



The HARVARD FOUNDATION Newsletter

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Harvard Foundation Honors Mayor Cisneros

Fifty-two students shared a Harvard Foundation sponsored lunch honoring Henry G. Cisneros, Mayor of San Antonio, on November 21.

Mayor Cisneros, a graduate of the John F. Kennedy School of Government, became the first Mexican-American mayor of a major United States city in 1981. Two years later President Reagan appointed him to serve on a twelve-member bi-partisan committee on Central America. He served on the committee, but at the end vigorously challenged the report of its chairman, Henry Kissinger. Last year, when he was 37 years old, he was interviewed as a possible Vice-Presidential candidate by Democratic standardbearer Walter Mondale.

In his speech at the luncheon Mayor Cisneros stressed the importance of diversity both in society and in the

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President Bok, Foundation Director Dr. Counter, and Quincy House Co-Master Mimi Aloian, along with students greet Mayor Henry Cisneros. (from left to right) Ben Elizondo '88, Sylvia Torres '88, President Bok, Mayor Henry Cisneros, Dr. S. Allen Counter, Co-Master Mimi Aloian, Javier Lopez '89, and Cecilia Estolano '87.

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Foundation Director, Dr. S. Allen Counter presents Mayor Cisneros with an award for his notable contributions to City Government and American Politics.

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individual. He said that this generation had an obligation to bring people of different ethnic backgrounds together. Only by understanding these different ethnic groups, he said, could Americans hope to solve the most pressing national problems.

Mayor Cisneros spoke of political responsibilities. But he remarked that even if present-day students do not choose a political career, they carry in their roles as citizens, educators, and parents "an obligation to convey for reasons domestic and international the importance of what it means to be respectful of other people and respectful of their heritage; understanding that mutual respect is the only way that we can live together on this globe."

Noting that The Harvard Foundation was trying to cultivate that mutual respect in this community, Mayor Cisneros said, "the very lessons that [we] are learning about diversity in this Foundation and at Harvard can be applied as you move forward into your careers and your life."

—Ben Elizondo '88

—Ruben Navarrette '89



Laura Gomez '86 discusses the parallels between The Harvard Foundation's goals and Mayor Cisneros' achievements.

Dear Dr. Counter:

Thank you for the high honor that you and Harvard bestowed upon me during my visit. I truly admire the work you are accomplishing through The Harvard Foundation. In the future, we will need leaders who have been exposed to other cultures and other races and who are open to the diversity that the world presents. You are preparing those leaders. I returned to San Antonio inspired by the students I met and hopeful about the future of public leadership in America. Keep up the great work!

Sincerely,

Henry G. Cisneros
Mayor

Dear Dr. Counter:

Frankly, Mayor Cisneros was impressive. He seems so approachable. Moreover, he indeed is dedicated to fostering and promoting a *real* change in the living conditions of minorities in the U.S.—especially in big cities such as San Antonio. His dedication to this ideal is a source of inspiration for all of us.

Sincerely,

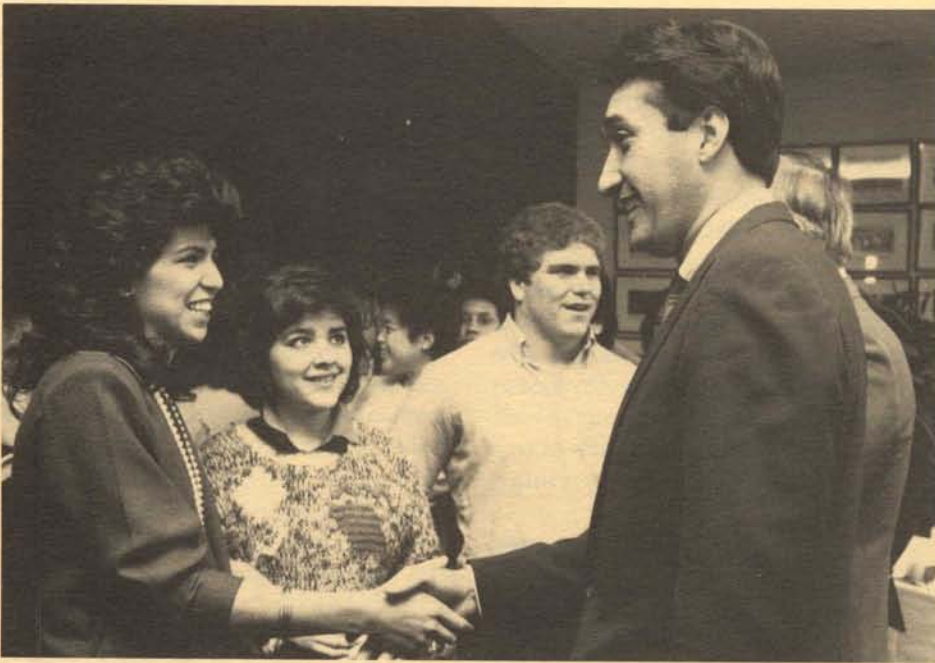
Helaine Aida Gregory '87

Dear Dr. Counter:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for having extended to me an invitation to the luncheon honoring Mayor Henry G. Cisneros. I appreciate your kindness in having remembered my avid interest in city politics in the Southwest, and I am grateful for the experience of having personally met Mayor Cisneros. I certainly agree that Mayor Cisneros is an outstanding example of what dedication and hard work can accomplish, and I commend your efforts on behalf of the Foundation in providing these unique opportunities for the Harvard community to intimately view the commitment and contributions of an outstanding leader like Mayor Cisneros. I hope you will continue to contribute to the educational experience of not only the minority undergraduates, but also the entire Harvard community through your informative and comprehensive events and programs.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Tsosie '86



Students Diana Davila '88 and Sylvia Torres '88 welcome Mayor Cisneros.



