



The

# HARVARD FOUNDATION

Journal

FALL 2010

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

VOL. XXIX, NO. 1

Portrait of Harvard's 1st Native American Graduate, 1665, Unveiled: Caleb Cheeshahteumuck



Dr. Chester Pierce, '48, HMS, '52, Honored in Portraiture



## Nobel Chairman Thorbjørn Jagland Presented with 2010 Humanitarian Award



(l.-r.): Dr. S. Allen Counter, Dir., Harvard Foundation, Sec. Gen. of the European Council, Thorbjørn Jagland, & Reverend Peter J. Gomes, Minister in Memorial Church

## Harvard Foundation Panel: "Prejudice & Violence Against People with Albinism: an International Concern"



Marina Connelly, '12, Lowell House, member of the Harvard University Choir, leads panel discussion on "Prejudice and Violence Against People with Albinism."

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Illegal (Alie)Nation: Politics of Immigration Policies in Arizona and the USA

Writer's Series Presents *Love Cemetary*

Panel Discussion on Interreligious Dating

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**On the cover, clockwise from Bottom Left:** *The portrait of Dr. Chester Pierce is unveiled in Lowell House. The portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck is unveiled in Annenberg Hall. Nobel Prize Chairman Thorbjørn Jagland (center) receives the 2010 Harvard Foundation Humanitarian Award, given by Dr. S. Allen Counter (left), director of the Harvard Foundation and the Reverend Professor Peter Gomes (right) at Winthrop House. Harvard College Student, Marina Connelly, '12, Lowell House, member of the Harvard University Choir, leads panel discussion on "Prejudice and Violence Against People with Albinism: an International Concern."*

### 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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## Letter from the Director

To the President, Faculty, and Deans of Harvard University:

It is my honor to report that the students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation have conducted a series of excellent, multi-cultural programs, and projects during the fall semester of the 2010-2011 academic year. These projects covered a wide-range of subjects and were inclusive, i.e., open to students and faculty of all ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. Harvard University can be proud of the programs that we hosted, and the comportment of our undergraduate and graduate students in the conduct of these programs.

One of our most salient and impressive programs of the fall semester, was a panel discussion entitled, "Prejudice and Violence Against People with Albinism: an International Concern." This well attended program was inspired by one of our undergraduate students, Ms. Marina Connelly, a resident of Lowell House, and a member of the Harvard University Choir. Ms. Connelly had a number of discussions and meetings with the director about the bias against persons with albinism in her native Australia, the United States, and most extremely in parts of Africa. The panel, organized by the director and student leaders, included Ms. Connelly, Dr. Jennifer Lin (who discussed the biochemical basis of albinism), Dr. Mark Koopman (who discussed socio-cultural aspects of albinism), Mr. Peter Ash (a Canadian businessman, himself albino, who develops international protection programs for international populations), Ms. Vicky Ntetema (a former BBC Journalist, who exposed abuses against albinos in east Africa), and Mr. Rick Guidotti (a renowned fashion photographer who turned his focus from Madison Avenue to photographing and enhancing awareness of the plight of persons with albinism through out the world). In addition to the panel, the Harvard Foundation created an exhibit of Rick Guidotti's award winning photographs of albinos from throughout the world in the Science Center arcade. This program was well received in the Harvard community, and drew expressions of enthusiastic approval from both the students and faculty alike.

In November 2010, the Harvard Foundation collaborated with the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and the Center for European Studies in hosting Mr. Thorbjørn Jagland, Chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Prize Committee and Secretary General of the European Council. During his visit to Harvard, Mr. Jagland had a breakfast with the students and faculty of the Center for European Studies, a University-wide faculty luncheon at the Harvard Faculty Club, delivered the Jodidi Lecture at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs in the late afternoon, and delivered the Peter J. Gomes Humnitarian Lecture to over 150 students in the Winthrop House Dining Hall (under the auspices of House Masters Professor Ronald Sullivan and Ms. Stephanie Robinson, Esq.). It is significant that the Winthrop House Dinner was one of the last official programs attended by the Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes, co-founder of the Harvard Foundation with President Derek C. Bok. Mr. Jagland held a morning meeting with Harvard's President Drew Gilpin Faust and signed the official University Register at the Marshal's Office in Wadsworth House. Both faculty and students expressed praise and admiration for Mr. Jagland's speeches and his tireless efforts to engage students and faculty from morning to late evening during his visit to Harvard.

The Harvard Foundation Portraiture Committee hanged two portraits in the fall of 2010 that touched people of all backgrounds, both at Harvard and in the larger community. The first of these portraits was that of Professor Chester Pierce, a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Medical School, who had given close to 50 years of service to the University. The

unveiling of Dr. Pierce's portrait in Lowell House drew many undergraduate students, including groups such as the Harvard College Football Team, the Black Men's Forum, and the Association of Black Harvard Women, each of whom expressed pride and appreciation for the opportunity to meet Dr. Chet Pierce and to see his portrait on the wall. This program was graciously hosted by Lowell House Masters, Professor Diana Eck and Dr. Dorothy Austin.

The second of these portraits, represented an important part of Harvard's history. On December 16th, the portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck, Harvard's first Native American graduate, 1665, and a member of the Wampanoag tribe of Massachusetts, was placed on the south wall of Annenberg Hall. The unveiling of Caleb's portrait was attended by students of the group, Native Americans at Harvard College. President Drew Faust, and members of the faculty. President Faust delivered remarks to officially welcome the portrait to its location in Annenberg Hall. While Reverend Peter Gomes, Chair of the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Committee, had wished to take part in the unveiling of Caleb's portrait, his illness prevented him from doing so. However, the unveiling ceremony was ably conducted by the Co-chair of the Committee, Professor John E. Dowling. Artist, Steve Coit, '71, spoke on the research done to complete the portrait to the satisfaction of the Wampanoag community, and the Portraiture Committee. The unveiling of Caleb's portrait was done by the director with members of Native Americans at Harvard College. In attendance were members of the Wampanoag tribe, including Tobias Vanderhoop, who annotated the occasion with a traditional Wampanoag song.

In addition to the above flagship programs, the student groups affiliated with the Harvard Foundation hosted over 100 programs and projects during the fall semester. These programs ranged from a traditional Southeast Asian multi-sport games event conducted by students from the Harvard Vietnamese Association, the Thai Society, the Philippine Forum, and the Singaporean students to a panel on Latina Breast Cancer Awareness, to a Tsukimi Workshop hosted by the Japan Society, and YALDA film screening of the movie, "Mzungu" to name a few.

Unfortunately, the fall semester was marked with student protests of improper, and in the minds of some, hateful remarks regarding Arabs and Muslims, attributed to former Harvard lecturer and activist, Martin Peretz. These protests included a number of meetings at the Harvard Foundation between Muslim and Arab student leaders, and the director of the Harvard Foundation. The director requested that the students involved in the protest remain civil and thoughtful in their actions. This protest involved a march by over 100 students of all backgrounds, who followed Mr. Peretz as he walked through the Harvard Yard. However, no violence or physical action was involved in the protest, only chanting of slogans against Mr. Peretz. The protest culminated in a meeting with President Drew Faust that was requested by the students. The director tended the meeting in order to guide the discussion and ensure civility. Both President Faust and the students were pleased with the meeting. Among the salient points in the meeting, was whether the University should accept a gift fund for fellowships and lectures in the name of Martin Peretz.

We look forward to an equally productive spring semester for the students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,  
S. Allen Counter, D.M.Sc., Ph.D.  
Director of the Harvard Foundation

## Nobel Chairman Thorbjørn Jagland Receives 2010 Humanitarian Award



(Above, Left): Steve Bloomfield, executive director of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, addresses students at Winthrop House (Above, Center): Chairman Jagland (C.) speaks with a group of Harvard Foundation interns and students in the Winthrop House Dining Room after the award ceremony. (Above, Right) Jagland delivers the Jodidi Lecture at the Weatherhead Center. (Bottom, Right): the Kuumba Singers of Harvard College perform.

Thorbjorn Jagland, chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, was welcomed to Harvard University by Dr. S. Allen Counter, director of the Harvard Foundation, and students on Wednesday evening, November 17, 2010. Jagland has been Secretary General of the Council of Europe since 2009 and served as President of the Storting, the Norwegian parliament, from 2005 to 2009. He is currently chairman of the board of directors at the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights and a member of the international board of governors of the Peres Center for Peace.

