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James J. McCarthy Named Scientist of the Year



Dartmouth President-Elect Jim Yong Kim Guest of Harvard Foundation



Actor/Musician Dan Aykroyd Artist of the Year at Cultural Rhythms Festival



Dolores Huerta Presented with 2008 Humanitarian Award



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On the cover, clockwise from Top Left: Dr. S. Allen Counter (R.), director of the Harvard Foundation, presents Professor James McCarthy with the Scientist of the Year Award; Dr. Counter and Professor Evelyn Hammonds (R.), dean of Harvard College, present actor/musician Dan Aykroyd (C.) with the Artist of the Year Award; labor activist Dolores Huerta accepts the Harvard Foundation Humanitarian Award; Professor Kathleen McCartney (R.), dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, joins the Harvard Foundation in hosting a discussion with Professor Jim Yong Kim to address the impact of his appointment as president of Dartmouth College.

The Mission of the Harvard Foundation

In 1981, the president and deans of Harvard University established the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations with the mandate to "improve relations among racial and ethnic groups within the University and to enhance the quality of our common life." In pursuit of this mission, the Foundation seeks to involve students of all racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds in the ongoing enterprises of the University. The Foundation sponsors annual programs and activities that are designed to promote interracial and intercultural awareness and understanding in the Harvard community, as well as to highlight the cultural contributions of students from all backgrounds.



The insignia of the Harvard Foundation consists of five interconnecting circles in the colors black, brown, red, white and yellow, symbolizing the major recognized ethnic groups of the human race under the Harvard motto veritas ("truth"). The symbol, "the unbroken circle of humanity," was designed by Dr. S. Allen Counter in 1981.

The *Harvard Foundation Journal* has been produced semi-annually since 1982. The publication is designed to inform the Harvard family about the intercultural programs sponsored by the Harvard Foundation throughout the year that address a variety of salient topics related to race, culture, ethnicity, and religion. The *Harvard Foundation Journal* is produced by the Harvard Foundation staff, interns, and director. For more information, or to be added to the Harvard Foundation mailing list, please contact:

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Dolores Huerta Presented With Humanitarian of the Year Award



This spring, the Harvard Foundation honored the 2008 Peter J. Gomes Humanitarian of the Year Dolores Huerta in the Senior Common Room of Quincy House. Students, including representatives from co-sponsoring organizations RAZA, Fuerza Latina, the Black Students Association, Latinas Unidas, the Student Labor Action Movement, and the Latino Men's Collective offered their thoughts on and support of Ms. Huerta's accomplishments. A celebrated labor organizer and social activist, she is recognized today for co-founding the United Farm Workers Association with Cesar Chavez and continuing her fight for civil rights as president of the Dolores Huerta Foundation.

Ms. Huerta was honored both because of the humanitarian spirit of her work and her dynamic, energetic persona—colleague Cesar Chavez once called her “totally fearless, both mentally and physically.” Ms. Huerta has also been inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and received the 1993 Eugene V. Debs Foundation Outstanding American Award, the 1999 Ellis Island Medal of Freedom Award, and the 1999 Eleanor Roosevelt Award. Most recently, the *National Hispanic Women's Magazine* also named Ms. Huerta “the most prominent Chicana labor leader in the United States.”

Mariachi Veritas de Harvard opened the ceremony with a musical tribute performance to the guest of honor. Dr. S. Allen Counter, director of the Harvard Foundation, then formally introduced event attendees to Ms. Huerta. The presentation of her award began with several remarks from leaders of student organizations. First to speak was Alyssa Aguilera '09, president of Students Labor Action Movement. Ms. Aguilera addressed the continuing importance of Ms. Huerta's work in mobilizing farm workers in contemporary America. She also commented that the honoree inspired her personally to pursue labor organization from a young age, reading books about Ms. Huerta's professional career and background growing up as a child of miners and farm workers. The president of RAZA, Marvin Urzua '10, and president of Black Students Association Timothy Turner '09 echoed her sentiments of joy and satisfaction at Ms. Huerta's visit to campus. In conclusion, Eliana Murillo '10, president of Latinas Unidas, emphasized how Ms. Huerta stands out as a model for young Hispanic women making a difference in society.

Dr. Counter and Foundation intern Miguel Garcia '12 then presented Ms. Huerta with the Harvard Foundation Humanitarian Award, citing her outstanding contributions

to the improvement of conditions for American workers. Upon receiving the award, Ms. Huerta then expressed her intent to continue her work, particularly in Washington, DC, in collaboration with President Barack Obama's new administration to better conditions for migrant workers.

—Alexa Rahman '12

Above Left: Harvard Foundation intern Miguel Garcia '12 (L.) presents groundbreaking activist Dolores Huerta with the gift of a Harvard shirt in thanks for her continued pursuit of human rights. (R.) Above Right: Harvard Foundation director Dr. S. Allen Counter (R.) presents Ms. Huerta with the 2008 Humanitarian Award. Below: Members of the student musical group Mariachi Veritas de Harvard perform a selection of popular Mexican songs in honor of Dolores Huerta's ethnic heritage.



Actor/Musician Dan Aykroyd Named 2009 Artist of the Year



The Harvard Foundation Cultural Rhythms Festival is a stunning extravaganza that showcases the musical, dance, and even culinary talents of Harvard's diverse student body. Renowned Canadian actor, comedian, and screenwriter Dan Aykroyd was 2009 recipient of the Harvard Foundation Artist of the Year Award, and guest of honor at this celebration of the richness of cultural and ethnic diversity at Harvard.

Mr. Aykroyd was a standout choice for the Harvard Foundation's flagship award because, says the Foundation's director Dr. S. Allen Counter, "His contributions to the performing arts have been appreciated by people throughout the world, and he has demonstrated admirable generosity through his humanitarian efforts." In film, Mr. Aykroyd has written and appeared in more than 80 films, including *Driving Miss Daisy*, for which he received an Academy Award nomination. His work as an original writer and actor in *Saturday Night Live* earned him an Emmy Award in 1977 and several subsequent nominations. Off-screen, Mr. Aykroyd's love for music can be seen in his work with the Blues Brothers Band and as co-founder of

the House of Blues, a music club chain that hosts musicians of various genres and aims to "celebrate the diversity and brotherhood of world culture."

Though the afternoon show in Sanders Theatre, hosted by the Artist of the Year, is typically considered the main event of Cultural Rhythms Festival, excitement spread early on Saturday morning when Mr. Aykroyd met lottery winners from the class of 2012 in Annenberg Hall for a breakfast co-sponsored by the Freshman Dean's Office. After the breakfast, he was officially welcomed by the student body at the traditional Kirkland House roast and luncheon, graciously hosted by House Masters Tom and Verena Conley. The Harvard Band's blazing welcome march, a signature of the reception, was followed by a crowd-pleasing roast of Mr. Aykroyd by On Harvard Time, a student-run comedy troupe. At the luncheon students, including Pforzheimer House bluegrass musician Clint Miller '11 and Mr. Aykroyd's own countrymen from the Harvard Canadian Club, offered tributes and performances.

The afternoon show, directed by Foundation interns Jacqueline Hairston '10 and Nworah Ayogu '10, dazzled a sold-out Sanders audience. Mr. Aykroyd treated the crowd with witty interjections and quizzed student representatives from each of the thirteen performing groups, from the Corcairdhearg Irish Dancing Troupe to Harvard Bhangra, about their backgrounds and the history behind their dances. The finale, a multicultural collage of steps from every act performed by representing students from each group, was a tribute to Mr. Aykroyd's own *Ghostbusters* and *Blues Brothers* films. The students' performances left the guest of honor speechless until he proclaimed that this day ranked among the best in his life.



