approach we adopted is driven by a clear mission with goals and objectives, strong institutional partnership, active involvement, executional rigor, an ‘asset-light’ structure, and accountability.”

Today Tom serves as chairman of The Thomas L. Pearson and The Pearson Family Members Foundation, whose gift to the University established The Pearson Institute and The Pearson Global Forum. He also sits on the Executive Council of Cohesive Capital Partners, where he advises partners of the New York City-based private equity firm on global and regional economic, political, and industry matters.

Tim is now president and CEO of The Thomas L. Pear-



**Timothy R. Pearson and Thomas L. Pearson (pictured, from left) and Philip K. Pearson and David L. Pearson (not pictured) hope others will join them in supporting The Pearson Institute and The Pearson Global Forum.**

son and The Pearson Family Members Foundation. He also advises and counsels senior management teams and boards of Fortune 1000 companies on business and brand strategy through his own Atlanta-based consultancy, Pearson Advisors || Partners. In 2011 McGraw-Hill published his *New York Times* best seller *The Old Rules of Marketing are Dead*, which explains how brands must evolve to stay relevant in today's internet-dominated world.

## BUILDING A LASTING LEGACY

**T**he Pearson brothers have supported many charitable organizations over the years. But when their parents passed, they began to discuss what each desired the Pearson family's legacy to be after their own passings. Conversations at a family home in the Utah mountains among the brothers quickly coalesced. The Pearson family would help make the world a less violent place by supporting research aimed at reducing global conflicts, and the application of research conclusions to inform related public policy.

“There's no single issue that's more important today than the study of the intersection of war, failed states, terrorism, and economic cataclysms—and more importantly, the response that the design of policies directed toward forming a more peaceful world will have,” Tom says. “Today, 59.5

# WE ULTIMATELY CAME TO BELIEVE THAT INDIVIDUAL EFFORTS COULD BE EVEN MORE IMPACTFUL THROUGH A FACT-DRIVEN, METRIC-BASED, ANALYTICAL APPROACH.

million people are refugees, displaced, or seeking asylum. The time to act is now.”

In 2012 Tim and Tom, with the endorsement of David and Philip, took the lead carrying the family legacy forward and began to search in earnest for the right institution to advance their vision. They evaluated a number of leading US universities but quickly became convinced that the University of Chicago would be the best partner. Tim explains, “The University has committed leadership. It has an existing school, the Harris School of Public Policy Studies, where The Pearson Institute can reside and undertake new forms of interdisciplinary and data-driven research. It has global reach through its collaborative University Centers in Paris, Beijing, Delhi, and Hong Kong. And from its inception, the University has fostered an environment in which rigorous inquiry is successfully applied to society’s toughest problems.”

The Pearson Institute will work in three strategically connected areas. Researchers from around the world will draw on proven methodologies used to study a variety of other disciplines—health, education, and environmental policy, to name a few. The science of violent conflicts begins with theoretically important questions and strong hypotheses guided by rigorous theory. Researchers will collect detailed microlevel data through field research or their own trials or surveys. And they can be expected to employ randomized control trials, statistical analysis, and sophisticated modeling. This disciplined approach enables researchers to move beyond correlation-based conclusions to discover causal relationships that provide the most reliable foundation for effective public policy.

“In managing the Alliance companies, we focused on a data-driven approach,” Tom says, “and we applied careful thought and rigorous analysis to confront the most difficult problems facing Alliance and our country’s energy requirements. We are confident that The Pearson Institute itself, and the quantitative research it undertakes, will apply simi-

lar rigor to move from fact-based research, to informing public policy decisions, to guiding successful applications that reduce global conflicts.”

The Pearson Global Forum will convene the international policy and academic community annually to recognize new quantitative approaches and findings. It will also present and host conferences and other events highlighting successful applications of The Pearson Institute’s research to inform public policy as applied to the resolution of global conflicts.

The Pearson family gift will also enable the University to establish four named professorships of global conflict studies at The Pearson Institute, one held by a prominent scholar who will act as faculty director and set the research agenda. The Pearson Institute will also encompass the creation of the Pearson Fellows program for master’s of public policy students and the Pearson Scholars program for PhD students working in this specialized area of scholarship.

“When I heard about the Pearsons’ gift to the University of Chicago, I was blown away,” says Bill George, senior fellow at Harvard Business School, former chair and CEO of Medtronic, and the best-selling author of *Authentic Leadership: Rediscovering the Secrets to Creating Lasting Value* (Jossey-Bass, 2003) and *Discover Your True North* (Jossey-Bass, 2015). “I had no idea that they were talking about a gift of this magnitude or something that would have this enormous impact. If we can just avoid one armed conflict through the work at The Pearson Institute, that’s going to be a great gift to humanity.”

## A NEW JOURNEY

**T**he Pearson brothers have traveled far in many respects from dinner with Desmond Tutu in their childhood home to the stage in Mandel Hall, where their gift was announced on September 30, 2015. At the event, University president **Robert J. Zimmer** remarked that the University is “deeply thankful to the Pearson family for this transformative gift” and that “the study of global conflicts is a field ripe for groundbreaking research approaches.”

“We know the journey ahead will be formidable—to find new ways through The Pearson Institute to study and understand global conflicts, to inform policy significantly and meaningfully, and to share these findings around the world through The Pearson Global Forum,” Tom says. “This mission to contribute to a global society at peace can make a difference in millions of people’s lives. For those committed to making a difference in the world in which we live, we ask everyone interested to join us.” ♦

**Rob Squire, AM’83, is a Chicago-based business writer who covers the financial and professional services, health care, higher education, and not-for-profit sectors.**



ONE WAY

AHEAD

nomadic habitat  
(hurdleman)

# forms of imagination

September 18, 2015  
January 8, 2016



The formerly abandoned Arts Incubator building now serves as a cultural resource in the Washington Park neighborhood, offering studio space for local artists and public programs for the broader South Side community.

At the Arts Incubator, creative minds build on the cultural wealth of Chicago's South Side

arts

# START WITH WHAT YOU GOT

BY INGRID GONÇALVES, AB'08

**G**arland “Hustleman” Gantt sells snow cones, linens, and other wares out of his white, windowless van. He’s been a fixture of Chicago’s South Side for over 10 years, following opportunity in his mobile mini-mart. Most of the time these days, he’s parked next to the Garfield Green Line stop in Washington Park.

“I started with like, 40 bags of fruit ... selling them in the area,” Gantt told the Chicago Transit Authority in a 2013 interview. He then “expanded to socks, face towels, dish towels, oils, pickles, T-shirts, DVD players, to watches, to sheet sets, to comforters. Stuff like that.”

Gantt’s enterprising background made him an ideal partner in a project by Carlos Rolón/Dzine, a Pilsen-based artist known for his intricate, ornate paintings and sculptures. Working with Gantt last fall, Rolón refurbished a dilapidated wooden vendor cart that had weathered two Chicago winters and turned it into a boutique bazaar on wheels.

With twin red awnings accented with miniature light bulbs and delicate fringe, the cart formed a welcoming space around a central column of drawers and shelves. Built-in speakers played Gantt’s usual selections: music from local radio stations, including R&B, soul, top 40, and Motown. A colorful rug, hanging spider plant, and decorative dollar sign added the finishing touches.

The cart, or *Nomadic Habitat* (*Hustleman*), was one of three installations featured in *Forms of Imagination*, an exhibition that appeared last fall at the Arts Incubator, part of the University of Chicago’s Arts + Public Life initiative. Cocurated by research analyst **Paola Aguirre**, an urban designer and architect, and arts program manager **Tempestt Hazel**, a curator and writer, the show explored how the transformation of spaces, from a vendor cart to a city block, can also transform the communities around them.

Gantt relinquished his van in favor of the motorless cart one evening last October, serving dozens of patrons outside the incubator at East Garfield Boulevard and South Prairie Avenue. Rolón explained on Instagram that the cart, which features storage for fold-



**Gantt used the *Nomadic Habitat* installation to display an eclectic inventory of goods, including potato chips, socks, nachos, pillows, bus pass holders, shavers, candy, and bootleg *Empire* T-shirts.**

ing tables and chairs, provided “an oasis for visitors to have random interaction and discussion.” So they did—and in a way, that was the whole point. “Garland brought people out at 8 p.m. on a Wednesday, when usually no one is out around here,” says Aguirre.

Arts + Public Life is headed by **Theaster Gates**, the potter-turned-urban planner known for his work converting run-down structures into lively cultural attractions. Launched in 2011, Arts + Public Life advances the arts as a way to build connections between the University, local artists, and the city.

“While Washington Park has an amazing legacy of cultural life, it is not immediately evident on the main street,” says Gates. “The Arts Incubator seeks to make some of the cultural life in the neighborhood more evident.”

Washington Park, home to the 372-acre park that bears its name and the DuSable Museum of African

American History, was a bustling community until the mid-20th century. Its population declined by 75 percent between 1950 and 2000, leaving its majestic tree-lined boulevards flanked by rows of shuttered greystones.

Like *Nomadic Habitat*, the Arts Incubator was a fixer-upper. Inspired by the artistic process of molding raw materials into beautiful objects, Gates saw potential in the two-story terra cotta building, nearly a century old. Thought to be a former Walgreen’s, it had sat abandoned for 20 years when the University purchased it in 2008.

Gates reenvisioned the space as a cultural resource for South Side artists and the local community. After \$1.85 million in renovations and a \$400,000 grant from ArtPlace (a partnership of 27 foundations, government agencies, and corporations), the Arts Incubator opened in 2013 with 10,000 square feet of studio space for artists in residence, a woodshop for design

Education is an important part of all Arts Incubator programs, from the Resonation Room installation by Mikel Patrick Avery and PORT Urbanism (top) to Stewart's preshow lecture at South Side Home Movies.



apprenticeship programming, and room for exhibitions and events.

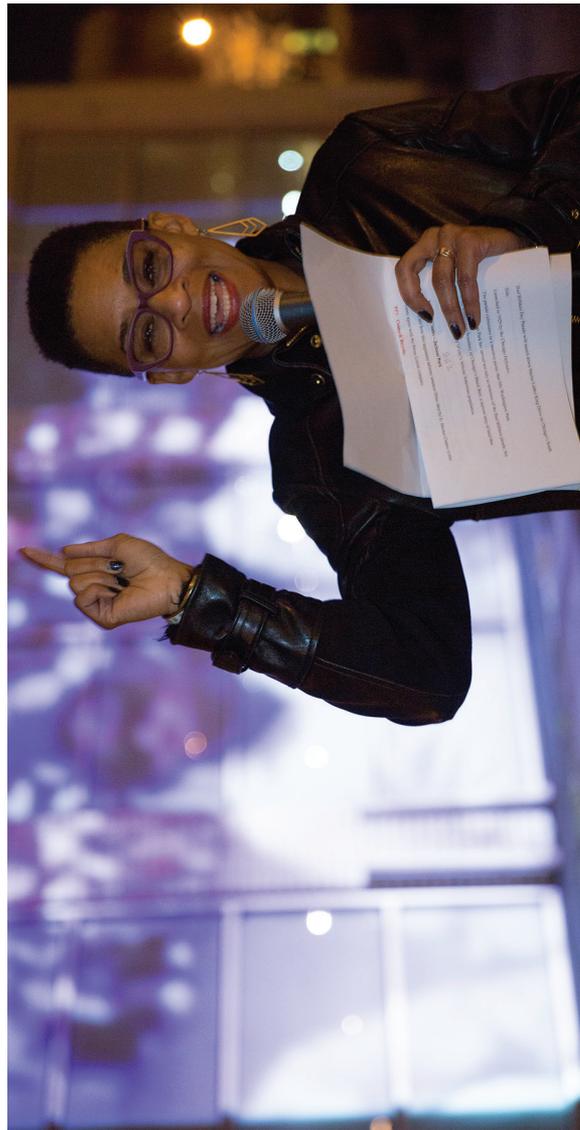
Over the past three years, the Arts Incubator has drawn more than 25,000 people to 760-plus public events and programs, including live performances, yoga classes, and South Side Home Movies, a screening of old amateur films from the archives of UChicago film professor **Jacqueline Stewart**, AM'93, PhD'99, who led a discussion following the event. This month the Arts Incubator's latest exhibition, *Shared Language: A Community Classroom*, opened. It offers free classes on communication and teaching alongside an exhibition of the work of nine teaching artists (the show runs through March 11).

