Secretary-General of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Honored Guest of the Harvard Foundation

Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali visited Harvard University as the honored guest of the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations on December 14.

Boutros-Ghali had expressed a strong desire to spend a full day meeting students, according to Foundation Director Dr. S. Allen Counter, who had waited more than a year for this opening in the Egyptian diplomat’s crowded schedule.

The visit marked the second time that a U.N. chief executive accepted an invitation from the Foundation, which in 1985 brought then Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar to Harvard.

“At the Harvard Foundation, we try to expose our students to persons who represent the finest examples of accomplishment and integrity, both individual and intellectual,” Counter said. “I have been very impressed with the Secretary-General’s commitment to human rights and his fairness in addressing the complex issues of peacekeeping.”

During a private student/faculty luncheon sponsored by the Foundation and Leverett House, Boutros-Ghali received a Foundation citation for his “notable contributions” (Continued on page 2)

In this issue:
United Nations Event ’94/1; Science Conference ’94/4; Native American Honored/5; Sentencing and the Law/6; Dr. Andrew Hacker Lecture/7; Freshman Brunch ’94/8; Race Relations Conference/8; Cultural Rhythms Proceeds Donated to the MSPCC/9; Native American Symposium/9; Native Voices/9; Kwanzaa Celebration/10; Black Box Theater/10; International Harvest Festival/10; Kanayan Festival ’94/10; Kumba Concert/11; Korean Culture Night/11; AAA “Tea” by Velma Hasu Houston/11; Feisada/11; Arabic Cultural Evening/12; Fuerza Quisqueyana Cultural Music Festival/12; Fuerza Political Forum/12; Los Peregrinos/12; Caribbean Food Festival/12; Traditional Irish Ceilidh/13; Dimitris Avramidopoulos Visit/13; Chinese Dessert Fest/14; Autumn Moon Festival/14; Chinese HuoGuo Dinner/14; Chinese Art Exhibit/14; CSA Identity Talk/14; Ballet Folklorico de Azlan Wardrobe/15; Korean Folk Dance/15; Voces Unidas/15; Diwali Celebration/15; Shabana Azmi Film Festival/16; SAA Fall Dinner/16; Faculty Tea/16; Islamic AwarenessWeek/16; The Black Woman Empowered/17; Rwanda Awareness Week/17; HASA Food Festival/17; Giao Dien/18; Harvard Vietnamese Association’s Vertigo/18; In Appreciation/18
Boutros-Ghali

(Continued from page 1)

to world peace and intercultural relations."

The Secretary-General took part in a panel discussion on "Prospects for Peacekeeping." Fellow panelists included six undergraduates, Government Department Chair Susan Pharr, and Nobel Prize-winning chemist Dudley Herschbach.

As the U.N.'s sixth Secretary-General, Boutros-Ghali oversees approximately 23,000 people working in some 150 nations to increase international cooperation and understanding through a multitude of programs and services.

Since beginning his five-year term on January 1, 1992, Boutros-Ghali has been at the center of U.N. efforts to find peaceful solutions to conflicts in Africa, Asia, Central America, and Europe.

Boutros-Ghali served as Egypt’s Deputy Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs before assuming his current post. From 1977 to 1991, he was Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. He has also served in the Egyptian Parliament.

"The genocidal war in Bosnia rages on because the most powerful states in the United Nations lack the political will to impose a solution," Boutros-Ghali told a packed Leverett House Dining Hall.

The Secretary-General’s remarks on Bosnia came in response to a student who stood up several times during an afternoon panel to demand an explanation of U.N. actions in the former Yugoslavia.

"You must not see only the negative aspect," Boutros-Ghali replied, citing U.N. aid to some 2 million refugees as well as to the city of Sarajevo.

"Everybody is suffering from the atrocities that have been committed," he said. "As long as there is no political will among the major countries, who have the military power to impose a solution, the only solution is through negotiation. This is the objective of the United Nations."

During nearly 90 minutes of vigorous and often impassioned discussion, the 72-year-old U.N. official painted a portrait of an organization besieged by demands at every hand but lacking the independent financial and material resources to perform its ideal role to the fullest.

Currently, the U.N. oversees 17 peacekeeping operations around the world, he noted. "We are now involved in peacekeeping operations at the expense of the real raison d'être of the United Nations, which is development. We must pay attention to technical assistance, to development, to better cooperation among the member states."

Several times, Boutros-Ghali cited the problem of "fatigue" among U.N. member states that "don't want to get involved" in further peacekeeping operations because of setbacks or lack of success.

"The real problem is this: since the last 400 years, [public] opinion [has accepted the possibility] that the young boy will be killed to defend his homeland, his country. But to be killed to defend a concept like peace — in a far, remote country, under a strange flag, under an international organization — is something new that public opinion cannot accept."
Boutros-Ghali spoke of "trying to invent a new approach" in which the U.N. mandates a group of countries to keep the peace. After this phase, several regional organizations could work together on the underlying problem.

A destabilizing "new danger" on the international scene comes from the proliferation of "classic" (conventional) arms, he said. But the U.N. can make little significant difference here. "Our power of persuasion is limited, because we cannot impose [arms control] on member states."

The weapons being used in places like Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Mozambique, Rwanda and Somalia were all "fabricated outside those countries" because they have no arms factories of their own, Boutros-Ghali stressed. "One of the ways to preserve peace [and] contain international disputes is to reinforce disarmament. It is not an easy operation. We have not been very successful until now [with conventional weapons]."

Adapting to current post-Cold War conditions poses a major challenge for the U.N., Boutros-Ghali said, recalling his student days in Paris after World War II when "Cold War" was a new concept that no one really understood. It took 10 years for Cold War institutions to develop, from NATO (1945-49) to the Warsaw Pact (1955), the Egyptian diplomat explained.

"We are living in a new transition, and we still don't know what are the new rules of this transition. We need new institutions and new procedures. Furthermore, the member states don't know what they want to do with the United Nations.

"Do they want to reinforce the United Nations? Do they want to use the United Nations as their own machinery to promote peace, or do they prefer to do it on a bilateral level? The member states are still not decided. [...] They don't know how to cope with this situation." Boutros-Ghali predicted that it will take another year or two before the new rules become clear.

In his view, the news media and public opinion are becoming increasingly critical parts of the international process. "Without public opinion, we will not be able to obtain any action," he said. "The media are there to help us in the process of the democratization" of relations between sovereign states.

After two rounds of questions and comments from a student-faculty panel, Boutros-Ghali had time for only three questions from the floor. By way of compensation, Foundation Director S. Allen Counter called for written questions from the audience and forwarded them to U.N. headquarters in New York. Boutros-Ghali's staff promised to respond to each inquiry, Counter said afterwards.

Student panelists were Black Students Association President Kristen Clarke '97, social studies concentrator Peter Hanson '95, and Foundation Student Advisory Committee co-chairs Merry Jean Chan '97 and Sanjay Shetty '95.

With Counter moderating, faculty panelists included Jorge Domínguez, the Frank G. Thomson Professor of Government; Dudley Herschbach, the Frank B. Baird Jr. Professor of Science; and Government Department Chair Susan Pharr, the Edwin O. Reischauer Professor of Japanese Politics.

— Courtesy of the Harvard Gazette
Astronaut Mae Jemison, Keynote Speaker at the Harvard Foundation’s Annual Science Conference

The Harvard Foundation; Hispanics in Engineering, Medicine, and Informational Sciences (HEMIS); and the Harvard Society of Black Scientists and Engineers (HSBSE) sponsored a conference entitled “Advancing Minorities in Science and Engineering” on October 7-8, 1994.

Over 100 students from Harvard, Brown, Boston University, New York Polytechnic, Cornell, Dartmouth, and other area universities gathered to discuss issues concerning minorities in academia, research sciences, engineering and medical sciences with more than 60 Harvard professors, physicians, graduate students, staff members and students.