Jagland began his day at Harvard with a breakfast at the Center for European Studies, where he had a chance to talk with notable scholars of his home continent, followed by a meeting with faculty and visiting scholars of the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies.

After lunch at the Faculty Club, Jagland visited the Office of the President, where they discussed the recent Nobel Peace Prize and the critical role that educational institutions play both in the nomination process and in furthering peace studies. Dr. Faust gifted Jagland with a copy of her most recent book, *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*.

After a visit to the Office of the University Marshall to sign the official University Guest Book, Jagland was hosted by the Weatherhead Center for International

Affairs, where he gave the prestigious Samuel L. and Elizabeth Jodidi Lecture, titled “Individual Rights—Universal Peace.” Jagland spoke of how his dual roles as chairman of the Nobel Committee and Secretary General of the Council of Europe have allowed him to advocate broadly for individual human rights as the basis for world peace.

Jagland remarked on the Nobel Committee’s controversial choice of President Barack Obama as last year’s Peace Prize recipient, saying that the award recognized not only his future promise but also the substantial contributions he has made in reducing international tensions. He commented on the sobering reality of awarding Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo this year’s Peace Prize.

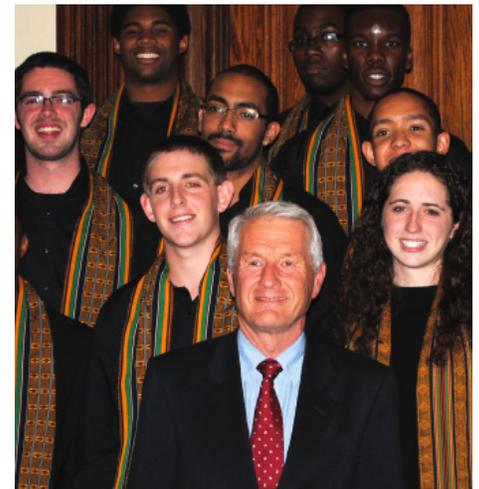
Jagland remarked on the Nobel Committee’s controversial choice of President Barack Obama as last year’s Peace Prize recipient, saying that the award recognized not only his future promise but also the substantial contributions he has made in reducing international tensions. He commented on the sobering reality of awarding Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo this year’s Peace Prize.

In the short term, he said, the Prize would likely incite only further difficulties for the human rights movement in China. However, in the long term he was confident the award would aid Liu’s non-violent struggle.

That evening, the Harvard Foundation hosted Jagland at a reception and dinner in his honor at historic Winthrop House, where House Masters Ron S. Sullivan Jr. and Stephanie Robinson extended a warm welcome to the attendees.

Sheldon Reid ’96 of the Kuumba Singers of Harvard College, Steven B. Bloomfield, executive director of the Weatherhead Center, spoke as an honorary guest of the Harvard Foundation on Jagland’s inspirational visit.

Dr. Counter and Rev. Gomes jointly presented Jagland with the Humanitarian of the Year Award. Stepping up to the podium to a room filled with hundreds of beaming students, Jagland remarked on the great hope he sees in young people, expressing his deep gratitude to meet with young scholars so committed to improving the lives of those who suffer around the world. Reflecting on his student days, he noted how important it is to keep one’s eyes and heart open in one’s endeavors, free of ignorance and prejudice.—Justin Banerdt ’13



## Portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck Placed in Annenberg Hall



On Thursday, December 16th, the Harvard Foundation proudly unveiled the portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck, a member of the Wampanoag tribe, and the first Native American to graduate from Harvard College, in 1665.

The unveiling ceremony took place at 3 p.m. in Annenberg Hall, which is located in Harvard's historic Memorial Hall. The unveiling was part of the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project, a diversity initiative to recognize Harvard faculty, administrators, and others who have served the University with distinction.

The addition of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck's portrait was especially significant because it spoke to Harvard's early establishment of the Harvard Indian College, and to its formal charter in 1650 for "provisions that may conduce to the education of English & Indian youth of this Country in knowledge and godliness."

"This is a proud moment in the history of Harvard University, and its relations with Native Americans," said Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation, and creator of the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project. "I have looked forward to this unveiling since proposing the portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck to our committee some years ago. The image has been well researched, and created in consultation with members of the Wampanoag tribe. I am happy that our Native American students are pleased with the portrait, and have requested that it be hung in

Annenberg Hall so that future classes of Harvard students will be made aware of the Native American presence at Harvard since its creation."

The Rev. Peter J. Gomes, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals, and Chairman of the Portraiture Project, said, "Our committee is pleased to represent Harvard's Native American roots in this splendid portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck, and to place it in Annenberg Hall for all to witness."

Although Harvard's Indian College is no longer standing, the significance of the charter's mission will live on through the portrait of Cheeshahteumuck, and the preservation of Harvard's diversity efforts. The portrait symbolizes the college's early intent to have the education of Native Americans play a significant role in the development of

good relations between the new colony settlers, and the local tribal community of Massachusetts. The portrait was painted by noted artist, Stephen Coit, '71, who was present at its unveiling.

Also in attendance was President Drew Faust, who spoke of the importance of the unveiling at the ceremony and the significance such diversity initiatives have within the Harvard community.

(Above, L.): President Faust and student members of HUNAP listen to speakers at the unveiling (Above, C.), Portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck is placed in Annenberg Hall (Above, R.), (L.-R.) Members of Native Americans at Harvard College: Tia Ray, '12, Tiffany Smalley, '11, and Tommy Miller, '12, and Dr. S. Allen Counter unveil the portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck. (Below) Senior Admissions Officer, Mr. David L. Evans, greets President Drew Faust. Photos Continued on Page 10



**Panel Discusses the Impact of Misperceptions on Albinism in a panel discussion entitled: *Prejudice and Violence Against People with Albinism: an International Concern***



(Above, Left) Peter Ash (L.), founder and president of the Canadian nongovernmental organization: *Under the Same Sun*, and Dr. Jennifer Lin, '98, (R.) dermatologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital share their expertise and experiences with albinism (Above Right) Dr. Mark Koopman, a postdoctoral fellow in the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, gives a personal account of his childhood experiences with albinism.

On October 28, 2010, the Harvard Foundation hosted the Prejudice and Violence Against People with Albinism Conference. Dr. S. Allen Counter, director of the Harvard Foundation, moderated a panel discussion focused on bringing greater awareness to the issues that people with albinism face around the world. The discussion began with Rick Guidotti, a renowned photographer, who offered a breathtaking slideshow of documentary photographs that celebrated the diversity and beauty of albinism. Guidotti founded Positive Exposure, an innovative organization that works to educate society and advocate for individuals with genetic differences through the use of visual arts. Although some were concerned he might exploit these individuals, Guidotti showed he could redefine beauty by sharing stories about children with albinism from around the world. He inspired the audience to reexamine its preconceptions through many stories of albinos overcoming difficulties. One featured a girl named Kiara, who was told that she would never be able to do Irish dance, but who is now a national Celtic dance champion.

Dr. Jennifer Lin '98, M.D. '03, a dermatologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital who specializes in pigmentation disorders, spoke to the audience about the biological mechanism underlying

albinism. This recessive genetic disorder arises when there are defects in the production of the melanin, a pigment that protects the skin from UV light. Without melanin, people with albinism have increased risk of skin cancer and other skin problems.

After learning about the scientific aspects and medical challenges of albinism, the discussion turned to the prejudices that people with albinism face around the world. Peter Ash, founder and president of the Canadian nongovernmental organization *Under The Same Sun*, spoke about his own journey after first learning about the murder of people with albinism in Tanzania for their body parts and blood, which are thought to bring good luck. Having this genetic condition himself, Ash began advocating for equality and civil rights for people with albinism throughout the world, including extensive work with the Tanzanian government.

Joining the discussion was Vicky Ntetema, a former BBC bureau chief renowned for her coverage of the crises in Tanzania. She shared stories of her work in the rural areas of Tanzania to expose the witch doctors responsible for the killings of many people with albinism. Two speakers helped give the



Ms. Vicky Ntetema (Above), a former BBC bureau chief well respected for her coverage of the crises in Tanzania, joins the esteemed panel and shares her experiences and her work. (Below), Mr. Rick Guidotti, director and founder of Positive Exposure, receives the Harvard Foundation medal from Dr. Counter for his work promoting understanding and compassion for people with albinism.