One of few South Side buildings featured in the 2015 Chicago Architecture Biennial, the Arts Incubator was the first step in Arts + Public Life's ongoing effort to reestablish Garfield Boulevard as a major cultural corridor in the city of Chicago. The Currency Exchange Café opened next door in 2014, creating a space for local residents to convene, eat, study, work—and peruse purchases from Bing Art Books next door (named for the bingo sign in its window that's missing a letter).

The sign, like *Nomadic Habitat* and the Arts Incubator itself, are examples of how to “start with what you got,” as Gates puts it—a philosophy that underlies all of Arts + Public Life's work to create beautiful, functional environments that draw out the rich culture on Chicago's South Side. ♦



Through the University of Chicago Campaign: Inquiry and Impact, Arts + Public Life transforms communities through investments in art, culture, and creativity. Learn more at [campaign.uchicago.edu](http://campaign.uchicago.edu).



medicine

# MORTAL THOUGHTS

*Doctors are taught to fight death—but it's a losing battle. Some are looking beyond biomedicine to help them better communicate with patients about the end of life.*

BY RUTH E. KOTT, AM'07

ILLUSTRATION BY JON KRAUSE



In January 2015, a man walked into Midway Studios on 60th Street carrying a satchel. In it was a bronze cast of his mother's head: a death mask.

He was on his way to a public workshop on death and the kinds of artifacts we keep to remember our dead—belongings of the deceased, art made from their hair, albums filled with photos. The workshop was one of four organized as part of the Living Mortal Project, led by **Jesse Soodalter, AM'15**, a fellow in hospice and palliative medicine at the University of Chicago Medicine. Supported by a grant from the University's Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, the project aimed to understand and influence the ways we think about mortality.

That day's symposium, "The Imaginary Funeral: Image, Artifact, and the Work of Mourning," packed the room. In advertisements for the event, attendees were invited to bring objects by which they remembered their own dead, and many did. Most of the items they brought had belonged to their loved ones—clothing, books, several watches.

The death mask stood out. The man set it on a chair and recounted how, when his mother died in Germany in 1967, a sculptor friend hurried to the hospital to make the mask. Once a popular way of remembering the dead, the form is itself a dying art.

Other Living Mortal workshops explored the euphemistic language we use to discuss death; the conscious and unconscious ways that we are drawn to death; and what we feel we owe to our dead. There's usually "a cultural taboo" around talking about death, Soodalter notes. But the workshops were a breakthrough, says palliative care physician **Monica Malec**, who works with Soodalter on the project. Everyone present had full permission to talk about what they know and what they think. And they used it.

"We're in a moment where people are open to the conversation," Malec says. "There's a little more realization that if we don't find a way to talk about this, things can go very wrong."

It's a well-cited statistic that, even though the majority of Americans say that they want to die at home, only 25 percent actually do. The rest die in a hospital, nursing home, or long-term care facility.

According to a 2006 Pew Research Center survey, only about one-third of adults have an advance directive expressing their wishes for end-of-life care. When an accident victim enters the hospital in a coma, he no longer has the ability to make important decisions about his life—how long to remain on a ventilator, for example. Family members, along with physicians, then have to make these intensely personal decisions.

But it's hard to know when to start thinking about it. When death begins is not clearly defined. "Are you dying once you get the diagnosis that we expect you're going to die from?" says Malec. "Or are you dying when we can say your life expectancy is measured in days?" Most people, she says, think it's the latter. The reality, says Soodalter, is that "at a very clichéd level, we're all dying."

Soodalter and Malec came at the question as physicians who practice within a complex health care system that's focused on how to extend life. "From a physician's side," Soodalter says, "we're taught to fight and we're taught that death is the enemy and illness is the enemy. So then, when death eventually wins—as it will every time—then we're out of tools. We're out of even concepts to frame how we can keep helping our patients." In 2012 during the first year of a hematology/oncology fellowship, Soodalter struggled with what she calls "the unspoken proximity of death in the room." She took on her patients' suffering—it wasn't uncommon for her to see her 40-year-old metastatic colon cancer patient's face when she closed her eyes at night. She felt totally alone.

Then she had an insight. "My undergraduate degree was in classics. I'm a visual artist, so I come from a background that is less scientific and biomedical." She had put those parts of her life on hold while training to be a doctor. "I was thinking in medicine for 10 years," Soodalter says. "I suddenly realized that the only way I was going to get through this was to bring all of that other stuff back in."

"That other stuff" framed the Living Mortal Project. To gain the methodological skills to start thinking differently about death, Soodalter enrolled in the Master of Arts Program in the Humanities in 2013. Also that year, a conversation with **Julie Marie Lemon**, who ran the University's Arts and Science Initiative (now the Arts, Science, and Culture Initiative), led to an informal faculty dinner and discussion that brought together social sciences and humanities scholars to talk about death from their disciplinary perspectives,

**EVEN THOUGH  
THE MAJORITY OF  
AMERICANS SAY THAT  
THEY WANT TO DIE  
AT HOME, ONLY 25  
PERCENT ACTUALLY DO.**



An audience member at “The Imaginary Funeral” showed his mother’s death mask, made by a friend in 1967.

a precursor to the later workshops. Soodalter also applied for the Neubauer Collegium funding that would support the Living Mortal Project.

Soodalter and Malec invited speakers from anthropology, art history, public policy, performing arts, literature, and more to lead the Living Mortal Project workshops. “Maybe we could lift some of the ways that they engage,” Malec says, “and bring them back to medicine and say, ‘Hey, this is a different way of looking at this.’” For “The Imaginary Funeral” Soodalter and Malec started with broad questions: What work do those artifacts help us do? Do they help us let go of people who have died? Do they help us hold on to people who have died?

Three guest panelists presented evidence from their fields without trying to make an argument. One was mortuary archaeologist **María Cecilia “Nené” Lozada, AM’90, PhD’98**, who excavates human remains from pre-Hispanic and colonial cemeteries in South America. Lozada recounted how she was studying a dismembered, mummified trophy head at the same time as her mother was dying. Her research brought Lozada to a medical facility to get a CT scan of the trophy head. Seeing the artifact in that clinical setting, she said, permanently changed the ways that she interacts with what were previously just specimens to her. Now “I always think about the person—who is behind it.”

The Living Mortal symposia explored death as “an existential, philosophical, species-level” experience, Soodalter says, “not just as a biomedical reality.”

**D**eath *is* a biomedical reality—and a costly one. The Living Mortal Project is in part a response to the modus operandi of the US health care system. “We have been on an incredibly steep curve” of using technology to defer death, says Soodalter. “We’re really heading very rapidly toward a crisis.” Roughly 25 percent of Medicare spending is for patients who are in their final year of life.

The goal of Living Mortal, she adds, is not to save money or convince people to receive less care. Her research, and other studies, suggest that patients might not choose dramatic interventions when their bodies are failing, if given the opportunity to talk—and think—about it earlier. “Part of that,” says Malec, “just has to do with having conversations, being aware of it from outside of a crisis.”

Currently Soodalter and two research associates are interviewing colon cancer patients at the University of Chicago Medicine on their feelings about death, trying to understand what they call “death self-competency”—how well the patients can talk and think about their own mortality. In a companion study, they will interview physicians about the same topics—their patients’ mortality as well as their own. Doctors, Soodalter says, are in the “singular position of confronting both their own eventual death and the much more present prospect of their patients’.”

The questions are open-ended, in order to uncover themes that cross ethnic, socioeconomic, and religious lines. What are the person’s general feelings about death, and how have they changed? What role have religion and spirituality played? Soodalter has invited a philosopher, a religious studies expert, an ethnographer, and others to help analyze the interviews. Out of this she wants to develop a multidisciplinary intervention to improve end-of-life conversations in the clinical setting.

She isn’t sure yet what the intervention will look like, but she’s finding that patients often don’t even know that it’s OK to have these conversations. Health care providers don’t always bring it up if the patient doesn’t ask them. But, Malec says, even those who don’t want to talk about it have opinions about how they want to die.

Ideally, end-of-life care is a truly personalized form of medicine, she says. When the physician and patient sit down to talk about what’s most important, the conversations transcend medical treatment. Maybe the patient wants to pursue a therapy so he can make it to his daughter’s wedding. Or he may be tired and want to stop the pain. Doctors should help patients consider the end of life, says Soodalter, “at a time when they’re able to think about it and make decisions that are consonant with their values.”

So how can doctors better understand patients’ wishes? It’s not just a matter of asking. Doctors “meet people in these snapshots of time,” says Malec, who works in outpa-



**Soodalter (left) hosted all four Living Mortal Project workshops, and Malec spoke at the first, “Never Say Die.”**

tient oncology. “We don’t have enough time to develop rapport and find out what’s most important to patients. ... You have to have a certain relationship” with a patient before you can discover what’s important to her. Soodalter agrees: “You have to earn that.” It takes time, and trust doesn’t develop over the course of one appointment.

In 2014 the Institute of Medicine (now known as the National Academy of Medicine) released a 600-page report, *Dying in America: Improving Quality and Honoring Individual Preferences Near the End of Life*. The key takeaway: the US health care system is ill-equipped to care for patients at the end of life. A shortage of doctors with palliative care training—and of those who understand what palliative care really means—is one of the biggest gaps that the report revealed. The report offers recommendations that include increasing financial support for dying patients and having more conversations, early and often, about death. (In October 2015 Medicare approved payment for voluntary end-of-life counseling with patients and their families, similar to what was proposed under the Affordable Care Act.)

As a specialty, palliative medicine is still relatively new in the United States; the American Board of Medical Specialties didn’t recognize it until 2006. It’s most common at large medical centers and is not always available at smaller hospitals. At its most basic level, palliative care is about relieving suffering for patients with serious illnesses, Malec says. “What we’ll often say is that our goal is to help every day be the best one that it can be, regardless of the number.”

It’s a common misconception that patients come to palliative care physicians only when they’re very close to death. Unlike hospice care, in which patients have a life expectancy of six months or less, palliative care can begin at any time.

**Daniel Sulmasy**, an internist and ethicist at UChicago Medicine with an interest in end-of-life care, believes pallia-

tive care should be discussed at the moment a serious illness is diagnosed. “As chances for cure might be diminishing, the need for palliative care might increase,” he says. “But we want to care for patients’ symptoms along the whole way.”

Malec started seeing her patient Martin Dippel more than two years before he died this past August (after being interviewed for this story). He was diagnosed in 2011 with an advanced form of cancer and began taking drugs targeting the cell mutation that triggered the disease. He also participated in two clinical trials. His treatment plan was “doing a good job of arresting the cancer’s growth,” Dippel said, “but we knew that it was not curative.”

Dippel chose to enter palliative care with Malec in 2013, after his oncologist suggested it. “I was having trouble eating and was losing weight,” he said. “I found someone to treat the smaller side effects with the same attention to detail as my larger problems. The side effects really affect your quality of life.” He was sent to Malec for symptom management, but at that point his cancer had already metastasized. She guided him through his decision making process, trying to understand what was most important to him. Dippel appreciated that Malec asked him straight out, “Where do you want to be at the end of your life?”

Malec learned that Dippel wanted to die at home, and when his physical state continued to decline, she suggested that he move into hospice care, “the path that is most likely to keep you at home,” she says. It did for him.

Choosing hospice care wasn’t easy, “but we never doubted Dr. Malec’s role in this decision,” Dippel said. “If we had to start building a relationship with a doctor at the time of choosing hospice, it would have been extremely difficult.”

Malec feels the same way; if she only met her patients right before they died, her job would be even more emotionally challenging, and she wouldn’t have the opportunity to help people live in the face of their illness. Working in outpatient oncology, she often sees her patients longer than,

# THE FUNCTION OF MEDICINE IS NOT TO RELIEVE THE HUMAN CONDITION OF THE HUMAN CONDITION.

for example, those who are hospitalized for an acute illness or have entered hospice care. “That’s changed over time,” she says. “The longer I’ve been here, I see people earlier and earlier in the course of their illness.”

