Harvard astronomers, who have probed the heavens for centuries, are in the forefront of the hunt for life on other planets. Page 4
NEW JANUARY INNOVATION FUND ESTABLISHED
President Drew Faust announces the creation of the President’s January Innovation Fund for Faculty, a special venture fund to support the development and implementation of creative academic or co-curricular experiences for students during the January break period. ▶️ http://hvd.gs/53749

LANDING ON ARROW STREET
A new community center at 19 Arrow St. is the first of its kind on a U.S. campus, and the first official gathering spot for Harvard’s community of humanists, estimated at 1,500. ▶️ http://hvd.gs/53649

IN GOOD TASTE
Harvard launches “Science and Cooking: From Haute Cuisine to the Science of Soft Matter” as part of its Gen Ed curriculum for undergrads. “The buzz around this course has been frenetic,” says College Dean Evelynn Hammonds, adding that they had to run a lottery to limit the number of students taking the course. ▶️ http://hvd.gs/53638

HUFFINGTON OFFERS SOCIAL MEDIA SOLUTION
Author and syndicated columnist Arianna Huffington discusses her recent book, her popular website, and what she sees as ways forward for America. ▶️ http://hvd.gs/54087

INSIGHTS ON HEALTHY AGING
A group from the Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement is taught Scratch, a basic programming tool, by teaching fellows and course assistants from CS50: “Introduction to Computer Science I,” a popular Harvard course taught by David Malan. ▶️ http://hvd.gs/53125
FACULTY PROFILE/CHAYA CZERNOWIN
Harvard’s newest professor of composition explores the limits of musical expression with her works and hopes to steer students to their own musical voices. Page 7

THE GOLDEN RULING
“In Brown’s Wake,” the new book by Harvard Law School Dean Martha Minow, tackles the legacy of the landmark Supreme Court ruling Brown v. Board of Education. Page 8

HARVARD BOUND
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A MASTER OF MOTION
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THE BACKDROP ON RETIREMENT FUNDS
David Laibson, who serves on Harvard’s Retirement Investment Committee, spoke with the Harvard Gazette recently about upcoming changes to the University’s retirement investment options. Page 15

CROSSING THAT BRIDGE
On Sept. 14, Kalan Chang was sworn in as an American citizen, thanks in part to Harvard’s Bridge to Learning and Literacy program, which also connected him with an internship at the David Rockefeller Center. Page 16

HARVARD IN STITCHES
Informal knitting circles offer a sense of community, and breaks from tension and routine. Page 17

STUDENT VOICE/MAYA SHWAYDER
An undergraduate explains why she majors in psychology, even though she expects her career path will take her to other fields. Page 18

ATHLETICS/THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN
Harvard charts new football season, with high hopes … and a cautious attitude. Page 19

ENDOWMENT POSTS STRONG GAIN
Harvard’s endowment earned an investment return of 11 percent for the year and was valued at $27.4 billion on June 30. Page 22

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HARVARD HOUSES, PAGE 24
If you gaze at the night sky and sometimes wonder, “What’s out there?” you’re not alone. Harvard scientists have asked the same question for centuries. These days, astronomers at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) are pondering weighty questions involving exploding stars and collapsing black holes, the nearby sun and distant galaxies, the Big Bang Theory, and the next big question: Is there life beyond Earth?

Harvard’s stargazers have craned their necks skyward almost since the University’s founding. They have made many major discoveries and now stand on the cusp of what may be the most tantalizing one: finding planets like Earth, orbiting stars like the sun. Scientists are poised to use astrophysics to show not only what’s out there, but also what’s in here: Is life on Earth exceptional, or does it develop on some planets orbiting particular stars?

Astronomy professor David Charbonneau, who has searched for such orbiting planets — called exoplanets — since he was a Harvard graduate student a decade ago, has pioneered ways to find them, as well as to read their atmospheres. With the launch last year of the Kepler space telescope, the aim of which is to find small, rocky exoplanets similar to Earth, Charbonneau is on the hunt for signs of life.

“I would love, by the end of my career, to be a biologist rather than an astronomer,” Charbonneau said.

The initial findings from the Kepler telescope — which has several CfA researchers on its scientific team — are promising. Scientists recently announced they had discovered more than 700 candidate planets that are being re-examined before
With the launch last year of the Kepler space telescope, the aim of which is to find small, rocky exoplanets similar to Earth, astronomy professor David Charbonneau is on the hunt for signs of life. “I would love, by the end of my career, to be a biologist rather than an astronomer,” Charbonneau said.

Though the search for other Earths may soon grab the headlines, that’s just one of the projects involving CfA researchers. In another example, two asteroids that recently nearly brushed the Earth sent specialists from the CfA’s Minor Planet Center scurrying toward their computers, where they quickly determined that the asteroids posed no danger. Meanwhile, scientists arrayed across six research divisions continue their research, which includes examining the sun for threats from coronal mass ejections, peering at distant stars and more-distant galaxies, and even probing the nature of the universe.

Harvard scientists conduct their research through instruments scattered across the globe — including in Arizona, Hawaii, Chile, and the South Pole — and above it through satellites such as NASA’s Chandra X-Ray Observatory, the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO), the Spitzer Space Telescope, and the planet-finding Kepler. Given the collaborative nature and outsized costs of modern astronomical science, most instruments are built and managed with other institutional partners, including NASA, the European Space Agency, and other universities in the United States and overseas.

The CfA is an unusual institution. Founded in 1973 when the Harvard College Observatory and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory joined forces, it has benefited from the academic and research strengths of Harvard, its faculty, fellows, and students, and the research prowess of the Smithsonian, whose scientists study and design missions, build instruments, and manage operations for an array of satellite- and ground-based observatories, including Chandra, whose scientific operations are run by the CfA.

Chandra has greatly increased scientific understanding of the universe’s X-ray sources, including the giant black holes at the center of galaxies. The Milky Way’s central black hole, for example, is a few million times more massive than the sun, and its X-ray emissions are far lower than they could be because little of the available interstellar gas falls into its gravity well.

Yet Harvard’s impact on astronomy can’t be measured just in terms of instruments, institutions, or even discoveries, according to astronomy professor and science historian emeritus Owen Gingerich. Through its long history, Harvard has trained future astronomers, many of whom have taken leadership roles in the field. In recent decades, research at the Harvard College Observatory and the CfA in areas such as radio astronomy, solar physics, and exoplanet research has attracted students, fellows, and visiting researchers from around the world.

“For a long time, more Ph.D. astronomers were trained here than any other institution in the country. As a consequence, Harvard graduates were populating the directorships of observatories all over the country,” Gingerich said. The Harvard College Observatory “has had a very seminal role in training astronomers.”

SURVEYING THE STARS

Harvard’s first telescope, three-and-a-half-feet long, arrived in the 1670s, a gift of Connecticut Gov. John Winthrop, and was used to observe Halley’s Comet and the comet of 1680, which was so bright that it could be seen during the day. Though astronomy instruction continued, it took more than a century and a half before the Harvard College Observatory was founded in 1839.

The observatory soon became home to the 15-inch “Great Refractor,” a 20-foot-long telescope that reigned from 1847 to 1866 as the nation’s largest and still stands atop the observatory, imposing in its copper dome and featuring a unique track-mounted chair.

In the 1850s, Harvard astronomers ushered in the era of stellar photography with the first photograph of a star other than the sun, an advance that allowed astronomers to conduct much more detailed investigations by freezing images of the sky in time.

“It opened up the floodgates of what was to come,” Gingerich said. That flood began in earnest in the 1880s, under observatory director Edward Pickering, who mounted a mammoth effort to photograph the skies. The resulting images, taken on photographic glass plates that now are being digitized, number more than half a million and form an archive of stellar positions and luminosities that is a treasure trove of data.

Pickering also supervised compilation of a major catalog of the spectra of 225,000 stars, later expanded to more than 350,000, named after prominent astronomer Henry Draper. It was the first large-scale effort to catalog stellar spectra, and its classification system is still in use.

Pickering is also credited with opening the doors of astronomy to women. He hired female “computers” to study the photographs of the skies and catalog the findings. Several researchers, such as Henrietta Leavitt, became famous for discoveries of their own. Leavitt worked out a characteristic of a kind of variable star, the period-luminosity relationship, that proved instrumental in later work on the size and shape of the Milky Way and in the debate over whether the universe held one galaxy or many.

