Graduating in May?

Don’t forget to pick up your tickets!

Degree candidates must pick up their tickets in person with a photo ID at the following times and locations. Tickets cannot be mailed.

♦ Before Commencement
May 19, 22, 23, and 24, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Dudley House, Lehman Hall, Harvard Yard

♦ On Commencement Day
May 25, 2017, 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., GSAS Information Tent, Maxwell Dworkin, 33 Oxford Street

Check out the full schedule of GSAS Commencement events at www.gsas.harvard.edu/commencement.

Congratulations!

The Benefit of Experience

How Peter Dyrud is using his military experience during his graduate career By Fernanda Ferreira

When Peter Dyrud, a PhD candidate in public policy and president of the Harvard Graduate Council (HGC), organizes HGC events, he uses military mission planning methods. “We lay out the situation, the specific mission, execution, admin and logistics, command and communications,” he lists off. These methods come naturally to Dyrud, a combat rescue officer in the US Air Force who served two tours in Afghanistan. “It’s definitely less stressful using them in a non-military environment,” Dyrud acknowledges with a laugh.

Bringing Harvard Together
The HGC is the representative body for the 12 graduate and professional schools across Harvard. Dyrud, who became involved with the HGC as a G1, believes the core mission of the HGC is to bring students together. “There are so many students across Harvard University with so much to offer one another in terms of skill sets and ideas and yet often, we never interact.” To accomplish this goal, the HGC hosts events, some of which are lecture-based, such as the Lectures That Last series where a professor from each of the 12 schools across Harvard presents a TED-style talk, which drew more than 500 students in February. Other events are more social, such as the Masquerade Ball and the Valentine’s Day Dance, where two years ago Dyrud met his wife Fargol.

The HGC’s role at Harvard, however, goes beyond event planning. “It’s also a way for graduate students to have a stronger collective voice when it comes to issues of shared concern.”

continued on page 3
FIVE HONORED DURING THE 19TH ANNUAL EVERETT MENDELSOHN EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING AWARD WINNERS

Each year, the Graduate Student Council accepts nominations from students to honor faculty advisors who have gone above and beyond in guiding them along their path to the PhD. Named for Professor of the History of Science, Emeritus, Everett I. Mendelsohn, a former master of Dudley House, the Everett Mendelsohn Excellence in Mentoring Award celebrates the essential nature of strong mentoring at the graduate level—and the faculty who go out of their way to mentor GSAS students professional-ly, academically, and personally in ways large and small.

Nominations spanned departments and disciplines, and they highlighted the crucial roles these talented professors play in fostering caring and intellectually exciting departmental communities. Nominators additionally noted the personal and patient attention they received from mentors genuinely interested in helping them succeed.

The awards ceremony was held at Dudley House on April 6 and attended by Graduate Student Council members, GSAS Deans and senior administration, nominating mentees and their mentors, and other members of the GSAS community.

Recipients of the 2017 Everett Mendelsohn Excellence in Mentoring Award:

Lorgia García-Peña, Assistant Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures and of History and Literature, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

Barbara Grosz, Higgins Professor of Natural Sciences, Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Computer Science

Jerry Milrovica, Frank B. Baird, Jr. Professor of Science, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences

Ahmed Ragab, Richard T. Watson Associate Professor of Science and Religion, Harvard Divinity School and the FAS Department of the History of Science

Xiaofei Tian, Professor of Chinese Literature, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations


Redefining

Relationships

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After a two-year renovation, the Cabot Science Library reopened in April. This renovation included a transformation of the first floor of the Science Center, including the library, café, and adjacent courtyard. The library’s new large glass walls make it visible from the Science Center Plaza. As students enter and exit the Science Center, a large projection screen will highlight campus research projects and library resources. The first floor is an open space designed to incenti-vize conversation. Students can grab a coffee from the coffee bar, or lunch from the café and enter the library for collaborative study. Con-ver-sations can flow naturally from the lecture halls and classrooms into the library. The Discovery Bar features a flexible presenta-tion space with a large two-sided display. Presenters can engage directly with about 30 people gathered around a winding central table. Their remarks can also entice people sitting at the coffee bar and their visual mate-rials will be visible to people walking down the main ramp of the Science Center. This layout emphasizes inclusion and invites onlookers to engage. Regular programs will be scheduled at the Discovery Bar, including some that feature graduate student speakers. The setting is perfect for dissertation progress reports, lab updates, and micro-teaching sessions. Next to the Discovery Bar, students can meet by appointment with librarians and other campus experts in the ICE Cube, a glass-walled room designed for research consultations. Also on the first floor are puzzle tables, study bays, flexible furniture, and lockers for charging laptops. A video-conferencing room supports remote collaboration for up to ten people.