*Continued on page 22*

## Author China Galland discusses her book, *Love Cemetery*

On the evening of Friday October 29th, the Harvard Foundation Writers Series hosted a lecture by China Galland author of the book *Love Cemetery: Unburying the Secret History of Slaves*. The audience in Sever Hall viewed clips from an upcoming documentary based on her work. Ms. Galland, a Professor in Residence at the Center for the Arts, Religion, and Education (CARE) at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, is also the author of several books on women's studies and the *Black Madonna*. Her latest work *Love Cemetery* explores the history of an African American cemetery in Texas named "Love." She conveys a gripping and unfortunate tale of cemetery land-locked by several other properties with owners that refuse to permit black descendents of the deceased to revisit the graves.



*Author China Galland receives the Peace Abbey Award for Courage of Conscience after a reading from her book *Love Cemetery* in Sever Hall. Followed by a discussion of her work and life experiences.*

*Love Cemetery* draws attention to a national phenomenon whereby peoples of Native American and African American (often slave) ancestry have been systematically barred from accessing the ancient gravesites of their predecessors. In many cases, graveyards are simply uprooted or built over making gravesite identification itself nearly impossible. In fact, many black students at Wily College in Texas (where Galland has conducted her research for this book) are outraged that their ancestors, who lived as American slaves are still locked up in *Love Cemetery*, surrounded by logging companies and gamesmen. Galland compares this separation of descendents from their ancestral burial grounds to slavery's historical attack on the African American family which tore apart families by selling relatives to different owners. As one woman tearfully claimed in a clip from the "*Love Cemetery*" documentary, descendents felt "locked out of our cemetery, locked out of our history."

Ms. Galland also emphasized the spiritual need of peoples to connect with the dead, and how commemorating previous generations can help create community and preserve a culture. She

views American culture as too focused on "unlimited growth" and urged the audience to take time to remember and communicate with the deceased. In her quest to grant descendents access to *Love Cemetery*, Ms. Galland has battled the abutters in Texas courts and been personally barred from the plot several times. Yet she continues to press onward, not only out of respect for the dead but also for the dignity of the living.

"Chose love over hate," she advised at the conclusion of her talk, "love is always within reach."

At the end of the event, China Galland thoughtfully answered several questions from the audience and was awarded with the Peace Abbey Award for Courage of Conscience for her work on *Love Cemetery*.

*-Alexa Rahman, '12*



## Dr. Chester Pierce, the first African-American to Play Football at Harvard College, Was Honored in Portraiture for his Contributions to Academics and Diversity



Harvard Medical School graduate. The first African American to play in a college football game south of the Mason-Dixon Line at an all-white university. A dominant figure in American psychiatry for more than three decades.

Though these are achievements that most people—regardless of ethnic background—can only dream of, Chester Pierce, who was honored by the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project on November 5, 2010, described these milestones with a humility that affirms his character. “I didn’t do anything,” was how he characterized the many accomplishments for which he was honored.

After dedicating 41 years of service to Harvard University, Dr. Pierce seemed to enjoy this celebration dedicated to him. When asked to summarize his emotions that night, he said he was “simply speechless.” It was no small statement, as Dr. Pierce has given countless lectures in many prestigious venues.

The Portraiture Project commissioned Pierce’s photo to be placed in the Lowell House Junior Common Room. Dr. Pierce resided in Lowell House as a student at the College.

The Junior Common Room was filled with friends, colleagues, and family members, who were less reticent in attesting to the laudable work of Dr. Pierce. One of his great-granddaughters, a senior at Milton Academy, described how proud she and her family were of Dr. Pierce and all of his accomplishments.

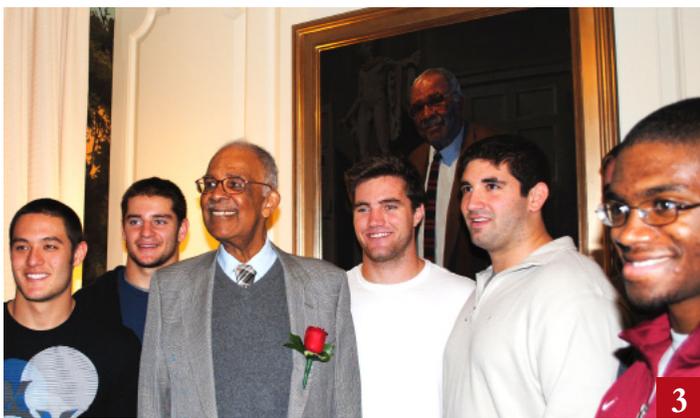
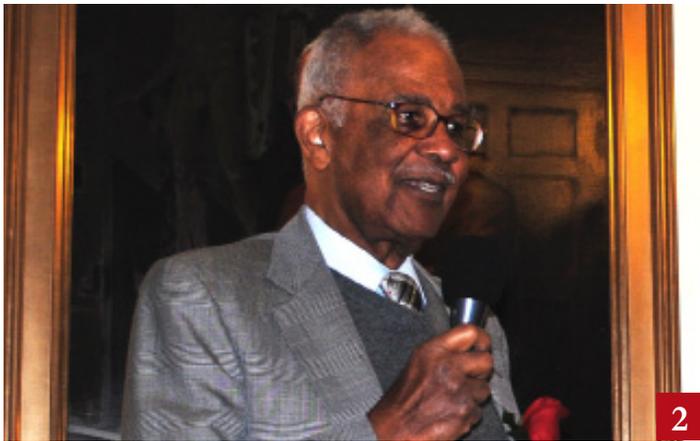
Eric Smith and Cedrick Yancey, the president and vice-president of the Harvard Black Men’s Forum, delivered remarks thanking Dr. Pierce for setting an example that current black male students at Harvard could aspire to.

Numerous football players and a coach attended the portrait unveiling, a testament to the lasting legacy of Dr. Pierce’s heroism on the field. As an African-American player on Harvard’s integrated football team, Dr. Pierce often faced outside opposition to his playing at all-white universities.

At the time, it was customary for integrated teams to leave their black players at home when they traveled south of the Mason-Dixon Line. However, in 1947, Harvard’s athletic director, Bill Bingham, insisted that Dr. Pierce travel along with his team to the University of Virginia, and Dr. Pierce’s participation in this game marked a historic event.

Dr. Pierce still holds his time as a Harvard football player in high regard. In fact, he chose to pose for his painting wearing his Harvard Varsity Club tie.

Dr. Pierce was just one deserving recipient of this honor, and many more such portraits will be commissioned in the future. On December 16, 2010, the Foundation unveiled a portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck, who in 1665 became the first Native American to graduate from Harvard. Dr. S. Allen Counter, director of the Foundation, also announced that the Foundation plans to commission a portrait of Venus Whittemore, a slave purchased by Harvard President Benjamin Wadsworth (1725-1737), who identified her in a 1726 diary



**1:** Dr. Dowling (R.) and Dr. Counter (C.) unveil the portrait of Dr. Pierce (L.) **2:** Dr. Chester Pierce speaks about the unveiling of his portrait **3:** The Harvard College Football Team shows their support for their alum **4:** Dr. Pierce is greeted by the Harvard Foundation interns at the event **5:** Mrs. Jocelyn Pierce attends the unveiling of her husband’s portrait **6:** Lowell House Master, Dr. Diana Eck speaks about the importance of the portrait to Lowell House. **7:** Dr. Counter (L.), Dr. Pierce (C.), and Dr. Kenneth Manning (R.) celebrate the unveiling. **8:** Portrait artist, Steve Coit, ‘71, poses with Dr. Pierce and his finished portrait **9:** Dr. Bruce Price (C.L.), Dr. Arthur Kleinman (C.R.), and Dr. Timothy Benson (R.) congratulate Dr. Pierce (L.) for being honored in portraiture.

## Dr. Chester Pierce's Portrait Unveiled in Lowell House, Junior Common Room

entry as a "negro wench."

Indeed, the portraiture project will continue to celebrate and honor the contributions of people of color to Harvard's campus for many years to come.

and to make a lasting mark on society.