Ben Elizondo '88 discusses the Mayor's impact on San Antonio.



Mayor Cisneros speaks on the importance of cultural harmony and understanding.

Harvard College students dine with Mayor Cisneros.



Undergraduate Council leader Brian Offutt '87 speaks at the luncheon. Left to right: Richard Perez '87, Rohana Fines '86, Brian Offutt '87 and Robyn Roman '87.

An Exhibition of Chinese Watercolor Paintings

My project for The Harvard Foundation was a public exhibition of Chinese watercolor paintings, twenty-five pieces from a portfolio I had produced over the past year and a half, at Hilles Library in the Radcliffe Quad from November 18 through January 3. In addition to the exhibition, I held an evening reception and two afternoon workshops where I discussed some of the ideas behind this unique form of Oriental art.

It is difficult to estimate the number of people who actually saw the show during the eight weeks it was up. But since it was at one of the University's main undergraduate libraries, I was able to share my work with a large number of my fellow students, much of the Harvard faculty, and a fair number of Cambridge residents. My guestbook contains quite a cross-section of signatures. It is difficult as well to describe the ethnic diversity of my exhibition audience. But if anything

can be said about the diversity of students at Harvard, then I will also assume people of all races were able to have a glimpse of another culture's artistic achievements.

I decided to apply for a grant to produce an exhibition because I feel that art is one of the greatest ways one culture can communicate ideas about itself. Chinese watercolor painting is particularly expressive because it not only represents how the Chinese view nature and their world in an *artistic* sense, but also in a *philosophic* context. The paintings embody many centuries of Chinese thought in their technique, structure, and form.

The exhibition was a success. On the most basic level, I was pleased to share some of my artwork with the University. Being a Quad resident, I myself was often studying at Hilles and was happy to see students taking breaks from their work to sit, relax, and gaze at my paintings. On deeper levels, I think the work stimulated a lot of thinking, as all art should do. I hope that people, in their personal interpretations of my work, saw something that helped them understand the Chinese culture better or motivated them to learn more about the culture that created this art form.

Many people commented to me about my exhibition both in my signature book and in person. Among the most gratifying comments were those such as, "You've brought happiness to Hilles" (Kerry Bron '88), and a variety of questions about Chinese watercolor paintings, China, and my studies in Taiwan, which demonstrated to me that people were in fact sharing both an artistic and cultural experience.

My workshop's purpose was to provide a more detailed study of Chinese culture to people whose interest was sharpened by the exhibition. I was happy to meet some Cambridge residents not affiliated with Harvard who had heard about my exhibit. In addition, my discussion during the early afternoon workshop was complimented by other Chinese students in the audience.

The reception, on the Penthouse



Jeffrey Liu '88 exhibits his own Chinese watercolor paintings.



Jeffrey stands beside his parents, who also dedicated much time and effort into making the exhibit a success.

floor of Hilles, was catered with Chinese food prepared by my parents. It gave me a chance to thank some of my friends who helped in my project.

Planning for my project began last summer, after the Foundation's acceptance of my proposal. Most of the preparations were done before the school year with my parents' help: framing and matting the paintings, transporting them to and from Boston. Final odds and ends were accom-

plished during the fall semester. Much appreciation and thanks are extended to my parents, Antoinette Riley (The Harvard Foundation), and Sandy Seleski (Hilles Library) for their help.

I have been painting Chinese watercolor paintings for eight years. After the initial few years of tutored instruction from a Chinese master, one's progress in this type of painting is brought about by practice and more practice. In the past three years I have begun to exhibit my work. All the

long hours of painting (the countless tubes of watercolors used, the reams of paper spent) become worthwhile when I can share my work with others. I am very grateful to the Foundation for letting me share this slice of an incredibly complex culture. I hope my visual contribution towards better race relations has entertained, provoked, and enlightened the Harvard community.

—Jeffrey Liu '88

16 Undergraduate Groups Given Grants by Harvard Foundation

Sixteen undergraduate organizations received project grants from The Harvard Foundation for Inter-cultural and Race Relations on Friday, October 18.

Seventeen awards will support a variety of activities to "enhance the quality of our common life," in the words of the Foundation's guiding philosophy.

All in all, the Foundation's Faculty and Student Advisory Committees reviewed 28 proposals (the largest number ever) and disbursed \$8,935. The largest award was \$1,200. (In general, individual awards do not exceed \$1,500.) The smallest was \$165.