Right: Harvard University Marshall Jackie O'Neill (L.) invites musician/actor Dan Aykroyd (C.), joined by his wife Donna Dixon Aykroyd, to sign the University Guest Registry. Left: Mr. Aykroyd opens Cultural Rhythms with a display of his own musical talent. Mr. Aykroyd good-naturedly endures his "roast" by Nelson Greaves '10 (R.) and Tyler Hall '11 (L.) of On Harvard Time.

The annual Cultural Rhythms Food Festival offered the Harvard community the chance to sample a rich variety of delicacies prepared by Harvard ethnic student groups. Visitors then returned to Sanders for the evening show, hosted by Alison Rich '10 and Jarell Lee '10, in which eleven more performance groups took the stage and brought the day to a close. Cultural Rhythms 2009 highlighted Harvard's cultural treasures in the backdrop of humor and a cultural appreciation that hurtles past mere tolerance in favor of genuine celebration. Proceeds from the shows were donated to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

—Amaka Uzoh '11



Student Performers at the 2009 Cultural Rhythms Festival



1: Cultural Rhythms co-directors Nworah Ayogu '10 (L.) and Jacqueline Hairston '10 welcome audience members to the Cultural Rhythms afternoon show. 5: Dr. Evelyn Hammonds (R.), dean of Harvard College, presents Dan Aykroyd (C.) with the Harvard Foundation 2009 Artist of the Year Award as Foundation director Dr. S. Allen Counter looks on. The Cultural Rhythms Festival included Harvard student performances by 2: Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán; 3: Kuumba Singers of Harvard College; 4: Ukrainian Folk Dancers; 6: Leña Dance Company; and 7: Harvard Gumboots. 8: Performers from the show's participating groups merge their respective dance routines together to create a Ghostbusters and Blues Brothers themed finale.

Annual Albert Einstein Science Conference

Professor James McCarthy Named Scientist of the Year

Each year, the Harvard Foundation invites elementary, middle, and high school students from the Boston-area to campus to learn from Harvard faculty at the *Albert Einstein Science Conference: Advancing Minorities and Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics*. This year's conference, themed "Grooming Leaders for the Green Revolution," focused on ways in which the next generation of scientists will solve existing ecological and climate problems.

The two-day conference in fact began with a traditional Pforzheimer House luncheon honoring the Harvard Foundation's 2009 Scientist of the Year, Dr. James McCarthy, Alexander Agassiz Professor of Biological Oceanography and, coincidentally, Master of Pforzheimer House. Dr. McCarthy shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with former Vice President Al Gore for his groundbreaking research and advocacy concerning global warming. He is also chair of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world's largest scientific society and publisher of the magazine *Science*. Dr. McCarthy's notable achievements include work in climate science and marine biology, as well as his discovery of the disappearance of ice in a vast region of the polar Arctic.

Though day two of the conference, called the Partners in Science program, aims to encourage the participation in the sciences of women and people of color, students of any race, gender, and background are welcome. For nearly two decades, the Harvard Foundation has connected socioeconomically and culturally diverse groups of grade school students from the Boston metropolitan area with inspirational Harvard faculty members and undergraduate volunteers in the applied, natural, biological, and engineering sciences. Each year, the visiting students are treated to presentations by distinguished instructors and hands-on experiments to excite them about the marvels of science and to encourage their pursuit of science education. This year's conference included award-winning geochemists, world-renowned molecular and cellular biologists, physicists, engineers, and evolutionary biologists.



Above: Professor James McCarthy (C.), Nobel-winning biologist and master of Pforzheimer House, speaks to public school students from the Boston area and encourages them to play active roles in the effort to repair the Earth's fragile environment in the years to come. Below Left: Harvard Foundation director Dr. S. Allen Counter (R.) presents Professor McCarthy with the 2009 Scientist of the Year Award at the annual Hastings Room luncheon in Pforzheimer House.

Bearing new Harvard University folders and Harvard Foundation-themed T-shirts, over 150 visiting students from such programs as the Paul Robeson Institute and Cambridge Rindge and Latin School were welcomed to the University as scholars and explorers. The morning's lectures were introduced by Dr. McCarthy himself, who also stayed to chat with the students over a pizza lunch. The day's presentations invited participants to examine how science interacts with their daily lives, whether through video clips, hands-on activities, or the launching of an empty trash can up to the ceiling of the lecture hall.

The Foundation believes it important for students not only to excel in the sciences, but also to strive to lead in whichever fields they pursue. The world's current climate and energy problems will require solutions from tomorrow's leaders in science and policy as well as from daily practice by everyday citizens. It is our hope that programs such as the Albert Einstein Science Conference will go a long way toward educating tomorrow's leaders and citizens in the environmental issues of our time.

—Petros Eghziabher '09



2009 Partners in Science Presenters and Lecturers

Dr. Andrew Berry <i>Life Sciences Advisor, Organismic and Evolutionary Biology</i>	Dr. Robert A. Lue <i>Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology</i>
Dr. Jennifer Hoffman <i>Assistant Professor of Physics</i>	Dr. Charles Marcus <i>Professor of Physics</i>
Dr. Kathryn Hollar <i>Director of Educational Programs, School of Engineering and Applied Science</i>	Dr. Sujoy Mukhopadhyay <i>Assistant Professor of Geochemistry</i>
	Mr. Daniel Rosenberg <i>Teaching Assistant in Chemistry and Chemical Biology</i>

Foundation Hosts Dartmouth College President-Elect Jim Yong Kim



Harvard Foundation assistant director Loc Truong (L.) presents Dartmouth president-elect Dr. Jim Yong Kim with the Harvard Foundation Award at a panel discussion event in Lowell House.

"I for one want Democracy and apple pie, not Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Queen," read a Dartmouth College newspaper article in response to the appointment of Dr. Jim Yong Kim, François-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of Health and Human Rights at Harvard Medical School and global health pioneer, as president of Dartmouth College. In response, the Harvard Foundation brought together the Freshman Dean's Office, the Graduate School of Education, and the Asian Coalition for Education to host a Lowell Junior Common Room luncheon at which students would have a chance to engage Dr. Kim on a variety of topics before he left the University for his position at Dartmouth.

After remarks by Harvard Vice President Jamie Hoyte, Dean Kathy McCartney of the Graduate School of Education, and Harvard Foundation assistant director Loc Truong, Dr. Kim fielded questions from a panel of undergraduate and graduate students and from the audience. While most known for his work as former World Health Organization director, Dr. Kim was also asked about the pressures he faced as the first Asian-American president of an Ivy League university. He explained that the "Model Minority Myth" is in fact a reality, but one that is also misused by people unconcerned with removing the structural barriers which prevent the advancement of their fellow minorities; such people instead use it to advance their own personal agendas. Dr. Kim stressed the importance of engaging respectfully and critically with various viewpoints. When asked whether he would be able to continue his work in medicine and teaching, Dr. Kim was confident that he would be able to do both. It was, in fact, a reason why he took the position at Dartmouth: his experience in teaching undergraduates inspired him to take a position where he would be able to have an even greater influence on them as they, in his own words, "make fundamental decisions about how they will interact with the world."

Everyone at the event was greatly inspired by the word of Dr. Kim, and his passion is mirrored in his students who have all been motivated by him. Harvard will miss Dr. Kim, but the Foundation wishes him the best as he continues to make his mark on students and on the world.

—Nworah Ayogu '10

Students Gather for Viewing of "We Shall Remain" Native American Series Screened and Discussed in Residential Houses

The 2009 spring term saw the premiere of an innovative multimedia project entitled *We Shall Remain*, an installment of the award-winning PBS series *American Experience*. The Harvard Foundation, in collaboration with Currier and Dunster House race relations advisors and the Harvard University Native American Program, hosted screenings for each premiere night of the five-part television series in April and May 2009. Many students attended for a break from studies in order to watch the series and enjoy food with their housemates over an informal cultural and historical discussion.

