Looking horror in the face

HHI researchers don’t flinch in examination of Congo rape crisis

By Alvin Powell
Harvard News Office

This is one in an occasional series of articles examining the international work of Harvard faculty and researchers. It is part of a multimedia project available on the Harvard World Media Web site.

Imani was just 15 when soldiers from the rebel group Interahamwe found her on the road in a remote region in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The rape that followed devastated her, but in this troubled corner of the world, the sexual assault of a teenage girl by armed men is hardly unusual.

The eastern DRC has been swept up in a maelstrom of violence against women that has swirled for more than a decade. An outgrowth of the armed strife that, since 1996, has involved a bewildering array of actors, from national armies to rebel groups to homegrown militias, the region’s sexual violence ranks among the worst in the world, experts say.

The rapes are epidemic and horrific in their details. Women are gangraped in public, taken into sexual slavery, and violated with guns, knives, bottles, and sticks. They are sometimes mutilated, with limbs chopped off by machetes, or raped while husbands and children are killed, houses razed, and crops burned.

Through the efforts of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI), researchers and physicians from Harvard and its affiliated hospitals are at work in the midst of the crisis, providing care for the women whose bodies are fractured by their experiences, reviewing the records of thousands of sexual assault victims, and conducting focus group interviews with members of the community.

(See Congo, page 16)

Life in the universe? Almost certainly. Intelligence? Maybe not

By Alvin Powell
Harvard News Office

We are likely not alone in the universe, though it may feel like it, since life on other planets is probably dominated by microbes or other non-astronomy speaking creatures, according to scientists who gave their take on extraterrestrial life at Harvard last week.

Speakers Friday morning (May 1) reviewed how life on Earth arose and the many, sometimes improbable steps it took to create intelligence here. Radio astronomer Gerrit Verschuur said he believes that though there is very likely life out there — perhaps a lot of it — it is very unlikely to be both intelligent and able to communicate with us.

Verschuur presented his take on the Drake equation, formulated by astronomer Francis Drake in 1960, that provides a means for calculating the number of intelligent civilizations that it is possible for humans to make contact with.

The equation relates those chances to the rate of star and habitable planet formation. It includes the rate at which life arises on such planets and develops intelligence, technology, and interplanetary communication skills. Finally, it factors in the lifetime of such a civilization.

Using Drake’s equation, Verschuur calculated there may be just one other technological civilization capable of communicating with humans in the whole group of galaxies that include our Milky Way — a vanishingly small number.

(See Planets, page 18)

For most of its history, Earth’s life has been single-celled, such as the bacteria Thiomargarita (top right) and Epulopiscium.
The Harvard University Gazette May 7-13, 2009

This month in Harvard history

May 12, 1839 — By order of the Great and General Court, “Newetowne” is renamed “Cambridge” (Cambridge).

May 1368 — The College Yard expands as the Town of Cambridge grants the College a lot of land that today includes Harvard Yard, Stoughton, and Holworthy halls.

May 1855 — Led by Charles W. Eliot (Harvard’s future 21st President) and Edward H. Ammidown, a Harvard Club of Boston is formed. It goes bankrupt in 1857, however, and a Boston club does not reemerge until 1908.


From the Harvard Historical Calendar, a database compiled by Marvin Hightower

Harvard prepares for NEASC reaccreditation

As part of the University’s 10-year reaccreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), the University is preparing a self-study report addressing NEASC’s 11 standards (chapters) for accreditation. These standards each focus on a particular dimension of the University, ranging from academics and the libraries to governance and finance.

Because most of Harvard’s graduate and professional Schools are separately accredited, standards concerning the Academic Program (4), Faculty (5), and Students (6) focus on the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) and the College. These sections reflect feedback from a variety of FAS committees, including the Educational Policy Committee (EPC), Committee on Undergraduate Education, Undergraduate Council (UC), Committee on House Life (CHL), Committee on College Life (CCL), and Faculty Council.

The remainder of the self-study, now online until June 30, is available at http://accreditation.harvard.edu, (use your Harvard University ID number and PIN to log in). The University is inviting all members of the Harvard community to submit comments, questions, or other feedback to accreditation@harvard.edu.

POLICE REPORTS

Following are some of the incidents reported to the Harvard University Police Department (HUPD) for the week ending May 4. The official log is located at 1033 Massachusetts Ave., sixth floor, and is available online at www.hupd.harvard.edu/.

April 30: At Hamilton Hall, an officer was dispatched to take a report of stolen audio equipment. An officer was dispatched to Gund Hall to a report of an individual urinating on the Swedenborg Chapel. The officer conducted a field interview, checked the individual for warrants with negative results, and sent them on their way. At Massachusetts Avenue and Dunster Street, an officer observed an individual known to them with a warrant and placed the individual under arrest.

May 1: An officer assisted the Cambridge Police Department (CPD) with a fire in the mulch at Massachusetts Avenue and Mt. Auburn Street. The fire was extinguished. An officer was dispatched to Widener Library to a report of a disturbance where two individuals were involved in a verbal argument. The officer was informed that one of the individual’s book and notes were stolen. At the Kennedy School, an individual reported that officers were dispatched to take a report of an unwarranted guest in the building. Officers located the individual, who was checked for warrants and sent on their way with a trespass warning for all Harvard University property.

May 2: At the Memorial Church, an officer reported a large group on the stairs of the building yelling. An officer reported that one individual was yelling at the top of the stairs and two individuals were holding bottles of alcohol. The officer spoke to two individuals who stated the incident was a prank. The officer confiscated the alcohol and sent the individuals on their way. At Adams House, $65 in cash was stolen. An officer was dispatched to 10 Dewolfe St. to take a report of an unwarranted guest in the building. Officers located the individual, issued them a trespass warning for all Harvard University property, and sent them on their way.

May 3: At 1124 Massachusetts Ave., a Harvard University Police Department officer assisted the CPD with a report of two individuals fighting. The officers were informed that an individual struck another individual because they would not let them into their residence. The officer reported that the individual did not want to press charges against the other. At Lowell House, an officer observed an individual running on top of the roof of a vehicle, which sustained dents and scratches. The officer spoke to the individual who apologized. At Gordon Track, an officer was dispatched to take a report of a drier’s side window that was broken by a rock. At Eliot House, officers observed a bicycle with two individuals behaving suspiciously. Officers conducted a field interview, checked the individual for warrants with negative results, and sent them on their way.

Since April 30, six bicycles and five laptop tops have been reported stolen.

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Since April 30, six bicycles and five laptop tops have been reported stolen.
Navin Khaneja of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences conducts research into the field of control theory, which uses mathematical models to examine the relationship between inputs and outputs of different systems.

By Alvin Powell
Harvard News Office

For Navin Khaneja, spinning nuclei are like atomic spies. With a little coaxing, they will tell the secrets of the molecules in which they sit.

Khaneja, the Gordon McKay Professor of Electrical Engineering at the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, conducts research into the field of control theory, which uses mathematical models to examine the relationship between inputs and outputs of different systems.

His current work focuses on nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy, a technique that is used by chemists to understand the properties of molecules. As a mathematician and an engineer, Khaneja is working on new dynamical equations and novel ways to control their evolution that can guide the use of spectroscopy to understand molecular structure.

NMR spectroscopy depends on the fact that many atomic nuclei have a spin and an internal magnetism that responds to magnetic fields. Using strong magnetic and radio waves that function as microwaves, it is possible to better estimate the position and velocity of moving targets. It is another example where intelligent probing is important,” Khaneja said.

Khaneja grew up in Faridabad, India, a town south of New Delhi. His father was an engineer at the local power generating station, and Khaneja still remembers visiting the plant and seeing the generators, boilers, and other components.

“From very early on, I decided I wanted to do engineering,” Khaneja said.

He studied at the Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur, a school modeled on the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering in 1994, he studied at Washington University in St. Louis, earning master’s degrees in mathematics and electrical engineering.

It was there that he began working on control theory problems — trying to decipher the elements of vision to be applied in “seeing” computers.

He did his doctoral work at Harvard, earning a degree in applied mathematics in 2000. One section of his dissertation dealt with optimal control.

After graduating, he went to Dartmouth College, where he was an assistant professor of mathematics for a year. He joined Harvard’s faculty in July 2001 as an assistant professor of electrical engineering, was promoted to associate professor in 2005, and was named Gordon McKay Professor of Electrical Engineering in July 2008.

Khaneja teaches one class per semester. In the fall, it is a graduate course on control theory, and in the spring it is on probability and random processes. His classes, he said, help keep him grounded in the mainstream of the control theory community, since his research is quite specialized. One thing he likes about the control problems in spectroscopy is that at its more basic level it’s very accessible to students.

Khaneja said he thinks each year that he may finish his work on NMR spectroscopy, but he keeps finding new problems to solve.

“I’m doing this and at the same time learning it, which keeps it very interesting,” Khaneja said.

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Khaneja devises new pulse probes for details about molecules

Molecular secrets in atomic nuclei

Jon Chase/Harvard News Office

Rockefeller grants open up world for undergrads

Nearly 500 Harvard undergraduates will learn about other cultures by participating in high-quality international experiences this summer, thanks to the generosity of David Rockefeller, longtime University benefactor and member of the Harvard College Class of 1936.

Students from the classes of 2009 through 2012 will pursue a range of international interests, including study for credit, internships, service, work, and research. In April 2008, Rockefeller pledged $100 million to dramatically increase learning opportunities for Harvard undergraduates through international experiences and participation in the arts.

“Our understanding of the world and the very foundations of our societies are shifting rapidly and perhaps permanently,” Rockefeller said. “I believe that we need to invest in our best institutions so that they can train the young women and men who will address the economic, political, and environmental needs of this new world in which we find ourselves. I am thrilled that my gift is being used to educate future generations to be responsible, global citizens.”

David Rockefeller International Experiences Grants for the summer of 2009 have been awarded to undergraduates who will be traveling to every region of the globe. From neurobiological research in Paris to archaeology in Peru to teaching life skills through soccer in Africa, student projects span the humanities, social sciences, and life sciences.

“David’s international experience during his Harvard undergraduate years enhanced what he was studying, but it also transcended the classroom and the curriculum in ways that shaped his outlook on the world and shaped his life choices. It seems entirely fitting that David’s remarkable gift will ensure that all undergraduates, regardless of financial means, will have the opportunity to follow David’s example and to become citizens of the world,” said Drew Faust, president of Harvard University and Lincoln Professor of History.
Mark Kisin joins Harvard as professor of mathematics

By Steve Bradt
FAS Communications

Mark Kisin, one of the world’s most promising young number theorists, has been named professor of mathematics in Harvard University’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS), effective July 1.

Kisin, 37, is currently professor of mathematics at the University of Chicago, where he has taught since 2001.

“Professor Kisin’s work is influential and wide-ranging,” says Jeremy Bloxham, dean of science in FAS. “He is an excellent expositor of mathematics and an energetic and talented teacher, highly committed to both undergraduate and graduate education. All our mathematics students will benefit from his instruction and guidance.”

Kisin has worked in several areas of algebraic number theory and arithmetic algebraic geometry. His most celebrated contributions have come in p-adic representations of p-adic Galois groups and p-adic cohomology. One of the leading researchers in this field, he has introduced to p-adic representations new and powerful ideas from algebraic geometry.

Kisin has also led in developing the technical machinery underlying many recent advances in modularity, a field of study central to many areas of mathematics over the past 40 years. His appointment enhances Harvard’s leadership in number theory, a discipline encompassing a broad swath of modern mathematics.

Born in Lithuania and raised in Australia, Kisin received his B.Sc. from Monash University in Australia in 1991 and his M.Sc. and Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1995 and 1998, respectively. Supported by a postdoctoral fellowship from the Australian Research Council from 1998 to 2001, he conducted research at Westfälischen Wilhelms Universität in Germany from 1998 to 2003.

Kisin joined the University of Chicago as an assistant professor in 2003 and was promoted to professor in 2006. He was supported by a Sloan Foundation research fellowship from 2004 to 2007.

Jerry Mitrovica named geophysics professor

By Steve Bradt
FAS Communications

Theoretical geophysicist Jerry X. Mitrovica, whose studies of the Earth’s structure and evolution have important implications for range nomical labeling, of climate, are level changes throughout earth’s history, has been named professor of geophysics in Harvard University’s Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, effective July 1.

Mitrovica, 48, is currently professor of physics at the University of Toronto, where he has been on the faculty since 1993. He has also served since 2004 as director of the Earth Systems Evolution Program at the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

“Professor Mitrovica’s research is at the forefront of current efforts to understand the relationship between sea level and the melting of ice sheets and glaciers,” says Jeremy Bloxham, dean of science in Harvard’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS). “This work is of tremendous importance and interest not only to his colleagues, who study the response of Greenland and Antarctica’s ice sheets to global climate change, but also to society in general.”

Mitrovica is best known for his extensive work studying Earth’s internal dynamics to surface changes associated with plate tectonics, glacial cycles, and climate change. His doctoral research demonstrated that the slow creep of mantle rocks responsible for continental drift and plate tectonics was also the cause of the intermittent flooding and uplift of continents through geological time.

In his subsequent postdoctoral work at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Mitrovica predicted the ongoing deformation of the Earth’s crust associated with the last ice age — a prediction that was verified a decade later by space-based GPS measurements in Fennoscandia.

In recent years, Mitrovica has used geological markers of uplift in areas of Europe and North America that were once covered by ice or water to constrain the fluidity, or viscosity, of the Earth’s rocky interior — a parameter governing the long-term evolution of the Earth. He has also shown that rapid melting of individual ice sheets will lead to distinct responses of sea-level change, leading the way to modern efforts to “fingerprint” the sources of global sea-level rise.

Mitrovica has also studied the effects of planetary rotation and pole migration on bodies of water and shorelines on Earth and elsewhere. For example, he and colleagues reported in 2007 that mysterious undulating features that bounded a massive plain within Mars’ northern hemisphere were actually the shorelines of large, ancient oceans: The same conceptual framework also produced a prediction of Mars’ spin axis, and thus its poles, by nearly 3,000 kilometers sometime within the past 2 billion to 3 billion years.

Mitrovica holds bachelor’s (1983), master’s (1985), and doctoral (1991) degrees from the University of Toronto. From 1991 to 1993 he was a postdoctoral visiting scientist and then a visiting scholar at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. He has also served as a visiting scholar or professor in Harvard’s Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences and at the University of Milan, the California Institute of Technology, and the University of California, Berkeley.