The conference’s keynote speaker was Dr. Mae C. Jemison, astronaut, physician and scientist. Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation and Associate Professor of Neurology/Neurophysiology, along with student leaders Monica Romo ’96 and Carolyn Rodriguez ’96 of HEMIS and Valencia Thomas ’96 of HSBSE, organized the event.

The main objective of the conference was to acquaint underrepresented minority students with various career options and opportunities available in the sciences, while considering the challenges that many minority students encounter in their attempts to reach their goals. Through a series of panel discussions and small seminars, the conference provided a forum in which students could exchange ideas with others who have already succeeded in the sciences.

The conference opened with a dinner at North House during which Dr. Walter Rodriguez, Burger Professor and Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Tufts University, spoke to the many participants. The dinner was hosted by Professor Woody Hastings, Paul C. Mangelsdorf Professor of Natural Sciences and Master of North House. A discussion with a panel of graduate students followed the dinner. The evening’s program ended with a dance at North House.

Saturday morning’s events began with welcoming addresses from Dean of Harvard College, L. Fred Jewett and Dean of Freshmen, Elizabeth Studley Nathans. The day’s activities included sessions in which students were able to interact in small groups with selected faculty from the Departments of Molecular Biology, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, Neuroscience,

Professor John Dowling speaks to conference students during one of his seminars.

Dr. Mae Jemison captivates a student audience during her visit to Harvard.

Dr. Mae Jemison with Dr. S. Allen Counter and students (left to right) Jill Ford ’97, Valencia Thomas ’96, and Monica Romo ’97, at the Lowell House luncheon held in her honor.

Dr. Mae Jemison talks with (left to right) Jill Ford ’97, Cynthia Johnson ’96 and Adrienne Bradley ’96 after the luncheon.
Fragments of Symbolism and Landscapes”—Native American Artist Honored

The Fogg Museum expanded its traditional exhibit schedule this fall to include “Fragments of Symbolism and Landscapes,” a collection of art by Dan Namingha. This was the first exhibit of a Native American artist at the Fogg Museum. Mr. Namingha, who is of Tewa-Hopi descent, says that his work is founded on his experiences of life as a Native American. His abstract-expressionist art is a reflection of his environment — the mesas, the animals and the people of the reservation. The diversity in color and themes seen in his art can be attributed to the diversity of the experiences of his Native American people: struggle, strength, spirit and pride.

Mr. Namingha attended a reception co-sponsored by the Harvard Foundation, the Harvard University Art Museums and the Harvard Native American Program to celebrate the opening of the exhibit. While there, he and his wife answered questions from students, faculty and Friends of the Art Museums.

— Holly Foster ’97, Odoi Odotei ’97
The Harvard Foundation Presents Presidential Commission on Sentencing and the Law

On Monday, December 5, 1994, the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations, in conjunction with Cabot House, hosted a Presidential Commission panel discussion entitled "Sentencing and the Law: Minorities and the Judicial System." The honored guests included U.S. Representative Robert C. Scott '69, Wayne Budd, Esq., former Associate United States Attorney-General; and the Honorable A. David Mazzone '50, United States Federal Judge. The three panelists are members of the United States Sentencing Commission. The Commission was established by Congress to look for abuses and discrepancies in the justice system. The Commission is presently exploring the fairness of the sentencing laws when dealing with people of color and examining how the laws might be modified to be race blind.

Representative Scott represents the Third Congressional District of Virginia. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Boston College Law School. Representative Scott was first elected to Congress on November 3, 1992. Prior to his current position, Representative Scott served in the Virginia House of Delegates and the Virginia State Senate. He currently resides in Newport News, Virginia.

Judge A. David Mazzone was appointed United States District Court Judge for the District of Massachusetts on February 10, 1978, and entered duty on March 3, 1978. He is a graduate of Harvard College, where he received a BA degree in 1950, and a graduate of DePaul University School of Law where he received a J.D. degree in 1957. Prior to his tenure as U.S. District Judge, Judge Mazzone served as Associate Justice of the Superior Court, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Assistant United States Attorney for the Massachusetts District and Assistant District Attorney for Middlesex County.

Wayne Budd is currently a senior partner with Goodwin, Proctor and Hoar Law Firm in Boston. Immediately prior to joining the firm, Wayne Budd served as the Associate Attorney-General of the United States, the third-ranking position in the Department of Justice. While serving in the Department of Justice, he was in charge of and responsible for several divisions within the depart-
Dr. Andrew Hacker Lectures on American Race Relations at Currier House

The Fishbowl of Currier House was packed to standing room only capacity as students eagerly awaited the appearance of Dr. Andrew Hacker, Professor of Political Science at the City College of New York, on November 14, 1994. Dr. Hacker spoke on his book, *Two Nations*, and the recently published *The Bell Curve*, a controversial book written by the late Harvard Professor Richard Herrnstein and Charles Murray. *The Bell Curve* correlates socioeconomic status and intelligence, as measured by the intelligence quotient. Unfortunately, many have agreed that *The Bell Curve* also forced a correlation between IQ and race. When the book was released in early October, it was the subject of criticism among leaders of the academic and political communities, since the book implied that certain social programs such as welfare and Head Start should be abolished.

Hacker began his discussion by claiming that there is a fear of blacks in the white community. According ranging from what recommendations the commission had made to Congress to deal with the inherent racism in the death penalty, to how mandatory sentencing and the “three strikes” rule would affect minority citizens.

The question-and-answer session lasted two hours, with many of those in attendance asking several questions. Dr. Counter ended the formal question-and-answer period by thanking the panelists for their participation and candor. All three commissioners remained for another thirty minutes to mingle with students and to answer the numerous questions put to them at a post-program reception hosted by Cabot House.

Before leaving, Judge Mazzone thanked the Harvard Foundation for inviting the Commission to speak on the subject of “Sentencing and the Law” because “the subject is especially appropriate at this time.”

— Joshua Dimitri Bloodworth ’97

(Continued on page 8)
Hacker on *The Bell Curve*  
(Continued from page 7)

to Hacker, *The Bell Curve* is an instrument to further separate Caucasians from African-Americans. Hacker spoke of the differences between what was acceptable for both races. For example, while white women are able to leave work on maternity leave and take care of their infants, black women are unable to take care of their infant children because they are forced into labor with the threat of welfare abolition. Hacker cited a South Carolina community in which black mothers sold shrimp for less than minimum wage under the supervision of white women. Hacker also observed that although the Caucasian community often accepts other minorities such as Asians-Americans, it excludes blacks because they do not conform to white culture. Captivating his audience for more than two hours, Hacker ended the program by stating that all people are of African descent, and that white people are afraid of the "African" within them.

After the presentation, the floor was opened for questions and comments. Most of the questions focused on preventing negative stereotypes and creating a more positive view of the African-American community. Others in the audience expressed their concern about the detrimental impact of the book, *The Bell Curve*.

Dr. Desmond Murray, a Trinidadian post-doctoral fellow in biochemistry, commented that the book was an example of "scientific discrimination." He also remarked that *The Bell Curve* was "not a highly scientific book," and suggested that its contents should indeed be debated.

Groups of students later gathered to discuss the political abuse of minority groups and to dispute the claims presented in the book. Dr. Hacker’s words on the issues raised in *The Bell Curve* served as a catalyst for discussions of race relations by Harvard students and faculty.

— Odoi Odoete '97, Holly Foster '97

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Sunday Brunch In Honor of Class of 1998

The Harvard Foundation held its annual Freshman Brunch to welcome the Class of 1998 to the Harvard community on Sunday, September 11, 1994. In the main dining hall of Dudley House, over 500 freshmen and their parents attended the reception with Dean of Freshmen Elizabeth Studley Nathans and other university officials. The brunch provided an opportunity for the new students and their parents to mingle in a casual setting while learning of the diversity that Harvard extols.

The brunch began with a greeting from Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation. Dr. Counter spoke of the Foundation’s function on campus as an organization whose goal is to support students and organizations in their efforts to foster racial and intercultural understanding. He invited students to take part in its activities, and challenged them to contribute to the continuing efforts to improve race relations at Harvard and in the United States.