We Shall Remain establishes Native history as an essential part of American history, and it shows how Native peoples valiantly resisted expulsion from their lands and fought the extinction of their culture, such as the Wampanoags of 1600s New England, some of whom were among Harvard's first students, who used their alliance with the English to weaken rival tribes; and the bold Native leaders of the 1970s who harnessed the momentum of the civil rights movement to forge a pan-Indian identity. Installments of the series included "After the *Mayflower*," "Tecumseh's Vision," "Trail of Tears," "Geronimo," and "Wounded Knee." *We Shall Remain* represents



an unprecedented collaboration between Native and non-Native filmmakers and is a unique project for its consultations of Native communities, advisors, and scholars throughout the making of each episode. Unlike other historical depictions of Native people, *We Shall Remain* for the first time explores how Native Nations within the United States of America built complex societies on a powerful political and economic history marked by their relations with the settler since the arrival of the *Mayflower*. This event series proved to be an enlightening in-House break for students, and the Harvard Foundation looks forward to more like it in the future.

—Kelsey Leonard '10

Professor Ali Asani Leads Discussion on India-Pakistan Relations

The November 2008 Mumbai attacks worsened relations between India and Pakistan in the months that followed, as accusations were raised that Pakistan supported the terrorists responsible for the bombings. The Harvard Foundation met with the leaders of the Harvard Islamic Society and the South Asian Association to discuss the treatment of the issue on campus. The students decided that the purpose of any project should be to illuminate the origins and nature of the long-standing tension between the two South Asian nations.

In collaboration with the student groups, the Foundation hosted an informal presentation by Dr. Ali Asani, professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic religion and cultures, and Tariq Ali, graduate student in Harvard's history department. Dr. Asani is a well known professor on Islam, its development, and its role in current international relations. The speakers' comments were followed by a question-and-answer session and open discussion.



Professor Ali Asani (L.) and Tariq Ali (R.) lead a conversation on India-Pakistan relations, moderated by Ravi Mulani '12, with the aim of providing students with a balanced understanding of the region's history.

Many students and faculty members attended the event, allowing for a diversity of opinions, of levels of previous knowledge of the topic, and a more engaged conversation than might usually be possible. Attendees left with a fresh perspective on the Mumbai attacks and the India-Pakistan conflict in general.

Dr. Asani and Mr. Ali both agreed that the most important point to note was that the problem is not black and white; tensions do not simply exist between Pakistan and India but also between

different groups within the two countries. Part of the reason that a resolution has been so difficult to find is that there is a tendency is to oversimplify the situation. Any solution would have to address all of the underlying issues. This event served to open up discussion about an issue that is widely misunderstood and usually misrepresented and to encourage students to investigate the histories of conflicts before drawing conclusions about present-day happenings.

—Layusa Isa-Odidi '09

To Protect and Serve

A Conversation with Harvard Police About Race and Community

With students from the Black Men's Forum, Latino Men's Collective, South Asian Men's Collective, Asian American Brotherhood, and Harvard University Police Department (HUPD) officers, the Harvard Foundation hosted a discussion titled "To Protect and Serve" led by Jarell Lee '10, a Black Men's Forum member and director of the Boston Black Student Network. Students, representatives and officers of all genders, racial, and ethnic groups were encouraged to attend. Chief Francis D. Riley and over 25 officers attended, agreeing that the HUPD must address negative accusations in order to maintain credibility and gain support from the students whom they serve.

Officers and students gathered in the Quincy House Junior Common Room to address issues of racial profiling, student-police relations, and student-student relations. Beginning with a discussion of recent incidents on campus involving officers and students, as well as

student-initiated racial incidents, students shared experiences with the HUPD and expressed a variety of viewpoints concerning race relations on campus.

Many cited the 2007 "Quad incident" [see *Harvard Foundation Journal*, spring 2007] in which officers responded to calls about a black student group event in the Radcliffe Quadrangle by asking participants for identification and questioning their presence on the lawn. Students felt collectively targeted; however, some students admitted that their resentment towards the HUPD stems in part from previous experiences with police. It was also suggested that part of the problem lies not between officers and students but among Harvard students themselves. Some officers explained that actions that day were prompted by complaints from Harvard students; the response was an "uncomfortable obligation" to adhere to police protocol, not an example of the

HUPD targeting minorities on campus.

Students asked about police protocol regarding campus incidents, asked officers to describe their diversity training programs, and offered suggestions for increased transparency. Mr. Lee concluded that this event was a good opening dialogue, saying, "Soon we will reach a position where the HUPD can be not simply a 'police' force, but also members of this community."

The following day, HUPD spokesperson Steven Catalano announced the creation of a Diversity and Community Outreach Coordinator position, which will work with the leaders of seven HUPD teams who already interact closely with students, tutors, administrators, and student groups. Students have expressed eagerness to collaborate with the position and to improve and maintain mutually supportive relationships.

—Miguel Garcia '12

Students and Faculty Honored at Foundation's Annual Aloian Awards Dinner

At the end of a year of hard work, the Harvard Foundation honored over forty members of the Harvard community for contributions to diversity and improving intercultural and race relations at Harvard. The annual Harvard Foundation Student/Faculty Awards Dinner was held in Quincy House in honor of former Quincy House Master David S. Aloian, striving to continue his legacy by recognizing those Harvard students and faculty members who have promoted diversity and tolerance on campus and beyond.

Students who have started to make notable contributions to race relations at Harvard College were first honored with Certificates of Recognition. Race relation advisors who have shown outstanding effort and dedication to promoting the mission of the Harvard Foundation in the Houses were also recognized with Certificates of Recognition. Harvard Foundation Insignia Awards were presented to those students who have shown a sustained effort in improving intercultural and race relations and discussion at Harvard College. Members of the graduating class of 2009 who have demonstrated extraordinary leadership and commitment to increasing awareness and diversity on campus and beyond were honored with Harvard Foundation Distinguished Senior Awards for Excellence in Leadership. Layusa Isa-Odidi '09 was also honored with the Peer Recognition Award.

The Faculty of the Year Award was presented to Dr. David Gordon Mitten, James Loeb Professor of Classical Art and Archaeology and Harvard Islamic Society advisor, to honor his long-time efforts to promote tolerance at Harvard and his significant contribution to the mission of the Foundation. Remarks were also given by senior Foundation interns, Dean William R. Fitzsimmons, Dr. Leo Buchanan, Quincy House Masters Lee and Deobrah Gehrke, and Mr. David L. Evans.

It is to be hoped that there will always be such passionate and dedicated people at Harvard, and that the many people honored in May will continue to carry the mission of the Harvard Foundation to the world beyond Harvards' gates.

—Sara Zaidi '11



1: Loc Truong, assistant director of the Harvard Foundation, announces the recipients of Foundation awards.
2: Dean William Fitzsimmons '67 presents outstanding students of the class of 2009 with the Distinguished Senior Award.
3: Faculty Committee member Dr. Leo Buchanan delivers the evening's opening remarks.
4: Senior admissions officer David L. Evans presents Professor David G. Mitten with the Faculty of the Year Award in honor of his contributions to race relations at Harvard.