Mitrovica was named a fellow of the American Geophysical Union in 2005 and a fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation in 2007. In 2000 he received the Rutherford Medal (Physics) from the Royal Society of Canada, and in 2006 he received the European Geosciences Union’s Augustus Love Medal. He has served on the editorial boards of the Journal of Geophysical Research and G3.

Placid countenance

The bust of John Harvard that rests in the Thompson Room of the Barker Center looks like he’s happy to be indoors all winter — unlike his University Hall doppleganger.

Rockefeller

(Continued from previous page)

The Committee on Education Abroad, a faculty group led by Robert A. Lue, professor of the practice of molecular and cellular biology, carefully evaluated all grant applications with an eye toward ensuring that the proposed international experiences would deeply engage students in local culture as well as contribute to their intellectual growth.

"International summer programs transform students’ subsequent studies at the College, both in content and in the relationships formed with faculty and peers," said Lue. "The Rockefeller gift is a wonderful opportunity to prompt further exploration of the language and culture that undergraduates experience abroad, while deepening their connection to their academic and extracurricular lives."

As one student planning to study environmental policy in South Korea said, “I hope to learn more about a critical part of the world that I would otherwise never have had the chance to experience.” Another student, traveling to Japan to work in an immunogenomics laboratory, agrees. “It has never had the opportunity to fully immerse myself in another culture, and I know it will broaden me as both a person and a scientist.”

More than two-thirds of the students will be living in places outside of Europe and the United Kingdom.

The David Rockefeller International Experience Grants also support international research. Representatives from some 25 different funding sources at Harvard came together this spring to share information, collaborate, and explore how to make maximum good of the available resources.

“David Rockefeller’s generosity will enable an unprecedented number of undergraduate students to experience another culture this summer,” said Evelyn Hammonds, dean of Harvard College and Barbara Gutmann Rosenkrantz Professor of the History of Science and of African and African American Studies. “We hope their experiences will prove as inspirational and transformational as did David Rockefeller’s, 72 years ago.”

Rockefeller has previously given $40 million in gifts to the University, increasing $25 million to create the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. Established in 1994, the center has become one of the pre-eminent institutions of its kind in the world, and is distinguished as the first interfaculty initiative for international studies at Harvard.

Rockefeller is the former chairman, president, and CEO of Chase Manhattan Bank, and former chairman of the board of the Rockefeller Group. A past member of the Executive Committee of the Committee on University Resources, he also served as honorary chair of The University Campaign, which raised a record $2.6 billion for Harvard between 1994 and 1999.

An active Harvard alumnus for decades, he served on the Board of Overseers from 1954 to 1966, and was president of the board from 1966 to 1968. In recognition of his many forms of service to the University, he received an honorary degree in 1969.
Faust at UMass Boston: Local research universities power region

By B.D. Cole
Harvard News Office

The unique collection of research universities, biotech and pharmaceutical firms, and science and engineering startups linked by the MBTA Red Line is an economic powerhouse that is going to pull Massachusetts through the current financial crisis and help drive the nation toward recovery. Harvard President Drew Faust told those attending the opening of a new Venture Development Center at the University of Massachusetts, (UMass) Boston, last Friday (May 1).

While Harvard and its fellow institutions are having to make painful adjustments to new economic realities, Faust said that “it is not by accident that we in Boston, and in Massachusetts, are on sounder economic ground than much of the rest of the nation. As I have noted on previous occasions, Harvard is the second-largest private employer in the Boston area, but we are only a part of a massive higher education sector that is the envy of the world.”

“Statewide, private higher education employs more than double the entire biotechnology sector in Massachusetts,” Faust continued in her keynote address. “There are 90,000 employees in the Boston metropolitan area employed at private colleges and universities. Add to that the faculty, researchers, and staff at UMass and other public colleges in our state, and the sector totals 100,000. That represents more employees than all of this region’s computer hardware, software, and services business, or this region’s leading voices around religion, spirituality, health, and medicine are physicians.”

Even as atheism continues to rise in the United States, Gallup polls consistently show 95 percent of Americans still believe in a higher power; 70-85 percent of Americans pray for their own health and their family’s; and 72 percent believe God can cure people outside of medical science. What’s more, 60 percent of Americans and 20 percent of medical professionals think a person in a persistent vegetative state can be saved by a miracle.

Through research at hospitals across the country, Radcliffe Fellow Wendy Cadge examined the interplay of religion and medicine by shadowing hospital chaplains and analyzing the roles they play.

Chaplains play important roles in hospitals

‘Paging God: Religion in the Halls of Medicine’

By Sarah Sweeney
Harvard News Office

What happens when a Buddhist monk visiting the United States is hospitalized, terminally ill with liver cancer? Does religion interfere with his medical care? What about his Buddhist brother, unable to join him bedside? Who will provide the appropriate services and ceremonies? Well, says Wendy Cadge, that’s where hospital chaplains come in.

Chaplains are just one of the ways in which hospitals and religion cross-pollinate — but, says sociologist Cadge, a current fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, this cross-pollination can sometimes be a tricky business.

“Does religion and spirituality influence your health?” asked Cadge. “I don’t think this is an unimportant question.” Social institutions — temples, churches, mosques — are often involved in the answer to this question in ways that are rarely studied or talked about.

Cadge visited the ailing monk in a Catholic hospital in Pennsylvania. “He was going to die — not in a temple, but in this local hospital,” she recalled. “I wondered if he was awake how he would feel about being treated in a Catholic hospital. I wondered if the hospital had a priest or a chaplain, if that person might come by.”

Cadge explained that at most hospitals, the question of religion is a blank box on admissions paperwork. When she asked a hospital clerk why the information was relevant, he responded, “I don’t know. I guess it’s in case you die.”

The lasting image of the dying monk in his hospital bed in Pennsylvania left Cadge with an arsenal of questions. How do religion and spirituality interact with medicine? Through research at major, non-religious-affiliated hospitals across the country, Cadge explored this question by shadowing hospital chaplains, analyzing the roles they play and how they affect the religious and spiritual goings-on inside hospitals.

In a talk inside the Radcliffe Gymnasium, titled “Paging God: Religion in the Halls of Medicine,” Cadge said most people think of chaplains as the people wandering the halls of hospitals, making bedside calls. But Cadge explained that chaplains have many perspectives on the work they perform and define their responsibilities in a multitude of ways. Chaplains are involved in almost all aspects of hospital life, said Cadge. In their most basic definition, these chaplains visit with ill patients; but their role in hospitals is, in fact, complex and much-debated.

The treatment of the sick and dying in hospitals raises profound religious and spiritual issues. In their not-quite-formal, not-quite-defined roles, chaplains address these questions. They are intermediaries for patients and families; guides who help navigate through emotional and complicated end-of-life issues. Yet, in an article for the Web site Religion Dispatches (www.religiondispatches.org), Cadge says that chaplains “have little voice when it comes to public conversations about religion and medicine in this country.”

A reason for this, Cadge surmised, is that there are relatively few chaplains in the United States — roughly 10,000. And, in general, chaplains lack medical training, and, as Cadge points out in the article, “Many of the country’s leading voices around religion, spirituality, health, and medicine are physicians.”

Even as atheism continues to rise in the United States, Gallup polls consistently show 95 percent of Americans still believe in a higher power; 70-85 percent of Americans pray for their own health and their family’s; and 72 percent believe God can cure people outside of medical science. What’s more, 60 percent of Americans and 20 percent of medical professionals think a person in a persistent vegetative state can be saved by a miracle.

So, it’s not surprising, perhaps, that in Cadge’s hospital research, which took her to intensive care and neonatal units, she found that it was common among non-chaplain staff to privately pray for their patients, regardless of their patients’ religious beliefs or whether or not they had solicited religious help.

Differences in religious viewpoints is an important issue for Cadge, who wanted to know how chaplains adapt to patients with different religions, and how patients with various religions and beliefs perceive chaplains.

Most of the chaplains Cadge observed would serve patients regardless of their denomination, and if patients or families requested a religious-specific prayer or ritual, the chaplain would oblige. Other times, chaplains simply sat in with patients, a person to talk to. Cadge recalled chaplains who collect prayers from families. Most were written on Post-It notes left tucked to makeshift memorials created by families to honor their loved ones who had died in the hospital. The chaplains put them in shoeboxes; and when the shoeboxes overflowed, the chaplains didn’t toss them out, the prayers were ceremoniously burned.

Cadge documented designated spaces in hospitals reserved for prayer; these chapels range from traditional church-looking rooms to rooms meant to be all-encompassing, or “interfaith,” outfitted with alcoves with specific religious symbols and texts.

The scope of a chaplain’s work varies with patients, but a chaplain’s responsibilities are deep and vast. “The one thing I found which most chaplains do is work around death, often managing death for hospitals,” said Cadge, who noted that in some hospitals she visited, chaplains were paged for every trauma coming into the emergency room, and some were responsible for coordinating plans with the morgue and serving as a liaison for families.

“Part of a chaplain’s task is to help people find something to be hopeful about,” said Cadge, quoting a chaplain identified only as Karen. Karen also told Cadge, “People come literally from all over the world. We chaplains are the ones who make these people not be strangers. ... We invite them into the community so that this becomes a safe haven in some regard.”

John, another chaplain Cadge encountered, had a different view. He believes a chaplain is “just someone who walks in, takes [patients] as they are, listens to their stories. ... The most we can offer them is just a listening ear and a caring heart.”

A lot of a chaplain’s work is about healing, explained Cadge, quoting Karen. “A lot of work we chaplains do is about reconciliation, to help people feel whole, to bring them back to what has been, to what is, to what can be, either in this life or the next.”
Flu outbreak activates prepared emergency planning

The employee has recovered, and University Operations Services officials said that no one who works closely with the employee has exhibited flu-like symptoms. Working with city and state officials, the university suspended classes and other activities on April 29 at HSDM, Harvard Medical School (HMS), and the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) because of the extent to which students at the three Schools intermingled. It also halted clinical activities by HMS students at Harvard-affiliated hospitals. HSPH resumed classes on May 4 and HMS resumed classes and clinical activities at the affiliated hospitals on May 5. Despite the reopenings, Harvard officials remained vigilant and continued to monitor the situation.

“Harvard joins with public health officials in emphasizing that anyone who shows early signs of influenza must follow the CDC recommended guidelines and stay away from classes, clinics, or work environments for at least seven days after feeling ill. Anyone exhibiting flu-like symptoms should consult with their primary care physician,” said Provost Steven E. Hyman and David S. Roseenthal, director of Harvard University Health Services (HUHS), in a letter posted on Harvard’s home page. When word of the potential cases became known last week, emergency management teams from the Central Administration and the Longwood Medical Area Schools activated their emergency management plans and worked together to implement various safeguards and to coordinate action and information with the Boston Public Health Commission. In addition to the Schools’ closings, self-service food service was eliminated in the Longwood cafeterias, and surface cleaning was increased.

Since last week, the University has circulated daily briefings updating the Schools’ local emergency management team leaders, the Administrative Council, and public information officers, in addition to updating the Harvard home page and (617) 496-NEWS. School Web sites, news phone lines, and e-mail accounts also were used to give specific information from the Schools to their communities in the Longwood Medical Area.

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President Faust joins local educational and political leaders to mark the official opening of UMass Boston’s Venture Development Center. The state-of-the-art facility and business incubator, already home to four startups, signals the Dorchester extension of the innovation, research, and development that occurs along the Red Line.

“The watchword remains caution, but not panic,” said Rosenthal. “We are monitoring the situation closely and continue to be in daily contact with public health officials.”

In the event of a major disease outbreak, Harvard’s emergency plans include contingencies for housing and caring for sick students. “At this time, it does not look like those plans need to be implemented,” said Thomas E. Vautin, associate vice president for Facilities and Environmental Services, and chair of the University’s Incident Support Team. HUHS has posted answers to frequently asked questions about swine flu on its Web site, http://huhs.harvard.edu/NewsAndEvents/Announcements/Announcement.aspx?id=200141. Information about good hygiene practices has been widely circulated, and these practices remain important in preventing the spread of flu in general.

For additional information about this quickly evolving situation, consult the CDC at www.cdc.gov and the World Health Organization at www.who.int.

The HUHS Web site will be updated as new information becomes available.

Faust

(Continued from previous page)

tion’s banking, securities, and investment industries combined.”

Faust told the attendees — including Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino, UMass President Jack Wilson, and UMass Boston Chancellor Keith Motley — that “one of the most significant things about our research universities is that they are engines that also produce the fuel — the scientists, physicians, engineers, the thinkers and ideas that spur the new products, new jobs, and new companies that will help renew our economy and power the nation’s recovery. Mayor Menino understands this, and his advocacy, along with that of leaders on Beacon Hill, has helped ensure that Boston and Mas-achusetts will continue to be the world’s leading idea factory, even during these challenging times.”

Faust sustained applause when she said.

“The Red Line, which I rode here this morning, is far more than a subway line, far more than a transportation artery — it is a highly useful reminder of where we have been, and where we are, and where we can go, if we commit to working together to get there.”

“The Red Line,” said Faust, “is not just transportation. It connects programs; it connects institutions; and, most importantly, it connects people, people who are the most efficient translators of ideas, innovation, and knowledge; it provides us with a vision of what our community was, ... what it is, ... and what it can become. But this unassuming transit line is also a ruby necklace, whose jewels include — to name a few — Tufts, Harvard, Novartis, Amgen, MIT, the Broad Institute, the Whitehead Institute, Massachusetts General Hospital, the Federal Reserve Bank, and, of course, the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and the Venture Development Center whose creation we celebrate today.”

After offering a tour of the collaborations and new ventures along the Red Line, Faust said that “if our institutions are going to continue to benefit mankind, we need to continually develop the types of collaborations we celebrate today. As one travels the Red Line, it becomes obvious that our greatest strength really lies in sharing with one another the collaborations that create the virtual idea factory I mentioned earlier. We share our findings broadly in order that others can build on our work ... and we translate the products of these efforts so that the public can benefit.

“Virtually everything the government is struggling to do to move our nation forward ultimately depends upon science, technology, and education — upon discovery, innovation, and collaboration. Advancing medical science, developing sources of renewable green energy, preparing our fellow citizens for the next wave of jobs — all require that we respond to the challenges we face today.”

