

The GSAS Bulletin

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
FEBRUARY 2015 VOLUME XLIV, No. 5

“And in the bitterest day that ever blew, The walk will find some places still and warm.”—John Clare



NEAL HAMBURG

Lead the Way

NOMINATE A GSAS/SEAS STUDENT TO BE A 2015 COMMENCEMENT MARSHAL

Eight outstanding graduate students from GSAS/SEAS will lead their class into Harvard Yard for Commencement. Do you know a student who deserves to be one of the eight? Make a nomination at gsc.fas.harvard.edu! Nominations are open all year long.

Degree recipients from November, March, and May are all eligible for selection. Nominations may be submitted by faculty, department administrators, and students. You can even nominate yourself!

Nomination deadline: March 18, 2015.

Marshals will be announced in mid-April.

Honor Your Mentor

EVERETT MENDELSON EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING AWARDS

Good mentoring is key to happiness and success in graduate school. Let's recognize and celebrate it when it happens!

Do you know a faculty member who deserves to be feted for their outstanding mentoring—for going above and beyond the call of duty in order to guide or advise you personally, professionally, or academically? Make your nomination for the Graduate Student Council's Everett Mendelsohn Excellence in Mentoring Awards!

Nominate online: gsc.fas.harvard.edu

Winners will be announced in April and honored at a cocktail reception at Dudley House, along with their student nominators and all of the nominated mentors. The reception is a great occasion for GSAS to celebrate the role of mentoring in our community, to promote its importance, and to hear—directly from graduate students—about the many large and small ways that a good mentor can make a difference to one's academic career.

Nominations will be accepted through March 11, 2015.



MOLLY AKIN

Blythe George plans to leverage her Yurok background and Harvard education to advocate for better public policy relating to Native American reservations.

It Comes with the Territory

HOW ONE GSAS STUDENT PLANS TO INFLUENCE PUBLIC POLICY RELATED TO NATIVE AMERICAN RESERVATIONS BY LUSIA ZAITSEVA

AS ANYONE WHO'S SEEN A JOHN FORD FILM WILL TELL YOU, IN THE POPULAR IMAGINATION, NATIVE American reservations are mysterious, crime-ridden places, hostile to outsiders and home to rampant alcohol and drug use.

According to Blythe George, a second-year PhD student in social policy at GSAS and Harvard Kennedy School, that perception is not entirely inaccurate.

For George, it reflects a long history of inequity and social injustice that makes breaking the cycle of poverty, substance abuse, and violence next to impossible for the more than one million people living on reservations in America today—and for the millions more who maintain active ties to these lands.

George, a National Science Foundation grant recipient, intends to develop and implement policies that will help those in such communities escape their circumstances. “I want to use my PhD to learn more about these places with the hope of crafting better policy to meet the needs of the people living there.”

One of the challenges of conducting research on a reservation is gaining access. While George is a member of the Yurok tribe, she didn't grow up on a reservation; when she traveled to tribal lands in Humboldt County, California, people were wary of her intentions. “With my blue eyes and red hair, it's always amazing how much I

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SCHOLARLY LIFE

Influencing Policy with Science

Visit DC policy makers. **p.4**



DON'T MISS

February at Dudley



View a sampling of winter activities for grad students. **p.5**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

How to Publish Your Work

Advice on navigating the publications landscape. **p.7**



GET OUT



Share Some Laughs!

College Improv **p.8**

» RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE EVENTS



As Harvard's institute for advanced study, the Radcliffe Institute convenes leading thinkers from across Harvard and around the world for public events in the arts, humanities, sciences, and social sciences.

The Art of Way-Finding

**February 12, 2015, 6:00 p.m.,
Science Center, 1 Oxford Street**

A lecture by John Huth—codirector of the Radcliffe Institute's science program and Donner Professor of Science—explores the cultures of navigation and how they work in varied environments.



Labyrinth of Things

**March 5, 2015, 4:15 p.m., Knafel Center,
10 Garden Street**

Lecture by Diana Taylor, University Professor of Performance Studies and Spanish, and Founding Director of the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics at New York University. Diana Taylor, a scholar of Latin American and US theater and performance, will speak about the power of a specific play, *Bom Retiro 958 Metros*, to convey broad societal meanings about the accumulation and transformation of things.