—Christen Brown '13

The students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation were immensely proud to honor Harvard professor, Chester. M. Pierce, class of 48, in portraiture. Dr. Pierce has served Harvard for over 40 years, as a scholar, teacher, and intellectual leader in the field of psychiatry. He is one of the few Harvard professors who has served on three faculties, Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, and the Harvard School of Education. He is widely respected for his intellectual and scholarly contributions in each of these disciplines. He has developed and guided the careers of numerous scholars in the area of psychiatry, education, and public health

Among his seminal contributions to science and psychiatry, is his study of human behavior in isolated environments, such as Antarctica, where he spent time doing research. Additionally, he has translated a number of his ideas into working hypotheses applicable to the field of education.

A quiet and modest man, for someone of his academic and social accomplishments, he dedicated himself to educational training of individuals from all levels of society and backgrounds. He began his life as the son of working class parents, who developed in him and his brothers, an appreciation for education. He graduated at the top of his high school class, and was accepted to Harvard in 1944, a time when very few minorities, in particularly African Americans, were admitted to the College. At around the same time, his brother, Samuel Pierce, graduated from high school and attended Cornell University in 1947. He received a law degree from Cornell Law School in 1949. Samuel Pierce later attained a Cabinet post in the Reagan Administration as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

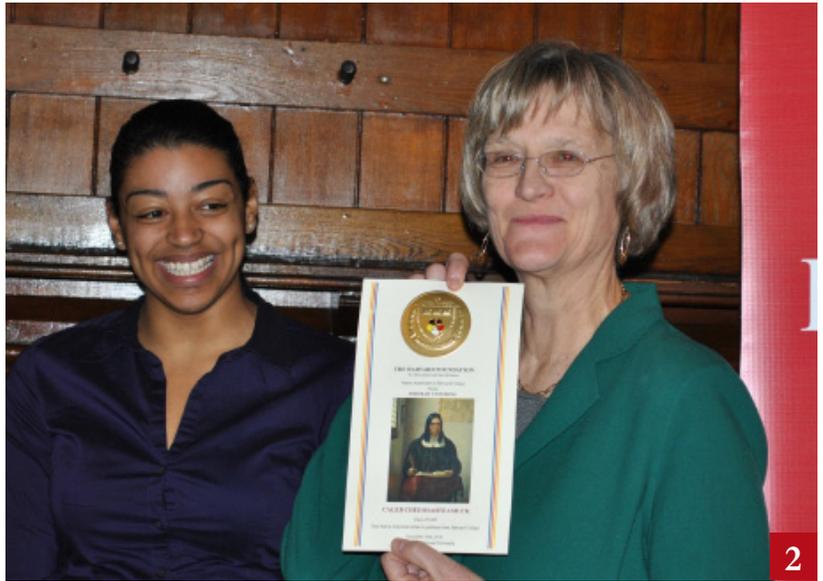
At Harvard, Chet Pierce as he was known, joined the Harvard Glee Club, and later the Harvard Football Team, where he became an outstanding tackle. He was well liked by his teammates and his coaches. In fact, when the University of Virginia indicated that it would not play Harvard if they played "the colored boy" Harvard's response was "then we will not play you without him." Chester Pierce was a legend at Harvard, and in the minds of his many students and colleagues, he is a Harvard treasure. Through his notable contributions to Harvard, and to academia in general, Dr. Chester Middlebrook Pierce has earned his position in the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project in keeping with the mandate of the Portraiture Project; the portrait of Dr. Pierce was placed on the east wall of the Junior Common Room in Lowell House, his residence hall while a student at Harvard College.

Respectfully submitted,

—Dr. S. Allen Counter



## Portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck Placed in Annenberg Hall



**1:** Professor John E. Dowling, Co-chairman of the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Committee, discusses the significance of the portrait and aspects of Caleb's background in Massachusetts **2:** (L.) Tiffany Smalley, '11, celebrates the unveiling of Harvard's first Native American graduate with Harvard University President, Dr. Drew Faust, **3:** Shelly Lowe, director of HUNAP joins Tobias Vanderhoop, member of the Wampanoag tribe in honoring Caleb's achievement **4:** (L-R.) Dr. Dowling; Dr. Counter, members of Native Americans at Harvard College, President Faust, and Steve Coit, '71 celebrate the unveiling **5:** Portrait artist, Steve Coit, speaks to the crowd.



## Harvard Foundation Welcomes Class of 2014 to Harvard College



(Left) Professor Donald Pfister, welcomes parents of the class of 2014 to the Freshman Reception. Professor Pfister serves as Chairman of the Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisory Committee. (Bottom, Right) Kevin Liu, '11 and Amaka Uzoh, '11 greet students at Open House.

To greet the Class of 2014 as they arrived on campus for their first year, the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations had the pleasure of hosting a welcome reception for freshman students and their families in the Cambridge Queen's Head Pub. On a sunny afternoon in the Calendar of Opening Days, the reception ushered hundreds of first-year students into a casual environment in which they learned more about the diversity of the Harvard community.

Harvard Foundation interns spoke with many of the guests, sharing their own personal experiences and providing information about the variety of ways to become involved on campus. Dressed in Harvard Foundation T-shirts, the interns were visible examples of the broad range of diversity and diversity-

related programming represented by the Harvard Foundation.

The first-year students were encouraged to apply either for internships with the Foundation or for positions with the Harvard Foundation Associates Program. The Associates Program, formerly known as Friends of the Harvard Foundation, offers students the opportunity to organize diversity programming (ranging from ethnic food study breaks to film screenings) in each residential House and in the Freshman Yard. The Associates, in a capacity similar to that of Harvard Foundation interns, serve to increase awareness of race-related issues among smaller groups within the student community.

After the students and their families settled into the Queen's Head Pub, Dr. S. Allen

Counter, director of the Harvard Foundation, warmly greeted the guests. He advised them on a Harvard Foundation axiom: if one does not spend time developing friendships with people of other backgrounds, ethnicities, and religions, one's Harvard education has lost half of its value.

Dr. Counter's words were reinforced by Dr. Evelyn Hammonds, dean of Harvard College, who spoke on student-administrator relations; Dr. Suzy Nelson, dean of student life, who addressed the importance of student activities involvement; and Mr. Tom Dingman, dean of freshmen, who reminded students to take full advantage of this important first year.

The reception ended with words of advice and encouragement from Harvard Foundation interns, who urged their fellow students to get involved on campus through the Harvard Foundation and the many cultural and ethnic student organizations that it supports.

—Olamide Oladipo '12

## Harvard Foundation Opens Its Doors to Students for Open House

For the newly arrived freshmen, the Calendar of Opening Days is an invitation for them to make Harvard's campus feel more like home. Although the Harvard Foundation had also hosted a welcoming reception during this week for parents and students in the Cambridge Queen's Head Pub, the open house was an opportunity to acquaint first-year students with the Harvard Foundation office.

Many first-year students took advantage of the open house schedule in the Calendar of Opening Days to visit the office. Interns stationed at a table outside Thayer Hall invited students to sign up for more information throughout the

year even if they were unable to stay long at the Foundation open house.

Inside, interns and staff greeted visitors and discussed the Harvard Foundation's mission, the student groups associated collaborated with the Foundation office, and a few notable guests who have participated in past events. As videos of past Cultural Rhythms performances played in the background, students were encouraged to take copies of the latest *Harvard Foundation Journal* and an internship application.

At any given moment throughout the afternoon, one could overhear a freshman asking about the roles of

an intern or the name of the group performing on the Cultural Rhythms stage. The open house was successful in connecting students to their respective cultural groups, informing freshmen of opportunities to get involved and, most importantly, establishing that diversity and culture has a home at Harvard.



## Harvard Foundation Explores Issues Surrounding Inter-religious Dating: Students Discuss Personal Experiences and Concerns, Dr. Diana Eck Serves as Moderator



A discussion panel examines the challenges that are often faced by interreligious couples and shares their personal experiences. Moderated by Professor Diana Eck (Above, C.), student panelists included Stephanie Cole '11, Eric Smith '13, Pamela Rosario '13, Alyssa Yamamoto '12, and David Lopez-Lengowski '13.