“This is a crucial moment in the long history of our nation,” she said. “We are all being called to make sacrifices, and we are all being called upon to work together. This is our challenge: We must decide if we are going to move forward together, or if we are going to fall behind. We must heed the lessons about the power of collaboration and innovation, so evident along the path of the Red Line and commit to forging and maintaining the connectors that will exponen-tially multiply the value of our institutions to our cities, our state, and our nation.”

President Faust joins local educational and political leaders to mark the official opening of UMass Boston’s Venture Development Center. The state-of-the-art facility and business incubator, already home to four startups, signals the Dorchester extension of the innovation, research, and development that occurs along the Red Line.
**SPORTS BRIEF**

Clayton and Ko receive Player of the Year honors

The Ivy League has recently announced that both Chris Clayton '09 of the Harvard men’s tennis team and Beier Ko '09 of the Harvard women’s tennis team have been honored as the 2009 recipients of the Ivy League Player of the Year award.

Clayton, who is currently 79th in the latest Campbell’s/ITA Division I men’s tennis rankings, is also the top-ranked men’s player in the Northeast. Named a unanimous first-team All Ivy selection, the Crimson co-captain completed the season with a 6-1 record in the Ivy League dual season and tied for the season with a 5-0 record in league singles matches and an overall record of 15-8.

Clayton and Ko will represent the Crimson at the NCAA Singles Tennis Championships (May 20-25) in College Station, Texas.

By Corydon Ireland

Harvard News Office

HRES installs solar arrays on buildings

Solar collectors on roofs will heat water for two apartment buildings

By Corydon Ireland

Harvard News Office

Harvard students can do a lot of things, but hovering five stories in the air is not one of them.

That’s what you’d have to do to see the latest Harvard Real Estate Services (HRES) sustainability project. 14 solar arrays on the rooftops of two old apartment buildings just east of Harvard Yard.

Lined up facing south, the solar collectors will use the power of the sun to make hot water for dishes, showers, and laundry.

Last month, the flat tablelike collectors — each weighing about 750 pounds — were hoisted onto the roofs at 20-20A Prescott St. (where there are 39 apartments) and at 472-474 Broadway (16 apartments). They’re in place now, angled at a fixed 45 degrees and anchored into steel I-beams.

From the sidewalk, you’d have to strain to see just “edges and corners” of the silvery blue solar collectors, said Justin Stratman.

“Just sunlight.”

Inside a protective layer of glass, thin overlapping aluminum fins in each collector gather in the sun’s heat. A pump the size of a coffee cup transfers solar heat to loops of copper tubing.

By the end of May, that tubing will be insulated and primed with a glycol-water mixture designed to circulate hot water.

It’s simple, and has no moving parts except for the pumps. “That’s one of the appeals,” said Stratman. “Just sunlight.”

Solar-heated hot water will loop through a heat exchanger in the basement, get stored in massive basement tanks, and supplement the building’s conventional hot water system.

On the rooftop, water-glycol temperatures can reach 390 degrees Fahrenheit. In the basement tanks, hot water hovers at the boiling point. Shuttled to the domestic water supply, it’s moderated to a workable temperature.

The amazing TRV!

Steps toward sustainability are not always on a grand scale, like rooftop solar-thermal arrays.

Take the case of thermo-static radiator valves. About the size of a doorknob, these robust nonelectric valves — TRVs for short — help regulate the amount of hot steam flowing through radiators.

Steam heat, an old technology, is sometimes hard to control. During heating season, rooms can get too hot.

Last fall, in a pilot project, the valves were installed at four Harvard Real Estate Services (HRES) properties, in about 200 apartments. Using a calibrated dial, an apartment dweller can turn the steam down to the approximate temperature desired. “It allows for more local control,” said Steven C. Nason, HRES director of residential real estate.

TRVs improve tenant comfort, he said, save energy by reducing waste heat, and offer a quick payback on investment.

This year, HRES will install TRVs at another 400 to 500 steam-heated apartments. Meanwhile, the HRES sustainability group is looking for more ways to cut energy use in its residential, University, and commercial portfolios.

“We’re looking for effective projects,” said Nason, “big or small.”

By Corydon Ireland
New A.L.M. concentrations announced for 2009-10

The Harvard Extension School has announced four new concentrations in its Master of Liberal Arts (A.L.M.) Program beginning with the 2009-10 academic year. The new concentrations are international relations, legal studies, visual arts, and clinical psychology. The concentrations were selected upon careful consideration of Extension School course offerings, the number of Harvard instructors teaching these courses, and repeated requests from students to create the concentrations.

“Some of these concentrations are distinctive at Harvard, since they are being structured as liberal arts fields and not as professional programs,” says Sue Weaver, associate dean of University Extension and director of the A.L.M. Programs. “As such, they will engage with history, theory, criticism, and current research topics in a variety of fields and institutions — from museum law to mental health law. Inquiries for this concentration have come from law enforcement personnel, paralegals, and individuals working for various advocacy groups. “Some might use this concentration to test the waters before applying to law school,” says Schopf, “but many people are simply interested in learning more about how the law functions within diverse segments of society, how concepts of justice have evolved, and the rhetoric of legal discourse.”

Visual arts

A retooling of the previously offered A.L.M. concentrations in history of art and architecture and studio arts and film, the new combined concentration in visual arts will offer students courses and a wider pool of instructors from which to choose. Students will be able to select from art and architectural history (both ancient and modern), film studies, digital media, photography, and other aspects of visual culture for their research. This concentration will provide a steppingstone for further graduate study or advancement opportunities to those involved in various activities within the arts community, and thus will attract a range of students from aspiring Ph.D. applicants to gallery owners, museum docents, and practicing artists.

Clinical psychology

Clinical psychology, another frequently requested concentration, is a field that emphasizes research on psychopathology, empirically based assessment, and psychological intervention, applying the knowledge gleaned from academic research directly to individuals in distress. This concentration includes a “field placement” that would have both a classroom and a laboratory-based or human services-based component, requiring 150 hours in a Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences or Harvard Medical School laboratory/research facility; social services agency; or hospital setting. While graduates would not be eligible for licensure in the commonwealth based on an A.L.M. degree, the field placement experience would enhance the likelihood of securing in-field employment, as well as admission to further graduate study.

“We are responding to a particularly serious issue in our society at this time,” says Schopf. “With more than 360,000 veteran returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with head injuries and suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, the health care industry needs many persons with basic clinical training for a host of midlevel jobs in Veterans Affairs hospitals, nursing homes, drug treatment centers, and other therapeutic settings.”

The A.L.M. Program will continue to offer its 15 traditional fields of concentration as well, but says Schopf, “We also want to keep the curriculum fresh and responsive to emerging areas of study and changing needs within our society.”

The Harvard Extension School also announced that its Environmental Management Program will change its name to Sustainability Management Program in 2009-10.

Solar

On the roof of 472-474 Broadway St., Bjorn Storz (wearing vest), HRES program engineer, explains how solar panels work to heat water for student housing.

(Continued from previous page)

118 degrees. At the faucet, “tenants won’t recognize the difference,” said Bjorn Storz, who is the sustainability program engineer at HRES. The solar thermal project, operational by the end of May, should supply up to 40 percent of the hot water needs of both buildings. It is also expected to reduce natural gas consumption by the same percentage, and knock up to 6 percent off carbon emissions.

“That’s really the idea — to support the University’s greenhouse gas emissions goals,” said Steven C. Nason, HRES director of residential real estate. Last year, Harvard pledged to reduce such global warming emissions 30 percent by 2016. The solar-thermal water systems are made by Solid Energy in Austria, a key European supplier of solar technologies. The company installed solar cooling and hot water systems at the 2008 Summer Olympics in China. Until now, its U.S. projects have all been in sun-rich Arizona and California.

On the rooftop at Prescott Street, the distant Boston skyline looks like a stack of toys. Cambridge is a carpet of rooftops. Atop the Prescott and Broadway buildings, the rooftops are a brilliant white. (Such “high albedo” visuals, arts, architecture, and urban design projects scatter sun-light and keep buildings cooler.) Both buildings needed new roofs, said Nason, and that opened the way to adding in a solar thermal project.

Performance will be monitored closely for a year, and that will help determine the future of such solar thermal installations. (Sunlight intensity audits have already been done at most of the apartment buildings in the HRES portfolio.)

“These are nice little pilots,” said Nason of the Prescott and Broadway buildings. Both are relatively old — about 80 years — and both are of a modest size, like a lot of HRES properties. HRES manages about a quarter of all Harvard-owned real estate, including 2,900 apartment units in 71 buildings or complexes. In the past two years, it opened two new LEED Gold buildings, at 5 Cowperthwaite and 10 Akron streets. Another, at 2 Grant St., was fully renovated in 2008 to LEED Platinum standards.

LEED, a U.S. green building measure, stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Its rating system is based on precious metals, ranking first and second are platinum and gold. But sustainability projects don’t have to involve new buildings or large-scale efforts, said Nason. They can be part of modest expansions, like the new roofs at the Prescott and Broadway properties.

“We’re working on the overall portfolio — existing, new, and renovated — to make our buildings more efficient,” he said.

Rooftop solar thermal systems have some technical limitations. Roofs have to be fully exposed to the sun and strong enough to handle the extra weight of the solar arrays.

Inside, buildings have to be roomy enough for mechanicals, including large hot water storage tanks. (At Prescott Street there are four 240-gallon tanks, each the size of a small closet.)

Prescott Street is a one-stop history lesson in heating technology. In a few weeks, pipes will carry solar-heated water from the rooftop along the path of an old chimney.

“They’ll enter the basement through an old coal chute, and deposit hot water in tanks where coal once stood in heaps. All this will happen a few feet away from a current (and conventional) gas-fired system.

It is, said Nason, “a wonderful coincidence.”

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Lessons from past explored to expedite future research

By Alvin Powell
Harvard News Office

People, knowledge, communication, and capitalism were front and center last week as authorities on innovation sought to shed light on ways to speed up the development of new medical treatments from discoveries in the lab. The speakers, who drew on lessons from the computer industry and from past startup ventures, were part of the “Harvard Medical School Dean’s Symposium on Clinical and Translational Research,” sponsored by Harvard Catalyst: The Harvard Clinical and Translational Science Center.

**medicine**

The event presented three separate symposia over two days. The opening event, “Challenges to Successful Innovation and Translation,” was held Thursday evening (April 30) at Harvard Business School’s Spangler Auditorium. The remaining two events, “Thought, Emotion and the Brain” and “Medical Nanotechnology: Small Is Big,” were held Friday (May 1) at Harvard Medical School and at the Harvard-affiliated Schepens Eye Research Institute.

Topics covered ranged from microfluidics and nanoelectronics to the search for autism genes and regulating the brain. On Thursday, Yoich Benkler, the Berkman Professor for Entrepreneurial Legal Studies at Harvard Law School, said that knowledge resides mainly in individuals and that innovation depends on getting people to communicate. Information flow, however, tends to be blocked by efforts to control that information, for profit or other motives.

Benkler compared how Massachusetts and California’s Silicon Valley each weathered the computer transition—from mainframes to personal computers and the Internet. While Massachusetts companies suffered, Silicon Valley companies such as Apple and Google flourished. The reason, he said, is that there was a culture of sharing information in Silicon Valley and people regularly switched jobs. The legal underpinnings in California were more conducive to information flow, he said, since no-compete clauses were rarely enforced.

“Knowledge resides in people. A lot of knowledge is passive and not something that can be passed onto the next person [in a job],” Benkler said. “Innovation emerges from connecting people’s minds.”

Another example Benkler used was the open-source software movement, which requires collaboration from people who don’t work together to constantly improve software. Though it may not be competitive to share information outside one’s company, the movement recognizes a truth about technology that also applies to other fields such as health care.

“Knowledge resides in people, not all of whom work in your project or company,” Benkler said.

One problem with the current

(See Catalyst, next page)
Obama and the art of the possible

Kuttner offers his view during Lowell Lecture

By Emily T. Simon
FAS Communications

With the passing of Barack Obama’s 100th day in office, journalists and pundits are posing a simple but all-important question: How is the president doing? Robert Kuttner, author and political commentator, gave his own evaluation of the Obama presidency for the 2009 Lowell Lecture on April 30 in Emerson Hall.

Kuttner is co-founder and co-editor of The American Prospect magazine. He has authored numerous books on politics and economics, including the best-seller “Obama’s Challenge: America’s Economic Crisis and the Power of a Transformative Presidency” (Chelsea Green, 2008). Kuttner drew from themes in that book to discuss how the 44th president has the capability to enact sweeping economic reform, and why he’s falling short.

After opening with a deep politics tailed account of the economic crisis, which highlighted all the usual suspects — AIG, Lehman Brothers, Merrill Lynch — Kuttner’s narrative turned personal. He outlined his fascination with Obama’s campaign and the hopes he had pinned on the young candidate during the primary. "Liberals like me … the arrival of Obama was almost a miracle."

As the economy began to spiral downward, Kuttner began to focus on the types of decisions that brought together different people in different departments and what Obama was able to do with them. "In each case, the president began with a set of constraints," Kuttner said, "and through his leadership, dramatically moved public opinion to a point where things that began as unthinkable became possible and then became inevitable."

That idea ultimately led to “Obama’s Challenge,” which Kuttner and his editor decided to publish before the president was actually elected. Their gamble paid off, and the book proved wildly popular. Now that Obama is in office, Kuttner has had time to reflect on whether he is proving transformative after all. On the economic side, Kuttner said, things are looking gloomy. "I am extremely worried about the way he is going about the financial rescue, and that in turn is reflected in the people he’s hired."

A look back at the campaign period, said Kuttner, provides insight into Obama’s selection of economic advisers. When searching for a team, he was “under pressure to appoint people who were unimpeachably mainstream,” i.e., individuals who had served in the Clinton administration.

Kuttner decried plans set forth by Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, in particular the Public-Private Investment Program (PPIP) to guarantee and supply loans through the Federal Reserve.

A better route to recovery, Kuttner said, would look similar to what Roosevelt did with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in the 1930s or what Reagan developed with the support of Congress in the savings and loan rescue of the 1980s. It is the same “straightforward” approach taken several times a month, Kuttner said, when the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation acts to shut down a failing medium-sized bank.

“This was the road not taken by the current administration,” he said.