Foundation Award Recipients

Certificate of Recognition

Jessica Ch'ng '12 | Elizabeth Eze '11 | Miguel Garcia '12 | Bronwen O'Herin '12 | Olamide Oladipo '12 | Fabian Poliak '11 | Alexandra Rahman '12 | Julia Tartaglia '11 | Marvin Urzua '11 | Nwamaka Uzoh '11 | Sara Zaidi '11

Certificate of Recognition, Race Relations Advisors

Jennifer Kan Martinez, Dunster House | Brendan Randall, Ivy Yard | Cameron Van Patterson, Lowell House | Sherry Deckman, Adams House

Insignia Award

Kevin Liu '11 | Christopher Magliozzi '11 | Nworah Ayogu '10 | Raul Carrillo '10 | Jacqueline Hairston '10 | Michelle Kellaway '10 | Jarell Lee '10 | Kelsey Leonard '10 | Amanda Mangaser '10 | Richie

Serna '10 | Ola Aljawhary '09 | Matthew Bresnahan '09 | Kameron Collins '09 | Robert Raviv Murciano-Goroff '09 | Emily Owens '09 | Ravi Parikh '09 | Kemeyawi Wahpepah '09 | Susan Yao '09 | Joyce Zhang '09

Distinguished Senior Award

Sadia Ahsanuddin | Bianca Caban | Matthew Clair | Petros Egziabher | Layusa Isa-Odidi | Vikas Mouli | and Lumumba Seegars

Peer Recognition Award

Layusa Isa-Odidi '09

Faculty of the Year Award

Professor David Gordon Mitten

Student Initiated Programs Sponsored by the Harvard Foundation

The Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee is comprised of over seventy undergraduate cultural, ethnic, and religious organizations that receive grant funding and assistance from the Harvard Foundation each semester. These organizations conduct student-initiated programs and projects each semester that enrich the cultural life of the University. This section contains highlights from student events of spring 2009.

Student Advisory Committee Organizations Represented at Presidents' Dinner

The Student Advisory Committee (SAC) elected board met in April with presidents of its member organizations to review the effectiveness of the second semester Student Advisory Committee meetings and grant review process, as well as to foster collaboration among groups.

The presidents agreed that the monthly meetings continue to improve, particularly in regard to discussion topics pertinent to Harvard's cultural groups. In the future, it was decided that a report would be circulated to the SAC organization leaders after each meeting.

Student leaders also approved of this

year's changes to the grant review process—not only was the process efficient and quick, but the meetings were informative of the types of grants and events available to their members, and the online voting system allowed for an efficient and private voting procedure.

Additionally, student group presidents asked that the Harvard Foundation intern liaison partnership be restructured. Intern liaisons are assigned to each group to facilitate communication with the Foundation office. The officers of the SAC assured leaders that they would strive to improve contact between

liaisons and student groups in the coming year.

In all, SAC organization presidents found that the Student Advisory Committee events have improved from past years, and the committee's elected board thanked participants for helping to identify an area in which they can improve. Next year's officers—co-chairs Bronwen O'Herin '12 and Alexa Rahman '12, and treasurer Maxwell Iweabichu '10—all look forward to fostering further communication between the Harvard Foundation and the member groups.

—Elizabeth Eze '11

Asian American Dance Troupe Holds Annual *Eastbound* Performance

The Asian American Dance Troupe's *Eastbound* 2009 show, held in Lowell Lecture Hall, was performed before sold-out audiences on two nights in March. Emceed by Michael Ayoub '10 and Alex Duarte '10 and performed by more than 80 students, the program consisted of a total of seventeen acts. The acts included fan dances ("Flames," "Spring Mountain After Rain," "Imperial," "Buchaechum"), traditional dances ("Paper-Cutting Girls," "Peach Maidens," "Joy to the Beats"), an Ughur minority dance ("Tambourines"), and hip-hop dances ("Purple Line," "East meets West," "Hip-hop Medley"). The show also featured guest groups Harvard Wushu, the Harvard Philippine Forum, and a local children's dance troupe. All dances except one were student choreographed and arranged.

The Asian American Dance Troupe has grown tremendously as a student group over the years, and this was the first year in which *Eastbound* was expanded to two show times. Even with twice as many

tickets to sell, *Eastbound* was sold out at the box office a week before the show. Just as the South Asian Association's *Ghungroo* is Harvard's prominent event in celebration of South Asian artistic culture, *Eastbound* has become the most visible dance event that celebrates East Asian culture. The spectrum of cultural styles displayed at *Eastbound* is very

broad, ranging from classical Chinese dances to South Asian fusion dances and from Ughur minority dances to modern Korean hip-hop. *Eastbound* is also an important social event on campus, bringing together hundreds of students to celebrate a rich display of dance and music.

—Anna Zhang '10



News & Notes: Ongoing Foundation Initiatives and News from the Semester

Race Relations Advisor Activity Reports

The Harvard Foundation oversees the race relations advisor program, which aims to help promote positive and amicable relationships within the Harvard College community on a day-to-day level. Race relations advisors are House and first-year residence tutors and proctors whose responsibilities include facilitating racial and cultural discussions, coordinating House programs on race relations, and immediately addressing any matter in which a student may feel distress with regard to race, ethnicity, or religion. The reports below are only a small selection of their ongoing work.

Film Outing: *Benjamin Button*

We had students join us for a viewing of *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* at the Harvard Square Theatre. After the event we followed up with a series of informal conversations about themes and social issues raised in the film, which takes place in New Orleans. In conversations following the film students touched on everything from Hurricane Katrina to interracial dating, adoption, and the story of Ota Benga—a Congolese pygmy who was displayed as an exotic spectacle in American zoos—referenced in the film. Students enjoy this type of event since it gives them a break from studying, and engages them in a fun yet intellectual way.

—Cameron Van Patterson
Lowell House Tutor

Screenings: *Malcolm X* and *We Shall Remain*

Currier House used in-House movies as a low-key way to engage students around discussions of race and ethnic relations. We first screened the film *Malcolm X*, with a historical introduction given by our own resident Harvard Foundation intern Petros Egziabher '09. Later, Currier hosted College-wide screenings of several parts of *We Shall Remain*, a five-part PBS documentary showcasing the historical contributions of Native Americans to the United States.

—Allison Dahl
Currier House Tutor

Screening: *Mickey Mouse Monopoly*

A screening of the documentary *Mickey Mouse Monopoly* examined racial and gender stereotypes in popular Disney movies ranging from “Snow White” to “The Lion King.” After the screening Dr. Michael Baran, who teaches the course Race in America at the College, led the hundred-student audience in a discussion about whether Disney’s portrayals of race and gender are objectionable. The screening also made audience members realize how these films have shaped their own views and values, and they discussed the social influence that Disney wields and the responsibility that it has as a result.

—Brendan Randall '88
Ivy Yard Proctor

Race Relations Advisors Meet to Discuss Programs in the Houses

The primary responsibility of the race relations advisors is to serve both proactively and reactively in matters of race and cultural enlightenment, as well as mediators in instances of racial misunderstanding and conflict within their Houses. The Harvard Foundation’s task is to train the race relations tutors and proctors in ways of creating a racially harmonious atmosphere in the Houses (through targeted programs and projects), as well as effective ways of serving as first responders in cases of racial conflict.

In early spring 2009, race relations tutors and proctors gathered to discuss upcoming events in the Houses and to clarify their roles and responsibilities. The second half of the training was spent discussing a racial incident on campus using the case study method. Advisors



Dr. S. Allen Counter (second from R.) leads race relations advisors in a discussion about their role in Harvard’s Houses and freshman dormitories.

were given the opportunity to facilitate a group session discussing the case and the necessary steps to resolve the situation. Serving as facilitator for the case was Ms. Rita Poussaint Nethersole '74, assistant dean of graduate studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Her extensive experience in education and student advising stems from her work at UMass

with the vice president for programs and policy and the vice president for academic affairs, and she has previously served as associate vice president for student affairs. The Foundation is grateful for her time and expertise in educating our race relations advisors to deal with racial matters on campus.

—Loc V. Truong

Marking a Century Since North Pole Discovered

The 100th anniversary of the discovery of the North Pole was marked this year on April 6. For more than 20 years, Harvard Foundation director S. Allen Counter has made it a mission to bring to light the work of Matthew Henson, the African-American Arctic aide of Robert Peary, the sole explorer credited for reaching the North Pole in 1909.

Both explorers served in the U.S. Navy—Peary was a commander, and at the time of the North Pole exploration, he was on a military mission of geographic discovery, while Henson was a messenger and a field assistant (the highest positions that a “colored” man could hold in the Navy at that time, Counter explained).