“I get the question a lot of, ‘How do you do this?’” Malec says. “There are times that are very, very sad.” But when she works with her patients over a longer time, “there are just so many more moments of humanity that aren’t sad.” She might talk with her patients about trips and visits with grandchildren and fun weekends. “Sometimes there’s humor and we joke,” she says. “When you get to actually know a patient you get more of that. Even within the sadness, you’re helping them live with that.”

In the late 1960s, Elisabeth Kübler-Ross led a seminar series at the University of Chicago’s Billings Hospital. Interviews with dying patients of different ages and backgrounds made up the lectures and course material. Out of these interviews, Kübler-Ross published her seminal 1969 book, *On Death and Dying* (Macmillan).

Her work was revolutionary—and not without its critics. Doctors in the 1950s and ’60s “epitomized the never-say-die stance,” wrote palliative care expert Ira Byock in the foreword to the 2014 edition of *On Death and Dying*, while “a patient’s values, preferences, and priorities carried little weight.” Kübler-Ross challenged this status quo. “Suddenly,” Byock wrote, “how people died mattered.” Whether she meant to or not, with the book’s publication Kübler-Ross sparked a “cultural movement to improve end-of-life care and restore illness and dying to the proper dominion of people’s personal lives.” She paved the way for the research that physicians like Soodalter and Malec are doing today.

The movement also influenced how physicians are trained. UChicago internist Sulmasy teaches an end-of-life care section of the Pritzker School of Medicine’s doctor-

patient relationship course. A former Franciscan friar, he is the associate director of UChicago’s MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics and since 2010 a member of the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues.

The section he teaches ends with “Otherwise,” by poet Jane Kenyon, who died of leukemia in 1995. The poem reflects on mundane, everyday activities with an underlying consciousness that it might not always be that way. “By talking to them in the language of poetry,” Sulmasy hopes to help them understand “the spiritual, if not religious, sensibilities of patients who are dying, the deep meaning that surrounds the process of dying, and the possibility that someone who’s dying could be their teacher.”

“The heart of ethics,” he adds, “is the notion that everybody is a somebody.” This philosophy inspired his research as part of the University of Chicago’s Enhancing Life project, a two-year collaboration with Germany’s Ruhr-University Bochum to understand human beings’ aspirations to make life better. Out of 35 scholars involved, Sulmasy is the only one focusing on death.

“Part of what I brought to the group was recognizing that one of the characteristics of the human ... is that we are finite, and that we can’t understand what life is unless we understand that it comes to an end,” he says. His work for Enhancing Life is designed to reconstruct the ethics of care at life’s end: “The function of medicine is not to relieve the human condition of the human condition.”

That condition is one of not only mortality but also finitude. “Finitude is not just about the fact that we will die, but the fact that we make mistakes, that we become sick, and that we can make moral mistakes too. That we’re finite physically, intellectually, and morally.” He pauses. “It’s a humbler approach to what medicine is.”

In her 1997 memoir, *The Wheel of Life: A Memoir of Living and Dying* (Scribner), written after a series of strokes, Kübler-Ross reflected, “Dying is nothing to fear. It can be the most wonderful experience of your life. It all depends on how you have lived.”

When patients accept that they are facing death, they often have a sense of peace, says Sulmasy, “a sense of wisdom that they’ve gained from their own suffering, their own lives as they’ve lived them up till now.” It’s what enables a dying patient, who may be in a lot of pain, to see a doctor enter his hospital room and simply say, “You look tired, doc.”

“Their concern for me is a remarkable thing,” Sulmasy says. In facing death, “they’re teaching me something about what it means to be human.” ♦

**Ruth E. Kott, AM’07, is a writer and editor in Chicago.**

arts

# GRACE NOTES

*Katherine Dunham, AB'36, forged a unique career as a dancer and anthropologist.*

BY CARRIE GOLUS, AB'91, AM'93

**R**uby Streate slips off her Converse low-tops and socks. Footless black tights are pulled over her heels; her toes are bare. “Let’s start with our breathing,” she says, as Miles Davis plays softly. “Inhale one—two—three—four.” Streate has taught classes in Dunham Technique for more than 40 years. She began studying with Katherine Dunham, PhB’36, in 1969, when “I was just a violent teenager.”

At 17—very late by dance standards—Streate took her first class at Dunham’s now-defunct Performing Arts Training Center in East St. Louis, Illinois. (East St. Louis, about 300 miles southwest of Chicago, is directly across the Mississippi River from St. Louis, its larger, more prosperous neighbor.) Just two months after that first class, Streate was asked to join the PATC’s performing company. “This is how good I was,” she says matter-of-factly. “A natural.”

There are 10 senior citizens in Streate’s class, held Thursday mornings in the gym at the Jackie Joyner-Kersey Center. They include Mary Cannon, a retired local TV pre-

senter (“I was the first black on CBS St. Louis in 1963.”) and Lula Williams, who’s 90. Joyner-Kersey, who grew up in East St. Louis and went on to win six Olympic medals, takes the class when she’s in town.

After heel lifts and pliés, done with feet parallel, “Let’s go to isolations,” Streate says, adding, “One of the first techniques Miss D developed.”

Streate and her students practice head isolations: turning the head to the right, center, left, and back to center, while the body remains still. Then shoulder isolations. Then hip isolations. For any student of jazz dance, the movements are intimately familiar. But Dunham’s role in developing the technique has been forgotten.

At the end of class, the students perform a routine to “Sweet Georgia Brown.” Dunham played temptress Georgia Brown in *Cabin in the Sky*, the 1940 Broadway musical that made her famous. Today the song, a jazz standard, is probably best known as the Harlem Globetrotters’ theme.

Streate calls out the choreography. “Back it up. Walk that dog,” she says. “Work it out now. Strut it out. Pick your cherries. Oh!”

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROGER WOOD; COURTESY NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY DIGITAL COLLECTIONS, JEROME ROBBINS DANCE DIVISION



In her unlikely dual career, Katherine Dunham managed to do pioneering work in both dance and anthropology.

During the 1930s, as an anthropology major in the College, Dunham traveled alone to the Caribbean to research dance traditions that slaves had brought from Africa. She adapted what she learned into choreography for her company—the nation’s first self-supporting black dance troupe, which performed in the United States and 57 other countries. At a time when black culture was widely devalued, Dunham pointed to a rich cultural tradition that had not been crushed out by slavery.

As she traveled with her company from the 1940s to the mid-1960s, Dunham continued to study the dance forms of other cultures. She integrated these disparate traditions into both her dance technique and her choreography.

“Had she been only scholastic in ability, she would simply have become an exponent of West Indian folklore,” a writer for the *Observer* (London) noted in 1948. “Had she only been after fame and money” she could have opted for Broadway and Hollywood. “But Katherine Dunham is a young woman of great independence, and she chose her own course.”

Dunham was born in Chicago in 1909. Her father was African American; her mother, who died when Katherine was three, French Canadian and Native American. After her father remarried, the family moved to Joliet, Illinois, where he ran a dry cleaning business.

Dunham had little formal dance training. During high school she joined the Terpsichorean Club where she learned modern dance, an art form still in its early years. Dunham didn’t take her first ballet lesson until she was 19.

In 1929 she joined her older brother Albert Dunham, PhD’28, AM’31, PhD’33, at the University of Chicago,

where he was studying philosophy. By 1930 she had formed the short-lived Ballet Nègre, one of the first African American ballet companies in the United States. She was just 21.

Early in her academic career Dunham attended a lecture by anthropologist Robert Redfield, LAB 1915, PhD’20, JD’21, PhD’28, whose research in Mexico focused on acculturation. Redfield suggested that black Americans had preserved African traditions in popular dances such as the lindy and the cakewalk. Dunham was struck by an intriguing possibility: what if African traditions in the New World were even better preserved in the dances of Afro-Caribbeans? It was an insight that would guide her unique career.

There are countless anecdotes about Katherine Dunham’s triumphs. Here’s one: At her 1934 interview with the Rosenwald Foundation, she wasn’t sure whether to present herself as an anthropologist or a dancer.

Asked about her proposed research, she suddenly decided: “Do you mind if I just show you?” As the astonished committee stared, Dunham slipped off her woolen suit to reveal a leotard and flowing dance skirt; she demonstrated ballet first, then pulsing African dance. The committee voted unanimously to award \$2,400 (more than \$40,000 in today’s money) to support her fieldwork in the Caribbean. At the recommendation of her mentor Melville Herskovits, PhD’20—a Northwestern University anthropologist and African studies expert—Dunham’s calling cards read both “dancer” and “anthropologist.”

Here’s another one. In Haiti, the respectable citizens disapproved of her interest in the rituals of vodun (also spelled vaudou, voodoo, and several other ways). So Dunham hired the largest theater in Port-au-Prince and announced a concert. Dressed in white tulle, she gave a flawless ballet performance, accompanied by the music of Debussy. “They loved it,” Dunham recalled, “and I was given a free hand thereafter to search out my ‘primitives.’”

In Jamaica, Martinique, Trinidad, and Haiti—she fell in love with Haiti—Dunham “would rent a native hut ... and patiently await an occasion to dance,” she recalled. “For a long time I was merely a happy participant in every dance I could manage to get to ... Then my academic training got the better of me.”

As a researcher in the Caribbean, Dunham had two striking advantages: she was of African heritage, and she picked up dances easily. To explain her interest, sometimes she just said she liked to dance, which made sense “to a people for whom dancing was an integral, vital expression of daily living,” she wrote in her book *Dances of Haiti* (Center for Afro-American Studies, 1983). Other times she expressed “the intention of some ancestral ritual obligation.” As anthropologist Claude Lévi-Strauss wrote in

**AT A TIME WHEN  
BLACK CULTURE WAS  
WIDELY DEVALUED,  
DUNHAM POINTED  
TO A RICH CULTURAL  
TRADITION THAT HAD  
NOT BEEN CRUSHED  
OUT BY SLAVERY.**



**At the Jackie Joyner-Kersey Center in East St. Louis, Illinois, Ruby Streate and her senior students strut along to “Sweet Georgia Brown.”**

the foreword to the French edition of *Dances of Haiti*, Dunham portrayed herself as “a stray soul who had to be brought back into the fold of the traditional cult.”

It was not entirely a lie. Dunham claimed she was on the “border of belief and disbelief” about vodun, which appealed to her as a danced religion. When Dunham decided to go through the ceremony of *lavé-tête* (literally, washed head), she did it partly for her research and partly for herself. She hoped to get divine assistance for her brother, who had become mentally ill, and to help her future career.

During the three-day ceremony, her hair was matted with cornmeal, feathers, syrup, chicken, blood, herbs, and raw eggs, then wrapped in cloth. She had to wear the head-wrap for a week afterward.

Herskovits was dismayed. He wrote to Dunham asking her to just observe, not participate in, vodun rituals; he worried about malaria and burns. Dunham ignored him.

When she returned to the United States in 1936 she brought drums of all sizes, as well as enough traditional clothing to dress her dance company for years.

And she continued to follow vodun practices. In her Bronzeville apartment Dunham kept an altar to Damballa, the serpent god whom she had married during the ceremony in Haiti.

Dunham was awarded a PhD in 1936, becoming one of the first African Americans to earn a degree in anthropology. Her UChicago master’s thesis, “The Dances of Haiti: Their Social Organization, Classification, Form, and Function,” was accepted but she never completed her course work; dancing demanded too much of her time. (Her thesis was first published as “Las danzas de Haiti,” in Spanish and English, in 1947; a French translation and revised English editions followed.)

Unsure which career to choose, she consulted Redfield, who suggested, “Why not pursue both?” During the decades she toured with her company, Dunham continued to research other cultures, publish books, and give lectures. Still, she felt guilty that a dance career wasn’t a dignified occupation for a research anthropologist. Sometimes she said she wished she could repay the Rosenwald Foundation.