Among the more unusual projects funded by the four-year-old agency are several events on the theme of "Contemporary Native American Images," to be sponsored next month and in December by American Indians at Harvard-Radcliffe.

Another project reflects concern for two major social agonies of the day: South Africa and AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

In February, the H-R AIDS Benefit Committee mounted a Black CAST production of *Master Harold and the Boys* or *Statements after an Arrest under the Immorality Act* by South African playwright Athol Fugard. The play was part of a weeklong, University-wide benefit for AIDS research and care.

With Foundation support, the Percy Julian Science Organization held a December colloquium on "The Status of Minorities in the Medical and Scientific Professions: A Historical Overview and Prospectus," while the Chinese Students Association will mount a year-long speaker and film series on the theme of "Education Through Understanding: Increasing Chinese Cultural Awareness in the Harvard Community."

In other business, committee member Dudley Herschbach, the Baird Professor of Science, suggested that the group meet again soon to consider the recommendations of the "Eck Report," the review of Foundation activities submitted to FAS Dean Michael Spence last spring (*Gazette*, May 17).

Herschbach urged the committee to look at the possibilities of making the Foundation a membership organization and of fostering more interaction between undergraduates and graduate students. Committee members agreed that these topics deserve discussion.

Joining in the committee's deliberations were three new student representatives: Betsy Biemann '86, Roberto Garcia '86, and Darryl Parsons '87.

Other student groups and projects receiving Foundation support last term included: **African Students Association** (African Music and Poetry

Show, November 17), **Asian American Association** (Asian Food Festival, December 7), **Association of Black Radcliffe Women** (Fall Reception, December 8),

Ballet Folklorico de Aztlan (Mexican dance performance, November through February), **Black CAST** (production of *For Colored Girls . . .* by Ntozake Shange, December 5 to 15), **Black Cinema Society** (Black Independent Film Series, January segment),

Chinese Student Association (*Long-Yin/Dragon Song*, cultural magazine), **Cookin'** ("Reggae Night at Cookin'," the Cabot House night club, December 6), **Kuumba Singers** (Annual Christmas Concert, December 13), **Organizacion Boricua de Harvard-Radcliffe** (Fiesta Patronal Boricua, December 7),

Southern Africa Solidarity Committee (Southern Africa Exhibit and Film Series, November 22 to December 10), **Third World Student Alliance** ("Sizonquoba: A Third World Cultural Festival Against Apartheid," February 8), and **William J. Seymour Society** (*Bulletin of the Seymour Society at Harvard University*, winter issue).

—Marvin A. Hightower '69

—Reprinted from the *Harvard University Gazette*, October 25, 1985

Harvard Welcomes New Students During Freshman Week at The Harvard Foundation's Annual Freshman Brunch

The Harvard Foundation hosted a brunch on Sunday, September 8. This event was a great success, drawing close to 800 students and parents from all racial backgrounds. At the brunch, student leaders and Foundation staff made presentations on the goals and activities of the Foundation and on the work of the minority-student associations at Harvard.



Three Freshmen display Harvard Foundation posters.



Dean L. Fred Jewett welcomes students.



Left to right: Carla Apodaca '88, David Latimore '88 and Brian Stevens '88 welcome Freshmen and their parents.



Harvard Freshmen and proud parents.



Harvard students and staff welcome Freshmen. (l to r) Thomas Mattox, Yolanda Barerra, Horace Lindsay '87, Lisa Quiroz, Leo Ramos '88 and Amy Richardson '87.

Favorable Report Recommends Harvard Foundation Expand

A committee reviewing a four-year-old experiment in intercultural relations here has recommended that the program be continued and expanded.

In a 29-page report submitted last week to Dean Michael Spence (Faculty of Arts and Sciences), the committee summarizes three months of discussion on The Harvard Foundation with faculty, students, and administrators, and compares today's Foundation with the vision delineated in the "Gomes Report" of 1981 (*To Enhance the Quality of Our Common Life*), which brought the organization into existence.

Overall, the report observes, "The Harvard Foundation has made a good start and has launched a set of programs which have begun to give it a distinctive identity within the University. It has maintained the vision set forth in the Gomes Report" and is becoming "a model for other universities as well."

The Gomes Report grew out of a committee convened by President

Derek Bok in early 1980 in response to student demands for a Third World Center here. Chaired by the Reverend Peter Gomes, Minister in the Memorial Church and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals, a nine-member student-faculty group spent more than a year studying 13 such centers at institutions across the nation.

Instead of recommending the establishment of a Third World Center, however, the Gomes Report proposed a novel departure: a foundation "devoted to the improvement of relations among racial and ethnic groups within the University."

Such an agency, the Gomes Committee argued, would "provide stability for the efforts of Third World student organizations" while allowing their efforts "to be shared with the community at large."

Independently and collaboratively, the Foundation has sponsored hundreds of events here: discussions of issues such as race relations here and nationwide; South Africa; and Native American economic develop-

ment; a broad spectrum of student activities; and visits by guests in the arts, sports, diplomacy, science, and scholarship who have contributed significantly to their fields and exemplify a commitment to cultural pluralism.