Another female astronomer, Cecilia Payne, received the first astronomy doctorate granted a woman by the Harvard observatory, and also transformed assumptions about the composition of stars. At the time, the prevailing wisdom was that stars were made of iron, but her studies paved the way for the modern understanding that they are largely made of...
Space (continued from previous page)

hydrogen and helium.

Study of the sun blossomed at Harvard under Donald Menzel, who began teaching at Harvard in 1932 and served as observatory director from 1954 to 1966. His successor, Leo Goldberg, conducted pioneering work on solar physics from space-based platforms, including satellites and the first American space station, Skylab.

Recently, solar astronomer John Kohl devised an instrument on the SOHO sun-observing satellite, and Leon Golub and colleagues originated extremely high-resolution solar X-ray imaging telescopes. Kohl says that the explosive outbursts of the sun’s corona, which can disrupt communications, endanger satellites, and threaten astronauts, have fueled the need to understand it.

Kohl said the major technical difficulty was observing the relatively weak light of the corona in the presence of the extremely bright light of the sun itself. Together with his colleagues, Kohl designed an instrument that blocked the sun and allowed the corona to be seen.

“This is the region where the solar wind forms, and also the region where coronal mass ejections form,” Kohl said. “There’s lots of interest in understanding the physics of this region of the solar atmosphere. These experiments we put together were the first to be able to produce a detailed description.”

STARS AS MEASURING STICKS

Astronomers study stars not only to understand them, but also to divine what they can reveal about the universe. In 1998, CfA researchers were part of two teams surveying distant exploding stars as part of their research on the universe’s expansion. After checking their data repeatedly, they announced an unexpected finding: The expansion was accelerating.

That presented a problem. Theories of how the universe worked at the time didn’t include a mechanism for expansion at an ever-faster rate. Scientists had known for decades that the universe was expanding because of the Big Bang’s enormous explosion that got everything started. The question, they thought at the time, was whether there was enough matter in the universe that the force of gravity would one day slow that expansion enough to make it reverse into a cosmic “big crunch.”

For the expansion to accelerate, that meant something must be driving it outward faster and faster, something that science so far had overlooked. That something was dubbed “dark energy,” a force that acts opposite gravity.

The picture of the universe that has emerged since then is humbling. Ordinary matter that people understand and see every day — the Earth, the stars, other planets, ourselves — makes up a tiny fraction, just 4 percent, of all mass and energy in the universe. The rest of the universe is composed of matter and energy that scientists do not understand. Dark energy makes up 74 percent of the total. The rest is undetectable material, dubbed dark matter, whose particles have yet to be found but whose gravitational effects can be viewed.

Robert Kirshner, Clowes Professor of Science at the CfA, was part of the High-Z Supernova Team whose work revealed dark energy’s effects. The researchers found their subject supernova to be 10 to 15 percent farther away than theories at the time could explain. Kirshner said his first thought on seeing the 1998 finding was, “Oh, I hope we’re not wrong.”

“I was really afraid we’d forgotten something,” Kirshner said. “I was nervous about it. It was very much in the public eye. There was a lot at stake, because it is such an important scientific result.”

Follow-up surveys by Kirshner and his colleagues, using the Hubble Space Telescope have confirmed the findings, as have studies by other scientists. “It points directly at a gap in our understanding of very basic physics,” Kirshner said.

Scientists around the world are working to understand this mysterious dark energy. One project involving CfA scientists is based at the South Pole. In collaboration with the University of Chicago, researchers are examining shadows left by ancient clusters of galaxies in the uniform rain of microwave radiation that constantly falls on Earth. Called the cosmic microwave background, it is believed to be a remnant of the Big Bang.

“The main piece of data is simply a census of clusters. The formation of a cluster is a tug-of-war, with gravity pulling it together, and dark energy blowing it apart. So the number of clusters you get at any given age of the universe is very sensitive to the amount of dark energy. The more clusters, the less dark energy,” said CfA researcher Tony Stark.

Since it began operating in 2007, the South Pole telescope has found hundreds of clusters, each containing 100 to 1,000 galaxies. The CfA team, Stark said, focuses on data analysis and is making follow-up observations with the Magellan telescopes, located on a mountaintop in Chile and operated by a group of institutions, including the CfA. Followup observations are also being conducted at X-ray wavelengths using the Chandra telescope, which is probing masses of the clusters.

That Chilean mountaintop will soon be the home of a new cutting-edge telescope. Dubbed Giant Magellan, the new telescope being built by an international consortium led by CfA researchers, including director Charles Alcock, may help to solve some of the current astronomical mysteries. Scheduled for completion in 2018, it will contain seven mirrors that will have the resolving power equal to an 80-foot primary mirror — larger than any previous telescope.

With 10 times the resolution of the Hubble, it will be able to view details currently hidden to instruments. Those details just might provide clues that unlock the secrets of planets circling other stars, of black holes, of other galaxies, of dark matter, and of dark energy.

“If it really works,” Kirshner said, “this will be fantastic.”

Photo by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer
On a recent afternoon at her home in a Boston suburb, Harvard’s newest professor of composition was discussing her often complex, contemporary work. Then a chipmunk stopped her cold.

Riveted, she reveled in the frenzied scurry of the critter darting through early fallen leaves on her emerald lawn.

Chaya Czernowin’s curiosity was understandable. She often turns to nature in her work. Her most recent musical piece, “The Quiet,” was inspired by a snowstorm that mesmerized her one winter day as she gazed at the swirling snowflakes.

“It was a real universe of particles,” she said. “I wanted to create a quiet world of these types of particles with sound.”

Similarly, “Maim” (2001-07), her composition for orchestra and five solo instruments, charts the motion of water.

But nature is just one of Czernowin’s muses. “Sometimes it’s a sonic idea, or a picture, or a gesture, or a more complex metaphor,” she said. “It’s always an impulse, which I then analyze so I can figure out what the piece wants to be.”

She felt connected to music from an early age. As a 6-year-old growing up in Israel, she cried all through “The Sound of Music” because, she told her parents, “The music, it’s so beautiful.” As a girl, Czernowin sang Russian folk songs with her father and sister, performing in harmony by age 4. An early piano student, she tried composing at 13, loving how the process allowed her to tap her emotions.

Later, Czernowin formed a rock group and wrote songs for the band. But increasingly her work gravitated toward the complex, the experimental, and the atonal.

“My friends were saying: ‘Your music was always a bit weird, but now it’s not even rock anymore. It’s stopped having a beat. You should go study.’ ”

The progression of her musical style was a “continuous transition,” said Czernowin, who went on to study with the renowned experimental German composer Dieter Schnebel. In 1993, she received her Ph.D. in composition from the University of California, San Diego.

Her music has been performed in more than 50 festivals around the world and has taken her to Germany, Austria, Japan, and finally to Harvard, where she was appointed the Walter Bigelow Rosen Professor of Music in the University’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences last year. Before arriving at Harvard, Czernowin was a composition professor at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna.

Her works range from operas to compositions for orchestras and soloists to pieces for chamber groups.

“I love instruments, I love color, I love the different physicalities of music,” she said.

Czernowin works to explore and explode the limits of acoustic expression. Her compositions often fuse electronics, orchestras, and instruments such as electric and steel guitars.

“Why do I need to write another Beethoven piece — he did it so well,” she said with a laugh. “If music is really a form of expression, then it really is about inventiveness.”

“A nonlinear experience — sonically and emotionally intense in its nonoperatic sparseness,” reads one description of her opera “Pnima...ins Innere,” which was composed for the Munich Biennale in 2000 and explores the difficulty of communicating a traumatic experience, in this instance the Holocaust.

One reviewer called “Maim” “exquisitely well crafted. ... The music’s engaging turns run from mice-scramper to rock-slide, and the recording gets it all, every spacious squeak and roar. For the music lover who despairs for an art form’s present-day timidity, ‘Maim’ should serve as the most bracing of tonics (no pun intended).”

Czernowin, who has composition commissions until 2017, called Harvard an “intense place,” full of “passionate people.”

At Harvard, she is eager to bring her knowledge and experience to students, and help them “be aware of what it means to grow,” while simultaneously absorbing ideas and inspiration from them. “It’s really exciting to understand where our young people are today — what is interesting for them, where the wind [is] going creatively, what is present in the world.”
The golden ruling

“In Brown’s Wake,” the new book by Harvard Law School Dean Martha Minow, tackles the legacy of the landmark Supreme Court ruling Brown v. Board of Education.

