GSAS Creates Graduate Student Writing Center

Suzanne Smith to Lead the New Center for Writing and Communicating Ideas

GSAS is pleased to announce the establishment of the Center for Writing and Communicating Ideas and the hiring of Suzanne Smith as its inaugural director. The Center, located on the second floor of Dudley House, will offer programs to support graduate student writers at all stages of their careers in producing more effective writing.

“Helping graduate students enhance their communication skills is one of my priorities as dean,” said Xiao-Li Meng, dean of GSAS and Whipple V. N. Jones Professor of Statistics. “Once open, the Center for Writing and Communicating Ideas will provide all students with a place to go for assistance, whether they are working on a manuscript, their dissertation, or looking for guidance on how to explain their work to individuals outside their field of study.”

Dean Meng is working with Harvard’s Alumni Affairs and Development office to identify donors interested in endowing the center, which will provide resources that will allow continued innovation and additional programming.

The Center will offer practical, goal-oriented programming and consultations designed to help students improve their writing and editing skills and foster an awareness of the relationship between writing, reading, thinking, and knowing. Students will also gain access to resources that enable them to clearly communicate the complexity of their research and ideas, ensuring they master the skills necessary to describe their work to funders, hiring committees, interviewers, and the general public, as well as students in a classroom.

The Center’s programming will be designed to complement similar activities taking place within the departments and at the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning.

Inaugural Director

Smith joined GSAS as a writing tutor in 2006 and in that role, she has helped countless students in... continued on page 4

From the Bench to the Berkshires

Whitney Silkworth Tackles Cancer at the Bench and in the World

WHITNEY SILKOWTH TACKLES CANCER AT THE BENCH AND IN THE WORLD

STORY BY LUSIA ZAITSEVA

When Whitney Silkworth decided to take a week off last summer from her lab work with Professor David Fisher, a cancer researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital, it wasn’t for vacation. Silkworth, a PhD candidate in biological and biomedical sciences who is studying the causes of melanoma, had made a commitment to Camp Casco, a summer camp for children with cancer that she established with fellow graduate student Erin Fletcher, AM ’15.

Though Silkworth had devoted her spare time to nonprofit organizations before coming to Harvard, she never expected that in her second year of graduate school she would help found one. Receiving an e-mail from Fletcher, then a fellow graduate student in her department, eventually led to a deeper involvement with a project that became Camp Casco.

A New Venture

Fletcher had worked at a camp for children with cancer in her native California, and when she couldn’t find a similar organization in Massachusetts, she decided to start one. After sending an e-mail to members of... continued on page 3
Building Connections and Community for International Students

HOST STUDENT PROGRAM 2016
Dudley House announces the start of the 28th annual Host Student Program to welcome incoming international students. Host students are continuing GSAS students who provide friendship and informal advice to incoming international GSAS students as they make the transition to life in the United States and to graduate studies at Harvard. For the many current GSAS students who may have benefited from this program, becoming a host is a chance to give something back.

This month, currently enrolled GSAS students will receive a program invitation via e-mail. Registration is conducted online, and students are matched as closely as possible according to their preferences. Host students can contact their “match” over the summer, and everyone meets at the Host Student Dinner on Monday, August 22, 2016. This is a celebratory start to the academic year and a wonderful opportunity to learn about the resources of Dudley House and GSAS as a whole.

If you would like to be a part of this wonderful program, please visit www.gsas.harvard.edu/host-student-app to apply. For more information, e-mail Susan Zawalich, Dudley House administrator, at zawalich@fas.harvard.edu.

Traveling Abroad?
BEFORE YOU GO, VISIT:
www.traveltools.harvard.edu
for Health, Safety, and Emergency Resources

Notes from the Dudley Underground

THE BUREAU OF STUDY COUNSEL SUPPORTING GSAS STUDENTS

By Jackie Yun, Room B-3 in Dudley House—Come Visit!

The Bureau of Study Counsel (BSC) has been a trusted resource for students at Harvard since 1947. We wanted to check in with the BSC to see what’s new and how the BSC serves graduate students.

“They sometimes seem like magicians.” That is how Adam Stack, a G8 in anthropology, refers to the staff at the BSC. “They have a different outlook on your life.” Another discussion group offered at the BSC is a “Dissertation Writers’ Support Group” a perfect match for students who want peer support as they work on their thesis. Some students do not want to commit to a weekly group, so they prefer participating in one-time workshops that are targeted toward specific areas of development: Time Management, Peak Performance, Procrastination, Reading Strategies, Commitment and Creativity, Getting Started Writing Papers, and the Dissertation Writing Workshop. A special resource for international students is the “ESL Peer Consultation Program” which allows students the opportunity to improve their English language skills.