In an increasingly interconnected world, how does faith affect relationships? Students gathered to discuss the question on December 6, 2010, in “Love Is My Religion: Interreligious Dating at Harvard and Beyond,” a panel discussion on interfaith dating and relationships sponsored by the Harvard Foundation. The event was a follow-up to last year’s interracial dating panel, “The Color of Love.”

Moderated by Diana Eck, Frederic Wertham Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society and professor of comparative religion and Indian studies, the discussion featured student panelists Stephanie Cole '11, Eric Smith '13, Pamela Rosario '13, Alyssa Yamamoto '12, and David Lopez-Lengowski '13.

The student panelists represented a variety of religious views, from atheism to Baha’ism to many Christian denominations. Many were themselves the products of interfaith relationships.

Professor Eck, who is also master of Lowell House and director of the Pluralism Project at Harvard, kicked off the discussion by providing historical context and commenting on the changing religious landscape across the world, particularly in the United States. She stressed the importance of respect and understanding when trying to engage people of other religions. “Relationship and attitude towards the religious other is one of the most important things in our world,” she said. “How we respectfully develop

relationships across religious traditions is a part of our future.”

The event was a conversation among Professor Eck, the panelists, and audience members, many of whom shared their own interreligious dating experiences. Some said that not being able to share the faith component of their lives with a potential partner made interreligious relationships an impossibility, while others found dating someone of a different religion added differences worth sharing and celebrating to the relationship.

The panelists also discussed the effects of modernity on interfaith dating, including the role of increasingly diverse societies, the changing dynamics of the dating world, and the influence of technology. A discussion of JDate, the popular Jewish dating site, brought up the issue of converting to the religion of one’s spouse, a theme that figured prominently in one of the most salient topics of the night, interfaith marriages. Yamamoto, a religion concentrator, stressed that in order to make interreligious relationships work, both partners must transcend from simple tolerance to respect and acceptance. “It means that I have faith in your belief, even if I don’t believe it,” she said. a less significant identity marker.

—Amaka Uzoh '11

## Panel Debates the Politics of Immigration in America “Illegal Alie(NATION): Immigration Policy in Arizona and Around the Nation”

On September 28, 2010, Harvard students gathered at Fong Auditorium for “Illegal Alie(NATION): Immigration Policy in Arizona and Around the Nation,” a panel discussion on the recent Arizona legislation targeting illegal immigration.

The panel featured Richard Chacón, executive director of the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants; Edward Schumacher-Matos, a visiting fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School’s Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation; and

moderator Luisa Heredia, lecturer on sociology in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Schumacher-Matos, who once served as Buenos Aires bureau chief for The New York Times, opened the discussion by providing background on Arizona Senate Bill 1070. “Arizona passed a law that required state and local police to stop and question anyone who looked like they were here illegally, and any citizen could sue the police department if they didn’t do that,” he explained. The Colombian-born professor posed a

question: If most other countries already allow their police to check immigration status, why is a similar practice in Arizona the subject of such contentious debate? Schumacher-Matos argued that unlike in other countries, Arizona’s highly racialized immigration status checks are designed to manipulate the fears of Arizonans and foster xenophobia for political gain.

Chacón addressed the need for comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level, noting that in its

*Continued on page 22*

## Professors Address Debate Over Muslim Community Center at Ground Zero

America is a place of remarkable religious, ethnic, and cultural diversity. Why, then, would the proposal of plans for a Muslim community center two blocks from Ground Zero in Manhattan give rise to a nationwide uproar that saw religious leaders gathering for an emergency summit to denounce “the derision, misinformation, and outright bigotry” directed toward American Muslims? This was the question panelists tried to answer before a packed audience at Fong Auditorium on September 21, 2010.

Diana Eck, Frederic Wertham Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society and professor of comparative religion and Indian studies, began the afternoon by describing the history of resistance to cultural and religious pluralism in the United States. There is a tradition in America of identifying religious and ethnic minorities as the “other,” she said, citing instances of arson and vandalism

of American mosques that predated the September 11 attacks. Comparing the more “covert” prejudice toward Muslims written into zoning laws that prohibited the construction of mosques with the overtly Islamophobic sentiments given air time during the media controversy over the Park51 community center, Professor Eck blamed the media for amplifying anti-Islamic rhetoric and failing to highlight the many voices that spoke out in support of the project.

Following Professor Eck, Ali Asani, professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic religion and cultures, posited his own theory of why the community center had given rise to such controversy at this particular moment in time. He argued that looming midterm elections had led those with political ambitions to grab hold of the issue as a way to define the 21st-century American in opposition to a Muslim “other.” Professor Asani bemoaned America’s religious and cultural illiteracy, arguing that a lack of education and knowledge about religion as a cultural phenomenon has made the American public more susceptible to

the “othering” of Muslim Americans. “Democracy cannot function,” he told the audience, “when ignorance breeds fear of our other citizens who are different from ourselves.”

The last speaker, Mark Tushnet, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, focused on the legality of the center, whose construction, he said, is completely protected under the Constitution. The event, which was sponsored by the Pluralism Project, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program, the Harvard College Education Society, and the Harvard Foundation, closed with a question-and-answer period that demonstrated the audience’s deep engagement with the topic. Such dialogue can only help to combat what Professor Asani characterized as “not [the] clash of civilizations, but [the] clash of ignorance” that has fueled anti-Muslim rhetoric in the United States.

-Bronwen O’Herin, ‘12

## Asian American Awareness Week Celebrated at Harvard

In a celebration of student diversity, the Asian American Brotherhood led the Asian American communities of Harvard in an Asian American and Pacific Islander Awareness Week, held October 31 through November 6, 2010. During the week, Harvard’s Asian American and Pacific Islander cultural organizations hosted events across campus to increase awareness of Asian American heritage. Highlights ranged from film screenings, such as the Half-Asian People’s Association’s screening of *One Big Hapa Family* and the Harvard Vietnamese Association’s screening of *A Lens on Vietnam*, to panel discussions and a banquet of Asian cuisine.

The Harvard Foundation co-sponsored two events: a discussion of the Asian American identity in hip-hop and a panel discussion on immigration reform.

“Like a G6: Hip-Hop in Asian America,” held October 31, kicked off the week. The discussion was led by John Tawa, a doctoral student in psychology at the University of Massachusetts Boston, and Michael Jeffries, assistant professor of American studies at Wellesley College and author of *Thug Life: Race, Gender, and the Meaning of Hip-Hop*. The discussion explored the growing participation of Asian Americans in hip-hop music and culture and questions concerning identity, appropriation, and politics.

“A System That Works: A Dialogue on Immigration Reform,” held November 4, highlighted issues of contemporary Asian immigration to the United States. Panelists Nicole Newendorp, lecturer and assistant director of social studies, and Lili Kim, visiting associate professor

of history, drew on current experiences from within the immigration system to open a dialogue among attendees on reform efforts.

*Continued on page 22*

(Below): Harvard students attend “Like a G6: Hip-Hop in Asian America” Panel



## Student Initiated Programs Sponsored by the Harvard Foundation

The Harvard Foundation collaborates with and provides grant funding to over seventy-five undergraduate cultural, ethnic, and religious organizations each semester. This section contains highlights of student-initiated programs and projects from the fall 2010 semester.

### Harvard African Students Association Joins the Women's Center and the Harvard Foundation to Host Jestina Mukoko, Director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project

On October 24, 2010, the Harvard Foundation, in collaboration with the Harvard African Students Association and the Harvard College Women's Center, hosted Jestina Mukoko, executive director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project and the 2010 recipient of the U.S. State Department's International Women of Courage Award, for a dinner and discussion.

Mukoko's organization documents human rights violations in Zimbabwe, and for this reason she was abducted on December 3, 2008. "I am a living testimony of state-sponsored vandalism," she said as she narrated her story. At 5 a.m. that day, Mukoko was snatched from her home in Zimbabwe and forced into the back of a vehicle,

where she was forced to hold her head down for hours. "All I could see was the machine rifle sitting on the floor," she told the group.

Mukoko then told of how she was interrogated for hours about her organization and later accused of recruiting youth to be trained in Botswana to overthrow what authorities call a constitutionally elected government.

Students and guests were then invited to enjoy traditional dishes from Zimbabwe while Mukoko answered questions. When asked about the global political response to Zimbabwe, she stated that "a lot still needs to be done."