Save the Date for the HGWISE 10th Anniversary Symposium



Harvard Graduate Women in Science and Engineering (HGWISE) is celebrating 10 years of advancing the academic and professional development of women in the sciences here at Harvard. To celebrate, we're hosting an all-day symposium on April 25th, 2015.

The symposium will include a poster session to showcase the research of Harvard women, discussion panels featuring women who blazed trails in science throughout the decades, a networking reception, and a keynote address by Susan Lindquist.



Mark your calendars now and contact hgwise@gmail.com if you are interested in presenting a poster, submitting questions for our speakers, or subscribing to our weekly newsletter with updates about the symposium.

Keynote Speaker

Susan Lindquist, professor of biology at MIT, is a pioneer in the study of protein folding. She has shown that changes in protein folding can have profound and unexpected influences in fields as wide-ranging as human disease, evolution and nanotechnology. Professor Lindquist is a member and former director of Whitehead Institute and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. She received a PhD in biology from Harvard University in 1976 and was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1997, the National Academy of Sciences in 1997 and the Institute of Medicine in 2006.

Providing Access to Information

NOTES FROM THE DUDLEY UNDERGROUND • BY JACKIE YUN, ROOM B-2 IN DUDLEY HOUSE —COME VISIT!



Seth Avakian understands what it is like to be a graduate student. In my office, we chat about how this is the first winter break in a while when the former Northeastern University PhD student won't need to be researching and writing. "I can read for fun," jokes Seth.

In November, Seth joined the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (OSAPR) as an education specialist, though he is no stranger to Harvard. While completing his dissertation, he worked part-time for OSAPR as a prevention specialist. In his new role, Seth is tasked with developing sexual assault and dating violence education programs for graduate and professional students at Harvard. He understands that serving such a diverse population presents many challenges.

"There are unique factors in working with graduate students, for example the different disciplines and cultures within GSAS," Seth says. "Graduate students' lives can be very different depending on if they work in a lab, work as a teaching fellow (TF), where they live, and how they socialize." He explains that unlike undergraduates, graduate students live and work all over the city and are less connected to the university campus. They often come to Harvard to work with a particular faculty member on specific research, and it can be difficult for them to identify university services or take advantage of those resources.

Although a challenging population to target, Seth believes that graduate students can benefit greatly from additional knowledge around Title IX issues on university campuses. "Programming could be an

opportunity for professional development, particularly for TFs having heightened awareness and tools that can help them to support other students." He sees graduate students as future leaders in academia whether in faculty or administrative roles and believes having an understanding of gender equality and sexual harassment could positively impact the field of higher education.

Seth's goal is to create programming that resonates with students by, "connecting the topic of sexual harassment with people's personal values and their motivation to make the changes they want to see in



As OSAPR's new education specialist, Seth Avakian seeks to create customized approaches to trainings on sexual harassment and gender equity.

society." He seeks to create customized approaches to trainings on sexual harassment and gender equity. "At the law school, we might focus the conversation on reforms to law, the legal process or advocacy," he explains. "At the business school, we can focus on sexual harassment in the workplace, or at the medical school, on sensitivity when working with survivors of sexual assault."

Recently, Seth visited Richards Hall to conduct a bystander training with GSAS resident advisors. "Bystander intervention helps people learn tactics to intervene in situations where people could get hurt," he says. "It empowers people to ensure that other community members are safe." Bystander intervention is not only about preventing sexual assault or violence, but it can also be employed to diffuse sexism, racism, homophobia, and other incidents. For graduate students, these bystander tools will be helpful here at Harvard and beyond. "Graduate students are in the workplace, they travel to sites for research, they travel to conferences, take retreats to people's houses—there is a lot of off-campus activity."

Though Seth wasn't writing his dissertation over the break, he was plenty busy spending time with loved ones. As the father of two children under the age of 5, he has his hands full. He is also teaching himself to play the bass and performs in a rock band. He is looking forward to working with GSAS students and plans to develop additional programs to be offered this spring. If you see Seth around, make sure to welcome him back to Harvard!