Each year, between 75 and 100 graduate students participate in the “Harvard Course in Reading and Study Strategies” a non-credit mini-course offered five times a year and designed to help students read more purposefully and selectively, with greater speed and comprehension. Many graduate students struggle with the amount of reading required and the course provides creative approaches, strategies, and helpful tactics.

In addition to participating in BSC programs, a visit to the Bureau is a wonderful experience on its own. The cozy rooms, comfortable furniture, and bright-colored motivational posters create a warm and welcoming atmosphere. I mention they always have something fun in their waiting room, like a jigsaw puzzle, knitting, or Legos™; however, for students not able to visit the office in person there are also a number of resources located on their website at bsc.harvard.edu. Under “resources,” students can find useful handouts, publications, and web links. Another online resource is the Success-Failure Project, which offers resources to help students consider and reconsider their experiences of success, failure, and resilience. Part of the project includes Reflections on Rejections, featuring GSAS Dean Xiao-Li Meng discussing an academic paper that took him 10 years to publish.

“Whatever your experience in graduate school, having someone give you time and a safe place to discover and explore how to be the best version of yourself as both a student and a person is universally beneficial,” said Stack.
the Biological and Biomedical Sciences program asking for donations to help get it off the ground, Silkworth responded. “I can’t donate much money,” she said, “but I can donate all of my spare time.”

In the months that followed, she made good on her promise. As Fletcher explains, Silkworth was instrumental in seeking out pro-bono legal resources to help Camp Casco attain non-profit status and working to raise the necessary funding. In summer 2015, Camp Casco offered its first, highly-successful week in the Berkshires for pediatric cancer patients and survivors. Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center recently honored it as a “top-one hundred,” a distinction awarded to organizations making an impact on cancer research and patients.

According to Silkworth, the challenges of serving as director of corporate relations for Camp Casco have provided her with a new and unexpected skillset. “In science, I lead with the data and culminate in a conclusion, but in fundraising I have 30 seconds to grab the donor’s attention,” Silkworth explains. “Instead, I lead with impact and emotion.” The experience has definitely benefited her graduate studies. “The skills I’ve developed really complement my research work.”

Her philanthropic efforts are also providing much-needed balance inside the lab. “Research can be hard, and its benefits aren’t always immediately apparent,” she shares. Although Silkworth knows her work in the lab will ultimately pay dividends, she’s realistic about the slow timeframe involved in bringing the innovations of research to patients. “I wanted to have an impact, not only in 15 years, but today as well,” she says. “I can’t cure our campers and I can’t treat them at the moment, but at least I can give them a week of fun.”

Research Inspiration
Silkworth has long wanted to use her scientific skills to impact people in a positive way. As a biomedical engineering major at the University of Rochester, she enjoyed her studies but loved the biology component most of all. After graduating, Silkworth wanted to broaden her experience with biological research. That impulse led her to the laboratory of Professor Todd R. Golub at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, where she worked on helping develop treatments for cancers with mutations in the R-Ras oncogene, a type of cancer described as “undruggable.”

Silkworth thrived at the Broad Institute. “The stars aligned for me in Professor Golub’s lab,” she says. “It was so high-energy, high-focus, and everyone was so driven—it was an extremely inspiring environment.” It also motivated her to apply for graduate school. “I wanted to be on par with these incredible people and the conversations they were having,” she says, citing her mentor, postdoc Kristina Masson, as a particular influence. Although drug discovery had ignited Silkworth’s conviction to pursue graduate studies, after arriving at Harvard, she was determined to challenge herself yet again—this time, by pursuing basic research. Gaining basic biology experience, she believes, is an important first step in seeking a career in drug discovery. “I wanted to complement the research I had already done and solidify my foundation in basic research.”

Today, Silkworth is trying to understand the role of beta-endorphin, a hormone responsible for pain suppression and positive feelings associated with the skin’s response to UV exposure. “Our lab recently discovered that beta-endorphin likely mediates addiction to tanning, which may underlie sun-seeking behavior, despite the known association of sun exposure with skin cancer,” she explains.