Dean Nathans’ speech addressed some of the fears and anxieties that students might feel as they start their Harvard careers. While she welcomed the Freshman Class to Harvard, she reminded the students of the many challenges that lie ahead, and told them of the resources available to assist them in overcoming obstacles. As the brunch progressed, conversations filled the room in the unifying spirit of the Harvard Foundation, allowing both parents and students to assimilate into their environment as members of the Harvard community.

— Joshua Dimitriis Bloodworth '97

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Annual Race Relations Conference

More than two dozen students from various ethnic organizations met for the Harvard Foundation’s annual workshop on Leadership in Race Relations on Saturday, December 10.

Co-sponsored by Quincy House, the event, entitled “Race & Ethnicity: Roles, Rights, Responsibility,” was led by Ms. Rita Nethersole, Director of Student Affairs for the University of Massachusetts System. The special emphasis this year was on coalition-building — among students as well as student groups — and formulating an efficient system of communication and interaction. The workshop also introduced the uses of and differences between voting majority and consensus systems.

Held in the Bullitt Room of Quincy House, the event included a number of exercises. The first divided the participants into five groups to conduct a language exercise in communication. Each cluster created its own language based on non-conventional sounds and gestures. The new
language was used to communicate such words as hello, good-bye, male, female and the group's name. The individual groups then taught their language to the other participants.

For the next exercise, students were required to split off into four groups. The activity created a situation in which the world was destroyed with the condition that only six of the ten survivors could be saved as the progenitors of a new society. After each small group chose six survivors, representatives from each group negotiated a list of people who fit the entire assembly's choices. A newly developed exercise discussed the use and meaning of verbal and non-verbal communication, and how high-context and low-context language patterns affect decision-making. Lunch was held in Quincy's Griswold Room, after which students again adjourned to the Bullitt Room to begin the third exercise. Concerned with small group and interpersonal communication, the third group work exercise taught participants to deal with the different notions of meaning and interpretation, which often affect coalition-building.

Two groups of students were given a list of international metaphors (translated into English), and then were asked to come up with a specific interpretation. The timed exercise became somewhat tense as time ran low, but students admitted to a growing sense of respect for the skills needed to work with others of different backgrounds.

"I was surprised to discover the level of tension that was built," said Andrew Pitcher '97, "but I now have a better understanding of what negotiators and multicultural parties have to go through."

Ms. Nethersole expressed pleasure and admiration for the hard work of the participants. Admitting that such seminars extract a heavier toll than one would expect, Ms. Nethersole indicated that another similar seminar would be beneficial for student groups and leaders. The Harvard Foundation has planned for such an event to take place in April, 1995, with a series of shorter seminars throughout the semester.

—Natasha D. Bir '96

Foundation Donates Cultural Rhythms Proceeds to MSPCC

The Harvard Foundation was pleased to present a check for $2,000 to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in October 1995. The contribution was funded from the proceeds of Cultural Rhythms, the Foundation's annual celebration of culture and diversity on Harvard's campus. The check was presented to Kate Sides-Flather, President of the MSPCC, by Jonathan Bell '97, Publicity Chair for Cultural Rhythms 1994, Holly Foster '97, Logistics Co-Chair for last year's cultural festival, and Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Foundation.

Ms. Sides-Flather said that the generosity of organizations such as the Foundation helps to sustain the MSPCC's work to keep families intact and protect children from harm. The MSPCC reaches out to families at risk, and provides them with the assistance they need to establish a healthy and nurturing environment for their children. Other proceeds will be given to the Pine Street Inn, Casa Myrna Vasquez Shelter and Rosie's Place.

—Odoi Odoti '97, Holly Foster '97

Holly Foster '97 and Jonathan Bell '97 present a gift from the students of the Cultural Rhythms Festival to Kate Sides-Flather, President of the MSPCC.

Harvard Foundation Fall Student Grant Activities

Native American Students Host Gaming Symposium

The formation of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, the economic development spurred by Indian gaming, and the impact of gaming revenue on education and government services were among the topics addressed at "The Truth About Indian Gaming," a symposium for the discussion of issues surrounding the rise of the Native American casino industry.

The symposium, held on November 19, 1994, was hosted by the Native Americans at Harvard-Radcliffe (NAHR) and Native American student groups at the Law and Divinity Schools. Rick Hill, President of the National Indian Gaming Association, was the keynote speaker, and addressed the

political, economic and cultural challenges to Native American gaming. Other speakers included Harold Montecue, Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission; Mickey Brown, CEO of Foxwoods Casino in Connecticut; and Jake Viarrial, Governor of the Pojoaque Pueblo.

About 200 students and faculty, and tribal, business, and government representatives attended the conference.

—Wenona Singel '95

Magazine of Native American Issues Grows

Native Voices, a magazine devoted to presenting the concerns and opinions of Native American students at Harvard University, produced its second issue in the fall of 1994. Founded and edited by the Native Americans at Harvard, Native Voices is distributed to students, faculty, affiliates and organizations throughout the Harvard College campus.

The magazine's second edition documents political and economic issues and also showcases an anthology of poetry by Native American students. Articles include "Taking a Gamble," which analyzes the impact of Native American gaming, and "The Vanishing Indian," a commentary questioning the repercussions of interracial marriage among the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. In addition, a short story and several poems highlight the creative writing of Harvard's Native American students.

—Wenona Singel '95
Black Students Association
Holds First Kwanzaa

The Black Students Association (BSA) sponsored its first Kwanzaa celebration on December 4, 1994. More than 100 people attended the ceremony held in the Lyman Common Room. Kwanzaa is a non-religious, non-heroic worship holiday created more than 25 years ago by Dr. Karanga, a professor of African-American studies. It focuses on unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith as ways to combat the many problems facing the African-American community. Kwanzaa is usually celebrated during the last seven days of December.

The two-hour program was opened by a statement of purpose from BSA President Kristen Clarke '97, and featured reflections by BSA Treasurer Joshua D. Bloodworth '97 and Naema White '97, in addition to the reading of the seven principles in both English and Spanish. T.C., a representative of the Zulu Nation, delivered the keynote address. The Zulu Nation is an international Hip-Hop organization that works on a local level to engage young people in grassroots activism. Throughout his speech, T.C. focused on the unity of humankind and the need for greater understanding of the rich cultural heritage of African-Americans, both within and outside of the black community.

After T.C.'s address, participants lit their candles and stood as the singing group Brothers offered a spiritual. BSA Vice-President Alison Moore '97 closed the ceremony with a statement thanking the Harvard Foundation for providing the funds to make the event possible. In organizing the event the BSA worked with many groups including the Caribbean Society, Harvard's African Student Association and the Haitian Alliance.

Following the ceremony, T.C. answered questions related to his speech. The executive board of the BSA also served traditional soul food to the guests, which was prepared by Bob the Chef.

— Joshua Dimitri Bloodworth '97

Black Box Theater

Black C.A.S.T. held its first community service project of the 1994-95 academic year on Monday, December 12, in the Cabot House Junior Common Room. This project, entitled Black Box Theater, is part of a larger, ongoing community service project with North Cambridge Catholic High School that provides high school students an opportunity to interact with college students at Harvard.

This year, which marked Black Box Theater's second annual performance, students from both Harvard and North Cambridge Catholic High School showed off their talents by reciting poetry, dancing, singing, and rapping. An excited and interactive audience of 100 people cheered on the innovative and entertaining performances. In addition, the high school students' artwork served as a backdrop for the event.

The students performing were primarily minorities. This event gave high school students the chance to be embraced by the Harvard community, especially by other minorities like themselves, and to be recognized for their talents and abilities.

— Carmen Bryant '96

International Harvest Festival

“Harvest Around the World” brought the talents of several Harvard University cultural organizations into the spotlight on Friday and Saturday, November 12 and 13. More than 100 members of the Harvard community gathered in Lowell Hall to watch Ballet Folklorico de Aztlan, the Asian American Dance Troupe, and the Irish Cultural Society as they performed in celebration of the traditional harvest season.