For more information on the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response please visit their website at osapr.harvard.edu.



have to establish myself credibility-wise,” she notes. She’s marked as an outsider not only by her appearance, but also by her Ivy League profile, first as an undergraduate at Dartmouth College and now as a graduate student at Harvard.

As George tells it, not growing up on the reservation probably made it easier to escape the fate of so many other Native Americans. “In my family we had domestic violence and poverty, but I went to a school where not everyone experienced that,” she explains. Nevertheless, growing up off the reservation wasn’t all positive and she knew from an early age that she would have to work hard to beat the odds stacked against her. “I wasn’t lucky enough to grow up there and learn the culture, the dances, and the language,” she shares. “For me, being Yurok had more to do with experiencing poverty, domestic violence, and substance abuse at home.”

Once she got to Dartmouth, George endeavored to learn more about her tribe’s culture and the inequities plaguing its members today. This commitment to her roots is what ultimately wins the trust of the Yurok community. “Once I tell them that I’ve been thinking of them the whole time since I’ve been gone, that usually seals the deal.”

For George, the change that the Yurok reservation and others like it need starts with education. “On the reservation, many kids feel like they’re not getting anything out of school,” she says. “The obstacles they face at home make just getting to class a miracle.” On top of that, the enthusiasm for school that’s present in younger children evaporates by the time they get to fourth or fifth grade. With complicated home lives and no clear way out of their circumstances, children stop viewing school as a worthwhile use of time and check out mentally. “If we could bottle and sell motivation, we’d be okay,” she says with a wry smile.

George sees education as an important target for addressing “neighborhood effects,” or the concentrated disadvantage that can result from living in a given location. She experienced the power of neighborhood effects firsthand when she spent a year working as a college counselor for a charter school on the Yurok reservation in 2012 and saw that the problems of home followed students to class regardless of their commitment to academics. Whether it was dropping out to care for a sick grandparent or coming to class bleary-eyed from watching their younger siblings all night while their parents abused drugs or alcohol, these students faced an uphill battle long before they ever entered the classroom.

The study of neighborhood effects—the force that kept her students and many of her talented peers from breaking out as she was able to—is what brought George to Harvard and to the Department of Sociology

“I want to establish myself as a resource on Native Americans and on poverty policy.”

in particular. As an undergraduate, she enrolled in a writing elective called “Poverty in America,” intrigued by a class whose title resonated with her own experience. There, she first read the work of her current Harvard advisor, William Julius Wilson, the Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor of Sociology. “It was so crazy how much it felt like I was reading about my own family and my own community, but it was also so vastly different,” she remembers. Needless to say, the sociology department at Dartmouth quickly came to feel like home to her. “Those people were asking the questions I wanted to ask.”

George decided to dedicate her studies and career to developing a better understanding of how the disadvantages associated with rural poverty differ from those of an urban environment. “We need to talk about how variations affect our theory of poverty, because that theory affects our policy,” she says. After earning

her PhD, she plans to harness her connections at GSAS and Harvard Kennedy School to make her voice heard in the realm of social policy, for the benefit of the native community. “For a lot of what I’m doing, there’s no pathway already forged—that’s why I chose Harvard,” she says. “I want to establish myself as a resource on Native Americans and on poverty policy. Half the battle is getting in the room and getting people to listen to you, and Harvard Kennedy School’s legacy in DC will help me achieve that goal.”

Whether it’s in academia or at a Washington, DC, think tank, when George graduates she plans to go where she will gain the best platform for affecting change in her community and in others like it. “I want to make these places somewhere that people are proud to come from,” she says. “They shouldn’t have to choose between being economically viable or staying in the place where their families have lived for hundreds of years.”

About NSF Grants

Blythe George is a recipient of the National Science Foundation (NSF) grant. The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program offers multi-year financial support to graduate students in the natural and social sciences, in either master’s or PhD programs. To be eligible, students must be early in their graduate studies, no later than the second year at the time of applying, and the NSF gives high priority to those who are able to show that their proposed projects will benefit society. Applicants are chosen for their potential to make significant achievements in science and engineering.