From Research to Application
While committed to basic biological research, Silkworth continues to investigate medical applications. Since her first year at Harvard, she has participated in the Leder Human Biology and Translational Medicine Program (LHB), which provides graduate students exposure to a wider range of biology and disease-oriented courses while facilitating future collaboration with medical professionals—bridging the gap between the lab bench and the clinic.

Silkworth has benefited tremendously from her involvement in LHB. “It really helps to understand the thought process by which clinicians approach a patient,” she says, acknowledging that greater communication between doctors and researchers could help improve the kinds of treatments available to patients. Her work at Camp Casco is emblematic of this approach. When one camper admitted that the color of the chemotherapy fluid scared her, Silkworth realized how easily this fear could be addressed. “It’s such a little thing,” she says, “but if we could change the color of the liquid in the intravenous drip to something less scary, it could reduce anxiety during an already difficult experience for these kids.”

Before her volunteer work, Silkworth assumed she would pursue a career in the sciences, but Camp Casco has broadened her perspective. “Becoming involved with Camp Casco has opened my eyes to a career that is not necessarily bench-based,” she says. At the same time, she remains energized by the feeling lab breakthroughs instill in her. “If I left biology research, I know I would miss it,” she shares. “What drew me to grad school was the intricacy of the human body. I want to understand how and why things go wrong, so that we can find novel ways to fix those problems.”

Cambridge Talks X: Bound and Unbound: The Sites of Utopia DOCTORAL PROGRAM CONFERENCE April 14, 2016, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and April 15, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Piper Auditorium, Gund Hall, 48 Quincy Street, Harvard Graduate School of Design

This interdisciplinary graduate student conference, organized by students in the PhD program in architecture, landscape architecture, and urban planning at the GSD, will consider the social and technical configurations of modern utopian spaces. Free and open to the public.

Want to live in a GSAS residence hall for the 2016–2017 academic year?

Visit gsas.harvard.edu/current_students/housing_application.php for more information and to apply. Online applications must be completed by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20, 2016, to be included in the priority housing lottery. Call or e-mail with questions!

Summer Housing in Conant Hall
We are still accepting applications for summer 2016 housing in Conant Hall. To apply, visit gsas.harvard.edu/current_students/summer_housing.php.

GSAS Office of Residential Life
Dudley House B2
Phone: 617-495-5060
Fax: 617-496-3169
E-mail: gsashouse@fas.harvard.edu

continued from page 1
Events at the Harvard Museums of Science and Culture

Native American Running: Culture, Health, and Sport
Friday, April 15, 2016 to Monday, April 18, 2016
Conceding with both the 2016 Boston Marathon and the 108th anniversary of Elion Myers “Tarzan” Brown, Sr. (N’jarragansett), winning the Marathon in 1936, this multi-day event will explore the history and importance of Native American running traditions, present efforts to support and encourage running in Native American communities today, and promote the many benefits of running. This even will include talks, a panel discussion at the Boston Marathon Expo, and youth community activities.

Please check the events listing at peabody.harvard.edu for more details. Presented in collaboration with the Boston Athletic Association, Harvard University Native American Program, Office of the Provost, and the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study, Harvard University.

Mystery Cults and Plagues in Egypt:
Twenty Years of Excavations at the Funerary Complex of Harwa
Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
Yenching Auditorium, 2 Divinity Avenue
Francesco Tiradritti, assistant professor at the University “Kore” of Enna, Viale dell’Universita, Italy, and director of the Italian Archaeological Mission to Luxor, Egypt, will discuss recent discoveries in the extensive tomb complex of the grand steward Harwa (one of the largest ever built by a non-royal Egyptian). The tomb, dating to the 7th century BCE and located in ancient Thebes (Modern Luxor) in the south of present-day Egypt, includes the remains of ancient plague victims (3rd-century CE) that St. Cyprian believed signaled the end of the world, along with two fragmentary Roman funerary portraits that shed new light on 2nd century CE Thebes.

Presented with support from the Marcella Tilles Memorial Fund. Free event parking is available at the 52 Oxford Street Garage.

(Re)Conceptualizing the Ruins of Monte Albán
Thursday, April 21, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford Street, Cambridge
Lindsay Jones, professor of comparative studies at the Ohio State University, recontextualizes Monte Albán, an ancient city in the southern Mexican region of Oaxaca, and a UNESCO World Heritage site, as an enduring work of architecture, one that provides a window into Mexico’s past while being a resource for ongoing economic development, literary and artistic expression, spiritual renewal, and the promotion (and contestation) of national, ethnic, and indigenous identities in Mexico.