Conceived as part of a new tradition, the purpose of the event was to expose the Harvard community to the beauty and uniqueness of international folk dance.

Dance is one of the most expressive ways in which people celebrate the most prolific times of the year. The performers brought with them a sense of good times and community that are an integral part of the harvest season across cultures. Several groups also participated in the international food festival held after the Friday night performance. Visitors were delighted to peruse the food-laden tables as they viewed the offerings from many continents.

In its efforts to open such events to the next generation, the organizers of the festival invited members of the Big Brother/Big Sister program from H.A.N.D. (House and Neighborhood Development program), and from the Big Sibling program of the Phillips Brooks House Association to attend with their little siblings. Young people were offered a large discount in order to facilitate their attendance. The success of the strategy was evident, since the audience was comprised of people of all ages. In this sense, the mission of the Harvest Festival was promoted and the Harvard community was enriched by its exposure to various traditions.

— Natasha Pai-Bir '96

Kamayan: A Festival of Filipino Culture

The Harvard Foundation, the Harvard Philippine Forum, and Filipino Intercollegiate Networking Dialogue (FINRD) [District 1] hosted the second annual Kamayan festival in the Quincy House dining hall on Saturday, November 5, 1994. Kamayan began last year as a celebration of the 90 years since the first Filipino students, the pensionados, were accepted to American universities. The festival has continued as a focus for unity among the Filipino organizations in Boston and surrounding areas as well as a means of exhibiting the beauty and diversity of Filipino culture.

The evening began with a buffet dinner of Filipino dishes prepared by the participating student organizations. Traditional dishes such as pancit, lumpia, embutido, and bistek tagalog prepared by the students were served to the festival-goers. Plenty of food was available for everyone.

The culmination of the evening was the cultural performances, showcasing Filipino dancing, singing and martial arts. The show began with Jennifer Soriano '97 singing both the U.S. and the Philippine national anthems. Students from Boston University, Brown, Harvard, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology then performed dances representing various aspects of Filipino culture including Tinikling and Surtide, the national dances of the Philippines. Other dances included Subli, Pandango sa llaw, La Jota Pangasinana, and Malong Malong. Tufts students provided a demonstration of the Filipino martial art of stick fighting, while a group from Boston College presented a collage of contemporary music.

The finale of the cultural show was a Tinikling challenge in which representatives
from MIT, Harvard, and Brown choreographed original dances following the format of the Tinckling, with the Harvard dancers coming away with honors. Way to go, Harvard!

— Daryl Paragaya ’96

**Kuumba Concert**

The Annual *Kuumba* Christmas Concert has become a campus tradition during the holidays. Every December, students and members of the Boston community gather within Memorial Church to hear *Kuumba* singers share their talent by presenting a Christmas program of song and prayer. The tradition was preserved on December 9 as *Kuumba* presented its 24th annual Christmas concert to a packed Memorial Church. This year’s concert was one of the most spectacular performances ever.

*Kuumba* is the *Kwanzaa* principle for creativity. The *Kuumba* Singers of Harvard and Radcliffe are a diverse group of undergraduates, graduate students, and community members devoted to the celebration of African and African-American creativity for the past 25 years. They use numerous forms of expression in this celebration, including music, poetry and dance.

The *Kuumba* Singers presented a diverse musical program including master choral works, African classics, gospels, spirituals, and jubilees. During the first half of the program, the choir sang under the direction of Mr. Robert Winnre, while the greater part of the second half was student-directed by Joy Gorham ’95 (President of Kuumba). Interspersed with the musical selections were Biblical readings and poetry performed by members of the choir.

The choir was also joined by guest soloist Ruth Hamilton who, like last year, received a standing ovation for her breathtaking rendition of traditional spirituals. The passing of lighted candles through the audience provided an opportunity for observers to participate in the evening. These features of the performance are long-standing *Kuumba* traditions.

In addition to these features, this year’s concert was distinguished by several special touches. For instance, *Kuumba* was accompanied by a full band consisting primarily of choir members, who worked hard to achieve a professional level of performance. Also, the choir had the opportunity to perform an original piece by a *Kuumba* alumna, Evelyn Woodward-Johnson, who also acted as a guest director. Ms. Woodward-Johnson, along with other alumni, joined the choir in performing.

This outstanding concert was a fitting prelude to the opening of *Kuumba*’s 25th season, which promises many great successes.

— Francesca Williams ’96

**Korean Culture Night**

Korean Americans for Culture and Community (KACC) held a Korean Culture Night open to the Harvard community and children from a few local schools and churches. The mid-December evening saw a presentation of the origins of the art form *samulnori* and was held in Quincy House.

*Samulnori* is a musical performance rooted in the traditional Korean agricultural communities, but adapted for the modern stage. The instruments consist of two types of drums, a large gong, and a small metal drum that is used by the *sangeur*, the lead player.

After the *samulnori* performance, KACC group sang a few traditional songs, with the audience joining in as the chorus. Onlookers were invited to play the instruments after the performance, since traditional Korean folk music remains a very inclusive art form.

They were guided by members of the group, who gave a few pointers so that everyone enjoyed this art form not only as an audience, but performers as well.

— Han Park ’96

**AAA Players Present Tea**

Despite the burden of reading period, nearly 400 people attended the *Asian American Association Players*’ production of Velina Hasu Houston’s play *Tea* on January 6, 7, 13, and 14. Set in 1968 Junction City, Kansas, where the U.S. government resettled U.S. servicemen married to Japanese women, the play revolves around the experiences of five war brides. In the wake of one bride’s suicide, the other four meet to take care of her house and to take tea together. Over tea, the women share stories about their American G.I. husbands, feelings about their common immigration experience, the difficulties in adjusting to Americans and the American lifestyle, and their concern for their children in a different world.

Ong Ker Shing ’97, assisted by stage managers Vivien Lee ’97 and Cynthia Soto ’97 directed the all-female cast featuring Joan Renee Cheng ’95, Haewon Hwang ’95, Sarah Song ’96, Dori Takata ’96, and Laurie Tanaka ’96. Merry Jean Chan ’97 was producer; Jonathan Stein ’97 was publicity and house manager; Montira Horayangura ’97 was set director; Marco Simons ’97 was lighting designer and operator; Jean Tom ’96 was sound engineer; Young Soo Jo ’96 was props manager; and Melody Tan ’96 was costumes coordinator.

The Asian American Association Players was founded in the spring of 1994 to educate and generate discussion on Asian American issues. The drama group provides theatrical opportunities for Asian American students through the production of plays like *Tea*.

— Merry Jean Chan ’97

**Fejiada**

The Harvard Brazilian Organization held its first *Fejiada*, an event dedicated to the Brazilian National Food. Nearly 100 people from all backgrounds and schools of the University attended the event at the Hasty Pudding Club on December 10, 1994. There was also strong attendance by Brazilian students from other universities in Boston. The *Fejiada* began at 2 p.m. and lasted until 7 p.m., when students who came to eat suddenly found themselves dancing to Brazilian music. Impromptu samba lessons were taught to many interested participants.

The *Fejiada* consists mainly of beans which are cooked with sausages, pork, and a number of spices. It is served with rice, collard greens, and manioc flour. The *Fejiada* was originally the food of the African slaves brought to Brazil, so it is in many ways a truly interracial, international dish. It combines Portuguese sausages and sliced pork with African peppers and spices, and mixes them with native Brazilian staples such as manioc. Historically, Africans have not been represented in American society, but the Afro-Brazilians have been even less known to the U.S. community. The miscegenation present in Brazilian culture has been over-
looked by scholars as well. The *Feijoada* project provided a voice for Brazilians at Harvard to share miscegenated Brazilian culture. We feel *Feijoada* can serve as a powerful example of racial harmony.

