

Colloquy

The GRADUATE SCHOOL of ARTS AND SCIENCES | HARVARD UNIVERSITY



**FROM THE FIRESIDE
TO THE KINDLE**

*Maria Tatar and Robert Darnton
on telling stories in a digital world*

p.12

12 From the Fireside to the Kindle

TELLING STORIES IN A DIGITAL WORLD

18 The Limits of the Facebook Like

TEMPERING THE DREAMS OF MARKETERS, A NEW STUDY SUGGESTS THAT INTERESTS ARE UNLIKELY TO SPREAD AMONG FRIENDS

22 Tea Time

THE TEA PARTY, THE GOP, AND AMERICA IN THE AGE OF OBAMA





3 FROM UNIVERSITY HALL

4 NEWS & NOTES

China Scholars, an innovative English immersion for international TFs, and a veteran presence.

8 Q&A WITH JOHN LECHLEITER, PhD '80

From the bench to the corner office, the Eli Lilly CEO talks patents, R&D, and the thrill of laboratory science.

10 ALUMNI BOOKS

GSAS authors on endangered species, market illusions, generational economics, contemporary art, and the virtues that endure.

26 ALUMNI NEWS

28 ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

spring

12

Cover: Digital illustration by Visual Dialogue, calligraphy by Pier Gustafson

Facing image: Stephanie Mitchell/ Harvard Staff Photographer

Colloquy

CONTRIBUTORS

Richard J. Tarrant interim dean
Margot N. Gill administrative dean
Elisabeth Nuñez director of publications and alumni relations
Bari Walsh editor
Visual Dialogue design

GRADUATE SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (GSAA) COUNCIL

Naomi André, PhD '96, music
Reinier Beeuwkes, COL '62, PhD '70, division of medical sciences
Thomas Davenport, PhD '80, sociology
Mia de Kuijper, MPA '83, PhD '83, economics
Stacy Dick, AB '78, PhD '83, economics
A. Barr Dolan, AM '74, applied sciences
Richard Ekman, AB '66, PhD '72, history of American civilization
Yonatan Eyal, PhD '05, history
John C.C. Fan, SM '67, PhD '72, applied sciences
Kenneth Froewiss, AB '67, PhD '77, economics
Homer Hagedorn, PhD '55, history
R. Stanton Hales, PhD '70, mathematics
David Harnett, PhD '70, history
George Heilborn, AM '58, physics
Karen J. Hladik, PhD '84, business economics
Daniel R. Johnson, AM '82, East Asian history, AM '84, business economics
Gopal Kadagathur, PhD '69, applied sciences
Alan Kantrow, AB '69, PhD '79, history of American civilization
Gyuri Karady, PhD '80, applied sciences
Robert E. Knight, PhD '68, economics
Imad Kordab, PhD '09, applied mathematics
Felipe Larraín, PhD '85, economics
Jill Levenson, PhD '67, English and American literature and Language
See-Yan Lin, MPA '70, PhD '77, economics
Abraham Lowenthal, AB '61, MPA '64, PhD '71, government
Suzanne Folds McCullagh, PhD '81, fine arts
John J. Moon, AB '89, PhD '94, business economics
Sandra O. Moose, PhD '68, economics
F. Robert Naka, SD '51, applied sciences
Betsy M. Ohlsson-Wilhelm, AB '63, PhD '69, medical sciences
Maury Peiperl, MBA '86, PhD '94, organizational behavior
M. Lee Pelton, PhD '84, English and American literature and language
Nancy Ramage, PhD '69, classical archaeology
John E. Rielly, PhD '61, government
Allen Sanginés-Krause, PhD '87, economics; chair
David Staines, PhD '73, English and American literature and language
Marianne Steiner, MEN '78, SM '78, applied mathematics
Donald van Deventer, PhD '77, economics
Lee Zhang, AM '01, medical sciences
Gustavus Zimmerman, PhD '80, physics



Cassandra Nelson, who wrote “From the Fire-side to the Kindle,” is a third-year PhD candidate in English at GSAS. She focuses on 20th century American fiction, but her interests also include 18th and 20th century British literature and textual criticism. In 2010, Faber & Faber published her edition of Samuel Beckett’s *More Pricks than Kicks*.



“I never took pictures as a kid, but my Uncle Joe did,” writes **Christopher Harting**, who created the “Tea Time” photograph. “He had a huge folding Polaroid camera that made those curly, smelly pictures in about a minute. Now I take pictures and make pictures for clients like *Boston* magazine, *Harvard Business Review*, and *Technology Review*. Of all my work, photo-illustration is really my cup of tea, part visual artist, part MacGyver.”

The Boston-based illustrator **Polly Becker**, who created the artwork for “The Limits of the Facebook Like,” works for clients including *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The New York Times*, *Poetry* magazine, *Time*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. She has held faculty positions at Massachusetts College of Art, the Rhode Island School of Design, and the New Hampshire Institute of Art.



James Clyde Sellman, PhD '93, history, is *Colloquy*'s regular book reviewer. He is a writer and an editor, specializing in topics across the landscape of higher education.



Visual Dialogue is the Boston design firm that created this new *Colloquy*. Led by principal Fritz Klaetke, it works in print and web media for clients such as the Smithsonian Institution, Harvard Medical School, Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Barbara Lynch restaurant group, and Moshe Safdie and Associates. Visual Dialogue's work is included in the permanent collection of the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum.



Pier Gustafson, who did the calligraphy for the cover feature, works from a studio in Somerville, MA. He creates hand-made maps, calligraphy, monograms, and invitations.




 A portrait of Allan M. Brandt, a man with glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

transitions

Earlier this term, I announced that health considerations arising from a recently diagnosed illness would, to my great regret, prompt me to step down as Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Richard Tarrant, the Pope Professor of the Latin Language and Literature, is now holding the position of interim dean while Michael Smith, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, conducts the search for a permanent successor. Professor Tarrant is a good friend of the Graduate School, having been acting dean in 1995–1996, and I'm grateful that he has once again agreed to serve our community.

I have found a deep sense of satisfaction and pride in leading this Graduate School since 2008, and I have been tremendously rewarded by my connection to our remarkable alumni. I have met you here in Cambridge and in cities across the country and around the world. Our most recent international foray was to Hong Kong, and I was delighted to see how vibrant the Harvard and GSAS alumni communities have become, generating networks of professional and academic ties that prove the lasting value of our Harvard affiliation.

I want to share a few words about the progress we have made as a graduate school over these last years, focusing my thoughts on the steps we've taken to support our students.

I have had the privilege of overseeing five GSAS admissions cycles, during which our application totals have risen steadily. The quality of our applicant pool and our incoming classes has been nothing short of remarkable. In a time of immense fiscal uncertainty, we have worked strategically to improve the funding package we offer to our graduate students, allowing us to recruit the most talented students from around the world and provide stronger support for the students in our community.

Even amid the economic uncertainty, we also committed ourselves to increasing the diversity of our PhD programs.

Allan M. Brandt
Amalie Moses Kass
Professor of the
History of Medicine;
professor of the
history of science

“I have found a deep sense of satisfaction and pride in leading this Graduate School since 2008, and I have been tremendously rewarded by my connection to our remarkable alumni.”

We introduced a set of interventions in the recruiting, admissions, and retention processes that resulted in our most successful yield of admitted minority students (last year) and a significant increase in applications from underrepresented minorities. These interventions have transformed the conversation about diversity on our campus, as we've recognized anew how essential an inclusive community is to an institution seeking academic excellence.

We have worked to support our students both academically and socially as they navigate their graduate programs. I am proud to see how Dudley House has thrived as a hub for student connection, and the celebration last fall of its twentieth year as the graduate student center at GSAS will remain among the fondest memories of my deanship.

We have assertively encouraged the adoption of better practices in graduate advising and mentoring across our programs. We have also worked to help our students navigate a severe constriction in the academic job market by developing new pathways for the PhD not only in the academy, but also in industry, policymaking, and other crucial areas in which new knowledge and its creative application are essential.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity I have had to shape these and other curricular and pedagogical initiatives. And I'm equally appreciative for the opportunity to know and collaborate with you, our alumni. I look forward to completing my recuperation and returning to the faculty to re-engage in the critically important work of graduate education. 🇺🇸


 A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allan Brandt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

EAST TO WEST & BACK AGAIN

Collaborating with China to bring junior faculty to Harvard

Home to Harvard's largest population of Chinese students, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences has also become a sought-after postdoctoral destination for Chinese scholars, thanks to a successful collaboration between GSAS and China's Ministry of Education. To date, the program has supported more than 120 scholars.

Since 2000, GSAS has partnered with the China Scholarship Council and the Ministry of Education to bring post-PhD junior faculty members from China to Harvard for one year of directed research. The GSAS-CSC China Scholars program aims to bridge the cultural divide between academic communities in the US and China. And it fosters a network of China-based scholars who are at a key point in their careers, just beginning to establish

themselves professionally.

Each year, the CSC assembles a group of candidates from a larger applicant pool and sends those nominations to GSAS, which considers which candidates it can most productively connect with Harvard's programs and faculty.

GSAS consults with the appropriate academic departments and appoints the scholars who would most benefit from — and add to — its research community. Costs are shared by the CSC, which covers travel and a substantial portion of the living stipend, and GSAS, which covers tuition and health fees.

To help the scholars acclimate to academic life in the United States, GSAS hosts monthly luncheons for each year's group; the kick-off lun-

cheon is a festive affair attended by a senior delegation from the Chinese Consulate in New York. GSAS also sponsors English-language conversation groups, so scholars can form richer relationships with faculty and peers.

Scholars represent a wide range of disciplines, from anthropology to physics, and while many come from the country's leading institutions, others come from smaller, more regional universities. They benefit from having access to Harvard's faculty and research facilities, but the program is not simply about leveraging the University's resources; a key goal is to create a vibrant community of scholars.

Yao Wang, an associate professor at the Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE) in Beijing and a China scholar in 2010–2011, says that the friendships she made at Harvard were a large part of what made her experience so memorable. "I won't forget the pleasant meetings I had with professors, colleagues, and students. Making good friends in the US, and especially at Harvard, helped me to overcome the culture shock," she says.

Wang, whose research focuses on carbon finance as a way to address climate change, says that one of her objectives in coming to Harvard was to "establish long-term academic relations with American institutions." She founded the Climate and Energy Finance Center at CUFE after returning to China and invited Professor Richard Cooper, with whom she worked closely during her year as a China Scholar, to join the advisory board.

Guohua Huang, a current China Scholar and a biologist who studies the evolution of diet diversification in tenebrionid moths, also notes the importance of gaining an international perspective. Huang, an associate professor at

Juelin Yin, an assistant professor at the University of International Business and Economics (UIBE) in Beijing, is studying corporate social responsibility during her Harvard postdoctoral year.



Hunan Agricultural University, says that the exposure has allowed him “to learn the differences between university systems” and has given him ideas for how to improve research methods in his own university.