Crafting a research proposal can be challenging, but mastering the art of writing a winning proposal is a skill that applicants carry with them throughout their careers. Support is available from faculty advisors and from Cynthia Verba in the GSAS Fellowships Office, who offers individual counseling sessions to all students. “When I applied to the NSF, I had come up with a great idea on my own, but there is no way I could have caught the reviewer’s eye without Cynthia’s careful stewardship of the first paragraph,” says Blythe George. “We spent two hour-long sessions going over every word, and I know that her effort put my application over the top, and for that, I am deeply grateful.”

Discuss your NSF proposal with Cynthia Verba, director of fellowships, by making a one-on-one appointment. Contact the Fellowships Office at 617-495-1814 or cverba@fas.harvard.edu.



The Science Policy Group
at the White House

Learning How Science Can Influence Policy

THE GSAS SCIENCE POLICY GROUP INTRODUCES STUDENTS TO WASHINGTON POLICYMAKING BY ASHIM SUBEDEE

OUR SOCIETY IS GREATLY AFFECTED BY THE innovations and advancements in science and technology, which significantly influence the public policies set at the state and federal levels. Subsequently, policies governing science are formulated and constantly evolve. However, there is often a disconnect between the scientific community and policy makers, with the scientific community often complaining about the lack of voice in shaping policies that govern scientific research and funding—and about overall policymaking in general. Yet, very few scientists are aware of the nuts and bolts of policymaking and ways in which they can influence the process.

For the past few years, the GSAS Science Policy Group has engaged upcoming scientists in public policy issues that are a result of, and directly affect, scientific advancement. By organizing activities that include discussion sessions, workshops, faculty chats, panel discussions, career events, and collaborations with other local schools and non-profits, the group aims to educate students on how policies are made and how scientists can influence the process by communicating science to the public and to policy makers.

In spring 2014, the Science Policy Group organized a three-day trip to Washington, DC, designed to educate students about the process of policymaking from the policy makers themselves. They visited various federal agencies and other non-profit organizations involved with shaping, implementing and influencing public policy. Twelve graduate student representatives from multiple disciplines were selected to attend based on their applications, which stated their interests and commitment to bridging the gap between scientific and policymaking communities.

The students visited Defense Advanced Research Agency, National Science Foundation, National Academy of Sciences (NAS), American Association for Advancement of Science, White House Office of Science

and Technology Policy (OSTP), Department of State, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Health and Human Services, and Department of Defense. The group met with various high-ranking professionals at these agencies, including the executive officer of NAS, assistant directors at the White House OSTP, and science advisors to the Secretary of State and the EPA director.

“Visiting all the different agencies showed me the variety of ways in which **scientists can and do become involved** in the policymaking process.”

The students were exposed to various aspects of science policymaking, advising, influencing, and implementing and learned how scientists like us can influence and shape national and international science policies while exploring career opportunities in science policy. The students also voiced their concerns regarding the state of scientific involvement in policymaking and scientific funding. Tracy Kambara, a trip participant and the current president of the Science Policy Group, found the trip an eye-opening experience. “I think many PhD students would agree that the policy world is missing or misconstruing scientific perspectives, but being part of the solution can seem daunting, confusing, or even hopeless,” she says. “Visiting all the different agencies showed me the variety of ways in which scientists can and do become involved in the policymaking process. The students who participated came from different backgrounds and had different career ambitions, but we all walked away with a better understanding of how we could combine our scientific and policy interests in the future.”



Interested in joining the 2015 Science Policy Group trip?

This year's trip will take place April 8 through 10, 2015, and the GSAS Science Policy Group is currently accepting applications from all GSAS graduate students interested in the intersection of science and policy. Visit projects.iq.harvard.edu/sciencepolicy to read last year's report and learn more about the upcoming trip.

Ashim Subedee, a PhD candidate in the Program in Biological and Biomedical Sciences, was co-president of the Science Policy Group and led the trip last year. The trip and the group are generously supported by Harvard Medical School's DMS, the Graduate Student Council, GSAS, HILS, SEAS, and HUCE.

Don't Miss!