From a contemporary perspective, Dunham’s research-to-performance method can be seen as “a radical reimagining of what anthropology might be,” writes Elizabeth Chin, editor of *Katherine Dunham: Recovering an Anthropological Legacy, Choreographing Ethnographic Futures* (School for Advanced Research Press, 2014). The fact that she pursued “performative anthropology,” rather than a traditional academic career, perhaps also explains why her contributions have gone “unacknowledged for so long,” Chin writes.

In 1938, supported by the Works Progress Administration, Dunham choreographed her first full-length ballet, *L'Ag'ya*, based on a Martinique fighting dance. Dunham danced the role of Loulouse, whom the villain tries to lure with a powerful love charm he obtained from the king of the zombies.

The assigned costume designer was John Pratt, PhB'33. He suggested a different ending for the ballet; the two argued. "It was rare for anyone to correct or criticize me in any of my creative work," Dunham wrote in an unpublished memoir, "and unheard of that I would listen and consent to change." But this time she did.

Dunham and Pratt were married in 1941 and later adopted a French daughter, Marie-Christine. For the rest of Dunham's career, Pratt designed her company's costumes and sets.

After the WPA Federal Theatre Project closed, Dunham wanted to keep the company of dancers together. So she booked the group into the Sherman Hotel's Panther Room on a bill with Duke Ellington and Raymond Scott.

The show included American dances performed in shoes, as well as Rara Tonga and Bolero, danced barefoot. The owner feared that his customers would be offended, so Dunham made a concession: on their feet the dancers wore ribbons meant to look like sandal straps.

The nightclub appearance was a crucial decision in keeping her dance company solvent. To survive, scholar Susan Manning wrote, "Dunham had to improvise patronage at the interstices of leftist culture, elite black culture, commercial and noncommercial theater, and an emergent American ballet and modern dance."

Soon after the Panther Room show, choreographer George Balanchine, who later founded the New York City Ballet, invited Dunham to appear in the Broadway show *Cabin in the Sky*. Blues singer Ethel Waters played Petunia, the loyal wife of gambler Little Joe; Dunham was cast as his love interest, Georgia Brown. The serious anthropology student was now a Broadway star.

But there's an even more unlikely aspect to Dunham's unlikely success. Since high school, she had suffered crippling arthritis in her knees. In New York she lived in a sixth-floor walk up; when she climbed the stairs she was



After warming up, Streate's students at Penniman Elementary learned a routine performed to the Langston Hughes poem "The Negro Speaks of Rivers."

forced to rest on the second and fourth floors.

One doctor, who treated her knees with excruciating injections of bee venom, told her if she didn't give up dancing, she wouldn't be able to walk in two years. Dunham ignored him as she had ignored Herskovits.

Partly to strengthen her knees, she began to develop her own dancing style, Dunham Technique. A synthesis of African and balletic movement, the technique required relaxed knees and a flexible back. It also emphasized isolations, adapted from African dance. Dunham continued to refine her technique over the decades, absorbing dance traditions from the countries where her company traveled.

"Dunham Technique makes very strong bodies," recalled Glory Van Scott, who danced with the Dunham Company in the late 1950s. "There are a lot of things that Dunham dancers can do technically that other dancers cannot do. ... It's a very alive technique, very difficult, but a very natural and a very beautiful technique."

Anybody remember isolations?"

At 3 p.m. Ruby Streate is teaching at Estelle Sauter School of Choice in Cahokia, Illinois, about five miles from East St. Louis. The students wear their school uniforms with bare feet.

With children, Streate's strictness—modeled after Dunham's—comes through. "Excuse me," she says sharply to a blond boy who is slumping; he immediately straightens.

"Cover your mouth, brother, when you yawn," she says to another child. "I thought a tiger was about to attack me."

The blond boy, it turns out, does excellent head isolations, snapping his head with machine-like precision.

Streate tries to teach the children the sashay, a step they'll need for one of Dunham's square dances. (Dunham's dance revues typically included an "Americana" section, featuring folk dances from the South.) Streate steps on the ball of one foot, then brings her heel down: next she lifts the other foot and slaps it flat against the floor. There are just three parts to the step—ball, heel, slap—but it's tricky.

Now Streate does the step up to tempo, with a graceful hip swing added. It's true: she is a natural. Nonetheless, she tells the class, "If you pay attention, your body can do the same thing."

The director of the after-school program, Brenda Mitchell, peeks in. She took dance classes from Streate as a child, she whispers; so did her daughters, now grown. Streate looks over and glares.

Half a mile down the road, at Penniman Elementary, she teaches a 4 p.m. class with 23 students, all African American.

"You sound like a bunch of old biddies in here," she chides when they groan during the stretches. "My grandmother could lift her leg up higher."

They practice balancing on one leg. "A flamingo," she says, bringing a girl in bright pink pants to the front to demonstrate. "That comes from being focused."

Later the students practice jumping straight up in the air. Streate brings the pink-pants girl to the front again. Her jumps are so high, they don't seem physically possible. She's on an invisible, personal trampoline.

Up she goes again. Up. And up. And up.

**C**abin in the Sky, which opened on Broadway in 1940 and then toured the country, marked the beginning of Dunham's meteoric rise. She was amused by the publicity: "I find myself referred to, and on the very same day, both as 'the hottest thing on Broadway' and 'an intelligent, sensitive young woman ... an anthropologist of note,'" she wrote in her autobiographical essay "Thesis Turned Broadway."

It was a theme that continued in headlines throughout her career, scholar Constance Valis Hill has pointed out: "Schoolmarm Turned Siren," "Torridity to Anthropology," "Cool Scientist or Sultry Performer?" and "High Priestess of Jive."

Dunham and her dancers appeared in Hollywood films, most famously *Stormy Weather* (1943). They performed on television, the first hourlong dance program on CBS. "I had never seen television but was thrilled at the idea of being another 'first,'" Dunham wrote in an unpublished memoir.

The company—35 to 50 dancers and musicians—toured incessantly. Dunham's "shrewd mix of show business, art, and anthropology," as one critic described it, made this financially possible. The sensuousness of certain pieces—especially those performed in nightclubs—helped. "What

I did onstage was considered daring," Dunham once said. "Being on stage was, for me, making love. It was an expression of my love of humanity and things of beauty."

A *New York Times* reviewer noted that a 1940 performance, which included folk dances from Cuba, Mexico, Haiti, Martinique, and the United States, was "tremendously anthropological and 'important,'" but also "debonair and delightful, not to say daring and erotic." The review ended with a postscript: "Better not take grandma."

"Miss Dunham's success has been acclaimed on all sides, from the *Daily Express* to the highbrows of classical dance," an *Observer* reviewer wrote in 1948, noting that the "diverse and brilliant show" was "entirely the production of one person. ... [Dunham] must be something of a genius." During the same trip to London, she gave a lecture on cults at the Royal Anthropological Society.

Despite the reviews, Dunham and her company still had to deal with the logistical difficulties that came with racial discrimination in the United States, Brazil, and elsewhere. Hotel accommodations could be difficult to find. Dunham often relied on Pratt, who was white, to make reservations.

The group sometimes performed in segregated theaters or nightclubs. As a teenager, choreographer Alvin Ailey sneaked in the back of Ciro's in Los Angeles to see the Dunham Company: "There she was, gorgeous and glittering in gold bangles, doing black culture ... where we, as blacks, couldn't even enter." At segregated venues, Dunham always staged some kind of protest, even if it meant just one African American was seated in the whites-only section.

In 1951 Dunham created a controversial ballet called *Southland*, which dramatized a lynching onstage. Commissioned by the Symphony of Chile, the ballet premiered in Santiago; it was so graphic, some of the audience wept. When the company performed *Southland* in Paris in 1953,

**THERE SHE WAS,  
GORGEOUS AND  
GLITTERING IN GOLD  
BANGLES, DOING BLACK  
CULTURE ... WHERE WE,  
AS BLACKS, COULDN'T  
EVEN ENTER.**

a *Le Monde* reviewer wrote, “Katherine Dunham had changed since those wonderful evenings in Paris. . . . What has happened to the anthropologist we once admired?”

Hurt by the criticism of both performances—and by pressure from US diplomats concerned about anti-Americanism during the Cold War—Dunham never performed *Southland* again. In the 1950s the State Department began sending artists abroad as cultural ambassadors, but Dunham’s company was never chosen. When it was invited to perform in China, the US embassy refused to issue visas.

By 1965, after touring with her company for more than 25 years with no government support or other arts funding, Dunham was exhausted. The company’s final performance was at the Apollo, the famed vaudeville house in Harlem.

Dunham’s brother-in-law Davis Pratt, who taught at Southern Illinois University, arranged for her to become an artist in residence. Dunham was a visiting artist first at SIU–Carbondale, then at its northern branch in East St. Louis.

Dunham planned to stay a semester. But once there, “I was so moved by the terrible situation of East Saint Louis, the hopelessness, apathy, and utter despair that had been intensified by the riots, that I remained,” she said in 1976. “As an anthropologist and a humanist I felt that I could give something.”

With SIU’s support, Dunham established the Performing Arts Training Center, hoping that art could serve “as a rational alternative to violence and genocide.” The PATC offered classes taught by former Dunham dancers; students and teachers performed together in a semiprofessional traveling company. Dunham also established a museum to house the instruments, artwork, and artifacts she’d collected around the world.

The PATC, as Dunham described it, was “a unique effort to motivate and stimulate the unchallenged young people of the East Saint Louis area through the arts.”

One of those “unchallenged young people” was Ruby Streate.

## **SHE SPOKE VERY, VERY SOFT. AND SHE WAS ALWAYS ASKING ABOUT BEING PEACEFUL. WHICH WAS VERY STRANGE IN EAST ST. LOUIS...**

**S**he spoke so soft,” says Streate. “She spoke very, very soft. And she was always asking about being peaceful. Which was very strange in East St. Louis, a city that’s known for violence. She always talked about peace and love.”

Streate sits on the wooden stage in the backyard of Dunham’s museum, housed in a Renaissance revival mansion in the Pennsylvania Avenue Historic District—one of the few remains of the city’s happier past. Occasionally a freight train’s screech drowns her out; the track runs behind the yard.

“Miss Dunham would ask me, ‘Ruby, are you still mean?’ ‘No ma’am, I’m not mean anymore.’ ‘Ruby, I remember when you threw a desk at somebody. I remember when you threw a chair.’ But she never asked me that in front of my kids,” she says.

“She was just a beautiful person. Everybody alive should know somebody like Katherine Dunham. She was inspirational.”

Dunham died in 2006 at age 96. Today her museum, open by appointment only, is in difficult financial straits, says executive director Leverne Backstrom. Paying for utilities is a month-to-month struggle. “We can’t lose this museum,” says Backstrom. “It’s part of Miss Dunham’s legacy.”

An annual Dunham Technique seminar is held in the museum’s carriage house, which was converted to a dance studio in the early 1980s. The studio is also home to the Katherine Dunham Museum Children’s Workshop; Streate, the artistic dance director, teaches three days a week. She’s paid, says Backstrom, “when parents can afford to pay tuition.”

“She said she came to East St. Louis because it reminded her of Haiti,” Streate says. “The love that she experienced from people, the importance of family.”

Streate rattles off the names of young dancers who she is sure will keep Dunham’s work alive. “Like Nia. I can’t wait for you to meet little Nia. She’s just turned six. I know she’s superstar bound, because that’s her attitude,” she says.

“Like Heather,” who also took classes with Streate beginning at age six. “She’s 33 now. She graduated from Columbia College. She comes over and teaches jazz dance or ballet or hip-hop, whichever one the kids beg her to do.”

Streate says she would love to reconstruct the duet “Floyd’s Guitar Blues” with Heather in Dunham’s role, now that she’s “a grown woman.” Streate has a strong memory for choreography, but much of Dunham’s oeuvre is not appropriate for kids.