At the main service desk downstairs, graduate students can borrow print mate-rials, video cameras, and microphones. An onsite print collection connects with a much larger offsite collection with materials that can be requested for pickup at Cabot Science Library.

The Instruction Room allows graduate students to collaborate with library staff in exploring new teaching methods. Modeled after Lamont B30, Harvard Hall 202, and other ac-tive learning classrooms with furniture that can be rearranged easily and quickly, the Instruc-tion Room includes three projectors, three vid-eo cameras, and an overhead camera. One can present from laptops and phones and connect to several video carts. The room is designed for 24 people, with a movable glass wall to expand into an overflow area.

Two video studios support the creation of simple videos. Both studios have automatic lights, microphones, and cameras and are de-signed to be easy to use. One contains a large screen to support the recording of conference presentations, job talks, and “flipped class-room” modules. The other includes a green screen that supports creative background choices (pretend to be on the moon, or in the Amazon rainforest, etc.). Videos can be edited at several computer stations available nearby, or at the Lamont Media Lab.

Teaching fellows and undergraduate students can collaborate in small groups by reserving one of the seven group study rooms with large monitors and writable walls. In addition, three personal chat booths can be reserved online for videoconferencing or phone calls.

Read more at news.harvard.edu/gazette/harvard-cabot-science-library-charges-into-the-future

Questions or comments about the new Cabot Library? Contact Anu Vedantham, Harvard Library’s project manager for the renovation, at vedantham@harvard.edu.
Dyrud credits his leadership role as a Deputy Wing Honor Chairman while a cadet at the United States Air Force Academy and his experiences in combat rescue missions with preparing him for his role as HGC president. “It gave me a lot of perspective and helps me determine what is important and what isn’t,” Dyrud says. “At Harvard, it’s very clear that the most important resource is the students, and the HGC’s purpose is to create situations that allow people from the different graduate schools to come together.”

Return with Honor

Dyrud chose to pursue a career as a combat rescue officer because he was passionate about the mission and the potential to save lives. This same passion can also be found in his PhD research. “It was really important to me to make a direct impact on people’s lives with my studies,” Dyrud says. After completing his PhD, Dyrud will return to the US Air Force, where his PhD research and international relations studies will be put to use in high-level, strategic planning as he alternates between leading operational Rescue Squadrons and staff assignments.

In one of his research projects, which investigates the deterrent effect of hostage operations on future kidnappings, Dyrud is using a data set compiled by the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point that focuses on the kidnappings of Westerners—defined as residents of the 35 countries in the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development, or OECD—by residents of non-Western countries. This data set covers around 1,500 kidnappings that took place between 2000 and 2015. “There are a variety of outcomes when it comes to kidnappings,” Dyrud explains. “Release, a ransom is paid, sometimes—unfortunately—a hostage is summarily executed, and sometimes governments decide to undertake a hostage rescue operation.” Hostage rescue operations make up a small percentage of the total outcomes in the data set Dyrud is using, around 5 percent.

“My goal is to apply advanced statistical techniques to measure the potential causal impact of a Western country deciding to conduct a hostage rescue operation in response to a kidnapping,” Dyrud says. He has found that an operation’s deterrent effect on the same captor group in the same country is highly statistically significant, compared to the counterfactual of “no rescue” operation, estimated to cause an average decrease of greater than one kidnapping per rescue operation during the following two years.

“This study cannot say definitively in a specific case whether you should use this tactic or not,” Dyrud quickly points out. Each hostage situation is unique and before conducting a mission, governments must take a number of considerations into account, for example whether the hostage’s life is at risk and how much confidence they have in the location of the hostage. “However, I think the results do provide some insight on the higher level policy question of whether we should be focused on hostage rescue operations and continue to develop that capability,” Dyrud continues.

In the United States, hostage rescue operations are part of a system within the Department of Defense called personnel recovery. The motto of the Joint Personnel Recovery Agency is “These things we do that others may live…to return with honor.” Dyrud, who has played a role in hostage recovery and reintegration hopes that the conclusions of his analyses will one day be useful to the US government and ensure that more hostages can return with honor to their country and to their families.

Resident Advisors Announced for 2017-2018 Academic Year

The Office of Residential Life is delighted to announce the GSAS students chosen as resident advisors for the 2017-2018 academic year. In addition to organizing activities in the residence halls, resident advisors also provide first-year students with someone who can speak candidly about all aspects of the graduate school experience.
Archaeological excavations at Philistine settlements have revealed myriad details about the daily life of an Iron Age people, perhaps best known for being the archenemies of the Israelites. Excavators had failed, however, to identify any formal burial grounds at these sites, keeping the Philistines shrouded in myth—until now. Adam Aja will discuss the recent discovery of the first-known Philistine cemetery on the southern coast of Israel and how it is helping scientists to research and better understand Philistine origins and culture.

Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Harvard Semitic Museum. Free parking at 52 Oxford Street Garage.

Curiouser and Curiouser: Why Twenty-First-Century Wonderlands Need Anthropology Museums More Than Ever

Thursday, May 4, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford Street, Cambridge

Ruth Phillips, Canada Research Chair and Professor of Art History, Carleton University, Ottawa; Visiting Professor of Art History, Yale University

Western museums have always been in the business of displaying, provoking, and seeking to satisfy curiosity. The collections of the Peabody and other anthropology museums are, on one level, material deposits of the different forms that “curiosity” has taken through four centuries of European imperial and colonial expansion. Recently, though, postcolonial critiques, Indigenous activism, and emergent settler-colonial discourses have shaken the foundations of museums. Ruth Phillips will discuss the importance of anthropology collections as critical tools for understanding our collective past and present, and for forging and protecting civil society in a world that can seem as bizarre as Lewis Carroll’s Wonderland.

Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology. Free parking at 52 Oxford Street Garage.

Related exhibition: All the World Is Here: Harvard’s Peabody Museum and the Invention of American Anthropology, an exhibition at the Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology, opens April 22

Where the Roads All End: The Marshall Family’s Kalahari Photography

Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford Street, Cambridge

Ilisa Barbash, Curator of Visual Anthropology, Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology

The Marshall family, who filmed and studied the Ju’/hoansi of the Kalahari Desert, created one of the most significant visual anthropology projects of the 20th century. Sponsored by the Peabody Museum, the Marshalls made eight trips to Namibia (then South West Africa) in the 1950s to document some of the world’s last surviving self-sufficient hunter-gatherers, the Ju’/hoansi and G/wi people (earlier known pejoratively as “Bushmen” and later as the !Kung and the San). Using the Marshall family’s collection of stereo views taken with a Stereo Realist camera, Ilisa Barbash will discuss the Marshalls’ archive of over 40,000 photographs.

Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology. Free parking at 52 Oxford Street Garage.

Facing Philistines: The Discovery of an Iron Age Cemetery

Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Northwest Building, B103, 52 Oxford Street, Cambridge

Adam J. Aja, Assistant Curator of Collections, Harvard Semitic Museum; Assistant Director, Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon; Chief Stratigrapher, Tel Shimron Excavations

Archaeological excavations at Philistine settlements have revealed myriad details about the daily life of an Iron Age people, perhaps best known for being the archenemies of the Israelites. Excavators had failed, however, to identify any formal burial grounds at these sites, keeping the Philistines shrouded in myth—until now. Adam Aja will discuss the recent discovery of the first-known Philistine cemetery on the southern coast of Israel and how it is helping scientists to research and better understand Philistine origins and culture.

Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Harvard Semitic Museum. Free parking at 52 Oxford Street Garage.

The Mahindra Humanities Center presents

“I’ve Known Rivers”: Slave Resistance and Environmental Consciousness

Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Tsal Auditorium 5101, CGIS South, 1730 Cambridge Street, Cambridge

Tiya Miles, Mary Henrietta Graham Distinguished University Professor, University of Michigan

Miles is the author of Tales from the Haunted South: Dark Tourism and Memories of Slavery from the Civil War Era and founder of ECO Girls, an environmental and cultural project for girls in urban Southeast Michigan.

The Environment Forum at the Mahindra Center is convened by Robin Kelsey (Dean of Arts and Humanities, Harvard University) and Ian Jared Miller (Professor of History, Harvard University).

The Mahindra Center will also host a lunch with faculty and grad students the following day, on Thursday, May 4, with Professor Miles. For more information and to RSVP, e-mail humcentr@fas.harvard.edu.

Concert with Composer Anthony Tan

May 8, 2017, 8:00 p.m., Knaefel Center, 10 Garden Street, Cambridge

Anthony Tan is a Canadian composer-pianist, electronic musician, and improviser who draws influence from past experiences as a club DJ, studies in music perception, and training as a classical pianist and concert music composer within the Western European musical tradition. This free concert is an excellent opportunity to hear an innovative composer’s unique work.

www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/event/2017-anthony-tan-fellow-presentation

Title IX over Time

May 16, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Panel Discussion, Knaefel Center, 10 Garden Street, Cambridge

To celebrate the 45th anniversary of Title IX, the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study and Boston’s NPR Station, WBUR, will host a conversation about the impact of Title IX, as well as the work that remains when it comes to equality and sports. International Olympic Committee member and Olympic ice hockey medalist Angela Ruggiero ’06, MBA ’14, and Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey ’92 will participate in a discussion moderated by Shira Springer ’97, sports and society reporter at WBUR/NPR, and columnnist at the Boston Globe. Register online.

www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/event/2017-title-ix-over-time-panel-discussion
Celebrate Fred Astaire’s 118th Birthday
Friday, May 5, 2017, 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Dudley House Graduate Student Lounge.
Dudley House Classic Films presents Fred Astaire. All singing!! All dancing!!