Structurally, the Foundation consists of a half-time director who reports to the Dean of the College, a full-time staff assistant, an appointed Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC), and an appointed Student Advisory Committee (SAC). The University currently funds the Foundation.

The review committee consisted of Professor Diana Eck (Comparative Religion and Indian Studies), Chairperson; Dean Archie Epps (Students in Harvard College); and Dudley Herschbach, the Frank B. Baird Jr. Professor of Science and a member of the FAC since last year.

Reflections

Reflecting on the review, Eck said that she was, in a sense, ideal for the task because she had been on sabbat-

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ical when the Foundation was created.

"I had the impressions that many people have of the Foundation simply by seeing the publicity surrounding some of its major events, such as the recent visits of [Nobel Peace Prize-winner] Desmond Tutu and [U.N. Secretary General] Perez de Cuellar," Eck said.

"My perceptions changed from relative ignorance to a real appreciation of what lies beneath the most visible features. The Foundation is an extraordinary venture and something worth supporting."

The review brought surprises too. "Given the history of the Foundation, I rather expected that it would still be attended by a lot more controversy than we actually discovered."

Students, for example, seem "very supportive" of the vision of the Foundation, even though they may criticize individual Foundation actions. (The report found broad-based support even among groups that had initially boycotted the Foundation.) The critical point, Eck said, is that "the vision has taken hold."

Major Questions

Five questions figured in the review: (1) Has the Foundation successfully fostered the objectives of the Gomes Report? (2) How has the Foundation's experience differed from the expectations of the Gomes Report? (3) What has been the role of the Foundation's Faculty Advisory Committee? Should more students participate in the FAC's work? (4) Should the Foundation's administrative structure be modified? (5) Should the Foundation continue to be funded; and if so, how might outside funding be secured?

During the Foundation's first year, the Eck Report notes the agency came under "sharp criticism" from students and student groups "who were disappointed that a Third World Center as such had not been established." However, because Foundation Director Allen Counter made "a sustained effort to stay in communication with these students," all of the Third World student organizations have gradually developed a

working relationship with the Foundation.

Nevertheless, the report observes that while some Foundation-supported events have affected a large cross-section of Harvard students, minority students have expressed concern that many of their events have not been well attended by majority students.

Accordingly, the report recommends that such issues be considered by the Foundation's Student Advisory Committee in cooperation with the Race Relations Task Force of the Committee on College Life. The report also recommends that "cooperation between 'mainstream' and 'minority' student organizations be encouraged by giving first priority to joint grant applications to the Foundation."

In other events-related recommendations, the Eck Report suggests a regular mechanism for evaluating the outcome of Foundation-supported events and proposes that the Foundation build upon its successful sponsorship of symposia, conferences, and discussions by undertaking a "sustained program" of such events that will "draw students and faculty . . . into a dialogue on questions of race, culture, and ethnicity in the University, in the United States, and in the world."

Acknowledging the growing popularity of the Foundation's Freshman Week activities during the past three years (including a brunch last fall that attracted more than 700 freshmen and their parents), the report urges "continued Foundation contact with minority and other interested students during Freshman Week and throughout the Freshman Year" in cooperation with the Freshman Dean's Office.

Although the Foundation sponsors many events in collaboration with the Houses, the report recommends that the Foundation develop stronger ties to the upperclass residences for "further outreach" into the University by working to "provide each House, and the Yard, with a core group of students, tutors, or proctors who are trained to think about race relations issues and skilled at seeing ways of

constructive work in the Houses."

Since 1982-83, the FAC has funded scores of student projects. As a matter of policy, the grants have supported "'projects' but not organizations." The report concurs that the Foundation should not be "the main source of support for student organizations," but suggests "development grants" to encourage planning beyond the Foundation's twice-yearly funding cycle.

Structure

Turning to structural issues, the report recommends that the current half-time directorship become a full-time position with a full-time supporting staff member. Allen Counter, who is also Associate Professor of Neuroscience at the Medical School, will continue as half-time Director during the coming academic year.

Counter's "extraordinarily effective personal style" and "genius of getting things done made the Foundation work in the absence of a clearly defined initial structure. Those qualities proved both a great asset and a great liability, the report observes, resulting in many successes as well as "many of the attacks on the Foundation from disappointed students. Thus, the Director has had to shoulder a disproportionate burden of responsibility for the Foundation."

At this point, the report asserts, such "personal genius" must give way to "more clearly structured . . . student and faculty participation in planning and decisionmaking." To foster a sense of "ownership" in the agency, for example, the report proposes that the Foundation become "a membership organization which both students and faculty may join."

In other major recommendations, the report calls for:

- The restructuring of the SAC as a 15-member, largely elected body.

- The addition of five student representatives to the FAC.

- Expansion of Foundation activities to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

- Establishment of a Foundation endowment in cooperation with the Development Office.

"The Harvard Foundation is unique in this University in that it has as its

primary goal the building of community, the enhancement of our common life," the report concludes. "This is especially important in a University known for its multiplicity and its diversity. The community which the Harvard Foundation seeks

to build, however, is not one which subsumes diversity, but appreciates diversity as essential to our common life. Racial and cultural pluralism have become a vital and vibrant part of the life of the University, and the Harvard Foundation has begun the task of

enabling the whole community to share the benefits and challenges of that pluralism."