In addition, Kuttner noted, two assumptions have been made that he sees as “disastrously wrong”: that this is merely a crisis of confidence, and that time is on our side. "If you go look at the vacant houses on the fringes of Las Vegas and Phoenix, on the west coast of Florida, in Cleveland and in Detroit, you realize they are not coming back," he said.

Kuttner argued that in terms of policy, Obama needs to create a more dramatic break with the old order, to escape what he called an “undertow of entrenched interests.” "Why is it that an administration that is so different from the Bush administration in every other respect [has] this seamless continuity from [former Treasury Secretary Henry] Paulson to Geithner? Why has there not been the kind of rupture with Wall Street that there was during the New Deal?"

The continuity is due in part, Kuttner said, to Obama’s personality. As a consensus-builder, Obama has been trying to create a new center that includes Wall Street and has been reticent about handing down severe criticism. "His whole makeup is about bridging differences," Kuttner said. "But sometimes you have to pick a fight and acknowledge that X industry is the obstacle to change."

Kuttner views the moment as a “high-stakes,” prime opportunity for change. He believes that the administration should not be working simply to restore the American economy to its 2006 shape, but to transform the whole model of trade. It’s a tall order, but Kuttner is optimistic that Obama is up to the task.

“The circumstances will require a decision that Obama has not yet embraced but that he will come to,” Kuttner said. "The good news is, this is a very smart guy. He has been meeting privately with his fiercest critics. This is a man with the self-confidence to get a second opinion. This is also a man who reads and thinks, who is not a prisoner to his advisers, and who above all does not want to fail."

“And I think, if I’m right that he’s going down the wrong route, particularly on the banking part of the economic recovery plan, you will either see a different recovery plan or you will see different advisers fairly soon."

Kuttner added.

The Lowell Lecture, given annually and devoted to the major issues of our time, is sponsored by the Lowell Institute of Boston and the Harvard University Extension School.

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Catalyst

(Continued from previous page)

model of medical research, Benkler said, is that it doesn’t recognize or reward someone who may be particularly collaborative, bringing together different people in different departments, even though those connections may be essential for innovation.

“Ensuring flow may mean releasing control and that may mean changing some of the basic aspects of the systems we have,” Benkler said.

Srikant Datar, Dickinson Professor of Accounting, senior associate dean, and director of research at Harvard Business School, said that innovation often comes packaged with a measure of distance from a problem. He cited the success of an English clockmaker in determining longitude, a problem that had defied scientists and sailors alike.

George Whitesides, the Flowers University Professor, drew on his own experience with startup companies to offer more practical advice about taking scientific discoveries to market.

Whitesides said that commercialization of an advance is important because without a company to bring it to market, it is useless to patients and other potential customers. That happens through capitalism, often through venture capitalism.

Whitesides cautioned that though venture capitalism can bring money to a project, it also can lead to a loss of control and so should be used sparingly. He counseled that one should hire good people and pay them well, but keep a sharp eye on expenses.

From a commercial standpoint, he said, a risky project that might not work is bad, as is one that will take a long time to come to market, since each will raise costs. He advised researchers to “finish the science” before starting a company, because research comes along on its own schedule. In addition, he urged researchers to learn basic accounting before embarking on any business venture.

“That way you won’t appear as an object of prey rather than as a partner,” Whitesides said.

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Jeffrey Flier (from left), George Whitesides, and Srikant Datar listen intently to one of the speakers at the Spangler Auditorium symposium.
The Dalai Lama delivers message of compassion to Harvard audience

By Colleen Walsh
Harvard News Office

It was a simple message delivered by a self-described “simple Buddhist monk”: Compassion reigns supreme.

The Dalai Lama addressed a capacity crowd at the Memorial Church on April 30. With his trademark affable, down-to-earth style the religious leader counseled the audience about the important things in life in a talk titled “Educating the Heart.”

The event was hosted by the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) and the Harvard Divinity School (HDS).

The spiritual leader of the Tibetan people, Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, has lived in exile since the Chinese suppressed a Tibetan uprising in 1959. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 for his efforts on behalf of the Tibetan people for autonomy from China and his support of peace and tolerance.

After introductions from HGSE Dean Kathleen McCartney, the Gerald S. Lesser Professor in Early Childhood Development, and HDS Dean William A. Graham, the John Lord O’Brian Professor of Divinity and Murray A. Albertson Professor of Middle Eastern Studies, the 73-year-old Dalai Lama un-laced his brown shoes and slid them off, folding his feet up under his dark red robes to “get comfortable” before beginning his talk.

He offered his perspective on religion and education, and stressed the importance of both in developing compassion.

The comparative study of religions is critical, he said, to foster broader understanding and appreciation among people of different faiths and traditions and to help them comprehend that principles like love, compassion, and tolerance are at the heart of every religion.

“All traditions,” he said “consider these important values.”

The Dalai Lama noted that some people consider Islam to be more militant than other religions because of the actions of radical factions, but he said that at the core of Islam is a loving god. “Praise Allah,” he said, “means infinite love, compassion.”

Education has an important role to play in enlightening the spirit, said the Dalai Lama. But he warned that people with intelligent minds but lacking a compassionate heart can succumb to competition, anger, and jealousy.

Educating the heart on compassion, and giving love and kindness to others, he offered, will lead to true inner peace. It’s critical, he added, “to educate [people] to be good social members.”

In response to a question from McCart-

(See Dalai Lama, next page)

Six writers, all at risk of death or arrest in their home countries, talk about their art and lives in a public forum at Lamont Library. Participants include Shahriar Mandanipour (from left), Ma Thida, Pablo Medina, Pierre Mujomba, and Xue Di.

By Corydon Ireland
Harvard News Office

For some, words are both a way of life and a way of risking life. Last year, 877 writers and journalists around the world were killed, jailed, or attacked.

That’s according to PEN International, a global association of writers — the memory of Ken Saro-Wiwa, a Nigerian writer hanged for his activism in 1995. In a testament to the fearful power of his words, his body was burned with acid and buried in an unmarked grave.

An audience of 90 at Harvard’s Lamont Library got a glimpse last week (April 29) at the dangers that free expression sometimes invites. A panel of six writers from six troubled lands talked about home, language, war, censorship, audiences, and inspiration.

The April 29 panel, “In Other Wor(l)ds,” was sponsored by the Humanities Center at Harvard and the Harvard College Writing Program, and by Stephen Greenblatt, Cogan University Professor of the Humanities. Moderator and chief organizer was writing program preceptor Jane Unruh, also a member of Harvard’s Scholars at Risk committee.

All six writers are living in the United States at least temporarily. Two — from Iraq and Burma — will go home shortly; the others — from Iran, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Cuba — still suffer degrees of exile.

Iraqi novelist and journalist Mayselun Hadi, visiting scholar at Harvard this year, said of her homeland, “I consider the few years spent away from it as if I am not living.”

She is translating some of her stories from Arabic to English. Her novel “The World Minus One” is a view of the first Gulf War.

Poet Xue Di, a veteran of Tiananmen Square activism in 1989 and in exile since 1990, visits home imaginatively. “When I write in Chinese,” he said, “I connect with my culture.”

This year, Di — a one-time International Writing Fellow at Brown University — will publish a book of his that he is translating from English to Chinese, “A View Along the Running Edge.”

Iranian novelist Shahriar Mandanipour once wrote stories huddled under artillery fire during the Iran-Iraq War. After three years in the United States, he worries that for every English word he learns, one in Farsi — a language he called “my treasure” — disappears.

Physician, writer, and activist Ma Thida — Brown’s international writing fellow this year — has been writing in English lately, a language she associates with deadlines. “If I write in Burmese,” she said, “I won’t stop, I won’t finish.”

Thida was imprisoned from 1993 to 1999 for her activism and “unlawful literature.” She treated the wounded during Burma’s 1988 pro-democracy riots and was a campaign assistant to opposition leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. All her works are banned in Burma, known also as the Union of Myanmar.

Unruh asked them all: Why write?

“We just want to share,” said Thida. “We just want to write because we want to let anyone know — anyone else know — about our oppressed people.”

(See Writers, next page)
The Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard will present the Louis M. Lyons Award to Fatima Tlisova Thursday (May 7).

As an investigative journalist, researcher, and expert on human rights issues in the North Caucasus region, Tlisova is being honored for courageous reporting in the face of severe intimidation and physical assaults. She has written extensively on abuses suffered during military operations in the area: torture and disappearances; corruption; Circassian nationalism; women's rights; censorship; and the role of Islam in regional affairs. She has also led several training workshops for journalists in the North Caucasus and served as editor-in-chief of the North Caucasian bureau of the REGNUM News Agency for three years.

Tlisova has worked as a correspondent for a number of Russian newspapers such as Novaya Gazeta as well as international media, including the Associated Press, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and the BBC. She was awarded the German Zeit-Stiftung Gerd Bucerius Award in 2006 for her commitment to reporting on the conflict in Chechnya, one year after receiving the Rory Peck Freelancers Choice Award for continuous bravery, commitment to the story, and efforts to help fellow journalists. She has won numerous other awards for her work, including an Amnesty International U.K. Media Award in 2008. During the 2007-08 academic year, she was a fellow at Harvard Kennedy School's Carr Center for Human Rights.

The Nieman Class of 2009 chose Tlisova — their own classmate — for the award, noting that her work and example have set the highest standard for the journalism profession. In selecting her, they recognized Tlisova as "a brave reporter and sensitive spirit, a woman whose published work bears witness to the hidden truths of a violent place." Several fellows stated that they believe her best work is yet to come. Although a number of Niemen Fellows have been given the Lyons Award in the past, Tlisova is the first to receive the honor as a current fellow.

Nieman Curator Bob Giles added, "Fatima has faced great dangers on the job, including violent beatings and poisoning, yet she has never faltered in her pursuit of the facts. She has watched as friends and colleagues have been threatened and killed but she remains deeply committed to telling the stories of her homeland and countrymen, understanding how crucial her work is to the cause of justice. She is an inspiration to us all."

Finalists for this year's Lyons Award

Jesus Blancornelas, an investigative journalist who exposed political corruption and the power of drugs gangs in Mexico, particularly the Tijuana Cartel. The object of several attempts on his life, Blancornelas died in 2006 from complications caused by stomach cancer.

Donna De Cesare, an award-winning photographer who has risked her life to cover human rights and justice issues. She is widely known for her groundbreaking photographic reports on the spread of Los Angeles gangs in Central America. Her photographs and testimonies from children who are former child soldiers, survivors of sexual abuse, or who live with the stigma of HIV helped UNICEF to develop protocols for photographing children at risk.

Jestina Mukolo, a former broadcast journalist with the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, who is now a human rights activist and the director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project. Accused with nine other activists of planning to overthrow President Robert Mugabe, Mukolo was abducted from her house in December 2008 and tortured for several days before she was arraigned. She was released on bail on March 2 of this year but still faces criminal charges.

Harvard Magazine names 2009-10 Ledecky Fellows

Harvard Magazine's Berta Greenwald Ledecky Undergraduate Fellows for the 2009-10 academic year will be Spencer Lenfield '12 and Melanie Long '10, who were selected after a competitive evaluation of writing submitted by student applicants. The fellows, who join the editorial staff during the year, contribute to the magazine as undergraduate columnists and initiate story ideas, write news and feature items, and edit copy before publication.

Lenfield, of Paw Paw, Mich., will live in Eliot House in the fall. He is considering a concentration in literature and history. Lenfield plays piano in a classical trio, is on the editorial board of Tuesday magazine, and expects to work in Michigan this summer, possibly at Western Michigan University, where he took courses before coming to Harvard.

Long, of Atlanta, has previously lived in Cincinnati, Frankfurt, Germany, and Caracas, Venezuela, and is now a resident of Lowell House. She is concentrating in English and pursuing a minor in film studies. A Crimson staff writer and volunteer tutor, she intends to work in Cambridge this summer, serving as a resident tutor in the Crimson Summer Academy, Harvard's academic enrichment program for local high school students.

The fellowship is supported by Jonathan J. Ledecky '79, M.B.A. '83, and named in honor of his mother.
Tale of terror and courage

Holocaust survivor, Jehovah’s Witness speaks at Harvard, offers a message of hope

By Corydon Ireland
Harvard News Office

The Paul Tillich Lecture, offered annually at Harvard since 1990, commemorates the memory of a public intellectual who was once “the largest theological figure in our orbit,” said The Rev. Peter J. Gomes.

Gomes is Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, where Tillich often preached while a University Professor at Harvard from 1954 to 1962.

Tillich (1886-1965) was an existentialist Christian who embraced God as “the ground of being.” It was a concept of the divine that offered shelter from the existentialist idea of “non-being,” with its attendant despair over life’s apparent meaningless.

Born in Prussia and a World War I German army chaplain, Tillich was in 1933 the first non-Jewish professor dismissed from a university following Hitler’s rise to power. He is regarded as one of the 20th century’s most influential Protestant theologians.

This week (May 4), Gomes introduced the 2009 Tillich lecturer: physician, inventor, and theoretical biologist Stuart A. Kauffman, a visiting professor of science and religion this spring at Harvard Divinity School.

Standing at ease at a Memorial Church lectern, Kauffman offered his thanks, and his surprise. He told the audience of about 200, “I admire your courage in inviting a Jewish fruit fly geneticist who doesn’t believe in God.”

Kauffman, who teaches at the University of Calgary and is an external professor at the Santa Fe Institute, outlined a new conception of the divine that seemed to offer a reformulation of Tillich’s “ground of being.”

In his view of an “emergent” divine, God is the biologist’s “reassembling, creative coming,” he said — an expression of life’s “fully natural creativity” in which all living beings share in a kind of co-divinity.


He offered two basic imperatives: Reinvent science and reinvigorate God. In Kauffman’s view, science has been captive for cen-

By Colleen Walsh
Harvard News Office

Aided by a wheelchair, his slight frame bent in part by a curvature of the spine since birth, in part by the passage of time, a man who endured unspeakable cruelty 70 years ago told his story of survival to a Harvard audience.

Austrian Leopold Engleitner, purportedly the world’s oldest concentration camp survivor, spoke at the Science Center May 4 to a diverse crowd: young and old, men, women, and children.

Interned in three concentration camps during the Second World War for refusing to renounce his faith as a Jehovah’s Witness, pledge his allegiance to Adolf Hitler, or join the German army, Leopold Engleitner, who told his story at the Science Center, survived torture and incarceration by the Nazis from 1939 to 1943.