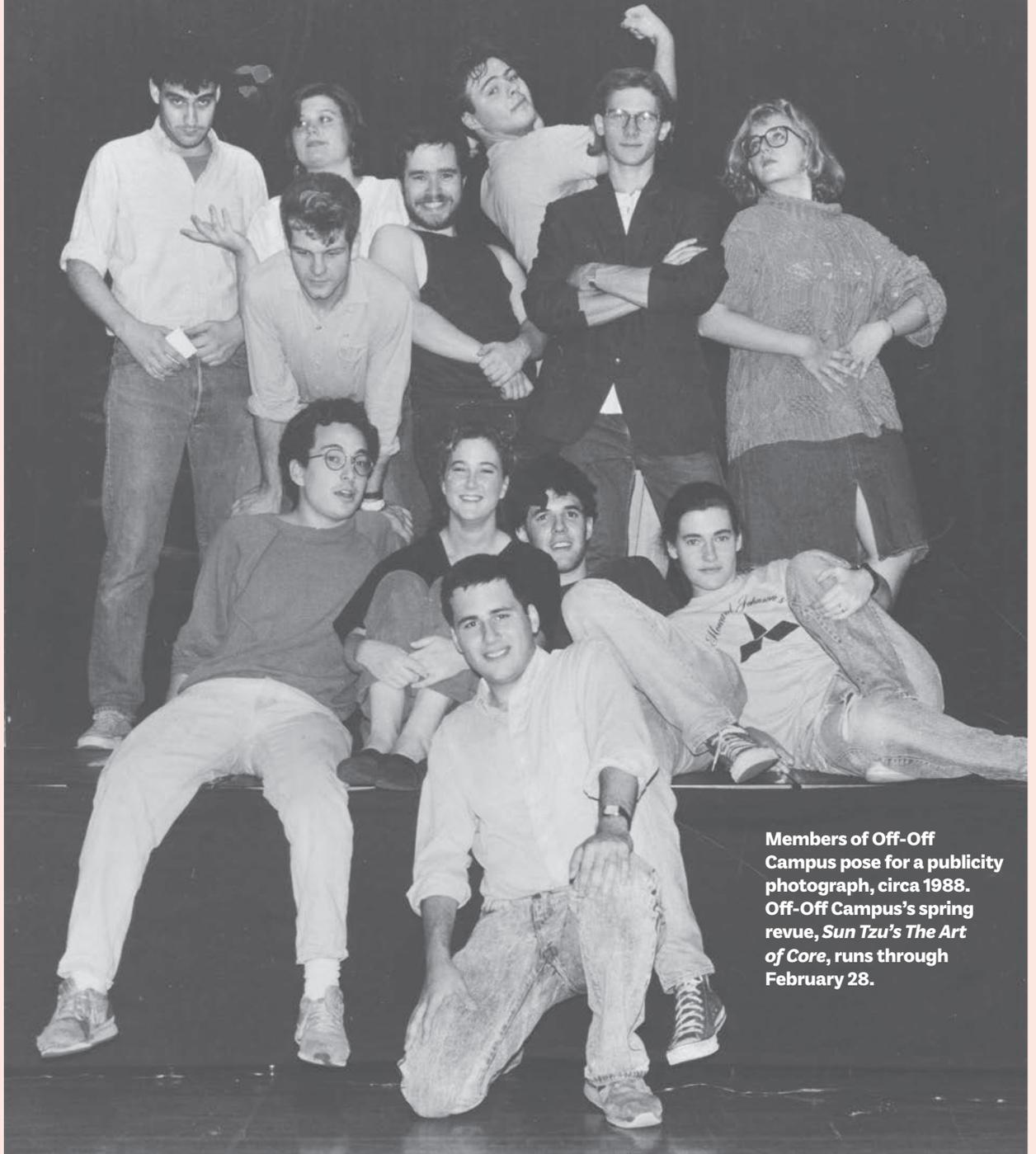
A car pulls into the lot. The students in her Children’s Workshop—who range in age from six to 16—are beginning to arrive.

“We can go inside now,” Streate says.

It’s time to teach another class. ♦

# peer review

UCHICAGO PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE, APF7-04-02-0, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LIBRARY, PHOTOGRAPHY BY LEOSHU, AB'91, AM'92



Members of Off-Off Campus pose for a publicity photograph, circa 1988. Off-Off Campus's spring revue, *Sun Tzu's The Art of Core*, runs through February 28.

# A tender coincidence

BY WILL PRITCHARD, AM'92, PHD'98

**N**early twenty years ago, while still a graduate student in English at the University of Chicago, I was invited to contribute to a Festschrift for my father. The looming occasion was his 40th year as an English professor at Amherst College. By the time the volume was published, I had been hired as a visiting professor at Williams College, and I may be forgiven for imagining that a torch had been passed. It had not. My father did not retire for 15 more years, and then in name only. He still retains his office and teaches one class each semester at Amherst as an emeritus adjunct. Instead of my succeeding him, we have shared the profession for 18 years.

Over that time, we have occasionally happened to teach the same book at the same time. Usually it's some canonical masterpiece in a survey course—*Paradise Lost* or *King Lear*. This past October, more improbably, we both assigned Vladimir Nabokov's *Pnin* (1957), which relates the misadventures of Timofey Pnin, a long-suffering Russian émigré teaching at Waindell College (“Vandal College,” as he pronounces it). I was teaching the novel in a senior seminar on Nabokov, he in a course on modern fiction.

The conjunction of our two syllabi was apt. Nabokov, more than many novelists, employed “those dazzling coincidences that logicians loathe and poets love.” *Lolita* is full of outrageous, grotesque coincidences, such as the car

crash that kills Humbert's wife moments after she learns that he married her for her daughter. *Pnin*, a gentler book, provides a “tender coincidence” in the unexpected arrival of a glass punch bowl, a gift from Pnin's ex-wife's son, on the very day he is hosting his first faculty party. (Also a less tender coincidence: Pnin learns at the end of that party that he has been fired.) But serendipity was not only a fictional motif for Nabokov; it permeates his autobiography as well. “Coincidence of pattern,” he writes, “is one of the wonders of nature,” and he finds it in his own life in the uncanny convergence of dates and in recurring themes and motifs: jewels, matches, pencils, ships—not to mention chessmen and butterflies.

As coincidences go, it is not so astonishing that two professors, even a father and a son, should teach the same book in the same week, and indeed it may be causation rather than coincidence. I first read *Pnin* in an edition that my father had taught from and that bore his marginal checks and exclamation points. More broadly, my susceptibility to this novel can be attributed to my having spied on many a faculty party as a child.

**As coincidences go, it is not so astonishing that two professors, even a father and a son, should teach the same book in the same week.**

I found out that my father was also teaching *Pnin* when we were talking on the phone. He told me he was re-reading the book in preparation for class (he knew I was teaching it), and he asked if I had any ideas about “Old Miss Herring, retired Professor of History, author of *Russia Awakes* (1922),” who ends chapter one. Alas, I did not, although I later saw a commentator explain her as a “red” Herring. A few days later, after teaching my first class on *Pnin*, I got a letter from my father, typed (as always) in his ground-floor office at the college:

Just downstairs from upstairs introduction of PNIN, always a delight. The only way to “teach” it that I can see is to read aloud and explain the jokes. They don't seem to get anything. Not a single student played chess, let alone bridge... But they're an agreeable bunch, so it says here.

*Pnin*—coincidentally?—anticipates these sentiments. The narrator refers to “the usual shop talk of European teachers abroad, sighing and shaking heads over the ‘typical American college student’ who does not know geography, is immune to noise, and thinks education is but a means to get eventually a remunerative job.” Nabokov mocks the kind of shoptalk my father allows himself here, but I think he would approve his mode of instruction: read aloud and explain. When teaching *Bleak House*, Nabokov told his Cornell students, “If it were possible I would like to devote the fifty minutes of every class meeting to mute

meditation, concentration, and admiration of Dickens. However, my job is to direct and rationalize those meditations, that admiration.”

At our second *Pnin* class I shared my father’s letter with my students and then, following his and Nabokov’s advice, tried to appreciate the novel rather than analyze it. We read a few choice passages out loud, but it’s hard to rationalize admiration and harder still to add anything good to a joke. *Pnin* again anticipates the situation. We twice see Pnin in class “rippling with mirth” at jokes only he gets, laughing so hard that his students eventually join in: “his complete surrender to his own merriment would prove irresistible.” Every teacher has had such moments, and yet no one wants to be, as Pnin is, “beloved not for any essential ability but for those unforgettable digressions of his.”

The novel also includes a poignant scene of Pnin receiving a lesson in comedy. Pnin’s landlady is trying unsuccessfully to explain a *New Yorker* cartoon to him:

“Impossible,” said Pnin. “So small island, moreover with palm, cannot exist in such big sea.”

“Well, it exists here.”

“Impossible isolation,” said Pnin.

Teaching is impossible isolation, too, even in the classroom. One never knows what one’s students are really thinking, why they are laughing. So having my father as a fellow castaway, even if on a different island, was comforting. I was pleased to discover, too, that my favorite passage in the book—the description of Professor Roy Thayer, “a mournful



and mute member of the Department of English”—had been flagged on the title page in my father’s old copy of the novel, along with other admirable paragraphs about pencil sharpeners, Jack London, sleep, and croquet.

I felt some pressure to repay my father’s teaching tips, so I emailed him a snippet from Kingsley Amis’s withering review of *Pnin* (he called it a “limp, tasteless salad”). My father replied via email, a medium that is still somewhat new to him: “willy, thanks-I had forgotten about the amis;/ *Pnin* review, told my class that he didn’t love *Lolita* but had forgotten about the other [...] I’ll give it to my class Monday when we leave *Pnin* and begin Sir Kingsley.” I no longer aspire to tell my father something he doesn’t know about literature, but to remind him of something he has forgotten is a small satisfaction.

Nabokov, who (like my father) lost

his father in his 20s, was keenly aware of life’s ability to snatch things from us, and that awareness made him particularly alive to those moments when life declined to do so—as when Pnin does not break that punch bowl while washing up after the party. Pnin, we are told, believes “dimly” that a “democracy of ghosts” supervises the living: “The souls of the dead, perhaps, formed committees, and these, in continuous session, attended to the destinies of the quick.” Nabokov must have liked this idea, for he had already used a version of it in his memoir, where he gives thanks to “tender ghosts humoring a lucky mortal.” In my case, it feels more like tender ghosts humoring two lucky mortals. ♦

**Will Pritchard, AM’92, PhD’98, is an associate professor and the department chair in the Department of English at Lewis and Clark College.**

## NOTES

### TOP CHEMIST

New York University professor **Nadrian Seeman**, SB'66, has won the 2016 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Chemistry. The Franklin Institute, which seeks to honor the founding father's legacy by recognizing significant achievements in science, technology, and industry, gave this year's chemistry award to Seeman for founding the field of DNA nanotechnology and demonstrating that DNA can be used as a construction material to form "structures of diverse shapes and functions with potential applications in disease treatment, mechanics, and computation."

### CAREFUL GOVERNANCE

*Governing* magazine has named **Jason Helgeson**, MPP'95, a Public Official of the Year. Helgeson, the state Medicaid director in New York, has overseen a per-person health care spending decrease in the state and is leading an \$8 billion effort to refocus New York's Medicaid system around outpatient care and community services. "At a time when out-of-control health care costs demand bold ideas and new thinking, Helgeson is leading the way," the magazine wrote.

### SOLDIER ON

The second season of *Serial*, **Sarah Koenig's** (AB'90) popular podcast, focuses on US Army sergeant Bowe Bergdahl. Captured by the Taliban in 2009, Bergdahl was freed in a hostage exchange in 2014 but faces a court martial at home for allegedly abandoning his post. The first season of *Serial*, which explored the 1999 murder of a Baltimore high school student and the conviction of her ex-boyfriend, Adnan Syed, was downloaded more than 100 million times.

### A WAY WITH WORDS

**William M. Hutchins**, AM'67, PhD'71, has received the American Literary Translators Association's National Translation Award for his Arabic-to-English translation of *New Waw: Saharan Oasis* by Ibrahim al-Koni. NTA judges commented



### FRONT LINE

**Pennsylvania State University** has selected **Matt Limegrover**, AB'91, as the **Nittany Lions' offensive line coach**. Limegrover, a former Maroon offensive lineman, has been coaching at the college level for 25 years, most recently at the University of Minnesota where he helped lead the team to three consecutive bowl games.

that Hutchins's translation "masterfully channels the poetic rhythms of Ibrahim al-Koni's tale of a group of Tuareg, struggling with their evolution from a nomadic tribe to a settled community and the tensions that inevitably arise." Hutchins is a professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Appalachian State University.