“Henson, who by some accounts reached the North Pole first, and of whom Cmdr. Peary has said, ‘I cannot make it without him,’ was ignored by the press and left out of the history books because of racial attitudes in the United States toward African Americans at that time,” explained Counter.

Through a series of meetings in the 1980s with Peary’s and Henson’s sons, born to Inuit women in Greenland, Counter oversaw the Harvard North Pole Family Reunion, which was completed in 1987. Counter flew the explorers’ 80-year-old sons to the United States to meet the American Henson family and to attend a reinterment ceremony as Counter’s request to remove Henson’s remains from a common grave in New York’s Woodlawn Cemetery was approved.

Henson’s body was reinterred in Arlington National Cemetery adjacent to Peary’s grave with a fitting new monument and full military honors. The story captured the American imagination and was national news. It is covered in Counter’s book *North Pole Legacy: Black, White, and Eskimo* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1991).

Founding what is now called the Harvard North Pole Discovery Centennial Commemorative Project, Counter promised the explorers’ sons, who are now deceased, that he would travel with members of their Inuit families to the North Pole on the centennial commemoration of the North Pole discovery by their American fathers.

In the village of Qaanaaq, Greenland, about 40 descendants of Henson and Peary gathered in the local schoolhouse on April 6.



L.–R.: RADM Bruce Grooms, Nwora Ayogu '10, Nwamaka Uzoh '11, Olamide Oladipo '12, Matthew Clair '09, Miguel Garcia '12, Bronwen O'Herin '12, VADM Melvin G. Williams, Jr., CDR Michael Brunner, and Dr. S. Allen Counter board the USS Annapolis for the North Pole reconignment ceremony.

Using the explorers’ Navy history, Counter arranged for the USS *Annapolis* to travel to the North Pole carrying a sealed memorabilia case honoring the two explorers.

During the ceremony, Counter presented the families with the case containing an American flag; a Holy Bible from Harvard’s Memorial Church, signed and dedicated to the North Pole centennial by the Rev. Professor Peter J. Gomes; Peary’s 1910 book, *The North Pole*; Henson’s 1910 book, *A Negro Explorer at the North Pole*; a letter from President Ronald Reagan in recognition of Peary’s and Henson’s achievements and their sons’ visit to America in 1987; Counter’s book chronicling the events; and Inuit ephemera, as well as photographs, letters, and poems from others associated with or touched by the story of Peary, Henson, and their Greenlandic descendants.

“During the ceremony, I presented the families with a letter sent to me by President Barack Obama to mark the occasion,” said Counter.

An excerpt of Obama’s letter reads: “I am pleased to join all who are commemorating the last hundred years of Arctic exploration. ... It is only fitting that we honor all those who have risked their lives and well-being to expand our knowledge of our continuously evolving planet.”

From the Harvard Gazette

Harvard North Pole Discovery Centennial Commemorative Committee

S. Allen Counter, *Chairman*
Kitdlaq Henson,
Greenland Chairman
Derek C. Bok, *Honorary Chairman*
Melvin B. Miller, *Secretary*
Sean T. Brady, *Treasurer*

Members:

Debbie Allen
Vivian Ayers
Keith Black
Guion S. Bluford
Erik Borg
William Anthony Brown
Leo H. Buchanan
Stephen Coit
Jonathan Conrad
John E. Dowling
David L. Evans
William R. Fitzsimmons
Olive Henson Fulton
Rev. Peter J. Gomes
Evelynn M. Hammonds
Ajako Henson
Aviaq Henson
Allen Anaukaq Matthew Henson

Jens Henson
Malina Henson
Massanguaq Henson
Ussarqaq Henson
Vittus Henson
Dudley R. Herschbach
Marvin Alvert Hightower
Richard Hunt
L. Fred Jewett
Quincy Jones
Göran Laurell
Anthony B. Jacobs
Kenneth R. Manning
James J. McCarthy
Audrey C. Mebane
Ernest J. Moore
Edwin J. Nichols
Norman Nixon
Robert Nixon
Jorgen Ootah Odaq
Regina Osborne
Olle Peary
Paulina Peary
Talilanguaq Peary
Donald H. Pfister
Jada Pinkett-Smith

Bruce Price
Phylicia Ayers Rashad
Anna Schoenfeld
Will Smith
Navarana Sorenson
Per Wästberg
Montell Williams
Robert Woollacott

Student Members:

Olivia Counter
Matthew Clair
Kevin Liu
Bronwen O'Herin
Miguel Garcia
Nwora Ayogu
Olamide Oladipo
Nwamaka Uzoh
Jacqueline Hairston
Elizabeth Eze
Sara Zaidi

In Memoriam:

President Ronald Reagan
Secretary Caspar Weinberger
Secretary Samuel R. Pierce

Virginia Carter Brannum
Anne Counter Daniels
Ruth Hamilton
Anaukaq Henson
Avataq Henson
Kent T. Cushenberry
Marvin W. Hightower
Virginia Hightower
John H. Johnson
Kali Peary
Rev. Samuel Proctor
Raymond J. Costanzo
Louis C. Brown

In Appreciation:

President Barack Obama
Vice Admiral Melvin G. Williams, Jr.
Commander Michael Brunner
Vice Admiral John J. Donnelly
Commander Patrick McNally
Eric P. Lesser
Eric Labat
Jana Babatunde Bey
Colonel Thomas Peppard
Inga Hansen

Monthly Student/Faculty Advisory Committee Meetings

Once a month, the Harvard Foundation brings its students and faculty together in a forum for exchange and discussion. The Student Advisory Committee (SAC), which consists of the Foundation interns and one representative from each of the student groups, and the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) meet monthly in Phillips Brooks House. At the meetings, a guest speaker is invited to facilitate conversation between the broader Harvard community and the Foundation, especially on topics of diversity. The SAC members serve as a bridge between the represented student groups and the Foundation by voicing insights and proposing initiatives as well as reporting the information presented from meetings to their groups.

The semester began with the February meeting, at which Mr. Bill Purcell, director of Harvard's Institute of Politics (IOP) at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, urged the students to participate in the various public service opportunities from the IOP. In March,

dean of freshmen Mr. Tom Dingman, director for freshman programming Katie Steele, and director of community and diversity programming Brendan Randall spoke about the new programs from the Freshman Dean's Office on diversity and race relations along with other issues regarding freshmen participation in extracurricular activities. In April, Office for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (OSAPR) director Sarah Rankin and prevention specialist Gordon Braxton spoke on the new initiatives from OSAPR, including the launch of a new website called Men Speak Up (found at www.menspeakup.org), which includes videos of different men supporting gender equality. Robin Mount, interim director of the Office of Career Services (OCS), followed with a review of the programs at OCS this year and about program opportunities for next year. At the final meeting for the semester in May, the One Harvard Campaign spoke to representatives about possible collaborations next year. In addition, the SAC elected co-

chairs Bronwen O'Herin '12 and Alexa Rahman '12, and treasurer Maxwell Nwaru '10 for the 2009-2010 year.

At the monthly Harvard Foundation meetings, committee members voted to approve requests by student organizations to become members of the Student Advisory Committee. The organizations welcomed into the SAC were the *Harvard Ichthus*, a student published journal of Christian thought which aims to act as a voice of reconciliation and understanding between people of all backgrounds and religions, and Harvard College Act on a Dream, which seeks to motivate Harvard students to become actively involved in immigration reform and to provide students with the resources necessary to pursue immigration-related goals. Act on a Dream seeks to provide immigrants equal educational opportunities by means of lobbying and educate the public by raising awareness within campus communities and throughout the nation.