By Sarah Sweeney
Harvard Staff Writer

Born the same year as the Supreme Court’s groundbreaking ruling in Brown v. Board of Education that declared segregation unconstitutional, Martha Minow saw such discrimination firsthand as a schoolgirl in Illinois and later in Washington, D.C.

Though desegregation became law, its enforcement wasn’t guaranteed. The 1964 Civil Rights Act eventually changed that, and Minow, now dean of Harvard Law School, said that as long as she can remember she’s been “engaged with the struggles over whether and how schools can offer equal opportunities and actually integrate students of different races and backgrounds.”

Now, Minow has published “In Brown’s Wake: Legacies of America’s Educational Landmark.” Saddened by many discussions emphasizing Brown’s shortcomings, Minow said she thought it was worth addressing its legacies, including some surprising ones.

“Inspired and guided by Brown, advocates since the early 1960s pursued equal schooling along lines of gender, disability, language, immigration, socioeconomic class, religion, and sexual orientation — and secured federal and state protections and significant programs in each area,” said Minow. “Brown also triggered movements for school choice — initially by people seeking to avoid racial desegregation, then by judges and school officials trying to achieve it, and now as a motor for educational improvement.”

Minow described how Brown stimulated social science research on the influences of contact across lines of social difference, which now deals with Palestinians and Israelis, Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland, and people connecting in online communities. “In fact, since 1954, Brown has offered a touchstone for social change entrepreneurs inside and beyond the United States,” she added.

But, Minow notes, issues of schooling and race have become more complicated since Brown’s passage.

“Over time, the legal principle of Brown was reinterpreted to ban any school assignment of a student using race — even when designed to produce racial integration,” she said. “Now it is less racial than economic differences that spell disparate educational opportunities; and it’s less a legal problem than a political one.”

Still, said Minow, “Brown broke the back of Jim Crow laws mandating racial exclusions and white supremacy. And the idea that all students deserve educational opportunity guides treatment of children with learning disabilities, developmental delays, and physical disabilities; recent immigrants and children learning English; and girls who now play soccer, study physics, and anything else boys study. All kids benefit from Brown’s vision of educational equal opportunity.”

Photo by Rose Lincoln | Harvard Staff Photographer
A master of motion
Artistic director offers students insights and technical tips on the graceful yet grueling craft of ballet.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

Mikko Nissinen wanted the ballet dancers to move their arms and legs in a certain, fluid way, but also he wanted them to move their spirits.

“Listen to your body, feel the gravity, feel the weight,” he urged, as students in the Office for the Arts’ Dance Program worked on a turn. “Yes,” he encouraged excitedly when they responded, “that’s dancing!”

Nissinen, artistic director of the Boston Ballet, was on campus earlier this month to offer a master class for the Harvard students — aspiring professional dancers, and those just looking to perfect their craft.

Each year, visiting dance artists teach classes at Harvard as a complement to the robust series of classes offered by the program, including ballet, contemporary, theater, and modern dance. The Office for the Arts also offers master classes in art forms throughout the year.

Despite a heat wave and steamy temperatures in Harvard’s Dance Center and Director’s Studio on Garden Street, about two dozen students took part in the class, which offered observers an inside look at the grueling work involved in ballet.

The chance to take classes with a range of accomplished dancers and directors has been an important part of the overall Harvard experience for senior Natalie Cameron. The Cabot House resident, who is co-captain of the Mainly Jazz Dance Company at Harvard, hopes to pursue a dance career in musical theater after college.

“For a dancer, it’s always great to have extra classes, especially ballet classes for training and technique, and the fact that they offer it is just fabulous,” Cameron said.

Also taking part in the class was Elizabeth Bergmann, a longtime director of the dance program and a lecturer in dramatic arts. Credited with expanding dance instruction into the Faculty of Arts and Sciences curriculum during her Harvard tenure, Bergmann will retire in February.

As he helped students with their technique, perfecting their pliés and tendus, Nissinen also tried to help them to listen to and connect with the music, gently encouraging their appreciation for the rhythms.

“Listen to the music. The music tells you more than you think,” he said.

Strong imagery also played an important part in the class, as well as a healthy dose of humor.

“Dance like the demons are chasing you. You want to get away. Go, go, go,” Nissinen told the students. Later, he complained that they weren’t having nearly enough fun. Observing that the faces on his young students were grim with concentration, he wondered, “Who died? Enjoy, go for it!”

Later, the students gathered round Nissinen for a question-and-answer session. As they stretched on the floor, the artist who began his own professional career at age 15 with the Finnish National Ballet offered them advice.

To a young student who wanted to know his opinion on the most important thing for a dancer, he said simply: “Be interesting.”

“If you are true to yourself and you are open, you are interesting. You can be so strong that you are vulnerable. If you are vulnerable, then you are interesting.”

Michelle Luo ’14 (below left) and Mari Sosa ’12 warm up before class. “Dance like the demons are chasing you,” Nissinen told the students.

Online & Photo gallery: http://hvd.gs/53730

Photos by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer
Out of the studio, into the classroom

Seven visiting artists step into faculty roles this year at Harvard’s Department of Visual and Environmental Studies.

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff Writer

An exhibit accompanies the seven practicing artists who are visiting faculty at Harvard’s Visual and Environmental Studies this year. Among the pieces on view in the Carpenter Center gallery are Gregory Sholette’s “Massacre of Innocence,” 1994 (above), and Katarina Burin’s “Room for Active Leisure,” 2005 (inset).

Photos by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer

Penelope Umbrico is a Brooklyn artist — a selective and deep-delving archivist of digital imagery — who explores search engines, picture sharing, and other Internet portals for her resonant creations.

In her work “5,537 Suns from Flickr (Partial),” for instance, Umbrico compiled 2,500 Internet snapshots of sunsets into a large-format work that enlisted clichés in the service of art.

Umbrico is among seven practitioners who are visiting faculty this year at Harvard’s Department of Visual and Environmental Studies (VES). The traditional program is designed to refresh the artists, energize faculty, and inspire eager students.

The public will have access too, through a series of “visiting faculty artist talks” that will take place on successive Thursdays beginning Sept. 23.

Teaching makes her own art richer, and is “really important to my practice,” said Umbrico, chair of photography at Bard College’s Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts. Her classroom style “is more conversational,” she said. “I don’t lecture.”

Mungo Thomson will be at VES too. The Los Angeles artist (his first name is a legacy of his Scottish heritage) created a 2.5-minute video installation for “New Visiting Faculty 2010-2011,” an exhibit on view through Sept. 26 at the Car-
A classroom veteran of West Coast universities, Thomson has had his share of teaching offers. “Sometimes you say no,” he said. “But I don’t know if you say no to Harvard.”

His wife, artist Kerry Tribe, a specialist in large-scale video installations, will also be at Harvard this semester. Teaching allows space for reflection and renewal, said the Cambridge native, who tripled her productivity earlier this year — and gave birth to her second child too. “It’s great to take a step back,” she said.

Five of the seven visiting artists will teach this fall. The other two, video and sound artist Marina Rosenfeld ’90-91 and Gregory Sholette, an installation artist and writer, will come aboard in January.

Matt Saunders ’97 and Katarina Burin, a couple who live in Berlin, are the only artists teaching both fall and spring. “I can’t imagine leaving after one semester,” said Burin, whose precise drawings are often inspired by architecture and the history it reveals.

As for teaching, “it actually invigorates your work,” said Burin, who taught last year in Italy. “It keeps you busy, moving. You have to find materials for your students. You learn from them.”

Most of the visiting artists talked about one sideline thrill of teaching at VES: being at the Carpenter Center. The five-level, cast-in-place concrete building, completed in 1963, is the only example in North America of work by the Swiss-born architect Le Corbusier.

“I like being here,” said Thomson, for “all the atmospherics.”

Umbrico plans to photograph and study the building she called “the epitome of utopian modernist architecture.”

Burin, a student of architectural forms, is already wide-eyed at teaching in a Le Corbusier space. “I love the simplicity and the cleanliness of this modern building,” she said. “I love the weirdness about it.”

Of the visiting faculty, only Saunders is new to teaching. “There is something to be said,” he offered, “for standing up and being forced to articulate what we are doing.”

Berlin is a heaven and a haven for artists, said Saunders, who moved there with Burin eight years ago. Artists herd like happy cats, and studio rents are as little as 100 euros ($128) a month. Though Berlin is “a vast, aging city with a horrible winter,” said Saunders, it is also a non-hierarchical refuge from the unquiet hurry of the art world. He has gotten used to using coal fires, doesn’t own an iPad, and relaxes by composing essays on art. “I missed English when I moved to Berlin,” said Saunders. “So I started writing.”