Engleitner (1923-2009) was born in Upper Austria and lived there until 1939, when his family moved to Vienna. He was sent to a concentration camp in 1941, and released in 1945.

Robert Buckley from the Holocaust Memorial Museum holds up a replica concentration camp jacket.

Engleitner’s story was told through his words, a powerful and engaging talk that left the audience with a lasting impression.

Engleitner recounted some of his harrowing moments while imprisoned at the concentration camps Buchenwald, Niederhagen, and Ravensbrück.

“Every morning when you woke up, you would not know whether you would live to see the evening,” he said, describing how he narrowly escaped being put to death by force.

(See Holocaust, next page)
**Tillich**

Stuart A. Kauffman offers a new theory: the idea that both the natural world (the biosphere) and social world (culture) are themselves “ceaselessly creative” in ways that cannot be foretold, or even fully described.

(Continued from previous page)

It’s an idea that tempers our view that science is all-knowing, he said, and that offers a sense of the divine that could be shared across traditions.

Kauffman is a scientist to the core, and his lecture took frequent side trips into higher mathematics, statistics, and evolutionary biology.

But he lamented that since the Age of Enlightenment, science has been increasingly captive to reductionism. That’s the notion that physical laws alone determine the course of the universe, that everything is describable, and that somewhere there exists a single language capable of describing it all.

Most radically, reductionism is the idea that the only reality of the universe is the reality of particles in motion — “a vast computer system,” Kauffman said, capable of reducing every action we take and every emotion we feel and every idea we have to quantifiable events at the level of atoms and electrons.

He drew a word picture of two lovers strolling by a river. A machine of atoms and electrons at work? “I don’t think so,” said Kauffman.

Instead, we live in “an open universe” so vast and creative and energetic that it denies the possibility of reduction, he said — a place so ceaselessly novel that it is “grossly non-repeating.”

In this “lawless, but non-random” universe, said Kauffman, reason alone becomes “an insufficient guide to living our lives.” That opens the way to intuition, imagination, stories, and metaphor as ways of knowing the world.

In turn, we can embrace “a shareable sense of God” across all traditions, he said. God, our most enduring metaphor, becomes a symbol of the creativity of the universe.

This “sense of membership” in the universe brings with it the gift of agency, said Kauffman — a sense that all humans are actors in the creative divinity of the world.

That’s grounds for hope.

“One day you have agency in life,” he said, “you have values; you have feelings; you have moral reasoning.”

Send Newsmakers to gervis_menzies@harvard.edu

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**Holocaust**

(Continued from previous page)

When told by a Nazi officer he must either sign a declaration renouncing his faith or be “sent through the chimney,” Engleitner said he replied, “I will neither sign, nor will I leave through the chimney. I will go home.”

He was so certain that we would make it home, he bought a suitcase at the Niederhagen concentration camp, one that once belonged to a deceased prisoner, and he would “leave through the chimney.”

Engleitner’s visit to campus was sponsored by Harvard’s Center for European Studies (CES) and the CES Undergraduate Board. The event was the beginning of a nationwide tour to promote the most recent version of the book “Unbroken Will: The Extraordinary Courage of an Ordinary Man.” The tour is the third in the United States for Engleitner and Rammerstorfer. Throughout the past 10 years, the pair has traveled close to 60,000 miles in Europe and the United States, speaking at schools, universities, and Holocaust memorial sites.

In response to the question, “How did you manage to get this old?” Engleitner replied, “I am a happy boy, I find joy in everything, and I don’t really have time to die,” adding, “I’ll be back.”

Rammerstorfer called his friend “the most contented man he had ever met,” and said that even at his age, he is “still determined to teach us the lessons of peace and tolerance.”

For Barbara Deforge, who traveled from Marion, Mass., to hear Engleitner speak, the trip was well worth it.

“When you see a person who has actually been [through the Holocaust] it makes it more real... I am glad I came. It was really very encouraging,” she said of Engleitner’s message and unbroken spirit, “and very hopeful.”

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**NEWSMAKERS**

Sandel to Deliver BBC’s prestigious Reith Lectures

Michael Sandel, the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of Government, has been chosen by the BBC to deliver its Reith Lectures for 2009. Sandel’s lectures, titled “A New Citizenship,” will address the prospect for a new politics of the common good.

The Reith Lectures, considered the most prestigious public lectures in Britain, will be recorded before live audiences in London, Oxford, and Newcastle, England, and in Washington, D.C., and will be broadcast on the BBC World Service in June 2009. Sandel is the first Harvard faculty member to receive the honor since John Kenneth Galbraith in 1966.


Jain and Vafa honored by NAS

Rakesh K. Jain, the A. Werk Cook Professor of Radiation Oncology for Tumor Biology at Massachusetts General Hospital and a member of the affiliated faculty of the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology, and Cumrun Vafa, the Donner Professor of Science in the Department of Physics, have been recently elected into the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) for excellence in original scientific research. They will be inducted into the Academy next April during its 147th annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Membership in the NAS is one of the highest honors given to a scientist or engineer in the United States.

By Jody Reisenauer

As he spoke, the trip was well worth it.

Leopold Engleitner waits to be introduced.

Jon Chase/Harvard News Office

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The ‘art’ of retirement

100-year-old founder of HILR Shakespeare Players is feted by friends and fans

By Sarah Sweeney
Harvard News Office

"May I have your attention!" yells Bill Boone, director of the Frances Addelson Shakespeare Players at the Harvard Institute of Learning in Retirement (HILR). "Frances is in Harvard Square!"

It’s Frances Addelson’s 100th birthday, and her friends are throwing her a surprise party. But this centenarian, a 1930 graduate of Radcliffe, isn’t in for the usual reception. This party involves Shakespeare, the Bard of Avon, and his famous speeches — billowing peasants’ blouses and embroidered jackets.

"She is indeed inhabited by the soul of the Bard of Avon," says Paul Pemsler, member of HILR and the party’s "master of the revels." "We can honor Frances best by performing for her, and she can thank us best by performing for us."

And with that, Jim McArdle, a white-bearded man in a lilac robe, takes the stage. "If music be the food of love, play on!" he announces.

And this is how the party goes: One by one the players recite soliloquies or pair up to perform scenes — there’s Rosalind and Orlando in "As You Like It," Lady Anne and Richard in "Richard III," and Lady Macbeth and the Doctor — or Nancy Wolcott and Marty Aronson — in "Macbeth."

Wolcott wears a crimson velvet robe and carries a candlestick; she is to perform Lady Macbeth’s famous sleepwalking scene. The crowd stands and applauds. Addelson covers her mouth with her hands and bow in disbelief.

"You have to have a voice that carries," she says.

When finally Addelson is ushered in, in the crowd stands and applauds. Addelson covers her mouth with her hands and bows in disbelief.

"Frances is in Harvard Square!"

Inside the Grossman Common Room, the players silently await Addelson’s arrival. Addelson joined HILR in 1985; in 2001 she founded the HILR Shakespeare Players and became its director at the age of 92; and by 2005, the group was renamed in her honor.

Boone took over as director in 2006 when Addelson’s macular degeneration hindered her duties as director. Now Addelson serves as producer, and, according to Boone, "She really produces. We work as a team, and she is to perform scenes — there’s Rosalind and Orlando in "As You Like It;" Lady Anne and Richard in "Richard III;" and Lady Macbeth and the Doctor — or Nancy Wolcott and Marty Aronson — in "Macbeth."

Wolcott wears a crimson velvet robe and carries a candlestick; she is to perform Lady Macbeth’s famous sleepwalking scene. The crowd is utterly quiet as Wolcott speaks, her eyes squinted, her face contorted. "Out, damned spot! Out, I say!"

"She is a trained actress," whispers McGrath.

Addelson watches, motionless; she is hooked.

"To bed, to bed! There’s knocking at the door!"

Nectar nurtures pitcher plant’s eating habits

By Alvin Powell
Harvard News Office

New research from the Harvard Forest shows that carnivorous pitcher plants use sweet nectar to attract ants and flies to their water-filled traps, not color, as earlier research has indicated.

The work, which was among the first to experimentally examine the role of nectar in attraction by pitcher plants in the field, not only served to advance understanding of insect-eating plants, it also helped to improve science education at local schools. It was conducted as part of a National Science Foundation-funded program to enrich science training of local schoolteachers.

The research, published Wednesday (May 6) in the journal Biology Letters, was conducted by Katherine Bennett, a fourth- and fifth-grade math and science teacher at J.B. Briggs Elementary School in Ashburnham, Mass., under the guidance of Aaron Ellison, senior ecologist and senior research fellow at Harvard Forest.

Ellison, who has worked on carnivorous plants for more than a decade, said the work was spurred in part by Bennett’s interest and in part by a journal article Ellison had read that concluded that color was the main prey attractant in a group of pitcher plants studied in a greenhouse in Germany. That study, which didn’t control for the presence of sweet nectar in the plants and which found that flies were the major prey, didn’t agree with the observations Ellison had made over his years studying the plants in the field. Ants, not flies, are the plants’ main prey, he said, and ants can’t see color, two facts that made him suspicious of the earlier results.

Bennett meanwhile, was working at the Harvard Forest in a National Science Foundation-funded citizen-scientist program. She spent a season working with Ellison on ant inventories, and, in her second season, her initial idea for an independent project fell through, so Ellison set her to work studying pitcher plant prey attraction.

Pitcher plants live in boggy areas where their carnivorous habits help compensate for the nutrient-poor soil. They are called "pitcher" plants because they are shaped like a slender pitcher or vase whose base is filled with rainwater spiked with digestive enzymes that enable them to digest insects and other small animals.

Ellison’s group has found that pitcher plants can have up to 40% of their body mass in insects. "Pitcher plants are an extraordinary example of an ecosystem service," he said. "They provide habitat for many species of insects, and are the only plants that can break down other tissues..."
Congo

(Continued from page 1)

The researchers are also engaged in a project that focuses on the military men who are responsible for much of this abuse. In a pilot program they hope to expand to encompass as many combatants as possible, researchers have traveled to remote villages to talk to rank-and-file soldiers. Researchers acknowledge that the research is not easy, but they say that the prospects are promising and that only locally based service providers have the resources and the training to help women who have been raped by soldiers. In the coming months, a team from the Harvard News Office will be traveling with researchers to document their ongoing efforts.

A team from the Harvard News Office traveled with HHI researchers in February to document their ongoing efforts. The full package of videos, photos, and stories will be available on the Harvard Gazette website.

Researchers from the Harvard University Initiative (HHI) have been working in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for several years to document the roots of the violence against women that has plagued that war-torn region. A team from the Harvard News Office traveled with HHI researchers in February to document their ongoing efforts. The full package of videos, photos, and stories will be available on the Harvard Gazette website.

The research into the roots of the DRC’s gender-based violence has caught the attention of policymakers at the highest level. Kelly and Michael VanRooyen, who have been studying the roots of this violence for more than 15 years, began their work in the early 1990s, when there was a wave of mass rape in the eastern DRC. While the relief work is under way, VanRooyen said there have been few efforts to systematically inform the council on which relief should be given.

The researchers have been working with faculty in several Schools. Today, HHI has a core of 10 faculty members and 12 to 14 fellows.

HHI — Panzi Partnership

Jennifer Scott, a resident in obstetrics and gynecology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, is a member of the DRC Gender-Based Violence Program and the lead researcher prob-
ing medical care, with an average time between an attack and treatment being less than 24 hours. Since its founding, HHI has worked in trouble spots around the globe, from Paraguay to Haiti, and has become a major player in the global health field.

The story she heard was of a seemingly inexhaustible stream of victims. “We can look at the data and see what needs to be done,” said VanRooyen. “We can see that the international community doesn’t know how to characterize this abuse.”

VanRooyen said: “We can ask from the data, from the candidates, from the types of military involved, what happened afterward — whether they were re-
eracted to by being self-sufficient, which is a huge vulnerability — and how many women have physical problems related to their assailants, such as inconti-
ence and chronic pain.”

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Plants

(Continued from page 15)

enzymes. The sweet nectar is produced on the pitcher’s inside and on its lip, where it not only attracts insects, but it also serves as a lubricant, helping prey slip inside. The pitcher’s inside surface is slick and waxy, and covered with tiny, downward-facing hairs that serve to keep prey from escaping the water below.

Once an ant or fly falls into the trap, it drowns and sinks to the bottom where it decomposes, making its nutrients available to the plant.

To find out what was going on with the plants, Bennett and Ellison created 70 artificial pitcher plants using 60 milliliter tubes. They painted them red and green, the colors found on natural plants, but varied the coloration from all red to all green, with different proportions in between. They filled the artificial pitchers with ethanol, a liquid commonly used in insect capture, and spread thickened sweet corn syrup in patterns on some of the fake pitchers. They then planted the artificial plants near real pitcher plants in Tom Swamp, a bog that is part of Harvard Forest in Petersham, Mass.

They compared the results from the artificial pitchers with the natural pitcher plants. They had their liquid suctioned out and replaced with distilled water to control for the possibility that prey were attracted by the scent of decaying insects inside.

The results, Ellison said, were about as clear as they get. Natural pitcher plants caught 357 insects while the pseudo-pitchers with the sweet syrup caught 344. The pseudo-pitchers without the sweetener, by contrast, caught only 62 insects.

“The results showed that plastic pitchers with sugar catch the same amount of ants and flies as natural pitcher plants, and if you take the sugar away, nothing gets captured,” Ellison said.

The work, Ellison said, furthers an argument that has continued for 100 years over how pitcher plants attract their prey. Despite those clear-cut results, however, the argument isn’t yet entirely settled. Because the plants’ coloration occurs in elaborate patterns of red veins — patterning that was not explored in the current work — experts in the field have suggested the need for further exploration of the “scent” of the nectar and color.

Thus, Ellison and Bennett will focus this summer on the exact location of the nectar on the plants to see if the red vein pattern serves some yet unseen purpose.

In the meantime, Bennett and her students continue to reap the benefits of her involvement. Bennett said she got involved in research at Harvard Forest to improve her science teaching, but said the work was also personally rewarding. Though moving through the bog was challenging, she said the quiet days there were peaceful.

“I wanted to get involved because I love teaching science, but I felt I was lacking in science knowledge,” Bennett said.

Since she began working at the Harvard Forest four years ago, Bennett has taught units on ants and on forest ecology, aided by advice from Ellison.