Even though Huang has studied tineid moths for years, he says that working with Naomi Pierce in the Department of Evolutionary and Organismic Biology has helped him learn new approaches. Indeed, the chance to work with world-renowned scholars who are at the top of their respective fields is invaluable, the scholars say.

Current scholar Juelin Yin, who studies corporate social responsibility, describes coming to Harvard as the “learning opportunity of a lifetime” and cites the discussions she has had with her Harvard advisor, Professor Christopher Marquis, as among her most intellectually rewarding experiences.

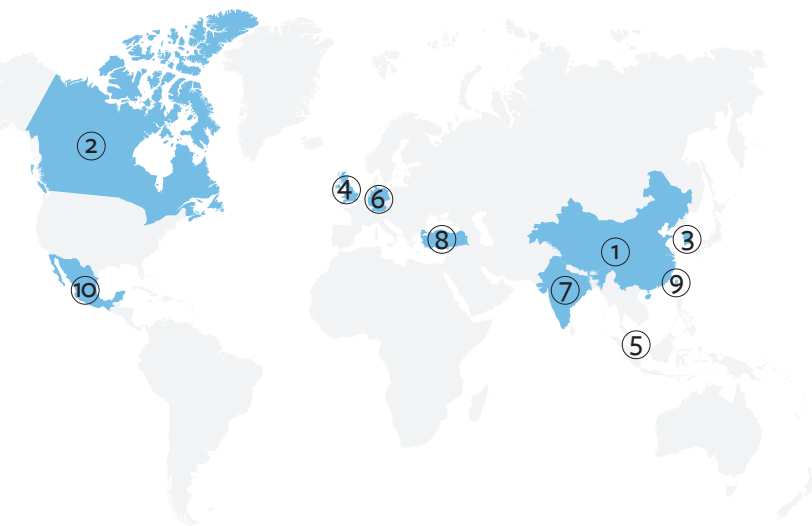
Huang echoes the sentiment. “I was surprised by how comfortable the professors here are with students,” he says. “Professor Pierce is very busy, but she gives me a lot of comments and advice. I really don’t know how to express my thanks for her kind help, but I want to follow her example and do the best I can for my students.”

Nearly 50 former scholars attended a reunion hosted by Dean Margot Gill in Beijing last fall, and many spoke of the lasting value of their connection to one another and to Harvard. “Our monthly discussions with Dean Gill gave me opportunities to exchange opinions on American and Chinese education,” recalls Wang of her time at Harvard. “These discussions were always rich, and I was so glad to meet her again in China as a Harvard alum.”



CAST IN BRONZE

Through gallery visits and studio sessions, the January workshop “Cast in Bronze” gave eight PhD students an immersion into the practice and craft of art-making. Students worked late into the evening at New England Sculpture Service, an art foundry in Chelsea, MA, learning to pour bronze and make casts. Hands-on experiences like this challenge students “to think about materials or a subject in an entirely new way,” says course sponsor Suzanne Blier, the Allen Whitehill Clowes Professor of Fine Arts and professor of African and African American studies. Adam Stack, a PhD candidate in archaeology, says the workshop will have a direct effect on his teaching, which often uses artifacts from the Peabody Museum. “The class gave me a whole new array of ways to use objects, and not only bronze objects, in discussion and lab sections,” he says. — *Harvard Gazette*



GLOBAL GSAS: OUR TOP TEN

GSAS has Harvard’s largest international student population, representing 36 percent of its total population. Where do they come from? Throughout the world — 87 countries in all. Here are our top 10 countries of origin:

1. The People’s Republic of China 269
2. Canada 153
3. The Republic of Korea 93
4. The United Kingdom 64
5. Singapore 59
6. Germany 58
7. India 52
8. Turkey 45
9. Taiwan 40
10. Mexico 29



AMERICAN

101

An intensive workshop helps international TFs master the nuances of spoken English — and the ways of the Harvard undergrad

Yi Xie, a first-year PhD student in mathematics, took the Bok Center's workshop on oral communication skills last fall.

WRITER
Joanna Grossman

When Bambo Sosina, a PhD student in the Statistics Department, came to the United States for the first time, he soon noticed that people had trouble understanding him. "Being originally from Nigeria, an English speaking country, this naturally felt devastating, and I sought to correct things quickly," Sosina recalls.

One opportunity in particular caught his attention: a course on classroom communication skills for international teaching fellows, offered by the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, in partnership with GSAS.

The course, taught by Pamela Pollock, was piloted in the fall of 2009 with a single section, but it proved so popular that the Bok Center started offering two sections each term. It is designed to help students who need to build both comprehensibility and accuracy with oral English. "These students have done a lot of reading and writing, but perhaps have not been in an English speaking environment," Pollock says. "And the way we speak English is very different than how we write it."

For many of the students, it's a question of becoming comfortable with the rapid speed of discourse, as well as with pronunciation, intonation, contractions, and slang words. With only six to eight students, the class encourages participation, Sosina says. "It was easy to ask questions without feeling judged, and this brought back some of my confidence in speaking up in my classes."


In any given week, Pollock spends part of the class discussing a particular characteristic of the English language, such as stress placement or linking consonants. The course is speaking-intensive; students often engage in impromptu presentations or practice explaining an article that they read. Students also practice answering questions and learn strategies for how to handle unexpected or difficult questions.

But the centerpiece is "microteaching," in which students deliver a ten-minute lesson, afterwards receiving vital feedback from their peers. Each microteaching session is videotaped, so students get a clear sense of what they're doing well or what needs improvement. "By the last microteaching activity, the students are excited because they can see how much they've improved since the beginning," Pollock says.

In addition to the time spent in class, Pollock meets with students individually on a weekly basis to give them focused feedback on specific areas they need to work on. During these one-on-one meetings, Pollock often goes over the "audio journals" that students are asked to record as part of their homework. These recordings, which provide additional opportunities to craft a longer narrative or explanation, allow students to reflect on how they're presenting themselves to an audience.

Pollock aims to combine language practice with more general skills that are integral to the students' professional development. "We do an activity where students have to give a four-minute summary of something they read, then a two-minute summary, and finally a one-minute summary." At every interval, students receive suggestions on how to be more concise and clear. Pollock notes that these sorts of activities help students with many aspects of academic life. "When you have your dissertation you might need to prepare an hour-long presentation, but you'll need a ten-minute overview too."

Pollock says some international teaching fellows have a hard time gauging what to expect in a Harvard undergraduate section. "They tend to be surprised by how interactive the discussion is and by how many questions the students ask," Pollock says. And it can be difficult for international TFs to assess what background their students have in the material. "One of the common issues is that they pitch the class a bit too high," she says.

To that end, Pollock spends time explaining how the US secondary education system is different from that of many other countries. "I have Harvard undergraduates who work with me in the class and they describe their different high school experiences. Some went to private schools, others attended big public schools, and still others were home-schooled. It helps the international students to see how different it is." 

Veteran's Affairs

A student's military service prompts scholarly interests and a search for connections

When Bethany Kibler enlisted in the Army Reserves in 2003, after graduating from Pomona College, she was looking for new ways to challenge herself. "I knew it would be different than anything I had ever done and that being in the Army would be hard in ways I didn't know," Kibler says.

Indeed. After several years as an instructor at Fort Huachuca, the Army's military intelligence training facility, she was deployed to Iraq in May 2006. She was eventually put in charge of an intelligence-gathering team supporting a military unit.

Now, as a first-year PhD student in anthropology, Kibler says that her military service undoubtedly shaped her professional path, albeit in unexpected ways. "I came here thinking I was interested in the so-called clash of civilizations. That was the common

currency that I had picked up — but that I soon had pleasantly destroyed by classes that encouraged me to question analytical categories."

Her research interests — centering on concepts of masculinity and the so-called marriage or youth crisis in the Middle East — were inspired by master's work at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, which included a fellowship in Syria. "In the wake of 9/11, much of the popular press about political Islam focused on the idea that there's a young male population that's unemployed, unable to get married, and frustrated, and therefore they become Islamists. It's a narrative that is being rehashed now to explain the Arab uprisings, but to me it raises more questions than it answers."

Kibler has reached out to fellow veterans across Harvard's schools, and she works with Crimson Serves, a group that seeks to strengthen ties between Harvard and the military, on an outreach program to encourage enlisted veterans to apply to Harvard.

"In the military, whether you're enlisted or an officer is a big distinction. It's a division that historically has entailed class, education, and socioeconomic assumptions. But that's changed a lot; now you have people with bachelor's and master's degrees choosing to become enlisted as well as highly qualified enlisted veterans going on to finish their bachelor's degree after they get out. When they look at graduate and professional schools, I'd like for them to think about Harvard."

Of course, the bridge-building isn't simply about getting veterans into Harvard. "When it comes to what it's like to serve in the military, people are often influenced by what they see on TV or in movies, but the tasks that people do in the military and the world they live in remain widely unknown to many Americans," Kibler says. In an era of ongoing military engagements around the world, "it's important to translate that experience for many reasons, not just to get into Harvard."



Bethany Kibler, AM '11, Middle Eastern studies, will focus her PhD research on Tunisia.

Q + A

John Lechleiter

From the bench to the corner office, the Eli Lilly CEO talks patents, R&D, and the thrill of laboratory science

John C. Lechleiter, PhD '80, is chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Eli Lilly and Company, the pharmaceutical giant based in Indianapolis. He started at Lilly as a bench scientist in 1979, and over time became an industry leader and a strong voice in emerging conversations about the necessity of innovation, the revolution in biomedical science, and the need for regulatory, tax, and immigration policies that encourage and sustain an innovative economy. Even as Lilly faces the business challenges posed by a colliding series of patent expirations on several successful drugs, including the schizophrenia drug Zyprexa and the antidepressant Cymbalta, Lechleiter is optimistic about the unprecedented potential of research in the life sciences to improve health and drive the economy.

You've spent your entire career at Eli Lilly. Describe your path.

I started at Lilly as a bench chemist, doing chemistry in our process development area. These were the chemists and engineers that really came up with the methodology that enabled us to make these medicines in a manufacturing plant. I was happy to have a job, a good job with a good company, and I didn't conceive of any sort of opportunity beyond that.

Eventually, I had to deal with the opportunity presented to me to essentially leave the laboratory and take a management position within the R&D division. And that was a tough decision. That was a real career change. I knew that even if it was theoretically possible to go back in the other direction, it probably wasn't practical. So I felt like I was leaving behind something I really enjoyed doing and something I was pretty good at. But at the same time, I think I took with me a knowledge base and some general principles that have served me well in management.

Say more about the principles you've carried from the bench to the corner office.

I think that the pursuit of a PhD is itself a discipline — it teaches one a

Q+A ID

NAME: John Lechleiter, PhD '80

FIELD OF STUDY: chemistry and chemical biology

TODAY: Eli Lilly and Co., chairman and CEO

certain discipline around generating a hypothesis, bringing together various streams of data and knowledge, and in essence answering the question, Can we make this molecule? Or can we develop new ways of doing chemistry to make molecules in general?