Trained as a painter, he is now exploring the intersection of painting and photography. His work at the VES exhibit started with exposing film through a completed painting. In the case of “Young Patrick McGoohan #4,” the effect is spooky, something like seeing the vintage TV star like the Shroud of Turin.

Thomson’s video installation flickered nearby. It’s a kaleidoscopic look at every Time magazine cover from 1923 to 2009, one cover per frame and a mind-zapping 30 frames per second. The rapid-fire compilation, said the artist, “doesn’t lend itself to much explanation.”

But the art world itself — how it is changing, and how to survive in it — is worth explaining to his students, he said.

In one course, Thomson will explore the digital age’s “post-studio studio.” In another, he will get right down to the details, including how to promote and document your own work — “the kind of practical concerns,” he said, “that most art schools completely skip.”
Lessons, labors of love

Harvard students and friends work to help an impoverished corner of the Dominican Republic.

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff Writer

Does two weeks in the Caribbean sound inviting? Maybe not, if you have to bring work boots, floppy sun hats, mosquito repellent, and malaria pills.

“A lot of socks,” added Matthew Mulroy ’12, “a lot of underwear.”

A group from Harvard — mostly undergraduates, with Mulroy as a co-leader — toiled from Aug. 8 to 22 in the remote, impoverished Las Mercedes region of the Dominican Republic. It was a vacation, but with attitude.

After deplaning in Santo Domingo, the party of 12 drove southwest in a crowded van. The six-hour drive toward the Haitian border delivered tantalizing views of the blue Caribbean, along with lush forests and verdant mountains. But conventional pleasures were not on the agenda.

After deplaning in Santo Domingo, the party of 12 drove southwest in a crowded van. The six-hour drive toward the Haitian border delivered tantalizing views of the blue Caribbean, along with lush forests and verdant mountains. But conventional pleasures were not on the agenda.

Instead of tourism, the group chose the joy of work, volunteering with Children of the Border, a nonprofit founded by Harvard graduate student Sebastian Velez. He prefers the term “voluntourism” for this kind of travel — a combination of new places and righteous work.

Children of the Border’s clientele are the impoverished Haitian sharecroppers living along the Haitian-Dominican border. Alcoa Inc. built villages for the workers. By 1982, bauxite mining had ceased. Now Los Mercedes is riven by chronic disease, illiteracy, high infant mortality, and poor access to clean water.

Some of the Harvard volunteers helped local laborers to refurbish a village well. They bought PVC piping and other materials with a $10,000 Projects for Peace grant written by Min Lee ’13.

Other volunteers did house-to-house surveys on water use, contraception, and nutrition, part of a longer-term project to assess villagers.

“Some people go to London or Paris or drink coladas on the beach,” said Velez, a seventh-
year doctoral student in organismic and evolutionary biology. “But this type of student wants to do something real.”

Language skills smoothed the way. Andrea Rivera ’13 translated for Spanish-speaking Dominicans working on the well. In villages of Haitian sharecroppers, Trisha Metheller ’13, who speaks Haitian Creole, did some heavy linguistic lifting.

The workdays, counting evening meetings on lessons and logistics, stretched to 14 hours or more. One night, for a few volunteers, work continued until 3 a.m., when a new manual pump finally sprayed water from 250 feet down. Ecstatic villagers, to celebrate the end of six weeks of labor, roasted a pig.

The students and other Harvard participants paid their own way, about $900 each for flights, food, and lodging. They ate local cuisine (“delicious,” said participant Maureen George), slept three to a room, and got by — just fine, thank you — with tepid showers.

Her shirts were soaked through in the first hour every day, said George, director of development for the Humanist Chaplaincy at Harvard, “as wet as if you were standing in the rain.” At 67 and a nonstudent, she was the trip’s outlier.

“I was glad to get home to have a real washing machine, with hot water,” said George, “to get the red mud out.”

Mulroy had his own cravings after getting back to the United States. “I wanted fast food,” he said.

But in the end, these temporary workers ignored the trip’s discomforts. There were compensating rewards: working for a just cause (fresh water), getting a glimpse at another culture, and learning how to get along with others.

“It’s probably more influential to me than 99 percent of the things I have done at college,” said Mulroy of the trip, which he co-directed with Toby Norman ’10. “The biggest thing is working with people.”

That meant working with each other, as when, for the first two days, the van needed a group push to get jump-started. “Instead of taking it as a burden,” said Velez, “the students took it as an opportunity to bond.”

Then there are issues surrounding working with people in the field, said Mulroy, given that language difficulties, cultural differences, and long travel times can lead to snags.

To prepare, those going on the August trip attended a series of weekly “field preparation” workshops. Starting last fall, organizers also recruited students with expertise in international development, Spanish, Caribbean cultures, and Haitian Creole. “There was a lot of experience in this group,” said Mulroy.

It helped, he said, that many of the volunteers were affiliated with the Harvard Project for Sustainable Development (HPSD), a multi-School Harvard group of which Mulroy is co-president.

Some of those on the August visit were also veterans of a January work trip to Las Mercedes for DIWater, a purification and water-access project overseen by HPSD and Children of the Border. Months ago, said Mulroy, “We saw how well a volunteer group could do.”

Preparation for the August trip also had a technical side. How do you fix a well’s diesel-fired electrical pump? How do you install a manual well beside it — one that villagers can afford to use? That took weeks of research by the undergraduates, said Velez, including consultations with experts at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The work paid off. For one thing, the students devised a water level sounder, which is used to detect water levels, for $20. The usual cost is $1,000.

Velez, Mulroy, and others have already started planning the next doing-good adventure, a trip in January to build a school in the same border region. A dozen Harvard volunteers will pay their own way, said Velez. “These are projects they feel good about,” he said.

During the August trip, George wrote her family regular reports, including recounting the sadness she felt at experiencing a corner of the world that has so little and struggles “against so many odds.”

“You can only do a little bit at a time,” said George. “But not to do that would be a crime.”

Christopher D. Coey ’12, an applied mathematics concentrator from Australia, measures a child’s height — part of a nutrition survey in the Las Mercedes region of the Dominican Republic, near the border with Haiti.
They save horses, don’t they?

A meeting with a wild stallion set Harvard curator Castle McLaughlin on a journey involving an endangered horse breed and a complex exhibition.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

Castle McLaughlin came face to face with her future in the summer of 1986, staring into the eyes of a wild, blue roan stallion.

She had parents who were equestrians, a grandfather who was a well-known polo player, and a pony from age 5, and she grew up with a profound love for the animals.

McLaughlin: “[W]e are still struggling every day to keep the horses alive.”

“‘Horse’ wasn’t my first word,” said the associate curator of North American ethnography at Harvard’s Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology. “But it should have been.”

Yet this “mature, dominant stallion that had never been touched” was far from tame, and it was suddenly hers. Moved by its fierce struggle during a roundup at the North Dakota national park where she was working for the summer, McLaughlin purchased it at auction. She planned to tranquilize the rare stallion, get it to the North Dakota national park where she was working, and return him to the wild.

“I was just standing there looking at him, wondering how I was really going to do this.”

Fortunately, two brothers, Frank and Leo Kuntz, were there to save similar horses from slaughter. They offered to help and took the stallion home to their ranch, where it lived for a decade. The serendipitous meeting was the beginning of a long collaboration. The three逐渐 made a commitment to keep the unusual breed alive and eventually helped to create the Nokota Horse Conservancy, a nonprofit group dedicated to preserving the Nokotas, the name ultimately given the breed.

“We’ve come such a long way, but we are still struggling every day to keep the horses alive and keep them going,” said McLaughlin of her nonprofit work, which has involved creating a breed registry for the animals and promoting them for diverse equestrian disciplines.

The conservancy maintains a small breeding herd of about 120 animals that live and breed on their own for six months of the year in large pastures; in winter they are brought to a ranch to feed. A few offspring are sold each year, typically to other preservation breeders. In addition, the Kuntz brothers also keep small private herds.

Little could McLaughlin know that her love of animals and of art and artifacts would ultimately merge in her work at Harvard.

Commissioned by the National Park Service to research the breed over three years, McLaughlin established that the horses had direct connections to animals ridden by some Native American Sioux, including the Hunkpapa chiefs in the Battle of Little Big Horn. She used her knowledge of the horses to inform the current show at the Peabody Museum.