— Luciano Lemos '95

**Arabic Cultural Evening**

The Harvard/Radcliffe Society of Arab Students (SAS) hosted its first Arabic Cultural Evening on December 2, 1994. Featuring the SAS's very own DJ, Ehab Goldstein '98, the Adams House Junior Common Room housed more than 70 members of the Harvard community. Those who attended enjoyed such tasty appetizers as *hommos*, *baba-ghanouch*, *falafel* and *kubbeh*, which disappeared within the first hour and undergraduates as well as graduate students belly danced to the rhythmic beat.

The evening provided SAS with the opportunity to share a rich cultural heritage and cuisine with others here at Harvard, proving especially educational for those not previously exposed to the Arabic tradition. The SAS looks forward to planning other cultural evenings in the near future.

— Radi M. Annab '95

**Fuerza Quisqueyanana**

Cultural Music Festival

December 16, 1994, saw a tribute to Dominican culture through music by Fuerza Quisqueyanana. A host of students and faculty attended the Adams House event, celebrating as they danced to *merengue*, the traditional Dominican music.

This well-attended event was an opportunity for Harvard students unfamiliar with the *merengue* to participate through dance in the cultural celebration. All who attended, Latinos and non-Latinos alike, appreciated the richness and the energy of the Dominican culture, and Fuerza hopes to organize a similar celebration in the near future.

— Norma C. Acuña-Rey '97

**Fuerza Holds Political Forum**

Fuerza Quisqueyanana, the Dominican student organization, sponsored a forum on December 3, 1994, with guest speakers Attorney Miguel Fitipaldi from New York City and Attorney Roy Smith, a professor at City College in New York. Mr. Fitipaldi and Mr. Smith discussed the experience of Caribbean immigrants, focusing on the hardships faced by immigrants entering the United States, as well as the social, political, and economic obstacles with which they are confronted upon their arrival.

The guest speakers gave their views on issues such as Proposition 187 of California and recent U.S. immigration policy towards Caribbean countries. The ramifications of such policies, not only for new immigrants but for already established Caribbean communities in the U.S., were discussed as well. The speakers were greatly appreciated by those who attended the forum, especially in their encouraging call for students to educate themselves about such important issues and contribute to the mobilization of Caribbean communities in this country.

The forum was held in Boylston Hall after a reception at which traditional Dominican food was served. Fuerza’s forum aimed at promoting awareness of issues of importance to the Caribbean community in the United States and to share the group’s concerns and ideas with the Harvard-Radcliffe community.

— Norma C. Acuña-Rey '97

**Catholic Student Association Celebrates Diversity**

For the first time since its founding 100 years ago, the Catholic Students Association (CSA) celebrated a week of events meant to recognize diversity and multiculturalism in the Catholic Church and in the Harvard community. Students came together for three events, which celebrated many cultures and peoples in an effort to bridge racial and class divisions.

To kick off the week, the Student Affairs Committee dedicated its weekly Friday Fellowship to the discussion of diversity. Held on December 9, 1994, the discussion fostered meaningful interchange between students and spiritual leaders.

The following Sunday, Assistant Professor of History and Literature John McGreevey delivered a brilliant and engaging lecture on the history of the Catholic Church’s race relations in the urban North. By tracing the complex political and sociological ramifications of church policy, McGreevey managed to portray the human face of institutional change.

The CSA, thanks to the much appreciated support of the Harvard Foundation, capped off the week by celebrating Mexican style. On Friday, December 16, it held a *posada*. This Christmas celebration, full of tradition dating back to the times when the Spanish missionaries interacted with Mayan people, was enjoyed by the more than 100 people who attended. The program consisted of the recreation of the biblical scene where the Holy Family—"Los Peregrinos"—came to the inn to ask for lodging—"posada." The group separated into two, those who sang from outside, representing the pilgrims, and those inside as the innkeepers. Candles in hand, the pilgrims were finally welcomed to share a meal consisting of tamales, traditional candies and even an authentic *piñata*. The *posada* was undoubtedly an evening to remember and only the beginning of celebrations yet to come.

— Diana Patuel '97

**Caribbean Club Food Festival**

On Saturday, November 19, the Harvard Foundation, the Harvard-Radcliffe Caribbean Club and Adams House hosted the 1994 Caribbean Club Food Festival. This event has been an integral part of an endeavor to give the Harvard and Boston communities increased exposure to Caribbean food, culture and life. Over the years, students and faculty alike have come to anticipate this annual event that has allowed a growing crowd of people to sample Caribbean cuisine while expanding their understanding of the Caribbean culture.

The consumption of the delectable curry chicken, rice and peas, stew peas, bread pudding, and other fine West Indian food served as a form of cultural exchange. The food was prepared by Harvard-Radcliffe Caribbean Club members from Jamaica, Guyana, Haiti, Trinidad and Grenada. The time spent in preparation alone allowed for a great sense of unity amongst these students as they shared stories of their experiences.

Guests at the food festival included members from Harvard’s numerous ethnic organizations as well as a number of students from Yale. Individuals from all parts of Harvard’s community attended and enjoyed, joining in the celebration of West Indian Heritage.

— Nisha Hitchman '97
The night’s upbeat spirit lasted straight through to the end, due in good part to the participation of students from many different cultural backgrounds who all shared a curiosity and willingness to learn about another culture. By the time midnight rolled around, one Mexican student had already promised to teach another some South Asian dances, and all were excited about explaining dances and musical styles from their own countries.

The Ceili was made possible through the generosity of the Undergraduate Council and the Harvard Foundation. In fact, Dr. Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation, appeared at the dance, coming straight from the Kaumbca concert which took place that same evening! Great fun was had by all, and we look forward to our spring Ceili.

— Carmen O’Shea ’97

**Dimitris Avramopoulos Visit**

The newly elected Mayor of Athens, Mr. Dimitris Avramopoulos, visited Harvard December 3-5, 1994 as a guest of the Harvard Hellenic Society. The central event of the visit was his speech on Sunday, December 4, in the Lowell Lecture Hall, titled “Greece: Factor of Political and Economic Stability in South-Eastern Europe.”

Mr. Avramopoulos gave a brief review of the political developments in the Balkans and the role of Greece in the framework of European politics. The Mayor stressed the need to find solutions through cooperation movements that will involve all nations in the area. Mr. Avramopoulos also announced that, for the first time, the city of Athens is planning to take initiatives to bring together the mayors of all the Balkan states’ capitals in an effort to build bridges between people and seek common solutions.
The event was attended by approximately 230 people. An extensive discussion followed the main address, and was moderated by Mr. Montagle Stearns, the former Ambassador of the United States in Greece. A reception in honor of the Mayor followed at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cambridge and was attended by 130 people.

On Monday, December 5, Mr. Avramopoulos had an unofficial meeting with Mayor Thomas Menino at the Boston City Hall. Avramopoulos was escorted by members of the Hellenic Society and the Consul of Greece. The Harvard Hellenic Society organized a luncheon at the Institute of Politics at the Kennedy School of Government that same day. This meeting was attended by the director of the IOP, Professor Charles Royer; Professors Nick Mitropoulos and Theo Panagiotou; Director of the Neurosurgery Clinic of the Massachusetts General Hospital, Dr. Nick Zervas; the Dean of Boston University, Professor Fred Yalouris; and Mr. David Nyhan, a senior columnist of the Boston Globe on urban issues. Later in the afternoon, Mr. Avramopoulos was accompanied by members of the Harvard Hellenic Society to meet the former Governor of Massachusetts, the Honorable Michael Dukakis.

Mr. Avramopoulos also received an award from the Governor of Rhode Island during his visit and gave an interview to Randolph Ryan of the Boston Globe that was published in the December 8, 1994 issue.

The Mayor congratulated the Harvard Hellenic Society for the success and organization of the event and promised to return to Boston soon.