—Reprinted from the *Harvard University Gazette*, May 17, 1985

Fiesta Boricua: An Evening of Puerto Rican Food and Dance

On December 2, La Organizacion Estudiantil Boricua (La O), the Puerto Rican Students Association of Harvard College, hosted its first annual "Puerto Rico Comes to Harvard" night. The event was held at the Leverett House Dining Hall and attracted over 400 undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members. Many students from other New England colleges as well as members of the Cambridge community participated in this cultural awareness activity.

The cultural event included authentic Puerto Rican food and music. "La Nueva Organizacion," a Boston-based band, filled the dining hall with quick-tempo merengue music and a few salsa favorites. Their rendition of Miami Sound Machine's hit single "Conga" was met with loud applause and cheers from the audience—in fact, the band performed three encores before the audience was satisfied and let the band go home. "The band's energy seemed to knock the average Harvard student out of their usual half-asleep dancing style," said Peter Wagner '88.

Lars Vaule '88 said, "I thought the band was so different from the kind of bands we have at Harvard. Not only was the music exciting and refreshing but I really felt that I left the dance with a greater understanding of Puerto Rican culture."

The food, native appetizers such as alcapurrias, rellenos de papa (mashed potato stuffed with meat), and chicharrones de pollo (fried chicken rinds), was catered by San Lorenzo's, a Puerto Rican restaurant in the South End of Boston.

A special effort was made to extend

invitations to students from the Harvard graduate schools and area colleges. Continuous on-campus advertising was conducted to attract students from all backgrounds to come experience an evening of Puerto Rican culture. "I was so excited about the event when I saw a poster advertising the event in the MIT student center. Sometimes I get homesick for Puerto Rico and the evening was an opportunity to dance to my native music, eat my favorite foods, and talk with Puerto Ricans and other Hispanics. It was like receiving a CARE

package from home. It also gave me a chance to meet Puerto Ricans from other colleges and now I have some new friends," said Sonia Estevez, a sophomore at MIT.

The event was made possible by funds from the Undergraduate Council and The Harvard Foundation, and these grants allowed Puerto Rican students to share their culture and heritage with members of the greater Harvard community.

—Richard Zayas '88

—Helaine Aida Gregory '87

Black C.A.S.T. Presents Shange's *For Colored Girls*

In the fall of 1985, Black C.A.S.T. (Community and Student Theater) staged a production of Ntozake Shange's *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf*. The production was directed by Patrick Bradford ('86) and co-produced by Inger Tudor ('87) and Alison Leigh ('86), in conjunction with the Leverett House Arts Society and with grants from Education for Action, The Harvard Foundation, Radcliffe Union of Students, and the Undergraduate Council. The play, featured in Leverett House Old Library Theatre from December 5-12, was a major success for all involved.

Ms. Shange's play is actually a choreopoem that portrays the survival ethos of urban America's women of color. The characters are seven women

of varying personalities, each dressed in a different color, who take the audience through the agonies, joys, and sorrows of trying to live individually and survive in a world that makes no real effort to support them. The play consists of several poems, some performed as monologues and others as dialogues, all tied together by the interaction of the seven characters. Mr. Bradford wanted the impact of the piece to hit the audience immediately, thus he added a series of dance pieces (choreographed by Ngozi Ola, '87, with music composed by Adam Gorgoni, '86) at the opening of the show that captures the highlights of several of the poems within the play. This captivating dance segment was followed by a prologue

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entitled, "Need: A Choral of Black Women's Voices." This poem by Audre Lorde expresses the anger and despair of black women who have been victimized by men. The prologue ends with the women repeating "We cannot live without our lives," as they come together in the center of the stage to begin the magic of *For Colored Girls*. . . .

The play received a large turnout which consisted of standing room only crowds on several nights. The large audiences were due in part to the popularity of the play, but much of the success of the turnout must be credited to a strong publicity push to advertise in the Greater Boston area as well as in the immediate Harvard community. Press releases were sent to several area publications such as the Bay State Banner, the Boston Globe, Bay Windows, and the Phoenix. The audiences included many people from the larger Boston community as well as officials from the college itself, including L. Fred Jewett, Dean of the College, and President Derek Bok.

On the technical side, problems in producing the play were minimal, but the effort that went into rehearsals and set and lighting design were monumental. Many times during the semester, one could easily find the actresses rehearsing late into the night, or as many Leverett House people reported, the technical staff building the set. Rehearsals began only a month before the play went up, but the hard work and dedication of the cast and company made the play a phenomenal success.

Thanks to the funding from the aforementioned groups and the dedication of all those involved, C.A.S.T.'s production of *For Colored Girls* . . . will be remembered as "one of the best student productions to be staged in years," as many enthusiastic viewers stated after seeing the show. And in keeping with the spirit of the piece, the company has donated half of its box office proceeds to the scholarship fund sponsored by the Association of Black Radcliffe Women.

—Inger Tudor '87



Members of the cast: Heather Johnston '86, Marcia Green '86, Patrick Bradford '86, Inger Tudor '87, Lisa Langford '88, Monica Sams '88, Shirl Nelson '89, and Althea Hunte '89.