12:00 p.m. Welcome and Introduction to Fred Astaire
12:15 p.m. The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle (1939)
2:15 p.m. Royal Wedding (1951)
Birthday Cake, Ginger Floats, and Coffee
4:30 p.m. The Bandwagon (1953)
6:45 p.m. Swing Time (1936)
8:30 p.m. Fred and Ginger
Refreshments and special “extras” between films!! Everyone welcome!

Writing and Study Bootcamp
Saturday and Sunday, May 6 and 7, 2017, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Café Gato Rojo. The Writing and Study Bootcamp provides a weekend’s worth of breakfast, lunch, and coffee in a quiet setting where the combination of enforced seclusion and proximity to other graduate students somehow, magically, ensures lots of work gets done. Open to all Dudley House members. Cost: $25 (cash or check payable to Harvard University). Sign up on the third floor of Dudley House. Longwood students may register by contacting the House at 617-495-2255. Limited to 12 attendees.

Henry Purcell’s Dido and Aeneas
Sunday, May 7, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Dudley House Dining Hall. Please join the Dudley House Choir for their spring concert, a staged performance of the 17th-century English opera Dido and Aeneas! The Dudley House Choir is a mixed-voice ensemble primarily made up of GSAS students. In addition to students from GSAS programs, we also welcome affiliates of other graduate schools, undergraduates, and some members of the Cambridge and Greater Boston communities. Free Admission.

Don’t Miss!
OUR DUDLEY HOUSE PICKS OF THE MONTH. FOR MORE EVENTS, OUTINGS, AND GATHERINGS, GO TO DUDLEY.HARVARD.EDU/CALENDAR.
At this time of year, many fellowship applicants have learned whether or not they have received a fellowship. This is an appropriate time for some reflections on the process. Above all, I would like to say to everyone who participated in competitions this year, you all have reason to be proud of your efforts. The line between winner and non-winner is often very thin, and many of those who did not win in this year’s competitions still received enthusiastic comments from committee members.

The primary message for those who did not receive a fellowship is that there is absolutely no reason to doubt your abilities, no reason for a sense of failure. Yes, it is nicer to win. But the meaning of “winning” or “losing” should not be distorted into a harsh picture of polar opposites. All applicants formed part of a very strong pool, and I personally would like to acknowledge the hard work and the outstanding applications that we saw this year.

**Fulbright Competition 2017–2018: Cultural Exchange IIE Fulbright**

On May 1, the Institute of International Education (IIE) opened the next competition for Fulbright Grants and other grants for graduate study abroad in academic fields and for professional training in the creative and performing arts. Information on the IIE Fulbright is available on the GSAS Fellowship Office website. If you would like advice on writing a proposal or any other part of the application process, please make an appointment with Cynthia Verba.

**Professional Development Series**

With events completed for the academic year, we are already starting to think about next year and topics that we might add to the series. Let us know if you have suggestions by calling the Fellowships Office at 617-495-1814 and asking to speak with Cynthia Verba.

**Harvard Course in Reading and Study Strategies Summer 2017 Schedule**

June 26 through July 7, 2017 (no class on July 4), Monday through Friday, 3:45 p.m.—4:45 p.m. The Harvard Course in Reading and Study Strategies helps students read more purposefully and selectively with greater speed and comprehension. Topics include:

- reading with your eyes and your mind
- reading with a question
- understanding the structure of text
- overviewing and subvocalizing
- summarizing
- anticipating and intuiting
- remembering what you read
- zooming out: navigating longer texts
- zooming in: close reading
- reading with authority

**COST**

GSAS degree candidates: $25
Others: $150
Advance registration is required. Visit bsc.harvard.edu for registration and more information.
Upcoming Events at the Office of Career Services

The Office of Career Services (OCS) provides a wide range of services and resources tailored specifically to the needs of master’s and PhD students. Advisors work confidentially with GSAS students on a wide range of career-related issues, from broad self-assessment and decision-making to specific advice on resume, CV, and cover letter preparation for academic and nonacademic job searches. OCS also offers monthly events designed to help graduate students with their professional development.