“Anytime I have a question, we know where the experts are,” Bennett said. “This has made me a much better science teacher.”
In Chinese culture, the 60th birthday is an auspicious event. At that age, it is said that a person is at ease. As the People’s Republic of China prepares to celebrate its 60th anniversary in October 2009, scholars gathered at Harvard University to ask: At 60, is the People’s Republic of China finally at ease? “There have been changes in Chinese society that would have seemed inconceivable 30 years ago,” said William C. Kirby, who organized the conference. Kirby is the T.M. Chang Professor of China Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and Spangler Family Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School. “There have been enormous changes to society, to the economy, to the environment, such a large country, the likes of which the world has never seen and could not have anticipated.” With scholars from the United States and China, as well as Canada, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Europe, the conference offered a broad international perspective on where China has been and where it might be going. "This was followed by something that could not have been easily predicted — economic growth in such a large population, such a large country, the likes of which the world has never seen and could not have anticipated."

At the conference, Elizabeth Perry, Henry Rosovsky Professor of Government, spoke of the numerous predictions of the Chinese government’s imminent demise in the past 20 years, and the reasons the government has persisted. She explained that the government has grown increasingly adept at dealing with leadership changes and public protests. "The regime has not only weathered potentially destabilizing leadership changes, but it has also, at the same time, presided over the fastest sustained economic transition in world history," said Perry.

"This is the history, not just of a country, it’s the history of the longest continuous civilization on earth, one that was without parallel, without competing civilizations outside the China’s history," he said. "Their growth of transnational religions, such as Catholicism or Christianity, is part of globalization and shifting attitudes toward religion in China." A panel of historians discussed possible future directions for the People’s Republic in comparison to successful dynasties throughout China’s history. "This is the history, not just of a country, it’s the history of the fifth of mankind, a fifth of the world’s population," said Kirby. "It’s the history of the longest continuous civilization on earth, one that was without question the greatest and wealthiest civilization on earth in the 18th century, and may be poised to resume that position in the 21st century."
Fasting is easier on older adults than others

In a recent sleep study testing alertness and performance in sleep-deprived adults, researchers at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) determined that healthy older adults handle sleep deprivation better than younger adults. The findings appeared online on May 3, in an advance online edition of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.

After an extended period of wakefulness, older participants were less impaired by sleep deprivation, showed faster reaction times and fewer performance lapses, paid better attention, and had less frequent unintentional sleep episodes than their younger counterparts.

“Even very healthy adults like those in our study see a decline in sleep quality and duration as they age,” said Jeannie Duffy of the Division of Sleep Medicine at BWH. Duffy is also an assistant professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. “And it is often assumed that daytime sleepiness in older adults is the result of the typical changes in nighttime sleep that come with age.”

However, the researchers found that aging in healthy adults is not associated with daytime sleepiness, and in fact, healthy older adults show less impairment under sleep deprivation than younger adults.

The five-day sleep study of 26 healthy young adults (aged 18-29) and 11 healthy older adults (aged 65-76) consisted of three nights of eight hours of sleep followed by a 26-hour episode of wakefulness. During the 26 hours of wakefulness, participants remained sitting in bed and had a staff member in the room to help them remain awake, and were not allowed to exercise or drink caffeine.

Throughout the 26 hours of wakefulness, the study participants were asked to rate their alertness twice per hour, their attention was assessed every two hours, and an electroencephalogram and electrooculogram were recorded continuously to monitor inadvertent sleep episodes and failures to pay attention.

“Many surveys find greater levels of daytime sleepiness in older adults, yet our current research demonstrates that daytime sleepiness in older adults should not be attributed to a normal consequence of the aging process,” said Duffy. “Rather, daytime sleepiness may instead be a result of a number of other potential factors, such as chronic medical conditions, undiagnosed sleep disorders, or side effects of medications older people may be taking.” Older adults who fall asleep accidentally during the day or early evening showed evidence of the underlying cause of their sleepiness.

The research was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health.

Parrots can dance as well as talk, leading to possible evolutionary link

Researchers at Harvard University have found that humans aren’t the only ones who can groove to a beat — some other species can dance, too. The capability was previously believed to be specific to humans.

The research team found that only species that can mimic sound seem to be able to keep a beat, implying an evolutionary link between the two capacities.

The study was led by Adena Schachner, a doctoral candidate in psychology at Harvard, and is published in the current issue of Current Biology. Schachner’s co-authors are Marc Hauser, professor of psychology at Harvard, Irene Pepperberg, lecturer at Harvard and adjunct associate professor of psychology at Brandeis University; and Timothy Brady, a doctoral candidate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Schachner and her colleagues closely studied Alex, a well-known African grey parrot who passed away shortly after the study, and Snowball, a sulphur-crested cockatoo whose human-like dancing behavior has led to online fame.

“Our analyses showed that these birds’ movements were more lined up with the musical beat than we’d expect, but it is important to note that vocal mimicry resulted in a brain mechanism that was also needed for moving to a beat,” says Schachner. “This theory made a really specific prediction: Only animals that can mimic sound should be able to keep a beat.”

To test this prediction, Schachner needed data from a large variety of animals — so she turned to a novel source of data, the YouTube video database. Schachner systematically searched the database for videos of animals moving with the beat of the music, including vocal mimics such as parrots and vocal nonmimics such as dogs and cats.

Schachner analyzed the videos frame-by-frame, using the same analyses applied to the case-study birds. Criteria included the animal’s speed compared with the speed of the music and alignment with individual beats. Potentially “fake” videos, where music was added to the video after the fact, or the animal was following visual cues, were omitted.

“The really important point is that many animals showed really strong evidence of synchronizing with the music, but they were all vocal mimics,” says Schachner. “Most of them were parrots — we found 14 different species of parrot on YouTube that showed convincing evidence that they could keep a beat.”

Because only animals capable of vocal mimicry — such as parrots — appear to be able to keep a beat, the study implies an evolutionary link between vocal mimicry and this crucial part of dance.

“Our data suggest that some of the brain mechanisms needed for human dance originally evolved to allow us to imitate sound,” says Schachner. It is important to note that vocal mimicry alone is not enough for a bird to keep a beat, although the researchers aren’t yet certain why some parrots can dance and not others. It may be that all parrots have a latent capacity, but need certain experiences or social motivation, according to Schachner.

Schachner says that these birds do not seem to move in synchrony with sounds in the wild, and so the behavior could not have evolved as a result of direct natural selection. For this reason, in bird species this capacity must be an evolutionary byproduct of something else, says Schachner, seemingly vocal mimicry.

It may be, says Schachner, that the human ability to keep time with music has also evolved as a byproduct of vocal mimicry. She points out that the cognitive processes needed for both actions are related.

“In both vocal mimicry and entrainment, says Schachner, “you’re taking in auditory input, and constantly monitoring not only your output but also the sound input. This allows you to fix your output in real time, to better resemble or line up with what you hear. For example, if you are tapping to a beat, you constantly monitor the sound and your taps, so that if you become misaligned with the beat, you immediately change your timing. If you are imitating a sound, you constantly monitor your memory of the sound you are trying to imitate, as well as the sound you are producing, so if you notice a difference, you can change your vocalization. So it seems plausible that vocal mimicry and keeping a beat might rely on some of the same mechanisms.”

The research was funded by the McDonnell Foundation.

By Amy Lawle
FAS Communications

Researchers at Harvard University have found that humans aren’t the only ones who can groove to a beat — some other species can dance, too. The capability was previously believed to be specific to humans.

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To test this prediction, Schachner needed data from a large variety of animals — so she turned to a novel source of data, the YouTube video database. Schachner systematically searched the database for videos of animals moving with the beat of the music, including vocal mimics such as parrots and vocal nonmimics such as dogs and cats.

Schachner analyzed the videos frame-by-frame, using the same analyses applied to the case-study birds. Criteria included the animal’s speed compared with the speed of the music and alignment with individual beats. Potentially “fake” videos, where music was added to the video after the fact, or the animal was following visual cues, were omitted.

“The really important point is that many animals showed really strong evidence of synchronizing with the music, but they were all vocal mimics,” says Schachner. “Most of them were parrots — we found 14 different species of parrot on YouTube that showed convincing evidence that they could keep a beat.”

Because only animals capable of vocal mimicry — such as parrots — appear to be able to keep a beat, the study implies an evolutionary link between vocal mimicry and this crucial part of dance.

“Our data suggest that some of the brain mechanisms needed for human dance originally evolved to allow us to imitate sound,” says Schachner. It is important to note that vocal mimicry alone is not enough for a bird to keep a beat, although the researchers aren’t yet certain why some parrots can dance and not others. It may be that all parrots have a latent capacity, but need certain experiences or social motivation, according to Schachner.

Schachner says that these birds do not seem to move in synchrony with sounds in the wild, and so the behavior could not have evolved as a result of direct natural selection. For this reason, in bird species this capacity must be an evolutionary byproduct of something else, says Schachner, seemingly vocal mimicry.

It may be, says Schachner, that the human ability to keep time with music has also evolved as a byproduct of vocal mimicry. She points out that the cognitive processes needed for both actions are related.

“In both vocal mimicry and entrainment, says Schachner, “you’re taking in auditory input, and constantly monitoring not only your output but also the sound input. This allows you to fix your output in real time, to better resemble or line up with what you hear. For example, if you are tapping to a beat, you constantly monitor the sound and your taps, so that if you become misaligned with the beat, you immediately change your timing. If you are imitating a sound, you constantly monitor your memory of the sound you are trying to imitate, as well as the sound you are producing, so if you notice a difference, you can change your vocalization. So it seems plausible that vocal mimicry and keeping a beat might rely on some of the same mechanisms.”

The research was funded by the McDonnell Foundation.
concerts

Fri., May 8—“Noteables Spring Concert.” (Harvard Noteables) Concert by the Noteables. Lowell Lecture Hall, 17 Kirkland St., 8 p.m. Tickets are $8 general; $6 students/senior citizens. Harvard Box Office (617) 496-2222, www.boxoffice.harvard.edu.

Sat., May 9—“Mendelssohn’s Elijah.” (Harvard Box Office) Brookline Chorus presents performance on Mendelssohn’s 200th birthday featuring soloist David Kravitz in title role. Sanders Theatre, 8 p.m. Tickets are $30 general; $25 students/senior citizens; WGBH and Coolidge Corner Theatre members 10 percent off. Harvard Box Office (617) 496-2222, www.boxoffice.harvard.edu.

Sat., May 16—“Back Bay Choral 35th Anniversary Concert: Brahms & Wachner.” (Harvard Box Office) BBC presents Brahms’ “German Requiem” and the premiere of a major new work by former BBC music director composer Julian Wachner. Sanders Theatre, 8 p.m. Tickets are $45/$35/$25 general; $5 off students/senior citizens. Harvard Box Office (617) 496-2222, www.boxoffice.harvard.edu.

Sun., May 17—“Haydn, Beethoven, Brahms.” (Harvard Box Office) Boston Chamber Music Society presents program of chamber music. Sanders Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $50/$40/$30/$20 general; $8 tickets in the $30-20 sections students; $4 off senior citizens, WGBH, MTA members; $4 off O&D (at Harvard Box Office); student rush $5 cash only, 1 hour prior to concert. Harvard Box Office (617) 496-2222, www.boxoffice.harvard.edu.

dance

Fri., May 8-Sat., May 9—“In Case of Emergency.” (Harvard-Radcliffe Modern Dance Company) Annual spring performance featuring a wide range of choreography as well as guest choreographers Larissa Koch ’08-09 and Brenda Dweibasis. Harvard Dance Center, 60 Garden St., 7 p.m. Tickets are $5. Harvard Box Office (617) 496-2222, www.boxoffice.harvard.edu.

Fri., May 8-Sat., May 9—“Streets Show.” (Mainly Jazz Dance Company) Dance performances featuring student and professional choreography, as well as guest performance by the Harvard (Continued on next page)
time steps.

Calendar@harvard.edu

North lobby, Baker Library, Bloomberg
First floor, Countway Library. (617) 496-2222, www.boxof-

Sat., May 9—“Time Steps.” (TAPS)
Performance by Harvard TAPS, featuring music from the 1920s to the present, and guest performances by Harvard Din & Tonics, Harvard Ballroom Dance Team, and Concordia Harvard: College Eights. (617) 547-8300, internet address: 171 Hall. 17 Kildani St., 8 p.m. Tickets are $10 general; $5 students/citizens. Harvard cards can be included. Admissions charges may apply for some events. Call the event sponsor for more details.

Theater

Agassiz Theatre

Through Sun., May 10—“Big River.” -Performed as a place in Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., 8 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees on Sat. and Sun. Tickets are $12 general; $8 students/senior citizens. Harvard Box Office (617) 496-2222, www.boxof-

American Repertory Theatre

Sat., May 9—June 7—“Romance” is David Mamet’s courtroom farce that zeroes in on the quest for total political incorrectness.
—Performances take place at Loeb Drama Center Ex, 64 Brattle St., various times. Some dates have preplay discussions and matinees, see box of information for details. Student tickets are $25-79 general; students $25 advance purchases. Harvard students tickets are available through the A.R.T. Box Office (617) 547-8300, in person at the Loeb Drama Center Box Office, or at www.amrep.org.

Thu., May 14—“Under 35 Night.”
Post-show mingling at Sanders’ Bistro.

Fri., May 22—“Out of A.R.T. Night”
For ages 7—no screenings.
Post-show mingling at Sanders’ Bistro.

Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club

Through Sat., May 9—“Tis Pity She’s a Whore” directed by Olivia Benowitz.
—Performances take place at Loeb Drama Center Ex, 64 Brattle St., times TBD. Tickets are available through the A.R.T. Box Office (617) 547-8300, in person at the Loeb Drama Center Box Office, or at www.amrep.org.

Exhibitions

Adams House

“Photographs: Recent Works by Ian Schaff.” An opening reception will be held Fri., May 8, at 7 p.m. (May 8-15)

—Adams House, 10 Linden St.

Arnold Arboretum

“Science in the Pleasure Ground” provides a captivating retrospective on the oldest arboretum in the nation. The central theme in this exhibition is explored through 15-foot scale model of the Arboretum that includes historical vignettes and presents a historical photo album.
—Hunnewell Building, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., noon-4 p.m.; closed holidays. (617) 524-1718, www.arboretum.harvard.edu.