McLaughlin is co-curator of its ongoing exhibition on “Wiyohpiyata: Lakota Images of the Contested West,” which prominently features Nokotas.

The show revolves around a small “artists book” containing 77 pictures created during the 1860s and ’70s by a group of Native American warrior artists, recovered by the U.S. Army after the 1876 Battle of Little Big Horn, in which American Gen. George Armstrong Custer was defeated and killed. Many of the drawings capture the Native American warriors astride their horses, the unique Nokota breed.

McLaughlin is writing a book about the ledger that is the centerpiece of the Wiyohpiyata exhibit. A graphic artist, photographer, and videographer — skills developed during her time in art school — she collects and draws with vintage fountain pens.

McLaughlin said of her work with the exhibition, which will be on view through next August, “It’s amazing that these Lakota horses have survived and that we’ve been able to install video footage of them in the gallery to animate the drawings of their war pony ancestors done by warriors more than 100 years ago.”

“As an anthropologist interested in human relationships with animals, the opportunity to research and participate in their ongoing history has been fascinating. The great challenge now is to ensure that they have a future, and my hope is that museum visitors will appreciate their value and want to help make that happen.”

Photo by Stephanie Mitchell | Harvard Staff Photographer
The backdrop on retirement funds

David Laibson, who serves on Harvard’s Retirement Investment Committee, spoke with the Harvard Gazette recently about upcoming changes to the University’s retirement investment options. Laibson is the Robert I. Goldman Professor of Economics in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

By Paul Massari | Harvard Staff Writer

**Gazette:** On Nov. 12, Harvard will reduce the lineup of mutual funds offered through its retirement plan. “Lifecycle funds” will now be the automatic, or default, choice for employees who do not actively choose to manage their own investments. What are some of the benefits of these changes, in your view?

**David Laibson:** With the new lineup, we’ve stripped out the funds that are really not appropriate and included only those that are people’s best options, so it’s a lot easier for them to choose wise investments. That’s one benefit.

A second benefit is that lifecycle funds are easier to use in the long run. For instance, the funds automatically reduce your exposure to stocks as you approach retirement, so you don’t suddenly lose half your wealth on the brink of retirement because the market plummets. They also rebalance, as asset classes perform well or perform poorly. Let’s say your fund held 50 percent of its assets in stocks. Then prices double, and now stocks are a much larger percentage of your portfolio. Lifecycle funds automatically rebalance so that you aren’t overwhelmingly weighted to stocks just because prices went up. That’s another benefit.

Another benefit has to do with fees. Funds charge an annual fee — maybe a percent or two of your total account balances — as compensation for managing your money. As the University reduces the number of funds it offers, we end up with more assets in the ones that remain. That allows Harvard to demand lower fees from the fund companies [Fidelity, Vanguard, and TIAA-CREF]. It might be only half of a percent extra return each year. But if you can get that for 40 years, it’s like increasing your final wealth by as much as 20 percent.

**Gazette:** How are lifecycle funds better than, say, picking stocks on my own?

**Laibson:** If you pick stocks, you could be very lucky and put your money in the Google IPO and get rich. You could also be very unlucky and put your money in a company like Enron and lose all your wealth when it entered bankruptcy. Saving for retirement should not be like buying a lottery ticket.

Finance professors and economists generally believe that a diversified portfolio — one that holds foreign and domestic stocks, corporate and government bonds, and money market assets — is the best way to invest. Lifecycle funds are fully diversified. Their goal is to get the best tradeoff of risk and return.

**Gazette:** Lifecycle funds do a lot of work for the investor. Is that a good thing? Take automatic rebalancing. If stocks are doing well, wouldn’t I want more of my money in stocks?

**Laibson:** There’s a lot of academic work — including my own — that shows that human psychology goes just the right way for people to shoot themselves in the foot when it comes to investing. They think, “Stocks went up a lot. I want even more stocks.” Stocks went down a lot. I want to dump whatever I have.” Pretty soon, their portfolio is no longer diversified. They end up doubling their exposure at the height of the tech boom — just in time for the crash. They also end up exiting stocks in 2008 and early 2009 when stocks reach their bottom, and they miss the rebound. That’s why giving people something that’s going to automatically do the right thing for them is a big plus.

**Gazette:** The new lineup will also include a number of “core funds.” Why is Harvard offering them, and how were they chosen?

**Laibson:** It’s all about giving people choice. If they want to be in the driver’s seat, the core funds give them that option. We’ve made sure that these funds are low cost, that they are diversified, and that they span the universe of assets that are appropriate for retirement savings. If people want even more choices, they can open a brokerage account and get access to thousands of funds. They can hold diversified mutual funds if they really want to. I don’t recommend it, but they have that freedom.

You can visit the Compensation & Benefits section of the HARvie web site to get other answers to questions about the new retirement investment choices, to find out about on-campus information sessions, and to learn how to make appointments with fund representatives.

Photo by Kris Snibbe | Harvard Staff Photographer

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More Staff & Administration Online news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/staff-n-administration

Harvard introduces adaptive “lifecycle funds.” http://hvd.gs/52067
Crossing that bridge

On Sept. 14, Kalan Chang was sworn in as an American citizen, thanks in part to Harvard’s Bridge to Learning and Literacy program, which also connected him with an internship at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies.

By Colleen Walsh | Harvard Staff Writer

At 23, Kalan Chang has had more jobs than many people hold in a lifetime. And he is still getting started. The native of Ecuador has been a flower salesman, a shipping clerk, a restaurant worker, and a painter.

Now he splits his time between his custodial duties at Harvard’s School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and his accounting responsibilities at Harvard Kennedy School (HKS).

Before arriving in Cambridge, Chang spoke only Spanish. Now he is a new U.S. citizen on the road to an undergraduate degree and an accountant certification. Aside from his own determination, Chang has a special Harvard program to thank for his success.

“I never expected to be here,” said Chang, who took advantage of Harvard’s Bridge to Learning and Literacy program as soon as he was hired in 2006, signing up for as many classes as he could, including English and pronunciation courses and preparation classes for the Test of English as a Foreign Language exam. With his rising English skills, he later enrolled at Harvard Extension School.

Eventually, the Bridge program also connected Chang with a financial internship at Harvard’s David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, a position that helped him to win his part-time accounting role at Harvard’s Center for International Development.

“He is really moving forward in his life in a really admirable way,” said Susan Samuelson, a career counselor and instructor who has worked with Chang for more than a year and who coordinates the “SEIU Career Pathways at The Bridge” program. “He is quite a young man.”

Founded in 1999, the Bridge program offers classes in literacy, English as a second language (ESL), computers, General Education Development (GED) and Adult Diploma Program (ADP) test preparation, as well as college and citizenship preparation for those who want to make a better life for themselves in a new world.

“An excellent student who was at the top of his high school class in Ecuador, Chang didn’t need help from the Bridge program to prepare for the naturalization exam. He needed help with the complicated forms.

“When the Bridge helped me with the forms, that was a huge relief,” said Chang, adding, “The Bridge has so many ways to help people. I am one of the lucky ones.”

For Chang, a typical week is crammed with work during the day and classes at night, then studying and homework. But he doesn’t mind the hectic pace, admitting that he is happy with the choices he made.

“I don’t complain about my schedule because I made the choices to help myself move forward. I remind myself of that every day.”

He plans to teach English in the future to students like himself, those who want to make a better life for themselves in a new world.

“I know how difficult the immigrant experience is,” he said.

On Tuesday (Sept. 14), Chang was sworn in as an American citizen at a fitting locale deeply rooted in the American ethos: Fenway Park.
Harvard in stitches
Informal knitting circles offer a sense of community, and breaks from tension and routine.

By Corydon Ireland | Harvard Staff Writer

What activity do some people like to do all the time – just about anywhere – that involves joyful, vigorous, rhythmic movement? Hint: It relieves tension.

You’re right. The answer is knitting.

It’s something people do in surprisingly large numbers at Harvard, where at least 20 informal knitting circles meet once a week. Students, staffers, and retirees work their needle magic for community, for relaxation, and often for charity.

“In the past 10 years, knitting has just exploded,” said Harvard librarian Rhea Lesage. “And a lot of it has to do with the social networking.”