I think that that orientation and that rigor is something that does carry over to the way someone in my position today — a CEO, a business manager — might think about approaching problems and organizing their thinking and generating alternative hypotheses — being willing to take a different view of something in order to come up with the best answer. I never thought of my PhD as preparing me for a broader pursuit like the one I'm currently doing, but in hindsight, it was excellent preparation.

Any thoughts on the role of the PhD in industry?

Today, the success of any enterprise — and I'll use Lilly as a point of reference — is much more a function of operating effectively within a broad, global network. The Lilly that I joined in the late 1970s was, like a lot of companies, rather self-contained, perhaps a little inwardly focused. Today, with the explosion of knowledge and communication technologies, we recognize that

to be successful, Lilly employees need to be knowledge seekers within this broad network. They have to be able to collaborate with people both inside and outside the company. They need to be able to take advantage of and seize on the opportunities created by knowledge, wherever it might originate.

That knowledge seeking, that ability to put various streams of knowledge together, and even some of the networking are important attributes of most PhD programs. There is no question that a PhD is still very relevant and, I think, increasingly necessary for one to be successful at a high level in any endeavor, certainly not excluding industry, or the business sector.

How essential are connections between industry and the academy?

I think effective working relationships between the private sector and the academic sector have grown enormously since the time when I was in graduate school. In the past, it might have been more of a quid pro quo: we will pay the university to get this body of work done through some channel that we may find useful, or we will support a graduate fellowship because we tend to hire people who come out of this university. There's a much broader platform for collaboration today, as



academic researchers consider the potential commercial application of some of their work, and as industry seeks new channels and new sources for innovative thinking and new ideas. I think the collaboration can go further still, particularly as we think about the biomedical sector. I would go so far as to say that our success at Eli Lilly depends on effective collaboration with academic researchers as well as with clinical researchers.

Is there anything in place?

We have developed something called an open innovation platform. About 200 institutions are partners with us in this, biotech companies or academic institutions. They will submit molecules or compounds to us, and we will screen those free of charge to see if they show any activity, at least in a model system, against various diseases or biological pathways. Then we provide a data report back to the submitter free of charge. The upside for us is that if we see something we're interested in, there may be an opportunity for collaboration, and we like to have the first right of negotiation. But if we can't negotiate a collaboration, the researchers are free to use that data in any way they choose. They own that information, they can write grant proposals or file patents, whatever they want to do.

But I think there's much more opportunity, and it's going to take both industry and academia to give and concede a little bit on occasion to make sure that some of the traditional barriers and concerns that might have kept us from working together can get managed and resolved.

Talk about guiding Lilly through upcoming patent expirations.

Well, we face a very challenging period in our history. I wish I could spread these patent expirations out a bit, but as it turns out we've got a few that will hit us 1, 2, 3 in the next few years. It will be a short-term negative for us, and unfortunately, in the business we're in,

it's not like ordering up a new chicken sandwich to replace the Big Mac at the drive-through window. The timing of some of these breakthroughs is very difficult to predict. We've got a great, robust pipeline, the strongest pipeline in our history, but the molecules — the new medicines — are not going to start coming out of that pipeline until the end of this patent period.

So we've said, hey, we're going to ride it out, generate the cash we need to pay the dividend and fund our research, and make the capital investments we need. But we're not going to skimp on the investment necessary to realize what we think is the outstanding promise of the pipeline that we currently have. I think it would be a

big mistake for Lilly to cut back on its traditional strong investment in R&D — notwithstanding criticism that has been leveled in various quarters about the fact that the industry has not been particularly productive in the last 10 years, as measured by the output of new drugs relative to the investments that we've made.

I think we've got to be careful there. We're obviously investing to get a return on investment, not to throw money at R&D. But I also don't want to let the past predict the future. This industry, over a long period of time, has gone through cycles, and I think right now we're on the verge of really harnessing this breakthrough in knowledge of fundamental science, of human biology, that we've been seeing. I think the best years for this industry and this company are still ahead of us.

Do you still get excited by the possibilities of science?

I do. I wander into our labs on occasion, and I let them take me through the story until I get to the point where I don't understand what they're talking about anymore. I can't pretend to be current, but I can live vicariously

through the 6,000 scientists working here at Lilly.

I got interested in science because of a couple of outstanding high school teachers. The next big step for me was a summer research program I did in 1974 at the University of Minnesota, which was the first time I got to do laboratory-based research. I'm a strong believer in those two aspects of science education, as we focus this country on increasing basic aptitude in science and math among grade school and high school students, and hopefully getting more of them interested in pursuing STEM-type careers. Great teachers and opportunities to do hands-on research are indispensable ingredients.

“Most kids start off being curious, and somewhere along the line, we drag it out of them.”

How can we encourage this?

One of the big focus areas for our Lilly Foundation has been to foster new approaches to teaching math and science in Indiana at the K-8 level, in order to give students opportunities to learn in a way that creates that energy and excitement that I think most scientists feel about the work they do. Most kids start off being curious — about how this works, why that happens — and somewhere along the line, we drag it out of them. It's fun to learn about science — I don't mind sitting in a classroom and learning about molecular orbitals or whatever turns chemists on. But what's really fun is getting in a laboratory and doing an experiment and seeing how this stuff plays out in the real world. That's when the light really comes on.

We know what we need to do. The question is, are we going to be able and willing to do it, and give enough kids, including kids who come from disadvantaged backgrounds, an opportunity to participate. K-12 education is this country's Achilles' heel right now, and we've got to work collectively to solve that problem. ☹

Shelf Life

Listed: Dispatches from America's Endangered Species Act (Harvard, 2011) pays tribute to the Act — its benchmark achievements and continuing relevance. **JOE ROMAN** (AB '85, PhD '03, biology) has a gift for the telling anecdote, weaving biology and nature writing, politics and social analysis into a lyrical whole. He's also attuned to the shortcomings of the law, opening with the chainsaw self-scouring of an entire Alabama community — its residents frantically felling their longleaf pines (nesting sites for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker) to keep their property free of any legal restrictions. Roman also critiques the law's emphasis on individual species. (Ecologists today focus on entire habitats, but the term "biodiversity" didn't appear until 1986, 13 years after the act was signed.)

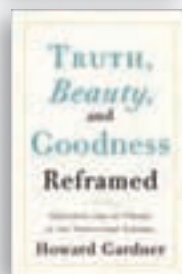
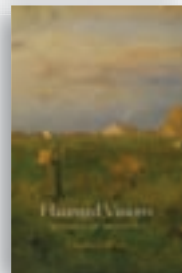
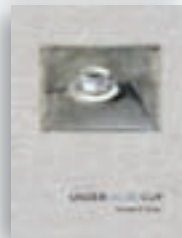
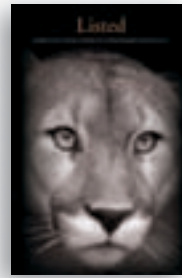
GERNOT WAGNER (AB '02, PhD '07, political economy and government) realizes that any effective response to global climate change will be hampered by our collective inability to take in new perceptions that confound expectations and experiences. In trying to jumpstart our instincts for self-preservation, **But Will the Planet Notice?** (Hill & Wang, 2011) takes two rather novel approaches. First, Wagner makes his case in a breezy, readable style that owes little to earnest environmental appeals. More important, he focuses on the centrality of markets — and market incentives, rightly applied — rather than well-intentioned individual actions. For example, he recounts Australia's success with a nominal tax on plastic shopping bags, which cut plastic bag consumption there by 90 percent.

In 1999, **ROSALIND KRAUSS** (PhD '69, fine arts) suffered a brain aneurysm

that profoundly impaired her memory and ability to use and understand language. But **Under Blue Cup** (MIT, 2011) isn't a heartfelt memoir of a hard-fought recovery; it's a sharp critique of postmodern conceptual art and its "installations." Conceptualists, she argues, take inspiration less from Picasso than from Marcel Duchamp and his "ready-mades," which were manufactured products that Duchamp signed and exhibited as "art." Invoking Michel Foucault, Jacques Derrida, and (most tellingly) her own near-loss of communication, Krauss contends that in discounting artistic mediums (painting, sculpture, etc.), traditions, and communication, the installations of such artists remain barren and hermetic — in effect, "post-aneurysm" culture.

In **Haunted Visions** (University of Pennsylvania, 2011), **CHARLES COLBERT** (AM '69) examines the impact of Spiritualism (the belief that the dead communicate with the living) on American art. He suggests that Spiritualist beliefs shaped the work of sculptors Hiram Powers and Harriet Hosmer, among others, noting choices of style and subject that arguably reveal a Spiritualist sensibility. Many nineteenth-century Americans were curious about such otherworldly communication. Thus, in 1881, John Bowman erected a mausoleum in Cuttingsville, VT, with a full-size sculpture of himself outside, hat and wreath in hand, and inside sculptures of his dead wife and daughters. He also established a trust to pay caretakers to set a nightly table in the mausoleum should their spirits return.

Developing Destinies: A Mayan Midwife and Town (Oxford, 2011) is both biography and ethnographic



study, examining the life of Encarnación "Chona" Pérez and her Guatemalan village. **BARBARA ROGOFF** (PhD '77, psychology) offers a Russian doll of nested contexts, including profound historical changes: drops in infant mortality and birth rates, increases in life expectancy and formal schooling. She challenges the American view of culture as a "box" that people (African Americans, WASPs) occupy. Rogoff prefers to see culture as "ways of life" — complex and changing, sometimes inherited, often borrowed (like pizza, she says, or jazz). She also smoothly negotiates the tension between the chiseled language (and logic) of social science and a world immanent with premonitory dreams and sacred signs.

A current television series features survivalists girding for societal meltdown with homegrown tomatoes and semiautomatic weapons. Books here warn of global warming and economic collapse. In such company, **Truth, Beauty, and Goodness Reframed: Educating for the Virtues in the Twenty-First Century** (Basic Books, 2011) seems quaintly old-fashioned — like those didactic "books of virtues" that proffer inspirational fuel for boosting the moral performance of the young. Instead, **HOWARD GARDNER** (AB '65, PhD '71, social psychology) delivers a rigorous examination of this trio of virtues, which, he believes, are most threatened by postmodernist philosophy and the impish bits and bytes of our digital world (yet Gardner rejects neither entirely). Marshaling child psychology, Rawlsian ethics, and more, he is cautiously optimistic about the alternatives to moral unmooring.