American Indians at Harvard Presents Patricia Trudell Gordon, Founder and Executive Director of Indian Youth of America

In the fall of 1985, American Indians at Harvard (AIH) sponsored two programs relating to AIH's ongoing theme for this year, "Contemporary Images of Native Americans." On Monday, November 11, over fifty people from the Harvard community attended a talk by Patricia Trudell Gordon, founder and executive director of Indian Youth of America, Inc., a national non-profit organization established to create programs to benefit Native American youth. Ms. Gordon's presentation titled "Self-Image and American Indian Youth" included a film of Indian Youth of America's summer camp program which takes urban teenagers into the country to learn the traditional customs and values of their various tribes. Following the film was a discussion of crucial issues facing young Native Americans today such as high teen suicide rates, high school drop-out rates, and substance abuse all of which she believes is connected to a perceived low self-image. Although Ms. Gordon gave an alarming description of the problems facing today's young Native Americans, her program is an example of the endless possibilities of what can be accomplished in improving the self-image of Native American youth especially here at Harvard.

On Monday, December 16, AIH presented two films, "Ho'olaule'a" and "Box of Treasures" to further illustrate this year's theme on "Contemporary Images of Native Americans." "Ho'olaule'a" featured the late great mistress of hula 'Iolani Luahine



Students and Staff pose with Patricia Trudell Gordon.

who performed several traditional dances of Hawaii, dances which are still a part of the rich Hawaiian culture that exists today. "Box of Treasures" depicted the collective efforts of the Kwakiutl tribe of Canada to recover cultural artifacts that had been taken by the Canadian government in the early 1920s and to place these artifacts in a combination museum and learning center. The conviction and sense of purpose among the Kwakiutl was inspiring and can serve as a model for all Native American peoples in their efforts to preserve their culture. In the Spring, AIH hopes to present more movies concerning contemporary Native Americans.

—Paula R. Lee '87



Patricia Trudell Gordon, Native American speaker.

Annual Asian American Food Festival

They began lining up as early as 5:00, hungry in anticipation of the feast which was about to come, as organizers and chefs of the 10th Annual Asian Food Festival scurried in last minute preparations.

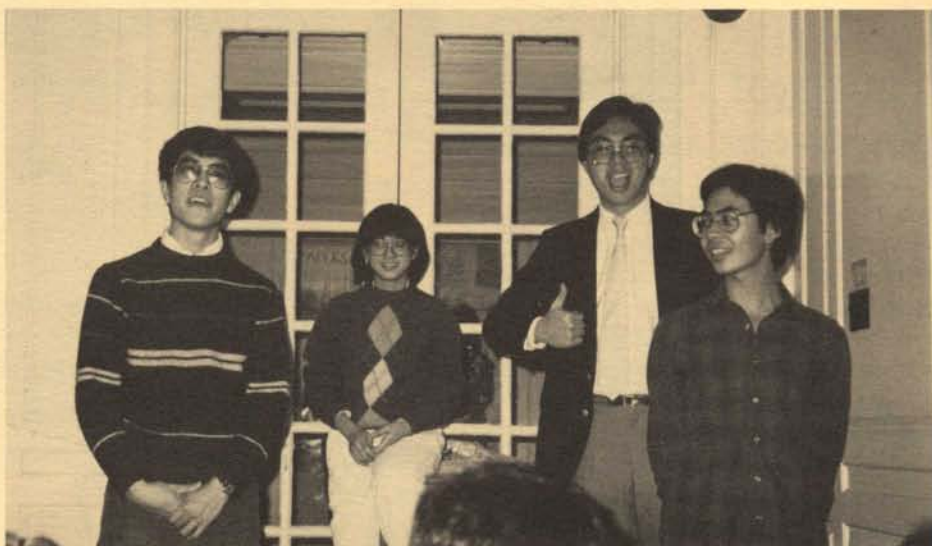
Over 150 students, faculty, and tutors packed into the Holmes Dining Hall Saturday night for the nine-course feast offered at the Asian Food Fest. Dishes ranged from the popular to the exotic: from Japanese sushi and Chinese eggrolls to Korean Bulgogi (roasted meat marinated in soy sauce, rice wine, and sesame oil) and che chui (a Vietnamese dessert of coconut milk and tapioca).

"The food fest was both a culinary and cultural success," said one of the chief organizers, Eugene Kaji. Over 130 advance tickets were sold, and dozens of eager patrons lined up for the remaining tickets. As in past years, the biggest problem was the limited seating at North House. "Because of high demand, next year we're looking for a bigger place," said organizer Veronica Wong.

Wong pointed out that the Food Fest attracted both Asians and non-Asians. "Over half of the people on our sign-up lists (at the food fest) were not Asian. It's really a good opportunity for inter-cultural learning—and eating," said Wong. Planning for the Asian Food Fest began in early October. Every Asian group on campus was invited to participate in the Food Fest. Applications for grant money went then to The Harvard Foundation and the Undergraduate Council.

"Cooking the food was half the fun," said co-organizer Frank Tse. "Without the heroic efforts of the chief organizers of each of the student groups, the food fest never would have worked so well."