DUDLEY
HOUSE



OUR DUDLEY HOUSE PICKS OF THE MONTH. FOR MORE EVENTS, OUTINGS, AND GATHERINGS, GO TO WWW.GSAS.HARVARD.EDU/DUDLEYTHISMONTH.



Join Team Dudley! Apply to be a Dudley Fellow for 2015–2016

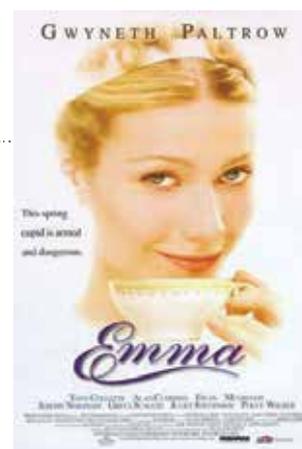
Would you like to help run outings for your fellow students? Gain real-life experience in running a small business by managing the Café Gato Rojo? How about inviting interesting speakers...organizing intramural athletics...conducting a chorus or another music group...organizing fun parties and social events...creating all sorts of opportunities for arts classes, outings, and performances...helping to run public service events...keeping the website updated and running? Many opportunities exist to contribute to the wellbeing of your fellow GSAS students while gaining leadership experience, becoming a member of a special community, and building relationships across departments and academic interests.

Applications and more information are available online at dudley.harvard.edu. Open to all GSAS students (G2 and above) who will be registered for the 2015–2016 academic year. Positions are available in all program areas.

Applications are due in the Dudley House office by Monday, February 2.

An Evening with Jane Austen: Film screening of *Emma*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 8:00 P.M. in the Dudley House Common Room. Make the season a celebration! Banish winter blues with this delightful rendition of Jane Austen's classic novel *Emma*, starring Gwyneth Paltrow and Ewan McGregor. Tea and proper refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public.



Save the Dates!

Senior Common Room Dinners

MONDAYS, FEBRUARY 2, MARCH 2, APRIL 6, 2015

Wonderful opportunity to enjoy a great catered meal, have stimulating conversations, and listen to an interesting talk by a guest speaker.

Receptions begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Graduate Student Lounge, followed by dinner, talk, and discussion at 6:00 p.m. in the Common Room.

Watch Dudley e-mails and check the Dudley website for more information as it becomes available.

Dudley Classic Films

Don't miss annual film festivals for Shakespeare's birthday on **THURSDAY, APRIL 23**, and Fred Astaire's Birthday **FRIDAY, MAY 8**.

Watch Dudley e-mails and check the Dudley website for more information as it becomes available.

Dudley House Your Graduate Student Center since 1991

Lehman Hall, Harvard Yard ♦ www.dudley.harvard.edu ♦ 617-495-2255

HOUSE MASTERS James M. Hogle and Doreen M. Hogle ♦ HOUSE ADMINISTRATOR Susan Zawalich

Job Talk

PERIODIC UPDATES FROM THE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES ON CAREERS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND LIFE AFTER GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Office of Career Services (OCS) offers many services and resources to help you explore and pursue your career interests, whether in academia or beyond. Events are held at the Office of Career Services, 54 Dunster Street in Cambridge unless otherwise specified. Visit ocs.harvard.edu for more information.

► **Talk Your Way into a Great Job**

February 4, 2015, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., OCS Conference Room

The best way to find the perfect job is to meet with and gather information from people already working in your field of interest. This workshop will demystify the process of networking and give you practical tips on how to actually get out there and talk your way into a fabulous job! Register through *Crimson Careers*.

► **Start-Up Career Fair**

February 6, 2015, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Harvard i-lab

This educational and career-focused event is an excellent way for you to network with representatives from entrepreneurial and start-up organizations, learn about jobs and internships, and discover exciting opportunities available in the start-up field.

For additional information, visit www.ocs.fas.harvard.edu/students/jobs/startupfair.htm.

► **Job Search Check-In Group**

February 13, 2015, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., OCS Conference Room

March 13, 2015, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., OCS Conference Room

If you are job searching, then you know it continues to be a tough job market and that staying motivated and proactive can be challenging. This group can help you stay focused, connected, and goal-oriented. Get together with other GSAS students searching for nonacademic jobs to share tips and advice wherever you are in your search.