—Kevin Liu '11

Harvard North Pole Centennial Commemorative Project



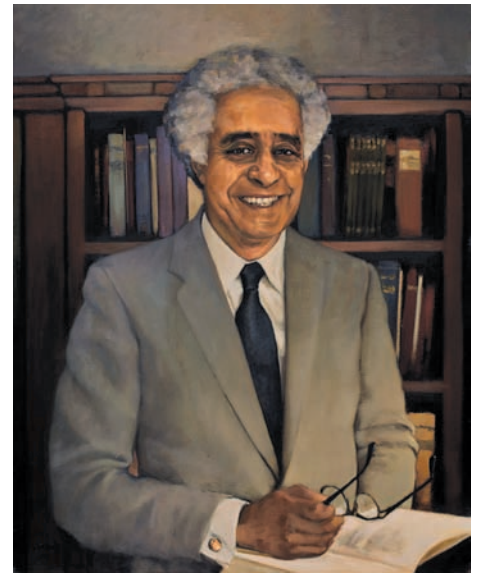
Above: Dr. S. Allen Counter (R.) presents a letter from President Barack Obama and photograph of the First Family to Kitdlaq Henson, Inuit grandson of Arctic explorer Matthew Henson. Above Right: Olivia Counter (L.) and father Dr. Counter (2nd from R.) are greeted by Matthew Henson's grandson, Ussarqaq and his wife Simisuk Henson (2nd and 3rd from L.), and Jorgen Ootah in Qaanaaq, Greenland. Below Right: Nuclear submarine USS Annapolis delivers the Henson-Pearry Centennial Commemorative Case (at lower left) to the North Pole, led by Commander Michael Brunner (C.) and Lieutenant Commander Howard Craig (R.)



Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project Holds Viewing in Memorial Church



Above: Ms. Marie Guinier (L.) greets former Radcliffe Bunting Institute director Florence Ladd at the first viewing of the portraits of Ms. Guinier's father, Professor Ewart Guinier (at Right), and Dr. Ladd (at Left) in Harvard's Memorial Church.



In honor of Black History Month, the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project hosted a special first viewing of portraits of two distinguished Harvard faculty members, Dr. Florence Ladd and the late Professor Ewart Guinier, in Memorial Church's Buttrick Room.

In 1929, when Professor Guinier arrived on Harvard's campus as an incoming freshman, he was barred from the dormitories because of the color of his skin and ultimately left the College. However, despite his own difficulties as a student, he later returned to campus to serve its students as a beloved and admired professor at Harvard and in 1969, he not only saw the establishment of what is now Harvard's Department of African and African-American Studies, but he was in fact the first person to serve as its chair. He is the father of HLS Professor Lani Guinier.

Dr. Ladd, who was in attendance at the portraiture unveiling event, served from 1989 to 1997 as the director of the Bunting Institute, a center on Radcliffe's campus for the study of women in higher education. Before teaching at Harvard, Dr. Ladd taught at Simmons College, the American College for Girls in Istanbul, as well as numerous other institutions. In addition to being a teacher and administrator, Ladd is a fiction writer, social critic, and psychologist.

At the viewing, the Rev. Professor Peter J. Gomes, minister of Memorial Church, commented on the enduring importance of the Portraiture Project's at Harvard. Students shared their thoughts about the significance of the unveiled portraits. Black Men's Forum president Sangu Delle '10 commented on Professor Guinier's impact on the mindset and belief in possibility that black men on campus now have. Association of Black Harvard Women president Alneada Biggers '10 spoke of Dr. Ladd's trailblazing influence on campus on black women interested in

academic careers. Saron Tesfalul '10, vice president of the Black Students Association, expressed deep respect for each professor's great impact on the lives of black students at Harvard. Faculty and staff were also happy to add their own thoughts and praises.

Once the paintings had been unveiled, all in attendance commented on the mastery of portrait artist Steve Coit '71. Ms. Marie Guinier, Ewart Guinier's daughter, noted with admiration that Mr. Coit had carefully captured the essence of her late father on canvas.

—Matthew Clair '09

Spring Open House Welcomes Prospective Students

During the April Visiting Program, known more commonly as "Pre-frosh Weekend," students admitted to Harvard visit campus with the hope that their time here would make the decision easier about whether to attend Harvard. The Foundation hosted an open house as part of this program, in which interns welcomed "pre-frosh" students and their families to the Foundation office to learn about its programs, its support of Harvard's cultural groups, and its availability to individual students. Prospective students learned that the Foundation conducts programs that facilitate cross-cultural dialogue, and it serves as a safe space for discourse on

issues of discrimination or prejudice.

Interestingly, the recording of the 2009 Cultural Rhythms Festival playing in the background sparked discussion about the authenticity of what were presented as traditional dances in the show. Foundation students were pleased that what might typically be the topic of a Harvard Foundation program formed organically in the Foundation's office among people who had known each other for a mere few minutes. Many visitors even expressed interest in continuing such conversations in their time at Harvard.

—Jacqueline Hairston '10

Harvard Foundation Student Grant Summary Reports

Each year in the fall and spring semesters, the Harvard Foundation distributes grant funding to organizations that comprise the Student Advisory Committee. Any undergraduate student organization officially recognized by Harvard College with a mission of improving race relations and promoting intercultural awareness and understanding may apply to join the Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee. Once the organization has been voted in as a member of the Student Advisory Committee by a group of peer representatives and Faculty Advisory Committee members, the organization may submit grant applications for programs and projects that enlighten the Harvard community on aspects of race, culture, religion, and ethnicity.

The Harvard Foundation accepts grant applications once per semester. All complete grant requests received prior to designated deadlines are voted on in a two-stage review process. First, representatives from each of the Student Advisory Committee organizations review the grant applications during a series of grant review sessions. Under the supervision of the director of the Harvard Foundation and staff, the review process is organized by Harvard Foundation student officers, who are elected by their peers at the start of each academic year. The officers and Harvard Foundation staff make every effort to conduct the review in the most objective and comprehensive manner possible. After the Student Advisory Committee reviews all applications, members of the Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisory Committee then review the grant applications. Final funding totals for each Student Advisory Committee organization are determined, and funding is distributed.

At the end of each semester, student organizations that received grants from the Harvard Foundation are required to submit grant summaries. A diverse selection of these summaries is included in the biannual *Harvard Foundation Journal*.

Half-Asian Persons Association (HAPA) “So What Are You Anyway...”

Biracial and multiracial identity politics have come a long way in America in the last century alone. Until 1967, interracial marriage was a crime; until 2000, you had to pick one, and only one, of five race options on the United States Census (now you may “mark one or more”). Recently, we elected our first ever biracial president, Barack Hussein Obama. However, the future of mixed race in America is still uncertain, and anyone can agree that interracial tensions in America are still strong. Will America see a mixed-race revolution in the next century, or will the color lines keep us divided? Harvard HAPA’s conference set out to address these issues as well as many others. Speakers included Professor Kimberly McClain Dacosta of Harvard, Professors Karen Suyemoto and Sam Museum of the University of Massachusetts Boston, and several doctoral students. Topics included mixed race in science fiction movies, identities in hip-hop, and the multiracial movement. Attendees had a chance to ask questions and participate in small discussion groups. Everyone was also treated to live musical performances by Massachusetts locals Afro DZ Ak and Adam Payne.

—Alan Ibrahim '11

Harvard College Interfaith Council Film Screening

The Interfaith Council held a screening of a thought-provoking new film, *Beyond Our Differences*, which documents interviews with prominent leaders of diverse religious traditions from all across the globe. The director of the movie, Peter Bisanz—a graduate student at the Kennedy School—was present to introduce his film and to moderate a discussion afterward. Over twenty students attended the screening, held in the cinema room at the Student Organization Center at

Hilles. The audience was composed of Buddhist, Christian, and Muslim students. The movie included interviews with such luminaries as the Dalai Lama and Nelson Mandela. After the movie, students gathered in a circle at the front of the cinema as Peter recounted his experiences directing the film, answered questions about the film, and discussed how to promote understanding amongst people of different religions, especially when centuries of conflict provide the backdrop for modern-day relations.