Lesage belongs to one of two groups that meet once a week at tables outside Lehman Hall. (In bad weather, the knitters head for the Dudley Café.) Another knitting circle meets at Café Gato Rojo, and at least one each has woven its way into the fabric of Harvard Law School, Harvard Divinity School, Harvard Neighbors, and Harvard College Library Technical Services.

“The rule is: We never talk about work,” said Lesage, a bibliographer for Modern Greek. Though that rule seems to go against one popular nickname for knitting circles — “stitch ‘n’ bitch.”

Knitting has advantages beyond the social. “I started so I wouldn’t snack at night,” said six-year knitter Karen Moore, a Harvard computer support specialist who discovered that she can’t eat when she has a lap full of yarn. “It really worked.”

Lehman group knitter Leon Welch, a purchasing assistant at Harvard University Health Services, worked on a pink, lace-pattern scarf that he said will be “elegant, luxurious, ethereal.” But meanwhile his delicate kid mohair-synthetics blend knotted and broke a lot. Peering at his work in the sun, Welch said, “There are a lot of errors in here.”

He started knitting five years ago when his son, a fifth-grader, was taking knitting as an art elective and taught his father the basic stitches — knit, purl, and cast on. “I was hooked,” said Welch, who now sees knitting as an art practice along the lines of music, calligraphy, or painting.

“Knitting provides a way to use my hands to create something — and there’s no pressure,” said Welch. “It relaxes me a whole lot.”

The psychological benefits are powerful, agreed Lehman knitting circle veteran Jill Young Coelho, a retired Harvard librarian. “For me, knitting is a form of meditation.”

But don’t cross needles with Coelho, who recited her errands work their needle magic for community, for relaxation, and often for charity.

And there are the mistakes, said Coelho, who described “tinking” (when you have to knit backwards) and “frogging” (when you have to “rip it, rip it”).

“Know we could buy something we made for about two bucks at Target.”

Materials for one sweater made with fine wool can cost $30. A single fist-size ball of high-end yard can cost $25. “It’s a money pit,” said Coelho.

Then again, “Knitting is cheaper than therapy,” reads a button Lesage has at home. “It did help me through my son’s teenage years,” she said.

Knitting is also just plain fun. Last spring the Lehman Hall group went on a “Red Line yarn crawl” that started in Dorchester. Along the way, they found a new L.Y.S., a “local yarn store.”

But even knitting has a dark side. For one, said Gedrites, there is the U.F.O., knitting jargon for “unfinished object,” a project that gets left behind.

And there are the mistakes, said Coelho, who described “tinking” (when you have to knit backwards to fix something) and “frogging” (when you have to “rip it, rip it”).

Darkest of all is what Lesage called “the knitter’s dirtiest secret,” the dreaded “stash”: that once-loved yarn that piles up in bags, boxes, and drawers. But even that has a brighter side. After all, a “stash-expanding excursion,” knitters say, merits a happy knitting acronym of its own: S.E.X.
An education, not a job

An undergraduate explains why she majors in psychology, even though she expects her career path will take her to other fields.

By Maya Shwayder ’11 | Psychology

Upon meeting someone new, our introductory conversation usually goes something like this:

New Person: “So, where are you in school?”

Me: “I go to Harvard.”

New Person: “Harvard? Wow! That’s so great! What are you studying there?”

Me: “Psychology.”

From here, the conversation can go one of two ways, depending on the proximity of New Person’s age to mine. If we are close in age, the next question tends to be more sensitive of the two: “Do you think you’ll do anything with your major after college?”

If, however, New Person’s age exceeds mine by a multiple of two or more, the question tends to be more blunt. “What are you going to do with that after college?” is accompanied by a patronizing elevation of bushy gray eyebrows.

Those two questions are unpleasant in different ways. The first query gently acknowledges that while I love psychology, it may not be the single overwhelming passion in my life; it suggests that other career options abound for me, and (perhaps misguided) encourages me to gaily prance through the fertile job fields of America, reaping what I may.

The second question not only smacks me in the face with the reminder that I’m still sorting out my life plan, but says I should be forming said plan around the four years I have presumably devoted to dutifully studying pages of “Journal of Cognitive Science” and frantically filling out ethics committee forms. When I inform New Person that I do not plan to pursue psychology after graduation, the next facial expression usually reads, “Well then, why are you wasting your time?”

I have, in fact, filled out my fair share of IRB forms for research. I’ve also worked in a lab, taken fascinating and challenging psychology classes that I loved, and read quite a few articles from various prestigious journals.

But Harvard is neither a technical institution nor a trade school. Walk 15 minutes down Mass. Ave. if you want one of those. We bill ourselves as a liberal arts institution. According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, the term “liberal arts” means “college or university studies (as language, philosophy, literature, abstract science) intended to provide chiefly general knowledge and to develop general intellectual capacities (as reason and judgment) as opposed to professional or vocational skills.”

This suggests that my psychology degree is, in fact, not supposed to prepare me for a career specific to psychology. It is instead supposed to endow me with a skill set and heightened mental aptitude with which I may then go forth and apply in the real world. I chose psychology not only because it fascinated me, but because of its flexibility and applicability to so many life situations. I now have the ability to analyze rationally, to research calmly, to accept criticism with grace, and to be open-minded about other people’s behaviors. I think we can all agree these traits would serve anyone, in any profession, very well.

The fact that Harvard is a liberal arts school is also the reason we have programs like General Education, and why students are allowed to take elective classes, not to mention why extracurriculars abound on this campus. I was pleased to be able to “waste my time” on classes like introductory computer science, Dante’s “Divine Comedy,” and the history of Jewish jokes. These classes, along with my stints co-managing the Pforzheimer House Grille and writing for “Let’s Go” travel guides taught me and shaped me just as much as my psychology classes did.

Unless pursuing research or academia, the subject one studies in college often has little to do with the career in which one ends up. But even those who do wish to pursue research and academia are often judged for not studying something “more practical,” such as economics or statistics. What are we supposed to do? We can’t all be accounting majors. A friend who is now working on his Ph.D. in linguistics told me, “I hate that people really don’t seem to understand that college isn’t job training.”

College, especially a place like Harvard, is definitely not job training.

Maya Shwayder: “We can’t all be accounting majors. A friend who is now working on his Ph.D. in linguistics told me, ‘I hate that people really don’t seem to understand that college isn’t job training.’”

If you’re an undergraduate or graduate student and have an essay to share about life at Harvard, please email your ideas to Jim Concannon, the Gazette’s news editor, at Jim.Concannon@harvard.edu.
The boys are back in town

Harvard charts new football season, with high hopes ... and a cautious attitude.

By Sarah Sweeney | Harvard Staff Writer

It’s fall, and the boys are back in town. Harvard Football returns to the field, to the bright lights, and to electric, muscular action on Sept. 18 with its first game against Patriot League champion Holy Cross at 7 p.m. The home game will usher in the Crimson’s 137th football season, and with it a new chance to build on the team’s successful legacy.

The period just ended was dubbed the “decade of dominance” for the Crimson, who were ranked as the second-winningest team in the nation in their subdivision. In this preseason, confidence in the Crimson has been high.

During the Ivy League’s annual media day in August, Harvard was selected by national media as the likely winner of the Ivy League championship this fall. Quarterback Collier Winters ’11 and defensive back and captain Collin Zych ’11 earned accolades from the Sports Network, which named them preseason Ivy League Players of the Year. The network picked the Crimson to finish second, and selected Winters as the league’s top offensive threat and Zych as its top defender.

But a recent practice injury to Winters makes for an uncertain future. Head coach Tim Murphy is hopeful, but cautious, calling the team a work in progress.

“The kids have done a good job in the preseason, and overall the work ethic has been impressive,” said Murphy. “All in all, our attitude has been outstanding, and we have great leadership from our captain Collin Zych and the senior class in general.”

Under Murphy, the Crimson posted the second-highest national winning percentage in the Football Championship Subdivision and seventeenth-highest in all of Division I. With a record of 76-23, Harvard’s .768 winning percentage from 2000 to 2009 trailed only Montana, while Football Bowl Subdivision schools Texas, Boise State, Oklahoma, Ohio State, and Florida were the only schools to finish in front of the Crimson.

“Defensively we are ahead of the offense at this stage, but I fully expect us to be a strong offensive team. But we have to gel to get there,” said Murphy. “We need to be a mentally and physically stronger and tougher team than we were a year ago to beat the very best teams on our schedule.”

All five of Harvard’s home games will be streamed live at GoCrimson.com, with play-by-play commentary from Bernie Corbett. In a new offering this season, member fans will be able to watch the complete games as archived events, starting a few hours following each contest.