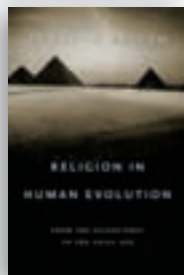
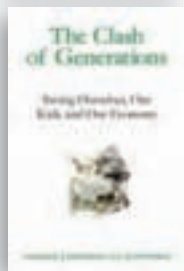
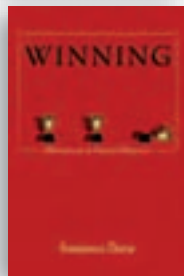
BERNARD HARCOURT (LLD '89; PhD '00, government; SJD '05) begins **The Illusion of Free Markets** (Harvard, 2011) by contrasting an obsessively policed eighteenth-century French market for wheat and bread with today's Chicago Board of Trade, where agricultural commodities are traded in a free-market frenzy. Yet as he

Alumni authors: Would you like your book (general interest, published within the past year) considered for inclusion? Send it to *Colloquy*, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Holyoke Center 350, 1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138. Questions? E-mail gsaa@fas.harvard.edu.

proceeds, Harcourt underscores the similarities between these seeming opposites. Both the Board of Trade and the French wheat market were closely regulated but responded to market pressures. To call one “overregulated” and the other a “free market” isn’t just conceptually sloppy, it sets us up for bigger, real-world problems. Invoking, among others, the French Physiocrats, Michel Foucault, Milton Friedman, and Adam Smith, Harcourt seeks to clarify “free markets,” “overregulation,” the “natural order,” and other fraught constructs.

Total Modernity and the Avant-Garde in Twentieth-Century Chinese Art (MIT, 2011) is a compelling survey. For **GAO MINGLU** (PhD ’00, history of art and architecture), recent trends in painting, sculpture, photography, and conceptualist art are best understood in their Chinese context, in which art is typically viewed in political terms. Though not political in any lockstep sense, artists often incorporate social messages, challenging China’s headlong development, rising consumerism, or gender inequality — sometimes all at once. Thus, Chen Qiulin photographs herself seated in a barren expanse of rubble, wearing a disheveled white gown and putting on makeup. Behind her are two cooling towers for a nuclear plant and a Dalmatian drinking from a ditch.

Americans love a winner, writes **FRANCESCO DUINA** (PhD ’96, sociology). But for losers, as F. Scott Fitzgerald remarked, “there are no second acts.” **Winning** (Princeton, 2011) dissects American competitiveness, along the way setting up an ostinato comparison of the United States and Denmark. Danes are far less competitive than Americans. (Pity those Danes, roped into this competition!) They’re also much happier. On the other hand, they distrust individualism, allowing Duina to show that for Americans, winning has its privileges — material gain, recogni-



tion, increased self-confidence. He cites losers as well as winners, and the former — discredited baseball star Pete Rose, ex-Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, and presidential candidates Michael Dukakis and Al Gore — often seem the more interesting.

In **The Clash of Generations** (MIT, 2012), **LAURENCE KOTLIKOFF** (PhD ’77, economics) and Scott Burns offer a grim forecast of America’s economic future, as the needs of older Americans place an increasingly unsustainable burden on the young. Too many seniors depend on too few working young for their inflation-pegged Social Security benefits. A fast-and-loose definition of our national debt conceals governmental obligations far in excess of our ability to pay. In short, the country is broke, and our “big plan” is to dump it all on the next generation. Kotlikoff and Burns propose another approach, involving what they call “lazy portfolios” for dumbed-down personal investment strategies, a revamped tax code, and radical changes in Social Security.

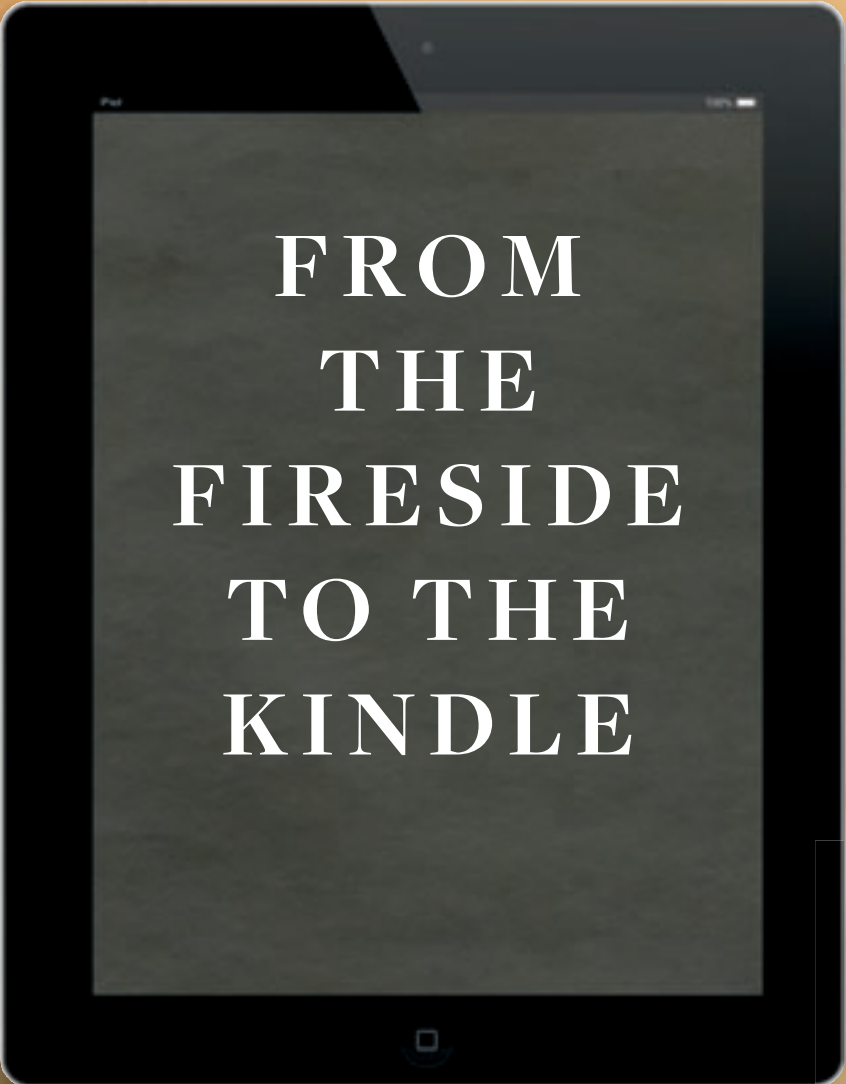
“My whole book is awash in a sea of stories,” writes **ROBERT BELLAH** (PhD ’55, sociology). He describes **Religion in Human Evolution** (Harvard, 2011) as “a history of histories and a story of stories.” This vast undertaking ranges from the misty Paleolithic shores to the first century BCE, the age of Moses, Confucius, and other big guns. Bellah starts by locating religion ontologically and anthropologically. (His debt to Clifford Geertz is considerable.) Yet he’s by no means averse to getting down into the viscous empirical mud. He also draws on a panoply of scholars and layers of scholarship — religious and scientific, historical and philosophical; in one memorable instance, he channels J. B. S. Haldane channeling Hamlet. The result is a thought-provoking discussion and an intellectual tour de force. ♣



Today’s historians privilege analysis, but the roots of *historia* lie in stories. **GEORGE DAUGHAN** (PhD ’68, government) is proudly old-school, and **1812: The Navy’s War** (Basic Books, 2011) tells a rousing story of a war that transformed Anglo-American hostility into an amicable “special relationship.” Actually, Daughan tells two stories — one on land, one at sea. The former is marked by dithering, defeat, and division. President James Madison underestimated his navy and vacillated over strategy. Army commanders were repeatedly inept. (When General William Hull surrendered Detroit, the British took 2,200 prisoners, 2,500 muskets, two and a half tons of gunpowder, and the six-gun brig *Adams*.) British forces burned the capital.

Then there is the Navy’s war, and here Daughan’s descriptive powers take wing. Though thoroughly outnumbered, with 20 warships to the Royal Navy’s 1,000, the Americans time and again proved they had better ships, better commanders, and better crews. The USS *Constitution*, under Commodore Isaac Hull (General Hull’s nephew), defeated the frigate HMS *Guerrriere* in 30 minutes, winning its nickname “Old Ironsides.” And on Lakes Ontario, Erie, and Champlain, Americans created a hip-pocket navy from scratch and again outfoxed the British — highlighted by Oliver Hazard Perry’s “We have met the enemy, and they are ours.” Daughan makes us see and hear the wooden ships slicing the water, topgallants set to wrest every bit of speed from the breeze.





FROM
THE
FIRESIDE
TO THE
KINDLE

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, as the adage goes, it should come as no surprise that e-book marketers are tapping into readers' associations with the real thing. "If you buy a Kindle," observes Maria Tatar, chair of the Program in Folklore and Mythology and an expert on children's literature, "it comes in a box with the words 'Once upon a time . . .' on the side. And I love that our other e-reader is called Nook, which must be an allusion to Longfellow's words about 'the love of learning, the sequestered nooks, and all the sweet serenity of books.'"



*Telling stories in a
digital world*

BY CASSANDRA NELSON

CALLIGRAPHY BY PIER GUSTAFSON

Five hundred years ago, early printed books sought the same kind of legitimacy from manuscripts, using Gothic scripts and ligatures between letters to mimic scribal practices. Such competition between old and new media is to be expected, says Tatar, the John L. Loeb Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures. “Each technology has its upside and its downside, and each technology brings in a shock-wave, a panic — often, oddly, a moral panic, in this case a sense that e-books just aren’t good for you.”

in odd ways, and that things will just sort themselves out in the right way.” And anyway, the more interesting question by far is: what happens to storytelling in an age of electronic entertainments?

“What I’m finding is that fairy tales are flourishing,” Tatar says. “That is, in this new, media-rich environment, instead of the long novel we prefer the short, the sweet, and the bitty — something that is compressed.” And deep anxieties about the future often produce a throwback effect, nostalgia for what we once loved.

The ascendancy of Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube, for instance, has coincided with an increase in books and movies featuring supernatural heroes and heroines, and plots centered on magic and spells. And the over-the-top narratives of reality television seem to mint new fairy tales every week, abetted by a gossip industry that (often masterfully) creates the dramatic arcs the stories need. Sometimes these trends overlap, as in the case of Susan Boyle, whose performance on the reality show *Britain’s Got Talent* in 2009 garnered more than 120 million views on YouTube, buoyed by the ugly-duckling-transformed-into-a-swan subtext of her story, which became a contemporary fairy tale at warp speed.

The spare, compact nature of fairy tales has always been part of their appeal. “Because we get only the bare bones, we get a chance to elaborate and to talk,” says Tatar, and in the process of imagining and interpreting — or debating who would make a more suitable beau for Bella or Hermione — to really make each story our own.

Fairy tales, like myths, also allow readers to work out a logical model capable of overcoming what Tatar, referencing the work of anthropologist Claude Lévi-Strauss, calls “cultural complexities and contradictions.” Today’s media-rich environment provides plenty of both. Last year’s furor over the Dominique Strauss-Kahn case, for instance, betrays the same kind of anxieties surrounding innocence and seduction as those found in a tale as old as Little Red Riding Hood. “Is Little Red Riding Hood so innocent, or is she the seducer?” asks Tatar.

Other tales explore similarly primal — and dark — subject matter. “Beauty and the Beast is about transformation, the possibility of change, and about empathy and monstrosity,” she says, while “tales like Hansel and Gretel are about how to survive in a time of scarce resources,” when strangers abroad can expect hostility as well as hospitality.