—Michelle Chiu '10

Latino Men’s Collective Latino Youth Outreach Forum

Through the Latino Youth Outreach Forum, the Harvard College Latino Men’s Collective sought to engage Harvard and the greater Boston community in a discussion of the unfolding obstacles and possibilities for Latinos in the United States. In continuing the LMC’s mission of community service and involvement, local Latino high school students and teachers were invited to actively participate in a dialogue with Harvard students, faculty, and esteemed guests. We discussed issues related to Latinos and the economy, politics, and social awareness. We also held break-out sessions in which members were able to have personalized discussions with the students to better gauge their perspective on Latino issues in education and society at large. We hope we were able to embolden and inspire these youth toward endeavors of change and collaboration within their community.

—Daniel Diaz '11

Mariachi Veritas de Harvard Que Bonita Es Esta Vida

“Que Bonita Es Esta Vida” is the annual spring concert, this year performed in the Dunster House Dining Hall to a sold-

out audience that was filled with energy and excitement. The concert began with a debut performance by one of our newest members, Maggie Geoga '11. For the rest of the concert, Mariachi Veritas performed a variety of songs, ranging from traditional mariachi standards to Mexican pop. As always, we featured several guest singers who truly showcase Harvard's diversity and talent. At the end of the concert, band members paid a tribute to the two seniors, Lauren Yapp '09 and David Garcia '09, in farewell. It is always a sad time of year, but we are sure that they will keep us in their hearts and that they will take mariachi wherever they go. Mariachi Veritas would like to thank the Foundation, on behalf of all the members of the mariachi, for making this concert possible.

—Yening Qin '10

Harvard Polish Society (HPS) Stories for Polish Orphans

This semester Harvard Polish Society cooperated with another Harvard group, Harvard College Stories for Orphans, in a joint semester-long project aimed at creating, illustrating and translating individualized stories for small 3- to 9-year-old children in Polish orphanages. The HCSO club has been active since last fall, and they successfully created 23 distinct children stories for 23 children in an orphanage in Lima, Peru, last fall. This semester, they worked with three orphanages in Poland, and the Polish Society was honored to offer help in translation as well as explaining cultural trends among Polish children to the story writers. We organized a "Translating Night" on April 9, 2009, during which HPS members translated the written original stories, with the help and assistance of the original writers. Thanks to the Harvard Foundation and the Undergraduate Council for making this event possible.

—Aleksandra Stankiewicz '11

Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA Cinco de Mayo

Cinco de Mayo was RAZA's largest event of the year with over hundred people in attendance. Guests enjoyed a wonderful variety of Mexican food and Jarritos (authentic Mexican soda) in the Leverett House Dining Hall, which was colorfully decorated with Mexican *papel picado*, piñatas, banners, flags, and other Mexican decorations. Mariachi Veritas kicked off the show with a number of mariachi songs, and Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán followed with a wonderful performance of their own. Later, a group of local Cambridge kids known as La Piñata performed two typical Mexican performances: *Los Machetes* and *La Yuca*. Danza Azteca, a group of Harvard undergraduates, performed ancient Aztec dances. In addition to showcasing our Mexican culture, our celebration was also informative; a couple of RAZA members participated in creating a skit to teach the audience about the historical significance of Cinco de Mayo. Attendees left with a greater appreciation for Mexican culture and greater understanding of Cinco de Mayo's significance.

—Marvin Urzua '11



Students perform a dance in the style of the Aztecs, in tribute to Mexico's indigenous roots, at RAZA's Cinco de Mayo celebration.

Harvard Vietnamese Association with Harvard Philippine Forum, Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia Association, Harvard Thai Society Southeast Asian Night

In April, the Leverett House Dining Hall was transformed from an undergraduate eatery into a Southeast Asian experience. Brightly colored lanterns decorated the hall, and over 200 undergraduates flowed into Leverett to sample Southeast Asian ("SEA") delicacies, both catered and homemade. This year's theme, "A SEA of Change," invited performers to showcase not only their beloved traditions but also to display its transition to modernity. The night began with the Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia Association's musical performance of the well known tale of Puteri Gunung Ledang, which tells of a love affair between a princess and a renowned warrior. The Harvard Philippine Forum took the stage with their famous *tinikling* act, a traditional dance involving large bamboo sticks which they blended with modern pop music. The Vietnamese Association danced to a Vietnamese song expressing the joys of the coming spring, then surprised the audience with a hip-hop fusion finish. Andrew Le '10 performed a stand-up comedy routine playing on known stereotypes and his experience as a Vietnamese American in Texas. The night culminated in a fashion show, in which all four groups showed off the costumes of their ancestors—beautiful *ao dais*, silk dresses, and *bahags* were all displayed for the audience. We hope attendees left Southeast Asian Night 2009 with a greater appreciation of the diversity and versatility of Southeast Asian culture, and that they will join us again next year for another venture into Southeast Asia. Special thanks to the Harvard Foundation and Undergraduate Council for making this event possible.

—Thuy Quan '11

Harvard Wushu Club Wushu Instruction

Wushu is the practice of contemporary Chinese martial arts, which has a history of thousands of years and is deeply ingrained in Chinese culture. Examples of its modern influence include

Wuxia films like “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.” Wushu emphasizes the performance aspect of these arts, adapting combat techniques and modifying them to highlight speed, power and flexibility. In order to properly learn the art, we have hired a coach, Sifu Rick Wong, to come teach us new movements and forms and to correct and perfect our previous skills. Our many performances this semester around Harvard and in the surrounding area included demos at the Asian American Dance Troupe’s *Eastbound*, the Harvard College in Asia Program Conference, and the Harvard Foundation’s Cultural Rhythms Festival. We publicize our club’s activities heavily and practices are open to all College affiliates. We emphasize that no experience is necessary and encourage people of all skill levels and backgrounds to attend practice and learn more about our art.

—Chioma Madubata ’11

Youth Alliance for Leadership and Development in Africa (YALDA) Multimedia Contributions to the Discourse on Africa

In March 2009, Harvard undergraduate and graduate students attended a panel discussion in Ticknor Lounge that addressed issues regarding the media, Africa and African development, ways for students to get informed, overcoming skepticism and criticism, maintaining journalistic integrity, and specific, tangible opportunities for students to contribute to the discourse on Africa with three panelists.

Joanna Lipper is an author and filmmaker currently residing at Harvard as a W.E.B. DuBois Institute Sheila Biddle Ford Foundation Fellow, and whose recent work includes a film adaptation of Roger King’s *A Girl From Zanzibar*. Dennis Matanda is a former Ugandan radio host and a graduate student at the Kennedy School of Government. Oludamini Ogunnaike ’07 is president emeritus of the Harvard African Students’ Association, a graduate student in the department of African and African-American studies, and was a Hoopes Prize winner for his thesis on Africa. YALDA assistant director Remy Bizimungu ’10 served as the moderator for the panel. The panel was then opened to questions from the audience and shifted into an engaging and informative group discussion.

—Kalaya Okereke ’09

Harvard Bulgarian Club with the Harvard Romanian Association EU Enlargement Discussion and Reception

The year 2009 marks the two-year anniversary of Bulgaria and Romania’s membership in the European Union. The Harvard Bulgarian Club and Harvard Romanian Association brought together a panel of expert speakers to reflect on the way European Union membership has changed our respective countries, to discuss the merits and drawbacks to membership, and to share the common history and culture of these two countries. The panelists included Honorary Consul of Bulgaria Frank Bailey, Honorary Consul of Romania Dan

Dimancescu, and Center for European Studies visiting scholar Cosmina Tanasoiu. The panelists answered questions about notable changes in Bulgarian and Romanian society, business, and government, and they presented strikingly different perspectives and backgrounds. The audience, which included Bulgarian and Romanian undergraduates and graduates, students interested in the European Union, international students, and even some students from other Boston-area universities, participated in the discussion as well. This event complemented a similar one held exactly two years ago, as Bulgaria and Romania were crossing the threshold of the European Union. Back then, both hope and uncertainty about the future shone through in the discussion, as it did in our respective countries. A self-reflective tone was the main characteristic of our dialogue and hope for our countries’ approaching future.