For PhD and master's students from all GSAS departments seeking nonacademic jobs. To register, e-mail Heather Law at hlaw@fas.harvard.edu with your name, G-level, and department.

► **Navigating Grad School: Lab Choice & Mentors**

February 17, 2015, 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Longwood Campus, TMEC 324

The decisions that you make in your first years as a grad student set the foundation for a successful academic career and beyond. Come hear DMS faculty and advanced graduate students share advice on selecting a lab or changing labs for your dissertation, as well as thinking about your own work-style in relation to your PI's mentoring style.

Register through *Crimson Careers*.

► **The Scientist's Conundrum: CV, Resume, or Something In-Between?**

February 24, 2015, 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Longwood Campus, TMEC 324

Every scientist needs a CV, whether you are planning to pursue a postdoctoral research position, a faculty position, or a position outside academia. Using sample documents that helped scientists land positions in academia and beyond, we will discuss how to optimize the presentation of your relevant skills and experiences in an aesthetically pleasing style that is most appropriate for different types of PhD-level positions. Register through *Crimson Careers*.



Be the first to hear about OCS's Spring 2015 events and subscribe to either or both listservs for GSAS students: academic and nonacademic. Subscribe by visiting ocs.fas.harvard.edu and click on "for Students," then "Join OCS listSrvs."

» THE BUREAU OF STUDY COUNSEL

The Bureau of Study Counsel (BSC) supports Harvard students in their learning, growth, and development. The BSC offers resources to help you approach your intellectual work with strategy, skill, and spirit; make challenging choices; develop a sense of voice and authority in your scholarship, relationships, and leadership; work well and play well with others; discover what leaves you feeling enlivened and engaged; and make meaning of your work and your life. Visit bsc.harvard.edu to learn more or stop by the BSC at 5 Linden Street.

Save the Date

► **Harvard Course in Reading and Study Strategies**

Wednesday, February 11, through Wednesday, February 25, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

The Harvard Course in Reading and Study Strategies helps students develop a repertoire of strategies for reading expository text and a sense of judgment about how to implement those strategies. 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

For students who want to read more actively, strategically, and efficiently. The fee for GSAS students is \$25. Registration is ongoing until the first day of the course. Please register in person at 5 Linden Street or by regular mail. For instructions on how to register by mail, please e-mail Paulette Dusossoit at pdusossoit@bsc.harvard.edu.



The Parker Quartet, Blodgett Quartet-in-Residence

February 20, 2015, 8:00 p.m. at John Knowles Paine Concert Hall
Mozart String Quartet in B-flat Major, K. 458, "The Hunt;" Widmann Quartet no. 3, "Jagckquartett;" and Brahms String Quartet in B-flat Major, op. 67.

Free but tickets required, available on February 6 at Harvard Box Office (617-496-2222).

How to Publish Your Work

ADVICE ON NAVIGATING THE PUBLICATION LANDSCAPE

DURING NOVEMBER, THE GSAS FELLOWSHIPS OFFICE SPONSORED A SEMINAR GEARED TOWARD students considering their first submission of an article or a book manuscript for publication. The panel discussion, moderated by director of fellowships Cynthia Verba, brought together Sharmila Sen, executive editor-at-large at Harvard University Press, with three graduate students who have seen their work published: Brian Goodman, American studies; Rachel Leng, regional studies East Asia; and Kathryn Schwartz, history and Middle Eastern studies.

Sen began the session by sharing insights from the university press perspective, explaining that editors are very human and are likely to be more responsive if students learn their names and tailor their pitch to the particular press. She enjoys working with first-time authors and provides extra support to guide them through the process. Goodman, Leng, and Schwartz shared their experiences as student authors and reinforced one another's ideas for publishing success. Ultimately, the audience received valuable advice to assist them with their own journeys toward print.