“Where Art and Science Meet: A Celebration of the Life and Art of Esther Heins” celebrates Heins’ life as one of the most celebrated botanist and Boston-area resident for almost all of her career. The exhibit showcases her large illustrations of the living collections of Arnold Arboretum. (Through May 22)
—Lecture Hall, Hunnewell Building, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., noon-4 p.m.; closed holidays. (617) 524-1718, www.arboretum.harvard.edu.

Baker Library

“The Primary Sources: Contemporary Research in Baker Library Historical Collections” presents a selection of primary source materials in contemporary scholarly research by showcasing four recent exhibition projects at Harvard Business School faculty and fellows that drew extensively from the extraordinary breadth of historical documents held at HBS. Also featuring ten additional, recent, scholarly publications in which the collections were strengthened and enriched by the authors’ access to historical documents at HBS. (Through Sept. 11)
—North lobby, Baker Library, Bloomberg Center. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. For info: 496-6364, www.library.hbs.edu/hc.

Cabot Science Library

“Rethinking the Darwinian Revolution” explores the Darwinian revolution and why Darwin still packs such a punch today. Open to the students from Janet Browne’s history of science class. (Through May 22)

—Main floor, Cabot Science Library. (617) 496-5534

Carpenter Center

“VES Thesis Show: The Arsenale” features the work of three Carpenter Center Fellows: Sabrina Chou, Camille Greaves, Gray Amy, Chen Lincoln Leigh McDuffie, Sally Rhinett, John Selig, Nick Shearer, Anna Smith, and Lisa Vastola. A reception will be held Fri., May 8, at 5:30 p.m. (Through June 4)

—Main Gallery & Sert Gallery, third floor, Carpenter Center, 24 Quincy St. Hours are Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5:15 p.m.; Sun., noon-5:15 p.m. Tickets: $5-25, 617-495-2531, tiabchance@fas.harvard.edu. www.ves.fas.harvard.edu.

Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments

“Time, Life, Matter: Science in Cambridge” traces the development of scientific activity at Harvard, and explores how science was promoted or affected by religion, politics, philosophy, art, and commerce in the last 400 years. Features included objects in situ, some events. Call the event sponsor for more details.

Countway Library of Medicine

“Conceiving the Pill: Highlights from Clinical Trials” features newly opened manuscripts of John C. Rock, the co-inventor of the contraceptive pill with Arthur T. Hertig, and will draw on the papers of contributing scientists, physicians, and citizens involved in reproductive health. The event will include ephemera, photographs, correspondence, and artifacts from these collections. (Through Sept. 30)
—First floor, Countway Library. (617) 432-6196.

“Modeling Reproduction: The Teaching Models of Robert Latou Dickinson” features an exhibition of teaching models developed a renowned collection of reproduction models as part of his campaign to broaden the understanding and acceptance of human sexuality. In addition to models, the exhibit includes corresponding historical medical photographs from the Dickinson papers. (Through Sept. 30)
—Second floor, Countway Library. (617) 432-6196.

“The Warren Anatomical Museum” presents over 500 anatomical models, anatomical models, and medical memorabilia of famous physicians. (On-going)
—Warren Museum Exhibition Gallery, 5th floor, Countway Library. (617) 432-6196.

Du Bois Institute

“Retini Fani-Kayode (1955-1989): Photographs” is a retrospective of large-scale color and black-and-white photographs featuring the work of Nigerian artist Rotimi Fani-Kayode, whose prolific career spanned only six years. Fani-Kayode’s photographic oeuvre is perhaps best known for his development of a renowned collection of reproducion models as part of his campaign to broaden the understanding and acceptance of human sexuality. In addition to models, the exhibit includes corresponding historical medical photographs from the Dickinson papers. (Through Sept. 30)
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—Second floor, Countway Library. (617) 432-6196.
lectures

art/design

Mon., May 11—“CYL Weiss and Brothers: A Study of Painting, Architecture, and Design from the 1920s to the 1940s.” (Harvard Theatre Collection, Houghton Library) An illustrated talk with artifacts inspired by Daghoiß Weiss and Brothers. After the lecture, an exhibition viewing will take place in Pusey Library. Forum Room, Room 3rd floor, 4 p.m. Free and open to the public. (617) 495-1027, www.peabody.harvard.edu.

Thu., May 14—“Starting at Standing Rock: Following Custer and Sitting Bull to the Little Big Horn.” (Peabody Museum) Nathaniel Philbrick, author, Geology Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., 5:30 p.m. Reception to follow in Peabody Museum, 1 Dixie Ave. and open free to the public. (617) 495-2445, hts@harvard.edu.

science


May 9-11 and May 16

The Harvard Film Archive (HFA) will host a virtual event, ‘The Second Life of Chris Marker,’ with legendary filmmaker Chris Marker on May 16. The event, which will take place in the virtual world of Second Life, will be preceded by screenings of Marker’s films May 9-11. See film, page 22.

LEFT: ‘A Grin Without a Cat (Le fond de l’air est rouge)’ screens Sunday, May 10, at the HFA at 7 p.m.

Cortesía de la Biblioteca de Harvard. La imagen fue tomada por un investigador que observa la vida de las abejas en el jardín botánico de Harvard. La imagen muestra una abeja en vuelo, y al fondo se puede ver una colmena. La descripción detalla la forma de la abeja y su entorno natural, así como otras mariposas y insectos que pueden verse en el jardín botánico. La biblioteca proporciona una guía para la observación de la vida silvestre, incluyendo actividades para grupos de chicas y niños de 6 a 12 años.
**Office for the Arts** plans a diverse schedule of events. For information on the schedule and to purchase tickets, (617) 495-8678, ofats.harvard.edu, www.fas.harvard.edu/ora.

**Office for the Arts, Ceramics Program** presents a creative learning environment for a dynamic mix of Harvard students, staff and faculty, professional artists, and the greater Boston community. (617) 495-3045, mhrif@fas.harvard.edu.

**Harvard Neighbors** offers a variety of programs and events for the Harvard community. (617) 496-4131, neighbors@fas.harvard.edu, www.neighbors.harvard.edu.

**Harvard School of Public Health**

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**Ethical Issues in Global Health Research Workshop**: Intensive 5-day seminar on key topics, including ethical guidelines for research involving human subjects, confidentiality, conflict of interest, and scientific misconduct. Room 636, F XB Building, 651 Huntington Ave., 8 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. Course fee of $1,950 includes tuition, snacks and lunch (due upon acceptance) includes daily continental breakfasts and breaks, special faculty reception for Harvard Faculty Club, comprehensive reference manual and CD, and a Harvard certificate of attendance. A deposit of $150 is due by May 14. For more information on costs, scholarship assistance, and the application process, call (617) 495-9629, or visit www.hsp.harvard.edu/bioethics. (617) 432 9989, mckl@hsph.harvard.edu.

**Harvard Swim School** offers swimming and diving lessons for children and adults. Classes are held Saturday mornings from April 4 to May 9 in the Blodgett Pool in the Maki Athletic Center. (617) 496 8790, www.atletics.harvard.edu/swimschool.

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**The Landscape Institute, 30 Quincy St., London, England, landscapelibrary@fas.harvard.edu, www.landscape.arboretum.harvard.edu** has an open for enrollment. Classes begin June 1.

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**Open Studio Design Lab is a weekly opportunity to hone design and technical skills in an informal, problem-specific format. Open every Friday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Private one-on-one mentoring $50/hr; drop-in student and youth rate (12 and under) $40/hr for current certificate candidates free. No registration required. Please stop by the office and the visit registrar to pay. For private sessions, contact wilderness@artsheds.com. Upcoming:** May 8—Contrasting Bid Forms & Observation

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**Mather House Chamber Music Program** offers a variety of concerts each term. For information, call (617) 495-1771. (617) 495-1771.
May 12-18

‘20 Books VI’ is an exhibition of artists’ books created by students in the introductory Book Art class at Harvard Extension School. The collection showcases hand-made books that find novel ways of telling familiar stories and will be on view May 12-18. An opening reception will be held Tuesday, May 12, in the Grossman Common Room, 51 Brattle St., 6-7:30 p.m. See exhibits, page 23, for more information.

across a range of spiritual traditions. All are welcome.

Unity Church of God
6 William St., Somerville, 3 blocks up from Harvard Ave., (617) 541-4458, info@harvard-epworth.org.

United Ministry
The churches that make up United Ministry are affiliated with the United Church of Christ, the United Church of Christ in Canada, and other progressive Christian denominations. The collection showcas- es handmade books that find novel ways of telling familiar stories and will be on view May 12-18. An opening reception will be held Tuesday, May 12, in the Grossman Common Room, 51 Brattle St., 6-7:30 p.m. See exhibits, page 23, for more information.

http://lists.hcs.harvard.edu/mailman/listinfo/bahai-list.

Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church

Communion service: 9 a.m.

Community education for all ages: 10 a.m.

Worship service: 11 a.m.

Sunday services are 8 a.m. continued, for more information, or subscribe to our announcement list at

May 13-19

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/huums

www.chabadharvard.org.

Harvard Islamic Society
Harvard Islamic Society Office, (617) 541-8094, www.digitals.harvard.edu/~hus

Five daily prayers held in the basement of Canaday E. Friday prayers held in Lowell Lecture Hall at 11:15 p.m.

Harvard Korean Mission meets on Fridays for Bible Study Group at 7 p.m., and on Sundays for ecumenical worship at 2 p.m. in the Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, 1555 Massachusetts Ave., (617) 441-5211, r stoph@hcs.harvard.edu.

H-R Asian Buddhist Student Koinonia
Friday Night Bible study, Boylston Hall, 108 p.m., every Friday. Join us as we continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew this year. Fresh Mid-Week at Leverer 03L, 1:40-2:30 p.m., every Wednesday, Freshmen only, iskandar@fas.harvard.edu, www.hcs.harvard.edu/~absk.

H-R Catholic Student Center
Saint Paul Church, 29 Mt. Auburn St., Student Mass: Sun., 5 p.m., Lower Church.

Harvard Hillie
52 Mt. Auburn St. (617) 495-4696, www.hillie.harvard.edu.

Balkan Minyan: Fri., 5:30 p.m.

Orthodox Minyan: daily, 7:30 a.m. and 15 minutes before sundown; Sat., 9 a.m., and 1 hour before sundown.

Conservative Minyan: Mon. and Thu., 8:45 am; Fri., 5:45 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m., 1-4:55 p.m., and 45 minutes after sundown.

Worship and Study Minyan
(Conservative): Sat., 9:30 a.m.

Worship and Study Minyan
(Conservative): Sat., 9:30 a.m.

Harvard Student Ministry
496-8084

Harvard Islamic Society Office. (617) 99 Prospect St.

Cambridge, Mass. (617) 354-0837

Cambridge, Mass.

Cambridgeport (accessible by red line, across a range of spiritual traditions. All are welcome.

Women's Church: 10:45 a.m.

Ecumenical Worship
Students Mass: Sun., 5 p.m., Lower Church.

Harvard Hillie
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496-8084

Harvard Islamic Society Office. (617) 99 Prospect St.

Cambridge, Mass. (617) 354-0837

Cambridgeport (accessible by red line, across a range of spiritual traditions. All are welcome.

Women's Church: 10:45 a.m.
The Harvard Trademark Program has redesigned its Web site to better meet the needs of the public and members of the Harvard community who are seeking information about the Harvard Trademark Program’s licensing activities and trademark protection more generally as well as information regarding the various policies governing the use of Harvard’s name and insignias, trade-mark_program@harvard.edu, www.trade-mark.harvard.edu.

Harvard Veterans Alumni Organization is open to all members of the Harvard University community who are, or have served, in the U.S. military. Visit www.hva.harvard.org for information and to participate.

LifeRaft is an ongoing drop-in support group where people can talk about their own or others’ threatening illness, or about their grief and bereavement. Life Raft is open to anyone connected with the Harvard Community: students, faculty, staff, retirees, and families. Life Raft is free and confidential and meets on Wednesdays, noon-2 p.m. in the Board of Ministry Conference Room on the ground floor of the Memorial Church. For more information, contact mark_program@harvard.edu, www.trade-mark.harvard.edu.

Harvard Lesbian, Bisexual/ Transgender/ Queer Women’s Lunch is a discussion group for our LGBT and straight friends who are interested in creating a community of support and discussion. For more information, visit http://harvard.edu.</p>

**support/social**

Support and social groups are listed as space permits.

The Berkman Center for Internet and Society Thursday Meetings @ Berman, a group of blogging enthusiasts and people interested in Internet technology, meets at the Berkman Center, second floor of 23 Everett St., Cambridge, on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. Please contact us for meeting times and locations. Please let us know if you are interested in participating or would like more information about these groups. XML, feeds, aggregators, wikis, and related technology and their impact on society are welcome. http://berkman.harvard.edu/thursdaysmeetings/.

The COACH Program seeks Harvard college and graduate students to serve as “college coaches” in the Boston Public Schools to assist young people in applying to college. More information can be found at http://www.facebook.com. Join us: www.harvardhumanist.org for e-newsletter, events, Harvard Graduate Student Pub Nights: Queen’s Head, Memorial Hall, every other Thursday. “Humanist Small Group” Sunday Brunch every other Sunday. For Harvard students, faculty, alumni, and staff.

Cambridge Friends Meeting meets for worship Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Cambridge Friends Meeting, 8 Longfellow Park, off Brattle St. (617) 876-6883.

Cambridgeport Baptist Church (corner of Magazine St. and Putnam Ave., 10-minute walk from Central Square T stop) Sunday morning worship service at 10 a.m. Home fellowships meet throughout the week. (617) 567-6779, www.cambridgebaptist.org.

First Church in Cambridge (United Church of Christ) holds a traditional worship service Sundays at 11 a.m. and an interfaith service on Sunday afternoons at 5:30 p.m. Located at 11 Garden St. (617) 547-2724.

Lutheran — University Lutheran Church, 6 Winthrop St., at the corner of Dunster St., holds Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. through Labor Day, and 9 and 11 a.m. Sept. 10-May, with child care provided. Unliu Shelter; (617) 547-2841. Church and Shelter Phone: (617) 876-2256, www.unl.uiu.org.

Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave, and 400 Harvard St. (behind the Barker Center and the Inn at Harvard) holds a Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. Please join this inclusive, progressive congregation in the American Baptist tradition. webcambridgebaptist.org, (617) 864-8068.