### A WAY WITH WORDS, PART II

**Arika Okrent**, PhD'04, received the 2015 Linguistics Journalism Award from the Linguistic Society of America. Okrent, the language columnist for *Mental Floss* and a linguistics contributor to other publications, was recognized for "taking often-complex linguistic topics and making them easily accessible." The award was presented January 9 at the LSA 2016 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

### ENFORCING OVERSIGHT

**Sharon Fairley**, JD'06, is the new head of Chicago's Independent Police Review Authority. Fairley joined the IPRA, a city agency separate from the Chicago Police Department, just as the US Justice Department's civil rights division launched a broad probe into the police department's conduct. Previously general counsel of Chicago's Office of the Inspector General and an assistant US attorney, Fairley said she will pursue "integrity and transparency in the work that IPRA does."

### BEST B-SCHOOL BOSS

*Poets and Quants* has named Yale School of Management dean **Edward A. Snyder**, AM'78, PhD'84, as business school Dean of the Year. Snyder, a former Chicago Booth dean, has expanded the number of students at the Yale School of Management, overseen a drop in the acceptance rate and a rise in business school rankings, and integrated students and courses more fully into the larger university. He also led development of the first global network for elite business schools.

### MAN OF THE PEOPLE

Senator and presidential candidate **Bernie Sanders**, AB'64, won *Time* magazine's 2015 Person of the Year online poll, garnering more than 10 percent of readers' votes. Sanders's campaign has focused on increasing Americans' civic engagement. In September he told *Time*, "A lot of people have given up on the political process, and I want to get them involved in it."

### RISING STARS

Two young UChicagoans have been named to *Forbes's* annual "30 Under 30" lists. The Sports list features **Vicente Fernandez**, AB'14, the co-founder of customizable sports news and scores aggregator Sportsmanias. Biological Sciences Division PhD candidate **Taylor Feehley**, AB'10, is on the Science list for her immunology research on food allergies.

—Helen Gregg, AB'09

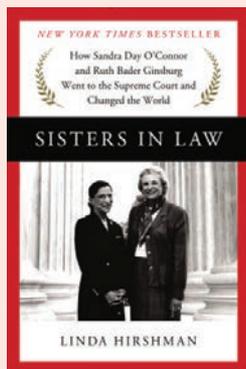
## RELEASES

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/alumni-books](http://mag.uchicago.edu/alumni-books).

### THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF JAMES T. KIRK: THE STORY OF STARFLEET'S GREATEST CAPTAIN

By David A. Goodman, AB'84; Titan Books, 2015

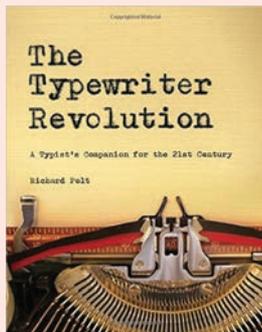
*Star Trek: Enterprise* writer **David A. Goodman** presents an in-world memoir of one of the show's most famous characters, chronicling Captain Kirk's life from his childhood on Tarsus IV to his rise to the helm of the *Enterprise*. By filling in Kirk's backstory and including snippets of his personal correspondence and captain's logs, Goodman presents a detailed, nuanced portrait of the Starfleet captain.



### SISTERS IN LAW: HOW SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR AND RUTH BADER GINSBURG WENT TO THE SUPREME COURT AND CHANGED THE WORLD

By Linda Hirshman, JD'69; HarperCollins, 2015

As the first and second women appointed to the nation's highest court, justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg overcame political and cultural differences to forge a strong friendship and worked together to promote women's equality. Attorney and historian **Linda Hirshman** chronicles the distinct paths that O'Connor and Ginsburg traveled to the Supreme Court and how they changed America's legal and cultural landscape.



### THE TYPEWRITER REVOLUTION: A TYPIST'S COMPANION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

By Richard Polt, AM'89, PhD'91; Countryman Press, 2015

From typewritten blogs to letter-writing socials to street poetry, the typewriter is enjoying a 21st-century revival. Xavier University philosophy professor and typewriter enthusiast **Richard Polt** chronicles the machine's resurgence and provides practical information on how to select and care for a typewriter. Fully illustrated with vintage photographs, postcards, and manuals, *The Typewriter Revolution* is both a how-to and an inspiration for those who want to return to a world of carriage returns.

### PRIVILEGE AND PREJUDICE: THE LIFE OF A BLACK PIONEER

By Clifton R. Wharton, AM'56, PhD'58; Michigan State University Press, 2015

In 1958 **Clifton R. Wharton** became the first African American to receive a PhD in economics from the University of Chicago. His memoir details a trailblazing life—as the first black president of a major US university and the first black CEO of a Fortune 500 company, and as deputy secretary of state under president Bill Clinton—as well as the obstacles he faced along the way, including negative stereotypes and low expectations.

### CONSENT

By Nancy Ohlin, AB'83; Simon Pulse, 2015

In **Nancy Ohlin's** third novel for young adults, high school piano prodigy Bea falls for her music teacher, Dane. He encourages Bea to apply to Juilliard, and their relationship becomes intimate after a campus visit in New York. An unflinching look at a student-teacher relationship and its repercussions, *Consent* explores issues surrounding love and morality.

### THE SHIFT: ONE NURSE, TWELVE HOURS, FOUR PATIENTS' LIVES

By Theresa Brown, AB'87, PhD'94; Algonquin Books, 2015

Practicing nurse and *New York Times* contributor **Theresa Brown** offers an honest, detailed account of a typical shift in the oncology ward of a teaching hospital. Her descriptions of caring for four very different patients showcase the skill, sensitivity, and sense of humor that nursing requires and illuminate the dysfunction of the modern health care industry.

### \$2.00 A DAY: LIVING ON ALMOST NOTHING IN AMERICA

By Kathryn Edin and H. Luke Shaefer, AM'05, PhD'08; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015

About 1.5 million US families live on less than \$2.00 per day, per person. Edin and University of Michigan associate professor and census data expert **H. Luke Shaefer** profile some of these Americans who have virtually no income, showing how welfare reform and an increasingly competitive and unpredictable low-wage labor market have quietly left millions destitute, and describing what these families have to do to survive.



THE CITY AT THREE P.M.  
WRITING, READING, and TRAVELING  
PETER LASALLE



### THE CITY AT THREE P.M.: WRITING, READING, AND TRAVELING

By Peter LaSalle, AM'72; Dzanc Books, 2015

Fiction writer **Peter LaSalle** has walked around the UChicago campus with Saul Bellow, EX'39; followed Gustave Flaubert's footsteps through Carthage; and sat in Jorge Luis Borges's preferred spot in a Buenos Aires library. In 11 personal essays, LaSalle shares stories from his bookish travels and meditates on the life of a writer and the power of literature.

—*Helen Gregg, AB'09*



**Who  
will be  
your**

**+1?**

**Attend an event.  
Bring a friend.  
This is your network.  
Let's make it grow to  
125,000 alumni strong.**

[alumni.uchicago.edu/attend](http://alumni.uchicago.edu/attend)

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**CHICAGO**  
CAMPAIGN  
INQUIRY & IMPACT

Let your impact grow  
from more to more  
GIVE. CONNECT. LEARN. TRANSFORM.

“We realized that a gift annuity would both achieve our goal of funding the scholarship and allow us to continue to receive some income. It was a real win-win opportunity.”

—NORMAN, AB'52, AND WENDY, JD'78, BRADBURN

# Choose your payday.

When you fund a charitable gift annuity,  
the University pays you income for life.

A charitable gift annuity is a gift of \$10,000 or more in cash or securities in exchange for your choice of immediate or deferred annual payments to you and/or another beneficiary. Payments are fixed and fully backed by the University, and you receive an immediate tax deduction with the potential for other tax savings.

## AMERICAN COUNCIL ON GIFT ANNUITIES RATES

### Single-Life Charitable Gift Annuity

AGE	IMMEDIATE PAYMENT	DEFERRED 5 YEARS	DEFERRED 10 YEARS
55	4.0%	5.2%	6.5%
65	4.7%	6.0%	8.0%
75	5.8%	8.0%	10.7%

Your annuity rate is based on your age and chosen payment type when you make the gift. Rates are subject to change.

#### Interested?

Calculate your payments at [giftplanning.uchicago.edu/calculator](https://giftplanning.uchicago.edu/calculator) or apply now at [giftplanning.uchicago.edu/cgaapp](https://giftplanning.uchicago.edu/cgaapp).

#### Learn more.

Visit [giftplanning.uchicago.edu](https://giftplanning.uchicago.edu)  
Email [giftplan@uchicago.edu](mailto:giftplan@uchicago.edu)  
Call **866.241.9802**

# DEATHS

## FACULTY AND STAFF

**John Eaton**, professor emeritus of music, died December 2 in New York City. He was 80. An avant-garde composer and electronic music pioneer, Eaton wrote and performed in Rome and taught at Indiana University before joining the UChicago faculty in 1992. He was known for his use of microtones, notes that fall between the traditional 12 of the Western octave, and for using electronic instruments like synthesizers and the Eaton-Moog Multiple-Touch-Sensitive Keyboard. A 1990 MacArthur Fellow, Eaton shifted his focus from large-scale operas to shorter works while at UChicago and formed a troupe, the Pocket Opera Players, to perform them. He retired in 2001 but kept close ties to the University, most recently composing a work for Contempo's 50th anniversary in 2015. He is survived by his wife, Nelda Nelson-Eaton; a daughter; a son; and a brother.

**Leo Kadanoff**, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Physics and Mathematics, died October 26 in Chicago. He was 78. A theoretical physicist, Kadanoff taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Brown University before joining UChicago in 1978. He worked in statistical, solid-state, and nonlinear physics; one of his most important contributions was a model of how matter changes states. Kadanoff received many awards for his work, including the National Medal of Science in 1999. In 2013 an anonymous \$3.5 million gift helped establish the Leo Kadanoff Center for Theoretical Physics at the University to bring together physicists from different specialties to tackle common problems, a recognition of Kadanoff's interest in interdisciplinary work. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; three daughters, including **Betsy Kadanoff**, LAB'80; two granddaughters; two grandsons; and a stepdaughter, **Michelle Ditzian**, LAB'81.

**Richard L. Landau**, professor emeritus of medicine, died November 3 in Chicago. He was 99. A major figure in modern endocrinology, Landau completed his residency at UChicago and returned as an instructor of medicine after serving in World War II. He became a full professor in 1959 and in 1966 was named chief of the burgeoning endocrinology section. Landau and his colleagues studied the metabolic effects of hormones, work that led to the development of drugs still used to treat conditions like high blood pressure and heart failure. He was the first chairman of the medical center's institutional review board, and in 1985 was presented with the Gold Key Award for loyal and outstanding University service. He is survived by two daughters, **Susan Landau Axelrod**, LAB'70, MBA'82, and **Kay Lan-**

**dau Fricke**, LAB'77; a brother, **William M. Landau**, AA'43; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**Raghavan Narasimhan**, professor emeritus in mathematics, died October 3 in Chicago. He was 78. Narasimhan was a professor at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Mumbai and the University of Geneva before joining the UChicago faculty in 1969. Best known for his solution to the Levi problem for complex spaces, Narasimhan made contributions in the areas of several complex variables and analytic number theory. He wrote six books and many research papers and spent more than 40 years in UChicago's mathematics department. He is survived by his wife, Lynn, and 10 nieces and nephews.

**Christopher Rhodes**, AB'98, editor of law and linguistics at the University of Chicago Press, died September 8 in Glenview, IL, of glioblastoma multiforme. He was 38. Rhodes was an editorial assistant with the American Library Association before joining the press in 2002, where he worked on publications including *The Chicago Manual of Style* and *The Encyclopedia of Chicago*. An acquisitions editor at the ALA from 2008 to 2012, he returned to the UChicago Press in 2013, relaunched the linguistics list, and acquired several influential books on law. He is survived by his wife, Nanette Perez; a son; his parents; and a brother.