Advice from Sharmila Sen, executive editor-at-large at Harvard University Press

- ▶ If you want to speak with a book publisher at a professional meeting, you need to request an appointment one month in advance (typically for 15 minutes).
- ▶ Many editors prefer electronic proposals; contact the editor in advance to learn their submission guidelines.
- ▶ A short précis of 250 words is more likely to be read, so make sure to distill the core of your argument.
- ▶ Book proposals can be submitted to several publishers at once, unlike journal articles. However, if the editor begins enlisting readers for the manuscript, be sure to mention that you have contacted other publishers.
- ▶ The dissertation is not a book; each satisfies a different set of criteria, operating as distinct genres. Unlike the dissertation, it is no one's job to read the book, so it is important to choose a topic that will engage the reader. This does not mean cheapening ideas, but rather, to view it as a conversation with the public.

Advice from graduate students Brian Goodman, Rachel Leng, and Kathryn Schwartz

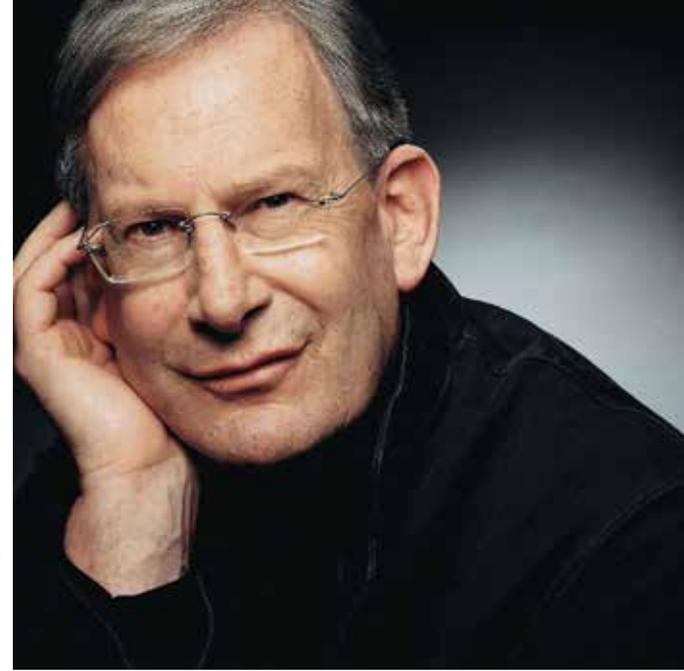
- ▶ Try to overcome perfectionism: you typically have a finite amount of time to accomplish any of your goals, in this case, to prepare a manuscript for submission. It is important to work as effectively as possible within those time limits. Then submit quickly.
 - ▶ When choosing which of your writings to publish—whether a dissertation chapter or a seminar paper—try to determine which topic has greater urgency with the best chance of getting published and devote your attention to that before others.
- For example, Goodman worked on a topic supported by information in an archive that had only recently become available, so he wanted to write up his findings before he was scooped.

- ▶ Schwartz had a highly-specialized topic and sought out journals that would be receptive. In contrast, Leng wrote and published a large number of general interest articles on Asia, and chose which journals to submit to accordingly.



- ▶ Serendipity plays a role in getting an article published. Goodman happened to meet an editor at a conference who expressed an interest in his project, and that helped enormously in getting it published. Get out there with your project, get it some exposure.

- ▶ Once a piece is accepted, you need to act quickly when revisions come back—be prepared to drop everything. Take ownership of the revisions, remember the work is yours.



SHEILA ROCK @ DECCA

Music Department Events

Sir John Eliot Gardiner: Lecture

February 2, 2015, 3:00 p.m. in John Knowles Paine Concert Hall

Free and open to the public.

No tickets required. First come, first seated.

Made possible by the Christoph Wolff Fund for Music.

The Harvard University Choir, Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum, and Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra in concert, conducted by Sir John Eliot Gardiner

February 7, 2015, 4:30 p.m. at Memorial Church

Informal concert followed by presentation of the Glee Club Medal.

Free and open to the public. No tickets required.

First come, first seated.

Made possible by the Christoph Wolff Fund for Music.

Mozart Piano Concerto no. 24 in C minor, K. 491

February 8, 2015, 8:00 p.m. in Sanders Theatre

Discussion and open rehearsal with members of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra and Professor Robert Levin on piano, conducted by Sir John Eliot Gardiner. Free and open to the public.

Made possible by the Christoph Wolff Fund for Music.