-Yolanda Borquaye



*Jestina Mukoko speaks to a room full of students at Harvard College.*

### Harvard Philippine Forum Hosts the SEA Games with SIAMA, the Harvard Vietnamese Association, and Thai Society



Patterned after the SEA Games, a biennial multi-sport event held in Southeast Asia, members of the groups under the Harvard SEA Coalition gathered last November 13, 2010, at the QRAC, for an afternoon of fun and games. Prior to the event, there were weeks of handing out flyers and preparing the materials for the games to be played.

SEA Games was an excellent opportunity for the Harvard community to

experience the unique games from the region. From the Filipino *agawan-panyo* ('Steal the Handkerchief'), Singaporean 'Captain's Ball', Vietnamese high jump, to Sepak Takraw (Malay soccer), SEA Games - the first at Harvard - proved to be a fun and culturally enriching experience.

SEA Games required participation of at least 8 members from each group for a total attendance of around 40 people. The first game that was played was the Filipino 'Steal the Handkerchief' game. HPF emerged victorious in that game. The second game was 'Captain's Ball' and SIAMA pocketed first place. The high jump and Sepak Takraw games were played just at the sides of the courts, during breaks and whenever a team wasn't playing. However, overall, HPF won SEA Games, followed by

SIAMA finishing second. Refreshments and snacks were provided after and during the games.

Cultural engagement through games will hopefully continue to bring a greater appreciation for the diversity of cultures even within Southeast Asia itself.

-Angeline Baniqued '13



*(Above, Left): Students engage in SEA Games activities. (Bottom, Right): Students celebrate the end to an exciting day of events.*

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

### Race Relations Advisor Activity Reports

The Harvard Foundation oversees the race relations advisor/tutor 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. The responsibilities of the House Race Relations Advisors and Harvard Yard Freshman Proctors include facilitating discussions, coordinating House programs on race relations, and offering guidance during incidents of racial and ethnic conflict and distress. We have held a number of group and individual meetings with the Race Relations Advisors to advance our programs in improving the racial atmosphere in the Houses and for developing early and appropriate responses (first responders) to racial conflicts. We have also assigned Harvard Foundation undergraduate interns who work for the Foundation to each House Tutor/Race Relation Advisor to assist in contact and communications with students in the resident Houses. We are pleased with the effect and outcomes of these programs and the cooperation of the tutors who serve as House Race Relations Advisors.

#### **Film Screening: *Miss Evers Boys* Eliot House**

The HBO movie 'Miss Evers' Boys' is based on the syphilis experiments which the U.S. government conducted on African American men in Tuskegee, AL from 1932 to 1972. Students met and discussed issues of race, bioethics, and dehumanization. The event took place in Eliot House's historic Junior Common Room, where we will screen the movie and dinner was served.

A good number of first year students along with residents from Eliot attended the event. The discussion was lively and enlightening. This was a wonderful collaboration between Eliot House Race Relations tutors and Proctors in the Yard.

#### **United States Congress Representative Barney Frank, Speaks to Students about Human Rights and Being Openly Gay in Congress Pforzheimer House**

Students had a rare opportunity to meet Representative Barney Frank, the second openly gay member of Congress and the ranking member of the House Financial Services Committee. Barney Frank spoke at Pforzheimer House, Holmes

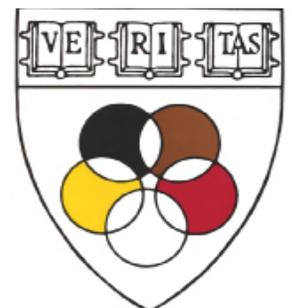
Living Room and all students were invited. During his 30 year tenure in the U.S. Congress, Representative Frank has championed gay and transgender rights, anti-hate crime legislation, prisoners' rights, and environmental conservation.

As former Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, Frank worked to reform the financial services industry and broker deals to mitigate the subprime mortgage crisis. We had a great turnout and students truly enjoyed meeting Representative Frank. This event was organized by the Pforzheimer Race Relations Tutors and House Committee.

#### **Bimonthly Forum Entitled "Diversity Dialogues" Begins Lowell House**

Lowell House organized a bimonthly forum called "Diversity Dialogues". The group met every 1st and 4th Tuesday of the Month for open, honest conversations about current issues. Topics included were "Do Ask, Do Tell: The Closet, College, and Gay Rights", "Class: America's Invisible Diversity", and "Immigration, Citizenship, and the new American Majority"

These discussions were well attended by Lowell residents as well as students from other houses. We will continue this forum in the spring semester.





Nobel Chairman Thorbjørn Jagland Visits Harvard University *(continued from page 4)*



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1: (R.-L.) Harvard Foundation interns: Amaka Uzoh, Sara Zaidi, and Justin Banerdt welcome Nobel Chairman Thorbjørn Jagland to Harvard. President Drew Faust meets with Mr. Jagland and his wife, Hanne. 2: Winthrop House Masters Professor Stephanie Robinson (C.L.) and Professor Ronald Sullivan(R.) greet Mr. Jagland (C.R.) and his wife, Hanne (L.) at the Humanitarian Dinner in Winthrop House 3: (L.-R.) Mr. Rick Guidotti, Dr. Counter, Ms. Vicky Ntetema, and Mr. Peter Ash join together for a photo after the albinism panel and discussion is completed 4: A Harvard University student takes a closer look at the Albinism Photo Exhibit on display in the Science Center 5: Under the Same Sun promotes the acceptance and understanding of albinism at the Photo Exhibit in the Science Center 6: Harvard University students gather around the Albinism Photo Exhibit in the Science Center and explore the meaning behind the photos.

Harvard Foundation Holds Panel and Photo Exhibit on Albinism: *(continued from page 6)*



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## 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*.

### Latinos in Health Careers Latina Breast Cancer Awareness

*Consponsoring Group: Latinas Unidas*

The Latina Breast Cancer Awareness Event, hosted at the SOCH was reflective and informative, including hand on activities, dinner and a presentation. We had about 30 student attendees including but not restricted to members of Latinas Unidas and Latinos in Health Careers. The event begun with two main activities as guests arrived. Pink paper bra cut outs were laid out in a table for guests to write out dedications, their hopes, and voice their opinions about breast cancer within the Latino community. The pink paper bras were hung for display during the event on twine using clothes hangers. People simultaneously tie dyed shirts. Latinos in Health Careers and Latinas Unidas provided pink T-shirts, purple clothing dye, and rubber bands set up in the tie-dye making station. Guests were also provided with different ideas on how to tie their shirts for different tie patterns.

Our hope is that the guests will remember what they experienced and learned at our event while wearing their shirts. The activities were then followed by a Latin dinner, which consisted of chicken, rice, beans, and salad. Drinks were also provided. Toward the end of

the dinner a member of Latinas Unidas gave a presentation including medical and public health facts on breast cancer within the Latina community. Some of the highlights of the presentation were explaining common misconceptions and discussing a recent article at the time regarding breast cancer screening pros and cons. Questions after the presentation led to a open discussion on why breast feeding decreases the risk for breast cancer. Going along with this discussion, the event was concluded with an entertaining commercial on the positive health effects of breast feeding. We are confident that students learned several facts about breast cancer in the U.S, particularly among Latina women, and hope that this event becomes a venue for wider discussions on Latina health issues among Harvard undergraduates.

—Ana Garcia'11

### Harvard Japan Society Tsukimi Workshop

The Tsukimi Workshop on October 25, 2010 was an extremely successful event that produced a larger turnout than we had predicted. Approximately 75 undergraduates dropped by Ticknor Lounge in the 2-hour time period that we were there. In Japan, Tsukimi is a holiday that honors the mid-autumn full moon. The holiday is typically celebrated by making Japanese sweet

rice dumplings, known as dango, and offering them to the full moon. For our Tsukimi celebration, Japan Society board members purchased ingredients and made the dango from scratch. We later moved the dango to Ticknor Lounge in Boylston Hall, where anxious attendees dipped the dango with various toppings. Most of the attendees had never celebrated Tsukimi before and were thus eager to learn about a foreign tradition. Probably the most valuable aspect of a tradition like Tsukimi is the opportunity to enjoy time with friends and family. This was certainly what was most enjoyable about the Tsukimi Workshop. Attendees were able to meet and interact with new people, while eating delicious dango.

The Japan Society would like to thank the Harvard Foundation for its generous sponsorship, without which we would not be able to organize events like the Tsukimi Workshop.  
future years.