**Susanne Hoerber Rudolph** and **Lloyd Rudolph** died December 23 and January 16, respectively, in Oakland, CA. Susanne, the William Benton Distinguished Service Professor Emerita of Political Science, was 85. Her husband and colleague, a professor emeritus of political science, was 88. Influential scholars of India, the Rudolphs taught at Harvard before joining the UChicago faculty in 1964. They spent every fourth year doing fieldwork in India and published extensively on the country's politics and culture. Susanne taught several popular courses on identity politics at UChicago and won the Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 1973. She served as president of the American Political Science Association and the Association for Asian Studies. Lloyd was chair of the Committee on International Relations and the Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences and received UChicago's Faculty Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching in 1999. The Rudolphs retired in 2002, and in 2014 the couple received India's third-highest civilian honor, the Padma Bhushan, in recognition of their scholarly contributions. Susanne is survived by two brothers, Lloyd is survived by his brother, and the couple is survived by two daughters, **Jenny W. Rudolph**, LAB'80, and **Amelia C. Rudolph**, LAB'82; a son, **Matthew C. J. Rudolph**, LAB'86; and three grandchildren.

**Terence Turner**, professor emeritus of anthropology, died November 7 in Ithaca, NY. He was 79. Turner joined the UChicago faculty in 1968 after doing research in

Rio de Janeiro and teaching at Cornell. An expert on the indigenous Kayapo people of central Brazil, he published widely on their history and culture and became an advocate for their human rights. Turner was the president of the indigenous peoples' rights group Survival International USA and a founding member of the American Anthropological Association's Ethics and Human Rights Committees. He retired from the University in 1999 and returned to Cornell as an adjunct and later a visiting professor of anthropology. He is survived by his wife, Jane Fajans; two daughters; and a sister.

**Benjamin Wright**, PhD'57, professor emeritus in education and psychology, died October 25 in Chicago. He was 89. Wright, who spent his entire career at UChicago, was a collaborator of mathematician and psychometrician Georg Rasch and an influential proponent of Rasch's measurement principles and models. Wright taught classes and ran an annual workshop at the University, coauthored 12 books, developed two widely used measurement computer programs, and cofounded two organizations, all based on Rasch's work. He stopped teaching and researching after a stroke in 2001. He is survived by two daughters, **Amy Wright**, LAB'67, and **Sara W. Baumrin**, LAB'69, AB'73, MBA'78; two sons, **Christopher Wright**, LAB'71, and **Andrew Wright**, LAB'74; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

## 1930s

**Everett C. Parker**, AB'35, died September 17 in White Plains, NY. He was 102. A minister and the founder and longtime head of the United Church of Christ's Office of Communications, Parker successfully appealed to a federal appellate court in the 1960s to block the renewal of a local Mississippi TV station's license because of racially biased programming. His actions led to Federal Communications Commission reforms and Parker continued to campaign for equality in the media after his retirement in 1983. He is survived by two daughters, a son, seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

**Robert Dubin**, AB'36, AM'40, PhD'47, died June 24, 2013, in Eugene, OR. He was 97. A US Army captain during World War II, Dubin taught at the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign before becoming head of the University of Oregon's sociology department in 1954. He moved to the University of California, Irvine, in 1969, retiring in 1981. A behavioral science expert, he was the author of nine books and many articles. His wife, Elisabeth Ruch Dubin, AB'37, AM'39, PhD'46, died in 2008. He is survived by a daughter, two sons, and two grandsons.

**Melvin Van Akin Burd**, AB'36, of Cortland, NY, died November 7. He was 101. Burd taught school and served in the US Navy prior to joining the State University

of New York at Cortland in 1951. An expert on John Ruskin, Burd wrote many scholarly articles on the Victorian thinker and edited four editions of Ruskin's writings. The first named Distinguished Professor at SUNY Cortland, Burd also served as director of the Division of Arts and Sciences and chair of the English department. He is survived by a daughter, a sister, a granddaughter, and four great-grandchildren.

## 1940s

**Marjory R. Long**, EX'42, died October 23 in Naperville, IL. She was 94. Long taught elementary and middle school in La Grange, IL, for more than 30 years. Active in the UChicago Alumni Association, she enjoyed traveling, art museums, theater performances, reading, current events, volunteering, and caring for her cats. Her first husband, Charles Anthony Paltzer, PhD'41, died in 1951. She is survived by two daughters, three sons, seven granddaughters, three grandsons, a stepson, and eleven great-grandchildren.

**Leo J. Shapiro**, AB'42, PhD'56, died November 10 in Tucson, AZ. He was 94. A survey research pioneer, Shapiro founded Leo J. Shapiro & Associates in 1955 after applying market research concepts to government rationing policy during World War II. His research helped launch products like Kimberly Clark's first disposable diaper and *USA Today*. With UChicago professor Hans Zeisel, Shapiro also honed the use of mock trials for jury trial preparation. He is survived by his wife, **Virginia L. (Johnson) Shapiro**, PhD'46, AM'51, a daughter; three sons, including **David Shapiro**, AM'88, and **Owen Shapiro**, AM'90, MBA'96; and five grandchildren.

**Helen Hirsch Kent**, LAB'39, AB'43, of Culver City, CA, died November 28. She was 92. A former teacher, Kent enjoyed classical literature and pop art. She painted, played several instruments, sang, and enjoyed the outdoors. Her husband, William P. Kent, SB'38, AM'41, PhD'50, died in 1976, and she is survived by two daughters; two sons; a sister, **Jean Priest**, LAB'43, PhD'47, SB'50, MD'53; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

**Efrem H. Ostrow**, SB'43, PhD'60, of Santa Barbara, CA, died November 6. He was 91. Ostrow was a mathematics professor at California State University, Northridge, for more than 25 years, retiring in 1989. He is survived by friends and family.

**Carolyn Stieber**, AB'44, of East Lansing, MI, died September 12. She was 92. A civilian employee of the US Navy during World War II, in 1957 Stieber became the first female faculty member of Michigan State University's political science department. She was appointed as the university's second ombudsman in 1974 and helped to found the national University and College Ombudsman Association. The 1986–87 Spartan of the Year, Stieber retired from MSU in 1991. She is survived by two daughters.

**Irene Heilman Reith**, MST'45, died August 9 in Concordia, MO. She was 99. A registered nurse, Reith taught at two Kansas City nursing schools before her marriage in 1951. She began working as a nurse and teaching again after her husband's death in 1970, training and certifying 530 nurses' aides in Concordia before retiring in 2000. She was an active community volunteer and led women's Bible study at her church for almost 25 years. She is survived by a daughter, two sons, a sister, a granddaughter, and a grandson.

**Courtney Bennett Lawson**, AM'48, died May 15 in Evanston, IL. He was 94. Lawson taught English at Northeastern Illinois University for 35 years, retiring in 1983. He enjoyed classical music and was a member of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees and of Evanston Unitarian Church. He is survived by his wife, Lynn; a daughter; a granddaughter; two grandsons; a great-granddaughter; and two great-grandsons.

**Evelynn Trippel Milbradt**, EX'48, died September 1 in Downers Grove, IL. She was 90. Milbradt was the longtime plant and office manager for a German bridge-building company. She was the president of the Clarendon Hills (IL) Womens' Republican Club and an active bridge player. She was predeceased by her son, Kenneth Bruce Milbradt, AB'82, and is survived by her husband, Ken; two daughters; one granddaughter; and two great-granddaughters.

**Theodore Rall**, PhD'47, SB'48, PhD'52, died October 25 in Charlottesville, VA. He was 87. Rall was a professor of pharmacology at Case Western Reserve University and the University of Virginia School of Medicine. An award-winning researcher, Rall contributed to the discovery of cyclic adenosine monophosphate, a biological signaling molecule. He was a talented singer and a steadfast Democrat. His first wife, Jane (Porter) Rall, PhD'47, died in 1993. He is survived by a daughter and a son.

**Shirley Ann (Killoran) Severino**, AB'48, of LaGrange, IL, died September 22. She was 86. A registered nurse, Severino worked at Loyola University Medical Center and Chicago Public Schools. She was an active member of St. Cletus Church Choir and the Sweet Adelines barbershop chorus, and was a longtime volunteer for homelessness advocacy group Beds Plus. She is survived by three daughters, three sons, two sisters, a brother, and 14 grandchildren.

**Robert L. Weiss**, JD'48, of Portland, OR, died August 26. He was 92. Weiss served as an artillery observer in the US Army during World War II, playing a pivotal role in the Battle of Mortain and earning a Silver Star, two Purple Hearts, and France's Croix de Guerre heroism medal. After the war he practiced tax law in Portland for 50 years and was a supporter of the Nature Conservancy and local cultural organizations. He is survived by his companion, Norma Leszt; a daughter; a son; and a granddaughter.

## 1950s

**Jean M. Cardinet**, PhD'52, of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, died August 11. He was 89. Cardinet taught psychology and ran a research institute at the University of Neuchâtel. He was an advocate of improving the quality and ethics of psychological research and spurred the creation of 15 national test commissions around the globe. He received the Peter Hans Frey Prize in 1990. He is survived by his wife, Arlette.

**Fauzi M. Najjar**, AM'50, PhD'54, died October 26 in Lansing, MI. He was 94. Born in Lebanon, Najjar served with the British military during World War II. He taught at UChicago and his undergraduate alma mater, the American University of Beirut. In 1956 he joined the College of Social Science at Michigan State University, where he received a Distinguished Faculty Award in 1973 and retired in 1987. He is survived by his wife, **Vivian B. Najjar**, AB'54; two sons; a brother; and six grandchildren.

**Joseph C. Rickard**, PhD'55, died October 14 in Temple, TX. He was 89. An Army Air Forces veteran, Rickard became chief of psychology at the VA Medical Center in Temple in 1955, supervising doctoral candidates and establishing an internship program. He was also on the faculty of the Texas A&M medical school and consulted for local school districts. He is survived by two daughters, two sons, four granddaughters, three grandsons, and four great-grandsons.

**David E. Christensen**, AM'48, PhD'56, of Carbondale, IL, died July 28, 2014. He was 93. An aircraft maintenance officer during World War II, Christensen taught geography, cartography, and urban planning, first at Florida State University and then at Southern Illinois University. At SIU he also served as associate dean of the liberal arts college and chair of the geography department. He was active in the AARP and involved in community theater. He is survived by two daughters, two sons, a sister, and six grandchildren.

**Martha Lou (Grove) Ellis**, AM'55, of Los Alamos, NM, died January 26, 2012. She was 78. Ellis taught elementary and preschool for more than 20 years and was the director of a preschool for two years. In retirement, she was a "pink lady" volunteer at the Los Alamos Medical Center. Her husband, Walton P. Ellis, PhD'57, died in 2014 (see below). She is survived by two daughters and two granddaughters.

**Walton P. Ellis**, PhD'57, of Los Alamos, NM, died July 30, 2014. He was 83. Ellis was a research chemist at Los Alamos National Laboratory from 1957 to 1992 and published numerous studies in surface chemistry and surface physics. An avid traveler, he visited all seven continents. He and his wife are survived by two daughters and two granddaughters.

**Jack D. Forman**, SB'59, AM'61, PhD'73, of Philadelphia, died November 5. He was 77. A psychiatrist, Forman completed his internship at Philadelphia General Hos-

pital and his residency at Hahnemann University Hospital. He served on staff at Abington Memorial Hospital and had a private practice. A gifted storyteller, Forman enjoyed books, ideas, and lively discussions. He is survived by his wife, Dianne; a daughter; a sister; a brother, **Edward Forman**, AB'70; and two granddaughters.

## 1960s

**James Clements Conner**, MCL'61, died November 19 in Newport News, VA. He was 83. A lawyer, Conner spent most of his career in private practice, first in Philadelphia and then in Washington, DC. From 1967 to 1974 and from 1991 to 1997 he was senior counsel at the World Bank's private financing arm. In retirement Conner coached high school lacrosse. He is survived by his wife, Karla; two daughters; and a sister.