In addition, the AAA sponsored an eggroll rolling party the night before the food fest. Over 30 students stir-fried, rolled, fried, and of course ate late into the night, as over 350 eggrolls were produced. Like the food fest, the "egg roll" attracted Asian and non-Asian students alike.



Left to right: Eugene Kaji '86, Veronica Wong '88, Denley Chew '87, and Frank Tse enjoy food festival.



Students sample different tastes at annual Asian Food Festival.



Student in Korean costume serves delicacies.

Growing Perspectives: The Association of Black Radcliffe Women's Fall Reception

In the beginning of the year, the Steering Committee of the Association of Black Radcliffe Women (ABRW) decided that there was need for an event which would enable black students on campus to meet not only with black fellows and graduate students but also with administrators and faculty. The purpose would be to give the students an opportunity to interact with people on campus whom they might not have known and yet who might be valuable resources for information and advice. We thought that an informal reception would provide a good setting and encourage a beneficial exchange.

We held the reception Sunday, December 8. Approximately thirty students, fellows, and faculty attended. The atmosphere was informal and friendly. The students seemed to enjoy meeting each other, the fellows, and the graduate students. Those attending expressed their approval of the idea behind the event and believed that they had gained from the experience. Because of the informal setting, students did not hesitate to introduce themselves to others. The graduate students, fellows, and faculty shared their Harvard and career experiences in their fields.

ABRW believes that many valuable contacts and relationships were started. We also feel that the event opened the door for the possibility of continued interactions. In fact, the graduate students, both of whom were studying history, and the fellows, one a poet and the other a psychologist, have expressed interest in attending an ABRW meeting in order to share their experiences in greater depth. They too seemed to enjoy the opportunity to meet others on campus they they might not ordinarily see.

—Lauren Smith '87



Sophomore Suzanne Malveaux and Bunting Fellow Brenda Osbey exchange accounts of the Harvard Experience.



Judith Jackson '87 speaks with Bunting Fellow Michelene Malson.



ABRW Steering Committee enjoys the reception. Left to right: Michelle Webb '89, Valerie Ward '89, Dina Strachan '88.

The Status of Minorities in Science and Medicine

Dr. Karel F. Liem, Henry Bryant Bigelow Professor of Ichthyology, addressed issues pertinent to minority students considering scientific careers in a lecture on December 11, sponsored by the Percy Julian Science Organization and The Harvard Foundation. The lecture was developed as a follow-up to two, outstanding, past lecture series: "Is Being a Minority Hazardous to Your Health?" and "Blacks and Science: The Great Divorce." We wanted this

lecture series to explore the problems of minorities who are contemplating professional careers in either medicine or science. We hoped the lecturer would discuss issues like discrimination, support groups, and networking while sharing experiences which would give students a realistic and comprehensive view of factors germane to minorities in the sciences. Furthermore, we hoped the discussion would lead to the generation of

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a scenario for minorities in the sciences in the twenty-first century and possibly delineate concerns and considerations for students and the community to ponder.

The lecture met our expectations. The co-presidents of the organization maintained close contact with Dr. Liem so he was well aware of our objectives for the discussion. He was conscientious about those objectives, and he prepared his remarks accordingly. The lecture focused on minorities in general, though the lecturer was aware that a predominately Black science group was sponsoring the talk. The audience was very pleased with Dr. Liem's presentation and the content of his lecture. In fact, they were impressed that he stressed the importance of having role models in the basic sciences even though he would not encourage us to pursue science careers over medical careers. At



Professor Karel Liem

the end of the presentation one junior commented, "Although it seemed as though he (Dr. Liem) himself had had no problems in the sciences because of his race, he was able to give us a realistic picture of the problems we would most likely face based on his observations of others in his field. It was interesting to hear him recount

the problems he had getting an education in his native Indonesia and the problems he had establishing himself in the United States. I was intrigued when he said that minorities going into medicine faced fewer barriers than minorities who were entering the basic sciences."

—Kendra Magee '86

Reggae Night at COOKIN'

If one judged from the numbers attending, the lines which formed through Cabot Hall and out the door, the amount of food and drink consumed, or the mess generated by over 200 undergraduates impassioned with the beat and energy of truly fine reggae music, "Reggae Night at COOKIN'" was a success. And if one judged from the enthusiastic comments, the smiles, the amazement, and from the unity felt by all involved, the event was an even greater success.

"Reggae Night" has long been a Cookin' dream. I can remember talking last year with Cookin's founder, Nestor Figueroa '87 about bringing good reggae to Harvard. Last year's fantasy turned into this year's biggest and most successful night. The help Cookin' received was indispensable: Student Productions Associations (SPA) arranged for a national beverage company to create professional concert posters, and The Harvard Foundation enabled reggae to be heard where there was no reggae before.

James Chung of SPA organized a staff of dedicated and enthusiastic workers, available early and throughout the night, to assist the Cookin' staff as well as the members of the band. Special decorations were purchased and used to turn Cabot dining hall into a nightclub—black-light lighting, clothed tables, and waitpeople in bow-ties, tuxedos, and leis.