The Origins of Maya Civilization: New Insights from Ceibal

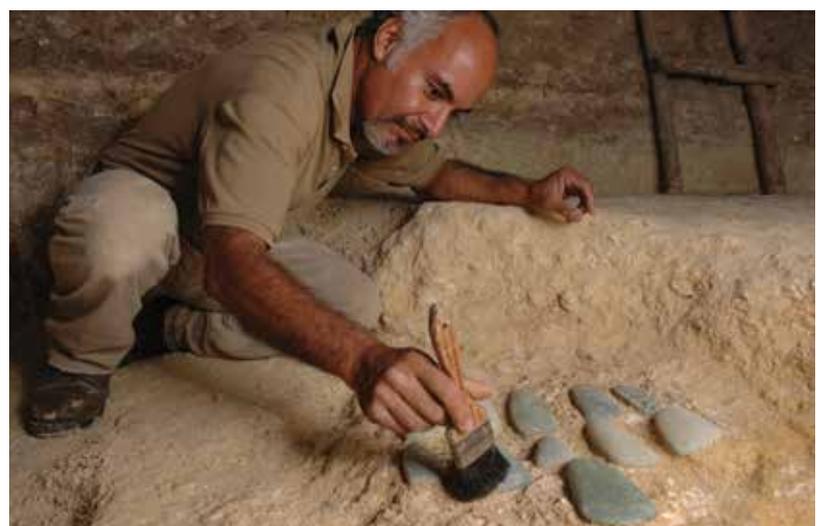
FEBRUARY AT THE PEABODY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY & ETHNOLOGY

February 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford Street

Gordon R. Willey Lecture and reception with Professor Takeshi Inomata, the Agnese Nelms Haury Chair, and Associate Professor Daniela Triadan from the University of Arizona School of Anthropology. Presented by the Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology and the Museum of Science, Boston. Free and open to the public.

In the 1960s, Gordon Willey and a team of Harvard archaeologists led the investigation of Ceibal, a Maya site in Guatemala. Their research revealed that Ceibal was a very early settlement, one that predated the cities constructed at the height of Maya civilization. Recent excavations in Ceibal directed by Takeshi Inomata and Daniela Triadan have produced exciting new findings, including the discovery of what is considered the earliest ceremonial complex in the Maya lowlands, dating to 950 BCE. Inomata and Triadan will discuss these new discoveries and what they reveal about the origins of Maya culture and society.





Get Out

EXPLORATIONS AND ADVENTURES ON AND OFF CAMPUS

» Share some laughs

Kick those winter blues to the curb with an evening of laughs at ImprovBoston. The theater company known for its improv comedy troupes will host the 11th annual College Comedy Festival and Beanpot College Tournament on February 19 to 21. Competition and showcase rounds take place on Thursday and Friday and the finals are on Saturday night. Visit www.improvboston.com/ccf for more information.

» THRIVING IN GRADUATE SCHOOL



Tax Time

With the pressures of coursework, research, and teaching, graduate students often leave more mundane tasks, such as tax preparation, on the back burner. Don't be one of them! Let the Graduate Student Council help—attend a tax talk given by Robert Underwood, a certified public accountant, on February 11, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the Minot Room of Countway Library, at Harvard Medical School in the Longwood Medical Area.

For more information, visit the GSC website at gsc.fas.harvard.edu. Please note: The GSC cannot provide tax advice to international students.

Need more help? Check out Harvard Law School's TaxHelp program at orgs.law.harvard.edu/taxhelp.

» HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Finding Our Way: An Exploration of Human Navigation

EXHIBIT OPENS FEBRUARY 14, 2015

LOCATION: Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments in the Science Center, 1 Oxford Street

OPENING LECTURE

“The Art of Way-Finding”

WHEN: February 12, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: Science Center, 1 Oxford Street

Finding Our Way: An Exploration of Human Navigation explores human navigational abilities and the early tools and techniques used by various sea-going cultures and features collection objects from the Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology, Harvard Map Collection, Houghton Library, and the Museum of Comparative Zoology. Developed by the Harvard Museums of Science & Culture in collaboration with Donner Professor of Science John Huth, the codirector of the Radcliffe Institute's Academic Ventures science program.