Stories and fairy tales have long been a way for young readers to gain vicarious experience and preparation for life. “Children are desperately curious about the world, about the great existential mysteries,” Tatar explains. “Adults are always whispering among themselves about all kinds of things to do with the body” — birth, death, illness — “and books give them access to those secrets.” Fairy tales present the unknown, and typically offer a worst-case scenario as well as a way out. Says Tatar, “The grownups can die, but I’m



Maria Tatar, chair of the Program in Folklore and Mythology and an expert on children’s literature.

Tatar admits to preferring physical books in all but two contexts — reading in bed and while traveling — and says that the very characteristics that make e-books so convenient lead to her “one anxiety” about the future of reading in an electronic age. Call it the unbearable lightness of being digital.

“The Kindle weighs almost nothing and gives you an endless supply of possibilities,” she says. “But when I read with a Kindle, I feel as if the text is moving right through me.” That may be a result of habit or preference — in other words, something generations of readers to come won’t necessarily feel. Or it may lend credence to Nicholas Carr’s theory that the Internet is diminishing our ability to read deeply. “He sees us as becoming jet skiers, instead of deep sea divers,” Tatar says of Carr’s acclaimed book *The Shallows*. “I love that metaphor, because there is something about going down there and exploring those depths, or wonders, or whatever it is” that readers are immersed in when they enter a fictional world.

“The material object does change the way that we process the narrative,” says Tatar. “There’s no doubt about that.” But since only time will tell how exactly, for now she is withholding judgment and trusting that books and e-books can “exist side by side, be embedded in each other

a firm believer in survival for the child hero.”

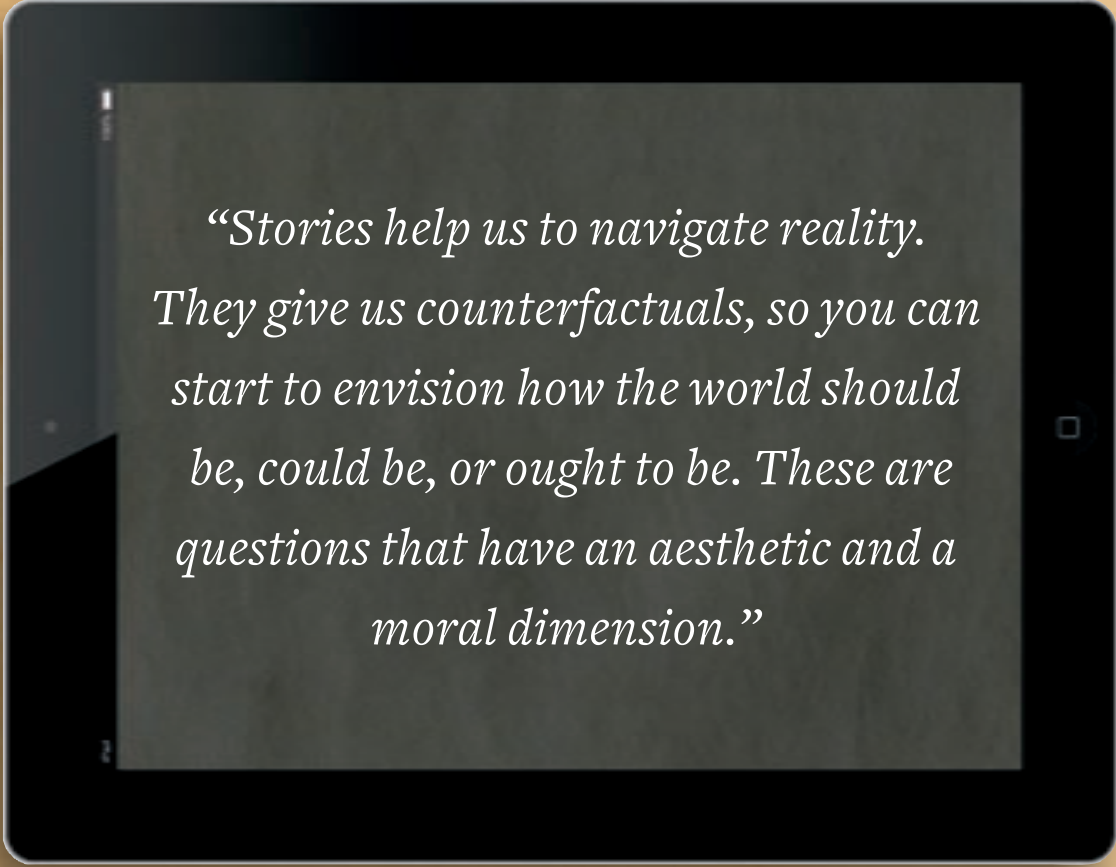
Christina Phillips, a PhD student in comparative literature and teaching fellow for Tatar’s courses on fairy tales and children’s literature, enjoys watching undergraduates combine their memories of “visceral, somatic” childhood reading with “a rigorous academic experience.” Conversations deepen as even skeptics begin to take the material seriously, and the best essays are as likely to be about Peter Pan as *Lolita*. “One of my favorite papers ever was by a student in the visual arts who wrote about death imagery, color, and violence in *Goodnight Moon*,” she says. “It taps into children’s fear — namely, when the light goes off, when you go to sleep, are you ever going to wake up again?” By repeatedly naming objects, it offers them reassurance and a sense of control.

Phillips’s own scholarship focuses on the changing role of fictional child protagonists. In what will be the Department of Comparative Literature’s first dissertation on

What’s interesting about the resurgence of fairy tales and fantasy fiction today is that they are not just for kids. Consider what’s currently on offer in movie theaters and bookstores, where contemporary fantasies like *Twilight*, *Harry Potter*, *The Hunger Games*, and Phillip Pullman’s *His Dark Materials* dominate the cultural landscape. It wasn’t always this way.

“At the height of the *Harry Potter* mania,” says Tatar, “the *New York Times* divided its bestseller list into adult fiction and children’s literature, because otherwise the list would have been completely dominated by young adult fiction.” Digital publishing, and the increasing affordability of e-readers across all age ranges, has only amplified this convergence. Evidence from parents and publishers suggests both that children are increasingly drawn to e-readers and that older readers are more inclined to venture into young-adult fiction.

Tatar sees this second trend partly as a backlash against

A quote is displayed on a tablet screen. The text is in a white, serif font against a dark grey background. The quote reads: "Stories help us to navigate reality. They give us counterfactuals, so you can start to envision how the world should be, could be, or ought to be. These are questions that have an aesthetic and a moral dimension."

“Stories help us to navigate reality. They give us counterfactuals, so you can start to envision how the world should be, could be, or ought to be. These are questions that have an aesthetic and a moral dimension.”

children’s literature, she argues that “as child protagonists in adult fiction started gaining more import in the mid-nineteenth century, their counterparts in reality began meriting their own literature.” Pearl in *The Scarlet Letter* represents one such turning point. “The plot hinges on her,” says Phillips. “Pearl is betwixt and between, a really interesting character. She’s kind of a pre-Alice for me.”

postmodernism’s preoccupation with fragmentation, irony, and indeterminacy. “In the last two decades of the twentieth century, there was a way in which narrative had lost its punch. Everything was enigmatic and challenging to read, and you as the reader were the *writer* and had to construct the narrative,” she says. Little wonder that readers should want a return to grand narratives and the willing suspension

of disbelief: “Books that — Nabokov puts it so wonderfully — books that you can read with the spine. That is, not just with the heart and the brain, but with something in between that gives you that little shiver of delight.”

She is quick to emphasize that the popularity of fairy tales now, at a moment of technological change and economic crisis, is not a sign of escapism or regression. Instead, Tatar interprets it as “a self-conscious way to make sense of what is coming up ahead.”

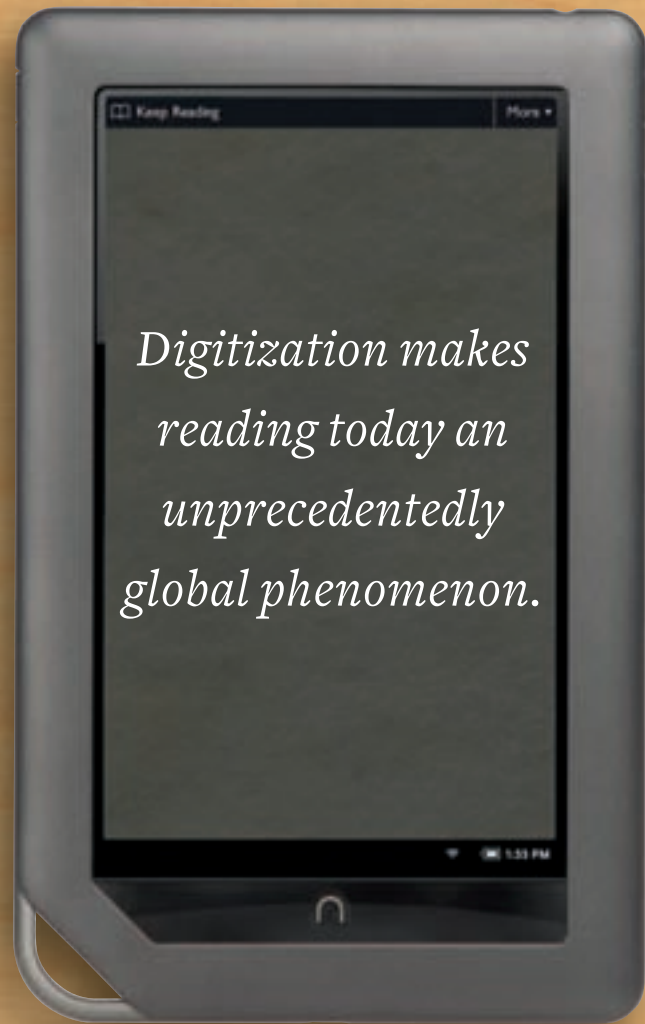
“Stories help us to navigate reality,” she says. “They give us counterfactuals, so you can start to envision how the world should be, could be, or ought to be. These are questions that have an aesthetic and a moral dimension. The stories work in the optative mood, where everything has to do with a potential, a possibility.”

What is more, serialization may help to counter the “jet ski” effect of the Internet and e-readers. “It took me a while to enter the *Harry Potter* world, but by the seventh book you realize it has real depth and it’s constructed beautifully,” says Tatar. “It’s no coincidence J. K. Rowling was a classics concentrator. The series is all about interpreting the world, and it tells us that knowledge is provisional. It’s a hermeneutic exercise. It turns children not only into readers, but decoders.”

Digitization, meanwhile, makes reading today an unprecedentedly global phenomenon. The minute her students begin talking about *Harry Potter*, says Tatar, “everything changes. They are bonded at a very deep level. It’s a kind of collective cultural experience I have never seen until now. That may be the upside of all these new technologies.”