— Chryssostomes Sfaios, GSAS ’96

Chinese Dessert Fest

The Harvard Chinese Students Association hosted a Chinese Dessert Festival on January 15, 1995, in the Quincy Junior Common Room. More than 50 Harvard students attended the food fair. A number of Chinese desserts were featured at the event, including a ball with red bean paste, egg tarts, almond cookies, moji (rice cakes with peanut filling), niangao (New Year's sweet cake), butterfly cookies, and more.

Traditional foods and desserts are some of the most important symbols of the Chinese culture. Cakes and cookies are presented as signs of engagement or marriage, upon the birth of a child, during festivals, or at almost every other major event in the lives of Chinese family members. The desserts featured at the CSA Dessert Festival included those that signify these major events as well as banquet desserts and everyday desserts. Soy bean milk, a traditional Chinese drink, accompanied the fine desserts from Ho Yuen Bakery in Chinatown. A Chinese movie was also featured for festival-goers. In addition, traditional music from Hong Kong, China and Taiwan was played in the background to provide a true cultural bonanza for Harvard students.

— Linda Cheng ’97, Eugene Chu ’97, Janice Tsai ’97

Autumn Moon Festival

The Chinese Student Association held its third annual Autumn Moon Festival celebration on September 20, 1994, which was the 15th of the eighth month of the Chinese lunar calendar. The celebration was held at Emerson 305, and approximately 150 students attended, partaking of Chinese tea and food. CSA’s main food item was mooncakes, which are delicious pastries containing a variety of fillings, including lotus seed paste, black seed paste, and melon paste. CSA also served a pastry called lapoong, which is filled with lotus seed filling and has a flaky exterior. Jasmine tea was served alongside the pastries.

The Autumn Moon Festival is one of the most important holidays on the Chinese calendar. CSA believes that understanding this aspect of Chinese culture will enhance awareness of Chinese ethnic identity. Both the food itself, which was enjoyed by people of all backgrounds, and the legend behind the holiday served to educate the Harvard Community about Chinese culture.

— Jim Cheung ’95

Chinese HuaGou (Fire Pot) Dinner

The Harvard Chinese Students Association hosted a Chinese HuaGou (Fire Pot) Dinner on December 10, 1994, in the Dunster Private Dining Room and Junior Common Room. The event was a large success, drawing more than 40 Harvard students to sample a special style of Chinese cuisine. The HuaGou — literally meaning “fire pot” — dinner is a traditional Chinese meal, featuring a large pot around which are a variety of different uncooked foods. These foods include beef, Chinese mushrooms, Chinese white cabbage, tofu, fish cakes, fish balls, beef balls, liver, eggs and other items. The ingredients are then cooked together in the pot, with the diners themselves placing the food into boiling water. Once ready, the food is dipped into a Chinese barbecue sauce, sweet and sour sauce, or any mixture of the two, sometimes even mixed with a raw egg (a Chinese custom).

The CSA HuaGou Dinner allowed Harvard students to taste a traditional dish with a unique flavor that is not commonly found in Chinese restaurants in the United States.

— Eugene Chu ’97

Chinese Art Exhibit

The first annual art exhibit of Harvard-Radcliffe’s Chinese Student Association took place November 5, 1994 in Boylston Hall’s Ticknor Lounge. Taking advantage of the larger audience due to Freshman Parents’ Weekend, CSA presented more than 100 works of calligraphy and watercolors by two professional Chinese artists, through an arrangement with Fairbank Center Visiting Scholar Guandi Chan.

Over 200 students, parents, and members of the greater Cambridge community visited the exhibition during the day, and were able to enjoy examples of traditional Chinese calligraphy and painting of the “birds and plants” genre. Harvard students were given the opportunity to purchase works of art at a discount. Efforts to increase understanding and appreciation for Chinese culture led to a talk by visiting scholar Eugene Yi Jiang Wang from the National Art Gallery in Washington, D.C. Interested audience members learned about the underpinnings of Chinese paintings and their inseparability from the historical and political milieu in which they were crafted.

— Merry Jean Chan ’97

CSA Identity Talk

The meaning of Chinese self-identification was discussed by a panel held by the Chinese Students Association on December 7, 1994. The speakers group consisted of six students of different backgrounds and experiences who gave overviews of their upbringing, explaining how they identify themselves, and what that identity is based upon.

Davis Wang ’97, who lived in Shanghai
until the age of 12 and now lives in Canada, said that he believes identity involves much more than merely one’s ethnicity. Since he is very Western-oriented, said Wang, he cannot accurately describe himself merely as Chinese.

Another panelist, Mynette Louie ’97, was born and has always lived in the United States. Louie says she is American because she has grown up in an American culture. She said that she once denied being Chinese, but has recently began to change her view.

A citizen of the world is how Kim Yu Ang ’95 identifies himself. Ang is racially Chinese, but considers himself Malaysian because he lived all his life in Malaysia. Ang explained that he had never been to China and has absolutely no connection with it.

Rita Pang ’96 was raised and presently resides in Hong Kong. Pang said that she is somewhat bewildered by people who identify her as from “Hong Kong” simply from the way she dresses.

Panelist Yea-Lan Cheng ’96 considered herself to be Taiwanese American, and not Chinese American, because her family has for many generations lived in Taiwan. She explained that Taiwan has a culture and history completely separate from China.

The only graduate student panelist, Michael Weiss, talked about his perception that Chinese culture is ever-evolving and fluid, and that therefore calling oneself Chinese does not point to any concrete set of values or customs. Weiss concentrates his studies in Regional Studies of East Asia, with a specialty in China.

The panelists entertained questions from the audience.

— Merry Jean Chan ’97

Ballet Folklorico de Aztlan
To Buy New Costumes

The Harvard Foundation awarded a grant to the Ballet Folklorico de Aztlan for the restoration and purchase of its dance costumes. Ballet Folklorico has existed as a Harvard-affiliated student organization since 1972 and is still one of the few Mexican student dance groups on the East Coast. Its mission is to preserve, celebrate and share aspects of Mexican culture through dance. In performing dances that represent Mexican culture, the group introduces the audience to both music and dance not traditionally seen on Harvard campus.

Ballet Folklorico currently is increasing its wardrobe holdings to allow the group to continue. While the Ballet does own several costumes, it felt the need for this expansion due to the wear on some of its costumes. With the grant, the group is able to obtain two new jackets, repair older ones, and purchase decorations for the men’s pants. The new jackets will allow more members to participate in the dances of the Jalisco region. This will allow for more complex choreographies, thereby giving the Ballet’s performance greater visual appeal.

The new costumes will be used for the first time in the 1995 Cultural Rhythms Festival. They will also be used in the Arts First Festival, as well as the group’s annual May performance.

— Cecilia LaFleur ’96, Faustino Ramos ’96

Korean Folk Dance

The Korean Dance Troupe performed for Art Break of the Harvard University Art Museums on December 16, 1994. The purpose of Art Break was to share the exhibition Women and the Arts of Asia, on display at the Sackler Museum through March 5, 1995, with members of the Harvard community including Student Friends of the Art Museums, the various Asian American student organizations, and the Women’s Studies concentrators. Art Break included a visit to the exhibition with an introduction by Robert Mowry, Curator of Chinese art, and classical Asian dance performances by the Korean Folk Dance Troupe as well as the Asian American Dance Troupe. The Korean Folk Dance Troupe performed the Fan Dance, which is an ancient Korean court dance.

— Sung Ji Nam ’96

New Issue of Voces Unidas

The fourth edition of Voces Unidas attempts to highlight a wide variety of issues facing the Latin American and Hispanic community. The journal begins with a look at the changing nature of the Hispanic family in the United States. Renewed media and political attention to the importance of the family when addressing issues of societal decline provides the backdrop for our discussion.

The cover story of this new issue concentrates on the status of women in Cuba three decades after the 1959 Revolution. Although the people of Cuba have witnessed sweeping changes in the political, economic and social realm, women remain constrained by gender roles rooted in the traditionally male-dominated society.