Free event parking is available at the 52 Oxford Street Garage.

Graduate Student Council Elections and Open Meeting

The Graduate Student Council (GSC) elections will be held at the Open Meeting on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in the Graduate Student Lounge at Dudley House. The available positions are president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and at-large reps for Longwood, humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, interdisciplinary studies, international students, and master’s students. Any graduate student is eligible to run by attending the meeting.

Visit gsac.fas.harvard.edu/elections for position details and more information.

The GSC represents the interests of the GSAS student body in academic, residential, and administrative matters that directly affect graduate students. Current issues include working conditions for teaching fellows, innovative learning opportunities in January, support of social causes, technology, child care, and transportation.

For more information about writing fellowships available at GSAS, visit gsc.fas.harvard.edu/writing or check out the Fellowships Office at gfas.harvard.edu/fellowships.

continued from page 1

all disciplines sharpen the way they express their ideas in writing. “I have always loved the chance to be involved in students’ intellectual lives, and to think about how their ideas may best be communicated to others,” Smith said. “The experience of working with graduate students in so many different fields has helped me to think about what holds various disciplines together, in terms of common aims, and what sets them apart, in terms of different ways of asking and pursuing questions, and arriving at findings.” Smith is eager to apply the lessons she had learned from students over the past decade while designing programming that addresses the Center’s mission to help students communicate their ideas more broadly.

Smith will be joined in the new Center by three Fellows specializing in the sciences, social sciences, and arts and humanities, who will provide students with individualized coaching. These fellows will mentor graduate students in how to craft persuasive arguments, develop a prose style, use sources more effectively, master the art of revision, and learn to speak clearly about their work to any audience. Working together, Smith and her staff will provide small seminars, workshops, and discussion groups on a variety of topics related to graduate-level writing and communicating ideas.

As Smith develops her plans for the Center, she is keeping in mind the leading role of GSAS research in the world and students who conduct it. “The more that the ideas and findings generated through research at GSAS can be distilled, refined, and made to shine, the greater their impact on the advancement of scholarship and of knowledge may be,” she shared. “The role of the Center, then, is to work with students to facilitate the processes of distillation, refinement, and illumination.”

“We are thrilled that Suzanne Smith has accepted the position of director,” said Sheila Thomas, associate dean of academic programs and diversity. “As longtime writing tutor at GSAS, Suzanne has already provided invaluable assistance to our graduate students and to members of the faculty. She has a deep understanding of the diverse challenges our students face in communicating their scholarship, which makes her the perfect person to lead our efforts to enhance GSAS’s existing resources while complementing the activities of Harvard’s departments and faculty.”

The Center is expected to be operational by fall 2016.

For more information about writing resources available at GSAS, visit gsc.fas.harvard.edu/writing or check out the Fellowships Office at gfas.harvard.edu/fellowships.
Don’t Miss!
OUR DUDLEY HOUSE PICKS OF THE MONTH. FOR MORE EVENTS, OUTINGS, AND GATHERINGS, GO TO WWW.GSAS.HARVARD.EDU/DUDLEYTHISMONTH.

April Senior Common Room Dinner with Dr. Scott J. Kenyon
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016, WITH 5:30 P.M. RECEPTION in the Graduate Student Lounge and 6:00 P.M. DINNER in the Dudley House Common Room. Join us for a talk by Scott Kenyon, senior astrophysicist at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory. He will show images from the recent New Horizons flyby of the Pluto-Charon binary planet and discuss how these results help us understand how planets form.
◆ Tickets available at the 3rd floor office at Dudley House. Longwood students may reserve by calling 617-495-2255.

Coffee for the Fanatical
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016, 5:30 P.M. Café Gato Rojo. We’ll host Chris Gilbert, our very own small batch coffee roaster and expert, for a special coffee roasting and cupping event. We’ll learn about coffee roasting techniques, drink some of his small-batch brews, and learn how to taste and judge coffee. Space is limited to 15. ◆ Sign up online at goo.gl/forms/RcQjQYfUV or e-mail cafegatorojo@gmail.com.

Faculty/Student Dinner
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016, WITH 5:30 P.M. RECEPTION in the Graduate Student Lounge followed by 6:00 P.M. DINNER in the Dudley House Common Room. Invite a faculty member to join you for a three-course catered dinner at Dudley House. Free tickets available in the office at Dudley House, while they last.
◆ Longwood students may call 617-495-2255 to reserve tickets or e-mail social@dudley.harvard.edu.