In the return of myth and fairy tale to adult reading habits, we have come full circle, in a way. Stories’ “banishment to the nursery” took place only relatively recently in Anglo-American and European cultures, says Tatar, when the Brothers Grimm sensed Germany’s impending demographic and economic changes and compiled their famous anthology, *Kinder-und Hausmärchen*, whose bicentennial was the subject of a conference sponsored by the Program in Folklore and Mythology in February, was initially meant to be a scholarly project, but after receiving letters from shocked parents who were reading the tales to their children and wanted less earthy fare, the Grimms found themselves editing the tales for child readers. For millennia before that, story time had been a multigenerational, family affair.

“The Latin term for fireside is *focus*,” says Tatar, “the place where everyone gathers and brings their attention.” Today our focus may be virtual, but it is no less unifying. And it is once again acceptable — for children and grownups alike — to read fairy tales, by the light of a Kindle Fire. ☞



Long Live the Book — and the E-Book

Robert Darnton is the Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the University Library at Harvard. A cultural historian who specializes in the history of the book, Darnton rejects the hand-wringing that often accompanies discussions of how the digital era is affecting the way we read, learn, and share new knowledge. He sees a landscape full of scholarly opportunity, one in which old and new media will each have an important role. Darnton's latest book is Poetry and the Police: Communication Networks in Eighteenth-Century Paris.

Books and e-books: must this be an either/or proposition?

Can they coexist? Yes. People often think that printed books and e-books are at antagonistic extremes of the technological spectrum, that they are inimical and incompatible. But I'm convinced that the opposite is true: they are mutually supportive and can supplement one another.

That doesn't mean that everything right now is easy. I think that booksellers and publishers are very concerned about how they will find business plans and strategies to get through this period of transition, when all kinds of media are being mixed in creative ways.

What form might such a mixture of printed and electronic media take?

I recently published a book with Harvard University Press — a traditional printed monograph with an electronic supplement — about the way songs operated as, in effect, newspapers in mid-eighteenth-century Paris. In this semi-literate society, everyone carried a repertory of tunes in their heads and people improvised new words to these old tunes every day, and then sang them in the streets. Using traditional research techniques, I could construct the text of the songs and their diffusion. But what did they sound like? I found the original musical annotation in an archive in Paris, and persuaded a friend of mine who is a

cabaret performer to record the songs. So now a reader can have the text of the songs in front of him or her, both in French and in English, and then go online and hear them sung through an MP3, which is available free of charge to anyone. That form of understanding, a kind of immediate sensory experience, had not been available in the conventional printed codex.

But, just to be clear, the printed book remains alive and well today?

Yes. One indication is the fact that so many books are being published. Last year, one million new titles were published worldwide, almost all of them in print. So the printed book is actually booming, especially in countries like China and Brazil, but really booming everywhere.

Given this immense output from publishers — and online — what advice would you give to readers as they navigate through an unprecedented wealth of texts?

One piece of advice I would offer is that readers should be very critical about the accuracy and provenance of sources they consult on the Internet. Critical reading is crucial, and I think that we especially need to develop it these days, when we tend to think of things that appear on the screens of our computers as solid information. Often it's not solid at all.

Beyond that, I would encourage students to spend time with complex texts, to read slowly, to pause, to let their imaginations wander as they read. It's great to search through the Web, jump from hyperlink to hyperlink, and come up with things that you couldn't have found otherwise, but I hope that in doing so, students won't lose track of deeper and more satisfying forms of reading.

Will the value of the archive exist in the future? Will other scholars be able to make a name for themselves, as you did, by finding mate-



Robert Darnton

rials no one has ever looked at? Is there an electronic equivalent?

I truly am convinced that we know only a tiny proportion of what is available in the archives. A fraction of a fraction of archival information has made its way into books and has been consulted by readers. But people tend to think that researchers have combed through everything, and we've got the past under control — that the past is what appears under hard covers, or maybe now on the screen. But someone who has spent years in the archives knows that they extend forever. In Paris there are miles and miles of paper covered with scribbling that no one has ever seen. And it's not nearly digitized. There is a kind of false consciousness that everything is on the Internet. In fact, only a very tiny proportion of available documentation has made it online. So there are lots of discoveries still waiting to be made through archival research, and I think it is crucial for students who are beginning to do serious work in subjects like history to get to those primary sources. And besides, it's a lot of fun.



THE LIMITS OF THE

FACE

LIKE

By Peter Reuell
ILLUSTRATION BY
POLLY BECKER



Tempering the
dreams of marketers,
a new study suggests
that interests are unlikely
to spread among
friends

Do friends influence your tastes and interests? Conventional wisdom and plenty of seemingly empirical evidence say yes — as does your membership in whatever high school clique you called home. But a new body of research suggests that peer influence may be far less compelling than the “likes” on a Facebook status might imply.

Using data collected from Facebook, a team of Harvard sociologists led by PhD candidate Kevin Lewis has addressed one of the great unsolved puzzles of social science — do we form friendships with people because we share similar interests, or do we share similar interests with people because they are our friends?

“WE ALL BELIEVE THAT WHAT OUR FRIENDS LIKE RUBS OFF ON US, BECAUSE IT’S VERY EASY TO THINK OF EXAMPLES WHEN THAT HAS HAPPENED, BUT WE DON’T REMEMBER THE MYRIAD INSTANCES WHEN IT DOESN’T HAPPEN.” — KEVIN LEWIS

The findings, as described in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* in January, suggest that while people who share similar interests in music and movies are more likely to befriend one another, few interests are likely to spread among friends. It’s a result that challenges earlier research, which found that a host of social problems, from obesity to smoking to loneliness, quickly spread across social networks.

“The idea that ‘birds of a feather flock together’ is something we’ve known about for a long time,” says Lewis, a fellow at Harvard’s Berkman Center for Internet and Society, who co-authored the paper with independent scholar Jason Kaufman, AB ’93, a former Berkman fellow, and Marco Gonzalez, AM ’06, an instructor of sociology at Santa Rosa Junior College in California. “It’s not terribly surprising that, if you and I like the same things, we might become friends.

“What we’ve been able to show, however, is that this phenomenon is not actually as widespread as we once thought,” Lewis adds. “There are only certain types of tastes that breed a connection. We’re also finding that this very common notion that what your friends do and like rubs off on you is not very widespread at all. We are not suggesting, of course, that taste in movies or music necessarily operates in the same way that obesity or depression does; but this paradigm that ‘everything spreads’ — it’s simply not true.”

The findings arise from a new cultural, multiplex, and longitudinal social network dataset developed by Lewis and a team of collaborators. The dataset has given rise to a number of collaborative projects, including a 2010 study that Lewis published with UCLA sociologist Andreas Wimmer that found that race is not the strongest predictor of social ties.

Jason Kaufman, left,
and Kevin Lewis



To build the dataset, Lewis and his collaborators gathered information from the profiles of students at an anonymous college. Once a year for four years, the researchers took snapshots of students' profiles, recording their friends and what kinds of music, movies, and books they liked. That information was then broken down further, into genre-like "clusters" representing broad areas of interest that might diffuse throughout a network of friends.

Armed with that data, researchers used a computer program to evaluate how students' friendship networks and preferences evolved over time, and to model the possible causes behind the changes.

"We used a simulation-based approach," Lewis says. "So if we have a snapshot taken at two different times, the model examines all the possible trajectories that could have led from one point to another and identifies which is most likely."


Importantly, Lewis adds, the model controlled for a variety of possible causes for why two people might become friends or reasons why someone's tastes might change over time, ensuring that researchers weren't misdiagnosing the causes of those changes.

In the case of music, the results showed that people who listen to classical or jazz music are likely to be friends. The same was true for fans of light and classic rock. When it comes to onscreen entertainment, fans of raunchy comedies and gory movies are likely to be friends, as well as fans of darkly satirical films. Surprisingly, Lewis says, there was no connection between book preferences and friendship.

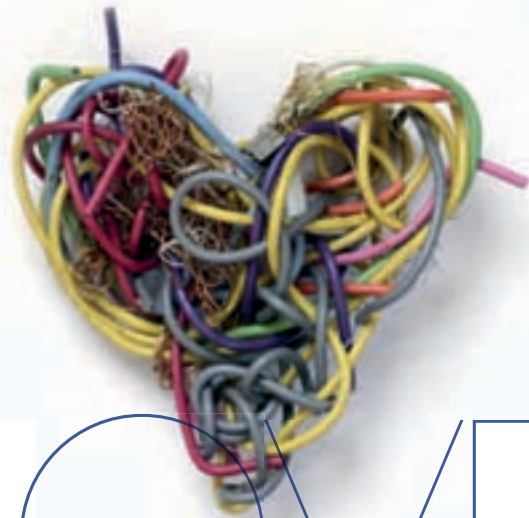
Only one type of taste — an interest in classical or jazz music — was found to spread across friendship networks, Lewis said.

"It's not often you find a non-finding to be important, but I think this finding absolutely is important," Lewis says. "There is a tendency to believe in peer influence — we all believe that what our friends like rubs off on us because it's very easy to think of examples when that has happened. But we don't remember the myriad instances when it doesn't happen."

"Much of Facebook's business model is based on the assumption that Facebook users 'influence' one another through displays of things they 'like,'" says Kaufman. "If you say you like a band, product, movie, etc., Facebook purports an 'influence' effect whereby your friends become more likely to adopt that preference in turn.

"What we found is that only in very specific instances does anything like 'influence' occur," he continues. "This stands in contrast to an active research literature on the 'contagiousness' of various behaviors, such as obesity, smoking, and happiness, and gives pause at the millions, if not billions, of dollars spent every year on so-called 'social media' advertising campaigns." 

Peter Reuell is a Harvard University staff writer. A version of this story originally appeared in HarvardScience.



LOVE

IS A MANY NETWORKED THING

Online matchmaking — once whispered about among friends, and only in strict confidence — has gone straight to the mainstream in recent years, as more and more relationships (and marriages) trace their roots to the cybersphere. It's rich ground for sociologists, but the "phenomenon has received extremely little academic attention to date," says sociologist and PhD candidate Kevin Lewis. "In theoretical terms, online dating offers us a unique opportunity to study social boundaries in society: what types of people are we willing to consider as romantic partners, and therefore what types of social divisions characterize our intimate relationships?"

Using behavioral data from a popular online dating site, Lewis is focusing his dissertation on an under-explored niche in the literature on what sociologists call "mate choice": the initial criteria we use to choose our romantic partners. There is a rich literature on marriage patterns, Lewis says, but his data are allowing him to look at "the opposite end of the relationship spectrum: The initial screening and sorting process whereby strangers consider each other as potential mates; express interest in some subset of this population but not others; and find that this interest is or is not reciprocated."

Online dating yields a key set of data that has been missing from work on marriage patterns, Lewis says — namely, "the characteristics we prefer in a partner, as opposed to the types of partners we eventually choose." This distinction is growing in importance, he argues. In an era of high divorce rates, increasing cohabitation (by straight and gay couples), and older first marriages, marriage is losing its status as the singular end-point for intimate relationships, meaning that studies of marriage patterns are capturing a declining percentage of those relationships. But beyond the question of marriage's status, focusing on preference in the early stages of dating broadens the research question from "who marries whom" in our society to "why."