One woman who has made an attempt to transcend restrictive gender roles, 1994 Mexican Presidential Candidate Cecilia Soto, is featured in our section on Latin America.

The outcome of the recent Mexican election, and one author’s reaction as a participant in that election, is the focus of another article in the Inside Latin America section. The Spotlight section features the poet Tino Villanueva, one of the most important voices in Chicano literature. A conversation with Villanueva, winner of the 1994 American Book Award, provides readers with a glimpse of his past and the motivation behind his poetry.

The societal structures of Hispanics in the United States is another theme of change that Voces Unidas addresses. Beginning with the sweeping demographic changes that have occurred and are occurring across America, the feature article documents the similarities between the Latino and Asian American experiences in Greater Los Angeles, and argues for the benefits of an alliance forged between the two ethnic groups.

— Nicole Souffront ’96, Ronald C. Chen ’95

Diwali Celebration

Members of the South Asian Association (SAA) and Hillel gathered to celebrate Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights, on November 4, 1994. In drawing large contingents from both groups, the event provided a perfect opportunity to bring together two groups that have historically had very little interaction.

Participants had the opportunity to sample South Asian food while enjoying a break from hectic mid-semester activities. After brief introductions by Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee representatives Jim Loefler ’96 and Sanjay Shetty ’96, a short talk was given by SAA’s Academic/Political Chair Vivek Maru ’97. In his speech, Maru skillfully explained the significance of Diwali in several South Asian
religious traditions and placed the holiday in a mythological context.

Most importantly, the event fostered interaction between the two groups in the context of celebration, giving everyone a chance to appreciate the similarities between the two cultural traditions. The support of the Harvard Foundation was crucial to the success of the Diwali Celebration, and members of both groups hope that this event will serve as a springboard for more events of this kind.

— Sanjay Shetty '96

Shabana Azmi Film Festival

In conjunction with the Harvard Film Archive, the Harvard-Radcliffe South Asian Association and the Harvard Foundation a film festival was sponsored celebrating the First Lady of the Indian Screen, Shabana Azmi. Screenings of eight of her most successful and socially relevant movies, Ankur (1974), Mandi (1984), Khandar (1983), Pather (1984), Arth (1982), Genesis (1986), Sati (1989), and Peshonje (1988), were held over a seven-day period, between December 6 and 22. The films showed Ms. Azmi in some of the most notable Indian films produced in the past two decades, and included all four of her National Award-winning performances.

Unfortunately, due to a last-minute cancellation, Ms. Azmi was not able to attend the event. However, the films went on as scheduled at the Carpenter Center. Approximately 50-100 people from all over the Harvard community attended the films each night and made the event a great success.

The daughter of Kaifi Azmi, a renowned Urdu poet and political activist, and Shaukat Kaifi, a noted stage actress, Shabana Azmi is perhaps the most preeminent female actor in contemporary Indian cinema. Since the beginning of her career in 1974, Ms. Azmi has worked with some of India’s finest directors, including Satyajit Ray, Mrinal Sen, Shyam Benegal, Goutam Ghose, and Aparna Sen. She has been honored with India’s National Award for Best Actress four times and has had prominent roles in several English-language features.

While pursuing her career as a film actress, Ms. Azmi has also pursued a very high-profile career as a social activist. She has campaigned extensively on behalf of India’s poor and homeless, and is in favor of minority rights and communal harmony. She is also an advocate of women’s issues. Ms. Azmi has been recognized with numerous honors, including the Padma Shri in 1988, awarded by the Government of India for excellence in one’s field and a distinguished contribution to society, and along with Mother Theresa, received the International Human Rights Award in 1989, presented by President François Mitterrand of France.

— Anshul Patel '96

South Asian Association Fall Dinner

The Harvard-Radcliffe South Asian Association and the Harvard Foundation hosted its annual fall dinner on October 29, 1994 at Dudley House. The dinner is held each year in the hopes of bringing together the Harvard community to celebrate South Asian culture and heritage. Thanks to the increasing popularity of South Asian cuisine and the increasing awareness of a South Asian presence at Harvard, the event was an unqualified success.

Café of India, a restaurant located on Brattle Street since 1972 and a popular stop for South Asian food-lovers in the Square, catered the event with a cornucopia of culinary delights. Along with rice and nan, the food featured such vegetarian favorites as saag paneer (spinach with cheese squares), aloo chole (potatoes with garbanzo beans) and dal (a lentil soup). Non-vegetarian dishes included chicken tikka makhani (a boneless chicken dish) and rogan josh (a lamb-lover’s delight).

Approximately 150 people attended the event from the Harvard and Boston community. Attendees included representatives from all Harvard undergraduate and graduate colleges, MIT, BU, BC, and Northeastern.

— Anshul Patel '96

Islamic Society Awareness Week Celebration

A special week of events was held by the Harvard Islamic Society in conjunction with the international and national observance of Islam Awareness Week. The Harvard Islamic Society joined hundreds of other university organizations nationwide in holding daily events during the week of November 7, 1994, offering the Harvard community a unique opportunity to participate in Islam Awareness Week ‘94 and to learn more about Islam and Muslims. Various talks during the week addressed specific issues from an Islamic perspective, and an exhibition of Islamic art and calligraphy in the Science Center provided a glimpse of Muslim culture worldwide.

As part of the week’s events, a multicultural dinner was held in the Dunster House dining hall on Wednesday, November 9. The dinner was sponsored in part by the Harvard Foundation and drew a diverse crowd of more than 150 people from both the Harvard community and the wider Boston area. The dinner was followed by a talk by Dr. Sulyman Nyang, Professor of African Studies at Howard University and an internationally recognized scholar of both Islamic and African studies. Dr. Nyang’s talk, entitled “Islam and Modern Man,” addressed both the history of Islam and the situation of modern-day Muslims.

Dr. Nyang discussed the contributions of Muslim thinkers and scientists throughout history, especially during the European Middle Ages. The professor also dispelled the notion that Islam is incompatible with modernity, although he did emphasize the need to recognize a Muslim system of thought.

Before the talk began, students, faculty members and other guests enjoyed food
from the Middle East, Indonesia and South Asia. For many of the students, this was a first opportunity to sample the cuisine of these countries. It was also a learning experience about how Muslims in different parts of the world live.

— Uzma Ahmad '96

The Black Woman Empowered

The evening of Wednesday, December 14, was a chilly one, but about 30 people braved the cold winds to attend the panel discussion entitled “Perceptions of Black Women at Harvard,” co-sponsored by the Association of Black Radcliffe Women (ABRW) and the Harvard Foundation. The ABRW seeks to address issues facing black women on campus. This discussion was the first in a series of panel discussions and conferences on the African-American woman in her chosen society—school, home or work force.

The panel was comprised of six women representing Radcliffe College, the Harvard Business School, Law School, and Medical School. Each woman spoke on a topic concerning African-American women at Harvard, ranging from the role of black women on campus to how the black woman is viewed in both society and the African-American community.

Afterwards, the floor was opened for a brief question-and-answer session that focused on community building and the strengthening of the black female's view of herself.

Several students had questions on academic efficacy as well. The presentation lasted about three hours. Members of the Harvard community, both male and female, from the School of Education to the undergraduate colleges, were represented.

— Holly Foster '97

Rwanda Awareness Week

During the first week of December, the Harvard African Students Association organized a series of activities to raise awareness on campus about the situation in Rwanda. The motivation for the project was our great concern that the ongoing tragedy in Rwanda has so quickly slipped out of the media.

Besides dissemination of information, HASA also sought to raise money that would be channeled to the Rwandan refugee camps through OXFAM America. Throughout the week of November 29-December 2, members of HASA set up tables outside the Science Center to hand out informational fliers on Rwanda, as well as to accept donations for the fundraising effort. The response from both students and faculty was very positive and by the end of the week, the target amount of $1,000 was almost realized. Considering the scale of the atrocities committed in Rwanda, we were shocked to encounter many students who hadn’t heard of the crisis. At the same time, however, we welcomed the opportunity to inform some of these individuals.