The Boston Celtics vs. the Charlotte Hornets
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2016, 7:30 P.M. TD Garden, Boston. Come see the Celtics defend their famous parquet court against the visitors from North Carolina, including legendary Harvard alumnus Jeremy Lin. Tickets $22, on sale beginning April 1 in the 3rd floor office of Dudley House. Cash or check only.
◆ Questions? Check dudley.harvard.edu/outings or e-mail outings@dudley.harvard.edu.

Boston Freedom Trail Guided Tour
SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016, DEPARTING DUDLEY AT 3:15 P.M. FOR A 4:00 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M. TOUR. Your costumed tour guide will dramatically tell stories from American history.
◆ Reserve your spot on the 3rd floor of Dudley for $5. Tickets, $10, available for guests.

Shakespeare Movie Night

Dudley Orchestra Spring Concert
SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2016, AT 5:00 P.M. Sanders Theatre. Music Director Channing Yu conducts a program that includes Mozart, Symphony No. 35 “Haffner” in D Major, K. 385; Elgar’s Cello Concerto in E Minor, Op. 85; and Mahler’s Symphony No. 5.

Dudley House Your Graduate Student Center since 1991
Lehman Hall, Harvard Yard ◆ www.dudley.harvard.edu ◆ 617-495-2255
FACULTY DEANS James M. Hogle and Doreen M. Hogle ◆ HOUSE ADMINISTRATOR Susan Zawalich
**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Develop the Skills to Succeed*

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**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 résumé, 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.

**The Business Mindset**

Monday, April 4, 2016, 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Office of Career Services, 54 Dunster Street

Join Alan Karranow, PhD ’79, and Steve Szaraz PhD ’93, in a workshop designed to help students transition from the thought processes and decision-making styles of academic to those favored in the business world. Karranow is a consultant and advisor on tertiary education to universities, schools, and education ministries around the world. Szaraz, former senior tutor of Eliot House, is now the director of marketing research for Oliver Wyman. Students should plan to attend the entire session and be prepared to engage in interactive discussions.

Please register through Crimson Careers at harvard-csm.symplicity.com/students.

**CVs and Cover Letters**

Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Office of Career Services, 54 Dunster Street

If you’re planning to go on the academic job market this fall, begin preparing your documents now! Your CV and cover letter are the first documents that academic search committees see. Learn how to create a dynamic, graphically pleasing CV and craft a compelling, tailored cover letter that will help propel you to the next step in this challenging market.

Please register through Crimson Careers at harvard-csm.symplicity.com/students.

**Going on the Academic Job Market**

Thursday, April 21, 2016, 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Office of Career Services, 54 Dunster Street

If you’re going on the academic job market this fall, you know that there’s a lot more to it than writing a CV and cover letter. In this workshop, we will discuss the variety of documents you’ll need and discuss strategies for an effective academic job search.

Please register through Crimson Careers at harvard-csm.symplicity.com/students.

**Effective Behavioral Interviewing**

Wednesday, April 20, 2016, 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Office of Career Services, 54 Dunster Street

Are your interviewing skills rusty? Are you unsure about the best way to prepare for behavioral interviews? Maybe you are unsure what behavioral interviews are. In this workshop, we will discuss the different types of interviews, what hiring managers look for, and tips on how to answer tough questions. This event is co-organized with the HGC and OCS.

Please register through Crimson Careers at harvard-csm.symplicity.com/students.

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**Scholarly Pursuits: A Guide to Professional Development during the Graduate Years is available online at gsas.harvard.edu/current_students/scholarly_pursuits.php. Be sure to read the advice on writing fellowship proposals and view winning samples.**

**CONTACT**

Cynthia Verba, Director of the Fellowships Office

Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Campus Center

150 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 330

Phone: 617-495-1814

E-mail: cverba@fas.harvard.edu

gsas.harvard.edu/current_students/
fellowships_office.php

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The Fellowships Office

The Fellowships Office offers a range of services designed to assist graduate students in their search for fellowship funding and provide advice on professional development. Individual counseling is the centerpiece of fellowship and professional development services.

**Applying for Fellowships—Events to Help You Plan Now for Fall Application Deadlines!**

**FELLOWSHIP ORIENTATION AND ADVICE ON PROPOSAL WRITING**

Two upcoming sessions organized by the GSAS Fellowships Office will help you get ready for fall fellowship deadlines.