Swedeborg Chapel: Church of the New Jerusalem, 369 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138, http://swedenborg chapel.org/ Located at the corner of Quincy St. and Kirkland St. Bible Study, Sundays at 10 a.m. Services, Sundays at 11 a.m. Community Dinner, Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Swedeborg Reading Group, Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Cambridgeport Baptist Church, (617) 576-6683, 70 Kirkland St. Christ Church, (617) 876-0200 Episcopal Chaplaincy, (617) 495-4340 First Parish in Cambridge, Unitarian Universalist, (617) 495-2727 Harvard Epworth United Methodist Church, (617) 354-0837 Old Cambridge Baptist Church, (617) 864-8068 St. Paul Church, (617) 495-8400 Swedenborg Chapel, (617) 864-4522 The Memorial Church, (617) 495-5508

(Continued from previous page)

upon completion. Tax is provided. (617) 855-2883, (617) 855-3293.

Brain Imaging Study: Researchers seek healthy women ages 24-64 who are nonsmoking for a three-visit research study of brain function and blood sampling. Up to $175 compensation upon completion of the screening visit and $850 upon completion. Call (617) 855-2883. Responses are confidential.

Brain Imaging Study: Visual Processing Network: Researchers seek people ages 17-45 with dyslexia. Study takes 2 hours. The first part involves completing a series of problem-solving activities, including a brief measure of word reading. The second part consists of a computer task (checkers) on a computer screen while brain activity is measured; nonverbal reasoning is also tested to record brain activity. Compensation is a $50 Amazon gift certificate. To participate, documentation describing dyslexia should be submitted, or consult the researcher. jarson330@yahoo.com.

Diabetic Foot Pain Study: Researchers seek healthy men and women of any age with a history of diabetes to evaluate an investigational medication for treating diabetes-caused pain. Participants receive free medical care, hotel accommodations, and $200 in compensation. Study information and instructions. (617) 525-PAIN (7426), PainTrials@partners.org.

First Impressions of Faces Study: Researchers seek men and women ages 30-65 who have an accurate, correct ed vision and ability to read English to participate in an hour and a half long normative and nonnormative session. Participants will be shown photographs of faces on a computer screen and will be asked to record their perceptions of them, and then fill out a brief questionnaire. Compensation is $20. (617) 726-5135, blinkstudies@gmail.com.

Hearing Study: Researchers seek healthy women and men ages 30 to 65 for a noninvasive hearing study. Participation involves approximately nine hours of hearing tests. Compensation provided. (617) 573-5585, hearing@miel.com.

Hispanic and African-American Participants for First Impressions of Faces Study: Researchers seek women and men ages 18 and older who identify themselves as African/African-American or Hispanic. Participants must have clear or corrected vision and ability to read English to participate in an hour-and-a-half long compensation study. Participants will be shown photographs of faces on a computer screen and will be asked to record their perceptions of them, and then fill out a brief questionnaire. Compensation is $20. (617) 726-5135, blinkstudies@gmail.com.

Studies

Studie studies are listed as space permits. Available failure to determine the safety and effectiveness of an investigational drug for acute. The study consists of 5 visits over 12 weeks and subjects will receive to $200 in compensation for time and travel. Study visits are required approximately every 2 weeks. To participate, the subject must stop all other treatments for acne except emollients approved by the investigator, (617) 726-5066, harvardskinstudies@partners.org.

Atypical Antipsychotics Study: Researchers seek men and women of any age between the ages of 18 and 45 that are currently treated with one or more of the following antipsychotics: Abilify, Clozaril, Geodon, Invega, Risperdal, Seroquel, Zyprexa. The study will Involve three 30 minute visits over an 8 month period. (866) 961-2388.

Cocaine Usage Study: Researchers seek healthy, nonsmokers, non-drug users ages 18-25. Participants will be paid $600. Involves completing a series of four visits, eight phone interviews, keeping sleep and pain diaries, and learning skills in a urine, blood test and vision, and taking medication study. Compensation (617) 724-6102, tollef@1888no2-Duch, cmalottis@partners.org, www.massgeneral.org/parresearch.
The salary ranges for each job grade are available at http://www.employ-
ment.harvard.edu. Target hiring rates will fall within these salary ranges. These salary ranges are for full-time positions and are adjusted for part-time positions. Services & Trades positions are not considered for grade levels. The relevant union contract determines salary levels for these positions.

Other Opportunities:
All non-faculty job openings currently available at Harvard are listed on the Web at http://www.employment.
harvard.edu.

In addition, Spheron Services, Inc., pro-
vides temporary secretarial and clerical
staffing services to the University. If you
are interested in temporary work at
Harvard (all or part-time), call Spheron
at (617) 495-1500 or (617) 432-6200
(Longwood area).

Additional Career Support: A Web page on career issues, includ-
ing links to tax information, research
resources, and job listings, is available for
edu/LEarning/careerdevelopment/index.
x.shtml

Job Search Info Sessions: Harvard University offers a series of
information sessions on various job
search topics such as interviewing, how
to target the right positions, and navigat-
ing the Harvard hiring process. All are
welcome to attend. The sessions are
typically held on the first Wednesday of
each month from 5:30 to 7:00 at the
Harvard Events and Information Center
in Holyoke Center at 1350 Massachu-
tsetts Avenue in Harvard Square. More
information is available online at http://
employment.harvard.edu/careers/find
ingsajob/.

Please Note:
The letters “SIC” at the end of a job list-
ing indicate that there is a strong internal
candidate (a current Harvard staff mem-
ber) in consideration for this position.

Harvard is strongly committed to its policy of equal opportunity and affirmative
eaction. Employment and advancement are based on merit, character and
environment. Harvard is also an employer of varied locations.

How to Apply:
To apply for an advertised position and/or for more information on these and other postings, please visit our Web
site at http://www.employment.har-
ard.edu to upload your resume and
cover letter.

Explanation of Job Grades:
Most positions at Harvard are assigned
to a job grade (listed below with each
posting) based on a number of factors
including the position’s duties and re-
sponsibilities as well as required skills
and knowledge as well as knowledge.
It began as a childhood hobby, but for Howard Burr, collecting films became a lifelong passion. A dentist by trade, Burr amassed a collection that would make most cinephiles envious: nearly 3,000 films, including many rare prints, B films, and vintage Technicolor prints. To guarantee the collection can be of use to future generations of film students, scholars, historians, and cinephiles, Burr’s family recently agreed to give the collection — which also includes posters, promotional materials, nearly complete runs of film collecting and fan magazines, and vintage projectors — to the Harvard Film Archive (HFA).

“This collection is a treasure trove of American cinema, popular culture, and the lost art of film collecting,” said Haden Guest, director of the HFA. “The posters alone would represent a significant collection, but to have the film prints, and, in addition to them, the lobby cards, Dr. Burr’s correspondence regarding this collecting activities, and even several projectors — it’s a wonderful collection.”

Though the vast majority of the films collected by Burr date to the classical studio era (1930-60), the collection also includes several reissued prints of films originally produced as early as 1916, as well as more modern films, which date to the early 1980s.

While the films themselves are the heart of the collection, promotional materials such as the lobby cards and posters can provide scholars with crucial insight into the workings of the studio system. Guest said, “What’s interesting is [that] the publicity materials, like the lobby cards and the posters, were not owned by the studios.”

Guest said, “They were owned by the National Screen Service, which would actually request the materials be returned to them. Nevertheless, people would find ways to collect it — materials would get ‘lost’ or just wouldn’t be returned. When the National Screen Service closed in the 1960s, this material was dispersed near and far, and since then it’s become highly collectible.”

Other parts of the collection, such as fan magazines and film collectors’ catalogs, offer scholars an important window into the world of film collecting, which was a major hobbyist activity from the 1950s until the emergence of video as a home-viewing format.

“What are really fascinating are the papers,” Guest continued. “The collection includes correspondence between Dr. Burr and other collectors, as well as a wonderful trove of vintage film and fan magazines, many quite rare and in almost complete runs.”

Now being processed and cataloged, the collection will gradually be incorporated into the HFA’s collection. Though the paper materials may be available sooner, it will likely take several months to process all the films, Coffey said. A finding aid for the material will be available in Harvard Library’s online search engine OASIS (Online Archival Search Information System).
A day at Arts First,
By Sarah Sweeney
A day at Arts First,

“Putting me on this farm, making me do chores.” Ashbery’s father was also prone to violent tantrums; “I was not the son he wanted,” admitted Ashbery.

Ashbery and his Harvard classmates Koch, O’Hara, and Guest would later achieve recognition as members of the “New York School,” a loosely aligned contemporary avant-garde movement of the 1950s and ‘60s. During the mid-‘60s, Ashbery made a living as an art critic in New York City, where he became acquainted with Andy Warhol. He worked for Newsweek magazine, among other periodicals, and jetted around the country attending art shows. Ashbery called journalism a “nightmare world of deadlines” and confessed he still suffered bad dreams centered on his journalistic jaunts.

When his book “Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror” was published in 1975, it won all major literary awards that year: the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award. Life for Ashbery would never be the same.

He recalled first seeing a copy of the Parmigianino painting that would inspire his most famous poem in 1960. On a trip to Vienna, Ashbery laid eyes on the real thing in 1959, calling it “haunting, beguiling,” and “surprisingly tiny with an unearthly glimmer,” noting that he “filed it away as something I’d like to do someday.”

Ashbery “did something about it” in Province-town, Mass., when he began composing the poem that would become the title of his immensely influential book. “Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror” took five months to write, recalled Ashbery. It is widely considered to be a masterpiece of 20th century literature. In her speech, Faust called Ashbery “an impossible hybrid, noting that even recently someone called him, ‘an outlaw and a classic.’”

“When the classic side, John Ashbery has won more prizes than any living author,” she said. “Ever an outlaw, he resists capture.”

Ashbery made his way to the podium as the crowd rose for a standing ovation. He thanked the students, calling their performance “heart-rending,” but couldn’t add, “If I knew this was going to happen, I probably would have made arrangements that probably would have led to its not happening.” As the crowd laughed, Ashbery smiled. “Thank you,” he said.

By Sarah Sweeney
Harvard News Office

Before John Ashbery ‘49 was one of the most influential and celebrated poets of modern times, he moonlighted as an English translator of French detective novels under the pseudonym “Jonas Berry.” But the self-dubbed “hair-brained, homegrown, Surrealist” poet bestowed his fitting absurdist style to these books, including adding the sex scenes the publisher requested to please American readers.

“We become instant friends,” said Ashbery of encountering a young O’Hara at Harvard. Being friends with him was “like a holiday,” Ashbery recounted. Of Creeley, Ashbery garnered laughs, saying, “He dressed in all black — long before Goths.”

In an intimate, illuminating talk, Arts Medalist Ashbery opened a window into his long, colorful life, reminiscing about his college days as well as his early days as an art critic and then a poet.

Kenneth Koch, Robert Creeley, Frank O’Hara, Barbara Guest, and Robert Bly, among others.

In his time at Harvard.

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Behind a large white tent in front of the Science Center, Harvard University Dining Services staff members worked over sizzling grills, cooking hot dogs and hamburgers to feed a large crowd of staff, students, and Greater Cambridge residents. It was early, but a few stragglers streamed from the tent carrying plates of grilled chicken, pasta salad, and corn on the cob, and cups of lemonade. The smell of charcoal and smoke wafted through the air. It could only mean one thing: Arts First weekend.

While the weather appeared dicey, sunshine ultimately reigned for this year’s Arts First festival, held April 30-May 3 across the Harvard and Radcliffe campuses.

Over by Johnston Gate, Harvard University Band member Jay Pritchett ’11 slept in the grass while others looked over sheet music. Minutes later, he was marching into the Yard with the band, singing Harvard fight songs, intermittently clapping and whooping:

Ten thousand men of Harvard want victory today.

Max Meyer ’12 sang along. “This is our first year attending Arts First,” he said of himself and cohort Meng Li ’12. “We’re freshmen.”

“I’m just wondering where all the students are,” he said of a crowded Yard, filled mostly with families, tots in tow.

The colorful, dancing Harvard Bhangra followed the University Band. As the band marched off into the distance, the Bhangra members, wearing traditional Indian garb, danced barefoot in the green grass as onlookers clapped their hands and whooped:

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Blocks away at the Radcliffe Institute’s Sunken Garden, members of the Sunken Garden Children’s Theatre applied wigs and ties on colorful scarves for their next performance. To warm up, they gathered in a circle and jumped up and down, singing the classic “Build Me Up Buttercup.” Then, bellowing and wowing their hands, they ran into the garden, much to the delight of dozens of children. “The whole world’s on fire!” they yelled in unison.

The premise of the play was simple. “The Story of Phil Apollo” centered on Phil, the son of Apollo, who accidentally sets the world on fire. Bullied by his peers for being “un-cool,” Phil eventually learns that being true to one’s self is the coolest thing of all.

Wearing a bow tie and curly brown wig, Ryan Halprin ’12 played protagonist Phil who, at one point, in an attempt to seem more hip to his friends, turns into the rapper “Schmil Schmapollo.” Kids squealed, adults laughed, a toddler rolled through the lawn. Fun was being had by all.

Somerville resident and Arts First-goer Kate Fanger laughed along with her 6-year-old daughter Natalie. “This is our first year,” said Fanger. What other activities were on the agenda? “Mariachi, the jazz lunch, juggling,” she answered.

Under the crystal chandeliers of Dudley House, pianist Emil Pitkin ’09 played the works of Chopin, Schumann, and Rachmaninoff; meanwhile, the Harvard Irish American Society and Celtic Club dazzled onlookers at Phillips Brooks House, thanks to the fiddling prowess of Sally Joyce Kiebdaj ’10, with flutist Sam Brotherton ’12 and hand-drummer Adam Hallowell ’09.

Inside Cambridge Queen’s Head Pub in Memorial Hall, Nelson Greaves ’10 and Alex Petri ’10 looked over their notes, scribbling last-minute jokes. Behind them, a dim stage with a lone microphone and an audience waiting.

“We’re the Harvard College Stand-up Comic Society,” said Greaves. “Or SUCS,” he joked.

Comics Dave Rhein ’09 and Greg Kestin of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences successfully garnered laughs, while Greaves said he felt compelled to tell some jokes about his family, pointing out his mother in attendance. “A guy walks into a bar,” said Greaves of his father, “and stays there my entire childhood.”

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