Lewis's research is shedding light on the ways in which romantic preference plays out across the dimensions of race, income, education, and religion. He is also adding nuance to sociologists' understanding of which demographic preferences are the key ones when it comes to our choice of partner. And finally, he is generating some tantalizing new results, including, as he says, the finding that online daters "display different preferences when they express interest in others than when they respond to the interest of others." — BARI WALSH

TEA

TIME



THE TEA PARTY,

THE GOP,

AND AMERICA

IN THE

AGE OF OBAMA

By Bari Walsh

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER HARTING



The woman, a native Virginian, had worked hard her whole life. Now in her early 60s, she had started out as a house cleaner, and later operated her own cleaning business, before going back for the training she needed to become a licensed practical nurse. Her present occupation, tending to elderly patients in their homes, was one that drew intensively on her evident kindness. As she described her interactions with one of her patients, it was equally evident that the job was also exacting an emotional toll. The nurse's patient, a woman in her 90s, was terrified about the death panels called for by the Affordable Care Act of 2010, which the nurse referred to by its derisive nickname, Obamacare. The nurse's lip trembled as she relayed her anger and anxiety about the impending elimination of Medicare benefits, as well as her deep sadness about the direction America was taking.





TEA
TIME

“She was frightened. She was very visibly frightened,” says Vanessa Williamson, a PhD student in Harvard’s government and social policy program, who interviewed the woman along with dozens of other Tea Party activists over the course of the last year. The interviews, which vivify a compelling and humane new book cowritten by Williamson and Theda Skocpol, PhD ’75, reveal the enormous insecurity

“We don’t buy into the leftist myth that this is all top-down, and we don’t buy into the romance of the Tea Party, which insists that it’s all bottom-up.”

felt by this largely older, white, economically comfortable, and relatively well-educated group of conservative Americans. They reveal the factual inaccuracies that often fuel the insecurity. They capture the remarkable dedication and the grassroots passion of Tea Party people, as well as the hope they felt, when the movement began in 2009, that things could be — as they perceived it — set right.

And they shed light on some of the central ironies of the Tea Party — that these everyday Americans, suspicious of elites and immigrants, dismissive of most government spending, actually value and legitimize the largest government programs, even as their passion is coopted by an elite machinery to promote the minimization of these very programs.

The book, being called the first definitive study of the movement, is *The Tea Party and the Remaking of Republican Conservatism* (Oxford University Press). And although it is the personal interviews that compel a reader, it is the multifaceted data analysis that persuades. “Most other work on the Tea Party has been done by journalists,” says Skocpol, the Victor S. Thomas Professor of Government and Sociology at Harvard and a former dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. “They’re the only ones who get things out quickly, and we have respect for that. But they get it out quickly in most cases by dropping in on protests or by calling up the heads of advocacy groups in Washington, D.C., and letting them speak for the Tea Partiers. What we’ve done is show how those pieces fit together, how they’re not all pursuing the same goals, and how in the end the elites are leveraging these grassroots people for their own ends.”

The book makes an impact by grappling with the Tea Party as three factions, Williamson says: grassroots activists, the conservative media, and elite financiers and political groups. “In a lot of the analysis of the Tea Party, those

different elements are conflated, or only one of them is mentioned, in a way that I think is genuinely inaccurate and that doesn’t explain why this idea caught on.”

“We refused to collapse it into top-down or bottom-up, which everybody else was,” adds Skocpol. “We don’t buy into the leftist myth that this is all top-down, and we don’t buy into the romance of the Tea Party, which insists that it’s all bottom-up. We show how it works together, and we’re very proud of that.”

Skocpol, Williamson, and another collaborator published a journal article in 2010 that contained some of their analysis, but they needed to do some ambitious in-person reporting, and a lot more research, to turn the work into a book. And they had less than six months to do it.

Finding likely subjects involved a bit of serendipity. Skocpol recalled a series of e-mail exchanges she’d had with a self-identified Tea Partier, a member of a Virginia group called the Peninsula Patriots who had objected to a blog post she did on Politico. (Skocpol occasionally blogs in the guise of her personal political identity, as a self-described New Deal liberal.) “I wrote to him and I said, ‘Peter, this time I’m not writing to argue. You know I’m a professor, and I want to do a book, and I know it will be better if we can talk to people face-to-face. Would the members of your group be

BEN GEBRO



Vanessa Williamson, left,
and Theda Skocpol

willing for us to come down and attend a meeting?’ I think because he had some sense of me, he was able to vouch for me a little bit. We found that if we could get to the point of a face-to-face encounter, people were invariably polite.”

“That was something I really noticed,” Williamson says. “Initially, people were often a little suspicious, particularly because I was from Harvard. The name provokes a reaction. But once people had spoken to me face-to-face, it was clear that, oh, this person, they’re not the stereotype of the evil liberal. As soon as you could talk to someone, you’d make progress.”

They ultimately attended Tea Party meetings and interviewed activists in New England, Virginia, and Arizona. “With one or two exceptions, we liked everyone we met a great deal,” says Skocpol. “They were admirable for their citizen organizing and their energy. And there were personally admirable things, or even sweet quirks, about almost everybody.”

The researchers asked simple questions about Tea Partiers’ life stories, about how they’d become active, and about their hopes.

The biggest source of consternation they revealed was the sense that government spending had gone off the rails — and with it, national priorities. Activists accepted the worth of Social Security, Medicare, and veterans’ services — benefits they all relied on — because they were earned through a lifetime of hard work. Almost any other government program, particularly those directed at low-income, minority, or young people — people who were perceived to be lazy or freeloading — was suspect.

Illegal immigration was the issue that most riled the Tea Partiers, Skocpol and Williamson report, but many seemed equally motivated by the need to protect against a hazier cultural shift, a sense that society was changing in disturbing ways. The election of President Barack Obama, whose calls for transformation were so appealing to liberals, crystallized a feeling of impending doom among these conservatives. “You just can’t sit here in Cambridge and contemplate Barack Obama and imagine people being afraid of him,” says Skocpol. “But if you listen to people, you hear the fear. That’s why going out and looking is so important.”

“I can’t say I was surprised by what they believed and considered important,” says Williamson, who before coming to Harvard worked in Washington as the policy director for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, where she successfully lobbied for the 2008 GI Bill. “But to spend time listening to people you would not normally run into — I felt I learned a lot about a mindset that is quite different from my own, and I don’t think I realized going into it exactly how valuable I was going to find that opportunity.”

Conventional wisdom says that the Tea Party is on the decline in 2012 — and there is some factual basis to that, both researchers says. “Conservative Republicans were a huge part of the electorate in 2010,” says Williamson.



“They will be a smaller proportion of the electorate in 2012, because midterms have older, whiter, more conservative voters than general elections.”

A Tea Party rally in Washington, DC, on September 12, 2009.

“Only two out of five Americans eligible to vote voted in 2010, and three out of five, or closer to it, will vote in 2012,” Skocpol adds. “That fact alone tells you that a movement like this was going to be going with the tide and raising it higher in 2010. It’s going a little more against the tide in 2012, especially as the Tea Party label becomes unpopular.”

“You just can’t sit here in Cambridge and contemplate Barack Obama and imagine people being afraid of him. But if you listen to people, you hear the fear.”

But that doesn’t mean the movement’s influence will not mark the 2012 election. “Tea Partiers are half of GOP voters, and they are the ones who are paying attention,” Skocpol says. “They have had an enormous impact precisely because they’re not unified. Nobody can speak for them, so all the candidates have tried to play to them. Candidates have moved steadily to the right on immigration, on taxes, on social spending — not to mention engaging in rhetoric that continues to be really over the top.

“They’ve captured a major political party, and that major political party may capture the presidency and both houses of Congress,” she continues. “Even though this is a phenomenon of waning popularity, it may have an even bigger impact as it is fading out than it had while it was coming together.”



Noted

Anthropology

DAVID W. PLATH, PHD '62, has released a documentary called *Can't Go Native?*, along with two supplementary DVDs, about another anthropologist's 50-year involvement in a northeastern Japan community. The film has been broadcast on some PBS stations. Plath is emeritus professor of anthropology and Asian studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Astronomy

TIMOTHY C. BEERS, PHD '83, joined the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO) as the director for the Kitt Peak National Observatory (KPNO) in October 2011. He is responsible for the suite of research facilities on Kitt Peak, including the Mayall 4-m telescope, the WIYN 3.6-m telescope, and several

smaller facilities. Beers was previously University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Michigan State University, as well as co-founder and associate director of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Astrophysics (JINA), an NSF-funded Physics Frontier Center that brings together the work of nuclear physicists and astronomers at MSU, the University of Notre Dame, and the University of Chicago.

Business Economics

TERRY BURNHAM, PHD '97, is planning to speak at the "Socionomics Summit" this April in Atlanta, GA, an event that will feature new initiatives in research and applications from the field's most prominent scholars. Burnham published *Mean Markets and Lizard Brains:*

How to Profit from the New Science of Irrationality (John Wiley & Sons, 2005) and is associate professor of finance at Chapman University. He is now working on a project that explores the interaction between language and markets.

Comparative Literature

ALA ALRYYES, GSA '90, PHD '97, has translated from Arabic and edited Omar Ibn Said's *A Muslim American Slave* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2011). This edition presents the English translation on pages facing facsimile pages of Ibn Said's Arabic narrative, augmented by Alryyes's comprehensive introduction, contextual essays, and historical commentary by literary critics and scholars of Islam and the African diaspora, as well as photographs, maps, and other writings by Omar Ibn Said. Alryyes is associate professor of comparative literature and English at Yale.

East Asian History

JOHN E. WILLS, JR., AM '60, REGIONAL STUDIES—EAST ASIA, PHD '67, has published *The World from 1450 to 1700* (Oxford University Press, 2009) and *Embassies and Illusions: Dutch and Portuguese Envoys to K'ang-hsi, 1666-1687*, second edition (Figueroa Press, 2011), and two edited collections, *Past and Present in China's Foreign Policy: From "Tribute System" to "Peaceful Rise"* (Merwin-Asia, 2011) and *China and Maritime Europe, 1500-1800: Trade, Settlement, Diplomacy,*

and Missions (Cambridge University Press, 2011). He is professor of history, emeritus, at the University of Southern California.

East Asian Languages and Civilizations

PAUL SCHALOW, PHD '85, is the author of *A Poetics of Courtly Male Friendship in Heian Japan* (University of Hawaii Press, 2006), which was nominated for the 2007 Warren-Brooks Prize for outstanding literary criticism. Schalow is professor of Japanese literature at Rutgers University.



English

DAVID STAINES, PHD '73, was recently made a member of the Order of Canada for his work as a champion of Canadian literature and as a mentor for young writers. Staines is a professor in the Department of English at the University of Ottawa and a member of the GSAS Alumni Council.