For more on Harvard football, and to view a complete game schedule: http://gocrimson.com/sports/fball/index
Newsmakers

IOP WELCOMES GORDON BROWN AS VISITING FELLOW
Harvard Kennedy School’s Institute of Politics (IOP) announced that former British prime minister and United Kingdom parliamentary member Gordon Brown will serve as a visiting fellow at the institute this fall.

Visiting fellows traditionally meet with student groups, lead discussion groups on topical issues and their experiences in public and political service, and participate in public policy classes with students and University faculty.

“We are confident our students, faculty, and University community will enjoy engaging with Gordon Brown, a prominent international leader with experience at the highest levels of government and public service,” said IOP interim Director John C. Culver.

Brown’s fellowship will occur the week of Sept. 20, during which time he will deliver the Malcolm Wiener Lecture in International Political Economy in the John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum on Sept. 23.

For more on the IOP and its fellows, visit http://www.iop.harvard.edu/Programs/Fellows-Study-Groups/Current-Fellows.

MALLIKA KAUR AWARDED FREDERICK SHELDON TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP
The Harvard Committee on General Scholarships has awarded Mallika Kaur, M.P.P. ’10, the 2010-11 Frederick Sheldon Traveling Fellowship. The competitive fellowship is awarded to one Harvard graduate. First nominated by Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) for this award, Kaur was then selected by the fellowship committee from a pool of applicants from Harvard’s various graduate Schools.

Kaur’s research focuses on South Asian human rights and security issues. Her perspectives have been informed by growing up in Punjab and having worked on advocacy efforts in the United States since 2001. The Sheldon Fellowship will support Kaur’s travel, study, and writing on gender issues in Indian-administered Kashmir.

Kaur holds a master in public policy degree from HKS and a J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. She helped co-found and currently serves as the coordinator of the Kashmir Initiative at Harvard’s Carr Center for Human Rights Policy.

‘FROM HARVARD SQUARE TO THE OVAL OFFICE’ OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS
“From Harvard Square to the Oval Office” is now accepting applications. A non-partisan initiative of the Women and Public Policy Program at Harvard Kennedy School, the program provides a select group of graduate students with the training and support they need to ascend in the electoral process at the local, state, and national levels. The program is open to all Harvard graduate students, including international students.

Applications may be found online at https://wappp.wufoo.com/forms/from-harvard-square-to-the-oval-office-application/ and must be received by noon on Sept. 30. For questions, email megan_kearns@harvard.edu.

ANESTHESIA INSTRUCTOR NAMED 2011 MILES AND ELEANOR SHORE FELLOW
Harvard Medical School (HMS) Instructor in Anesthesiology Wasim Malik has been awarded the Center for Integration of Medicine and Innovative Technology’s (CIMIT) Miles and Eleanor Shore Fellowship for 2011. Malik is also a faculty member of the Neuroscience Statistics Laboratory at MIT.

Given to an early-career HMS faculty member who represents the CIMIT values of academic excellence, this career development award recognizes individuals who seek careers focused on near-term impact on patient care, and whose philosophy embraces innovation and multidisciplinary collaboration.

Malik will receive up to $50,000 to undertake research in the highly interdisciplinary field of neural prosthetics, which encompasses neuroscience, clinical research, electrical engineering, mathematics, and statistics. He will focus on designing a new generation of brain-machine interfaces to restore function in patients with limb loss or paralysis. He intends to develop robust neural prosthetics with considerably simpler signal processing, which will have a high potential for transition from the laboratory to the clinic.

For more on this award, visit www.cimit.org/news/CIMIT-Names-2011-Shore-Fellow.html.

TAKEMI FELLOWS TAKE HARVARD, TACKLE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH
The Takemi Program in International Health at the Harvard School of Public Health announced the names of its 10 incoming research fellows. The program brings to Harvard a group of midcareer professionals from around the world, with...
five students dedicated to the study of developing countries, to focus on the problems of mobilizing, allocating, and maintaining limited resources to improve health. Since its inception in 1983, the Takemi Program has hosted 221 fellows from 50 countries.

For more information about the program and its incoming fellows, visit www.hsph.harvard.edu/research/takemi.

WEATHERHEAD CENTER WELCOMES 2010-11 FELLOWS
The Fellows Program of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs welcomed a new group of fellows for 2010-11. The fellows — senior diplomats, military officers, politicians, journalists, international civil servants, officials from nongovernmental organizations, and business leaders from around the world — work on research projects of their choosing. In addition, they may organize and lead study groups for Harvard undergraduates, participate in seminars at the center and elsewhere, audit courses, and provide advice to undergraduate and graduate students.

This year’s incoming fellows are Olusegun Adeniyi, Charles ‘Diji Akinola, Dagvin R.M. Anderson, Paul W. Bricker, Peter W. Bronsen, Fabio Lacerda Cameiro, Nicole Delaney, Jörgen Holmquist, Rauan Khenzhekanuly, Hanhee Lee, Sean R. Liedman, Murat Lütem, Westina Matthews Shatteen, Walter Stechel, Taisel Wake, and Young-Eun Yang.

For more on the program, and to read brief biographies of the fellows and their work, visit www.wcfia.harvard.edu/fellows/people/current.

FIVE SEAS COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS NAMED 2011 SIEBEL SCHOLARS
Five students dedicated to the study of computer science at the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS) were named among the recipients of the 2011 Siebel Scholars awards.

Karim Atiyeh (M.S. candidate), Michael Lyons (Ph.D. candidate), Geoffrey Mainland (Ph.D. candidate), Rohan Murtty (Ph.D. candidate), and Yinan Zhu ’11 (joint A.B./S.M. candidate) will all receive a $35,000 award for their final year of graduate studies. From facial recognition to CPU brains to novel wireless networks, the scholarship winners are exploring the frontiers of computer science.

Siebel Scholars are selected from among students who rank in the top of their class and are chosen by the dean of their respective schools on the basis of outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated qualities of leadership.

To read more on the students and their projects, visit www.seas.harvard.edu/news-events/press-releases/five-seas-students-named-2010-siebel-scholars.

NARSAD AWARDS PROFESSORS FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCHIZOPHRENIA RESEARCH
Associate Professor of Psychiatry Marc J. Kaufman and Associate Professor of Psychology Dara Manoach, both of Harvard Medical School, are among 42 innovative researchers awarded NARSAD 2010 Independent Investigator grants for schizophrenia research.

Kaufman, also an associate of Harvard-affiliated McLean Hospital, will receive $99,723 for a pilot study adapting a special imaging technique associated with MRI to better measure and analyze glycine levels in the brains of patients with schizophrenia. Manoach will receive $100,000 to build upon her earlier studies revealing that memory processing associated with schizophrenia is impaired due to faulty memory processing over time and during sleep.

For more on the award and its recipients, visit www.narsad.org/userFiles/2010_Independent_Investigator_Summaries.pdf.

THREE DOCTORAL STUDENTS RECEIVE JULIUS B. RICHMOND FELLOWSHIPS
Three Harvard doctoral students have been named recipients of Julius B. Richmond Fellowships from the Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University. Erin C. Dunn, Sky Marietta, and Matthew Ranson will each receive a dissertation grant totaling $10,000 from the center to fund independent research during the 2010-11 academic year.

To read more on the fellowship and its winners, visit http://developingchild.harvard.edu/topics/learning_opportunities/richmond_fellowships/#Current.

ASKWITH FORUM OFFERS EXCITING GUESTS, TALKS THIS SEASON
Anne Sweeney, Ed.M. ’80, will kick off the Harvard Graduate School of Education’s Askwith Forums on Sept. 20 with her talk “TV Tech: The Role of Technology in the Evolution of Creativity and the Viewer Experience.” Sweeney, the co-chairman of Disney Media Networks and president of Disney ABC Television Group, is the first of many exciting guest lecturers this season.

Harlem Children’s Zone President Geoffrey Canada, Ed.M. ’75, takes to the forum on Sept. 23 with filmmaker Davis Guggenheim, who will present an advance screening of his film “Waiting for ‘Superman.’” The ticketed event will be held at Loeb Drama Center.


Askwith Forums are free and open to the public. For a complete list of events and speakers, visit www.gse.harvard.edu/blog/news_features_releases/askwith/index.html.