—Kevin Martinez'12

### Harvard College African Business and Investment Club and Harvard African Student Association

#### World Aids Day

*Consponsoring Group: Harvard African  
Student Association*

The World Aids Day, which was held in collaboration with Harvard African Student Association (HASA) was a huge success and it culminated in a rally being held in the Boston Commons. Personal speeches were given with people experiences with HIV shared and I believe that the objective of the event – to spread awareness on the plight of HIV in the world and more specifically on the African continent was achieved. It was focused on getting the U.S. and specifically the Obama administration to commit to its pledge of increasing funding towards the fight on AIDS on the African continent.

–Gerishom Gimaiyo '13

### Harvard Dharma Diwali

Diwali, the festival of lights, is perhaps the most significant holiday in India and Indian culture. Celebrated by a wide spectrum of religious groups, including Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains, the festival carries different meanings for different people. To Hindus, Diwali commemorates the return of Lord Rama, king of Ayodhya, and his wife Sita and brother Lakshmana after a fourteen year exile and a war in which he killed Ravana, the demon king of Lanka. The citizens of Ayodhya lit oil lamps, or divas, along the way, which is why Hindus continue to decorate their homes with divas today. Diwali also marks the beginning of the New Year according to the Vikram Samvat calendar. For Jains, Diwali is said to be the day on which Lord Mahavira attained moksha. Diwali is the second-most important day in the Sikh calendar as it is associated with the Sikhs' uprising against the Mughal Empire.

This year, Dharma's Diwali attracted two hundred participants. We held the event in the Lowell House Master's residence, graciously offered by House Masters Diana Eck and Dorothy Austin. Dharma board, as well as the senior hosts for the puja, arrived four hours before the start of the event to start preparing home-cooked meals.

For the actual program, we started with appetizers and then moved into the puja, a major part of which was devoted

to Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. After the puja concluded, various bhajans (devotional songs) from different regions of Indian were sung. We then had a break where people volunteered their personal Diwali stories, with everyone from freshmen to graduate students recounting their stories. Finally, we concluded the puja with an aarti, where all two hundred guests offered light to God. We then had ate dinner, talked, and took pictures. Overall, the event was very successful and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

–Arjun Modi '13

### Association of Black Harvard Women (ABHW) Road To Success Career Panel

Every year, ABHW hosts Road to Success, an interactive panel with African American graduates of Harvard. The panelists are from across the United States and have had profound impact in their respective communities. Our membership finds advice, insight, and encouragement from our panelists, who speak from professional as well as personal standpoint. In the past, we have traditionally chosen women from business, healthcare, and academic professions, but this year, we expanded our panelists to minority women in entrepreneurship, arts, and law. We hosted five impressive women: Jane Carter, Founder of Jane Carter Solutions, Nana Adae, Vice President in Private Bank, JP Morgan, Benadette Manning, High School Mathematics Educator, Heather McLetchie-Leader, HBS Graduate, and Dr. Nicole Redmond, Research Fellow in Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Associate Physician, Brigham and Women's Hospital. We are grateful to the Harvard Foundation for their support with this inspirational event.

– Olamide Oladipo '12

### Native Americans at Harvard College Ivy Native Council Banquet/ Native Health in Hollywood Luncheon

This luncheon was well attended by All Ivy Native Summit attendees as well as

members of other Native organizations on campus, such as the Native American Law Students Association (NALSA) and Future Indian Educators Resisting Colonial Education (FIERCE). We were pleased with the level of attendance to this luncheon. The luncheon focused on green eating techniques and integrated nicely with the rest of the Summit that focused on various perspectives of indigenous representation in media. We would love to do future events that focus more on sustainability and what this means to traditional cultures.

–Tia Ray '12

### Harvard Society of Black Scientists and Engineers Graduate School Mentorship Summer Opportunities Fair

Each year, the freshman representative(s) organizes a fair at which undergraduates at the College can learn about the vast array of options for the summer. At the Summer Opportunities Fair we have a panel of Harvard undergraduates and representatives from summer programs like PRISE, Google, Kaplan, NASA, study abroad, and SUP. The depth and breadth of summer opportunities discussed at our Summer Opportunities Fair continues to draw students from ALL Harvard communities, regardless of race, gender, or sexual orientation.

### Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA Dia de la Raza Study Break

*Cosponsoring Group: Native Americans at  
Harvard College (NAHC)*

On Tuesday, October 12th Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA hosted a study break to celebrate Dia de la Raza (literally translated to mean the Day of the Race, though "raza" has been used to mean many things), an officially recognized holiday and recognition of the Hispanic heritage in Mexico and Latin America. Now, over 500 years after Columbus "discovered" the Americas, we recalled his deeds and celebrated not Columbus the man, but the actions and influences of all the people who came after him, began the mezcla of European, African, and indigenous cultures, and through years of struggle, blood and years of battle,

misunderstandings and treachery, created the multi-cultural, multi-ethnic society which characterizes Mexico today.

RAZA co-sponsored this event with NAHC, Native Americans at Harvard College and used the space to discuss the similarities between our histories as native peoples of what is now the United States, and our experiences with indigenous roots and our identity while enjoying a delicious Mexican dessert called sopapillas and milk. It was a great way to de-stress amid papers and midterm examinations and learn more about the indigenous presence and influence in Mexico and the U.S. today.

–*Maricruz Rodriguez '12*

### **Cuban American Undergraduate Student Association (CAUSA)**

#### **1st Biannual Alumni Conference: “A Community of Experiences”**

The networking brunch closed off CAUSA’s first biannual alumni conference, this year entitled “A Community of Experiences”. The conference was a three-day event spanning from a cocktail reception on the evening of Friday October 1st to a closing brunch on Sunday October 3rd. The networking brunch took place in Adams Lower Common Room. Over thirty current undergraduate CAUSA members and students from the College gathered with our over twenty returning alumni of various years from the class of 2010 to the class of 1979. The networking brunch event offered an opportunity for alumni and undergraduates to solidify the relationships developed throughout the conference.

The event also included brief speeches by alumni Sean McKean and Margaret Butler focusing on how to balance community service and other commitments. The conference as a whole was a great success and was a great launching point into CAUSA’s goal of increasing relations with our alumni and focusing on community service.

Other featured alumni included CAUSA founders Cesar Conde and Carlos Zumpano, as well as former Harvard Alumni Association President Teresita Alvarez-Bjelland. The conference also invited leading experts in the field of Cuban American studies such as Harvard’s very own Professor Jorge Dominguez and the former President of Florida International University Professor Modesto Maidique. The conference offered undergraduates the opportunity to learn from and be inspired by the alumni that were once in their shoes. Responses to the conference were all positive and enthusiastic, undergraduates were very grateful to have such an opportunity and the alumni were happy to be able to give back to the college that shaped their lives. Harvard CAUSA is looking forward to future alumni conferences and hopes that this inaugural conference will be the first a long and mutually beneficial relationship between its undergraduates and alumni.

–*Hanny Rivera '12*

### **The Korean Association Choosuk Celebration**

The Korean Association had our biggest event of the fall, the celebration of Choosuk, this November. Choosuk is the holiday that is similar to Thanksgiving, a celebration of good harvest for the year. Since this is our most traditional event of the year, a few of our members actually dressed up in hanbok, which is a traditional Korean dress (pictures could not be attached due to copyright issues with the Crimson). A few people from outside of KA also came and were happy to participate in the festivities, such as games of yootnori.

Apart from the food and the games, there was also a presentation about what Choosuk was about, its traditions, and its significance in Korean culture. It was a great opportunity for those of the Korean community and outside the community to learn about a major aspect of Korean culture.

Thanks to the Harvard Foundation,

KA was about to successfully host this major event in our fall calendar. We appreciate this opportunity to gain more visibility for our culture in the Harvard community and look forward to putting on more events like this in the future.

–*Shinji Ryu '13*

### **Harvard Youth Alliance for Leadership and Development in Africa (YALDA)**

#### **Film Screening and Discussion about Development**

*Cosponsoring Group:*  
*HASA*

In October, YALDA hosted a film screening that was followed by a lively discussion. We screened a movie entitled “Mzungu”, a documentary that highlights some of the challenges faced and successes realized by young Americans as they engage with developmental issues in African countries. Shane Gilbert, the Director and Producer of the movie was present at the event and later engaged the audience, composed of both undergraduate and graduate students, in a discussion on sustainable development in the context of responsible and targeted foreign aid. Based on the views from a number of attendants, the event was both a source of inspiration and challenge to act to bring about sustainable development in the most vulnerable regions of developing countries. d newcomers to bond and have a great time.