When the doors opened, the patrons in line looked into a room they would no longer identify as a school cafeteria. The sights and lights, the sounds and smells were all new to Cabot, new to Cookin', and new to Harvard. For a while, before Afrikan Roots took the stage, the crowds stayed close to their tables, waiting expectantly. But when the music began I had to ask myself, "what makes a group of curious spectators suddenly transform into a frenzied sea of dancing enthusiasts?" The answer—"Afrikan Roots"—was repeatedly and gleefully chanted all night long.

The success of the night was this

particular band. They are receptive, genuine, and, above all, fine reggae musicians and singers. They were able to raise the voices and the spirits of their Harvard audience. The mutual respect between the band and the audience was apparent in the collaboration of reggae joy that the two undertook. Towards the end of the evening, when the excitement was at its highest, and when the dining hall was pulsating with the responsive chant "Afrikan Roots—Harvard University!" Cookin's dream was realized.

The generous support of The Harvard Foundation enabled all of this to take place. Cookin' salutes the goals for which the Foundation strives, and formally applauds the means through which the Foundation achieves those goals. It is our belief that this event did indeed "enhance the quality of our common life at Harvard." African roots at Harvard were joyously recognized by some, and enthusiastically planted by others.

—Michael Rabow '87

"The King of Glory," The Kuumba Singers' Annual Christmas Concert

On Friday December 13, the Kuumba Singers held their annual Christmas Concert entitled *The King of Glory* at Harvard Epworth Church. Approximately one hundred people representing all nationalities and ethnic backgrounds were in attendance. During the concert, the Kuumba Singers demonstrated their diversity of talent in singing spirituals and hymns as well as reciting literature that gave praise and honor to the birth of Jesus. At the same time, the concert was a formal recognition of the Kwanza celebration of Africa.

An understanding of the reason for

the concert performance involves an understanding of the essence of Kuumba. The Kuumba Singers is an organization deeply rooted in tradition. In Kuumba's beginning, when there was only a handful of members, students of this campus joined together to sing praises to God for enabling them to support one another academically and socially. Now, sixteen years later, the reasons for singing haven't really changed. The Christmas concert is both a form of entertainment and a means of expressing ourselves and our thanks to *The King of Glory*.

The Christmas concert was the

only major performance of the first semester. Thus, for the three months from September to December, all rehearsals were geared toward this event. The Kuumba Singers were happy to find that their work and sacrifice were rewarded by a fairly large and responsive audience who enjoyed the concert. One major accomplishment was the expansion of the group to include five new members at the beginning of the Fall 1985 semester.

Indeed, by continuing to offer its support, The Harvard Foundation ensures that future performances will be met with equal or greater success.

—Brian Stevens '88

Back Again

The decision to return to Harvard as part of the administration sixteen years after graduation was not made easily or lightly. I was sufficiently disenchanted by the spring of 1969 that my article on blacks at Radcliffe for our yearbook, "Three-thirty-three," is called "A Feminine Hell." For years, I was what could fairly be called a hostile alumna. Often asked, "Did you like Harvard?", I usually answered "Not Really." Despite the yearbook article's implications about race and gender, I complained most often about how hard it was for a shy, not terribly scholarly student from a very small high school to get the close attention to my academic development I had enjoyed throughout high school. Few ever knew or cared whether I enjoyed or benefitted from the learning process here; most days I felt the *few* were *none*.

But in deciding to return I found much of my thinking focussed on my blackness. What made me call being a black woman at Harvard/Radcliffe "a feminine hell" and why risk reliving some aspects of it? The answer had to do in large measure with a problem

black students faced then and, I am told, is still of great concern: few role models, mentors or friends among the faculty and administration. During one of our more aggressive challenges to the University, a black alumnus living in Washington was asked to come talk to us. There was no one on campus, it seemed, who could explain to the university administration why we were upset. We wondered why our own statements on the point seemed so incomprehensible. The suspicion was inevitable that the imported black alumnus' mission was to dissipate, not clarify, our concerns.

On reflection, I think this was probably not the agenda of the alumnus in question, for his career is marked by an active commitment to black educational and employment opportunity, and I doubt he wished to or intended to play a pernicious role. But his visit was strong evidence of one of the trouble areas in the university's relationship to black students.

Remembering those days, I realized that my return could be, in part, a chance to be what I wanted more of:

a black person who was interested in students, available and willing to make time to talk about my career choices, my experiences in the workplace, techniques for coping with Harvard and other predominantly white institutions or other issues. I decided I was ready to stop disliking Harvard and start making the most of it; maybe I could even help someone else make the most of it. For sixteen years, it has been one of the bright spots on my resume; much reflection has taught me that it was, in many ways, a bright spot in my life.

Now that I'm here, reality has set in pretty quickly: if one is not teaching, getting to know students is difficult. I am very busy doing things for my job that do not involve students directly at all. Nevertheless, when I walk through the Yard and the Square and see with my eyes what the statistics had already told me—minority students enrollment has more than quadrupled since my undergraduate days—I feel confident that eventually I will have opportunities to get to know more students.

—Muriel Morisey Spence '69

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Harvard University
17 University Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138