E.O. WILSON TO LECTURE, CO-HOST CONSERVATION BENEFIT DINNER
E.O. Wilson, Pellegrino University Professor Emeritus, will host a lecture and benefit dinner with biologist Daniel H. Janzen, from the University of Pennsylvania, on Oct. 1. The event, titled “Biodiversity: Conserving Through Knowing,” is in support of conservation in Area de Conservación Guanacaste (ACG), which is a tropical treasure of 163,000 hectares located in northwestern Costa Rica. The event includes a free public lecture and discussion followed by an optional ticketed dinner.

Currently, the ACG comprises 2 percent of Costa Rica, and 2.6 percent of the world’s biodiversity — an estimated 230,000 species of plants and animals. It is the product of one of the world’s most successful habitat restoration and conservation efforts, and it supports research at the leading edge of ecology, evolutionary biology, biotechnology, biodevelopment, child education, and conservation. It is also a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The lecture will take place at Tsai Auditorium, 1730 Cambridge St., at 6 p.m. Donations are encouraged. The benefit dinner will be held at 8 p.m. at Upstairs on the Square, and tickets are available at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/122701.

All proceeds will benefit the Guanacaste Dry Forest Conservation Fund. For more information about this event, visit www.gdfcf.org/fr_cambridge.html.

Compiled by Sarah Sweeney

Outside of Massachusetts Hall, painter Julian Barrow of London captures Harvard Yard on canvas.

Photo by Justin Ide | Harvard Staff Photographer
Endowment posts strong gain

Harvard’s endowment earned an investment return of 11 percent for the year and was valued at $27.4 billion on June 30.

Harvard University’s endowment earned an investment return of 11 percent for the year and was valued at $27.4 billion as of June 30. The return was 160 basis points above what would have been earned by the Harvard Management Company’s (HMC) benchmark policy portfolio.

“Fiscal year 2010 was an important and productive year for the Management Company,” said Jane Mendillo, president and CEO of HMC. “We generated strong returns and improved the flexibility of the portfolio while actively managing our risks and pursuing innovative investment strategies.”

The University’s endowment provides critical funding for Harvard’s educational and research objectives. In fiscal 2010, distributions from the endowment contributed more than a third of the University’s operating budget. Endowment income supports Harvard’s academic programs, science and medical research, and student financial aid programs, which permit the University to admit qualified students regardless of their ability to pay. Harvard’s endowment also enables the University to undertake specific activities that donors have supported over time, targeted to areas such as financial aid, faculty salaries, and facilities maintenance.

The University remains committed to supporting financial aid for undergraduates, which is expected to increase about 7 percent for fiscal 2011. More than 60 percent of Harvard undergraduates are receiving need-based scholarship aid this year, totaling $158 million, and two-thirds now graduate debt-free. Throughout Harvard, scholarships and awards to students from University funds have almost tripled over the past decade, reaching $340 million. The College’s industry-leading financial aid policies are designed to make Harvard more affordable for families across the economic spectrum and have remained firmly in place despite the current economic downturn.

Over the long term, HMC has produced strong investment returns for the Harvard portfolio. The average annual return on the endowment over the last 20 years has been 11.9 percent, and 7 percent over the last decade. HMC returns charted over both 10 and 20 years have outpaced a typical 60/40 stock/bond portfolio, the TUCS median fund, and HMC’s own policy portfolio benchmark. On average over the last decade, HMC has added 3.1 percent annually over and above the 60/40 portfolio, 3.6 percent over the TUCS median fund, and 3.3 percent over the policy portfolio.

The endowment’s total value is affected by several factors each year, including investment returns, new contributions, and the annual payout for University programs. The endowment stood at $26 billion on June 30, 2009.

The endowment is not a single fund, but more than 11,000 individual funds, many of them restricted to specific uses such as support of a research center or creation of a professorship in a particular subject. The funds are invested by HMC, which oversees the University’s endowment, pension, trust funds, and other investments at a significant cost savings compared with outside management.

Photo by Justin Ide | Harvard Staff Photographer

Obituaries

HORACE GRAY LUNT, SCHOLAR OF SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES, DIES AT 91; MEMORIAL SERVICE OCT. 22

Horace Gray Lunt, Samuel Hazzard Cross Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures Emeritus, passed away on Aug. 11 in Baltimore, Md., scarcely a month short of his 92nd birthday.

Born Horace Gray Lunt II in Colorado Springs, Colo., on Sept. 12, 1918, Lunt received his degree magna cum laude in German in 1941 from Harvard, going on to become one of the world’s leading experts in Slavic philology and linguistics.

He is survived by Sally Herman Lunt, his wife of 47 years, daughters Elizabeth Gray Lunt and Catherine Lunt Greer, son-in-law David S. Friedman, and five grandchildren. A memorial commemoration of Lunt’s life and work will be held on Oct. 22, at 3 p.m. in the Fong Auditorium of Boylston Hall at Harvard University. A reception will follow in the Faculty Club.

To read the full obituary, visit http://hvd.gs/53407.

Special Announcement

HARVARD COLLECTING RACE, ETHNICITY DATA

In compliance with the U.S. Department of Education’s new guidelines on the collection and reporting of race and ethnicity data for employees, Harvard, along with all educational institutions, will be required to collect race and ethnicity information from new employees. To conform with the new categories, Harvard will resurvey its current faculty and staff to collect race and ethnicity information using the new format. While submission of this information is voluntary and confidential, the new data allows the University to comply with the new federal requirements.

The new standard uses a two-question format that provides individuals greater flexibility in reporting their race and ethnicity. For example, individuals can now identify themselves as belonging to more than one racial category.

In addition, Harvard employees have an opportunity to voluntarily self-identify their veteran status based on the new U.S. Department of Labor definitions. As a federal contractor, the University is required to collect and report veteran status data each year.

Harvard community members can confirm or re-identify race and ethnicity and identify their veteran status by logging into PeopleSoft. In addition, a University-wide email regarding this matter was sent on Sept. 13. For questions regarding the data collection, please view the New Demographic Data Collection Format FAQ on HARVie at http://harvie.harvard.edu/docroot/doc-lib/200_Career_Professional_Development/200_Employment_Application/ipeds.pdf. (Please note that in order to review the FAQ document, you will be asked to login to HARVie using your Harvard ID and PIN after clicking the link above.)
The deadline for Calendar submissions is Wednesday by 5 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Calendar events are listed in full online. All events need to be submitted via the online form at news.harvard.edu/gazette/calendar-submission. Email calendar@harvard.edu with questions.

**SEPT. 18-OCT. 9**

**Alice vs. Wonderland.**
Loeb Drama Center, A.R.T., 64 Brattle St., various times. Lewis Carroll meets Lady Gaga in this psychedelic update of “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.” Tickets are $15. 617.547.8300, americanrepertorytheater.org/events/show/alice-vs-wonderland.

**OCT. 1**

**The Chairs Revue: A Festival of Performance in Harvard Yard.**
Harvard Yard, outside Lehman Hall, 12:30 p.m. Free. Colorful seating, seasonal snacks, and performances by the Harvard community throughout September and October. isites.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do?keyword=k69689.

**OCT. 3**

**Polpouri with Violin.**
Paine Hall, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Daniel Stepner, violinist, plays Yannatos, Bach, Hindemith, Yu-Hui Chang, Ives, and Ruggles. Free. musicdpt@fas.harvard.edu, music.fas.harvard.edu/calendar.html.

**OCT. 4**

**Heat, Temperature, & Chocolate.**
Science Center D, 7-9 p.m. Enric Rovira, Enric Rovira Chocolate. Sponsored by SEAS. Free. First-come, first-seated. 617.495.3275, candujar@seas.harvard.edu, seas.harvard.edu/cooking.
During Bow and Arrow Press’ weekly “Party in the Press,” a poem from Charles Baudelaire’s “Les Fleurs du Mal” is set in lead type and crimson ink and is spread over the printing rollers.

A thin sheet of maple veneer is fed into the press by Daniel Gross ’13, student press master, who explains his affinity for printing: “You’re taking a bunch of metal, pulling it across a piece of paper — you feel the indentation of the metal pressing ink into the page. On a computer, it wouldn’t be the same.”

Beyond poetry and printmaking, Bow and Arrow Press is used for special House functions, such as creating winter feast invitations. Zachary Sifuentes, visiting lecturer on visual and environmental studies and resident tutor in poetry at Adams House, says, “It leaves a bite in the page, a tactile imprint — it tells us that we’re going to leave one of these events with a memory that is real.”