**Michael C. Kotzin**, AB'62, of Highland Park, IL, died October 17. He was 74. A leader in Chicago's Jewish community, Kotzin taught English literature at Tel Aviv University before joining the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago in 1988. He was executive vice president from 1999 to 2011 and most recently served as special consultant to the president. An authority on anti-Semitism, Israel-diaspora relations, and other issues, Kotzin spoke and published widely. He is survived by his wife, **Judith D. Kotzin**, AM'91; a daughter; two sons; a sister; four granddaughters; and four grandsons.

**William B. Provine**, AB'62, AM'65, PhD'70, died September 1 in Horseheads, NY. He was 73. An expert on the history of population genetics, in 1969 Provine joined the faculty of Cornell University, where he spent the majority of his career. An outspoken critic of creationism and intelligent design, he wrote and lectured extensively on evolution's relationship to atheism. Provine received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1985 and the inaugural David L. Hull Prize from the International Society for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology in 2011. He is survived by his wife, Gail, and two sons.

**Eliot A. Landau**, AB'63, of Woodridge, IL, died January 4. He was 73. Landau was a civil rights worker in Mississippi, a Supreme Court clerk, and a law professor at several universities before becoming president of family and civil law firm Landau & Associates in 1980. A philatelic law specialist and avid stamp collector, he was an expert on Abraham Lincoln-themed postage. He is survived by his wife, Eileen; three daughters; a sister; a brother, **Gary R. Landau**, AB'65, MBA'66; two granddaughters; and one grandson.

**DeLyle Eastwood**, SM'55, PhD'64, died October 30 in Pullman, WA. She was 82. A physical chemist specializing in fluorescence spectroscopy, Eastwood did work for the Air Force, the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Army Corps of Engineers, Harvard University, and other institutions

and agencies. She was proud of her role as a pioneer and mentor for female scientists and of helping the Coast Guard identify those responsible for oil spills. She is survived by two nieces and three nephews.

**James R. Weistart**, AB'65, died October 10 in Rochester, IL. He was 73. Weistart worked in public aid on Chicago's South Side and was a member of the National Guard. In 1973 he moved to Springfield, IL, and spent 30 years with the Illinois Department of Insurance. He enjoyed riding motorcycles and growing garlic. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary; three brothers; two granddaughters; and a stepson.

**Alvin J. Geske**, JD'67, died March 15 in Kensington, MD. He was 72. After serving in the Army, Geske was an attorney and assistant branch chief with the Internal Revenue Service's Legislation and Regulations Division and an attorney and assistant legislation counsel to the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation before entering private practice. He was active in civic organizations and an advocate for people with disabilities. He is survived by his wife, Cheryl, and two sons.

**Lawrence R. Hinken II**, AB'68, of Hammond, IN, died September 16. He was 70. Hinken taught in the Gary, IN, school system for 35 years and in retirement taught at Ivy Tech Community College. He was active in the First United Methodist Church and enjoyed participating in community theater. He is survived by a daughter, a son, a grandson, a sister, and a brother.

**Ahmad A. H. Chalabi**, SM'66, PhD'69, died November 3 in Baghdad. He was 71. Living in exile after the fall of the Iraqi monarchy in 1958, Chalabi formed the London-based Iraqi National Congress in 1992 with other displaced Iraqis who were opposed to Saddam Hussein's 1979 takeover. The group formed close ties with American politicians and journalists and relayed intelligence about Hussein's regime, including unsubstantiated reports of weapons of mass destruction, that helped spur the 2003 US invasion. Chalabi found positions in the new Iraqi government, most recently as head of the parliament's finance committee. He is survived by his wife and four children.

**Joan Mankin**, AB'69, died September 26 in San Francisco of complications from dementia and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. She was 67. An actress and clown, Mankin performed with most of the major Bay Area theater troupes during her decades-long career. Also known as her clown persona, Queenie Moon, Mankin participated in local circuses and taught clowning and physical theater. She was active in women's rights, social justice, and arts organizations. She is survived by her husband, Daniel Macchiarianni; two daughters; a sister; and two brothers.

## 1980s

**Michael Salda**, AB'80, AM'82, PhD'88, died October 16 in Hattiesburg, MS, of complications from multiple sclerosis. He

was 57. A medieval literature scholar, Salda joined the English department at the University of Southern Mississippi in 1991. He was department chair for several years and was known for employing technology like podcasts and online classes. He is survived by his wife, Monica; a daughter; a son; his mother; four sisters; and two brothers.

**Elliott Lax**, AB'81, of Tucson, AZ, died February 5, 2015. He was 55. Lax spent his career in education, teaching a range of subjects and overseeing programs and volunteer opportunities for high school students. Most recently he was the school coordinator for Refugee Focus, where he helped young refugees navigate the Tucson public school system. He is survived by his wife, Eneida Lima; a son; his mother; and a sister.

**Donald Lorvig**, AB'83, of Manchester, NH, died October 2. He was 54. A graduate of the Air Force Academy, Lorvig spent most of his career in software engineering and development, securing a software patent. He was an avid bassist and a competitive runner. He is survived by his daughter, his mother, two sisters, and three brothers. **Robert Malcolm Bordeman**, MBA'86, died December 10 of multiple myeloma. He was 59. Bordeman was a vice president at Merrill Lynch before joining Safeway Insurance Group in 1995 as CEO. He is survived by his wife, Cathy; a son; three sisters; and two brothers. His son Andrew Malcolm Bordeman, AB'02, MBA'06 (see this page), died in November.

## 1990s

**Eric Tschetter**, AB'97, died December 13 of brain cancer in Chicago. He was 45. Tschetter tended bar and managed UChicago's chemistry library and a college bookstore before joining Lillstreet Art Center in Chicago. Becoming executive director in 2009, he oversaw the center's expansion to include new spaces and classes for more than 10,000 students. He is survived by his husband, **Tony Breed**, AB'93, AM'93; his parents; his step-parents; a sister; and a brother.

**Phoebe (Robertson Johnson) Roberts**, PhD'97, of Beverly, MA, died December 8, 2013. She was 47. A biomedical researcher at Biogen and Pfizer, Roberts was a pioneer in the use of text-mining tools to understand the scientific implications of previous studies and literature. She was also an athlete, completing multiple marathons and a 750-mile cycling event. She is survived by her husband, Frank; a sister; and two brothers.

## 2000s

**Andrew Malcolm Bordeman**, AB'02, MBA'06, of Hinsdale, IL, died November 9 of brain cancer. He was 35. Bordeman worked at Safeway Insurance Group with his father, Robert Malcolm Bordeman, MBA'86, who died in December (see this page). He is survived by his wife, Deanna L. Bordeman, MBA'06; his mother; a brother; and his maternal grandparents.

# CHICAGO CLASSIFIEDS

## SERVICES

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

**INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT/FINANCIAL PLANNING** Our disciplined approach to tactical asset allocation applies leading academic theory to target optimal risk-adjusted returns. Coupled with comprehensive financial planning, we can provide peace of mind to make financial decisions with confidence. **SECURITY-TRUST-PEACE OF MIND-PINNACLE.** James J. Stork, CFP, CFA, MBA'87. 708.246.6262. [jim@mypinnaclefinancial.com](mailto:jim@mypinnaclefinancial.com), [mypinnaclefinancial.com](http://mypinnaclefinancial.com).

## EVENTS

**Alumni Weekend 2016:** Come back to campus June 2-5 to reconnect with friends, celebrate milestones, and enjoy lectures, tours, and other programming.

## WANTED

**Inkwater Press** publishes book-length fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Royalties. 503.968.6777. [inkwaterpress.com](http://inkwaterpress.com).

**Hyde Park Cats**, your local not-for-profit cat/kitten rescue organization, needs your help! We seek fosterers, adopters, volunteers of many types, and donors. Read more and join our mission for a humane Chicago, where every cat is a wanted cat at [hydeparkcats.org](http://hydeparkcats.org).

## PERSONALS

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIND YOUR INTELLIGENT MATCH?** Dating for University Graduates. [GradHearts.com](http://GradHearts.com).



# FINDERS of KEEPERS.



**SELECTIVE  
SEARCH®**  
EXECUTIVE SEARCH MEETS  
PERSONAL MATCHMAKING

866.592.1200  
[selectivesearch.com](http://selectivesearch.com)  
[info@selectivesearch.com](mailto:info@selectivesearch.com)

© Selective Search LLC 2016



### TAKE ACTION ON THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS NOW

America's Premier Admissions Experts, **Dr. Michele Hernandez** and **Mimi Doe**, Guide You in This Series of Timely Virtual Workshops.

Over the next year in this program you will learn how to:

- Increase Your College Acceptance Odds
- Create Compelling College Essays
- Develop an Application Strategy

Use promo code **TTA59** for **10% off** the Year of Workshops Program.



[YearofWorkshops.com](http://YearofWorkshops.com)  
781.530.7088

[Kristen@TopTierAdmissions.com](mailto:Kristen@TopTierAdmissions.com)

*Date someone who knows that "Pas de Deux" is not the father of twins...*

*The Right Stuff*

Join the dating network for the Ivies

[www.rightstuffdating.com](http://www.rightstuffdating.com)  
800-986-5286

## Good Reads.

Find great books written by your fellow alumni on the *Magazine's* GoodReads shelf.

Go to [mag.uchicago.edu/alumni-books](http://mag.uchicago.edu/alumni-books) to browse our collection by UChicago affiliation, or to submit your book.

### Chicago Classifieds Reach 155,000 Readers

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

**DISCOUNTS** 5% for advertising in 2-3 issues and 15% for 4 or more issues.

**DEADLINES** March 18 for the Spring 2016 issue. To learn more, visit [mag.uchicago.edu/advertising](http://mag.uchicago.edu/advertising).

#### ADVERTISING CATEGORIES (Check one.)

- |                                      |  |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale    | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Personals             | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rental      | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted                | <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

Name

Daytime Phone

Email

#### PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER

- Visa       Mastercard       Discover

Account #  Exp. Date

- Check (Payable to University of Chicago Magazine.)

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

# LITHE END MOTIF

W I T S    D O T H    W R E S T  
S H R E W D    T O    T W I S T  
T E S T    W I T H    W O R D S

**E**ver Google “anagram”? The result is a page of nearly 12 million suggested links along with a tongue-in-cheek autocorrect prompt: “Did you mean: *nag a ram.*”

In the Harry Potter books, “I am Lord Voldemort” is an anagram for “Tom Marvolo Riddle.” Even in translation, He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named has an anagrammatized identity. To make “Je suis Voldemort” work, his French name is Tom Elvis Jedusor. All shook up, indeed.

Like Google developers and J. K. Rowling translators, here at the *Magazine* we love anagrams. We love them even more when they relate to each other, e.g., listen/silent, dormitory/dirty room, eleven plus two/twelve plus one, software/swear oft, and Madam Curie/radium came.

How good are your letter-wrangling skills? Can you unscramble these UChicago-themed anagrams?

—*Joy Olivia Miller*



Visit [mag.uchicago.edu/anagrams](http://mag.uchicago.edu/anagrams) and let us know your favorite anagram—UChicago-themed or otherwise.

- 1 **Literary beginners**
- 2 **Cracks DNA to win**
- 3 **Win, dear geek**
- 4 **i.e., I'm for CERN**
- 5 **Zero in pleb**
- 6 **Moron hates**
- 7 **Toughest ethical commotion**
- 8 **Ooh, big co. chat**
- 9 **As intoxicate clatters accrue**
- 10 **Hairy cognitive focus**

# S LVE

## For the most critical questions.

No matter how complex your business questions, we have the capabilities and experience to deliver the answers you need to move forward. As the world's largest consulting firm, we can help you take decisive action and achieve sustainable results.

[www.deloitte.com/answers](http://www.deloitte.com/answers)

Audit | Tax | Consulting | Advisory

Copyright © 2016 Deloitte Development LLC. All rights reserved.

**Deloitte.**  

---

**Consulting**