**Applying for Postdoctoral Fellowships**

Thursday, April 21, 4:00 p.m., Dudley House Common Room

Learn how to research postdoctoral opportunities and how to write a winning proposal at the postdoctoral level.

**Applying for Fellowships: Getting Ready for the Fall**

Wednesday, April 27, 4:00 p.m., Dudley House Common Room

This workshop will discuss applying for the Fulbright and other traveling fellowships, including how to learn about fellowship opportunities and how to write a winning fellowship proposal. GSAS has an excellent acceptance rate for Fulbright fellowships, with more than 50 percent of applicants winning grants to study abroad. Don’t miss this chance to learn more.
The Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning

Bok Center Teaching Certificate Deadline
The Bok Center Teaching Certificate is structured to give students a tangible marker of their own participation, reflection, and commitment to teaching and learning. The certificate is awarded to students who have completed a meaningful combination of work in collaboration between the Bok Center and their own departments.

The deadline for Bok Center Teaching Certificate materials is April 29, 2016.

The Bok Center provides a general framework of benchmarks to complete and a worksheet to track progress. Learn more at bokcenter@fas.harvard.edu.

CONTACT
Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning
Science Center 316A, One Oxford Street
Derek Noonan, program coordinator at the Bok Center, at colleennoonan@fas.harvard.edu.

GSAS Increases PhD Stipends by 3 Percent for Academic Year 2016–2017

2016 MARKS THE SIXTH YEAR THAT STIPENDS HAVE INCREASED BY AT LEAST 3 PERCENT

For the sixth year in a row, stipends for GSAS PhD students will increase by 3 percent. This increase will affect students in their first four years of study and those on dissertation completion fellowships.

“At GSAS, we are committed to continuing to work with our students to improve assistance and services,” said Mohan Boodram, dean for admissions and financial aid.

“Not only does our doctoral funding program support them as they pursue a rigorous academic program, it also allows Harvard to remain competitive with peer institutions, attracting students of the highest caliber.”

PhD students at GSAS benefit from a financial aid package guaranteed for five years that can add up to more than $250,000 per student and includes full tuition support, stipends, completely subsidized health insurance, mass transit subsidies, support for new parents, and other benefits. Since full tuition scholarships were introduced in 2001 and stipend support added in 2002, the standard GSAS total aid package has increased by 244 percent, averaging nearly 6 percent annual increases during the 13 years of its existence.
Get Out
EXPLORATIONS AND ADVENTURES ON AND OFF CAMPUS

Wicked Queer
Founded in 1984, the Boston LGBT Film Festival is one of the oldest LGBTQ film festivals in North America, showcasing international, US, and local film, video, and other media, fostering a greater sense of awareness and diversity among the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities and allied audiences. The 32nd annual festival takes place March 31 through April 10, 2016 at venues throughout the Boston Metro area. Visit www.wickedqueer.org for screenings, venues, and more information.

Mahindra Humanities Center
This spring, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Seminar on Violence and Non-Violence at the Mahindra Humanities Center is hosting a series of faculty-led seminars on foundational texts relating to the seminar’s theme of Everyday Violence. Graduate students are warmly invited to join the seminar. RSVP to Andrea Volpe at alvolpe@fas.harvard.edu to attend and obtain readings in advance of the seminar. Seating is limited.

CONCERT I
April 4, 2016
7:30 p.m.: Vijay Iyer and Wadada Leo Smith, the 2016 Eileen Southern Distinguished Visitor in the Department of Music, with Nicole Mitchell, Tomika Reed, and Mike Reed
9:00 p.m.: Okkyung Lee and the Steve Lehman Octet

CONCERT II
April 8, 2016
7:30 p.m.: Craig Taborn, Wadada Leo Smith + Ikue Mori
9:00 p.m.: Courtney Bryan and the Tyshawn Sorey Double Trio

Sponsored by the Music Department and the Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard. Free and open to the public. No tickets necessary. First come, first seated. See music.fas.harvard.edu for more information.

Fromm Players at Harvard:
Creative Music Convergences

John Knowles Paine Concert Hall, Fanny Peabody Mason Music Building, 2 Oxford Street
Some of the most innovative musicians performing today come together in a series of four concerts at Harvard.

CONCERT I
April 7, 2016
7:30 p.m.: Vijay Iyer and Wadada Leo Smith, the 2016 Eileen Southern Distinguished Visitor in the Department of Music, with Nicole Mitchell, Tomika Reed, and Mike Reed
9:00 p.m.: Okkyung Lee and the Steve Lehman Octet