Fine Arts

CHRISTIANE L. JOOST-GAUGIER, AB '55, PHD '73, is the author of *Pythagoras and Renaissance Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), her third (and last) volume about Pythagoras and the history of arts and sciences. A new book on the meaning of Italian Renaissance Art is currently in preparation, and another on the history of wine in



ancient literature is in its early stages. A professor emerita at the University of New Mexico, she brought the precedent-setting first class action concerning sex discrimination in academia in the late 1960s. In 2005 she was awarded an honorary Phi Beta Kappa from Harvard for lifetime achievement.

GÜLRU NECİPOĞLU, PHD '86, has edited *Muqarnas: An Annual on Islamic Art and Architecture* and its *Supplements* (Brill) since 1993. Professor Necipoğlu is the author of *Architecture, Ceremonial Power: The Topkapi Palace* (The MIT Press, 1992); *The Topkapi Scroll, Geometry and Ornament in Islamic Architecture* (Getty Publications, 1996); and *The Age of Sinan: Architectural Culture in the Ottoman Empire* (Princeton University Press, 2005). Necipoğlu is the Aga Khan Professor of Islamic Art and Architecture at Harvard.

Medical Sciences

CAROLYN COMPTON, PHD '77, has been named president and CEO of the Tucson, AZ-based Critical Path Institute. She is an internationally recognized cancer pathologist who previously led units at the National Institutes of Health. Most recently, she served as director of the Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research and the executive director of the Cancer Human Biobank project at the National Cancer Institute, part of the NIH. Trained as a research scientist and physician, Compton has a

long record of leadership in pathology and biobanking, key scientific domains involved in the development of personalized medicine.



NANCY CHIU WILKER, PHD '97, has joined Sunstein Kann Murphy & Timbers LLP, a leading intellectual property law firm in Boston, as a partner and member of its Life Sciences Practice Group. Wilker focuses on patent and trademark prosecution, trade secret protection, product clearance, due diligence, and agreements involving transfer of intellectual property in the life sciences area.

Music

EVAN MACCARTHY, PHD '10, is writing an interdisciplinary book on music education in early modern Italy, focusing on the different spheres of humanistic and scholastic learning at Italian courts, cathedrals, and universities. Currently a Harvard College Fellow, he has also served on the music faculties of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Boston University, and he presently sings as bass section-leader with the *Schola Cantorum* of the College of the Holy Cross. MacCarthy will be giving a talk at the Graduate School Alumni Association's Spring gathering in Seattle, entitled "Composing Harvard's *Oedipus*: John Knowles

Paine and America's First Greek Tragedy."

Political Economy and Government

A paper co-authored by **KATHARINE R. E. SIMS, PHD '08**, an assistant professor of economics at Amherst College, has won a 2011 Cozzarelli Prize from the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS). "Conditions associated with protected area success in conservation and poverty reduction," written with Paul J. Ferraro and Merlin M. Hanauer, was one of six papers selected by the PNAS Editorial Board from 3,500 research articles that appeared in the journal last year. The prize recognizes outstanding contributions to the scientific disciplines represented by the National Academy of Sciences.

Regional Studies—East Asia

SUE FAWN CHUNG, AM '67, professor of history at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, has published two books: *The Chinese in Nevada* (Arcadia, 2011) and *In Pursuit of Gold: Chinese American Miners and Merchants in the American West* (University of Illinois Press, 2011). She is currently finishing a manuscript on China's role in the lumber industry in the West. Chung worked for over 20 years in the movie industry before coming to Las Vegas.

DAVID SCHLESINGER, AM '86, was named chairman of Thomson Reuters China, based in Hong Kong. He was editor-in-chief of Reuters

news from January 2007 to February 2011. Schlesinger joined Reuters in 1987 in Hong Kong as a correspondent and then ran the Reuters editorial operations in Taiwan, China, and the Greater China region between 1989 and 1995 before holding senior editorial positions in New York for nine years and London for seven.

Romance Languages and Literatures

RAYMOND J. CORMIER, PHD '67, has recently published *The Methods of Medieval Translators: A Comparison of the Latin Text of Virgil's Aeneid with its Old French Adaptations* (Mellen Press, 2011), a monograph that draws on Relevance Theory, second language pedagogy, and hermeneutics in its analysis. Cormier was visiting professor of French at Longwood University in Virginia, where his wife, Patricia, was university president. Now retired and living in Carrboro, North Carolina, he is teaching part-time at Duke University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Sociology

NEAL BAER, EDM '79, AM '82, MD '96, recently co-authored the crime thriller novel *Kill Switch* (Kensington Books, 2012) with his longtime writing partner Jonathan Greene. Baer, executive producer of the CBS series *A Gifted Man*, is best known for his many years running *ER* and *Law & Order: SVU*.





Professor Ramesh Narayan chats with Matthew Mammen, the son of Mathai Mammen, PhD '96, chemistry, MD '98. Photo by Ananda Shorey.

BLACK HOLES OVER SAN FRANCISCO

On March 5, 2012, the Graduate School teamed with the Harvard Club of San Francisco to host an otherworldly talk by astrophysicist Ramesh Narayan, the Thomas Dudley Cabot Professor of the Natural Sciences at Harvard. The talk, entitled "Black Holes: Point of No Return," was held at the University Club of San Francisco and drew alumni from GSAS, Harvard College, and other Harvard schools.

CAREER ASSISTANCE

The Office of Career Services employs three counselors who provide career advice and resources for GSAS alumni. Visit www.ocs.fas.harvard.edu to learn more.

And did you know that the GSAS Fellowships Office publishes an online guide to postdoctoral fellowships and provides counseling on writing fellowship proposals? For details, visit www.gsas.harvard.edu/fellowships.



A GATHERING WITH SEATTLE ALUMNI April 26, 2012

The Graduate School will team with the Harvard Club of Seattle to feature an engaging tour of Harvard's musical history by Evan MacCarthy, PhD '10, music, a Harvard College Fellow and a lecturer in music. The talk, entitled "Composing Harvard's *Oedipus*: John Knowles Paine and America's First Greek Tragedy," will help mark the Seattle Club's 375th Celebration and Annual Meeting. Visit www.gsas.harvard.edu/alumni to learn more.

SPRING TRADITIONS

The Graduate School is preparing for its annual spring events, including the Spring 2012 Alumni Council Meeting, set for May 22–23, 2012, and the Centennial Medals Ceremony and Reception, on May 23, 2012. The names and biographies of Centennial Medal recipients are announced on the day of the ceremony; check www.gsas.harvard.edu/alumni for the announcement.



ALUMNI.HARVARD

Register with Post.Harvard, a secure, password-protected portal that offers alumni free e-mail forwarding service and access to the alumni directory and other services of the Harvard Alumni Association.

Online services for GSAS alumni are supported by the Harvard Alumni Association. Visit www.alumni.harvard.edu to access University-wide opportunities, events, and notices.

The Graduate School Alumni Association

Governed by its Alumni Council, the GSAA represents and advances the interests of alumni of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences by sponsoring alumni events and by publishing *Colloquy* three times each year.

Contact

The Graduate School Alumni Association, Holyoke Center 350, 1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138-3846. 617-495-5591 gsaa@fas.harvard.edu www.gsas.harvard.edu/alumni

Colloquy on the Web

Access current and back issues of *Colloquy*, as well as a range of other alumni services and information, at www.gsas.harvard.edu/alumni.

Letters to the Editor

Colloquy does not print letters, but we welcome your feedback and story ideas. Write to: *Colloquy*, Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Holyoke Center 350, 1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138-3846; or e-mail gsaa@fas.harvard.edu.

Moving?

Please e-mail your new address to aro@harvard.edu or send your *Colloquy* mailing label and your new address to Alumni Records, 124 Mt. Auburn Street, 4th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02138-3654.

Colloquy is printed by PrintResource/DS Graphics.





Harvard is...

a place for conversations across disciplines

In the fall of 2011, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences celebrated the 20th anniversary of its graduate student center, Dudley House. Since it opened in October 1991, Dudley House has become a vital epicenter of student collaborations, friendships, and interactions beyond the lab and library.

DELIVERING AN UNPARALLELED STUDENT EXPERIENCE



Support the
Harvard Graduate School Fund

I Choose Harvard...

“...because chance encounters with your fellow students can lead to transformative opportunities,” says Allen Sanginés-Krause, PhD ’87, chair of the Graduate School Alumni Council.

From one such serendipitous collaboration, Sanginés-Krause found himself advising the Bolivian minister of finance on the country’s economy while pursuing his doctorate in economics. Over a three-year period, he worked with then-Harvard professor Jeffrey Sachs, AB ’76, PhD ’80, now director of the Earth Institute at Columbia, to help reduce Bolivia’s hyperinflation.

“It was an amazing thing to do at a young age,” says Sanginés-Krause, who then spent years in finance, working for Goldman Sachs, and now as chairman for Millicom and managing director of BK Partners, a private equity firm. “Being at Harvard taught me so much, not only in academics, but in interacting with people from all over the world. It changed my life in a very meaningful way.”

Sanginés-Krause is the father of three and lives with his wife Lorena in London. He regularly makes time to return to Cambridge, taking an empty suitcase with him for the books he finds in local shops. As an active volunteer, Sanginés-Krause recently made a gift in honor of the twentieth anniversary of Dudley House.

“To get the true experience of being at a university, you need a place where you can connect with students beyond your own department,” says Sanginés-Krause. “Dudley House is a place that bridges the disciplines.”

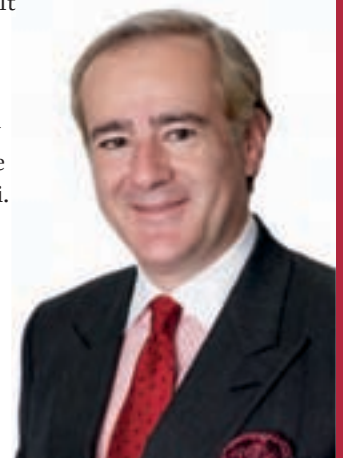
While noting humorously that he misses free lunches at Dudley House, Sanginés-Krause is also quite serious about the importance of the place.

“Dudley House is one of the most emblematic places on campus. Given the intensity of your studies, it is easy to be inward-focused. Dudley offers you the chance to connect with people from all around the University,” he says. “It

helps make Harvard very different from any other top university.”

Choose Harvard today with a gift to the Graduate School Fund. Visit alumni.harvard.edu/colloquy/I-choose-harvard.

ALLEN SANGINÉS-KRAUSE
PHD ’87





The GRADUATE SCHOOL of ARTS AND SCIENCES
 HARVARD UNIVERSITY
 Alumni Association
 Holyoke Center 350, 1350 Massachusetts Avenue
 Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02138-3846 USA

Nonprofit Organization
 US Postage
 PAID
 Boston, MA
 Permit No. 1636



From the Archives:
 The alumni procession at Harvard's 200th anniversary celebration, in 1836. Stephanie Mitchell/Harvard Staff Photographer