On Tuesday evening, HASA presented a current BBC documentary on the Rwandan situation. The event took place in the Adams House lower common. The video was very difficult to watch since there was live footage of innocent civilians being murdered. For most people who attended the viewing, it really brought home the magnitude and intensity of what had occurred in Rwanda.

After the documentary, a period of discussion followed. Among the questions that were raised was the future prospect of preventing such a catastrophe in Africa or in any other region of the world.

The highlight of Rwanda Awareness Week was a fundraising African semi-formal dinner that was held on Friday night in the Lyman Common Room in Radcliffe Yard. HASA had the great pleasure of receiving Dr. Alison Des Forges as the speaker. Dr. Des Forges is a professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo and she also works as a human rights activist with the human rights organization Africa Watch. Dr. Des Forges has lived and worked in Rwanda.

As an historian, she has also written extensively on the Rwandan state. The dinner was attended by about 80 people, the majority being Harvard students. Thus the evening’s lecture became more intimate when it was learned that Dr. Des Forges is herself a graduate of the College. Dr. Des Forges related to the audience her personal experiences in Rwanda on a recent visit there. The audience was horrified to hear about the form of death that has visited Rwanda.

Dr. Des Forges was an excellent speaker and managed to clearly communicate the history of Rwanda and the current challenges being faced by its people.

After the lecture, the audience was treated to an African dinner that was much appreciated by everyone. After the dinner, people had an opportunity to ask the speaker questions and to meet with her. During the course of the evening, HASA presented Dr. Des Forges with the organization’s T-shirt in recognition of the valuable work she continues to do related to Rwanda.

HASA would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported Rwanda Awareness Week, especially the Harvard Foundation and the other groups that helped to fund the event.

— Bethany Otutuye '97

Food Festival

The Harvard African Students Association (HASA) hosted its annual African Food Festival on October 22. This event has become a common feature of the fall term because of its great popularity among Harvard students. It is both a great opportunity for the members of HASA to learn how to prepare dishes from different parts of the African continent as well as a chance for the Harvard community to taste African dishes. The event was generously supported by the Harvard Foundation and the Undergraduate Council.

The venue for the Food Festival this year was the Adams House Common Room, which enabled more of the River House people to attend. More than 65 students feasted on a wide variety of African dishes, including jollof rice, plantain, and peanut butter chicken. There were dishes from Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Malawi, and Lesotho.

Since the event is meant to be an experience of African culture, the Common Room was colorfully decorated with African flags. African music was played loudly in the background, much to the enjoyment of those who attended. As always, this event was a tremendous success.

— Nothando Ndebele '96

Another Issue of Giao Dien

Giao Dien, a magazine devoted to Vietnamese issues, seeks to educate students at Harvard about Vietnamese American rela-
tions, the experience of students of Vietnamese heritage at Harvard, and issues concerning Vietnam in general. The magazine presents and discusses themes not readily found in other publications on campus and in the mainstream of American society. It takes a distinct look at the people, culture, history, and politics of Vietnam itself, as well as its close relation to the United States and other countries.

This year’s magazine features articles concerning the difficulties of being raised as a Vietnamese American, the repatriation of refugees from Palawan Island, Philippines and a translation of a true account of the perilous journey across the South China Sea for a refugee family.

The magazine is an opportunity for contributors to share their enthusiasm or concern for issues touching all aspects of Vietnamese American society, whether academic or personal. It is a public channel for airing misunderstandings of culture in the educational and intellectual arena of the printed word. Giao Diem’s hope is that, at its best, the magazine will inform, intrigue, and inspire the Harvard community about the heritage of a small but significant minority in Asia, the U.S. and France.

The funds provided by the Harvard Foundation enabled Giao Diem to finish this year’s winter issue, which is scheduled to come out in late February. The majority of funds will be used toward paying printing fees. This year Giao Diem will issue just 500 copies, but hopes to increase the number next year.

— Betty Cung ’95

Vertigo: A Dizzying Display of Culture

Vertigo. The word usually conjures up images of the Hitchcock movie, rotating bull’s eyes, and the less pleasant sensation of lightheaded nausea. On Saturday, October 8, 1994, however, the Harvard Vietnamese Association (HVA) gave a new definition to the word as it dazzled more than 250 guests with the dizzying array of the best of Vietnamese culture at the Vertigo Dinner/Fashion Show.

Held in the Quincy Dining Hall, the event drew students from as far away as Cornell University and as close as the Boston Vietnamese community, providing many Harvard students with the unique opportunity to experience Vietnamese culture on a level that they normally do not.

As students and members of Boston’s Vietnamese community interacted with one another, they were treated to a delicious gamut of dishes from local Vietnamese restaurants that included the popular egg rolls and fried rice, and the less well-known delicacies Che Sam Bo Luong, a type of dessert, and Goi ga, a type of salad.

Following the dinner, the audience was presented with an overview of Vietnam’s traditional and contemporary music and fashions. Nguyen Trong Khoi, a vocalist and ecologist, opened the traditional portion of the show with his beautiful rendition of several Vietnamese ballads. Fashions, donated by local Vietnamese designers, were modeled by HVA members to a running commentary about the historical and cultural significance of the clothing.

The contemporary portion of the show followed, first with the performance of several modern popular songs by Pham Trang, a vocalist, and then with the modeling of the fashions worn in Vietnam today.

By the end of the evening, HVA had indeed overwhelmed guests with the food, music and fashions of Vietnam. None of the guests, however, complained about the vertigo they experienced upon witnessing the dizzying array of culture.

— Anh Hong Huan Tran ’97

In Appreciation

As part of a continuing effort to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the efforts of the Harvard Foundation, the students and staff would like to salute Mrs. Adrienne McLaughlin. Mrs. McLaughlin served as the Staff Assistant to the Harvard Foundation for seven years. In this position she worked as the immediate assistant to Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation, as well as the central coordinator of all activities of the student interns.

Mrs. McLaughlin has been pivotal in the organization of numerous luncheons, dinners, conferences, lectures and panel discussions over the years. She has arranged events featuring professors, celebrities and international dignitaries and has been a source of advice to the many campus cultural organizations on issues ranging from funding to protocol.

In November 1994, Mrs. McLaughlin left the Harvard Foundation to become the Assistant to the Masters of Lowell House. She continues, however, to provide guidance, advice and support to students and staff currently working at the Foundation.

We thank Mrs. McLaughlin for her years of dedication to the Harvard Foundation and wish her the best of luck in her new position at Lowell House.
The Staff of the Harvard Foundation

Elizabeth Carey, Student Activities Coordinator;
Erica Marsh '91, Harvard Foundation Administrative Fellow;
Sonia Alexander '97, Student Assistant;
Radi Annah '95, Student Assistant;
Natalia Bir '96, Student Assistant;
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Hui-Kyung (Tina) Kim '96, Student Assistant;
Paul Martin '95, Student Assistant;
Nicole Maywah '97, Student Assistant;
Odi Odote '97, Student Assistant;
Angela San '96, Student Assistant;
Andrea Taylor '95, Student Assistant.
Secretary-General of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Honored Guest of the Harvard Foundation

Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali visited Harvard University as the honored guest of the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations on December 14.

Boutros-Ghali had expressed a strong desire to spend a full day meeting students, according to Foundation Director Dr. S. Allen Counter, who had waited more than a year for this opening in the Egyptian diplomat's crowded schedule.

The visit marked the second time that a U.N. chief executive accepted an invitation from the Foundation, which in 1985 brought then Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar to Harvard.

"At the Harvard Foundation, we try to expose our students to persons who represent the finest examples of accomplishment and integrity, both individual and intellectual," Counter said. "I have been very impressed with the Secretary-General's commitment to human rights and his fairness in addressing the complex issues of peacekeeping."

During a private student/faculty luncheon sponsored by the Foundation and Leverett House, Boutros-Ghali received a Foundation citation for his "notable contributions".

(Continued on page 2)