Real Life Stories from the Academic Job Search
Tuesday, May 2, 2017, 4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m., Office of Career Services, 54 Dunster Street, Cambridge
Whether you’re on the academic job market now, or you plan to be in coming years, you will benefit from learning first-hand from recent PhDs who have successfully landed academic jobs despite the tight market. Come and hear the job search stories, strategies, and advice from recently-hired PhDs who will be working in a variety of academic positions after graduation. Register through Crimson Careers to attend.

The Future of Data Analytics: The Impact on Careers
Tuesday, May 16, 2017, 3:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m., Office of Career Services, 54 Dunster Street, Cambridge
Do you often hear the term “big data” and wonder what it is? Or perhaps you are familiar with data analytics but want to understand its future impact on business and careers. Come hear from GSAS alum Tom Davenport who literally wrote the book on business analytics, the hottest growing field for PhD students in North America. This is the essence of analytics. In today’s competitive global economy, organizations are looking for PhDs with personality who can demystify big data trends into understandable business terms. Davenport will also describe the latest development in analytics—intelligent machines that make autonomous decisions—and their implications for human jobs and skills. Hear from an expert and learn more about where the field is headed and how to get started in this exciting field. Register through Crimson Careers to attend.

CONTACT
Office of Career Services
54 Dunster Street
Phone: 617-495-2595
ocs.fas.harvard.edu/gsas-advising

Laura Stark, Director of Career Advising and Programming for Master’s and PhD Students
lstark@fas.harvard.edu

Heather Law, Assistant Director, Graduate Student and PhD Advising
hlaw@fas.harvard.edu

2017–2018 Dudley Fellows Announced
Dudley House employs a vibrant group of graduate students from GSAS as Dudley Fellows to plan events, activities, and programming for House members. Fellows usually serve for one to two academic years during their time at Harvard, and come from across the disciplines.

Coordinating Fellow
Eliza Gettel, Classics

Arts
Christina Shivers, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban Planning
Dimitra Vogiatzaki, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban Planning

Athletics
William Callison, Human Evolutionary Biology
Gus Domel, SEAS Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science
Will Steinhardt, Earth and Planetary Sciences

Computers, Web Page
Kyoeun Jang, Regional Studies–East Asia

Gato Rojo Manager
Peter Kim, Government

Intellectual/Cultural
Eleanor Ellis, Middle Eastern Studies
Hubert Remillard, Regional Studies–East Asia
Jonas Ruegg, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Emma Zitzow-Childs, Romance Languages and Literatures

Literary
Paul Tylkin, SEAS Computer Science
Madeleine Wolf, Romance Languages and Literatures

Music
Daniel Ang (World Music Ensemble), Physics
William Bennett (Jazz Band), Music
Alana Mailes (Chorus), Music
Max Murray (Orchestra), Music

Outings
Lindsey Brown, SEAS Applied Mathematics

Public Service
Kezi Cheng, SEAS Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science
Yookyung Im, Anthropology

Social
Amanda Filie, SEAS
Weili Shen, SEAS Applied Physics
Kyoeun Jang, Regional Studies–East Asia
Lelian Zhang, Sociology
Get Out
EXPLORATIONS AND ADVENTURES ON AND OFF CAMPUS

Don’t miss Lilac Sunday on May 14, 2017, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Arnold Arboretum. Mainly located on the edge of Bussey Hill Road in the heart of the landscape, the lilac collection at the Arnold Arboretum is among the premier collections of these plants in North America. Tours of the lilacs and other special collections, family activities, and food vendors make for a memorable day.


Meet the 2017 Commencement Marshals

Each year, the Graduate Student Council chooses eight graduating students as Commencement marshals. On the morning of Commencement, these students help the GSAS deans organize the procession from the GSAS Breakfast with the Deans into Harvard Yard. Walking at the head of the procession, they proudly carry the banners of GSAS, SEAS, and Dudley House as they lead the graduating class into Tercentenary Theatre. It is a wonderful tradition and considered an honor to be chosen as Commencement marshal.

Nominations are made by members of the GSAS community, including students, the nominee’s department administrator, or Harvard faculty.

THE 2017 COMMENCEMENT MARSHALS
Ofra Amir, PhD, Computer Science
Maria Devlin, PhD, English
Amy Gilson, PhD, Chemical Physics
Dawn Graninger, PhD, Astronomy
Nancy Khalil, PhD, Social Anthropology
Taylor Killian, ME, Computational Science and Engineering
Abhishek Malali, ME, Computational Science and Engineering
Julia Rogers, PhD, Biophysics