–*Alan Ibrahim '11*

### **Queer Students and Allies National Coming Out Day Rally**

*Cosponsoring Groups:*

*Black Students Association, Fuerza Latina, Asian American Association and Asian American Women’s Association*

National Coming Out Day Rally: Over fifty students, faculty, and community members joined together to speak out in honor of National Coming Out Day and the recent surge in queer hate crimes and suicides. Leaders from many of Harvard’s largest political,

ethnic, and religious groups gave brief prepared remarks and signed on to a “Commitment for an Allied Harvard,” pledging support for the Harvard LGBTQ community and working to build safe spaces here on campus and beyond. Armed with rainbow flags, posters, and chants demanding equal rights, the group stormed the John Harvard statue in order to make a visible statement here on campus as to the relevancy of these issues for members of our own community. The event was filmed in preparation for the “Let’s Make It Better” video project students are currently working on and covered by the Crimson to gain visibility with the wider Harvard community.

**Community Vigil:** The event featured speakers such as Ian Lekus (professor), Deans Suzy Nelson and Susan Marine, house masters, proctors, and BGLTS tutors who talked about both their personal stories and about support for LGBTQ students. The Harvard Glee Club performed *Amazing Grace* at the beginning of the vigil. There were also a few students who spoke, one of whom performed a spoken word piece.

The motivation for this event was to both commemorate NCOD and to remember and reflect on the recent spate of very public suicides by queer teens around the country. We set out to get as many adults and faculty that we could to speak at the event. We thought that the attendees would mostly be LGBTQ individuals (and that the rally would be bigger) but it turned out that the vigil actually drew more students, including many allies. Our goal of having important Harvard faculty and staff speak was achieved, as we had two deans as well as other administrators speak the event, leaving many wanting more.

—*Lawrence Cripe '13*

### **Asian American Association (AAA) Graduate School Mentorship Program and Panel**

It is rather well-known that while growing up, a lot of Asians share the

same aspirations because their parents have taught them to share a specific set of goals to strive for. At the same time, it is also well-known that there are definitely racial prejudices against Asians in the modern working world, whether it is in the field of business or entertainment. Therefore, we thought it would be important for Asian Americans to have a second opinion on their dreams. The graduate school mentorship program kick-off, held on October 21 in Ticknor Lounge, came under the responsibility of our Outreach Committee’s mission: reaching out to the Asian American community beyond Harvard’s undergraduate campus. In this mentorship program, interested undergrad students were paired with volunteering graduate students from the Harvard Law School, Harvard Business School, and Harvard Medical school to discuss the school as well as future career options.

This was an opportunity for students to interact with graduate schools more personally with great individual attention in a networking environment, which was only possible with funding from the Harvard Foundation. The mentors not only offered advice applicable to all Harvard undergraduates such as the requirements for application but also spoke from the point of view of an Asian American. From the cultural perspective, mentors spoke about how their ethnicity affected their aspirations or how their ethnicity played a role in post-undergrad life. Having greater experience in the real working world, they had ample opportunity to speak about the impact of being Asian on their opportunities or on their own dreams. Mentors therefore gave the Harvard undergrad community their own perspectives on the cultural difficulties associated with many undergrads (one of which is the stereotypical path students’ desire vs. path parents have selected).

The event had great cultural and educational significance and was open to all interested Harvard undergrads. More amazingly, the connections lasted more than that one day, as many students continue to interact with their mentors over the course of years.

—*Jean Shiao '13*

### **Chinese Students Association Mooncake Festival**

Mooncake Festival Celebration was an event that the Chinese Student Association co-hosted with another culture organization, Hong Kong Society, as well as the Student Astronomers of Harvard-Radcliffe, on September 23rd, in celebration of the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, while stargazing. The Mid-Autumn Festival is a very important holiday in the Chinese lunar calendar, known for its importance as a holiday of family and reunions. It comes from a famous Chinese legend of a girl who, through various circumstances, ends up having to live on the moon away from her husband, and so the Mid-Autumn festival is the one day every year that they may reunite. The festival date also always marks a beautiful full moon, and on this holiday there is a tradition for families and close friends to hang out, moon-gaze, and eat Chinese traditional snacks such as moon cakes, (cookie-type snacks filled with red bean stuffing.)

It was a beautiful clear night, which was perfect for stargazing on the roof (10th floor) of the Science Center, on the deck outside of the Clay-Loomis Telescope. The STAHR group was also there to assist people at the event with telescopes set up to view the moon, which was beautiful and full. CSA and HKS served moon cakes and egg tarts, and we had a terrific showing throughout the two hours of the entire event. We played awesome Asian music, and all of the food (funded by the Harvard Foundation), was gone by the end of the event!

—*Emily Zhang '13*

## Panel Discusses Issues Concerning Albinism

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the audience a better sense of what it means to be a person with albinism. Dr. Mark Koopman, a postdoctoral fellow in the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, gave a wonderful personal account of his childhood experiences. He wisely noted that he felt that having albinism gave him a filter for the more inane and superficial aspects of life and led him to make friends who are especially tolerant, intelligent, and compassionate.

Marina Connelly, '12, spoke to the students about her own experiences as a person with albinism. She applauded the United States, especially Boston and Harvard's campus, for trying to create an inclusive atmosphere for people from different backgrounds; however, she also urged the audience to work together and continue educating the greater community on the issues of albinism. After a brief question-and-answer session with the speakers, the audience was left

better educated about albinism and inspired to continue the fight against the injustices that people with albinism face.

— Kevin Liu '11

## Panel on Immigration Policy in Arizona and Around the Nation

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absence individual states such as Arizona have developed their own initiatives. Chacón then discussed the situation of immigrants in Massachusetts in particular. "There are a million people in this state who were born outside the U.S.," he said. Those 1 million immigrants make up 14 percent of the population and 17 percent of the workforce—a percentage that has doubled over the past 15 years. Can Arizona happen elsewhere? he asked. His answer: It depends. Governments

such as Massachusetts's might promote integration, but there remain some major barriers—immigrants' limited English proficiency, a waitlist of 16,000 for English classes, an education gap among native and immigrant communities, and difficulties with workforce skills re-certification for immigrants, to name a few. Chacón's words of advice to governments and communities around the nation were, "See immigrants more for the benefits they bring, rather than the threat."

The discussion following Schumacher-Matos's and Chacón's presentations focused on the politics surrounding these issues, particularly the manipulation of immigration issues in party politics, student activism, and the DREAM Act. Heredia concluded the evening's proceedings with these words, whose wisdom can be applied to a range of topics beyond immigration: "Issues that garner debate garner opportunities to converse."

— Jessica Ch'ng '12

## Asian American Awareness Week

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Among the groups who collaborated for Asian American and Pacific Islander Awareness Week were the Asian American Association, Chinese Students Association, Korean Association, Harvard Vietnamese Association, Southeast Asian Coalition, Organization of Asian American Sisters in Service, South Asian Association, Half-Asian

People's Association, Taiwanese Cultural Society, Asian American Christian Fellowship, Team HBV at Harvard, Hong Kong Society, and the Harvard Philippine Forum. Hong Kong Society, and the Harvard Philippine Forum. to make a difference.

—Justin Banerdt '13

## 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: Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust, President of Harvard University; Dr. Evelyn Hammonds, Dean of Harvard College; Dr. Michael Smith, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Donald Pfister, Professor of Systematic Botany and Chairman of the Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisory Committee; the Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes, and Ms. Jan Randolph, of Harvard's Memorial Church; Dr. Suzy Nelson, Dean of Student Life; Steve Coit '71, Harvard Foundation portrait artist; Ms. Marina Connelly for her work on the albinism panel, Dr. Leo H. Buchanan, for editorial support; and the students and faculty associated with the Harvard Foundation.

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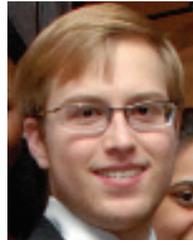
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