—Eva Kirilova ’11

Harvard Thai Society Thai Dinner Study Break

In May, the Harvard Thai Society hosted its last event of the year, the Thai Dinner Study Break, in the Leverett House Private Dining Room. This event invited students to enjoy the taste of authentic Thai food and relax during the exam period, especially on the night just before the last day of exams. Students had a chance to try *kaprao moo* (hot pork basil leaves), authentic country-style *pad thai*, and *somtum* (spicy salad). Not only did undergraduates get to take a break from their studies, but they also had a chance to make new friends.

—Chanati Jantrachotechatchawan ’12

Harvard Asian American Association (AAA) Asian Educational/Political Discussions

For the past couple of semesters, the Asian American Association Educational/Political Committee has spearheaded the push for an Asian-American Studies (AAS) curriculum at Harvard. The committee has made tremendous strides in such a short amount of time by establishing AAS as a secondary field within the East Asian Studies concentration. This semester, our education/political chairs Winston Chang ’11 and Athena Lao ’12 focused on working with other ethnic groups such as RAZA, Fuerza Latina, and the Native American Program to establish an overall Ethnic Studies program at Harvard. The hard work involved conducting meetings with senior faculty members and members of the administration, rallying students, and generating awareness across the Harvard campus. During Ethnic Studies Week, a week devoted to spreading awareness of the push for an Ethnic Studies program, AAA and the other ethnic and cultural groups helped to organize lectures by professors, a panel discussion, and small discussion groups. Although a lot of work still needs to be done in future semester, we believe that our hard work will pay off in the end.

—Alan Ibrahim ’11

Letter from the Director

Dear Students and Faculty,

We are pleased to have had another successful semester of programs and projects in the area of intercultural and race relations for students at Harvard. In the spring semester of 2009, the Harvard Foundation grants program supported over 70 student organizations in conducting 160 ethno-cultural student initiatives, including such programs as the "Talking Circles" Native American discussion series; a Nigerian cooking series; a "Latino professionals" panel discussion; an open Cantonese lesson event; and a celebration of Armenian music. By all accounts, attendees of these programs were delighted by the level of intercultural exchange and enlightenment that they engendered within the Harvard family.

At the beginning of the semester, Foundation was proud to honor Ms. Dolores Huerta with the annual Harvard Foundation Humanitarian Award. Ms. Huerta, who is well known for her leadership role in Latino farm workers' rights, was given an honorary reception and luncheon in Quincy House. The event, attended by students and faculty, was co-hosted by student groups such as RAZA and Latinas Unidas. Ms. Huerta delivered eloquent remarks on human rights and the history of the United Farm Workers Association after receiving her award. Her appearance at Harvard was particularly meaningful to Latino students at Harvard College.

Each year the Foundation selects an Artist of the Year to be honored for his or her contributions to American performing arts and humanitarian efforts. Renowned actor and musician Dan Aykroyd was selected as the 2009 Artist of the Year and host of our annual Cultural Rhythms Festival. Over 1,000 students, faculty, and administrators attended the festival, and many have said that it was an inspirational event. During his presence at Harvard and accompanied by his wife Ms. Donna Dixon Aykroyd, Mr. Aykroyd shared with students stories of his experience in film, television, and music. He was quoted as saying that the award of recognition from the Harvard Foundation and the student programs represented one of the greatest moments of his life, and he was deeply appreciative. In March, we sponsored our Annual Albert Einstein Science Conference: Advancing Minorities and Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics. During the conference Professor James J. McCarthy, Professor of Biological Oceanography and Master of Pforzheimer House, was honored as the 2009 Scientist of the Year. Dr. Jim McCarthy was recognized for his groundbreaking research in global climate change, for which he shared the Nobel Peace Prize with former Vice President Al Gore, and also for his longstanding support of the intercultural programs of the Harvard Foundation. Professor McCarthy also attended our Partners in Science program, which brought over 150 children this year from inner city of Boston and Cambridge public schools to the Harvard

Science Center for a day of science lectures and demonstrations by Harvard faculty and undergraduates.

One of the Harvard Foundation's most widely respected projects is the Portraiture Project, which was created in 2004. The aim of the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project is to reflect the diversity of Harvard's faculty and administrators in Harvard's portrait collection by commissioning paintings of Harvard's minority faculty of color and others who have dedicated themselves to inclusion and have served the University with singular distinction for 25 years or more, or who are deceased. In February, at the request of students for Black History Month, the Foundation held a special viewing of Dr. Ewart Guinier, the first chairman of Harvard's African-American Studies Department and Dr. Florence Ladd, former director of the Radcliffe Bunting Institute. (Mary Ingraham Bunting was president of Radcliffe College from 1960–1972.) We look forward to future ceremonies in which each of these two portraits will be permanently placed on campus for the Harvard community to view.

We were delighted to host a visit to the College by Dartmouth President-elect Jim Yong Kim, who discussed with our students his views of academic leadership and some of his thoughts on diversity in a College setting. We are also grateful to Professor Ali Asani, professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic religion and cultures, for leading a discussion for Harvard College students on India-Pakistan relations in the wake of the Mumbai tragedy of last fall.

As is our tradition, the Foundation closed the academic year with the annual Student/Faculty Awards Banquet and David S. Aloian Dinner in Quincy House. We presented Harvard Foundation Awards to 40 students who were nominated by their House Masters, faculty, and peers for their outstanding contributions to the intercultural life of the College. This year, the Faculty/Administrator Award recipient was Dr. David Mitten, James Loeb Professor of Classical Art and Archaeology. David Mitten was honored for his longstanding support of the Harvard Foundation's mission and for his contributions to College intercultural life as faculty advisor to Harvard College student groups.

I would like to thank the members of the faculty and students, who committed their time, talents, and guidance to the Harvard Foundation and its programs. Our mission remains that of improving and sustaining intercultural and race relations among our students, faculty, and staff of the Harvard family.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation

Acknowledgements

The students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation would like to thank the following individuals for their special contributions to the mission and work of the Harvard Foundation during the spring 2009 semester: Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust, president of Harvard University; Dr. Evelyn Hammonds, dean of Harvard College; Dr. Donald Pfister, Asa Gray Professor of Systematic Botany and Curator of the Farlow Library and Herbarium, and chairman of the Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisory Committee; Ms. Sandra Grindlay, curator for the Harvard University Portraiture Collection; the Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes, and Ms. Jan Randolph, of Harvard's Memorial Church, and the students and faculty associated with the Harvard Foundation. The Harvard Foundation is grateful to Dr. Leo H. Buchanan for his proofreading assistance.

Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisory Committee Members 2008-2009

Dr. Donald H. Pfister, *Asa Gray Professor of Systematic Botany, Curator of the Farlow Library and Herbarium, Chairman of the Faculty Advisory Committee*

Dr. Gary Alpert, PhD '81, *Entomology Officer of Environmental Health and Safety*

Dr. Ali Asani, *Professor of the Practice of Indo-Muslim Languages and Cultures*

Dr. Leo H. Buchanan, *Audiologist, Harvard University Health Services*

Dr. S. Allen Counter, *Director of the Harvard Foundation, Professor of Neurology*

Dr. John E. Dowling '57, PhD '61, *Gordon and Llura Gund Professor of Neurosciences, Professor of Ophthalmology*

Dr. Scott Edwards, *Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Curator of Ornithology*

Mr. David L. Evans, *Senior Harvard College Admissions Officer*

Dr. William R. Fitzsimmons '67, *Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid to Students*

Dr. William Gelbart, *Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology*

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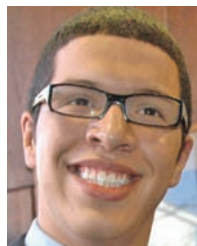
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